

If not, did you ever wonder why people do?

Reader



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government.

COUNTY MEDIAN SINGLE-FAMILY-HOME VALUES

How About Trying A Free Market?

By Don Bauder

n March 23, stocks were headed for a fabulous 7 percent gain. The Obama administration had just come out with a

program in which private investors could buy toxic bank assets by putting up almost nothing; the U.S. government would ante up more than 90 percent of the dough. It was a case of no risk and huge rewards; Wall Street was exultant. The president's economic guru

Larry Summers deadpanned that the market was reacting favorably to the program — but, gee, the government really didn't worry about the stock market, he intoned, as his nose grew to three feet long.

The federal government has been manipulating the

Pay Drops for 200 Chief Executives: But this was decidedly not true for San Diego's two CEOs on the list ...

Stock market cheers really aren't justified: Two pros say recent 20.35% gain in the last four weeks really isn't so great...

Read Don Bauder news updates like these every day at SDReader.com

Goodbye, Hello, **Goodbye Again**

By Ernie Grimm

n New Year's Eve, Howard Jackson was in court with Ellen Falcone, his ex-girlfriend and mother of his child. For

more than nine years, the last three in Oceanside, the two had shared custody of their daughter, Sophia, sometimes living together, sometimes apart. The last half of 2008, they had been living together in an apartment in the Island Club complex near the corner of Melrose and Oceanside Boulevard in Oceanside, not as lovers but



Vista courthouse

stock market since the beginning of Alan Greenspan's term at the Federal Reserve in 1987. Indeed, the March 23 bribe offer to Wall Street was a cynical attempt to run up the market to bolster consumer and business confidence and gain support for the administration's plan. In almost every major economic step it takes, the government has one eye on the market. In March of last year, Wall Street's Bear Stearns was rescued. The Bush administration rushed to get the job done before Asian stock markets opened. Now the government has pressured authorities to loosen bank accounting rules and is making life rough for those who bet stocks will go down.

Much as you would like to see stocks and housing values recover, you should not wish for any fast, gov-

taking Sophia and moving

back East to live with her

mother. Her announcement

led to an argument, which

ended with Falcone trying

to hit Jackson. "She took a

swing at me," Jackson recalls,

"and she wound up in jail

for the night, which led to me

getting a restraining order.

The judge ordered that she

leave the house, that she had

to stay away from me and

my job, and that she could

not leave the county [with

Sophia] — even on a day

trip — without my written

date on the 31st of December was whether the court

orders would be extended.

Jackson recalls that "the judge

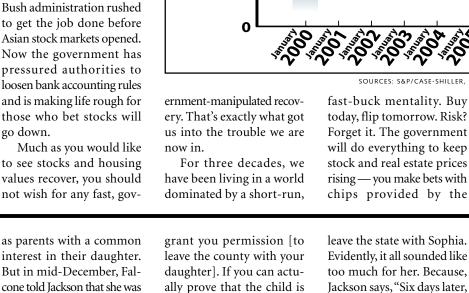
[Earl Maas] pretty much looked at her and said, 'There

is no way. I am not going to

Matt Potter is on vacation.

At issue during the court

permission."



\$500,000

\$400,000

\$300,000

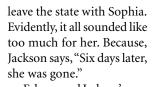
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\$100,000

ally prove that the child is better off away from here, this is how you go about the process.' "

The judge laid out for Falcone the hoops she would have to jump through to

Neal Obermeyer



Falcone and Jackson's saga started 11 years earlier and 2800 miles from San Diego in a New Jersey suburb of New York City. Jackson's

mother owned a clothing boutique in which Falcone's mother worked. The two met through their mothers, hit it off, and became romantically involved. The couple planned to build a life together in Southern California. In 1999, they were set to continued on page 10

That works splendidly

for a while. But there is moral

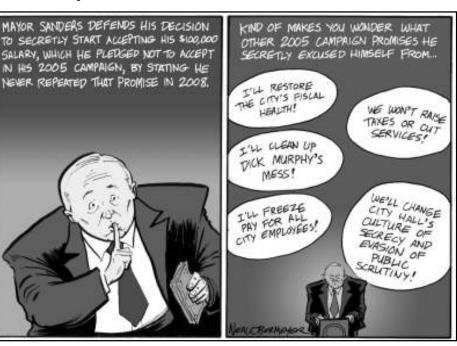
hazard — the verity that a

party insulated from risk

will eventually act recklessly,

continued on page 8

\$503,000 (Nov. 2005)



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STRINGERS

Duel Down the Avenue

By Mark Jay, 4/6/09 Imperial Beach — Near midnight on Sunday, April 5, police radio traffic indicated that a fight had broken out between two men on the 1300 block of Iris Avenue. A Hispanic male and a Hispanic female had been attempting to break into a car when its owner confronted the pair. According to witnesses, the two men were fighting and moving east on Iris Avenue, lunging at each other as though they both were wielding knives.

They stopped fighting mid block, and the male suspect fled with the female east on Iris Avenue. It appeared both men had been stabbed because deputies found blood trails going both east and west. They followed the one going east, through an apartment complex parking lot to Hemlock Street, the next street north. Deputies took samples of the blood. The car's owner had substantial lacerations to his back and leg and was rushed to USCD Medical Center, where he was expected to survive his injuries. Details on the car-theft suspect were unavailable.

Mystery Tower *By Steve Terry*, 4/6/09

Spring Valley — Last week in a



"Communications" tower

Spring Valley business park, a tower nearly 100 feet tall sprang up seemingly overnight. It was not there on Monday, March 30, but the thin skeletal structure was noticed on Tuesday morning. It dominated the sky in the center of the block bordered by Sweetwater Springs Boulevard, Austin Drive, Calavo of the tower. Though it was difficult to see clearly because of its great height, the top of the tower seemed to hold several small white dishes as well as other equipment.

By Wednesday afternoon the tower had disappeared.

Cat Feeds Himself

By Josh Grant, 4/6/09 Julian — At about 6 a.m. on March 26, between Pine Hills

Drive, and Jamacha Boulevard, near the main Spring Valley post office.

At about 2:35 p.m. on Tuesday, I approached three men, dressed as though they might be engineers, who were standing in the parking lot outside NSM Surveillance on Via Orange Way. When I asked them what the tower was for, one of them responded with the joke, "We can't tell you. We'd have to kill you." Then the tallest man gave me an answer:

"Communications."

The tower was based on a large sand-colored metal platform with wheels, which can evidently be towed as a trailer. Huge, steel spider-like squaretube stabilizers had been deployed to give the tower a wide and stable base. Guy wires stretched from the top down to the platform to keep the tower straight and immoveable. On the corner of the roof of NSM Surveillance (aka NS Microwave) stood a device mounted upon a tripod, seemingly aimed directly at the top and Cuyamaca Woods, two Julian residents heard sounds of distress coming from the vicinity of their livestock pen. Upon arriving at the scene, one resident discovered a mountain lion feeding on a freshly killed goat. Another goat was killed but not eaten. The alarmed residents went into a panic, as they stated that the cougar was trapped in the fully enclosed goat pen.

Though the lion had found a way into the pen, because he was surprised by the approach of people, he could not locate the way out. When the residents backed away, the lion escaped and charged by, barely missing one elderly resident and leaving both killed goats behind.

Because residents got a good look at the lion, they were able to identify it as a young male. The Department of Fish and Game was notified of the attack. Wardens responded the next day, but stated that because of the elusive nature of this animal, it would be difficult to locate.

Surf Nazi at the Jetty

By Timothy Harper, 4/3/09 Ocean Beach — On March 17, at the Ocean Beach Jetty, I had just caught a wave that nobody else was close to catching. After my ride, I paddled back to the lineup and another surfer told me, "That's it...you're done catchin' waves here in O.B." I asked him, "What's your problem? And, anyways, these waves

don't have your name written on them." He replied, "I'm a local here, and me and my buddies will see to that." I told him that I didn't give a damn if he was a local or not, and if he had a problem with me catching waves we could handle it right there, with or

without his buddies.

Freshly killed goats in Julian

So, I started to paddle for a wave and he began trying to cut me off. At that point, I got off my board in about waistto chest-high water to confront him (the waves weren't big). He got off his board and held it, saying he would stick me in the eye with it. He began to make the first move, and I punched him in the face. That stopped him from going any further. He said, "Let's take it the beach." I said, "That's fine."

I gradually made my way back to shore. I saw him walk up to a lady on Dogs' Beach and begin using her cell phone. I learned later that he had called up some buddies and the police.

I didn't confront him when I got out of the water. Instead, I made my way back to the parking lot, where I had seen another surfer and a few other guys from the lineup. I asked them if they knew who the guy was. One of them said, "Yeah, he's a local."

As I began walking to my car, the instigator began taunting me and telling me not to leave. I told him I wasn't leaving, that I was just going to change out of my wetsuit. I figured that the police might be on their way.

Once I got to my car, I called the police to let them know that I had been in an altercation with another surfer in the water. As I was on the phone, they arrived. I explained to them in detail what had happened and that there were witnesses. Another surfer that had seen the incident walked toward me and the officers and told the officers that I hadn't done anything wrong. So they questioned him alone to see if what I had said was true. (In their interview, they learned that racial slurs had been used while I was out of earshot - I'm African-American.)

Once they verified that all the information was true, they went back and talked to the instigator.

Afterward, the police officers told me of the racial slurs that had been used, and so the incident would be classified as a hate crime. The officers didn't cite me for punching the guy because I was the victim of a hate crime. I didn't see the officers cite the instigator. They said a detective would follow up on the territorial predators. I decided to zip up my wetsuit and paddle back out because the waves had gotten better.

Just to let other surfers know, in the water I usually give up more waves to others just to earn respect. Surfing shouldn't result in physical altercations that leave others talking smack, bloodied and bruised. I'd rather hit the other lip, if you know what I mean.

Comments

 Props for taking on that coward. Cowards always feel brave when they have their buddies nearby or when they have a weapon.

Then he ran and cried to the police for what HE started — priceless!

By JasonfreakinBang 2:28 p.m., Apr 3, 2009 2. You handled it well. I've surfed O.B. (as a non-local) a few times and haven't had problems there. While a decent break, it's nothing that is [worth]fighting for. It was probably more of a racial issue than claiming territory. By ngk79 2:50 p.m., Apr 3, 2009

 Seeing African-American people in O.B., is a challenge to the uneducated mind. Know you are smarter than



Timothy Harper, O.B. Jetty

case, but I've yet to be contacted. The police said I should be the bigger man and maybe find another place to surf, but I said that if I did that, then that would leave the wrong impression. I stated that this is a public beach and we all have the right to enjoy the outdoors free from that. Bullying you or anyone out of the surf should cost him a year of being able to surf anywhere.

By sandybeach 4:32 p.m., Apr 3, 2009 4. I'm sure that the officer didn't even bother dealing

continued on page 10

San Diego

Reader April 9, 2009



CITY LIGHTS

Free market continued from page 6

leading to a crash and shifting the responsibility to clean up the mess to others (usually taxpayers). Governments have found to their sorrow that while they can help manipulate markets for long periods and to breathtaking heights, they can't support prices that reach loco levels. In this decade alone, we have experienced two stock market crashes and one real estate crash.

Consider the stock market. Believe it or not, in the 1940s, 1950s, and early 1960s, companies were built for long-term sturdiness. Corporate managements and Wall Street were generally not obsessed with shortterm performance. It was believed that if managements succeeded in building a sound company, the stock price would take care of itself. Generally, accounting was straight and debt levels were moderate.

During the 1960s, crooks invaded the scene in the form of conglomerates that would inflate earnings and stock prices by cooking the books, then use bloated stock for takeovers of reputable companies. Most collapsed, but not without wreaking havoc. San Diego had some doozies: C. Arnholt Smith's Westgate-California, U.S. Financial, and Intermark, for example. In the 1980s came the takeover crowd that raised money through junk bonds and raided respectable corporations, which too often fought back by loading themselves with debt and cooking their own books. Both the conglomerates and takeover crowd were often backed with dirty money.

So the takeover targets resisted, and tragically, that's when once-reputable bluechip companies began adopting the same slimy methods as the crooks — using every trick in the book to run up the price of their stocks. What began as selfdefense became de rigueur. Wall Street insisted that companies keep growing every quarter. So, using sharp pencils and efficacious erasers,

CITY LIGHTS

cils and efficacious erasers, they did. San Diego's Peregrine Systems was one of the most egregious offenders — backdating contracts, drawing up fake sales, for example.

The government did its part to keep stocks zooming. It set up 401(k) and individual retirement accounts to make stocks more attractive. It handed out all kinds of tax breaks to corporations and loosened rules so companies could wring maximum advantage from offshore tax havens. The Federal Reserve kept money easy to facilitate financing. Not wanting to take away the punch bowl, the Securities and Exchange Commission stopped riding herd on major fraud.

On October 19 of 1987, stocks, which had been in a rowdy bull market, plunged by 22.6 percent. The next day, professionals worried that the whole global financial system would unravel. Suddenly, there was heavy buying of stock market futures contracts, pushing up the popular averages. Sophisticated observers knew that either the government or central bank was doing the buying or ordering big banks to do it. The stock market quickly recovered. Bingo! The government realized how easy it was to manipulate stocks. On March 18, 1988, President Reagan formed the Working Group on Financial Markets, which came to be known as the Plunge Protection Team. Its mission is hush-hush, but Wall Street insiders know it is the bulls' quarterback.

Financial consultants and stockbrokers picked up the signals. Individual investors were told to have 60 to 70 percent of their portfolios in stocks, instead of a more rational 30 to 45 percent. Ditto for pension funds, which should have known better. Companies told their employees to load up their 401(k) portfolios with stock mutual funds. Meanwhile, Wall Street cranked out all kinds of exotic and oftinscrutable products that the public gobbled up and regulators ignored.

CITY LIGHTS

As debt exploded, so did profits. So the government encouraged excessive debt. On April 28, 2004, the Securities and Exchange Commission blithely decided to let major investment banks raise their debt levels to, say, 33 to 1: for every dollar of equity, a Wall Street firm could have a staggering \$33 of debt or more — far, far more than was permitted under old net capital rules.

Stocks soared through the 1990s, basically on artificial levitation. But then came a bear market, a moderate recovery, and the bear market we are now in. One reason for the current unhappiness: the institutions that supposedly did the buying for the Plunge Protection Team — big Wall Street institutions — are now broke, in part because of the excessive debt that the securities commission let them have and in part because of complex derivatives that the government did not regulate.

All around the world, other countries were adopting the U.S. model. Now markets are plunging together all around the globe. To a very large degree, moral hazard is the reason. Once investors and investment professionals believed governments could and would hold up markets, lunatic decision-making proliferated. And led to the crashes that the government could not stop.

After the bursting of the tech-stock bubble in 2000–2002, the Federal Reserve needed another bubble. It lowered interest rates to the floor. In previous years, Congress had made many steps to encourage home ownership: tax breaks, creation of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac to buy mortgages and sell them to *continued on page 10*



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Free market

continued from page 8

investors. Politicians hyped home ownership of lowincome families by encouraging issuance of subprime mortgages and peddling of them to investors. The country set itself up for a nuclear explosion: lenders didn't care whether a borrower could afford a mortgage; after all, it would be sold to Wall Street and then to investors. The paper was peddled in the form of highly and deliberately complicated derivatives containing those mortgages.

San Diego, which had always had high home prices and moderate incomes, was on the leading edge — of the precipice. Citizens snapped up mortgages with teaser rates that would later balloon. San Diego became the capital of exotic mortgages. Foreclosures cascaded. Prices have plunged more than 40 percent since their 2005 peak — one of the biggest declines in the nation.

Now San Diegans' stocks and home values are down 40 percent or more. And the government intends to prop up both. You may think that's good news, but it's bad news for long-term stability and sanity. Moral hazard makes it so.

Goodbye hello continued from page 6

CITY LIGHTS

come west when they found out that Falcone was pregnant. The couple decided to stay in New Jersey, and baby Sophia was born in September of that year. When she was five and a half, her parents again planned to move to California. In February 2005, they had a truck packed and ready to go when Falcone backed out of the plan. "But the next year," Jackson says, "we worked it out. And we made it to Oceanside in 2006. We've been out here for three vears."

During their three years here, Jackson says, "We were living together for the first six months and the last six months. In between, we split the time right down the middle with our daughter; we lived five minutes' walking apart. I was in property management, and I put her up in an apartment two buildings down from mine. We were living in the same community."

Little Sophia seemed to thrive in the Southern California sun. She surprised her parents by excelling in school. "In New Jersey," Jackson says of his daughter, "we thought she was going to be heading toward some of the same learning disabilities

her mother and I struggled with, ADD and that sort of thing. But when she got here, she got accepted into the Gifted and Talented Education — it is called the GATE program. So she attended that before school and after school."

On Monday, January 5, Falcone, in violation of the court orders, was staying with Jackson (with his permission) because, Jackson says, "She had nowhere to go. At the time I had no idea she had a motel room with her boyfriend. I found out later that the days that she needed to stay at the house were days that she was fighting with her boyfriend and did not want to stay in the hotel. I was so worn out from the situation, and I did not want to fight in front of Sophia anymore." So he let Falcone stay in the apartment. Sophia was due back at school that day for the resumption of classes after Christmas break. But Falcone called Jackson at work and said, " 'Your daughter is sick. She's throwing up,' " Jackson says. "But when I came home from work, saw my daughter, I could see something was wrong. Ellen left, and my daughter ran up to me and said, 'Daddy, you need to pinky swear something.' I said, 'Okay,' continued on page 12



Stringers

continued from page

CITY LIGHTS

with your crap. And why should he? You got off easy. You took a free chance to physically assault someone and luckily one of them said the "N" word out loud.

They got a slap on the hand and you got to punch someone. Sounds to me like you two are even.

By x_acto 6:40 p.m., Apr 3, 2009 5. It just cracks me up.

Wannabes acting all tough until the chips are down and they get spanked, then THEY call the cops like the little wussies thay are.

By SurfPuppy619 9:36 p.m., Apr 3, 2009 6. As a man of African-Amer-

ican descent, who was born and raised in O.B., the behavior exhibited is typical of the idiots/punks that claim to be locals. Real people from O.B. love everyone and do not act in such an asinine manner. This sounds like an idiot who claims to be a skinhead, is unable to do anything without his boys, and has no heart at all. Right on to the real and death to the fakers. Once a Pointer, always a Pointer! By bjlstar84 10:03 p.m.,

Apr 3, 2009 7. I join in saluting the author's courage, shown in the face of the bully, and again in response to the suggestion that the bully get his way. At some point, someone has to stand up to that type of

toxic behavior if the behavior is to stop.

CITY LIGHTS

And, by the way, thanks to the author for a great piece of reporting. This article is gripping from the start and takes readers inside a real-life run-in with one of the surf hooligans we usually only hear about in vague rumors. By shizzyfinn 10:53 p.m., Apr 3, 2009

8. No matter how thin you slice it, there are always two sides to the story.

BTW that wasn't a hate crime. That altercation was about surfing, not your race, color, or creed. Just because the guy is distasteful enough to drop the N-Bomb does not mean that it was a hate crime

> By rawbe 7:45 a.m., Apr 4, 2009

9. I'm surprised you got away with the punch. I don't believe a hate crime is committed if its based on a racial slur that you were not even aware of. Sorry, but I believe you left something out of the story. It doesn't add up. As Judge Judy says, "If a story doesn't make sense, it probably isn't true.'

By thebug 8:44 a.m., Apr 4, 2009 10. By rawbe 7:45 a.m. = By thebug 8:44 a.m = SAME PERSON ... if you just register mutliple accounts you have to wait at least a few days to not get busted. BTW, for all you little Perry Masons posting here, if you use a slur, any kind of slur that derides a person on race, ethnicity, gender, creed, or religion, it is a hate crime. It is that simple.

CITY LIGHTS

By SurfPuppy619 9:14 a.m., Apr 4, 2009 11. Way to stand up to those "locals." I was born and raised here but have had to deal with it my whole life. If I only had a nickel for every time someone that moved here from the midwest told me to "go back to the valley." It has gotten a lot better with the times and I think you should surf there more.

By surf2day 9:58 a.m., Apr 4, 2009

12. Surf puppy, So you're saying you believe that the simple use of the N-word is a hate crime? Am I commiting a hate crime by ordering the Polish Dog at Costco? Or the Irish stew at the Blarneystone pub? My friend and I plan on playing Indian poker; can we count on getting raided? Will the Bums at the O.B. pier rat me out if they see me playing a couple of hands of gin rummy? Will Native Americans have the Arrowhead water guy arrested? Oh, you were wrong about me being "rawbe" also, Sherlock.

By thebug 11:11 a.m., Apr 4, 2009 13. Til you mentioned race, I

was thinking this just sounded like a typical day at O.B., which is kind of a continued on page 15



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San Diego Reader April 9, 2009 11

CITYLIGHTS CITYLIGHTS CITYLIGHTS CITYLIGHTS CITYLIGHTS

Goodbye hello

continued from page 10

and she said, 'I wasn't sick today. I didn't throw up. Mommy didn't wake me up for school. She said Daddy would get mad if he knew that I didn't go to school today.' "

The incident aroused Jackson's suspicions that Falcone was fixing to leave. "The next day, I woke up, I kissed my daughter while she was sleeping, and went to work. When I got home from work, the whole house was empty. I mean my TV, all the furniture, everything. They got a truck, and they cleared everything out of the house while I was at work. The only things that were there were a broken couch and my clothes."

Falcone had left a Dear Howard letter that suggested she and Sophia were taking a bus trip "back home" to New Jersey. But for some reason, she also left her cell

phone, on which Jackson examined her text messages. From them he found out that Falcone and her boyfriend, whom Jackson describes as "a drug addict, in and out of jail all his life, that had just been released from prison," had been planning this move for a long time, that it wasn't a bus but a truck they'd be driving, and it wasn't to New Jersey but upstate New York they were going. Falcone had met her boyfriend at a methadone clinic. He was headed to New York to live with his brother, who had recently been released from prison in Illinois. And he wanted Falcone and her daughter to come along.

Jackson was stunned. "Ellen and I came from a suburban part of New Jersey — upper middle class, white picket fences — and now we were thrown into this crazy Jerry Springer mess. And what killed me was that my daughter was stuck in this whole thing. She knew that this was going on but was just being manipulated by her mother and thinking that if she told me that I would be angry with her."

Upon coming home to a cleared-out house, Jackson called the Oceanside Police Department, and an officer came over. "He told me to go to the Vista courthouse. I went on my lunch break the next day [Wednesday, January 7], and they pretty much laughed at me and said, 'You have to come here bright and early in the morning.' And also at this time, I had taken some time off of work, and I was hanging onto my job by a thread. So I had to work on Thursday. So Friday I showed up at 6:45 in the morning. And they didn't tell me to leave. I was 18th, 19th in line. They turn everybody after 20 away. They repeatedly told us that if you are first in line there is a chance that you may not

be seen. But I was confident that I was going to be seen. And I was there from 6:45 a.m. to 3:45 in the afternoon, when a lady stuck her head out and said, 'I am sorry. We are not going to be able to see anybody. Obviously we are closed for the weekend, and don't bother coming on Monday.' These ladies were probably the rudest people I've ever seen. They are worse than the New Jersey DMV, and the DMV in Jersey is horrible."

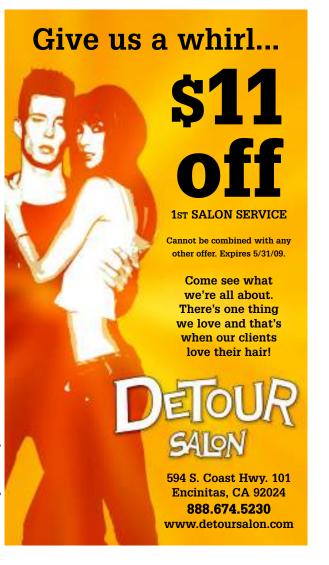
Jackson left the courthouse frustrated, frustrated that his daughter had been taken from him, frustrated that he couldn't contact his daughter, frustrated that the Oceanside police didn't act the day she was taken, frustrated that the Vista family court didn't seem to care, frustrated that the court order forbidding Falcone from taking his daughter out of the county seemed to count for nothing. He suspected that had the gender situation been reversed and he had taken Sophia against court orders, her mother would have had a lot easier time getting someone to care. Not knowing what else to do, he called the Oceanside police again. "This time, they told me about the child abduction unit with the D.A.'s office. So I called. At first the lady I talked to got into it. I was really, really excited. She asked me, 'Do you have custody?' I said, 'Yes, we both have custody.' But that's when I found out that joint legal custody really doesn't mean anything."

Because they had always managed to arrange the joint care of their daughter, Jackson and Falcone never needed a court-dictated visitation schedule. However, they had set up, with the court's help, a system whereby money was taken from Jackson's paychecks for child support. That, Jackson says, put him at a disadvantage custodywise. Though he still had legal custody of Sophia, Falcone had physical custody. "Because of that, she told me all they can do is a 'search and locate.'

Jill Lindberg, an attorney with the district attorney's child abduction unit, says custody situations such as Jackson and Falcone's, in which the parents, not the court, set times and schedules, can make enforcement of court orders a little trickier. "Sometimes these court orders [stipulate] that reasonable visitation will be [set up] by the parents. Well, that's not very helpful, because if the parents could agree they wouldn't be in family court. So we look at the orders, and we also look at all prior orders to see what visitation has been in the past."

Told of Jackson's suspicion that had the genders been reversed he would have gotten more action from the authorities, Lindberg, who did not work on Jackson's case, responded, "The gender doesn't matter to us. Mothers violate court orders, fathers violate court orders. They all do it. We try to help whichever parent comes to us and seeks assistance. Now, certainly in other countries, or perhaps even in other states, there might be a bias by some courts that the mother should be with the child, especially a young child. And they might be reluctant to return a child to a father, especially a one-, two-, or three-year-old. But from our perspective, the gender of the parent doesn't make a difference."

The "search and locate" was never needed. On Wednesday, January 28, Falcone called Jackson. Turns out, it took Falcone five days to realize the situation in upstate New York with her ex-con boyfriend and his ex-con brother was no good. And she took her daughter and headed south to New Jersey. "She called me back and started crying, apologizing, that it was the worst mistake that she ever made, continued on page 15





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12 San Diego Reader April 9, 2009



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Goodbye hello

continued from page 12

she doesn't know what she was thinking, my daughter needs me, all that. Of course, this is not stuff that I have never heard before. I have heard it all in similar situations. But she also told me that she was going into a long-term rehab, which is something she needs. I spoke with my daughter every day after that, and Ellen would hop on the phone and give me an update with school. And they were living at Ellen's mother's house in New Jersev."

The plan was for Sophia to return to Oceanside when her mother checked into rehab.

Last month, Howard Jackson emailed this update: "Ellen and Sophia came back. They drove half away across the country, and I flew into Louisiana and drove the rest of the way with them. Ellen promised that she will be in a program within a few weeks. That promise faded as time passed. Each day I see her slip into the same old habits. Sophia and I have been spending some quality time together. I have been trying to give her as much stability as possible."

Names in this story have been changed.

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CITY LIGHTS CITY LIGHTS

Stringers

continued from page 10 jerk magnet anyway.

> Since you mentioned it though, I'd say it must be neat to be African-American. In my observation, this kind of stuff is more common on dry land and with the races reversed. And if the white guy does anything to defend himself, it's STILL all his fault and a hate crime.

By kstaff 1:38 p.m., Apr 5, 2009 14. Surfers, in addition to being massive sissies, pollute the world with surfboard waste and territorial corn humping. *By fumber 4:47 p.m.,*

Apr 5, 2009

Graffiti on Wheels

By Cindy Winslow, 4/2/09 Mira Mesa — At the recent



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March meeting of the Mira Mesa Town Council, a concerned resident stood before the group to voice her dismay on abandoned shopping carts.

"These carts are just graffiti on wheels," said Terry Forshey of San Diegans Against Abandoned Shopping Carts, formed by residents in 2006. "The City of San Diego has an ordinance to address graffiti but none to address abandoned shopping carts."

Although the theft of a shopping cart is a misdemeanor, the law is rarely enforced. Forshey says that the SDPD doesn't address the dilemma. Bus stops on the streets around Mira Mesa Boulevard are often crowded with abandoned carts.

The residents group worked together with forcontinued on page 16

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CITY LIGHTS

CITY LIGHTS

Stringers

continued from page 15 mer councilmember Brian Maienschein to create a citywide ordinance, but Maienschein was termed out of office in December of 2008 without an ordinance in place.

"We have been continuing our efforts through his successor, councilmember Carl DeMaio," says Forshey. **Comments**

1. As I visit my local Vons in Mira Mesa or other stores utilizing shopping carts, I have yet to see any signs asking for customers not to steal or take the carts off the property. I see no offers to sell "granny cart."

By beachwood 10:38 a.m., Apr 3, 2009

2. The Target store at the Irvine Spectrum mall has an RFID system to fence in their shopping carts. If they stray too far from the store, the wheels lock up. This *Business Week* article mentions it (scroll down to the "Invisible Detectives" section). *http://www.businessweek. com/magazine/con.*

> By AquaCat 5:03 p.m., Apr 3, 2009

Salt Water Dog Rights

By Jennifer Blanchard, 4/2/09 *Oceanside* — On Sunday, March 29, over 200 people and at least 250 dogs showed up at Oceanside Harbor. The group, known as Friends of Oceanside Dog Beach, walked around the area to show support for a designated off-leash dog area at the mouth of the San Luis Rey River. Currently, there is no dog-friendly beach in San Diego County north of Del Mar.

Three people with "No dog



beach"T-shirts stood near the bridge as the group walked from city parking lot #20, over the Pacific Beach Bridge, and down the sidewalk to the grassy area west of the Nautical Bean Coffee Company.

Chained

By Steve Terry, 4/2/09 Downtown San Diego — On the morning of Sunday, March 29, workers for the Maritime Museum of San Diego labored to replace the lines that moor the 1898 ferry boat Berkeley to the pier. Two thick, braided nylon ropes had decayed. Replacing them with new nylon line was deemed not a valid option because the portion of the ferry's wooden deck where they were tied has incurred some rot. Thus, the decision was made to replace the ropes with iron chains, which would be affixed to the steel hull of the vessel.

On a relatively small barge, several strong workers were able to gradually string the new chains (60 pounds per foot) from the hull of the *Berkeley* to the edge of the Embarcadero. They used the barge and the existing nylon rope to support the chain above the water as it was slowly stretched taut and then secured to the concrete wharf.

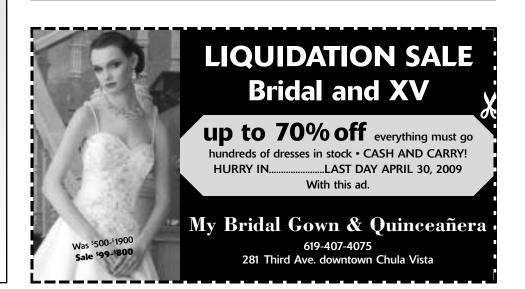
CITY LIGHTS

Tragedy at Avalon

By Thomas Jarboe, 4/2/09 Downtown San Diego — On Saturday, March 29, a young man fell from a 12th-floor apartment on Ninth Avenue at 1:15 a.m. The victim, who had been visiting a friend at the Avalon building on Cortez Hill, died on impact. The building's maintenance manager was returning from the Gaslamp Quarter when he discovered the body lying in front of the Cortez Hill Market, which is on the building's ground floor. He called the police, which arrived on the scene and cordoned off the area. Their only comment was that it was a suicide.

Christopher Chinn, a resident of Avalon, said he was standing on his balcony when he heard a woman's scream. "It was a blood-curdling scream. I could see the body from my balcony. It was terrible." The cry came from the young man's girlfriend. Police have not yet released a report on the identity of the man.

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Diego Reader April 9, 2009 17

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LETTERS

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Home Improvement

I am commenting on your article on the current violence in Tijuana and Mexico ("Mommy, Why Are They Shooting at Us Again?" Cover Story, April 2). Such comments by the Baja governor and Mexican citizens blaming the United States are plain ignorant. Mexico hasn't evolved much in the way of government, with corruption on every level, police and politicians. Mexican citizens are killing and kidnapping their own people, with the help of corrupt officials. Try fixing your own screwed-up country before blaming the U.S.

Name Withheld by Request

Death By Pen

I would like to invite you to Rosarito Beach to see that all you write about us is not so true ("Mommy, Why Are They Shooting at Us Again?" Cover Story, April 2). Of course we do have problems, maybe not as many as San Diego or L.A. or anywhere in the USA or the world. We do love our tourist people and our visitors. There are so many things we can offer for you to spend a nice day in Baja, just to relax and enjoy.

With your pen you are killing business in México, you're much better than the people that are drug dealing.

Please check first what



Create a stimulus package for him.

you are saying, and then just stoppppp your bad writing.

Verónica via email

Leaning Lame Leaders

The article "Mommy, Why Are They Shooting at Us Again?" (Cover Story, April 2) was yet another great read about the reality of Mexico today. Gone are the days when you would go down there for cheap shopping, tacos, and beer. The horrors told in this article should be the wake-up call to all Americans. If you don't want bodies with their tongues cut out left in front of your child's elementary school, then secure the border now !!! Shut it down completely with our military. Think about it — that should at least prevent the violence from pouring into the U.S. like it has been. It would severely cut back on the drugs pouring in. And if you believe the angle of 90 percent (although other statistics indicate it's only 17 percent) of guns flowing down south from the U.S., it would stop that up too.

But somehow I think our lame leaders aren't leaning that way. It seems they want a global society, currency, and culture. Our Department of Homeland Insecurity even stopped raids of illegal-alien workplaces. Now what message are we sending? America is weak and defenseless. If you make it here, you are going to be set with all the free stuff you can handle; come raid us. continued on page 52



MY NEIGHBORHOOD A monthly writing contest 1st place

Tst place Author: Sandra Keener Neighborhood: Downtown Age: 60 Occupation: Retired

Author: Elizabeth Salaam Neighborhood: City Heights Age: 35 Occupation: Writer/Program

Coordinato 3rd place Author: Rachel Vaughn Neighborhood: Paradise Hills Aae: 27

rupation: Website Content ebruary 2009

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

Entries must be submitted through and will be published on the Neighborhood pages of the SDReader.com website.

If space allows, we will publish entries in the printed version

ne <i>Reader</i> .	
1st place	^{\$} 500
2nd place	^{\$} 250
3rd place	

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

Go to SDReader.com/neighborhoods, find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog. Deadline for this month is midnight, April 30.

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STRAIGHTFROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Hey, Matt: Some time ago I was checking out San Diego on Google Earth. On Coronado Island, at what I am told is the Special Forces training facility, there exists a large building that has a footprint of a giant swastika. The design seems to me to be a bit unusual, to say the least. What gives, Matt? — Jeff D., via email

Well, it was a sort of "Oops, sir." A lack of military foresight. No evil intent. Back in the mid-'60s, the amphib base planned some new offices, barracks, and utility buildings. For some reason now lost in the wilds

of government paperwork, the only structures the architect committed to paper in aerial view were two central utility buildings and one L-shaped three-story arm extending from the center. The final plan actually called for four of these radiating arms. A couple of years later, by groundbreaking time, somebody finally snapped awake and maybe said something like "Psssst, sir. Swastika. It's a swastika." "Okay, sailor. Stow it under your lid." Plans were too far along to change them, and besides, in 1967 only a few random Navy pilots would see the building from the clouds. The ugly truth only became public when we civilians had access to Internet aerials. "Yikes!" said everybody from patriot-couch-potato net surfers to Midwest pastors to the local Anti-Defamation League. The solution to the problem is a strategic arrangement of rooftop solar panels and some tree-filled landscaping to disguise the offending outline. At ease, Jeff.

Hey, Matt:

With all the talk lately about kidnappings south of the border, it's occurred to me that "kidnapping" is a strange word. Where did it come from? Does it have something to do with stealing young goats or small children or maybe putting small goats or children down for a brief sleep? — Kid at Heart, via email

We woke up the elves from their brief sleep to look into this one. I won't deal with the disagreeable word nerds anymore, so I've fobbed the job onto the second stringers. They slid the question under the nerds' office door and listened for the flipping of dictionary

pages and heated arguing and the sound of pens being thrown, a sure indication that they have started to work on our inquiry. Eventually the nerds slid their answer back under the door, and for once they all agreed on the story behind the word. A rare event that makes my life a lot easier.

GEAR

The story's not pretty, but it's true. Seventeenth Century England may have needed lots of things such as toilets and sewers, but what they thought they needed most was a gang of laborers for the American "plantations," as we were called then. Not many volunteers for

the job, so the gentry took matters into their own hands. To fill their ships, criminals-forhire hauled drunks out of alehouses, snatched children off the streets. It's the latter that birthed "kidnap." ("Nap" was just a variation on "nab," to steal.) And as usual, the word nerds have also slid under the door a demand for a raise. I guess I'll have to deal with this one myself.

Freeway Bugs!

From Lou Jones of San Diego: "In regards to your answer in the January 8 issue [to Don]...about rubber worn off tires [and where it disappears to], I believe I have a more accurate, if less entertaining, answer. I read an article, as best as I can recall, about 35 years ago in the L.A. Times, addressing this question. Like Don, another person had wondered what happens to all that pulverized rubber (or whatever the tire makers use instead of rubber). Being a scientist, he did more than wonder. First, he calculated that Los Angeles freeways (and their shoulders) should be several feet deep in the black stuff. Since that wasn't the case, our scientist looked into the mystery of what was happening to it. He discovered that a hitherto unknown species of bacteria lived alongside the freeways and chowed down on the powdery black stuff as fast as it was produced."

Bacteria eat Styrofoam and oil slicks, so why not tire grunge? But there's no question that much of the black powder that wears off tires does end up airborne in a globe-circling cloud. So I guess it's a tie. Thanks, Lou. Definitely weird enough to make it worth getting out of bed for.

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

Got a guestion 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.

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SportingBox BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

Rowing Part II



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UCSD women's rowing team

ack with Pattie Pinkerton, UCSD women's crew head coach. She did student time at San Diego State in the '70s, rowed in the USA National Championships from 1975 to '84, was a competitor at the Master's Championships and World Games from 1985 to '97, won 16 international titles, seven national titles, coach-of-the-year awards in Australia and the West Coast Conference, was USA National Rowing Association president, and so on.

Pinkerton hired on at UCSD ten years ago, when UCSD was a Division III school on the way to Division II. In the past three years, she's coached her rowing team to two second places and a fifth place in national Division II rankings.

Since the odds are high-to-certain that you know as little about rowing as I do, I'll stay with the basics. "Tell me about the positions on your team."

"There's the person who steers the boat, and that's the coxswain," Pinkerton says. "She needs to be small and fierce. You need a competitor who has charisma. Coxswains are the coach in the boat. They're the ones who respond to tactics and execute the race plan."

Okay. "What's a race plan?"

Pinkerton says, "We have a 2000-meter race. If you watch a mile run, there are front runners and then there are other people who stay back in the pack. Rowing is like that. It's divided up into four 500-meter quarters. It starts off with a sprint and then settles to a sustainable pace and then sprints again at the end. The reason why it starts off with a sprint, which is not physiologically sound, is that you have to get three-quarters of a ton up and moving. So, you get the boat up to its maximum speed in that first 45 seconds, then you shift down to your sustainable pace. You're pretty much redlining right on your anaerobic threshold. Rowers have some

of the highest lactates [lactate levels] on record."

"I assume there are different skills for different oaring positions?"

"You have to work together," Pinkerton says. "Two ends of the boat. The front end is where the stroke — that's the person who sets the pace — sits. You have an equal number of oars on both sides; even numbers are generally rowing port side, and odd numbers are generally rowing starboard side. The seats are numbered. Seat 1 is closest to the bow because rowers sit backwards, and it's the seat that crosses the finish line first. The numbers go up to 8, which is the stroke seat. Seats 7 and 8 set a rhythm; they have to work together and set a rhythm for the rest of the boat. They don't talk a lot because they can't, but they can feel the boat and they might tell the coxswain that it's time to take it up or, 'Let's go now.'

"The two ends of the boat are quite narrow, so a lot of people think the best rowers are up front. But, that's not true; there are different skills. The people who sit closest to the bow have to be technically proficient, and they can't be too heavy. You put your heaviest, strongest rowers in the middle of the boat — referred to as the engine room because it's the most stable place; rowers can get the blade in and crank it."

"Get the blade in and crank it?"

"You're trying to do the same thing over and over again and perfect it. Your [oar] stroke would have a good rhythm. Rowers would not be affected by what's happening behind them; if people went a little nuts, they'd still have a strong sense of rhythm.

"A good [oar] stroke gets the blade into the water while you're fully compressed. You're in a tuck position, and your arms are extended as the blade enters the water, without slowing the boat down. You get the blade in and then use your legs. It's a flat stroke. You send the boat away at the release, and then you have a recovery. You don't do anything to slow the boat down."

DON'T SLOW THE BOAT DOWN! Got it. "What's the hardest thing to coach?"

"The catch. Trying to get the blades into water simultaneously. It takes a lot of precision to get the blade in at exactly the right time. It's a lifelong quest."

Pinkerton's immediate quest must be moving up from second place to champion. I ask, "Who is the powerhouse in Division II?"

"For the last four years it's been Western Washington. But, someday they're going to lose and we hope to be there when it happens.

The UCSD women's crew team will be competing in the San Diego City Championships on April 19. Hie thee to ucsdtritons.com for particulars.

Find Sporting Box online at SDReader.com



BY JOHN BRIZZOLARA

The doctor also suggested a mental ward for me.

Not all Fridays — let's face it — are fun, games, leisure, and license. Some suck. Not unlike a very recent one, a several-day visit to what I will call Palomino Hospital in the horse country in North County, where your columnist has found himself spending more and more time. Now some criticism has been leveled at "T.G.I.F." for being sometimes a tad depressive. I have an explanation: my thyroid. It's shot out, like much of the rest of me, and that is why (in part) I found myself in the care of the sinister Dr. W.

But this is about a patient next to me quite mad, as it turned out. He was attempting to call 911 from his hospital bed. Darren, we'll call him, suffers from multiple liver problems and alcoholic dementia. Wet brain it is sometimes called. He is maybe 32. And, oh, yes, this was a Friday night.

Darren was convinced that Dr. W., a tall man of some Asian descent (not suggesting anything here), was intent

on cutting out his very compromised liver. The good doctor seemed to mistake bullying for reason and upbraided the poor loon for his "social irresponsibility in drinking to excess." Naturally the M.D. had no intention of surgery. His suggestion was a locked mental ward. It was, in fact, his first suggestion, instead of, say, sedation.

Darren, a diminutive and pudgy young man, was easily bullied by the tall and well-built Eurasian physician. Doc W. upbraided him for his moral failure at sobriety. "This is the second time I've seen you in here this week! What's wrong with you?" It would seem this was a question the good healer himself should be considering.

W. went on in this vein for some time before he called security. While no threat from the patient seemed evident, it appeared that the doctor had missed the meeting of the AMA where it was determined that alcoholism was a disease, considered much like diabetes or, say, psoriasis. To W., it was a moral failure, such as pederasty or kleptomania.

A beefy, pleasant security man was posted next to Darren while the patient went on over the phone to his mother about how the staff was trying to murder him. At no time did Darren pose any physical threat. Still, two other security guards stood over him for some 45 minutes. Meanwhile the nurses tittered a little about the absurdity of calling 911 from a hospital room but were mostly far more sympathetic to Darren than his doctor-on-call.

The nurses said that your narrator's blood tests had come back indicating a badly functioning thyroid. This, they said, would account for much lethargy and depression — if, in fact, I were experiencing any such thing. It was agreed that this was the deal.

Not to dwell on my case, but I too received a ration of much the same kind of thing as Darren from Doc W. "Why do you suppose you're depressed? Hmm? You haven't taken your L-Thyroxine, have you? What did you expect?"

"L what?"

"Hah!" was his only response, his head thrown back in contempt.



"So. You get depressed and you drink. Is that right?"

"Well, yeah. Not always, but, you know..." "That doesn't help, does it." It wasn't a question.

"Well, at first, a little, but then, you know. I guess I take it too far." "I guess you do."And then he repeated himself in a contemptuous tone, "I guess you do."

The doctor also suggested a mental ward for me. A locked facility to prevent any further folly

on my part. The bedside manner of a pissed-off tarantula was a phrase that occurred to me.

Darren spent much time on the phone to relatives, declaring the homicidal intent of his caregivers. Beyond this he did nothing threatening except express a will to leave. Nurses, security, and Dr. W. all stayed him with warnings about leaving, which Darren took to be some sort of legal charge. His message to relatives then became "I'm being held against my will!"

A nurse I had not seen before (of the Nurse Ratched type) appeared at my bedside and accused me of smoking in my room, threatened me with discharge, and calling security. I had done no such thing, though I wished I could have. I had nothing to smoke anyway.

Spending much time in hospitals might lead one to think that the subject enjoys the experience. Angiograms? Stress tests where one is forced to remain conscious but unmoving for six hours? Quadruple bypasses? Pacemaker implants and replacements? Hourlong attempts at IV implants and blood samples when one is a hopeless "stick," as they say? The only enjoyment involved may be watching the television show *House*, which sometimes airs on Fridays — or used to.

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by Barbarella

In the strict scientific sense, we all feed on death — even vegetarians.

— Mr. Spock, Star Trek

W friend Hanis has a tattoo of a pig on his left forearm — a simple outline and diagram of butcher's cuts, each portion labeled from head to hock. For months now, Hanis has been nurturing two live porkers on a farm in East County. They are comfortable and cared for. He closely supervises their feeding — they get only the choicest slop and leftover mash from a local brewery. Hanis's hogs have names: Happy Tummy 1 and Happy Tummy 2.

While Hanis (a chef) gets a gleam in his eye while thinking of how tasty his pigs will be, it seems an

Not only do the scraps of meat come from the very slaughterhouses she condemns, the food is then tested on animals. increasing number of my friends have gone vegetarian. I organize the growing number of herbivores I know into three categories: Live and Let Die, Holier Than Thou Hypocrites, and Militant Vegans. Into the first cubbyhole, I place my favorite noflesh-eating friends. Like a Cafeteria Catholic, the Live and Let Die folke mich and

flesh-eating friends. Like a Cafeteria Catholic, the Live and Let Die folks pick and choose their own forbidden fruit. My sister Jane doesn't like the taste of most animals, fish included; if

DIARY OF A DIVA

Нарру Титту

pressed, she'll admit she gets queasy thinking about where meat comes from, but she allows the occasional processed slice of turkey to find its way into her sandwiches. My friend Jessica is a full-on vegetarian, but, like a quietly confident Catholic, she doesn't make a big deal of it. Lowmaintenance at dinner parties, Jessica will eat what she can and is so polite she wouldn't think of uttering a word of displeasure or disdain when her options are limited.

I should disclose here that I am an omnivore. All humans are omnivores by nature, but I am one who chooses to follow in the evolutionary footsteps of my ape cousins and Homo ancestors, such as *erectus* and neanderthalensis. I don't fault a man for sinking his teeth into steak any more than I would hold a lion accountable for enjoying antelope for dinner. I see nothing wrong with cultures that consider dogs to be food — it is illogical to balk at the ingestion of one animal while eating another; some Easterners love cows the way Westerners

love cats — a person from each faction would likely freak at the other's cavalier consumption of the one's cherished creature. I don't feel an obligation to justify why I eat meat, nor do I expect practicing herbivores to explain why they don't.

I know a few "pescatarians" — those who don't ingest poultry or meat but have no problem feeding on the "fruits" of the sea. People who will eat fishies only fall into my first category if they don't claim a "moral" reason for avoiding meat. I don't mean "moral" as in concern for the treatment of animals before they're killed and eaten (free-range chicken is as easy to find as unfarmed fish), I mean "moral" as in an elevated regard for the life of all Earth's creatures. If a pescatarian tells me he believes eating animals is "wrong," I imagine he rationalizes eating fish is not as wrong. I can only assume this is because it's a bigger stretch for us humans to anthropomorphize, and therefore identify with, those slippery aliens. I wonder how these people would feel about eating vegetation if plants grew fast enough for us to perceive their movement or if they had eves.

A minor pet peeve of mine is when a dinner companion, upon imparting the news of her vegetarianism as though declaring loyalty to a political party, then adds, "But it's okay, you can eat what you want, I don't mind." Following such a statement, I can't help but think, *Why, thank you, how extremely gracious of you to allow me to select my own meal. I am certain your sainthood awaits.* Of course, what I actually say is, "Okay, good." Like born-again Christians, Holier Than Thou Hypocrite veggies like to propagate their kind by preaching their newly adopted good word. It's not enough for them to have made the decision to not eat meat — they will not be satisfied until you either join them or feel sufficiently guilty, and damned if you don't. But as dedicated as these vegetarians claim to be, they are only as fastidious as is convenient for them.

One such acquaintance recently lectured me on the horrors of slaughterhouses. During her priggish monologue, she revealed that she owns two cats. As I took in her moral outrage, I wondered if she ever considered looking into where and how meat is acquired for cat food. I did.

With a little research, I discovered the laws for labeling pet food have more holes than a Wiffle ball. Not only do the scraps of meat come from the very slaughterhouses she condemns, the food is then tested on animals. In one article, I read that the manufacturer for hippie-endorsed brands including Nature's Variety, Iams, and Newman's Own Organics intentionally fed animals tainted food - dogs and cats that ended up dying from "painful" kidney failure. It went on: "Videotapes reveal the animals' lives in barren metal cages; callous treatment; invasive experiments; and careless cruelty." Cats are strictly carnivorous, and most of the vegetarians I know have one

It's not that I mind inconsistencies. We are all inconsistent on one point or another. It's those who make a habit of haranguing others about their choices, those who are arrogant about their wholesomeness

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I've only met a few of them. These are the people for whom life is a scavenger hunt. Innocuous vegans quietly go about their lives searching for soy milk, fake leather, and tofu. But like religious zealots, Militant Vegans

are outraged by nonbelievers — and with so few fanatics, heretics abound.

Militant Vegans are a smug bunch, stomping through Whole Foods and Trader Joe's with a sneer for anyone pondering the meat selection. They are disgusted with omnivores (only if human) and leather lovers and are not afraid - rather, compelled — to detail the reason for their scorn. Fortunately, such literal

interpreters (think of the Bible's "eye for an eye") are so dedicated to their canon that they are unlikely to befriend us heathens.

David was a vegetarian for seven years. When I asked him why he resumed eating meat, he answered, "I went veggie because I thought it would be more healthful. But after seven years I couldn't attribute any specific difference in my health or in

the way I felt to having been vegetarian. Of course, one would have to be able to live two simultaneous lives to know for sure, but I like the taste of meat, so in the end I decided that the French have it right — all things in moderation." Then he told me he can't wait to "meet" Hanis's Happy Tummies.

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



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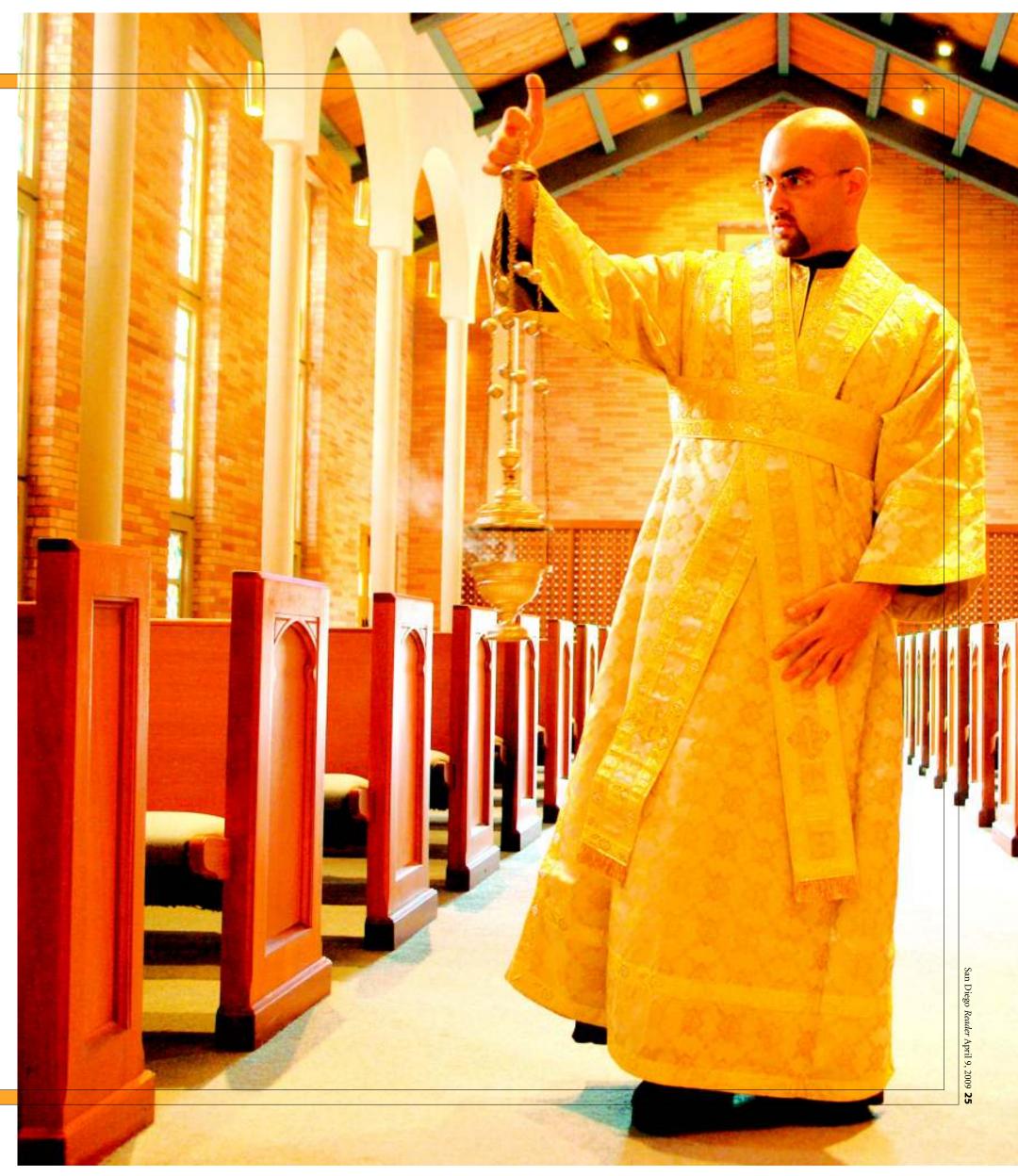
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CHURCH OF SUTDAY?

If not, did you ever wonder why people do?

e looks like a regular young guy — maybe late 20s or early 30s. Head shaved to mask a receding hairline, a black goatee to offset the baldness, the gold rim of his glasses glinting beneath his dark brows. A regular guy, except maybe for his robe. Though it has the sheen of satin, it does not drape or hang; it holds its shape, stiffly framing the man beneath. Though mostly creamy white, the robe beams with patterns of yellow gold. (If we were not in church, the fabric would seem ostentatious, guilty of Louis XVI excess.) And over the robe, a stole, equally stiff and resplendent, making an X across his belly. The resulting look is old-fashioned in the extreme, reminding me of nothing so much as the priestly robes worn by long-ago Jewish characters in the Jesus movies. Yet here it is on a Sunday in 2009, on a young guy, in a brick chapel set amid the more ordinary opulence of La Jolla Scenic Drive North.

"I knew that the Roman Catholic Church was evil because that's what I was taught."



Who's on Reader Radio?

THIS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8th FROM 7-7:30 PM



Barbarella

Author of "Diary of a Diva" and Reader Radio co-host.



Jack Rice

AM 600 KOGO's weeknight host.



Matthew Lickona

Author of "Sheep and Goats." Talks about his cover story about a minister who took a strange turn.



Timothy Harper

Discusses his story this week about surf nazis in Ocean Beach.

NEXT WEEK: Don Bauder talks about the moral hazard of the government propping up San Diego home values. Plus... **Josh Board**, the Reader's party crasher.



The Jack Rice Show Call 1-800-600-5646 Every Wednesday from 7-7:30 pm

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The man is not a priest, nor even a deacon. Rather, he is one of at least eight more regular men assisting in the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, which is being celebrated by St. Anthony the Great Antiochian Orthodox Church. Eight men, all in similar robes of white and gold, except for the priest, who is even more enrobed and golden than his fellows. For much of the liturgy, we behold his back as he stands facing the altar, the tabernacle, and the

cross, facing east along with the congregation. On his back is affixed a sort of medallion in the shape of a cross; in the center of the cross, a painted circle depicting the resurrected Christ.

Christ appears again on a large icon to the right of the Sanctuary stairs. Across from Him, an icon of Mary, His mother, referred to by the Orthodox as Theotokos — Godbearer. Throughout the liturgy on this Sunday of the Last Judgment, the icons are reverenced —

the priest turning and bowing and making the sign of the cross as the choir sings in its thrilling, cheerful harmonies: "Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us!" Later, he will swing a pot of incense toward each icon, then expertly yank back on the jingling chain so that a puff of smoke pushes out toward the image before rising to heaven. And he will do the same for both altar and congregation.

During the homily, he

RESEARCH STUDIES

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offers a word of explanation. "We are created in the image of God. That's why, when we cense the holy icons...we cense you.... What we do to one another is passed along to Christ. When we venerate the icon, that loving act is passed

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along to Christ. When we greet one another, that act is passed along to Christ, because we are in His spiritual image.... My dear children, think of the transformation: everything we do to one another, we do to Christ! God will judge us on our mercy and love!"

In some ultimate sense, this is why all these people are here. This is why that young man with the goatee and glasses has put on those extraordinary robes. They are thinking of the judgment; they are thinking of

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



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

Do you qualify?

To qualify, you must: • Have Iron Deficiency Anemia • Be 18 or older • Not be dialysis-dependent

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619.955.5246 info@eStudySite.com



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mercy and love. And they are thinking of the transformation, of Christ dwelling in their midst even as they long to dwell with Him in heaven. The priest quotes from a hymn, sung the previous night at Vespers. "Woe to you, O my darkened soul. Your light is stained by depravity and laziness. Your folly makes you shun all thought of death. How can you flee the awesome thought of the judgment day?... The time is at hand, O my soul. Turn to the good and loving Savior.' This is our repentance - beg Him to forgive your malice and weakness as you cry to Him in faith: 'I have sinned against you, O Lord, but I



know Your love for all mankind. O Good Shepherd, call me to the joy of Your lasting presence.' "

Why Do We Go to Church?

Do you go to church on Sunday? If you don't, do you ever wonder why those who do, do? If you do, could you answer those who don't if they asked the question?

Since I began writing about San Diego County church services professionally a little over three years ago, I have begun to notice churches — lots of them. Not just the churches like Our Lady of Angels, situated by the side of the freeway, send-

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RESEARCH STUDIES

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ing high their spires and signs to catch the eyes of passersby. Not just the monster megachurches like Horizon Christian Fellowship or Journey, places that might be taken for high school campuses or big-box stores. But also storefront churches like Abundant Grace Christian Center, tucked into strip malls or amid rows of one-story shops. Modest standalone churches like the Christian Compassion Center, low-slung and unobtrusive, blending in with the houses they serve. Old-style neighborhood churches like Christ Lutheran in Pacific Beach, adorned and exalted by the pride of past generations. Even start-up churches like the Chapeladvertising their services on roadside signs and with banners in front of school auditoriums. So many churches — a lot of us must be going. But why?

"We've confused going to church with being the church," a North County megachurch pastor once preached to his massive congregation. He then went on to remind them that Christianity was not being practiced there, on Sunday morning, with all the

New Research Study

Cialis (Erectile Dysfunction medication)

to be evaluated for **Prostate Enlargement**

You may qualify if you are: 45 years or older Already on medications to help with Prostate Enlargement (BPH) With or without erection problems

Study medications, study-related physical exams, and blood tests are provided. Compensation for time and travel will be provided.

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SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER "Together...we can make a difference!"

For people with Alzheimer's there's no time to lose.

A research study – ICARA – is now underway to explore a possible new investigational treatment for Alzheimer's disease. You may be eligible to participate in the ICARA study if you:

• Are 50 to 88 years old

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In addition to receiving study-related physical exams and laboratory services at no charge, participants may receive study medication and will be monitored by a medical team, including a nurse or study coordinator and a physician.

Ask your doctor if the ICARA study is right for you.

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Are you at least 40 years of age? Are you using **one** of the following bronchodilators: **Serevent** (Salmeterol) **Foradil** (Formoteral Fumarate) **Spiriva** (Tiotropium Bromide)

You may be eligible to participate in a single-visit clinical research trial.

Qualified participants will receive at no cost: • Study-related exams • Compensation for study participation.

For more information, call:

1-888-486-9150



SYNERGY CLINICAL

RESEARCH

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE?

If you have high blood pressure, you may be eligible to participate in a voluntary clinical research study of an investigational medication for high blood pressure.

Qualified participants will receive, at no cost, the following study-related procedures:

- Blood pressure monitoring Laboratory tests
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 - Office visits Study medication

Compensation for time and travel may be available.

To learn more about this high blood pressure research study, please call: Synergy Clinical Research Center 1-888-486-9150

Is DIABETES causing you PAIN in both legs or both feet... for at least the past 6 months?

If so, please contact us about our medical research study of an investigational medication for pain in both legs or both feet caused by diabetes. Qualified participants:

- Are 18 to 70 years old Have pain in both legs or both feet caused by diabetes
- Have experienced this pain for at least the past 6 months

Qualified participants will receive all study-related care, evaluations and medication at no charge.

Participation is at no charge and compensation is available for time and travel.

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



Do you or someone you know suffer from

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If you are:

For more information call:

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- Over the age of 18
- Are in good general health
- Currently on a stable dose of oral NSAID therapy

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CLINICAL RESEARCH TRIAL.

Participants will receive free of charge:

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DEPRESSION IN SENIORS

Are you or someone you know:

65 years of age or older?

- Suffering from symptoms of depression?
- Have had symptoms for greater than 4 weeks?
- Have had a previous episode prior to age 60?

You may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial for an investigational medication.

Participants will receive at no cost:
Study-related exams
Investigational medication
Compensation for time and travel



www.synergysandiego.com

Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes and are Not Using Insulin?

Volunteers are needed for a research study of an investigational medication conducted by Profil Institute for Clinical Research.



To qualify, you must be:

- A Type 2 Diabetic
- Taking metformin alone or in combination with other oral, anti-diabetic medications but are not taking insulin
- 35-65 years old

You may be compensated up to \$4,350 for time and travel. Up to 5 overnight stays are required.



faithful gathered together. It was practiced, he said, in their small-group communities, where soul could minister to soul on a personal level. He even went so far as to compare himself to the entertainment not because what he was saying was frivolous, but because his status as preacher was not the point of things. I sat in the congregation and wondered, Is this man trying to talk himself out of a job?

"It seems to me like this model is passing away," a South Bay pastor said to me, this time at one of those school-auditorium churches. "You see those kids?" He gestured at a couple of teenagers out in front of the building. "We go to Mexico every month to do service ministry. That's why they're here. If we weren't doing *that*, they wouldn't have any use for this.""This" being the standard Sunday morning gathering: the songs of praise, the prayers, the community announcements, the sermon, the altar call, and in this case, the memorial of the Last Supper. In sum: praise God, petition God, understand God, spread God, and remember God's love. (Well, maybe "understand God" is a little abstract — many churches today emphasize practicality over theology, as in lessons you can apply to your life right now.) "They wouldn't have any use for this."

It's not for lack of trying. I've heard Sundaymorning praise bands that were *tight* and more than one performer who struck me as a genuine pop artist (Trevor Davis, anyone?) just the sort to attract the young people of today. And of course, there is the power and presence of live music, especially live music that encourages everybody to join in. Maybe you could read something similar to the pastor's sermon over your Sunday morning coffee, and you could certainly pray in the comfort of your home, but you'd have a hard time duplicating the musical experience."Blessed be the name of the Lord/ Blessed be His glorious name!" A thousand (or even just a hundred) people, caught up in singleminded, single-throated praise, girded by drums and guitar: heady stuff.

Still, something's gone a little awry — there's even a song about it. A lot of the more modern Christian churches seem to share a similar songbook, and a hymn I've heard more than

RESEARCH STUDIES



Hand Eczema?

Therapeutics Clinical Research, a center of excellence in dermatological care, is conducting a clinical research trial of an investigational medication for hand eczema (also known as hand dermatitis).

We need participants:

- 18-75 years of age
- with hand eczema lasting at least six months
- **Qualified participants will receive:**
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THERAPEUTICS

once is Matt Redman's "Heart of Worship." "I'll bring You more than a song," it promises God, "for a song in itself is not what You have required.... I'm coming back to the heart of worship/ And it's all about You, it's all about You, Jesus/ I'm sorry, Lord, for the thing I've made it..." Sorry for the thing I've made it? The praise band isn't enough. But what is that heart of worship? Why do we go to church on Sunday?

Prayer in Church Can Be a Funny Thing

Toward the end of 2006, I happened to attend, in close succession, a Roman Catholic Mass at St. Gregory the Great Church, a Chaldean Catholic Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral, a Conservative Jewish Shabbat Service at Ohr Shalom Synagogue, and a Greek Orthodox Divine Liturgy at St. Spyridon Church. The Roman Catholic Mass I knew pretty well — the four-hymn sandwich (Opening, Presentation, Communion, Recessional) surrounding the liturgical layers: prayers of praise and petition, the Scripture readings, the homily, and the consecration and distribution of Holy Communion. Except for a few variations (some more significant than others), I could have been in any one of a number of mainstream Protestant churches.

The Chaldean Mass, however, offered an element of strangeness — the priest began his prayers (intoned instead of spoken) from behind a curtain. For at least part of the Mass, he was hidden away, deep in the recesses in the Sanctuary. And while I did hear a hymn or two, most of the music came from within the context of the liturgy itself, the ancient texts sung by either priest, choir, or congregation.

The curtain and the singing brought it more in line with the Jewish service I attended soon after, which was almost entirely sung by either cantor or congregation, and in which the scrolls of the Torah were stored behind the doors of the ark. The holy things kept hidden away until the appropriate time. It didn't take much to dope out the connection between

the Chaldean curtain and the Jewish temple veil that shrouded the Holy of Holies.

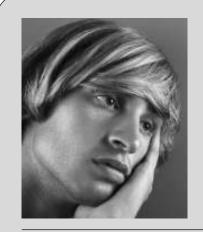
But it was the Greek Orthodox liturgy that really drove home the connection to the Shabbat service. In keeping with Jewish practice, a cantor led the congregation through the order of worship, which, again, was almost entirely sung. The Chaldean curtain here became a screen, solid like the doors of the Jewish ark. And as in the Jewish service, heavy emphasis was placed on prayer.

Prayer in church can

RESEARCH STUDIES



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Restless Leg Syndrome

Do you have urges to move that start or get worse when you are inactive?

Are the urges accompanied by uncomfortable tingly, fidgety, twitchy, achy sensations?

Do they interfere with both sleep and daily activities?

These are some of the symptoms you may experience if you have Restless Leg Syndrome (RLS).

To see if you qualify to participate in a clinical research trial for the treatment of RLS please call Excell Research at: 760-806-9200 Compensation will be provided for time and travel. Study-related medical care and study medication are provided at no cost to you.





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TYPE 2 DIABETES MAKES UP 95% OF THE DIABETIC POPULATION.

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You may qualify for the study if you are:

- A Type 2 Diabetic
- 18 60 years old and otherwise healthy
- A nonsmoker
- Treating your diabetes with or without oral anti-diabetic medication but without insulin.

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to \$2,925 for time and travel.

Up to 4 overnight visits may be required.

For more information please call Profil toll free at 1-866-245-8171.



be a funny thing. Sometimes, it feels like opening remarks, or like grace before meals — "Lord, bless this service, and help the pastor to open Your word for us...." Sometimes, it turns into a lesson for the congregation. "Father, we know that You are a good God and that You are with us even in the hard times, for as You have promised, Father, 'I am with you always...' " But, as with the Jews, prayer is central to the Orthodox service, enfolding - encompassing? — every other aspect. Their function and form are traditional: Besides the Lord's Prayer, there are multiple litanies of supplication ("That we may complete the remaining time of our life in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord..."), entire Psalms, and constant refrains of praise and glory. "Holy God, holy mighty, holy immortal, have mercy on us."

Most dramatic, to me, was the treatment of the word. The Jews reverenced the word of God — at one point, the Torah scroll containing the Five Books of Moses, mantled in heavy fabric, was processed throughout the synagogue. Congregants crowded to the ends of the aisles so as to be able to touch the scroll as it passed, either with prayer shawl or prayer book. The Orthodox priest also processed the word, bearing the Scriptures aloft through the congregation. But then, later in the liturgy, he did the same with the elements of Communion. Those elements, in the Orthodox tradition, actually become Christ's body and blood - the true presence of God's Word become flesh. ("In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...") The word and the Word the echo was enormous.

INVESTIGATIONAL PAIN-RELIEF PATCH STUDY



Sprained your ANKLE recently?

Have you recently sprained your ankle? You could help researchers evaluate an investigational pain patch that's placed directly on your ankle.

Local disctors are currently conducting a medical research study restusting an investigational, medicated patch for its ability to releve pain when placed directly on the site of your pain.

To pro-qualify for this study, you must be

 17 to 75 years of age AND
 Experiencing pain from a recent ankle sprain that occurred in the last 60 hours.

Ouslified participants will receive study-initiated medical evaluations and study particles at no cost. Reimbarsement for time and travel will also be provided.



Do you have heartburn related to Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD)? Do you take medication twice a day for it?



Local physicians are participating in a research study that will help determine if an investigational medication can control your heartburn related to GERD.

If you have GERD-related heartburn that is controlled by taking medication twice a day, you may qualify for this study.

To learn more call: Medical Associates Research Group 858-277-7177 www.MARGinc.com

If you qualify, you will receive study care and study medication at no cost. (Financial compensation for time and travel may be provided.)

Are you currently diagnosed with Schizophrenia?

You may qualify to participate in a research study involving an investigational medication. Qualified candidates will be compensated for time and transportation up to \$1950.

Call 619-481-5252 for more information.

The California Neuropsychopharmacology Clinical Research Institute, LLC "CNRI, LLC"





Sadness? Low Energy? Trouble Sleeping? Can't Concentrate? These are symptoms of DEPRESSION!

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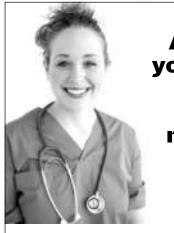
- 65 years or older
- Currently experiencing a depressive episode
 Have had at least one previous depressive episode before
- Have had at least one previous depressive episode before the age of 60 years
- In overall good health

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study! If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge. You may receive study medication or an FDA-aproved medication for Depression.

Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

(619) 688-6565 See our website: www.ari-inc.com



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

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- Bipolar Disorder
- Depression (18 years and older)
- Insomnia
- Schizophrenia
- Smoking Cessation

If you are interested in learning more about any of these studies, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

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

San Diego Reader April 9, 2009 33

Clinical Research Study Seeking Type 2 Diabetic Volunteers Not Using Insulin

Profil Institute is seeking Type 2 Diabetic volunteers to participate in a clinical research study to evaluate the effects of an investigational drug.

You may qualify if you are:

- · At least 18 years old
- A Type 2 Diabetic
- Treating your diabetes with Metformin alone or in combination with other anti-diabetic medications (no actos or avandia)
- · Otherwise healthy

If you qualify and choose to participate, you may be compensated up to \$3,475 for time and travel. Six overnight stays may be required.



You Should Meet Our Last Pastor

So it was with not a little interest that I learned of Father Jon Braun, founding pastor at St. Anthony the Great Antiochian Orthodox Church. I found the church quite by accident (and before I found Father), holding its Sunday Liturgy in the brick chapel that anchors one end of the abbey-esque Torrey Pines Christian Church compound. At the time, I was on my way to speak with Torrey Pines' pastor, Michael Spitters, who noted that, as an Emergent Christian, he wanted to avoid anything that struck visitors as "playing at worshipping God." He said that some Emergent Christians - postmodern believers dissatisfied with the Evangelical status quo ----were "actually taking back some of the traditions the incense and the candles and the meditation." I thought, "You mean, like the Orthodox in the next building over?"

The following Sunday, I was leaving St. Anthony the Great's Divine Liturgy when a parishioner approached me. "You should meet our last pastor, Father Braun. He used to be the National Field Coordinator for Campus Crusade for Christ, back before he became an Orthodox priest." Hello. From an Evangelical Christian organization that didn't even hold Sunday praise services to the most liturgydrenched denomination I knew? How did that happen?

However it happened, Braun seemed like a good sort to help shed light on that "heart of worship." For starters, he had left a successful career within his own tradition - without rejecting his Christian faith, mind you — and gone searching for it. "My father was a Presbyterian

When your TYPE 2 DIABETES is out of control, finding harmony is essential



f you're having trouble controlling your diabetes consider participating in HARMONY, a research study evaluating an investigational diabetes medication that's taken only once a week

It's estimated that 50% of diabetics in the U.S. struggle to successfully control their blood sugar. The inconvenience of multiple daily treatments can often add to this struggle. Now, the HARMONY program is evaluating the effectiveness of an investigational, long-acting type 2 diabetes medication, which may require less frequent dosings.

To be eligible for this study, you must be:

 18 years of age or older. diagnosed with HARMONY base of white the second Qualified participants will receive study treatment as well as study-related medical evaluations and tests at no cost. To learn more about the HARMONY program, please contact. San Diego Sports Med & Family Health (619) 229-3909

Do you have **Psoriasis?**

www.HarmonyClinicalTrials.com

If you have Psoriasis, call us to find out if you qualify to be part of an investigational research study at our site. The study includes studyrelated evaluation, laboratory tests, and study medication at no charge. Compensation for time and travel available.

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minister," he explains, "and he hated the Orthodox business, just hated it. The only thing he ever acknowledged to me was this: 'I have to admit that when I leave church on Sunday morning, I'm not sure that I've worshipped God.' That was coming from a 98year-old man who had been a minister all the years of his life" — in churches ranging from Berkeley to just above Anaheim.

Braun the son, however, *was* sure — he was satisfied that he had found

that heart of worship, and in an ancient church that barely registers on the American religious landscape. (It is estimated that there are between two and three million Orthodox Christians in North America, and there are only ten Orthodox churches in the San Diego area.) "In America," admits Braun, "if you're not a Greek, a Russian, a Serbian, or a Romanian, you may not even run across the Orthodox Church. There is a Greek Orthodox Church across

the street from Dallas Theological Seminary. I had a friend who went [to the seminary]. He was studying the commentaries of St. John Chrysostom, and across the street, they were doing the *liturgy* of St. John Chrysostom, and neither side knew the other existed. I went to high school in Berkeley, across from a Greek church, and I thought, 'Well, it's the Catholic Church in Greece.' I dismissed it at that."

The dismissal was part and parcel of his forma-

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Overactive bladder makes it difficult to perform daily activities. You do not know when the sudden, strong urge to urinate will happen.

The Women's Overactive Bladder Study is a research study testing the safety and effectiveness of a new delivery method of an overactive bladder medication for women. Qualified participants:

- are women age 18 and older

are experiencing overactive bladder symptoms with urgency for over 6 months
 have not had three or more urinary tract infections in the past year

Qualified participants will receive study-related exams, lab tests and study drug at no charge. For more information, please call:

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Pain from Endometriosis?

A 16-week clinical research study is underway to evaluate a non-hormonal, injectable, investigational medication versus placebo for the relief of pelvic pain caused by Endometriosis. Have you tried a variety of hormonal medications without success over the years of dealing with Endometriosis cramps and pain? This study is for women who have a surgically confirmed diagnosis in the last 5 years.

To possibly qualify for the study, must be:

- 18-49 year old females, regularly having periods
- Surgical confirmation of Endometriosis in the last
- 5 years (operative report must be available)
- Moderate to severe period cramps and pelvic pain

Qualified participants may receive:

- Exam and consultation with a board-certified
- gynecologist • All study-related labs, EKG, and study medication
- Compensation for your time and travel

MEDICAL CENTER FOR CLINICAL RESEARCH 619-521-2841 San Diego Reader April 9, 2009

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Got a Going, Going, Going... **Bladder Problem**

and sometimes you don't make it??

A 52-week clinical research study is underway for men and women with urinary frequency and urinary urgency, using an investigational oral medication. If you suffer from the embarrassment of way too many trips to the bathroom or the loss of urine before you make it there, you may be suffering from Overactive Bladder.

To possibly qualify:

- 1) Male or female, 18 years or older
- 8 or more trips to the bathroom and at least 1 episode 2) of an urgent need to use the bathroom

Participants may receive at no cost:

- Study-related examinations and consultation by a 1) board-certified physician
- Labs, EKG and all study medications 2) 3)
 - Compensation for your time and travel

Interested in more information, call: **Medical Center for Clinical Research** 619-521-2841

tion. "I remember, one day, I was sitting in church history class at Fuller Seminary, in Pasadena, and the professor — who was really good — was discussing Ignatius of Antioch. With one exception, his is the earliest writing outside the Bible — he lived between 50 and 110 A.D. The professor said, 'Don't bother to read him. It's irrelevant. It's the beginning of the Roman Catholic Church.' I promise you that he knew that wasn't true, but the point was to dismiss it so that you had no obligation to weigh it. I majored in history in college, and in seminary you do a lot of church history, but all I knew was that the Roman Catholic Church was evil because that's what I was taught. And from what I was taught, there was no Orthodox Church because

it was never mentioned. I promise you, not one time."

So what happened to turn Campus Crusader Jon Braun into Father Jon Braun, Orthodox priest? Well, for one thing, history — including the history of worship.

operated as a sort of parachurch evangelistic ministry, and, says Braun, "People were interested. The students were easy to work with, and it was just a really easy time. We were very aggressive and evangelistic — we'd stop you in your

"There would be nights when six or seven thousand kids would come to a lecture."

The Phantom Search for the Perfect Church It began with a practical question: "What's going to happen to these kids?"

Braun was in his late 20s, the 20th Century was in its early 60s, and Campus Crusade for Christ was exploding. The Crusade

tracks. And we were very effective. It's just like what the apostle Paul did at Corinth. He didn't know anybody, so he just sat there and started talking to people, and pretty soon, he had a church. What you have to do is know why you're there. People will sense very quickly: are you

RESEARCH STUDIES



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ED can be difficult to talk about, as it affects not only your sex life but also your confidence. Now, local doctors are conducting the REVIVE research study to evaluate an investigational medication for treating ED.

- To be eligible for the REVIVE research study, you must:
 Be 18 years of age or older
 Have had mild to severe ED for at least 6 months, AND
 Be in a monogamous, heterosexual relationship for at least 3 months

Men with type 1 or type 2 diabetes could be eligible and are encouraged to inquire about this research study.

You will not be allowed to participate in this study. You will not be allowed to participate in this study if your partner is pregnant, breast feeding, or wishes to become pregnant. Qualified participants will receive study medication as well as study-related medical evaluations at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel may also be provided

To learn more, please contact: www.MARGinc.com (858)277-7177



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Body Dysmorphic Disorder

Are you preoccupied with a defect in your physical appearance, spending hours a day worrying about it or looking in the mirror? Do you groom excessively or try to camouflage your flaw? Do you avoid having people see it?

Dr. Sanjaya Saxena from the UCSD OCD Program is looking for people who are excessively concerned about a physical flaw to take part in a study that is providing:

*12 weeks medication *Brain imaging scans *Diagnostic evaluation *Neuropsychological evaluation

Study participants must: *Be age 18-65 *Not be on any medications that affect brain functioning *Not have any active medical conditions *Weigh less than 280 lbs. *Not have a history of chronic alcohol or substance use

*There is NO monetary compensation for participation.

For more information call Dr. Jennifer Sumner at: (858) 534-8056

Attn: Heavy Drinkers

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

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

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

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



UCSD research study on Schizophrenia and Schizoaffective Disorder

Are you taking a medication like Seroquel, Zyprexa, Geodon or Abilify? Would you like to try something new? UCSD is conducting a research study on the effects of an investigational drug called Lurasidone, not approved by the FDA.

> To find out if you may qualify and how to participate, call: **1-866-UC PRICE**

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(1-866-827-7423)

Have you been diagnosed for less than 5 years with type 2 Diabetes?

If so, Profil Institute for Clinical Research is currently conducting a research study of an investigational oral medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

You may qualify for the study if you are:

- A Type 2 Diabetic for less than 5 years
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- Treating your diabetes without insulin

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to \$1,700 for time and travel. Up to 3 consecutive overnight visits may be required.



trying to sell them on something, or do you have a purpose? I wasn't trying to sell any of those guys. In January of 1961, I traveled to the University of Miami to start bringing Campus Crusade to the Southeastern U.S. The next year, I went to Athens, Georgia, got myself a room in a hotel, and went down to the cafeteria at the University of Georgia. I saw two guys sitting there and I went up to them: 'My name is Jon Braun. I'm trying to start a Christian

group on campus. If you'll give me five minutes, I'd like to tell you why I'm interested in doing it and see if there's any way you can help me.' I never saw those two guys again, but they gave me two names. Within a couple of years, I had the largest Campus Crusade group in America there in Georgia."

Braun is in his mid-70s now, but he has lost little of the presence that undoubtedly aided in his success. A hint of Charlton Heston can be seen in his

profile, his frame, his long agricultural hands. His intellectual demeanor is that of a man who has read much and now seeks to retain what is essential. When he pauses midsentence to find the right word, his tongue will dart from one corner of his mouth to the other as if seeking a target. A preacher's son, to the pulpit born. "Occasionally, there would be nights when six or seven thousand kids would come to a lecture, followed by a lot of personal one-onone, and we had all these converts."

But once you got them to accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior, then what? How do you sustain the believer's life in Christ? "You'd say to yourself, 'These kids really do have a God-consciousness; they really do desire to commit themselves to Christ. But where are they going

to be five, ten years from now?' We began to say, 'There's only one thing you can do with these people, and that's church.' That's where Christians end up, and if they don't, they don't really prosper all that well." Like I said practical.

The problem was that kids back then (not unlike kids today) "hated to go to church. We said, 'Well, why?' So, as one of my friends said, we began The Phantom Search for the Perfect Church. We tried to create it."

"We" was a group of seven former Campus Crusaders — emphasis on "former.""We tried to turn collegiate ministry into church, and we realized it wouldn't work. Several hundred

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RESEARCH STUDIES

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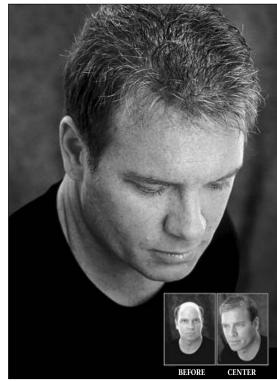
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in '68 and '69. In the early '70s, we had a meeting in Dallas of Campus Crusade alumni — two or three hundred showed up, and it was decided that seven of us would be given leadership. One guy was going to study worship. Another, how to view the Bible. My job was church history, and another guy had liturgy. We agreed to meet every three months to compare notes, and four of us ended up back where I had been living, in Isla Vista, up by UCSB. We met every afternoon. We'd study all day, and we developed a church --- we even organized a denomination, called the Evangelical Orthodox Church, and started up a number of congregations. But we told people from the start that this was temporary, that we were going

of us left Campus Crusade

to become part of historic Christianity."

By Whose Authority Do I Speak for God?

Why historic Christianity? Partly because of the man raised from the dead in Springfield, Missouri. "One souri, to hear Pastor Bill Britton, and as Braun got off the plane, he saw Britton walking toward him, accompanied by an old man. "He said, 'I'm Bill Britton, and this man is my father. He died in the service last night, and we raised

"The poor guy can hardly move!

Why didn't you leave him dead?"

guy in Isla Vista was a heretic in regards to Christ and the Trinity. Nice guy but a heretic. So a bunch of us left the group, and this guy got mad at us and said, 'You don't want to know what's true.' We said, 'Yes, we do. What's true?' "The heretic sent them south to hear the former pastor of La Jolla Lutheran. He also sent them to Springfield, Mishim from the dead!' My first thought was, The poor guy can hardly move! Why didn't you leave him dead? He would have been so much happier dead!" Braun had met faith unmoored from all but Scripture, and he found it alarming.

But there were other reasons. Doctrine, for starters. Upon returning to Isla Vista, "I called my

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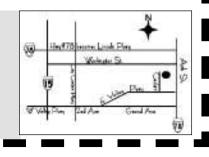


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best friend and said, 'We've got to meet.' We sat down in a Carrow's restaurant, and I said, 'I split from the Presbyterian Church. I split from the Covenant Church. I split from Campus Crusade for Christ. If I split once more, I'm going to be schizophrenic. How do I know who's right? I can be pretty persuasive. How do I know I'm not just talking people into something?" At the heart of almost all of this is authority. By whose authority do I speak for God? If I get up to preach on a Sunday morning and just make up what I'm saying, Lord have mercy on those poor people. I'm supposed to be their shepherd. What if I tell them something that's not true? Say I get up there and tell them,

'If you ask Jesus into your heart at five years old, then sort of life you lead after that, you're still assured salvation. "That's a key doctrine of much of Evangelical Christianity. One day, while I was driving and listening to the radio, I heard Chuck Swindoll — a major Evangelical author and radio preacher — "preach-

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ing on the Prodigal Son. He was intent on preaching eternal security—'Once saved, always saved.' He was adamant about it. He got to the part of the story where the father says that his son 'was lost and has been found.' He didn't even read the words. He just said, 'There was never a moment when the relationship between this young man and his father was broken.' And I thought, 'Come on, Swindoll, you know better than that. I know you know Greek pretty well; I know you can read the text.' He just left it out because it ruined his theology." If the Father and Son represent God and humanity, and if humanity can be lost and then found, then eternal security becomes a touch problematic.

Braun wanted to avoid such a pitfall. "I said, 'This better be true. This better be right. This better have history behind it.' We gathered the other guys" ----Braun's fellow church-seekers — "and we came to the conclusion that you're going to have to find the footprints, as it were, of the Holy Spirit throughout history. You're going to find those in the Church, particularly in the councils of the Church. We studied those Ecumenical Councils hour after hour. Why? Because you better be right about God. Either Trinity or not. If God's not the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, either you've got the wrong God or it doesn't make any difference. That was the first issue that drew us --- we deter-mined it was going to be historic Christianity because historic Christianity knows what it believes."

Where Heaven and Earth Meet

But if theology had a history, so did worship. As it turned out, the Jewish echoes I picked up in the Orthodox liturgies I attended were no accident. Nor were they artifice. "The Orthodox ritual was basically just a continuation of the Jewish ritual," says Braun. "Everybody who started it was a Jew, and they just unembarrassedly kept it. I was totally unaware of that, even though I'd been educated in some very fine seminaries. I had no idea that's what had taken

place — I don't think they wanted me to know. We were taught that the Bible was the only rule of faith and practice — but there's no place in the New Testament that says how you

should conduct a service. There's a lot of stuff in the Old Testament"—the more Jewish part of the Bible.

"I did used to see the church as a lecture with music," he says. "It's a place where Christians gather to get encouraged, and we call it worship because that's what we call it. In the more modern services, maybe maybe you call it a praise

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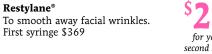
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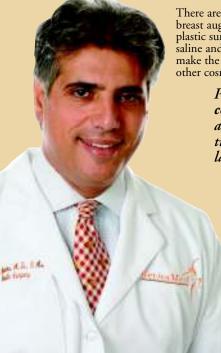
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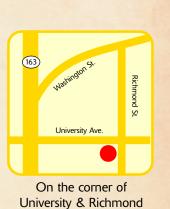
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service." Now, his notion is rather more exalted: "The church is to be the visible expression of Christ in the community. It's where people should be able to experience that. The line between heaven and earth, as it were, is extremely thin. Catholics and the Orthodox believe that the service takes place unceasingly in heaven, and we just join them. This is where heaven and earth meet."

Not surprisingly, theology played a part in the change. The Trinity makes possible the Incarnation of the Son, which is sort of the point of Christianity. The God-man, the sinless Christ dying to pay the penalty for sinful humanity. But, says Braun, there is more to it than that. "It's a point of emphasis. In the Eastern Church, they would say that the heart of it is this: deification. God became man in order that man might become God.

The West likes to call it 'sanctification.' " And if you're a human seeking that kind of union with the divine, the meeting place of heaven and earth might be a good place to begin — and even end.

"I used to see the church as a lecture with music."

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liturgical shift was grad-

ual, taking a fair chunk of

the '70s and '80s. At first,

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that let it happen. 'Well,

it's time to start. Pull up

some chairs. Anybody got

a song they want to sing?'

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against Campus Crusade, which was very rigid and constructed — you had a manual and you followed it. But we developed." Still, "The first time I went to an Orthodox service, I hated it. But I said, 'I hate it, and I'm still going to do it.' By the time we became Orthodox, there was no change from the Sunday before to the Sunday after."

Braun and his companions found historic Christianity being preached and practiced in the Orthodox Church, and they followed it there."I think there were about 2000 of us brought into the Orthodox Church over several Sundays in 1987 — in Los Angeles, Van Nuys, Chicago, Nashville, Anchorage, Vicksburg, and Ben Lomond.

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The Orthodox Church is organized by countries of origin — they believe the same thing, whether Russian or Greek or Antiochian. We were received by the Bishop of Damascus. Fortyfive of us became priests, and another 85 came in as deacons. It made the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times." And the movement continues — Braun estimates that around 7000 Evangelicals have made the jump to Orthodoxy"in the past few years. I have a friend with a church I helped start in Costa Mesa, and a lot of the people he's brought in are from Biola University, which is just hard-core Protestant."

The Very Heart of Worship

Men of God are not angels; it should come as little surprise to find that there is another, more personal dimension to Father Braun's story. During our conversation, Father Braun stresses that he's not looking for a fight with his fellow Christians. "What I would say and often do say to a Protestant or Evangelical is, 'We don't disagree. You just don't do everything.' The first part of the liturgy is called the Liturgy of the Word, and the second part is called the Liturgy of the Eucharist. The typical Evangelical service is simply the preservation of the first part. Being respectful to my father, I would say, 'Dad, this is the way Christians have worshipped for centuries. It isn't something that you make up on your own every Sunday.' He would go so far as to admit that there was nothing wrong with the stuff we were doing, but he would say, 'It's too ritualistic. It's dead liturgy.' And I would say, 'Dad, there's no such thing as liturgy that is living or dead. People are living or dead.' "

Crusade days, Jon Braun was dead — or dying, losing the battle against sin and its wages of death. And it wasn't for lack of trying. "It would be fair to say that I never considered anything but being a minister," he recalls. "Or at least, some form of Christian ministry. I had the normal problems and temptations of a kid, but there was also a sense of a radical 'call." One with such a sense should be serious about sin, and early in life, I became aware that many who preached the message did not live the message. Young people don't han-

dle that well, and I was no exception. Thus my issues with besetting sins"—nothing shocking but consistent enough to represent a defeat in the spiritual battle. "How could I be a clergyman and live a garbage life? That didn't compute."

He took lots of advice from lots of Christians, all to no avail. "Something was very wrong somewhere," he writes in his

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1991 book Divine Energy: The Orthodox Path to Christian Victory. "A vital piece, or pieces, of the fullness of Christianity had to be missing." Braun found those pieces during his study of Orthodox Christianity, specifically, in that notion of deification. "Empowered by the divinized humanity of Jesus Christ to which we are joined," he writes, "we can enter the battle and win. Union with Christ is the bottom line for Christian living."

And union with Christ is why he goes to church on Sunday. Writes Braun, "The Divine Liturgy is a personal dialogue between the worshippers corporately and the All-Holy Trinity.... Communion with God at Holy Communion is the center core, the very heart of worship. It is an expe-

Before

rience that much of modern Christianity is hardly aware of. How we are nurtured is a mystery, but nurture us in Christ it does. The sustenance gained at that meal in dining with Him and partaking of Him is of infinitely greater importance to our lives in union with Christ than are our daily meals to our physical bodies." "What happens in a

Eucharistic service?" he asks. "Something happens; I'm not sure what. I can't explain it. But somehow, it affects me. The mystery is actually practical."

Unto Life Everlasting

Father Jon Braun stands amid the congregation on the Sunday of the Last Judgment, robed in black. He is retired now, some 13 years after founding St. Anthony the Great; Father

John Reimann has taken his place before the altar. But when it comes time to divide and distribute Holy Communion, he slips on a stole, takes his place on one side of the altar, and busies himself with the practical matter at hand. The congregation approaches; Braun stands, waiting, chalice in one hand and spoon in the other. Two of the eight assistants hold a crimson cloth below the chalice, so that nothing falls to the floor. The children come first, and Braun smiles as he slips the elements of Communion between their lips. "The servant of God, [Name], partakes of the precious and all-holy Body and Blood of our Lord, and God, and Savior Jesus Christ unto forgiveness of sins and unto life everlasting."

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San Diego Reader April 9,

, 2009

49

An Execution in the Hills

Author: Salvatore Scafidi Neighborhood:

Mission Hills

Occupation:

Editor's note: This is the winner of March's

Deadline for the next contest is April 30,

SDReader.com/neighborhoods. find your

neighborhood or campus, and follow the

\$500 first-place prize for our monthly

neighborhood-essay contest.

To post your entry, go to

instructions to create a blog.

midnight.

Retired Engineer

Age: 59

Ethel's voice cuts through the hubbub of the grandkids'

wrestling over the Etch-a-Sketch and Dr. Phil's scolding of

another drug-soaked teenager.

Fred blinks and brushes the crust

from his eyes. "It's for you. Zack, from across the street." She hands him the phone, rolls her eyes, and returns to trimming the asparagus.

"Hello, Zack. What's up?" "Uh, hi. Uh, Fred? It's me, Zack."

"Yup."

"My cat's got a gopher cornered over here. Can you come quick? And bring your shovel!"

"I'll be right there."

"Thanks, buddy!"

Finally, a chance to avenge the damage (in a minor way) these vermin have



been inflicting all over this neighborhood. Fred's own backyard is a moonscape. Every other yard in the area is as cratered and pockmarked as Reynard Way because of their excavations.

Le Bourreau solemnly rises from his couch, descends the staircase to the Vault of Doom, spins the combination, slides open the door, and scans the gloom for his favorite weapon. There she





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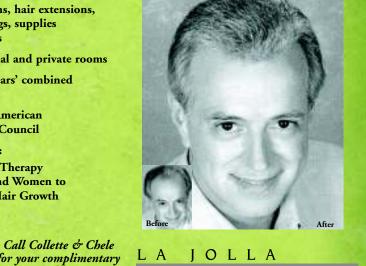
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is. Her black sides are scored from her passages through the flesh and bone of countless traitors and murderers, but her lethal edge gleams in the murk. *Toujours affile*', *toujours prêt.* "Ah, *cher ami*, together we have dispatched many a blackguard to the Ultimate Judge of Creation. Come, we must again do our sorrowful duty to the State."

Fred shoulders the implement, walks down the driveway, and crosses the street. Zack leans on his '57 Chevy pickup, smoking a cigarette. He spots Fred and starts waving and pointing to the front yard of the house next door to him. His cat crouches next to a hole in the bare dirt, eyes fixed on the gopher that stands on its hind legs three feet farther away. Zack strolls up to Fred and slurs, "Good to see ya, buddy! I was hoping you'd get here in time. Cute little bastard, huh?"

It is a beautiful little animal, a tiny ball of velvety, tan fur. Fred visualizes his hamster scuttling on the exercise wheel in its cage in his childhood bedroom. The massive sickles of the gopher's incisors dispel the reverie. Its crimes are many and heinous, the murders of countless defenseless vegetables in their beds. "You have despoiled your last eggplant, petit bâtard?"

The condemned is frozen, desperate to get to that hole. The cat taunts it. "Here's your escape route, the path through the Red Sea. Go for it! I dare you!" As Fred approaches, the victim swivels its attention back and forth between him and the cat. Fred measures the distance with the shovel and raises it to full stretch over his head. The gopher turns as if to run but then stops, remembering the cat can outrun him. It looks over its right shoulder one last time. "No blindfold? Bien.

There's a brave one. Please count backward from a hundred, and try not to move."

The shovel smashes down. It misses, but the shock wave of its impact stuns the victim into immobility. The second blow is true, blasting greasy, grimy entrails out of the gopher's posterior. One moment, a living creature; the next, a tiny swatch of bloody hair. "Whoa, Fred! What a shot! You the man! That was awesome!" "Beginner's luck, Zack. Think your cat'll

want this thing?" "Nah, go ahead and bury it."

"What a versatile

instrument you are, *mon ami!* At once the means of execution and interment." Fred digs the hole, scrapes the little carcass into it, dumps on a pile of dirt, and tamps it with a couple of hard swats. Zack congratulates him with a clap on the shoulder and bids him farewell. They disperse, one to Lynyrd Skynyrd and a few Coronitas, the other to *Spongebob* and shrieking grandchildren.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



LETTERS

continued from page 12

Did you hear about the recent raid in Washington State netting 28 illegals working for a company? They were given work visas instead of being deported. In the meantime, over 150 Americans applied for their vacancies. That's the change I'm looking for!!

I feel sorry for the law-

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abiding Mexicans just trying to make a living down there. I really do. I agree with Governor Millan; Mexicans shouldn't give in to the cartels. Mexicans should be up in arms about their corrupt government and the cartels' power and work toward changing things for the better. Again, kick out the illegal aliens, put the Marines on the border and the Navy to sea. Don't let anything cross either way.

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D.S. via email

Word Twister

As vice president of marketing at Valley View Casino, I often receive calls from reporters asking for an interview or requesting information regarding the casino industry or our ancillary amenities such as restaurants and entertainment.

^{\$}34

Dental exam

• X-ravs

cleaning

*In the absence of gum

disease. New patients only.

More often than not, we will grant the reporters an interview or provide them with a quote that helps them with their article ("Blurt," April 2).

In every industry there are smart, honest people that want to do the right and fair thing; and then there are writers like Ken Leighton, who calls us with a loaded question and we can tell that no matter what we say, that when it's communicated to the public we will not be portrayed fairly or equally and our reply will be misrepresented. It's in these cases that we opt not to return calls or we simply reply with a "no comment."

So for the record, let's consider the following: we received a call from Ken Leighton with this message: "Ken Leighton from the Reader is writing an article and wants to know why someone would want to pay to see Creedence Clearwater Revisited when they can see them for free at the county fair." This is clearly a

no-win question and not even worthy of a conversation. However, we still wanted to be fair. So we called a music industry leader and icon in San Diego who told us not to reply as Leighton has a reputation for twisting words to benefit his story. That was all the confirmation we needed, and Leighton was placed on our "do not reply" list. So now let's address his

question in a format I know won't be changed: first, let me say I love the fair and it's a great form of entertainment, but it's a very different form of entertainment than an evening at Valley View Casino. Let's also make it clear that it is not free to go to the fair. There is a ticket price just like there is at Disneyland. Once you pay, some of the attractions and stage entertainment are included, but it is not free! So, if you like watching a concert (again, after paying the entry fee) in the atmosphere of a fair, as you're being circled by

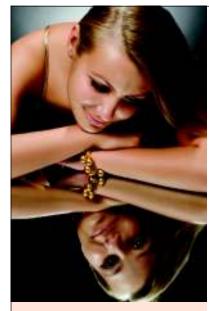
kids on wheeled tennis shoes while you eat your funnel cake, then seeing CCR at the fair is the right place for you. But if you'd rather enjoy an evening out at a 21-plus venue, where you're guaranteed the seat you bought, with unrivaled acoustics, while enjoying gourmet food and beverage service, then have a great night full of fun and action inside the casino, then Vallev View Casino should be your choice.

Oh, and by the way, I've been involved with concerts and music most of my life, and Creedence Clearwater Revisited is one of the best concerts I've ever seen and that's why they're opening our concert season again!

In the spirit of fairness, Ric Militi

A Cache Of "Crasher"s

What happened to the "Crasher" column this week? Was he too hungover to write it? I thought that guy was like Prince and had a studio full of articles just



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in case something like this happened.

Nacho Daddy

Mr. Continuing Ed Yes, you can still find that

some things are free! A little correction to the information on computer classes provided by Nameless in University City (Letters, April 2). The school offering the best free classes is called Continuing Ed (not San Diego senior adult school, as implied in Letters). Continuing Ed is associated with the San Diego Community College District. What you should do is check out their catalogue, which lists everything you always wanted to know but were afraid to ask about classes. It is well distributed at the beginning of each term (follows the regular school term - spring, summer, and fall). Libraries always have the catalogues. I receive mine delivered to my address as "Residential Customer."

Another correction: The computer classes are not really "full of people in their 60s and 70s — a few people in their 40s, 30s, and stuff (?)." They are geared to people looking for jobs; therefore 20s to 40s, average, with a sprinkle of seniors. I attend at the Mid-City campus in City Heights and also at Aero Drive, which has a different format (and an older crowd, if you're trying to stick to your age group). Yes, it is suggested to arrive, say, about 30 minutes early and get in line, even for evening classes. But I believe everyone gets in. I believe Midway has the same sort of schedule as Aero. Just go to sdce.edu and get the lowdown. There are also telephone numbers for all locations.

There are also classes in arts and crafts, business careers, English classes, foods and nutrition, music, physical education, and lots more. And they need the students to keep the classes going. After all, the price is right!

> Naida University Heights

Respectfully Incorrect

Re "My Gender Is Bunny," Cover Story, March 26.

Is it possible to use intentionally incorrect pronouns — for the entire length of an article — with "respect"? A. Southworth

via email **The Other Brother**

In last week's *Reader*, a story

on Branford Marsalis ("Of Note," March 26) said his brother Wynton toured with Sting and was part of his band. Obviously Brandon was the one who did that.

Tony Cooper

The mistake was due to an editing error. — Editor

Walk With 3000 Souls

In response to Matthew Lickona's "Sheep and Goats" article regarding Pastors Sergio and Georgina De La Mora of Cornerstone Church of San Diego (Jan-

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

uary 29).

With all due respect, it was apparent that his purpose to visit Cornerstone was not to receive God's word but simply to write this article, an article that lacked meaning and insight, which this church lacks



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none of. His piece, of about 95 percent quotes, was neither informative nor descriptive of the true purpose of my church. Our pastors and church leaders have made it their mission to turn the hearts of families to God, to develop our God-given potential, and to advance in the kingdom of God. If we lack tradition, we sure have made up for it in creative and inspirational ways to spread the true message of a church. It's never too late to start new traditions.

So I invite Mr. Lickona to return to Cornerstone with a different purpose. Come with an open mind and heart, remembering those dark valleys he has walked through in his life and instead of drudging through them how great it would have been to be carried through them. I hope that on his next visit he will see and experience the passion of our church from our energetic, Spirit-filled pastor to the 3000 souls enthusiastically ready to receive their spiritual gift.

Sophia Martinez Via email

Matthew Lickona responds: You are correct in thinking that my purpose in attending Cornerstone was to gather material for the article that's my job. I made this clear to Pastor De La Mora when we spoke.

You are also correct about the content of my article it is indeed mostly quotes. I try to let the people involved speak for themselves. I am sorry you thought the article lacked insight and meaning and that it was neither informative nor descriptive with regard to your church's true purpose. In fairness, I mostly limit myself to trying to give the reader a sense of what it was like to worship in a particular church on the particular day I visited, as opposed to opining about this or that church's true purpose. My experience of a given church is quite limited, and I try not to stray beyond those limits.

I made no comment as to

whether or not Cornerstone lacked traditions.

Comments from Reader Website

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

Blurt Published April 1

Posted by slammsd on April 2, 12:25 a.m.

It needs to be pointed out that the event name "North by North Park" was originally to be changed to "North to North Park" as Kelly Davis correctly pointed out on the CityBeat blog. After consultation with the folks in Austin at SXSW, the board of the San Diego Music Foundation decided to rethink this name, and in early March 2009, we voted to formally change the event name to "North Park Music Thing" instead. The event is scheduled to take place from August 7-9, 2009.

What Ken Leighton fails to mention in any of his stories about this event, is that he was a panelist at NXNP in 2008. He was a part of the story, which is something every journalist should point out to their readers, if/when they write about that specific event. Mr. Leighton might also check his datebook, since his original February 11 Blurt piece did not even correctly note the date of the event, an event that he was in fact a part of. Hey Ken, do you even own a calendar???

Cover Story Published April 1

Posted by gelle_oceanbeach on April 3, 10:49 a.m. Im shocked and appalled.

Did these events the story reported on happen. They are very trackable stories, shootings in walmart parking lots, escorting children in and out of school. People fearing the night time. I MEAN COME ON!

I dont know if this is all true. Im a new resident. But I work in a Mexican Restaurant and they travel through TJ into places like Ensenada and farther quite often, if not every week. They're more cautious if anything. Thats my two cents about what I PER-SONALLY know

In terms of this story. Is there absurd violence? Is there senseless slaughtering rather than calculated war? Has the Red Cross truly declared it a war zone?

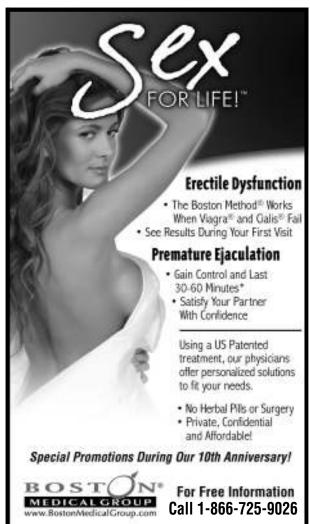
Lets talk facts here, children, before we go calling one another names. We are obviously the few people who care about truth and legitimacy. Lets go find the answers not call others out for not providing them.

The truth lies in that the drug wars are getting more out of hand. Its obviously a sign of the global recession. People are becoming more desperate. Mexico is in a terribly scary place because their history of Patronismo is changing. Their story is changing as a nation. It may return to the previous president's methods. It may change forever. We now as

Americans, as bordertown residents, we need to be informed and sensible. Violence is violence is violence. We must keep it out of our neighborhoods and then controlled and then snuffed out. Its a complicated problem having blame on our shoulders and theirs. But we must recognize the reality. Not defend deny or lie. Lets find the truth and work towards the correct solution.... not verbally bashing one another...

God, Im not even in my thirties and I sound older than the lot of you.





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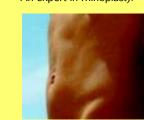
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Calendar

April 9-15

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 9

BELLY UP FOR PREGGATINIS

If you mix it right, sugar can be just as intoxicating as liquor, as author Natalie Bovis-Nelsen knows. Bovis-Nelsen will discuss her new book, *Preggatinis: Mixology for the Mom-to-Be*, in which she offers tips for a "modern spin on the humdrum baby shower" and how to "de-virginize" the concoctions for Dad. See **IN PERSON**, page 61.

Friday | 10

WHO'S THE FAIREST?

Another fairy tale about the importance of a woman's youth and beauty — on the inside. Gaston's

puppets spin this classic yarn about a girl named Snow White, with skin as pale as snow and lips as red as a poisonous apple. See **FOR KIDS**, page 59.

BE AGGRESSIVE

If you live in suburbia, forget about mace — what you need is a can of "pep" spray. In this comedy by Annie Weisman, two young San Diegans trek across the country, only to find that what they were seeking had been right there, under their pom-poms, all along. See **THEATER**, page 111.

Saturday | 11

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Regardless of his or her religious background, any kid can appreciate the idea of a giant bunny that delivers candy in a basket. This party at Brengle Terrace Park in Vista includes an egg hunt, a bonnet contest, and more. See **FOR KIDS**, page 59.

WOOFSTOCK: A FESTIVAL FOR DOGS AND PEOPLE

On any given Saturday, an assortment of pooches can be found strolling around Balboa Park. But at this festival, doggies will appear in droves. Professional dogs will fetch and catch, canines of all kinds can join the "Peace, Love, and Walk 'n' Roll Fun Dog Walk," and much more. See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

Sunday | 12

HOUSE OF INDIA Now that *Slumdog Millionaire* has swept the Oscars, chutney is the new salsa and a colorful sari is the new little black dress. Bollywood comes to Balboa Park when the House of India presents a selection of ethnic song and dance. *Namaste...* See **SPECIAL**, page 64.



Monday | 13

YOUR POSITION ON PROPOSITION A?

It can be scary, but you might like it getting involved, that is. This month's Chula Vista Northwest Civic Association town hall meeting will serve as a forum for an informational debate on the pros and cons of raising taxes to fund firefighting.

See **SPECIAL**, page 64.

Society leads you from Oceanside Harbor to Fallbrook on a 55-mile

IN FALLBROOK

Tuesday | 14

(YOU'LL DESERVE) LUNCH

When the San Diego Bicycle Touring

round-trip ride, you can feel fine about indulging yourself at the halfway point with a big lunch. See **SPORTS**, page 66.

SAN DIEGO PLAYWRIGHTS COLLECTIVE PLAYFEST

The North Coast Repertory Theatre hosts readings of new work by local scribes. This evening it will be *There's Someone Living in the House That Jack Built*, by Jason Connors, and *Cooperstown*, by Tim West. See **THEATER**, page 111.

Wednesday | 15

SIGHT, SOUND, COLOR, WORDS

In her novels, Susan Vreeland prominently features historical painters, including Vermeer (*Girl in Hyacinth Blue*), Emily Carr, and Monet. Vreeland will discuss and sign her latest book, *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, a fictional tale derived from Renoir's classic painting depicting summer in 1880. See **IN PERSON**, page 61.

Local Events page58 | Classical Music page68 | Art Museums & Galleries page68 Pop Music page70 | Restaurants page94 | Movies page105 | Theater page110

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

HOW TO SEND US YOUR

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

DANCE

"Besame Mucho" PGK Project showcases choreography of Peter G. Kalivas, featuring diverse group of dancers in world-premiere performances. 619-886-7924. Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.; \$15. City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Argentine Tango Class Introductory Argentine tango classes, ongoing. No partner required. 619-393-1974. Fridays, 9 p.m.; free. Pat-

> April 10: Indian Vegetarian Chef Manjula will show you how to prepare a full vegetarian meal with exotic flavor and spice.

April 15: Spring-Inspired Menu Danny Bannister, Chef de Cuisine of the Red Marlin, shares some exciting recipes.

April 16: Fresh Food, Fast

Chef Melissa Meyer will help you discover diverse ingredients from your supermarket and farmers' market that can be made into quick, healthy meals Select wines from San Diego Wine Co. will be served.

858-499-0180

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OUT & ABOUT

"NOMADIC LEGACY - A CINEMATIC JOURNEY," Mingei International Museum - North County, Saturday, April 11.

(SEE FILM)

tie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard, (BAY PARK)

For Hepcats and Hepkittens Firehouse Swing Dance promises tunes by deejay Dennis Hong. Featured classes this month: East Coast/jitterbug 1, Lindy 1, Lindy 2. "Intro to swing" lessons for total beginners 8-8:45 p.m. 858-395-6060. Wednesday, April 15, 8 p.m.; \$5-\$8. Firehouse Swing Dance, at San Diego Women's Club: 2557 Third Avenue, (BANKER'S HILL)

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)

Easter Dance Sharon Green calls, Kathleen Sand (piano) and Melanie Miller (flute) provide music for San Diego English Country Dancers party. 858-676-9731. Sunday, April 12, 6 p.m.; \$8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road, (POWAY)

Hustle Dance Party Hustle workshop for intermediate/advanced dancers (\$10 members, \$15 nonmembers). Hustle dance party follows 8 p.m.-midnight (\$5 members, \$7 nonmembers), with beginner lesson 8-8:30 p.m. (included in admission), 760-803-9982, Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$7. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas Boulevard, Suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

GUITARAOKE Play Free T-Shirts 6:30 PN Also Doyle Dykes Guitar Clinic May 7 at 7pm - firm larg Toll Free: 877-687-4276

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Learn Traditional International Couple Dances Master folk dance teacher Lee Otterholt teaches traditional couple dances from Scandinavia, Norway, other Northern European countries. Requested donation: \$5. 858-278-4619. Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.;. Balboa Park Club, 2150 Pan American Road West, (BALBOA PARK)

Tunes by Ranting Banshee Caller is JoAnn Koppany during San Diego Folk Heritage contra dance. Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30 p.m. Dances taught and called, 8-11 p.m. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Saturday, April 11, 6:30 p.m.; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

FILM

"Zeitgeist Easter Sunday" This 2007 documentary examines "suppressed historical and modern information about currently dominant social institutions, while also exploring what could be in store for humanity if the power structures at large continue their patterns of self-interest, corruption, and consolidation." Wow! 858-583-4766. Sunday, April 12, 7 p.m.; free. Jovce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street, (HILLCREST)

"Evenings on Earth" Film series showcases The Lorax. All the Right Stuff, and Green Animation at 6:30 p.m. Call to reserve spot at optional dinner (5:30 p.m.). 760-757-3659. Tuesday, April 14, 5:30 p.m.; free. Mission San Luis Rey Retreat Center, 4050 Mission Avenue. (OCEANSIDE)

"Nomadic Legacy — A Cinematic Journey" Enjoy "thoughtprovoking films" about rural, nomadic cultures of Mongolia and Iran. Program includes Cave of the Yellow Dog, a "docudrama" underscoring disappearing ways of nomadic life in Mongolia (1 p.m.). In Gabbeh, as an aged nomadic couple wash their old rug in a stream, its designs magically come to life, recounting episodes in their lives together (3 p.m.). Abbas Kiarostami's "atmospheric masterpiece" The Wind Will Carry Us screens at 5 p.m., revealing "contrasting themes of life and death and modernity and tradition" in remote Kurdish village of Siah Dareh. 760-735-3355. Saturday, April 11, 1 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.; \$5. Mingei International Mu-

seum — North County, 155 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

"Nostalgia: Double Feature Cinema" See *Saving Face* at 7 p.m. and *Once Were Warriors* at 9 p.m. "Order from local mom and pop restaurants and we'll call it in and pick it up for you." Free popcorn, coffee, tea, snacks. Donation. 877-640-7469. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The Marquee, 835 25th Street. (GOLDEN HILL)

"The American Immigrant Experience" Enjoy *The Namesake*, based on Jhumpa Lahiri's wonderful book, when ongoing Carlsbad Library film series continues in conjunction with Carlsbad Reads Together program. 760-602-2026. Wednesday, April 15, 6 p.m.; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Cartoneros Ernesto Livon-Grosman presents this documentary about "the severe 2001 economic crisis in Argentina." *Cartoneros* (scavengers) "reconstructs the journey of rubbish, from curbside trash receptacle to consumer product." Screening in Arts Building room 240. 760-750-4366. Thursday, April 9, 6 p.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

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. Wednesday, April 15, 1 p.m.; free. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Molière International Film Series showcases Laurent Tirard's 2007 film, in which "a down-and-out actor...gets the opportunity to erase his debt by helping a wealthy man win the heart of a widowed marquise." Catch film in room 204; film repeats at 7 p.m. on Oceanside campus. In French with English subtitles. 760-757-2121 x7737 or x7806. Friday, April 10, 1 p.m.; free. MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Safarbarlik UCSD/SDSU Arab Film Series closes with screening of "classic and rarely screened Lebanese film featuring the greatest living Arabic singer, Fairuz, in her prime." Film depicts Lebanese mountain village life during First World War in romantic, heroic light. UCSD professor Michael Provence introduces film, leads post-film discussion, all in International House Great Hall. 858-822-5297. Monday, April 13, 7 p.m.; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Young Mister Lincoln John Ford's 1939 classic starring Henry Fonda screens for Film Forum in commemoration of Lincoln bicentennial. Discussion follows. 619-236-5800. Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

International Documentary Film Series Selected films focus on heroic individuals, their stories of fighting for life and freedom around globe. This week: The Betrayal. Guest speakers lead discussion following screenings. Future films: Prav the Devil Back to Hell (April 20); War Child (April 27). Series is fundraiser for International Rescue Committee San Diego. Series pass to all three films: \$40.619-641-7510 x249. Monday, April 13, 7 p.m.; \$20-\$40. La Jolla Village, 8879 Villa La Jolla Drive. (LA JOLLA)

More *Molière* International Film Series showcases Laurent Tirard's 2007 film, in which "a down-and-out actor...gets the opportunity to erase his debt by helping a wealthy man win the heart of a widowed marquise." Screening offered in Little Theatre (room 3601). In French with English subtitles. 760-757-2121 x7737 or x7806. Friday, April 10, 7 p.m.; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

FOR KIDS

"Easter Eggstravaganza" Enjoy a bonnet contest with prizes awarded to winners by age group for most creative, funniest, and

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50

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

With gentle grades most of the way, the San Juan Trail is tailormade for a leisurely saunter from the Main Divide of the Santa Ana Mountains to the lower foothills. Due to an elevation change of about 2500 feet, most of the spring wildflowers common to the chaparral and sage-scrub plant communities can be seen somewhere along this trail during the month of April. If the day is very clear, the distant views you enjoy will include much of the southern Orange County coastline, plus Santa Catalina and San Clemente islands.



Mariposa lily along San Juan Trail

prettiest (10 a.m.); games, arts and crafts. Egg hunt at 11 a.m. Requested donation: \$2. 760-726-1340 x150. Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. Brengle Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive. (VISTA)

"Spring EGGS-travaganza" Many ocean animals are hatched or born during spring; visit for activities highlighting "wonders of reproduction in the sea." Get faceto-face with egg-laying marine animals including squids, fishes,

San Diego Reader April 9, 2009

8

the 11-mile-long trail in a one-way direction, you'll need some kind of arrangement for transportation. The lower trailhead lies in Hot Spring Canyon, 0.8 mile north of the San Juan Fire Station on Highway 74 (east of San Juan Capistrano). The upper trailhead (the preferred starting point if you like downhill travel) lies just south of the entrance to Blue Jay Campground, a major camping area. Any car parked at either trailhead must have a National Forest Adventure Pass displayed.

If you choose to travel

From the upper trail-

sharks. Create shark egg craft, listen to stories. Included in regular admission. 858-534-FISH. Thursday, April 9, 11 a.m.; Friday, April 10, 11 a.m.; Saturday, April 11, 11 a.m.; Sunday, April 12, 11 a.m.; free. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

The Magic Well Two sisters find hard work is rewarded in the land

winds west and south along a hillside, just below the level of the campground. After a mile, the trail starts descending along a sunny. sage-carpeted slope. At 1.3 miles the trail crosses an older version of the San Juan Trail (a steep, rocky roadbed) and plunges into the deep shade of a ravine. For a time, live oaks keep

head, the San Juan Trail

the sun's rays at bay. After rounding a single switchback and descending further, you reach, in a sunny, sage-dotted clearing at 1.7 miles, a second crossing of the old trail. Keep straight and you come to a junction at 1.8 miles with the Chiquito Trail. Stay right here.

the base of a hillside, through chaparral growth. Climbing slightly into a more sparsely vegetated zone, you arrive

Wednesday-Friday; 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, April 15; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK

All Aboard! Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides. Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by

(2.4 miles) at another junction, where the San Juan Trail bends right to cross the top of a gentle divide, and the Viejo Tie Trail, on the left, goes along the hillside.

Stay on the San Juan Trail, which now bears southsouthwest through more chaparral. Reaching some oaks in a ravine bottom (3.7 miles), the trail zigzags a couple of times through grass and poison oak and crosses an intermittent stream. Enjoy the shade. because this is the last grove of trees until you reach the end of the trail.

On the far side of the ravine, the trail swings south of a small peak and then climbs moderately toward a flat area (5.0 miles) just south of Sugarloaf peak, where the old trail, a rutted firebreak at this point, comes in from the right. After dropping down along the west

slope of Sugarloaf, you come to a saddle overlooking steep Hot Spring Canyon to the north

The gradual descent continues. largely on or near the spine of a ridge offering nice views of other ridges and canyons in every direction. Far below to the south. the gray blacktop of Ortega Highway resembles a giant snake propelling itself through the sycamores in San Juan Canyon.

At around 8.5 miles, several switchbacks take you safely down a crumbling slope. At 10.0 miles, with only a mile to go, you begin descending quickly. A final set of zigzags takes you down into Hot Spring Canyon, where the trail intersects the road coming up from San Juan Fire Station.

This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilder-

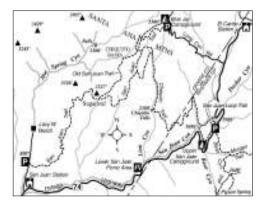
Cotton Tails along Sunflower Trails Learn facts about native rabbits and flora through with songs, short hike, take-home craft during "Ant-Sized Adventures" parent and preschooler program. Reservations required: 619-582-6261. Thursday, April 9, 10 a.m.; Friday, April 10, 10 a.m.; \$2. Ages 2 and up. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)



SAN JUAN TRAIL

Hike or bike the San Juan Trail in Orange County's Santa Ana Mountains

Distance from downtown San Diego: 86 miles Hiking/biking length: 11 miles Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



ness area. Trails and pathhave safety and navigationa ways are not necessarily skills. The Reader and Jerry marked. Conditions can Schad assume no responchange rapidly. Hikers should sibility for any adverse experience. be properly equipped and

Easter Egg Hunt Festival Arts

and crafts for kids, party jumps,

face painting, 24,000 eggs to hunt

(with start times based on age).

760-633-2760. Saturday, April 11,

10 a.m.; free. Ecke Sports Park, 278

Fold a Bunny "Oh Boy Origami"

class led by Lisa Koide Halverson

promises creation of hanging

bunny ornaments. If weather is

sunny, participants will "toss

origami waterbombs." Reserva-

Saxony Road. (ENCINITAS)

tions: 619-232-2721. Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.; \$8. Ages 8 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Nature Explorers Kids between five and ten years old and their parents explore magic of natural world through the many changes taking place at dusk, using four senses and flashlights. Reservations: 619-668-3278. Friday, April 10, 6 p.m.; free. Ages 5 and up. Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

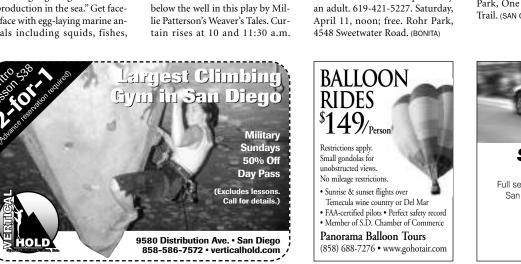
Spring Fling Egg Hunt Organizers promise the hunting of "over 15,000 stuffed eggs" (2 p.m.), as well as bounce houses, Loonev Dooney Clown, photos with Easter Bunny, magic show, face painting, balloon animals, more. Music by Rockola (2:15-4 p.m.). Find fun in Liberty Station, at corner of Rosecrans and Roosevelt. 858-735-0989. Saturday, April 11, noon; free. NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

time for preschoolers with crafts

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Continue south along



and animals. Reservations: 619-243-3432. Tuesday, April 14, 10:30 a.m.; \$3. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Who's the Fairest? Snow White performed by Gaston's Puppets. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, April 9; Friday, April 10; Saturday, April 11; Sunday, April 12; free. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

IN PERSON

"Impossible Visions" Magic show with comedy, illusions, and audience participation by Sebastian, with guest performer Matt Marcy, emcee Charles Arlington. 760-720-2460. Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.; \$15-\$20. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

"The Tax Show" Laughter is the best medicine - after completing your tax returns, enjoy improv sketch comedy by Comedy Under Construction. 858-550-8088. Wednesday, April 15, 8 p.m.; \$5-\$8. Ages 16 and up. Swedenborg Hall, 1531 Tyler Avenue. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Jewish Friends and Neighbors SDSU professor of clarinet Marian Liebowitz will discuss, play selections from her recently released CD, Jewish Friends and Neighbors,

offering "blending of traditional Jewish melodic constructs with the rich influences of various New World idioms." 858-268-3674. Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; free. Congregation Dor Hadash, 4858 Ronson Court. (KEARNY MESA)

A Living Historian! Noted Lincoln "presenter" William T. Peck highlights key points in Abraham Lincoln's life such as Kansas-Nebraska Act, Lincoln-Douglas Debates, Gettysburg Address, Lincoln's second inaugural address. Before or after program, visit firstfloor lobby exhibit "Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, a Man for All Times." 619-236-5847. Tuesday, April 14, 10:30 a.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, (DOWNTOWN)

Author Visit Barrie Summy, teen author of I So Don't Do Mysteries, will answer questions, sign books. 619-463-3006. Wednesday, April 15, 4 p.m.; free. Spring Valley Library, 836 Kempton Street. (SPRING VALLEY)

Belly Up for Preggatinis Author Natalie Bovis-Nelsen discusses and signs Preggatinis during "alcohol-free cocktail party." You don't have to be pregnant to enjoy the book's cocktails! One complimentary beverage with each book purchased. 858-454-0347. Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Breast Cancer 3-Day Fundraiser Kelly Corrigan — author of The Middle Place - plans reading, discussion, and book signing in support of Walking for Udders Breast Cancer 3-Day walking team. Suggested donation: \$50, which includes Tory hostess tote bag, wine, champagne. Reservations: 760-438-2088 or 760-310-9871. Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 p.m. Tory Burch Boutique Fashion Valley, 7007 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Celebrating Sight, Sound, Color, Words! Author Susan Vreeland discusses her latest novel. Luncheon of the Boating Party, depicting summer of 1880 and Renoir's painting. Booksigning follows. 760-753-7376. Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 p.m.; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Comics That Kill Stand-up comedy with Bo Saunders, Mall Hall, Dangerous Dick, David Filcilli. Host: Jason Bang. 619-255-8635. Monday, April 13, 9 p.m.; \$5. Ages 21 and up. Riley's Music Lounge, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

Gypsy Reggae Rock Fusion Madera performs with Middle-Earth Ensemble; expect "Gypsy-infused sounds with guest belly dancers." 619-222-7678. Saturday, April 11, 9 p.m.; \$5. Portugalia, 4839 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

He's a Ukulele Phenom! Jake Shimabukuro in concert. Performance is fundraiser for California Surf Museum. 760-721-6876. Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.; \$35-\$75. Grace Chapel of the Coast, 102 North Freeman Street. (OCEANSIDE)

Holocaust Survivor Author, North County resident Yaja Boren speaks about her experiences as a



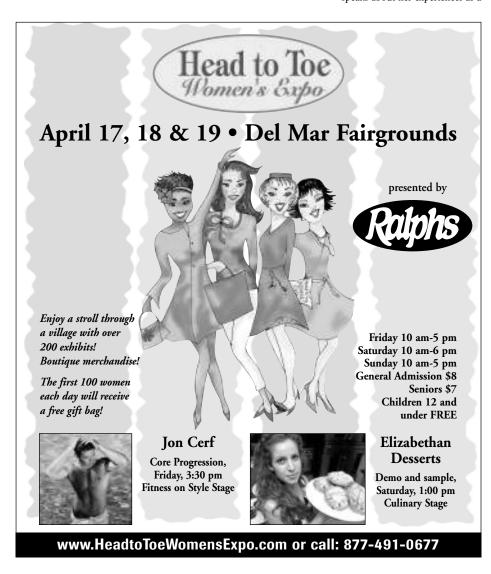
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OPENS APRIL 18 PETER GRIMES by Benjamin Britten A social outcast in an isolated fishing

village, Peter Grimes stands accused. Anthony Dean Griffey sings opera's most intriguing outcast struggling against the community that judges him. Is he criminal or victim?

SAT

APR 18 7PM TUE APR 21 7PM FRI APR 24 8PM SUN APR 26 2PM

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Plento by Kan Hammed/Winterspolitum Spara Code 7033



survivor of Auschwitz and other Holocaust prison camps, in Student Center Conference Room. 760-634-7806. Tuesday, April 14, 11 a.m.; free. MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Laurie Okuma Memorial Reading Poet Amy Uyematsu is this year's featured artist, reading from her work in room LL-430. Uyematsu is author of 30 Miles from J-Town; Nights of Fire, Nights of Rain; and Stone Bow Prayer. 619-594-5318. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; free. Ages 18 and up. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Meet a (Public) Artist Artist Neal Bociek discusses his "Landsailers" series. 858-822-0197. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; free. Children's Pool, 850 Coast Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Music, War, Love Lost Poet Joseph Voth, creator of new literary journal The Grassy Knoll, plans poetry reading in Little Theater (room 3601). His works are said to "contain music, war, love lost, narrative, and 'language poetry'-re-lated themes." 760-757-2121 x6339. Tuesday, April 14, 7 p.m.; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive, (OCEANSIDE)

Southern California Mystery Authors Michele Scott (Corked by

Cabaret) and Diana Killian (Docketful of Poesy) visit the Galaxy to discuss, sign their new books. 858-268-4747. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

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)

The Gelato Poetry Series Fred Longworth reads his poetry followed by open mike. 760-434-1240. Friday, April 10, 7 p.m.; free. Korky's Ice Cream and Coffee, 2375 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Urban Fantasy and Paranormal Romance! Ann Aguirre signs Blue Diablo, Linda Thomas-Sundstrom signs Barbie and the Beast. 858-268-4747. Friday, April 10, 7 p.m.; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

LECTURES

"A New California Garden" Landscape designer Linda Whitney shares process of creating "Water Smart" landscape from the ground up. Learn steps from design, irrigation, plant selection to maintenance principles. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122



water habitat, and both poles" for

Perspectives on Ocean Science Lec-

ture Series. RSVP: 858-534-5771.

Monday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.; \$5-\$8.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300

"Africa and Darfur: Humanitar-

ian Intervention" Mahmood

Mamdani of Columbia University

speaks for Hansen/Hostler Distin-

guished Lecture Series. Talks exam-

ining key international issues facing

President Obama take place in

Hardy Tower room 140, 619-594-

6244. Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m.; free.

San Diego State University, 5500

Democratization in Iraq,

China, and the World "Provoca-

tive" political sociologist and Stan-

ford University faculty member

Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"EASTER

"Abraham Lincoln, Restive Californios, and the Missions" James A. Sandos, professor of history and Farquhar Professor of the Southwest at University of the Redlands, speaks in multipurpose room of Student Services Center. His most recent book: Converting California: Indians and Franciscans in the Missions Lecture is free: parking is \$3. 858-534-6270. Tuesday, April 14, 6 p.m.;, University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive, (LA JOLLA)

Adventures in Oceanography Scripps research oceanographer Dale Stokes leads "global photographic journey of oceanography featuring ships, submarines, under-



April 9, 7:30 p.m., Rev. Mary Allman-Boyle Holy Communion, Draping of the Cross, The Contemporary Singers

Good Friday April 10, 12:10, Rev. Elbert Kim, The Chancel Choir, Viola and Organ Music for Meditation at 11:45 a.m.

Easter Vigil Prayer Pilgrimage Saturday April 11, between 7:30 and 9 p.m. Self-guided interactive journey, all ages, Baptism and Communion

Easter Sunday

April 12, 8:00, 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. Dr. Jim Standiford, The Chancel Choir, Brass Quartet and Organ The Water's Edge contemporary service at 9:30 in The Cove with Rev. Molly Vetter Children's Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 in the Amphitheater

First United Methodist Church of San Diego 2111 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley · 619-297-4366 · www.fumcsd.org and demise of democracy over the past several decades." Book signing of The Spirit of Democracy: The Struggle to Build Free Societies Throughout the World follows. 858-534-2660. Wednesday, April 15, 6 p.m.; free. Robinson Auditorium complex at UCSD, off Pangea Drive. (LA JOLLA)

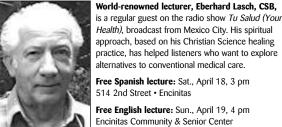
Larry Diamond focuses on "rise

How to be a Part of Your Native Plant Garden Native plant enthusiast Mike Evans, owner of Tree of Life Nursery, talks about connecting to nature in your backvard when San Diego Horticultural Society gathers. "Since the native plant garden is 'sustainable' by design, it functions as a whole rather than as a sum of parts." Plant forum follows. 760-295-7089. Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.; free. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

"Evening Encounters: Art, Culture, and Conversation" Sara Cochran, Phoenix Art Museum's curator of modern and contemporary art, plans discussion about Salvador Dali's connection to California during World War II. Eveoke Dance Theatre will perform. 619-696-1953. Monday, April 13, 5 p.m.; \$25-\$30. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Greenovation Forum: The Value of Water" Forum returns, examining "complex water issues both locally and globally." Experts in academia, industry, government, nonprofit community focus

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alternatives to conventional medical care. Free Spanish lecture: Sat., April 18, 3 pm 514 2nd Street • Encinitas

Free English lecture: Sun., April 19, 4 pm Encinitas Community & Senior Center 1140 Oakhurst Park Drive • Encinitas

on challenges of meeting growing water demands. 858-822-2521. Wednesday, April 15, 4 p.m.; free. UCSD Faculty Club, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Hearts of Stone" Artist, poet, writer D. Goth presents her contemporary fresco work in M. Gordon Clarke Field House room 113. Following her talk, public invited to create a "heart of stone" community art project to honor cancer survivors and memorialize loved ones, 760-750-4366, Tuesday, April 14, 7 p.m.; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

"Migration, Religion, and National Identity" Conference subtitled "Exploring Faith and Belonging in the Migrant Experience' hosted by Trans-Border Institute will examine migrant topics from historical and comparative perspective. 619-260-4166. Wednesday, April 15, 6 p.m.; free. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Migrations and Meanderings Birder extraordinaire Claude Edwards discusses local and visiting birds of San Diego. Learn about bird identification, vocalizations, habitats. 619-531-1539. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; free. Point Loma Library, 3701 Voltaire Street. (POINT LOMA)

"Really Reliable Recall" Frustrated when Spot won't "come when called"? Remedy problem during workshop. Registration: 619-299-7012 x2704. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

"Starting and Sustaining Your Publishing Career" Author Eve Begley Kiehm speaks for Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators in Hahn School of Nursing. Kiehm focuses on sustaining a writing career over long haul, "growing as a writer over a long, rich, wellpublished and well-lived life." 619-713-5462. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; \$7-\$9. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

"The Deregulation of Telecommunications in Pakistan" Major General Shahzada Alam Malik, former chairman of Pakistan Telecom Authority, discusses deregulation of telecommunications in Pakistan. Learn of "transformations that led



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to a successful growth of telecommunications in South Asia over last several years" during lecture in CALIT2 Auditorium. Registration: 858-822-6756. Thursday, April 9, 3:30 p.m.; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"The Generation of Wagner and Verdi" Violinist Victoria

Martino continues "The Age of Romanticism, Realism, and Impressionism" lecture series. 858-454-5872. Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m.; \$14-\$19. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Alien Volcanoes Science illustrator, author Michael Carroll plans talk surveying "complete spectrum of volcanoes, from earthlike cones with molten rock to alien geysers of liquid nitrogen." Signing follows lecture. 619-238-1233. Friday, April 10, 6 p.m.; \$8. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Behind the Scenes! Artists from Peter Grimes 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, April 9, 5:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Consider Lincoln's Last Days SDSU history professor Edward J. Blum presents "Hero, Martyr, and Civil Rights Inspiration," examining Abraham Lincoln's last days, his legacy. Talk followed by book signing, sale of Blum's book Reforging the White Republic: Race, Religion, and American Nationalism, 1865-1898. 619-236-5847. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Art and Architecture Part of "Dialogue" series examining "How We Choose to Live II -Perspectives on Art, Architectural Design, Urban Planning, and Our Changing Ecology," promises talk by writer, art collector, practicing physician Koan Jeff Baysa, M.D. How did this New York physician became a curator of international art exhibitions? 858-454-5872. Thursday, April 9, 7:30 p.m.; free. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Europe 101 Hostelling International presents tips for traveling in Europe on a budget. Get the skinny on trip planning, transportation, packing, safety, cultural awareness, more. 619-338-9981. Tuesday, April 14, 7 p.m.; free. Adventure 16 Solana Beach, 142 South Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH

Heading to Europe? Hostelling International presents "Europe 101," with tips for traveling in Europe on a budget - trip planning, packing, transportation, safety, cultural awareness, more. 619-338-9981 x14. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; free. Adventure 16 Mission Valley, 4620 Alvarado Canyon Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Lights! Camera! Family Tree! Del Ritchhart divulges "How to Make a DVD of Your Family History Research Experience" when Computer Genealogy Group of North San Diego County Genealogical Society gathers. Ritchhart "will demonstrate using a laptop computer and VGA projector to assemble an abbreviated documentary, including adding appropriate music." Nonmembers welcome. 760-967-8635. Tuesday, April 14, 10 a.m.; free. Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Neotropical Bird Migration Barbara Moore, who has been teaching bird classes and leading bird walks for many years, speaks for Buena Vista Audubon Society meeting. San Diego is at heart of Pacific Flyway; "spring migration is a wonderful time to view birds in our area." Refreshments at 7 p.m., program at 7:30 p.m. 760-439-2473. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m.; free. Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center, 2202 South Coast Highway. (CARLSBAD)

Opera Insights Historical and cultural background, music analysis, plot synopsis, musical selections from Britten's Peter Grimes presented by Ron Shaheen to highlight upcoming San Diego Opera production. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, April 15, 5:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Our Precarious Economy Economics professor Joe Silverman offers look at economy, what is being done, where we go from here for LIFE, "lifelong learning group," in room 1068 (1 p.m.). Meet students whose lives have been changed by MiraCosta courses with "community service component which places students with nonprofit organizations and public schools" (2 p.m.). 760-721-8124. Friday, April 10, 1 p.m.; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Sogetsu School Ikebana Learn basics of ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) from instructor Yumi Rakers. Materials list upon required advance registration. Fee: \$15 per session, or \$40 for three sessions. Registration: 619-232-2721. Wednesday, April 15, 10 a.m.; \$15. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Spiky, Dude! Learn "how some cacti make you hear sound and see color" during slide-illustrated talk on hallucinogenic cactus by Stan Yalof for San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, in room 101 of Casa del Prado. Renowned botanist Guillermo Rivera presents program on flora of Argentina. 858-270-5544. Saturday, April 11, 12:30 p.m.; free. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

About Bastiat Mike Benoit plans talk on Frederick Bastiat's book The Law, written just before Karl Marx published The Communist Manifesto and presenting "a strikingly contradicting view of societv." Good conversation promised. 619-299-9360. Sunday, April 12, 2 p.m.; free. Café Libertalia, 3834 Fifth Avenue, (HILLCREST)

OUTDOORS

The Coastal Wildflower Bloom, average or better in quality due to near-average winter rainfall, continues through April. One of the best spots for viewing the greatest variety of flowers is Torrey Pines State Reserve, San Onofre State Beach, just north of Camp Pendleton, should have acres and acres of monkey flower, with a half-dozen different shades, blooming on the coastal bluffs. In inland locates such as Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve and Mission Trails Regional Park (especially behind the Old Mission Dam), you may find California poppies, purple nightshade, pinkish owl's clover, blue-colored lupine, and scattered splashes of color due to a dozen or more other species of wildflowers. North County residents should check out the huge Daley Ranch preserve in northeast Escondido, where wildflowers dot its hillsides and grassy meadows.

Blue-Blossoming Jacaranda Trees will produce a first wave of color along the streets of San Diego sometime this month. By mid-May, warm weather permitting, this Brazilian import could put on a dazzling show. The larger jacarandas, which in full bloom are leafless, or nearly so, display myriads of delicate, trumpet-shaped blossoms — a lavender haze as seen from afar. Jacarandas are commonly used as landscaping in parks and on most college campuses. Nice rows of jacarandas grace Ash Street downtown, Rosecrans Boulevard in Point Loma, 25th Street in Golden Hill, and Mission Village Drive above Qualcomm Stadium.

Painted Lady Butterflies may be on the wing across San Diego County this month. In response to

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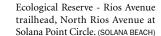
drying desert flora, the butterflies migrate west or northwest toward the greener, more succulent vegetation near the coast. This year's notquite-up-to-normal rainfall will likely produce a light crop of painted ladies.

The Full Moon Rises into the deeply darkened eastern sky on Thursday, April 9, at around 7:50 p.m. (about 35 minutes after the time of sunset). Some folk names for the April full moon include "growing moon," "planter's moon," "budding trees moon," and "green grass moon."

"Early Birds, Bugs, and Botany" Naturalist Lee Dezan plans moderate hike, about three miles long, in search of wildflowers blooming on trails. 760-839-4680. Saturday, April 11, 7:15 a.m.; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours Led on second Saturday of each month, starting at Chinese Historical Museum. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. Saturday, April 11, 11 a.m.; \$2. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Bird Count Join team of volunteer birders to help during monthly bird count conducted by San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy, Teams survey the many different habitat types at reserve. All levels of experience welcome. Bring binoculars or scope if you have them. 760-436-3944. Monday, April 13, 7:30 a.m.; free. San Elijo Lagoon



Birding in the South Join Palomar Audubon Society birders to bird in the estuary, and then check for additional species at 7th Street on South Bay, 760-451-9370, Saturday, April 11, 8:30 a.m.; free. Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Birding the Marsh Chula Vista Nature Center hosts guided birdwatching hikes around Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Reservations: 619-409-5900. Sundays, 11 a.m.; through Sunday, April 26, free, Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge and Nature Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Experience a Grunion Run Grunion run program hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum (which doesn't take place at museum). Presentation on grunion, followed by "opportunity to witness grunion eggs hatch before your eyes." Required reservations: 858-534-7336. Friday, April 10, 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 11, 10 p.m.; \$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Habitat Restoration Project Plant native plants to create coastal succulent scrub habitat for endangered coastal cactus wren. Bring water, sun protection, gloves if you have them. Meet in northeast corner of park. 858-342-8856. Sunday, April 12, 9 a.m.; free. Black Mountain Ranch Community Park. (RAN-CHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Less Toxic Yard and Garden Care Home composting workshop offered. Registration: 619-

Latin and Ballroom



A LIVING

HISTORIAN! Lincoln presenter William T. Peck, San Diego Public Library, Tuesday, April 14.

(SEE IN PERSON)

409-5900. Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.; free. Chula Vista Nature Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Meet the Salt Marsh Wetland Tend California native plants, remove invasive interlopers, pick up litter with Friends of Famosa Slough in this salt marsh wetland. Wear work clothes; bring work gloves and tools if you have them. 619-224-4591. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; free. Famosa Slough, West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

Miner's Loop Trail Walk Join naturalist David Robertson for hike along trail on north face of Black Mountain Park. There should be a good wildflower show. Wear hiking boots, bring water. 858-538-2527. Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m.; free. Black Mountain Community Park, 14850 Carmel Valley Road, (RANCHO PEÑASOUITOS)

Nature Hike California Native Plant Society hosts hike led by David Di Donato and J.R. Sundberg, starting in front of Rubio's in theater parking lot. 906-251-0392. Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m.; free.



Rancho San Diego 15, 2951 Jamacha Road. (EL CAJON)

Nature Walk Trained naturalist leads walk. 760-436-3944. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; free. San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve - Rios Avenue trailhead, North Rios Avenue at Solana Point Circle. (SOLANA BEACH)

Palm Walk Offshoot Tours offers its monthly hour-long guided stroll exploring structure, growth habits, landscape value of palm trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado, (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Field Ornithologists Expert birders lead bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Seek Cotton Tails along Sunflower Trails Park is ablaze with many colors of wildflowers, butterflies, caterpillars, birds, bugs, and lizards. Experience the beauty of natural environment during trail guide-led interpretive walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 11, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, April 12, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, April 15, 9:30 a.m.; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Star Party Spectacular The "resident star gazer" shares his powerful telescope for viewing of stars and planets in night sky. Look for Saturn and its large, most complex set of rings in solar system, as well as its 60 moons. Also sought: M44, the Beehive Cluster, 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m.; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Support an Oceanside Dog Beach? Friends of Oceanside Dog Beach host cleanup at mouth of San Luis Rey River, "in support of getting a dog beach." These dog owners "care about the environment and city beaches." Park in lot 20, look for people with garbage bags. 602-430-5775. Saturday, April 11, 11 a.m.; free. Oceanside dog beach parking, 900 North Pacific Street. (OCEANSIDE)

Take a Dam Walk! Old Mission Dam, its historic past, the San Diego River, and an interpretive guide await you. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 11, 8:30 a.m.; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Weeding and Planting Party Help out with weeding in Old Town State Park's native plant garden. Bring: hat, water, gloves, a weeding tool, something to kneel on. Garden is found across Congress Street from trolley/train/bus depot, right next to parking lot. Saturday, April 11, 1 p.m.; free. Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street. (OLD TOWN)

What's a Least Tern Condo?

San Diego Audubon Society invites volunteers to maintain nesting site for endangered California least terns in Mariner's Point, part of Bonita Cove on Mission Bay, Help clear nesting site of invasive plants so terns may use site for nesting and rearing young; participants set up decoys and least tern "condos" used to attract terns to this site. Wear work clothes. If you have them, bring work gloves, weeding tools, or clippers. 619-682-7210. Saturday, April 11, 9 a.m.; free. Bonita Cove, 1100 West Mission Bay Drive. (MISSION BEACH)

SPECIAL

"Love and Forgiveness in the Light of Death" Reading, discussion series explores themes of love and forgiveness through classic and contemporary literature. This week, examine Toni Morrison's Jazz. UCSD professor Camille F. Forbes leads discussion. Next up: Leo Tolstoy's The Death of Ivan Illych, May 11. 619-236-5816. Monday, April 13, 6:30 p.m.; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

"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, April 11, 10 a.m.; free. Saint Mark's United Methodist Church, 3502 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

Funny in Farsi Firoozeh Dumas's memoir about growing up Iranian American in Southern California was selected for fifth Carlsbad Reads Together program. Join other readers to discuss the book without the author (who will visit Carlsbad on April 23). 760-602-



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Bridal Bazaa Sunday, April 26 Del Mar Fairgrounds. 10am-4pm. Over 250 exhibitors with everything for your wedding. Info, coupons, www.bridalbazaar.com.

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8

Jitterbug and Swing Salsa and Merengue Classes still open. No contracts! s 32 for 4 weeks with this ad Pattie Wells Dancetime Center 619-275-3533 www.dancetime.com *1-hour introductory class

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Gourmet Cupcakes 24-plus flavors to choose from, and 2026. Thursday, April 9, 2 p.m.; free. Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Ask the Designer Professional landscape designer Connie Beck offers personalized, 45-minute landscape design consultation. Bring a photograph of your area, ideas from magazines, project dimensions for practical advice, suggestions for creating a low-water landscape. Required reservations: 619-660-0614 x10. Tuesday, April 14, 5:30 p.m.; \$60-\$75. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYA-MACA COLLEGE)

Board Game Benefit Noncompetitive game play to benefit Heifer International. Up for Pictionary? Donation: \$10. 619-204-8834. Friday, April 10, 8 p.m. Tea N More, 7380 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Dumbek Drumming Mary Marshall leads class. Beginning teaching for first 30 minutes, followed by more advanced teaching. Regular dance program follows. 619-281-5656. Saturday, April 11, 7 p.m.; free. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Fashion Week Downtown 2009 Continues Downtown Business Association hosts week of couture and luxury fashion shows featuring fine designers from across country presenting fashions and accessories. Among the many events: designer showcase (April 9); swimsuit showcase (April 10); "Red Carpet Grand Finale" featuring designers David Kahn and Lauren Elaine (April 11). 760-745-8877. Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m.; Friday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, April 11, 8 p.m.; \$22-\$60. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

From Pollenization to Bloom San Diego Iris Society meets for hybridization demonstration and potluck. 619-840-2768. Sunday, April 12, 1 p.m.; free. Iris Howse and Gardens, 3915 Vista San Miguel. (BONITA)

Gallery Talk Artist Nina Waisman, currently exhibiting "Between," leads talk and tour. 760-839-4120. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; free. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Honoring Youth Outreach **Programs** SDSU homecoming queen Lakeisha Nacoste plans "vouth outreach extravaganza" to honor "community and collegiate organizations that service youth who have one or both parents incarcerated or who are in foster care." Representatives from honored community and collegiate organizations speak of their "missions, goals, and success stories" in Montezuma Hall. 619-594-5200. Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

House of India Program of ethnic songs and dances presented for lawn program at International Cottages. 619-234-0739. Sunday, April 12, 2 p.m.; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Let's Talk Together Artists, scholars, storytellers, community leaders talk about complex issues, history presented within "Black Womanhood" exhibition. Included in museum admission. 619-232-7931. Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Lux at Night Landscape painter Victoria Adams — who lives and works on Vashon Island, Washington — has created a 50" x 50" oil painting based on San Elijo Lagoon during her time as resident artist. Evening promises art, wine, music by singer Steph Johnson. Completed work by Adams is on display through Wednesday, May 20. Donation for nonmembers: \$5. 760-436-6611. Wednesday, April 15, 7 p.m. Ages 21 and up. Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Middle-Eastern Drum and Belly Dance Class Doumbek drumming class for all levels taught by Frank Lazzaro (6-7 p.m.), followed by tribal bellydance class taught by Sabrina Fox with live drumming (7-8 p.m.). \$12 per class. 760-703-1487. Mondays, 6 p.m.; \$12. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Night of Art and Music View San Francisco-based sculptor and mixed-media artist Jesse Hensel's exhibition "The Rising Son," see



EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE April 12, 6:30 am at the Flower Fields in Carlsbad

Free breakfast provided for the first 500.

The Carlsbad Flower Fields are located at the corner of Palomar Airport Road and Paseo Del Norte.

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HE FIELDS

GOOD FRIDAY

An evening service of contemplation and art April 10, 8 pm at Aviara Oaks Middle School Gym 6880 Ambrosia Lane in Carlsbad Gunther von Hagens' BODY WORLDS The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies

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"changes to the Studio Room," and enjoy music by the Frontier Brothers, an Austin-based indie band. 760-230-2680. Friday, April 10, 7 p.m.; free. Andrews Gallery, 1002 North Coast Highway 101. (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)

Tax Time Federal and state tax preparation assistance offered by AARP Tax Assistance Program volunteers; services available to those with annual income level of \$100,000 or less. Required reservations: 619-531-3900. Thursday, April 9, 9 a.m.; free. San Diego County Public Law Library, 1105 Front Street. (DOWNTOWN)

The Easter Lilies Are in Bloom Again Three hundred fragrant Easter lilies on display among permanent collection through Wednesday, May 6. 619-239-0512, 619-235-1100. Fridays, 10 a.m.; Saturdays, 10 a.m.; Sundavs, 10 a.m.; Mondavs, 10 a.m.; Tuesdays, 10 a.m.; Wednesdays, 10 a.m.; through Wednesday, May 6, free. Botanical Building, El Prado, (BALBOA PARK)

Wonder About Wittgenstein? Consider this Austrian-British philosopher with P&R Discussion Group, 619-370-1027, Thursday, April 9, 7 p.m.; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street, (NORTH PARK)

Woofstock: A Festival for Dogs and People Canine Companions for Independence hosts "Peace, Love, and Walk n' Roll Fun Dog Walk" through Balboa Park (8 a.m.; \$35 registration fee includes t-shirt, admission to festival). Festival - 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Park Boulevard and Presidents Way promises K-9 playground, flyball,

demonstrations by assistance dogs and disc dogs, fun zone for kids. Well-behaved dogs on leash welcome. 800-572-BARK. Saturday, April 11, 8 a.m.; \$5. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Your Position on Proposition A? Chula Vista's Northwest Civic Association monthly town hall meeting focuses on Proposition A. Expect informational debate by supporters and opponents of the proposition. Public comments welcome on all Chula Vista topics. 619-307-3460, Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.; free. Chula Vista Civic Center Library, 365 F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

SPORTS

(You'll Deserve) Lunch in Fallbrook Join San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders for 55-mile outing to Fallbrook. Adventure starts east of railroad track (through the tunnel) in harbor parking lot. Bring money for food. 619-282-8611. Tuesday, April 14, 9:15 a.m. Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Birthday Bicycling Knickerbikers bicyclists plan 55-miler to celebrate leader Jeff's birthday. Route follows back roads through Vista and Oceanside; bring money for Hawaijan barbecue lunch, 619-255-2890. Sunday, April 12, 9 a.m. Glen Park, 2149 Orinda Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Boys of Spring San Diego Padres host San Francisco Giants. First road trip of season promises games against Mets in New York, April 13, 15, and 16. Games broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090 AM), XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000, 877-374-2784. Friday, April 10, 7:05 p.m.; Saturday, April 11, 7:05 p.m.; Sunday, April 12, 1:05 p.m.; \$7-\$57. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard, (DOWNTOWN)

Run Club Locate new routes in the city, "test-drive" latest Nike footwear, run with motivated people. Runners, walkers of all levels



"ODYSSEY"

Linda Connor opening Friday, April 10, Joseph Bellows Gallery.

(SEE ART GALLERIES)

meet to run their choice of three-,

five-, and seven-mile routes, start-

ing from Nike Fashion Valley, 619-

294-9385. Wednesdays, 6 p.m.;

free. Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Fri-

MUSEUMS

Antique Gas and Steam En-

gine Museum The museum lo-

cates, collects, documents, and pre-

serves historical gas-, steam-, and

horse-powered equipment related

to agriculture and the general de-

velopment of America. The collec-

tion is made up of equipment used

in lumbering, mining, oil-drilling,

and construction industries. Black-

smith and wheelwright shop,

country kitchen and parlor, steam-

operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale

train. 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue,

Bancroft Ranch House Museum

Bancroft Ranch House Museum

houses indigenous Indian artifacts

and memorabilia of early settlers

in the area, run by the Spring Val-

ley Historical Society. The home,

built in 1863, was registered as a

760-941-1791. (VISTA)

MINERALS

AMERICA'S TREASURE CHEST

ars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)



ANGKOR, CAMBODIA, LINDA CONNOR, 1999 WESTERN COURTYARD, TA PROHN

National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. 9050 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

Birch Aquarium at Scripps Facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change; "Art of Deception" explores undersea camouflage. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbegong sharks. 2300 Expedition Way, 858-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

California Surf Museum Along with a timeline of surfboards, featured opening exhibit at new location is "Sidewalk Surfers," offering historic look at roots of skateboarding. The skateboard evolved as a method of enjoying feeling of surfing while waves were flat or inaccessible. Display focuses on surfboard shapers and professional riders and their skateboard models over the years. 312 Pier View Way, 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

Campo Depot State Highway 94 & Forrest Gate Road, 760-767-5311. (INLAND BORDER TOWNS)

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

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

Coronado Museum of History and Art "Ozily Yours: L. Frank Baum in Coronado" focuses on the life of L. Frank Baum in Coronado and his writings (which include the Oz books). Learn about "this Renaissance gentleman, his creativity, and his generosity." Exhibit with photographs, books, and memorabilia closes Tuesday, September 15.

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

Flying Leatherneck Museum Museum is dedicated to Marines who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a research library. The museum is lo-

cated in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Miramar Road (Marine Corps Air Station), 858-693-1723. (MIRA MESA)

Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego Glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San

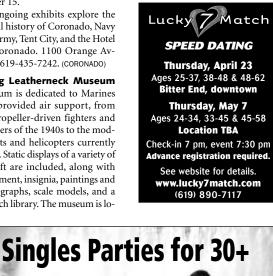
Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more, 413 Market Street, 619-237-1492, (DOWNTOWN)

Heritage Museum An interpretive wall, replicas of the early post office and general store, and a school room are part of this museum. A mural painted by Michael Strong depicts six periods of Poway's past. Find the museum in Old Poway Park. 14134 Midland Road, 858-679-8587. (POWAY)

Heritage of the Americas

Museum More than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North



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

Japanese Friendship Garden Pan American Road, 619-232-2721, (BALBOA PARK)

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

La Mesa Depot Museum Located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street, 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

Magee House Museum Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. 258 Beech Street, 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

Museum of Making Music The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Guided tours every Saturday, 2:30 p.m. 5790 Armada Drive, 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

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

Olaf Wieghorst Museum Displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists' American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtvard with cactus gardens, 20x20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst's painting Navajos at Castle Creek, and original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. 131 Rea Avenue, 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum Complex of historical buildings includes the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunkhouse, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex. 645 Main Street, 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

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

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

San Diego Model Railroad Museum Museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

San Diego Natural History

Museum "Gunther von Hagens' Body Worlds 2 and The Brain -Our Three-Pound Gem: The Original Exhibition of Real Human Bodies" showcases "the original, precedent-setting public anatomical exhibitions of real human bodies, by physician, anatomist, and inventor of Plastination, Dr. Gunther von Hagens." Exhibition offers visitors in-depth view of the intricately designed human body, comparative anatomy showing wellness and disease, and mysterious world of the brain. Closes Sunday, October 4.

"The Osa: Where the Ocean Meets the Rainforest" features photography by Roy Toft, who has been exploring, photographing fauna of Osa Peninsula for 20 years. Peninsula juts into Pacific

519-618-237

Ocean, is located in southwest corner of Costa Rica, boasting lush rainforests, complex system of freshwater and marine systems. Also on view through Sunday, June 21. in the Ordover Gallery are wildlife images by Frans Lanting, Abe Ordover, Galen Rowell, Art Wolfe.

Also on view: "Fossil Mysteries," a permanent exhibition. From dinosaurs to mastodons, discover the rich fossil history of our region. Current "giant-screen films" are Human Body: Pushing The Limits – Brain Power, Planet Earth: Pole to Pole, and Ocean Oasis. 1788 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

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

Memorial to men and women who served in U.S. Armed Forces,

AND THE MEN WHO LOVE THEM

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

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

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CLASSICAL LISTINGS

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CLASSICAL

Guitar Concert Enjoy "sevenstring guitar by way of Belgium" when Steve Gibbs performs for Concert Hour Series. Program includes music by J.S. Bach, contemporary composition by Hans Erich Apostel, and bossa nova by Antonio Carlos Jobim. 760-744-1150 x2316. Free. Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10) (1140 West Mission Road), 12:30 p.m., Thursday, April 9. (SAN MARCOS)

What Happens in Symphony Hall Stays in Symphony Hall "Viva Las Vegas" is theme for winter pops concerts by San Diego Symphony, led by Steven Reineke and starring Scott Beck, Alison Briner, Joe Cassidy, and Martin Preston. They've got "Sinatra, Steve and Eydie, showgirls, and Liberace." 619-235-0804. \$20-\$85. Copley Symphony Hall (750 B Street), 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, April 10 and 11. (DOWNTOWN)

"Americana Explored" Enjoy music that "helped to define the American experience" by Stephen Foster, Aaron Copland, and others during Hutchins Consort recital. 760-753-7376. Free. Encinitas Library (540 Cornish Drive), 10 a.m., Saturday, April 11. (ENCINITAS) **Organ Concert** Civic organist Carol Williams performs. 619-702-8138. Free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, April 12. (BALBOA PARK)

Classical Lunch Violinist Titiana Mann and pianist Jeff Zehngut perform for mini-concert. Bring your lunch! 858-454-5872. Free. Lyceum Theatre (79 Horton Plaza), noon, Monday, April 13. (DOWNTOWN)

Flute Duets Family music program promises concert by flutists Janet Parish-Whittaker and Ted Parker. Listen for duets by Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, Jean Baptiste Loeillet de Ghent, Telemann, Wilhelm Friedemann Bach, W.A. Mozart, Stephen Foster, Scott Joplin, Hindemith. 858-522-1668. Free. Carmel Valley Library (3919 Townsgate Drive), 7 p.m., Wednesday, April 15. (CARMEL VALLEY)

> A R T LISTINGS

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GALLERIES

"1000 Teddies Project World Tour" Opening reception for installation by Philipp Jordan, on view through April. Second reception for artist planned during Ray at Night, April 11. 619-297-9663. Free. Planet Rooth Gallery (3811 Ray Street), 6 p.m., Thursday, April 9; 6 p.m., Saturday, April 11. (NORTH PARK)

"Dreamscape" Reception for PhotoArts Group members, exhibiting their photographs exploring dreams. Through Friday, May 1. 760-480-4101. Free. Inner-Space Gallery (262 East Grand Avenue), 5:30 p.m., Saturday, April 11. (ESCONDIDO)

"Go Figure" Opening for solo exhibition of large canvases and polyptychs by artist Chelsea Leoba Dixon. View works — including "Paparazzi" series, figurative work, landscapes — through Friday, April 24. 858-729-8808. Free. Losina Art Center (3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Suite A), 6:30 p.m., Friday, April 10. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

"Odyssey" Opening reception for exhibition of photographs by Linda Connor. Show features selection of photographs from artist's recently published monograph, *Odyssey: The Photographs* of *Linda Connor*, representing 30 years of her photographs. Through Wednesday, May 13. 858-456-5620. Free. Joseph Bellows Gallery (7661 Girard Avenue), 5 p.m., Friday, April 10. (LA JOLLA)

"Tradition and Concept Bridged" Opening reception for ceramics exhibition with work by Joanne Hayakawa and Kouta Shimazaki. Art included "inherently creates a meditative response." Through April. 619-644-7299. Free. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive), 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 14. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

Avian Photography Artist reception for Robert Harrington, whose exhibition of wildlife photographs continues through April. 760-305-8278. Free. Gallery 204 (204 Main Street), 5:30 p.m., Friday, April 10. (VISTA)

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ART

Mingei International Museum — North County "Nomadic Legacy — Tent and Textiles of Central Asia and Iran" presents aspects of rich artistic heritage of nomadic culture, traditions with origins in antiquity. Highlights include recent gifts to museum such as a Kyrgyz yurt, Persian bag faces, Central Asian hats. The Kyrgyz yurt — a round, domed, trellis-tent dwelling, 22 feet in diameter — won first prize in a national contest celebrating 1000th anniversary of Kyrgyzstan's existence. Also on view: rare Kyrgyz reed screens; Turkoman, Uzbek, and Kazakh costumes and textiles. Exhibit continues through Sunday, August 2. 155 West Grand Avenue, 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

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 "Jasper Johns: Light Bulb" - on view through Sunday, May 10 - focuses on Johns's first sculpture, Light Bulb I (1958), a recent gift to the museum. Exhibition brings together Johns's light bulb sculptures and related drawings and prints, including several never-before-exhibited drawings and modified prints from artist's collection. Selection of works in this exhibition "demonstrates the significance of the relationship between the two-dimensional and three-dimensional in Johns's work and the importance of the light bulb as an image he ex-

plored for over 20 years." "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. Also continuing through May 10, "Collectors XXIV," showcasing a variety of works assembled by museum's curatorial staff to be voted on for purchase at Contemporary Collectors' annual selection dinner. See work in an array of media including sculpture, photography, painting, and video by established and emerging artists. 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 after receiving it.

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

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

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

"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.

"Institutional Wellbeing: An Olfactory Plan for Oceanside Museum of Art" is a site-specific installation created by conceptual artist Brian Goeltzenleuchter exploring perception of fragrance as an art media for interior environments. Piece "playfully exploits the language of corporate aesthetics as well as new age healing to create and brand a scent for the museum using the latest in scent engineering technology." Closes Sunday, August 9. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

San Diego Museum of Art

"Black Womanhood: Images, Icons, and Ideologies of the African Body' - through Sunday, April 26 - explores "direct relationship between historic and contemporary representations of the black female body as they have been expressed in both traditional African and modern Western art." The 130 included works — prints, photographs, paintings, sculpture, video, installations — are said to "reveal how ideologies and realities of race, gender, identity, and sexuality have been constructed, critiqued, and transformed through visual representations of the black female body" from 19th Century to present.

Also see "Oceanic Art: A Celebration of Form," featuring 97 works of art primarily from Melanesia and Polynesia, as well as objects from Micronesia and Taiwan. Closes Sunday, January 3.

"In the Company Manner," on display through Sunday, September 27, explores aspects of works in museum's Edwin Binney 3rd Collection of Indian Painting, Exhibition features works by Indian artists who adjusted their painting styles to suit tastes of British patrons affiliated with East India Company during 18th and 19th Centuries in India. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)



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KEYSHIA COLE Saturday, June 20 • 8:00

FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS Tuesday, June 23 • 7:30 THREE GIRLS AND

THEIR BUDDY featuring Emmylou Harris, Patty Griffin, Shawn Colvin & Buddy Miller

Friday, June 26 • 7:00 **ROCK ROYALTY** featuring The Zombies, The Yardbirds & The Spencer Davis Group Sunday, June 28 • 7:30 **ANI DIFRANCO**

JULY

Thursday, July 9 • 8:00 HEART featuring Ann & Nancy Wilson Friday, July 10 • 8:00 JOAN BAEZ Sunday, July 12 • 7:30 INDIGO GIRLS Tuesday, July 14 • 7:30 GREGG ALLMAN

 Image: Strain of the strain

Wednesday, July 15 • 7:30 COWBOYJUNKIES / SON VOLT Friday, July 17 • 8:00 GABRIEL IGLESIAS Sunday, July 19 • 7:30 JEWEL

Monday, July 20 • 7:30 TEARS FOR FEARS with special guest Wainwright

Tuesday, July 21 • 8:00 THE MOODY BLUES

Wednesday, July 22 • 7:00 HAPA / LEDWARD KA'APANA / JOHN CRUZ

Friday, July 24 • 7:00 JOEL MCHALE

Sunday, July 26 • 8:00 CHICAGO

Tuesday, July 28 • 7:00 GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS & JONNY LANG

Friday, July 31 • 6:30/9:00 JIM GAFFIGAN

AUGUST

Sunday, August 2 • 6:30 HIPPIEFEST with The Turtles featuring Flo & Eddie, Chuck Negron formerly of Three Dog Night, Felix Cavaliere of the Rascals and Badfinger featuring Joey Molland Friday, August 7 • 7:30 ALAN PARSONS LIVE PROJECT Monday, August 10 • 8:00 DIANA KRALL

Tuesday, August 11 • 7:30 LYLE LOVETT

IN CONCERT Thursday, August 13 • SOLP JACKSON BROW

Friday, August 14 • 7:30

Friday, August 21 • 8:00 TOWER OF POWER

Tuesday, August 25 • 7:30 CHRIS ISAAK

Friday, August 28 • 7:00 DAVE KOZ AND BRIAN CULBERTSON -SIDE BY SIDE with special guest Peabo Bryson

Sunday, August 30 • 7:30 SUSAN TEDESCHI

SEPTEMBER

Friday, September 4 • 6:30 BOB WEIR & RATDOG with special guest Jackie Greene

Thursday, September 10 • 8:00 SINBAD Friday, September 11 • 7:00

AIR SUPPLY / CHRISTOPHER CROSS Thursday, September 17 • 7:00 BONTAJ ROULET: BONNIE RAITT & TAJ MAHAL PLAYING ALONE AND TOGETHER

ROCK ROYALTY

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

THE ZOMBIE

THE YARDBIRDS

SPENCER DAVIS

Friday, September 18 • 7:30 LEANN RIMES

Saturday, September 19 • 8:00 WANDA SYKES with special guest Keith Robinson

Monday, September 21 • 7:30

AUSTRALIAN PINK FLOYD

Friday, September 25 • 7:30 **BEACH BOYS**

Saturday, September 26 • 7:30 **KEALI'I REICHEL**

Sunday, September 27 • 8:00 PINK MARTINI

Mon./Tues., Sept. 28/29 • 7:30 CROSBY, STILLS & NASH

OCTOBER

Friday, October 2 • 8:00 CHRIS BOTTI Sunday, October 4 • 7:30 CECILIO & KAPONO Wednesday, October 14 • 8:00 JESSE COOK Thursday, October 15 • 7:30 LOGGINS & MESSINA with special guest Gabe Dixon Band

CARLOS MENCIA

dditional acts will be added. Please check humphreysconcerts.com for update

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Cleaning Up After Wild Weekend Wild Weekend, one of the San Diego buzz bands at South by Southwest, broke up just days after returning from the Austin music fest.

"It was my decision," says Wild Weekend singer-gui-



tarist Maren Parusel, 26. "I decided on the Monday after South by Southwest. My

heart just wasn't into it when I was onstage." She says she dropped the bomb to her three bandmates (singerguitarist Kelly Alvarez, bassist Cara

Bowman, and drummer Cody Young) over a meeting at a sushi café. "Everyone was kind of shocked."

Wild Weekend started out as a Zeros cover band a year and a half ago and began doing all originals about a year ago.

Parusel, a native of Germany who moved here five years ago, says there were no personal issues that caused the breakup. Her decision to leave Wild Weekend may have been motivated by her recent collaborations with local A-list musicians who will be backing her as a solo artist. Louis

whole pile of songs."

Mario Escovedo (the Dragons, MEX) organized a SXSW showcase March 21 at the Wave in Austin that featured Wild Weekend, Parusel's solo set, Lady Dottie and the Diamonds, Triple Cobra, Mad Juana, and the Dogs. Insiders say Escovedo helped orchestrate Parusel's new solo project and will be involved behind the scenes.

Wild Weekend canceled gigs that were booked for April. Alvarez said in an email that she plans to continue playing with Bowman and Young in a new band with a new name, and she will also focus on her solo work.

Last week, Parusel opened for Anya Marina at the Hotel Cafe in L.A.; she will appear May 2 at Lestat's. — Ken Leighton

Stoopid Not Stupid

Slightly Stoopid is one of San Diego's biggest-drawing bands. They sold out the Open Air Theatre last summer, and a date to play with Snoop Dogg at Cricket Amphitheatre will be announced this month.

But the ganja-friendly O.B. band is still good for fund-raisers. The band, which commands \$15,000 to \$20,000 per show, is playing their second Belly Up fundraiser April 15. Slightly Stoopid selected the charity

(autistic children) and then decided to play the show without pay, meaning 100 percent of the proceeds from band that has been around for a decade. Slightly Stoopid manager

Matt Phillips says that the



BIG, BAD, BENEFIT BAND SLIGHTLY STOOPID

the \$25-per-person show will go to benefit autistic children. Tickets sold out in 24

The only problem was the initial flyer for the event. According to Chris Goldsmith, who assists Belly Up talent buyers, some people inferred from the flyer that was posted on the Belly Up website that Slightly Stoopid was the name of the event, wrongly assuming it was a crude slur on the con-

dition of autism. "In retrospect, it would have been better to format the initial announcement differently," says Goldsmith.

hours.

He says that the Belly Up crew personally contacted everyone who complained to explain that Slightly Stoopid was not a coarse reference to children with autism but was in fact the name of a local

band was never given an opportunity to approve the initial graphic but says that it was an honest mistake.

Goldsmith says that many thought the negative reaction on blogs such as holytaco and goldenmagazine to the graphic was unjustified. "A lot of people wondered where appropriate political correctness ends and overreaction begins."

Coincidentally, Goldsmith played in a Del Mar-based rock band called Borracho y Loco. In the mid-'80s, the band was booked to play a fund-raiser for the Carlsbad-based chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving. The MADD chapter said the band's name meant drunk and crazy and refused to have any connection with the event.

— Ken Leighton

Slab City's Edge When

MTV2 started airing episodes of VBS.tv --- Vice magazine's video documentary series - it did more than introduce fans of From G's to Gents and Cribs to North Korean tourism, Mexican death tabloids, and the Japanese sex industry. It also turned viewers on to the raw garage punk of Imperial Valley–San Diego band Slab City. Each episode of the series opens to the Slab City tune "Milwaukee's Beast" (think of how Jackass opens to the Minutemen's riff from "Corona").

While most bands would kill to have one of their songs picked as the theme for a TV series, Slab City keyboardist Ernie Quintero just shrugs it off.

"I know it's been running, but I don't watch MTV, so I don't know when it's been airing," he says.

The backstory on how Vice ended up with a CD of Slab City tunes is one of those right-place, right-time rock-n-roll stories.

After Quintero followed around the Spits with his video camera for almost a year, the Seattle band invited him to roadie and film their 2004 U.S. tour. The Black Lips joined the Spits for the East Coast leg of the tour, and after hanging out for a week or so with the breakout Atlanta band, Quintero (Continued on page 76)



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Reynolds (Vertibird, Hatchet

XIV drummer Mark

Maigaard and bassist Jack

...AND THEN THERE WERE THREE (PARUSEL, SECOND FROM LEFT)

Brothers) have signed on so far. Louis XIV cofounder Brian Karscig has produced five new songs for Parusel, and they will continue to work together in the studio. Parusel says she plays keyboards as well as guitar and will be less punk, more pop than Wild Weekend. "I have a



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San Diego Reader April 9, 2009 3

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promised the Lips to show them around if they ever came to San Diego.

"I told them, 'Next time you get to San Diego, I'll take you to Tijuana.' Eventually they did make it to town, and of course, they wanted to go to TJ. The trip ended up being a West Coast tour, and I just jumped on the road with them," he says.

That short trip led to an invitation to roadie for the Black Lips on a two-month tour of Western Europe and

Scandinavia in 2006. Before heading to Europe, Quintero met the quartet in New York as the band was working out their deal with Vice's record

label. The magazine was starting up VBS.tv around the same time.

"A few months after that tour, I helped set up the show for the Black Lips' live Tijuana album [Los Valientes del Mundo Nuevo]. I put them in touch with John Reis

KARAOKE

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and the venue in Tijuana. VBS had me do some of the filming of the Tijuana show. I gave the VBS people a [Slab City] CD when they were in San Diego, and I've been in touch with them since."

The details of Slab City's television deal are vague, but not because the band is guarding its connections. When asked about the particulars of the deal, Quintero shrugs again, "I don't know...I didn't read it. We had to sign a release for the VBS show, then for MTV we had to sign another one. They paid us \$200."

Quintero's connection to the Spits also landed them



I'M WITH THE BAND (OUINTERO IN SHADES)

another video track on the upcoming Creature Skateboards DVD for pro skater Al Partanen's segment. "We got a hundred bucks for that," he says.

"Skaters being fans of the Spits and touring with the Black Lips, I know that gives

ewel

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us an edge, and I'll work with it, but I know if our music was really shitty, they wouldn't be using it for anything.'

The Black Lips play the Casbah on Thursday, April 16.

— Larry Harmon

You Say Mercado, He Says Macaco Scott

Mercado didn't know what to expect for Manuok's first European Tour. Not long into it, the band — consisting of Mercado, Andrew Trecha, Geoff Hill, Jeff Grasmick, and Erik Berg — was pleasantly surprised.

"I felt incredibly lucky for the turnouts and encore requests, especially on our first tour. I couldn't believe

101

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it," says Mercado, also a touring member of the Black Heart Procession, Via Satellite, and the Album Leaf.

The number of fans who knew Manuok's melancholic, indie-folk songs surprised Mercado. "When we left for Europe, I wasn't even sure we knew the songs."

enthusiastic crowds, positive reviews from the European press streamed in throughout the band's three-week tour to promote the new full-length No End to Limitations. Halfway through the tour,

Apart from the MANUOK'S MERCADO DOESN'T IDLE WELL Manuok a side project would be to downplay a truly wonderful act, which deserves hordes of attention and adoration," read the write-up. Mercado gives much of

the band received a glowing

write-up from the Berlin

venue promoting their

upcoming gig. "To call

the credit to his Italy-based

label, Macaco Records, for working for coverage from the press, booking interviews on European radio, and passing out reams of flyers.

Mercado won't have a chance to reminisce on his Euro-tour for long. Only a week after returning to San Diego, Mercado heads back to Europe to play piano, among other instruments, for Los Angeles-based artist Sara Lov.

As for Manuok's future plans for a tour closer to home: "I'm always trying to at least book something up the coast every couple of months. Lord knows I don't idle well." — Dorian Hargrove

CONTRIBUTORS

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Har-mon, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone



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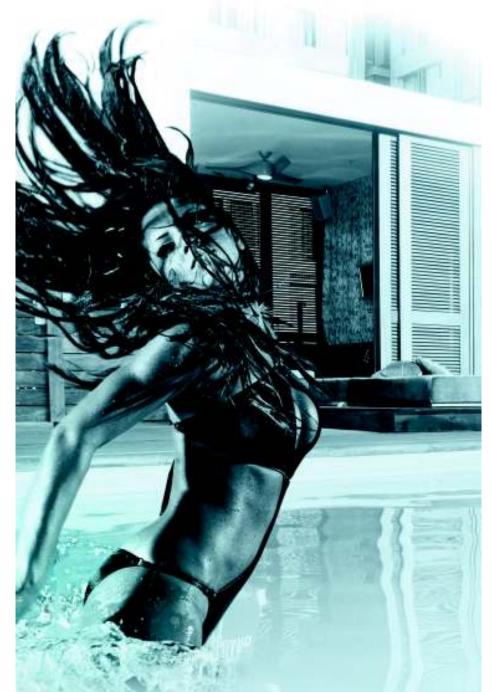


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Crawler This Week In Music

Thursday **9** One-man band Andy Cabic will bring the touring ensemble of **Vetiver** to town tonight. The

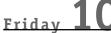
SanFran psych-folk band is best known for past associations with the genre's crowned prince Devendra Banhart, but Cabic and co. have moved on. Vetiver's



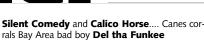
latest, and first for Sub Pop, *Tight Knit*, expresses Cabic's affinity for '70s AM pop and West Coast country, curating a collection of

grade A Americana cuts. Something similar when Angelino songsmith **Richard Swift** and local openers the **Donkeys** clop into Casbah tonight....

Philadelphia's **Disco Biscuits** are an electronic jam band often dubbed "livetronica." Though they are working on a studio record due to drop this year, the Biscuits' stage set is their bread and butter, as live CDs make up the bulk of their catalogue. The four-piece will bake up a batch for House of Blues tonight, and **Heavyweight Dub Champion** will set the downtown stage.... Speaking of jam bands, Chi-town tribute **Dark Star Orchestra** will exhume the Grateful Dead at Belly Up.... If your North Parking, Bar Pink books NYC Strokes knockoffs **Finding Fiction** with local alt-pop act **Republic of Letters**...and indie experimentalists **Incomplete Neighbor** have an appointment at the Beauty Bar with **Brown Shoe** and the **Predicates**.



Tin Pan Alley cat **Leon Redbone** will busk his jazz and blues standards at Anthology Friday and Saturday nights. The traveling troubadour's Depression-era set seems sadly apropos right now. Friday, stay for late-night sets, as the Little Italy supper club will serve up postmodern vaudevillians



Homosapien. The alternative hip-hop artist is out to tout his latest release, *Funk Man.* Mike Relm, Bukue One, Serendipity Project, and Vokab Kompany set the seaside stage... Careful as Portland buzz band Blind Pilot lands at Casbah Friday night. The acousti-pop act is enjoying some slow-to-grow attention over last year's debut 3 *Rounds and a Sound.* Little Shins influence there. Portland pals Loch Lomond are sharing the van. Local folkies Grizzly Circus and River City up first.... Uptown: Crash Encore, Jackson Price, and the Family Wagon roll into Ruby Room...Widows get with the Old In Out at Soda Bar...Bar Pink divulges the Secret 6 and

Syndicate...while Writer spells it out at the Ken.

Saturday **1**

Set to see Saturday night is when Tel Aviv terror trio **Monotonix** hit Casbah. Ami Shalev et al. have been banned from most of the clubs in their home country of Israel but will

rome country of islaer but will cross the U.S. and tour Western Europe this year behind Drag City debut *Body Language*. Monotonix's garage-punk set will ignite the Middletown mainstay after openers **Kill Me Tomorrow** and **Hostile Combover** warm the room.... Else: **Da Bears**, **Wirepony**, **Valley Arena**, and **Chaz** fill a noise-pop bill at campus club Ché Café...**Agua Dulce** lays out Latin-tinged dance jams at Beauty Bar...Radio Room

at Beauty Bar...Radio Room dials in surf-rock psychos **Creepy Creeps** and **Batar-Zan**...and L.A. 'lectronic duo **El Ten Elevum** takes off at Bar Pink.



Country-pop Jayhawkers **Mark Olson** and **Gary Louris** join up at Belly Up with Rich and Linda's little boy **Teddy Thompson**. Louris and Olson will tour the world this year behind *Ready for the Flood*, their first collaboration since 1995's crit-hit *Tomorrow the Green Grass*. The duo's chops and vox are as honest as ever, but the songs ain't all



that. Expect a bunch of back-catalogue from the showmen.... Bar Pink books the **Tighten Ups** with Bay Area twangers **Shayna and the Bulldog**.... And **Skipjack**, **Kings Kids**, **Bombpops**, and **Aces & 8's** sounds like a fun Sunday-nighter at Radio Room.



Casbah's calling it a Coachella preview gig with the **NewNo2**, featuring George Harrison's son **Dhani Harrison**. Dhani is credited with finishing his deceased dad's final record, *Brainwashed*. His own trio plays polished pop-rock, fronting guitars, keys, and Dhani's voice, which'd do Dad proud. Give a listen to the NewNo2's debut *You Are Here* for a tease. The **Illuminauts** are also on the bill.... Berkeley bands **Sholi** and **Odawas** are at Bar Pink Monday night. Sholi is a psych-folk act of Middle East origin and spice. Go to shul here:

myspace.com/sholimusic.... From Washington state, **What What Now** and the **ironclads** plug in the post-punk at Radio Room.



Indie darling **Jenny Lewis** has a newish record out — Acid Tongue, which has been a critical question mark and commercial curiosity. The face of alt-pop act Rilo Kiley (and Jell-O, if you recall) is exploring her soul-sister side these days, infusing her hooky pop fare with blasts from girl groups past. Whatev., the girl owns the room. She'll join Calicana (I just made that up) band **Dawes** at Belly Up Tuesday night.... Oooooor: Casbah's Anti-Monday meet-up moves to Tuesday this week, DEL THA FUNKEE HOMOSAPIEN AT CANES featurin' the Fascination, Northern Towns, and Crescendo...House of Blues hosts Latin pop stars Aterciopelados ("the velvety ones") and Alex Cuba...Bar Pink's Tiki Tuesday brings back island lounge lizards the Cheap Leis...while Knives! and Breaker Breaker One Niner come in loud and clear at Radio Room.



Ariel Pink's Haunted Graffiti, Vivian Girls, and Gary Wilson make up the get-to gig this week at Casbah. L.A. artist Ariel Pink, a Paw Tracks founder and cohort of fellow freak folkies Animal Collective, says it all started when he "fell

out of bed onto an eighttrack analog cassette Yamaha MT8X." Check the bed-sit set *House Arrest* for Pink and the Graffiti's high-water mark. Henry Darger's "daughters" the Vivian Girls are enjoying success beyond the buzz of their s/t punk-pop throwback debut. The disc sticks. And Gary Wilson (You Think You



(You Think You Really Know Me),

who lives locally, is a gauze-wrapped national treasure.... If you miss the door at Casbah, Tex-Mex songsmith **Ryan Bingham** and hometown hit **Josh Damigo** stack sets at Brick by Brick...and nu-disco flamers the **Friendly Fires** will blaze at UCSD's Loft space.

- Barnaby Monk





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San Diego Reader April 9, 2009 79

Pop Rocks

"I've had a major crush on Gene Kelly since fourth grade."

ΛΛ

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

endy Bailey is an old-fashioned pop songstress with a big splashy sound akin to, say, Carole King or Sheryl Crow.

"Most of my songs are short, sweet, and full of jangly pop hooks," says Bailey. "Basically, it's

melodic pop rock. It becomes more melodic as I get more focused on my guitar playing, which used to be more or less secondary to the lyrics. I've had comparisons

made between me and Velocity Girl, Liz Phair, the Foo Fighters, and Jimmy Eat World."

She says San Diego isn't the easiest place to be a so-called chick rocker. "Sometimes it's a challenge convincing folks, particularly clubs, that I'm a rock and pop artist and not a singerslash-songwriter. I do scale down my show on occasion for acoustic sets — I'd rather have an acoustic gig than no gig - but I'm primarily a rock-band kind of musician. I'm always looking for a chance to connect with a wide-ranging crowd."

That connection sometimes happens one on one, thanks to her online, on-demand Wendy's Virtual Show, "It's a video-chat concert, where someone can request a time and a day for me to

give them a live concert performance on the computer. All they need is video-chat capability.... I usually do my own songs, but I might tackle the occasional cover."

Wendy's Virtual Show costs \$5 for "at least a half-hour set" (contact wendy@wendybailey.com).

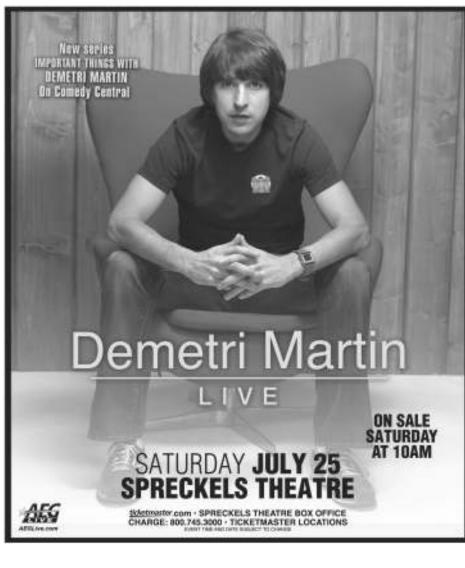
Her self-released EP It Ain't Rocket Surgery was recently rereleased by local Blindspot Records.

WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?

"Black Rebel Motorcycle Club's Baby 81, BRMC, Howl, and Take Them On, On Your Own. Notice a trend here? I'm obviously obsessed with their great guitar sounds, primarily from Gibson 335s, plus their excellent and mondo-creative bass lines. The songwriting is great, too - particularly on Howl, the jewel amongst the others, though all their stuff is played with the attitude of Han Solo."

MUST-HAVE DVDs?

1. The Shining. "Brilliant acting and direction. My favorite line: 'Wendy, darling, light of my life — I'm not gonna hurt ya, I'm just gonna bash your brains in!''



2. Meet Me in St. Louis. "Great movie, sweet story. The autumn portion of the film is the best." 3. Singin' in the Rain. "I've had a major crush on Gene Kelly since fourth grade."

4. Star Wars: Episode IV — A New Hope. "Where it all started." 5. Spider Baby. "Spiders, spiders, spiders."

BRUSH WITH FAME?

1. "I had the rare opportunity to meet Carlos Santana last summer. It was amazing, everything from hanging out with him in his room before the show to getting front-and-center seats for his show at Cricket."

2. "I got to take a picture with Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson of Rush backstage at Cricket as well. The pics are in my MySpace photos. Geddy's got a great handshake."

BEST THING YOU'VE EVER WON? "One hundred dollars in a raffle,

SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE TO DO WITHOUT?

in seventh grade."

"My tuning pedal. I've got a pretty good ear, but not perfect."

FIRST BOOK YOU REMEMBER?

"The Laura Ingalls Wilder series. Don't knock 'em until you read 'em."

MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS?

"None. I need to be in the garage practicing, you know? But if you're making a Christmas list, I could certainly use a subscription to Guitar Player."

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?

- 1. blackrebelmotorcycleclub.com "So much drama
- on this forum, it's hilarious."
- 2. fender.com "Guitars, not cars." 3. gibson.com "Guitars, not Debbie."
- 4. fluevog.com "I'll take these shoes over Jimmy



Choos any day." 5. chuaochocolatier.com "No need to explain."

GUILTY PLEASURES?

"I don't really have any. I'm fairly unabashedly unashamed."

HOW DO YOU LIKE OUR NEW PREZ SO FAR?

"I'm excited to find out more about the development of an arts commission within Obama's administration. At last, government is taking the arts seriously, in a federal way."

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD **KNOW OR GUESS?**

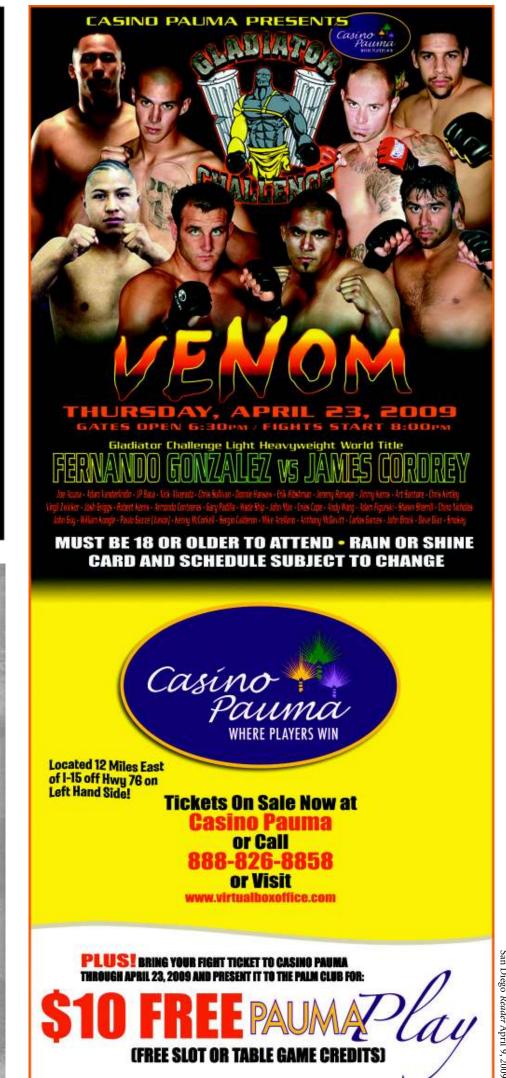
"I rarely wash my jeans. Hey, I'm conserving water, laundry soap, and utilities!" \blacksquare

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

1st Street Bar: 656 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0233 Saturday, 9 p.m. — TrunkMonkey.

Covers/pop/modern rock. 710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-

7844. Thursday, 9 p.m. — - Sandollar. With Red Llama Dog. Reggae/rock. Ages 21 and up. Friday, 9 p.m. - Bombay Status. With Social Green and Long Live Logos. Indie/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. - Breakhouse. With Dante's Boneyard, Silent Treatment, and Bipolar Meltdown. Punk/metal/funk. Ages 21 and up.

8Teen: 925 Ohio Street, North Park Friday, 7:30 p.m. — The Great

Unplugged Showcase. Featuring Tuna Boot, LMA, Tori Roggeman, Mary Dolan, Mod for Mark, Jake Allen, Andrew Lovely, Steve Keaney, and guests. Acoustic. \$8-\$10

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal

Heights, 619-303-8176. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. - Rory Block. Blues guitarist.

Air Conditioned Lounge:

4673 30th Street, Normal Heights, 619-501-9831. Sunday, 6 p.m. - Jinx. Blues. Ages 21 and up

Andrews Gallery: 1002 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. Friday, 7 p.m. - The Frontier Brothers. Pop/electronic. Free.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. Thursday, 7:30 p.m. — Skelpin. Irish/folk. \$10. Friday and Saturday, 7:30 p.m. -Leon Redbone. Rock/R&B/soul. 9:30 p.m. — Delsoniq. With Allison Adams Tucker Quartet. Jazz/Latin/ world. \$10. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. - The Anthology House Band. Jazz/R&B/ soul. \$5. Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. -NovaMenco. Flamenco/jazz/pop. \$20.

Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino: 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road, Lakeside, 619-443-2300. Sunday, 6 p.m. — The Arrowhead Band, Covers/standards/rock.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South

Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140. Thursday, 9 p.m. - The Dark Star Orchestra. A tribute to the Grateful Dead. \$29. Friday, 9 p.m. - 40 Oz. to Freedom. A tribute to Sublime With RiceRokit and the Anna Trov Band. Saturday, 9 p.m. - Lipstick N Leather. Eighties hair metal. Ages 21 and up. Sunday, 8 p.m. — Gary Louris and Marc Olson. Formerly of the Iavhawks. Alt-country. Tuesday, 9 p.m. - Jenny Lewis. With Dawes. Indie/folk/rock.

Belo: 919 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-231-9200. Friday, 8 p.m. — Frankie J. With Baby Bash. R&B/hip-hop. Ages 21 and up.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Deliverance Machine. With Corv Wilkins. Rock/blues/psychedelic. Friday, 10 p.m. — RadioStar. '80s/covers/rock. Wednesday, 9 p.m. — Jesse LaMonaca. With Maddox Revolution. Alternative/acoustic/ soul.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989. Thursday, 9 p.m. - Sounds of Surrender. With Irradio and the Essentials. Indie/rock.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483. Friday, 9 p.m. — Last Stand. Rock. \$5-\$10. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 7:30 p.m. - Retrolust. With the Chase, Synesthetic, and

Eternal Unborn. Rock. \$10. Ages 21 and up.

Sunday, 7 p.m. — Lounie Tunes. With Ato, Steady Stackin', Johnny Black, J-Slim, and Yung-Gutta. Hip-hop/rap. \$10. Ages 21 and up. Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Ryan Bingham. With Josh Damingo and guests. Country rock. \$12. Ages 21 and up.

Café Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue. Downtown, 619-233-5979. Thursday - Trece de la Suerte. Latin/Afrobeat/jazz. Sunday — Angel Lebron y Su Sabor Latino. Classic salsa. Tuesday - The Castenos Band. Bachata. Wednesday - Orquesta Primo. Latin/mariachi/Tejano.

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252. Thursday, 8 p.m. - Michael Tiernan. Acoustic. *Friday*, 8 p.m. — Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors. Blues/rock. Saturday, 8 p.m. - Fuerte. Sunday, 8 p.m. — Josh Bonas Monday, 8 p.m. — Cactus Twang. Rock. Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Jack Tempchin.

Blues/rock. Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Tres Sapos.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk. Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Dropjoy. With Eclipse 79, Locked Out of Eden, and the Jason Chase Trio. Indie/rock. Ages 21 and up. Friday, 9 p.m. — Del tha Funkee Homosapien. Mike Relm, Bukue One, Serendipity Project, and Vokab Kompany. Hip-hop. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Dead Man's Party. The Oingo Boingo tribute

Billy Currington, April 9, Viejas Casino Dreamcatcher Show Room

performs with Cover Me Badd's Blasphemous Guitars. \$12. Ages 21 and up.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.

Thursday, 8 p.m. - Vetiver. With Richard Swift and the Donkeys. Indie. \$12-\$14. Ages 21 and up. Friday, 8 p.m. - Blind Pilot. Indie/pop/acoustic. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Monotonix. With Kill Me Tomorrow and Hostile Comb-Over. Metal/rock \$12. Ages 21 and up. Sunday, 8 p.m. — Steve Nieve. With guests. Rock. \$12-\$15. Ages 21 and up. Monday, 8:30 p.m. — The Newno2.

Alternative/blues. \$6. Ages 21 and

Haunted Graffiti. With Vivian Girls, Gary Wilson, and DI Mario Orduno. Experimental/rock. \$12-\$14. Ages 21 and up.

Claire de Lune: 2906 University Avenue, North Park, 619-688-9845. Saturday, 8 p.m. - The Uptown Rhythm Makers. Dixieland jazz.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B

Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. -What Happens in Symphony Hall Stays in Symphony Hall. "Viva Las Vegas" is theme for winter pops concerts by San Diego Symphony, led by Steven Reineke and starring Scott Beck, Alison Briner, Joe Cassidy, and Martin Preston. They've got "Sinatra, Steve and Evdie, showgirls, and Liberace." 619-235-0804. \$20-\$85.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad, 760-729-4695. Sunday, 5 p.m. — The Robin Henkel Band. Blues/funk/jazz. Free.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344. Friday and Saturday, 9 p.m. - FX5. Covers/standards/dance

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467. Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Gilbert Castellanos New Latin Jazz Quartet. With Irving Flores, Danny Weller, and Dylan Sayage, Bebop/ folklorico/jazz.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131. Thursday, 9 p.m. — Odessa. Indie rock. \$5. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Dannicus Live.

Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Ariel Pink's



SINCE ung elephant PUB & GRILL COME OUT FOR AN ALL-STAR BAND! S APRIL 24th E ROUND 8-10pm DON'T MISS THE MASTER OF DISASTER. SKATEBOARD LEGEND! DUANE APRIL 17th ERS 8-10pm

Music & Event Calendar

Wednesday, 15th: Joe Wood (Skateboard Legend) Saturday, 18th: Taryn Donath

Tuesday, 21st: Rich the Stitch (The Room) Wednesday, 22nd: Joe Wood Thursday, 23rd: Skelpin Friday, 24th: Rockers in the Round Saturday, 25th: Sligorags Sunday, 26th: Greg Ginn Monday, 27th: The Tail Draggers *Tuesday, 28th:* Thompson Phan Wednesday, 29th: Joe Wood Thursday, 30th: Skelpin

850 Tamarack Ave, Carlsbad, CA 92008 ((760) 434-2660 (www.hensleyspub.com

Monday, 20th: The Tail Draggers Thursday, 9th: Skelpin Friday, 10th: Fiffin Market Saturday, 11th: Bleeding Irish Sunday, 12th: DJ Kid Jagger Monday, 13th: The Tail Draggers Tuesday, 14th: Nathan James

Sunday, 19th: DJ Kid Jagger

Thursday, 16th: Skelpin *Friday, 17th:* Duane Peters



Acoustic/metal/punk. \$5. Ages 21 and up.

Grace Theater: 102 North Freeman Street, Oceanside, Saturday, 8 p.m. — Jake Shimabukuro. World. \$35-\$75.

La Gran Tapa: 611 B Street, Downtown, 619-234-8272. *Friday*, 6:30 p.m. — Juan Moro. Latin/Tejano/Mariachi. Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. - Tomcat Courtney. Blues. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. - Steven Zuill. Covers/standards.

Harry Griffen Regional Park: 9550 Milden Street, La Mesa, 619-

667-1307. Saturday, 11 a.m. — Spring Harmonica Festival. Featuring Ric Lee, Paul Rosko, Tim Shoup, Ted Staak, Steve Welles, James Brown, Smedley B., John Frazer, Chet Cannon, Karl Dring, Kyle Jester, Gregg Carpenter, and Rick Skinker.

Hensley's Flying Elephant

Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. Thursday, 8 p.m. — Skelpin. Irish/folk. Friday, 8 p.m. — Fiffin Market. Irish rock. Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Bleeding Irish. Punk/folk/acoustic. Tuesday, 8 p.m. - Nathan James. Roots/acoustic/blues. Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones. Roadhouse blues.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: 5500 Grossmont Center Drive #277, La Mesa, 619-713-6900. Friday, 9 p.m. - Tony Cummins. World. Free.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Fiffin Market. Acoustic/pop/world. Free. House of Blues: 1055 Fifth

Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. Thursday, 8 p.m. - The Disco Biscuits. Rock/dance. \$19-\$34. Ages 21 and up. Friday, 7 p.m. — Don Felder. Former guitarist of the Eagles. \$37-\$52 Saturday, 8 p.m. — Led Zepagain. A tribute to Led Zeppelin. \$12-\$34. Ages 21 and up. Sunday, 8 p.m. - Cold. With the Killer and the Star. Alternative/

rock. \$12-\$14. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. -Aterciopelados. Latin/rock. \$20-\$40. Ages 21 and up.

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. - Reggae on 5th Ave. Reggae. \$12. Ages 21 and up.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Curtis Salgado. Blues.

JT's Clubhouse Pub & Grill: 5821 Mission Gorge Road, Grantville, 619-280-4698. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — I Was a Lover Delorean Was a Dealer. With

Cheetahsaurus. Experimental/ noise/rock. Julian Library: 1850 Highway

78, Julian, 760-765-0370. Tuesday, 6 p.m. - Adrienne Nims. Solo flute performance. World.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington Talmadge, 619-284-2848. Friday, 9 p.m. — Writer, With the Knew and Tape Deck Mountain. Rock.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483. Saturday, 9 p.m. - Stevi Lynn and the Grey Ghosts. Classic rock.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Drive,

UCSD. Wednesday, 8 p.m. - Friendly Fires. Indie/pop. \$12.

Mangia Italiano on Third: 248 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-623-3553. Thursday, 7 p.m. — Caballero's Latin Jazz Jam. Hosted by Bill Caballero, Jazz.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:

1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. *Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Jackson/Jesus. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — The Taylor Harvey Band. Bluegrass/rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. — The Elevators. Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Tommy Price. Rock.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. Friday, 9 p.m. - Coldfire. Rock. Saturday, 9 p.m. — American Rock Experience. Rock.

Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La

Jolla.

Friday, 7 p.m. — Theodosii Spassov



BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The first time I heard the Donkeys' "Excelsior Lady," I thought they were singing, "sexy lady." Fortunately, I was wrong. But almost everything about the Donkeys - from the Crosby Stills and Nash harmonies to the lightly strummed guitars to the extremely laid-back tempos - suggests the kind of '70s band that would unabashedly sing a line like "Sexy lady, how you been?/ Are we lovers, or are we just friends?"

The producers of the TV show Lost apparently had the same idea about the Donkeys. They used "Excelsior Lady" — rere-corded as "Dharma Lady" — in a recent episode, attributing the song to a '70s band

called Geronimo Jackson. You can even download the song for free on the iTunes music store, where it's credited to Geronimo Jackson. But try looking up Geronimo Jackson — you won't find them in the rock history books. Lucy Robinson, publicist for the Donkevs' record label, admits that all involved have been "a little cheeky about it" but confirms that the Donkeys were the band behind Geronimo Jackson.

But the Donkeys aren't a '70s tribute act. Ironically,

the Geronimo Jackson affair underscores how modern the Donkeys are. Donkey music is sort of like the Geronimo Jackson logo used on Lost — it's rendered in the style of the era, but the clean lines are a giveaway that it was created on a modern computer. Listen to the snappy, almost machine-like drumming on "Excelsior Lady" - that's not a 70s sound or style. Listen to that beautifully



swirling, repeating keyboard part — it's a warm, analog electric piano, but the rhythm sounds like a digital loop. Historically accurate? No. But in any era, it's good stuff.

DONKEYS: The Casbah, Thursday, April 9, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$12: \$14 day of show. Vetiver and Richard Swift also perform.

and Folk Project Band, World, \$15-\$30.

Nugent's Fishgrille Restaurant & Sportslounge:

12015 Scripps Highland Drive, Scripps Ranch, 858-566-3474. Saturday, 7 p.m. — Mariner. Covers/standards/acoustic. Free.

O'Connells Pub and Nightclub: 1310 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276 5637.

Friday, 9 p.m. — The Flametrick Subs. With the Strikers and the Embalmers Saturday, 9 p.m. — Pulse Anatomy.

With One Inch Punch, Filtered Aggression, and Method Rising. Rock Sunday, 9 p.m. - Soup. Folk/

indie/rock. Ages 21 and up.

Pal Joey's: 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens, 619-582-6699. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — The Burnsville Band. Blues/rock. Free. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 9 p.m. — Rock-It

Science. Rock. Free. Ages 21 and up.

Patrick's II: 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077. Thursday, 9 p.m. — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk. *Friday*, 9 p.m. — The Nik Simon Band. Funk/blues. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Willovealot. Blues/soul. 9 p.m. — Bill Magee Blues Band. Blues/soul/rock. Sunday, 9 p.m. — Chet Cannon & the Committee. Blues. Monday, 8 p.m. — Len Rainey's Midnight Players. Blues/jazz/soul. Tuesday, 9 p.m. — Delta Heat. Blues/swing/R&B. *Wednesday*, 9 p.m. — Taryn Donath & Mo-Jo Rising. Blues/soul.

Patrick's Irish Pub: 13314 Poway Road, Poway, 858-486-0764. Friday, 9 p.m. - Myron and the Kyniptionz. Blues/soul/rock.

Pete's Place: 8330 La Mesa Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-464-9535. Saturday, 7 p.m. — The Farmers. With the Buddy Blue Reunion Band, the Shamey Jays, and the Eruption. Country rock.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: 301 Pier View Way,

Oceanside, 760-757-2827. Thursday, 9 p.m. - Bang Bang and the Blast. Rock. Free. Ages 21 and

Friday, 9 p.m. — Leo Rising. Rock. Ages 21 and up. Saturday, 9 p.m. — GFI. Punk. Free. Ages 21 and up.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Road, Poway, 858-748-0505. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Vybration. With Tess Beatty. Jazz.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008. Friday, 8 p.m. — Dive Bomber. Alternative/metal/rock. Saturday, 8 p.m. — Eve Selis. Acoustic/country/pop.

The Royal Dive: 2949 San Luis Rey Road, Oceanside, 760-722-1911. Friday, 9 p.m. — Trouble in the

Wind. Rock/folk/alternative.

Salt Creek Golf Club: 525 Hunte Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-482-4666.

Friday, 5 p.m. — The Arrowhead Band, Covers/standards/rock.

Santa Ysabel Resort &

Casino: 25575 Highway 79, Santa Ysabel, 760-787-0909. Saturday, 7 p.m. — Paradigm. Covers/jazz/rock. Free.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-255-7224.

Saturday, 9 p.m. - I Was a Lover Delorean Was a Dealer. With Lady Vain, Says Rally, and New York Rifles. Experimental/noise/rock Ages 21 and up.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-226-7662.

Friday, 9 p.m. — Plane Without a Pilot. With Deaf Zero, Medford Falling, Love Beats War, Light of Doom, and Talk Cute. Pop/punk/ rock. \$8.

Saturday, 6 p.m. - Hello Marquee. With Casino Madrid, Deadbeat Nightlife, a Sky Like April, a City Serene, Adestria, and Process for the Enigma. Rock. \$10.

Stage Saloon: 762 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-696-9436. Thursday, 10 p.m. - Dazed and



San Diego Reader April 9, 2009

8

Confused. A tribute to Led Zeppelin. Free.

Sushi Performance & Visual Art: 390 11th Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-8466. *Tuesday*, 8 p.m. — Lisle Ellis and Pamela Z. Acoustic/vocal/ electron-

ic. Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill: 1221 Broadway, El Cajon, 619-447-5665. Friday, 8 p.m. — Hugh Gaskins &

Friday, 8 p.m. — Hugh Gaskins & the G String Daddies. Blues/soul/rockabilly. **Tio Leo's:** 5302 Napa Street,

Linda Vista, 619-542-1462. *Friday*, 8 p.m. — The Farmers. Roots rock/Americana.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200. *Wednesdays*, 7 p.m. — Tomcat Courtney. Blues.

U-31: 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188. *Wednesday*, 9 p.m. — The New Archaic. With the Color of Glass. Indie/rock. Ages 21 and up.

VFW Post 5179: 1116 South 43rd Street, Southcrest, 619-262-0566. *Wednesday*, 7 p.m. — Willovealot. Blues/soul. Free.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher

Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. *Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Billy Currington. Country. \$35-\$40. *Friday*, 8 p.m. — Robert Cray. With Tomcat Courtney. Blues/soul. \$32-\$42. Ages 21 and up. *Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Freeze Frame. With DJ Steve West. Covers/pop. Wine Steals — Hillcrest: 1243 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-

295-1188. *Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Robin Henkel. Blues/funk/jazz.

WineStyles — Encinitas: 191 North El Camino Real, Suite 103, Encinitas, 760-633-0057. *Friday*, 6 p.m. — Freefall. Jazz. Free.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. *Thursday*, 9:30 p.m. — Milton Henry. With Horace Martin. Reggae. Ages 21 and up.

Y1 Studios: 1150 Seventh Avenue, Downtown. *Friday*, 8 p.m. — Ari Hest. Folk/acoustic/pop.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343. *April* 17 — Mr. Dubie. *April* 18 — Adler's Appetite. *April* 22 — Cirkus. *April* 24 — Black Cherry Music. *May* 1 — LBC Sublime. *May* 2 — OU812. *May* 4 — Wale. *May* 8 — Kix. *May* 16 — Great White. *May* 30 — Turn the Page. *June* 14 — The Michael Schenker Group. **710 Beach Club:** 710 Garnet

Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844. July 11 — Dazed and Confused.

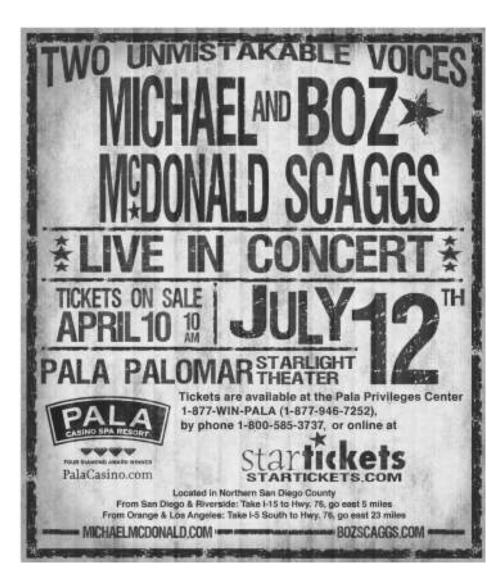
AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176. April 16 — Ramblin' Jack Elliott. April 24 — David Wilcox. May 2 — Trippin' the Sixties. May 10 — Byron Berline & Bluegrass Etc. May 14 — Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams. May 15 — Eric Bibb. May 16 — The Grascals. May 22 — Ian Tyson. May 23 — Roy Zimmerman. June 5 — Slaid Cleaves and Eliza Gilkyson. September 10 — Cheryl Fleming.

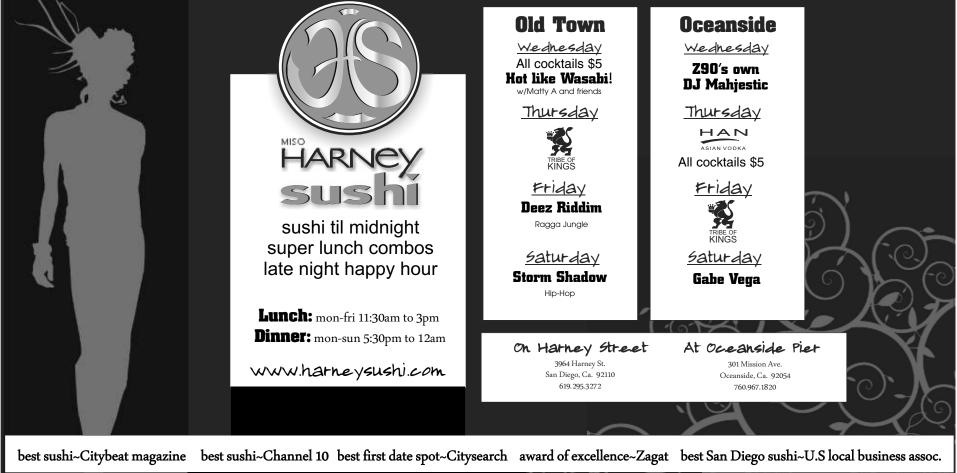
Air Conditioned Lounge:

4673 30th Street, Normal Heights, 619-501-9831. *April 19* — The Sam Johnson Jazz Duo.

April 26 — Regina Leonard.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. April 16 - Brian Auger. April 17 — Tom Scott. April 17 — Raheem DeVaughn. April 17 — Soul Hop. April 18 — Steve Poltz. April 19 — Benefit for the U.S. Open Sandcastle Competition. 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 — The Yoshida Brothers. May 9 — Carrie Rodriguez. May 15 - Diane Schuur. May 20 - Charles McPherson. May 28 — Graham Parker. May 29 - Detroit Underground. Iune 19 - Candve Kane. June 20 — Hiromi





we do catering and private parties!!!

Iulv 11 - Ottmart Liebert. August 26 - The Duhks.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-454-5872. May 4 — The Bishop's School Jazz Ensemble.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194. May 7 - Brawley.

Bare Back Grill -Downtown: 624 E Street, Downtown, 619-237-9990. April 28 - Snooze Button.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746. April 29 — The Old In Out. April 30 - Dusty Rhodes and the River Band.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140. April 16 — Kenny Wayne Shepherd. April 17 — Calexico. April 18 — The Cured. April 19 — The 9th Annual Seedless 4/20 Party. April 20 — Lykke Li.



April 21 — UB40. April 22 - Don Carlos April 23 — Hot Tuna. April 24 — Lez Zeppelin. April 25 — Skanic April 26 — Orquesta Primo. April 27 - Railroad Earth. April 28 — Republic of Letters. April 29 - Company of Thieves. April 30 — Rufus Wainwright. May 1 - Never So Few. May 2 - Dennis Quaid and the Sharks. May 6 — Michael Tiernan. May 9 — Bob Schneider. May 10 — The Avett Brothers May 14 - Jonathan Coulton. May 15 - Mogwai. May 21 — M83. May 22 — The Virgins. May 23 — Morrissey's 50th Unhappy Birthday Celebration. June 5 - Fiesta del Sol Kickoff Party. June 16 — King Sunny Adé. *June 25* — Carbon Leaf. July 2 — '80s Heat.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300. April 16 — The Shamey Jays. April 22 - Maddox Revolution. April 23 — Lessons from Zeke. April 28, April 29 — Nena Anderson.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989. April 16 — Stranger.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483. April 16 — Boys Don't Cry. April 19 — 5th Annual Hemp-Hop Festival April 22 — Aquatribe. April 24 — The Camel Tones. April 25 — Kid Koala. April 29 — The Shake Ups.



BY DAVE GOOD

Even though they're from Colombia and do not sing a word of English, Aterciopelados (which translates as "the Velvety Ones") are straight out of the rock-and-roll playbook of the America of the late 1960s. With her Joan Baez-ish long hair, a hand-painted acoustic guitar, and an overriding desire to campaign against social injustice, lead singer Andrea Echeverri has picked our old hippie culture as a role model. She sings about things such as ecology and immigration law. It was like that here in the '60s too, when our own pop culture spoke out in protest of the draft, the president, the Vietnam War, and so much more.

Via email (and with the help of an inter-

April 30 — Dope. May 1 — The Formula. May 9 — That 1 Guy. May 12 — "Acoustic Alliance." May 28 — Paul Roberts. June 4 — King's X. *Julv 7* — The Anti-Nowhere League. July 30 — The Jimmie Van Zant Band

Café Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979. *April 16* — Orquesta LGC. April 19 — Orquesta Guayo.



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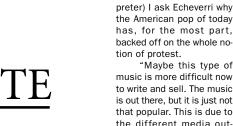
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April 21 — Mambo Salvaje.

April 23 - BombaChante.

April 29 — Orquesta 8.8.

May 3 — Tabaco y Ron.

May 6 - Son y Clave.

May 12 — Mambo Salvaje.

May 21 — BombaChante.

May 26 — Mambo Salvaje.

May 27 - Orquesta 8.8.

May 20 — Orquesta Hablando

Rumba.

Salsa.

April 22 — Orquesta Guarare.

April 30 - Gene Perry y Afro

May 5 - Cinco de Mayo Party.

May 7 - Orquesta Salsa Caliente.

May 24 - Orquesta Salsa Caliente.

May 28 — Walter II and Orquesta

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the American pop of today has, for the most part, backed off on the whole notion of protest. "Maybe this type of

music is more difficult now to write and sell. The music is out there, but it is just not that popular. This is due to the different media outlets — such as the radio and mass media in general — which are overly concerned about ratings and popularity. Today, whatever is sexual is most popular. Essentially two people

(Echeverri and her recording/writing/performing partner Hector Buitrago), Aterciopelados released their first CD in 1993. The next seven CDs would bounce all over the place, musically, from traditional Colombian to electronica to folk to punk. Of late, Echeverri's sometimes-ethereal voice has taken on a meatier, more grounded feel. On keeping the faith and retaining your pop-icon status, Echeverri says, "Aterciopelados' mu-

Rumbaney.

632-8252.

Witchdoctors.

Magnificients.

April 22 - Brick.

April 24 — Uplift.

Beam Me Up Scotties.

April 25 — Triple Shot.

April 27 — Cactus Twang.

April 16 — Collie Buddz.

April 17 — Sashamon.

April 24 — Diplo.

April 25 — Cash'd Out.

April 30 — Deaf Zero.

May 1 — Little John.

May 2 — Katchafire.

May 23 - SOJA.

May 8 — Split Finger.

May 9 - Tainted Love.

May 16 — Grouch & Eligh

May 21 - Project Blowed.

May 22 — 40 Oz. to Freedom

May 31 - Orquesta Borinquen.

The Calypso Café: 576 North

April 16 — Barbara Nesbitt.

April 17 — Jeff Moore & the

April 18 — 3 EZ Pieces. *April 19* — John Scott & the

April 20 — Shoreline Rootz.

April 21 — Jack Tempchin.

April 23 — Captain Kirk & the

April 26 — The Rick Ross Trio.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk.

Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.

April 18 — Andre Nickatina.

April 23 — Ooklah the Moc.

April 22 — Immortal Technique.

Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-



sic isn't at the top of the charts. Even though this is all I do, people still ask me at streetlights and supermarkets why I'm not singing anymore. It seems as though if you don't have a massive hit like [our] 'Bolero Falaz' that the majority of people think you don't exist.'

ATERCIOPELADOS: House of Blues, Tuesday, April 14, 7:30 p.m. 619-299-2583. \$20.50 and \$40.50.

> May 24 — Dazed and Confused. May 28 — Parker & the Numberman. May 29 — Hot August Night.

Carlsbad City Library: 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad. April 16 — Bigg Nife. April 19 — Kendra Shank. May 1 — Tan Sister Radio. May 7 — One Way Flight.

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

May 30 — Baytown.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355. April 16 — The Black Lips. April 17 — WAVVES. April 18 — Menomena. April 23 — Prize Country. April 24 — Dave Gonzalez. April 25 — Dynamite Walls. April 26 — Irradio. April 27 — Mr. Lif. April 28 — Acid Mothers Temple. April 30 — Black Mamba. May 1 — Mike Doughty. May 2 — Damien Jurado. May 3 — William Elliott Whitmore. May 4 — Manic Hispanic. May 5 — Team Abraham. May 6 — Sleepytime Gorilla Museum. May 7 — The Devil Makes Three. May 8 — The Mother Hips. May 11 — Spectrum.



Reader April 9, 2009 San Diego 88







San Diego Reader April 9, 2009 87

May 14 - Cloud Cult. May 15 — Isis. May 16 — Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys. May 22 — The Dears. May 23 — The Obits. May 29 — The Answers. May 30 - St. Vincent. May 30 — Hair Theatre. June 2 - Big Business. June 6 — The Slackers. June 21 - The Queers.

Christ Episcopal Church:

1114 Ninth Street, Coronado, 619-435-4561. June 21 — Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir.

Cox Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947. June 20 — Yanni. July 18 — Il Divo.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050

Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600. May 8 — The Black Eyed Peas. May 16 — Nine Inch Nails. May 22 - No Doubt. June 20 — Vicente Fernandez. June 22 — André Rieu. July 9 — Incubus. July 10 — Rise Against. July 11 — 311 and Ziggy Marley. July 28 — The Fray. August 14 — Depeche Mode. September 5 — Nickelback. September 12 — The Dave Matthews Band. October 2 — Brad Paisley October 16 - Jimmy Buffett.

Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-1161. *June 12* — Heroes of Woodstock. *June 13* — Melissa Etheridge. June 14 - Los Tucanes de Tijuana. June 16 — Phil Vassar. June 17 - Bret Michaels. June 18 — David Cook. June 20 — David Archuleta. June 23 - The Guess Who *June 25* — The B-52s. June 26 - Switchfoot June 27 — Fifth Annual Gospel Festival. June 28 — Intocable. June 29 - Clint Black. June 30 - Creedence Clearwater Revisited. July 1 — KC & the Sunshine Band. July 2 - Arrival. July 3 - Joan Jett and the

Blackhearts. Iuly 4 — Smokey Robinson. July 5 — Kelly Clarkson.

Del Mar Plaza: 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. April 19 — Paolo Nutini.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467. *April 17* — Brian Levy. April 18 — Kendra Shank. April 22 — First Fridays Music Club April 24 - Paul Seaforth. April 26 — Jaeryoung Lee Trio. May 31 — Joni Mitchell Tribute.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131. April 24 — HeadRUSH.

E Street Café: 128 E Street, Encinitas, 760-230-2038. April 18 — Fly to Blue.

Escondido Joe's Coffee House: 119 E Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-466-2184. April 17 — T.K. Plummer.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204. May 8 — Leo Rising May 22 — HeadRUSH. June 5 — Leo Rising

First Church of Chula Vista: 915 Paseo Ranchero, Chula Vista. April 26 - Martin Luther King Ir. Community Choir.

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach,

619-222-5300. April 24 — The Kyle Van Band. July 4, September 5 — Dazed and Confused

Grace San Diego: 2716 Madison Avenue, Normal Heights,

619-280-1495. June 14 — Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir.

La Gran Tapa: 611 B Street, Downtown, 619-234-8272. April 17 — Juan Moro. April 21 — Tomcat Courtney. April 22 — Steven Zuill. April 24 — Juan Moro. April 29 — Steven Zuill.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. April 16 — Skelpin.



"Whiskey Down," by Dan-

nicus Live, was the most-

downloaded MP3 from

SDReader.com during

March. Below is an inter-

What in particular inspired

by a former bandmember.

Tim Cartwright. Although

Tim is no longer with the

band, we remain close

friends and he still plays

with us on occasion. At

the time the song was writ-

ten, a local deejay had just

April 18 — Taryn Donath.

April 23 — Skelpin.

April 25 — Sligorags.

April 30 - Skelpin.

Diego, 619-670-5194.

April 26 - Greg Ginn.

Ones.

Ones.

April 22 - Joe Wood & the Lonely

April 24 - Rockers in the Round.

April 29 - Joe Wood & the Lonely

April 28 — Thompson Phan.

June 26 — The Hank Show.

July 10 — The Band in Black.

Heritage of the Americas

College Drive West, Rancho San

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill:

5500 Grossmont Center Drive

#277, La Mesa, 619-713-6900.

April 17 — The Flophouse

April 24 — Private Domain.

April 25 — California Celts.

Hope United Methodist

Church: 16550 Bernardo Heights

April 18 — The Blokes.

Playboys.

Museum: 12110 Cuyamaca

The song was written

view with Daniel.

"Whiskey Down"?

>**m**ost_downloaded

interviewed the band and said that we had a totally unique style of music. He coined our sound "pirate rock," and the term stuck with us ever since.

"Whiskey Down" has that old Irish-drinking-song feel, like much of your stuff. How did you decide on this style? The lead singer and

founder of the band. Dan (Dannicus), is Irish and Scottish, and has always loved Irish drinking songs. Dannicus Live was originally a duo with Dan and Jamie playing acoustic guitars and singing rowdy upbeat Irish drinking songs. As we grew into a full band and added electric guitars, drums, and bass, we made it a priority to stay true to our Irish sound as well.

Parkway, Rancho Bernardo, 858-485-5840. May 17 — Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. April 16 - Lights. April 17 — The Derek Trucks Band. April 18 — Cage the Elephant. April 18 — India.Arie. April 19 — The Kottonmouth Kings. April 22 — Tattooed Wednesday. April 23 — Queensrÿche. April 24 - Honor Society. April 25 — Panteón Rococó. April 26 — Ximena Sarinana. April 30 — Eek-A-Mouse. Mav 1 — Kreator. May 2 — Nicho Hinojosa. May 3 — J. Holiday. May 5 - Sammy Hagar. May 7 - Steel Pulse. May 9 — Iration. May 10 — Dredg. May 14 — Doves. May 15 — Ramón Ayala. May 16 — Kevin Devine. May 17 - Soulive. May 18 — Tech N9ne. May 20 - Fischerspooner. May 21 — Ben Folds. May 22 - Cowboy Mouth

May 26 — The Crystal Method.

May 27 - Robin Trower.

Lyrics to "Whiskey Down" Come out, come out from near and far, come out and hear our plea

A bottle o' rum and beer by the drum, the whiskey will set us free Compile our wealth, defile

ourselves, the future we cannot tell

If we run o' of luck, who gives a fuck, we're on our way to hell.

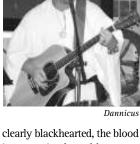
[chorus]

You and me and a bottle o' rum we'll burn this fucker down. Drown our fears till tomorrow disappears, we'll drink our whiskey down

Look out, look out whoever vou are, this tale won't often be told. We're nearly departed and

May 28 — Lady Sovereign.

May 30 - Hillsdale Music Department Benefit Concert. May 31 - Mayhem. June 4 - Gavin Rossdale June 10 — Testament. June 12 — Billy Ray Cyrus. June 20 - Ben Kweller. June 25 — Xavier Rudd. Iulv 17 — All. *July 22* — Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine. Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College: 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos, 760-744-1150. May 18 — Palomar Jazz Vocal Ensemble. May 21 — Palomar Concert Band and Palomar Brass Ensemble. Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577. June 6 — Joe Cocker. June 7 — '70s Soul Jam. June 15 — The Cowboy Junkies. June 18 - Keyshia Cole. June 20 - Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons. June 23 — Three Girls and Their Buddy. June 26 — Rock Royalty June 28 — Ani DiFranco. July 9 — Heart. July 10 — Joan Baez. July 12 — The Indigo Girls.



in our veins be cold. It's been said we're almost dead, we're reaping what we've sown

But life isn't life if you haven't lived, tis the way the story goes.

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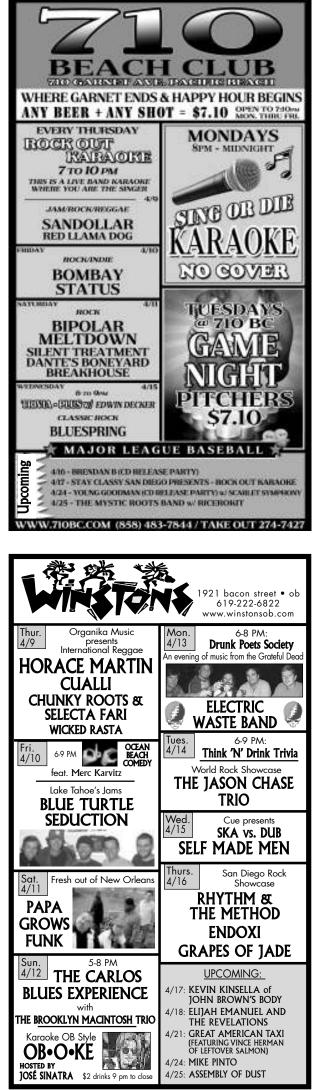
Iulv 14 — Gregg Allman. July 19 — Jewel. July 20 - Tears for Fears. July 21 — The Moody Blues. July 22 — Hapa. July 26 - Chicago July 28 — George Thorogood and the Destrovers. July 30 — Susan Tedeschi. August 2 — Hippiefest: A Concert for Peace and Love. August 7 — The Alan Parsons Live Project. August 10 — Diana Krall. August 11 — Lyle Lovett. August 13 — Jackson Browne. August 14 — America. August 21 — Tower of Power. August 25 — Chris Isaak. August 28 — Dave Koz. September 4 — Bob Weir and RatDog. September 11 — Air Supply and Christopher Cross. September 17 — Bon Taj Roulet. September 18 — LeAnn Rimes. September 21 — The Australian Pink Floyd Show. September 25 — The Beach Boys. September 26 — Keali'i Reichel. September 27 — Pink Martini. September 28, September 29-Crosby, Stills, & Nash. October 2 - Chris Botti. October 4 --- Cecilio & Kapono. October 14 — Jesse Cook October 15 - Loggins & Messina.



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THURSDAY • APRIL 9 VETIVER RICHARD SWIFT THE DONKEYS	COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 W/ID	SATURDAY • APRIL 18 MENOMENA CALICO HORSE WRITER
FRIDAY • APRIL 10 BLIND PILOT LOCH LOMOND GRIZZLY CIRCUS IN THE ATARI LOUNGE	2501 KETTNER BLVD. + 232-4355 WEDNESDAY + APRIL 15 ARIEL PINK'S HAUNTED GRAFFITI VIVIAN GIRLS GARY WILSON	TUESDAY • APRIL 21 BANG CAMARO WEDNESDAY • APRIL 22 THE OLD IN OUT MONSTERS FROM MARS
RIVER CITY SATURDAY • APRIL 11 MONOTONIX KILL ME TOMORROW HOSTILE COMBOVER	ALE MANIA DJ MARIO ORDUNO THURSDAY • APRIL 16 BLACK LIPS	SUNDAY TIMES THURSDAY • APRIL 23 HOSTILE COMBOVER PRIZE COUNTRY FRIDAY • APRIL 24
MONDAY • APRIL 13 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS THE NEWNO2 FEATURING DHANI HARRISON	FLOWERS FOREVER NAUTICAL DISASTER IN THE ATARI LOUNGE ATOMS	DAVE GONZALEZ AND THE STONE RIVER BOYS SATURDAY • APRIL 25 DYNAMITE WALLS
ILLUMINAUTS TUESDAY • APRIL 14 THE FASCINATION NORTHERN TOWNS CRESCENDO	FRIDAY - APRIL 17 WAVVES CHRISTMAS ISLAND THE DABBERS BIPOLAR BEAR DI MARIO OPPINIO	REPUBLIC OF LETTERS STRIPES AND LINES THE NEW ARAHACI MONDAY • APRIL 27 MR. LIF
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International Community Foundation: 2525 N Avenue, National City, 619-336-2250. April 26 — Music Without Borders.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: 5985 Santa Fe Street, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2739. *May* 9 — 6th Annual Beach to Brewery Beer and Music Festival.

The Kava Lounge: 2812 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-543-0933. *May 17* — Louis Logic.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437. *April 16* — The Applebrown Jazz Ensemble. *April 18* — Allison Lonsdale and Eben Brooks. *April 19* — The Robin Henkel Band. *April 22* — Chris Robley & the Fear of Heights. *April 24* — Cyndi Harvell.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD. *May 1* — Ben Lee.

Lyceum Theatre: 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-858-0322. *May 11* — Ian Tordella.

Mangia Italiano on Third: 248 Third Avenue, Chula Vista, 619-623-3553. *April 16, April 23* — Caballero's Latin Jazz Jam.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-5280. April 16 — Laguna. April 17 — Bordertown Blues. April 18 — The Offbeats. April 22 — Gene Warren.

April 23 — Northstar.

April 24 — Mystique. *April 25* — Harmony Road.

Mission Bay Park: Vacation Isle, off Ingraham Street, Pacific Beach, 858-581-7602. *May 2* — Matisyahu.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. April 18 — Cirkus. April 24 — Cory Wilkins. April 25 — Lizardfish. May 1 — RadioStar. May 8 — Coldfire. May 9 — American Rock Experience.

Moonlight Beach: 200 B Street, Encinitas. July 5 — The Credentialed. July 19 — Stripes and Lines. August 2 — The Surf Kings. August 16 — The Devastators.

Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Jolla. *April 18* — Fly. *May 13* — Jane Bunnett and Spirits of Havana. *May 27* — Karrin Allyson.

O'Connells Pub and Nightclub: 1310 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637

April 17 — Strike the Design. April 18 — Without Papers. April 19 — Londons Falling. April 24 — Emergenza Music Festival. April 25 — Blue Sky Blonde. April 26 — Extinct Animals. April 29 — Calstate Generals. May 1 — Arm the Angels. May 9 — John Miller.

Oceanside Library: 330 North Coast Highway, Oceanside. *April 25* — Musicàntica. **Oceanside Museum of Art:** 704 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-

435-3720. April 16 — "Rock the Night."

Old Time Music: 2852 University Avenue, North Park, 619-280-9035.

April 17 — Bernie Pearl. April 19 — Little Windows. April 21 — Richard Smith. April 26 — Doyle Dykes. May 8 — Rick Ruskin.

Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947. *April 29* — Celtic Woman: Isle of

Hope. June 3 — The Offspring.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-7252. *April 24* — Federal Funk. *July 12* — Michael McDonald and Boz Scaggs.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey

Dive Bar: 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-757-2827. April 16 — Hazmat. April 18 — Hot Rod Trio. April 24 — Rip Carson. April 25 — The Fuck Lords. April 30 — Soul Plow.

Qualcomm Hall: 5775 Morehouse Drive, Mira Mesa, 858-259-5508. *May 2* — The Fab Four.

Radio Room: 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, 619-284-3323.

May 22 — Dead as Dillinger. **Ramona Mainstage**

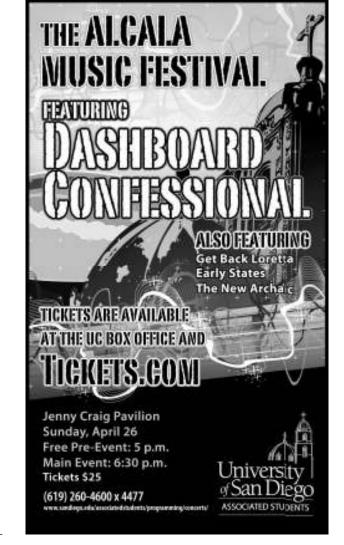
NightClub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008. *April 18* — Cash'd Out. *April 24* — Myron and the



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Kyniptionz. April 25 — Highway 67 Blues Fest. May 1 — The Chop Tops. May 8 — Rip Carson. May 23 — Back to the Garden. May 30 — Playback. June 6 — Rachael Stark and Bob Karwin. June 12 — The Midnight Ramblers. June 13 — Alan Iglesias & Crossfire. June 19 — Los Boogie Boys con Pachuco Jose.

Rancho Buena Vista Adobe: 640 Alta Vista Drive, Vista.

May 3 — The Peter Pupping Quartet.

Rimac Arena: 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla. *April 29* — Death Cab for Cutie. *May 20* — Flight of the Conchords.

The Royal Dive: 2949 San Luis Rey Road, Oceanside, 760-722-1911. *April 25* — Wild Weekend.

San Diego Reader: 1703 India Street, Little Italy, 619-235-3000. *April 26* — Art Walk 2009.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-224-4171. *April* 17 — Avenged Sevenfold. *May* 24 — Taylor Swift. *May* 30 — Pennywise. *May* 31 — Fleetwood Mac. *August* 29 — Ricardo Arjona.

Schroeder's at Tango Del Rey: 3567 Del Rey Street, Clairemont, 858-794-9044. *April 18* — Todd Schroeder. *May 16* — Sandy Campbell and G. Scott Lacy.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Boulevard, City Heights, 619-255-7224. *April 24* — Mutantspaceboy. Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-226-7662. April 17 — Athena April 18 - Murder on the Dancefloor. April 24 — The Devil Wears Prada. April 25 — Protest the Hero. May 1 — The Human Abstract. May 2 — Napalm Death. May 8 - Get Back Loretta May 11 — The Shins. May 22 — Jack's Mannequin. June 4 — Kate Voegele. June 5 — Taking Back Sunday. June 6 — Tribal Seeds June 13 - Strung Out. lune 19 - Jeffree Star. July 29 - Vamps.

South Park Bar & Grill: 1946

Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096. *April 24* — The West Indies.

Spreckels Theatre: 121

Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500. *April 18* — John Prine.

Sushi Performance & Visual Art: 390 11th Avenue, Downtown, 619-235-8466.

May 12 — Barnyard Drama. **Tio Leo's:** 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462. April 17 — The Red Elvises. April 18 — Alan Iglesias & Crossfire. April 24 — Sue Palmer & Her Motel

Swing Orchestra. The Turquoise, Café-Bar

Europa: 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200. *April 18* — The 909s. *April 22* — Tomcat Courtney.

U-31: 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188.

April 22 — Agua Dulce. April 29 — Saba. May 6 — The Austin James Band. May 20 — Agua Dulce. May 27 — Veronica May & the To Do List.

University of San Diego: 5998

Alcalá Park, USD, 619-260-4600. April 26 — Dashboard Confessional. June 14 — The Cedar Center Chorus and Pacificaires.

Valley View Casino: 16300

Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946. April 24 — Creedence Clearwater Revisited. May 3 — Seal. June 7 — Julio Iglesias. June 9 — Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo. August 21 — Randy Travis. September 12 — Three Dog Night. September 26 — The Beach Boys. October 3 — The Temptations and the Four Tops.

October 9 — REO Speedwagon.

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. *August 15*— Los Lonely Boys.

October 3 — Brooks & Dunn. Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400. April 17 — Siren's Crush.

April 19 — The Arrowhead Band. **Winstons:** 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822. April 26 — Chelsea Flor. May 24 — The Bigfellas.



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2009

9

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SHAMROCKS AND COTTON PATCHES

aire, or —" She interrupted to say,

"Why doesn't Jim just settle

"We have prizes. And we also

down with you?" I asked. She

smiled and said in her British

accent. "I work for him. And I

don't think he wants to settle

down. That's the big misconception

"Why doesn't Jim

just settle down

with you?"

for his soul mate. He's just a shy

and throws fun parties."

guy that got rich with an invention

Jen told me, "We got him for secu-

rity, to keep out...party crashers."

I got a whiskey sour and

I saw a 6⁶ guy with dreads.

about all this. He's not searching

donate a lot to charity."

by Josh Board

Level hey say your home is your castle. So it is with Jim's place, which is shaped like a castle. He's known as the P.B. Millionaire.

The St. Patrick's Day party he hosted was downtown at Dublin Square so he wouldn't bother his neighbors.

He invited 20 women, as he's working on a web-based reality show.

I walked in and saw a handful of women at a long table. I sat on a couch nearby to observe.

Jim walked in 30 minutes later sporting a tux. His sunglasses and all the dyed-blond hair at the table made me think of the Bret Michaels reality show *Rock of Love*.

Tables held St. Patrick's Day tattoos, green beads, and carnations. Balloons were all around.

One woman was really loud. I glanced over and noticed she was attractive. I asked Jen, Jim's assistant, if the women get jealous of each other. She said, "It happens. Usually it's if one woman is getting more of his attention."

She told me about a Valentine's Day party he had at which a woman came up and wondered what was going on. She ended up winning the grand prize. I said, "And...what is the grand prize? A date with the P.B. Million-



Jim (center), the "P.B. Millionaire"

talked to the security guard, B.K. I asked about his size, and he told me he has a number of jokes for when people ask him that question. He said, "The best thing is when they think I'm someone famous. When I was thinner, I was in Vegas and people thought I was Dennis Rodman. The casino was totally hooking us up.

"Another time, when The Cosby Show was popular, my friend and I were in a long line to get into a club. He went across the street, called [the club], and said I was Malcolm Jamal-Warner. He told the club I was filming a movie, and they needed me back as soon as possible. They asked that I be ushered in quickly so I could get back to the set in a timely manner. They brought us in, gave us a VIP table. I was even signing autographs for them, too."

I found out B.K. had an invention of his own. He told me about his company. They make something called "The Patch." It was recently one of the items in the gift bags at an Oscar party (he told me he's worked with a few actresses). He explained that the Patch keeps women from having panty lines because it's just a cotton patch worn in place of underwear.

As we were talking, he said, "Oh, man, I just lost my client!" He quickly looked around and spotted Jim near the front door.

The cotton patch sounded interesting, but I wanted to know about Jim's invention.

We talked outside, and he explained how he found his fortune while painting houses. "I had a B.A. in business administration but could make more money painting; sometimes a thousand dollars a day. I noticed...there were no good goggles on the market. It took years, the whole patent process."

He invented goggles that have a screen across them that allows them to stay clean while painting. As he told me this story, I was thinking about how a guy came up with the idea for the Pet Rock and made millions. I glanced around the pub, wondering if I could invent some kind of straw that gets people to drink their alcohol faster.

Just then, his photographer,

Erhan, came over to suggest they take the limo to some of the other bars. Jim told him that they're all within walking distance. Erhan replied, "Some of the women say they've never been in a limo."

I talked briefly to a woman playing a leprechaun. She'd been working as one for a few years. I told her I liked the reality show *Little People, Big World,* and she told me she knows the people in it and sees them once a year.

I saw Astra Kelly perform some songs. She told me, "The party looks like fun." When I told her about Jim's cool invention, she said, "I can't believe it. That guy won the lottery, and he invented something." I replied, "I don't think he won the lottery." She said, "Oh. Someone said he was the millionaire from P.B. I thought it was someone that won the lottery."

I talked to Erhan for a bit. He told me a story about some women coming over to the castle and that Jim told them he was the pool boy. They wanted to know where the millionaire was, and when Erhan explained Jim was joking, they said, "Why would he say he just works here?" Jim overheard this and added, "The funny thing is, I don't even have a pool. They got back in the limo and left."

I saw a heavy woman at the



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table and thought it was cool that the women were all shapes and sizes, but 75 percent of them were fit, attractive, and appeared to be in their 20s.

The waitress brought a Cosmo for one of the women; another got a Manhattan. A few others were drinking Coronas. Jim told them that anything they wanted was covered. Upon hearing that, I ordered another whiskey sour and some potato skins. As I was leaving, they invited me into the limo. I passed.

I contacted Jim a few days later to ask what I'd missed. He said in an email, "Most of the girls were wearing heels, so we took the limo around the block a few times. At one place, we were told by the manager that the video camera was not allowed. A few girls started to get wild and dance on the table. After some nachos and more drinks, we did impressions of Borat and talked about Anchorman."

I didn't want to sound as if I was back in high school but emailed Jim again to ask if any women made it back to the "castle." Jim responded, "It's easier to get into the Playboy Mansion than it is to get into the P.B. Castle. I live in a quiet neighborhood, and I intend to keep it that way. But B.K. escorted the girls inside very quietly. We went to the upper deck, where there's a view of the ocean and the bay. The girls seemed to become less inhibited. A few went upstairs to the master bedroom to pose for photographs, and downstairs some of the girls got the stick-on tattoos and made various gestures for the camera. I know you're probably looking for something a little more scandalous, but it was all just pure fun."

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 Italian Leprechaun's Pub

Back in 1890, the three Dini brothers added a "Mc" to their name.

istory's in the air. Talk about hidden jewels. Turns out that here in National City they have the only original transcontinental railroad terminus in the

United States still standing. Since 1882, the depot has been at West 23rd Street, the end of the line, transcontinentally speaking. Then, a little closer to San Diego — up off East Eighth Street — there are those cool old Philadelphia-style brick row

houses. Sign says they were built in 1887 for executives of the Santa Fe Railroad. People still live in them.

And last but not least, at Eighth and A drum roll, please — here's yours truly sitting in the oldest restaurant in San Diego, period. McDini's. They've been serving corned beef and cabbage since 1890. Okay, this isn't the original location, which was at Fourth and Market downtown, but McDini's has been open without a break for 119 years. Last year, Mick Dini sold out to the guy who owns the furniture store across the road, and that was nearly that; this institution almost became an extension of the furniture store. Then the new owner's son persuaded his dad that McDini's should not die. This ol' place just needed to be brought up to date and given a lick of paint and some new energy.

I knew something was different this mawnin' as soon as I got off the 929 bus. I'd



been here before, in '04, when it was known as "McDini's Baja Bar and Restaurant." The "Baja" part was always secondary to the Irish thing. Back in 1890, the three Italian Dini

brothers, who first called their place the Goodwill Cafe, added a "Mc" to their name and had themselves an Irish eatery. Mike Dini Sr. was known as the "Original Italian Leprechaun." All this comes flooding

back as I sit in one of the newly upholstered half-round booths. I staggered in

under the brick arches of this '50s-style building and found — wow. Not the dark, dank Irish pub of old, but this light-painted-brick place with shocking-Irish-green booths, half a dozen big screens, a couple of pool tables, a mile-long bar with a low-slung wooden trellis overhead to make it more intimate, and a list of over 85 beers. And a brave new sign, "McDini's Sports Bar, Diner, & Live Music Venue."

Most important for moi, though, is the new menu. Yes! This pub now serves breakfast. Actually, I'm just in time. "Breakfast till twelve," I see, and it's coming up to midday. Been working since crack o' dawn. Star-ving. So I walk up to the bar to check it out.

"Just under the wire," says the waitress, Sara Leigh.

She sets me down in this sparkle-flecked green booth with a big plastic-covered menu and flips me to the breakfast page. It's a pretty straight-down-the-middle selection. Cheapest thing is two eggs any style with potatoes and toast, \$4.99, and it goes up to \$12 for a top round steak, two eggs, hash browns, and toast. 'Course corned beef is their Irish specialty — still! — so the McDini's cornedbeef omelet (\$8.95, with bacon, peppers, mushrooms, and cheese) should be pretty good.

A hungry man wouldn't want to miss the number 16, two pork chops: "large tender boneless cuts, hand breaded and grilled," with two eggs any style, "dirty potatoes," and toast. Sounds just what the doctor ordered. Ten bucks, though.

So what — when it comes time to order, that's what I ask Sara Leigh for. And, okay, there's certainly plenty of it. Two big chops. Only thing is, there ain't nothin' boneless about them - in fact, I have to watch for little tooth-breaker bone chips - and second, ain't nothin' breaded.

But they taste fine, and with what turns out to be hash browns, plus the two over-easy eggs and the toast, it fills me up. The \$1.75 bottomless coffee is a good deal too.

This breakfast is a new thing for McDini's; a tough sell for a bar. I know these guys really fill up in the evening, 'specially on Monday karaoke nights and Thursdays through the weekend, when they have live bands.

But what everybody says, including Tessa, a waitress who's seen it all, is: Ya gotta be here Saint Paddy's Day. "We plan this out months ahead. It starts around ten in the morning and goes all day. We've always done Saint Patrick's Day best. Best Irish bands, best crowds, best corned beef and cabbage. Hey, 100 years' practice, we've got it down."

She has a point. Definitely going to get Carla for this one. Except, dammit, just missed it for '09. Oh well, pencil it in for '10. Hey, that'll be their 120th anniversary. Should be one for the history books.

The Place: McDini's Sports Bar and Diner, 105 East Eighth Street (at A Street), National City, 619-474-6771 Type of Food: American

Prices: Two breakfast eggs, potatoes, toast, \$4.99; short stack, \$3.95; egg, hotcake, bacon, \$5.95; two pork chops, two eggs, dirty potatoes, toast, \$10; "a wake-up from McDini's" (two pancakes, Bloody Mary), \$8; Wednesday special, meatloaf sandwich, \$7.95; fish and chips, \$10.95; prime rib, \$15.95

Hours: 10:00 a.m.-midnight, Monday: 10:00 a.m.-2:00 a.m., Tuesday-Friday: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 a.m., Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-midnight, Sunday

Buses: 929, 932, 955, 962, 963

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San Diego Reader April 9, 2009

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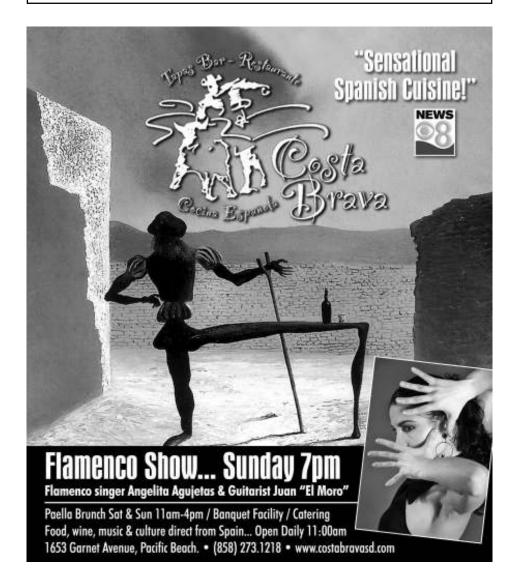
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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

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 SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest infor-

mates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. Inexpensive: below \$10; moderate: \$10 to \$19; expensive: \$20 to \$29; very expensive: more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

BEACHES

Bare Back Grill — Pacific Beach 4640 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. This may be the first New Zealand food place in town, but that's not what keeps the customers coming in. It's BBG's claim that most of their meat is certified organic. The owners guarantee hormone-free beef and lamb, both from New Zealand. So, what to eat? Burgers, burgers, burgers — all kinds from Prime NZ Angus to lamb burgers with wasabi dip. They also offer chicken. Decor inside is strictly Kiwiland, from the all-black rugby shirt on the wall to the declaration of food principles. People who had given up on hormonetreated meat are coming here for their first burger in years. Open seven days, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Inexpensive. - E.B. Broken Yolk Café — Pacific Beach 1851 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-9655. Breakfasting P.B.ers love this place for three reasons: its sundeck, its 26 different four-egg omelets (which you can split with your partner, no extra charge), and the chal-lenge of omelet #27. This dozen-egg Broken Yolk Café Special comes stuffed with a mountain of mushrooms, onion, cheese, chili, plus home fries and biscuits. If you can down it in an hour, pay nothing - you've got huevos. If you can't, the yolk's on you — \$19.99. My ad-vice: split a four-egger. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

George's at the Cove — Califor**nia Modern** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. With a new name and renovated for an even better ocean view, George's at the Cove California Modern dining room continues to serve Chef Trey Foshee's ambitious, healthful California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients and emphasizing sustainable wild seafood, local produce naturally raised meats and poultry. The cooking style is a little lighter now, good for carb-counters, with only small amounts of starch on the entrées. The award-winning wine list offers few bottles under \$50, but many by the halfbothe or glass, including serious dessert wines. Full bar, creative "chef cocktails" with fresh fruit. Wheelchair elevator available but hidden (ask valet parkers) disabled can use neighbor Pasquale's men's room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodated to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

Harbor House 831 West Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-1141. This two-story Midwesterner-friendly eatery caters mainly to tourist families and conventioneers, but the upstairs Oyster Bar is a pretty spot to chill out and watch the sailboats over a good margarita and a plateful of iced bivalves. Upstairs preparations tend toward simple American coastal dishes; the menu includes more appetizers and the drinks include artisan beers. The downstairs main dining room features more old-fashioned "haute" preparations and has a longer wine list but no view. All foods and drinks from both venues are available by request on both floors (but not all servers know this). Parking free with validation for two hours. Reservations strongly advised for after 6:15 p.m. any evening. Accessible via elevator from main dining room, with entrance on the park (south) side of the building. Lunch and dinner daily upstairs; dinner only downstairs. Moderate to expensive. -N.W

JRDN 723 Felspar Street, Pacific Beach, 858-270-5736. It's a day at the beach: Befitting a restaurant digging its feet into the sand, the food here is fresh, fun, and unfussy, featuring sustainable seafood, natural meats (including truly tasty spice-rubbed steaks), organic/local produce, and a separate sushi bar. The dishes cover the waterfront, ranging from mac 'n' cheese to die for to a sexy, fruited gazpacho to swoon over. The chic interior, relaxed atmosphere, and great grazing draw an exuberant, youngish crowd. Creative cocktails are part of the charm, along with a venturesome wine list with plenty by the glass. Tables (reservable) on the heated beachfront patio could easily become a summer-time lifestyle. Validated valet parking. Just one lacto-vegetarian entrée, but veg-etable sides plus salads fill in amply. Bread available by request only. Lunch weekdays, brunch weekends, dinner nightly. Entrées expensive. — N.W. Latin Chef 1142 Garnet Avenue, Pa-

Latin Chef 1142 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-8810. In a tiny, cheerful (and noisy) storefront with a small street patio, you'll find Peruvian and Chinese-Peruvian cuisine carefully cooked with rare, authentic ingredients, including *chanchitos* (special toasted corn kernels) to nibble instead of bread. The ceviches are brightly refreshing, and

in papas huancainas, potatoes are treated to a suave golden cheese sauce. The outstanding anticuchos (heart kebabs) are impeccably seasoned; for a perfect Peruvian flavor, ask for the aji verde (green hot sauce) for dipping. Lomo saltado (sautéed beef, veggies, and fries) is made with tender sirloin. *Aji de gallina* (spicy chicken) is a family recipe that's delib-erately detuned for kiddies; the hot salsas (the medium-hot green or the hot-ter red one) will perk it up. *Chaufas*, Chinese fried rice dishes, are popular with local Peruvians. No alcohol; BYO in a paper bag or try *chicha morada*, a re-freshing sweet drink made with purple corn. Friendly, articulate owner is happy to explain the cuisine and culture. Difficult street parking. Three vegetarian entrées plus several meatless appetizers. Reservations vital. Dinner weekdays, lunch and dinner weekends. Inexpen-

sive. - N.W. Livingston's Chicken and Mexican Grill 5026 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-224-8088. Ocean Beach has the longest concrete pier in the world (1971 feet) and Livingston's potato Jo-Jos. These garlicky wedges have made grown Irishmen from the international hostel cry. The broasted chicken, pressure cooked in oil, is healthier, tastier, and less greasy than standard fried chicken. There's a touch of Tex-Mex about this place, and there's something decent about their pricing. Health cen-tral it ain't, but a little of what you fancy does you good. Try the California bur-rito (chicken or carne asada, guacamole, cheese), the pork salsa verde plate, or Lalo's tacos with lobster or shrimp and cheese. 10 a.m. to midnight, Monday-Thursday and Sunday; till 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday; breakfast served daily till 3 p.m. Inexpensive. - E.B.

Ocean Beach People's Organic Foods Co-Op Deli 4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. This is the land of "organic," "cruelty-free," "environmentally safe," "shade-grown." Vegan country. People look either disgustingly healthy, disturbingly pasty, or just plain smug. But the food tastes pretty good. And they sell it by the pound so you can mix and match. 'Course, you have to learn new words, like tempeh (cultured soy which can be made to taste like anything). And dishes have a sensible momsy East Coast feel garlic eggplant with beet root and onions, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, millet spinach bake, shepherd's pie, "mango madness," tempeh sausage, steamed vegetables, vegan macaroni and cheese. Bottom line: it's guilt-free. Open seven days, breakfast, lunch, dinner ("serious") breakfast, daily except Tuesday and Thursday). Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

El Cid Lopez Mateos #993, Ensenada 646-178-1809. This restaurant is at the heart of the tourist district, but the cooking and service are way above coach class. Look to the Specialties section of the huge menu for the most interesting selections. Crisp quail with rose petal sauce (famed from *Like Water for Choco*late) proves outrageously delicious, and the seasonal chiles en nogada (meatstuffed poblano chiles with walnut cream and pomegranate) gain refinement from greaseless ground sirloin. Fish dishes are fresh, rich, and tender, and you'll find nine different ways to enjoy a steak. If you can handle a tableside production number, crêpes with cajeta (caramel sauce) make a very grand fi-nale. Fully bilingual staff; English menus available. Vegetarian on request. Sidewalk patio dining available. Reserve for weekends during tourist peaks. Full bar, with excellent margaritas, Baja wines. Open daily, continuous service breakfast through dinner. Moderate. — N.W. Fonda Roberto's Avenida Cuahutemoc #2800 (at Agua Caliente Boulevard,

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GREEK VILLAGE

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next to CESUN Universidad), Tijuana 664-686-4687. How often do you get to eat something totally new? Like *huazon-tle*, the Aztecs' "red spinach," Roberto's presents it as an egg-covered mass of baby sprigs wrapped around a sausage of Monterey cheese, all swimming in a chocolatey mole sauce. You haul the huazontle branches through your teeth to de-seed them, just as Montezuma did 500 years ago. This is the fascination of Roberto Reyes's eatery. It's a tribute to his home state of Puebla in the heartland of Mexico. Cactus plays a big part: Dedos de Moctezuma ("Montezuma's fingers") is cactus stuffed with steak; torta de camarón seco is a shrimp patty topped with cactus; cecina Oaxaqueña is cured meat with cactus salad. But there're also steaks, *mole poblano* (chocolatey chicken with seven different chiles), and the delicious chile en nogada (chile pepper stuffed with beef, fruits, and nuts fried in egg and covered with creamy nut sauce). Vegetarian upon request. Nice dining room too — built around a fountain. Open 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; closed Monday. Moderate. — E.B.

Lonchería la Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroes #105, Tijuana. Venturing to the far end of Tijuana's Mercado Municipal is like entering a scene from The Sorcerer's Ap*prentice*. Shafts of sun penetrate the dark of an incredible kitchen of great black iron stoves and giant steaming pots, and hoods gathering into black pipes that snake up and out through the roof. But what a welcome! As you walk through the mercado, ladies bounce up, enticing you away to their eateries. Hang in there till vou reach Lonchería La Poca Lucha "The Small Struggle Lunch Place." Ask for carne de puerco (pork), chiles rellenos, bistek ranchero, or higado al gusto (liver), all around \$3. Pescado frito (fried fish), milanesa con papas (veal with fries), pollo frito (fried chicken), and carne asada are slightly more. Price includes soup, steaming hot corn tortillas, and a soda. Open seven days, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Inexpensive. - E.B.







San Diego *Reader* April 9, 2009

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Super Antojitos Fourth Street #1810 (between Constitución and Niños Héroes), Tijuana, 664-685-5070. Sr. Lechuga's restaurant has been around for 40 years, for good reason. Early mornings, people line up for breakfast. You enter a sort of heaven: arches, hid-den lighting, glass chandeliers, even a statue of the Virgin Mary. The breakfast special, called mole *poblano*, includes two eggs, enchilada de mole, rice, beans, and bread or tortillas. The delicious mole, Sr. Lechuga's own, contains raisins, avocado, plantain, almonds, peanuts, thyme, and cilantro. Plus, you're drink-ing Sr. Lechuga's own coffee. He grows it down south. "Super antojitos" means super snacks, so search out the pastes pastries stuffed with mole, cheese, or ground meat and potatoes. Also delicious: pork rind *gorditas*. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily, three meals. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

CENTRAL

Alambres Mexican Grill 756 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-2838. Sur prise: this place strives to be inexpensive, like a Mexico City café-bar, where you hang out to watch soccer or talk over the night at two in the morning. They keep the kitchen open till the wee hours. Breakfasts are decent workaday deals, like the burrito stuffed with chorizo. spuds, and eggs. Try the interesting chicharrón de queso that looks like a foot-long golden scroll, and watch for the impulse-cooked teaser plates like cebollitas, small grilled onions in Maggie's sauce. Specialty is the namesake Alambres Mexico City-style taco, usually meat or fish plus bell peppers, onions, and ba-con. Open 9 a.m. to 3 a.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Alexander's 3391 30th Street, North Park, 619-281-2539. The southern part of North Park needed a good neighborhood Italian restaurant. The son of the owners of Point Loma's Old Venice has provided one, with a menu abbreviated from that of the mothership, including plenty of seafood and many Greek-influenced dishes. The new restaurant still cleaves to its parent's old San Diego ways (e.g., ingredients aren't impressive, and all entrées come with the same veggie medley), but the competent kitchen turns out some delicious dishes, especially pastas (try the linguine de Kathleen), specials, and reasonably thincrusted, interesting pizzas. The interior is bright, white, and very loud; the roofed and heated back patio is dimly lit and quieter. Wine, sangria, beer. Takeout orders accepted by phone. Reserva-tions advised. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. - N.W.

The Better Half Bistro 127 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-543-9340. "Explore — don't bore!" is the unspoken motto of world-traveled chef John Kennedy (a veteran of the kitchens of Thomas Keller, Charlie Trotter, and Daniel Boulud) at this civilized little haven for fearless foodies. The globe provides Kennedy's flavor palate, while his techniques are rigorously French. The seasonal menu ranges from frog legs to antelope and includes that rarity, a house-made charcuterie platter (right down to the mustard), plus a different appetizer tart every night. But that's just the start of the creative ethic here: phone 24 hours ahead, and he'll cook you just about whatever you want, including vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free meals on request. The restaurant is named for its array of wines by the half-bottle. Two shallow steps up into dining room, but heated dining courtyard is wheelchair accessible. Reservations a must. "Early bird special" from 5 to 7 p.m. nightly of-fers a limited choice of three courses for only \$20 Otherwise, moderate - NW

Bite Bistro and Wine Bar 1417 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-299-2483. Chef-owner Chris Walsh, longtime culinary saint of Hillcrest, cooks up the inventive California tapas he's known for at this lively, local spot. The flavors are Mediterranean-influenced







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Egg-stravagance Create your own omelette

Spring lamb New Zealand lamb chops cooked to order, herbed potatoes, red wine sauce and roasted garlic foam

From the ocean to your plate Roasted king salmon, saffron couscous and roasted tomato vinaigrette

Carving station Roasted Berkshire pork, artesian rolls and sweet

Mediterranean salad station Roasted peppers, eggplant, squash, portobello mushrooms, heirloom tomatoes, fresh mozzarella, farmers greens, romaine and grilled focaccia

Raw bar White prawn escabeche, West Coast oyster and Catalina uni shooters, diver scallop ceviche with saffron gelle

Sweet bites Frozen carrot cake lollipops, campfire s'mores station, individual tarts, truffles and jellie

\$39 adults, includes one glass of Zonin Prosecco wine \$19 children ages 6-10 · Free 5 and under 11 am-2 pm Easter Brunch with DJ

- 11 am-1:30 pm Kids' Corner Activities 12 pm and 1 pm Easter Egg Hunt in the park

Activities Kids' Corner-Easter Egg Hunt and special visit from the Easter Bunny

Chair Massage by Aquazul Spa

Beverages Loose Tea table, Prosecco Mimosas and Screwdrivers (at Fire Pit) \$6 each · Create-your-own Bloody Mary \$6 each · Innocent beverages for children \$3 each



with original touches. The top of the hit list includes a foie gras crème brûlée; luscious poached oysters with trufflechive butter; and witty foie gras medallions with tropical fruit and pine-nut brittle (Perigord meets Dollywood). Grilled Japanese eggplant with beet carpaccio, lamb meatballs, steak frites, and berry sabayon are nothing to sneeze at, either. Bring friends to share with. An eclectic international wine list offers loads by the glass and bottlings at a wide price range, but don't miss the fragrant, seductive cocktail of prosecco with rose syrup. Tuesday nights, bargain-priced (\$20) prix fixe dinner. Wines half off on Mondays. Grazing dinners Wednesday through Monday; open weekends until 11 p.m. Individual dishes inexpensive to moderate, but they add up. — N.W.

Rleu Rohème 4090 Adams Avenue Kensington-Talmadge, 619-255-4167. Restaurateur Philippe Beltran's classic French bistro, *très chic* but informal and quite noisy, emphasizes familiar favorites from the old-fashioned, French-in-America, bourgeois-cuisine restaurant repertoire — dishes like Burgundian escargots (perfect), a lightened coq au vin (nice) and Mediterranean bouillabaisse (nearly fatally compromised by wrong tasting cold-water species like salmon and halibut) But in this restaurantstarved, fashion-conscious part of town, many patrons adore the joint. (Chacun à son goût.) And at the end you can feast on an air-light soufflé glacé au Grand-Marnier, almost making the dinner "worth a detour," as they say in the Michelin Guide. Smart, mainly French wine list includes wide choice of tasty. affordable "food wines," with lots by the glass and half-bottle; full bar with creative martinis. Small parking lot, side walk patio seating in fair weather. Lunch

and dinner daily. High moderate. — *N.W.*

Buga Korean BBQ Restaurant 5580 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard,

Clairemont, 858-560-1010, Here vou'll find a full range of engaging traditional Korean dishes as well as tabletop gasfired barbecue featuring Coleman Nat ural grass-fed beef and premium Berk-shire pork. (There's also a sushi bar.) Dinners include plenty of pan chan small plates of savory relishes that make the meal special, furnishing an ever-changing array of piquant flavors. Aside from the BBQ meats (which you should order last, to leave table room until vou're ready to turn pure carnivore). some tasty treats include simmered black cod in hot and spicy sauce (dinner item #7), miso soup with pork (dinner item #4), stone pot rice, bibimbap (dinner item #22), mandoo dumplings (casserole item #13). Few vegetarian choices. Bar items include Asian beers, sake, soju. Can get noisy. Dinner reservations advised. Open daily, lunch and dinner, moderate prices, with special prix fixe BBQ and Korean dinners available for groups. - N.W.

Busalacchi's Ristorante 3683 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-298-0119. Remember Olympia Dukakis in Moonstruck retreating for comfort to her local trattoria? Busalacchi's has that settled, warm feel, but it's more interesting. Multi levels create nooks and crannies for liaisons dangereuses, or there's the streetside casual level. Niche fountains and faux-marble columns make it feel old-fashioned. Being Sicilian, they have plenty of the tomatosauce-dominated dishes (like torta di melanzana, eggplant layered with mozzarella). But also try the excellent calamari piccata, a calamari steak bathed in butter, mushrooms, lemon, capers, and white wine. Simple but delish. Or salads like insalata di fileto with filet mignon. goat cheese, walnuts, eggs, and arugula And hey, if you want to keep the budget intact, nothing wrong with spaghetti *della casa.* Lunch Monday through Friday; dinner nightly. Moderate to expensive. — *E.B.*

Café One Three 4207 Park Boule vard, University Heights, 619-260-1311. This is the neighborhood café that every neighborhood wants. It's small but smartly decorated and offers a heated outdoor dining patio to escape the noisy interior in good weather. The fare is a light, healthy, seasonally changing menu of interesting dishes with flavors drawn from all over the globe, featuring mainly locally grown produce. The tortilla soup is just right, and the savory beef-less meat loaf (of turkey, pork, and veal) is probably tastier than Mom's, and certainly lighter. At least two vegan entrées and plenty for lacto-vegetarians. A glassed pastry case reveals the dessert chef's daily array; Indulgence Sugar-Free Bakery is on-site. The California wine list offers plenty of affordable bottles and glasses, like a true bistro (with half-price bottles Tuesday-Thursday nights). Reservations advisable. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday; Friday lunch and weekend brunch; closed Sunday evenings and Mondays. Moderate, with inexpensive early-bird weeknight din-ners. — N.W.

Cantina Mayahuel 2934 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-283-6292. Here, vou're in a Latino-chic world, but don't be afraid to order simple things, like shrimp or beef tacos. Larry Auman, the owner-chef-artist, makes you feel you're in Mexico City or Veracruz with his masks and yellow-wash walls and those awesome, interesting tacos. The Caesar salad is wonderful, too. Try it with mahimahi or shrimp. Also look for specials like Chili Colorado (slowcooked beef) or Yucatán seafood stew with salsa, habanero, and ginger on black beans and rice. For all the folk-industrial glamour, we're talking Latin-American comfort food. This cantina is what San Diego should be: bicultural. Bring both languages. Open noon to 10 p.m.; closed Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Celadon 3671 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The menu was originally devised by a chef who cooked for the Siamese royal family. Some dishes taste luxurious, and all the dishes taste authentic — and carefully prepared. The regular entrées offer a choice of sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go straight to the Chef's Specialty items on the menu to find the best and rarest. Stuffed chicken wings are extraordinary, seafood soup *talay* is fabulous, and among the entrées, don't miss *choo chee duck* or the Queen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Lunch Monday through Saturday, dinner nightly. — *N.W.*

Crab Hut 4646 Convoy Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1678, A local Vietnamese family runs this friendly, bare-bones eatery, specializing in Louisian-oid fried seafood and boiled seasoned shrimp, crabs, and crawfish. Whatever you order, you'll have a great time suckin' da heads and getting smeared with red sauce (bibs are provided and needed). But this isn't N'awlins - instead of seasoning by the boil alone, the crabs and crawfish are drenched in thick, spicy sauces ("medium" means "cayenne-loaded"). And the light, tasty seafood gumbo with crisp veggies is more Asian than Cajun. Check the hanging board near the back for the specials and current crawfish condition. Live season runs from November through spring. Fried catfish filet and shrimp with lemon-pepper sauce are particularly savory. No reservations, no veggies. Crowded parking lot; come early on weeknights. No alco-hol; no BYO. Inexpensive to moderate. — N W

Darband Fifth Avenue Grill 1556 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-230-1001. Darband is named after an exotic mountain resort north of Tehran. Quite a contrast to this sloping office-and-carpark strip of Fifth. Lunchtimes, office workers fill the tables. Evenings feel more, well, Persian. It's mostly men, some playing backgammon, talking, ar-



guing, laughing. With all the Farsi flying round, it feels like a local café back in Tehran. Food is good, fresh, regular Persian. Khoresh Bademjan is a tasty baby eggplant and beef stew. Barg is a safe bet, too — marinated beef tenderloin with rice. So is the vegetarian plate, though the veggie wrap's cheaper. Of course, kabobs star, as do yogurt-y, cucumbery, minty flavors. Open lunch and dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — E.B

De'Medici Cucina Italiana 815 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-7228. This lovely, cream-and-sepia dining room evokes an Italian Renaissance villa, while its sidewalk patio offers a prime pageant of Gaslamp follies. Either way, you'll enjoy exceptional service – attentive but utterly unobtrusive - and a menu centered on succulent pastas and refined seafood dishes. The nightly specials and the waiter's recommendations for the freshest catch will lead you to the evening's best entrées. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering; Atlantic shellfish, though, tend to be a tad overcooked. Reserve, and dress on the spiffier side - some Hollywood celebs hang their Borsalinos here, upping the clothing curve. Dinner 5 p.m.to 11 p.m. weekdays, 5 p.m. to midnight weekends. Valet parking available. Moderate (simpler pastas) to very expensive. - N.W. European Market & Deli 4135 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-298-8661. Basically a Greek deli, but charming, especially if you're into pa-tios. Inside has painted grapes, hanging copper pans, and framed pictures of Paris cafés. The most popular dish is the lemon-roasted chicken, but if you love lamb, Paul's Special, with potatoes, salad and pita - Fridays and Saturdays only - is the way to go. (They do offer lamb sandwiches daily.) Other good dishes include the Veggie Diabolou pita sandwich (hot and spicy), the ground beef mous-saka plate (eggplant, potatoes, and bechamel sauce), Greek chicken soup and, of course, gyros. But go just to play bon vivant on the patio. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, till 5:30 p.m. Saturday. Inexpensive. - E.B. Extraordinary Desserts — Banker's Hill 2929 Fifth Avenue, Banker's Hill, 619-294-2132. Patrons looking for a quiet dessert still cling to the original charming cottage near Balboa Park. Those wanting more of a meal head for the newer Little Italy location

a vast, noisy space with industrial-chic decor and a menu of eclectic small plates — mezze spreads, bruschetta, sandwiches, and cheese plates. Flavors tend to be intense; some creations (such as a bacon-cured salmon sandwich and pantelleria, a celery-date spread) are wonderful, others are exhausting even in small portions. Both locations offer pastry cases full of desserts that live up to extraordinary," to eat on-site or to take home. Chef-owner Karen Krasne incorporates flavors inspired by the global reach of her travels, from the cooking schools of Paris to the rice fields of Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Wines (including champagnes), beers,

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A host of Ala Carte Dishes, Pastas, Cakes and Breads

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Trellises

Garden Grille

• Smoked Salmon and Shrimp on Ice

Fresh Fruits and Imported Cheeses

and-operated restaurant for wonderful Lebanese and Greek food. The owner, a noted artist, displays his paintings on the dining room walls. The extensive menu offers excellent lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and a wide selection of exotic vegetarian meals. Copious all-youcan-eat buffet available at lunch or dinner in addition to the regular menu. Given 24 hours, this café will prepare an astonishing Lebanese feast at low cost. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.W.*

fruit elixirs. Vegetarian-friendly menu

Both locations open seven days, three

meals. Uptown location desserts only,

Fairouz Café and Gallery 3166

Midway Drive, Midway District, 619-

225-0308. Seek out this family-owned-

all day. Moderate. — N.W.

Gaslamp Pizza 505 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-231-7542. This is one of those late-night pizza joints that comes alive around two, crammed with barflies looking to sober up and settle arguments that seemed so important back in the bar. But the pizzas are good and thin-crusted, and it's fun sitting on the park bench outside watching the Fifth Avenue drama. Pepperoni's the most popular, but vegetarian is better, and the BBQ chicken has a nice sweet gloopy taste. Also check out their chicken pesto pizza, and you can't go wrong with their chicken wings or "halapeno peppers." Greek and Caesar salads are also available. Open daily from eleven. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Georges on Fifth 835 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-0444. This steakhouse is in a historic building that was once a hangout of Wyatt Earp - it now boasts faux-Victorian decor and amusing wall art. Formerly Roger's on Fifth, was owned by former mayor-felon Roger Hedgecock: now Roger's rabbited and left it to his partner George Har-rington. It's still wildly popular with conventioneers on expense accounts. The menu offers Prime and ultra-Prime steaks, some of it at jaw-dropping prices — although entrées do include free vegetables. Ask for sauces on the side unless you like them thick and heavy. Some of the best items are non-beef: the cold seafood appetizers ("lobster martini," oysters, tuna tartare) and a juicy grilled pork chop. Good range of wines at normal to slightly high markups; full bar. Valet parking; cheaper lot through alley next to restaurant. Dinner nightly. Expensive to extreme. - N.W.

Hawthorn's Restaurant 2895 University Avenue, North Park, 619-295-1688. When this long-standing Banker's Hill restaurant moved to spiffy (if quite noisy) new digs here, the change proved positive in every way. Menu choices are now fewer but better, with superior ingredients including varied and seasonal locally grown vegetables matched to the individual entrées. The kitchen now does more from scratch, and you can taste all these improvements on the plate. The fare is Mediterranean-American with Mexican touches. Most desserts outsourced. Wide-ranging wine list, full bar, corkage a reasonable \$15. Reservations recommended, especially on weekends. Expensive. — *N.W.*

Heaven Sent Desserts 3001 University Avenue, North Park, 619-793-4758. The developing district around the North Park Theatre desperately needed a bakery, and Heaven Sent arrived and then happily upgraded to a more professional operation in 2008. Now you'll find a full range of desserts including cookies, tarts, pies, custards, puddings, and intricate cakes and ice cream fantasias. The style is rich and often fancy, with choices ranging from hearty American favorites to ethereal (but not low-cal or low-carb) Euro-style elaborations on the theme of sweet. To drink: coffee, excellent espresso, teas, hot chocolate, Italian sodas, and fruit juice. Open daily, breakfast until after dinner. past 11 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays. — N.W.

Illume Bistro 675 West Beech Street, Little Italy, 619-550-5600. The menu of this trendy, convivial spot was shaped

Lunch or Dinner for Two \$12.50 \$11.95 Includes: Includes: 12 pc. Calif. Maki, 10 pc. Nigiri 6 pc. Tekka Maki, 2 pc. Fried Shrimp, 6 pc. Kappa Maki 2 pc. Snapper & 2 pc. Teriyaki Salmon & 6 pc. Calif. Maki Offers valid at Chiba II location only. With this ad. Expires 4-23-09. CHIBA 10435 San Diego Mission Rd. • 619-584-1836 (Corner of Rancho Mission & S.D. Mission Roads) Large beer & GRAND OPENING small sake CHIBA II 10645 Tierrasanta Boulevard ^{\$5.95} (In Albertsons Center) • 858-279-1845

by celeb chef Brad Ogden, an upstairs neighbor in the building who served as consultant. It offers California grazing cuisine with a Mediterranean accent featuring natural, sustainable, seasonal food products in simple preparations and medium-size portions, designed for sharing. The smart, heavily Italian wine list is mainly affordable with plenty by the glass, plus full bar. Ample street parking, plus two pay lots on the block. Lively bar scene, loud but not painful. Casual. Reserve for table seating; restaurant often full. Open daily, 4 p.m. until 1 a.m. Moderate. — N.W.

Indigo Grill 1536 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-6802. This second - and much grander — incarnation of chef Deborah Scott's Indigo Grill expands her original Native-American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Now, the Pacific Coastal cuisine takes in more coast than most, drawing upon ingredients and techniques from Alaska to Oaxaca. (The decor, dark and urban-primitive, follows the theme.) Unexpected combinations are a mainstay; a single dish, such as the seafood *mixto*, may span the entire dis-tance, bringing together a multitude of flavors that work together to create a wondrous whole. Fine breads are made in-house, as are desserts (try the decadent, crispy-creamy plantain cheesecake flautas). The wine list includes interesting varietals. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly; closes early Sundays, but open until 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Lunch: inexpensive to moderate; dinner: moderate to expensive. — A.M.

Islander Grill 3645 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-297-3929. Here's a chance

BRIAN'S

RESTAURA

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to sample the unique tropical cuisine of Guam, an island at the crossroads of the South Pacific. The cooking includes traces of Mexico, the Philippines, Japan, and Hawaii - all filtered through the spicy Chamorro palate. Try the chicken *kelaguen*, a citric salad resembling ce-viche, or the brilliant coconut shrimp (available as a starter or entrée). Stews are flavorful: The saucy ipot roasti is def initely not your mother's, unless Mom's from Guam, and the chicken stews are equally savory. Other choices include a range of salty, teriyaki-style barbecued meats, barbecued chicken in a less salty marinade, plus numerous exotic appe tizers. Free parking in small hotel lot. Everything available for take out. No alcohol. Lunch through dinner daily, early dinner Sundays. Very inexpensive. -N.W.

Jayne's Gastropub 4677 30th Street, Normal Heights, 619-563-1011. You'll find great appetizers for sharing herenot pub grub, but fine, sophisticated southern-European treats like savory hummus, tasty fried calamari, and Spanish-style shrimp with garlic. Main courses run to comfort food and are rather a matter of taste — the younger drinking crowd eats 'em up, while seasoned gastronomes aren't always as en-thusiastic. Either way, it's a hip, nabe hangout for those who can handle earbusting noise. In good weather, seating on the back patio relieves the sonic over-load. Full bar with excellent wine and beer choices. One vegan entrée, one vegetarian-adaptable pasta. Dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Appetizer dinners moderate, mains moderate to expensive. — N W

Napa Valley Grille 502 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-238-5440. This restaurant at the top of Horton Plaza is staffed by professionals and the food is very good, including the excellent grilled calamari. There is an elegant homeyness to Napa Valley Grille, a comforting, satisfying dining experience. Moderate to expensive. — *M.N.*

Phil's BBQ — Midway District 3750 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-226-6333. Although Phil grills his BBQ (rather than slow-smok-ing it), he must be doing something right. He is: That sweet, rich rib sauce he invented is one thing. The fall-off-the bone pork and beef is another. The sweet baked beans a third. Plus, the restaurant is a rabbit-warren that grew, but it's kidfriendly, has open wash-basins for your greasy mitts, and has paper towel rolls at every table. Ribs can be expensive, but a quarter-rib (four bones) will fill you fine. A great second-best is the BBQ sandwich with char-grilled pork shoulder. Remember: you'll get pork unless you specify beef. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Pierre's Place 1404 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-727-4700. Guys twirl pizza dough like they were in Cirque du Soleil. Other kids run back and forth cooking, serving. Who'd guess they're all homeless teens who live and study here at the Toussaint Center? This eatery's new, smart, a mix of quarry stone, blond wood, sea-green chairs, red walls, brown leather couches, and full bookshelves. Food's good, too. You might say nouvelle Italian-Californian. Think California Pizza meets Father Joe. Interesting dishes like Florentine breakfast panini, Tuscan chicken panini (nice and squelchy with provolone, red peppers, pesto), and the Italian Special (toasted Italian roll with salami, ham *capicola*, provolone). The "vanillages" gelato, with bits of apple pie, ain't half bad either. 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Pizza Fusion 3827 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-278-0057. This may be the greenest eatery in town. It's part of a chain, but a green chain. The foods are organic, the restaurant's walls and floors are made of renewable bamboo, the bar is recycled old bottles, and natural light pours in through solar tubes. The drinking straws are corn-based and biodegradable. They even deliver their pizzas in hybrid cars. The food? The pizzas are odd-shaped but fresh and tasty, with multigrain oval crusts, plenty of veggies, cheese, and sweet Italian sausage. Try Bill's Pizza (includes organic NY strips) and wash it down with MateVeza ale that's also an energy drink. All this does not come cheap, but watch for happy hour specials. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive to moderate. -FR

Puerto la Boca 2060 India Street, Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Argentines love their beef and they love it lean and wholesome — free range and grass fed. That's what you'll find at this uncompromisingly authentic outpost of Buenos Aires cuisine. The great national entrée is the mixed grill (*parrillada*) for two or more — a massive meatarama featuring numerous grilled cuts of marinated beef, chicken, and sausages. Start with luscious beef or corn empanadas or, if you're feeling hungry and adventurous, matambre (rolled beef galantine). Not a steak lover? Try the shrimp *la boca*. Don't eat meat? There are vegetarian pastas and pizzas. Gnocchi (*ooquis*) are served only on the 29th of each month. International, affordable choice of wines, plus Latin and U.S. beers. Full bar. Patio dining. Daily lunch and dinner hours, with dinner menu all day Friday and Saturday. — N.W.

Sausage King 811 West Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-297-4301, Not too many delicatessens in the county still make their own sausages, luncheon meats, and jerky. But the German couple who run this place do. They make an unbelievable 34 different sausages and luncheon meats, plus 10 different smoked meats like turkey, beef, Westphalian ham, Black Forest ham, and even bacon. For lunch they will make you a really cheap bun-sandwich filled with anything from homemade liverwurst to blood sausages to salami. Two would really fill you up. As with the nearby cheese shop (see Venissimo), the Starbucks at Falcon and Washington is a good place to chow down this unique sausage experience. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — É.B.

Sidebar Deli 225 Cedar Street, Downtown, 619-525-1444. The motto of this place is "Every day's a good day, but some days are better than others." It certainly applies to the Sidebar, just because the daily specials can be gone in a flash. Students have fought class actions to secure lunch specials like spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread. Of course there are always breakfast burritos, Over 900 more restaurant listings at SanDiegoReader.com



breakfast sandwiches like bacon or sausage and cheese, French Dip sandwiches, or California wraps. Open to the public, breakfast and lunch, weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Sister Pee Wee's Soul Food 2971-1/2 Imperial Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-236-0470. One of the oldest, best soul food cafés in the county. Sister Pee Wee says her lunch and dinner menu depends on what she feels like cooking that day —you might find big pork ribs with mashed red-skin potatoes, blackeyed peas, collard greens, and two-inchthick corn bread, or Southern-fried chicken, or catfish fillet with all the trimmings. Sister's special is chitlins and catfish. (Call ahead about the availability of chitlins.) Breakfast includes eggs, bacon, ham, sausages, and homing grits. Weekdays 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday to 4 p.m., Sunday closed. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*





Breakfast





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Dinner

Late Night

Lunch







Soleil @k 660 K Street, Downtown, 619-446-6088. The fare here is simple California cuisine that won't scare the conventioneers, but the outdoor dining patio is a nice spot for a light meal. The spiffy, chrome-detailed interior, with an open kitchen, offers the option of eating with strangers at long tables or booking a large party of your own but be prepared for noise (even when the room's empty, the music is pumped up party-loud). Starters may include a seasonally available fried-calamari salad and crabby crab sticks. Desserts are witty as well as tasty; entrées are unmemorable. Long international wine list with some "finds"; full bar. Service is variable. Validated valet parking. Open daily, three meals. Moderate to expensive. - N.W.

Starlite 3175 India Street, Mission Hills, 619-358-9766. No pedestrian pub grub at this lounge — nearly all the major staffers are protégés of now-departed Michael Stebner, conduit of the Alice Waters's ethos of local and natural. Chefs hang out here off duty. The seasonal menu of California-Mediterranean cuisine features naturally raised meats, house-made sausage platel), and local produce. The Jidori chicken and Prime flat-iron steak are knockouts, and for dessert let your inner child



commune with your outer adult over the irresistible toffee-chip ice cream sandwich. Short, smart, merciful wine list with French and California wines at way-below-average markups, scanty by the glass; special wine bottle discounts, Sunday & Monday. Full bar with creative cocktails. Happy hour, Monday-Saturday, 5-7 p.m. About seven lactovegetarian dishes, one for vegans. Age 21 and up only. Free parking lot attached. Dinner nightly, moderate. — *N.W.*

The Strip Club 340 Fifth Avenue Downtown, 619-231-3140. This grillyour-own steak joint is a homage to Golden Hill's Turf Supper Club - but if Turf is a low-budget indie cult film, Strip Club is the Gaslamp's big, brassy high-budget Hollywood remake (even though prices, like those of movie tick ets, are roughly the same). It's loud and handsome, and if the USDA Choice steaks (available in numerous cuts) are not quite as flavorful as Turf's, they're still good enough for the price — and you can take them up a notch with numerous spice blends and sauces on hand at each gas grill. Other choices include burgers, chicken breast, ahi tuna steak, and meat or seafood kabobs (the shrimp is particularly good, with pep-pers, onions, and meaty hunks of portobello mushroom). Entrées come with salad and puffy, cook-it-yourself garlic bread, resembling hamburger buns with gigantism. Six veg and starch side dishes (including two types of gluey mashed potatoes) are available at extra cost: desserts are commercial ice cream novelties. Casual, no reservations, street-patio dining available. Over 21 only, no minors even with adult accompaniment. Dinner nightly, open until 2 a.m. Inexpensive to moderate. -N.W.Venissimo Cheese 754 West Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-491-0708. Just don't ask for Velveeta here.

Everything else, they've got: 60-plus varieties of cheese, most from Europe. But a meal? Yes. You can get a baguette-style sandwich stuffed with cow cheese, sheep cheese, goat cheese, fruity, moldy, runny, stinky, any cheese in the house, same price, around five bucks. Even *Boschetto* cheese, with truffles in it, which sells at around \$30 per pound, or Napoleon's favorite, stinky *Epousses Berthaut*, or the beautifully tangy *Schloss*. Plus you get grapes or a pear to go with the sandwich. Where to eat it? Starbucks, a few doors down, usually doesn't mind. Coffee, bread, interesting cheese, fruit it's the perfect combo. Open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. —

Yakitori Yakvudori 3739 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-692-4189. Yakitori are the Japanese equivalent of satay or mini-kebabs - little grilled skewers of grilled or fried goodies, each marinated nd/or garnished to flatter its nature. Making a meal of them is as much fun as eating Spanish tapas — but more ex-otic. A highlight here is *kawasu* (chicken-skin salad, divinely tender and unrecognizable in its dressing). Tender fried tofu, skewered pork with shiso, chicken heart, and octopus fritters are among the standouts - but all variations of the less-challenging beef skewers are wonderful, too. Posters on the wall list the "top tens" of Japanese and American clients, and between them they'll guide you to the best dishes. Arrive early, preferably on a weeknight. No reservations, small restaurant fills up fast. Happy hour weeknights 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with discounts on drinks and appetizers. About six vegan dishes (if you discard bonito flakes) plus salads, tofu, rice. Gets noisy as night progresses. Dinner Wednesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. - N.W.

NORTH INLAND

Buca di Beppo — Mira Mesa 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822. People come here to celebrate, in party droves, by gobbling huge plates of "themed" Italian. Buca di Beppo ("Joe's Cellar") is a mighty national chain — but it works. Try the *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the popular chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff, but what the heck — you're having fun. Don't leave without conquering the mountainous, wicked Bella Festa, two huge balls of ice cream on double chocolate cakes running with sambuca sauce, caramel, and nuts on an 18-inch plate. Open for lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *F B*

California Pizza Kitchen -**Carmel Mountain** 11602 Carmel Mountain Road, Carmel Mountain, 858-675-4424. Two Beverly Hills lawyers started this chain in 1985 to exploit "the premium pizza segment." Some 150 restaurants later, guess it worked. The place is all shiny chrome, glass, etched palm trees, golden wood and black furniture, and two pizza ovens with real logs burning inside. The Original BBQ chicken pizza, the chain's first hit, is still their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. The BBQ chicken chopped salad is good too, as is the jambalaya. If you've got a sweet tooth, but are embarrassed to order Hawaiian pizza, try the pear and Gorgonzola. It has caramelized pears. caramelized onions, Gorgonzola and other cheeses, and hazelnuts. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

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Center 29000 Lilac Road, Valley Center, 760-749-8041. "Revels," as the locals pronounce it, is probably the best restau-rant in Valley Center proper, offering zesty, careful cooking with some unusu-ally authentic flavors. The Michoacánstyle carnitas (available in several "stuffed" dishes as well as an entrée) are outstanding for their moist smokiness and the house's slightly crunchy freshtomatillo version of salsa verde is exciting. Seafood is necessarily frozen (given the inland location), but is handled tenderly. In fact, everything's a good deal better than it has to be, given the lack of neighborhood competition. Definitely worth a stop-off when heading to or from the nearby casinos. Late breakfast through dinner daily. Breakfast specials Saturday and Sunday until noon. Family atmosphere, but watch out for karaoke nights (Wednesday and Saturday). Full bar (cantina attached). Inexpensive to low moderate, with some three-course seafood dinners high moderate. — N.W. A Delight of France 126 West Grand

A Delight of France 126 West Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-746-2644. This authentic French bakery is one of the best in the region, offering daily baked authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including a luscious almond croissant studded with nuts and laced with sweet almond paste. They claim to use all-organic ingredients, even the eggs, and locally grown produce. For a hearty breakfast, you can choose omelets, frittatas, French toast, and eggs. Lunch dishes include several savory tarts, a French deli plate, crépes, salads, and sandwiches. And ooh la la, there are dessert pastries, too. Open for brunch/lunch and pre-dinner snacks Tuesday through Saturday; lunch/brunch only on Sunday. Inexpensive. — N.W.

The French Market Grille 15717 Bernardo Heights Parkway, Rancho Bernardo, 858-485-8055. Ambience is served in generous portions at this ro-mantic establishment with elegant indoor dining or a charming garden set-ting. The wine list has over 50 selections, including several available by the glass and the varied menu offers Gallic dishes of duck, lamb, fish, veal, frog legs, and more. Most dishes are served with the usual French cuisine sauces, but if you're dieting, they'll gladly omit sauce. Ingredients and execution of the entrées can be inconsistent (e.g., some nights the fish is overcooked or the meat is tough other nights they're fine) but the crabcake appetizer is always outstanding. Save room for dessert, especially the ex cellent crème brûlée. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Moderate. — S.M.

Hunan 16719 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-8131. This casual family restaurant serves the cuisines of two spicy Chinese provinces, Szechuan and Hunan — each with its own dedicated chef — but both chefs tone the spice way down to a suburban American comfort level. If you don't already know the difference between these neighboring cuisines, you're unlikely to learn them here. But you can have an enjoyable meal: Tea-smoked duck, eggplant Hunan-style, and shredded potatoes with pickled vegetables are the outstanding dishes. If you're planning on a multicourse feast, order your meal a few dishes at a time or everything will be served at once; the staff is accommodating but limited-English. Over 20 vegan entrées. Full bar, Chinese beers, generic wines. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — N.W.

NORTH COASTAL

Americana 1454 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Housed in a historic building, this casual breakfast/lunch joint turns into a serious dinner house at nightfall. The cooking represents the American melting pot, featuring world-wide flavors. Mornings, along with flawless eggs Benedict and utopian waffles, you can get a "Roman breakfast" of prosciutto, mozzarella, and fried egg on English muffin. At dinner, don't miss the lamb chop and eggplant appetizer or the duck breast with fig sauce. During summer, some of the veggies come from chef-owner Randy Gruber's home garden; the french fries (which don't come from his garden) are world class. To finish, a banana tarte tatin shouldn't be resisted. Thoughtful, reasonable wine list. Breakfast (until 3 p.m.) and lunch daily, dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Kids' menu available. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive to moderate; dinner moder ate to expensive. - A.M.

The Bird House Grill 250 North Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. A great place to check out real Turkish cuisine. The inside has a fine collection of blue-and-white wall plates and blue glass eyes to ward off evil spirits. Try the house specialty, Iskender Kebab (ground meat kebab, rice, tomato sauce, and house-grown yogurt) — "Iskender" means "Alexander," as in Alexander the Great, still remembered as a mighty conqueror from Turkey to Afghanistan. Or the Kofte plate (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and *txatziki* sauce). The Shepherd's Salad is a traditional dish brimming with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, parsley, oil, and lemon. Good healthy Mediterranean diet. Even the baklavas are less gloopy. Open Monday to Saturday, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Knockout Pizza — Carlsbad 2959 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It's New York pizza only here. They make the pies with traditional thin, crisp crusts and toppings like pepperoni, meatball, garlic, and "whitestone" (mozzarella, Parmesan, ricotta, garlic, and spinach). Maybe their best is the "Bronx Special," an assortment of pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper and garlic. Open daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Market Restaurant and Bar 3702 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-523-0007. Market occupies an odd location, way out in the boonies of far-east Del Mar, but it's worth seeking out. The menu, which changes daily, is inspired by whatever seasonal foodstuffs chef-owner Carl Schroeder (formerly at Arterra) finds at the local produce market (Chino Farms) and from the nearby seas. Despite the ambitious food and prices, vibes are neighborhood restaurant — people are having a good time here, and so will you. For once, the appetizers and entrées are equally good, with no letdown. At our



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visit, boneless beef shortribs, North Atlantic monkfish, bluenose bass, and venison chops were all imaginative, with perfectly sized portions and intriguing sides. Appetizers may include celeryroot soup, Maine lobster salad, bleucheese soufflé, and a strudel of forest mushrooms and artichokes, all of them scrumptious — but the menu could be completely different when you visit, so be prepared. This is truly seasonal, local cuisine, and hurray for that. Dinner nightly. Reservations essential. Expensive to very expensive. — N.W.

El Q'ero 564 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-753-9050. You'll feel like a guest at an intimate party eating a leisurely dinner in this small, noisy, pretty dining room. Chef Monica Szepesy offers personalized, home-style renditions of South American cuisines, including house-made beverages. Be sure to try the house's chicha morada, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. The fare includes numerous types of empanadas, tapas-like small plates, and full-size entrées — most from the family homeland, Peru. Desserts vary nightly and can include a cloud-like *tres leches* cake. Vegetarian- and allergy-restricted diets accommodated. Lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday. Reservations necessary. Moderate. — N.W.

Saint Germain's Café 1010 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-753 5411. Despite the Parisian name, the food here is all-American. Omelets are the café's best-known dish - 14 variations of three-eggers (or Eggbeaters by request) served with toast or a muffin, plus tasty herb-strewn café potatoes or fresh fruit salad. But don't overlook the Belgian waffles, scrambles, pancakes, Louisiana sausages, or the three versions of expertly poached eggs Benedict with genuine hollandaise. Sandwiches run to hearty American classics (including some veggie choices), and along with beef burgers, turkey burgers, and veggie burgers, there are no fewer than six twists on lean charbroiled chicken breast on a burger bun. The sheltered patio is always crowded, but there's a large interior din ing room with a separate smoothiesand-ice-cream bar. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. - N.W.

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. This geranium splashed blue-and-white Bavarian chalet is more than a butcher's shop. It's a combination butcher-deli-diner. Enter through the bulging deli and listen for the shouts and clatter of serving ladies. Look for the "*Es ist Wunderbar*!" sign over the counter. Try German and American dishes like Big John's all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish with German potato salad and tradi-tional stuffed cabbage. Owner Big John is a heavyweight Olympic boxer from the former East Germany with an M.A. in meat sciences. Generous portions abound. Friday through Sunday after 4 p.m., he roasts his famous prime rib din ner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Trattoria Positano 2171 San Elijo Avenue, Cardiff, 760-632-0111. If you're tired of Italian restaurants, you'll be revitalized by this one. Original recipes, wonderful fresh fish, nightly specials, excellent lamb and pastas. Very warm atmosphere. A treasure. Reservations accepted for parties of four or more; expect a wait at prime dinner hours, especially on weekends. Lunch and dinner six days, Sundays dinner only. Upper moderate. -N.W.

SOUTH BAY

Asian Noodle 1430 East Plaza Boulevard, Suite E-12, National City, 619-477-5390. You've got to be a noodle fan to be into this. It's an outpost of the venerable Ma Mon Luk family's Filipino restaurant empire. Mr. Ma went to Manila from China nearly a century ago and introduced the idea of egg noodles in a chicken soup (instead of rice noodles). His now-famous soup (with beef or chicken these days) came to be called MaMi, (Mr. Ma's "Mi" — noodles). Yes, MaMi's a little bland, but it's filling, and their *siopao* (stuffed steam buns) make a good accompaniment. Most interesting is another invention Ma Mon Luk claims: sweet spaghetti. Inexpensive. — E.B.

Birrias, Chivos & Cheves — National City 2401 Highland Avenue, Suite 104, National City, 619-477-7600. This might be the nearest thing to the goat restaurant at Mercado Hidalgo, the Tijuana market known for its good food, including goat stew. Goat is what you get here, and it's good. Guadalajara style. The taste is rich but not too gamey. The family's specialty is great too: *quesabirria frita*, a kind of empanada with birria, Monterey Jack cheese, cream, and marinated purple onion, topped with mom's sesame salsa. Open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Chez Loma French Bistro 1132 Loma Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-0661. Occupying a charming, cozy historic cot-tage a few blocks from the Del, this very French bistro has ceased its previous de scent into decay, thanks to a change of owners in late 2005. They've introduced more careful cooking, fresher ingredients, more accommodating service. You'll still find all the classics of French bourgeois cuisine on the menu along with lighter, more modern dishes such as salmon crusted with horseradish. Don't miss the heartwarming Normandy-style onion soup flavored with apple cider. An adventurous wine list with interesting regional French bottles at modest markups adds to the pleasures. Three different three-course prix-fixe dinners (at varying prices) all offer good value, especially the early-bird super-bargain menu (\$24.95) available 4-6 p.m. nightly (all evening on Tuesdays). On Wednes-days, most wines are half price. Groundfloor dining room wheelchair accessible; specify when reserving. Dinner only,

Tuesday through Sunday. À la carte expensive. — *N.W.*

China Super Buffet 3007 Highland Avenue #9, National City, 619-336-9989. This buffet promises "over 100 items daily." Yellow-gloved girls constantly rove the rows checking, stirring, wiping. A lot of the stuff is very good, like the marinated baby octopuses that look like large blushing spiders, or the mussels in their shells, bubbling golden on top with melted cheese, and of course, roast beef au jus. If you must be healthy, they have groaning salad bars and adequate sushi. It's an incredible value. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

McDini's 105 East 8th Street, National City, 619-474-6772. Believe it or not, this is the oldest continually running restaurant in San Diego. Okay, they're not in the original location, which was at Fourth and Market downtown, but the same family has been serving corned beef and cabbage without a break since 1890. When the Dinis (they're actually Italian) finally sold out in 2008, the new owner gave it a makeover (check out the sparkling green circular booths) and put new emphasis on the diner aspect. Now you can get a hearty Irish breakfast like pork chops and eggs or corned beef omelet and lunch or dinner of meatloaf sandwich, fish and chips, or prime rib. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate E.B.

Mistral 4000 Coronado Bay Road, Coronado, 619-424-4000. Not just for tourists, but a lovely getaway for locals, the luxurious dining room with its wraparound windows on the bay is one of the most romantic spots in town with comfortable banquette seating, a view from every table, and an atmosphere that's quietly festive, not formal. The light, elegant, healthful Mediterranean-style cuisine (northern Italy and southern France) emphasizes seasonal ingredients, as local and sustainably raised as possible, including herbs and some fruits grown organically on the resort grounds. Combinations can be witty and a bit whimsical. An excellent wine list at very reasonable markups is strong on halfbottles. (If you want a tasting dinner with matching wines, speak to the knowledgeable, trustworthy sommelier.) Inexpensive validated valet parking at the porte cochere of the main lobby. Reserve a few nights ahead, as many dinners here are sold out or special events. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Expensive. — N.W.

Restaurant el Patio 410 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-9745. This family restaurant has hardly changed in 54 years. It has the easy feel of a place beloved by many of Chula Vista's multigenerational families. The food is oldfashioned, too. So don't expect anything new, unless you go for the Flying Saucer (fried tortilla stacked with beef, tomatoes, and a mound of salad). Otherwise just go for the tried and true: chile relleno, enchiladas, taco combo, and openfaced chiliburgers with fries. You should try El Patio's famous cheese sauce that smothers their shredded beef burrito. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Friday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m; Sunday 8 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

EAST COUNTY

Antica Trattoria 5654 Lake Murray Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-463-9919. This is the Italian cooking of joy. New York expats, especially, will rejoice to discover fabulous food and warm hospitality to equal their Manhattan favorites — in a La Mesa strip mall. The indulgent, ambitious, full-flavored dishes are made with uncompromised Italian ingredients (e.g., San Daniele prosciutto, imported fontina cheese) and the Sicilianborn chef knows just what to do with them. This is *abbondanza* — not just abundance in portion size, but in the soul-felt appreciation of the pleasure of life. Wine (with lots of interesting Italian bottlings) and beer. Reservations

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San Diego Reader April 9, 2009

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Calendar Restaurants

strongly advised. Moderate (pastas) to slightly expensive. — *N.W.*

The Hideout Steakhouse and Saloon 27413 Highway 76, Santa Ys-abel, 760-782-3656. If you're a Harley-Davidson weekend warrior, this is for you: an old dark timbered roadhouse peeking out of the trees, with its own spring-fed water wheel, 3000 feet up the mountains. Back in the thirties, Hollywood celebs (Roy Rogers, Alfalfa, et al.) used to hang out here on huntin' and fishin' trips. Now, bike enthusiasts make it their weekend day-trip destination. It still has a 1920s fireplace roaring at one end, a big pot-belly stove at the other, a honky-tonk upright piano, and a forty-foot-long oakwood bar. Cheeseburgers are the default dish. Available are a "Texas-sized baked potato," vegetables, salad, and squaw bread. Open Saturday and Sunday only. Inexpensive to moderate. — $E.\dot{B}$.

Paipa's Oasis (Sycuan Casino) 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002. Forget gambling — gamble through the slots till you pass under two huge elephant tusks. The "Joe and the Volcano"-style place with a fountain tower gurgling in the center is Paipa's. Pay the woman. Now decide: a lot of a little, or a little of a lot. The huge salad bar is surrounded by a groaning Ushaped table laden with everything from peel-and-eat shrimp to baked cod to Certified Black Angus prime rib. Keep coming back. Save them from throwing away this stuff. End with, say, strawberry cheesecake and coffee. Unlike the other suckers, you've gotten a return on your money. Moderate. — *E.B.*

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Is the Wild West dead? Not out here. Swagger in past the rocking chairs on the wooden porch, by the "NRA meets here, every 3rd Wednesday, 7 p.m." sign, past bows and arrows, dream catchers, lariats, and brass spittoons, and swing into a chair. Now think vintage American food. Hefty anytime-breakfasts include two eggs, hash browns, biscuits, and coffee or eggs with chicken-fried steak or a bulging veggie omelet. ("With syrup" breakfast items, such as pancakes, stop at 2:30 p.m.) Their sourdough cheeseburger with fries or potato salad is big, or delve into a bowl of chili. Folks hereabouts talk about that chili in low, reverent voices. For dinner, the rib eye steak or pork chops is good enough to make city folks swoon. Three meals daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room 7777 University Avenue, La Mesa, 619-713-6777. The original Turf Supper Club was bought out by its landlord. The suburban reincarnation in a larger, noisier, retro road-house adds giant side dishes and desserts. You still cook your own Choice steak (or burger, fish, Portobello, or kebabs) on the communal grill, and (with luck) your server brings your sides when you get back to your table. The rib eye is tougher, but a bargain-priced sirloin and a "Kansas City" loin are fine, while a raw fish du jour, huge porterhouse, filet mignon, and tender precooked BBQ pork spareribs are new options. Onion rings, bacon baked beans and wedge salad are delish sides; the macaroni is babyish and the limp corn tastes canned. For dessert, try chocolate malt crème brûlée. The "bacon chocolate cake" tastes like cake mix with canned frosting, but that bacon in the center is addictive. No reservations for parties smaller than eight. For those under 21, it's 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. only. Lots of choices for vegetarians. Dinner nightly until midnight, until 2 a.m. weekends. — N.W.

User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Sushi Diner, Linda Vista

Sushi Diner is a hidden gem in the Kearny Mesa/Linda Vista/East Clairemont Mesa area. My wife and I are always looking for good sushi and this is some of the best I've ever had. The decor is surf/reggae themed, the staff is just amazing, and the sushi (especially their crunch roll) is just amazing. I highly recommend anyone who loves sushi to try it here. By **daphelps** 3:51 p.m., Mar. 30

Berta's Latin American Restaurant, Old Town

Berta's is a cozy gem hidden in the back streets of Old Town. Berta, the smartly dressed and charming owner, apprised us of the evening's specials and their prices (a very helpful touch). Mother ordered the Tortilla Española, a savory potato and feta cheese sauce pie—so delicious she didn't want to share. My partner ordered the Spanish Lemon Saffron Chicken Stew, a complex, spicy, aromatic dish with flavors reminiscent of the Caribbean. I ordered one of the evening's specials, the seafood soup. Before continuing, I feel compelled to mention that seafood soups have always disappointed me; they were either too salty, the seafood was overcooked, or there was more broth than seafood. Finally, I'm able to report that Berta's served me the best seafood soup I've ever had! It was overflowing with clams, mussels, and fish, and the surprising and wonderful addition of pieces of sweet plantain, bathing in a luxurious spicy tomato-base and coconut milk broth to create a complex soup that was tangy with a hint of sweetness and a perfect complement to the seafood. Berta's is highly recommended for its welcoming ambiance, moderate prices, and excellent food. By **goadri** 11:54 a.m., Apr. 4

Sipz Fusion Café, Clairemont

Spring forward. Spring roll. One of the best things about Vietnamese food is cool, fresh spring rolls. Sipz Fusion Café offers two different kinds of these little vegetarian delights with their sheer rice-paper negligees. The Fusion Rollz, filled with carrot, jicama, basil, and soy "beef" strips, are hearty and filling. The Fresh Summer Rollz, with lettuce, mint, bean sprouts, vermicelli noodles, and tofu, are lighter and probably the more exemplary version. Both are served with homemade peanut sauce. They also have Crispy Rollz, which are the fried version, sometimes referred to as egg rolls in other Asian restaurants to distinguish them from fresh spring rolls. Many places serve egg rolls, but Sipz's Crispy Rollz are especially tasty. They're definitely crisp and not greasy or soggy. These cabbage-filled tasties are the kind of thing that one craves in the middle of the night. All menu items at Sipz are 100 percent vegetarian, and many selections are totally vegan, including all of their desserts. Plus, Sipz is a veritable soup heaven! They have at least nine different varieties of vegetarian soups, including pho, which is traditionally a beef-broth noodle soup, and tom kah, the velvety tart and savory coconut soup infused with lemongrass and ginger but with no meat, fish, or fowl to foul it up. Then there are the Bowlz. There are salad bowlz, rice bowlz, noodle bowlz, and main bowlz. Sipz features mostly Vietnamese and Chinese dishes served with mock chicken, beef, fish (even mock shrimp), tofu, or vegetables. The "beef" with broccoli and the walnut "shrimp" are two of my favorites. You will need to ask for plates if you want to share. They don't mind. Sipz recently added vegetarian sushi to their menu, something I've yet to try. Guess I'll have to spring back

By **Mango** 5:09 p.m., Apr. 5

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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.

Adventureland — Coming-of-age comedy with airs. Jesse Eisenberg for all intents and purposes plays an extension of his pretentious youth in The Squid and the Whale, a virginal egghead ("I read poetry for pleasure sometimes") obliged to take a minimum-wage summer job at a Pittsburgh amusement park while awaiting admission to the Columbia School of Journalism. He's still credible in the part if a little less fresh. Martin Starr, in a supporting role as a coworker and fellow egghead who gives the gift of Gogol after a first date, is no less credible and a little more fresh. And as the protagonist's idealized dream girl with a dark secret, Kristen Stewart, seen with greater regularity on screen, is a lot less fresh if also still credible. Mixed in with the superior airs are steady doses of toilet humor for the multiplex groundlings, plus a sizable population of cardboard adults. With Ryan Reynolds, Bill Hader, Kristen Wiig, and Margarita Levieva; written and directed by Greg Mottola. 2009. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: CHULA VISTA 10: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MIS-SION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20:



OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROME-NADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

Alien Trespass — To feel affection for the grade-Z science-fiction films of the Fifties, especially as their descendants get ever more deluxe, is perfectly natural and no cause for shame. (A Not-Guilty Pleasure.) To set out in the 21st Century to make a grade-Z science-fiction film of the Fifties, purportedly shelved and now salvaged, is another matter. It is, from whichever end you choose to look at it, the height of unambition or else depth of ambition, striving for badness, winking at badness, absolving badness. Director R.W. Goodwin, a veteran of the X-Files series, does a decently good job of the badness, as well as a decently good job of suppressing his smirks over it. At feature length, the joke inevitably wears thin, but it can be unexpectedly plumped up again at a moment's notice, as when, for example, the townsfolk and the invading monster come together at a screening of The Blob at the local bijou. The joke there, or at least the funny part of the joke, is not that the movie-within-the-movie mirrors the movie-without (a monster amok at a movie theater); the joke, rather, is the attractive notion that anyone ever would have been moved to scream out loud at a thing like The Blob. You still might be better off watching The Blob itself or one of its actual contemporaries, wherein, for all the

achieved badness, the filmmakers were trying their level best. That's not only nobler; it's funnier. Eric McCormack, Jenni Baird, Robert Patrick, Dan Lauria, Jody Thompson. 2009. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

A (Inteloritor ontenino)

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)

The Black Balloon — The embarrassments of having an ADD autistic brother when you're trying to fit in at a new school: him running down the street in his undies and into a stranger's house to use the toilet, him smearing poo on the rug, him popping your new girlfriend's tampon into his mouth, etc. The embarrassments extend to the mawkish uplift. With Rhys Wakefield, Luke Ford, Toni Collette, Erik Thomson, and Gemma Ward; directed by Elissa Down. 2008. • (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

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 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, Iulia Ormond, 2008. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 blackand-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



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In theaters April 17.



Almeida, Lou Diamond Phillips, 2008 ★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Class — Free adaptation of Francois 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-bvthe-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; FLOWER HILL 4;

GASLAMP 15)

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 Crashlike 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)

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button — The central conceit, and little else, has been retained from an F Scott Fitzgerald short story of the same name: a protagonist who ages in reverse. (The story of course was written and titled before the soundalike name of Benjamin Britten came to fame, and as long as they were changing everything else....) With a script by Eric Roth, and with an historical scope and a "special" hero that often recall his script for Forrest Gump, the movie is at some pains to shore up the plausibility of the tale — a painful undertaking for sure - and to expunge the humor of it. On screen, nothing is more absurd about it than its length, two and three-quarters hours, plenty long enough to read the Fitzgerald story five or six times over. And its wistful theme of transience frankly gains very little from the reverse-aging phenomenon, nowhere near as much as you'd want to gain from so mindbending a device. The theme, moreover, gains nothing at all from the movie's feeling of interminability. Director David Fincher, determined to show his softer side, softer than Zodiac and Panic Room and Fight Club and so on, manages first and foremost to show his technical side. The movie is replete with proficiencies of production (the periods are lavishly detailed, the brief tugboat battle with an enemy sub in WWII is dazzling, the duplex love nest is a splendid locale, etc.), and it serves as a virtual showcase for the art of makeup and/or art of digital touch-up, digital airbrush, digital prestidigitation, whatever went into the various aging effects on Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett. The seamless surgery by which the leading man's head has been grafted onto bodies of different sizes is used, in this instance, responsibly. But it raises unsettling possibilities for the evolutionary next leap in screen body doubles. What's to prevent another filmmaker from putting Brad Pitt's head, in service of vanity, on Michael Phelps's body? Cate Blanchett's on Giselle Bündchen's? With Taraji P. Henson, Jason

Flemyng, Jared Harris, Tilda Swinton, Julia Ormond, 2008. ★ (GASLAMP 15; LA PALOMA, FROM 4/10)

Doubt — From the prize-winning stage play by John Patrick Shanley, an ambiguous drama of possible priestly pedophilia at a Catholic school in the Bronx. The playwright, perhaps best known to moviegoers as the writer of Moonstruck and 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 IFK 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 unforeseeable little diversions, inventions, stratagems, embellishments. Philip Seymour Hoffman and Amy Adams, no slouches themselves, appear to enjoy their one scene alone together in the courtyard, no one to steal it from them, no

one to show them up or slap them down. With Viola Davis and Joseph Foster. 2008. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; GASLAMP 15)

Dragonball: Evolution — Action fantasy with Justin Chatwin, Emmy Rossum, and Chow Yun-Fat, directed by James Wong. (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASH ION VALLEY 18: GASLAMP 15: LA JOLLA 12: MIS-SION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14: TOWN SOUARE 14: FROM 4/10)

Duplicity — Entertaining enough game of industrial espionage, kicked off, behind the credits, with a slapstick soundless slo-mo fight on the tarmac between the ungainly Paul Giamatti and Tom Wilkinson. The repeated doubling-back in time proves to be more exasperating than clever, but writerdirector Tony Gilroy, going light after Michael Clavton, hasn't abandoned his conscience. And he has written some breezy dialogue, despite the major windbreak of Julia Roberts. On the other side, Clive Owen nicely holds up his end. 2009. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: FASHION VALLEY 18: FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14: LA COSTA 6: LA JOLLA 12: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10; TOWN SOUARE 14)

Fast and Furious — Stripped-down action sequel. Or anyway, the title is stripped down, dumping the definite articles and demoting the nouns to adjectives. The tricked-out action, meanwhile, barrels ahead with total disregard for lucidity or credibility. It's not precisely a reunion of the original four stars, Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Jordana Brewster, Michelle Rodriguez, inasmuch as before they can come together one of them gets bumped off. Thoughts then turn to revenge. Shallowly. Just the right depth for the juvenile target audience. ("Are we cool?" "Yeah, we're cool.") With John Ortiz, Laz Alonso, and Gal Gadot: directed by Justin Lin. 2009. • (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: FASHION VALLEY 18: GROSS MONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12;



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VISUALLY ENCHANTING." A FILM BY CHRISTOPHE BARRATIER FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "THE CHORUS"

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Best user comments from Reader website

Starship Troopers 1997

For me, this movie is my favorite one out of the whole series. For its time, Starship Troopers was pretty good. The movie is just another gung-ho killing movie like all the others, but it's got a different enemy other than Indians and cowboys. By robertferrari 1:49 p.m., Mar. 31, 2009

Knowing 2009

Creepy and unnerving. The movie's premise was interesting enough. A girl from 1959 hears voices and is able to predict the dates, locations, and number of people killed in various tragedies for the next 50 years. I thought this was going to be more of a sci-fi type film until about an hour into the movie when it morphed into some kind of strange scientology lesson involving whisper people and verses from scripture. The action sequences with a plane crash and a subway disaster are very realistic and very scary to watch. The only problem was that the ending could have been done so much better. By spooks69 7:48 p.m., Mar. 31, 2009

The Blob 1958

"...the joke, rather, is the attractive notion that anyone ever would have been moved to scream out loud at a thing like The Blob." Well, there are reasons to scream out loud at The Blob. I met a woman in '99, and we watched The Blob on a date. She had an open crush on Steve McQueen. We started noticing that McQueen seemed to be reading cards for dialog off-screen. We started screaming, "What are you looking at, Steve?" We went on forever and laughed a lot. I married her. By tcjohnston 3:29 p.m., Apr. 4, 2009

Two free UltraStar movie passes awarded to best three user reviews each week.

To write a User Review, visit SDReader.com, go to Movies pull-down, and click on Over 7000 Movie Reviews. Find the movie you want to review and post a comment.

Deadline for user reviews is 12 noon Monday.

MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20: OTAY RANCH 12: PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SOUARE 14)

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. ★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

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 appearances 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 Jav, Steve Zahn, and Griffin Dunne; written and directed by Sean McGinly. 2009. ★ (FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Hannah Montana: The Movie — Milev Cyrus vehicle, co-starring Billy Ray Cyrus, directed by Peter Chelsom. (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: TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 4/10)

The Haunting in Connecticut — A bedevilled family housed in a converted funeral home: flickering lights, banging doors,

charbroiled ghosts, a malignant shower curtain, and whatnot. It has the advantage of being a "true story," thereby curtailing certain kinds and degrees of excess. There is, even so, a routineness and a staleness about it; and in the direction of Peter Cornwell there's a compulsion to oversell it. The mass disentombment at the climax had no need to be oversold. Virginia Madsen, Martin Donovan, Elias Koteas lend it some useless respectability. With Kyle Gallner and Amanda Crew, 2009. ★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN

I Love You, Man — A guy comedy with an original angle. A woman's man with a well-developed feminine side suddenly feels the lack of a male comrade when the time comes to pick a best man, belatedly casting about for a buddy to cultivate. The lapses in taste - no, the eager, steady assaults on taste, the projectile vomit, the fart commen

ROGEN

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OUT AND MAKING YOU

PETER TRAVERS, RollingStone

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PERVASIVE LANGUAGE, GRAPHIC NUDITY,

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SOUARE 14)

tary, and so forth - lower expectations early on. But the personable Paul Rudd in the pivotal role has plenty of opportunity to show off his gifts, particularly in his forced efforts to be a guy's guy, more particularly when inanely or inarticulately tonguetwisted, the urge to be witty running way ahead of the brain's ability to come up with some wit. His spirited slippage into a Jamaican cadence is a crack-up. Jon Favreau does well, too, as a churlish noncontender for buddyhood. And, in the part of the leading contender, the least you can say for Jason Segel of Forgetting Sarah Marshall is that he keeps his pants on. With Rashida Jones, Sarah Burns, Jaime Pressley; directed by John Hamburg. 2009.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN: DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8: FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20: OTAY RANCH 12: PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Knowing — A schoolgirl's sealed submission to a time capsule fifty years ago seems to have predicted every major calamity up to the present and beyond. A couple of authentically nightmarish disasters and a couple of creepy moments with a group of silent stalkers known as the Whisper People provide small compensation for the dragged-out overwrought climax (the slow movement of Beethoven's Seventh once again gets dragged out, too) and the linger-



San Diego Reader April 9 , 2009



ing plot questions. With Nicolas Cage, Chandler Canterbury, Rose Byrne, and Lara Robinson; directed by Alex Proyas. 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 20: OTAY RANCH 12: PALM PROME-NADE 24: PLAZA BONITA 14: POWAY 10: RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Monsters vs. Aliens - Machine-made cartoon from DreamWorks, credited to codirectors Rob Letterman and Conrad Vernon. It posits a secret government quarantine of benign monsters modelled on such Fifties archetypes as the Blob, the fourfifths-human Fly (except now a Cockroach), Mothra, the 50-Foot Woman (a girlpower placebo), and the Creature from the Black Lagoon. None of the figures, human or non-, merits a second glance as a work of graphic art. And the insufferable insouciance of the premise, fully and accurately summed up in the title, hides behind a smokescreen of computer wizardry, 3-D diversion, jaded in-jokes, capitalist confidence. Hides, but not successfully. With the voices of Reese Witherspoon, Seth Rogen, Hugh Laurie, Will Arnett, Kiefer Sutherland, 2009.

• (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; FASH-ION VALLEY 18: GROSSMONT CENTER: HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24: PLAZA BONITA 14: RIVER VIL-LAGE 6: SANTEE DRIVE IN: TOWN SOUARE 14)

Observe and Report — Shopping-mall comedy with Seth Rogen, Anna Faris, and Ray Liotta, written and directed by Jody Hill.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15: GROSSMONT CENTER: LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 7: MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6: TOWN SOUARE 14: FROM 4/10)

Paris 36 - Shabby show biz, class conflict, religious bigotry in France entre les guerres. A meticulous production and a mincing manner. With Gerard Jugnot, Clo vis Cornillac, Kad Merad, Nora Arnezeder, and Maxence Perrin; directed by Christophe Barratier. 2008. ★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 4/10)

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

● (GASLAMP 15: MISSION MARKETPLACE 13: MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Sin Nombre — A heartbreakingly lovely Honduran emigrant (Paulina Gaitan) makes her perilous way, with father and uncle, through Mexico en route to Texas and New Jersey, her path converging with that

of a sensitive, pensive Mexican gangbanger (Edgar Flores), a teardrop tattoo by his right eye, who runs afoul of his blood brothers. First-time filmmaker Cary Koji Fukunaga offers a soft-hearted view of a hard world, seeking out tender innocence and then stomping it for our horror and pity. The illegal-alien film and the gang-life film are both genres that are prone to a certain sameness, and the combination of the two into one film doesn't produce a sense of differentness so much as a doubled same ness. Slickly done, nonetheless. 2009. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Slumdog Millionaire — Feverish daydream, partly amorous, partly avaricious, around an unschooled Bombay teenager who, hoping to reconnect with his childhood sweetheart, climbs toward the top prize on the Indian Who Wants to Be a Millionaire? It breaks down into three time zones, shuffled together in a jumble: the game show itself, the torture and third degree of the contestant by police who presume he's cheating, and the flashbacks to the life experiences that explain how he could answer the questions. Much squalor and brutality, but filmed by Danny Boyle with a heedless, almost uncaring, exuberance and exhibitionism. Dev Patel, Freida Pinto, Irfan Khan, 2008. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; HILL-CREST CINEMAS)

 ${\bf Sugar} - {\rm Minor-league\ moviemaking}$ about minor-league baseball. A Dominican pitching prospect learns a knuckle-curve, gets invited to spring training in Arizona and assigned to a farm club in Iowa: a fish out of water, or at best a little fish in a big pond. It's a bit flat and a bit rough around the edges, but it has some attentive detailing: the English-language class of useful words and phrases ("I got it! I got it!"), the kindly waitress who illustrates the different styles of egg in order to break the monotony of the foreigner's daily French toast, the prim farm couple who billet him during the summer season ("No chickas in the bedroom"), and so on. The modesty of the production carries through to a modesty of plotting: no great success in the offing. With Algenis Perez Soto, Ellary Porterfield, Richard Bull, Ann Whitney, and Jaime Tirelli; directed by Anna Boden and Ryan Fleck. 2009.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/10)

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 boxoffice mojo in the combination of Arkin and Sunshine. Clifton Collins, Ir., is easily the most appealing as the one-armed model-airplane hobbyist behind the counter of the cleaning-supplies store. Jason Spevack, Steve Zahn, Mary Lynn Rajskub, Eric Christian Olsen; directed by Christine Jeffs. 2009.

★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Tokyo — Anthology film in three parts, directed respectively by Michel Gondry, Leos Carax, and Joon-ho Bong. (KEN, 4/10 THROUGH 16)

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 a complete botch. Back tracks and tangents, though they have their uses, don't suit doomsday. And the climactic battle of indestructibles, a cliché no matter how extraordinarily talkative the combatants, adds instant boredom to the brewing boredom. Malin Akerman, Patrick Wilson, Billy Crudup, Jackie Earle Haley, Matthew Goode, Jeffrey Dean Morgan. 2009. • (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MIS-SION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Showtimes subject to change. (Bargain showtimes in parentheses.)

CENTRAL CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (877-789-6684) Adventureland (R); Dragonball: Evolution (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); Fast and Furious (PG-13); Hannah Montana: The Movie (G); The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG); Observe and Report (R); Race to Witch Mountain (PG)

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (877-789-6684) As It Is in Heaven (Not Rated); Che: Part One (R); Che: Part Two (R); The Class (PG-13); Crossing Over (R); The Curious Case of Beniamin Button (PG-13); Doubt (PG-13); Dragonball: Evolution (PG); Gran Torino (R); The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); The International (R); Observe and Report (R); Race to Witch Mountain (PG); Taken (PG-13)

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM) Adventureland (R); Coraline (PG); Duplicity (PG-13); Fast and Furious (PG-13); Hannah Montana: The Movie (G); Knowing (PG-13); The Last House on the Left (R); April 9, Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG); Watchmen (R); The Wrestler (R)

^{So}₂₀ La Jolla 12

Di 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262) Adventureland (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 1:35, 4:15, San

7:15, 10:05 Sun. 1:35, 4:15, 7:15, 10:05; Drag-**6** onball: Evolution (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35; Duplicity (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.

(10:05) 1:00, 4:00, 6:55, 9:55; Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00) 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30; The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:20) 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20 Sun. 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 10:20; He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:30, 3:35, 6:45, 9:50; I Love You, Man (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:45) 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25 Sun, 2:20, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 1:15, 4:10, 7:05, 10:00; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30) 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **Observe** and Report (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:25) 12:50, 3:20, 5:50, 8:20, 10:45; **Taken** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:20, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236) The Black Balloon (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:45) 6:45; The Great Buck Howard (PG) Fri.-Sun. (4:30) 9:25; **Paris 36** (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Sin** Nombre (R) Fri (2:00, 4:45) 7:15, 9:35 Sat -Sun. (2:00) 4:45, 7:15, 9:35; Sunshine Cleaning (R) Fri. (2:15, 5:00) 7:30, 9:55 Sat. Sun. (2:15) 5:00, 7:30, 9:55

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262) Adventureland; Dragonball: Evolution; Duplicity; Fast and Furious; Hannah Montana: The Movie; The Haunting in Connecticut; I Love You, Man; Knowing; Monsters vs. Aliens; Observe and Report; Taken; Watchmen

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Observe and Report** (R) (11:30 1:45 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Fast and Furious** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Monsters vs. Aliens 3D** (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:15; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:00 7:15 9:30; No 10:15 & 12:30 Wed.; No 7:15 Thu.; I Love You, Man (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 10:15 Sun.; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:15; No 10:30 Sun.; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day $(G)\ 10{:}30\ am$

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Mission Valley 20

Sat.-Sun. only

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262) **Adventureland** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20) 2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 10:05; **Dragonball: Evolution** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 12:35, 2:50, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55; **Duplicity** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:35 Sun. (11:15) 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30 Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 11:25) 12:05, 12:45, 2:05, 2:45, 3:25, 4:45, 5:30, 6:10, 7:30, 8:10, 9:00, 10:10, 10:50, 11:45 Fri.-Sun. (10:45) 1:25, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40 Sat. (10:10, 11:25) 12:05, 12:45, 2:05, 2:45, 3:25, 4:45, 5:30, 6:10, 7:30, 8:10, 9:00, 10:10, 10:50 Sun.: Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 11:45) 1:40, 2:25, 4:25, 5:05, 7:00, 7:40, 9:35, 10:20; The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) Fri. 12:10, 2:40, 5:25, 7:10, 7:55, 9:45, 10:30, 12:05 Sat. 12:10, 2:40, 5:25, 7:10, 7:55, 9:45, 10:30 Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 5:25, 7:10, 7:55, 9:45; I Love You, Man (R) Fri. (11:40) 12:25, 2:15, 3:00, 4:50, 5:35, 7:25, 8:05, 10:00, 10:40, 12:00 Sat. (11:40) 12:25, 2:15, 3:00, 4:50, 5:35, 7:25, 8:05, 10:00, 10:40 Sun, (11:40) 12:25, 2:15, 3:00, 4:50, 5:35, 7:25, 8:05, 10:00; Knowing (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:40) 1:30, 4:20, 7:05 10:00; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Fri. (11:10, 11:50) 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 4:40, 6:45, 9:15, 11:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 11:50) 1:40, 2:20, 4:10, 4:40, 6:45, 9:15; Observe and Report (R) Fri. (10:00, 11:35) 12:15, 1:55, 2:35, 4:15, 4:55, 6:40 7:20, 9:10, 9:50, 11:30 Sat.-Sun. (10:00, 11:35) 12:15, 1:55, 2:35, 4:15, 4:55, 6:40, 7:20, 9:10, 9:50; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:00, 10:25; Taken

(PG-13) Fri. 1:45, 7:45, 12:05 Sat.-Sun. 1:45, 7:45; Watchmen (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:25) 4:10, 10:15

STATE UNIVERSITY

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236) Tokyo (Not Rated) UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236) Alien Trespass (PG); Sin Nombre (R); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Sugar (R); Sunshine Cleaning (R)

San Diego Natural History

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821) Human Body (NR) Fri. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30 Sun, 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 5:00; Ocean Oasis (NR) Fri. 2:00, 4:00 Sat.-Sun. 12:00, 4:00

EAST COUNTY

Call theater for program information.

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (877-789-6684) Adventureland (R); Duplicity (PG-13); Fast and Furious (PG-13); Hannah Montana: The Movie (G); I Love You, Man (R); Know-

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15 2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264) SANTEE

Santee Drive In 10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447) Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; Knowing (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Fri.-Sun.; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) Fri.-Sun.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10 Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (11:45 2:15) 5:00 7:30 10:00; Observe and Report (R) (11:00 1:15 3:15) 5:30 7:30 9:45; **Drag**onball Evolution (PG) (11:30 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:30; Fast and Furious (PG-13) (11:15 1:45) 4:15 7:00 9:45; Adventureland (R) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:15 10:00; Monsters vs Aliens 3D (PG) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:30; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) (12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:15; **12 Rounds** (PG-13) (12:00 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; Knowing (PG-13) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:45 10:45; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262) Adventureland (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:40) 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:35 Sun. 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:35; Dragonball: Evolution (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 1:25, 3:40, 5:55, 8:10, 10:25; Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 11:30) 1:05, 2:05,

Museum

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18 405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10 ing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG); Observe and Report (R)

Call theater for program information.

3:45, 4:45, 6:25, 7:05, 9:05, 10:00 Sun. (10:30) 1:05, 2:05, 3:45, 4:45, 6:25, 7:05, 9:05, 10:00; Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 11:00) 12:30, 1:40, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:20, 8:00, 10:30; **The Haunting in Connecticut** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:25, 9:45; **I Love You, Man** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 1:50, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40; Knowing (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:25) 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45) 2:15, 4:40; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:20) 12:15, 1:00, 2:45, 3:30, 5:10, 6:10, 7:45, 8:45, 10:10; Observe and Report (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:45) 1:15, 3:35, 5:50, 8:15, . 9·55, 10·35

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (858-558-2262) Adventureland; Dragonball: Evolution; Du-plicity; Fast and Furious; Hannah Montana: The Movie; The Haunting in Connecticut; I Love You, Man; Knowing; The Last House on the Left; Monsters vs. Aliens; Observe and Report; Race to Witch Mountain; Taken: Watchmen

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) Adventureland (R); Dragonball: Evolution (PG); Fast and Furious (PG-13); Hannah Montana: The Movie (G); The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG); Observe and Report (R); 12 Rounds (PG-13)

NORTH INLAND **CARMEL MOUNTAIN**

Carmel Mountain 14

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (877-789-6684) Adventureland (R); The Class (PG-13); Doubt (PG-13); Duplicity (PG-13); Fast and Furious (PG-13); Hannah Montana: The Movie (G); I Love You, Man (R); Knowing (PG-13); Monsters vs. Aliens (PG); Observe and Report (R); Slumdog Millionaire (R); Taken (PG-13)

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119) Call theater for program information.

FALLBROOK **River Village 6** 5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (11:00 1:30) 4:15 7:00 9:30; Observe and Report (R) (11:30 1:45 4:00) 6:00 8:15 10:30; **Fast and Furious** (PG-13) (12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00; Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:30; I Love You, Man (R) (11:45 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Knowing** (PG-13) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:45 10:45; **Kidtoons** Presents Earth Day (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun.

only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu. No 11 am-3:00 pm shows Tues.-Thu.

POWAY

Poway 10 13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; Observe and Report (R) (10:00 12:00 2:15) 4:15 6:15 8:30 10:45; Fast and Furious (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Adventureland** (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 10:15 Sat. & Sun.; Will begin at 10:00 am on Wed. only; **Monsters vs. Aliens 3D** (PG) (10:00 10:45 12:15 1:15 2:30 3:45) 4:45 6:00 7:00 8:15 9:30 10:30; I Love You, Man (R) (11:15 2:00) 4:30 7:15 9:45; Duplicity (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 7:30 10:00; Knowing (PG-13) (11:45 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:15; Race to Witch Moun-tain (PG) (11:45 2:15) 4:45 7:15 10:00; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day (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)

Adventureland (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35, 10:10; Dragonball: Evolution (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 2:50, 5:05) 7:20, 9:35; Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:20, 12:00, 1:15, 1:50, 2:30, 3:50, 4:25, 5:05) 6:40, 7:10, 7:45, 9:10, 9:50, 10:25; Hannah Mon-tana: The Movie (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 12:00, 1:50, 2:35, 4:30, 5:10) 7:00, 7:40, 9:35, 10:10; The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:40) 8:00, 10:15; **I Love You, Man** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:20, 4:50) 7:30, 10:00; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:15, 5:00) 7:50, 10:25; **Monsters vs.** Aliens (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 11:45, 1:30, 2:15 4:00, 4:45) 6:30, 7:15, 9:00, 9:45; **Observe and** Report (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 1:30, 2:50, 3:40. 5:50) 7:25, 8:10, 9:40, 10:20; **Race to** Witch Mountain (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:05a.m.): Sunshine Cleaning (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 2:05, 4:35) 7:05, 9:30

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469) Duplicity (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:20) 5:10, 7:55; Fast and Furious (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:10, 2:35, 4:55) 7:15, 9:35 Sun. (12:10, 2:35, 4:55) 7:15: Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:00, 9:25 Sun (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:00; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:05, 3:15) 5:25, 7:35, 9:45 Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:15) 5:25, 7:35

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8 El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:15 10:30; Observe and Report (R) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:15 7:30 9:45; Dragonball Evolution (PG) (10:00 12:00 2:15) 4:15 6:15 8:30 10:45; Fast and Furious (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; Adventureland (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 10:15 Sat. & Sun.; Will begin at 10:00 am Wed, only: Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **I Love** You. Man (R) (11:15 1:45) 4:30 7:15 10:00: Knowing (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 7:45 10:45; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Flower Hill 4 2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)



The Class (PG-13) (2:45) 8:00 10:45; The Great Buck Howard (PG) (10:00 12:30) 5:30; Sunshine Cleaning (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; Duplicity (PG-13) (10:45 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:30; Slumdog Millionaire (R) (10:15 1:15) 4:15 7:00 10:00 No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

ENCINITAS

La Paloma 471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-SHOW) The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13) Fri. (5:40) 8:50 Sat. (2:30, 5:40) 8:50 Sun. (3:50) 7:00

LA COSTA

La Costa 6 6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G)(10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; Observe and Report (R) (10:00 12:00 2:15) 4:30 7:15 9:45; Sunshine Cleaning (R) (11:30) 7:30; Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; I Love You, Man (R) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 10:15 Sat. & Sun.; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (1:45) 4:45 10:00; Knowing (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:15; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13 Mission Avenue College Boulevard a (760-806-1790)



Hannah Montana: The Movie (G) (11:30 2.00) 4.30 7.00 9.30: Observe and Report (R) (11:45 2:00) 4:15 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Dragonball** Evolution (PG) (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:45; Fast and Furious (PG-13) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; Adventureland (R) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; Will also play at 10:00 am on Wed. only; Monsters vs. Aliens 3D (PG) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:30; Monsters vs. Aliens (PG) (12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **12 Rounds** (PG-13) (12:00 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; No 12:00 Sun. & Wed.; The Haunting in Connecticut (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45: I Love You. Man (R) (11:15 1:45) 4:15 7:15 9:45; **Duplicity** (PG-13) (11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30; **Knowing** (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:15; Race to Witch Mountain (PG) (11:45 2:15) 4:45 7:15 10:00 No 7:15 Thu.; Kidtoons Presents Earth Day (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733) Adventureland (R) Fri. (11:40, 2:15, 4:45) 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:40, 2:15) 4:45, 7:20 9:50; **Dragonball: Evolution** (PG) Fri. (12:00, 2:05, 4:10) 6:15, 8:20, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:05) 4:10, 6:15, 8:20, 10:25; Duplicity (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 3:40) 7:05, 9:55; Fast and **Furious** (PG-13) Fri. (11:55, 12:30, 1:45, 2:30, 3:00, 4:15, 5:00, 5:30) 6:45, 7:30, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:55, 12:30, 1:45, 2:30, 3:00) 4:15, 5:00, 5:30, 6:45, 7:30, 8:00, 9:15, 10:00, 10:30; **Hannah Montana: The Movie** (G) Fri. (11:30, 2:00, 4:25) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 2:00) 4:25, 7:00, 9:30; **The Haunting in Connecticut** (PG-13) Fri. (12:45, 3:10, 5:25) 7:45, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:45, 3:10) 5:25, 7:45, 10:05; **I Love You, Man** (R) Fri. (12:10, 2:40, 5:05) 7:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:40) 5:05, 7:25, 9:55; **Knowing** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 3:50) 6:50, 9:35; The Last House on the Left (R) Fri. (11:45, 2:25, 4:55) 7:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:25) 4:55, 7:40, 10:10; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) Fri. (12:05, 12:40, 2:20, 2:55, 4:40, 5:10) 6:55, 7:35, 9:10, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:05) 12:40, 2:20, 2:55) 4:40, 5:10, 6:55, 7:35, 9:10, 9:45; **Observe and Report** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:25, 1:35, 3:45) 6:00, 8:10, 10:20; **Race to** Witch Mountain (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:35, 4:50) 7:15, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:35) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; Watchmen (R) Fri. (1:00, 4:30) 8:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:00) 4:30, 8:30



All at a Loss

Nat talks about the "Kennedy curse" and the need to make sense of the senseless.

all your play *Rabbit Hole*, and you conjure images of a tardy white hare shouting "I'm late!" with a ticking clock tucked under one arm. Given David Lindsay-Abaire's other works — *Kimberly Akimbo*, about a teenage girl

aging four and a half times faster than normal, and *Fuddy Meers*, about a woman who wakes up every morning with a mind gone blank—you might expect another absurdist play about Lindsay-

Abaire's reigning theme: "outsiders in search of clarity." And he has written one, but with a twist: Becca began as an insider, but where the world once seemed "nice," now it makes no sense at all.

People recall the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice for his going to Hades to bring her back and his looking back too soon. What's often forgotten is how she died, and when. A snake bit her on their wedding day. According to people who keep score of these matters, losing one's bride/groom is the second worst loss of all. The worst: losing one's child.

Eight months ago, Becca's four-year-old son Danny chased a dog into the street and was hit by a car. Nothing can prepare you for that nightmare. Books and movies don't help. None can make it real enough, and when it happens, the



devastation is *really* real, and the world just empties out. For Becca, even the notion of a divine plan provides no solace (when friends say, "God needed another angel," she replies, "He's God! Why can't He just *make* another angel?"). And when peo-

> ple assure her they know what she's going through, she flips out. They remember their experience, Becca replies, which isn't the same. For Becca, the world looks idiotic. Her only consolation, and

it's remote, is the Quantum Theory of Immortality. Somewhere, in some other dimension or parallel universe connected to ours by "rabbit holes," Danny may still be alive (see "Field Notes"). Well, that and a cup of coffee will get you a cup of coffee.

Rabbit Hole won the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. What separates it from others on the subject: it's more about the difficulties of coping than weeping; it takes various perspectives on grieving without sounding like a psychological study; and it's often funny — as when Becca says, "People don't scream in your face for no reason," and her free-spirited sister Izzy replies, "Sure they do. You should get out more."

For the North Coast Rep, designer Marty Burnett makes Becca and Howie's living room,



Jo Anne Glover, Brendan Ford in Rabbit Hole

Rabbit Hole by David Lindsay-Abaire

North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987D Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach Directed by Stephen Elton; cast: Jo Anne Glover, Brendan Ford, Ryan Kidd, Jessa Watson, Sandra Ellis-Troy; scenic design, Marty Burnett; costumes, Michelle Hunt Souza; lighting, Matt Novotny; sound, Chris Luessmann

Playing through April 26; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 858-481-1055.

micro-realistic kitchen, and Danny's bedroom (a bedspread replete with robots) feel spacious on the small NCRT stage. At first sight, the interiors look "normal." Enter Becca, in a compelling performance by Jo Anne Glover, and every detail children's books, a dinosaur, fingerprints on the door — shouts that Danny is gone. We see as Glover sees. Even though she's folding clothes, baking pastries, or compulsively cleaning, Glover conveys the sense that Becca's living in a morgue. In the end, Glover moves almost imperceptibly, not toward resolution (there's no such thing in



<image><section-header><text>

Three members of a world-renowned string quartet bring in a female violinist to replace their volatile fourth player, as they ready themselves for an upcoming nationally-televised performance at the White House. Soon, the offstage travails of these five extraordinary individuals prove to be as complex and compelling as the Master's Grand Fugue. Rivalries, ambition, mortality, and their passions ignite and clash – in a world where harmony is easier in the spotlight than it is offstage. *For Mature Audiences*.

> (619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623) www.TheOldGlobe.org | GROUP SALES: (619) 231-1941 x2408

these matters, trust me), but a gradual easing of the burden.

The play presents daily life rendered strange by the unthinkable loss. People try not to offend. There's a whole vocabulary of verboten words and don't-go-there subjects (including gushy sympathy, which wore thin months ago). But they can only edit themselves for so long. At various points, one will go off on someone. The NCRT production could tweak the sudden outbursts: make the house more of a pressure cooker.

As if to prove that life isn't fair, Becca's sister Lizzy had an accident around the time the car hit Danny. She got pregnant. Jessa Watson provides consistent comic relief as the seemingly carefree ditz who, in the end, achieves a kind of clarity.

Brendan Ford (Howie), young Ryan Kidd (Jason, who drove the fatal car), and Sandra Ellis-Troy (Becca's outspoken mother Nat) all contribute: each has experienced loss and is in "a different place." The playwright puts one of his most apt observations in the guise of a tabloid exposé. Nat talks about the "Kennedy curse" and the need to make sense of the senseless. People require some kind of explanation, she suggests, even if it isn't true.

Field Notes: The Quantum Theory of Immortality. Quantum mechanics'"many-worlds interpretation" claims that you exist in different universes, in different "times," at once. So at least one of you will always be alive — ergo, immortal.

Rabbit holes may connect some or all of the various worlds. And each might influence the others in different ways, like variations on a theme. The example cited most often is pretty gruesome: in Tegmark's "quantum suicide" experiment, even if you stop yourself from committing suicide, in a different universe people will grieve your loss, and in another, you will suffer the pain you avoided.

I prefer the one about the guy who deliberately lost his shirt in a poker game. "In some parallel world," he chortled, "I just made out like a bandit."

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

All This and Moonlight

Scripps Ranch Theatre presents Charles R. Johnson's romantic comedy about "love, complete with severe side effects." Charlie Riendeau directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO ROAD, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATUR-DAYS. 8 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 11.

Baldwin New Play Festival UCSD Theatre & Dance presents five new works by MFA playwrights: Ronald McCants, Krista

Knight, Jennifer Barclay, and Stephanie Timm. For days and times of each, call the box office. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DRIVE, UCSD. 858-534-2230. WEDNESDAYS, 8 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 25

Be Aggressive

It's senior year of high school. If vou're a budding cheerleader, like Laura and Leslie, it's the "last cheer year of your life." And while others at the seaside school at Vista del Sol (think Del Mar) settle for being just "perky pep girls," the two Ls go at cheerleading with a religious fervor. They don't just want to push the envelope; this may be their only chance to shatter it. Annie Weisman's comedy-drama, which premiered at the La Jolla Playhouse in 2001, still has a second act that doesn't pay all the bills of the first (it's as if a longer conclusion got trimmed; the many troubles just go away). But it paints a picture of beach-town San Diego, and quests for unconditional experience, that's sharp and funny. New Village Arts's opening-night best of show: the cheers, choreographed by Amanda Morrow (who plays hyper-Leslie). But the scenes were performed like a two-act pep rally, competing with the cheers for intensity (and there was more energy in the scene changes than in some of the scenes themselves). Amid the loud, staccato attack, jokes and nuances of character got lost - especially that several are grieving or are in denial (their human qualities, in other words). The production boasts a cast led by Rachael VanWormer. Amanda Sitton (both winners of Craig Noel Awards for 2008), and Daren Scott. Each does a noteworthy effort but would improve instantly if allowed to develop, rather than merely blitz through, the characters (and soften their aggres sively hard edges). Tim Wallace's set, with abstract colored squares, gives the stage a snappy, Piet Mondrian-like look, and Amanda Sitton's costumes hearken back to one's teenage years when every victory was Homeric, every defeat Sophoclean. Worth a try.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787-B



STATE STREET, CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 3 AND 8 P.M. SUN-DAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.

The Cradle Will Rock

Stone Soup Theatre presents Marc Blitzstein's agitprop "play in music [1937] about corruption, greed, and deception." Larry Foreman attempts to combat wicked businessman Mr. Mister. Lindsey Duuos Gearhart directed. TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.

First Annual San Diego Playwrights Collective Playfest

For two evenings only, the North Coast Rep hosts readings of new work by four San Diego playwrights. On Monday, April 13: Who's Afraid of Me, Myself, and Edward Albee by Matt Thompson and The Perfect Daisy by Carmen Beaubeaux. On Tuesday, April 14: There's Someone Living in the House That Jack Built by Jason Connors and Cooperstown by Tim West. The readings are at 6:30 and 8:30 p.m. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. MONDAY, 6:30 P.M. TUESDAY, 6:30 P.M.

Mauritius

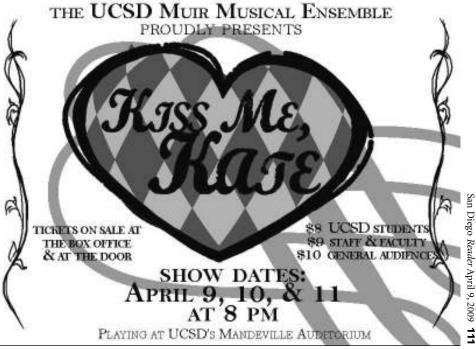
Cygnet Theatre Company presents the San Diego premiere of Theresa Rebeck's drama about two sisters, and the Mauritius stamp, "the crown jewel of philately." Francis Gercke directed. CYGNET THEATRE — ROLANDO, 6663 EL CAJON BOULEVARD, SUITE N, COL-LEGE AREA. 619-337-1525. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH MAY 10.

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 Garv Kramer is one talented comedian. Worth a try. MARQUIS THEATER. 3717 INDIA STRFFT MISSION HILLS, 619-295-4999, FRI-

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.







Opus

Dorian, the violist and most gifted member of the all-male Lazara String Quartet, has disappeared six days before a command performance at the White House (the President, a raging Philistine, wants "Hail to the Chief" and Johan Pachelbel's somnolence-inducing Canon in D). Young Grace auditions far better than her résumé promises. She joins the group and, amid utopian harangues about "four equal voices," wonders if all the rumors about the group's legendary bickerings, some lifethreatening, are true. Opus moves pretty much as expected: out of backstage chaos comes harmonic order. Although the script unfolds as if written in haste (including a coda that's a gratuitous lulu), the Old Globe's staging, by Kyle Donnelly, emphasizes its strengths, especially the passion with which an art becomes crafted. As if each actor were an instrument, and each scene a different tempo, the director has melded a fine ensemble cast into the fluidity of music. Former UCSD students Corey Brill and Katie Sigismund shine as Carl (the cello player whose bad news fuels the plot) and Grace. Sigismund's portraval of the young woman, thrust into a male fraternity and having to find her place, is so precise you'd swear she's based it on an exact model. Also amazingly precise: Lindsay

Jones's sound design. In the symphonic equivalent of "air guitar," the actors fake playing the music. And Jones has the "performed" notes emerge, it would seem, from the instruments themselves. Sometimes he moves the music from the stage to speakers behind the audience: it drifts up and then out, as if, in the case of Beethoven's Opus 131, it's headed home to heaven.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNES DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.

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. SUNDAYS, 9 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 25.

Rabbit Hole

North Coast Repertory Theatre stages David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about Becca and Howie Corbett. They have everything, until a lifeshattering accident changes all. 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 APRIL 26.



A Waltz Dream

URDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS.

WEDNESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. THROUGH

Lyric Opera of San Diego con-

cludes its 30th anniversary season

APRIL 26

A Waltz Dream

1:45 P.M. TUESDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M.

The Scarlet Pimpernel

Welk Resort Theatre presents composer Frank Wildhorn's musical version of the tale of Sir Percy Blakeney, an English aristocrat, who, disguised as the Scarlet Pimpernel, wreaks havoc on the French Reign of Terror. Jon Engstrom directed.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO 888-802-7469. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. SAT- BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, NORTH PARK, 619-239-8836. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2:30 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 12.

Working

Working, Studs Terkel's remarkable collection of interviews (1974), is an oral report on the American worker, in particular the pride, anger, and "humiliations" of the workplace. When Stephen Schwartz and Nina Faso's musical based on the book premiered in 1978, people who could afford Broadway tickets didn't want to hear about "caged" and "machineline" people who couldn't. The show closed in less than a month. Schwartz is currently remaking the original at the Old Globe. He's added new material, but what could be a blue- and white-collar blues comes off as a soft-sell, more in touch with Broadway than realworld nine-to-fivers. The emphasis is less on what workers have to say than on innocuous entertainment, as if they're performing before their bosses. The six-person cast is backed by a giant tic-tac-toe set: nine boxes, three rows each, joined by steel girders (the guy behind me said, "It's the Hollywood Squares"). Even when not in use, or masked by drops, the white elephant dwarfs the performers. The night I caught the show, several members of the audience stood and applauded. And some in the versatile cast deserved the ovation, if not the musical. Marie-France Arcilla's "Millworker," about doing the same routine every 40 seconds, caught the grind of the job ("my body is a tool"), though the other actors, blandly miming the movements, could put their backs into them more. Danielle Lee Greaves's "Just a Housewife" and "Cleanin' Woman" enrich the evening. Newer bits, like Charlie Blossom (a potential serial killer whom Nehal Joshi made so bizarrely nonthreatening he evoked laughter) misfire. The remake needs reworking: pare away the meta-theatrical packaging, roll up its sleeves, and be unafraid to get its hands dirty. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 AND 7 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7 P.M. WEDNES-DAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH APRIL 26.

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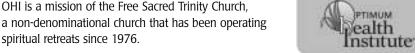
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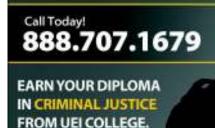


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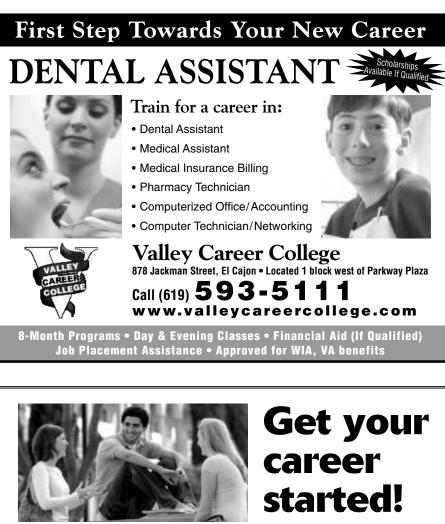
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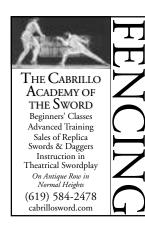
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a puzzle, we'll also print a brief (10 words or less) message that you've written. This is optional, but it's a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to reject offensive text

3) We're keeping track of how many puzzles you successfully complete. But your information will only be printed when you successfully com-plete 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 vou will be disqualified. 4) Employees of the Reader and their

immediate families are not eligible

Across

- 1. Armenia, once: Abbr.
- 4. Alphabet quartet
- 8. "I. Robot" author Isaac
- 14. With 35-Down, a 1992 Elton John hit
- 15. Race pace
- 16. Turn
- 17. Butt into the first U.S. vice president?
- 19. Title character of a Walter Berndt comic strip
- 20. Flair

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- 21. Make repairs to 23. Fire proof?
- 24. HBO title character for
- Sacha Baron Cohen
- 25. Lantern held by Othello?
- 29. She plays Hannah on TV
- 31 "____ happy to see you!" 32. Canal zone?
- 33. Director Jean-_ Godard
- 35. End _____ high note
- 36. Alpha follower
- 37 What the chess player
 - saw when his opponent knocked over one of his men?
- 40. 10 C-notes
- 42. "____ you satisfied?"
- 43. Minister's deg.
- 44. @ follower, at times
- 45. Xbox 360 competitor
- 46. Breckinridge and Hess
- 50. "Weekend Update" desk.
- in the late '80s? 55. Word after bed or head
- 56. in carrot
- 57. Bow out
- 58. Meat-inspecting org.
- 59. Doesn't stay the same
- 62. Drink without much
 - alcohol ... and this
- puzzle's theme
- 64. In a pious manner
- 65. "____ girl!"
- 66. Levi's rival
- 67. Dips for chips
- 68. Baseball's Eddie or Ned
- 69. Some "wax"
- 1. Current

E.T. Cage, Carmel Mtn., 13.

waiting for a T-shirt!"

Was it just me?"

"Tax season, argh!"

Sarai's? Oops...lost a few! Justin Finke, Sorrento Valley, 13.

old man!"

13.

A.T. Čertik, Bonita, 13.

Phillip Castle, Carlsbad, 13. "Still

Gary Dismukes, Scripps Ranch,

13. "This one seemed a little harder.

Jeff Doerner, Clairemont, 13.

Bette Eberhardt, Pine Valley,

13. "St. Kurtie is a prince for such an

William Edwards, Kensington,

Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 13.

D. Faulkner, University Heights,

13. "Keep gas cheap. Ride your bike!

Rand Feura, Santee, 13. "Eat at

2. "Do you want me to?"

- 3. Send again 4. Budding business?
- 5. Texas politico Phil
- 6. Similar: Prefix
- 7. "____ big deal!"
- 8. "____ gratia artis"
- 9. Mogadishu native
- 10. Answer to "Who's there?"
- 11. Person sporting a pocket calculator, perhaps
- 12. Mel who hit 511 home runs
- 13. "Oy ____!"
- 18. Poet who wrote 38-Down
- 22. Sturm und
- 26. Hurt
- 27. Boater or bowler
- 28. La-la lead-in
- 30. Actor Brynner
- 34. Theo Huxtable's mom
- 35. See 14-Across
- 36. Massage
- 37. Start of many classes
- 38. "And Still _ ___" (poem by 18-Down)
- 39. Unit in a physics textbook 40. Scot's topper
- 41. ____ polloi
- 45. Loc. of the Getty Museum
- 47. Put on eBay, perhaps
- 48. Equally profound
- 49. Ogles
- _ lazuli 51
- 52. "No!," in Pig Latin
- 53. Link with
- 54. Floride et Californie
- 59. Sounds of relief
- 60. 1988 Quaid/Ryan thriller
- 61. The "S" in CBS: Abbr. 63. Snitch

Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 13.

Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 13. Kyle Matzke, Vista, 13. "Com-

rade Obama welcomes you to United

Bob Maxwell, Coronado, 13.

13. "Paint your exterior for just

\$1900. paintwithdan@yaho.com

13. "Hard puzzle, but great golf!

Anna McCutcheon, Downtown,

Pam Mecklenborg, Pacific Beach,

Socialist States of America.

Circle T-shirt size: M L XL

Personal Message: _

Ron Meyer, Santee, 13. "I haven't

Gary Mocko, Ocean Beach, 13.

Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 13. "Pam

Shrugged movie? Who is John Galt?

Julie Osburn, North Park, 13.

Thanks, Gregory Mack, for 27

straight days hiking Cowles Moun-

Non-virtual reality...sdmrm.org.

Jim Odell, Vista, 13. "Atlas

won a T-shirt in over a year.

M. - I love Cash Cab!

See Your Ranking Online!

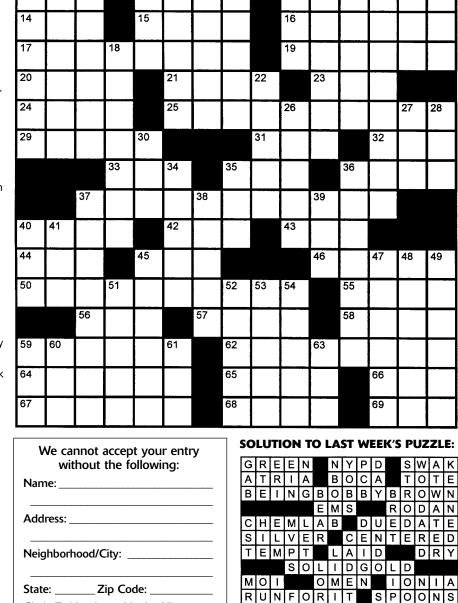
Now you can go online to check your ranking

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.



10

ITSABETGLORIES

ALOT

BLUE

Uranus Day!

ARA COLORTELEVISION

FIONA

ACRES

Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 13. "Happy

sit...stimulates my package. CIUM21"

Glenn Walker, Pacific Beach, 13.

"Avoid disappointment - expect noth

Mark Wilde, Spring Valley, 13.

"Welcome home, Janet. We missed

Ann Winder, Hillcrest, 13, "Hope

mo' chemo for Blondo! i smell a road

Oceanside, 12. "Hello Burton Ober!"

Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 12.

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 13. "No

Tom Somich, Clairemont, 13.

Happy Birthday Mom! Eddie O. Spaghettio, Coronado, 13. "143U15! That upon which you

you for three weeks!"

this one is lucky thirteen.

Sheila Agahan-Price,

"We're in it for the glories!"

Martha Awdziewicz,

Clairemont, 12.

SCONE

AMEN

NESS

Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 13.

Gil Patricio, San Diego, 13.

"When one door closes another

John Pertle, Santee, 13. "Isaiah

53; Zecharaiah 12:10; Isaiah 55:1;

Robert Phillips, Downtown, 13.

"I am so sorry, but my karma ran over

Matt Read, La Mesa, 13. "Clueless

Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 13.

"Happy Bunny Day! Thank you Erika and David. WLY, KDRS."

Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo,

Penasquitos, 13. "S/b #13." Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens,

13. "I love you, Annette. Happy

Doug Rodgers, Rancho

in Sacramento...higher taxes supress

commerce, reducina revenues.

"Baker's dozer

opens. I hope '

John 20:31."

vour doama

Easter:

13.

2009

DAVID

N N

Down

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

indicates T-shirt winner. Number indicates successful entries.

Flo Abena, Rancho Penasquitos, 13. "Redemption in the power of

sound Cecile Alcaraz, Chula Vista, 13. Mary Arana, Encinitas, 13. "Nice to have you as a neighbor, Lyn!' Jen Barnes, University Heights, 13. "I bought a fax machine, suck it

Kinko's.' Shannon Barry, Pine Valley, 13. "3 was the cat who chased the rat Olga Betteridge, Ocean Beach, **13.** *"Retirement, Australia, sun. My sweetie, yoga, swim, and run."* Tim Betteridge, Hillcrest, 13. "Happiness is a warm, loving Olga. Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 13.

🖝 Marvin A. Brown.

Clairemont, 13.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

indicates T-shirt winner

Jeff Battles, Ocean Beach, 12, "What about In Living Color?" Glory Cadenhead, Clairemont, Happy Bday Abe." Leslie Chase, Campo, 12. "Thanks to David Levinson Wilk for the fun

challenges!" Jon Connor, Oceanside, 12, " by the inequities of the selfish tyranny of evil men "

Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 12. "Happiness: St. Marks, Project Wildlife, Native Plants, Vista Square Veterans.

Craig Curtis, Escondido, 12. "Spring has sprung! Ha! Happy Easter!" Vince Cuseo, Vista, 12. "I'm not

even supposed to be here today!" Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 12. Pat DePew, San Diego, 12. "Gone for 10 days - will miss next nuzzle '

Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 12. "The frenzied cripple limped amok. Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 12. "Lenders, rating agencies, borrowers, mortgage brokers, regulators, spun us all

 Alfred Egaran, San Diego, 12. "Happy Birthday to my beautiful baby momma. April. Love vou.*

Harry Engel, La Jolla, 12. "Good bye Sister Mary Elizabeth." Manny Faria, Point Loma, 12.

"So uh, how you doin', Pooh? Love vou!'

Marie Grace, College Area, 12. "I love this!" Bill Griffin, Crest, 12. "Inside

scoop! No T-shirts for consistent Reader Puzzle winners!' Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 12. Marcus, keep up the great grades. Brvan Hartman, Golden Hill, 12.

"Tough one this week. Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 12. Anne Hinton, Point Loma, 12.

Ron Hootman, Santee, 12. "Hoot 101: Almost forgot to send in his solution this week. OMG." Ernie Hsu, San Diego, 12.

"Vroom-vroom, Party Starter. Mary Hutchings, City Heights, 12. "Thanks for the T-shirt." George Jackson, Oceanside. 12.

Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 12. "Happy Birthday Brendan, Kenneth, Bill! Hi Kiera and Bodo!" Jim Koziol, UTC, 12. "Let's go blue!" Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 12. "Bush vears - the good old days.

Lane and Gaby Litke, Chula Vista. 12 Joe Maginn, Mission Beach, 12.

"Hang in there, WJC, SP." Michael McGriffin, Bay Park,

12. "www.geocaching.com Irving Metzger, San Diego, 12. "Adorable Marcia"

Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 12. "Last time I emailed my entry it went pffft!"

information, call Martha Noderer at 619-920-5730.

PREGNANT? Considering adoption? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching birthmothers with families

 C.J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 12. "Who needs a stupid black Tshirt? Stupid puzzle - stupid Reader!" Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 12. "Heartland Lions We Serve." Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 12. Elizabeth Rainbolt, Mission

Valley, 12. Dave Small, San Carlos, 12. Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 12.

"When comes the red wagon, the train is all. aint." Elenore Stephens, Potrero,

12. "P-town 4 life Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 12. "Mit tiefer dank bark eit

Peter and Freddy!" Pamela Swain, College Area, 12. "Kudos to the puzzle author Nedda Viscovich, Cardiff, 12. Bob Werner, Bay Park, 12.

"Actually #13." Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 12. M. Zimmermann, Vista, 12, www.gopnot4me.blogspot.com

Clemencia Angus, Linda Vista, 11. "Hi, Pepe. Peace! Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 11.

"Padres need pitching help." Jay Berkowitz, La Jolla, 11.

"Yep, I'm semi-retired. Time to play with Jorrie.'

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 11. "Stay tuned for details for yard sale

on Jamul." Sue Coffey, Southwest S.D., 11. "Thanks John"

Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 11. "Thought you could get me

this time '

Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 11. Joe Griffin, Crest, 11. "Too much beer, too much sun, too much food. Cancun!'

Greg Harkless, San Diego, 11. "Ours goes to 11." Julie Hocking, Normal Heights, 11. "Go crazy!

Ellie Hoey, Spring Valley, 11. "/ love New York.

Richard Hutchings, Santee, 11. "This should be #12 if correct" Jerry Jones, Oceanside, 11. "Pick

me, pick me!" Sara Khwaja, Poway, 11. "Wel-

come home. Gabe. Thisby Krakatoa, San Diego, 11. ″Hi

Chuck Merritt, Spring Valley, 11.

James C Nelson, El Caion, 11. Bill Pischke, Ramona, 11. "DLW rocks orange.

Don Prince, Serra Mesa, 11. "You invent the future you wanna face. Rob Welch" John Prince, Serra Mesa, 11.

"Earth abides, Earth provides, shoulder and shovel, dia it." Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 11. "Lit-

tle pink hike!" Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens,

11. "Happy Birthday Rylan. Tom Seaman, Alpine, 11. Mariorie Stewart, Point Loma,

11. Gavle Studer, Mission Valley,

11.

Rich Tschiegg, Scripps Ranch, 11. "Baseball is here - yeah!

STAGE NOTES

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Kierkegaard Victoria, San Diego, 11. Westie, San Diego, 11.

Ken A., Ocean Beach, 10. "The drunk hags at the OB VFW are hot!" Mike Bullock, Rancho Bernardo, 10.

Maria Coda, Oceanside, 10. "Hi $\Delta II'$

Ben Cooper, Gaslamp, 10. "22 Down: Chicago is in EST. Wilk blows it anain!'

Jim Corbett, San Diego, 10. John L. Drehner, North Park, 10. "Go fly a kite on the moon.

Robin Drubin, Vista, 10. "Mikey's hair is arav Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 10, "Back from my surgery! Thanks everyone!"

George Elam, Vista, 10. "Jenv takes the cash. Carl continues to bash workers...' Edward C. Horbett, Jr., Crown

Point, 10. "Ava has arrived. Billy Horton, Santee, 10. "Go Padres!

Benvicky Javier, San Diego, 10. "Love your children because they will decide vour nursing home!" Steve Lundquist, San Diego, 10. B.J. Lundquist, San Diego, 10.

Wavne Mathieu, Clairemont, 10. Willie McGee, San Diego, 10.

"Luba Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 10. "Lose Crasher? OK by me, but no Briz? OMG!"

Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 10. "Pillhead, why can't I go to Vegas - today!

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COUNSELING &

SUPPORT

GROUPS

Michael Panther, Point Loma, 10. "Don't go drinkin' my heart. P. Drew Papas, La Jolla, 10. Jav Sato, Carmel Valley, 10. Welcome new Halitoes-ez: Zombie. Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 10.

"The Padres have nowhere to go but up. Good Luck!" Martin Soblick, Del Mar. 10.

Kay Stefferud, Carlsbad, 10. "Hi Maggie and Danie!" Robin Suter, La Mesa, 10.

Lisa Torrescano, Spring Valley, 10. "Let's get whiskey bent and held bound!"

Marie Turock, North Park, 10. "No more auotes Cloonis! Nathaniel Uv, East Village, 10. Thanks for all your help, Tubs

Steve and Dawn, North Park, 9. "IR fine '

Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 9. "Attitude is (almost) everything.

Bruce Bell, South Park, 9. Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 9.

William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 9. "Faxed from the Sta-

tendam off Cabo." Don Erickson, Carlsbad, 9.

Scott Heimer, Mission Valley, 9. "Happy Easter!"

Gerard Hoskins, Bonsall, 9. "Tough one this week. Thanks, Big Mike. Tom Laurin, Chula Vista, 9. "That

which does not kill me makes me grumpier.'

Bev Longdon, El Cajon, 9. "Fun with Taylor at Legoland. Craig Martin, Serra Mesa, 9. "Stand down. K-Head!!"

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THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

indicates T-shirt winner

Aleksa Mendive, Normal Heights, 9. "Time for a shirt yet?" G.R. Morse, San Diego, 9. "Evita

Cindy Pellett, University Heights, 9. "Congratulations Olga and Tim - we just celebrated our 21 st/"

Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 9. "When I slam Obama my correct entries aren't entered. Coincidence? Carol Rabner, Escondido, 9. Connie Rittichier, Poway, 9. Jack Rohrer, Clairemont, 9. "Trying to claw my way to the second page contenders."

Matthew Rosello, San Diego, 9. "It is gone.

Estevan Soto, Chula Vista, 9. "Answer: Where's mv tractor?

Dave Washington, La Jolla, 9. "They've sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind.

Tom White, University City, 9. Philip Blase, San Diego, 8. "/"

talk to Touregs of Tunis. Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 8.

"House is sold." Marilyn Contreras, El Cajon, 8.

Marilyn Cooper, Chula Vista, 8. "Baseball is back. Go Padres!"

Terry Golden, Clairemont, 8. "Love a good puzzle."

Joaquin Guerrero, San Marcos,

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issues.

therapist. Sam 619-944-1346.

Reader April 9, 2009

San Diego

24

NOTICES

8. "Our daffodil said Amerca's arro gant. Please cut off his manure."

Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 8. Jack Hawkins, Encinitas, 8. "Et tu, brutal crossword puzzle?"

N.C. Lyman, Poway, 8. "Carol and Sara say, Eat at Ginza Rancho Bernardo. Yummy' Alex Moran, San Diego, 8. "To

fly, fight, and win air space and cyberspace. Denis Rees, Alpine, 8. "Thx to the

good people at the Reader!" Eddie and Andrea Schroder, Carlsbad, 8. "How's that hopey, chanaev thing workin' out for va? Stephen Wilder, Rancho Bernardo, 8. "Other than kisses? Okav. it's sealed with a kiss." Mike and Karen, Talmadge, 7. "D is for days spent afternoon napping."

Susan De Masi, Fallbrook, 7. Mike Deliman, Santee, 7. "Curtis, I don't hear you unless you knock." S. Depka, Vista, 7. "Taxes aren't done, but the puzzle is! Priorities, pri-

orities!' Joseph Dzajic, Clairemont, 7. "/ could use a new T-shirt."

🖝 Jov E. Fernandez, Chula Vista, 7. "I loved Ricky Schroder back in the day. Silver Spoons!" Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 7. "I heard it through the grapevine.

Jenny Hughes, Escondido, 7. Linda Millsberg, Santee, 7. Noah Najbert, Mira Mesa, 7

"How about a T-shirt for my birthday?

From Chaucer to Pearl Jam." Friday, April 17, 4:00pm, Little Theater. April 17, 4:00pm, Little Theater. ART EXHIBITION. Italian Vibrations, Tuscany Through Their Eyes. By Christopher Oleata, Mario Torero, Marisa Roberto. Mundo Gallery 4212 Florida Street. 4/04/09, 6-11pm. 858-774-1286, www.oleatavision.com, www.fuerzamundo.

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contests. www.campbowwow.com/

Don Romero, Ramona, 7. "Thank

Peter Woodbury, Chula Vista, 7.

Jerry S. Anders, Scripps Ranch,

Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 6. "It's

Donald Millsberg, Santee, 6.

Phil Nichols, Escondido, 6.

Rubber Chicken Research

lations on 20 years. Xiao Ying."

Karen Steepy, Bonita, 6.

fantastic new citizen, Hattie!"

N'Namdi Sikumbuzo, Serra

Team, Mission Hills, 6. "Congratu-

Jack Tripp, San Diego, 6. "Bravo,

Armando Vargas, San Ysidro, 6.

"Thannks for the Bday wishes. Love

David A. Weim, Chula Vista, 6.

Heights, 5. "Why won't you spell my

Jessie Hansen, Oceanside, 5.

Dara Hetzel, Escondido, 5. "Hi

Misty McDaniel, Lakeside, 5.

"Happy Easter Anette and Victoria!

Woody Anderson, Carmel

Steve Gunsolley, Normal

property taxes are paid."

last name correctly?"

"Where's the love?"

Be good, Easter Bennv!"

Cathy S I"

Valley, 5. "Both my income and

"Lance? Heather?

Mesa, 6.

vou hahe

Jenny McReynolds, Linda Vista,

you for saving my life, Mei Ling."

6. "Finally, we get some respect

Glen and Tesi Chavira

going to be a long season.

again!"

Donna Swing, La Mesa, 7.

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MOVIE BUFFS: interested in watching movies, and then discussing them afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to

D. Schick, Oceanside, 5. "Don't say; don't pay." Michell Thitathan, Downtown, 5. "Symphony is fun and opera is cool.

Max Calhoun, Vista, 4. "For better hallway vision." Howard Donnelly, Mission Valley, 4.

Gail Jones, El Cajon, 4. Gordon Kanteena, San Diego, 4. "I love leanine, leanine loves me Steve Kassiotis, San Diego, 4. "Two wheels rule, I pity da fool, Happy Bday Sis." Danielle Mentzer, North Park, 4. "Should be golden at #5? Of well...'

John C Pipes, Lemon Grove, 4. "Liberals: Do as I say, not as I do." Tom Stam, Lakeside, 4. Jennifer Underwood, University Heights, 4. "Finally!" Thomas E. Woolf, La Jolla, 4.

"Ho! Ho!" Doris Yu, San Diego, 4. "Happy Birthday April!'

Chris Baker, Huntington Beach, 3. "I love San Diego." Alice Bryant, Mission Hills, 3.

"Hello Dan Bo^j" Phyllis Grant, San Diego, 3. Kathy Law, La Mesa, 3. "Love to

Bill, Al, Marylou, and Rocio. Enjoy." Tammy Lin, San Diego, 3. Philip Paradissis, Del Mar, 3. "Yes we can!"

Amber Rogowicz, Mission Hills. 3. "XOXO Mr. McKiernan. Maybe a T-shirt this time?"

mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-231-0647.

"Big all over Jane Yang, San Diego, 3. Howie Asaki, Scottsdale, 2. "Go UCSD Track and Field!" Manny Battaglia, Kearney Mesa, 2. "Tryin' again. B and B. Bill Brewer, San Diego, 2. "What does the Shadow really know?" Jose Cruz, San Diego, 2. "Hey to Kim, Roberta, Chris, John, and Mark!" Judy Emaus, Carlsbad, 2. Thanks for the help, Peter. Estefano Hill Jr., El Cajon, 2. "/ will win a T-shirt soon."

man '

Ana Jacala, Downtown, 2. Janet Kaye, Linda Vista, 2. "Linda Vista Fair is April 25th! 24th annual."

Liz Kave, University Heights, 2. "Uber or Ober? You are sneaky. Mr. Wilk." Jason Kron, Lakeside, 2, "Cox won't cable (4 channels) here. Help me, Diane Jacobs!"

Les Sherman, Pacific Beach, 3.

Big Lex Torres, San Marcos, 3.

"In memory of Robert BD Allen Sher-

Mike Van Nordheim, Poway, 2. "I'm a little harsh sometimes. Jolice Wiedenhoff, Carlsbad,

2. Susan Williams, North Park, 2.

"Thanks Andrew, love you. Spanky's Toilets , Carlsbad, 2.

Visit www.spankysps.com Toma Aasen, Mission Valley, 1.

"Is it happy hour yet?" Katrina Alcantara, San Diego, 1. "I feel good, so good, I got you.

Laning Road, San Diego. April 23, 24, 25. 10am and 7pm. Free admission. www. t.org.

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Jean Marie and Javne N., Allied Gardens, 1. "Starting over!" Wesley Garbrous, Bonita, 1. "Happy Anniversary Snuggle Bunny. Love vou forever." Bob Lagandaon, Chula Vista, 1. "Happy Birthdays Jenna (8). Madison (9), Kalina (5)!" Lee Ann Marshall, Leucadia, 1. "Pooka, that one's yours!" Michael Pancer, San Diego, 1. Amy Piekos, Lowell, MA. 1. "Welcome to the world, niece Chloe!" Gene Schneider, Spring Valley,

Fallyn Smith, Ocean Beach, 1. "I've Fallyn and I can't get up." Diane Young, Vista, 1. "I love this puzzle and the Reader rocks! Go Red

Sox!"

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LEXmany waters cannot quench love d floods cannot drown it. Carmela. THANK YOU, Virgin Mary, for prayers

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Karen Guarnotta (San Diego) \$30

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Stringers

p.7 their trunk should be its trunk p.8 Mission Beach" should be Mission Beach."

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p.11 agendas. should be agendas."

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p.40 it." should be it. Theater Listings

p.114 the violinist should be the violist

Linda Cox (San Diego) \$20

Issue of April 2, 2009

Blurt

p.68 Universal Soldier," should be Unknown Soldier," **Music Listings**

p.85 Pushing Rope should be Pushin Rope Brian Slipper (Del Mar) \$20

Music Listings

p.83 Plaza Courtsa should be Plaza Courts p.92 919-667-1307 should be 619-667-1307 (found in 3/26 also)

Karelyn Kimokeo (El Cajon) \$30

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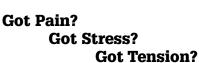
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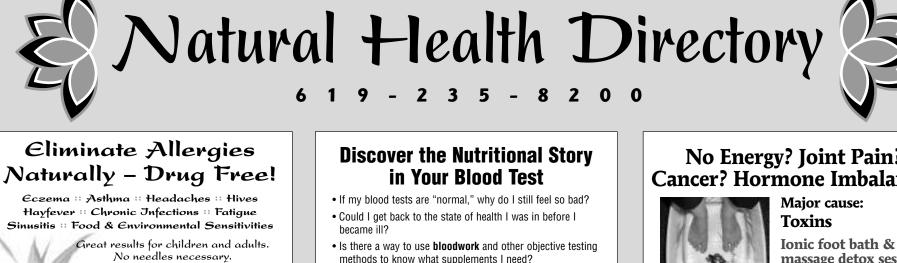
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Extra storage, community pool/spa, tennis \$2,050. Agent: 619-246-9999 termis s2,0s0. Agent: 619-246-3999
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5451; of Rachael: 519-804-1044.
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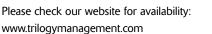
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§1300. 3740 Riviera. 858-735-8593. CROWN POINT. \$1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, bay view, newly remodeled, 1 block from beach. Includes 2 off- street parking spaces, new carpet, countertops and appliances. Available for immediate move-in. Jonathan Peacher, 760-310-3919; jpeacher@ipmgsd.com. CROWN POINT. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. 1- year lease. 3650 Crown Point Drive #B. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop. com.

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619-298-7724. **DOWNTOWN.** States 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. **DOWNTOWN.** \$6625. bedroom. 1 bath.

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C Street. 619-994-0449. DOWNTOWN/GOLDEN HILL. Studios, \$775. Junior 1 bedrooms, \$875 utilities included. Gated. Hardwood floors, decorator colors, laundry. Cat considered with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723. with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723. **DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY.** From \$800/ month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

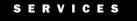
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Sdurbanilving.com, 619-255-0526. DOWNTOWN/LITTLE ITALY. Corner studio, \$895. Hardwood floors, 9' ceilings. Two large closets. Ideal location. Secure, quiet building with laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech Street. 619-233-7428. EAST SAN DIEGO. \$19-2357420. EAST SAN DIEGO. \$2925. 2 bedroom duplex, stove, refrigerator, garage. No pets. 5016 Orange Ave. Move- in special. Agent, 619-298-7724.

EAST SAN DIEGO. \$695. Furnished studio alcove 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. SAN DIEGO. EAST \$695.

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EL CAJON. \$200 off first month! \$1100. 2

EL CAJON. \$200 off first monthl \$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. \$900/up. 2 bedrooms, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park- like grounds, laundry on site, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. 619-579-0174 or 619-464-1818. EL CAJON. 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

447-3193. EL CAJON. 1/2 off 2nd month OAC! 1 bedroom, \$700. Appliances, on-site laundry, air, pool, off-street parking. Lushly landscaped. No pets. 294 Valentine. 619-334-7934.

EL CAJON. \$725. 1 bedroom. Beautiful landscaping with gated entry. No pets. 1018 E. Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088. www.eastwindsapts.com.

Size-ovos: www.eastwintosapis.com.
EL CAJON. 1 and 2 bedrooms starting at \$725. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614. www. nts info

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Management, 353-514-3201. EL CAJON. Very clean 2 bedrooms starting at \$895. Private patios. Close access to freeway and minutes to shopping, on-site parking and laundry. 432 and 441 Dominguez Way. TPPM, 619-405-4500 -4500

EL CAJON. \$875. 1423 Peach Avenue 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 & OK. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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peoplehelpingothers.com. EL CAJON. Move in special, 1/2 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, \$1200. Stainless appliances, microwave, granite counters, wall air conditioning and heat, dishwasher, carpet and tile floors, ceiling fans, patio with storage, washer/ dryer, community pool. 1423 Graves Avenue #265. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

EL CAJON. Gated community park. Trailers for rent, different sizes. From \$550-\$850. Plus utilities/deposit.

Conveniently located, close to trolley, bus, shopping. No pets. 619-334-0591. shopping. No pets. 619-334-00591.
ENCINITAS \$1175, 1 bedroom. \$1350, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Ask about move- in special Small complex. Patios. Assigned parking, laundry. New paint. Bright, airy. Garden setting. 1 block to beach. Close to shopping, freeway. coaster. No pets/ smoking. 760-929-1950.

smoking. 760-929-1950. ENCINITAS. Condo- quality, large 2 bedroom, 2 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus den from \$1425. Private entrance. 2 pools, 2 spas. Laundry rooms. Washer/ dryer in some units; hookups in others. Patios, balconies. Covered parking. Large closets, extra storage areas. Dishwasher. Cable TV- ready. Vaulted ceilings in select units. Cat OK; call for specifics. Mission Ridge Apartments, 1320 Via Terrassa, Encinitas 92024. 760-944-1800. www.sandiegoreader.com/rent1005. www.sandiegoreader.com/rent1005.

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ENCINITAS, Spacious 1 bedroom beach cottages in small park 2 blocks from beach. Granite/tile throughout, all new. Starting at \$1195. No pets. 760-753-4101

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760-739-1200. ESCONDIDO. \$800. 1 bedroom. Pool, air ESCONDIDO. \$800. 1 bedroom. Pool, air conditioning, laundry, parking. Open house Saturday and Sunday, 11am-2pm. 702 North Fig Street. Call 760-796-7965. 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.

760-815-6210. FASHION VALLEY. \$1300. 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. \$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.

ret. 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. 858-560-5564.

Gun, 838-560-5564. **FASHION VALLEY.** 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment \$1025, unfurnished and 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath \$1400, completely furnished. Views to Mission Bay and Mission Valley. Next to USD. Cat OK. 5946 Lauretta Street, #1. www.centrecity. net. 619-296-6699.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1150 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Parking, laundry. Near USD. No pets, at 1330 Eureka Street #1 or #7. Agent, 619-oos seev.

FASHION VALLEY. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Friars Village Townonne. Garage, storage, private patio, huge balcony room, laundry hookups, community pool. No pets. 6277 Caminito Luisto. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com. Luisto. 635-485-3534. www.car.prop.com. FASHION VALLEY. Luxury 3- bedroom, 3- bath townhome. Fireplace, energy-efficient refrigerator, washer/dryer. 1- car garage/3 parking. \$2250, includes water. Carol Prior, 858-254-1588.

1/2 Off 1st Month

1/2 Off 1st Month Fashion Valley. \$1350. Must see! 2 bedroom. Beautiful valley view. Across from USD. Well maintained, newer complex. Top floor/scenic corner. Balcony/ outdoor dining. 858-717-6004. FASHION VALLEY/USD. \$1575. 3-bedroom, 2- bath condo; upstairs. Large, panoramic view from balcony. Fireplace, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Coin laundry. Available now. 5720 Lauretta. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. FASHION VALLEY/WEST. \$1500. 3-

FASHION VALLEY/WEST. \$1500. 3-bedroom, 2- bath upstairs unit with balcony! New carpet! Washer/dryer hookups! Across from USD. 5845 Lauretta Street #3. 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$750. 1 bedroom apartment in 1892 Victorian house. Very large, very antique. Oak floors, high ceilings, claw foot tub. No pets/smoking. 619-478-2484.

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GOLDEN HILL. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry. No pets.



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GOLDEN HILL. \$1650. 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. Historic Victorian flat. Spacious 1 bedroom. High ceilings. Yard. Secured gated entrance. Wood floors. Laundry. \$899/month. 2449 G Street #4. Laundry. 858-568--5081.

BOB-D68-5081. GOLDEN HILL. \$1250. 2 bedroom, 1 bath second- floor apartment. New kitchen, stainless steel appliances. Huge closets with mirrored doors. Berber carpet, wood blinds, ceiling fan. 1 off- street parking. 811 26th Street #11. Andy, 619-559-5423.

5423. GOLDEN HILL. \$725. Upper unit apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, on-site laundry, off street parking. No pets. Garage available. 2934 F Street #5, San Diego, CA 92102. 619-284-3324. GOLDEN HILL. \$795. Upper unit apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, new dishwasher, gated community, on-site laundry, off- street parking. No pets. 2843 C Street, San Diego, CA 92102. 619-284-3324 or 619-955-4161. ego, CA <u>955-4</u>161.

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HILLCREST. Move- in special. Studio, \$775. Murphy bed, includes utilities. 1 bedroom, \$1100; 2 bedroom, \$1200. Garage available, new windows, lush courtyard, laundry. No pets. 3914 Centre Street. 619-501-8447, 619-787-1519.

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. HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 554. \$900. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. 2 befroom, 1 bath condo, \$1200. Move- In Special! Attached garage, parking space. Washer/dryer. Enclosed patio off both bedrooms. Handicap accessible. No pets. Agent, 619-588-2370.

HILLCREST. \$1195. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Close to the Zoo. Wood floors. Formal dining room. Detached, small garage. On the park. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available now. 1632 Upas Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

HILLCREST, \$895 and \$915 1 bedroom Small Spanish- style duplex. Stove, refrigerator. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Great location. Available now. 3751 Fourth. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm. com. 858-270-2071 com. 858-270-2071. HILLCREST. Rent \$980. 1 bedroom, 1

bath. Gated. Parking. Laundry on site. Air conditioning. Small pet, 15lbs. or less.





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Have you ever shot a gun?



Jasmine Chavarri Personal Assistant Downtown

've only shot a gun once. My par-I ve only shor a gun once. were doing a poker run where you stop at various locations and get a different card. At the end you see who has the best hand. The first stop was at a gun range. They gave you the goggles and everything. It was a small handgun. I'm not sure what

kind. And it had a kick, which was

a bit shocking.



Terri Babin Stay-at-Home Mom

Pacific Beach My dad took me to a shooting range when I was 25. He thought it was important that I know how to shoot a gun. I have no clue what kind of gun it was. It was big, though, and left bruises all over my arms. My dad was a gun collector, and the place he took me was that range over on Morena Boulevard.



Jen Cooper AssistantPacific Beach

The only time I shot was at a shooting range. I just did it once, and it was really scary. I thought we'd be messing around, having fun with the guns. But it's not like that. Everyone takes it seriously. I even felt it was dangerous having it in my hand, knowing the power and what you could do with it. This was in Texas, when my brother was study-ing there for a year. I thought it would be harder to do, but it was easy. They didn't ask your age or anything. I was surprised there weren't age limits. They just asked what size gun you wanted.



B.K. Phillips Security Downtown

have shot a gun about 10 to 12 times. It was when I was 12 or 13, in the Boy Scouts. It was to acquire the firearms badge. That was almost 28 years ago. I'm not crazy about guns and don't feel comfortable with them. I wouldn't mind shooting again, but who knows if I ever will



 $Devon\,Wilson$ Waitress Solana Beach

'm probably the worst person vou I can ask that question because I've never fired a gun before. I've never really had the desire to. And, it's not like I'm with people that are hunters or that go out for target practice or anything. Maybe at some point I'll shoot one. I just haven't yet.



David Peel Butcher El Cajon

first shot guns as a kid. My friends and I would go to the canyons and put a quarter on the ground and shoot it. The thing would be driven way into the dirt, and they'd have holes in them. We'd make necklaces. I'm a hunter now, so I'm shooting guns all the time. I really don't care to get into any debate with losers that think we shouldn't kill animals and eat them. I also grow tired of the debate on your right to bear arms. I own nine guns, and I use them all.

Close to shops, freeways. 1/2 off deposit! 1033 Robinson Street. Call Rachel, 858-490-1600 or 619-295-1210. kandrproperties.com.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, Parking, storage. Rent: \$1250. 4226 Cleveland Avenue. Call Mike: 858-490-1600; or Kenny: 619-255-4944.

HILCREST. Move- in special! \$1275-\$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Balcony, fireplace, views. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Pet- friendly. 4053 8th. 619-297-0269. HILLCREST. Move- in special. \$925.

Spacious 1 bedroom upper with hardwood floors, gated, laundry on site, garage available. No pets. 3974 Park Boulevard. Agent, 619-298-7724.

Agent, 619-298-7724. **HILLCREST.** Move- in special. \$1025. Newly remodeled, spacious 2 bedroom upper, new kitchen. Small, cozy complex. Laundry. No pets. 4111-1/2 Park Boulevard. Agent, 619-298-7724.



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HILLCREST. Pets OKI Bright, remodeled 2 bedroom. Hardwood floors. Washer/ dryer. Large deck/patio overlooking canyon. 1 block Balboa Park. 1518 Myrtle. canyon. 1 block Balboa Park. 1518 Myrtlö. \$1495. 619-549-4959, 619-325-1470. HILLCREST. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Immaculate apartment with off-street parking. Near Henry's Marketplace. No pets. 4225 Georgia Street. TPPM, 619-299-1004. HILLCREST. \$765. Studio. Bright, airy and private 2nd floor unit. Spacious kitchen. Walk- in closet. Hardwood floors. Walk to bus lines, nightlife, restaurants, coffee shops. Street parking only or optional garage, \$80. 3674-11/2 4th Avenue. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

HILCREST. \$800. 3820 Georgia Street between Robinson and University Avenue. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, new carpet, new blinds, 3 closets, large kitchen, upstairs, laundry room, one

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apartment available downstairs. Open House Saturday, April 11, 11am-2pm, Finlings Really, 619-291-6060.
HILLCREST. \$1150. 1807 University Avenue (behind The Crypt). Lovely 2 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, large kitchen, gas stove, breakfast nook, laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-out cese parking. 291-6686

assigned parking. No pets. Another apartment available downstairs. **Open**

San Diego Reader April 9,

, 2009

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HILLCREST. Apartment, \$1500. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath and \$750 studio. Pool, canyon view. Close to all. Recreation room, laundry, parking. Cat OK. 4201 Sixth Avenue. Sleepy Hollow Apartments. 610.000 Loco. Sixth Avenue. 619-298-1059

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HILLCREST. \$1095.1 bedroom, 1 bath with vaulted ceiling and skylight. Gated, fireplace, air conditioning, appliances, garage, on-site laundry. One block from Henry's, one cat only. Nonsmoking. Available April 20. 4136 Georgia Street. 619-269-5237.

619-269-5237. HILLCREST. Apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995 and 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$995. Built-in bookshelf in living room, cozy dining, large bedroom. Laundry. Small dog OK. 1224 Pennsylvania Avenue. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-6699.

HILLCREST. \$1125 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated carport parking space, balcony, dishwasher, no pets. At 1930 Georgia Court #14. Agent, 619-501-5542.

HILLCREST. \$1025 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Parking space, laundry, no pets. 3745 7th Avenue #2 or #7. Agent, 619-299-8515. HillCREST. \$950.1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Heart of Hillcrest, 1920s style, hardwood floors, parking, laundry, 600 square feet. 1. year lease. No pets. 3835 Third Avenue #7. 858-483-3534. www.

HILLCREST/MISSION HILLS. \$1295-\$1395. 2 bedroom, 2 bath in attractive, controlled-access building near UCSD Medical Center. No pets. 4066 Albatross Street. TPPM, 619-692-1837.

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goldenmanagement.com. IMPERIAL BEACH. \$795, 1 bedroom. \$895, 2 bedroom in well- maintained garden setting. Pool. Parking. Laundry. No pets. 1445 Grove Avenue. TPPM, 619-575-0778.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath



the sand and near wildlife preserve. All appliances. \$2200. Colwell Realty, 619-423-2444. IMPERIAL BEACH. \$975. Studio with loft,

1 block from beach. Patio, washer/dryer hookups, extra storage. 129 Date Avenue. www.centrecity.net. 619-296-KENSINGTON. \$1200. Clean 2 bedroom

refrigerator. \$1200. Clean 2 bedroom, upstairs. Gated complex. Stove, refrigerator. Laundry facilities, off-street parking. Water/trash paid. No pets. Available now. Deposit. 619-971-1145 or 619-579-8027. KENSINGTON. \$975. 1 bedroom;

charming, upstairs; stove, refrigerator; coin laundry. Quiet 7- unit building on tree lined street in the Heart of Kensington. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 4/20/09. 4186 Madison Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com. KENSINGTON 1 bedroom 1 beth

KENSINGTON. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage parking, air conditioning, laundry on site. Rent \$1000. Also 2 bedroom, 2 bath, rent \$1195. 1/2 off deposit special 4101 Park Place, Call Mike M. 858-490

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2 bath unfurnished apartment, off- street parking, pool, on-site laundry. Indoor cat OK. 3670 Reynard Way. 619-295-1643. **MISSION HILLS.** Studios starting at \$775. 2 bedrooms starting at \$1145. Privacy and unobstructed canyon views. Unit and building upgrades. Easy access to I-5, close to downtown and Little Italy. 3673 Keating Street. TPPM, 619-546-5739 5739

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MISSION VALLEY, EAST. 1/2 month free! 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, \$1125. Pool, saunas, laundry on site. Cats OK. Assigned parking. Call Mission Arbor, 619-281-4006

619-281-4006 **MISSION VALLEY.** \$1650. 1/2 off 1st month's rent. 1st Floor. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1- car garage. All appliances. Pool, gym. No pets. Nonsmoking. 2250 Gill Village Way. Agent, 619-692-4121.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1060. 1- bedroom, 1- bath apartment, parking included fitness center, fireplace. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1865. 2- bedroom, 2- bath apartment, cat OK, parking included, air, washer/dryer, community pools, spa, more. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

MISSION VALLEY. \$1895. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, 3 - story townhome. River viewl 2-car tandem garage. Washer, dryer. Gated. Pool, Jacuzzi. Pet OK, 970 Camino de la Reina. Available. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www. altavistaproperties.net.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$225. Large upstairs studio walking distance to beach, shops, restaurants. No pets. 4876 Voltaire Street, #10. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.com.
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www.sunsetpacificrealty.com. OCEAN BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs unit available in small, quiet complex on the south side of Ocean Beach! Close to beaches and alifed the Beach! Close to beaches and cliffs! No pets. 4812 Del Mar Avenue. Call 619-222-4836 x14 or www.sunsetpacificrealty.

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OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. \$1350. \$1000 deposit. Refrigerator, stove, parking. No pets. 4955 Brighton Avenue. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbc.com

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refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com OCEAN BEACH. 4911-1/2 Del Mar Avenue. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1295/ month. \$400 off 1st month. Laundry, refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-226or www.bkbinc.com

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PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large. Upstairs Front unit. Stove. Refrigerator Parking. Private balcony. Coir laundry. 2 blocks to ocean. Available now. 830 Sapphire Street. 858-270. 2071. Del Sol Property Management Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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countertops, wood floors. Pool, spa, laundry, gated parking. Cat OK. For pictures: www.casavistaapartments.com.

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Large upper 1 bedroom. Immaculate, sunny. 2 blocks to ocean. Large patio. Laundry. Yard, gardener. No pets. 951-B Missouri. 619-275-2610.

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Available now. 959 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1875. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry, parking. Available 4/15/09. Dis54-1/2 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1125. 1 bedroom; large downstairs; stove, refrigerator; private patio, garage space. 3 blocks to ocean. Available 4/20/09. 1032 Beryl. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com.

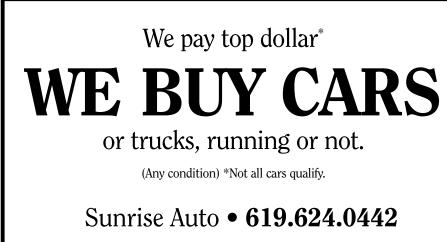
PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1175. 1 bedroom; remodeled, large downstairs; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; parking. Nice shared courtyard. Available 5/19/09. 1550 Diamond. 858-270-2071. Del Sol

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LEAD STORY

· University of California researchers, on a Pentagon contract, announced in January success at rigging a live flower beetle with electrodes and a radio receiver to enable scientists to control the insect's flight remotely. Pulses sent to the bug's muscles or optic lobes can command it to take off, turn left or right, or hover, according to a report in MIT Technology Review. The insect's "large" size (up to four inches in length) would enable it to carry a camera, giving the beetle military uses such as surveillance or searchand-rescue. The researchers admired the native flight-control ability of the beetle so much that they abandoned developing robot beetles (which required trying to mimic nature).

Why They Go Postal

- An official of the National Association of Letter Carriers in Buffalo, N.Y., said in February that it would challenge the Postal Service's threatened suspension of a carrier who was using sidewalks to get from house to house this winter instead of walking across ice-packed, deep-snow-drift yards. Cutting across yards is required by Postal Service rules in order to speed up deliveries.

Property Management, Broker. www.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1445. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large, downstairs, front unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, private patio, gas fireplace, coin laundry, parking. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. 3 blocks to ocean. Available 5/1/ 09. 1032 Beryl. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. i.com.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1200. 1 bedroom, downstairs. Beautifully remodeled front unit. Stove, refrigerator dishwasher, microwave, coin laund pool. Cat OK with additional \$3 deposit. Available 5/10/09. 812 Tourmaline. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, large 2- car garage/2 parking! Hardwood/tile floors. Free laundry. \$1950. No pets. 907 Sapphire. 619-261-5646.

PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1325. Large 2 bed, 1 bath. Patio, parking, quiet. Wonderful upgrades, including travertine, Berber- style carpeting, panel doors. 1829 Chalcedony #1.858-488-8120.

1829 Chalcedony #1. 858-488-8120. PACIFIC BEACH NORTH. \$1345. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, downstairs in quiet triplex behind 1859. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace. Parking. No pets. 1-year lease required. Available now. 1861 Chalcedony. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, NORTH \$950: block beach, 1 bedroom, 844 Emerald. \$950: studio with garden, 855-1/2 Agate. \$990: 1 bedroom, 866 Agate. Tourmaline/La Jolla. 858-459-1352.

Jolla. 858-459-1352." PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom on beach. 6 month- lease. Pets under 30lbs. OK. Roomies/co-signers OK. Office open 7 days. 4217 Oliver Court. In addition a large 2 bedroom with reserved parking at 2045 Garnet Avenue. Unique location, 1 block to the mall, biking distance from the beach. 858-483-7670. beach. 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1200, \$1200 deposit. Mile to the beach! One parking space. Laundry on site. 6-monthlease. No pets. 619-435-3830. Horninease. No pets. 619-439-3300.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295(\$1550.1]
bedroom, 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Panoramic
views! Intercom entry, dishwasher.
Laundry. Lovely courtyard, heated pool,
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$500 off first month! 2 bedroom, garage, new carpet. Laundry room. Close to shopping, no pets. \$1375. 1920 Felspar. 858-457-4509. PACIFIC BEACH. \$2250. 3- bedroom, 2-bath upper level apartment. Off- street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines. Available. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedroom 2 bath, upper, 975 square feet, 2- ca 2 bath, upper, 9/5 square feet, 2- car garage, balcony, laundry, quiet. Beach/bay 5 blocks. 1160 Thomas Avenue. Available 5/1. 858-272-4495.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. Extra- large quiet. upstairs 2 bedroom. 2 bath Laund Laundry, parking. Bright and sunny. No pets. 2228 Felspar. 858-270-0929.

Scenes of the Surreal

(1) Allahmanamjad Barbel, 21, sought help in February at the police station in Barnstable, Mass., after his sister playfully put handcuffs on him at a birthday party and couldn't get them off. Police removed them and then, after running his name through the computer, discovered several outstanding warrants and immediately recuffed him. (2) Doctoral student Daniel Bennett filed a lawsuit against Britain's Leeds University in February because custodians had mistakenly thrown out research that he had been working with for the past seven years. Bennett is studying the rare Butaan lizard of the Philippines, and over the years, to examine its diet, had sifted through jungle dirt to gather over 70 pounds of its feces, which Bennett believes is worth far more than the (\$720) Leeds has offered him.

The Entrepreneurial Spirit

- A coin-operated self-service dog-washing machine ("self" meaning the dog's owner, not the dog) has been introduced in a half-dozen car-washes in the United States recently, at ten dollars for ten minutes, according to a January report on one such franchise in Stuart, Fla. The "K9000" is a threefoot-high walk-in shower area (or push-in, for reluctant dogs) with an open top, has six separate wash cycles, conditioner and flea-and-tick options, and adjustable water pressure and dryer settings. - At Mannerspielplatz ("men's playground") near Kassel, Germany, testosterone-fueled office workers can get in touch with their "inner ditchdigger" (according to a January Wired magazine report) and frolic all day long on 29-ton backhoes, 32-ton front-end loaders, jackhammers, and various other big, loud vehicles for an admission fee of about \$280 a day.

Weird Biology

"Reproduction is no fun if you're a squid," said a biologist at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, referring especially to the deep-sea squid. Finding a mate a mile down in pitch darkness is hard enough, but the combination of males that are smaller and fearful of being overpowered and females whose reception of sperm involves being stabbed makes the insemination process especially traumatic. Sperm deposits can be extensive and burdensome to the female and are delivered by the reckless slash-

by Chuck Shepherd

ing of the skin by the male. In fact, according to a December report in Germany's Der Spiegel, in the darkness the male sometimes misses the female altogether and inseminates himself.

Leading Economic Indicators

- At Tokyo's first fish auction of 2009 in January, the upscale Kyubey restaurant and the more moderate Itamae Sushi dining chain jointly purchased a single, 280-pound bluefin tuna for the equivalent of about \$104,000. Kyubey said it would cut its half into slivers priced at about \$22 each, while the popular Itamae planned to offer tinier, more affordable slivers.

- Randall Hinton is nominally the chief of investigations for the New York State Insurance Fund but was ostracized by his supervisors in 2002 and has taken home his \$93,000 a year for zero work ever since. U.S. Labor Department official Bob Whitmore earns \$150,000 but has had no work to do since July 2007 due to a clash with his supervisors.

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

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2600. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. \$1250 deposit. No pets. Laundry, fireplace, patio. Available 5/2/09. 1150 Thomas #2. 858-336-7997. \$1725. Available to view by appointment only. For address and information, please call 917-494-3140. PACIFIC BEACH. \$795. Studio, cute 09. 1150 I homas #2. 858-336-7997. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1545. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Near beach! Dishwasher, coin laundry. Barbecue, shared courtyard. No pets. Available now. Year lease. 1067 Hornblend. 858-336-7997. cozy. Near Bay. Large kitchen/dining. No pets. Nonsmoking. 4210 Haines Street #5. Agent, 619-692-4121.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 1 bedroom view of ocean. Single- car garage appliances. Just steps to beach shopping, restaurants on Garnet Avenue 728 Emerald Street. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1695. 2 bedroom. Garage. Appliances. Steps to beach restaurants and shopping. 734 Emerald Owner, 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. Move in special! Year lease. 2- bedroom, 1- bath condo. Yard, laundry, parking. 1710 Oliver Avenue. Available now. e-mail:

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 month free with lease. \$1150-\$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet. On-site laundry. \$500 deposit. Sorry, no pets. Available now. 4478-1/2 Bond. 760-402-8325. www.baywalkapts.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious 2 bedroom

PACIFIC BEACH. Spacious 2 bedroom townhouse. Quiet area. Steps to beach. New appliances, paint, balcony off master bedroom. Fireplace. Patio, fenced yard. Private parking for 2 cars. Nonsmoking. No pets. Available 5/1/09. \$1725; security

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1585. Upstairs 2 bedroom. Remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Elevator. Pool. Shared garage. View. Available now. 1433 Oliver. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www. delsolom.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1485. 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. delenlem.com

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 1 bedroom, downstairs, end unit in quiet 4- plex. Stove, refrigerator, garage with opener. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 4/ 10/09. 1362 Reed. Del Sol Property ant, Broker, 858-270-2071. www. delsolpm.con

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1200. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage; small, private patio. Parking.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1900. 2 bedroom. 2 bath. Beautiful, spacious, cozy condo available. Fireplace, washer/dryer, 2 parking spaces. Available 5/15. \$1000 security deposit. Augustine, 619-861-7506. PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath with office or den. Washer/dryer, dishwasher, parking. 6- month or 1- year lease. 1/2 off deposit. Rent \$1600. 1749 Reed Avenue. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townburge. dishwasher. 1 area

bath townhouse, dishwasher. Large kitchen, deck. Off-street parking. Laundry room. Cat OK. 1624 Missouri. 858-576-8292.

PACIFIC BEACH. Great values. Nice, clean, convenient apartments in multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from \$765. 1 bedrooms from \$935. 2 bedrooms from \$1335. Parking, laundry. Some buildings with gated entry, pool and/or deck. No pets. 858-483-3796.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Top floor. New carpet. Light, bright, spacious! Off- street parking. Pets OK. Available. 765 Agate Street. Call Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www. altavistaproperties.net.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1850. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath plus large bonus room. Remodeled kitchen, baths, more. Fireplace, balcony, dishwasher, Fireplace, balcony, dishwasher, microwave. Laundry, covered parking. 1813 Reed. 760-744-5626.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1433 Grand Avenue #1. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$400 off first

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bath apartment, will consider pet, 2- car parking, laundry on site. Fee. Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-333 PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095, 2- bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment, pool, balcony, air conditioning. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

Free search at www.westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1895. 3- bedroom, 2-bath townhouse, parking included, washer/dryer in unit, ask about move- in special. Fee. Free search at www. westsiderentals.com. 619-367-3333.

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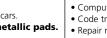
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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Large unit, newly painted exterior of building, small community, parking, on-site laundry across from Pacific Beach Recreation Center. No pets. 1538.5 Diamond Street. 858-483-3534. www.calprop.com

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. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Block to beach. 2 parking spaces. Laundry. Extra storage, dishwasher. 1100 square feet. No pets. 842 Agate Street #1. 858-483-3534.

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Homolend #22. www.cal-prop.com. PACIFIC BEACH, \$965. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upstairs unit, parking, laundry, 650 square feet. 6- month lease. No pets. Nice location! 2112 Balboa #9. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upstairs unit, small complex, 1 parking space, 800 square feet, large rooms, 6- month lease. No pets. 2112 Balboa #12. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com. www.cal-n nn com

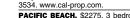
www.cal-prop.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$1595. Large upstairs unit with view, new flooring, refinished cabinets, new appliances, parking, on-site laundry. No pets. 954 Agate Street #E. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com. PACIFIC BEACH. \$2195. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Northeast Pacific Beach location. 1171 square feet, laundry, parking, 2 master suites, 1- year lease.



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No pets. 1946 Missouri Street. 858-483-

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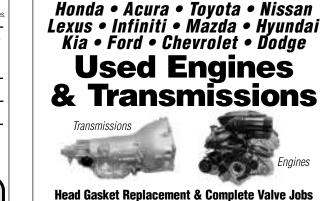
POINT LOMA. \$1350. Spectacular 2-bedroom apartment with hardwood floors. It's ready and waiting for you! If you want the best, we have it. This unit has just undergone a condo-quality remodel in excess of \$30,000. Gournet kitchen with granite countertons, staipless steel quality remodel in excess of \$30,000. Gourmet kitchen with granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, all new cabinets, Italian ceramic tile floors and recessed lighting. Full ceramic tile bathroom 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 futures and ceiling fans. We also installed new winyl 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 are required. Application fee is \$30 per applicant. Excellent credit and references are a must. 2817-2831 Carleton Street. **E-mail your inquiries to scott@**

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Hubby Patrick despises Easter grass. "It's like the plague!" he complained over our nightcap. "It gets everywhere and clogs up the vacuum. Who created this stuff? This year, no Easter grass will enter the Kelly household."

During our holiday discussion, my fury focused more on the commercialism of Easter. "Does every holiday have to be a gift fest?" I replied to his rant. "It used to be gifts just on birthdays and Christmases. Now Easter and Halloween are getting into the act. Isn't Easter all about the candy?"

We decided that this year would be different. The mythical bunny will only deliver candy and homemade gifts, sans Easter grass, to the Kelly home.

After my proclamation, I began to panic. "Ideas...I need some. There isn't much time." "Easter, and you think eggs," offered sis Nancy. "You know, springtime, chicks hatching, life renewing. So we do a lot of egg decorating. The little kids paint wooden eggs, and the older kids use fine-tip permanent markers to draw detailed pictures on their eggs. We also decoupage wooden eggs. I collect flower-design cards and wrapping paper, arm the kids with their own scissors and glue, and let them go at it. One year we wrapped fuzzy yarn around plastic eggs and hot-glued ribbon on the end to make egg orna-

> ments. We have friends who make confetti eggs. They blow out the egg, fill it with tiny pieces of construction paper, and on Easter morning they have a huge egg fight. One year I plan to attempt that."

"I like to put something in their baskets that can be used throughout the year," explained friend Cathy. "Last year, I made some paper origami bunnies and chicks and

then added some origami paper so that my daughter could make her own creations. My son got a bird guide along with a nature journal; I found a journal with a bark cover. My hubby gets the high-end chocolates and some meaningful gift that sparks a memory of ours. One year it was a CD from an opera we both saw when we were newlyweds. And he also gets a homemade card from the kids."

The mythical bunny will only deliver candy and homemade gifts, sans Easter grass.

Chum Monica said, "One year I made homemade Play-Doh for the kids. Every year they get some art supplies in their baskets...something to keep them creating for a few weeks. Stickers, colored pencils, clay, and markers are always big hits."

Cousin Jill offered some basket-lining ideas. "My sister once lined her baskets with plastic and potting soil, then added grass seed. By Easter, each basket had a nice, soft lining of green grass. Then she added some chocolates and Easterthemed homemade cookies. The baskets were fresh and natural looking."

"We have a ban on the plastic grass in our home also," admitted Michele. "We use shredded paper in place of the Easter grass. Another friend of mine sews small pillowcases for each of her kids and lines the baskets with them. Each year they get a new pillowcase."

"We love wool felt in our home," said nurseryschool teacher Amy. "You can make finger puppets out of it — little stuffed animals, like a chick, frog, or bunny — or little purses for little girls. And it is simple enough that even little kids can embroider around the edges."

My friend Rebecca's family has garden-themed Easters. "Most years, our baskets have seeds, new gardening gloves, sometimes a pretty little plant pot. One year, we put a wooden birdhouse kit in my son's basket."

Friend Regina has her family baskets filled with certificates. "We make gift-certificate cards for different outings or special deeds for each other. So, you might find a certificate for an ice cream-cone outing with Dad or an afternoon shopping with Mom. Even the kids will make some for each other ---like, making each other's bed or cleaning one another's bedroom. It helps lower the commercialism of the holiday. And we always have lots of candy in the baskets too."

Cousin Anna suggested I check out Chinaberry (1-800-776-2242) for some gift ideas. "I noticed they are selling these tiny ceramic eggs filled with soil, and the kids can plant seeds in them and watch their herbs grow out of the head of the egg. Very whimsical." (Egglings, \$10.95 each) "They also sell a pysanky set [\$19.95] to make your own Ukrainian eggs. In our home, most years we try to make a few new Ukrainian eggs for our Easter tree, which is a tree branch that we whitewash. We decorate it with homemade eggs."

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San Diego Reader April 9,

, 2009

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1: Knitted eggs

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3225 Newell Street. Pet OK. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www. altavistaproperties.net. POINT LOMA. Refurbished studios \$945 \$300 off first month rent! Newly remodeled with fantastic upgrades! Extraordinary! Everything is new! Gated entry, parking, laundry, barbeque area. In Point Loma, 2089 Chatsworth Boulevard.

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DEL MAR. Lovely, sunny 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at LA JOLLA/UTC. Sunny, lovely 2-

bedroom, 2- bath condo with pool and Jacuzzi. Monthly interest \$1695. \$15,000 down. APR only 5.9%. Call Agent, Elizabeth, at 619-286-5813. POINT LOMA. Tropical gated resort community. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Remodeled, granite, cherry cabinets, stainless appliances. Refrigerator, washer/dryer included. Bamboo flooring. \$295,000. Lisa 619-972-3724.

50 mm Cannon lens, built in light meter, includes separate flash and case. \$45. 760-845-3024.

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SCHWINN RANGER. Mountain bike. 21 speed. Front shocks. Medium size. \$55. 858-405-1873.

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CARPENTER/LANDSCAPER wanted in

exchange for furnished room and utilities. Please come to 7505 Gayneswood Way, San Diego, 92139. Cross street is Groview. Thank you.

Cashing of the second s

CASH FOR GOLD. We buy gold, silver, platinum. Get cash now! Highest payouts— satisfaction guaranteed. 1-877-548-1550. (AAN CAN)

FEDERAL AND STATE duck stamps,

duck and game calls, hunting and fishing licenses that are pinback buttons (pre 1940) or paper (pre 1930). 858-565-1756.

INDIAN ARROWHEADS/artifacts. Must be authentic. Call Steve at 619-985-

MILITARY ITEMS. Many old military

medals are worth hundreds of dollars. I have \$2000 cash to spend. Other military items also wanted, especially USMC. 619-280-8089.

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REAL ESTATE CONTRACT/NOTE? Collecting monthly payments? With today's economy, what happens if those payments stop coming in? Get cash! Free quote! vmdixon52@cox.net or 619-244-0801.

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MALIBU PILATES CHAIR. Barely used. Minor wear but fully functional. Instruction DVD's included. \$250/best. Contact Raul, ra1057x@yahoo.com.

SalLBOAT, Catalina 30: 1977, new 20HP Yanmar diesel, tabernacle mast, very roomy. Live aboard. Excellent condition. New upholstery, refrigerator, stove, wiring, plumbing. \$12,900/best. 619-408-9733

SOFTBALL TEAM needs a pitcher, left fielder, and a second baseman, 619-295-

O385. SURFBOARDS, WETSUITS, wakeboards wanted. We pay cash for good quality used surf, wake and water sports gear. We also buy golf, skate, soltball, exercise and weight machines, scuba, rollerblades, roller skates and more. Get cash or trade for other sports and fitness equipment. Play It Again Sports. Find locations: playitagainsd.com. 858-490-0222.

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YAMAHA WAVERUNNER. Jet ski. 3 seater. 1994 with brand new engine on a good trailer, \$1990/best. 619-408-9733.

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MARBLES. Vintage and antique. Over 500, loose. \$150/all. 619-449-1104. PETER MAX PRINT. 1970, 91/300 15"x18", \$2250. "Astrial Thinker,"

+\$8.25 certificate +\$2 ET. Most cars. Bring DMV notice. Extra \$6 for vans, SUVs, trucks, V8, and European. Models (years) 1975-1995 \$10 extra for Evap test. RVs: call for details. A/C Service ^{\$}20 Basic Tune-Up with oil change 4-cyl. \$35 6-cyl. \$3995 8-cyl. \$4995 Most cars. Includes new plugs and oil filter. Inspect cap, rotor wire, air filter, Some oil filters extra. Some cars labor extra. Platinum plugs extra 60K/90K/120K Services Call for details. "Check Engine" Light On? OBDII Diagnostic Car Fail Smog? **Diagnostic Free with Repair** blems may require additional diagnostic procedures. Chris's Auto Smog & Repair Center

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4-cyl. from ^{\$}149⁹⁵ 6-cyl. and 8-cyl. extra. Platinum plugs extra.

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\$5 extra for vehicles from 1976-1995.

BACK WHEN in the Reader

Thirty Years Ago

A Sunday afternoon last month on the Ocean Beach pier. The fellow in the yellow short-sleeve shirt and sunglasses was carrying three small boxes wrapped in white paper and ribbons. Mike Hall had served at funeral homes in Los Angeles and San Diego and was familiar with the tools of the trade.

Hall and his housemate, Richard Heffernan, stood and watched as the man came to a stop a short distance out on the pier. He lined the small, square boxes up on the railing, then cut them with a razor blade. According to Heffernan and Hall, the man then dumped the powdery contents. Much was scattered by the wind; the heavier particles fell below into the tidepools and surf.

Coleman Warner, April 12, 1979

Twenty-Five Years Ago

You see me coming up your walk. I'm wearing a jumpsuit or a shirt with a bright logo above the left

unframed, good condition. Oceanside. 207-416-7417.

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VINYL LP RECORDS. Original press Zeppelin, Grateful Dead, God Spell

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Plus \$8.25 for certificate and \$2.50 communication fee. Most cars.

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95

....

'95 and

etc. 619-449-1104

APPLIANCES

pocket. Behind me at the curb is a truck, a huge and battered machine. Your thoughts: *The movers are*

here. I hope they don't break anything. Still deeper thoughts: Ah, these

hulks, these Neanderthals. How do I deal with them?

I have seen into your lives. I've been in your Serra Mesa homes, your University City condos, your Pacific Beach apartments. I've been in your bathrooms, I've opened your dresser drawers and seen what you hide.

— "MOVING IN, MOVING OUT," Graeme Donne, April 12, 1984

Twenty Years Ago

This is it! I have had it with the clever words of your movie reviewers. Consider the following review of Dangerous Liaisons in your March 16 issue.

...Glenn Close is least persuasive of all as a sufficiently charming and tantalizing prize for which the aforesaid roué will endure an amorous challenge of the dimensions of a Labor of Hercules: bullying and intimidating, sure;

charming and tantalizing, never. Such nonsense in writing would be dismissed with a swift "F" in Composition 101.

- LETTERS: "SUCH NONSENSE," Craig D. Wandke, Chula Vista, April 13, 1989

Fifteen Years Ago

Doug Manchester's crusade to build a commercial airport at Miramar Naval Air Station is on a roll. He's lined up support from 66 prominent San Diegans, created a nonprofit organization called the San Diego International Airport Foundation, and collected contributions from big names, including car dealer Bob Baker and San Diego Union-Tribune publisher Helen Copley.

- CITY LIGHTS: "BIG MONEY AND BIG MEDIA TAKE ON THE LITTLE GUYS OVER MIRAMAR," Melinda Powelson, April 7, 1994

Ten Years Ago

USA Today got it going, together with "daily news updates" and an every-Friday column, at the begin-

ning of last week: 50 days to the premiere of the first Star Wars prequel on May 19. Counting on my own fingers, toes, fingernails, toenails, thumbs, thumbnails, arms, legs, knees, elbows, and ears, that only took me up to the day before the launch. Either way, there would by now be less than 6 weeks (let's see...40 divided by 7...yes, less than 6 weeks) until blast-off. Not too soon, in other words, for the print journalist to start to ponder what to call the damn thing.

— "CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITIES," Duncan Shepherd, April 8, 1999

Five Years Ago

Last week's surprise departure of Neil Morgan from the Union-Tribune after 54 years as a Copley scribe was shrouded in about as much confusion as many of the columns he authored. A six-page statement written in the third person was handed around Morgan's lawyer's office during a late-afternoon news conference on Wednesday, March 31. It por-

VARIOUS. Recliner, dressers, bookcases, dining table/chairs, file cabinet, kitchen island, TV stand, night stands, coffee/end tables, couch, futon, bed. \$700. Can separate. 619-326-1803.

GARAGE SALES

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CLAIREMONT. Moving sale. Saturday, April 11, 8am- noon. Patio furniture, desk, organ, clothing, some tools, filing cabinet, much more. 4727 Mt. Ashmun

CLAIREMONT. Saturday and Sunday, April 11 and 12, 8:30am-2:30pm. Antique furniture, clothes, fishing, sporting goods, music systems, more. 4659 Blackfoot Avenue.

Estatte SALE. Moving! 50 years' collection: Antiques, collectibles. Furniture, china, jewelry. Dolls, wing back chairs, sofa. Dining set. All must go! Appointment, 858-220-1664.

SCRIPPS RANCH/SABRE SPRINGS.

Multi- family. April 25. Video gaming systems, household goods, games, toys, clothing. Everything must go. Great discounts. 12520 Birch Bluff Place.

clubs, electronics, household, more. 10767 Jamacha Boulevard. 619-660-0400.

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or

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BED \$100, ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! BED \$100, ABSOLUTE BARGAIN! The Furniture Warehouse is now open to the public. We sell warehouse direct. Come see our large showroom. We have over 70 sets in stock from \$89! 995 Bay Boulevard, Chula Vista, 91911. Open 11am-7pm daily. Closed Monday. Credit cards accepted. Legitimate warranties in writing! Fast delivery. Call 619-426-2727. www.tfwarehouse.com.

BEDROOM SET. Dresser with mirror armoire, 2 end tables, modern style, slate gray finish. In great condition. \$395. Call Mark Schwartz, 858-688-6999. BOOKCASES. Oak, walnut, mahogany, cherry, or teak. Choice of 2x2, 2x6, 3x3, 3x4, 3x6, 4x6, 4x7. Remodeling office, \$25-\$150. 619-670-8356. BUFFET. With matching server. Black slate top. In perfect condition. \$350. 760-

CONCRETE PATIO TABLE. Seats 6, high grade. Your choice of tile installed, all weather. \$300. Credit cards accepted.

BED \$139. AN ABSOLUTE BARGAIN!

BED 3139, AN ABSOLUTE BARGAIN Mattress Orthopedic Deluxe. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$139. All other sizes available. Credit cards accepted. Free delivery. Call 800-464-6420 or 800-464-6490.

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beds. Can be easily taken apart to be transported in a car. \$20. 858-277-3065.

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SOLID MAPLE TABLE. 1960s, 2 leaves, 4

LOFT BED. Ikea "Stromso," \$75. Also, oversized computer desk with hutch. Make offer. 619-461-9108 LOVE SEAT. Leather, with dual recliners, 64" in length. Medium brown. Like new. 64" in length. \$500 firm. 619 MATTRESS \$139! AN ORTHOPEDIC.

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MEET OR BEAT ANY COMPETITOR'S COUPO



For more stories by these authors, go to sdreader.com. NORMAL HEIGHTS. Sunday, April 12, 8am-4pm. Electronics, microwaves,

San Diego Reader, April 12, 1984

trayed the columnist as a journalistic

gigolo, cast off after decades of serv-

helped raise from poverty to the pin-

- CITY LIGHTS: "MYSTERIOUS END OF AN

ice to a mistress whom he had

nacle of the city's most powerful

ERA," Matt Potter, April 8, 2004

institution.

8am-4pm. Electronics, microwaves, tools, kitchenware, clothes, linens and lots of other stuff. Everything must go.

SPRING VALLEY. Large community sale. April 25, 7am-1pm. Over 100 homes. Estate items, clothes, toys, furniture, goli

MISCELLANEOUS

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4 CEMETERY LOTS. Glen Abbey Memorial Park. \$3500 each in block 41, section 1A near chapel. Call 619-203-9465 or 619-583-5189.

chairs, \$100. Matching large hutch perfect condition, \$200. 858-272-4812. VARIOUS ITEMS. End table, mahogany, elegant, \$10. Card table with 2 chairs, all foldable, \$30. Bean bag chair, \$10. 2 foldable tray tables, \$8. 760-685-8291.

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Reader Pop Quiz

This week's questions

- 1. As revealed by Google Earth and Matthew Alice, Coronado island is home to a naval building in the regrettable shape of what?
- 2. Which of the original owners of McDini's Sports Bar and Diner was known as "the Original Italian Leprechaun"?
- 3. Since 2005, San Diego home prices have plunged __ percent, the way Don Bauder reports it.
- 4. Each episode of MTV2's VBS.tv opens with the music of what Imperial Valley-San Diego chartbusters? 5. This week, the Crasher parties with a security guard who's passed himself off in Las Vegas as what
- world-famous athlete? 6. Give the email address where you can reach Wendy Bailey to commission a video-chat concert.
- 7. What hour of the morning is it when John Brizzolara finds himself wondering, "How about those
- Padres?"
- 8. The name of Colombia's Aterciopelados means what in English?
- 9. What element of Easter presents gets unconditionally banned from Eve Kelly's home this year?
- 10. The omnivorous diva Barbarella confesses that she assigns her vegetarian friends to three categories: "Live and Let Die," "Holier Than Thou Hypocrites," and "___

Last week's answers

- 1. "The Unknown Soldier." (p. 68)
- 2. "Heart." (p. 98)
- 3. Up 73 percent. (p. 6)
- 4. Earthling Studios. (p. 76)
- 5. Disappear. (p. 112)
- 6. "Papi hour." (p. 100)
- 7. The Flat Duo Jets. (p. 72)
- 8. The North Park Music Thing. (p. 70)
- 9. The feet. (p. 16)
- 10. Miss Halfway. (p. 92)

Last week's winners.

David Faulkner, Brian Reese, Allison Vaughn, Dana Collins, and Teresa Roberts

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).

BED, A PLUSH PILLOWTOP. Mattress Orthopedic. New in plastic with warranty. Queen \$299. King \$399. Free delivery. Credit cards accepted. Call 800-464-6420 or 800-464-6490. CHAIR, ZERO GRAVITY, ELECTRIC. PC-P3B-RF. Maple base, black ike new. \$995. 619-656-8491. CLOTHING. Gibson "SG" shirt, large. Gibson "Flying V" extra extra large, Dragonfly "Dragon/cross," large. Dragonfly "Flame", large. \$15/each, \$50/ all. Michael, 760-497-7558.

DECORATIONS, SUNFLOWER. Large bag, beautiful decorations. \$30. Come DIAMOND RINGS. Two. 14 karat white

gold, 1 carat diamond rings, wide bands

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2009

Reader April 9,

San Diego

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and heavy. Estimated appraisals: \$1200/ each. Sell for \$700/each. 619-516-0083. DIRCTV SATELLITE TV special offer: Save \$21/month for one year. Free HD-DVR, plus 3 free months of HBO, Starz, Showtime! Call Expert Satellite (credit card required), 1-888-246-1956. (AAN CAN) DIRECTV SATELLITE TV special offer

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DOUBLE BURIAL PLOTS. 4. Greenwood Cemetery. Moving, must sell. Buy 1 or all. Good price, payment plan possible. Let's talk. Don, 619-284-8149, 619-794-7536.

BBB

FLOOR LAMP, BRASS chandelier, with base. \$90. 619-807-5731. HANDBAGS. Authentic, designer. Louis Vuitton, Prada, Fendi, Farragammo, etc. \$300-\$800, 619-449-1104. KNIFE COLLECTION. Old Kershaws, Schrade IXLs, marbles. 619-260-8482. LADIES' DANCE SHOES. Beige, size 8N, 2" heel, leather, like new. Paid \$75 new, asking \$20. 619-656-8491.

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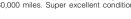
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Denomination: Orthodox (under Serbian jurisdiction) Address: 3025 Denver Street, Clairemont, 619-276-5827 Founded locally: 1952 Senior pastor: Bratislav Krsic Congregation size: 200 stewards Staff size: 1 Sunday school enrollment: 25 Annual budget: around \$170,000 Weekly giving: n/a Singles program: no Dress: semiformal **Diversity:** mostly Caucasian Sunday worship: 10:30 a.m. Length of reviewed service: about 15 minutes (see text) Website: stgeorgeinsd.com

The service was scheduled to start at 6 p.m. At a quarter to six, the doors of the domed white church were still locked, but there was movement, and lots of it, in the next building over. Children rehearsed songs on the stage while below, teenagers draped burgundy cloths over circular tables. The reason for all the hubbub stood in the center of the room: a scale model of the renovated church property. Tomorrow would see the banquet that kicked off the capital campaign.

But the brigade of women in the kitchen were not thinking of tomorrow. They were thinking of Easter, still a week away, and they were making sarma. "It's a stuffed cabbage," explained Simona as she took a short break. "We pickle the cabbage in plastic barrels - that's about a twoor three-week process. Then we make the meat filling. The stuffed cabbage leaves are put in roasters, and then a nice sauce is put on top. It's for our Easter celebration — we'll

have about 400 people at

lunch."

"We fast for all six weeks of Lent," added Bozana, spooning meat into a cupped cabbage leaf. "That comes from Christ being on the mountain for 40 days, tempted. Anything that comes from a warm-blooded animal, we don't eat. Milk, cheese, meat — our big Easter feast is this meat meal. Lamb is traditional, and so is *sarma*. We actually inherited it from the Turks - we were occupied for 500 years. Of course, they use more lamb in theirs

because they're Muslim. Ours is beef and pork with rice and sautéed onions and seasonings - salt, pepper, paprika and an egg for binder. You lay the rolls on a layer of chopped cabbage with bay leaves and cook slowly. And if you had some nice smoked ribs or smoked sausages, they would go in between the rolls."

"You have read the story of Mary and Martha in the Bible?" asked Father Krsic, who unlocked the church doors at five minutes before the hour. "They were sisters. Mary was sitting at Jesus' feet and listening to the word of God while Martha was running around and preparing the food. Because of tomorrow, we have many Marthas tonight. I do not know how many Marys we will have. All the people who would normally be in here are over there. Renovating our church property is part of our spiritual life as well, and we prayed before we began our work, but it's a balance that we are called to examine carefully especially during Great and Holv Lent. We try to intensify our prayer lives. Can we make that one extra visit to church during the week?" That's why Krsic took up the Friday-night singing of the Akathis to the Most Holy Mother of God, a sixth-century hymn "of praise and fervent supplication."

As it happened, I was the only Mary in attendance that evening, so Krsic sang an abbreviated form of the lengthy hymn. As a pot of incense smoldered by his side, he stood at the front of the church, his black cassock decorated only with a heavy purple stole, facing the icon screen that both adorned and obscured the Sanctuary. Above the screen, a big mosaic of Mary glowed in the half-dome of the apse, her arms spread wide to reveal Christ in her bosom.

Krsic sang for a little over 12 minutes; I'm guessing the full text might have taken it to twice that. Both opening and closing were given over to praise and supplication aimed directly at God — the Psalms figured heavily. ("Quick, Lord, answer



Akathist to the Most Holy Mother of God,

St. George Serbian

Orthodox Church Clairemont **				
Sermon				
content	no sermon			
delivery	no sermon			
Liturgy	$\star \star 1/_2$			
Music				
congregat	ional $\star \star 1/_2$			
band	no band			
Snacks	no snacks			
Architecture	$\star \star \star ^{1/2}$			
Friendliness	$\star \star^{1/2}$			
Poor to satisfact	ory (none)			
Good	*			
Very good Excellent	**			
Extraordinary	****			
Entraordinary	2000			

me before my spirit fails Let dawn bring proof of Your love for one who relies on You.") But the heart of the song was aimed at Mary, each stanza punctuated by the sung refrain, "Most holy Birthgiver of God, save us!" "I beseech

you, O Virgin, to scatter the troubles which afflict my soul and banish the storms which rage within me; for you, O holy Bride, have given birth to Christ, the source of serenity, O only blessed one."

What happens when we die?

"There is a separation of soul and body," said Krsic. "We hope and pray that the soul is taken to heaven. We don't destroy the body because it housed the soul. The body participates in the process of becoming Christ-like while in this life — we try to sanctify and purify both body and soul. So we don't cremate it. but carefully lay it in a cemetery. At the Second Coming of Christ, the body and soul will be reunited. The body we'll receive then will not be subject to illness and decay. It will be similar to that of Christ after His own resurrection — a transformed body." - Matthew Lickona

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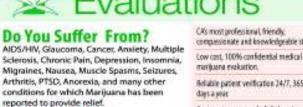
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