SAN DIEGO WEEKLY
Reader
VOLUME 38 / NUMBER 49
DECEMBER 10, 2009

428 COUPONS INSIDE

Gompers takes a bow



I remember my first encounter with a student here. I was wearing a suit, and a student comes up to me at lunch with a crowbar in his hand.

Jerry Springer might have blushed – See Diary of a Diva

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December 10, 2009



Man Bites Dog — See page 115

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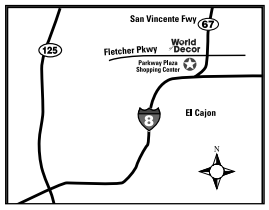

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General Ophthalmology

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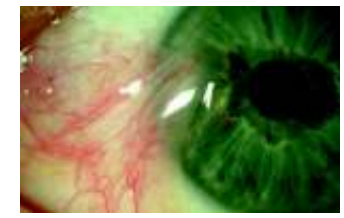
(¿Carnosidad?)



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UNDER THE RADAR

Booze, beasts, and juice Last week, Anheuser-Busch, the onetime icon of American beer that was snapped up a year ago by the Brazilian-Belgian international brewing combine InBev, finally unloaded its chain of theme parks — including San Diego's SeaWorld — to private equity buyer Blackstone Group. The deal was said to be valued at more than $2.5 billion.



In 1992, during its long reign of ownership, Anheuser-Busch successfully pushed special state legislation allowing it to sell hard liquor at the park — which sits on the edge of Mission Bay on land leased from the City of San Diego — expanding the beer-and-wine-only restriction the firm had previously been forced to follow and thereby increasing the rental value of the property to corporate event planners. At the time, Common Cause calculated that the brewer had made $480,000 in legislative campaign contributions over the previous five years, helping lubricate the bill's passage. The law was signed that July by then–GOP governor **Pete Wilson**, the former San Diego mayor and U.S. senator who reported owning more than $100,000 of Anheuser-Busch stock inherited by his wife **Gayle** before he put it into a blind trust upon taking office.

In the years since, Anheuser-Busch has continued to pump big money into state legislative and local campaigns. In October 2008, for instance, company vice president **Ann Cooper** gave **Jan Goldsmith**'s San Diego city attorney campaign $320. She had previously given **Marti Emerald**'s city council campaign $270. SeaWorld general manager **Andy Fichthorn** also gave Goldsmith $320 and kicked in $270 each to the failed council campaigns of **April Boling** and **Phil Thalheimer** and to the campaign of victor **Sherri Lightner**. On July 10 of this year, Anheuser-Busch contributed $2000 to help retire debt left over from Democrat **Marty Block**'s run for the assembly.



Marti Emerald

The company has also frequently employed gifts of SeaWorld tickets to curry favor among incumbent legislators, a trend that continued at least through the third quarter of this year, according to a lobbying report recently filed by the brewer. Recipients included **Edward Morley**, transportation consultant for the state Senate Republican Caucus's Office of Policy, who got $195 worth of tickets on July 21. Democratic assemblyman **Tony Mendoza** of Norwalk picked up admissions worth $370 on July 28. The same day **Eric Johnson**, consultant to the assembly's Committee on Governmental Organization, got tickets worth $305. **Kerstin Justus**, staffer for GOP assemblyman **Kevin Jeffries** of Murrieta, received $260 in tickets on August 16.

Farther afield, Anheuser-Busch treated **Don Wilcox**, chief of staff to Democratic senator **Gloria Negrete McLeod**, to a Red Sox game in Boston on August 12 with tickets worth $420 and gave **John Doherty**, chief of staff for assembly majority leader **Alberto Torrico** of San Jose, a round of golf and lunch at the Granite Bay Golf Club on August 12, worth $89.58.

None of the bills lobbied by Anheuser-Busch, which paid Sacramento contract lobbyist Sloat, Higgins, Jensen & Associates a total of $135,000 through the first nine months of the year, were SeaWorld related; they involved beer and recycling.

Steak and politics Hard times will soon shutter Rainwater's on Kettner Boulevard, the fabled red-meat eatery. Over the years, politicos of all stripes dined gratis at the bistro, thanks to well-heeled special interests. February 2004 was typical. GOP assemblyman **Mark Wyland** received a $67 dinner, thanks to the Barona Indian tribe. In March, the tribe hosted meals worth $51 each for then–Democratic assemblyman **Juan Vargas** and speaker **Fabian Núñez**, a local native. Arguably the establishment's most infamous repast occurred on December 1, 1998, when then–port commissioner **David Malcolm** sat down to dinner with ex–Democratic state senator **Steve Peace** and two executives of Duke Energy. Malcolm, who charged the $432 tab to the port, pled guilty in April 2003 to a felony conflict-of-interest charge arising from a private deal he cut with Duke. **Laurel Rainwater**, the establishment's operator, was not above chipping in to support the political careers of his favorite customers. In 1999, Rainwater gave $1000 to the congressional campaign of ex-Republican county supervisor **Brian Bilbray**. In 2002, he gave $250 to the unsuccessful Democratic Assembly bid of then–city councilman **George Stevens**, and he contributed $300 to **Jim Roache**'s GOP Assembly campaign. A year ago in September, Rainwater picked up a $134.15 tab for the city council campaign of **Marti Emerald**, reported as a "nonmonetary" contribution.



Mark Wyland

— Matt Potter

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

The Mayor and the Dirty-Money Guy

By Don Bauder

Did Mayor Jerry Sanders get his money out of a scandal-ridden private equity group whose chief executive has filed for Chapter 7 liquidation bankruptcy? It's an intriguing question.

For the past several years, Sanders has listed on his Statement of Economic Interests that he had $10,000 to $100,000 invested in Maxxum Equity Fund, run by insurance salesman Jeffry Wetzel out of his home in Poway.

Wetzel has skeletons aplenty in his closet. In 1994, federal court in southern Nevada found that he "violated and aided and abetted certain of the antifraud and books and records provisions of the federal securities laws," according to the Securities and Exchange Commission, which had filed suit against him. The court concluded that, while employed at two brokerage firms between 1987 and 1988, Wetzel sold penny stocks to investors without informing them that the shares had been manipulated, that he was receiving excessive commissions on their sales, and that they would be difficult to sell. In addition, the court found that Wetzel "arbitrarily completed an opening account form with information which he had not obtained from the customer," according to the agency.



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WOO

Jerry Sanders

As we related in a *Reader* story of May 29, 2008, Wetzel in 1998 was working as a broker for San Diego's Centex Securities, one of the most notorious bucket shops in the city's history. Several of the key officials of Centex went to prison or ran afoul of the Securities and Exchange Commission before the firm was closed down by the National Association of Securities Dealers in 2001.

While at Centex, Wetzel twice lost arbitration cases and was told to pay sizable sums for engaging in rapid-fire buying and selling of cheap, speculative stocks that were inappropriate for his elderly clients.

Wetzel told us in 2008 that Sanders's Centex account had been reassigned to him after another broker departed. The question has always remained: why did Sanders

continued on page 8

Kittles Got $3.15 Million in Cash for Rhoades School The Nobel Learning Communities of West Chester, Pennsylvania...

Brandes Gives Up on Newspapers The San Diego money manager that has come on hard times appears to have thrown in...

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

Neal Obermeyer



The Pall on the Mall

By Moss Gropen

Window-shopping at Helzberg Diamonds in Westfield's North County Shopping Mall, Grace, the manager of nearby John's Fifth Avenue Luggage, says, "I'd think twice before plunking down $10,000 on a ring in this economy." She enjoys perusing the wares at Helzberg, a 234-store nationwide chain headquartered in Kansas City, and notes that when she does, she's typically all alone, save for the sales clerks. However, when I ask the manager at Helzberg's Escondido outpost about sales, she says, "Things are just fine for us," but declines to elaborate. In the meantime, according to other mall tenants with whom I speak, jewelry stores, in particular, have been devastated by the recession.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAN DECKER

Darrel Ueno



Westfield UTC

Samer Halabi, manager of Takken's Shoes at Westfield North County, sounds a cheerful note, saying that his sales (Takken's focuses on "comfort shoes") have been on the upswing in recent months. As for his neighbors, things are considerably gloomier; he's seen the deserted floor, heard the silence at places like Zales and Daniel's. But at least they're still open; some of his fellow tenants, including Archie's, J.Jill, Lane Bryant, Oggi's, and Waldenbooks, have raised the white flag. So although county mall purveyors of luxury goods are hurting, it seems that store closings are, in a sense, democratic.

It would be overly simplistic, then, to characterize sales downturns among San Diego County mall retailers in a neat fashion; although big-ticket splurge items (including jewelry) are moving sluggishly these days, sellers of more pedestrian goods report declines in sales as well. According to many, this can be attributed not only to the slumping economy but also to the incursion of big-box stores — principally Target and Walmart. Several store managers with whom I speak say that, in contrast to mall shops, Walmart is "always packed" and that dollar stores — typically situated in strip malls — also seem to be doing well.

For additional perspective on the "Walmart effect," I speak with Darrel Ueno, owner of La Jolla Village Florist, which opened at University Towne Centre in 1977, one of the mall's original tenants. He says, "The big-box stores most definitely have a negative effect on the traditional retail florist." However, Westfield, which dominates the local mall scene, owning seven of the county's largest retail properties, sidesteps the issue. My inquiries are referred to Michele Predko, the regional marketing director who oversees Westfield's San Diego County malls. She states, "Our job as a landlord is to provide our customers with choice and convenience.… We strive to do that by providing choices that appeal to different customers." To be fair, however, some small, San Diego–based retailers continue to thrive — or at least keep the doors open — even as big-name chains continue to close stores around the country.

At Westfield UTC, Chuao Chocolatier, based in Carlsbad, is an example of a local retailer that is confident of weathering the fiscal storm by focusing on customer loyalty. I speak with Michael Antonorsi, the affable president — and chief chocolate crafter — of Chuao, which also operates stores at the Del Mar Highlands Town Center and at the Lumberyard in Encinitas. He tells me that sales at the confectioner's UTC location are down 14 percent from a year ago, due, he speculates, to a decrease in walk-by traffic in the mall. According to Antonorsi, the Del Mar store is down 10 percent — a figure he calls "the new flat." By contrast, business at the Encinitas Chuao has increased by at least that much during the past 12 months.

Out at Otay Ranch Town Center in Chula Vista, small retailers, such as Chyca's Boutique, a women's wear store, are also counting on a loyal cadre of locals to see them through hard times. Nonetheless, Selina, the store's co-owner, admits that they've been forced to close the store on Mondays — the slowest day of the week — to reduce costs. She says that business

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STRINGERS

Have a Seat

Park Benches — Yours for $5000

Mission Beach — **On November 30, Park and Recreation employee Jane Witzke informed me that its park-bench sponsorship program is "on moratorium" until a project manager can be found to administer it. When it reboots, you'll again be able to dedicate a park bench to a parent, child, or hamster.**

You may have noticed benches with square bronze plaques. How did they come to be? Money. For $5000, you can have a bench installed in the community park.

According to Witzke, "You would tell us what you would like to have on the plaque and then we would send it to the plaque manufacturer and they would send back a sample and you'd be able to review that again."

Oops! Have you noticed the bench in Mission Bay Park at Mariners Way and Gleason Road? The word "glorious" is missing an "o."



And what about the bench at Ocean Front Walk and San Fernando Place? No plaque, but it has "John's Bench" embossed in huge letters all the way across the back. Who is, or was, John? Until Park & Rec searches its files, that bench is mine.

By John Mann, 12/1

The Clerk Smirked

Eighty-Minute Wait at the DMV

El Cajon — **The Department of Motor Vehicles has been forced to close every second Friday of the month in order to help ease the state budget. This month, the DMV is closed for three Fridays and a fourth day on Christmas Day.**

On Wednesday, December 2, the DMV website listed the wait time at the El Cajon office at 33 minutes — 3 minutes if you had an appointment. Unfortunately, those estimations weren't true.



El Cajon DMV

At 3:00 p.m., the line to get into the El Cajon DMV stretched 100 yards outside the building and around the corner, and that was just the wait to get a number. Forty-five minutes later, I got my number and then waited another 35 minutes before my turn came up.

Shortly after 4:15 p.m., the private security officer patrolling the site started waving people off, despite an advertised 5 p.m. closing time. Inside, tempers were frayed. People complained about the wait. The staff of the DMV ignored them and, in some cases, made them sit down again to complete forms.

San Diego resident Maria Vega said, "I've been here three times this week and [was] unable to get in. How am I going to renew my license?"

Eighty minutes after arriving, my number was called. I handed over paperwork to change the title of a car.

"With the DMV closed

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Dirty money

continued from page 6

put his money in a certifiably slimy brokerage house that mainly dabbled in penny stocks? And just how did Sanders's money get from the Centex account into Wetzel's Maxxum Equity Fund? Sanders would not speak with us last year. This year, he didn't respond to a telephone message requesting comment.

Although Wetzel spoke with us in 2008, he clammed up this year and declined to comment. The attorney who filed his Chapter 7 bankruptcy case did not return calls.

Last year, James Meredith, 77, of San Marcos, who has lost $90,000 in Maxxum, sued Wetzel in superior court, charging breach of fiduciary duty and contract, negligent misrepresentation, making untrue statements of materials facts, fraud, and several other offenses.

Wetzel originally hired a defense lawyer. That didn't last because Wetzel didn't pay him, says Eric Benink, Meredith's first attorney. Wetzel "pleaded poverty from the get-go," says Benink. For a while, Wetzel tried to defend himself, but then he stopped showing up for hearings. "The judge got fed up and allowed us to take default," says Benink. Then, in September of this year, Wetzel and his wife Kimberly filed for Chapter 7 liquidation bankruptcy.

Meredith says that in the course of negotiations, Wetzel offered to hand over a one-acre lot in Palm Desert that was supposedly worth $60,000 in lieu of satisfying the debt. But Meredith checked out comparables, decided it was worth only $30,000, and rejected the offer. The land actually belonged to one of Wetzel's investors, according to Meredith. Wetzel "was really squirming," he says.

Meredith has hired a new attorney, Jonathan Beck of Vista. He has filed an objection to the Wetzels' bankruptcy wiping away the money owed Meredith. Beck also made fraud charges similar to the ones Benink made in his suit, which was stayed by the bankruptcy. Beck wants to subpoena Wetzel's bank "to see what went in and what went out. Was [Wetzel] writing checks to himself? I want to know if Sanders got my client's money," says Beck. If the mayor got his money within a certain period before the bankruptcy filing, it may be considered a "preferential transfer" and have to be returned to the court.

A North County professional woman, who doesn't want to be identified, had $135,000 in the pot. Upon reading our 2008 story, "I gagged," she says. She tried unsuccessfully to get her money out but was told she had to wait in line. She was aware that a Palm Springs friend, whom we couldn't reach for comment, was getting money back in increments (something Wetzel denied in 2008). Wetzel told her that he had added almost 100 percent of debt to each account. "He had leveraged them by crazy amounts," she says. At one point, Wetzel told her that her $135,000 was now worth $135, but he would not give her an explanation.

"He [Wetzel]...said my money was guaranteed, insured," she says. "I have been saying, 'Jeff, I have nothing; show me where the money went. All I have is your telling me I have nothing.' He provided no documentation." Wetzel was not promising outrageous profits, she says: "He told me I was making a steady 5 percent return, so I didn't think I was doing anything crazy." However, as we showed in 2008, Wetzel was reporting good returns during vicious bear market periods — just as Bernie Madoff was. The North County woman has not sued or filed as a creditor in the bankruptcy; she was not aware of it.

Wetzel sells insurance for United Healthcare and other firms. His wife is a client service associate at the Rancho Bernardo office of Wall Street's Morgan Stanley. Together, they gross more than $100,000 a year. After expenses, they bring home $7545 a month but spend $9142, thus falling into the hole $1597 each month, according to the filing. They have heavy debts with credit card companies and also owe a bundle on a student loan. Their Poway home is worth $844,500 and personal property is worth $25,400, but they have $1.1 million in liabilities, including $838,000 owed creditors with secured claims.

Benink is listed as a creditor for $90,000, representing Meredith. But there is no Jerry Sanders listed as a creditor. "I think he [Wetzel] may have paid off Sanders with my money," says Meredith. "He [Sanders] is an investor. How come he is not listed as a creditor in the bankruptcy?"

Says Benink, "I would be surprised [if Sanders got paid off], given Wetzel's posture of poverty. But certainly somebody may have been paid off when there supposedly is not a single penny left. Sanders may have gotten the money, but he also may have been too embarrassed to file [as a creditor]." In any case, Wetzel and his wife may find it difficult to wipe away the Chapter 7 filing because there are fraud charges in Meredith's suit, says Benink.

At one point, Meredith contacted an insurance company whose policies were being sold by Wetzel. Meredith was told that securities infractions

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Dirty money

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do not count against the record of an insurance salesperson. According to the California Department of Insurance, Wetzel got licenses, effective last year, to sell insurance for Pacificare Life Assurance, Pacificare Life and Health, United Healthcare, United of Omaha Life, United World Life Insurance, Connecticut General Life, American Equity General Life, and Mutual of Omaha. ■

Pall on the mall

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has declined 25 percent since the store opened in August 2008 but that things "appear to be picking up slightly" as of late. When I ask her about the effect of nearby megastores, she notes that the most significant impact isn't on specialty shops like hers but on general-merchandise retailers. And, she notes, many stores at her mall are having "incredible" sales, as well as cutting their hours of operation.

The consensus among store owners and managers is that the most precipitous sales slides at San Diego mall stores have occurred at two broadly defined types of retailers: big chains (those with hundreds of stores) that sell generic goods and local merchants that have been unable to build a loyal following and/or convince potential customers that their wares are necessities.

The former category includes places like Sam Goody, a huge chain of pop-music purveyors whose ranks have thinned drastically in the past year. When I ask the manager at the Goody outpost at Horton Plaza to weigh in, he says, "I'd love to talk, but corporate won't let me."

It isn't just the secretive, corporate big boys who won't comment on bad times, however; a number of small stores I contact are none too eager to discuss their travails. Typical of the latter is Whatever, a seller of low-end ghetto-style women's clothes at Grossmont Center in La Mesa. According to several store managers at Grossmont, Whatever is always empty and appears to be on the brink of going under. I hear similar observations recounted by mall insiders about a number of retailers in every mall.

An assistant manager we'll call Joe at a large anchor store in Horton Plaza, another Westfield property, cites San Diego Trading Company, a sports-apparel store, as just the sort of local retailer that suffers when discretionary income shrinks. According to Joe, who "cruises around" Horton Plaza during his breaks, San Diego Trading Company — which operates ten of what it terms "unique concept stores" in the county, including four kiosks in malls — looks like an abandoned outpost. He surmises that "there really isn't the market for Padres hats and SDSU jerseys these days. People are buying basics, not novelty items." (My attempts to contact Whatever and San Diego Trading Company, as well as several other troubled retailers, are rebuffed.)

A common theme that echoes through the mallscape is that undue reliance on walk-in traffic can exacerbate bad economic times; by contrast, retailers who use other conduits to attract and retain customers are better able to rebound. At La Jolla Village Florist — where most business is generated by a strong internet presence rather than the whims of passersby — there's a cautious sense of optimism. Although sales during January–July of this year declined by around 15 percent from the same time in 2008, Darrel Ueno reports that August–October sales in 2009 were actually 10 percent higher than those recorded for the same months last year.

When one attempts to uncover meaningful patterns — to decipher why some local mall retailers go under while others make it — the results are sometimes counterintuitive. To cite an example, one might think that travel-related stores would be hard-hit, yet John's Fifth Avenue Luggage, while down approximately 10 percent from a year ago, isn't in real trouble because "everyone still travels for business." In a similar vein, the manager of Horton Toy & Doll tells me that business at her Horton Plaza store, while dismal during the first quarter, has picked up in recent months, due to the proclivity of downtown conventioneers to pick up trinkets while on business in San Diego.

Even as some stores flounder and others fail, Westfield and its counterparts (including multimall owners General Growth Properties and Simon Malls) continue to report occupancy rates of around 95 percent in San Diego County malls. As to be expected, Westfield's Predko speaks in general terms, saying:

"Although everyone is feeling the pinch, this does not mean consumers will stop shopping or stop spending. They have adjusted their behavior, and ultimately it is the best shopping environments that will capture the greatest share of that adjusted consumer behavior. It is also worth noting that retailers constantly reinvent themselves (especially the successful ones) to meet the ever-changing consumer needs, demands, and circumstances."

However, the refusal to divulge sales figures — coupled with the sight of empty stores, curtailed business hours, and less foot traffic — leads one to the conclusion that neither occupancy rates nor upbeat pronouncements are the truest barometers of the retail climate.

Behemoth Westfield, even

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Pall on the mall

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as it attempts to shape and spin the messages broadcast by its tenants, tacitly admits that its local malls are suffering. It seems that Westfield, worried that additional stores will put up the proverbial shutters, is doing something once thought almost sacrilegious — offering its tenants flexible rent arrangements. According to Chuao's Antonorsi, Westfield now offers customized leases that feature deferred rent payments, thereby helping tenants to avoid cash-flow concerns inherent in standard monthly rental agreements. Antonorsi also praises Westfield for actively assisting its tenants by creating mall events designed to attract more shoppers. Still, he says, "Very few people in the mall will tell you, 'We're doing great.' There's a protective dialogue going on and a lot of speculation."

In the meantime, the $10,000 rings remain unworn and grow dusty. ■

STRINGERS

continued from page 7

every Friday, what's the volume during the week like?" I asked. The clerk said, "It's worse than it's ever been."

At the bottom of my title deed is a warning that failure to change ownership details results in a fine. "What happens if I can't get in to change the title because your office is closed?" I asked. The clerk smirked back at me. "Governor Arnold reduces the deficit when you pay the fine."

By Grant Madden, 12/4

Deadly Ramification

Truck Jumps off I-8

Mission Valley — **A pickup-truck driver died on Thursday morning, December 3.**

"While driving on I-8, I saw a truck racing with another car," said witness Jackson Foreman. "It hit a Dodge Ram and almost flew over the hill off the freeway landing on the street below. It barely missed another guy on a bicycle."

California Highway Patrol spokesman Brad Baehr confirmed that a driver lost control of his 1990 Toyota pickup truck for unknown reasons while speeding west on I-8 at about 7:30 a.m. The truck swerved and struck the front end of a 2004 Dodge Ram, which in turn crashed into a 1994 Jeep Grand Cherokee.

Meanwhile, the Toyota truck jumped off the north side of the freeway, went down an embankment, and smashed through a chain-link fence before overturning and coming to rest on its side in a commercial driveway on Camino del Rio North.

According to Baehr, the paramedics pronounced dead at the scene the driver of the pickup.

By Noel Gallego, 12/4

For the Shills

Scientology Protested on Fourth

Downtown San Diego — **Three masked members of Anonymous San Diego (*xenu.net*) demonstrated on December 5 outside the headquarters of the Scientology/Hubbard Dianetics Foundation on Fourth Avenue. The building is listed for sale.**

While it was a peaceful protest, one demonstrator said they've experienced "a few incidents over the last two years. There was a minor slapping incident a couple of months ago." He said the cops come regularly because Scientology officials call to complain. "I don't care about Tom Cruise's religion. It's not about belief. I don't think he's involved with any of the illegal aspects." But, he added, "Scientology has a shell of these public members. They are the shills."



Scientology protesters

By David Batterson, 12/6

Bongtroversial

Where to Allow Marijuana in O.B.

Ocean Beach — **The most heated topic at the December 2 Ocean Beach Planning Board meeting was presented by Dave Martin, member of the Medical Marijuana Task Force, an 11-member organization established by the San Diego City Council this past September 9.**

"There's a huge potential for criminal activity," said Martin. "We're not going to be able to eliminate it with these programs. I've visited some of these dispensaries, and many seem legitimate but others do not. The problem we are facing is that there is no workable model...there are no guidelines. The loophole is wide open. There was a ban on licenses, yet every dispensary operated without one."

One of the recommendations states that no dispensary be allowed within 1000 feet of a school or playground. Some of the boardmembers suggested including fire stations, lifeguard towers, and churches. Much time was spent by the boardmembers conceptualizing which areas of Ocean Beach would allow for dispensaries with such a 1000-foot restriction.

In Ocean Beach alone, there are currently seven to eight unlicensed dispensaries operating in both commercial and residential zoning areas.

By Carolyn Grace Matteo, 12/3

No Hope for Hookahs

Not in Escondido

Escondido — **On December 2, the city council declined to initiate a downtown zoning amendment that would allow hookah lounges to operate in the city. Within the past two months, the City has received four to five requests to establish hookah businesses.**

Councilmembers Olga Diaz, Dick Daniels, and Marie Waldron cited the health risks, the burden on Escondido police to check for compliance, and the lack of demand as major reasons for their opposition.

Councilman Sam Abed supported hookah lounges but only in upscale restaurants. "Government should not be in business to regulate people's behavior," he said. He did, however, acknowledge the necessity for government to step in where health and safety issues were concerns.

By Mindy Vansant, 12/3

On Alert

Eleven Blocks in La Mesa

La Mesa — **Residents of the southwest and southeast sections of La Mesa have been put on alert regarding burglaries that have occurred in at least 11 residential blocks since November 17.**

Authorities released the description of two suspects believed to be involved in an incident on the 4500 block of Fourth Street. Both men are believed to be white males.

It is unknown if police believe all the robberies to be related. However, police say almost all of the robberies were committed during daytime hours on weekdays and the point of entry was a side window, a garage door, or a shed door. Police disclosed that electronics, computers, jewelry, and a bike or motorcycle were stolen from most of the residences.

A December 1 announcement from the La Mesa Police Department stated that the following blocks had been affected by recent burglary activity: Southwest: 4200 block of 70th St., 4200 block of Eastridge, 4600 block of Katherine, 4000 block of Marian, 7500 block of Ohio, 4700 block of Zelda, 3800 block of Massachusetts. Southeast: 4200 block of Palm, 4500 block of Fourth, 8600 block of

continued on page 128

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Make Art, Not Clowns

Dress up like a clown, go to a football game, and, voilà, you're on the cover of the *Reader* ("Nuts and Bolts," Cover Story, December 3). If you're an artist, forget about it. Life is not fair. GO CHARGERS!

Dan Adams
via email

Wig Out

I just read the review by Jeff Smith of *Bonnie and Clyde* at the La Jolla Playhouse (Theater Review, December 3). Well written and very astute; however, at the end of the review he lists the designers. Well, most of the designers, that is. For some reason he omitted my name. I am the wig and hair designer for that show. The wigs and hair are a very important part of the production, helping to establish the feeling of the period. I think if he lists the designers, we should all be listed or none.

Carol Doran
via email

They Pay And Play, We Suffer

Re "Play the Sneaky Development Game" ("City Lights," December 3). The *Reader* once again has provided a valuable service to the public by detailing how "pay for play" politics has driven the ill-conceived Merriam Mountains project, which would result in the development of 2700 homes north of Escondido in an area that is clearly a fire trap, endangering its residents, causing construction hassles for at least 15 years, adding an estimated 35,000 more cars to the already clogged I-15 freeway every day, and also causing megatraffic problems on local roads. And with water already in short supply, where do the developers expect to get the water to serve their new residents?

Does the San Diego County Board of Supervisors represent the public interest or the special interest of the Stonegate developers?

We shall soon find out and should keep this in mind when election time comes around.

Elliot Becker
via email

Reasonable Afterlife

Every week, I read cover to cover. Every week, in "Sheep and Goats," the same question is posed at the end of the interview: "What happens when we die?" What happened to the question this time (November 19)? Regardless of God versus no God, the question is valid. We should hear what the San Diego Coalition of Reason believes about the event of dying.

Bob Ordway
via email

A Gift For Jorge

I was reading your article on Mexico and the story of Jorge ("México," Cover Story, November 12). He is a hard-working man, and my hat goes off to him.

I would like to do something for him. I have a really nice wheelchair that is just sitting around my garage. Is there any way that you could get that to him?

Theresa Finelli

MOE Better Discounts

Here is my suggestion for "East Village Lowdown" ("City Lights," November 12), by Nathaniel Uy.

Start the "MOE Loves You" campaign. "MOE" stands for Merchants of East Village.

If people have a ticket from a concert, sports event (college or professional), play, movie, or park (SeaWorld, zoo, or Wild Animal Park) with that day's date on it, they would get a 10 percent discount on their bill.

For example, on November 11, 2009, anyone with a ticket from a concert, movie, etc., dated November 11, 2009, would receive a 10 percent discount on their bill on November 11, 2009, only.

This type of discount could be year-round. It is an effort to increase foot traffic in the East Village area for 365 days a year instead of just 82 days during baseball season.

I have experienced this type of discount at a restaurant near the Shark Tank in San Jose. In order to get the

continued on page 70













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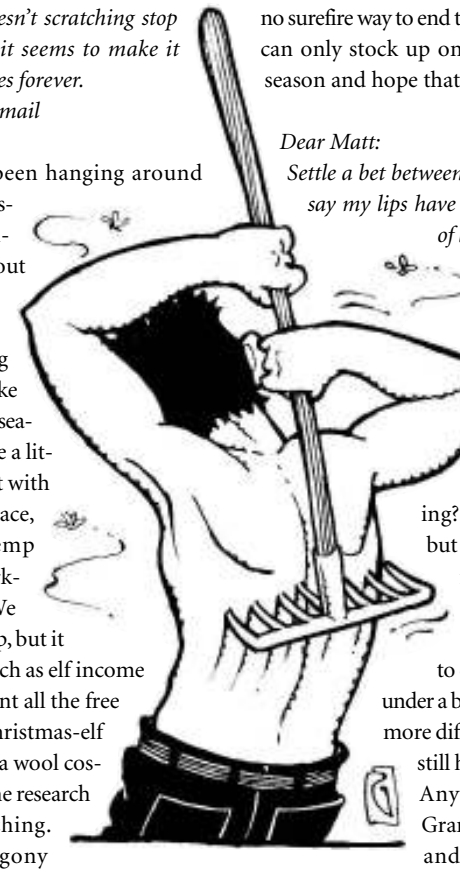
STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

ILLUSTRATION BY RICK GEARY

Matt:
Why do bug bites itch? And if our reflex is to scratch it, why doesn't scratching stop itching? Sometimes it seems to make it worse and it just itches forever.
— Bitten Barb, via email



This question has been hanging around since San Diego's mosquito months, obviously. We forgot about it until recently, when the elves started wiggling and hopping around, scratching like crazy. See, this is high season for them to make a little extra dough, what with Santas all over the place, opening great temp opportunities as workshop sidekicks. We haven't added it all up, but it might even beat March as elf income time, unless you count all the free green beer. Every Christmas-elf gig seems to require a wool costume, which drives the research elves crazy with itching. Anyway, the elf agony reminded me to pull the itchy and scratchy question out of the pile.

Uncomfortable Barb starts out with bites, not wool. So let's deal with that first. When you are bitten by a bug, it will inject chemicals into the site that keep our blood from clotting and messing up their meal. These chemicals are the first itch triggers. When our bodies detect the stuff, they send their own chemical to fight it: histamines. This is good news and bad news. Histamines bring blood to the area to help fight the invaders. But they also cause the bite area to become red, swollen, and hot. Swelling presses on our itch-dedicated nerve endings, and our brains tell us to scratch. Unfortunately, scratching an itch only makes things worse, alerting more histamines to swim in, causing even more itching. All in all, not a very good plan.

It will take some sort of medicine to end the itch-scratch cycle. Maybe an antihistamine pill, maybe a steroid skin cream. Or maybe try this: dig a fingernail hard into the bite spot. This will often stop the itching without bringing in more histamine.

But what about the elf-type itching? Santa's-workshop-wool-suit-type itching compared to the mosquito-bite itch. That's a whole different kettle of candy canes. When the wool rubs back and forth on sensitive elf skin, it stimulates a different set of nerve endings even though our brains send back the same message it sends for mosquito bites: scratch. There's no surefire way to end the elves' agony. Grandma can only stock up on backscratchers for the season and hope that helps.

Dear Matt:
Settle a bet between me and my boyfriend. I say my lips have gotten pale from the use of lipstick over the years. He says my lips are pale because I have fair skin, that it's all about pigmentation.
— Colleen, via email

Your lips are disappearing? You used to have lips, but now they're leaving your face? Not knowing quite where to start with this one, the elves decided to examine Grandma Alice under a bright light, which is much more difficult than it sounds. She still has plenty of fight in her. Anyway, once we got Grandma's head positioned and wiped off the Revlon "Fire Engine Red," we were shocked to discover that she's losing her lips too! Other features appeared intact, but there was clear evidence of once-full, luscious, pouty peroral protuberances now barely distinguishable from her nose or chin! Grandma retreated to her room in her usual state of boo-hooness, and we had to fix our own dinner that night. But we were too stunned to eat.

I won't even ask how you decided lipstick could suck color from your skin. Boyfriend is a bit closer to the mark, but still no bull's-eye. Lips consist of a very, very thin, translucent layer of skin covering mucous membrane, nerve endings, and blood vessels, with our mouth muscles sandwiched inside. Depending on the darkness of your skin, there is more or less melanin pigmentation in our lips. In the case of most "white" or fair-skinned people, there's virtually no melanin, and lip color comes from the visible blood vessels. So if we understand your situation clearly — if you once definitely had lips but are now approaching liplessness — you're only suffering from a common symptom of aging: reduced blood flow in the mouthal area. You can also expect a loss of collagen and muscle tone in this lipal region, which will make them wrinkly and narrow, and they'll sort of retreat back into your mouth. Glad we could be of service.

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

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

SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

What a Crash



Incredibly, Tiger Woods may not have enough money to buy his way out of this. Or, to put it another way, how many degrees of fucked can one man be and still find somebody to cash a personal check?

British tabloids, the authority in these matters, scored Woods with nine mistresses Sunday night. On Monday morning, the Americans countered with ten. That was bid up the following day with news that his after-car-wreck hospital paperwork contained the notation "OD."

Woods can go on *Oprah*, admit to sex addiction, drug addiction, throw in alcoholism, abusive parents, lonely at the top, cry, grovel, ask for forgiveness, then check into the Betty Ford Center, pour a stiff drink, and get ready to play golf in January.

That's the normal choreography, but I'm not sure it will work this time. Tiger is probably constitutionally unable to rip out his guts in public, plus he has the added silence incentive of having a lot more stuff to hide. If he makes a full-on honest confession, even three-legged dogs will run from the sound of his name.

He has his golf game, for now, so he doesn't have to humiliate himself on national TV in order to pay rent. On the other hand, his mistress count is too high for him to get off with a "I let down my family, now leave me alone" plea deal. One thing we know, staying where he is will not be possible. The following was published in the *Daily Mirror*, a Brit tabloid, and will seem impossibly innocent by Sunday night:

"Woods is a sexual predator who goes hunting for women on booze-fuelled benders in Sin City Las Vegas, according to showbiz insiders." And, "Sources say the 'sex-addict' golfer likes to sit at VIP tables ogling girls dancing knickerless above him while quaffing $300 bottles of champagne. Just last month he got so drunk friends had to carry him out of one of the city's top clubs."

One more week of this and Tiger will pine for the days when he only had to pay off one wife and ten women. I'm not going to go into Tiger details here because I just finished breakfast, the story has turned pathetic, and now, with news of Ambien and Vicodin, looks to become tragic.

Young, handsome, rich, famous, beloved, earns a billion dollars, and the best he can do is a porn actress, San Diego cocktail waitress, Vegas night-club marketing manager, Vegas cocktail waitress, Orlando waitress, New York City society parasite, New York nightclub promoter, and so on. That's sad.

Regard another superstar athlete and how he handled scandal. Granted, his were of a smaller scale (everything is smaller scale compared to Tiger), but some of his scandals were criminal offenses, which gives him scandal bonus points. Introducing Charles Barkley.

You know Barkley — he played 16 seasons in the NBA, league MVP, 11-time NBA All-Star, owns two Olympic gold medals, NBA Hall of Fame inductee, analyst for TNT — a real-deal celebrity. Here's a portion of his rap sheet:

December 1991. Barkley is arrested in Milwaukee on a battery charge. He'd gotten into an after-hours fight with a 25-year-old male, broke his nose, bloodied his face (jury found him not guilty).

October 1997. Barkley is arrested for throwing a man through an Orlando bar's plate-glass window. The man had thrown a glass of ice at him. Barkley told the judge he regretted they were not on a higher floor.

May 2008. Wynn Las Vegas files a civil complaint stating Barkley owes them $400,000. Barkley says, "It's my fault. I let the time lapse. I screwed up."

December, 2008. Barkley is pulled over for running a stop sign in Scottsdale, Arizona. Barkley told the cops he was in a hurry to get a blowjob from the woman (not his wife) in the passenger seat. He was arrested for DUI, sentenced to ten days in jail, served three.

Now come a few Barkley quotes. This is what being honest sounds like: "Anytime a fan touches you, you have the right to beat the hell out of him."

"I can be bought. If they paid me enough, I'd work for the Klan."

"These are my new shoes. They're good shoes. They won't make you rich like me, they won't make you rebound like me, they definitely won't make you handsome like me. They'll only make you have shoes like me. That's it."

Magic Johnson was one of the first athlete-celebrities to announce he had AIDS. Barkley said, "I'm disappointed in myself that I haven't felt the same compassion for other people stricken with AIDS that I now feel for Magic."

Tiger can use some compassion as his world caves in.

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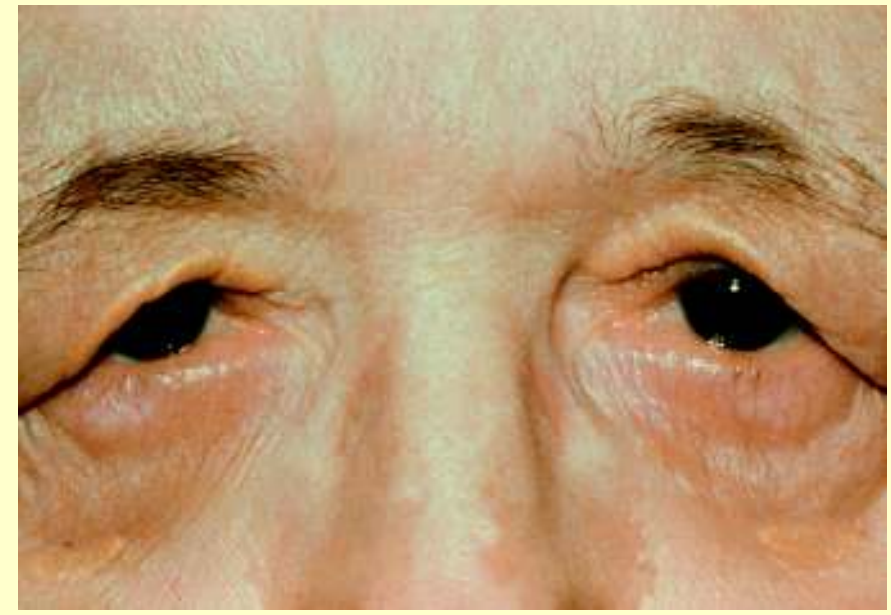

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Get Outta My Segway, Mayor

By Dorian Hargrove, Published Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009



At the December 1 Coronado City Council meeting, members rolled out some new regulations regarding the rental requirements of Segways. While all councilmembers agreed that regulations were needed and that the devices should be kept off of the sidewalks on the city's main strip, Orange Avenue, Mayor Casey Tanaka wanted to revise the age requirement to rent the devices, proposing that renters should be at least 18 years old instead of the staff-recommended age of 16.

"I still strongly prefer 18," said Tanaka during council discussion. "People who are 16 and 17 are just as likely to be zooming through the town. It's because they are not accompanied that they are emboldened to do things that get the police calls."

After Tanaka's statement, councilwoman Carrie Downey asked why issuing 16-year-olds driver's licenses is acceptable but allowing them to rent a Segway is not.

"There is a lot more regulation that goes into driving a car than riding a Segway," answered Tanaka.

First-term councilmember Michael Woiwode disagreed with Tanaka's suggestions of age and weight restrictions. "What are we going to do, ask the police to stop people who look like they are 90 pounds and weigh them?" Asked Woiwode. "We're talking about something that's not going to be enforced...then why bother with it? The real enforcement is going to come from the people who rent the equipment. It's us trying to micromanage something that is not City business."

Woiwode made a motion to amend the ordinance by prohibiting minors under the age of 16 from renting Segways without adult supervision and striking the weight requirement from the ordinance. That motion passed unanimously, despite Mayor Tanaka's objections.

The *Reader* has over 100 neighborhood and campus pages on its website — North Park, Pacific Beach, downtown San Diego, Encinitas, La Mesa, Chula Vista, Escondido, Scripps Ranch, UCSD, Oceanside…

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the red zone

By Anthony Gentile



Cathedral Catholic head coach Sean Doyle gets the ice bath following the Dons' semifinal win

Game of the Week: St. Augustine at Cathedral Catholic

Posted December 5, 2009

Against their biggest rival, and with Qualcomm Stadium in their sights Friday night, Cathedral Catholic delivered their most complete performance of the season. The result was a dominant 42-3 win over St. Augustine and a third consecutive trip to the Division III finals.

"Our kids are hungry," said Cathedral Catholic head coach Sean Doyle. "They wanted to get back, and they played a great game."

The Dons defense set the tone on the opening drive of the game when defensive back Eric Sapp picked off Evan Crower and returned the ball 14 yards for a score. Less than a minute later, teammate Brien Moynihan intercepted a pass and returned it 40 yards for a touchdown.

"We like to fly to the ball, and when we get a turnover we take it to the house," said Cathedral Catholic linebacker Jordan Lance. "It was nice to see the 14 points set up pretty easy for us."

When Cathedral Catholic's offense took the field for the first time after a Saints punt, they already had a 14-0 lead to work with. The Dons offense added to that lead with a 19-play drive capped off by a Jonny Martin five-yard touchdown run early in the second quarter.

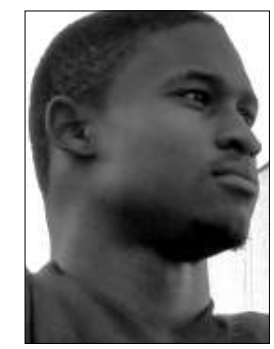
"When you're up 14-0 and your offense hasn't stepped on the field, it fires you up," Doyle said.

St. Augustine (9-4) got on the board midway through the second quarter with a Paul Hundley field goal. But with 1:17 left in the half, Martin punched it in from one yard out and the Dons had a more-than-decisive 28-3 lead at halftime.

"We were all fired up from the beginning," Sapp said. "Right from the get-go we knew we were going to play this type of game — we knew it was going to be a blowout."

In the second half, Cathedral Catholic quarterback Max Brewer connected twice for touchdowns with receiver Chance Early and the Dons defense pitched a shutout.

With their fourth straight win over St. Augustine, top-seed Cathedral Catholic (11-1) advances to their Division III title game next Friday at Qualcomm Stadium. The Dons face third-seed Point Loma (9-3) in a rematch of the 2007 Division III championship.



Scripps Ranch running back Brennan Clay will play football at Oklahoma next year

Semifinals Scoreboard

Posted December 4, 2009

Division I

(4) Vista 47 at (1) La Costa Canyon 7

at (2) Eastlake 35, (3) Escondido 14

Division II

at (1) Oceanside 28, (4) Mission Hills 7

(7) Helix 17 at (6) Scripps Ranch 6

Division III

at (1) Cathedral Catholic 42, (5) St. Augustine 3

(3) Point Loma 30 vs (7) Steele Canyon 26 (at Mt. Carmel High)

Division IV

(1) Mission Bay 58 vs (4) Santa Fe Christian 42 (at San Diego High)

at (2) Valley Center 16, (3) Madison 6

Division V

at (1) Francis Parker 42, (4) La Jolla Country Day 14

(3) Bishop's 28 vs (2) Christian 27 (at Granite Hills High)

The Red Zone can be found at *SDReader.com/football*

Campaign Trail

Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon struggle to outdo one another in stoical underplaying.



Invictus

MOVIE REVIEW
DUNCAN SHEPHERD

Here they come, "for your consideration," clear through Christmas, elbowing each other to the finish line. So consider in haste.

Invictus takes its title from the Henley poem of the same name: "my unconquerable soul... bloody, but unbowed... master of my fate" — that one. This is doubtless not the sort of project that fans of director Clint Eastwood want from him, a Big Statement, no matter how characteristically understated. (He really does appear to covet Oscars, as many as he can grab.) Marrying elements of the Great Man biography and the inspirational true sports story, it tells of Nelson Mandela's first years as the first black president of South Africa — timely parallel to somebody closer to home — and his outwardly frivolous, inwardly farsighted interest in his country's hosting of the Rugby World Cup, 1995, as an opportunity to unify a divided populace. An anti-revenge film, a reconciliation film, it could have been titled *Forgiven* to round out the course of contrition Eastwood undertook way back with *Unforgiven*.

The opening shot economically fills in the background: a track and pan from the lush green field trod by white rugby players to the untended dirt field for black soccer kids across the road, and the motorcade that cuts between them carrying Mandela upon his release from prison. As Mandela himself will later say of a different shot on the TV news: "That picture is worth any number of speeches." Alas, after a narrated assemblage of archive footage and staged re-enactments to bring us up to speed on current affairs, any number of speeches along with any number of polished one-liners will be strewn throughout, mostly to illustrate the sagacity and saintliness of Mandela, more affectionately called "Madiba." These will not get in the way, however, of the director's serene craftsmanship, the slanted compositions solidly hinged together and unfolded at a steady and imperturbable pace, stretching out customarily to a wieldy and evenly balanced two and a quarter hours. The visit of the rugby team (all white but one) to the prison where Mandela spent twenty-seven years — and where his afterimage still haunts the burdened team captain, thoughtfully measuring the width of the cell with his own wingspan — stands as a butte among the rolling hills of the dramatic line. Morgan Freeman as Mandela (put a batik shirt on his back and a smile on his face and it's amazing how well he can pass) and Matt Damon as the rugby captain, François Pienaar, struggle to outdo one another in stoical underplaying, and neither struggles noticeably with the accent. Eastwood, meantime, has his own struggle in making an unfamiliar sport comprehensible ("So, it



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In Theatres December 18th

is very important that we beat Australia"), and although he fails at that on the field of play, he succeeds stirringly in the stands and on the streets and in front of the nation's televisions.

Brothers, Jim Sheridan's Hollywood do-over of Susanne Bier's Danish original, is a wartime soap opera served up as kitchen-sink realism, photographed by Frederick Elmes with a clear and cold albeit clichéd eye for Middle American mundanity. The Good Brother (Tobey Maguire) is off to war in Afghanistan, currently the Good War, a week after the Bad Brother (Jake Gyllenhaal) is out of prison. Then, in a contrivance every long-running daytime drama will have at some point resorted to, namely the Presumed Dead scenario, the good one is erroneously reported KIA, and in his absence the bad one, showing signs of getting better, moves in to provide aid and comfort to his sister-in-law (Natalie Portman) and two nieces. A reserved Maguire, saving up the vein-popping hysterics for the final reel, looks alarmingly pale and frail on his rescue from captivity and his return home, but the slobbery empathy for the maladjusted veteran sets a near impossible standard, as if to imply you mightn't come in for empathy unless you'd been forced to beat one of your buddies to death with a lead pipe. (Just to tighten the screws, the widow and rug rat of the bludgeoned comrade will turn up one day in your living room.) The film's most interesting material, the two young daughters' shifted affection from their zombified father to their barrel-of-fun uncle, demonstrates that interest can be generated without heat and hoo-hah.

Me and Orson Welles fictionalizes, mythologizes, the Mercury Theatre's mounting of a modern-dress *Julius Caesar* in 1937, the titular "me" being a stagestruck high-schooler who in one week lands a small speaking and singing part in the Broadway production, falls head over heels for the company secretary, sees her stolen out from under him by the titular Orson, gets fired and rehired and refired, falls back on a nicer girl for a happy ending, and at least has something to tell his grandchildren. As a coming-of-age tale, it isn't much, but as an exhibition of old-fashioned studio filmmaking, luxurious sets and costumes lusciously photographed, it is more than adequate. It in any event is more than we could have expected from Richard Linklater (*Slacker, Before Sunrise, School of Rock*, etc.), whose only other period piece is the negligible *Newton Boys*, and who did not stand strict guard against all anachronisms: a sexist attitude in the 1930s would not have been called "demeaning," nor of course would it have been called sexist.

In eye and in mouth, in glance and in cadence, the unknown British actor Christian McKay magically conjures the Welles we know, although given his age it would be the Welles of, say, *The Third Man* or *Othello*. (Other Mercury players we know, Joseph Cotten, George Coulouris, Norman Lloyd, are not rendered with such fidelity, or indeed any fidelity, outside of perhaps the choppy waves on Cotten's head.) It ought to give us serious pause when we calculate to ourselves that the actor who fills the role of the teenager, Zac Efron, is in real life the same age as Welles would have been in 1937, and in that pause we can reflect that we are getting the Welles of myth and legend instead of the Welles of a particular time and place: allusions to *The Magnificent Ambersons* and *Chimes at Midnight* knowingly open the gateway to the near and distant future. With *Citizen Kane* only four years away, the ham in him (he's always "on," never "off") seems already reasonable to affirm, and the proportions of genius to pretender would be subject to dispute at every phase of his career, but the bully, the tyrant, is nowhere tempered by any sense of callow bluff or self-doubt. He comes across, if through age alone, as a hardened bully and tyrant. The performance, from start to finish, remains more impression than characterization.

Up in the Air marks a comedown from Jason Reitman's auspicious first two features, *Thank You for Smoking* and *Juno*, narrowly centered as it is on a narrowly self-centered hero, a travelling corporate downsizer, a hired hatchet man, now a potential dinosaur whose way of life is threatened — by long-distance terminations via the innovation of video conferencing — before he can reach his lone life's goal of becoming just the seventh man in history, and the youngest ever, to log ten million air miles and to reap the benefits that come with that milestone. The smirky smugness of a backsliding George Clooney, back at least as far as Danny Ocean if not all the way to Dr. Ross on *ER*, makes him an unlikely candidate to be handing out pink slips, unless as a grotesque expressionistic subjective projection of the pink-slip recipients. The recipients themselves, while widely varied in type, many of them having been downsized in real life, are for the most part penned up in bum's-rush montages. And the movie overall seems to share rather too much of the protagonist's glibness and frigidity. Waiting for a crack to appear in his façade is a sufficiently conventional plot hook, and patching up the crack afterwards is an insufficiently unconventional ending. ■

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.

Armored — "There's no bad guys, only good guys": an inside job among armored-car guards, thoroughly and lethally botched. Compact caper film, all business, worked out with an overabundance of closeups and occasional cracks in credibility. With Columbus Short, Matt Dillon, Laurence Fishburne, Jean Reno, Skeet Ulrich, and Fred Ward; directed by Nimrod Antal. 2009.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

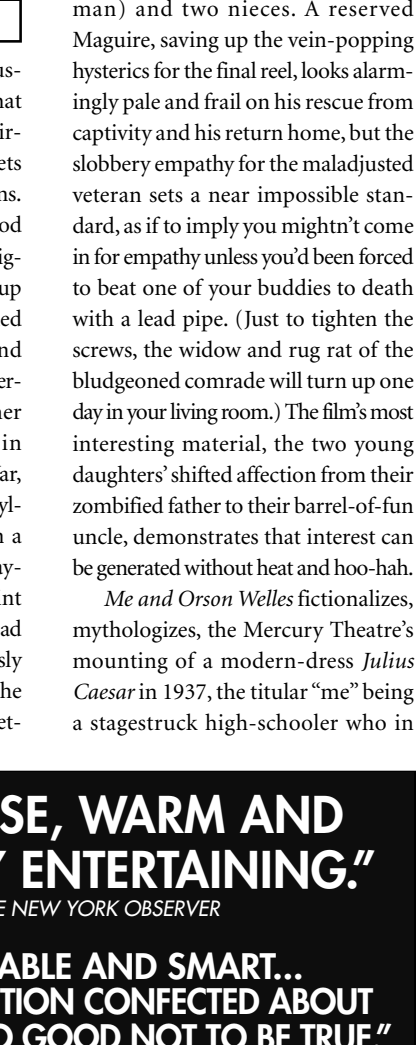
Bad Lieutenant, Port of Call: New Orleans — Nearly but not quite a remake of Abel Ferrara's *Bad Lieutenant* of 1992, at the very least a relocation of it from the Big Apple to the Big Easy, perhaps simply a variation on a theme — all the same kinds of badness, drugs, gambling, prostitutes, a blind eye to crime under his nose — but hardly a viable franchise, a continuing series, even assuming there's no shortage of bad lieutenants around the country. (*Bad Lieu-*

"WITTY, WISE, WARM AND UNFAILINGLY ENTERTAINING."
–Rex Reed, *THE NEW YORK OBSERVER*

"NIMBLE, LIKABLE AND SMART... THIS MOVIE, A FICTION CONFECTED ABOUT REAL PEOPLE, IS TOO GOOD NOT TO BE TRUE."
–A.O. Scott, *THE NEW YORK TIMES*

"ONE OF THE MOST HEARTFELT MOVIES EVER MADE ABOUT A LIFE IN THE THEATER."
–Peter Rainer, *THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR*

"A FILM WITH WINNING PERFORMANCES. IT'S A BLAST!"
–Patrick Goldstein, *LOS ANGELES TIMES*



Claire Danes Zac Efron Christian McKay

Me and Orson Welles

From the Director of 'School of Rock' and 'Before Sunset'.

BROADCAST FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION CRITICS' CHOICE

CINEMANX AND ISLE OF MAN FILM IN ASSOCIATION WITH FRAMESTORE FEATURES AND HART/LUNSFORD PICTURES PRESENT A CINEMANX AND DETOUR FILMPRODUCTION A RICHARD LINKLATER FILM BEN CHAPLIN CLAIRE DANES ZAC EFRON ZOE KAZAN EDDIE MARSAN CHRISTIAN MCKAY KELLY REILLY JAMES TUPPER ME & ORSON WELLES VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR ROB DUNCAN MUSIC SUPERVISOR MARC MAROT COSTUME DESIGNER MIC EDE HAIR & MAKE-UP DESIGNER FAE HAMMOND CASTING LUCY BEVAN EDITOR SANDRA ADAIR ACE PRODUCTION DESIGNER LAURENCE DORMAN DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DICK POPE BSC LINE PRODUCER RICHARD HEWITT ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS JESSICA PARKER SARA GREENE CO-PRODUCERS HOLLY GENT PALMO VINCE PALMO ANDREW FINGRET EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS STEVE CHRISTIAN JOHN SLOSS STEVE NORRIS ED HART BRUCE LUNSFORD SCREENPLAY BY HOLLY GENT PALMO VINCE PALMO BASED ON THE NOVEL BY ROBERT KAPLOW PRODUCED BY RICHARD LINKLATER ANN CARLI MARC SAMUELSON DIRECTED BY RICHARD LINKLATER
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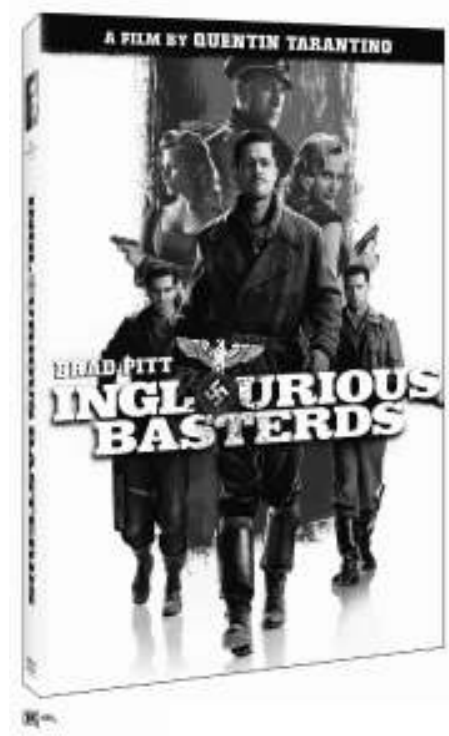

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tenant, Port of Call: Duluth.) If the film doesn't match the hellish hyperbole of its namesake, that's not at all a bad thing, a kind of badness that we don't want matched. And yet, not so good if not all the way to downright bad, the German director Werner Herzog now seems more fully assimilated into Hollywood than in his previous commercial venture, *Rescue Dawn*, more fully erased as a nutball personality, despite some genuinely odd reptile footage: a twitching road-killed alligator and an interested alligator onlooker into whose skin or eyeball the camera earnestly tries to crawl, and later, equally close-up, a couple of hallucinatory iguanas. Not remotely competent as a well-knit *policier*, and with a final stretch that feels like an extended dream scene from which we keep expecting to wake up, the film holds our interest, scene by scene, through its vivid characters acted with an edge. Nicolas Cage, who more than once goes over the top in his psychosis, at all times does painfully well at miming the symptoms of a bad back (tilted shoulders, bent body, a forward lean as if withstanding a gale-force tailwind), the best kind of badness in the film. Eva Mendes, Val Kilmer, Brad Dourif, Fairuza Balk, Xzibit. 2009.
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Brothers — Reviewed this issue. With Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman, Tobey Maguire, and Sam Shepard; directed by Jim Sheridan.
★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; 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)

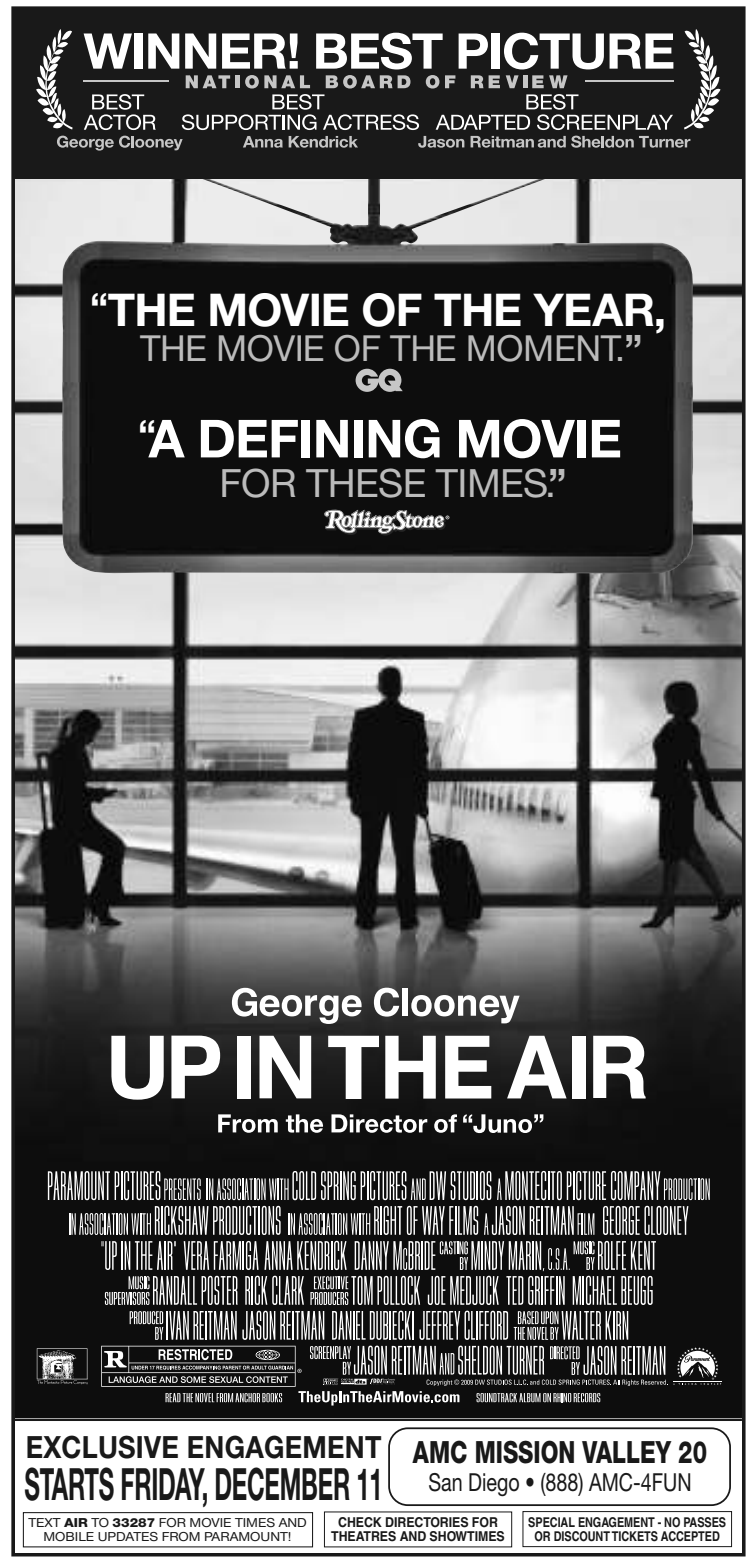
A Christmas Carol — Disney's re-do is probably better the fewer times you've read, seen, or heard the story. With or without 3-D, this is nevertheless a lavishly, lovingly, and imaginatively illustrated edition of the Dickens holiday classic, in a graphic style congenial to a Victorian ghost story, and in a motion-capture computer-animation technique which director Robert Zemeckis has made his personal domain (*The Polar Express, Beowulf*, 2-D and 3-D respectively). There are amusingly recognizable caricatures, to go along with the voices, of Gary Oldman, Colin Firth, and Bob Hoskins, while Jim Carrey is sufficiently disguised by a pickax nose and scratch-awl chin, and by an acceptable British accent, so as to be no distraction. The guttering candle-flame head of the Ghost of Christmas Past is a marvelous effect, soon topped by the dissolving transparent floor in the airborne house piloted by the Ghost of Christmas Present. The Grim Reaper shadow of the Ghost of Christmas Future is not bad, but his section gives way to the grandiose spectacle of a chase by horse-drawn hearse, to say nothing of the spectacle of an Incredible Shrinking Scrooge, that rather tramples the gloom of the forecast. We don't want excitement there; we want despair. In the end, all the emphasis on the technology of the telling tends to outbalance the sentiment, such that there remains a bit of a chill even after Scrooge warms up. 2009.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Collapse — Chris Smith's interview documentary on Michael Ruppert, present-day prophet of doom.
(KEN, 12/11 THROUGH 17)



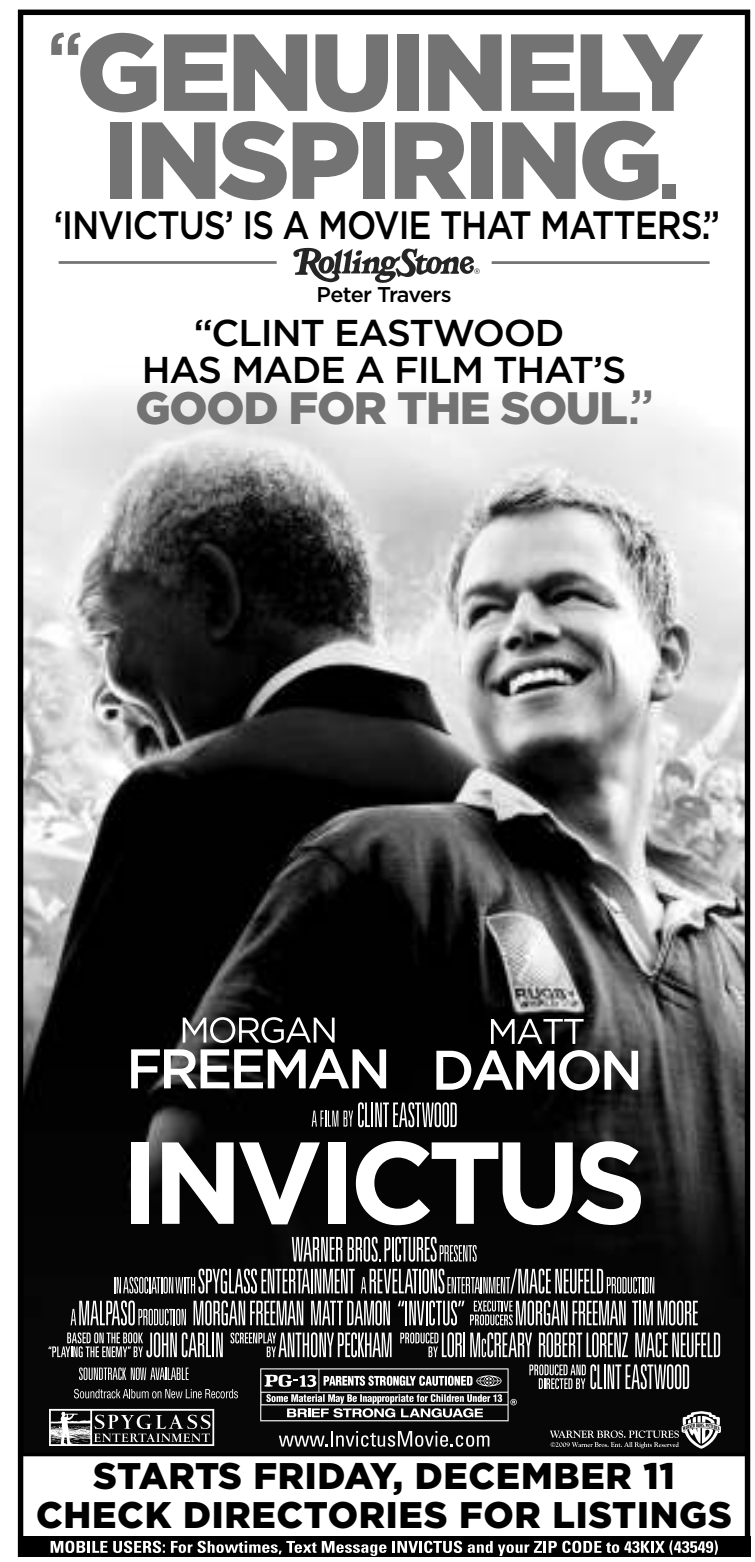
Armored

Couples Retreat — New Age relationship counseling in a tropical paradise, a stale, routinized, loveless marital comedy. With Vince Vaughn, Jon Favreau, Jason Bateman, Malin Akerman, Kristin Davis, Kristen Bell, Faizon Love, Kali Hawk, and Jean Reno; directed by Peter Billingsley. 2009.
● (HORTON PLAZA 14)



An Education — A precocious English schoolgirl of 1961 (a cellist, a Francophile, a devotee of the Pre-Raphaelites, a sneaky smoker for sophistication), on track for Oxford, gets rerouted by a shady older man who shows her the finer things of life: a Ravel concert, a Christie's auction, nightclubs, Paris. The foreseeable end is a bit of a slog, but the film in the early stages is very good on the pretensions of intelligent youth, and very good on the heady intoxication of growing up fast. Peter Sarsgaard's British accent is hit-and-miss; and the prim schoolmarm of Olivia Williams, a beauty disguised in eyeglasses and pulled-back hair, is strictly stock; and the comic portraits of the heroine's hidebound dad, a same-aged fumbling suitor, and a blond bimbo (Alfred Molina, Matthew Beard, Rosamund Pike, in order) are sharp but narrow. Keeping things fully alive throughout, however, is Carey Mulligan in the lead, showing off, among her other talents, the freshest smile since Eleanor Powell: plenty of teeth with a demure downturn at the corners of the mouth. And Sally Hawkins, back to reality from the giddy heights of *Happy-Go-Lucky*, has a tiny but vital part to play. With Cara Seymour, Dominic Cooper, Emma Thompson; directed by Lone Scherfig. 2009.
★★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Everybody's Fine — Rueful road movie, an American resetting of a Giuseppe Tornatore tearjerker, in which an ailing widower takes off cross-country in his all-brown wardrobe, New York to Chicago to Denver to Vegas, to visit individually the scattered adult children who can't make time to visit him collectively, uncovering lessons along the way on life's disappointments and deceptions. Kate Beckinsale, Sam Rockwell, and Drew Barrymore do not have much the look of siblings, but Robert De Niro has the look of a lonely man, and the film is cleanly photographed and, till a late and little attempt at feel-good, keenly observed. Di-



rected by Kirk Jones. 2009.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; 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)

Fantastic Mr. Fox — Wes Anderson's wised-up children's film, a labor-intensive stop-motion animated adaptation of the Roald Dahl animal tale (reportedly he never visited the London set, but directed from Paris by E-mail) about a vulpine sophisticate who moves up in the world — out of a hole and into a tree — but can't escape his animal nature. (See him, for example, drop the act and rip into his food before regaining his composure: "Dinner was pitch-perfect.") Though the droll result has its charms, such as the use of "cuss" as an all-purpose cussword, as in "I sure the cuss hope so," it's not so much for children as a group or adults as a group as it is specifically for devotees of Anderson, who is able to pursue with puppets and miniature sets his standard visual predilections: squared-up and flattened compositions, lateral action and



Brothers

tracking shots, a clump-clump editing rhythm. On the eclectic soundtrack (the Rolling Stones, the Beach Boys, the Wellingtons, Burl Ives), the director resorts to thievery from the film scores of Georges Delerue, like Scorsese in *Casino*, for the moments of peak emotion. With the voices of George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman, Eric Anderson, Bill Murray, Michael Gambon. 2009.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Invictus — Reviewed this issue. With Morgan Freeman, Matt Damon, Tony Kgoroge, and Adjoa Andoh; directed by Clint Eastwood.
★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 12/11)

Me and Orson Welles — Reviewed this issue. With Zac Efron, Claire Danes, Christian McKay, Eddie Marsan, and Ben Chaplin; directed by Richard Linklater.
★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 12/11)

The Men Who Stare at Goats — The first film directed by character actor Grant Heslov has a promising premise (paranormal military research), plenty of script troubles (an investigative reporter's blathering narration, the disruptive channel-switching between periods twenty years apart, a sputtery and rudderless last act), and a couple of tickling performances by Jeff Bridges as the hippie-haired architect of the New Earth Army, a new breed of supersoldiers and psychic spies, alias Jedi Warriors (thus a new emphasis in the slogan, "Be *All* You Can Be"), and by, in a larger part, George Clooney as his

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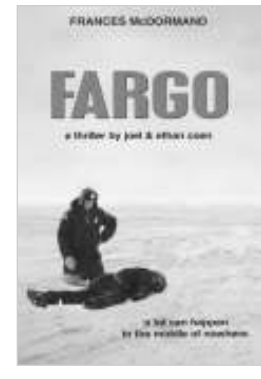

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Me and Orson Welles

most ardent disciple. It also has Ewan McGregor and Kevin Spacey. 2009.
★ (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12)

The Messenger — Three months from the finish of his tour of duty, a wounded Iraq War vet gets assigned on the home front to the Casualty Notification Team, a recipe for overacting. A muted Samantha Morton almost alone avoids the pitfall. With Ben Foster, Woody Harrelson, Jena Malone, and Steve Buscemi; directed by Oren Moverman. 2009.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

New Moon — Second installment in "The Twilight Saga" from the best-selling girls' books by Stephenie Meyer, a vampire movie sprinkled with pop songs, long and slow and slack. (New director: Chris Weitz.) Whatever may be the attributes that make this franchise a "phenomenon," they seem to ensure that it will also have a significant silly factor: e.g., the extracurricular alignment of Team Edward against Team Jacob. Hardly has the lipsticked bloodsucker (a narcotized Robert Pattinson as Edward) given his human girlfriend the kiss-off for her own good — "Leaving you," he will later allow, "was the hardest thing I've done in a hundred years" — than his only romantic rival (a bulked-up Taylor Lautner as Jacob) turns into a werewolf and, again for her own good, gives her another kiss-off. (Further silliness: he and his bare-chested pack are *good* werewolves, preying only on bad vampires and leaving humans as well as good vampires untouched.) Kristen Stewart, who looks now a little different, as if possibly she spent summer vacation getting an advanced degree at cosmetology school, makes something palpable of the adolescent tragedy of rejection, quite an achievement in the circumstances. With Billy Burke, Michael Sheen, Dakota Fanning. 2009.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; 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)

Paranormal Activity — Young San Diego couple purchase a camcorder to document the "entity" — diagnosed by a psychic as a demon, not a ghost — that has haunted the female on and off since girlhood. Dirt-cheap digital horror film builds, not too high, to some effective *frissons*. The fixed-position camera during sleeptime approaches almost a structuralist rigor. Capably acted by Katie Featherston and Micah Sloat (in the roles of "Katie" and "Micah"); written and directed by Oren Peli. 2009.
★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Pirate Radio — Retrospective smugness around the swashbuckling rock-and-roll partisans who in the mid-Sixties were broadcasting their preferred music from the high seas in order to circumvent British bluenoses (represented one-dimensionally by Kenneth Branagh). The freedom fighters are as insufferable as the oppressors, making it difficult to take sides. Wall-to-wall golden oldies, with the notable omission of the Beatles. Philip Seymour Hoffman, Rhys Ifans, Bill Nighy, Nick Frost, Tom Sturridge; written and directed by Richard Curtis. 2009.
● (FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Precious: Based on the Novel *Push* by Sapphire — A bit of well-meaning manipulation, unevenly photographed, alternately oversaturated and washed-out and glossy and grainy, centered around a Harlem African-American illiterate obese unwed teenage mother of a Down's daughter, now pregnant again, expelled from school, abused and battered at home by her welfare mother, an incestuous rape victim of her absentee father, and oh, HIV-positive. We don't find out all of that at once. It piles up. Some interesting effects are gotten from the heroine's first-person voice-over, interwoven at competitive volume with the dialogue, such that it plays as interior monologue rather than expository narration. The fantasy scenes almost attain a similar musing quality, triggered as they are by the heroine's urgent desire to escape, but the actual content of these fantasies — a red-carpet Hollywood premiere, a mirror reflection of a slender beautiful blonde in place of a fat black, a subtitled black-and-white takeoff on a telecast of De Sica's *Two Women*, etc. — exhibit a consistent inanity which works to rob sympathy from either the film's heroine or its director, Lee Daniels. One or the other. You choose. With Gabourey Sidibe, Mo'Nique, Paula Patton, and Mariah Carey. 2009.
★ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PLAZA BONITA 14)

The Princess and the Frog — Disney animated fairy tale set in New Orleans during the Jazz Age, directed by Ron Clements and John Musker.
(CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; 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; FROM 12/11)

The Road — From the novel by Cormac McCarthy, a post-apocalyptic road movie of a man, a boy, a gray wasteland, and roving bands of ragtag cannibals whom Mad Max would have blown away with a sneeze. Naturalistic science fiction, it amounts to an anti-*2012* (careful what you wish for) from the maker of the Australian anti-Western, *The Proposition*, John Hillcoat, a small-scale spectacle of unrelieved grimness and gloom, short on characters, thin in incident, thick with sallow grimy hairy closeups (Viggo Mortensen and a barely recognizable Robert Duvall among them), a spitting-up of blood here and an upchuck there, a gun held repeatedly to the head of a child. The boy's cultivation of morality and charity, in defiance of his father's stony-hearted defenses, offers a hint of dramatic interest. With Kodi Smit-McPhee, Charlize Theron, Guy Pearce, Molly Parker. 2009.
★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 20)

A Serious Man — At bottom, the Coen brothers' most "personal" work. To be sure, they've never been reduced to hired hands. They've always had the good fortune to be able to make the films they wanted to make, films that reflected their personal tastes and personal attitudes and personal interests and personal viewpoints. Still, in the strict autobiographical sense, this one must be acknowledged as extra personal, set as it is in the Minneapolis suburb of their adolescence (Jefferson Airplane on the soundtrack to fix the date, 1967), in a Jewish household headed by a university professor with a son on the brink of his bar mitzvah. The filmmakers bring to their subject the unkind eye of the caricaturist. They demonstrate an acute and excruciating body awareness, the girth, the ear hair, the sebaceous cyst on the neck, the protagonist's half squat at the classroom blackboard, his outthrust butt, his pant cuffs riding up to his calves. And their subtly bulging face shots and torso shots, fronted and centered, approach the freak-show aura of the photographs of Diane Arbus. The parade of surnames has a Dickensian grotesquerie all its own: Gopnik, Finkle, Marshak, Nachtner, Schlutz, seldom a simple Shapiro. And the three rabbis of three different generations are hilariously ineffectual in three different ways. But to complain that the character portraits are not rounded, are slanted, would be to complain that a caricaturist is not a classicist, that Daumier is not Ingres. This is, it bears stressing at this







MOVIE SHOWTIMES

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CENTRAL

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

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Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **A Christmas Carol** (PG); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG); **Invictus** (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Old Dogs** (PG); **Planet 51** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **2012** (PG-13)

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Town Square 14
4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)
Armored (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:20, 1:30, 3:45, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:30, 10:55, 1:35, 2:35, 4:15, 5:15, 6:55, 7:55, 9:50; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. 11:25, 1:50, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:10, 1:45, 4:25, 7:15, 9:30; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:50, 1:05, 3:20, 5:40, 7:50, 10:10; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:15, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:15, 10:25; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:45, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:05; **Larger Than Life** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:35, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 9:50; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:40, 1:25, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri.-Sun. 11:05, 10:30; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 8:05, 10:20; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 10:55, 1:00, 3:15, 5:35; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 12:15, 1:15, 2:30, 3:30, 4:45, 5:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:30, 2:45, 6:05, 9:15

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15
701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
Armored (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG); **Invictus** (PG-13); **The Men Who Stare at Goats** (R); **The Messenger** (R); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **Pirate Radio** (R); **2012** (PG-13); **Zombieland** (R)

Horton Plaza 14
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
The Blind Side (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 1:45, 4:15, 4:45) 7:10, 7:45, 10:10, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:15, 1:45) 4:15, 4:45, 7:10, 7:45, 10:10, 10:40; **The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day** (Not Rated) Fri. (1:25, 4:20) 7:40, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:20, 7:40, 10:20; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri. (2:30, 4:50) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:30) 4:50, 7:10, 9:40; **Couples Retreat** (R) Fri. (1:20, 4:10) 7:05, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:10, 7:05, 9:55; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri. (2:40, 4:55) 7:20, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:40) 4:55, 7:20, 9:45; **Larger Than Life...in 3D: Dave Matthews Band** (PG) Fri. (2:55, 5:10) 7:30, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:40, 2:55) 5:10, 7:30, 9:35; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 4:05, 4:35) 7:00, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 1:30) 4:05, 4:35, 7:00, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30; **Paranormal Activity** (R) Fri. (2:35, 4:45) 7:15, 9:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:35) 4:45, 7:15, 9:25; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri. (2:50, 5:05) 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:50) 5:05, 7:20, 9:50; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (2:20, 4:40) 7:00, 9:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:20) 4:40, 7:00, 9:30; **The Road** (R) Fri. (3:05, 5:35) 8:05, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 3:05) 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; **Transylmania** (Not Rated) Fri. (2:45, 5:00) 7:25, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 2:45) 5:00, 7:25, 9:50

KENSINGTON

Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Collapse (NR) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (5:35) 7:30, 9:25; Sat. & Sun. (1:45) 3:40, 5:35, 7:30 9:25

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)
Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG); **Invictus** (PG-13); **The Men Who Stare at Goats** (R); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **2012** (PG-13)

La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
The Road (R) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:10, 4:45) 7:20, 9:55; Sat. & Sun. (11:35) 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55; **Me and Orson Welles** (PG-13) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:20, 4:55), 7:30, 10:05; Sat. & Sun. (11:45) 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05; **Pirate Radio** (R) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:00, 4:35) 7:10, 9:45; Sat. & Sun. (11:25) 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45; **An Education** (PG-13) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (1:50) 7:00; Sat. & Sun.: (1:50) 7:00; **Bad Lieutenant, Port of Call: New Orleans** (NR) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (4:25) 9:20; Sat. & Sun. (11:15) 4:25, 9:20

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18
10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)
Inside Doctors Without Borders: Live with Elizabeth Vargas (NR) Mon. 800; **Rifftrax Live: Christmas Shorts – Stravaganza!** (NR) Wed. 800; **Avatar** 3D (PG-13), Thu. 1201; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) Fri. - Thu. 1140 200 415 640 900; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (1050 1150 115 220 340 450)615 715 845 935, Sat. (1050 1150 115)220 340 450 615 715 845 935, Sun. (1050 1205 115)225 340 450 615 715 845 935, Mon. - Thu. (1150 115 220 340 450)615 715 845 935; **Avatar** 3D (PG-13) Thu. 1202; **Did You Hear About The Morgans?**(PG-13) Thu. 1205; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri. (1045 1235 145 345 440)645 745 945 1045, Sat. - Sun. (1045 1235 145)345 440 645 745 945 1045, Mon. - Thu. (1235 145 345 440)645 745 945 1045; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri. (1155 230 500)720 950, Sat. - Sun. (1155)230 500 720 950, Mon. (1155 230 500), Tue. (1155 230)950, Wed. (1155 230 500)1045, Thu. (1155 230 500)720 950; **Armored** (PG-13) Fri. (1100 100 325 540)800 1010, Sat. - Sun. (1100 100)325 540 800 1010, Mon. - Wed. (100 325 540)800 1010, Thu. (100 325); **Brothers** (R) Fri. (1110 155 435)725 1005, Sat. - Sun. (1110 155)435 725 1005, Mon. - Thu. (1140 215 450)725 1005; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri. (1200 235 505)735 1015, Sat. - Sun. (1200)235 505 735 1015, Mon. - Wed. (1200 235 505)735 1015, Thu. (1200 235 505)735; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri. - Sun. 920, Tue. - Wed. 920, Thu. 920 1150; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. (1055 150 320 445)740 940 1035, Sat. (1055 1215 150)445 650 740 1035, Sun. (1055 150)320 445 650 740 1035, Mon. (150 320 445)740 940 1035, Tue. - Thu. (1215 150 320 445)650 740 940 1035; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. (1215)650, Sat. (320)940, Sun. (1215)940, Mon. (1215)650; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri. (1145 210 425)655 910, Sat. - Sun. (1145)210 425 655 910, Mon. - Thu. (1145 210 425)655 910; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri. (1120 140 400)700, Sat. - Sun. (1120 140)400 700, Mon. - Thu. (1150 205 420)700; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. (1040 1210 135 315 430)630 730 930 1025, Sat. - Sun. (1040 1210 135)315 430 630 730 930 1025, Mon. - Thu. (1210 135 315 430)630 730 930 1025; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Tue. (240)705, Wed. (1230 455), Thu. (240)705; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri. (1135 205 420)705, Sat. (1135)205 420 705, Sun. (1155)205 420 705, Mon. (1230 240 455), Tue. (1230 455), Wed. (240)705, Thu. (1230 455); **2012**(PG-13) Fri. (1205 335)710 925 1030, Sat. (1205)335 710 925 1030, Sun. (1210)335 710 925 1030, Mon. - Thu. (1205 335)710 925 1030; **The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day** (R) Fri. (1125 225 510)755 1040, Sat. - Sun. (1125)225 510 755 1040, Mon. - Thu. (130 510)755 1040

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18
7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
Armored; The Blind Side; The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day; Brothers; A Christmas Carol; Everybody's Fine; Fantastic Mr. Fox; Invictus; Me and Orson Welles; New Moon; Ninja Assassin; Old Dogs; Planet 51; The Princess and the Frog; 2012

Mission Valley 7
7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **Dave Matthews Band Concert in 3D** Fri.: 8:00 pm, Sun.: 6:00 pm, Mon. & Wed.: 11:00 am, Tues. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:15 7:30 10:00; No 7:30 Tues. & Thu.; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. only (10:30 12:45) 5:30; No 12:45 & 5:30 Fri.; No 5:30 Sun.; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 8:15 10:30; No 11:00 Mon. & Wed.; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri-Sun only (3:15) 8:00 10:15; No 3:15 Fri.; **New Moon** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:45 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (10:00 1:00) 4:15 7:30 10:15; **2012** (PG-13) (12:00 3:45) 7:15 10:30; No 3:45 & 7:15 Sun.; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Mission Valley 20
1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)
Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day** (Not Rated); **Brothers** (R); **A Christmas Carol** (PG); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG); **Invictus** (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **The Road** (R); **2012** (PG-13); **Up in the Air** (R)

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Precious: Based On The Novel 'Push' By Sapphire (R) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (1:50, 4:30) 7:10, 9:45; Sat. & Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; **An Education** (PG-13) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:00; Sat. & Sun. (11:30), 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; **Bad Lieutenant, Port of Call: New Orleans** (NR) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (1:40, 4:20), 7:00, 9:40, No 7:00 pm show Wed., 12/16/09; Sat. & Sun. (11:00) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; **Serious Moonlight** (R) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:20, 5:00) 7:40, 10:05; Sat. & Sun. (11:40) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:05; **A Serious Man** (R) Fri. & Mon.-Thu. (2:00, 4:40) 7:20, 9:55; Sat. & Sun. (11:20) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Adventures in Wild California (Not Rated) Fri. 3:00p.m. Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 3:00; **Amazon (2007)** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Under the Sea** (G) Fri. 1:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sat.-Sun. 10:00, 1:00, 5:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Avatar 3D (PG-13) Thu. 1201; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri. - Wed. (1215 1250 320 355)700 720 1015 1035, Thu. (1215 1250 320 355)700 720 1035; **Avatar** (PG-13) Thu. 1203; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (1200 1230 230 300 500 530)730 755 1000 1030, Sat. - Sun. (1200 1230 230 300)500 530 730 755 1000 1030, Mon. - Wed. (1200 1230 230 300 500 530)730 755 1000 1030, Thu. (1200 1230 230 300 500 530)730 755 1030; **Did You Hear About The Morgans?** (PG-13) Thu. 1201; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) Fri. (1205 225 450)715 935, Sat. - Sun. (1205 225)450 715 935, Mon. - Thu. (1205 225 450)715 935; **2012** (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. (1200 325)650 1015; **Armored** (PG-13) Fri. (1250 315 535)800 1030, Sat. - Sun. (1250 315)535 800 1030, Mon. - Thu. (1250 315 535)800 1030; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. (100 140 405 440)710 740 1010 1040, Sat. - Sun. (100 140)405 440 710 740 1010 1040, Mon. - Wed. (100 140 405 440)710 740 1010 1040, Thu. (100 140 405 440)710 740 1040; **Brothers** (R) Fri. - Thu. (1215 350)720 1005; **Couples Retreat** (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 750 1025; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri. (1220 245 515)735 955, Sat. - Sun. (1220 245)515 735 955, Mon. - Thu. (1220 245 515)735 955; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri. (1230 250 510), Sat. - Sun. (1230 250)510, Mon. - Thu. (1230 250 510); **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. - Wed. (1240 340)640 940, Thu. (1240 340)640; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. (110 410)710 1010, Sat. - Sun. (110)410 710 1010, Mon. - Thu. (110 410)710 1010; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri. (1240 305 530)755 1020, Sat. - Sun. (1240 305)530 755 1020, Mon. - Thu. (1240 305 530)755 1020;



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Tuesday 12/15 @ 7:30 pm
Thursday 12/17 @ 7:30 pm

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Old Dogs (PG) Fri. (1205 225 445)705 925, Sat. - Sun. (1205 225)445 705 925, Mon. - Thu. (1205 225 445)705 925; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri. (1210 235 500)725 950, Sat. - Sun. (1210 235)500 725 950, Mon. - Thu. (1210 235 500)725 950; **Precious: Based On The Novel 'Push' By Sapphire** (R) Fri. (1210 250 525)805 1045, Sat. - Sun. (1210 250)525 805 1045, Mon. - Thu. (1210 250 525)805 1045

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264 #2710)

The Blind Side (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:10, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. 11:45, 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:45; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:30, 1:40, 3:55, 6:05, 8:25, 10:40; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:05, 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:20, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri.-Sun. 8:00, 10:20; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:25, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 11:40, 1:45, 3:50, 5:50; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri.-Sun. 10:55, 1:15, 3:35, 5:50, 8:10, 10:25; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)

Armored (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:15) 6:40, 9:35; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 12:50, 3:20, 4:45) 7:10, 7:50, 10:10, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 12:50, 3:20) 4:45, 7:10, 7:50, 10:10, 10:50; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 4:50) 7:55, 10:40; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:40, 5:00) 7:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 3:30) 6:55, 9:50; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 12:40, 3:15, 3:40) 7:15, 7:45, 10:20, 10:45; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 3:10) 7:05, 10:25; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:05, 3:35) 7:40, 10:30; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri. (12:25, 2:45, 5:05) 7:20, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:45) 5:05, 7:20, 9:40; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:05) 6:45, 9:45; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00, 4:55) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00) 4:55, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 3:25) 6:50, 10:15

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)

The Blind Side (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Old Dogs** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **Dave Matthews Band Concert in 3D** Fri.: 8:00 pm, Sun.: 6:00 pm, Mon. & Wed.: 11:00 am, Tues. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:15; **Invictus** (PG-13) (12:45) 4:15 7:30 10:45; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:30; No 8:15 Fri.; No 6:00 Sun.; **Armored** (PG-13) (11:15 1:30 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Ninja Assassin** (R) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:30 10:00; **New Moon** (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 8:00 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:45 10:30; **Planet 51** (PG) (11:30 2:15) 4:45 7:15 9:30; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 7:45 10:00, No 7:45 Tues. & Thu.; **2012** (PG-13) (12:00 3:15) 7:00 10:15; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)

Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **Invictus** (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **2012** (PG-13)

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennery Road (888-262-4386)

Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **A Christmas Carol** (PG); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **The Fourth Kind** (PG-13); **Invictus** (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **Planet 51** (PG); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **2012** (PG-13)

Rancho Del Rey 16

1025 Tierra del Rey (off East H Street) (619-216-4707)

Call theater for program information.

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)

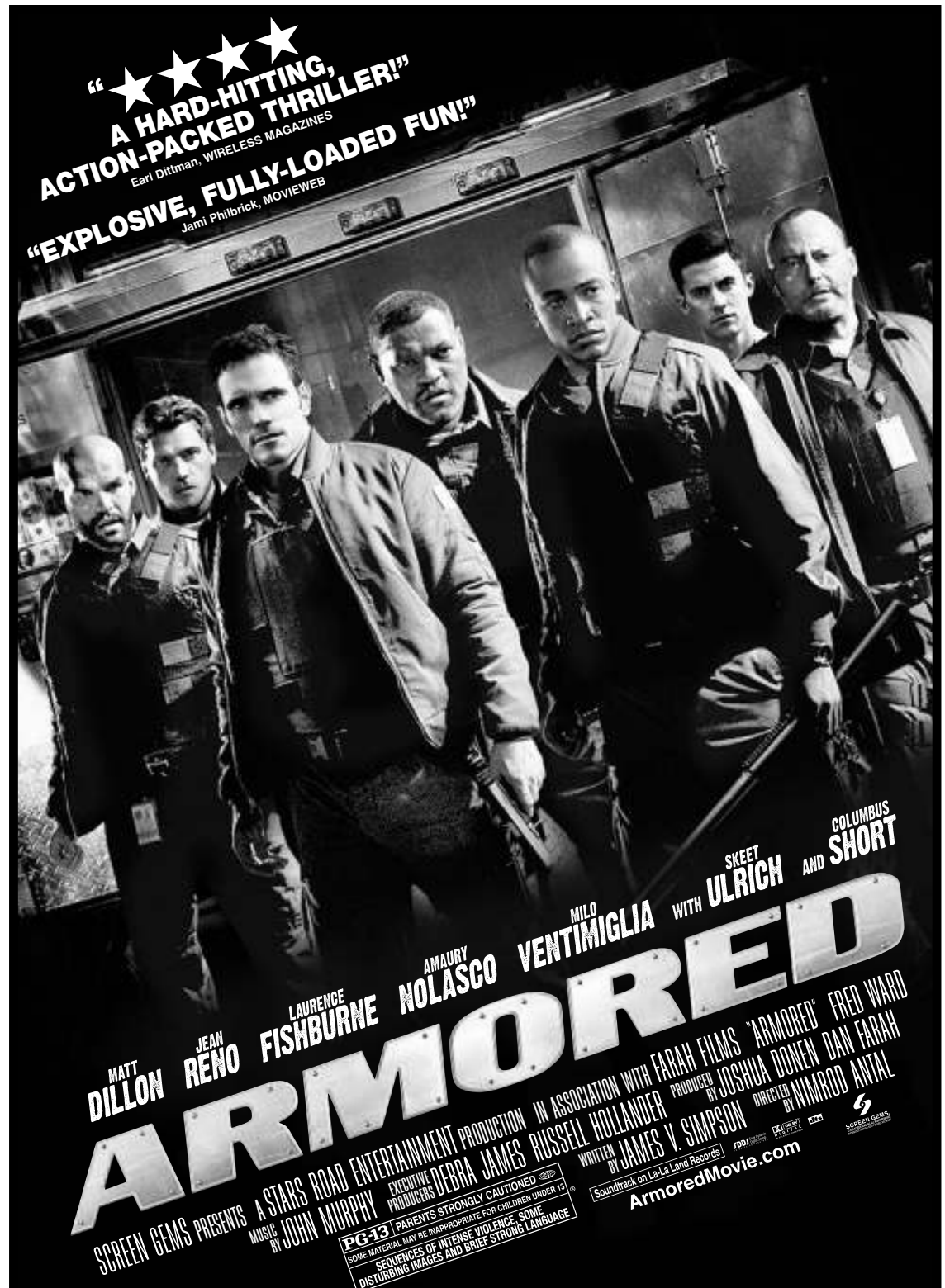
Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)

Armored (PG-13); **The Blind Side** (PG-13); **Brothers** (R); **A Christmas Carol** (PG); **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13); **Invictus** (PG-13); **New Moon** (PG-13); **Ninja Assassin** (R); **Old Dogs** (PG); **Planet 51** (PG); **Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire** (R); **The Princess and the Frog** (G); **2012** (PG-13)



NOW PLAYING

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SORRY, NO PASSES ACCEPTED FOR THIS ENGAGEMENT

NORTH INLAND

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 West Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)

Armored (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:55) 7:20, 9:50; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 1:00, 3:15) 7:10, 7:40, 10:10, 10:40; **Brothers** (R) Fri. (12:30, 4:20) 7:55, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:30) 4:20, 7:55, 10:30; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 12:10, 2:20, 4:35, 6:55, 9:35; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri. (4:00p.m.) Sat.-Sun. 4:00p.m.; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:15, 3:35) 7:45, 10:20; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri. (12:55, 4:10) 7:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:55) 4:10, 7:25; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 12:50, 3:30, 3:55) 7:05, 7:35, 10:05, 10:35; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:00, 5:00) 8:00 Fri.-Sun. 9:55p.m.; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri.-Sun. (3:05) 7:50, 10:25; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri. (2:05, 4:40) 7:15, 9:45 Fri.-Sun. (12:45p.m.) Sat.-Sun. (2:05) 4:40, 7:15, 9:45; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:10, 3:25) 6:45, 9:40; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (12:05, 12:35, 2:30, 3:10, 4:55) 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 12:35, 2:30, 3:10) 4:55, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 3:20) 6:50, 10:15

FALLBROOK

River Village 6

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (11:00 1:15 3:30) 5:45 8:00 10:15; **Brothers** (PG-13) (12:00 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) (12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:15 10:30; **Old Dogs** (PG) (11:30 2:00) 4:45 7:15 9:30; **New Moon** (PG-13)(11:15 2:15) 5:00 8:00 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:30; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.
No 11 am-3:45 pm shows Mon.-Thu.

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **Invictus** (PG-13) (10:15 1:15) 4:30 7:45 10:45; **Brothers** (PG-13) (10:30 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 5:15 7:30 10:00; **Armored** (PG-13) (11:15 1:45 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Old Dogs** (PG) (12:30) 5:00 9:45; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) (10:15 2:45) 7:15; **New Moon** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:30; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (10:00 1:00) 4:15 7:15 10:15; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) (10:15 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:15; **2012** (PG-13) (12:00 3:30) 7:00 10:30; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old California Walk) (800-326-3264)

Armored (PG-13) Fri. (1:40, 4:30) 7:55, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:40) 4:30, 7:55, 10:15; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. (12:40, 1:15, 3:45, 4:20) 6:50, 7:25, 9:55, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:40, 1:15, 3:45) 4:20, 6:50, 7:25, 9:55, 10:25; **The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:55) 7:05, 9:55; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:50) 7:15, 10:10; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri. (1:30, 4:40) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:15) 7:45, 10:20; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:05, 3:40) 7:00; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 12:55, 3:35, 4:05) 7:00, 7:25, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 12:55, 3:35) 4:05, 7:00, 7:25, 10:00, 10:30; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. (1:20, 4:25) 7:30, 10:25 Fri.-Sun. 9:45p.m. Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:25, 7:30, 10:25; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri. (1:35, 4:10) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (1:35) 4:10, 7:40, 10:05; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri.-

point, a personal film. It is also — unexpectedly enough, as unexpected as the superstitious Old Country folk tale of the prologue and its old-fashioned 4:3 aspect ratio — a religious film, a film concerned not just with the specific religion of Judaism and its whole exotic lexicon, but with broader religious questions, universal inquiries into life's mysteries: what have I done to deserve this? what have I done with my life? what ought I to do? what am I here for? Joel and Ethan Coen have long and lately devoted themselves to the vast panoply of human stupidity. Stretching out now, stretching back to *Barton Fink*, they have chosen to reassure us, although "reassure" doesn't sound quite right, that an intelligent, educated, well-meaning, and would-be serious man is no less at a loss. Michael Stuhlbarg, Sari Lennick, Richard Kind, Aaron Wolff, Fred Melamed. 2009.
★★★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA PALOMA, FROM 12/11)

Serious Moonlight — Stagy, static, talky, taxing dark comedy wherein a wronged wife, at a secluded vacation home, duct-tapes her errant husband to a chair and then, more considerately, to a toilet until such time as he will fall back in love with her. In these circumstances, Meg Ryan, her facial alterations shot in soft focus, tastelessly hauls out all her old America's Sweetheart gambits, tilting her head quizzically to one side, scrunching up her nose, sitting with feet outstretched and pigeon-toed, dropping her voice to an engine-revving growl for comic effect. The origins of the film — first-time directed by Cheryl Hines from a script by



Serious Midnight

the murdered Adrienne Shelly, who had directed Hines in *Waitress* — make one want to like it more than is possible. With Timothy Hutton, Justin Long, Kristen Bell. 2009.
● (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 12/11)

2012 — Roland Emmerich's widest view of disaster to date: the sky-high eruption of Yellowstone (Old Faithful gone Vesuvius), the toppling of the Washington Monument and St. Peter's Basilica (the Statue of Liberty and the Eiffel Tower would be so old-hat), the block-by-block collapse of Los Angeles (a rented limo outrunning the spreading crevasses and sinkholes, dodging the crumbling high-rises and overpasses), the monster tsunamis that engulf the White House and even, very far from sea level, the Himalayas. All of that is quite something — quite a lot of things — to see. And the plot attempt to update, to technologize, to science-fictionalize the Biblical story of Noah's Ark is something worth trying. The human drama, such as it is, strives to be no more than serviceable. As elsewhere in Emmerich's oeuvre (*Independence Day, Godzilla, The Day after Tomorrow*, chiefly), the degree of glee in the destruction appears more than equal to any shock and awe in it. And a viewer might well rebel at a test of his humanity measured by his willingness to hold his breath for the survival of the star of a Hollywood blockbuster, and never mind the billions who missed the literal boat. Still, in the inadequacy of its response to its chosen subject matter, in its merry refusal to think about the unthinkable, in its whistling past the graveyard, the film after all seems only human. Strange to say about an FX extravaganza. John Cusack, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Amanda Peet, Thandie Newton, Danny Glover, Oliver Platt. 2009.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Up in the Air — Reviewed this issue. With George Clooney, Vera Famiga, Anna Kendrick, and Jason Bateman; directed by Jason Reitman.
★ (MISSION VALLEY 20, FROM 12/11)

Zombieland — Nerdy, neurotic Jesse Eisenberg, the unlikeliest Texan, narrates a postmodern post-apocalyptic road trip through a population of secondhand flesh-eating zombies, in the company of the only three surviving humans east of Bill Murray's mansion in Beverly Hills: the Twinkie-craving Woody Harrelson and two scamming sisters, Emma Stone and Abigail Breslin. Smart-ass comedy, not to say smart, forgetful as it is of its own rules and logic. Directed by Ruben Fleischer. 2009.
● (GASLAMP 15)

Sun. (1:10, 3:30) 7:15, 9:35; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri. (1:50, 4:15) 7:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:50) 4:15, 7:20; **Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire** (R) Fri. (1:25, 4:45) 7:35, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:45, 7:35, 10:20; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (12:35, 1:45, 2:55, 4:15, 5:15) 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 12:35, 1:45, 2:55) 4:15, 5:15, 7:10, 7:45, 9:40, 10:15; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:55) 7:50, 9:45

VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Armored (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:35) 7:55, 10:10; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 1:35, 4:30) 7:25, 10:25; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 2:10, 4:50) 7:30, 10:05; **A Christmas Carol** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25, 4:50) 7:10, 9:30; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45, 5:10) 7:35, 10:00; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:40, 12:50, 1:40, 4:00, 4:45) 7:15, 8:00, 10:20; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 4:40) 7:30, 10:15; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:50, 5:20) 7:50, 10:25; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 2:45, 5:05) 7:20, 9:40; **Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 2:20, 5:00) 7:40, 10:15; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:30, 12:15, 1:15, 2:00, 2:40, 3:40, 4:30, 5:10) 6:15, 7:05, 7:45, 8:40, 9:30, 10:10; **2012** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 3:10) 7:00, 10:20

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
The Blind Side (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:10, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15, 9:55 Sun. (11:10, 1:45, 4:30) 7:15; **Brothers** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:20, 5:00) 7:35, 10:00 Sun. (11:45, 2:20, 5:00) 7:35; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 1:55, 4:20) 6:45, 9:00 Sun. (11:30, 1:55, 4:20) 6:45

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8
El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road (858-646-9420)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **Invictus** (PG-13) (10:00 10:45 1:00 1:45 4:00) 4:45 7:00 7:45 10:00 10:45; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) (11:15 3:45) 8:15 10:30; No 3:45 Sun.; **Brothers** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:15 10:45; **New Moon** (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 8:00 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (10:30 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:15; **Planet 51** (PG) (1:30) 6:00; No 1:30 Sun.; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:15 7:30 9:45; No 10:15 Sat. & Sun.; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Flower Hill 4
2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)

Me and Orson Welles (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire** (R) (10:00 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:30; **Pirate Radio** (R) (11:00) 4:30 10:15; **An Education** (PG-13) (1:45) 7:30
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
A Serious Man (R)

LA COSTA

La Costa 6
6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga) (760-599-8221)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:30; **Old Dogs** (PG) (10:00 12:30 2:45) 5:00 7:15 9:45; No 10:00 Sat. & Sun.; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:30; **New Moon** (PG-13) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:45 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (10:30 1:15) 4:15 7:30 10:30; **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) (10:15 12:30 3:00) 5:30 8:00 10:15; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

OCEANSIDE

Mission Marketplace 13
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue (760-806-1790)

Avatar (PG-13) See it first! Thursday at midnight; **Dave Matthews Band Concert in 3D** Fri.: 8:00 pm, Sun.: 6:00 pm, Mon. & Wed.: 11:00 am, Tues. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) (11:00 11:15 1:15 2:30 3:30) 4:45 5:45 7:00 8:00 9:15 10:15; **Invictus** (PG-13) (12:45) 4:15 7:15 10:30; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) 5:30 7:45 10:00; No 7:45 Tues. & Thu.; **Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire** (R) (11:00 1:45) 4:30 7:30 10:30; **Brothers** (PG-13) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Armored** (PG-13) (11:30 1:45 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **Old Dogs** (PG) (12:00 2:15) 4:30; **Ninja Assassin** (R) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **New Moon** (PG-13) (11:00 2:00) 5:00 7:00 8:00 10:00 10:45; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) (11:15 2:00) 4:45 7:30 10:15; Will also play at 10:00 am on Wed. 12/16 only; **Planet 51** (PG) (12:30 3:00); **A Christmas Carol 3D** (PG) (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:30; No 8:15 Fri.; No 6:00 Sun.; **2012** (PG-13)(11:30 3:45) 7:15 10:30; **Olivia & Curious George Double-Feature** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only
No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

Oceanside 16
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
A Christmas Carol 3D (PG) Fri. (120 445)705 930, Sat. - Sun. (120)445 705 930, Mon. - Thu. (120 445)705 930; **Invictus** (PG-13) Fri. (1250 120 345 415)650 720 945 1015, Sat. - Sun. (1250 120 345)415 650 720 945 1015, Mon. - Thu. (1250 120 345 415)650 720 945 1015; **The Princess and the Frog** (G) Fri. (1230 250 510)730 950, Sat. - Sun. (1230 250)510 730 950, Mon. - Thu. (1245 300 515)730 950; **Transylmania** (R) Fri. (1240 300 525)800 1030, Sat. - Sun. (1240 300)525 800 1030, Mon. - Thu. (1240 300 525)800 1030; **Everybody's Fine** (PG-13) Fri. (1245 305 530)750 1010, Sat. - Sun. (1245 305)530 750 1010, Mon. - Thu. (1245 305 530)750 1010; **Armored** (PG-13) Fri. (1235 245 500)740 1010, Sat. - Sun. (1235 245)500 740 1010, Mon. - Thu. (1250 255 520)740 1010; **Brothers** (R) Fri. - Thu. (105 355)755 1025; **Ninja Assassin** (R) Fri. (140 515)735 955, Sat. - Sun. (140)515 735 955, Mon. - Thu. (140 515)735 955; **Old Dogs** (PG) Fri. (100 325 535)745 1000, Sat. - Sun. (100 325)535 745 1000, Mon. - Thu. (100 325 535)745 1000; **The Blind Side** (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. (1255 340)700 950; **Planet 51** (PG) Fri. (115 455)710 925, Sat. - Sun. (115)455 710 925, Mon. - Thu. (115 455)710 925; **New Moon** (PG-13) Fri. (125 420)725 1020, Sat. (125)420 725 1020, Sun. - Thu. (125 420)725 1020; **Fantastic Mr. Fox** (PG) Fri. (1235 240 450)715 935, Sat. - Sun. (1235 240)450 715 935, Mon. - Thu. (1240 245 450)715 935; **2012**(PG-13) Fri. (110 440)805, Sat. - Sun. (110)440 805, Mon. - Thu. (110 440)805; **The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day** (R) Fri. (115 405)655 940, Sat. - Sun. (115)405 655 940, Mon. - Thu. (115 405)655 940; **Did You Hear About The Morgans?**(PG-13) Thu. 1201; **Avatar** (PG-13) Thu. 1201; **Avatar** 3D (PG-13), Thu. 1201

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Carvel
Casa Machado
Casa Nueva
Cavaillon Restaurant
Cheeburger Cheeburger
Chicken Pie Diner
ChickeNest
Chile Peppers
Chin's Szechwan
Coast 101
Cold Stone Creamery (Santee)
Come On In!
Cosi Restaurant
Crave Yogurt
Crema Coffee
Delight of France
Dickey's Barbecue Pit
Dino's Gyros Greek Cafe
Dolci Mango (El Cajon)
Dominic's Italian Gourmet
Edible Arrangements
El Indio Restaurant
Emiliano's Mexican Restaurant
Enzo's BBQ
Extreme Pizza
Fenway's Sports Bar & Grill
Fifty Barrels
Flame Broiler
Frutto's Yogurt
Fugu's Sushi
Fusions Bar + Grill
Geno's BBQ-Goodbones BBQ
Go Get Yogurt
Great Plaza Buffet
Grubby's Diner
Habanero's
Hacienda Casa Blanca
Haji Baba
High Society Billiard & Dart
Hooters of Rancho Bernardo
Hooters of San Diego
India Princess
It's Yogurt Time
Jalisco Cafe
Jamacha Bar & Grille
Japan House
Joe's Pizza
Joey's Smokin BBQ
Juice It Up-Murrieta
Jump Tokyo
Jumping Bean Mexican Cafe
Kabob Cuisine
Katsu Seafood & Steakhouse
KC's Barbeque
Keith's Family Restaurant
Khan's Cave
Kirin Sushi
Knockout Burgers-Vista
L'Amour de Yogurt
La Cosa
Little Roma Cucina Italiana
Lomas Cafe
Los Primos
Los Tacos
Luc's Bistro
Luna Grill
Mario's New York Pizza
Mona Lisa Italian Foods
Monsoon Group
Mr. Charlie's Fortune Cookie
Mr. Chick
Murrieta's Restaurant
Nami
Neveria Tocumbo
New Panda Buffet
NYPD Pizza
Odyssey Greek
Oggi's Pizza
Ono's Cafe
Oroweat Bakery Outlet
Ottavio's Cucina Italiana
Panda Chef
Panda Garden Buffet
Paradise Grille
Penguin Yogurt Factory
Pernicano's
Pete's Grill
Philly Steak Subs
Philly's Best
Pho SuperBowl
Phra Ram 9
Pita King
Pita Pit
Pizza Factory
Quizno's-Escondido
ra-ka-de-ka Fresh Thai Kitchen
Ranch House Restaurant
RB Sushi
Red Ginger China Bistro
Robek's-Temecula
Round Table Pizza
Sam's Pizzeria
Sandcrab Cafe
Sarika Thai Kitchen
Schlotzsky's Deli
Senor Grubby's
Sizzler
Smoke House Grills
Smokey J's Pit BBQ
Smokin' Joe's Pizza
Smokin' Sam's BBQ
Solana Beach Fish House
Solana Sushi
Stir Fresh Mongolian Grill
Submarina
Sunrise Buffet
Super Jr. Market
Sushi 4 U
Sushi Cafe
Sushi Yama
Taste of Italy
Taste of Thai
Thai Time II
That's Amore Pizza
Thornton's Irish Pub & Chop House
Tio Leo's
Tivoli Pizza
Tony Roma's
Totally Toppings
Tutti Frutti
Two Brothers from Italy
Unique Pizza
Via Sicilia
Whole Lotta Yogurt
Wild Mango Yogurt
Windy City Pizzeria
Wonderful Sushi
Yo Yo's
Yoberry Yogurt -Rancho Bernardo
Yogurt Heaven
Yogurt Works
Young Sushi
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SAN DIEGO Reader

T.G.I.F.

BY JOHN BRIZZOLARA

Like the apostle Thomas, doubt was a large component of Burnham's faith.

This, as far as I can tell, is a true story. I did not have a tape recorder for Jack Burnham's story, and my own memory is increasingly unreliable. This took place two weeks before Thanksgiving and strikes me as credible enough. It should also provide critics of this column with gleeful ammunition for disdain and contempt.

Burnham is 48 years old. He has a son living in Vista, though Burnham himself lives in North Park. It had been more than two months since he had seen his son. It was time. He enlisted a willing friend to drive him north. A GPS on the dash pinpointed the address, and within 45 minutes they had arrived at the Addis Inn, apartment #42. David Burnham hugged his father, invited him in. The friend/driver had to leave for work. Father and son shared a meatloaf sandwich and played a game of Android while the television nattered news in the corner. Soon the senior Burnham's heart condition began announcing itself in the form of shortness of breath and chest pains, and 911 had to be called. "Why now?" Burnham asked no one.



He spent the next four days at Tri-City Medical Center. He was told he had now developed congestive heart failure. EKGs, IV drips, Lasix to eliminate the water in his lungs, morphine, Ativan — four days of it. No insurance, however, and he was discharged at 10 p.m. that Friday night. Outside of the facility, Burnham had no idea where he was in relation to his son's home, though he was within a mile. Still drugged and disoriented, he wandered in a random direction, a vague prayer fomenting through a fog of consciousness and a gathering fog over the land.

Unable to keep moving, half conscious, he chose a nearly random spot in a darkened bushy area of an industrial park, where he stretched himself onto the dirt, shivering with cold. He spent the night in and out of consciousness, shaking, until the lawn sprinklers came on. Now wet, clothes clinging, his shaking renewed, he wandered again.

Dawn announced itself, the color of ash and lard. Asking directions to the Vista Transit Center, a landmark toward his son's place, he was told by the few passersby that "I'm not from here. I don't know."

At 7 or maybe 7:30, an open liquor store appeared out of the thinning fog. Burnham spent what little money remained in his pocket for a pint of cheap vodka he hoped would warm him. He walked on. His compromised liver provided drunkenness quickly. He sat down on a random lawn, swaying. A police car rolled up, and he was arrested for public intoxication. Ten hours in the Vista jail on a thin bench. At least it was warm.

Released, ironically, at 10 p.m., he now knew even less regarding his whereabouts in relation to his son. He wandered again. Miles in the wrong directions.

At a Starbucks, near dawn, he used a bathroom and sat at a table shivering again. A stranger brought him a cup of coffee, said his name was Michael. Burnham accepted this gratefully. Michael had a Bible and began speaking of it. Burnham did not know precisely how to respond. Like the apostle Thomas, doubt was a large component of Burnham's faith.

Michael knew of the Addis Inn and offered to drive him there. Burnham's gratitude was expressed as adequately as he could manage. On the brief drive, Michael continued to inform his passenger of Jesus as the only path to salvation and the Father. Burnham was willing to accept this but was not sure how. Not adequately. He needed help in this area he was not sure existed. Yet he longed for it, at times — like this one — deeply.

An imitation of Christ could bring only ridicule, suffering, and, yes, persecution at many levels. Besides, Jack Burnham lacked the required love of his fellow man. His 48 years had taught him to consider most people cruel screwballs of one type or another. Hardly Christlike, which made it difficult for him to believe the man who was also God could really have been as described. Michael gave Burnham $20.

Back in North Park, online, the few fans of Burnham's paintings (hanging in a minor gallery/coffee shop) emailed the artist and, having heard of his threatened eviction, offered him lodging in various quarters. An old friend sent him money. He sold two paintings, a total of $1500. Michael emailed him as well, reminding him of Jesus and asked for no return of the $20.

All of this followed Burnham's dubious attempt to pray as thoroughly as his obstructing intellect would allow. While no genius, he realized that what brains he did have proved of no use to him whatever.

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

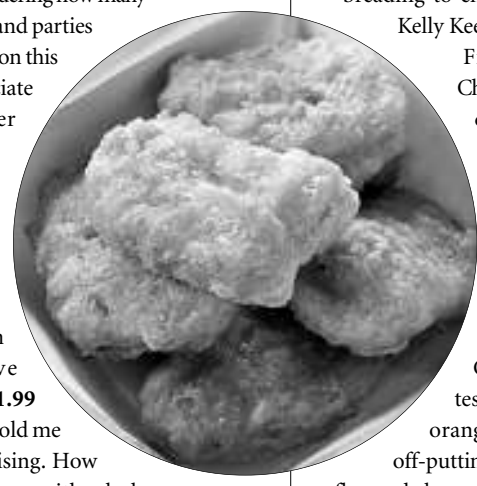
BestBuys

–EVE KELLY

"You can't beat a dinner that is ready after one minute in the microwave."

'The breading is the swaddling clothes, the chicken is the Christ child, the steam piping off the nuggets is the breath of the animals gathered around the manger, and the fries are the angels' wings," mused hubby Pat.

"All right, Robert Frost, take it easy," I scoffed as I pulled a cookie sheet of golden nuggets from the oven. "I know there's really nothing holiday-ish about a chicken-nugget dinner, but considering how many formal dinners and parties I will be putting on this month, I appreciate the quick-hitter dinner."



The conversation was amusing...the nuggets were disgusting. Kirkland Whole Grain Nuggets (five pounds for **$11.99** at Costco) had sold me on their advertising. How can you go wrong with whole-grain breading and nuggets the shape of Mickey Mouse? Though the breading was crispy, the salt was overpowering.

The following day I tried Wellshire Kids Chicken Bites in dinosaur shapes (**$6.99** for 10 ounces at Whole Foods). Yes, a lot of quick dinners, but did I mention it was a busy month?

"I like the flavor of the crust, but the chicken has that processed-mush feel," complained Pat. "My biggest grievance is against meat products molded into animal shapes. Chicken is not supposed to look like a dinosaur or Mickey Mouse."

"Where's the kid in you?" I countered.

"The kid in me wants chicken the way my mom made it."

I decided a phone survey followed up by a taste-testing was in order. The Kellys needed a go-to nugget option. "My kids don't like the Mickey Mouse Costco Nuggets," reported Sarah. "Too spicy for them. They do like the Trader Joe's Chicken Drummettes."

"I think chicken nuggets are dicey, some are plain gross," offered Bernice. "Sometimes it's the texture of the meat inside, sometimes it's the taste of the coating. I don't serve them with ketchup; we use honey, and I usually give it to them with peas and then the peas stick in the honey and they will eat their peas because it gets honey on them."

"The only chicken nuggets I ever buy are the fresh ones — as opposed to frozen — from Fresh & Easy," offered Lissa (Chicken Breast Bites, **$4.49** for 12 ounces). "The kids love them. They are all breast meat, and you can't beat a dinner that is ready after one minute in the microwave."

After many shopping carts full of nuggets, I served them up to Pat and nephew Tom. First up: Lissa's Fresh & Easy Chicken Breast Bites. "Savory chicken, a tad too high of a breading-to-chicken ratio, but definitely a Kelly Keeper," announced Pat.

Fresh & Easy's Popcorn Chicken (10.4 ounces for **$2.99**) didn't fare as well. "I'm licking chicken mush out of my molars," said Pat. "The breading isn't crispy, it falls apart," added Tom.

Tyson All Natural Breaded Chicken Nuggets (5 pounds for **$12.99** at Costco) also failed the taste test. "Chicken mush, and the orange color of the breading is off-putting," grimaced Pat. "Chicken-flavored cheese," confirmed Tom.

The Foster Farms Breast Nuggets (**$8.99** for 2 pounds, 1.6 ounces at Ralphs) was another loser. "This is the closest to the original McDonald's chicken McNuggets," Pat remarked, "and that is not a compliment." Tom said, "It's mush, almost like a liquid inside, and the uniform squares are off-putting."

Trader Joe's Chicken Drummettes (**$3.49** for 1 pound) was a group "no." "Flavorless chicken, the texture of soggy bread," announced Tom. "Makes me think of amusement-park food," suggested Pat.

The table found a second keeper in the Perdue Popcorn Chicken (3.5 pounds for **$12.99** at Costco). The round bits reminded Tom of donut holes. "I like the corn flavor of the breading."

"And the chicken breaking into strings is a good sign, as opposed to chicken mush. There's a strange irony to most chicken nuggets," Pat preached. "They're chicken ground up and then reconstituted to feel like chicken again."

The winner for the evening was the uncooked Nature's Rancher Chicken Breast Nuggets (12 ounces for **$5.49** at Whole Foods). "This smells delicious from out of the oven," noticed Pat. "Tastes like boneless fried chicken. I'd happily eat five or six more of these without sauce."

"The texture and crispiness of the breading is several notches better than all the others," said Tom.

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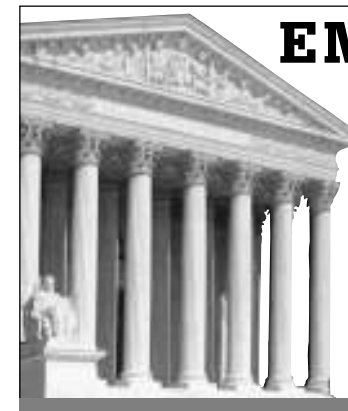

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"T4M"



by Barbarella

The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he never would be found out.
— Thomas Babington Macaulay

We suspected *something* was up. "We" being Corinne and the handful of close friends in whom she confides the details of her dating life. Corinne had been with the same guy for over a year, and for the past few months he'd been declaring his need for "space."

"Space for what?" she'd wonder aloud over a glass of wine. "Maybe he just likes his 'alone time,'" we'd suggest. "Maybe he can't sleep as well with someone else in the bed." Emboldened by alcohol, we might verbalize the unsavory: "Sounds like he's not that into you." But regardless of our endless hypotheses, one underlying fact was always understood and agreed upon — whatever the problem turned out to be, it'd be *his* fault, not hers. "You can do better" is our mantra. No man — or woman — is really ever good enough for a cherished friend.

Emboldened by alcohol, we might verbalize the unsavory: "Sounds like he's not that into you."

In Corinne's case, we thought we'd already imagined the worst — that Mike was not interested in taking things further. We worried that such a generic rejection might crush Corinne's already fragile sense of self-worth. It would be ideal to find fault with *him*, thus sparing our friend the debilitating blow to her self-esteem. But though we hoped for evidence that would prove Corinne's blamelessness, there's no way we could have guessed the sensational truth, even if Corinne had told us the details had been revealed to her on *The Jerry Springer Show*.

I was responding to email one Wednesday morning when Corinne called. "Girl, you are not going to believe this," she said. The feverish pitch of her tone compelled me to close my laptop and give my attention to her revelation, which she provided in a staccato falsetto.

I stifled the urge to *tsk* as Corinne explained how she "happened" upon the history tab on Mike's computer. She told me Mike's web-browsing history contained an overwhelming number of craigslist URLs, all of them under a category in the personals section called "Casual Encounters."

"Oh *to the Hell* no," I said. I could see where this was leading. I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheaters, even when I know their side of the story. I'm loath to admit that I need more than one hand to count the number of two-timers I've known. It's not the cheating itself that bugs me so much as the perpetuation of a relationship based on lies. Say a married guy has an affair. This is nothing new — you need only look at the headlines. But once that guy finds himself in bed with someone other than his wife, he should take note of the huge red flag billowing in his face. *Hmm...* he should think (or should have thought before he broke a sacred trust), *something is obviously lacking in my relationship or I would not be in this predicament — and for the sake of all involved, I must either find and fix the problem or end the relationship*. The few men I've known who've done this — by which I mean those who brought the issue to light of their own accord (i.e., not just because they got caught) — have remained my friends.

But I slap the Despicable Coward label upon those who remain in broken relationships under false pretenses, aka "living a lie." I find it impossible to muster respect for a man or woman who leads a double life with a lover in the workplace and a none-the-wiser spouse at home.

I was in the middle of a choice tirade denouncing Mike for his purported indiscretions when Corinne cut me off. "Oh, wait — that's not the half of it," she said. "All the links led to ads that specified 'T4M.'"

"What's that?" I asked.

"Transvestite for male," Corinne answered. "Don't worry, I didn't know either. I had to look it up." This bit of info left me dumbfounded. Corinne told me she confronted Mike about her findings. She described how he deflected and then, like a cornered animal, lashed out: he hissed cruel taunts, such as, "I never found you attractive." When she tried to keep him on point, he dismissed his web history as morbid curiosity born of too much time spent on the internet. He hurled insults at transvestites in general ("they disgust me") and Corinne ("you're not nearly as beautiful as my ex").

"No *way!* What an *asshole!*" I said, rising to my feet so I could pace the room. I thought that was the end of it, that this was the part where I verbally shredded the guy and suggested an early liquid lunch as the forum for further cathartic condemnation. But there was more. Corinne told me that she went home after the fight and, that very night, placed a fake ad on "Casual Encounters." Familiar with his taste in women, she described herself as a hot "Latina" looking for a man with all of Mike's characteristics. Because Corinne is on the conservative side, I was impressed by her recitation of the explicit, raunchy terms she'd used in the ad.

She posted the bait at 11 p.m. and went to sleep. When she checked her inbox at 7:30 a.m. the next morning, she already had a response. It was from Mike, matching her raunchy tone and suggesting a meeting in person. I started to ask, "How do you know it was from *him*?" and she cut me off halfway: "He attached a picture of *himself*," she said.

"So *that's* why he wanted his space," I said. "And? Did you tell him you were the one who placed the ad? That his mystery 'hottie with naughties' is really his girlfriend?"

"No," Corinne said, to my surprise and disappointment. (I would have loved to hear



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about his reaction to her confession.) "I just went over there this morning and grabbed all my things and said it's over." Then, in a calmer voice than she'd been using thus far, she said, "It's not what he's into — to each his own. You're gay? Fine. Straight but have a strong attraction for girls who are guys? Cool. I have no problem with that. We could have worked through it together. It's that he lied; that he attacked me when all I wanted was for him to be honest with me."

"He's clearly not okay with his predilection," I said. "Otherwise he wouldn't have been so quick to bash the very company he seeks. Someone who hates himself that much is incapable of giving anyone the level of love a good relationship requires."

"It's just such a bummer," Corinne said. "I loved him."

"I know, babe," I said. "But you know what? You can do better." ■

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STAR POWER

by Josh Board





Left: *Paul (left) at '80s-themed party;* Right: *Kids at '80s party*

I was able to hit two parties recently because one involved a student film festival, and the kiddies don't usually party into the late hours. The event, a fundraiser at Isabel's Cantina in P.B., was for students involved with the film festival. The cause made it easy to fork over the $25 for dinner.

The film fest will be the group's 11th annual. As I talked to students, I kept glancing over their shoulders to see the films playing on the wall.

I ran into a woman I met at a party years ago. She crashed parties while going to UCLA, once using John Wayne to help get her into a mansion. She said, "I didn't tell you about the time I worked at John Wayne's place on his boats. It was a rental house, for $500 a week. I had been kicked out of Whittier College for climbing out a second-floor window, and when we got arrested for doing something stupid, his attorney bailed us out of jail."

Groups of ten people were invited into the kitchen to grab a plate. I passed on the fish tacos but enjoyed the rest of the food.

I sat down next to an older couple, and we talked movies. When the guy started one story, he said to his wife, "You can go to the bathroom now." He smiled as he told me, "She's heard this so many times. I thought I'd save her from hearing it again."

He told me about a ten-year high school reunion for Madison High School in Clairemont in 1975. His friend talked about her younger brother going to Hollywood to pursue acting. He had remembered him being a lot younger and running out onto the football field a few times with the cheerleaders. She mentioned a film he was doing in Africa. He told me, "It wasn't until my third time watching *Star Wars* and seeing the name Mark Hamill in the credits that I realized it was him. I had seen the pictures from the filming. They had the creatures and robots; I didn't even realize the film would be so huge."

> "I figured I'd take responsibility for having enough beer here."

I talked to an older Latino man about a few of his productions that ran on KPBS. He had won an Emmy. Because one of his kids was involved in making films, I asked how much easier it is now to do a film than it was in the '60s or '70s. He said, "Oh, the advances are amazing. You can dissolve one scene into the next. You can do stuff on your laptop. The tools are in everyone's hands now. I remember student films I did, and we had to press on the letters for the credits. And those were a big deal to type out."

Everyone was buzzing about an SDSU student named Ben, who made a film called *Die Cast*. Wally, who runs the UltraStar Cinema in Hazard Center, told me Ben's movie was amazing and he would be huge someday.

When I sat down to talk to Ben, he had funny stories about filming it in the warehouse he works at in Vista, using tattooed workers as cast members. He told me two Chargers players saw the film and want to be involved with it. I asked him how he got started, and he said, "In high school, I had a cheap camera. I would do stupid videos and put them online. This was before YouTube."

Ben's film has been accepted for a Washington D.C. film festival, but he needs to raise money to go there and show it. He's never been out of the state.

I quickly cruised from P.B. to Carlsbad for Paul's 28th birthday party with an '80s theme. I didn't dress in '80s garb. Luckily for me, many in the crowd also wore regular clothes. The people who did go '80s seemed to be doing the hip-hop thing: a few looked like LL Cool J, with the sweat suit and floppy hat. A few had the Run-DMC look — Adidas sweat suit and gold chains. One person opted for the preppy '80s look, complete with a sweater tied around his chest.

A DJ spun lots of '80s hip-hop I recognized. I heard NWA as I pulled up. The neighbors may not have cared for the noise, although one nearby house was having a baby shower and probably didn't mind. The huge nursery behind them wouldn't be calling the cops.

There was a cute little girl — she might've been eight — wearing a Michael Jackson shirt. She also wore sunglasses and a white glove. A teen girl was dressed up like a prom queen.

I asked where Paul was. His girlfriend, dressed like someone from *Flashdance*, said he was on a beer run. When Paul showed up, he told me, "Hey…I figured I'd take responsibility for having enough beer here." I gave him a hard time for his shirt not having the older Adidas logo.

Paul's dad invited me inside for Mexican food. I was full from earlier but couldn't resist the nachos and tostadas. Anytime someone went inside for food, a small white dog barked at their ankles. Even though the authentic Mexican food was great, most people seemed to opt for the chicken nuggets and wings.

There were a couple of lowriders driven to the party, but a more interesting vehicle I saw was a van for radio station 94.1 FM. I talked with the woman who drove it there. She does production for Clear Channel and told me a lot of interesting radio-station stories. She said A.J., a DJ at 94.1, is as nice in person as he sounds on the air. We both talked a little smack about DJs Jeff and Jer. She told me a story about a radio-station intern who had a website similar to Perez Hilton's, but instead of knocking celebrities, the site takes shots at some of their coworkers.

I told Paul's dad that he must love that he can attend his son's party; some kids wouldn't want their folks there. He said, "I have three kids. They're all eight years apart. I have a good relationship

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with them, and we like hanging out now. They'll invite me over for a beer."

The strobe lights on the driveway and darkness of the backyard made it difficult to take notes. When I overheard someone talking about Stone Temple Pilots singer Scott Weiland having a seizure on a plane, I said, "I might have a seizure trying to write with this flashing light." Paul's dad then offered me a flashlight.

As the DJ turned things up a notch, a few people broke out the cardboard boxes to breakdance on. It was fun to watch. I was there for an hour before leaving.

I never heard an '80s rock song, but then, it wouldn't have fit the vibe and look of the crowd. ■

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PHOTO COLLAGE BY GOMPERS STUDENTS; COVER PHOTO BY ALAN DECKER

Gompers takes a bow

"I remember my first encounter with a student here. I was wearing a suit, and a student comes up to me at lunch with a crowbar in his hand.

Tapping it against his leg, he said, 'Why are you wearing a suit? It is just going to get ripped when you break up a fight.' That was my very first contact with a Gompers student."

Speaking is Vincent Riveroll, director of Gompers Preparatory Academy in the Chollas View area of Southeast San Diego. The incident he's recalling happened in spring 2004. Riveroll was not on staff at what was then two schools, Gompers Secondary and Gompers Middle School, on one campus at the corner of 47th and Hilltop. He was the principal of nearby Keillor. "I was asked by the superintendent," Riveroll recalls, "to bring my vice principal and anyone else that Keillor could afford to go without and to come do lunch duty at Gompers to support the administration because chaos and riots were plaguing this school. So we stayed for that week to help with lunch supervision, and then I got the call to actually come back and open the next school year at Gompers — which had become two schools in one campus, Gompers Middle School and Gompers High School — as principal of the middle school."

continued on page 36



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It was not a plum post for the then–35-year-old Riveroll. "There were four principals in the two years that preceded me," he says.

Violence reigned supreme at Gompers. The school sits in a neighborhood that is home to more than 50 known gangs, and gang culture wasn't suspended at school. If anything, it was exacerbated by kids from rival gangs being thrown together on one campus.

In its architecture, Gompers is a typical 1950s California school — low-slung classroom buildings laid out in parallel lines east to west, covered outdoor hallways about 15 feet wide, and strips of grass growing between the structures. Cecil Steppe, chairman of Gompers' board of governors, walks these hallways on a bright summer morning a few weeks before school starts. A cooling ocean breeze blows from the west down the long, broad, open corridors.

"It was a scary environment for teachers as well as students. They didn't want to be here."

It's a tranquil setting, though one that saw very little tranquility until five years ago. Steppe stops at the intersection of one of the hallways and the corridor that bisects it. "Because of the gang violence this school used to have, these corridors were all lined with chain-link fencing, and there were gates so that when fights broke out these gates could be closed to isolate the behavior. The teachers and students would then lock themselves in classrooms. And we would have SWAT teams on campus."

Riveroll remembers his first days as principal. "The police officers were present on a daily basis at the school. They would park their cars in our parking lot in anticipation of a call."

Despite the heavy police presence, early in his tenure, "There was a riot. The police were actually jumped by the students. It was a very frantic time in Gompers' history, and it was not safe or suitable for anyone, let alone kids."

After school, neighborhood gangs would lie in wait for kids leaving school. "On any given school day," Riveroll recalls, "on our side of the street there would be uniformed police officers on school

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property and — clothed with red or blue gang colors — gang members on the other side of the street waiting to pick their prey. And that was the norm."

Police warned Riveroll and his staff not to cross the street into gangland. "My problem with that was that our kids crossed that street. What about our kids?"

So, like Julius Caesar who crossed the Rubicon in 49 B.C. and started civil war in Rome, Vincent Riveroll, "with a group of committed teachers and staff members," crossed 47th Street and started the war to reclaim Gompers.

The Gates of Wisdom

That was Gompers five years ago, a place to which no well-meaning parent would send his or her child unless there were no alternative. And for many, there wasn't. The school sits in one of the lowest-income neighborhoods in San Diego. "We have a 70 percent poverty rate," says Gompers' teacher and director of development Kathryn Strom, "so 70 percent of our children are from families at or below the poverty rate, which is about $21,000."

The socioeconomic situation of the area has not improved since 2004. And yet here we are at Gompers in fall 2009, and how different things look. It's 7:55 on the Thursday morning of the first week of school. Eight hundred students dressed in tan pants, black shoes, white dress shirts buttoned to the top, and navy blue ties gather in the eucalyptus- and jacaranda-shaded quad on the corner of 47th and Hilltop. They're on school property but outside the chain-link perimeter of the school grounds. They chatter and laugh, but there is no fighting, no posturing, no running or shoving. Twenty or so faculty and staff members, all dressed well enough to work at a law firm, stand among the students. Collectively, they lend a definite air of adult supervision to the scene. "We have faculty and support staff out here to help check uniforms," Strom says. "One of the biggest factors in changing the culture of the school has been having adults on hand and around the kids at all times."

Off campus, at the major intersections on 47th and Euclid down to Market, community members in yellow vests assist kids — most Gompers students walk to school — across the busy streets. Paid by the Jacobs Family Foundation, these community members extend the sense of adult supervision beyond the campus limits.

At 8:00 a.m., Vincent Riveroll — now known as director, not principal — leaps onto a concrete bench. Tanned, well groomed, and decked in a black double-vented suit, the energetic 40-year-old holds a hand up in the air. Within ten seconds, the kids have formed two lines — one of boys, one of girls — and all noise has ceased.

"Good morning, children."

"Good morning, Director Riveroll."

"Please tell me what REACH stands for."

In unison, the children yell, "Respect. Enthusiasm. Achievement. Citizenship. Hard work."

"Good job," Riveroll says while tossing (unsharpened) pencils to the kids as prizes.

Riveroll descends from his perch and makes his way to a gate in the chain-link perimeter. There he's joined by Dolores Garcia, the school's family services coordinator. He stands by the westward fence post, she by the east. Then, while inspirational music blares from the school's public address system ("Ain't No Stopping Us Now" by the Spice Girls, "It's Off to Work We Go" by the Seven Dwarves, and "ABC" by the Jackson 5), the students enter the campus in lines. Riveroll greets each girl as she enters with a handshake and a "good morning." The girls break their silence only to return the greeting while looking Riveroll in the eye. The boys do the same with Garcia. Standing a few feet into the campus, Strom narrates the action. "We call this the Gates of Wisdom. Every morning, the kids line up to come onto campus. When they come through the gate, they are greeted by the director or by one of the other staff. We teach them to shake hands, say good morning, and look the person in the eye when they shake hands. It shows respect, and it's a great life lesson. Then we check their uniforms."

As if on cue, Strom calls to one of the male students, "I need you to button up that top button, and make sure that you tuck that shirt in."

Once on campus, the students hustle straight to class as faculty and staff members standing in the hallways exhort them to do just that. In five minutes, with little noise and lots of hustle and encouragement, all 800 kids are safely in their classrooms — no loitering, no yelling, no running and, most importantly, no fighting.

The Culture War

Before September 2004 was out, Riveroll had

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decided to invite the community in for "work group" discussions on how to improve Gompers. Michelle Evans, now Gompers' assistant to the dean and a board member, attended those meetings. "She was the angriest parent there," Riveroll says with a smile.

You wouldn't believe it, looking at Evans. Her face emanates motherly kindness. But she doesn't deny the charge. And when she gets talking about those days, a tidal wave of strength and attitude flows from her. Her silver and stone bracelets clink and clank as she tells a story about her son, an honors student at prior schools, being tracked into subpar classes and growing more and more disgruntled at Gompers in September 2004. After, by her own admission, chewing out teachers and administrators on campus, she came to one of the first community meetings. "I went home, rested, got dressed, got up, and I was the first one at the door at six o'clock," Evans recalls. "Only ten other parents show up, and all these district staff show up. I am thinking, 'What kind of parents…? No one is here.' Then the district staff tells us in all this big fancy language that basically our school is failing because it hasn't passed AYC or NCLP or

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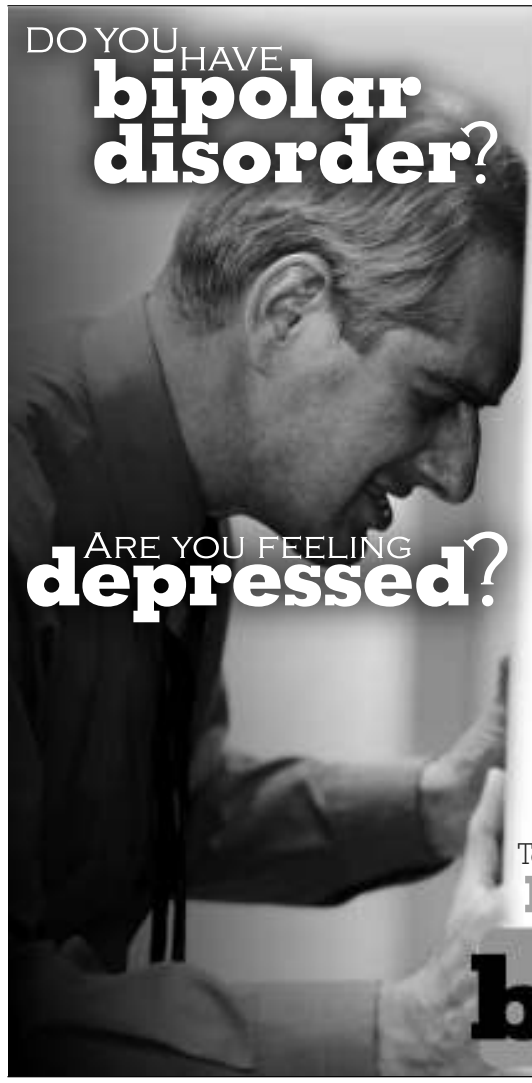

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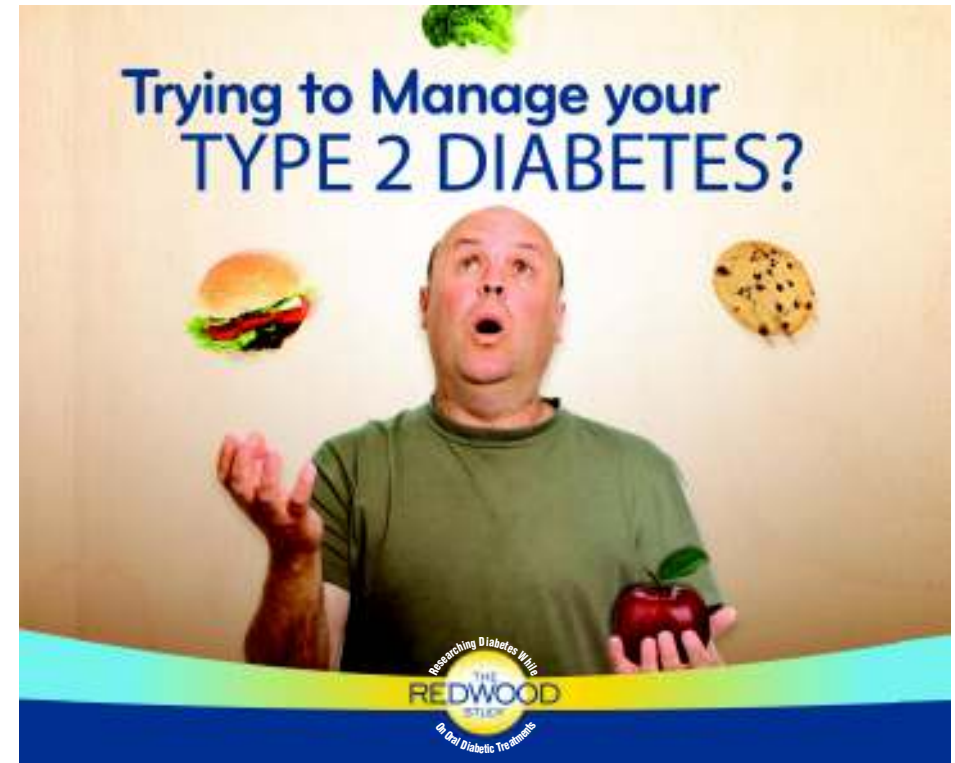


Do you struggle to control your blood sugar levels? Controlling blood sugar is difficult. New medicines are needed, and study volunteers help make this happen. **A new clinical research study is underway.** Join us if you struggle with blood sugar control.

WHEN YOU TAKE PART IN THIS CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY:

- Health professionals closely monitor your diabetes and blood sugar levels
- Qualified participants will receive:
  - Study medicines
  - Blood sugar meter and supplies
  - Diet counseling
  - Study-related medical care and testing
- Qualified participants may be compensated for time and travel

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU ARE:

- Age 18 to 85
- Diagnosed with type 2 diabetes for at least 3 months
- Not taking insulin or other injectable diabetic medicines
- Struggling to control blood sugar (HbAlc greater than or equal to 7% and less than or equal to 10%)

CALL NOW
eStudySite
1-877-500-3788
OR VISIT
www.DiabetesStudies.net
TO SEE IF YOU MAY QUALIFY.

SPACE IS LIMITED
to the number of people who can participate based on meeting study criteria and on a first-come, first-served basis.

something like that. I don't know what those things mean. So I stand up and say, 'First of all, talk to me in a language that I can understand. What is AYC? What is API? What is NCLP? All you white people can tell me is that you are going to close my neighborhood school down. So what am I supposed to do with my children? I don't have a car. I don't think so. You guys are going to fix it.' "

"The first parent meeting," Riveroll recalls, "there was a lot of anger. This group had seen principals come and go and nothing ever change, so why should anyone listen to me?"

The meetings grew larger, up to 35 parents at each, and Riveroll heard a lot more anger. Parents, he says, were "infuriated that we had to bus the kids out of the community to get a good education. We had to get them up at 6:00 a.m. because their own neighborhood school wasn't meeting their needs. A social injustice was happening, and that is a great catalyst for change."

But for decades people had been saying change was needed at Gompers — and at nearly every inner-city school in America, for that matter. Underfunding, inner-city poverty, a lack of two-parent families, state budget cuts, bloated bureaucracies, and other seemingly insurmountable societal ills were offered as root causes. Riveroll had a simpler answer to what was wrong: culture. The violent culture of the surrounding streets spilled onto the campus, despite the police presence. Besides posing a physical danger to students, the nearly daily fights made Gompers an undesirable post for teachers. "We had a 75 percent attrition rate," Strom says, "meaning three-quarters of our teachers were leaving every year. It was a scary environment for teachers as well as students. They didn't want to be here."

"There were 18 vacancies on day one of the [2004–2005] school year," Riveroll adds. "So we started the school year with [teaching] vacancies, and we had substitutes that lasted throughout the whole

Study of
Phantom Limb Pain Treatment



Have you experienced a unilateral amputation (either above or below the knee, or above or below the elbow)?

Do you currently experience phantom limb pain at least once weekly?

If you answered **yes** to both of these questions and are available to take part in **8 weekly 1.5-hour therapy sessions** with 12- and 24-week follow-up appointments, you may be eligible.

Inclusion criteria:
- adult (18 or over)
- unilateral amputation at or above the wrist or ankle
- living within 50 miles of the VA San Diego
- able to read and speak English

Interested in participating?
Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to $160. Participants will be paid $40 at a pre-treatment interview, end-of-treatment interview, as well as at the 12- and 24-week follow-up interviews. Located at VA San Diego.

VA SAN DIEGO HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

To see if you qualify or to learn more about the study, please call Kathleen Parkes:
858-552-8585 ext. 6495



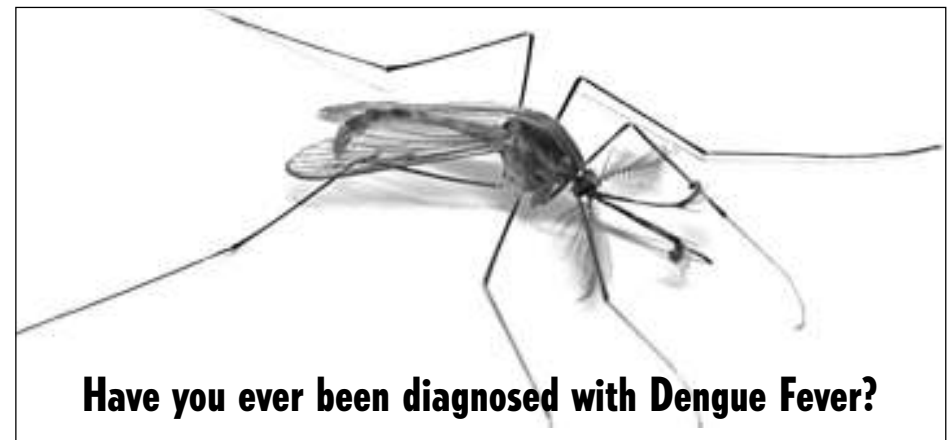
Do you have **bipolar disorder?**
Are you feeling **depressed?**

If so, please contact us today about our reseach study of an investigational bipolar depression medication.

Qualified participants must:
- Be 18 to 65 years of age
- Have had a manic, hypomanic or mixed episode of bipolar disorder
- Have suffered from a depressive episode for at least the past four weeks

Qualified participants receive:
- All study-related care and study medication at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

To learn more, please call toll-free:
SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS
888-365-3203
or visit: bdSTUDY.com



Have you ever been diagnosed with Dengue Fever?
or
Have you lived in India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, the Philippines, South or Central America?

We are conducting research on mosquito-borne viruses that cause fever, and in some cases shock, in humans. Our studies are aimed at developing diagnostic tools and potential vaccines against these viruses. We are looking for healthy volunteers between 18-65 years of age that may qualify for our study and are willing to make blood donations.

Qualified individuals will receive compensation for participation in our study.

If you would like more information or think that you may be eligible for this study, please call our study coordinator at **858-752-6979** or email **study@liai.org**.

LIAI LA JOLLA INSTITUTE for ALLERGY & IMMUNOLOGY

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM SCIATIC PAIN?

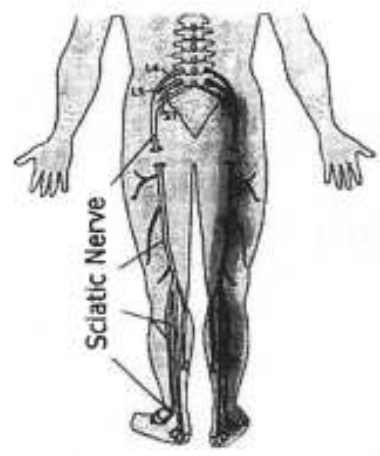
If you have low back pain combined with a pain through the buttock and down one leg, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication.

Requirements for participation in the study are:

- Ages 18 to 65
- Pain present for at least 2 weeks

If you qualify you will receive:

- Study-related evaluations, test, and study medication
- Compensation for time and travel



To learn more about this study, please call:
Triwest Research Associates
888-582-9626



A 3-month clinical trial for men and women, from 20-80 years of age, who struggle with the bloating, discomfort, and straining associated with **chronic constipation** is underway. An oral investigational medication will be evaluated to see if it may address these and other symptoms of constipation.

To possibly qualify:
- Male or female, 20-80 years of age
- Have a history of chronic constipation (fewer than 3 bowel movements per week) for at least 6 months
- Bloating, straining and discomfort
- Not taking narcotics or medication which can cause constipation

Participants may receive at no cost all study-related:
- Exam and consultation with a board-certified specialist
- Labs, EKG, colonoscopy (if necessary) and study medications
- Compensation for your time and travel

Interested call:
(619) 521-2841
Medical Center for Clinical Research
www.mccresearch.com

Do You Have A Non-Healing Wound Or Sore On Your Leg?



We are conducting a clinical research study of Dermagraft®, a tissue-engineered dermal replacement, in the healing of venous leg ulcers.

We need participants:
- 18 years of age or older
- With three or fewer leg wounds

Qualified participants will receive:
- Examinations by a board-certified physician
- Study-related examinations and therapy at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

No Health Insurance Required
Confidentiality Maintained

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH

Call us at 858-279-SKIN (7546)
or email us at info@therapeuticsresearch.com

Going, Going, Going
Too Often at Night



A 16-week clinical research study is underway to evaluate a marketed oral medication taken daily for **urgent, frequent nighttime urinations in men and women over 18 years of age.** Getting up numerous times at night causes interrupted sleep and subsequent tiredness. If you have been getting up multiple times nightly for at least 3 months, you may have nocturia, or frequent nighttime urination.

To possibly qualify to participate:
- Men or women, 18 years or older and experiencing overactive bladder symptoms with frequency and urgency, especially at night, for at least three months

Qualified participants may receive:
- Study-related examination and consultation by a board-certified physician
- Study-related labs and EKG at no cost
- Study-related medication or placebo (an inactive look-alike pill) at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

Medical Center for Clinical Research
(619) 521-2841 • www.mccresearch.com

Does your **knee hurt?**

Be part of our important knee pain study!

Have you been diagnosed with osteoarthritis of the knee? Are you at least 40 years or older? Then you may be eligible for a clinical trial to investigate an investigational treatment option to treat your knee pain.



Triwest Research Associates

888-582-9626

exXtend OSTEOARTHRITIS KNEE PAIN STUDY

KneePainClinicalTrial.com

It's your move!

year. There was a whole system that was denying equality in education for the students of this community, and that needed to change."

Asked to explain his program of culture change, Riveroll instead offers to show what he means. He walks down one of Gompers' broad hallways toward the intersection with a crossing corridor, arriving just as "transition" — the time between classes — starts. Kids exit their classrooms silently in lines accompanied by their teachers. There's very little talking. "Before, kids would come out, congregate, and fight. No one was on supervision," Riveroll says. "The transitions were a madhouse: kids running, breaking windows, dipping in and out of classrooms, fighting, very loud. There were huge tardy rates for classes. Even if their class was five seconds away, they would be ten minutes late. Now look, this is the transition. Supervision is all around — everybody is on supervision. These are *our* students. They are our kids."

The kids, still in their lines, stop when Riveroll holds up his hand and calls out, "Does anybody know what REACH stands for?"

"*R* is for respect. *E* is for enthusiasm. *A* is for achievement. *C* is for citizenship. *H* is for hard work," the kids respond in unison.

Turning to a class of sixth graders, standing in lines nearby, he says, "Does this class, only four days old, know the mission statement?"

"The mission of Gompers Preparatory Academy, in partnership with University of California, San Diego and our community, is to accelerate academic achievement for all students through a college preparatory culture and curriculum."

Riveroll turns to a different group of students. "I see some Latin students there. Please step forward and give us the mission statement in Latin."

The kids dutifully step forward and recite, *"Status Missionis: Finis 'Gompers Preparatory Academy' una cum Universitate Studiorum Cali-*

PARANOIA, DELUSIONS, DISORGANIZED THOUGHTS, HALLUCINATIONS

If you are having trouble controlling your symptoms, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational medication for people with schizophrenia.

You (or someone you know) may be able to participate in the STEP study if you:

• Are 18-65 years old • Have been diagnosed with schizophrenia

• Are experiencing more symptoms, or more disruptive symptoms than usual

• Are hospitalized or may benefit from care within a hospital setting

Ask your doctor if the STEP study is right for you. Go to **www.step203.com** or call **760-806-9200** for more information.

EXCELL RESEARCH

BOARD-CERTIFIED PSYCHIATRISTS PROVIDING EXCELLENT PATIENT CARE AND QUALITY RESEARCH

3998 Vista Way, Suite 100, Oceanside, CA 92056

forniae Didacopolitana ac civitate nostra, est acceleratio cursus discendi omnibus discipulis qui apti fiant ad Lycaeum per doctrinam culturamque."

Looking pleased as punch, Riveroll turns to a guest. "Culture," he says. "And, by the way, this is free public education."

The Charter War

The replacement of the culture of violence with a culture of respect and achievement has produced good fruit. Fights are a rarity, not a daily occurrence. Instead of losing teachers at a 75 percent annual rate, Gompers now keeps 80 percent. And the school's Academic Performance Index, the California Department of Education's bottom-line indicator of school performance, rose from a 541 (out of a possible 1000) in Riveroll's first year to 622 in the 2007–2008 school year. It's the biggest percentage increase of any school serving a similar demographic in San Diego Unified.

In order to achieve these successes, Gompers Middle School became Gompers Charter Middle School during the second half of the 2004–2005 school year. (This year, the school added ninth and tenth grades and is known as Gompers Preparatory Academy.) The transition to charter school was not easy, because San Diego Unified School District and the teachers' union were against the change.

RESEARCH STUDIES

Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes?

Dr. Henry and his associates have a clinical research study that is looking at the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication (similar to aspirin) compared to placebo, in the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes. The study drug is approved by the FDA to treat arthritis, but it has not yet been approved for diabetes. See if the TINSAL study is right for you.

Duration:
- Approximately 55 weeks total: 11 clinical study site visits at UCSD
- Study visits may include: an initial screening visit, vitals, laboratory samples, physical exam, EKG, medical history, quality-of-life questionnaires, blood sugar readings from provided glucose monitor

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

Inclusion Criteria:
- Males or Females aged 18-74
- Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
- Diabetes controlled with diet and exercise or up to 3 medications, stable for 8 weeks (excluding current use of Actos, Byetta, and insulin)
- HbA1c between 7.0-9.5%
- No recent weight loss of greater than 10 lbs. or currently on any weight loss drugs
- No Plavix, Heparin, Coumadin, or any other anticoagulants (aspirin OK)

If you have any questions about the study or would like to find out if you are eligible, please contact **Research Coordinator at: (858) 552-4326**
Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to **$700.**

Infants & Toddlers



Infants & Toddlers are needed for an investigational Vaccine research study for RSV and Parainfluenza Virus.



Please call for more information

888-250-9925

Compensation for time and travel.

CALIFORNIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Does major depression change your outlook?

A clinical research study – STEP-D (Safety, Tolerability, and Efficacy Program) – is now underway to explore an investigational medication for major depressive disorder (MDD) to see if it may work when taken with an approved antidepressant.

You (or someone you know) may be eligible to participate in the STEP-D study if you:

• Are 18 to 65 years of age • Have been told by your doctor that you have MDD
• Are experiencing depression lasting at least 8 weeks
• Have tried at least one antidepressant without success

In addition to receiving study-related physical exams and laboratory services at no charge, participants may receive the investigational medication and will be monitored by a medical team, including a study doctor. After the STEP-D study ends, some participants may be eligible to take the investigational medication as part of another research study.

Ask your doctor if the STEP-D study is right for you.

AFFILIATED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Have you been diagnosed with schizophrenia and currently taking medication?

Are you:
- Male or female between the ages of 18-55?
- Currently taking a stable dose of medication?
- Currently in a stable living situation?

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our investigational drug research study. If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge. You may receive study medication to be used in addition to the schizophrenia medication you are currently taking. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

AFFILIATED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Sadness? Low energy? Trouble sleeping? Can't concentrate? These are symptoms of depression!

If you, or someone you know, is:
- Between the ages of 18 and 55
- Currently experiencing a depressive episode
- In overall good health

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible to participate in a research study for an investigational drug for depression. If you qualify and choose to participate, you will receive study-related consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge to you or your insurance company.

You may be reimbursed for participation.

AFFILIATED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Do you want to quit smoking?

Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you will ever do because:
- You are likely to live longer
- Quitting smoking will lower your chance of having a heart attack, stroke, or cancer
- The people you live with, especially your children, will be healthier
- You will have extra money to spend on things other than cigarettes

Affiliated Research Institute is conducting a clinical trial on an investigational vaccine that may help participants quit smoking and maintain smoking cessation. To qualify for this research study, you must be between the ages of 18 and 65 years and smoke an average of 10 cigarettes per day. If you qualify for participation, all research medication and study-related care will be provided at no cost to you. You will receive smoking cessation counseling to help you succeed in your effort to stop smoking.

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

AFFILIATED RESEARCH INSTITUTE

If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:
(619) 688-6565
See our website: www.ari-inc.com

How does simply going charter change the culture of a school?

"It doesn't immediately," answers Cecil Steppe, Gompers' chairman of the board, "but it gives you the freedom to do it. Under the district, they make a lot of the financial decisions. They make all the hiring decisions, curricular decisions, structural decisions."

A charter school makes those decisions on its own. For that reason, during the workgroup meetings at the beginning of the 2004–2005 school year, Riveroll, Gompers faculty, and parents decided to make a push to go charter. "There were three major issues that the community and parents decided were the main problems of the school," Riveroll recalls, "the safety issue, the ability to recruit and retain teachers, and increasing parental involvement."

Even as principal, Riveroll had very little control over recruitment and retention of teachers. "A classic example of how this school was neglected, in terms of not having a staff that was capable and willing," Riveroll says, "was during my first year of interviewing for the vacancies. I did not hire one [particular] person because I felt as the principal that he would not be an effective fit for the needs of the school. But that person, despite my having sat across the room from him and saying, 'This isn't the place for you,' ended up, unbeknownst to me, at the first-day-of-school staff meeting, saying, 'I was assigned here anyway.' And the story plays out

"The union representative said, 'My responsibility is to the teachers, not to the students.'"

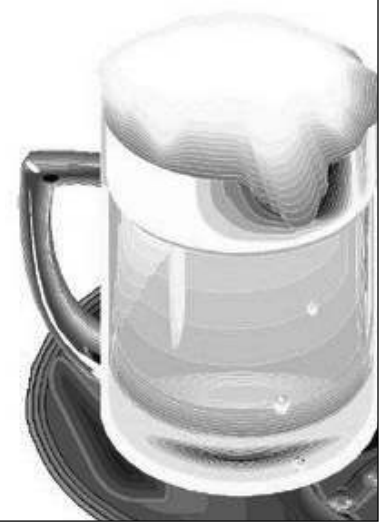
Attn: Heavy Drinkers

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

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

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

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



The Scripps Research Institute



Irritable Bowel Syndrome with Constipation

Abdominal pain and constipation can slow you down. Researchers are evaluating an investigational medication to see if it helps Irritable Bowl Syndrome with Constipation. You may qualify for a research study if you experience any of the following symptoms:

- **Abdominal pain**
- **Bloating and/or straining**
- **Constipation** (fewer than 3 bowl movements per week)

All study-related care will be provided at no cost. Insurance is not needed.

To learn more, call:
GW Research, Inc.
353 Church Ave., Suite B
Chula Vista
619-585-8882

Have you taken medication for your depression, but it hasn't helped?



UCSD Researchers are looking for people who have taken two or more antidepressants in the past, but are still depressed, to take part in a research study investigating an experimental antidepressant compared to placebo. The study drug is not approved by the FDA and it is designed to work differently than other antidepressants.

Eligible participants must be willing to stay in the hospital for up to 16 days.

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.

For more information, please call: 1-866-UC PRICE
(1-866-827-7423)

UCSD

RESEARCH STUDIES



Hand Eczema?

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

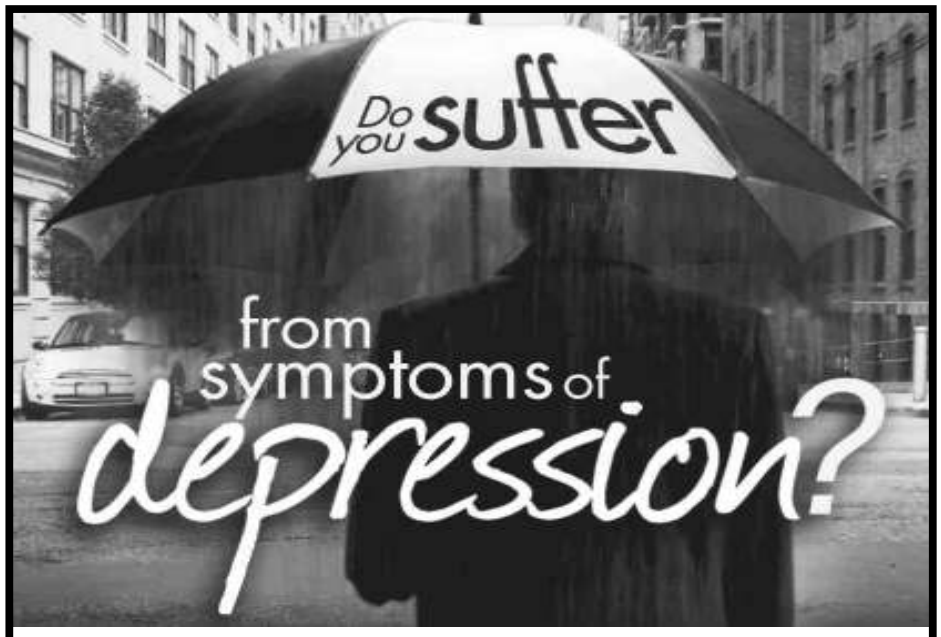
We need participants:
- 18-75 years of age
- with hand eczema lasting at least six months

Qualified participants will receive:
- study-related evaluations by a board-certified dermatologist and study medication at no cost
- compensation for time and travel

No insurance required.
Conveniently located in Kearny Mesa.

Call us at: 619-512-DERM (3376)
E-mail: info@therapeuticsresearch.com
Website: www.therapeuticsresearch.com

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH



Have you tried taking **ONE** or **TWO ANTI-DEPRESSANTS** but aren't relieved from your depression symptoms? If so, please contact us today about our research study of an investigational depression medication.

Qualified participants must:
- Be 18 to 65 years of age
- Have tried taking one or two anti-depressant treatments without relief from depression symptoms
- Have felt symptoms of depression for at least the past eight weeks

Qualified participants receive:
- All study-related care and study medication at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

To learn more, please call toll-free at:
888-365-3203 or visit:

trdstudy.com
Synergy Clinical Research
SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS



Ladies...

Lost that loving feeling?

A 6-month clinical research study is underway to evaluate premenopausal women who have been bothered by a decrease in sexual desire. An investigational medication for hypoactive sexual desire disorder (HSDD) will be evaluated in premenopausal women.

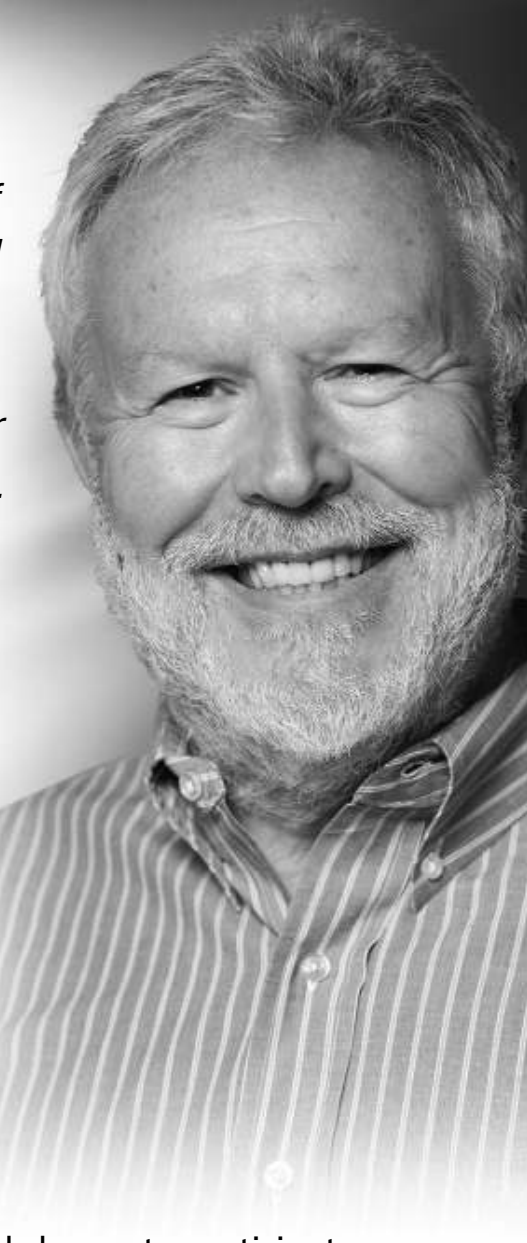
To qualify for the study you must:
1) be a healthy premenopausal woman
2) be in a heterosexual relationship for at least 1 year
3) be bothered by your decreased sexual desire for at least 6 months
4) have no history of depression

Qualifying participants receive at no cost, study-related:
1) consultation and examination by a board-certified OB-GYN
2) labs, EKG, Pap smears, and study drug
3) compensation for time and travel

Interested, call: **Medical Center For Clinical Research**
619-521-2841
www.mccresearch.com

Controlling Your Diabetes without Insulin?

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



To qualify, you must be:

- 18-60 years of age
- Managing your Type 2 Diabetes without insulin
- (If female) post-menopausal or surgically sterile
- A nonsmoker
- Otherwise healthy

If you qualify and choose to participate you may be compensated up to $2,000 for time and travel. Four overnights may be required.

For more information, call Profil Toll Free
@ **1.866.245.8173**

profil
ANSWERS FOR DIABETES AND OBESITY

that within the first quarter there was an opening at a more desirable, affluent school, and that employee ended up abandoning our kids and leaving me with yet another vacancy. And that was just one of the many reasons why there were vacancies. It was a revolving door of vacancies. How can kids learn if they don't have any consistency?"

One attempt to solve the teacher turnover and vacancy problem involved dialogue with the teachers' union, the San Diego Education Association, "to ask for waivers on the hiring process with Gompers so that we could hire teachers that wanted to be here and maybe do some incentive pay to come to this particular school. And the parents and the community were denied by the teachers' union at that time."

Several reasons were cited by the union representative. "It was against the union contract," Riveroll says, "and the bargaining agreement. They were adamant that they couldn't do something for one school and not do it for all schools. It broke parents' hearts. I sat in that room and heard the parents pleading with a union rep from SDEA, 'Please help us.' And the union representative said, 'I know this may sound hard, but my responsibility is to the teachers, not to the students.' And parents just started to weep.

"One of the major roadblocks at this particular school was vacancies that weren't being filled. So we went to the superintendent, we went to the district, and we went to the union to really find a way within the system to make these changes. And to have it be denied at every level broke the parents' hearts. They saw the bureaucracy firsthand."

That was when the charter idea moved to the fore. Riveroll had resisted the idea because of the immensity of the task. But when all official channels failed, he felt Gompers, if it were to improve, had no choice but to go charter. "So this amazing, committed staff would work late at night after full ten-hour days. We would grab some dinner, and all the parents would come in at night, and starting at 7:00 p.m., we would all work late into the evening looking for solutions and writing our charter that put students first and states that all students can go to college. Word got out, and UCSD became involved. Many of the things that we wanted for our

Nighttime trips to the bathroom keeping you awake?



We are currently recruiting non-smoking men and women for a research study to evaluate the effectiveness of an investigational nasal spray to reduce the number of times you get up each night to urinate.

- **Age 50 years or older**
- **Wake up two or more times a night to urinate**
- **Have experienced these symptoms regularly for 6 months or more**

You may qualify for this study.
Qualified participants may receive confidential study-related medical care including:

- **At no cost:**
- **Physical exam**
- **Lab tests**
- **Study medication**
- **Additional compensation for travel**
- **Other expenses may also be provided**

Call: 619-299-6500

SD URO RESEARCH

www.adultnocturia.com

Chronic Low Back Pain



Do you wake up to pain?

Consider volunteering for a clinical research study

To qualify, you must:

- ☐ Be at least 18 years of age
- ☐ Have chronic low back pain that you treat with medication
- ☐ Other criteria will apply

As a qualified participant, you will see a study doctor to discuss your pain. All study-related care is included and no insurance is required.

CHRONIC LOW BACK PAIN
Clinical Research Study

Please Call: 877-899-5355

www.chroniclowbackpainstudy.com

RESEARCH STUDIES

Does your child have eyelid redness and swelling?



They may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study involving investigational medication.

Participating children will receive the following at no cost:

- *Study-related eye exam*
- *Study medication*

For more information about the study, please contact:

Patti Simpson
760-758-2008

Pendleton EYE CENTER



Are you a healthcare professional with an opioid dependence?

Could a monthly investigational medication break the cycle?

Vivitrol®, an FDA-approved medication to treat alcoholism, is being investigated to treat opioid dependence.

Participants will receive, at no charge, study-related:
• Physical exams • Laboratory tests • Study medication

All participants will be monitored by a medical team and the study doctor.
All information is strictly confidential

To learn more, please call North County Clinical Research: 760-639-4378

HEAD INJURY?
BUMP ON THE HEAD?
CONCUSSION?

ALWAYS
SLEEPY OR
TIRED?

DO YOU KNOW THERE MIGHT BE A CONNECTION?

CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY NOW ENROLLING IN YOUR AREA

Many people with a head injury may feel sleepy during the day, even if the injury happened years ago. Researchers are inviting those with a head injury who feel sleepy during the day to take part in a **clinical study**. This study will assess how well a study medicine works for people who feel sleepy during the day as a result of head injury.

TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST:

- Be age 18 to 65
- Have had 1 head injury in the past 10 years
- Feel sleepy or tired 5 or more days a week on average
- Be willing to take tests and medicine for 12 weeks
- Be available to sleep overnight in a sleep lab 5 times

IF YOU QUALIFY:

- You may learn more about your sleep patterns
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school were already being implemented at the Preuss School, which is also a charter school. So they sent representatives to see if this charter could be matched with the university. And that partnership seemed very seamless to happen. It seemed like a natural fit. So they stayed at the table and really became actively involved with the work group at night."

Signatures of parents supporting the charter idea had to be gathered, as did signatures of teachers. It was an arduous process made more difficult by the resistance from officialdom. "There were so many people who were opposed to this even happening," Riveroll says, "that the fact that there is a charter school here today is astonishing."

"The resistance was never at a community level," Steppe says. "We were weary of our kids catching a bus to go somewhere else to get an education. It was at the district level and union level."

"As soon as the work groups started moving toward charter," Riveroll says, "that is when the district's and the union's full opposition emerged. Every kind of roadblock that you can think of happened. From scare tactics, to threats to teachers for siding with the charter, to closed late-night meetings to scare teachers not to go back to those work-group meetings and not to voice approval of it, to the actual removal of me as principal, with two days' notice. It was 'Pack up and leave. You are being promoted to mentor principal to all the principals in the district.' In the middle of the year, they say you have two days to pack up — you are going to the district office and

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leaving the school after months of building trust with the community and the parents and the students and a core group of teachers."

Asked what was the source of district opposition to Gompers' charter aspirations, Riveroll responds with a question: "What's the root of all evil?"

Gompers receives about $5.5 million per year in average daily attendance money from the State of California. "The district didn't want to lose control of the school and the revenue it brings in. But you also had people that believe that after 30 years of failing schools that all of a sudden, within the system that failed it, we could still fix it. They thought it didn't need to go charter. Parents and community members who lived through it were saying, 'We have heard this before.' "

The issue came to a head at a contentious March 1, 2005 Board of Education meeting at San Diego Unified's headquarters in University Heights, when Gompers student Maryam Saadati "walks up to the mike, and in an auditorium packed with 300 people bickering and making a lot of loud noise, Maryam clears her throat and timidly says, 'Don't we deserve good things?' And the entire auditorium was silent. A child's voice shut everybody up. And shortly after, the board voted 5–0 to approve the charter" and reinstate Riveroll as principal.

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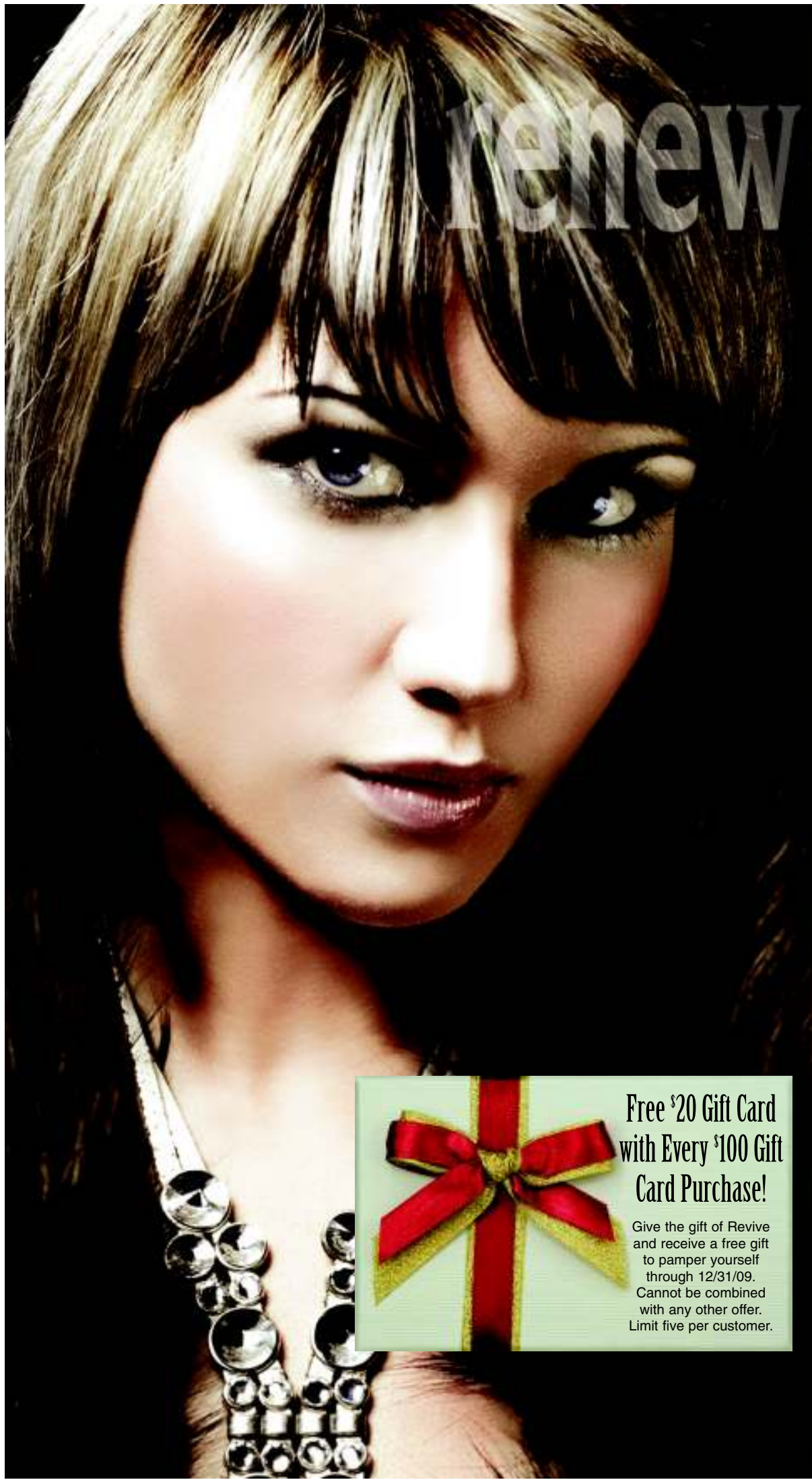

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Riveroll understands there's more to preparing kids for college than putting them in uniforms and telling them they're college prep. Along with solving the teacher-vacancy problem and the safety issue, going charter allowed Gompers to institute curricular changes. One new idea Riveroll brought in was to return to an old idea, the study of Latin. Understanding that Latin can be a tough sell to parents, he supplies them with information on why it's important. "Studying Latin," the information packet states, "improves vocabulary… 67% of all English words have their origin in the Latin language. Indeed, the English language even contains a large number of actual Latin words which have not changed (in meaning or spelling) since the time of the Romans…just to name a few: superior, census, interim, dictum, inferior.… Up to 80% of all words in French, Spanish, Italian, Rumanian, and Portuguese…come from Latin. This makes the learning of these languages considerably easier as the Latin language supplies so many roots of the language being studied. As far as English is concerned, about 50% of the words are derived from Latin.

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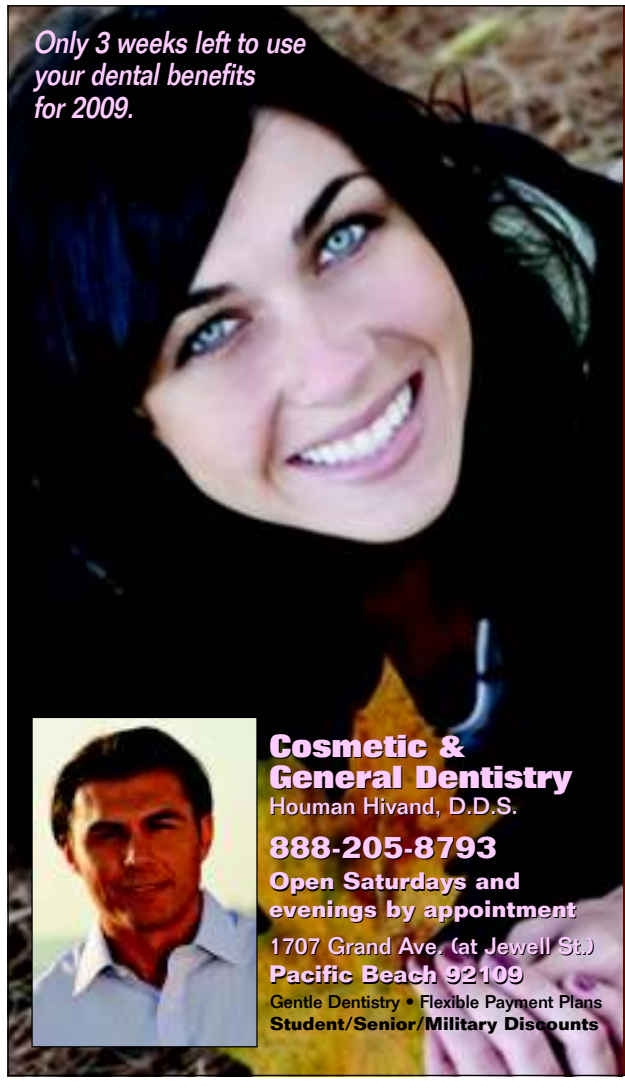

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Beyond Latin, Gompers has installed the "A–G Curriculum," which, Riveroll explains, "is the specific course work that students need to complete in order to be eligible for UC and Cal State schools. Proficiency in A–G requirements demonstrates that students have the rigorous courses and skill set to be successful in college."

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Riveroll lists other curricular changes that have been made to establish a college preparatory culture at Gompers. "All eighth graders take Algebra 1. Before the charter, only 50 students took Algebra 1 in eighth grade. All students will take at least one AP class before graduation. Ninth graders take geometry. Students are required to perform presentations of learning for each unit. High school students are enrolled in university prep classes to help with college entrance. Students in need of extra academic support are enrolled in college study group for math or English support, which is an additional 90 minutes of math or English support every other day, beyond their regular math or English class, in a 15:1 [student-to-teacher ratio] setting. All students attend a weekly college class."

The weekly college class, which Riveroll teaches, is held in Gompers' auditorium. "College class," Gompers' website states, "serves as an opportunity to connect and communicate with the student body in a formal setting that sim-

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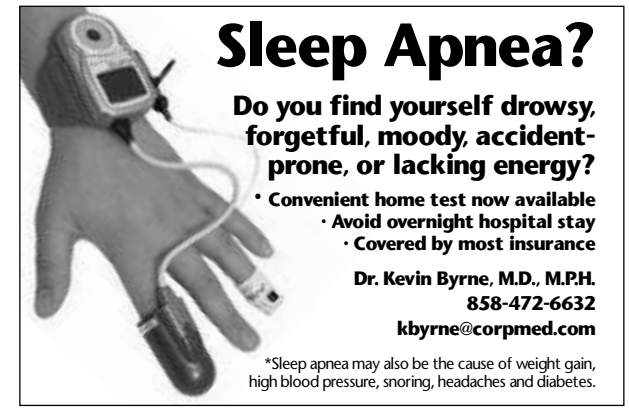





ulates a large college lecture hall. With a high regard to respect and discipline, students are educated on schoolwide events, areas of growth, areas of achievement, and character education as it relates to school culture. College class also serves as a platform for students to learn public-speaking skills that will serve in other formal settings. College class is the foundation of school culture that supports the overall instructional program at [Gompers Preparatory Academy]."

Another key piece of the budding college prep culture at Gompers is the involvement of the University of California at San Diego. "UCSD is involved on many levels," Riveroll says. "We are modeled after the Preuss School at UCSD. Three of our boardmembers are UCSD professors. College tutors come in to work directly with our students, and UCSD interns come to us as part of their credential program. And UCSD CREATE [Center for Research on Educational Equity, Assessment, and Teaching Excellence] provides professional development and data-evaluation services. Each year we sign a memorandum of understanding with the university that spells out these services and gives us permission to use the UCSD logo. However, we do not receive any funding from the university. [And] our students do not have access to any kind of special admissions track to UCSD, although we make it a priority for every student to know the A–G requirements for acceptance to the UC system. Through our partnership with UCSD, our students have access to the campus through many field-trip opportunities each year, from general campus tours to attending lectures and content-area-specific field trips."

The Preuss School is a middle and high school founded at the university in 1999 and specifically designed to provide a college-preparatory environment and curriculum to inner-city students who, if they go on to graduate from college, would be the first in their families to do so. "The second mission [of Preuss]," Riveroll explains, "was to serve as a model school to study and develop best practices in the college preparation of low-income, urban students to be disseminated to improve public education. When Gompers decided to become an independent charter school, UCSD professors involved in the Preuss project saw an opportunity to fulfill this

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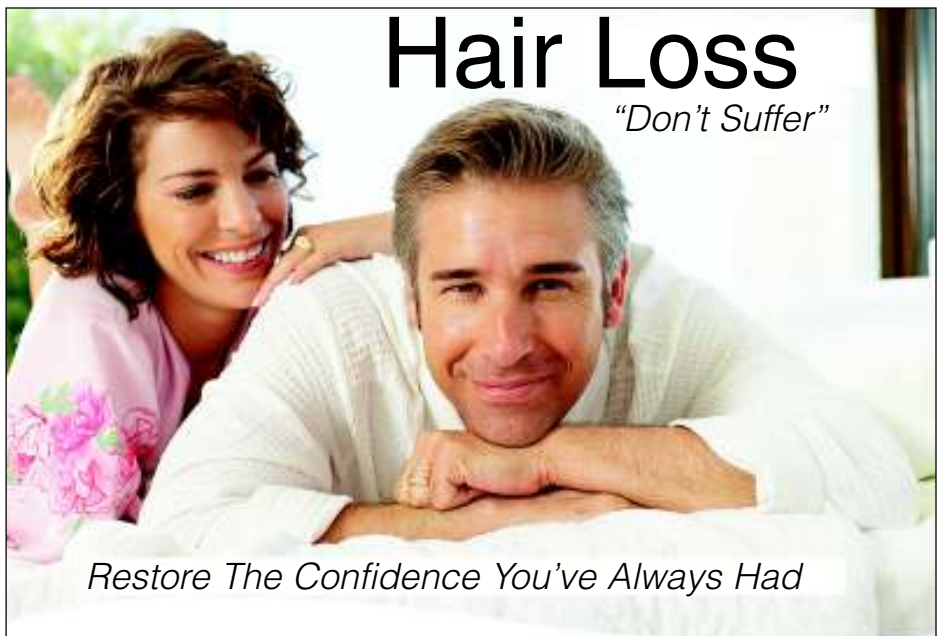

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second mission by implementing the best practices from Preuss into one of the urban neighborhoods in which many of their students live. Many of the structures of Preuss have been duplicated with success over the past four years at Gompers Prep."

Gompers vs. San Diego Unified

Test scores are up. Violence is down. Teachers are being retained. Inner-city students are taking college preparatory courses. You'd think San Diego Unified would be thrilled by the turnaround at what was once one of its worst schools. But the relationship between Gompers and the district has, since the beginning of the charter days, been strained. "But I also think that you see the friction between charters and districts all over the United States," says Strom.

"Because the money follows the students," Steppe adds.

The school district has the power to place special-education students at any of its schools, including charter schools. And Gompers, Steppe says, receives a disproportionately high number. "Last year," Steppe says, "18 percent of our students were special-ed students. That was higher than anyplace else in this district. So what we did was, because we believe that every child has the capacity to learn, we mainstreamed a lot of our special-ed students."

The problem is, Gompers had to pay the district to oversee the school's special education, and it had to use the special-education teachers the district sent. This year, Gompers has hired Northern California's El Dorado County Office of Education to oversee special education. The $520,000 Gompers pays El Dorado County is $89,000 less than it had been paying San Diego Unified. Beyond the savings, the switch to El Dorado allows Gompers to hire its own special-education teachers who, Strom says, "we know will buy into the way we do things here, because we hired them ourselves."

There have been other disputes with the district. This past summer, the district



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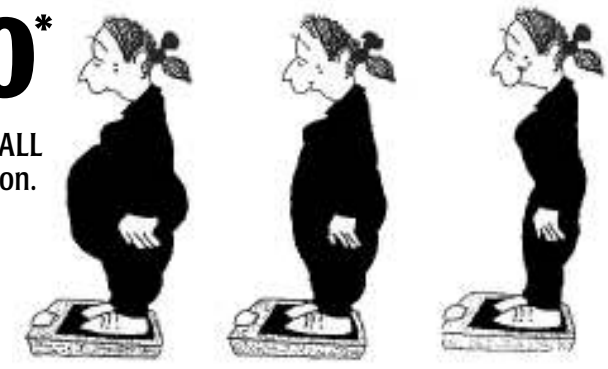

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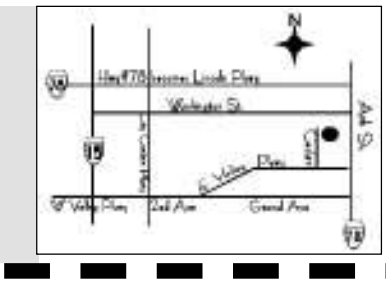



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announced plans to appropriate enough of Gompers' grassless athletic field to erect 11 classroom bungalows for neighboring Millennial Tech Middle School. On top of that, the district declared its intention to build a bus turnaround on the north part of Gompers' campus, hard by State Route 94. Gompers objected, maintaining that the nature of its charter gives it discretion over how all the land within its fences is used.

In late July, Gompers was prepared to initiate legal action on this point, when the two parties agreed to meet and work out some kind of compromise, which is still being hammered out. Says Riveroll, "The district is holding monthly work-group meetings with both Millennial Tech parents and Gompers parents to create a long-range master plan for the site. The district is creating drawings that reflect the parents' wishes for the district to build a high school sports complex for Gompers Prep, a gym for Gompers Prep, and a new academic building for Gompers Prep. It will be up to the Board of Education to approve the plans and the funding for such projects."

Asked if the compromise will end antagonism from the district, Steppe smiles and shakes his head. "There will always be something. But I've told them, 'We're not going anywhere. So if you want to come after us, you'd better bring your A-game, because we are going to fight you every step of the way.' "

Welcome, Honored Guests

Strom leads a guest into a tenth-grade English class where Ms. Hobbs is teaching a class on Shakespeare. When the visitors enter, the class stands up, and one young man says, "Repeat after me: 'Welcome, honored guests.' "

"Welcome, honored guests."

The class sits and resumes its discussion of climax and denouement in Shakespeare. Strom motions to one girl to come outside for a chat. Her name is Shanique Davis. She's dressed in tan pants, a dress blouse, and a navy blue tie. Blue and green beads accent her braided hair. A pretty smile flashes across her face when she's asked about the mandatory uniform. "I like wearing it," she says. "First of all, it saves time. This morning I was running behind, and I would have been late for school if I'd had to pick out what I was going to wear. With the uniform, I don't even have to think about it. I just throw it on and head out the door."

But convenience isn't the only reason Davis likes the uniform. "I've been to schools without uniforms, and people spend a lot of time looking at what other people are wearing and talking about it. 'Did you see what she was wearing? Oh my gosh, look at those shoes. How embarrassing.' At Gompers, we don't have to worry about that. We can focus on learning." ■

— Ernie Grimm

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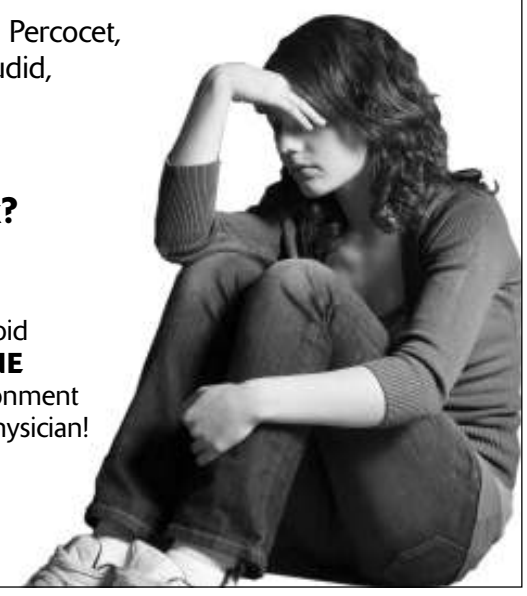

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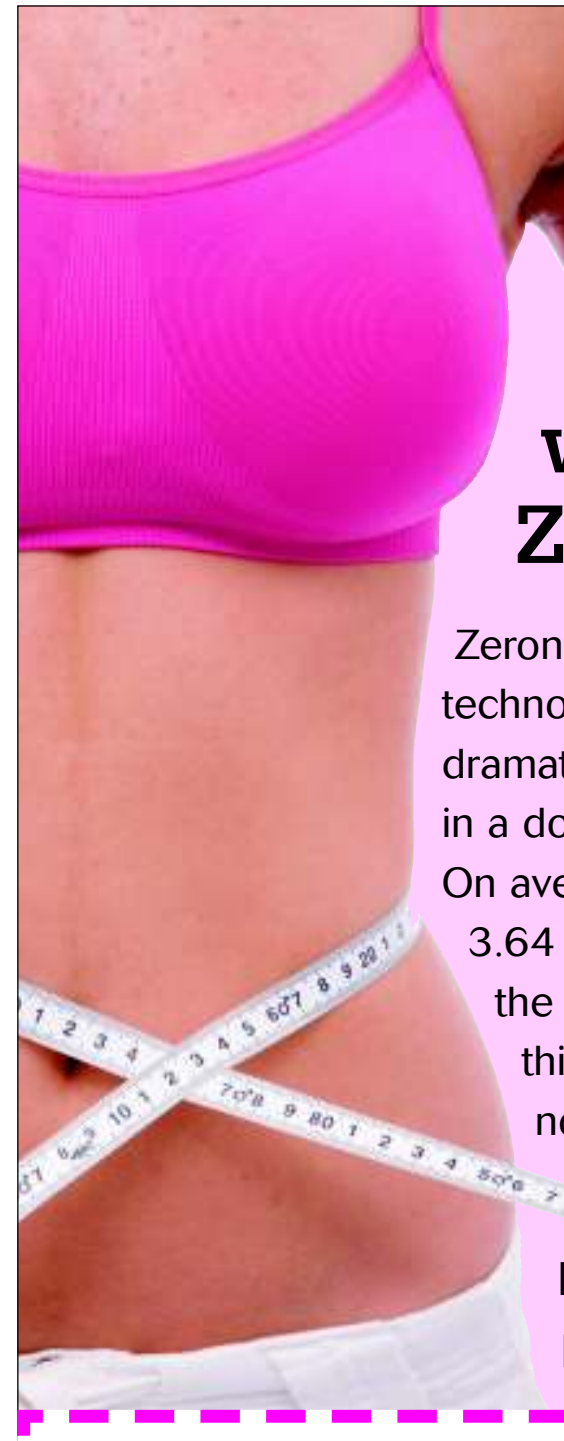

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In Memory of



When I woke up this morning, I had an idea of how I would spend the anniversary of my father's death. I imagined it to be the kind of day straight out of a movie, as if I should have a voice-over narrating the events.



Author: Siobhan Braun
Neighborhood: Tierrasanta
Age: 30
Occupation: Homemaker

Editor's note: This is the winner of November's $500 first-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-essay contest.

Deadline for the next contest is December 31, midnight.

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

I imagined Don LaFontaine's voice booming, "In memory of her father's passing, she set out for the beach house where he spent his final days on earth." Only things didn't go quite the way I imagined.

Today was one of those beautiful San Diego days where I could get away with wearing a light sundress and thin sweater. That's what I was wearing when I arrived in Mission Beach at 9:45 a.m. When I neared the house, I saw a shirtless guy with a sketchpad sitting on the porch. I paused in front of him, straining to see inside the tiny rental unit. I don't know what I thought I would see. Maybe a small memento from our time there, the pale pink shovel my daughter used while building her sandcastles or a shell that one of the boys had picked off the beach. Nothing seemed familiar. I looked at the dirty sand bucket inside the gate and remembered vacuuming the endless pebbles of sand that the kids trekked in while my dad was sleeping in the other room.

All at once, I remembered what it felt like during his final days. I recalled

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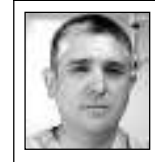

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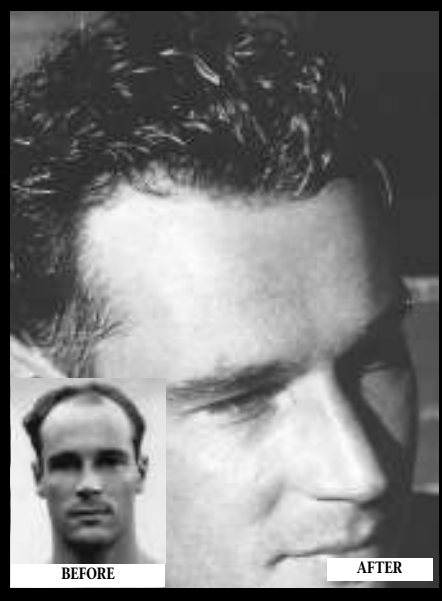

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the moment he stopped eating altogether and the quiet panic we all felt. I remembered his freshly shaven face the day my brother spent an hour gently applying shaving cream and working a razor across our dad's unusually stubbled face. I felt the beauty of that moment all over again. I recalled the gentle and cheerful way my children sat with their grandfather, singing songs and laughing, my sister's warm-hearted humor and the artful way she made my dad feel so at ease. I felt my mom's strength and beauty, the way she lovingly washed his body after he passed. It all came back heavy and hard like a fresh sadness, not one that I had carried with me for the past 365 days.

Before he died, I had an idea of what it would feel like when he passed. I thought about it. I even imagined it. When it happened, it was nothing like I expected. I felt guilty for being so sad. It must have something to do with my Catholic upbringing. Catholics aren't one for outward displays of emotion. We are rigid by nature. I felt ashamed by my grief. I didn't allow myself to mourn. It felt selfish to be upset.

I was robotic in my actions. The day after my dad's death, I got the kids ready for school as usual. I icily told their teachers that their grandfather had died and we would be leaving for his funeral within a few days. That same day I attended my 9:15 anthropology class and behaved as if it were just another day until my teacher took out the skull of a monkey. She passed it around the room for us to hold. I thought about my dad's brain and the tumors that spread everywhere. I imagined the size and shape of his tumors. I started feeling woozy. I stumbled out of class and threw up in the bathroom. I sat like a stone on the bench outside of my anthropology room for the next hour, waiting for the students to filter out so I could get my stuff. On the car ride home, I allowed myself to cry. I cried big gulping sobs until my face was red and swollen. I didn't send my kids to school the following day. I gave myself permission to let the sadness in.

For a while, I dreamt about him nightly. In my sleep, we would spend the day together. We would walk together through the forest preserves outside of Chicago. We would pick shells along Pacific Beach, or he would push my daughter on the swing at the park or play with my boys in the sand. In my dreams, he was healthy. It's been a while since he has made an appearance. Now when I dream of him, it's always vague. Recently I dreamt that I was playing softball, and he was in the bleachers way in the back covered up by a blanket. I could only see the dim outline of his profile.

It's been a while since he has made an appearance. Now when I dream of him, it's always vague.

It's been a year since I have last touched his hand or spoke with him. It's been a year since I last told him how much I loved him. Today I realized that I don't remember the sound of his voice. I can picture his face. I know that the



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lines running across his palms are almost identical to mine, with wide sweeping indents that create an upside-down triangle on the underside of his hands. I can still picture the pink scar running halfway up his leg from a glass window that fell on him in an office building in Chicago. I recall the softness of the gray sweater he often wore and what it felt like to hug him. But I can't remember the staccato of his voice. For a long time I had a recorded birthday message from him on my phone, but I carelessly erased it one afternoon. The machine was full, and in an effort to get rid of the many voices of telemarketers and dental appointment reminders, I erased the only memento of his voice.

I am uncertain of how long I stood before the beach house, but I think the dude on the porch thought I was flirting with him. He smiled a big toothy smile. I blushed, embarrassed for losing myself in the moment, and walked on.

I decided not to sit on the beach in front of the house, figuring shirtless man may think it was some sort of invitation. Instead, I found a bench nearby and watched the waves. On the balcony behind me was a pasty, pale redhead in a dingy tank top with another shirtless man.

"Dude, I am so hungover," he told the redhead.

She laughed, while I tried to block them out. I cursed them for ruining my moment! I expected a little more decency today of all days. I wasn't asking for porch dwellers with violins, but I had been hoping for a little peace and quiet.

"I miss that bitch!" I heard the man behind me say.

"Who? Your ex-wife?" the redhead asked.

He grunted, "Yes."

"It's okay to miss her," she said.

"You know I still have our wedding pictures," he replied.

"It's important to hold on to memories, as long as you don't hold on too tightly," she told him.

It was as if she was speaking directly to me. I wanted to shout out "thank you" and maybe even "sorry" for judging you so quickly. It may not have been Don LaFontaine or a lady with a violin, but the redhead and her hungover friend spoke exactly what I needed to hear.

My day remembering my dad may not have turned out exactly as I would have expected, but nonetheless it was perfect. I sat quietly on the beach taking in the sound of the water and the murmur of a hungover dude and his rebound girlfriend while thinking of my dad. I couldn't have asked for more. ■

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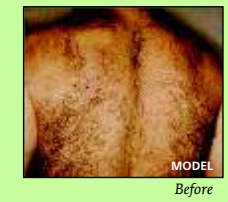

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Mike and Ryan

Leather-clad misfits from suburbia massed outside the California Theatre. Like angry hornets they formed a large hive around the front door of the concert hall, spilling onto the sidewalk. All members of the various tribes were present.

The skinheads were thumping their chests and confronting anyone who dared to look in their direction. Dressed in paramilitary uniforms, their appearance was akin to a Nazi infantry unit that had been placed into a time machine and descended into the heart of San Diego.

The smell of cheap beer, cigarettes, and sweat filled the air. On the ground there was blood from a fight that had taken place earlier in the evening between opposing tribes. Rich white kids from North County huddled together as far as possible from the skinheads. The North County kids spared no expense when it came to their punk rock attire: leather jackets, Doc Martens, and jeans. This was the crowd that would later go on to make millions selling rebellion to teenagers, in the form of retail outlets like Hot Topic and pop-punk acts like Poway's blink-182. My tribe was swarming, moving in and out of the hive in front of the venue as well. We were from the southern region of the city called South Bay. Mexicans, Samoans, and working-class whites like yours truly made up my tribe. We did not meet the strict elitist criteria of the skinheads, nor did we have the fashion knowledge of the North County kids, so we dressed like *cholos:* Dickies, T-shirts, and Chuck Taylor Converse tennis shoes. Our heroes were the real *cholos* in our neighborhood and Mike Muir from Suicidal Tendencies.

We did not meet the strict elitist criteria of the skinheads.

Everyone was here to see a band called the Cramps. The only problem was that the swarm of hyper teenagers had to wait for some band called the Red Hot Chili Peppers to get on stage and do their thing. Rumor had it their bass player was in Fear, and he was pretty good.

When the doors finally opened up, a stampede of disenfranchised, emotionally disturbed teenagers

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raged into the concert hall. A flurry of angst and testosterone took over the place. The opening act was a lot better than we had anticipated, but our restless energy got the best of us. Halfway through the Cramps' set, the San Diego Police Department came into the theater dressed in full riot gear and gave us a lesson in violence. With batons swinging, it was clear the cops enjoyed every second in this lesson of humility. The violent storm of baton-wielding peace officers forced everyone in the theater onto Adams Avenue. From the street we would scatter back to the suburbs where we came from.

After the show, I went home to Spring Valley with my then girlfriend, now ex-wife, Sharee. Sharee dropped a bomb on me with the force of Hiroshima. "I'm pregnant," she said.

My youth disappeared in a sentence. Sharee sat there with a blank look on her face, as if to say "Now what?" Sharee was like me in that she was a teenager who had no clue how the world worked. Up to this point our world revolved around a small social network of friends. We both knew that we were two young too raise a child and that an abortion was out of the question.

Sharee was raised in El Cajon by a single mom, and despite the fact that she was not very religious, she did not want to have an abortion any more than I wanted her to have one. I was raised Catholic, and abortion was not something to be taken lightly. My father and mother, both working-class Catholics, would never have approved of an abortion. Sharee told me that an abortion was something she did not want on her conscience as well. Sitting on the couch with her fire-engine-red hair and leather jacket, she appeared more like Joan Jett than a mother-to-be. We both sat on our cheap couch under a G.B.H. poster while a parade of teenagers walked into our apartment, each taking turns talking over the next on the events that took place at the show. "Hey did you see Tiny hit that guy?" "Dude, I am not a poseur." Sharee and I just sat and stared at the ground. As much as it hurt us, we knew with absolute certainty we could not raise a child in this environment. Sharee's mascara ran while I pulled my bandanna so low nobody could see my eyes water. It's funny how teenagers are never cast in pregnancy-test commercials.

We both agreed that it would be best to have our child put up for adoption. After all, we weren't exactly doing a good job taking care of ourselves; how could we take care of a baby?

The next five months consisted of interviewing prospective families and dealing with an attorney. Most of the families that interviewed with us had the creepy, preppy appearance that was all the rage in the Reagan years. With sweaters tossed around their shoulders, one could

HEALTH AND BEAUTY



only imagine what was going through the prospective parents' heads to have two teenagers dressed in counter-culture costumes drilling them on their personal beliefs. We would have these meetings at our attorney's office or the prospective parents' homes. I preferred our attorney's office, with its endless rows of official-looking books that nobody read. After five months, we had met a family that seemed nice enough. We wanted a family that would have the financial means to take care of our child and provide a life for him that we could not. We also wanted a family that was not too religious or judgmental. The Melchior family met our requirements.

After nine months, Ryan Melchior was born at Grossmont hospital into a world with teenage biological parents and well-adjusted adult parents. When he was born, the nurse took him away in a flash. Just by looking at Sharee I could see a piece of her soul had been taken away. Once again, tears filled her eyes and all emotion had been removed from her face. All I could do was stand there and try to convince her we'd done the right thing. Our baby was crying in the other room, and we were not allowed to see him. The hospital has a policy of not letting babies put up for adoption to be held by their birth mothers.

Sharee and I got married a year after Ryan was born. Like most young marriages, ours did not last.

My days of youthful rebellion have long passed me by. Sharee is now happily married and lives in a tract home in Temecula, California, along with her husband Jesse. I have two grown children named Tabatha and Zack. Tabatha grew up to be an accountant and prides herself on how normal she is. Zack is living the life of Riley, riding a skateboard and putting off adulthood as long as possible. I am engaged to get married to a lovely woman. The lead singer of the Cramps, Lux Interior, died last month, and the Red Hot Chili Peppers went on to be one of the most successful bands of all time. Over the years, my mind has often drifted off, wondering what ever happened to Ryan.

I had envisioned Ryan living a life that rich white people live. A life in which the greatest adversity one faces is not finding the perfect outfit to wear to the polo match. After all, the Melchior family owned a successful business and lived in North County, possibly Rancho Santa Fe. I pictured a place with no Italians, Jews, Irish, or people of color, a place like Connecticut. I was just as judgmental as the WASPs I resented. Visions of Ryan being horrified to find out his parents had been teenagers and that he was adopted haunted me. I wondered if he would someday confront me for putting him up for adoption.

We hugged for the first time in 18 years.

On November 14, 2008, I got an email on MySpace from my daughter Tabatha, stating that she had found a Ryan Melchior on MySpace. Zack and Tabatha were both excited to see their long-lost brother, whose name had only been spoken in whispers for the past 18 years. I met Ryan on November 16, 2008. I was shocked to find out that he had grown up to be a North County punker. Ryan showed up at my house with my daughter Tabatha. He was wearing a Crass T-Shirt, ripped jeans, along with a fresh Black Flag tattoo, complete with a transparent bandage. We hugged for

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the first time in 18 years. The feelings of sorrow and joy overtook my senses.

Stepping back, looking at Ryan, I thought, *I had no idea punk rock was genetic.* We spent the next couple of days trying to get to know each other and explain the events of the past. I learned that his family was indeed kind and had raised him to appreciate art and literature.

In March 2009, Ryan and I went to see a band called the Adicts at the House of Blues. The angry tribes that used to make up the disenfranchised youth of suburbia were gone. The doors opened, and the crowd moved into the building in an orderly and polite manner. Large security guards made sure no fights broke out. And the price of admission was the ungodly amount of $25. Punk rock is dead; however, my relationship with Ryan has just begun. ■

— Mike Dowdy

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LETTERS

continued from page 13

discount, I had to have that night's Sharks hockey game ticket. I hope this suggestion will help keep MOE happy.

Chet Carney
via email

Comments from Reader Website

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

Blurt ("Mono Bizarro")
Published Dec. 2

By tjina 10:41 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

Jeffrey is a great artist and human being, I love his work and spirit! a true border ARTivist!

By SabraDios 1:40 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

I love Mono Mono my favorite song is "ingles para el depravado" it was just yesterday that i played it at a friend's house for a bunch of people and they loved it too! Jeffrey you need to come do a show in Los Angeles soon!!!! football team) as one's own.

Just like religion, it costs a lot of money, gives a sense of security and belonging, brings extreme emotions, and sometimes provokes violence.

The article is very thought provoking indeed, Mr. Lickona. Isn't it sad how many people have to find meaning or identity in something so callow as professional sports — or religion? The real world all around us is so much more rewarding.

Best,
Fred

By PistolPete 9:53 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

Is that a woman or a Hillcrest tranny on the cover of this weeks issue? God you Chargeless fans are an ugly breed. And to think…my roommates actually make fun of me for sportin' a big block of foam cheese on my head during important games…*rolls eyes*

By SDaniels 10:32 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

re: #1:

"Just like religion, it costs a lot of money, gives a sense of security and belonging, brings extreme emotions, and sometimes provokes violence."

Typo Patrol
Published Dec. 2

By spooks69 4:59 p.m., Dec. 5, 2009

Did the typo patrol get cancelled? I didn't see it in this week's issue.

Cover Story
Published Dec. 2

By Fred_Williams 8:59 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

A very well written article. Awesome!

Being a fan for a football team is so very like belonging to a religious denomination. You're a bolts fan because your family taught you to be one. Just like others are brought up Catholic, Baptist or Buddhist. Conversions happen, primarily through intermarriage and migration to another place where another religion (or team) is predominant.

And just like religion, there's no logic or sense to it. Just mindless herding, fandom, wishful thinking, and a very unhealthy personality disorder that adopts the achievements of others (an imaginary deity or televised

Well expressed, Fred. And don't forget, football also apparently interferes with shooting-our-state-bird season.

By Fred_Williams 11:13 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

To be fair, I should include food in the comparison.

Church potlucks and football tailgate parties — the similarities are obvious.

By Visduh 11:51 a.m., Dec. 6, 2009

Fred's likening pro sports fanaticism to religion is a new one for me, though upon reflection, it does make a lot of sense. When it was a team playing for a school I attended, I could get enthused, but the pros just never make the connection. There might have been a time when those pro players had something in common with working stiffs, such as being paid no more than a common hod carrier. Those players did it for the love of the game, not to get filthy rich. But today in the Big 3 sports (football, baseball, and hoops) plus tennis and golf, it's all about the money. Kids are coached from toddlerhood in sports, and there is scant room for late-blooming naturals to find a sport in teen years and come to dominate it.

For the fans described in the story, the Chargers are far more than a source of entertainment. The team provides a sense of a reason to live. Without them, the fans will forever live in a world of shades of gray.

City Lights, by E.A. Barrera
Published Dec. 2

By Viking13 11:37 a.m., Dec. 6, 2009

The E.A. Barrera article, "Play the Sneaky Developer Game," represents another stage in what might be the most corrupt County of San Diego administration. This is the cauldron which spawned Bill Horn's candidacy.

Back in the 1980s, the Board of Supervisors approved the Hidden Meadows Project and placed a huge oak forest in an "open space lot" to mitigate the impact of housing.

Then another developer bought the lot and planned his own housing subdivision that would mow down the oak forest. When told he would need to prepare an Environmental Impact Report, he bought the Valley Center Roadrunner and began a campaign of propaganda stories, trashing the Department of Planning and Land Use and advocating electing a property rights supervisor. His cohorts found Bill Horn in the Valley Center Community Planning Group and sponsored his run at the north county seat.

Once elected, Horn hired the developer's crew on his staff and they circulated a list of planning department employees they wanted fired. When County Counsel advised that this was illegal, they then stripped the budget and eliminated 80% of the department staff, but failed to eliminate the man who directed the EIR.

But this is the historic context in which Gary Pryor re-shaped the department to respond to powerful land developers and their lobbyists. Merriam Mountains and GP 2020 are just links in the chain.

Viking 13

Crasher
Published Dec. 2

By amyliz 1:30 p.m., Dec. 2, 2009

If you can keep a basketball spinning on your finger for a full three minutes I hope you get nominated to the Globetrotters. Do they even exist any longer? Thanks Josh! This is great.

I hope folks will come out to read/listen/balk at DimeStories this Friday, Dec 4th 7pm at The Ruby Room in Hillcrest. It's not a birthday party, so no cake, but our regular monthly prose open mic. And, we have started Audience Choice Awards, so when someone like Beth reads her hilarious bathroom piece you, Josh, can vote for her recorded piece to be posted on the website, and maybe it will even make it to podcast on iTunes or be selected as one of the public radio pieces. We record

every event! Check out the website, find us on Facebook, Twitter, and in person.

Blurt ("Radio Kaos") Published Dec. 2

By MountainMan 9:42 p.m., Dec. 3, 2009

Just to correct the Live Streaming ON Aiiradio.net Kaos Tom has changed his day and time to Wednesday Afternoons from 2 till 5 pm would you please update everyone about this.

MountainMan

By alexSFG 9:21 a.m., Dec. 4, 2009

Kaos! "The Kaos Nation Show" on AiiRadio ROCKS!! The entire "Starving for Gravity" family is behind you all the way! We were greatly saddened by the news of Mel's death, manager of "Canobliss". Our love and prayers go out to her family, and to our good friends, "Canobliss". We will be in touch soon. We would love to do "The Kaos Nation Show" live. Peace & Rock, Alex, manager of "Starving for Gravity".

By drrockter5150 10:28 a.m., Dec. 4, 2009

I can't think of anyone else in the San Diego area that has worked harder or deserves it more than Kaos! Go to any venue, go to any show, any night, chances are… there's Kaos Tom right there in the middle of it. I, and the rest of the DIVE BOMBER crew, owe a lot to Kaos. Thanks brother, and congrats.

Doc

All our thoughts and prayers go out to Mel and her family and friends. A very special lady that will be missed.

By tomero 10:41 a.m., Dec. 4, 2009

thx kaos. i love your show and your blurts. carry on, good job thx again. tom

By jayallen 6:01 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

FYI - The Kaos Nation Show got moved to Wednesdays at 2pm to 5pm and that show is a live audio broadcast. The January show will be the live video broadcast.

By SFGLucas 7:30 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

Had a lot of fun during the show. Ice that tattoo :)

By gdogg620 8:36 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

By gdogg620 8:36 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

Yo KAOS!!!!! You know you are the man sucka!!!! Hope to have u be a part of the next Flight 93 Benefit (this one is gonna be off the hooooook!!!) Your shows rule and are always a good time!!!! See ya soon!!!! - gdogg (SD93)

By matruscott 11:39 p.m., Dec. 4, 2009

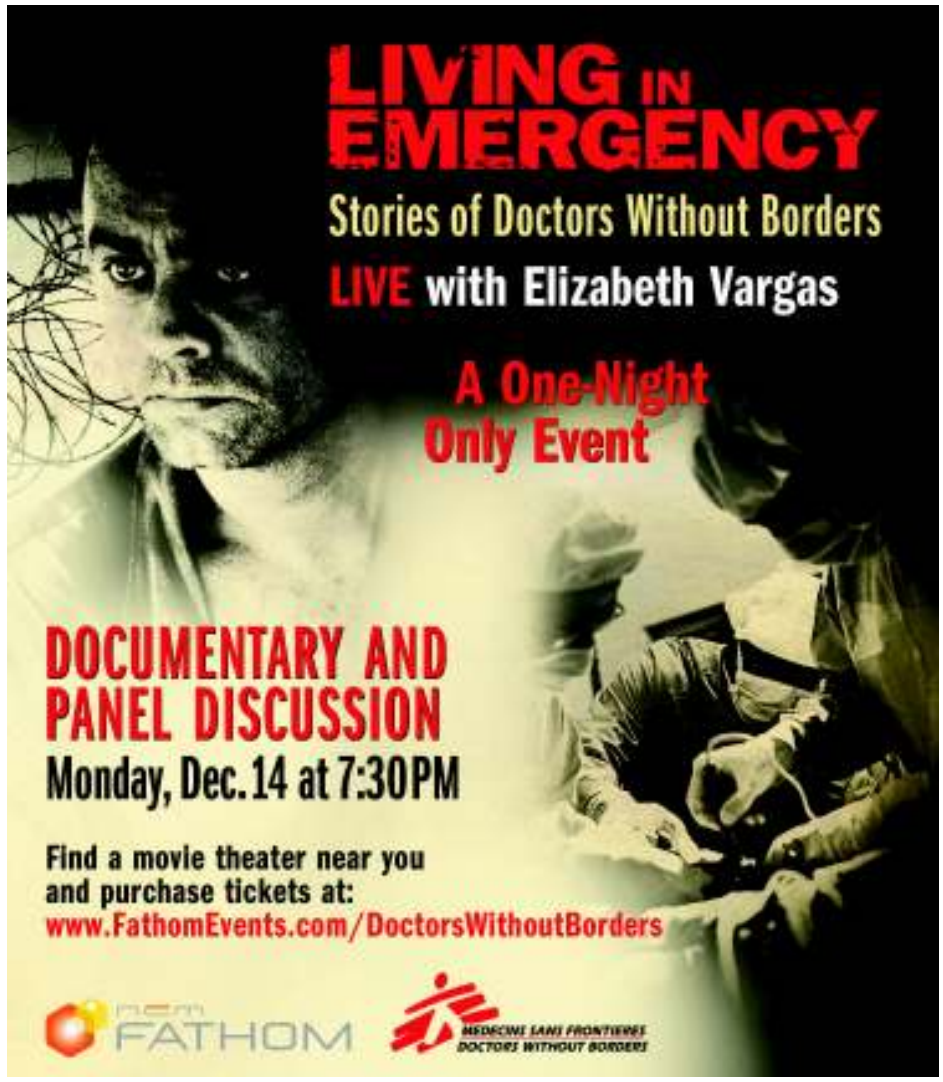
Kaos! yo its awesome to see your article in the reader! thanks for always supporting vaude villain and being a stand up leader in the san diego music scene! youre always looking out for us up and coming bands.

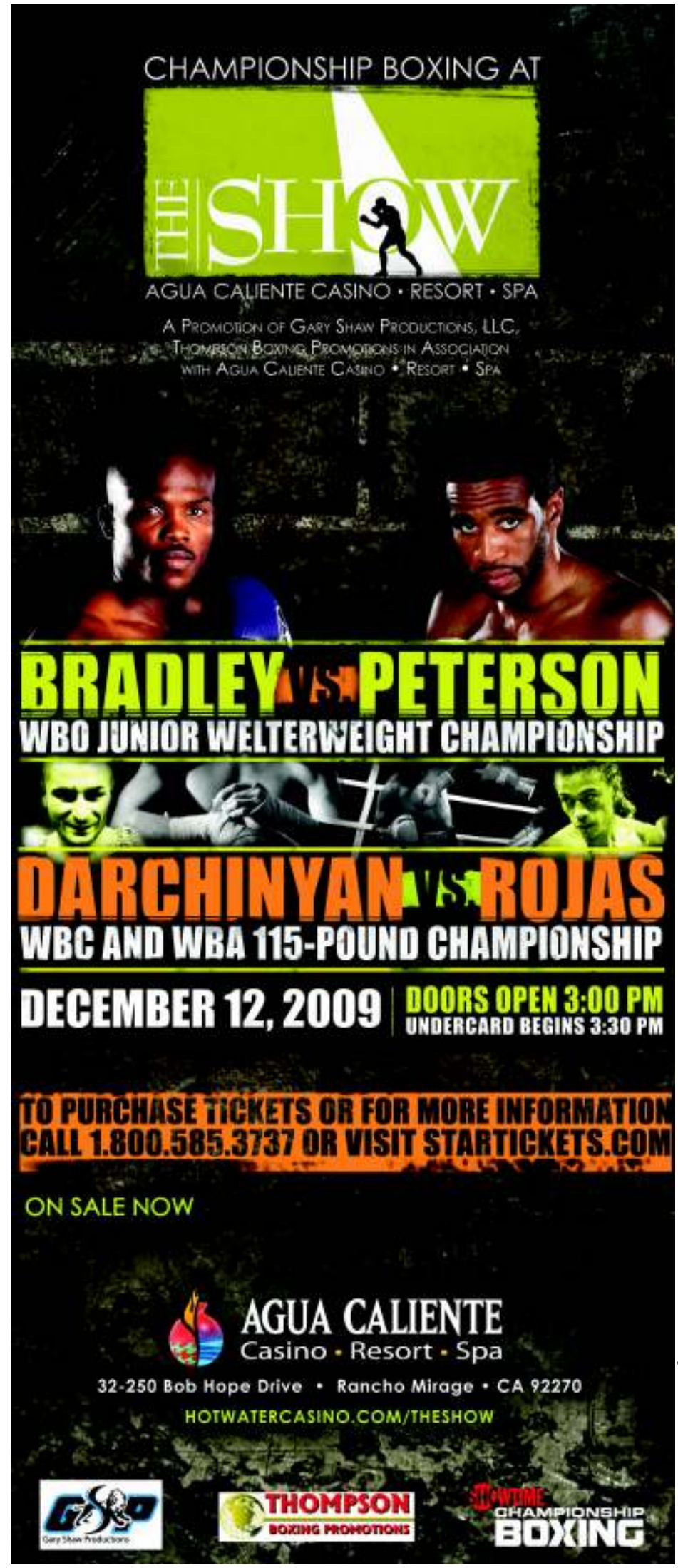
Vaudevillainmusic.com

By herbedofthorns 10:33 p.m., Dec. 5, 2009

Congrats brother!!!! Thank you so much for helping out bands like us every day!!! You're one in a million Kaos & we look forward to visiting show!! Take care.…

—HER BED OF THORNS—





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Your Week
AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 10

THE SECRET OF SANTA'S ISLAND



Steve Breen, Pulitzer Prize–winning editorial cartoonist for the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and author of *Stick* and *Violet the Pilot,* will read from his new book about Santa's secret vacation-island getaway. Cookies and milk will be provided, and Santa himself will stop in to say hello. See **FOR KIDS**, page 83.

THE 2009 GINGERBREAD COLLECTIVE

Gingerbread houses made by actual architects? Sounds delicious! This competition features cookie-cottages designed and built by leading SD architects, designers, artists, and cultural leaders. Vote for, but try not to nibble on, your favorite mid-century marvels and architecturally inspired confections.



See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

HOLIDAY SINGIN' AND SWINGIN'

Get in the swing of things with the Catfish Club's musical showcase featuring "local talent and San Diego personalities performing as their favorite stars." Program includes a Temptations revue and a Michael Jackson tribute. See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

Friday | 11

WINTER DOGGIE CAFÉ

"Bark, the herald puppies sing!" Bring your friendly, leashed dog to socialize with fellow canines at this winter-themed event. Behavior and training specialists will be "on paw" to answer training questions. Complimentary desserts and dog treats will be provided; you can munch on your treats to the sound of live jazz by Forecast. See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

Saturday | 12

TAMALE-MAKING 101

Learn a brief history of this tasty treat and then "dive right into preparing masa, corn husks, and fillings to create two types of tamales — one with and one without meat." Participants will also learn to make a Mexican Christmas punch. Each student will leave with recipes and a dozen tamales to share or hoard at home. See **FOOD & DRINK**, page 82.

WHAT'S THE FUSS ABOUT?

Learn about the laws protecting medical-marijuana-recommendation holders at the Legal Cannabis Institute in Pacific Beach as an attorney provides detailed information about the politics of cannabis, legal decisions shaping the industry, and guidelines for distribution, cultivation, possession, and consumption of medical marijuana. See **LECTURES**, page 86.





FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11: WINTER DOGGIE CAFÉ

Sunday | 13

"PAINTINGS" BY HORSES!

Can a horse "choose" a different color? Apparently so! The Magic Horse Therapeutic Riding Center hosts an art fair in Lakeside with live auction, barbecue, children's activities, music, and original paintings created by horses. See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES

New Village Arts stages David Sedaris's comedy about an out-of-work actor who gains employment at Macy's as a Santaland elf (directed by Kristianne Kurner). "This dose of holiday cheer is not recommended for children." See **THEATER**, page 125.

Monday | 14

ICY IN SAN DIEGO?

Take a break from shopping at Horton Plaza to rent some skates and glide around the rink — without having to move your car! Practice your figure eights and, for you pros, your triple axels. Each skating session lasts two hours. See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

Tuesday | 15

GARDEN OF LIGHTS

The San Diego Botanic Garden is decorated with more than 90,000 sparkling lights on plants and trees through December 30. Enjoy a horse-drawn wagon ride, holiday crafts, live entertainment, marshmallow roasting, children's activities, and more. See **SPECIAL**, page 78.

Wednesday | 16

CHRISTMAS SHORTS-STRAVAGANZA

Rifftrax Live presents the stars of *Mystery Science Theater 3000* and guest Weird Al Yankovic providing "holiday riffing on some classic Christmas shorts." Enjoy their wisecracking commentary on a collection of Christmas shorts, including *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,* classic commercials, and a musical short extolling the virtues of pork. See **SPECIAL**, page 77.



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TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS



Sarajevo, Bosnia

By Robert Isenberg

Before I visited Bosnia, I heard that Sarajevo was once revered for its beauty. During the 1984 Winter Olympics, visitors were awed by Sarajevo's beautiful valleys and alpine mountains.

When I visited the city in May 2009, the scars of war were everywhere: I walked past bombed-out buildings and saw bullet holes in storefronts; in the hills, landmines threatened thoughtless hikers. But the beauty of the refurbished old city shone through. Minarets rose above the sloped rooftops, the mountain ranges rolling ever higher into the horizon.

I found new friends everywhere. Sipping a cappuccino, I could join in frank conversation with strangers about the war and the Balkans' slow recovery. Bosnians have a dry, smart-alecky sense of humor, and they love to share their opinions. No matter who I asked — the hawkers in the old market, teenage girls texting in the park — everybody helped with directions and asked about my travels. Sarajevans are eager for visitors, to prove that the violence of the 1990s is long past.

Paris, France

By Derek Ray

On my first trip to Paris 25 years ago, I spent a full day in the Louvre and tried to cover everything — an impossibility. On my last visit, I bypassed the crowds circling the *Mona Lisa* and focused on Egyptian, Greek, and Near Eastern antiquities. That was plenty in itself. I also hit the Musee d' Orsay to catch the works of the Impressionists. A Parisian friend introduced me to the Jeu du Paume, an often-overlooked museum within walking distance of the Louvre on the other side of the Tuileries Gar-



dens. This is the place, along with the Pompidou, to catch what's going on in contemporary French art.

The French love the cinema, and the Cinemateque Francaise is their tribute to the history of the art form. Designed by Frank Gehry, the Cinemateque was a treat for someone like

continued on page 76

Other Adventures



BonnieMaffei: Peacock Mosaic, Naxos, Cyclades, Greece



spooks69: The Bunker Hill Monument in Boston



BonnieMaffei: Marilyn, catching a gust of desert wind, Pinocchio's Restaurant, Palm Springs, CA



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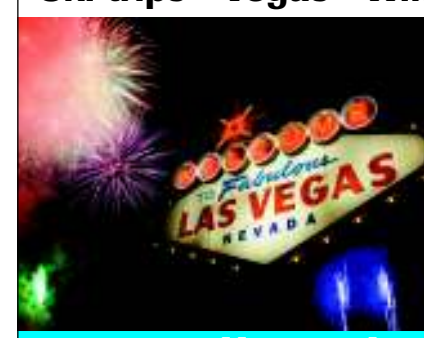

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Paris *continued from page 74*

myself with an interest in the history of movies. If you dig Charlie Chaplin, Orson Welles, or Francois Truffaut in particular, don't miss it.

Even if you have just a few days in Paris, don't rush breathlessly to all the sights listed in your guidebook. Find a spot to plant yourself for at least an hour and take in the sights around you, perhaps at a café or bistro. Relaxing near the top of the steps of the Sacré Coeur to enjoy live music and a magnificent view of Paris in the late afternoon is something every visitor here should experience.

Then head into the legendary artistic center of Paris in the 19th Century, Montmartre. There are crowds of tourists here, but if you walk a few blocks away, you can find yourself alone on a narrow pathway full of discoveries. I caught the Dalí museum, one of the more unique museums I had ever visited, and tracked down the old residences of Picasso and Van Gogh.

I then made it back down the hill and caught the metro to the Picasso museum. As with the Dalí, this is one of several museums in Europe devoted to the artist. There is a substantial collection of his works and photographs here.

My final morning in Paris, I relaxed at Les Deux Magots on Boulevard Saint Germain. It is at this café and its neighboring rival the Café de Flore where some of the greatest writers, artists, and philosophers used to hang out and search for inspiration — the likes of Sartre, Hemingway, Joyce, Rimbaud, Camus, Picasso, etc., etc. The prices are about the same as the standard French café.

Once you learn to navigate the Metro, the entire city is within your grasp — so much easier than trying to maneuver the traffic jams of L.A.

Win $25 for your travel tips or a pair of movie passes for the best travel photo of the week. Go to *SDReader.com/travel* for more information.

OUTDOORS

Spectacular Sunsets and Sunrises are characteristic of late fall and early winter's dry spells. You can drive up to Soledad Park in La Jolla or Mount Helix near La Mesa for an all encompassing view. Or try hiking up to vantage points such as Cowles Mountain in the San Carlos area and Woodson Mountain near Ramona. Don't forget to bring a flashlight for the trip up or down.

Poinsettias, a favorite of backyard gardeners, are now exhibiting their scarlet, petal-like bracts, just in time for the holidays. The onset of 14-hour-long nights triggers their behavior. In San Diego this condition is met just before the date of winter solstice — December 21.

Toyon, or "Christmas-berry," one of the more distinctive shrubs of Southern California's native chaparral plant community, has begun to flaunt clusters of red berries. Here in coastal San Diego, toyon can be found wherever large patches of native vegetation survive, but especially in the thick chaparral covering some north-facing slopes. Toyon branches may look inviting to cut as a Christmas wreath, but they're protected by California state law. Toyon is also sometimes referred to the "holly of Hollywood," because it grows abundantly in the Hollwood Hills and in L.A.'s Griffith Park, near Hollywood.

The Geminid Meteor Shower, one of the year's two most regularly active showers, peaks on the evening of Sunday, December 13, through the morning of the 14th. No moonlight in the sky this year means optimum dark-sky viewing (as long as clouds are absent). Meteor rates of up to 100 per hour are possible between midnight and 2am, assuming a clear, dark observing location and an unobstructed view of the entire sky. Rates will be somewhat less on the day before and the day after the peak date, and also less before midnight and after 2am.

"Daley Ranch Scenery" A diverse plant population, expansive views await those taking "occasionally strenuous" four-mile hike with naturalist Rick Paul. Ask about "the Daley Ranch keepsake." 760-839-4680. Sunday, December 13, 9am; free. Daley Ranch — Cougar Pass trailhead, North Broadway and Cougar Pass Road. (ESCONDIDO)

"Search for Santa Claus" Naturalist Dorothy Klitzing talks about "the traditions of Christmas" during approximately two-mile hike over Ranch House Rd., Middle Pond, East Ridge, and back. 760-839-4680. Saturday, December 12, 8:30am; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

'Tis Native Seed Planting Season Help restore an area of native grassland, habitat for endangered Otay tarplant (*Deinandra conjugens*); rare plant is only found in southwestern San Diego County, extreme northwestern Baja California, Mexico. Wear work clothes, sturdy shoes. Water, snacks provided. RSVP, directions: 619-277-3605. Saturday, December 12, 8am; free. San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, Proctor Valley Road at San Miguel Road. (BONITA)

Adventure Hike Wind through trails of shady oaks and aromatic chaparral, increase appreciation of natural beauty during naturalist-led nature hike. 619-668-3281. Saturday, December 12, 9:30am; Sunday, December 13, 9:30am; Wednesday, December 16, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours Led on second Saturday of each month, starting at Chinese Historical Museum. Required reservations: 619-338-9888. Saturday, December 12, 11am; $2. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Want Trash-Free Waterways? Forester Creek is a tributary of San Diego River; after each rain storm, trash and debris washes down creek to San Diego River, ocean. Help prevent trash from washing into river, create healthy habitat for plants, animals calling Forester Creek home. No experience necessary. Tools, supplies provided. Wear sturdy clothing, closed-toe shoes. Volunteers gather at public works building. 619-297-7380. Saturday, December 12, 9am; free. Santee public works building, 9534 Via Zapador. (SANTEE)

Del Marvelous Delights Saunter on some hidden footpaths, past a "celebrated castle," along serpentine "snake wall," and through "captivating canyon" during three-hour Walkabout adventure at moderate-plus pace over mixed up-and-down terrain. Walk starts at northwest corner of Del Mar Heights Road and Durango Drive. 619-231-7463. Sunday, December 13, 9:15am; free. Del Mar walk, Del Mar Heights Road at Durango Drive. (DEL MAR)

Discover Magnificent Beauty! Nature walks led by trained naturalist. "Marvel at the reawakening vegetation throughout the reserve

Red & Green Means It's Holiday Season in Rosarito Beach, Mexico



Some Christmas Tails Have Lobster Inside

If the colors red and green this time of year make you think of lobster and margaritas, you might have made a holiday visit to Rosarito Beach, the great tourist town a scenic 20 miles south of the border.

This part of the enchanted land of mariachis and margaritas also is one of the lobster hot spots of the world. The famous Puerto Nuevo Lobster Village is here, and many restaurants along Rosarito's 20 miles of coastline offer their own versions of the tasty crustacean. And not only is this the holiday season, it's also fresh lobster season. Prices in Baja already are great this year, and during the holidays some hotels are offering fantastic lodging and lobster specials.

That will leave you with money to spend on other things this holiday, like shopping for gifts. And you'll find plenty of unique ones in Rosarito, at prices that are a gift in themselves.

For anyone weary of crowded shopping malls in the U.S., Rosarito offers boutiques and shops in a less stressful atmosphere --- and without the crowded, sprawling parking lots.

Hand-crafted furniture, tile, stained glass, fine paintings, sculpture --- you'll find them all along picturesque Popotla Boulevard (the avenue of artisans) and elsewhere in Rosarito.

Silver, fine jewelry, handcrafted leathers, colorful Mexican clothing and curios, they're all here, too. And at a wide range of prices, with exceptional values.

Rosarito is a great place to buy gifts for loved ones while giving yourself the gift: of a holiday visit to another country.

Here you can hear mariachis sing Felix Navidad, see unique holiday decorations and perhaps even glimpse a posada.

It's a wonderful time to enjoy Mexican traditions and culture. And Christmas isn't the only holiday that's celebrated well in Rosarito. The popular tourist town also is known for lively night life --- a great attraction for New Year's celebrations.

Rosarito's many fine hotels are offering great packages that include lodging, dinner, drinks and entertainment with music and dancing this New Year's. Or you might prefer a more private celebration by the fireplace of a seaside hotel and perhaps catch a glimpse of a gray whale migrating south. 'Tis the season.There is something magical about celebrating New Year's in another country --- even one so close.Whatever your tastes and choices this holiday season, Rosarito has some great things to offer. You can discover more about them by visiting www.rosarito.org today.

Feliz navidad y un prospero ano nuevo from all of us to all of yours!



and be enchanted by fabulous flowers along the trails." 760-436-3944. Saturdays, 10am; free. San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Explore Silverwood Sanctuary Audubon Society offers guided walks on Sundays, 10am and 1:30pm 619-682-7200. Sundays, 9am; free. Silverwood Sanctuary, 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

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, December 11, 7am; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Past to Present Nature Walk Spend a crisp autumn morning outdoors with a naturalist along San Diego River bank. Learn cultural history's link with many native species of flora, fauna identified along trail. 619-668-3281. Saturday, December 12, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Restoration at Sunset Cliffs San Diego Audubon Society hosts restoration work party to install about 300 native plants. Wear long pants, sturdy shoes. Gloves, tools provided. Join group about 50 yards south of parking lot along cliffs at roped area. 619-224-4975. Saturday, December 12, 9am; free. Sunset Cliffs Natural Park, Sunset Cliffs Boulevard at Ladara Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

San Diego Field Ornithologists Expert birders lead bird walk on easy trail winding along Tecolote Creek. Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9944. Saturday, December 12, 9am; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Tidepooling at Hospital Point Winter is an excellent time to explore local tide pools because lower tides reveal wider beaches and pools teeming with native marine life. Learn about ocean critters when Birch Aquarium at Scripps hosts tidepooling led by aquarium naturalist. Required reservations: 858-534-7336. Sunday, December 13, 12:30pm; $12. 2 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Tracking Walk Easy tracking walk for everyone (beginners and intermediates), starting at Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Adobe Ranch House. Learn to track animals, discover their environments. 858-484-3219. Saturday, December 12, 8am; free. Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve, 12020 Black Mountain Road. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Waterfowl Are Plentiful Enjoy a walk at reservoir hosted by Canyoneers. Easy path provides access to chaparral, coastal sage scrub. 619-255-0203. Saturday, December 12, 1pm; free. Lake Murray Reservoir, 5540 Kiowa Drive. (LA MESA)

SPECIAL

"Artists by Artists" Opening reception for exhibition curated by Mary Fleener, with 27 portraits of artists and musicians from Encinitas area created by other local artists. Show ends Monday, January 4. 760-753-7376. Sunday, December 13, 1pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Christmas Shorts-Stravaganza! Rifftrax Live presents stars of Mystery Science Theater 3000 and guest "Weird Al" Yankovic doing "holiday riffing on some classic Christmas shorts." Enjoy "wisecracking commentary at a…warped collection of Christmas shorts" including animated *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,* classic commercials, musical short extolling virtues of pork. 800-988-4253. Wednesday, December 16, 4:30pm; $25. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Christmas at the Zoo" It's theme for 38th annual San Diego Bay Parade of Lights, beginning with fireworks (5:30pm). More than 80 vessels decorated for holiday season take part in parade. Boats sail from east end of Shelter Island into downtown waterfront and Coronado areas. 619-224-2240. Sunday, December 13, 5:30pm; free. Embarcadero, Along Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

"Concentration, Visualization, Meditation" Learn techniques for stress reduction, relaxation during meditation classes, as well as advanced breathing techniques, "essence of yogic philosophy." 619-640-4438. Tuesdays, 7:30pm; free. Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3301 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

"Culture and Cocktails: Calder Jewelry" Explore works by famed modernist Alexander Calder while DJ spins tunes. Guests may create wearable wire sculptures using colored glass, making one-of-a-kind, Calder-inspired brooches; or top hat using variety of art materials. 619-232-7931. Thursday, December 10, 6pm; free-$15. 21 and up. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Enhancing Liveliness and Reminiscence with Music" Resounding Joy leads program for participants to "enjoy movement to music, intentional listening to popular music from the past, and active music making." For musicians and nonmusicians. 858-581-9935. Monday, December 14, 1pm; free. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

"Entre Nous" Meet-up with Deborah of Alliance Française for two hours of French conversation. RSVP: 858-550-0144. Friday, December 11, 10am; free-$5. Ópera

ROAM-O-RAMA

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

SUNRISE, SUNSET

An observer's guide to the best sunrises and sunsets around San Diego.



San Diego sunset

Winter is an often-ideal time for watching the sun rise or set in and around San Diego. Picture yourself on a clear late afternoon, perched atop a seaside bluff or on one of the hills that rise above the city, looking west. The sun, a yellow orb squashed by atmospheric refraction, just touches the ocean horizon. The sun sinks from sight in two minutes — leaving, maybe, a fleeting flash of green. Afterward, the bowl of night imperceptibly advances, overtaking everything but a lingering orange or red band in the west. In the deepening blue-gray sky up high, steely first-magnitude stars begin to appear, flickering with light tickled by turbulent layers of air.

For the sunrise scenario, simply reverse the foregoing description. Sunrise — for those who are able to drag themselves out of bed — may deliver even more spectacular imagery. San Diego's air is often at its transparent best on winter mornings — at least on those occasions when low-lying clouds or hazy marine air doesn't spoil the view.

Here are recommendations for a few prime sun-watching spots around the San Diego metro area:

For the sunset: Try any cliff edge from Sunset Cliffs in the south to Leucadia in the north. For a feeling of spaciousness, Sunset Cliffs Park (below Point Loma Nazarene University and along Sunset Cliffs Boulevard), and the Glider Port near UCSD are hard to beat.

For both sunset and sunrise: Those willing to hoof it about three miles round trip should try either Woodson Mountain near Poway or Cowles Mountain in San Diego. Both offer metropolis-wide views backed by the ocean in the west and the montane skyline to the east. Wear shoes with good traction for both hikes, and have a flashlight handy for the ascent (at dawn) or descent (at dusk). For Woodson, park just off Highway 67 at a point three miles north of Poway Road. Walk past a fire station on the west side of the road, then join a paved path leading to the summit. It's an hour's hard climb to the mountain's 2894-foot summit. For Cowles, the main route starts at Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive in San Diego's San Carlos district. A 45-minute walk puts most hikers atop the 1591-foot summit. The severely eroded condition of the main Cowles Mountain trail makes extra caution necessary, especially when it's dark.

For the sunrise: Mount Helix, east of La Mesa, collects far too many cars for far too few parking spaces at the time of the sunset, but it is mercifully free of visitors at sunrise. Park (where you can do so legally) down below in one of the residential areas and walk up (a mile or more) toward the summit. Good views can be had along much of the narrow roadway that coils upward toward the summit. Another choice spot lies in the Del Cerro neighborhood of San Diego. From the east terminus of Dwane Avenue, walk only 200 feet east for a stunning view of Lake Murray at your feet and the sun just poking its head above the mountains far to the east.

This article contains information about publicly owned recreation or wilderness areas. 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.





Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

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

Patisseries Fines, 9254 Scranton Rd., Suite 101. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

"Holiday Singin' and Swingin' " Catfish Club presents evening of entertainment, music of all kinds. Showcase of "local talent and San Diego personalities performing as their favorite stars." Program includes Temptations revue, Michael Jackson tribute. 619-463-1702. Friday, December 11, 6pm; $40-$50. San Diego Hall of Champions, 2131 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

"Paintings" by Horses! Magic Horse Therapeutic Riding Center hosts art fair, live auction, barbecue, children's activities, music, and those "original 'paintings' done by horses." 619-672-6935. Sunday, December 13, noon; $12-$25. VFW Post 5867, 12650 Lindo Lane. (LAKESIDE)

"Yoga 101" Develop body and mind strength, flexibility, balance during introduction to yoga classes. Fee: $15 per class, $20 for three classes. 858-622-9642. Thursdays, 6:30pm; through Thursday, December 17. Akasha Yoga, 3211 Holiday Court #203. (LA JOLLA)

"Yoga Nidra" Three-part "Conscious Deep Relaxation Workshop" with instructor Rama Deva. Fee: $20 per class, $50 for full series. 619-640-4438. Saturdays, 4pm; through Saturday, December 19. Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3301 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

(Ice) Skating by the Sea Enjoy outdoor ice-skating on rink overlooking Pacific Ocean. Two-hour session on weekends (11am, 2pm) and weekdays (2pm); three-hour session on weekdays (6pm). Schedule changes on December 19. 619-435-6611. Thursdays, 2pm; Fridays, 2pm; Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am; Mondays, 2pm; Tuesdays, 2pm; Wednesdays, 2pm; through Sunday, January 3, $10-$20. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

A Flurry of Activities! Liberty Station hosts holiday night on promenade with letter-writing to Santa, entertainment, holiday carolers, kids' crafts, visits with Santa, autograph signings by Doug Brochu (of *Sonny with a Chance*) and Chris Brochu (of *Hannah Montana* and *Zoey 101*). 619-794-1290. Saturday, December 12, 4pm; free. NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

Antiques on Offer Over 25 dealers host sale of "unique items" during North San Diego County Antique and Collectible Show. 858-232-9445. Sunday, December 13, 9am; free. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Folk Art Studio Create items reminiscent of objects in "Rite and Ritual" exhibit during this "international folk art exploration." Participants will craft Polish folk paper cuts, print a relief carving evocative of Inuit culture, design and assemble a card in style of a Huichol yarn painting. Materials included. Reservations/information: 619-239-0003 x405. Saturday, December 12, 1pm; $15-$25. Mingei International Museum North County, 155 West Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Garden of Lights Gardens decorated with 90,000-plus sparkling lights on plants and trees through December 30. Horse-drawn wagon rides, holiday crafts, live entertainment, marshmallow roasting, children's activities (visit Santa), food (for sale). Additional fees for some activities. 760-436-3036 x206. Thursday, December 10, 5pm; Friday, December 11, 5pm; Saturday, December 12, 5pm; Sunday, December 13, 5pm; Monday, December 14, 5pm; Tuesday, December 15, 5pm; Wednesday, December 16, 5pm; $4-$12. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Get Wrapping Personalize holiday gifts with paper you print after workshop with artist Lauren Becker Downey. Use acrylic paint, variety of stamping techniques to create one-of-a-kind gift wrap. Learn about step and repeat, pattern and design. Materials fee: $10. Registration: 619-223-0058. Saturday, December 12, 9am; $38-$44. Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Decatur Rd., studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

Glass on Metal Make unique Christmas gifts during enameling class, in which participants complete two or three small pieces. Materials provided. Registration: 619-424-6646. Sunday, December 13, 1pm; $15. Golden State Crafts, 642 Dahlia Avenue. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Holiday of Lights More than 400 lighted, holiday-themed displays for viewing from visitors' cars. Holiday hayrides ($10; December 11, 18). Admission: $14 per vehicle (up to five people), $19 per vehicle with six or more people, $49 per bus. 858-792-4252. Thursdays, 5:30pm; Fridays, 5:30pm; Saturdays, 5:30pm; Sundays, 5:30pm; Mondays, 5:30pm; Tuesdays, 5:30pm; Wednesdays, 5:30pm; through Sunday, January 3. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Icy in San Diego? "Fantasy on Ice" promises ice-skating outdoors adjacent to Horton Plaza. Skating sessions last two hours. Fee includes skate rental. Closed on Christmas. 619-234-1031. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; Mondays, 10am; Tuesdays, 10am; Wednesdays, 10am; through Sunday, January 10, $10-$12. Horton Square, 225 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

Las Posadas The 59th annual Las Posadas is a walking reenactment of biblical story of Mary and Joseph's search for a birthplace for Christ; participants invited to join candlelit procession, sing traditional holiday songs as players move "from inn to inn, asking for symbolic lodging." Children's crafts, calligraphy, 1850s-era games, Wild West gun display, musical performances. 619-297-3100 x22. Saturday, December 12, 2pm; free. Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street. (OLD TOWN)

Melt Away Holiday Stress! Laughter yoga class led by Dr. Funshine, a.k.a. Caroline Meeks, M.D. Expect video presentation followed by laughter exercises, laughter meditation. No yoga mats or special clothing required. 619-573-1396. Friday, December 11, 4pm; free. Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

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

Pets on Parade Dress up your pet "for a special promenade" through Gaslamp Quarter to celebrate the season. Parade begins, ends in park next to Hilton Hotel, promising a small pet expo. Viewing is free. 619-233-5227. Sunday, December 13, 3pm; free-$10. Gaslamp Quarter. (DOWNTOWN)

Rooftop Yoga Yoga One leads vinyasa flow mixed-level classes for hotel guests (free) and public ($15 per class). 619-544-0164. Thursdays, 5:30pm; Fridays, 9am; Sundays, 5:30pm; Mondays, 9am; Tuesdays, 5:30pm; Wednesdays, 9am; free-$15. Porto Vista Hotel & Suites, 1835 Columbia Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Stamp-Collecting Show Stamp and cover dealers offer their wares. 619-218-7835. Sunday, December 13, 10am; free. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Gingerbread Collective Competition features showcase of gingerbread houses designed, built by leading SD architects, designers, artists, cultural leaders. Vote for your favorite, from midcentury marvels to architectural-inspired confection (in person and online). Viewing on December 10 and 11. Bring nonperishable food items, grocery store gift cards to support Second Chance.

On December 12, mingle with those who designed the creations. "People's Choice" awards announced, along with jury-selected winners. Night concludes with auction of the houses. Reservations recommended. Donation: $25. 619-564-7440. Thursday, December 10, 6pm; Friday, December 11, 6pm; Saturday, December 12, 6pm; free-$25. Arclinea San Diego, 2515 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Whale- and Dolphin-Watching Adventures Hornblower Cruises leads 3.5-hour outings in search of migrating gray whales, with captains and naturalists from San Diego Natural History Museum on hand to help spot tails and teach guests more about the marine wildlife offshore. Reservations: 619-686-8715. Saturdays, 9:30am and 1:30pm; Sundays, 9:30am and 1:30pm; Mondays, 9:30am and 1:30pm; Tuesdays, 9:30am and 1:30pm; Wednesdays, 9:30am and 1:30pm; through Sunday, April 4, $16-$37. Hornblower Cruises, 1066 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

What Is Cap and Trade? Will it hinder our conversion to renewable energy? Ponder these questions and their answers with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, December 10, 7pm; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Winter Doggie Café Bring your friendly, on-leash dog to socialize with other dogs at winter-themed event. Behavior, training specialists "on paw" to answer training questions. Complimentary desserts, dog treats provided. Music by jazz duo Forecast. One dog per human handler. Donation: $10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. Friday, December 11, 6pm. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Wrap It Up! Make holiday gifts special when wrapped Japanese style; *tsutsumi* is described as "art of gentle concealment of special gifts." In class taught by Lisa Koide Halverson, learn three gift wraps using Japanese techniques. Registration, materials list: 619-232-2721. Saturday, December 12, 10am; $15-$18. 16 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

"A Christmas Celebration" The 13th annual Christmas choir concert features over 50 singers, handbell ringers, instrumentalists performing Advent and Christmas songs. Offering. 760-753-1026. Sunday, December 13, 4pm; Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 925 Balour Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"A Tribute to Tárrega" Enjoy performances by students, faculty, friends celebrating 100 years of guitar music by Francisco Tárrega. Appearances by MiraCosta Guitar Orchestra, San Diego State University Guitar Ensemble. 760-795-6815. Sunday, December 13, 2pm; $8-$10. MiraCosta College Theatre, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

"Antiphons, Lessons, and Carols: A Christmas Story" Classical concert for entire family. 619-276-1041. Sunday, December 13, 3pm; free. Saint Mary Magdalene Church, 1945 Illion Street. (CLAIREMONT)

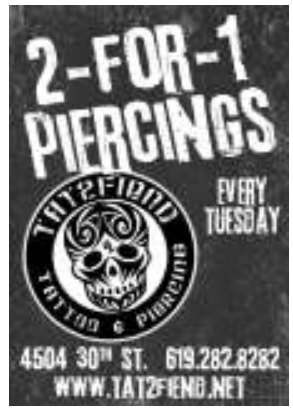
"Journey of Promises" Joseph M. Martin's piece, with narration by Pamela Martin, presented for Christmas concert. Offering. 619-466-4163. Sunday, December 13, 4pm. La Mesa First United Methodist Church, 4690 Palm Avenue. (LA MESA)

"Masterpiece Messiah" Orchestra Nova, maestro Jung-Ho Pak, Bach Collegium, and soloists present George Frideric Handel's "Messiah." Also, see "a dramatic video experience of the great masterpieces of art complementing" the piece. 858-350-0290. Thursday, December 10, 7:30pm; $15-$75. Saint Paul's Cathedral, 2728 Sixth Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

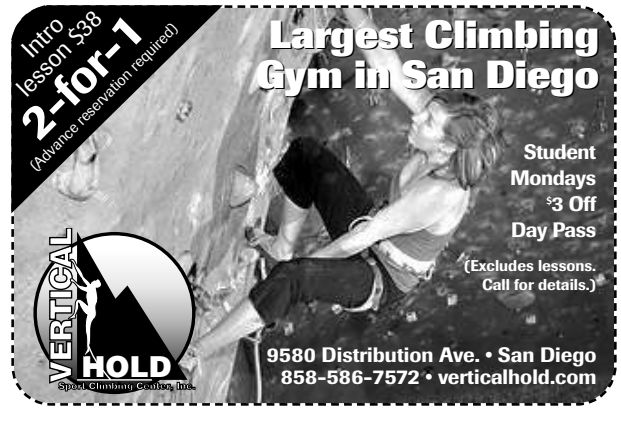
"Masterpiece Messiah" Redux Orchestra Nova, maestro Jung-Ho Pak, Bach Collegium, and soloists present George Frideric Handel's "Messiah." Also, see "a dramatic video experience of the great masterpieces of art complementing" the piece. 858-350-0290. Saturday, December 12, 7:30pm; $15-$75. Solana Beach Presbyterian Church, 120 Stevens Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

"Messe de Minuit pour Noël" Palomar Symphony, Chorale, and Chamber Singers perform Christmas midnight Mass based on pop-











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Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

ular carols, described as a "rare classic from composer Marc-Antoine Charpentier…the most popular French Mass of the Baroque era." 760-744-1150 x2453. Sunday, December 13, 4pm; $8-$12. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Messiah (Part I) Sing-Along" USD Symphony uses Mozart's orchestration on Handel's masterwork. "Bring your own score, or borrow one at the door" to Founders Chapel. Donation. 619-260-4171. Friday, December 11, 7:30pm. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

The Many Moods of Christmas Suites 3 and 4 of this work by Robert Shaw and Robert Russell Bennett may be heard when conductor William Hatcher, Anne-Marie Dicce, Janelle De Stefano, Janice Stewart, San Dieguito Methodist Church Chancel Choir, Orchestra, and bell choir perform. Program includes Vivaldi's "Gloria." Offering. 760-753-6582. Sunday, December 13, 7pm. San Dieguito United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena. (ENCINITAS)

"Winter Poem" Hutchins Consort presents holiday selections by Vivaldi, Corelli, Zavateri. Also promised: "a carol sing-along that will surely tickle your funny bone." 760-753-7376. Saturday, December 12, 10am; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Courtly Noyse Enjoy Renaissance music when ensemble, garbed in period costumes, plays variety of period instruments for the Pleasure of Your Company chamber music series. Reception follows. Donations appreciated. 858-538-8158. Sunday, December 13, 2:30pm. Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

Feast of Lights Three choirs, accompanied by organ and members of San Diego Symphony, present Christmas story in traditional form of lessons and carols, with music spanning centuries. Offering. 619-232-7513. Sunday, December 13, 6pm; Monday, December 14, 7pm. First Presbyterian Church, 320 Date Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Festive Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams performs music of the season. 619-702-8138. Sunday, December 13, 2pm; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Hallelujah! Seasonal "Messiah" sing-along of Christmas portions of Handel's piece hosted by La Jolla Symphony and Chorus. Scores available for rent on site. Reservations: 858-534-4637. Sunday, December 13, 4pm; $8-$15. Saint Elizabeth Seton Church, 6628 Santa Isabel Street. (CARLSBAD)

Holiday Pops Favorite holiday music tradition returns with performance by San Diego Symphony, host Michael Cavanaugh (piano, vocals), San Diego Master Chorale, San Diego Children's Choir, and Mariachi Champaña Nevin. (Cavanaugh will not perform December 16). Reservations: 619-235-0804. Wednesday, December 16, 7:30pm; $20-$85. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)





DANCE

"Hustle Heaven" Get your holiday groove on with hustle, West Coast swing, nightclub two-step, Latin dances with holiday twist. 858-565-9575. Sunday, December 13, 7pm; $7. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

"Milonga Nocturna" Calling tango night owls for dancing to "some of the best Argentine tangos" played by Sabah. 858-565-9575. Saturday, December 12, 9pm; $10. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

"WinterDance 2009" Hip-hop, modern, ballet, tap, jazz — Palomar dance students present original choreography in variety of styles, directed by Patriceann Mead. 760-744-1150 x2453. Friday, December 11, 8pm; Saturday, December 12, 8pm; $8-$12. Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College, 1140 West Mission Road. (PALOMAR COLLEGE)

***Nutcrackers* Here and There** Scripps Performing Arts Academy presents full-length version of *The Nutcracker* with cast of 170 children from ages 3 to 18, set to music by Tchaikovsky. 858-586-7834. Saturday, December 12, 2pm; Sunday, December 13, 2pm; $25-$47. Scripps Ranch High School, 10410 Treena Street. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

The Cracked Nut The Coronado School Dance Company and Betzi Roe present "tasty dance treats" as alternative to traditional *Nutcrackers*. Highlights: "hip-hopping Cuban coffee, techno-fortune cookies, chai tea à la Bollywood, and candy canes grooving to Annie Lennox." Students choreographed many segments, with dance styles including ballet, jazz, hip-hop, folk-inspired forms, modern dance. 619-522-4050. Friday, December 11, 7pm; Saturday, December 12, 7pm; Sunday, December 13, 2pm; $7-$15. 5 and up. Coronado School of the Arts, 650 D Avenue. (CORONADO)

Argentine Tango Colette Hebert leads Argentine tango lessons. 619-225-1803. Mondays, 7pm; Wednesdays, 7pm; through Friday, December 25. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

Argentine Tango Class Introductory Argentine tango classes, ongoing, 9-10pm. (free). No partner required. Social dancing follows, 10pm-1am. ($7). 619-393-1974. Fridays, 9pm; free. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Belly Dance with Valentina Learn belly dance fusing "American tribal style," Egyptian cabaret, jazz, hip-hop, modern dance. Classes include drills, choreography. 858-344-2774. Tuesdays, 7:30pm; through Tuesday, December 29, $10-$12. Mind Body & Soul Dance Studio, 2971 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Cajun and Zydeco Dancing Zydeco lesson and dance. Beginners' dance lessons at 7pm; open dancing to recorded tunes 8pm in the Skies Lounge. 619-857-8409. Tuesdays, 7pm; $5. Four Points by Sheraton, 8110 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Dance Like No One Is Watching DanceJam hosts "barefoot boogies" every Friday. Contact improvisation classes on second and fourth Friday (8-9pm); improvisational jams with live music and dancers on first and third Fridays. DJs spin dance mixes 9-midnight. Fee: $10 for class/jam and barefoot boogie; $5 for barefoot boogie before 9:30pm, $7 for after 9:30pm. 760-758-8270. Fridays, 8pm. Eveoke Dance Theatre, 2811 University Ave., Suite A. (NORTH PARK)

Hula Hoop Has Evolved! Hoop dance classes with Unity teach muscle control and tone. Beginning: 7-8pm; intermediate: 8-9pm. 858-344-2774. Thursdays, 7pm; $10-$12. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

Hustle Dance Party Hustle workshop for intermediate/advanced dancers ($10 members, $15 nonmembers). Hustle dance party follows 8pm-midnight ($5 members, $7 nonmembers), with beginner lesson 8-8:30pm (included in admission). 760-803-9982. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; $5-$15. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas Blvd., Suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

It's *Nutcracker* Season! California Ballet Company tackles Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* with cast of 160 — including 35 professional dancers and apprentices. 858-560-5676. Saturday, December 12, 1pm and 5:30pm; Sunday, December 13, 1pm; $25-$60. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

Learn to Belly Dance Leilainia of Shimmy Sisters teaches mixed-level belly-dance classes. 619-884-7707. Thursdays, 7pm; through Thursday, December 17, $10. 12 and up. California Ballet, 4819 Ronson Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Learn to Line Dance Country line-dance classes for beginners through intermediates. 858-459-0831. Thursdays, 12:30pm; free. 18 and up. Riford Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Live Music and English Country Dancing Off the Cuff makes music, Ellen Riley calls for dance. Beginners' instruction at 6pm. 858-676-9731. Sunday, December 13, 6pm; $8. Jean Hart Academy of Dance, 12227 Poway Road. (POWAY)

Old Twine String Band Provides music, Graham Hempel calls for contra dancing hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. Beginners' dance workshop 7:30pm; dances taught and called to live music 8-11pm. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Saturday, December 12, 7:30pm; $7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Put 11 Candles on the Cake! Firehouse Swing Dance celebrates 11th anniversary with swing dance, party. Introduction to swing class (8-8:30pm), followed by live music by Zzymzzy Quartet and Mercedes Moore Soul-tet (8:30-11:30pm). Dance performances too. 858-395-6060. Wednesday, December 16, 8pm; $10-$15. Firehouse Swing Dance, at San Diego Woman's Club: 2557 Third Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

Salsa Central Dance to salsa, along with some merengue, cha-cha, bachata, and cumbia every Monday. 858-735-4159. Mondays, 8pm; free. Ciao Bella Caffe Bar e Ristorante, 5263 Baltimore Drive. (LA MESA)

Salsa Lessons Salsa lessons for beginners and intermediates. No partners needed. Lessons followed by open dancing with music by Luna Llena (8:30pm). 619-200-7124. Thursdays, 7pm; $10. 18 and up. Miami Grille, 4545 La Jolla Village Drive. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Scandinavian Holiday Dance Party Enjoy live music for dancing. Bring snack to share. 619-281-5656. Wednesday, December 16, 7:30pm; $7-$8. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Nutcrackers and Sugar Plum Fairies City Ballet of San Diego performs *The Nutcracker,* with Tchaikovsky's score performed by City Ballet Orchestra, with choreography by Elizabeth Wistrich, after Lev Ivanov, Vassily Vainonen, Rudolph Nureyev. 858-272-8663. Fridays, 7:30pm; Saturdays, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, December 20, $29-$59. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

Swingin' for the Holidays Learn to dance East Coast swing, two-step, nightclub, waltz for holidays. Practice time included. 619-861-6260. Thursday, December 10, 6:30pm; $10. 16 and up. Attire by Lea Dance Studio, 7202 El Cajon Boulevard Suite A. (COLLEGE AREA)

Tango? Tango lessons — performance and social — led by Florentino Guizar. Open dancing: 8pm. 858-735-4159. Mondays, 6:30pm; $10. 21 and up. Four Points by Sheraton, 8110 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Think You Can Dance? Rock Steady hosts annual audition for dancers to join 2010 crew. Registration: 7pm; auditions: 8pm. 619-299-2110. Friday, December 11, 7pm; free. Culture Shock Dance Studio, 2110 Hancock Street. (OLD TOWN)

Veils, Fans, Swords! Zorba Stars dancers perform belly-dance stage show. Greek buffet, full bar, live music, open dancing after show. Reservations recommended: 619-422-8853. Friday, December 11, 6:30pm; Saturday, December 12, 6:30pm; $15. Zorba's Greek Buffet, 100 Broadway. (CHULA VISTA)

West Coast Swing and Country Jam DJ plays West Coast swing and requests for singles and couples of all ages. Dance lesson: 7pm; open dancing 8:30-10:30pm. First time free. 619-275-3533. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; free-$7. Pattie

La Mesa Boulevard packed with Holiday fun!



FREE ADMISSION!

ONE WEEKEND ONLY!

La Mesa Village Merchants present

Christmas in the Village

Step back in time...horse-drawn carriages; streets filled with elves, carolers and live music; barber shop quartets; bonfires with roasting chestnuts; children's carnival; plays and puppet shows; magicians, face painting and balloons!

This Weekend! Friday & Saturday, Dec. 11 & 12 • 6-10 pm

In the heart of La Mesa Village off Spring St. on La Mesa Blvd.

La Mesa Village Shopping Guide

Restaurants
Aubrey Rose Tea Room
Centifontis
Cosmos Coffee Cafe
Edible Arrangements
GIO Bistro & Wine Bar
Hoffer's Cigar Bar
Java Mama Coffee
Jitters Coffee Shop
Johnny B's Burgers
Konnichiha Sushi
La Torta Cafe
Mario's Restaurant
Pete's Place Cocktails
Por Favor Restaurant
Riveria Supper Club
SanFilippos Pizza
Starbucks Coffee
Subway
The Regal Bar
Tiramisu Cucina Italiana
Tortas and More
Trolley Stop Deli
Yogurt Mill

Shopping
Act II Ladies Resale
All Things Bright & British
Bella Mesa Art Gallery
Billards Direct
Blumenthal Jewelers
Bouncing Bead
Creative Clocktower
Don Keating Cars
Gentlemen's Resale
Golden Artistry Jewelry
Gypsy Treasure
Hand Full of Wild Flowers
Homeland Florist
Ladies Resale Clothing
La Mesa Lumber
Maxwell's House of Books
McCrea Music
Mostly Mission
Moze Guitars
O'Dunn Fine Art
Readers Inc.
Sara's Selections Boutique
Sparrow Bridal Boutique
Spoil Me Rotten Boutique
Time & Treasures Clock Shop
Two Sisters & Ewe Yarn Shop

Services
Advanced Paint Specialists
Alteration & Dry Cleaning
Blue Lotus Holistic Center
Blue Tuesday Salon
Greg's Sharpening
Head Games Salon
iTan
La Mesa Mail Boxes
La Mesa Village Chiropractic
Lupe's Shoe Repair
Millicent & Co. Hair Salon
Pure Expression Salon
Radiant Skin
Risque Hair Salon
Rocco Forte Hair Designs
Salon De Villaggio
Salon Element
Stardust Spa
Stowe Biotherapy
Success Hypnotherapy
Stylz Salon
Trolley Cleaners
Yoga Center

Antiques
Antique Alley
Antiques @ The Village
Collectiquity Antiques
Galleria Antiques
La Mesa Antique Mall
Norma Jean Antiques
Park Estate Antiques
Park Estate Antiques II

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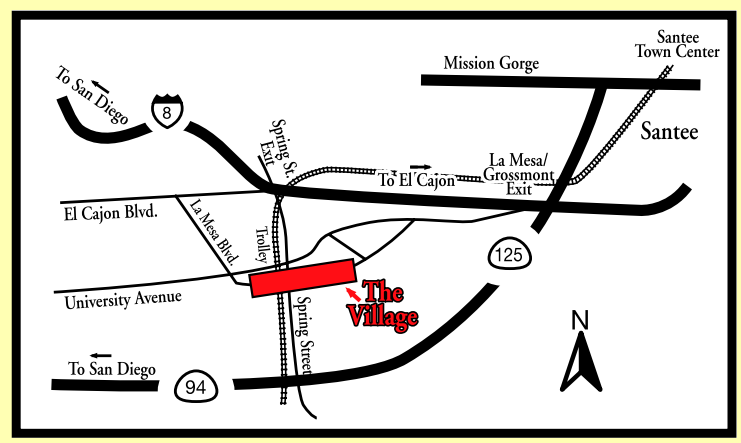
Many businesses will be open late for this event!



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DEL MAR

Fortune's NYE 2010 at the Del Mar Marriott: North County's premiere event with over 20 of San Diego's finest DJs playing in 4 areas from 8pm-4am. For more info, to purchase tickets, and to book hotel rooms visit www.421newyears.com or call (619) 269-9713.

DOWNTOWN

4th & B: Ministry of Sound with Yves LaRock, Jabba and Zoo Brazil. Dance.

The Field Irish Pub: Double New Year's Party Irish Style. Irish New Year's at 4 pm. No cover. American New Year's Eve dinner packages available. Live Irish music.

Hard Rock Hotel San Diego: NYE 2010 – 3 floors, 4 venues, 12 DJs, 1 all-access ticket. VIP room packages available. Visit www.hardrockhotelsd.com/nye2010 or call (619) 702-3000 for more information.

Hilton Gaslamp: Karaoke and dancing. All-inclusive package: 1 night accommodations for 2, hors d'oeuvres, party favors, champagne toast and entertainment provided by "Musically Yours". $299 per couple. For reservations call (619) 231-4040.

House of Blues: NYE 2010. Presented by Victory Nightlife.

Onyx/Thin: Featuring DJs: Rags, RJ Diggs, Ramsey and special guests. Three rooms of music, huge midnight celebration and champagne toast, dancers, high-tech visuals, hosted cocktail hour. For more info, bottle service and VIP reservations contact Charlissa Dodge at (619) 235-6699 or Charlissa@onyxroom.com. Early arrival and advance tickets suggested. Pre-sale tickets: onyxroom.com/clubzone.com/newyearseve.com/Mileage in P.B. Doors open at 8 pm. 21+.

Patrick's II: New Year's Eve Blowout. Ring in 2010 on the dance floor with the Dennis Jones Blues Band. Hats, horns, noisemakers, food, fun, and a champagne toast at midnight. $25 in advance.

Café Sevilla: New Year's Eve Flamenco Dinner Show Extravaganza, Tapas Bar: 2 seatings. Restaurant: 3 seatings. Club Sevilla dinner show and dance party.

Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina: Kaskade with Christopher Lawrence, Mark Farina, Joachim Garraud and guests. Electronica/Trance/House.

The Shout! House: Prime Rib Buffet, dessert, guaranteed seat, champagne toast, souvenir champagne glass, party favors, live entertainment all night long! Dinner, party packages and bottle service available.

EAST VILLAGE

Jewel Box: No cover. Free party favors. Champagne toast at midnight. (619) 236-8685

EL CAJON

VFW Hall: New Year's Eve Mobster Bash. Featuring Dannicus live. Acoustic/Metal/Rock.

LA JOLLA

The Steakhouse at Azul La Jolla: USDA prime steaks, fresh seafood and more. All 100 feet above La Jolla Cove. Reserve now: (858) 454-9616 or azul-lajolla.com.

MISSION VALLEY

In Cahoots: Masquerade Party–$500 in prizes. $20 advance cover, $20 advance dinner buffet. $25 admission day of per person. $2.50 You-Call-It 6-9 pm.

PACIFIC BEACH

T23 Hotel hosts JRDN NYE 2010: DJ Coop Da Loop, DJ Smoke, DJ Quendi and DJ Flesch. Ticket includes dinner buffet and dancing. Dinner 8-11 pm. $75/person before December 30. Reserve tickets at (858) 270-5736.

Tango Del Rey: Just off I-5. Mardi Gras party, two bands, Cajun food, samba dancers, lots of beads. Discount if purchased by December 10. (858) 794-9044 or www.tangodelrey.com.

POINT LOMA

The Pearl: Party at the Pearl Hotel. Dinner for two for $99 or 10 pm-1:30 am no cover party with DJ Dex Diego. Champagne toast at midnight. Room packages available. (619) 226-6100 or www.thepearlsd.com.

RAMONA

Molly Malone's: Coldfire. Rock.

SOUTH PARK

Alchemy: Seasonal menu and a special three-course menu. Two seatings: 6 and 8:30 pm. Call for reservations.

VALLEY CENTER

Harrah's Rincón: "Hit It Big in 2010." Featuring Diva Soul, Federal Funk and the Superfreaks. Covers/pop/rock.

Calendar
LOCAL EVENTS

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

FILM

"Mirrors and Masks" Is identity a prison? A work of creative art? Seniors at Gary and Jerri-Ann Jacobs High Tech High exhibit compilation of films inspired by Howard Zinn's *People's History of the United States of America* and Eduardo Galeano's book of prose poems, *Mirrors.* Resulting student films are product of cross-curricular collaboration in humanities, digital art, mixed-media coursework. 619-243-5042. Tuesday, December 15, 6pm; free. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Casi Divas Issa Lopez's 2008 "flamboyant spoof of showbiz excess" screens for Film Forum series. In Spanish with English subtitles. 619-236-5800. Monday, December 14, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Deliver Us From Evil Screening of 2006 Academy Award-nominated documentary about pedophilia in Catholic Church. Donations accepted for SNAP Network. 619-282-0437. Tuesday, December 15, 7pm. Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Line Shot Catch West Coast premiere of "Automatic Cities" exhibition artist Matthew Ritchie's first feature-length film. Digital animation weaves together utopian narratives and arcane creation myths, resulting in "*Fantasia* for physicists." 858-454-3541. Thursday, December 10, 7pm; free-$7. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

My Sister's Keeper Cameron Diaz and Abigail Breslin star in this 2009 film directed by Nick Cassavetes, screening for ongoing Carlsbad Library film series. Pre- and postfilm discussions led by Ann Zivotsky. 760-602-2026. Wednesday, December 16, 6pm; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

White Christmas Enjoy Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye in this classic 1954 holiday flick. 619-238-7559. Saturday, December 12, 1pm; Sunday, December 13, 1pm; free. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

And the Winners... Oceanside International Film Festival winners screened. Titles include best student film, *Kevin's Critters: Dolphin Experience* (6:15pm); best documentary, *Save the World* (6:30pm); and best picture, *Callous* (7:30pm). 760-529-9140. Saturday, December 12, 6:15pm; Sunday, December 13, 6:15pm; $10. 13 and up. Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Up for a Christmas Classic? Missiongathering hosts dinner, screening of *A Christmas Story.* Dinner includes screening of "classic Claymation" shorts (*Rudolph & Frosty*) at 7pm, followed by feature. "Dress like your favorite character from *A Christmas Story.*" 619-624-9335. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; $12. Sunset Temple Theatre, 3911 Kansas Street. (NORTH PARK)

FOOD & DRINK

Tamale-Making 101 Learn brief history of this tasty treat, "then dive right into preparing masa, corn husks, and fillings to create two types of tamales, one with and one without meat." Participants will also learn to make a Mexican Christmas punch. Each student leaves class with recipes and one dozen tamales. 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, December 12, 10am; $65. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Taste N' Tinis Self-guided walking tour of "delicious treats and lively libations," as restaurants serve up house specialties. Participating shops will have bartenders on hand serving cocktails. 619-233-5008. Thursday, December 10, 5pm; $30-$35. California Bank & Trust, 3737 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

The Ultimate Indulgence? "Perfect Pairings" event hosted by *SipSmokeSavor.com* promises six single-malt Scotches paired with Chuao artisan bonbons, appetizers, fine cigars. Required reservations: 760-944-9000. Wednesday, December 16, 6:30pm; $50. 21 and up. Firenze, 162 S. Rancho Santa Fe Road. (ENCINITAS)

FOR KIDS

"Bullets Outta Guns" City Heights poet Jim Moreno offers after-school poetry workshop for middle and high school students. Participants learn "craft of poetry, microphone skills, and performance skills." 760-802-2449. Tuesdays, 4pm; through Sunday, June 6, free. 12 and up. Upaka Center, 6875 El Cajon Boulevard. (COLLEGE AREA)

"Jungle Beasts and Bells" Meet a jungle animal, make a jingle-bell-jungle-animal craft, decorate some holiday cookies to snack on during Kindernights and Kindermornings program. Fee does not include admission to zoo. Required reservations: 619-557-3969. Saturday, December 12, 9am; $12-$15. 3 and up. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

"Shall We Dance?" J*Company Youth Theatre continues season with Rodgers and Hammerstein's *The King and I,* which won Tony Award for best musical in 1951. Score includes well-loved tunes such as "I Whistle a Happy Tune" and "Getting to Know You." Reservations: 858-362-1348. Saturday, December 12, 8pm; Sunday, December 13, 1pm and 4:30pm; $13-$17.

David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Wii Get Crafty" Meet new friends over Wii, crafts, snacks. For ages 6-17. 858-538-8159. Fridays, 4pm; 6 and up. Rancho Peñasquitos Library, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Camel Lot: A Christmas Musical Rock Academy's kindergarten through 6th grade students present musical and dance presentation "about a little girl whose dream takes us to Bethlehem on Christmas Eve." 619-764-5200. Thursday, December 10, 7pm; free. Rock Academy, 2277 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

The Merry Christmas Show Puppet Express performs (December 16-20), followed by Eva Kvaas (December 21-23 and December 26-27). 619-544-9203. Wednesday, December 16, 10am and 11:30am; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

The Secret of Santa's Island Steve Breen reads from his new book. Cookies and milk promised, and visit by Santa Claus. Breen is Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial cartoonist for *San Diego Union-Tribune,* author of *Stick* and *Violet the Pilot.* 858-454-0347. Thursday, December 10, 6pm; free. Warwick's Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

All Aboard! Chula Vista Live Steam Club provides train rides. Donation: 50 cents. Children under 48" must be accompanied by an adult. 619-421-5227. Sunday, December 13, noon; free. Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

Can't Catch Me! Millie Patterson's Weaver's Tales present *Adventures of the Gingerbread Man.* 619-544-9203. Thursday, December 10, 10am and 11:30am; Friday, December 11, 10am and 11:30am; Saturday, December 12, 11am, 1pm and 2:30pm; Sunday, December 13, 11am, 1pm and 2:30pm; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Early Ecologist Budding naturalists invited to preschool story time. "Enjoy an imaginative journey into nature through dynamic readings and visits to exhibitions." Recommended for ages 1-5. Included in museum admission ($13 adults, $7 children). 619-255-0203. Thursday, December 10, 11am. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Polar Express Family Day The Polar Express arrives, and "everyone will become a passenger." Wear your jammies for pajama party, craft an edible "Polar Express" train, enter coloring contest. Activities included in admission price. 619-696-0199. Sunday, December 13, 11am; free-$7. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Preschool Craft Time For ages 3-5. 858-538-8159. Wednesdays, 6pm; 3 and up. Rancho Peñasquitos Library, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

Reindeer? No, Mule Deer! Preschoolers (with an adult) learn about deer and fellow herbivores during "Ant-Sized Adventures" class using pelts, antlers, specimens, songs. Program includes craft, trail walk. 619-582-6261. Thursday, December 10, 10am; Friday, December 11, 10am; Tuesday, December 15, 10am; Wednesday, December 16, 10am; free-$5. 2 and up. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Teen Art Café Teen artists invited to meet other teen artists, take part in art-making activities in conjunction with "American Artists from the Russian Empire" exhibition. 619-232-7931. Monday, December 14, 6pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

The Quest for a Red Ryder BB Gun Enjoy tale of Ralphie Parker and his campaign to receive the genuine article when San Diego Junior Theatre La Jolla presents *A Christmas Story,* based on the 1983 holiday comedy. For all ages. 619-239-8355. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 1pm and 4pm; Sundays, 1pm and 4pm; through Sunday, December 20; $11-$14. Firehouse YMCA Community Center, 7877 Herschel Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Wacky Science Sundays Explore wild and wacky worlds of mysterious creatures, fascinating habitats, and phenomenal science

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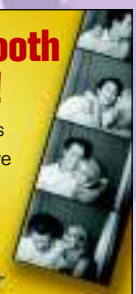

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with Ms. Frizzle and the Magic School Bus. Included in regular museum admission. 619-232-3821 x110. Sundays, 12:15pm and 2:15pm; free-$13. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

GALLERIES

"Celebrate the Season" Reception for exhibition of work by Kris deYoung, Sharon Ford, Theresa Early Newbern, and Judy Judy Judy. Show closes Sunday, December 20. 858-459-1196. Tuesday, December 15, 5:30pm; free. La Jolla Art Association Gallery, 8100 Paseo del Ocaso, Suite B. (LA JOLLA)

"Fringe Theories" Explore "ideas that depart significantly from the prevailing or orthodox" during exhibit opening with reception for Tony Allard, D.J. Brelje, Keith Engeron, Noah Doley, Mark Van Stone. "Look forward and keep an open mind" through Saturday, January 9. 619-838-7666. Saturday, December 12, 6pm; free. Agitprop Gallery, 2837 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

"Manny Farber: Four Decades of Paintings and Drawings" Opening reception for exhibition of "a small, concise group of works painted between 1974 and 2008 by the late San Diego-based artist Manny Farber." View "prime examples" of Farber vibrant artwork through Wednesday, February 24. 858-457-3030. Monday, December 14, 7:30pm; free. Gotthelf Art Gallery at Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"On Ice" Opening reception for exhibition of landscape photographs by Len Jenshel and Diane Cook, who collaborate by pairing black-and-white prints by Cook with color images by Jenshel. Closes Saturday, February 13. 858-456-5620. Saturday, December 12, 5pm; free. Joseph Bellows Gallery, 7661 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

"Sub 1K: California Style" Opening reception for exhibition of works all priced under $1000 by 15 California-based artists. In addition, the "Alley" will be packed with more than 100 pieces; the 14 studios featuring 16 local artists will be open. Through Saturday, February 6. 760-781-5779. Saturday, December 12, 5pm; free. Distinction Gallery, 317 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Art Show and Sale Reception for exhibit of work by new and established gallery artists. 619-921-5089 or 619-313-3373. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; free. Brokers Building Gallery, 402 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Pastels and Water Media Reception for featured artist Mary Anne Nilsson Bloom. View show through Sunday, December. 760-434-8497. Sunday, December 13, 4pm; free. Carlsbad Oceanside Art League's COAL Gallery, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive #101. (CARLSBAD)

Small Images Awards reception for artists taking part in annual small image exhibition. Closes Monday, January 4. 760-942-3636. Saturday, December 12, 5pm; free. Off Track Gallery, 500 Second Street. (ENCINITAS)

IN PERSON

"Brew Ha-ha Coffee and Comedy Night" Stand-up comedy show featuring Chris Clobber and Albert Linton. No cover. 619-922-9057. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; 16 and up. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"Carols by Candlelight" Family Christmas concert celebrates 20th anniversary with performances by LeAnn Rimes, Bucky Covington, Little River Band, Jordan Pruitt, Buck Howdy, Beat Boys. 800-988-4253. Friday, December 11, 8pm; Saturday, December 12, 8pm; $32-$60. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Green Songs" MiraCosta Songwriting I students "present environmentally friendly music written by the class throughout the fall 2009 semester." 760-795-6815. Tuesday, December 15, 7:30pm; $5-$8. MiraCosta College Theatre, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

"Home for the Holidays" "So Say We All" convenes for seasonal VAMP (video arts music performance) show. 619-887-2856. Monday, December 14, 9pm; free. Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

"Impossible Visions" Magic show by Sebastian, with guest J. Sanchez. Dinner not included in fee. Reservations. 858-344-6981. Wednesdays, 6pm; $10. Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

"In Praise of Cats and Dogs" Writer, broadcaster Richard Lederer — author of *A Treasury for Dog Lovers, A Treasury for Cat Lovers,* and more than 25 other books — speaks about his new books. Book signing follows. 858-496-8778. Tuesday, December 15, 5pm; free. Mt. Everest Academy, 4350 Mt. Everest Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

"King of Love" The 2009 yuletide musical by Rodger Strader, with arrangements by Bob Krogstd. Tickets: 858-485-5840. Friday, December 11, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 12, 5pm; Sunday, December 13, 3pm; free. Hope United Methodist Church, 16550 Bernardo Heights Parkway. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

"Love Vibrations" NuExperience presents "love-based spoken-word 'inspir-tainment' event" with work by local poets, vocalists, musicians. Offering. Bring one new, unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. 619-491-3087. Monday, December 14, 7:30pm; San Diego Center for Spiritual Living, 1009 G Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Sounds of the Season" Holiday party promises singing by







Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Martin Luther King Choir. 619-233-7963. Friday, December 11, 6pm; free. Women's History Museum, 2323 Broadway, Suite 107. (GOLDEN HILL)

My Friend Dahmer Two boys became friends in 1976; one became an underground cartoonist, the other a notorious serial killer. See Jake Arky's play, adapted from nonfiction graphic novel by Derf into a multimedia theater experience. 619-887-2856. Friday, December 11, 8pm; $5. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Solving the American Health-Care Crisis Umang Malhotra plans lecture, answers questions, and signs books. 619-887-7688. Sunday, December 13, 2pm; free. Porto Vista Hotel & Suites, 1835 Columbia Street. (LITTLE ITALY)

Comedy on the Crest Improv sketch comedy show by members of Comedy Under Construction. 858-550-8088. Wednesday, December 16, 8pm; $5. 14 and up. Café Libertalia, 3834 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Creating Your Dream Home Southern California designer, and home-furnishing store owner Laurie Ann McMillin Ray signs books. Day promises how-to presentations at 11am, 1, 3pm. Books for sale ($29.95). 619-758-9981. Saturday, December 12, 11am. At Home With Laurie Ann — Liberty Station, 2855 Perry Road. (POINT LOMA)

From Traditional to Swing The 45-piece Hillcrest Wind Ensemble performs holiday music in hotel's Mississippi Room. 619-692-2077 x814. Saturday, December 12, 8pm; $15. Lafayette Hotel & Suites, 2223 El Cajon Blvd. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Gelato Poetry Series Robert O'Sullivan Schleith reads his poetry, followed by open-mike performances. 760-434-1240. Friday, December 11, 7pm; free. Korky's Ice Cream and Coffee, 2375 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Have Yourself an International Christmas Christmas concert with songs from all over world. Narration includes Christmas traditions from other countries. 619-443-1021. Friday, December 11, 7pm; free. Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church, 9909 Channel Road. (LAKESIDE)

Open-Mike Sundays, 9:30pm. Tiki House, 1152 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Open-Mike Night With house band. Covers/rock. Thursdays, 7:30pm; $4. 8Teen Arts and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

San Diego Festival Chorus Holiday Concert The 80-voice chorus and 48-piece symphony orchestra perform Handel's "Messiah," "The Christmas Suite" by Brymer, "Ose Shalom." 519-670-3588. Sunday, December 13, 3pm; $17. College Avenue Baptist Church, 4747 College Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

Totoy Bibo Karaoke Wednesdays, 9pm. McDini's, 105 E. 8th Street. (NATIONAL CITY)

LECTURES

"Aeronautical Impossibilities of 9/11" San Diegans for 9/11 Truth host presentation, discussion on these "impossible aeronautical events" by panel of experts including "pilots, aeronautical engineers, an American Airlines flight attendant, a neuropsychologist." 619-222-2120. Sunday, December 13, 6:30pm; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

"Charles Darwin and *On the Origin of Species*" Observes Darwin's bicentenary during lecture marking 150th anniversary of publication of *On the Origin of Species* for "Science Talk" series. 619-236-5817. Wednesday, December 16, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Disney in Space" John Sisson of Orange County Space Society focuses on "Walt Disney and the Future of Space Travel in the 1950s." How did Disney show how going into space could be accomplished in our lifetimes? Talk offered in studio 106. 619-723-3456. Saturday, December 12, 1pm; free. Art Union Building, 2323 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

"It's Not What You've Got, It's What You Do With It" Designer René van Rems focuses on "Fabulous Holiday Decor from Overlooked Garden Treasures" when San Diego Horticultural Society gathers. How does he transform everyday garden "trash" such as seed pods, palm fronds, dried berries into decorative art objects? Plant forum follows. 760-295-7089. Monday, December 14, 6pm; free-$5. Surfside Race Place at Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

"Seldom Seen: 11th-Century Iranian Bronzes" Asian Art curator Sonya Quintanilla offers viewing, discussion a work from permanent collection, on view for one night only. 619-232-7931. Thursday, December 10, 7pm; $5. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Tree of Life J. David Archibald — curator of mammals of SDSU Vertebrate Collections — presents "Perceptions of the History of Life Before and After Darwin." Participants "discover iconography of both evolutionary and creationist trees of life that almost certainly finds its roots in trees." Reservations: 619-255-0203. Tuesday, December 15, 6:30pm; $10-$12. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Cannabis from Clones Learn process of producing cannabis flowers from clones up through harvest during three-part "Growing with Hydroponics" course. "Class is for medical marijuana recommendation holders only"; verification required. Registration: 858-864-8787. Saturday, December 12, 3pm; $99. 21 and up. Legal Cannabis Institute, 945 Hornblend Street suite H. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Explore Your Creativity Learn simple clay hand-building techniques to make sculpture, vessels for your home or garden when Cheryl Tall leads clay classes (Tuesdays, 10:30am or 2:30pm). Tall also plans painting and mixed-media classes divulging techniques such as acrylic painting, glazing, stippling, stamping, collage (Thursdays). Fee: $140 for four classes. 760-479-0399. Thursdays, 2:30pm; Tuesdays, 10:30am and 2:30pm; through Thursday, January 28, 18 and up. Cheryl Tall Art Studio, 1114 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Suite 2. (LEUCADIA)

First Aid for Dogs and Cats American Red Cross class covers treatments for pet emergencies including choking, shock, poisoning, broken bones. Required reservations: 619-243-3424. Sunday, December 13, 1pm; $60. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Holiday Wreath Making Create an evergreen wreath during class taught by Dianna Burke. Materials provided. Required advance registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Saturday, December 12, 10am; $55-$65. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat Training secrets, cat behavior, nutrition, preventing destructive behaviors, socialization with people and other animals, how to communicate with cat. For humans only. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2247. Thursday, December 10, 6:30pm; $35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Dog Workshop covers topics such as house training, socialization with people and other animals, calmness in home, communication with your dog, basic nutrition, more. For people only. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2247. Tuesday, December 15, 6:30pm; $35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Meet an Artist Les Perhacs discusses his 45-year journey as an artist, beginning with his education at Pratt Institute in New York, where he studied under David Smith, Willem and Elaine de Kooning, Salvador Dalí. Included in museum admission ($8 general). 760-435-3720. Saturday, December 12, 2pm; Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

What's the Fuss About? Learn about laws protecting medical marijuana recommendation holders. Attorney provides detailed information about politics of cannabis, legal decisions shaping industry, guidelines for distribution, cultivation, possession, consumption of medical marijuana. Registration: 858-864-8787. Saturday, December 12, 9am; $99. 21 and up. Legal Cannabis Institute, 945 Hornblend Street, Suite H. (PACIFIC BEACH)



Writing Practice "Connect with your creative self through timed writing practice exercises and round-table discussions" led by Maureen Pierre. 760-753-7601. Thursdays, 6pm; through Thursday, December 17, free. 18 and up. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

SPORTS

Elfin Forest Bicycle Ride San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders head out for scenic 70-mile adventure. 858-277-7499. Sunday, December 13, 8:45am; free. Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Fun in Fallbrook Join Knickerbikers for 48-mile bicycle ride for lunch at a Fallbrook deli (bring money). Outing starts east of railroad track (through tunnel) at harbor parking lot. 619-255-2890. Sunday, December 13, 9am; free. Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Ready for Roller Derby? The Wildfires flat-track all-star division of San Diego Derby Dolls host competition. 858-793-5555. Saturday, December 12, 7pm; free-$20. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

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

Year-Round Waterskiing Convair Waterski Club provides ski boats for waterskiing. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. 858-863-4755. Sundays, 8am; $8-$15. Crown Point, 3700 Crown Point Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ART

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

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

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

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

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla "Automatic Cities: The Architectural Imaginary in Contemporary Art" is innovative exhibition mapping influence of architecture on contemporary visual art in an international context. Exhibition sets work by architecturally engaged artists such as Julie Mehretu, Matthew Ritchie, Rachel Whiteread in dialogue with that of emerging practitioners including Catharina van Eetvelde, Jakob Kolding, Sarah Oppenheimer. On view through Sunday, January 31.

"Museums in Miniature: Works by Marcel Duchamp and Joseph Cornell" explores use of collage, assemblage, staged tableaux by Duchamp and Cornell "as plays on the notion of an exhibition space." Closes Sunday, January 31. 700 Prospect St., 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

San Diego Museum of Art "Calder Jewelry" boasts approximately 90 works by the famed modernist — including necklaces, bracelets, brooches, earrings and tiaras — demonstrating the artist's love of abstraction and his mastery of this wearable art form. "Conceiving of his objects as 'wearable mobiles,' Calder individually hammered, chiseled, shaped, and composed more than 1800 pieces of jewelry." Closes Sunday, January 3.

"From Rembrandt's Studio: The Prints of Ferdinand Bol" focuses on printmaking in Rembrandt's Holland. Exhibit documents efforts of Dutch painter, printmaker Ferdinand Bol "to arrive at his own style while working with Rembrandt, the greatest artist of his time." Closes Sunday, March 7.

"American Artists from the Russian Empire" features nearly 70 paintings and sculptures by many of the best-known artists working in America in the postwar period, including Louise Nevelson, Jules Olitsky, Mark Rothko, Ben Shahn. Take this foray into work by artists of Russian descent and training who left the Russian Empire before the end of 1930s through Sunday, January 17.

"Oceanic Art: A Celebration of Form" features 97 works of art primarily from Melanesia and Polynesia, as well as objects from Micronesia and Taiwan. Closes Sunday, January 3. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

SINGLES













blurt

the inside track

Rock and Roll Survivor "Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp decided that because it was Breast Cancer Awareness Month," says Laura Roppé, "they should have a spot for a breast cancer survivor, so they contacted the Keep A Breast foundation in Oceanside." Based on an essay she submitted through Keep A Breast, Roppé was awarded a full scholarship to attend the camp in Hollywood this November 17–22.

Roppé (pronounced row-pay), an Encinitas mother of two, had long dreamed of becoming a rock star. After a year of singing in a local cover band, she had enough original material for an album. She put the finishing touches on *Girl Like This* in August of 2008.

That's when things started to change.



ROCKER MOM ROPPÉ AND YES MAN ANDERSON

That month, one of Roppé's songs, "Float Away," got played on Jeff and Jer's radio show. "It got a huge reaction," she says. "Their phones lit up with people wanting to get a copy." In September, Roppé was signed to a London-based record label. The pieces of her dream, she says, were falling into place. Then, in October 2008, she got a call from her doctor.

"She told me I had breast cancer and not only that, it was a really aggressive type."

Roppé left her job as an attorney and spent much of the year ahead fighting for her life. She continued to write songs. By the end of her treatment regimen, Roppé was declared cancer-free.

At Rock and Roll Fantasy Camp in Hollywood, Roppé and her fellow campers were tutored by Ace Frehley (Kiss), Meat Loaf, and Jon Anderson of Yes.

"They told us, he's happy to talk to you, he's happy to take a picture with you, but don't, like, do the touchy-feely thing."

Later, Anderson found Laura in a rehearsal room practicing with her band. "He came directly to me and he put his hands on both sides of my shoulders, facing me, like a foot away from my face, and he said, 'You're beautiful. Let that shine. You have so much. Let that out.' And then he hugged me, and my mind-set was still, like, don't touch him, don't get too close. Don't invade his space. I burst into tears."

What's next for Roppé? "As if cancer didn't teach me already," she says, "I have to make every day part of my own rock-and-roll fantasy." She says another CD is in the works, her song "Float Away" is getting play on the BBC, and she just finished taping a video in London.

Roppé is considered cancer-free but is not yet in full remission. Is she scared? "Yes. I am. But I can't control it," she says. "So, I try not to dwell on those feelings."

— Dave Good

Kiss My Baby with My Fist "About a year ago, I decided I wanted to form a country band," says Tim Raldo, best known for his confrontational and scatological stage antics fronting the punk band the Filthy Fuks.

"The Ramblin' Outlaws are trying to bridge the gap between Hank Williams and G.G. Allin," says the 27-year-old Raldo, whose story of the band's origin would seem well suited for punk or country. "I went to my friend Rowland Bluntz's house to hang out and smoke, but then he went to jail after a drunken fight with his girlfriend attracted the attention of the Santee sheriffs. He got released from jail after serving about two and a half months, and we wrote our first song together that night, 'Kiss My Baby with My Fist.' "

The band's debut album, *Devil's Railroad,* will be released this month. "We did a photo shoot for the cover at an old train in La Mesa," says Raldo. "The idea of a photo shoot always seemed kinda lame to me, but we got stoned beforehand, and you can really tell by looking at the pictures. All in all, it was a good time."



COUNTRY-FRIED PUNKS THE RAMBLIN' OUTLAWS

So, even in cowboy boots pointy enough to play soccer with a BB, rest assured that Raldo and friends will be keeping it punk. "We look forward to pissin' and pukin' all up and down this onetime great country!"

The Ramblin' Outlaws appear December 19 at the Main Tap in El Cajon.

— Jay Allen Sanford

From a Daffodil to a Fowl It's been three years since singer-guitarist Ben Jerman parted ways with the Daffodils. At the time, the band played monthly gigs at the Casbah and were within weeks of recording their first EP; it was then that Jerman quit, saying he was headed in a different direction than the rest of the band.

Jerman spent those three years playing guitar and writing dozens of songs in his

(continued on page 90)



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continued from page 88

North Park home, delving into twangy Americana sounds with a hint of Kinks-inspired rock.

Despite having the songs, Jerman didn't rush out to find other musicians to start a band; instead he waited until he found the right people. He found those people in some of San Diego's other local bands, such as guitarist Alex Jones, who plays guitar for surf-rock band Monsters from Mars. Jones then suggested bringing on Monsters bandmate Bianca Batti to play bass. A few months later, John Commune, singer and guitarist for the John Foothills Band, joined on drums, and Andrew Geldmeier, former guitarist for the Apes of Wrath, agreed to play organ for the band. The five of them now make up Little Fowl.

"This time around, I found the right people, people who could play and who wanted to have fun," said Jerman during a December 1 interview. "This time around it's about the songs, the right amount of reverb. This time, I didn't have to settle."

As for getting back onstage after his three-year hiatus, Jerman says, "[It will be] nice to get the first few shows out of the way, get the nerves all out, but for me, it's about having fun, making some noise, and getting a couple of free drinks at the bar."

Little Fowl is preparing to play their second show on December 11 at Bar Pink with locals Jungle Fever and L.A. band Underground Railroad to Candyland. In addition to booking live shows, Little Fowl plans to record an EP at Archival Sounds sometime in January with John Cota of Rats Eyes.

— Dorian Hargrove



PHOTOGRAPH BY MATT LANDMAN

LITTLE FOWL CROWING AT BAR PINK



Ms. Branch, Your Yoo-hoo Is Here When Michelle Branch plays the Star 94.1 Jingle Ball at Anthology on Sunday, December 13, the band dressing room requires a dozen Krispy Kreme doughnuts ("plain glazed only"), a pack of flip-tab tuna in water ("white only"), hummus and pita bread ("wheat"), a jar of peanut butter ("creamy"), assorted Pop Tarts ("brown sugar cinnamon and chocolate"), edamame, and cold cereal ("12 assorted little boxes").

Drinks: ten boxes of Capri Sun Surfer Cooler Juice, two bottles of red wine ("Zinfandel, Shiraz, or Merlot"), a 12-pack each of Heineken, Corona, Budweiser, and Bud Lite, six cans of Red Bull energy drink, two four-packs of Starbucks Vanilla Frappuccino, and a six-pack of chocolate Yoo-hoo.

A six-pack of Bud must be placed in ice chests at stage right and stage left, and Branch's dressing room needs a package of Hanes tagless small men's white tank tops ("wife beaters"). In addition, at least five million dollars' worth of liability insurance must be purchased "no later than seven days prior" to the performance.

Finally, Branch requires a "guarantee that there will be absolutely no stage diving or crowd surfing permitted in the venue." That's at Anthology. A Michelle Branch concert. Not a problem.

— Jay Allen Sanford



MICHELLE BRANCH PROHIBITS STAGE DIVING. SERIOUSLY?

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





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SON VOLT



SATURDAY 12/12 • 7 PM

WINDIGO PRESENTS
7TH ANNUAL TURTLENECK
& SWEATER PARTY



METRO
DJ TOMMY COXX
SATURDAY 12/12 • 9 PM

AVERAGE WHITE BAND



POCKET
SUNDAY 12/13 • 8 PM

TRISTAN PRETTYMAN
KATE EARL

PLEASE BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY FOR PROMISES 2 KIDS!

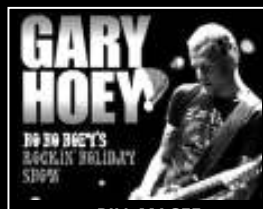


MONDAY 12/14 • 8 PM

FOREIGNER



THE SURRENDER
TUESDAY 12/15 • 8 PM



BILL MAGEE
WEDNESDAY 12/16 • 8 PM

VENICE CHRISTMAS SHOW



CHARLIE VAUGHN
& THE DAILY ROUTINE
THURSDAY 12/17 • 9 PM

PINK FLOYD LASER TRIBUTE w/HAVE A CIGAR



DAZED AND CONFUSED
DJ MAN CAT
FRIDAY 12/18 • 9 PM

FROGS FITNESS PRESENTS
ATOMIC GROOVE XMAS SHOW



SUNDAY 12/20 • 7 PM

TIMOTHY B. SCHMIT
(Eagles Bassist)
UNVEILS EXPANDO



JACK TEMPCHIN
MONDAY 12/21 • 8 PM

REGGAE TUESDAY
GET YOUR DUB ON



DJ BOOMSTYLER
TUESDAY 12/22 • 9 PM

AN EVENING WITH



w/GUEST
WEDNESDAY 12/23 • 8 PM

CASH'D OUT CHRISTMAS



HELL ON HEELS BURLESQUE
TORNADO MAGNET
SATURDAY 12/26 • 9 PM



THE SKAVOLUTIONARY ORCHESTRA
THE AMALGAMATED
SUNDAY 12/27 • 8 PM

CRACKER



CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN
TUESDAY 12/29 • 8 PM

REGGAE NIGHTS
THE DEVASTATORS



WITH GUEST DJ'S
WEDNESDAY 12/30 • 9 PM

DEL THE FUNKY HOMOSAPIEN



BUSDRIVER
FRIDAY 1/1 • 9 PM

40 OZ. TO FREEDOM



SOCIAL GREEN
PROJECT: OUT OF BOUNDS
SATURDAY 1/2 • 9 PM



SUNDAY 1/3 • 8 PM

JUST ADDED! 1/27 **Alyssa Jacey**
3/3 **Pine Mountain Logs**

MATINEES 4 PM
1/2 **Bayou Brothers**

HAPPY HOURS 5:30 PM
12/18 Candye Kane
12/31 NYE Happy Hour w/ Atomic Groove
1/1 Buick Wilson Band

UPCOMING SHOWS:
1/6 New Acoustic Generation w/Michael Tiernan, Lee Coulter
1/7 Robben Ford
1/8 Pato Banton & Now Generation
1/9 Los Lobos
1/10 Brazilian Pre-Carnival 2010
1/12 Cowboy Mouth's Rock 'N' Roll Mardi Gras w/Junior Brown
1/13 Stan Ridgway
1/15 Keb' Mo' - SOLO
1/16 Cross Canadian Ragweed
1/20 "Guitar Legend" Dick Dale
1/22-23 Ozomatli
1/29 Stepping Feet
1/30 Atomic Punks
2/3 Rhett Miller & The Serial Lady Killers
2/5-6 The English Beat
2/10 St. Vincent
2/11 ALO
2/13 Los Lonely Boys Acoustic Brotherhood Tour w/Alejandro Escovedo & Carrie Rodriguez
2/17 Henry Rollins Frequent Flyer Tour
2/27 The Mother Hips
3/3 Galactic
3/7 Blind Boys of Alabama

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club crawler — This Week In Music

Thursday 10

L.A. darkwave dance band the **Moving Units** drop their load at Casbah tonight. Fronted by Blake Miller as Ian Curtis, the quartet stumble into Joy Division hits without commercial menace (looking at you, Interpol) but incidentally. And they wear it well. Trip to their Space for a taste of last year's *Hexes for Exes.* Their latest take, "Crash n Burn Victims," tends to sketch electronica over *Hexes*' cool nu-beats and guitar squall. Whadda ya gonna do? Putting our best feet forward, the **Dabbers** and the **Beaters** will set the place up.... House of Blues hosts Oakdale folkie **Brett Dennen**. The 30-year-old artist's third studio set, *Hope for the Hopeless,* enjoyed a run around the top of the *Billboard* charts and garnered Dennen TV money and a hot-shot spot at this summer's Newport Folk Fest. **Grace Potter & the Nocturnals** set the downtown stage... Uptowners can prolly hoof it to a couple decent dates, including **Northern Towns** and the **Prosthetic Arms** at Ruby Room...L.A. pop-punk trio the **Dollyrots** at Bar Pink...and local alt-rockers **Fuzz Huzzi** and **Blizzard** at Radio Room.



BLESSURE GRAVE AT WHISTLE STOP

Friday 11

Bar Pink bills fine Friday-night fare for "Bad Andy's Birthday Bash," featuring the **Underground Railroad to Candyland**. The San Pedro garage-rock quintet's a spazzy, happy, fun time for all. And they've been to Japan. Their old one's called *Bird Roughs;* their new one's in the works. "Girls in the garage" **Jungle Fever** and new-to-the-roost **Little Fowl** will open the show. Check out Dorian's "Blurt" this week on the Ben Jerman–led Little Fowl with the big sound.... SanFran adult-contempo band **Train** ("Drops of Jupiter") rolls into House of Blues Friday night with **Josh Radin** onboard. The Grammy-winning trio Train last month dropped their fifth Columbia collection, *Save Me San Francisco*, which is enjoying a little *Billboard* time with hit single "Hey, Soul Sister".... UC campus collective Ché Café brings in indie experimentalists **Grooms** (NYC), **Tempo No Tempo** (SF), **Drug Wars**, and **Life Deposits**.... Else: melodic metal models **Devil Wears Prada** strut at Soma with **All That Remains**...post-punk big band **Blessure Grave** and **Street of Little Girls** check in at South Park hot spot Whistle Stop, where the **Pussy Galore DJs** will spin 'round sets...and Bay Park eatery Tio Leo's tosses together a couple of rootsicana rowdies in **Rio Peligroso** and **Billy Midnight**. (Heartily recommend the *chile relleno de la casa* when the munchies kick in.)

Saturday 12

How's your stamina? What about your anima? Never mind. Radio station 94/9's Holiday Hootenanny at RIMAC has all you want for Christmas, my little indie snifflers. Check yer list: **Spoon**, **Phoenix**, **Vampire Weekend**, **Manchester Orchestra**, and **White Rabbits**. You'll get a live-take preview of headliner Spoon's new t'do *Transference*, due to drop in January. Need a gift receipt with that? Thought not.... The festivus for the rest of us: Jay Farrar and **Son Volt** will jolt Belly Up with their unique, all-levels-at-peak take on alt-country. The St. Louis–based five-piece is out to tout this year's hotly anticipated, room temperaturely received *American Central Dust*. "Medicine Hat!".... It's going to be a long day in Middletown if you got one to burn. At Casbah, starting at 3p, you got "the Rumble," featuring **Tape Deck Mountain**, **Drowning Men**, and visiting contenders **All Wrong & the Plans Change**. Andy from Writer will be spinning discs between sets to keep the music moving. And then there're late sets by **Tristeza** (yeah, man. Have you heard *Fate Unfolds* yet?), **Kill Me Tomorrow**, and **Drew Andrews**.... Up around No. Park, you got **John Meeks**, **Leslie and the Badgers**, **River City**, and **Paulo** playing at the Soda Bar...**Canton Mudders**, **Bertos**, and **Larry and His Flask** coifing at Beauty Bar...and Radio Room conjures **Dead Ghosts** (made up of parts from Cattle Decapitation).



SPOON AT RIMAC ARENA

No on either of those? How about funky Scots the **Average White Band**, who hit the beach at Belly Up with our own acid-jazz jam band **Pocket**.

Monday 14

Casbah's Anti-Monday meet-up goes to **Church**. This Portland trio trades in ambient post-rock. Vocalist-guitarist Brandon Laws informs the *Portland Mercury*: "We value the space in between the notes as much as the notes themselves." 'Kay. **Gran Sasso** and **Duel of the Century** set the stage. I'm pretty sure those two up-and-comers put their stock primarily in notes, but what do I know.... Del Mar's favorite daughter **Tristan Prettyman** will play from her latest, **Hello...x**, at Belly Up. The surfer and former Roxy model's got one in the works, so fans'll likely get a taste of that as-yet-untitled disc. If you just can't wait, she's got some new takes up on her Space: *myspace.com/tristanprettyman*.

Sunday 13

The other alternative station's holiday show, "Wrex the Halls," has **A.F.I.**, **Rise Against**, **Thirty Seconds to Mars**, **Anberlin**, and **Paper Tongues**. That'll play at the Viejas Arena at SDSU. Fine bands, all, but that schism on the dial's getting wider and deeper, isn't it?... Look, another radio-station thing! This one's called "Jingle Ball" and is put on by Star 94.1 at Little Italy supper club Anthology. It features **Ingrid Michaelson**, **Uncle Kracker**, and **Michelle Branch**. Not v. familiar with these adult-contempo artists, but turn to Jay's "Blurt" on Ms. Branch's backstage riders, it's pretty funny....



CHURCH AT CASBAH AND CHÉ CAFÉ

Tuesday 15

Back to **Church** at Ché Café Tuesday night, as the Portland act takes advantage of its time in the Southland to spread the word. **Snuffaluffagus** and **Longsleeves** warm the pews.... Seventies hitmakers **Foreigner** fall in at Belly Up. It's been a long run for Mick Jones and co., but Foreigner '09 finds vocalist Lou Gramm *in absentia*. This year's "Dirty White Boy" is Kelly Hansen, formerly of Slash's Snakepit. (I just bought an original pressing of *Double Vision* at Kobey's. Wanna come over?)

Wednesday 16

Hump-night highlights: Casbah's cooking up "the Greatest Night of Your Life" for CD releases by cross-border crew **Marquez!,** dropping *The Passing*, and trip-hop duo **Bully Blinders**' *City of Dirt*...and karate rockers **Ninja Love** will kick axe at Beauty Bar with **Eric Bando** and **Of Mice and Them**.

— Barnaby Monk

BRICK BY BRICK

Friday, December 11 — etix

REZUREX

THE DEEP ONES

EMBALMERS



Saturday, December 12 — etix

THE BUSINESS

CONTROL

RESEVIOR TIPS

WILLIE PSYCHO



Thursday, December 10 — NSD

J.D. COMBS & THE SOUL STEALERS

INSIDE SWITCH

STONEFACE COWBOYS

Saturday, December 19 — etix

SPRUNG MONKEY

ELECTRIC DYNAMITE

MONKEYS IN SPACE

Sunday, December 20

ACOUSTIC ALLIANCE

Saturday, December 26 — NSD

G EVANS • ILLITARY

MAC FETTI • ENO

BALIAN W/DJ W. STEELE

Wednesday, January 6 — etix

VOICE IN THE DARK

Saturday, January 9

ILL REPUTE • CRITICAL ME

PASS THE AXE

THE AGGRONAUTS

Wednesday, January 13 — etix

ALLAN HOLDSWORTH

TERRY BOZIO • TONY LEVIN

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‘Round the World

“Lightning struck my TV and Xbox.... I considered it a sign that I was wasting too much time.”

MUSIC
JAY ALLEN SANFORD

The Ambassador is the stage name of singer-guitarist Stephen Gabriel Lewis. “I adopted the title because of the passion I have for travel abroad,” he says, “and because of something my mother used to say to me. She’d remind me to always be a positive representative and to act as an ‘ambassador’ for the people and places where I come from.”

Before arriving in California, Lewis hosted a series of acoustic and electric shows entitled “The Ambassador Presents” in Roanoke, Virginia. After serving several stints overseas as an English teacher in Korea, he returned stateside to tour, write, and record as front man and guitarist for the Seed, whose self-titled debut album was released in April 2008.

Later that year, Lewis moved to California, landing in Pacific Beach to launch a new career as a solo performer. “My music is a soulful mix of reggae, blues, and rock,” he says, “with influences that reflect many of the places I’ve lived and visited. Most of the songs are written with the purpose of inspiring and uplifting. That’s just the kind of thing that ambassadors are supposed to do.”

The Ambassador performs Friday, December 11, at the Loft in Point Loma.

WHAT’S IN YOUR CD PLAYER?

1. Clinton Fearon, *Living Is an Art.* “A true reggae ambassador, with one of the best combinations of messages and music, at least in current reggae.”
2. Al Green, *Lay It Down.* “I always loved the classic soul singers, and Al Green was one of my first vocal inspirations.”
3. John Brown’s Body, *Pressure Points.* “I just saw them at the Belly Up. Through the many lineup changes, JBB has continued to write good music, although I’m partial to the older, more rootsy tunes.”
4. B.B. King, *Greatest Hits.* “One of the most fun live shows I’ve ever seen, and his music is great to practice my blues scales to.”

BRUSH WITH FAME?

“My favorite vocalist is reggae great Beres Hammond, and meeting him was one of the coolest encounters.”

WORST MOVIE?

“So many to pick from, but the worst I’ve seen lately was *Internet Dating.* Not even Katt Williams could save this film, even though I’m a big fan.”

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?

1. “*ESPN.com,* for sports news.”
2. “*BBC.co.uk,* for world news.”
3. “*MySpace.com,* for checking out San Diego bands.”

WHAT VIDEO GAME ARE YOU PLAYING?

“Although I used to love Halo, lightning struck my TV and Xbox during a storm and destroyed them a year ago, and I considered it a sign that I was wasting too much time on video games. Since then, I’ve only had the urge to buy a new system once or twice. I’m still resisting.”

ANY MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTIONS?

“Now that I’m in San Diego, I like reading the *Reader* and *CityBeat,* but other than that I go to the internet for news and pretty much everything else. I don’t currently have any magazine subscriptions.”

WHERE DO YOU HANG OUT?

“I like going to spots where I can see up-and-coming musicians, like Portugalia and Gallagher’s in O.B. and Longboard in P.B. To check out established musicians, I go to the Belly Up. I also like to catch the Devastators on Sundays at Longboard when I can.”



PHOTOGRAPH BY JONATHAN EDWARDS

The Ambassador

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU COULD READ MINDS?

“Sometimes, ignorance is bliss. So I guess I would attempt to revert the process and instead hope that people will just say what’s on their mind instead.”

CARE TO RATE THE PRESIDENT’S FIRST YEAR ON THE JOB?

“So far, so good. I like the level of importance his administration has placed on transparency in policy making and the spending of public funds. I only hope he remains the same strong-willed idealist that we have seen thus far.”

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD KNOW OR GUESS?

“People may not know that I’m a perfectionist and will work tirelessly on a project and still be unsatisfied. Most people wouldn’t think I’m so picky about details, because I’m generally laid back with friends and at parties. But when I’m alone on a project or a new song, I hide myself away for hours at a time. Or days.” ■

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MARIE DIGBY
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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 5pm 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 St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Friday, 8pm — Gerardo Ortiz. Latin. $40. 21 and up.
Saturday, 7pm — Frankie Beverly & Maze. Soul. $69-$100. 21 and up.

AMSDconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
Sunday, 7:30pm — John Gorka. Folk. $15-$20.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
Friday, 9:30pm — Stepping Feet. A tribute to the Dave Matthews Band. Covers/rock. $12. 21 and up.
Saturday, 7:30pm and 9:30pm — Detroit Underground. Covers/R&B. $12.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Charles McPherson. Jazz. $18.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
Saturday, 8pm — Cool Yule. Holiday concert featuring the San Diego Men's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of San Diego. Standards/swing. $22-$38. 5 and up.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Saturday, 7pm — Son Volt. Alternative/country/rock. $18-$20. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8pm — Average White Band. Funk/soul. $23-$25. 21 and up.
Tuesday, 8pm — Foreigner. Rock. $55. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 9pm — Cross Canadian Ragweed. Country/rock. $15-$17. 21 and up.

The Bitter End: 770 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-338-9300.
Thursday, 9pm — Lessons from Zeke. Alternative/rock.

BlueFire Grill: 2100 Costa del Mar Rd., Carlsbad, 800-854-5000.
Thursday, 7pm — David Patrone. Blues/jazz/lounge.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
Saturday, 8pm — The Business. With Control, Reservoir Tips, and Willie Psycho. Hardcore/punk. $12-$14. 21 and up.

Carlsbad Senior Center: 799 Pine Ave., Carlsbad.
Wednesday, 1pm — Carlsbad Choraleers Christmas Concert. Acoustic. Free.

!OF NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

On their website, you can watch a video of **Tape Deck Mountain** playing a cover of Danzig's "Mother" that's both inappropriate and perfectly right. These unassuming San Diego indie rockers seemingly couldn't have any less in common with metal god Glenn Danzig, but their understated, moody, atmospheric version of the song conveys all the spookiness that Danzig tries to muster by letting out his famous baritone wail. More, in fact: when Tape Deck Mountain's version gets loud and then explodes into guitar noise and piano tinkling, it sounds more disturbing than the original.

Spookiness is a big part of Tape Deck Mountain's sound on the band's recently released debut album, appropriately titled *Ghost.* Unidentifiable sounds whisper in the background, and guitars and keyboards spiral around in echo and reverb effects that call to mind an empty church. The lyrics touch on graveyard scenes and people being eaten by wolves. Guitarist and singer **Travis Trevisan** recorded the album largely himself while undergoing an extended period of unemployment. He had help from **Paul Remund**, who plays drums and other instruments. (You can watch Remund switching from drums to keyboards and back to drums, all while singing backup, on that "Mother" video.) **Jordan Clark** plays bass for the live shows.



TAPE DECK MOUNTAIN

Don't let this talk of Danzig and ghosts make you think Tape Deck Mountain is some kind of Goth act. Their publicist describes their sound as "slacker-fuzzed lullabies." The band tends to prefer the term "mid-fi." Those descriptions aren't far off: On the album closer "Scantrons," Tape Deck Mountain does sound like Pavement covering Galaxie 500. But on the "City Light Remix" of the same song, Tape Deck Mountain sounds positively anthemic.

TAPE DECK MOUNTAIN: The Casbah, Saturday, December 12, 3 p.m. 619-232-4355. No cover.

Carvers: 11940 Bernardo Plaza Dr., Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.
Friday and Saturday, 8pm — The Hype. Covers/blues/pop.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
Thursday, 8:30pm — Moving Units. With the Dabbers and Beaters. Rock. $10-$12. 21 and up.
Friday, 8:30pm — Adrenaline Holiday Party. Featuring Fitz and the Tantrums, Orgone, and DJ Biggs. Indie/pop/soul. $12. 21 and up.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Tristeza. With Kill Me Tomorrow and Drew Andrews. Indie/rock. $10. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8:30pm — Marie Digby. With Alpha Rev. Covers/pop. $10. 21 and up.
Monday, 8:30pm — Church. With Duel of the Century and Gran Sasso. Rock. $5. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Marquez! With the Bully Blinders, DJ GarGar, and live art by Elizabeth Starks. Hip-hop/rap/rock. $6. 21 and up.

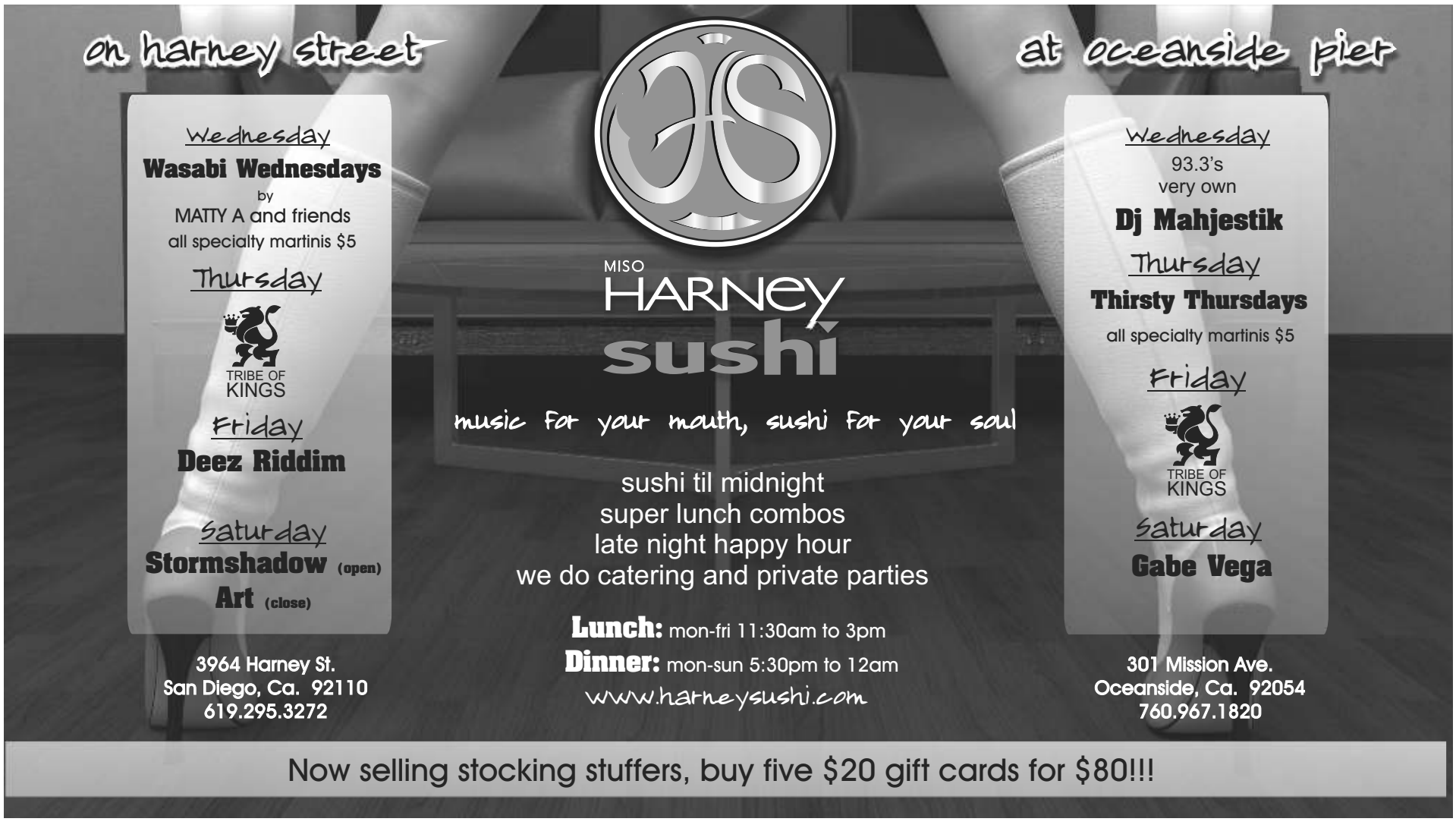
Chalice Unitarian Universalist Church: 2324 Miller Ave., Escondido.
Sunday, 7pm — "Randi's Damn Jingle Ball." Featuring Randi Driscoll, Noah Heldman, Lisa Sanders, Karen Hayes, and Tim Flannery. Acoustic.

Comstock Bar and Grill: 316 West Mission Ave., Suite #115, Escondido, 760-746-6188.
Saturday, 8:30pm — North County Cowboys. Country/covers. Free. 21 and up.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B St., Downtown, 619-235-0804.
Saturday, 8pm — Dave Koz's Smooth Jazz Christmas Tour. With Dave Koz, Rick Braun, David Benoit, Peter White, and Brenda Russell. Jazz. $37-$67.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.
Friday and Saturday, 9pm — Zone 4. Covers/rock.

Dizzy's: 200 Harbor Dr., Downtown, 858-270-7467.



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† Michael Cavanaugh does not appear on the Dec. 16 performance or on the Dec. 20, 2pm Family Festival performance.

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1/30 :: TAINTED LOVE
1/31 :: MILE
2/3 :: VHI CLASSIC PRESENTS THE ANVIL EXPERIENCE
2/5 :: BADFISH-A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME
2/17 :: MEDESKI MARTIN AND WOOD
2/20 :: THE EXPENDABLES
2/28 :: GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS
3/4 & 3/5 :: REBELUTION
3/11 :: BRANDI CARLILE
3/19, 3/20 & 3/21 :: BAD RELIGION
3/28 :: HAMMERFALL
4/29 :: THE AVETT BROTHERS

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Don's Cocktail Lounge: 13321 Business Highway 8, El Cajon, 619-443-2444.
Friday and Saturday, 8:30pm — The Tall Dudez. Blues/country/rock.

Downtown Café: 182 E. Main St., El Cajon, 619-440-5687.
Thursday, 6pm — Chet and the Committee. Open blues jam. Free.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.
Friday, 9pm — Voice in the Dark. Blues/rock/soul. Free.

The Flying Bridge: 1105 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside, 760-722-0081.
Saturday, 8pm — Reggae Sunday. Featuring DJ Vex, Steel Foundation, and the Lady Cellie & Faith Faward Band. Reggae. $10. 21 and up.

Four Points by Sheraton: 8110 Aero Dr., Kearny Mesa.
Sunday, 8pm — Orquesta La Cura. Salsa. $7.

Galley at the Marina: 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-422-5714.
Saturday, 8pm — Joey and the Sting Rays. Blues/country/rock.

Gaslamp Quarter: , Downtown.
Thursday, 5pm — Blue Christmas. Blues/R&B/rock. Free. 21 and up.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.
Friday, 8pm — The Bill Magee Blues Band. Blues.
Saturday, 8pm — Tyghtship. R&B/soul.
Sunday, 10am — Gaynor Trammer. Jazz.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: 5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La Mesa, 619-713-6900.
Friday, 9pm — The Stilettos. Blues/jazz/rock. Free.
Saturday, 9pm — Donald O'Brien and Brian Baynes. Rock. Free.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-299-2583.
Thursday, 8pm — Brett Dennen. With Grace Potter & the Nocturnals. Folk/indie/pop. $20-$22.
Friday, 8pm — Sophie 103.7's Green Christmas. Featuring Train. Pop/rock.
Sunday, 11am — Gospel Brunch. Gospel. $38.

Howard Brubeck Theatre at Palomar College: 1140 West Mission Rd., Palomar College, 760-744-1150.
Monday, 8pm — The Four O'Clock and Seven O'Clock Bands. Jazz/standards. $8-$12.

Java Joe's at Café Libertalia: 3834 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-9360.
Friday, 9pm — The Mashtis. Alternative/rock.
Saturday, 8pm — Katie Leigh. Folk/pop/rock.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Happy Ron's Open-Mike Night. Featuring Mark Hammerle. Acoustic.

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: 12735 Poway Rd., Poway, 858-748-1106.
Saturday, 9pm — Crossroads. A tribute to Eric Clapton. Covers/rock.

ON TE

BY DAVE GOOD



GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS

Grace Potter, a Vermont organist-guitarist and singer, showed up on the indie scene five years ago with a rock quartet and the usual stuff: a strong appreciation for the music of a generation that was not her own. In this case it was the '70s, and she wanted to play that music again for a newer, younger audience. Grace Potter and the Nocturnals would eventually do a tour of the '70s, beginning with the recording of folksy rockers and ballads taken right out of some hippie ranch in the pines and arriving, three albums later, at the gritty roots rock that was replacing beer blues by the end of that decade. I wondered if *This Is Somewhere* was Potter's answer to Neil Young's *Everybody Knows This Is Nowhere.* By 2007, the Nocturnals were electrified — like Crazy Horse, but like a Crazy Horse that had been let out of the barn.

The word is that Grace is legally blind and can't see more than 15 feet in front of her. Things stay sharp up to that point and then just blur out, but she told a reporter that she won't wear glasses. She says she likes the world at the periphery of her vision to be a smear of color and movement.

I liken Grace to Bonnie Raitt, the difference being that Raitt, with three times the experience, knows how to flog your heart with fewer notes and less effort. Grace Potter sends in her emotions on the back of hand grenades. She rocks hard, plays as though she means it, sweats bullets, and is more than up to the task of reviving that '70s love.

Brett Dennen also performs.

GRACE POTTER & THE NOCTURNALS: House of Blues, Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m. 619-299-2583. $20.

Kenrix Sushi Company: 2330 Main St., Ramona, 760-788-8002.
Thursday, 6pm — Kenrix Open-Mike. $10.
Friday, 7pm — The Triple Treble Jazz Trio. Jazz. Free.
Saturday, 7pm — Indian Joe Stewart. Blues/soul. Free.

La Mesa Village: Spring Street at La Mesa Bl., La Mesa.
Saturday, 7pm — Gayle Skidmore and Vanja James. Folk/indie. Free.

Last Call: 4977 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-287-9505.
Wednesday, 7pm — Taters Invaders. Blues/covers/rock. Free.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.
Thursday, 9pm — Jordan Reimer. With Kenny Eng and Lisa Olson. Acoustic.

Linda Vista Public Library: 2160 Ulric St., Linda Vista, 858-573-1399.
Tuesday, 10:30am — Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle. Celtic/jazz.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-6641.
Friday and Saturday, 9pm — Tommy Budd's Windy City. Blues/funk/rock.

McCabe's Beach Club: 1145 S. Tremont St., Oceanside, 760-439-6646.
Saturday, 5pm — Smooth Operator. Covers/standards. Free.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5280.
Thursday, 8pm — Tommy Price. Rock.
Thursday, 8pm — Northstar. Covers/rock.
Friday, 9pm — Mystique. Jazz/funk/R&B.
Saturday, 9pm — 4-Way Street. Rock.
Wednesday, 8pm — Laguna. Rock.

MiraCosta College: One Barnard Dr., Oceanside.
Saturday, 7:30pm — MiraCosta College's Jazz Ensemble. With Ernie Watts. Jazz. $10-$15.

MiraCosta College Theatre: One Barnard Dr., Oceanside, 760-795-6815.
Friday, 7:30pm — "Winter Sing & Swing". Featuring Frequency and Spectrum. Jazz. $8-$10.

RAMONA MAINSTAGE

North County's Premiere Concert Venue

7,000 sq. ft. Recently Remodeled Venue

WATCH SUNDAY CHARGERS GAMES & MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL HERE!
MOVIE SCREEN & 6 FLAT-SCREEN TVs
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL PRIME RIB SPECIAL $15, INCLUDES BAKED POTATO, SALAD & ROLL

DECEMBER 10
Joe Troutman & PPP Present
legendary hip-hop artist SKEE LO
BRAILLE • THE BREAX • MELO DRAMATIX
TRIGGERN ASTY • RIDER • SOCOCLI Q
DJ HARMZ • DJ TANGO • ENSANE CLOTH
SPECIAL GUESTS TBA

DECEMBER 11
Joe Troutman Presents
GREEN JELLY • LOOT-N-ROCK
FREAKHOUSE
RAISE THE GUNS • SHINING SWORD

DECEMBER 17: Ramona Music Center Presents INTO THE PRESENCE
SPERO LUMINA and student performances

DECEMBER 18
Joe Troutman Presents
DRI • UNLOADED • ONE THEORY
WITHIN THE SWARM
TO WALK THE NIGHT • CAPTAIN PLANET

DECEMBER 19
THE IRON MAIDENS
AVENTALE • METATONIC
WILLIE PSYCHO • GREEN 2 BLACK

JANUARY 2: CATTLE DECAPITATION • INFINITUM OBSCURE • RITUAL TORTURE
MALEVOLENT • LORD OF WAR • PROCESS OF ENIGMA

DECEMBER 31: Ramona Mainstage New Year's Eve Party with
BASTARD SAINTS • NEGATIVE ZERO • THE HEXES • THE F☆☆KLORDS • and special guests
JANUARY 8: MEDIUS • ETCHED IN RED • AWAITING SAMSARA • SCAR'D SANITY
JANUARY 15: NIHILIST • EXMORTUS
JANUARY 16: MOBILE DEATHCAMP (ft. Beefcake the Mighty of GWAR)
JANUARY 27: KORPIKLAANI • TYR • SWASHBUCKLY • WHITE WIZZARD
JANUARY 29: TO VIOLENTLY VOMIT (DISGORGE) • ARKAIK CD Release

626 Main St. • Ramona • 760-789-7008
Purchase tickets online at: www.ramonamainstage.com
For booking inquiries call Joe Troutman: 760-532-8609

Rent Ramona Mainstage for your private event



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Excludes holidays & concert nights.

HUMPHREYS BACKSTAGE LIVE

humphreysbackstage.com
2241 Shelter Island Drive
619.224.3577

Thursday, December 10
8:30 pm • Blues/Soul
Mystique

Friday, December 11
7 pm • Blues
The Hip Replacements

9:30 pm • Blues
Kim Wilson's Holiday Party



Saturday, December 12
9:30 pm • Original Rock
Skelpin



Sunday, December 13
8 pm • Smooth Jazz
Vertice Williams with DJ John Phillips



Monday, December 14
7 pm • Blues
Nathan James Trio

Tuesday, December 15
7 pm • Original Rock
Band Showcase Competition

Wednesday, December 16
8 pm • Blues/Swing
Buick Wilson Band

UPCOMING

Saturday, January 9
Candye Kane

Sunday, January 24
Nils

Friday, January 29
Laurie Morvan Band & John Lee Hooker, Jr.

Live Music
710 Garnet Ave.

710
BEACH CLUB & GRILL

Thurs. 10th
Battle of the Bands Presents:
CHASING CLAYMORES
FLIGHT TO ATHENA
MISDELPHIA
SIERRA LEONE
WATCH US BURN



Fri. 11th
Alternative
STREAMVIEW
SUNDAY GIRL

Sat. 12th
Funk





Upcoming
Dec. 18th
BOOM SNAP
CONCRETE PROJECT
MAD TRAFFIC

321 STEREO
TAXI DOLL
VERAS VEIL

- EVERY SUN. - WEDS. NO COVER -

Sun- Dueling Pianos (Rated R) 7pm
Mon- HAPPY HOUR ALL DAY ALL NIGHT
Tues- Game Night/Beer Pong Tourn.
Weds- Trivia/$3 DRINKS 9pm -CLOSE
w/ DJ KAUSTIC and LIVE ART SHOW

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UFC 107
DEC 12th 6pm
Penn vs Sanchez

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- CheeseSteaks
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(one-drink minimum)
NO COVER

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Every Wednesday Night in December

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LIVE MUSIC
Every Tuesday-Thursday No Cover
1 Drink Minimum
WINSTONS

Thur. 12/10 NO COVER
Roots, Rock, Reggae
SELF PRESERVATION
(Featuring members of When I Rise) with special guests

Fri. 12/11 OCEAN BEACH COMEDY
6-9 PM with
DANGEROUS DICK

TONIGHT: Live Dub Step, Mash Up and Live Hip Hop
ANA SIA
KNODDY
As seen in the Glitch Mob
VOKAB KOMPANY
AUSTIN SPEED & CRMNL

Sat. 12/12 4-7 PM
WINSTONS WINE AND CHEESE PARTY
Nationl touring band
TEN MILE TIDE
THE HEAVY GUILT

Sun. 12/13
1:05 PM: Redskins vs Raiders
1:15 PM: Chargers vs Cowboys

TONIGHT
OB•O•KE
HOSTED BY JOSÉ SINATRA
$2 drinks 9 pm to close

Mon. 12/14 6-8 PM: Drunk Poet's Society
9 PM: An evening of music from the Grateful Dead
ELECTRIC WASTE BAND

Tues. 12/15 6-9 PM: Think 'N' Drink Trivia
NO COVER NIGHT: Rock Bands
HELP I'M ALIVE
HEY! HO! LETS GO!
(A tribute to the Ramones)

Wed. 12/16 4-8 PM: Dub Master Cue meets Seismic Levelers
TONIGHT

UPCOMING:
Every Thursday: No Cover Dance Party
12/17: DELTA NOVE
12/18: JET WEST and DUBLUVA
12/19: PINK FROYD ANNUAL WALL SHOW
12/31: NO COVER NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY W/THE DEVASTATORS

The Jumping TURTLE
"North County's True Music House"

Every Monday
Karaoke with John Lewis * 8p.m. to 1a.m.

Every Tuesday
Hip hop/ Trance with DJ ALfie* 9p.m. to 1a.m.

Happy Hour
3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
**Free Nacho bar -wed thru fri

Sunday
Watch your favorite football teams!!

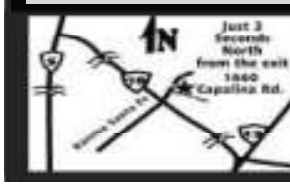
UPCOMING SHOWS
(website for more info.)
12 - 17 Problem
Willie PSYCHO
12 - 18 UNTIL THE DAY
THROUGH THE ROOTS

This Week
Thursday, 12 - 10
REGGAE
.25 cent wings!!!
RAIZ MUZIK
fiery i
MALAKI

Friday, 12 - 11
Worldwide Concerts /Lil Mama Presents



Saturday, 12 - 12
BIG BIKES BIKER TOY DRIVE & LIVE SHOW
Blue Axis
Ragdoll City
383s
Cathouse Thursday
Lazy Cobra



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Mission Valley Library: 2123 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley, 858-573-5007.
Saturday, 11:30am — Khausak. World. Free.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-9050.
Friday, 9pm — Sofa Kings. Rock.
Saturday, 9pm — American Rock Experience. Rock.

Monte Vista Village Auditorium: 2211 Massachusetts Ave., Lemon Grove, 619-464-3727.
Saturday, 2pm — The California Note Catchers. Barbershop/holiday. Free.

North Bar Sports and Spirits: 200 West El Norte Parkway, Escondido, 760-480-8228.
Thursday, 6pm — Mike Gardner. Rock. Free.

O'Connells Pub and Nightclub: 1310 Morena Bl., Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.
Friday, 9pm — Medicine for Madison. With Stone Face Cowboys, Shoebox Records, Power of Ash, and Caxton. Alternative. 21 and up.
Saturday, 9pm — Behind the Wagon. With Black Sheep Reunion, Thunderfist, and the Devil's Own. Country/punk/rock. 21 and up.
Sunday, 9pm — Tommy & the High Pilots. Alternative/rock. 21 and up.
Monday, 8pm — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam.
Tuesday, 9pm — Her Bed of Thorns. With Blow Me Down. Alternative/rock. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 7pm — John Miller and the Payback. With Astra Kelly Someday Assassin, Sweet Tooth, and Save Amos. Toy donation accepted as admission. Acoustic/pop/rock. Free. 21 and up.

O'Harleys Sports Bar & Grill: 13437 Community Rd., Poway, 858-486-7422.
Saturday, 9pm — Myron and the Kyniptionz. Blues/soul/rock.

Ocean House: 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-4131.
Friday, 9pm — Citizen X. With DJ Grim. Reggae. Free. 21 and up.
Saturday, 9pm — Resonate. With Stone Senses and DJ UpEnDaSpot. Reggae. Free. 21 and up.

Old California Coffee House & Eatery: 1080 West San Marcos Bl., San Marcos, 760-744-2112.
Friday, 7pm — Jon Ji. Acoustic/jazz/soul. Free.

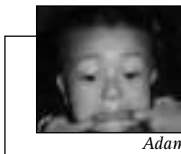
Paper Moon Music: 4051 Voltaire St., Point Loma, 619-341-0552.
Sunday, 6pm — Robin Henkel. Blues/rock. $10.

The Par Lounge at San Vicente Resort: 24157 San Vicente Rd., Ramona, 760-789-8290.
Friday, 9pm — MoonDance. Classic rock/R&B/soul.

Patrick's II: 428 F St., Downtown, 619-233-3077.
Thursday, 9pm — "Blue Christmas in the Gaslamp." Featuring Burnsville Blues. Blues/jazz.
Friday, 9pm — Len Rainey & the Midnight Players. Blues/jazz.
Saturday, 9pm — Shari Puorto and the Rhythm Addicts. Blues/rock.
Sunday, 9pm — The Rhythm Jacks. R&B.
Monday, 9pm — Jeff Moore & the Witch Doctors. Blues/rock.
Wednesday, 9pm — Jasper and Ain't Misbahavin'. Rock.

>most downloaded

BY ROSA JURJEVICS



Adam

"Adam (Beautiful Boy)" by Michael David Lewis was the most-downloaded MP3 from *SDReader.com* during November. Below is an interview with the songwriter.

There seem to be a lot of layers to this song. How many instrumental tracks did you record?

There are three guitar tracks recorded: basic strummed rhythm, a finger-picked track, and a lead track. The strumming and finger-picking were miked and the lead track was direct. All instrumental tracks were from a Gibson Hummingbird acoustic guitar.

Who is Adam and what is his influence on you?

Adam is my son. It dawned on me how fast time seemed to accelerate as he started growing. No matter how much we want it to be, we cannot slow time. This song is an ode [to] savoring the moment.

Tell me a little bit about your process for writing "Adam."

Well, this was one of the easiest and fastest songs I've ever written. I was playing guitar while Adam was playing with his toys at my feet. He was totally oblivious to me and my music. He was enthralled with the toys [and] his little world. It dawned on me what a perfect moment that was and how I wished I could encapsulate it. So, I started writing and 20 minutes later it was done, all while he continued to play at my feet.



Michael David Lewis

TO GET YOUR MUSIC ON THE READER WEBSITE, GO TO: *SDReader/mp3*
To download music, see our home page: *SDReader.com*

Pete's Place: 8330 La Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-464-9535.
Saturday, 9:30pm — Fearless in Fairweather. With Self Made Men. Reggae/rock/ska. Free.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.
Friday, 9pm — Da Groove. Covers/standards/dance.
Saturday, 9pm — The Pheromones. Blues/rock/soul.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.
Thursday, 7:30pm — Skee-Lo. With the Breax, Braille, SoCo, Trigger Nasty, Lost Sohls, and guests. Alternative/hip-hop/rap. $14.

Red Circle Café: 420 E St., Downtown, 619-234-9211.
Tuesday, 8pm — Tall Can Tuesday. Featuring DJ Veep Reekins and the Israel Maldonado Band. Funk/Latin/rap. Free.

Rimac Arena: 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, 858-534-8497.
Saturday, 8pm — Holiday Hootenanny. Featuring Spoon, Phoenix, Vampire Weekend, Manchester Orchestra, and White Rabbits. Alternative/indie/rock. $38.

The Royal Dive: 2949 San Luis Rey Rd., Oceanside, 760-722-1911.
Friday, 9pm — The Spittin' Cobras. With Manic Diffusion and 8 Ft. Face. Rock. Free.

Ruby Room: 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
Thursday, 8pm — Northern Towns. With Prosthetic Arms. Punk/rock. 21 and up.
Friday, 8pm — Reverend Mothers. With guests. Garage/rock. $5. 21 and up.
Saturday, 8pm — That Time of the Month. With Dig Jelly, Kera and the Lesbians, Trouble in the Wind, and the Paragraphs. Rock. $5. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8pm — Perfect Blue. Alternative/rock. Free. 21 and up.
Monday, 8pm — Sink to See. With Lilith Velkor. Indie/rock. Free. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 8pm — Peter Squires. With Marcelo Radulovich. Acoustic/indie. Free. 21 and up.

San Diego Civic Theatre: 1100 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
Thursday, 7:30pm, *Friday*, 8pm, *Saturday*, 2pm, *Sunday*, 1pm — The Ten Tenors. Performing holiday music. Covers/jazz/rock. $15-$72.

San Diego Humane Society and SPCA: 5500 Gaines St., Linda Vista.
Friday, 6pm — Forecast. Featuring Greg Pardue and Jack Hoffman. Jazz. $10.

San Diego Sports Arena: 3500 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-224-4171.
Saturday, 8pm — Aventura. Bachata/R&B.



THE COMEDY STORE

4 FREE ADMISSIONS
GOOD WED., THURS., & SUN.
Excludes Special Events. Subject to Availability. Reservations REQUIRED with this ad.

Friday & Saturday, December 11 &12
8 PM & 10:30 PM



Faizon Love

Faizon Love is a comedian and actor who has been performing in Hollywood for over two decades, and has featured in over 40 films such as: *Bebe's Kids, Meteor Man, A Thin Line Between Love and Hate, Money Talks, Made, Blue Crush, Elf* and many more. Love also costarred with Ice Cube and Chris Tucker in *Friday* with an unforgettable performance as "Big Worm". Most recently Love costarred in the hilarious 2009 movie *Couples Retreat* with Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau.

STAND-UP COMEDY WORKSHOP
Begins Jan. 10th
To register visit: www.sandishore.com
Conducting Workshops Since 1992!

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916 Pearl Street • La Jolla
www.comedystorelajolla.com
Must be 21 – All shows 2-drink minimum



THURS., DEC. 10 ACOUSTIC SHOWCASE FEATURING

COME ON GET HAPPY • IVAN CHEONG • TIDE
PATRICK LANZETTA • RANDOM GIBBERISH

FRI., DEC. 11 LIVE MUSIC • METAL FEATURING

MURDER FM • THEN TO DUST
BENEATH LANSTON
COMFORT IN RAGE
THE 25TH HOUR • FOREVER WITH US

SAT., DEC. 12 LIVE MUSIC FEATURING

THE MAD HOPS • SOUTH BAY WAILERS
MEAN DINOSAUR • ECLIPSE 79
MOUTHFULL

SUN., DEC. 13

LIL LEAH'S SUNDAY FOOTBALL PARTY • 1 PM
No cover • NFL action on the big screen
Come hang out with Leah & the girls
Beer Specials • Nachos • Free Popcorn
CHARGERS vs COWBOYS

UPCOMING
FRIDAY 12/18
JD COMBS & THE SOUL STEALERS • TRIPP
BLUES & GREENS • THE GREY BEARDS
SATURDAY 12/19: Christmas Chaos TOYS FOR TOTS Benefit
AWAITING SAMSARA • FUTYLE
ONE INCH PUNCH • EMPIRE STATE
THURSDAY 12/31 • NEW YEAR'S EVE
GYST • BAD CRAZINESS • JESSIE TAYLOR & THE RIFFS

Now booking all genres. Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131
Attention bands! Go to: myspace.com/dreamstreetlive

Seaport Village: 849 West Harbor Dr., Downtown.
Sunday, 1pm — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B. Free.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-226-7662.
Friday, 6:30pm — All That Remains. With the Devil Wears Prada, Story of the Year, and Haste the Day. Hardcore/metal. $20.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church: 3725 30th St., North Park, 619-298-2130.
Saturday, 6pm — Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir. Gospel.

Tango Del Rey: 3567 Del Rey St., Clairemont, 858-794-9044.
Thursday, 9pm — Singers' Open Mike. $10 audience cover; $5 performer cover with singer sign-up starting at 8:15pm. $5-$10.
Friday, 4:45pm — High Society. Swing. $10.
Wednesday, 6pm — The San Diego Nite Big Band. Jazz.

The Office: 3936 30th St., North Park, 619-450-6632.
Thursday, 9pm — Intransitaudio. With Guava Belly. Rock. $5.

Tierrasanta Library: 4985 La Cuenta Dr., Tierrasanta, 858-573-1384.
Wednesday, 10:30am — Adrienne Nims and Raggle Taggle. Celtic/jazz.

Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Rd., Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
Friday, 8pm — Siren's Crush. Covers/pop/rock.

Viejas Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
Sunday, 6:30pm — 91X Wrex the Halls. Featuring AFI, Rise Against, 30 Seconds to Mars, Anberlin, and Paper Tongues. Pop/rock.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Rd., Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Saturday, 8pm — Tower of Power. Funk/R&B/soul. $25-$35.







UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.
December 20 — Reggae Sunday.
December 30 — Rock Odyessy.
December 31 — Ministry of Sound.
March 26 — Andre Nickatina.

AMSDconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
December 19 — David Arkenstone.
January 7 — Al Kooper.
January 8 — Tom Rush.
January 14 — David "Honeyboy" Edwards.
January 23 — Barry McGuire.
January 29 — Tom Chapin.
January 30 — The California Guitar Trio.
February 6 — Eric Bibb.
February 9 — Fred Eaglesmith.
February 12 — Chris Smither.
February 20 — Jack Tempchin.
March 5 — Ellis Paul.
March 12 — Lucy Kaplansky.
May 1 — Neil Innes.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
December 17 — Five for Fighting.
December 18 — Haute Chile.
December 23 — David Maldonado.
December 26 — Wild Child.
January 2 — The Squirrel Nut Zippers.
January 7 — Abrina.
January 8 — Eric Sardinas.
January 9 — Karla Bonoff.
January 14 — The John Jorgenson Quartet.
January 28 — Janiva Magness.
January 29, January 30 — The Legendary Count Basie Orchestra.
February 4 — Dave Davies.
February 5 — Mark Hummel's Harmonica Blowout.
February 11 — Tommy Emmanuel.
February 12 — Al Stewart.
February 14 — Anthology House Band: Motown Revue.
February 23, February 24 — Al DiMeola.
February 25, February 26 — Dave Mason.
March 3 — Mike Doughty.
March 5 — Mark Hummel's Harmonica Blowout.
March 13 — Ladysmith Black Mambazo.
April 23 — Benny Golson.
May 15 — Richie Havens.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall St., La Jolla, 858-454-5872.
January 27 — Ignacio Berroa.
February 10 — Holly Hofmann and Bill Cunliffe.
February 18 — The La Paz Trio.
February 25 — The Eric Vloeimans Trio.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
February 28 — David Garrett.
April 21 — Monterey Jazz Feastival.

Beauty Bar: 4746 El Cajon Bl., Kensington-Talmadge, 619-516-4746.
December 18 — The Helen Earth Band.
December 19 — BLVD.
December 23 — Westfire.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
December 17 — Venice.
December 21 — Timothy B. Schmit.
December 26 — Cash'd Out.
December 27 — Hepcat.
December 29 — Cracker and Camper Van Beethoven.
January 1 — Del tha Funky Homosapien.
January 2 — 40 Oz. to Freedom.
January 6 — New Acoustic Generation.
January 7 — Robben Ford.
January 8 — Pato Banton.
January 15 — Keb' Mo'.
January 20 — Cowboy Mouth.
January 22, January 23 — Ozomatli.
January 30 — Atomic Punks.
February 3 — Rhett Miller.
February 11 — ALO.
February 13 — Los Lonely Boys.
March 3 — Galactic.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Ave., North Park, 619-239-8836.
February 27 — Arturo Sandoval.
April 30 — Eddie Palmieri.
May 15 — Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 North Escondido Bl., Escondido, 760-839-4438.
December 20 — The Alley Cats' Holiday Show.
April 14 — Arlo Guthrie.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
December 19 — Los Straitjackets.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B St., Downtown, 619-235-0804.
December 29 — The John Mayer Trio.
January 28 — Harry Connick Jr.
March 3 — Tegan and Sara.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
June 4 — Tim McGraw.

East County Performing Arts Center: 210 East Main St., El Cajon, 619-440-2277.
January 17 — Kris Kristofferson.

Hard Rock Hotel: 207 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 866-751-7625.
December 31 — New Year's Eve Bash.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-299-2583.
December 17 — Zero 7.
December 19 — The Aquabats.
December 20 — Unwritten Law.
December 26 — "'80s Christmas Hangover Party."
December 29 — Reel Big Fish.
December 31 — NYE 2010.
January 7 — Sonic Youth.
January 8 — Where's the Band Tour.
January 14 — State Radio.
January 15 — Umphrey's McGee.
January 16 — Between the Buried and Me.
January 30 — Tainted Love.
January 31 — Nile.
February 3 — The Anvil Experience.
February 5 — Badfish.
February 9 — The Editors.
February 17 — Medeski Martin & Wood.
February 20 — Winter Blackout 2010.
February 28 — George Thorogood & the Destroyers.
March 4 — Rebelution.
March 11 — Brandi Carlile.
March 13 — Black Rebel Motorcycle Club.
March 19, March 20, March 21 — Bad Religion.
March 24 — Kreator.
March 28 — HammerFall.
April 21 — Overkill.
April 29 — The Avett Brothers.

La Paloma: 471 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-436-7469.
January 29, January 30 — George Winston.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.
February 9 — Justin Townes Earle.
February 11 — Brooklyn Rider.
February 16 — Suzanne Vega.

Neurosciences Institute: 10640 John Jay Hopkins Dr., La Jolla.
December 20 — "The Whole World Is Singing."

Pechanga Resort & Casino: 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula, 951-693-1819.
April 15 — Mark Knopfler.

Performing Arts Workshop: 1105 Second St., Encinitas.
December 19 — Annual Sound Healing Yuletide Concert.

Yo, DJ!

Talk About a Star



Anberlin plays Viejas Arena on Sunday, December 13 (91X's "Wrex the Halls" concert including AFI, Rise Against, and 30 Seconds to Mars)

I started listening to Anberlin in 2005, when they weren't that big. I found them through my crush's MySpace. Since I wanted him to think I was cool, I started listening to them all the time. Soon, though, I actually fell in love with their album *Never Take Friendship Personal*. I no longer cared about impressing Mark but instead started blasting them any chance I could.

Later that year I got over Mark and started going out with my first boyfriend, Bryan. Bryan was an absolute sweetheart, but a romantic to the core, which I found was not my type of guy, so I ended up breaking his heart. We didn't speak for a year, but when we started talking again we became really good friends. Around this time I was obsessed with the song "A Day Late," and part of the chorus related perfectly to my situation with Brian: "...could have been lovers but at least you're still my day-late friend."

Anberlin took me through yet another romantic failure. I started dating Michael, the hottest guy in the junior class my sophomore year. I thought I had scored, since he thought I was adorable and wanted to take me out all the time. Although our relationship never progressed past hand-holding and pecks on the lips, our friendship grew and I figured I'd be with him for a while, if only for the status quo. But, we broke up after two short months, and I found out he had cheated on me in Canc'n. Still an Anberlin junkie, I heard the song "The Feel Good Drag," which is about a girl cheating on her boyfriend. I always wondered if my relationship with Michael was like the song lyrics "Was this over before it ever began," since nothing had happened with us anyways.

And the last breakup I sought out Anberlin for was my parents' divorce. They had been separated and decided to make it final, but through that was custody battles and stressful days. I was listening to their album and heard a song called "Unwinding Cable Car," which I felt perfectly described my life at the time. The song is about a person who is put through many situations and forced to make choices, and so they feel like they are unwinding. The chorus is the singer reassuring them that it is going to be okay, as long as they turn to someone for help.

Although Anberlin has been prevalent in my life during breakups, I will still listen to them religiously. I just know that Anberlin will have a place in my life for the next breakup and always will.



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University of California San Diego: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2230.
January 15 — Asobi Seksu.

VFW Hall: 136 Chambers Rd., El Cajon.
December 31 — New Year's Eve Mobster Bash.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Rd., Alpine, 619-445-5400.
February 19 — David Sanborn.

Woman's Club of Carlsbad: 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad.
December 18 — "An Old-Fashioned Christmas."

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Music Reviews from Our Readers



Never Cry Another Tear

CD Review
by Robert Duffy

Former New Order singer-guitarist Bernard Sumner debuts his new outfit, Bad Lieutenant, with *Never Cry Another Tear*. In the ranks of BL are New Order conscripts Stephen Morris and Phil Cunningham, but anyone expecting a New Order record (minus Peter Hook) will be surprised. It's like post-punk never happened; Bad Lieutenant are here to rock — synthesizers are shoved to the background and guitars turned up to 11!

"Summer Days" heats up an electric storm of dueling guitars, while "Dynamo" melts keyboards and power chords into a potent stew of Keith Moon–like rolls. The single and opening track "Sink or Swim" is the best pop song Sumner has had a hand in since the days of Electronic, while "This Is Home" and "Running Out of Luck" could be C.S.N. covers. They take a dive into the acoustic pool for "Head Into Tomorrow" but unfortunately sink.

Sumner has run the risk of alienating his fans before — like with the official England World Cup song — and those he didn't lose he merely confused. *Never Cry Another Tear* will have the same effect. It's a solid effort, with subtle hints of New Order, but it lacks that iconic band's inventive spirit.

The Incident

CD Review
by Andrew Hamlin



Porcupine Tree's Steven Wilson, itching to create a prog-metal masterwork with the audacity of *Tales From Topographic Oceans* or *The Lamb Lies Down On Broadway*, at last materializes his wish. *The Incident* takes up 55 minutes or so all on one disc. Because Wilson's apparently got prog-metal scrubbing out his veins, the music punches, spits, and dissipates into menacing swirls of silence in expert timing. Because he apparently didn't pay enough attention to Peter Gabriel, the lyrics settle for unbaked obfuscation. I've lived with the sucker a few weeks now, and frankly, heeding the booklet words after four to five spins was a bummer. A car crash figures in there somewhere, and the main disc's ten-minute centerpiece, "Time Flies," addresses, yes, you got it, the ephemeral nature of our existence upon this earth. Otherwise, if you can make sense out of lines such as "Distill malaise and photograph/ the hole it leaves/ Running out a copy for you," you're up on me.

The bonus disc finds Wilson back to his cynical wit ("There are three things I would die for/ But I am sure you're not one of them") and assuredness. Here's hoping he sticks to strengths and heals up after his hyperextension. I'm fond of him when he's on, just not when he's all over.

$50 for your concert review, $20 for your CD review. Submit at *SDReader/critic.com*

DJ

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

Air Conditioned Lounge: *Sunday*, 9pm: "So You Think You're a DJ?" DJ competition. $5 for competitors. 21 and up. 4673 30th St., Normal Heights. 619-501-9831.

Bacchus House: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Club '80s. With DJs Bryan Pollard and Arzola1. '80s/ industrial/underground. 3054 University Ave., North Park. 619-299-2032.

Bar Dynamite: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Dynamite Thursdays. Featuring Sound Selectors Smoovgroovs, Hobbs One, Eclektic, and Thumbprint. Hip-hop/soul/ dancehall. 1808 W. Washington St., Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

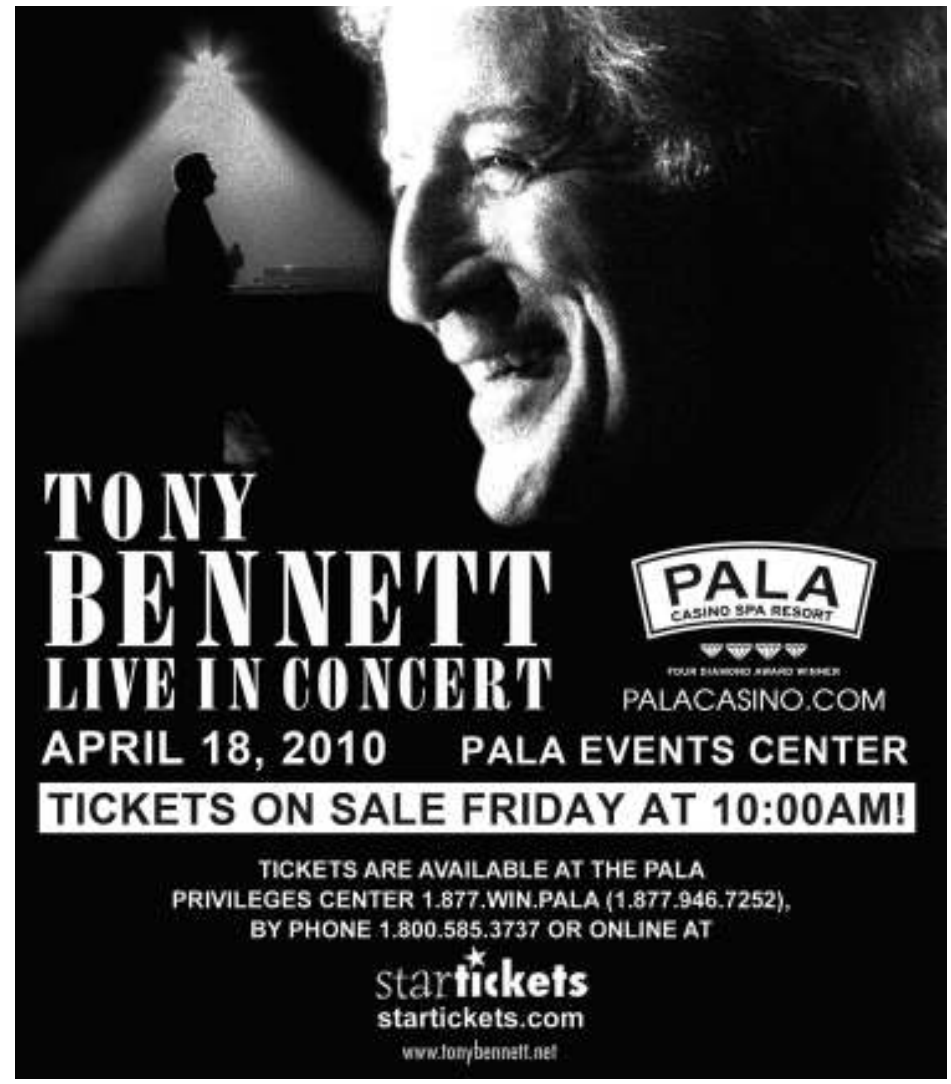
Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: *Tuesdays*, 7pm: Basic Tuesdays. Featuring art, fashion, and music. Free. 410 Tenth Ave., East Village. 619-531-8869.

Beauty Bar: *Tuesdays*, 9pm: Trans Am Tuesdays. New wave '80s dance party with DJ Heather Hardcore. Free. *Wednesday*, 9pm: Barbaric Wednesdays. With DJs Turbo Teen, Headshake, and Hot Lips. Electro. Free. 21 and up. 4746 El Cajon Bl., Kensington-Talmadge. 619-516-4746.

The Brew House at Eastlake: *Saturdays*: Brew 30 DJ. Dance. 871 Showroom Pl., Chula Vista. 619-656-2739.

Café Sevilla: *Thursdays*, 10pm: DJ New Yo Rican. Salsa. *Tuesdays*, 10pm: DJ Israel. Bachata. 555





EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Music Reviews from Our Readers

PB&J at HOB

Concert Review
by Mike Donovan



When the curtain lifted at the House of Blues on Peter Bjorn and John, the word "backdrop" was written several times in large letters behind the Swedish indie trio. I had no idea who was Bjorn or Peter or John, but it was immediately clear that the guys came to rock.

They kicked off with the song "Living Thing," the title track on their new CD. It had a rockabilly vibe that reminded me of Brian Setzer, and the band threw in some Chuck Berry moves for good measure. When they did a song called "I Want You," an exuberant fan responded, "to want me!" This forced the drummer to take on some vocal duties: "Hey, shut the fuck up! You're starting to piss me off!" Otherwise, the bassist and guitarist split singing the songs. The drummer had an electric drum he would hit occasionally, and the guitarist moved to keyboards for some songs.

This was the tenth anniversary of the band: "Some of you weren't even born when we started." This was an all-ages show. "History Is Done" was a bit too techno for my taste, but the crowd's movement suggested that they felt otherwise. When PB&J played their hit "Young Folks," the winner of a pre-show whistling contest whistled the intro, and he didn't disappoint as he danced around while waiting for his next verse.

Black Crowes Soar

Concert Review
by John Losavio



The Nag Champa began wafting stage front at House of Blues when Chris Robinson and the Black Crowes took the stage, which had a plain, black-curtain backdrop and low cubicle-like partitions to dampen Steve Gorman's drumbeats (or to separate the always volatile Robinson brothers). Leaning into the honky-tonk chords of "Good Morning Captain," the opening song of their summer release *Before the Frost...*, Rich Robinson's vintage Gibson was answered by the stinging slide work of his newest foil, Luther Dickinson.

The Crowes combined the country blues and R&B they'd wood-shedded in Levon Helm's barn with their hallmark Southern boogie and a sequin of L.A. glam and left no nugget of the '60s or '70s unmined, from their surprising cover of the Velvet Underground's "Oh Sweet Nuthin'," with Rich on vocals, to the disco-funk of "I Ain't Hiding."

The sell-out crowd stayed with the band for every musical detour, only sneaking off for a pee break during the Flying Burritos–tinged "Fork in the River." The die-hards were rewarded late in the set with crowd favorites "Remedy" and a two-song encore of "She Talks to Angels" and "Shake Your Money Maker."

$50 for your concert review, $20 for your CD review. Submit at *SDReader/critic.com*

Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-233-5979.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Fridays*, *Saturdays*: Live DJ. 21 and up. 10330 Friars Rd., Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

Candelas: *Fridays*: Sessions at 420 Third Avenue. DJ Chris Renzulli and DJ Eric B. Adult/contemporary. 416 Third Ave., Downtown. 619-702-4455.

Confidential: *Fridays*, 10pm: DJ Henry Diaz. With Tone Capone and Omar. Electronic/hip-hop/lounge. 901 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-696-8888.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: *Saturdays*, 10:30pm: DJ Paul Dumesnil. 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

El Cajon Grand: *Fridays*, 8:30pm: DJ Neko. Spins classic rock and other hits. *Saturdays*, 8:30pm: DJ Chuck. Spins classic rock and other hits. 351 W. Main St., El Cajon. 619-444-0949.

Fannie's Nightclub: *Thursdays*, 8pm: DJ Mick B. Spins hip-hop tunes. *Thursdays*, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. *Sundays*, 9pm: DJ Demond. '80s/hip-hop/pop. Free. 21 and up. *Mondays*, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. *Wednesdays*, 9pm: J & Biko. Hip-hop/reggae. 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley. 619-698-2204.

The Filling Station: *Fridays and Saturdays*, 9pm: DJ Dance Party. 9522 Miramar Rd., Mira Mesa. 858-578-0757.

The Flame: *Wednesdays*, 9pm: Cookies with DJ Dirty Kurty. 3780 Park Bl., Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

The Fleetwood: *Saturdays*: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. 639 J St., Downtown. 619-702-7700.

The Flying Bridge: *Fridays*, 9pm: DJ Ricardo. Reggaeton/salsa. *Saturdays*, 9pm, *Sundays*, 9pm: DJ Waistline. Hip-hop/R&B. 1105 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside. 760-722-0081.

Gaslamp Tavern: *Thursdays*, 8pm, *Fridays*, 4pm, *Wednesdays*, 8pm: C-Phish. 868 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-239-3339.

Harney Sushi: *Wednesdays*, 9pm: Hot Like Wasabi Wednesdays. With DJ Matty A. Electronic. 3964 Harney St., Old Town. 619-295-3272.

Harrah's Rincón: *Thursday*, 8pm: Noche Latina. With DJ Don Jose. Electronica/Latin. 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center. 760-751-3100.

Hawthorn's Restaurant: *Wednesdays*: DJ Kiki. 2895 University Ave., North Park. 619-295-1688.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: *Fridays and Saturdays*, 9pm: DJ Kool T. Spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. 15 and up. 775 Metcalf St., Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Kadan: *Saturday*, 9pm: Club '80s. Featuring DJs Bryan Pollard, Arzola 1, 101G, and Roxanne Redlight. Industrial/underground. *Tuesdays*, 9pm: Darkwave Garden. Featuring B. Pollard, Heather Hardcore, MarieScaryMary, and guests. Gothic/industrial. 4696 30th St., North Park. 619-640-2500.

McDini's: *Tuesdays*, 9pm: '90s Throwback Tuesdays. Hosted by Zerland of Pali Roots. 105 E. 8th St., National City. 619-474-6771.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: *Wednesdays*, 10pm: DJ Tony. 860 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278.

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Sapphire Mediterranean Cuisine & Lounge: *Saturdays*, 9pm: Rasta Nation Posse. Reggae. 4076 Bonita Rd., Bonita. 619-470-8000.

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Seau's: *Thursdays*, 7pm: DJ FOS. Hip-hop/jazz. 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-291-7328.

Side Bar: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Ruby Thursdays. 536 Market St., Downtown. 619-696-0946.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill: *Thursdays*: Tattoo Thursdays. With DJ Viktor and DJ KB. *Fridays*: DJ Tony Sleeze. Spins Top 40 and hip-hop hits. *Saturdays*: DJ Girth. Spins hip-hop and rock hits. *Sundays*: Soul Glo Sundays. With DJ Girth and friends. *Wednesdays*: Beer Pong. With DJs. 10109 Maine Ave., Lakeside. 619-561-6767.

Soda Bar: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Expressway to Yr Skull. Punk/rap/rock. Free. 21 and up. 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights. 619-255-7224.

Static Lounge: *Saturdays*, 9pm: Club Backbeat. Hip-hop/rap. $15-$20. 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.

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The Office: *Sundays*, 10:30pm: Club '80s. Featuring DJs Bryan Pollard, Adamnation, MasterBlaster, and Roxanne Redlight. Industrial/underground. Free. 21 and up. 3936 30th St., North Park. 619-450-6632.

Tiki House: *Tuesdays*, 9pm: Tunes by Joe Marson. Every Tuesday. 1152 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734.

True North: *Thursdays*, 10pm: DJ Bacon Bits. *Fridays*: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. *Sundays*, 10pm: DJ Waly Mayhem. *Mondays*, 10pm: DJ Wonderbread. *Tuesdays*, 10pm: DJ WhO. Hip-hop/rock. 3815 30th St., North Park. 619-291-3815.



All That Remains, December 11, Soma

U-31: *Thursdays*, 8pm: DJ Artistic. With Cros 1. '80s and '90s hip-hop. 21 and up. *Fridays*, 9pm: Feel the Noise. With Gabe Vega and Saul Q. Dance/indie/rock. 21 and up. *Saturdays*, 9pm: Dance Party Mash-Ups. 21 and up.

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CONCERT REVIEWS

The Deafening Immortality of Beethoven's Ninth

By Michell Thitathan | Published Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009



Ludwig Van Beethoven was too deaf to hear his ninth symphony while he lived, but his most complex symphonic composition has acquired a deafening degree of immortality after his death.

The first weekend of December saw the third reincarnation of the piece in San Diego under the animated baton of Jahja Ling. The short but spirited program benefited from the disciplined San Diego Symphony, four good solo vocalists, and the San Diego Master Chorale, which seems never to have an off night.

Nathaniel Webster's baritone didn't exude as much vocal gravity as a bass would, but his brighter tone added more shine to the choral finale's forward-looking theme. Robert Breault's quivering tenor and Mary Dunleavy's soaring soprano beautifully highlighted the hopeful melody while Kelley O'Connor's mezzo-soprano provided grounding and balance to the solo voices.

Most deserving of the multiple rounds of roaring ovation from the capacity audience, however, was the utterly reliable San Diego Master Chorale. They sang like they meant every note from the softest of tones to the most imposing fortissimo in a symphony that looks behind and ahead.

$20 for CD reviews
$10 for concert photos
$50 for concert reviews

To submit your review go to SDReader.com/critic

Whiskey Girl: *Fridays and Saturdays*, 9pm: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. *Mondays*, 9pm: U-Call-It Mondays. With DJ Marc Thrasher. 600 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-236-1616.

Whistle Stop Bar: *Sundays*, 9pm: Too Many Creeps. With DJ Mario O and guests. Post-punk. 21 and up. 2236 Fern St., South Park. 619-284-6784.

The Wit's End: *Fridays*, 5pm: DJ Artistic. 420 Robinson Ave., Hillcrest. 619-294-4848.

Xavier's Bar & Grill: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Almost Famous Thursdays. Electro/funk/house. *Fridays*, 10pm: Red Carpet Fridays. Dance/top 40. *Saturdays*, 9pm: Special Screening Saturdays. Featuring rotating DJs. 750 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-233-0500.

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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.**

ALPINE

Alpine Inn: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $2.50 drafts, $3.75 wells, house wine, $4.75 calls.

Donato's Italian Restaurant: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestics, $3.50 imports & house wine, $6 Long Islands, $3 wells.

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. Classic sushi rolls $3.50 and up, specialty rolls $8-$9, appetizers $2-$8.

Bertrand at Mister A's: *Monday-Friday*, 2:30-6pm: Specially priced cocktails, beer, wine, small plates on patio.

Pizzicato: *Every day*, 3-7pm: $3 pints, house wine; $6 pizza slice + pint or wine.

BAY PARK

Offshore: *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic, $3 sangria, well and micro import, $5 Tommy Bahama mojitos.

BONITA

Sapphire Mediterranean Cuisine & Lounge: *Tuesday*, 5-9pm: All well drinks two for one. $4 six-piece falafel, chicken wings or mozzarella sticks, $5 small hummus. All day: 1/2-off all hookahs. *Wednesday-Saturday*, 5-9pm: All well drinks two for one. $4 six-piece falafel, chicken wings or mozzarella sticks, $5 small hummus.

CARLSBAD

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

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

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

Fenway's Sports Bar & Grill: *Every day*, 3-7pm; 10pm-midnight: $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. $5 appetizers.

Twenty/20 Bar & Grill: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $2 off any drink. $2 off appetizers.

CHULA VISTA

El Dorado Seafood & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7 pm: $2 margaritas. $1.50 tacos.

Veni Vidi Vici: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: $1 off all drafts, wells.

CLAIREMONT

Fat Tony's Pizza: *Thursday*, 5pm-close: $2 Karl Strauss, $4 taps.

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

COLLEGE AREA

Casa Machado: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $2.75 domestic, $3.75 margarita, wells. Free nachos and quesadillas.

Cucina Fresca and Sons: *Every day*, 3-5pm: $1.75 domestic beer.

Marie Callender's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $1.95 draft, $2.50 well, $3.50 house margarita. 1/2-price appetizers (in bar only). *Saturday-Sunday*, $2 Bloody Mary/mimosa w/ purchase.

Pal Joey's: *Every day*, all day: $3 personal pitchers.

Satin Lounge: *Thursday*, 9pm-close: $1 Bud drafts.

CORONADO

Primavera Ristorante: *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday-Friday*, 5-7pm: $2 off all drinks; $2 off daily food specials. *Wednesday*, 5-7pm: Wine night: 1/2-off all bottles, incl. champagne.

DEL MAR

Shimbashi Izakaya: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $5 cocktails, $5 glass of wine, $3 draft beer. Sake & appetizer specials. *Saturday-Sunday*, 12-7pm: $5 cocktails, $5 glass of wine, $3 draft beer, 1/2-off Asahi & Sapporo. Sake & appetizer specials.

DOWNTOWN

Asti Ristorante: *Every day*, 3-6pm: 1/2-price cocktails & appetizers.

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine: *Friday*, $6 pomegranate martini. *Saturday*, $6 cosmos.

Bondi Bar and Kitchen: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $4 select beer, wine, spirits.

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, Sunday*, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price sangarita. *Friday-Saturday*, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-price garabato.

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

The Field Irish Pub & Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $3.50 wells. 1/2-off appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, 9am-5pm: $3.50 wells. 1/2-off appetizers.

La Fiesta: *Every day*, 5-7pm: 1/2-price calls, wells, tap beers, house wine, house margaritas. 1/2-price appetizers: ceviche, nachos, chicken pizza.

The Fish Market: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: $3.75 draft, $3.95 wells, $2.95 domestic beer. $.95 oysters, $4 fish tacos, $5.75 mahi mahi sliders.

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.

Funky Garcia's Mexican Restaurant: *Every day*, 3pm-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks; $1.50 carne asada and pollo asado tacos.

Gaslamp Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $3 drafts, house wine, wells. *Sunday*, all day: $3 drafts, house wine, wells.

Las Hadas Bar & Grill: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm; 10pm-midnight: $2 Bud Light/Coors Light drafts, $3 margaritas, wine, wells, sangria. 1/2-off seafood bar and appetizers.

Horton's Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $3 drafts, $5 wells, $6 house wine, $7 margaritas/cosmopolitans; $7 potato skins/mozzarella sticks; $7.50 nachos grande/buffalo wings.

House of Blues: *Every day*, 2-7pm: $1 domestic draft & bottle beers, $2 import draft & bottle beers, $3 house wines & wells, $4 martinis, 1/2-price select appetizers.

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

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant: *Every day*, 3-7pm; 9-11:30pm: Wine and drink specials; 1/2-lb. cheeseburgers $2.95, other $1.95 specials. Join us for Padres games, next to Petco Park.

O'Brothers: *Every day*, 3:30-6:30pm: $3 bottled beer, $5 glass of wine. $7 sliders with fries.

Patrick's II: *Every day*, 10am-8pm: $2.50 bottle beer, $3 wells, Bud Light pints, $4 calls, margaritas, Bloody Marys.

RA Sushi: *Monday-Saturday*, 3-7pm: 1/2-off select sushi & appetizers; $1 hot sake, $2 domestics, $3 wells, imports, $4 specialty cocktails and wine, $5 Kinn with sake.

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

The Shout House: *Tuesday*, $2.50 Karls, $5 cosmos, $3 fish tacos. *Wednesday*, $1.50 domestic bottles, $3 fish tacos. *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; 1/2-price appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, till 6pm: $3 domestic and Canadian bottled beer, $4 wells, Bloody Mary, $5 mimosa.

T.G.I. Friday's: *Monday-Saturday*, 3-7pm; 10pm-close: $3 large domestics & bottled beers, $4 well/wine, $5 Ultimate Long Island Ice Teas & Ultimate Margaritas. 1/2-off appetizers.

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: *Monday-Saturday*, 3-8pm: All drinks two-for-one.

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. $2 off appetizers.

















HAPPY HOUR

EAST VILLAGE

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $5 Imperia vodka, $4 local beer, $6 wine. Free samples of Basic pizza.

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

Hive Sushi Lounge: *Every day*, 5-7pm: $2 domestic, $4 micro, $2.50 sake, $3.50 well, $4 house wine. Miso, edamame, $.99.

Jewel Box: *Monday*, $2 PBR drafts. *Wednesday*, 6pm-2am: $5 Jäger bombs & happy hour all night w/military ID. *Thursday*, 8pm-2am: Industry Night. $3.75 calls.

EL CAJON

Double D's on Broadway: *Every day*, 10am-noon, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestics, $.50 off mixed drinks, $1 off shots.

El Cajon Grand: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: $2.50 domestic beer, $3 wells. *Saturday-Sunday*, $5 20-oz. Bloody Mary w/ jumbo shrimp.

Flinn Springs Inn: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: $2 domestic drafts, $2.25 domestic bottles, $3 wells. *Saturday*, 5-9pm: $14.99 prime rib dinner. *Sunday*, 4-9pm: Kids eat free.

Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill: *Wednesday-Sunday*, 11-6pm: $2 wells, $3 drafts.

ENCINITAS

When in Rome: *Tuesday-Friday*, 5:30-7pm: Two-for-one on all wines by the glass.

ESCONDIDO

Holiday Wine Cellar: *Monday*, 5:30-7:30pm: $5 for five wine tastings.

Tango Restaurant & Lounge: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks; 1/2-off bar menu.

GOLDEN HILL

Turf Supper Club: *Friday-Sunday*, 12-4pm: $5 lunch: 1/2-lb. burger, chicken sandwich, or two Louisiana hot links + bag of chips. 12-4pm: $1 off all beer/wine/spirits. All day: $1 off sirloin steaks, surf and turf.

GRANTVILLE

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $3 pints, $4 house margaritas, wells. $5 appetizers.

HILLCREST

Bangkok Thai Bistro: *Every day*, 4-7pm: 1/2-off wine, beer & appetizers.

Cafe Eleven: *Every day*, 2-6pm: $4 house margaritas, $3 wells, house wine, bottled beer. $3 appetizers: shrimp cocktail, stuffed mushrooms, thai chicken skewers.

KEARNY MESA

94th Aero Squadron: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: $2.75 Bud Light on tap, $3 wells. *Saturday-Sunday*, 1/2-price bottles of wine.

Churasan: *Monday*, Monday night football special: $4 hot dog, garlic fries, small beer. *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-8pm: $4 large Japanese beers. $3 appetizers. *Sunday*, Sunday football special: $4 hot dog, garlic fries, small beer.

Khan's Cave Grill & Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6:30pm: $1 off draft, $1 off glass of wine. *Saturday*, 3pm-close: 1/2-off bottles of wine.

Pampas Argentine Grill: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: $3 beer/wells. $4 margaritas/wine specials. $2.50 empanadas (bar only).

Shogun Kobe Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm (sushi bar only): 30% off sushi and rolls (excludes sea urchin, giant clam, toro & cocktails). 30% off sake and beer.

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.

Kensington Cafe: *Every day*, 3-7pm: $3 all beers, $4-$5 all glasses of wine, all tapas under $5.25.

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

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

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: *Every day*, 4-6pm: $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 beer.

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.

Lupi Italian Restaurant: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5-7pm: $3-$5 martinis, beer, wine. Free doggie treats.

The Melting Pot: *Every day*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off cheese fondue, salads, chocolate fondue.

Roppongi: *Every day*, 3-6pm: 1/2-off Asian tapas & sushi rolls.

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

The Shores Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: Five for $5 menu food/drink specials. *Sunday*, 3-7pm: $7 glass, $25 pitcher red/white sangria.

The Steakhouse at Azul: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $1 off all beers, $2 off all wines by the glass, $6 Appletinis, Lemon Drops, Cosmopolitans, margaritas. 1/2-off all lounge, patio appetizers.

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off wells; 1/2-off appetizers (excludes seafood & guacamole).

Whaling Bar & Grill: *Monday*, 4-7pm: $5 house wine. $7 specialty cocktails. 4-10pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 drafts. *Tuesday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 drafts. $5 house wine. $7 specialty cocktails. *Sunday*, 12-10pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 drafts. 4-7pm: $5 house wine. $7 specialty cocktails.

Whisknladle: *Every day*, 5-7pm: $9 all-you-can-eat tapas.

LA MESA

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: *Every day*, 3-7pm; 10pm-close: $1.50 off drafts, $1 off all mixed drinks, bottled beers, glass of wine.

Tarroz Sports Bar: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday*, 2-7pm: $2.50 domestic beer, tequila shots, $3 imported beer, $4 premium drafts.

LAKESIDE

Coach Stop: *Monday-Friday*, 9am-12pm, 4-7pm: $2.50 large drafts, domestic bottles. 7-11pm: $1.50 12-oz. drafts, $6.50 60-oz. pitchers.

LEUCADIA

Bar Leucadian: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 4-7pm: $2.75 wells. $2.50 domestics. $3 Corona, Pacifico, Imperial.

The Calypso Café: *Every day*, 5:30-7pm: $4 wells, sangria, margaritas. $4 house wine. $3.50 beer.

LINDA VISTA

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

The New Morena Club: *Every day*, Noon-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $2.50 domestic bottles, wells.

LITTLE ITALY

Anthology: *Monday-Friday*, 5:30-7pm: $6 wells, wine specials. $8 margaritas. $9 martinis.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

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

MIRA MESA

Excalibur Cigar Lounge & Wine Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: $3 select pints, $5 house wine.

The Filling Station: *Monday*, $2 kamikazes. *Wednesday*, premium beer $3.50/pint. *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. $3.50 chicken strips, chicken wings.

MISSION BEACH

Coaster Saloon: *Friday*, 10pm-close: $2 wells, all drafts.

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.

Sandbar Sports Grill: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestics/drafts, wells, $1 off premium beers/wine by the glass, $3 off pitchers. 1/2-off appetizers. *Friday*, 4-9pm: 1/2-off all drinks.

MISSION HILLS

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

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $4.95 imported 20-oz. draught beers, $3.75 well drinks, $1 off bottled beers and house wines by the glass. *Sunday*, all day: $4.95 imported 20-oz. pints Fullers London Pride.

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

MISSION VALLEY

950 Lounge: *Wednesday*, $3 wells, beer, house wine.

All American Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $3.75 selected craft beers, $5 specialty drinks, $2 off wine by the glass and grazing menu.

The Little Fish Market Restaurant: *Every day*, 4-6pm, 8:30-close: $4.25 fish tacos, $3.75 spicy tuna roll, $4.50 Cajun shrimp skewers.

NATIONAL CITY

Café La Maze: *Tuesday-Friday*, 4-6pm: $1 off all drinks; 1/2-off appetizers in the bar.

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.

Triple Crown Pub: *Saturday*, 12-5pm: $1 off all pints, $2 off beer pitchers. *Sunday*, 12-2am: $1 off all pints, $2 off beer pitchers.

NORTH PARK

Crazee Burger: *Every day*, 3-6pm: $2.99 drafts, $15 pitchers of beer, $3.99 select glasses of wine. $2.99 bratwurst, $3.99 turkey burger.

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

Lips: *Sunday*, $5 homojitos. $10 build-your-own tacos.

Redwing Bar & Grill: *Monday-Thursday*, 11am-6pm: $2.75 wells, domestic bottles. *Friday-Sunday*, 10am-6pm: $2.75 wells, domestic bottles.

Toronado: *Monday*, 11:30am-5pm $1 off drafts. *Tuesday-Sunday*, 11:30am-5pm: $1 off drafts.

True North: *Monday*, 12pm-close: $1 off all beer, wine, spirits. *Tuesday-Saturday*, 12pm-7pm: $1 off all beer, wine, spirits. *Sunday*, 7pm-close: Industry Night, $3 calls.

West Coast Tavern: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks. Five menu items for $5 each.

OCEAN BEACH

Blue Parrot: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: $2 off glass of wine, $3 margaritas. $2.50 tacos, $5.25 nachos or wings. *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.

Pete's Grill: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $2.50 Bud drafts, $3 microbrew drafts, house wines. $.99 sliders.

Portugalia: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 10pm-1am: $3 domestic beer, $5 wine; $4-$10 food specials.

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

OCEANSIDE

333 Pacific: *Every day*, 4-7pm, 9-10pm: $7 vodka cocktails (100+ types of vodka). $7 appetizers (calamari, oyster trio, Caesar salad).

Hana Japanese Restaurant: *Every day*, 5-7pm: $3 beer, 1/2-off cocktails.

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

PCH Sports Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $2 domestics, $1 off premiums, $3 house wines. *Saturday*, 2-8pm: $2 domestics, $1 off premiums, $3 house wines. *Sunday*, 2pm-close: $2 domestics, $1 off premiums, $3 house wines.

Pierview 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.

Wine Cabana: *Monday*, till close: $5 off Malbec. *Tuesday*, till 7pm: 1/2-price appetizers. *Wednesday*, Girl's Night Out: complimentary chocolate fondue. *Thursday*, till 7pm: $3 beers, 1/2-price appetizers. *Friday*, Cabana Magic Show (usually monthly). *Saturday*, till 7pm: $3 beers, disco with DJ & PJ. *Sunday*, till close: $4 Sangria, live jazz at 5pm.

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.

Big Kahuna's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $2.50 beer, wine.

Costa Brava: *Every day*, 4-7pm: 1/2-price sangria. 1/2-price tapas.

The Dog: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, $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 Marys.

Hooters: *Monday*, 11am-10pm: $4 drafts, $14.99 pitcher Pyramid Haywire & Hefeweizen. *Tuesday-Wednesday, Friday*, 3-6pm: $2.50 Bud, Bud Light, Coors Light, Miller Lite drafts, $3 wells, 1/2-price appetizers. *Thursday*, 11am-10pm: $4 drafts, $14.99 pitcher Newcastle Brown Ale. *Saturday*, 11am-11pm: $3 drafts, $10.99 pitcher Coors Light, Miller Lite. *Sunday*, 11am-10pm: $3 drafts, $10.99 pitcher Bud Light, Budweiser & $3.50 drafts, $11.99 pitcher Shock Top.

Johnny V: *Tuesday*, 4pm-close: $3 wells, drafts, selected wines. $1.95 street tacos, $3 off appetizers. *Wednesday*, all day: $3 wells, drafts, selected wines. *Friday*, 4-9pm: $2 drinks. Complimentary appetizers. *Saturday*, all day: $2.50 Bud Light bottles, Absolut, $3 margarita.

Lights Out Hooters After Dark: *Monday*, 5-8pm: $1 wells, $1 domestic drafts. 8pm-close: 2-for-1 drinks. *Tuesday*, 5-8pm: $1 wells, $1 domestic drafts. 8pm-close: beer and a shot, $5. *Wednesday*, 5-8pm: $1 wells, $1 domestic drafts. 8pm-close: $2 you-call-its. *Thursday-Saturday*, 5-8pm: $1 wells, $1 domestic drafts. *Sunday*, 5-8pm: $1 wells, $1 domestic drafts. Industry Night: 50% off the bill.

Miller's Field: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: $1 wells. $2 street tacos.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 3-7pm: $2 wells, house wine. $3 imports, microbrews. $2 off all drafts.

Moray's Lounge: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $2.50 drafts, $3.50 wells, $4.50 house wine. 4-6pm: $4 appetizers: spicy chicken wings, fried calamari, potato skins.

Pacific Beach Ale House: *Monday-Saturday*, 3-6pm: $3 drafts, wells, house wines. 1/2-price appetizers.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: *Tuesday*, $2.50 Mexican bottled beer, $3 frozen margaritas. *Wednesday*, $2 off all drinks, $2 beers. *Thursday*, 8pm-close: $2 wells, drafts, 1/2-price drinks. *Friday*, 3-10pm: $2 drafts, wells, 1/2-price drinks. *Saturday*, 4-10pm: $3 wells, wine, drafts.

Sinbad Café: *Every day*, 4-8pm: $1 drafts, $1.50 wells, shots, $2 imports. $3.50 appetizers. 11am-8pm: $12-$15 hookahs.

Tavern at the Beach: *Monday-Saturday*, 12-7pm: $3 drafts, bottles, wells, wine. *Sunday*, 12-7pm: Industry Night: $3 domestic beers, $2 make your drink a double, $3 calls for industry. Pay stub required.

Tony Roma's: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: $2 house margaritas, Long Island ice teas, $3 wells, draft beer. Appetizer specials.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 5-7pm: $3 cask wine, sangria, draft. $3 tapas selection.

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.

C-Level: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-5:30pm: $3.50 Bud Light, Karl Strauss, Stone IPA, $5 specialty drinks, wells, house wine. $5 crispy calamari, ahi tuna poke, steamed Fox River mussels.

Extreme Pizza: *Monday*, all day: $1.50 domestic drafts. *Tuesday*, $6 wine carafes, beer pitchers. *Wednesday*, $.50 wings night. *Thursday*, 3-6pm; 8-10pm: 1/2-off any pizza. *Friday*, $18 large pizza and pitcher of beer. *Saturday*, $2 bottled beer of the month. *Sunday*, $5 domestic beer pitchers.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: *Every day*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items. Excludes holiday/concert nights.

Point Loma Sports Grill & Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: 1/2-price appetizers.

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

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday*, 3-6pm; 9-11pm: $1 off all wells, drafts, bottles & wine. $5 appetizers.

Phileas Fogg's Bar & Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic pints/$7.95 pitcher, $3.50 import pints/$11.95 pitcher. $2.95 cheese quesadilla, $3.95 chicken wings, more.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Café on the Park: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: $3 wells, $4 house margaritas, 1/2-off house wine by the glass, $1 off beer. Complimentary cheese & crackers, 1/2-off appetizers.

Carvers: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6:30pm: $2.75 beers, $3.95 wells, $4.25 house wines, $4.75 well martinis.

Kelly's Public House: *Monday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines. Free appetizer samples. *Tuesday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, mystery pints, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines. *Wednesday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines. $1 tacos. 9pm-close: $4 u-call-its. *Thursday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $3 mystery pints, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines. Free appetizer samples. *Friday*, 3-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Cottonwood Golf Club Bar & Restaurant: *Every day*, 4-6pm: $2 drafts. 1/2-off all appetizers including pizza, quesadillas, wings, calamari.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Cavaillon: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 5-6pm: 1/2-off glass of wine. $19.95 two-course menu.

SAN MARCOS

The Jumping Turtle: *Monday*, 11am-close: PBR $2.75/pint, $6.75/pitcher. $5 cheeseburger w/ fries or salad. *Tuesday*, 11am-close: $2 Corona, Pacifico, margaritas. 3pm-close: $2 tacos. *Wednesday*, 11am-close: $4 drop drinks. $6 monster sandwich w/ fries or salad. *Thursday*, 7pm-close: $3 Jäger, $2.50 Bud Lime. 3-11pm: $.50 chicken wings. *Friday*, 5pm-midnight: $5 Long Islands. $5 12-inch two-topping pizza. *Saturday*, 11am-close: $3 Orange Patron, Tanqueray. $5.75 Reuben sandwich w/ fries or salad. *Sunday*, 11am-close: $2.50 Bloody Marys. $5 Hole-in-One ham sandwich w/ fries or salad.

SERRA MESA

Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 8am-11am: $1.50 drafts, wells.

SOLANA BEACH

The Fish Market: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-9:30pm: $3.50 wells, discounted beer & wine. $.95 oysters, $4.25 smoked trout quesadilla. *Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-4pm: $3.50 wells, discounted beer & wine. $.95 oysters, $4.25 smoked trout quesadilla.

Pacific Coast Grill: *Every day*, 4-7pm: $5 gold margaritas, $1 off draft, wells, wines by the glass, 25% off wine bottles.

SORRENTO VALLEY

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. $5 appetizers.

TIERRASANTA

Bud's Louisiana Café: *Tuesday-Friday*, 1-2:30pm; 4:30-6pm: 1/2-price wine and beer. *Saturday*, 4:30-6pm: 1/2-price wine and beer.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Café Japengo: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: $3 drafts, sake, $4.50 wells. $4 chicken spring rolls, duck potstickers, California rolls.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Gulf Coast Grill: *Monday*, all night: $3.95 wells, drafts, wine. *Tuesday-Sunday*, 4:30-6:30pm: $3.95 wells, drafts, wine.

VISTA

Jumping Bean Cafe & Mexicali Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: $2 domestic, imports, $2.75 margaritas, $3 wells, microbrews, $4 Leaping Horse wine. 3-5pm: $1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.















Seafood and Splendor

DINING REVIEW
NAOMI WISE

Let's have one more chorus of "The Times They Are a-Changin'." The hellish economy is kickin' out the jams in the restaurant biz, especially in upscale hotel restaurants that locals tend to overlook, thinking they're too posh or snobby. But the new Westgate Room is NOT the hotel's stuffy old upstairs Le Fontainebleau (so stiflingly ornate, even Marie Antoinette might have fled to play with her sheep).

While Le Fontainebleau is still used for Sunday brunches and private parties, the primary action has shifted to the vast new street-floor Westgate Room, which replaces the former casual-elegant Westgate Café. The aim of the change, according to chef Fabrice Hardel, was to bring upstairs "fine-dining" food quality downstairs to a less formal, "ordinary dining" venue, while maintaining the same reasonable price structure as at the café.

With windows to the street along one wall, the handsome new dining room indeed feels like a safer place for people who love good food, not historic fancies. This would be a great place to take visitors for a non-bankrupting dinner splurge, but you don't need Aunt Cora from Peoria as an excuse — just treat your own selves. Our dishes ranged from very good to thrilling. The restaurant was nearly empty during the dead week leading up to Thanksgiving, but it's a popular breakfast and lunch destination, often jamming at dinnertime when there are shows at the Curran and other nearby cultural milieus.

We gathered in the bar for happy hour, old friends Samurai Jim and Michelle and new friend musician "Emmy" (short for her initials, M.E.). I'd just come from a doctor visit and on general principles needed a stiff drink. The denlike bar is not a "creative mixology" hot spot but a classicist site. "What's your best cocktail?" I asked. The tall, dark bartender thought for a minute. "The peach Cosmo," he said in a slightly downscale English accent (better than Cockney, well short of Etonian). The drink hit the spot — fresh, subtly fruity, and big. Just what the doctor didn't order.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Fabrice Hardel

The bartender escorted us a few steps into the Westgate Room and introduced our server, who seated us. In addition to the wall of windows, the dining room sports huge crystal chandeliers, Frenchy floral paintings, and plenty of banquettes, though we preferred the comfortable, well-cushioned wooden chairs of a roomy four-top.

The chef's amuse, served on warm plates, offered a bit of rare, delicious duck breast with mysterious sweet 'n' tangy garnishes. Facing a pricey wine list, I ordered a reliable, unexciting Chardonnay for our first course, but luckily, it was all gone. The sommelier, with our permission, substituted a Chateau St. Jean. And my, how little Jeannie has grown up since I last sipped a bottle, years ago, when she was a top-shelf supermarket wannabe! It smelled like honey and tasted like liquid gold — not sweet, but rich and unctuous — sustained on shapely glycerin legs like a Betty Grable pinup. For the second round, I was tempted by a French Viognier and a South African Chenin, but the sommelier assured me neither was as spectacular. Begone, dull care! — the right wine at a passable price ($40), a great quaff if you love your Chards rich, plump, and flirty.

We were talking about "molecular gastronomy" when our appetizers arrived. "Now that El Biz's chef has left, is there any place to get it in San Diego?" Michelle asked. "Look on your plate," I said. She was the first to sample the "Big Eye Yellow Fin Ahi Tuna Sashimi," with mango pearls, soy sauce cubes, and lime foam.

For the past two years, chef Fabrice Hardel has been discreetly experimenting with techniques pioneered by wild-man chef Ferrán Adrià in Barcelona, ever since some of Adrià's favored chemicals have become available in the U.S. "It's quite fun," Hardel says. "There are so many things you can do with molecular gastronomy. It's like going back to school." The cilantro-flavored foam on this dish comes in a tall, narrow glass, bub-

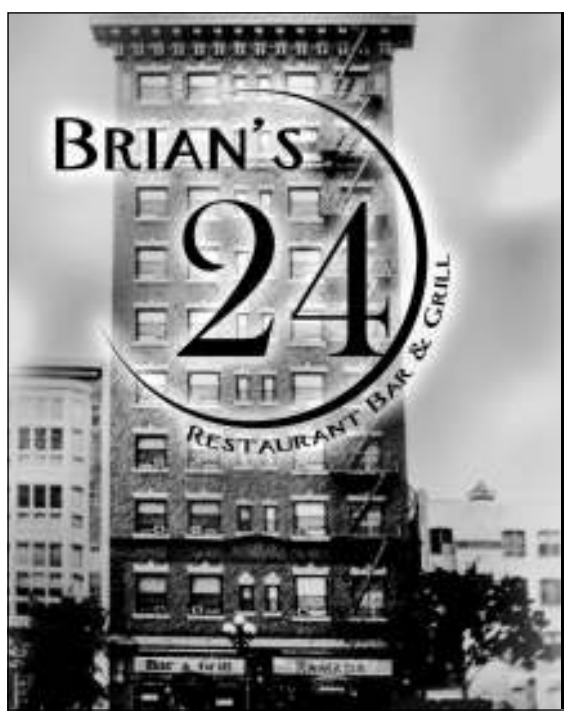
The Westgate Room
★★★★ (Excellent)

Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue (Broadway), downtown, 619-238-1818.

HOURS: Daily, breakfast and lunch 6:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m., dinner 5:00–9:00 p.m.
PRICES: Starters, $8–$15; entrées, $18–$37; desserts, $8–$10.
CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: French-California cuisine ranging from standard classics to fusion-y surprises with ultra-modern techniques. Global wine list of great depth, few under $45, but some great bargains on mature reds (e.g., Mouton, Heitz).
PICK HITS: Big-eye tuna sashimi; seafood chowder; sesame-crusted Pacific sea bass; Day Boat Scallop Cannelloni; crème fraîche cheesecake. Other good bets: smoked Thai snapper, soy-glazed King salmon, possibly Prime beef tenderloin with Rossini sauce.
NEED TO KNOW: Ornate but not excessively formal room, business-casual dress. Validated valet parking ($3). One lacto-vegetarian entrée; hog heaven for seafood-lovers. Superb service. Not that spendy for the quality.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to *SanDiegoReader.com* to find hundreds of past reviews.



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bly at the top, like a jade-green witch-potion to poison a fairy-tale princess. You can pour it over everything or just use it for dipping. Center of the plate are slices of exquisite tuna sashimi — fish velvet. Next to them is a porcelain Chinese tablespoon containing tiny beads of fresh mango (another complex miracle of modern gastrochemistry). There are fresh local greens in the center and, along the edge, a few small, trembly ebony "soy sauce cubes," an intense reduction of soy, fish stock, and mirin (Japanese cooking wine) gelatinized in agar. Brilliant and pure fun. All evening, Samurai Jim (a nascent creative cook) kept coming up with ideas for using the cubes as a "shock and awe" element in a variety of dishes. Inspired food is, well, inspiring.

The creamy seafood chowder (scallops, clams, tiger shrimp, lobster, Parmesan, and thin-sliced black summer truffles), served with an airy, puffed vertical poppy-seed cracker (like some playful god's heavenly breadstick), was endlessly interesting and, despite its richness, demolished at record speed.

"Bergundy Escargot" was a surprise, a whimsical cartoon restatement of the garlic-heavy Burgundian classic. It offered five deep-fried dim-sum wrappers, each containing a snail with a touch of Brie cheese, braised endive, pancetta, and parsley oil, with a shimmy of subtle garlic cream slicking the plate beneath them — all the ingredients of the classic, totally changed. You wouldn't know they were snails inside, just some sort of plushy tastiness.

Grilled squab and veal sweetbread is a great idea, since squab is a gamey, liverish-tasting all-dark fowl, while sweetbreads (the thymus gland) are offal, with their own faintly intimate scent. It's a great combo for culinary adventurers. The accompaniment is a miniature Granny Smith Apple tarte tatin, along with red currants and a few braised chestnuts. But imperfect execution interfered that evening: the squab, a lean bird, was a tad overcooked and dry, compromising the composition.

Last time I ate at Fontainebleau, in 2002, that very night the management and head chef decided to part ways forever. The executive sous-chef, 27-year-old Fabrice Hardel (cooking professionally since age 15, in the French apprenticeship system), had been doing most of the heavy lifting since joining the staff a year earlier, so he asked for a tryout as top toque, got it, and passed his trial period. Hardel hails from Normandy, on France's North Atlantic coast, where fish is the favorite dish. "It was just seafood, seafood, seafood," he says. "My neighbor was a fisherman, and he'd stop at the door and say, 'Hey, I got too many scallops, you want some scallops?' and my parents would say, 'Yeh, for sure!' " Fabrice once went out on a local scallop boat for three days, a total misery of seasickness, and he was astonished at the fishermen's 20-hour days.

He started his apprenticeship at a local restaurant and went on to the Culinary Institute in Caen, which also stressed seafood cookery, then served a journeyman period at distinguished restaurants in France, Germany, and Luxembourg. He moved to the U.S. to work under chef Pierre Chambrin at the private St. Louis Club — subsequently the St. Louis Ritz-Carlton — before coming to San Diego. Now 36, he runs marathons for fun.

The menu hints that Hardel is free to create but also must maintain a few old comforts for old customers. (The Fontainebleau, way back when, was populated by blue-haired charity-circuit ladies in expensive pastel polyester skirt-suits from Saks. I imagine they're still hidden in some closet, emerging for Sunday brunches. The ladies, that is, not the suits.) The entrée menu maintains a balance between the fresh maritime creations the chef enjoys cooking and old-style "hotel restaurant classics," such as steaks, chops, and (on the piscine side) Atlantic Dover Sole with Beurre Meunière, which was slightly overcooked and boring — I just don't get what's so great about it.

Vastly better, the sesame-







crusted Pacific sea bass was an extraordinary dish (yes, five stars' worth) that had us all wondering what the chef had done to produce such unearthly tender flesh. (It's lightly seared in a touch of olive oil on one side only in a nonstick skillet, then finished off in the oven. The topside stays pure white.) The black sesame seeds were not a crust after all (that would be boring, ordinary), but a light nutty scattering over a golden sauce of subtly curried roasted fennel, stock, and mirin, puréed and fine-strained to the texture of a silky mousseline. Next to the fish was a curl of "sea urchin emulsion" — not some disappointing little drip of liquid as we feared, but a slippery, ethereal semisolid (it's got shallots, reduced sake, a bit of cream made into a sort of *beurre blanc,* but mainly lots of uni), allowing full savoring of the sneaky maritime sexiness of this species. Putting an earthy crown on this creation: a separate mound of semi-crisp julienned Napa cabbage, its pale jade shreds mingling with salty, black-green *hijiki* "sea-beans" — something crunchy and fun for your palate.

Another surprise came with the Day Boat Scallop Cannelloni (just $20!). It's not a stuffed pasta shell with scallops inside, but a dark, tropical lotus pond, with dreamy soft slices of sweet Maine day-boat scallops floating over Burgundy black truffle coins and truffled Vermouth sauce. (These were gentle summer truffles, the texture of soft parsnip slices, but we ate a week too soon: through December, Fabrice is bringing in genuine black winter truffles from France — the precious of precious!) The pasta? It's served on the side, thin cigars filled with a firm mousse of chopped scallops and pesto.

Meaty fare is more conservative and less inspired. A vast veal chop, fed on genuine organic cow's milk (albeit not its very own mom's), doesn't taste like bovine Simulac, but it's still just a hunk of nicely done meat, despite fun garnishes of butternut squash mousseline and baby chanterelle mushrooms. Prime beef tenderloin (which we didn't try) is at least partly grass-fed and was a nostalgic temptation with garnishes that included port wine caviar (i.e., "caviar" micro-gastronomically made from port) and Rossini sauce. You may also want to consider Colorado lamb chop with Provençale garnishes of olives, tomato, fava beans, and *panisse,* chickpea fritters.

Our server was sweeter than the berries, quiet, exuding neither pomp nor subservience but the kindest hospitality. Laotian, he's been here in the U.S. for 35 years, much of that working at the Westgate. We talked about the lack of good Laotian restaurants in San Diego — the similarities of Lao food to Issan Thai food.

French-trained pastry chef Sylvain Haage (whom Fabrice stole from Jean-Georges Vongerichten's resort outpost in Bora-Bora) does the sweets. His crème fraîche cheesecake (no cheese in it) is rich but ethereal, with a topknot of electrically tart citric sorbet to cut the not-excessive sweetness. A coconut parfait resembled a coconut meringue-marshmallow, soft and quite sweet. Jim opted for a comforting coffee drink with vanilla-flavored booze. My espresso was hot, rich, with the proper *crema* foam on top.

The thing about hotel restaurants is that even if they're not quite as chummy as upper-midscale neighborhood places, plutocratic room-rates subsidize the ingredients and skilled European staffs that the "nabes" can't afford: in-house guests pay for much of your dinner. Prices and dress-styles have come way down. Clean, decent clothes and sensible shoes will do on weeknights; the celebs have gone back to L.A.

With a "free entrée with each paid entrée" coupon (from that slick coupon magazine in the mailbox; it probably will show up again in the next issue), we ended up paying less than for a mediocre meal at a trendy "Frenchie joint" uptown. (Food came to $34 each.) Without coupon, figure about $12 more per person, given less spendy ordering. Sure, you lose the fun local-bar scene; instead you get food so superior, it's scarcely on the same planet. Enjoy both if you can afford them, but otherwise — as those old-time carnival barkers used to say — "Ya pays yer money, ya takes yer choice."

Local Chef Cookbooks

Cookbooks make lavish gifts when well matched to the recipient. Two local restaurant chefs and a local cookbook author all have new books out for the season.

Bernard Guillas, the longtime executive chef at the Marine Room, and his chef de cuisine, Ron Oliver, share recipes gathered during their worldwide travels in *Flying Pans: Two Chefs, One World.* It looks gorgeous, and for Marine Room fans yearning to reproduce the spectacular cooking, it'd be just the thing. (I wouldn't give it to a rank beginner.) Order online at *twochefsoneworld.com* for $34.99. Free shipping, and book autographed by both chefs if ordered by December 15.

The latest from Su-Mei Yu, owner-chef of Saffron on India Street, is *The Elements of Life: A Contemporary Guide to Thai Recipes and Traditions for Healthier Living.* It's based on Asian health principles, the four elements of earth, fire, wind, and water (which are you?), and eating according to your own element. Again, probably not for total neophytes, but ambitious cooks who've been trying their hands at Thai are likely to welcome it. It lists for $47, but online (Amazon, Barnes & Noble) it's under $25.

Local food writer Kitty Morse (well known for her Moroccan cookbooks) offers a thoroughly revised second edition of her 1999 *Biblical Feast: Ancient Mediterranean Flavors for Today's Table,* featuring 50 easy recipes for foods mentioned in the Old and New Testaments, along with discussions of the history of the ingredients, a treat for amateur food scholars. Available online at *abiblicalfeast.com* and at local bookstores for $18.95. ■

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Good Dog

"Eat me!" says a T-shirt on the wall. "Please, no smoking," Betty Boop coos from her placard.

TIN FORK

ED BEDFORD

The guy in the wheelchair sits at the corner of Fifth and G, waving his "Hot Dogs!" sign toward G Street. That's all you need. You can see the crowd halfway down G, clumping around in a pool of light under the green canopy. Huh. Used to be a smoke shop there. Now it's all white, with green and orange neon stripes.

And another sign: "Hot Dogs @ 428."

"This is nothing," says the big guy at the cash register — name's Savash. Turkish — when I finally fight my way inside. "At one, two o'clock, we have a line that goes right around the corner."

"Eat me!" says a T-shirt on the wall. "Delicious 5¢ hot dogs," says an ancient poster. "Please, no smoking," Betty Boop coos from her placard. There's a three-stool counter tucked against the wall, narrow, because the whole place is narrow. But that's the thing with hot dogs. You don't need no counter. Most folks just haul the little cardboard skiff out onto the street and start scarfing.

I am hungry, but not crazy-hungry. Probably, like the rest of the crowd here, just needing a little something to sit on the suds I seem to have been sinking. Something to get me home.

The guy ahead asks for a bacon dog. Everything's listed on the wall menu, starting with the "Naked Dog & Bun" ($2.99). The cheapest is the corn dog at $2.49. Savash says they have the fastest service in town, and also the "best hot dogs in California, period!" The "signature dogs" are all-beef, kosher, and made by Hebrew National.

I believe the thing about speed. The guy in front of me has barely paid Savash when the gal behind the display cases calls out, "Bacon dog ready!"

"That's Nora," says Savash. "Fastest hot dog–maker in the West."

The bacon dog comes with jalapeños and salsa and whatever else you can slosh on it from the extras tray. Costs $3.99. But guess I should go for the Big Daddy. For a buck more, it promises everything but the kitchen sink. Nora says it includes bacon, cheese, chili, whatever you want.

Hmm... Can't quite decide. I drop back to the end of the line to have more time for deep thoughts. Like, didn't all this hot dog phenom come from New York? So shouldn't I have the New York Dog ($3.99)? It has mustard, onions, sauerkraut. That has to be the, like, classic. But then they have a bunch of regionals, too. The Deep South ($3.99), with coleslaw, plus mustard, and cheese. The Texas ($3.99) has BBQ sauce, and the Sushi ($3.59) has wasabi, ginger, and soy sauce. Not sure about that one.

By this time, I'm getting back to the front of the line.

"Bacon dog, but can you add avocado?" says the girl ahead of me. Tanya. "Sure," says Savash. "Any way you want it."

She hands over $4.34.

"Which are the spiciest?" I ask. "The Diego and the bacon," Savash says.

Oh right. The ones with the jalapeños.

"Go for the chili cheese dog," says a guy standing on my side of the counter, chatting with Savash. "You won't go hungry with that."

"It *is* about the most popular," says Savash.

"Okay. Chili dawg it is." It's a little up there at $4.59. I mean, yes, this may not be the hottest hot dog deal in town — I noticed a hot dog joint at City College trolley stop on 12th (Park) and C advertising dogs at 99 cents — but it's late nite, and you do get all these choices, and hey, Hebrew National…

It's pretty delicious, once you load it up. Plus, hot dogs is all about circumstances, like tacos: out on the street on a cold night, they feel just right. Eating inside, at a linen-covered table, while your friend attacks a filet mignon and mushrooms, don't cut the, uh, mustard.



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Savash

No problem here. I'm out on the sidewalk chomping and chatting with Savash's friend Darren. Turns out he's an architect. Designed this place. He's here to talk with Savash about permits to extend it out onto the sidewalk. "We've had to go through hoops because this is a historic building," he says. "It was built in 1892. Actually, this was the center of town, once. You see that Queen Anne across the road?"

He points to a building on the other side of G Street, a redone old place where Johnny Love's has the corner. Arched windows, lots of curlicues. "Built in 1879," Darren says. "See the sign above the door? That was City Hall for 50 years, 1887 to 1938."

Huh. The carved sign above the door still says "City Hall." Incredible, but I never noticed before.

"Savash is an extraordinary guy," says Darren. "He's from Turkey, he speaks about five languages, he worked as a translator in Iraq, and then he was an executive recruiter. Now, he's here till 3:00 every morning."

"We run it military-style," Savash says a moment later. He's taken advantage of a lull inside to catch a breath of air. "We can process one order every minute. It's the pilot for a franchise."

Wow.

Not only that, but every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., Savash takes 120 hot dogs down to the Salvation Army building at Seventh and E and gives them away. Anyone can go in and eat. "I do it with an organization called 'Embrace,' " he says.

Wow again.

My dog is good, messy. Not the most outrageous dawg ever, but that Hebrew National is one excellent, meaty, filling hot dog. Lean, but not mean. And I like that even at this late hour, they don't gouge you. Heck, they have a peanut butter and grape jelly sandwich for $2.45. If you're really pinched, you can get chicken soup and crackers, or stuffed grape leaves for $1.99. Coffee's only 99 cents.

Now, if Savash could just add Turkey's real gift to the world: doner kebabs… ■

The Place: *Hot Dogs @ 428, 428 G Street, between Fourth and Fifth Avenues, Gaslamp Quarter, 619-544-0428*
Type of Food: *American*
Prices: *Corn dog, $2.49; naked dog and bun, $2.99; bacon dog (with jalapeños, salsa), $3.99; Big Daddy ("everything but the kitchen sink"), $4.99; New York dog (with mustard, onions, sauerkraut), $3.99; Deep South (coleslaw, mustard, cheese), $3.99; the Texas (BBQ sauce), $3.99; the Sushi (wasabi, ginger, soy sauce), $3.59; chili bowl, $2.99; sandwiches, including roast beef, Italian ham and cheese, chicken breast, turkey breast, tuna salad, veggie, $3.95*
Hours: *11:00 a.m.–2:00 a.m.; Friday–Saturday, till 3:00 a.m.; closed Mondays*
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Bacon-wrapped BBQ Shrimp Skewer

8 Entrées including:
Prime Rib · Maine Lobster Thermidor
Hoisin-glazed Scottish Loch Duart Salmon
Georges Bank Diver Sea Scallops

Homemade Desserts
New York Cheesecake · Vanilla Bean Cream Brulée · Tiramisu

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Offer expires December 23, 2009.

Night Sunset Specials
4:30-6:30 pm · $11.95-$19.95

Lunch
Monday-Friday 11 am-2:30 pm

Daily Happy Hour
Specials from $2.95 · 4-7 pm

Champagne Brunch
Saturday & Sunday 9 am-2:30 pm



The Beach House

2530 South Coast Highway 101 · Cardiff-by-the-Sea
760-753-1321 thebeachhouse.com

Calendar
RESTAURANTS

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

A complete searchable list of over 600 restaurants is available online at **SanDiegoReader.com.** *Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée.* **Inexpensive:** below $10; **moderate:** $10 to $19; **expensive:** $20 to $29; **very expensive:** more than $30.

Alpine

Mediterraneo 1347 Tavern Rd., Alpine, 619-445-9902. Tasteful, ambitious little trattoria with scenic patio dining. The pizzas are outstanding with airy, silken crusts. Entrées change with the seasons. Desserts are big and sweet. Expensive.

Baja

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Big Boy Restaurant Boulevard Agua Caliente #9892, Tijuana, 664-686-3788. Besides having excellent Mexican-American food and big gringo breakfasts, this Big Boy knock-off draws a cross-section of Baja's big shots. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive.

La Espadaña Avenida Sanchez Taboada #10813, Tijuana, 664-634-1488. This place does great oven-cooked leg of lamb, tasting like wine, garlic, and herbs, but the owners insist it's just Tecate lamb baked slowly in its juices with oregano. Terrific flame-grilled beefsteaks, too. Moderate.

Mercado Sobre Ruedas Colonia Lucio Blanco (from Tijuana, on toll road, take first Rosarito exit; turn left at third), Rosarito. This huge flea market materializes every Sunday (morning to mid-afternoon); food booths offer a carnival of authentic dishes like barbecued mutton, savory Jalisco-style goat stew, street tacos. Rock-bottom prices; cash only.

El Rincón del Oso Mercado Hidalgo, Calle Victoria #47, Tijuana. Kid for breakfast? You scoop the juices and meat into a hot corn tortilla, adding cilantro, lime, grated onions, and a splash of salsa. It's meaty, slightly rich, almost gamey — like deer or buffalo. Inexpensive.

El Rodeo Boulevard Salinas #1647, Tijuana, 664-686-5640. Steak haven with Old West decor. Entrée price includes soup of roast beef juices, beans, a quesadilla, a salad, two *botana* (snack) plates, and a beef-liver medley with any cut of steak you want. Or try the *parrillada,* a multi-meat BBQ sizzling on a tabletop grill. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Tacos el Francés Paseo de Playas de Tijuana #2553, Tijuana. Cisco the cook flaps the cloth open, pulls a tongue out, plonks it on the chopping block. Chop chop chop. Your first cow-tongue quesadilla? Inexpensive.

Vallarta Natural Boulevard Agua Caliente #1252 (just before El Toreo de Tijuana), Tijuana, 664-686-1560. Smoke-free, lacto-ovo-vegetarian haven, making their own yogurt, soy hash, breads, salsas, and wheat-gluten-free fake meats. Wonderful juices, breakfast scrambles, excellent soups like the filling *caldo tlalpeno.* Inexpensive.

Banker's Hill

Bertrand at Mister A's 2550 Fifth Ave., 12th floor, Banker's Hill, 619-239-1377. Bertrand Hug's airy, open eatery offers a panoramic city view with a casual-chic, romantic ambience and fine modern French cuisine. Expensive.

Inn at the Park 3615 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-291-0999. Despite a touch of mango here, chipotle there, it's the nice, conservative, meat-and-potatoes comfort food that the regulars here prefer. Wilder hits include calamari fritto misto, duck breast, and coconut-lime crème brûlée. Moderate.

Bonita

Romesco 4346 Bonita Rd., Bonita, 619-475-8627. Sophisticated Mexican food, including smoked marlin carpaccio, grilled duck breast, escolar. The whole menu is worth exploring, full of surprising treats. Moderate to expensive.

Carlsbad

Armenian Café 3126 Carlsbad Bl., Carlsbad, 760-720-2233. Lamb shish kebab is the house specialty, but even better are the owner's mom's *kibbe* (nut-filled lamb meatball) and rosewater-scented *kashta lea* dessert. Lovely elevated patio. Moderate-plus.

California Bistro 7100 Four Seasons Point, Carlsbad, 760-603-6868. Fresh California cuisine in a luxurious hotel dining room. Moderate to expensive.

Nozomi 3050 Pio Pico Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-7877. Gorgeous Japanese inn–style premises with food ranging from simple *nigiri-zushi* to party rolls to fusion grazing dishes and entrées (including genuine Wagyu beef) and back to Japanese standards. Don't miss the *ankimo* (monkfish liver pâté). Moderate to expensive.

Carmel Valley

Ruth's Chris Steak House 11582 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-755-1454. Also 1355 N. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-233-1422. Flash-cooked steaks of USDA Prime, topped with butter and parsley, are the hallmark of this chain. Side dishes are à la carte. The broiled tomatoes are a delight. Very expensive.

Chula Vista

D'Lish Pizza and Pasta 386 E. H St., Chula Vista, 619-585-1371. This chain prides itself on its Italian/California pastas, pizzas, and salads. Now it's adding

hive sushi • lounge
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1409 C Street
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Now Open 7 days 5-10 pm
Lunch Mon.-Fri. 11 am-2:30 pm with 10 pieces for $10
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California Hand Roll $1.99
Nigiri 1 pc. $.99 (Mackerel, Albacore, Snapper, Salmon, Shrimp, Squid, Surf Clam)
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Veggie Roll $2.99
Spicy Tuna Hand Roll $2.49
Spicy Scallop Hand Roll $2.99
Spicy Tempura Hand Roll $2.49
Spider Hand Roll $2.99
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Large Sake $2.49 • Domestic Beer $1.99
$3.99 Imports/Micros

50% off sushi
Dine-in only. 5-item minimum order per party. Selected items only.
Sushi – Tempura – Teriyaki – Noodles

Mikko Japanese Cuisine
Low cholesterol, low fat, no MSG
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760-730-0088

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THE ORIGINAL Broken Yolk Cafe
OUTDOOR PATIO DINING
*PRIVATE ROOM AVAILABLE
$2.00 off with minimum $8.00 entrée and one drink. Limit 4 per coupon. One coupon per table. No separate checks. Not valid on weekends, holidays, with private groups, other offers, coupons or specials. Expires 12/24/09.
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$1 off buffet
Limit one per customer.
9254 Scranton Rd., Ste. 102
San Diego
858-458-2858
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Sher Punjab Indian Cuisine


50% off Nigiri & Sushi rolls
23 Nigiri and 36 sushi rolls to choose from!
9869 Carmel Mountain Rd.
San Diego
858-484-5300
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Sushihana


50% off pizza
Buy one pizza and get a second of equal or lesser value for half off. Valid only at Poway location.
13332 Poway Rd.
Poway
858-679-FAST (3278)
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


$5 off
Any check over $25. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per table.
6390 El Cajon Blvd.
College Area
619-287-6858
3750 John J. Montgomery Dr.
San Diego
858-292-4716
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Casa Machado Mexican Restaurant


50% off lunch or dinner
Buy one lunch or dinner and get a second of equal or lesser value for half off.
309 W. Mission Avenue
Escondido
760-480-1348
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free entrée
With purchase of any entrée & two beverages at regular price. Receive 2nd entrée of equal or lesser value free. Up to $8 value. Dine-in only. Not valid with breakfast specials, discounts, on holidays or with any other offer. One coupon per table.
9449 Kearny Mesa Rd.
Mira Mesa
858-271-4670
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free pizza
Buy one large specialty pizza, get a free cheese pizza any size.
425 S. Melrose Dr.
Vista
760-295-3851
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Get 1 free order of steak fries
with purchase of any large Philly Cheese Steak.
312 Ballantyne Street
El Cajon
619-442-2036
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free edamame or miso soup
With purchase of any entrée (except side & Kids' Menu). Good only at Scripps Poway. One coupon per visit. Not valid with any other offer. Dine-in or take-out only.
10545 Scripps Poway #A
Scripps Poway
858-536-1020
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


15% off entire check
Excludes catering and alcohol. With coupon. Not valid with any other offer.
124 Lomas Santa Fe Dr.
Solana Beach
858-481-FISH (3474)
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Solana Beach Fish House


50% off frozen yogurt
Buy one, get the second of equal or lesser value at 50% off.
16588 Bernardo Ctr. Dr., Ste. 130
Rancho Bernardo
858-673-4204
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


50% off entrée
Buy one entrée and get the 2nd for 50% off. 2nd entrée must be of equal or lesser value. (Dinner only).
9910 Mira Mesa Blvd. #A
Miramar
858-578-1468
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

marinated flank steak and a rib eye to the "bistro entrées." Moderate.

Galley at the Marina 550 Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-422-5714. The tasty happy-hour specials make a visit worth the trip: Have a 1/2-pound hamburger with french fries, chicken Caesar salad with sourdough toast, or a filet mignon steak plate with steak fries. Inexpensive.

Village Club Card Room 429 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-3333. Down-home dishes like grilled chicken breast sandwich, spaghetti with meatballs, or garlic shrimp with fried rice and egg, plus Chinese dishes including Kung Pao beef or chicken, Mongolian beef, and a good wonton soup with noodles. Inexpensive.

City Heights

African Spice Restaurant 4348 54th St., City Heights, 619-342-5945. Fascinating Somalian food, just seven dollars — as much rice, salad, spaghetti, goat meat, beef, chicken (lamb and tilapia when available) as you can fit in your polystyrene box, along with a banana to break up and mix in, Somali-style. Inexpensive.

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Ave., City Heights, 619-283-4352. The Vietnamese do French baguette sandwiches better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. Inexpensive.

Taste of Africa Cuisine 5241 University Ave., City Heights, 619-583-5788. At this gathering place for Somalis, the cuisine combines African, Italian, Arab, and Indian influences, emphasizing fish, lamb, and goat meat. Start with a *fadareshin,* a mixed sampler plate of meats, spaghetti, rice, and veggies. Inexpensive.

College Area

SALA THAI restaurant
For over 20 years
6161 El Cajon Blvd. #A
619-229-9050
www.SalaThaiSD.com

Sala Thai 6161 El Cajon Bl., College Area, 619-229-9050. Classy atmosphere, tame spicing. You'll have to ask for "hot." Chicken *mussaman* is delicious with taste-boosters like kaffir lime leaves. Health treat: *som tum,* green papaya salad. Inexpensive.

Coronado

1500 Ocean 1500 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-522-8490. Modern Cal cuisine with a blissful bay view and superb ingredients, so finely cooked you'll be thrilled to eat your veggies. Expensive.

Burger Lounge 922 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-6835. Additional locations in Kensington and La Jolla. Their Tallgrass beef is juicy, tastes sweeter, and comes only from grass-fed cattle. Inexpensive, if you avoid extras like fries and onion rings.

Café 1134 1134 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-437-1134. Interesting omelets, salads, and *panini* (e.g., roast beef and bleu-cheese crumbles) from a local reincarnation of a Left Bank café to hang out, chat, think deep thoughts. Inexpensive.

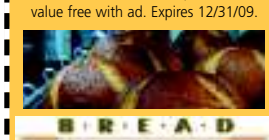
Candelas on the Bay 1201 First St., Coronado, 619-435-4900. Same serious Mex cuisine as the downtown branch in blissful bayside surroundings, with great happy-hour grazing bargains in the bar. Otherwise expensive.

Costa Azul 1031 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-3525. Enjoy people-watching on the patio, with tasty Mexican seafood like coconut crunchy shrimp, swordfish tacos, lobster burritos. Higher priced: flat-iron steak with Gorgonzola, baby back ribs, garlic Mexican shrimp. Inexpensive to expensive.

Spiro's Gyros 1201 First St., Coronado, 619-435-1225. Watch the sunset sipping Greek wines. Low prices keep Spiro's popular with locals and tourists. Try moussaka or souvlaki chicken, marinated in *tzatziki* sauce, served with tomatoes, onions, and pita bread. Inexpensive.

Swaddee Thai 1001 C Ave., Coronado, 619-435-8110. An island of serenity, with gentle dishes cooked with care. The complex but soothing coconut-chicken soup can wash away all woes, and the calamari in seafood arrays is knife-scored to achieve sheer tenderness. Inexpensive to moderate.

Free Lunch in East Village!
Buy one menu item and two drinks and receive second item of equal or lesser value free with ad. Expires 12/31/09.



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Breakfast • Lunch • Pastries
730 Market Street
619-795-2730
www.BreadonMarket.com

Del Mar

Le Bambou 2634 Del Mar Heights Rd., Del Mar, 858-259-8138. No mere "*pho* joint," this gracious restaurant serves exquisite versions of the sophisticated Vietnamese dishes of prewar Saigon. Low-moderate.

Jake's Del Mar Waterfront Grill 1660 Coast Bl., Del Mar, 858-755-2002. Surf 'n' turf by the sea, with a patio overlooking the waves. Menu offers seafood with fusion-y touches, Prime or Choice steaks. Crabby Dungeness crab cake appetizer makes a whole lunch. Lunch and Sunday brunch moderate, dinner expensive.

Milton's Deli 2660 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-792-2225. Jewish deli goes multiethnic. Stuff yourself with stuffed cabbage, overstuffed deli sandwiches, crisp-skinned cheese blintzes, *matzoh brei,* hot brisket with latkes — or chicken-fried steak, if that's your bag. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Star of India 3860 Valley Centre Dr., Del Mar, 858-792-1111. Also 423 F St., Downtown, 619-234-8000. The lunch buffet can lead you by the nose into Punjabi food. Pick among vegetable *pakora* fritters, eggplant with potatoes, chicken curry masala, *palak paneer* (spinach with curry). Inexpensive to moderate.

Downtown

Bay Café 1050 N. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-595-1083. If famished at the ferry landing, you can eat decent burgers, good clam chowder, or other basic fare in the bare-bones interior, or tote


La Jolla Bistro 101
FREE DINNER
STEAK, SEAFOOD & SALADS
With purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages.
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7 am Monday–Friday
Pastries, quiche, croissants, paninis, coffee and tea.
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Drink specials.
LUNCH
11:30 am-2:30 pm
Monday–Saturday
Sandwiches, paninis, burgers and salads.
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50% off entrée
Buy one entrée with 2 beverages and receive a second entrée at 50% off.
6625 Flanders Dr.
San Diego
858-200-2101
Boston Sports Cafe
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


One free lunch
with purchase of another lunch item and two drinks.
1688 S. Melrose Dr.
Vista
760-727-2212
Kabob Cuisine
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

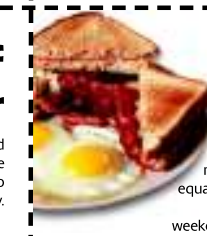

One free dinner
Buy one entrée with one alcohol beverage & receive a 2nd entrée FREE! Up to $18.75 value. Limited to one coupon per table. Not valid with any other offer or on holidays.
471 Encinitas Blvd.
Encinitas
760-436-3081
La Bonne Bouffe
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Two 14" large pizzas $20.99
Two toppings on each pizza. Delivery special. Additional toppings $1.25 each per pizza. With coupon only.
11255 Camino Ruiz
Mira Mesa
858-566-9666
3715 India Street
San Diego
619-692-1169
12812 Rancho Penasquitos Blvd.
Rancho Penasquitos
858-538-6868
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Buy one frozen yogurt, get one free
Not valid with any other offer.
1231 Camino Del Mar
Del Mar
858-720-1168
Seaside Yogurt
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free entrée
With the purchase of one entrée and two beverages. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offers.
3860 Valley Centre Dr.
Carmel Valley
858-792-1111
423 F St.
Downtown/Gaslamp
619-234-8000
Star of India
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


50% off burger
Buy any burger and get a second burger of equal or lesser value for half off. Valid at San Diego Cheeburger location only.
12002 Carmel Mountain Rd.
Carmel Valley
858-613-1576
Cheeburger Cheeburger
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


50% off any breakfast or lunch entrée
Purchase one entrée and two beverages at regular price and receive a second entrée of equal or lesser value at 50% off. Limit 1 coupon per table. No separate checks. Not valid on weekends or holidays or with any other coupons, specials, offers or with private groups.
7947 Balboa Avenue
San Diego
858-565-4244
Honey's Cafe
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Buy two, get one free sushi roll
Anytime!
12245 Poway Rd.
Poway
858-391-3080
Izumi Sushi • Grill • Salad
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free entrée
Purchase any entrée and two beverages and receive a second entrée of equal or lesser value FREE. Good for up to two discounts per party of four. Dine-in only. Cannot be combined with any other offer, discount or coupon. No cash value. Not valid with Kids Eat Free. Valid at participating location only. Not valid on holidays.
330 F Street
Chula Vista
619-420-0751
11122 Rancho Carmel Dr.
Carmel Mountain
858-675-9428
Marie Callender's
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


$5 off
any purchase of $20 or more. Not valid on holidays or weekends. Cannot be combined with any other offer.
5270 Baltimore Dr.
La Mesa
619-460-4423
THE OMELETTE FACTORY
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR


Free menu item
With the purchase of a lunch or dinner plate & two beverages.
1061 W. El Norte Pkwy
Escondido
760-480-5662
Pita King
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Calendar
RESTAURANTS

it upstairs to a serene bay-view terrace. Inexpensive.

Blue Point 565 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-233-6623. In a handsome, plushy, noisy dining room, pristine seafood and Prime-grade steaks and chops. Expensive.

Brian's 24 828 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-8410. Open 24/7, it has a fabulous peanut butter burger with bacon. Plus a gothic bar with Joan Crawford's heel marks denting it where she danced. And bargain breakfast and lunch specials. Inexpensive to moderate.

Currant Sofia Hotel, 140 W. Broadway, Downtown, 619-702-6309. Parisian-chic brasserie decor with light, seasonal "American brasserie" cuisine that's often uneven but can include a glorious five-onion soup with short ribs and marrow that beats the French classic, and creative desserts to finish with. Moderate to expensive.

Dobson's 956 Broadway Circle, Downtown, 619-231-6771. The food, served in a classy, comfortable atmosphere, is often very good, as with chicken liver mousse pâté, Mediterranean blue mussels and, when available, the soft-shell crab. Romantic upstairs dining room. Moderate to expensive.

Dublin Square 554 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-239-5818. The pub was handcrafted in Waterford, shipped over, and installed (by Irish craftsmen) in the Gaslamp. There's a fine corned beef and cabbage, plus Guinness beef stew, shepherd's pie (made with ground beef), steaks, and grilled fish. Moderate.

The Fish Market 750 N. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-232-3474. Additional locations in Solana Beach and Mission Valley. The sushi bar downtown is superb, with just-right rice, pristine seafood, and expert preparation. Otherwise, a noisy barn with plain cooking. Moderate to expensive.

Gourmet India 810 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-7967. Rare regional delicacies include appetizers of crunchy *sev poori* (wheat wafers with a fresh spicy topping), *bel poori* (India's railway snack), and Chennai's *uttapam,* pancakes. Entrées include *mirchi tikka,* tender tandoori chicken steeped in spicy lime-juice marinade. Moderate.

Grant Grill 326 Broadway, Downtown, 619-744-2077. Now thoroughly Southern Californian (although they did resurrect the fabled mock turtle soup) with nods to the "slow food" movement. Well-raised meats, local produce. Very expensive.

Island Prime 880 Harbor Island Dr., Downtown, 619-298-6802. Amazing bay-view venue with delicious steaks and roast beefs, plus chef Deborah Scott's creative appetizers and sides like shaved corn with black truffle and a seared ahi stack. Very expensive.

Kansas City Barbecue 610 W. Market St., Downtown, 619-231-9680. The beef and pork ribs (or rib tips or chicken breast) are smoky, cooked over an oak-fueled fire, although some diners complain of toughness. Good happy-hour deals. Inexpensive to moderate.

Monsoon Exotic Cuisine of India 729 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-234-5555. The younger sister to Hillcrest's Bombay Exotic Cuisine sometimes shares the same chefs and serves the repertory of "northern Indian cuisine made easy." Inexpensive buffet lunches; moderate à la carte dinners until 11 pm.

Nobu 207 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-814-4124. Imaginative Japanese-based fusion from international celeb chef Nobu Matsuhita, ranging from miso soup and classic sushi to moderate-priced Nihon-Peruvian grazes to caviar-topped tartares and Wagyu beef (at "market price," meaning "if you have to ask…"). No reservations for sushi bar. Upper-moderate to expensive.

Sally's Seafood on the Water One Market Place at Manchester Grand Hyatt, Downtown, 619-358-6740. Great view, and an appetizer sampler makes delicious grazing, as does a raw tuna and salmon Napoleon. Black cod with miso-orange broth is a sensuous entrée. Expensive.

Sixth Avenue Bistro 1165 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-239-4194. Credible Creole cooking in airy café. Sandwiches include an outstanding oyster po' boy (big juicy oysters, light batter) and a fine, fully packed approximation of a muffaletta. The jambalaya is okay, too. Inexpensive.

Stingaree 454 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-544-0867. The Mediterranean food, sized for grazing or gourmandizing, features premium, naturally raised meats, wild fish, and local organic vegetables, served in a glitzy, clubby setting. Very expensive, but special three-course menu is just $40.

Top of the Market 750 N. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-234-4867. The upper-crust upper floor of the downtown Fish Market has largely the same food as the downstairs, plus a few luxury items (e.g., abalone) and occasionally some creative appetizer specials. Expensive.

East Village

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar 410 Tenth Ave., East Village, 619-531-8869. Hipster atmosphere, late-night hours, and thin-crust Connecticut pizzas, which include toppings like mashed potato with bacon and cheese, or Little Neck clams. Inexpensive.

Café Chloe 721 Ninth Ave., East Village, 619-232-3242. Parisian atmosphere, creative cooking, e.g., breakfast's poached eggs with sage-truffle beurre blanc. Nightly specials keep the menu interesting, and desserts are worth every calorie. Beverages include lavender lemonade, root beers, an intelligent wine list. Moderate.

Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop 640 Tenth Ave., East Village, 619-450-5880. A Western-themed restaurant specializing in great steaks and game meats, where the food is as good as the decor, and the decor is more fun than a rodeo clown. Expensive.

The Mission 1250 J St., East Village, 619-232-7662. Also 2801 University Ave., North Park, 619-220-8992. Eco-conscious big breakfasts and Chino-Latino lunches in arty surroundings are halfway between health nut and old-time diner fare. Great eye-opener: bounteous chicken-apple sausage and egg platter. Inexpensive.

Salad Style 807 F St., East Village, 619-255-6731. Original salad concoctions for lunch include Scott's Grilled Skirt Steak, with organic greens, tomatoes, smoky mushrooms, hearts of palm, bleu cheese, red meat. The Totally Vegan, a golden volcano of quinoa and snowy tofu slabs, should be in a gallery. Inexpensive to moderate.

El Cajon

Chen's Golden Palace 530 N. 2nd St., El Cajon, 619-442-2541. A Lao-Chinese family serves mostly basic Chinese cuisine, plus a few Southeast Asian dishes like Thai spicy shrimp noodles — and good fish 'n' chips. Inexpensive.

Jasmine Bistro 315 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon, 619-588-8228. By day, the fare centers on fresh Chinese dim sum (finger food) offered by cart and by menu. At night, multiethnic chefs step in to cook up a pan-Asian panoply. Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées).

Palms Family Restaurant 1255 E. Main St., El Cajon. Traditional Middle Eastern eatery and social center for Iraqis, Syrians. Which means excellent food, especially appetizers like eggplant and tabbouleh. Mideast videos. Inexpensive.

Tyler's Taste of Texas 576 N. 2nd St., El Cajon, 619-444-9295. Texas-style barbecue (chicken, beef, pork, and sausage), smoky but uneven in texture. Good fried catfish, fried green tomatoes, ham breakfast. Open 24 hours. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Encinitas

El Callejon Restaurant 345 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-634-2793. Great atmosphere in a hacienda with multiple rooms and patio spaces, serving zesty mainland Mexican cooking with unusual dishes like shrimp *zarandeados* with sauce of chiles, beef in cilantro sauce, and a *parrillada* (mixed grill) to serve two. Moderate.

Juanita's Taco Shop Estilo Tepatitlán 290 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-943-9612. Also 248 Main St., Vista, 760-758-4531. The food's cooked in the style of Tepatitlán, a small city near Guadalajara. Their specialty is carnitas — which Juanita's

What the Chef Eats by Pamela Hunt-Cloyd

UKHA (FISH SOUP)

BY JOHN SKOREPA

Executive Chef, Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant



I have a long and checkered career. After graduating from San Diego State with a BS in biology, I worked in the plumbing and mechanical business for 28 years. I built a lot of restaurants.

Because of my scientific background, I write everything down. At the end of the day — or the end of the dish, you might say — I try to analyze everything. I have one principle that I truly believe in: you have to allow yourself the privilege of failure. If at first something doesn't work out, you owe it to yourself to figure out how and why it didn't work. The stuff in cookbooks — people think it came to them by divine inspiration, all of a piece. But I doubt that. It's just trial and error.

I've got all kinds of books on food, and I read cookbooks like most people read novels. I usually never cook what I read about, but you'd be surprised at what's tucked into the corner of those recipes that's going to help you out. Just reading the lists of ingredients... Take this one day I was reading a can of pie cherries. The list of ingredients had: "beets, for color." I have some food chemistry books, so I looked up "beets." It turns out that when you cook cherries, they turn brown. But beets turn red when you acidify them. Now, I use that principle to keep my borsht very, very red.

Do I cook when I'm not working? I'm always working. I come into the restaurant at eight in the morning and leave at ten at night. But I like to make *ukha* for recreation sometimes. I'm always exploring with food. I just fool. If I get a wild idea, then I try it. In some ways, cooking is like my plumbing and mechanical business. The fun wasn't doing the work. It was designing the job.

INGREDIENTS

Serves about 6
2 onions, chopped
3 medium fresh tomatoes, chopped
3 small red potatoes, cut into 1-inch chunks
1 head of garlic
3 carrots, peeled and julienned
2–3 stalks celery, julienned
1 parsnip — julienned
1 leek, cut into large matchstick-size pieces
1–2 tbsp. butter
1/2 tbsp. Tukas hot pepper paste (no substitutes)
2 large spoonfuls of Tukas tomato paste
1 bay leaf
1/2–1 gallon good fish stock (see recipe below)
1 pound cleaned shrimp
1 pound tilapia filets cut into 6-ounce pieces
1/2 cup good white wine
1/2 bunch flat-leaf parsley, chopped
1/2 bunch dill, chopped
salt and pepper, to taste
lemons, sliced for serving



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What the Chef Eats

HOW TO DO IT

Chop onions, tomatoes, and potatoes, and slice garlic into thin wafers. Cut carrots, celery, and parsnips into matchstick-size pieces or run through a mandalin. Cut the leeks into slightly larger pieces or run through a mandalin on a slightly courser blade. Melt butter in a heavy
7–8-quart pot. Add onions and sauté until carmelized and slightly brown. Add the carrots and parsnip and cook for 1–2 minutes and then add celery and leeks. Cook only until the celery and leeks are hot. Add the garlic and cook for a minute or less, being careful not to burn it. Add the Tukas pastes and bay leaf and tomatoes.

Add the fish stock and potatoes and simmer until the potatoes are cooked (when you pinch the potatoes and they start to break up, they are finished cooking). Add the fish and shrimp and watch carefully. The instant they are cooked, remove from the heat. Add the wine, chopped parsley, and dill. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Serve with lemons, some really good bread, and some tomatoes, basil, garlic, and olive oil. Dip the bread in the soup and you're in there.

FISH STOCK

Makes 2 quarts
2 onions, chopped
2 carrots, chopped
2 stalks celery, with leaves, chopped
4 tablespoons olive oil
8–9 cups water
2 to 2 1/2 lbs of fish trimmings, heads, and bones, even shrimp shells
twist of lemon peel
1 bay leaf
2 cups white wine
salt and white pepper

Chop the vegetables. Add the olive oil to a large pot and sauté the vegetables over medium heat. When the vegetables are tender, add the water, fish trimmings, lemon peel, and bay leaf, and bring to a boil. Partially cover, and simmer over medium heat for 20–30 minutes. Add the wine and salt and pepper to taste. Cook for 5 more minutes. Freeze for later use if you wish.

Chef's note: You can purchase Tukas pastes at North Park Produce.

To get other recipes from local chefs, go to sdreader.com.

does up by the plate or by the pound. Open late weekends. Inexpensive.

Kealani's 137 W. D St., Encinitas, 760-942-5642. At any hour the food is Hawaiian "plate lunch" — two scoops of short-grain rice, mild house-made macaroni salad, and a choice of authentic "grines." Don't miss the outstanding kalua pig — zesty, smoky shreds of *imu*-style roast pork. Inexpensive.

The Original 101 Diner 552 First St., Encinitas, 760-753-2123. The down-home cooking includes all-day breakfast ranging from really cheap biscuits and sausage gravy to a pretty cheap top-sirloin steak and eggs. A bacon-cheddar burger with fruit is a good surprise combo, or try spinach salad. Inexpensive.

Vigilucci's Ristorante & Pizzeria 505 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-942-7332. Also in Carlsbad, Coronado, Oceanside, and La Jolla. Freshness, simplicity, and savvy seasoning — that's Italian. The pastas are luscious (try the comforting cannelloni), the staff spirited. Pastas moderate, entrées expensive.

Escondido

Centre City Café 2680 S. Escondido Bl., Escondido, 760-489-6011. Classic American fare, including exemplary chicken-fried steak with a crackly crust and smooth, peppery cream gravy. USDA Choice steaks offered at rock-bottom prices. Huge portions, low prices.

O-Nami North County Fair, 240 E. Via Rancho Parkway, Escondido, 760-738-7522. Also Mission Valley Center, 1640 Camino del Rio North, 619-295-9774. These Japanese buffets offer fresh, artful dishes, including *sunomono* (cucumber salad), teriyakis, sashimis, and sushi rolls. Among the winners are the California roll, tempura shrimp, guacamole roll, veggies, green tea ice cream. Moderate.

San Diego Artisan Bakers 1551 S. Escondido Bl., Escondido, 760-740-5963. Recipes are from all of Europe for breads with great textures and depths of flavor. A treat: breakfast on the front porch with cup of espresso and scones. Inexpensive.

Sand Crab Café 2229 Micro Pl., Escondido, 760-480-2722. Entrées include several crab-bucket combos, cooked in a well-seasoned boil with corn, potatoes, and spicy Louisiana sausage. Margarine's the dip, but you can BYO butter and they'll melt it. Inexpensive to moderate.

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Golden Hill

Krakatoa 1128 25th St., Golden Hill, 619-230-0272. Ghost-ridden coffee house and neighborhood hangout offers garden seating and light eating, mainly breakfast or lunch sandwiches named after the volcanoes of the world (get it?). Inexpensive.

Hillcrest

Arrivederci 3845 Fourth St., Hillcrest, 619-299-6282. A narrow, ever-crowded room with a long menu offering a familiar regional Italian potpourri, including reliable veal in a brandy cream sauce, "straw and hay" pesto pasta, shellfish pasta. Moderate.

Baja Betty's 1421 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-269-8510. Extensive cocktail, margarita, and tequila list and regular Cal-Mex food in a lively atmosphere. Inexpensive to moderate.

Bombay Exotic Cuisine of India 3975 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-298-3155. We're talking northern India here — lots of lamb, potatoes, creamy sauces, tandoor-baked breads and meats, rich and complex but mildly seasoned. Sister restaurant, Monsoon, 729 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-234-5555. Moderate.

Ciro's Pizzeria 1202 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-296-2476. Also 534 Market St., Downtown, 619-696-0405. This small pizza parlor has that "back East" feel about it: old-time photos of baseball fields, New York City. Best combo: chicken bacon pesto. Inexpensive.

Jimmy Carter's Café 3172 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-2070. This comfy, middle-class eatery at the edge of Balboa Park has Indian breakfasts — try chicken curry or *pessaratu* (mung bean crepe with onions, peppers, ginger, *dhal,* and chutneys). Good Mexican and decent Chinese food, too. Inexpensive.

Kemo Sabe 3958 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-220-6802. In Chef Deborah Scott's cooking, Southeast Asia meets the Southwest. Good choices include mussels in chipotle cream sauce; spicy, sweet-sour layered jerk chicken; and the signature Skirts on Fire — a tender, grilled skirt steak imbued with a *picante* marinade. Extremely noisy. Moderate.

La Posta de Acapulco 3980 Third Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-8982. Several San Diego locations. The carne asada burritos are rich-tasting, fresh, generous. Also much loved here are the *chile verde* and the quesadilla with carne asada. Inexpensive.

Saigon on Fifth 3900 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-220-8828. Urbane, French-tinged cuisine of colonial-era Saigon and Hue. Distinctive house specialties include a smoked oyster omelet, coconut shrimp served in the coconut shell, and *bún,* a refreshing spicy noodle salad. Low-moderate.

Taste of Szechuan 670 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-291-1668. Find standard Americanized Szechuan-Mandarin fare. Want spicy? Ask for heat. Tangy, crisp Szechuan garlic shrimp tops the 12 house specialties for good reason. Szechuan orange fish is also recommended. Inexpensive to moderate.

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Imperial Beach

Lydia's Café and Nightclub 1628 Palm Ave., Imperial Beach, 619-429-3603. Easygoing dancing/eatery (since 1957) offers sporadically available entrée platter of *birría en su jugo* (goat in its juices) and filling snacks like taquitos *cucaracha* (a corn tortilla stuffed with ham, cheese, and sour cream). Inexpensive.

Kearny Mesa

China Max 4698 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-650-3333. Local Asians flock here for authentic Hong Kong cooking, including seafood in live tanks (black cod, Dungeness crab, abalone), dim sum daily, superb Peking Duck. Even homey dishes (e.g., wonton soup, crabmeat cakes) sing with flavor. Inexpensive to exorbitant, mainly moderate.

Emerald Chinese Seafood Restaurant 3709 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6888. Among the best Chinese restaurants in the county, local Asians go here for family dinners, dim sum, and Hong Kong specialties. Mainly moderate, with splurges like live fish and Peking duck balanced by down-home dishes. Inexpensive.

The Original Pancake House 3906 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1740. Additional locations in Poway, Encinitas, and Vista. The Apple Pancake is a batter-filled, five-egg puffed-up paradise with slices from two Granny Smith apples. The German Pancake or Dutch Baby are good oven-baked alternatives, as is the filling mushroom omelet. Inexpensive.

Suzuya Japanese BBQ 5447 Kearny Villa Rd., Kearny Mesa, 858-505-0611. Japanese BBQ — called *yakiniku,* similar to Korean BBQ (minus the free side dishes) — offers cook-it-yourself over tabletop grills. Kobe boneless short ribs and tongue are the superstars here. Japanese tapas, noodles, tempura, etc. fill out the bill. Inexpensive.

Tofu House 4646 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-576-6433. Korean tofu dishes, flavorful and healthy, but with meat, too. Try *soontofu* soups (beef, pork, seafood, or mushroom) with raw egg drop you drop yourself and a side of tasty fresh kimchi. Inexpensive.

Tropical Star 6163 Balboa Ave., Kearny Mesa, 858-488-5900. A modest café and grocery offers Puerto Rican and Latin American food and groceries. Inexpensive.

Over 900 more restaurant listings at SanDiegoReader.com

Kensington-Talmadge

Kensington Grill 4055 Adams Ave., Kensington-Talmadge, 619-281-4014. This comfortable-but-sophisticated



Calendar
RESTAURANTS

neighborhood restaurant has found a fine formula for seasonal California cuisine. Early-bird three-course dinner moderate; regular menu moderate to expensive.

La Jolla

Brockton Villa 1235 Coast Bl., La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Great Cove view, with best food at breakfast/brunch: Coast Toast, the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy with orange flavor. Coffee is excellent. Moderate to expensive.

La Jolla Brew House 7536 Fay Ave., La Jolla, 858-456-6279. Solid food, like the prime rib sandwich (which goes great with their Russian stout) or the roasted potato. Best of all, the hefty, low-cholesterol buffalo burger. Inexpensive to moderate.

Michele Coulon Pastries 7556-D Fay Ave., La Jolla, 858-456-5098. Cakes are light, moist, rich, and available as wholes, slices, and even "miniatures," plus you can choose tarts, chocolates, ice creams, and breakfast pastries. Moderate.

Pannikin Coffee & Tea 7467 Girard Ave., La Jolla, 858-454-5453. Additional locations in Del Mar and Encinitas. Cute cottage decor. Breakfasts are mostly steamed-egg variations, including the popular Greek eggs and breakfast burrito. For lunch try chicken curry or fresh, generous "pannwiches" like ham or tuna. Inexpensive.

Tapenade 7612 Fay Ave., La Jolla, 858-551-7500. Major French chef Jean-Michel Diot presides at this bistro featuring sunny Provençal flavors, where the dishes balance creativity and rigorous technique. Some bargain early-bird dinners. Otherwise, expensive to very expensive (and worth it).

Whisknladle 1044 Wall St., La Jolla, 858-551-7575. This kitchen bakes its own bread and makes charcuterie/salumi from scratch. Among the pleasures are roasted bone marrow, chorizo-and-date fritters, pristine "simply grilled" sustainable fish, and delicate *panna cotta*. Moderate to expensive.

La Mesa

Johnny B's 4728 Fourth St., La Mesa, 619-464-2465. This "Burgers and Brew" bar is a real '50s place with burgers and good bar snacks, including a zesty jalapeño dip. On Sundays (1 to 7pm only), their ten-ounce New York steak, fries, beans, and salad is a must-eat. Inexpensive.

Lake Murray Café 5465 Lake Murray Bl., La Mesa, 619-433-0180. Comfort food in generous quantities. All the omelets are four-eggers, with sides like biscuits and gravy. Evening meals include meat loaf, liver and onions, stuffed pork chops, whole (head-on) fish. Inexpensive.

Mystic Grill and Bakery 6990 University Avenue (at 70th Street), La Mesa, 619-461-1985. Former pizza joint now offers exciting Middle Eastern revelations. Top ingredients (Halal Prime beef, fresh baby chickens) and skilled cooking from scratch create flawless falafel, thrilling *kibbe* (Mediterranean schnitzel), lemony spinach pie, sensitively grilled seafood and *shawarma*, and sublime desserts. (Also basic take-out pizzas.) No alcohol. Inexpensive.

West Coast Barbecue 6126 Lake Murray Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-3663. Pit-smoked Texas-style "Q," but more like the Bushes of Crawford than the soulful South. Best bets are full-flavored ribs, chicken wings, and authentic Texas bean-free chili with classic fixins. Low-moderate.

Ye Olde Bicycle Place and Café 6792 University Ave., La Mesa, 619-582-4024. A bike museum with food offers tasty toasted *panini* and cold sandwiches. Inexpensive.

Leucadia

The Calypso Café 576 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Leucadia, 760-632-8252. The cuisine is French, ranging from warhorses like onion soup and coq au vin to Gallo-Cal-Italian-Pacific Rim hyphenates. Mussels are the specialty, and their rapid turnover here ensures freshness. Upper-moderate.

Linda Vista

Sab-E-Lee 2405 Ulric St., Linda Vista, 858-650-6868. Tiny eatery serving authentic, fiery, fabulous food from northeast Thailand, as spicy as you want. Don't miss onion-rich *tom yum* soup or amazing liver salad. Look for "Linda Vista Food" awning. Cash only, BYO, no reservations, waits at prime-time. Inexpensive.

Little Italy

Anthology 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300. User-friendly, modern-American cuisine (local produce, natural meats, wonderful breads) in huge, chic jazz nightclub. Expensive on up, if you drink anything but tap water.

Rainwater's on Kettner 1202 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-233-5757. Wet-aged USDA Prime beefsteaks and roasts with "Continental" sauces, milk-fed calf's liver, plus some seafood and poultry. The chef is one of a few who can manage Beef Wellington correctly. Very expensive.

Logan Heights

La Doña 1784 Newton Ave., Logan Heights, 619-233-4939. This historic café serves home cooking, Mexican style, with super-spicy salsa and meals like scrambled eggs and chorizo with rice and refried beans, *chicharrones*, *pozole*, and menudo. Inexpensive.

El Pollo Loco 2795 Main St., Logan Heights, 619-595-0847. Several San Diego locations. The flame-broiled poultry has crisp, richly seasoned, salty skin; the flesh can vary from barely done to overdone, but usually is just right. Inexpensive.

Midway District

Hancock Street Café 3354 Hancock St., Midway District, 619-296-2060. Mario is from New York and knows his pasta. You can expect a good-value special, like spaghetti and meatballs. Sometimes he'll throw in a bottle of red wine. Inexpensive.

Mardi Gras Café 3185 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-223-5501. N'awlins-style food to eat in, to go, or to have catered at your party. Deli-grocery also sells the ingredients, including ready-made roux, Cajun *tasso* (spiced ham), *boudin blanc* (rice sausage), and crawfish sausage in season. Inexpensive.

Mira Mesa

Abbey's Real Texas Bar-B-Q 6904 Miramar Rd., Mira Mesa, 858-566-2333. Texas-style "Q" featuring marinade-mopped meats and poultry smoked "low and slow" over mesquite until tender, with picnic-fare sides. Inexpensive to moderate.

Bolsa Vietnamese Restaurant 9225 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-693-3663. Hospitable chef-owner Kim Trang makes excellent *pho bo* (beef noodle soup) but also offers hundreds of other items, all cooked home style. Inexpensive.

Madras Café 9484 Black Mountain Rd., Mira Mesa, 858-695-6229. Vegetarian cuisine of South India, centering on stuffed pancakes — from thin, crisp, crepe-like *dosais* stuffed with vegetable curry to lacy rice-flour *aapams* drenched in coconut milk to hefty, frittata-like *uttapams*. (Try the last with the delicious, not-too-spicy chili-onion stuffing.) Inexpensive.

Super Buffet 8998 Miramar Rd., Mira Mesa, 858-566-1888. Start at the Mongolian grill. Pick your raw prawns, chicken, pork, beef, *satays*. The fresh sashimi — such as salmon or tuna — is scrumptious. Don't miss the chicken feet. Inexpensive.

Mission Beach

Jake's Tiki Bar at Mission Bay Deli 1548 Quivira Way, Mission Beach, 619-223-5056. This everyday deli does the usual sandwiches, burgers, and dogs for boatyard crews — but on Sunday afternoon don't miss the scene at the palapa with beer and live music. It's one of this town's best-kept secrets. Deli daily till dusk. Inexpensive.

Saska's & Saska's Sushi 3768 Mission Bl., Mission Beach, 858-488-7311. Venerable local steak-and-seafood joint that tries harder, from the thin homemade teriyaki sauce (sweet up front, fading to bitter ginger) for the well-cooked (if mild-flavored) fish to the cut-on-the-premises aged beef. Service till midnight or later. Moderate.

Sportsmen's Seafoods 1617 Quivira Rd., Mission Beach, 619-224-3551. The menu is devoted to the "fruits of the sea" and includes a seafood platter (shrimp, squid, clams, fish, fries, and salad). And, of course, a crispy fish 'n' chips platter. Inexpensive.

Mission Hills

Izakaya Masa 928 Ft. Stockton Dr., Mission Hills, 619-542-1354. Friendly spot serves interesting Japanese tapas. Among the hits: crunchy, spicy *chuka kurage* (jellyfish salad); fried oysters (*kaki*); ethereal fried tofu in broth; and *kara-age* (spicy fried chicken). Inexpensive to moderate.

Saffron Thai Grilled Chicken 3731 India St., Mission Hills, 619-574-0177. Saffron Noodles and Saté is sit-down, all about Thai noodles and saté. Next door, take-out only, owner Su-Mei Yu serves skewered grilled chicken marinated in garlic, ginger, and spices. Delicious green curry, too. Inexpensive.

Shakespeare Pub & Grille 3701 India St., Mission Hills, 619-299-0230. English pub grub is bluff and plainspoken. Shepherd's pie, bangers and mash, ploughman's plate (the pickled onions and cheese, Scotch egg, and Branston pickle make it the real thing). Inexpensive.

Mission Valley

All American Grill 7510 Hazard Center Dr., Mission Valley, 619-296-

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9600. This huge indoor-outdoor sports pub offers genuinely good food from a wood-fired oven and grill. The gifted chef highlights seasonal American ingredients (many local) in creative mini-pizzas, grazes, hearty entrées, smart desserts. Muted TV's sound turns on for game Sundays. Low moderate.

Bully's East 2401 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-291-2665. Word is, they serve more prime rib with au jus and horseradish than any eatery in San Diego. Or try the Bully Burger, French dip sandwich, or calamari sandwich. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Ikea Restaurant 2149 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley, 619-283-6166. Healthy Swedish food amidst Nordic housewares: meatballs with Swedish lingonberry (not cranberry) sauce. Seafood is big: the shrimp open-faced sandwich, the salmon plate with potatoes and broccoli, and the Gravad Lox Plate (cured salmon) are always on. Inexpensive.

King's Fish House 825 Camino de la Reina, Mission Valley, 619-574-1230. Generously sized entrées come with soup or salad and two hefty side dishes. The menu changes daily to reflect the fresh catch, and includes some rotating regional specialties (e.g., New Orleans, Hawaii, New England). Moderate.

National City

Lai Thai Restaurant 1430 E. Plaza Bl., National City, 619-474-5546. The soups, *tom kah* (spicy coconut) and *tom yum* (hot and sour), are good, as is the house Lai Thai Fish (usually tilapia) in delicious *panang* coconut-curry sauce. Inexpensive to moderate.

McDini's 105 E. 8th St., National City, 619-474-6771. Open continuously since 1890 in various locations, now under a new owner who spiffed up the room. The eats are hearty diner-style food like Irish breakfasts, meat loaf sandwiches, roast beef. Inexpensive to moderate.

Normal Heights

Jyoti Bihanga 3351 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-4116. Bengali-tinged vegetarian health food from Sri Chinmoy devotees can be delicious. Chutney-topped Neatloaf bursts with nutty, intriguing flavors. Even the accompanying mashed potato and gravy tastes different. Also delish: Brahma Burrito, Infinite Blue (brown rice salad with bleu cheese dressing). Inexpensive.

North Park

Lefty's Chicago Pizzeria 3448 30th St., North Park, 619-295-1720. The ultimate is Lefty's "stuffed" pizza, a 14-inch, 8-pound monster that needs one hour "make and bake" time. They do Chicago hot dogs, char burgers, beautiful spicy fries, juicy Italian beef au jus sandwiches. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

The Linkery 3794 30th St., North Park, 619-255-8778. The artisanal "slow food" cuisine here features local ingredients and made-from-scratch preparations. The focus is on sausages. Some of the best include the juicy "super bison Mexi-dog," the linguisa, and the Polynesian pork. Moderate.

Pomegranate Russian-Georgian Restaurant 2302 El Cajon Bl., North Park, 619-297-4007. Georgian food sings with fresh herbs, garlic, touches of hot pepper. Don't miss the world-beating beefy, herb-jungle borscht, the lobio bean dip, and Olivier salad. The chef slow-smokes moist barbecued beef and pork and cold-smokes whole trout. Moderate.

The Ritual Tavern 4095 30th St., North Park, 619-283-1618. A quiet, civilized tavern serving Niman meats, Jidori chicken, locally grown organic vegetables, and a mouth-filling, étouffée-thick Saddlebrush (Yankee) gumbo that's not remotely Cajun or Creole (it's got carrots but no okra or filé). Moderate.

Sicilian Thing Pizza 4046 30th St., North Park, 619-282-3000. Sicilian-style pizzas are inch-thick, bready, but lighter than Chicago deep dish. When you order, they add sauce, cheese, and put it back in the oven to double cook. Open late. Inexpensive.

El Sol Mexican Restaurant 2037 University Ave., North Park, 619-298-0874. Miguel "Nacho" Madera does breakfasts and Mexican food, including seafood (ceviche tostada is great). But if you want *the* burger, ask for his Clintonburger with cheese and bacon. Inexpensive.

Ocean Beach

3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro 2265 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-223-2700. Also 897 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-942-2104. Eclectic dishes designed to go with wine until late evening, with bottles a pittance over retail. Low-moderate.

Portugalia 4839 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-222-7678. The menu is split between the homeland and Brazil, including coconut-milk-swathed seafood dishes from tropical Bahia rarely found locally. Enjoy salt cod fritters, fried pastry pockets filled with shrimp, codfish with chickpeas. Moderate.

Ranchos Cocina 1830 Sunset Cliffs Bl., Ocean Beach, 619-226-7619. Also 3910 30th St., North Park, 619-574-1288. Healthy, creative Mexican and vegetarian cuisine in a tropical setting. A big plus: zero attitude. Top picks are the seafood dishes and the house-made mole sauce with a zillion ingredients. Inexpensive.

Oceanside

Paul's Place 3671 Mission Ave., Oceanside, 760-721-0124. The menu strikes a balance between American and Greek fare. The baked Greek half-chicken, the spiced grilled chicken sliced over salad, and the gyros mix with all-American three-egg breakfast specials and meaty burgers. Inexpensive.

Old Town

el agave
2304 San Diego Ave. • Old Town
(619) 220-0692 • www.elagave.com

El Agave 2304 San Diego Ave., Old Town, 619-220-0692. Serious Mexican food highlighting mainland regional cuisines, including five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas). Moderate.

Pacific Beach



The Australian Pub 1014 Grand Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-273-9921. Try the Road Kill sandwich (grilled chicken breast with hot sauce and cheese) or the huge, baroque Aussie Burger. Inexpensive.

Chateau Orleans 926 Turquoise St., Pacific Beach, 858-488-6744. Charming setting with folk art, live blues, offering Louisiana fare in dire need of a refresher course (avoid the jambalaya). Safest choices: crawfish bisque, lush "purple fries" (eggplant), gumbo. High-moderate.

Kabuki Sushi Restaurant 4475-C Mission Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-270-1986. Tempting dishes delivered to you via boats floating along a mini-canal that surrounds the sushi bar. The sushi chefs have the panoply of sushi, sashimi, nigiri. The dragon rolls and spider rolls are tasty too. Inexpensive to moderate.

Karinya Thai 825 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-5050. Karinya remains true to its Thai origins. Try *tom yum kung* (hot and sour shrimp soup), a meal in itself served over a charcoal fire at your table, or *pad talay,* sautéed seafoods in spicy sauce. Inexpensive to moderate.

Lamont Street Grill 4445 Lamont St., Pacific Beach, 858-270-3060. P.B.'s most romantic restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold Mex/Asian/Cajun flavors. Salmon over fettuccine in a delicate dill cream sauce is especially fine. Moderate.

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Born in December? Just show your ID and enjoy a free Prime Rib Dinner on us! Begins at 4:30 pm. (Reservations, purchase and photo ID required. Not valid with any other offers.)

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San Diego
619-283-3153
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50% off crepe
With purchase of one crepe and beverage.

1425 India Street
Little Italy
619-955-8834
Fabrison's
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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With the purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value & 2 beverages. Up to a $10 value. Not valid on holidays. One coupon per table. Not valid with any other offers.

10330 Friars Rd. #105
San Diego
619-280-4048
Jade Thai Cuisine
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$5 off
your purchase of $25 .00 or more!
Not valid with any other coupon.
One per customer.
Must bring original coupon.

12205 Scripps Poway Parkway #104
Poway
866-777-5064
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free edamame or miso soup
With purchase of any entrée (except side & Kids' Menu). Good only at Mission Valley. One coupon per visit. Not valid with any other offer. Dine-in or take-out only.

7710 Hazard Center Dr. #D
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619-295-2080
SamSai
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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Buy one breakfast, lunch or dinner and get a second of equal or lesser value free.

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RT's Longboard Grill
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See website for locations:
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$5 off
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Excludes beverages.

9978 Scripps Ranch Blvd.
Scripps Ranch
858-695-8088
WATAMI SUSHI
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Calendar
RESTAURANTS

Rum Jungle Smoothies and Deli 4150 Mission Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-273-2227. Rum Jungle Smoothies serves up *açaí,* the flesh of a Brazilian palm nut, for breakfast, adding your choices of granola, banana, strawberries, blueberries, mango pieces. Inexpensive.

Point Loma

The Pearl 1410 Rosecrans St., Point Loma, 619-226-6100. The fare is California-eclectic and emphasizes grazing, with local produce and sustainable meat and fish. Candied pork belly, "deconstructed" shrimp nachos, wings du jour, and salmon with skin are among the hits. Moderate.

Red Sails 2614 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-223-3030. Vintage waterside eatery serves seafood and steaks of uneven quality. Start with clams on the half-shell or clam chowder. Coconut shrimp entrée is a good, guilty pleasure; finfish fare less well. Low-moderate.

Roseville 1125 Rosecrans St., Point Loma, 619-450-6800. Chef Amy DiBiase invokes French classics but with twists and local produce, e.g., asparagus subbing for frisée in a bistro salad with pancetta and egg or flawless duck confit that's France's answer to Peking duck. Expensive.

Solare Ristorante Lounge 2820 Roosevelt Rd., NTC Promenade, Point Loma, 619-270-9670. Northern Italian cuisine with Asian-fusion touches like a sea bream carpaccio with lychees. The chef cooks from scratch with mainly local or organic ingredients, including Brandt beef. Pastas moderate, entrées expensive.

Tender Greens 2400 Historic Decatur Rd., Point Loma, 619-226-6254. This "healthy food" chain features great soups, desserts, and local, organic produce served cafeteria style with or without mesquite-grilled natural beef, free-range chicken, or local tuna in salads or ciabatta sandwiches. Inexpensive.

Ramona

Kountry Kitchen Ramona 826 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-3200. They still open at 5am for the farmers. Try the Italian Sausage breakfast, a sausage with a rich, sharp flavor, with eggs and hash browns. Or the Cowpoke Country Special, a buttermilk short stack with eggs and sausage or bacon. Inexpensive.

Rancho Bernardo

Pearl Chinese Cuisine 11666 Avena Pl., Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. Authentic Hong Kong cuisine, beautiful setting. Daytime dim sum includes irresistible Shanghai soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to "gold cup" dishes. Try the sea bass with pine nuts. Moderate, with some expensive specialties.

Scripps Ranch

Chez Nous Gourmet Deli-Café 9821 Carroll Canyon Rd., Scripps Ranch, 858-566-4766. Their roast beef with ginger-garlic and Dijon sandwich, their spicy chicken melt, or the leg of lamb they roast each day to make a juicy lamb sandwich — all original. Inexpensive.

Solana Beach

California Pizza Kitchen 437 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Solana Beach, 858-793-0999. Additional locations in Mission Valley, Carmel Mountain, University City, Vista, Chula Vista. The Original BBQ Chicken Pizza, the chain's first hit, is their top seller. It has barbecue sauce, smoked Gouda and mozzarella cheeses, BBQ chicken, red onions, and cilantro. Inexpensive to moderate.

Fidel's Little Mexico 749 Genevieve and 607 Valley Avenue (two entrances), Solana Beach, 858-755-5292. Old-line place where the Del Mar race crowd goes for a "safe" Mexican experience. Yet, alluring. Look for happy hour deals. One fat taco will almost fill you up. Inexpensive to moderate.

Nobu Gourmet Japanese Restaurant 315 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Solana Beach, 858-755-7787. The friendly sushi bar of our local, not-famous Nobu offers fine classic sushi and sashimi, or settle into a booth for a standard Japanese dinner. Try monkfish liver pâté and *chawan mushi* (egg custard) soup. Mostly moderate; some delicacies expensive.

Samurai Japanese Restaurant 979 Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach, 858-481-0032. The sushi is ultra-fresh, and the friendly chefs make their compositions look beautiful. Also Japanese dinners, special *kaiseki* meals, and a *teppan* room. Mostly moderate; *kaiseki* and some *teppan* items expensive.

Sorrento Valley

Corner House Café & Pizzeria 11815 Sorrento Valley Rd., Sorrento Valley, 858-755-3183. You lunch outside in country-style gardens, hidden inside a glossy business park. Sandwiches reign: try the Ironman (chicken, avocado, cheese) or Sorrento's Choice (turkey, cream cheese, sunflower seeds). Sophisticated pastas, too. Inexpensive.

South Park

Big Kitchen 3003 Grape St., South Park, 619-234-5789. Judy "the Beauty" Forman presides over this highly social scene of big healthy breakfasts and lunches, including from-scratch waffles, muffins, omelets and scrambles, vegan choices. Inexpensive.

Vagabond 2310 30th St., South Park, 619-255-1035. Eclectic bistro fare, French-based but with ever-changing global menu. Don't miss the *moules-frites* or the deep-flavored Peruvian *seco de carne* meat stew. Noisy when full. Moderate.

Southcrest

Sang Dao 4212 National Ave., Southcrest, 619-263-0914. Family-run Laotian restaurant offers delicious, exotically spiced catfish, BBQ beef, *som tum* (papaya salad), and especially the spicy minced meat salad called *larb,* the national dish. Inexpensive.

Spring Valley

Ranas 9683 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-589-1792. Mexico City-style menu includes unexpected taste combos, like *pollo en salsa de cacahuate* (Thai-tasting chicken in peanut sauce) and Aztec *huarache* (cactus with potato, cheese, lettuce, sour cream, and salsa). Inexpensive.

University City

Apollonia Greek Bistro 8650 Genesee Ave., University City, 858-455-1535. Sister restaurant — Café Athena — in P.B. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Café Japengo 8960 University Center Lane, University City, 858-450-3355. Chic scene where men with Bentleys and glam gals nibble above-average sushi and Asian fusion, especially on jam-packed Thursday nights. Best bet: graze on appetizers and creative party rolls. No reservations for sushi bar, so come early. Very expensive.

Donovan's Steak and Chop House 4340 La Jolla Village Dr., University City, 858-450-6666. Classic steakhouse atmosphere and menu, with traditional appetizers, wet-aged Prime beefsteaks gas-grilled to order (with potato and vegetable included). Sauces are extra, and a side of creamed spinach is worth its price. Very expensive.

P. F. Chang's China Bistro 4540 La Jolla Village Dr., University City, 858-458-9007. Additional locations in Mission Valley and Chula Vista. The decor at this busy Chinese chain (130-plus restaurants) is fun; the food is mainly mediocre, but the massive Great Wall of Chocolate dessert will knock you over. Moderate.

Venice Ristorante Italiano 4365 Executive Dr., University City, 858-597-1188. Refined northern Italian dishes include an antipasto assortment, lush pastas, and airy gnocchi, while non-clichéd entrées including duck breast with pistachios and veal rack with porcini mushrooms. Long happy hour in bar with deep discounts, otherwise upper-moderate to expensive.

University Heights

Brians' American Eatery 1451 Washington St., University Heights, 619-296-8268. Open all night on weekends, and late night is a scene. But for many, breakfast is the thing: Charbroiled top sirloin with eggs and potatoes is a Saturday morning treat. Inexpensive.

Mama's Bakery and Lebanese Deli 4237 Alabama St., University Heights, 619-688-0717. The round Lebanese oven cooks flat bread (*sajj*) that goes with baba ghanoush (eggplant dip) and *fool madamas* (fava and garbanzo stew). Must-haves include beef *shawerma* wrap, falafel wrap, and savory meat pie. Inexpensive.

Soltan Banoo Persian Eatery & Tearoom 4645 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-298-2801. Try the pomegranate soup or the strawberry tabbouleh salad. *Ghourmeh sabzi* is a lamb stew. *Koufteh-Berenji* is a ball of basmati rice with lamb, eggs, onions, and plums. Inexpensive.

El Zarape 4642 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-682-1652. This stylish little restaurant is proof that not all taco shop food is equal — try a shredded beef or chicken taco or tostada with generous mounds of juicy, slow-cooked meat, or scallop burritos or well-prepared soups. Inexpensive.

Valley Center

Fiore's 777 Harrah's Way, Valley Center, 877-777-2457. The casino's most upscale restaurant offers luscious Angus steaks and numerous seafood entrées. For lighter eating there's an oyster bar attached. Best attraction: the long, adventurous wine list. Moderate oyster bar; upper-moderate to very expensive in restaurant.



One free entrée
With purchase of an entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Dine-in only. Not valid with any other offer.
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The Bullpen Bar & Grill



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Breakfast, lunch, or dinner. With purchase of another entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Valid anytime, one coupon per table, one coupon per customer. Cannot be combined with other specials. Present coupon before ordering.
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See website for locations:
www.rockinbaja.com
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Sat.-Sun. 8 am-2:30 pm
Closed Mon.-Wed.
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Pacific Beach
858-274-2233
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
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National City
619-474-3222
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



50% off frozen yogurt
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5131 College Ave.
College Area
619-286-4200
5664 Mission Center Rd.
Mission Valley
619-295-9648
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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8657 Villa La Jolla Dr.
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760-433-4668
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391 N. Escondido Blvd.
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866-545-3736
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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With purchase of an entrée and two beverages. Good for both dine-in and take-out. Excludes seafood, BBQ & specialties. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per customer.
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Poway
858-679-7073
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Poway
858-748-1106
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Kaminski's Sports Lounge



One free yogurt
With purchase of yogurt of equal or greater value. Not valid with any other offer.
153 N. Highway 101
Solana Beach
858-345-1451
Expires 12.17.09 • Coupon code: G1FSDR
Desserted Island Yogurt & More

Hallucinatory Bouillabaisse

His achievements are behind him, he can't reconnect with the "sweet used-to-be."

THEATER REVIEW
JEFF SMITH

In 1953, Tennessee Williams sent the equivalent of a neutron bomb to Broadway. He wrote *Camino Real* to demolish theatrical realism. Don Quixote, the archetypal antirealist, falls asleep and envisions a new kind of theater, "the disturbing pageant of a dream." A hallucinatory, generic bouillabaisse, *Camino*'s a prison break from conventions. Among other things, it was the first play on Broadway where actors broke through the fourth wall and ran up the aisles.

Camino was also Williams's most personal and overtly political play. He set it in Tierra Caliente, a Latin American police state where the word "brother" is taboo. But that's just a thin disguise for Red Scare America of the early '50s. In this sense, the play devises entrapments within confinements. First-night critics created another one. Except for Brooks Atkinson, for whom it moved like music, they *loathed* every word. When *Camino* bombed on Broadway, Williams became so depressed he almost quit writing.

As I watched UCSD's production, which closed last weekend, I was surprised at how Williams's radical innovations have become so familiar: rip down the fourth wall, incorporate dreams, multiply genres and timescapes, expose the functions of realism. One could almost argue that *Camino* became a template for the experimental theater of the '60s.

The play's a pioneer. It's at least a generation or two ahead of its time. Williams was doing this stuff in '53? No way! Imagine where he could've gone if the critics had let him go.

The title refers not to "the King's Highway," but to KAMino Reel — the English pronunciation — a forlorn limbo where legends wind up when past their prime and decency wastes away. Even the fountain in the plaza is dry. Guards, and a sinister overseer named Gutman, thwart attempts to leave.

Don Quixote dreams (into the future, it turns out) of Jacques Casanova, Lord Byron, Marguerite Gautier ("Camille"), Esmeralda (from the *Hunchback of Notre Dame*), and Proust's decadent Baron de Charlus. As in *Casablanca* (to which a stage note makes reference), they are trapped in a fascist state and desperately trying to escape. The only way out — except for *Il Fugitivo,* a flakey plane of uncertain origin and destination — is "terra incognita." The "unknown territory" scares them more than the guards and the street cleaners for whom every day is the Day of the Dead.

Enter Kilroy, graffiti-hero of World War II. On every flat surface of the European theater, it seemed, someone drew a bald head, two hands, and a long nose drooping over a wall, and scribbled "Kilroy was here." He always arrived first and had since moved on. Now Kilroy is "here," caught. His achievements are behind him, his heart's ailing, and he can't reconnect with the "sweet used-to-be." More than most others, he's resolved to escape. As a result, he suffers all the



Camino Real

Camino Real *by Tennessee Williams*
UCSD Theatre & Dance, La Jolla
Directed by Adam Arian; *cast: Marshel Adams, Kyle Anderson, Heather Cadarette, Cate Campbell, Zoe Chao, Mark Christine, Ross Crain, Zachary Harrison, Hugo Medina, Evan Powell, Patrick Riley, Daniel Rubiano; scenic design, Ian Wallace; costumes, Alina Bokovikova; lighting, James Tan; sound, Omar Ramos; choreographer, Alicia Peterson Baskel*
Run concluded.

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While *Camino* is in many ways ahead of its time (Kilroy's direct descendents include James Dean, Jack Kerouac, and the rest of "the fugitive kind"), it's also of its era. Heavy symbolism and allegory — often spelled out — weigh down the free play of genres and themes. And the long-awaited payoffs gush with preachy sentiment ("let there be something to mean the word *honor* again!").

UCSD's production gave glimpses of the play's magnitude but also exposed weaknesses. The set and costumes turned the tall Potiker Theatre stage into the detritus of civilization, surrounded by a chain-link fence and concertina wire. In the center, a wooden spiral staircase led to "terra incognita," a door in the sky. Projections on the walls of buildings, some real, others abstract, made the structures as moody as characters.

Director Adam Arian (and choreographer Alicia Peterson Baskel) kept the stage in almost constant movement, but often at the expense of Williams's language. Music intruded on speeches, as did actors trying first and foremost to entertain. As a result, the tone throughout stayed on a single, high-pitched level. These choices made the evening energetic and cartoony but erased the play's nightmarish "Desolation Row" underpinnings.

The text needed a dramaturge. Gutman ("a lordly fat man wearing a linen suit") recalls Sydney Greenstreet's immense Kasper Gutman, "the fat man" in *The Maltese Falcon.* Yet Ross Crain played him as slick, svelte, and only superficially evil. Lord Byron had clubfoot (the character calls it "my twisted foot"), while Zachary Harrison played him hyper-affected and without a limp. There were some fine performances — especially Patrick Riley's undaunted Kilroy — but the production hadn't solved a basic problem: how to turn two-dimensional, symbolic figures into something more substantial than cardboard.

***

FIELD NOTES: Edward Albee's topsy-turvy relation with critics resembled Williams's. Once, when "back in fashion," Albee wrote, "Three or four years from now I'll be out again. If you try to write to stay in fashion, if you try to write to be the critics' darling, you become an employee." ■

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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.

An American Christmas
The Lamb's Players turn the Hotel del Coronado's Grand Ballroom into a celebration of Christmas a hundred years ago. The Marshall family welcomes guests, entertains, and feeds them a five-course meal. 619-437-0600.
HOTEL DEL CORONADO, 1500 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 6:30PM SUNDAYS, 6:30PM MONDAYS, 6:30PM TUESDAYS, 6:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

Black Nativity: The Musical
Common Ground stages its popular retelling of the birth of Jesus with such diversified genres as "gospel music, hip-hop beats, ballet, crunk dance, spoken word, rap, and praise and worship." Hassan El-Amin directed.
EDUCATIONAL CULTURAL COMPLEX, 4343 OCEAN VIEW BLVD., MOUNTAIN VIEW. 619-527-5256. 7:30PM FRIDAY, 7:30PM SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY, THROUGH DECEMBER 13.



Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!

Bonnie and Clyde
The Frank Wildhorn/Ivan Menchell musical won't erase memories of the 1967 movie, but on its own terms it's a most promising world premiere. In many ways, the musical turns the movie inside-out: the book develops many characters in detail, the women in particular. This egalitarian take demystifies the story but slights the central pair (did Bonnie Parker embrace crime simply because her "Short Order World" bored her to tears? Was Clyde just a recidivist?). Wildhorn's memorable songs range from rockabilly to gospel, and the cast sings them with vocal authenticity. Wearing Tobin Ost's accurate costumes, Mare Winningham's rock-solid Emma, Claybourne Elder's underdeveloped Buck, Wayne Duvall's Sheriff (though he verges on cigar-chomping stereotype), and especially Melissa van der Schyff's wonderful Blanche turn West Texas twang into a kind of music. Neither Stark Sands nor Laura Osnes is a Hollywood star, yet. Their obvious talent and antsy, youthful energy provide motives where the script just offers labels. Their first song together, "The World Will Remember Me," could be prophetic.
Critic's pick.
LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

A Christmas Carol
North Coast Repertory Theatre stages the holiday favorite with Jonathan McMurtry playing Ebeneezer Scrooge, curmudgeon extraordinaire.
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

A Christmas Carol: A Julian Holiday Tradition
Julian Stage Company and the Julian Chamber of Commerce present the popular story of a hard-hearted old man and "one haunted Christmas Eve."
JULIAN TOWN HALL, 2129 MAIN ST., JULIAN. 760-765-1857. 7PM THURSDAYS, 7PM FRIDAYS, 1:30PM AND 7PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

A Christmas Carol: The Musical
Welk Resort Theatre presents the popular holiday tale, set to music by Alan Menken.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1:45PM AND 8PM THURSDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 1:45PM SUNDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM TUESDAYS, 1:45PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JANUARY 3.

The Eight: Reindeer Monologues
Compass Theatre's fundraiser is "a dark, dark Christmas comedy," in which one of Santa's reindeer accuses him of sexual harassment. Jerry Pilato directed.
COMPASS THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

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Giving Season
Write Out Loud presents its annual holiday program, including short works by Ann Charlotte Harvey, Emile Barrios, Jean Shepard, and Maxine Rose Shur. 619-297-8953.
OLD TOWN THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 7PM MONDAY.

Hansel and Gretel
Lyric Opera San Diego presents Engelbert Humperdink's musical, based on the children's fairy tale.
LYRIC OPERA SAN DIEGO, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVE., SUITE 1, NORTH PARK. 619-239-8836. 2:30PM SUNDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Holiday Memories
Scripps Ranch Theatre presents one-acts based on short stories by Truman Capote, "The Thanksgiving Visitor" and "A Christmas Memory." Katie Rodda directed.
SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO RD., SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH DECEMBER 12.

Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
The Old Globe Theatre stages its annual Christmas show, in which the Green Meanie (played this year by Jeff Skowron) tries once again to hoodwink Whoville. Benjamin Endsley Klein directed.
OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS; 7PM FRIDAYS; 11AM, 2PM, AND 8PM SATURDAYS; 11 AM, 2PM, AND 5PM SUNDAYS; 7PM TUESDAYS; 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

It Had to Be You
Broadway Theater concludes its 2009 season with Renee Taylor's "fairy-tale fantasy" about how Theda Blau, unemployed health nut, takes charge of her life.
BROADWAY THEATRE, 340 EAST BROADWAY, VISTA. 760-806-7905. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 20.

It's a Wonderful Life
In Cygnet Theatre's annual holiday show, you not only watch the familiar story of George Bailey, you also watch how it's made in a 1947 radio studio: announcers, actors reading their lines, flashing applause signs, even a commercial for Lux soap. The story's still a grabber: what would life be like without George, whose selfless generosity prompts him to abandon his dreams for those of others? The radio frames the familiar parts. Then a change happens toward the end. The fiction trumps the fact. As George undergoes an existential identity crisis, the actors — and the radio studio — fall away and the characters emerge. The story leaps forward, and how it's being made disappears. Along the way, the show's a treat, especially Scott Paulson's ingenious sounds, made from unlikely objects, and Tom Andrew's Craig Noel Award-winning performance as George.
Worth a try.
CYGNET THEATRE — OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.

Lamb's Players Festival of Christmas
For its 32nd annual holiday show, Lamb's offers a new script, by Kerry Meads, and some truly inventive arrangements of yuletide favorites and lesser-known songs, by Jon Lorenz, Taran Gray, and Leonard Patton (so inventive, in fact, that Lamb's has made a CD). The economic crunch threatens Penny Lane, a recording studio directly under a railroad track. The story includes a homeless wise man (Nathan Peirson), a Sleepless in Seattle tryst (David Cochran Heath and Sandy Campbell), and other believable characters for whom hope is a genuine need. The situation builds drama but also provides built-in — as opposed to tacked-on — occasions for the music. Singers rehearse new ideas. The result's often a freewheeling spontaneity (polished underneath, of course) that gives the songs — like Lorenz's excellent "Away in a Manger" done as a country waltz — a fresh, experimental flavor.
Worth a try.
LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 6PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 27.


Festival of Christmas

National Comedy Theatre
The National Comedy Theatre presents a 100-minute improv comedy show based completely on audience suggestions. The show is "appropriate for all audiences."
NATIONAL COMEDY THEATRE, 3717 INDIA ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. 7:30PM AND 9:45PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM AND 9:45PM SATURDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

The New Century
Diversionary Theatre presents Paul Rudnick's "outrageous and poignant stories" about a Jewish matron, a flamboyant aging homosexual, and a Midwestern craftswoman. Igor Goldin directed.
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BLVD., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JANUARY 2.

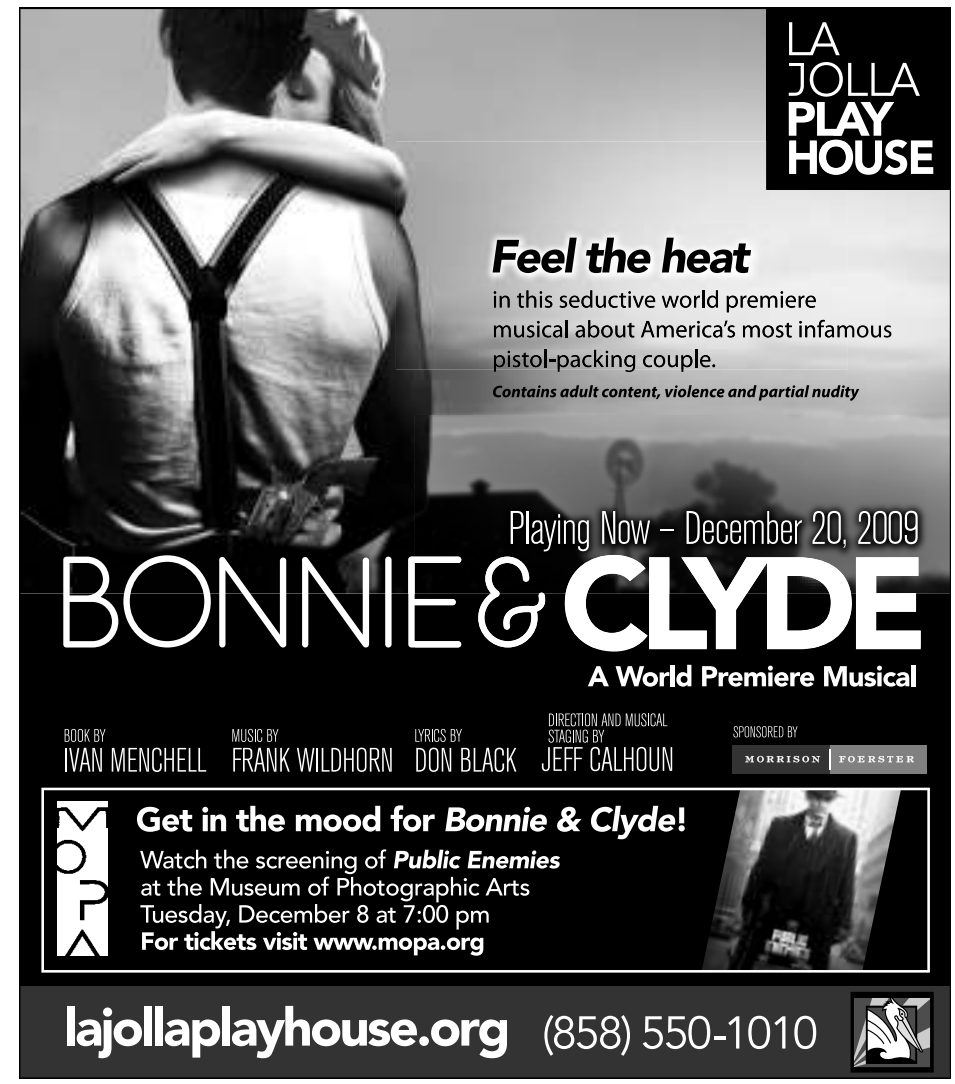
Richard II
The Intrepid Shakespeare Company continues its series of staged readings with Shakespeare's history play about the hunchbacked king and the War of the Roses.
THEATRE, INC., 899 C ST., EAST VILLAGE. 619-216-3016. 8PM MONDAY.

The Santaland Diaries
New Village Arts stages David Sedaris's comedy about an out-of-work actor who gains employment at Macy's as a Santaland elf. NVA says, "This dose of holiday cheer is not recommended for children." Kristianne Kurner directed.
NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787-B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 23.

The Seafarer
For decades the San Diego Rep staged *A Christmas Carol* during yuletide. On the surface, this year's production, Conor McPherson's dramatic comedy, couldn't be more different. It takes place today at Baldoyle, a coastal suburb of North Dublin. There are no Tiny Tims, but when visitors arrive to play cards on Christmas Eve, with memories of the past and news about a possible future, one of them really means business. He's Mr. Lockhart. He dresses like a CEO and acts like royalty: the Prince of Darkness, that is. The Rep's production, ably directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg, is a grungy holiday hoot. Though some mystical effects are hokum, the performances are quite good: Ron Choularton as poor Sharkey (who has made a "pig's mickey out of everything"), Armin Shimmerman's crotchety Richard, Paul James Cruse's always-funny Ivan, Robert Townsend's boastful Nicky, and Sam Woodhouse's now stately, now fuming Lockhart. How the cast handles the ending is particularly memorable: there may be a point beyond the point of no return.
Critic's pick.
SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAY, 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH DECEMBER 13.

A Tuna Christmas
Point Loma Actors Workshop stages the popular continuation of *Greater Tuna.* It's the Yuletide season in Tuna, Texas, but all is not merry and bright.
POINT LOMA ASSEMBLY, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-225-0044. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 13.





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DO YOU HAVE TYPE 2 DIABETES? We are looking for men and women between 18 and 70 years of age who have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. If you have been on a stable treatment regimen for at least 3 months, taking only metformin for your type 2 diabetes, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study to test an investigational new drug. Qualified participants will receive at no cost: study-related physical exams, study medication, study-related laboratory tests, compensation for time and travel. For more information, contact Perlman Clinic, 858-554-1212 or 858-554-0808. Or e-mail carolina@perlmanclinic.com.

RESEARCH STUDY VOLUNTEERS. Dr. Mudaliar and his associates at UCSD are looking for Type 2 Diabetics. Study will test the safety of different doses of an investigational new study drug and will test whether it is effective in the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes. Inclusion Criteria: Must be 18 to 70 years old and have Type 2 Diabetes; must be taking only Metformin for Type 2 Diabetes; must have been on the same doses of metformin for at least 3 months. Study Duration: Up to 32 weeks, approximately 12 clinic site visits. Visits will take approximately 2-3 hours. Qualified participants will receive at no cost: study-related physical exams, study medication, study-related laboratory tests, compensation for time and travel. Volunteers who qualify may be compensated up to $1250. Erick Castro, 858-642-6449. www.vacmr.org.

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FRONT DESK/ LOBBY ATTENDANT needed for upscale condos in La Jolla. Two shifts, 2:30pm-11pm, Wednesday-Sunday and 6am-2:30pm, Saturday and Sunday. Must have California driver's license. Starting at $10/ hour. Call between 9am-4pm. 858-459-9571.

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KITCHEN AND BATH DESIGNERS. San Diego Kitchen and Bath, San Diegois premier kitchen and bath remodeling company, is seeking energetic Kitchen and Bath Designers. Minimum of 5 years' experience and a Certified Kitchen Designer or Certified Bath Designer a must. Need to be at the top of your field in both design and sales. E-mail resumes and copies of certificates to hresources@sdkbonline.com or fax, Attn: HR Dept: 858-566-7356.

MARKETING. Pacific Home Remodeling beautifies home exteriors and provides eco-friendly products throughout San Diego. December and January are big months for us—business is booming! So we're looking for new team members to market our products and services. Training provided. Outdoor, team environment. Friendly atmosphere. Weekly pay. Rates A+ by BBB. Our guys and gals average $1000 per week, and some don't do less than $1400. Call today to schedule an interview with Bert: 858-866-0183. www.pacifichomeremodeling.com.

PART- TIME SALES. Great potential! High income. Flexible hours. Call 858-633-1099.

PRODUCT SALES REPS. Searching for sales motivated, business- minded people for a new medical technology company. Join us Saturday, December 12, 3pm, at Doubletree Hotel in Mission Valley. Also Doubletree in Temecula, 11am. For details, call/ email 619-507-4964, scafanis@yahoo.com.

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or fax Attn: HR Dept. 858-566-7356

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- **Weekly pay**
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STRINGERS

continued from page 12

Butte, 8900 block of Alpine.

By Nathaniel Uy, 12/2

Rowdy's End Point

Girlfriend Shot in I.B.

Imperial Beach — **At around 10:20 p.m. on Sunday, November 29, sheriff's deputies responded to a 911 call about a shooting at an apartment complex on Holly Avenue.**

Inside an apartment, police discovered a 21-year-old female who had been shot at least once in the face. The victim was transported to UCSD Medical Center, where she was listed as being in "grave condition." Neighbor Pam F. said of the victim and boyfriend, "We've yelled at them a couple times. They get rowdy during Chargers games."

By Peter C. Salisbury, 12/2



I.B. crime scene

Saved from Fire

"I Know She Was a Smoker"

Lakeside — **A mobile-home fire injured a woman and destroyed her residence early Wednesday morning, December 2.**

The fire at Willowbrook Estate East mobile park was reported at 6:35 a.m. According to sources at the Lakeside Fire Department, the home was fully engulfed when firefighters arrived. The fire was put out just before 7:00 a.m.

"I know she was a smoker," said Spero Tzathas from park's main office, which is located at the Willowbrook Golf Course. "An oxygen tank may have been involved in starting the fire."

California Highway Patrol officer Don Coney was passing by on the way to work when he spotted the fire and hurried over to carry the woman to safety, authorities reported.

By Noel Gallego, 12/2

Comments

1. Great save by the CHP Officer Don Coney! I hope that his burns weren't too bad and that he recovers quickly. I was glad when my wife quite smoking.

By Microsoft92114
8:42 p.m., Dec 3

Bent, Scalped

Ticket Sales Cause Rear-ender

Mission Valley — **There was a minor accident on the 15 south off-ramp at Friars Road on Sunday, November 29, at around**

SALES/TELEMARKETING. Needed: 7 motivated salespeople to sell ad listings for online Internet promotion. 40% commission paid on every ad space sold. Sales are not difficult although there are no guarantees. A skilled professional could be making $500-$1500 by the end of the first week! Typical annual wages for a mediocre salesperson should be $50,000+ per year. Experienced sales reps should earn $20,000+ per month. Tools, scripts and training provided. No upfront cost! You can work from home. Must have a computer and telephone. Leave message, 24 hours. All calls returned, 888-743-9952.

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- Meet with Pacific College's Director of Alumni Services and have your questions answered about massage training and career opportunities
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STRINGERS

11 a.m. The San Diego Chargers were in town and playing at the stadium.

Traffic on the 15 was backed up in both directions after an SUV was rear-ended by a pickup truck. The driver of the pickup seemed to have been distracted by a group of six ticket peddlers on the right shoulder. On the left shoulder were two men with signs that read "I Need Tickets."

Ralph, the driver of the pickup truck, overheard some of the transactions being made between the peddlers and other motorists. A ticket with a face value of $98 was sold for $120.

By Robert Terra, 12/2

Get Outta My Segway, Mayor

Coronado Under-16s Need Parent to Rent Motor Scooters

Coronado — **At the December 1 City Council meeting, members rolled out regulations regarding rentals of Segways. While all councilmembers agreed that the devices should be kept off of the sidewalks on the city's main strip, Orange Avenue, Mayor Casey Tanaka wanted to revise the age requirement to rent the devices, proposing that renters should be at least 18 years old instead of the staff-recommended age of 16.**

Said Tanaka during council discussion: "People who are 16 and 17 are just as likely to be zooming through the town."

First-term councilmember Michael Woiwode made a motion to amend the ordinance by prohibiting minors under the age of 16 from renting Segways without adult supervision and striking the weight requirement from the ordinance. That motion passed unanimously, despite Mayor Tanaka's objections.

By Dorian Hargrove, 12/2

Goin' Native

Volunteers Pull Ice Plant, Mustard, Radish

Carmel Valley — **California State Parks and the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation have been working on habitat restoration along the southern side of Carmel Valley Road since mid October 2008.**

The area was covered in one to three feet of *Carpobrotus edulis*, commonly called ice plant. Removal entailed first killing the ice plant and then pulling it out by hand after it had dried up. Other nonnative species present were myoporum trees, acacia trees, Brazilian pepper trees, black mustard, wild radish, along with several species of nonnative grasses.

Once the nonnative plants are removed and the ground is prepared, native, wetland, and upland plants are planted. A half acre has yet to be cleared, and 1.5 acres remain to be planted.

Volunteer days are the first three Saturdays of each month (9:00 a.m.–noon).

By Stephen Scatolini, 12/1

Festival of Car Lights

Gridlock in Balboa Park

Balboa Park — **"December Nights" opened Friday, a**

continued on page 130

read/write/understand English. Apply Monday-Friday, 8am-4pm, at 8001 Vickers Street, San Diego 92111. Call: 858-244-1896; e-mail: DG_GuardRecruiting@GMIweb.com. Lic #PP011072.

HELP WANTED

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ASSISTANT KITCHEN MANAGER. $14.36-$17.95/ hour. Must have 1 or more years' supervisory experience, 2 years' Food Prep experience in a fast-paced hotel or healthcare facility. High school graduate or GED. Must speak English. Optimum Health Institute is a mission of the Free Sacred Trinity Church, a non-denominational church that has been operating spiritual retreats since 1976. Submit your resume and cover letter to kitchen-jobs@optimumhealth.org or fax to 858-634-5029.

CARPET CLEANER. $10/ hour. Part time for evenings and weekends. Must have clean DMV record, valid driver's license and professional appearance. Will train. 858-842-1778. CustomerService@FloorTekSD.com.

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*www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/education/cps2006.html (See Table 8) **Certifications/licenses may require additional study and cost.
† Offered fully online by Stevens-Henager College® Salt Lake City/Murray, an affiliated college.

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STRINGERS

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night to forget, according to a would-be attendee in an online forum.

"Never have I seen a more ridiculous parking situation as I have tonight," wrote April O. on December 4, describing a two-hour traffic nightmare that finally sent her home.

Over 300,000 people attend December Nights, according to *Balboa Park.org*, which encourages drivers to "use the free off-site shuttles or take public transportation. Why drive around wasting gas looking for a parking space when the free shuttle or public transportation is quick and easy?!"

But the disgruntled driver, who carried a disability placard, couldn't park to catch a shuttle. Every lot from City College to the zoo was full. She entered a lane for those with disabled placards, only to encounter an attendant "shooing me away before I even got to her." The attendant suggested she try the zoo. But after following the signs, all the driver found were closed lanes, gridlock, and lots for permit parking.

By Sheila Pell, 12/6

Repeat Thief?

"I May Wait Until He Comes Out"

Imperial Beach — **The North Island Credit Union at 1101 Palm Avenue was robbed at about 10:20 a.m. on Wednesday, December 2. A sheriff's deputy at the scene acknowledged that the robber who fled the scene on foot might be the same person who robbed the credit union on November 6.**



"He must be very familiar with the area. He probably has some buddies and they could be hiding," the deputy said, waving her hand at the half dozen multi-family buildings surrounding the area, "in anyone of these apartment buildings. I may just wait until he comes out."

By Peter C. Salisbury, 12/2

Computer Creeper

12-Year-Old Molested at San Onofre

Vista — **"Hubert Dymitr Haraszewski Jr. molested me while we were in a cave at San Onofre State Beach in October 2007," the teenage victim testified on December 3 in a Vista courtroom. "We went in the cave and he stuck his hand down my shorts."**

The boy, who was 12

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STRINGERS

at the time, testified that he and Haraszewski had gone on an outing to San Onofre State Beach, where they got naked at a nude beach. The boy said Haraszewski had molested him once before and that Haraszewski befriended him over the internet; the two kept in contact through the boy's MySpace account, which the 34-year-old Haraszewski had set up.

By Randy Kalp, 12/5

Trolley Stop Robbery

Victim Punched, Robbed at Spring Street Station

La Mesa — **Police detectives are looking for two teenaged girls who hit a woman in the head during a robbery at the La Mesa Boulevard trolley stop at around noon on Sunday, November 29.**

The victim was standing on the trolley platform near Spring Street when the perpetrators punched her several times in the head and pulled the necklace off of her. She was pushed to the ground while she tried to fight off the teens.

"They were both [African-Americans] with one wearing a gray sweatshirt with a hood and dark hair with red streaks," said an elderly witness. "The other [perpetrator] had a dark T-shirt and jeans."

By Noel Gallego, 12/1

Comments

1. Good to know that the MTS has plans to get video surveillance at all their trolley stops. Good mass transportation can work only if we have safe stops.

By gates877
8:31 p.m., Dec 1

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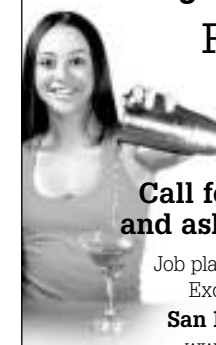

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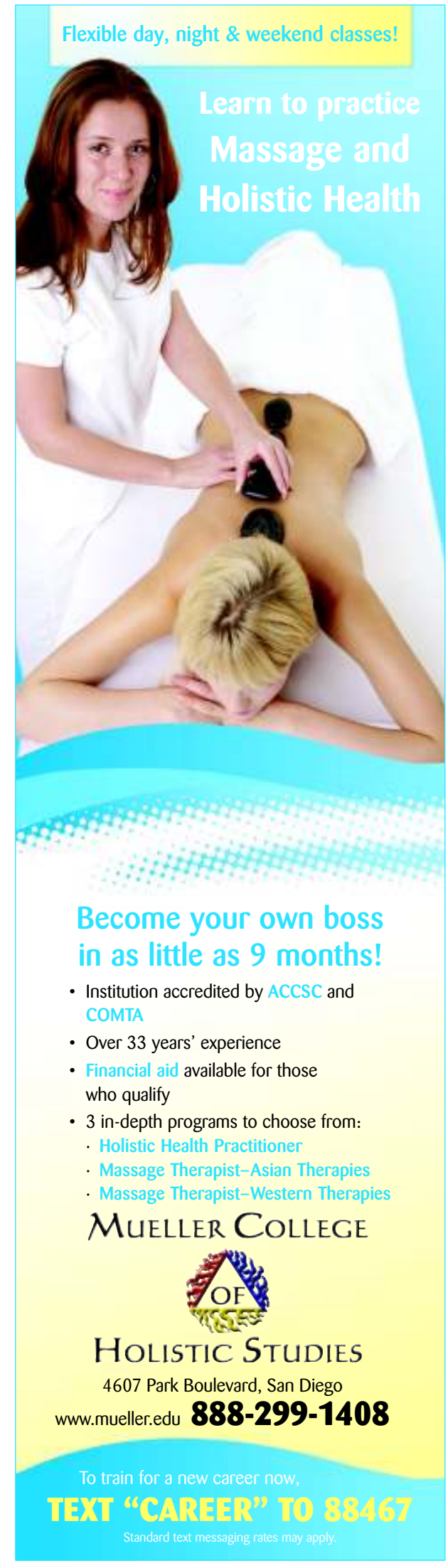

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THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online each week to sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.
3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
5) 10 *Reader* T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!

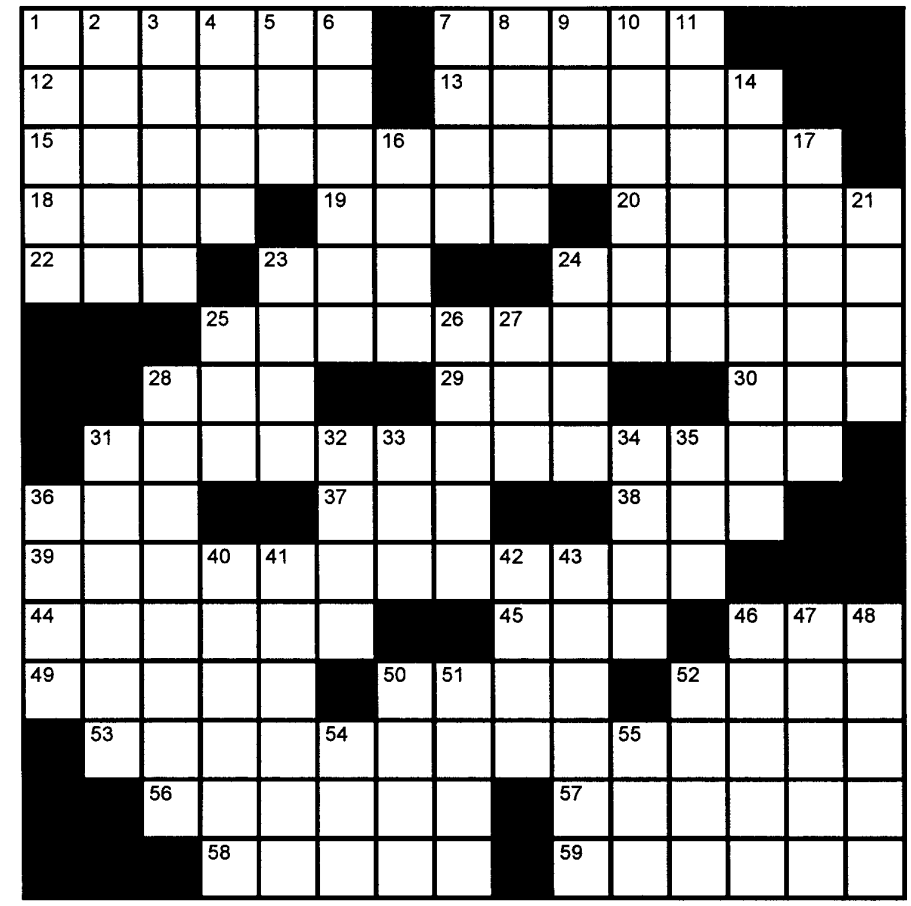
And now for the really small print:
1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
2) Late entries will not be considered.
3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
4) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

1. Metallica drummer Lars
7. Receivers of some downloads
12. Naval engineer
13. Detective played by Peter Lorre
15. How a fan of actor Ian hears a lyric of 53-Across?
18. Big pictures: Abbr.
19. Hiding place
20. Correct, as text
22. Beam of light
23. Moonves of CBS
24. Mafia code of silence
25. How a fan of actress Ellen hears a lyric of 53-Across?
28. Famous nine-year-old king
29. Do lunch
30. Test for coll. seniors
31. How a fan of slugger Canseco hears a lyric of 53-Across?
36. Raven's call
37. Sounds of doubt
38. Bro's sib
39. How a fan of a "Star Wars" character hears a lyric of 53-Across
44. 1994 Winter Olympics gold medalist Baiul
45. Market closing?
46. Hung. neighbor
49. Condemns
50. Shot (off)
52. Crucifix inscription
53. This puzzle's theme
56. Trawling catch
57. Generic
58. Wetlands plant
59. Govt. securities

Down

1. Lead down the aisle
2. Singer Lewis with the 2008 #1 hit "Bleeding Love"
3. Come from behind
4. Some PCs
5. Co. captain?
6. Publisher Hugh
7. "If you ask me," in cyberspeak
8. It may come before elem. school
9. White House fiscal grp.
10. "The Sound of Music" song
11. Pollen bearer
14. Surpluses
16. Mix, as a salad
17 Whole
21. Venture
23. Guitar forerunner
24. Not duped by
25. Subway alternative
26. Edgy
27. "Woo-hoo!"
28. Municipal native
31. Bene-____ (Exodus stopping point)
32. ____ rug (dance)
33. Sound of satisfaction
34. Selfish sort
35. Vous, across the Rhine
36. Oaf
40. "____ Peak" (1997 film)
41. Kind of inspection
42. Have a hunch
43. Common household pest
46. Take the top off?
47. Krispy ____
48. 14-year-old Grammy winner of 1997
50. Tight-fitting
51. Like a ghost
52. "Pay ____ mind"
54. "House ____" (2004 Robin Williams movie)
55. Oui's opposite



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We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

_____

Address: _____

_____

Neighborhood/City: _____

_____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

_____

_____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

A	D	A	M	S	■	N	E	I	L	■	J	O	I	N
A	N	D	M	Y	■	A	R	I	S	■	A	R	N	E
H	A	V	E	N	■	B	A	N	A	■	N	O	T	E
■	■	■	C	A	B	■	■	T	H	E	M	E	D	■
E	L	I	E	■	M	E	N	A	■	U	T	E	R	I
H	A	R	L	E	Y	D	A	V	I	D	S	O	N	■
S	L	O	A	N	■	■	M	E	N	■	■	■	■	■
■	A	N	H	E	U	S	E	R	B	U	S	C	H	■
■	■	■	■	■	S	O	T	■	■	S	H	A	U	N
■	B	A	R	N	E	S	A	N	D	N	O	B	L	E
A	L	L	O	T	■	A	G	U	A	■	D	O	L	T
V	A	U	G	H	N	■	■	R	D	A	■	■	■	■
R	I	M	E	■	A	M	P	S	■	W	A	R	M	S
I	S	N	T	■	D	A	R	E	■	E	R	I	C	A
L	E	A	S	■	A	P	E	D	■	D	E	V	A	L

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner.**

Sheila Agahan-Price, Oceanside, 10. *I still love the magic of Christmas*
Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley, 10. *Tiger Woods apparently chose the wrong driver last week*
Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 10. *Welcome Eric to San Diego*
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 10. *Beware of the person who does not drink*
Craig Curtis, Escondido, 10. *Garencher Ranch adventure was great! Rocking good times! Thanks Rosene*
William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 10. *Happy tenth birthday to Hailie*
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 10. *Keep your golf clubs locked away*
☛ **Ellie Hoey, Spring Valley, 10.** *I love New York*
Ron Meyer, Santee, 10. *Frank and I missed you and Jessica love you*
Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 10. *Wish my life had some kind of rewind*
Jim Odell, Vista, 10. *Entering my ninth best month 1920's thr 2000's*
Lisa Overton, Spring Valley, 10. *Call off the paparazzi*
Michael Panther, Point Loma, 10. *Ooh-oo Pete things'll get brghter*
Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 10. *Rip 'em Sda frbb, comm cup, all stars!*
Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 10. *Gio congratulations on your preformance at the concert*
Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens, 10. *Live well*
Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 10. *Tiger, Tiger, burning bridges*
Tom Seaman, Alpine, 10. *To err is human to purr feline*
Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 10. *Happy birthday, Terry P. You,Äôre the best*
Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 10. *Park the hog, read Erica's novel, Nurse a bud; ahh*
Ric Witt, Clairemont, 10. *Welcome to California Ben and Lois*
Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 9. *Thank you*
Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 9. *Chargers can beat the Browns*
Jeff Battles, Ocean Beach, 9. *Almost time to hit the slopes!*
Leslie Chase, Campo, 9. *Quid Multa*
Jon Connor, Oceanside, 9. *That's some cold stuff shoft throwing my man leroy cot...*
Ben Cooper, Gaslamp, 9. *Cohat? What happened to Typo patrol? Getting cheap?*
Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 9. *Jeff, Clean up and get out*
Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 9. *Missed one, but I'm back again*
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 9. *Go Navy! Beat Army! Go Chargers crush the Cowpies!*
Ron Hootman, Santee, 9. *Hoot101 Its's good to be in Southern California*
Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 9. *Term limits for US Congress*
☛ **Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 9.** *Hello to my golf buds Ted, Tom and Jack*
Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 9. *I try to be good - but I take after mom*
R. Panaligan, San Diego, 9. *I love you all!*
P. Drew Papas, La Jolla, 9. *Thanks for the good wishes*
John Pertle, Santee, 9. *Clinton I agree Ephesians 6:10-18:2 TH 3:6-16*
☛ **Bill Pischke, Ramona, 9.** *It's orange*
Don Romero, Ramona, 9. *I love being with you Mei Ling!*
Tom Somich, Clairemont, 9. *Was there a recall on a Nobel Peace Prize?*
Matthew Rosello, San Diego, 9. *It is gone*
Carly Stone, San Diego, 9. *It is what it is*
Dave Tomasin, San Diego, 9. *No Cap and Trade*
Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 9. *Due and overdue for one*
Susan Williams, North Park, 9. *Rain is a good thing in San Diego*
Ken A., Ocean Beach, 8. *Christmas sweaters and stretch pants are hot*
Glen and Tesi Chavira-Cournoyer, Chula Vista, 8. *Rock n roll hoochie koo*
Harry Engel, La Jolla, 8. *Discharged from the Navy 55 years ago today*
I.C. Garcia, Golden Hill, 8. *"tis the season to get your stationery needs at India Ink*

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner.**

Manny Faria, Point Loma, 8. *I love you my pooh my heart*
Jacque Glick, El Cajon, 8. *Another year older, but not deeper...*
Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 8. *God bless our militay from Chris Guerrero*
Emily Marie, North Park, 8. *Another one*
Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 8. *Happy Holidays!*
Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 8. *You can't stop a capricorn*
Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 8. *Its time for fantasy football playoffs!*
Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 8. *...and the stock cymbol for Avis budget group is CAR*
Ron Akers, Sabre Springs, 7. *Ride c'ome baby ride- ride your bike*
Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 7. *God's gift to us! Merry Christmas*
Maria Coda, Oceanside, 7. *Hi Al! Love ya!*
John L Drehner, North Park, 7. *Carpe Diem*
George Elam, Vista, 7. *Practice grabbing your ankles. New cuts and fees coming*
Phyllis Grant, San Diego, 7. *Christmas is coming... be good*
Steve Lundquist, San Diego, 7. *It's time*
Archie McAllister, Chula Vista, 7. *Andrew and Kacey you are the bomb*
Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 7. *Change of guards again*
Claire Phillips, Clairemont, 7. *Phyl and I evil*
Michael Sheridan, San Diego, 7. *H2N2*
Duane Tremaine, East Village, 7. *I heard one who said Verily, what word have I*
Andrea Vollmer, Vista, 7. *Go Chargers!*
Jennifer Vuksinich, El Cajon, 7. *Joyeaux Noel*
Victor Correa, San Ysidro, 6. *What's with the attitude?*
Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 6. *Lawyers and painters can soon change white to black!*
Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 6. *Where's Santa*
Joseph Gold, San Diego, 6. *It was a tough twosome for Tiger last week, Fore*
Sean Holt, Ocean Beach, 6. *Hey Dustin at the BBQ house your Chargers are losers*
Joe Musser, Encinitas, 6. *Equiy abhors a fraud*
Burr Passenheim, Linda Vista, 6. *Happy Birthday Myles!*
Jay Sato, Carmel Valley, 6. *Berryface is my top dog! So is Molly*
Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 5. *Happy holidays*
Andrea Duncan, Valley Center, 5. *Prayer for Obama Psalms 109:8-9*
Janet Kaye, Linda Vista, 5. *Yentas, genta and mom!*
Susie Lektorich, Coronado, 5. *Multi mistresses? Tiger must be grrrreat*
James C Nelson, El Cajon, 5. *Go Chargers!*
Phil Paradissis, San Diego, 5. *Mxmas!*
Chris Senungetuk, San Diego, 5. *Xandizzle fo rizzle!*
Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 5. *Maybe this time?*
Chad Griffith, Poway, 4. *Thank you Jennette Hutchinson, Happy belated Thanksgiving*
W. Hodgson, Escondido, 4. *Get bank loan, pay off credit cards debt free! Obozonomics*
Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 4. *Happy Hanukkah Kimberly Reese and Spencer I love you*
D. Schick, Oceanside, 4. *Where do we go from here?*
Pam Mecklenborg, Pacific Beach, 3. *Happy Holidays Larry and gang*
F.A. Nalu, El Cajon, 3. *Love the rain*
John C. Pipes, Lemon Grove, 3. *Back again*
Nola Whisler, Santee, 3. *Elmo*
Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 3. *We can laugh in the face of adversity*
John Clapp, Lakeside, 2. *A surf shirt I need to learn how*
Jody Doyle, Lakeside, 2. *Love you Dana*
Gloria Jacobs, Clairemont, 2. *Great shirt Gracias*
Kathy Law, La Mesa, 2. *Love to Bice, Al, Mary Lou, and Riccio. Happy Holidays*
Richard Markson, Indio, 2. *50 year anniversary march 17th*
Robert McQuay, Linda Vista, 2. *Merry Christmas everyone*
Linda Morris, Encanto, 2. *My Chargers rock*
☛ **Mira Santos, San Diego, 2.** *I did it*
Scott Wright, El Cajon, 2. *Damned if I do damned if I don't*
Dean and Bob , Escondido, 1. *Get ournames right this time!Fun!*
☛ **Brandon Beck, Pacific Beach, 1.** *Hi Michelle! Happy Birthday Milo Kelsey and Monica! Go Cowboys!*
Sue Coffey, Southwest SD, 1. *1st time since they ruined the puzzle reglas*
Scott Conlin, Oceanside, 1. *The scary thing about love is you don't own it...*
Kerry Cook, Bay Park, 1. *Hey Jake Hoya saxa*
Maria Elena Delgado, San Diego, 1. *Live love laugh and be happy John*
Gerry Halpern, Point Loma, 1. *Oh Barack. I am so disappointed in you*
Keith Herrick, Chula Vista, 1. *Go Navy*
Nicole Lewon, University Heights, 1. *...same without my friends*
Cece Michelle, Sorrento Valley, 1. *We're freak chick baby!!*
Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 1. *Happy birthday Ubon 21*
Ron Pollack, Encinitas, 1. *For Chloe, Eli, and River*
☛ **Toni Rodgers, San Carlos, 1.** *The turtle and the hare*
Sar Sarghi, Clairemont, 1. *Here's to Rite Aid Glenda*
☛ **Edvin Shahmoradian, Escondido, 1.** *It helps to know good people*
James Thomas, Downtown, 1. *Go Chargers and become Super Bowl champs!*
Lindsay Tidmus, San Diego, 1. *Merry xmas to all at the La Prima...*

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THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit one completed puzzle of any difficulty level (Easy, Medium, Hard or Evil) to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online at sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.

3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

4) Entries must be faxed to **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

5) 10 *Reader* T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!

6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.

7) Late entries will not be considered.

8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.

9) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

EASY:

7		8		4	2	5		1
4				7			6	
			9				2	4
	4					1		9
1	5	9				2	8	3
2		7					5	
5	7				3			
	6			5				7
9		1	7	2		8		5

MEDIUM:

				2			5	
		6			3		2	7
			8	7		1		3
				9			7	8
8	1	7				4	3	9
9	3			8				
2		8		1	5			
7	4		9			6		
	9			6				

HARD:

				2	5			
9		4				6		
2			1	6	4			
	5			7			8	9
		7				3		
3	2			8			5	
			7	9	6			8
		6				2		4
			2	4				

EVIL:

	2			1	4			
						2		4
		5		6			3	
			3				7	8
	9						5	
2	4				5			
	5			3		8		
1		6						
			9	7			4	

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

_____

Address: _____

_____

Neighborhood/City: _____

_____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

_____

_____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

7	4	6	1	9	3	8	2	5
9	2	1	6	5	8	7	3	4
3	8	5	4	2	7	1	9	6
5	6	4	7	3	2	9	1	8
1	9	7	8	6	5	2	4	3
8	3	2	9	1	4	6	5	7
2	5	8	3	7	9	4	6	1
4	1	9	5	8	6	3	7	2
6	7	3	2	4	1	5	8	9

MEDIUM:

8	7	5	2	9	6	3	1	4
1	4	9	3	8	5	6	2	7
3	6	2	7	4	1	9	5	8
4	5	3	9	6	7	1	8	2
7	9	1	8	3	2	5	4	6
2	8	6	5	1	4	7	3	9
5	2	4	6	7	3	8	9	1
6	1	8	4	5	9	2	7	3
9	3	7	1	2	8	4	6	5

HARD:

7	5	9	3	1	6	4	8	2
3	6	2	9	8	4	1	7	5
4	8	1	7	5	2	3	6	9
1	3	7	2	4	9	6	5	8
8	2	5	6	3	1	7	9	4
9	4	6	5	7	8	2	1	3
5	1	4	8	2	7	9	3	6
2	9	3	1	6	5	8	4	7
6	7	8	4	9	3	5	2	1

EVIL:

2	7	3	6	4	9	1	5	8
9	5	4	3	1	8	6	7	2
6	1	8	7	5	2	4	3	9
8	6	9	2	7	4	5	1	3
7	4	1	8	3	5	9	2	6
3	2	5	9	6	1	8	4	7
5	3	2	1	9	6	7	8	4
1	9	7	4	8	3	2	6	5
4	8	6	5	2	7	3	9	1

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner.**

EASY:

Cherie Calvo, San Diego, 10. *Happy December*

Terry Thomas, Chula Vista, 10. *Celebrate the good spirit of peace, good will, joy and...*

Don Bowman, Santee, 9. *Next year will be better*

Ed Rull, San Diego, 8. *Happy holidays*

Tristan Meyers, El Cajon, 6. *Eenee meanee mynee moe read the tabloids then you'll know*

Misty McDaniel, Lakeside, 5. *Happy birthday mommy! We love you more than very much*

Pauline O'Malley, Point Loma, 5. *Glad not state of New York. Too cold!*

Lyly T. Ly, Chula Vista, 4. *Need more rain, belly brain*

Tammy Uren, Spring Valley, 3. *Peanut- u r my robin- I am your batman*

Jeff Loeb, San Diego, 2. *Taking the easy way out*

Jose R. Cadava, San Diego, 2. *Don't tail gate me, pass me when it's safe*

Ellen Boune, San Diego, 1. *At Last*

Bill Calderwood, Clairemont, 1. *Go Chargers! Go away!*

Linda Case, Normal Heights, 1. *Thanks Noah*

Jose Cruz, San Diego, 1. *Go Chargers*

Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 1. *Happy 100th birthday to great-great grandmother M, in AZ*

Mac Hendricks, Lemon Grove, 1. *Fear the LOL cats*

Robert Lindahl, College Area, 1. *Phyillis loves me. Phyillis loves me not. Phyillis loves me.*

☛ **Peter Mound, Santee, 1.** *Back to the past*

Natassia Panesar, El Cajon, 1. *Wait, what happened*

Austin Tyler, Otay, 1. *Hi daddy I love you*

Rhonda Webber, San Diego, 1. *Love you Skipp!*

MEDIUM:

Skully , San Diego, 10. *1/2 way home Monkeyboy. I love and miss you- Kitten*

Betty Archer, La Jolla, 10. *Didn't make the list last week too slow*

Henry Chung, San Diego, 10. *Friday was disappointing...*

Roy Bartolome, San Diego, 9. *The foosa are attacking! Look it's a cookbook*

Linda Bible, El Cajon, 9. *Happy holidays*

Dr. Dave Spera, Point Loma, 7. *Hare cheers lets drink a cold one tortise*

☛ **Paul Boland, Bay Park, 6.** *Bay Park needs rain*

Alyssa Ketcham, East Village, 5. *Axial tilt is the reason for the season!*

David Tomasin, San Diego, 5. *East anglia liars*

Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 4. *God's gift to us! Merry Christmas!*

Dennis Jardim, Oceanside, 3. *Keep SD's fire pits*

Joe Wilson, San Marcos, 2. *Hey- I'm in the mood*

Phil Brockman, Happy Valley, 1. *It's like you did something right and got rewarded for...*

Rodger Coutinho, San Diego, 1. *Happy Birthday Xuxu. Saude Paz Resto a gente corre atras*

☛ **Chris Dobrowolski, San Diego, 1.** *The coster rocks!!!*

Keith Herrick, Chula Vista, 1. *Go Remy!*

HARD:

Amada Garcia, Chula Vista, 10. *Enjoy every day is your gift*

Bruce C. Mengler, Solana Beach, 10. *And then there waere five*

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 10. *There will be no more mercy for their evil queen*

Glenn R. Walker, La Jolla, 10. *Glad to see the rain*

Mandy Smith, Boulevard, 8. *Love all God's creatures — no exceptions*

☛ **John Strauch, Point Loma, 6.** *Beat alzheimer's at Adventure in bridge*

☛ **Ray Hunt, Rancho Penasquitos, 5.** *Our mom is the best Luv Maranda and Brandon*

Norma , Chula Vista, 1. *I did it*

EVIL:

Joe Arbusto, Rancho Penasquitos, 10. *"Osama has tricked Obama into being another warmonger!"*

Jean Bradley, Spring Valley, 10. *I am blessed and highly favored — how are y'all doing?*

Robert Bradley, Spring Valley, 10. *Desert season is here! Enjoy everyone*

Paul Brugger, Downtown, 10. *Weekly Sudoku? My future wife says get a life*

Clyde Christie, East Village, 10. *Conservative values will rise again if we work hard consistently*

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 10. *I hate everyone except my bartender*

Roger Doughman, San Diego, 10. *Great is the lord, and most worthy of praise PS 48:1*

Lily Gonzalez, Logan Heights, 10. *Childrens Museum is free this Sunday 12/13 Bring your family*

Linda J. Hall, La Mesa, 10. *Tis the season to be jolly Ha! Ha!*

Dan Holslin, San Diego, 10. *Earth's tilt is the reason for the seasons!*

Zdenek Hostomsky, La Jolla, 10. *Milan Farby please send my regards to Juraj Sed lacek*

Jacqueline Jordan, San Diego, 10. *That was really evil*

Raymond Land , Escondido, 10. *Brooke kelly and David I love you!*

Ralph Levy, La Jolla, 10. *Come on Johnathan, you can do it*

Mike Maniss, Lakeside, 10. *Song of the day Sara Smile*

Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 10. *Term limits for US congress*

P.J. Mole, Point Loma, 10. *Vorrei una maglietta di cotone*

Lisa Overton, Spring Valley, 10. *Just basking in fame and glory*

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ **indicates T-shirt winner.**

Bruce Ness, Mira Mesa, 10. *Does Mary Bently still play dominoes? Please call*

MIchael Panther, Point Loma, 10. *Ooh, Pete, things are gonna get easier*

Bill Petty, Bay Ho, 10. *Thanks for the t-shirt*

Roy Respress, Carlsbad, 10. *This evil was tooo good. Ouooooo Yaasss!*

Joe Selig, San Diego, 10. *My CT scan was good*

Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 10. *Let the new adventure begin*

Yuko T. , San Diego, 10. *Go Saints! Go!*

Harry R. Walker , La Jolla, 10. *Chargers win again!!*

Susan Williams, North Park, 10. *Hoping my dad feels better soon*

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 10. *Go Chargers beat the Cowboys*

Mark Xitco, San Diego, 10. *Hello guy!*

☛ **Gary Lorenc, Encinitas, 9.** *It's getting crazy here. Must be time to go home*

Bliss Beedle, Encinitas, 9. *Hello, Clarice H Lector*

Julio Magno, San Diego, 9. *USPS Sudoku Expert*

Jerry Noser, Bankers Hill, 9. *Go griz!*

Duane D. Tremaine, E. Village, 9. *All I have is a voice to undo a lie*

Jane Flammang, Encinitas, 8. *Missed last puzzle- but enjoyed Thanksgiving*

J.G., San Ysidro, 8. *Person committing fraud against the government District Attorney not interstate!!!*

Belmont Hope, Vista, 8. *Hard was to hard*

Steve Koenig, Bay Park, 8. *Balls of goof*

Lynnette Lampton, La Mesa, 8. *Have a heart- give blood*

Loren Boyer, El Cajon, 7. *10 day backround check? I'm mad right now! Homer Simpson*

Larry Clark, Clairemont, 7. *Project the pussy cat but keep the tiger inside*

☛ **Stuart Hesketh, Escondido, 7.** *Merry Christmas everyone*

George Elam, Vista, 6. *I got lost on hard one*

Christine Hennes, San Diego, 6. *I've got a feeling*

Karen Maegley, Sorrento Mesa, 6. *Love the shirt!*

Joi Taylor, Mission Valley, 6. *Big daddy is the bestest!*

Junito Gerardo, Mira Mesa, 6. *Captalism equals job growth while socialism equals job loss*

Robert Crumrine, Downtown, 5. *Can't wait til Friday!*

Linda Kokel, Tierrasanta, 5. *We loved celebrating Thanksgiving with you Michelle Tom Jessica Ben*

Tess C. Sutton, San Diego, 5. *God is good*

Michelle Dutra, Serra Mesa, 4. *Go Parker Lancers!*

Charles Reader, Del Mar Heights, 4. *Reader reads Reader*

Edvin Shahmoradian, Escondido, 4. *Happy holiday partys!*

Ed Vicino, El Cajon, 4. *Okey kids! Play it safe out there*

☛ **Terri Okerlund, San DIego, 3.** *Think positive...*

Ted Jerm, Roseville, 2. *Know what?*

Ethel Jimenez, San Diego, 2. *Merry Christmas to all!*

Sonia Ostovar, Mira Mesa, 2. *Season's greatings*

Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 2. *Peace be with you*

Atom Cannizzaro, Tierrasanta, 1. *Will my name be spelled right this time?*

Bridgett Gist, Escondido, 1. *Thanks for taking care of me! Love you mustache man!!*

Mickei Hodgson, Tierra Santa, 1. *Turtle rules Sorrento Valley*

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FACIAL TREATMENT PACKAGE. $57— Facial Combo. Free back facial with every purchase! Perfect for the that little black dress! To schedule an appointment: 619-337-0808, facialbliss@att.net.

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www.LaurensAntoine.com/models.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

NOTICE TO READERS: The advertisers in this section include licensed mental health providers, unlicensed counselors, and support groups.

ADDICTIONS/ STRESS PROBLEMS: Couples, individual therapy. Depression, anxiety, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, support groups. Intervention. Samuel Newman MFT and Associates. License #MFC25066. Sliding scale. 619-944-1346.

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ADDICTED TO INTERNET pornography/ sex? Out of control? You are not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, a 12- step fellowship. P.O. Box 3791, San Diego 92163 or 619-685-7211 or www.slaa-san-diego.org.

AL-ANON. Grupo paz mental. Sufre por el alcoholismo en su familia? Juntas sesionan Martes, 5:30pm-7pm, y Sabados, 1-2:30pm. 3450 Bonita Road, #207, Bonita, CA 91902.

ALCOHOLICOS ANONIMOS. Reunion de mujeres. Sesion Miercoles, 9am-10:30am. Desea dejar de beber? Lleve una vida util y feliz! 3450 Bonita Road, Suite #207. 619-280-7224.

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CAN PRAYER HEAL? Discover freedom and wellness. Find out how prayer works for you to eliminate chronic disease, pain, fear, anxiety, depression. 858-272-3246.

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CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS. Carols, children's program, Sign language interpretation. Hill Country Bluegrass Band. Sunday, December 20, 10am. Service Thursday, December 24, 6pm. www.hillcountrychurch.org. 619-561-1965. 8950 Lakeview, Lakeside.

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DIVORCECARE. Sundays, 9am. 10791Tierrasanta Boulevard, East Wing CVCF Campus. Support group— those heart broken by divorce/ separation. Free childcare. DVD seminar/ conversation. Refreshments. Bruce, 619-461-4480.

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Aggressive Criminal Defense Attorney

Little or no money down, affordable payments. Superior Law Center. 888-205-8961.

FFREE PRESCHOOL. Alpha Kappa Alpha Head Start is now enrolling children ages 3-5 years old from low- income families in the East County, and children with special needs/ disabilities. 619-444-0503.

FREE PSYCHIC HEALING/ Lecture Clinic. Free readings for new visitors. Mondays, 7:30pm, 1/4, 2/1. 3/1. Vessa's Clairvoyant Program students. 4455 Morena Boulevard, #108, 858-509-7582.

GET DISH. Free installation, $19.99/ month. HBO and Showtime free, over 50 HD channels free. Lowest prices. No equipment to buy! Call now for full details, 866-747-5096. (AAN CAN)

JUST 50 YEARS AGO WWII auxiliary police were alive and well. SD Police Department started a new class of SD Police Reserves. My concern and curiosity are: I wonder how many are living in the area. Adrian "Ace" Marine. P.S. SD First Reserve Class. 858-755-5598.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching movies then discussing them afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-231-0647.

NATIONAL CITY online survey. www.nationalcity.ca.gov. Public input is an important part of the General Plan update process. Share your vision for National City's future.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous. 12 step meeting for people with OCD/ interested others. Free. Mondays, 6-7pm. Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. 619-521-2538. www.oasandiego.org.

PRAYER-BASED SOLUTIONS for problems. Achieve inner peace and balance, eliminate chronic disease, pain, lose crippling fear, addiction. 858-272-3246.

PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7, Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 866-413-6293. (AAN CAN)

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RESEARCH STUDY VOLUNTEERS. Do you have Type 2 Diabetes? Dr. Henry and his associates have a Clinical Research Study that is looking at the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication (similar to aspirin) compared to placebo, in the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes. The study drug is approved by the FDA to treat arthritis, but has been approved for Diabetes. See if the TINSAL study is right for you. Duration: approximately 55 weeks total; 11 clinical study site visits at UCSD. Study visits may include an initial screening visit, vitals, laboratory samples, physical exam, EKG, medical history, quality of life questionnaires, blood sugar readings from provided glucose monitor. If you neet the following criteria, you may be eligible to participate. Inclusion Criteria: males or females aged 18-74. Diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes. Diabetes controlled with diet and exercise of up to 3 medications, stable for 8 weeks (excluding current use of Actos, Byetta and insulin). HbA1c between 7.0-9.5%. No recent weight loss greater than 10 pounds or currently on any weight loss drugs. No Plavix, Heparin, Coumadin or any other anticoagulants (aspirin OK). Qualified participants will be compensated for participation up to $700. To find out if you are eligible, please contact Research Coordinator at 858-552-4326.

SEX/ RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS? Out of control? You're not alone. Call Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous. 12 Step fellowship. PO BOX 3791 San Diego, 92163. 619-685-7211. www.slaa-san-diego.org.

SHOP ONLINE - 20% TO CHARITY! Place your Avon orders online, choose the event or charity you want to support and 20% of the net proceeds will be donated. Fundraising available for your group. www.youravon.com/kennis.

SURTIDO DE ALIMENTOS. CO-OP. $15 por donacion. Siempre diferente. Jueves en Parque Norte, 5pm-6pm. Primero debe llamar para ser reservados de 9am-12pm Jueves, al 619-283-3066.

THEATER AUDITIONS Poway Center for Performing arts is seeking 2 young actors/ singers. Ages 19-25, male and female to sing duet for show. Call 858-569-0988, or 858-546-0209.

TWELVE STEPS NOT WORKING for you? Try a self- empowering, skill- building approach with S.M.A.R.T. Recovery. Free support groups. www.practicalrecovery.com.

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

BIG BEAR COOL CABINS. Cabin or luxury home on or near the lake. Fireplace, BBQ, DVD, kitchen, hot tub and more. Professional housekeeping, towels, and linens are included. Pet-friendly available. Check rates and book online. www.bigbearcoolcabins.com or 800-550-8779.

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PERSONALS

GIRL WHO WROTE me here two years ago. Lingering fantasy, continues. I'm not home right now. Still want you, though. Jack.

I WROTE TO YOU last week. You may write me back. I wrote as G. Campbell, PO BOX 5003 #9, Coalinga, CA 93210.

IF YOUR LIFE IS WINDY these days—winds of change, adversity, constant demands/ expectations— take heart. Roots grow deep when the winds are strong. Carmela.

THANK YOU, HOLY SPIRIT, for prayers answered. SP.

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EQUIPMENT / INSTRUMENTS

AMPS AND GUITARS. Epiphone Les Paul $365, 2005 Gibson Les Paul Standard Plus $1750, 2005 Gibson ES335 $1699, Fender Princeton Reverb R.I. $750, Fender Cyber Twin $550, Fender Princeton Chorus $250, Fender Bassman 400 2x10 $379, Fender Cyber Twin $550, Genz Benz ML 200 Bass amp $499, Genz Benz El Diablo 112 $599, Magnatone Meoldy Air $349. At www.mozeguitars.com, 619-698-1185.

APEX MUSIC SINCE 1952! Get the gear you need at affordable prices. Sales, repairs and rentals. No one compares! 6210 El Cajon Boulevard. 619-583-1431, www.apex4me.com.

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PIANO, Baby Grand, elegant mahogany, ivory keys, will enhance any room and provide lots of great music. $1895/ best. 760-782-9963.

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DRUMMER NEEDED. Seeking rock drummer. Must have professional gear and a flexible schedule. We play Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Possible touring. cfaust@san.rr.com.

GUITARIST AVAILABLE. Reggae, pop, jazz/ rock, hip hop, lead/ rhythm. CD/ tour credits: Pato Banton, Mikey Dreed, Fully Fullwood, Myka Nyne, Scientist. Dale, 858-401-2973; myspace.com/dalehauskins.

MUSICIANS NEEDED for new classic rock band. Lead/ rhythm guitarists seeking talented drummer, bass player, keyboardist, lead vocalist. Serious about playing gigs. 661-857-0838.

PRODUCER seeks prolific, talented composers, performers, any age, original material. Interns, copyists. Have professional tools. Need protooler, lexicon user. 619-528-0907. www.myspace.com/sherilopez, www.myspace.com/isitfrankzappa, www.myspace.com/phylispryor, www.myspace.com/mindcontrolemonkeys, www.myspace.com/concretesummersday.

SINGER NEEDED. Local band needs singer, male or female. 760-579-9122.

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REHEARSAL STUDIO. $450 and $475/ monthly. Located in Chula Vista. 24- hour

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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. Daily, 10am-7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

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Bonded and insured dog care professional. Awards, references available. Walks, playtimes at the beach and overnight slumber parties. Individual attention. Affordable rates. 619-985-9911. ***MissOliviasDoggiePlaytime.com***

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.

CATS/ KITTENS. Carmel Mountain Petco. 11160 Rancho Carmel Dr. (I-15/56 and Carmel Mountain Rd.) Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 2-4pm; Sunday 12-2pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/ KITTENS. Mira Mesa Petco. 8290 Mira Mesa Blvd./ Camino Ruiz. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 11am-1pm; Sunday 4:30-6:30pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/ KITTENS. Clairemont Mesa Petco. 3994-A Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (Clairemont Town Square). Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 3-5pm; Sunday 4-6pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/ neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/ KITTENS. Petco on Morena. 1210 West Morena Blvd., 92110. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 11am-1pm; Sunday 4-6pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CHAMELEONS. Perfect holiday gift for reptile lovers. Exotic panther chameleons from well known San Diego breeder. Amazing, unbelievable colors, normally $295. $100 off new orders. 619-822-0093. www.exoticpanthers.com.

CHIHUAHUA. Mix, neutered, 2 years, 11 pounds,white, Docile, happy, loves attention. All white. Had jaw fracture, all recovered. No young kids. $150. 619-583-5122.

DOWNTOWN WALKER/ SITTER. Dog walking and pet sitting office located downtown. Five years' experience. Serving all areas in minutes! Marty or Trinity, 619-212-2887.

ITALIAN MASTIFF PUPPIES for sale! Champion lines! Rare blue brindle Italian Mastiff (Cane Corso) puppies. 4 available. $1500 each. Call 858-583-2646.

KITTENS. CLA persian kittens. Shots. Lovable. $225. 760-782-3129.

KITTENS/ CATS. Mission Valley Petco. 10310 Friars Road/ Mission Gorge. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday/Sunday 1-3pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/ CATS. Encinitas Petco. 154 Encinitas Blvd., west of I-5. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 9-11am, 5-7pm; Sunday 9-11am, 4-6pm; most weekday early mornings/ evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/ CATS. La Costa Petco. 3239 Camino De Los Coches, 92009. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 9am-1pm; Sunday 10am-2pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/ CATS. La Mesa Petco. 8501 Fletcher Parkway, 91942. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, defleaing, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KOI-KOI FOR PONDS AND WATER gardens. Free water testing. Do- it- yourselfers welcome! Maintenance and installations, commercial and residential available. Since 1988. Ask about free delivery! 1975 Jamacha Road, Rancho San Diego. Fall hours: Monday- Saturday, 10am-5pm, Sunday, 11am-4pm. 619-441-9275.

LOST CAT. Black, long haired, male. 2-1/2 years. Last seen Thursday, 11/19, at Del Rey Street between Glendora/ Rosewood in East Pacific Beach. Purple collar with bell. ID tag: Baba, 313-618-5317. Microchipped. Contact Raquel. Reward.

LOST DOG. Small, 7 pounds, all white terrier mix. Female. Was wearing a pink sweater. Last seen: 1200 block of Washington Avenue, El Cajon. Name: Sookie. Dawn, 619-715-6950.

MISSING DOG. Name: Abbie. 3 years. Female miniature schnauzer. Gray/ white, black around eyes, brown feet. Docked tail. Left ear points down. $1000 reward. 616-261-3555.

PET NAIL GRINDING KIT. By Oster. New, in box. 858-277-5029.

PUPPIES. Lhasa Apso/ Shitzu. 8 weeks old, male/ female. $200. 619-822-0068.

YORKSHIRE TERRIER PUPPIES! 4-5 pounds, registered breeder plus 3 generations pedigree, we own both parents. Friendly, dewormed, shots, vet, excellent care. $950. Carmel Valley, 760-274-3716.

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REHEARSAL STUDIOS: 24- hour, air-conditioned lockout studios, $250, $350 and $450. PA, drum sets, amplifiers available. North County. Call 619-957-5686.

REHEARSAL STUDIOS! Current special: $100 off first month's rent with ad! Miramar Road. Monthly and hourly rates available. Universal Sound, 619-306-2222; 858-401-2973.

REHEARSE AT HINDSIGHT, Miramar. Hourly rooms, fully equipped (drum kit, two half stacks, bass rig, PA), starting $18/ hour. PA only $16/ hour. 858-635-9611, www.hindsightrehearsal.com.

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BAY PARK. $575. Nice upstairs room with large closet. Near bay, freeways, Sea World, etc. No drugs/ smoking/ pets. Quiet. 619-276-7873.

BAY PARK/ CLAIREMONT/ Mission Bay. Ocean/ canyon views! Own room— private bath, parking, washer/ dryer, in lovely townhome. $750. No smoking/ drugs/ pets. Single. 858-736-6117.

CARDIFF. $890, 1/2 utilities. Spectacular, 180- degree whitewater view. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, furnished townhome. Huge balcony, laundry, fireplace, cable, garage. Nonsmoking/ pets. Jeff, 760-436-6426.

CARLSBAD/ OCEANSIDE/ Pacific Beach, $550, $650, $950 (master suite). New home, ocean view, fireplace, granite, view patios, hardwood. Military OK. Rebate $200. Mature. 858-270-0214.

CLAIREMONT. Upgraded bedroom/ bath. Furnished home. Easy access to UCSD, Mesa, beach. All amenities plus: Wireless, yard, spa, maid, office. Available. $700, utilities shared. 858-449-9454.

CLAIREMONT. Room in nice 3 bedroom house. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher. Hawaiian- style backyard with tiki bar and Jacuzzi. Internet. $650 includes utilities. Travis, travisbowman@gmail.com. 858-414-2247.

CLAIREMONT. Nonsmoker. Room, privileges, in luxury condo complex. Large pool, game/ weight room, sauna. Great location. $650, utilities included. Available 12/12. Shared bathroom. Bob, 858-337-8694.

CLAIREMONT. 2 rooms available in nice 4 bedroom canyon- ridge home. Share with 2 males, friendly dog, shy cat. $550 and $575. Includes utilities. 858-273-6531.

CLAIREMONT. $500. Near Mesa College and bus stop. No pets/ smoking. Male only. Cable TV and utilities included. Call after 5pm, 858-337-2770, 858-353-4449.

CLAIREMONT. Fully furnished/ unfurnished large room. Internet, TV, cable and all utilities included. Quiet, clean house. Available now. $550/ month. 858-779-1337.

CLAIREMONT. $520, utilities included. Large room. Female to share 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Share bath with female. No smoking/ pets. Owner occupied. Gary, 858-531-4993.

CLAIREMONT. $560, plus deposit, utilities. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Fireplace, patio, remodeled kitchen. Nice, convenient neighborhood. Male only. No smoking, drugs, pets. 858-279-2869.

CLAIREMONT MESA. Share 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. Utilities, AT&T computer, DirecTV, SDG&E, water, housekeeper, gardener included. $525. 858-576-6924.

COLLEGE AREA/ ROLANDO. Roommate wanted. Quiet complex near SDSU. On-site laundry. Pool. Gated community. Own bathroom. Some pets OK. $575, 1/2 utilities, deposit. 619-464-3447.

COLLEGE/ ROLANDO. Bedroom available in 3 bedroom, 1 bath house. Free cable, washer/ dryer, patio. $500, $300 deposit. No pets/ drugs. 619-583-7375.

CROWN POINT/ PACIFIC BEACH. $750. 1 bedroom, full bath, walk-in closet. Close to bay. 1/2 utilities. Laundry in unit. No pets. 858-232-7641.

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Downtown/ Little Italy. $950 room with private bath in luxury apartment. $1150 for master suite with Jacuzzi tub. Washer/ dryer. Secure underground parking. Vida, 619-665-8269.

ENCANTO. Furnished room to rent. Own private bath. Utilities, cable included. Near bus/ trolley lines. $500 rent, $200 deposit. Female only. 619-884-0081.

ENCINITAS. Apartment. Master bedroom. $720, plus utilities. Quiet. No drugs. Move in before the Holidays. Washer/ dryer. Courtyard, pool. 760-944-2890.

FASHION VALLEY. Female roommate wanted for large home, washer/ dryer, fireplace. Nonsmoking, no drugs/ pets. $600, includes utilities. 858-401-2990.

FASHION VALLEY. $600, plus 1/2 utilities. Room in 2 bedroom condo, shared bath. Walk to trolley, mall. 8 minutes to downtown or beach. 858-531-2545.

HILLCREST. Nonsmoking male/ female, share 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Nonfurnished master bedroom with attached bathroom. Available now. $750/ month, $300 deposit, 1/3 utilities. 619-251-7735.

LA JOLLA. Downtown Village. $675. By beaches, extra large bedroom, security building, laundry. No pets. Share bath. 1/2 utilities/ cable. Deposit. Available 1/1. 858-454-3000.

LA JOLLA/ UTC. $570. Bedroom with private bath. Furnished. No smoking/ pets. Clean house. Quiet neighborhood. $550 deposit. 858-554-0018.

LA JOLLA/ UTC. $650 plus deposit. 6-month minimum. Furnished room. Shared bath. Laundry. Internet. Utilities, cable paid. No pets/ smoking/ drugs. bpriest59@live.com. 619-804-5531, 619-602-5052.

LA MESA. Bedrooms available, big house with summer pool. Nice kitchen, plenty of street parking. Golfing, lake, Cowles Mountain in neighborhood. No pets. $650/ up. 858-772-0005.

LA MESA. 2 rooms in 3 bedroom house, $520/ $670. Canyon view. Fireplace. Central— trolley/ SDSU. Washer/ dryer. No pets. Great location. Female only. 858-243-1911.

LA MESA. $450, plus utilities. Deposit. Sunny room, hardwood floors. Share quiet, comfortable house. Laundry. Large yard. 15 minutes— Downtown San Diego/ SDSU. No pets/ smoking. 619-466-7500.

LA MESA. $540. Room with sliding glass door. Unfurnished or furnished. Laundry. Quiet street. Easy parking. Close public transportation. Pet(s) possible. Storage. Leave message, 619-287-6903.

LINDA VISTA. Move- in special! $470. 3 bedroom home. Ocean view, central, tropical yard. Quiet. Marble. Laundry. $300 deposit. No smoking/ pets. Male preferred. 858-518-1517.

MIRA MESA. 1/2 off first month. $550, utilities. Large home. $250/ deposit. Fireplace. Large kitchen. Dayroom. Dishwasher. Washer/ dryer. Pool. Maid service. No pets. Available. Tom, 619-708-4925.

MIRA MESA. Miramar College/ I-15. Upstairs room in large home. Roadrunner wireless. Pool, Jacuzzi. Male. No smoking/ drugs/ pets. $530 including utilities. Available now. 858-361-1094.

MISSION HILLS. $650. Room in bright/ sunny 2 bedroom. Top floor, bay view. Shared bath. Laundry, barbecue, Jacuzzi coming soon! Close to downtown/ I-5. 619-254-4645.

OCEAN BEACH. $1000. Panoramic ocean view! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, shared house. Cable, Internet, laundry, storage, parking, call for appointment: 619-674-5053.

PACIFIC BEACH. $795. Share a 1200-square- foot 2- bedroom, 2- bath condo. Block to the bay/ walk to beach. Parking spot, washer/ dryer. 858-220-1237.

SABRE SPRINGS. Townhouse. $600, including utilities. Own bathroom. $200 deposit. No pets. No smoking/ drugs. Nice neighborhood. Community Jacuzzi/ swimming pool. Female only. 858-232-1185. 858-748-9223.

SAN CARLOS. 2 rooms for rent. Master bedroom/ bath, $625. Second bedroom, $525. Utilities included. Washer/ dryer, full house privileges, quiet neighborhood. Security deposit. 619-818-8746.

SAN DIEGO. Nice room in newer home. Share kitchen. $500 includes Internet, cable, utilities. $300 deposit. No drugs/ alcohol/ pets. Near freeways. Available now. 619-887-2365.

SAN DIEGO. Large, furnished master bedroom. Walk- in closet. Private bathroom. $575, includes Internet, cable, utilities. $375 deposit. No drugs, alcohol. Available now. 619-887-2365.

SAN MARCOS. Conveniently located. Includes utilities, cable, garage, pool, spa, wireless. No smoking/ pets. $590/ month. 760-745-0482.

SANTEE. $675, includes utilities. Spacious room, 2 bedroom, 2 bath house. Month-month. Own bath, refrigerator. Backyard, storage, washer/ dryer. Ample parking. Centrally located. eep33182@yahoo.com. 619-865-8582.

SERRA MESA. $450/ month. $100 deposit. Call Rebecca: 858-384-7331 or 619-849-0451.

TIERRASANTA. $750. Share popular Portofino townhome. Top 2 rooms/ bathroom are yours. Share kitchen, living room, washer/ dryer. No pets, one person only. Mgsdesign@san.rr.com, 858-560-5459.

TIERRASANTA/ I-15. $500 plus utilities. $250 deposit. Small bedroom. Furnished. Patio. Share 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse, 2 females. No smoking/ pets. Pool, Jacuzzi. 858-243-4290.

VISTA. $550, plus deposit. Shared bath. Includes utilities, Internet, cable, laundry, kitchen, parking. Near 78 freeway. Must like dogs, no additional pets. Available now. 760-599-3956.

ROOMMATE SERVICES

ALL AREAS. ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

HOME SHARING. Help a senior in their home in exchange for low-rent room. Rent-free rooms are sometimes available. ElderHelp of San Diego, 619-284-9281.

RENTALS
COMMERCIAL

BANKER'S HILL/ DOWNTOWN: Secure 2- car garage plus storage; $200 month. Call Steve, 619-696-7500.

BAY PARK. Prime retail showroom space. 2000 square feet, roll- up rear door, plenty of parking. Busy location with high traffic. Excellent lease and terms available. 1022 West Morena Boulevard. 858-272-9614.

CITY HEIGHTS. New storage sheds, 10'x10'. 1st month free! 12- month lease. $49/ month. $49/ deposit. Available now. Dry storage only, no cars. 619-368-9410.

EL CAJON COMMERCIAL/ retail space, $725. 1st month free! Great location! Busy intersection of 2nd Street and Broadway. 1333 Broadway Street. 619-384-9219.

EL CAJON OFFICE SUITES with baths near courts and downtown. 360 square feet, 720 square feet. 140 and 152 W. Park Avenue. Vic Zeman, 619-442-8871.

GASLAMP ART SPACE! $150/ up. High ceilings, tall windows. Gallery venue for shows. Uniquely affordable. 100-600 square feet. 402 Market. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-239-1639 x103. www.HughesManagement.net.

LA JOLLA. Prime Birdrock retail/ office space. Great street- front location with large showroom windows. Air conditioning, upgraded flooring and electrical. 5530 La Jolla Boulevard, Suite A, 1575 square feet, $1.75/ square feet. Contact Erik Karlson at TPPM, Inc. 858-454-4200 x115 or email info@torreypinespm.com.

MASSAGE ROOM FOR RENT at centrally located, professional massage center. Includes table, linen, blanket, towel/ warmer, music. Must be licensed/ insured. $25/ hour. contact@healinghands-sd.com. 619-574-0053.

MISSION BAY/ CLAIREMONT. Office suite. 429 square feet at $1.05. Upstairs. Clean. Near I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard. 619-275-3455.

NORTH PARK. Space for rent, 300-square- foot room in rear of retail store. $20/ hour or 10% of fee- based events (whichever is greater). $10 extra for out-of- store- hour times. Perfect for classes, meetings, or performances. 619-280-8408.

PACIFIC BEACH. Retail store front, 1337 square feet. $2400/ month. Available now. 1453 Garnet Avenue. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

POINT LOMA. 1262 Scott Street. $800. Office with bathroom, upstairs, approximately 613 square feet. 2- year lease. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

RENTALS
HOUSES

ALLIED GARDENS. $1600. 4985 Elsa Rd. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath. 1- car garage, refinished hardwood floors, new carpet, ceiling fans in all bedrooms. No pets/ smoking. Val, 619.587-2613.

BANKER'S HILL. Elegant cottage. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stainless steel appliances. Hardwood floors. Granite counters, crown molding, private laundry. Partial view. Pets welcome! Street parking only. $1700. 2119 2nd Avenue. 619-221-9191.

BAY PARK. $2800. View of the bay. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Pool. New carpet, garage, gardener included. Available now. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management. 858-488-2228.

CARDIFF. $2695. 4- bedroom, 3- bath house with 2- car garage, fireplace, large yard. Year lease. 2000 square feet. 772 Mackinnon Court. 760-753-6575.

CARLSBAD. 4 bedroom, 3 bath house in Summit neighborhood. Near ocean. Fenced yard, panoramic view, three- car garage, all amenities. $2500 rent. Pets OK. 760-681-9105.

CHULA VISTA. $2150. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, large yard, garage, laundry room, new carpet, remodeled. Pet on approval. Section 8 OK. 209 H Street. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

CITY HEIGHTS. $950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming house. Appliances, new carpet, water/ trash paid, stackable washer/ dryer in unit. 3402 40th Street. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 3844 40th Street. House. $1200. Hardwood floors, washer/ dryer hookups, yard. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

CLAIREMONT/ BAY PARK. $1400. Block from bay! 2 bedroom, 1 bath, yard, automatic garage opener, washer/ dryer, disposal. Excellent, quiet neighborhood. Small pet OK. 858-677-9932.

CLAIREMONT/ NORTH. 3 bedroom, 1-1/ 2 bath. Open floor plan, new tile. Covered patio, fenced, 2- car garage. Close to all. $2000. 5341 Cole Street. 858-273-7241.

CLAIREMONT MESA/ GENESEE. $1895 rent. $1800 deposit OAC. Newer 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 1325- square- foot duplex townhouse. Garage, ample parking. Laundry hookups. No pets at 4439 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard #1A. Agent, 619-299-4034.

COLLEGE AREA. $1095. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Hardwood floors, all appliances. Off- street parking. Fenced yard. Near all. Near SDSU. 5820 El Cajon Boulevard, 92115. 619-285-3822.

COLLEGE AREA. $2000. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house, garage, washer/ dryer. Available January 2010. 6216 Pembroke Drive. www.stevenleeproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

CROWN POINT. $2550. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, large bedrooms. Fireplace, alarm system. Patios, landscaped yard. 1 parking space. No pets, no smoking. 858-395-7072.

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Typo Patrol Results

Issue of December 3, 2009

Happy Hour listings
p.99 speciality *should be* specialty
Nathaniel Uy (Downtown) $10

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Herb Spark (Del Mar) $10

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number). Exceptions: direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Exempt: ads, blogs, user reviews, movie showtimes, puzzle results, and letters to the editor. Submissions accepted until Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. First identification of error wins $10 or a Reader T-shirt (indicate preference). Winnings limited to $300/year per household. Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

CROWN POINT. $2295. 3- bedroom, 2- bath home. 1- car garage, 2 short blocks to bay, balcony. No pets. 3922 Shasta Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

DEL CERRO. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, $2100. Hardwood floors, all appliances, double garage, fenced backyard. Near shopping, bus, SDSU. Available 12/1. No pets. 619-465-6588.

EAST VILLAGE. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, $1350. Completely remodeled, hardwood floors, most appliances, washer/ dryer hookups. Pets negotiable. John/ Christine, 619-546-4136.

EL CAJON. 3- bedroom, 2- bath house in cul-de-sac. Beautiful home. Nice neighborhood. 2- car garage. Large backyard. $1695/ month. Section 8 OK. Call 619-807-7662.

EL CAJON. $1025. Quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Fenced yard. Patio. Laundry hookup. Off- street parking. Air conditioning. Pets OK. 1271 Lyons Lane. 619-561-3618.

GOLDEN HILL. $680 plus utilities. Studio apartment in small complex. Hardwood floors, shared patio area, close to Downtown. Nonsmoking only. Quiet neighborhood close to freeway access, City College, public transportation. 1140-1/2 20th Street. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

HILLCREST. Large 1 bedroom house. Craftsman, hardwood floors, private, quiet, laundry hookups, storage, off-street parking. $1400. 619-283-1534.

HILLCREST. $2095. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. 2 parking spaces. Washer/ dryer. Very nice remodeled cottage with hardwood floors, granite counters, new appliances. Small pet OK. 3788 10th Avenue. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST/ MISSION HILLS. $3500. 5- bedroom, 4- bath, 2- car garage. Office, 3433 square feet, 2005 construction. Laundry hookups, stainless steel appliances. No pets at 1189 West Upas Street. Agent, 619-299-4034.

KENSINGTON look- alike. Home for the Holiday! Historical 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Palm- lined street, private park- like yard, double patio. Formal dining room, fireplace, freshly painted, new carpets, laundry, garage. $1750. Peg/ Virginia: 619-448-5592, 619-282-7083, 619-855-0377.

LEMON GROVE $1800. 3 bedroom, 2 bath home good condition. Pets OK. New carpet, paint. Landscaped. Fridge included. Laundry hookups. Fireplace, covered patio. 619-838-9515.

LEMON GROVE. $1325. 2- bedroom, 1- bath. 1- car garage. Large fenced- in yard, deck. Renovated. New paint. Hardwood floors. Close to elementary school. 619-867-2126.

La Mesa

Move-In Special! $50 off rent for the first 6 months! 3- bedroom, 2-bath house. Beautiful garden yard Gardener included. Corner lot. Walk to park, Benchley Weinberger School. Close to shopping, freeway access. Quiet neighborhood, 2-car garage, dishwasher, new bathroom tile, large backyard. Must see! $2000/month after 6-month special. 619-697-5811.

MISSION BEACH. $1215. 1 bedroom, 1 bath house. Addition room. 1 parking. No pets. Small patio/ storage. New carpet/ paint. Appliances. 725 Rockaway Court. Juno, 619-275-3455.

MISSION HILLS. $1750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, 1600 square feet, garage, hardwood floors, fireplace, patio. No pets/ smoking. All appliances. Quiet. On-site laundry. 619-298-6436.

MISSION HILLS. Artist's home. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 extra rooms. Frank-Lloyd- Wright- style architecture. Fireplace, pool, RV parking, double garage. Pet? $2800. 619-987-2590.

NORTH PARK. $795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Laundry, parking. Centrally located, close to freeway, newer carpet. 4553 Texas Street #7. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

NORTH PARK. Small 1 bedroom house, wood floors, washer/ dryer hookups. No pets. Nonsmoking. Available now. 4120 Iowa Street. $800/ month plus deposit. 619-669-9953.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom, 2 bath house with 2- car garage in Sunset Cliffs. Panoramic ocean view! Small yard. Pets OK. Available now. $2250. 4653 Orchard Avenue. Lance, 619-222-6020.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath house, office, hardwood floors, washer/ dryer, refrigerator, patio, front deck/ yard, off-street parking. $2200. 1855 Missouri. Available 1/1. 619-997-8862.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1595. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, small house. Stove, refrigerator, laundry hookups, garage plus carport. Private, fenced patio. Pet OK upon approval with extra deposit. Available 1/ 10/10. 1027 Hornblend. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, $1495. 1- car garage, new carpet and paint, wall heater, laundry room. 1343 Grand Avenue. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1895. 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. Garage. 4 blocks to Bay. Very clean. Laundry. No pets. 2119 Reed Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom little house. $850. Water included. 1 parking space. Close to transportation and shopping. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. Dogs allowed. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom duplex house. Close to bay. Private patio, laundry on- site, dishwasher, remodeled. $1550/ month. 619-822-0093.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. Luxurious 2 bedroom house. Close to bay and beach. Hot tub. Private, fenced tropical yards. $1995- 2195/ month. 619-822-0093.

PACIFIC BEACH/ MISSION BEACH house on ocean side of Boulevard. $2000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Steps to the ocean. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1925. 2 bedroom house. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, washer/ dryer. Large, fenced backyard. Parking. Fireplace, wood floors. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 1/15/10. 838 Sapphire. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

POINT LOMA. $1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath Spanish- style house. Hardwood floors. Tiled bathroom, dining room. Water/ trash paid. Move- in special. 2165 Catalina Boulevard. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

POINT LOMA. 3789 La Cresta. House with garage, $2450. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Big backyard. Hardwood floors. Washer, dryer. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO. $1300. 3 bedrooms. 2005 remodel! New tile/ carpet/ wood flooring. Vaulted ceilings. New appliances/ fixtures. 2- car attached garage. Pets OK. 619-499-9433.

San Diego

Move-In Special! $50 off rent for the first 6 months! 3- bedroom, 2-bath house. Beautiful garden yard Gardener included. Corner lot. Walk to park, Benchley Weinberger School. Close to shopping, freeway access. Quiet neighborhood, 2-car garage, dishwasher, new bathroom tile, large backyard. Must see! $2000/month after 6-month special. 619-697-5811.

SCRIPPS RANCH House. 3600+ estimated square feet. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, family room, refrigerator, dishwasher, stove/ oven, microwave. Washer, dryer. Air conditioning/ heating. 4 fireplaces. 3- car garage! 12294 Spruce Grove Place. $2995/ month. Agent, 619-471-2201.

SPRING VALLEY. 3- bedroom, 1.5- bathroom townhouse. 2- car covered port. Stove, dishwasher, laundry. Section 8 considered. Deposit required. $1600 rent. Move in ready. 619-991-9665.

UNIVERSITY AVE. $1200, Reduced move in. Detached back house, street parking, laundry on site. 1712 Monroe Ave., www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

UNIVERSITY CITY. $1895. 1/2 off first month's rent. 3- bedroom, 2- bath, 2- car garage, wet bar, family room. 7207 Werner Street. 619-582-4119.

RENTALS
APARTMENTS / CONDOS

ALPINE. Alpine Creek Apartments. Huge 1 bedroom apartment, $825. 800 square feet, stone flooring in entry and kitchen, spacious living room and dining room, washer/ dryer in unit. No pets. 1950 Arnold Way. Move- in bonus! Call 619-445-8392.

ALPINE. 55+. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedrooms, $945. 2 bedrooms, $1075. $99 deposit OAC. Creekside Meadows, 1750 Arnold Way. Call 619-445-2480.

ALPINE. 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, $1095. $99 deposit OAC. Newly remodeled. Private garages, fireplaces, vaulted ceilings. Resort- size pool and spa. Alpine Woods, 1829 Arnold Way. 619-445-1341.

BALBOA PARK. $825. 1 bedroom apartment in quiet, picturesque building. Beautiful street! Assigned parking, laundry, patio. No pets. 2449 A Street. 619-549-9542; 858-278-6135.

BALBOA PARK/ EAST/ HILLCREST. $1250. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Forest-like setting. Big balcony. Remodeled kitchen. Storage. Carport. Secured building. Very quiet. Laundry. Gated community. No pets. 619-347-0003.

BANKER'S HILL. $700-$800 studios, $825-$900 1 bedrooms. Cozy, affordable units in vintage building. Close to park and Downtown. Some utilities paid. Laundry facility. No pets. Call for information. 619-234-7572.

BANKER'S HILL. Beautiful, furnished studios. Move- in special: starting $150/ week. Spotless. Great location. Free wireless/ local calls. 410 Elm Street/ 4th Avenue. Information: 619-232-1336.

BANKER'S HILL. $975. 1 bedroom plus den, view, wood floors. Air conditioning/ heating. Garage extra. St. Jean Apartments. 2149 2nd Avenue. By appointment, 619-518-6985; 619-992-7791.

BANKER'S HILL. $945. 1 bedroom, 1 bath spacious apartment. Historic. Hardwood floors. Tall ceilings. Patio. 2066 4th Avenue #4. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

BANKER'S HILL. Downtown/ Little Italy area. Studio apartment. Street parking, air conditioning, on-site laundry. Rent: $795. Deposit: $500. 2027 Front Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

BANKER'S HILL. $650 up. Lovely, immaculate studios. Quiet, well- kept classic building designed by Gil. Appliances, gas included. Laundry. Bus. No pets. 619-280-5177; 619-236-0452.

BANKER'S HILL. $795. 1/2 off first! Large, charming studio, gated, hardwood floors, appliances, large closet with built-ins, on-site laundry, 2 blocks from Balboa and more! 401 Juniper Street. 619-300-9487.

BANKER'S HILL. $1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in charming gated complex, all wood floors, stove, refrigerator, walk-in closet, ceiling fans, private patio, on-site laundry. 1928 3rd Avenue. 619-300-9487.

BANKER'S HILL/ LITTLE ITALY. Studio apartment. On-site laundry, air conditioning. Move- in special, rent: $825. 2011 Front Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

BAY PARK. $790-$815. Prime location. Walk to Mission Bay. Immaculate 1 bedroom apartment. Quiet complex. Pool. Barbecue. Laundry. No pets. Lease. 2515 Chicago Street. 619-276-1468.

BAY PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, unit parking, on-site laundry, dishwasher. Small dog on approval. Rent: $1130. 5572 Lauretta Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

BAY PARK/ MISSION BAY. $775. Remodeled, large studio apartment. Parking. Paid utilities. No pets. New appliances. New carpet/ paint. Laundry. 3431 Del Rey Street. 619-275-3455.

BAY PARK/ MISSION BAY. Pristine 1 bedroom for $895 and 2 bedroom, 1 bath for $1125 in Bay Parkís best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. Perfect Mission Bay location with easy freeway access. No pets. 2520 Chicago Street. TPPM, 619-405-7200, www.debonairapts.com.

CARDIFF. Townhome. White/ bright 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath plus garage on Manchester. Private patio. Greenbelt. Lagoon trails. Walk to beach. $1900. Available 12/26. 760-550-1801.

CARLSBAD. $755. Small studio cottage in village. Complete separate kitchen/ bath. Approximately 400 square feet. Funky with uneven floors. Parking. No pets. Lease. 760-505-7736.

CARLSBAD. Rising Glen apartments offers 1, 2 and 3 bedroom homes. Gourmet all- electronic kitchens, breakfast bars. Vaulted ceilings, spectacular views. Private balcony or patio. Fireplaces. Central air. Fitness center pool- side barbecues. 1 bedrooms from $1300. 2 bedrooms from $1420, 888-252-6823, www.Rising.GlenCarlsbad.com.

CARLSBAD. $1650. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with view of lagoon, hills, and partial ocean. Seapoint Tennis Club. No pets/ smoking. Call 858-774-4988, visit http://members.cox.net/seapoint.

CARLSBAD. *Large 2 bedrooms from $1400. Call for specials!* Fantastic lagoon views! 1/2 block to beach. Walking distance to Downtown Village. 2303 Ocean Street. Agent, 760-434-7721.

CARLSBAD. $1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse- style apartment with large patio, 3 blocks to beach, near Tamarack Avenue. Secluded garden complex. 2 parking spaces. No pets. 350-370 Chinquapin Avenue. TPPM, 760-729-8132. www.torreypinespm.com.

CARLSBAD/ LA COSTA. $1595. Large luxury 3 bedroom, 2 bath in beautiful garden complex with views over La Costa Golf Course. Fireplace, washer/dryer, air conditioning, pool/ spa/ sauna. Small pet considered. 2391 Caringa Way. Alicante Views. TPPM, 760-431-7575. www.alicanteviews.com.

CARMEL VALLEY. 3 and 4 bedroom townhomes from $1653. Affordable properties. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call 858-793-0951.

CARMEL VALLEY. 1 bedroom, with loft/ office. Quiet greenbelt location. Freshly painted. Security system. Indoor laundry. Water/ appliances included. Pool/ tennis. $1450. Available 1/1. 858-354-3005.

CARMEL VALLEY. 1 and 2 bedroom remodeled apartments, new appliances. Full- size washer/ dryer. State- of- the- art fitness center, complimentary personal trainer. Heated competition lap pool. Lighted tennis courts. Free tennis/ swimming lessons. Pro tennis instructor. Sorry, no pets. The Club Torrey Pines, 12646 Torrey Bluff Drive. 1-866-354-2096. www.torrey.cc.

CASA DE ORO/ RANCHO SAN DIEGO. $695 includes utilities. Immaculate, large studio. Quiet, private. Off- street parking. Near shopping/ freeway. No smoke/ drugs/ pets. 619-465-0482.

CASA DE ORO/ SPRING VALLEY. Seniors 55+. $399 moves you in! Air conditioning, laundry, bus stop, shopping. Quiet property. 9550 Campo Road. Agent, 619-697-8435.

CHULA VISTA. $915. Upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors, on-site laundry, shared courtyard. Near historic Old Town. Cat OK. 270 #B, G Street. 619-300-1365.

CHULA VISTA. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath, $1025, $900 deposit. 3 bedroom/ 2 bath, $1375, $1000 deposit. Laundry room. Close to mall/ freeway. No pets. Available now. 433 D Street, 91910. 619-757-8896.

CHULA VISTA. One Park Apartments. Spacious 1 and 2 bedroom floor plans. Fully equipped kitchen, air conditioning. European- style cabinets. Select units offer skylights. Pool. 1 bedrooms from $1075. 2 bedrooms from $1285. 888-365-3205, www.OneParkApartments.com.

CHULA VISTA. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, new carpet, dishwasher, patios. Gated, laundry, off- street parking. No pets. $1200. $200-$600 move- in discount. 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA. *$775/ month. Low $150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished or unfurnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center and trolley. Off- street parking. Laundry room. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). Call 619-420-5084.*

CHULA VISTA. 585 E Street. Utilities included. $840. 1 bedroom. Pool, laundry, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

CHULA VISTA. 1 bedroom apartments, $695/ month. Deposit $500. All utilities included. Pool, off- street parking. Laundry facilities. Call Park Regency Apartments. 619-422-0792.

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Events Calendar

Laughter Yoga with Vina Blue. Friday, Dec. 18, 7-8:30pm. Simple techniques that relieve stress, stimulate the immune system and boost endorphins. Breath work, light stretching, laughter exercises and meditation, fun, musical exercises to give your inner child a workout and awaken your creativity! Led by Vina "Blue" Estrada. $5. Shiloh Spiritual Center, 3288 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego 92104, just east of I-805. 619-269-4897.

Past to Present Nature Walk. Saturday, Dec. 12, 8:30am. Spend a crisp, autumn morning outdoors with a naturalist along San Diego River bank. Learn cultural history's link with native species of flora, fauna identified along trail. Admission free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. 619-668-3281.

First Aid for Cats and Dogs. Sunday, Dec. 13, 1-5pm. American Red Cross class covers treatments for pet emergencies including choking, shock, poisoning, broken bones. Admission $60. San Diego Humane Society, 5500 Gaines Street, 92110. Required reservations: 619-243-3424.

Tree of Life. Tuesday, Dec. 15, 6:30-8pm. J. David Archibald — curator of mammals of SDSU Vertebrate Collections — presents "Perceptions of the History of Life Before and After Darwin." "Discover iconography of both evolutionary and creationist trees of life that almost certainly finds its roots in trees." Admission $10-$12. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. Reservations: 619-255-0203.

Shamanic Hike. Dec. 20, 3-5pm. Short hike to "power spot to explore shamanic traditions of indigenous people of the Americas." Learn about saging, calling the directions, creating sacred space, accessing energies of nature for healing, insight, and wisdom. Bring blanket to sit on, drum or rattle. Admission free. Penasquitos west-end staging area, 4300 Sorrento Valley Boulevard. 858-484-3219.

Climb for the Cure. Saturday, Dec. 12, 9am. StairClimb Challenge pledge-based fundraiser benefiting Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Choose three-hour competitive climb or shorter "leisure climb" up 50 flights. Check-in for competitive climbers: 9am; kickoff for leisure climbers: 10:30am (they may begin anytime after 9am). Separate stairwells for competitive and leisure climbers. "Survivor's Beerfest" follows. Admission $25-$75. Ages 6 and up. Columbia Center, 401 West A Street. 858-452-2873.

Deep Relaxation. Through Dec. 14, Mondays 7:45pm, Fridays 10:30am. Mindful breathing, meditation, movement to calm mind, body. No experience needed. Fee: $15 per class, $20 for three classes. Akasha Yoga, 3211 Holiday Court, #203. 858-622-9642.

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OFF THE CUFF by Josh Board

What are you best at?



Phil Feliciotto
Management
New York

I'm best at reading and understanding people. A lot of that has to do with their body language and certain small things they do. I'm a people person, and I think I understand people more than they might understand themselves. I can tell if someone is saying something just to please me. Sometimes someone may say no, and you can tell they aren't so sure. Obviously, that's not 100 percent. But I think 99 percent of the average person…I could tell if they're lying.



Eric Platt
Student
Point Loma

Playing drums. Right now I'm teaching the drum line at Point Loma High School. I've been playing since I was ten years old. My parents were very encouraging. I'm guessing most folks would tell their kids to be quieter. They would tell me to play louder.



Tim Dobbins
Linebacker
San Diego

After football? I'd say ice-skating. I've been doing that for six years. I can't do anything crazy like jumping and twirling in the air. After that, it would be bowling. I've never gotten a 300 game, but I've come close.



Matt Holmes
Trader
Del Cerro

I've got to say being sarcastic. My wife gets on me all the time about that. It's sometimes hard to be politically correct. I'd like to say that I'm best at something that's a lot more useful or something that would make my wife happier than my sarcastic comments. And she's always telling me that I'm sarcastic at inappropriate times.



Don Roggensees
Limo driver
Allied Gardens

I would say it's communicating. I'm a great communicator. I think it started when I was at the post office. I'm a retired supervisor. And when I started driving a limo, I learned when to become invisible and when to talk. You learn the hard way. If someone is on their cell phone or working, you give them space. If someone is in from Boston and they're looking out the window and commenting on buildings, I like to tell them about the various things they're seeing.



Rich Hyde
Retired military
San Marcos

Tricking off my wife! I'm great at that. Seriously, though, the thing I'm best at is probably working on cars. My dad had a used-car lot, and from the time I was nine, I was a mechanic. I have a few classic cars: a '54 Ford pickup, a '57 Ford wagon, and a '57 Thunderbird. The pickup I use mostly in my avocado grove. And the T-bird I didn't restore all myself.

CHULA VISTA. $825 - 1 bedroom. Beautiful garden courtyard. Controlled access. Very clean. Air conditioning. No pets. 540 Naples Street. TPPM, 619-422-5709. www.torreypinespm.com.

CHULA VISTA. $775. 1 bedroom apartment. Utilities included! New paint and carpet. Don't miss out! Parking and laundry on site. 318 G Street. Manager, 619-820-2584.

CHULA VISTA. $795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath with ***all utilities included!*** New paint, flooring. Best deal in South Bay. On-site parking and pool. Clean, quiet, secure. 540 Flower Street. Call Krista: 619-733-6928; or Rachael: 619-804-1044.

CITY HEIGHTS. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly refurbished. Quiet gated community, close to everything! Pantry, huge linen closet/ coat closet. Section 8 welcome. No pets. 4054 Cherokee Avenue. Call 619-527-7724 or email clizardi@sdhc.org.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, $793. Downstairs unit. 4164 Altadena Ave. #3. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call Ana at 619-266-3663 for more information.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath Townhomes. $1171. Washer/ dryer hookups and patio. 4211 Juniper Street #12 and #13. Section 8 welcome; no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath Townhomes. $1171. Washer/ dryer hookups and patio. 4273-79 Juniper St. #2 and #3. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath townhouse with washer/ dryer hook-ups and a patio. $1202. 4390 Maple Street #3. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom/ 1.5 bath Townhome. $1271. Washer/ dryer hookups, with patio. 2628 44th St. #2. Section 8 welcome; sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom/ 2 bath. $1327 per month. Upstairs unit with patio. 4225 44th St. #3. Section 8 welcome; sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath Townhomes with patio. $1171 per month. 4180 Poplar St. #4, 4182 Poplar St. #3. Section 8 welcome; sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 3 bedroom/ 1.5 bath Townhome with patio. $1404 per month. 4182 Poplar St. #4. Section 8 welcome; sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. 5 bedroom/ 2 bath Townhome with nice yard. $1629 per month. 3010 39th St. Apt. A. Section 8 welcome; sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

CITY HEIGHTS. $775. 1 bedroom. Credit check $25 fee. Move- in incentives. Gated community. Secured assigned parking. On-site laundry. Pool. New carpet, new appliances. Clean and excellent. Convenient location, close to shops and dining, buses/ transits. Nearby Fay Elementary School and Colina Del Sol Park. No pets. Contact Art at 619-283-9993.

CITY HEIGHTS. Quaint 55+ gated community. Around the corner from everything! 1 bedroom- $790 per month. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call Anna at 619-527-7723 and mention this ad!

CITY HEIGHTS. $1525/ month. 2- bedroom, 1- bath house, canyon view. New paint, new carpet plus upgrades. Yard. Washer/ dryer. Available now. 619-561-4299.

CITY HEIGHTS. 425- square- foot studio. Renovated, bright, charming. $599/ month, $599 deposit. Electricity included. Year lease. Pets OK. 2715 44th Street. Sara, 619-281-2989.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Rehabbed. New carpet, paint, tile. Second- story unit. Parking. Washer/ dryer. Bright. Separate vanity area. $799. Deposit $799. 619-281-2989.

CITY HEIGHTS. $900. Nice 2 bedroom apartment. Quiet building. Upstairs. Large rooms. Coin laundry. Cat OK. 4438 Menlo Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, $700. Assigned parking, tile floors, upstairs, water/ sewer/ trash included, Section 8 OK. 4366 51st Street, #4, #7 and #8. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs apartment, $700. Water/ sewer/ trash included. 1 parking space, coin laundry, 650 square feet. 1/2 off first month with 1- year lease! 4358 51st Street #6. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, $895 month- to- month. Water/ sewer/ trash included, community laundry room. 4361 and 4361-1/2 49th Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, $925. Upstairs, all appliances, tile floors, water/ sewer/ trash included, laundry room, parking. 3215 44th Street #14. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. $1125. Duplex. 3822 47th Street. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Renovated. New carpet, paint, blinds, drapes. Yard. Parking. No smoking/ pets. Shops, bus. Section 8 OK. 619-275-2648.

CITY HEIGHTS. $800. Remodeled studio/ condo. $300 off first month. Stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, fireplace, washer/ dryer in unit, balcony. In gated building with covered parking. Broker, 619-977-1930.

Section 8 OK!
Open House, Sat 11-2

City Heights. $700. Spacious studio. Walk in closet! Brand new paint and carpet throughout! 4216 50th Street. Manager, 619-820-2584.

CLAIREMONT. Move-in special! From $975. 1 bedroom/ 1 bath, 2 bedroom/ 1-1/2 bath. Large, sunny townhomes. Pool. Parking. No pets. The Gardens, 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. Call 858-278-5862.

CLAIREMONT. 1/2 off first month! $850, 1 bedroom. $1150, 2 bedroom. Balcony, pool, laundry, off- street parking. 7322 Mesa College Drive. 858-560-6204.

CLAIREMONT. $1365 plus deposit. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Over 1200 square feet. 5 closets. New carpet, fresh paint. Carport. Gated entry. Indoor kitten OK. Wood- burning fireplace, ice-maker. On-site laundry room. 858-337-8054 or 858-206-2566.

CLAIREMONT. Free continental breakfast buffet, maid/ linen service! No lease! Free utilities! Studios starting $1195/ month*, weekly starting $300* (*subject to change, based on availability). Ask about our 6- month lease program. Heated pool/ spa. Laundry. Microwave. Refrigerator. High- speed Internet. California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 1-888-475-7147. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath: $995. Parking, pool. On-site laundry. Gated. 5150 Balboa Arms Drive. Call Thea, 858-571-0104.

CLAIREMONT. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $925. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse, $1250. Gated, parking, on-site laundry. No pets. Call Irena, 858-279-9590.

CLAIREMONT. $1495. Upstairs unit, 1/2 off first month's rent. Great view of canyon. Free basic cable. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 3079 Cowley Way. Call 619-582-4119.

CLAIREMONT. $1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large yard. Small pets OK. 3375 Idlewild Way. Agent, 858-560-1178.

Senior 55+

Clairemont. $200 off first month, OAC. 1 bedroom, $885. Must see! On-site laundry. Near bus. Section 8 welcome. Won't last! 858-735-5587; 858-735-4099.

CLAIREMONT/ KEARNY MESA. Wexford Manor. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms in beautiful complex with pool, spa, laundry, air conditioning, dishwasher. Sorry, no pets. $950- $1275/ month. Photos at www.wexfordliving.com. 7870 Stalmer Street. Call 858-277-4843.

COLLEGE AREA. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, $1500. Patio, off- street parking, new carpet, on-site laundry. No pets. Call for special! 619-564-8764.

COLLEGE AREA. Newly refurbished 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1100. Brand new carpeting, paint, tile. All amenities, controlled entry, parking, laundry on premises. Park- like setting. Fine residential area near all. 4546 52nd Street. 619-287-1996, 619-461-9415.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 and 3 bedroom apartment homes with garage! Near College Area. From $1148. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call Anna at 619-527-7723 and mention this ad!

COLLEGE AREA. $1400. Large 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Includes double garage, all appliances. Near SDSU. Completely redone. Great view! Desirable area! No pets/ smoking. 858-271-0038.

COLLEGE AREA. Large 1 and 2 bedrooms, starting at $750. Dishwasher, garbage disposal, microwave, air conditioning. Laundry facility, permit/ assigned parking. Close to drive- through Starbucks. No pets. 6725 Amherst Street. 858-483-5111.

COLLEGE AREA. Senior/ disabled building. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Courtyard. Tile kitchen/ bath. $750 rent, $400 deposit. Bus nearby. Gated building. Water, garbage included. Section 8 OK. 858-336-3096.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condos. Hardwood floor/ tile. Balcony/ patio. Gas stove, microwave. Central air/ heat. Dishwasher. Washer/ dryer hookups. Gated. 2 miles to SDSU. Near all/ golf course. Pets upon approval. 5170 Orange Avenue, 92115. $1195+ ***1 month free.*** On approved credit. Furnishings optional. For details call 619-285-3822.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

COLLEGE AREA. $700. Apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities paid, laundry room and parking. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #6. No pets. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

COLLEGE AREA. Huge 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $995. Complete remodel. New carpet, paint, and countertops. On-site parking/ laundry. Clean, quiet, secure. 4752 Seminole Drive. If you can find one better, rent it! Call Rachael, 619-804-1044, or Jeff, 619-713-1044.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, $1700. 1 month free with 1- year lease! 2- car tandem parking, stainless steel appliances, marble countertops, patio. 5540 Lindo Paseo #3. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

COLLEGE AREA. $725. Apartment, 1 bedroom, 1 bath, all utilities paid, laundry room and parking. 7232 El Cajon Boulevard #6. No pets. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom from $775. $400 off 1st month's rent. Pool, laundry, and barbecue. Close to SDSU and all conveniences. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. $895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. New paint! On-site parking. Clean, quiet, secure. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. If you can find one better, rent it! Call Lynette, 619-602-0959, or Rachael, 619-804-1044.

Open House
Saturday 11-2

College Area. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $975; or 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1050. Central air! Parking and laundry on site! 4475 50th St. Manager, 619-820-2584.

COLLEGE AREA/ TALMADGE. $650 rent, $700 deposit OAC. Large 1 bedroom apartment, parking, laundry, no pets, at 4423 Menlo Avenue #8 or #16. Agent, 619-299-8515.

COLLEGE AREA/ TALMADGE. $900 rent, $800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, laundry, parking, newer carpet, no pets, at 4423 Menlo Avenue #9. Agent, 619-299-8515 or 619-990-5021.

COLLEGE/ TALMADGE. $1050: 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $845: 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Completely refurbished, large, upstairs unit. Laminate flooring, air conditioning, dishwasher, microwave, laundry, courtyard, garage. Must see. 858-688-3046; 619-818-1994.

CROWN POINT. $925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs. No adjoining walls. Security entrance. Shared/ on- street parking. No

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CROWN POINT. $1495. 2- bedroom, 1-bath apartment. 1- car garage, 2 blocks to bay. No pets. 3704 Jewell Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

CROWN POINT/ PACIFIC BEACH. $1550. Perfect 2 bedroom, 2 bath in super nice property two blocks to bay. 2 parking spaces. 3803 Jewell Street. TPPM, 619-933-7400. www.villalaplaya.com.

DEL MAR. $1495. 2 bedroom apartment. Desirable setting over Torrey Pines Reserve and Beach. Laundry. 12760 Via Cortina. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

DEL MAR. 1 bedrooms from $1480. 1 month free with 1- year lease or 1/2 off with 6- month lease. Garage, heated pool, spa, fitness center. Close to the beach. Call 858-755-4721.

DOWNTOWN. Studios with kitchen and bath, $625-$700. Single room with private bathroom, $550-$595. Nonsmoking. No pets. 10th and E Street. Hughes Management, 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Comfortable rooms, $450/ up. Studios, $650/ up. Near Gaslamp District. Very quiet and clean. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, community kitchen, shared bathrooms. Near shopping, restaurants, movie theatres and Horton Plaza. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2097.

DOWNTOWN. Economical furnished rooms, $450-$550, best price, save money. Conveniently located on C Street trolley line, near restaurants, free cable TV, shared bathrooms, on-site laundry facilities, vending machines, elevator service, no pets, 636 C Street (between 6th and 7th). C Street Inn, Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-234-4165. www.HughesManagement.net. www.sdreader.com/news/rent2098.

DOWNTOWN. Cozy rooms, $486-$625. Very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of shared or private bathrooms. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator, no pets. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-239-3808. www.HughesManagement.net, www.sdreader.com/news/rent2099.

DOWNTOWN. Gaslamp area. $425-$550. Community kitchen, shared bath, on-site laundry, vending machines, no pets. Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-235-6068. HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Outstanding furnished rooms, $450-$500. Heart of Gaslamp. Shared bathrooms. Community kitchen. Free cable. No pets. Windsor Hotel, 843 4th Avenue. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-239-3808. www.HughesMangement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Attractive rooms. Shared rooms. Shared baths. Utilities included. Near City College. $450-$595/ month. 719 14th Street. Villa Victoria. Hughes Management, Lic#955724, 619-239-1639 x103. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new rooms near City College. Single rooms with kitchenettes from $140/ week, deposit (long- term). Includes utilities/ cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/ laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmed-sd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Brand new "low income" housing! Studio $778. 1 bedroom $888.2 bedroom $996. Parkside Apartments opening in December in Downtown San Diego! Studio apartments available. Underground/ assigned parking, community center, outdoor deck, views, wired for cable/ Internet, "green"/ nonsmoking community. Income restrictions apply: One person maximum $34,680; two persons $39,660; three persons $44,580. 515 13th Street, San Diego, 92101. Call toll-free, 877-280-5568.

DOWNTOWN. Stay the week, stay the month! Monthly rates from $21.87/ night. Wireless Internet in all rooms. 1-2 blocks to bus, train. Flat- screen TVs. Weekly rates from $37.14/ night: Community kitchen and dining area. European- style detached bathrooms. Monthly rentals must qualify under the San Diego Housing Commission's low- income program. Subject to availability. Taxes not included. 500 West Hotel, 500 West Broadway. 500WestHotel.com. Toll free: 888-281-2676 or 619-234-5252.

DOWNTOWN. $565 and up plus deposit. Furnished room available in residential hotel with shared kitchen/ bath. Includes microwave, refrigerator, cable TV. 1545 Second Avenue, between Beech and Cedar. 619-795-1398.

DOWNTOWN. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at $160/ week. Free wireless Internet. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. Premier location. Furnished studios with full baths, from $199/weekly. Two award-winning buildings to choose from, 24-hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sundecks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second/ Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingsd.com.

DOWNTOWN. $900: 1 bedroom/ 1 bath. $750: Studio available. Wood floors. Refrigerator, stove. Quiet building, gated parking, on-site laundry. No pets. 1830 Market. 619-405-7368.

DOWNTOWN. $775. Studio. Move- in special! All utilities included! Laundry, street parking. No pets. Close to Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN. Beautiful building, new furnished rooms. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. Starting at $175 weekly. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN. 777 Lofts. $1595. Move- in special! Incredible 1 bedroom loft across from The Ivy. Best rental loft/ condominiums, one block to Downtown's popular 5th Avenue. Washer/ dryer. Small pet considered. A must see! TPPM, 619-544-0017, or stop by 777 6th Avenue at F Street. www.torreypinespm.com.

DOWNTOWN. $600. Large studio. Convenient location near public transportation. No pets. Close to City College at 22nd and Broadway. 619-210-4651.

DOWNTOWN/ CORTEZ HILL. Studio, $795. Limited access building, charming, quiet. Residential neighborhood. Utilities paid. On-site laundry. No pets. EOH. Call 619-299-8746.

DOWNTOWN/ EAST VILLAGE. Half off 1st/ 2nd month's rent! $585 including utilities with 12- month lease, single occupancy (income qualify— ask for details). Furnished. Air conditioning. Full bath. Kitchenette. Internet. Balcony with bay/ ballpark views. Clubhouse. Business center. Gated community. Near bus/ trolley. Island Village. 1245 Market Street. 1-888-325-4573. sdreader.com/places/island-village/.

DOWNTOWN/ GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. $125/ week and up. Four- week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/ GASLAMP. Move- in specials. Live/ work lofts in heart of The Gaslamp! Roof decks with barbecue. Laundry on every floor. Parking available. Seven locations Downtown. Select pets OK. Visit loft leasing office: 315 Fourth Avenue. 619-231-1505 x12. www.trilogymanagement.com. Also visit www.sdreader.com/news/rent2064.

Urban Mini Lofts

Downtown/ Gaslamp. Historic Beaumanor, unique urban mini lofts, $650-$900. Several sizes, 12' ceilings, brick, hardwood floors, near Horton Plaza. Hardwood furniture available. Paid cable/ electric/ water. Most include sleeping decks. Refrigerator/ microwave included. High- speed Internet available. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, outdoor kitchen. Impeccable renovation. No pets. 927 6th Avenue. Michael, 619-232-1517. beaumanor927@yahoo.com, http://www.sdreader.com/news/rent2127.

DOWNTOWN/ GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom. Tropical setting. Security gate. Tile floors. A/C. $850. $950 with private garage. 2559 C Street. Cat/ small dog OK. 619-994-0449.

DOWNTOWN/ LITTLE ITALY. From $800/ month. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Efficiency apartments with laundry. Near trolley/ bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN/ LITTLE ITALY. ***Move-in Special! $3000. 3 bedroom, 3 bath townhouse. Heart of Little Italy. Underground parking. Washer/ dryer. Dog OK. Vida, 619-665-8269. vidalife08@yahoo.com.***

DOWNTOWN/ LITTLE ITALY. Studio, $895; one bedroom, $1095. 9' ceilings. Nice kitchen. Ideal location. Secure, quiet, building with laundry. 1534 Front, near Beech. 619-233-7428.

DOWNTOWN/ SOUTH HARBOR. ***Historic Victorian flat/ studio. All utilities paid! Wood floors, dramatic ocean/ city view. Top floor. Walk- through closet. $695. 940 South 26th Street. 619-559-5423.***

EAST SAN DIEGO. $725. Spacious 1 bedroom, upstairs, in our lovely, small, gated community. On-site laundry. Assigned parking. No pets. 4336 Estrella Avenue. 619-298-7724.

EAST SAN DIEGO. $695. Furnished studio alcove apartment. Complete living room, bedroom and kitchen furniture. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off- street parking. Low deposit. Call 619-281-9451.

EL CAJON. $900 and up. 2 bedrooms, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park- like grounds, laundry on premises, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. 619-579-0174 or 619-464-1818.

EL CAJON. 1/2 off 2nd month OAC! 1 bedroom, $750; 2 bedroom, $850+. Appliances, on-site laundry, air, pool, off-street parking. Lushly landscaped. 294 Ballantyne. ***619-334-7934*** or 858-703-4932.

EL CAJON. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom. $985 rent. Air conditioning, pool, balcony, laundry, parking. Centrally located. No pets. $35 credit check, deposit $600 OAC. 619-444-1876.

EL CAJON. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. $1150 rent. Upstairs, gated, air conditioning, laundry, transportation close. No pets. $35 credit check. Deposit $700 OAC. 619-588-5420.

EL CAJON. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. $950 rent. 2 huge closets, patio storage. Quiet community, gorgeous grounds, pool, spa, barbeques, laundry facilities. No pets. 619-442-0291.

EL CAJON. Spacious apartments. 1 bedroom downstairs, $695 for first 6 months and $795 after. 2 bedroom, upstairs or downstairs, $895 for first 6 months, $980 thereafter; available December. Pool, on-site laundry, assigned parking, freeway close. Pets welcome! Anabel Court Apartments, 303 East Madison Avenue. Ask about our move- in specials! 619-579-5640.

EL CAJON. Cajon Villas. 3 bedroom, 2 bath: $1275. 2 bedroom, 2 bath: $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath: $735. Pool. Parking. Air conditioning. Laundry room. No pets. Available now. 933 Peach Avenue. 619-447-9193.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

EL CAJON. $725. Move- in special. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit, dining room, balcony, water/ trash paid, pool. 294 Chamber Street #38. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

EL CAJON. $750. Move- in special. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit, dining room, balcony, water/ trash paid, pool. 294 Chamber street #38. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

EL CAJON. $815. 2 bedroom, 1 bath starting. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, $945. Very clean, great location with on-site parking and laundry. 432 Dominguez Way. TPPM, 619-405-4500. www.torreypinespm.com.

EL CAJON. $705, 1 bedroom. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. No pets. ***$199 deposit!*** 1072 East Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-444-1614, www.fourwindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. $705. 1 bedroom in most attractive, well- maintained property with beautiful courtyard. Gated access and quiet location. 340 Orlando. TPPM, 619-818-9939, www.northwindapts.com.

EL CAJON. $725. 1 bedroom in fabulous pool/ courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. Palm Towers Apartments; see www.palmtowers.com for details and pictures. 234 West Park Avenue. TPPM, 619-850-9722.

EL CAJON. $725. 1 bedroom in beautiful property with sparkling pool. Walk to courthouse and Main Street shopping. No pets. ***$199 Deposit!*** 163 Ballantyne Street. TPPM, 619-579-6248, www.tradewindsapts.info.

EL CAJON. 1/2 off 1st! Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $795. Air conditioning, laundry, pool, barbecue areas, appliances, parking. Pet negotiable. 798 McClure #9. 619-384-9219.

EL CAJON. $725. 1 bedroom in fabulous pool/ courtyard complex. Super clean apartments. No pets. 314 Wisconsin Street. TPPM, 619-742-7600, www.palmestates.info.

ENCANTO. 1/2 month free, first month. Starting at $800/ month. 1 bedroom. $950/ 2 bedroom apartments. Laundry facilities. Spacious, clean, quiet. 5492 Imperial Avenue. No pets. Available now. 619-266-1701.

ENCANTO. Beautifully terraced garden community. Large 2 and 3 bedroom floor plans from $1039! Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call Anna at 619-527-7723 and mention this ad!

ENCINITAS. $825 and up. Sick of roommates? Cozy beach trailers in quiet park. Near beach, Coaster, restaurants, shops. 152 North Coast Highway 101. No pets. 760-753-4101.

ENCINITAS. $2095. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Close to beach, restaurants and shops. Just remodeled! Laundry on site. 1- year lease. No pets. 760-753-6575.

ENCINITAS. $1185. 1 bedroom with patio. Small complex. Assigned parking, laundry. New paint. Bright, airy. Garden setting. 1 block to beach. Close to shopping, freeway, Coaster. No pets/ smoking. 760-929-1950.

ENCINITAS/ LEUCADIA. $1200. Sunny, breezy 2 bedroom, 2 bath duplex near Beacon's Beach. On-site laundry and two parking spaces. No pets, nonsmoking, year lease. 760-931-1012.

ENCINITAS/ LEUCADIA. $2900. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury duplex. Steps to beach, best area. All new/ remodeled. Pool, wood floors, fireplace, washer/ dryer. Huge deck with ocean view. No pets. 1571 Neptune Drive. TPPM, 760-436-6441. www.torreypinespm.com.

ESCONDIDO. Fully renovated, high-end luxury apartments. 2 and 3 bedrooms. Available 12/15, starting at $1250/ month. all stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, cherry wood cabinets and stackable washer and dryer in each apartment. Call Sherry, 760-845-3468.

ESCONDIDO/ SOUTH. 2425 Cranston Drive. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Nice and quiet residential street. Near I-15. Dishwasher, washer/ dryer, refrigerator, microwave, air conditioning, fireplace. Storage, 2 parkings. Community pool, spa. 760-522-2265.

FASHION VALLEY. $975. 1 bedrooms. $1100. 2 bedrooms. Large apartments. Huge walk-in closets. Dishwashers. On-site parking. Balcony. Pets considered. 5720 Gaines Street. 619-299-3477.

FASHION VALLEY. $1850. 3- bedroom, 2- bath condo. Attached 2- car garage with lots of additional storage. Balcony, wood floors, washer/ dryer, pool. No pets. 6379 Caminito Salado. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

FASHION VALLEY. Near USD. Huge 1450- square- foot 3 bedroom, 2 bath that features an additional 750- square- foot deck, 2- car garage, central air, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, and views of Mission Bay. Cats OK. $2400. Available immediately. 5919 Mildred Street. 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

FASHION VALLEY. Near USD. Newer custom 750- square- foot 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment offers vaulted ceilings, fireplace, air conditioning, dishwasher, washer/ dryer, and fenced yard. Available 12/16. $1100. 5919 Mildred Street. 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

FASHION VALLEY. $1950. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Reduced move in. Condo in gated community. Pool. 2- car garage, balcony, patio, washer/ dryer in garage. 6912 Camino Degrazia. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

FASHION VALLEY/ USD. $1150 rent, $800 deposit OAC. Walk to USD! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, laundry, parking, no pets, at 1330 Eureka Street #14, #18 or #35. Agent, 619-298-5820.

FASHION VALLEY/ USD. $1000 rent, $800 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, parking for 2 cars, laundry, no pets, walk to USD, at 5550 Mildred Street #5. Agent, 619-291-1755.

FASHION VALLEY/ WEST. $1450. Open house Saturday and Sunday, 11am- 4pm! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, with extra room! Washer/ dryer hookups! Parking! Near USD! Minutes to the beach and much more! 5845 Lauretta Street, #1, 5865 Lauretta Street. #8. No pets. 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

GOLDEN HILL. $1095. 2 bedroom garden apartment, laminate and tile floors, on-site laundry, cat OK. 2849 B Street. Call 619-300-1365, or 619-588-4106.

GOLDEN HILL. $2300. Beautiful tri-level townhome, 3 bedrooms, 2-1/4 baths. Harwood floors, fireplace, stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, washer/ dryer. Front patio and huge balcony overlooking canyon and downtown view! 2- car garage. Extra storage. Available now. 1- year lease. Walk to cafes and restaurants. 1304 24th Street. 619-523-2355.

GOLDEN HILL. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $850/ month. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry. No dogs. Available now. 2412 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. $750. 1/2 off first month's rent. Nice, clean 1 bedroom, hardwood floors. Available now. Laundry. 2621 C Street. Pets OK. Appointment: Mary, 619-584-5900.

GOLDEN HILL. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 baths. $775 & $600/ month. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry. No dogs. Available now. 2427 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. $775/ month, $700 deposit. 1 bedroom. Near all freeways. All new carpet, wood blinds. Free laundry. 1 off- street parking. Credit check, $15. 2851 C Street (behind 2849 C). Available now. Nonsmoking. No pets. 619-213-2706.

GOLDEN HILL. Large 2 bedroom, $995. Gated entry and parking, on-site laundry, dishwasher. No pets. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

GOLDEN HILL/ DOWNTOWN. $895. 1 bedrooms. Historical buildings. Hardwood floors, decorator colors, on-site laundry. On bus line. Cat OK with deposit. Ask about utiilties. 619-231-8723.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath. $1003. Downstairs unit. 4450 Georgia St. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. For more information call Ana at 619-266-3663.

HILLCREST. $1200. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, sheltered patio, parking, laundry. Near all. 1037 Essex Street. No pets. 619-692-0364.

HILLCREST. $500 off first month's rent! 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. $1875. Canyon views! Washer/ dryer included. Garage plus assigned parking. Pets OK. craig@adventmgmt.com; 619-972-9877.

HILLCREST. Spacious 2 bedrooms from $1295. Fireplace, spa, gym, intercom and elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.wexfordliving.com. Call 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. Pets OK! Bright, remodeled 2 bedroom. Hardwood. Washer/ dryer. Large deck/ patio overlooking canyon. 1 block Balboa Park. 1512 Myrtle. $1495. 619-787-7434, 619-325-1470 x303.

HILLCREST. $945. 1 bedroom, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry. In the heart of Hillcrest. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/17/09. 3730 First Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST. $1195. 1 bedroom, large downstairs, formal dining room with built-in buffet. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, small garage, wood floors. Cat OK with extra deposit. On the park. Available 1/1/10. 1632 Upas. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST. $200/ week and up. Refrigerators, cable TV and HBO. Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-296-3141.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 55+. $800. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. Move- in special! $1350-$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Over 1000sqft! Balcony, canyon views. Pool. Laundry. Parking. Pet friendly. 4053 8th Avenue. 619-297-0269.

HILLCREST. $825. 3820 Georgia Street between Robinson and University Avenue. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 3 closets plus 1 mirror closet door in bedroom, new carpet, laundry, one assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. $950. 1819 University Avenue (behind The Crypt). Cottage. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Breakfast nook, carpet, gas stove, laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking (we offer some spaces no charge, first come, first served). No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. $1250. 3843 Park Boulevard. Second floor (The Crypt is downstairs). Renovated 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Full bathroom, new ceramic tiled. Half bath ceramic tiled. New blinds. New light fixtures. Gas stove. Laundry room shared with tenants. Street parking. We offer no charge, some first come, first served spaces. No pets. Available now. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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Rental Communities Directory

	Property Name	Phone	Starting rate	Bedrooms	Short-term/Corporate	W/D in unit	Laundry Facility	Balcony/Patio	Pets	Pool	Covered Parking	Fitness Center
1	Bay Pointe	888-451-8713	$795	S,1,2	■		■	■	■	■		■
2	Trilogy	619-231-1505 ext. 12	CALL	S,1,2	■		■	■	■		■	
3	The Club Torrey Pines	866-354-2096	CALL	1,2,3	■	■	■	■		■	■	■
4	Parkside Apartments	877-280-5568	$778	S,1,2,3			■	■			■	
5	Island Village	888-325-4573	$585	S			■	■				
6	Albert's College	800-760-5518	$969	S,1,2,3			■	■		■		
7	California Suites Hotel	888-475-7147	$1195	S	■		■			■		
8	Studio 15	888-813-9461	$631	S			■	■				

1

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2





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- Several downtown locations • Roof decks with BBQ
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Opening in December in Downtown San Diego!

Studio apartments available!

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Two persons: $39,660
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- Underground, assigned parking
- Community center • Outdoor deck
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- Studio $778
- 1 Bedroom $888
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Call toll-free:
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5

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$585 per month

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Features:

- Air conditioning
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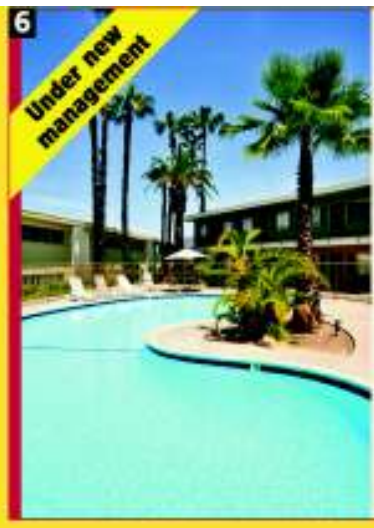
- Internet access
- 4 laundries on-site
- Clubhouse
- Business center
- Gated community
- Courtyard
- On-site management
- Close to shopping, restaurants, entertainment
- Easy access to bus/trolley
- Near freeways

Island Village

1245 Market Street, San Diego 92101
Located in East Village near Petco Park

Daily from 8 am to 6 pm
Call toll-free: **1-888-325-4573**

6



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www.californiasuiteshotel.com
*Rates subject to change. Based on availability.



8

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Restrictions apply.



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Fully furnished studio apartments at $631 or $758 per month!



STUDIO FIFTEEN

Twin bed | Flat-screen TV | Built-in desk
Armoire | Microwave | Refrigerator
Full-size bathroom | Air conditioning
On-site hi-def movie theater
Full kitchen/cafe with wi-fi



- **We Accept Section 8 Vouchers!**
- **Maximum Annual Income**
  For 1 person: $34,680
  For 2 persons: $39,660





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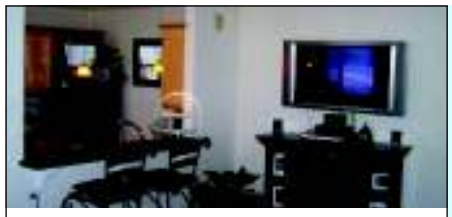

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9



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9	Poseidon Management	619-255-8105	$1,099	2	■			■	■			
10	Rising Glen	888-252-6823	$1,450	1,2	■	H	■	■	■	■	■	
11	Casoleil	888-278-0292	Call	1,2,3	■			■	■	■	■	
12	Parkway Plaza	888-353-8736	Call	2,3	■		■	■	■	■		
13	Nobel Court	866-960-6695	Call	1,2	■		■	■	■	■	■	
14	One Park	888-365-3205	Call	1,2	■		■	■		■		
15	Navajo Bluffs	888-378-3335	$800	S,1	■		■	■	■	■	■	
16	The Landing at Ocean View Hills	888-673-2153	$1,425	2	■		■	■	■	■	■	





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GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

KENSINGTON. $750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath triplex. Hardwood floors, upper unit, stove, refrigerator. Water/ trash paid. 4162 Monroe Avenue. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

KENSINGTON/ TALMADGE. $1200. Spacious 2- bedroom, 2- bath apartment. Condo- quality building. Washer/ dryer included. Fireplace. Carport. No pets. 4444 Highland Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. $1295. Studio. Includes utilities. Block to bus, beach, Starbucks, restaurants. UCSD and Scripps by bus or bicycle. Living room, kitchen. Appliances. Walk-in Closet. Laundry. Pets ok. 858-336-0252.

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LEMON GROVE. $1250. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Garage, on-site laundry. 7138 Central Avenue. Call Myra, 619-697-8458.

LEUCADIA. $1250 plus utilities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Washer/ dryer. Off- street parking, patio area, good location. 1105 N. Vulcan. Leasing Unlimited, 760-436-7273.

LINDA VISTA. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome. $1404 per month. 1058 square feet. Section 8 welcome. No Pets. 7556 Fulton Street. Call 858-715-1770 today!

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LINDA VISTA. 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom. Downstairs. Washer/ dryer. Ceiling fan. Near USD. Pets considered. $1500/ month. 5646 Riley Street #2. More Property Management. 858-514-8201.

LINDA VISTA. Move- In Special! $1404 plus $350 Deposit. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Close to schools and convenient locations. Section 8 welcome. No pets. For details, call 858-715-1770!

LOGAN HEIGHTS. $825. Reduced move in. Newly remodeled apartment upstairs. Sorry, no pets. Section 8 OK. 3144 National Avenue 076.5 Martin Street.. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

MIRA MESA. 2 bedroom. 2 bath. $1264. Near all— on bus line. Section 8 welcome. Sorry, no pets. Call 858-793-0951.

MIRA MESA. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath from $1150. Near schools, shopping and freeways. New appliances, cabinets and carpet. Section 8 welcome. Sorry no pets. Call today! 858-271-0191.

MISSION BEACH. $1375. Nice 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1- car garage. Stove, refrigerator, small yard. Water/ trash included. Small pet OK. 747 Island Court. 619-850-1953.

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MISSION BEACH. 1 bedroom upstairs in South Mission. Parking. 1- year lease. $1200/ month. 733 Ensenada Court #C. Available 1/5. More Property Management. 858-514-8201.

MISSION BEACH. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Amazing location only steps away from beach/ bay. Bright downstairs unit. 1 parking space. No pets. 3590 Mission Boulevard. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

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MISSION BEACH/ SOUTH. $800. Large studio. No pets. Nonsmoking. Parking. Beach side. Appliances. New paint/ carpet. Prefer 6- month lease. 717 San Fernando Place. 619-275-3455.

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MISSION HILLS. Immaculate 1 bedroom apartment in very private, quiet, view 4-plex. Laundry, parking. No pet/ smoke. $950. 619-299-0384 or 760-789-0981.

MISSION HILLS. $750. Spacious upstairs studio. Hardwood, Murphy beds, intercom entry. Some utilities included. No pets. 630 Washington. 619-298-7724.

MISSION HILLS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Garage, on-site laundry, cat OK. Rent: $1250. 723-735 Torrance Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

MISSION HILLS. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, 1 parking space. Rent: $1150. 803 Torrance Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

MISSION HILLS. $995. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath apartment. Spectacular views of San Diego Bay, 1 parking space, no pets. 1767 Torrance Street #206. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. $795. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Amazing views of downtown/ San Diego Bay. Pool. 1 parking. No pets. 1767 Torrance Street #316. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

MISSION HILLS. Ask about our holiday special! 1 bedrooms from $900. Patios, pool, laundry room, storage and more. Cat OK. 3505 Reynard Way. 619-683-9239. aspenpark.rasnyder.com.

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MISSION VALLEY. $995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, Rancho Mission Villas. Newly remodeled, air, pool, Jacuzzi, tennis, rec center, laundry facilities. Lease. $800 deposit. 619-818-9059.

MISSION VALLEY. $1100. Friars Pointe. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Downstairs, carport, pool, spa. Cat OK. 6354 Rancho Mission Road, #501. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

MISSION VALLEY. $1400. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Near stadium/ trolley. Pool, small storage unit, nice sized balcony, some view. Available 12/15. A&P Realty 619-425-4555.

MISSION VALLEY. $1025. Remodeled large 1 bedroom condo. No pets. Parking. New carpet/ paint. Dishwasher. Balcony. Pool, gym. 1621 Hotel Circle South, #E111. 619-275-3455.

MISSION VALLEY/ USD. 2 master bedrooms, $1600 (includes water). New appliances. Remodel, washer/ dryer in unit, panoramic views, 2 parking, hardwoods, private patio. Pets OK. Available now. $200 off first month! 858-353-6878.

MISSION VALLEY/ WEST/ USD. $750-$795. Unique, nicely upgraded studios. Near trolley. 3- month leases, monthly thereafter. High ceilings. Gated. Landscaped courtyard/ sun deck. http://www.info101.net. 619-297-3000.

NATIONAL CITY. Move- in special: $99 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $800/ month. Deposit $775. Parking space. Water paid. 116 Palm. 619-474-4441.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom apartment, $825/ month. Newly renovated. Gated community. Laundry on site. Available now. No pets. Hilltop Villas, 315 East 30th Street. Call 619-477-7442. www.melroyproperties.com.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. Move- in specials! $795, 1 bedroom at 4670 Cherokee. $950, 2 bedrooms at 4133 37th. On-site laundry. No pets. Drive by, call 760-672-0425.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. $725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs. Parking, close to Adams. Available now. 4575 Idaho Street #3 and #4. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $900. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs unit in gated complex. Laundry. Available 12/20. 4580 39th Street, 4592-1/2. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

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NORMAL HEIGHTS. Studio apartment. Newly remodeled. 400 square feet. Available mid-October. Rent: $735. 3235 Collier Avenue. Call Mike: 619-640-8834 or 858-490-1600.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4655 33rd Street. ***1/2-off 1st month!*** 1 bedroom, $795. Laundry. Parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4558 40th Street, #1. $950, 2 bedroom. Laundry. Parking. Downstairs. No pets. 858-692-6601 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $800. Detached 1+ bedroom cottage. Reserved parking. Walk to Adams Avenue. No pets. 619-210-4651.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $1250. 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Completely remodeled, new kitchen, appliances, new flooring, paint and windows, laundry. Near parks and stores. No pets. 4587 33rd Street. 619-384-9219.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1/2 off 1st! Extra large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath, $1050. Large kitchen, built-in shelves, walk-in closet, stove, refrigerator, laundry, parking. 4609 Bancroft #2. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1/2 off 1st! Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $895. Upper, appliances, breakfast nook, lots of closet space, laundry. Cat OK. 4733 Utah #8. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. $1060. 1/2 off first month's rent. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo, new paint, carpet, 2 parking spots, upstairs unit. Swimming pool, gated community. 3535 Monroe Avenue. 619-582-4119.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Move- in special: 1/2 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $720. Upstairs unit, gated complex, assigned parking. No pets. 4563 38th Street #8. Agent, 858-560-1178.

NORTH PARK. Available now! 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes. 1120 square feet. $1366 + $700 deposit. 4343 38th Street #3. Section 8 welcome. No pets. Call 858-715-1770.

NORTH PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath townhome. $1102 plus $600 deposit. Central location. Close to schools and freeways. 4758 35th Street. Section 8 welcome. No pets. Call 858-715-1770.

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NORTH PARK. $850. 1 bedroom/ 1 bath. Lots of light! Safe, quiet neighborhood. Windows, ceiling fans, new appliances, remodeled bathroom, fresh paint. No pets. 619-300-5974.

NORTH PARK. $950. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1 parking spot. Coin- operated laundry. Available now. 4123-1/2 Kansas Street. www.stevenleeproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

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NORTH PARK. $875. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. $300 off 1st month's rent, OAC. Lower unit in small, quiet complex with parking. Available now. 4177 Illinois Street #3. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartments, $695. Senior community. Quiet, clean, close to everything. Secured, gated community, on-site coin-operated laundry, blinds on all windows, ceiling fans. Pets OK. Some restrictions apply. Upstairs unit, ready to move in. 4443 Idaho Street, 92116. First month's rent moves you in! Call 858-571-1970.

NORTH PARK. $1400, $1000 security deposit. Large townhome, 3 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. 1- car parking, new carpet/ paint, quiet 4-plex. Kansas Street. 858-270-7699.

NORTH PARK. $980. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom apartment. 1 parking, coin laundry, wall air conditioning. No pets. 4328 Louisiana Street #4. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

NORTH PARK. 4334 Texas Street. Utilities included! 2 bedroom, $1050. Laundry. No pets. 858-692-6601 or 858-692-6601. www.bkbinc.com.

NORTH PARK. $800. 1 bedroom. All amenities. Fine North Park location near shops and bus. 4631 Idaho. 619-461-9415/ 619-521-1901.

NORTH PARK. 1 month free rent! 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $1350/ month. Washer/ dryer, garage, ample closet space. Water/ trash included. 619-255-7860. Email: georgiapalms@cgpinc.com.

NORTH PARK. Spacious 1 bedroom, 1 bath with great built-in bookshelves and closet space. Laundry on site. $950. 4613 Alabama Street, #9. Call 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom upstairs apartment, wood floors. No pets. Nonsmoking. $750/ month plus deposit. Garage available for $75/ month. 4120-B Iowa Street. Available now. 619-669-9953.

NORTH PARK. $1050 rent, $800 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, hardwood floors, laundry, no pets at 4541 Hamilton Street #6. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. $725 rent, $700 deposit OAC. Large studio, hardwood floors and new carpet, no pets, at 3804 Pershing Avenue #3. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. $900 rent, $800 deposit OAC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, parking, no pets, at 4222 Alabama Street #12. Agent, 619-299-8515.

NORTH PARK. $1100. Reduced move in, 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment upstairs, off- street parking. Sorry, no pets. 3348-1/2 32nd Street. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. $1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath nice- sized Georgia Street condo. Near all Hillcrest/ North Park has to offer. Secure complex. 1-1/2 parking spaces. 1- year lease. Ready to move in now! 619-239-1639 x103.

NORTH PARK. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1250. Gated, private balcony, underground parking, A/C, all appliances, new paint and flooring. 3928 Illinois. 619-843-0796.

NORTH PARK. 1/2 off 1st! Extra large 1 bedroom, $825. Charming complex, appliances, on-site laundry, near all! Section 8 OK. 4055 Utah Street. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. 1/2 off 1st! Upper 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $775. Gated, appliances, built-ins, parking, laundry. Pet negotiable. 4275 35th Street. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK. $765. Remodeled, large studio apartment. Parking. No pets. Gated. Appliances. New carpet/ paint. Balcony. Walk- in closet. Laundry. 3909 Florida Street, #112. 619-275-3455.

NORTH PARK. Move- in special: 1/2 off first month's rent! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $700. Upper and lower units, senior or disabled citizens complex, gated. $300 deposit. 4086 Swift Avenue. Agent, 619-501-7790.

NORTH PARK. $1195. Upgraded, very large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. On-site laundry. Section 8 welcome. No pets. 4370 Hamilton Street #4. Agent, 858-560-1178.

OCEAN BEACH. $925. Large 1 bedroom apartment. $200 off first months rent. Near beach, patio, laundry. 5043 and 5055 Lotus Street. 858-292-6046.

OCEAN BEACH. $950— bargain! Large, very nice 1 bedroom. Near beach, bus, pier and shopping. Off- street parking, coin- operated laundry. No pets. 619-269-7624.

OCEAN BEACH. 2 bedroom from $1150*. Enjoy comfortable year- round living at Ocean Breeze. Spacious apartments now available. This small, friendly complex is an ideal place to call home. Only 2 blocks from the beach. Sorry, no pets! 619-223-8186. *Based on 1 occupant.

OCEAN BEACH. Studio, $900 rent. One block from ocean. 2 bedroom condo. Small pets OK. Pool, Jacuzzi, weight room. $1500 rent. 619-252-9515.

OCEAN BEACH. Beautiful beachfront view! Studio, $995. 1 bedroom, $1100-$1350. 2 bedroom, $1500-$1700. Some with great ocean views! Serene, security, garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Pets considered. For address and availability, call 619-224-1748. For applications, call 619-501-5553.

OCEAN BEACH. $1095. 1 bedroom, large, upstairs, remodeled unit with vaulted ceilings. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, parking. Close to cliffs. On bus line. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/25/09. 4784 Bermuda. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, $1375 rent. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $985 rent. All amenities. Pool, laundry, fireplace, parking. 4825 Del Mar Avenue. 619-758-9565.

OCEAN BEACH. $725. Studio, mile from beach in quiet tropical setting. Laundry. Available immediately. 4166-68 Udall St #2. 619-222-9308.

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OCEAN BEACH. $995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit available! Dishwasher! Parking and laundry! Blocks to beach! No pets. 4878 Cape May Ave. #8. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. $1495. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath downstairs 2- story unit. Garage! Washer/ dryer hookups. Huge deck off bedroom. No pets. 4831 Muir Ave. Apt. B. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1015. 1 bedroom. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry, parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Close to ocean. Available 1/1/10. 4853 Orchard. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs apartment. Block to beach! Parking and laundry! No pets. 2243 Abbott St. Apt. B. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs with on-site laundry! Minutes to the beach! No pets. 4154 Udall Street #1. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs units available! 1/2 block to beach! On-site laundry! No pets. 5057 Narragansett Ave #10, #11. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs attached cottage! Block to the beach! No pets. 5065-1/2 Cape May Avenue. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1025. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs attached cottage with garage! Only blocks to the beach! No pets. 4923 Saratoga Avenue. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1095. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs attached cottage! Block to beach! On-site laundry! Pet on approval! 5067 Brighton Ave. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath large downstairs apartment! Near Rob Field! On-site laundry! Parking! No pets. 4918 W. Point Loma Blvd. Apt. C. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $975. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs attached cottage on beach! On-site parking and laundry! No pets. 5113-1/2, 5115 Saratoga Ave. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1050. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Upstairs, deck! Block to beach! Bright and cheery! No pets. 4976-1/2 Cape May Ave. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1225. 2 bedroom, 2 bath downstairs with dishwasher! On-site laundry. No pets. 4231 Voltaire St. #3. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $725. Downstairs studio, includes all utilities! Block to beach! No pets. 2188-1/2 Abbott St. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $300 off 1st month's rent! No application fee. Blocks to the beach! 1 bedroom, $950. Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Includes water/ trash. Seacoast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651, 619-224-0759.

OCEAN BEACH. 5035 Brighton Avenue #2. $950. 1 bedroom. Close to beach, downstairs, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1400. Extra large 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Many cupboards for storage, walk- in closets, parking for 2 cars. No pets, please. 4819 Santa Cruz #4. Available now. 619-758-9458/ 619-602-3995.

OCEAN BEACH. 4869 Del Mar. $1275, 2 bedroom, downstairs. Refrigerator, stove, laundry. No pets. 858-692-6601 or www.bkinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1850. 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs unit. Designer paint colors, new flooring, off-street parking, washer/ dryer in unit and large private patio. 1863 Cable St. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

GOLDEN MANAGEMENT

OCEAN BEACH. $1250. Move in special! 2 bedroom, 2 bath, all appliances, laundry and off- street parking. 4865 Saratoga Avenue #102. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $995. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room, parking, close to bay. No pets. 4955 Saratoga Avenue #4. Agent, 619-232-6811.

OCEAN BEACH. $995. 1 bedroom, near beach, small building, roomy, clean, quiet, no pets. Nonsmoking. Nice home. 5050 Santa Monica Avenue, Manager, #14. Call 9-5pm. 619-222-3897.

OCEAN BEACH. $925. Clean studio 3 blocks from the ocean. Spacious and clean studio apartment with full-size kitchen, includes refrigerator, gas cook-top and wall oven. Large living area, walk-in closet and built-in dresser/ linen cabinet. Recently painted in designer colors. Carpet was recently replaced. Centrally located in the heart of Ocean Beach. Walk to shops and restaurants. Small complex with on-site laundry. Low deposit of $400. Available now. Will consider small dogs under 15lbs. 4835 Saratoga Avenue, San Diego, CA 92107. Contact Scott at 619-846-6615; scott@hendershawandassociates.com.

OCEAN BEACH. $1575. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. View on park. Coin laundry. Dishwasher, parking. Nonsmoking. Pet? 4676 West Point Loma Blvd. #4. By appointment. 619-221-9047.

OCEANSIDE. $800. Newly remodeled studio near beach with private backyard, nice kitchen, full bath, covered/ gated parking, on-site laundry. Walking distance to Sprinter train. 760-658-3142.

OCEANSIDE. $1095. Move-in special! 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Granite countertops, wood floors, private balcony. Pool, spa, laundry, gated parking. Cat OK. www.casavistaapartments.com. 760-439-5728.

OCEANSIDE. Large 2 bedrooms, $1200/ month, west of Interstate 5, just 8 blocks to beach, in vibrant downtown village. Beautiful, remodeled units. 508 North Nevada Street. See photos at www.wexfordliving.com. Call 760-433-8810.

OCEANSIDE. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Extra large! Small yard. Laundry on site, parking. Water/ trash paid. Near Highway 76/ shopping. $1275 rent. No pets. 760-754-4902, 858-229-6785.

OCEANSIDE. Westwood Village. Quiet, spacious, upgraded studios for $850. Includes utilities except electric. Pool, laundry, gated. Indoor cat OK. 2 miles to beach. www.westwoodvillageapartments.com, 760-722-6421.

OLD TOWN. San Diego Avenue. 1 bedroom apartment (unfurnished). Parking. Stove, refrigerator. No pets. Available now. 619-234-0780 o r 619-295-4729.

OLD TOWN. Studio, $715. Near trolley and buses. Utilities paid, on-site laundry. No pets. EOH. Call 619-299-8746.

OLD TOWN. $875. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. Available for move in 12/10! Pet considered! Large separate storage area included! Located behind 2051 San Diego Avenue. Manager, 619-820-2584.

OLD TOWN/ UPTOWN. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry, roof- top deck, view of airport. Rent: $1500. 1040 Redwood. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH ***townhouses: Open daily noon-5pm. 3 bedroom, 3 bath, $2600. 2 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, $1900. All new stainless steel appliances. Parking 2 vehicles. Small pets considered with pet agreement. 1932 Missouri Street. Barry Collins, 760-744-2129.***

PACIFIC BEACH. $1195, 1 bedroom. $1495 and $1625. 2 bedrooms, 1 and 2 baths. Intercom entry. Bright and clean. Dishwasher. Laundry. Lovely courtyard, heated pool, parking. Cat OK. 858-272-4398.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio or 1- bedroom on beach. 6- month lease. Pets under 30lbs. OK. Roomies/ co-signers OK. Office open 7 days. 4217 Oliver Court. Unique location at the beach! 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. $1300. Upstairs apartment. New carpet, refrigerator, stove. On-site laundry. Off-street parking. Shared patio. Available. 2045 Garnet Avenue. Call Oceanus Apartments, 858-483-7670.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1695. Quiet. Remodeled bathroom, parking, garage, coin laundry, no pets. $1600 deposit. 1- year lease. Available December 13. 1766 Missouri Street. 858-405-4737.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1150. 1 bedroom apartment. First floor, desirable end unit. Very clean. Quiet, gated. Parking. Small pets OK. $1150 deposit. Available now. 619-339-9951.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1500 plus HOA fees. 2 bedroom. 2 bath. Beautiful, spacious, cozy condo available. Fireplace, washer/ dryer, 2 parking spaces. Available 1/1/10. $1000 security deposit. Augustine, 619-861-7506.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath upstairs/ 2 parking spaces. $1500. Clean! View, laundry, cats OK, $1500 deposit paid over 2 months. Available 12/12. 858-437-1794.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1125. 1 bedroom, large, upstairs, remodeled. Stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, elevator, coin laundry. Pool. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 1433 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. Awesome autumn discounts! $0 Deposit and 1 month free, OAC on selected units. Studios $895-975, 1 bedrooms $1195-1295. 2 bedrooms $1495-1695. Olympic- size pool, spas, basketball, tennis with pros, clubhouse, laundries, movie night, cats welcome, Saturday continental breakfast, business center. Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham, Pacific Beach. Toll- free: 1-888-451-8713. baypointeapts@san.rr.com. www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. ***Beautiful, fully furnished, upstairs 2 bedroom, 2 bath. All utilities paid! Fireplace, washer, dryer. Garage. Pet negotiable. 2148 Reed Avenue. $2750. Alta Vista Properties, 858-274-3600. www.altavistaproperties.net.***

PACIFIC BEACH. $1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Private laundry, covered parking, small storage. Fenced yard, all appliances. New hardwood flooring. 208-682-2962.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. $1100 rent, $800 deposit. Close to all. Laundry, parking, no pets. 4109-1/2 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1200, huge 2 bedroom, 2 bath. $950, huge 1 bedroom. Guaranteed parking. 1/4 block to stores. Close to beach and highway. Laundry on site. $500 deposit. 858-270-5914.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1545. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near beach! Dishwasher, coin laundry. Barbecue, courtyard. Water/ trash included. No pets. $1000 deposit. 1061-1071-1/2 Hornblend. 858-336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1200. 1- bedroom, 1-bath luxury condo at The Plaza. Second floor. Carpet/ paint. Lushly landscaped. Laundry. Microwave. Dishwasher. Pools. 2 Parking. Tennis. Billiards. Health club. Sauna. 24- hour security. Available now. No pets. 1801 Diamond Street. 619-888-6604.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1125. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper duplex. Beautiful hardwood floors. Excellent freeway access. 2 miles to the beach. No dogs/ smoking. Laundry. 2732 Hornblend Street. Available 12/16. 619-997-9383.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1675. Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath. All new tile floors, carpet, fresh paint. New refrigerator, stove, dishwasher, built- in microwave. 2 private parking spaces. 1- car garage available, $100 more. 2 miles from beach. Must see! Excellent freeway access. On-site coin- operated laundry. Available 12/16. 2734 Hornblend. 619-997-9383.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio apartment. Basic utilities included. Steps to water, beach. Rent: $860. 4702 Mission. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio apartment. Unit A, rent: $775. Unit I, rent: $850. Close to San Diego Bay. 1476 La Playa. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio apartment. Basic utilities included. 1 parking space. 1 block from beach. Rent: $850. 865 Grand Avenue. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs/ 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs. On-site laundry, 1 parking space/ 1 shared garage. $1000. 2128 Thomas Avenue. 858-490-1600.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher, fireplace, balcony, 1 parking space. Rent: $1425. 2114 Thomas Avenue. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Dishwasher, washer/ dryer hookups, microwave, 1 parking space. Rent: $2150. 2027 Emerald Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2195. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. All new and modern. Stylish granite counters, stainless steel appliances, air conditioning, private patio. Washer/ dryer. 3509 Del Rey Street #202. www.cal-prop.com. 858-483-3534.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1515. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Masterpiece, late 1950s minimalist styling, wood floors, wood beam ceiling, bike to beach. 1 parking. No pets. 1067 Diamond Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $825. Studio bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Gated community. Spacious studio. Walk- in closet. No pets. 1845 Hornblend Street #1. www.cal-prop.com. 858-483-3534.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Newly redone exterior. 7 blocks to beach, 1 parking space. No pets. 1536 Diamond Street. www.cal-prop.com. 858-483-3534.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Premium location in Birdrock area. All utilities included in rent. Furnished/ unfurnished. Pool, balcony. Pet OK. 5359 La Jolla Boulevard #23. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $820. Studio bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upstairs, hardwood floors, walk- in closet, 1 parking. No pets. 4121 Kendall Street #8. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great value for size and upgrades. Large living room with built-in bookshelves. No pets. 1468 Missouri Street #1. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1020. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Great location— only 3 blocks to beach. Spacious downstairs corner unit. 1 parking space. No pets. 1063 Missouri Street. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1750. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. All new/ modern. Stylish townhouse with high ceilings, granite counters, stainless appliances. Air conditioning, washer/ dryer, 2 parking. Cat OK. 3509 Del Rey Street #213. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $980. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 1 parking space. Convenient to Mission Bay/ Pacific Beach shopping, beaches, nightlife. No pets. 2112 Balboa Avenue #8. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1575. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 short blocks to beach. Remodeled kitchen, walk- in closet in master. No pets. 1044 Sapphire Street #8. 858-483-3534. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 4418 Bond Street. 1 bedroom. $400 off 1st month! $925. Parking, laundry. No pets. 858-692-6601 or 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large 2- car garage, $1575. New carpet. Ocean- view deck, own laundry room. Block to beach. 852 Reed Avenue, #1. No pets. 858-273-4812.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1 bedroom. $1025 rent. $550 deposit. 5 blocks to beach/ bay. Gated garden building. Bright, spacious, upper unit. No pets. No cosigners. 4445 Fanuel Street. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1245. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 4 blocks to the ocean. Fresh paint. Laundry facilities. Courtyard setting. 1165 Felspar Street. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Near Bay. Very clean. Dishwasher. Garage/ storage. Laundry facilities. 2121 Reed Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1950. Large 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhome near Bay. Private patio. Parking space. Dishwasher. Laundry hookups. Tile in kitchen and baths. 2114 Oliver Avenue. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1450. Special 2 bedroom, 1 bath end/ private unit with vaulted ceilings and large private balcony! Great central location with parking. ***Open Saturday 2:30- 3:30***. 1661 Thomas Avenue #4. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio, $805 and 2 bedrooms starting at $1200-1275. Custom interior colors, pool, barbecue, great value and great location. Steps to Vons Shopping Center. 1930 Emerald Street. TPPM, 619-206-8578. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $995. Spacious 1 bedroom with private patio, new carpet. Newly updated. Very well maintained complex. Walk to Vons. Must see! 2112 Garnet Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851.

PACIFIC BEACH. $99 move in! Well-maintained 1 bedroom from $875. Clean, quiet, parking, laundry, ceiling fans, pool. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH. $950. 1 bedroom. Convenient central location across from Henryís Market and Garnet shopping. Short walk to beach. No pets. 1236 Felspar St. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2150. 3 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Off- street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1550. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Upper or lower. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2600. Clean, light, airy 3- bedroom, 2-1/2- bath townhouse. 2-car garage. Cathedral ceilings. Fireplace. Washer and dryer, patio, deck, no pets. 1551 Hornblend. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1100. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Upper level. Off- street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. 4451 Haines Street. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2500. 3- bedroom, 3-bath townhouse. 3- car garage. Fireplace, washer/ dryer, patio, deck. Clean, fresh paint. No pets. Available now. 1851 Grand Avenue. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1500. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Designer paint and new carpet. Centrally located, close to shopping and all Pacific Beach has to offer. 1938 Felspar Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1225. 2 bedroom with beautiful courtyard and great location. Parking included. No pets. ***Open Saturday 11:30-12:30.*** 1461 Missouri Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2400. 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse recently remodeled with fireplace, granite countertops, nice appliances and private back patio. ***Open Saturday 10:00-11:30.*** 1852 Diamond Street #3. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. Starting at $875. 1 bedroom. Garden setting, easy access location. Pool, recreation room, no pets. 2710 Grand Avenue. TPPM, 858-273-8657. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1125. Great 1 bedroom in immaculate property in the heart of Pacific Beach. Laundry, parking, no pets. 1656 Reed Ave. TPPM, 858-581-6415. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 first month! Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $1475. Near ocean and shopping. Spacious kitchen, ceiling fans, plenty of space! 4406 Dawes Street. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1090. Clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath, second story, 1 parking spot. Bay view. Walking distance to shopping area. Close to the beach. 858-774-0762.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1395. 2- bedroom, 2-bath. Dual master suites! New carpet and paint! Walk-in closets! 1- year lease. 1354 Reed Avenue. Agent, 619-820-2584.

PACIFIC BEACH. $2195. Extra large 3 bedroom, 2 bath in small complex, completely remodeled, washer/ dryer hookups, private yard, ceramic tile. Near bay! 2053 Thomas Avenue. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1550. 1 bedroom on Ocean Boulevard. New kitchen, carpets, large bedroom and living room. Lots of storage, parking, laundry in complex. Balcony. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

PACIFIC BEACH. $1450. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Designer paint and new carpet. Three blocks to beach. Parking. 909-1/2 Chalcedony. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. 1 bedroom, $950, and 2 bedroom, $1375, 1846 Oliver Avenue. Near Mission Bay. No pets. Off- street parking, laundry facility, approximately 700- and 1100-square- foot first- and second- floor units, month- to- month rental. Photos on our website: http://www.freewebs.com/lefrontenac/ Contact “on- site manager”: lefrontenac@inbox.com or 858-272-2825.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. $1350/ month. 2 bedroom upper unit (month- to- month rental). Near bay, 4021 Lamont Street. Remodeled kitchen with granite counters, newer carpet, laundry facility, off- street parking. No pets. 858-274-1446, e-mail: bjornandersen@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. $1285. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, shared courtyard, garage space. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 3711 Ingraham. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. $1285. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large upstairs front unit. Quiet area, coin laundry, garage space. Available now. 1768 Thomas. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. $1450. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, garage, coin laundry, fireplace. Unit behind 4118. Available 12/27/09. 4122 Jewell. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. Studio. $950 rent, $500 deposit. Large, upper unit. Right on Mission Bay. No pets, no cosigners. 3976 Morrell Street. 858-483-3221.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. $1125. One- bedroom cottage in small complex near Mission Bay. Must see! 1926 Fortuna Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1095. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Patio, garage. New kitchen, granite counters, cherry cabinets, travertine. Berber- style carpeting. 1829 Chalcedony #2. 858-488-8120.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1115. 1 bedroom, large downstairs, being completely remodeled, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, new carpet, shared courtyard, coin laundry, parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 1546 Diamond. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. Broker, 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1145. 1 bedroom, downstairs, stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, coin laundry, garage space, 1 block to ocean. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 760 Sapphire. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. Broker, 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $2150. 2 bedroom plus extra room, 2 bath townhome in 4- unit property. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, fireplace, attached garage plus parking. Private balcony. Cat OK with extra deposit. 1 block to ocean. Available now. 825 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $875. Studio with all utilities paid. Full kitchen with stove and refrigerator, coin laundry, 3 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/17/09. 5049 Cass Street. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1425. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, large upstairs in triplex behind 1852. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace, garage. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/17/09. 1854 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1200. 1 bedroom, large, upstairs, front remodeled unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry, pool. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 1/1/10. 812 Tourmaline. Del Sol Property Management, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1425. 2 bedroom, large, downstairs, stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Cat OK with extra deposit. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available 12/15/09. 959 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $1090. 1 bedroom. Block to beach. 848-1/2 Emerald. 2 bedroom, $1450. spacious, quiet, near Tourmaline beach. 853 Agate. No pets. 858-459-1352.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. $950. Light and bright 1 bedroom in great North Pacific Beach location, walk to Tourmaline Beach. 939 Turquoise Street #D. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

POINT LOMA. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. Garage, washer/ dryer hookups. Fire, heat, air conditioning. View. Deposit $1800, rent $1800. Available now. 619-224-7791.

POINT LOMA. $1450, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhome; or $1535, 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Walk-in closets, new carpet, tile/ marble, lanai, pool, saunas. No pets. 619-226-8158.

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POINT LOMA. $775. Large upstairs studio! Great location! Laundry on site! No pets. 3612 Kemper Court #12. Call 619-222-4836, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

POINT LOMA. Small but cozy 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Rent: $875. 1659 Scott Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

POINT LOMA. 1456 Rosecrans Street. $995. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs. Refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

POINT LOMA. $1050 rent, $800 deposit OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath apartment, pool, laundry, parking, no pets, at 2707 Camulos Street #2 or #6. Agent, 619-523-2411.

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POWAY. 1 bedrooms at $915. Off- street parking, laundry. Near schools and shopping. No pets. 12529 Oak Knoll Road. 858-486-0109.

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SANTEE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. $1150. 1- car garage. Water/ sewer/ trash included. Small pets OK. Community pool. 9849 Mission Greens Court #3. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

SCRIPPS RANCH. $2095. 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath townhouse. 1- car garage, fireplace, A/C, washer and dryer. Great location overlooking peaceful pond. Small pet OK. 9739 Caminito Doha. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO. $1325. Townhouse. Spacious 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Laundry, off street parking. Quiet gated complex. No pets. 1061 South 41st Street. 92113. 619-286-3939.

SOUTH PARK. $1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site parking. Great location. Clean, quiet, secure. 2902 30th Street. Call Rachael, 619-804-1044 or Jeff, 619-713-1044.

SOUTH PARK. $725. Small 1 bedroom duplex/ $880, 2 bedroom. Balcony, canyon view, nice neighborhood. Water/ trash paid. Strictly nonsmoking. Cat OK. 1841 Bancroft. 619-435-0387, 619-206-3089.

SOUTH PARK. Studio apartment. On-site laundry, upper unit, pet OK. Rent: $825. 1622 30th Street. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

SOUTH PARK. $895. Charming pet friendly community. Courtyard. 1 large bedroom, 1 bath, walk-in closet, kitchen, living- dining room, bright/ airy. Move- in special. 904-614-8259.

SOUTH PARK. $1195. Beautiful 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Wood floors, crown molding, appliances, laundry. Near all. Pet negotiable! 2930-1/2 Juniper Street. 619-804-3325.

SPRING VALLEY. $895. First month free. Large 2 bedroom. Gated, off-street parking, pool, laundry facilities, ceiling fans, air conditioning. Near shopping/ freeways. 9765 Dale. 619-465-8875.

TALMADGE. $865. Must see! Spacious 1 bedroom. 1/2 off move- in! Quiet, gated, laundry, air, parking. Cats OK. 4544 Winona Avenue, 92115. Call manager, 619-229-1406.

TALMADGE. $995. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs corner unit. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Washer/ dryer hookups. Parking. Small pet. 4435 Estrella Avenue #4. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

TALMADGE. $795. Cute, cozy, 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Dishwasher; Spanish floor tile; private, fenced patio. Small pet welcome. 4447 49th Street #2. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

TALMADGE. $995. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath upstairs corner unit. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Washer/ dryer hookups. Parking. Small pet. 4435 Estrella Avenue #4. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

TALMADGE. $795. Cute, cozy, 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Dishwasher, Spanish floor tile. Private, fenced patio. Small pet welcome. 4447 49th Street #2. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

TALMADGE/ CITY HEIGHTS. $99 move- in special! Gated, new floors, air conditioning, dishwasher, balcony. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath; 2 bedrooms, 2 baths available. No pets. 619-284-1045.

TALMADGE/ COLLEGE. $775. Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath in a charming Spanish- style complex, private patio, all appliances, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Near all. 4451 48th Street #2. 619-804-3325.

TIERRASANTA $975. Large 1 bedroom condo. No pets. A/C. Parking. Fireplace. New paint/ carpet. Dishwasher. Pool. Jacuzzi. Balcony. Gated. Clean. 11233 Tierrasanta Boulevard, #54. 619-275-3455.

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UNIVERSITY CITY. $995. 1 bedroom in 62+ complex. Balcony. New carpet, paint. Close to shopping, transportation and freeways. No pets. Available now. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. Apartment available, $1150. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Washer/ dryer, air, fireplace. Off-street parking. 8- unit complex. 4026 Alabama Street. 619-296-9557, 619-286-4320.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 2 bath luxury units. Downstairs unit has fireplace, central A/C and heat, washer/ dryer, all appliances, garden windows, new paint and carpet, 1- car garage with remote, plus parking space. Walk to Antique Row on Adams Avenue. 4666 Utah Street. $1424. 619-683-9274.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $775. Large 1-bedroom Spanish cottage. Beautiful landscape, quiet, private. In- house laundry. No pets/ smoking. Generous storage. Garage available. 4355 30th. 619-507-2613.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $1300. 2 bedroom/ 2 bath with garage. 1/2 off first month. 2 master suites with balconies. All new appliances, carpet, flooring and fireplace. In gated building with on-site laundry. Also available: 2 bedroom/ 1 bath, $1150. Broker, 619-977-1930.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1/2 off 1st! Extra large 1 bedroom, 1 bath, $850. Gated, all appliances, A/C, built-ins, laundry, parking. Cat OK. 4360 Hamilton Street #6. 619-804-3325.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. $750. All utilities included! Charming studio. Private, fenced yard; walk-in closet; ceiling fan. Small pet negotiable. 4385 Alabama Street. 619-804-3325.

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UTC. $1650. 2- bedroom, -1 bath, 2- car garage condo. Washer/ dryer, fireplace. Vaulted ceilings. New carpet. Pool/ spa. No pets/ smoking. Year lease. 760-731-2240.

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UTC. Clean, large 1 bedroom condo. Hardwood floors, garage, community pool. Laundry on site. Available now. $1125/ month. 6210 Agee Street. 760-868-4346. 760-662-3655.

UTC. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo, $1900. Washer and dryer in condo, stainless appliances, new carpet and paint, balcony, community pool, spa and clubhouse. 8158 Avenida Navidad #22. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

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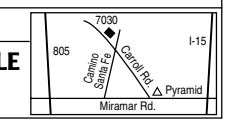

BACK WHEN *in the Reader*

Thirty Years Ago

"Apocalypse At Last," Duncan Shepherd's long-awaited review, which appeared in the November 29 *Reader,* once again demonstrates his clannish and misinformed view of American film. *Apocalypse Now* is unquestionably the best American film of 1979 and the most powerful film yet to deal with the Vietnam War. It is also one of the classic war films of this century.

American movies come off as foolish flops too often in Shepherd's writings. The rare one out of fifteen or twenty that receives praise is, too often, obscure or foreign-made.

— LETTERS: **"APOCALIPS,"** *Tom Condelles, San Diego, December 13, 1979*

Twenty-Five Years Ago

The *Los Angeles Times* has paid dearly to crack the San Diego newspaper market. Millions have been lavished on radio and billboard promotions of the paper's six-year-old "San Diego County Edition," and millions more spent to support a 45-person editorial staff. Precious little of this expenditure has been recouped from the sale of advertising: fewer than one-third of the sixty ads in Sunday's local sections were placed by area retailers.

To neutralize this "outsider" image, the words "Los Angeles" are no longer mentioned in radio and newsstand advertisements for the paper. Promotions for the newly expanded editorial page, for example, simply refer to "The Times, San Diego County Edition."

— THE INSIDE STORY, *Paul Krueger, December 13, 1984*

Twenty Years Ago

Really, I've got no answers 'bout Santa. Or if not none let's call it *few.* Is Santa symptomatic relief for the seasonal hand-as-dealt, f'rinstance, symptomatic relief *within* the hand-as-dealt, or simply (in a nutshell) the hand-as-dealt? Can't answer that one, I would really kinda love to but no, cannot — not even after scorching my weenie on the pyre of empirical knowing.

The sacrifice, the offering: to *be* Santa, if only for a day. Less than a day actually, but those hours really drag. In some ways it was worse than a trip to the dentist.

— **"I, SANTA,"** *Richard Meltzer, December 14, 1989*

Fifteen Years Ago

Looking at Imperial Beach today, there are two things to remember — make that three. First, after six decades of sewage hell, the end is in sight, ground has been broken. That's right, buckaroo, phase one has begun: a 42-inch diameter pipeline to be finished by December 1996. That line will return overflow sewage to the Tijuana sewer system.

— **"ONE TOUGH TOWN,"** *Patrick Daugherty, December 8, 1994*

Ten Years Ago

This is exactly the room I've been afraid of all my life. A place where I have landed in middle age. Somehow I have failed, this time thoroughly. I find myself on a hard mattress with unnamable stains. It is covered with a tattered and faded Crayola-green polyester bedspread.

— **"THE ZEN OF FLOP,"** *John Brizzolara, December 9, 1999*

Five Years Ago

"Hey, I'm going to come get you. You can help me move our new TV," my cousin Joe informed me over a crackling cell-phone connection.

"What?" I asked through static, "What kind of TV do you need two people to carry?"

"Actually, Jeremy's here."

Even though his "old" 27-inch flat screen was in perfect condition, he was getting a new larger set, which apparently required three young men to lift.

It won't fit through the front door — the front door to Sears, for cryin' out loud. That must be a refrigerator for someone else... My doubts were put to rest when Joe sprang from the tailgate to help the sales clerk free the monstrosity from its cardboard confines and tug the TV through the door. The four of us hoisted it from its cart and shoved it into the pickup bed, "Good lord, I'm going to get a hernia," I grunted.

"Hey," my cousin responded. "You want to watch a lifesize *American Chopper?* Then shut it."

— REMOTE CONTROL KING, *Ollie, December 9, 2004*



San Diego *Reader,* December 9, 1999

For more stories by these authors, go to sdreader.com.

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SOFTBALL TEAM needs 1 infielder and 2 outfielders. 619-517-5791.

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LAPTOP. 17", 1.83 GHz core duo, 80 GB SATA hard drive, lightscribe dvdrw, 2GB ddr2 RAM, nVidia 7600, much software. $360. David, 619-917-0921.

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SHEEP AND GOATS

PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

On December 3, Fox News personality Glenn Beck broadcast a live performance of *The Christmas Sweater: A Return to Redemption* to movie theaters nationwide. (Tickets were $20.) I was curious — the mention of redemption, together with bits from the YouTube trailer about people in crisis made me wonder how (and how far) Beck was going to venture into the religious realm.

The bulk of the show was Beck of Christmas present watching Beck of Christmas past — last Christmas, to be precise, when he first broadcast his one-man-show based on his book *The Christmas Sweater*. The story, as he once explained in an interview with radio host Don Imus, was "a fictionalized story of my childhood, my last Christmas with my mom." The true part was that Beck got a sweater as his only Christmas present that year, and that, when his mother saw it balled up on the floor, she was deeply hurt. Recalled Beck, "I realized at that moment how much my mother had done...and that she knew it was a crappy present that I wouldn't want but it was all that she could afford."

The fictionalized part was pretty much everything else. In reality, Beck's mother was an alcoholic who took her own life. In the story, she's an exhausted saint who falls asleep at the wheel and leaves Beck (called "Eddie") an orphan. (Except not quite — I'll send up a SPOILER ALERT before noting that Beck of Christmas present allows as how his publisher requested that he change the ending to make it happier, whereupon he delivered a doozy of a rewrite.)

Several reviews have marveled at the show's climactic moment, wherein Beck (as 12-year-old Eddie) goes into the fetal position on stage and sobs while a diva stands stage left in front of a small orchestra and sings, "God keep you until we meet again." I will grant that I (twice) found my mouth hanging open in amazement, and leave it at that. I was more interested in the theology than the theatrics. What was Beck teaching about redemption?

Eddie's grandpa to Eddie: "What happened to your mom was a stupid accident. We can't control what happens to us, but we can control how we live with it. If you're not happy, Eddie, it's not God's fault, it's not my fault, it's not anybody's fault — it's your fault, Eddie." (This notion of how we respond to a crisis is one of the keys to Beck's vision — the importance of "facing your storm.")

Eddie wasn't buying. "Oh, really, Grandpa? Where were you and God when Mom couldn't keep food in the house? Stop telling me how great things are and 'Oh, Jesus loves us and God is with us.' Because it's all a lie, Grandpa.... There is no God. Jesus doesn't love us! Jesus doesn't care!"

Later, Eddie met Old Man Russell, a man covered in earth and full of wisdom. Russell told him, "Eddie, the two most powerful words in the human language — do you know what they are? I am. When Moses said to God, 'Who shall I say sent me?' God said, 'I am that I am.' It's the name of God." (This notion of identity is the other key for Beck. Read on!)

Eddie: "Well, I don't believe in God."

Russell: "Well, He's probably sorry to hear that. But let me ask you this. When was the last time you honestly thought to yourself, 'I am happy. I am strong! I am a good person! I am worthy!'" It's a curious response — "You don't believe in God? Okay, but do you believe in *yourself*?" But it fits with Beck's stress on identity, and God's interest in helping us to discover it.

Later still, Russell urged Eddie to face his storm — a literal storm, "black, deep green, and silver swirled together in a cloud that breathed and heaved in the sky." Russell cries, "Eddie, you may not know who you are, son, but I do, and I know you were meant to walk through this storm.... There's so much more waiting for you, and you're worth every ounce of it. Trust in who you really are!"

Eddie pushed through to the other side, and everything was beautiful, even Russell — "no longer dirty and old but bright and ageless"(!) "Now, Eddie," he asked, "do you know who you are?" And as he asked the question, "a light now seemed to emanate from his skin. It was almost as if he were *made* of light." (cf. the Transfiguration of Jesus: "His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.") And as he shone, Russell delivered the secret of Eddie's identity: "You're joy, Eddie. You...are...joy!"



Glenn Beck

"To fill that hole, you can either be a victim or a victor!"

Cut to Beck on a couch, watching the audience give him a standing ovation at last year's show. "A storm is coming," he warned the audience, "and the only way you're going to be able to survive it is if you know who you are.... What do you say we stop wasting time this Christmas? Find out who you are — either find your Russell or be a Russell. Find out how to fill that emptiness — and it ain't with stuff. It's something meaningful. *It's who you really are.* If you want to find peace, there's only one way to do it. To fill that hole, you can either be a victim or a victor!"

What about those people in crisis? There were four of them on stage with Beck — people who had faced their storms and come through to the other side. One was on his way to purchase enough sleeping pills to commit suicide when he heard Beck on the radio, saying, "With every failure comes the opportunity for success." He ended up buying *The Christmas Sweater* instead of the pills. Another, Aleka, read *The Christmas Sweater* in the midst of her treatment for breast cancer. "God put me there. I knew...God was doing something to me. I've been asking Him since the day I was diagnosed — 'Okay, God, you've stripped me down. I'm ready to go....' I'm still asking Him. I read *The Christmas Sweater*, and I was rejuvenated to continue asking."

— Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.

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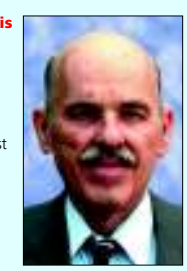

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