

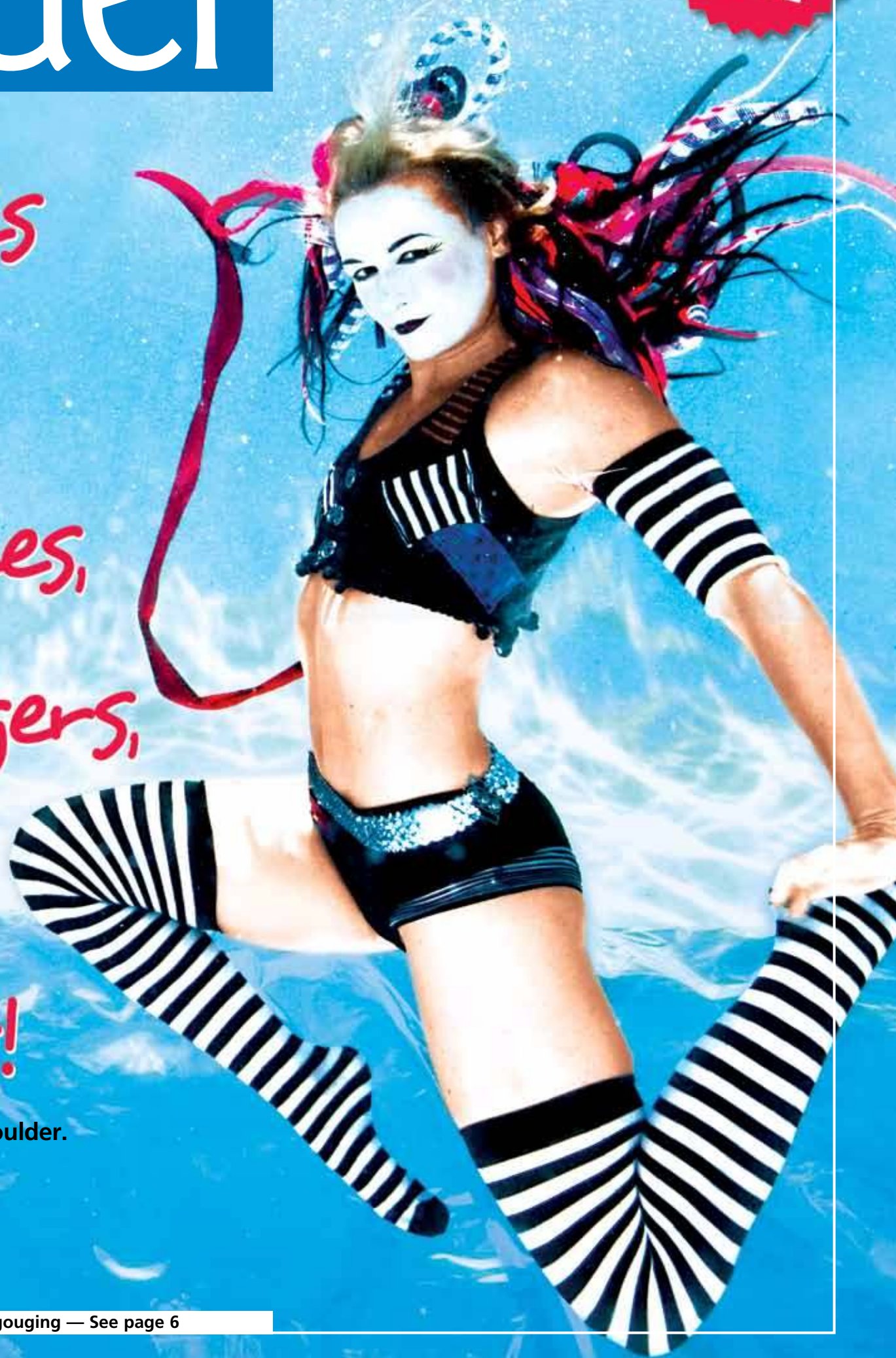
SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

VOLUME 38 / NUMBER 20
MAY 21, 2009

Reader

382
COUPONS
INSIDE

Bless this
Before visiting San Diego's
crew of
Zirk Ubu, the last time
visionaries,
I'd gone to the circus,
joy-bringers,
I'd walked out with
and
50 pounds of elephant dung
nutcakes!
in a cardboard box on my shoulder.



"When I crashed my car." Dad explained how, exhausted from his schedule, he'd fallen asleep at the wheel of his Fiat 124 Spider, which he'd purchased in Italy the year before. "It still had Italian plates on it.... I was exiting the highway and went off the road. The car flew through the air and landed flat on its wheels. But when it landed, it broke my back — cracked one vertebra and crushed another. I was still in uniform, and when the highway patrol found me, they thought I was dead

because my uniform was covered in blood." A memory surfaced in my mind of Dad apologizing for not being able to pick me up and carry me around like I'd asked him to. "After that, I quit school," Dad concluded.

I didn't think I was going to crash my car or anything — I handle most of my work at home. But the two most important men in my life had left an impression.

I found David in the kitchen. "I've been thinking about things, and I'm really going to make an effort to not be such a workaholic," I said. David smiled. "You know, I mean, as soon as things let up a little, maybe in a few months." His smile faded from joyful to knowing. I was relieved it hadn't vanished entirely. ■

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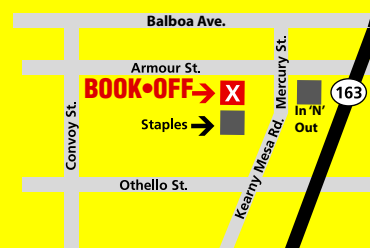
In the Reader's
new Happy Hour
section starting
this week
on page 91!

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Crasher

I WOULD DRIVE 100 MILES

by Josh Board

I covered a hundred miles driving to three different parties on one recent Saturday.

The first party was up in Murrieta. I would've blown it off, but it was for an old high school friend named Steve.

It was great seeing some guys I hadn't seen since high school. One owns a book-publishing company, and we all pitched our book ideas to him. Another is a cop, and we made fun of him being colorblind. We said things like "I'm chasing a red Buick. Uh, wait. It might be yellow."

After chowing down on steak and chicken, I went south for the next couple of parties. The second one was in San Carlos. The theme was "CEOs and Office Hos." I put on the tie that I'd brought with me.

I find it odd that some women dress minimally on Halloween; instead of wearing a scary costume, they just want to show skin. Yet, the women at this party surprised me: more of them were dressed as CEOs.

Gerald laughed when I told him this. He said, "Yeah. I think a lot of the guys were bummed that so many went the CEO route."

I was talking to a few guys in suits, and a woman with a drink in her hand said, "What is this? Is there a board meeting going on here?" I said, "With



Left: A CEO mixing drinks at the bar; Right: A guy over 6'5" was the "ho," his date was a CEO

me, it's always a Board meeting." The joke didn't work with a crowd that didn't know my last name.

Another woman said, "These guys look important. But you know in real life they're probably not." A few of us laughed at that. A few others seemed hurt.

Karaoke was started in one room, and I heard someone

"Don't say my name if you write about this."

humming along to "My Sharona." They weren't singing so much.

I went outside and lit up a cigar. A drunk woman stumbled into me. She had hardly anything on. I said, "Let me guess...a CEO?" She then fell into a table that crashed down

on the back patio. A few people ran over to make sure she was all right. She said, "Yes, I'm a little drunk. I'm looking for my purse."

I could hear someone trying to sing an Eminem rap inside.

The fallen woman got back to her feet, and I noticed she had a bit of blood trickling down her cheek. She said, "Oh, shit! You're that writer. Don't say my name if you write about this."

I walked back in and a woman with a leopard-skin jacket walked by to grab some food. She had a \$100 bill dangling from her pocket.

I noticed a table was set up with name tags. Gerald had written dirty-sounding names on some of them. Other people were creating their own.

One guy told a story about his bank account being wiped out by theft. He was mad that a bank manager he had known for a long time wanted to do an investigation. Somebody nearby said, "That makes sense. Sometimes people have their friends

wear a hoodie and sunglasses and rob them while they're at the ATM. They plan it all out so the cameras catch them being robbed. Sometimes it's when they are taking a business's deposit to the bank. It's a fairly common scam."

I headed to my last party in National City. I took the tie and blazer off but kept the cheesy Hawaiian shirt on, as it was a luau for a woman turning 40. It wasn't in the best neighborhood. As I parked, I noticed a woman sitting in her car that was parked the wrong way. She looked strung out. As I got out, I noticed a condom in the gutter. I also noticed I still had the name tag on. I peeled it off.

As I approached, I saw the party hosts had rented a Port-A-Potty. I heard a woman say, "I have to pee so bad, but I don't want to use this thing."

I overheard another person ask how old Lisa would be. The response from another lady was "She's 25 again. Come on. You know you aren't supposed to ask a woman's age. Even if it is a birthday party."

I walked up to a group of guys talking about things they've done to impress women. One said he put roses in the Jacuzzi. He said, "It looked nice, and the girls we invited over liked it. But my friend's dad wasn't happy when the water pump got jammed with rose pedals."

There were more than 300 people in the backyard. I heard that I missed a few of the punk bands playing. I was surprised the neighbors never called the cops because the houses were in such close proximity and they didn't have fences.

One person told me their son was the bass player in the Atoms, a local band. I had heard of them but wasn't familiar with their stuff. I wasn't able to respond with anything more than "That's cool."

One guy was shoveling something on the side of the house and he saw me taking photos of women who were sipping drinks with umbrellas. He said, "Why not get a photo of the guys working?" I laughed and looked around. It did seem like a lot of guys were working. One was slaving over the barbecue. Another guy was stringing up decorative lights. One guy was acting as the photographer for the evening. I was told he was also a Navy SEAL, and he just laughed. I wasn't sure if it was true. He didn't appear that imposing.

I asked the cook how he got stuck with the job. He said, "I'm a chef at a local hotel." He pointed to his cap, which had his name on it. I asked, "Why not one of those big white chef hats?" He said, "Nobody wears those unless it's in a movie. Those are shit."

I saw a few guys passing a

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joint around. They offered me a hit, and I declined.

I went and grabbed a Coke and noticed about ten kids playing football, which I thought would've been better if there was more grass. The yards were mostly dirt. Grass is more comfortable to be tackled on.

People kept coming over and offering me food. I told them I'd eaten at two previous parties. I did grab a piece of cake.

It was dark when I walked back to my car. For some reason, the neighborhood looked safer...maybe because I couldn't see all the things that struck me as odd in the daylight. ■

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Music



San Diego Reader May 21, 2009 27

Bless this crew of visionaries,

Before visiting San Diego's Zirk Ubu, the last time I'd gone to the circus, I'd walked out with 50 pounds of elephant dung in a cardboard box on my shoulder. I had read that elephant dung was good for gardens, I was a beginning gardener, and I had elephant-dung connections: a former student of mine was a clown in a major traditional circus. Her parents had just spent well over a hundred grand to send her to a fine liberal arts college, and she wanted to continue her education by going to clown college!



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I like to think it was my let-
ter of recommendation
that got her in. All clowns
need a specialty gag. Hers
was contortionism: she
emerged from a box about
the size of a three-slice
toaster. She got herself in
trouble almost immedi-
ately with the circus
authorities because she
complained that a partic-
ular animal trainer (one of
the headliners) was cruel
to his animals. Clowns are
low on the totem pole in
the traditional circus. She
was a vegan, clown, and

animal-rights activist. She
worked for the circus for
several years and married
the boss clown. They have
a few kids now, and both
still do clowning work.
Every year she sends me a
Christmas card with the
whole family dressed up in
full clown attire.

The circus and circus
life as I'd known it —
mostly from movies and
books — had never
engaged my imagination
and didn't impress my
daughter much either.
When she was three, we

took her to the big top.
My former student and
several of her clown pals
even came up into the
audience before the show
to give my daughter spe-
cial attention. Yawn. The
elefunks? Ho-hum. When
we asked her afterwards
what were her favorite
parts, she said, "The gold-
fish." Meaning the little
goldfish crackers we had
brought along as a snack.

Zirk Ubu, one of San
Diego's alternative circus
troupes, includes no ele-
phants, but its members

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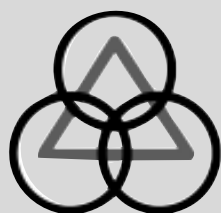
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Let me introduce the troupe to you briefly, by both their real and their stage names.

Justine (she said she'd prefer I not use her last

name, although it is on Zirk Ubu's webpage), 21, is the youngest member of the troupe, is in several scenes, runs the concessions (popcorn and cotton candy), and is a self-described "expert on goggles." Her stage name was Xylitol Sweetbread (she later changed it to Arlinka Galore). I looked up "xylitol": it's a naturally occurring sugar, used as a sucrose substitute for diabetics. And as we all know, sweetbread is the edible thymus or pancreas of an animal. She's the stage assistant of Murrugun the Mystic, another troupe member whom I'll introduce soon. They are in a romantic relationship. They share the rent by busking: street performing. Her regular day job: she makes and remanufactures clothing.

The costuming, in

general, particularly among the female members of the troupe, is eyeball-rattling: Dadaist sexy, 18th-century French court influenced, colors lashed with colors, Miss Kitty on *Gun-smoke* influenced, Cubist at a slant — not your usual circus tights and bangles. Madame Mandible told me they all make their own costumes, "even the men."

Nancy Caciola, Dame Bedlam, is a professor of medieval studies at UCSD. She's a conceptual artist who creates acts and characters based on, among other things, early mad-houses (bedlam) and medieval anatomical drawings. She's been partners for 27 years — most of them married — with another troupe member, Richard Cohen. Together, they're responsible for my joining the circus, for about



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Jim Call/Sheik Maracas is the oldest member of the troupe at 61. The music, very important for this show, is his department. He was in a San Diego punk band in the late '70s and early '80s called the Penetrators. He specializes in what he calls "noise music," which sounded about 75 percent music and 25 percent noise. It, and the way he mixed other music with

it, struck me as just right for Zirk Ubu. Sheik Maracas limits his costume to a fez. He spends most of the night in the sound booth. His day (night) job: DJ at a strip club.

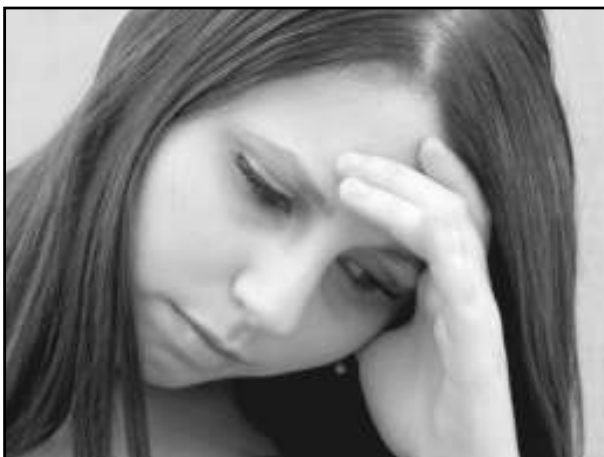
Richard Cohen/the Red Sultan is also a professor at UCSD — of religious studies, primarily Buddhism and Hinduism. "A Jewish kid from Long Island," he grew up about five minutes from his wife, Dame Bedlam, although

RESEARCH STUDIES

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

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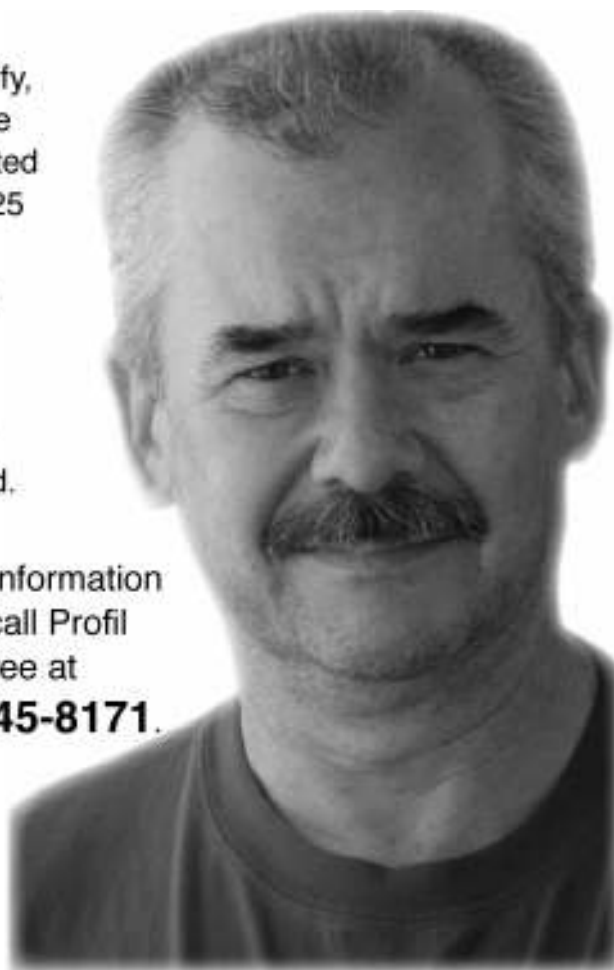
You may qualify for the study if you are:

- 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**.



they didn't meet each other until they were freshmen at Wesleyan University. They're in their mid-40s. He specializes in concept and development and being a "mystery buffoon." A combination of talents that one doesn't, but should, see more often! The Red Sultan creates characters like a magic house that falls in love with a chicken.

Allorah Creevey, aka Miss Tickle, is a stage and TV actor, comedienne, and a seasoned improv

performer. She calls herself a "dinner bell for a feast of the absurd." Day job: psychic, often channeling a 16th-century Native American chief named Great White Eagle. Lakota. He speaks in English, "but with an accent." She also does a little "dog whispering." I asked her what she liked about being in Zirk Ubu. She said, "Our art bumps up against their insides." I'm sure she meant the insides of the audience, but the troupe members bounce off the insides

of each other, sometimes butt heads, but mostly work with a kind of fluidity, even liquidity: individually, they're individuals. Together, they're a river!

Megan Fontaine/Miss Mango, dancer, aerialist, acrobat, stilter, costume designer. Day job: busker/circus artist.

Derrick Gilday/Dango, juggler, stilt balancer, acrobat, catcher and lifter of Mango. Day job: circus artist/busker; with Mango, as Mango and

RESEARCH STUDIES

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Participants will be asked to:

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- Females must be post-menopausal or surgically sterile

If you qualify, you may be compensated up to \$2,730 for time and travel. Up to fifteen overnight visits may be required.

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Where is your focus? ...on your overactive bladder?

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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:

- study-related evaluations by a board-certified dermatologist and study medication at no cost
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Medical Center for Clinical Research
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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 8 years.

To possibly qualify for the study, must be:

- 18-49 year old females, regularly having periods
- Surgical confirmation of Endometriosis in the last 8 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

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www.mccresearch.com

Dango. In a deep relationship with each other, on- and offstage.

Iain Gunn, aka Asbestos the Clown: puppetry, peace officer, 38 years old. If anyone is anything close to being a leader of this organized anarchist posse, it's Iain, if only because of his expertise in a wide range of circus arts. A master puppeteer, he earns his living that way, mostly working with children. He's involved with Bridget Rountree whom, alphabetically, we'll meet soon.

Noticing any patterns here? Six of the eight people I've introduced to you so far are in relationships with others in Zirk Ubu,

and there's another couple to come. It's a normal thing: we often meet those we love at work — because we spend a great deal of time there. Or it could be that people who share special and, in this case, rather odd and rarefied proclivities tend to find each other. Or could it be a riddle inside a peanut underneath a slice of cheese?

Mary-Margaret Mitchell/Madame Mandible is engaged to a chef who is not a member of Zirk Ubu. She studied painting at the University of Illinois and now works in interior design, specializing in custom murals for children's bedrooms and commercial spaces. She's

a performance/concept artist, does props and sets, and "wears everything from a tutu to a tool belt."

Scott Nelson/Murrugun the Mystic: sideshow, sword-swallowing, fire-eating, and fire-breathing, etc. Fire-eating and fire-breathing are two different arts, and here's one tip re both: like peeing, don't do it into the wind. Murrugun, as mentioned, is affiliated romantically with Xylitol Sweetbread.

Bridget Rountree/Mademoiselle Mechanique is a dancer and aerialist. She specializes in turning "thoughts into form," which I think nicely sums up what Zirk Ubu essentially does: turns strange and original thoughts into strange and original forms. From the abstract to the concrete, the concrete being inexhaustible and holding great possibilities of discovery. That's just about every artist's responsibility. She said something about Zirk Ubu's "organized chaos," a good oxymoron. (My all-time favorite oxymoron? "My heart, that velvet wrecking ball" — the poet Bill Knott.) Mademoiselle Mechanique's day job: she's a puppeteer and keeps the

RESEARCH STUDIES



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All participants will receive a comprehensive psychiatric evaluation by a UCSD faculty psychiatrist.

Medical evaluations and study drug will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also receive financial compensation for time and travel.

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Do You or Someone You Care For Have Alzheimer's Disease?

Men and women ages 55 to 90 are invited to participate in a research study of an investigational medication for Alzheimer's disease.

Participants must currently be taking a prescription medication for Alzheimer's. Health insurance is not required.

Qualified volunteers will receive at no cost:

- Study medication
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- Memory testing
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For information call the Affiliated Research Institute:

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PSORIASIS?

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

We need participants:

- 18-65 years of age
- With chronic plaque psoriasis

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related examinations by a Board-Certified Dermatologist and study medication at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

No insurance required

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Or e-mail us at: psoriasis@therapeuticsresearch.com
www.therapeuticsresearch.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.

For more information, please
call Profil at **1-866-245-5921**



Research Study – Type 2 Diabetics

Do you have type 2 diabetes and still have uncontrolled blood sugar levels even with the help of a healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication? If this sounds like you, then you may be eligible to participate in EMERGE.

Dr. Sunder Mudaliar and his associates at UCSD are looking for men and women with type 2 diabetes as volunteers to take part in a research study to assess the efficacy, safety and tolerability of an investigational drug for diabetes.

Duration:

Breakdown goes as follows: screening period (up to 4 weeks), treatment period (24 weeks), plus 28 weeks (up to a total of 1 year treatment) if you agree to continue in the study after the initial 24 weeks, follow-up (2 weeks).

If you meet the following criteria you may be eligible to participate.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Males or females aged 18 to 75 years • Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
- Treatment with Actos greater or equal to 30 mg/day and metformin greater or equal to 1,500 mg/day for at least 12 weeks on a stable dose (meaning no dose changes to these medications)
- HbA1c between 7-10% • Stable weight for at least 12 weeks
- Body Mass Index (BMI) is 25-45 kg/m² (greater than 23 for Asians)

For more information, please contact

Catherine DeLue at: 858-552-8585 ext. 6740

Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$550.



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To be considered, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have elevated blood pressure
- Have a waistline larger than 35 inches (for women)
- Have a waistline larger than 40 inches (for men)
- Have abnormal lab results in at least one of the following tests: blood sugar, triglycerides or cholesterol

If you qualify, you will receive all study-related care, including physical examinations, laboratory services, and investigational medication.

For more information, please contact:

Medical Associates Research Group

858-277-7177

www.MARGinc.com

Volunteer For Your Future

METABOLIC SYNDROME

Type 2 Diabetic Volunteers

Dr. Robert Henry and his associates at the VA Medical Center are looking for Type 2 Diabetic volunteers to evaluate the effects of dapagliflozin compared to placebo on insulin resistance and insulin secretion.

Duration:

Approximately 24 weeks total: 11 clinical study site visits (The visits will include an initial screening visit and 10 clinic visits.)

If you meet the following criteria you may be eligible to participate.

Inclusion Criteria:

- Males or females aged 35 to 70
- Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
- A1c 7.0% to 10.0%
- Body Mass Index (BMI) less than or equal to 45 kg/m²
- You must be taking Metformin for at least 12 weeks at a dose of 500mg or greater OR Metformin greater than or equal to 500 mg plus a sulfonylurea (such as Glyburide and Glipizide or Prandin, Januvia)
- If you are a woman of childbearing potential you must agree to use an adequate method of contraception to avoid pregnancy

For more information, please contact

Catherine DeLue at 858-552-8585 ext. 6740.

Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$1,400.



books for her and Asbestos the Clown's production company, Animal Cracker Conspiracy.

Tom Wall/Psych is an aerialist. He's a psychologist by day, specializing and certified in family and couples' counseling, which, he jokingly told me, comes in handy working in a troupe of 12 that includes 4 couples. He also said he's the only member of the troupe who isn't currently in a relationship.

On a cloudy mid-September day I went to my first Zirk Ubu rehearsal/meeting. It was at Asbestos, Mademoiselle Mechanique, and Psych's house in University Heights. I had a déjà vu moment when I first entered: it reminded me of a hippie pad in the late '60s, early '70s, sans the

smell of cannabis. Also, no sitar music. The place was a bit disheveled but clean. These people had things other than *Better Homes and Gardens* on their minds.

The backyard is their main rehearsal space because this is where the prop shed (actually a canvas garage) is and, more importantly, a rig: two metal poles firmly anchored in the ground and attached by a crossbar. This for aerial work and from which they hang their silks (pairs of long, narrow pieces of fabric they climb and perform on) and a large hoop, also hung from silks. They practice their aerial work here, but not today. Mademoiselle Mechanique was feeling a little congested and said she didn't think hanging upside down would be a good idea. They

also have a small stage on the lawn. A small garden, flourishing — Mademoiselle Mechanique's got the green thumb.

Murrugun was standing on an anthill, complaining about the ants crawling on him. This from a guy who at one time ate maggots (out of a Chinese take-out carton) as part of his act! He couldn't move: this was his "spot." Some of the others mocked him but threw a tarp over the anthill.

The first thing I noticed in the prop shed was a pair of old classic clown shoes. They'd been painted red but were so worn the original black beneath showed through in patches. They felt soft and looked comfy, despite their exaggerated size. These shoes were made for clowning!

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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This wouldn't pass for an ordinary rehearsal — there was no director (though it turned out that Mademoiselle Mechanique was directing the next show). They practiced their opening scene, in which they turned themselves (the whole troupe) into a shifting human sculpture. In the show they'd wear full-body white painter's

suits and white masks. Now, only a few of them wore masks. They had an informal meeting, brainstorming, talking business matters, ideas for the upcoming show. Nothing seemed to be decided on. It seemed chaotic, but I learned this was really about confidence — by showtime they always pulled it together. And

they didn't give a damn about being perfect. Mango told me later, referring to her and Dango's busker gigs, "If we mess up, we can pretend it was on purpose." They don't mess up much, and when they do, nobody dies.

Alternative circuses are not brand-new, of course. Zirk Ubu is an offshoot of another San Diego

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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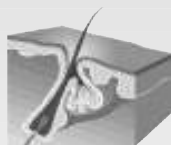
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troupe called Technomania, led by Bruce Cartier, an acknowledged innovator in the field. Each member of Zirk Ubu credited him or praised him in one way or another.

The day I returned to my home in Atlanta, I read an article in the *New York Times* about alt circus going on in New York, often in warehouses in Brooklyn. Most alt circuses include aerial (though not often traditional trapeze) acts and need a place with high ceilings from which to anchor and hang their silks.

Some other groups around the country are Mystic Family Circus, Yard Dogs Road Show, New Pickle Circus, Bindlestiff Family Circus.

There's something tribal about circus. Hundreds of years ago the

wandering gypsies of Europe probably did the first circuslike performances. Not until the late 18th Century did an Englishman named Philip Astley combine equestrian drills with acrobatics and thus start the first traditional circus. Zirk Ubu does not have horses. A fan of Circus Contraption, a Seattle-based group, put it this way: "Circus is about play — the rediscovery and affirmation of play, much more than it is about skill. Cirque du Soleil is about skill, to a level where it almost doesn't seem human. But when Circus Contraption performs, you can almost see yourself up there." I didn't believe that. When I read it.

I wanted to see how these performers' minds were set so I interviewed

them singly and in pairs. I talked first to Madame Mandible — buxom, ebullient, mid-30s, not one to mince words.

She'd dropped out of college after a visit to a jazz festival in New Orleans, where she'd stayed for several years. After reluctantly auditioning for (she didn't think herself a performer) and getting the part of Vita Sackville-West in a play about Virginia Woolf, she was hooked, a goner. This play took her all over the world. She later finished school, moved to Chicago, and started a circus called the Tingle-Tangle Menagerie, which lasted, on a shoestring, about two years.

She had some friends who lived in an apartment so big they called it "Texas" (it had been a gym), and

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she began to build her “peep show” in what she called “the wonder box.” As she described it, and from a few pictures I saw, it would most likely be called an installation piece, or maybe a sculpture, or maybe a performance piece, or maybe all of the above.

Younger/newer artists seem to be doing many

things, i.e., they’re savvy about, and adept at, many skills. In Zirk Ubu there must be at least a dozen art forms operating, and most of the performers are good at two or three or more.

I was once accused of being monocultural. After asking what that meant, I was told that I like and care about only one art form: writing, and espe-

cially poetry. Not true. I like painting, I like music, I like theater; it’s just that I prefer to read and try to write. I also felt that my life as a poet made me just odd enough, maybe, to apprehend the motives and passions of this troupe.

As best I understand it, the peep-show piece consisted of a large box with three peepholes. You’d

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look through one and you'd see an older woman at her vanity taking off her makeup. She was in her late 60s, "looked much older and acted much younger!" Through another peephole: a younger woman wearing ill-fitting vintage lingerie. She proudly poses in her mirror with a bowling ball. Through the final peephole, in what Madame Mandible called her "menstruation piece," one saw another woman. By using cotton balls, corn syrup, and food coloring, the woman could squeeze her legs in such a way that she would seem to be menstruating. I was assured that this was done with more subtlety than it might seem. All metaphor, the exegesis of which most readers of goodwill can read: a feminist point,

nonstrident, Dada-whimsical, multimedia, funny/serious.

The following day I talked to Dame Bedlam and the Red Sultan. The Red Sultan is of average height, is slim, and sports dreads that would make some Rasta folks envious. Several of the dreads are dyed purple. Dame Bedlam has long, wild auburn hair, which she sometimes wears up, sometimes down, and sometimes in between. I noticed a few days later, at the show, she had a tattoo between her shoulder blades: five words stacked on top of each other.

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palindrome. Its origins are obscure, probably pagan. The oldest attestation to this charm shows up in a graffito in the city of Pompeii, destroyed in 79 A.D. The Pennsylvania Dutch used it as a charm to pro-

Red Sultan both earned doctorates from the University of Michigan, and both have published scholarly books in their fields. They came to the alternative circus world at first simply because they were

The Red Sultan asked me to play a part in their next show.

tect their cattle from the evil eye. That's very important: to keep the evil eye off your cattle, especially your milch cows! Translated, it means, roughly, "The sower, Arepo, holds the wheel carefully."

Dame Bedlam and the

looking for something different to do. They started hanging around Technomania, going to shows, helping out, and eventually getting onstage, the pleasure of which boils down to "enjoying watching people have fun doing something that's not polished but passionate and nutty, something not perfect, something not slick." (I'm conflating things said by both the Red Sultan and Dame Bedlam.) Since they don't have traditional circus skills — they don't juggle or stilt walk or eat fire — they create skits. As one of them put it, "Turning ideas into costumes, which leads to skits." Or, "Thinking through costumes." The costume comes first, and then they invent the character: the costume tells them who should wear it. Their bits are for entertainment, but they also "act as some sort of exploration on our parts." That's Mr. (Robert) Frost's equivalent of "No discovery for the writer, no discovery for the reader."

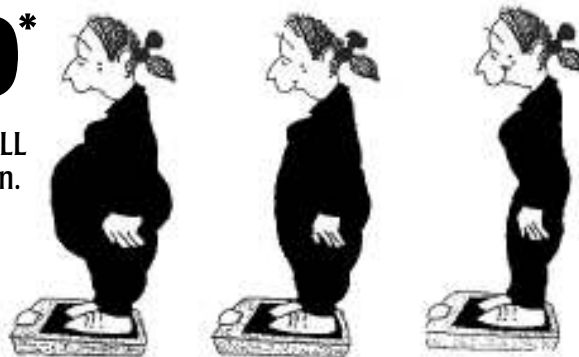
I asked them if they'd quit their day jobs to do circus full-time. They both said no but added simultaneously, "We'd take a sabbatical!" and when I asked if they got nervous before a show, the Red Sul-

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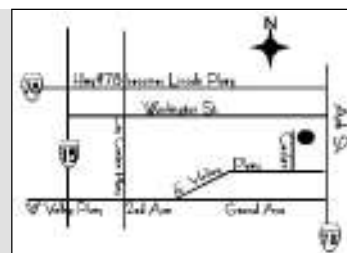
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tan said: "We're teachers, we perform all the time. I have one class with 300 people in it. I'm basically a stand-up comedian with ideas as my punch lines." In over 35 years in academia myself (though I snuck in the back door without a Ph.D.), I've learned that if sometimes there's laughter in a classroom, there's more learning going on in that classroom.

The Red Sultan had been playing a character for a while called the Bad Poet. While Dame Bedlam, his beloved, dances interpretively behind him, the Bad Poet declaims poetry, poems of "my feelings meant for you" and "feelings I'm afraid to show." He described it as the kind of angst-ridden poetry a lovesick 16-year-old might write. When the Bad Poet arrives onstage, almost immediately comes some "booing, heckling, a little bit of throwing." He told me this disturbed him so he decided to commit suicide, *seppuku*, by sword, onstage. He later showed me the sword that disappeared into itself when pressed against his belly. He'd been having trouble with this bit: "The problem was that the vituperation began as soon as the character appeared onstage; there was an immediate reaction to the character himself, rather than to his words...the poet elected to kill himself because there seemed to be little point to the act if, from the beginning, the audience expressed hatred, and the poet's words only served to confirm that hate. Art should not confirm people in their basest emotions; it should enkindle those emotions in such a way that people recognize them and meditate on them. As soon as the cognitive dimension of the act was lost, the poet had to die." The Red Sul-

tan (whose heart is good) is an articulate man. Then the Red Sultan asked me if I'd like to play that part in their next show. Shameless, dumb as a bag of ball-peen hammers, I said,

"Sure."

That night I went to Seaport Village to see Murrugun and Xylitol do their busking act, but when I arrived they had just finished up and had a pretty

good night: about \$240, including a \$50 bill. Murrugun's namesake was a son of Shiva and was the guardian of swords. I'd catch their act a few days later.

The first members of Zirk Ubu I saw working their individual acts were Mango and Dango, who are both 27. They had won the First Annual Seaport Village Buskers Festival in

2007 and were at the end of a five-month-long "pretty summer contract" for performing in Old Town. When I got there, they already had gathered a large crowd, several of

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them family groups, many of whom were regulars and happy to see them again. If I had to define their busker act: acrobatics, juggling, dance, humor, and a dose of straight-up nonsappy humanity.

Dango fell in love with busking while bumming around Europe. He put it simply: "Real life. Real props. Real sweat." A few years later, back in San Diego, he met Mango around the local circus scene and circus school — Sophia Isadora Academy of Circus Arts — and soon thereafter they began a Mexico-to-Panama City tour, performing at schools, nightclubs, children's fundraisers, parks, restaurants, anywhere they could. They created a company called PIECE — People Involved in Expressing Creative Energy — which is now

called, appropriately, Mango and Dango. Probably not a company you'll see listed anytime soon on the New York Stock Exchange. When they're traveling and busking, they give 25 percent of everything they make to local charities. There's almost a spiritual quality, certainly a generous spirit, to their mission, their passion. Two weeks after getting back from Central America, they went to Europe, bought a van, and "performed on the cobblestone streets of every major city." They spent some time at a Copenhagen circus school, sometimes had to Dumpster-dive for food. In describing these travels, these discoveries, they seemed drunk: on joy. They'd just purchased tickets for a three-month tour of

Southeast Asia and Japan. They don't have an agent, business manager, or personal assistants. They go, find a place to perform, perform, and then find another place to perform.

Their show in Old Town was a blast. My favorite bit ended with Mango wrapped around the head and shoulders ("like a spider monkey," she told me later) of a big guy they pulled out of the audience. After the show, we hung out at a restaurant. All the staff knew them; several people walking by said how much they've enjoyed their act. Dango was tired. He ordered a large margarita. He said he needed to go home and lie down for a while. He'd earned it: their act is very athletic. He does most of the lifting and throwing; Mango does

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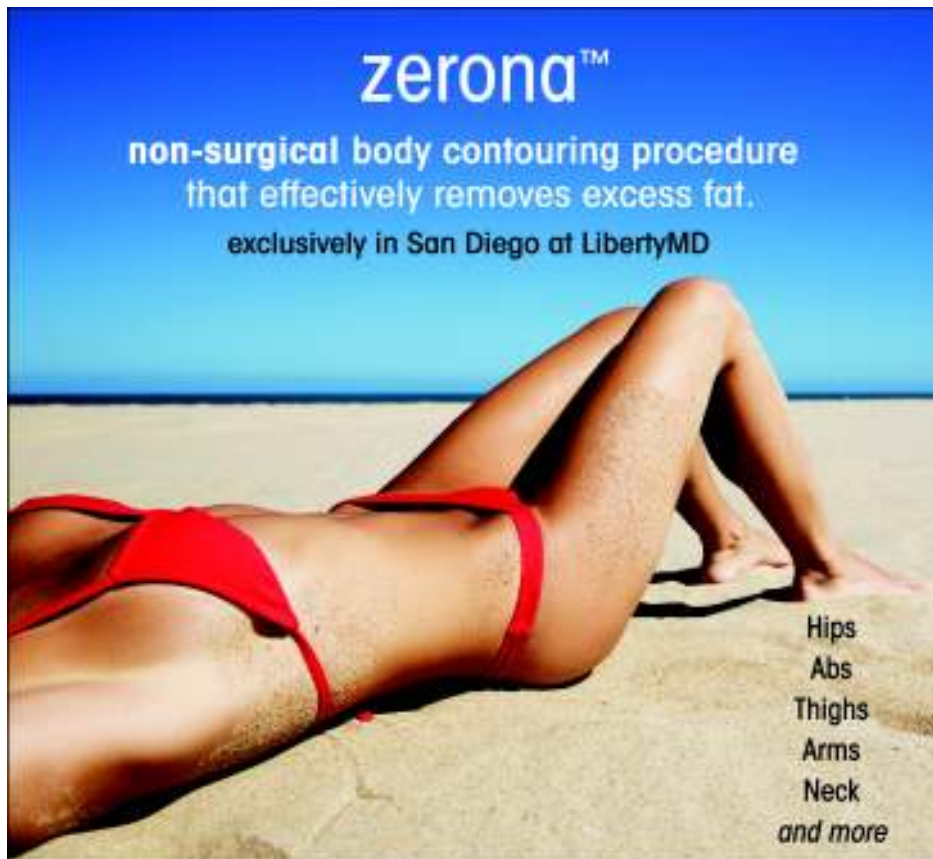
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most of the leaping and flying.

The next night I caught Murrugun and Xylitol busking at Seaport Village. What can I tell you about Murrugun? In a nutshell, he is a raving lunatic! I love the guy. He was recovering from puncturing his esophagus while trying to swallow six swords at once. First of all, that's about 20 pounds of metal down your throat. In the dropping (that's what a sword swallower calls it) of the sixth sword, a few already in there "scissored." He knew if he didn't eat or drink anything he'd be okay until he went to the emergency room the next morning. After some surgery and an ongoing course of antibiotics, he was dropping a sword now and then but still hadn't gotten back to multiples. He said he

knew why what went wrong went wrong, and he knew how to prevent it. This night the wind was swirling (not good for eating or breathing fire), but I saw him do something I hadn't seen before: he blew fire out of his nostrils. He also lay down on a bed of nails

Normally a gay dance club, it has a stage, and, most importantly, a very high ceiling with safe anchorages for the silks and the ring used in the aerial acts. The entire interior of the club is painted black, and it sports two giant disco balls, the first I've seen

He blew fire out of his nostrils.

(big nails, sharp nails), put a piece of plywood on his chest, and coaxed four of the biggest guys in the crowd to stand on it, on his chest.

I went to a rehearsal for the Zirk Ubu show that was coming up the next night at Rich's, on University Avenue in Hillcrest.

since the 1970s.

The cast was stringing large pieces of white crepe to both sides of the stage, some members were in half-costume, some not in costume at all. The colors for this show were primarily back and white, and a vague theme was "interruption."

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Before

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For the opening scene, they were all going to wear complete-body (even hoods, I think) white painter's suits and white masks. Some were painting black-and-white designs on cardboard. The cast is the crew, although other people help out sometimes, maybe paying some dues, hoping to join the circus someday too. Madam Mandible walked in and said, "It looks like a goddamn backyard wedding." Psych was up in a Genie personnel lift, double-checking that the silks were secured. The aerialists stand the best chance of getting hurt, of course, but if you can learn to fly, and you don't, well then, it's time to hang your head and go back to being a full-time pedestrian. The silks are 25 to 30 feet long, and Zirk Ubu's have a little elasticity. Not all do, but Psych prefers them that way.

Psych is 40 and has been doing aerial work for only two years. He's slightly introspective and cerebral, though he can be just as goofy as anybody else in the group. He came from a large Catholic family and never had the chance to discover his natural physical talents until he was older. He loves being a psychologist — he exudes empathy — but feels a little sad that he came to this other thing he loves only in the last few years. He told me his eureka moment — when he figured out he could do something like he's doing now — came not too many years ago when somebody gave him a hula hoop and "I just got it immediately!" He went to circus school to learn aerial work but was told that at 38 he was too old to start. He did it anyway, and to see him you'd think he was born and raised up there on the silks.

The troupe has three primary aerialists: Psych, Mango, and Mademoiselle Mechanique. Dango will be up there someday. You can see it in his eyes. But get this straight: all

four of these people are incredible athletes. Dango and Psych don't look like bodybuilders, but they are ripped. Psych, warming up, was doing the equivalent of iron crosses, a dif-

ficult gymnastic move. Mango and Mademoiselle Mechanique are both slim (and both drop-dead beautiful), but when they're doing their routines, their delts, their upper-back

muscles, their triceps, are like ropes. Like the cordage you'd see on sleek and fast-sailing ships. Mango and Dango work out regularly, and the only place they have to practice at home is

their small front yard, much to the delight of neighborhood kids. Their art form demands discipline. Strength. Concentration. I joke about Murrugun being a candidate for

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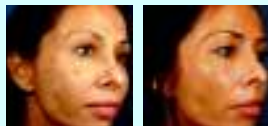


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the cracker factory. What he does takes tremendous focus, precision, knowledge (he’s read everything ever written on the art of sword swallowing), and serious guts. Okay, okay, he’s still nuts. So what?

The rehearsal seemed chaotic, but eventually a rough plan came together, the order of the bits, etc. Each show is in two acts, each with several skits, bits, scenes. Mademoiselle Mechanique, as I said, was directing. Sometimes Iain directs, sometimes others (you have to understand that “direct” with Zirk Ubu does not mean what it does normally).

Psych and Mango spent some time hanging around, literally, from the silks. Dame Bedlam and the Red Sultan were practicing a kind of light sword dance/fight, she at one

point buried herself in a huge cloud of white tulle while the song “I Only Have Eyes for You” played. At another point (and not part of the bit), the Red Sultan walked up to Madam Bedlam, who was

swords) and put a cinder block on his chest, and Dango smashed the cinder block with a sledgehammer. “Drive that frickin’ thing home,” said Murrugun. (He really said “frickin.”) They were mim-

Mademoiselle Mechanique is in a romantic relationship with Asbestos.

leaning against the stage, touched her face with a few of his fingers, and kissed her. Twenty-seven years and counting. Murrugun and Dango were miming Murrugun’s bit that night: he lay on a bed of swords (not nails,

ing it so as not to waste a cinder block. Meanwhile, Xylitol practiced heckling: “That’s not a real cinder block!” It was. Troupe members will do this sometimes—heckle, boo, cheer, and applaud. They like to get the audience involved.

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There's the sound of shellfire and Jim's noise music and older songs. I heard Dango say, "Has anyone seen my invisible claw hammer?" Miss Tickle was wearing a Marie Antoinette wig about two feet tall. She called herself "a small medium at large."

They practiced their opening scene, called a charivari, in which the whole troupe was onstage in white suits and masks. This was something like a combination of (1) human sculpture, sometimes moving, sometimes not. Xylitol sat on someone's (Dango's?) feet (he was on his back), and he lifted her up and down rhythmically. Sheik Maracas's noise music was somehow in sync with their movements; (2) a slow-motion dance by people from another world; (3) an animal — big cat — stalking and sizing up prey; and (4) what's that thing called we did in arts-and-crafts classes? Fold a piece of paper many times, cut it with scissors in a particular way, and then unfold it. Like that, except giant, and moving.

Miss Tickle was onstage and reading something and said "Updike" when she meant to say "uptake." A Freudian slip? Probably not: none of these people are analyzable, not even by Dr. Freud. Psych and Mango were practicing on the silks — an elaborate upside-down ballet. If it weren't so athletic you'd be reminded of complex positions illustrated in the *Kama Sutra*. Asbestos said, "Anybody got an extra G-string?" Whenever I saw Mango, she was always moving, always half-dancing to whatever music might be playing. For this we should be grateful.

Mademoiselle Mechanique, as I've mentioned, is in a romantic relationship with Asbestos. She

was born in San Diego and trained in competitive gymnastics for seven years. She was thinking the Olympics, but as a teenager she decided that "training every day was

not nearly as much fun as friends." A UC Berkeley grad, with a degree in fine art and literature, she loves the collaborative nature of circus. "I see circus as a hybrid, a collage of all

the creative things I've done." She prefers that to "the lone artist working to further one's own ideas" and likes "the conversation with others, blending the many into one."

Her final comment: "Of course, a good laugh is worth a thousand words." No argument from me, and I'm a word guy!

Asbestos the Clown seemed to me the embod-

iment of clowning. In costume and makeup he looked like a clown, from the inside out. He's originally from Vancouver, B.C., and got a bachelor of fine arts from the Univer-

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sity of British Columbia. After that, in the real world, "I gravitated toward artists, musicians, Vespa gangs, raves, troubled students needing assistance, and performance art." He also got into giant puppet making. He performed for five years with the Fern Street Circus, another San Diego troupe that itself was modeled after the Pickle Family Circus, an established San Diego alt circus. He was codirector of Technomania. Like all the arts, circus arts are passed on, splinter, grow, leap, get grafted to each other, change, but don't ever seem to forget the past, the elders, the roots. Asbestos teaches puppetry and performance at magnet schools with an arts focus and sometimes teaches workshops for "fledgling teaching stu-

dents at Cal State San Marcos to help them incorporate puppetry and performance into their classroom work." He loves the performing but also "the deep stillness and calm that comes five minutes or so after the show — successful or not. There is nothing really like it." I think I actually did have a feeling like that after the show myself, and as I've admitted, my time onstage was brief.

The evening of the show, we arrived at Rich's several hours before the first act at ten o'clock for what was to be a full dress rehearsal. Everyone seemed to be trying on different costumes. For a while I thought several new characters had joined the show. Dame Bedlam and Madam Mandible were trying different looks. Ditto Made-

moiselle Mechanique. Turns out each troupe member was having publicity photos taken. Each was shot in full costume and in several different poses.

I started wondering when the dress rehearsal was going to happen. It was 8:30 or so. I was watching from the rear of the club. My perspective was slightly elevated, with a railing and some booths behind me. I think it was the VIP section normally, though I got the feeling this place, and particularly Zirk Ubu's audience, was not class conscious.

Dango came by and asked me if I'd ever been booed off the stage. I said no, but I've had my share of bad reviews. I understand now that Dame Bedlam and the Red Sultan were easing me into my role as the Bad Poet.

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At rehearsal the day before, she gave me the shirt — white, with many ruffles, like the shirt from the famous *Seinfeld* episode — and I took it back to my room to try on. Now, she gave me the giant white pantaloons — or culottes? — that I had to wear. The Red Sultan and Dame Bedlam were saving the hat and the breathtakingly absurd ruffled collar for just before they shoved me onstage. I'd get my face painted white between acts.

The place started filling up about 9:30. None of the cast seemed rushed or worried; most were doing last-minute prep, stretching, fluffing things fluffable. By the time it was in full swing, I'd say there were at least 250 people there. The crowd was mostly people in their 20s and 30s, but I also noticed several people in their 40s, 50s. Many were punked-out. There were gay and lesbian couples, hetero couples, all sorts of ethnicities — African American, white, Asian, Hispanic — and some impossible to identify in any way because they, too, were in costume. One person had a giant Egyptian-inspired wolf head on his/her head. Not a mask, a whole head over his/her head. I couldn't figure out how the occupant could see through it. But he/she could dance with it on. (Between acts, everybody dances!) It looked heavy, and I figured it was about 110 degrees inside. I'm saying again: the crowd is part of the show.

About 10:30 the show started with giant puppet hands moving from behind the crepe: probably Asbestos at work.

Backed by strobes, noise music, smoke machine, the whole troupe entered, semi-, no, about 83 percent coordinated.

White suits, white masks, robolike movements, an almost ceremonial feel, futuristic, pagan. Mango climbed on someone's shoulders. She's always climbing on somebody! She peered at the audience through a little magnifying glass, or was it a monocle? As if to say: Are you ready for this?

This segued into Mango and Dango doing the tango, which turned into a tango/gymnastics routine. The crowd was going wild. Dango twirled Mango around almost as easily as an old-time top-hat dancer twirls a cane.

Asbestos blew a whistle and entered wearing a referee's striped shirt. (The basic theme, interruption; the basic colors.) He gave them a ticket, maybe a summons, perhaps for dancing a little too suggestively in public. He exited, Mango tore up the ticket, and they were back, in a heartbeat, to their acrobatic/tango dancing.

There was more craziness: Miss Tickle came onstage and read from a script. Some dastardly act had taken place. Something about a neighbor coming by to borrow a "cup of nails."

Shrouded figures with lights in their mouths and hands ghost danced until — suddenly — Mango pushed them with authority off the stage. The crowd went nuts when they saw her and, a second later, Mademoiselle Mechanique. The crowd knew what was about to happen: their hoop act, which is very acrobatic and slightly (with a wink) erotic. Both were wearing black-and-white stripes, and Mademoiselle Mechanique wore zebra stockings held up by a black garter belt. She also wore a black wig. They were working hard, acting goofy, coordinating their routine, and having a lot of fun! Ditto the audience!



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Murrugun the Mystic was next. He had decided to forgo the bed of swords and cinder-block bit. "At least until I finish my course of antibiotics." Instead he pushed three pieces of sharpened wire through his body: one through his left bicep, one through his right forearm, and one beneath his tongue, emerging beneath his chin. Tame night for Murrugun.

There was satire: two members wearing McCain and Obama masks duked it out, stopping mid-fight for a friendly drink, before resuming acrobatic fisticuffs. Obama seemed to win when he pulled off McCain's pants. In case you're wondering: he wears boxers. Then Obama seemed to be hitting on a woman who had been watching all of this — Mango, I think,

wearing a Hillary Clinton mask. Hillary blew him off.

Then blackout to the Red Sultan and Dame Bedlam's light sword dance/fight that I'd seen them rehearsing earlier. In full costume, with the lights

in rebuke: he was playing the kazoo now, which he seemed to think was a higher and more wholesome form of entertainment. Madam Mandible (I think) snatched his kazoo out of his mouth, much to the approval of the crowd.

I put on my Bad Poet clown suit. I think it was Miss Tickle and the Red Sultan who swabbed and powdered my face white. Still no hat or collar. I went back to the back of the club. Three-quarters clowned-up and nobody

The athleticism of this bit — its wild energy and its wackiness — was astonishing.

and music, it was mesmerizing and started to get a little sensuous, and again, the interruption, the whistle, that wet-blanket morals cop, Asbestos! He was beginning to draw more boos and hisses. The whole cast gathered around him as if

End of first act.

Intermission. Everybody danced, I say, everybody danced! I love what the famous anarchist Emma Goldman said about anarchist and commie gatherings: "If there's no dancing, count me out!"

blinked. My bit was near the end of the show.

The second act opened with a skit where Asbestos (now rehabilitated and a sympathetic character) was a painter. French — he wore a beret. Dango was reclining like a pasha with his head in Madam Mandible's lap (who wore a spectacular white and feathered half-mask) as she stroked his floppy Mohawk haircut. Maybe it was a way for Dango to catch some rest and still be in a bit. When the scene ended, again interrupted by Miss Tickle, and Dango got up, I noticed he was wearing stilts.

I couldn't hear much of what Miss Tickle was saying — I was between the stage and the increasingly larger and more raucous audience — but this bit quickly turned to one of the most artful and moving parts of the show: Psych and Mango on the silks. Psych climbed to the top of one of the silks in a second! If you can imagine a 25-foot waterfall moving upwards as fast as it moves downward — that's how fast. In two seconds, he was dangling from one foot, upside down. Mango ascended the other silk, and they did gravity-insulting things, together and separately. As often in Zirk Ubu's aerial work, there was a

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hint of sensuality. Beautiful bodies, in costumes that were not exactly burkas, hanging from and twirling on giant white curtains — how could that not be sexy? Lest you worry for Dango's heart: Mango's heart belongs to him, and besides, Psych happens to be gay. This bit alone was worth the cost of admission, \$10.

Then, the Bad Poet. I walked onstage in the previously described attire, plus a huge fluffy doily for a collar and a conical white derby with a chinstrap. The hat also sported two large white cotton balls on its front. I wondered, at this point, if the costume was the true cause of the immediate "vituperation" mentioned earlier by the Red Sultan. The booing started at 9 seconds. It seemed the audience was unable to appreciate my metaphor of a poet's heart compared to a gravy boat going over a waterfall. I was hooked off, literally, at about 15 seconds. No time for flop sweat. I could look at this experience as a character-building humiliation, or I could look at it as fun. No contest: it was frickin' fun!

The next skit, Asbestos and Dango, on stilts, having a kind of stilt-dancing dance-off, a kind of a duel, over the affections, I believe, of Mademoiselle Mechanique. The athleticism of this bit — its wild energy and its wackiness — was astonishing. One move took abdominal muscles, on the part of Dango, as strong as the cables on the Brooklyn Bridge. It was also one more example of Asbestos's multiple skills.

There was one more bit where Xylitol, dressed in frilly white and looking like a China doll (she's a tiny woman) and Murrugun dressed in drag, had an escalating fight in which he ended up holding a cannon and she a ballistic missile. They were fighting over

the world, which Atlas (Asbestos) had dropped. Then, just before the battle of all battles, they looked at each other, shrugged, dropped their weapons, and walked offstage.

The final scene was similar to the first, but this time the cast came out on all fours, like big cats crossed with monkeys, their faces down and the masks on the top of their heads. Then,

quite logically, they all stood up and did a little bit of the macarena. Lights up, crowd went wild.

Bless this crew of visionaries, joy-bringers, and nutcakes! May they

flourish, and may San Diegans in the hundreds, in the thousands, after they've seen Zirk Ubu, go home a little more oddly alive than when they came. ■

— Thomas Lux

Thomas Lux is the Bourne Professor of Poetry at the Georgia Institute of Technology. His most recent book is *God Particles*, Houghton Mifflin Co.

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Around the Circle

Little did I know that upon moving into my neighborhood that I was sooner or later going to have to go around in a circle and reintroduce myself at least a handful of times.



Author: D. Kinsley
Neighborhood: Encinitas
Age: 32
Occupation: Sous chef

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

Deadline for the next contest is May 31, midnight.

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

This is extremely challenging for me, because I don't talk much. It is clear to me that my neighbors do. Every weekday around 5:45 p.m. I see them all out there in the driveway, beverages in hand, musing over the latest trailer-park prattle. It goes a little something like this:

"Who's building a new fence and a loft above their trailer next?"

"I'll do it."

"Wait, does she have a permit for that thing?"

"The doctor says it's contagious, so just keep that in mind."



There is sometimes laughter that takes over the constant chatter, and that's okay. It's the rest of it I try my best to tune out. But living in such close proximity to one another makes this quite difficult. We live in a tight community — all 47 of us packed onto one lot.

"I'd like you all to know that, yes, I'm going out of town, but I don't need you to collect my mail for me." Thanks

anyway, Mrs. So-and-So, but I've got it all figured out. And no, Mister, thanks, but I already have a dad. Isn't that enough? Don't they get me yet? I feel like I've been talking to these people every single day for the past four years, telling them none-of-their-business useless information: Yes, I do get up at 5:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and, yes, I am spending the night at my girlfriend's

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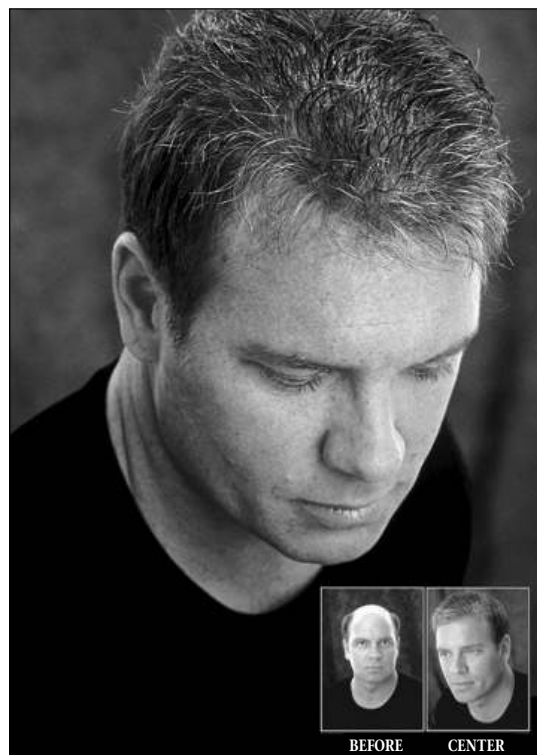
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house again tonight. And no, I don't care that you've been celibate for the past 25 years by choice. Okay, I'm just going to go quietly now and listen to the crows hollering incessantly instead of hanging around out here.

"J.D., are you in there? We were wondering if you left your underwear in the laundry room. They're about as big as a postage stamp, and it looks like something you might wear." Dear God, are they talking to me? Back to me again already? I thought I was off the hook for awhile. Are you sure we went around the circle again? It seems like it keeps getting smaller and smaller.

Okay, everyone — I have issues with people who have a problem with respecting boundaries. Yes, old man, that includes you. Don't you think it might be a good idea to invest in some curtains? I see you lying in your bed at night as I'm lying in mine. Yikes! How can you sleep with socks on?

"No, I didn't leave my skivvies in the laundry room."

"Okay, sorry to bother you."

Are they still lingering out there, even though I answered the question from the inside of my trailer home? Yep, they are still there.

"By the way, J.D., what current creative project are you working

on these days?"

"Lattice and climbing vines for my deck."

"Oh, okay — oops, looks like my beverage has run dry."

"Okay, then. Goodnight."

At last, another evening in the park is over, and I can go rest peacefully now. ■

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- 4 What does it feel like?
- 5 Best candidates?



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Weight Loss

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- 3 Body Mass Index (BMI)
- 4 Is the Atkins Diet safe?
- 5 Exercise: How much?



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Extension 7040

Breast Surgery/ Augmentation

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- 2 What type is right for you?
- 3 Breast lift
- 4 Breast reduction
- 5 Male breast surgery



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Extension 7080

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- 4 Surgery
- 5 After surgery



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LETTERS

continued from page 20

Hala's political views. Hala is certainly entitled to her opinions — after all, this is America — but her opinions — at least as they have been reported — are inconsistent with mine and Tom's. Having said that, I am not sure what relevance her views had to your story or Tom's ownership of the *Union-Tribune*.

With respect to the characterization of the dispute between the estate of Frank Joubbran and me, while what you wrote may accurately reflect what was in court papers at the time, had you checked with the parties involved you would have found that it is not consistent with the facts of the situation. Frank Joubbran and his family did very well investing with me. The lawsuit was brought after Frank's death

and was based on a misunderstanding of the facts.

I must admit that I was more than a bit surprised that while you devoted significant space to many of my other family members — cousins, uncles, and the like — so little space was devoted to the person both Tom and I considered our role model and our mentor: our father.

Alec Gores
via email

Matt Potter responds: Except for the fact that we reported that Tom Gores emigrated when five years old, these letters do not seem inconsistent with what we reported in the story.

Piles Of Flaming Doo-Doo

Ken Leighton is a lying piece of crap and needs to be stopped!

In his article "Tick Tick Tick..." ("Blurt," May 14), Mr. Leighton blatantly lies about recent happenings at the Jumping Turtle in an attempt to completely destroy their business and have them shut down by both the City of San Marcos as well as the sheriff's department.

I cannot believe that anyone who writes and publishes such falsities would still have a job! Mr. Leighton has been trying for *months* to shut down the Jumping Turtle, going as far as making false calls to the sheriff's department just to cause trouble.

I do *not* condone nor do I support anything Mr. Ken Leighton has done or said over the past few months, and I feel as though he should be terminated from his position with the *Reader*, as well as fined for spreading such slander and causing the unbelievable amounts of trouble that he is causing. If Joe Troutman and Matt Hall lose their club because of Ken, I hope they sue not just him but the *Reader* as well for allowing Mr. Leighton to continue on their staff.

Please fire Ken Leighton immediately!!!!!! Any more controversy because of him may become very costly to you!

Kimberly
via email

Ken Leighton responds: I read this article back to the San Marcos official who issued the new entertainment permit. That official confirmed the article as factual. I also confirmed the facts with the sheriff's department. I have never called the sheriff's department to report any problems at the Jumping Turtle.

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 21

DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONAL STYLE

Who we are now is a mash-up of who we used to be and who we want to be. Elizabeth Jerome and Stefanie Venter will show you how to incorporate those keepsakes from college with the latest styles in home decor.

See [LECTURES](#), page 64.

YOURS FOR THE BAKING

How do you make a cupcake taste good without eggs, refined sugar, or gluten? One way is to sweeten your dough with

agave nectar. Erin McKenna — author of the cookbook *BabyCakes*, named for her vegan bakery in New York — will tell us how it's done.

See [FOOD & DRINK](#), page 61.



POEMS FROM GUANTANAMO

"I wish someone would comfort me/ At night I taste bile and cannot sleep" is one of the lines from Marc Falkoff's

Poems from Guantanamo, comprising poems written by detainees of the controversial prison. Poems will be read by actors from Write Out Loud, and law professor Marjorie Cohn will speak about ending torture and securing justice for detainees. See [IN PERSON](#), page 62.

Saturday | 23

GET READY TO RUBIK!

The solution to what has been called the "frustration cube" can be as simple as following a few basic steps. Some cube masters can solve the puzzle in 13 seconds, while others can solve it in 3 minutes...with their eyes

closed! Watch the fingers fly at the fourth annual San Diego Rubik's Cube Competition. See [SPECIAL](#), page 68.



Sunday | 24

SPRINGTIME AND GREYHOUNDS

The 18th annual reunion picnic benefits Operation Greyhound, an organization that finds homes for retired racing greyhounds. Bring your own rescued pooch or just bring yourself to make some new, "fast" friends.

See [SPECIAL](#), page 68.

Friday | 22

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER

Break out your sequined shirts and white polyester pants because it's disco time at the Oceanside Museum of Art. See live-video performance art, design your own Mr. Potato Head, make scratch-and-sniff paintings, and more. Can you dig it? See [SPECIAL](#), page 68.



THURSDAY, MAY 21: DISCOVERING YOUR PERSONAL STYLE

VOICES: MAPPING THE HOOD

Eveoke choreographer Ericka Aisha Moore directs this production, with choreography by Yvonne Hernandez. It's everything interpretive, with dance, film, live spoken word, visual art, and videography. See [IN PERSON](#), page 62.

Monday | 25

MEMORIAL DAY BOOK SALE

Pick up a book before heading to the barbecue — just in case there's some downtime. Kensington/Normal Heights Friends of the Library are having a sale in Library Park, and it's not just books — there's also CDs, DVDs, and more. See [SPECIAL](#), page 68.

Tuesday | 26

BRAIN DRAIN

When the blood supply to any part of the brain is interrupted, that section of the brain ceases to function. Hear Dr. Frederick de la Vega discuss stroke prevention, warning signs, and treatment options for stroke victims. See [LECTURES](#), page 64.

Wednesday | 27

LIPINSKY FAMILY SAN DIEGO JEWISH ARTS FESTIVAL

The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents the 16th annual exploration of Jewish culture through theater, music, dance, and visual arts, May 27 through June 30. See [THEATER](#), page 111.



THE LITTLE RED HEN

The hen asks, "Would you help me plant my corn?" When she gets no assistance from her friends on the farm, she is reluctant to let them share in the bounty come harvest time. Witness this classic tale of teamwork as performed by puppets at Balboa Park. See [FOR KIDS](#), page 62.



Local Events [page 60](#) | **Classical Music** [page 60](#) | **Galleries** [page 62](#) | **Museums** [page 69](#)
Pop Music [page 70](#) | **Restaurants** [page 93](#) | **Movies** [page 102](#) | **Theater** [page 110](#)

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

"Le Grand Orgue" Alison Luedecke performs selections from organists "of the great Parisian churches...on the pristine 1931 Austin organ" of Saint Joseph's. Listen for works by Dubois, Langlais, Tournemire, Duruflé, Dupré, and Vierne. 858-997-8636. Sunday, May 24, 3pm; free. Saint Joseph's Cathedral, 1535 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

"Solo Time" MiraCosta College's North Coast Symphony Orchestra and local musicians showcase their talents. Soloists include clarinetist Leland Lallier, who will play Finzi's "Five Bagatelles"; and musicians Kathryn Ringrose and Beth Ward, who will team up with other performers on "Concerto in B Flat for Three Oboes, Three Violins, and Continuo." Orchestra performs "Overture to Semiramide" by Rossini, Mendelssohn's "Symphony No. 3 (Scotch)." Tickets: 760-795-6815. Saturday, May 23, 7:30pm; Sunday, May 24, 2pm; \$8-\$10. MiraCosta College Theatre, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Chamber Music at the Library Piano trio members Nanae Green (piano), Sarah Paik (cello), and Naomi Leslie (violin) play works by Smetana, Chopin, Stravinsky, Kreisler and J.S. Bach. 858-552-1657. Saturday, May 23, 2pm; free. La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Honors Recital Undergraduate pianist Karen Chow presents honors recital, performing classical works by Mozart, Scarlatti, Chopin, Beethoven, Debussy, and Ginastera. 858-534-3229. Friday, May 22, 8pm; free. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams performs. 619-702-8138. Sunday, May 24, 2pm; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Season Finale Jacobs' Masterworks series concludes when San Diego Symphony, conductor Jahja Ling, and pianist Jon Kimura Parker perform Gershwin's "Piano

OUT & ABOUT

EVOLUTION OF THE VIOLIN

Jennifer Lynn, Wednesday, May 27, Carmel Valley Library.

(SEE BELOW)



Concert in F," described as a "jazz/blues-influenced follow-up" to "Rhapsody in Blue." Also on tap: "Remembering Gatsby" by John Harbison, Rachmaninoff's "Symphony No. 2." 619-235-0804. Friday, May 22, 8pm; Saturday, May 23, 8pm; Sunday, May 24, 2pm; \$20-\$95. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Spring Fest Spring showcase offers "opportunity to witness exciting and innovative performances by UCSD's extremely gifted music graduate composers and performers." 858-534-3229. Thursday, May 21, 8pm; Friday, May 22, 8pm; free. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Symphony Exposed Find out how Sergei Rachmaninoff got his mojo back after the failure of his first symphony when San Diego Symphony, maestro Jahja Ling, and host Nuvi Mehta present

Rachmaninoff's "Symphony No. 2." 619-235-0804. Thursday, May 21, 7:30pm; \$15-\$62. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

The Evolution of the Violin Violinist Jennifer Lynn traces violin's changes, from baroque to classical to modern, using a baroque violin, classical violin, and five-string electric violin with an amp and pedals. She will play selections from each period. Last year Lynn performed with Foo Fighters at Grammy Awards and Rock Star Supernova at Greek Theatre. 858-552-1668. Wednesday, May 27, 7pm; free. Carmel Valley Library, 3919 Townsgate Drive. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Trombone Time Timothy Smith (trombone) and Tatiana Mann (piano) plan recital in French Parlor of Founders Hall. 619-260-4171. Wednesday, May 27, 7:30pm; free. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

DANCE

"Balkania After-Party" Dromia provides live music for dancing. 619-281-5656. Friday, May 22, 9:30pm; \$10. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

"Dance n' Dine" The PGK Project presents the California Ballet in an evening of contemporary dance with dinner. Reservations: 619-474-3222. Saturday, May 23, 7pm; \$45. Café La Maze, 1441 Highland Avenue. (NATIONAL CITY)

"XII Muestra Coreográfica Binacional" The "XII Binational Choreographic Showcase" is designed to engage dancers and choreographers, enhance relationships in binational dance community. Program includes series of master classes, roundtable discussions, showcase of new choreography, critics talk-back. Co-produced with Tijuana's Minerva Tapia Dance Group, weekend also features Cuerpo Etereo (Monterey) and Antares Danza Contemporánea (Hermosillo); U.S. companies are Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater, San Diego Ballet, Yolande Snaith IMAGO Moves.

Event begins with wine and cheese reception and exhibition of dance images by photographer Jennifer Spencer and Julio Rodriguez Ramos on Friday, May 22, 6pm. On Saturday and Sunday, May 23 and 24, events begin at 10am, with showcase concerts at 6:30pm on Saturday, 7:30pm on



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Sunday. Tickets for three-day event: \$35. 619-225-1803. \$35. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Road, Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

Belly-Dance Showcase Marissa, Cyrene, Theresa, Sultana Rose perform to live music by John Bilezikjian and Dave Dhillon. Donation: \$5. 619-688-9845. Thursday, May 21, 8pm; Claire de Lune, 2906 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Dancing through the Decades Firehouse Swing Dance promises '60s jazz and Motown swing with Meeshi Anjali and Mercedes Moore. 858-395-6060. Wednesday, May 27, 8pm; \$5-\$8. Firehouse Swing Dance, at San Diego Women's Club, 2557 Third Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

English Country Dancing Melissa Running calls for English country dancing. 858-676-9731. Sunday, May 24, 6pm; \$8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Luau Swing Jam Party Community swing dance jams celebrate six-month anniversary with luau theme party. Dance Lindy, East coast, jitterbug, swing. Dance lessons for all levels before dance (\$40 for four weeks). Admission to dance is free if you take class. Dance only: \$8. 619-291-3775. Friday, May 22, 8pm. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Nobody's Business Chris Page calls to tunes by this band for contra dance hosted by San Diego Folk

Heritage, Saturday, May 23. Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30pm. Wear soft-soled shoes. Bring food or beverage to share during optional potluck supper at 6:30pm. 619-283-8550. \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Tired of Doing the Same Old Thing? Turn off your television and learn basics of Argentine tango. Lessons for absolute beginners. Partners encouraged but not required. 858-228-7546. Friday, May 22, 8pm; free. Ages 16 and up. Dance Motions, 12120 Alta Carmel Court, Suite 410D. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

FILM

"UCSD Up-and-Coming Student Film Fest 2009" Art-Power! Film's juried student film fest. Student film screenings followed by awards ceremony, post-screening discussion with panel of media industry experts, refreshments. Evening begins with music by Matt Swagler and the Dirty Birds. Pay what you can. 858-534-TIXS. Friday, May 22, 6:30pm; Price Center at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Jesus Camp Oscar-nominated documentary offers look at Christian "revivalist subculture." Purchase requested. 619-299-9360. Sunday, May 24, 6:30pm; free. Café Liberta, 3834 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Kopps Swedish comedy from 2003 follows police officer ob-

essed with American police clichés who enlivens his boring days with dreams of dueling "bad guys." Donation. 858-271-1573. Wednesday, May 27, 7pm. Hall of Nations, Presidents Way at Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

La Vita Rubata Graziano Diana's 2008 film recounts true story of Graziella Campagna, a 17-year-old Sicilian girl killed by the Mafia, and the ensuing battles her relatives wage to obtain justice. Suggested donation: \$5. 619-238-7559. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

New Muslim Cool Preview of documentary chronicling life of Puerto Rican American rapper Hamza Pérez. Follow his journey from drug dealer to Muslim, raising two kids as single dad in Pittsburgh, taking his message of faith to young people through his work

in M-Team hip-hop duo. 619-230-1190. Monday, May 25, 1:30pm; free. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Palestine Blues "Movies that Matter" documentary focuses on "Palestinian olive trees, water, and a village's fight to save their land from the Green Line." 619-235-6135. Friday, May 22, 7pm; \$5. Ages 10 and up. Centro Cultural de Raza, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Rivers of a Lost Coast Palmer Taylor and Justin Coupe's film "follows legendary north coast fly fishermen from the early pioneering years of the 1920s to the current collapse of California's salmon and steelhead runs." Expect brief talk about local issues pertaining to southern steelhead. Filmmakers will answer questions after screening, all in Summer Auditorium (building #8625). Donations benefit Escondido Creek Conservancy.

858-350-3111. Saturday, May 23, 7:45pm; Scripps Institution of Oceanography, 8602 La Jolla Shores Drive. (LA JOLLA)

The Pope's Toilet This Uruguayan film is set in 1988 in a small town anxiously awaiting the arrival of Pope John Paul II. See film by directors César Charlone and Enrique Fernandez when it's shown for Film Forum. In Spanish with English subtitles. 619-236-5800. Wednesday, May 27, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Fiction, Documentary, and Animation... All are on offer, along with experimental works, during SDSU Filmmakers Showcase, highlighting new works by television and film students. 619-594-6884. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; \$10. Don Powell Theatre at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

FOOD & DRINK

Meet a "Raw Food Uber-Guru"

David "Avocado" Wolfe presents his new book *Superfoods: The Food and Medicine of the Future*. With a master's degree in nutrition, background in science and mechanical engineering, Wolfe "is considered one of the world's top authorities on natural health, beauty nutrition, herbalism, chocolate, and organic superfoods." 619-230-1190. Thursday, May 21, 5:30pm; \$10. WorldBeat Cultural Center, 2100 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Yours for the Baking Erin McKenna signs and discusses her cookbook *BabyCakes*. Most of the recipes are gluten-free, all lack refined sugar. 858-454-0347. Thursday, May 21, 7:30pm; free. War-



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

The 454-acre Del Dios Highlands County Preserve, recently unveiled just outside the North County community of Del Dios, now provides a direct connection between Del Dios Highway and the popular Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. Formerly, hikers and mountain-bikers had only one method of reaching Elfin Forest Reserve's network of hilltop trails — the aptly named, but steep and narrow "Way Up Trail" originating along Harmony Grove Road. The new Del Dios Highlands route, although steep, offers plenty of room for travel



Del Dios Highlands

with its generous width. That's important for mountain-bikers, who may need maneuvering space while pedaling laboriously and crookedly uphill in one or another of their machine's "granny gears."

The new trail begins at 9860 Del Dios Highway (west side of Del Dios Highway), opposite Date Lane. Drive in a short distance to the Del Dios Preserve's small parking lot, open from 8 a.m. till a half hour before sunset.

The wide dirt road ahead (closed to vehicles) curls up chaparral-clad slopes fully exposed to the morning sun, but partly shaded toward the end of the day. Waves of blue visited these hillsides last March when the

ceanothus, or wild lilac, was in bloom. By now, however, the scrubby vegetation looks quite rough and drab.

A very steep section commences after around one mile of travel. Every step or pedal cycle upward, though, improves the view, which encompasses a hidden rural quarter of Escondido known as Harmony Grove, and stretches as far north as the distant San Bernardino Mountains.

As you curl around a summit at about 1.3 miles, you'll get a wide view of the Olivenhain Reservoir, an oddly (but practically) situated element of the local water-delivery system positioned high above any natural gathering spot for water.

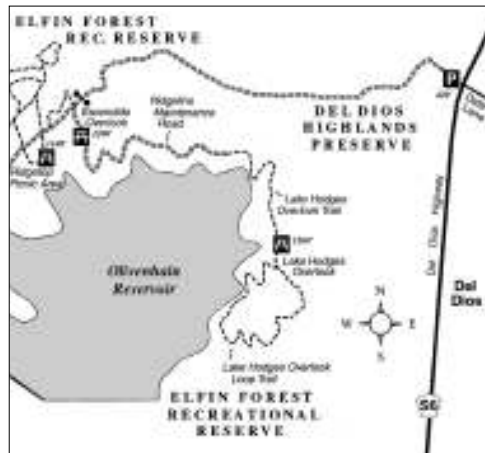
On just a little farther is a gate, beyond which lies the intricate trail system of the Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. You can obtain drinking water at the Ridgeway Picnic Area just ahead or set your sights on the Lake Hodges Overlook picnic site or head toward other destinations within the recreational reserve.

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

DEL DIOS HIGHLANDS

Enter North County's Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve via a novel approach from Del Dios.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 31 miles
Hiking/biking length: 3 miles round-trip
Difficulty: Moderately strenuous



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

"Living Foods Education" Susan Schenck — author of *The Live Food Factor: The Comprehensive Guide to the Ultimate Diet for Body, Mind, Spirit & Planet* — plans lecture. 619-550-1818. Tuesday, May 26, 6pm; free. Nature's Express, 2949 Fifth Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

Cabernet Sauvignon Launch Mirror Wine Company launches inaugural release of their 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon with complimentary wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres. RSVP: 858-756-8000. Wednesday, May 27, 6pm; free.

Ages 21 and up. Delicias, 6106 Paseo Delicias. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

FOR KIDS

2009 Pokémon Battle Road Tournament Participants in each of three POP-recognized age divisions battle to earn "premier rating points toward a potential invitation to the World Championships in August." Card game players of all ages may "thrive at an intellectual sport and test their Pokémon TCG skill, strategy, and creativity." Open to all players. 858-566-0506. Saturday, May 23, 9:30am; free. Artifex

Entertainment, 9839 Mira Mesa Boulevard. (MIRA MESA)

Can't Catch Me! Millie Patterson's Weaver's Tales take stage to present *Adventures of the Gingerbread Man* around the world. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30am Wednesday-Friday; and 11am, 1, and 2:30pm Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. \$3-\$5. Ages 4 and up. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Nature Explorers Kids (five to ten years old) and their parents learn facts about native fauna, explore changes at dusk, using four senses and flashlights. Reservations: 619-

582-6261. Friday, May 22, 7pm; free-\$3. Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Teen Dance North County Teens Club hosts dance for kids 11-15 years old, benefiting Casa De Amparo. 760-707-7844. Saturday, May 23, 7pm; \$15. Ages 11 and up. Rancho Santa Fe Community Center, 5970 La Sendita. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Young Naturalists Hike Outing led by naturalist D.J. Summers promises easy hike along a nature trail, followed by craft at picnic area. Reservations: 760-839-4680. Monday, May 25, 10am; free. Da-

ley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

GALLERIES

"On Your Own Time" Opening reception for this exhibition of work by Carlsbad employees and their families. Submissions were selected by Heath Fox, Sibylla Voll, Cynthia Millsap, Friday, May 22, 5pm. Closes Saturday, June 13. 760-602-2021. Free. William D. Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

"Still+Life" Reception for exhibi-

tion showcasing this "humble genre," in conjunction with Cedros Gallery Night, Thursday, May 21, 6pm. View paintings by Frank Damiano, Page Laughlin, Stephen Dinsmore, Tom Seghi; sculptures by David Kimball Anderson and Joel Urruty through Sunday, July 12. 858-793-4442. Free. Susan Street Fine Art Gallery, 415 South Cedros Avenue #160. (SOLANA BEACH)

IN PERSON

Endless Energy Debra Greene discusses and signs her new book, subtitled *The Essential Guide to En-*

Talent Update:

20-year-old *Chloe Goodrum* from Mira Mesa is featured in the June issue of *Essence Magazine*.

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ergy Health. “Your vitality is impacted by important factors that have little to do with diet or exercise.” 619-445-6146. Thursday, May 21, 12pm; free. Armchair Adventurer Bookstore, 2357 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

“Famiglia Del Circo” The 2009 Fern Street Circus productions promise performers of all ages showing off their circus talents, skills. See aerialists, acrobats, jugglers, stilt walkers, trapeze artists, clowns in this story of the circus family. 619-235-9756. Friday, May 22, 8pm; Saturday, May 23, 1pm, 4pm and 8pm; Sunday, May 24, 1pm and 4pm; \$7-\$14. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

“Intimate Miracles” Sebastian presents “close-up” magic shows. Tickets include food. RSVP: 619-865-2973. Saturday, May 23, 5pm and 7:30pm; \$20. UAW Local 506, 2266 San Diego Avenue. (BAY PARK)

“Make a Joyful Noise” Concert and café-style night of entertainment for Jamie’s Joy Memorial Fund (raising money for Tariq Khamisa Foundation). Concert by Karl Anthony, ImPerfect, Spotlight Junkies. Starbucks coffee, dessert on offer. 619-282-2553. Saturday, May 23, 7pm; \$15. Christ Church Unity, 3770 Altadena Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

“Poems from Guantanamo” This collection of poems was written by Guantanamo detainees; a sampling will be read by actors from Write Out Loud. Focus on “Closing Guantanamo: Problems and Prospects” during lecture, discussion led by law professor Marjorie Cohn (president, National Lawyers Guild). What must be done to close Guantanamo, end torture, and secure justice for its victims? Requested donation: \$5-\$10. 858-459-4650. Friday, May 22, 7:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

“The Saturdays of May with Matt Curreri” The 6x6 Poetry Series gets underway; 12 local poets will read from their work for six minutes. Also on tap: music by Joanie Mendenhall and the Exfriends. Series is centered around Matt Curreri and the Exfriends. 760-230-2680 or 817-235-2404. Saturday, May 23, 7pm; free. Andrews Gallery, 1002 North Coast Highway 101. (ENCINITAS)

“Energy Comes from Energy” So says Debra Greene, who discusses and signs her new book, *Endless Energy: The Essential Guide to Energy Health*. 858-581-9460. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; free. San Diego School of Healing Arts, 1001 Garnet Avenue, Suite 200. (PACIFIC BEACH)

ID: The Quest for Identity in the 21st Century Baroness Susan Greenfield — a British scientist, writer, broadcaster, member of the House of Lords — discusses her new book. Her specialty is physiology of the brain. Greenfield will be introduced by V.S. Ramachandran, director of Center for Brain and Cognition and professor with psychology department and neurosciences program at

UCSD, and adjunct professor of biology at Salk Institute. 858-456-1800. Saturday, May 23, 7pm; free. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

The Last Prince of the Mexican Empire Author C.M. Mayo discusses, signs her new novel, “based on the true and never before completely told story about the little boy who, as in a fairytale, became a prince and a pawn in the struggle-to-the-death over Mexico’s destiny.”

Sangria will be served! 858-755-3735. Wednesday, May 27, 7pm; free. The Book Works, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

The Secret of Beckham Manor Oceanside author Tom Morrow signs sequel to his first novel *Nebraska Doppelganger*. 760-602-2012. Saturday, May 23, 11am; free. Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Voices: Mapping the Hood Dance theater production directed

by Eveoke choreographer Ericka Aisha Moore boasts additional choreography by Yvonne Hernandez and transDANCE dancers for Art @ the Core: Building Community. Piece combines dance with film, poetry (live spoken word by Kendrick Dial), community videography, oral history, and visual art. Sunday matinees are interactive, designed for youth, families. 619-238-1153. Fridays, 8pm; Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, May 31, \$15-\$20.

Tenth Avenue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Ancient Legends and Exquisite Dances Shen Yun Performing Arts takes stage to present classical Chinese dance and music. Accompanied by a live orchestra, show hosted by bilingual emcees showcases legends, vocal and instrumental performances, dances, and modern day narratives from Falun Gong, radiating themes of virtue and courage through classic battle

between good and evil. 800-988-4253. Tuesday, May 26, 7:30pm; Wednesday, May 27, 2pm and 7:30pm; \$30-\$120. Ages 4 and up. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Spring Music Concert All levels of school’s vocal and instrumental talent, from “up-and-comers” to award-winning ensembles, featured in recitals. 619-475-8556. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; \$7-\$10. School of

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Creative and Performing Arts, 2425 Dusk Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

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

UCSD Guitar Ensemble Guitar students return to perform a variety of works, ranging from classical to contemporary to jazz. 858-534-3229. Tuesday, May 26, 8pm; free. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

UCSD Jazz Ensemble Some of UCSD's finest undergraduate jazz musicians come together to showcase their talents. 858-534-3229. Wednesday, May 27, 8pm; free. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Vice-Chairman of the Board? Comedian and former *Saturday Night Live* cast member Joe Piscopo takes stage. 619-595-0300. Friday, May 22, 7:30pm; Saturday, May 23, 7:30pm; \$22-\$57. Anthology, 1337 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

You're Getting Sleepy (and Laughing) Master hypnotist and magician Michael DeSchalit presents comedy stage hypnosis show with segment devoted to pets and pet lovers, using audience volunteers for "hilarious skits." 760-720-

2460. Saturday, May 23, 8pm; \$10-\$12. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

LECTURES

"Archaeological Studies at the Sikes Adobe" Remains of historic Sikes Adobe are found near Lake Hodges; completed by 1881, the house was restored in 2003, but the structure was consumed during 2007 Witch Creek Fire (leaving only adobe walls). Anne Cooper, Susan Walter, Phil de Barros share discoveries from recent excavations, plans for additional field work when San Diego County Archaeological Society gathers. 858-538-0935. Tuesday, May 26, 7:30pm; free. Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe, 12122 Canyonside Park Drive. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

"Art of the Renaissance" Art historian James Grebl continues lecture series surveying art of Western world with presentations on Renaissance. "In the 16th Century the artistic center of the Renaissance shifted to Rome where there was a remarkable confluence of artistic genius as Raphael, Michelangelo, and the architect Bramante all created great masterworks for their patron, Pope Julius II." Reservations: 858-454-5872. Thursday, May 21, 7:30pm; \$20-\$25. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

"Brain Drain" Frederick de la Vega, M.D., divulges "the signs,

symptoms, prevention measures, and new treatment options for stroke." Reception at 5:30pm, lecture at 6pm, in Schaetzel Center-Great Hall. Registration: 800-727-4777. Tuesday, May 26, 5:30pm; free. Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, 9888 Genesee Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

"Civil Rights in the Age of Obama" Will changes be made to civil rights and civil liberties under current presidential administration? "San Diego Now" panel discussion with Michal Belknap (Earl Warren Professor of Law, California Western School of Law), Kevin Keenan (executive director of ACLU San Diego Chapter), other local law experts. 619-232-6203 x129. Friday, May 22, 5:30pm; free-\$10. Museum of San Diego History, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Discovering Your Personal Style" Participants learn to decorate homes "reflective of their personal tastes and style on a dime-sized budget" from Elizabeth Jerome and Stefanie Venter. Review classic pieces "worth the investment," how to mix old with new, accessorizing with photographs, mementos, special items. Discussion will highlight how to design small spaces "that share a big impact on your personal style." 858-753-1549. Thursday, May 21, 6pm; free. Jerome's San Diego, 1190 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

"Editing for an International Audience" Jane Starrett, an editor for non-native English speakers, discusses editing for authors

whose second language is English when San Diego Professional Editors Network (SD/PEN) gather. She'll be joined by Kim Lawgali, coordinator of TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) certificate programs at UCSD. 619-281-6951. Thursday, May 21, 6:30pm; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

"Final Exit" Faye Girsh of Final Exit discusses "experiences supporting those near to death" for Atheist Coalition of San Diego. 619-342-7388. Tuesday, May 26, 6:30pm; free. North Park Recreation Center, 4044 Idaho Street. (NORTH PARK)

"Following the Golden Thread: Wicca" Series of examinations of world religions continues with Jennifer Massa's perceptions of Wicca. Each program is unique. Attend as many as you choose. "To study religion is to study oneself." Donation. 619-491-3087. Wednesday, May 27, 7pm. Series ends on Wednesday, June 24. San Diego Center for Spiritual Living, 1009 G Street. (DOWNTOWN)

"H₂O 911!" Concerned about current water shortage? Join Vickie Driver for "fast and furious introduction to dealing with our water shortage." Learn simple steps for saving water and money inside and outside the home. 619-660-0614 x10. Thursday, May 21, 6pm; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Life Is a Marathon" Author Matthew D. Jones shares "Winning Strategies for the Race of Life," including his story of conquering cancer and running a marathon. "His mission is to inspire others to live their greatness by connecting with their true potential." Donation. 619-491-3087. Saturday, May 23, 3pm. Ages 10 and up. San Diego Center for Spiritual Living, 1009 G Street. (DOWNTOWN)

"Networking 101" Career counselors Simona Cherlin and Janet McAfee plan workshop on basics of networking — why it's "critical to your job search," how to build and maintain network, tips for introverts. 858-271-8918. Friday, May 22, 2pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"The ABCs of School Records" Former librarian and teacher Marge Kealey addresses North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Learn how to access school records when doing genealogical research. Nonmembers welcome. 858-592-6049. Tuesday, May 26, 10am; free. Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

"The Border in Crisis" Alan Bersin — Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Special Representative for Border Affairs, United States Department of Homeland Security — speaks during luncheon hosted by LEAD San Diego, the City Club, and USD's Trans-Border Institute. RSVP: 619-687-3580. Wednesday, May 27,

12pm; \$30. Holiday Inn on the Bay, 1355 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

"Torture Revisited" Elie Shteneur offers "a look at torture from a fresh perspective" when San Diego Association for Rational Inquiry meets. 619-421-5844. Sunday, May 24, 7pm; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

"Toss the Turf: Less Water, Less Grass, More Fun!" Vickie Driver presents short course in turf removal. Tips for evaluating soil, tuning up irrigation system, ideas for "a beautiful low-water landscape in lieu of lawn." Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, May 23, 9am; \$20-\$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

"Women in Music" Virginia Eskin, concert pianist and lecturer, explores female composers, "who just now are gaining wider access into the Western classical cannon of music." List includes composers Amy Beach, Fannie Mendelssohn, Ann Boleyn, as well as some you may not have heard of, such as Kapralova and van Appledorn. 858-454-5872. Tuesday, May 26, 7:30pm; \$12-\$17. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

Art Quilt Exploration Class Create small art quilt each month while learning "painting and transfer techniques, embroidery, and embellishments." Class with "no patterns, ever" meets fourth Sunday of



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Professor of Chemistry, University of San Diego

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Check out our website for more details on the many great events happening on the USS Midway Museum during Legacy Week, May 23-29, 2009:

www.midway.org

San Diego Reader May 21, 2009 65

Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

each month (except July). \$120 for six classes. 760-738-9677. Sunday, May 24, 12pm. Quilter's Paradise, 1451 Montiel Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Civic Center Complex Meeting

Attend a community meeting to learn "about the analysis of numerous alternatives reviewed in an effort to minimize the city's future occupancy costs for its 3000 downtown employees." Meetings include presentations from consultants on options explored, current building conditions, review of the financial analysis, question-and-answer session. 619-533-7120. Thursday, May 21, 6pm; Wednesday, May 27, 6pm; free. Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Confused About Pet Vaccines?

Find out how vaccines work, types of vaccines available, which vaccines to give, and how often to vaccinate your pet during lecture by San Diego Humane Society senior veterinarian Dr. Jim Babbitt. Leave pets at home. Registration: 619-243-3424. Thursday, May 21, 6:30pm; \$12. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Get to Know Cleveland National Forest

Historian James D. Newland shares his passion for Cleveland National Forest for "Third Thursday Author Series." Fee: \$35 at door includes lecture, book; pay \$15 for lecture only. Tickets: 619-297-9327. Thursday, May 21, 6pm; \$15-\$35. Adobe Chapel, 3963 Conde Street. (OLD TOWN)

Invisible Designer? Renowned French perfume creator Christophe Laudamiel — who worked for International Flavor and Fragrances in New York for eight years — speaks for Alliance Française de San Diego. Among his creations: Happy Heart and Happy in Bloom (Clinique), Polo Blue for Men, Bougie Pink Pony (Ralph Lauren). Laudamiel will discuss use of technologies associated with the spread of a scent in order to create a specifically intended ambiance or concept. Talk is in English. Donation. Requested reservations: 858-254-2253. Saturday, May 23, 4pm. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

It's American Stroke Month

Stroke is our nation's third largest killer, leading cause of disability. Learn signs and symptoms of stroke, find out if you are at risk. 800-SCRIPPS. Wednesday, May 27, 9am; free. Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla, 9888 Genesee Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Quit Counting Sheep

Insomnia and sleep disorders workshop entitled "Can I Ever Get to Sleep, Stay There, and Feel Refreshed When I Wake?" Learn underlying causes of insomnia and sleep disorders, how to address these issues from naturopathic, nutritional, noninvasive approach. Dinner sponsored by Cooking 4 Life will be served. Registration: 760-929-1520. Wednesday, May 27, 6pm; free. HealthWalk, 5825 Avenida Encinas, Suite 111. (CARLSBAD)

True Stories from Around the World

"The Foundations of Islam" discussed by David Witt on Saturday, May 23, 6pm. Witt returns to focus on "The Transfor-

OUT & ABOUT

RIVERS OF A LOST COAST
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Saturday, May 23.

(SEE FILM)



mation of the Islamic World" on Sunday, May 24, 6pm. 760-789-0562. Free. Ages 8 and up. Grace Community Church, 1234 Barger Place. (RAMONA)

Wanna Make a Washi Wallet?

Washi paper is made from mulberry bark, printed with intricate, elegant Japanese prints. Lisa Koide Halverson teaches how to make origami washi wallets. "Easy and useful." Registration: 619-232-2721. Sunday, May 24, 10am; \$12-\$15. Ages 16 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

White Seabass Fishing Seminar

Hubbs-SeaWorld hosts white seabass fishing tournament. Seminar and captain's meeting planned — pick up angler goody bags, find out where the fish are, how experts catch them, bait availability, fishing conditions, special awards, final rules and times.

Competition starts at first light on Saturday May 23, concludes at sunset. Boundaries begin at Coronado Islands and end at Point Conception. 619-226-3870. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; \$50. Hubbs Sea World Research Institute, 2565 Ingraham Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

eddy," in which moist marine air drawn inland from the area around Santa Catalina Island forms low clouds over a wide area. In the absence of Catalina eddy conditions, San Diego's inland region, at least, experiences plenty of midday and afternoon sunshine.

Land Bird Migration

is in full swing this month in San Diego County, with warblers and flycatchers among those most commonly seen. Warblers crawl along trees limbs and branches to dine on their favorite insects, while flycatchers, as the name suggests, catch their meals on the wing. Riparian areas such as the San Diego River through Mission Gorge and Marian Bear Park in San Clemente Canyon are favored by both birds and birdwatchers.

Wild Rose, a California native, is in bloom throughout San Diego County's foothills and mountains. In moist, lowland areas and along small watercourses, wild rose shows off small, fluorescent-pink flowers. By June and July, the rose bloom will reach the Laguna Mountains, where the plant grows in abundance in shady locales.

Highest Tide this Month,

measuring +6.6 feet, occurs on Sunday, May 24, at 9:31 p.m. Lowest tide levels for the month, measuring -1.6 feet, occur on Monday, May 25, at 4:44 a.m., and on Tuesday, May 26, 5:34 a.m. For early-morning exploration of normally inaccessible coastal areas (like the La Jolla Caves), you might try low tide the following day (Wednesday, the 27th), when the tide dips to -1.4 feet at 6:26 a.m., after sunrise.

"Mission Trails Wildflower Cycle"

Wildflowers are still here. Experience beauty of our natural environment on trail guide-led interpretive walks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 23, 9:30am; Sunday, May 24, 9:30am; Wednesday, May 27, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Audubon Society Bird Walk

Bring binoculars and drinking water to explore Tecolote Canyon. 858-581-9944. Saturday, May 23, 9am; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Behind the Scenes

Enjoy tour of Little Italy neighborhood. Required reservations: 760-736-1138. Saturday, May 23, 3pm; free. Café Zucchero, 1731 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Birding at Batiquitos

Explore Batiquitos Lagoon area for birds with Barbara Moore of Audubon Society. 858-755-7133. Saturday, May 23, 8am; free. Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 7380 Gabiano Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Desert Garden Tour

Bizarre trees, cacti, succulents showcased when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden. 619-235-1122. Saturday, May 23, 10am; free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Discover Magnificent Beauty!

Nature walks led by trained naturalist. "Marvel at the reawakening vegetation throughout the Reserve and be enchanted by fabulous flowers along the trails." 760-436-3944. Saturdays, 10am; free. San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

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. Monday, May 25, 9:30pm; \$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Fashionable River Cleanup!

Clean and Green Team of San Diego River Park Foundation hosts cleanup to rid river of trash and debris. Join group "behind" Fashion Valley at blue tent. Tools, gloves, trash bags provided. Wear clothes that can get dirty. 619-297-7380. Saturday, May 23, 9am; free. Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Loop Walk to Waterfall

Naturalist Linda King leads moderately paced loop walk to waterfall and Carson's Crossing. 858-484-3219. Saturday, May 23, 4pm; free. Del Mar Mesa trailhead, 7107 Park Village Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Marvel at an Ecosystem

Experience beauty of San Diego River, historic Padre Dam, marvel at natural ecosystem it now supports during trail guide-led interpretive walk focusing on Kumeyaay and mission history. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 23, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground entry station, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Migrating Swallows?

Barbara Moore leads Audubon Society bird watching at Santee Lakes. To reach trailhead, take Highway 52, exit left to Mast, turn left just after you cross bridge at Fanita Parkway. Park on Lake Canyon Drive (at corner of Lake Canyon). 858-755-7133. Wednesday, May 27, 8am. Free. (SANTEE)

Mystery Walk

Naturalist Kathleen Flanagan leads fast-paced, strenuous walk of about seven miles based on makeup of the group. Expect "a lot of map reading." Bring a minimum of two liters of water, layer your clothing. 760-839-4680. Friday, May 22, 7am; free. Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

San Dieguito Explorations

Guided Nature Hike Learn about the region's native ecosystems and post-fire recovery during challenging hike led by an expert biologist. Enjoy scenic views, granite outcroppings along riparian corridor of Santa Maria Creek. Bring water, lunch, sun protection. Required reservations: 858-755-

May 27: "Never Grill a Bad Steak Again"

BBQ tips, techniques and recipes from Chef Chris Idso of Pacifica Del Mar.

May 28: Roy's Classics

Chef Garrett Mukogawa will teach you some of the classic dishes served at Roy's restaurants.

June 5: Dining & Wine Tasting in Spain

Mix up a pitcher of sangria, cook a Catalan seafood soup and some tapas and enjoy the party. Chef Nadia.

June 10: Lighten Up with Salads

Chef Chris Idso of Pacifica Del Mar presents a class featuring light fare for warm weather.

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Live Cooking Classes



Wed.-Fri.
6:30-9:00 pm

OUTDOORS

May Gray or June Gloom, the generally dreary, overcast, late spring weather along San Diego's coastline, has already begun and could intensify next month. Occasionally, the low clouds will stick around for several days. This is usually triggered by a "Catalina



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Wedding Guide



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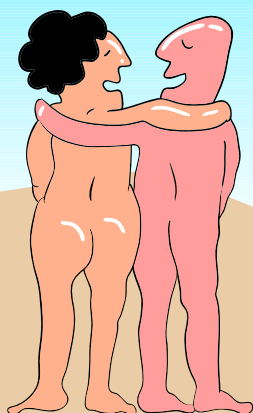
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WITH / THE SLACKERS + SPECIAL GUEST
DJING: BIG BROWN SOUNDSYSTEM
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SATURDAY JUNE 6
THE SONICS • FUZZTONES
THE WOGGLES • THE VOODOO • NEW FIDELITY
STREET DOGS • LOS CREEPERS • VICKY & THE VENGENTS
TIKI DRIVE-IN STAGE
LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS • SCOTT H. BIRAM
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SIN ALLEY GENITORTURERS
THE WISEGUYS • POLICE AND THIEVES • GIZZELLE
LOS BOOGIE BOYS • PACHUCO JOSE • VICKY TAFOYA & THE BIG BEAT • LOS DUGGANS
PLUS / CABARET • EROTIC POLE AND AERIAL PERFORMERS

SUNDAY JUNE 7
BATMOBILE • FRENZY • KOFFIN KATS
THE CREEPSHOW • THE PEACOCKS • HENCHMEN • BRIGITTE HANDLEY
TIKI DRIVE-IN STAGE
PINE BOYS • LOS DUGGANS • DIABLO DIMES • OLD MAN MARKLEY
SIN ALLEY DEVIL DOLL
GIZELLE • POLICE AND THIEVES
PACHUCO JOSE Y LOS DIAMANTES
PLUS / CABARET • EROTIC POLE AND AERIAL PERFORMERS
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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

6956. Saturday, May 23, 9am; \$35-\$40. Ages 12 and up. Santa Maria Canyon, 16251 Bandy Canyon Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Trash Pickup in López Canyon Help clean trash out of natural areas in López Canyon. 858-538-8066. Sunday, May 24, 9am; free. López Ridge Park, 7245 Calle Cristobal. (MIRA MESA)

SPECIAL

"Di Ershte Frukhten—First Fruits Celebration" In 2007, over 100 klezmer musicians and Yiddish singers gathered at El-dridge Street Synagogue on the Lower East Side in New York. Yale Strom captured "magic of the occasion in a film that celebrates the klezmer revival" during this first event of the 16th Annual Lipinsky Family San Diego Jewish Arts Festival. Evening continues with all-acoustic concert by Yale Strom, Elizabeth Shwartz, and Hot P'Stromi, as well as Mark Dresser, Peter Stan. Tickets for film and concert: \$20; pay \$15 for concert only. 619-544-1000. Wednesday, May 27, 7pm; \$15-\$20. Congregation Beth El, 8660 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Friday Night Fever" Dance to disco music from the '70s with DJ

Eddie-G during "Art After Dark" program. Video performance artist Megan Pogoda will create live video on the façade of museum. See *Beholder* by filmmakers Jim Cavolt and Neil Kendrick, as well as *El Santo y La India Maria vs. La Migración* by Omar Pimienta. Design an original Mr. Potato Head, make scratch-and-sniff paintings. View "Lowbrow Art: Nine San Diego Pop Surrealists," "Institutional Wellbeing," and "Cell Memory." Refreshments provided. Reservations: 760-435-3720. Friday, May 22, 7pm; \$10-\$15. Ages 21 and up. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

"Springtime and Greyhounds" Greyhound picnic and reunion benefits Operation Greyhound. Meet greyhounds, make some "fast" friends. Food included in fee. 619-588-6611. Sunday, May 24, 10am; \$12-\$15. Operation Greyhound, 273 Chicory Lane. (EL CAJON)

Ask the Designer Professional landscape designer Linda Whitney offers personalized 45-minute landscape design consultation. Bring photograph of your area, ideas from magazines, project dimensions for practical advice and suggestions for creating a low-water landscape. Required reservations: 619-660-0614 x10. Friday, May 22, 10:30am; \$60-\$75. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

Concentration, Visualization, Meditation Learn techniques for stress reduction, relaxation during

OUT & ABOUT

VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD?

Joe Piscopo, Friday and Saturday, May 22 and 23, Anthology.

(SEE IN PERSON)



free meditation classes, as well as advanced breathing techniques and "essence of yogic philosophy." 619-640-4438. Tuesdays, 7:30pm. Free. Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3301 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Consider Old Scratch Focus on "how and why the devil was created" with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, May 21, 7pm; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Ethnic Food Fair Enjoy food from over 30 nations (for sale), along with native costumes, ethnic music, songs, dancing. 619-234-0739. Sunday, May 24, 10am; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Fallbrook Vintage Car Show The 44th annual show promises trophies for 37 classes; show is open to all vehicles through 1984. 760-839-2800. Sunday, May 24, 9am (awards at 2pm); free. Potter Junior High School, 1743 Reche Road. (FALLBROOK)

Gambito Chess Tournament #421 Chess competition rated by the United States Chess Federation is comprised of four rounds with "the game time control of game in 45 minutes." Prizes awarded to winners. 619-239-7166. Saturday, May 23, 10:30am; \$20. San Diego Chess Club, 2225 Sixth Avenue. (BALBOA PARK)

Get Ready to Rubik! Fourth annual San Diego Rubik's Cube Competition promises "cube masters" tackling competitive events — solving the puzzle in less than 30 seconds or while blindfolded. Learn how basic mathematical algorithms make solving the puzzle quick, easy. Admission for spectators is included in paid museum admission (\$8-10). Competitors register in advance, pay fee. 619-238-1233. Saturday, May 23, 9am. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

How Will You Celebrate International Blacksmith Day? Cal-

ifornia Blacksmith Association plans day of demonstrations by contemporary and traditional blacksmiths, gallery of metal work, live music, "the sound of forging hammers striking hot metal." 760-533-7896. Saturday, May 23, 9am; \$3. Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum, 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue. (VISTA)

Meeting of the Minds "Thinkers' Gatherings" planned. Draw a topic out of hard hat or bring your own theories and hold court. 619-523-5540. Mondays, 5pm; free. Reds Espresso Gallery, 1017 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Memorial Day Book Sale Kensington/Normal Heights Friends of the Library hold their annual Memorial Day book sale in library park. Browse books, audio books, CDs, DVDs, videos, albums. 619-533-3974. Monday, May 25, 10am; free. Kensington-Normal Heights Library, 4121 Adams Avenue. (KENSINGTON)

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

Plato's Republic San Diego Great Books group closes season with discussion of this dialogue. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, May 23, 2pm; free.

San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

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

Taste of Little Italy Purchase a "passport" (ticket) to be stamped by participating restaurants in exchange for tastes of featured menu items; appetizers, desserts, specialty beverages offered as visitors stroll through neighborhood. Live entertainment at Piazza Basilone. Participating restaurants include Anthology, Buon Appetito, Caffè Italia, Filippi's Pizza Grotto, Illume Bistro, Indigo Grill, Just Burgers and Lounge, Mimmo's Italian Village, Pappalecco, Petrini's, Zia's Bistro, others. 619-615-1093. Wednesday, May 27, 5pm; \$35-\$40. Little Italy. (LITTLE ITALY)

SPORTS

Backcountry Bikin' San Diego Bicycle Touring Society bicyclists head out for 88-mile adventure to Valley Center, Lilac, more. Bring money for lunch in Valley Center. 619-277-7499. Sunday, May 24, 8:45am; free. Met at Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Memorial Day Biking Join Knickerbikers for a 25-mile bicycle ride. Those who show up will determine route, lunch spot (bring money). 619-787-7427.

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MAY 2009 EVENTS:

Sunday, May 24, 3:00 pm

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Alison Luedecke, Organist

St. Joseph's Cathedral, 3rd & Beech, Downtown San Diego
(length of concert spirituel, 1 hr. 15 min.)

Monday, May 25, 7:00 pm

Solemn First Vespers of the Feast of St. Philip Neri
and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 655 C Ave., Coronado
Fr. Carl Gismondi, FSSP, Hebdom.

Tuesday, May 26, 7:00 pm

Solemn High Mass for the Feast of St. Philip Neri
Fr. Carl Gismondi, FSSP, Hebdom.
St. Anne's, 621 Sicard St., Logan Heights

For further information see our blogsite at:
http://sandiegoratorians.blogspot.com

Or visit our website at: www.chorusbreviarii.com or call Director John Polhamus at: 858-997-8636

Monday, May 25, 9:30am; free. Meet at Trophy's, 4282 Esplanade Court. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Padres vs. Giants San Diego Padres host the San Francisco Giants. Game broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090AM), XEMO (860AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000, 877-374-2784. Thursday, May 21, 7:05pm; \$7-\$57. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Padres vs. Cubs San Diego Padres host the Chicago Cubs. Games broadcast on radio station XPRS (1090AM), XEMO (860AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000, 877-374-2784. Friday, May 22, 7:05pm; Saturday, May 23, 7:05pm; Sunday, May 24, 1:05pm; \$7-\$57. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Region One Arabian Horse Show Arabian horse show. 858-794-1171. Wednesday, May 27, 8am; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Showpark County 2 Horse Show 858-481-9085. Saturday, May 23, 8am; Sunday, May 24, 8am; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ART

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)

Malcolm A. Love Library at SDSU "Creating Community: African Americans in San Diego" exhibition celebrating San Diego's African American history draws upon library's archival collections, on view through Monday, June 15, in Donor Hall. Exhibit times: 619-594-6791. 5500 Campanile Drive, 619-594-6728. (COLLEGE AREA)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla Work by nine architects who lead San Diego-based architectural design firms "redefining housing design, development, and urbanization in the San Diego region and beyond" showcased in "MIX: Nine San Diego Architects," opening Friday, May 22. Curators selected estudio teddy cruz, LUCE et studio architects, Sebastián Mariscal, Public (James Brown and James Gates), Rinehart Herbst (Todd Rinehart and Catherine Herbst), Lloyd Russell, and Jonathan Segal as representative of a generation of architects who have pursued sophisticated design forms aligned with a critical understanding of the economic and social context of the region. Closes Sunday, September 6. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Making Music "ON! The Beginnings of the Electric Sound Generation" presents rarely seen examples of early, electrified instruments from 1900 to 1965. Exhibit includes iconic electric and electro-acoustic guitars, lesser-known electric instruments such as banjos, violins, basses, keyboards, amplifiers, effects pedals, and unusual applications of electrification such as the electric zither. Through March, 2010.

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 pm 5790 Armada Drive, 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

Olaf Wieghorst Museum Displays paintings and prints by Olaf

Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists' American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20x20-foot reproduction of 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, nav-

igation 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)

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

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Karma Can Be Ironic
 “I spent the night in jail after spending the day feeding the homeless,” says Joel D. Mutch, aka Point Blank, of hip-hop trio Even Keel. On

decent meal while entertaining a group of O.B. street kids with beat boxes and freestyles.
 “The day started out somber,” recalls Mutch,

the inside track blurt

April 30, Mutch says he and other artists from the band’s label, Hatch It Records,

“when we arrived to find out that one of the street kids had been stabbed to death the



AH, THE INEVITABLE WARRANT (POINT BLANK)

brought a carload of food to O.B. “to spread happiness to kids in need and offer a

previous evening. Some of these kids felt very uncomfortable about their living sit-

uation at this point.”

As the band performed, “One of the young ladies tried to pickpocket me while I was deep into an improvisational verse,” says Mutch. “Once I felt the weight difference [in my pocket], the music was stopped and I asked, ‘Why do you have my wallet in your hand?’ Apparently, some of the boys who were lurking in the shadows had put her up to this.”

After retrieving his wallet, Mutch says, “We decided to hit the road and avoid any further complications.” After departing O.B., “Lights flash and [a policeman is] pulling us over to the shoulder. The officer steps to the passenger side of the vehicle and explains that he has pulled us over because we had a San Diego Chargers lanyard hanging from the rear view mirror [an illegal obstruction].

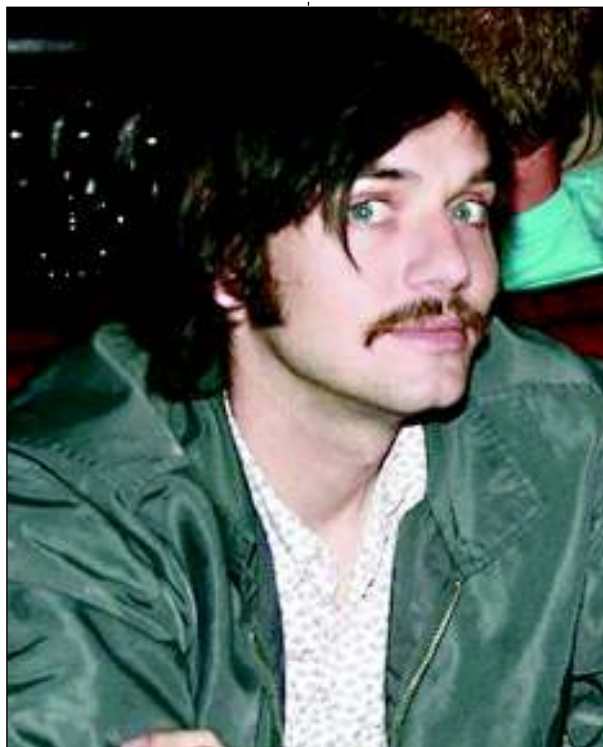
“Inevitably finding a bench warrant, [the officer] placed me in cuffs and put me in the back of the squad car. The warrant was for a violation in which the court had not acknowledged my legal right to be in possession of [medical] marijuana. Sometimes knowing your rights isn’t enough when dealing with a system with so many loopholes.”

Mutch was bailed out of jail at 10 a.m. the next morning. “To throw salt in the

wound, I was fired from my place of work because I was 10 minutes late...how’s that for irony and karma?”

Even Keel released their

“I wanted to explore playing in different areas but make it relaxed and play places I might be anyways...but also explore



GOODBYE, NORMA JEAN (DAGART)

debut album *Coming Up* in March. They appear Sunday, May 31, at Brick By Brick.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Busker in a Red Dress

When acoustic songster and mustache enthusiast Dagart decided to play 30 shows in 30 days at various locations around Southern California, he chose real-time social messaging network Twitter to announce the spontaneous gigs.

odd and creative places to play as well,” wrote Dagart in an email.

Halfway through the tour, which started May 1, small crowds have gathered at the unlikely venues to watch him play his acoustic ballads.

Among some of the locations he’s played: a bus stop at University and 30th Street in North Park; to moviegoers outside Pacific Theatres in Clairemont; and in front of the art-supply store in Old

Town. On May 6, Dagart’s gig outside the fabric store on Adams Avenue was featured on local music blog sddialedin.com.

His most memorable performance, he says, was at Marilyn Monroe’s Hollywood Star in Los Angeles. For that gig, Dagart donned a red dress, groomed his mustache, strapped on his acoustic guitar, and kicked off a set with Elton John’s ode to the famous pinup, “Candle in the Wind.”

“A few friends came out to watch, and eventually a little crowd had formed with people clapping along to some songs. A security guard said, ‘I am just waiting for you to do something so I can arrest you. You would really go over well at the West Hollywood jail.’

“I really like to push the boundaries of a performance,” says Dagart, “but we’ll see if I have the determination to make some of the weirder ones happen.”

For more on Dagart’s Twitter tour go to myspace.com/dagartmusic.
 — Dorian Hargrove

Cyber Skullduggery

“Is it really out of line to post your songs for sale on another band’s MySpace page?” posits rock trio New Day Mile. “Yes it is!” they say.

Singer-guitarist James Brady is all for self-promo-

(continued on page 72)

<p>Tuesday, May 26 etix</p> <p>TYLER BRYANT THE GRASS/HEAT</p> 	<p>BRICK BY BRICK</p> <p>Thursday, May 21 ORANGE TULIP CONSPIRACY • DI NIGUNIM • FRACTOPHONE</p> <p>Friday, May 22 Martin Latin Rock presents VILMA PALMA Y VAMPIROS MONTECRISTO LOS INGRATOS</p> <p>Saturday, May 23 THE SHAMEY JAYS (CD Release) ENDOXY • ANNA TROY</p> <p>Sunday, May 24 DAYGO BOYZ • STATIC TSP & PATROL OF ANGERMAN MUSIC J4 • MYK & DJ FAME HEATT • GHOST WRITER</p> <p>Monday, May 25 THE SHAKE UPS BLACK PARTY POLITICS THE INHERITANCE</p> <p>Wednesday, May 27 etix CYANIDE VOGUE • HALIFAX THRILLRAZR</p> <p>Thursday, May 28 PAUL ROBERTS (from the Stranglers) JOSH DAMIGO DAYMEN TOUSSAINT KENNY ENG</p> <p>Friday, May 29 • “SD Sessions” L.A.O.S. WHIZARD • CIRCUIT REBELLION • SHAWN LIU DJ INTRIGUED • MC DINO</p> <p>Saturday, May 30 KURT YOUNG KATIE LEIGH & THE INFANTRY</p> <p><small>6/12 Crown City Rockers • 6/13 Battalion of Saints • 6/17 Spineshank • 6/18 Kurtis Blow 6/19, 20, 26, 27 Emergenza • 6/25 Uli John Roth's Sky Academy • 7/2 Junior Reid 7/7 Anti Nowhere League • 7/9 Onyx (first tour in 10 years) • 7/10 The Mermen • 7/24 Fear 7/29 Jimmie Van Zant Band (perf. hits from Lynyrd Skynyrd) • 8/6 Dilana (finalist of Rockstar Supernova) 8/15 Amanda Overmyer (Season 7 finalist on American Idol)</small></p>		<p>Saturday, June 6 etix</p> <p>B-REAL (of Cypress Hill)</p> <p>BIZZY BONE (of Bone Thugs-N-Harmony)</p> <p>Sunday, June 14 • 5-9 pm</p> <p>JOEY HARRIS & THE MENTALS (CD Release Party)</p> <p>MOJO NIXON SCOTTIE MADD OG BLINN CAREN & PAUL KAMANSKI</p>  
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tion, but he decries aggressive marketing tactics that rely on one-upping other performers. "A band I won't

our page and deleted the comment. We're open to letting bands we're friends with post flyers, and we do the same on their pages, but posting their songs for sale is just straight-up disrespect."

Despite cyber skulldug-



DON'T TREAD ON MYSPACE (NEW DAY MILE)

name pasted their songs for sale into our MySpace comments. We blocked them from doing anything else on

gery, Brady feels bands need to acknowledge that it's a www world. "I think people have become desensitized to



printed flyers.... They're just trashed. I've found the most effective marketing seems to be online social networks such as Twitter, Facebook, ilike, MySpace, and email lists. It's time-consuming, so your music suffers, but that's what it takes now.

"It's all DIY. Labels are pretty much over, and you can't even get arrested anywhere anymore if you don't have a draw. Bands have to do it all themselves. Just playing music doesn't cut it."

New Day Mile's most recent EP *Damn Strate* was recorded locally by Alan Sanderson, who worked on the Stones' *Bridges to Babylon* album. They appear Friday, May 22, at Radio Room.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Swift Rider Before Taylor Swift appears at the Sports Arena on Sunday, May 24, her personal tour bus must be stocked with a bag of Tostitos tortilla chips, three boxes of Kraft macaroni and cheese, a bag of Twizzlers red licorice, a pint each of Ben and Jerry's Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough and Chocolate Brownie Frozen Yogurt, a quart of chocolate milk ("two percent"), and a bag of frozen edamame (which her backstage contract describes as "soy beans in the frozen vegetable

section").

The band bus gets two packs of Red Bull, a 12-pack



SWIFT: GIMME MY CHIPS

each of Corona and Newcastle beer, a box of Triscuits, fresh whole fruit

("apples, bananas, etc."), a box of Pop Tarts ("strawberry"), and tortilla chips and salsa ("hot!").

The crew bus gets a case each of Bud Light and Miller Lite and "a case of small-box assorted cereals."

Swift also expects a personal delivery from Starbucks with a Grande Caramel Latte ("iced"), a Grande Americano ("with soy milk"), and a slice of pumpkin loaf. (From *thesmokinggun.com*.)

At this writing, *frontrow king.com* is selling seats in section L18B, row 6, for \$812 each.

— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS

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

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FRIDAY: MAY 22
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SATURDAY: MAY 23
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KNOCK 'EM STIFF
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SUNDAY: MAY 24
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Sunday, June 7 • 7:00

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Sunday, June 14 • 7:30

THIRD EYE BLIND

with special guest
Low vs. Diamond

Friday, June 19 • 8:00

KEYSHIA COLE

Saturday, June 20 • 8:00

FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS

Sunday, June 21 • 8:00

PJ HARVEY & JOHN PARISH

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

Wednesday, July 8 • 7:00

YES

with very special guest
Asia

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

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

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LIVE PROJECT

Monday, August 10 • 8:00

DIANA KRALL

Tuesday, August 11 • 7:30

LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND

Thursday, August 13 • 7:30

JACKSON BROWNE

Friday, August 14 • 7:30

AMERICA

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

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

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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**

Saturday, October 17 • 8:30

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COMMON SENSE



GUAVA BELLY

SATURDAY 5/30 • 9 PM

JR RICHARDS



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SUNDAY 5/31 • 8 PM

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EDWARDS

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JACKIE GREENE



JOHNZO WEST

THURSDAY 6/4 • 8 PM

FIESTA DEL SOL
KICKOFF PARTY
DREAD ZEPPELIN



HOI POLLOI

FRIDAY 6/5 • 9 PM

CASH'D OUT



HELL ON HEELS
BURLESQUE REVUE
TORNADO MAGNET

SATURDAY 6/6 • 9 PM

SOL E MAR'S
BRAZILIAN NIGHT
"FORRO FOR ALL"



SUNDAY 6/7 • 8 PM

6/19 K'NAAN

6/20 EOTO - New Date!

6/27 Switchfoot Bro-Am After-Party w/Fiction Family & guests

7/15 Hot Buttered Rum • 7/20 Cage w/Yak Ballz

8/27 JJ Grey and Mofro - on sale tomorrow at noon!

9/1 & 9/2 Israel Vibrations • 11/14 Keller Williams

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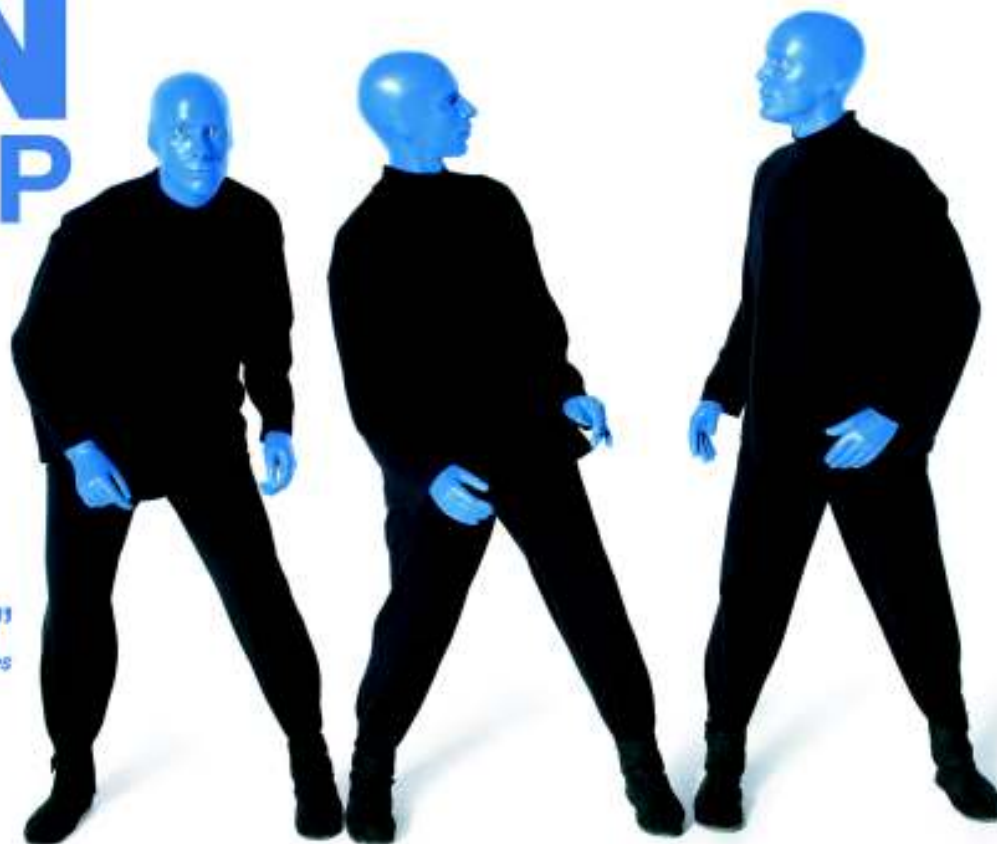
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club crawler

This Week
In Music

Thursday 21

Remix guru Anthony Gonzalez will bring his electronic-rock road show **M83** to Belly Up. Formed in France in 2001, M83 was originally a duo known for slow-burn dance beats,

shoegaze, and soft-vox creepers. Gonzalez split with former partner Nicolas Fromageau in 2004 and stretched his songwriting chops to pop effect and critical acclaim. Last year's *Saturdays = Youth* was chosen as the number-one record of the year by UK-based *Drowned in Sound* and landed at number eight on



M83 AT BELLY UP

American tastemaker Pitchfork's top 200. Folktronica Londoner **James Yuill** will set the Solana Beach stage for what looks on paper like the gig to get to tonight.... House of Blues hosts piano-pop maestro **Ben Folds**. Since disbanding crit hits Ben Folds Five in 2000, the Winston-Salem native has label-hopped and wife-swapped and kept his pop-comedy formula flowing to fine success. In fact, last year's solo effort *Way to Normal* was Folds's highest charting disc, debuting at number 11 on *Billboard*. Check out his duet with Regina Spektor, "You Don't Know Me," for the single that sold it.... Up-and-coming SD punx **Rich White Males** meet garage gang the **Nightmares** at Bar Pink.... Canes stages underground hip-hop hits **Aceyalone** and **Abstract Rude**.... Dramatic-song Aussies the **Youth Group** convene at Casbah with like-minded locals **A.M. Vibe** and L.A. indie kid **Nico Stai**.

Friday 22

Too much fun stuff Friday to break it all down or leave anything out, so follow the bouncing ball. The elder statesmen of the Canadian indie-rock renaissance the **Dears** appear at Casbah. Murray Lightburn has one of the more-accomplished voices and poetic pens in the genre. **Great Northern** and the **Eulogies** on the bill.... Got a countrified stomper out at Beauty Bar with **River City, Or, the Whale**, and **Silent Comedy**. That's one tempting triple bill, y'all... **Earthmen and Strangers** (AZ), the **Splinters** (SF), and **Dreamdate** (SF) are all in town to support the **Thin Man** CD-release thing at Whistle Stop.... The **Love Me Nots** will pluck another at Bar Pink with **Monsters from Mars** and the **Woody Bandits**.... **Cowboy Mouth** opens wide at House of Blues. **Dusty Rhodes and the River Band** will set the downtown stage.... Radio diva Gwen Stefani and **No Doubt**'ll be down south at the Cricket Amphitheatre.... While up north, it'll be New York City nu-wavers the **Virgins** at Belly Up...and at Ché Café, a locals-only showcase features **Boomsnake**, **Drew Andrews**, **Nut/Crackers**, and **Snuffaluffagus**.

Saturday 23

Underground hip-hopper and CEO of Wrongkind Records, Charles Mitchell, aka **Mitchy Slick**, will slide into 4th&B Saturday night. Slick is in with Blacksmith boyees Strong Arm Steady, but also fronts a successful solo joint. The Southeast San Dago native is out to tout his latest raps, *Lost N Da Yay*.... D.C. dub rockers **SOJA** (Soldiers of Jah Army) roll on Canes. The quintet's latest reggae-drenched collection *Born to Babylon* is due to



MITCHY SLICK AT 4TH&B



OBITS AT CASBAH

drop this summer. In the mean, take an iTunes taste of lead single "I Don't Wanna Wait".... Brooklyn-based indie rockers the

Obits (featuring Rick Froberg of local Pitchfork, Jehu, Hot Snakes fame) hit Casbah. The quartet signed to Sub Pop for full-length debut *Blame You*, a collection of garage cuts that'll surprise but satisfy Froberg fans. The

Lights and **Drug Wars** share the bill.... Else: *I've come to wish you an unhappy birthday*. Belly Up hosts a birthday bash for the inimitable Morrissey, featuring Morrissey imitator Jose Maldonado and his **Sweet and Tender Hooligans**...Barroom rockers the **Shamey Jays** will play a CD-release for *Your Pretty Packages* at Brick by Brick with **Endoxi**, **Joey Harris**, the **Anna Troy Band**, and **Bedpost Buzzards** in support...tropical-pop big band **Red Pony Clock** will coif at Beauty Bar with **Maren Parusel** (Wild Weekend) and dynamic duo the **Dabbers**.

Sunday 24

The coolest covers band in the known universe, the **Detroit Cobras**, will slither into Casbah Sunday night. The Motor City quintet cleaned out their closet for last year's *The Original Recordings (Singles and Unreleased 1995-1997)*, a nice touchstone for the uninitiated. Rockabilly band the **Dex Romweber Duo** split this early-bird bill. The show goes at 7p.... S'more Sunday-nighters: Bar Pink books L.A.'s garage-rock mainstays **Killola**...country-pop superstar **Taylor Swift** shines on Sports Arena...Canes calls all tribbers, including **Atomic Punks** (old Halen), **Priest Heavy** (Judas Priest), and **Dazed and Confused** (the mighty Zep!)....and Soda Bar sets up **Red Pony Clock** and **Bunnygrunt** with "a very special secret guest." Hmm...

Monday 25

Pompadour rock. Casbah's Anti-Monday meet-up has ex-Veather Undergrounders and L.A. staples **Red Cortez**, a garage-punk trio whose Space takes suggest the Walkmen (voice) playing rave-



RED CORTEZ AT CASBAH

ups. Get yer mitts on the new EP *Hands to the Wall* for some tasty takes.

Tuesday 26

Tuesday night is too tough to call, so measure your head before ordering. You've got folkadelic trance tramps Rachael Hughes and Nathan Shineywater, aka **Brightblack Morning Light**, at Casbah with **Rio en Medio** and the **Focus Group**...L.A.'s breakbeat electronicats the **Crystal Method** at House of Blues...from Chicago, industrial dance



BRIGHTBLACK MORNING LIGHT AT CASBAH

band heavies **My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult** and **DJ Robin Roth** at Beauty Bar...and Sweden's answer to Jonathan Richmond, indie-pop star **Jens Lekman**, doing his acoustic crooner thing at the Loft at UCSD.

Wednesday 27

The British blues-rock virtuoso **Robin Trower** (Procol Harum) plays House of Blues hump night. The 64-year-old slinger celebrates 40 years in the biz by releasing double-live disc *RT @ RO.08*, a collection of performances from last year's American tour.... College-rock radio station and NPR affiliate KCRW (Santa Monica) presents Angelino electro-soul outfit **Little Dragon** and San Diego trip-hopers **Genius of Soul** at Casbah. Out.

— Barnaby Monk

Sunday- May 24th

The Bitter
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UFC 98 EVANS vs. MACHIDA SATURDAY, MAY 23

Ministerial Cred

“He’s better known as the man behind Zen Mastering, but I discovered him as a performer.”

Our music is very lyric driven,” says Eben Brooks. “If I had to choose a genre, I would call it progressive acoustic rock, but by progressive I mean politically and personally progressive. It’s possible for lyrics to reflect a wide range of complex social topics, even if writing anti-war songs nowadays is an open invitation for people to impugn your patriotism.”

Brooks counts various sci-fi authors as among his influences. “I’m a very big fan of Roger Zelazny’s work, and I’ve read all the Amber Chronicles,” says Brooks, whose video for his song “Champs Élysées” was inspired by Zelazny’s *Courts of Chaos*. “We chose Lestat’s to shoot at because the writer and director wrote a script that fits perfectly with their setup and decor. Lestat’s has great stone gargoyles.”

He points out that fantasy fiction and rock have long been simpatico. “I’ve always been a big fan of Jethro Tull, who tends to weave fantasy and sci-fi elements into their songs. Hawkwind writes music heavily influenced by Michael Moorcock, and there’s always Led Zeppelin’s work based on Tolkien.”

The Eben Brooks Band performs at Claire de Lune on June 7.

MUSIC

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO SAN DIEGO?
“I followed a girl down here from L.A. and discovered that, for the first time in my life, I didn’t feel afraid all the time.... San Diego has a way of encouraging you to take chances, while L.A. tends to punish anyone who dares to step out of the line and draw attention to yourself.”

WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?
1. Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young, *So Far*. “The album has some of their iconic work, music that’s shaped the acoustic-rock genre ever since. Some of my all-time favorite songs are here: ‘Guinevere,’ ‘Ohio,’ and ‘Find the Cost of Freedom.’”
2. Paul Abbott, *Enough Talk*. “One of the best guitar players and instrumental composers I’ve ever heard. Locally, he’s probably better known as the man behind Zen Mastering, but I discovered him first as a performer.”
3. Franz Ferdinand, *You Could Have It So Much Better*. “These guys are absolutely hilarious.”
4. The Flash Girls, *The Return of Pansy Smith and Violet Jones*. “A fantastic duo that is now, sadly, defunct — or at least on hiatus. I discovered them because one member, Emma Bull, is one of my favorite science fiction authors.”
5. Michael Hedges, *Live on the Double Planet*.

“Hedges was a phenomenal guitar player and composer. The tune that keeps me playing this disc over and over is his cover of ‘All Along the Watchtower.’”

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH THE POWER TO READ MINDS?
“I’d do my best to *not* read them. I’m a big privacy advocate, and if there’s a worse breach of privacy than reading someone’s mind, I can’t think of one.”

BRUSH WITH FAME?
“As a kid, I once flew on the same airplane as Esther Rolle, who played the mom on *Good Times*. She was flying coach which, even at age 13, I found sad.”

IMPOSSIBLE TO DO WITHOUT?
“Flush toilets. I mean, I can imagine living in pretty primitive conditions, but if I don’t have good sanitation facilities, I get grumpy in a real big hurry.”

WHAT VIDEO GAME ARE YOU PLAYING?
“City of Heroes, originally on the PC, but they just made a client for the Mac, so I play it on my MacBook Pro now. I love the superhero genre, and this game is unique in that you can actually do some meaningful play in only a half hour or so.”

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?
1. “*LiveJournal.com*, where most of my friends have their personal blogs.”
2. “*DeviantArt.com*, a large and well-populated online art gallery where I follow a number of tal-





Eben Brooks

ented artists, including comic book artist Jim Lee.”
3. “*YouTube.com*, mostly to follow the I Can Has Cheezburger channel of funny pet videos.”

HOW WOULD YOU RATE OBAMA’S FIRST 100 DAYS IN OFFICE?
“I wish he would stop giving money to irresponsible bastards who couldn’t figure out how to spend the money they had to begin with. I hope he can do the things he promised to do — and so far it looks like he’s really trying — so I’m still on his side. For the time being.”

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD KNOW OR GUESS?
“I have a ministerial credential through the Celtic Witan Church of California, and I have performed three weddings, all for friends.” ■






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Lillian Palmer**

6:00pm – 6:45pm and 7:15pm – 8:00pm
Adrienne Nims

8:30pm – 9:15pm and 9:45pm – 10:30pm
Pro-2-Call

10:30pm – close
DJ GB3K

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Calendar MUSIC SCENE

Classical listings can be found in the *Classical Music Guide*. Music videos, driving directions, maps, event alerts, coupons, and more available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

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

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
 Friday, 7 pm — Kottak. Featuring James and Athena Kottak. Rock.
 Saturday, 8 pm — Mitchy Slick. Hip-hop/rap. \$15. Ages 21 and up.

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
 Friday, 7:30 pm — Ian Tyson. With Corb Lund. Folk.
 Saturday, 7:30 pm — Roy Zimmerman. Political humorist, songwriter. \$15-\$20.

Alpine Inn: 2225 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-5172.

Thursday, 7 pm — Kemosabe. Covers/pop/rock. Free.

Andrews Gallery: 1002 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas.
 Saturday, 7 pm — "The Saturdays of May with Matt Curreri." The 6x6 Poetry Series gets underway; 12 local poets will read from their work for six minutes. Also on tap: music by Joanie Mendenhall and the Exfriends. 760-230-2680 or 817-235-2404. Free.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
 Thursday, 7:30 pm — Luka Bloom. With Birdie Busch. Rock. \$20.
 Sunday, 7:30 pm and 9:30 pm — Candy Dulfer. Jazz. \$38-\$48.
 Wednesday, 7:30 pm — Benefit for the Grossmont Music Department. Jazz. \$48.

Bar Leucadian: 1542 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-2094.
 Friday, 9 pm — Generator. A tribute to Bad Religion. Punk.
 Saturday, 9:30 pm — P.R.I. Metal/rock.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
 Thursday, 10 pm — Rich White Males. With the Nightmares. Punk. Ages 21 and up.
 Friday, 8 pm — Monsters from Mars. With the Love Me Nots and the Wolly Bandits. Punk/surf. Ages 21 and up.
 Sunday, 8 pm — Killola. With Kristeen Young. Rock. Ages 21 and up.
 Wednesday, 8 pm — Commune. Featuring the Crocodiles and DJ Mario Orundo. Rock. Ages 21 and up.

Beaumont's: 5662 La Jolla Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-459-0474.
 Friday, 8 pm — Ryan Hiller. Blues/soul/funk. Free.
 Saturday, 8 pm — Mark Fisher. Covers/standards/rock. Free.
 Sunday, 8 pm — December's Children. Rock.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
 Thursday, 9 pm — Tropical Depression. With the Paragraphs. Rock. \$5. Ages 21 and up.
 Friday, 9 pm — River City. With Or the Whale, the Silent Comedy, DJ Gonzobilly, and guest. Acoustic/indie/folk. Ages 21 and up.
 Saturday, 9 pm — Red Pony Clock. With Maren Parusel, the Dabbers, and DJ Morgan Young. Folk/soul. \$5. Ages 21 and up.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
 Thursday, 9 pm — M83. Pop.
 Friday, 9 pm — The Virgins. With Anya Marina and Lissie Trullie. New wave/R&B/soul.
 Saturday, 9 pm — Morrissey's 50th Unhappy Birthday Celebration. With Sweet and Tender Hooligans.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.
 Wednesday, 8 pm — Miff Laracy. With Will Paynter and Paul Cannon. Alternative/rock.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
 Saturday, 8:30 pm — The Shamey Jays. With Endoxi, Bedpost Buzzards, and the Anna Troy Band. Alternative/pop/rock. \$5.
 Sunday, 9 pm — Dago Boyz. With

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SUNDAY, MAY 24 ATOMIC PUNKS (Tribute to early Van Halen) PRIEST HEAVY (Judas Priest Tribute) DAZED & CONFUSED (Led Zeppelin Tribute)	WEDNESDAY, MAY 27 STRIKE THE DESIGN MARASOL ESCAPE NOTES ONE INCH PUNCH PULSE ANATOMY	THURSDAY, MAY 28 PAC 10 PARKER & NUMBERMAN MAKESHIFT SANTOS
FRIDAY, MAY 29 HOT AUGUST NIGHT (Neil Diamond Tribute) JUMPING JACK FLASH (Rolling Stones Tribute)	SATURDAY, MAY 30 CCC's Beach Bash for Autism MAJOR HEALY SAYS RALLY BOMBAY STATUS WEST OF MEMPHIS	TUESDAY, JUNE 2 AMERICA'S LIP SYNC STAR CONTEST Every Tuesday night www.lipsyncstv.com
THURSDAY, JUNE 4 THE BURNING OF ROME DEMASIADO IRRADIO A SCRIBE AMIDST THE LIONS HOLDING AIR HOSTAGE	FRIDAY, JUNE 5 STRANGER CD Release Party REVIVAL • INHALE	SATURDAY, JUNE 6 Tainted Love (80's Tribute) DJ BAO
SUNDAY, JUNE 7 LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS SCOTT H. BIRAM PUSHIN ROPE	FRIDAY, JUNE 12 GEEZER WALKER	SATURDAY, JUNE 13 PETER MURPHY
FRIDAY, JUNE 19 the concrete project CD Release Party THE KNEEHIGHS PYRAMID DJ GAR GAR	SATURDAY, JUNE 20 WILD CHILD (Doors Tribute) THAT 70's ROCK SHOW	THURSDAY, JUNE 25 BEATNUTS HIGHER MINDS BRENDAN B DJ RATTY

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MAY 22

the crystal method
LA RIOTS
MAY 26

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THE RIDERS
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CHRISTEN FINCH & HOLLYWIDE HOLY
MAY 28 VOOODOO STAGE
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MAY 31 ALL AGES

GAVIN ROSSDALE
OF BUSH
Nico Vega
JUNE 4

Butterfly Boucher
JUNE 6 VOOODOO STAGE
5/21 :: BEN FOLDS
5/22 :: MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA ON VOOODOO STAGE - SOLD OUT
5/24 :: VICTORY NIGHT-LIFE PRESENTS CLUB MASSIVE THE BLOCK PARTY
6/5 :: CLUB LUCKY
6/11 :: THE ORB
6/13 :: LIVE
6/14 :: SHE WANTS REVENGE
6/17 :: REIK
6/18 :: CIRCLE JERKS
6/19 :: THE DAN BAND
6/20 :: BEN KIVELLER

TESTAMENT
UNEARTH
JUNE 10 ALL AGES
6/25 :: XAVIER RUDD
7/11 :: LED ZEPGAIN
7/17 :: ALL HIG DRILL CAR
7/22 :: RICHARD CHEESE AND LOUNGE AGAINST THE MACHINE
7/26 :: LEBOWSKI FEST MOVIE PARTY COMIC CON WEEKEND!
8/5 :: PAT GREEN
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11/4 :: BOYZ II MEN

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Café La Maze: 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222.
Thursdays, 6:30 pm — The Sandy Chappel Quartet. Appearing every Thursday with Burnett Anderson, Marley Waak, and various pianists. Standards/jazz/blues.
Fridays, 6:30 pm — The Sandy Chappel Quintet. Appearing every Friday with Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, Marley Waak, and bass player du jour. Standards/jazz/blues.
Wednesdays, 7:30 pm — Burnett’s Bliss. Appearing every Wednesday with Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian and Scott Wallingford. Jazz/standards/blues.

Café Sevilla: 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979.
Thursday — BombaChante. Salsa/Latin.
Sunday — Orquesta Salsa Caliente. Salsa.
Tuesday — Mambo Salvaje. Tropical.
Wednesday — Orquesta 8.8. Salsa.

The Calypso Café: 576 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-632-8252.
Thursday, 8 pm — Barbara Nesbitt. Acoustic/blues/country.
Friday, 8 pm — Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors. Blues/rock.

Saturday, 8 pm — Uplift.
Sunday — Jeff Moore & the Witchdoctors. Blues/rock.
Monday, 8 pm — Cactus Twang. Rock.
Wednesday, 8 pm — Magic Number.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
Thursday — Project Blowed. Featuring Aceyalone, Myka 9, and Abstract Rude. Hip-hop/rap. Ages 21 and up.
Saturday, 9 pm — SOJA. Reggae/rock/dub. \$20-\$25. Ages 21 and up.
Sunday, 9 pm — Dazed and Confused. With Priest Heavy and Atomic Punks. Tributes to Led Zeppelin, Judas Priest, and Van Halen.
Sunday, 8 pm — Atomic Punks. A tribute to Van Halen. \$10.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
Friday, 8:30 pm — The Dears. With Great Northern and Eulogies. Indie/rock. \$14. Ages 21 and up.
Saturday, 8:30 pm — The Obits. With the Lights and guests. Rock. \$10-\$12. Ages 21 and up.

Christ Church Unity: 3770 Altadena Avenue, College Area, 619-280-2501.
Saturday, 7 pm — “Make a Joyful Noise.” Concert and café style night of entertainment for Jamie’s Joy Memorial Fund (raising money for

NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The **Dears** have a lot in common with Arcade Fire. Both bands are from Montreal. Both are led by a husband-and-wife team. Both make powerful, emotional indie pop. And both are critics’ favorites. In other ways, the bands couldn’t be more different. Arcade Fire is childlike — both in their gleeful sing-alongs and in their lyrical concerns (dealing with parents, etc.). The Dears are adult — both in **Murray Lightburn**’s mournful, Thom Yorke-like singing, and in his lyrical concerns (being a parent, money troubles, racism, losing his religious faith).

The Dears formed in 1995, about eight

years before Arcade Fire, four years before Broken Social Scene (with whom the Dears have shared members at one time or another), and three years before Metric. If it hadn’t been for some major lineup shakeups that set them back, the Dears might have been as famous as the other Canadians who dominate the indie world these days. More so, perhaps.

Despite their dramatic touches and heavy themes, Lightburn’s songs are relatively simple and accessible. Even the song “Whites Only Party,” from the 2006 album *Gang of Losers*, doesn’t hit you over the head with its hot-button topic. If you weren’t paying close attention, you might hear its shuffling beat and the line “We ain’t here to steal your women/ Well, at least that wasn’t the plan” and think this was a carefree party



song. The band’s latest, *Missiles*, is mostly a more-somber affair, but the opening track, “Disclaimer,” has the kind of grandeur we associate with stadium-fillers like U2.

DEARS: The Casbah, Friday, May 22, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$14.

Sunday, 1:30 pm — Billy Watson. Blues/soul/jazz.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
Friday, 6:30 pm — No Doubt. With Paramore. Ska/pop/rock.

Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-1161.

Friday, 1 pm, *Saturday*, 9:30 am, *Sunday*, 9:30 am — Spirit West Coast. Featuring Relient K, Todd Agnew, Newsboys, Sonflowerz, House of Heroes, Stellar Kart, Manic Drive, Kutless, the Wedding, and many more.
Sunday, 1:45 pm — Steven Ybarra. Acoustic.

Dirk’s Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.

Friday and Saturday, 9 pm — TNT. Rock.

Dizzy’s: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Friday, 8 pm — Rondi Charleston. Jazz. \$15.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
Friday, 6 pm — An End of Days. With End of Eden, Victory of Reason, Fight the Shark, and Phalanx. Hardcore/metal. \$10.

Fannie’s Nightclub: 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.
Friday, 9 pm — HeadRUSH. A tribute to Rush. Rock. Ages 21 and up.
Friday, 8 pm — Filtered Aggression. With She’s My Cassette and Sweet Deal. Hardcore/metal. Free. Ages 21 and up.
Saturday, 8 pm — Sirvenamar. With My Dead Body. Alternative/punk/rock. Free.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: 544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-232-9840.
Friday, 9:30 pm — Paddy’s Pig.

This weekend: May 22–May 24

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Four Points by Sheraton: 8110 Aero Drive, Kearny Mesa. *Friday*, 8 pm — Theo & the Zydeco Patrol. Cajun/zydeco. \$10.

Gaslamp Quarter: Downtown. *Saturday*, 1:30 pm — 2009 Smooth Jazz 98.1 Gaslamp Festival. Featuring performances by Boney James, Norman Brown, Kirk Whalum, Gerald Albright, Jessie J, Paul Brown, Marc Antoine, Eric Darius, Gail Johnson, SCA Jazz Combo, Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind, David Patrone, and more. Jazz. \$29. Ages 21 and up.

Georges on Fifth: 835 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-0444. *Thursdays* — The Mar Dels. Playing every Thursday. Covers/standards/ rock. Free. *Fridays and Saturdays*, 8 pm — Tom Barabas. Appearing Friday and Saturday nights. Pianist. Free.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100. *Friday*, 8 pm — The Allman Brothers Band. With the Doobie Brothers. Rock. \$40.

Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill: 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660. *Thursday*, 8 pm — Skelpin. Irish/folk. *Friday*, 8 pm — Billy Watson. Blues/soul/jazz. *Saturday*, 8 pm — Red Octopus. Rock. *Tuesday*, 8 pm — Taryn Donath. Blues/soul. *Wednesday*, 7 pm — Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones. Roadhouse blues.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: 5500 Grossmont Center Drive #277, La Mesa, 619-713-6900. *Friday*, 9 pm — California Celts. Reggae/ska. *Saturday*, 9 pm — Lynette & the Crosstown Hurricanes. Covers/Irish. Free.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583. *Thursday*, 8 pm — Ben Folds. Rock. \$32. *Friday* — Cowboy Mouth. Punk/Southern rock. *Friday*, 8 pm — The Manchester Orchestra. Performs on the Voodoo Stage. Indie/rock. *Sunday*, 9 pm — “We Love the ’90s!” Alternative/rock. \$10. Ages 21 and up. *Tuesday*, 7 pm — The Crystal Method. Dance/electronica. \$21-\$43. Ages 21 and up. *Wednesday*, 8 pm — Robin Trower. Blues/rock. \$30-\$50. Ages 21 and up.

Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College: 1140 West Mission Road, San Marcos, 760-744-1150. *Thursday*, 8 pm — Palomar Concert Band and Palomar Brass Ensemble. Directed by Jonathan Ingber. \$10-\$12.

The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778. *Thursday*, 7 pm — theBREAX. With Mr. J of the Procussions, DJ Ketchup, NomiS, and other special guests. Electronic/hip-hop/rap. \$12.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848. *Saturday*, 9 pm — Dan Padilla. With John Wayne Gacy Daycare.

Rock. Ages 21 and up. *Wednesday*, 10 pm — The Bug Nasties. Mod/R&B. Ages 21 and up.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437. *Thursday*, 8 pm — Justin Jude. Indie/rock. *Friday*, 9 pm — Alyssa Jacey. Acoustic/soul/folk rock. *Saturday*, 9 pm — Brodeeva. With Bushwalla and Rob DeeZ. Acoustic/hip-hop. \$10.

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

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD. *Tuesday*, 7:30 pm — Jens Lekman. Indie. \$15.

Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD. *Wednesday*, 8 pm — UCSD Jazz Ensemble. Some of UCSD's finest undergraduate jazz musicians come together to showcase their talents. 858-534-3229. Free.

McDini's: 105 East 8th Street, National City, 619-474-6771. *Friday*, 9:30 pm — Pali-Roots. Reggae. *Saturday*, 7 pm — Panamanian Reggae Party. With Bredren. *Sunday*, 9 pm — Historia Musical. Latin.

The Merk: 820 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-814-6375. *Thursday*, 7 pm — David Patrone. Blues/jazz/standards. Free.

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

1882. *Friday*, 8:30 pm — Reppin' North County. Featuring Suspect, Konzept Lost, Identical Opposites Krew, 33rd Infantry and the Lost Angel Crew. Hip-hop/rap. \$7.

Milano Coffee Company: 8685 Rio San Diego Drive, Mission Valley, 619-688-1882. *Thursday*, 7 pm — The Bigfellas. Alternative/pop/rock.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-9050. *Friday*, 9 pm — Flashback. Rock.

Saturday, 9 pm — Hear No Evil. Rock.
Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive, La Jolla. *Wednesday*, 8 pm — Karrin Allyson. Covers/standards/jazz. \$25-\$30.

Nugent's Fishgrille Restaurant & Sportslounge: 12015 Scripps Highland Drive, Scripps Ranch, 858-566-3474. *Saturday*, 7 pm — Mariner. Covers/standards/acoustic. Free.



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7/5 KELLY CLARKSON (PMA)

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6/19	LORETTA LYNN	6/30	CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED
6/21	LA ARROLLADORA BANDA EL LIMÓN and LOS CREADORES DEL PASITO DURANGUENSE <i>sponsored by Tecate, Telemundo 33, 106.5 La Nueva & 102.9 Recuerdo</i>	7/1	RC AND THE SUNSHINE BAND
6/23	THE GUESS WHO and MITCH RYDER AND THE DETROIT WHEELS	7/2	THE MUSIC OF ABBA
6/24	COMEDIAN BILL ENGVALL	7/3	JOAN JETT & THE BLACKHEARTS & the MUSCUMLOOZA Finals. A quest to find the best band and solo singer.
6/25	THE B-52s	7/4	SMOKEY ROBINSON, NAVY BAND SOUTHWEST & FIREWORKS

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Shows listed are FREE with Fair admission unless otherwise noted. Limited number of reserved tickets available for purchase to all free shows. All acts subject to change and subject to Board approval. For details and updates call (858) 755-1161 or visit www.sdfair.com/fair. Tickets on sale NOW at the Fairgrounds box office and all Ticketmaster locations. Charge by phone (800) 745-3000 or visit www.ticketmaster.com.



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O'Connells Pub and Nightclub: 1310 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
Friday, 9 pm — Breakfast Lunch & Dinner. With Franklin Lounge, Whiskey Wisetales, and Tornado Magnet. Punk/rockabilly. Ages 21 and up.
Saturday, 9 pm — The Strikers. With Knock 'em Stiff. Punk/rockabilly. Ages 21 and up.
Sunday, 9 pm — The Ratbirds. With the Stalking Distance. Blues/metal/punk. Ages 21 and up.
Tuesday, 9 pm — Rockin' the Locals. Rock.
Wednesday, 9 pm — WestFire. With the Snooze Button. Alternative/folk/rock.

Old Town State Historic Park: 4002 Wallace Street, Old Town.
Saturday, 2 pm — San Diego City Guard Band. Marches/covers/standards. Free.

Pal Joey's: 5147 Waring Road, Allied Gardens, 619-582-6699.
Friday, 9 pm — Night Shift. Rock.
Saturday, 9 pm — The Buick Wilson Band. Blues/rock. Free.

Park Manor Suites Hotel: 525 Spruce Street, Balboa Park, 619-291-0999.
Thursday, 5 pm — B-3 Four. Featuring Dan Papaila. Blues/jazz/soul. Free.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-757-2827.
Thursday, 9 pm — Ghost Buffalo. With Eyes and Ears. Alternative. Free.
Friday, 9 pm — JX3. Covers/rock.

Portugalia: 4839 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-7678.
Sunday, 7:45 pm — Stacey and The Stimulus Package. Acoustic/blues/jazz.
Wednesday, 8 pm — Sharon Hazel Township. Acoustic/Indie/rock. Free.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.
Friday, 9 pm — Nemesis. Grunge/metal/rock.
Saturday, 9 pm — ZOO2. With DJ Famous Dave. Covers/rock.

Radio Room: 3519 El Cajon Boulevard, North Park, 619-284-3323.
Thursday, 8 pm — Author & Punisher. With Secret Fun Club and Riververb. Industrial/metal. Ages 21 and up.
Friday, 8 pm and 11:30 pm — Dead as Dillinger. With New Day Mile, Deliverance Machine, and Aepnia. Alternative/punk. \$5. Ages 21 and up.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-7008.
Friday, 8 pm — Wild Child. With That '70s Rock Show. Rock. \$15.
Saturday, 8 pm — Back to the Garden. A Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young tribute.

The Red Parrot Lounge at Casino Pauma: 777 Pauma Reservation Road, Pala, 760-742-2177.
Friday, 8 pm — MoonDance. Classic rock/R&B/soul.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-224-4171.

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

In time of relationship meltdown, what man would not want to cop some **Ben Folds** attitude? "Wish I hadn't bought you dinner," he sings in "Song for the Dumped," "Right before you dumped me/ On your front porch/ Give me my money back/ Give me my money back, you bitch/ I want my money back/ And don't forget to give me back my black T-shirt."

This is the pattern: Folds's words put a low-key sheen on high-key situations, and after hearing them you feel better. Nick Hornby, from his essay about the song "Smoke": "'Smoke' is, I think, lyrically perfect, clever, and sad and neat...and it was a constant companion during the end (the long, drawn-

out end) of my marriage, and it made sense then, and it still makes sense now. You can't ask much more of a song than that."

Ben Folds is a rock star, but he has cottage industry written all over him. Telling memory: I saw him using a pay phone, unrecognized, on a university campus hours before a gig. An artist who made it cool to be uncool, Folds has often demoted his alt pop to "punk rock for sissies." My take? Serial rock pianist with the heart of a killer clown embraces soft-core punk.

Ben Folds Five (a trio) was where Folds's career gained traction. By 1999 they were finished, and a steady stream of solo projects followed. His strength as a writer lies in the small observations of man and woman and the examination of dating creatures from the dark side: "The bitch went nuts/ She stabbed my basketball/ And the



BEN FOLDS

speakers to my stereo/ She called me c**t/ But nothing prepared me for what I found when I came home." Sound familiar?

BEN FOLDS: House of Blues, Thursday, May 21, 7 p.m. 619-299-2583. \$32.50.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District, 619-226-7662.
Friday, 7 pm — Jack's Mannequin. Rock/pop.

Tio Leo's: 5302 Napa Street, Linda Vista, 619-542-1462.
Friday, 8 pm — The Farmers. Roots/rock.

U-31: 3112 University Avenue, North Park, 619-584-4188.
Wednesday, 9 pm — Veronica May & the To Do List. With Bitter Sober

and Nicole Torres. Acoustic. \$5. Ages 21 and up.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Friday, 9:30 pm — Popvinyl. With DJ 2Rille. Electronic.
Sunday, 6 pm — The Ultimate Music Challenge 3. Featuring Alice and the Cooper Gang, Java, White Trash a Go Go, Anger Is a Gift, and Natasha Lyne. Covers/pop/rock. Free.

Wine Cabana: 2539 Congress Street, Old Town.
Sunday, 5 pm — Bob Bartosik. Jazz. Free.

WineStyles — Encinitas: 191 North El Camino Real, Suite 103, Encinitas, 760-633-0057.
Friday, 6 pm — Freefall. Jazz. Free.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
Friday, 9:30 pm — The Pimps of Joytime. With the Styletones. Funk/soul. Free. Ages 21 and up.



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SATURDAY NIGHTS TIM ORTIZ PRESENTS PRODUCTION PART

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+ DJ SEM

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Jay Mohr

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Featuring

- Richie McDonald
- Trent Tomlinson
- Sara Petite

TICKETS: \$5 WELLS, IN SEATING & THE VIEJAS GIFT SHOP
MAY 28, 29

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MAY 23 **Rising Star/Viejas Dancers** 9PM-1:30AM

THE V LOUNGE FREE WEEKEND ENTERTAINMENT

MAY 22 **Freeze Frame** 8PM-1AM

MAY 23 **Inside Out** 8PM-1AM

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Saturday, 9 pm — Tribal Theory. With Hi Roots and Revival. Dub/reggae/roots. \$7.
Saturday, 10 pm — Johnny Sketch and the Dirty Notes. Rock. Ages 21 and up.
Sunday, 7 pm — OB Beach Party. Featuring Megan Combs, Karen Real, Paul Moeller, Lindsay White, Roxy Monoxide, Fist Full o' Leaves, French Kiss Koma, and the Bigfellas. Rock/pop. \$5.
Wednesday, 10 pm — Guraj Mahal. Jazz/world. \$12. Ages 21 and up.

The Wit's End: 420 Robinson Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-4848.
Saturday, 8 pm — Nick Z. Acoustic/soul/jazz.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343.
May 29 — Pantera'd.
May 30 — Turn the Page.
June 14 — The Michael Schenker Group.
June 25 — Local Band Showcase.
June 26 — Sean Paul.
June 27 — Rolling the Stones.

AcousticMusicSanDiego: 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
June 5 — Slaid Cleaves and Eliza Gilkyson.
June 17 — Marshall Crenshaw.

Anthology: 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
May 28 — Graham Parker.
May 29 — Detroit Underground.
May 29 — The Flatlanders.
May 30 — Stepping Feet.
May 31 — Peter Sprague.
June 19 — Candye Kane.
June 20 — Hiromi.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-454-5872.
June 17 — Darrell Grant.
July 16 — Minsarah Trio.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th Street, North Park, 619-564-7194.
May 29 — The New Fidelity.
May 30 — Tippy Canoe.
May 31 — Sir Richard Bishop.
June 4 — The Woggles.
June 6 — Telegraph Canyon.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Boulevard, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
June 24 — The Wanted.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
May 28 — Laura Roppé.
May 29 — Transfer.
June 2 — Misdirection.
June 4 — Jackie Greene.
June 5 — Fiesta del Sol Kickoff Party.
June 6 — Cash'd Out.
June 9 — Yellowman.
June 10 — The Church.
June 11 — Raul Malo.



>hometown CDs
BY ROSA JURJEVICS

Album: *Psychothermia* (2009)
Artist: Canobliss
Label: Self-released
Where available/price: iTunes, \$7.92; CDBaby, \$7
Songs: 1) Notorious 2) Psychothermia 3) Convicted Again 4) Adios 5) Take Vics 6) Slingshot 7) Pangea 8) Convicted Again (radio edit)
Band: Johan Maldonado (vocals), Samson Pedroza (guitar), Jon Russo (guitar), Chenzo Vidalez (bass), Mike Russo (drums)
Website: canobliss.com

Canobliss, though billed as metal, doesn't get there. Instead, the band provides a mix of melody, fuzzy guitars, and clashy drums on their newest

album, *Psychothermia*. Though undoubtedly influenced by heavy metal bands, Canobliss doesn't fit the category. They've got more of a radio-ready

sound than many straight-up hard-core metal acts and possess an undeniable pop edge — especially vocally. Borrowing from pop-punk bands such as Fall Out Boy and reggae-rock hybrid 311, many tracks have a soft edge to them.

Most of the time, the pop side shines more than the metal. The songs tend to be repetitive at their core, at least instrumentally, but lead singer Johan Maldonado's vocals are where things get interesting. Youthful and at times haunting, it is often overpowered by the "metal," and not allowed to stand on its own. On tracks like "Take Vics," on the other hand, it is showcased, and the band even throws in a harmony for good measure.

Despite a sometimes bumpy merge of genres, *Psychothermia*



Canobliss

is a good listen. Even though Canobliss lyrics can be over the top, offering such statements as "going to hang you like a velvet noose straight down from the sky" (as heard on the album's title track), all the elements of a solid album are there.

TO GET YOUR LOCAL CD REVIEWED, PLEASE MAIL IT TO: Music Editor, Hometown CDs, San Diego *Reader*, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803

June 12, June 13 — The English Beat.
June 16 — King Sunny Adé.
June 17 — Endoxi.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-534-FISH.
June 17 — Shawn Mullins.

July 15 — Steve Poltz.
August 19 — Jack Tempchin.
September 16 — Venice.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
May 28 — Paul Roberts.
June 4 — King's X.
June 6 — B-Real.
June 14 — Joey Harris & the Mentals.
June 25 — Uli Jon Roth.

Canes: 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.
May 28 — Parker & the

Numberman.
May 29 — Hot August Night.
May 30 — Major Healy.
June 5 — Stranger.
June 7 — The Legendary Shack Shakers.
June 13 — Peter Murphy.
June 20 — Wild Child.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
May 28 — The Riverboat Gamblers.
May 29 — The Answers.
June 2 — Big Business.

June 6 — The Slackers.
June 21 — The Queers.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2311.
May 29 — The Spits.

Claire de Lune: 2906 University Avenue, North Park, 619-688-9845.
June 7, July 5 — "Heroes Against Hunger."

Cox Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Drive, SDSU, 619-594-6947.
June 20 — Yanni.
July 18 — Il Divo.
July 19 — Joan Sebastian.

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SATURDAY • MAY 23 OBITS THE LIGHTS DRUG WARS	MONDAY • MAY 25 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS DA BEARS • RED CORTEZ BETTER CLASS OF FLYING MAN	LATE SHOW 9 PM CHE UNDERGROUND PRESENTS HAIR THEATRE NOISE 292 THE WALLFLOWERS THE MIRRORS
SUNDAY • MAY 24 EARLY SHOW 7 PM DETROIT COBRAS DEX ROMWEBER DUO	TUESDAY • MAY 26 BRIGHTBLACK MORNING LIGHT RIO EN MEDIA	SUNDAY • MAY 31 THE LOCAL 94/9 PRESENTS A FREE SHOW DEMASIADO QUE'ST QUE C'EST THE SECRET SEVEN BRIAN HOLWERDA
SUNDAY • MAY 24 LATE NIGHT 10 PM JIVEWIRE & ONE NATION UNDER A GROOVE DJs ATARI, BLACKSTONE, T-MONEY	WEDNESDAY • MAY 27 KCRW PRESENTS LITTLE DRAGON GENIUS OF SOUL DJ THUMBPRINT	
	THURSDAY • MAY 28 RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS REVENGE CLUB • BRAAIINS	
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LISTENING MAY 22ND
party @ 6pm

Music & Event Calendar of May

Wednesday, 20th: Ghost Riders in Disguise Thursday, 21st: Irish Night with Skelpin Friday, 22nd: The Aggrolites CD Listening Party Friday, 22nd: Billy Watson Saturday, 23rd: Red Octopus Sunday, 24th: This is Music!	Monday, 25th: The Tail Draggers Tuesday, 26th: Taryn Donath Wednesday, 27th: Joe Wood Thursday, 28th: Irish Night with Skelpin Friday, 29th: Drowning Men & Cat Party Saturday, 30th: Joe Wood Sunday, 31st: This is Music!
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FRI, JULY 10

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SUN, JULY 19

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THURS, JULY 23

UP, UP AND AWAY starring
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BILLY DAVIS, JR.
FRI, JULY 24

CIRQUE DE LA SYMPHONIE
FRI & SAT, JULY 31 & AUGUST 1

BRAVO BROADWAY NOW
FRI, AUGUST 7

POPS GOES CLASSICAL:
PASSPORT TO THE WORLD
A NIGHT IN ITALY
SUN, AUGUST 9

CLASSICAL MYSTERY TOUR
FRI, AUGUST 14

BURT BACHARACH
SUN, AUGUST 16

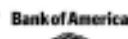
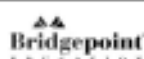
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on drums
featuring PUSHIN ROPE,
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THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE TO BOB DYLAN & THE SILVER BULLET BAND
Saturday, May 30



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A TRIBUTE TO THE ALLEN BROTHERS
Saturday, June 6
Featuring VIVA HALEN
Tribute to "DLR" Van Halen



Friday,
June 12
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OF ROCK
featuring
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*June 20 — Vicente Fernandez.
June 22 — André Rieu.*

Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar, 858-755-1161.
*June 12 — Heroes of Woodstock.
June 13 — Melissa Etheridge.
June 16 — Phil Vassar.
June 17 — Bret Michaels.
June 18 — David Cook.
June 19 — Loretta Lynn.
June 20 — David Archuleta.
June 21 — La Arrolladora Banda Limón.
June 23 — The Guess Who.
June 25 — The B-52s.
June 26 — Switchfoot.
June 27 — Fifth Annual Gospel*

Festival.
*June 28 — Intocable.
June 29 — Cowboy Jack.
June 29 — Clint Black.
June 30 — Creedence Clearwater Revisited.*

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
*May 28 — J.J. Johnson and Kai Winding Tribute.
May 31 — Joni Mitchell Tribute.*

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon Street, Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131.
June 13 — Dead as Dillinger.

Hard Rock Café: 801 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-615-ROCK.
September 26 — Sugar Ray.

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



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Fri. May 22 | **Jeff Moore & the Witch Doctors**
Sat. May 23 | **Uplift**
Sun. May 24 | **Jeff Moore & the Witch Doctors**
Mon. May 25 | **Cactus Twang**
Tues. May 26 | **Jack Tempchin**
Wed. May 27 | **Magic Number**

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751-3100.
*June 28 — Aretha Franklin.
August 23 — Tom Jones.*

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.
*May 28 — Lady Sovereign.
May 30 — Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Elvi Dinner.
May 30 — Hillsdale Music Department Benefit Concert.
May 31 — Mayhem.
June 3 — DJ Quik.
June 4 — Gavin Rossdale.
June 5 — Kingspade.
June 6 — Butterfly Boucher.
June 10 — Testament.
June 11 — The Orb.
June 12 — Billy Ray Cyrus.
June 13 — Live.
June 14 — She Wants Revenge.
June 17 — Reik.
June 18 — The Circle Jerks.
June 19 — The Dan Band.
June 20 — Ben Kweller.
June 25 — Xavier Rudd.
July 11 — Led Zepagain.
July 17 — All.*

July 22 — Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
*May 29 — Dennis Jones.
June 5 — Jacqueline Grace.*

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
*June 4 — Erykah Badu and the Roots.
June 6 — Joe Cocker.
June 7 — '70s Soul Jam.
June 14 — Third Eye Blind.
June 18 — Keyshia Cole.
June 20 — Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons.
June 21 — PJ Harvey and John Parish.
June 23 — Three Girls and Their Buddy.
June 26 — Rock Royalty.
June 28 — Ani DiFranco.
July 8 — Yes.
July 9 — Heart.
July 10 — Joan Baez.*



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Sweet Everafter
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SAT. MAY 23

LIVE MUSIC • ROCK STEADY SKA

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ROCK STROKE 9

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Toreback • Bastard Saints

Born of Fire (Slayer)

Friday & Saturday, May 22 & 23 • 9 pm

Classic Rock Monsters of Rock

Sunday, May 24

W.F.O

Monday, May 25 • 9 pm

Karaoke

Tuesday, May 26 • Reggae Night

State of the Union w/Samoan Irok

Wednesday, May 27

Fuzz Huzzi

Santee

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Thursday, May 21

The Cameltons

Friday & Saturday, May 22 & 23 • 9 pm

Classic Rock Serious Guise

Sunday, May 24

The Farmers • The Screamin Yeehaws

Travelin Salesman

Tuesday, May 26

Born of Fire

Wednesday, May 27

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6-9 PM

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THE STYLETONES

Sat. 5/23

5-8 PM: Direct from the Howard Stern Show

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IZABELLA

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3-8 PM:

SANDI SHANER'S BEACH PARTY

Karaoke OB Style

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\$2 drinks 9 pm to close

Mon. 5/25

6-8 PM:

Drunk Poet's Society

An evening of music from the Grateful Dead

Tues. 5/26

6-9 PM:

Think 'N' Drink Trivia

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UPCOMING:

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5/29: C/MONEY & THE PLAYERS INC. (featuring members of Slightly Stoopid)

5/30: FISHBONE

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21+

655 4th Ave. Gaslamp Quarter p.619.231.6700

For More Info & Reservations Visit TheShoutHouse.com

NO COVER Sun-Wed!

HAPPY HOUR

thirst quenchers

\$2 Wells

\$2 House wine

\$2 Domestic drafts

\$3 Import / Microbrew drafts

\$5 Specialty drinks

7 DAYS A WEEK : 3 - 7PM

+ FRI : 3 - 10PM

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Reader STREET TEAM

in the scene

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& click on "Promotions."

The Pearl Hotel

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Upcoming Event

Mangu Caribbean Cuisine and Cesar Caribbean Tapas & Bar
524 Island Avenue, SD (5th and Island) ■ 619-233-3166

Friday night in the Gaslamp means you'd better come early for the finest Caribbean cuisine in the Gaslamp and plan on staying late for some sultry dancing at MANGU! As always, U4RIK VODKA drink specials will make the night right!

For more information on upcoming events visit sdreader.com

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

June 4 — Atom Orr.

June 6 — The Predicates.

June 29 — Kim Garrison and Kim
Devine.

July 19 — Red This Ever.

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

June 3 — The Offspring.

August 4 — Judas Priest.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala
Temecula Road, Pala, 877-946-
7252.

July 12 — Michael McDonald and
Boz Scaggs.

July 29, July 30 — Journey.

San Diego Sports Arena:

3500 Sports Arena Boulevard,
Midway District, 619-224-4171.

May 30 — Pennywise.

May 31 — Fleetwood Mac

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena
Boulevard, Midway District, 619-
226-7662.

May 30 — Propagandhi.

June 4 — Kate Voegelé.

June 5 — Taking Back Sunday.

June 6 — Tribal Seeds.

June 8 — King.

June 13 — Strung Out.

June 19 — Jeffree Star.

June 26 — Buck-O-Nine.

June 27 — The Summer Slaughter.

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:
2211 Pan American Road, Balboa
Park.

June 16 — Breez'n.

June 17 — Damaru.

June 18 — Rey Vinole.

June 23 — NOTEables.

June 24 — The Bayou Brothers.

June 30 — U.S. Navy Band Wind

Ensemble.

July 1 — The Earth Movers.

July 2 — Klezmeds.

July 7 — Stars on the Water.

July 8 — Tinku.

July 9 — Steel Monarchs.

July 14 — The Cool Rays.

July 15 — Hillcrest Wind

Ensemble.

July 16 — Diamond is Forever.

July 21 — The Cat-illacs.

July 22 — Cool Fever.

July 23 — The San Diego Six.

July 28 — Bi-Nacional de Mambo

Orchestra.

July 29 — Time Machine.

July 30 — 145th Street.

Valley View Casino: 16300
Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center,
866-843-9946.

June 7 — Julio Iglesias.

June 9 — Pat Benatar & Neil

Giraldo.

August 8 — Dick Fox's Golden

Boys.

August 21 — Randy Travis.

September 12 — Three Dog Night.

September 15 — James Taylor.

September 26 — The Beach Boys.

Viejas Casino Concerts in

the Park: 5005 Willows Road,

Alpine, 619-445-5400.

August 15 — Los Lonely Boys.

October 3 — Brooks & Dunn.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher

Show Room: 5000 Willows

Road, Alpine, 619-445-5400.

May 29 — Shooter Jennings.

May 31, June 7 — The Ultimate

Music Challenge 3.

June 13 — KSON's New Face

Showcase.

June 19 — Wayne Newton.

July 10 — Blues Traveler.

July 17 — Otis Day & the Knights.

July 18 — Debby Boone.

August 21 — Tony Orlando.

FRI. MAY 22
THE HIGHER
MISDELPHIA
MEDFORD FALLING
JAINTLY MAGABRI
SKY HARBOR
SAT. MAY 23
THE CHASE
THE LANTERNS
NEW AGE HEROS
JACKS LAST BULLET
90% NOTHING
FRI. MAY 29
TRAGEDY & TRIUMPH
CASINO MADRID
HELLO MARGUEE
IMPERIL
EIGHTH ROUND
FOREVER ENDS NOW
THURS. JUN 4
KATE VOEGELE
AMY KUNEY
ANGEL TAYLOR
MON. JUN 8
KING
with wings of lead
MURDER ON THE DANCEFLOOR
APHOTIC MURDER
With Liberty
FRI. JUN 12
THE DIRTY HEADS
THURS. JUN 18
DANCE GAVIN DANCE
The Audition
FRI. JUN 19
Jeffree Star
VON IVA
A DULL SCIENCE
SO LONG DAVEY
TALK CUTE!
SAT. JUN 20
Get Back Loretta
(cd release)
FRI. JUN 26
Ska-Quake AFTERSHOCK
Buck-O-Nine
WOODOO GLOW SKULLS
KNOCK-OUT
SOCIAL GREEN
BUCKET OF FISH
THE DEMEANORS
SAT. JUN 27
THE SUMMER SLAUGHTER
NECROPHAGIST
SUFFOCATION
DARKEST HOUR
WINDS OF PLAGUE
DYING FETUS
BORN OF OSIRIS
BENEATH THE MASSACRE
AFTER THE BURIAL
BLACKGUARD
FRI. JUL 10
HASTE THE DAY
THE CHARIOT
SAT. JUL 11
ACE ENDERS
FRI. JUL 17
DROP DEAD
GORGEOUS
WED. JUL 29
VAMPS

PROPAGANDHI
Supporting Guitar Tour
SAT. MAY 30
7PM - LUNATIKS.COM

TAKING BACK SUNDAY
anberlin
FRI. JUN 5
7PM - LUNATIKS.COM
SOMA BOX OFFICE
NORTH AMERICAN TOUR 2009

TRIBAL SEEDS
SAT. JUN 6
one drop
SOMA BOX OFFICE
SIS - 7PM - LUNATIKS.COM
SOMA BOX OFFICE

STRUNG OUT
DEATH BY STEREO
THIS IS A STANDOFF
SAT. JUN 13
SOMA BOX OFFICE & LUNATIKS.COM
SOMASD.COM
3350 SPORTS ARENA
619.226.7662 ALL AGES

HAPPY HOUR

More information about these establishments can be found online at SDReader.com/drinks, including driving directions, coupons, food specials, and more.

HOW TO SUBMIT A DRINK SPECIAL: Call 619-235-3000 x700, night or day by 5pm Friday, the week prior to publication. You may also fax to 619-231-0489, mail to Reader Happy Hours, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186, or submit information online at SDReader.com/drinks.

ALLIED GARDENS

Pal Joey's: Sunday, 7pm-close: \$1 shots.

BALBOA PARK

The Prado: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$3.50 wells, pints, house wine, house margaritas. Lounge only.

BANKER'S HILL

Azuki Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$.50 small sake w/ large beer, \$5 house wine, sangria, saketini.

CARLSBAD

The Alley: Every day, 11am-7pm: \$2.75 wells, domestics.

Boar Cross'n: Thursday, 8-9pm: \$1 Bud & Bud Light. Friday-Saturday, 8-10pm: \$1 Bud & Bud Light.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 wells, beer, margaritas.

Fenway's Sports Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm, 10pm-12am: \$3 domestic, house wine. \$3.50 margarita, Cape Cod. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-6pm: \$3 domestic, house wine. \$3.50 margarita, Cape Cod.

Greek Village: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 4-7:30pm: 1/2-off beer, wine by the glass, wells.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$3.50 beer.

CARMEL VALLEY

Tio Leo's: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 pints. \$4 wells, house margaritas.

Twenty/20 Bar & Grill in the Sheraton Hotel: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2 off any drink, 3-oz. martinis.

CHULA VISTA

El Dorado Seafood & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7 pm: \$2 margaritas.

Veni Vidi Vici: Monday-Friday, 5-6pm: \$1 off all drafts, wells.

CLAIREMONT

Viva Vino: Monday-Saturday, all day: \$.99 domestic beer.

COLLEGE AREA

Marie Calender's: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1.95 drafts, \$2.50 wells, \$1.95 drafts, \$3.50 house margaritas. Saturday-Sunday, \$2 Bloody Mary and mimosa with purchase.

Satin Lounge: Thursday, \$1 drafts.

CORONADO

Tent City Restaurant: Monday, Wednesday, 1/2-price bottles of wine. Tuesday, Friday-Sunday, 3-6pm: \$3 drafts, \$4 wells, \$5 house wine. Thursday, 3-close: \$3 drafts, \$4 wells, \$5 house wine.

DEL MAR

Bully's: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm, 10pm-12am: \$2.75 bottle beer, \$4.50 wells, pints, \$5 well+juice, \$6 wine by glass. Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.75 bottle beer, \$4.50 wells, pints, \$5 well+juice, \$6 wine by glass. Sunday, 10pm-12am: \$2.75 bottle beer, \$4.50 wells, pints, \$5 well+juice, \$6 wine by glass.

DOWNTOWN

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$5 Imperia vodka, \$4 local beer, \$6 wine.

The Bitter End: Every day, 5-7pm: all drinks 1/2-price.

C-Level: Monday-Friday, 3:30-5pm: \$3.50 Bud Lite, Karl Strauss, Stone IPA, \$5 specialty drinks, wells, house wine.

Café Sevilla: Monday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price mojitos. Tuesday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price wine bottles. Wednesday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price martini. Thursday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price sangrita. Friday-Saturday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price garabato. Sunday, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price sangria.

Candelas: Every day, 5-7pm: all drinks 1/2-price.

Downtown Johnny Brown's: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 domestic

bottled beer, \$3.50 pints of the day. Sunday, \$3.50 local pints.

East Village Tavern and Bowl: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 drafts, wells, wine. \$4 premium drafts, margaritas. Friday and Saturday, 11pm-close: \$3 drafts, wells, wine. \$4 premium drafts, margaritas. \$4 Jäger, Bacardi, Svedka.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.50 wells. Tuesday, 4-7pm: \$3.50 wells. Saturday-Sunday, 9am-5pm: \$3.50 wells.

The Fish Market: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: \$3.75 draft, \$3.95 wells, \$2.95 domestic beer.

The Fleetwood: Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday, 5-6pm: \$4 calls. Wednesday, 5-6pm: \$4 calls. 5-7pm: 1/2-off wine bottles.

Fuddruckers: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$4.50 Bud Light/Coors Light pitchers. \$1 off all beer, wine. Saturday, 10pm-midnight: \$4.50 Bud Light/Coors Light pitchers. \$1 off all beer, wine.

Gaslamp Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 pints, house wine, wells (vodka, gin, rum).

La Gran Tapa: Tuesday, 5-7pm: \$3 cask wine, sangria, draft. Wednesday, 5-7pm: \$3 cask wine, sangria, draft, 1/2-off select bottles/wine. Thursday, 5-7pm: \$3 cask wine, sangria, draft, \$10 pitcher sangria/draft.

Las Hadas Bar & Grill: Monday-Saturday, 5-7pm, 10pm-12am: \$2 Bud Light/Coors Light drafts, \$3 margaritas, wine, wells, sangria.

Hive Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$2.49 large sake, \$1.99 drafts (+ \$.99 for sake bomb).

Jewel Box: Monday, \$2 PBR drafts. Wednesday, 6pm-2am: \$5 Jäger bombs w/ military ID. Thursday, 8pm-2am: Industry Night. \$3.75 calls. Must show apron/pay stub.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$3.50 beer.

La Fiesta: Every day, 5-7pm: 1/2-price calls, wells, tap beers, house wine, house margaritas.

Mister Tiki Mai Tai Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$5 Haoie mai tai, Lilikoi mojito, Coconut Kiss martini, large Sapporo, house wine.

O'Brothers: Every day, 3:30-6:30pm: \$5 glass of wine, 24-oz. organic beer \$7.

Patrick's II: Every day, 10am-7pm: \$3.25 wells, \$1 off calls. \$3 Bud drafts, \$3.75 import bottles.

RA Sushi: Every day, 10pm-midnight: \$3 wells. \$4 cosmos, Kirin, house wine, apple martinis.

Rock Bottom Brewery, Downtown: Monday-Thursday, 4-7pm, 10pm-close: \$3.50 pints, wells, house wine, \$4.95 specialty drinks/martinis. Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.50 pints, wells, house wine, \$4.95 specialty drinks/martinis. Sunday, 10pm-close: \$3.50 pints, wells, house wine, \$4.95 specialty drinks/martinis.

Rockin' Baja Lobster: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3.50 margaritas. \$4 Long Islands. \$3-\$5 drafts.

San Diego Wine and Culinary Center: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-8pm: \$5 house wine, wells, \$7 Christopher's Cuvee, 12-9pm: tasting flights.

The Shout House: Tuesday, \$2.50 Karls, \$5 cosmos. Wednesday, \$1.50 domestic bottles. Thursday, \$2.50 Miller Lite drafts, \$10 Miller High Life buckets, \$2 lunchbox shots. Friday, 6-7pm: \$1 any draft. Sunday, \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 wells, wine, Jäger.

Stage Saloon: Every day, 5-8pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.

Stout Public House: Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 premium pints, \$4 wells, \$5 cosmo, appletini, margarita. Saturday-Sunday, till 6pm: \$3 domestic and Canadian bottled beer, \$4 wells, Bloody Mary, \$5 mimosas.

Suite & Tender: Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: \$20 bottomless wine, 1/2-off specialty cocktails.

Tivoli Bar: Every day, 4-7pm: \$1 off pitchers, \$.50 off liquor.

Xavier's Bar & Grill: Tuesday-Saturday, 4-8pm: \$3 wells, drafts. \$2 off wine.

EL CAJON

Main Tap Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$1 off 16-oz. drafts, \$2 off pitchers, \$3 calls. Sunday, all day: \$1 off 16-oz. drafts, \$2 off pitchers, \$3 calls.

ENCINITAS

The Calypso Café: Every day, 5-7pm: \$4 wells, sangria, margaritas. \$4 house wine. \$3.50 beer.



humphreysbackstage.com
2241 Shelter Island Drive
619.224.3577



Thursday, May 21
8 pm • Pink Floyd Tribute Band
Pink Floyd Unplugged



Friday, May 22
5 pm • Original
Cashious



9 pm • Motown & Dance
Detroit Underground



Saturday, May 23
9 pm • Disco/Dance
Makai



Sunday, May 24
6 pm • Smooth Jazz
Memorial Day Jazz Fest
featuring
Carlos Vasquez
Glen Fisher
Patrick Yandall
John Rekevics
Janice Edwards
Max Zappe • Ed Graves
Tony Lee • Reggie Smith
Bill McPherson
Trina Stewart
Stellita Lindgren



Monday, May 25
7 pm • Blues
A 5th of Blues



Tuesday, May 26
7 pm • Dance Party
DJ John Phillips



Wednesday, May 27
8 pm • Sweet Soul Music
The Soul Persuaders

Upcoming Shows:

5/29 **Dennis Jones** • 6/3 **Smokin Joe Kubek**
6/19 **Rick Estrin & The Night Cats**

HAPPY HOUR
EVERY DAY 5-7 PM
1/2 OFF ALL DRINKS & FOOD
Excludes holidays & concert nights.



Happy Hour 7 days a week!
11 am-6 pm
\$2.50 wells
& domestic bottles

Weekly Specials:
Monday
\$2 dom. pints 8 pm-12 am
Tuesday
\$1.50 wells 8 pm-12 am
Friday
\$1.50 dom. bottles til 6 pm

4012 30th St. • North Park
619-281-8700
www.redwingbar.com

Happy Hours in our Tapas Bar!
1/2 off Tapas
Daily Drink Specials
Daily 5-6:30 pm
Sundays & Mondays all night!



555 Fourth Avenue
Gaslamp • (619) 233-5979
cafesevilla.com



Happy Hour M-F 4-8 pm
1/2 off appetizers
\$3 bottle beer
\$4 pints & wells \$5 cosmos
Hockey Playoff Headquarters!

1125 6th Ave. • Downtown
619-702-7933
www.stoutsd.com



Happy Hour at La Valencia

MON.-FRI. 4-7 pm
Draft beer \$3 • House wines \$4
Well drinks and martinis \$5
Rotating tapas specials

MON. & WED. 5 pm-close
All wines by the bottle and by the glass are half off!

TUES. 5-10 pm
Dinner menu items 25% off

THURS. 7 pm-close
Specialty cocktails

SUN. 5 pm-close
No corkage! Please feel free to bring the best of the best from your private cellar.

1132 Prospect Street
La Jolla • 858-454-0771

HAPPY HOUR

ESCONDIDO

Holiday Wine Cellar: *Monday*, 5:30-7:30pm: \$5 wine tasting. *Tuesday*, 5:30-7:30pm: \$5 beer tasting.

Tango Restaurant & Lounge: *Monday*, all night: \$1 off all drinks. *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off all drinks.

GRANTVILLE

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3 wells, domestic drafts. \$4 margarita (keep shaker).

HILLCREST

Cafe Eleven: *Every day*, 2-6pm: \$4 house maragritas, \$3 wells, house wine, bottled beer.

Café Bleu: *Monday*, \$5 wine. \$6 martinis. *Tuesday-Saturday*, 3-7 pm: \$5 wine, \$6 martinis. 1/2-off select wine bottles.

Wine Steals: *Tuesday*, 5:30-7pm: \$5 wine tasting. *Saturday*, 4-6:30pm: \$10 wine tasting.

KEARNY MESA

94th Aero Squadron: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2 Bud Lite on tap. \$5 martinis. *Saturday-Sunday*, 1/2-price bottles of wine.

Carriage House Cocktails & Karaoke: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic bottled beer, \$3 wells, domestic pints.

Khan's Cave Grill & Tavern: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$1.25 off draft, \$1 off glass of wine.

Pampas Argentine Grill: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$3 beer/wells. \$4 margaritas/wine specials.

Tajima Sushi & Japanese Tapas: *Monday-Thursday*, 5:30-7pm: 1/2-off house sake/draft beer.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE

Beauty Bar: *Monday*, \$4 bombs. \$5 Brunettes/Blondes. *Tuesday*, \$4 bombs. \$5 Brunettes/Blondes. \$4 Three Olives. *Wednesday-Thursday*, 3-7 pm: \$5 wine. \$6 martinis. 1/2-off select wine bottles. *Friday*, \$4 bombs. \$5 Brunettes/Blondes. \$3 Fernet.

The Kensington Club: *Every day*, 10am-6pm: \$2.50 wells, drafts, domestic bottles.

Kensington Vine: *Monday*, 3pm-close: \$5 fine wine. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 fine wine.

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$3-5 cocktails, wine, beer.

Clay's La Jolla: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$3 drafts, \$4 wells, \$5 sangria, \$6 house wine.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$3.50 beers.

La Jolla Brew House: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 wells, house drafts. \$4 house wine. \$5 premiums.

La Jolla Rancherita: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 wells, \$2.50 domestics, \$2.75 imports.

The Shack Bar & Grill: *Every day*, 3-7pm: \$1 wells, domestic taps.

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off wells.

LA MESA

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday*, 2-6pm, 10pm-close: \$1.50 off drafts, \$3 off bottled wine. *Saturday-Sunday*, 2-6pm: \$1.50 off drafts, \$3 off bottled wine.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: *Every day*, 4-6pm: \$2 off all cocktails, wine, drafts.

LEUCADIA

Bar Leucadian: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$2.75 wells. \$2.50 domestics. \$3 Corona, Pacifico, Imperiala.

LINDA VISTA

Brick by Brick: *Every day*, 3-6pm: \$2.50 house wine. 1/2-off beer.

Tio Leo's: *Monday*, 3-7pm: \$3 pints. \$4 wells, margaritas. *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3 wells, domestic drafts. \$4 margarita (keep shaker).

LITTLE ITALY

Anthology: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday*, 5:30-7pm: \$6 wells, wine specials. \$8 margaritas. \$9 martinis. *Tuesday*, 5:30-7pm: \$6 wells, wine specials. \$8 margaritas. \$9 martinis. 1/2-price wine.

Illume Bistro: *Every day*, 5-7pm: \$3 beer, \$4 draft, wells, \$5 wines, \$7 martinis.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Brick Alley Bar & Grill: *Every day*, 3-7pm, 9 pm-close: \$1 pints, mixed drinks. \$2 off tall beers, \$3 off pitchers.

Wine Steals: *Wednesday*, 5:30-7pm: \$5 wine tasting. *Saturday*, 4-6:30pm: \$10 wine tasting.

MIRA MESA

The Filling Station: *Monday*, \$2 kamikazes. *Wednesday*, premium beer \$3.50/pint. *Thursday*, 7pm-close: \$1.75 pints, \$6 pitchers. *Saturday*, \$3 Bloody Marys. *Sunday*, \$3 mimosas.

Mira Mesa Lanes: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic pints, \$7 pitchers. \$3 import pints, \$10 pitchers. \$2.50 wells.

MISSION BEACH

Canes: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$2.50 beer of the month. \$3 wells, margaritas. \$4 margarita (keep shaker).

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: 2-for-1 cocktails, beer, shots. *Saturday-Sunday*, \$12 Bionic Beavers, \$2.50 kamikazes, \$8 Bud/Bud Light pitchers.

MISSION HILLS

The Aero Club: *Every day*, 2-7pm: \$4 drafts, \$3 bottles.

Starlite: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$3 drafts, wells, \$1 off other. *Sunday*, all night: \$5 mules. \$15 off wine bottles.

MISSION VALLEY

The Handlery Hotel and Resort: *Wednesday*, \$3 wells, beer, house wine.

In Cahoots: *Wednesday*, \$2 drinks. *Friday-Saturday*, \$2.50 Coors/Coors Light. *Sunday*, any drink \$2.50.

NATIONAL CITY

Lai Thai Restaurant: *Every day*, 4-6pm: \$2 Thai beer.

McDini's: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$2 off domestic pitchers, \$3.50 wells.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Air Conditioned Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 7-9pm: Everything 1/2-off.

NORTH PARK

Apertivo: *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: \$3 glass of wine. *Sunday*, 5-6:30pm: \$2.75 glass of wine.

Craze Burger: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$2.99 drafts, \$15 pitchers of beer, \$3.99 Pinot Grigio, Reisling, Nero d'Avola, Tempranillo. *Friday-Saturday*, 3-6pm, 9-11pm: \$2.99 drafts, \$15 pitchers of beer, \$3.99 Pinot Grigio, Reisling, Nero d'Avola, Tempranillo.

Cricket's Pub and Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, \$2.75 domestic bottles, wells, \$4 margaritas.

Lips: *Sunday*, \$5 homojitos.

Red Wing Bar & Grill: *Monday*, 8pm-12am: \$2 domesic pints. *Tues-*

day, 8pm-12am: \$1.50 wells, \$2.50 domestic bottles. *Wednesday-Thursday, Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-6pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic bottles. *Friday*, 11am-6pm: \$1.50 domestic bottles, \$2.50 wells.

Toronado: *Monday*, 6-10pm: \$3 drafts.

OCEAN BEACH

Blue Parrot: *Monday-Friday*, \$2 off glass of wine, \$3 margaritas. *Saturday-Sunday*, 10am-3pm: \$2.50 mimosas. \$5 Manmosas. \$4 screwdrivers, tequila sunrises, greyhounds.

Dream Street Live: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$2 wells, domestic pints. \$4 Guinness pints.

Winstons: *Monday-Saturday*, 1-8pm: \$3.50 wells. \$1 off all beer/wine.

OCEANSIDE

Harney Sushi: *Thursday*, \$5 specialty cocktails.

Piervue Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: *Tuesday*, 4-7pm: \$2 cans of Tecate.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, house wine. \$1 off all beer.

OLD TOWN

Harney Sushi: *Wednesday*, \$5 specialty cocktails.

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: *Monday-Friday*, 1-7:10pm: \$7.10 beer & shot. *Saturday-Sunday*, 12-7pm: \$7 pitchers.

The Australian Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 7-9pm: \$3 Long Islands. *Saturday*, \$2.50 Karl Strauss. *Sunday*, \$3 Bloody Marys.

Costa Brava: *Every day*, 4-7pm: 1/2-price sangria.

The Dog: *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday*, \$6 pitchers. *Wednesday*, \$1 mugs, \$6 pitchers.

Hennessey's Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic drafts, \$1 off house wine, wells, \$3 well shot/\$4 call shot, \$5 drink specials. *Saturday-Sunday*, Till 1pm: \$3 Bloody Mary.

Johnny V: *Tuesday*, 4pm-close: \$3 wells, drafts, selected wines. *Wednesday*, all day: \$3 wells, drafts, selected wines. *Friday*, 4-9pm: \$2 drinks. *Saturday*, all day: \$2.50 Bud Light bottled, Absolut, \$3 margarita.

Miller's Field: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 wells.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 3-7pm: \$2 wells, house wine. \$3 imports, microbrews. \$2 off all drafts.

Moray's Lounge: *Monday*, all day: \$2.50 drafts, \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 house wine. *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 drafts, \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 house wine.

Pacific Beach Ale House: *Monday-Saturday*, 3-6pm: \$3 drafts, wells, house wines.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday*, 8pm-close: \$2-\$3-\$4 drinks. *Tuesday*, all day: \$2.50 Mexican bottled beer, \$3 frozen maragritas. *Wednesday*, all day: \$2 off all drinks, \$2 beers. *Thursday*, 8pm-close: \$2 wells, drafts, 1/2-price drinks. *Friday*, 3-10pm: \$2 drafts, wells.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 5-7pm: \$3 cask wine, sangria, draft.

POINT LOMA

The Boathouse: *Every day*, 2:30-5pm: \$1.99 house margaritas (\$3 Cuervo Gold), \$3 beer of the month, \$4 wine of the month.

Extreme Pizza: *Monday*, all day: \$1.50 domestic drafts. *Tuesday*, \$6 wine carafes, beer pitchers. *Saturday*, \$2 bottled beer of the month. *Sunday*, \$5 domestic beer pitchers.

Riley's Music Lounge: *Monday*, 4-7pm: \$4 calls. *Tuesday, Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 pints. *Wednesday*, 4-7pm: \$4 Jäger bombs. *Thursday*, 4-7pm: \$3 kamikazes, \$4 Jäger bombs. *Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 calls. *Saturday*, 4-7pm: \$5 Long Island/Long Beach.

POWAY

Phileas Foggs Bar & Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints/\$7.95 pitcher, \$3.50 import pint/\$11.95 pitcher, \$13.95 bottle wine.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Capri Blu: *Every day*, 3-7pm: 1/2-price drafts, wells.

Carvers: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6:30: \$2.75 beers, \$3.95 wells, \$4.25 house wines, \$4.75 well martinis.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Cavillon: *Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday*, 5-6pm: 1/2-off beer, glass of wine.

SAN MARCOS

The Jumping Turtle: *Monday*, PBR: \$2.75/pint, \$6.75/pitcher. *Tuesday*, \$2 Corona, Pacifico, margaritas. *Wednesday*, \$4 drop drinks. *Thursday*, 7pm-close: \$3 Jäger. *Friday*, 5pm-midnight: \$5 Long Islands. *Saturday*, \$3 Orange Patron, Tanqueray. *Sunday*, \$2.50 Bloody Marys.

SOLANA BEACH

The Fish Market Restaurant: *Monday*, 3:30-9:30pm: \$3.50 wells. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3.50 wells. *Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-4pm: \$3.50 wells.

Pacific Coast Grill: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$5 gold margaritas, \$1 off draft, wells, wines by the glass, 25% off wine bottles.

SORRENTO VALLEY

Ali Baba's Cave: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-7pm: 2-for-1 drinks.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$3.50 beer.

SOUTH PARK

Alchemy: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off wells, including Skyy, Seagram's, Jim Beam, Sauza Gold, \$2 off wines/glass, draft.

Hamilton's Tavern and Café: *Every day*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

Whistle Stop Bar: *Every day*, 2-8pm: \$1 off all cocktails, pints.

SPRING VALLEY

California Comfort: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, wells, house wine.

TIERRASANTA

JP's Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 3-5pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Vesuvio Gourmet & Lounge: *Tuesday*, 4-7pm: \$5 martinis.

50

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A Little Boost

“The publicity about the violence makes it sound much worse than it is.”

I can't believe it. Here I am on deepest Revolución, when I spot that black hat, that gray-red beard, that loping walk.

It can only be one person. “Willy?” I say.

Willy Clauson has stuck it out here in Tijuana all through the bad times. I think of him as Our Man in Havana, except he's a singer, the *charro guero* (the “fair-haired cowboy”), as he's known, the guy who brought “La Bamba” up from Veracruz and, with a little boost from Ritchie Valens, made it a worldwide hit. Since then, he's settled in TJ, because he loves Mexico, and, well, the hits aren't coming quite as they used to. He's growing old gracefully and modestly, sometimes touring places like Nicaragua and doing summer stints in Sweden, where his family's originally from. There he acts as a singing sheriff in a Wild West fantasyland called “High Chaparral.”

I haven't seen him for a year. Now, here he is, heading down Calle 3a, Third Street, toward his little museum in Pasaje Rodríguez. I bet he's coming from his daily swig of cactus juice, which he drinks to keep his diabetes at bay.

“You caught me just in time,” he says. “I'm off to Sweden on Sunday. No money worries for three months! All I have to do is wander 'round the High Chaparral and sing when I feel like it.”

I ask him about the economy and violence in TJ. “The economy's bad, sure enough,” he says. “But violence? The only thing I've seen was when two drunken sailors — American — killed a prostitute at a hotel across Revolución.”

We wander up Revolución. The bar touts call out half-heartedly. We stop in for a coffee (\$1.10) at La Placita, an open-to-the-sidewalk eatery that's surprisingly busy, maybe because so many others have closed. “The publicity about the violence makes it sound much worse than it is,” says Salvador. He's one of the longtime waiters here. “Americans have completely stopped coming. Revolución is dying. I've been in the restaurant business

for 30 years. This is by far the worst. Business is down at least 80 percent.”

Willy has eaten already, and he has to go. So I head up Revolución. Man. Boarded-up stores and bars and eateries are everywhere. Even the venerable La Especial is gone, except for the original streetside taco counter they started out in business with about 60 years ago.

I get up to Calle Galeana, 7th. The Spanish paella place, Chiki Jai, is still open, thank God. But I'm looking for something a little more plain and simple, so I cross Revolución and head a few yards up 7th, looking for one of my favorite places. There's the sign: “Café Français.” But, uh-oh. I pass the heavy, coat-of-arms-embossed wooden doors of its sister eatery, the Nica-Oh Steakhouse. Closed down. Then, ah...right next door, La Belle Claude is open. TJ's little piece of Paris. Last came here five years ago. Nothing's changed. Inside, you're enveloped by sweet-smelling, varnished-wood, coffee-aroma'd arty ambiance. Cabinets are filled to bursting with decadent cakes and cookies. Glazed fruit tarts, éclairs, truffles, and the shelves are loaded with

cheeses, teas, coffees, jams. Right now (nearly 4:00 in the afternoon), the place buzzes with office-worker types seated at the half-dozen little tables, drinking coffee and eating paninis or pastries. Guess we're talking Mexican lunch hour.

In an arch between rows of teas, “La Belle Claude” herself looks out at us from her portrait painted on the wall. She's the daughter of the owners. And, hey, *belle* she is.

I ask the guy behind the counter, Jesús, if they have lunch specials.

“Anything on the menu,” he says. There's a chalkboard menu full of ciabatta and sandwiches, much like a U.S. deli, with chicken, ham, beef, and all in the \$4 range. Yvonne and Janet, who say they are on their lunch break from the department store where they work, are eating empanadas *con queso* (with cheese). The little stuffed pastries look oozy and flaky. Hmm...make that my second course.

Meantime, I check for something savory. They have tempting French-like plates, such as *jus de veau lié*, a kind of French dip, for \$5, but I settle for a ciabatta with ham, cheese, lettuce, and tomato and a coffee. Something simple. Hey, a man needs comfort food in these dodgy times. Ciabatta means “slippers” in Italian, and that's what it is, a wide loaf of bread that kinda looks like a slipper and feels like it too — soft inside a crisp, thin crust. It's loaded with tasty cheese, ham, lettuce, tomato. Nice coffee choices, from places such as Chiapas, Veracruz, Cuba. It's 52 pesos (\$4) for the ciabatta and 15 pesos (\$1.15) for the coffee.

The Place: *Café Français La Belle Claude, 8186-A 7th Street (next to Nica-Oh Steakhouse, just off Revolución Avenue), Tijuana*
Type of Food: *Mexican, French, American*
Prices: *Jus de veau lié (French dip), \$5 (depending on exchange rate); ciabatta with ham, cheese, lettuce, tomato, \$4; chicken panini, \$4; beef ciabatta, \$4; empanada stuffed with apple or pear, plus cinnamon, nuts, raisins, cream, \$1.50; empanada with cheese, \$1.50; coffee, \$1.15*
Hours: *7:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., seven days*
Bus: *Red Border Bus (Mexico coach)*
Nearest Bus Stops: *Avenida Revolución, at 7th Street*



Willy

Then I spot this guy and gal, Ivan and Sandy, ordering *postres*, dessert pastries. Their empanada *rellena* is stuffed with apple. I order one of those (\$1.50), and, while I'm about it, a pear one as well — *pera rellena*. They come with cinnamon, nuts, raisins, cream, and sugar crystals on top. Dee-licious.

Jesús says that La Belle Claude's father died recently, but her mom still runs the place. Claude herself married a French chef. “We are small,” he says, “and have mostly local customers. We're harder to kill off than big, costly-to-run tourist places.” ■



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ranchero and *verde*. Open 8 am to 10 pm daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Happy Face Restaurant In Plaza Viva Tijuana (near Yellow Cab parking area), Tijuana. The place is set in front of a bandstand-size gazebo with a big open kitchen. From the acid rock blasting out, you'll think you're back in San Diego (only 100 yards away). There are good, generous Mexican dishes here. Breakfast (all day) includes *chilaquiles* with chips doused in cheese, a thin steak, frijoles, rice, chips, salsa, coffee, and a house salad. This is a deal. Evenings you have a ring-side seat watching *turistas* heading for fun and locals coming home. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Salón Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel, south end of Boulevard Benito Juárez, Rosarito, 661-612-1111. This fabled old hotel's all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. To reach the buffet, go to the left behind the registration desk to the Salón Azteca, walk in, grab a plate, and start dishing up your breakfast from the long line of cafeteria-like bins filled with gringo, gringo-Mex, real Mexican (*menudo*), and international specialties. Expect to tip if you want something from the omelet or carving station. Next, plunk down at a table where a waiter will arrive to serve you juice and endless cups of decent coffee. Vegetarian upon request. Casual dress. Secure parking in hotel lot for a small extra charge. Three meals daily; brunch Sunday. Somewhat expensive for the area; Visa and MasterCard accepted. — *N.W.*

CENTRAL

Aladdin's Mediterranean Restaurant 1220 Cleveland Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-574-1111. These cafés offer a bright, clean atmosphere for bright and clean, if rather generic, Middle-Eastern favorites (hummus, tabbouleh, kebabs, *shawarma*, etc.), plus imaginative Levantine-flavored pizzas and salads. There are ample choices for vegetarians. Both locations offer beer and wine. Hillcrest's owners offer a more Lebanese cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

Anthony's Fishette 1360 North Harbor Drive, Downtown, 619-232-5103. At the baby brother of Anthony's Grotto and Star of the Sea, the good news is you pay a fraction of the price, and you get to sit outside over the water. The chowder — New England or Fisherman — is fresh, thick, tasty. A meal. Their old-fashioned fish-and-chips or Baja squid steak sandwich are great fillers too. Also good: "hand-battered treasures" like catfish strips, swordfish, oysters, crab claws, and

clam nuggets. Breakfast served during summer only. Open for lunch and dinner seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Asia Café 4710 Market Street, Chollas View, 619-527-1917. May be Asian San Diego's best-kept secret. You have to look behind the smog shop at this all-Laotian shopping center to find it. The menu's Southeast Asian, but the owner — and most of the conversation around you — is Laotian. Laotian dishes include the famous *larb-kai* (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Good regional alternatives: *bamee* (egg noodle) roasted pork soup, Crying Tiger (ground beef salad with vegetables), and *lard nar* (seafood, beef, or pork with sloppy wide noodles and vegetables). Closed Tuesday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Berta's Latin American Restaurant 3928 Twigg Street, Old Town, 619-295-2343. Sampling the whole range of little-known cuisines from Guatemala down to Patagonia, Berta's lengthy menu reads like a culinary "pick hits" list of each country's best flavors, typically rendered with expertise and verve. Some outstanding dishes include sweet-savory Chilean *pastel de choclo* (a casserole of beef, chicken, and corn pudding) from Berta's homeland; spicy ceviche and subtle *seco de cordero* (citrus-flavored lamb stew) from Peru; earthy Guatemalan *chilemal* (cilantro-laden pork stew); aromatic beef curry from Trinidad; and a sensuous *vatapa* (seafood in coconut sauce) from Brazil's African-influenced Bahia coast. Vegetarians will find many meat- and fowl-free options. Open for lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Café Japengo 8960 University Center Lane, University City, 858-450-3355. Here Bentleys and Beemers far outnumber Buicks. Inside is contemporary with an Asian flair, complete with kimono stands and bamboo forests. Sushi is the specialty, and it's above average, although the sushi-bar chefs aren't very friendly and the seasoned rice tastes quite salty. The highly prized fatty tuna (*toro*) and flying fish roe (*tobiko*) are offered when available. Otherwise, they may be replaced by smelt roe (*masago*), which may be a minor disappointment. However, the *uni* (sea urchin roe) is pristine. If you appreciate subtlety, try the egg-omelet sushi (*tamago*), a delightful mixture of eggs, sake, and mirin. Creative party rolls are especially popular here, including the amusing Tootsie Roll — sweet and spicy, crunchy and spongy, with fried soft shell crab topped with grilled shitake mushrooms, avocado, and a sake marinade. Entrées are often a letdown, but diners may be satisfied to make a meal from appetizers like the *char su* duck salad with goat cheese, candied pecans, and pomegranate vinaigrette; duck wontons with

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coriander pesto and *ponzu* sauce; and an excellent kimchi martini. No reservations for the sushi bar; arrive early for prompt seating. Lunch weekdays only; sushi bar opens at 5 pm; dinner begins at 6 pm. Very expensive. — *B.D.*

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

Chopahn Authentic Afghan Cuisine 750 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-236-9236. Authentic Afghan cuisine resembles Indian and Persian food but is singularly itself: the spicing is exotic but the flavors are clear and unmmuddled. It emphasizes grilled-to-order marinated meats (especially lamb), stews, well-seasoned rice dishes, and uniquely delicious appetizers such as leek ravioli (*aushak*), leek or meat turnovers (*bulanee*), and battered vegetables (*pakawra*). The grilled salmon is excellent, and don't miss the side dish of sweet pumpkin topped with yogurt and meat sauce (*kadu*). Plenty for vegetarians, too. Interesting, affordable wine list; Mexican and domestic beers. Small patio. Lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate.—*N.W.*

City Pizzeria 1125 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 619-531-0955. There's a cultural war going on here. "City" has a New York attitude—just listen to the guys in the kitchen grabbing dough, flailing it around, yakking, joking. But the dough has been a West Coast family's secret for 75 years. Try the Ranch Chicken pie with garlic chicken, basil, and ranch dressing, or the BBQ chicken with pineapple, red onion, BBQ sauce, and mozzarella. (Of course, no self-respecting New York pizzeria would ever *consider* serving such moonbeamish Left Coast toppings—not even if they were in New Jersey.) If those don't tempt you, there are 11 other specialty pies every day. Open daily till 11 pm, 12 pm Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive.—*E.B.*

Confidential 901 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-696-8888. Chris Walsh, whose "small plates" many fondly remember from California Cuisine and W Café, hits his stride here with a menu of creative international grazing foods, from one-bite nibbles to small entrées

and mini-burgers. Unexpected, ultra-modern techniques and combinations of ingredients make a trip through the menu an adventure in flavors and textures. This is truly eating for fun. Wide-ranging wine list with something for everyone; pricey creative cocktails. Eat early (or upstairs) if you prefer quiet; music (and patrons) grow louder later as "sceney" crowd comes in to drink. Many dishes on the sweet side. Reservations strongly advised for weekends and to ensure handicapped-accessible seating. Kitchen open Tuesday through Saturday, 6 pm to 11 pm (bar until about 2 am). Wide range of prices, but many small bites do add up.—*N.W.*

Crest Café 425 Robinson Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-295-2910. "Hearty Homemade Comfort Food" is the boast, and this small retro-deco café backs it up. Cecilia and her dad, Luis Moreno, took over this place back in 1985. Some staff have been here since the start. Loyal customers get their photos and names on an honor roll that fills one wall. Lots of lazy ceiling fans, long, hanging blue lights, and art. "Matisse in Morocco," Salvador Dali, Frida Kahlo. Consider momsy dishes like Sloppy Joes, honey-glazed pork chops, or the healthy vegetable steam basket. And don't turn down their 11 different kinds of burgers, including the fresh salmon burger, the OuiOui burger (aged bleu cheese crumbled under melted Jack cheese) or the wicked, spicy, butter burger (half a pound of lean ground beef stuffed with garlic, tarragon, basil, parsley butter, topped with cheese, garlic-paprika-cayenne-cumin mayo and more butter). Best of all, late hours: open 7 am to midnight, seven days. Dinner at 11 is no problem. How rare is that in San Diego? Inexpensive.—*E.B.*

Croce's 802 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-4355. "Live music is complimentary with purchase of a dinner entrée" at this restaurant and bar run by Ingrid Croce in honor of her late husband, Jim. Appetizers that mix flavors—like the baked Brie and honey-roasted

garlic served with mixed greens and a Grand Marnier berry compote—are delicious. But despite creative dishes, like New Zealand sea bass with a pomegranate-macadamia crust, few entrées rise above the level of average Gaslamp fare. Simple is best here—the rich and creamy shrimp *carbonara* fettuccine with Italian pancetta, Kalamata olives, and basil in a white garlic cream sauce. For dessert, try the flourless chocolate cake with roasted walnuts and pecans served with Tahitian vanilla-bean gelato and Verona chocolate sauce. The menu is seasonal. Sit by the window for great people-watching, or retire to the bar if you prefer live jazz. Open nightly for dining and music (breakfast and lunch Saturday and Sunday). Expensive.—*B.D.*

D.Z. Alkin's 6930 Alvarado Road, College Area, 619-265-0218. At arguably the best Jewish delicatessen in San Diego (it's not Katz's, but it's here, and the service is nicer), you'll find a full range of European-Jewish specialties from wonderful soups to nuts, including deli meats and fabulous smoked fish, house-baked breads and pastries, traditional Jewish-American dinner entrées (including a lively Rumanian skirt steak and an ethnic sampler platter), plus 110 different overstuffed sandwiches—among them the very popular corned beef. To start the day, there are American and Jewish breakfasts, including a fabled matzo brei. The knishes, latkes, and chopped liver are all fine. A few acceptable, affordable wines by the bottle (only plonk by the glass), plus fountain drinks, sodas, some domestic and imported beers. Loads for lacto-vegetarians, less for vegans. (This cuisine is big on sour cream.) Open daily except major holidays, three meals. Inexpensive to moderate, with kiddie plates available at all meals.—*N.W.*

Elaine's Coffee Shoppe 1212 South 43rd Street, Southcrest, 619-264-6525. When Su Cha Yang took over Elaine's a quarter century ago, this was one tough part of town. No problem. Su had survived the Korean War and Vietnam be-

fore she came here. Now, with Southcrest looking up, she is famous for her fun and her food. Most customers are regulars—judges, ministers, teachers among them—and they don't want change. So Elaine's remains a bright, genuine 1970s-style breakfast-all-day coffee shop. Breakfast: try the ham, bacon, mushroom "hunter" omelet. Lunch: the pork-chop plate is a great filler. Su Cha Yang also cooks dishes for vegetarian, Muslim, and Korean customers. Breakfast and lunch six days; closed Tuesdays.—*E.B.*

Island Prime 880 Harbor Island Drive, Downtown, 619-298-6802. Deborah (Kemo Sabe) Scott is the chef and co-owner (with the Cohn Restaurant Group, owners of many San Diego restaurants) at this high-end steakhouse with a bay view. The steaks and roast beefs are delicious, as you'd expect, but also enjoy creative appetizers and sides like shaved corn with black truffle and a seared ahi stack. Salt runs freely, and the excellent international wine list runs high. Do reserve; free parking. Open daily, dinner only. Very expensive.—*N.W.*

Karl Strauss Brewing Company 1157 Columbia Street, Downtown, 619-234-2739. One-time Pabst brewmeister Karl Strauss headed his own brewery and a bunch of brewery restaurants bearing his name, so you can't help but be a little wary of an over-slick operation. But at least at downtown's ivy-covered brick drink and eatery, the food's honest, tasty, and sleek, not slick. And Karl's beers are still interesting. Go for honest-but-beautiful dishes like his Hump Day meat loaf (Wednesday only), which comes looking like a Magic Mountain. Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Lunch and dinner daily. Moderate. Other brewery/restaurant branches at 9675 Scranton Road, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-2739; 5801 Armada Drive, Carlsbad, 760-

431-2739; 1044 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-551-2739.—*E.B.*

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-682-4054. A simple neighborhood sushi bar offering imaginative rolls, each one so distinctively seasoned that there's no need to mar the pretty fish-scapes with wasabi dip. The fish is fresh and includes salmon that Kazumi-san cold-smokes himself. For a family-style dinner, The Ultimate Boat (serving two or more) is an encyclopedia of Japanese specialties, a huge platter of sushi, *gyoza*, assorted appetizers, yakitori, teriyaki, and terrific tempura. Need comfort food? The tempura also graces the top of a satisfying bowl of *nabeyaki udon* (noodle soup) with an onion-sweet broth. With just a small staff of family members in the kitchen and house, expect a wait for food at busy times. Dinner daily. Inexpensive to moderate.—*N.W.*

The Kebab Shop 630 Ninth Avenue, Downtown, 619-525-0055. Food is one area where the Middle East is definitely taking over the world. Turkish-style *döner* kebabs are already on every street corner in Europe, and they're heading our way. Why? It's fast, flavorful, fresh food. The kebab's "meat" is usually lamb, chicken, or falafel, wrapped in a flatbread. The menu here specializes in all kinds of kebabs, including Moroccan shrimp, beef *kofte* (spiced ground meat with grilled vegetables), and the house special, Iskender, honoring Alexander the Great (lamb on bread with tomato sauce and yogurt). Try also minted zucchini, curried eggs, and Algerian eggplant. The ultimate compliment? Lots of Turkish San Diegans eat here. Monday through Saturday, 11 am to 10 pm; closed Sunday. Inexpensive.—*E.B.*

Laurel Restaurant 505 Laurel Street, Banker's Hill, 619-239-2222. Business-class watering hole where for seven dollars per item—food or drink—on the bar menu, we can at least taste how the Other Half lives and dines. The drinks range from Dragon's Blood sangria (a combo of Bordeaux wine, port, fruit and

Calvados brandy) to Road Dog Stout (from Colorado's Flying Dog Brewery). As for the munchies, think lamby joes (luscious mini-burgers made of ground lamb); Mediterranean mussels (steeped in Old Monk beer broth); seafood salad (shrimp, squid, mussels, scallops, and sauce); or braised duck and stone-fruit flatbread. If money says one item only, lamby joes are most filling. Happy hour daily, 5 pm to 7 pm Inexpensive.—*E.B.*

Magnolias 342 Euclid Avenue, Lincoln Park, 619-262-6005. If you're looking for an authentic Louisiana-style feast, this is the best place in town. Bessie Johnson (of the once-famed Bessie's Garret) is back in business, and mouths are rejoicing. At her handsome, spacious restaurant, you'll find generous hospitality, huge portions, and a long, delicious menu of Cajun, Creole, and soul-food specialties. The fried chicken is beyond compare, the jambalaya well-nigh perfect, and the BBQ shrimp, crawfish bisque, and étouffée are splendid. Great side dishes include candied sweet potatoes and cornbread dressing. Takeouts accepted. Full bar. Lunch and dinner six days; closed Mondays. Low moderate.—*N.W.*

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama Street, North Park, 619-688-0717. You'll remember this lovely little place for two reasons. One, the atmosphere: It's a tiny kitchen attached to an old red-and-green wooden house, with tables and green umbrellas on the sloping sidewalk and also inside a shelter of bougainvillea, green canvas, metal mesh, and white brick. Two, their *saji*. It's a round Lebanese oven of ancient design which cooks the delicious flat bread (also called *saji*) that goes with pretty much everything, including baba ghanoush (sweet daddy eggplant dip) and *fool madamas* (fava and garbanzo bean stew). Gotta-haves include beef *shawerma* wrap or falafel wrap and a meat pie unlike any you've had before. A lovely bonus: fresh Lebanese baklava and a little pot of thick, sweet, black Arabic

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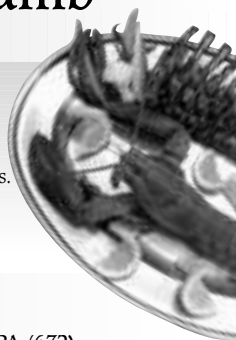
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Edamame \$1
Pork Gyoza \$1
Calamari
Tempura \$2.50
Cali (5 pc.)
\$1.50
Phili Roll
(5 pc.) \$2.50

coffee. Open 10 am to 8 pm Monday to Friday, weekends until 4 pm Inexpensive. — E.B.

The Mission 1250 J Street, Downtown, 619-232-7662. “Urban assault food for a revolutionary people,” say the waitstaff’s black T-shirts. But the food here is less revolutionary than halfway between health nut and greasy spoon. Still, their “conscientious cuisine” is generous, good-looking, and intelligent, if a little middle-class timid. Breakfasts are big here. The delicious chicken-apple sausage and eggs comes on a foot-wide plate loaded with unskinned rosemary potatoes, scrambled eggs, and scrumptious baked-on-the-spot rosemary bread. Pancakes and French cinnamon toast are popular staples, as is the Zen Breakfast (scrambled egg whites, braised tofu, brown rice, with veggies). The roast-beef hash can be chewy. Check out the “Chino-Latino” dishes (lunch only) like the mild-but-still-delicious ginger sesame tofu with brown rice and peanut sauce, which comes with a plethora of jicama-type veggies. The interior has an arty, postindustrial, coffeehouse feel. Open daily, 7 am to 3 pm Inexpensive. — E.B.

Muzita Abyssinian Bistro 4651 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-546-7900. In a charming Craftsman house converted to a restaurant, you’ll enjoy Abyssinian (Ethiopian and Eritrean) dishes somewhat adapted to American tastes, along with some Afro-Cal fusion inventions. You’ll be eating with your fingers, using bits of healthy (high-protein, low-glycemic) whole-grain pancakes (*injera*) to pick up the savory morsels such as fried okra, chick-pea puree, slow-stewed chicken, stir-fried lamb leg. The food is less fiery than at the mom-and-pops in sketchy neighborhoods that serve a hotter, more authentic version, but it’s a comfortable, hospitable introduction to this ancient great cuisine. Try the Ethiopian beers or crisp honey wine. Several stairs to dining room; meals served family style. Plenty for vegetarians and vegans. Romantic date destination. Reserve for prime time and large groups. Dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Moderate. — N.W.

Neighborhood 777 G Street, Downtown, 619-446-0002. Chefs from the Gaslamp drop in after work here for hits of simple comfort-cooking in a proletarian-chic no-frills atmosphere. The hip gastropub’s menu centers on half-pound burgers made of premium beef with serious sauces and garnishes (and no ketchup, ever!). Starters and sides include honest steak tartare, tasty sweet potato fries with bleu cheese curls, creative deviled eggs, mac’n’cheese and big, interesting salads. (No kiddie menu, but the bill of fare is G-rated.) To drink? Local microbrews and an interesting, affordable

choice of international wines. Service is sweet and food comes fast — but be prepared for serious noise, compounded of loud rock and louder talk. Open daily 4 pm - midnight. Inexpensive to very low moderate. — N.W.

Nijiya Market 3860 Convo Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-268-3821. If you’re not willing to sacrifice quality for convenience when eating fast food, try this Japanese market in Kearny Mesa. Nijiya Market offers prepared box lunches, or *bento*, that are pretty to look at, appetizing, and a real bargain. I suggest, however, passing by Nijiya’s steam trays and heat lamps and going straight to the coolers, where you’ll find delicious chicken cutlets, fresh sushi, and chilled noodles, as well as dessert delicacies like sweetbread roll filled with sweet bean paste. Inexpensive. — M.N.

Ortega’s Bistro 141 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-692-4200. Owned by a member of the Ortega family, the Puerto Nuevo lobster pioneers, this is the Baja restaurant group’s first north-of-the-border venture. You’ll find Baja-style cuisine featuring seafood and grilled foods, with a focus on lobster. Unlike the typical Ortega’s, the lobster isn’t deep-fried before grilling — an improvement in tenderness and flavor. Of course, the crustacean’s best in season (October to February). Fish ceviche makes a good starter course. Other choices include small tacos, kebabs, etc., plus the standard Puerto Nuevo side dishes — stewed (not refried) beans, and an oddly bland guacamole fixed tableside. Full bar; fun margaritas including almond and pomegranate variations. Reservations recommended for weekends. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Mainly moderate (lobsters and Kobe skirt steak expensive). — N.W.

Pappalecco 1602 State Street, Little Italy, 619-238-4590. Pappalecco (“Lollypop”) is a different kind of Italian eatery. It doesn’t play the nostalgia card — it’s an exact copy of an actual modern café in Pisa that three brothers created there and now here. The idea is for a quick, sophisticated coffee-gelato-eatery where if you ask for coffee you get espresso, customers often have at least one gelato a day “for health,” and meals are mostly salad-charcuterie-cheese combos. Sometimes — and the brothers claim this is their idea — they actually combine gelato with their dishes. Expect a multilingual United Nations atmosphere. One delicious combo: the Rustico, different Italian cold cuts with pungent goat cheese and bread. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Patty’s Fruitland 1789 National Avenue, Logan Heights, 619-239-3085. Patty used to sell fresh fruit drinks outside a church in Guanajuato. In 1994 she came to America and married Jose. “Why

can’t we sell fruit drinks in America?” she wondered. Now they’ve opened a place where you can get combos like the *pico de gallo* (rooster’s beak) with lots of fresh-sliced fruit and raw veggies (jicama, cucumber), all dusted with cayenne pepper. They’ve expanded to nonfruit (roast beef and other sandwiches, shrimp tostadas, hot dogs), but the fruit and juices define the place. The most tempting: fruit salad with cottage cheese, granola, and honey. Monday to Friday 8 am to 6 pm, Saturday 9 am to 4 pm Inexpensive. — E.B.

Roy’s 8670 Genesee Avenue, University City, 858-455-1616. Our own noisy outpost of top Hawaiian chef Roy Yamaguchi’s ever-expanding chain has elements of both “top chef” and “chain” about it. Decoding Roy’s Rules of Ordering can make the difference between a mediocre dinner and a very happy meal: 1. Steer clear of combination platters — the same dishes come off much better when ordered separately; 2. You can get any element of a combo by asking for it; 3. Don’t waste your palate (or money) on weak umbrella drinks when the wine list is brilliant. The menu changes daily, but some frequent tasty choices are pot stickers, *lumpia* Kahana, or chocolate soufflé. Special dietary requests accommodated, including vegetarian meals. Reserve, and hope for a table far from the raucous bar. Open nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

Salad Style 807 F Street, Downtown, 619-255-6731. Is this the tipping point? Whereas traditional meals have always been meat and taters with a side of salad, here, it’s salad with a side of meat and taters. Salad’s the main item, and it’s delicious, even if salad’s not your thing, because each concoction is so original. For example, Scott’s Grilled Skirt Steak is an arty pile of organic greens, tomatoes, smoky, earthy mushrooms, hearts of palm, crumbled bleu cheese, plus red slabs of meat over it. Each dish does something, from the Moroccan couscous salad to the tuna-and-tomato salad. The Totally Vegan, with its golden volcano of quinoa and snowy tofu slabs, should be in a gallery. Open 10 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

Shanghai City Restaurant 3860 Convo Street #105, Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5883. Forget the blah strip mall it hides in — this little piece of Shanghai is a jewel. It feels like one of those century-old places in San Francisco’s Chinatown. A two-foot-long, satin-silver arowana fish greets you as you come in. Brightly painted dragon columns support a gold dragon arch that leads you into the gold-walled dining room. Mainly, Chinese seem to come here, often eating Shanghai seafood dishes or choosing sumptuous specials like clay



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SHRIMP LOVER'S BUCKET ONLY

A dozen large shrimp for the really hearty appetite

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Jeong won
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Get 1 Free[®]

Free Indian dinner

Buy one dinner, get 2nd dinner free. \$12 value.
Excludes buffet, specials, and alcohol.

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SAN MARCOS

50% off entrée

Buy one entrée, get 2nd entrée at 50% off. Dine-in only.

421 Telegraph Canyon Rd.
619-422-1806

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Coupon code: G1FSDR



CHULA VISTA

Free entrée

with purchase of 2nd entrée of equal or greater value and 2 drinks.
Maximum value \$9.

Fugu's Sushi & Wok
915 Pearl St. • 858-456-1414

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LA JOLLA

Free entrée

with purchase of a dinner entrée of equal or greater value and two drinks. Excludes the dinner-for-two menu item. Up to \$6.

Chicken + .org
Great Cuisine

309 W. Mission Ave. • 760-480-1348
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25% off



12642 Poway Rd., Ste. 18
858-748-9330

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POWAY

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Free Z10 pizza or large salad
with purchase of any extra-large specialty pizza Z18.

zpizza

11975 Carmel Mountain Rd. • 858-675-9300
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50% off frozen yogurt

Buy one, get the 2nd of equal or lesser value at 50% off.

Yoberry Yogurt
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Free chicken or crispy beef taco

with purchase of two.

342 S. Twin Oaks Valley Rd.
304 W. Mission Rd.

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SAN MARCOS

Free frozen yogurt

with purchase of another of equal or greater value.

Tutti Frutti

4150 Regents Park Row, Ste. 120
858-678-0235

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LA JOLLA

Free entrée

with purchase of one entrée and
2 beverages. Minimum purchase of \$12.

Monsoon
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Free Italian lunch

with the purchase of another lunch and 2 drinks.

400 Mission Ave.
760-435-2290

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15% off entrée

any lunch or dinner entrée. Excludes weekends and holidays.
Good for up to two people. Offers may not be combined.

333 3rd Avenue
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CHULA VISTA

Free oven baked sub

when you buy one.

Smoke House Grills

California BBQ & Oven Baked Subs
740 Nordahl Rd. and 1158 W. San Marcos Blvd.

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with purchase of another frozen yogurt of equal or greater value.

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Shopping Center
760-740-9328

Expires 6-4-09
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Free steak fries

with purchase of any large Philly Cheese Steak.

312 Ballantyne St.
619-442-2036

Expires 6-4-09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



EL CAJON

50% off entrée

Buy one entrée and get the 2nd for 50% off.
2nd entrée must be of equal or lesser value. (Dinner only).

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9910 Mira Mesa Blvd. #A • 858-578-1468

Expires 6-4-09
Coupon code: G1FSDR

MIRA MESA

20" pizza with 2 toppings and a 2 ltr. soda \$19⁹⁹

12812 Rancho Penasquitos Blvd.
858-538-6868

11255 Camino Ruiz
858-566-9666

Expires 6-4-09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

RANCHO PENASQUITOS/MIRA MESA



Free lunch entrée

with the purchase of any lunch entrée of equal or greater value.

871 Showroom Place
619-656-2739

Expires 6-4-09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



CHULA VISTA

Free frozen yogurt

with purchase of equal or greater value.

1680 S. Melrose Dr.
760-598-7211

Expires 6-4-09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



VISTA

Free entrée

with the purchase of 1 entrée of equal or greater value and 2 drinks.

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340 W. Valley Parkway • 877-848-6062

Expires 6-4-09
Coupon code: G1FSDR

ESCONDIDO

Free pizza

with purchase of any Z14 or Z18 pizza.

zpizza

8657 Villa La Jolla Dr. • 858-450-0660
Expires 6-4-09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

LA JOLLA

Free California roll

With minimum purchase of \$20.

SUSHI YAMA

500 N. Escondido Blvd. • 760-747-1424

Expires 6-4-09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

ESCONDIDO

20% off dinner

Food purchases only. Alcohol excluded.

785 Shadowridge Dr.
760-727-5479

Expires 6-4-09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



VISTA

Half off dinner

Buy 1 dinner, get 2nd dinner of equal or lesser value at half price.



17120 Bernardo Center Dr. • (858) 385-0020
Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

RANCHO BERNARDO

Free entrée

with the purchase of an entrée of equal or greater value and 2 drinks.



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6690 Mission Gorge Rd. • (619) 281-Cafe(2233)
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SAN DIEGO

15% off dinner

After 4 p.m.



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1860 Marron Rd. • (760) 434-9100

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Free frozen yogurt

Buy one yogurt, get 1 free with the purchase of yogurt equal or greater value (excludes quarts)

5640 Lake Murray Blvd.
9640 Mission Gorge Rd.
872 Eastlake Pkwy

Expires 06/04/09
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LA MESA/SANTEE/EASTLAKE

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14727 Pomerado road
858-748-2445

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Coupon code: G1FSDR



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Free steak dinner

Free Rib Eye Steak Dinner w/ purchase of one at regular price & 2 beverages



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Free large pizza

Buy a large pizza at regular price and get a 2nd pizza of equal or lesser value free. (Tuesdays only)

834 Kline St.
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Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



LA JOLLA

Free half dozen dipped apple box

with the purchase of any arrangement valued at \$50 or more, up to a \$20 value!

For Locations Visit:
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SAN DIEGO

Free pound sandcrab special

When You Buy 1 lb. of any of the "Sandcrab Specials" Clams, Mussels, Stone Crab Claws, Crawfish.

2229 Micro Place
760-480-CRAB

Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



ESCONDIDO

Free item

with the purchase of any menu item of equal or greater value & two beverages



8861 Villa La Jolla Dr. • 858.455.1461
2638 Del Mar Heights Rd. • 858.259.4880

LA JOLLA/DEL MAR Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free sushi roll

with the purchase of a second roll of equal or greater value & two beverages (Maximum \$8 value.)

4111 Voltaire Street
619-223-3388

8790 Cuyamaca Rd, Ste. K
619-562-5151

Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



SAN DIEGO/SANTEE

50% off dinner

Buy 1 dinner, Get 1 of equal or lesser value 50% off.



16625 Dove Canyon Rd. #109 • 858.673.6824
Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

SAN DIEGO

Free spring rolls

with any purchase of \$15 or more • dine-in only

Phở SuperBowl
VIETNAMESE NOODLES AND GRILL

8342 Parkway Dr • 619-469-8984

Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

LA MESA

Free BBQ sandwich

Free Texas Style Angus Beef Brisket or Any BBQ Sandwich with the purchase of one sandwich & 2 large beverages.

291 W. Main Street
(619) 444-3667

Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



Formerly Geno's BBQ

EL CAJON

50% off frozen yogurt

Buy one yogurt, get the second one of equal or lesser value for half off.

Yoberry Yogurt

1430 East Plaza Blvd. • 619.474.4904

Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

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Free entrée

with purchase of an entrée & 2 beverages. Max Value \$10.

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Expires 06/04/09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

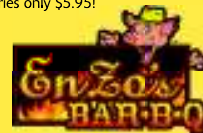
SAN MARCOS

\$5.95 1/2 lb. burger & fries

8" Philly cheese steak or 1/2 lb gourmet burger served with french fries only \$5.95!

4111 Oceanside Blvd.#101
760.643.9602

Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



OCEANSIDE

\$5 Philly steak sandwich

with the purchase of a drink (8" sandwich)

4121 Oceanside Blvd.
760.941.3004

Expires 06/04/09
Coupon code: G1FSDR



OCEANSIDE

15% off dinner

After 4 p.m.



8YD01X

9158 Fletcher Pkwy.
(619) 462-4232

6171 Mission Gorge Rd.
(619) 280-7087

Souplantation
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Calendar RESTAURANTS

hot pots filled with eel and chestnuts or steamed rockfish on a big oval platter. Or, for around five dollars, you can choose lunches like Shanghai chicken, chicken chop suey, or Szechuan pork with crispy noodles, soup, steamed rice, a spring roll, and the main item. Open daily 10 am to midnight. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Sole Luna Café 702 Ash Street, Suite E, Downtown, 619-232-0436. Put your climbing boots on. This place sits on the shoulder of the El Cortez hill, a sleek cave peeping out from under the historic hotel with an umbrella-strewn front terrace that's great for people watching. Its Italian roots show from the excellent coffee and the menu. Many items come straight from the streets of Milano, such as the breakfast croissant with prosciutto ham, smoked mozzarella cheese, and fruit or salad; or the Rustico Panino (with prosciutto, goat cheese, olive pâté); or *bresaola* (cured sliced beef); or the Siciliana salad (spinach, tuna, boiled eggs, capers, mozzarella). Other dishes include their homemade eggplant parmigiano and lasagna. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Tioli's Crazy Burger 4201 30th Street, North Park, 619-282-6044. Cheap eats can be great eats when made by people who care — like charming owner “Wolfie” and European-trained chef Lothar. The place looks like a dive, but inside you'll find creative, made-to-order burgers from beef to buffalo, gator, and ostrich (delicious!), and even fish and veggies — each with its own individualized seasonings and sauce, plus salads and flavorful German-style bratwursts. Even the turkey burger is juicy here. Try the house-made “Texas” beans and the house-made mustard and chipotle ketchup. Specialty and regular beers; af-

fordable wines. Parking lot behind restaurant on Howard. Restroom is not wheelchair accessible. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

Toscana Café and Wine Bar 238 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-231-5788. At last, the bottom end of Fifth may be growing a bistro/coffee/wine place that's not geared only to conventioners. They're open early for standard breakfasts that are reasonable by Gaslamp standards, the coffees are organic, there are lunch specials, and “wine appetizers” are cheap if you also buy a glass of wine. Happy hour specials are limited but elegant, and they have exotic happy hour beers selling at Bud prices. All in a woody, winey, clubby atmosphere fit for a, well, conventioneer. Open 6 am to 10 pm daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Urban Solace 3823 30th Street, North Park, 619-295-6464. Your solace at this bustling neighborhood eatery is pleasing American comfort food with a faint Southern accent. Among the choices are house-made biscuits, moist and tasty sweet potato fries, or a big burger made of Brandt Natural Beef “cooked your way” (and that can be rare — reasonably safe with this well-raised beef). Sunday brunches, with a live bluegrass band, offer a flawless portobello Benedict, fine butter-pecan French toast, and creamy, smooth grits. But some servers are neither from Mars or Venus but Uranus, apparently, and at busy times (always) they need a strict traffic cop to remind them to record your order and bring your food and beverages to Earth. No reservations, call aheads accepted. Wine and a fine beer list (no hard liquor, despite brunch menu's mention of mojitos). Moderate. — *N.W.*

Vagabond 2310 30th Street, South Park, 619-255-1035. Seasonal world food filtered through a Gallic sensibility, plus worldwide wines and great tropical cocktails, including pisco sours and caipirinhas made with authentic cachaça. Menu changes often with some hits, some

misses, some controversies. Enduring favorites are the charcuterie plate, *moules frites*, fish in banana leaves. The tiny, raucously noisy dining room, decorated with exotic souvenirs of the owners' travels, is perpetually standing room only at dinner; reservations vital. Early hours better for bar seating with affordable tapas menu. Evening crowd of South Park hipsters; lunch crowd dressed for success. Parking is eternal misery. Lunch and dinner daily 11:30 am until the last diner has finished. Moderate. — *N.W.*

Vincenzo Ristorante Italiano 1702 India Street, Little Italy, 619-702-6181. The specialty at this tourist favorite is Sicilian seafood. The cooking is competent, but the restaurant's fishmonger settles for ordinary quality (as does the produce provider). The meat jobber does a better job, providing succulent veal that the chef grills expertly, and the Italian sausages (from Pete's Meats, up the block) are the zestiini in town. The restaurant's hard-surfaced interior is so noisy you'll hear every conversation but your own; reserve for the sidewalk patio for a quieter evening. Open lunch weekdays, dinner nightly. Moderate. — *N.W.*

NORTH INLAND

Chez Nous Gourmet Deli-Café 9821 Carroll Canyon Road, Suite E, in Eucalyptus Square, Scripps Ranch, 858-566-4766. This Scripps Ranch social gathering place, in a discreet center of gray timber shops and offices, was started by a couple — originally technocrats from San Diego city schools — who took early retirement. They do sandwiches, but what sandwiches! Their roast beef with ginger-garlic and Dijon, or their spicy chicken melt, or the leg of lamb they roast each day to make a juicy lamb sandwich with garlic and rosemary — all original. They also do roasted eggplant on a roll, and a Special Salad stacked with interesting berries, fruit, chicken, and nuts. Open daily 8 am to 5 pm (10 am to 3 pm Saturday; closed Sunday). Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Golden Egg Omelet House 316 West Mission Avenue, Escondido, 760-489-6420. This breakfast-lunch treasure-house is vast but cute, its brick walls and open beams festooned with knickknacks (all for sale). This is *the* place on Sunday mornings, when three generations bond over great, generous breakfasts. Omelets

are perfect — light, thin crêpe-like eggs wrapped around tall mounds of elaborate fillings. Thick waffles can be topped with fresh seasonal fruit. And then there are eggs, hash, crêpes, humongous burgers, and sandwiches. The potato casseroles, with a choice of a dozen fillings, are as huge in flavor as they are in size. Whatever you choose will carry you through until dinner. Reservations on weekends. In back of a mall. Easiest entry from Mission is at SDG&E driveway; do not pass McDonald's. Good handicapped access; sturdy high chairs; low-salt cooking. Open daily, breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

Hernandez' Hide-Away 19320 Lake Drive, Escondido, 760-746-1444. The founder of Hernandez' claims he invented the margarita at his previous restaurant in Bird Rock. True or not, the margaritas (rocks, not slush-ee) are terrific, on a par with Baja's best. The food, though, is detuned for gringos, with a standard menu of Cal-Mex specialties. Even the guacamole is under-seasoned, but if you like this sort of thing, a pleasant “enchilada pie” is as good as any Midwestern mom's. The huge bargain-priced brunch on Saturday and Sunday brings in the crowds; reservations urged for weekends to save a long wait. The exterior patio sports a big, funny mural, and the interior is carved into several rooms (helps keep the noise down) camped up with cute “Old West” cantina decor. Weekend brunch; lunch and dinner Tuesday through Sunday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *N.W.*

India Princess 1020 West San Marcos Boulevard, San Marcos, 760-744-7599. You walk in through a gold-and-red entrance. Inside it's all cream cloth-covered tables, vases with fresh flowers, teak chairs that look like giant cellos, silver art objects. This is classy. The deal here is to catch the daily lunch buffet, 20 items of interesting and fresh-tasting Northern Indian dishes like tandoori chicken or chicken *tikka masala*, *navratan korma* (veggies with nuts in cream sauce), or *keema muttar* (minced lamb curry with spices and peas). All for an unprincipled sum (dinner is more expensive). Don't miss the wonderful tamarind chutney. Inexpensive (buffet), moderate to expensive (à la carte dinners). — *E.B.*

Jimbo's, Naturally! 12853 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-793-7755. Jimbo — and there is a real Jimbo — started out selling healthy eating with the famous OB Co-op. Now he has these organic palaces of his own. Inside the Carmel Valley branch, it's high ceilings and lots of color — yellow, purple, white — with all the ducts and pipes exposed like in a giant submarine. The deli bulges with cheese, hams, burritos, wraps, and an elaborate salad bar. At the juice counter they grind carrots and wheatgrass and organic coffee. A “hot case” counter offers all kinds of ricey, tabbouleh-type preparations. Best deals are usually the daily specials. Try Seitan stew (a high-protein, low-fat meat substitute) or Shelton's Jerk Turkey in Fig Sauce, served with organic mashed potatoes, gravy, and steamed vegetables. — *E.B.*

Spices Thai Café 3810 Valley Centre Drive, Carmel Valley, 858-259-0889. Superb Thai restaurant that's not only elegant but whose food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other delicacies are duck and frog legs. Put Spices Thai Café at the top of your list. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.W.*

NORTH COASTAL

Beach House 2530 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-753-1321. This beautiful restaurant, with its breezy seafront patio, is a branch of an upscale beach mini-chain (others are in Dana Point and Laguna Beach). Its main menu features steaks, seafood, and some Continental warhorses (lobster thermidor, etc.) that are best avoided. The view is even more spectacular from the upstairs “Top of the House” which features pub grub and fish in a lighthouse-like setting. On Sundays, local families flock in for the moderately priced à la carte champagne brunch featuring the standard dishes of the genre plus some less-successful fancied-up ones, with endless Freixenet champagne (Wyclef is its house champagne, though). Whatever the meal, stay simple here — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs — and enjoy the atmosphere. Reserve for a view table or outdoor seating at Sunday brunch. Full bar but few wines. \$2 valet parking. Restrooms accessible by elevator, may be tight fit for wider wheelchairs. Daily brunch/lunch and dinner. “Top of the House” serves until 9:30 pm in winter and until 10 pm in summer. “Early bird” cut-price dinners daily. Brunch moderate, dinner moderate to very expensive. — *N.W.*

Fidel's Carlsbad 3003 Carlsbad Boulevard, Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It's not upscale modern Mex — no cumin-infused, mango-corn salsa on Fidel's menu — but who gives a flyin' fajita when you can order just about any traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and know it's gonna be good? Whether you try the chicken-and-rice soup with fresh cilantro and avocado chunks, fluffy chile rellenos, a crab enchilada, carne asada with all the trimmings, or a lonely à la carte chicken burrito, you're going to be a happy camper. Add a reliable margarita or a beer and you're set at this popular North County mainstay. Open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — *S.M.*

Kim's Restaurant 745 First Street #103, Encinitas, 760-942-4816. Both Vietnamese and Chinese dishes are offered in a calm atmosphere with quick, pleasant service. The menu lists 265 items, including many Vietnamese house specialties, 28 seafood dishes, and a whopping 45 vegetarian/vegan dishes, many made with *seitan* (mock poultry). The seafood isn't necessarily fresh catch — some shellfish is evidently obtained frozen, scallops are phosphate-preserved, and the reasonably priced abalone dishes involve slightly chewy, rehydrated dried abalone from Asia. On the other hand,

portions are enormous, and the cooking is careful and tasty, although some flavors have evidently been adapted to American palates and ingredients. Open Tuesday through Sunday, continuous service lunch and dinner; closed Monday. Moderate. — *N.W.*

A Little Moore Coffee Shop 1030 North Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-753-8228. How did this place slip by unnoticed for so long? Inside, with its low ceiling and snaky counter, it could be out of an early California movie. The specials are named after recent local characters: The Billy is an omelet with ham, avocado, and cheese, plus home fries or hash browns (or cottage cheese or rice). The Cindy is two pieces of French toast with two eggs and spuds. A plate of grilled veggies and chicken or beef on a mountain of rice is the Pablo. It's standard but generous fare, a formula that's kept the place humming since at least the 1950s. Breakfast and lunch six days, closed Tuesdays. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Nobu Gourmet Japanese Restaurant 315 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-755-7787. No, this isn't the famous fusion-food Nobu of NY, L.A., and branches located wherever the money is. Our Nobu has been in the sushi business ten years longer than his namesake, and what he creates is classic non-fusion Japanese sushi and sashimi, with well-seasoned rice, freshly toasted seaweed wrappings, and fresh, fresh seafood. If you're in the mood for a different sort of grazing, you can settle at a table or booth to nibble on a score of appetizers, including a fine monkfish pâté and enchanting *chawan mushi* (egg custard) soup served super hot in the cup it was baked in. The Japanese entrées are standard fare, with plenty for vegetarians. It's all comfortable, casual, and kid-friendly, with gracious sushi chefs. Nobu himself usually works the bar Friday through Sunday nights. Dinner daily; open weekends until 11 pm Large free lot behind restaurant (via Sierra Street, a block west). Mostly moderate; some delicacies expensive. — *N.W.*

Samurai Japanese Restaurant 979 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. Set in a suburban mall, Samurai is rumored to have the longest sushi bar in California — 50 feet, stretching around 2 walls — with up to 12 chefs. The pure Japanese sushi is made from never-frozen seafood, and the visual side of the art isn't neglected: The friendly chefs take care to make their compositions look as beautiful as they taste. There's also a spirit of something extra — e.g., not just free edamame to nibble, but the *ama ebi* often includes a delicious miso soup made with extra shrimp heads. Additional dining choices include standard Japanese fare in the pretty dining room, *kaiseki* (prix fixe) dinners in the Tatami Room (for groups of 4 to 14, advance reservations required), or grilled items in the Teppan Room (two people minimum, reservations required). Open weekdays for lunch; dinner served nightly. For sushi, best to arrive early or lateish, as it gets crowded at prime time. Mostly moderate; *kaiseki* and some *teppan* items expensive. — *N.W.*

Swami's Café 1163 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-944-0612. No coincidence it's near the famous surf break and the Self-Realization Fellowship compound. You gotta love the very Encinitas vegetarian-spiritual-surfer origins. You eat surrounded by gurgling fountains, wind chimes, wheat grass racks, a rainbow-colored wind sock, and the manager's 1969 surfer van. There are plenty of standard dishes, like eggs Benedict or black bean burrito, but the big emphasis is health. Try the protein veggie wrap, with avocado, feta cheese, tofu, and mole, or the Indian curry with tofu. Open 7 am to 6 pm daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

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2244. Outside, it reminds you of a barn; inside, a meeting hall. Rustic timber, knotty pine, a set of Texas longhorns on one wall and an eight-point buck head on the other. People have been coming here all their lives. Two cousins started this back in 1947 at 1413 Market, downtown. Now their grandkids run this and its sister restaurant in Fletcher Hills. They still burn oak, and sell lots of the (still-cheap) beef or pork ribs, with two sides and a bun. But maybe the best deal is the ham or link sandwich. Lunch and dinner; closed Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Bino's European Coffees and Crepes 1120 Adella Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0612. This little round-the-corner café (south of the post office) has to be good: it's a favorite retreat for local chefs. Bino bakes his own breads and croissants daily and creates great crunchy sandwiches. Try the Brie Fantasy (chicken breast, roasted marinated peppers, double-cream Brie cheese) or the roast beef and jack cheese. Even the veggie sandwich squishes with luscious eggplant, and the crêpes are delicious and filling too. Bino's wife is Austrian and makes great Viennese-style coffee. Open 7 am to 5 pm Monday through Wednesday, to 8 pm Thursday through Sunday. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

MZM Seacoast Bistro 875 Seacoast Drive, Imperial Beach, 619-424-5800. If you can make it past the bland exterior, you'll discover a well-disguised classy joint inside. A harbinger of a new I.B.? Interior is all peach-colored walls, trendy blue scone wall lights, tweedy booths, and photos of owners Marek and Zofia Migdalski with people like President Bush, Lloyd Bentsen, Sam Donaldson, and Joan Kroc. Migdalski is a recognized private chef who has decided to put I.B. on the gastronomic map. Breakfast, available Saturday and Sunday, tends to be simple but sophisticated, like frittata with Polish sausage, prime rib steak and eggs, or scrambled eggs with smoked salmon. Burgers at lunch are often lamb sirloin. Dinner can be anything, including filet mignon or flatiron steak. Reservations recommended. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

Primavera Ristorante 932 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-0454. A handsome dining room is the setting for classic fine Italian cooking of many regions, and with creative nightly specials. Stuffed pastas are made in-house and rolled thin, gnocchi are expertly crafted, and entrées are, for a change, more interesting than the appetizers. The *osso buco* is outstanding, as is a frequent summertime special of white king salmon. Choose the simplest desserts, as the fancy ones are outsourced (and heavy). Three parking slots behind restaurant, or scuffle for street parking. Fine service. Romantic ambience early and late in the evening but often raucous with loud parties at prime dinner time. Dinner nightly until 10:30 pm Expensive. — *N.W.*

Rhinoceros 1166 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-2121. This bright, hectic bistro next door to the Lamb's Players Theatre draws pre-theatre crowds as well as locals — and that may be a problem, since the rushed pace of service doesn't abate even after the playgoers have departed. Perhaps that's why there are few appetizer choices (as though to discourage diners from spending extra time at the table). You may even be charged a "split plate" fee for sharing a first course despite ordering individual entrées. Meat and fish choices are simply prepared with ingredients of ordinary quality and generic veggie accompaniments. Why, then, is Rhino so popular? Pasta (and nothing but pasta) is the answer — that's where the kitchen shines. Very noisy when crowded; street tables are slightly quieter despite heavy traffic. Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations advised for week-ends and pre-show dinners. Moderate (pastas) to expensive. — *N.W.*

Zorba's Greek Buffet 100 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-8853. We haven't got to plate-breaking yet, but

Greek dancing is alive and well at Zorba's on Fridays and Saturdays. That includes the *zembekikos*, where the dancer picks a glass of ouzo off the floor with his/her mouth and drinks it. The rest of the week? Families fill this place. They're here for the buffet, spooning up the *spanakopita* (spinach in deliciously flaky pastry), *dolmas* (ground beef and rice rolled in grape leaves), moussaka (eggplant, zucchini, and ground beef), and lamb. Try dividing your meal into three: first visit the salad section. Grab their real, strong-tasting olives, tabbouleh, hummus, onions, lettuce, and pita bread. Return for the heavies, the lamb and beef dishes. Then leave room for baklava and other desserts. It may not be the gourmet's method, but there's no better way to fill a belly. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

EAST COUNTY

Kountry Kitchen Ramona 826 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-3200. Thank goodness the Kountry Kitchen's still around. They still open at 5 am for the farmers and anyone else who's up then. The Italian Sausage Breakfast is truly delicious: a fat pale-brown sausage with a rich, sharp, livery flavor, along with eggs and hash browns. Up there, too, is the Cowpoke Country Special, a buttermilk short stack with eggs and sausages or bacon. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Los Michoacanos 8001 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-449-9032. You get a lot for a little here. Order even one really cheap potato taco from Luis Gabriel, the owner, and you get the full treatment of tortilla chips and salsa beforehand. Then out comes this hot, crisp-shelled taco, bursting with shredded lettuce, two cheeses, and inside, the most scrumptious sautéed potatoes. It may be way cheap, but it's no way mean. Other good Mexican dishes here include the chorizo torta or the grand garlic shrimp combo. Added bonus: The place is new, bright, red and yellow, and sports a terrace looking out across the valley. Open seven days, three meals. Inexpensive — *E.B.*

Olde Homestead Fudge Co. 590 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The Fudge Factory's greatest dish is not what it's named for, and some of its pick hits aren't fudge, either. Of the 24 flavors of house-made fudge, barely a half dozen are available on any given day. The chocolate walnut is especially delicious, but the real masterpiece when in season is the Date Shake — a cold quaff that's ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Then, too, this is one of the few spots in town with an espresso machine. Open 8 am to 4 pm, closed Monday. (Closed summer months.) Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

The Omelette Factory 7941 Mission Gorge Road, Santee, 619-596-9686. The Factory sits in the kind of stand-alone building you expect to see

in a country town: long, angled roof with a portico dressing up the basic shed structure behind. It's a great sprawling place that's ideal to bring the kids for a big breakfast. You can't beat their omelets, all 19 of them, from the Just Say Cheese (with Swiss, Jack, Cheddar, or American) to the magnificent Factory Omelette (a build-your-own: up to four meats, veggies, or cheeses). A Greek family has turned this location outside Santee from an abandoned social hall into a regular pit stop for half the community, it seems. For lunch, try the Factory Burger. It has two hamburger patties *plus* gyro meat, two cheeses, and onions. Breakfast and lunch, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

Pablito's of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, 760-767-5753. Pablito's claims "Authentic Mexican Cuisine, patio dining, and great tequila margaritas." Well, the gorgeous patio is open when the weather is favorable, and the cuisine runs to gringo favorites in the Mexican mode (lots of combo platters), but the flavors are honest and pleasing. The most authentic dishes come from the "Specialties" section of the menu, including a good *chile verde* (pork in green chile sauce), numerous varieties of enchiladas, and several flavors of *chilaquiles*. Full bar, including sangria, margaritas, Mexican beers. Closed in the summer; other seasons, open for lunch and dinner (with a break between). Inexpensive to low moderate. — *N.W.*

User Reviews — RESTAURANTS

Best user comments from Reader website

Brick Alley Bar & Grill, Midway District

As good as you can expect from a bar and grill. We noticed that Brick Alley had opened recently and thought we would try it. Before going we saw the previous review, which almost convinced us not to go, but we decided to try it for ourselves anyway. "Disappointing" is not the way to describe this place. The ambience is very cute and the service was nice. I can't vouch for the meals the previous reviewer got, but we each got burgers (bleu bacon burger and pastrami burger) and they were both very well done. The garlic fries are also better than average garlic fries. Based on the vast discrepancy between our experience and the experience of the previous reviewer, it might be safe to say that Brick Alley is good at being a bar and grill – and really that's what you should expect from a bar and grill.

By **hujodady**, 5:36pm, May 16, 2009

Thai Time II, Midway District

Great food, friendly staff, and nice ambience. Great Tom Yum soup. I give this place two thumbs up!

By **kendjay2** 9:51pm, May 11, 2009

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn, Mission Valley

This hidden gem is hidden on the side of King's Inn. We never would have discovered it if we didn't have a coupon for dinner. One of the best Mexican restaurants in San Diego. You get a lot of good food for the money and the atmosphere is incredible. Great complete meals for under \$10. Make sure to try the enchiladas suizas. Enjoy it once and you'll become a regular.

By **dgg410** 8:21am, May 11, 2009

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The Little and the Big

The approaching end is apt to stir despair.

While the mainstream has wound down to its summer speed of one blockbuster per week, the alternative cinema has been spewing out counterprogramming aplenty, some of it by big fish.

The Limits of Control is Jim Jarmusch, Mr. Absurd. In form a thriller, it feels more like an endurance test.

A stone-faced and tight-mouthed mercenary (Isaach De Bankolé) receives last-minute instructions, in Spanish through an English interpreter, at the airport for a hugger-mugger mission in Spain: "Use your imagination and your skills. Everything is subjective" and "The universe has no center and no edges. Reality is arbitrary." In a repetitive series of prearranged encounters — a telltale order of two espressos in separate cups, an icebreaking watchword of "You don't speak Spanish, right?," an exchange of matching matchbooks, a chewing and swallowing of a slip of paper inscribed with

indecipherable letters and numbers — he moves from Madrid to Seville to the hinterland, changes suits from metallic blue to brown to gray, receives further instructions along the way: "Wait three days until you see the bread."

The guitar will find you." Something so far-fetched, so encoded, so self-indulgent, is not apt to stir much curios-

ity or hope of satisfaction. The approaching end, if we keep in mind the promised appearance of Bill Murray, is apt to stir despair. Yet even though the course of action is far from riveting or involving, it's still followable and watchable, largely because Jarmusch (working with Wong Kar-wai's cameraman, Christopher Doyle) demonstrates an eye for line and plane, and intermittently because of the phantom nude with a gun and a pair of Buddy Holly glasses ("Do you like my ass?"), made-to-order for the cover of a paperback potboiler. Aiming not for forward propulsion but for circum-



The Limits of Control

stantial fill-in, the film could teach a lesson or two to conventional thrillers, lessons in noticing the surroundings, soaking them up, settling into them. ("Sometimes," observes one of the protagonist's mysterious contacts, a white-wigged, cowboy-hatted Tilda Swinton, "I like in films when people just sit there, not saying anything." Words to the wise.) Then again it could, conversely, take a lesson or two from con-

ventional thrillers. When the ultimate target of the mission wonders along with the viewer how the hired gun penetrated the fortifications and attained the inner sanctum, it won't do for him to say, "I used my imagination."

The Song of Sparrows is Majid Majidi. The Iranian director of *Children of Heaven* and *The Color of Paradise* and others, a card-carrying animalist, needs no lessons in attentiveness

to, aliveness to, the surrounding world. The opening shots of domestic ostriches from the neck up, the pursuit of an escaped ostrich by ten men on foot, a solitary pursuer patrolling the hills in a homemade costume as an ostrich decoy — all of that, besides being fresh material on screen, amounts to a master course. The scene soon shifts to the big city, Tehran, where the Little Man protagonist, shopping for a new hear-



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In Theaters June 5

ing aid for his daughter, falls into a new line of work as a motorbike cabbie, with a new set of sights to take in. (E.g., the assorted salvage strapped onto the back of his bike to be carted home at the end of a day: an antenna, a window frame, a mini-fridge.) The film, an oppressive depiction of hand-to-mouth existence, gets within arm's reach of the sentimentality of De Sica-style humanism, but the unlovableness of the driven, desperate, humorless, high-handed patriarchal hero repels a full embrace.

The Girlfriend Experience is Steven Soderbergh, the second or third film of his so far this year, depending on whether you count the two-part *Che* as one film or two. The title describes the services offered by a high-end Manhattan escort played by a sleepy porn star, Sasha Grey, in her aboveground debut. (Never heard of her, myself.) Those subterranean credentials should not lead you to expect any special degree of explicitness in the sexual

activity, of which there is next to none. There is, meanwhile, a parade of clients and business associates and, for purposes of some superficial first-person narration, a recurring journalistic interviewer; and there's a good deal of talk of economic angst against a backdrop of the 2008 presidential election; and there's a bit of discord in the relationship with a nonpaying boyfriend, a pretty-boy personal trainer at a workout gym. It's all quite banal and clinical, a potentially interesting and challenging choice that fails to reach or approach its potential. The sum is a digital doodle an hour and a quarter in length, gleamingly photographed, vapidly improvised, pointlessly nonlinear, parsimoniously informative.

The blockbuster *de la semaine* breaks the summer streak of prequel, prequel. It could easily have kept it going. Although the Dan Brown novel of *Angels and Demons* was indeed written before *The Da Vinci Code*, the screen adaptation of it (directed again by Ron

Howard) takes care to situate itself afterwards with a reference or two to the returning hero's "recent involvement with, shall we say, Church mysteries" and his consequent strained relations with the Vatican. Which one came first scarcely matters. It's just another day in the life of a Harvard

symbolist (Tom Hanks again, with a hair trim), spearheading, by virtue of his scholarly tome on the secret society of the Illuminati, a beat-the-clock investigation into the kidnap of four cardinals in line for the vacant papacy, the one-by-one, hour-by-hour murder of them in spectacular fashion in far-

flung corners of Rome, and, for the *pièce de résistance*, the scheduled midnight demolition of Vatican City. Sportingly, the mastermind behind this diabolical plan has thought to provide cryptic clues to the Path of Illumination, leading from murder site to murder site to bomb site. In one madcap

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Scott Foundas, LA WEEKLY

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Ross McCammon, ESQUIRE

"IT'S A HALL OF MIRRORS. Sasha Grey isn't the first porn actress to go straight, but she may be the first to allegorize her own situation."

J. Hoberman, VILLAGE VOICE

"I GOT MY MONEY'S WORTH. An elegant piece. Once more Soderbergh demonstrates he's a silky smooth craftsman."

John P. McCarthy, BOXOFFICE

"I WASN'T BORED FOR A SECOND. It smacks of right-now vérité, is smartly written and very well-made."

Jeffrey Wells, HOLLYWOOD ELSEWHERE

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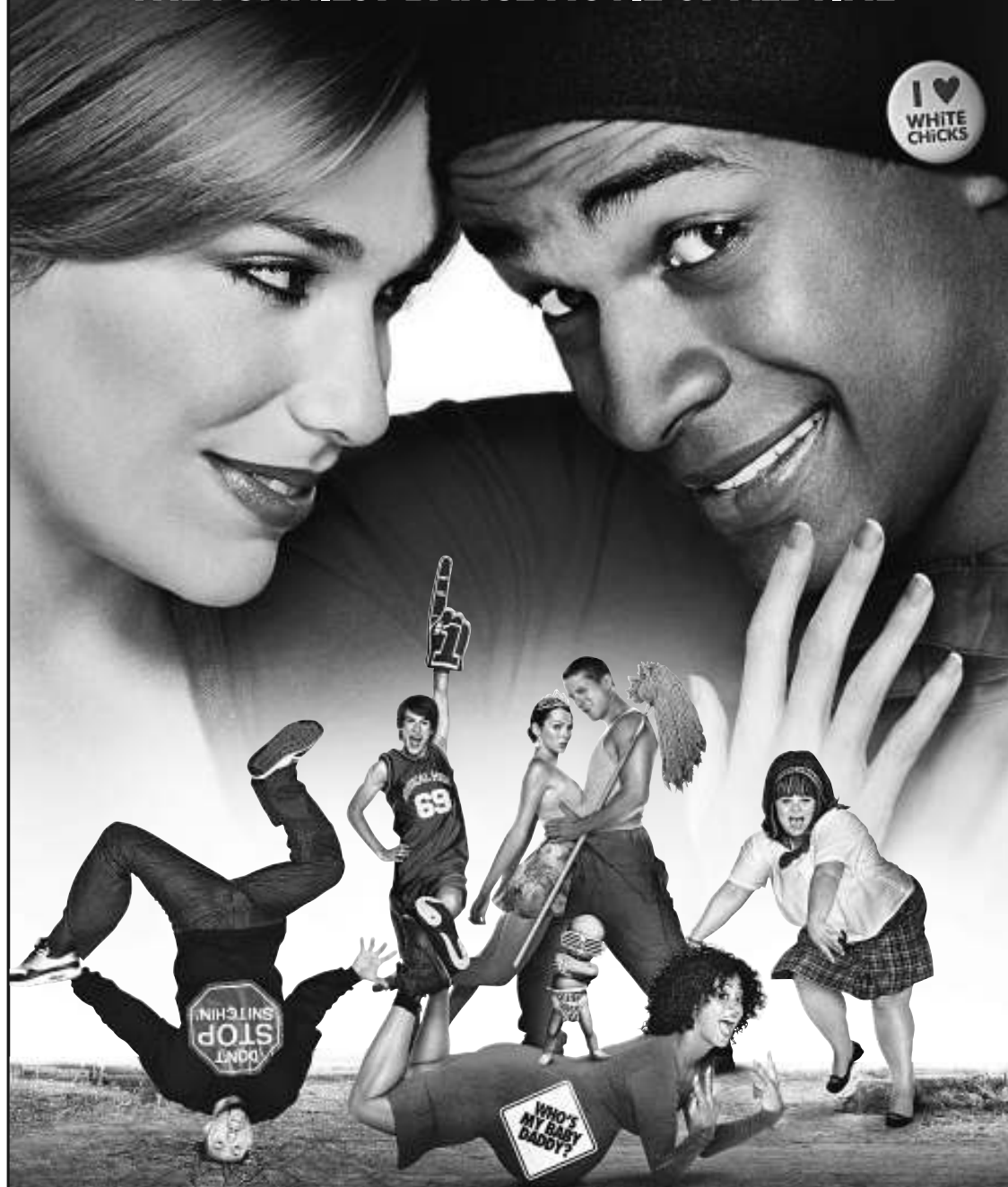
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MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Showtimes subject to change.
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CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (877-789-6684)

Angels and Demons (PG-13); **Dance Flick** (PG); **Earth** (G); **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13); **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG); **Star Trek** (PG-13); **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13); **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13)

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (877-789-6684)

Angels and Demons (PG-13); **Dance Flick** (PG); **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13); **Next Day Air** (R); **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG); **The Soloist** (PG-13); **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13)

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)

Crank: High Voltage (R) Fri. (9:55, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30) 8:00, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (9:55, 12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:20; **Fast and Furious** (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 12:40, 3:10, 5:35) 8:05, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (10:10, 12:40, 3:10) 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; **Gigantic** (R) Fri. (9:45, 12:05, 2:25, 4:45) 7:05, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (9:45, 12:05, 2:25) 4:45, 7:05, 9:30; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) Fri. (10:05, 12:20, 2:35, 4:50) Sat.-Sun. (10:05, 12:20, 2:35) 4:50; **Obsessed** (PG-13) Fri. (9:50, 12:25, 2:55, 5:25) 7:55, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (9:50, 12:25, 2:55) 5:25, 7:55, 10:25; **Rudo y Cursi** (R) Fri. (9:40, 12:10, 2:50, 5:20) 7:45, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (9:40, 12:10, 2:50) 5:20, 7:45, 10:10; **17 Again** (PG-13) Fri. (9:30, 12:00, 2:30, 4:55) 7:20, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (9:30, 12:00, 2:30) 4:55, 7:20, 9:55; **Star Trek** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:30, 12:50, 1:20, 3:40, 4:10) 6:30, 7:00, 9:20, 9:50 Fri.-Sun. 7:30, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (10:00, 10:30, 12:50, 1:20, 3:40) 4:10, 6:30, 7:00, 9:20, 9:50; **Sunshine Cleaning** (R) Fri. (9:35, 11:55, 2:15, 4:35) 7:10, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (9:35, 11:55, 2:15) 4:35, 7:10, 9:35; **Watchmen** (R) Fri. (10:20, 1:45, 5:10) 8:35 Sat.-Sun. (10:20, 1:45) 5:10, 8:35; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13) Fri. (9:45, 10:15, 12:15, 1:15, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15) 7:15, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (9:45, 10:15, 12:15, 1:15, 2:45) 4:15, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:45, 10:15

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-558-2262)

Angels and Demons; **The Brothers Bloom**; **Dance Flick**; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**;

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian; **Star Trek**; **Terminator Salvation**; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine**

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)

Every Little Step (PG-13) Fri. (1:30, 4:00) 6:45, 9:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:00, 6:45, 9:15; **Lemon Tree** (NR) Fri. (2:00, 4:30) 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (2:00) 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; **Rudo y Cursi** (R) Fri. (2:15, 4:45) 7:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (2:15) 4:45, 7:30, 10:00; **Summer Hours** (NR) Fri. (1:45, 4:15) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:45) 4:15, 7:00, 9:30

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)

Call theater for program information.

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (858-558-2262)

Angels and Demons; **Dance Flick**; **Earth**; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**; **I Love You, Man**; **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**; **17 Again**; **Star Trek**; **Terminator Salvation**; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine**

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:45 10:30; **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13) (10:45 1:45) 4:45 7:45 10:45; **Angels and Demons** (PG-13) (10:00 10:30 1:00 1:30 4:00) 4:30 7:00 7:30 10:00 10:30; No 10:30am Sat. & Sun.; **Star Trek** (PG-13) (10:15 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:15; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; No 5:45 & 8:15 Tues. & Thu.; No 10:15 & 12:45 Wed.; **Thomas and Friends: The Great Discovery** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Tues.

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (858-558-2262)

Angels and Demons; **Dance Flick**; **Earth**; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**; **Monsters vs. Aliens**; **Next Day Air**; **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**; **Obsessed**; **17 Again**; **Star Trek**; **Terminator Salvation**; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine**

STATE UNIVERSITY

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

The Song of Sparrows (PG) Fri. (5:05, 7:25, 9:45) Sat.-Sun. (2:45, 5:05, 7:25, 9:45)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

The Brothers Bloom (PG-13); **Every Little Step** (PG-13); **The Girlfriend Experience** (R); **Is Anybody There?** (PG-13); **The Limits of Control** (R); **Management** (R); **Sin Nombre** (R)

Museum of Photographic Arts

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-7559)

Call theater for program information.

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)

Amazing Journeys (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Animalopolis** (NR) Fri. 1:00, 3:00, 5:00 Sat. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Ring of Fire** (Not Rated) Fri. 9:00p.m.; **Under the Sea** (G) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 Sun. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 7:00

San Diego Natural History

Museum

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)

Human Body (NR) Fri.-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.-Sun. 12:00, 4:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (877-789-6684)

Angels and Demons (PG-13); **Dance Flick** (PG); **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13); **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG); **Star Trek** (PG-13); **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13); **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13)

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)

Angels and Demons (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 11:20, 1:05, 2:25, 3:55, 4:20) 6:40, 7:05, 7:35, 9:55, 10:40 Sat. (10:00, 11:20, 1:05, 2:25, 3:55) 4:20, 6:40, 7:05, 7:35, 9:55, 10:40 Sun. (10:00,

1:05, 2:25, 3:55) 4:20, 6:40, 7:05, 7:35, 9:55, 10:40; **Dance Flick** (PG) Fri. (11:10, 1:50, 4:10) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 1:50) 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13) Fri. (10:20, 1:35, 4:05) 6:55, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (10:20, 1:35) 4:05, 6:55, 9:35; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) Fri. (10:50, 1:55, 4:35) 7:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (10:50, 1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 9:45; **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG) Fri. (10:15, 10:45, 11:15, 1:10, 1:40, 2:00, 3:50, 4:15, 4:45) 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 9:50, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (10:15, 10:45, 11:15, 1:10, 1:40, 2:00, 3:50) 4:15, 4:45, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 9:50, 10:15; **Obsessed** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:05, 1:15) 10:20; **Star Trek** (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 10:40, 1:25, 2:05, 4:25, 5:05) 7:25, 8:05, 10:25, 11:05 Sat.-Sun. (10:10, 10:40, 1:25, 2:05) 4:25, 5:05, 7:25, 8:05, 10:25, 11:05; **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 1:00, 1:30, 2:15, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00 Sat.-Sun. (10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 1:00, 1:30, 2:15) 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13) Fri. (10:35, 1:20, 4:40) 7:55, 10:35 Sat. (10:35, 1:20) 4:40, 7:55, 10:35 Sun. (1:20) 4:40, 7:55, 10:35

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG); **Star Trek** (PG-13); **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13); **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Dance Flick** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:30 9:45; **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13) (10:45 12:00 1:45 3:00) 4:45 6:00 7:45 9:00 10:45; **Angels and Demons** (PG-13) (10:00 10:30 1:00 1:30 4:00) 4:30 7:00 7:30 10:00 10:30; **Star Trek** (PG-13) (10:15 11:15 1:15 2:15) 4:15 5:00 7:15 8:00 10:15 10:45; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Thomas and Friends: The Great Discovery** (G) 10:30

am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Tues.

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway at Olympic (858-558-2262)

Angels and Demons; **Dance Flick**; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**; **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian**; **Star Trek**; **Terminator Salvation**; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine**

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denmery Road (858-558-2262)

Angels and Demons (PG-13); **Dance Flick** (PG); **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13); **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG); **Next Day Air** (R); **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG); **Obsessed** (PG-13); **Rudo y Cursi** (R); **17 Again** (PG-13); **Star Trek** (PG-13); **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13); **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13)

Rancho Del Rey 16

East H Street (619-216-4707)

Angels and Demons (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 12:35, 3:00, 4:05) 6:50, 7:30, 9:55, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (11:00, 12:35, 3:00) 4:05, 6:50, 7:30, 9:55, 10:35; **Dance Flick** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 3:05, 5:30) 8:00, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 3:05) 5:30, 8:00, 10:15; **Ghosts of Girlfriends Past** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45, 2:15, 4:50) 7:25, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:50, 7:25, 10:00; **Hannah Montana: The Movie** (G) Fri. (11:05, 1:35, 4:05) 6:40, 9:10 Sat.-Sun. (11:05, 1:35) 4:05, 6:40, 9:10; **Monsters vs. Aliens** (PG) Fri. (11:15, 1:40, 4:10) Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 1:40) 4:10; **Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian** (PG) Fri. (10:50, 11:20, 12:00, 1:20, 2:00, 2:40, 3:55, 4:40, 5:10) 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:15, 9:45, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (10:50, 11:20, 12:00, 1:20, 2:00, 2:40, 3:55) 4:40, 5:10, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:15, 9:45, 10:20; **Rudo y Cursi** (R) Fri. (11:10, 1:50, 4:35) 7:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 1:50) 4:35, 7:20, 9:45; **17 Again** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 6:55, 9:20; **Star Trek** (PG-13) Fri. (10:55, 12:10, 1:55, 3:50, 5:00) 7:10, 7:50, 10:05, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (10:55, 12:10, 1:55, 3:50) 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 10:05, 10:40; **Terminator Salvation** (PG-13) Fri. (10:45, 11:30, 12:05, 1:30, 2:10, 2:45, 4:55, 5:25) 7:00, 7:35, 8:05, 9:50, 10:25, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (10:45, 11:30, 12:05, 1:30, 2:10, 2:45) 4:15, 4:55, 5:25, 7:00, 7:35, 8:05, 9:50, 10:25, 10:45; **X-Men Origins: Wolverine** (PG-13) Fri. (11:50, 2:25, 5:05) 7:40, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (11:50, 2:25) 5:05, 7:40, 10:30

IMPERIAL BEACH

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San Diego Reader May 21, 2009 **105**

Calendar MOVIES

evening of running around the Eternal City, with the erudite hero dispensing little lectures on art and history on the fly, there is perforce no time for leisurely sightseeing in the Jarmusch manner, soaking up, settling in, despite the obvious lures of several three-star Michelin tourist destinations. Perhaps the built-in benefit of its earlier position in the bibliography of Dan Brown is that the plot can't top *The Da Vinci Code* in nonsensicality and grandiosity. To cancel that, it does try. And try and try. ■

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.

Angels and Demons — Reviewed this issue. With Tom Hanks, Ewan McGregor, Ayelet Zurer, Stellan Skarsgard, and Armin Mueller-Stahl; directed by Ron Howard. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; 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 Brothers Bloom — Rian Johnson's caper comedy starring Adrien Brody, Mark Ruffalo, Rachel Weisz, and Rinko Kikuchi. (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; FROM 5/22)

Crank: High Voltage — Jason Statham, his stolen heart, his beat-the-clock recovery effort, chronicled with a spastic camera, warping lenses, sophomoric smut, stupefying action. With Amy Smart, Bai Ling, Clifton Collins, Jr., and Dwight Yoakam; directed by Mark Neveldine and Brian Taylor. 2009. ● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Dance Flick — Musical spoof directed by Damien Dante Wayans, starring Shoshana Bush and Damon Wayans, Jr.



Angels and Demons

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 5/22)

Earth — The circle of life, all around the globe, arctic to tropic, desert to ocean, illustrated everywhere in luscious calendar art, crystalline in digital projection. The Disney nature documentary allows some survival-of-the-fittest brutality, but none of the gore that would accompany it. "Yes," concludes narrator James Earl Jones, "it's full of harsh realities, but sometimes it's just *paradise*." Directed by Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield. 2009.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Every Little Step — A natural for a documentary: auditions for a Broadway revival of *A Chorus Line*, a process that mirrors the original show, provides a privileged peek behind the curtain, introduces and reveals characters, generates sympathy and suspense, all without any special skill in presentation. Directed by James D. Stern and

Adam Del Deo. 2009.

★★★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 5/22; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 5/22)

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.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Ghosts of Girlfriends Past — Dickens's *Christmas Carol* rewritten as a sex comedy, holding gallons less water. The girl-juggling glamour photographer, a seriously slimy Matthew McConaughey, learns overnight that he is, and always was, a one-woman man. Jennifer Garner is the high-achieving hardbodied hottie who has been cooling her heels for the heel. With Michael Douglas, Breckin Meyer, Lacey Chabert, Robert Forster, and Anne Archer; directed by Mark Waters. 2009.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Gigantic — Orthodox American indie, a bag of mixed nuts, oversalted: the likable Paul Dano, the take-me-or-leave-me Zooey Deschanel, John Goodman, Ed Asner, Jane Alexander. The image is so pale, it appears almost to be behind a white veil. Directed

by Matt Aselton. 2009.

● (HORTON PLAZA 14, FROM 5/22; KEN, THROUGH 5/21)

Gomorrah — Worm's-eye view of the Neapolitan underworld: obscure relationships and operations; occasional slaughter; broad expanses of banality. The unfamiliar actors and the *vérité* camera create a plausible impression that it's all really happening, whether or not you can make much sense of it. Based on the nonfiction best-seller by Roberto Saviano; directed by Matteo Garrone. 2008.

★ (LA PALOMA, FROM 5/22)

Hannah Montana: The Movie — Singing sensation Hannah Montana, "the most popular teenager in the world," has a secret, an ordinary life as a normal high-schooler under her real name of Miley Stewart (played by Miley Cyrus, alias Hannah Montana), daughter of a down-home Tennessean, Robby Ray Stewart (Billy Ray Cyrus). Only a blond wig hides her true identity from friends and tabloids, a thinner disguise than Clark Kent's eyeglasses. Sugar-frosted as it is, the film sheds no credible light on the actual existence of Hannah/Miley, but it does summon up the incredible innocence of a Hollywood teen musical of old, a Deanna Durbin, let's say. With Emily Osment, Lucas Till, Margo Martindale, and Vanessa Williams; directed by Peter Chelsom. 2009.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN)

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 commentary, and so forth — lower expectations

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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 inarticularly tongue-twisted, 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.
★ (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Is Anybody There? — Retirement-home pabulum about the warming relationship between an inquisitive eleven-year-old (interested in ghosts, interested in “what happens”) and the old crank, formerly The Amazing Clarence, who takes over the boy's room. Vibrant color photography by Rob Hardy, and a vibrant performance by Michael Caine, perhaps too vibrant for the role. With Bill Milner, Anne-Marie Duff, and David Morrissey; directed by John Crowley. 2008.
★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Lemon Tree — The Middle East conflict narrowed down to the arena of a half-century-old lemon grove that a Palestinian widow has inherited from her father and that borders the new residence of the Israeli Defense Minister. The fruit was there first, and the minister moved in next door, and the Secret Service sees in the dense foliage “a real and imminent threat” and orders the grove to be expropriated and uprooted. An international incident percolates. The small, and more importantly the nonviolent, scale of action allows for detachment as well as drollery. No one on either side is made ridiculous, which no doubt holds down the humor but not the absurdity. (See, for instance, the early-morning wonder of a watchtower hovering in the air above the grove and dropping into place by crane.) While the film is Israeli in origin, it bends over backwards to be fair and balanced, not in the sense of Fox News but in the sense of *Webster's*. It perhaps bends so far as to lose its balance. The sympathy, seemingly by its own gyroscope, tilts a little toward the Palestinian, if for no other reason than that she's played by Hiam Abbass, whom you might remember as the mother of the detained drummer in *The Visitor*. If you do, you'll especially remember her dignity. With Ali Suliman, Rona Lipaz-Michael, Doron Tavori; directed by Eran Riklis. 2008.
★★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Limits of Control — Reviewed this issue. With Isaach De Bankolé, Paz de la Huerta, Tilda Swinton, Gael García Bernal, and Bill Murray; written and directed by Jim Jarmusch.
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Management — Roundabout romantic comedy starting with a travelling saleslady at a mom-and-pop-and-son motel in arid Arizona, where she catches the eye and the fancy of the socially inept son. The operational details of the Kingman Motor Inn are ingratiating, but the relationship details are grating. Steve Zahn's “growth” from a stunted nudnik takes a good long while, and in the meantime Jennifer Aniston has difficulty making sense of her role. With Margo Martindale, Fred Ward, Woody Harrelson; written and directed by Stephen Belber. 2009.
★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Monsters vs. Aliens — Machine-made cartoon from DreamWorks, credited to co-directors Rob Letterman and Conrad Vernon. It posits a secret government quarantine of benign monsters modelled on such

Fifties archetypes as the Blob, the four-fifths-human Fly (except now a Cockroach), Mothra, the 50-Foot Woman (a girl-power 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.
● (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian — Fantasy sequel with Ben Stiller, Amy Adams, Hank Azaria, Owen Wilson, and Robin Williams, directed by Shawn Levy.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA

COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; Santee Drive In; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 5/22)

Obsessed — Sort of an interracial *Fatal Attraction*, except the attraction is all one way. The hot blond temp — “I think you mean ‘temp-tress’ ” — sets her cap for the married Executive V.P. the first time they share an elevator. Her great sin is obviousness, his is thus obtuseness, and the film's is timidity. With Idris Elba, Beyoncé Knowles, Ali Larter, Jerry O'Connell, Bruce McGill, and Christine Lahti; directed by Steve Shill. 2009.
● (HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Rudo y Cursi — Facile soccer fable about two bumpkin brothers from rural Mexico who take their sibling rivalry all the way to the big time: money, celebrity, a super-model, drugs, gambling, the usual. The fea-

ture directing debut of Carlos Cuarón, brother of Alfonso, shows off an unsteady camera and damp lighting, but also a couple of definite assets in Gael García Bernal and Diego Luna. 2008.
★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24; RANCHO DEL REY 16; SAN MARCOS 18)

17 Again — Second-chance fantasy that, through the agency of a bewhiskered super-

natural school janitor, sends the middle-age-crazy hero not back in time, but back in age, back to the high school of his youth, so that he must fend off the incestuous flirtations of his teenage daughter and make age-inappropriate advances to the disaffected wife he had long since lost interest in (and who, incidentally, has the minimum mental wherewithal to notice, if not to make adequate fuss about, his uncanny resemblance to the boy she married twenty years ago).

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STARTS THURSDAY, MAY 21 CHECK DIRECTORIES FOR LISTINGS

San Diego Reader May 21, 2009 107

Calendar

MOVIES

We expect to encounter logic problems in any time-travel tale, so it’s best not to compound them with extraneous nonsense whereby the daughter’s brutish boyfriend — inexplicable in itself — would also be her brother’s chief bully and tormentor. And it’s hard to be happy at a happy ending that assumes the wife, who has travelled nowhere, would have learned the same lessons as her time-tripping husband. Leslie Mann, seemingly doomed to subsist at the level of *Drillbit Taylor*, *Knocked Up*, *Big Daddy*, *The Cable Guy*, et al., is very good as the wife, carrying a lot of tension, intelligence, sensitivity, pain, and whatnot in her pop eyes and pursed mouth, without ever forgetting she’s in a comedy. The compensation she provides, although not small, is not sufficient. Zac Efron, Matthew Perry, Thomas Lennon, Michelle Trachtenberg; directed by Burr Steers. 2009. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 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 sameness. Slickly done, nonetheless. 2009. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Soloist — A *Los Angeles Times* columnist (Steve Lopez by byline) finding a story in a homeless schizophrenic classical musician, and making something of it, is quite different from a team of filmmakers finding the same story predigested. What they chiefly make of it is a couple of out-sized performances by Robert Downey, Jr., and Jamie Foxx. Director Joe Wright devises a nice subjective effect when the cellist’s solo part is joined in his mind’s ear by a full orchestra, drowning out the passing traffic in a freeway tunnel. But the accompanying birds soaring over the city are a bit much. As are the Jupiter-landing psychedelic lights accompanying a rehearsal of the L.A. Philharmonic. A sprinkling of flashbacks to How He Got Here adds little but filler. With Catherine Keener, Tom Hollander, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Stephen Root. 2009. ★ (FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15)

The Song of Sparrows — Reviewed this issue. With Reza Naji, Maryam Akbari, Hamed Aghazi, and Shabnam Akhlaghi; directed by Majid Majidi. ★★★ (KEN, 5/22 THROUGH 28)

Star Trek — Enjoyable prequel, thirty years after the same-named debut of the series on the big screen. The chaotic and incoherent prologue might somewhat smother the emotional punch of the birth of James Tiberius Kirk at the same moment as his father’s death, but the reintroduction of the old familiar characters — the assembly of the changeless crew for the maiden voyage



The Song of Sparrows

of the U.S.S. Enterprise — can’t help but be fun for initiates. Chris Pine’s Kirk, sounding as though modelled on no weightier a prototype than Christian Slater, starts out an obnoxious punk and fails to advance very far beyond that. Zachary Quinto’s Spock, on the other hand, has some big ears to fill and fills them fully, achieving that elusive goal of undemonstrative intensity. If it’s fair to say that the film, rather than stand on its own, benefits from the groundwork of its forerunners — if it safely and securely goes where others have gone before — it would also be fair to object that the speedy evolu-

tion of special effects since the last *Star Trek* outing, seven years previous, serves to render the “ensuing” adventures anticlimactic. Topping what came before — a petty enough creative impulse in the first place — is in effect topping what came “after.” That may not constitute disrespect, but it constitutes disproportion. Director J. J. Abrams’s preference for the rambling Steadicam and the trembling closeup reveals him further to be a man of trend as opposed to a man of tradition. With its gigantic hands-of-Freddy-Krueger enemy spaceship, its Mad Max-y tattooed heathens, and its gratuitous CG monsters, the film is, by the standards of the franchise, skimpy on ideas, apart from a bit of time-travel abracadabra that enables Spock to be two places and two ages at once. Which is to say, enables Leonard Nimoy to play a part. Karl Urban, Anton Yelchin, Zoe Saldana, John Cho, Simon Pegg, Eric Bana. 2009.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION 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; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Summer Hours — A death in a French family, with Juliette Binoche, Charles Berling, and Jérémie Renier, written and directed by Olivier Assayas. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 5/22)

Sunshine Cleaning — Thin slice of American nutloaf, the main ingredients of which are two Albuquerque sisters partnered in the business of “Crime Scene Cleanup.” (A pre-credits shotgun suicide demonstrates the need.) Amy Adams, a single mom in an adulterous affair with an old boyfriend, is a roller-coaster actress overtly sharing every little rise and fall of feeling, while Emily Blunt, as her irresponsible junior, maintains a shivery tension, not exactly steadier but at any rate not as wide-ranging. And Alan Arkin, as their crackpot entrepreneurial father, is evidently on board for luck: seeing as how he was in the “indie” hit *Little Miss Sunshine*, maybe there’s box-office mojo in the combination of Arkin and *Sunshine*. Clifton Collins, Jr., is easily the most appealing as the one-armed 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. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Terminator Salvation — Science-fiction

sequel with Christian Bale, Sam Worthington, Anton Yelchin, and Dallas Bryce Howard, directed by McG. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 5/21)

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. ● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

X-Men Origins: Wolverine — The prequel seeks to answer all your questions, assuming you had any, as regards where and when and why the titular superhero got his switchblade knuckles, his leather bolero jacket, his pent-up rage, his blank memory, among other esoterica. Starting back in 1854 (heavy sigh), two mutant brothers, aging up to forty and no further, fight side by side through the Civil War, World Wars I and II, the Vietnam War — “That’s enough!” — and thereafter fight head to head for a run-of-the-mill revenge motive, a slaughtered girlfriend. In the build-up to the main event, the already immortal avenger (Hugh Jackman, oiled, watered, undershirted, shirtless, briefly pantless) is made indestructible for military use — a metalized skeleton — and then targeted for destruction when he refuses to be used. The end, by which is meant the coda after the full scroll of credits, reminds us that if there’s still a megabuck to be made, there’s no end. The style of the film, far from suited to a simple prelude, might be described as apocalyptic hyperbole. It could make you tired in itself, or suicidal at the thought of forthcoming backstories for the rest of the X-Men and -Women. With Liev Schreiber, Danny Huston, and Ryan Reynolds; directed by Gavin Hood. 2009. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION 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; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

User Reviews — MOVIES

Best user comments from Reader website

Angels and Demons 2009

Angels and Demons is a must-see if you enjoy actually thinking while watching a movie. The things I enjoy in Dan Brown’s novels — and their eventual move to the silver screen — is the historical aspect. In *Angels and Demons* Brown goes inside a world steeped in sacred tradition and ritual — the Vatican. The movie starts with the death of a pope and the action takes place amidst the selection of his replacement. The selection of the new pope takes place during what is called Conclave and the cardinals are literally sealed inside a room where they vote for their selection; typically from one of the Preferiti (the frontrunners of sorts). In this story, the Preferiti are kidnapped and the race is on around Rome to find them before they are all killed and a bomb goes off that has the ability to level not only the Vatican, but most of Rome as well. The search is headed by Tom Hanks’s character who takes us on a tour of the Pantheon and other historical Catholic churches throughout Rome. This has a whodunit theme, of course, as you try and figure out who is responsible. With the mystique and solemnity that surrounds the Vatican, the film’s depiction of the Sistine Chapel makes you feel as though you are getting the opportunity to experience something extraordinary. What really amazed me was the level of technology associated with the preservation of such archaic documents and items. Considering the fact the Vatican has been in existence since the 14th Century, the notion that today there are oxygen-controlled areas of the archives monitored by such a sophisticated computer system is an awesome dichotomy. *Angels and Demons* will not disappoint moviegoers who like a mind challenge. By **robnyl** 9:47pm, May 17, 2009

I Love You, Man 2009

Yeah, I (just) watched it. Very surprising, enjoyable comedy. Loved the adult humor and language. Made me appreciate my closest buddies just a little more. Ha-ha. By **coolinout1** 9:53pm, May 14, 2009

X-Men Origins: Wolverine 2009

Slapdash CGI abounds in this lame effort at political allegory, with Hugh portraying the titular hero as a PTSD-plagued veteran. He’s up against his My Lai-lovin’ brother and head nemesis William Stryker. Stryker is played by Danny Huston as a full-on Bush caricature, one who is harboring detainees in a secret prison disguised as a nuclear power plant. In one scene, he even explains his policy of waging preemptive war against the domestic insurgents to prevent a future, large-scale conflict. There is a New Orleans sequence that features a set so badly overdressed as to be unintentionally hilarious. But although most of the film sounds blatant enough to be hysterically bad, it is not. By **trere8** 11:52pm, May 15, 2009

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Greed Machine

“Close the stores for six months...there would be from coast to coast a regular massacre.”

We invent ourselves,” Walter Franz tells his brother Vic, “to wipe out what we know.”

The title of Arthur Miller’s 1968 drama, *The Price*, points in various directions, none of them fixed. Ostensibly, it’s about the current value of pre-Depression furniture. The attic of a New York brownstone, about to be torn down, looks like a cluttered antique shop: a wicker bassinet, sturdy Spanish Jacobean table, old baseball gloves and bats, puffy chairs, even a stately harp. The myriad items, many hanging in clusters from the ceiling, read like a family’s biography — up to a point. There’s nothing new after 1929. That’s when Victor and Walter’s father crashed with the stock market. They moved his possessions into the attic, where he lived, surrounded by a time capsule of bygone affluence, for another 30 years.

During much of the Depression, Victor abandoned his dream of becoming a doctor and cared for his ailing father. When Victor married Esther, they lived in a single, furnished room so he could pay his father’s bills. He became a policeman and now (1968) will retire, but can’t decide what to do.

Brother Walter went to medical school. His

motivation, far from Hippocratic: make mountains of money, enough to ward off future economic disasters. He sent Victor five dollars a month to care for their father. Walter became a successful surgeon but at a price. He was in such demand, his wife divorced him. She took the children, and in time, he had a nervous breakdown. The brothers have been estranged since their father died 16 years ago.

The sibling opposition looks pat: the unselfish son sacrifices hopes and dreams; the greed-machine, who refused to loan his brother \$500 for school, abandons familial responsibility and lights out for the lucre. But, as Walter points out, each view is an invention, designed to bolster self-images and block the truth.

The furniture’s from “another world,” as is the appraiser, Gregory Solomon. The 89-year-old came from Russia in 1903. His last name’s a symbolic, fount of wisdom giveaway. The playwright stuffs him with author’s messages, including a great speech about our disposable economy: buying something permanent locks you in for life; whereas something new means the prospect of limitless, if evanescent, choices (“close the stores for six months...there would be from coast to

coast a regular massacre”). When Solomon says “with furniture, you cannot be emotional,” he also means casting a cold, realistic eye on the past.

What actually happened becomes a three-person — if you count Esther, and she does — Rashomon. Through many a long scene, they wipe the grime from the lenses on their lives. And the more they see, the more a tidy resolution fades away.

Arthur Miller said that for each of his plays, he probably wrote at least 2000 pages. He also said, in 1979, that he only read snippets from books and grew impatient with overwritten prose: “the older I get, the more I wish to cut” them. I guess he hadn’t read *The Price* lately. The play moves in authorial nudges. He’ll break up a scene by having someone about to leave, then pull them back, and haggle some more. And his characters, often like puppets, work hard to represent his pat, schematic themes. The play runs just under three hours (Miller originally wanted it performed without an intermission). It eventually catches the fish, but that bait’s a long time in the water.

The Old Globe Theatre’s sketchy opening night performance led to chins on hands and seat-squirming. It didn’t help that Dominic Chianese — unforgettable as Uncle Junior in *The Sopranos* — was barely off-book. He gave Solomon a stutter to conceal his going up, but his quirky timing consistently threw the cast curves.

Solomon’s the kind of sagacious, life-force character actors beg to play. Chianese’s performance misses Solomon’s ultimate struggle: is it time



Dominic Chianese, Andy Prosky in *The Price*

The Price by Arthur Miller

The Old Globe Theatre, Simon Edison Centre for the Performing Arts, Balboa Park

Directed by Richard Seer; cast: Andy Prosky, Leisa Mather, Dominic Chianese, James Sutorius; scenic design, Robin Sanford Roberts, costumes, Charlotte Devaux Shields, lighting, Chris Rynne, sound, Paul Peterson

Playing through June 14; Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-234-5623.

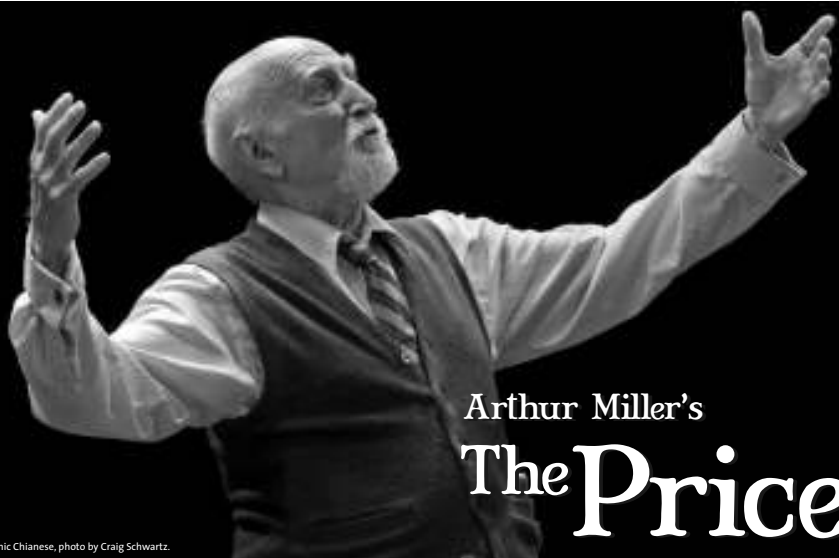
to exit this strange, disposable world, or should he forge anew?

James Sutorius does a fine, honest turn as Walter, the erstwhile evil brother redeemed by a vision of antimaterialism. Sutorius gives subtle hints that Walter hasn’t recovered completely from his breakdown. Andy Prosky makes Victor such a walking question box, he comes off not as a self-sacrificer, just chronically indecisive. (Sutorius and Prosky could kick the many slow stretches into higher theatrical gear if they stressed the sibling rivalry earlier.) Leisa Mather does what she can as Esther, who mostly complains. Every time she threatens divorce, the playwright cuts her off.

The Old Globe’s “Classics Up Close” series presents renowned theatrical works on an intimate, arena stage. Seen from this perspective, however, Miller’s drama looks more contrived than “classic.” ■



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THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

The 16th Annual Lipinsky Family San Diego Jewish Arts Festival

The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents the 16th annual exploration of “Jewish culture through theater, music, dance, and visual arts.” The Festival takes place at various locations. For shows, days, and times, call the Rep at 619-544-1000. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 30.

Bed and Sofa

Polly Pen (music) and Laurence Kavan (lyrics) turned a black-and-white silent Russian movie (1926) into a musical, in which the characters sing rather than speak. Kolya invites Volodya, a homeless WWI war buddy, to share his cramped, Moscow apartment. Kolya and wife Ludmilla take the bed, Volodya the sofa — for a while. Then Ludmilla and Volodya fall in love — for a while. The story, which moves with sharp, Chekhovian twists, is also a political allegory about how revolutions, like the men in Ludmilla’s life, “go round in circles.” In the exquisite Cygnet Theatre production, directed by Sean Murray, Jordan Miller (Volodya) and Lance Arthur Smith (Kolya) boom with operatic voices. But Colleen Kollar Smith is special as Ludmilla. Her flickering silent-film eyes are as coloratura as her voice. With a mere look, she brightens or darkens Andrew Hull’s striking set — shades of gray from charcoal and pewter to softer, smoky hues (which Eric Lotze has lit brilliantly). Corey Johnston’s appropriate costumes break the the color scheme at just the right moment. As if from the clouds overhead or the heaven beyond, the late Priscilla Allen narrates with her unforgettable voice.

Critic's Pick

CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS STREET, OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

Celebrity Sonnets

As part of its series of free play readings, Moonlight Cultural Foundation hosts San Diego Shakespeare Society’s performance of sonnets “reversed, remembered, and even those forgotten.” A forum follows the reading. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA. 760-724-2110. 7:30PM MONDAY, MAY 25.

Chapter Two

Scripps Ranch Theatre presents Neil Simon’s most autobiographical work, a “dramatic comedy” about two not-so-young lovers who struggle “to commit or not to commit.” Craig Huisenga directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO ROAD, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SAT-

URDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 13.

Cornelia

The Old Globe Theatre presents Mark (“Big Love”) Olsen’s drama about Cornelia Folsom, wife of Alabama Governor George Wallace, who harbored her own political ambitions. Ethan McSweeney directed.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 12.

The Glass Menagerie

Tennessee’s back in town! But Lamb’s Players offers a mix of smart and questionable choices. As Amanda, the controlling mother based on Williams’s own, Deborah Gilmour Smyth plays the chattering magpie, and some speeches flow like arias. Amanda, however, also had a smidge of the harpy, missing from this portrayal. As Tom, Sean Cox blasts speeches, an over-the-top, ungentelemanly caller approach that makes Williams’s surrogate more irritant than advocate. Though unsure about the degree of her “defect,” Sarah Zimmerman locates Laura deep within herself, like a diving bell in a murky sea. Her visit with the Gentleman Caller (Jason Heil, ripped from an Arrow shirt ad) is quite touching. The fourth wall of Mike Buckley’s set, autumnally lit by Nathan Peirson, has an airy, expansive feel, a far cry from the claustrophobia Williams wanted, and that Amanda instills when she terrorizes her children with good intentions.

Worth a try

LAMB’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVENUE, CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MAY 24.

The Hit

Mike Buckley’s lite, entertaining romantic comedy has one of theater’s more conflicted villains. Samm, short for Samantha, means ill, but is new at her work as a “hit man” and tends to become personally involved. The real villain is the hospital that convinced Susan, owner of an antique shop in San Francisco, that she’s dying of cancer. Susan hires Samm for a whack job so Susan’s brother can use the insurance for graduate work at Stanford. Complications unfold in a briskly paced show. Buckley’s a triple threat: he wrote the script, he plays Sam, and he designed the prop-rich set. Susan’s “bipolar,” and Cynthia Peters handles both sides with skill. Season Duffy has a lark as Samm, the garrulous villain. Chris Bresky could rein in his physicality, at times, but offers an engaging Steve. David Cochran Heath scores as Slavo, resident thug. *The Hit* has a thematic subtext: call it “buyer behavior,” as half a dozen people shop in odd, often funny, ways. 619-437-0600.

Worth a try

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. 619-234-9583. 4PM & 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

Lend Me a Tenor

The show must go on, in Ken Ludwig’s behind-the-scenes opera farce, even though visiting star Tito “Il Stupendo” Merelli is supposedly dead. Bob Christiansen directed the OnStage Playhouse production.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 6.

The Little Dog Laughed

Diversionary Theatre stages Douglas Carter Beane’s “contemporary comedy” about the scandalous world of Hollywood celebrities, including a movie star locked in the glass closet. Robert Barry Fleming directed.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BOULEVARD, UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

Mapping the Hood

Art at the Core: Building Community presents a multimedia dance-theater piece about the stories and people of the sister communities City Heights and North Park. www.artcoresd.org. TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

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. National Comedy Theatre resembles an athletic event. 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.

Worth a try

MARQUIS THEATER, 3717 INDIA STREET, MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. 7:30PM & 9:45PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM & 9:45PM SATURDAYS. OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Old Wicked Songs

Stephen Hoffman’s a burnt-out piano prodigy at age 25. He’s come to Vienna (in 1986) to study under the great Schiller. But first, like a Zen neophyte, he must learn humility from Josef Mashkan, who vows to “knock the wind out” of the “arrogant kid,” and whose teaching credentials are shaky. Jon Marans’s loose, sporadic drama is a marvelous vehicle for Tom Zohar and Robert Grossman at the North Coast Rep. Except for a haunting tour of Dachau, you can pretty much tell where the play’s headed. But as Stephen and Josef explore the joys and sorrows of Schumann’s *Dichterliebe*, they display multiple talents. Zohar (who performs a tour de force medley of snippets from Bach to Beethoven on the piano) moves Stephen from a rigid, by-the-numbers imitator to a passionate being, in art and life. Josef wears a mask as well and Grossman strips it away with a humorous, touching portrayal. Director David Ellenstein keeps the focus always apt, and Jeff Mockus’s sound design enriches every scene. *Worth a try*.

NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DRIVE, SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

Peter Pan

California Center for the Arts hosts a production of the popular musical based on James M. Barrie’s tale of the boy who wouldn’t grow up. The cast is composed of 100 men, women, and children from San Diego County. CALIFORNIA CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ESCONDIDO, 340 NORTH ESCONDIDO BOULEVARD, ESCONDIDO. 760-839-4438. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

The Phoenician Women

Euripides’s longest play performs revisionist history on Aeschylus’s *Seven Against Thebes* and Sophocles’s Oedipus cycle. Exiled Polynices brings an army of Argives, to seven-gated Thebes, to battle his brother Eteocles, who worships tyranny as a god. Everyone, including a Greek chorus of Phoenician woman on their way to Delphi, suffers as a result. What Euripides supplies, missing in the originals, are the psychology and motives behind the decimation. Marianne McDonald’s translation features crisp, interlaced dialogue and ranks among her finest. And the Theatre, Inc., production, visually at least, ranks among its. Actors in Middle Eastern dress perform before an ancient, concertina-wired wall bombarded by Scud missiles. The acting, however, is as divided as the brothers. Fred Harlow commands the stage as Tiresias and Oedipus, blind men who see clearly. Young Benjamin Shaffer, in a cameo as self-sacrificing Menoeceus, provides refreshingly clear speech. But many in the cast garble important lines: they talk to the floor, or mumble, or (especially the chorus) zip so fast that key information’s lost.

Worth a try

THEATRE, INC., 899 C STREET, DOWNTOWN. 619-216-3016. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 31.

The Price

As part of its “Classics Up Close” series, the Old Globe Theatre stages Arthur Miller’s drama about brothers trying to determine the value of their father’s legacy. Richard Seer directed.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 14.

Psychopathia Sexualis

Compass Theatre stages John Patrick Shanley’s comedy about an obscure artist with a fetish for his father’s argyle socks and an upcoming marriage for which the socks, now missing, will play a crucial role. Mark Stephan directs. COMPASS THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH MAY 24.

Space for God

InterMission Productions presents an original piece written and performed by pastor Jerusha Matsen Neal about “the hope and heartbreak of a divine call.” LA MESA FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 4690 PALM AVENUE, LA MESA. 619-466-4163. 7:30PM FRIDAY.

Spider's Web

Coronado Playhouse stages Agatha Christie’s mystery: a dead body in the drawing room and a house full

of suspects. Keith A. Anderson directed.

CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH MAY 24.

Suds: The Rocking '60s Musical Soap Opera

Welk Resort Theatre presents Melinda Gilb, Steve Gunderson, and Bryan Scott’s “’60s show,” originally created for the San Diego Rep and now hailed as the first “jukebox musical.” Gunderson and Javier Velasco directed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1:45PM & 8PM THURSDAYS, 1:45PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 1:45PM SUNDAYS, 1:45PM & 8PM TUESDAYS, 1:45PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 21.

That Night School

Community Actors Theatre reopens its refurbished space with this “amusing/menacing” comedy-drama about interlocking subterfuge. COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE, 2957 54TH STREET, COLLEGE AREA. 619-264-3391. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 3PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 14.

Weekend Comedy

Broadway Theater presents Sam and Jeanne Bobrick’s comedy about double-booking. Two couples mistakenly rent the same mountain cabin for the weekend: “one couple is staid and middle aged; the other, freewheeling and young.” BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 21.

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CAREGIVERS/ RESIDENTIAL Facilitators. Provide quality care for children with developmental disabilities at our Encinitas home care facility. Minimum 12 months' experience in a similar environment and high school diploma/ GED required. Must have valid CA driver's license and clean DMV. Background checked. All shifts available, full time and part time \$9-\$9.36/ hour. Benefits for full time. Interviews held 8:30am-3:30pm at Home of Guiding Hands, 1825 Gillespie Way, Suite 200, El Cajon, CA 92020. Fax resume: 619-938-3056.

CNAs/ LVNs. Acute Care: CNA, CNA/ Nursing Unit Secretary; Health care Assistant. Home Health: LVN, LVN- Ventilator. Apply online: www.pph.org or in person: Monday- Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm, Palomar Medical Center, HR- 456 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 92025. Pomerado Hospital, HR: 15615 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064; Palomar Continuing Care, 1817 Avenida del Diablo, Escondido, CA 92029.

HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339. www.lajollanurseshomecare.com.

HOME CARE AIDES. Beginners, experienced. CNAs, Family Caregivers, Childcare, Eldercare and Drivers. New-hire bonus! Great pay! Nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, disabled. Hourly and shifts. Training. Flexible schedules. Benefits. Retirement. Dependent care plan. At Your Home Familycare. Celebrating 25 years of excellent service to all of San Diego County! E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

IN-HOME CARE. Caregivers and Companions. Minimum 1 year's experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/ La Mesa/ Del Cerro/ San Carlos. Maureen, Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525.

JOB COACHES. Community-oriented Center for Independent Achievement is seeking dependable individuals in East County. 1:4 group ratio maximum. \$8.50-\$9.50/ hour. Annual raises. Bonuses for exceptional performance. Benefits with full-time. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax 619-440-6864, 619-440-6802.

RESPITE CARE for children and teens with developmental disabilities. Critical need, Countywide! Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help. Caring heart more important than experience. Training. Hourly and shifts. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, dependent care plan. Visit homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. At Your Home Familycare. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Promising Futures, Inc., is hiring reliable, caring individuals to work with the developmentally disabled in East County and Ramona. Part- and full-time positions. \$8-\$10/ hour plus benefits. Overtime opportunities available. pficareer@yahoo.com. Fax resume: 619-440-6864, Call 619-440-6802.

HELP WANTED JOBS WANTED

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

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2850 Sixth Ave., Suite 111 (Hillcrest area) **619-298-4011**
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Western Towing is looking for self-motivated, reliable OUTSIDE SALES/CUSTOMER SERVICE REPS

Western Towing is looking for self-motivated, detail-oriented individuals for full-time, entry-level Outside Sales/Customer Service Representative positions. No experience necessary. Training is provided. Starting wage is \$10-\$12/hour.

Ideal candidates should:

- Possess excellent communication skills, written and verbal
- Be reliable, outgoing and positive
- Be able to multi-task
- Possess exceptional organizational skills
- Have a California driver's license and clean DMV
- Have knowledge of San Diego area streets
- Spanish speaking a plus

We offer a comprehensive benefits package including 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance and more.

Fax résumé to: 619-295-6892
Attn: Human Resources
or email résumé to: humanresources@westerntowing.com
Drug-free/EOE

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WATER INSTRUCTORS/ Personal Trainers. Corporate and residential facilities. All client types. Locations all over San Diego. Minimum Certification and 2 years' experience required. E-mail: FitX@fitsandiego.com. Fax resume: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611.

**HELP WANTED
OFFICE /
ADMINISTRATIVE**

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

APPOINTMENT SETTER/ Administrative. Exciting entertainment-service industry seeks outgoing self-starter, multi-tasker for fast-paced office. Sales skills a plus. \$11/hour plus commission DOE. In person only Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: 3333 Midway Drive #206, San Diego, 92110. No calls preferred: 619-226-1121.

DATA ENTRY/ CUSTOMER SERVICE Rep. We will train an enthusiastic, detail-oriented team player with customer service/data entry skills. Must type 55-65 wpm. Fast paced, interesting environment serving the legal community. Full time, \$10-\$11 start. 619-260-0309.

OFFICE STAFF. Experienced, for a transportation company. Must be flexible, reliable and able to handle all office tasks including dispatching. Send resume/qualifications to resumes@careysandiego.com.

**HELP WANTED
RESEARCH
STUDIES**

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

RESEARCH STUDY VOLUNTEERS. Type 2 Diabetics with uncontrolled blood

sugar levels even with healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication. Dr. Sunder Mudaliar and his associates at UCSD are looking for men and women with Type 2 Diabetes to take part in a research study to assess the safety, efficacy, and tolerability of an investigational drug for diabetes. Duration: Screening period (up to 4 weeks), treatment period (24 weeks), plus 28 weeks (up to a year treatment) if you agree to continue in the study after the initial 24 weeks, follow-up (2 weeks). Criteria to be eligible to participate: Males or females aged 18 to 75 years. Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. Treatment with Actos greater or equal to 30mg/ day and metformin greater or equal to 1,500mg/ day for at least 12 weeks on a stable dose (meaning no dose changes to these medications). HbA1c between 7-10%. Stable weight for at least 12 weeks. Body Mass Index (BMI) is 25-45 kg/ m2 (greater than 23 for Asians). Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to \$550. For more information, please contact Catherine DeLue at 858-552-8585 extension 6740.

**HELP WANTED
RESTAURANT /
HOTEL / CLUB**

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

FOOD PREP WORKER. Full-time position. \$8.84-\$10.40/ hour. 1 year or equivalent raw food prep experience. High school graduate or GED. Flexible work schedule including weekends and holidays. OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976. Nonsmoking, drug-free environment. Benefits. Apply online at www.optimumhealth.org or in person: 9665 Granite Ridge Drive, Suite 310, San Diego 92123. 858-634-5517.

HOUSEKEEPING: DIRECTOR Of Housekeeping. Requires Bachelor's degree in Hotel/ Restaurant Administration or equivalent education/ training and 23+ months' experience. <http://www.luxurycollection.jobs/usgrant>. 326 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101.

TRAFFIC DIRECTORS/ Cash Handlers, Special Events at SDSU and Coronado. Must be able to work various times/ dates. \$8.50/ hour. Direct traffic flow and collect cash. Good customer service skills a must. Apply at www.sunsetparking.com.

**HELP WANTED
RETAIL**

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

RETAIL SALES. High end sailing and outdoor clothing retailer in NTC landing at Liberty Station seeking part time sales associate. Point Loma Outfitting is looking for experienced retail clothing sales associates who are energetic, fun, and have a passion for the outdoors. Qualified sales associates will need to be familiar with technical and sports wear apparel. Product knowledge and strong retail experience necessary. Looking for hard working, self-motivated candidates with strong retail experience. Applicants must have the availability to work shifts Monday- Sunday. Current position would be working a schedule to include: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Schedule may change based on our needs. Prior merchandising, inventory and retail clothing sales experience a must. Looking for qualified candidates with at least 1-3 years minimum experience in selling quality clothing. Please apply online at www.pointlomaoutfitting.com.

**HELP WANTED
SALES /
MARKETING**

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

AD SPECS. Call today, start tomorrow. A great telemarketing company has immediate positions available for nationwide business-to-business promotional advertising sales. Clairemont. Monday- Friday, 8:30am-2pm. 858-272-7177.

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER. \$15/ hour plus bonus. Appointment Setting business-to-business via phone, no selling. Part time only. Morning hours 7:30-11:30am, Miramar area. Paid training. Can earn up to \$20/ hour. E-mail resume to employment@versacall.com or send resume to Scheduler, 7047 Carroll Road, San Diego, CA 92121. 858-677-6766.

CANVASSING! \$2K-\$4K/ month part time. Setting appointments for home improvements! Highest commission in industry. AM/ PM shifts. Start

immediately! Jake, 858-278-5605. www.thehartyhousedoctor.com.

FINANCIAL SERVICES Marketing. Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be motivated, honest, outgoing, entrepreneurial, and have 4 years of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339.

FUNDRAISING for national charities and the Democratic Party. Over 20 years in business. \$9/ hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full and part time. Convenient location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego 92123-1369. Call for interview. 858-496-2100.

GOT WORK? Do you speak and read well? Do you enjoy confrontation? Are you able to evolve? Easily excitable? Career motivated? Reloaders 25% on fronts! Most reloaders make 30-35%! Contact Art Jones/ Kearny Mesa, 800-854-1549 x. 101. Kevin/ Mira Mesa, 800-854-2830 x. 232. Mike/ Oceanside, 619-701-3631.

INSIDE SALES. Part/ full time. Paid training. Great work environment. Convenient location. 401K, medical, dental, paid vacations, holidays. If you are disciplined, coachable and looking to join a great team with an easy-to-sell product and high integrity, call today! Media All-Stars, 8525 Gibbs Drive #206, 92123. Ask for Leah, 858-300-9734. www.MediaAllStars.com.

SALES, FULL-TIME. Guaranteed wage—Great benefits— Earn bonuses— Friendly staff— Family-owned. Cash & Carry Discount Furniture, 850 East Main, El Cajon. Jonny/ Steve: 619-442-7706, 619-442-9233.

SALES. Business- to- business sales, \$5000/ month plus residual income. Call 1-800-928-2237 x101.

SALES. Supplement your income. Excellent income potential in today's changing economy! \$10 starts you in a new career. Full- or part-time. Build your business working with top-selling Avon representatives. Perfect for self-starters. www.youravon.com/kennis. Kathleen: 619-429-1253; 888-429-1253.

SALES. Fundraising school athletics. Fun, relaxed environment, easy job, great pay. 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday-Friday. From \$8-\$26 hourly with bonuses, commissions. Contact Justin, 619-322-2764.

SALES. ENVIRONMENTAL company. Out of work? Want a job? Travel and get paid daily! We train. Must be 18+. Start now. Call for interview: 800-231-8183.

SALES/ CUSTOMER SERVICE REP. Western Towing is looking for a self-motivated, detail-oriented individual for a full-time Entry-Level Outside Sales/ Customer Service Representative position. No experience necessary. Training provided. Starting wage \$10-\$12. Ideal candidates should possess excellent communication skills, written and verbal, be reliable, outgoing and positive, be able to multi-task, possess exceptional organizational skills, have a driver's license and clean DMV record, have knowledge of the San Diego area streets. Spanish-speaking a plus. We offer comprehensive benefits package including 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance, more. Fax resume to 619-295-6892. Attention: Human Resources, or e-mail resume to humanresources@westerntowing.com. Drug free, EOE.

SALES/ INSURANCE. Immediate openings for highly motivated sales team members for our Chula Vista and Kearny Mesa offices. No experience required. Commission based compensation, \$4-\$6K monthly. Hotwire Insurance Services. Call 619-422-2188 ask for Ray, or e-mail resume to sales@hotwireins.com.

SALES/ INSIDE SALES. Representative to offer Internet marketing to real estate professionals. Comprehensive paid training and full benefits after 60 days. Make \$45,000 to \$55,000 first year. Top sales consultants average \$60,000 to \$80,000/ year. Phone sales professionals wanted. 619-717-2941.

TELEMARKETING. Ad specs. Monday-Friday. Get paid while you train to earn \$500-\$1000/ weekly. No experience necessary. Sign-on bonus for experienced Reloaders, 19% commission. 619-220-7025.

TELEMARKETING. Any good Salespeople out there? Pacific Graphics Advertising Specialties in La Mesa for 20 years. Hours: Monday-Friday, 8am-2:30pm. Call Joe: 619-461-0365.

TELEMARKETING. Fundraising for Democratic Party and national charities. Over 20 years in business. \$9/ hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full time or part time. Convenient location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego, 92123-1369. For appointment, call 858-496-2100.

J O B S A T T H E R E A D E R

**Production
E-mail
Processor**

We are seeking someone experienced with the Mozilla e-mail application, Thunderbird, to manage client-provided artwork. Flight-checking and color-correcting of files is also involved. Experience with Macintosh applications including QuarkXPress, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator is a plus. This will be a part-time, day-shift position.

E-mail:
hrdept@sdreader.com

Mail:
P.O. Box 85803
San Diego, CA
92186-5803

Fax:
(619) 231-0489

**Restaurant
Advertising Representative**

Does selling for one of San Diego's most recognized brands appeal to you? With a circulation of 155,000 copies a week, the San Diego *Reader* is the third largest weekly newspaper in the U.S. We are read by one out of every three adults in the county and have been the number one resource for local news, entertainment and events for over 37 years.

As a Restaurant Advertising Rep you will be out in the field cold-calling on restaurants throughout San Diego County and selling them marketing solutions in the San Diego *Reader* and on SDReader.com. You will be expected to prove yourself by building a solid client base of new restaurant accounts. Ongoing training and support will be provided and we will instruct you on how to design ad campaigns that bring results for your advertisers.

Candidates for this job must have recent experience either selling advertising or selling products and/or services to the restaurant industry. You will also need to be able to demonstrate your ability to sell and close during the interview process.

**Advertising
Sales Representative**

We are seeking a highly motivated and dynamic Sales Rep who has a minimum of two years' selling experience. A proven track record in generating sales through cold-call prospecting is required. Excellent customer service and organizational skills are a must. Ability to work well under deadlines necessary.

Benefits include health and dental coverage, 401(k), free parking downtown and more. Send us your résumé today if you are motivated to sell ads for San Diego's most popular weekly newspaper.

E-mail: hrdept@sdreader.com
Mail: P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803
Fax: (619) 231-0489



TELEPHONE SALES. Experienced only. Cable/ telecom products preferred. Reliable transportation, great attitude, customer service oriented. \$9/ hour- \$10/ hour. Complete application: www.expresspros.com (Telemarketer). E-mail: noemi.vidana@ExpressPros.com. Interview: 858-784-3676.

HELP WANTED SALONS

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

BARBER. Experienced Barber needed full/ part time for Capt. Mike's Hair Dock. Waterfront decor in park- like setting in fast- growing Santee. Call Mike, 9am-6pm, 619-258-1231, 619-708-7281.

ESTHETICIAN/ MASSAGE THERAPIST. 30+ hours/ week, with dual license. Very busy salon with lots of walk-ins. Weekends a must! Earth Salon & Spa, Aveda Lifestyle Salon, 7130 Avenida Encinas #104, Carlsbad. E-mail resume: eric@earthsalonspa.com.

HAIR DESIGNERS. Make great money! Busy Gaslamp salon seeking booth renters. Walk- ins available! Great urban loft environment, convenient parking. \$700/ month. Move- in incentives. 619-231-7588.

HAIRSTYLIST. Chic Downtown La Jolla Salon has a booth opening. 2 blocks from beach, free parking. Flexible programs fit your schedule and budget. 858-551-1700.

HAIRSTYLIST ASSISTANT. 30+ hours/ week, licensed. Very busy salon. Weekends a must! Earth Salon & Spa, Aveda Lifestyle Salon, 7130 Avenida Encinas #104, Carlsbad. E-mail resume: eric@earthsalonspa.com.

HAIRSTYLIST. Experienced for beautiful boutique hair salon in heart of Solana Beach. We offer great incentives to make your move easy. Drop off your resume at Salon Mirror Mirror, 148 South Solana Hills Drive, 92075.

HAIRSTYLIST. Full time, commission, for busy Coronado salon. Must be career oriented. Growth potential! Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337. domanisalon@yahoo.com.

HAIRSTYLISTS: Best value in Mission Valley! 2 booths available. Welcoming, energetic atmosphere with laundered towels, beverages for clients, plenty of parking. Move- in incentives. 619-889-6755.

HAIRSTYLISTS: Booth rental available at Luminous Hair Design. \$150/ week. Towels/ backbar included. Cosmetology License/ some clientele required! 5005 Niagara Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-226-7895, 619-964-1096.

HAIRSTYLISTS. Would you like a **6-month No-Rent offer?** Do you want a **\$150 weekly Booth Rental?** Qualified Hairstylists, please call Paul Gerard Hair Salon, 858-625-0555.

MANICURIST. Full- time, commission, for busy Coronado salon. Pinks and whites. Growth potential. Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337. E-mail: domanisalon@yahoo.com.

SALON/ HAIRSTYLISTS. Large booths. \$1000 move-in allowance. Requires your own clientele. Free reception/ phone/ towels. 100% retail is yours. Golden Touch, near Fashion Valley. 619-972-7744.

HELP WANTED SECURITY

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

POLICE OFFICERS. San Diego Police Department is hiring! Are you ready for a career change? See our upcoming test dates on our website. Police Recruit base pay starts at \$52,000 per year. Police Officer II base pay up to \$83,657 per year. For more information, call 619-531-COPS or visit our website at: www.joinsgpdnow.com.

SECURITY GUARDS needed for prestigious Downtown San Diego sites. Must be customer-service oriented, computer literate, and have excellent communication skills. All Shifts available! Securitas offers: Free Guard Card training, medical/ dental/ vision and 401(k). Excellent working environment, free uniforms. For fastest response, apply online now! www.securitasjobs.com, or call San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos: 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/ M/ F/ V/ D, drug free. PPO 14827.

SECURITY GUARDS. Full- time positions available in North and South County. Armed and unarmed. Call Cornerstone Security at 619-300-5726 or 619-271-0494.



SECURITY OFFICERS. Allied Barton Security Services. Full/ part time, variety of shifts available. Up to \$12/ hour, medical/ dental/ vision, 401(k) with company match, holiday pay, paid vacation, free uniforms, Guard Card class offered, uniform cleaning allowance, free life insurance/ full term. Must be at least 18 years of age and have a high school diploma/ GED. Apply online: www.AlliedBarton.com or www.GreatSecurityJobs.com. Or apply in person 8am-4pm, Monday- Friday: 9370 Sky Park Court, Suite 150, San Diego, 92123. Call: 858-874-8200.



SECURITY PROFESSIONALS. Secure a new career in the growing field of Security and Asset Protection. GMI provides all training, Guard Card testing, Live Scan for GMI potential hires. Full/ part time countywide. Excellent compensation and benefits: 401(k), Health/ Wellness. Professional certification. Eligibility conditional. Apply: 8001 Vickers Street, San Diego (92111); call: 858-244-1870; e-mail: RVentura@GMIweb.com.

SECURITY. Bald Eagle Security hiring licensed Security Officers. Full/ part time. Downtown San Diego locations only. No car or cell phone required. Guard Card required. Must be able to work flexible hours, mostly swing and graveyard plus every weekend. Background check. EEO/ Drug free. Health benefits available. Call 619-230-0022, e-mail: jacinnm@baldeaglesecurity.com, or apply in person at 2015 Main Street, San Diego, CA 92113.

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THINGPART

by Joe Sayers ©2009



HELP WANTED
TRADES / LABOR

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY needs mobile home specialist. Experienced in skirting, roofs, plumbing and painting. Must speak English! Call Kevin at 619-440-6313.

DRIVERS: MORTUARY DRIVERS. Growing transportation company has full- and part-time openings for reliable employees. Good driving record, heavy lifting and clean background check required. No felonies, no misdemeanors. Healey, Scott & Bradt. Fax resume to 619-441-9872 or e-mail hsbtrans@aol.com.
GENERAL SERVICES. Palomar Pomerado Health is hiring Cooks, Food Service Workers, Environmental Service Workers. Please apply online at www.pph.org or in person via the kiosks

provided Monday- Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm, at Palomar Medical Center, Human Resources, 456 East Grand Avenue, Escondido 92025. Pomerado Hospital Human Resources, 15615 Pomerado Road, Poway 92064. Palomar Continuing Care Center, 1817 Avenida del Diablo, Escondido 92029. All PPH campuses are smoke-free.
HOUSEPERSON. \$9.50-\$11/ hour. 2 years' housekeeping experience in hotel or healthcare facility. High school graduate or GED. Must speak English. Valid driver's license required. OHI is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976. Nonsmoking, drug-free environment. Benefits. Apply online at

www.optimumhealth.org or in person: 9665 Granite Ridge Drive, Suite 310, San Diego 92123. 858-634-5517.



PARKING SAFETY Coordinator will be responsible for keeping inventory of vehicles. Must possess good communication skills, excellent organization, positive attitude, able to work nights, weekends, holidays. Standing for extended periods is required. Competitive pay.

comprehensive benefits package includes: 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance and more. Fax resume and copy of clean DMV history Form H6: 619-295-6892, Attn: Human Resources—Parking Safety, or in person with copy of clean DMV printout: 4370 Pacific Highway, San Diego. Drug free, EOE.
PLUMBER. 5 years experience. Service, repair, remodels, drain cleaning and hydro-jetting. Full time. Dependable. Clean DMV. Fax resume: 619-440-2966 or e-mail afford.plm@hotmail.com.
POOL AND SPA. Service person needed. Will train. Must have reliable pickup truck. Part time/ full time. Subcontractor welcome. Call 619-579-1720.



TOW TRUCK OPERATOR. Western Towing is seeking full-time, energetic, self-motivated, reliable drivers. Uniforms provided. Requires: CA driver's license, clean DMV record, knowledge of San Diego County roads, excellent communication skills, ability to multitask and work independently. Competitive pay, comprehensive benefits package includes: 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance and more. Fax resume and copy of clean DMV history Form H6:619-295-6892, Attn: Human Resources- Driver; or in person: 4370 Pacific Highway, San Diego, with copy of clean DMV printout. Drug free, EOE.
TRUCK MECHANIC. Western Towing is seeking a Mechanic to maintain a medium- duty Ford and International

Fleet. Diesel and Gas. Full service capabilities, trouble shooting, diagnostic for electrical, direct injection and hydraulics. We offer a comprehensive benefits package that includes 401 (k), medical, dental, life insurance and more. Fax resume to 619-295-6892 or e-mail your resume to humanresources@westerntowing.com. If you have any questions, please call 619-295-6577, ext. 501 and leave message. Drug- free, EOE.

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.
POST OFFICE NOW HIRING. Average pay \$21/ hour or \$54K annually including federal benefits and over time. Paid training. Vacations. Part time, full time. 1-866-945-0295. (AAN CAN)

Give Your Resume A Competitive Edge! Specialized career tools for job hunters in career transition, new graduates, experienced contenders and those seeking an entire makeover! Professional resume services and career tools available for as low as \$25! [www. RecruiterReviewed.com](http://www.RecruiterReviewed.com). Call: 858-361-8244.

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I don't see how...oh my god! They're hanging from the tree in sleeping bags, squirming like mad and yelling for help.

Do something, Ted!!

≡ **SIGH** ≡ I explicitly told them I'd cut them down at sunrise. Let me get a cup of coffee in me and I'll go get my ladder and a knife.

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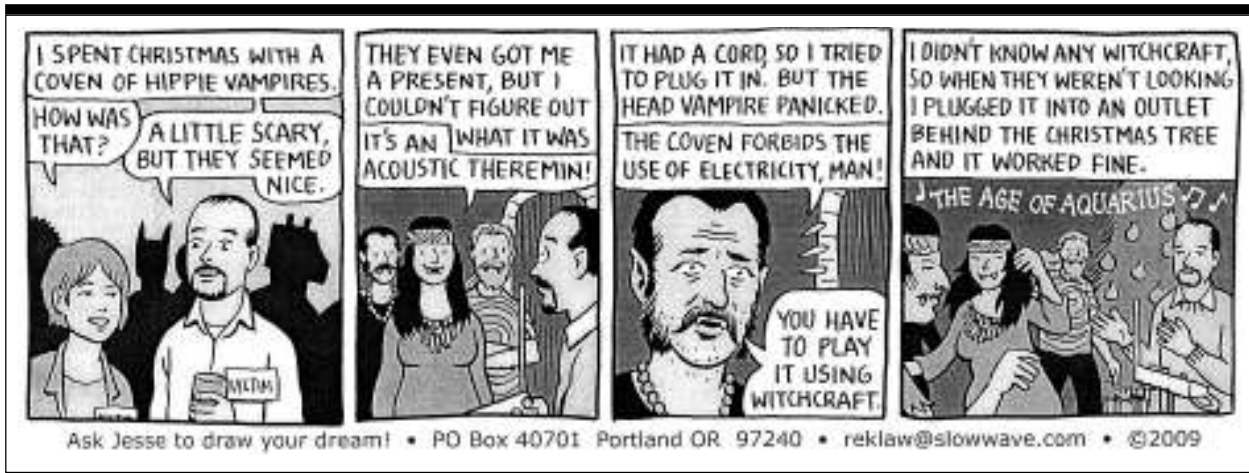
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GUITAR. BLUE GUITAR. Lessons with San Diego's best teaching staff. Blues, rock, classical, flamenco, banjo, ukulele and mandolin. 5959 Mission Gorge Road, 619-283-2700. [www.theblueguitar. com](http://www.theblueguitar.com).

LESSONS IN VOICE, GUITAR, cello, piano, drums, more! Desert Rose Studios. Goal is self-expression through learning. Also have classes in puppetry, sewing, art! www.desertrosestudios.com.

PIANO ACHIEVEMENT proven with free lesson. Ages 5 to 95. Classical, popular, jazz. Very patient teacher/ performer offers top quality, individualized instruction, beginning through advanced. 30 years' experience. Lee Galloway, 619-281-8118. www.leegalloway.com.

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SAT TEST PREPARATION. USD Test Preparation Courses. Sharpen your skills! Experienced faculty. Practice Exams. Convenient schedules. Free Refresher Classes (within 1 year of paid course completion). [www.sandiego.edu/ testprep](http://www.sandiego.edu/testprep). 619-260-4579.

SINGING LESSONS. Vocal technique for power in high range. Private or group lessons for pop, rock, jazz, musical theater. Performance opportunities. Carmel Valley. 858-481-6400, [info@ singersworkshop.com](mailto:info@singersworkshop.com).

SPANISH LESSONS. Private tutoring. Master's degree and credentialed instructor. Conversation, writing, and

grammar. Bilingual. Competitive rates. References. E-mail: jaygo@cox.net. Jay, 619-528-8663 or 619-410-2002.

TAI JI QI GONG CLASSES. Free to our community. Shelter Island, Near Art Show. Every Saturday, 8:30- 9:30 am. 619-226-6506.

MASSAGE

TO PLACE AN AD IN THE READER call 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

MALE ATHLETE: Trained. Experienced, skilled, caring. Customized sessions. Safe, private. All of San Diego County. Appointments 7am-9pm. ASA, HHP-0442. 619-749-9967, 760-390-4772.

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SUMIKO SPA! Get the Asian touch! Skilled in the ultimate Oriental massage. HHP-23991. Call now to schedule. 9:30am-11pm. 2629 El Cajon Boulevard. 619-574-0522.

ABOVE AND BEYOND unforgettable massage. Unique treatments. Reduce stress! Light touch, Swedish- deep. Designed to suit your body. In office/ outcall. HHPs welcome. MT-658. 760-726-1100.

COUPLES MASSAGE. Beautifully decorated room with tables side by side. Relaxation Plus, Little Italy, 20% off all services. Gift certificates. 7 days/ week. HHP-92009389. 619-295-5595.

RELAX IN MY HANDS. Satisfying stress-release massage by professional, experienced HHP. You'll like it! Lic-22746. Call Ken, 619-417-1350.

PET CENTRAL

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AQUARIUM SALE at Octopuss Garden. 20H aquarium, \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopuss Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

AQUARIUMS AND PONDS! Freshwater/ saltwater fish. Extensive reef animals. 9000 square feet. Low warehouse prices! Expertise not found in Southern California cookie-cutter stores! Aquatic Warehouse. 5466 Complex Street #204, San Diego. Behind Superior Courthouse, off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. [www. aquaticwarehouse.com](http://www.aquaticwarehouse.com). Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

BENGAL LEOPARD babies. The mild side of wild. Spectrally beautiful. TICA registered. Jacob sheep babies from Israel found in Genesis 28-30. North County, 760-724-9316.

BUY/ SELL/ TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.

CAT AND KITTEN Adoption Fair! May 30/ 31, 10am-3pm. The Rescue House. Petco LaCosta, 760-753-0814. Wonderful kitties of all colors, ages. Full of love! 760-591-1211.

CHIHUAHUA MIX, black, neutered, 1 year, 11lbs. Very shy, needs safe, secure, loving home. No small children. Crate trained. \$150. 619-583-5122.

CHIHUAHUA MIX. Male, 7 months old, all shots. Brown and white. Very cute. \$150. Please call between 5pm and 7pm, 619-640-2693.

CHIHUAHUA, white, neutered, 11lbs., 2 years. Happy, docile, but shy. Has healed broken jaw. Shots, license,

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MEDICAL MASSAGE BY ANDY. Frozen shoulder, fibromyalgia, asthma, carpal tunnel, back/ neck pain. Migraine. TMJ, headache. 18 years' experience. MT-0732. 760-845-0182.

COME ON, JUST MAKE THE CALL and take a one- hour break to experience the royal treatment! I give a seriously great massage. I'm located off I-5 and Manchester exit. Relaxing, private atmosphere. HHP. Lic-96001467. Kim, 619-417-9226.

SPECIAL PRICE! \$10 off and free body scrub or body shampoo with 1- hour of massage. Lic-2006003419. Call today and ask for Izabela. 619-281-8851.

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MASSAGE, FACIALS, WAXING. Scrubs. In- call and outcall. Tuesday- Sunday, 10am-7pm. Next day appointment available. La Jolla/ Hillcrest. Lic#Z83313. 760-884-9981.

HILLCREST SPA: HALF/ FULL DAY. Massage, body wraps, acupuncture, hypnotherapy, microdermabrasion, peels, waxing (including unisex Brazilian), sensitive- area bleaching, permanent makeup, more! Lic-G028769. Steve, 619-300-7229.

DONNA'S MASSAGE. Experienced, healthy. 40s. Providing massage 15 years. Studio office in garden courtyard. Private, clean. Really nice! Lic-13375. 619-886-3333.

EXPERIENCE THE PARADISE of my sensualation massage. Let my soothing hands release all your tension and stress away. MT-0922. Shanelle, 760-451-2319.

AFFORDABLE DEEP TISSUE MASSAGE. Specializing in migraine headaches, neck, shoulder, back, tightness/ injury. Flexible hours. Centrally located. \$60. BTC#06002949. Health and Vision

microchip. No young kids. \$150. 619-466-0426.

KITTEN. 6 weeks, 5/ 20. Whole litter in one kitten. 4 generations, heritage known. Female black-on-white tabby. \$85/ best. Leave message, 619-287-3430.

KITTENS. 9 weeks old. Different colors. 3 females, 1 male. Short hair, long hair. 858-481-0185.

KITTENS. 6 weeks, playful, sweet. Males and females. White with orange, white with gray. \$40 donation includes spay/ neuter later. To loving, indoor homes. 619-267-6722.

KITTENS/ CATS. 10 weeks +. Cute, friendly, virus tested, neutered, vaccinated, dewormed, defleaed. Tuesday/ Thursday/ Friday, 6pm-8pm, Saturday/ Sunday, noon-4pm. PetSmart La Jolla. 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. [www. scdcats.org](http://www.scdcats.org).

KITTIES. RESCUED. Beautiful. All ages. All full of love! Give them the wonderful homes they deserve. Adoption fee includes medicals, spay/ neuter and microchip. 760-591-1211.

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LAB PUPPIES. AKC registered. 3 yellow, 1 black. 12 weeks, 1st shots, \$350/ best. 858-578-5591.

LOST DOG! 3-year-old Jack Russell Terrier mix, long legs and wiry hair (around the face, his body was recently trimmed). White with light and dark brown spots, approximately 17 pounds, reddish nose. Last seen at 34th and A Street, Golden Hill/ South Park area. Reward! 619-251-5424.

LOST: BLACK CAT. Rancho Bernardo, near Camino Del Norte. "Panther" missing since 5/ 7/ 09. All black (few white hairs on chest). If found, please call 508-612-4042.

OTAYVET VETERINARY CLINIC in Tijuana, Mexico, offers low- cost, high quality services. Website: [www.otayvet. com](http://www.otayvet.com), or please call 011-52-1664-204-8079.

PERSIAN CATS. White, long hair with gray tips, gorgeous, sweet. Mother and daughter, 4 years. Spayed. Must go together. \$60 both. Loving, indoor home. 760-230-1346.

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