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<th>Ages (Years)</th>
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<th>Female Rates</th>
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 acordo with its most recent filing with the IRS, covering 2008, Peace’s organization received $600,000 in contributions from unidentified sources and spent $934,062, leaving it with $80,264 in cash at the end of that year. It paid $20,989 to David Takashima, a Sacramento-based ex–Peace aide and former lobbyist for Southern California Edison and PG&E. Other payments listed include a $27,000 contribution to the San Diego Asian Film Foundation and $15,000 to the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, the state’s prison guard union. “Other expenses” included $162,300 for “research,” $132,227 worth of “consulting,” and $148,029 for “information technology.”

**Bersin’s bash**

Three ex-U.S. Customs chiefs are getting antsy about the long delay in confirming onetime San Diego city schools chief Alan Bersin as the nation’s next commissioner of Customs and Border Protection. “It is hard to imagine that the background and current experience of Mr. Bersin does not at least meet the threshold of deference to the President’s choice of nominee sufficiently to merit a hearing and vote by the Committee in performance of the Senate’s advice and consent role,” former commissioners Ralph Basham, Robert Bonner, and Raymond Kelly said in a letter. “Regardless of who the nominee for commissioner was, however, all of us believe the appointment deserves more focused attention and swift action in the manner of other critical national security nominations.”

Some speculate that the lag on confirming Bersin, currently serving as the Obama administration’s “border czar” in the Department of Homeland Security, is due to a heavy workload of the Senate Finance Committee, which must pass on the nomination before a floor vote. But others speculate that Bersin’s controversial history with San Diego schools and his wrangles with the teachers’ union here, along with his financial interests in border businesses, including the Silicon Border industrial park near Mexicali and a Mexican travel insurance outfit, have given some Democratic senators cold feet. … Rising up for big state and local races, the county Republican Party has been spending heavily on voter registration efforts, paying Arno Political Consultants $23,024. Major contributors include Don Bren’s Irvine Company of Newport Beach, with $15,000 on February 15. — 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.
No Picture-Perfect Vote

By Joe Deegan

A merican elections lore over the last 50 years is rife with tales of funny business, from charges of a Chicago graveyard vote in 1960 to the hanging chads count in 2000. But such anomalies in San Diego County? Couldn’t happen. That’s the attitude of local election officials, according to Carlsbad attorney Ken Karan. What it boils down to, he says, is that “they don’t want to be held accountable.” It’s not his intent to impugn the integrity of those volunteers who run polling stations and observe the election process. That’s what voter Linda Poniktera did during the California presidential primary election of February 5, 2008, first in an El Cajon polling place and later in the day in Kearny Mesa. To document her observations, Poniktera took along a video camera. She did it largely to challenge a policy that San Diego County Registrar of Voters Deborah Seiler wrote to guide poll workers on voting equipment prior to the opening of the polls and after the polls close they may be permitted to do so.

Poniktera later complained that she had been threatened with arrest for using her camera. On July 31, she petitioned superior court on behalf of all citizens to prevent the registrar of voters from violating the right to observe an election. In addition, she asked the court to direct the registrar to insure that, after ballots are cast, seals are properly affixed to the ballot boxes before they leave the polling places to protect the ballots from tampering. The election code requires that such seals not be broken until the containers arrive at a counting center. In these requests, Poniktera was represented by Ken Karan.

In superior court, Judge Michael Anello ruled against Poniktera. Karan later asked the California Court of Appeals to consider from scratch how First and Fourteenth Amendment law ought to be applied to the case. In January, the appellate court long day.” Karan’s petition to the superior court was written in a different tone. “Of the approximately 2% of the total precincts in the County reviewed,” he wrote of a study he conducted after making a state Public Records Act request, “almost 60% indicated a material failure by the precinct board to account for all the ballots…. The record shows a serious inability to reconcile this important data.”

So how might it improve elections to allow citizens to use cameras inside polling places while the election is still under way? Karan believes that there’s a need to document the ballots’ “chain of custody.” Photographing sealed boxes only after the polls close guarantees no certain knowledge of what’s happening to the ballots beforehand.

And Karan’s postelection investigation revealed that there had been negligence regarding the seals. That included seals protecting the memory cards that store touch-screen votes. “During the February 5 and June 3, 2008, elections,” Karan wrote to the superior court, “Defendants failed to comply with [the law] by allowing ballot boxes and memory cards to be transported without seals…. Poll workers who find that they were not issued the required seals and request them from the Registrar of Voters have been told by officials to transport them with- out seals…”

In the lawsuit Karan filed for Linda Poniktera, the evidence he supplied concerned more of his own experience than hers. His petition to the court claimed one polling station he visited in a 2006 election told him he could not photograph container seals at all. At another station, he was allowed only to see them on a piece of cardboard before they were attached to the ballot boxes. He asked the superior court to affirm his ruling and noted that “protection of the elections on Election Day. “Yet there are a few people who think they know how an election should turn out,” says Karan. “If they sense it may not go that way, they’re willing to take steps to try to make sure it does.” The problem, he thinks, is that San Diego County’s registrar of voters has insufficient procedures to secure the ballots and doesn’t follow the procedures she has.

As one antidote to fraud, a Voter Bill of Rights in the California Elections Code states that every voter has the right to ask questions about election procedures and to be guided in performing their duties. The policy states: “Photography and videotaping are not allowed by the public or voters during voting hours. However, if someone would like to photograph the seals on voting equipment prior to the opening of the polls or after the polls close they may be permitted to do so.”

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CITY LIGHTS

Winter Was the Worst

Eroded Dirt Alley Paved, Finally

City Heights — University Avenue’s last unpaved alley recently joined the 21st Century. For more than 80 years, two sections of an alley in the 3900 block between 33rd and Wabash Streets remained unimproved and unpaved until late February.

Winter was the worst time of year for residents. Any rain caused rivers of water to flow down the alley and erode the southern unpaved section at University Avenue. The erosion created a four-wheel driving experience but made it impassable for most other cars. For the rest of the year, the unpaved sections created a dust bowl that coated cars and buildings.

At the last minute, the Third District Council Office’s policy advisor, Stephen Hill, got involved and found some general fund money to use for the repaving. Residents are dancing in the alley with gratitude.

By Joan FitzSimons

Bad Run

Female Jogger Attacked and Beaten in Park

Chula Vista — A female jogger was attacked during an evening run in McCandless Park on March 3. Chula Vista police were called just before 8 p.m. to investigate the incident.
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David Copley also dragged his feet on selling Casa del Zorro in Borrego Springs. It had been a hideaway for his mother and father. David had recovered from his heart transplant there, promising at least one employee he would never sell it. Top management was dying to dump it because it was a huge drain on profits. The entrepreneur whose investment group bought it (and couldn’t revive it) says it was losing $5 million a year. Although Casa had valuable assets, Copley got only $4.5 million for it.

Copley Press reacted very slowly to craigslist, which eventually stole the classified ad business from the big dailies. The company didn’t wake up to what Monster.com would do to personnel ads, either. “I remember sitting in a meeting when craigslist came up,” says a former top manager. “Somebody said it was probably some kid in a garage.”

There were economic factors. The housing crash hit San Diego harder than most other cities. This affected real estate sales and severely dented related markets such as furnishing and appliances.

Karim Winner, U-T editor, did not get along with Gene Bell, U-T president, but Winner had David Copley’s ear. As a result of the animosity, the newspaper took too long to integrate its print and online operations.

Ed Moss, current president and publisher, doesn’t address former management’s deficiencies but points to what his team is doing. “New partnerships with 10News, Cox Communications, and Monster are just a few of the ways we’ve added content,” he says. Companies large and small can now make more efficient advertising buys, he says. He expects that with these changes, the U-T can “sustain profitability.”

Fuson is on the board of Copley Press. Dean Dwyer is its chief financial officer. I asked both why the company had underperformed and how it might do in its upcoming asset sales. Neither would talk. I asked Fuson about his Facebook book remarks, too, and got the silent treatment.

But here’s the rundown, as far as I can determine: In 2006, Copley Press sold the Daily Breeze of Torrance for a good price: $25 million. Separately, Copley sold the real estate for another $14 million to $16 million. Home run.

Then in 2007, the company sold its money-losing Ohio and Illinois papers for well over $380 million in cash to GateHouse Media, which soon collapsed under the weight of debt piled up in a poorly plotted and ill-timed acquisition binge. Copley said that some of the proceeds would go toward settling the estate of the late Helen Copley. That suggested that luck might have been involved in the timing. Still, in hindsight, it was a home run with the bases loaded.

Then the company went down swinging on three pitches. In mid-2008, as the financial crisis bellowed, it said it might sell the U-T. The deal was announced on March 18, 2009, and consummated May 4. On May 4, McClatchy stock was selling for 62 cents; Monday it was going for $5.19.

A.H. Belo was at $1.68 and Monday was at $7.67. Lee Enterprises, owner of the North County Times, was at 64 cents and Monday was at $3.68. E.W. Scripps was at $1.89 and Monday was at $9.04. Admittedly, the overall stock market took off on a liquidity-fueled foot in March of 2009, but newspaper stocks have risen far more rapidly than the general market. The conclusion is inescapable: Copley sold the U-T near the bottom of the newspaper market.

Now it is selling the contents of the Copley Library, along with the building itself at 1134 Kline Street, La Jolla. The collection is a magnificent one, containing such items as a Broadway of the Declara-
tion of Independence, worth perhaps $800,000, and a letter from Abraham Lincoln to one of his generals, possibly worth $700,000. Sotheby’s will sell the items at four auctions beginning April 14 and ending a year later.

“A lot of people are hurt and angry” that the collection is leaving San Diego, says a La Jolla solicite, who thinks the contents should have been donated to a local institution. Prices for Americana are down about 30 percent now, “but that’s not necessarily true for books and manuscripts,” says an expert in the field. “Some of these items will bring huge, huge prices.”

The library building in La Jolla was originally advertised for $3.5 million as a possible home. “We’re in escrow,” says Rob Insinger of Prudential California Realty. The poten-
tial buyer “plans on using it for a library collection open to the public.”

The company puts its La Jolla headquarters building at 7776 Ivanhoe on the mar-
et last fall. The price has been reduced from $11.5 million to $9.85 million, says Mike Slattery of Cassidy Turley BRE Commercial. “Most people are looking at using some space for themselves and divid-
ing it and remodeling for small tenants,” he says.

The company is trying to sell 22 acres next to the late Helen Copley’s Foxhill estate for $22 million. But it won’t become a multihome develop-
ment, says Greg Noonan of Prudential California Realty. “We would hope that we would find a buyer wanting a single parcel for a dream home or subdivide it into five or seven lots. There would be a tremen-
dous amount of opposition if somebody wants to have density.”

Does David Copley need the money? After all, his $33 million yacht has a large staff. He is probably not hurting financially. He is remodeling Foxhill, and most think he has no intention of selling it.

The company did not interfere with the closing of the polling place, police were called and claimed Karan was trespassing, and that he avoided arrest by leaving the premises.

The real rea-
son the police were called, according to the registrar, was that Karan was bothering poll workers with constitu-
tional questions and making it difficult for them to do their work.

This version of events suggests that the registrar was backing away from the policy to prevent photograph-
ing in polling stations. Nevertheless, the courts, both superior and appel-
late, found the policy rea-
sone. They argued that the presence of someone explained to Karan that he would be able to use his camera if he weren’t intim-
ating, or otherwise inter-
fering with, people trying to vote. Karan was to alert Floyd when he was going to a polling place; Floyd would tell workers what Karan was doing and that it was permitted. Instead, according to the appeals court’s opinion, Karan called Floyd to complain that “a precinct inspector was not allowing him to take pho-
tographs in the polling place and that the police had been called. Floyd spoke with Karan and the officers, and then with the precinct inspector (Ms. Ritter), and learned Karan had attempted to debate his constitutional rights with Ritter (rather than calling Floyd to resolve any impasse), which was disrupting voters trying to enter to vote while Karan was lecturing Ritter on the law. Floyd told the poll workers and the officers that Mr. Karan would be allowed to photograph the documents he requested as long as it did not interfere with the voters. Thereafter, during a lull in the voting, Karan took pictures of the ballot box and log, etc....

Later that day, Karan vis-
ited a second polling station. He claimed that when he attempted to document the closing of the polling place, police were called and claimed he was trespassing, and that he avoided arrest by leaving the premises.”

The appeals court’s opinion, however, accepted the registrar’s version of events. It claims that prior to the February 2008 election, Den-
nis Floyd of the San Diego County Counsel’s office had continued from page 14
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taking pictures in the polling place could intimidate voters. But Karan insists that his only intention in using cameras is to document the security of polling stations and to reassure voters.

The debate between Karan and the courts centered as well on whether polling stations are public places. The courts relied on a position established by the U.S. Supreme Court that nonpublic voting booths in which voters are entitled to cast their ballots privately. Outside the booths, free speech reigns, including the use of cameras, as long as the expression does not amount to political campaigning.

On the issues of sealing ballots and reconciling ballot and voter counts, the courts found that the registrar of voters already has in place procedures, training, and review that are adequate.

But Karan is disappointed that the courts seem “more interested in stability than voting transparency.” He quotes a statement attributed to Joseph Stalin: “It is enough that the people know there was an election.”

**STRIPPERS** continued from page 7
in which the victim was struck in the head from behind, knocked to the ground and beaten.

According to police, two suspects punched and kicked the jogger in the head and stomach repeatedly before fleeing into the park on foot. The jogger called for help from her cell phone, and police arrived within minutes.

The San Diego Police Department’s helicopter provided air support, searching the park and nearby canyon with no results. According to CVPD, the physical assault did not appear to be sexual. The victim was taken to the hospital for injuries.

By Karina Hernandez
March 6

**Bitter Grounds**

**Tainted Land to Prevent Construction?**

Lemon Grove — “I have found case law that establishes Caltrans liable for the contamination,” writes Salvatore D’Anna in an email. D’Anna believes his discovery will put the brakes on Lemon Grove’s plans to realign Lemon Grove Avenue and prevent the City from acquiring two large properties through eminent domain, one of which is D’Anna’s office.

The City encountered a speed bump when high levels of arsenic were found on one of the properties, a self-storage center on North Avenue. D’Anna says the City is withholding the fact that Caltrans was the previous owner of the tainted land, and Caltrans spread the arsenic by grading, and review that are adequate.

But Karan is disappointed that the courts seem “more interested in stability than voting transparency.” He quotes a statement attributed to Joseph Stalin: “It is enough that the people know there was an election.”

By Karina Hernandez
March 6

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**FALSE LIGHTS**

**Halt Influx of Bars**

Neighbors Organize to Keep Crowds Out

Leichtling grows animated as he explains the North Park Residential Improvement District that he and neighbors formed to address concerns over crowded residential streets caused by business parking and large clubs and bars.

Ever since True North opened in February 2009, Leichtling has been roused from sleep in the middle of the night to find revelers urinating on his bushes or sleeping on the hood of his SUV. One night, Leichtling woke up to a couple getting it on on his front lawn.

Don’t Mess with Karate Guys

Kwon Do organization who was in town to preside over a championship contest.

Korean Kim Chum Ku was traveling in a taxi two blocks west of Avenida Revolucion on Tuesday evening at around 9:30, near the nightclub district, when the cab was pulled over by two squad cars. The officers pulled Ku out of the cab and demanded to see his immigration papers, then allegedly removed his billfold and took $500, 300 euros, and 100 Canadian dollars.

Ku filed a complaint with city authorities, and with the support of local sports organizations and his cab driver, the four officers were identified and arrested.

Sources: El Segunda, Frontera

By T.B. Bouwedieu
Saturday, March 6
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City Projects $11.2M Budget Shortfall
San Diego — At a March 3 meeting, representatives from the city’s Financial Management Department presented the fiscal year 2010 Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report.

“We’re in disagreement on that, but this is very early,” said Tevlin. “If you take the [Annual Required Contribution] and our revenue projections, we’re looking at a 45 million dollar deficit for 2011.”

By Dorian Hargrove

Bad News Rising
City Projects $11.2M Budget Shortfall
San Diego — At a March 3 meeting, representatives from the city’s Financial Management Department presented the fiscal year 2010 Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report.

“General fund projections are currently projected to have a year-end shortfall of 11.2 million dollars,” said financial manager Angela Colton.

Despite saving $16.5 million in department expenditures due to position vacancies, a $42.8 million gap between revenues and city department expenditures remains. To help bridge the gap, the city plans to use $31.5 million in “carry-forward appropriations” from previous years, money that was set aside for ongoing city contracts but was never used.

“Independent budget analyst Andrea Tevlin predicts a much greater budget shortfall for next fiscal year. Tevlin says that rough estimates from her office indicate that the $15 million revenue deficit suggested by the mayor’s office is closer to $30 million.

“We’re in disagreement...”

On Sunday at approximately 1:00 a.m., a female reported to police that she had been able to evade an attempted rape. The woman — who occupied a residence off-campus near 55th Street and Mary Lane — said that the male suspect broke into her home and tried to rape her. The victim said that she was able to escape and the perpetrator got away in a white pickup truck.

The perpetrator was described as a Hispanic male, 26 to 30 years old, 5’4” with a stocky build, wearing a gray sweater, blue jeans, and black boots.

Later that morning, just after 3:00 a.m., another female victim reported that she had been raped at an off-campus party. The location of the assault was less than a mile east of the first incident, also off-campus, near Montezuma Road and 64th Street.

By Nathaniel Uy

Scratched and Jailed
Deputies Catch Rapist at Jack in the Box
Chula Vista — Sheriff’s deputies arrested a Spring Valley rape suspect on February 27 in Chula Vista.

At around 6:45 a.m., deputies responded to an “unknown trouble” 911 call in Spring Valley and found a hysterical 49-year-old woman at the home. She said she had just been

...
The Beverly Hills Bullies?

Trib Owners Face Labor Practice Charges

The Graphic Communications Conference (GCC) of the Teamsters, the union representing some of the covered employees, filed an unfair-labor practice charge along East Frontage Drive. They followed him to the Jack in the Box and blocked his truck so he couldn’t escape. Officers noticed fresh scratch marks on his face and took him into custody without incident.

By Craig Vansant
Tuesday, March 2

The Hippies Win One

Town to Reduce Coast Highway 101 Lanes

At last month’s council meeting, the newer leadership of the chamber reversed its previous position and came out in favor of the plan to reduce the northbound lanes to one lane, install five roundabouts, and increase bike lanes by eliminating some parking spaces. The plan will take ten years to fund fully and implement. As one Highway 101 merchant put it, “It looks like the hippies in Leucadia have finally won one.”

By Ken Harrison
Tuesday, March 2

Killer Whale Watch

Train Interaction at SeaWorld Orlando

By Steve Horvath
Tuesday, March 2

The biggest bombshell of the show — in which a child from the audience is introduced to Shamu — had been whittled down to a nearly meaningless interaction. From behind one of the enormous glass buttresses that form the front of the stage, the child gave a few sample trainer moves for the animal to follow. Then the girl curtsied to the audience after experiencing little more than anybody sitting in the front row could have experienced.

To the revised show’s credit, the finale featured something that I’d never seen: four whales doing synchronized breaches, flips, and jumps.

By Mark Shiflett
Tuesday, March 2

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Podder's Pride
Ms. Rejas's ("Filipino Rules," Cover Story, March 4) "podder" must be gloting with bragging rights for having a daughter who single-handedly made fun of her family, her upbringing, and her culture in one lame article in the Reader. And here I am, always thinking that having a son as a senior human resources manager (Clorox), another as a mechanical engineer (Nav-FacEnh), and a daughter who graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy (class '99), who presently teaches at a Montessori school, is the way to be very proud of your children. Ms. Rejas, follow the wish of your "podder" and be a nurse or a nurse's helper. You'll never go far with journalism. Stop slinging and insulting Barbara by copying her style!
Ben Javier
via email

Out There
Great job by Macael Rejas on the cover story about her culture ("Filipino Rules," March 4). Not many have the guts to put themselves out there, and she certainly did that, and she can be proud of it. Having taken a cold bath in the Mexican culture over the last two decades, I related immediately to the difference between how I was brought up and how others are taught from an early age. I'm sure that she'll take criticism from her peers and fellow Filipinos and Filipinas, but her effort here should transcend these differences. Teach me what I don't understand, and I'll be better off for it. Fear of criticism keeps me ignorant, and I hope you'll take that criticism in exchange for my enlightenment. Thanks, Macael. I loved it.
David Alton Dodd
via email

More, Please
What a great read ("Filipino Rules," March 4)! Thanks for putting it on the cover, as I read it right away. More stories from Macael, please.
Ryan Velasco
via email

Much Ado About Pittman
I have a comment on your puzzle page "Brainstorms" in the March 4 Reader. I think you may have a mistake in here. You start out saying, "This is the word for 'word' in shorthand," and then you have something looks something like a number 2 written in pennmanship, and then you say, "Armed with just that little bit of information, a person even totally unfamiliar with Gregg" blah blah blah. I don't think that's Gregg shorthand. The hint that this was not really Gregg shorthand was the final line of the instructions: "No knowledge of shorthand is required. Take our word for it." — Editor

Name Withheld
via voicemail

The Free Stooges
Don Bauder’s "Too Much Conflict" ("City Lights," March 4) emphasizes Li Mandri’s Italian background. No mention is made of the Jewish background of other key players in this conflict. It is an indisputable fact that the only ethnic group in the United States that is not protected from lies, stereotypes, and hatemongering is the Italian Americans. Bigoted morons in the New York–Hollywood media, as well as their little stooges in San Diego’s bankrupt media, including you, the Reader, simply do not want to get this message. Whatever the facts are, somehow the FBI, which has a number of homosexuals in Continued on page 65
All in good taste

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MEDIA HAWK

by Moss Gropen

“Blame me,” says comedian “Jiggaboo Jones” regarding race relations at UCSD.

Given the amount of ink — virtual and otherwise — flying around San Diego media-land these days, one might think that World War III had broken out at UCSD. The online NBC San Diego headline of February 19 blared, “Racial Tensions Boil at UCSD.” Similar headlines could be seen on the news websites of San Diego’s various other channels — 6, 8, and 10 — as well as on SignOnSanDiego, the Union-Tribune, and other local fonts of info. They showed the heat — but did they shed any light?

According to the dispatches coming from the usually sleepy campus, this exacerbation of tension (such as it existed) came about when a handful of black students learned of a black-themed, off-campus bash — dubbed the “Compton Cookout” by its hosts — which took place on February 13. Outraged by a ghetto-style costume party that they felt “mocked” Black History Month, a contingent of students launched into loud protests. When the Koala aired a show defending the party on the student-run campus television station, the protesters — ranks augmented by black “activists” from San Diego City College and other places — grew even more strident. Responding to pressure, the administration shut down the station, conducted a campus teach-in, and acceded to a laundry list of demands (including free tutoring) from the Black Student Union.

Before long, photos of angry black students, predictable condemnation from chancellor Marye Anne Fox and politicians, as well as tales of outrage and cries of insensitivity, racism, and stereotypes were all there, and then some. And after a noose was found hanging from a bookcase on the seventh floor of the Geisel Library, hundreds of black radicals and supporters were in no mood to celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday, preferring instead to stage a ’60s-style takeover of the chancellor’s office. (The ever-deferential Fox was forced out of her office for several hours but declined to call the police.) But despite — perhaps because of — the extensive local (not to mention national) coverage, neither the hard facts nor their implications have become clear. To that end, J.W. August, managing editor of Channel 10 news, says, “Tread carefully. Perhaps people are being played here.”

Whether or not local news organizations have been deferential Fox was forced out of her office for several hours but declined to call the police.) But despite — perhaps because of — the extensive local (not to mention national) coverage, neither the hard facts nor their implications have become clear. To that end, J.W. August, managing editor of Channel 10 news, says, “Tread carefully. Perhaps people are being played here.”

J.W. August, managing editor of Channel 10 news, says, “Tread carefully. Perhaps people are being played here.”

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BLACK! Yes, it’s true; even a cursory visit to his website — barring the most sinister of Photoshop alterations — reveals that the chap behind the party is certifiably African American, an internet comedian who calls himself “Jiggaboo Jones” and claims the title of “The Number One Nigger in America.” Yet neither R. Stickney nor Michelle Wayland — who posted stories online for NBC San Diego — deemed Jones’s name or race important enough to merit mention. Indeed, the duo reacted defensively when questioned about the omissions, as well as the (media-wide) use of the term “mock.” One might argue that “mock” implies something different from “lampoon,” “parody,” or “saturize,” more neutral terms that might have been used — but weren’t — to describe the February 13 party of newly minted lore. Perhaps it all comes down to the proverbial goring of oxen, but for his part, Jiggaboo is laughing all the way to the check-cashing store.

Jones and his website are nothing if not self-parody — an over-the-top celebration (some would say exploitation) of black, inner-city customs. Still, when he issued a YouTube response to the university and its fellow PC travelers, he seemed earnest enough; with tongue only partly in cheek, the otherwise affable Jones savaged the news media and the hypersensitive protesters. Defending the partygoers — the much-maligned fraternity, in particular — he said that the Cookout was, in essence, an innocent frolic whose primary purpose was to hype his latest DVD release. Accusing local media of wielding the “race card” and making “something out of nothing,” Jones characterized the Cookout as a costume party for those seeking a temporary opprobrium: racism. No one in the local news media — they promptly announced that they would investigate. Follow-ups by reporters, expected questions about little details like freedom of speech, were sparse.

Putting aside the reporters’ glaring lack of journalistic detachment (i.e., their zeal to join, rather than report on, the braying chorus), it seems they also found a pack of white devils (just as national news organizations did in the Duke lacrosse team) to latch with that blackest of connotations. Neatly sidestepping any First Amendment issues — which were given conspicuously short shrift by the media — they promptly announced that they would investigate. Follow-ups by reporters, expected questions about little details like freedom of speech, were sparse.

Jiggaboo also declared, “You want to blame somebody, blame me…. Don’t be gettin’ mad at these people that just had a good time…. Pi Kappa Alpha didn’t have nothin’ to do with that…. Get your facts straight…. To the news people, you know, you guys need to do a lot more fact-checking…. You trying to start a race riot.”

The voluble impresario, by way of assuring viewers of his ghetto provenance, launched into a spoken résumé; he testified to a genuine Compton gangsta lineage, boasting, among other things, that several years back he’d served time in “the pen.” He also added, “There were no black people hung at the event. Nobody was beaten up…. Everybody had a good time. The police weren’t called…. Nobody got robbed, nobody got shot, nobody got stabbed.”

Jones may have had a good time (not to mention a flurry of hits on his website and orders for his DVDs), but the UCSD administration was less than amused. Neatly sidestepping any First Amendment issues — which were given conspicuously short shrift by the media — they promptly announced that they would investigate. Follow-ups by reporters, expected questions about little details like freedom of speech, were sparse.

Putting aside the reporters’ glaring lack of journalistic detachment (i.e., their zeal to join, rather than report on, the braying chorus), it seems they also found a pack of white devils (just as national news organizations did in the Duke lacrosse team) to latch with that blackest of contemporary opprobria: racism. No one in the local fourth estate has acquitted himself exceptionally well (at least on the record), but of all the offenders, Channel 6 news has possibly been the most egregious, to wit: their February 24 online coverage of the teach-in was titled “Battle Against Hate” and placed next to a handy link, “Join the Battle Against Hate,” recommended a more lighthearted response to the Cookout brouhaha. On the Channel 8 message board, someone with the handle of “Student of the Month” suggested, “We students should have a party, dress like chancellor chicks and talk loud and demanding like administrators. We could wear gold chains and expensive Nordstrom clothes and drive up in Mercedes and BMWs [and] eat a bucket o’ caviar.”

Endangered Runaways

Celia and Elsa may travel to the San Diego, California, area. Both Celia and Elsa have pierced ears. Elsa may use the nickname “Snow.”

Any information, please call the Comal County Sheriff’s Department: (830) 620-3400

Marye Anne Fox offers predictable condemnation

NBC website included stories that didn’t mention Jones’s name

There’s nothing like Forgiveness and New Life!
$10 UV-free Mystic Tan
Best bronzin solution ever. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases.
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For eyebrow, lip liner or eyebrows. Not valid with any other offer.
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Spa manicure & pedicure $29.95
Off products. We specialize in solar nails, pink & white, color tips. Nancy’s Nails & Spa
Next to Godfather restaurant!
Clairmont: 7810 D Clairmont Mesa Blvd - 619-279-5357
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30 days women’s fitness $19.95
Trial membership. Includes training. Cannot be combined with any other offer.
Serenity Fitness Club & Spa
Alford Gardens: 5125 Waring Rd 619-582-2755
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Free bread loaf
Buy any Entenmann’s, Oroweat, Thomas or Tia Rosa item and receive one of equal or lesser value free. Excludes trial, coupons. Valid at outlet stores only.
One coupon per customer per day.
Oroweat Bakery Outlet
San Diego: 3375 Kearny Villa Rd - 619-277-6846
El Cajon: 114 Broadway 619-442-7847
Expires 4/1/10 • Coupon code: GFTSRD

Free laser hair removal
Buy a package of 3 and get 3 free. Must present ad. Not valid with other offers. Call for details.
Sente Bella Day Spa
San Diego: 220 West 5th, Ste. P 619-239-9366
Expires 4/1/10 • Coupon code: GFTSRD

$10 off dog grooming
With purchase of full grooming service. New clients only. Not valid with any other offer. Call for details.
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Free cut with color starting at $50 or more. Some restrictions.
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Spa manicure & pedicure $29.95
Off products. We specialize in solar nails, pink & white, color tips. Nancy’s Nails & Spa
Next to Godfather restaurant!
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BACK WHEN in the Reader

**Thirty-Five Years Ago**
There are other, larger reasons for the existence of sailing clubs, of course. For one thing, they provide a social refuge for old families steadily assaulted by Southern California’s percolating nouveau riche. If one can’t afford to buy these bothersome new rich at the Cuyamacas Club or the University Club, at least the San Diego Yacht Club, for example, provides some sort of filter.
— *“SAILING IN SAN DIEGO,”* Jerry Rush, March 13, 1975

**Thirty Years Ago**
Lynn H. at Security Pacific UTC. I’m glad you’re back! You’re incredibly attractive! By the way, are you single? Non-lecherous, non-geriatric male admirer.
SUSAN at San Diego Trust and Savings:
Where oh where are you? Money doesn’t matter, but people count. I need you to count my money. Mike.
— *CLASSIFIEDS*, March 13, 1980

**Twenty-Five Years Ago**
The deterrent to hefty price increases is a public outcry. A long line is the best; letters are better; city ordinance that gives the city council the power to approve or deny rate hikes proposed by Cox and Southwestern. The firms must petition for fee increases and submit a complete accounting which reveals every-thing from advertising, promotion, and legal fees to taxes, depreciation, and net income.
— *March 14, 1985*

**Ten Years Ago**
It’s the stuff of urban legend, like sharks swimming through city sewers: the dead cat-fish delivered to the Reader offices on India Street the day after the paper featured “Are the Padres Married to the Mob?” The story linked Padres team owners Larry Lucchino and John Moores to ex-felon Jay Emmett.

Q. In what were the fish wrapped?
Heavy brown butcher paper. The package was linked Padres team owners Larry Lucchino and John Moores to ex-felon Jay Emmett.

**Five Years Ago**
Lost has fallen into the same trap as Gilligan’s Island. If the cast is rescued, the show is over. If the show continues, the writers have to make three square miles of sand and coconut trees interesting. I’ll watch this show again when they construct a car and radio out of materials found on the beach.
— *REMOTE CONTROL KILLING*, Oliva, March 10, 2005

**Twenty Years Ago**
Most shoppers would agree that “failure” is an appropriate description for La Jolla Village Square, which perches on a hillside in the Golden Triangle. Too many of the mall’s 60 storefronts are vacant, several of its shops clash with La Jolla’s tony image (one store specializes in motivational tapes; another advertises cosmic matchmaking), and the mall’s main promenade is often so devoid of shoppers that, in the words of one store owner, “you can rollerskate through there backwards and not hit anyone.”

**Fifteen Years Ago**
The people who grow the flowers overlooking the freeway in Carlsbad did something last spring that diverged from San Diego floricultural tradition: they encouraged the public to come onto the growing grounds. An estimated 125,000 people responded between March and early May of 1994, and upon many of them the ranunculus flowers cast an eerie spell. According to one of the women who sold bouquets there, a steady stream of mentally disturbed individuals were drawn to the site. “They would just sit and look and when they left, they seemed a lot calmer.”
— *“GOD’S DIRT,”* Jeannette De Wyze, March 9, 1995

For more stories by these authors, go to sdreader.com.
Hey, Matt:
When I turn on the faucet, the rush of water makes me have a painful urge to urinate, and I mean physically. It feels as if I’m going to wet my pants if I don’t run to the bathroom fast. I suppose it just happens to some people: it happened to my mother, but it doesn’t happen to my wife. What causes that?
— Bob, via email

Ya know when you go into the doctor’s office and you ask a question that’s been bugging you for a while, and you leave the office feeling like you’ve got a lead weight on your chest? Well, that’s how it’s going to feel if you don’t find an answer. And you go into big detail when you ask it so the doc has all the info she needs, and you finish asking and look expectantly into her eyes, and all she does is look out the window and hem and haw and blow you off and gradually change the subject? Well, if you haven’t had it happen to you before, Bob, you have now. Staff quack Dr. Doctor, our consultant, can be his own personal trauma case when he wants to be. We didn’t bother to resuscitate him. We’ll just try to patch up the wounds and do our best.

So, Bob, you have what urologists would call urge incontinence, the sudden onset of a mean urge to pee. Lotsa, lotsa triggers for it, including hearing/drinking water, putting a key in your front door lock, plus some true medical problems. We’ll stick with the behavioral ones.

After extracting a couple of Dr. Doctor’s eyeteeth, we got him to guess that your pee attack is learned. Mebby the sound of tinkling water sounds like the sound of tinkling. Or could be that Mother Bob taught little Bobby to pee in the pot, not in the diaper, by running tap water. A common Mom trick. (Key-in-the-lock urgency might come from a built-up habit of going to the bathroom as soon as you go in the front door.) Of course, if you don’t have a diagnosable medical explanation for the source of your pee panic, most doctors will hem and haw and look out the window and change the subject. I hope you appreciated our going out on a diagnostic limb for you.

So, if your situation is behavioral, not medical, then we need a behavioral solution. Nine out of ten doctors recommend biofeedback conditioning to regain bladder control. Deconditioning you to the running-water trigger might take a while, but if this pee predicament is embarrassing or a pain in the — um — well, check in with a urologist, who can probably fix you right up.

Hey, Matthew:
Ducks in a row. My boss said we need to have all our ducks in a row on this new project. There ain’t no ducks in our new project. So, why would he say this? Where did he get this “ducks in a row” idea? We can’t ask him, since that will make him think we’re not as smart as he thinks we are, and that might get us sent down to the mailroom. And what else can we put in a row that will make our boss happy so we don’t have to go out and buy ducks?
— The Office, via email

Good thinking on that no-ducks business. We sent the elves out back to see if they could line up some ducks, and it was pretty much a failure. Lotsa flapping and quacking and ducks breaking ranks. We even tried to lure them to line up with a row of corn kernels, but apparently they aren’t as dumb as they look. Or as hungry, Whatever.

Unfortunately, we can put all our word wizards in the same cubicle as you guys. They’re pantoing and dope slapping each other to see which speculative answer to this question is the winner. They all agree that the first print reference located so far is from a Virginia newspaper in 1910. But that means the expression was probably well known in conversation by the general populace long before.

One wizard squadron is sure it’s from the game of pool; a “duck” is a ball sitting right at the edge of a pocket, ready to be drained. “Ducks in a row” are more than one duck ready for dunking. Squad dux is sure it’s from the carnival shooting game in which ducks neatly in a row are the targets. Group tres will go to the mat for the idea that it’s from mom duck leading a row of babies. This doesn’t sound bad, since having one duck’s head in a row means having all your facts squared away and organized in a logical, convincing order. While the wizards thumb-wrestle for supremacy, we’ll leave you with those choices.

As for what you can line up for your boss instead of ducks, try stacks of cash.

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

Got a question you need answered? Send an email to hey matt@cts.com or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.
Laundered shirts
99¢
Minimum 5 shirts.
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San Diego: 5411 Carmel Mt. Rd.
858-780-0895
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Excludes laundry, leather and alterations. Maximum value $5.
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Women’s haircut & style $20
Call for an appointment. Only valid with Ania. Some restrictions. New clients only. Located inside Millicent and Company Salon, the best new salon in La Mesa!
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50% off haircut
Buy one haircut at regular price and get the next one half off. Select styles. No clients only. Must present coupon before service.
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2-for-1 18 hole golf with cart
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SportingBox
BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY
Hot Off the Griddle

Let’s see if I can reconstruct the fantasy I was operating under. It starts with a friend of mine, Philip Burns (landscape architect, retired Cal professor, Harvard Ph.D.), and a book he praised, Up and Down California in 1860-1864; The Journal of William H. Brewer, originally published in 1930.

Granted, not a grabber of a title. Brewer was teaching chemistry at a Pennsylvania college when he took a job working for Josiah Whitney, California’s first state geologist. The California legislature had authorized Whitney “…to make an accurate and complete Geological Survey of the State, and to furnish maps and diagrams thereof, with a full and scientific description of the rocks, fossils, soils, and minerals, and of its botanical and zoological productions, together with specimens of the same.”

The journal opens in New York City as Brewer prepares to board the North Star. It’s October 21, 1860, James Buchanan is president, the Union is whole.

Brewer spent the following four years walking up and down California, a 14,000-mile outing. Since he stayed with families or friends’ gruel. Since I have lunch at Philip’s house most Thursdays, I can testify that he has a genius for making uncomplicated meals that taste impossibly delicious.

So, back to the fantasy I was operating under. We have inspirational Brewer journal, a serious wilderness hiker/camp cook, and your servant who’s been eating Philip lunches for years. What could be more logical, then, for me to take a backcountry cooking class from REI? Nothing, that’s what.

“In this hands-on field course, REI Outdoor School instructors will teach you how to build a camp kitchen, design a menu, and prepare tasty, nutritious meals. All stoves, kitchen materials, and food ingredients are provided (with options for both vegetarians and meat eaters).”

It’s $40 for members, $60 for the multitude. I’m an REI member. I register. Now, the thing about fantasy is that when it’s working on you, you’re not fully aware of it; it’s just a soft buzz around your ears. You experience an urge to do something. You don’t ask why. I go into class with camp cooking skills of peanut butter sandwich, cheese sandwich, and peanut butter and cheese sandwich. I expect to leave as a high-strung, gourmet campfire cook, prepared to shock and awe Philip at our next lunch.

There are only three people in class today. I shake hands with an REI employee I’ll call Jim. He’s tall, slender, mid-30s, wiry athletic build, and brown hair. We four head toward a stout wooden picnic table loaded with cooking gear and bags of food. The class runs four hours. This is what I learned:

I learned that food that would ordinarily be left out on the curb for homeless people probably tastes great in camp. It’s buy a bag of dehydrated or freeze-dried sludge at Albertsons, boil water, pour boiling water into plastic pouch of sludge, wait a few minutes and…bon appetit! Most of the dehydrated/freeze-dried food on our picnic table was not made for backpacking but for mom and the family at home, which is disturbing, learning that people are eating this and going to work the next day.

I learn there are three different kinds of tiny stoves. The tiny canister stove, the tiny liquid-fuel stove, and I forget what the third tiny stove was.

We three students prepare a meal using the three different types of tiny stoves. I select the Pesto Salmon Pasta with the tiny canister stove. I successfully boil water, pour it into the Pesto Salmon Pasta plastic pouch, and seal. Jim goes with the Betty Crocker Blueberry Muffin Mix/Simply Add Water.

Everything tasted goopy and sugary, but it was warm. I should say, the hands-down favorite of the afternoon was the always reliable stick of salami and hard cheese. That was gobbled down in a flash.
Division I: El Camino vs Rancho Bernardo
Posted March 7, 2010
The sixth-seed Broncos completed an unlikely title run with a 64-55 win over fifth-seed and defending champion El Camino on Saturday night at the University of San Diego.
COMMENTS
The 15-4 run [to open the game] pretty much decided the game. Not at the time, of course, but looking back, RB gained momentum from that run that lasted them the rest of the way. They took several high-percentage shots, open three-pointers or layups into contact, and made the most of free-throw opportunities. El Camino did not play much help-side defense, committed too many bad fouls, and had a hard time getting the offense going. RB plays a smart brand of basketball and they deserved to win.

By Broncosdynasty24, Mar 7, 2010

Division II: Hoover vs Lincoln
Posted March 5, 2010
Leading by 16 at the start of the fourth quarter, Lincoln (25-2) withstood a late Hoover rally. The Cardinals started the final quarter on a 13-2 run to cut the Hornets’ lead to single digits but couldn’t get any closer than seven down the stretch. The loss was the Cardinals’ first all season to a San Diego team.

Hoover head coach Ollie Goulston said. “We made a lot of mistakes, and we deserve what we got.”

Division III: Mount Miguel vs La Jolla
Posted March 6, 2010
Mount Miguel guard Harry Brazelton sank the first of three free-throws at the end of regulation to give the first-seed Matadors a controversial first of three free-throws at the end of regulation to give the first-seed Matadors a controversial.

COMMENTS
If you slow down the replay enough, it’s apparent that Latta only got the ball before time expired. Given that he clearly got the ball first, the body contact should have been a wash. All that information is very hard to process in a split second for the referees. Regardless, Coach Assaf said it best. You learn that freshman year of HS basketball to never foul a jump-shooter, especially with the game on the line.

By Broncosdynasty24, Mar 7, 2010

Division IV: Francis Parker vs Horizon
Posted March 6, 2010
After falling short three of the last four seasons in the Division IV title game, Francis Parker finally broke through. The third-seed Lancers controlled the tempo to beat ninth-seed Horizon 59-53 on Saturday at the University of San Diego.
COMMENTS
Nice coverage of the GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES.
What? Are you a Helix teacher and told to stay away from the girls? Or are you just a sexist bastard?
UGH!

By YoureAnIdiot, Mar 6, 2010

Fast Break can be found at SDReader.com. Under “Stories” in menu bar, click on “Sports” then “High School Basketball.”
Patrick headed over nervous, so I gave Dr. Kelly Austin a shot. She's a primary-care physician, she explains, “but I also have training with nutritional herbs and acupuncture.” When she sets up at Henry’s, she says, “I go through a medical history with the person to make sure there are no possible drug interactions — though there are very few reasons why someone couldn’t take B12. After that, we decide which shot would be best and work out a schedule. Most people do a shot a week for the first month, just to get a couple of shots into the system as a loading dose. Then two or four times a month after that.”

Patrick had whined about his drawers, Patrick,” I called to my husband as I arrived home from grocery shopping. “It says here on this flyer that Dr. Kelly Austin is offering vitamin B12 shots at the La Mesa Henry’s. Says these shots will help with weight loss, increase energy, and boost the immune system. I aim to get you stuck.”

B12 shots are looking for those sorts of results. It’s great for athletes who are training for a race.”

Austin also offers B12 methylcobalamin ($30). “I get it compounded for me — there are no preservatives. It offers all the benefits of cyanocobalamin, but the additional compound methyl means that it can pass the blood-brain barrier. It helps with moods — depression, anxiety, and stress. And studies indicate that it can be helpful in preventing Alzheimer’s and dementia.”

Next, B6 ($10, given in conjunction with a B12 shot for a total of $30). “This one is a powerful anti-inflammatory. It helps with arthritis symptoms and aids when athletes are recovering and sore. And it’s good for women who experience bad PMS symptoms because cramps are caused from excess prostaglandin in the system, and B6 helps reduce prostaglandin production. It also helps with PMS mood swings. I have women who come in for a shot a few days before each period.”

Austin adds that “the B12 plus B6 combination is really good for weight loss, for two reasons. First, it curbs your appetite. Second, they’re both key factors in the Krebs cycle, which basically makes energy for your body. It’s like throwing fuel on the fire.”

Finally, there’s the B12 plus B1 (also $30). “This is good if you drink alcohol a great deal — if you’re drinking to get drunk every weekend or using alcohol long-term.” Alcohol depletes the body’s supply of B1, she said, “and if you have a B1 deficiency, you can develop a disease known as beriberi, which impedes balance. You may wind up having headaches or getting tingling in your hands and feet.”

Some drugs, many of them prescription, strip B12 out of the system. “The biggest depleters are birth-control pills, antidepressants, and drugs that lower stomach acid, such as Pepcid and Zantac.”

Dr. Austin appears at Henry’s stores throughout San Diego County.

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

1: Dr. Kelly Austin, ND
JOIN US FOR HAPPY HOUR!

Section begins on page 111

Ads from $41. Call today: 619-235-3000

$3 premium beer

$4 margarita

$2.50 bottled beer
The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. — Dorothy Parker

"I like that they're getting all poetic with it. But anything described as 'feeds on human blood' gives me the willies."

Morbid Curiosity

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. — Dorothy Parker

"Huh, I never thought about it like that." The others paused in a conversation they were having about cocktails and looked my way. I pointed to the giant book on the table before me. "Nit-picking is actually picking nits. And nits are lice eggs. Ew!"

"Did I call it or did I call it?!" said Kimberly. She rose from her seat, sashayed to my side, and turned to show me her back. "Go on, pat it," she said. "I totally called it. I knew you'd dig this book."

"'H"

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. — Dorothy Parker

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity. — Dorothy Parker

"You don't find any of this interesting?" I asked. David said no with a shake of his head. "Haven't you ever looked at horrific photos of medical maladies online? Skin diseases! Deformities?!"

"Not intentionally," said David.

"Then there's something wrong with you," I said, despite my awareness that my curiosity for things that make me go ew was definitely more wrong than David's disinterest in disturbing imagery. Still. Inquisitiveness is human — we're seekers by nature. How else can I explain why I'm so fascinated by the bizarre?

The internet makes it so easy to satisfy my morbid curiosity. Once, during a routine morning surf through bookmarked news sites, I came across an article about a little girl with "mermaid syndrome" (she was born with her legs fused together). The article did not answer all the questions it raised, so I set about searching for more information. First, I looked at images — diagrams, X-rays, and photos of other babies with the rare congenital defect. Then I searched for specifics. What causes it? Decreased blood flow from the placenta. How does the plumbing work for a "mermaid"?

As I continued to gawk at photos, I contemplated the word "defect" and all of its implications. Flawed, inadequate...a glitch in the system. The result of something gone wrong. My search eventually led me to images of a young Indian girl who was born with eight limbs. I shuddered as I read about the "headless conjoined twin" growing from between the girl's legs. I was horrified and mesmerized at this anomaly and found myself thinking about the other person that almost was and the potential consciousness that had been "absorbed" by the stronger sibling.

In the little girl's culture, she is viewed as holy. Hindus apparently see human oddities as reincarnations of various gods, whose many limbs and eyes are regarded as assets. This girl was seen as the four-armed Vishnu. More recently, a child born with two faces and four eyes was considered to be a reincarnated Ganesha. I went through pages and pages of Google images to see every possible angle of those faces, wondering if all eyes blink at the same time, if both mouths eat, and if that weird dimple between the two faces was the absorbed one's belly button.

When I gaze at pictures of mutants, I can't help but appreciate my own normalcy and the reality that I am a by-product of a bazillion serendipitous flukes. The fact that I came into this world with the right number of limbs, that everything's in working order (give or take a few glitches...such as impaired vision), is sheer luck.

With mutations or descriptions and photos of death and disease, it's not that I want to look — it's that I can't not look. Even more intriguing than the symptoms of murderous epidemics is how small are their causes — it's the flea that carried the bubonic plague, the mosquito that carries malaria, the louse that carries typhus. And the real killers — the viruses and bacteria being carried — are even smaller.

"It's terrifying but also cool, you know?" I asked. David glanced at Kimberly in the most playful way a strong sibling could. "Haven't you ever wondered about searching for more information. First, I looked at images — diagrams, X-rays, and photos of other babies with the rare congenital defect. Then I searched for specifics. What causes it? Decreased blood flow from the placenta. How does the plumbing work for a "mermaid"? One hole for digestive tract and genitals. After uncovering each new detail, I took a moment to ponder the tribulations of the impaired.

As I continued to gawk at photos, I contemplated the word "defect" and all of its implications. Flawed, inadequate...a glitch in the system. The result of something gone wrong. My search eventually led me to images of a young Indian girl who was born with eight limbs. I shuddered as I read about the "headless conjoined twin" growing from between the girl's legs. I was horrified and mesmerized at this anomaly and found myself thinking about the other person that almost was and the potential consciousness that had been "absorbed" by the stronger sibling.

In the little girl's culture, she is viewed as holy. Hindus apparently see human oddities as reincarnations of various gods, whose many limbs and eyes are regarded as assets. This girl was seen as the four-armed Vishnu. More recently, a child born with two faces and four eyes was considered to be a reincarnated Ganesha. I went through pages and pages of Google images to see every possible angle of those faces, wondering if all eyes blink at the same time, if both mouths eat, and if that weird dimple between the two faces was the absorbed one's belly button.

When I gaze at pictures of mutants, I can't help but appreciate my own normalcy and the reality that I am a by-product of a bazillion serendipitous flukes. The fact that I came into this world with the right number of limbs, that everything's in working order (give or take a few glitches...such as impaired vision), is sheer luck.

With mutations or descriptions and photos of death and disease, it's not that I want to look — it's that I can't not look. Even more intriguing than the symptoms of murderous epidemics is how small are their causes — it's the flea that carried the bubonic plague, the mosquito that carries malaria, the louse that carries typhus. And the real killers — the viruses and bacteria being carried — are even smaller.

"It's terrifying but also cool, you know?" I said, closing the book and returning my attention to the table, or more specifically, my drink that was on the table. "No, I don't know," said David. "I think you do," I said before uttering the one word I knew would silence David and prove my point: "Cirque."

We'd just gone to see Kooza, the Cirque du Soleil show currently set up in Del Mar — David had delighted in the terrifying-but-cool aerialists. "That's not the same kind of 'terrifying' you're talking about," David said. "Oh, yeah? What about the contortionists?" I was referring to the act that had enthralled us both, in which three sandspend clad women flowed over and around each other like golden liquid. "They had to be born with some kind of abnormal flexibility or double-jointedness or something," I said. "I guess they weren't terrifying so much as cool, but still — they classify as human oddity, right? And you enjoyed watching them. And those guys in that wheel-of-death thingy? That was totally scary. Your palms got wet, but you couldn't look away, could you? Face it," I said, "weird shit is fun to watch. It's different than our day-to-day. Anything that makes us go 'wow' is entertaining."

David grabbed the book and opened it randomly. "The feet were monstrous, covered with thick, yellowish crusts disposed in scales separated at intervals by deep ulcerated furrows from which oozed fetid, aqueous pus." When he'd finished reading the passage aloud, he looked up and settled his eyes on Kimberly. "See, I could have gone without knowing that," he said.

"But then you never would have known the side effects of elephantiasis," I said, peering over his shoulder. I made a mental note to search for pictures of elephantiasis.

Kimberly smirked at her husband Shawn, who, if his silence was any indication, had chosen to go Swiss on the issue. "I called it, didn't I?" she said to me. "Oh, yeah," I responded. "You done good, girl."

David threw his hands up in exasperation and reached for his drink. "Just don't read any more of it to me," he said. But his request must not have registered because within moments I was pointing out the horrors of cholera and thanking my lucky stars that I have access to clean water.
"His shield was lowered, so I picked up the edge of it"
A gold-rimmed sea serpent undulates around a trident along the end of the narrow blue flag as it ripples in the morning breeze that blows across the gopher-pocked green of Lakeside’s El Monte Park, which spreads out below the brown face of El Cajon Mountain. And if that sentence sounds high-flown, well, there’s a reason why. The flag is only one of maybe a hundred ringing the field that will see today’s combat — armored, unarmored, and rapier — and the serpent is only one of four symbols on that flag, but it is the symbol of the Barony of Calafia. The barony covers San Diego and Imperial Counties, and today is its anniversary tournament. It’s an event grand enough to command the presence of King Patrick O’Malley and Queen Kara the Twin of Kelton, the reigning monarchs of the Kingdom of Caid, the sixth kingdom in the Society for Creative Anachronism, a region that encompasses southern California, southern Nevada, and Hawaii. (Yes, it helps that their majesties are locals, but still.)

* * *

King Patrick won the crown in August of ’09 at the Caid Crown Tourney in Fresno (you can see the deciding blow, uploaded via iPhone, on YouTube), after a three-way final with Sir Valrik and Sir Ragnar. Watch along with me, won’t you?

He faces Ragnar first: two men of substance in full armor, each wearing the white belt that signifies knighthood, each carrying a painted aluminum shield and a rattan sword carefully wrapped in duct tape.

Patrick, a 30-year veteran of Society combat, is the less adorned of the two.

continued on page 32

and drove it out of the way and followed through to the side of his head.”
As befits his persona — an Irish fighter of the early 11th Century — he wears no tunic, and he wouldn’t be wearing articulated steel coverings on his knees and elbows if Society safety regulations didn’t require joint protection. The engraved leather greaves, though — those he’d be wearing, even if the boots beneath them are modern.

(Another nod to modernity: his chain-mail shirt is made from titanium instead of steel, so that it weighs 9 pounds instead of 35. It cost him around $2000, but after three knee surgeries, the switch from steel was worth it. Not that it does him a great deal of good either way in combat: “Chain is mostly jewelry,” he grants. “It’s good for stopping a real sword, but against a club” — and an inch-thick rattan stick with a basket-handle absolutely counts as a club — “not so much.”)

The two knights strike a few blows from a safe distance — there are great smacking sounds as sword rattles shield — but mostly, they dance, approaching, retreating, circling, weaving. “So much of what you’re doing is mental,” he says. “He’ll shift position, and I know what blows he can throw from that position, so I’ll shift to parry. There’s a whole fight that goes on before...”
flurry of swords, Patrick begins, it’s over. Amid a seconds after the battle come to grips, and 90 man having taken meas-
torso, and you’re done. One shot to the head or fight from your knees). drop to the ground and gone (if it’s a leg, you
tate before committing to an attack: one shot to the head or

There is reason to hesi-

thrown — it’s more

any actual blows are
thrown — it’s more intricate than you can tell from the outside.” There is reason to hesi-
tate before committing to an attack: one shot to a limb, and that limb is
gone (if it’s a leg, you drop to the ground and fight from your knees). One shot to the head or torso, and you’re done.

Eventually, each man having taken meas-

ure of the other, the two come to grips, and 90 seconds after the battle begins, it’s over. Amid a flurry of swords, Patrick
delivers a clean blow to Ragnar’s head, and he crumples to the ground. “It can go very quickly,” says Patrick, “and hon-
estly, with the amount of energy you’re expending during an intense fight, you’re not going to go much more than a minute or so. It’s like boxing — you can’t just stand up and be relaxed. Your whole body is tensed” — and you’re wearing armor, and you have to keep your sword and shield up…. “Most of the peo-

dment do a lot of work to stay in shape. You’re going to fight a mini-
mum of 11 fights to win.” By the final, “I was pretty determined to be done in two fights.”

And he was done in two. Returning to the tourney: the crowd — also Society members, also dressed in period attire, because this is first and foremost a club, a community, as opposed to a company, of players — settles in for round two. The

Marshal, dressed in a forest-green robe and a

white sash, opens the proceedings. “Gentlemen, all salutes having been delivered: Sir Valrik, stand you prepared?”

“Ready!” replies Val-

rik, holding his sword.

“Sir Patrick, stand you prepared?”

“Ready,” says Patrick. He does not raise his sword.

“Lay on!” cries the Marshall, as he steps back to keep watch over the combat. But he’s not exactly the ref —

nobody’s waiting on his

call to celebrate the combat equivalent of a touchdown. It’s up to the recipient of a given blow to say whether it landed, and whether it landed with enough force to be called a hit. (How much force that is, exactly, varies from region to region. The baronies around Toronto and Florida have reputations for light hits; New York and Cleveland tend to go heavier. It makes for some spirited discussions when various kingdoms come

together in battle, say at Pennsic, the massive Society gathering held each summer in Slippery Rock, Pennsyl-
vania.)

The fight takes all of 20 seconds. The two fly together and trade blows, and then O’Malley presses in and strikes from up high, and Valrik sinks before the onslaught.

“Victor of the day is Patrick O’Malley!” cries a voice. Everyone cheers. Valrik stands, and the two men embrace.

“He had thrown a
Forgetting simple tasks? Memory fading? Can’t seem to complete projects?

If you or someone you know is:
• Male or female • Between the ages of 45 and 90
• Experiencing memory loss? Unable to organize or plan? Forgetting simple tasks?
• In overall good health
If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our research study! If you qualify and choose to participate, you may receive an investigational study medication. You will also receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits all at no charge. Health insurance is not required and compensation for time and travel is provided.

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

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.

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

Do you suffer from Depression?
Does it feel like nothing matters?
Do you feel lonely and sad most of the time?

If you feel this way, and even if you’re on medication, we might be able to help.

Local researchers invite you to take part in a research study. Insurance is not required.
Participants will receive treatment for depression and may receive compensation for time and travel. If you’re between the ages of 18 and 55 call the confidential recruitment line to learn more and see if you qualify. This may be your first step to feeling better.

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.

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

Do you have severe acne?

We are looking for:
• 12-54 years of age
• Severe acne with a minimum of 10 large, painful bumps on face, back or chest
Qualified participants will receive:
• Study medication at no cost
• Compensation for time and travel

For more information call
Skin Surgery Medical Group Inc.
at 858-292-8641

Diabetic Nerve Pain

Over time, diabetes can damage the nerves causing pain that makes it hard to do even simple things like dressing, driving & walking...

Nerve Pain Symptoms Include:
♥ Feeling of wearing an invisible "sock"
♥ Burning sensation or freezing pain
♥ Sharp, jabbing or electric-like pain

If you struggle with diabetic nerve pain, consider joining a research study:
♥ Qualified participants receive study-related doctor’s care, lab tests & study medication
♥ There’s no cost & no need for insurance.
♥ Compensation for time & travel.

Give us a call to learn more or to request a free info kit.

Encompass 1-800-639-5000
shot to my leg that I caught low with my shield,“ recalls Patrick. “His shield was lowered, so I picked up the edge of it and drove it out of the way and followed through to the side of his head. I have a picture of it on my desk. It’s much faster on the video than it was in my mind."

*  *  *

Now it is a brisk night in early December, and King Patrick is attending fighter practice under the outdoor lights at the Allied Gardens Community Center, steam rising from his armor in the evening chill. He still wears his knight’s belt, but there is no outward sign of his royal status, and nobody’s standing on ceremony. He’s not even the only Crown Tournament winner in the bunch — Sir Guillaume de la Belgique has won twice, which is why he is now called Duke. It’s the off season for tournaments and wars, so those who have turned out tonight are mostly diehards, people for whom this is a discipline.

And if you want to excel, you do need discipline. “Sir Armand was a duke when I joined 30-odd years ago,” says Guillaume. “When he was away from practice for even a few weeks, the first thing he would do was put on a helmet and have one of his squires give him a dozen shots right across the face. The first thing he developed while away was that blink response, and he needed to get that out, needed to be able to keep his eyes open. He needed to condition that response back in.” “If there was somebody new here,” says Guillaume goes a few rounds with Bennett Wiessenstein, a tall lefty in 14th-century Germanic plate mail.

Do you have Schizophrenia?

If so, and you are between the ages of 18 and 55, you may be eligible to participate in an inpatient research study of an investigational medication for schizophrenia. This research study will compare the effects of the investigational medication on sleep to an approved medication for schizophrenia.

Qualified participants will receive:
• No-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care
• No-cost study-related medical evaluations
• Compensation for your time in the study

Call 858-ARTEMIS (278-3647) today to see if you qualify for this research study. Confidentiality is strictly honored.

Do you have thin, short lashes?

Therapeutics Clinical Research is enrolling for a research study comparing the safety and effectiveness of investigational doses of the active ingredient in LATISSE®. LATISSE® is a prescription treatment used to grow eyelashes, making them longer, thicker and darker.

We need participants:
• Caucasian, female, 30-55 years of age
• With sparse eyelashes

Qualified participants will receive:
• All study-related exams under the care of board-certified physicians and study medication at no cost
• Compensation for participation

Call us at
619-512-DERM (3376)

No insurance required.
Conveniently located in Kearny Mesa.
9025 Balboa Avenue, San Diego 92123
info@therapeuticsresearch.com
www.therapeuticsresearch.com

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH

San Diego Reader • March 11, 2010 • 35
Patrick, “we would be taking more time to explain how to throw blows, how to block. I hold out-of-armor practice every Tuesday night at my house that is nothing but learning sword technique. We practice combinations and shots against a pole, so that you don’t have to worry about someone trying to club you at the same time.”

As it is, this fighter practice consists mostly of fighting, followed by friendly blow-by-blow analysis. “After I pulled in my block, you blinded me and got in a nice shot.” “You saw me cheating over, trying to fight to the leg.” “I’m overgripping; my hands are killing me. That’s what happens when you’re out of practice.”

Guillaume goes a few rounds with Bennett Wiessenstein, a tall lefty in 14th-century Germanic plate mail who favors two-handed weapons like spears over the standard sword and shield. At one point, he gets Guillaume down on his knees and goes in for the kill, only to take a sword thrust underneath his arm. “It's a fairly subtle move,” says Guillaume afterward, “and one you've got to deliver with a lot of power. All it takes is a little bit of deflection and the thrust is no good.” “But when it sticks…” observes Bennett, rubbing his unarmored armpit.

“There’s almost no real record of how people fought prior to the Renaissance, so we learn a lot by trial and error.”

“It’s interesting,” continues Guillaume. “In my 30 years in the SCA, we’ve gone through phases where thrusting is seen as a cheap shot. It’s off and on. Once we were having a knight’s council, and everybody was say-
Hepatitis C Research Study
If you suffer from chronic Hepatitis C you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an investigational drug for Hepatitis C.

You may be eligible if you have:
• Chronic infection with Hepatitis C genotype 1
• Never been on prescription therapy for Hepatitis C
• Otherwise good health

If you qualify, you may receive study-related medical examinations, lab tests, and compensation for time and travel.

For more information, contact eStudySite toll-free at:
1-877-500-eStudy
(1-877-500-3788)
info@eStudySite.com

COUGHING, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, WHEEZING, YEARS OF SMOKING

eStudySite is participating in a world-wide research study to test an investigational treatment for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease COPD, also known as smoker’s cough, chronic bronchitis or emphysema.

You may be eligible to participate in this study if you:
• Are 40 years of age or older
• Have a diagnosis of COPD
• Are a current smoker or were a smoker in the past

Compensation for time and travel may be available.

For more information please contact eStudySite toll free at:
1-877-500-eStudy
(1-877-500-3788)

fear • cough • sore throat • runny nose
body aches • headache • fatigue

FLU Got You Blue?
Ask NOW about a clinical research study that you may qualify for.

If you have the FLU, you may be interested in participating in a clinical research study testing the safety, tolerability and effectiveness of a new investigational study medication for the treatment of all types of flu including the 2009 H1N1 flu (swine flu).

If you would like to participate in this study, please contact us as soon as possible. Your first study visit must take place within 48 hours of the start of any of the following flu symptoms:
• Fever over 100°F or feeling “feverish” • Sweats or chills • Cough • Sore throat
• Runny or stuffy nose • Headache • Muscle aches • Extreme tiredness or fatigue

To qualify, you must be 18 to 60 years of age and meet certain study requirements. You will receive all study-related medical care and the investigational study medication at no charge. Participants may be compensated for their time, and reimbursement for study-related expenses may also be provided.

1-877-500-eStudy (1-877-500-3788)
eStudySite.com
Se Habla Español: 619-955-5246

The study doctor will explain the study requirements and the possible benefits and risks to you before you decide to participate. Contacting us does not mean you have to participate or that you will be eligible to participate. Participation in this clinical research study is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw at any time for any reason without penalty or loss of benefits and without effect on your future health care.
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

By “King Arthur,” he means, “what the Victorians took and polished up and made pretty.”

The purpose of this clinical research study is to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational topical medication for eczema (also known as atopic dermatitis).

We need participants:
- with eczema of the legs, arms and/or torso
- 18-55 years of age, in general good health
- experiencing moderate to severe itchiness

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. Confidentiality maintained. Conveniently located in Kearny Mesa.

Call us at: 858-279-SKIN (7546)

Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting an 11-week research study of an investigational topical medication for eczema (also known as atopic dermatitis).

E-mail: info@therapeuticsresearch.com
Website: www.therapeuticsresearch.com
**Does Your Child Suffer From ADHD (Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder) & Insomnia**

If they are:
- 6-17 years of age
- Having sleep problems
- Having daytime functional impairment
- Able to swallow tablets

Your child may be eligible to participate in a new clinical research trial.

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

For more information call: 1-888-365-3203

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**Do you have type 2 diabetes?**

Are you currently taking Lantus®, Levemir®, Humulin®N or Novolin®N?

Has your doctor told you your blood sugar level is not adequately controlled?

Medical researchers are studying an investigational oral medication to see if it can help improve blood sugar levels.

**To pre-qualify for this study, you must:**
- Be 18 years of age, and
- Have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes, and
- Be currently taking either Lantus®, Levemir®, Humulin®N or Novolin®N with or without metformin and/or a sulfonylurea and your dose has been unchanged for the last several weeks.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related medical evaluations and study medication at no cost. You may also receive reimbursement for time and travel.

For additional information please call: 1-888-365-3203

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**Do you have pain from chronic pancreatitis?**

Synergy Clinical Research Center is leading a research study using an investigational drug to see if it reduces pain from chronic pancreatitis.

- Chronic pancreatitis pain moderate to severe
- 18-80 years old
- Single infusion of study drug or placebo

Call Nancy or Robert:
Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm
1-888-365-3203

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**Ladies...not in the mood? Depressed?**

A clinical research study is underway to evaluate pre-menopausal women who have been dealing with decreased sexual desire.

**To qualify you must be:**
- Female, 18-50 years of age
- Feeling mild depression for at least 4 weeks
- Stable on a depression medication
- In a heterosexual relationship for at least 1 year

Qualified participants will receive all study-related evaluations and study medication at no cost. You may also receive reimbursement for time and travel.

For more information, call: 1-888-365-3203

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**Do you have Chronic Low Back Pain?**

Adults experiencing chronic low back pain are needed to participate in a clinical trial of an investigational pain medication.

If you have chronic low back pain (CLBP), you not only struggle with the pain itself, you have to live with the way it affects your ability to work and participate in an active lifestyle. And, you’re not the only one who suffers with this life-altering condition. With about 30 million people in the United States suffering from chronic back pain, CLBP is a major health problem.

Currently available medications can help with the pain but often cause unwanted side effects, and research is still needed to provide additional treatment options. Local doctors are evaluating an investigational medication to determine how well it relieves pain in adults with moderate to severe CLBP.

Would I be eligible to participate in this study? To pre-qualify for this study, you must:
- Be 18 years of age or older
- Experience moderate to severe CLBP
- Have been on a consistent, daily regimen of pain medication for CLBP for at least three months
- Be willing to discontinue your current pain medication

Qualified participants will receive:
- Study-related procedures at no cost
- Study-related monitoring and ongoing evaluations throughout the study
- Study-related physical exams and lab tests
- Extensive eye examinations
- A small stipend for time and travel expenses

To learn more about this study, please contact: 1-888-365-3203

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**MAJOR DEPRESSION**

If you are one of the 15 million adults affected by depression, you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an investigational depression medication now being studied.

**You must be:**
- 18-65 years of age
- Currently diagnosed with Depression
- Symptoms greater than 2 months

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug or inactive placebo
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information call: 1-888-365-3203

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1908 Sweetwater Rd., National City, CA 91950
www.synergysandiego.com
So when Guillaume fights, he does just that. Some approximation of historical accuracy is also what led him to adopt a molded rubber basket instead of something heavier. “Different people like to balance the sword at different points,” says Patrick. “If your sword is blade-heavy, it’s easier to hit harder, but if the weight is closer to your hand, you get a lot more speed. You might use a rubber hand-guard if you wanted your sword to be blade-heavy” — the way a real sword would be.

“There’s a fair bit of disparity over what we’re trying to represent here,” offers Bennett. “A Viking judicial duel and an Italian judicial duel from the late Middle Ages are nothing like each other. The preconceptions of the societies that held those duels are radically different.”

“The Vikings had an aspect of winning prizes, but guys still tended to get their limbs hacked off,” agrees Guillaume. “And neither of those would have been like a high medieval tournament.”

“And none of those are like what you read in King Arthur,” continues Bennett. By “King Arthur,” he means “what the Victorians took and polished up and made pretty” in an effort to bolster their cultural heritage. “So, take all of those things and throw in a little Dungeons & Dragons…”

“…and a little Monty Python,” adds Guillaume. “And then some Kendo, some Olympic fencing, some guys who went through Marine Corps pugil-stick training, and you come up with this.”

“It’s very regional,” concludes Guillaume. “Somebody will come along who is talented and buckles down and wins Crown Tournament three or four times in a row, and everybody says, ‘We should fight like that!’ Up in An Tir — the kingdom of the Pacific Northwest — “there was a guy who fought with his butt sticking way out. It shifted his center of gravity and let him take advantage of that wrist-flick style of fighting. He was just phenomenal, and so you

---

**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

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**Do You Have Plaque Psoriasis?**

Therapeutics Clinical Research is evaluating the efficacy of two treatment regimens in the treatment of moderate plaque psoriasis.

**We need participants:**
• 18 years of age and older
• With plaque-type psoriasis

**Qualified participants will receive:**
• Study-related evaluations by a board-certified dermatologist and study medication at no cost
• Compensation for participation

Confidentiality Maintained
Conveniently located in Kearny Mesa

**Therapeutics Clinical Research**
Call us at 619-512-DERM (3376)
9025 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123
Email: info@therapeuticsresearch.com
Website: www.therapeuticsresearch.com

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**RESEARCH STUDIES**

“I always feel sad and hopeless.”

“I have no energy and have problems sleeping.”

“I’m not interested in anything.”

If this sounds like you or a loved one, please contact us now about our medical research study of an investigational medication to treat the symptoms of depression.

**TO SEE IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE MAY PRE-QUALIFY**
PLEASE CALL OR VISIT
1-888-807-8023
Ifeelblue.com
Is COPD Leaving you Breathless?

Right now we’re enrolling adults with COPD ages 40+ years in a research study of an investigational medication for COPD (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease).

Qualified participants will receive at no charge all:
• Study-related care and evaluations
• Study medication
• Compensation for travel may be provided

Don’t Let COPD Leave You Breathless

To learn more please call 619-229-3909
Ask for Rob.

San Diego Sports Medicine & Family Health Center
6699 Alvarado Rd. #2100, San Diego, CA 92120
www.sandiegosportsmed.com

Are you or someone you know currently diagnosed with Alcohol Dependency

or currently drinking excessive amounts of alcohol?

Qualified participants may be eligible to be in a research study involving an investigational medication. Qualified participants will be compensated for time and transportation up to $1,050.

Please contact
CNRI-San Diego at 619-481-5252
saw a whole bunch of people fighting in that style — though not nearly as well.”

*   *   *

On the morning of the Calafian Anniversary, King Patrick is still wearing his white belt, but instead of chain mail, it cinches a burgundy tunic trimmed with gray and gold. Instead of a helmet, Patrick wears a crown bearing the Caidian crescent borne by two medieval-ish dolphins, images that also appear on the delicately carved wooden thrones — a little bit gothic, a little bit Arts and Crafts — provided for both king and queen. Also provided: pillowed footstools, and in front of them, blue velvet pillows bearing the heraldry of Caid’s five baronies. Upon these will kneel all those who approach the thrones during Court, whether they come to present gifts or receive honors or swear fealty.

Fealty? Oh, yes, fealty. “Do you,” the question will be asked of a woman seeking to join the queen’s guard, “swear fealty and service to the Crown of Caid, and to the King and Queen of the realm, to come and to go, to serve and instruct in such methods as concern this realm, in peace or in war, in living or in dying, until your lord release you, or death take you, or the world end?” And the subject, kneeling, with her hands placed along the flat of a sword held out by her queen, will so swear.

“You can learn more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.” That’s from Aristotle, and it’s cited by Scott Farrell, aka Duke Guillaume de la Belgie, once baron of Calafia, twice king of Caid, in the introduction to his second book about life in the Society, Here Comes the Reign, Sir Guillaume! Court is by no means a compulsory aspect of Society life, but it’s there, complete with attendants and heralds and royal welcomes and favors bestowed and oaths taken on bended knee. And it is well attended.

What sort of play is this?

“ar a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.” That’s from Aristotle, and it’s cited by Scott Farrell, aka Duke Guillaume de la Belgie, once baron of Calafia, twice king of Caid, in the introduction to his second book about life in the Society, Here Comes the Reign, Sir Guillaume! Court is by no means a compulsory aspect of Society life, but it’s there, complete with attendants and heralds and royal welcomes and favors bestowed and oaths taken on bended knee. And it is well attended.

What sort of play is this?

“The oath is taken straight from The Lord

SURVEY

Research Studies

Eczema Research Study

Are you 18-65?
Do you have Atopic Dermatitis, also known as Eczema?
Have you had enough of all the itching?

The UCSD Division of Dermatology is enrolling patients with Atopic Dermatitis (Eczema) who have moderate to very severe itching on arms, legs or torso in a research study of an investigational medication.
Participation typically involves 7 study visits over 11 weeks, which include questionnaires, examinations and blood tests.
You will be required to enter data on an electronic diary twice daily.
Financial compensation for time and travel is available for qualified participants.

Interested? Please call for more details, and spread the word.
858-657-8014 or 858-657-8390
or by email at: ucsddermstudies@gmail.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

Do you have Hepatitis C?

At Medical Associates Research Group we conduct clinical research studies for Hepatitis C…

…and have conducted over 20 hepatitis studies in the past 10 years.

Participants may receive the following at no charge:
• Investigational medication
• All study-related medical evaluations and physician visits by board-certified gastroenterologists
• Reimbursement for time and travel

For more information, please call:
Medical Associates Research Group
858-277-5678 | www.MARGinc.com

RESEARCH STUDIES
Menstrual Migraine Headaches

Wishing your period would never come?

A medical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for women 18-34 years of age with regular periods who have migraine headaches associated with their periods, in at least 2 out of the last 3 cycles. Periods are tough enough without adding a migraine headache.

To possibly qualify:
• Females, 18-34 years, with regular periods
• Have had migraine headache associated with 2 of your last 3 periods
• Can be using medication at present to treat migraine headaches at a stable dose for at least 2 months

Participants may receive at no cost:
• Study-related examination and consultation with a board-certified physician
• All study-related medications, labs, and Pap smear
• Compensation for your time and travel

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

eStudySite is currently evaluating patients

for a research study
who have a
RECENT WOUND INFECTION
3 inches across or more and one of the following:

- Your wound hurts, or
- Your wound is swollen, or
- Your wound is warm to the touch, or
- Your wound is tender to the touch, or
- There is pus coming from your wound, or
- You have a fever, or
- You have any of the above signs or symptoms

There is no cost for participation. A doctor at our clinic will determine if this study is right for you. If you participate in the study, you will receive study-related medical care at no cost and may be compensated for time and travel. No insurance is required.

To learn more about this research study, please call eStudySite toll-free at:
1-877-500-eSTUDY
1-877-500-3788

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.

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

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.

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of the Rings,” says Guil- laume. “And of course, the author, J.R.R. Tolkien, was a brilliant medieval scholar, so it does come from that Celtic, medieval tradi-

tion — as opposed to a Tony Curtis B movie. Though from the level of research we have now, we look back and think, You know, if we could do that over again… You have to keep in mind that the SCA was not started as a serious historical study group. It really much started as a birthday party, people putting together costumes and fighting with wooden swords, ‘like the knights in the movies.’”

And the oaths? Far-
rell’s wife April, who goes by Felinah Tifaraha, was a very active in the Society and teaches biology at UCSD out-
side it, answers: “We fully, with open eyes, and without any idea that the SCA oath supercedes real-world commitments and duties, choose to give vention that in the Mid-

dle Ages was life and death. But we choose to do this because we’re part of a social group, and it’s part of what we call the core traditions.

“All rise! Now comes their Majesties Patrick and Kara, rightful king and queen of the Kingdom of Caid!”

The Center for Metabolic Research

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY

Have you been newly diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes?

Robert R. Henry, M.D. and his associates at the Center for Metabolic Research, at the VA San Diego Healthcare System, are currently looking for patients to assess the safety, tolerability and effectiveness of an investigational drug in patients with Type 2 Diabetes.

You may qualify if you are:
• Male or female between the ages of 18 and 74, with Type 2 Diabetes.
• Not currently taking diabetes medication.
• OR taking metformin (glucophage) only to control your diabetes.
• Have an A1c of 7% or higher (A1c is a test to see how well your blood sugar is controlled over a 3-month period).
• Willing to participate in a research study for up to 5 years.
• Currently in good health (other than your diabetes).
• Not pregnant or planning on becoming pregnant.
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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

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North County Clinical Research (NCCR) conducts outpatient and inpatient studies.

Participation is confidential. All participants are supervised by experienced and dedicated physicians and research specialists.

Eligible participants receive study-related care at no cost and may be reimbursed for time and travel.

To learn more, please call: 760-639-4378
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Always worrying? Anxious? Panic attacks?

You may qualify for free psychological treatment.

Researchers in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSD are conducting a brain imaging study that provides free psychological treatment to individuals experiencing excessive worry or panic attacks. Compensation is provided. You must be between the ages of 18-55, a nonsmoker, and not currently taking psychiatric medication. Other eligibility criteria apply. Please call 858-534-6445 for more information and to see if you qualify.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
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COPD, Emphysema, & Chronic Bronchitis

When you have COPD, even doing simple, everyday things can leave you short of breath.

The good news is, there are things you can do to help improve your lung function.

If you have difficulty breathing and a history of smoking, you may be interested in joining a Nationwide COPD Research Study:

• Qualified participants receive study-related doctor’s care and lab tests, as well as study medication (must be at least 40 years old).
• Flexible appointment times, no long waits, convenient location, free parking.
• There’s no cost and no need for insurance.
• You may be compensated for time and travel.

Call to learn more, we may be able to help.

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)

Smoking too much pot?

WE WANT TO HELP YOU STOP!

Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit smoking marijuana. This 12-week program involves medication.

For more information and to see if you qualify, please call 858-784-7867 (STOP) or visit www.pearsoncenter.org for more detailed information.

Encompass
Clínical Research
aspects of your life: ‘Hey, what is my word worth?’ I think a lot of people come away from the SCA with a greater sense of what it means to live by a code of honor.”

April/Felinah agrees that kneeling “is very unusual in a modern setting. I had to think about why I would do this. It seemed uncomfortable, and it made for some interesting internal exploring.” Her findings? “There are social superiors in our own society — we call some people Sir or Ma’am and some people Doctor. Our social conventions change, but people are people — the physical gesture of kneeling means as much as calling someone Sir or Ma’am or Doctor. It’s an outward manifestation,” one that may or may not reflect an internal reality but which adheres to a social convention either way.

“And there is a respect for those who have been in the group for a long time and have contributed to the group,” concludes Farrell. “People who put in a lot of time and effort to make things happen. But we also know that the status is just part of the fun. A king reigns for six months. Maybe in six months, I’ll be king, and he’ll be bowing to me. There’s no sense that he’s a king appointed by God to whom I must bow. It’s simply that he’s in this position, and I respect him. When I’m in that position, he’ll respect me.”

* * *

So, back to Court. “Lords and ladies!” calls Master Thomas the Herald from beneath the broad yellow brim of his hat. (Appropriately enough, he is dressed in a tunic that is basically a wearable Caidan flag.) “All rise! Now come their Majesties Patrick and Kara, rightful king and queen of the Kingdom of Caid! And now come their Excellencies Oliver and Kate, vassals to Patrick and Kara, holders of the lands of Calafia. And their guests, former Barons and Baronesses of Calafia: Guillaume and Felinah, David and Adaleisha…” Couple by
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Thermage® Skin Tightening® for the eyes, face, neck, hands, stomach and body.
No downtime. Procedure is good for all skin types.

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ActiveFX™ is a fractional laser procedure performed in a single treatment with minimal patient downtime. Smooth out lines, wrinkles and scars, and remove dark spots and other irregularities. Special price for new clients only.

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Back & shoulders $299 Bikini $99 Brazilian $159
Full leg $299 Underarm $79 Upper lip or chin $59

$50 off all injectables!

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A percentage of our sales goes to MiracleBabies, a nonprofit organization.
couple, the royals and former royals process down the center aisle under the heavy wooden roof of the El Monte Park pavilion, attended by guards bearing spears and axes and swords, by ladies who take up their places behind the thrones. Their expressions are earnest but not overly serious. The array is, frankly, kind of gorgeous; Calafia does not go in for half-measures.

“We ask that everyone make an effort,” says Lady Fionnghuala Inghean Uilliam, the Barony’s Chatelaine and my guide for the day. She herself is resplendent in the garb of a 166th-century Russian Boyarina — not too surprising, since tailoring is what lured her into the Society. “My daughters were in the group, and I started making clothes for my younger daughter, buying polyester stuff that I thought looked kind of period.” Over time, “I started doing research online, finding out the criteria. She actually got a special token at one of the Twelfth Nights for a piece of garb I made for her.” Eventually, “She told me, ‘Mom, you have to come — there’s going to be a guy there selling cheap fabric.’ When you get into natural fibers like wool and silk, it gets expensive, so I said okay.” When she saw that “it wasn’t girls in chain-mail bikinis,” but rather ordinary folks having fun in period dress, she found herself drawn in.

She is not alone.

King Patrick tells me that while there might be 2000 fighters on the field at Pennsic, there are 12,000 total attendees. The Barony’s website lists some 15 guilds, ranging from manuscript illumination to metalwork to music to medieval medicine. There are no peasants, but still — Anniversary Tournaments don’t hold themselves. “The group does place a premium on service,” says Fionnghuala.

Fionnghuala chose her 16th-century Irish name because it belonged to a character in an audiobook she was listening to (while sewing) at the time she signed up. And because both of her daughters had used their father’s name in their Society...
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*New patients only, with this ad. Expires 3/24/10.

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New! Latisse™ *79* (eyelashes)

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New! Zerona™ 50% Off

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rubric under which they gather.

As for why an Irishwoman is dressing as a Russian, she says, “Once you choose a persona, you’re locked into it only as much as you want to be. Some folks have done a lot of research into creating a story of their family, who they are and how they ended up in England or Scotland. But a 10th-century Viking might start liking the Tudor period” and start dressing the part, and that’s okay, too. “And particularly in California, you’ll find that the weather dictates” — in summer, Middle Eastern personas become much more popular.

The King and Queen welcome the attendees. There are announcements: a scavenger hunt for children, thrown weapons and archery on the perimeter, the upcoming arts festival, remembrances of those who have died or can no longer attend, an invitation to the dog-coursing later on. Ulf Fra Tjorn is awarded the Order of the Harp for his skill in leatherwork and for his generosity in teaching. It’s not quite the honor of a peerage — Knighthood for chivalry and skill in battle; the Order of the Laurel for knowledge of medieval arts and sciences; the Order of the Pelican for service to the Society — but it’s enough to earn him three cheers from all and sundry to go along with his new medallion.

(A note on knighthood: Fewer than five percent of fighters ever earn the rank of knight, says Patrick. “It might

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take seven years for someone who is relatively focused. A lot of people fight primarily at war — fighting in a shield wall with a bunch of your friends, you can do a few times a year and be decent at it. Fighting in tournaments and not getting taken out in two rounds takes a lot more dedication. It’s roughly equivalent to being a black belt in a martial art.”

Duke Guillaume stands and invites those gathered to tomorrow’s Passage of Arms. He promises “lots of fighting,” but not “with the same old sword and shield you use in fighter practice every week. Our goal is to get everybody fighting with new weapons styles” — two-handed swords, pole-axes, spears, maybe even rapier and dagger. “And for the nonfighters, one of the comments we got from last year was that it was fun for the gallery because they got to do much of the judging and rewarding. There will be beads to pass out for Panache, Prowess, Passion, and Chivalry.” But today’s fighting, at least the armored sort, is more straightforward — largely sword and shield, with only the very skilled taking up the two-handed weapons. “In period,” Guillaume tells me later in his tent as he prepares for combat, “two-handed weapons gave you an advantage in terms of power — they would smash through anything. But here, they don’t really give you an advantage; they’re just harder to use. Still, some people use them very effectively.” I get a fine illustration of that when a veteran knight uses a pole-arm — “a bladed weapon with a spike on one end” — to take out the recently honored Ulf Fra Tjorn. Ulf tries to get inside his opponent’s defenses, but the knight finds his way around Ulf’s shield and thrusts him down.

Guillaume’s tent is relatively modest in both size and appointments. The high ceiling and awning are held aloft by tall wooden poles and twiny ropes, but it’s nothing like the forest of supports beneath the white tent belonging to the king and queen. There is room for maybe 4 or 5 people to mill about comfortably, whereas the royals could easily entertain 20. The rug is patterned jute, not oriental. And the rustic benches would not be out of place in a pioneer home — no ingenious collapsing Glastonbury chairs here, thank you.
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<td>Botox</td>
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that it all stays in place. It's based on a 15th-century coat in a museum, and it's custom-made by a friend of mine. The original has buttons all down the sleeve — that gives you an idea of how close-fitting it was. It gives a great range of movement; the big deal is that the sleeve comes all the way into the torso, so that when you move your arm, it doesn't pull the whole jacket along with it. There are 16 pieces of fabric for each arm, so that the sleeve is able to move with you."

Next come the articulated plates that cover his thighs and knees. "This is a cuisse — most armor is French in name. Anything covering the shin is a greave; since this one is small, it's a demi-greave." The pieces buckle in back and hang from a belt that saves Guillaume the bulk of an arming vest. Similar pieces cover his forearms and elbows — a cuisse over the forearm, with a cupped poleyn over the joint. The whole arm guard is called a cannon, and it shows more wear than the rest of his suit. "It's going to get dented, and I have a couple of anvils at home that I use to pound out dents. You sweat a lot, and so the leather gets old; I've got a strap cutter, and I can sew the leather and rivet in a new strap. But that's about the extent of my armor-making skill. Eventually, the poleyn will get beat to the point where I can't keep it in round." (A few minutes later, someone pokes his head into the tent and asks for a screwdriver. Over at the market on the edge of the tourna-

ment, a longtime knight is selling some of his old...
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the rings start to fatigue, and replacing them is really miserable. Trying to man-handle this 40-pound shirt and figure out the grand pattern of the thing. Eventually, somebody came up with the concept of welding these things shut — much more durable, and much closer to an authentic suit of mail. Except for the round wire — in the Middle Ages, chain mail was made from flat wire that was punched rather than extruded. It’s hard to come by, but you lose about 60 percent of the weight by getting rid of all that extraneous metal on each round ring, keeping only what you really need for protection. But still not authentic, because of course, they couldn’t weld. They riveted their rings shut. So now we’re seeing a lot more riveted mail coming in from India and China that is pretty darn close to the real thing.” The peasant class overseas.

The shirts reflect the group’s growing interest in getting it right about the parts of history they seek to preserve — “the best of the Middle Ages,” as Guillaume puts it. (The parts without filth and persecution and genuine conflict.) “The group has not stayed the same,” says Felinah. “The Southern California region probably has 3500–5000 people active, which makes it around the same size of the town I grew up in. But like my town” — Mount Shasta, a Northern California logging outpost that weathered an invasion of hippies and ended up something else altogether —

“its perceptions of itself and its place in society, and even its own history, change.”

In the Society for Creative Anachronism, what started out as an imitation of “the way they do it in the movies,” combined with an interest in handiwork and hanging out with friends, began to evolve into an experiential investigation into history. Says Felinah, “We started focusing more on sources from people’s daily lives. There were manorial accounts. People kept journals. Literacy wasn’t necessarily as rare as we are sometimes led to believe.”

Along the way, “I think we began to see ourselves much more as a community,” one that asks, “What would it have been like to live back then?” Also, “There are kids involved now, children who have been raised

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But it’s the tapestry that towers over all, literally and figuratively: two ribbons of heavy linen stretching across the top of the living room wall, their creamy surfaces swarming with figures and scenes drawn in the manner of the famous Bayeux Tapestry. (You know — the one depicting the Norman Conquest of England in 1066.)

“When we got done being Baron and Baroness together,” explains Guillaume, “our friends got together and made ten panels, each one commemorating a six-month period during our reign. And then they added a panel for each time we got to be king and queen.” “His Majesty entertains the children with a puppet show.”

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ciously saves the day.” “King Ivan calls Caidan army to Potrero.” “Here is the Abbey of Leng feasting.” “Here is the madness of Baron Guillaume.” “Here is Camelot: Rex Guillaume II, Sultana Felinah II.” “Every week,” says Felinah, “I sit and look at that and think, ‘We are blessed.’ That’s all hand done, by all those people — there are at least 50 names up there, and we know there are some people who didn’t put their names on it. Those are all things that we did and people that were important to us. It’s just the most amazing gift.”

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I moved to Clairemont in October 1959. Technically, my mother was five months pregnant with a creature that was eventually to become me, third in line below a sister and first-born brother. A relocation from Albuquerque, New Mexico. My father was in the Navy, and his next duty station was with the VF-51 fighter squadron at Miramar. So it was that we landed in San Diego.

The Clairemont development was in its fledgling years and was a revolutionary concept — it was the first planned community in the nation. Curving, meandering avenues, shopping centers within a short distance, and strategically placed schools were all part of the master plan. From the desolate, windswept canyons and mesas north-northeast of downtown came a new community coined “The Village in the City.” My father bought our newly built house on Sagasti Avenue for a princely sum of $12,000.

Clairemont in the ‘60s was as close as you could get to living in the world of Leave It to Beaver. My neighborhood was a warm, secure place that allowed a kid to be a kid. For the boys in the neighborhood, it was often grand adventures in the canyon. In the eyes of a child, the canyon was an expansive wilderness just down the street that allowed us to explore the limits of our imagination. Forts were built, Indians were fought, imagined hardships were overcome. Years before puberty, my imagination saved dozens of damsels in distress, and they always fell in love with me. As I walked home after being the imaginary hero, everything was right in my world. After reading The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn in the fifth grade, the drainage creek through the canyon became my Mississippi River, and I
played hooky for the first time.

School days were bitter-sweet and often wrought with struggle. Although scared, I reluctantly started afternoon kindergarten in room K-1 at Sequoia Elementary and immediately fell in love with my teacher, Mrs. Hollister. She was just out of college and incredibly beautiful. One day she complimented me on the shirt I was wearing, and I would wear no other to school after that. Sometimes before going to my afternoon class I would pick geraniums for her from the neighbor’s flowerbeds. I was too young to know what love was about, but I sure knew what it felt like.

In first grade I learned to write, graduating from crayon to the Big Blue Pencil. I remember the day that Mrs. Harrington — old, prim and proper — paced the rows of desks, silently watching as we struggled to write the alphabet properly with crayon on oversized paper. Clutched in her fist was the prize — a bundle of fat blue pencils, sized for a child’s hand, freshly sharpened. If she deemed you worthy, you would be touched on the shoulder, and as you gave her your crayon she would reciprocate with a pencil. The prize was yours. Halfway through the hour, I felt her hand on my shoulder. For the longest time that pencil was a treasured possession.

The ensuing years of elementary school were often tumultuous, and I was often at odds not only with my parents but with school authorities. I was usually bored, and without a creative outlet for my energy I became a frequent flyer to the principal’s office. My mother was an unwilling advocate. Usually by the time she arrived after being called to the

school, the Conflict of the Week had reached the limits of the principal’s patience, and he would utter a disparaging comment in my mother’s presence about my character, her parenting skills, or the lack of a father figure due to my dad’s deployment in the era of Vietnam. At that point the tables would usually turn in my favor. Her face would redder as she gave him the look of death and, graciously, with great restraint, she would listen to my side of the story.

I will never forget sitting in the hard wooden chair in that office — arms crossed, face red and crying — and looking out the window to see my mom tearing into the parking lot in the ’60 Chevy, hearing the car door slam hard, watching her in her nurse’s uniform marching double-time toward the office with...that look on her face.

My awareness of the world seemed to increase exponentially as I grew. Although I wasn’t a particularly good student, I was a voracious reader and

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the front page, I froze. There was a photograph of “my girl” and an article. Right there, right on the front page.

The headline: Girl, 15, Slain in Apartment.

I shook as I read. Home alone, stabbed repeatedly. Just a few hours earlier she had been laughing and joking with friends.

That night I stood in my front yard, tears streaming, looking over to where she had lived. In the ensuing days, denial. I waited every morning, waiting for her to turn the corner. But she never walked up my street again.

For a time following her murder, Clairemont was full of chatter and gossip. I endured what was said with damp eyes and a broken spirit. I wished I could have told Mrs. Hollister everything, but by then she had moved away — a Navy wife in addition to kindergarten teacher.

Time moved on. My father returned from his final deployment with wonderful and exotic gifts from the Orient. He would spend the rest of his naval career in San Diego, coming home to his family every night, Vietnam be damned. By then I had a little sister, who by anyone’s account was the cutest kid anywhere, and with a personality to match — a real pistol by the time she was three. Our dad bought a ski boat, and there were many endless, carefree summer days spent on Mission Bay. We fished, water-skied, and barbequed at Crown Point.

The summer after I finished elementary school, my father retired from the Navy and took a job with the City of Escondido. He moved us there, into a new house, into a new neighborhood, and though only 30 miles away from San Diego, it was a different world. I felt uprooted and off-balance for the longest time, but eventually I adjusted.

I found a mentor in the form of an eighth-grade science teacher, suffered the suicide of a
best friend, barely graduated from high school, dropped out of college, then found the mountains, wandering the San Jacintos and climbing in Yosemite. I fell in love again and married, barely survived the divorce, made and squandered large sums of money, then found a new love in the form of drugs and alcohol. I flirted with hopeless and death and then navigated the sometimes inane ways of the mental-health system. Slowly, over years, in fits and starts, I recovered.

Last year, due to the economy, I — like so many others — came face-to-face with a financial little shop of horrors. Although a resident of Carlsbad, I lived in a reasonably modest way. Nonetheless, my economic state quickly became untenable. In desperation, I called a former boss, and he hired me over the phone. I held an internal debate as to where I would live. As it turned out, I found a beautiful apartment that allowed pets right back in Clairemont. A mile and a half from my old house.

My enormous Great Dane, the Magnificent Bruno, is very happy here. His favorite haunt, Fiesta Island, is only minutes away. He loves to go for long walks and meet people, so we walk the neighborhood daily. That, combined with all the richness that is contained in my memories, makes every walk a pleasant one. Sometimes we go by the apartment my girl lived in, and I retrace the walks we took together on our way to the schools. It still hurts, but it’s manageable now. The pain is overshadowed by her memory. I’ve met the family that now lives in my old house. They like Bruno, and they are nice people. The house is in good hands.

I have a secure job with little stress. I live simply, yet I have a comfortable and inviting home. Bruno and I eat well, and we live in a peaceful, quiet neighborhood. Clairemont fits me like a glove. Sometimes you can go home again.
its ranks, seems to perpetuate stereotypes. The FBR is corrupt, as is the entire law-enforcement apparatus.

Name Withheld
via voicemail

St. Vincent, My Decorator

Regarding Pam Summer’s article “I Am Not a Thrift-Store Junkie,” in the March 4 issue of the Reader, I completely agree with her. Half of my apartment is furnished with items that I have found in either thrift stores or Dumpster. I like to reinvent furniture and reupholster furniture, and a lot of my clothes in my closet are from thrift stores as well.

Just this morning I was at the St. Vincent de Paul thrift store on 16th Street downtown, and I got some cleaning products for my house, a lot of which were surplus from a larger store, and a DVD that I plan on watching later on tonight. The total was $6; I bartered the cashier down to $5 because all I had was a $5 bill in my wallet, and they said, “Yeah, go ahead.”

Prior to that, I had been working on a ranch, and after digging a ditch, working a shovel in Converse All Stars, I realized I needed some better shoes. So I went to that same St. Vincent de Paul thrift store and got a pair of Avia tennis shoes for $15, and I love them. And those are probably $60 tennis shoes brand-new. And they were in almost new condition.

I almost never go to department stores to buy clothes. I will always hit up the thrift stores first, and if I can’t find what I’m looking for, then I’ll go to the department stores. In the same way, I’ll go to farmers’ markets first, and if I can’t get what I’m looking for, then I’ll go to the grocery stores.

San Diego has a wealth of locally owned and locally beneficial merchandisers, and I would like to give kudos to Ms. Summers for bringing that to the forefront in this

week’s issue of the Reader.

Scott Weselis
East Village

Kome To The Korral

A message for Pam Summers on thrift stores (“I Am Not a Thrift-Store Junkie,” Feature Story, March 4). Apparently you have not visited the best of all San Diego thrift stores — the Sharp Hospital’s Thrift Korral on La Mesa Boulevard in La Mesa. You are invited, and we will give you a tour of a most amazing operation.

Sam R. Porter
and 55 other volunteers

Mold Miseries

I enjoyed your article “Home Owner Association Horror Stories” (Cover Story, February 18). I have one that is really severe. The property became mold-infested. They knew there were risk factors for water intrusion because they had contractors come out and investigate. And there were no drains around my unit — it was on a water table, and there were multiple risks for water intrusion and mold. But they didn’t tell me, even though they knew I had a history of mold allergy.

So I began reporting the musty odor, and I had symptoms for almost three years without realizing mold was growing in the unit. I visited immunologists, orthopedic surgeons, dermatologists, and ENT people. They couldn’ t find a reason for my incessantly runny nose and sinus infections and body aches and pains.

So then at a town hall meeting, they reveal the fact that there are all these risk factors in the community, and my house is one of the biggest worries. They wanted a special assessment, and I had just received documents from an industrial hygienist stating that there’s a 50 percent probability of mold in the house. They really didn’t do anything about it, and I was forced to move from the property because the musty smell was present even with the windows open 24/7. They didn’t actually go in and test until a year later, after a lawsuit was filed, and they tested and there was extensive mold.

But they didn’t do anything to take care of the sources of moisture intrusion, so after sitting another year, mold regrew.

I was paying mortgage and taxes and homeowner association fees all the time on a property that I couldn’t rent or I couldn’t live in, and in addition to the cost I was incurring living in another home. And I am right now just about broke.

I think this is a case of absolutely ignoring health risks to a person who is at high risk for mold problems and not maintaining the property well — or the whole community well — for a period of 20 years, so that it was really in very bad disarray.

Gloria Darovic
Oceanside
Pacquiao

THE EVENT

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Thursday | 11

**RACK ’EM UP**

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**NIPOTISM AND OTHER CHARACTER FLAWS**
Sushi Performance & Visual Art presents an evening of artist-made films. Four artists from the “Family Matters” exhibition were charged to develop a series of films made up of “artists, friends, and/or colleagues to whom you owe something or from whom you want something.” Discussion follows. See **FILM**, page 73.

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**Saturday | 13**

**KIDS IN THE KITCHEN**
The Junior League of San Diego hosts its fifth annual program “designed to address the urgent issues surrounding childhood obesity and poor nutrition by getting children and their parents excited about leading a healthy lifestyle.” Hands-on activities aid the learning process. See **FOR KIDS**, page 74.

**SAKURA TIME**
Celebrate the onset of spring during this traditional Cherry Blossom Festival, featuring authentic Japanese food, cultural demonstrations, entertainment, children’s games, and the “Little Miss Sakura” pageant. See **SPECIAL**, page 71.

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**Sunday | 14**

**GET OUT AND GOLF**
Golf Fest will offer a variety of activities, including lessons by PGA and LPGA pros for players of all levels, a driving range used to test the latest technology, stage presentations, and driving-range exhibitions geared to juniors, females, and golfers of all ages and levels. See **SPECIAL**, page 72.

**BACKWARDS IN HIGH HEELS**
The Fullerton Civic Light Opera Music Theatre presents the story of Ginger Rogers, with dance sequences to music by Gershwin, Kern, and Berlin. The show offers a “backstage look at the public and private life of this timeless beauty.” See **IN PERSON**, page 74.

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**Monday | 15**

**UNDERWATER BEAUTIES REVEALED**
Wildlife photographer and author Marc Shargel discusses the importance of protected marine areas and presents his new book, *Wonders of the Sea, Volume Two: Marine Jewels of Southern California’s Coast and Islands*, followed by a signing. See **LECTURES**, page 77.
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TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS

Coba, Mexico
By Ron Hamilton

The site of pre-Columbian ruins on the Yucatán peninsula, Coba, reachable on a day trip from Cancún, was at one point inhabited by over 50,000.

Coba’s Nohoch Mul is the highest pyramid in the Yucatán (42 meters), and we chose this site because you’re still permitted to climb to the top. There’s a rope to assist climbers, but take care — it’s a long, bumpy way down and the steps are uneven.

Cancún is about 130 kilometers away, and there are two roads in: the southern route is more modern, and there’s a more rural route to the west. Tour buses are available, although renting a car provides more freedom and photo ops. Watch out for the topes, or speed bumps.

There are several ball courts in the ruins — they were used to play a game involving the use of the hips, forearms, or head to project a rubber ball through limestone hoops located high up on a smooth, sloped surface on either side of the court.

The local guides say that the captain of the winning team would occasionally be sacrificed, as it was considered a great honor and some games lasted for weeks. There’s a skull carved from limestone at mid-court, apparently to remind everyone that this was more than a game.

Modena, Italy
By M’Liss Hinshaw

A foodie just learning balsamic’s tasty lineage, I visited one of the many country-side balsamic vinegar producers while in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Modena, Italy.

In Sorbara, as I tasted lively 10- to 50-year-old aged balsamic varietals, balsamic producer Guido Paltrinieri and his family of Acetaia Paltrinieri Balsamico explained the traditional production of balsamic, detailing the use of the special continued on page 70

Other Adventures

romano18: St. Elizabeth with the castle above Bratislava, Slovakia
k1kid01: Vancouver streets embody Olympic spirit
anapines: Snowboarder at one of my favorite staycation locations
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Pacific Daylight Time, or “daylight saving time,” starts on Sunday morning, March 14, at 2am. No time is “saved” by advancing our clocks one hour. This sneaky trick in civil time is designed to rouse us out of bed an hour earlier so that we can enjoy what seems to be an extra hour of daylight before the sun goes down. Daylight saving time, when applied to the months of long daylight, has been proven to save significant amounts of electrical energy.

The Mix of Rain and Sunshine characteristic of the last few weeks has triggered the emergence of bright green leaves on sycamore, liquidambar, and other decorative deciduous trees around San Diego. Cruise down 163 through Balboa Park to appreciate the vernal splendor of the sycamores growing in the landscape center divisor. Or walk across the El Prado bridge and look down upon the same.

African Daisies are bursting into bloom around San Diego, especially along the freeway embankments. The name refers to a wide variety of species belonging to the genus Arctotis, Dimorphotheca and Osteospermum, with flowers ranging in color from yellow, orange and white to purple. These hardy ground covers require little water except when in active growth, and help to hold soil in place during heavy rains.

The Ghostly Thin Waxing Crescent Moon makes its first observable appearance low in the western sky during early twilight (around 30 minutes after sunset) on Tuesday, March 16. The easier-to-spot pinpoint of white light to the left of the moon is the planet Venus. Both objects will sink to the horizon within the next 30 minutes. March 16 marks the first of a series of moon-Venus conjunctions that will be visible roughly once a month from now until September.

Help Save the “Source” San Diego River Park Foundation’s executive director guides open-house tour of this 516-acre park, “home to many species of plants and animals as well as cultural and historical resources.” Required RSVP: 619-297-7380. Saturday, March 13, noon; free. Eagle Peak Preserve, Eagle Peak Road. (JULIAN)

Leprecchaun and Other Creature Habitations Enjoy trail guided walk along green chapparal in search of “the mischievous Irish elf and other elusive creatures” calling the park home. “Discover pots o’ gold in the abundant sunflowers,” wildflowers, learn Native American folklore; more, 619-668-3281. Saturday, March 13, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (BAYTE)

Afternoon Fitness Hike (Join naturalist Rita Osypel on seven-mile double-loop hike with brisk pace, some steep up- and downhill sections. Not suited for children. 760-435-4680. Tuesday, March 16, 4pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ECONDOD)

Asian Pacific Historic District Tours Walking tours start at Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Beach Cleanup (Coastkeeper hosts beach cleanup, starting on south side of pier. RSVP: 760-435-5807. Saturday, March 13, 9am; $2. Chinese Historical Society and Museum, 404 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Daley Trail Maintenance (Join a ranger for trail maintenance. Wear long-sleeved shirt, closed-toe shoes, 760-839-4680. Saturday, March 13, 8am; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ECONDOD)

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

Endangered Plants and Animals Naturalist Dorothy Klitzing focuses on plants and animals during two-mile hike over variety of trails. 760-839-4680. Saturday, March 13, 8:30am; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ECONDOD)

Hike in Search of Gold Discover rich colors bursting in nature during guided walk. Which creatures emerge as air wars and flowers bloom? 619-668-3281. Saturday, March 13, 9:30am; Sunday, March 14, 9:30am; Wednesday, March 17, 9:30am; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Meet the Salt Marsh Wetland Tend California native plants, remove invasive interlopers, pick up litter with Friends of Famosa Slough in this salt marsh wetland. Wear work clothes; bring work gloves and tools if you have them. 619-224-4591. Saturday, March 13, 9am; free. Famosa Slough, West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. (OCEAN BEACH)

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

By Dominic DeGrazier

Among Rio’s many attractions, visiting Christ the Redeemer (the quintessential Brazilian photo opportunity) on Corcovado Mountain is a must. After catching a view of the city and Sydney-like bay from this 2000-foot-plus peak, stroll along famed Copacabana and Ipanema beaches for a bonanza of people-watching.

If the beach isn’t your thing, meandering through the small bohemian neighborhood of Santa Teresa will satiate most anyone’s visual — and culinary — senses. Hang out at a bar and listen to effusive, positive sounds while sipping on a caipirinha, the revered Brazilian cocktail.

Looking for a nighttime experience? Don’t miss the neighborhood of Lapa. If the samba music spilling out of its bars were jazz, you’d be in the French Quarter of New Orleans. Too touristy? Okay, head over to Traposiche Gambia for a refuge of the self-proclaimed “most authentic” Brazilian music. The restaurant/bar has ceilings 40 feet high, but the atmosphere’s intimate with dancing and laughter.

While Rio does have its share of extremely poor neighborhoods, the Carnicas (Rio natives) shine with their infectious smiles and carefree attitudes. Don’t be surprised to see yourself flashing the national thumbs-up sign and a big smile after a few days.

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An Evening of Indian Music with Kartik Seshadri and Friends Friday, March 12, 2010 MCASD’s Sherwood Auditorium in La Jolla 7:15 pm Doors Open 8:30 pm Concert

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Endorsed by the San Diego Reader, March 10, 2010
and Spanish by American Red Cross. 858-309-1369. Saturday, March 13, 7am; free. San Diego Community Congr, 202 C Street. (DOWNTOWN)


“Fine Art Festival VI” SDMA Artist Guild hosts exhibit in Coppley Auditorium (adjacent to museum). “These practicing artists support the museum through financial contributions from the sale of their art... for new acquisitions, exhibitions, and art education,” Event opens with reception on March 12. 858-222-2222, Friday, March 12, 5pm; Saturday, March 13, 10am; Sunday, March 14, 11am; $5-$20. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“InfoTopia: Feed the Art Side of Your Brain” The Ancient Gallery presents Total Information Awareness, an interactive black light installation assembled from mass-produced cultural icons and original fabricated sculptures and paintings for “Art After Dark.” Performance by San Diego Acro Yoga Acroanuts in UV-reactive costumes. Participate in UV-reactive group art project or have your body adored by body-painting artist Anh Pham. Techno-fusion funk by DJs Michael Striler and Gato Blanco. View three current exhibitions. Refreshments provided. Reservations: 760-455-3720. Friday, March 12, 7pm; $20-$25. 21 and up. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

“Through Her Eyes” What has changed in the 15 years since creation of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action? International Women’s Day breakfast offers “Critical Perspectives from the Girl Child Today,” with video testimony from girls in six countries supported by local and international speakers, and global update from 2010 UN Commission on the Status of Women. 619-260-7509. Tuesday, March 16, 7am; $8-$22. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

“Voices in Wonderland” Undergraduate art experience promises exhibit of work by 25 artists with work themed around Tim Burton’s new Alice in Wonderland. Music by Stealing Loves Jones, circus performers, DJ Dennis J, Alice-themed video projections. 619-846-7180. Saturday, March 13, 8pm; $15. 21 and up. Blonde Mar- tini, 835 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

31st Annual St. Patrick’s Day Open Reading As always, “Messrs. Guinness and Harp will officiate the proceedings” when members of the public are invited to read their favorite poetry and prose selections by James Joyce, William Butler Yeats, George Bernard Shaw, Samuel Beckett, Oscar Fingal O’Flahertie Wills Wilde, Sean O’Casey, Edmund Burke, et al. Join the fun! 858-456-1800. Wednesday, March 17, 7pm; free. J.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. (LA JOLLA)

Democracy in America Consider a selection from Alexis de Tocqueville’s seminal work with San Diego Great Books group. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, March 13, 2pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)


Song Yet Sung James McBride’s novel is focus for “Unwilling Immigrants, Exiles, and Refugees: An American Book Discussion” program in commemoration of Black History Month. Read the book, discuss with UCSD African American literature and culture expert Professor Camille P. Forbes. 619-236-5817. Monday, March 15, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

A Tiny Shrine to Hope Create a miniature shrine, learn some simple assemblage techniques from Carol Murphy. Kits include German scrap trim, collage sheet designed for class along with sheet of positive affirmations and words, bottles, mirrors, brads, tiny flowers, tiles, dominoes, keys, fibers, small jewels, buttons, more. 619-280-8408. Saturday, March 13, 1pm; $28. 13 and up. Vintage Reli- gion, 3821 32nd Street. (NORTH PARK)

ABC Bridal Showcase San Diego Association of Bridal Consultants hosts event with food tastings, design galleries of latest trends in wedding decor, wedding planners, entertainment, venues, officiants, caterers, more. 619-466-1455. Tuesday, March 16, 5:30pm; $5-$10. NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

Antiques on Offer Dealers host sale of variety of antique andcollectibles during North San Diego County Antique and Collectible Show. Professional appraisal $5 per item. 858-232-9474. Sunday, March 14, 9am; free. California Center for the Arts, Escondido. 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Before Hail Marys Debra Hock- leads beginners’ rosary-making class. Fee includes all tools (for student to keep), supplies, instruction needed to craft a black or pink five-decade rosary, 619-280-8408. Monday, March 15, 4pm; $35. Vintage Religion, 3821 32nd Street. (NORTH PARK)

Community Art Fair Exhibit by county artists, as well as food, live music, activities for children. Silent auction benefits Bread of Life Res...
Rhyme & Verse
For I Will Consider My Cat Jeoffry
—Christopher Smart

For first he looks upon his fore-paws to see if they are clean.
For secondly he kicks up behind to clear away there.
For thirdly he works it upon stretch with the fore paws extended.
For fourthly he sharpens his paws with wood.
For fifthly he washes himself.
For sixthly he rolls upon wash.
For seventhly he cleans himself, that he may not be interrupted upon the beat.
For eighthly he rubs himself against a post.
For ninthly he looks up for his instructions.
For tenthly he goes in quest of food.
For having consider’d God and himself he will consider his neighbour.
For if he meets another cat he will kiss her in kindness.
For when he takes his prey he plays with it to give it chance.
For one mouse in seven escapes by his dallying.
For when his day’s work is done his business more properly begins.
For he keeps the Lord’s watch in the night against the adversary.
For he counteracts the powers of darkness by his electrical skin and glaring eyes.
For he rubs his ears against a post.
For he is of the tribe of Tiger.
For the Cherub Cat is a term of the Angel Tiger.
For he has the subtlety and hissing of a serpent, which in goodness he suppresses.

For he is of the tribe of Tiger.
For he counteracts the powers of darkness by his electrical skin and glaring eyes.
For he rubs himself against a post.
For he is a mixture of gravity and waggery.
For he is tenacious of his point.
For he is the quickest to his mark of any creature.
For he is the cleanest in the use of his fore-paws of any quadruped.
For he is an instrument for the children to learn benevolence upon.
For he purrs in thankfulness, when God tells him he’s a good Cat.
For he is an instrument for the children to learn benevolence upon.
For every house is incomplete without him and a blessing is lacking in the spirit.
For he keeps the Lord’s watch in the night against the adversary.
For he is the quickest to his mark of any creature.
For he is tenacious of his point.
For he is a mixture of gravity and waggery.
For he knows that God is his Saviour.

For one mouse in seven escapes by his dallying.
For when his day’s work is done his business more properly begins.
For he keeps the Lord’s watch in the night against the adversary.
For he counteracts the powers of darkness by his electrical skin and glaring eyes.
For he rubs himself against a post.
For he is of the tribe of Tiger.
For the Cherub Cat is a term of the Angel Tiger.
For he has the subtlety and hissing of a serpent, which in goodness he suppresses.

For he will not do destruction, if he is well-fed, neither will he spit without provocation.
For he purrs in thankfulness, when God tells him he’s a good Cat.
For he is an instrument for the children to learn benevolence upon.
For every house is incomplete without him and a blessing is lacking in the spirit.
For he keeps the Lord’s watch in the night against the adversary.
For he counteracts the powers of darkness by his electrical skin and glaring eyes.
For he rubs himself against a post.
For he is of the tribe of Tiger.
For the Cherub Cat is a term of the Angel Tiger.
For he has the subtlety and hissing of a serpent, which in goodness he suppresses.
FILM

“New Generation of Spike and Mike Animation” Festival promises “flat-out best and funniest animated shorts the world has to offer.” The 19 featured films include Key Lime Pie, Stillwaters, A Town Called Panic: Cake. Tickets: $15 general; group rate of $12 per ticket for four or more. 858-459-8165, Sat., March 13, 7:15pm and 9:30pm; 6 and up. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)


The Blue Eyes of Yonta This 1991 film by Flora Gomes screens for African Arts Council at San Diego Museum of Art. Film “offers a bittersweet portrait of the disillusionment of the revolutionary generation in Guinea-Bissau and the vibrant...society which developed in the years following the war.” (LA JOLLA)

Self-defense techniques for girls and young women

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Learn to fight back against predators and sexual assault!

Girls and young women have the right to live their lives without fear of assault or abduction. Teenage girls face a 1 in 4 risk of sexual assault, there are 194,000 attempted abductions a year in the U.S., and that’s unacceptable.

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**FOOD & DRINK**

"Beer U: Stouts" Ken Wright chronicles history, brewing, "tasty variations to be found in the world of stouts," offers samples. 760-471-4999, Monday, March 15, 7pm; $20, 21 and up. Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

"Cooking Made Easy" Two cooks from Vegas San Diego Club demonstrate making of joyful salad, veggie fried rice, nonbake pear ginger crisp. Enjoy food samples, gift bags, 858-705-3987, Sun- day, March 14, 1pm; free. Loving Hut, 915 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)


**Calendar**

**LOCAL EVENTS**

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"Eclectic Beer and Cheese Pairings" Beer expert Ryan Ross hosts beer-and-cheese-pairing class at the San Diego Museum of Art, 7931 El Camino Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

**March Madness Home Brew Competition** "Create the art of home brewing" during annual American Homebrewers Association membership rally promoting "dozens of delicious home brews" to sample and bring it along for competition. Details: 760-471-4999, Saturday, March 13, 5pm-$35. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Valley Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"Tastings 2010" Family Wine makers of California host public tasting with participation by more than 200 wineries. Tasting showcases very small, family-owned wineries, many of whom pour at very few events. Registration: 415-705-0666, Sunday, March 14, 3pm; $45-$55, 21 and up. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Chef Kitchen Experience Participants head to Hillcrest farmers’ market to select menu ingredients, return to Jix kitchen for hands-on (or hands-off) cooking experience, replete with champagne, and three-course meal with wine or cocktail. Reservations: 619-531-8744, Sunday, March 14, 10am; $120, Jixx, 616 J Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Get Cooking! Learn fundamentals of cooking during eight-week "Academy of Culinary Technique" taught by Jeff Jackson of the Lodge at Torrey Pines and Famous chef Bridget Bueche. Registration: 858-966-3600, Thursday, March 11, 5:30pm; $95. Fixtures Visions for Living 9340 Dovely Drive. (MIRAMAR)

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Venissimo Stinks! Love stinky cheeses or a bit frightened of them? "Learn what makes them the unique individuals they are" during "tasting of some of the world's finest aromatic fromages." Registration: 619-358-9081, Friday, March 12, 6:30pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

**Dance lesson only $10**

Ballroom and Latin Class Jitterbug and Swing Salas and Merengue Classes still open. No contracts! $32 for 4 weeks with this ad Patty Wells Dance Time Center 619-275-3553 www.dancetime.com *1-hour introductory class*

**FOR KIDS**

"Just for Kids!" Naturalist DJ Summers leads easy hike for parents and their children; meet at La Honda Drive entrance at 1:45pm, ride shuttle to Ranch House to begin hike. Craft session at picnic area follows. Bring a snack if you want. 760-839-4880, Sunday, March 14, 1:45pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

"Wild Things Are Here" Listen to Maurice Sendak’s Where the Wild Things Are, venture into children’s zoo to encounter some of the "wildest animals" during Kindernights and Kindermornings program. Participants create a crown or wild mask, enjoy treats. Fee does not include admission to zoo. Required reservations: 619-557-3969, Friday, March 12, 6:30pm; Saturday, March 13, 9am; $12 $15. 3 and up. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Pippi Longstocking San Diego Junior Theatre presents stage adaptation of Astrid Lindgren’s classic tale of adventurous, independent Pippi and her friends. Performance on March 20 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-234-5573, Saturday, March 13, 5pm; free. NTC Theatre, 650 West Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

Kids in the Kitchen Junior League of San Diego hosts fifth annual program in Liberty Station’s Ingram Plaza. Event is "designed to address the urgent issues surrounding childhood obesity and poor nutrition by getting children and their parents excited about leading a healthy lifestyle." Hands-on activities. 619-234-5573, Saturday, March 13, 9:30am; free. UTC Promenade, 2640 Decatur Drive, (POINT LOMA)

Move It! "Introduction to Animation" presented by Lori Damiano whose "creative work spans the genres of painting, illustration, animation, ‘zines, and films, as well as quilts, gardens, miniature sweaters, and pies." Teens will learn tips and strategies on how to cultivate their own creative futures, create an animation project. Reservations: 858-434-3541 x153, Saturday, March 13, 11am; $15. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

WDA Swing Kids Troupe Introductory lesson, information session for troupe’s 2010 season, for males and females 8-18 years old. Styles include swing, Latin, and ballroom. All experience levels welcome. 858-679-8277, Saturday, March 13, 3pm; free. and up. Academy of World Dance ’n Arts, 12621 A Poway Road. (POMEROY)

Watch Out for Mr. MacGregor! Peter Rabbit’s adventures presented by Eva Kvaaas of Puppet Workshop. 619-544-9203, Thursday, March 11, 10am and 11:30am; Friday, March 12, 9am, 1pm, and 3pm; Saturday, March 13, 11am, 1pm and 3:30pm; Sunday, March 14, 11am and 3:30pm; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 14th, noon; Rohr Park, 4548 Sweetwater Road. (BONITA)

Animals, Animals, Animals! Enjoy The Rock and Roll Rabbit and How Much Is That Puppy in the Window when Big Joe Produces serves up two original children’s plays. Wednesday, March 17, 10am and 11:30am; $3-$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road. (MIRA MESA)

"Bend It, Shape It, Sculpt It “Art Explorations: Exploring Sculpture” for classes with children for 12-year olds. Participants engage in studio activities inspired by museum’s collection. Reservations: 619-232-3931, Wednesdays, 1:30pm; through Wednesday, March 31, free. 5 and up. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BIRCA PARK)

**How Do You Solve a Problem...** A high-spirited governess named Maria, seven children, and a widowed naval captain equals The Sound of Music. The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical is next production for J*Company Youth Theatre. Score includes tunes such as “Climb Every Mountain,” “Sixteen Going on Seventeen,” “Fiddler on the Roof,” and “It’s the Hard-Knock Life.” Reservations: 858-362-3348, Saturday, March 14, 1pm and 4:30pm; $13-$17. David and Doratha Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Kids in the Kitchen Junior League of San Diego hosts fifth annual program in Liberty Station’s Ingram Plaza. Event is “designed to address the urgent issues surrounding childhood obesity and poor nutrition by getting children and their parents excited about leading a healthy lifestyle.” Hands-on activities. 619-234-5573, Saturday, March 13, 9:30am; free. UTC Promenade, 2640 Decatur Drive, (POINT LOMA)

**OVERHEARD & FAMILIAR**

"Backwards in High Heels" Fullerton Civic Light Opera Music Theatre presents “The Ginger Rogers Story,” with dance sequences to music by Gershwin, Kern, Berlin. Show offers “backstage look at the public and private life of this timeless beauty.” 800-988-4253. Friday, March 12, 8pm; Saturday, March 13, 7pm and 8pm; Sunday, March 14, 7pm and 7pm; $37-$65. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Directing for Film and TV" Director Danny Lonner (Harold and Kumar: Arrested Development; Dude, Where’s My Car?) presents clips of his work, discusses "the art and commerce of a film and television career" in Arts 240. 760-750-
"Killer Party Gala" Mystery authors Penny Warner (Killer Party), Rhys Bowen (The Last Illusion), Dhana Orgain (Motherhood Is Murder), Margaret Grace (Mourning in Miniature) sign, discuss their books. 858-268-4747. Thursday, March 11, 7pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (HEARNY MESA)

"Luscious Noise" Multimedia performance experience where live classical music, dance, film converge, created by California Ballet music director-conductor John Stubs, with members of San Diego Symphony. 619-595-0300. Sunday, March 14, 7:30pm; $20-$25. Anthropology, 1337 India Street. (LITTLE ITALY)


Flying Pans: Two Chefs, One World Chefs (and authors) Jim Babwe and Ron Oliver sign copies of their new book. 619-435-0970. Friday, March 12, 6:30pm; free. Bay Books, 1029 Orange Avenue. (ORION)

Impatient with desire What really happened during four months the Donner Party was trapped in Sierra Nevada Mountains? Life of Tamsen Donner imagined by Gabrielle Burton in her most recent book, which author will sign, discuss. 858-454-0347. Thursday, March 11, 7:30pm; free. Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

My Year of Living Anxiously Moira Keefe presents her one-woman play, looking at “complicated life of a member of the ‘sandwich generation,’ wedged between aging parents, hormonal teenagers, and psychiatric bologna.” 760-753-7376. Friday, March 12, 7:30pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornell Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Switch Chip and Dan Heath are authors of Made to Stick and Switch: How to Change Things When Change Is Hard. One of the Heaths will be on hand to discuss and sign books, answer audience questions. Fee includes copy of Switch. 760-814-1223. Thursday, March 11, 10:30am; $40. Hilton San Diego Bayfront, 1 Park Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

A Fresh Spin Warren Fahy, author of Fragment, “puts a fresh spin on the survival-of-prehistoric-beasts theme.” Learn how Fahy “spent three years studying the sexiest species this imaginative debut novel.” 760-753-7376. Wednesday, March 17, 6:30pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornell Drive. (ENCINITAS)

An Evening of Indian Music Renowned sitar virtuoso/composer/educator Kartik Seshadri — whose “playing is marked for its extraordinary beauty, rich tonal sensibility, and extraordinary rhythmic intricacy” — plans concert with friends, benefiting Mingei Museum. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x133, Friday, March 12, 4pm; $35-$425. Sherwood Auditorium at Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Gelato Poetry Series Jim Babwe reads his poetry, followed by open-mike performances. 760-434-1240. Friday, March 12, 7pm; free. Kooky’s Ice Cream and Coffee, 2375 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Journey of Self-Discovery Author Bette Blaydes Pegas discusses her travel memoir, Chasing a Dream in the Galápagos: A Personal Evolution, for Crest Kiwanis Club (public welcome). Signing follows. 800-626-6579. Monday, March 15, 6pm; free. Crest Community Association clubhouse, 113 North Park Drive. (EL CAJON)

Kooza! Cirque du Soleil “combines two circus traditions — acrobatic performance and the art of clowning” — to tell story of “The Innocent,” a melancholy loner in search of his place in world. Show highlights physical demands of human performance in its splendor and fragility, presented with emphasis on slapstick humor, 800-450-1480. Thursdays, 8pm; Fridays, 4pm and 8pm; Saturdays, 4pm and 8pm; Sundays, 1pm and 5pm; Tuesdays, 8pm; Wednesdays, 8pm; through Sunday, March 21, $21-$125. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Lively and Loose San Francisco Bay Area poets Josef Auker and Joshua Boylan are featured readers when Drunk Poets Society convenes. 619-222-6822. Monday, March 15, 6pm; free. 21 and up. Winston’s, 1921 Bacon Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

Mariachi Magie San Diego High School’s fifth annual mariachi conference includes guest Javier Rodriguez, who began his musical studies at age eight and started developing his talents as trumpet player a few years later. 619-570-1100. Friday, March 12, 6:30pm; $20. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Open-Mike Night Musicians, singers (including karaoke), actors, poets, comedians invited to entertain. Purchase requested. 619-299-9360. Sundays, 8pm. Café Libertad, 3834 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Payday Slam Will you judge, slam, or just listen? To compete, bring at least three original three-minute works and get ready to slam. Cash prizes awarded. Poets, judges enter free; $3 suggested donation for others. 619-641-6123. Friday, March 12, 7pm. City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Set Yourself Free! Board-certified psychiatrist Judith Orloff — author of Second Sight and Emotional Freedom — on hand for “in-formal evening and book signing.” Reservations: 760-753-5786 x484. Friday, March 12, 7pm; $30. Seaside Center for Spiritual Living, 1613 Lake Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Stress-Free Tuesdays Comedy show by Leo Flowers and Foo, host Byron Bowers. No cover before 7:30pm. 619-708-7975. Tuesday, March 16, 7pm; free-$5.21 and up. U-31, 3112 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)


Thrillert Author David Rosenfelt signs Round the Wire. 858-268-4747. Tuesday, March 16, 7pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (HEARNY MESA)

What Is the Nature of Dark Matter? Journalist/scientist Anil Ananthaswamy discusses his
"Be a Star Performer" Career counselor Nancy Davis leads workshop focusing on "soft skills" and career success, in Career Center Room 627. Consider your skills with problem solving, working as a team member, oral communication skills, more. 619-644-7614.

"Is There Any Limits To What I Can Believe?" Rabbi Arnold Rachlis answers questions such as "Are There Any Limits to What I Can Believe?" on March 13, 1pm; $45-$50. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"What Is the Jesus the Christ for You Today?" Lecture by Ryder Stevens, "a practitioner of Christian Science healing" with degrees from Boston University and Harvard Divinity School. 706-745-1561. Saturday, March 13, 10am; free. First Church of Christ, Scientist, Escondido, 440 South Broadway. (ESCONDIDO)

"Designing Landscapes with Native Plants" Greg Rubin of California’s Own Native Landscape Design focuses on care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, design ideas, more. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Thursday, March 12, 6:30pm; $20-$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cayucos Cafe Drive West. (BAY HARBOR, SAN DIEGO)

"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. Tuesday, March 16, 6:30pm; $35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 3550 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

"Be a Happy Bedfellows: The Law and Music" "The Incredible Power of Music" series offered by pianist/"stage personality" Jacquelyne Silver continues with illumination of works by great composers who were lawyers, exploring music connection between music and law. Reservations: 858-454-5872. Sunday, March 14, 2pm; $30-$35. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

"Know San Diego Thornmint?" Come learn what it takes to open a collective and deliver these days can often be boiled down to the right cover or query letter." Alexis O’Neill — author of "The Book of the Recess Queen" and "The Recess Queen’s Swap Soup" — chronicles "making a great first impression" for Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators. In USD’s Iahn School of Allied Health. 619-232-7931, Sunday, March 13, 3pm; free-$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 EL Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Three Taller Tacts" Artist Alfredo Aceves speaks about his on-site drawing for the museum and his past decade of work. Included is museum ad. 619-232-7931, Sunday, March 14, 2pm; $25-$30. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"Meet your Ancestors" San Diego Genealogical Society offers genealogy classes for beginners including basic genealogy research procedures, censuses, records, vital records, computer resources, more. 858-279-7347, Saturday, March 13, 10am-4pm. First United Methodist Church, 8350 Lake Murray Boulevard. (SAN CARLOS)

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"Spotlight on Aquaculture Research" Research biologist David Jira highlights current research being done at Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute for Life of hiring individuals with disabilities in the workforce. Keynote speaker Cameron Clapp shares stories of his experiences, athletic accomplishments; he lost both legs and right arm after being struck by a train nine years ago. Breakfast served at 7:30am; opening remarks at 8am. RSVP for space availability: 619-266-4214. Thursday, March 11, 7:30am; free. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcala Park, (LINDA VISTA)

"California’s Own Native Landscape Design focuses on care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, design ideas, more. Registration: 619-660-0614 x10. Thursday, March 12, 6:30pm; $20-$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cayucos Cafe Drive West. (BAY HARBOR, SAN DIEGO)

"How to Capitalizing is Failing California" All is revealed when International Socialist Organization gathers. Learn "how our economic system has led to the failure of California’s programs and services." 619-865-0621. Thursday, March 11, 6pm; free. City Heights Recreation Center, 4880 Landis Street. (CITY HEIGHTS)

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"Know San Diego Thornmint?" In a few weeks, pink and white blossoms of Acamptanthera ilicifolia itself and other native San Diego plants may appear. Another species is found, present findings of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s five-year review when California Native Plant Society meets in room 101. Beginning mystery plants for identification 619-232-8232. Tuesday, March 16, 6:30pm; free. Casa de Prado El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Spring Literature Series continues with author OC Weekly staff writer Gustavo Arellano discusses his work. Catch this very funny man in D212-A/B. 619-388-3596. Thursday, March 11, 9:35am; free and up. San Diego City College, 1313 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

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**SPONSORS**

"The Dressage Affaire" "Elegant fête à-tête between horse and rider" featured during competition. 858-481-9065. Friday, March 12, 8am; Saturday, March 13, 8am, Sunday, March 14, 8am; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)


**Aerial Star vs. Threat!** American Wrestling Alliance presents "Friday Night Live." Card includes heavyweight championship bout between Aerial Star and Threat. "The Mirror Image" Ricky Man- delli versus Mr. Clutch, others. 619-569-0356. Friday, March 12, 7pm; $10-$13. Unity Lodge, 3366 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

**Extra Hills!** San Diego Bicycle Touring Society bicyclists plan 80-mile ride to Ramona, following route down Highway 52, up Highway 67, down Highland Valley. 619-475-8513. Sunday, March 14, 8:45am. Doyle Park, 8175 Regents Road. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

**Friendship Classic** Take in first home game of season for San Diego Thunder football team, playing Las Vegas Buchananos. 619-846-4073. Saturday, March 13, 6pm; free-$10. Balboa Stadium, 1405 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

**Nuclear Cowboy** Freestyle motocross tour includes "legends like Adam Jones, Mike Mason, Nate Adams, Ronnie Faust, and Jeremy ‘Twich’ Stenberg" presenting "theoretical-style scripted performance" set to "pulsating pounding hardrock music." 800-745-3030. Friday, March 12, 7:30pm; Saturday, March 13, 7:30pm; $20-$55. San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

**Rack ‘em Up!** Women’s Pro Billiards Association holds annual San Diego Classic tournament. Sixty-four "world-class players will compete for top spots in the rankings." Monica Webb returns to defend her title, face competition from Austrian champion Jasmin Ouschan. "Black Widow" Jeannette Lee, Hall of Fame Allison Fisher, and Ga-Young Kim, the number-one-ranked female player in world. 800-847-6537. Thursday, March 11, 10am and 6pm; Friday, March 12, 10am and 6pm; Saturday, March 13, 11am and 5:30pm; Sunday, March 14, 1pm; $8-$20. 21 and up. Viejas Casino, 5005 WIl- lows Road. (ALPINE)

**Sea Level Century!** Join Knckr-bikers for fifth annual 100-mile bicycle adventure to Dana Point for lunch (bring money) and back before sun sets. Bring identification for entry on Camp Pendleton. 760-525-6833. Sunday, March 14, 7:15am; free. Carmel Valley park and ride, 12791 Sorrento Valley Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

**Walk for Haiti!** 5k around Mission Bay raises money, awareness for ongoing needs of Haitian people as a result of January’s earth- quake. Pledges requested. 619-243-5000 x0. Sunday, March 14, 8:30am; free. De Anza Cove, 3000 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Museum of Photography Arts** "Seeing Beauty" explores aesthetics of beauty expressed through eyes of photographers through the medium including Bill Brandt, Walter Evans, Mary Ellen Mark, Edward Weston, Minor White, Aaron Siskind. See works in range of genres such as portraiture, abstraction, landscape, still life through Sunday, January 23, 2011. "In Light: Selections from the Permanent Collection" may be seen through Sunday, January 23, 2011. These "works tell vivid stories of photography’s master practitioners and technological innovations, while demonstrating photogra- phy’s ability to reveal the unseen and the unseeable." Exhibit boasts photographs by Ansel Adams, Dorothy Lange, others. 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

**Embarcadero Urban Trees 6** Public art exhibit of 31 "urban trees" along North Embarcadero on Harbor Drive (between cruise ship terminal and Hawthorn Street.). Artists were supplied with a 12-foot-tall pole placed in a concrete planter to serve as tree’s base; artists alter the pole by attaching materials to create their sculptures. 619-686-6200. Along Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Museum of San Diego History** "Faces of the Frontier: Photographs Portraits from the American West, 1845-1924," opening Friday March 12, presents portraits in four general themes: land, exploration, discord, possibilities. Exhibit to organized by the National Portrait Gallery includes more than 100 photographs of leaders, statesmen, soldiers, activists, labor- ers, criminals, entertainers includ- ing Sitting Bull, Kit Carson, George Custer, Geronomo, Jesse James, An- nie Oakley, Theodore Roosevelt, Brigham Young. Closes Sunday, June 6. "Place of Promise: Stories of San Diego" Jets visitors “literally walk on San Diego”; a map of county extends from wall to wall across the floor. Also featured in ongoing exhibit are two large 1930s murals by artist Charles Reiffel and a 1910 San Diego streetcar. Stories of San Diego are interpreted through images, artifacts, oral his- tories from society’s collection. The museum is located in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-232-6203. (BALBOA PARK)

**New Americans Museum in NTC Promenade** "NTC Promenade Views and Visions" features photography, architecture, land- scape architecture of new NTC Promenade Arts and Cultural Dis- trict. Exhibition continues through Sunday, March 14, 2825 Dewey Road, Suite 102, 619-255-8908. (POINT LOMA)

**San Diego Automotive Museum** More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless cars- riages to future prototypes are in- cluded in the museum’s permu- nent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl, 2080 Pan American Plaza, 619-231-2886. (BALBOA PARK)

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

**Cannabis Institute Mira Mesa, 9808 Waples Street, MIRA MESA**


**Water-Smart Edibles** Horticulturist David Zetl presents "informative and delicious exploration of fruit that can be grown in a water- conserving landscape." Enjoy sam- ples, see some of the plants. Learn proper planting, drip irrigation, maintenance. 619-690-0614 x10, Saturday, March 13, 10am; $20-$30. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, (MACHO SAN DIEGO)

**Web-Design Seminar** Learn of newest trends in web design; focus on "benefit of open-source applica- tions and plug-ins." Guest Dylan Whitman examines "web-design structure and social media cam- paigns to propel your business for- ward." RSVP: 415-886-7736. Thurs- day, March 11, 6pm; free. EnDev LLC, 404 14th Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

**What Do You Know About Blackwater?** Raymond Lutz, co-ordinator for Citizens’ Oversight Projects, divulges "history of the Blackwater/Xe paramilitary company, the efforts to stop Blackwater in Otay Mesa and Southwestern College, and the ‘Stop Outsourcing Security bill’ when Rancho Santa Fe Democratic Club gathers. Guests welcome. RSVP: 858-869-9515, Wednesday, March 17, 6:30pm; $10. Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club, 5827 Via de la Cumbre. (SAN DIEGO)

**What is a Pagan?** Explore ritual, "Magic, and the Wheel of the Year" during "Introduction to Paganism," Donation, 619-298-9978 8014. Sat- urday, March 13, 10am. First Uni- tarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)
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From Disneyland to Ducasse

As my posse and I settled down and looked at the latest menu at Blanca, I sang out happily, “Thank God, it’s not the same old food again!” There’s a new gunfighter in town; he’s not as mellow with his sharpshooting talents as Colorado (Rick Nelson) in the classic Rio Bravo, but he is as fiery as Billy the Kid. Chef Jason Neroni, aged 33, arrived at Blanca last October after receiving a “Rising New York Chef” award for his work at 10 Downing Street in Manhattan and prized two-star ratings in the New York Times (both there and at his previous gig, the famously porky Porchetta). Outspoken, and sometimes irascible, he also hit the blog-sites frequently in the Big Apple, where celebrity chefs are even more newsworthy than the Kardashians (what?). (If you’re starved for the gossip he spawned, go Google him.)

Neroni started out as an Orange County high school kid with no idea of what good food tasted like, and then he took a summer job cooking at Disneyland. Palate rapidly awakening, talent showing, during his second summer he swiftly rose from the kitchens of Disneyland’s regular restaurants to Club 53, the park’s classic French dinner house. Instead of going on to art school as planned, he headed for San Francisco to work at Chez Panisse and Postrio and then south again for a grueling, vital training gig at Spago.

He now felt ready for the Big Apple, where the level of ambition in restaurant cooking was even higher. At Manhattan’s fabled Le Cirque, young Jason, fresh from Orange County with a backpack on his shoulders, strolled through the formal dining room in the middle of its ultra-chic lunch hour, straight to the kitchen to hand the top chef his résumé. He was hired the next day. Working his way through the stations of the kitchen at New York’s top restaurants, he gained experience at Tabla (creative Indian cuisine) and Dan Barber’s Blue Hill (deep country-style American cooking) and even worked as chef tournant at the short-lived restaurant opened at the Extremely Good News is: Blanca’s prices have dropped by at least $10 on entrées since a year ago, to a mid-$20s average (about the same as most “better” neighborhood restaurants). So this could be a worthwhile splurge-and-thrill ride — say, to celebrate an IRS refund.

I’d read in various publications that Blanca’s new chef was, professionally speaking, a hottie, so I checked the website menu. There, I spotted a starter featuring ingredients I mildly dislike: brussels sprouts, dashi (Japanese dried bonito broth), and lovage (an herb resembling ultra-inexpensive brussels sprouts. If the new chef was half as good as he sounded, he might even make me love brussels sprouts. With that, I gathered the posse.

The extremely good news is: Blanca’s prices have dropped by at least $10 on entrées since a year ago, to a mid-$20s average (about the same as most “better” neighborhood restaurants). So this could be a worthwhile splurge-and-thrill ride — say, to celebrate an IRS refund.

The dining room (along with the kitchen) was renovated while awaiting Neroni’s arrival: the wood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hard-wood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy). We were seated with mellow grays and informal-looking hardwood flooring (but it’s not noisy).

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My pear-lavender “spritzer” had enough lavender to savor but was otherwise too sweet. Ben’s “B-12” spicy Bloody Mary but was otherwise too sweet. Ben’s “B-12” spicy Bloody Mary was original, too, a change from the usual (into croquets, fritters, even pastas are listed each evening as a “Middle Course,” hinting that they should be shared family-style, as Italians do. The “agnolotti nero” were shiny black small rectangles visually resembling licorice candies, colored by squid ink, surrounded by a generous scattering of pekeytoe crab, cauliflower, tomato confit, and fennel pollen. It’s an excellent use of rare pekeytoe, showcasing its delicate flavor and texture. The subtle, creamy fill-
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Off the Street

“Alberto and Miguel and me, we’re real. Funky Garcia, we made him up.”

I was shocked — shocked, as Claude Rains said to Humphrey Bogart in Casablanca — to see Funky Garcia’s sign being put up above the Sun Cafe’s a few months back. Actually, I did go up. The Sun Cafe? A greasy spoon icon! The Jeong family had run it since 1963, nearly 50 years. Plus, the building itself has been open for — get this — 127 years.

Or, is Funky Garcia’s giving the place new life? They’ve stripped it back to its 1883 bones: great old ceiling joists, beautiful brick, real wagon wheels as chandeliers and tequila barrels sawn in half and turned into soft-glowing light shades. They even installed a distorted, wavy-crazy mirror. You might say they’re putting the fun back into funky.

So, right now, I’m hunched at the bar, staring at old beams, beaming at old stairs (heheh), sucking on a Sol ($2 right now, at around 11:00 at night — Wednesdays, it’s happy hour all night), trying to decide. Should eat at home, but, well, this place is, like, rocking. On a Wednesday! Party of eight right behind me sounds like they’re celebrating not being fired. A gal whirls one of those clackety things. Somebody else dongs the big ol’ mission bell against the brick wall and settle in with table against the brick wall and settle in with 127 years.

“Man. I feel like a woman.”

Haven’t been remembering my woman. Think I’ll bring Carla back a carnitas torta, even though it’s going to cost what my beer and two tacos did together. Big-hearted Charlie here. On my way over to the bar, I meet two guys standing there who look familiar. Oh, yeah. There’s a mural you can’t miss in an alcove by the mission bell, featuring four compañeros with their names labeled below. Alberto, Funky, Moe, and Miguel are pictured lined up like four banditos, with red ties and black sombreros. And — aha! You can see it: these guys have to be two of them. Alberto and Moe. The shorter guy ‘fesses up. “Alberto and Miguel and me, we’re real,” says Alberto. “Funky Garcia, we made him up.”

Turns out Moe (short for Mohammed) is Iranian and has four restaurants in TJ. “We figured that, now, with people too afraid to go down,” Moe says, “we’d better bring TJ up here.”

Back out on Market, I kick myself for not treating myself to one last thing: the churro dessert ($3.99). Churros dipped in cajeta, caramel. But no room. I’m stuffed. On the other hand, this means Carla’s torta’s probably going to arrive home intact. She’ll be shocked — shocked.

**The Place:** Funky Garcia’s, 421 Market Street (between Fourth and Fifth), Gaslamp, 619-23-FUNKY (619-233-8659)

**Type of Food:** Mexican

**Prices:** “TJ street tacos,” carne asada or pollo (chicken) asado, $1 on Taco Tuesdays, carne asada, pollo asado, al pastor, carnitas, shrimp, fish, shrimp tacos, normal price, $1.99; burritos (including carne asada and carnitas), $6.99; tacos, $7.99; tostada (same filling choices), $2.99; esquites (cup of corn kernels, butter, mayonnaise, lime juice, cotija cheese, salsa), $3.99; bag of churros, $3.99

**Hours:** noon–1:00 or 2:00 a.m. (till 3:00 a.m., Wednesday, Friday, Saturday)

**Buses:** 3, 11, 120

**Nearest Bus Stop:** for #3: Market at Sixth (northbound), Fourth and G (southbound); for #11: Market at Third (southbound), Market at Fourth (northbound); for #120: Fourth and G

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Served March 17

**Breakfast**

- Corned Beef Hash & Eggs
- Corned Beef & Eggs, Pancake Style

**Lunch & Dinner**

- 1/2-lb. Corned Beef Sandwich on Rye Bread
- Corned Beef Reuben
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- Whiskey Fizz

**Beverages**

- Irish Coffee
- Whiskey Fizz

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS

A complete searchable list of over 1,300 restaurants is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. Inexpensive: $10; moderate: $10 to $19; expensive: $20 to $29; very expensive: more than $30.

Alpine

Ramón’s Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Blvd., Alpine, 619-445-1018. The smell of mesquite burning under fresh-cut beef rib is too much to resist — the secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the lat-splitting fire. Inexpensive.

Baja

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.
Café Français La Belle Claude 7th Street #186-A, Tijuana. A family with their own farm outside town runs this chic Parisian outpost offering farm-made jams and cheeses, pannini, ciabattas, an excellent French-dip sandwich, flaky dessert empanadas, and big slabs of Mexican-cut filet o’ beef, which are flabby but tender. Most arrive at your table sizzling on black iron hotplates. Moderate.
La Diferencia Avenida Sánchez Taboada #1061-A, Tijuana, 664-634-3346. Mexican haute cuisine with inventive combinations. The menu frames the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries. Moderate.
Lanchera La Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroes #105, Tijuana. Best food stall in the marketplace! Maybe: Ask for carne de puerco (pork), chiles rellenos, huarache ranchero, or baguette al gusto (liver), all around $3. Inexpensive.
Super Antojitos Fourth Street #1810 (between Constitución and Niños Héroes), Tijuana, 664-683-5700. The house special, mole poblano, has complex, delicious house-made mole sauce with an enchilada, eggs, rice, beans, tortillas. Also delicious: stuffed pastries, pork rind gorditas. Inexpensive.

Banker’s Hill

Extraordinary Desserts 2929 Fifth Ave., Banker’s Hill, 619-294-2132. Also 1430 Union St., Little Italy, 619-294-7000. Chef-owner Karen Krause incorporates flavors inspired by her travels from Paris to Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Uptown location desserts only; downtown offers light grazing meals, too. Moderate.
Hane 2760 Fifth Ave., Banker’s Hill, 619-286-1411. This city branch of legendary Sushi Ota is more comfortable, exercising impeccable craftsmanship, emphasizing pristine rolls and sashimi, not party rolls. The omakase sushi plat-ter offers Ota’s most popular and showy creations. Moderate-plus.

Campanille

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Carlsbad

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Bl., Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It’s New York style pizzas, surf ’n’ turf combos, and big slabs of Mexican-cut filet o’ beef, which are flabby but tender. Most arrive at your table sizzling on black iron hotplates. Moderate.
Lanchera La Poca Lucha Municipal Market, Avenida Niños Héroes #105, Tijuana. Best food stall in the marketplace! Maybe: Ask for carne de puerco (pork), chiles rellenos, huarache ranchero, or baguette al gusto (liver), all around $3. Inexpensive.
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pizza here. They make the pies with thin, crisp crusts and toppings like meatball or garlic. Maybe their best is the Brie Special: pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, capicola, pepper, and garlic. Inexpensive.

O’Sullivan’s Irish Pub of Carlsbad 469 Grand Ave., Carlsbad, 760-438-2072. Try German and American dishes like Big John’s all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-lit sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish. Inexpensive.

**City Heights**

Bale French Sandwich Shop 4879 University Ave., City Heights, 619-283-4352. The Viennatorte French baguette sandwiches better than the French — with some spicy Asian touches. Inexpensive.

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Blvd., City Heights, 619-284-4215. The menu has over 250 items on it. Choose: the fill-Vietnamese beef noodle-soup meal. Another safe bet is sit-down crispy or soft egg noodles with seafood and asorted vegetables. Inexpensive.

Trieu Chau 665 University Ave., City Heights, 619-280-4204. The menu includes Chinese, Korean, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for “4 diuk kai fry loft kab” — fried bread with Cambodian dough, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Inexpensive.

Uncle Joe’s Pizzeria 4591 El Cajon Blvd., City Heights, 619-384-2355. Flower-street patio, plush interior, with sandwiches named after navy bases, rich entrees like eggplant Parmesan, chicken with mushrooms, served until midnight weekends. Inexpensive.

**Clairemont**

Buga Korean BBQ Restaurant 5380 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Clairemont, 858-360-1010. Aside from the BBQ meats and generous free side dishes, treats include simmered black cod in spicy sauce, moo-soup with pork, stone pot bibimbap (rice casseroles), mandoo dumplings. Moderate.

**Coronado**

Chez Loma French Bistro 1132 Loma Ave., Coronado, 619-435-0661. In a charming, historic cottage, this bistro offers classic French bourgeois cuisine, plus some lighter, modern touches. Inexpensive.

Coronado Bakeshop 1870 1st Ward Way, Coronado, 619-435-3915. Fun “kalahi” atmosphere with a bay view. Herbed artichoke appetizer and fresh macadamia crusted halibut sauced with coconut milk are tasty, and the tender roast beef is USDA Prime. Moderate.

McP’s Irish Pub and Grill 1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5280. Try Mulligan stew served in a shallow bowl of bread or corned beef and cabbage with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Rustic inside, but escape on big hot patio. Inexpensive to moderate.


**Del Mar**

Americanis 1454 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-794-6838. Casual breakfast/lunch, serious dinners, with flavors of the American melting pot and summer veggies from the chef’s home garden. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive to moderate, dinner moderate to expensive.

Alambres Mexican Grill 776 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-823-6388. Specialty is the namesake Alambres Mexican City-style taco, usually meat or fish plus bell peppers, onions, and bacon. Inexpensive.

**Downtown**

Markus 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-708-5460. Gorgeous sea side resort (opened in 2008) offers a modern dining room and heated patio to enjoy fine, creative cooking, combining “slow food” craftsmanship and the latest technical tricks to display the bright seasonal flavors of local veggies, sustainable seafood, and natural foods. Expensive.

Market Restaurant and Bar 3701 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-523-0007. Chef-owner Carl Schroeder is all about seasonal, local, organic — and inspired dining. Menu changes frequently, but is always exciting. The vibe is “nice despite the mom and pop.” Inexpensive.

Mediterranean Café and Bar 1435 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-238-5440. This restaurant at the top of Horton Plaza emphasizes seasonal ingredients, as local as possible, with wasabi. Also: good-value lunches. Expensive.

Peohe’s 1201 First St., Coronado, 619-437-4474. Fabulous seaside venue, sily with Hawaiian decor, featuring seafood, pastas) to very expensive.

Pacifico del Mar 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-792-1803. Fresh fish and organic produce elevens fun list of low-priced mini-appetizers, plus great baked oysters, seafood scalllops, mustard cailforn, and house-cured rib eye. Extremely noisy bar area. Expensive to very expensive.

**Ocean Beach**

Classic Fish 1201 First St., Ocean Beach, 619-233-4200. The seafood is as good as the views. This trendy restaurant emphasizes seasonal ingredients, sustainable seafood, and natural foods. Inexpensive.

Pacifico del Mar 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-792-1803. Fresh fish and organic produce elevens fun list of low-priced mini-appetizers, plus great baked oysters, seafood scalllops, mustard cailforn, and house-cured rib eye. Extremely noisy bar area. Expensive to very expensive.

San Diego Fish Market Restaurant and Bar 1556 3rd Ave., Downtown, 619-233-4200. The seafood is as good as the views. This trendy restaurant emphasizes seasonal ingredients, sustainable seafood, and natural foods. Inexpensive.

The Seelie 1410 30th St., Ocean Beach, 619-233-4200. The ocean view is spectacular and the food is first-rate. Expensive.

**Patio Village**

Baja Del Mar 725 Ivy St., La Jolla, 619-234-1778. Baja Bistro serves Mexican food with wasabi. Also: good-value lunches. Expensive.

Chez Loma French Bistro 1132 Loma Ave., Coronado, 619-435-0661. In a charming, historic cottage, this bistro offers classic French bourgeois cuisine, plus some lighter, modern dishes. Don’t miss Normandy-style onion soup with apple cider. Prix fixe dinners moderate, a la carte expensive.

Clayton’s Coffee Shop 879 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-4534. The food is all American: steaks and egg, veggie omlettes, old-fashioned waffles, sandwiches, and seared tuna. Dinner specials include pork chops and homeade meat loaf with gravy. Inexpensive.


Tip Top Meats 418 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2072. Try German and American dishes like Big John’s all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-lit sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish. Inexpensive.
Red Pearl Kitchen
and a wicked Thai version of Chinese
dishes like chicken and squid with flat
menu includes some rare authentic
rants offer a special experience. The
and chefs from top Bangkok restau-
Rama
capicola,
Pierre's Place
Pauly's Pizza Station
erate to expensive.
School's student-run restaurant offers
Downtown, 619-231-0300. Pauly
(ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita,
50% off sushi
Any Menu Entrée
*Valid on any entrée $6 or more, limit 4 people, excludes holidays, dine-in only. Expires 11/30/10.

Free 3-oz.
frozen yogurt
With minimum $3 purchase. Not valid with other discount.
Boba • Tea • Smoothies • Coffee
San Diego, 92108
Yum Yum
San Diego, 92108

Thai dinner for two $20
Pick one appetizer and two entrees. Served all day. Ask for menu options. No valid with any other offer. Some restrictions.

Free 12”
cheese pizza
With purchase of large pizza at the regular price of $15. Not valid with any other offer. Valid with coupon only. Some restrictions.

Free mini
yogurt
With purchase of 3 or more. Topping not included. No stamp cards. Originals only accepted. One coupon per person/transaction. Not valid with any other offers.

East Village
Broadway Pizza 1008 Broadway, East Village, 619-232-6264. From a pizza-like to barbecue beef sandwiches to a Louisiana-style sausage-link sub, portions are generous if not exactly gourmet. Satisfying neighborhood delivery. Inexpensive.

Dirty Del's 199 Tenthe Ave., East Village, 619-677-3789. A cozy neighborhood watering hole near the ballpark has half a dozen tables and half a dozen sport screens, and serves big, interesting sandwiches. Inexpensive.

East Village Tavern and Bowl 930 Market St., East Village, 619-677-2649. High, noisy sports bar/hrowning alley with creative pub grub until 2am nightly. Imagine three New York Strip steaks, caramelized onions, and melting Gorgonzola tucked into a Hawaiian sweet bun. Or try a Panino California/bratwurst sandwiches. Inexpensive.

Who says you can't enjoy Octoberfest all year long?
Hawaiian sweet bun. Or try a nightly. Imagine three New York strip rolls with creative pub grub until 2am nightly. Imagine three New York Strip steaks, caramelized onions, and melting Gorgonzola tucked into a Hawaiian sweet bun.

The Strip Club 340 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-231-3140. It’s DIY patio is a nice spot for a light meal. Ventioneers, but the outdoor dining

Firefly 251 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-653-1066. Sandwiches, panini, and outdoor patio featuring exciting wine choices and wine-bar snacks. The most popular lunch item is the Cobb salad, and at dinner there's a bourbon-and-mustard-brined pork tenderloin. Desserts and weekend brunches are strong suits. Moderate to expensive.

El Cajon

Encinitas
The Bird House Grill 250 N. Coast Hwy., Encinitas, 760-944-2882. Savory Turkish cuisine includes generous plates like kefta kebob (geros, a.k.a. doner kebab with rice, tomato sauce, rich house-made yogurt) and kyfor (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pilau, and zartazili sauce). Inexpensive.

Firenzi 225 Cedar St., Downtown, 619-727-4700. Toussaint
day night turns into Saturday morning.

Center's Bar & Grill 8365 La Mesa Boulevard
In the heart of downtown La Mesa • 619-461-4434

Centifonti's Bar & Grill 499 Tenth Ave., East Village, 619-232-6264. From a

City College trolley stop, making for
lorous East Coast thin-crust pies with
some creative toppings — plus break-
fast pizzas and calzones for whom Fri-
night night turns into Saturday morn-
ing. Open late to very late. Inexpensive.

Pierre's Place 1404 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-727-4700. Toussaint
School's student-run restaurant offers
pizzas and interesting dishes like Flo-
rentine breakfast panini, Tuscan chicken panini, and the Italian Special (toasted Italian roll with ham, cheese, ham, capicola, provolone). Inexpensive.

Quarter Kitchen 800 F St., Downtown, 619-814-2080. Local-born Bel-

11 AM-9 PM

1025 Carlsbad Village Drive
760-730-0088

162 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., Encinitas
760-753-5411. Not French, despite the name, but all-American. Omelets are the best-known dish — 14 three-eggers (or Egg-
ers by request). Sandwiches run to hearty American classics (including some veggie choices). Inexpensive.

East Village
El Cajon
Encinitas

San Diego, 7807 Carroll Canyon Rd., San Diego, 760-635-1066. Spacious wine-bar restaurant features exciting wine choices and wine-bar snacks. The most popular lunch item is the Cobb salad, and at dinner there’s a bourbon-and-mustard-brined pork tenderloin. Desserts and weekend brunches are strong suits. Moderate to expensive.

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Parisian-style almond croissants stud- expensive to moderate. can BYO butter and they’ll melt it. In- corn, potatoes, and spicy Louisiana cooked in a well-seasoned boil with include several crab-bucket combos,

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**Puerto la Boca**
Barnes Bar-B-Que
erate, dinner moderate to expensive.

**National City**

**North Park**

**Ocean Beach**

Livingston's Chicken and Mexican Grill 5026 Newport Ave, Ocean Beach, 619-224-8888. "Broasted" chicken — pressure cooked in oil — is tastier and less greasy than standard fried chicken. Try their garlic "potato hash" at "Jo-Jo's," a California burrito, or pork belly "Boston brisket" with truffle aioli. Inexpensive.

3rd Corner Wine Shop & Bistro
2265 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-224-2700. Also 897 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-942-2104. Electric dishes designed to go with wine until late evening, with bottles a pitance over retail. Mod moderate.

Ocean Beach People's Organic Foods Co-Op Deli 2030 Voltaire St, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. Virtuous, mainly vegan-plant-based dishes include eggplant ravioli with beet and onion sauce, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, mil-

**Logan Heights**

Sister Poo Wee’s Soul Food 2971-1/2 Imperial Ave., Logan Heights, 619-236-0470. The menu depends on what Sister Poo Wee feels like cooking. You might find big pork ribs with soulful sides or fried chicken or catfish fillet with icings or chilli (her specialty). Inexpensive.

**Mission Beach**

Red Marin Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina, 1441 Quivira Rd., Mission Beach, 619-224-1234. Blisful bay views, the place to go is Chula Vista. Chef de Cuisine Donna Bannister Wutz Kurobuta pork medium-rare? He knows the secret. And his blue crab cake is all crab, minimal filler. Expensive.

**Mission Hills**

Lucha Libre Gourmet Taco Shop 1800 W. Washington St., Mission Hills, 619-296-8262. The pride of the place is the desserts, from the sue hubu (purple yam custard) and maja blanca (coconut cream) to the sapin sapin (multicolored) cake and fried sweet salt banana on a skewer.

**Mira Mesa**

B u c a d e B e p p o 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Downtown. Try the arribata with its spicy sausage or the chicken parmi-giana. Standard stuff in fast family-friendly quantities, but you’re having fun. Inexpensive to moderate.

**Midway District**

Country Kabob 3145 Rosecrans St., Midway District, 619-226-2524. Also 3375 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-563-6300. The star of this reasonably priced Greek place is owner-chef Karim Larid. He’s Afghan and learned Greek cooking in NYC. He always has specials, sometimes even “pay what you can.” Reliable choice. Number 36, the kobada kabob. Charbroiled.

Fairouz Café and Gallery 3168 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-225-0308. Find this open-family-owned restaurant for Lebanese and Greek food. The menu offers lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and exotic vegetarian meals, plus daily lunch and dinner buffets. Moderate.

**Mira Mesa**

Buca di Beppo 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Downtown. Try penne arrabiata with goat cheese … foil, muddy, runny, stinky … Any cheese in the house, same price: around five bucks. Even Basconcillo cheese, with truffles in it. Inexpensive.

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**Normal Heights**

Blind Lady Ale House 5416 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-285-2484. The amazing, ever-changing draft ales will bring you here, but the unusual pizzas will keep you coming back. Original salads, too Basic draw: the civet, the muleh. Inexpensive.

Cantina Mayshavel 2934 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-283-6922. Small room, short menu of fine, authentic Mexican cooking including specials like chicken mole poblano and Oaxacan black mole, Chili Colorado (slow-cooked beef), or Yuca-stian seafood stew. Inexpensive.

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San Diego, 619-294-2074. The traditional Italian entrees like veal parmigiana and tetrazzini Alfredo are there, but go for house specialties like Spaghetti New Orleans (size pizza) with marinara, mozzarella, and the Zinc veggie burger are tasty. Very expensive.

**Rancho Santa Fe**

Rancho Valencia 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Every bite from appetizer to dessert is a pleasure. Enjoy an entrée of Prime mesquite-grilled steak, fresh fish, veal, or chicken. Very expensive.

**San Marcos**

Fish House Vera Cruz 361 Via Vera Cruz, San Marcos, 760-744-7348. Also 417 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-434-6777. On a recent day, 23 different fish dishes were available as daily specials, on top of the regular menu. The Manhattan chowder is tasty, as is their “Krab” salad. Moderate.

**Santa Ysabel**

The Hideout Steakhouse and Saloon 27413 Highway 76, Santa Ysabel, 760-782-3656. Colorful historic roadhouse serves Harley-riding weekend day-trippers. Cheeseburgers are the default dish. Available is a “Texas” baked potato, salad, and squash bread. Inexpensive to moderate.

**Solana Beach**

Beach Grass Café 159 S. Coast Hwy, Solana Beach, 858-309-0632. Also 1474 Encinitas Bl., Encinitas, 760-942-7241. Imaginative breakfasts are the specialty (reservations vital on weekends). Lunches and dinners feature unique multichoice “coastal cuisine” with good veggies. Moderate to slightly expensive.

Tony’s Jacal 621 Valley Ave., Solana Beach, 858-753-2274. Try The La Colonia combination: just about anything with rice and beans. Turkey meat is big here, and the (real) crab quesadilla is delicious. Inexpensive.

Zinc Café & Market 132 S. Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-793-5436. Vegetarian menu offers dishes like frittata with cucumber salsa, and baked eggplant “pizzette” (personal-size pizza) with marinara, mozzarella, and Parmesan. The vegetarian chili and the Zinc veggie burger are tasty, too. Inexpensive.
Screen-Glow Soundscapes

“As it starts, you hear little chirps and pops, and it’s slowly revealed that these are the sounds of people talking.”

I went rock climbing this morning,” says Daniel Shapira of the Bitwise Operators, a “laptop ensemble” from the University of California San Diego.

“I went skiing last weekend,” says Cooper Baker, another member.

Here’s the thing: These guys want it to be clear that although they spend the majority of their time working toward their doctorates in computer music, they are multifaceted human beings with activities and interests outside the scope of computers or music.

“We don’t just sit in front of our computers programming every day.” (“Lies!” shouts the group’s joker, Chris Warren.)

“Actually,” says the quiet-unless-we’re-talking tech Michelle Daniels, “I do.”

Bitwise members do agree that it’s hard to explain what they do, at least to those outside the university’s computer-music program.

“Every time someone asks us what we do here, it takes 45 minutes to answer them,” says Warren. “We do performance and research in making sounds with these things,” he says, as he taps the cover of his silver MacBook.

The ensemble’s name is an inside joke among the tech-savvy. “Bitwise operations is a way of manipulating data on the lowest level, playing the tech-savvy,” explains Baker.

Most of the 25 or so concertgoers sit in the theater’s stadium seats, though a few occupied foldout chairs that had been placed in a large semicircle around the tables to give the audience a view of the laptop screens.

The 8 p.m. show took place in the Conrad Prebys Music Center’s experimental black-box theater, opening with a performance by the New Brutalists. This improvisational quartet consisted of saxophone, trombone, flute, and a laptop. The musicians used their instruments in nontraditional ways (at one point the trombonist twisted his mute back and forth to make it squeak into the microphone) to create excruciating sounds that had caused several audience members to plug their ears and grimace.

Paul Hembree, Ph.D. student composer, said the New Brutalists “were sort of mimicking the type of amplifier feedback you’d get from a guitar.” It was, he says, “a shock-and-awe sort of thing. I didn’t expect Ian [Carroll] to take his trombone and rub it against the floor, which was kind of insane. I wouldn’t do the same thing to my trumpet.”

Up next was Rick Snow, a Ph.D. candidate in composition, who turned off all the lights in the theater and, with his face and hands aglow in the light of his computer screen, performed a piece he calls “Improvisation 0.4.” Snow designed a synthesizer inside his computer that he controls with a keyboard.

“I have a lot of samples of noisy sounds,” he says. With his program, he can “take that noisy sound and play a chord through it. You can tune it to the sound of a Palestrina motet, which I did for part of that piece. Or you could tune it to a chord from a pop song or the sound of a creaking door.”

Finally, the Bitwise Operators took the stage. Although the ensemble had rehearsed only four times prior to the show, they say the one thing that made them nervous was the possibility of a power outage or a computer crash. The latter, they said, could be handled with grace.

“If someone’s computer crashes, we know how to go on and put on a good show,” said Shapira. “You wait for them to reboot, and you cover for them. Just like you would in a regular band.”

Baker said that one of the goals of the band is to “start making performance a more prominent practice in our program.”

One of the biggest complaints about computer music in performance is that there is nothing more to watch besides a person sitting at a computer. “I could be checking my email,” says Warren. “I could be doing something unrelated. I could just be pressing play. You have no way of knowing.”

Prior to the show, the group toyed with a few ideas on how to make their performance more interesting. They considered wearing hazmat suits or projecting their laptop screens to the front of the room. In the end, aside from Warren’s five-minute stint in a gas mask, the Bitwise performance consisted of five people staring at their computer screens.

Shapira composed the first piece. He calls it “Vitality” and says that it is a sonic interpretation of census data from around the world. Each of the ensemble members has a world map. As they move around the map on their own computers, they control the pitch, but then their actions look up data through Shapira’s system and the musical output changes.

“A lot of the sounds could be misinterpreted as technical difficulties, but that was purposeful,” Shapira says.

Next, Warren wore the aforementioned gas mask as he stood in front of the other ensemble members and conducted “Number Stations,”

Gregorian Chant Mass

Pa-ter no-ster, qui es in cae-lis: sancti-fi-cé-tur nomen tu-um; ad-vé-ni-at regnum
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thine name, Thy kingdom

4 pm on the second Sunday of every month

March 14 • April 11 • May 9 • June 13 • July 11
August 8 • September 12 • October 10 • November 14 • December 12

Choir and congregational singing of Gregorian Chant, sacred polyphony, and hymns.

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
State and Date Streets (Little Italy), Downtown San Diego
So, how did all of this experimental strangeness find its way to the Reader’s classical listings?
Warren answers this question with another: “Where else would they put us?”

CLASSICAL MUSIC

“Classically Trained Colleens”
The Irish Sopranos take the stage, accompanied by fiddler Jane Hunt and piano player Paddy O’Reilly. Ensemble is “known for their unique sound and innovative three-part harmonies.” 800-988-4253. Wednesday, March 17, 7:30pm; $20-$32. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)


“Four Hands” The Morebello/Rathje Duo performs “four hands” program featuring music by Dvorak, Schumann, Clark, Piazzolla, Mendelssohn for Concert Hour Series. 760-744-1150 x2316. Thursday, March 11, 12:30pm; free. Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10), 1140 West Mission Road. (PALOMAR COLLEGE)

“In Time of” The all male chorale ensemble Chanticleer performs songs and love and loss, war and peace, chosen from breadth of Chanticleer’s seven century repertoire, for Saint James Music Series, 858-459-3421 x109. Sunday, March 14, 1pm; $25. Saint James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

Music of the Americas

San Diego Reader March 11, 2010

Chanticleer’s repertoire spans seven centuries. Yeah, they do surf music also (The Hutchins Consort)

“Musica de los Californios, Part II” The Hutchins Consort explores music with ties to California, including Velaquez’s “Same Mucho,” the “Pulcinella Suite” by Stravinsky, a Mingus composition, surfer music, and more. 760-753-7376. Saturday, March 13, 10am; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

All Tchaikovsky Moscow State Radio Symphony Orchestra and pianist Alexander Sinchuk perform the master’s “Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy,” “Piano Concerto No. 1,” “Symphony No. 3 (Polish),” 619-235-0804. Sunday, March 14, 2pm; $20-$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Camera Lucida Enjoy selections by Brahms and Dvorak performed by musicians from San Diego Symphony and UCSD’s music faculty. 858-534-3229. Monday, March 15, 8pm; $1-$25. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Guest Organist Ty Woodward plans recital. 619-702-8138. Sunday, March 14, 2pm; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Honoring Poland’s Musical Legacy Enjoy music by Krzysztof Penderecki and Karol Szymanowski, two of Poland’s most notable composers, when La Jolla Symphony and Chorus performs with guests Peter Gach (piano), Renee Calvo (soprano), Janelle DeStefano (mezzo-soprano), Philip Larson (bass). 858-534-4637. Saturday, March 13, 8pm; Sunday, March 14, 3pm; $15-$29. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Irish Tunes, Celtic Melodies, Traditional Dance San Diego Symphony plans “St. Patrick’s Day Celebration at the Pops” with help from Brian Baynes Band, vocalist Siobhan O’Brien, Malone Academy of Irish Dance. 619-235-0804. Wednesday, March 17, 7:30pm; $20-$85. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Montaguses and Capuletts Return! San Diego Opera season continues with Charles Gounod’s Romeo and Juliet. Cast includes American tenor Stephen Costello singing role of Romeo opposite his wife, American soprano Ailyn Perez as Juliet. Conductor is Karen Keltner; Cynthia Stokes directs. Performed in French with English translations above stage. Reservations: 619-533-7000. Saturday, March 13, 7pm; Tuesday, March 16, 7pm; $30-$180. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)


Spring Awakens Palomar Symphony showcases Robert Schumann’s “Symphony No. 1,” which the composer characterized as his “Spring Symphony.” Pay what you can at door. 760-744-1150 x2453. Saturday, March 13, 8pm. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

UCSD Guitar Ensemble Guitar students perform solo and ensemble pieces by Luis Bonfa, Fernando Sor, John Cage, Denis Gougeon, others. 858-534-3229. Friday, March 12, 8pm; free. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

UCSD Wind Ensemble Listen for works by Handel, Mozart, Verdi, Puccini, Purcell, Debussy, Strauss. 858-534-3229. Thursday, March 11, 8pm; free-$15. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Wind Synthesis Musician Robert B. Williams presents “new world of music on woodwind-like instrument controlling 1500 different sounds” for Winter/Spring 2010 Concert Series. Williams “composes all of the music he plays.” Expect to hear Renaissance, baroque, African, Tibetan music, as well as cello quartet bal- lads, blues, pop, jazz, more. 619-236-5810. Sunday, March 14, 2:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Mysteries of the Passion: Lamentations

Jan Dismas Zelenka
Lamentaciones Jeremiah Prophetae I & II
Francois Couperin
Leçons de Ténèbres III
Antonio Vivaldi
Sonata à Quattro “Al Santo Sepolcro” RV 130
Sinfonía “Al Santo Sepolcro” RV 169
Saturday 20 March 7 pm St. James by the Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect St., La Jolla, CA 92037
Sunday 21 March 7 pm St. James Episcopal Church 1325 Montazay Rd., South Pasadena, CA 91030
More information and advance tickets: www.bachcollegiumsd.org • 619.341.1726
I was waiting for the punchline that never came. Mike Esparza, namesake of The Mikey Show, testifies every Friday on the air as to how Jesus Christ helped turn him away from a life of substance abuse. Esparza moved his all-talk morning show from Rock 105.3 to 94/9 this year.

Donhowe says he took the key to his car. ‘This guy was coming out of another bar in the neighborhood. He was trying to put his keys into every single lock on the car, including the trunk. He can’t make his keys work, so he spins around and falls in the street. There’s no way I’m going to let this guy drive home. I confront him. I wrote down his license plate and told him if he drives I’m calling the police. It was about 12:30.’

Donhowe says he took the man’s keys. “I told him if he wants them he can come to my bar across the street in the morning and I’ll give them back to him, but I wouldn’t let him in the bar that night…. Five minutes later the guy is out front, leaning on the lamppost, asking for his keys.”

His car stayed there [on Park Boulevard near Adams] for the next couple of days.”

SDPD spokesman Detective Gary Hassan said there may not be a police report if he was not arrested and only driven home. Woods responds: “This was a great wake-up call. I got humbled. I have no problem owning up to it. I owe Jonny a huge debt of gratitude. He prevented the situation from going further. It could have been very detrimental, to say the least.”

Woods says that police eventually put him in a cab. “I don’t know why they took pity on me.” While he says it is not an excuse…’I’ve seen my wife 2 of the last 48 days. She’s my balance.”

Esparza and station management had no comment as to whether the incident would have any effect on the spiritual portion of the Mikey Show.

The arrival of the Mikey Show resulted in an uptick in 94/9’s ratings for the month of January.

— Ken Leighton

Recession-Proof Rock

“The strippers were breaking it down next door and kept us all very entertained when the band wasn’t onstage,” says Caustic Felon guitarist Matt Arbaugh of playing the VIP room of the Pure Platinum strip club. “One girl was more than just doing her job with our bassist Paul [McFadden], and I’m pretty sure if the other guys weren’t married… In fact, the drummer was late to the stage, due to a beautiful blonde named Jessie, who was draining his wallet in the lap-dance lounge.”

Arbaugh, “your ticket gets you into the show along with access to the strip club side at no extra charge. We feel as a band that we can hold your attention, but who doesn’t like to look at a half-naked girl?”

“Nude girls go with rock and roll like jelly goes with peanut butter,” says Steven “Sugar” Cole, who claims his failed attempt to open a local club called Groupies, offering both live music and nude entertainment, cost him over $50,000 in 2008. “The City reneged on all the permits,” alleges Cole, “but the older clubs that have been around since the ’80s, they have a lot of leeway about mixing live entertainment with stripping.”

Dream Girls in Kearny Mesa has similarly expanded, booking club nights with DJ Atari and Junior the Disco Punk.

“IT’s a good idea [for strip clubs] to go into bundle marketing, like cable companies and fast-food places. Times are tough for strippers, and bands are out of work. But if you tell people they can have their naked girls and their rock bands, two for the price of one, that’s probably the most recession-proof business in town.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Burning of Bridges

Burning of Rome gave a surprise show at U-31 on Friday, February 26, for former bandmate Tracy Morris. The band’s energetic stage presence, however, was allegedly met by hostility from club security.

“They went all out,” says BoR fan Rachel Tinsado. “Joe [guitar] was running around and sitting at booths where people were having bottle service. It was pretty crazy. At one point, about four or five... (continued on page 92)
that they couldn’t go back in or they would be arrested. So my friend and I were running back and forth, giving the band their equipment.”

Front man Adam Traub writes via email: “The whole demonstration by U-31 security was unnecessary. We did the same set at the Casbah a few weeks earlier and security shook our hands and helped us out with our gear. At U-31 they put me in a choke hold and kicked me in the face.”

“They were out of control,” says U-31 manager Steve Billings. “Promoter Gabe Vega told me he thought they had a little too much to drink before the show. The band was cussing at people who were leaving the bar and started spitting on the crowd. The singer tried to rip the disco ball off the ceiling. It’s maybe ten feet in the air, and if he succeeded in pulling the ball down, it probably would have killed somebody. The guitarist tried to spear one of the security guards with his guitar. One guy says he got kicked in his face. He didn’t get kicked in the face. There was no blood. The singer actually apologized to the security guards after the show. It was an incredibly unfortunate situation...on both sides.”

— Chad Deal

**Music Zirconia**

“Many of our tribute acts look like the original artists in their hungry glory years,” says Brent Meyer, co-owner of Music Zirconia, “not the tired, uninspired versions that might have last toured, if the original act still exists at all.” The local agency includes a roster of around 60 tribute bands, around a third of those based in San Diego.

Meyer contends that his faux acts are often better than the real thing. “Tribute bands are more particular about sounding more like the recorded versions than the original artists, who may get bored and take liberties with arrangements. Tributes generally adhere to what’s in the vinyl grooves.”

Founded in late 2008, musiczirconia.com includes around 45 video clips featuring agency acts such as Sweet and Tender Hooligans (Smiths/Morrissey), the Joshua Tree (U2), Blasphemous Rumours (Depeche Mode), Rio (Duran Duran), Gabbie Gabba Heys (Ramones), Ghost in the Machine (Police/Sting), Dust N Bones (Guns N Roses), and the Cured (duh).

“Like cubic zirconia, we offer a replica of a high-valued product for a fraction of what it costs to buy the real thing,” says agency cofounder Michael Twombly, who specializes in booking multiple tribute acts on a single bill. “I haven’t witnessed too much competition among the bands. The rare exception is when there are two or more tributes to the same artist. There’s sometimes a rub there that can range from friendly to bitter rivalry.”

According to Meyer, “Gigs may be drying up for original artists, but things are currently better than ever for tribute bands. We attribute that to a tighter economy and music fans wanting to get more bang for their buck. “Tributes represent a snapshot in time, so that fans can feel as if they’ve seen rock-and-roll history. Like Hendrix at Woodstock or U2 at Live Aid. Only without the brown acid and skinheads.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

**CONTRIBUTORS**

William Crain, Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Larry Harmon, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone
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MAY 16

HEART
MAY 28

GLADYS KNIGHT & SMOKEY ROBINSON
JULY 17

ZIGGY MARLEY
JULY 24

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AUGUST 14

HUEY LEWIS & THE NEWS
AUGUST 28

GARY ALLAN
SEPTEMBER 10

WILLIE NELSON
SEPTEMBER 26

FROM THE CAST OF BROADWAY’S JERSEY BOYS
APRIL 18 – THE PAVILION

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### Thursday
Bar Pinks books a doozie of a double-bill tonight and one of this week’s many sets-to-see, so let’s hop to: U.K. quartet Lowers will woo you with the blown tones off their art-punk debut OCD Go Go Go Girls, a collection that recalls Bathsheba Surfers and Flipper, but, you know, anglophilically. (That a word?) Also, they’re quite handsome. Lowers will hook up with garage-punks Abe Vigoda at the North Park hot spot. Abe Vigoda came up in L.A.’s artsy Smell scene, and their very recommendable ’08 long-player Skeleton is still doing time in the truck’s carousel…. Notable locals the Beaters, Maren Parusel, Jenn Grinels, and Wirepony fill a smorgasbord of a bill at the Bell Up. This one’s brought to you by CityBeat, propping this week’s expertly handled local-music issue.

San Diego party pop offa last year’s debut cavesingers week’s expertly handled local-music issue.... Still and all, a 40 of fun.... SanFran psych-pop band West Coast rapper is a word whiz of the Bay Area is set to rock the mic at 4th&B Friday night. The Cave Singers noise group SXSW. Go wish ‘em luck.... Ruby Room has new pelling stuff live and loud. They’re just back from caught a TDM set last week, and it’s pretty com-

### Friday
Seattlesite and ex-Pretty Girls Make Graves trio the Cave Singers come to Casbah Friday night with fellow Nor’westerns the Dutchess and the Duke and the Moondoggles. The Cave Singers’ Welcome Joy (Matador) was a folk-rockin’ stand-out last year. Bend an ear here. myspace.com/thecavesingers…. Vallejo, CA’s Earl Stevens, aka EFO, is set to rock the mic at 4th&18 Friday night. The West Coast rapper is a word whiz of the Bay Area varied — heavy on the snark, light on the beats. Still and all, a 40 of fun.... SanFran psych-pop band These Oh Sees are sharing the van to Austin with Bay Area buds the Baths. They’ll make a pit stop at Bar Pinks to share a show with the Irish Buddy Holly, So Cow, a guitar-pop guy whose s/t debut has him playing some sweet sets at SXSU.

### Saturday
The leather-clad lads from Northern Cal Black Rebel Motorcycle Club ride into House of Blues with rock-steady Athens band the Whigs. Fuzz-rockin’ BRMC have a new t’d in Real the Devil’s Tattoo, which officially dropped last week. A February leak of the 16-song set had draining-sound.com boasting that it’s the trio’s best set yet. (I was partial to acoustic-blues pardeel Howl, so I guess I’m out of the conversa.) The Whigs’ new one, In the Dark, is due to drop on Tuesday…. Joseph Shabalala’s South African choral group Ladysmith Black Mambazo graces the stage at Anthology. The Grammy-winning nonet is best known for their work on Paul Simon’s world-pop smash Graceland.... English electro-pop doy Little Boots steps into Casbah behind her debut Hands, which saw its U.S. release last week. Dragonette and Class Action will set the stage…. Jazz-n-funk showman Karl Denson and his Tiny Universe will fill the floor at Belly Up…. Up that way at the Chi Café, nu-math jam band WITT will rock the campus hot spot with Planets, Totally Serious, Census, George Pritzer, and Secondary…. While English duo Slow Club bring the folk-pop fare off of last year’s crit-pick Yeah So to Bar Pinks. SanFran band Sleepy Sun sets the stage.

### Monday
Happy Pi Day! Yay, Archimedes of Syracuse! Yay, math! Yay, Quasi, which, like pi, is an approximation. Yay, seguel Sam and Janet and Joanna make up Portland indie-pop band Quasi, which will take the stage at Casbah after Explode into Colors, Pivot, and Little White Teeth. Sam and Janet and Joanna have a new record out on Kill Rock Stars called American Gong. A gong is a circle and pi…. has something to do with circles. Yay, pi! Monday honors this week at Casbah. Or you could stay home and watch Big Bang Theory. That’s a funny show.
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Friday, March 12
5 pm • Rock
Roxy Monoxide
9 pm • Latin Rock
Viva Santana
Saturday, March 13
5 pm • Modern Dance Band
Y3K
9 pm • Dance Music
Atomic Groove
Sunday, March 14
8 pm • Smooth Jazz
Fattburger
Monday, March 15
7 pm • Blues
Chet Cannon’s Blue Monday Blues Party
Tuesday, March 16
7 pm • Billy Joel Tribute Band
52nd Street
Wednesday, March 17
7 pm • Oldies, Latin & Soul
The Sound Doctors
UPCOMING
Saturday, March 20
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Bastard Saints
Disaster Magnet
Masters of Reality
(Black Sabbath Tribute)
Friday & Saturday, March 12 & 13
Monsters of Rock
Monday, March 15
Karaoke with Rad Rick
Tuesday, March 16
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Tim Raldo
Middle Finger
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5 Miles High
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6 One 9
Thursday, March 25
In Silence
Friday, March 26
Mad for Mary

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Rock ‘n’ Proverbs

“It’s making our band have a more unique-to-who-we-are vibe.”


Now they’re back with a more straightforward but still faith-steeped follow-up, American Rock ‘N’ Roll. Guitarist Corey Edelmann and bassist Joey Bradford answered a few questions.

WHAT ARTISTS INSPIRED YOU TO START PLAYING MUSIC?

Corey: “I started playing piano at the age of five and played until I was in junior high, when I was teased by friends for not playing a ‘coOL’ instrument, and so — wanting to be cool — I decided to start playing guitar. Initially I just started to learn the instrument and was not really influenced by any artists until much later, when I started playing in bands.”

Joey: “My older brother Steven has always been my biggest musical influence. He wanted to learn guitar, so I decided I did, too. He became a bass player, so I did as well. Then he showed me bands like the Beatles and Radiohead...that changed everything. Once I heard Pablo Honey by Radiohead, I wanted to write music. I’ve always been obsessed with creating meaning in my music, the way Radiohead gives me feeling with every track. Corey and Kyle [Rosa, T&L’s drummer] introduced me to Zeppelin and Floyd when I started jamming with them, and that was a total mind-freak to my writing. A song like ‘The Lemon Song’ by Zep gave me the direction that our band has been traveling the past five years. I’ve always wanted to give the listener that emotion and vibe that my idols give me.”

HAS YOUR STYLE OF PLAYING CHANGED OVER TIME?

Corey: “My playing initially was classically influenced, but when I moved to electric guitar I started playing with bands and started getting into metal, which was an easy transition because most metal is rooted in classical music. After high school I fell in love with the rawness of hardcore and played that for a while, but eventually I grew tired of its simplicity and lack of harmony and wanted to move on. After a couple more years playing with bands, I was in a position to start my own band and wanted to play rock and roll, and so I immersed myself in blues and rock and roll.”

Joey: “I think our style is changing now more than ever. We’ve given ourselves sort of an unspoken boundary with writing over the years for the purpose of keeping our songs as blues-based as possible. We recently started writing new material without those standards, and it’s making our band have a more unique-to-who-we-are vibe. I’m finally at a point where I feel who I am as a songwriter is getting to be apparent.”

WHAT ARTIST’S STYLE DID FAITH ENTER YOUR LIFE?

Corey: “Faith entered my life through youth group while I was in the seventh grade. I just knew that what the youth pastor was saying was truth, and I made the decision to follow Jesus. But it hasn’t always been an easy ride, as I was so hurt by people at church at one point [so] I stopped going for a while. And in my late teens I had a streak of rebellion where I learned the hard way why God has commandments. Eventually, like the prodigal son, I returned to my heavenly Dad, and I haven’t left my spiritual home since. These days I spend more of my spare time studying my Bible than anything else.”

Joey: “I was raised in a Christian household but did my own thing for a bit of high school. I was fascinated by religion most of my teenage years and came to the conclusion while studying religion as a whole that Christianity had no biblical flaws. People are what have flaws, but that’s the point of being a Christian. Christ died because we all fall short of His glory, and He longs for us to hit Him up again. That makes me stoked.”

YOUR FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE?


Joey: “I love Paul Jones is a guru, and I love the story of Joseph, and I also love the story of Job. Over the last four years I have lost my son, a good friend, my mother-in-law, my house, and my parents got divorced, so obviously the verses and stories that speak to me are the ones of perseverance. Those verses and stories help me remember that the key to faith is to believe that God is good no matter what happens in this life and to trust in Him even when it doesn’t make sense. Proverbs 24:10 says if we faint in the face of adversity, then our strength is small.”

HOW DID THE DECISION TO MAKE A CONCEPT ALBUM ABOUT THE STORY OF JOSEPH COME ABOUT?

Joey: “Corey had the idea when I was 11 years old. He just waited for my mustache to grow in before putting it on tape.”

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Players when I was young, but when I fell in love with blues and rock and roll I definitely fell in love with certain players’ style. My favorite blues players are Mississippi Fred McDowell, Son House, and John Lee Hooker. My favorite electric guitar players are Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, Angus Young, Jimi Hendrix, and David Gilmour.

Joey: “I’ve never really had a hero on the bass. I mean, John Paul Jones is a guy, and I love everything he brought to Zep, but it’s the entire band that gets me excited. As far as vocalists go, I love dudes like Thom Yorke and Jack White.”

Has your style of playing changed over time?

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

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**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**


Saturday, 7:30pm — Berkley Hart. Folk/indie. $20.


Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194. Thursday, 10pm — Lovers and Abe Vigoda. Alternative/pop/punk. Friday, 10pm — So Cow. With Thee Oh Sees and the Baths. Rock/alternative. $5. Saturday, 10pm — Slow Club. With Sleepy Sun. Free. Sunday, 10pm — Or, the Whale. With the Maldives. Indie/rock/country. Mondays, 10pm — The Styletones. Funk/soul. Free. Tuesday, 9pm — Adrian Denain & Rick Schmidt. $12-


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LIVE MUSIC • REGGAE
DEJA ROOTS
REVOL CONCEPT
DON'T TRIP

WED., 3/17
GREEN DECADE PRESENTS
ST. PATRICK’S DAY
HELL YEAH
OFF TRACK
FIELD TRIP
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THUR., 3/18
LIVE MUSIC • METAL
MURDER FM
DESPITE THE WOLVES
SUNDAY GIRL
BENEATH LANSTON

SUN., 3/21
RIVER BOTTOM ROCKERS
SOUTH BAY WAILERS
WITHOUT PAPERS
3 MINUTE WARNING
WHEATSTONE

SUN., 3/21
LIVE MUSIC • INDIE ALT ROCK
321 STEREO • RETRO LUST
RETURN TO SILENCE
LISTEN ON MUTE
THE NNRS
EARTH AT NIGHT

SAT., 3/13
LIVE MUSIC • HARD ROCK
30-30
MAD LIFE
CLIMHAZZARD
DRAIN’D
WE REMAIN THE SEA

WED., 3/31
LIVE MUSIC • HARD ROCK
DEJA ROOTS
REVOL CONCEPT
DON'T TRIP

THUR., 4/1
LIVE MUSIC • METAL
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**The Coyote Bar & Grill:** 500 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-4695. Monday — Friday, 5pm — 10pm. Saturday, 5pm — 10pm. Sunday, 5pm — 9pm. Live music. $12-$15.

**Ché Café:** 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2311. Friday, 7:30pm — Sklarer. With Ritual Torture, Invocation War, and Antebellum. Metal/hardcore. $5. Saturday, 7:30pm — WITe. With Planet, Totally Serious, and Census & George Fritzke. Rock. $6.

**Brick by Brick:** 7850 Block Ave., La Mesa, 619-458-0930. Monday — Thursday, 9pm — 2am. Friday, 9pm — 3am. Saturday, 9pm — 4am. Sunday, 9pm — 2am. Live music. $15.


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**Moondoggies:** 901 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-488-5808. Monday, 9pm — G F I . With Guilty Pleasures, The Paper Chase, and the Screamin Yee Haws. With DJ Dennis J.
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VIVA MARIACHI!
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ABBA MANIA
Fri & Sat, July 16 & 17, 7:30pm

DISTANT WORLDS: Music from FINAL FANTASY
Thur, July 22, 8pm

MICHAEVL CAVALAUGH SINGS
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Thu, July 29, 7:30pm

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BURT BACHARACH The Look of Love
Sun, August 8, 7:30pm

LEANN RIMES
Fri & Sat, August 13 & 14, 7:30pm

JODI BENSON SINGS ANIMATED MOVIE CLASSICS
Fri & Sat, August 20 & 21, 7:30pm

POPS GOES CLASSICAL
Passport to the World: A Night in France
Sun, August 22, 7:30pm

THE MUSIC OF QUEEN: A Rock Symphony
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MICHAEL FEINSTEIN The Sinatra Project
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Fri, Sat & Sun, September 3, 4 & 5, 7:30pm

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For Complete Season Information: CALL 619.235.0804 or VISIT sandiegosymphony.com
Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Thursday, 7 p.m.—Ruby and the Red Hots. Blues/rock. $5.
Friday, 9 p.m.—Viva Santana. A tribute to Carlos Santana. Covers/rock. $12.
Saturday, 9 p.m.—Atomic Groove. Covers/dance. $12.
Sunday, 8 p.m.—Earth, Wind & Fire. Blues. $12.
Monday, 7 p.m.—The Coachella veteran who was his DJ set in San Diego will be like. “Lots of cumbia and electronic music. Frenetic tracks. Music to dance to, like a pagan party. Naked people. Total sin. Hat!”

Island Sports and Spirits: 104 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-3456.
Monday, 7 p.m.—Andrew Deering. With Cantua, Melly Frances & the Distilled Spirits, the Notice, Mitchel Cornish, and Mo Jo Nixon. Acoustic/alternative/bluegrass.
Kensington Community Church: 4773 Marlborough Dr., Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-1129. Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.—Gregory Page. Acoustic/folk. $2.
Molly Malone's: 1270 Main St., Ramona, 760-798-9050. Friday, 9 p.m.—Flashback. Rock. Saturday, 9 p.m.—American Rock Experience.
Pala Casino: 3508 Pala Temecula Rd., Pala, 877-946-7252. Friday, 9 p.m.—No Limit. Dance/Top 40. Free. Saturday, 8 p.m.—The Joshua Tree. U2 tribute band. Free.
Radio Room: 3519 El Cajon Bl., Normal Heights, 619-284-3323. Thursday, 8 p.m.—Nautical Disaster. With China Clippers, Animal Ancestors, and Race Against Space. $5. Friday, 8 p.m.—Iradis. With the Slatens and Silent Screams. Alternative/indie/rock. $5. Saturday, 8 p.m.—The Hotrod Hillbillies. With the Strikers, Death Valley Drifters, Watchmen, and Josh J.

MEXICAN INSTITUTE OF SOUND
BY DAVE GOOD
The Mexican Institute of Sound is not an institute, nor is it much of a band. Rather, it is the side project of one man, a Mexico City-based record company executive named Camilo Lara, whom I first became aware of from the soundtrack to the Alfonso Cuaron film Y Tu Mama Tambien. “Alfonso called me because we had a lot of friends in common,” Lara emails from Mexico City. “When we met, we had an instant connection. I was 100% involved in the selection of the soundtrack with Alfonso.”
Lara has a huge record collection. He started collecting when he was eight, the story selection of the soundtrack with Alfonso.”
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In the context of the film’s outrageous sexuality, all the way from Zappa to Cafe Tacuba to Natalie Imbruglia. Lara and Alfonso also started Suave, the first Mexican indie label. Lara’s day job prior to Suave was as an executive with EMI of Mexico. When Suave broke apart, Lara went back to EMI.

What’s up with the name, the Mexican Institute of Sound? “I love that all the people [at MIS shows] expect a whole bunch of people,” he says, “and it is just me.”

MIS is part of the Mexican electronics movement of the past decade. Along with groups like the Nortec Collective, the new sound is a club phenomenon as identifiable and localized to Mexico City as house is to Chicago or trip-hop is to London. It is a chaotic and highly alternative mix of juiced-up vintage sounds like cumbia and mariachi and mambo set to hip-hop beats and torched with electronics and samples.
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Kristina’s Karaoke Contest every Monday 9pm-close ($20 Entry Fee)
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WEDNESDAY: MISS CARIBBEAN TAN
Wednesday Nights in March come see some of San Diego’s Hottest Girls compete in the Miss Caribbean Tan International Model Search competition! 1/2 price pizzas / $2 Beers all day, $2 off drinks after 8pm
LIVE MUSIC ON THE PATIO from 6pm-9pm...
MAR 17: BILL / MAR 24: JONES
REVIVAL / MAR 31: BILL
Dj Tone Capone 9pm-close!

TUESDAY: TACO TUESDAY
$1.95 tacos & enchiladas, $6.95 fajitas, $5.95 burritos
$3 frozen margaritas, $2.50 Mexican bottled beer
Dj on the Patio 6pm-10pm / Dj Marvin 10pm-close

THURSDAY: TASTE OF ITALY
$6.95 Pasta dinners, 1/2 price Pizzas, 1/2 price drinks from 8pm
$3 off all shots / 2 Dj’s spinning the hottest tracks, 9pm-close!

FRIDAY: HAPPY HOUR 8-10PM
$2.50 Dom drafts & wells, 1/2 price drinks / $5 Mini-appetizers
1/2 price appetizers / Party with 4 popular DJs...6pm-close

SUNDAY: REGGAE NIGHT
Happy Hour 4pm - 8pm / $2 3-4 Drinks 8pm-close!
REGGAE THE PATIO from 6pm-9pm...
MAR 14: TRIBE OF JUDAH, MAR 21: CUALLI
Dj Tone Capone 9pm-close!

FIGHT NIGHT IS BACK!
SATURDAY MAR 13

Pacquiao Clottey
The Event

HAPPY HOUR 4-8PM
$3 Wells / Wines & Drinks / $3 off Appetizers

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill
860 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. More Info: (858)2PB.GRILL PBBARANDGRILL.COM
If you’re one of those people who hears old-time, country-fried sounds and opines, “I’ve heard that — Beverly Hillsbille theme music,” you’d want to skip to the next review. But if you’re interested in windows into different worlds, you may want to get hip to this 24-track compilation of 78s, which, along the way, shows the evolution of ragtime, folk, blues, and protest forms. As often happens with vintage folk and blues, Gallop charts the evolution of various songs. “Think a Little” shares a melody with an older tune most commonly known as “Red River Valley.” “Been on the Job Too Long,” which seems to be about knocking off a popular laborer, has a lot in common with “The Ballad of Duncan and Brady.” Long days of exhausting labor, sudden lay-offs, unemployment, poverty, illness, and escapism color this collection. While revelations abound, some of the most telling include “Bay Rum Blues,” “I Want My Black Baby Back,” and “Cotton Mill Colic” (“The kids get to cryin’ in a different tune” says so much with so little — it’s North Carolina Zen).
April 30 — Raul Midon.
May 15 — Richie Havens.

Avo Playhouse: 303 Main St., Vista, 760-724-2110.
April 11 — The Peter Pupping Quartet.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
April 11 — Elvis Costello.
April 21 — Monterey Jazz Festival.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.
March 24 — The Stylettes.
March 25 — The Pierced Arrows.

Cher + Madonna + Aretha Franklin + Selena + Lady Gaga
DIVA

EVEKN'S A CRITIC

Honky-Lofting
Concert Review by Earl Dove
The Loft at UCSD is the last place you would expect to find traditional country music in San Diego. Regardless, this was the setting for some honky-tonking, courtesy of Joe Pug and Justin Townes Earle.
Pug, a songsmith in the tradition of Woody Guthrie, John Prine, and Bob Dylan, started things off with a scorching set. Armed with only a guitar, he captivated the audience with a melange of unapologetic old-school country music. Between songs, the lanky Earle, suited up with a bowtie and thick-framed glasses, kept the audience laughing.

Concert: Justin Townes Earle/Joe Pug  Show date: February 9
Venue: The Loft at UCSD  Seats: General Admission

May 28 — The Average White Band.

Athenaeum Music and Arts Library: 1008 Wall St., La Jolla, 858-454-5872.
March 22 — Danny Green.

Mighty Regis
Listening to the onstage banter between the band and Earle, whose traditional sounds would’ve been right at home in San Diego, you would never think he had been doing this for decades.

High points of the set included the poignant “Mama’s Eyes” and a cover of the Buck Owens classic “Close Down The Honky Tonks.” Recently, Earle provided a contrast to the more upbeat set. Taking the stage with a tattooed man playing a washboard and yelling with glee leaps off the stage into a good old-fashioned hoedown. A tattooed man playing a washtub, mandolin, banjo, fiddle, harmonica. This is the aggressive bluegrass of Old Man Markley. Originals fit nicely with covers such as Flatt & Scruggs’s “Rollin’ in My Sweet Baby’s Arms” and Cake’s “Stick Shifts and Safety Belts,” all played in an articulate, fun style.

The Pine Box Boys opened the evening with rootsy songs of murder and politics. With erratic hard-rock rhythms and bloodied-tongue-in-cheek lyrics, it’s as if Primus and Johnny Cash decided to write together. It’s an enjoyable combination.

With little of the hillbilly rhythm in him, singer-songwriter Pete Bernhard was the odd man out, playing the middle set. Bernhard is the front man for the Devil Makes Three, an emergent band whose traditional sounds would’ve been right at home at this show.

Concert: Old Man Markley, Pete Bernhard, the Pine Box Boys  Show date: February 16
Venue: Casbah
Seats: -

March 26 — Boogie Nights.
March 27 — Tainted Love.
April 1 — The Howls.
April 2 — Dead Man’s Party (Oingo Boingo tribute band).
April 7 — Buddy Akai.
April 9 — 40 Oz. to Freedom.
April 10 — Super Diamond.
April 11 — Patty Griffin.
April 14 — Cheap Trick.
April 19 — The Temper Trap.
April 21 — John Brown’s Body.
April 22 — Nanci Griffith.
April 23 — Stepping Feet.
April 27 — Rogue Wave.
April 30 — The Dark Star Orchestra.
May 7 — The Stanton Moore Trio.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps:
April 7 — Nanci Griffith.
April 8 — The Dark Star Orchestra.
April 9 — The Stanton Moore Trio.
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Tower Bar's namesake tower in City Heights is visible from blocks away, jutting skyward between Vietnamese Laundromats and Ethiopian restaurants like a cartoon monument to a forgotten Aztec deity.

The place is almost at maximum capacity. A line of patrons extends from the door. I show the doorman my I.D. and get a stamp. “Fucktard,” it reads.

Videos of glam babes in bikinis shooting automatic weapons illuminate the crowded bar. A sign above the bar advertises absinthe for $10. Framed photos on the wall show where a drunk driver plowed into the bar in 1964, inspiring the photos on the wall show where a drunk driver

A sign above Tower's bar advertises absinthe for $10.

Aussie with a greasier hairdo, slides me a 24-ounce “man can” of Pabst Blue Ribbon ($5) and laments the bureaucratic absurdity of permit regulations in San Diego. “You have to have a permit for alcohol, a permit for music, even a permit for dancing,” he relates with a distant look. “But the City doesn’t want to give out any of them.” Iggy Pop comes over the jukebox and a few girls leave their stools to groove around on the vacant floor. “Do me a favor,” Mick says with a grin. “Tell those girls to stop dancing.”

—Chad Deal

Birch North Park Theatre: 2901 University Ave, North Park, 619-239-8836.
April 7 — Kenny Werner and Mike Wolforth.
April 30 — Eddie Palmieri.

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### Upcoming Shows

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**The Comedy Palace**

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### Humphrey’s Backstage
**Music Club:** 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
**March 18:** Scott Carter & New Breed.
**March 19:** Detroit Underground.
**March 20:** Savoy Brown.
**March 21:** Reggie Smith.
**March 22:** Michele Lunden.
**March 23:** Jesse Davis.
**March 24:** The Soul Persuaders.
**March 25:** Sean Carney & Phil Berkowitz.
**March 26:** Chris Duarte.
**March 27:** Rising Star.
**March 28:** Verchis Williams.
**March 29:** Nathan James.
**March 30:** A Way Street.

### Lestat’s Coffee House:
**1343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.**
**March 19:** Rob Deer, the Unruly Bungs, and Chad Cavanaugh.
**March 20:** Gina Villalobos and Matthew Ryan.
**March 21:** Brandon Tyler.
**March 26:** A Fork In Time.
**March 27:** So Say We All.

### McP’s Irish Pub and Grill:
**345 B STREET 619-231-4343**
**March 15th:**

### Neurosciences Institute:
**10640 John Jay Hopkins Dr., La Jolla, 760-789-7008.**
**March 20:** C.A. Scott Carter.
**March 21:** Chad Cavanaugh.
**March 22:** The Soul Persuaders.
**March 25:** Sean Carney & Phil Berkowitz.
**March 26:** Chris Duarte.
**March 27:** Rising Star.
**March 28:** Verchis Williams.
**March 29:** Nathan James.
**March 30:** A Way Street.

### Performing Arts:
**San Diego’s #1 Venue for Cutting-Edge Music**

**March 12:**
- **MARCH 12:**
  - **THE MENTORS** • **WILLIE PSYCHO GANNONDOF** • **THE F** • **LORDZ**
  - **HENRY’S REVENGE** • **I.D.S.**

**March 13:**
- **MARCH 13:**
  - **BOBAXFLEX** • **DOWNSTAIRS**
  - **AGHORI** • **INTERIM DIVINE ON DESCENT**

**March 18:**
- **MARCH 18:**
  - **BANG TANGO** • **LIZARDFISH**
  - **BASTARD SAINTS** • **TAINTED SOCIETY**
  - **NEGATIVE VOID** • **THE ASYLUM** • **CHAMBER OF ECHOES**

**March 20:**
- **MARCH 20:**
  - **SUDDAKRA** • **ABADDON** • **SHINING SWORD**
  - **HELSOTT**

**March 24:**
- **MARCH 24:**
  - **ROSE FUNERAL** • **WRETCHED AND NELL**
  - **MURDER ON THE DANCEFLOOR**

**March 25:**
- **MARCH 25:**
  - **DAVID ALLEN COE**
  - **THE BLACK EYED PEAS**

**March 26:**
- **MARCH 26:**
  - **Rising Star**
  - **So Say We All**

**March 27:**
- **MARCH 27:**
  - **AIR**
  - **THE DREAMING**

**March 28:**
- **MARCH 28:**
  - **THE READER WEBSITE, GO TO: SDRreader.com**
TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS

TOUR 2010

WITH SPECIAL GUEST

JOE COCKER

JUNE 2

ON SALE FRI, MAR 12 AT 10AM!

BUY TICKETS AT LIVENATION.COM

CHARGE BY PHONE: 800.745.3000

EVERY ONLINE TICKET PURCHASED COMES WITH A DOWNLOAD OF TOM PETTY & THE HEARTBREAKERS’ ELECTRIFYING NEW ALBUM, MOJO -- PLUS EIGHT LIVE TRACKS RECORDED DURING THE 2010 TOUR!
An Evening of Dubstep and Electro

Ocean Beach's First Live T.V. Show

3/14

Sun

TONIGHT–NO COVER DANCE PARTY

5-8 PM:

Aiden Eggert, DJ

8-9 PM:

Aiden Eggert, DJ

9 PM:

Night Vision. Drum 'n' bass with

9:30 PM:

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY

10 PM:

DJ Stikk

11 PM:

DJ Swoll.

HAPPY HOUR EVERY DAY

12 AM:

DJ Heady

THE FIELD

545 Fourth Ave. • Gaslamp, 619-232-9840 • thefield.com

MARCH 19

TASTING ROOM

OPEN ALL DAY SUNDAYS

3-8 PM:

Wine Tasting


March 19 — Murder on the Dancefloor.

March 26 — Jonny Craig.

March 27 — Mike Pinto.

March 30 — This Providence.

April 2 — Pierce the Veil.

April 5 — One City.

April 9 — Bleeding Through.

April 16 — Strung Out.

April 17 — Authority Zero.

May 29 — 3OH3 & Cobra Starship.

Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9050.

April 21 — Pat Metheny.

April 24 — Norah Jones.

May 23 — The National.


April 6 — Kenny Wollesen.

May 7 — Fields Have Ears.

Swedenholl Bar: 1551 Tyler Ave., University Heights.

March 21 — Songwriters' Acoustic Nights.


March 25 — Campus Five.

May 15 — Lisa Lisa.

June 12 — The Temptations.

July 9 — Boyz II Men.

Winston's: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.

March 19 — The Styletones.

March 20 — Cabrona.

March 23 — The Photo Atlas & the Rouge.

March 24 — Shoreline Rootz.

March 25 — Big Sams Funky Nation & Skirt Alert.

March 26 — Greenway Bluegrass & Rana Santacecilia.

March 27 — Afro Classics.

March 30 — Faking Genius.

An Evening of Dubstep and Electro

Ocean Beach's First Live T.V. Show

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An Evening of Dubstep and Electro

Ocean Beach's First Live T.V. Show
DOWNTOWN

San Diego Reader, 3/9/10, 8:47 AM

111-114

3/9/10 8:47 AM  Page 112

San Diego Reader

tai, margarita, Long Island Ice Tea.

appetizers.

$4 domestic, $5 wells, imported beer, Monday-Thursday

Café Sevilla:

Buster’s Beach House & Long-

Bice:

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine:

Athens Market:

400 West:

Jose Cuervo Gold.

bread.

premium wells. 1/2-off Artesian flat

The Fleetwood:

drinks.

margarita; 1/2-price appetizers.

The Broken Piñata:

ers, quesadilla.

Baja Betty’s:

Baja Oyster Bar:

Tequila 100:

Tabule:

Main Tap Tavern:

When in Rome:

East Village Tavern and Bowl:

Urban Bar & Grill:

Tivoli Bar:

D Street Bar and Grill:

Dusini Loft Bar:

The Local:

555 Fourth Avenue • Gaslamp

Daily Drink

Friday & Saturday • 9 pm-1 am

Friday-Saturday • 9 pm-1 am

COCKTAIL LOUNGE

Winter Music – No Cover

32 oz. Natural Light

619-582-6699

Sydney & Ann

$2.95 domestic beer. $.95 oysters, $4

curry fries. Two-for-one all domestic

draft beer, house wine & wells. 1/2-

Duff’s: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,

$5 domestic wines.

$2.75 imported, $3 house margarita.

$2.25 appetizers: pork tacos, fried
calamari, grilled shrimp skewer.

$3.50 off liquor.

All 1/2-off all appetizers.

Beverages & Snacks.

$2.50 domestic bottled beer, $3 wells,
domestic pints. Free munchees.

$2.95 at the bar.

$4 large Japanese beers.

$3 appetizers.

$3.50 off sushi and rolls (ex-

$30 off appetizers, $25 off
crafted cocktails.

$2.50 domestic bottled beer, $3 wells,
domestic pints. Free munchees.

$5 in domestic wines, 1/2 off shots.

$4 domestic beer, $5 house wine,
bottled beer. $3 appetizers: shrimp
cocktail, stuffed mushrooms, Thai

california.

$2.50 domestic, $3 off mixed drinks, $1
off shots.

$5 wine tasting. Saturday, 4-6:30pm:

$10 a.m. - 8 p.m.: $5 premium wines.

$3 1/2 P Br drafts.

$2.50 domestic, $3 off mixed drinks,

$4 domestic beer; $5 house wine,
bottled beer. $3 appetizers: shrimp
cocktail, stuffed mushrooms, Thai

california.

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La Jolla
Aloha Sushi Hawaiian Grille: Monday-Friday, 4:6pm: $3 pivo & appetizer, $12.50 pitcher.

Bird Rock Pizza & Sports: Monday-Friday, 4pm: $3 pizza. $12 pitcher; $7.50 pint with appetizer. $15 pitcher with appetizer. Saturday-Sunday, all day: $3 pint, $12 pitcher;

Bull and Bear Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4:6pm: $2 Bud/Bud Light; $3.50 pivo & Bear.

Clay’s La Jolla: Every day, 4:6pm: $3 drafts, $4 wines, $5 sanga, $6 house wine.

Crab Catcher: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $5 domestic beer, wine, champagne by the glass. $5 select specialty martinis. 1/2-off select appetizers. $15 oyster shooters.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3.50 beer. $3.50 domestic drafts. 30% off appetizers and 1/2-off select wine by the glass. $3-$5 brewed coffee and berry roll. $2.75 spicy tuna roll.

La Sala: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic beers, wine, $3.50 domestic drafts. 30% off appetizers. $7.50 pint with appetizer. $15 pitcher with appetizer. $5.50 pitcher with appetizer.

Every day: 4-7pm: $3 domestic beer, wine, all domestic drafts. $3 happy hour cocktails.

Happy Hour: Monday-Friday, 4-11pm: $5 martini. 1/2-off select wines. $3 domestic beers, wine, all domestic drafts. $3 happy hour cocktails.

Friday
La Sala: wine, well drinks.
10pm-midnight: $3.50 beer, house beer. 1/2-off select wines. 1/2-off select draft beers.

The Filling Station: Monday, 7pm-8pm: $1.50 domestic beer, wine. $2 drafts, $2.50 domestic bottles, $3 domestic wines.

Tuesday
Taco Beach: 4pm-8pm: $2 domestic beers, wine, well drinks.

Thursday
Libre Taco Shop: $2.50 domestic beers, wine, well drinks. $3.50 domestic wines.

La Jolla Rancheria: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $4 wines, $2.50 domestics, $2.75 imports.

Lupi Italian Restaurant: Tuesday-Sunday, 5-7:30pm: $5 martini, wine, beer. Free doggie treats.

Rock Bottom Brewery, La Jolla: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-11pm: $3.50 beer, house wines, $5 bottles. Saturday-Sunday, 10pm-11pm: $3.50 beer, house wine, well drinks.

La Salat: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 pivo & Bear. $4 drafts. $5 house wine. $7 specialty cocktails.

The Shores Restaurant: Sunday, 3-7pm: Red/white sangria: $7 glass, $25 pitcher.

Pacific Beach’s Best Happy Hour*
4-8pm Daily & ALL DAY Mon. & Wed.
$4 Domestic Drafts
$2 Import Drafts
$3 Shots/Drinks
$4 Appetizers
$2 Hookahs and 10 refills
1-8pm daily

Happy Hour
4-7pm daily
High-Energy Karaoke w/DJ Beer
4-7pm daily

$1 off everything

Live music Thur-Sat.
619-255-8633 • Point Loma 2901 Nimitz Blvd • (619) 255-8633 • www.rileystimusic.com

LA LEUCADIA
Bar Leucadian: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.75 bottled beer (except Guinness), $3 drafts, $3.75 all wine. Discounted appetizers.

The Calypso Cafe: Every day, 5pm-7pm: $4.75 all wine. Discounted appetizers.

La Sala: wine, well drinks.
10pm-midnight: $3.50 beer, house beer.

LINDA VISTA
Brick by Brick: Every day, 3-6pm: $2.50 house wine. 1/2-off drafts.

LITTLE ITALY
Anchovy: Tuesday-Friday, 5-7pm: $6.50 bottles, $7.50 wine.

Lita’s: Wednesday-Friday, 5-7pm: $7.50 domestic drafts, $4 margarita (keep shaker).

Casa de Pico: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: Free appetizer with purchase of entrée. $3.95 margarita.

Litoral House: Every day, 11am-7pm: $2.50 all drinks, $1 off all appetizers.

Clay’s: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $5 domestic wine, $6 all domestic drafts, $8 domestic beers.

La Jolla Brew House: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 wines, house drafts, $4 house wine, $5 imports.

LEUCADIA
Bar Leucadian: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.75 bottled beer (except Guinness), $3 drafts, $3.75 all wine. Discounted appetizers.

MIRA MESA
A Taste of Boston: Every day, 5-7pm: $3 domestic beers, $3 wells, $75 wine. Select wine by the glass. $3.50 domestic wines.

Mira Mesa Bar: Monday-Sunday, 4pm-7pm: $2.50 domestic drafts. $3 domestic wines, $4 domestic beers. 1/2-off select wines. $3.50 domestic beers.

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A Taste of Boston: Every day, 5-7pm: $3 domestic beers, $3 wells, $75 wine. Select wine by the glass. $3.50 domestic wines.

MISSION VALLEY
950 Lounge: Wednesday, $3 wells, $2 domestic beers.

ADAMS Steak & Eggs: Monday-Friday, 3pm-7pm: $2.50 double well drinks, complimentary hors d’oeuvres.

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn: Monday-Friday, 4pm: $2.50 Bud/Bud Light draft (12oz.), wine by the glass. $3 local beer, $3.50 Bud/Bud Light (16oz.), wells. $4 mixed drinks, imported beer, small margarita, $4.25 Bud/Bud Light (24oz.).

Bing Crosby’s Restaurant and Piano Lounge: Every day, 3-7pm: $3 draft beer, $5 domestic beers, $6 by the glass. $7 domestic wines.

Bully’s East: Monday-Friday, 3-10pm, 1pm-close: $2.50 domestic drafts, $3.50 wells, $5 wine. Chardonnay, Merlot, Jacobs Creek Cabernet.

Cable’s Breath Inn: Monday, 7pm-close: $2.75 domestic bottles, $3 wells, $4.99 lunch/dinner specials.

In Cahoots: Wednesday-Sunday, 5-8pm: $2 domestic beers, $3 domestic wines.

MISSION BEACH
Coaster Saloon: Monday-Thursday, 4pm-7pm: $2 domestic beers, $3 domestic wines. $1.50 domestic wines.

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4pm-8pm: Two-for-one cocktails, $1 off beers.

MISSION HILLS
Bar Dynamite: Monday-Saturday, 5-9pm: $2 domestic bottles and drafts, $3 wells.

Mira Mesa Bar: Monday-Sunday, 4pm-7pm: $2.75 domestic drafts. 1/2-off domestic bottles and drafts, $3 wells.

NATIONAL CITY
Cafe La Maza: 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.

McDin’is: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $2 off domestic pitchers, $3.50 wells.

PACIFIC BEACH
Aero Squadron
A Restaurant

Happy Hour
Monday-Friday 3:30-6:30pm
Free Happy Hour Buffet
And Reduced Drink Prices from $2.50

Martini Monday
4-9pm in the lounge
Premium Martinis $5
Bud Light (6oz. Tap) $2

Tuesday No Corkage Fee Wine Night
Dining Room only: Bring your own bottle served with dinner at no extra charge.
1/2-price Wednesday
1/2-price appetizers
4-8pm in the lounge

Martini Thursday
4-9pm in the lounge

BBQ Friday: until 7pm on our patio
Shrimp & Chicken Kabobs, Ribs & Carne Asada Tacos $3 and up with DJ and dancing 6:30pm-1am

Weekend Wine Nights
1/2-price Bottles of Wine
Saturday and Sunday
11am-11pm

North Park

Blufoot Bar and Lounge: Monday-Friday, 11am-7:30pm: $1 off everything, $2.50 domestic bottle, $3.50 pitcher.

El Comal: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 beer, $4 wells. Two-for-one mixed shots.

Craze 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.

Lips Restaurant: Sunday, all night: Industry Night, $3.50 wells, $3.50 calls, 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

The Office: Every day: Two-for-one price on all drinks.

Redwing Bar & Grill: Monday-Thursday, 11am-6pm: $2.50 domestics. Friday-Sunday, 11am-6pm: $2.75 wells, domestic bottles.

ToroNado: Monday, 11:30am-5pm $3 all drafts. Tuesday-Sunday, 11:30am-1:30pm: $1 off drafts.

True North: Monday, noon-close: $1 off all beer, wine, spirits. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-7pm: $1 off all beer, wine, spirits. Sunday: Industry Night, $3 calls.

West Coast Tavern: Every day, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks. Five menu items for $5 each.
San Diego
4:30pm: $-off drink menu. Discount entire wine and specialty beer
beer, $3.50 well, house wine, $3.95
Friday
wells, $4 wines, margaritas, $5 Long
Alamo Mexican Cafe:

Monday-Friday

Swimming Co.:

$2 domestic draft. $3 mimosas. $3.25
Wednesday
8pm: $1 wells/domestic drafts. 8pm-close: 2-for-1
drinks. 8pm-close: 2-for-1
margarita, $4.75 house margarita, $5.75
margarita, $6.50
domestic pitchers. 8-9:30am: 1/2-off
breakfast.

Steve’s Grill:

Monday-Friday

Happy Hour

The Flying Bridge:

Every day, 4pm-7pm: $3 pints, well, $4 microbrews, $5 imports.

Kaminski’s BBQ & Sports Bar:

Monday-Friday

Dark:

Dave’s Tavern:

Every day, 4-7pm: Cap Bar and Grill:

Monday-Friday

6pm-9pm: 1/2-price sangria. 1/2-price tapas.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Eu-
ropa: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 5-7pm:

Point Loma

Blue Wave Bar & Grill:

Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $1 off drinks, $2 off
apertizers.

The Boathouse: Every day, 2:30-
5pm: $1.99 house margaritas ($3 Cuervo Gold), $3 beer of the month.

Brigantine: Every day, 4-7pm:

$2 appetizers; $4 big brew, Alaskan amber ale, house champagne; $5 fea-
tured Cabernet; $7.50 anniversary Chardonnay, featured
Cabernet; $7.50 margarita, pome-
granate margarita.

C-Level: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm:
$3.50 Bud Light, Karl Strauss, Stone IPA, $5 specialty drinks, well, house wine. $5 crispy
calamari, ahi tuna poke, steamed Fox
River mussels.

Captain’s Quarters: Every day, 4-
4pm: $2 you-call-it, $2.25 do-
mestic drafts and bottles, discounted
menu items (excludes hol-
day/concert nights).

Paradise Lounge and Grill:

Monday-Friday, 7-8:30pm: $3.50 well, $4.50 imports.

JP’s Pub:

Monday-Friday, 5pm-7pm: $3.50 domestic drafts, $3.25 house
wine.

TERRA SANTA

Bellagio Ristorante & Bakery:

Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $3 off all drinks.

Café Japengo: Monday-Friday, 5-
7pm: $3 sake, $4.50 wells. $4 chicken
spring rolls, duck potstick-
cal. California roll.

Donovan’s Steak and Chop
House: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $8 marinis (complimentary steak sand-
wiches and burritos 4-6pm).

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cheers: Monday-11am-
7pm: 1/2-price domestic bottles. $3 sin-
gles. $3.50 domestic drafts.

VISTA

Chili Coast Burgers: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: $0.50-1.50 tap beer.

Jumping Bean Cafe & Mexi-
cali Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $2 domestic imports, $2.75 magar-
itas, $3 wells, microbrews, $4 Leaping Horse. 3-5pm: $1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

Sorrento Valley

Ali Baba’s Cave: Every day, 4-5pm: Two-for-one drinks.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company:

Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: $3.50 beer.

South Park

Alchemy: Monday-Friday, 4-
6pm: 2 for 1 domestic beers.

Whistle Stop Bar: Every day, 2-
8pm: $1 off all cocktails, pies.

Spring Valley

California Comfort: Every day, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic pints, wells.

Tierrasanta

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Every day, 3:30-6:30pm: $3 ozoa aperitif, $2 bottled beers, $3 wine by the glass, $3-5 appetizer menu.

Chic’s Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4-
7pm: $3 domestic drafts, $3.50 wells.

Casa Reales Mexican & Sea-
food Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: $2 domestic imports, $2.75 magar-
itas, $3 wells, microbrews, $4 Leaping Horse. 3-5pm: $1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

HAPPY HOUR

SD: 619-462-1103
LA: 5505 Jackson Dr.
La Mesa, CA 91942

Happy Hour

4-7 pm Every Day

$3 BEERS & OTHER FOOD SPECIALS

$5 DOMESTIC BEERS

$3 PREMIUM BEERS, WINE & WELL DRINKS

SOGARONTE VALLEY

OCEANSIDE

The Flying Bridge: Every day, 4pm-7pm: $3 beer, $4 wine, 20% off
apertizers.

Hana Japanese Restaurant:

Every day, 5-6pm: $3 pints, wine, 1/2-price specialty beer.

Sunwinds: Monday-Saturday, 4pm-6pm: $3 pints, beer.

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Monday-Friday, 1-7:30pm: $10 beer & Shot. Saturday-
Sunday, noon-7pm: $7 pitchers.

Bare Back Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $3 Miller Lite, amber ale, well
drinks.

Big Kahuna’s: Monday-Friday, 5-
7pm: $2.50 beer, wine.

Bub’s Dive Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 drafts, $10 pitchers. 1/2-
apertizers.

Chateau Orleans: Wednesday, all day: 1/2-price wine bottles. Thursday, all day: 5$ Louisiana hurricanes, mar-
garitas. 1/2-price champagne bottles.

Costa Brava: Every day, 4-6pm: 1/2-price sangria. 1/2-price tapas.

dinner. 9-7pm: $3 domestic, 3.50 mimosas. 3.25
wine.

Davie’s Tavern: Every day, 4-7pm:

2/3-price domatic drinks, 3.50 mimosas. 3.25
Free pool.

The Dog: Monday-Thursday, Sun-
day, 6 pitchers.

Hennessey’s: Monday-Friday, 6-
7pm: $2.50 domestic drafts, 1/2-house
margaritas, $3.50 well, house wine. 3.50
house margarita.

Alamo Mexican Cafe: Monday-
300-6:30pm: 1/2-price drinks, food specials.
I f you get the chance, do see Moonlight Stage Productions’ wonderful Ring Round the Moon. It’s got a terrific cast, a handsome look, humor, brinies, and panache — and closes March 21.


Hugo and Frederic are identical twins. But while Frederic has an astonishing innocence, Hugo’s the opposite. Fearless, “always ready to shoot the rapids,” can’t fall in love. It’s as if, though only ten minutes apart in clock time, Frederic’s still a young teen, while older Hugo skipped his youth. He talks like a grim veteran of love’s ways. Or is this another mask?

Frederic will announce his engagement to Diana Messerschmann. She’s as radiant as her inheritance, but far too worldly for his baby brother, Hugo’s convinced: they’d flunk an eHarmony.com pop quiz. Ergo, he must avert disaster.

Everyone else wears a social mask in Ring, so why not Hugo? After all, Frederic says, “He doesn’t like people to be unhappy. Particularly unhappy in love.” Beneath all his jaded bluster, could Hugo have designs on Diana? Is that why he plans a Pygmalion-like ruse to “save” his brother?

Hugo’s aunt, Madame Desmortes, is hosting a ball at her 15th-century French chateau. Hugo will throw in a ringer: Isabelle, a ballet dancer, dressed like royalty. He’ll coach her behind the scenes — à la Cyrano — on how to become the ball’s belle. She’ll capture Frederic’s eye, so the plan goes, and lure him away from his fiancée. Then at dawn, Isabelle goes her merry way, with a nice wad of cash — and the gown to boot.

“It’s really like a fairy story,” says Capulet, Mme. Desmortes’s companion, “really it is, isn’t it?”

Well, sort of. Heroes of fairy tales have Teflon-strength, gossamer auras. Anouilh’s don’t. They’re actual people in a fairy-tale setting. They bumble and hurt, even the schemers. Ring has three strategists: Hugo, Mme. Desmortes, and old Messerschmann, Diana’s millionaire father. Sparks ignite when their agendas collide.

At the Avo Playhouse, if you look past Mike Buckley’s inviting winter garden set, a harvest moon above eggshell-colored furnishings and bright bouquets, and past the elegant, pre-WWI formal attire (even Ralph Johnson’s officious servant Joshua is dressed to the nines), and beneath the characters’ cultivated veneers, Anouilh peoples the stage with solitary beings, achingly alone and wandering through funhouse mazes in search of happiness.

**Fairy Tale, with Knives**

“I love it when the lamb turns around and eats the high priest.”
Ring’. Heil’s directorial touches match cadences with free-flowing wit, (ardent, earnest Mary Bogh) in fact, turns its world upside-over superficial wants. The play, ana (feisty Frances Anita Jim Chovick) and daughter Di- bic asides as if penned by Oscar they fear, they’ll end up like right, having sprinted a 25-yard both (and how he switches teddy bear. Bickle’s terrific as Cary Grant, the latter as a lost. C. J. B. Priestley’s thought-provoker raises two initial questions: who-dunit, and why has an inspector named Goole (pronounced “ghoul”) come to the Birling’s stately home? Arthur Birling just gave an impassioned speech about being responsible only to oneself and the masses be damned. What connection could the social elite have with the alleged suicide of a dirt-poor woman? The inspector — and just who IS this guy, a Sherlock Holmes of the conscience? — retraces the fam- ily’s tracks in search of the culprit. For Lamb’s Players, Mike Buck- ley’s stylish Edwardian set rises from a dirt floor, where impecca- bly polished shoes leave foot- prints. Robert and Deborah Gilmour Smyth codirected this taut, trimmed (from three acts to 90 minutes) staging. The cast al- ready’s Jo and Linda Libby’s Marmee, uniformly solid, Caroline Kinsolv- ing’s to and Linda Libby’s Marmee, the mother, being foremost among equals. Kinolving’s for Jo’s emo- tional range (like a kid with a tail, both soaring and tumbling) and Libby for Marmee’s grounded strength.

Little Women
Louisa May Alcott’s March sisters — shy Beth, selfish Amy, vain Meg, and temperamental Jo (i.e., Alcott herself) — came to life at the North Coast Rep. Alcott originally published the novel in two parts (in 1868 and 1869), and Jacqueline Goldfinger’s stage adap- tation concentrates on the first, in which the sisters go on a Pilgrim’s Progress in their Concord, Mass., home, voicing to overcome a flaw of character. Along with the popu- lar story of four very different women, the book depicts daily liv- ing 150 years ago, during the Civil War. Kirsten Brandt has smartly cast and directed this “play with music,” which includes familiar pe- riod songs done as live back- ground. Marty Burnett’s excellent set piece crowns the evening. (entrance on Kalmia St.)

Back of the Throat
Grossmont College presents this “modern-day musical love story” about a young, upright greeting card writer and the flyght photog- raper who enters his life. GROSSMONT COLLEGE, E. CASIOL. 619- 644-7000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 20.

Independence
PowPAC presents Lee Blessing’s drama about a family in Indepen- dence, Iowa, divided against itself. Jay Mower directed. PowPAC, PowPAC’S COMMUNITY THEATER, 13260 POWAY RD., POWAY, 858-675- 8088, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 28.

An Inspector Calls
J.B. Priestley’s thought-provoker raises two initial questions: who-dunit, and why has an inspector named Goole (pronounced “ghoul”) come to the Birling’s stately home? Arthur Birling just gave an impassioned speech about being responsible only to oneself and the masses be damned. What connection could the social elite have with the alleged suicide of a dirt-poor woman? The inspector — and just who IS this guy, a Sherlock Holmes of the conscience? — retraces the fam- ily’s tracks in search of the culprit. For Lamb’s Players, Mike Buck- ley’s stylish Edwardian set rises from a dirt floor, where impecca- bly polished shoes leave foot- prints. Robert and Deborah Gilmour Smyth codirected this taut, trimmed (from three acts to 90 minutes) staging. The cast al- ready’s Jo and Linda Libby’s Marmee, uniformly solid, Caroline Kinsolv- ing’s to and Linda Libby’s Marmee, the mother, being foremost among equals. Kinolving’s for Jo’s emo- tional range (like a kid with a tail, both soaring and tumbling) and Libby for Marmee’s grounded strength.

mother killer
It’s likely that when he wrote this biter anti-tragedy, Euripides was heading into exile in Macedonia. That might explain why he fractu- res one of Greek theater’s classic tales into a “god-cursed” mael- storm of brutality. Like Shake- speare’s Troilus, Orestes demythol- ogizes with an avenger’s rage. Orestes murdered his mother and now must pay — or in a cynical take on the original, will he make the world pay instead? Although the acting ranges from quite good (Fred Harlow, a prissy Menelaus) to in-between (John Polak in and out of focus as Orestes) to nonex- istent, Theatre Inc’s production plows unafraid into Oreste’s hallu-
Pump Boys and Dinettes
This funky musical functions just like its subject. It’s set at a filling station/diner on Highway 57, between Serrano and Frog Level, North Carolina. While tourists make pit stops to replenish themselves for the road ahead, the musical encourages its audience to make the theater a rest area, where the world slows down, the “pump rock,” musicians, he turns to soothing—and except for the owner of the Winnebago on the blocks awaiting overdo repairs—everyone’s a forgiving soul. Lamb’s Players director Deborah Gilmour Smyth has coaxed just the right spirit from her cast of six, each doing a standout number among them Leonard Patton’s “Monu,” Jim Mooney’s “Serve Yourself” (“I may be a retard but I ain’t no space”), Marci Anne Wuebben’s “Be Good or Be Gone,” and Season Duffy’s “Best Man (I Never Had).” Led by Nick Sparr and backed by Oliver Shirley’s steady band, the band’s as adept at country as at rock. They perform on Mike Buckley’s set, a combination of realistic details and, as lit by Buckley, a mite larger than life. 419-437-0600. (Due to power demands, Lamb’s has extended the run of this show.)

Night of the Laughing Dead...We’re Dying to Cast You!
Mystery Café Dinner Theater celebrates its 20th season with Victoria Velasco and James Pascarella’s interactive comedy. An eccentric director is doing a live broadcast of his full-length horror film, and the audience is encouraged to audition. Velasco directed. MYSTERY CAFE, 505 KALISTA ST., BANKER’S HILL. 619-544-1664. 7:30PM. THURSDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, OPENENDED RUN.

The Pirates of Penzance
The Welk Resort presents the Gilbert and Sullivan classic about the Pirate King and a young lad who wants to break free. Ray Limos directed and choreographed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8880 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1:45PM AND 8PM THURSDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 2.

Ring Round the Moon
Moonlight Stage Productions presents twin brothers, one trying to save his brother from entering a loveless marriage, Jason Hall directed. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MASI ST., VISTA. 760-724-2110. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 28.

The Secret Garden
Patio Playhouse stages the popular musical version of Frances Hodgson Burnett’s novel, celebrating its 100th anniversary. Geoffrey Cox directed. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MARCH 14.

The Tempest
What a smart idea: the North Coast Rep teamed with Miralta Costa to stage Shakespeare’s latest comedy. Not only do equity actors work with students, NCRT’s small theater doesn’t have the resources for a full production of the Bard. Mira-Costa does, as shown in scene one, where sound designer Chris Luess

man’s booming thunder makes one reach for the chair instead of Mo’ oleo’s latest offering. DJ Double D hosts a dance party punctuated by a smooth disco beat. He eliminates dancers until only people of Iranian and Guatemalan roots can remain. A man in a red short-sleeved shirt, Levis, and black Converse All-Stars—comes and for 80 minutes, 90 minutes, much of which remains in the center of the audience. Robert Farid Karimi is a “spoken-word artist” and national slam-poetry champion—revels in his youth as a “mixed race” person. Wherever he turns he hits walls: going to Guatemala City at age eight and being labeled a “gypsy”; the Iran hostage crisis of 1979, which made him a “front to unite against” at school. Even his parents took sides. Karimi’s going back becomes a quest, literally to find his voice. He explores threads of styles, songs, and dances; he tries them on, spins here, stretches there, saves parts, re-projects others, and learns not to “follow everyone’s moves.” Through-out he’s an engaging narrator and, with some exceptions, DJ Double D’s “soundscape” is as agile as Karimi. The exceptions: at times the music drown-out Karimi’s voice. It shouldn’t, because he has a lot to say. 619-342-7395.

Tom and Huck and Jim
As part of the Mark Twain Cente- nary, SDSU Theatre, Television, and Film presents an original pro-duction based on Twain’s novels about Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn. SDSSU’s EXPERIMENTAL THEATER, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., COLLEGE AREA. 619-594-6884. FRIDAYS, 8PM SATUR- DAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 14.

Triple Espresso
For four weeks only, San Diego’s longest-running show comes to the Lyceum. Hugo Butternut’s done his lounge act at the Triple Espresso Coffeehouse 20 years to the day. While patrons sip a house blend—“Grape,” “Scandinavian Blizzard,” or “Mokoko Coca Mocha”—Hugo plays ’70s tunes on the piano. He and his companions, here to celebrate his anniversary, got stuck in the ’70s (they’re “losers,” they ad- mit, but not “ordinary ones”). And hey, their reunion could help them face serous issues from their medicare past. The story line’s straight from Forever Plaid, and the performers are far too talented to play inert characters (one’s a whiz at the piano, another’s a first-rate mime, and the third a crackjack magician). The trio’s so talented, when the plot has them complain of difficulties to overcome, you wish they’d quit trumping up the ‘pseudodrama and get on with this

This is entertainment as it oughta be—slick, silly and joyful. Stunning!
— The London Metro

The essence of comedy!
— Minneapolis Star Tribune

Highly entertaining, if lightweight, show.
worth a try.
Degen Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 11.

Writing Out Loud: Voices of Ireland
Write Out Loud, in association with Lamb’s Players Theatre, presents an evening of short stories and poems by and about the Irish—read by actors. 619-437-6080. HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN. 7:30PM MONDAY.

You Can’t Take It with You
Vanguard presents Kaufman and Hart’s wise and funny comedy about the Sycamore family, each of whom is following his or her bliss — until they must act “normal.”

West Mountain Theatre, 3516 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-224-6263. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUN- DAYS, THROUGH MARCH 28.
Little Wonder
The movie achieves a different sort of dullness from that of the novel.

Well, you wouldn’t expect Tim Burton to do a remake of Pollyanna, would you? Or Little Women or Anne of Green Gables or anything that might push back against the enveloping voguish “darkness,” anything that might create some creative tension. His new version of Alice in Wonderland, a 3-D moving-picture book, gives him license, free rein, greased rails, to stage a congenial freak show in a hermetic netherworld.

The customary merger of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and its sequel, Through the Looking Glass, has the innovation of a marriageable age-of-consent heroine, diving down the rabbit hole to escape a surprise engagement party and an odious snooty suitor. This innovation serves the dual purpose of heading off all the tired old sophisticated drolleries about the Reverend Dodgson's fondness for little girls and, secondly, of feeding the bottomless contemporary appetite for feminist fantasies of empowerment. (The Australian newcomer Mia Wasikowska evolves from a pasty spaced-out flower child to an armored and sword-wielding Saint Joan, jabberwock-slayer.)

In due time, in short order, the movie achieves a different sort of dullness from that of the forced and haphazard novel, a dullness of saturation. Just as Alice has been taught to pinch herself to return from a dream, you can try pinching yourself to reverse your slippage into a CGI stupor, and at any such pinch, snapping to attention, you can appreciate the amount of labor that went into it, the thorough planning, the attention to detail. You can appreciate, for instance, the seesawing scale of the heroine, drinking a magic potion to shrink and eating a counteracting piece of cake to grow; and you can appreciate the twinkling-of-an-eye transformations of the Cheshire Cat, one second vivid enough for you to see every individual hair on its body and the next second a wisp of smoke; and you can appreciate Helena Bonham Carter's funhouse-mirror Queen of Hearts, with her heart-shaped oversized head and heart-shaped dab of lipstick, or Anne Hathaway's super-refined White Queen, fragile as fine china, a hair-trigger gag reflex, her hands held at shoulder height as if to avoid all contact while drying her nails.

And then very soon satiated again, under the glut of computer-manufactured topography, flora, and fauna, you can drift back into stuporville. Red Riding, not just one movie, is three separate but connected movies set in 1974, 1980, and 1983, with three separate and unconnected directors (Julian Jarrold, James Marsh, Anand Tucker, in order), and three separate
protagonists (a mop-haired cub reporter, a cold-case special investigator, and a portly attorney) played in turn by Andrew Garfield, Paddy Considine, and Mark Addy), all three movies exhibited for the next week at the Ken Cinema on a rotating schedule with separate admissions. Each concerns itself with serial sex crimes in Yorkshire, the first and third concerned with the same series of crimes against schoolgirls and the second concerned more with crimes against prostitutes. As the minutes and the miseries mount up, you might come to feel that the middle part of the triptych could beneficially have been skipped and that the boldness of the conception is perhaps only two-thirds as bold as it looked at the outset. (It would not have looked at all bold if the movies were exhibited here as they were exhibited at home in Britain: on television.)

The three share in common, however, unintelligible local accents, colorless color, staggering body counts, a thoroughly sordid vision of police corruption and brutality (ranging from thuggish roughing-up to Medieval torture), and a pervasive sense of unchecked malignance, or “evil” as the poster has it, which is as unrealistic in its opposition way as the righteous justice dispensed by comic-book superheroes. In light of all that, or rather in shadow of all that, it’s a bit bizarre to recall that the director of the third part went straight on to direct this year’s Laap Year with Amy Adams. The mood apparently passed.

Unlike A Prophet last Friday at the Hilcrest, Ajami arrives this Friday at the La Jolla Village as no longer a contender for the foreign-film Oscar, already a loser. (A gambler, that is to say, and a loser, joining the more opportunistic Prophet in the crying room.) That, though, oughtn’t to dim its attractions as much as its overcast lackluster color ought. Set in the roiling melting pot of Jaffa, the writing and directing collaboration of Jewish and Palestinian Israelis, Yaron Shani and Scandar Copti, is a push-and-pull of contradictions: a balanced and even-handed treatment of trepiduous sensationalized subject matter (a mafia-like blood feud, drug traffic, forbidden love, illegal immigration, hate crime, etc.), and rounded humanized humans, played by natural nonprofessionals, in an artificial, fragmented, nonlinear, self-consciously “clever” narrative. Following it isn’t difficult. Slicking with it might be.

So — speaking of the Oscars — another barrier gets knocked down by the Academy, the first female director to be the Best Director, a cause for intensification of the annual ritual of the Hollywood self-backpat. I’d more moved to get my own hand in on the drumming if it hadn’t been the director hitherto of Blue Steel, Point Break, et al., if, say, it had instead been the director of Sweetie, The Portrait of a Lady, et al. When I contemplated Bright Star in the past year, one of my thoughts was, only Jane Campion could have made that movie. (One Oscar nomination: Costume Design.) When I contemplated The Hurt Locker on the other hand, my comparable thought might have been, it could just as well be Antoine Fuqua, Paul Greengrass, Edward Zwick, Joel Schumacher, Tony Scott, Ridley Scott, Michael Mann, any old man whatever.

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars. Omitted movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

**Ajami** reviewed this issue. With Shahir Kabasa, Ibrahim Frere, Eran Naim, and Fouad Hababi; written and directed by Yaron Shani and Scandar Copti. ★ (La Jolla Village, From 3/12)

**Alice in Wonderland** — Reviewed this issue. With Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, and Anne Hathaway, directed by Tim Burton. ★★ (Carmel Mountain 14; Chula Vista 10; Del Mar Highlands 8; Fashion Valley 18; Grosvenor Center 10; Horton Plaza 14; La Costa 6; La Jolla 2; 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)

**Avatar** — Ambitious merger of live action and computer animation, with at least one groundbreaking 3-D effect: English subtitles for the language spoken on the celestial body of Pandora inserted on a plane in the middle distance between a foreground figure and an upstage figure, as if the foreground one could look down and read the subtitle himself. This effect is silly, is pointless, is pointless, and nonetheless is fun. Much the same could be said of the movie as a whole. Silly, pretentious, pointless, and fun is surely less than writer and director James Cameron had in mind for his first feature film since Titanic twelve years before, a two hour and forty-five minute “visionary” science-fiction epic that dish is an all妄 on globalization, a warm-over of the old science-versus-military debate, a dose of Noble Savage romanticism, a Capt. Smith and Pocahontas culture-clash romance, an ecological message, and a tree-felling that insistently recalls the toppling of the World Trade Center. There appears little doubt that Cameron drew upon all his mental powers, yet happily those powers proved too feebly, too reliant on convention and stereotype, or if you wish to make it sound better, on tradition and archetype, to ruin the fun. The powers themselves, with their rumble of self-importance and their strain for significance, are part and parcel of the kitschy fun. Sam Worthington, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Giovanni Ribisi, Michelle Rodriguez, 2009.

**The Blind Side** — Soft warm cozy sports story from the maker of The Rookie, John Lee Hancock, about a headstrong well-to-do white Memphis housewife who takes under her wing and under her roof a home-less black gentle giant, an irresistible force meeting an immovable object. Sandra Bullock stays obstinately on the surface of her role, and Quinton Aaron is touchingly minimal as Michael Oher, a future first-round NFL draft pick. Very late in the game a couple of aspersions are cast on the mo-tives of Oher’s adoptive parents, aspersions which, if shown to be even fractionally valid, might have made a more interesting movie. With Tim McGraw, Jae Head, Lily Collins, Kathy Bates, and assorted college-football coaches as themselves, Nick Saban, Phil Fulmer, Lou Holtz, et al. 2009. ★ (Carmel Mountain 14; Horton Plaza 14; Town Square 14)

**Brooklyn’s Finest** — Crime drama treats what would be an historically bad week for the NYPD as simply the average run. Amid a series of racially charged shooting incidents, three diverse policemen (the brink-of-retirement beat cop, the stressed-out undercover cop, the off-the-rails rogue cop) pursue their individual paths on what we come to suspect will be a collision course but we find out instead is a mere geographical convergence to three separate simultaneous shootings on the same city block. Antoine Fuqua’s return to the precinct of Training Day, opposite coast, holds the attention about as pleasurably as a thumbscrew (if you can imagine it), with Ethan Hawke now graduated from rookie to the rank of Bad Lieutenant, trying desper-ately to finance a real-estate deal with confiscated drug money while behaving as if he is at the same time trying to kick

**A SWEEPING ROMANTIC MASTERPIECE.**

— Greg Russell, WMYD-TV

**“A heartwarming love story.”**

— Manny De La Rosa, NBC-TV

**“Robert Pattinson and Emile de Ravin are terrific.”**

— Steve Oldfield, FOX-TV

**“So perfectly acted, so brilliantly directed... This movie will become a part of you.”**

— Mark S. Allen, CBS/CW

**“A must-see!”**

— Kevin Steincross, FOX-TV

**Remember Me**

**ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE**

**BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM**

**AN ENORMOUSLY IMPORTANT FILM... A contemporary drama edged with Greek tragedy... teens with life...** — Elle Taylor, LA WEEKLY

**“★★★★! RIPPING DRAMA.”**

— Joshua Rothkopf, TIME OUT NEW YORK

**“EMOTIONALLY MESERIZING. GRADE: A.”** — Owen Gleiberman, ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY

**A FILM BY SCANDAR COPTI AND YARON SHANI**

**AJAMI**

**LANDMARK THEATRES**

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**San Diego Reader, March 11, 2010**
heroine or else to win a scholarship to the Actors Studio. His purpose, his function, seems to be to make the other cast members (Richard Gen, Don Cheadle, Wesley Snipes, Will Patton, Brian O’Byrne) look good in comparison, and from that angle he succeeds spectacularly. 2010. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASTLAMP 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)

Cop Out — By-the-book buddy comedy about black and white NYPD partners whose apparently unrelated cases involving Mexican drug runners and a stolen baseball card conveniently dovetail. The steering and snarling bad guys are played murderously straight, but they’re still funnier than the smirky white (Bruce Willis, on automatic pilot) and buffoonish black (Tracy Morgan, almost incomprehensible at a below-low, and indeed he spends a lot of his time bellowing). This is director Kevin Smith’s first time out as a hired gun, strapped with something else’s script (Bob and Mark Cullen’s), a script sufficiently potty-mouthed by most standards but perhaps not by Smith’s. After the likes of Clerks II and Zack and Miri Make a Porno, no one but the clinically delusional could feel disappointed in him. Seann William Scott, Ana de la Reguera, Kevin Pollak, Adam Brody. 2010. ★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; Poway 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Valley 20; Otay Ranch 12; Palm Jolla 12; Mission Marketplace 13; Mission Gaslamp 15; Grossmont Center 10; La Jolla Highlands 8; Fashion Valley 18; San Diego Reader. 120

The Crazies — Breck Eisner’s remake of a lesser-known George Romero horror show from 1973, a therefore more defensible remake than those of the Dead series, for which we can hope that Romero (credited as executive producer) received decent compensation. The no-nonsense line of action to do with a contagion of homicidal lunacy in rural Iowa, caused and exacerbated by military misconduct (if it matters), is mostly routine, but the scene in the car wash, with the assailants obscured by sham-poo suds and rotating brushes, rises slightly above. Timothy Olyphant, though he’s got the voice for it, does not look likely by this route to become the next Clint Eastwood, yet he gives a creditable effort as the town sheriff, together with the plain-named Joe Anderson as his good-ole-boy deputy. And while it may seem a little strange to regard as a Scarem Queen someone who has worked with Woody Allen, Robert Benton, Mike Nichols, Stephen Freemaker, Lisa Cholodenko, among others, Radha Mitchell appears hell-bent on getting us used to the idea. 2010. ★ (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

The Ghost Writer — A literary hack (Ewan McGregor) “You name it, he’s got it!” — heeds to turn up the heat of, for a cool quarter of a million, polishing up the memoirs of a Tony Blair-ish former British Prime Minister ( Pierce Brosnan), stepping into the shoes of the ex-P.M.’s silent collaborator who has unaccountably left his car on the ferry and washed up on shore for WMDs in Iraq, with Greg Kinnear and Robert Duval; directed by Scott Cooper. 2009. ★★½ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; LA PALOMA; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Brooklyn’s Finest — Holds the attention about as pleasurably as a thumbscrew. — Wartime romance begins in the spring of 2001 (you know what’s coming) and stretching up to the present, staggeringly basic and banal in its specifics, turning on a senseless withholding of information for the sole purpose of contrived misunderstanding and revealed nobility. It may not hold all the way to the end, but it comes close. Kim Cattrall, Timothy Hutton, James Balslev, Eli Wallach. 2010. ★★½ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Crazy Heart — Jeff Bridges is pretty much the whole show, and a generous show it is. His Bad Blake, given name to be held back for the gravestone, is an over-the-hill and down-on-his-luck C&W singer still living the life of a C&W song, four marriages behind him, long lonely drives and cheap motels and cheaper women in front of him, a chain smoker and a hard-at-alkohol (preferred poison, fictitious McClure’s bourbon) on a free fall to the unseen bottom and, on impact, the uncertain bounce-back to redemption. As one of his lyrics neatly sums it up: “I used to be somebody, now I’m somebody else.” The actor’s singing voice amounts to a dull blade that has a hard time cutting through the expert arrangements by T Bone Burnett, who with the late Stephen Bruton co-wrote the original songs in the crying-in-your-beer genre. But then too, the actor’s speaking voice, a low rumble through a mouthful of marbles, has a hard enough time cutting through thin air, as if he could use a hit of oxygen before and after each utterance. To outward appearances, he’s approximately one-third Kris Kristofferson (the constipated voice and the wheezy wine to produce it) and two-thirds Waylon Jennings (the grasy stringy hair, the bedraggled beard, the shades, the leather vest, the paunch), in no part original but in every part authentic. With Maggie Gyllenhaal, Colin Farrell, and Robert Duval; directed by Scott Cooper. 2009. ★★★ (PARK CITY 19; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Hurt Locker — Fictitious count-down of the final six weeks in the twelve-month storyline, but Channing Tatum, who shows her the finer things of life: a Ravel concert, a Christie’s auction, night clubs, 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 corn; and the comic portrait of the heroine’s handsome dad, a same-aged fumbling suitor, and a bland 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. ★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

From Paris with Love — John Travolta, totally unrestrained, as a self-admiring U.S. envoy with the demeanor of a Hell’s Angel (“Tell me that wasn’t some impressive shit!”), shooting up the City of Light in a gravy-sallow digital image. Jonathan Rhys Meyers affords a credible American accent as his timid embassy liaison, perhaps the only credible thing in the movie. Directed by Pierre Morel. 2010. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

Happy-Go-Lucky — Beautifully Acted, Gorgeously Photographed. — John Kierce (Ewan McGregor) — “You name it, he’s got it!” — heeds to turn up the heat of, for a cool quarter of a million, polishing up the memoirs of a Tony Blair-ish former British Prime Minister (Pierce Brosnan), stepping into the shoes of the ex-P.M.’s silent collaborator who has unaccountably left his car on the ferry and washed up on shore. Kim Cattrall, Timothy Hutton, James Balslev, Eli Wallach. 2010. ★★½ (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

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The constant prospect of their blowing up in our faces — carries a guaranteed tension, as witness such forerunners as Robert Aldrich’s Ten Secrets to Hell or Michael Powell’s and Emeric Pressburger’s The Small Back Room. The ambush in mid-desert, outside the squad’s normal sphere of operations, is if anything even tenser: more unpredictable, more open to possibilities. Kathryn Bigelow, one of the rare female action directors, dead-set on matching any man in muscle, favors here the combat-footage filmmaking style of novels and jars to the camera, punchy zooms, whiplashing pans, and a chronic shaky hand, not necessarily restricted to scenes of combat. This is trendy at best, a tired cliche at worst. (The amplified heartbeat and the slo-mo explosion ought to be put to bed for a rest period of not less than a generation.) She takes a lot of time on the action scenes, or more broadly the tension scenes, and not much time in between, so that the three principals — Jeremy Renner, Anthony Mackie, Brian Geraghty, each of them looking the part — are thin on character, static opposed to individual soldiers. With Guy Pearce, Ralph Fiennes, Dave Morse. 2009. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

It’s Complicated — Romantic-comic triangle composed of a fifty-something divorcee, her remarried but re-interested ex-husband, and her too-good-to-be-true divorced architect: ”Your age is one of my favorite things about you.” The grown children have no problems of their own, and the level of affluence — not to forget level of gourmet cuisine — removes all other problems, so that a hypothetical air prevails. In truth, it’s complicated enough already. (The chorus of confidantes drops out of sight when we need them most.) Meryl Streep brings to her role her usual fine detail and wide dynamics, and Alec Baldwin brings an amusing girth. With Steve Martin, John Krassinski, and Lake Bell; written and directed by Nancy Meyers. 2009. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Last Station — Light sport made of a great figure, Tolstoy in his “eccentric” later years of anti-materialism, nonresistance, celibacy, vegetarianism, or, in short, Tolstoeism. Under the starry eye of the author’s new secretary, a battle of wills, including a battle over the literal will, boils up between his leading disciple and his long-time wife, the latter not fully behind the concept of giving away their private property: “You all think he’s Christ, don’t you?” It remains for the most part a spectacle of disinterested amusement, although something deeper develops around the deathbed. Expertly, if theatrically, acted by Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren, and archive footage of the real personages during the closing credits affirms the studiously-archival feeling of the whole. With James McAvoy, Paul Giamatti, Anne-Marie Duff, and Kerry Condon; written and directed by Michael Hoffman. 2009. ★ (FLOWER MILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS: LA JOLLA VILLAGE; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Lovely Bones — Fourteen-year-old rape-and-murder victim, marooned in “the in-between,” aka “the blue horizon” dividing life and afterlife, continues to watch over her family, friends, and unappreciated killer, a quintessential creep who looks to be guilty, self-incriminatingly, in disguise: Stanley Tucci with a blond comb-over hairpiece, pasty-on matching makeup, aviator glasses, and cotton-stuffed cheeks. Some of the depictions of the closeness of the two realms are reasonably subtle and well done: the cold gray dreamscape occupied by the fresh murdered victim who doesn’t yet realize she’s dead and doesn’t understand why she can’t connect with the people she sees; or the flickering reflection of an unflickering candle flame by which the girl makes her presence known to her grieving father. But too much of the Other Side, in particular the climactic communion of all the victims of the serial killer, is spoiled by the music-video vulgarity of the CGI. With Saoirse Ronan, Mark Wahlberg, Rachel Weisz, and Susan Sarandon; directed by Peter Jackson. 2009. ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

North Face — Retro mountain film, set evocatively in the place and time of the berylmine heyday, Germany in the Thirties: two uncommitted soldiers in Hitler’s army, but committed mountaineers, join the pre-Olympics push to conquer “the last problem of the Alps,” the north face of the Eiger, alias “the Wall of Death.” Though the fact-based events don’t escape the sameness of mountains-climbing movies, they are smoothly laid out in palm-dampened detail, and torturedly stretched to an operatic agony. With Benno Furmann, Florian Lukas, Johanna Wokalek, and Ulrich Tukur; directed by Philipp Stölzl. 2009. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Our Family Wedding — Ethnic comedy with Forest Whitaker, Lance Gross, America Ferrera, and Carlos Mencia; directed by Rick Famuyiwa. (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTW RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 daught- er, now pregnant again, expelled from school, abused and battered at home by her welfare mother, an ancestral rape victim of her absent father, and oh, HIV-posi- tive. 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. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14)

The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus — A Terry Gilliam exercise in excess, as dense, as heavy, as torpedoing as a Christmas fruitcake. (Or as Brazil. The Adventures of Baron Munchausen, The Brothers Grimm.) The muddled narrative, revolving around an immortal travelling showman, his magic-mirror portal to the realm of imagination, and his deal with the Devil, gets overpowered by the relentless production: the desolate stark smoky post-apocalyptic real world and the digitalized escape-scapes, a bit of Oz, a bit of Wonderland, a bit of Mid-dle-Earth, a bit of Maxfield Parrish crossed with Salvador Dali. Just to make the weird weirder, all of it’s apt to be shot in bulbous wide angles. Released nearly two years after his death in mid-shoot, this constitutes Heath Ledger’s final screen appearance, a supporting role (given deceitful top billing) resourcefully completed by a tag team of Johnny Depp, Jude Law, and Colin Farrell, each of whom, uniformly dressed and groomed, appears more engaged in the role. In the last analysis it deposition a spot of tarnish, a smudge of dullness, on the Ledger legend. Christopher Plummer, Andrew Garfield, Lily Cole, Tom Waits. 2009. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Lives of Others — A chilly and cold-blooded espionage thriller, by a first-time director who immortalized Germany in the Thirties: Germany in the Nineties, as cold-blooded as ever. 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. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14)
MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Showtimes subject to change. (Bargain showtimes in parentheses.)

CENTRAL

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain 14
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (800-326-3264 #2704)

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:00, 1:30) 4:15, 7:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:00, 1:30) 4:15, 7:00
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri-Sat. (12:00, 2:30) 5:15, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (12:00, 2:00) 5:15, 8:00
The Blind Side (PG-13) Fri-Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 4:40, 7:20, 10:00 Sun. (11:30, 2:30) 4:45, 7:35, 10:20
Brooklyn's Finest (R) Fri-Sun. (10:50, 1:40) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25
Cop Out (R) Fri-Sun. (11:00, 1:30) 4:10, 7:05, 9:45
Crazy Heart (R) Fri-Sun. (11:15, 1:55) 4:20, 7:25, 9:55
Green Zone (R) Fri-Sun. (12:30, 2:05) 4:30, 7:05, 9:15
The Hurt Locker (R) Fri-Sun. (10:45, 1:25) 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
Our Family Wedding (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:00, 1:35) 4:35, 7:20, 9:30
Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:15, 1:45) 4:20, 7:05, 9:45
Remember Me (PG) Fri-Sun. (10:15, 1:55) 4:05, 6:45, 9:05
Sherlock Holmes (PG-13) Fri-Sat. (10:20) 12:30, 2:10, 4:30, 6:45, 8:50
Our Name Is persefone (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:00, 1:30) 4:25, 6:45, 9:05

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Crazy Heart (R) Fri-Sun. (11:15, 1:55) 4:20, 7:25, 9:55
Green Zone (R) Fri-Sun. (12:15, 2:05) 4:30, 7:05, 9:15
Our Family Wedding (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:00, 1:35) 4:35, 7:20, 9:30
Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:15, 1:45) 4:20, 7:05, 9:45
Remember Me (PG) Fri-Sun. (10:15, 1:55) 4:05, 6:45, 9:05
Sherlock Holmes (PG-13) Fri-Sat. (10:20) 12:30, 2:10, 4:30, 6:45, 8:50
Our Name Is persefone (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:00, 1:30) 4:25, 6:45, 9:05

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15
705 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)

Brooklyn's Finest (R) Fri. (12:05, 1:00, 2:40) 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:05, 9:35, 10:40 Sat. (11:00, 12:05, 1:40, 2:40) 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:05, 9:35
The Hurt Locker (R) Fri-Sat. (11:05, 1:15, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00) 3:00, 7:00, 9:15, 10:45
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:15) 6:15
My Name Is persefone (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:00, 1:30) 5:00, 6:25pm, Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief (PG) Fri-Sat. (11:15, 1:50) 4:35, 7:10, 9:40 Sun. (11:15, 1:30) 4:35, 7:10, 9:40

KENSINGTON

Ken
406 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

Red Riding: 1980 (NR) Fri. (5:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sun. (2:30) 7:30, 10:30 Mon. (2:00) 7:00, 10:00 Thu. (5:00) Red Riding: 1980 (NR) Sat. 5:00, 10:00 Sun. (2:00) 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu. 7:00, 10:00 Thu.


**MISSION VALLEY**

1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)

**GREEN LAKE**

Union Square Plaza 15


**SOUTH BAY**

**SOUTH BAY CHULA VISTA**

Chula Vista 10

10990 Wicks Avenue (619-448-4747)

Green Zone (Fri. & Sat.) (11:00, 1:45), 4:45, 7:45, 10:30; Sun. (11:00, 1:45), 4:45, 7:45, Mon.-Thur. (4:45, 7:45), Fri. & Sat. (12:00, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun. (12:00, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45

**SOUTHBAY**

Santee Drive In

385 E. Bayview Street (619-448-4755)

San Diego

**EAST COUNTY**

**EL CAJON**

Parkway Plaza 18

450 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)

**LA MESA**

**UP TOWN**

Hillcrest Cinemas

9955 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)

The Ghost Writer (PG-13) Fri., Sat. (12:05, 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:25, 10:30) 10:35, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 6:55, 8:55, 10:55

**LA COSTA**

La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (At Aria/Ala)

**NORTH COASTAL**

Carlsbad Plaza

3333 Carlsbad Blvd. (619-729-7649)

Call theater for program information.

**DELMAR**

Del Mar Highlands 8

15505 Del Mar Highlands (888-646-9423)

Call theater for program information.

**OCEANSIDE**

Mission Marketplace 13

111 Mission Avenue (760-486-1970)

Call theater for program information.
Red Riding — Reviewed this issue. With Andrew Garfield, Paddy Considine, and Mark Addy, directed by Julian Jarrold, and Ana Torrent. © (KEN, 3/12 THROUGH 18)

Remainder Me — Story of young love, starring Robert Pattinson, Emilie de Ravin, Chris Cooper, and Pierce Brosnan, directed by Allen Coulter. (CAMEL MOUNTAIN 14; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTW RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Severe Clear — Kristian Faga's front-line documentary on Operation Iraqi Freedom, shot by Lt. Mike Scotti on a digital minicam. (GASLAMP 15; FROM 3/12)

She’s out of My League — Relationship comedy with Jay Baruchel and Alice Eve, directed by Jim Field Smith. (CAMEL 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; OTW RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 3/12)

Shutter Island — “Disturbing” would be one word, maybe the worst, for Martin Scorsese’s adaptation of the Fifties-period Dennis Lehane detective novel. Nothing, let’s be clear, in the list of ingredients — the Alcatrazxxy asylum for the criminally insane, the locked-room mystery of a vanished female inmate, the dreamland visitations from the detective’s dead wife, his guilty flashbacks to WWII, his allegiations of Nazi-like medical experiments funded by HUAC, the approaching hurricane — is particularly disturbing. Although all of it is likely to cause difficulty in swallowing, the locked-room part of it is actually appetizing. What’s disturbing, by and by, is to see a director of Scorsese’s stature (not physical stature of course) stooping to the unscrupulous bait-and-switch tactics that have become a vogue, if not a full blown genre, ever since The Sixth Sense. The thickening Kafka-ese atmosphere, as befits a rat in a maze, alerts us that we’re not going to get the type of locked-room solution we expect from a detective like Dr. Gideon Fell. But it is only our insistent desire for Scorsese that would prevent us from anticipating, at the heart of the maze, the cheery cheat which makes nonsense of everything we’ve come through. Or if not nonsense, at best irrelevance and at worst malpractice. The upshot is a terrible waste of energy, and indeed a great deal of energy unnaturally went into it, primarily that trademark overdirection that serves always as a sort of methodology of self-hype: the flash pans, the vertiginous overhead shots, the pontekeyed closeups, the portentous tracking shots, the ponderous slo-mo, the full range of eye-grabbing gimmicks by which Scor- sese sells, sells, sells his stuff. We like to see a director taking command, but when the material is piffle it can have the effect of travesty — rather like an orchestral transcrip- tion of “Ispy-BINY Spider” in the style of Beethoven. With Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo, Ben Kingsley, Max von Sydow, Michelle Williams, Emily Mortimer, Patricia Clarkson, Ted Levine, John Carroll Lynch. 2010. © (CAMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTW RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

A Single Man — Adaptation of the Christopher Isherwood novel detailing the planned last day of a homosexual English Professor (an exquisitely tortured Colin Firth) grieving his dead lover, analy-com-pulsively tying up loose ends, saying his guarded goodbyes, practicing the proper posture to shoot himself in bed, laying out his burial attire with the helpful note, “Tell in a Windsor knot.” Fashion “guru” Tom Ford, in his directing debut, sees to it that the bumps are tru chuz, almost to be envied and emulated. He demonstrates convinc- ingly a photographic eye to go along with a curatorial taste in the early-Sixties period, although the total ambiences resembles that of a retro plotter in Harper’s Bazaar rather than an accurate depiction of a gloomy Brit in sunny So-Cal during the Kennedy Era. And he controls the color saturation of his imagery as if through an IV, maintaining gray drained fading tones for the present tense, pedantically contrasted with florid flushed flashbacks; and any passing sensory sensation in the faded present, any flicker of life, any tremor of reanimation, any stir of passion, will bring a sudden surge of satura- tion. It’s a definite idea, even if a transpar- ent one. But with Julianne Moore, Nicholas Hoult, and Matthew Goode. 2009. © (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12)

Valentine’s Day — Jessica Alba, Katharine McPhee, Jessica Biel, Bradley Cooper, Eric Dane, Patrick Dempsey, Hector Elizondo, Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Garner, Topher Grace, Anne Hathaway, Ashton Kutcher, Queen Latifah, Taylor Lautner, George Lopez, Shirley MacLaine, Emma Roberts, Julia Roberts, Tom Swift. — There. That’s about all that need be said, and the ads already said it. In grudging addition, it might be considered to say, by way of warning, that out of the multicultural, multigenerational, multidemographical alphabetical all-stars, Jennifer Garner and Ashton Kutch er com- mand the most attention. And it might be charitable to say that only Topher Grace and Anne Hathaway demand any more. It might, too, be appallingly pointless to point out the unblamed cackles of Joe Man- tegna. Apart from the celebrity merry-go- round, no other focus of interest will be found within the movie. (Without, there might be some slight interest in contractual and scheduling matters.) In Katherine Fog- gate’s screenplay, the navigation of the hu- man heart, morning to night on the Four- teenth of February in Los Angeles, is as a leaf aloft on a puddle: superficial on top of shallow. But then, director Garry Marshall has never been one to venture so deep on any subject as to bother about rolling up his pants cuffs. 2010. © (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTW RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; RIVER VILLAGE 6)

When in Rome — Frightfully unfunny romantic-comic fantasy revolving around a young couple度假ing in Rome for the first time. A young girl in Rome for her younger sister’s wed- ding, who does as the Romans do: not pil- fer five coins from the Fontana d’Amore and in magical consequence drawing their last owners to her like a magnet. If nothing else, with creamy-dreamy cinematography by John Bailey, this serves as a reminder of whether or not the chiselled and denounced Kristen Bell (Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Couples Retreat, etc.) can carry a movie by herself, albeit only a half-light one. Reck- less would be if it, off the repeat experiment taking away the hand of the casually confident Josh Duhamel or adored wife of Benicio Del Toro, Angela Houghton, Danny DeVito, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Dax Shepard, Alexis Dziena, and Don Johnson; directed by Mark Steven Johnson. 2010. © (SANTEE DRIVE IN)

The Wolfman — Under the drillmasterly direction of Joe Johnston, the remake emerges as your basic tale of Oedipal lyric- thropy; an Oedipus simplex if you will (the ungrateful son, ungratefully for a good mousetrap, a stone girl in Rome for her younger sister’s wed- ding, who does as the Romans do: not pil- fer five coins from the Fontana d’Amore and in magical consequence drawing their last owners to her like a magnet. If nothing else, with creamy-dreamy cinematography by John Bailey, this serves as a reminder of whether or not the chiselled and denounced Kristen Bell (Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Couples Retreat, etc.) can carry a movie by herself, albeit only a half-light one. Reck- less would be if it, off the repeat experiment taking away the hand of the casually confident Josh Duhamel or adored wife of Benicio Del Toro, Angela Houghton, Danny DeVito, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Dax Shepard, Alexis Dziena, and Don Johnson; directed by Mark Steven Johnson. 2010. © (SANTEE DRIVE IN)

An Education — Carey Mulligan shows off, among her other talents, the freshest smile since Eleanor Powell. — Under the drillmasterly direction of Joe Johnston, the remake emerges as your basic tale of Oedipal lyric- thropy; an Oedipus simplex if you will (the ungrateful son, ungratefully for a good mousetrap, a stone girl in Rome for her younger sister’s wed-ding, who does as the Romans do: not pil-fer five coins from the Fontana d’Amore and in magical consequence drawing their last owners to her like a magnet. If nothing else, with creamy-dreamy cinematography by John Bailey, this serves as a reminder of whether or not the chiselled and denounced Kristen Bell (Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Couples Retreat, etc.) can carry a movie by herself, albeit only a half-light one. Reck- less would be if it, off the repeat experiment taking away the hand of the casually confident Josh Duhamel or adored wife of Benicio Del Toro, Angela Houghton, Danny DeVito, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Dax Shepard, Alexis Dziena, and Don Johnson; directed by Mark Steven Johnson. 2010. © (SANTEE DRIVE IN)
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THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME
1) Submit your completed puzzle to the Reader each week for a chance to win one of the Reader's weekly prizes. The top five puzzle-solvers will be awarded one of the Reader's new T-shirts! (Attendings are awarded to those who successfully complete and submit the correct answers to one of the Reader's weekly puzzles.)

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 619-233-0499 or 619-233-7907 or mailed to Reader Puzzles, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92138-5803, 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) Reader T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!

And now for the really small print:
1) All answers must be legible and your submission will only be counted if fit the format.
2) Several of the Reader’s prizes and their immediate families are not eligible.
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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

Across
1. De _____ (by law) 30. Neighborhood in New York City that hosts an annual film festival
2. Mythical symbol of purity 31. Holy in the Roman Catholic Church
3. Novelist whose fourth novel was “Top Chef” host Padma Lakshmi 32. Tornado
4. James of jazz 33. “That’s _____ haven’t heard!”
5. Bellowing 34. Metallica drummer Lars Larsen
6. “Rocks” 35. GPS suggestion
7. Bona fide 36. “Chocolate” dog
9. Note on a Chinese menu 38. ____ crossroads
12. Torment 41. Rx writers
13. Co. name ender 42. Hip in the ’60s
15. Prefix with -tron 44. Comedian DeLuise
16. “Step right up!” 45. Start a new hand
17. “Nicks” and “n” of the world’s foremost authority on Dutch cheese (5) 46. Rx writers
18. ____ (adjective) 47. Candy bar whose name is an exclamation
19. Owner’s holding 48. Was able to attend
20. Apple instant-messaging program 49. Kindergarten song starter
22. Gerald Ford’s birthplace 51. Kindergarten song starter
23. “It’s All About Me” singer 52. Drummer’s reaction to a joke.
24. Cargo that doesn’t get tossed over the side of ship very easily 53. “De-lish!”
25. Sharp 54. Cargo that doesn’t get tossed over the side of ship very easily
26. Colony resident 55. Doorframe parts
27. 1988 Meg Ryan thriller 56. Tinkers who are driving us crazy
28. Colonel resident 57. “Rocks”
29. “It’s All About Me” singer 58. “Rocks”
30. Neighborhood in New York City that hosts an annual film festival 59. Barton of the Red Cross
31. Holy in the Roman Catholic Church 60. It’s 7,300 feet high in Nev.
32. Torment 61. Blue hue
33. “That’s _____ haven’t heard!” 62. “Chocolate” dog
34. Metallica drummer Lars Larsen 63. “De-lish!”
35. GPS suggestion 64. Afore
36. “Chocolate” dog 65. Compensate ... or a
38. ____ crossroads 67. Org. for 46-Across and 41-Down
39. What annoyed people 68. Field unit
40. “Rocks” 69. Second-string squad
41. Rx writers 70. Ship of Greek myth
42. Hip in the ’60s 71. Field unit
44. Comedian DeLuise 73. Sue of “LoLita”
45. Start a new hand 74. Field unit
46. Rx writers 75. “Chocolate” dog
47. Candy bar whose name is an exclamation 76. Fish
48. Was able to attend 77. Ship of Greek myth
49. Kindergarten song starter 78. “De-lish!”
50. Bellowing 79. “Chocolate” dog
51. Kindergarten song starter 80. “Chocolate” dog
52. Drummer’s reaction to a joke. 81. “Chocolate” dog
53. “De-lish!” 82. Fish
54. Cargo that doesn’t get tossed over the side of ship very easily 83. “De-lish!”
55. Doorframe parts 84. Field unit
56. Tinkers who are driving us crazy 85. “Chocolate” dog
57. “Rocks” 86. “Chocolate” dog
58. “Rocks” 87. “Chocolate” dog
59. Barton of the Red Cross 88. “Chocolate” dog
60. It’s 7,300 feet high in Nev. 89. “Chocolate” dog
61. Blue hue 90. “Chocolate” dog
62. “Chocolate” dog 91. “Chocolate” dog
63. “Chocolate” dog 92. “Chocolate” dog
64. “Chocolate” dog 93. “Chocolate” dog
65. Compensate ... or a 94. “Chocolate” dog
66. “Chocolate” dog 95. “Chocolate” dog
67. Org. for 46-Across and 41-Down 96. “Chocolate” dog
68. Field unit 97. “Chocolate” dog
69. Second-string squad 98. “Chocolate” dog
70. Ship of Greek myth 99. “Chocolate” dog
71. Field unit 100. “Chocolate” dog
72. A bit, colloquially 101. “Chocolate” dog
73. Sue of “LoLita” 102. “Chocolate” dog

This week’s Contenders:

Douglass Meyers, La Mesa, 9.

Joseph Cipriano, Little Italy, 9.

Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 9. No 8% cut, CVEVS.

William Cushing, Rancho
Bernardo, 9. Honk Mobley was
two nitwits in the same

dale Duffal, La Jolla, Carol
and Marie-have a fun trip!

Harry Engel, La Jolla, Go
Badgers!

Ellie Hoey, Spring Valley, 9. I
love New York

Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 9. I am at peace with the world

Elizabeth Holl, Alpine, 9. Bring
on the sun!

This week’s Contenders:

Ken A., Ocean Beach, 6.

Phil Glick, El Cajon, 8. I
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 8.
Wipe off the clouds and cheer up

George Jackson, Oceanside, 8.

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 8. Drafting
legislation is Congress’ job, not
yours, Barack

Woody Anderson, Carmel
Valley, 8. Little Mau Kra, welcome
to Cardifd by the Sea!

Jeff Battles, Ocean Beach, 8. I
missed you so much baby!

I am at peace with the world.

This week’s Contenders:

Flo Abena, Rancho Peñasquitos, 9.

Lucy Alderson, Chula Vista, 9.

Sloan A., Ocean Beach, 6.

Mary Arana, Encinitas, 9. Hi
To Steve our old neighboor

Leo Baggyler, Encinitas, 9. If I
start it, I can finish it

Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 9.

Happy birthday Bella and Emma

Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 9.

I love meatballs

Eric Cash, Escondido, 9.

Nobody can bad a move like my

Leslie Chase, Campo, 9.

Orange blooms in Anza Borrego

Desert

San Diego Reader

March 11, 2010

36
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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.

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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.

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**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:**

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**SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!**

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---

**THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS:**

- **EASY:** Don Bowman, Santee, 9. “It trunk was full of bongads. John Pestle, Santee, 9. We are all winners. Christ provides eternal redemption. Believe.”
- **MEDIUM:** D. Stewig, Santee, 9. “I’m on the left.”
- **HARD:** Erin Nogle, Ocean Beach, 8. “Rich congrats on beating me at the Commons! Yummy Pho. Terry Thomas, Chula Vista, 8. Spring has spring.”
- **SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:**

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**MITCH MILLIONS:**

- **MEDIUM:** Noah Sarrott, San Diego, 1. Reutob 126
- **EASY:** Dave Small, San Carlos, 9. Happy St Patty’s day!
- **MEDIUM:** Roy Bartolome, San Diego, 8. “Say! Who would’ve thought I know you this way.”
- **HARD:** Linda Bible, El Cajon, 8. “Happy anniversary sweetheart.”
- **MEDIUM:** Henry Chung, San Diego, 8. “Daylights savings time is coming, more light, yay!”
- **HARD:** William Stiewig, Vallejo, 8. “My roof leaks.”
- **EASY:** Dr. Dave Spera, Point Loma, 7. “Mike are the best.”
- **MEDIUM:** Elliot Estrine, Poway, 5. Go Aztecs and Aztecs WBB
- **HARD:** Emily Posedel, San Diego, 3. “Just Point Rocked!”
- **EASY:** Ed Roll, San Diego, 3. “Happy 13th birthday Edward!”
- **MEDIUM:** Steve Schorr, Encinitas, 3. Good Luck LT
- **HARD:** Jeffry Ross, Chula Vista, 3. “I love you Kim!”
- **EASY:** Joe Loeb, San Diego, 2. “SDVAMC sudoku expert.”
- **MEDIUM:** Matzera Metzger, San Diego, 2. “Game and glory.”
- **HARD:** P.W. Robinson, San Diego, 2. “Von. Ready to start new life adventure after first change.”
- **EASY:** Kelly Solis, San Diego, 2. “You George Buck is here.”
- **MEDIUM:** Marrie Souza, Ocean Beach, 2. “It’s a great day.”
- **HARD:** Dennis Beabout, Tencula, 1. “Save untold billions – End birthright citizenship like most developed countries.”
- **EASY:** Joan Baland, Bay Park, 1. “Happy Birthday to me.”
- **MEDIUM:** Gus Blikofker, Mission Beach, 1. “Evil next week!”
- **HARD:** George Elam, Vista, 1. “Happy Birthday Deann and Dominic.”
- **EASY:** Carlos Maldonado, El Cajon, 1. “Michelle Obama is just another.”
- **MEDIUM:** Tom Norris, Santee, 1. “Sometimes the dragon wins.”
- **HARD:** Steve Simons, City Heights, 1. “Great visit C and Pete and Rita.”
- **EASY:** Gail Strow, San Diego, 1. “#1 is on the way!”
- **MEDIUM:** Jodi Taylor, Mission Valley, 1. “We love baby Michaela!”
- **HARD:** David Tomasin, San Diego, 1. “Ok next week evil.”
- **EASY:** Joe Arbuso, Rancho Penasquitos, 1. “Lay down with hard.”
- **MEDIUM:** Loren Boyer, El Cajon, 1. “Save untold billions – End birthright citizenship like most developed countries.”
- **HARD:** Ralph Levy, La Jolla, 1. “Sudoku sure is addictive!”
- **EASY:** Bruce Ness, Mira Mesa, 1. “Does Mary Bently still play darts? Please call!”
- **MEDIUM:** Daniel, Point Loma, 1. “We don’t have Neopangans. We don’t even have mayapanese.”
- **HARD:** David Schwartz, Clairemont, 1. “Hard earned silver, US men’s and women’s six hockey teams.”
- **EASY:** Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 1. “The rain was nice, but enough already.”
- **MEDIUM:** Joe Steinbach, Clairemont, 1. “Save water! Fix leaks.”
- **HARD:** John Strauch, Point Loma, 1. “Walked Trias St. Climbed Piedras Grandes and Moon Benchmark.”
- **EASY:** Duane D. Tremaine, E. Village, 1. “The strong gods pine for my abode.”
- **MEDIUM:** Susan Williams, North Park, 1. “Thanks for all the puzzles.”
- **HARD:** Ric Witt, Clairemont, 1. “No more Olympics! have to watch the democrats implode.”
- **EASY:** Mark Xito, San Diego, 1. “Keep it coming!”

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A moment of silence for Chelsea
King.

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April 17.
Brainstorms
by Don Rubin

The Happy Medium

Ludwig Lazar Zamenhof was a born linguist. His father, Dr. Mark Zamenhof was a professor of languages, and his grandmother, Dvosh, talked a great deal. By the time he was 18, young Ludwig spoke Latin, Greek, Hebrew, German, Yiddish, Russian, Polish, English, French, and a smattering of Spanish. And a year later, in 1878, he leaned his own language — Esperanto — as sort of a happy medium.

Needless to say, Esperanto, as an international language never really caught on. And despite some rather enthusiastic promotion (in the person of Count Leo Tolstoy), fewer than two million people speak the language today.

Zamenhof created his own language — Esperanto — as sort of a happy medium. And a year later, in 1878, he created his own language — Esperanto — as sort of a happy medium.

Ah, but I’m not one of them,” you say. Fear not. Since the Esperanto vocabulary consists of words that are internationally known, the average English-speaking person is said to recognize between 70 and 75 percent of them without ever having studied the language.

Brezemple:

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Personal Message: ______________________________

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

1. malvera
2. aminda
3. averti
4. lauko
5. lingvo
6. dika
7. ekster
8. malbone
9. krismatino
10. aspekti
11. neprofesia
12. akvo
13. piedfingo
14. asperi
15. esperanto
16. kriegi
17. burgaro
18. fantomo
19. malgrandi
20. dudek
21. ksilofono
22. nenatura
23. gardhundo
24. misuzi
25. ardi
26. apoteko
27. malrapida
28. vespermanço
29. dikfingo
30. dek-du
31. malseka
32. kvadrato
33. papilio
34. genuo
35. peli
36. bombonoj
37. flankokupo
38. okazi
39. horloĝo
40. brosluro

BRAINSTORM PUZZLES:
RULES OF THE GAME
1) Submit one completed puzzle to the Reader each week for entry into another 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: Puzzles@sdreader.com. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.

THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS:

Flo Abena, Rancho Peñasquitos, 1. Gordocone and death metal - great music.
Colleen Adams, San Diego, 1. Same things you never forget.
Dotty Allen, San Diego, 1. Wow! Shorthand! Was learning and using it in the 50’s!
Joe Arbusto, San Diego, 1. Greek word “demokratia” literally means ‘people rule’.
Joline Asher, Rancho Peñasquitos, 1. ‘65 HS Grad. Loved shorthand!

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, San Diego, 1. Thank you for bringing back the old style reader puzzles.
Sandy Cordova, Ramona, 1. R.I.P. RTTC.
Margery Crochbie, San Diego, 1. Memories are made of this.
Claudia Del Casino, Carlsbad, 1. Living in CA is a dream come true.
Mike Deliman, Santee, 1. Love a grand Divorce is a hundred grand.

Jeanette Deutsch, San Diego, 1. I graduated high school in 1942 and still remember my shorthand.
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, San Diego, 1. Bring it on!
Liduvina Figueroa, Kearny Mesa, 1. I enjoyed very much doing this puzzle. I need to keep my brain working.
Debbie Garcia, Santee, 1. I like ‘em if you got ‘em!
Vivian Geaslin, San Diego, 1. Brainstorms egifies yourself.
Gertude Glück, Rancho Bernardo, San Diego, 1. I was the recipient of the Model Secretary Award.

L. Hemingway, Santee, 1. Very Enjoyable!
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 1. Thanks Don Rubin
Norman Kenny, Carlsbad, 1. California sunshine toomalenes! Hi Kenney’s, Kerr, Boddy!
Virginia Leary, Santee, 1. Thank you for remembering Gregg Shorthand.
Elbee Lee, Mission Valley, San Diego, 1. The world is as you see it.
Rachel Lucero, San Diego, 1. Shorthand made easy.
Pattie Mallin, Vista, 1. This is the 1st time I was able to put my knowledge of shorthand to use.

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. 51) 10 Reader T-shirts are awarded weekly to contest winners 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.

Carrie Marks, Hillcrest, San Diego, 1. Never give up.
Midge Martin, Carlsbad, 1. Don’t withhold the truth and the freedom it brings.
Helen McKenna, Bay Park, San Diego, 1. I hardly ever miss New Jersey.
Diane McMahon, El Cajon, 1. I use Reader coupons every week!
Mickey McCuaide, San Diego, 1. Finally! A use for this last art!
Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 1. Very cool.
Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 1. The revolution is coming! Smoke 'em if you got 'em!


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**Mesthe Mengistu**
Student/Stay At-Home Mom
North Park

Yes. It was in North Park. I had my car broken into there when I was a teenager. They didn’t actually steal my car; they broke into my car and stole everything out of it — my CDs and everything. But they didn’t take my car, which was pretty dumb because you didn’t need a key to start it — if you popped the clutch it would start. Then, a little while later, I got jumped and they stole my wallet. It was right by that park on El Cajon Boulevard, by the Wendy’s... I don’t know what it’s called. It was, like, six guys. They came up behind me, knocked me down on the ground and grabbed my wallet, and then I got hit in the face a bunch of times. I was young — I was 16. It was pretty traumatic. I never got anything back. The police never called me back.

**Jacob R. Vyan**
Field Representative
South Bay

Yes. Here in San Diego and across the border. One time they took the wallet, and one time I just handed them cash. One guy had a knife, and the other one had a gun. The Tijuana guy didn’t get caught, and the guy over here didn’t get caught either. I got robbed here in the Gaslamp just last Halloween. I picked the guy up and gave him a ride. He was supposed to pay me, and he wouldn’t pay me. Instead, he got out and took the rest of the money I had. He got about $100 from me.

**Heather Winfield**
Stay-at-Home Mom
Base

Yes! Everything in my house got taken from me; every single thing, including my fan. It was really hot — it was like a heat wave; I was really upset about that fan, I remember. It was at night. I can’t remember why, but I had to go to the hospital for some reason, and when I came back I’d been robbed. They broke in through a window in the apartment. We moved shortly after that. I wonder who did it because they had to have seen us leave. This was in Long Beach; it wasn’t in San Diego.

---

**Dominique Valdivia**
Lady in Waiting
Student

No, but my brother has. It was, like, a year ago. He was at the mall — Parkway Plaza, I think — and he was walking home at night. All he had on him was an iPod and money. The guy was, like, “Give me whatever you have.” My brother said, “Listen, man, you don’t want to do this. It’s not a big deal; I’ll give you what I have. Just please don’t hurt me. I love my family and I love my life too much for this to happen.” He gave him what he had, and the guy just ran away. He was just so thankful that he didn’t get harmed.

---

**Greg Gallagher**
Defense Research Analyst

Yeah. It was in Key West. They took my wallet while I was in a phone booth making a phone call. They pulled me gamp to where I was on the phone and took my wallet from me. I was on the Navy base at the time, so I contacted the base police. It was pretty wild. It was a long time ago. I think they were military, since it was the military on base. The weapons they looked like a military 45.

---

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<th>Property Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<th>W/D in unit</th>
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headline story — In all likelihood, convicted murderer Paul Powell would have been sentenced to life in prison for his 1999 crime, but he could not resist giving a piece of earth to the prosecutor. Powell’s original sentence of death was overturned because of a technicality in Virginia law: The “aggravated” circumstance in a murder that warrants the death penalty must be committed against the actual victim of the murder. (It was proved only that Powell had also raped the victim’s sister). Powell assumed that the prosecution against “double jeopardy” thus ruled out the death penalty and so decided to go, calling the prosecutor “stupid” and taunting him with details of his crimes. For the first time, Powell admitted that he had also raped the murder victim. That was evidence of a new aggravated circumstance (i.e., no “double jeopardy”), and the prosecutor obtained a death sentence. In January 2010, the U.S. Supreme Court rejected Powell’s appeal.

Can’t Possibly Be True — A Toronto restaurant, Mildred’s Temple Kitchen, announced that its Valentine’s Day promotion this year would not just be a romantic dinner but would also include an invitation for couples to have sex in the restrooms. Toronto Public Health officials approved of the promotion, which was held as long as there was no sex in food-preparation areas and as long as the restrooms were clean. “Bodily fluids” were not a concern, said one uninfected health official, because that’s what restrooms are for.

Inexplicable — Buffalo, N.Y., television meteorologist Mike Cejka was arrested in December after a brief police chase and charged with trespassing after he was spotted at 4 a.m. tinkering with the covering of a motorcycle in a stranger’s yard. Cejka told police he was on his way to work at the station and had merely stopped to admire the motorcycle he had remembered seeing in that yard over the summer. He was wearing a dress shirt and shoes and leather chaps topped by a pair of sweat shorts.

The Continuing Crisis — In February, the Board of Trustees of Saugatuck Township, Mich., scheduled a May referendum asking voters for an increase in the property tax in order to cover unanticipated new expenses. The budget overrun was due to the mounting costs of defending lawsuits by people and companies claiming that the township’s property taxes are too high.

— University of Montreal School of Social Work professor Simon Louis Lajeunesse, intending to research the effects of pornography on men’s relationships with women and needing a control group for comparison, advertised in the local community for up to 20 nonusers of pornography, but he was forced to radically alter his research model when no one signed up. Concluded Lajeunesse, in December: “Guys who do not watch pornography do not exist.”

Least Competent Criminals — Poorly Conceived: (1) Travis Copeland, 19, bolting from a courtroom in Waukegan, Ill., in January, ran down a hallway and then lowered his shoulder and thrust himself at a window, intending to crash through it to freedom. Copeland’s house windows are bulletproof, and Copeland merely bounced off, staggered away and fell to the floor in pain. (2) Chamil Guadarrama, 30, was arrested in Springfield, Mass., in February after a store security guard spotted him with 75 bottles of lotion stuffed down his pants legs (which were tied off at the ankles), making him look like a nearly immaculate Michelin Man. Said a cop: “[We] could not fit Mr. Guadarrama into the cruiser because...he could not bend over.”
Maranatha Chapel is a big church. The kind with a proper campus. The kind with a lot going on outside the Sunday service, including weekday small-group discussion of the previous Sunday’s sermon. (Sunday’s sermon notes offered questions for discussion: “Why must we cooperate with God for our spiritual growth?”) Out-reaches, small groups, retreats, missions, schools, all artfully presented in the expansive foyer — what was nothing compared to the main fellowship hall.

The band was heavy on rhythm — rumbling piano, thumping bass, crashing drums. Even the acoustic guitarists served to drive the songs along, through now and then they let the cellos/violin combo shine out. “These are the days of great trials/ Of famine and darkness and sword/ Still we are the voice in the desert Crying/ Prepare ye the way of the Lord!”

To that end, Pastor Bentley put forward Maranatha Chapel as a site for the great revival prophesized during the Azusa Street Revival in 1910. “March 21 through 24, we’re going to have time of prayer and fasting. I would like us to pray that Maranatha Chapel would be one of the places that God would send the Last Days’ outpouring of His Holy Spirit. Amen!”

“Amen!” shouted the people.

Before the sermon, Bentley offered a prayer addressing the untimely deaths of Povany’s Chelsea King and Escondido’s Amber Dubois.

“Heavenly Father, we come before You, and first of all, we thank You for hearing our prayers — for exposing darkness.” (Here, Bentley referred to an arrest in the King case.)

“For the tragic loss of both these girls — for their parents and families — there are no words. Our feelings run the gamut from sympathy and compassion to anger and rage. But, Father, we just pray for comfort... It’s kind of like an emotional earthquake, and it has made us feel very raw and vulnerable, and so we need you... We pray for your angels to watch over us, and that we would take care of one another. First father, I just pray that the reality of sin, the poison of it, would be

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exposed in a way that would cause people to cry out for mercy, and for help, and for love, and for Your presence and justice."

Wickedness and anger came up again during the sermon, which considered 2 Peter 3:1–2: "Make every effort to add to your faith goodness, knowl-
dge...self-control...perseverance...godliness...brotherly kindness...and love."

"Being born again is not really the end," Bentley explained, "it's the beginning. Where there is life, there must be growth, and spiritual growth doesn't happen automatically. We cooperate with the Holy Spirit...to become like Jesus." He cited Philippians 2:15: "Work out your salvation in fear and trembling." "Once you're saved, you work out your salvation. God has His part, and we have our part — to add these things."

Bentley confessed to struggling to compress and control his own feelings of anger, only to be called out by God. "The Lord said, 'Did I make you in My own image and after My own likeness? Have you ever noticed in the Bible that I get angry?... Where your anger leaves off, Mine is only beginning... I don't want to change the fact that you have feelings; I want to direct those feelings in My way and with My Spirit, for My will and My glory.'" Bentley addressed the people.

"How many of you agree that there are things going on in the world to be absolutely furious about, things that need to be cleansed, that need jus-
tice?" Then he noted that Christ's second com-
ing will bring judgment and even divine wrath. And yet: we are supposed to add self-con-
trol to faith. Bentley asked the people to read aloud from Proverbs: "Who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city." And more than self-control: love, the kind of love called agape in the Bible. "Agape love means loving in spite of the differences we have... It means, in fact, loving and being willing to lay down your life for your enemies. A tall order. Only God can do this, but these are the things that Peter is exhorting us to add to our faith."

At communion, he asked non-Christians to "let the tray pass. It's wise to count the cost of being a disciple. What is the cost? You give up control of everything in your life. You are no longer the center of your world."

What happens when we die?

Bentley cited John's Gospel: "God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that through Him, the world might be saved." He also said that, "We go before the Lord, and we believe that Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life — the unique way to an eternal relationship with Him."

— Matthew Luckona

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