

SAN DIEGO Reader

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APRIL 22, 2010

653
COUPONS
INSIDE

Broken

My wheels stopped at a crack. I didn't. Flying

skull

through the air, I looked at my right hand

Broken

clutching the leash. That was my last memory before

heart

the right side of my forehead met the pavement.

I Got Punked in Tijuana – See table of contents

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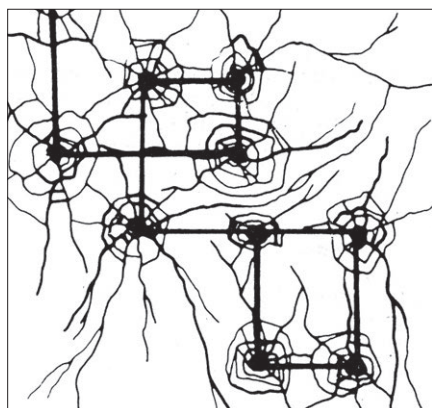
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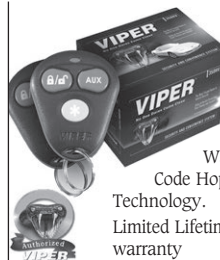


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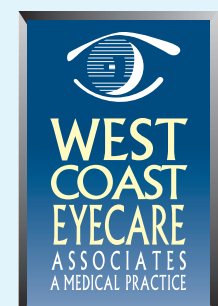
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UNDER THE RADAR

Best eaters money can buy

There may be no free lunches in this world, but free dinners are another matter, at least when the City's bond underwriters are picking up the tab and the diner is **Jay M. Goldstone**, top aide to San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders**. Goldstone, whose official title is chief operating officer, attended a "bond closing dinner" held to commemorate the "sale of city's water bonds" on February 2 of last year. Morgan Stanley, which managed the bond issue, picked up the check, valued on Goldstone's recently filed statement of economic interests at \$129. The month before, the City's Public Facilities Financing Authority had sold \$157 million worth of debt in the form of water revenue bonds through a syndicate led by Morgan.

Then last June 24, it was Banc of America and Citibank's turn to do the honors, paying \$166 for Goldstone's meal at a closing dinner for the sale of a City sewer bond issue. In that case, \$453.8 million in debt was issued. Chowing down with Goldstone at both events was **Mary Lewis**, the mayor's chief financial officer.

Wall Street firms weren't the only ones to feed Goldstone's face. Public Policy Strategies, the campaign consulting and lobbying outfit run by the mayor's top political guru, **Tom Shepard**, paid \$200 so Goldstone could make an appearance at the Golden Watchdog and Fleece Awards dinner thrown last May 13 by the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, a business interest lobbying group. Many other mayoral staffers also got free passes to that event from various special interests.

Merriam Mountains, the Escondido-based development outfit whose controversial 2700-unit subdivision was voted down earlier this year by county supervisors, gave **Stephen Michael Lew**, the mayor's director of community outreach, a \$200 ticket. **Gerry Braun**, director of the mayor's special projects, got in thanks to the Westfield Group, owner of Horton Plaza and other big shopping centers. The Barona Indian tribe paid for community and legislative affairs policy director **Julie Dubick's** admission. **Denice Garcia**, a community outreach staffer, went courtesy of cell-phone giant Qualcomm. Deputy policy director **Philip Rath** reported owing his attendance at the dinner to Poseidon Resources, the desalination firm that is a regular donor to various Sanders

causes. Unlike the others, deputy press secretary **Rachel Gibb Laing** valued her admission to the event, reportedly received directly from the Taxpayers Association, at \$135. Her boss, director of communications **Darren Pudgil**, also reported that his ticket, worth \$200, came from the association.

On the borderline The campaign of ex-Safeco Insurance lobbyist and former assemblyman **Juan Vargas**, now running for state senate, got \$1500 on April 5 from ex-city schools superintendent **Alan Bersin**. The Point Loma resident was recently named head of U.S. Customs by President **Barack Obama** in a so-called recess appointment after the Senate Finance Committee stalled his confirmation while "trying to resolve conflicting information" about documentation and disclosure regarding his household employees, according to a statement from GOP Senator **Charles Grassley**. Southern Wine and Spirits of America, based in Hollywood, Florida, kicked in \$2500 to the Vargas campaign on April 2, and the California Real Estate PAC (known as CREPAC) gave \$7800 on April 7. ... In the wake of his bitter divorce, ex-Padres owner **John Moores** is said to have decamped from his Rancho Santa Fe estate to spend most of his time in his home state of Texas. But if so, he apparently still has a soft spot in his heart for **Jerry Brown**, California's Democratic attorney general who is running for governor. On April 9, according to state disclosure filings, Moores gave the Brown campaign a total of \$39,000. In addition, a limited liability company by the name of Chula Vista 344 Office LLC gave \$5000. State records show that its corporate agent is **Steve Peace**, the former state senator and a consultant to Moores.

Qualcomm founder **Irwin Mark Jacobs** and his wife **Joan** kicked in \$20,000. Local \$2500 donors included venture capitalist **Ted Roth**; Rancho Santa Fe biotech maven **Tina Nova**; and Carlsbad's **Horace Hogan II**, chief operating officer of Brehm Communities. Old Town's Café Coyote co-owner **Lehn Goetz** gave \$8400 to front-running GOP gubernatorial candidate **Meg Whitman**.

— 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.



Jay Goldstone



Mary Lewis



Charles Grassley



Irwin Jacobs

Damned If Do, Damned If Don't

By Don Bauder

In the financial industry, deregulation has been a disaster. So has regulation. Damned if you do, damned if you don't. In the past

decade, the big Wall Street banks have concocted one highly complex swindle after another to conceal their own liabilities and those of their clients, including companies, cities, and countries. But the regulators have stood by and let it happen — even stating in writing that extremely dubious financial instruments were okay.

Feckless regulation and reckless banking have gone hand in hand.

Early this month, the *New York Times* ran an op-ed by four law professors telling how Wall Street has bullied

its regulators. The Enron debacle of 2001 had revealed how the big banks created complex products whose only purpose was to help



Arthur Lipper: Reward whistle-blowers



Gary Aguirre: Put violators in jail



James Hamilton: Regulation can't adapt fast enough



Jim Welsh: Break up big banks

companies transform their debt into capital or revenue — rather like changing feces into chocolate ice cream. Shareholders of shaky com-

The various bank regulators, including the Federal Reserve, felt they had to react to the public uproar over Enron. In 2004, they issued a milquetoast statement on complex instruments. But the pronouncement said these products should not be used to evade the law and financial institutions should be

continued on page 12

Michael Fanghella Seeking \$150,000 Job A former executive from Rancho Santa Fe...wants a "CEO consultancy" position...

Local Unemployment Rate Back to 11% The comparable rate for California was 13% and the nation 10.2%....

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

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The Check Will Never Be in the Mail

By Dorian Hargrove

'Not my responsibility' is the answer I get wherever I turn. When a government agency incorrectly collects taxes, why will no one accept responsibility?" said Kathy Casey, as she peered through black-rimmed glasses at the management committee of downtown's Property and Business Improvement Dis-

Safe Program has received \$260,000 more than it should have from property owners. Of those 2400 people, most are unaware of the blunder. The few who do know are troubled that nobody from

mittee members at a dark mahogany table in the plush B Street offices of Downtown San Diego Partnership, closed his eyes and leaned

us what the status was and what the solutions are. At this point we're still waiting."

Casey knows all about waiting. She's sick of waiting, and she's sick of the City's inaction. She says it's not the \$133 she's owed that upsets her; it's the unethical way City officials have handled the matter.

The problem started in 2005, when downtown residents voted to continue the Clean and Safe Program another ten years. At that time, the City hired a new consultant, SCI Consulting Group, whose job included determining property assessments. Assessments are based on both the property's square footage and its linear feet of street frontage. In calculating the fees for property owners in new buildings — those being assessed for the first time —

continued on page 13



The Clean and Safe Program pays for worker to clean downtown streets.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALAN DECKER



Despite councilman Kevin Faulconer's involvement, downtown residents haven't received refunds.



Downtown partnership received \$260,000 in over-assessments.

the City, their councilman's office, or the Downtown San Diego Partnership has done anything to alert the citizens and refund their money.

As Casey spoke, Bill Sauls, who sat with his fellow com-

back in his beige leather chair.

After Casey finished her statement, Sauls responded, "When we were first made aware of this, we contacted the City to investigate the situation and report back to



Kathy Casey determined that 38 units in her 54-unit building had been over-assessed.

STRINGERS

Tippy Truck

Construction Truck Flips Over on Off-Ramp

Lemon Grove — On April 12, a little before 2:00 p.m., the driver of a construction truck with a heavy load of concrete and wood debris failed to negotiate the curve of the Broadway off-ramp from east-



Heavy load couldn't make the turn

bound Highway 94. It was speculated that the truck tipped over on its side when the load shifted while the driver was making the tight turn.

Emergency units from the Lemon Grove Fire Department and California Highway Patrol quickly responded to the accident. The driver was immediately taken by paramedics for treatment of his injuries, believed to be non-life-threatening. Traffic from the off-ramp and Broadway Avenue was rerouted while emergency units and cleanup crews from the fire department and construction company attended to the scene.

Within a couple hours, the area was back to normal and traffic on Broadway and the off-ramp was flowing as usual.

By Dionisio Academia
Monday, April 12

Evil Pimp

TJ Police Track Down Pimp, Arrest for Rape Tijuana — A would-be TJ

pimp was popped by the policía for "privó de libertad" (depriving of liberty) a female minor and raping her several times over a period of days in an attempt to cajole her into joining his retinue of play-for-pay gals.

Sub-prosecutor of Zona Tijuana, Martha Topete, announced that Elias Ramirez Velásquez, 28 years old, using the nom de pimp of "El Primo" on business cards that promote his escort delivery service, was vigorously rebuffed by his victim when he initially tried to convince her that

he could do a lot for her after their chance meeting in a taxi.

On April 7, he decided to kidnap his recalcitrant prospect, throw her into a panel truck, and take her to his crib, where he raped her several times and took photos of her forced degradation. On



"El Primo" was all business and more

April 9, he raped her again and left, whereupon neighbors, hearing the victim's desperate screams, came to her rescue.

Police were informed of the girl's plight and tracked down Velásquez at a motel, where he was pimping out another girl.

According to Frontera, the rape victim said that Velásquez told her he wanted to pimp her out for 1000 pesos (around

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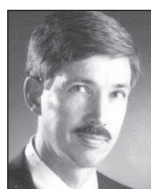
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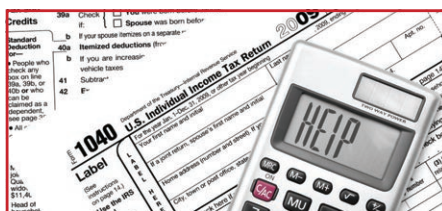


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Damned if do, don't

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sure that buyers of the instruments understood them.

The banks howled. The regulators caved. In 2006, the weak-kneed regulators came out with another explanatory paper, "Interagency Statement on *Sound Practices* Concerning Elevated Risk Complex Structured Finance Activities" (italics mine). Get this: the regulators defined "complex structured finance" transactions as those that "lack economic or business purpose" and are "designed or used primarily for questionable accounting, regulatory or tax objectives." Asked the professors in the *Times*, "How does one propose 'sound practices' for practices that are inherently unsound?" Good question.

The professors stated their own opinion: "Products having no economic purpose except to achieve questionable accounting" or products that customers will use to "issue materially misleading financial statements" should be prohibited. That's a no-brainer. Illegalities should be illegal. But the regulators didn't ban them. It was like a preacher singing the praises of sin.

No wonder the banks went loco creating products that led to fraud. It was hardly surprising that the banks' irresponsible product creation, gambling, and piling up of debt almost pushed the world's economy off the cliff — and still might.

American taxpayers rescued the crooked financial institutions, which then used the money partly to hire lobbyists to thwart reform. I asked San Diego financial experts about our banking dilemma: *laissez-faire* doesn't work, but neither does regulation. What can we do? "Banks should be broken up so no bank is ever too big to fail again," says Carlsbad money manager E. James

CITY LIGHTS

Welsh. The most complex instruments — derivatives — "should be standardized and traded through a central clearing house." Regulators would referee the process.

Del Mar's Arthur Lipper III, who belongs to a long-

CITY LIGHTS

blocked the move and fired Aguirre. Congressional investigators and the agency's own internal inspector general said Aguirre was right to press for the interview and his firing was unjust. But the agency is still fighting his claim before the Merit Sys-

No wonder the banks went loco creating products that led to fraud.

time powerful Wall Street family, says whistle-blowers should be rewarded as fraud penalties are increased. "It is only in creating whistle-blowing rewards and severe penalties for those involved in breaching regulations that regulatory enforcement can be timely and successful," says Lipper. "Once identified, the guilty parties and abettors — including involved law and accounting firms — should be dealt with harshly."

Agrees San Diegan Gary Aguirre, former investigator for the Securities and Exchange Commission, "Call anybody in the SEC and ask what's the best way to deter violations of securities laws, and 90 percent will say, 'Put them [violators] in jail.'"

In 1999, Congress passed the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, which repealed parts of the Glass-Steagall Act of 1933. Glass-Steagall had mandated the separation of investment and commercial banks. The 1999 act allowed the various Wall Street firms — investment banks, securities firms, and insurance companies — to consolidate. Gramm-Leach-Bliley gave big banks "a pass to the gaming tables," says Aguirre, who is now in a pitched battle with his former employer, the Securities and Exchange Commission. While at the agency, Aguirre had wanted to interview one of Wall Street's biggest big shots; top-level bureaucrats at the agency

tems Protection Board.

Both Aguirre and Lipper point to the so-called revolving door: lawyers at the regulatory agencies protect crooks, then go to work for \$2 million a year for Wall Street law firms or brokerage houses. "As long as it is the Wall Street law and investment banking firms which are the likely future employers of many employees of regulating agencies, it is unlikely there is going to be stringent enforcement," says Lipper. The Wall Street law firms completely control the Securities and Exchange Commission, says Aguirre. On Friday the agency made damaging charges against powerhouse Goldman Sachs; to establish credibility, the agency must not back down.

Welsh points out that as the housing bubble inflated, mortgage originators packaged and sold the loans to Wall Street, which then securitized them and peddled them to investors. So lenders had no incentive to make sure the borrower could pay off the mortgage. "Go back to the old lending standards, which required buyers to allocate no more than 33 percent of their income for a mortgage payment," says Welsh. And once again, mortgage originators must verify borrowers' income — no more liar loans. Mortgage originators should be forced to hold 5 percent of the mortgage "and be first to absorb any loss." And rating agen-

cies, which gave AAA ratings to securitized mortgages that were a bunch of junk “should be paid by the buyers, not the issuers.” It’s amazing that this blatant conflict of interest has gone on so long.

James Hamilton, economics professor at the University of California San Diego, says it’s a myth that all the financial woes were caused by deregulation. He says the Federal Reserve did not have significant regulatory authority over investment banks like Lehman Brothers. A major villain was the so-called shadow banking system in which nonbanks (hedge funds, for example) make loans without regulatory supervision.

Regulators didn’t move on the shadow banking system. “Failing to develop new regulatory structures for the new financial arrangements proved to be a terrible policy error,” says Hamilton. “But rather than blame it on a laissez-faire philosophy, it is more constructive to recognize it for what it is — the difficulty in continually adapting the regulatory structure to a changing world.”

Either way, the regulators screwed up. The bankers went bonkers, and the rest of us rushed into bunkers.

But will anything be done? “The odds of any of these changes becoming reality is near 0 percent,” says Welsh. “Both political parties are owned by powerful lobbies”—and Wall Street’s lobbies are among the most potent. ■

Never in the Mail

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SCI used a different method than had been used in prior years. Instead of using a formula that seems to have involved dividing the entire square footage of a building by the number of units, as had been done in the past, SCI used the parcel size — the actual square footage of each condo. People in older buildings continued to be

assessed according to the old calculation. This meant that in the older buildings, most property owners paid the same assessment regardless of the actual square footage of their condos, e.g., the owner of a 1100-square-foot parcel paid just as much as the owner of a 1900-square-foot parcel in the same building. In addition, people in the older buildings were assessed for the common areas, while people in the new buildings were not. Downtown dwellers in older buildings paid anywhere from \$32 to \$500 more per year than people with same-sized condos in the new buildings.

Sitting on an antique sofa in a modern citrine-colored townhouse in the Cortez neighborhood, Katherine DiFrancesca, a middle-aged woman dressed in a black business suit and wearing a designer scarf, says she paid \$507.48 extra per year for four consecutive years. The mistake was due to more than just the calculation method.

DiFrancesca learned of the error back in June 2009 after talking with her friend and neighbor Rita Collier. Collier suggested she take a look at the assessment roll and make sure the square footage on her townhouse was accurate. It wasn’t. The City listed DiFrancesca’s condominium at 12,412 square feet. The actual square footage is just over 2000.

Looking back, DiFrancesca says she never thought to question the amount listed on the tax bill. “I just paid the bills because I figured that it was right. There was never any explanation on the bill. But apparently somebody got the numbers wrong — they transposed numbers or got distracted, who knows.”

Casey, Collier, and DiFrancesca wrote to the mayor’s office and to their councilmember, Kevin Faulconer. They also emailed and phoned Luis Ojeda, a program manager in the City Planning and Community Investment Department, to inform him of the errors. The women never expected

that the email exchange between themselves and Ojeda would go on for over seven months.

Ojeda’s first response came in a June 17 email: “I already have assurances that this issue has been corrected for 2009–10 and we will also correct the previous years if they were incorrectly assessed. Typically under this type of circumstance we either issue a refund check to the property owners or apply a credit towards the following assessment year. I will also try to ensure that the other property owners need not file an appeal as we will work making any corrections.”

Casey was pleased to hear that future assessments would be correct and that Ojeda had met with Mayor Sanders and Faulconer. She took Ojeda at his word that the City would issue refunds, and she assumed the City would notify all 2400 residents.

Casey volunteered to work on behalf of everyone in her building. She spent nearly 15 hours a week scrolling through the assessment rolls to see how many of her neighbors had been incorrectly assessed. After she determined that 38 units in her 54-unit building had been affected, Casey searched the entire district, arriving at the estimate of 2400 owners.

Months passed, and there was no word from Ojeda. On September 4, 2009, Casey sent him another email. “I am concerned that I haven’t been told how the refunds are to be made for the incorrect assessments. In June, you stated that either there would be a credit on the following assessment year or a refund check would be issued.”

Two and a half weeks later, Ojeda replied. “We are working with the comptroller’s office on issuing refunds. We will submit refund checks to the owners in your unit.”

He added that the City would refund overcharges for only the previous year, not for all four years when

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the inequity occurred.

Casey responded: "Your offer to refund for only one year to only the property owners who filed an appeal is not acceptable. I will continue to pursue this for all the taxpayers that were incorrectly assessed."

Another two months went by, and Casey hadn't heard back from Ojeda. At the November Property and Business Improvement District meeting, Ojeda informed Casey that Adam Wander at the city attorney's office was handling the matter. Casey contacted Wander on December 10, and he informed her that attorney-client privilege prevented him from discussing the overcharge with her.

Casey went back to her computer, and on January 4 she typed in Ojeda's familiar email address. "It has now been over six months since you met with Councilman Faulconer and Mayor Sanders. Why haven't the affected citizens been notified of the incorrect charges? Continuing to hide this error does not give me any confidence in the ethics of city government."

Two weeks later, Ojeda emailed Casey, instructing her to file a form with the Office of Risk Management. He included the form for Casey to download.

"The form is totally inappropriate," Casey told me on January 30, two days before she submitted it. "It's for damage to persons and property. It asks for Social Security number, the date of the accident, and witnesses. It's not the right form, and it is starting to seem like the City is trying to hide this from the public."

Casey and her friend Carol Marino, who was also overcharged on her assessment, delivered their completed forms on February 1 to the Office of Risk Management, located in the Civic Center

complex.

Tony Manolatos, spokesperson for Councilmember Faulconer, was confident in a February 6 phone interview that this was the course to take. "[Councilmember Faulconer] has met with city staff, and he has been assured that everyone overcharged will be reimbursed. We are directing folks to file a claim with Risk Management."

The reason Faulconer had not informed his constituents of the problem, Manolatos said, was that "We don't have a list of names of folks that have been overcharged, and there is no list we can grab and use as a mailer. If there was we would certainly do that."

When asked why Faulconer's office didn't notify everyone in the Property and Business Improvement District of the error so people could check the assessment roll themselves to see if they were overcharged, Manolatos replied, "Yeah, I suppose you could go that route."

The response from John Hanley, executive director of Clean and Safe, wasn't much different. In a February 8 email, Hanley said it is the City, not the Property and Business Improvement District, that is responsible for the mistake. "When this issue was brought to our attention, we immediately contacted the City to have them address this issue. The City is responsible for the assessment process."

Additional calls placed to Hanley asking why the Downtown San Diego Partnership had failed to notify residents of the problem were not returned. Phone calls and emails to Ojeda were not returned.

On February 18, Casey received a letter from the Office of Risk Management stating that her claim had been denied. "Because the claim was not presented within the time allowed by law, no action was taken on the claim," read the letter.

Casey and DiFrancesca filed appeals.

On April 8, City Attorney Jan Goldsmith informed Casey that her claim had been forwarded to SCI's insurance carrier. Goldsmith concluded his letter by saying, "We apologize for the lengthy process and trust SCI's insurance carrier will be responding to you, and to the City, soon."

"The City is very important to me," DiFrancesca says, "and when you treat your citizens this way, people lose trust. When you see the City operating like you don't exist and nobody calls you back, it's really disturbing."

"When I make a mistake and overpay on my federal or state taxes, they contact me and say, 'Here's a check.' You would expect that governments always refund what you overpay. It's a matter of ethics and morality." ■

STRINGERS

continued from page 7

80 bucks), and she'd get 700 of the amount while he kept 300.

By T.B. Beaudeau
Thursday, April 15

Three-Legged Race Fiscal Issues a Theme in Mayor Debate

Chula Vista — Dozens of Chula Vista residents gathered inside the Chula Vista Civic Center Library on April 12 to witness the three candidates for mayor — incumbent Cheryl Cox, councilmember Steve Castaneda, and longtime resident and educator Dr. Jorge Dominguez — square off in a question-and-answer forum sponsored by the Northwest Civic Association.

The three candidates sat at two banquet tables at the front of the stage. Not long after Cox started her opening statement did a centralized theme for the night emerge, the city's shaky financial standing. In the past three years, the city has had to cut more than 250 employees, and city revenues have decreased by nearly 25 percent.

"We have to run the city the same way we run our family bank account. We can't spend more money than we have," the first-term incumbent Cox said during her statement.

The statement left an opening for newcomer politician Dominguez and councilmember Castaneda to pin Chula Vista's financial straits on the incumbent.

During his statement, Dominguez commented on the reasons why the city lacks the fiscal sustainability that Cox referred to. The 33-year Sweetwater School District employee said that the development of the bay front is the key to a stable economy.

"You might ask yourself why hasn't this been done. The reason, I believe, is ineffective leadership."

Castaneda agreed and urged residents to take a look at the mayor's record

during her three years in office. "Our city and the people that live here need relief now."

The election for mayor and two city councilmembers will be held on June 8.

By Dorian Hargrove
Wednesday, April 14

Need More Cops

Police Force Stretched Thin in P.B.?

Pacific Beach — On April 15, at approximately 8:40 p.m., an SDPD van and patrol car arrived at the CVS pharmacy on Garnet Avenue. As I approached the three officers standing in the parking lot outside the store, I overheard one of them say to the parking lot security guard, "We're the only three in the city. The City laid everybody else off." I snapped a few photos, introduced myself, and mentioned that I'd overheard his comment.

"It just feels that way," he said. "We're just really, really busy."

In speaking with the security guard, I learned that the incident had involved a drunken homeless man who was reported to have entered the pharmacy and pushed a shopper to the ground. The man took off before police had arrived. The security guard stated that he had headed in a westerly direction.

On my way inside the pharmacy to interview the store manager, I encountered two seemingly homeless people who had set up camp on the sidewalk just outside the store entrance-way: an elderly female in a wheelchair and a 5'6" man in his late 50s. As I walked past them, the homeless man rushed toward me, and with his face just inches from mine, he yelled three times in

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STRINGERS

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rapid succession, "I'm an ex-Navy SEAL!"

By Carolyn Grace Matteo

Friday, April 16

They've Got to Be Removed

Wheelchaired Resident Pleads for Homeless Removal

East Village — The 16th Avenue sidewalk — between Market Street and Island Avenue in the East Village — is known around the neighborhood as a hangout for the homeless. At night and on most days, they can be seen with bedding spread out on the sidewalk, or they're camped inside tents.

Dorothy Lazenby, a disabled downtown resident, pleaded with the city council on April 13 to help clear the area during the day. According to Lazenby, she's had problems navigating the sidewalk when trying



Sidewalk navigation compromised

to go to her storage facility on the corner of 16th and Market.

"How do you expect to use a wheelchair on the walk when it's blocked in the daytime?" asked Lazenby. Lazenby says she has difficulty reaching her storage space with blankets all over the sidewalk.

"Good old mayor lets them sleep at night; I have no problem with that. When daytime come, they've got to be removed."

Lazenby says that she will keep going before the council until the matter is addressed. "People can't get access to their storage. I pay high fees. If I

didn't pay high fees down there, I could care less."

By Nathaniel Uy

Thursday, April 15

Curfew Confusion

Conflicting Numbers in Youth Crime Reports

San Diego — On Friday, April 16, Sandra McBrayer from the Children's Initiative, a local nonprofit agency, presented the San Diego County report card on children and families to the Public Safety Committee for The San Diego Association of Governments.

The report gives recommendations on ways to improve school attendance, decrease juvenile crime, and reduce alcohol-related car accidents for underage drivers.

One graph included in the report card was entitled "Child Victim of Violent Crimes." The graph showed that in 2008 the majority of violent crimes perpetrated on children

under the age of 17, including robbery, aggravated assault, rape, and murder, occurred between the hours of 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. After 4 p.m., the number of violent crimes decreased from 506 to 342 between 9 p.m. and midnight.

Despite already reviewing the data at the February 9 meeting, chair of the county board of supervisors Pam Slater-Price questioned the numbers used for the graph.

"So, the county is in the process of adopting a curfew ordinance, much like the City of San Diego," said Slater-Price after the presentation. On March 2, Slater-Price and her colleagues enacted a new county ordinance making it illegal for minors to be out past ten o'clock.

"We were being told that there's actually a spike [in violent crimes] after ten o'clock," said

Slater-Price.

The county supervisor appeared baffled at the conflicting data from McBrayer: "It seemed to be that before ten o'clock was better than after ten, yet this [data] seems to refute that."

By Dorian Hargrove

Saturday, April 17

Get Money This Way, City

Resident Persists on Lack of Citations

Pacific and Mission Beach —

On June 4, 2008, James Olson appeared before the San Diego City Council to discuss the lack of citations issued to pet owners who bring their dogs to Pacific and Mission Beach boardwalks during restricted hours.

Nearly two years later, Olson returned to the city council during the April 13 meeting to say that

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LEGENDS
HOME FURNISHINGS

STRINGERS

continued from page 16

there continues to be plenty of dog owners in violation of city code at the boardwalk, and there is still no enforcement.

Olson claims that he has seen — on numerous occasions — lifeguards and police officers petting dogs and interacting with them during restricted times but not writing citations.

"This is a big problem. The last time I was here, I was told the lifeguards' and the police officers' role was to enforce this code," said Olson at the meeting.

The enforcement of city codes — such as smoking, drinking, and dog violations — at the boardwalk, Olson believes, could bring in "millions" of revenue for the city.

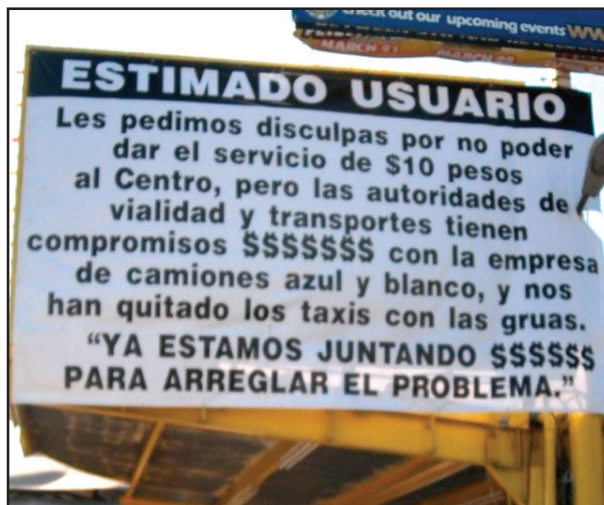
He stated that city employees at the beach should be reminded that code enforcement is part of their job.

By Nathaniel Uy
Saturday, April 17

Dollar Days Done?

Border Cabs Strong-Armed by Bus Carrier
Tijuana — Yellow Cab of Tijuana has hung a sign from its border cab lot to let riders know it's halted a month-old program that offered one-dollar group-rate rides from the border to downtown.

Yellow Cab blames the curtailment on longtime carrier Azul y Blanco bus line, which allegedly complained to the local transportation authorities that the cab company was stomping on its "cheap fare" turf (the route from the border to the corner



Yellow Cab's sign hints at dirty laundry

of Calle Tercera and Constitución downtown).

A large sign hanging over the Yellow Cab lot offers apologies to customers and indicates that the cessation of service was the result of a dispute with the local transportation authorities and the cozy relationship they have with the bus line, traditionally the "cheap dollar" carrier to the downtown area. The sign indicated that some Yellow Cabs have been towed away at the behest of Azul y Blanco.

Normally, cab rides from Yellow command a five-dollar solo price, but the economic slowdown drove the company to slash rates, which ultimately put it in

competition with the bus line. Yellow Cab strongly hinted that the dispute is all about money and "compromisos" (prearranged and somewhat suspect agreements) between Azul y Blanco and the powers that be.

By T.B. Beaudeau
Friday, April 16

Cortez' Compadre

Modern High-Rise Add-On Nixed by Residents
Downtown — Inside Centre City Development Corporation's fourth-floor meeting room on Wednesday, April 14, downtown developer Peter Janopaul spoke to the objections that a handful of residents had raised about his newest proposal to build an 18-story high-rise on the back terrace of downtown's historic El Cortez building.

"Frankly, it is an old idea that historic resources must be elevated on some pedestal," Janopaul said. He added that the juxtaposition between the old El Cortez building and his modern design complements the 1927 Spanish Colonial-inspired building, linking the past with today's aesthetic.

During the past four years, Janopaul's fought hard to develop the parcel. In 2006, he submitted his first proposal for his 18-story building. Shortly after, the city's historical resource board started to

raise concerns about the height and mass of the building, and Janopaul scaled the design down to 13 stories. This time around, Janopaul demolished the proposal for a 13-story residential building and resurrected his plans for an 18-story, 118-unit residential tower.

Shortly after corporation chair Fred Maas introduced the agenda item, architect Ricardo Sabines presented sketches of the proposal. "Our objective was to create a sister building to the El Cortez, like friends sitting next to each other at the top of the hill," the architect said in a thick Latin accent. The designs showed a modern glass tower, ellipsoidal in shape, abutting the northeast façade of the El Cortez.

Those opposed to the project didn't agree that the two buildings had much in common.

"This is a tremendous distraction from the El Cortez. It calls attention to itself and, frankly, looks like the El Cortez in drag," one speaker said during public comment.

Other speakers referred to 777 Beech Tower as an "unpleasant shadow" to a "precious historical resource."

By Dorian Hargrove
Wednesday, April 14

Comments

1. The Yellow Cab syndicate has historically controlled transportation (through questionable tactics at times including documented violence against the competition) of pedestrian tourists from the border to downtown Tijuana for many decades. In my opinion, this is deserved karma for their mistreatment of fellow *tijuanenses* trying to scrape out a living in these difficult economic and political conditions concerning tourism in

Tijuana. The once-strong become the now-weak. While I feel for the drivers of the Yellow Cabs, I can't imagine anyone that has witnessed their dominating influence over the years who doesn't consider in some way that those who have exhibited such questionable behavior often deserve what comes their way.

Or, more simply stated, payback is a bitch.

By refriedgringo
11:36 a.m., Apr 16

Coffee Party Pooper

Protester Disrupts

Congressman's Talk

North Park — The San Diego chapter of the Coffee Party drew close to 100 people to a discussion with Democratic congressman Bob Filner on April 11 at Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center in North Park. Attendees from across San Diego and communities such as Oceanside, Ramona, and Escondido came to the upstart political group's "Coffee with Congress" event.

"Number one," said Filner, discussing issues facing the country, "we have to change the financing of campaigns." His remark drew cheers and applause from the crowd, as the Coffee Party has placed campaign finance reform at the top of its legislative wish list.

During the first several minutes of the event, a lone protester outside the building shouted criticisms of Filner and held a sign comparing President Obama to the Nazis. Eventually, the protester's sign was broken by a man who said he was blocked from his car.

By Shane Finneran
Monday, April 12

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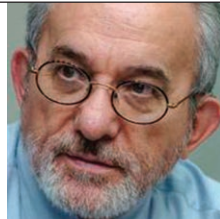
Yonder MESSAGES FROM TIJUANA Lies It

by Julio Martinez

A TIJUANENSE WOULD NOT BE CAUGHT DEAD SELLING CORN ON THE COB FROM A CART.



Antonio Navalón:
Remember his Tijuana,
“Third Nation”?



Jesús Blancornelas:
Wanted to patent the term
tijuanense



Luis Urrea: Tijuana lingo
sounds like Spanish but is
far from it.

The Tijuana Identity

Despite the fact that crime accosts daily life (we're rather unaccustomed to guns and cadavers), some *tijuanenses* bicker about who is to be called a *tijuanense* and who is not. Is living in Tijuana enough to be considered a *tijuanense*?

As I write this, there are several projects at hand in which the government insists on telling *tijuanenses* who they ought to be. The current fashion is to express roots and permanence, allegiance to the city. Even outsiders see this as a playground for their identity ideas. One of these projects is called “Fronteras,” or borders, whose leitmotif is to infuse a sense of belonging...as if we don't know where we are from. Fresh breeding ground based on old-age nationalism.

People in government have always worried that people in Tijuana don't have a sense of belonging, or roots. It's one of those vestiges that people in the capital both fear and work on, with slight mutations for every generation. This is nothing but friendly antiyankeeism: as if speaking English or adopting more Anglo customs will erode the border and swallow TJ...yes, they do go for that sort of ideology. For us born in the '60s, in some cases the jingoism didn't stop short of telling you how to think. Believe it or not, the government once tried to stop people from naming their children with Anglo names.

People in power have always feared the *tijuanense*, and they always want to mess with us. In fact, they never speak of us. Unfortunately, we are easy pickings because real *tijuanenses* (born and raised in Tijuana) are rather few in number. Yet there is a need to let life go on; ignore the trials and tribulations of the everyday. *Pan y circo* as the Romans used

to say — *panem et circenses*, that is, bread and games. So, enter the identity industry, whose budget grows by the years.

A local effort to inculcate belonging is a soap opera called *Vive Tu Casa*, which, translated, means *Live Your House* (which I am sure some bilingual *tijuanenses* get a smirk out of). The soap opera is about a young man who isn't born in Tijuana and laments seeing how bad everyone is talking about the city. The protagonist thinks Tijuana deserves much better (do tell, I kept saying to myself as I saw the internet videos). There is a point in the story where some locals point out that he isn't born here.

The most current effort to instill identity is by a local group of people who defend the city's reputation, and if we are to believe them, they have nothing to do with the government. They call themselves Reaccionaria Tijuana, and their method is to display billboards with catchy messages that are supposed to awaken consciousness about the city. Though one can recognize the uphill battle these folks have, they assure us that the campaign “*no será una campaña más de identidad tijuanense, ni intentará provocar un bonito sentimiento alentador.*” Loosely translated, “This won't be another *tijuanense* identity campaign, nor will it try to create a fluffy sentiment [toward the city].”

At Least One Parent From Tijuana

Why the need to infuse a sense of identity, of belonging? Most people who stay in Tijuana are what I called dormant immigrants. Sooner or later they will end up in the U.S. — legally, too. In the meantime, these citizens labor. In part, the previous campaigns targeted these

people. As Mexican standards go, people who work hard do well in Tijuana. And when they do well, you can find their faces in the *sociales* sections of newspapers, where well-to-do people pay to appear when wanting to climb the social ladder. They are happy and want everybody to know about it. Parties, baby showers, weddings, bachelor's and *quinceañera* parties...they want to show *tijuanenses* that they are well off. (Which, these days, is tantamount to telling the local burglar you're going off on vacation.) Some of them will succeed, some of them won't, but in the meantime they offer food for thought: They help us understand who we are. *Tijuanenses* are always reminded who they are not.

While Tijuana is a neighbor that is mostly seen as a Mexican border city with only Mexicans in it, those who live in the city manage to scrape an identity out of the rubble the day leaves behind. Therein lies a plethora of identities all fighting for some sort of acceptance for what they are, for what we are. I belong to the ones we call *tijuanenses*, which is to say, I have at least one parent who is from Tijuana...the near minimum requirement to begin to feel established in Tijuana. Being born in Tijuana is certainly a plus, and if your grandparents are adopted citizens, then one is surely anchored in Tijuana's history.

I know this is already alien to some San Diegans with their 619 issues or political configurations that stretch out into several cities and suburbs. Be that as it may, people in San Diego all share a common identity: you are American, period.

I have a friend who came to Tijuana when he was two months old, and no one cuts him any slack for it. Those of us born in Tijuana have a monop-

oly over who is a *tijuanense* and gladly defend our city to the point that once-local newspaperman Jesús Blancornelas suggested we patent the name. We are a peculiar lot if there ever was one. To begin with, our claim to be *tijuanense* is mired in an oblivion that no longer is; the Tijuana that my parents lived is not the Tijuana I lived, nor is it the Tijuana the current lot of *tijuanenses* lives. We do have, however, some common ground. I speak of a past long gone by now but relevant to the discussion.

You see, in Tijuana, we — that is, those of us who are *tijuanenses* — identify each other with a strange syntax. We use the syntax of what used to be. This syntax allows us to recognize a past that once was. We speak of those things that were once there or here, of a thing that once was but it is no longer. Buildings that once existed tie a knot to our identity because in that point in time we were there — we saw and lived the building. Places we once frequented braid our common experiences. We corroborate each other's sense of history by what once was.

Sounds Like Spanish

Of course, there are other factors, such as classical *tijuanense*-speak that more often than not includes borrowed words from the English language. This sort of lingo was highlighted in Luis Alberto Urrea's book *Across the Wire*, in which he asks the reader to try and understand Mexicans from the south arriving in Tijuana and hearing a lingo that sounds like Spanish but is far from it. I can understand that sort of lingo and especially the old

lingo with its *caló*, pachucho speak, spoken near what was once the center, or downtown, of Tijuana.

There was a time when Tijuana was known only for its downtown. In fact, we thought of La Mesa as a place where *las aguilas vuelan*, that is, a place where the eagles fly. This was meant as a taunt to mean that La Mesa was so freaking far away from downtown (or as the buses used to paint on their windshields, “El Daun Taun”), that only wild life roamed those areas. We, who lived near the *Línea*, the border, were proud. Going beyond the old Hipódromo was beyond our imagination, indeed.

Tijuanenses are identified by that which they are not; that is, supposedly, Mexicans. Yes, there is an old myth among some Mexicans from the south that Tijuana is no longer Mexico. Remember the efforts by Spanish entrepreneur Antonio Navalón and his Tijuana art exhibition “Third Nation”? Well, that is like a small spin-off of that myth. Its denizens are also rejected similarly. Hence, the government's effort to instill identity in us either directly or indirectly...like the time they tried to make the peso the only valid currency in Tijuana. God forbid we come up with our own version of who we are. And, in fact, we have been called *pochos*, a yaqui word meaning “short of”; in this case, short of being Mexican to not being Mexican at all.

One of the reasons immigrant advocates in the U.S. use to defend migrant workers coming to labor in the Californian fields is that regular Americans will not do menial jobs for low

wages. A *tijuanense*, meanwhile, would not be caught dead selling corn on the cob from a cart all around the city. Nor would they sell bottled water from trucks...not even shine shoes, or as this profession is known, *shainiar*, a spanglish word meaning “to shine.” These sorts of jobs are reserved for the new arrivals.

But the new Tijuana identity is alien to me. Not only on a personal level but geographically as well. This can be seen in the city's level of tolerance for other Mexicans. It used to be that we identified people from the Mexican capital by being the opposite of everything they were. It was the paradigm of who not to be. It used to be an insult to be called a *chilango*, which is a person from Mexico City. I was even surprised that our local rivalry between Mexicali and Tijuana had come to a sour point when *mexicalenses* started calling us *tijuanenses* “*chilango* light.” Those were the good old days, indeed. These days, people from Mexico City are more and more accepted. Which is good, of course, but something happened during the course of the past years. Our natural brethren — people from Sinaloa, Nayarit, Sonora — are now the model not to follow. They are now the *chilango* for the *tijuanense*.

I don't know where this will lead the new *tijuanense* who easily adopts ways that are now alien to me. Maybe the government has finally won the battle of identities — not by a program, but because the city has become so big there might be a chance that there is more than one Tijuana to speak of these days.

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His Class Average Is Still Okay

Up to now, Don Bauder has been doing low-A and high-B work in his columns covering the ongoing financial disaster. But in his April 15 column, he flunks the class ("No Place for Sissies," "City Lights").

No amount of service cuts or tax increases will stop the financial free fall. The issue is corruption, plain and simple.

If graft, fraud, theft of public funds, "misappropriation," and grift were severely restricted, you could increase services and cut taxes at the same time.

It's all about the "three chronic illnesses" of government: misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance. This is why we have public employees making out while those who support their hefty paychecks and pensions slide into ruin. This is why there seems to be no end to the financial crisis. And this is why tax increases and service cuts only make the problem worse — it's like giving booze to an alcoholic.

Name Withheld
via fax

Victimized, Underpaid

Re "Pedicabs in Peril" ("Stringers," April 15). J. Howard is right. The real pedicab problem is the exploitation of J-1 exchange students by companies that call workers "contractors" instead of "employees." Local pedicab businesses face unfair competition and loss of local jobs. The U.S. Department of Labor is investigating this practice of victimizing workers who don't get the compensation they deserve. The

City of San Diego is not focusing on the real problem: exploitation of J-1 students to illegally cut costs and an influx of numbers of J-1 students who can't understand why they sit for hours and get no fares.

People enjoy pedicab rides. It is a valuable service.

U.S. Department of State undersecretary for public diplomacy Judith A. McHale wrote to me that the pedicab issue in San Diego is a concern and the Summer Work/Travel programs have been cautioned that exchange visitor participation in the pedicab field raises legal issues that need to be taken into careful consideration.

The City of San Diego needs to be working with the U.S. Department of State as well as Labor to resolve this issue, not hammering our local businesses who are complying with the law and struggling to stay in business. Nathaniel Uy's article is keeping this issue in the public eye. City hall, help create jobs for San Diegans by fixing the real problem, not penalizing hardworking people trying to make a living.

Sally Smith
via email

Misnomer Stalker?

I'm very disturbed by the use of the word "stalker" in the title of a kind of a playful column — "Style Stalker" — because it minimizes a very serious and for the most part sexist activity and makes light of it — and it's not light. In a sense, it wouldn't be as strong as this, let's say, but it would be like making a wordplay and joke using the N-word, and I know you wouldn't do it. I suspect it was a man who came up with that title.

I, for one, find it very offensive. When I saw it, I put down the Reader and said I'm not going to read this paper anymore because it's too clueless to use "stalker" in this way. It would be like using "rape": Let's Rape the Rags, "rags" being clothes. You wouldn't do it. This is in the same category, as far as I'm concerned.

Lucy Silvay
Hillcrest

continued on page 62

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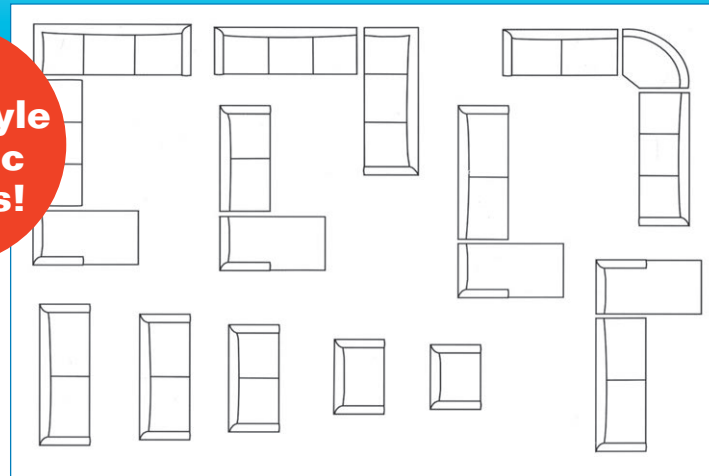
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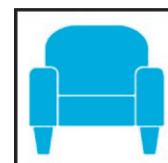
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BACK WHEN *in the Reader*

Thirty-Five Years Ago

Looking for work in San Diego these days is a full-time job in itself, with all the attendant frustrations. Only the paycheck is lacking.

With the state, you have a big advantage if you're a veteran, and the longer you've been unemployed, the higher your priority. Every morning the new listings go up on a separate board; up until 10:00 a.m., only veterans are supposed to apply for those openings.

— "HELP WANTED," *Anne Hutchison, April 24, 1975*

Thirty Years Ago

[Denise] Carabet shrugs away the question of how directly the *San Diego Business Journal* will compete for the *Daily Transcript's* readers and advertisers. "Yes, we're going to do some of the same stories as the *Union* and the *Transcript*. But hopefully, we're going to do them with a little more depth and expertise."

— CITY LIGHTS: "THEY MEAN BUSINESS," *Jeannette De Wyze, April 24, 1980*

Twenty-Five Years Ago

The second annual Rosarito Spring Festival is under way, and it will assuredly provide both good times for the fun-seeking elite and atonement for me.

Here's where I publicly wipe the egg from my face. Some of you may recall my earlier palaver about the "wonderfully authentic" and "extravagantly staged" Mardi Gras festival held annually in Ensenada. Well, those who were gullible enough to still believe newspapers print the truth found themselves this year at a second-rate carnival.

— "FESTIVAL DAYS IN SUNNY ROSARITO," *Neal Matthews, April 25, 1985*

Twenty Years Ago

The Timken Gallery has assembled an exhibition dedicated to Eastman Johnson's paintings of the cranberry harvest on the island of Nantucket. There are 14 canvases here, but in a sense there is only one painting, the Timken's own version of the subject. This large landscape with figures has given pleasure to local art-lovers since its acquisition in 1972 and is even more pleasing since its restoration last year, which freshened the painting's appearance and removed an obtrusive figure that had presumably been added by another hand.

— "LANDSCAPE WITH FIGURES," *Jonathan Saville, April 26, 1990*

Fifteen Years Ago

When it comes to city-finance development in Barrio Logan, the City of San Diego Housing Commission thinks two strikes may be enough. At least that is the call for one of the barrio's quirkiest historic buildings. Sometime this year, the city council is expected to decide whether to accept a low-ball \$30,000 offer for the nearest thing Barrio Logan has to a flat iron building, the triangle-shaped Victorian structure on a postage-stamp-sized lot bounded by National Avenue, 26th Street, and Sicard Street.

— CITY LIGHTS: "JACK'S ISLAND: JEWEL OF THE BARRIO, AND ALMOST AS COSTLY," *Janet Lowe, April 20, 1995*

Ten Years Ago

The man who decided to drug-test all the cops in

Tijuana is satisfied. Marco Antonio González Arenas says the front-page color photos of police officers lining up at a table loaded with their urine samples are proof that this Tijuana government is cleaning house.

Especially after 97 cops — 8.4 percent of those tested — were found to have either marijuana, cocaine, heroin, methamphetamines, or other opiates in their systems on the day of the test.

— CITY LIGHTS: "WE'D LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR POLICEMEN," *Bill Manson, April 20, 2000*

Five Years Ago

Dear Mr. Jackson: I would like to start off by saying how sorry I am about your childhood. I saw it all on VH1's Michael Jackson program, so I am well versed on how the Jehovah's Witness people are to blame for your erratic behavior. I would also like to say that I don't believe that at all. I mean, it was on VH1, so that pretty much makes it completely false. Frankly, Mr. Jackson, I don't know what to think. I know that you had a hard time growing up. However, does a not-that-great childhood justify a bizarre adulthood?

— "DEAR MICHAEL JACKSON," *Anne Baker, April 21, 2005*

For more stories by these authors, go to sdreader.com.



San Diego Reader, April 20, 2000

STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Dear Matthew Alice:

I cook a lot, and when I do I always wonder why fat from animals, like butter or lard, are solid, but fat from plants is liquid, like olive oil or canola oil. They're both fat, so why would they be different?

— Not Betty Crocker, La Mesa

It's probably a good thing they're different. Imagine a bunch of fat-laden cows, slowly sloshing around a field, their oil-filled skins waving from side to side as they walk. Given the different metabolisms of animals and plants, they've developed their own best fat formulas. Animal fat doesn't transmit heat very well, so it's a very good insulator for mammals. Here's how the two fats differ from one another chemically:

Consider a lipid (fat) molecule as something that looks like a capital letter E, or maybe an M or a W, depending on how you want to flip it. The back "spine" of the letter is glycerol. The three arms are fatty-acid chains full of carbon atoms. In animal fat, the carbon atoms are bound to the maximum number of hydrogen atoms, making a tidy, flat lipid molecule. And when these lipid molecules get together, they fit perfectly, like a jigsaw puzzle. What you get is a solid fat that remains so at room temp.

Vegetable fat, on the other hand, is as messy as an unmade bed. There are double carbon bonds in the arms that keep most of the hydrogen from bonding, so what we end up with is an E-shaped molecule with lumps and twists and lacking hydrogen bonds. Hard to make them fit together into a solid, so vegetable fats remain liquid at room temp.

You may not be Betty Crocker, but you've taken the first steps toward being a food chemist, which probably will take all the fun out of cooking. Hope not, but you asked for it.

Dear Matthew Alice:

How Does The Tooth Fairy know that soMe-oNe has Lost a Tooth?

— Isabella In O.B.

You certainly are learning to write very well, Isabella. My eyesight isn't what it used to be, so I appreciate your using blue marker pen to make giant letters that cover all of page 1. And page 2 is wonderful! A nice stick figure with a big melon head and blue-dot eyes, with an open Twinkie-shaped mouth and big shark teeth, with one missing in front, of course. And this toothy person is surrounded by huge question marks, some of them backward, to finish out the wonderful illustration. But I guess you need an answer to your question.

In olden times, long, long ago, the Tooth Fairy had a terrible time keeping up with lost teeth. The ones nearby she could hear when they fell out. Her ears got very sharp, and she could tell the difference between a tooth falling from a mouth and, say, an acorn falling from a tree. But beyond her hearing distance, she needed elves, just like Matthew Alice and Santa Claus need elves, to help. When a tooth fell many miles away, the nearest elf would hop on his unicorn and ride to the next elf to spread the news. And he'd ride his unicorn, and so on, until the news reached the Tooth Fairy, who would give the elf a coin, and he'd ride back to make sure it made its way under the appropriate pillow. A lot of work, don't you think, Isabella? But the Tooth Fairy is very faithful, so she made the system work.

But today we live in the digital age. And the Tooth Fairy takes every advantage. All elves have cell phones and webcams that eliminate the need for unicorns. A good thing, because they're very hard to find these days. But best of all is the tooth scanners, electronic gadgets that can scan a house and locate each of the people in it, then scan their teeth to identify a loose tooth before it even falls out. So, the Tooth Fairy elves scan their houses and watch for the loose teeth to fall, then call the TF herself, who comes in person with her reward. Even though the Tooth Fairy uses new technology to keep up her good work, she's still as special as she always was. So, remember that when your next tooth starts to wiggle a little bit, you're already on the Tooth Fairy's radar and you're sure to get your prize. Please write again if you have another question, Isabella. I love your letters!



ILLUSTRATION BY RICK GEARY

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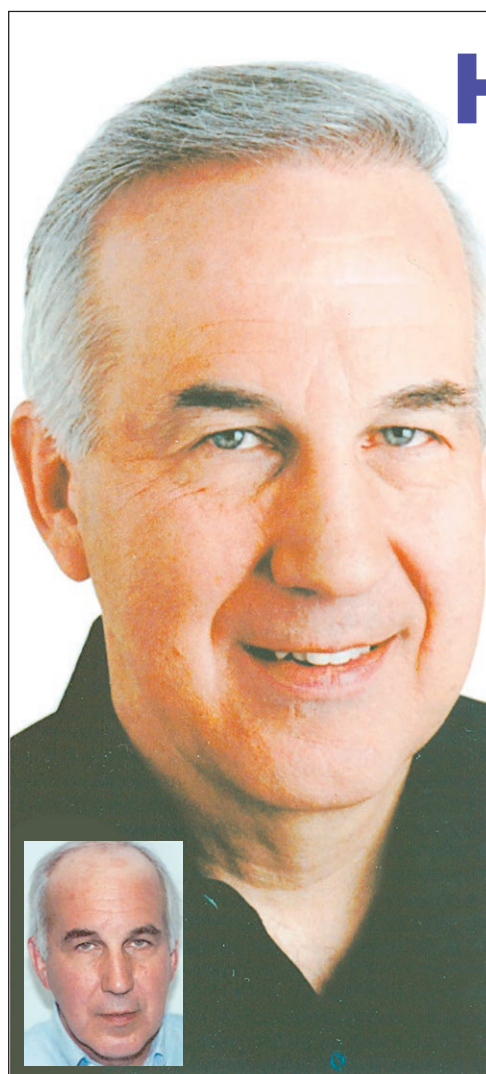
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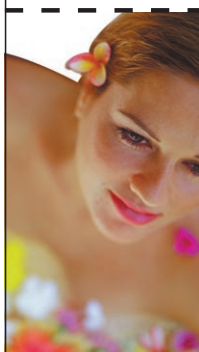


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SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

On The Way To Pt. Reyes



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If you're driving north on I-5 and make the left turn onto I-580 heading toward the Bay Area, you may notice, just before you climb the last slight grade into Hayward, a prosperous suburb by the name of Castro Valley.

The census counts the population of Castro Valley at 55,000 and the median family income at \$73,000. Or, to put it another way, J.M.R., posting on *urbandictionary.com*, says Castro Valley is "a boring town full of old white people, rednecks, undercover KKK, annoying rich Asians, and not much else." One thing is certain: Castro Valley High School is hosting FC Gold Pride's home-opener tonight.

FC Gold Pride is a franchise affiliated with Women's Professional Soccer (WPS), a professional soccer league now embarking on its second season. WPS is the top tier of women's pro soccer in North America. There are eight teams in the league, and FC Gold Pride is the only club west of St. Louis. The other league teams are: Atlanta Beat, Boston Breakers, Chicago Red Stars, Philadelphia Independence, Sky Blue FC (New York/New Jersey), St. Louis Athletica, and Washington Freedom.

Tonight's match is between the Bay Area's FC Gold Pride and last year's league champion, Sky Blue FC. Gold Pride lists 21 women on its roster. Two players are from San Diego, one from Del Mar, two from a little bit further up the road (Mission Viejo and Aliso Viejo), two from L.A., and one from Northern California (Dublin). That's almost 40 percent of the team.

Unless you follow soccer, you may not know how good American women's soccer is. The U.S. women's national team is ranked number one in the world by FIFA (International Federation of Association Football), the governing body for international tournaments. The U.S. women's team won the Women's World Cup in 1991 and 1999, won Olympic Gold Medals in 1996, 2004, and 2008, and have won the Algarve

Cup (annual world tournament for women's national teams) seven times since 2000.

FIFA has 208 member associations, and U.S. women are *numero um*. As a bonus, and the reason why I'm going to the match tonight, is Marta, forward for Gold Pride.

Marta Vieira da Silva, now 24, was born and raised in Brazil and has been a professional since the age of 14. She was the FIFA Women's World Player of the Year in 2009. Women's soccer is played worldwide, and Marta was the female athlete picked as Player of the Year. She was also Player of the Year in 2008. In 2007, too. Ditto, 2006. In 2005 she was the runner-up. The 2010 winner hasn't been announced yet.

Consider the entire universe of women's soccer, from Uganda to Iceland, India to Argentina, Estonia to Fiji, and the four-time best woman's soccer player in the world is on the field tonight at Castro Valley High School.

I park in Suburbia World, known here as Mabel Avenue, and walk over to the high school campus. It's a new stadium, two years old, sits 4000, has a nice arch entry, but it's still a high school football stadium with aluminum benches for seating and an eight-lane track circling the field.

As the 7:00 p.m. start time nears, the stands fill up. It's going to be very close to a sell-out. Tickets are not cheap: \$95 for VIP On-Field, \$15 to \$50 elsewhere.

The FC Gold team walks onto the track and the crowd thunders. A portable air compressor is whining away, pumping up a black inflatable tunnel. Scores of 8- and 9-year-old girls, dressed in soccer uniforms, wiggling and laughing, line up behind the tunnel. The team mascot, Pounce, a friendly lion, leans against a tunnel wall. It's stand around, stand around, and then — *boom* — comes incredibly loud stadium music. Little girls run through the tunnel, squealing and jumping, followed by strolling older teenage girls dressed in jeans and a few wearing their soccer team blouse. Now comes an honor guard — four uniformed teenage males sporting wildly different heights and body shapes. A woman sings the national anthem. (Think Lakeside Rodeo and Western Days Parade.)

This is a dad-daughter event. Everywhere, dads sit next to their daughters, both of them looking intently at the same game. Does this happen anywhere else?

The Gold Pride wins 3 to 1. Marta, 5'4" tall, nailed a left-footed shot into the corner for a goal in the 82nd minute to seal the deal. This Marta person stands out from every other player even at first glance. She's built for this, the way a panther is built to kill.

Readers can watch WPS games on Fox Sports Channel or by way of webcast at womensprosoccer.com or on your iPhone at <http://wps.ollintechnology.com>.

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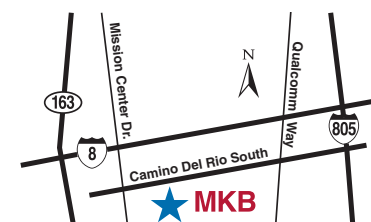
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by Barbarella

Nobody realizes that some people expend tremendous energy merely to be normal.

— Albert Camus

I stole a glance at the elderly couple seated to my left and wondered what they were in for. Dementia? No, they looked sad, and sadness requires a certain awareness. *Must be depression.* Whatever it was, I knew it had to be specific. A general sense of ennui was insufficient here. You don't show up at a psychiatrist's office with a measly case of the blues; you show up with a Dumpster-full of drama.

Against the wall opposite me was a man in a highly decorated Army uniform.

His presence in the cramped waiting room confused me — this wasn't a military facility. Maybe he didn't want a diagnosis for post-traumatic stress disorder on his official record. To the man's left sat a woman, watching over a child who was playing with toys on the floor in front of her. I hoped they weren't here for the kid. I don't like the idea of medicating children. Drugs are too easy a fix to mute irritating behaviors, most of which are natural for ankle-biters

"What if you like the new me better than the old me? Will you resent all the drama you had to go through unnecessarily? What if I have side effects?"

(loud, rambunctious, easily distracted). Chemicals don't belong in little bodies that are still developing.

The wall separating the psychiatrist's office and the waiting room was too thin. Even when the elderly couple disappeared, they were plenty audible; I couldn't make out exact words, but I was able to pinpoint who was speaking and, by the tenor of their voices, whether or not they were upset. I made a mental note to keep my voice down once I got on the other side of the door.

I nervously pinched the skin on the back of my wrists. It was two years ago that I first attempted therapy, that time with a psychologist. She had me write my thoughts on a piece of paper, after which she replaced words like "should" with less judgmental words, such as "could." I found the method patronizing, and after three sessions, I figured it would be a lot cheaper and less aggravating for me to "shoulda-

coulda" myself at home.

I loathed the idea of having to do it all over again, to confess my uncontrollable anxiety to some new stranger whose methods I might consider even more asinine than repetitive writing exercises. So, why was I sitting in this chair, listening to Charlie Brown's grandparents squawking incomprehensibly on the other side of a flimsy wall? Hadn't I gone two years without this? Hell, my whole *life*? My heartbeat sped up as I contemplated leaving — the "no show" fee was a small price to pay for my dignity. But then the door opened. The older couple emerged, their sadness lightly veiled with wispy smiles as they thanked the doctor. I heard my name called, and like a good girl, I hopped up, shook the doctor's hand, and followed him into his office.

I'd spent days rehearsing what I'd say to him; I didn't want to get it wrong. I approach everything in life as a test, pass or fail, and to fail is to die. It's that "life or death" feeling that finally drove me to seek professional help.

Two weeks before my appointment, I'd had an episode. On a particularly stressful day, with an assignment due and a growing list of tasks, one negative email was the bump that knocked me from a perch at the edge of my sanity. I'm not sure how much time passed before David found me standing in the corner of my office, bawling at my bookshelf. Embarrassed and exposed, I began to

hyperventilate. Fearing I might never again catch my breath made it impossible to do so. Dizzy from lack of oxygen, I swayed backward, but David caught me and guided me to a chair. It was the closest I'd ever come to fainting. The most frustrating thing about the whole scene was the realization that I had not been in control of my body. The next day, I made an appointment with the doc.

"So, what brings you here today?"

It was a simple question. I opened my mouth to form the answer I'd practiced: "I have anxiety issues. I think Valium might help." But when I opened my mouth to speak, all that came out was, "I..." Something cracked in the back of my throat and I erupted, a Vesuvius of tears flowing over my cheeks, collecting at my chin, and burning through my shirt like lava.

My promise to myself completely forgotten, I sniveled and wailed without heed to how I might sound to the people in the waiting room. At the end of our meeting, the doctor expressed his opinion that I required something more serious than Valium. I was unprepared for such a recommendation. My apprehension toward antidepressants is ironic considering my liberal attitude toward recreational drugs. I told him I needed some time to think (i.e., obsess) about it. I wiped my tears, slapped an optimistic grin on my face, and bid the doctor goodbye. I did not allow my smile to falter until I reached the privacy of my car.

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Two days later, I stood in the kitchen with David, eyeing a small white pill in my hand. "What if you like the new me better than the old me? Will you resent all the drama you had to go through unnecessarily? What if I have side effects?" David stifled a laugh. "What?" I asked.

"I was just thinking that maybe one of the effects of the medication will be the loss of your 'what ifs,'" he said.

"What if I like myself

this way? I mean, I do like myself. I'm afraid of not feeling like *me*."

"Maybe this will allow you to really feel like you. You know, like you were when we were on vacation in Italy — happy, carefree, not curled up in the corner crying and smacking your head," David said. He used his thumb to brush a tear from my cheek. "If you don't like it, you can always stop taking it," he said.

"What if you *do* like me better when I'm on it,


and then I stop taking it and I go back to how I was, knowing that you liked me better another way?"

David shook his head, put his hands on my shoulders, and positioned his face so close to mine our noses almost touched. "I love you. Just as you have been, just as you are, just how you will be," he said. "So take your pill, and let's grab some lunch." ■

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Broken

My wheels stopped at a crack. I didn't.

skull

Flying through the air, I looked at my right hand

Broken

clutching the leash. That was my last memory before

heart

the right side of my forehead met the pavement.

I

Inside the Live Wire, it was dark and dingy, and the music was cranked to 11, just the way I remembered the place.

Only half of the six red vinyl booths were occupied. Five friends and I took the one at the far end of the narrow bar. It wasn't much of a celebration, but it was the closest

thing to a party I'd been to since I'd fallen from a skateboard and landed in a coma, awaking 19 days later with a piece of my skull missing, scars on my arms, and a plastic pipe in my throat. Two days before entering the small bar in North Park, my doctor had said it was all right to consume an alcoholic beverage, and that is what I was there to do.

"Your tolerance will be way down. A half of a beer will feel like three," he said. Heading into the bar, I was nervous. Nurses had told me I would never be able to drink again, others said I should wait a year, and most all of them warned me that drinking might induce posttraumatic epilepsy.

The nerves remained as I ordered a Bud Light from a dark-haired, tatted-up female bartender. They were there after my first sip. I did my best not to think about the anxiety. Before I knew it, my beer was gone. My wife Aimee asked me how it tasted. She had a smile on her face but worry in her big brown eyes. I had grown accustomed to that look. I reminded her for the millionth time that I could no longer taste or smell. She asked how it felt going down. I said good.

I felt at home sitting in the bar, talking about movies, music, and life. It had been four months since the day I left the house with my dog's leash in

PHOTOS BY AIMEE HARGROVE





**By seven o'clock
every evening,
I felt as if my brain
were giving birth
to an alien.**

one hand and my skateboard in the other.

That day was September 22, my second wedding anniversary. It was hot and cloudless, nearing five o'clock, an ideal time to take my dog Artie to the park. It was something I did nearly every day, and I had the routine down. I stuffed the essentials into my army green messenger bag: blue ball, water, treats. I put Artie's leash and harness on him, then placed my bag in the front basket of my old Schwinn and hopped on. Holding his leash in my left hand, we coasted down the driveway and onto the street. Fifteen feet from my house I squeezed the brake and turned back. I wanted to skate instead. That decision changed my life forever.

I grabbed my board and Artie's leash. The brown dog had some energy. Just moments after leaving the house, he was pulling me at full speed on the rough and rutted pavement. The wheels didn't seem to be gripping. I had speed wobbles. That day, construction trucks and a Bobcat cluttered the street. They were tearing up asphalt to replace water mains. I directed Artie toward the sidewalk.

Artie was again running at full speed. I crouched to steady myself. Fifty feet from my house, my wheels stopped at a crack. I didn't. Flying through the air, I looked at my right hand clutching the leash. That was my last memory before the right side of my forehead met the pavement.

A neighbor, Laurie, found me in the street, clawing at my head, screaming in pain. Artie stood next to me. There was no blood. No sign of injury. Laurie told me months later that I begged her not to call paramedics. I just had a headache — I wanted to go home and sleep. Then I vomited on myself, and she dialed 911.

continued on page 32



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877-230-1475 • poolsbyben.com

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Steam clean carpets \$19⁹⁵

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25% off pavers + free removal

25% off installation plus free removal of existing concrete or asphalt! Lifetime guarantee. Free estimate.

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Free fridge cleaning

With any house cleaning. New customers only.

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Free sink & free hookup

With purchase of countertop. Basic hookup plumbing on same day as countertop installation. Solid surfaces, quartzites, soapstone, granite. 1-day demolition and install. On solid surfaces only. Some restrictions.

The Countertop Company
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www.thecountertopcompany.biz
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Free fireplace mantle

With whole house crown or baseboard. Free in-home estimate. Call for details.

Archwood, Inc.
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www.archwoodusa.com

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Free spot cleaning and pre-conditioning treatments. Minimum three areas. Call for details.

U.S. Carpet Care
866-491-4936 • uscarpetcare.com

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When the fire department arrived, I refused service. I said I was fine, and I couldn't leave my dog. I threw up a second time. The firefighters forced me inside the truck and took me to Scripps Mercy Hospital.

I had already been admitted by the time Aimee arrived. She sat next to me on a bed in the hallway. She says that I was alert and oriented. I knew I had fallen, but I assured her that I wasn't injured and insisted on going home. I was taken to get a CT scan. The scan revealed bleeding and bruising on the frontal lobes of my brain, and I was moved to the intensive care unit trauma room. Twenty minutes later, Aimee says I turned into a different person. I was disoriented and combative. As time progressed, my confusion turned violent. I fought the nurses. I ripped out my IV and stabbed a

male nurse with the point. Aimee says it took nine people to restrain me and enough sedatives to tranquilize a horse.

Intensive care nurses ushered Aimee and my sister, who had

for the next 19 days. All I have to go by are the passages in Aimee's journal and the nightmarish visions I had each time they tried to lower the sedatives and wake me from the coma.

Doctors say if the pressure doesn't go down they will remove another portion of his skull.

driven down from San Marcos, out of the room. When they returned an hour later, I was in an induced coma; a blue breathing tube was inserted into my mouth, and a "tap" had been put into my head to measure the intracranial pressure, which was high due to swelling in my brain.

The intensive care unit would be my home

Day 1: If the brain swelling goes down he will be here three days, best-case scenario. Worst-case scenario, he might have part of his skull removed to allow room for the swelling. Doctors said this is a long road to recovery and we are at the beginning. They put a tap on his brain to measure the pressure. The reading was 30. Normal is in the low teens.

Day 2: I signed a release for them to put a direct line into his carotid artery for medicine to control the swelling. They said they have begun aggressive medical treatment. I have decided to sit next to his bed full time. I am now going on 36 hours with no sleep. I have weird chest pains. I feel like I am in a dream.

Day 3, 3:30 p.m.: Dorian's family arrived from Colorado. To prevent further brain damage, doctors removed a four-by-five-inch piece of his skull to allow room for his brain to swell. Doctors said his skull will be taken to a UCSD tissue bank and kept there until he is ready to have it put back on. The brain has expanded, and the pres-

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Free hour of house cleaning

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Engineered wood flooring \$6⁹⁹ per sq. ft.

Includes installation. Call for details.

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\$20 off any plumbing repair

Complete service and repair. Call for details.

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\$1,500 off interior or exterior painting

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Trying to Manage your TYPE 2 DIABETES?



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

WHEN YOU TAKE PART IN THIS CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY:

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

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU ARE:

- Age 18 to 85
- Diagnosed with type 2 diabetes for at least 3 months
- Not taking insulin or other injectable diabetic medicines
- Struggling to control blood sugar (Hgb A1C greater than or equal to 7% and less than or equal to 10%)

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

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

sure has come down. We know that we have made the right decision.

Day 4: I asked the doctor to come and talk to us. He said that Dorian suffered major head trauma and patience from us is key to his recovery. He told us that we have to prepare for a new life, caring for Dorian. He said that Dorian will be different, but to what extent and for how long no one will know until he wakes up. He ended the discussion by telling us that Dorian is "not out of the woods yet."

Day 5: I am having a hard time holding it together.

Day 6: He has contracted pneumonia. Now his body is fighting two things. They said they have to treat his

pneumonia, but when they do, the pressure in his brain goes up.

Day 7: Dorian's intracranial pressures are high today. I am so scared. Why aren't they going down? Doctors say if the pressure doesn't go

falling apart.

Day 9: He's developed another case of pneumonia...more ice baths.

Day 11: Dorian is doing better today. He is on lower sedation. His pressure is in the low

On day 15, I started to have visions. The visions all were about my unquenchable thirst.

down they will remove another portion of his skull. They also fear that the medicine might send him into renal failure. They took him off sedatives to check his responsiveness. No response.

Day 8: It's official: I think Dorian's family is

20s. The nurses are smiling at me. He opened his eyes.

Day 12: Dorian looks even better today. Sedation has also been taken down. In a sense, they are trying to waken him a bit. His intracranial pressure is way

RESEARCH STUDIES

PAIN?

Do you have pain from chronic pancreatitis?

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

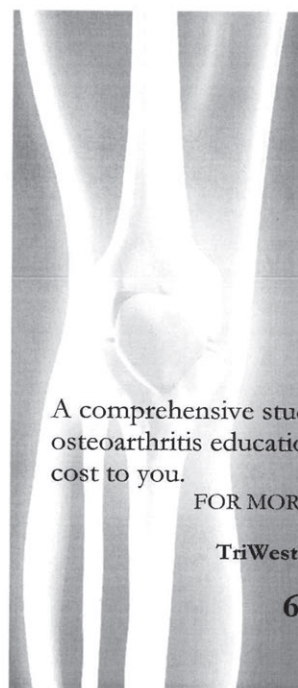
- Chronic pancreatitis pain moderate to severe
- 18-80 years old
- Single infusion of study drug or placebo



SYNERGY CLINICAL
RESEARCH

Call: 1-888-365-3203

DO YOU HAVE Pain from OSTEOARTHRITIS in your knee?



If you are suffering with osteoarthritis of the knee or hip, then you may qualify to participate in a new research study for osteoarthritis.

Main requirements for participating in the study are:

- You are 18 years or older
- You have been diagnosed with OA of the knee.

A comprehensive study-related health evaluation and osteoarthritis educational materials will be provided at no cost to you.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

TriWest Research Associates at:

619-589-6888

TriWest
Research Associates

Do you have Type 2 Diabetes?

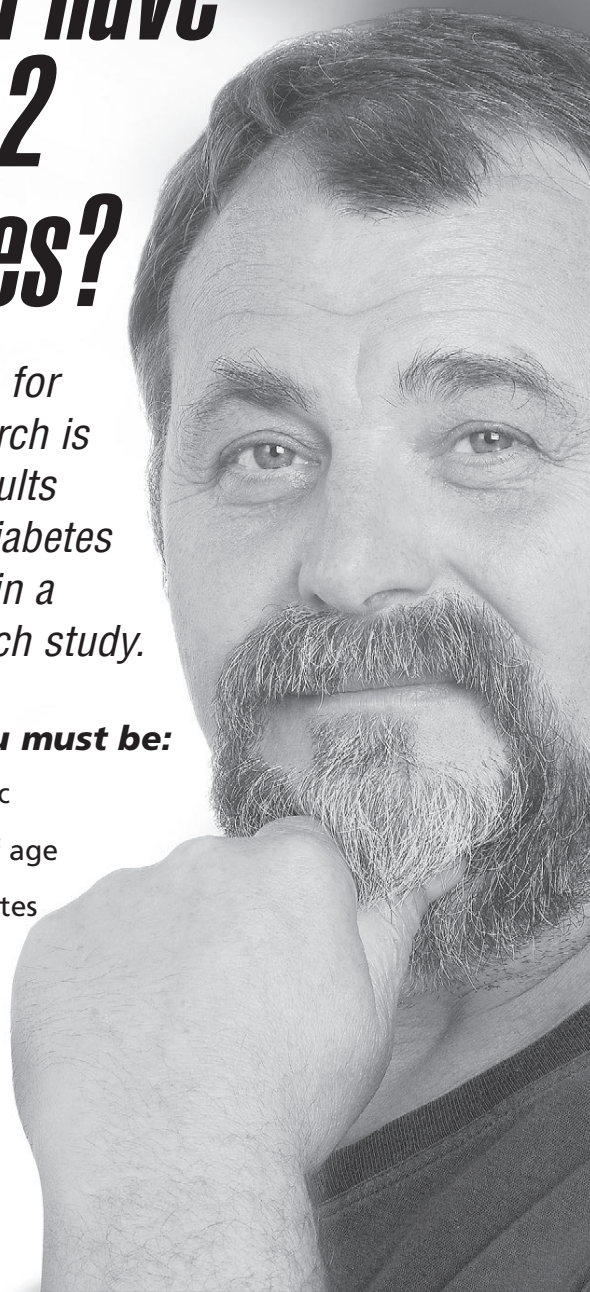
Profil Institute for Clinical Research is looking for adults with Type 2 Diabetes to participate in a clinical research study.

To qualify, you must be:

- A Type 2 Diabetic
- 18 to 65 years of age
- Managing Diabetes with metformin alone or in combination with other anti-diabetic medications, not Insulin
- If female, post-menopausal or surgically sterile

You may be compensated up to \$3,275.00 for your time and travel. 12 overnight stays will be required.

For more information, call Profil Toll Free:
+1 (866) 245-0373



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

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



GOUT

First Experience?

This clinic is conducting a clinical research study

Study-related medical procedures are of no cost

Qualified participants may be compensated for their time and travel to the clinic

Call and find out more:
619-229-3909

You may qualify if:

- You are male 18 yrs or older
- You are female 45 yrs or older
- Have had one gout experience

down, and the nurses have not had to do any medication. They decreased the morphine.

Day 13: Today, Dorian woke up. Yeah! He was responsive and breathing so they took his ventilator tube out. He asked for me. I came running, and he said, "I love you. Where's Artie?" His voice sounded funny, and he was agitated. An hour later, his throat closed. They had to perform an emergency intubation. He almost died. He is back in the coma. My heart is broken. I think about all the things we won't be able to do, and it makes me so sad. We were going to start a family. We just bought a Volkswagen camper van. We were going to

travel, write, and I was going to take pictures. Why is this happening to us?

Day 14: Dorian was given a tracheotomy. When they wake him next time he won't be agitated from the ventilator tube and his vocal cords won't be damaged. He's going to hate this. He's always been so sensitive about his throat. They also started him on a psych drug that will ease the wake-up process. There is a student in here now and they are teaching her about neuro patients. That's what they call Dorian, a neuro patient.

It was on day 15 that I started to have visions. The visions all were about my unquenchable thirst. After the tracheotomy I

couldn't talk for a couple of days. I remember pointing at a large glass of iced tea that was feet from my bed. I did everything to get to it. I tried to wave down the faceless people in the room to get them to pay attention to me. I tried to grab the glass of tea myself. Each time I tried, the wind would be taken from me. I imagined that one of the guys in the room punched me in the chest each time I tried to get up. I later was told that the tea I reached for was a cup full of my own urine.

On day 18, Aimee says that she brought me a dry-erase board and I wrote a whole paragraph. It was mostly illegible, but she could read one sentence: "Get

RESEARCH STUDIES



Struggling with Psoriasis?

Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting a medical research study of an investigational drug for people with moderate to severe chronic plaque psoriasis.

We need participants:

- 18 years of age or older and in general good health
- With chronic plaque psoriasis for at least 6 months
- Eligible for systemic treatment of psoriasis

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related health assessments under the care of a board-certified dermatologist
- Study drug at no cost • Compensation for time and travel

No Insurance Required
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www.therapeuticsresearch.com



IS ADHD ROBBING YOUR CHILD OF SLEEP?

ADHD-related sleep problems are a serious issue.

Lack of sleep (insomnia) will affect your child's behavior, mood and wellness and lead to problems at home and school. There are currently no medicines approved to treat childhood ADHD-related insomnia. But there is a clinical research opportunity that may be available for your child.

A clinical research study is being conducted nationwide to evaluate a sleep medicine currently approved for adults 18 and older but is investigational for children ages 6-17.

Clinical Research Study Now Enrolling

This clinical study is assessing an investigational medication for children and teens who meet the following criteria:

- Diagnosed with ADHD
- 6-17 years of age
- Experiencing sleep problems for at least 3 months
- Sleep problems that specifically cause difficulty in:
- Falling asleep
- Staying asleep
- Sleeping soundly (without tossing & turning)

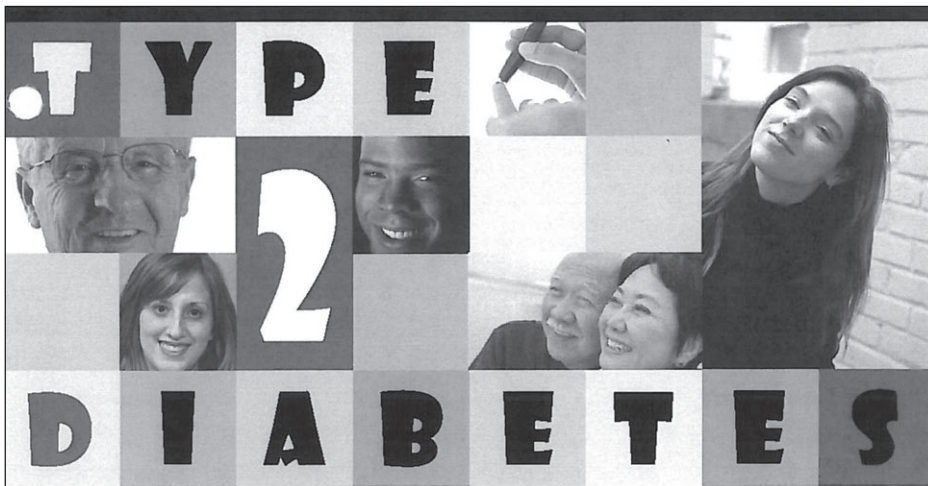
This study offers:

- Study-related care, clinic visits, sleep tests and medical assessments at no cost
- Study medicine (or inactive placebo) at no cost
- Study-related monitoring by research health care professionals
- Possible reimbursement for time and travel
- An opportunity to learn more about your child's sleep problem

If ADHD is robbing your child of sleep Call Now!

Synergy Clinical Research Center
1908 Sweetwater Rd.
National City, CA 91950
(888) 619-7272

Or visit: www.ADHDsleepStudy.net



We are currently conducting a research study of an investigational medication for type 2 diabetes. If you are between the ages of 18 and 75 years old and are currently taking metformin only or metformin plus sulfonylurea, you may qualify to participate in this clinical research study. Qualified participants may receive at no cost:

- Study-related medication
- Study-related laboratory testing
- Study-related ECGs and physical exams
- Glucometers and testing supplies

For more information, please call:
Synergy Clinical Research

1-888-365-3203



Overwhelmed by Depression?

Are you feeling hopeless and finding life hard to tolerate? Are you frequently feeling sad or troubled and like life is not worth living? If so, and you are between the ages of 18 and 75, you may qualify to take part in a research study of an investigational medication for Depression.

Contact us at: 858-ARTEMIS (278-3647) or www.LifeProTrial.com to see if you qualify for this research study. Confidentiality is strictly honored, and enrollment is limited.

Qualified participants will receive:

- Compensation for time and travel
- No-cost study-related medication and study-related medical care
- No-cost medical evaluations by board-certified physicians



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DRIVES GLOBAL SOLUTIONS**
858-278-3647
www.artemisSD.com



Are you in an excessively good mood?

Easily distracted? Irritable?

If you are between the ages of 18 and 65 with bipolar disorder and are experiencing these symptoms, you may qualify to participate in a clinical trial for the treatment of bipolar disorder.

For qualified participants compensation will be provided for time and travel.



Board-certified psychiatrists providing excellent patient care and quality research.
3998 Vista Way, Suite 100, Oceanside, CA 92056

**HEAD INJURY?
BUMP ON THE HEAD?
CONCUSSION?**

**ALWAYS
SLEEPY OR
TIRED?**

**DO YOU KNOW THERE
MIGHT BE A CONNECTION?**

CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDY NOW ENROLLING IN YOUR AREA

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

TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST:

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

IF YOU QUALIFY:

- You may learn more about your sleep patterns
- You will receive study-related medical care and study medicine at no cost
- You may or may not benefit from study medicine
- Compensation for time and travel may also be provided

Space is limited. Make the connection today.

Call Now: **1.866.650.2861** or Click: **www.TiredHeadStudy.com**

me the f*** out of here.”

Nineteen days after my fall, I awoke for good, 25 pounds lighter, missing the right side of my skull, and fitted with a blue plastic tube in my throat. Still requiring constant supervision and still on morphine, I was transferred to a “safe room” on the tenth floor. My mind and body felt numb. I had no strength. I had no clear thoughts. I felt drunker than I had ever been — everyone and everything seemed in an alternate reality.

Two older men shared the hospital room with me. My bed faced theirs. I stared at them, trying to process the surrounding environment. One man had a bandage wrapped around the top of his

head. The other had dark lesions on his face. He shot strange expressions my way if I stared too long, like the ones an adult might give a baby that’s on the verge of tears. I remember

the top of my head, and then I felt a pain rip through my skull. Another pain, half an inch from the first. I yelled as he pulled out large metal staples. The staples, 30 in all, had

It was the first time I’d seen my reflection since the fall. The right side of my head was missing.

him staring at me while pounding his head with a soft, axe-shaped toy. No one else saw this.

The second day on the tenth floor, a male nurse arrived holding what appeared to be a small metal crowbar. I felt the bar inch along

been used instead of sutures to hold my scalp together. After the doctor had removed the piece of skull to allow my swelling brain to expand, he’d laid Gore-tex over my brain and pulled my scalp back in place, reattaching it with

RESEARCH STUDIES

Millions of people struggle to manage their **Type 2 Diabetes.**



Are you one of them?

Information about a clinical research study for adults with Type 2 Diabetes



SYNERGY
CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS



Advancing
Diabetes
Research

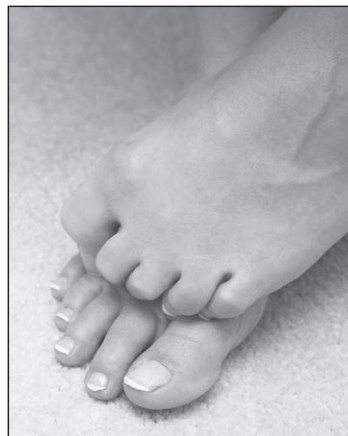
Type 2 Diabetes affects the quality of life for millions of adults. While sometimes diabetes can be controlled by exercise and diet, there are times when medication may be required.

If you’ve been diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes, consider taking part in a research study of an investigational medication for **Type 2 diabetes**.

Call 1-888-365-3203

Or visit: www.diabetesAWARDstudy.com for more information.

Afraid to show your feet?



Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting a medical research study to evaluate the efficacy of an investigational therapy for people with onychomycosis, also known as toenail fungus.

We need participants:

- 18-75 years of age, in general good health
- With toenail fungus on at least one big toe

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related health assessments under the care of a board-certified dermatologist
- Compensation for time and travel

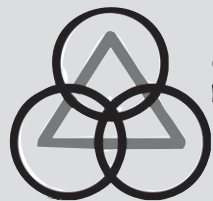
**No health insurance required.
Confidentiality maintained.**

THERAPEUTICS
CLINICAL RESEARCH

619-512-DERM (3376)

www.therapeuticsresearch.com

9025 Balboa Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

1-888-365-3203

Do you have pain from Osteoarthritis in your knee or hip?

If you are suffering with osteoarthritis of the knee or hip, then you may qualify to participate in a new research study for osteoarthritis.

Main requirements for participating in the study are:

- You are 18 years or older
- You have been diagnosed with OA of the knee or hip
- You are currently taking naproxen or celecoxib and receiving some relief

A comprehensive study-related health evaluation and osteoarthritis educational materials will be provided at no cost to you.

Please call: **1-888-365-3203**

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.

1-888-365-3203

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.

1-888-365-3203

A research study with a pharmaceutical company evaluating the safety and effects of an investigational drug for Type 2 Diabetes is being conducted.

• Type 2 Diabetes

- 18-80 years of age
- Currently treated with metformin

If eligible, you may receive at no cost, these items:

- Office study visits
- Study-related laboratory tests
- Study-related physical exams
- Diet and diabetes counseling
- Study medication

To learn more about the diabetes research study, please call:

1-888-365-3203

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

1-888-365-3203

COPD Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Are You?

- Suffering from COPD • Male or female 40+ years of age
- A current or former smoker • Coughing • Wheezing
- Willing to do a breathing test (*Spirometry*) to see how your lungs work

If **YES** you may qualify to participate in a 12-month/10-visit study of an investigational medication. A new research study for people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

Ask the nurse or doctor today to see if you qualify:

1-888-365-3203 • www.facecopd.com

**Compensation may be provided for your time and travel.*

1908 Sweetwater Rd., National City, CA 91950
www.synergysandiego.com

Struggling with Knee Pain?

Do you struggle with knee pain due to osteoarthritis? If you have osteoarthritis (OA) of the knee, you may qualify for a 12-week clinical trial for an investigational medication for osteoarthritis. This trial follows subjects carefully for any stomach side effects.

You may qualify if you are:

- 45-80 years of age
- Have been diagnosed with arthritis of the knee
- Take a medication for knee pain most days
- Do not have a history of gastrointestinal bleed or ulcer(s) diagnosed within the past 5 years

For more information, please call:

Medical Associates Research Group

858-277-5678 • www.MARGinc.com

the staples. As the staples scraped my skull and tore through my skin, I cried out so loud that the nurse stopped, and a doctor was called in the next day to finish the job. It was the only real feeling I had in 21 days.

The next day, staples removed, two young paramedics placed me on a gurney and pushed me through the hallways of the tenth floor and into an elevator. They said they were taking me to Alvarado Hospital's rehabilitation institute in the College Area.

Once inside the institute's lobby, they

transferred me from the gurney to a wheelchair. Aimee walked alongside as a heavyset nurse pushed me through the hallways. I wore a maroon helmet for protection.

The tube felt like a slug crawling up my trachea.

I had no idea what I needed protection from. The hospital reminded me of the asylum in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. It looked old and dilapidated. When we arrived at my room, the nurse helped me onto the bed.

I felt dizzy each time I moved. I barely had the strength to lift my arm.

Although I'd been taken off the morphine and sedatives, the drugs were still in my system. I

believed I was working on assignment, undercover. I told the nurse that the exposé focused on the bureaucracy of healthcare. She laughed. After she left the room, Aimee, my mom, and my older brother stood near my bedside. They looked tired. They stared at me with glossy eyes. I thought they were overreacting.

Later that day, I rose from my bed and shuffled toward the bathroom. I placed my palms on the walls for support. My legs and right arm trembled.

I took off my helmet in front of the mirror. It was the first time I'd seen my reflection since the fall. The right side of my head was missing. Scraggly brown

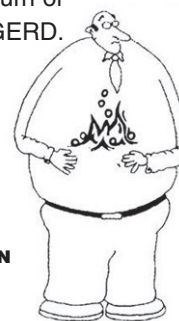
RESEARCH STUDIES

Heartburn? Acid Regurgitation?

If you frequently suffer from heartburn or acid regurgitation, you may have GERD. Call us to find out about our study with an investigational reflux medication.

Participants receive up to \$600.

For information, please call
CALIFORNIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION
619 291-2321



We are currently recruiting for a Clinical Research Study involving an Investigational Product used to treat

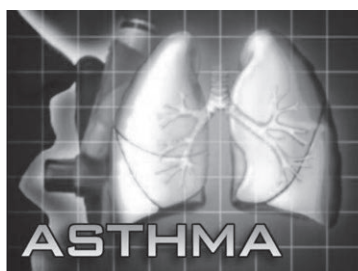
Asthma

You may be eligible to participate if you:

- Are 12 years of age or older
- Have been diagnosed with Asthma for 1 year or longer
- Use a steroid inhaler for treatment
- Have had a Severe Asthma Attack in the past year

Study-related medical procedures and medication are of no cost to you. Compensation for time and travel may be provided.

For more information contact
SAN DIEGO SPORTS MEDICINE
& FAMILY HEALTH
619-229-3909
email: lburchard@sandiegosportsmed.com



Do You Suffer?

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.



Do you have Diabetes?

Are you experiencing pain, tingling, burning, or numbness in your legs or feet?

You may be suffering from **painful diabetic neuropathy**, or nerve damage caused by diabetes.

Coordinated Clinical Research is conducting a clinical research study to determine the effect of an investigational drug and its ability to treat pain associated with diabetic neuropathy.

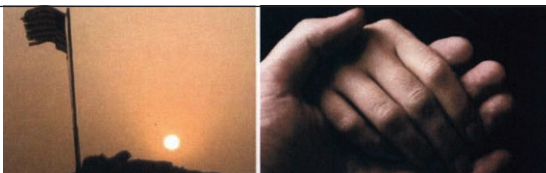
For more information call **858-455-5463** or email us at **ccr@sandiegotrials.com**.

Qualified participants will receive clinical evaluations, lab tests and investigational drug for up to 2 years. You may also be eligible to be reimbursed for \$50 per visit to cover meals and travel-related expenses.



Coordinated Clinical Research
www.sandiegotrials.com
Scripps Memorial Hospital (Ximed Building)

**9850 Genesee Ave.
Suite 320, La Jolla
CA 92037**



Are you a **MILITARY VETERAN** that has faced a **LIFE-OR-DEATH EVENT** (when in or out of the military)? Do you currently have thoughts or nightmares about the event when you don't want to? Do you avoid reminders of the event, like crowds, certain TV shows, or loud noises?

Researchers at the VA Medical Center are conducting a new study to learn more about how best to provide treatment in veterans.

Participation is at no cost and participants may receive compensation for time and travel. **If you would like to find out more information, please contact our research coordinator, Tania Zamora at: 858-642-3269**

Project #: 080513, 080150 Pl: S. Thorp & Z. Agha



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

Infants & Toddlers

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

Parainfluenza Virus.

Please call for more information

888-250-9925

Compensation for
time and travel.

**CALIFORNIA
RESEARCH
FOUNDATION**



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

Been told you have a kidney stone?

Ask about our clinical research study at San Diego Sports Medicine & Family Health Center. You may qualify if you:

- Are 18 yrs. or older
- Have had a stone within the past 2 yrs.

**Qualified participants
may be compensated for
their time and travel to
the study clinic.**

**Study-related medical
procedures are of no
cost to you.**

**Give us a call at:
(619) 229-3909**



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

hair covered the left side. I had no hair on the right, just a large crater and a dark red scar running along the crater's edge, from the top of my forehead, back above my ear, and then toward my face. A large pocket of fluid and tendon, cut during the surgery, bulged through the skin in front of my ear. My beard and mustache hairs were long, wiry, and out of control. I looked at my throat and at the blue plastic pipe stuck inside. It looked as if a kazoo were lodged in my neck. I was oblivious to what had happened. I stood

there and stared, detached and devoid of emotion.

On the second day, I met my doctor. He was an arrogant, smug man in his 50s. He had long, slicked-back gray hair. I hated him at first sight. I hated the new shiny black shoes he wore. I hated that he looked at me as some long-haired, tatted-up skate punk, as if I deserved to be in the condition I was in.

He told me I needed to see the throat specialist. Two hours later, Aimee wheeled me up to the specialist's office on the fifth floor. We waited inside for 15

minutes. I stared at the posters inside the examination room. They featured drawings of tubes inside throats. Then a doctor in his early 40s entered the room. His gray and black hair was long and wavy, tucked behind both ears. He asked about my accident. We talked about skateboarding and surfing. I saw his hand reach toward my throat as he talked. He grasped the blue pipe without giving me notice. I felt it shift inside my neck, and as he pulled the trach tube out, it felt like a slug crawling up my trachea. The tube was white and

perhaps eight inches long. Brown and white phlegm coated its sides. I felt cold air enter the open hole. The doctor

for breath. When I inhaled, I could hear air escape, a whistling through my neck. I had dreams that the opening

out of college, was a short, amiable Asian-American male. On our way to the hospital gym, he walked by my side.

I slowly realized that they had no way to know how badly my brain was damaged, and my doctors and therapists were playing the waiting game.

bandaged the hole and told me to put two fingers over it when I spoke. He told me it would close in two days. The next two nights, I would wake up gasping

never closed and I had to clean it with Q-tips and alcohol for the rest of my life.

I started physical therapy the following day. My therapist, fresh

"Did you always walk like this, crossing one foot in front of the other?" he asked.

"Yeah," I answered. "I used to be a runway model."

During that first session, I realized my balance was gone. I couldn't walk in a straight line. I couldn't balance on one leg. The therapist did not tell me why. I didn't find out for two weeks that my vestibular system, the part of the brain that controls balance, had been damaged in the fall.

An hour later, I had occupational therapy. A therapist scattered plastic objects of different shapes in front of me

RESEARCH STUDIES



Got toenail fungus?

Are your toenails thickened, or have a cloudy appearance?

If so, you may qualify for a research study involving a new investigational medication for TOENAIL FUNGUS.

No insurance needed.

Study includes:

- Study-related medical evaluations by a dermatologist
- Study-related medication • Reimbursement for time and travel

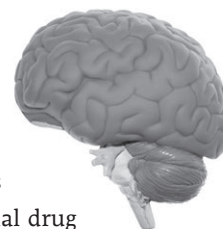
We also have ongoing studies for acne and psoriasis.

For more information call University Clinical Trials at: (858) 278-8470, ask for Julia or Eric. Visit our website at: www.univct.com

Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging Study

Looking for:

- Healthy volunteers
- Ages 18-45 years
- No major medical problems
- No mental health problems
- No alcohol or drug problems



Study involves an investigational drug and FDA-approved medications and brain imaging while doing simple computer tasks. Compensation up to \$1250.

For more information call: 858-405-6677

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



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)



next to a game board that had cutouts of the same shapes. She asked me to fit the pieces into the matching slots. Despite a little tremble in my right arm, I was able to do this. My therapist looked surprised, and then she seemed unsure of the next task. I began to get the impression that the staff didn't know anything about brain injuries. I slowly realized that they had no way to know how badly my brain was

damaged. My doctors and therapists were playing the waiting game to see what symptoms might arise.

Every other day, my doctor dropped by my room for minute-long checkups. He said nothing about my condition, nothing about my strengths and weaknesses. My disdain for him intensified. He never told me what to expect. I started a blog and wrote about him.

"This isn't just

about my middle-aged doctor, who seems to be too busy battling his midlife crisis by gelling his hair and looking for new slick black leather shoes," I wrote in my blog, six days after waking from the coma. "This is about being a number, a policy number. This is about being nothing more than a bed-filler at night. Since admittance, I have not been properly evaluated, nor have I been given information on my

RESEARCH STUDIES






Is this a day in your life with HOT FLASHES?

Are you living with moderate to severe hot flashes?

We are seeking volunteers to participate in a research study for women with hot flashes. In order to participate volunteers must:

- ~ Be female, age 18 to 70
- ~ Experience moderate to severe hot flashes
- ~ Not be taking hormone medications, or be willing to stop taking hormone therapy when asked to by study personnel
- ~ Other criteria apply

Study participants will receive study related exams, lab tests and investigational study medication at no charge. Compensation for time and travel expenses may also be available.

Breeze3

For more information, please call:
1-888-866-1733
or visit www.TheHotFlashStudy.com



CLINICAL RESEARCH

SCHIZOPHRENIA • DEPRESSION • BIPOLAR DISORDER

Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are currently enrolling men and women in inpatient and outpatient studies.

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

Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

To learn more, call the Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research Center at **(858) 836-8350**.

Clinical
Research Center
SHARP Mesa Vista
Hospital



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Are you diagnosed with

Bipolar Disorder,

experiencing

Depression,

and currently taking Lithium, Depakote, or Zyprexa?

You may qualify for a research study evaluating an investigational drug and be reimbursed for your time and transportation for your screening visit and each protocol scheduled visit. Total compensation will not exceed \$750.00.

Call 619-481-5252 for more information.
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(Same Day Appointments Available)

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3033 Fifth Ave Suite 105 San Diego

www.PerformanceMedicalCenters.com

injury, a prognosis, nothing. Money and insurance rule this place. So much so, the patient is only an obstacle, and a nag. I guess that's what I am."

The next day, I collected my belongings. Aimee and my mom, sister, and brother begged me to stay. They said I was delusional. I didn't believe them and started to walk to the elevator, down the cream-colored linoleum floors, past a large meeting room that looked as if it hadn't changed since the swinging '70s. My case manager stopped me in the hallway. I said I would leave if I didn't get a new doctor. She agreed.

When I awoke the following morning I was more lucid. Things

seemed in focus. I asked Aimee about my injury. She did her best to tell me about my condition. Maybe the morphine was out of my system. I began to understand the gravity of what I had been through and what my wife and family had been through. I told Aimee I wanted to help people. I told her I wanted to speak to kids about wearing helmets. I apologized to Aimee for what I had put her through. I told her that I was selfish. I vowed to become a better husband. I cried at the thought of her sitting by my bedside for 19 days while I was in a coma, reading to me and singing Wilco songs. I promised to embrace life, and her, more, instead of embracing

the dark side, the Charles Bukowski image that I conjured up about what a writer should be. I promised her that I would change, not just for her but for myself and for everyone around me.

But, instead, in the days that followed, I grew irritable and depressed. I couldn't control the anger, and I was unable to break the sadness. My hands began to tremble uncontrollably. I had no focus. I couldn't read for more than a minute. I tried to post entries in my blog each day, but I had little to write. As the wound from the tra-cheotomy healed and I began to eat more solid food, I realized that I had lost my sense of taste and smell.

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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Removal Special
Underarms \$39!**
OR buy any package and get
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Regularly \$89.

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free & choose 1 free 1 oz.
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Free Seminar: May 5 • 6 pm
ActiveFX™ • Smooth lines, wrinkles, scars. Presentation by Dr. Daneshmand
 with open Q&A session. Refreshments • Prizes • Raffles. RSVP at: 888-281-7635

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\$100 rebate on Botox and JuvédermXC*
 *Latisse purchase required. Appointments 9 am-6 pm. Call: 888-281-7635

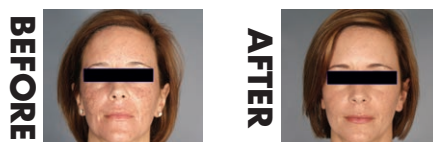


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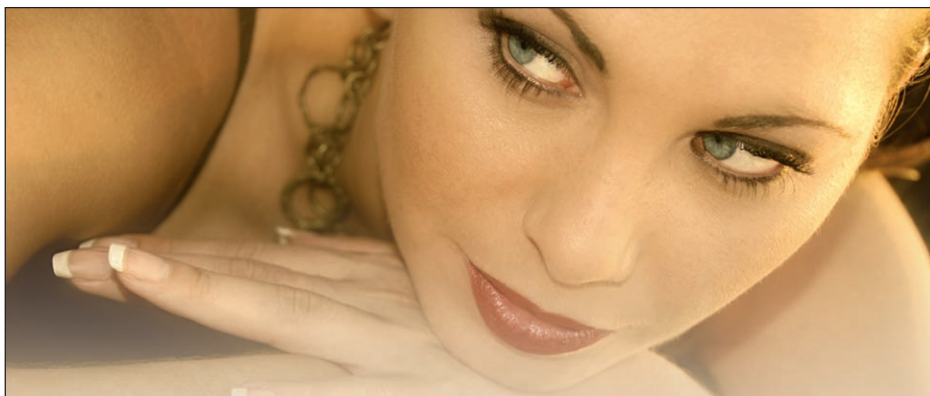
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My new doctor and I met for the first time. He told me that more symptoms would appear as my brain healed, as my neural pathways reconnected. It was the first time that anyone told me it would get worse before it got better. I felt relieved to know what to expect.

Two days later, my sixth day at Alvarado, after solving more puzzles for therapists and trying to walk down more straight lines, with no new information about my injury or my recovery, I was released.

Suddenly, I was back home. I spent most of the next week and a half sitting in my big brown leather chair, feet propped up on the matching ottoman, star-

ing at movies and bad TV. My head felt as though my brain were swollen, as though someone had pumped air into my skull. The feeling of pressure increased with fatigue. I was lightheaded, and I had no balance. When I stood up, no matter how slowly, I'd get dizzy. The red scar along my head itched nonstop. I'd scratch it and feel the rough, thick edge of my skull. It dropped off about an inch to the inside of my head, which was protected only by my scalp and Gore-tex. The skin over the area where my skull was missing felt like a plastic balloon. If I pushed down on it, it would give, like the palm of your hand but without as much mus-

cle. I didn't push down too hard, scared that I would touch my brain.

Aimee and I battled over wearing the helmet, which I was supposed to put on when I got up from the chair. I considered wearing the helmet to the bathroom weak, and I didn't want to be weak. Early on, stepping down three stairs, my legs buckled and I nearly fell. Aimee started crying immediately. After that, I didn't have the strength to argue, and I didn't want to upset her any more than she already was.

Every day, I woke up dizzy, irritable, and in a darker depression than the day before. I often wished that I had died. I was scared that I

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wouldn't be as smart. I was frightened that my brain would be damaged for the rest of my life, that I would never again do the things I liked to do, such as surfing, skating, playing guitar, and writing. Shooting pains fired in my right arm. Nerve damage had finally showed up from fighting through the restraints. By seven o'clock every evening, I felt as if my brain were giving birth to an alien. The bulge of muscle and fluid near my ear was the alien's womb. It pounded and swelled. A few minutes later my mind and body would crash. I couldn't move, think, or talk. I just sat there like a big pile of nothing, as though I were in a vegetative

state.

Aimee was constantly by my side, asking if I needed anything, trying to look strong. She would call through the bathroom door while I was in the tub, making sure that I was all right. Sometimes, sitting silently in my chair, I'd look over to see tears streaming down her face.

My third day back from the hospital, Aimee and I walked to the Uptown District Shopping Center to fill a prescription. We stopped at the Blockbuster to get more movies. The music inside the store made my head spin — I felt confused, overwhelmed, and dizzy — and I told Aimee I'd wait outside. As I sat in

front, wearing my maroon helmet, I heard someone yelling, "Hey, helmet head. Helmet man. Nice helmet."

I looked over and saw a guy in his mid-20s wearing baggy jeans and a large yellow T-shirt. He was cupping his hand over his mouth, laughing. "Go into a coma and see what you come out looking like, asshole," I snapped back. He turned around and walked away. Rage filled my mind. My right arm began to shake. The brief tantrum sapped all of my energy, and I barely had the strength to walk home.

On October 28, I was admitted into Sharp Hospital's Community Reentry Program for outpatient rehab. I was

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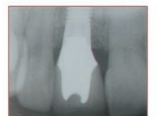
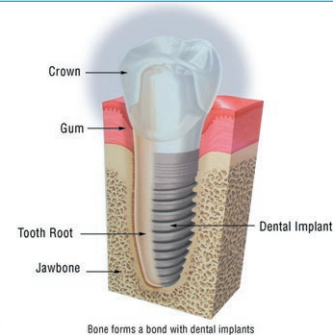
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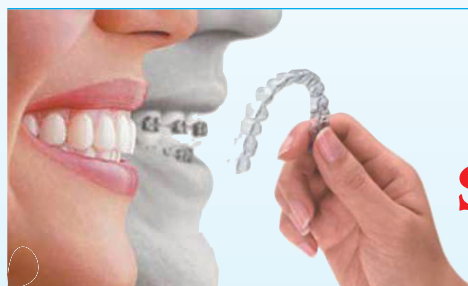
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given neuropsych tests. The technician, a young guy in his 20s with long blond hair and a shaggy blond beard, asked me to draw a cube. I couldn't. He asked me to repeat 12 words. He said them out loud and waited a few seconds before asking me to repeat them. It took me

four tries to get all 12. I couldn't do long division. I thought I was stupid and inept. I realized that my brain was more damaged than I had thought.

The next day at rehab, a young man in his late 20s sat next to me in a wheelchair. His eyes wandered around

in his eye sockets. A puffy red scar ran from his left earlobe to his left nostril. His dad flashed brightly colored objects in front of his face. Occasionally, he'd guess the right color. When he did, everyone around him cheered. He introduced himself to me later that day. His name

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was Chris. He asked me what had happened to me. I told him my story. He went into his. He was asleep one night when someone he didn't know broke into his apartment and butchered him and his girlfriend with a hatchet. His girlfriend survived. He died twice that night, but each time doctors resuscitated him.

"I'm so sorry to hear that happened to you," I said.

"It's okay. You have to try and stay positive, and each day you see some progress. It just takes time," he said. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. I was upset that I couldn't do long division, and this man, whose injuries seemed so much worse than mine, was telling *me* to stay positive. I began to think how fortunate I was to be able to walk, talk, swallow, and see.

Later that day, at a trauma checkup at Scripps, a nurse recognized me from my time in the intensive care unit. She was shocked at my present condition. She said that she and the other nurses didn't think I would survive, let alone come out in the state I was in. That, and the conversation with Chris in rehab, made me realize how close I had come to dying. It gave me a perspective and insight that I had lacked since waking from the coma. I began to appreciate my second chance and vowed to focus on the positive and not get hung up on the negative.

At Sharp rehab, a month after waking from the coma, I finally learned about the damage that was inflicted on

my frontal lobe. The area of the brain that I injured acts as the brain's emotional filter, or as my neurologist explained it, the frontal lobe acts as the conduc-

tor of the orchestra.

My neuropsychological tests revealed that out of a peer group of 100 healthy people — same age, same education, no brain

trauma — I scored above average in most categories. I came in fourth from the bottom in spatial orientation. My visual memory was weak, as was my ability

to adapt to new tasks. My neurologist said that depression, irritability, and a lack of focus would worsen as my recovery progressed, a recovery that could take

years.

Now, six months after the fall, I see how right my neurologist was. I've started to write again. The missing piece of my skull has been

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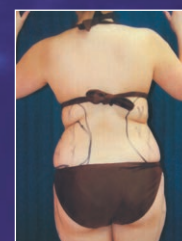
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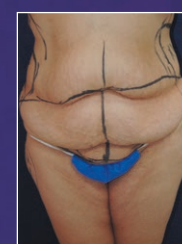
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reattached. I go to see bands play, and I go out for dinner — a waste of money considering I can't taste it. I am back surfing. But I am not the same person. I notice new things every day. I see blanks where thoughts once were. Not a day goes by that I don't think about the injury. That positive mind-set and renewed insight are difficult to hold on to when the depression and irritability take over. Post-brain injury, everything — not just minor accomplishments but also small setbacks — gets blown out of proportion. Insignificant physical feats are treated as record-breaking achievements. A mistake on a math ques-

tion is evidence of permanent brain damage. A minor headache could be the onset of a posttraumatic epileptic fit. The people around me react the same. If I take a nap during the day, Aimee congratulates me and praises me for changing gears and resting.

One day, I hope to speak to kids about wearing helmets. I think that if I can persuade one kid to put on a helmet before skating then something good will have come from my misfortune. Despite the desire, I can't concentrate long enough to write out my presentation and I don't have the energy to take on a new venture.

Occasionally, I think of the promise I

made to Aimee that day in the hospital. I try to show her how much I appreciate her and how sorry I am for what I've put her through, but my irritability, caused by the brain injury, prevents me. I hate to think that I am returning to my former self: a self-centered, self-absorbed person who went skateboarding one day without a helmet because he considered helmets uncool and unnecessary, a person who fails to appreciate the second chance. I hate to think that I am just another ingrate caught up in the trivialities of life. I hate to think that even a major blow to the head and a near-death experience aren't enough to bring about change. ■

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Harvey

When we first moved in next door to Harvey, I thought he was a busybody. After we unpacked our moving truck, he came over immediately. I felt as if he was scoping us out, sizing us up to see how much of a nuisance we would be.



shared alley, collecting cans from the neighbor's trash, or watering his flowers with the rainwater he collects in big white buckets. Every Wednesday evening he rolls out all 12 of the garbage cans belonging to our alley's residences to the street for the following morning's pick-up. Bright and early the next day he rolls them back to their rightful places. He repeats the process on Friday with our recyclables. He takes care of all of us. When his grandson briefly moved in with him, he stopped me on my way out

more than once to apologize for his grandson's loud music or boisterous friends.

One afternoon while sitting on our back porch, teaching my daughter the fine art of hula hooping, I complained about the overabundance of oranges on our other neighbor's tree.

"Why don't they ever pick them? It's such a waste," I thought out loud.

The next afternoon I found one of Harvey's buckets filled to the rim with oranges outside our front gate.



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

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

Deadline for the next contest is April 30, midnight.

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

"You got a whole lot of children there," he said in a sweet Southern drawl.

I was certain he would be over often to complain about the noise level or toys left outside. I soon learned that I was way off about Harvey.

In those first weeks, I noticed Harvey around town nearly every day. I soon learned he was a staple in our neighborhood. When I would take the kids to our community park and chit-chat with the other moms, upon learning what street we lived on they would say, "Oh, you must live by the old guy."

Harvey can be seen sweeping up our

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Dr. Pegah S. Salami

Harvey's wife Rosie has Alzheimer's. She is a petite woman with soft lines running through her face. I used to see them walking together through the winding sidewalks of our neighborhood. He holds her frail elbow in the palm of his hand and guides her through our tree-lined streets. She always has a pale blue scarf tied neatly over her head. She smiles whenever she sees my daughter. Her face crumples up like paper, as if her wrinkles have their own story to tell. There is tenderness about her. I have a feeling she was full of life at one point. Even now, with her memories lost, she is captivating.

When my dad died, Harvey was the first to acknowledge it.

"I heard about your dad. I am sorry. Death is a hard thing," he told me.

He spread the word to all of our neighbors. Normally I would be annoyed, but not by Harvey. He didn't do it in a gossiping way. He did it because he cares. Harvey doesn't come from a world of cell phones and Internet. He comes from a place of potlucks and block parties, an era where neighbors walked into each other's homes without knocking.

The other day while I was rushing out the door with the kids, hoping to get them to school in time, Harvey stopped me in the drive.

"What's up, Harvey?" I asked, trying my best to conceal my annoyance over being stopped when I was in a rush.

"I had to put Rosie in a nursing home last Sunday," he said. "I can't manage to care for her on my own anymore." He looked down, and I could see tears in his eyes.

I hugged him. He turned and walked back

down the alley. I could tell he was crying.

The next night I brought dinner over to Harvey. I could see his outline through the window. He was sitting in a brown chair; the only

lights on in his home were coming from the TV. Standing on his dimly lit porch, I could feel the weight of his loneliness. When I handed him the plate of food, he broke down.

"Thank you," he whispered.

The next morning, while rushing out the door, I saw two beautiful potted plants on my windowsill, courtesy of Harvey. That afternoon

he stopped me in the alley to thank me. I asked if he wanted to join us for dinner the following Saturday. He agreed, as long as he could bring over some pizza.

On Saturday, after four years of being neighbors, we will finally eat together. I am looking forward to being the kind of neighbor that Harvey can borrow an egg from. ■

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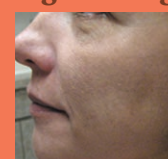
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I GOT PUNKED IN TIJUANA, BUT IT WASN'T THE LOCALS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN WARY OF

Five years after we first met in France, my dear friend Aurelie finally made good last week on her promise to visit me in America. Trotting away from the baggage claim at LAX, suitcases in tow, I babbled on about the great places I would take her during her two-month sojourn: Las Vegas, L.A., Catalina, Joshua Tree, Baja.

"Oh!" she breathed, cutting me short. "I met a man on the plane. He said absolutely, no matter what, don't go to Tijuana."

I gritted my teeth, calculating my rebuttal. It wasn't the first time I'd deflected a panicked response to our southern neighbor. This time, the affront came from a stranger, tarnishing my image as a seasoned tour guide before Aurelie had even taken her first breath of Smell-A smog.

"Listen, Tijuana is full of normal people, just like you and me," I countered, with a roll of my blue eyes and a toss of blond hair. "Americans watch too much TV."



"Tijuana is full of normal people, just like you and me," I countered, with a roll of my blue eyes and a toss of blond hair.

To be fair, I should mention that I don't have a TV, and perhaps I ought to watch more often. It is certainly undeniable that a raging drug war, rampant corruption, and general lawlessness exist across the border. But unlike most of the people who whimper about us white folk becoming instant targets for drive-bys and a host of other atrocities, I've actually been to TJ.

Every time Aurelie outlined our prospective itineraries to an inquir-

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ing acquaintance, I was chagrined to hear them pounce on Tijuana. One recent evening at a bar in the Gaslamp, we were chatting with some new friends. As soon as the forbidden letters tumbled from Aurelie's lips, the concerned fellow leaned over and grabbed me mid-sentence.

"Don't go to TJ!" he pleaded, shaking his head excitedly. "It's so dangerous — they assume you have money!"

I did what I thought was a good job of masking my contempt. "Oh, okay. Have you ever been there?"

"Well, no, but..." But it didn't matter. Tijuana was a condemned land.

Later, I pulled Aurelie aside. "If you don't feel comfortable, it's not a big deal," I told her. "There are plenty of other things to do. We don't have to go."

But my girl is always up for an adventure. "Do you think it's okay?" she asked. I nodded, and she said, "Then it's fine. We will go."

* * *

Typically, I park and walk across the border into downtown Tijuana to spend a day perusing three square blocks of trinkets, tacos, and tequila — mainly because I don't know where else to go or what else to do. So when a Peruvian friend from work offered to act as our guide, I took him up on it. I was ready to get off the beaten tourist path.

Chito picked us up at 4:30 Saturday afternoon, and we breezed down I-5, unfettered all the way to the border. Aurelie dutifully took out her camera to photograph the big block letters across the concrete overhead: M E X I C O.

Our first stop was a bar called the Sótano Suizo (Suisse basement). It was not at all subterranean, but resembled something similar, tucked behind a small maze of shuttered doors and cold, wet cement structures. Aurelie and I were clearly the lightest skinned of the patrons, but the soc-

cer game playing on screens throughout attracted more attention than either of us. We sat at a corner table near the service bar and took in the images of the Alps on the walls, and neon bathroom signs that read

"Frauen" and "Erren."

A waiter promptly arrived with menus, a round of two-for-one drinks, and a clean ashtray.

"Ooh, we can smoke inside!" cooed my Francophonic friend.

"Shit," I pouted. "I forgot my Nicorette." A few Dos Equis and a plate of sautéed shrimp doused with olive oil and jalapeños later, I puffed my first personally imported Gauloise cigarette of the evening. Chito

kept the beer coming and paid the tab when we ladies went to the Frauentoilette.

"Oh, Chito, thank you," we chimed. "Can I leave the tip?" I asked. The service had been impeccable, even if I'd be overpaying for the

plato picante.

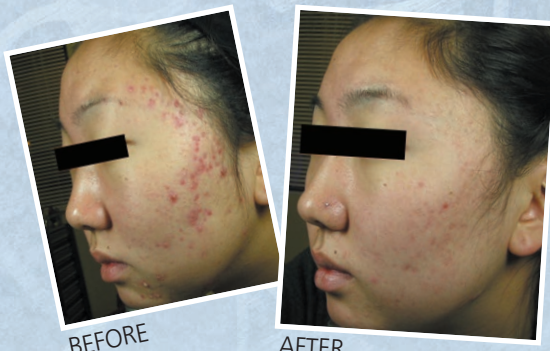
"No, no," he insisted. "I don't think a man should let a woman pay." Well, when in Rome.

We still had some time to kill before the doors opened at our main des-

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tainment, a night club called The Rock, so we stopped by Dandy del Sur bar on Sixth. We stepped over a row of sandbags (improvised flood control from the previous week's downpours) into a long, low-ceilinged room lit with red lamps. The tables were impossibly short — barely knee-high and the size of cocktail trays — but they lent themselves to an intimate ambiance. We settled at one toward the rear, and a waitress shuffled up as I ran my hands over the cigarette burns in the tablecloth.

"Please don't criticize," she joked. "I made it myself."

Chito and I ordered Dos Equis, but Aurelie wanted to know if she could have coffee. The waitress, a diminutive, shapeless woman dressed in denim from head to toe, contemplated the foreigner with a cocked eyebrow. She appeared bemused. We

waited as she weighed her options.

Finally, she issued a verdict: "It's no problem. I was going to make some for myself."

Moments later, a Styrofoam cup of hot water and jar of instant Nescafe appeared.

Chito looked perplexed. "You don't like to drink?" he asked Aurelie.

"No, not so much," she said.

"What *do* you like to do?"

Aurelie shrugged. "I don't know. I like to smoke." She pressed her thumb and forefinger together and held them up in front of pursed lips.

Shortly after, Chito excused himself to go to the bathroom. As we sang along to Gloria Gaynor's "I Will Survive," I thought about how perfectly ordinary the bar, and all the people in it, were. When Chito slid back into his seat,

he dropped a cigarette-sized bundle of aluminum foil into my lap. I peeled back a corner to reveal a nugget of marijuana.

"Oh, cool. Thanks," I said, tucking it into my handbag.

He looked to Aurelie. "Is there anything else you need?"

"I need papers."

He was off again.

"Your friend is strange," Aurelie said.

I shrugged. "He's just showing off."

We paid the bill while Chito was gone. He came back empty-handed, but we assured him it didn't matter and chatted while we finished our drinks. I began to wonder who was going to drive home.

* * *

The Rock still wasn't open when we got there at 9:15. We stepped into a bar across the street to use the bathroom, just in time to

see a bullfight — that is, in time to see two men under a piece of furry fabric with a head and horns on one end charge around the dining room poking bystanders in the rump. Aurelie snapped pictures of the spectacle with gleeful abandon, giggling and cheering. (Chito had managed to secure rolling papers from a parking attendant.)

A 20-minute wait outside the club turned into 40, in that curious way that time expands in Latin countries. Eventually, we were allowed access to the beige, concrete fortress that was one of TJ's hot nightspots.

Inside, several levels of tiny cocktail tables formed an amphitheatre overlooking the dance floor. Chito was thrilled to find out that drinks were charged at a flat rate, per person. He also casually mentioned that there was a place to stay close by, if we didn't want to drive back.

"Oh, no," I said, holding his gaze. "I'm going home tonight."

While we waited for the crowd to pack in, Aurelie discovered an affinity for the house piña coladas. I, however, downshifted and took to nursing my drink. Each subsequent round, I passed the new cocktail to Chito. As his inhibitions crumbled, he grew flirty and forward, and I gently reminded him that we were coworkers whose relationship would remain platonic.

As soon as the first clubbers stepped onto the dance floor, Aurelie bounded down to join them. Chito pulled me up to dance beside our table, but after one song, I insisted he go down to keep Aurelie company. Two songs later he returned, shrugging.

"She don't want me to dance with her," he explained.

"Well, I'm going down for a little while," I said. "Will you stay with our things?" Chito looked disappointed, but I flitted off anyway. As I danced, I imagined that our guide might be feeling dejected and

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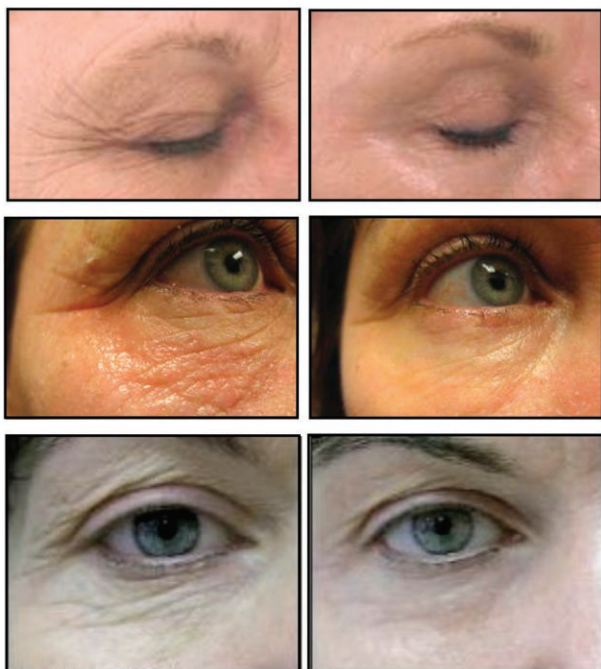
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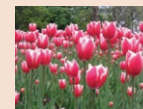
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unappreciated. But the crowd was lively and the music was a bumpin', thumpin' mix of Mexican and American pop hits, so I swung and swayed through a series of songs before I went back up to check on him.

From the top of the staircase, I saw that our table was empty. Nah, I thought. Our coats and bags were where we'd left them under the table. He wouldn't have left our purses here like that, I assured myself. He's probably in the bathroom.

I watched Aurelie dancing, although I could barely make her out through the smoke-machine clouds. I continued bopping to the bass, throwing glances behind me to see if Chito

had reappeared. When Aurelie resurfaced 15 minutes later, I was still alone.

"Girl, I haven't seen Chito," I confessed.

"Where could he go?"

A border patrol officer warned, "There's a lot of people around here you don't want to get into a car with."

she asked calmly.

I shook my head. "I'm going to check the valet to see if his car is still here," I said. "Wait here with our things."

The Rock funneled me out onto a side street next to the garage. I marched up to the attendant. "Do you remember my friend

we came here with? He had a black VW?"

The attendant remembered well. "He had red sneakers?"

"Yes, that's him! Can

you tell me if his car is still here?"

He was already shaking his head, and grimacing. "No, he left."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes, he left about an hour ago."

"Hijo de puta!" I spat, turning on my heel.

I climbed back into

the cavernous club and reported the bad news to Aurelie. "I can't believe that bastard. I'm going to kill him!" Aurelie nodded in emphatic agreement.

I pulled our waiter aside and explained our unhappy situation. "My friend left us here. Can you believe that?" From his face, I could see that the waiter had figured this out long ago. I sighed. "What do we owe you for the bill?"

"Just leave a tip. It's okay," he said. We graciously accepted his pity.

A five-minute, \$5 cab ride later, we were at the border. We walked across, pot hidden in panties, to learn that the American remainder of the trek would cost \$55. I asked a border patrol officer if it was illegal to hitchhike. "I think so," he said, then warned: "There's a lot of people around here you don't want to get into a car with."

Probably true. But there was a very nice, docile-looking young man sitting alone in the trolley station. We wandered over.

"Hey, are you waiting for the trolley?" I called.

"I think it left. We can check the schedule," he said, getting up. A quick consultation confirmed that the final train had left 30 minutes before.

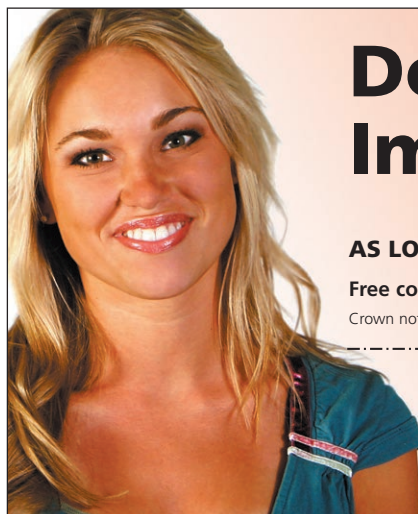
"Sooo, where are you going?" I ventured, as we strolled back to the station benches.

"I'm waiting for a friend to pick me up," said the friendly guy. "I work at the airport."

I couldn't believe our luck. "Oh, I live right by the airport!" and I rattled off the tale of our misadventure.

"That's not cool," the friendly guy agreed. "I can't believe he just left you like that. Let me call my friend and see if he will take you."

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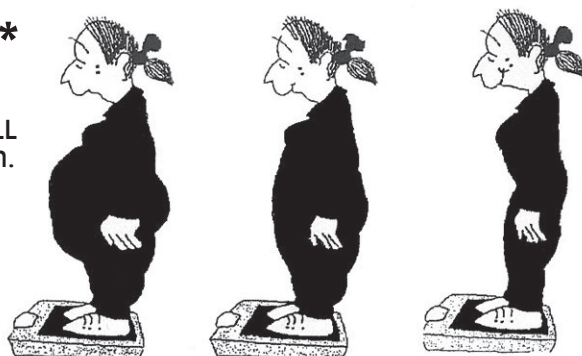


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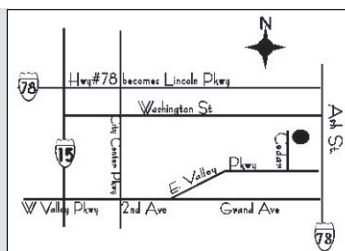
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We introduced ourselves, and Umberto began fumbling with several cell phones, swapping out SIM cards and batteries. "This battery is dead, but his phone number is in this one," he explained. In total, he carried four phones: two for work, one for Mexico, and one for the U.S. One of these managed to deliver a wake-up call to the friend, who agreed to give us a lift.

As we waited on the cold metal benches, buttocks numb, Umberto recounted his own recent mishap in his hometown.

"Two weeks ago, my friend got pulled over and the cops kept his truck," he told us.

"Whoa," I said. "How do they just keep his truck?"

"Because they can," he shrugged. "He hired a lawyer — it cost him \$2000 — but they are still looking. There's no way to find it, really."

Always the optimist, I offered: "There must be a way to trace it, some records or something."

This optimism, however, isn't transitive. It thrives only in the industrialized world.

Umberto enlightened me.

"The police here don't give you a card," he said. "They don't have a badge number or anything. There's no way to know who pulled him over."

I let that sink in. My bad luck paled next to the hazards of ordinary life for TJ's citizens. And I hadn't met misfortune there — I'd brought it with me.

"The government tells the police not to harass tourists," Umberto added. "We need them too bad."

I thought about all the small tokens of kindness Aurelie and I had been offered throughout our evening, and how welcome we'd been made to feel in the border city that was supposedly so inhospitable.

I resolved to support my neighbor. Bad reputation or not, TJ could count on me. ■

— Rachel Curtis

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LETTERS

continued from page 22

Pull Those Weeds

I pick up the *Reader* each week for the genius contained within Scott Meyer's comics, Barbarella's stories, and most cover features. I like these things a lot. But the five full pages of ads perpetually dedicated to weed? Not so much.

Jake Glazier
via Facebook

Disappointed With Dribble

I was calling because I am super, super concerned about your little "Stringer" report here titled "Wave of Concern" by Carolyn Grace Matteo (April 8). That is not news. That is far from news. It is not even neighborhood news; it's not even neighbor-

hood information. This is just someone being incredibly nosy, putting her nose where it doesn't belong.

As someone who has a child with special needs, people look at me all the time like the child is being abused. But sometimes you have to get physical with these children, just to control them so they don't hurt themselves or hurt others. So what she considers grabbing a child and thrusting him into a chair, most people probably wouldn't even consider that.

I'm just disappointed with the *Reader* in printing something like that. This is just useless drivel and has no newsworthiness whatsoever. You want to do a story about child safety versus privacy laws, do a story about that. Don't let some knucklehead write in and leave some B.S.

opinion piece like this.

Name Withheld
via voicemail

Scared By Covers

I've been reading the *Reader* for a long time, ever since I came to San Diego. I really enjoy the *Reader*. I take it to people in the hospital, I pass it to my friends, and I enjoy the stories that are in it. You do an extremely good job. I'm begging you to please do something about the cover pictures. The cover picture is absolutely disgusting. Couldn't you have an uplifting picture, just one once in a while? They're getting more and more bizarre. I can't understand why you would want to do that to the cover of a paper, what you did this last issue ("Do You Want to Be Sent Home in Pieces?" April 8).

The truth is that some people like to keep these papers

and reread some of the articles and pick up some of the jokes and copy them and send them to friends, and a lot of good messages are coming because of this paper, and I know that, so it's not a comment on the whole thing. It's just, do something about the cover. I wouldn't put my hand on this *Reader* issue. That is really disgusting. You've reached back into somebody's nightmare to do that to the cover of the paper. Whoever's smoking whatever needs to get off of it.

Name Withheld
by Request
via voicemail

Discouraging Decent People

After seeing and enjoying *The Last Song*, as we did Nicholas Sparks's *The Notebook*, it is very irritating and offensive to read Shepherd's so-called review. He calls it an "insipid summer romance." As far as I'm concerned, Shepherd's "review" is what is insipid. Apparently never having the pen success of Nicholas Sparks, your wretched reviewer belittles Sparks by saying his pen is "sparkless." We thought Miley did an excellent job of capturing the spirit, mentality, attitudes, and reactions of an intelligent and artistic teenager. He implies that the movie is "a piece of dreck," whereas to me his reviews are pieces

of dreck. I don't know what this apparently wretched excuse of a movie reviewer looks like, but I'm sure that Miley looks better at three in the morning or after a hard workout than he does at his best in a tux. Why can't you get a movie reviewer with heart, human emotions, and family values who knows and believes in real, kind, patient, unselfish, heroic, self-sacrificing, enduring, and committed love to review G and PG movies and let the so-called movie reviewer Duncan Shepherd review R- and X-rated movies. Real, kind, patient, unselfish, heroic, self-sacrificing, enduring, and committed love appears to be completely out of Shepherd's understanding and experience. He should get a job at the morgue to write reviews of funerals.

A killjoy movie reviewer like this Duncan Shepherd discourages decent people from seeing decent movies. If I had been stupid enough to accept his misleading movie review, we would not have gone to see *The Last Song*. His attack on *The Last Song* is an attack on me and my tastes and preferences. When he describes as insipid, sparkless, and dreck the movies I like and prefer, he is implying that my tastes and preferences are insipid, sparkless, and dreck, when in reality it appears that this Duncan guy is the one

who is insipid, sparkless, and dreck. He appears to do a far better job in discouraging people from seeing decent movies than promoting and encouraging them to see such.

I am both a gentleman and a retired professional, so even though I am sorely tempted to stoop to the street vocabulary level of four-letter words and anatomical names to tell you what I think of Duncan Shepherd and his consistently #\$\$%& reviews of movies my wife and I have enjoyed, I will settle with asking why a decent paper like the *Reader* has such an apparently cynical, pretentious, emotionally callous, egotistical, arrogant, pompous, bigoted, and heartless movie reviewer? His consistently obnoxious and biased reviews of movies that we have enjoyed immensely are enough to discourage me from reading the movie reviews in the *Reader* and to read reviews online instead. It's to the place that I don't trust the *Reader*'s movie reviews. The guy apparently has the jaded personality and mentality of Scrooge, Killjoy, Simon Legree, Hugo's Javert, and Dickens' Fagin in order to write reviews as he does. The readers of the *Reader* deserve better.

Ron Tyler
via email

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Meter Swap-Out" column ("City Lights," April 8) this week, I realized there's another seemingly insurmountable problem. That is, on one side we have an environmentalist and utility army, so to speak, that wants you to save energy, and at the same time the utility organizations run to the PUC and say, "Our revenue is down, we have to raise the rates per kilowatt" or whatever, whether it's the water, gas, or electric. So you seem to have a rather bizarre army on one side saying, "Save energy, save water," and on the other side, these same industries say, "Well, since our revenue's down..." And they are, I think, under state law, apparently they have a guaranteed rate of return, somewhere, I think, between 6 and 8 percent, which of course is a mathematical anomaly. I wonder if there's anyone in your shop who might be interested in looking at both sides. We customers are right smack in the middle.

Marvin Gargenbaum
Bay Park

A Minutemen Minute

Wow, Maribel, talk about extremists (Letters, April 8). I think you would qualify. I've never heard anything the Minutemen have said that would be deemed racist. I think they definitely see a difference between legal and illegal, although pro-open-borders people don't. You claim the Minutemen are racist and despise immigrants (where is the fact check the *Reader* demands of letters?), but you offer no proof. The borders are broken because the government doesn't want to do anything to fix it. Politicians want to get the Latino vote.

As for stating the (white) Minuteman at the border wasn't checked by the border patrol because he was white is somehow racist is bordering on delusional. What planet are you living on? Let's see, the border is next to Mexico. Do you think they might

be checking for Latinos?

When I stayed in Thailand and traveled the country by bus, the cops stopped and checked the people on the bus. Who do you think they asked for their visa? Did that make them racist? Or do you think the fact that I was the only white guy on the bus might have alerted them that I might be a foreigner that needed to be checked?

I do agree with you on the ridiculousness of the Cuban policy favoring Cubans (that's just the government can't get over Castro); the same immigration policy should apply to all. Stating that the Founding Fathers left Europe to get away from nationalism, I think you need to study history. They left to get away from religious persecution; unfortunately, they reverted to that same thing once they were here. Also stating that Native Americans didn't deem the settlers illegal, maybe not in that term but they were very territorial even amongst

tribes.

We need to control the borders for various reasons. We need to know who is coming in so criminals or terrorists are not let in to prey on people. We also have 300 million people now; we need population control. We need to leave open space for wildlife to coexist also. More people means more traffic, waste disposal, air pollution, sewage in the oceans, and more and more homes for people to live in. I like limited immigration from *all* over the world, not just south of the border. You can only let in so many people; some will have to be turned away.

At least you didn't call them vigilantes, as some who are too ignorant to know what the term really means. While calling people who don't believe in illegal immigration nationalist, racist who hate all immigrants, then saying let's stop the hate rhetoric — you should start with yourself!

Todd Gilbert
North Park

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Oil-O-Rama

Re the Sycamore Canyon/ Puente Hills article by Jerry Schad ("Roam-O-Rama," January 28). I am glad to hear Jerry enjoyed the hike. The City of Whittier, which owns portions of the habitat, is starting the process in efforts to begin drilling for oil on the preserve. I thought it was quite ironic that Jerry mentioned the oil derrick on the trail and said that is one of the few still running in the L.A. Basin.

Name Withheld
by Request
via email

Good-Fun Garage

Re Cardiac Kidz ("Blurt," April 8).

I'm glad to see you're back together, Jim and Bill. Terry died last month. He would have been happy to hear that you're together again (or perhaps he knows!). Many fun times in the past, at Bill's folks' garage, at our house, and at SDSU's Backdoor. Good luck.

Dale Thompson
Clairemont

Vomit Added

Matthew, thanks for the nice article ("Sheep and Goats," April 8).

We are truly a happy family around the world.

It is so sad to see that people without meaningful lives, who are filled with jealousy and hate because of Jehovah's Witnesses being so happy in serving Jehovah and following Jesus' example of loving everyone, including them, added their vomit as "comments" about the article at the end of the page.

Wishing you the best,
Ada
via email

Orphanmakers

The article on Jehovah's Witnesses left out their practice of shunning people who don't follow the rules ("Sheep and Goats," April 8). This leads to even family members refusing to talk to their "disfellowshipped" brother, sister, child, parent, etc. They cannot even share a meal or say hello on the street. In some cases children become practical orphans for perhaps smoking, celebrating a holiday, or being gay.

J.B. Reynolds
via email

Lots Of Us

Matthew Lickona wrote an excellent and accurate report of Jehovah's Witnesses Memorial celebration at the Lamar Kingdom Hall ("Sheep and Goats," April 8). I wish to commend him for not being sarcastic, as many journalists are. One correction, however, with the name (in the title on the website). It is Jehovah's Witnesses (plural). They are an international brotherhood and are readily identified by their love for one another (John 13:34, 35). I have never known a more wonderful group of people.

Name Withheld
by Request
via email

Love Bomb You

Re "Sheep and Goats" article on the Jehovah's Witnesses (April 8). I am a lifelong Jehovah's Witnesses dissident.

(A) They are at your door to recruit you for their Watchtower society corporation. They will say that "we are just here to share a message from the Bible." This is deception right off.

(B) Their "message" creed is a false gospel that Jesus had His second coming in 1914. The problem with this is it's not just a cute fairy tale — Jesus warned of the false prophets who would claim, "Look, He is here in the wilderness" or "See, here He is at the temple."

(C) Their anti-blood transfusion ban against *whole blood* has killed thousands.

(D) Once they recruit you, they will "love bomb" you in cult fashion to also recruit your family and friends or cut them off.

Danny Haszard
via email

Disgruntled By Standards

Thank you for printing such a lovely and accurate article concerning our memorial ("Sheep and Goats," April 8). It's so nice when someone looks at us objectively and sees what's really there: people who are Christians, who love God and follow Christ, and try so hard to be exam-

ples in conduct, morals, and obedience to God.

Those who find something to complain about are those who lack knowledge of us; they get information thirdhand, or they are disgruntled because the standards of Jehovah's Witnesses are so high that they either can't or won't live up to them. We all fall down at times, but it doesn't mean that we can't get up and continue on our way. Jehovah is merciful and forgiving when true repentance is displayed. That's one of the benefits that we *all* receive from that sacrifice and covenant that Jesus made that special night of Nisan 14. Again, thank you.

Phyllis Benaburger
via email

Comments from Reader Website

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

Best Buys

Published April 14

By ghelmwood 7:56 p.m.,
Apr. 14, 2010

In reference to "Green-earth" — the company seems to be engaged in a series of greenwashing exercises via the media to paint the solvent behind this — "D5" or "cyclodioxanes" — as a benign substance.

In fact, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) added D5 to its "Priority" list of chemicals for biomonitoring in July 2009. This is the highest designation and most would find it odd to classify any chemical on this list as "environmentally friendly."

Details on this classification and D5's addition can be seen here: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/multimedia/biomonitoring/pd/f/0709PotPriorChemsOE-HHA.pdf>

This may be why the state Air Resources Board has rejected requests by the company to include the solvent with those (water, co2) eligible for grants to cleaners seeking to adopt greener alternatives.

Perhaps a follow on to the story might be in order to inform readers of these facts?

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 22

CHIHULY AT THE SALK

The Institute for Biological Studies celebrates its 50th anniversary with an outdoor installation of more than a dozen hand-blown glass sculptures by renowned artist Dale Chihuly. Tour the facility and experience the colorful and expressive glass works juxtaposed with concrete buildings.

See **SPECIAL**, page 69.

REAL-LIFE STORIES BEHIND DON'T ASK DON'T TELL

For the forum "Asking and Telling," an assortment of speakers will "paint a rich picture of the lives, values, and struggles of some of our bravest servicemen and -women" through storytelling, a panel discussion, legal updates, and multimedia presentations.

See **IN PERSON**, page 76.

Friday | 23

SPRINGTIME CELEBRATION

Is Your Mama a Llama?

Listen to this story, meet some of the cutest animals in the Children's Zoo, and create finger puppets during the Kindernights and Kindermornings program at the San Diego Zoo.

See **FOR KIDS**, page 76.

TASTES OF PORTUGAL

The Portuguese Hall hosts a celebration of Portuguese food, wine, tradition, and culture. The three-day event includes tastings, a symposium on Portuguese heritage, a traditional sit-down dinner, and an arts-and-culture open house.

See **SPECIAL**, page 73.

Saturday | 24

THEATRE TOTS

Children four to six will be introduced to the "art of acting through the exploration of children's literature" led by an Old Globe teaching artist. Students can learn elements of story, voice, movement, and imagination and then perform a short play of the story featured.

See **FOR KIDS**, page 75.

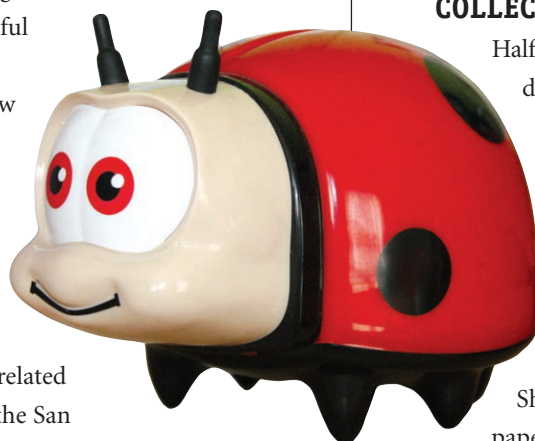
LADYBUG DAY

Scientists from Cornell University need help tracking ladybugs — those pretty beetles are an important natural defense against the harmful insects.

Learn how to search for ladybugs and also

create ladybug-related crafts at the San Diego Botanic Garden. Irene T. Hunt will read and sign her new book, *Queen Iween's Beautiful Butterflies*.

See **FOR KIDS**, page 75.

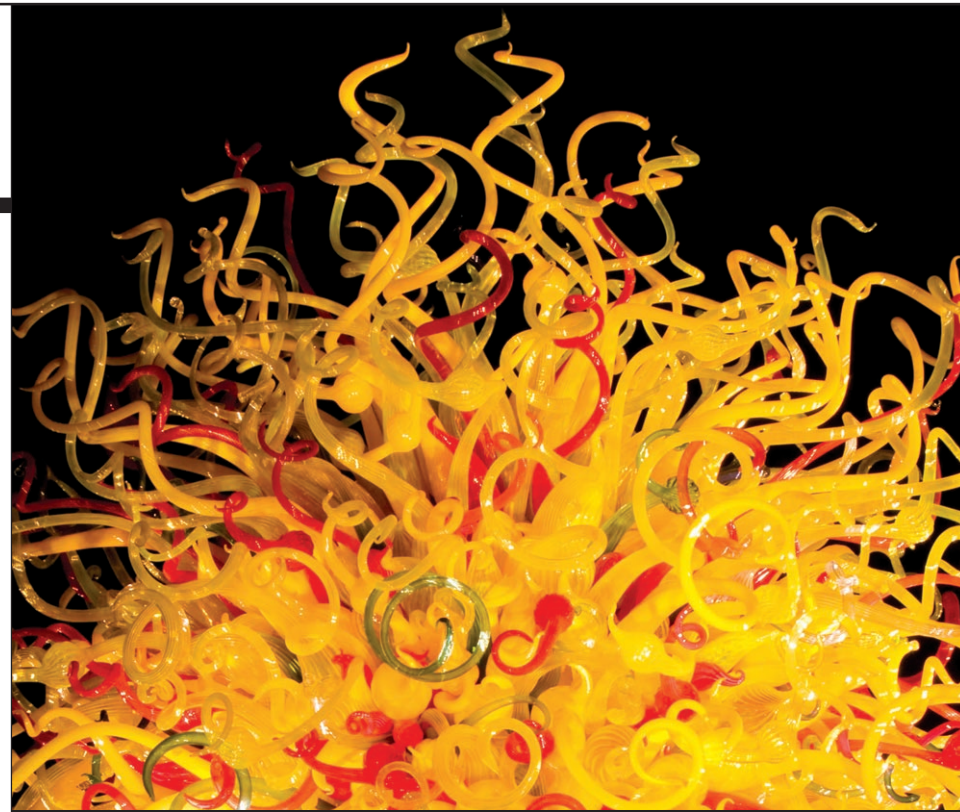


Sunday | 25

HOUSE OF ENGLAND

The duo of Posh & Becks is not expected to attend, but you can celebrate St. George Day all the same during this program of songs and dances at Balboa Park's International Cottages. A brass band will play popular tunes, and the Merrie England Singers and Morris Dancers will contribute to this jolly good time.

See **SPECIAL**, page 72.



THURSDAY, APRIL 22: CHIHULY AT THE SALK

POSTCARD AND PAPER COLLECTIBLES SHOW

Half a million items will be displayed in collections that include postcards, advertising trade cards, Valentine's Day cards, movie memorabilia, and photos during the San Diego Postcard and Paper Collectibles Show. Appraisal of old paper collectibles is included in price of admission.

See **SPECIAL**, page 73.

Tuesday | 27

BLACK TONGUE? FLYING GOUT?

Dr. Stephen Baird, UCSD School of Medicine emeritus professor of clinical pathology, discusses "Diseases That Ravaged Our Ancestors" for the North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Learn the historical background of killer diseases and how to interpret stated causes of death on old death certificates and in family stories.

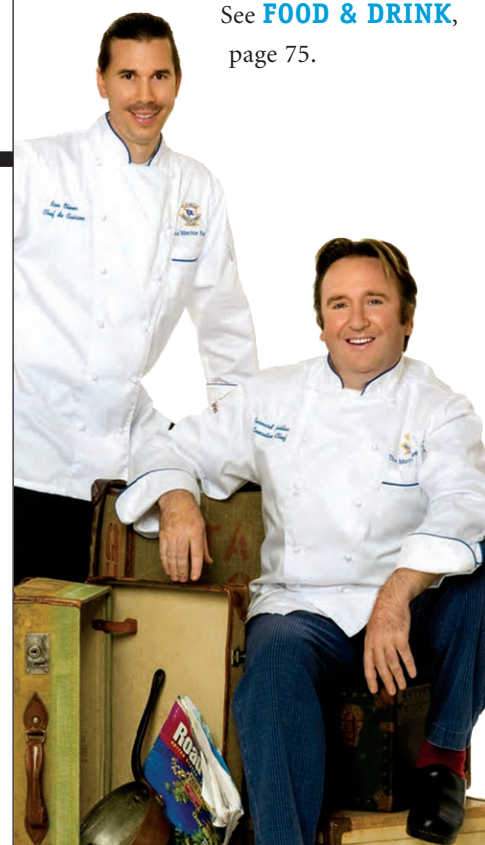
See **LECTURES**, page 77.

Wednesday | 28

EAT. DRINK. READ.

This foodie event highlights chefs from local restaurants, including Urban Solace, Starlite, and Suite & Tender. Guests include Bernard Guillas and Ron Oliver, authors of *Flying Pans: Two Chefs, One World*, and chefs from the Marine Room. Proceeds benefit the San Diego Council on Literacy.

See **FOOD & DRINK**, page 75.



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TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS



"The one place I need to return to."

Gimmelwald, Switzerland

By Michael Lofgren

After traveling around Europe for three months, the one place I keep telling myself I need to return to is Gimmelwald, Switzerland.

Located high in the Swiss Alps, this town of approximately 130 residents is full of charm and relaxation. There are several places to stay in Gimmelwald — some B&Bs, but most people stay at the Mountain Hostel. At the hostel, people of all ages come together and talk about their travels, where they're from, and hiking. For only 26 CHF (\$24.25 USD), the Mountain Hostel is a great value.

One long hike involves hiking from Gimmelwald up 5200 feet to the summit of Schilthorn. At the top, there's an observation deck, a restaurant, and a way down — a cable car back to Gimmelwald. The observation deck may look familiar, as it was used in the 007 movie *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*.

Short hikes can include walking to

the town above, Murren, where you can mail postcards and purchase groceries and Swiss chocolates, or exploring Gimmelwald and sampling some local cheese or sausage.

Palm Springs

By Jason Osper

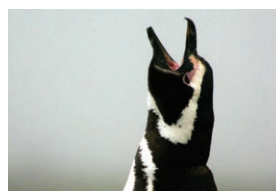
Nice for Sunday brunch with Grandma, sure, but a hip weekend destination? A recent trip to Palm Springs proved that this former mecca of early-bird specials and retired life is emerging as a modern getaway. The proximity to Joshua Tree National Park makes the town a perfect stopping point for some urban indulgence at the close of a camping adventure.

Journey the roughly 40 miles from Joshua Tree into Palm Springs and find a modern rendition of desert living perfected. My senses, fresh from the pristine desert, were at first dulled by the expected condominiums and billboards along the highway. But upon reaching the downtown district, I was struck immediately by its vibrancy.

Strolling past bistros and retailers in a tank top, I soaked up the sun and window-shopped leisurely. A quick stop at the Desert Hatter, and I equipped myself with a Panama hat. My counterpart opted for the floppy variety. We donned the new headgear and resumed exploring our lunch options. At every turn, a sunny

continued on page 68

Other Adventures



island602: "Honey, I'm home!"
(Isla Magdalena, Patagonia)



sanso66: A blustery day along
the coast in Pacific Grove near
Monterey



ninjakat: Haunting tree on trail to
Three Sisters Waterfall



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OUTDOORS

Blue-Blossoming Jacarandas (the City of San Diego's official "street tree") have already produced a first wave of color all over the re-

gion. By early or mid-May, warm weather permitting, this Brazilian import could put on a dazzling show. The larger jacarandas, which in full bloom are leafless, or nearly so, display myriads of delicate, trumpet-shaped blossoms — a lavender haze as seen from afar.

Jacarandas are commonly used as landscaping in parks and on most college campuses. Nice rows of jacarandas grace Ash Street downtown, Rosecrans Boulevard in Point Loma, 25th Street in Golden Hill, and Mission Village Drive above Qualcomm Stadium.

ROAM-RAMA

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

INDIAN CREEK LOOP

A rambling loop utilizing several Laguna Mountain trails offers beautiful springtime scenery and panoramic desert views.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 57 miles
Hiking length: 8 miles • **Difficulty:** Moderately strenuous



Pine forest near Noble Canyon Trail

Spring is finally arriving in upper-elevation San Diego County. At mile-high elevations you can find lingering bursts of wildflower color amid the somber pines and bright-green black oaks. For a wide-ranging introduction to this mountain landscape, plus a startling view of the Anza-Borrego Desert, try the following, easy-going, eight-mile walk around the north end of the Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. Much of this area was singed in the 2002 Pines Fire, which means the trees took a hit and look a bit ragged. Nonetheless, the pioneering undergrowth (and its consequent springtime blossoming) is especially impressive in a wet year like this. Note that you will be following the Pacific Crest Trail much of the way, and on that particular trail it is illegal to ride a mountain bike.

Begin at the Penny Pines trailhead, mile 27.3 on Sunrise Highway (about four miles north of the community of Mount Laguna), where parking is available along the highway's wide shoulder. Be sure to post a National Forest Adventure Pass on your parked car. Start by following the Noble Canyon Trail, a popular hiking and mountain-biking path, west through Jeffrey pines. After gaining the north slope of a hill, dropping to cross dirt roads three times, and ascending once again to circle around the north end of a ridge, you'll come to a junction with the Indian Creek Trail, 2.4 miles from the start. Turn right at this junction and descend about 0.8

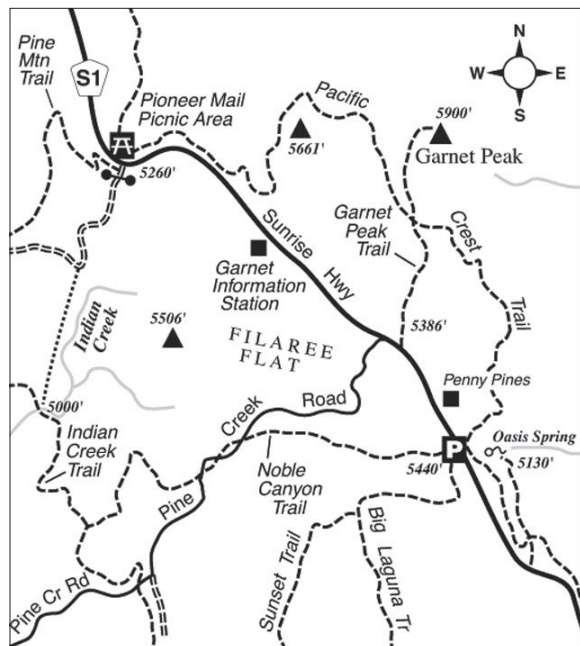
mile through black oaks and chaparral to the grassy banks along trickling Indian Creek.

Indian Creek Trail now sharply ascends to the left, but you head north, upstream along Indian Creek, following the remnants of an old road on the left bank. Keep going on what becomes a better dirt road until you reach Pioneer Mail Picnic Ground — 4.6 miles, across Sunrise Highway. Just below the picnic tables, find the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) and follow it to the right (east). You parallel Sunrise Highway for a stretch and then crookedly ascend oak- and pine-shaded hillsides dotted with yellow wallflowers, blue lupines, and crimson Indian paint-

brush blossoms. Leveling, the trail proceeds through ceanothus (wild lilac) chaparral. The upper reaches of Cottonwood Canyon, which leads toward the desert, lie on the left.

Next comes an oblique intersection with a wide trail to Garnet Peak. Find the continuation of the PCT on the far side, maintaining a course along the rim of the desert-facing Laguna Mountain escarpment. Here and there you can try working your way east through some intervening chaparral growth to reach the brink of the escarpment. Or you can wait until you get to a stretch of trail where you look straight down into the yawning depths of Storm Canyon, which drops sheer toward the desert floor. A final descent on the PCT, through oaks and pines, takes you back to the Penny Pines trailhead.

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



The Tall Locust Trees planted years ago along Julian's narrow streets are once again brightening this backcountry (and former gold-rush) town with blossoms of white, pink, and lavender. Introduced into the West by 19th-century emigrants, locust trees have become almost a trademark of California's gold country, from the Mother Lode south to Julian.

Bracken Ferns are rising on the higher mountains of San Diego County, their bright green, unfolding fronds (called "fiddleheads") pushing up through the russet remains of last year's growth. Look for waist-high bracken fern along the creeks and hollows of the Palomar, Cuyamaca, and Laguna mountains.

The Moon, just shy of full phase, rises impressively from the east horizon on Tuesday, April 27, at around 7:05pm, some 20 minutes before the time of sunset. Some folk names for the April full moon include "growing moon," "seed moon," "planter's moon," and "green grass moon."

"Discover Daley Ranch" Meet naturalist William Sherrard for moderately paced seven-mile hike. 760-839-4680. Tuesday, April 27, 7am; free. Daley Ranch — La

Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Afternoon Fitness Hike Join naturalist Rita Ospelt on seven-mile double-loop hike with brisk pace, some steep up- and downhill sections. Not suited for children. 760-839-4680. Thursday, April 22, 4pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Basic Birding Tom Troy leads basic birding program with emphasis on identifying birds by sight and sound and using binoculars, spotting scopes, field guides. Directions: 760-967-6915. Saturday, April 24, 8:30am; free. Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center, 2202 S. Coast Hwy. (CARLSBAD)

Become a "Chaparralian" Trail-guide naturalist walk heads through native plants with unique environmental and historical facts. Increase your understanding of habitat, biodiversity protection. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 24, 9:30am; Sunday, April 25, 9:30am; Wednesday, April 28, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Assistance for the Cactus Wren Help restore cactus wren wildlife habitat; participants will prepare site, plant native plants in

Santa Luz grasslands. Bring water, good footwear, gloves if you have them. RSVP for refreshment head count: 858-342-8856. Saturday, April 24, 9am; free. South Village Neighborhood Park, 14756 Via Azul. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Desert Garden Tour Bizarre trees, cacti, succulents showcased when Offshoot Tours hosts its monthly hour-long guided stroll through desert garden. 619-235-1122. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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

Explore and Learn! Join California Native Plant Society on walk; learn 20 native plants while exploring trails. Bring sturdy shoes, water. 310-883-8569. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. 7 and up. Marian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Genesee Avenue. (CLAIREMONT)

Feathered Friends Learn "five simple techniques" for identifying

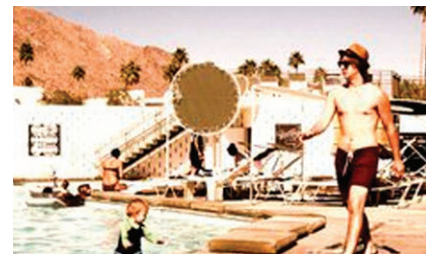
Palm Springs *continued from page 66*

patio dining area beckoned, offering panini, beet salad — all kinds of Italian and Mediterranean dishes with a California influence. A few margaritas later, and we were ready to check out our hotel and its two pools.

We spied the sign for Ace Hotel on an unassuming corner south of downtown. A hipster staff greeted us at the front desk. Not wanting to waste daylight, we hurried over to the heart of the hotel.

At 3 p.m., the central pool area was operating at full throttle. Umbrellas, hammocks, and smiling faces filled the deck, framed against snow-capped mountains and chic modern architecture. A DJ spun upbeat pop and funk as waiters circulated with libations. The general vibe was hip, fun, and indulgent, yet welcoming to children...even dogs. Young families laughed and played by the pool, splashing over to cheeseburgers and pear salads. Happy canines shadowed their masters and investigated one another. Cliques of friends and couples reclined on deck chairs, smoking while dangling feet in the water.

That evening, we explored Ace's compound. Fires gleamed from private suites and common fireplaces where sofas awaited. We stopped in the Amigo Room for a cocktail before dinner. The daiquiri merits consideration — not a



"A few margaritas later, we were ready to check out the pool."

blended fruity headache, but a sophisticated drink of eight-year-old Bacardi with brown sugar and lime. We left for King's Highway, a former Denny's that now serves as Ace's chief restaurant. We salivated over the menu before deciding on a brisket burger and some sides. After having our fill, we headed to the patio, wrapping up the night with a beer, a smoke, and some good conversation.

The next morning, we arose eager to hit the pool. We staked out a good spot and gawked at the 9 a.m. sunshine. Dizzy and smiling dreamily, we swam a bit to pique our appetite. People-watching picked up as the pool area filled, youths trickling in from sleeping off the late night. After some time spent dangling from one of the hammocks lining the deck, our breakfast of poached eggs, roasted tomatoes, and turkey sausage arrived. We munched happily and ordered our last mai-tai of the weekend, making sure to splash around in the pool a few times before showering and packing up.

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birds during Birding Basics class. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 24, 1pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Full Moon and Sunset Hike Naturalist Rita Ospelt leads brisk, ten-mile hike up Stanley Peak to see sun set and full moon rise. Expect "some steep up- and down-hill sections." Not suitable for children. 760-839-4680. Tuesday, April 27, 4:30pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Get Out! Guided nature hike into off-limits habitat north of Faraday Avenue led by preserve manager for Center for Natural Lands Management, starting in parking lot behind Progressive Insurance building. Hikers "must be in good physical condition," wear hiking boots, pants. 760-594-4771. Saturday, April 24, 9am; free. Carlsbad Oaks North Preserve trailhead, South Melrose Drive at Lionshead Avenue. (CARLSBAD)

Green Celebration "Learn conservation through discovery" during trail guide-led nature walk. Observe the fragile ecosystem, understand our historical and future impact, embrace native open space. 619-668-3281. Saturday, April 24, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Herb Walk Learn to identify plants and shrubs of Carmel Mountain Nature Preserve with Will Bowen. See monkey flower,

black sage, chia. Find out how plants here were once used for food, medicine by Native Americans, Spanish, Anglo settlers. 858-484-3219. Sunday, April 25, 4pm; free. Carmel Mountain trailhead, 4730 Fairport Way. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Wildlife Preserve and River Cleanup Work in Cottonwood Grove area during Creek to Bay cleanup event. Wear clothes that can get a little dirty, close-toed shoes. Tools, supplies provided. Join group at west side of Sefton Field. 619-297-7380. Saturday, April 24, 9am; free. Sefton Field, 2495 Hotel Circle Place. (MISSION VALLEY)

SPECIAL

"Celebrate Springtime" "Art in the Heart of RB" reception for artists Karen Howard, Tom Tiedeman, Margot Wallace. RSVP: 858-521-7000. Wednesday, April 28, 4:30pm. UBS Financial Services, Inc., 17140 Bernardo Center Dr., Suite 350. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

"Chihuly at the Salk" Institute celebrates its 50th anniversary with outdoor installation of more than a dozen hand-blown glass sculptures by renowned artist Dale Chihuly. Tour the facility, experience the "colorful and expressive works of art...set against...landmark concrete buildings." Installation tours April 22, 23; public tours April 24, 26, 27. Reservations: 858-597-0657. Thursday, April 22, 9am and 2pm; Friday, April 23, 9am and

2pm; Saturday, April 24, 9am; Monday, April 26, 9am, 2pm and 7pm; Tuesday, April 27, 9am, 2pm and 7pm; \$15. Salk Institute for Biological Studies, 10010 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

"Entre Nous" Practice your French conversational skills during meet-up with Deborah of Alliance Française. Donations for nonmembers. RSVP: 858-550-0144. Friday, April 23, 10am. Opera Patisseries Fines, 9254 Scranton Rd., Suite 101. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

"Improve Your Posture with Pilates" Workshop suitable for all ages and fitness levels taught by physical therapist, Pilates instructor Tuula Niskanen. Learn how you carry yourself from head to toe, postural habits, why correct posture is important, more. Reservations: 760-481-4943. Saturday, April 24, noon; \$30. California Pilates Center, 3138 Roosevelt Street. (CARLSBAD)

"Puppies of the Caribbean" More than 75 guide dog puppies and their humans will demonstrate how trainers shape puppy behavior, showcase their abilities during puppy fun day hosted by Guide Dogs for the Blind. 760-727-1870 or 760-598-2919. Sunday, April 25, 10am. South Ocean-side Elementary School, 1806 South Horne Street. (OCEANSIDE)

Vegetarian Day at Your Library Enjoy range of presentations, informational sessions on ethical, environmental, health, humanitarian benefits of vegetarian lifestyle.

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

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

Sample vegetarian foods, fresh fruits, vegetables. 619-463-9819. Saturday, April 24, noon; free. Lemon Grove Library, 8073 Broadway. (LEMON GROVE)

All Dressed in White... Bridal Bazaar with 200 area wedding professionals such as caterers, florists, musicians, fashion shows (11:30am, 1pm, 2:45pm), locations, other businesses offering wedding-related wares. 760-334-5500. Sunday, April 25, 10am; \$10. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

All Things Heavy Metal San Diego Metal Swap Meet promises over 20 vendors selling new, used vinyl, DVDs, CDs, tapes, posters, collectibles. To Violently Vomit, with members of Disgorge, plays full set. 619-852-3850. Saturday, April 24, 11am; \$3. Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Alpine Tree Town Festival Educational festival promises how-to seminars on care and maintenance of trees, children's programs, plant sale, vendors, more. 619-445-2055. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. Alpine Woman's Club, 2156 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

Be Seated (Safely) "Proper Use of a Car Seat" divulged during educational event sponsored by Pacific Safety Council. Low-income or refugee families completing class receive "voucher for a free car seat (limited to 15)." Registration: 888-846-4200 x110. Wednesday, April 28, 10am; free. Casa de Oro Library, 9805 Campo Road #180. (SPRING VALLEY)

Bicycling Swap Meet All manner of bicycling equipment on offer. 931-233-5749. Sunday, April 25, 9am; free-\$5. San Diego Velodrome, 2221 Morley Field Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Book Sale Book sale hosted by Friends of Library. 760-435-5560. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free.

Rhyme & Verse

Hay Day
—Robert Wrigley

Beautiful, the fourteen-hundred-pound round bale of sweet brome the grower and I roll from the back of his truck against the usual tree. The geldings can hardly contain themselves. They smelled and came running across the field and now they look and nicker, and move in even before I can cut loose the four long bands of twine from the edge, where they nip instead the greenest, sweetest stuff from the wound center of the man-high wheel of it. They feed there for most of an hour, long after I've written the check and the hay man's made his way back home and it being August I relax on the porch with a beer my wife brought home from town and, knowing my usual routine on such days, slipped

into the freezer until just minutes ago, so that I might sit and watch the horses, having had all they want, move in slow circles around the great black walnut's vast expanse of shade, then stop — BJ, the troublesome elder, and Red, the beautiful, genuinely exceptional ride — as always in the same precise relation to one another (Red at forty-five degrees and a little back) — before taking off around the fence line at a trot, then a canter, and then, for just a few beautiful moments, a dead and joyful run.



Robert Wrigley lives with his wife, the writer Kim Barnes, and their children, on the Clearwater River in Idaho. His most recent collection of poetry is *Earthly Meditations: New and Selected Poems*, published by Penguin in 2006. "Hay Day" originally appeared in *New South: Georgia State University's Journal of Art & Literature*. Copyright © 2009 Robert Wrigley. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission. Photo credit: Matt Valentine.

Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Change the World Bike Ride Ten-mile round-trip ride to Ocean Beach supports "Imagine No Malaria" project. All are welcome to ride, support a rider (via pledges), or bring food to share and attend celebration picnic afterward (main dish, drinks provided, 11:30am-1pm). Haitian band Louange à Dieu provides music. 619-297-4366. Saturday, April 24, 10am; \$10-\$20. First United Methodist Church of San

Diego, 2111 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

CitySolve Urban Race Teams of two-six people solve clues, face challenges while navigating SD by foot and public transit during local/community version of *Amazing Race*, similar to a scavenger hunt. First place team wins \$300. 510-228-9120. Saturday, April 24, noon; \$34. East Village Tavern and Bowl, 930 Market Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Comb Over Tour Art show with work by Blake Conner, Adam Instone, ManRabbit, Brian Grasela, Eric Wixon, Jordan Ellingson, Eli

Mirandon, Susan Schiffer, Carla Naden, others. Guitar tunes by Joel Friedman from *Hector's Revenge*; set by Da Bears (9pm). Art show continues through April. 858-245-5848. Friday, April 23, 9pm; free. Wave Journal, 2010 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Connect with Nature "Herb Walk/Wild Herb Adventure I" offers identification, in-depth therapeutic and culinary uses of local wild herbs, some cultivated medicinals. Take home many herb samples. 760-943-8485. Saturday, April 24, 1pm; \$49. Natural Healing In-

stitute of Naturopathy, 543 Encinitas Boulevard, Suite 105. (ENCINITAS)

Conservation in Bloom Spring garden festival celebrates "spring and a green future." On offer: plant sale, "ask the designers" area, performances by Eric Runningpath and the Intertribal Dancers, live entertainment, children's activities, horticultural information. 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, April 24, 9am; free. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Diverse and Delightful Student Shakespeare Festival hosted by San

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A16 Oceanside: Monday, May 3, 7pm
2002 S. Coast Hwy, 760 966 1700

A16 Solana Bch: Tuesday, May 4, 6pm
143 S. Cedros Ave, 858 755 7662

A16 San Diego: Wednesday, May 5, 7pm
4620 Alvarado Cyn. Rd, 1 888 317 4136

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Diego Shakespeare Society commences with costumed performers parading from Spreckels Organ Pavilion. When parade is over, ten-minute scenes are presented on several outdoor stages located along Prado, all the way to Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. 619-229-8387. Saturday, April 24, 12:30pm; free. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Earth Day Celebration Alta Vista Gardens hosts series of guest speakers, "all sorts of vendors and displays," food, fun for children in new Bugs, Birds, and Butterflies Children's Garden. 760-945-3954. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. Brengle Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace Drive. (VISTA)

East County Earth Day Enjoy day with environmental groups, green resources, outdoor adventure businesses, animal rescue, recycling, alternate energy, more. Children's activities, earth-friendly vendors, educational speakers, food. 619-588-4901. Sunday, April 25, 11am; free. Mount Helix Park, 4905 Mount Helix Drive. (LA MESA)

Encinitas Street Faire Take in over 450 arts and craft and commercial vendors, live entertainment, rides for children. 760-943-1950. Saturday, April 24, 9am; Sunday, April 25, 9am; free. Enci-

tas, Highway 101 between D and J Streets. (ENCINITAS)

Everybody Needs Art! ArtWalk 2010 celebrates visual and auditory arts, with more than 300 artists showcasing work in wide variety of media. Music and dance performances; activities for kids. 619-615-1090. Saturday, April 24, 11am; Sunday, April 25, 11am; free. Little Italy. (LITTLE ITALY)

Flower and Horticulture Show Dos Valles Garden Club hosts 30th annual show, promising professional floral designs in variety of styles, local horticulture. Special exhibit: "Fruits of San Diego: What's Inside?" 760-822-0092. Saturday, April 24, 1pm; Sunday, April 25, 9:30am; free. Saint Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road. (VALLEY CENTER)

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Hanamatsuri Festival Enjoy Japanese food and entertainment such as Japanese classical and folk dance, Tibetan singing bowls concert, *bunraku*-style puppetry, taiko drumming, Okinawa folk songs, table-style tea ceremony, game

booths for children, more. 760-941-8800. Saturday, April 24, 12 noon; Sunday, April 25, noon; free. Vista Buddhist Temple and Japanese Cultural Center, 150 Cedar Road. (VISTA)

Home Decorating and Remodeling Show Annual event promise exhibits of items to improve, remodel, renovate homes. Displays of home products, services. Parking: \$9. 800-999-5400. Friday, April 23, 10am; Saturday, April 24, 10am; Sunday, April 25, 10am; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

House of England Celebrate St. George Day during lawn program of songs and dances at International Cottages. A brass band plays popular melodies, the Merrie England Singers and Morris Dancers contribute to "jolly good time." Food such as sausage rolls, bangers, scones offered for sale. 619-234-0739. Sunday, April 25, 2pm; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Intuitive Fest Psychic Fair Psychics, tarot, energy clearing, runes; all services are 15 minutes for \$15. 760-721-2110. Saturday, April 24, 10am. Kindred Journeys, 510 N. Coast Hwy. #101A. (OCEANSIDE)

Join the "Naughty Knitters" Bring yarn, needles, and "great attitude" to socialize and knit. All levels of knitters welcome. 858-309-5045 or 858-752-3506. Saturdays, 9:30am; free. 7 and up. South Sun Products, 8601 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

KnitNight Gather with fellow fiber artists for social knitting, crochet, spinning. 760-806-6744. Tuesdays, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Clever Knits, 214 South Indiana Avenue. (VISTA)

Kensington Landmarks Step inside six historically designated and conserved homes including the Wonder House of Stone (1926) during self-guided tour. Historian Ron V. May considers "The Changing Face of Adams Avenue" during lecture at headquarters (noon). 619-866-4422. Saturday, April 24, 10am; \$25. Fraternal Spiritualist Church, 4720 Kensington Drive. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Linda Vista Multicultural Fair and Parade Community celebrates cultural diversity with pa-

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Saturday, April 24, 2010 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

At the Joyce Beers Community Center

On Vermont St. just North of University in Hillcrest

(near Trader Joe's in the Uptown Shopping Center)

Cosponsored by Activist San Diego, the International Socialist Organization, the San Diego Coalition for Peace and Justice.



rade (11am), live music and entertainment, arts and crafts, ethnic food, booths and activities. 858-324-1881. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. Linda Vista, 6900 block of Linda Vista Road. (LINDA VISTA)

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

Ping-Pong at the Pearl Third annual poolside social, ping-pong tournament. Tournament and social, hosted lunch, beer, cocktails included in \$50 tickets; hosted lunch and cocktails for \$25. Proceeds help fund senior trip to New York City for students of School of Business at San Diego High School. Registration: 619-235-5616. Saturday, April 24, 11am. Pearl Hotel, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Play with Word Prompts Drop-in writing workshop led by author Jill Badonsky. Expect those prompts "to summon your writing muse in an atmosphere of fun and creativity." All levels, no critique. 760-434-3436. Tuesday, April 27, 7pm; \$10. 18 and up. Caffè Carpe Diem, 3401 First Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

Postcard and Paper Collectibles Show Almost half a million items displayed with collections including postcards, advertising trade cards, Valentines, movie memorabilia, photographs, more during San Diego Postcard and Paper Collectibles Show. Appraisal of old paper collectibles included in price of admission. 626-665-9435. Saturday, April 24, 10am; Sunday, April 25, 10am; free-\$5. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Ranunculus Rainbows The Flower Fields with nearly 50 acres of giant ranunculus flowers are blooming again, open for tours. Visitors may stroll pathways or take wagon ride (\$5 general). Sweet pea maze, poinsettia display, American flag of flowers. Season passes available. 760-431-0352. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; Mondays, 9am; Tuesdays, 9am; Wednesdays, 9am; through Sunday, May 9, free-\$10. Flower Fields, 5704 Paseo del Norte. (CARLSBAD)

San Diego Gem Faire Over 100 exhibitors offer jewelry, gems, beads, crystals, silver, rocks, minerals, more. Classes, demonstrations. Weekend pass: \$5. 760-390-3599. Friday, April 23, noon; Saturday, April 24, 10am; Sunday, April 25, 10am. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Servapalooza Around 50 hands-on "volunteer stations" expected; youths, families may participate in projects "to serve, support, and celebrate" our community. Also promised: Palooza Parade with youth performers, food booths, vendors. 619-599-8205. Saturday,

April 24, noon; free. Balboa Park, Park Boulevard at Presidents Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Sight & Sound Party includes official CD-release party for Republic of Letters. Also performing: War Stories, Erika Davies, Smile Now Cry Later. AVicious provides video projections behind performances. Dr. Sketchy hosts "interactive exhibition allowing attendees to sketch...burlesque models." Art installation from Leafhouse Collec-

tive. MC: local radio veteran Steve West. Admission includes copy of Republic of Letters's new CD. 619-846-7180. Saturday, April 24, 7pm; \$10. 21 and up. Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Sleepless San Diego All-night event at Liberty Station designed to raise awareness of homelessness continues through Sunday (7am). Private security in place throughout the night. Bring everything you

need to spend night outdoors. Rain does not cancel. 858-453-9600. Saturday, April 24, 3pm; \$25. NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

Spring Into Health Pet Expo Gain health information from the veterinarian, adoptable pets, pet food vendors, classes on pet fitness and training, pet massages and pet communication workshops, educational seminars, pet accessories, more. Proceeds benefit Animal

Center for Education and Services Foundation. 619-448-9663. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free. Camp Bow Wow, 1677 North Marshall Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Tastes of Portugal Celebration of Portuguese food, wine, traditions, culture begins with food and wine from different regions of Portugal on April 23 (6:30pm; \$20, \$30). On April 24, symposium on Portuguese heritage (9:30am-1pm; free) is followed by traditional Por-

tuguese sit-down dinner (6:30pm; \$50). Arts and culture open house planned April 25 (10am-3pm; free). 619-223-5880. Friday, April 23, 6:30pm; Saturday, April 24, 9:30am and 6:30pm; Sunday, April 25, 10am. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

Transformed by Fire Watch fusion of glass to metal in presentation providing insight into June Schwarcz's work in "Transformed by Fire" exhibition. Artist-crafts-

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

men from San Diego Enamel Guild demonstrate various enameling techniques, explain processes and evolution of the art form. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x135. Sunday, April 25, 1pm; \$5-\$10. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Understand the Hare Krishnas When P&R Discussion Group focuses on the group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, April 22, 7pm; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Visit Falconbridge Village Find out during Renaissance Faire, when Queen Elizabeth I and her royal court, accompanied by entertainers, food vendors, merchants, Renaissance reenactors, gather for festival. Enjoy period music, battle pageants, Shakespearean theater, continuous entertainment, vendors, children's activities. Weekend passes available. 805-496-6036. Saturday, April 24, 10am; Sunday, April 25, 10am; \$8-\$16. Felicita Park, 742 Clarence Lane. (ESCONDIDO)

Workout in the Park Self-magazine's 17th annual outdoor health, fitness, wellness festival. Expect workouts, dance, fashion tips, more. Celebrity yoga instructor Mandy Ingber leads closing quiet zone yoga class. 773-661-0700. Saturday, April 24, 11am; \$20. Mis-

sion Bay Park, Vacation Isle, off In-gram Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

All-Chopin Piano Concert Marilyn Lozano performs recital of music by Frédéric Chopin for Winter/Spring 2010 Concert Series. Program includes "Fantaisie in F Minor," "Grande Polonaise Brillante," various preludes and nocturnes. 619-236-5810. Sunday, April 25, 2:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Beethoven Festival San Diego Symphony and pianist Yefim Bronfman kick off festival with Beethoven's "Prometheus Overture," "Piano Concerto No. 3," and "Piano Concerto No. 4." 619-235-0804. Thursday, April 22, 7:30pm; \$20-\$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Beethoven Festival Continues Enjoy Beethoven's "Symphony No. 8" and "Piano Concerto No. 5 (Emperor)" when pianist Yefim Bronfman and San Diego Symphony perform. 619-235-0804. Saturday, April 24, 8pm; \$20-\$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Classical Music Concert by Adan Provencio (flute) with pianist Gabriel Arregui. Also performing: Mary Karo (violin), Gordon Grubbs (cello), Elizabeth Ashmead (flute). 619-203-8674. Tuesday, April 27, 7pm; free. Pi-

anoSD.com, 1233 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Flute Concert Icelandic flutist Berglind Maria Tomasdottir performs new and experimental music. 858-534-3229. Thursday, April 22, 8pm; free. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Golden Anniversary Concert USD Symphony Orchestra takes stage with guest Henry Kolar, professor emeritus of music and founder of USD's symphony. Program includes "Piano Concerto in A minor" by Robert Schumann with pianist Briana Robell and winners of 2010 Music Teachers Association of California San Diego Concerto Competition. 619-260-4171. Friday, April 23, 8pm; Sunday, April 25, 2pm; \$5-\$10. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Harpsichord Concert Harpsichordist Mary Barringer performs for mini-concert series. Bring your lunch! 858-454-5872. Monday, April 26, 12 noon; free. Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN)

Latin American Perspectives Connections Chamber Music series continues when California Quartet performs music inspired by Latin America. 760-753-7376. Sunday, April 25, 2pm; \$10. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

New Music Concert Recital of original music by UCSD students of composer Philippe Manoury and software/technology pioneer Miller

Puckette. 858-534-3229. Tuesday, April 27, 8pm; free. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Organ Concert Civic organist Carol Williams in concert. 619-702-8138. Sunday, April 25, 2pm; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Season Ends with Tragedy! San Diego Opera season closes with Giuseppe Verdi's *La traviata*, boasting "some of the most beautiful music ever written for the stage." Cast includes American soprano Elizabeth Futral, Romanian tenor Marius Brenciu, English baritone Alan Opie. Conductor is Renato Palumbo; Andrew Sinclair directs. Performed in Italian with English translations above stage. Reservations: 619-533-7000. Friday, April 23, 8pm; Sunday, April 25, 2pm; \$30-\$180. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Spotlight Series La Jolla Ida Levin (violin), Richard O'Neill (viola), Fred Sherry (cello) perform selections by Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert for Mainly Mozart Spotlight Series. 619-239-0100. Friday, April 23, 8pm; Saturday, April 24, 8pm; \$48. Neurosciences Institute, 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Spotlight Series Continues Ida Levin (violin), Richard O'Neill (viola), Fred Sherry (cello) perform selections by Mozart and Beethoven for Mainly Mozart Spotlight Series. 619-239-0100.

Sunday, April 25, 5:30pm; \$60. Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 5951 Linea del Cielo. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

St. Petersburg String Quartet Fallbrook Music Society's Virtuoso Series continues when quartet is joined by "long-time friend and collaborator, pianist Mack McCray" in concert of works by Borodin, Ravel, Dvořák. 760-451-8644. Sunday, April 25, 3pm; \$10-\$38. Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts, 2400 South Stagecoach Drive. (FALLBROOK)

DANCE

"Dance/Theatre" Five local choreographers offer new dance works merging "theatre and dance audiences while presenting universal stories through dance inspired by productions previously staged by Diversionary." 619-220-0097. Thursday, April 22, 7:30pm; Friday, April 23, 8pm; Saturday, April 24, 8pm; Sunday, April 25, 2pm; \$10-\$24. Diversionary Theatre, 4545 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"Salchata Mondays" Bachata-style salsa lessons offered, combining bachata style of dance with traditional salsa techniques, taught by Anthony Umina and Marissa Johnson of Bachatamante Dance Company. All ages, no experience or partner necessary. Open dancing follows. 619-297-3100. Mondays, 7:30pm; free. Barra Barra, 4016 Wallace Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Prajna Within Stella Nova Dance Company leads "journey through the intricate human psyche and its relation to Mother Earth" with cast of 17 dancers in pieces choreographed by Rayna Stohl. Eco-fair runs concurrently in lobby. 858-362-1348. Friday, April 23, 7pm; Saturday, April 24, 1pm and 7pm; \$10-\$22. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

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

Argentine Tango Workshop Project Tango presents workshop with Brick Robbins and Csilla

Felsen for singles, couples of all ages. Argentine tango lesson (7-8pm). 619-275-3533. Saturday, April 24, 7pm; free. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Belly Dancing Show Sabrina Fox and Carmen perform to live music by Middle-Earth Ensemble. 858-488-4200. Sunday, April 25, 8pm; \$10. Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Dine and Dance Caller is JoAnn Koppany, the Remnants make music for contra dance hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage at 8pm. Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30pm. Optional potluck supper at 6:30pm; bring food/beverages to share. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Saturday, April 24, 6:30pm; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Everything Swing and Ballroom Dance Party DJ and host play swing and night club mix for couples and singles of all ages. Swing lesson (8-8:30pm), open dancing (8:30-10:30pm). 619-275-3533. Saturday, April 24, 7pm; free-\$8. Pattie Wells' Dancetime Center, 1255 West Morena Boulevard. (BAY PARK)

Firehouse Swing to Live Music Downbeat Big Band provides music for dancing. Introduction to swing lesson: 9pm. All ages. 858-395-6060. Wednesday, April 28, 7:30pm; \$15. Firehouse Swing Dance, at San Diego Woman's Club: 2557 Third Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

Spring Dance Concert Grossmont College Dance Department puts modern, ballet, jazz, tap, hip-hop on display, with choreography by faculty. 619-644-7766. Thursday, April 22, 7:30pm; Friday, April 23, 7:30pm; Saturday, April 24, 7:30pm; \$10-\$12. Salvation Army Kroc Community Center Performing Arts Theatre, 6611 University Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

Take a Choreographic Journey Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet performs *Frame of View*, *Annonciation*, and excerpts from *Decadance 2007* for La Jolla Music Society. 858-459-3728. Saturday, April 24, 2pm and 8pm; \$30-\$65. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

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Waltz Workshop Graham Hempel teaches this favorite couples dance. Hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. 619-283-8550. Saturday, April 24, 4pm; \$5. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Zydeco Dancing Tuesdays; 21 and up. Riley's Music Lounge, 2901 Nimitz Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

FILM

"Refugee Experiences at Crawford High" Digital stories of refugee students at Crawford High School screened in conjunction with One Book, One San Diego community reading program. Stories were produced, directed by students to share their experiences of being refugees in U.S. 619-236-5817. Wednesday, April 28, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Shorts 'n' Spirits Showcase" San Diego and Los Angeles short-form films inspired by music featured. Lineup includes music videos *Touch the Rain*, *Taking Back Sunday*; short films *The Ballad of Mary and Ernie*, *Walter From Accounting*; more. Audience votes for favorite film, grants it "limited distribution to Los Angeles, San Diego, Seattle." Filmmakers: bring DVD of work to submit. 619-295-1688. Tuesday, April 27, 7pm; \$7. West Coast Tavern, 2895 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Between the Lines Film telling *The True Stories of Surfers and the Vietnam War* screens in conjunction with the Big Read book program, focusing on Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*. 760-435-5600. Saturday, April 24, 7:30pm; free. Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Cat City Director Brent Huff's film screens for Bedlam Cinema series. Screening followed by question and answer period with film's cast, crew. 858-454-8092. Tuesday, April 27, 8pm; \$10. 21 and up. Prospect Bar & Lounge, 1025 Prospect St., Suite 210. (LA JOLLA)

Departures Yojiro Takita's 2008 film *Okuribito* screens for International Film Series. Screening takes place in room 204; film repeats at 7pm on Oceanside campus. In Japanese with English subtitles. 760-944-4449 x7758. Friday, April 23, 1pm; free. MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Enlighten Up View the movie, stick around for discussion afterward during event hosted by One Love Yoga San Diego. Bring food or drink to share (optional). 619-296-5662. Friday, April 23, 7:30pm; free. 13 and up. Swedenborg Hall, 1531 Tyler Avenue. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Okuribito Yojiro Takita's 2008 film *Departures* screens for International Film Series in room 3601. In Japanese with English subtitles. 760-944-4449 x7758. Friday, April 23, 7pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

The Red Pony Screening of film, in conjunction with Carlsbad

Reads Together program focusing on *Travels With Charley*. Pre- and postfilm discussions. 760-602-2026. Wednesday, April 28, 6pm; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Wang-ui Namja Heritage Language Program Film Festival continues with Jun-ik Lee's 2005 film (*The King and the Clown*), set in 16th-century Korea. Catch the flick, in Korean with English subtitles, in Muir Campus applied physics and math building room 4301. 858-534-0693. Saturday, April 24, 11am; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

FilmOut 2010 So many films to see! *Oy Vey! My Son Is Gay!* set for April 22 (7:30pm). *Many, many* other films scheduled. Festival passes available (\$150). Thursday, April 22, 7:30pm; \$10-\$25. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

FOOD & DRINK

"Eat.Drink.Read." Event highlights chefs from SD restaurants including Urban Solace, Starlite, and Suite & Tender. Guests include Bernard Guillas and Ron Oliver, authors of *Flying Pans: Two Chefs, One World*, and chefs of the Marine Room. Food paired with wine, beer selections. Proceeds benefit San Diego Council on Literacy. 619-295-8232. Wednesday, April 28, 5:30pm; \$60. 21 and up. Sushi Performance & Visual Art, 390 11th Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Cheese 'n' Chocolate When local chocolatier Mariella Balbi from Guanni Chocolates in Fallbrook shares her passion, guests sample various chocolates paired with cheese, complimentary wine. 619-358-9081. Monday, April 26, 6:30pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo Cheese — East Village, 871 G Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Great American Cook-off 2010 Watch SD's "hottest chefs square off in a barbecue showdown." Enjoy barbecue, drinks, lattes and other coffee drinks, desserts, more. 858-966-3600. Saturday, April 24, 11am; free. Fixtures Visions for Living, 9340 Dowdy Drive. (MIRAMAR)

Taste of Happy Hour Self-guided tour of over 25 bars and restaurants throughout downtown; sample Happy Hour appetizers, beverages, live music at Henry's Pub, mechanical bull for riding (Double Deuce). Check-in at Tippy Crow. 619-338-9300. Saturday, April 24, 1pm; \$30-\$40. 21 and up. Tippy Crow, 770 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

"1-2-3 Imagine!" Elmo, Abby Cadabby, Big Bird, and the other Sesame Street Live friends on hand for high-energy musical adventure utilizing "the power of imagination." Ticketmaster: 800-745-3000. Thursday, April 22, 7pm; Friday, April 23, 10:30am; Saturday, April 24, 10:30am and 2pm; Sunday, April 25, 1pm and 4:30pm; \$14-\$37. San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

"A Flower Fantasy" Puppet Express plans spring variety show with songs, puppets, mime, and *The Tortoise and the Hare*. 619-544-9203. Thursday, April 22, 10am and 11:30am; Friday, April 23, 10am and 11:30am; Saturday, April 24, 11am, 1pm and 2:30pm; Sunday, April 25, 11am, 1pm and 2:30pm; free-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

"Theatre Tots" Children (4-6 years old) introduced to "art of acting through the exploration of children's literature," led by an Old Globe teaching artist. Students introduced to elements of story, voice, movement, imagination. Children perform short play presentation of featured story. Enroll:

619-238-0043 x2145. Saturday, April 24, 10am; \$25. 4 and up. Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way. (BALBOA PARK)

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's show is final Youththeatre production of season. Reservations: 760-746-6669. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 7pm; Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, May 9, \$7-\$10. Patio Playhouse, 201 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

The Princess and the Pea Big Joe Productions present "full-stage marionette production" with Princess Haiku traveling in a strange land. 619-544-9203. Wednesday, April 28, 10am and 11:30am; \$3-\$5. 4 and up. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

Books to Good Homes Reading Literacy Learning Inc. promises books for children, as well as entertainment, refreshments, during 26th annual Children's Book Party. Each child receives two new books for free. 619-266-4118 or 858-254-5996. Saturday, April 24, 8:30am; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Bullets Outta Guns City Heights poet Jim Moreno offers poetry writing workshop with microphone skills and performance skills for middle school to high school students. 760-802-2449. Tuesdays, 4pm; through Tuesday, June 29, free. 10 and up. Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Ladybug Day Ladybugs are an important natural defense against harmful bugs; scientists from Cornell University need help to track ladybugs. Help search for ladybugs, do ladybug-related crafts. Irene T. Hunt reads from, signs her new book, *Queen Iween's Beautiful Butterflies*. Fee for some crafts. 760-436-3036 x206. Saturday, April 24, 10am; free-\$12. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)



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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Música Mexicana Classics Philharmonic, musicians Jeff Nevin and Mariachi Garibaldi, folklorico dancers entertain for Classics 4 Kids. Listen for music by composers Revueltas, Juventino Rosas, more. Portions of program presented bilingually in Spanish and English. 619-231-2311. Sunday, April 25, 2pm; \$12-\$20. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Springtime Celebration *Is Your Mama a Llama?* Listen to this story, meet "some of the cutest animals" in Children's Zoo, create finger puppets during Kinder-nights and Kindermornings program. Fee does not include admission to zoo. Required reservations: 619-557-3969. Friday, April 23, 6:30pm; \$12-\$15. 3 and up. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Story Time with Marie Story program in French. Children must be accompanied by parent. Donation. 858-550-0144. Wednesday, April 28, 10:30am. Alliance Française de San Diego, 6640 Lusk Boulevard, Suite 104. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Upbeat! Students learn about variety of musical styles when 1st Marine Division Band performs popular tunes, interacts with audience for "Center Stage: Performances for Youth" series. For those in kindergarten through sixth grade. 800-988-4253. Thursday, April 22,

11am; \$2. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

GALLERIES

"Bill Rastetter: Nighttime Seascapes" Opening reception for San Diego photographer Rastetter, whose exhibit is inaugural show in new gallery space. Enjoy these "rare views of the ocean at night, in color," through Saturday, June 19. 858-759-1453. Saturday, April 24, 5pm; free. Joseph Bellows Gallery — Rancho Santa Fe, 16904 Via de Santa Fe. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

"Milky Way Galaxy Shop" Closing reception for exhibition of nearly 500 pieces by Colby Jackson "that have filled the lockers and the landscape at Palomar College for years." 760-889-3400. Saturday, April 24, 5pm; free. Linksoul Lab, 530 S. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

"Someday All This Will Be Yours" Reception for Kelly A. Schnorr's MFA thesis exhibition. Her work "juxtaposes the things we dispose of everyday with the things we cherish as family heirlooms." 858-531-6587. Saturday, April 24, 6pm; free. 15 and up. Flor y Canto Gallery at San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

IN PERSON

"An Evening with Danny Leiner" The director — whose credits include *Harold and Kumar*, *Arrested Development*, and *Dude, Where's My Car?* — presents clips of his work, discusses the art, commerce of a film and television career during talk in University Hall 100. 760-750-8085. Tuesday, April 27, 5:30pm; free. CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

"Martinis and Tikis: Cool Music and Hot Nights" Orchestra Nova plans "cool party" of '50s and '60s hits from Hollywood, jazz favorites like Frank Sinatra, Latin bossa nova classics by Jobim. Guests include vocalists Nicole Werner and Dave Scott, jazz flutist Holly Hofmann, ballroom dancer Elena Rodriguez and partner. 800-988-4253. Saturday, April 24, 4pm; \$19-\$34. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Real-Life Stories Behind Don't Ask Don't Tell" "Asking and Telling" promises to "paint a rich picture of the lives, values, and struggles of some of our bravest servicemen and -women" through storytelling, panel discussion, legal updates, multimedia presentations. 530-403-9828. Thursday, April 22, 6pm; free. Alliant University, 10455 Pomerado Road. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

"Salty Pie and Other Modern Indian Stories" Choctaw storyteller Tim Tingle offers tales drawn from his cultural and personal history when for Storytellers of San Diego gather in Manchester Exec-

utive Conference Center. He'll accompany himself on Native American flute, sing Choctaw songs to rhythms from a whaleskin drum. 619-298-6363. Saturday, April 24, 7:30pm; \$10. 12 and up. University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Bears! Bears! Bears! Author and illustrator Bob Barner, who creates art with pastels and cut and torn papers from around world, signs his book. Included in regular zoo admission (\$27-\$37). 619-231-1515. Saturday, April 24, 2pm. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Because of Romek Author/Holocaust survivor David Faber discusses, signs his book (available for purchase: \$15). Polish-born Faber survived nine concentration camps; witnessed murders of his parents, brother Romek, five of his six sisters; became partisan resistance fighter at age 14; was liberated from Bergen-Belson in 1945. 619-463-9819. Friday, April 23, 3pm; free. Lemon Grove Library, 8073 Broadway. (LEMON GROVE)

The Possessed Elif Batuman discusses her *Adventures with Russian Books and the People Who Read Them*, in which she "searches for the answers to the big questions in the details of lived experience, combining fresh readings of the great Russians." 858-456-1800. Thursday, April 22, 7pm; free. D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Art and Science, Hand in Hand Institute celebrates 50th anniversary with outdoor installation of more than a dozen hand-blown glass sculptures by master glass blower Dale Chihuly, on hand for lecture and book signing. Chihuly will discuss some of his most significant installations from around world, touch on installation at Salk and "landmark architecture that inspired it." Question-and-answer follows. Optional self-guided tours: 11am. Reservations: 858-597-0657. Sunday, April 25, noon; \$50. 12 and up. Salk Institute for Biological Studies, 10010 North Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

Comedy Without a Script Stage Monkeys San Diego presents Chicago-style long-form improvisation show, utilizing audience suggestions. Group creates scenes, games, songs, dances, more. 858-598-7620. Friday, April 23, 8pm; \$5. Moxie at Rolando Theatre, 6663 El Cajon Blvd., Suite N. (COLLEGE AREA)

Comedy for a Cause Headliner Ari Shaffir entertains during Terry Farrell Fund benefit show. Two drink minimum. Required reservations: 858-454-9176. Thursday, April 22, 7pm; \$20. Comedy Store, 916 Pearl Street. (LA JOLLA)

Music of a Generation Students from the School of Rock, ranging from 7 to 17 years of age, perform music from Woodstock and Vietnam War era during this concert in conjunction with the Big Read book program, focusing on Tim O'Brien's *The Things They Carried*. 760-435-5600. Saturday, April 24, 2pm; free. Oceanside Library, 330 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

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

Prose and Poetry Open-Mike Night Share one or two pieces of poetry or prose no longer than three minutes long, suitable for an all-age audience. 858-486-3500. Saturday, April 24, 7pm; free. Tuscan Sunrise Coffee & Tea, 14045 Midland Road. (POWAY)

Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author Sonia Nazario, author of *Enrique's Journey*, plans lecture and reading in foyer of Library and Information Hub (in building 1200). Book focuses on illegal immigration, "how it is changing America." 760-795-6874. Friday, April 23, 7:30pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Tales — True or Tall Have a story to tell, without notes, in five minutes or less? Share your story — personal, tall tale, folktale, historical, funny or not. Listeners welcome too. 858-484-1325. Wednesday, April 28, 7pm; free. Barnes and Noble Bookstore Mira Mesa, 10775 Westview Parkway. (MIRA MESA)

Upright Citizens Brigade Tourco This sketch comedy troupe "that birthed improv legends Amy Poehler and Horatio Sanz" takes stage for ArtPower performance. 858-534-TIXS. Monday, April 26, 9pm; \$10-\$12. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

West Coast Funnies Comedy variety show with Kurt Swann blends sketch and stand-up comedy. Headliner is Alonzo Bodden (*Last Comic Standing* winner, *Tonight Show*). 760-720-2460. Saturday, April 24, 8pm; \$25. 18 and up. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2822 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

LECTURES

"Beyond NAFTA: U.S. and Mexico Moving Forward" Trans-Border Institute hosts event with speakers Herminio Blanco Mendoza (former Mexico secretary of commerce and industrial development, chief negotiator for NAFTA); Andres Garza Herrera (president of Chamber of Industry for Nuevo León, MX); Kevin P. Gallagher (NAFTA researcher, Boston University associate professor of international relations). 619-260-4090. Friday, April 23, 4pm; free. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

"Building Spiritual Community on Facebook 101" Examine effects of social media on society and lives, social justice and community building, relationships, spiritual growth. Donation. 619-298-9978 x8014. Thursday, April 22, 6:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

Immigration Myths, Realities Teresa Laughlin of Palomar College's department of economics looks at several waves of immigra-



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tion in our past to explore their impact when Life at MiraCosta learning group meets (1pm). “High Speed Rail on Track” presented by Mike Zdon, project director of LA-San Diego HNTB (2:30pm). 760-721-8124. Friday, April 23, 1pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Kate Sessions and the Arts and Crafts Garden How did Kate Sessions realize ideals of Arts and Crafts movement in her garden designs and plant selections? Find out when Nancy Carol Carter speaks for Mission Hills Garden Club. 619-546-6051. Wednesday, April 28, 6pm; free-\$10. Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw Street. (MISSION HILLS)

“Life Changes for San Diego Birds” *Union-Tribune* science writer Scott LaFee offers look at “past, present, and possible futures of our feathered friends” when San Diego Audubon Society flocks together. 858-273-7800. Friday, April 23, 6:30pm; free. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

“Pathways of the Sufis” Investigate “essence of religions, the path of the heart, a journey of transformation, the wisdom of the Sufis...be ready to participate in some spiritual practices.” Donation. 619-298-9978 x8014. Tuesday, April 27, 6:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

Ragamala in Image and Music Naman Ahuja, associate professor of art and architecture of ancient India at Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi, speaks for Guest Lecture Series. 619-232-7931. Wednesday, April 28, 7pm; \$7-\$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“The Biological and Evolutionary Basis of Romantic Relationships” “Are Social Scientists and Humanists in Biological Denial?” SDSU communications professor Peter Andersen “examines a series of recent studies” demonstrating “the powerful influence of unconscious, genetic factors on human courtship and mating behavior.” 619-590-0491. Sunday, April 25, 2pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

“The Political Economy of Division and Unification in Korea” Chung-In Moon, described as “a leading analyst of the Korean peninsula,” shares his perspective on inter-Korean relations, drawing on his experiences as both a scholar and a political adviser to Korean government. Reception follows. 858-822-6756. Tuesday, April 27, 4:30pm; free. UCSD Faculty Club, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

“Why the Author of the Da Vinci Code Must Have Flunked Art History” MiraCosta art history instructor Susan Delaney divulges “erroneous interpretations of Renaissance art” Dan Brown made in his popular novel during “Get Caught Reading: MiraCosta College Night at the Li-

brary” series. 760-795-6612. Saturday, April 24, 3pm; free. Solana Beach Library, 157 Stevens Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

“XXL: Size Matters” Paul Danna, design principal at AE-COM Los Angeles, presents some recent projects including design of Los Angeles Police Department headquarters. 619-684-8783. Wednesday, April 28, 6:30pm; free. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

And Another Artist... Lynn Aldrich plans slide-illustrated talk for series in room 2242. 760-757-2121 x6268. Wednesday, April 28, 5pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Artist Lecture Bill Gilbert presents slide-illustrated talk for series in room 2269. 760-757-2121 x6268. Tuesday, April 27, 2:30pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Black Tongue? Flying Gout? “Diseases That Ravaged Our Ancestors” illuminated by Dr. Stephen Baird, UCSD School of Medicine emeritus professor of clinical pathology, for North San Diego County Genealogical Society. Learn historical background of certain “killer” diseases, antiquated and modern medical terminology. Baird explains how to interpret stated causes of death on old death certificates, in family stories. Non-members welcome. 858-509-4937. Tuesday, April 27, 10am; free. Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Boom and Bust What are current projections for population growth or decline in new decade? “San Diego NOW series” continues with “The Draw of San Diego: Fluctuating Population Growth and Decline,” in conjunction with “Faces of the Frontier: Photographic Portraits from the American West, 1845-1924” exhibit. 619-232-6203 x129. Thursday, April 22, 6pm; free. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Border Life and Religious Imagination Daisy Machado, professor of church history at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, explores “intersections of race, religion, and the U.S.-Mexico border to show how these have come together...to both respond to and shape borderlands life for Latino communities.” 619-260-4525. Monday, April 26, 7pm; free. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Celebrating Steinbeck Steinbeck authority Susan Shillinglaw examines John Steinbeck’s life and work for Carlsbad Reads Together program. Shillinglaw is professor of English at San Jose State University, scholar-in-residence at National Steinbeck Center in Salinas. 760-602-2026. Saturday, April 24, 11am; free. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Diversity Conference Intercultural Relations at SDSU hosts third annual conference with workshops

on many topics, including education, gender, religion, health and disability, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning issues, more. 619-594-7057. Saturday, April 24, 8am; \$15. 13 and up. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Drought-Tolerant Plants Salvias and lavender are two of the “30 Great Drought Tolerant Plants for Your Garden.” Find out about the other 28 during talk by landscape designer Doug Kalal. 619-200-7066. Tuesday, April 27, 6pm; free. Rancho San Diego Library, 11555 Via Rancho San Diego. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Excitement, Danger, Difficulties! “Travel Logs: French Women Traveling to California from the Gold Rush Era through 1915” presented — in French — by Nirina Ralantoaritsimba. These women “traveled alone at a time when making the voyage from France was nothing less than a perilous adventure.” 858-550-0144. Saturday, April 24, 6pm; free-\$5. Alliance Française de San Diego, 6640 Lusk Boulevard, Suite 104. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Go Solar Learn to measure your home for solar electricity, how to take advantage of new solar tax credits to reduce energy bills, during solar seminar. 866-787-6527. Thursday, April 22, 7pm; free. Mount Soledad Presbyterian Church, 6551 Soledad Mountain Road. (LA JOLLA)

Helping the Poor Out of Poverty San Diego Microfinance Summit brings together students, business owners, community members, microlenders, bankers, others. Summit focuses on international microfinance issues, the local microlending climate. Keynote address by Yeardley Smith, Emmy award-winning actor, novelist, playwright (best known as voice of Lisa Simpson), sharing her perspectives from visiting women in Haiti, both pre- and post-earthquake. 619-795-7250. Wednesday, April 28, 8:30am; \$20-\$50. Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

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, April 27, 6:30pm; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Issues of Peace and Justice And actions to take considered when Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom meets in community room. 858-279-0192 or 858-535-0949. Saturday, April 24, 11am; free. La Jolla Village Square, 8657 Villa La Jolla Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Job Interview Fitness Workshop in Career Center room 627 focuses on job interview tips, ethics, etiquette. Speakers: Grossmont College student development services

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

supervisor Nancy Davis, and Carole Martin of the Interview Coach. Reservations: 619-644-7614. Wednesday, April 28, 11am; free. Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (EL CAJON)

La Jolla Fashion Film Festival Events include seminars, panels led by industry professionals; networking luncheon and picnic in park, finale party. "Ask models questions as they walk by in designer fashions." Screenings take place at dusk on outdoor movie screen. Day one events are sold out. 619-296-1018. Saturday, April 24, noon; \$25-\$50. La Jolla Cove Bridge Club, 1160 Coast Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Marketing Ploy or Plan? San Diego Writers/Editors Guild meets for talk by publishing consultant Karla Olson, president and founder of Read Local and Bookstudio, sharing "insights into interweaving a marketing plan within the pages of your book." 760-471-5323. Monday, April 26, 6:30pm; free-\$5. San Diego County Health Building, 3851 Rosecrans Street. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Meet the Artist Stathis Orphanos discusses "the hurdles he overcame to create" the "Honor: Marine Portraits" exhibition,

more. 760-435-3720. Saturday, April 24, 2pm; \$5. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Pollination: Not Just for Bees! San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy lecture series offers look at "Insects: One of Nature's Helpers in Plant Reproduction," presented by Michael Klein in Student Center conference room SAN 925. Gain an "introduction to insect interactions and some of the cues plants use to attract them." 760-436-3944. Friday, April 23, 7pm; free. MiraCosta College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

Secrets of Improvisation Comedy Divulged! Upright Citizens Brigade Tourco hosts workshop before show (9pm at Loft). Fee includes workshop and show. 858-534-8497. Monday, April 26, 6:30pm; \$18. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

See, Touch, Smell! Meet drought-tolerant plants including salvias and California natives when landscape designer Doug Kalal reveals "Thirty Great Drought-Tolerant Plants for Your Garden." 619-200-7066. Wednesday, April 28, 6:30pm; free. Point Loma Library, 3701 Voltaire Street. (POINT LOMA)

Steinbeck Celebration Author Thomas Steinbeck discusses his work and that of his father, John Steinbeck. Talk is in conjunction with Carlsbad Reads Together pro-

gram, focusing on *Travels With Charley*. Free tickets, limit two per person, distributed one hour before talk. T. Steinbeck's books available for sale, signing. 760-602-2026. Saturday, April 24, 2pm. Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Websites 101 Gain answers to "the most common questions about starting a website." Learn website design and development process, requirements for first website, tips for success, what can go wrong, how to protect yourself. 619-955-6995. Friday, April 23, noon; free. Gaslamp Media, 363 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300. (DOWNTOWN)

What to Do? University of Phoenix Criminal Justice and Security Program hosts seminar with roundtable discussions exploring how to deal with sex offenders, focusing on sexually violent child predators. Panelists from "key components in the criminal justice system." 858-650-3872. Saturday, April 24, 8:30am; free. University of Phoenix, 3870 Murphy Canyon Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Where Is Block 108? Local archaeologist/historian Susan Walter reports on findings of her historical research on Block 108, located on outskirts of downtown San Diego. Part of the block's population was African-American, "some of the archaeological recovery was possibly associated with them." 858-538-0935. Tuesday, April 27, 7:30pm; free. Los Peñasquitos Ranch Adobe, 12122 Canyonside Park Drive. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

SPORTS

Del Mar National Horse Show Giddy yup! Show begins with Western Week, promising competition in reining, trail, pleasure classes, more. Night of the Horse is April 24, themed "Circus Equus" (\$18). Regular admission is free on weekdays; \$10 on weekends. 858-792-4288. Thursday, April 22, 8am; Friday, April 23, 8am; Saturday, April 24, 8am and 7pm; Sunday, April 25, 8am. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Fishing Fun Catch and release bass fish up to seven pounds. All ages. One-day pass: \$10; season pass: \$39. 619-442-9891. Fridays, 6pm; Saturdays, 6pm; Sundays, 6pm; through Saturday, November 6; \$10. Cottonwood Golf Club Bar & Restaurant, 3121 Willow Glen Drive. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

Golf Demo Day More than 40 top golf brands, vendors present this demo event. Hit 16 brands of clubs on the range; test multiple brands of putters on grass green, learn about new accessories. Clinics, contests. 760-720-4653. Friday, April 23, 11am; Saturday, April 24, 9am; free. Carlsbad Golf Center, 2711 Haymar Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Hilly and Hard! This 70-mile long bicycling adventure led by Bicycle Touring Society riders boasts steep hills along way to Kitchen Creek. 619-561-3846. Sunday, April 25, 8:45am; free. Alpine

Community Center, 1830 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

Mount Laguna Triangle! Head out for 47-mile adventure with San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders. Start behind Major's at post of office. 619-282-8611. Tuesday, April 27, 9:15am. Major's Coffee Shop, 28870 Old Highway 80. (PINE VALLEY)

Pine Valley Loop Expect 50 miles of pedaling with San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders. 619-647-3212. Saturday, April 24, 8:45am. Alpine Community Center, 1830 Alpine Boulevard. (ALPINE)

Showpark County 1 Horse Show Equestrian competition. 858-481-9085. Saturday, April 24, 8am; Sunday, April 25, 8am; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Surf's Up? Interscholastic Surfing Federation hosts middle school state championship competition at south harbor jetty. 760-476-1694. Saturday, April 24, 7am; Sunday, April 25, 7am. Oceanside Pier, Mission Avenue and Pacific Street. (OCEANSIDE)

Tuesday Night Racing Returns Velodrome bicycle racing season opens with racing in many categories. Racing is open to riders with an appropriate track bike and sufficient track-racing experience. Free for spectators. 931-233-5749. Tuesdays, 6:30pm; through Tuesday, September 28, free. San Diego Velodrome, 2221 Morley Field Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ART

Bancroft Ranch House Museum Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its name. 9050 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

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

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

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

Japanese Friendship Garden "A Collector's Choice of Japanese Expression," on display through Thursday, April 29, features Gordon Brodfuehrer's contemporary Japanese ceramics and George Powell's *shin-hanga* prints by Okuyama Gihachiro and Gijin. Brodfuehrer's Japanese ceramics collection includes Mino, Bizen, Hagi, and Iga wares. Pan American Rd., 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

Mingei International Museum "Fisch Out of Water — Sea Creatures of Arline Fisch" is the designer craftsman's first major installation. The more than 150 objects crocheted from color-

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coated copper wire are life-sized re-creations of specific jellyfish species and objects suggesting sea anemones and coral. Fisch is professor of art (emerita) at SDSU, where she founded its program in jewelry and metalsmithing in 1961. Through Sunday, May 16.

"Transformed by Fire" is a career-spanning exhibition of 90 objects by June Schwarcz, considered the nation's premier enamelist. Also on view: "Fifty-Six Chinese Hat Boxes — And One Hat!" Exhibition of 56 Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) hatboxes created to hold officials' hats boasts boxes made of wood, lacquer, paper, leather, all from late 19th or early 20th Century. The hat in question is a summer hat. Both exhibits close Saturday, July 3.

"¡Viva México! — Heroes and Artisans" celebrates 200th anniversary of Mexican independence (1810), the 100th of Mexican revolution (1910), and folk art "that colorfully and vitally expresses the nation's spirit." Exhibit featuring works drawn from Mexico's federal patrimony and from Mingei's collection includes 105 objects on loan from Mexico. Closes Sunday, January 2, 2011.

"Sonabai: Another Way of Seeing" continues through Sunday, September 5. The self-taught artist lived in enforced isolation for 15 years in a remote village in central India, developing an innovative art form that she later taught to other artists. Exhibition includes 33 sculptures by Sonabai and her family as well as 38 works by four artists trained by Sonabai. 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla "Pleasure Point: Celebrating 25 Years of Contemporary Collectors" boasts "major highlights of the acquisitions" group has made possible during past 25 years, including works by Tony Oursler, Doris Salcedo, Nancy Rubins. Closes Sunday, May 16. 700 Prospect St., 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

Museum of Making Music "Waves of Inspiration: The Legacy of Moog," on view through Friday, April 30, highlights inventor Bob Moog's career, impact it had on world of music. See rare vintage synthesizers, other related Moog instruments and memorabilia from Bob Moog Archives and private collections. Exhibit explores numerous musicians, engineers, colleagues who played vital roles in evolution of Moog sound. Instruments featured trace history of Moog's work.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. 5790 Armada Dr., 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

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

Oceanside Museum of Art "Plastic Fantastic: Allison Renshaw" explores contrast between McMansions, plastic surgery, and artificiality of high-end living with SD's seaside, weather, and natural beauty. Renshaw's new mixed-media paintings may be seen through Sunday, June 20. "While seemingly random and difficult to decipher, 'Plastic Fantastic' references today's open-source culture of sampling and recycling."

"Honor: Marine Portraits" by Stathis Orphanos offers glimpse into private lives of young Marines. Orphanos was granted "restricted access to Camp Pendleton...to photograph major base activity." Closes Sunday, May 2.

"The Things They Carried: World War II Trench Art," closing Friday, June 4, "offers something tangible to the investigation of the human spirit during times of war." Many objects were created by soldiers from metal and scrap detritus during time in hospital, prisoner camps, or in trenches. Expended artillery shell casings; bullets; shrapnel; ship, tank, and aircraft parts are transformed into "emotionally charged souvenirs such as jewelry, model planes, and personalized cigarette cases and lighters."

"Painting World War II: The California Style Watercolor Artists" provides "examination of paintings by California-style watercolor artists on the subject of WWII." The 55 paintings depict scenes of California mobilizing for war and images of the war overseas by artists including Arthur Beaumont, Rex Brandt, Hardie Gramatky, Dong Kingman, Barse Miller, Phil Paradise, Charles Payzant, Ed Reep, Millard Sheets, Milford Zornes. Through Sunday, October 3. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

Olaf Wieghorst Museum Displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wieghorst and features exhibits of other artists' American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20x20-foot reproduction of Wieghorst's painting *Navajos at Castle Creek*, and

original restored home Wieghorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. 131 Rea Ave., 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

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

San Diego County Sheriff's Museum The 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with

exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. 2384 San Diego Ave., 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

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

San Diego Museum of Art "Joaquín Torres-García: Constructing Abstraction with Wood" explores work of one of the most influential artists to have emerged from Latin America. Exhibition includes more than 80 wooden constructions, or *maderas*, largely dating from 1920s-1940s, such as small-scale boxes, abstract male

and female figures, masks, assemblages. Small selection of Torres-García's oil paintings and drawings accompany show, continuing through Sunday, July 18.

"Brutal Beauty: Drawings by Hugo Crosthwaite" boasts works with an emphasis on figure drawings, said to "reveal the brutal beauty of humanity and demonstrate a keen understanding of the historical tradition of figure drawing." Exhibition features the two Crosthwaite works in museum's permanent collection and several loans from local private collections. During exhibition, Crosthwaite will create a new work to complete this

installation, become part of museum's permanent collection. Through Sunday, July 18. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

USS Midway Museum Permanent exhibits include 25 restored aircraft. Former World War II pilots and other veterans share personal stories with guests in front of a restored SBD Dauntless dive bomber on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays. Navy knot-tying demonstrations and activities for youngsters offered most weekends. Self-guided audio tour narrated by former *Midway* sailors. 910 North Harbor Dr., 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

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Pecks of Pickled Peppers

Who'll be the winner of Szechuan Idol? The two local finalists for the most authentic Szechuan food in San Diego are Ba Ren and Dede's. After thoroughly enjoying Dede's (reviewed 10/22/08), I was eager to try its main rival.

Ba Ren is cuter, resembling a quaint cottage with its fenced-off patio with several large tables, heat stanchions, and a teriyaki grill where one of the staffers was cooking meats as we arrived. Indoors is pleasant and bright, the tables well spaced, chair seats covered in red brocade.

Except...there's a huge flat-screen TV on one wall of the dining room, muted but totally distracting. These huge TVs are egregious in any restaurant but a sports bar, but they're especially counterproductive at sushi bars (where they're proliferating) and Chinese restaurants. With sushi, you're supposed to concentrate on the exquisite flavors of each roll, right? As for Chinese restaurants, they've traditionally been places for families (by blood or friendship) to bond over shared meals, enjoying the delicious food and conversation. But a TV on the wall draws all eyes, as our corporate Big Brothers do their mesmeric magic to make us stupid and sell us stuff we don't need.

The menu is a tome, going on for pages, with House Specials, Featured Specials, Chung King Casseroles, Boiled Dishes, Dry-Cooked Dishes, Teepan Yaki, Dishes with Pickled Peppers, Crispy Rice Crust dishes, plus meats, poultry, veggies, soups, and — an afterthought — America's Favorites. On San Diego's typical multiregional Chinese menus, most of this last category consists of compromised dishes usually called Szechuanese (including Kung Pao), plus some indifferent renditions (from what I've read on weblogs) of Chinese-American standards.

You'll find few other familiar dishes on Ba Ren's menu. Szechuan fare rarely makes it onto mainstream Chinese menus. The province, in



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Expecting more modest portions, we over-ordered.

southwestern China, across the mountains from Tibet, is hilly, fertile, and foggy — chilly and wet in winter, gray and muggy in summer. In Chinese medicinal gastronomy, hot peppers are considered healthy (warming and drying) to eat in wet climates. Hence, Szechuan's incendiary fare. The hot chilies take a multitude of forms in this region — fresh, pickled, dried, flaked, infused in heated oil, or bashed and pulverized into condiment mixes. (Hot peppers, which take little growing space, are nutritional bombshells, exploding with vitamins A and C and possibly some antibiotic action.)

Spicy dishes are noted on the menu with a chili symbol. Unfortunately, unlike Dede's — which designates a range of one to three

chilies — there's only the one icon. When you order, you can specify "hot" or "medium." Eat elsewhere if you want "mild."

With six you get eggroll, right? Sam gathered a sextet: Ted and Chengdu-born April (who ate with us at Dede's), posse irregular Cheryl (just back from Beijing), and another Chengdu native — nicknamed "X" at her job because that's what her name starts with, and the rest is difficult to spell and pronounce. A few minutes later, in blew more of Sam's friends — Chris and her angelic little girl Carly (about five, with her own pastel trainer-set of chopsticks). "We come here once a week," said Chris, a linguist and world traveler. She's training Carly to have a fearless palate for ethnic foods (although not

DINING REVIEW

NAOMI WISE

Ba Ren Szechuan

★★★ (Very Good)

4957 Diane Avenue (between Clairemont Mesa Boulevard and Conrad Avenue), Kearny Mesa, 858-279-2520. No website, but online menu (slightly outdated) at <http://858-279-2520.chinesemenu.com>.

HOURS: Seven days, officially 11:00 a.m.—midnight, but on weeknights closing is more usually at 9:00 p.m.

PRICES: Most entrées \$8–\$15.

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: About 250 authentic, mostly spicy Szechuanese specialties, plus some American favorites at the back of the menu. Beer only.

PICK HITS: Husband and Wife Tripe Salad from cold-case; Tong-Nan Tai-An Fish Fillet; Sichuan Pot Roast (mild); Stir-fried Lamb with Pickled Pepper; Eggplant in Brown Sauce (mild).

NEED TO KNOW: Cuisine is spicy, but diners can specify "medium" to tone it down. Entrées large enough to serve at least two. Plenty of vegan stir-fry choices (but for braises ask about sauces, which may be based on non-veg soup stocks). Most staffers speak sufficient English and are sympathetic to your struggles. For a large order, best to get a few dishes at a time, then order more; otherwise, they all arrive at once. Small restaurant, reserve in weeks following review.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

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much hot pepper yet). We happily scrunched our chairs around to make room for two more.

April went to the cold bins in front and picked us out a chilled appetizer. She chose a delicious dish of tripe (not an oxymoron). If you didn't know, you'd assume it was...I dunno, some kind of Asian mushroom or maybe jellyfish.

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The white, curly meat was a lovely light orange, from hot pepper oil, and had a smooth, bouncy texture and clean, neutral flavor. It came with some mysterious dark, flat meat (like a dry ham) and a riotous salad of greens and edamame. I don't normally like tripe, but this rendition won me over. It's nothing like the funky western versions (must admit I don't even like the Mexican hangover cure, *menudo*): it's all about the fun of texture — Chinese cooks of all regions and economic strata value interesting textures as much as tastes, one of the reasons Chinese cuisine is considered, worldwide, the main rival to French in overall greatness; everything remotely edible is enjoyed and cleverly sauced. My not-so-secret agenda is to coax you all to try anything that I try, but even in person, I didn't succeed with the whole posse. Two *guei-lo* adults and one kiddie declined even a taste of the tripe. Their loss.

All the food hit the table nearly at once, delivered in thirds at five-minute intervals. With the vibrant reds and greens, it looked like a Christmas display. Expecting more modest portions, we'd over-ordered. A word from the wisened-up: if you want to try a lot of dishes, get only a few at a time. Then order more, once you're partway through those you've got.

I was determined to try several dishes from the House Specials and Featured Specials. First puzzle: what's the Woo Jiang fish versus the Tong-Nan Tai-An fish? Neither of the Szechuanese at the table had ever heard of them by those names. Turns out, Woo Jiang is soupy, Tong-Nan is saucy. We ordered the latter, the evening's best dish, with velvety, remarkably sweet-tasting bite-size fish-fillet pieces among numerous veggies in a moderately spicy sauce that registers as creamy, even without cream.

We'd have liked to try the special Steamed Whole Squash with Pork (a hollowed-out kabocha filled with pork and sesame), but it takes three hours and must be special-ordered ahead. But Sichuan Pot Roast was available. "Wow, this

is a lot better than Mom's pot roast," I said at first taste. It's essentially a soup of soothing meat broth with tender shreds of pork and a tangle of noodles — mouth-relief for potential hot-pepper ODs — and unspeakably great on its own. The doggie box proved full of additional revelations and treasures that didn't show up in my first bowl at the restaurant, including tender puffs of ground meat, like meatballs that had backed off from committing to full size and texture. This goes into the ranks of the great soups of San Diego, equivalent to home-made Jewish mother chicken soup.

Wandering deeper into the pages, there's a section of stir-fries with Szechuan pickled peppers. We chose lamb, which arrived in tender slices with crunchy black tree-ears and a riot of veggies. The pickled peppers, chopped, are a vibrant red, slightly sour, and salty as well as hot.

Saltier than the lamb is a dish of Chinese bacon with garlic sprouts. (April was surprised I ordered it: "That's very Chinese food!") The bacon is cured with soy sauce and is chewier. But I wasn't thrilled with Ba Ren's rendition because instead of young garlic sprouts, which are currently in season, they substituted tough leek greens along with a huge array of green jalapeños and red peppers. I expected it to be milder and simpler, highlighting the bacon (Hong Kong Cantonese style), rather than drowning it, but it was yet another extravaganza of heat and ingredients.

April suggested an order of

Dry-Fried Chicken, and X enthusiastically concurred. The chicken consists of chopped chunks of dark meat, bone in. "We like the bone because there's more flavor that way," said X. "And we only like the parts of chicken that do some work, so they develop flavor," said April. "We don't understand why Americans like chicken breast, it's so dry and bland," said X. "Because the breast doesn't move," said April, blushing. "We call that 'dead meat,' while the parts that move and have flavor are 'live meat.'" We all chomped and sucked away for a bit. "This has the most bone I ever had in this dish. It's in every bite," April said. The surface was red and oily; under it was a snarl of bean sprouts with big yellow heads, shiitake mushrooms, garlic slices, green jalapeño slices, and fried, dried red peppers. I must admit I liked this better as a doggie bag, when I could eat at home with my hands to heart's content.

Initially, we wanted to order a featured specialty called Beer Duck, but the waitress warned us off, telling us it was too similar to the Pot Roast. Instead we chose Ginger-Braised Duck. It, in turn, brought garnishes and flavors similar to those of the lamb, minus the pickled peppers — not just duck and ginger with perhaps some greens, as it might have been cooked in Hong Kong, but red peppers, green jalapeños, varied veggies, et al. The whole meal, with a few exceptions, was all starting to seem like a single very spicy dish.

In hindsight, I think we probably should have ordered

one of the Crispy Rice dishes (similar to the classic sizzling rice soup, which may be more familiar from nonregional Chinese eateries), to guarantee more variations in texture and flavor. Like that gorgeous pot roast, they would probably spotlight the kitchen's soup-stocks.

If you're wondering how a little kid (Chris's daughter Carly) was handling all this spicy food — she didn't have to. She did take a few bites from Mom's plate, pronouncing, "Spicy!" But purely by happenstance, our order included her favorite dishes. Eggplant in brown sauce could be anyone's favorite: a rich, comforting stew of firm-tender eggplant pieces served in a clay casserole. And the dry-cooked green beans are fresh and bright green, dusted with sesame seeds and scallions. We also tried sautéed potato strips, a dish April's mom prepares at home: long, julienned strips of potato sautéed semi-soft before being dressed in vinegar and peppers. "It's not as good as Mom's," said

April. (It's also not as good as Dede's version.)

Finally, the climax of the meal — or of a scary movie — Chong Qing Hot Pot, possibly Ba Ren's most famous dish. It begins with an alarming red-orange liquid with a slick of oil on top. Underneath are sweet bites of fish fillet, bites of pork and beef, slices of pork kidney cut to look like shiitake slices, plus tree-ears, Asian mushrooms, Nappa cabbage, scallions, rice noodles, and hordes of hot red peppers, their fiery seeds spreading through it all. Tasting from the top, your palate first encounters the chili oil. Then some heat in the broth, and a lot of salt, which quickly dissipates. Then the heat explodes. "Ma-la! Hot-numbing!" I exclaimed, as my taste buds encountered the results of hidden Szechuan pepper. This is one that all but born-to-it fire-eaters should probably request "medium." And even then, don't try it as a soup — spoon the solids out over plenty of rice.

There's another category we

didn't delve into here that we loved at Dede's, the "Boiled" dishes. These are not New England boiled dinners. Aside from the hot pot, they're the spiciest entrées on the menu. And they're very much worth trying, with the same provisos: don't try drinking the broths from soup bowls, but spoon out the contents onto your rice or you'll be sorry.

Both Ba Ren and Dede's have their own devotees. Chris is clearly a Ba Ren fan, and X seems to tend toward it, while April and Ted seem more inclined to Dede's. By the end of the meal, so did Sam and I. Both restaurants are highly economical: our dinner for eight, including beers, cost \$160, and the doggie bags would have fed another octet. The food here seems less varied in flavor (despite, or maybe because, of the huge menu) and perhaps a trifle less carefully prepared. Yet, dare I say that on the basis of a mere 10 dishes? That leaves 240 more yet to taste, and I'd be thrilled to go back and eat more! ■



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Calendar RESTAURANTS

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

A complete searchable list of over 1300 restaurants is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$29; **very expensive:** more than \$30.

Alpine

Alpine Inn 2225 Alpine Bl., Alpine, 619-445-5172. Beef-lovers heaven, with a juicy special ground-in-house (so rare-cooked is feasible) Texas burger. Crowded weekends. Moderate to expensive.

Baja

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Chiki Jai Avenida Revolución #1388, Tijuana, 664-685-4955. The food's Spanish, so paella is big (with soup, salad, French bread, and bleu cheese), but try baby eel appetizers, chorizo (pork sausages), *bacalao* (cod fish) à la *vizcatina*, trout with olive oil and garlic. Inexpensive to moderate.

La Escondida Santa Monica #1, Tijuana, 664-681-4458. House specialties at this hidden mansion are more interesting than the regular fare. Try the seafood casserole (*cacerola de mariscos*); the *tambor* (a dish of layered beef, cheese, and pork); or the roasted baby Monterrey goat (*cabrito tatamado*). Moderate.

La Fonda Baja Highway 1, km. 59, Rosarito, 646-155-0307. The bilingual menu, written on chalkboards, changes nightly, featuring American and Mexican seafood entrées and deluxe meats aged in-house, Baja wines. Great breakfasts, lavish Sunday brunch buffet, blissful patio seating. Inexpensive to moderate.

Original Ortega's Calle Principal (next to Casa de la Langosta), Puerto Nuevo. The spiny lobsters (once local but now from who-knows-where) are fried in lard, finished off on the grill, and served with melted margarine blend, frijoles, rice, tortillas, and salsa. Many other starters, entrées, desserts available. Moderate to high, low-moderate specials.

Los Pelicanos Calle Cedros #115, Rosarito, 661-612-0445. This hotel dining room is El Nido's little sister, with a shorter menu. It serves good steaks and surf 'n' turf in a handsome room and, at lunch, on a pretty ocean-view terrace. Moderate.

Tacos Varios y Aguas Frescas Corner of Constitución and Third, Tijuana. The cart is only here from 6pm to 6am, but from tongue to chicken mole to *milanesa*, steak ranchero, carne asada, *chile relleno*, and *pescado* (fish), they create meals right there. Inexpensive.

Balboa Park

Japanese Tea Pavilion 2215 Pan American Way, Balboa Park, 619-231-0048. The teriyaki bowl with salmon, the sweetish *udon* *soba* noodle soup with tofu *kitsune*, and even the California sandwich piled high with

"krab" meat are good and feel Japanese. Inexpensive.

The Prado 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-557-9441. Exquisite setting in the park offers generous portions on a something-for-everyone menu. Top choices: meaty crab cakes, slow-roasted pork loin, banana *tres leches* cake. Moderate to expensive.

Banker's Hill

Alex's Brown Bag 2550 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-231-2912. The re-born Alex's (now in the Mr. A's building) is a deli rightly famous for its Original Philadelphia Cheese Steak Sandwich. Inexpensive.

Avenue 5 2760 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-542-0394. Chef-owner Colin MacLaggan offers a short, tasty menu of creative, seasonal, French-influenced California cuisine (and house-made desserts) in a chic, classy-casual neighborhood bistro. Happy-hour bargains at bar; otherwise high-moderate.

Azuki Sushi Lounge 2321 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-238-4760. Skillful, creative sushi and sashimi in a convivial atmosphere. Don't miss the spicy Pon Hama (yellowtail sashimi with yuzu juice and chili powder) or the fusion-y RU Kidding Me roll, the owner's favorite. Moderate to expensive.

Cucina Urbana 505 Laurel St., Banker's Hill, 619-239-2222. Uptown food at neighborhood prices. The creative, playful Italian menu emphasizes light, shareable dishes — mini-bites on through appetizers, pizzas, polentas, and interesting pastas and entrées, with adventurous wines priced only \$7 over retail. Lively, comfortable, noisy. Bar grazing until midnight. Moderate.

Joe's New York-Style Deli 3401 First Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-295-7666. Go for wraps, jumbo hot dogs with sauerkraut, or East Coast-generous sandwiches like corned beef, dry Genoa salami, cotto salami, bologna, or liverwurst. That Boar's Head liverwurst is da bomb. Inexpensive.

Carlsbad

Joey's Smokin' B-B-Q 6955 El Camino Real, Carlsbad, 760-929-1396. Also 4645 Carmel Mountain Rd., Carmel Valley, 858-350-1317. It's not Southern so much as SoCal "Q," but the meats are genuinely smoked. Pulled pork offers reasonably credible Memphis-style flavor; ribs come in three versions. Inexpensive to moderate.

Pizza Port 571 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-720-7007. Also 135 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Solana Beach, 858-481-7332. Pizza Port brews their own beer (try Sharkbite Red) and flings their own pizzas, New York style. Filling combos can be great, like the Pizza Carlsbad or the Pizza Solana. Inexpensive.

Carmel Mountain

Athens Market Café 11640 Carmel Mountain Rd., Carmel Mountain, 858-675-2225. Vickie Pappas (sis of Mary) serves up the Greek classics at this offshoot of Athens Market, with particularly flavorful lamb souvlaki and lamb chops. Inexpensive to moderate.

Chollas View

Thai Garden 110 47th St., Chollas View, 619-527-8890. They do Thai here, but cognoscenti come for the Lao cooking. This place is the town's unofficial Lao Embassy, and the *larb* and fresh-pestled green papaya salad are the

real thing. (A great place for buying Lao silks, too.) Inexpensive.

Chula Vista

La Bella Pizza Garden 373 Third Ave., Chula Vista, 619-426-8820. Rustic-looking family-run restaurant offers Italian-American standards, big portions, low prices, late hours. The hit with kids is "Papa's Favorite" eight-inch pizza. Inexpensive.

El Dorado Seafood & Grill 311 Palomar St., Chula Vista, 619-426-4545. Zesty Peruvian dishes include *papa rellena* (creamy potato with a lively beef and raisin filling), *seco de cabrito* (young goat in a complex, herbal stew). Mexican-style seafood served here, too. Inexpensive to moderate.

City Heights

El Borrego Restaurant 4280 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-281-1355. Specializes in fascinating Mexican lamb dishes, including spicy, smoky *mixiote* (lamb cooked inside thin maguey skin) and *pancita*, similar to haggis. Inexpensive.

Red Sea Restaurant 4717 University Ave., City Heights, 619-285-9722. You'll find richly seasoned Ethiopian cuisine served on a porous pancake, *injera*. The *kifto* (spicy beef tartare) is good, the *gored gored* (meat in spicy butter) is excellent. Vibrant veggies, too. Inexpensive.

Super Cocina 3627 University Ave., City Heights, 619-584-6244. Mexican housewives prepare specialties for the restaurant. They're complex meat or poultry stews made without border compromises. The dozen entrées change daily from a rotating repertory of about 100. Inexpensive.

Tom's Chinese BBQ 4414 University Ave., City Heights, 619-563-8225. The roast ribs, pork roast, and BBQ spare ribs are excellent. So is pork fried rice and the dim sum. But you should also try the pig's rectum, duck's feet, stomach lining, ears, and wiggly small intestines. Inexpensive.

Van Hoa Vietnamese Restaurant 4016 54th St., City Heights, 619-582-2642. They have 20 versions of *pho* — *dac biet* ("special combo") is a good place to start — plus rice and rice vermicelli plates and Vietnamese crepes and spring rolls. Inexpensive.

Clairemont

Boomerangs Gourmet Burger Joint 4577 Clairemont Dr., Clairemont, 858-483-9500. Create-your-burger options include horseradish, artichoke hearts, carrots, cranberries, cheeses, and mushrooms. Chop and tuck these into raw burger meat, like a joey into mama roo's pocket. Inexpensive.

Lightnin' Jack's BBQ 4705-H Clairemont Dr., Clairemont, 858-270-8227. Mall atmosphere, but hickory-fueled Texas-style pit barbecue turns out tender, moist pork ribs and reasonably smoky brisket. Nice fried catfish, too. Hush puppies and sweet potato fries are the tastiest sides. Inexpensive to moderate.

College Area

4.0 Deli 5844 Montezuma Rd., College Area, 619-281-4040. Try the Montezuma, a toasted sub with grilled chicken cutlets, chorizo, Monterey Jack, and a kick-butt Southwestern dressing. Inexpensive.

San Diego Desserts 5987 El Cajon Bl., College Area, 619-287-8186. What was just a wonderful bakery has ex-

panded to include full sit-down lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunches. Comfort dishes like meatloaf and chicken pie, sandwiches, salads. Good wines, wicked desserts, great patio. Inexpensive to moderate.

Woodstock's Pizza 6145 El Cajon Bl., College Area, 619-265-0999. Crusts — white or sweetly robust whole wheat — are pressed, tossed, and folded over at the edge, producing a spongy, crunch-crusted rim. The mozzarella is rich, gooey whole milk; the marinara sauce is dark and spicy. Inexpensive.

Coronado

Bistro d'Asia 1301 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy Lizard Lounge serves gentled-down dishes from East Asia. Good sushi bar in the Lounge. Moderate.

Crown Room Hotel Del, 1500 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-6611. In this vaulted dining room, presidents, princes and Marilyn Monroe have chowed down. Open only for elaborate Sunday brunch, with cooking not quite up to the visual grandeur. Expensive.

Island Pasta 1202 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-4545. Sidewalk tables, daily made-on-the-premises semolina pasta — and dog-friendly, too, plus a nice wine list. A good vegetarian special: *verdure* pasta, with artichoke hearts, spinach, capers, mushrooms, onions, and olives. Inexpensive.

Mexican Village 126 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-3111. Old restaurant revives with new (Mexican) owner. Old Coronadans say the signature burritos (filled with tripe, pork and potato, chorizo and eggs, etc.) match even their gilded Korea- and Vietnam-era memories. Inexpensive to moderate.

Rhinoceros 1166 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-2121. Meat and fish choices are prepared simply with generic veggie accompaniments. Why, then, is Rhino so popular? Pasta is the answer — that's where the kitchen shines. Moderate (pastas) to expensive.

Del Mar

Osteria del Pescatore 1201 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-509-9293. Italian seafood, garden setting. Best are the daily specials, including spaghetti *a cartoccio* (baked in parchment) and lobster risotto. Save room for dessert, especially if offerings include *torta alla nonna*. High-moderate to expensive.

Poseidon 1670 Coast Bl., Del Mar, 858-755-9345. It's all about the glorious seaside view. Lunches run to sandwiches, burgers, and fried seafood. Dinner dishes mingle Pacific Rim-Mediterranean-Mexican flavors, with

some emphasis on seafood. Moderate to expensive.

Red Tracton's 550 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-755-6600. Manly retro atmosphere, huge portions. The selection is generous: steaks, prime rib, seafood, chicken, and pork — all expertly prepared and served in record time. Expensive.

Sbicca American Bistro 215 15th St., Del Mar, 858-481-1001. Pristine California cuisine highlights local produce in deluxe, seasonal dishes that engage the mind along with the palate, e.g., a lemon-pistachio cake that changes as you cut it, crumbling into a berry coulis. High-moderate to expensive.

Downtown

Acqua Al 2 322 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-230-0382. Mainly plain Tuscan cuisine, highlighted by pleasing vegetarian pastas and risottos featuring earthy porcini mushrooms. Moderate (pasta) to expensive.

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine 825 and 837 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-238-0101. Skillful, healthful cooking from an ancient high cuisine. Refined entrées featuring rice with poultry are elaborately garnished; rose-flavored Persian ice cream is a romantic ending. Moderate.

Beach City Market 3 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-232-2491. Enjoy soup-and-sandwich deals like minestrone and the Londonport roast beef sandwich flavored with port, white herbs, and spices; or the Deluxe roast beef with horseradish. Inexpensive.

Café Sevilla 555 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-233-5979. A loud, convivial tapas bar adjoins a quieter, romantic Spanish restaurant, but you can get tapas in the restaurant and entrées at the bar. At both, the choices are varied, interesting, and cosmopolitan. Great sangria. Moderate.

Café de L'Opera 1354 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-234-0425. Pastry chef Thierry Cahez offers a genuine French feeling and food, in a pâtisserie with exquisite dessert pastries, breakfast croissants, and Gallic lunches like mini-pizzas and *croque monsieurs* (toasted cheese sandwich with ham). Inexpensive.

Candelas 416 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-702-4455. Don't look for tacos here — chef Eduardo Baeza specializes in sophisticated, delectable Mexican haute cuisine made with French techniques. Interesting but expensive wine list; food expensive.

China Too 916 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-239-4283. The menu claims "New York-Style Fine Chinese Cuisine." How about decent Bronx-style eat-in/take-out? Cheap but good fare, including huge lunch specials, made with no MSG, minimal cornstarch. Free delivery to a wide area. Inexpensive.

Downtown Johnny Brown's 1220 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-232-8414. At this Euro-style sidewalk café, try the spicy grilled breast of chicken burger with soup of the day or fries. Soup's bobbing with fresh-cut vegetables. Also salads: taco or Southwest chicken. Inexpensive.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant 544 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-232-9840. This spirited, colorful saloon, transported whole hog from the Ould Sod, offers Irish music live most nights. Try the herb-rich Irish stew, or the boxty — potato crepes with a variety of fillings (salmon, beef, etc.). Low-moderate.

Greystone 658 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-232-0225. The Italian steakhouse fare here centers on Prime beef, game meats, lobster, and pastas. Loud, conventioneer-y ambience. Extremely expensive.

Hub Market & Deli 748 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-544-1917. Take-out only, with a hot pastrami sandwich that draws long lines. Breakfast? Try the giant three-egg burrito stuffed with sausages and hash brown patties. Open morning till late night, daily. Inexpensive.

Lou and Mickey's 224 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-237-4900. Fifties-style surf 'n' turf owned by King's Seafood, with fine fish quality, simple fare. Best

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

dishes include New Orleans BBQ shrimp — a buttery, spicy Creole extravaganza (available as starter or entrée) — and the huge, juicy rib-eye Cowboy Steak. Fish moderate, meats expensive.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant Omni Hotel, 675 L St., Downtown, 619-645-6545. Nationwide seafood chain with good, simple, fresh-fish dishes. Awesome weeknight happy-hour offers. Each for under two bucks: steamed mussels, chicken satay, a half-pound burger and fries, California rolls, fish cakes, cheese plate. Regular entrées upper-moderate.

Mister Tiki Mai Tai Lounge 801 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-233-1183. Asian fusion items, elementary sushi, and the occasional sprint into fusion-cuisine seafood are ballast for the real gourmet fare: tropical umbrella drinks. Moderate.

Morton's of Chicago 285 J St., Downtown, 619-696-3369. Swanky, manly Chicago steakhouse offers juicy, marbled grain-fed beef in numerous cuts and sizes, wet-aged and grilled to your specification, or good fish. Pricey à la carte sides. Very expensive.

Oceanaire Seafood Room 400 J St., Downtown, 619-858-2277. The best dishes tend to be the least ambitious, from the “Simply Grilled and Broiled” section. Or you can gamble on more elaborately composed entrées. Great crab cakes. Happy hour at oyster bar moderate, dinner very expensive.

Osetra Watergrill 904 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-239-1800. Las Vegas glitzy decor here. Appetizers tilt Asian, but most entrées are Italianate seafood. The restaurant has switched from the endangered Caspian caviar it's named for to a California-farmed sturgeon product (at the same steep tab). Very expensive.

The Palm 615 J St., Downtown, 619-702-6500. The fare features tender dry-

aged and wet-aged USDA Prime beef from the chain's own wholesale butcher and, for high-rollers, monster-sized Nova Scotia lobsters. Also consider shrimp Bruno (with a Dijon sauce), baked crab cakes. Very expensive.

Panda Inn 506 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-233-7800. Family-friendly menu offers greaseless dishes to suit all tastes. Tofu with eggplant and the Mongolian Hotpot, a meatball casserole with Chinese cabbage, are among the more authentic choices. Lunches inexpensive, dinners moderate.

RA Sushi 474 Broadway, Downtown, 619-321-0021. Big and splashy, this Arizona-based chain restaurant creates a high-energy atmosphere with loud music and louder decor. The grazing menu features sushi, sashimi, and hosts of Asian-oid appetizers, plus substantial noodle dishes and entrées. Moderate.

Super Jr. Market & Deli 1036 Seventh Ave., Downtown, 619-232-6367. Sandwiches include Boar's Head meat, cheeses, and fixings galore. Hot dishes sold by the pound: pork loin, chicken fajitas, honey ham, turkey, catfish, tilapia — all with two side dishes like rice, veggies, baked potato. Inexpensive.

Taka 555 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-338-0555. Top-quality seafood enlivens exquisite sushi, with rice freshly made all evening and savory appetizers like miso-baked cod and mushroom-topped *agedashi* (lightly fried) tofu. Reserve and go early for quiet. Most dishes inexpensive, but they add up.

Tom Ham's Lighthouse 2150 Harbor Island Dr., Downtown, 619-291-9110. Convivial bay-view spot offers seafood, steaks, weekend roast beef, Sunday brunch buffet. Heavy “retro” treatments range from classic clam chowder and Oysters Rockefeller to sludgy lobster bisque. Oysters, raw or seductive “Cortez Style,” are a highlight. Moderate to very expensive.

East Village

Gen Lai Sen Hakka Seafood Restaurant 1065 12th Ave., East Vil-

lage, 619-239-5478. Stick to their Hakka specialties, like the sizzle plate stuffed tofu — deep-fried crisp rectangles with a pork meatball inserted in the tender centers, resembling meat-flavored roasted marshmallows. Mainly inexpensive.

Juice in the Raw 1060 J St., East Village, 619-550-1240. Algae, anyone? This fitness bar serves raw, organic, meal-sized smoothies loaded with stuff like goji berries, almond butter, hemp protein, bee pollen, ground chia seeds, blueberries, plus bars loaded with blue-green algae from Lake Klamath. Just call it antioxidant central.

Sole Luna Café 702 Ash St., East Village, 619-232-0436. Umbrella-strewn terrace is fun. Many items taste straight from Milano, like the breakfast croissant with prosciutto and smoked mozzarella, the Rustico Panino, and the Siciliana salad. Inexpensive to moderate.

El Vitral Restaurant 815 J St., East Village, 619-236-9420. This huge spiffy room with Petco-facing patio offers creative, deluxe revisions of multi-regional Mexi-classics, backed by an impressive array of house-made *masa* creations. Huge tequila list, multinational wine list. Expensive mains, but better yet are affordable grazes on soups, starters, gourmet tacos.

El Cajon

Downtown Café 182 E. Main St., El Cajon, 619-440-5687. A Mexican-style patio restaurant serving gringo food. Reasonable prices for baby-back pork ribs, burritos, or Louisiana chicken strips. Or even the veggie burger. Inexpensive to moderate.

Geno's Barbecue 291 W. Main St., El Cajon, 619-444-3667. Try #5, pulled pork and slaw, or #9, shredded beef, melted Jack, and sautéed onions. Sides like dirty rice and cornbread are good, but if you're light of pocket go for the Ripcurl (hot dog). Inexpensive.

Greek Town Buffet 345 W. Main St., El Cajon, 619-441-9708. Have gy-

ros, but also try chicken souvlaki (grilled lemon chicken) or start with excellent dolmades (grape leaves wrapped around beef and rice). Don't skip Greek desserts. Inexpensive.

Encinitas

Jamroc 101 Caribbean Grill 101 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3162. Kick back to reggae with a fresh coconut water and the Jamaican sampler, including luscious soft-fried plantains and splendid patties (empanadas to you and me) with a choice of fillings. The jerk's way mild. Inexpensive.

Savory 267 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-634-5556. Chef-owner Pascal Vignau serves a changing menu of southern French and Mediterranean cooking spotlighting seasonal local produce. Highlights include a rich macaroni-and-ham casserole. Moderate.

Tomiko 87 Encinitas Bl., Encinitas, 760-633-3587. Great sushi, including fabulous *uni*, world-beating silky *toro*. Appetizers like salmon tower tartare and drunken black cod are rewarding, as are the simple, excellent fusion-tinged seafood entrées. Moderate.

I Trulli Trattoria 830 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-943-6800. The signifiers of seriousness are the pink peppercorns, goat cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, and light cream sauces that coexist with the more traditional mozzarella-tomato sauce arrays. Moderate.

Tuscan Sun Italian Deli 1070 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-633-4546. Domestic and imported meats and cheeses, fresh-baked breads and focaccia, marinated veggies, and gourmet products from Italy. The specialty is the Caprese sandwich on focaccia bread. Inexpensive.

Escondido

Bistro 221 221 E. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-737-7398. Simple dishes shine at this genteel bistro, like sophis-

ticated lunch quesadillas and dinner appetizers like Florida gumbo and Maryland crab cake. Moderate.

El Galeón 503 W. Mission Ave., Escondido, 760-746-5951. Mexican seafood stars here. Shrimp and langostino (“squat lobster” in fishermen's terms) are house specialties. Consider a marlin taco (squeeze some lime onto this rich, strong fish) or savory *albondigas* soup. Inexpensive to moderate.

Hacienda de Vega 2608 S. Escondido Bl., Escondido, 760-738-9805. In gorgeous surroundings (mansion and garden), Señora Vega offers sophisticated Mexico City cuisine. You'll find interesting appetizers along with entrées featuring complex sauces and a huge bargain-priced Sunday brunch. Inexpensive to moderate.

Fallbrook

El Parque 2659 Reche Rd., Fallbrook, 760-731-2775. Good combination plates include the tostada with beef taco and the burrito with enchilada. Better yet, on Sunday morning, agricultural workers pour in here for menudo, cooked in a three-foot-high pot. Inexpensive.

Wayside Café 507 South Main Ave., Fallbrook, 760-723-9633. The place used to be a gas station. You can even sit in the old lube bay to eat. Count on generous servings, especially the mountain piles of red-skinned home fries as a side at breakfast. Inexpensive.

Hillcrest

Babbo Grande 1731 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-269-8038. This is becoming your neighborhood drop-in place for Uptowners. Big breakfasts, really cheap-but-plentiful daily lunch specials like beef stroganoff with mushrooms, sour cream, wine sauce. Beautiful, dog-friendly patio out back. Inexpensive.

Baby Back Jack's Barbecue 1290 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-574-1644. Jack's Sampler (four-bone baby back ribs, one half chicken, one portion of BBQ beef, fries, and slaw) is a good intro. Or pork-rib tips or just a Cajun sausage sandwich or one of Jack's chili cheeseburgers with bacon. Inexpensive.

Bread and Cie 350 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-683-9322. Crusty European peasant breads include anise-fig and black-olive loaves. Focaccia pizza and savory sandwiches (many with thick bread and thin fillings) are available to take out or eat on the spot. Inexpensive.

City Delicatessen 555 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-2747. Some folk come for the Jewish-American food (chicken-in-the-pot, brisket of beef, chopped liver), others to soak in the art-deco colors until midnight (3am weekends). Inexpensive to moderate.

Ichiban 1449 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7203. The best values are at lunch, with weekday specials like Bento combos (sushi rolls, crab, salmon, rice) and filling soups overflowing with veggies and thick *udon* noodles. Inexpensive.

Lucky Buck's Patio Bar and Grill 1459 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-297-0660. The only question: which burger? The Buck 'n' Bleu Ribbon Burger (with bleu cheese, bacon, onion strings, and chipotle sauce)? Buck's on Fire (pepper Jack, bacon, and jalapeño peppers)? Buck's Lucky Mushroom? Inexpensive.

Pasha Mediterranean Grill & Café 3614 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-294-4444. Turkish specialties (including grilled beef cubes over eggplant mashed with garlic and yogurt) distinguish this Turkish-Lebanese *halal* restaurant from generic Middle Easterners, with which it shares a menu of kebabs, *shawerma*, salads, et al. Loads for vegans. No alcohol. Moderate.

Picasso Spanish Restaurant 3923 Fourth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-294-3061. Some top Basque tapas here include chicken-stuffed empanadillas, baby eels in garlic sauce, stuffed green lip mussels, and an outstanding paella (available as both a tapa and entrée). Moderate.

Pizza Fusion 3827 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-278-0057. Everything's green and organic at this eco-conscious chain. The pizzas are odd-shaped but tasty, with multigrain oval crusts, plenty of veggies, cheese, and sweet Italian sausage or organic steak. Inexpensive to moderate.

St. Tropez 3805 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-497-0297. Additional locations in Encinitas, Rancho Bernardo, downtown. These bright cafés with indoor-outdoor seating offer scores of yummy



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house-baked breakfast pastries, desserts, and good coffee, plus Parisian-style *croque monsieur* and *madame*, crepes, quiche, onion soup, sophisticated sandwiches, and panini. Simple French dinners at some branches. Inexpensive.

Terra 3900 Vermont St., Hillcrest, 619-293-7088. Generously sized tapas can serve as appetizers or as a sustaining bite before venturing into Trader Joe's across the street. The dinner menu changes seasonally, featuring barbecue items during the summer, comforting fare in colder weather. Moderate.

Imperial Beach

Olive Oil Organic Café 600 Palm Ave., Imperial Beach, 619-429-1779. Great vegan sandwiches on ciabatta or focaccia — the eggplant Baby Greens and the Vegan Fusion (imitation smoked turkey and salami, cheese). But the carnivorous sandwiches are also way better than they have to be. Also pizzas, salads, house-made soups. Inexpensive.

The Tin Fish 910 Seacoast Dr., Imperial Beach, 619-628-8414. Also 170 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-238-8100 (lunch only). The bill of fare features fish — fried, grilled, chowdered, or wrapped into burritos, tacos, or sandwiches. Great carb cakes. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Imperial Valley

Owl Café 674 Main St., Imperial Valley, 760-336-0298. This café, over 50 years old, serves rib-sticking food. Try breakfast special #1: pancakes, two eggs, and two bacon strips. For lunch, the French dip sandwich. Full-plate dinners include roast beef and chicken-fried steak. Inexpensive.

Kearny Mesa

B & B Deli & Catering 8690 Aero Dr., Kearny Mesa, 858-292-1636. Air-men's Comfort Food Central, offering plate-bursting lunch specials with all the fixin's: roast pork loin, meat loaf, curried chicken, Polish sausage, pepper steak, cabbage rolls. Generous breakfasts, too. Inexpensive.

Dumpling Inn 4619 Convo St., Kearny Mesa, 858-268-9638. Tiny, plain setting offering authentic northern Chinese and Szechuan dishes. Ten fish and green-chive dumplings, spicy three-ingredient lo mein (with jumbo shrimp, calamari, and chicken) and superb jellyfish salad are challenging and exciting. Inexpensive.

The Philadelphia Sandwich Company 3904 Convo St., Kearny Mesa, 858-571-0888. The menu centers on Philly's two cult sandwiches: the hoagie and the cheese steak. The mixed-meat hoagie is more flavorful than a mere hero. For cheese steak, try the luscious "everything" with provolone, unless you're a Philly-born purist. Inexpensive.

San Tong Palace 4690 Convo St., Kearny Mesa, 858-571-6837. Hybrid Korean-Chinese menu draws from these regions' tastiest styles. Try the delicious Rainbow Salad and outstanding dumplings, especially the seafood ones. The jellyfish salad is a treat for the adventurous. Inexpensive.

La Jolla

Barbarella 2171 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-7373. Nestled in an English garden, you can dine indoors or out enjoying house-baked sourdough and a daily changing eclectic menu,

cooked with imagination. Outstanding fresh fruit crepes in season. Moderate.

Clay's La Jolla 7955 La Jolla Shores Dr., La Jolla, 858-551-3620. With a penthouse view of La Jolla, chef-owner Clay Bordan cooks up a seasonal California-fusion menu with international flavors, featuring organic vegetables, wild fish, naturally raised meats and fowl. Expensive.

Come On In 1030B Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla, 858-551-1063. Suave Euro bistro with tree-shaded patio, serving sophisticated breakfasts and healthy lunches like fruit plates and veggie-mozzarella sandwiches. Inexpensive to moderate; dinners a little more expensive.

George's at the Cove — Ocean Terrace 1250 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-454-4244. This informal rooftop eatery has the best view of anywhere of the La Jolla Cove, but the food isn't the fine cuisine of the Dining Room downstairs — it's essentially spiffy grazing. Excellent mussels are the sole memorable dish. Skip the owner's "famous" bean soup, a vanity item. High-moderate.

The Marine Room 2000 Spindrift Dr., La Jolla, 858-459-7222. Sea-level ocean view and Chef Bernard Guillas's oceanic culinary inventiveness with fresh, exotic ingredients make every visit a voyage of discovery. Preparations are so elaborate, each menu listing reads like a whole tasting dinner. Expensive.

Nine-Ten 910 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb's culinary sophistication is big-city smart, offering adventurous seasonal cuisine emphasizing fresh sustainable or organic ingredients and fresh ideas, with flawless flavor matches. Expensive.

Sante Ristorante 7811 Herschel Ave., La Jolla, 858-454-1315. Fresh seafood specials are available every night. Excellent pasta with mushrooms, ravioli with quail, and lamb chops. Moderate (pastas) to expensive.

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

La Mesa

Mario's de La Mesa 8425 La Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-461-9390. Tasty gringo-Mex food. Tamales are rich, pillowy clouds of cornmeal surrounding richer shredded pork scattered with raisins. Pork also gets loving treatment in the *carnitas rojas*, browned to the barest crisp. Inexpensive.

Lakeside

The Neighbor's Pub and Grub 12169 Woodside Ave., Lakeside, 619-561-8890. A neighborhood place beloved by locals serves until midnight (2am weekends). Big portions of simple, filling food, with standard pub grub and daily

specials like meat loaf, roast beef, fish 'n' chips, pork tenderloin. Inexpensive.

Linda Vista

Andrés Restaurant 1235 Morena Bl., Linda Vista, 619-275-4114. Nice introduction to Cuban cuisine, including lush "Cuban sandwiches" of pork, ham and cheese, and *ropa vieja* ("old clothes") — shredded beef sautéed with mushrooms, peppers, tomatoes. Inexpensive to moderate.

Sushi Diner 7530 Mesa College Dr., Linda Vista, 858-565-1179. Most places, you can eat good or cheap. Here, you can eat good *and* cheap. No surprise that students from Mesa College cram in at lunchtime for rolls, bowls, curries. Inexpensive.

Little Italy

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Hwy., Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the

Deco pink palace at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deliciously smoky flavor. Inexpensive to moderate.

Indigo Grill 1536 India St., Little Italy, 619-234-6802. Deborah Scott expands her original Native-American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Inexpensive to moderate, dinner moderate to expensive.

Po Pazzo 1917 India St., Little Italy, 619-238-1917. The USDA Prime steaks are flash-roasted at 1700 degrees, and if they're a little chewy, they're also flavorful — especially the Sicilian steak. The pasta dishes and veggies are even better. Expensive.

Logan Heights

Las Cuatro Milpas 1857 Logan Ave., Logan Heights, 619-234-4460. The Estudillo family has been serving Mexican food here for three generations. Rice, beans, pork tacos (no beef), pork tamales, chorizo with eggs — that's about it. Breakfast/lunch only. Inexpensive.

Tamale Cart 1852 National Ave., Logan Heights, 619-338-9140. The choice of goodies stuffed in the middle can include pork, beef, chicken, cheese, pineapple, strawberries, or coconut. Try the *champurrado* drink: milk mixed with masa, chocolate, and cinnamon. Inexpensive.

Midway District

Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar 3770 Hancock St., Midway District, 619-692-1410. Dishes of Bahia, Rio, and São Paulo. You can make a meal of appetizers like *coxinhas*, *paste-*

les, *croquetas*, and *kube* (the Brazilian version of Lebanon's *kibbe*). Moderate.

Mira Mesa

Bamboo Hut 9172 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-348-0414. A strip-mall taste of Hawaiian plate lunch and sushi, with outdoor wood-roofed patio. Uneven, but ahi poke, chicken katsu, and Rainbow Roll are good. Inexpensive.

Popeye's Chicken & Biscuits 9045 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-530-1664. Several San Diego locations. Wherever you go, if you find a Popeye's, you'll be eating Louisiana flavors. The étouffée (whether of chicken or crawfish, when available) is surprisingly decent. Inexpensive.

Mission Hills

Blue Water Seafood Market and Grill 3667 India St., Mission Hills, 619-497-0914. Delicious simple fish cookery in no-frills eatery, plus a fish counter offering restaurant-quality fresh raw seafood including big, buttery oysters. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Saffron Noodles and Saté 3737 India St., Mission Hills, 619-574-7737. It's the smell of the spicy Thai chicken grilling that gets you. Choice of five sauces, from peanut to sweet pepper. Also try delicious, spicy noodle soups, like Tom Yum with shrimp. Inexpensive.

Mission Valley

Bali Thai Café 407 Camino del Rio South, Mission Valley, 619-297-0800. This cute spot mingles chefs and dishes from Indonesia and Thailand. Standard Thai fare, but unique Balinese corn frit-

ters, spicy shrimp, comforting chicken noodle soup. No reservations on weekends. Low-moderate.

Seau's 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley, 619-291-7328. Vast sports bar offers 70 TV screens and varied pub grub: pizza, hefty burgers, wings with three sauces, sushi, and Junior Seau's family recipe of Samoan teriyaki "plate lunch." Inexpensive to moderate.

National City

Dakine's Plate Lunches 1635 Sweetwater Rd., National City, 619-477-8494. Although the Hawaiian-style kalua pig here isn't cooked in a hole in the ground, it tastes like the real thing and comes with an islander planeload of cabbage, rice, mac salad, and kimchi. Inexpensive.

Point-Point Joint 916 E. 8th St., National City, 619-474-2866. Dozens of Filipino dishes are available, from the familiar (chicken grilled on a bamboo spit) to more mysterious choices like *kare-kare* (peanut butter sauce with beef and tripe) and *dinuguan* (pork meat and blood stew). Inexpensive.

Normal Heights

Antique Row Café 3002 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-9750. Fill up on all-day breakfasts including huge omelets; Philly Steak Heaven (you choose: steak, ham, or turkey) is a popular lunchtime dish. Inexpensive.

North Park

El Comal 3946 Illinois St., North Park, 619-294-8292. Also 262 Third

Ave., Chula Vista, 619-420-3811. Home cooking from the mainland (Michoacan, Guerrero, others). Stuffed tortilla dishes (no numbered combos) are appetizers or lunches. For entrées, look to casseroles like tongue in tomatillo sauce, tender goat in a lively red "barbecue" sauce, and sweet-spicy mole poblano chicken. Inexpensive.

Old World Deli & Café 3930 30th St., North Park, 619-238-0568. Fine mittel-European casual food, with house-made sauerkraut the badge of honor. Try the bounteous sausage platter or the Great Grilled Grueben sandwich. Inexpensive.

Ocean Beach

The Bar-B-Que House 5025 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-222-4311. Genuine "Q" of meats and poultry smoked "low and slow" over oak, then charbroiled. Southern-style sandwich (choice of protein plus coleslaw and tangy, spicy sauce) is a good value. Inexpensive.

Kaiserhof 2253 Sunset Cliffs Bl., Ocean Beach, 619-224-0606. Big, convivial German *Bierstube* with all the usual dishes. Good schnitzels, potato pancakes. Avoid entrées with one-sauce-fits-all brown gravy. The excellent apple strudel is the only dessert made in-house. Moderate.

Oceanside

101 Café 631 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Oceanside, 760-722-5220. Cooks have been flipping burgers here since 1928. Try the Original Cheeseburger with secret sauce. Inexpensive.

Johnny Mañanas 308 Mission Ave., Oceanside, 760-721-9999. On the mainly Mexican menu there's a

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ReaderSteals.com

Caribbean chocolate-y, black bean, paprika, curry-in-the-rice thing going on. Pescado Veracruz (fish marinated in lime juice and garlic with rice, beans, and green salad) is good. The roasted chicken is delicious. Inexpensive.

Oceanside Café 1938 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Oceanside, 760-722-7337. This little place does lunch, with good burgers, but breakfast's what a lot of folks come for. Dieter's Downfall — a three-egg omelet stuffed with ham, bacon, sausage, tomato, Jack, and cheddar — is wicked. Inexpensive.

Old Town



Nuevo Leon Festival
April 22nd-May 8th

El Agave Tequileria
2304 San Diego Ave. Old Town
(619) 220-0692
elagave.com

El Agave 2304 San Diego Ave., Old Town, 619-220-0692. Serious Mexican food highlighting mainland regional cuisines, including five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas). Moderate.

Harney Sushi 3964 Harney St., Old Town, 619-295-3272. Also 301 Mission Ave., Oceanside, 760-967-1820. These trendy spots draw mainly under-35 scenesters with a DJ turning up the amps, a vast choice of sakes, and a menu of sushi (heavy on the party rolls), Japanese appetizers, and a few

mixed-ethnicity entrées. Sushi lower than most, entrées moderate.

Zócalo Grill 2444 San Diego Ave., Old Town, 619-298-9840. Tropical something for everyone — a stacked salad of shrimp and avocados or coconut-shrimp kebabs emerging from a pineapple or a huge, beautifully grilled lobster with avocado salsa. Moderate.

Pacific Beach

Baleen 1404 Vacation Rd., Pacific Beach, 858-490-6364. The menu features seafood and land creatures in refined renditions, in a room with a water view and monkey-motif decor. Very expensive.

Café Athena 1846 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-274-1140. Sister restaurant, Apollonia Greek Bistro, in UTC. With a more upscale, eye-catching decor and a longer and more serious menu than most Greek cafés, this is a popular destination. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Costa Brava 1653 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-273-1218. The garlic-rich Spanish cuisine here includes tasty tapas and, among the entrées, a paella that's made to order (sized to serve two or four; call ahead for larger groups). Moderate.

The Fishery 5040 Cass St., Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. The Fishery's menu is extensive, covering SoCal basics (excellent mahimahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine malt-dredged fish 'n' chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of dinnertime entrées. Moderate to expensive.

Hoboken Pizza & Beer Joint 1459 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-7766. They offer thin-crust East Coast-style pizza or inch-thick, square Sicilian pizza. Crusts are airy and crunchy, and they paddle-slide your

slice into the oven to finish it off, fresh and hot. Open late. Inexpensive.

Isabel's Cantina 966 Felspar St., Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. Cheerful spin-off of Mission Café serves Latin-Asian-sorta health food. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals and include luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

The Surfside 4527 Mission Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. You'll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and California coastal cuisine, e.g., fusion-y tapas, many going for half-price during week-night happy hours. Sushi bar with friendly chefs takes reservations. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Point Loma

C-Level 880 Harbor Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-298-6802. The name is the grade for food, but nice for visiting aunts, with scenic heated patio at water's edge and California-Mediterranean comfort food from chef Deborah Scott in laid-back mode, lovely for a sunshiny lunch. Moderate to expensive.

Humphrey's by the Bay 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577. The kitchen features seafood, juicy meats, and Prime steaks with seasonal veggie garnishes. Preshow prix fixe upper-moderate, à la carte expensive/very expensive.

Umi Sushi 2806 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-226-1135. Japanese and Korean entrées such as *teppanyaki* (cooked in the kitchen) chicken/seafood/beef, Korean ribs, and excellent beef teriyaki. Sushi highlights include lemony *ama ebi*, rich garlic tuna, and spicy Crazy Boy "krab" roll. Inexpensive to moderate.

Rancho Bernardo

Bernard'O Restaurant 12457 Rancho Bernardo Rd., Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-7171. Brilliant modern takes on French classics. You want to know what genuine (California-adapted) bouillabaisse should be? Or squab at its best? This is the place — and desserts are ravishing, too. Expensive but not exorbitant.

The French Market Grille 15717 Bernardo Heights Parkway, Rancho Bernardo, 858-485-8055. At this romantic restaurant with elegant indoor dining or a charming garden setting, the menu offers classic Gallic dishes, but ingredients and execution can be inconsistent night to night. Moderate.

Rancho Santa Fe

Cavaillon 14701 Via Bettona, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-433-0483. A great neighborhood French bistro where Philippe Verpiand offers seasonal dishes emphasizing his home region, Provence. Don't miss *panisse*, a chickpea cake with marshmallow texture. Great coq au vin, slow-baked salmon, crisp-skinned duck confit. Moderate to very expensive.

Solana Beach

Pacific Coast Grill 437 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Solana Beach, 858-794-4632. A free-form menu integrates Mexican, Hawaiian, and Asian flavors into SoCal comfort cooking. Try the Bag of Bones (house-smoked pork ribs) and any fruit creation for dessert. Moderate to expensive.

Sorrento Valley

Karl Strauss Brewing Company 9675 Scranton Rd., Sorrento Valley, 858-587-2739. Additional locations in La Jolla, Carlsbad, and Downtown. Go for honest-but-beautiful dishes like the mountainous Hump Day meat loaf (Wednesday). Beer influence is everywhere. Filet mignon has an Amber Lager glaze. Ribs boast a Red Trolley Ale barbecue sauce. It can get pricey; try to hit happy hour. Moderate.

WineSellar and Brasserie 9550 Waples St., Sorrento Valley, 858-450-9557. Luxurious modern French cooking, upscale but comfortable, with vast wine list at minimal markups from wine store downstairs. Lunches high-moderate, dinners very expensive.

South Park

Alchemy 1503 30th St., South Park, 619-255-0616. Arty décor and playful international grazing plates and seasonal entrées make eating fun. Cooking and service are adept. But with no reservations for small parties and noise-amplifying architecture, eat early on weeknights to avoid waits and din at this neighborhood favorite. Moderate.

Tierrasanta

Andiamo! Ristorante Italiano 5960 Santo Rd., Tierrasanta, 858-277-3501. This is right up where Tierrasanta meets Miramar, but it's worth the trip for — seriously — the bread. Rosemary focaccia with addictive tomato basil dip. Also butternut squash soup, lasagnas, and prosciutto and fig pizzas. Live music on patio Saturdays. Inexpensive.

Bud's Louisiana Café 10425 Tierrasanta Bl., Tierrasanta, 858-573-2837. Authentic NOLA favorites cooked by a friendly native, including good okra gumbo and fine roast beef po' boys — to eat in or to go. The white-chocolate bread pudding is a masterpiece. No reservations; no tables for more than six. Low moderate.

University City

Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar 8970 University Center Lane, University City, 858-535-0078. Also 380 K St., Downtown, 619-237-1155. Less-masculine atmosphere than many steakhouses, but wet-aged Prime steaks are still the main event. Great wine list. Very expensive.

University Heights

Adams Avenue Grill 2201 Adams Ave., University Heights, 619-298-8440. Eclectic, ever-changing menu can be hit or miss, but soups are good, and lavender-infused crème brûlée makes an aromatic dessert. Inexpensive to moderate.

Gulf Coast Grill 4130 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-295-2244. The kitchen does best with the straight Southern dishes, turning out divine fried soft-shelled crabs, airy hush puppies, and delicious corn muffins. Cajun-Creole efforts are uneven. Moderate to slightly expensive.

Park Boulevard Cafe 4646 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-298-5248. The menu offers authentic Iraqi dishes plus echoes of Vietnam and Italy. Try Vietnamese-style coconut milk soup or lamb shank with red curry sauce and couscous. Open until late except Mondays. Inexpensive.



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Buy one pizza and get a second pizza for 50% off.

Extreme Pizza
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Pt. Loma: 3555 Rosecrans #114 866-243-9746
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free French or Italian entrée

with purchase of second entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Cannot be combined with other offers or specials.

Babbo Grande
University Heights: 1731 University Ave. • 619-269-8038
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free mini yogurt

with purchase of \$3 or more. Toppings not included. No stamp cards. Originals only accepted. One coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offers.

Paradise Yogurt
Mission Valley: 5664 Mission Center Rd. • 619-295-9648
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10% off entire bill, anytime

Not valid with any other offer.

Bangin' Burgers
San Diego: 7070 Miramar Rd. 858-578-8000
www.bangin-burgers.com
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Two sushi rolls \$7.25

Sixteen pieces of sushi. Choose from ten rolls. Dine-in only. Cannot be used with any other offers.

Jump Tokyo Sushi House
Mission Valley: 10450 Friars Rd. Ste. R • 619-280-4043
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free burrito

Buy a Monster Burrito at regular price and receive any burrito of equal or lesser value free! Valid at San Diego County locations only. One coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offer.

Los Primos
Visit losprimosmexicanfood.com to find a location near you!
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Thai dinner for two \$20

Pick one appetizer and two entrées. Served all day. Ask for menu options. Not valid with any other offer. Some restrictions.

Basil Thai College: 5157 College Ave. 619-582-THAI
La Mesa: 8680 Navajo Rd. #104 619-460-THAI
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free Thai entrée

Purchase one dinner entrée and two beverages, get a second dinner entrée of equal or lesser value free. Maximum value \$10.95. Dine-in only. Some restrictions.

Taste of Thai
Del Mar: 15770 San Andres Dr. 858-793-9695
Hillcrest: 527 University Ave. 619-291-7525
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\$7.99 Indian lunch buffet

11 am-3 pm. Reg. price \$8.99. Limit one per customer. Buffet includes Paneer Tikka Masala, Tandoor Chicken, Beef Boti, Naan and more.

Village Indian Cuisine San Diego:
9187 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 858-874-3663
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free NY style deli entrée

With the purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Some restrictions.

Elijah's Restaurant
La Jolla: 8861 Villa La Jolla Dr. 858-455-1461
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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.

Pizza Pronto
La Jolla: 7556 Fay Ave. 888-895-5606
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Lunch \$5.99 Dinner \$8.99

All-You-Can-Eat
Limit up to 4 people per coupon. Not valid with any other discount. Clairemont location only.

VIP Oriental Buffet
San Diego:
5541 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (In Madison Sq. Plaza, west of 805) 858-571-8473
Expires 5-13-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

European Procession

It's been five months since the Black Heart Procession returned from their last European tour. Later this

while, like Poland, Turkey, Czechoslovakia, Italy, Greece, Norway, Sweden, and Germany."

While on tour, Jenkins

Amore Del Tropico, the name of the band's 2002 full-length. "[The owners] emailed me and asked if they could name the club after our album," writes Jenkins. "So, we'll go there for a drink after our show."

As for a North American tour, Jenkins is unsure when and if that will happen. "Our last [American] tour left us feeling a lil' low and unloved. We may tour, or we may not again in the U.S."

Adds Jenkins: "I'm not so eager to go tour month in, month out. Being in a bar seven nights a week gets

Stars on Ice "Festivals can be real freak shows," says singer Matt Burke of electro-soul act Vokab Kompany, who just booked Irvine's Lightning in a Bottle Festival over Memorial Day weekend. "Like, with literal freaks." He cites as example their recent appearance at San Francisco's Sea of Dreams fest, headlined by Mutaytor (featuring members of Oingo Boingo and the Mike Ness band).

"Mutaytor has a huge team of live performers, with burlesque dancers, aerial contortionists, fire jugglers, and a huge group of musicians, with three drum setups; imagine Pink at the Grammys, but on steroids." Both bands shared the stage for a song recorded together last year, "Krowded Fire," from Vokab's 2009 album *The New Kong*.

"As we entered the stage, my glasses fogged up due to the heat, so I can barely see where we're supposed to perform. This positioning is crucial, so we don't get plowed over by the aerial performers, fire dancers, and hula hoopers. So I'm running around with fogged glasses, trying to sing, while circus performers and flamethrowers are whizzing by my face. I was practically beheaded by the rotating 30-pound hoops!"

Burke, a former high school English teacher also known for his stint with Grammy-nominated Native

corporation trying to ice our big-name guest stars."

Vokab Kompany was nominated for Best Hip-Hop

the inside track blurt

month, the dark knights of indie rock are taking off for another 28-date run through Europe to promote their new disc, *Six*, an album, according to Black Heart's website, "brimming with pitch-black ballads of discarded loves and forgotten souls."

The Black Heart Procession will kick off the tour in Stockholm, Sweden, on May 1, and will end it with a two-show stint in Athens, Greece, at the Rodeo Live Club.

"Yes, it's another Euro-tour," writes singer-guitarist Pall Jenkins in an April 11 email. "We are going to places we have not been before or haven't been in a

and the rest of the Black Hearts look forward to taking in the sites and checking out the local opening acts.

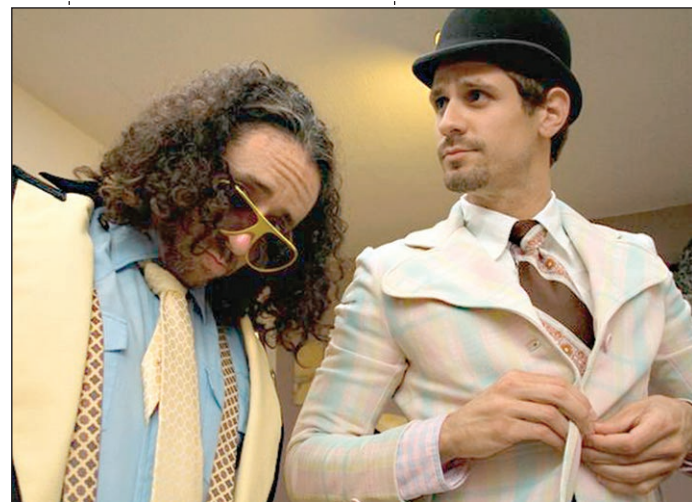


BLACK HEART'S COMING TO GET YOU, EUROPE

Another highlight for the gloom rockers will be their show at the Ghetto in Istanbul, Turkey. After the gig, the group plans on hitting up a new club called

old...and unhealthy. So we have to feel good about the tours...space them apart. I prefer to be in the studio these days."

— Dorian Hargrove



FESTIVAL STUNTMEN VOKAB KOMPANY

Root, reveals a hitherto unknown secret behind two celeb performers *not* credited on their upcoming album. "We met the bassist and guitarist for Cage the Elephant, Daniel Tichenor and Lincoln Parish, when we all played the Stay Classy event at Petco Park last year, and they came to our studio in National City." The result was a new song and overdubs on a Vokab track featuring the rising alterna-rock stars.

"However," according to Burke, "Sony had issues with them releasing anything before the new Cage the Elephant album drops, so we needed a pseudonym on our album. The alias we came up with for them is 'Thumper Oakstreet.' Bummer, a big

at the 2009 San Diego Music Awards, and they appeared on the SDMA-nominated compilation *Best of Daygo City*. They perform May 1 at Winstons and May 8 at Sound Wave.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Team-Building

Republic "It was a monumental effort and the best time we've had recording to date," says Republic of Letters drummer Nick Venti on their debut album *Painted Hour*. "We really wanted to push our sound on this one. We stripped away a lot of the guitar effects and focused on the songwriting and tons of other intricacies and details that we never had studio time to focus on in the past."

(continued on page 90)

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The 11-song album, recorded with Brian Karscig (Louis XIV, Nervous Wreckords) at Blue Roof Studios (owned by Sean Cornell of Transfer), is the result of a year and a half of songwriting that produced over 30 songs.

"We spent the entire month of July [2009] tracking," says Venti. "Twelve-hour days, six days a week, hammering out this recording."

The full-length is set to be released "soon" on an unspecified label. In the meantime, RoL will release an EP featuring five or six

Recording Studios with Ben Moore (who has worked with Rocket from the Crypt, Hot Snakes, and Switchfoot).

Citing influences such as the Who and Springsteen, RoL plays a catchy brand of melodic indie rock, marked by swelling guitar, punchy Joy Division bass, and emotional vocals reminiscent of early Thom York or Bono.

RoL was nominated for the San Diego Music Awards in 2008 and 2009 as Best Alternative Band and has been invited to open for acts such as Hot Water Music and Unwritten Law. Their songs can be heard on radio stations nationwide.

Since their last EP, RoL have toured California, Arizona, and Texas (SXSW



PHOTOGRAPH BY ANGELO LOUKAS

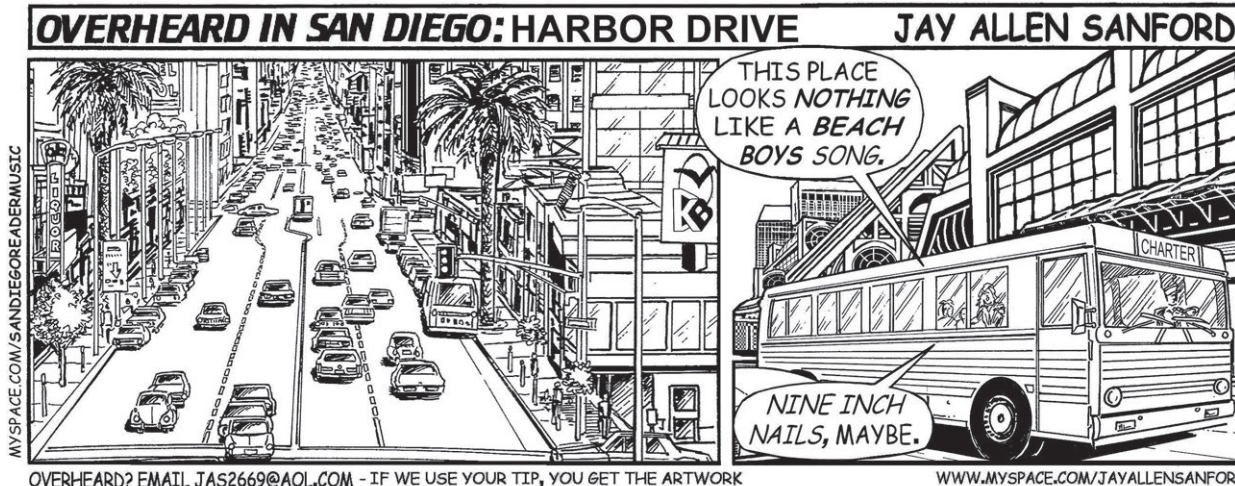
A NEW REPUBLIC COMING "SOON"

songs from *Painted Hour*.

Formed by brothers Chris (vocals, guitar) and Nick Venti (drums) in 2005, RoL recorded their first six-song EP, *Spirit or a Ghost*, in March 2007 at Big Fish

2008, 2009). They've picked up a manager and an entertainment lawyer and shot a video for their song "Stories" at the Ruby Room.

"We've really been focusing on our live show and



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building our team," Venti says.

The band anticipates a tour to San Francisco at the end of April, a West Coast tour in June, another EP release in July/August, and an East Coast tour in August.

The EP release is April 24 at Queen Bee's in North Park. The ten-dollar admission gets you a copy of the disc.

— Chad Deal

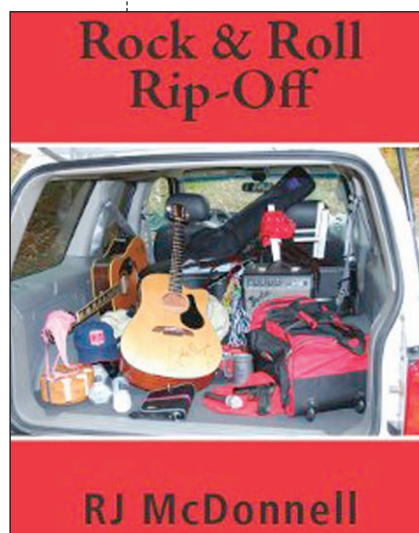
From Rocking to Writing *Rock & Roll Rip-Off*, the second novel in a San Diego-based rock 'n' roll mystery trilogy, was released last week. "The first book, *Rock & Roll Homicide*, introduced Little Italy musician-turned-detective Jason Duffy, investigating the death of a rising rock star," says author R.J. McDonnell. "The main plot of the new book involves a [fictional] North County emo band called the Tactile Tattoo, looking for a shortcut

to a second chance, after their first CD bombed."

Second chances have been a recurring theme for the guitar-playing author. "I moved to San Diego in 1980," he says, "with the intent of expanding my weekend club gigs into a full-time job. However, I shattered my left wrist in an accident.... I couldn't grip the neck of the guitar for more than 15 minutes without severe pain. So, I turned to my other passion, writing."

McDonnell put down the guitar until around 2006, when he discovered a particularly easy-to-fret Fender. "I found that I could play it for

over an hour without pain or cramps, and the 25-year rest seemed to have worked wonders."



OKAY TO JUDGE THIS BOOK BY ITS COVER

As a result, his current book tour promoting *Rock & Roll Rip-Off* doubles as a concert tour. "I'm doing bookstores and libraries, where I talk to the parents of 18- to

30-year-olds who rarely read about how to generate interest in books. I perform classic-rock songs to emphasize my points."

"I decided to incorporate my bachelor's in psychology and master of social work degree by pulling together a presentation with a dozen songs, which I perform solo in an unplugged format, a must for library venues. For example, I play John Lennon's 'Working Class Hero' after talking about entitlement issues, 'Cat's in the Cradle' [by Harry Chapin] after absentee parenting, and Neil Young's 'The Needle and the Damage Done' after briefly discussing drugs."

The third rock 'n' roll mystery novel is slated for 2011.

— Jay Allen Sanford

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

Wednesday, April 21 **etix**

MARCY PLAYGROUND

FAKING GENIUS
MONDAY'S ALIBI
UNIVERSAL TRAP



Sunday, May 9 **etix**

FLOATER



BRICK BY BRICK

Thursday, April 22
THE GOOMIES
ROSWELL THAT ENDS WELL
THE ATTACK

Friday, April 23
OLD TIGER

Saturday, April 24 **etix**
TRAVIS MEEKS (Days of the New)
SOFA KINGS • CIRCUS JUNKIES

Friday, April 30
BANKERS HILL
CELLPHISH
FICTION REFORM
ROADSIDE AFFAIR

Saturday, May 1 **etix**
EDDIE SPAGHETTI (of The Supersuckers)
STALKYARD • COTTON FEVER

5/29 **Nashville Pussy • Green Jelly • PsychoStick • The Riot Brides**
Screamin' YeeHaws
6/4 **Deadbolt** (CD release) • 6/5 **Common Sense** • 6/24 **Discharge**
8/7 **The Untouchables**

Sunday, May 2
ACOUSTIC ALLIANCE

Band lineup & info @
ListenLocalSD.com

Friday, May 7
THRILLRAZR
METHOD RISING
OCTOBER BURNING

Saturday, May 8
SEVEN TRAIN

Tuesday, May 11
LUCKY TUBB

Friday, May 14
TAYLOR BROWN
HIGH TIDE • STONE SENSES

Friday, May 21 **etix**
SMOOCHNOB
& THE SMOOCHGIRLS
THE SHE BOPS



Sunday, May 16 **etix**

MICK TAYLOR

(Rolling Stones)

DAVID KNOPFLER
(Dire Straits)
HARRY BOGDANOV



Saturday, May 22 **etix**

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SUNDAY, MAY 16TH



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YES & Peter Frampton – 7/10
Gladys Knight & Smokey Robinson – 7/17
Ziggy Marley – 7/24
B.B. King & Buddy Guy – 8/14
Huey Lewis and the News – 8/28
Gary Allan – 9/10
Willie Nelson – 9/26

club crawler

This Week In Music

Thursday 22

Dark prince pronoun **HIM** will conjure His Infernal Majesty with metal riffage at House of Blues tonight. The Finnish five-piece just released their seventh studio set for Sire called — set a spell — *Screamworks: Love in Theory and Practice, Chapters 1–13*. I may go just to get a “heartogram” tee. I love a good logo.... Ché Café’s got a tempting triple bill with raw-punk locals **Lewd Acts** getting set to hit the road behind debut *Black Eye Blues*. With Ché faves **Weatherbox** and **Blessure Grave** setting the stage, this one’s sure to pack the campus club to the rafters.... L.A.’s garage-pop quartet **Killola** joins Minnesota she-punks **Sick of Sarah** at Bar Pink.... And “folkabilly” Grammy winner **Nanci Griffith** graces the stage at Belly Up.

Friday 23

Check your hipster at the door when hard-bop saxophonist **Benny Golson** brings his thing to Anthology tonight ‘round the dinner hour. Golson’s shared studio and stage with ‘Trane, Dizzy, and Blakey, just to namedrop a few. He’s touring in support of last year’s *New Time, New ‘tet*, reffing his ripping new jazztet. Check him out. Dude’s 80. The supper club’s sonic appetit’f’ll be ax-slinging bluesman **Joe Louis Walker**.

From a listen to his latest, *Between a Rock and the Blues*, this Bay Area bad boy’s 60 going on 16. Those are Friday night’s sets to get to by a country mile. Unfortunately, it looks like two different tix at the Little Italy supper club.... Else: Italian techno duo **Bloody Beetroots** plug in at House of Blues with the equally electric **All Leather**, **Shark Attack**, and **Deth Hertz**...and sticking around downtown, you got the **U.S. Air Guitar** intramurals going on at Casbah.... Uptown, “pop goes the Whistle,” as



BLOODY BEETROOTS AT HOUSE OF BLUES

Whistle Stop stages indie kids **Secret Apollo** and **Alpha Channel**...the **Seventh Day Buskers** join **Joey Harris and the Mentals** for one beery barroom blowout at Bar Pink...and Jersey sons **Shat** drop in on Ruby Room with our own **Homeless Sexuals** for your daily dose of damaged art-punk.

Saturday 24

Nine-piece “anti-orchestra” **Mount Righteous**, of Grapevine, Texas, returns to town to set up at Soda Bar with **MC JRE**, **Eteam**, **Boyscout**, and **Ugly Winner** for the OMG gig to get to Saturday night. Mount Righteous is out to tout their sophomore set, *Open Your Mouth*, produced by John Congleton (St. Vincent, Polyphonic Spree, Modest Mouse) — “...a punk pep rally that would warm the cockles of any black-hearted hipster,” says *Paste*.... There’s a couple of funions at Casbah, too, as the Middletown bar books earlies by Eddie Argos’s (Art Brut) **Everybody Was in the French Resistance...Now!** (I know, right?) and our own kitty-krazy electropop duo **Lion Cut** and then laties by SD fuzz-pop hits **Crocodiles**, with **Blank Dogs** and **Cosmetics**.... Best of the rest: if you’re looking for dance jams from glitch-pop to jungle, the **Polish Ambassador** (Berkeley), **Kamele**, and **Hannibal Selector** roll that show into Ruby Room...party-rock riot **Sprung Monkey** swings into 4th&B...and precious piano



EVERYBODY WAS IN THE FRENCH RESISTANCE...NOW! AT CASBAH

popster **Norah Jones** will tinkle the ivories downtown at Spreckels.

Sunday 25

Loudness looms in Middletown Sunday night, as Oaktown stoner-metal trio **High on Fire** rages into Casbah behind **Black Cobra**, **Bison**, **Abrupt**, and **Archons**. High on Fire’s 2010 set *Snakes for the Divine* was some adept technical sludge, garnering raves across the blogosphere. Read what our heavy-metal yogi Michael Caldwell had to say about it at sandiegoreader.com/news/2010/mar/28/snakes-divine/.... Pittsburgh’s Mob Figaz MC the **Jacka** rolls his new solo joint *The Dre Area Volume 2* at 4th&B. The straight-rapping Jacka has enjoyed some crossover chart success tapping into the R&B side of things with last year’s *Tear Gas*.... Radio Room welcomes back psych-pop five-piece **Children of Nova**, who were on a whirlwind month-long U.S. run. Their new single “Complexity of Light” is up on iTunes now. SD Best Rock nominees **A Scribe Amidst the Lions** go first.... And up at Belly Up, it’ll be bluesy roots rockers **Steve Kimock Crazy Engine** revving with Hammond heavyweight **Melvin Seals**.

Monday 26

Soda Bar sets up eclectic sets Monday night by noisy post punks **Scales**, prog-y experimentalists **Oh Air Night**, grunge-rocking one-man band Sam Luke (aka **samhears**), and everyone’s favorite acoustidelic dude **Nothingful**.

Tuesday 27

Oakland indie artist Zach Rogue and his five-man



NORAH JONES AT SPRECKELS THEATRE

band **Rogue Wave** roll into Belly Up behind this year’s *Brushfire* offering *Permalight*, a collection that trades Rogue’s summer-bummer pop in for something brighter...what one *Spin* scribe described as “Depeche Mode on happy pills.” And who on God’s green Earth wants that? **Man/Miracle** and **JBM** set the Solana Beach stage.... **Black Heart Procession** processes into Casbah with the **Grids** and **Street of Little Girls**. Dorian caught up with Pall Jenkins as BHP readies for the road behind *Six*. Check it out in this week’s *Blurt*.... Olympia pop punks **RVIVR** dial in at Radio Room with **Breaker Breaker One Niner**. Boy-girl band RVIVR’s rocking a bit on the Replacements tip. Check ‘em out: myspace.com/rvivr.

Wednesday 28

Blues players **John Mayall**, **Robin Henkel**, and **Nathan James** join forces at Solana Beach mainstay Belly Up for one terrific triple bill, blues fan. Multi-instrumentalist Mayall, at 76, is still walking the walk like the title of his latest, last year’s *Tough*.... Comic rockers **Steel Panther** lope into House of Blues for a very recent return engagement. Hear tell last month’s show lifted the lid off the place.... Swedish indie-pop act the **Mary Onettes** (get it?) set up at Soda Bar behind like-minded locals **Hotel St. George**, **Long Live**



ANTLERS AT CASBAH

Logos, and **Moonbeams**.... And Brooklyn mope-pop trio the **Antlers** play Casbah with fellow Yawkers **Phantogram**. I often wonder if I didn’t give *Hospice* enough of a chance... No, I don’t.

— Barnaby Monk

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<p>FRIDAY • APRIL 23 U.S. AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIP SAN DIEGO REGIONAL BLASPHEMOUS GUITARS</p>	<p>MONDAY • APRIL 26 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS ECLIPSE 79 FEARLESS IN FAIR WEATHER THE PARAGRAPHS</p>	<p>SATURDAY • MAY 1 HEARTLESS BASTARDS</p>
<p>SATURDAY • APRIL 24 EARLY SHOW • 6 PM EVERYBODY WAS IN THE FRENCH RESISTANCE...NOW (EDDIE ARGOS OF ART BRUT) LIONCUT LATE SHOW • 9:30 PM CROCODILES BLANK DOGS COSMETICS DJ MARIO ORDUNO</p>	<p>TUESDAY • APRIL 27 IT'S WILL'S BIRTHDAY! THE BLACK HEART PROCESSION THE GRIDS STREET OF LITTLE GIRLS</p>	<p>SUNDAY • MAY 2 THE PONYS DISAPPEARS • BEATERS</p>
<p>SUNDAY • APRIL 25 HIGH ON FIRE • ABRUPT BLACK COBRA • BISON</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • APRIL 28 THE ANTLERS PHANTOGRAM</p>	<p>MONDAY • MAY 3 ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE/ ARTFAG PRESENT GROWING HEAVY HAWAII</p>
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Anybody Who Is Sick

“Hip-hop has changed drastically, just like all other genres of music.”

We got evicted from P.B. for having six of us living in a two-bedroom place,” says Chris Jones. “We built bunk beds to fit everybody. Our crazy-old-lady landlord lived in the backyard. She accused us of attempted murder for owning a dog.”

Attempted murder?

“It was a boxer, the nicest dog ever. She said we gave the dog diseases and tried to make it get sick so it would die. F***ing nuts. The dog is alive and well and still friendly.”

Hip-hop group Outta Control is brothers Chris Jones (“P.P.”) and Zak Jones (“Da Monsta”), plus Timmy Beaman (“Timmy B”), DJ Chrisko (Chris Peterson), and C-Barks (Chris Barker). The band currently lives near SDSU. Outta Control has been playing for more than five years.

Jones says the band doesn’t have a particular style. “We will record anything that we think sounds cool. Hip-hop, rap, jazz, funk, rock, techno — it’s all good.”

He calls Outta Control “a fun, crazy group of West Coast nasty men trying to have some kick-ass times and rock stages all over the place and make enough money to pay the bills.”

Outta Control has performed over 250 shows with bands such as Swollen Members, Living Legends, and Blackalicious. Locally they have appeared at Club 710, Canes, Tiki Lounge, Moon-doggies, Satin Lounge, 4th&B, and the Onyx Room.

Jones responded to our queries.

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

“We’re finishing an album called *The Difference* with Canadian producer Striker, featuring Sweatshop Union, Battle Axe Warriors, and Cory Lee.

We just dropped our third album, *Daily Dose*, which features Mad Child of Swollen Members. We’re hitting the road for the next few

months, trying to get radio and press all over the state. We also started a new record label with our longtime clothing sponsor.”

HIP-HOP HASN'T REALLY CHANGED FOR YEARS. WHERE'S THE EVOLUTION?

“We disagree completely. Hip-hop has changed drastically, just like all other genres of music. Even the industry has changed a ton. We’d like to help be a part of that change, but it really comes down to the fans. All we can do is make the stuff and put it out there. The fans need to take the industry back, not the artists.”

WHAT DO YOU WRITE ABOUT?

“Everything. Our day-to-day lives, families, friends, good times, bad times. The whole nine. Is it the story, the attitude, or both? Hard question, man. Lots of songs are really both. We love writing about parties and stuff, and that’s what we do most of the time, so it’s real. But anybody can do that. I think the songs where you really try and say something or just get crap off your chest really distinguish you as an artist. We always try and articulate our tracks well and think about how the words and music come together to form



Outta Control: accused of attempting to murder a dog

a final product. And we always make an effort to be lyrical, regardless of the topic. Some of our songs have literally taken over a year to complete.”

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT RIGHT BEFORE YOU GO ON STAGE?

“Where’s my beer? Are there ladies in the front row? Am I getting laid after this? What are we playing? Are we getting paid tonight? Oh well, f**k it, let’s do this. Party!” Then we hit the stage.”

WHO INFLUENCED YOUR ACT?

“Music-wise, lots of old rock. The Stones, Aerosmith, Steve Miller, Swollen Members, Kottonmouth Kings...as far as performance, anybody who goes nuts and has fun. The Beastie Boys, Jurassic 5, Tom Petty — anybody who is sick to watch live.”

ANY PRESHOW RITUALS TO GET IN THE MOOD?

“We drink.”

WHERE WAS THE BAND'S FIRST PERFORMANCE?

“We’ve been playing music together since high school, but we got serious about the group about five years ago in South Lake Tahoe.”

FIVE THINGS THE BAND CARES MOST ABOUT, AS AN INDIVIDUAL...

1. Family.
2. Friends.
3. Honesty.
4. Don’t be a bastard or a hater.
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MUSIC SCENE

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

HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING: To send a weekly or monthly schedule, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online at sandiegoreader.com/music/.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.
Saturday, 8pm — Sprung Monkey. With Mower and Dave the Butcher. Rock. \$10.
Monday — Little Brother. Hip-hop/rap/soul.
AMSDconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
Friday, 7:30pm — Judy Collins. Folk. \$45.
Monday, 7:30pm — Rory Block. Blues guitarist.
Adams Avenue: 32nd Street & Adams Ave., Normal Heights.
Saturday and Sunday, 10am — 37th Annual Roots Fest on Adams. With Blackout Party, Danny Green Trio, Eastern Exposure, Gayle Skidmore, Peter Sprague, Gregory Page, Nathan James, Orquesta Primo,



Tape Deck Mountain, April 23, Tin Can Ale House

Robin Henkel, Sene Africa, Stranger, Supersonic Sonic Samba School, the Devastators, the Styletones, Candy Kane, more.
Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
Thursday, 7:30pm — Earl Thomas. Blues. \$18.
Friday, 7:30pm — Benny Golson. Jazz. \$10-\$39.
Friday, 9:30pm — Joe Louis Walker. Blues/soul. \$7-\$27.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Ronnie Laws. Jazz. \$24.
Tuesday, 7:30pm and 9:30pm — Anthology House Band: Motown Revue. R&B/soul.

Bar Leucadian: 1542 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Leucadia, 760-753-2094.
Saturday, 9:30pm — Samz Jam. Blues/soul/rock. Free.
Barona Valley Ranch Resort & Casino: 1932 Wildcat Canyon Rd., Lakeside, 619-443-2300.
Sunday, 6pm — The Arrowhead Band. Covers/standards/rock.
Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Thursday, 8pm — Nanci Griffith. Folk/country. \$30-\$32.
Friday, 9pm — Stepping Feet. Dave Matthews tribute band.

Tuesday, 9pm — Rogue Wave. Indie-rock. \$13-\$15.
Wednesday, 8pm — John Mayall. With Robin Henkel and Nathan James. Blues/rock. \$22-\$24.
Birch Aquarium at Scripps: 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-534-3474.
Saturday, 6pm — Island Fever. With Sabira Woolley. Reggae/ska, surf, world.
BlueFire Grill: 2100 Costa del Mar Rd., Carlsbad, 800-854-5000.
Thursday, 6pm — David Patrone. Jazz. Free.



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5/8 SATURDAY	CHALI 2NA & THE HOUSE OF VIBE VOKAB KOMPANY	
5/13 THURSDAY	TOOTS AND MAYTALS REY FRESCO	
5/14 FRIDAY	HAVE A CIGAR / GEEZER SULTRY SAVAGE PEEPSHOW / Benefits Breast Cancer	
5/15 SATURDAY	ANUHEA / THE GREEN	polynesian underground
5/21 FRIDAY	SWEET & TENDER HOOLIGANS THE CURSE	
5/29 SATURDAY	THE ATOMIC PUNKS DAZED & CONFUSED	
6/18 FRIDAY	ALBOROSIE	
6/11 FRIDAY	BARRINGTON LEVY	
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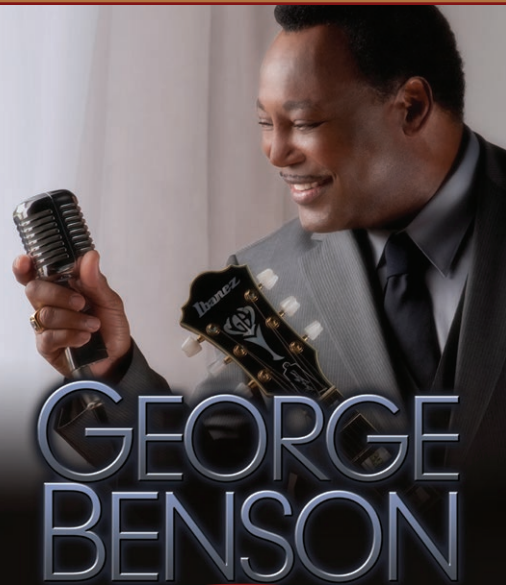
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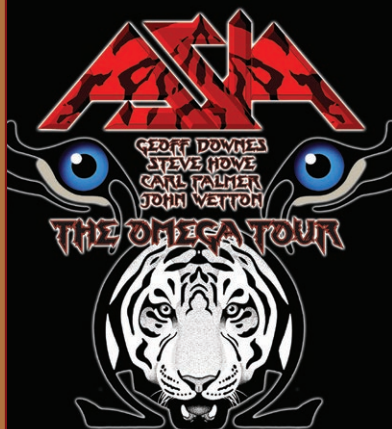


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The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
Thursday — Bostich & Fussible.
Latin/Tejano/dance. \$10-\$12.
Friday, 8:30pm — U.S. Air Guitar Championships. \$14-\$16.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Crocodiles. With Blank Dogs. \$10-\$12.
Sunday, 7:30pm — High On Fire. With Priestess, Black Cobra, and Bison. Metal/hardcore. \$18.
Monday, 8:30pm — Eclipse 79. With Fearless in Fairweather. \$5.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — The Black Heart Procession. With the Grids. \$15.
Wednesday — The Antlers. With Phantogram. Alternative/indie/rock. \$13.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-4695.
Sunday, 5pm — Billy Watson. Harmonica blues.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.
Friday — Get Rockin'.
Saturday — Cameltones. Rock/covers.

Dizzy's: Harbor Club Towers, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
Thursday, 7:30pm — Gladstone High School Jazz Band. Under the direction of Matt Murdock, presented by Gilbert Castellanos. \$10.
Friday, 7:30pm — Women in Jazz. Featuring Allison Adams Tucker, Jaeryoung Lee, Evona Wascinski, Jeanette Kangas, more. \$10-\$15.
Saturday, 8pm — Azucar Azul. Latin

jazz/world. \$10-\$15.
Monday, 7pm — San Diego Youth Symphony Jazz Band. Under the direction of Dr. Ella Steinberg. \$10.

Fannie's Nightclub: 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.
Friday, 9pm — Lethal Rejection. Covers. Free.
Saturday, 9pm — American Maniacs. Rock. Free.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.
Friday, 8pm — The Clay Colton Band. Alternative/covers/rock.
Saturday, 8pm — Diva Soul. Covers/pop/rock.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-299-2583.
Thursday, 6pm — HIM. Alternative/rock. \$29-\$32.
Friday, 7pm — Jason Castro. Alternative/acoustic. \$15-\$17.
Saturday, 8pm — Iration. With Pacific Dub and Through the Roots. Reggae/ska/rock. \$15-\$17.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
Thursday, 7pm — Karl Marx and the Beach Funk Revolution. Funk/rock. \$5.
Friday, 9pm — Siren's Crush. Dance. \$12.
Saturday, 9pm — Viva Santana. A tribute to Carlos Santana. Covers/rock. \$12.
Sunday, 8pm — T-Fox & the Fox City Band. Jazz. \$12.
Monday, 7pm — Michele Lundeen. Blues. Free.

Indigo Grill: 1536 India St., Little Italy, 619-234-6802.

ON NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

"The future isn't what it used to be," sings Zach Rogue in "Good Morning (The Future)" from Rogue Wave's new album, *Permalight*. His voice sounds high and sweet and so much like Ben Gibbard's that every time I hear it I think I'm hearing Death Cab for Cutie. And then I think, *What is Gibbard doing singing a Yogi Berra line like that?* But by the time my brain gets to that point, "Good Morning" has shifted into a chorus that sounds like the Shins doing a Kraftwerk impersonation.

Don't get me wrong: I don't mean to imply that Rogue Wave mimics other bands. On

the contrary, Rogue Wave was one of the leading bands in the past decade's transformation of indie rock into something quieter, geekier, more melodic, and much more popular. The Oakland band got a spot on the right tours (opening for, among others, the Shins and Death Cab), played the right festivals, and got their songs on the right TV shows and movies.

But as the Shins and Death Cab grew into household names, Rogue Wave had serious setbacks. Most serious of all was the death of the band's friend and former bass player Evan Farrell in a 2007 house fire. In addition, Rogue Wave's drummer, Pat Spurgeon, had kidney trouble, requiring daily dialysis. A year and a half ago, Zach Rogue suffered two slipped discs in his neck, causing the band to cancel months' worth of shows. Any one of



ROGUE WAVE

these things could have wiped out a lesser band, but Rogue Wave is still going. The band's future may not be what it used to be, but the music is still good.

ROGUE WAVE: Belly Up, Tuesday, April 27, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. \$13; \$15 day of show.

Saturday, Sunday, 11am — Robin Henkel. Blues/soul/jazz. Free.

Java Joe's at Café Libertalia: 3834 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-9360.
Thursday, 8pm — Gregory Page. Acoustic/alternative.

Last Call: 4977 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-287-9505.
Wednesday, 8pm — Taters Invaders. Blues/funk/jazz. Free.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.
Tuesday, 9pm — Where I'm Calling From. With Michael Dessen, Mark Dresser, and Steven Schick. \$8-\$12.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Luminance

featuring Marie Digby. With Clara Chung and Sam Hart. \$5-\$8.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-6641.
Friday and Saturday, 9pm — Tommy Budd's Windy City. Rock/covers. Free.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5280.
Thursday — Jackson/Jesus.
Friday — Mystique. Acoustic/blues/jazz.
Tuesday — Jim Moore.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola

Rd., Poway, 858-748-0505.
Saturday, 8pm — Leon Redbone. Blues. \$3-\$42.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.
Saturday, 9pm — The Alternatives. Rock.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.
Saturday, 9pm — Public Jones. \$12.

Ruby Room: 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
Thursday, 8pm — Red Hands. With Dot.
Friday, 8pm — Shat. With the

Homeless Sexuals, Red Devil Squadron, and It Was a Fire Fight. Punk/hardcore/rock.
Wednesday, 8pm — Mother Mary Mood. With Death by Volcano and Melodic Destruction.

Second Wind (Navajo): 8515 Navajo Rd., San Carlos, 619-465-1730.
Thursday, 8pm — Off the Wagon. Country/western/bluegrass.

Solana Beach Library: 157 Stevens Ave., Solana Beach, 858-755-1404.
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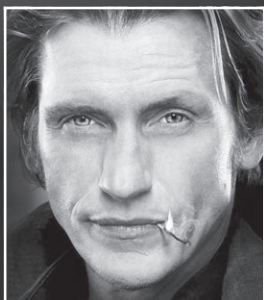
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W Hotel: 421 West B St., Downtown. *Thursday*, 7pm — Josh Damigo. Acoustic/pop/rock.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343. *May 8* — Too Short.

May 21 — Queensrÿche. *May 22* — Eek-A-Mouse. *June 4* — Enrique Bunbury. *June 10* — Korn. *June 24* — A Flock of Seagulls. *August 28* — Lost 80's Live.

AMSDeconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176. *May 1* — Neil Innes. *May 2* — Bluegrass Etc. *May 8* — Dave Alvin. *May 9* — Bert Lams. *May 14* — Michael Chapdelaine. *May 21* — I See Hawks in L.A. *June 1* — Crooked Still. *June 17* — John Keawe. *July 9* — Mary Gauthier. *July 17* — Barry McGuire. *July 18* — The Tannahill Weavers. *August 13* — Hot Club of Cowtown. *August 14* — Chris Smither. *September 11* — David Wilcox. *September 19* — Eliza Gilkyson. *October 23, October 24* — John Sebastian.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300. *April 30* — Raul Midon. *May 8* — Strunz & Farah. *May 14* — Spyro Gyra. *May 15* — Richie Havens. *May 22* — Vienna Teng. *May 28* — The Average White Band. *May 29, May 30* — Jane Monheit. *June 10* — Greg Laswell. *June 17* — Lalah Hathaway. *June 24* — Keiko Matsui. *June 25* — Oleta Adams. *June 26* — Thunder Road.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140. *April 30, May 1* — The Dark Star Orchestra. *May 2* — NeedToBreathe. *May 6* — Martin Sexton.

!

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

In Pikeville, Tennessee, near the Blue Ridge Mountains, Earl Thomas is money. It is a small town, explains his friend Michael Kinsman, and aside from a bluegrass performer or two, no one has ever made it out of there. “He’s a blues celebrity,” says Kinsman. “And he’s big in Europe.” Kinsman, a former *Union-Tribune* music writer who produced the San Diego Blues Festivals for some years, booked Earl Thomas to play at a 2001 show. They became friends and eventually traveled to Thomas’s hometown. “People would light up when he walked in the room,” recalls Kinsman. “Apparently, they talk about him when he’s not there, and they idolize him when he is there.” Thomas lived for a while in San

Diego before moving to Trinidad, a small town of several hundred in Northern California. “He’s a country boy,” says Kinsman. The blues is a hard master, he explains, and not always the most popular of genres in the U.S. “He gets overlooked, but he’s a tremendous talent.” Thomas hasn’t been overlooked by everyone. He has written songs that have been recorded by soul man Solomon Burke, blues powerhouse Etta James, and contemporary blues singer Janiva Magness, and he wrote “Git Me Some,” performed by Las Vegas mainstay Tom Jones. Jones’s management gave Thomas tickets, a backstage pass, and a spotlight. “I’m sitting there in my seat watching the show,” emails Thomas, “and Tom Jones says, ‘I’d like to do some blues for you now. It is a song by a man called Earl Thomas, and he is sitting right there.’ ” Thomas, who has recorded a dozen al-



EARL THOMAS

bums of his own, is currently on the road with the late Ike Turner’s band, the Kings of Rhythm. “I learned something that night,” he says. “There are Tom Jones impersonators just like there are Elvis impersonators — I had never seen them before.”

EARL THOMAS: Anthology, Thursday, April 22, 7:30 p.m. 619-595-0300. \$7-\$18.

May 7 — The Stanton Moore Trio. *May 9* — Marcia Ball. *May 10* — Jah Mali. *May 11* — Sierra Leone’s Refugee All Stars. *May 13, May 14* — Groundation. *May 15* — The Lieutenant Dan Band. *May 17* — Midnite. *May 23* — Kaki King. *May 24* — Nada Surf. *May 25* — Shelby Lynne. *June 5* — The English Beat. *June 8* — Delta Spirit. *June 11* — Common Sense.

June 18 — The Young Dubliners. *June 23* — The Psychedellic Furs. *July 9* — Don Carlos. *July 17* — Pato Banton. *July 31* — Atomic Punks. **Birch Aquarium at Scripps:** 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-534-3474. *May 19* — Rockola. *June 16* — Venice. *July 21* — Shawn Mullins. *August 18* — Steve Poltz. *September 21* — The Tommy Castro Band.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Ave., North Park, 619-239-8836. *April 30* — Eddie Palmieri. *May 5* — The Graham Dechter Quartet. *May 14* — The Album Leaf. *May 15* — Poncho Sanchez Latin Jazz Band. *June 2* — The Terrell Stafford Quartet. *July 7* — Denise Donatelli. **Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buenos Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.

April 30 — Bankers Hill. *May 1* — Eddie Spaghetti. *May 2* — Acoustic Alliance. *May 7* — October Burning. *May 8* — Seven Train. *May 9* — Floater. *May 14* — High Tide. *May 16* — Mick Taylor and Mark Knopfler. *May 21* — Smoochknob & the Smoochgirls. *May 22* — The Blasters. *May 29* — Nashville Pussy. *June 5* — Common Sense.

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Wednesday, April 28

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May 6 — Mono.
May 7 — Midnight Rivals.
May 8 — The Long and Short of It.
May 9 — Red Sparowes.
May 10 — Carney.
May 11 — Trainwreck.
May 12 — The Besnard Lakes.
May 13 — The Ruse.
May 14 — Cash'd Out.
May 15 — Bob Log III.
May 17 — Gil Mantera's Party Dream.
May 18 — Horse Feathers.
May 19 — Jonathan Richman.
May 20 — Caribou.
May 21 — John Meeks & the Donkeys.
May 22 — Frightened Rabbit.
May 23 — Nokie Edwards.
May 24 — Patrick Watson.
May 26 — Isis.
May 27 — Frog Eyes.
June 1 — The Melvins.
June 2 — Neon Indian.
June 7 — The Good Life.
June 10 — Lou Barlow.
June 13 — Tortoise.
June 17 — Local H.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
May 14 — Channel 933 Summer Kickoff.
May 23 — The Eagles.
June 2 — Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers.
June 4 — Tim McGraw.

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Broken Bells:

CD Review
 by Rollo Cabeza

Certain things just don't mix: oil and water, laxatives and sleeping pills, indie rock and electronica. The latter is apparent on the debut album from Broken Bells, which features the Shins' James Mercer and musician-producer Danger Mouse.

The two excel at what they do — Mercer at blending emotive lyrics, pristine

vocals, and melodious guitar riffs, while Danger Mouse is a wiz at mashing hip-hop beats and R&B.

Together, however, the two have made a gutless collection in which Mercer's voice and guitar provide the only moving parts. Most of the songs are filled with cheap keys and electronic beats and sound effects.

"The High Road" kicks off the album. Mercer's voice and full acoustic strums are the substance here.

Despite the gimmickry, *Broken Bells* holds a few standout tracks — "Vaporize," "The Ghost Inside," "October" — but in the end, even they lack staying power.

"Was it all for show?" Mercer wonders on "The Ghost Inside." Yes, James, that seems to be the case.



A gutless collection

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Shout Out Louds:

CD Review
 by J. Dean

The Shout Out Louds hail from Stockholm, Sweden, where, I would guess, it's often dark and cold. Consequently, this album has a melancholy charm to it.

Opening track "1999" is a hopeful anthem sporting a decent tempo and chorus. "Candle Burned Out" starts out slow with a steady

floor tom and Beach Boys-y guitar and then builds into a multilayered orchestration.

Nearly every song on *Work* could fit on almost any boy-meets-girl, boy-loses-girl, boy-gets-girl-back soundtrack. It's simple in its structure yet far from boring.

Singer Adam Olenius has a voice that was meant for pop music. I hear Robert Smith, Tony Lewis, and fellow Swede Morten Harket of a-ha, all rolled into a tasty albeit depressed tone.

Wikipedia defines the Shout Out Louds as "twee." That may be a fair estimation. Still, *Work* fits in my music collection. Got it alongside Rancid and Beethoven.



Boy-gets-girl-back soundtrack

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June 6 — The Bamboozle Roadshow 2010.
June 13 — Sting.
June 17 — Country Throwdown 2010.
July 7 — Lilith Fair.
July 9 — Kings of Leon.
July 24 — Elton John.
August 10 — Vans Warped Tour.
August 20 — The Dave Matthews Band.
August 25 — John Mayer.
August 29 — American Carnage Tour.

September 2 — Green Day.
October 9 — Jack Johnson.

Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Bl., Del Mar, 858-755-1161.
June 12 — Paul Rodgers.
June 15 — Jeremy Camp.
June 16 — Dennis DeYoung.
June 17 — Donna Summer.
June 18 — KC & the Sunshine Band.
June 23 — Kenny Loggins.
June 24 — Switchfoot.
June 25 — Julio Iglesias.
June 26 — Gospel Festival.

June 27 — Intocable.
June 29 — Uncle Kracker.
June 30 — Lonestar.
July 4 — Joan Jett and the Blackhearts.

Dizzy's: Harbor Club Towers, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
June 26, July 17 — Gilbert Castellanos & His Quartet.
July 23 — Brian Levy.
July 25 — The Double Bass Summit.
August 26 — Joshua White.
September 15 — Bill Evans Tribute.

Dream Street Live: 2228 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-8131.
May 8 — Heavy Metal Parking Lot.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.
April 30 — Snoop Dogg.
May 16 — Earth, Wind & Fire.
May 28 — Heart.
May 30 — NAS.
June 26 — Vietnamese Concert.
July 10 — Yes and Peter Frampton.
July 17 — Gladys Knight and Smokey Robinson.

July 24 — Ziggy Marley.
August 14 — B.B. King and Buddy Guy.
August 28 — Huey Lewis & the News.
September 4 — David Gray and Ray Lamontagne.
September 10 — Gary Allan.
September 26 — Willie Nelson.

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April 29 — The Avett Brothers.
April 30 — LA Riots.
May 2 — Emily Osment.

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EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Bin Booty

Concert Review
by Wate Charles

Portland's nice nice opened up the Casbah with polyrhythmic percussion over loops, noise effects, and synth: a samba troupe wanders into a Neu! concert covering a Glenn Branca piece. More sound than music, the dancey neo-no-wave set demonstrated minimalism gone maximalist. Not once was the natural timbre issued from the guitar. Avant-garde gets over itself and drops the beat.

The Hood Internet spins mash-ups. I do my best to loathe the *Night at the Roxbury* abandon of it all but

acquiesce to the dance floor when "Billy Jean" mashes over Ratatat.

Tobacco and fellow Black Moth Super Rainbow member Seven Fields of Aphelion hide in the shadows while homemade video streams on a screen next to a Chat Roulette window: Richard Simmons, '80s wrestling, bizarre porn, girls blowing bubbles with eyes blocked out.

"There's something very fucked up about '80s workout videos," Tobacco says. "You have fat, hairy people telling you to be thin."

I offer the metaphor of the American Dream. "Yeah, that's about right."

"Black Moth Super Rainbow is all the fake hippie shit," Tobacco continues. "This is more of the dark, real side."

How he found the clip of an *E.T.*-themed porn film? "A whole lot of bin digging."

Concert: nice nice, the Hood Internet, Tobacco

Show date: March 24

Venue: Casbah

Seats: Dance floor



"More of the dark, real side."

Ever So Clever

Concert Review
by Mary Leary

Everybody was nodding their heads to the bounce and gazing at the ridiculously boyish bassist who could be a Cowsills grand-kid and the keyboardist/maraca-shaker who could impersonate Weird Al Yankovic — the band's certainly visually arresting. A couple of drunken gals who'd wandered in for kicks kept peering around and smiling to make sure they weren't obscuring my view (we were standing on the seats of our booths to see over the jam-up).

The more rocking stuff ("Catholic Pagans"; the power-chord-ecstatic "Swim") is clearly influenced by Pavement and Weezer, and — I'm not kidding — there were good vibes and gently pumping bodies that would segue nicely after the "Buddy Holly" video. With the blood that spilled during the more muscular, volatile Turbo Fruits set, and the disappointment of those who didn't know Best Coast had opted to appear at a party in Upland, Surfer Blood's catharsis was welcome.

After a fine-tuning (the mix was one of the meatiest, most exacting I've heard in a bar), when the band dove into "Harmonix," it would have been foolish to avoid its aural opiates. Hey, these guys will only combine youth with ever-so-clever once.

Concert: Surfer Blood, Turbo Fruits, Lanterns

Show date: March 26

Venue: Bar Pink

Seats: Right up front or two booths back



Pavement + Weezer = Surfer Blood

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May 5 — Mastodon.
May 6 — The Drive-By Truckers.
May 7 — The Kottonmouth Kings.
May 11 — Ben Folds with A Piano.
May 15 — Steel Pulse.

May 19 — Rock to Stop Violence.
May 21 — Jordan Sparks.
May 22 — OK Go.
May 25 — Talib Kweli.
May 27 — Angels & Airwaves.

May 31 — The Strange Days Tour 2010.
June 2 — Bone Thugs-N-Harmony.
June 10 — Miyavi: Neo Tokyo Samurai Black World Tour.

June 18 — Led Zepagain.
June 19 — The Original Wailers.
July 30 — Tainted Love.
August 14 — Reverend Horton Heat.

August 22 — Cyndi Lauper.
September 15 — The Adicts.
October 2 — Kamelot.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
May 18 — Broken Bells.
May 21 — The Black Crowes.
May 25, May 26 — Crosby, Stills & Nash.
June 2 — Boz Scaggs.
June 3 — Johnny Lang.
June 10 — Basia.
June 11 — Diana Ross.
June 13 — Los Van Van.
June 26 — Jesse Cook.
July 6 — Colbie Caillat.
July 9 — Chris Botti.
July 11 — Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra.
July 14 — The Gipsy Kings.
July 18 — Jamie Cullum.
July 21 — Jackson Browne.
July 24 — The Barenaked Ladies.
July 25 — Lyle Lovett.
July 28 — Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo.
July 31 — Boney James.
August 5 — Michael McDonald.
August 6 — Ringo Starr & his All Starr Band.
August 11 — Joan Baez.
August 12 — Creedence Clearwater Revisited.
August 13 — Dave Koz & Jonathan Butler.
August 16 — Rodrigo y Gabriela.
August 19 — Chicago.
August 22 — Crowded House.
August 25 — Chris Isaak.
August 29 — Three Dog Night.
September 8 — The Doobie Brothers.
September 9 — Sheryl Crow.
September 10 — The Beach Boys.
September 11 — Air Supply.
September 16 — Tower of Power.
September 17 — The Fab Four.
October 1 — Keali'i Reichel.
October 3 — America.



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Sprung Monkey & Mower



April 23: Nicki Minaj postponed • May 8: Too Short • May 9: Free Mother's Day Concert
May 14: Mack 10 WC & Glasses Malone • May 15: Iron Maidens, Pearl (Scott Ian, Anthrax)
May 22: Eek-a-Mouse • May 29: Kaskade • June 4: Enrique Bunbury
June 10: Korn • June 26: Brenton Wood & the Delphonics

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Friday, April 2, 10:03 p.m.

The **Tin Can Ale House** sits near a tranny bar and a liquor store at Fifth and Fir in Banker's Hill. Look for the mural of a giant octopus sinking a galleon. Parking isn't a problem.

True to its name, the Tin Can offers over 70 canned beers and 3 on tap. I grab a Mickey's tall can (\$5.50) and an order of cheese fries (\$3). A large hole gapes from the ceiling. A little Styrofoam earth hangs there, spinning slightly in the artificial starlight.

Several picture frames adorn the stage walls. One holds a drumstick. Another, a revolver. Others frame nothing at all. A bald, armless mannequin observes the avant-garde decor with an expression at once inquisitive and aloof.

Fkenal blows minds with supersonic math punk alternately reminiscent of Hella, Braid, a refined Festival of Dead Deer, Don Caballero, and a Tortoise LP at 78 rpm. The instrumental group seems to hinge upon drummer Eric Oliver, who drills out impossible beats on shattered hi-hats and

double kicks.

I talk with doorman Justin Rodriguez of defunct emo/math band Counterfit. Rodriguez now plays alt-country in the Brothers and Sisters with members of the Western Set.

Prog-punkers Scales deliver compelling bass lines and effect-laden guitar cries that inspire visions of prehistoric beasts: Joy Division feat. Tom Morello, Fugazi, Mogwai.

Flyers and 45s titivate the men's room wall.

In studs and leather, Motion to Sever looks like the new Misfits or Judas Priest. All students at USD School of Law, the novelty "justice metal" group's members wear gavel amulets and sing about lethal injections, well-hung juries, the Supreme Court, and Section 4248.



A bald, armless mannequin observes the avant-garde.

"We're gonna bring those cans down," singer Tyler Hazen says, pointing to the bar. "Because dented cans are half price." Dudes in pastel polos and basketball jerseys thrash around the narrow dance floor.

Co-owner Kelsey Breunig passes me an Olympia (\$2.75) and says, "[Tape Deck Mountain drummer] Paul and I have been working really hard. The people have been great. It's a definite labor of love."

Price: BEERS ARE \$3-\$9; \$3 COVER SOMETIMES

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May 16 — FLAVA presents So You Think You Can Drag.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.

May 7 — Charlie Hunter.

Pechanga Resort & Casino: 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula, 951-693-1819.

April 30 — Ratt.

May 13 — Jewel.

May 28 — Tower of Power.

June 11 — The Temptations.

June 25 — The Backstreet Boys.

July 9 — The Steve Miller Band.

July 15 — The Gipsy Kings.

July 30 — Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo.

August 11, August 13 — Billy Idol.

Ramona Mainstage

Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.

May 2 — Flotsam and Jetsam.

May 7 — Pathology.

May 8 — RPM Fest.

May 15 — Hypocrisy.

May 20 — Chase Long Beach.

May 28 — Warbringer.

May 28 — HeXeN.

June 1 — Pat Travers.

June 2 — Mutiny Within.

June 4 — Slough Feg.

June 25 — Powerman 5000.

June 30 — Sugar Hill Gang.

San Diego Civic Theatre:

1100 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-

570-1100.

May 7 — Celtic Woman.

May 21 — Sarah Geronimo.

San Diego Sports Arena:

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

May 1 — Daughtry.

July 21 — Alejandro Sanz.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl.,

Midway District, 619-226-7662.

May 1 — A Day to Remember.

May 14 — Brokencyde.

May 15 — Bullet for My

Valentine.

May 21 — As I Lay Dying.

May 22 — Minus the Bear.

May 29 — 3OH!3 & Cobra

Starship.

May 30 — Cute Is What We Aim

For.

June 9 — Good Old War.

June 12 — Tribal Seeds.

June 19 — A City Serene.

June 22 — American Me.

July 28, July 29 — The Devil Wears Prada.

Spanish Landing Park: 4077

North Harbor Dr., Downtown.

May 7, May 8 — Gator by the Bay.

Sushi Performance & Visual

Art: 390 11th Ave., East Village, 619-235-8466.

May 7 — Fields Have Ears.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863

Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-955-8525.

April 29 — Paddle Boat.

Viejas Casino

DreamCatcher Show Room:

5000 Willows Rd., Alpine, 619-445-5400.

May 15 — Lisa Lisa.

June 11 — Chick Corea.

June 12 — The Temptations.

July 9 — Boyz II Men.

August 13 — George Benson.

August 15 — Los Lonely Boys.

August 26 — Asia.

October 8 — Keith Sweat.

October 21 — Taj Mahal.

DJ

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ING: Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online, get directions, RSS feeds, club coupons, free mp3 downloads and more at SanDiegoReader.com.

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Friday, April 23 • No Cover

FLAT OUT LIARS

Saturday, April 24 • No Cover

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PLATO SOUL (night)

Sunday, April 25 • No Cover

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6/16 Playing for Change
6/26 Switchfoot Bro-Am After-Party hosted by Switchfoot
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7/7 Leon Russell • 8/1 Kinky Friedman

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4/24 Lisa Keeping Benefit 3 PM
5/2 BLUSD presents The Buick Wilson Band 4 PM

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4/23 Candy Kane \$5
4/30 Billy Watson

Upcoming shows:

5/9 Marcia Ball	5/28 The Expendables	6/22 Josh Ritter
5/11 Sierra Leone's Refugee All Stars	5/29 Stripes and Lines w/Dynamite Walls	6/23 The Psychedelic Furs with She Wants Revenge
5/12 FMera	5/30 Cash'd Out	6/27 Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings
5/13 & 5/14 Groundation	6/4 & 6/5 The English Beat	7/1 Coco Rosie
5/15 CSI: NY's aGary Sinise & Lt. Dan Band	6/6 Mumford and Sons – SOLD OUT	7/3 80's Heat "Back to the Beach"
5/16 Left4Dead	6/7 Li(f)e on the Road Tour – Sage Francis w/ live band Free Moral Agents (feat. Ikey Owens of The Mars Volta) and B. Dolan	7/6 Femi Kuti
5/17 Midnite	6/8 Delta Spirit	7/9 Don Carlos
5/18 Bonerama	6/12 Skatalites	7/17 Pato Banton
5/21 Stepping Feet	6/18 Young Dubliners	7/18 Drinking Made Easy – Zane Lamprey
5/22 Atomic Groove	6/19 Crash Test Dummies	7/28 Level 42
5/23 Kaki King	6/20 Candy Kane and Stone River Boys	7/31 Atomic Punks
5/24 Nada Surf		8/7 Dead Man's Party
5/25 Shelby Lynne		10/8 Super Diamond

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Bacchus House: *Saturday*, 9pm: Therapy. Featuring DJs Bryan Pollard, Necrotica, Pet M1. Gothic/industrial/darkwave. \$3-\$5. *Thursdays*, 9pm: Club '80s. With DJs Bryan Pollard and Arzola1. '80s/industrial/underground. 3054 University Ave., North Park. 619-299-2032.

Bar Dynamite: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Dynamite Thursdays. Sound Selectors Smoovgrooves, Hobbs One, Eklektic, and Thumbprint. Hip-hop/soul/dancehall. 1808 W. Washington St., Mission Hills. 619-295-8743.

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: *Tuesdays*, 7pm: Basic Tuesdays. Art, fashion, and music. Free. 410 Tenth Ave., East Village. 619-531-8869.

The Brew House at Eastlake: *Saturdays*: Brew 30 DJ. Dance. 871 Showroom Pl., Chula Vista. 619-656-2739.

Café Sevilla: *Thursdays*, 10pm: DJ New Yo Rican. Salsa. *Tuesdays*, 10pm: DJ Israel. Bachata. 555 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-233-5979.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Fridays, Saturdays*: Live DJ. 10330 Friars Rd., Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

Candelas: *Fridays*: Sessions at 420 Third Avenue. DJ Chris Renzulli and DJ Eric B. Adult/contemporary. 416 Third Ave., Downtown. 619-702-4455.

Club 67: *Wednesdays*, 9pm: DJ Power. Electronica. Free. 10109 Main St., Lakeside. 619-443-4100.

Confidential: *Fridays*, 10pm: DJ Henry Diaz. With Tone Capone

and Omar. Electronic/hip-hop/ lounge. 901 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-696-8888.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: *Thursdays*, 10:30pm: DJ Swoll. *Fridays*, 10:30pm: DJ Gary B. *Saturdays*, 10:30pm: DJ Paul Dumesnil. *Saturdays*, 10:30pm: DJ Paul D. 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

El Cajon Grand: *Fridays*, 8:30pm: DJ Neko. Spins classic rock. *Saturdays*, 8:30pm: DJ Chuck. Spins classic rock. 351 W. Main St., El Cajon. 619-444-0949.

Fannie's Nightclub: *Thursdays*, 8pm: DJ Mick B. Spins hip-hop tunes. *Thursdays*, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. *Sundays*, 9pm: DJ Demond. '80s/hip-hop/pop. Free. *Monday*s, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. *Wednesdays*, 9pm: J & Biko. Hip-hop/reggae. 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley. 619-698-2204.

The Flame: *Wednesdays*, 9pm: Cookies with DJ Dirty Kurtz. 3780 Park Bl., Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

The Fleetwood: *Saturdays*: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. 639 J St., Downtown. 619-702-7700.

Fluxx: *Thursday*, 9pm: Sander Van Dorn. Dance/electronica. 500 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-232-8100.

The Flying Bridge: *Fridays*, 9pm: DJ Ricardo. Reggaeton/salsa. *Saturdays*, 9pm, *Sundays*, 9pm: DJ Waistline. Hip-hop/R&B. 1105 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside. 760-722-0081.

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BY JAY ALLEN SANFORD

Keyboardist Bill Travis is a prog-inclined solo musician from Escondido. His 2009 release *Eclectic Collection* showcases his trippy and meandering soundscapes, which pulse and drone before exploding into Floydian bombast. Travis's instrumental track "4 Hands" was the most downloaded local MP3 from *SDReader.com* during March. He provided some background.

So how'd this all start for you?

I'm 60 years old and have played piano off and on since I was 7. I never made the commitment to

Gaslamp Tavern: *Thursdays*, 8pm, *Fridays*, 4pm, *Wednesdays*, 8pm: C-Phish. 868 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-239-3339.

Hard Rock Hotel: *Sunday*, noon: Sander Kleinenberg. Dance/electronica. 207 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 866-751-7625.

Harney Sushi: *Wednesdays*, 9pm: Hot Like Wasabi *Wednesdays*. With DJ Matty A. Electronic. 3964

old music — 1989 — and new songs from last year. The old part is of lesser quality, technologically.... The album is a CD recorded straight off the OASYS, not professionally mastered. It's been a thrill for me that through the *Reader* and today's technology, people can hear my music.

Is there a lot of improvisation involved, or are the compositions strictly mapped out?

I usually play by inspiration and ear; therefore, most of the pieces are one-take and only generally repeated. I hardly ever play them the same as the recording.

How about when you perform in concert?

The album is a mix of



Bill Travis

I've never performed live and don't know if I could. I don't even have a website URL.

TO GET YOUR MUSIC ON THE READER WEBSITE, GO TO: *SDReader/mp3*
To download music, see our home page: *SDReader.com*

Harney St., Old Town. 619-295-3272.

Harrah's Rincón: *Thursdays*, 8pm: Noche Latina. With DJ Don Jose. Electronica, Latin. 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center. 760-751-3100.

Hawthorn's Restaurant: *Wednesdays*: DJ Kiki. 2895 University Ave., North Park. 619-295-1688.

House of Blues: *Friday*, 9pm: The Bloody Beetroots. With Death Crew 77. Electronica/noise/experimental. \$22-\$24. 18 and up. 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-299-2583.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: *Tuesday*, 7pm: DJ John Phillips. Dance/R&B. \$5. 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma. 619-224-3577.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: *Fridays*, 9pm, *Saturdays*, 9pm: DJ Kool T. Spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. 15 and up. 775 Metcalf St., Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Kadan: *Tuesdays*: Darkwave Garden. With DJ Bryan Pollard, DJ Heather Hardcore, Pet M1. Gothic/industrial. *Wednesdays*: Night Vision. Drum 'n' bass with

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with Reggie Smith



Monday, April 26
7 pm • Scorchin' Blues
Michele Lundeen

Tuesday, April 27
7 pm • R&B/Dance
DJ John Phillips

Wednesday, April 28
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Louder With Lights On
Sheila Sondergard
Soul Ablaze

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Friday, April 30
Rising Star

Saturday, May 1
Thomas Connor

Saturday, May 8
NovaMenco

live MCs. DJ. Free. 4696 30th St., North Park. 619-640-2500.

The Loft: *Saturday*, 9pm: Daedalus. Experimental/noise/DJ. \$5-\$10. 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD. 858-534-8497.

McDini's: *Tuesdays*, 9pm: '90s Throwback Tuesdays. Hosted by Zerland of Pali Roots. 105 E. 8th St., National City. 619-474-6771.

The Office: *Sundays*, 10:30pm: Club '80s. Featuring DJs Bryan Pollard, Adamnation, MasterBlaster, and Roxanne Redlight. Industrial/underground. Free. 3936 30th St., North Park. 619-450-6632.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: *Wednesdays*, 10pm: DJ Tony. 860 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278.

Padre Gold: *Fridays*, 9pm: DJ Dave. Old-skool jams. Free. 7245 Linda Vista Rd., Linda Vista. 858-277-8681.

Pierview Pub/Bub's Whiskey Dive Bar: *Mondays*, 6:30pm: Metal Mondays. Metal all night long. 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-2827.

RT's Longboard Grill: *Mondays*, 9pm, *Wednesdays*, 9pm: DJ Famous Dave. Mixes music videos. 1466 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-270-4030.

Ramada Inn: *Saturdays*, 9pm: Dance Party. Hip-hop/reggae/dancehall. DJ. Free. 5550 Kearny Mesa Rd., Kearny Mesa. 619-985-5168.

Ruby Room: *Sunday*: Klub Isolation. With DJ Bryan Pollard, DJ Ambones. '80s/'90s post-punk new wave. Free. *Sunday*, 8pm: Isolation. With DJ Bryan Pollard and DJ Am Bones. 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

SIN Niteclub: *Sundays*, 9pm: Reggae Sundays at Sin. With DJ Ez Doe, DJ Hektik, and DJ Winston T. Dancehall, reggae, hip-hop, and soca. 526 West F St., Downtown. 619-232-4746.

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah: *Saturdays*, 9pm: Rasta Nation Posse. Reggae. 4076 Bonita Rd., Bonita. 619-470-8000.

Satin Lounge: *Thursdays*, 9pm: Hot Latin Beats. Reggaeton, salsa, and merengue. 18 and up. *Fridays*,

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Ben Powell

Thurs., April 22 • Mariachi Acoustic Duo
Combo Libertad

Fri., April 23 • Americana, Blues
Peter Hall

Sat., April 24 • Classic Rock Trio
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Fri. 4/23 **OCEAN BEACH COMEDY**
Feat. **RICH THE STITCH**
TONIGHT • REGGAE FROM HAWAII
**SASHAMON
WITH
TOMMY DUBS**

Sat. 4/24 NO COVER ALL DAY & NIGHT
6:30-9 PM:
The Hip Replacements
TONIGHT • SO CAL'S STYLES
**FOUR MINUTES
TILL MIDNIGHT**
**THE CONCRETE PROJECT
ELEVEN FINGERED CHARLIE**

Sun. 4/25 6-9 PM: REGGAE PARTY
**HIGH TIDE
PREDATOR DUB ASSASSINS
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HOSTED BY
JOSÉ SINATRA
\$2 drinks 9 pm to close

Mon. 4/26 6-8:30 PM:
Open Mic hosted by
Drunk Poets Society
An evening of music from the Grateful Dead

Tues. 4/27 6-9 PM: **4:20 Party
Think 'N' Drink Trivia**
TONIGHT • ISLAND REGGAE
**KAHI LOFA
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Wed. 4/28 4-8 PM:
**Dub Master Cue
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4/29: The Lady Luck Band w/ Temptress Swim Suit Fashion Show
4/30: Superunloader and the Watchlist (No Cover)
5/1: Ocean Beats IV (Online tickets now on sale)

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Saturdays, 9pm: DJ Dizzy D. Spins hip-hop, old skool, and techno. 18 and up. **Wednesdays**, 9pm: Blazin' 98.9 Night. With guest DJs. 6195 University Ave., College Area. 619-544-1177.

Seau's: **Thursdays**, 7pm: DJ FOS. Hip-hop/jazz. 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-291-7328.

Side Bar: **Thursdays**, 9pm: Ruby Thursdays. 536 Market St., Downtown. 619-696-0946.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill: **Thursdays**: Tattoo Thursdays. With DJ Viktor and DJ KB. **Saturdays**: DJ Girth. Spins hip-hop and rock hits. **Mondays**: Latino Mondays. With DJ Power. **Wednesdays**: Beer Pong. With DJ Power. 10109 Maine Ave., Lakeside. 619-561-6767.

Soda Bar: **Thursdays**, 9pm: Expressway to Yr Skull.

Punk/rap/rock. Free. 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights. 619-255-7224.

Static Lounge: **Saturdays**, 9pm: Club Backbeat. Hip-hop/rap. \$15-\$20. 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.

Stout Public House: **Fridays**, 9pm: DJ CC. 1125 Sixth Ave., Downtown. 619-702-7933.

Tavern at the Beach: **Thursdays**, 10pm: DJ D-Skwiz. **Fridays**, 10pm: DJ BDP. **Saturdays**, 10pm: DJ BDP. With DJ MIC-E. **Wednesdays**, 10pm: DJ WhO. Hip-hop/rock. 1200 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-272-6066.

Tiki House: **Tuesdays**, 9pm: Tunes by Joe Marson. Every Tuesday. 1152 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734.

True North: **Thursdays**, 10pm: DJ Bacon Bits. **Fridays**: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. **Sundays**, 10pm: DJ Waly Mayhem. **Mondays**, 10pm: DJ Wonderbread. **Tuesdays**, 10pm:

DJ WhO. Hip-hop/rock. 3815 30th St., North Park. 619-291-3815.

U-31: **Thursdays**, 8pm: DJ Artistic. With Cros 1. '80s and '90s hip-hop. **Fridays**, 9pm: Feel the Noise. With Gabe Vega and Saul Q. Dance/indie/rock. **Saturdays**, 9pm: Dance Party Mash-Ups. **Sundays**, 9pm: Tribe of Kings. Featuring DJs Jester, Peril, Dash Eye, Unite, and Rashi. Reggae. 3112 University Ave., North Park. 619-584-4188.

Whiskey Girl: **Fridays**, 9pm, **Saturdays**, 9pm: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. **Mondays**, 9pm: U-Call-It Mondays. With DJ Marc Thrasher. 600 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-236-1616.

Whistle Stop Bar: **Sundays**, 9pm: Too Many Creeps. With DJ Mario O and guests. Post-punk. 2236 Fern St., South Park. 619-284-6784.

The Wit's End: **Fridays**, 5pm: DJ Artistic. 420 Robinson Ave., Hillcrest. 619-294-4848.

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CHASE LONG BEACH
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HAPPY HOUR

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

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

ALLIED GARDENS

San Diego Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 select house & domestic beers, house wine, well drinks. 1/2-off appetizers.

ALPINE

Alpine Inn: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 drafts, \$3.75 wells, house wine, \$4.75 calls.

BALBOA PARK

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

BANKER'S HILL

Avenue 5: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-8pm: \$2 off wines by the glass; \$3 drafts, wells. \$2 off bar food.

Azuki Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$5 large sake, \$5 large Sapporo. \$4 sushi rolls, discounted specialty rolls and appetizers.

Bertrand at Mister A's: Monday-Friday, 2:30-6pm: Specially priced cocktails, beer, wine, small plates on patio.

Wet Stone Wine Bar and Café: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-7pm: \$5 big glass of wine. \$2 small bites.

BAY PARK

Bay Park Fish Company: Every day, 3-5pm: \$2 fish tacos, 20% off sushi rolls, 25% off draft beers, wines by the glass, and appetizers.

BONITA

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-7pm: Two-for-one all well drinks. \$4 six-piece chicken wings, falafel, or mozzarella sticks; \$5 small hummus. 1/2-off hookahs all day Tuesday.

CARDIFF

Beach House: Every day, 4-7:30pm: \$2.95 draft, domestic. \$3.95 margarita, Bloody Mary, mai tai, house wine.

Besta-Wan Pizza House: Every day, 11am-6pm: \$1 off pint, glass of house wine. \$3 off pitcher.

Chart House: Monday-Friday, 4:30-7pm: \$3 domestic drafts, \$4 premium drafts, wells, glass of wine, \$5 cocktails, \$6 martinis.

CARLSBAD

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

Bistro West: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: Discounted wine, draft, well, specialty martinis, bar appetizers.

La Costa Grill: Every day, 4-7pm, 9-11pm: \$4 wells, house wines, \$1 off calls & premiums. Appetizers reduced.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 wells, beer, margaritas. \$3 off appetizers. 10pm-midnight: \$3 beer, wine, well drinks. Saturday-Sunday, 10pm-midnight: \$3 beer, wine, well drinks.

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

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co.: Tuesday-Friday, 3-7pm, 9-11pm: \$1 beer, mixed drinks. 1/2-off appetizers.

CARMEL VALLEY

Arterra: Every day, 4-8pm: \$3 snacks, \$10 grilled calamari, \$5 premium drafts, \$6 Arterra wines, \$7 specialty signature collection.

Twenty/20 Bar & Grill: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2 off any drink. \$2 off appetizers.

CHULA VISTA

905 Sushi: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2.25 Bud Light, Corona, \$4.50 large Kirin, Sapporo, sake. 1/2-off appetizers.

Anthony's Fish Grotto: Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, house wine, margaritas, appetizers.

Blue Haven: Every day, 2pm-close: \$2 domestic beer bottles & wells.

The Brew House at Eastlake: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm, 9-11pm: \$3 Bud Light pints, house wine; \$3.50 well drinks, house pint; \$4 well margaritas; \$5 well martinis; \$12 Bud Light pitcher, \$14 house pitcher.

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CLAIREMONT

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells, Bud draft, Michelob bottles, Drifter Pale Ale. Discounted appetizers.

Cucina Italiana: *Wednesday*, 1/2-off select wine bottles.

Joe's Pizza: *Thursday*, 6-9pm: \$2 any tap or bottled beer, glass of wine.

COLLEGE AREA

4.0 Deli: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7:30pm: \$6.75 Stella, \$5.75 Uncle Jesse/Shock Doc/Hefeweizen, \$4.75 Bud Light.

Casa Machado: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm, \$2.50 margaritas, \$2.50 domestic drafts, \$3.50 imports.

Pal Joey's: *Every day*, all day: \$3 personal pitchers.

Satin Lounge: *Thursday*, 9pm-close: \$1 Bud draft.

CORONADO

Chance Bistro: *Monday-Friday*, all day: \$4 or \$5 wine by the glass. \$7.99 burger/fries/drink.

Clubhouse Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic drafts. \$3 domestic bottles, wells, house wine.

Danny's Palm Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 domestic drafts, \$4 wells.

Village Pizzeria: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 beer, wine. \$3 slices, 1/2-off appetizers. All day: \$3 beer of the month.

DEL MAR

Brigantine: *Every day*, 4-6pm: \$1 off Kenwood wines; \$5.50 Georgia Peach Mezzacorona, Chardonnay; \$4 Alaska white ale, Brig Brew golden ale; \$4 house margarita.

Clubhouse Grill: *Every day*, 4-7pm: 1/2-off draft beer, wine by the glass.

DOWNTOWN

923 Dive Lounge: *Wednesday-Saturday*, 8-10pm: \$2 wells/drafts. All night Thursday: \$2 Manhattans, martinis.

Asti Ristorante: *Every day*, 3-6pm: 1/2-price cocktails & appetizers.

Bella Luna: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$5 house wine, 1/2-off appetizers.

Blue Point: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-off drinks, select appetizers; discount on caviar; \$1 oysters.

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

Currant: *Every day*, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$5 wells, sangria, house wines. 1/2-off entire bar menu.

Downtown Johnny Brown's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 domestic bottled beer, \$3.50 pints of the day. 40% off appetizers.

Dublin Square: *Every day*, 2-7pm: \$3 wells, drafts, bottles. 1/2-off appetizers.

Elephant & Castle Pub and Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4.50 20-oz. drafts, house wine, well liquor; \$1 off appetizers.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-7pm: \$3 domestics, \$4 imports. *Saturday-Sunday*, open-5pm: \$3 domestics, \$4 imports.

Gaslamp Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 drafts, house wine, wells. Appetizer specials.

La Gran Tapa: *Tuesday-Thursday*, 5-7pm: \$3 cask wine, sangria, draft.

House of Blues: *Every day*, 2-7pm: \$2 drafts, \$3 wells & wines, \$4 martinis, 1/2-off select appetizers.

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

O'Brothers: *Every day*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$5 glass of wine. \$7 sliders with fries.

Patrick's II: *Every day*, 10am-8pm: \$2.50 bottle beer, \$3 wells, Bud Light pints, \$4 calls, margaritas, Bloody Marys.

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

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

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

Stout Public House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 premium pints, \$4 wells, \$5 cosmo, appetini, margarita; 1/2-price appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, till 6pm: \$3 domestic and Canadian bottled beer, \$4 wells, Bloody Mary, \$5 mimosa.

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

Tabule: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6pm: 1/2-off all drinks and appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, 2-6pm: 1/2-off all drinks and appetizers.

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

Tom Ham's Lighthouse: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3 house wine, domestic/import.

Urban Bar & Grill: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-7pm, 9pm-close: \$3 drafts, \$4

wells, \$5 signature cocktails, \$5 house wine. 1/2-off appetizers.

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

EAST VILLAGE

Hive Sushi Lounge: *Every day*, 5-7pm: \$2 domestic, \$4 micro, \$2.50 sake, \$3.50 well, \$4 house wine. Miso, edamame, \$.99.

Jewel Box: *Wednesday*, 6pm-2am: \$5 Jäger bombs; happy hour all night w/military ID. *Thursday*, 8pm-2am: Industry Night. \$3.75 calls.

Phi Bistro: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-8pm: \$4 domestic bottle beers, wells, select wines. *Sunday*, all day: \$4 Bloody Marys, mimosas, tequila shots.

EL CAJON

Calypso: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2.75 bottled beer (12 oz.), \$3.75 beer (22 oz.), \$7.50 pitcher.

Flinn Springs Inn: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.25 domestic bottles, \$3 wells.

ENCINITAS

Bullpen Pub & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off pitcher, \$2 off wine.

Cap'n Kenos: *Monday-Friday*, 6pm-midnight: \$2.50 drafts, wells. Free appetizers.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 3:30-7pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5 red wine, \$7 Krista vodka cosmo, \$7.50 margarita.

El Galeon Mexican Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: Two-for-one draft beer, margaritas.

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$3 domestic, \$9 pitcher; \$4 imported, \$12 pitcher; \$1/2-off sushi rolls (no sushi on Monday).

GOLDEN HILL

Turf Supper Club: *Friday-Sunday*, noon-4pm: \$1 off all beer/wine/spirits. \$5 lunch: 1/2-lb. burger, chicken sandwich, or two Louisiana hot links + chips.

GRANTVILLE

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

HILLCREST

The Alibi: *Every day*, all day: \$3 dipper, wells.

Bangkok Thai Bistro: *Every day*, 4-7pm: 1/2-off wine, beer, appetizers.

CJ's Club: *Every day*, 5-7pm, 9pm-midnight: All wells \$2.75.

IMPERIAL BEACH

Baja Oyster Bar: *Monday-Thursday*, All day: \$.99 fish tacos. 3-6pm: Two-for-one domestic bottle, discounted special roll.

KEARNY MESA

Churasan: *Monday, Sunday*, football special: \$4 hot dog, garlic fries, small beer. *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-8pm: \$4 large Japanese beers.

Pampas Argentine Grill: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4:30-7pm: \$3 wells, \$3.50 drafts, \$4 wine specials. Discounted empanadas and appetizers.

Shogun Kobe Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm (sushi bar only): 30% off sushi and rolls (excludes sea urchin, giant clam, toro & cocktails). 30% off sake and beer.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE

Beauty Bar: *Wednesday-Thursday*, 3-7pm: \$5 wine. \$6 martinis. 1/2-off select wine bottles.

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

LA JOLLA

Beaumont's: *Every day*, 4-6pm: \$3 draft, well; \$5 Cabernet, Chardonnay. Special prices on margarita, sangria, wine cooler.

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

Crab Catcher: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, wine, champagne by the glass, margaritas. \$5 select specialty martinis. 1/2-off select appetizers. \$1.50 oyster shooters.

Extreme Pizza: *Every day*, 3-6pm: \$3 premium beer.

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

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

Lupi Italian Restaurant: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5-7pm: \$3-\$5 martinis, beer, wine. Free doggie treats.

The Melting Pot: *Every day*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off cheese fondue, salads, chocolate fondue.

Roppongi: *Every day*, 3-6pm: 1/2-off Asian tapas & sushi rolls.

La Sala: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 drafts. \$5 house wine. \$7 specialty cocktails.

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

Sushi on the Rock: *Every day*, 5-6:30pm: \$2 hot sake, Coors Light, \$3 cold sake, \$4 Soju spritz, \$5 house wine. \$1.75 vegetarian roll, spicy krab roll, \$2.75 spicy tuna roll.

Whaling Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 drafts. \$5 house wine. \$7 specialty cocktails.

LA MESA

Charcoal House: *Every day*, 11-7pm: \$.75 off all drinks, \$1 off all appetizers.

Hearth House: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic beers, \$3 premium beers, wine & wells. \$2 bratwurst & fries, \$3 burger & fries.

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Coach Stop: *Monday-Friday*, 9am-noon, 4-7pm: \$2.50 large drafts, domestic bottles. 7-11pm: \$1.50 12-oz. drafts, \$6.50 60-oz. pitchers.

LEUCADIA

Bar Leucadian: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$2.75 wells, \$2.50 beer of the month, shot special.

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L & L Hawaiian BBQ at Market Creek Plaza: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$1 off appetizers. *Sunday*, all day: \$1 drafts. \$1 tacos & wings.

LINDA VISTA

The Morena Club: *Every day*, 2-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.50 wells and domestic bottles.

Padre Gold: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 domestic bottles, \$2.75 wells, \$3.50 small domestic pitchers, \$6.50 large. *Thursday*, 4-9pm: \$10 bucket of five domestic beers.

LITTLE ITALY

Fat City Steakhouse: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2 drafts, \$3 wells, \$4 wine. 1/2-off appetizers.

Puerto la Boca: *Every day*, 4:30-7:30pm: \$3 house wine, \$3.50 drafts, wells, \$6 house martini. 30% off appetizers.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Desi N' Friends Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm: \$2 wells, domestic beers. 11pm-midnight: \$3 drafts.

Devine Pastabilities: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-6pm: \$2.50 drafts. Discounted wines by the glass. Three free bread holes with drink purchase.

MIRA MESA

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 house beer, domestic drafts, well drinks, house wine, \$1 off appetizers.

MIRAMAR

Excalibur Cigar Lounge & Wine Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 select pints, \$5 house wine.

The Filling Station: *Monday*, 7pm-close: \$4 margaritas. *Tuesday*, 7pm-close: \$2 kamikazes. *Wednesday*, 7pm-close: \$3.50 premium drafts. *Thursday*, 7pm-close: \$2 wells, domestic beers, \$6 domestic pitchers. *Saturday*, noon-7pm: \$3 mimosas. *Sunday*, noon-7pm: \$3 Bloody Marys.

MISSION BEACH

Coaster Saloon: *Monday*, 3-5pm: \$3.99 cheeseburger with fries. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). *Tuesday*, 2-10pm: \$2 Pacifico and Dos XX drafts; \$1.99 tacos. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). *Wednesday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). *Thursday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). 7pm-close: \$2 well drinks and drafts. *Friday*, all day: \$2 well drinks and drafts. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions).

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: Two-for-one cocktails, beer, shots.

MISSION HILLS

Bar Dynamite: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-9pm: \$2 domestics bottles and drafts, \$3 wells. Free food from Lucha Libre Taco Shop.

Cafe Bleu: *Every day*, 4-6pm: \$5 select wine by the glass; special prices on starters, hors d'oeuvres, sandwiches.

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$4.95 imported 20-oz. beer, \$3.75 well drinks, \$1 off bottled beer and house wine by the glass.

MISSION VALLEY

950 Lounge: *Wednesday*, \$3 wells, beer, house wine.

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn: *Every day*, 4-7pm: \$2 draft beer, \$3 house wine, \$3.50 wells.

Bully's East: *Monday-Friday*, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-close: \$2.50 domestic, draft; \$3.50 wells, \$5 wine; Chardonnay, Merlot, Jacob's Creek Cabernet.

Camel's Breath Inn: *Monday-Thursday*, 10am-6pm: \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3 wells.

NATIONAL CITY

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

Miyako Japanese Restaurant: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: Sapporo pints \$1.99, large bottles \$2.99, pitchers \$6.99. Hot sake \$1.75. California roll \$2.50, spicy tuna/Philly roll \$3.50, Japanese-style chicken bites \$3.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Triple Crown Pub: *Saturday*, noon-5pm: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off beer pitchers. *Sunday*, noon-2am: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off beer pitchers.

NORTH PARK

Bluefoot Bar and Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-7:30pm: \$1 off everything, \$2.50 domestic bottle, \$3.50 draft.

Crazee Burger: *Every day*, 3-6pm: \$2.99 drafts, \$15 pitchers, \$3.99 select glasses of wine. \$2.99 bratwurst, \$3.99 turkey burger.

Lips Restaurant: *Sunday*, all night: Industry Night, \$3.50 wells, \$5.50 calls, 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

The Office: *Every day*, 5-8pm: Two-for-one price on all drinks.

Splash: *Tuesday*, 4-11pm: 1/2-price wine. *Wednesday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$3 select wine and beer, free \$5 tasting card with \$20 tasting-card purchase.

Toronado: *Every day*, 11:30am-5pm: \$1 off drafts.

OCEAN BEACH

Blue Parrot: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$1 off all drafts, \$3 margaritas, wells, \$1 off select appetizers.

Cheswick's West: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3 wells, \$6 domestic pitchers.

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

Portugalia: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 10pm-1am: \$3 domestic beer, \$5 wine.

OCEANSIDE

Aryana @ Holiday Inn: *Every day*, 5-7pm: \$2 domestics, wells; \$3 premiums, glass of wine. Appetizer specials.

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

Rockin' Baja Lobster: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 pints, wells, \$4 wines, margaritas, \$5 Long Islands, 25-oz. drafts. 1/2-off starters. *Saturday-Sunday*, 9pm-close: \$3 pints, wells, \$4 wines, margaritas, \$5 Long Islands, 25-oz. drafts. 1/2-off starters.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, house wine. \$1 off all beer.

OLD TOWN

Alamo Mexican Cafe: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: 1/2-price drinks, food specials.

Barra Barra: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2 drafts, house wine, \$3 house margaritas, \$2 off absinthe specials. \$2 flat-bread tacos.

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Every Day 2-7 pm

\$2 Domestic Drafts

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MONDAYS & TUESDAYS
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Casa Guadalajara: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: Free appetizers. \$3.50 well drinks, margaritas, drink specials.

Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-7pm: \$3 12-oz. house margaritas, \$5 20-oz. house margaritas, \$2.50 14-oz. domestic drafts, \$3.50 20-oz. domestic drafts.

PACIFIC BEACH

The Australian Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 7-9pm: \$3 Long Islands. *Saturday*, \$2.50 Karl Strauss. *Sunday*, \$3 Bloody Marys.

Bare Back Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 Miller Lite, amber ale, well drinks.

Cass Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-5pm: \$2.25 domestic bottles, \$2.75 micro-brew pints, \$7.50 pitcher, \$3 house wine.

Costa Brava: *Every day*, 4-6pm: 1/2-price sangria. 1/2-price tapas.

The Dog: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, \$6 pitchers.

Hennessey's Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic drafts, \$1 off house wine, wells, \$3 well shot/\$4 call shot, \$5 drink specials. *Saturday-Sunday*, till 1pm: \$3 Bloody Marys.

Miller's Field: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 wells. \$2 street tacos.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 3-7pm: \$2 wells, house wine. \$3 imports, microbrews. \$2 off all drafts.

Pacific Beach Ale House: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3 drafts, wells, house wines. 1/2-price appetizers.

Sinbad Café: *Every day*, 4-8pm: \$1.50 drafts, \$2 wells, shots, \$2.50 imports. 11am-8pm: \$12-\$15 hookahs.

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DJ Digital Opinion
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Friday, April 23
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Saturday, April 24
Samz Jam

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Late Night

3

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'2 wells & domestics
'til 3:30 pm

'6 steak + 2 sides 5:30 pm

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Tony Roma's: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 house margaritas, Long Island Iced Teas, \$3 wells, draft beer. Appetizer specials.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 5-7pm: \$3 cash wine, sangria, draft. \$3 tapas selection.

POINT LOMA

C-Level: Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:30pm: \$3.50 Bud Light, Karl Strauss, Stone IPA, \$5 specialty drinks, wells, house wine. \$5 crispy calamari, ahi tuna poke, steamed Fox River mussels.

Daddy-O's: Every day, 4-7pm: \$5 domestic, \$7 premium 32 oz. drafts; \$10 domestic, \$12 premium pitchers.

Extreme Pizza: Every day, 4pm-7pm: \$6 craft beer pitchers.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: Every day, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

Paradise Lounge and Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 well drinks, domestic bottles; \$6.50 domestic pitchers. 8-9:30am: 1/2-off breakfast.

Riley's Music Lounge: Every day, 4-8pm: \$1 off everything, \$2 beers.

POWAY

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all wells, drafts, bottles, & wine.

Phileas Fogg's Bar & Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints/\$7.95 pitcher, \$3.50 import pints/\$11.95 pitcher. \$2.95 cheese quesadilla, \$3.95 chicken wings.

RAMONA

Boll Weevil Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$2 off all pitchers.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Bernard'O Restaurant: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7pm: \$4 wells, \$2.75 domestic, \$3.50 imported/specialty, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5 house wine.

Carvers Steak & Chops: Monday-Friday, 2-6:30pm: 1/2-off drinks. \$3-\$4 off appetizers.

Kelly's Public House: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$8 pitchers, \$3.50 wells, house wines.

RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS

Deli Stop Sports Pub: Every day, 4pm-7pm: \$1 off all beer; \$3 Corona, \$3 wine; \$1 off all appetizers.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Press Box Sports Lounge: Monday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$4 martinis. Tuesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$3 you-call-its. Wednesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. 1/2-off wine bottles. Thursday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. Saturday, all day: \$3 mimosas & Bloody Marys.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Delicias: Every day, 4-6pm: \$5 draft beers, house wines, wells.

SAN MARCOS

Alfresco's Italian Buffet: Every day, 5:30-7:30pm: All drinks 1/2 price.

The Jumping Turtle: Monday, 11am-close: PBR \$2.75/pint, \$6.75/pitcher. Tuesday, 11am-close: \$2 Corona, Pacifico, margaritas. Wednesday, 11am-close: \$4 drop drinks. Thursday, 7pm-close: \$3 Jäger, \$2.50 Bud Lime. Friday, 5pm-midnight: \$5 Long Islands. Saturday, 11am-close: \$3 Orange Patrón, Tanqueray. Sunday, 11am-close: \$2.50 Bloody Marys.

SERRA MESA

Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill: Sunday, \$2.50 mind erasers, kamikazes. \$3.50 mimosas, Bloody Marys.

SOLANA BEACH

Chief's Burgers and Brew: Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.50 domestic, \$3.50 microbrew. 1/2-off appetizers.

Pacific Coast Grill: Every day, 4-7pm: \$5 gold margaritas, \$1 off draft, wells, wines by the glass, 25% off wine bottles.

SORRENTO VALLEY

Ali Baba's Cave: Every day, 4-6pm: Two-for-one drinks.

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

SOUTH PARK

Hamilton's Tavern and Café: Every day, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

Whistle Stop Bar: Every day, 2-8pm: \$1 off all cocktails, pints.

SPRING VALLEY

California Comfort: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, wells, house wine.

TIERRASANTA

Bud's Louisiana Café: Tuesday-Friday, 1-2:30pm, 4:30-6pm: 1/2-price wine and beer.

JP's Pub: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Every day, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 ouzo apéritif, \$2 bottled beers, \$3 wine by the glass.

Café Japengo: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3 drafts, sake, \$4.50 wells. \$4 chicken spring rolls, duck potstickers, California rolls.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cheers: Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm: \$2.50 domestic bottles. \$3 single wells. \$3.50 domestic drafts.

Gulf Coast Grill: Every day, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3.95 wells, drafts, wine.

VALLEY CENTER

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$2 domestic. \$3 imports, wells. Discounted appetizers.

VISTA

Chili Coast Burgers: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$.50-.75 off tap beer.

Jumping Bean Cafe & Mexicali Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic, imports, \$2.75 margaritas, \$3 wells, microbrews, \$4 Leaping Horse wine. 3-5pm: \$1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

Happy Hour M-Sat 5-7
SAPPORO \$1.99
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enjoy live music—jazz, latin and piano. Breathtaking
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Fear the Light

When we first see her, she's split between her true self and her social façade.

The “ghosts” in Henrik Ibsen’s drama don’t go bump in the night. But they’re just as haunting. Only Mrs. Alving sees them. For 19 years she fought to keep her public image from collapsing. Pressures have intensified at her country estate, in 1881, because her public relations were such a success.

Her parents arranged her marriage. Contrary to his pristine reputation, Captain Alving was a rake. When she learned her husband’s philandering included a social disease, Mrs. Alving ran to Pastor Manders with open arms. But the moral clergyman rejected her advances. Trapped between ideals and tawdry facts, Mrs. Alving didn’t demand a divorce. She fell in love with duty and maintaining appearances. She worshipped both with such ferocity that, ten years after his death, she’s building an orphanage in her husband’s honor. The Norwegian townspeople consider the structure a shrine.

When we first see her, she’s split between Helene, her true self, and Mrs. Alving, her social façade. She’s been reading the freethinkers (most likely John Stuart Mill’s essay, “The Subjection of Women,” which advocated voting rights for women in 1869) and wants to break away from Manders’s lockstep morality. Helene’s a recent convert to the

new ideas; however, she could still retreat to the safer, more predictable Mrs. Alving. But the arrival of her beloved son Oswald, from Paris, promises to enhance her liberation.

THEATER REVIEW

JEFF SMITH

In Greek tragedy, the gods abet the “sins of the father.” Curses take on literal life, as in Aeschylus when the Furies hound the House of Atreus. In Ibsen, disease replaces myth. But the disease comes in two forms: micro-biological (Captain Alving’s syphilis) and mental. The latter ghosts, Mrs. Alving says, are dead ideas, dead beliefs that not only block the “light,” they force people to fear it.

When *Ghosts* opened, most reviewers took no prisoners. One critic called it “an open drain, a loathsome sore unbandaged”; another, “lugubrious diagnosis of sordid impropriety.” Most reacted to Ibsen’s use of venereal disease, but the extreme reactions suggest that, underneath, the pundits objected to hearing cherished beliefs labeled as “dead.”

For the North Coast Rep’s uneven but ultimately moving production, Rosina Reynolds pits Mrs. Alving in a tug-of-war between two worlds. Her splendid performance recalls the “bond slave” statues of Michelangelo: human figures trying to wrench themselves from blocks of marble. Reynolds



Ghosts: Trapped between her ideals and tawdry facts, Mrs. Alving didn’t demand a divorce.

Ghosts by Henrik Ibsen

North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach

Directed by David Ellenstein; cast: Rosina Reynolds, Richard Baird, John Herzog, Jonathan McMurtry, Aimee Burdette; scenic design, Marty Burnett; costumes, Jennifer Brawn Gittings; lighting, Matt Novotny; sound, Chris Luessmann

Playing through May 2; Sunday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday at 2:00 p.m. 858-481-1055.

flits back and forth between rectitude and freedom, gaining, falling away. She’s cold, she’s proper, and, when Oswald comes home, she’s a sunbeam. Her repression vanishes, and she becomes decades younger.

Costume designer Jennifer Brawn Gittings gives

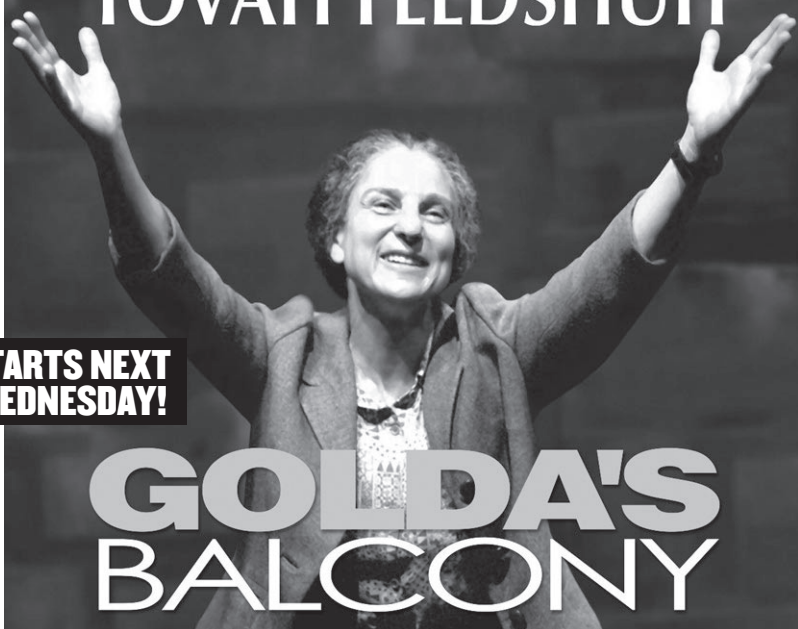
Reynolds an elegant, floor-length patterned dress that’s as dark as a Norwegian winter and tight as a straightjacket. In Gittings’s always-apt designs, even the necklines reveal character. Mrs. Alving’s is a noose; Jonathan McMurtry (who makes carpenter Engstrand much slier than most “bumpkin”



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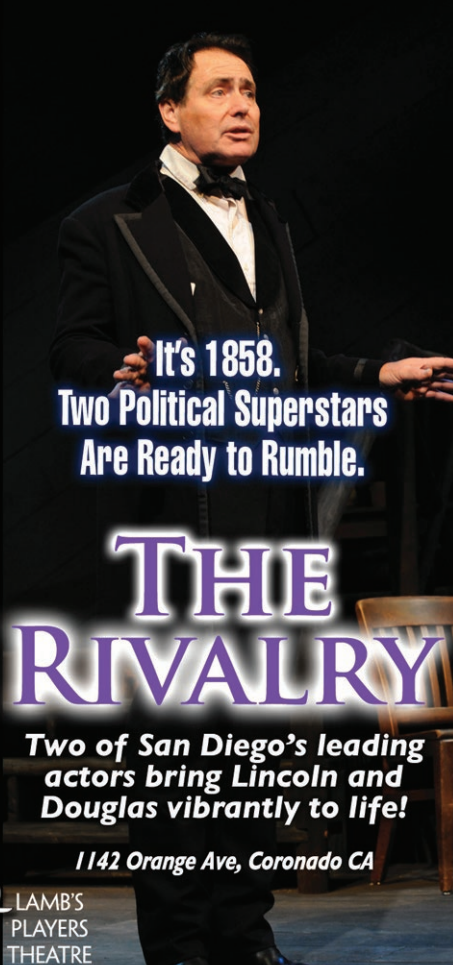
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readings of the role) has an open collar, suggesting moral laxity.

Richard Baird's excellent Oswald also recalls the "bond slave" statues, but in reverse: his "worm-eaten" condition (he inherited his father's disease) tugs him back into the marble. When he sees young Regina, the housekeeper, Oswald adopts his mother's old tactic: maintain a bright façade — young, healthy, eager to impress, much like his

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father's "ghost." The effort sustains Oswald's downfall.

Baird, who must have shed 20 pounds for the role, inscribes "cursed" across Oswald's pallid brow and moves in an inexorable line from flames to embers. Recently Baird played Caliban as a scene-chewing monster in dreadlocks. His Oswald, by contrast, is so fragile, the scenery could swallow him. It's hard to believe the same actor played both.

Under David Ellenstein's direction, Baird's and Reynolds's scenes together are terrific. They're so spontaneous, it's as if Oswald and Helene are simply riffing: no script, no rehearsals or direction, just raw, fully present feelings.

Their tandem work is of such high quality that inferior efforts stand out. Granted, Pastor Manders is a prig. But John Herzog's flat, amateurish performance makes him barely that. He trips over cues and lines (and trips up other actors) and never conveys the sense that he believes a word he says. Aimee Burdette's pert Regina brightens the stage, though her recognition scene lacks specificity.

Marty Burnett's set, Mrs. Alving's spotless living room, defines her before she arrives. This is the abode of a controller. Every object is in place; move one in this centerfold of dutiful housekeeping, and there'll be hell to pay. Matt Novotny's lighting handles sunrises and sunsets quite well but breaks its own aesthetic during the fire scene. Instead of naturalistic hues, Novotny paints the doorway with a neon red more appropriate for Vegas than the Alving's Rosenfold estate. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

Alive and Well

Is neither. Kenny Finkle's lightweight, relentlessly talky play pits a Yankee journalist, Carla, against rebel Zachariah, a Civil War reenactor. Zach's convinced that the last, living Confederate soldier hangs out somewhere along General Lee's westward retreat between Petersburg and Appomattox. Carla needs a writing gig. As they lose their way their differences (she's cold and always right; he's romantic and weepy) dissipate. The writing's occasionally funny (after a quaff, or twain, of moonshine, Zach assures Carla, "I'm not drunk, Ms. Keenan, I'm pacified"). But like so much of the Old Globe's timid play selection of late, it's almost all surface and merely aims to please. Kelly McAndrew and James Knight sustain a nice biplay as the unlikely couple. Except for a humorous game of comebacks, however, the weak sec-

ond act dwindles into two long, undramatic speeches. Robin Sanford Roberts' set is a bas relief topo map. Shelly Williams' uniforms look authentic — and appropriately itchy. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH APRIL 25.

Baldwin New Play Festival

UCSD Theatre stages its annual festival of new works: *Everything Nice* by Stephanie Timm, *Oyster* by Ronald McCants, *Phantom Band* by Krista Knight, *In a Word* by Lauren Yee, *Muzungu* by David Myers, and *Obamanation* by Lou-Lou Igbokwe. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH APRIL 24.

Cinderella

The Coronado Playhouse stages Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical, based on the popular rags-to-riches fairy tale. Thomas Fitzpatrick directed. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 30.

A Few Good Men

The Lyceum Theatre hosts the performance, by the California Youth Conservatory Theatre, of Aaron Sorkin's courtroom drama movie about the court-martial of two Marines. 619-672-6993. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 7PM FRIDAY, 2PM AND 7PM SATURDAY, 1PM SUNDAY.

Ghosts

The North Coast Rep stages Henrik Ibsen's tale of secrets and lies and sins of the father. David Ellenstein directed. NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 2.

The Heidi Chronicles

"You 'quality time' girls are going to be one generation of disappointed

women," says Scoop, male chauvinist supreme, "the ones who open doors usually are." The late Wendy Wasserstein's 1989 Pulitzer Prize-winner follows Heidi Holland from shyness in high school in 1965 through the struggles of the women's movement in the '70s, to achievement and "stranded" ambiguity in the '80s (about the struggle in the male-dominated trenches the play depicts, young people at New Village Arts' opening night said things like "I had no idea"). The NVA production has merits and demerits. Director Amanda Sittton smartly chose to have live music (performed on guitar by Linda Libby) recapture the songs of the times. Slides, from newspaper and magazines, also headline the flow of events. The performances, however, varied in quality. Several actors, including Kristianne Kurner's Heidi and John DeCarlo's Scoop, sped through lines and key speeches without reflection or discovery. Others gave their roles little dimension or humor (the play's actually a "dramedy"). Brian Mackey, Sunny Smith, and the always-watchable Jacque Wilke brought their characters to life, but overall the production was shaky throughout. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787-B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 3PM AND 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY, THROUGH APRIL 25.

Into the Woods

OnStage Playhouse presents Stephen Sondheim's Tony Award-winning musical about what happens when fairy tales don't end happily ever after. James M. McCulloch directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 1.

Over the River and Through the Woods

Scripps Ranch Theatre presents Joe DiPietro's "family comedy" about Nick. When he wants to move to Seattle, since he's the only family they have, Nick's grandparents wage all-out war to prevent him from going. Eric Poppick directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO RD., SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-

578-7728. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH APRIL 24.

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 Limon directed and choreographed. WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1:45PM AND 8PM THURSDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 1:45PM SUNDAYS, 1:45PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 2.

Return of the Monkey King

For two performances only, the Lyceum Theatre hosts a production of this adaptation from the classic Chinese fantasy novel of the 16th Century, *Journey to the West*. A monk goes to India, with three iconic folk heroes, to bring the sacred texts of Buddhism back to China. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. 2PM AND 7PM SATURDAY.

The Saint Plays

USD's Undergraduate Theatre Department presents "a collection of short plays, contemporary fairy tales for the stage, loosely based on the lives of saints and biblical characters." UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO, 5998 ALCALÁ PARK, USD. 619-260-4600. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 7:30PM FRIDAY, 7:30PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

Shakuntala

Chronos Theatre Group stages the ancient Indian love story by Kalidasa. Celeste Innocenti directed. 619-615-8928. SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 2.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

The hottest show in town! Sean Murray and James Vasquez's co-staging brims with excellence. The cast across the board has no weak links, and since a majority of them are San Diegans, this amazing production does us all proud. Best of show: Cygnet Theatre gets the Stephen Sondheim-ness of the musical: wild flurries of notes that create sheer, swirling turbulence. But as in Chaos Theory, there's an underlying order beneath. As Sweeney, the tonsorial serial killer, Sean Murray probes Sweeney's pain and rage, both beyond redemption. Deborah Gilmour Smyth's boundary-free Mrs. Lovett, a maternal recidivist, is a treasure. Sondheim's score loves to swallow melodic lines the way Sweeney does lives. But the musical also has gorgeous, get-this-one-right-or-else songs: "Johanna" foremost among them. Jacob Caltrider and Steve Gunderson's bipolar versions give audiences a tune to hum for weeks to come. Sean Fanning's Industrial Age London set has brick walls the color of black lungs. Shirley Pierson's costumes range from pinpoint accurate to gloriously screwball. And Eric Lotze's lighting is special. He does with light what Sondheim does with music.

Critic's pick.

CYGNET THEATRE — OLD TOWN, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 9.



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A Winner

The sturdy storyline braids together a number of complementary strands.

The Academy Award for foreign film is historically a hard one to handicap. That's because the voters in that category must meet the requirement of actually seeing the nominees, all five of them, in effect a mandate for an educated electorate. It would be interesting to know how

many total votes in the most recent referendum were cast for that award as against, say, the award for Best Actress. It would be interesting too, albeit not as ascertainable, to know how many people who voted for the performance of Sandra Bullock also saw that of Carey Mulligan. And obviously, the new quota of ten nominees for the top category of Best Picture increases the likelihood of an unfully informed voter. If *The White Ribbon* or *A Prophet* or, less so, *Ajami* established itself as a favorite in this year's Oscar race, it's simply for the reason that those were the only ones of the foreign-language candidates to have been released in theaters and reviewed in the press, the

only known quantities. Accordingly, it's fair to guess that we would not now be getting the chance to see the Argentine entry, *The Secret in Their Eyes*, had it not emerged as the "surprise"

winner. (The same thing, an Oscar-night surprise and a post-Oscar release, occurred last year with the Japanese *Departures*.) The other loser, Peru's *The Milk of Sorrow*, will presumably be con-

signed to oblivion.

Directed by Juan José Campanella, who has some experience in American prime-time television, *The Secret in Their Eyes* is more of an old-fashioned slick manipulative commercial entertainment, less of a critics' film, than any of the three overdogs in the race. Firm-footed, smooth-surfaced, it centers on a retired public prosecutor struggling to write a novel on a nagging twenty-year-old case, the rape and murder of a newlywed schoolteacher. The film, generating suspense partly through its coyness as to the outcome of that case, shuttles between

MOVIE REVIEW

DUNCAN SHEPHERD

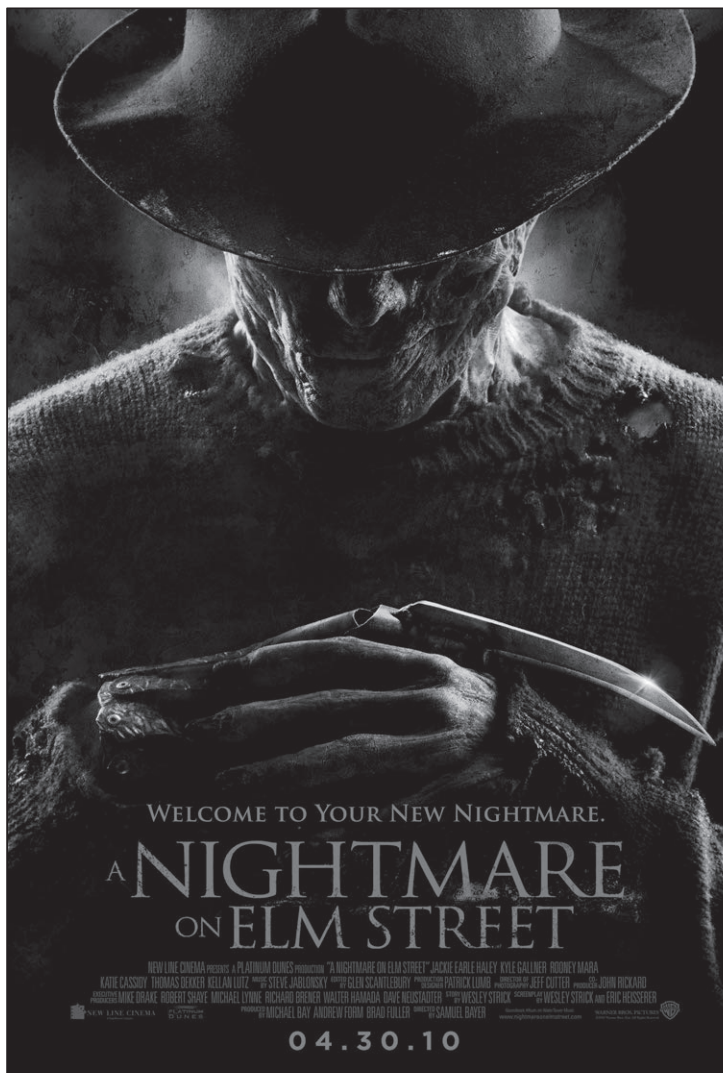


The Secret in Their Eyes

two time zones, then and now, plainly signalling the period by way of the relative blackness or grayness of the beard and hair of the leading man, Ricardo Darín. Once you get past his constant look of acid indigestion, Darín is a masterly underplayer, a shrewd economizer, a dignified sublimator, and while it seems he stars in at least a cou-

ple of films in every annual Latino film festival, he is apt to be best known to the general public for *Nine Queens* and maybe *El Aura*. Or in other words, he is apt to be not known. This presents a golden opportunity to correct that. In addition to Darín's tormented hero, the film is filled with well-drawn characters: his alluring but seemingly unat-

tainable new boss (Soledad Villamil), still at work — now a judge — and still alluring twenty-odd years after the murder case; his erratic alcoholic colleague; the sarcastic tyrannical department head; the self-aggrandizing policeman; the obsessed husband of the victim; and, when at length he turns up, the hateful perpetrator. The



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MOVIES

sturdy storyline braids together a number of complementary strands — the unravelling of a mystery, for starters, with flashes of psychological and philosophical insight worthy of Simenon; political corruption (but of course) and abuse of power; unrequited love; the regrets of advanced age — en route to a satisfying if unsurprising surprise ending. Some of the outrageous political shenanigans might be classified as a bit parochial, but they will not be unfamiliar to any well-informed adult or any follower, no matter how spotty, of the Argentine cinema.

The Eclipse, directed by Conor McPherson, is an Irish ghost story, slow, quiet, tasteful to a fault, easy to overrate for its avoidances. Still, it deserves plenty of credit for regarding ghosts as a part of life instead of as part of a mere genre. The photos on the kitchen wall and in the bedroom efficiently fill in the background — the cancerous mother departed from a family of four — and the shadowy phantom that visits in the middle of the night earns an early shiver. Even the living are treated throughout to a lot of half-light and silhouettes, as if their place on earth is tenuous at best, their separation from the other side only slight. The dramatic situation is interesting in itself. The widower (Ciarán Hinds, nice to see his dour countenance in a lead role), a woodworking instructor by trade, with a fading father-in-law in the old folks' home, is serving as a volunteer driver during the annual Cobh Literary Festival, assigned to chauffeur a divorced writer on the supernatural (Iben Hjejle, a Danish actress whose flawless English has been heard

before in *High Fidelity* and elsewhere), the latter anxious not to renew an old fling with another guest of the festival, a married best-selling novelist (Aidan Quinn, fatiguedly glamorous) whose sense of superiority barely outpaces his sense of self-loathing. The dynamics of this situation are absorbing enough not to have needed the couple of cornier ghostly apparitions (blessedly brief) meant to remove you from your socks. And yet, something more, something else, seems to have been needed, something subtler, something frequenter. A drunken fistfight, just to preserve the Irish good name, brings the personal relations to a realistically messy climax, and tastefulness reasserts itself for a final ghostly apparition, a final shiver.

Death at a Funeral, a scant three years after the British version, is tantamount to a summer-stock production in Cleveland, a black comedy made over into a black comedy, or more distinctly a dark comedy made over into an African-American comedy. Beyond the casting of Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Tracy Morgan, Regina Hall, Zoë Saldana, Loretta Devine, Danny Glover, et al., it has been only sporadically African-Americanized in the script (“The catfish nuggets are to die for”), and it has been plain old Americanized mainly in the grossness of the toilet humor. Who could ever have foreseen that director Neil LaBute, the contemporary cinema’s iciest misanthrope, would stoop to poop jokes to bring down the house? Among the few white faces in the crowd, dinky Peter Dinklage reprises with total authority his role from the original, sort of like a Broadway headliner re-upping for the road company, and James Marsden intrepidly negotiates the bumps and curves of a bad acid trip. ■

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Alice in Wonderland — Tim Burton’s adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic gives him license, free rein, greased rails, to stage a congenial freak show in a hermetic netherworld: a 3-D moving-picture book. 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 fact in short order, the movie achieves a different sort of dullness from that of the forced and haphazard novel, a dullness of satiation. 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. And then very soon satiated again, under the glut of computer-manufactured topography, flora, and fauna, you can drift back into stuporville. Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hathaway, Crispin Glover. 2010.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PLAZA BONITA 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 pretentious, 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 dishes up an allegory on globalism, 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 prove too feeble, 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 straining for significance, are part and parcel of the kitschy fun. Sam Worthington, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Giovanni Ribisi, Michelle Rodriguez. 2009.

★★ (CINEMA UNDER THE STARS, 4/22 THROUGH 24, 8 P.M.; LA PALOMA, FROM 4/23; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

The Back-up Plan — Romantic comedy with Jennifer Lopez, Alex O’Loughlin, Eric

Christian Olsen, and Anthony Anderson, directed by Alan Poul. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 4/23)

The Bounty Hunter — Laboriously contrived rom-com action thriller, laboriously directed by Andy Tennant, wherein a pair of hostile exes, he a skip-tracer and she a bail-jumper, re-bond while solving a murder and dodging a hit man en route to the hoosegow. Not a good showcase for the as-sets of Jennifer Aniston, apart from her well-roasted exterior: Jennifer Taniston. Gerard Butler endeavors to match that with his beard stubble. Jason Sudeikis, Christine Baranski, Peter Greene, Siobhan Fallon, Jeff Garlin. 2010.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24; 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 desperately to finance a real-estate deal with confiscated drug money while behaving as if he is at the same time trying to kick heroin or else to win a scholarship to the Actors Studio. His purpose, his function, seems to be to make the other cast members (Richard Gere, Don Cheadle, Wesley Snipes, Will Patton, Brian O’Byrne) look good in comparison, and from that angle he succeeds spectacularly. 2010.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Chloe — A renaming and reworking by Atom Egoyan of the French film *Nathalie* by Anne Fontaine. Despite the pedigree (Egoyan, if you need reminding, has signed such tony items as *Ararat*, *The Sweet Hereafter*, *Exotica*, among others), this would fit comfortably on the Lifetime Movie Network: a suspicious wife sics a high-end escort onto her husband as a temptation, a test. True, the escort’s oral reports have a graphichness you mightn’t hear on LMN (“I could feel he was excited through his pants,” “I put my tits in his face”), and Julianne Moore, as the midlife gynecologist who lives in a luxurious red box with musicologist Liam Neeson, gives you more acting per second than you get from Judith Light or Joanna Kerns, and the expanses of flesh (not just the always game Moore, but also the uninitiated Amanda Seyfried as the escort) are decidedly “R”-rated, though these are matters of degree, not substance. The odor of cheesiness, both the main attraction and the main limitation of the film, never dissipates, only intensifies: the escort, gradually proving herself even crazier than her client, develops an at first reciprocated crush on the woman and then, when rebuffed, turns her attentions to the latter’s teenage son. (*Fatal Intentions* might have been a franker title.) Neither of the women, in fairness, takes further leave of senses than Egoyan. The Canadian locale only firms up the Lifetime affinity. 2010.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

City Island — Amiable domestic comedy

about a nuclear blue-collar family in which everyone’s got a secret, and one’s got several. Writer and director Raymond De Felitta orchestrates some lively passages of household discord, and he has set the action in a flavorful locale, a New England-y “fishing village” in the middle of the Bronx, where lifelong residents go by the name of “clam-diggers” and outside transplants go by “mussel-suckers.” The farcical finale is a bit uncomplicated in its resolution. Any viewer willing to entertain the rampant deception in the film ought to be willing to entertain a bit more mess at the end of it. Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies, Steven Strait, Emily Mortimer, Alan Arkin. 2010. ★★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 4/23; HILLCREST CINEMAS)

Clash of the Titans — Any remake would have been hard put to be worse than the laughable original of 1981, and the latest CGI technology, with or without the augmentative 3-D (added as an afterthought in the laboratory), oughtn’t to have had too impossible a job of improving upon the herky-jerky stop-motion monsters of Ray Harryhausen: the Pegasus, the Medusa, the Kraken, and the rest. But the jiggly camera and the muddy color establish themselves as fundamental no-no’s for an appreciation of the receding planes of 3-D, and Louis Leterrier’s sloppy staging of the action — not so much action, really, as mere motion — would be unworkable even if your eyes were able to focus. Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes, Gemma Arterton, Mads Mikkelsen. 2010. ● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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-it alcoholic (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 wince to produce it) and two-thirds Waylon Jennings (the greasy 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 Duvall; directed by Scott Cooper. 2009.

★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; GASLAMP 15)

Date Night — A hedged bet, marital comedy *cum* action thriller, with a “boring” New Jersey couple enlivening their stale marriage by getting themselves mistaken for high-stakes blackmailers. Tina Fey will never in her lifetime use up the eternal gratitude she earned for her role in the 2008 presidential campaign (the *faux* Palin), and her intelligence intermittently peeks through the constant crassness, if only by stark contrast. Steve Carell, not so smartly, armors himself

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in protective irony, sort of like Jack Lemmon in quotation marks when we want Jack Lemmon straight. He never for an instant lets us feel that after the adventure is over, he'll be obliged to return to suburbia. A parade of familiar faces, amounting almost to a "stellar" cast, substitutes to some extent for the dearth of laughs: Mark Wahlberg, Mark Ruffalo, Kristen Wiig, Taraji P. Henson, Ray Liotta, William Fichtner, James Franco, Mila Kunis, and, as himself, Will.i.am. Directed by Shawn Levy. 2010.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Death at a Funeral — Reviewed this issue. With Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Tracy Morgan, and Peter Dinklage; directed by Neil LaBute.

★ (CARMEL 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 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid — The live-action adaptation of Jeff Kinney's popular series of cartoonishly illustrated "teen" books is not in diary form but is nonetheless sufficiently episodic (the "Cheese Touch" episode, and so on), covering the hero's traumatic first year in middle school, with no help from his tormenting older brother. The dishonorable, even dastardly hero, or better say antihero, can be charitably said to have a lot of growing up to do. But whatever lesson the target audience may take away, actual grown-ups can appreciate the spectacle in the full knowledge that the growing-up in many ways and in many cases never gets done. The universality of the character extends way beyond his age group. Zachary Gordon is, for all the character's faults, vulnerable and sympathetic in the title role. No less is Robert Capron as his cherubic best friend, a mutual outcast than whom the antihero firmly believes he will soon find someone better. Though there are bits of mandatory, albeit moderate, gross-out humor (boogers and such), there are also truly witty touches (the montage of physical changes over summer vacation in children on the verge of puberty; the animated popularity rankings, forever open to revision, from the top of the class to the bottom; the screaming headline in the school paper, "Cheerleader Gains Pound"), and the photography by Jack Green is gaily colored, and the direction by Thor Freudenthal has energy and flair. With Rachael Harris, Steve Zahn, and Devon Bostick. 2010.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Eclipse — Reviewed this issue. With Ciarán Hinds, Iben Hjejle, and Aidan Quinn; directed by Conor McPherson. ★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/23)

The Ghost Writer — A literary hack (Ewan McGregor) — "You name it, he ghosts it" — lands the plum assignment 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 previous silent collaborator who has unaccountably left his car on the ferry and washed up on shore: accident? suicide? And is it only a coincidence that the ex-P.M. is just now coming under fire for alleged human-rights violations in the War on Terror? The adap-

tation of a Robert Harris political potboiler really doesn't amount to much: standard portions of knee-jerk paranoia and mechanical plotting, to say nothing of the so-what final revelation that feels as concocted as it feels anticlimactic. But director Roman Polanski proves himself a masterful judge of the material, pacing himself prudently, walking a razor's edge between anxiety and mirth, allowing the plot to unfold without rush, getting to know the cast of characters as palpable human beings — Olivia Williams a standout as the politician's astringent wife — and keeping the bedrock of political piety pretty well buried. When at last he elects to turn up the heat — the brilliant device of following a preprogrammed computer route in the dead man's car to a destination unknown, the prickly interview that awaits at that destination ("A less equable man than I," rasps a pedantic Tom Wilkinson, "might begin to find your questions impertinent"), and the black sedan with tinted windows lurking outside afterwards — the effect is delectable. A sustained tingle. It may not hold all the way to the end, but it comes close. Kim Cattrall, Timothy Hutton, James Belushi, Eli Wallach. 2010.

★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo — Homegrown adaptation by Niels Arden Oplev of the international best-seller by Stieg Larsson, from the Scandinavian wave of detective novels. The movie, like the book, is long: two and a half hours with almost half an hour of anti- or post-climax. In the early going, it juggles two separate cases and two separate investigators, a Leftist muckraking journalist (Michael Nyqvist, with his Richard Burtonish full-moon cratered face) and a security-firm computer geek (Noomi Rapace, a sort of young Claire Bloom) who sports two nose rings, numerous ear piercings, a Goth hairdo and wardrobe, and of course the titular tattoo over her entire back. Eventually the two in-

vestigators team up on the sketchier and shakier of the cases: the forty-year-old disappearance and presumed murder of a teenage girl whose body, on a sealed-off island, was never recovered. Mystery fans' alarm bells will begin ringing even before the girl's favorite uncle explains how she was in the habit of giving him an annual framed botanical and how he has continued annually to receive an anonymous framed botanical which he theorizes has been sent tauntingly by her killer. Kooky theory. Perhaps our indignity over the multiple revelations of ugly sexual violence is hoped to blind us to the shoddy plotting and the plodding development. (That, and perhaps also the cracklingly crisp photography.) But the would-be "touching" ending will be soured by the unasked question of how many women were raped, tortured, and murdered over those forty years so that we could have a touching ending. 2009.

● (FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Greatest — Brash title for a movie not about Muhammad Ali and not remotely great, only goodish. First-time writer and director Shana Feste has devised a sticky situation — the parents of a highway fatality open their home to the boy's pregnant girlfriend — and she uses it to anatomize the different forms of grief. There's some sharp observation — the mother waking up in the morning to the renewed realization, the father overprotectively and overzealously summoning his other son out of the surf — and Susan Sarandon, Pierce Brosnan, and Carey Mulligan give it their all. Added up, it's enough to satisfy the neglected appetite for soap suds. Johnny Simmons, Aaron Johnson, Michael Shannon. 2010.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, THROUGH 4/22)

Greenberg — Noah Baumbach, writer and director of *The Squid and the Whale*, features Ben Stiller as a kind of middle-aged-crazy Jesse Eisenberg (nose up, shoulders forward), a self-absorbed self-con-

scious ineffectual intellectual, who, upon his release from a mental hospital, wants to concentrate on "really trying to do nothing for a while," aside from house-sitting for his brother in Los Angeles, maybe building a doghouse for Mahler the family pet, firing off letters of complaint to impervious corporations, and, not least, drinking like a fish. The fecklessness infects the entire film, which is sort of like a Woody Allen without the polished one-liners. Greta Gerwig, a diva of the "mumblecore" movement, as the brother's personal assistant who is always on call to assist, has an odd, ditzzy, dishraggy appeal. With Rhys Ifans and Jennifer Jason Leigh (Baumbach's wife, who co-wrote the story with him). 2010.

★ (GASLAMP 15, FROM 4/23; HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 4/22)

Green Zone — Topical war film feeds off and into the widespread cynicism, which is to say the widespread enlightenment, as to the motives behind the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003. Matt Damon, maturing into an actor of spartan economy and vigilant interi-

ority, plays the army officer charged with running down the leads to the WMDs, very soon reversing his course ("The intel's no good") and independently running down the source of those leads: "Jesus Christ! This is the reason we went to war!" Director Paul Greengrass, as he has done both in docudramas (*Bloody Sunday*, *United 93*) and in cloak-and-dagger daydreams (*The Bourne Supremacy*, *The Bourne Ultimatum*), cultivates an air of reality through a grainy washed-out image and a zigging and zagging camera that covers for any inauthenticity by never giving us a good look at what we're looking at. It cannot cover, however, for screenwriter Brian Helgeland's penchant for the instructive, reductive talking point ("This country is a powder keg of ethnic instability") that sounds like nothing anyone would say outside a panel of experts under severe commercial time constraints on CNN. Any deficiencies in the image or the dialogue will not detract from the pell-mell propulsiveness of the action, mostly contained within a single hectic day, the sheer breathless pace of it and the distance over

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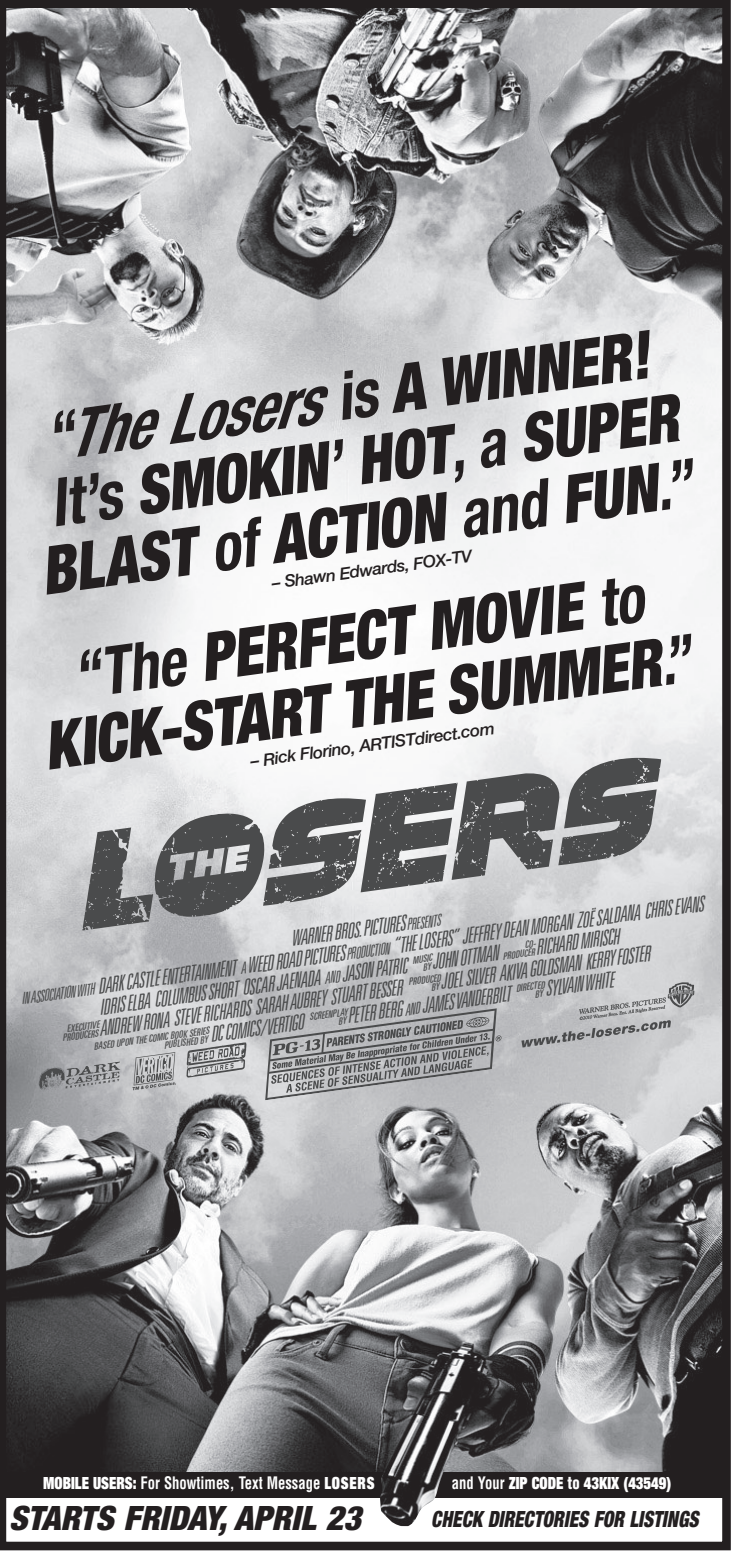
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which that pace is sustained. The relentlessly chugging music doesn't really seem to help with that, but apparently can't help itself. Greg Kinnear, Amy Ryan, Brendan Gleeson, Khalid Abdalla. 2010.
★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12)

Hot Tub Time Machine — Guy-jinks involving three middle-aged buddies and a nephew who, for R&R, repair to a rundown mountain resort, the playground of their salad days, where a malfunctioning hot tub transports them magically (as opposed to science-fictionally) back to 1986. They still look middle-aged to us and themselves, but everyone else sees them as their younger selves, excepting the already young nephew, who looks no younger. So we get all the raunch and all the grossness of guy comedy, and all the sloppy appearance in photography and set design, plus all the irrationalities of time travel into the bargain. And what sense does it make for one time traveller to tell the dwellers in 1986 that "John Lennon gets shot"? John Lennon got shot six years earlier. With John Cusack, Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson, Clark Duke, Chevy Chase, Crispin Glover, and Lizzy Caplan; directed by Steve Pink. 2010.
● (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

How to Train Your Dragon — Computer-animated, seemingly computer-written, Viking tale, revolving around a twiggy little lad named Hiccup, "different" from his stout fellows, odd, aberrant, queer you might say, who rather than slay dragons, gets to know them, understands them, negotiates for peace between the species, yet still proves his mettle as a "real" Viking in a cataclysmic climactic battle against a unifying monster beyond all understanding. A movie awash in wishfulness. Available in 3-D. With the voices of Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler, Craig Ferguson, and America Ferrera; directed by Dean DuBlois and Chris Sanders. 2010.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA



Death at a Funeral — Who could ever have foreseen that director Neil LaBute would stoop to poop jokes to bring down the house?

BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Hurt Locker — Fictitious countdown of the final six weeks in the twelve-month tour of an army bomb squad in Baghdad. The living and working conditions in a color-free wasteland appear perfectly credible, and the quasi-science-fictional details of the job — the spaceman protective suits, the remote-control bomb-sniffing robot, the tangle of colored wires, the hide-and-seek triggers — are highly enlightening. And the defusing of bombs — the constant prospect of their blowing up in our faces — carries a guaranteed tension, as witness such forerunners as Robert Aldrich's *Ten Seconds 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 jostles 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 cliché 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 in development, no more than generic as opposed to individual soldiers. With Guy Pearce, Ralph Fiennes, David Morse. 2009.
★★ (GASLAMP 15)

The Joneses — Consumerist satire wherein the ideal family of four is really an assembled sales team — a "unit" — planted in an affluent community to arouse envy and rivalry in their neighbors. Details of the operation are sketchy at best, but it works well enough as a metaphor. The satire goes soft at the end, though, and in fact begins to signal the melting a long way short of the end. Demi Moore, molded, sanded, polished, and varnished to mannequin perfection, has found here a role in which her inhumanity is not, until the softening, a drawback. David Duchovny, with that trademark quizzical look of trying to identify the flavor of ice cream in his mouth, is the chief signaller, the chief bean-spiller, of the coming thaw. With Amber Heard, Ben Hollingsworth, Gary Cole, and Glenne Headly; written and directed by Derrick Borte. 2010.
★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Kick-Ass — Alias *Smart-Ass*, a black comedy marking another advance in the decadence and self-consciousness of superhero mythologies. The central premise of a teenage comic-book geek (Aaron Johnson) donning a green wet suit with ropy yellow trim to act out his crime-fighting fantasies, prosaically dubbing himself Kick-Ass for the purpose, is not as original as the script makes believe — "How come nobody's ever tried to be a superhero?" — although the current generation of fanboys (were they known as fanboys before the current generation?) could not be expected to remember a thing like *Nunzio*, dated 1978. (Things like *Blankman* and *Unbreakable* are not so dust-covered.) Such a premise cannot stay for long in touch with "reality," and soon the teen sex comedy — "My only superpower was being invisible to girls" — crosses paths with a *Death Wish* revenge story, and a "real" superhero surfaces: Big Daddy in a Batsuit knockoff (Nicolas Cage) and his bred-from-the-cradle prepubescent sidekick, the raccoon-masked, purple-haired Hit Girl (Chloe Grace Moretz, who steals the show from her elders), together pressing a private vendetta against a Manhattan druglord (the tritely cast Mark Strong). You might say that the film deconstructs and then reconstructs the superhero fantasy, or anyway you might say it if those words are in your vocabulary. And if truly gory and nasty and ugly violence does not drag down

or perhaps even boosts up your high spirits (consider Tarantino a test case), you are fairly well guaranteed to get at least a little kick out of it. Directed by Matthew Vaughn. 2010.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Last Song — Miley Cyrus gets to shed her Hannah Montana alter ego for an insipid summer romance, thick with pop songs and montages, from the sparkless pen of Nicholas Sparks. The central character, a one-time piano prodigy accepted into Juilliard on past performance, though she hasn't touched a keyboard in years, goes gripingly to Georgia, together with her little brother, to read Tolstoy, to save turtles, and principally to reconnect with her estranged father before (spoiler alert) his surrender to cancer, and, in a meet-cute, she literally bumps into a blond beach volleyballer, spilling her milkshake down her front, who turns out (spoiler alert) to be a plantation-bred blueblood. Along the way, she sulks, she sasses, she flounces off in countless huffs, she cries, she laughs, she kisses, she sings along to the car radio, she tries on girly dresses for a wedding at which we never meet either the bride or the groom, and she plays a piano solo at her father's funeral so stirringly as to summon up an invisible orchestra in accompaniment. Altogether, she proves herself a perfectly adequate actress for a piece of dreck. As an example for the girls of America, her level, declarative, strong, sour speaking voice is surely preferable to the generational epidemic of wee, high, squeaky, helium-filled voices. Her hunched shoulders, giving her body the appearance of hanging on a coat hook, are another matter. With Liam Hemsworth, Greg Kinnear, Bobby Coleman, and Kelly Preston; directed by Julie Anne Robinson. 2010.
● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Losers — Action film with Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Zoë Saldaña, Chris Evans, and Idris Elba, directed by Sylvain White. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 4/23)

Malice in Wonderland — Simon Fellows's retelling of the Lewis Carroll children's classic, updated (albeit little more distorted than Tim Burton's) in a depopulated urban underground in North East England, with a funhouse atmosphere of tilted cameras and electric Expressionistic color. It is often good to look at, not least for the comely Maggie Grace as an amnesiac adult Alice, but the forced fidelity to the original text — to the Mad Hatter, to Tweedum and Tweedledee, to the Cheshire Cat, to the (now male) Queen of Hearts — becomes a ball-and-chain. With Danny Dyer, Matt King, Nathaniel Parker. 2009.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

Oceans — French-made Disney nature documentary directed by Jacques Perrin, of *Winged Migration*. (DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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● (HORTON PLAZA 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

A Prophet — A sort of Prisoner’s Progress, a brutal and brutally long account of a young Muslim naif who enters a French penitentiary on unspecified charges, gets recruited by the Corsicans as a double agent to knock off a fellow Arab, and from there climbs up the criminal ladder as a man without an ethnicity. The Corsican and Muslim factions make a welcome change from their stereotyped American counterparts — the Hispanics, the blacks, the white supremacists — and there’s a good deal of informative and interesting material on the French penal system (e.g., twelve-hour day passes to do mischief on the outside), and yet there’s no great narrative skill in getting it across, only a good deal of murky approaches, unclear connections, loose ends. At times a pitch of intensity is reached, but that seems to be an effect more of the hyperventilating music of Alexandre Desplat than of any control of the throttle by director Jacques Audiard (*Read My Lips, The Beat That My Heart Skipped*, tepid thrillers).

The performances by mostly unknowns, chiefly Tahar Rahim and chiefly excepting the characterful character actor Niels Arestrup, are nicely contained, in the French style, dedicated to team goals instead of individual glory; and the gritty, frigid, moldy-green image fits in with the overall intent of giving the moviegoer the lowdown if not quite giving him a movie, a diversion. The carrot at the end of the 150-minute stick is a haunting rendition of “Mack the Knife” by the inimitable Jimmie Dale Gilmore. 2009. ★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Repo Men — Grisly vision of the future, where artificial organs are sold on the installment plan and are repossessed by force when the recipients fall behind in their payments, and where one such repo man receives a transplant of his own and grows a conscience. The ending is terrible from several angles and from a long way back, almost from the beginning. With Jude Law, Forest Whitaker, Liev Schreiber, and Alice Braga; directed by Miguel Sapochnik. 2010. ● (HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Runaways — The story of the eponymous all-girl rock band assembles some backstage clichés to facilitate the continued growth, right before our eyes, of Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning, as guitarist Joan Jett and vocalist Cherie Currie respectively. “This isn’t about women’s lib,” announces their mid-Seventies Sven-gali. “This is about women’s libido.” (Tireddest cliché, twice used, is the dreaming of dreams beneath the Hollywood sign.) You might expect a degree of candor in a movie that starts out with a splash of menstrual blood (Fanning) on the pavement outside the Pup ’n’ Fries, or that permits re-

venge to be taken on a chauvinist-piggy rock star by peeing (Stewart) on his guitar. And yet, in first-time filmmaker Floria Sigismondi’s screenplay, we hardly get to know these people beyond Currie’s curious tolerance for the sappy “Starry Starry Night” of Don McLean. Was that Sapphic kiss just a kiss? Was there ever a sequel to it? Or is it simply another growth spurt for Stewart and Fanning? In the void, the movie emerges as scarcely more than costume-party dress-up. (Theme: the Me Decade.) The two leads unquestionably look their parts — the jet-black Jett with her Kabuki hair and the jail-bait Currie, “a little Bowie, a little Bardot,” and, we might add, a little Lolita — but their natural modes, Stewart’s tortured introversion and Fanning’s fawnlike timidity, are a lot to overcome in the roles of barrier-smashing rockers, and they neither of them overcome it. 2010.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; HILLCREST CINE-MAS)

The Secret in Their Eyes — Reviewed this issue. With Ricardo Darin, Soledad Villamil, Guillermo Francella, and Javier Godino; directed by Juan José Campanella. ★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 4/23)

Shutter Island — “Disturbing” would be one word, maybe the best word, for Martin Scorsese’s adaptation of the Fifties-period Dennis Lehane detective novel. Nothing, let’s be clear, in the list of ingredients — the Alcatrazzy 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 allegations 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-esque 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 instilled deference to Scorsese that would prevent us from anticipating, at the heart of the maze, the cheesy 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 unmistakably 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 pumpkin-head closeups, the portentous tracking shots, the ponderous slo-mo, the full range of eye-grabbing gimmicks by which Scorsese 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 transcription of “Itsy-Bitsy 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.

★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15)

The Square — Australian suspense film

with David Roberts, Claire van der Boom, and Joel Edgerton, directed by Nash Edgerton. (KEN, 4/23 THROUGH 29)

That Evening Sun — Rural drama starring Hal Holbrook and the late Dixie Carter, written and directed by Scott Teems. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 4/23)

Vincere — Another side of Benito Mussolini, the sex drive, the secret mistress, the hidden love child, and the resulting trouble for his marriage and his ambitions, but more so for his mistress. An interesting subject, lurchingly chronicled, obscurely photographed, operatically scored. Giovanna Mezzogiorno delivers an impassioned performance from start to finish, but Filippi Timi gets bumped midway through by newsreels of the real Il Duce and gets demoted, weirdly, to the role of the bastard son. Written and directed by Marco Bellocchio. 2009.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 4/22)

The Warlords — Hoked-up Civil War epic, visually very uneven, set in mid-19th-century China, featuring three of the usual suspects, Jet Li, Andy Lau, Takeshi Kinoshiro, and directed by Peter Ho-Sun Chan. The weighty statements on the specific history and on war in general are subverted by eruptions of martial-arts silliness in the hand-to-hand combat. A filmmaker must choose whether he wants to be taken seriously or taken silly. He can’t have it both ways. 2009.

● (KEN, THROUGH 4/22)

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.-Sun. (11:15, 1:50) 4:20; **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50, 1:05, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. (10:50, 1:05, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:05, 1:35) 4:10, 7:20, 9:45 Sun. (11:05, 1:35) 4:10, 7:20; **Crazy Heart** (R) Fri.-Sat. 7:00, 9:30 Sun. 7:00p.m.; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:20, 1:20, 3:35) 5:35, 7:50, 10:00 Sun. (1:20, 1:20, 3:35) 5:35, 7:50; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 1:40, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15, 10:30 Sun. (11:30, 1:40, 3:45) 6:00, 8:15; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:55, 1:00, 3:15) 5:25, 7:45, 9:55 Sun. (10:55, 1:00, 3:15) 5:25, 7:45; **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35, 2:20) 4:50, 7:35, 10:15 Sun. (11:35, 2:20) 4:50, 7:35; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 12:55, 3:20) 5:30, 8:05, 10:25 Sun. (10:45, 12:55, 3:20) 5:30, 8:05; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:25, 2:00) 4:15, 7:05, 9:25 Sun. (11:25, 2:00) 4:15, 7:05; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:40, 1:55) 4:25, 7:15, 9:40 Sun. (11:40, 1:55) 4:25, 7:15; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 1:10, 3:30) 5:50; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:20 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00; **The Runaways** (R) Fri.-Sat. 8:10, 10:30 Sun. 8:10p.m.

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)
The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:45) 4:20, 7:10, 9:30; **The Bounty Hunter** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:50, 10:20; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 8:05, 10:30; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. (11:00, 1:35) 4:10, 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (11:00) 4:10, 7:15, 9:45; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:05, 2:10) 4:15, 5:20, 6:20, 7:35, 8:35, 9:40, 10:35; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 12:55, 3:25)

5:35, 7:45, 10:00; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 1:05, 3:10); **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:20, 3:35) 5:50, 8:15, 10:25; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:40, 1:00, 3:20) 5:40, 8:10, 10:20; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 2:20) 4:40, 7:05, 9:20; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sat.-Sun. (2:00p.m.); **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 12:20, 1:50, 2:50) 4:25, 5:25, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:35; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00); **Letters to God** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 5:20p.m.; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 7:55, 10:15; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:15) 5:30, 7:40, 9:50; **The Perfect Game** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:40) 5:15

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:45, 12:55, 2:10, 3:20) 4:35, 5:45, 7:00, 8:05, 9:25, 10:25; **Brooklyn’s Finest** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:35) 7:05; **Chloe** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:15, 7:40, 10:00; **Crazy Heart** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15) 4:45, 7:10, 9:35; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. (11:00, 1:00, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:10) 5:20, 7:30, 9:50; **Greenberg** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 4:55, 7:15, 9:40; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:10, 1:25, 3:40) 5:50, 8:10, 10:35 Sun. (11:10, 1:25, 3:40) 5:50, 8:10, 10:25; **The Hurt Locker** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 2:00) 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:30, 3:00) 5:30, 7:50, 10:10; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:05, 12:15, 1:15, 2:45, 3:35) 5:05, 6:05, 7:25, 8:20, 9:45, 10:40 Sun. (11:05, 12:15, 1:15, 2:45, 3:35) 5:05, 6:05, 7:25, 8:20, 9:45; **Malice in Wonderland** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35) 4:25, 10:05; **A Prophet** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:55) 5:35; **Shutter Island** (R) Fri.-Sun. (1:00) 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; **Terribly Happy** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. (3:15) 9:00; **Why Did I Get Married Too?** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:55) 4:35, 7:20, 9:55

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri. (1:05, 4:15) 7:00, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **The Bounty Hunter** (PG-13) Fri. (1:25, 4:30) 7:40, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:30, 7:40, 10:15; **Clash**

of the Titans (PG-13) Fri. (2:05, 4:50) 7:35, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (2:05) 4:50, 7:35, 10:05; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. (1:35, 4:20) 7:05, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. 4:20, 7:05, 9:35; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. (1:15, 1:45, 3:25, 4:05, 5:35) 7:00, 7:50, 9:25, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:15, 1:45, 3:25) 4:05, 5:35, 7:00, 7:50, 9:25, 10:20; **Green Zone** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:15, 9:50; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. (1:20, 4:10) 7:10, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:20) 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. (1:50, 4:40) Sat.-Sun. (1:50) 4:40; **The Joneses** (R) Fri. (1:00, 4:10) 7:05, 9:40 Sat.-Sun. (1:00) 4:10, 7:05, 9:40; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. 2:00p.m.; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. (1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:35, 4:05, 4:35) 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:35) 4:05, 4:35, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30; **The Perfect Game** (PG) Fri. (1:10, 4:25) 7:30, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (1:10) 4:25, 7:30, 10:10; **Repo Men** (R) Fri. (1:05, 4:15) 7:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:25, 9:55

KENSINGTON

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
The Square (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (4:45), 7:15, 9:45; Sat. & Sun.: (2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland; The Back-up Plan; Clash of the Titans; Date Night; Death at a Funeral; Green Zone; Hot Tub Time Machine; How to Train Your Dragon; Kick-Ass; The Last Song; The Losers; Oceans

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
The Secret in Their Eyes (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:20, 4:10), 7:00, 9:50; Sat. & Sun.: (10:30), 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; **The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo** (NR) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:50), (5:00), 8:15; Sat. & Sun.: (10:40), 1:50, 5:00, 8:15; **That Evening Sun** (PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:40; 4:20), 7:10, 9:40, No 7:10 pm show Mon., 04/26/10; Sat. & Sun.: (10:50), 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40; **The Joneses** (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (4:30), 9:30; **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:30), 6:50; Sat. & Sun.: (1:30), 6:50

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

MISSION HILLS

Cinema under the Stars

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)
Avatar (PG-13) Thu.-Sat. 8 pm

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:30) 4:50, 7:30 Sun. (11:30) 4:50, 7:35; **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:50) 1:30, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45 Fri.-Sat. (10:50, 11:50) 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:25, 7:05, 8:05, 9:45, 10:45 Sun. (10:50, 11:50) 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:40, 10:30 Sun. (10:50) 1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40; **The Bounty Hunter** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05) 1:45, 7:40; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 5:45, 8:20, 11:05 Sun. 5:45, 8:20; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:20) 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:00; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00) 12:15, 1:20, 2:45, 3:45, 5:15, 6:10, 7:35, 8:30, 9:50, 10:55 Sun. (11:00) 12:15, 1:20, 2:45, 3:45, 5:15, 6:10, 7:30, 8:30, 9:55; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:20, 2:55, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25 Sun. 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri.-Sat. 12:40, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50 Sun. (11:40) 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:15) 12:45, 3:10; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:45) 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40 Sun. (11:45) 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:35; **The Joneses** (R) Fri.-Sat. 2:15, 10:15 Sun. 2:15, 10:10; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 11:10) 12:25, 1:15, 2:00, 3:30, 4:15, 5:05, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:20, 10:05, 11:00 Sun. (10:30, 11:15) 12:25, 1:15, 2:00, 3:30, 4:15, 5:00, 6:30, 7:15, 8:00, 9:20, 10:05; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:10) 1:50, 4:25, 7:20, 9:55 Sun. (11:10) 1:50, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 12:05, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20 Sun. 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sat. (10:00) 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10 Sun. (10:00) 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:35, 9:55; **Shutter Island** (R) Fri.-Sat. 4:30, 10:30 Sun. 4:30, 10:25; **Why Did I Get Married Too?** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sat. (11:15) 2:05, 5:00, 7:50, 10:40 Sun. (10:10) 1:10, 4:10, 7:05, 10:10

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Sun.-Wed.: (11:30, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15; Thu.: (10:00, 11:30, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:30; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (NR) Sun.: 2:00 pm; Wed. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 1:45), 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sun.: (11:15), 7:00; Mon. & Tue.: (11:15, 1:45), 4:30, 7:00; Wed. & Thu.: (11:15, 1:45), 4:30; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sun.-Thu.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri.: 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sat.: (11:45, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.: (11:45), 5:15, 7:45; Mon. & Tue.: (11:45, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45; Wed. & Thu.: (11:45, 2:45), 5:15; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland; The Back-up Plan; Clash of the Titans; Date Night; Death at a Funeral; Diary of a Wimpy Kid; Hot Tub Time Machine; How to Train Your Dragon; Kick-Ass; The Last Song; The Losers; Oceans; Why Did I Get Married Too?

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
City Island (PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (2:10, 4:45), 7:30, 10:15; Sat. & Sun.: (11:15), 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; **The Eclipse** (R) Fri., Mon.-

Thu.: (1:30), 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, No 7:00 pm show Wed., 04/28/10; Sat. & Sun.: (10:45), 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **The Runaways** (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (2:00, 4:35), 7:20, 10:05, No 7:20 pm show Tue., 04/27/10; Sat. & Sun.: (11:05), 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05; **The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo** (NR) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:50, 5:05), 8:20; Sat. & Sun.: (10:35), 1:50, 5:05, 8:20; **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu.: (1:40, 4:25), 7:10, 9:55; Sat. & Sun.: (10:55), 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Call theater for program information.

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264 #2710)

The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:25) 4:50, 7:15, 9:40; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 2:40) 5:10, 7:50, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (11:45) 5:10, 7:50, 10:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 12:10, 1:15, 2:15, 3:20) 4:20, 5:20, 6:25, 7:25, 8:30, 9:30, 10:35; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 1:25, 3:35) 5:45, 7:55, 10:05; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:40, 2:10) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (Not Rated) Fri. Sat.-Sun.; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 12:25, 1:55, 3:00) 4:35, 5:35, 7:10, 8:10, 9:50, 10:45; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 1:10, 3:25) 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:05, 3:15) 5:25, 7:35, 9:45

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15
2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. (12:20, 12:50, 3:15, 4:45) 7:05, 7:35, 9:50, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 12:50, 3:15) 4:45, 7:05, 7:35, 9:50, 10:25;

The Bounty Hunter (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 6:30, 9:25; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 3:20) 6:55, 9:40; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. (1:05, 4:50) 7:30, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. 4:50, 7:30, 10:20; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:40, 5:05) 7:50, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:40) 5:05, 7:50, 10:05; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 4:55) 7:15, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 4:55, 7:15, 10:30; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:10) 6:40, 9:45; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:25); **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. (12:25, 2:50, 5:15) 7:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:15, 7:40, 10:10; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. 2:00p.m.; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. (12:40, 1:15, 3:30, 4:40) 7:10, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45 Sat.-Sun. (12:40, 1:15, 3:30) 4:40, 7:10, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:40) 6:45, 9:35; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. (12:15, 2:45, 5:10) 7:45, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 2:45) 5:10, 7:45, 10:15; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sun. (3:00) 7:00, 9:30

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Clash of the Titans (PG-13); **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R); **Kick-Ass** (R); **The Losers** (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00,

2:45), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.: (12:00, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45; Mon.-Thu.: 5:15, 7:45; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:45), 6:15, 8:30, 10:45 Sun.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:45), 6:15, 8:30; Mon.-Thu.: 6:15, 8:30; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00, 9:30; Sun.: (11:30, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00; Mon.-Thu.: 4:15, 7:00; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 7:15, 8:15, 10:00, 10:45; Sun.: (11:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 7:15, 8:15; Mon.-Thu.: 5:45, 7:15, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15; Mon.-Thu.: 6:00, 8:15; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30, 10:15; Sun.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30; Mon.-Thu.: 5:00, 7:30; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Sun.: (11:15, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15; Mon.-Thu.: 4:45, 7:15; **Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (1:00, 4:00), 7:00, 10:00; Sun.: (1:00, 4:00), 7:00; Mon.: (4:00), 7:00; Tue.: (4:00); Wed. & Thu.: (4:00), 7:00; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Sun.: (2:00), 4:30; Mon.-Thu.: 4:30 pm; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (12:30), (3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00; Mon.-Thu.: 5:30, 8:00; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland (PG); **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13); **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13); **Date Night** (PG-13); **Death at a Funeral** (R); **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG); **The Last Song** (PG); **The Losers** (PG-13)

Palm Promenade 24

770 Denmery Road (888-262-4386)
Avatar; **The Back-up Plan**; **The Bounty Hunter**; **Clash of the Titans**; **Date Night**; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**; **Hot Tub Time Machine**; **How to Train Your Dragon**; **Kick-Ass**; **The Last Song**; **The Losers**; **Oceans**; **The Perfect Game**; **Why Did I Get Married Too?**

Rancho Del Rey 16

1025 Tierra del Rey (off East H Street) (619-216-4707)
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri. (1:35, 4:30) 7:15, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (1:35) 4:30, 7:15, 9:50; **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13) Fri. (12:40, 1:50, 3:15, 4:35) 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:40,

1:50, 3:15) 4:35, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri. (1:05, 4:15) 7:25, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (1:05) 4:15, 7:25, 10:10; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:20, 3:40) 7:20, 9:55; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. (12:35, 2:55, 5:15) 7:40, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:15, 7:40, 10:05; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:10, 3:35) 6:40, 9:00; **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:50, 3:45) 6:50, 9:40; **Green Zone** (R) Fri. (1:25, 4:25) 7:10, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (1:25) 4:25, 7:10, 9:50; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri. (1:30, 4:05) 7:50, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:05, 7:50, 10:20; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:30) 6:30, 8:55; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. (1:40, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (1:40) 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; **Letters to God** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:45, 3:55) 6:45, 9:25; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:50) 7:35, 10:00; **Oceans** (G) Fri. 7:00, 9:10, (2:35, 4:50) 10:00, 12:30 Sat.-Sun. 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, (2:35) 10:00, 12:30; **The Perfect Game** (PG) Fri. (1:15, 4:10) 6:55, 9:45 Sat.-Sun. (1:15) 4:10, 6:55, 9:45

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland (PG); **Avatar** (PG-13); **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13); **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13); **Date Night** (PG-13); **Death at a Funeral** (R); **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R); **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG); **Kick-Ass** (R); **The Last Song** (PG); **The Losers** (PG-13); **Oceans** (G); **Why Did I Get Married Too?** (Not Rated)

NORTH INLAND

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16
350 West Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information.

FALLBROOK

River Village 6
5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 2:00), 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; Sun.: (11:30, 2:00), 4:30, 7:15; Mon.-Thu.: 4:30, 7:15; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; Sun.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45; Mon.-Thu.: 5:00, 7:45; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:45, 3:00), 5:15, 7:30, 10:00; Sun.: (12:45, 3:00), 5:15, 7:30; Mon.-Thu.: (3:00), 5:15, 7:30; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:15, 2:45), 5:30, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.: (12:15, 2:45), 5:30, 8:15; Mon.-Thu.: 5:30, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 5:45, 8:00, 10:15; Sun.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 5:45, 8:00; Mon.-Thu.: (3:30), 5:45, 8:00; **How to Train Your Dragon 3D** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00, 9:30; Sun.: (11:15, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00; Mon.-Thu.: 4:15, 7:00; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

POWAY

Poway 10
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 2:15), 4:30, 7:15, 9:45; Sun.-Tue.: (11:15, 2:15), 4:30, 7:15; Wed.: (10:00, 11:15, 2:15), 4:30,



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Movie Line: 760-806-1790



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7:15; Thu.: (11:15, 2:15), 4:30, 7:15; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15 , 2:00), 4:45, 7:15, 9:30; Sun.-Thu.: (11:15, 2:00), 4:45, 7:15; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (NR) Sun.: 2:00 pm; Wed. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:45), 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:45), 6:15, 8:30; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:30, 1:45, 3:00), 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (12:30, 1:45, 3:00), 5:30, 7:00, 8:00; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sun.: (11:30), 5:00, 7:30; Mon. & Tue.: (11:30, 2:30), 5:00, 7:30; Wed. & Thu.: (11:30, 2:30), 5:00; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri.-Thu.: (11:15), 4:15; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.-Thu.: (12:00, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45; **How to Train Your Dragon 3D** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00), 7:00, 10:15; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00), 7:00; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18
1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old Californiana Walk) (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

VISTA

Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:05, 4:40) 7:25, 10:00; **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:25, 12:10, 2:00, 2:40, 4:35, 5:15) 7:10, 7:50, 9:40, 10:20; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 1:45, 4:20) 7:05, 9:35; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:20, 4:55) 7:35, 10:10; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (12:20, 2:40, 5:00) 6:30, 7:15, 8:45, 9:35, 11:00 Sun. (12:20, 2:40, 5:00) 6:30, 7:15, 8:45, 9:35; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:05, 5:25) 7:40, 10:05; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. (11:30, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:30, 4:00); **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. (2:00p.m.) Sat.-Sun. (2:00p.m.); **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 12:00, 2:05, 2:45, 4:55, 5:35) 7:45, 8:25, 10:30, 11:05 Sun. (11:15, 12:00, 2:05, 2:45, 4:55, 5:35) 7:45, 8:25, 10:30; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 12:40, 2:30, 3:10, 4:50, 5:35) 7:20, 8:00, 9:45, 10:25; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15, 4:45) 7:00, 9:15

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15, 9:35 Sun. (11:45, 2:15, 4:45) 7:15; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 1:25, 3:35) 5:45, 7:55, 10:00 Sun. (11:15, 1:25, 3:35) 5:45, 7:55; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri.-Sat. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:25 Sun. (11:30, 2:00, 4:30) 7:00; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:10, 3:20) 5:30, 7:40, 9:50 Sun. (11:00, 1:10, 3:20) 5:30, 7:40

DEL MAR

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



The Losers (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:30, 2:45), 5:00, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.-Thu.: (10:15, 12:30, 2:45), 5:00, 7:45; **Oceans** (G) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:30; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (NR) Sun.: 2:00 pm; Wed. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.: (11:15, 1:45, 4:00), 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; Sat.:

(1:45, 4:00), 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.: (1:45, 4:00), 6:15, 8:30; Mon.-Thu.: (11:15, 1:45, 4:00), 6:15, 8:30; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 11:00, 1:15, 3:45), 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 11:00, 1:15, 3:45), 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:15; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:45, 1:30), 4:15, 7:00, 9:30; Sun.: (10:45), 4:15, 7:00; Mon. & Tue.: (10:45, 1:30), 4:15, 7:00; Wed. & Thu.: (10:45, 1:30), 4:15; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:15, 2:30), 10:00; Sun.-Thu.: (12:15, 2:30); **How to Train Your Dragon 3D** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (10:30, 1:00, 3:15), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (10:30, 1:00, 3:15), 5:30, 8:00; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

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



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:45), 4:30, 7:00, 9:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:45), 4:30, 7:00; **The Joneses** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00 , 12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00; **City**

Island (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo** (NR) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 1:00), 4:15, 7:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 1:00), 4:15, 7:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
Avatar (PG-13) Fri. 6:00, 9:15 Sat. (2:45) 6:00, 9:15 Sun. (2:45) 7:00

LA COSTA

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



Oceans (G) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:30, 9:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:30; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (NR) Sun.: 2:00 pm; Wed. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 10:00; Sun.-Thu.: (12:00, 2:15), 4:45, 7:15; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:15, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.: (11:45), 5:00, 7:45; Mon. & Tue.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45; Wed. & Thu.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:00; **How to Train Your Dragon 3D** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (10:30, 1:00), 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (10:30, 1:00), 3:30, 6:00, 8:30; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

OCEANSIDE

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



The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 2:15), 5:00, 7:30, 10:15; Sun.-Tue.: (11:30, 2:15), 5:00, 7:30; Wed.: (10:00, 11:30, 2:15), 5:00, 7:30; Thu.: (11:30, 2:15), 5:00, 7:30; **The Losers** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:45), 6:00, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:45), 6:00, 8:30; **Kenny Chesney: Summer in 3D** (NR) Sun.: 2:00 pm; Wed. & Thu.: 7:30 pm; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.-Thu.: (12:15, 2:45), 5:15, 7:45; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 7:30, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:30, 12:45, 3:15), 5:45, 7:30, 8:15; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15; **Clash of the Titans** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; Sun.-Thu.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:15, 8:00; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 2:00), 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Sun.: (11:15), 4:45, 7:15; Mon. & Tue.: (11:15, 2:00), 4:45, 7:15; Wed. & Thu.: (11:15, 2:00), 4:45; **Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married Too** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (2:00), 4:45; **The Last Song** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:45), 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:45), 4:30, 7:15; **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.-Thu.: (12:00, 2:30), 5:00, 7:45; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.-Thu.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:30, 8:00; **How to Train Your Dragon 3D** (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00), 7:00, 9:30; Sun.-Thu.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00), 7:00; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri: (11:30, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00; Sat.: (11:30, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00, 9:15; Sun.-Thu.: (11:30, 1:45), 4:15, 7:00; **Care Bears to the Rescue** (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

Oceanside 16
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information.

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HELP WANTED EDUCATION

EDUCATION. Harmonium Children's Programs seeks quality full-time and part-time staff to work on school grounds: Activity Leaders and Inclusion Facilitators for before/after school care. Infant/Toddler Teachers for licensed daycare. License #376700280. E-mail

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CAREGIVERS needed from all areas. 1 year's experience. Hourly and live in. Assertive Care at Home Inc., 3774 Grove Street, #L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS, 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day (including sleep and meal periods). Weekends and hourly. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$150 hiring bonus for employees accepting North County live-in assignments (after 90 days of employment). Free seminar at our San Diego office: "What It Takes To Be A Comfort Keeper," first Monday of each month at 5pm. Space is limited, call for a reservation. Comfort Keepers, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

CAREGIVERS/ COMPANIONS. Minimum 1 year's experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California driver's license. Serving Santee/La Mesa/ Del

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LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

CAREGIVERS/ COMPANIONS. Home care agency has immediate openings for compassionate and experienced Caregivers in the El Cajon, Lakeside, Granite Hills, Bostonia, Rancho San Diego, Alpine and Julian areas. Must have 2+ years' healthcare experience, valid CA driver's license and reliable transportation. Background check required. Visiting Angels, 619-987-4910.

CAREGIVERS/CNAs/HHAs. Immediate openings. Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful Caregivers needed to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1-year experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits, 24-hour office support. Age Advantage, 619-660-8881, 760-720-7272.

IN-HOME CARE. Caregivers and Companions. Minimum 1 year's experience non-medical home care for seniors. Valid California Driver's License. Serving Santee/La Mesa/Del Cerro/San Carlos. Visiting Angels, 619-749-7525.

LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES. AccentCare is a national leader in providing home health care services. We offer full-time, part-time, per diem 1:1 private duty shift care (including school cases countywide), competitive pay and excellent support system. Join our team and make a difference! Requires: Valid LVN license, at least one year actual LVN work experience, current CPR card, valid CA driver's license, reliable auto with proof of insurance and registration. Call 800-590-0030, fax 800-607-3307, or e-mail aasuncion@accentcare.com. www.accentcare.com. EOE.

[mail aasuncion@accentcare.com](mailto:aasuncion@accentcare.com). www.accentcare.com. EOE.

Caregivers Needed

Live-in caregivers, 3- and 4-day shifts. High-profile clients. Interviewing Monday-Friday, 10-4. No appointment required. Home Care Assistance, 162 S. Rancho Santa Fe Road, B-10, Encinitas. www.HCA-sd.com, 877-254-4860.

NON-RN NURSING. Certified Nursing Assistants and Healthcare Assistants (CNA and EKG Certification required). Palomar Pomerado Health is hiring. **Apply online from any computer at: www.PPH.org** or in person, Monday-Friday, 7:30am-4:30pm: Human Resources Administrative Offices for Palomar Pomerado Health, 456 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 92025; Pomerado Hospital: Applications available via computer kiosk in main hospital lobby, 1817 Avenida del Diablo, Escondido, 92029. All PPH campuses are smoke-free.

NURSES: LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES. AccentCare is a national leader in providing home health care services. We offer full-time, part-time, per diem 1:1 private duty shift care (including school cases countywide), competitive pay and excellent support system. Join our team and make a difference! Requires: Valid LVN license, at least one year actual LVN work experience, current CPR card, valid CA driver's license, reliable auto with proof of insurance and registration. Call 800-590-0030, fax 800-607-3307, or e-mail aasuncion@accentcare.com. www.accentcare.com. EOE.

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN. Saturdays only. 10am-4pm. Rancho Santa Fe. Experience preferred. To apply or for more details, call 760-262-4113.

HELP WANTED JOBS WANTED

NOTICE TO READERS: This category is for individuals seeking employment, so employers can contact them with available job openings.

JOB WANTED: I'm an In-home Caregiver seeking full-time work. Passionate and kind. Cooking, light housekeeping, medication reminders, etc. References. 619-315-6788.

JOB WANTED. Home chef. Also I can help with driving, shopping, personal accounting, and more. Looking for a part-time job. Please call 760-717-2627.

JOB WANTED. Professional English Nanny/ Nurse. 20 years' childcare experience. Specialties: Premature babies, newborns, toddlers. Reliable, excellent local references. Nursing degree. sdenglishnanny.com, sandra@sdenglishnanny.com. 619-297-6480.

JOB WANTED. Seeking position as TLC caregiver, nanny personal assistance, confidant. Trustworthy, honest, dependable, many years' experience. 7 days/week. Call anytime, Ginger, 619-444-7679.

JOB WANTED. Short-order cook. Leopold Lecomte. I am willing to take any job available. I can be reached at 619-269-3682.

JOBS WANTED. Volunteer driver seeking persons who need help with shopping, errands, appointments. Mileage reimbursement only. Call 619-276-3728.

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DONATE QUALIFIED PLASMA, earn money every week. Requirements: 18-65 years old, good health, proof of Social Security number, proof of current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. www.octapharmaplasma.com.

EARN MONEY EVERY WEEK for qualified plasma donations. Requirements: 18-65 years old, good health, proof of Social Security number, proof of current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. www.octapharmaplasma.com.

EXTRAS FOR MOVIES. To stand in the background of a major film production. Earn up to \$150/ day. No experience required. All looks needed. 800-605-6021.

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PARK OPERATIONS. SeaWorld is currently seeking candidates who possess a positive attitude, high levels of energy and a commitment to quality throughout all aspects of the job to fill the following positions: Ride operator, park operations host/hostess, park services host/hostess, park prep host/hostess. Pay rates start at \$9 per hour. Please visit SeaworldJobs.com for job descriptions, position requirements and to apply online. Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. Office: 619-226-3842; Job line: 619-226-3861. Apply in person: SeaWorld employment center, 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. SeaWorld San Diego is an equal opportunity employer supporting a drug-free workplace.

SUMMER JOBS! YMCA now hiring throughout San Diego County: Day Camp Leaders, Lifeguards, Day Camp Unit Leaders, Swim Instructors, Bus Drivers. Work outdoors! Make new friends! Hands-on experience! Opportunities for career growth! Nights and weekends off for most positions! Develop your spirit, mind and body! Free membership for employees! Apply online at www.ymca.org/jobs or visit us at www.ymca.org/ycareers. 858-292-YMCA (9622).

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT. Part time. Independent Farmers Insurance Agency. Advancement opportunities. Familiarity with MS Word/ Excel, customer service/ communication skills desired! Email resume: lindseykendall@aol.com. Fax: 760-859-3204.

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RESORT. Campland on the Bay is hiring! EOE. Reservation Clerk, Registration Clerk, Marina Dock Hand, Hospitality Ranger, Site Cleaners, Janitors, Income Auditor, Part-Time Accounting Clerk, Pool Attendants. Please apply online at: www.campland.com or in person at 2211 Pacific Beach Drive, San Diego, 92109, Monday-Friday 8:30am-12pm. Jobline: 858-581-4208.

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CEMETERY CONSULTANTS. Counsel families for cemetery arrangements in advance. 100% commission. No experience necessary, must be great communicator. Flexible hours. Call 619-475-7770. Email LMcCarthy@LaVistaMemorialPark.com.

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Sales/ Fundraising. Looking for experienced closers, starting pay \$10/ hour plus commission. Fundraising for school athletics. Fun, relaxed environment, easy job, great pay. 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday- Friday. E-mail resume to jobs@ssfundraising.com or call 858-650-0718.

TELEMARKETING. Fundraising for Democratic Party and national charities. Over 20 years in business. \$9.50/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hiring 12:30pm-9pm shift. Convenient Kearny Mesa location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, 92123-1369. Please call 10am-5pm for interview: 858-496-2100.

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ability to multitask and work independently. Competitive pay, comprehensive benefits package includes: 401(k), medical, dental, life insurance and more. Fax resume and copy of clean DMV history Form H6: 619-295-6892, Attn: Human Resources- Driver; or in person: 4370 Pacific Highway, San Diego, with copy of clean DMV printout. Drug free, EOE.

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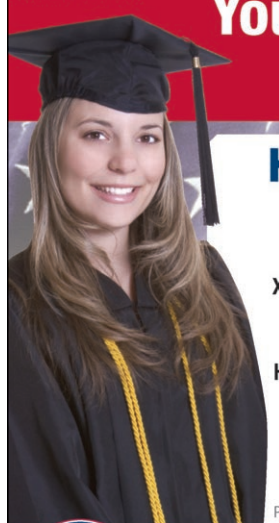
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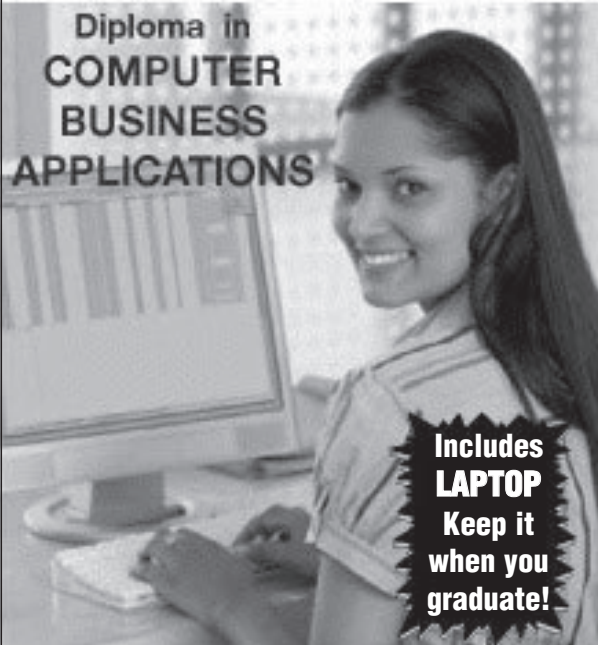


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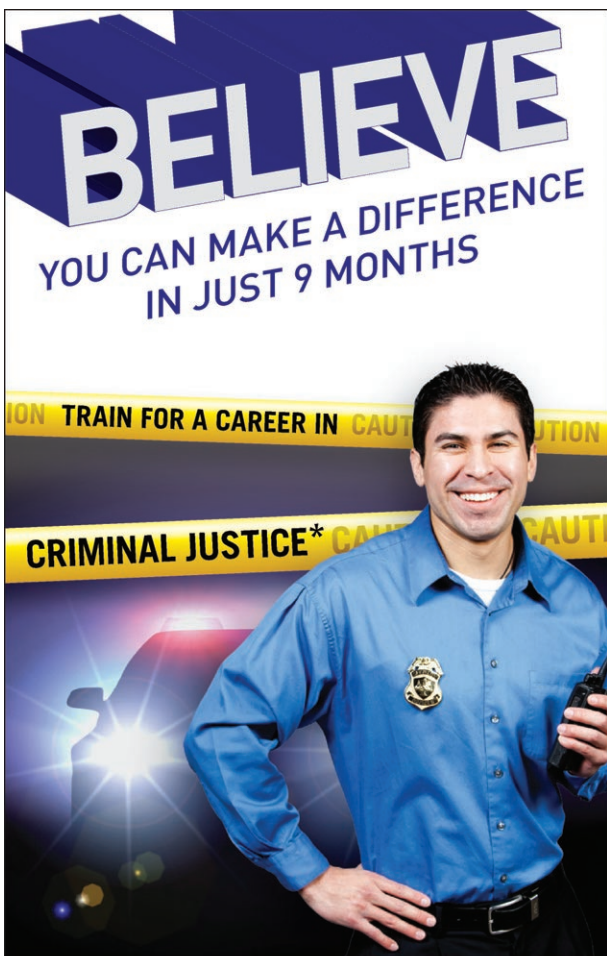
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*www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/education/cps2006.html (See Table 8) **Certifications/licenses may require additional study and cost. † Offered fully online by Stevens-Henager College® Salt Lake City/Murray, an affiliated college.

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THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online each week to sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.
3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
4) Entries must be faxed to 619-231-0489 or 619-233-7907 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
5) 10 Reader T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!
And now for the really small print:
1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
2) Late entries will not be considered.
3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
4) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

- 1. Machu Picchu's land
- 5. IRS form 1099-_____
- 9. Wrath
- 13. Greek H's
- 14. Sal of "Rebel Without a Cause"
- 15. Bassoon cousin
- 16. Advil, e.g.?
- 18. Actress Carter

- 19. Schlep
- 20. Tiniest bit at the bottom of a coffee cup
- 22. Receive willingly?
- 26. Lac contents
- 27. Actress West and others
- 28. Arsonist's advice on making a shepherd's land ungrazeable?
- 34. Palm Treos, e.g.: Abbr.
- 35. Folk singer Guthrie
- 36. Oklahoma native
- 37. Get out in the open
- 38. Howl
- 40. Lean-_____ (sheds)
- 41. Orch. member
- 43. 1979 Fleetwood Mac hit
- 44. The Lone Ranger's shout to Silver
- 45. What Dave tries to do before it's too late in "2001: A Space Odyssey"?
- 47. Take _____ (snooze)
- 48. Faline's mother in "Bambi"
- 49. Muscle/bone connectors
- 51. 1980 Pointer Sisters hit
- 56. Cultural funding org.
- 57. "Am _____ late?"
- 58. To "reform" it is doable in 16-, 28- and 45-Across but not as easily done in the political arena
- 63. Double _____ Oreos
- 64. Fashion designer Perry
- 65. Cart-pulling beasts
- 66. Feudal toiler
- 67. Zipped
- 68. Join with a blowtorch

Down

- 1. Shade of green
- 2. "... and so on": Abbr.
- 3. Motivation exclamation
- 4. Futile
- 5. End of a private email address?

- 6. Global: Abbr.
- 7. "I _____ little silhouette of a man" ("Bohemian Rhapsody" lyric)
- 8. Scarlett O'Hara undergarment
- 9. Cheese dishes
- 10. Not under
- 11. Chocolate-and-caramel brand
- 12. High bark
- 14. Enchanting
- 17. "Ben-_____"
- 21. Sierra Nevada lake
- 22. Get in the way of
- 23. Literature Nobelist Gordimer
- 24. Publisher who was the inspiration for "Citizen Kane"
- 25. Plump songbird
- 29. "Praise be to _____"
- 30. Find very funny
- 31. Mexican-American, e.g.
- 32. "The Sweet Hereafter" director
- 33. "_____ Fables"
- 38. Heavens: Prefix
- 39. Variety show showing
- 42. Drives on a course
- 44. Went ape
- 46. Redeems, as a check
- 50. Old Testament book: Abbr.
- 51. Cat's warning
- 52. Major conclusion?
- 53. Go bad
- 54. Album after "Beatles VI"
- 55. Where Bill and Hillary met
- 59. Top
- 60. Tool depicted in Winslow Homer's "The Woodcutter"
- 61. Theist's subj.
- 62. Wrap up

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We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Neighborhood/City: _____
State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Circle T-shirt size: L XL
Personal Message: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

B	R	A	T	Z		O	D	D	E	R		H	E	S						
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THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Ron Akers, Sabre Springs, 1. If you love NY so much go home!
Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley, 1. Padres — Nice home opener but save some runs for later!
Mary Arana, Encinitas, 1. Live to love.
Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 1. Never in a hurry.
Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 1. Padres need more hits!
☛ **Dean Bekken, San Diego, 1.** Happy B-day, Dad!
Kaye Benton, San Diego, 1. Sun! Give me sun!
☛ **Robert Bourne, , 1.** I'm better thanks!!

Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 1. Running out of things to say.
Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 1. Happy Anniversary Sweetheart.
A.T. Certik, Bonita, 1. Alles Affenscheisse!
Leslie Chase, Campo, 1. It's a great day in the morning
Jon Christianson, El Cajon, 1. Back in the game.
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 1. Alcoholic: A person you dislike but still drink with.
Jon Connor, Oceanside, 1. "How about more beans, Mr. Taggart?"
☛ **Victor Correa, San Ysidro, 1.** Answer the radio.

Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 1. Drop, cover and hold on.
Craig Curtis, Escondido, 1. Happy birthday Sam Curtis! Twenty? Oh my! Love always, Dad!
Vince Cuseo, San Marcos, 1. Winner, winner, chicken dinner!
William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 1. Back in the game from trip to Portland.
Margarite Daniel, Vista, 1. Go Tea Party!
Walter Deegan, San Diego, 1. Doing a lot better with puzzles!
☛ **Greg Del Campo, Temecula, 1.** Hi Rose!
Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 1. "All right Mr Wilk, I'm ready for my close-up."
Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 1. C'mon John make the cut.

John L. Drehner, North Park, 1. Billy Graham is a cracker.
Rich Dudka, Escondido, 1. My first entry.
Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 1. Go Pens!
Andrea Duncan, Valley Center, 1. Mean people suck!
George Elam, Vista, 1. Thanks Mr. Odell. You're swell.
Harry Engel, La Jolla, 1. 13x4=52, not 14x4.
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 1. NFL draft week. Get someone good AJ!
D. Faulkner, University Heights, 1. Your bike, the best way to get around.
Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 1. Happy Mother's Day Laurie.
Carolyn Foley, Carlsbad, 1. To puzzle master- Great clues!

Irvin C. Gavidor, Golden Hill, 1. Rain blues? Brighten someone's day! Shop India Ink Papers.
Jacque Glick, El Cajon, 1. I've been dropped!
Marie Grace, College Area, 1. Correct last weeks with no credit (Sob!)
Chad Griffith, Poway, 1. Happy birthday Chad. We love you, Kate, Andrea, Xena, Sophie.
Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 1. Go Twins!
Sean Holt, Ocean Beach, 1. Welcome to the world! Shea Ryan Hulett B-30-OB
Ron Hootman, Santee, 1. Hoot 101 "Never assume! You'll always be wrong!" lol
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 1. If you didn't get it-it was go Cubs!

Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 1. Rocket to Russia!
George Jackson, Oceanside, 1. 2010 Boxer Rebellion: Send Barbara packing.
☛ **Mark E Jones, Clairemont, 1.** Fair tax, not IRS tax code.
Cathy Kirkman, Corunna MI, 1. Can't wait to get back to San Diego!
Dorothy Kruse, Carlsbad, 1. Thanks for t-shirt. Wish you had M.
Jennifer Lund, Coronado, 1. One year in San Diego. Love my friends.
Miguel Martenezio, Chula Vista, 1. It's all in a name.
Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 1. Hi Kent and Kay.
Willie McGee, San Diego, 1. We're on a roll!

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THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside,
1. *Get well soon Steve, my prayers are with you.*
Dawn Metrisin, San Diego, 1.
Be nice to pharmacists — we give free advice.
Ron Meyer, Santee, 1. *Frank-you better be cool!*
Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 1.
We’ve been led astray by bankers, lawyers and the press.
Rumir Miravalles, San Diego,
1. *Everyone’s entitled to be stupid, but some abuse the privilege.*
Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 1.
Someday my prince will come and I will be exhausted!

Linda Morris, Encanto, 1. *Hey Bob-want to bowl?*
Penny Munro, Leucadia, 1.
Diversion from alchemy.
Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 1. *You missed me last week! All correct and on time.*
Jim Odell, Vista, 1. *Earwigs! Are they eating my new little tomatoes?*
Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 1. *Back to work.*
Michael Panther, Point Loma,
1. *Salt and freshly ground black pepper!*
Burr Passenheim, Linda Vista,
1. *Protect the constitution undo healthcare.*

Cindy Pellett, University Heights, 1. *Best in SD County-Lomon Grove deli-Awesome Reubens!*
John Pertle, Santee, 1. *Jesus Christ is the way, the truth and the life.*
John Pilch, San Carlos, 1.
All filled in this time. Thanks for the t-shirt.
John C. Pipes, Lemon Grove,
1. *Stay mad until November.*
Bill Pischke, Ramona, 1. *Ain’t a bad day in the orange afternoon either.*
Ali Rashidi, North Park, 1.
“Ratbikes for life! Say no to chrome!”
Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens,
1. *A message!*
Chuck Richardson, San Diego,
1. *1st one ever sent.*

Don Romero, La Mesa, 1.
Taxes are done sweet Mei Ling. Woo-hoo! I love you.
Jay Sato, Carmel Valley, 1.
April 15= tax day; April 16= relax day.
Ted Scaffidi, Hillcrest, 1. *Christos Anast!*
Tom Seaman, Alpine, 1. *Paddle faster, I hear banjos.*
Charlie Seibert, Pacific Beach,
1. *Let’s go fishing Bad Barbi! Tight lines and sharp hooks!*
Robin Serfass, Leucadia, 1.
We made a promise... no retreat, no surrender.
Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 1.
Happy 4:20 and Earth Day/ green is good!
Michael Sheridan, San Diego,
1. *Gracias takata y Ono.*

Dave Small, San Carlos, 1. *Is a voodoo doll an etui?*
Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 1.
Don’t worry what people think; they don’t do it often.
Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 1.
A puzzle that makes me cross!
Carlton Stone, San Diego, 1. *No mistakes last week! No credit! What’s up? Mistake was faxed to you.*
David Tomasin, San Diego, 1. *It is, is it not.*
Duane Tremaine, East Village,
1. *If God be for us, who can be against us?*
Linda Tripp, Rancho Bernardo,
1. *Hi Max and Josh!*
Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 1. *My comments were censored again last week. Very troubling.*

Andrea Vollmer, Vista, 1.
Nobama!!
Jennifer Vuksinich, El Cajon,
1. *Did you do your taxes?*
Norman Williams, San Diego,
1. *What da fuss??*
Susan Williams, North Park, 1.
Heappy Earth Day! Recycle
Garth Wise, Carlsbad, 1.
After a long fight, in remission! Go Riva!
Ric Witt, Clairemont, 1. *Obama is an international embarrassment.*
David Wray, El Cajon, 1.
You’re shenanigans could cost me this election
Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 1.
Hi, Sue :>)

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AQUARIUM SALE at Octopuss Garden. 20H aquarium, \$20; 29 for \$29; 40R, \$40. Even a 60E is just \$60. Other tank specials also. Lots of healthy saltwater fish and beautiful corals. Protein skimmers. Lighting systems, pumps, decorations and supplies at low prices at Octopuss Garden. Noon-9pm, 7 days. Call 858-576-7449.

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7pm. Saturday, 10am-6pm. Sunday, 11am-6pm. 858-467-9297.

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BUY/SELL/TRADE reptiles, amphibians, turtles, tortoises, snakes, lizards. Largest reptile selection in Southern California. Voted #1 in San Diego. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.

CATS/ KITTENS. Carmel Mountain Petco. 11160 Rancho Carmel Dr. (I-15/56 and Carmel Mountain Rd.) Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 2-4pm; Sunday 12-2pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/ neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/KITTENS. Petco on Morena. 1210 West Morena Blvd., 92110. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 11am-1pm; Sunday 4-6pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering,

vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/KITTENS. Clairemont Mesa Petco. 3994-A Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (Clairemont Town Square). Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 3-5pm; Sunday 4-6pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CATS/KITTENS. Mira Mesa Petco. 8290 Mira Mesa Blvd./ Camino Ruiz. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 11am-1pm; Sunday 4:30-6:30pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/ neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

CHIHUAHUA MIX. Tulip is a 7-year-old rescued female. Trained. Loves walks (gets her leash), extremely intelligent, knows tricks. See her: www.petfinder.com/pet-search?N=&No=0&Ntk=shelter_id%7Crecord_type%7C. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

CHIHUAHUA. Rescued 1-year-old female. Amy is 5 pounds, gets along well with people, other dogs. Loves cuddling, sitting on laps. Shy. See her: www.petfinder.com/pet-search?N=&No=0&Ntk=shelter_id%7Crecord_type%7C. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

COCKER SPANIEL, PUREBRED. Rescued male. Very sweet, gets along with cats. Donald Trump is 6 years old, well-behaved, easy going, gets along with everyone. Shots current, house trained. See him: www.petfinder.com/pet-search?N=&No=0&Ntk=shelter_id%7Crecord_type%7C. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

DACHSHUND/MINIATURE PINSCHER mix, rescued. 1-year-old very sweet female. 10 pounds. Chelsea loves people, likes to snuggle; is playful, curious. See her: www.petfinder.com/pet-search?N=&No=0&Ntk=shelter_id%7Crecord_type%7C. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

FOUND DOG. White poodle mix. Found on I-5 freeway shoulder in Chula Vista, H Street area. 619-427-1569.

KITTENS/CATS. Encinitas Petco. 154 Encinitas Blvd., west of I-5. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 9-11am, 5-7pm; Sunday 9-11am, 4-6pm; most weekday early mornings/ evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/CATS. Mission Valley Petco. 10310 Friars Road/ Mission Gorge. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday/ Sunday 1-3pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/CATS. La Mesa Petco. 8501 Fletcher Parkway, 91942. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Fee includes spaying/neutering, vaccination, microchip, defleaing, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

KITTENS/CATS. La Costa Petco. 3239 Camino De Los Coches, 92009. Monday-Saturday 9am-9pm; Sunday until 7pm. Interact with kitties Saturday 9am-1pm; Sunday 10am-2pm; most weekday evenings. Fee includes spaying/ neutering, vaccination, microchip, more. Photos/ locations: www.rescuehouse.org.

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LOST/ MISSING DOG. Lost in Mira Mesa on 4/14. Lexie is a mixed breed, red/ brown fur, white tummy, curly tail. Purple collar, heart ID tag. 858-212-6419.

MINIATURE PINSCHER, neutered, 1 year/ 5 months, small, brown. Playful, sweet, needs feisty playmate. No young kids. \$150. 619-583-5122.

SHIH TZU MIX. Rescued female, 4-6 years old, about 19 pounds. Maude is very loving and very well-behaved. Low maintenance, great lap dog. www.petfinder.com/petdetail/15072520?recno=8. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

TERRIER MIX. Ariel is a rescued 19-pound female about 4 years old. Friendly, very loving. Calm, also playful, a wonderful jogging/hiking partner. Great with children, dogs, everyone. See her: www.petfinder.com/pet-search?N=&No=0&Ntk=shelter_id%7Crecord_type%7C. Contact Galit, Los Angeles area: 323-712-3860, galitr@earthlink.net.

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THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit one completed puzzle of any difficulty level (Easy, Medium, Hard or Evil) to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online at sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
- 2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the

- puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.
- 3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
- 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to:

- Sudoku@sreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
- 5) 10 *Reader* T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!
- 6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
- 7) Late entries will not be considered.
- 8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 9) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

EASY:

	6	9			5	8	7	
4					6			
	1		3	9				
	4	8		6	2		9	
		6	7	4	8	2		
	5		1	3		6	4	
				7	4		3	
			8					4
	7	4	6			9	8	

MEDIUM:

7		2	3		5			
	8		1		7	9		
	9	4			8			
	3		7	8			4	
	4						2	
	5			6	4		3	
			8			4	9	
		8	4		1		6	
			9		2	8		3

HARD:

7			4					
2					8			
		1	9				6	
9		7		2			5	
1		4	3		9	8		6
	2			5		7		3
	7				1	3		
			5					4
					3			5

EVIL:

	4	9			1			
	3			5		2		9
8							3	
4			1		7			
		8				5		
			9		5			4
	9							2
2		3		6			4	
			4			3	5	

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Neighborhood/City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

7	9	3	8	1	4	2	5	6
2	6	1	7	5	3	8	4	9
8	5	4	9	2	6	7	1	3
6	3	7	4	9	2	5	8	1
1	4	2	5	6	8	3	9	7
9	8	5	3	7	1	4	6	2
4	1	9	2	8	7	6	3	5
3	2	6	1	4	5	9	7	8
5	7	8	6	3	9	1	2	4

MEDIUM:

8	5	9	6	7	3	1	4	2
3	1	4	5	2	9	7	8	6
6	7	2	1	4	8	9	3	5
9	6	7	2	5	4	3	1	8
5	4	8	3	1	7	6	2	9
2	3	1	9	8	6	5	7	4
1	9	6	8	3	2	4	5	7
7	2	3	4	9	5	8	6	1
4	8	5	7	6	1	2	9	3

HARD:

5	7	3	6	2	4	8	9	1
1	6	9	8	5	7	3	2	4
4	2	8	9	3	1	6	7	5
9	8	7	3	6	5	1	4	2
2	3	4	1	8	9	5	6	7
6	1	5	7	4	2	9	8	3
3	4	2	5	9	6	7	1	8
8	9	1	2	7	3	4	5	6
7	5	6	4	1	8	2	3	9

EVIL:

4	2	3	6	9	8	7	5	1
5	7	8	2	4	1	3	6	9
9	6	1	7	3	5	4	2	8
8	9	7	5	2	6	1	3	4
6	4	5	1	8	3	9	7	2
3	1	2	4	7	9	6	8	5
1	3	9	8	5	7	2	4	6
2	5	6	3	1	4	8	9	7
7	8	4	9	6	2	5	1	3

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

EASY:

- Mananda Awesome, El Cajon, 1.** Bionic cheese.
- Don Bowman, Santee, 1.** ...But a digital clock is right once a day!
- Phil Brockman, Spring Valley, 1.** Two weeks off, you get rusty.
- ☛ **Sebastian Certik, Bonita, 1.** Hi mom!
- Dr. Dave, Pt Loma, 1.** Spera'a my god's peace be with you always.
- M. Elliott, Ranch Bernardo, 1.** Thanks! Rec'd shirt in mail! Total surprise!
- Ann Grudzinski, San Diego, 1.** Hi Lisa!
- Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 1.** Go Padres!
- Misty McDaniel, Lakeside, 1.** Woohoo!To the Lakeside farms elementary peace patrol!
- Erin Nogle, Ocean Beach, 1.** Thx for the t-shirt. Bring on the Country music!
- Lloyd Payne, Merlin, 1.** We're headed out.

- John Pertle, Santee, 1.** God's free gift. Eternal life in Jesus Christ our lord.
- Josie Ranches, San Diego, 1.** Keep up the good work Edmund.
- Gene Schneider, Spring Valley, 1.** JRL give me a chance please.
- D. Stiewig, Santee, 1.** In the garden.
- Terry Thomas, Chula Vista, 1.** Celebrate the earth and nature everyday!
- Duane D. Tremaine, San Diego, 1.** If wishes were horses, beggars would ride.
- ☛ **Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 1.** Happy Earth Day!

MEDIUM:

- Linda Bible, El Cajon, 1.** My flowers are loving this rain.
- Robert Bourne, San Carlos, 1.** Go Tony Gwynn. Go Aztecs!
- Heather Bryce, Lemon Grove, 1.** HS's 1st entry! Happy Earth Day mother earth! You scared...

- Hans Butikofer, Mission Beach, 1.** Next week hard.
- Bill Calderwood, Clairemont, 1.** Q- when is it ok to throw bottles in the...
- Harry Chiou, Mira Mesa, 1.** Happy Earth Day!
- Henry Chung, San Diego, 1.** It rained on Sunday?
- Rich Dudko, Escondido, 1.** A Reader t-shirt would look great on me.
- Elliott Estrine, Poway, 1.** Paid my taxes. Yeah!
- Manny Faria, Point Loma, 1.** This isn't the crossword page? I love you baby!
- Vicki Flora, Bonita, 1.** Hi Sebastian!
- ☛ **Saad Ghulam, Escondido, 1.** Glad to be in San Diego.
- Mitchell Hamilton, Golden Hills, 1.** My world: Barbara. "Puss o kram!"
- Richard Markson, Indio, 1.** IASYC says hi
- Teddy Moore, Santee, 1.** Smile be happy!
- Jiuli B. Richarason, Chula Vista, 1.** Shout out to CVAIL

- ☛ **Rick Rotsch, Ocean Beach, 1.** Pay it forward is a great idea for humanity.
- Ed Rull, San Diego, 1.** Love to play sudoku.
- Steve Schorr, Encinitas, 1.** Padres sweep Dbacks!
- Oldman-Grandpa Steve, Temecula, 1.** I gotta get out! Gotta get out! Gotta get out!
- William Stiewig, Vallejo, 1.** Beach weather?
- Ellivid Tomasin, San Diego, 1.** OK back to medium.
- Todd Wilkins, San Diego, 1.** Like catnip, valerian makes cats frisky- the opposite on humans
- HARD:**
- Wayne Ameele, Penasquitos, 1.** I am glad that tax season is over!
- David Asbury, Vista, 1.** Now is the time to buy a home.
- Ellen Bourne, San Carlos, 1.** I'm better thanks!
- A.T. Certik, Bonita, 1.** Alles Affenscheisse!
- Genevieve Coleman, San Diego, 1.** LJ you know you want me!

- Nel Cristobal, Chula Vista, 1.** Love will find the way.
- Chris Dobrowolski, San Diego, 1.** The Coaster sucks! There are several horrible employess on them...
- Howard Donnelly, Mission Valley, 1.** Where's the tea party's outrage over the war(s)?
- ☛ **Lise Doucette, Gaslamp, 1.** We love San Diego.
- Dr. Dusa, Rancho Penasquitos, 1.** Factory takes his... factory gives him life.
- Amada Garcia, Chula Vista, 1.** Happy 16th birthday Hector. Mami loves you. Abrasos y besos.
- John Gaughen, North Park, 1.** Roses are blooming in North Park.
- Green Dave Gietzen, Sunset Cliffs, 1.** Tea Party? Perfect for...
- Esther Hays, La Mesa, 1.** We have entertainment...booked!!
- ☛ **Robert Lindahl, College Area, 1.** Twenty two days without a smoke. Hope I beat um.
- Jennifer Lund, Coronado, 1.** Hi Mia! You're down one.
- Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 1.** Now the time has come, we cannot let this pass!

- Ed Rull, San Diego, 1.** Wow, can't belive April is almost over.
- Kelly Sakoi, San Diego, 1.** Go Padres!
- Mathilda Santana, San Ysidro, 1.** Visit the wsws dot org.
- Skully, San Diego, 1.** Bike night Desi n friends Wens at 7pm. ILY kitten.
- Mandy Smith, Boulevard, 1.** On earth day, save, plant, or give a tree!
- Marjie Souza, Ocean Beach, 1.** Welcome home Maury.

EVIL:

- ☛ **Joe Arbusto, Rancho Peñasquitos, 1.** First militias were only for national defense, not states defenses!
- Bliss Beedle, Encinitas, 1.** Never leave me.
- Loren Boyer, El Cajon, 1.** Nice opening day Padres!
- Jean Bradley, Spring Valley, 1.** Too late to print, but be sure to count it anyway.
- ☛ **Jorge Castro, Alpine, 1.** La vida es bella.
- Jeff Chrismar, Plymouth, 1.** Hitter dete San Diego.

THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 1. If you want me to believe you — tell better lies.

Larry Clark, Clairemont, 1. May 1st, my birthday. Not a day celebrating illegal immigration.

☛ Steve Clemons, San Diego, 1. Fides tamen quin.

Jim Craig, El Cajon, 1. See you at Gateway!

Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 1. It’s time for tea!

Roger Doughman, San Diego, 1. Luke 3: 4-6

☛ Michelle Dutra, Serra Mesa, 1. Bring on the sunshine

Matthew Evans, Encinitas, 1. May love and compassion be with you always!

George Elam, Vista, 1. I like a day of rain per week.

Jane Flammang, Encinitas, 1. April showers help the garden.

Juanito Gerardo, Mira Mesa, 1. Tea party time!

J. Gorman, UTC, 1. Shane! Come back Shane!

Linda J. Hall, La Mesa, 1. Thank you Karen for getting the Reader.

Butch Hays, La Mesa, 1. My last evil was correct but got the bit bucket.

Ester Hays, La Mesa, 1. I love rec!

Paula Henderson, La Jolla, 1. I love Jesus!

Christine Hennes, San Diego, 1. With a little help from my friends.

Jeannie Higbee, Spring Valley, 1. Happy birthday Eileen!

Zdenek Hostomsky, La Jolla, 1. Taxes and volcanic ashes- news of the day.

Joan Hubert, Clairmont, 1. Too many rules, starting over!

Jim Hurley, San Diego, 1. 1040 on extension sudoku filed timely.

Jacqueline Jordan, San Diego, 1. Lets do this

Kitten, Coronado, 1. I love my monkeyboy. I like our little stolen moments.

Lynnette Lampton, La Mesa, 1. And a new life begins... again.

Raymond Land , Escondido, 1. Why don’t sheep shrink when it rains?

Roy E. Leeper, Chula Vista, 1. For Jean, kill the cancer.

Stuart Lester, Santee, 1. To Ashley and Heyden and a new generation of lizzards!

Ralph Levy, La Jolla, 1. Andrew you were a wiz ath the Lycuem Bill Lingenfelder, Vista, 1.

Good words are like a string of pearls.

Gary Lorenc, Encinitas, 1. If I wasn’t doing this, I’d be doing something else.

Karen Maegley, Sorrento Mesa, 1. First Cutler, now Marshall, I want Shanahan back!

Julio Magno, San Diego, 1. Us Postal sudoku expert.

Bruce Ness, Mira Mesa, 1. Does Mary Bentley still play dominoes? Please call.

Tom Norris, Santee, 1. Happy birthday Grandpa, from Tommy, Lita, Anthony, and Alex.

Stephen Nobiensky, San Jacinto, 1. Golf is life.

Jerry Noser, Bankers Hill, 1. I’m back!

Lee Overhosar, San Diego, 1. Keep on truckin’!

Charles Reader, Del Mar Heights, 1. Reader reads Reader.

Roy Respress, Carlsbad, 1. Another evil, another evil done!

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 1. A message!

Charles Rion, Allied Gardens, 1. No more taxes

David Schwartz, Clairemont, 1. Go Kings go!

Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 1. Wow, Erin ...

Marv Simcox, San Diego, 1. Look up or never see the highest point.

Art Spencer, Oceanside, 1. Tax day- Many happy(?) returns.

Joe Steinbach, Clairemont, 1. Creek to Bay clean-up Saturday Apr 24th

Joi Taylor, Mission Valley, 1. Thanks for such a special day!

Rob Welder, El Cajon, 1. I love Reader sudoku!

Susan Williams, North Park, 1. Congrats on your retirement Maureen!

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 1. Thanks to Gary and Joanie for CJ’s Anniversary dinner!

Lindsey Wray, El Cajon, 1. I win!

Mark Xitco, San Diego, 1. What can I say!

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Brainstorms

by Don Rubin

Firing Lines

According to our friends in ballistics, it is relatively easy to determine the order in which a series of bullets have passed through a plate-glass window. All you have to do is examine the cracks. You'll find the fractures caused by the first bullet tend to be uninterrupted, whereas those from a second (or subsequent) shot should terminate at the fractures which preceded them.

In other words, if the cracks from one shot are stopped by those of another it is safe to conclude that they must have occurred later.

All of which will come as bad news to any gangster who enjoys leaving his autograph, in bullets, at the scene of the crime. Because all you'd have to do is figure out the sequence of the shots, connect the holes, and *read* the admittedly rough first name of the culprit responsible.

Go to it, Columbo.

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

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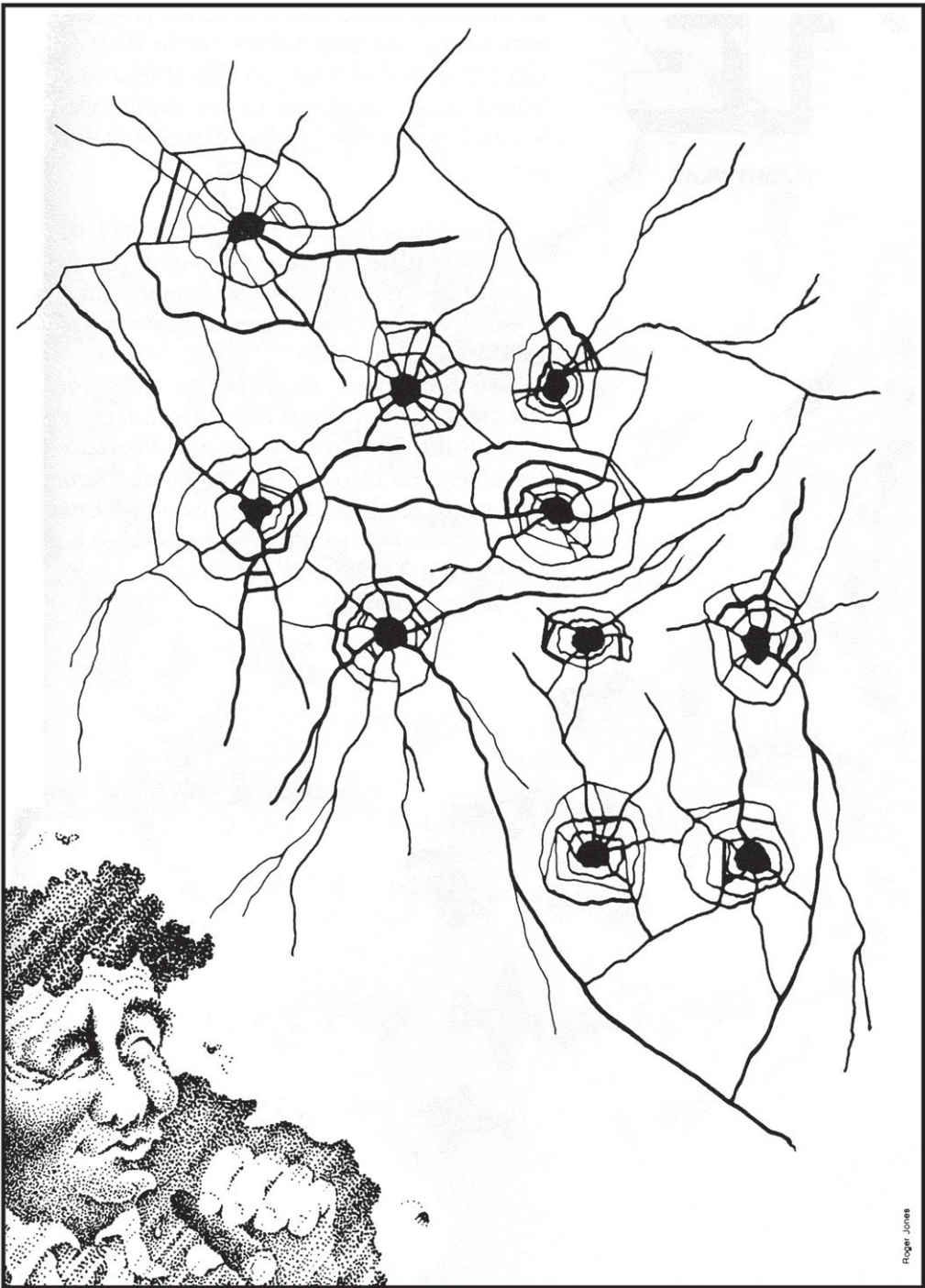
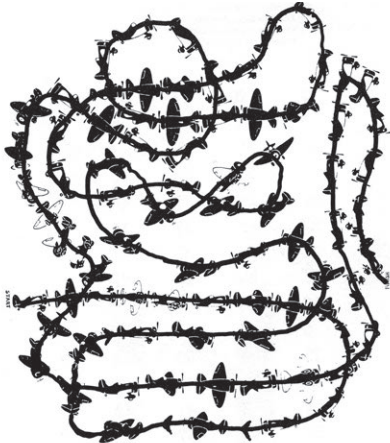
Neighborhood/City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:



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.

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) 5 *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.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Ed Barno, San Diego, 1.

This could throw you for a loop.

☛ **Harry Chiou, Mira Mesa, 1.** *Happy Earth Day*

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 1.

Iron and steel business-momma irons and poppa steals

☛ **Patrick Cristobal, San Diego, 1.** *Hi Nicole!*

Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 1.

Where's the barf bag? LOL!

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 1.

Technically I was correct last week. Phalanges are numbered outwards!

Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 1. *Great trials great rewards.*

☛ **Janie Redmond, Santee, 1.**

Must be a SWA pilot.

☛ **Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 1.** *A message!*

☛ **Heidi Sorensen, Spring Valley, 1.** *This one was fun!*

John Strauch, San Diego, 1.

Hiked Trans-county trail from Salton Sea to Arroyo Salada Camp.

☛ **Phyllis Talbot, Spring Valley, 1.** *Hope this is correct. I'd love a t-shirt.*

☛ **Martina Vasquez, Lakeside, 1.**

Z daring ladies in their flying machines!

☛ **Glenn A. Walker, Pacific Beach, 1.** *Uh, flight attendant... could I have a barf bag please.*

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FOUR- WEEK ACTING WORKSHOP with Billy Cowart. Sundays, May 2-May 23, 12pm- 3pm. \$220, discounts available. Effective for actors focusing on audition preparation! Previous training suggested. Academy of Performing Arts. 5120-C Baltimore Drive, La Mesa, CA 91942. Register: www.apastudios.com/acting.html.

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ANGER MANAGEMENT, depression, anxiety, addictions, trauma, abuse, ADD, OCD, bipolar. Individuals, couples,

BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

by Scott MEYER

BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

How to Agree on a Definition

In order to communicate anything important, two parties need to share mutually understood definitions.

Just because something has a slice of bread under it, doesn't mean it's a sandwich.

I thought we were all done arguing about open faced sandwiches.

Just because you stop talking and walk away doesn't mean we are done arguing.

If you identify a word in need of definition, start with a basic definition of the word on which all parties can agree.

I maintain that in order to be called a sandwich something must have a breadly covering on at least two sides, and the eater must be able to easily pick it up.

Do you agree?

I don't care enough to argue.

Same thing.

Then start looking for exceptions and extreme cases that will challenge your mutual definition.

So is a hamburger a sandwich?

Obviously.

A Taco?

Yes.

A slice of pizza?

Yes, if you fold it.

Chowder in a bread bowl?

It's a soup sandwich, the world's most efficient lunch!

It's a slow process, but a necessary one. Only when both parties understand each other can there be progress.

So we agree that anyone offering an open faced sandwich is wrong.

By your definition.

And that I have the right to feel superior to them.

Silently, yes.

What if I voice my feelings of superiority?

I'll voice my feelings of superiority.

Silently it is.

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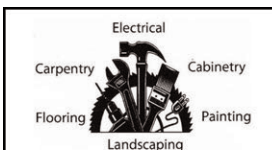
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Anna Gayle
Barrista
Linda Vista

I do Facebook. I used to do MySpace, and I tried Twitter, but I feel like Twitter's just like my Facebook — everybody always knows what I'm doing anyway. I feel like Facebook is a little bit better than MySpace. It's not quite so juvenile. Facebook is good because you can show people what's going on in your life and you can update people you don't see every day, but it's without the pictures and banners on MySpace. I'm a constant Facebooker. I have it on my BlackBerry; it's a favorite page on my laptop. I was actually checking my Facebook as you came up to me. I'm a constant Facebooker.



Oscar Castillo
Canvasser
Downtown

MySpace. I go on it every day; I'm still heavily active; I still have all my 1400-plus friends. Some of my friends have Facebook and stuff, but it's not as fun as MySpace. You can have music on your page on MySpace; you can deck it out any type of way that you like to decorate it out. Facebook is very plain and I don't like it. Only reason I have Facebook is because my boss said we had to have it, but I still don't go on it. Some people have actually gotten big off MySpace. It's very good for promotional use. If people are trying to get their projects out there, MySpace is very big — I think that rapper Soulja Boy got big off MySpace. It does wonders for people. You've got so many millions of people on it, and if the right person hears it, then, hey, you have a career!



Danny Flood
Consultant
Hillcrest

I'm on Facebook. I use Twitter, too, though. Facebook is the third largest country in the world, behind India and China. Twitter is more of a novelty. As far as connecting with people, I can find LaDainian Tomlinson on Facebook, or Shawne Merriman — people I follow, people I admire. MySpace lost touch with their customers. You're getting spammed by big profiles, marketers; it became a bad way to stay in touch. They kind of lost touch with their message, their base. The problem is they're not getting much traffic on their site anymore. They would need to do a complete overhaul. They would have to redo everything, redo their brand, their whole program, if they wanted to reclaim their market share. They've lost brand equity to Facebook and Bebo and other different social-networking sites.



Kendall Schrader
Student
Point Loma

Facebook! Most definitely! MySpace is over, and Twitter is just annoying to me. It's not that interesting, and there's more stuff to do on Facebook. No one says anything on Twitter. It's, like, "Oh, going to the mall." That's it. They don't say anything. It's just not that interesting.



Michael Alvarez
Recycling Associate
Skyline

I don't have anything. Well, I have MySpace, but I haven't checked it in, like, a month. It's, like, when something's in style, it's in style, and when it's out, it's out and everyone's done with it. I've never gotten up on Twitter or Facebook. All my friends are on it. Sometimes I actually want to do it because I see that they get all the messages and I don't. We go out and they send a message to everybody and I never get it! I hear about it from someone else and I'm, like, "What happened?" "Well, it was on Facebook." I gotta get on Facebook. I miss a lot of things, not being on it.



Cliff Londt
Interior Designer
University Heights

Facebook. I have a friend who was doing a lot of traveling and was actually helping out some kids in an orphanage in Thailand. The only way she would contact people was through her Facebook page. So, that's why I got started on Facebook. Ever since I got on that, it's amazing how all these people come out of the woodwork — classmates from my high school and stuff. It's kind of interesting. It's been a welcome thing, but at the same time, I think it's really interesting that people I never talk to are also contacting me wanting to be my friends on Facebook. Is it a popularity contest to see who has the most friends or something? Right now I have 120 or something like that, and I did nothing to get those friends. I just go on there once in a while, and I have all these friend requests. I did have a MySpace page, but I was never that interested in it.

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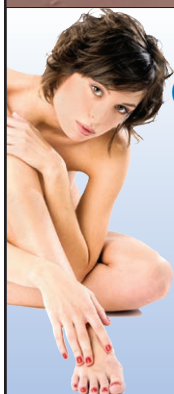
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Events Calendar

Building Spiritual Community on Facebook. Thursday, April 22, 6:30pm. Consider "effects of social media on society and lives; social justice and community building; deeper connections, relationships, and spiritual growth." Gain "loads of tips and tricks" during two-part series. Donation. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4190 Front Street, San Diego 92103. 619-298-9978 x8014

Heal Your Body, Get Fit, Clear the Mind of Stress. Thursday, April 22, Tuesday, April 27. 5pm: Fitness class-Core strength stability and conditioning mat class. 6pm: Yoga-Hatha Vinyasa mix. 7:30pm: Alternative Wellness Clinic-Acupuncture/ Massage/ Energy Medicine learn meditation healing and more. \$10 donation for the entire evening. Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive, San Diego 92116. 619-884-2662, prakasheffulgence@yahoo.com.

The Art of Chinese Calligraphy. Saturday, April 24, 1-2:30pm. Tara Hu is an artist who was raised and trained in Taipei, Taiwan. Using traditional Chinese calligraphy techniques, she brings a fresh and contemporary style to the pieces she creates. Beyond their simple elegance, the Chinese characters she paints have special spiritual resonance and are inspired by Buddhist text's like the *Heart Sutra*. Her hope is that her work will inspire, heal and give strength to people simply by their viewing it. Free demonstration. Buddha For You, 6360 El Cajon Boulevard, San Diego 92115 (near SDSU), 619-582-1100, www.buddha-for-you.com.

Who Is Dr. Funshine? Caroline Meeks, M.D., leads laughter yoga classes on third Wednesday of each month. No floor exercises. Donations welcome. Wednesday, April 21, 2pm. LiveWell San Diego, 4425 Bannock Avenue, San Diego 92117. 858-483-5100.

Prajna Within. Friday, April 23, 8pm, and Saturday, April 24, 2pm and 8pm. Stella Nova Dance Company present, a journey through the intricate human psyche and its relation to Mother Earth. Highlights "importance of emotional well-being" says Rayna Stohl, Artistic Director. "When individuals activate the path of self-awareness, amazing opportunities open up for individual health, for stronger relationships, and for the health of our planet." \$22 general admission, \$15 for students and seniors, \$10 for ages 13 and under. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla 92037. www.stellanovadance.org.

Messages with Love from the Other Side. Thursday, April 22, 7pm. Clairvoyant medium readings by Reverend Roby Warren, who will "communicate with your loved ones who are no longer with you." Celebration Center for Spiritual Living, 5820 Oberlin Drive #108, San Diego 92121. Requested donation: \$15. 858-320-0090.

Flowing with Nature. Wednesday, April 21, 5:30pm. Paisley Close leads anasara yoga classes, helping students "align with universal principles of goodness." All levels. Wear comfortable clothing, bring a mat. Offering. Vision Center for Spiritual Living, 11260 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego 92124. 619-303-6609.

How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat. Tuesday, April 27, 6:30-8pm. Training secrets, cat behavior, nutrition, preventing destructive behaviors, socialization with people and other animals, how to communicate with cat. For humans only. Required reservations: Admission \$35. San Diego Humane Society, 5500 Gaines Street, San Diego 921106 19-299-7012 x2247.

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PIANO. 1905 Hamilton Upright, \$500. 858-565-8318.

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MUSIC MUSICIANS AVAILABLE / WANTED

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COUNTRY WESTERN BAND. Anyone interested in joining together to start a band? All instruments and singers welcome. Bob, 858-753-1775.

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KEYBOARD PLAYER, drummer, bass player, guitar player needed for soul group. I have original songs. Be available for musical arranging, rehearsals, studio, live performance. Barry, 858-560-4060; teekobaza@fastmail.fm.

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REHEARSAL STUDIOS! Current special: \$100 off first month's rent with ad! Miramar Road. Monthly and hourly rates available. Universal Sound, 619-306-2222; 858-401-2973.

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REHEARSE IN SOUTH BAY, \$250 to \$450/ monthly. Very soundproof at Sweetwater Studios. Leave message, 619-427-7541 or 619-426-1605.

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Typo Patrol Results

Issue of April 15, 2010

Events listings

p.64 10am *should be* 10pm
p.64 Junipero *should be* Junipero
p.65 plant *should be* Plant
p.68 hip hop *should be* hip-hop
p.69 Centre *should be* Center

Gian Ghio (Chula Vista) \$50

Sheep and Goats

p.152 8 p.m. *should be* 8 a.m.

Kathleen Turner (Santee) \$10

Stringers

p.14 2010 *should be* 2009
p.16 public *should be* the public
p.18 business *should be* businesses

Clyde Christie (Coronado) \$30

Events listings

p.70 Book Works *should be* The Book Works
p.72 Mira Costa *should be* MiraCosta

Heidi Long (Mission Valley) \$20

Music listings

p.96 60's rock *should be* '60s rock

Sheep and Goats

p.153 me *should be* Me

Karen Guarnotta (Linda Vista) \$20

My Friday Night Adventure in La Mesa

p.58 dose *should be* doze

I Can Plant Almost Any Grape...

p.48 fiancé *should be* fiancée

Mtume Salaam (City Heights) \$20

Events listings

p.68 host *should be* hosts
p.69 cook book *should be* cookbook
p.73 closed-toed *should be* closed-toe

Music listings

p.96 Beign Jared *should be* Being Jared
p.96 San Box *should be* Sandbox

Karelyn Kimokeo (El Cajon) \$50

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parking. Utilities included. No smoking/ pets. 858-538-1962.

SAN DIEGO/ NATIONAL CITY. Nice room in newer home. Laundry facilities. Share kitchen. \$500 includes Internet, cable, utilities. \$300 deposit. No drugs/ alcohol/ pets. Near freeways. 619-795-8363.

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NORTH PARK. Space for rent, 300-square- foot room in rear of retail store. \$20/ hour or 10% of fee- based events (whichever is greater). \$10 extra for out-of- store- hour times. Perfect for classes, meetings, or performances. 619-280-8408.

PACIFIC BEACH. Retail store front, 919 square feet. \$1655/ month. Available May. 1451 Garnet Avenue. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. Office/ retail space in heart of Pacific Beach. Private bathroom. Reserved parking. Approximately 767 square feet with good frontage and customer parking. 4426 Ingraham Street. TPPM, 858-454-4200 x115, www.torreyepinespm.com.

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CITY HEIGHTS. 3869-1/2 39th St. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. \$1200. Refrigerator, stove, patio. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

CLAIREMONT. \$3200. 6 bedroom, 5 bath furnished home! 15 minutes from UCSD. Washer/ dryer, travertine fireplace, sunroom, yard. No pets. Available now. Agent: 619-298-7724.

CLAIREMONT MESA/ GENESEE. \$1695 rent, \$1695 deposit OAC. Newer 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath. 1325- square- foot

duplex townhouse. Garage, ample parking. Laundry hookups. No pets at 4439 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard #1A. Agent, 619-299-4034.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1800. Large Spanish 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Good carpet, fireplace, fans, all appliances, eat-in kitchen, enclosed patio, fenced yards, 2- car garage plus huge driveway, school/ freeway close, Dogs OK. No section 8. Must see. 4519 58th Street, 92115. 619-517-6111.

COLLEGE AREA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath plus office, \$1545. Pool, spa, all appliances plus washer/ dryer hookups, wood flooring, shared yard and patio! 4688 Altadena Avenue. 619-804-3325.

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EL CAJON. \$800. 1 bedroom duplex, \$1350. 3 bedroom with garage. Both properties painted, have hardwood floors. Available now. Laundry facilities. Parking. 619-971-1145.

EL CAJON. \$1500. Reduced move-in. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house with carport, laundry hookups. Section 8 welcome. Pets on approval. 1128 Peach Avenue. www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

HILLCREST. 1 bedroom house. \$950. Well- maintained. Hardwood floors. Open kitchen. A/C, ceiling fan, off- street parking, near freeways, park, zoo, shopping, farmers' market. 619-283-1534.

HILLCREST. 1- bedroom, 1- bathroom. 1- car garage. Yard: pets welcome. Near Balboa Park. Great location. 1520 Myrtle. \$1350 rent. Available now. 619-787-7434.

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LEMON GROVE. \$1350/ month. Refurbished 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath duplex townhouse. 1- car garage. Small, fenced yard. Washer/ dryer. Area for garden. Lease available. 619-218-6314.

LEMON GROVE. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Fenced yard. Available now. \$1300/ month. Recent remodel. 619-463-7292.

MIRA MESA. \$1825. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Newly remodeled kitchen and bath. 1-car garage, laundry hookups. Yard. 10827 Greenford Dr. Pets considered. Agent: 619-298-7724.

MIRA MESA. \$1775. Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Laundry hookups, garage, yard. Pet considered. 9344 Reagan Rd. Agent: 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1850. Charming 2 bedroom, 3 bath. North of Adams. Hardwoods, fireplace, with artist studio. Washer/ dryer. Nonsmoking only. Available May 1. 619-843-2105.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Cottage! 2 bedroom, 1 bath with 1- car garage. Move in special! Half off first month's rent! Spacious. Great location. Fresh paint. Good condition. Great value! \$1225. 4677 32nd Street. Northcutt Properties, 858-505-1300.

NORTH PARK. Contemporary 3 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse in gated fourplex. \$1575/ month. Master bedroom has full bath. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher and built-in microwave. Garage and carport. Small pet considered. Nonsmoking. Available May 15 or sooner. 3931 33rd Street. 619-203-7073.

NORTH PARK. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath house with hardwood floors, granite countertops, washer/ dryer. Small, fenced yard. Must see! \$1475. Call Yvonne, 619-847-5740.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1950. Block beach. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Master bedroom, large balcony; second bedroom, patio. Fireplace, dishwasher, parking, front porch. No pets. Nonsmoking. 858-775-1244.

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RENTALS
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BALBOA PARK. \$1075. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs charming apartment! Across from the park, laundry facility on site. No pets. 2820 6th Ave #11. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

BALBOA PARK. \$925. Large downstairs studio cottage, across from the park, laundry facility on site. No pets. 2808 6th Ave. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

BALBOA PARK/ EAST. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1750. Forest- like setting. Big balcony. Vaulted ceiling. Storage. Carport. Secured building. Very quiet. Laundry. Gated community. No pets. Near Zoo. 619-347-0003.

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BANKER'S HILL. Studio apartment. Street parking, on-site laundry. Rent: \$750. Deposit: \$400. 2027 Front Street. www.kandproperties.com. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

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BANKER'S HILL/ DOWNTOWN. \$1195. 1 bedroom townhouse. Very private. Spacious. Hardwood floors. Laundry. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available 5/ 1. Call Steve, 619-696-7500.

BANKER'S HILL/ HILLCREST. \$850 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. Large 1 bedroom, new carpet, no pets, at 2669 First Avenue (at Nutmeg). Agent, 619-299-9515.

BAY PARK. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment available. Rent: \$1250/ month, includes utilities. \$1000 security deposit. Call for details. 619-275-2176.

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CARLSBAD. Large 2 bedroom with fenced yard and garage, washer/ dryer hookups. Close to beach, shopping, parks, schools, Coaster. \$1350 plus deposit. 760-729-6840.

CARLSBAD. Large 1 bedroom with covered patio, storage closet, walk-in closet in bedroom, laundry. Close to beach, shopping, parks, Coaster. \$1050. 760-729-6840.

CARLSBAD. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath townhouse- style apartment with large patio. 3 blocks to beach. Secluded garden complex. 2 parking spaces. No pets. 360 Chiquapin Avenue. TTPM, 760-729-8132, www.torreyepinespm.com.

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EL CAJON. 1/2 off 1st! \$1195. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. All stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, crown moldings, laminate floors, washer/ dryer in unit, central air conditioning, covered parking. Section 8! 1028 Leslie Road. 619-804-3325.

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GOLDEN HILL. \$1260. 2 bedroom, 1 bath garden apartment. Remodeled kitchen, hardwood floors. 9- unit complex. On-site laundry, cat OK. 2845 B Street. For appointment, 619-300-1365.

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GOLDEN HILL. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath. \$775/ month. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry. No dogs. Available now. 2427 E Street. 619-857-3706.

GOLDEN HILL. Junior 1 bedroom with office, \$895, utilities included. Historical building, beautiful hardwood floors, decorator colors, new paint, laundry. Parking available. Cat with deposit. On bus line. 619-231-8723.

GOLDEN HILL. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex, \$1150. Off-street parking, patio, dishwasher. Pet OK with deposit. 2949 and 2951 B Street. 619-231-8723.

GOLDEN HILL. 1 bedroom, \$895. Gated complex, underground parking. 3013 C Street. 619-546-9852.

HILLCREST. \$200/ week and up. Refrigerators, cable TV and HBO. Embassy Hotel, 3645 Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. 619-296-3141.

HILLCREST. Spacious 2 bedrooms from \$1295. Fireplace, spa, gym, intercom and elevator. Sorry, no pets. Hillcrest Summit, 4134 4th Avenue. See photos at www.wexfordliving.com. Call 619-299-0047.

HILLCREST. \$1200. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, courtyard, parking, laundry. Near all. 1037 Essex Street. No pets. 619-692-0364.

HILLCREST. \$1175. Cottage- like 1 bedroom in charming, vintage Spanish building. Hardwood floors. 9- foot ceilings. New, remodeled kitchen. Laundry facilities on site. Garage available, \$115/ month. 3770 Georgia Street. Call 619-298-1961.

HILLCREST. Hillcrest Palms. Senior complex, 55+, \$800. 1 bedroom apartments. Gated community. Convenient location. Near hospitals, restaurants, shopping. No pets. 4042 Albatross Street. 619-574-0784.

HILLCREST. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Parking, storage, laundry on site. No pets. Rent: \$1250. 4226 Cleveland Avenue. www.kandproperties.com. Call Kenny, 619-255-4944.

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HILLCREST. \$1000. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. In a beautifully landscaped, gated property. Hardwood floors. Laundry on site. A must see! Available 5/3/10. 3718 Park Boulevard #3730. Elisa, 619-295-1100. www.cethron.com.

HILLCREST. 2 bedrooms available at Sleepy Hollow Apartments. Quiet 5- acre community has pool, recreation room, off-street parking, scenic views. Cats OK. 4201 6th Avenue. \$1200-\$1600, 619-298-1059. www.centrecity.net.

HILLCREST. 4094 Georgia Street. 2 bedroom with fireplace, dishwasher, patio. Walk to restaurants and shopping. Available mid-May. \$1375. 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

HILLCREST. \$895. Cute 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood and carpet, stove, refrigerator, washer hookup. Small yard. No pets. 316 West University Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790, www.westmanproperties.com.

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HILLCREST. \$825. 3820 Georgia Street between Robinson and University Avenue. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, large kitchen, 4 closets, upstairs, laundry room, one assigned parking. No pets. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

HILLCREST. \$1195. Charming, vintage 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, nice shared lawn area. Small pet OK with extra deposit. In the heart of Hillcrest. Available 5/15/10. 3755 Fourth. Del Sol

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LEAD STORY

— In March, juries in Texas' Smith County and Matagorda County sentenced Henry Wooten and Melvin Johnson III to 35 years and 60 years in prison, respectively, for possessing small amounts of drugs (but enough under Texas law to allow jurors to infer an intent to distribute). Wooten, 54, had 4.6 ounces of marijuana (same penalty as for five pounds), and Johnson had 1.3 grams of crack cocaine (about half the weight of a U.S. dime). Wooten's prosecutor had asked the jury for a sentence of 99 years.

Can't Possibly Be True

— In February, the undergraduate dean's office at Yale University disclosed that it was formally soliciting anonymous, first-person reports of student sexual experiences to publish on a school website, as "strategies for creatively navigating Yale's sexual culture," according to an advisor. "There is a real need for students to have space to think about what happens to them and what they want to have happen," she said. "Sex@Yale" would contain "70 to 80" specific perspectives, she said, but critics suggested the anthology might grow to resemble *Penthouse* magazine's "Forum" sec-

tion of lascivious fantasies.

— Under the British government's Local Housing Authority, Essma Marjam, age 34, unemployed and the mother of six, is entitled to rental assistance for a five-bedroom home, and the only suitable one she could find is in an exclusive London suburb in which her neighbor is Sir Paul McCartney. Luckily, the generous allowance (equivalent of more than \$9000 a month) covers the rent on the nearly \$3 million mansion. Additionally, according to the *Daily Mail*, Marjam's non-housing government benefits total the equivalent of about \$22,000 a year.

— Alan Rosenfeld, 64, a New York City lawyer and real estate entrepreneur, is also a full-time schoolteacher, although he has been prohibited from teaching since 2002 because of accusations of leering at female students. He is thus a "rubber room" teacher whose union contract requires full salary and benefits even though the schools chancellor has barred him from the classroom as a "danger" to students. The department of education pays him \$100,000 a year plus health care (plus retirement benefits worth at least \$82,000 a year). The *New York Post* reported that Rosenfeld reports to "the room" each day but works

exclusively on his business affairs.

Sub—"Zero Tolerance"

— Seventh-grader Rachael Greer was suspended from River Valley Middle School in Jefferson, Ind., in February, even though she apparently did exactly what her parents and the school want kids to do ("just say 'no'" to drugs). When a classmate handed her a prescription pill in gym class, she immediately handed it right back. Nonetheless, an assistant principal, after investigating the incident, suspended her for five days because she had touched the pill. (He expressed regret but said it is school policy.)

Inexplicable

— In January, Aretha Brown, 66, who has lived in the same house in Callahan, Fla., (pop. 962) for 30 years, suddenly became unable to leave her yard unless she crawled between CSX railroad cars blocking her access to the road. Tracks had always been in place, but the railway only began storing train cars on them this year. CSX told the *Florida Times-Union* that it would soon build Brown an access road to the street.

— The entertainment manager at Thorpe Park

in Surrey, England, announced in February a contest seeking foul-smelling urine. The park has introduced a live-action horror maze based on scenes from the *Saw* movie series and decided that it was missing a "signature stench" to "really push the boundaries" of disgustingness. Manager Laura Sinclair suggested that submissions' pungency would be enhanced after consumption of such foods as garlic and asparagus and offered a prize of the equivalent of about \$750 for the winning urine.

Least Competent Police

— In March, on duty on opening day of the jail at the new Adair County judicial center in Columbia, Ky., sheriff's deputy Charles Wright accidentally locked himself in a cell and was fired after he tried to shoot open the lock.

— A Collier County, Fla., sheriff's deputy suffered a broken ankle when he and a colleague accidentally locked wheels while patrolling in Naples on their Segways.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

HILLCREST/ MISSION HILLS. \$695-\$775. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios, alcoves, in excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

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KENSINGTON. \$895 to \$950. 1 bedroom, upstairs. Appliances, coin laundry. Cat OK with extra deposit. In the heart of Kensington. 4188 and 4192 Madison. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

KENSINGTON/ TALMADGE. \$1095. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath townhouse. Shiny wood floors, fireplace, nice kitchen. Patio, laundry, quiet 4-plex. No pets. 2 minutes to I-8. 619-286-3400.

KENSINGTON/ TALMADGE. \$1150. Spacious 2- bedroom, 2- bath apartment. Condo- quality building. Washer/ dryer included. Fireplace. Carport. No pets. 4452 Highland Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1195. Studio. Includes utilities. Block to bus, beach, Starbucks,

restaurants. UCSD and Scripps by bus or bicycle. Living room, kitchen. Appliances. Walk-in Closet. Laundry. Pets ok. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. \$400 off first month. \$1475. 2 bedroom apartment. Hardwood floors. Upstairs unit. Nice garden setting. In village, laundry. 7555 Herschel. 858-361-0844.

LA JOLLA. \$1200 plus utilities. Small downstairs efficiency apartment, with separate sleeping area. Steps to beach and the Village. Resident Manager: 858-456-0407.

LA JOLLA. Ocean view. \$1600. Modern 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment in Bird Rock. Balcony, 2 parking spaces, coin laundry, controlled access. 5538 La Jolla Boulevard. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1825. A must- see 2 bedroom, 1 bath unit in beautiful garden complex just one block from Windansea!! Fireplace. One- car garage. 334 Palomar Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

LA JOLLA/ UTC. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Garage/ one parking. No pets. Fireplace. Washer/ dryer. Appliances. Patio. Pool/ Jacuzzi. 7974 Caminito Dia. 619-275-3455.

LA MESA. Huge apartment homes in great La Mesa neighborhood. Storage space. Near shopping and public transportation. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$895. Remodeled, 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1295. Community pool, laundry, covered parking. Photos, floor plans, map, directions, see website: www.sdreader.com/news/rent1035. (5810 Amaya Drive.) 619-697-3285.

LA MESA. Starting at \$963. Newly remodeled, affordable apartment. 2 bedroom and 1 bath. Brand new interior features: Flooring (carpet and vinyl), paint, w/d, cabinets, stove (gas), Quiet cul-de-sac location, playground, business computer center. After- school program, job training and resume assistance (coming soon), mommy and me yoga classes (coming soon). Income restrictions apply. Call for details. We accept Section 8. Se habla español. Village Green, 4150 Bonillo Drive, San Diego, CA 92115. 888-649-8918. www.villagegreen@conam.net.

LA MESA. Mellmanor Apartments. \$890/ up, 1 bedroom. \$1210/ up, 2 bedroom. Across Grossmont Center, trolley, Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Pools. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. 619-461-1940.

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LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1050. Parking, on-site laundry, pool. 5436 Vincetta Court. www.kandrproperties.com. To view, call Sarka, 619-417-4964.

LA MESA. \$1150. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Downstairs, large patio, yard, storage room, laundry hookups. Cat OK. 8428 Sunrise Ave. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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credit. 5435 Morengo Avenue. Call 619-698-7926. www.villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. \$975. 1 bedroom. Award-winning community for beautiful landscaping. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. **\$375 Move-in special!** 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

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LA MESA. 1 month free! Extra large 1 bedroom, \$825. All appliances, A/C, on-site laundry, off- street parking. Near trolley and downtown La Mesa. 7334 La Mesita. 619-466-6450.

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LA MESA/ MT. HELIX. \$1049, espaciosos 2 cuartos, 1 baño. Aire acondicionado. Lavandería. Garage. Balcones. Piscina. Mascotas OK. Espanol, 619-857-0365.

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LAKESIDE. \$1100. 2 bedroom, 1 bath triplex. Paid utilities. Downstairs. Small patio, view, breeze. Laundry hookups. Great location. School/ freeway close. No dogs. 619-405-6159.

LEMON GROVE. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775. Great location near 125/ 94 freeways. Cat welcome. Pool, laundry, parking. Free Wi-Fi. 8413-8427 Broadway. 619-462-6798. www.sdaptbrokers.com.

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• Lube front end
• Check & recharge battery (if necessary)
• Rotate tires (if needed)
• Check air pressure
• Lube door hinges
• Inspect cooling system & hoses
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LINDA VISTA. 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Upstairs. Near USD. \$1475/ month. 5605 Mildred Street. More Property Management. 858-514-8201.

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MISSION BEACH. \$795. Adorable little studio. Steps to beach. Appliances, parking, on-site laundry, some utilities included. 760 Wave Crest Ct. Across from Catamaran Hotel. 858-272-9547.

MISSION BEACH. \$1295. 1 bedroom. Parking, appliances, laundry on site. Great location to beach, restaurants, shopping. Across from Catamaran Hotel. 4004 Mission Boulevard. 858-272-9547.

MISSION BEACH. \$1350 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Two parking spaces, on-site

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MISSION BEACH. 1 bedroom duplex, steps to beach, Bay. Yard, garage, fireplace, dishwasher. Clean, light, airy. No dogs. \$1250. 1- year lease. 760-632-7882.

MISSION BEACH. Students: September to May rental. Fully furnished 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Balcony, parking, washer/ dryer. Walk to bay and bay. \$2600. 2warreng@gmail.com, 760-483-3369.

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MISSION HILLS. \$795, including utilities. 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs. Stove, refrigerator, assigned parking, on-site laundry. No pets, no smoking. Available now. 619-298-6436.

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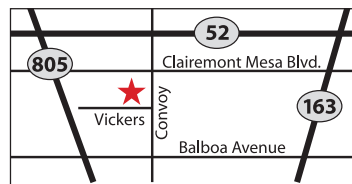
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OCEAN BEACH. 4910 Saratoga Ave. \$1100. 1 bedroom with garage, refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 4840 Del Monte Ave. #D. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Laundry, parking. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$925. Nice one bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors, patio, parking, storage. Back unit with stove, refrigerator. Cat OK. 4688 Brighton Ave. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom available 4/1, \$1375, 1846 Oliver Avenue. Near Mission Bay, no pets, off-street parking, laundry facility, approximately 1100 square feet, first floor unit (no steps), month-to-month rental. Photos on our website: <http://www.freewebs.com/lefrontenac/>. Contact "on-site manager": lefrontenac@inbox.com or 858-272-2825.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Walk/ bike to bay. Great condition. Dishwasher. Garage/ storage. Laundry. 2121 Reed Avenue. Shore Management, www.shoremgmt.com, 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1495. Special! 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Near beach! Dishwasher, coin laundry. Barbecue, courtyard. Water/ trash included. No pets. \$1000 deposit. 1065 Hornblend. 858-336-7997.

PACIFIC BEACH. Move-in special, \$1350. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Intercom entry. Bright and clean. Dishwasher. Laundry. Lovely courtyard, heated pool, parking. Cat OK. 858-272-4398.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Studios, \$895. 1 bedrooms, \$1095. 2 bedrooms, \$1595. \$0 deposit, \$500 off first month (select units, OAC). Olympic-size pool, spas, basketball, tennis with pros, clubhouse, laundries, movie night, cats welcome, Saturday continental breakfast, business center. Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham, Pacific Beach. Toll-free: 1-888-451-8713. baypointe@progressmanagement.net; www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1295. 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 blocks to ocean. Includes stove, refrigerator. Laundry. No pets. 1060 Felspar Street. Shore Management, www.shoremgmt.com, 858-274-3500.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. Dishwasher, washer/ dryer hookups, parking. Rent: \$2150. 2027 Emerald Street. www.kandrproperties.com. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. Studio apartment. Parking close to the point. \$750. 4006 Ingraham Street. www.kandrproperties.com. Call Mike, 858-490-1600.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$825. 1 bedroom. Hardwood floors, laundry facilities. Near I-5, minutes to Downtown San Diego/ La Jolla. Available immediately. 3430-1/2 Del Rey. 619-222-9308.

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PACIFIC BEACH. 1/2 off 1 year, \$400 off 6 months. 1433 Grand Ave. #5. \$1375. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Courtyard setting, laundry, parking. No pets. 858-692-6601 or www.bkbinc.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$2095. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/ dryer, parking. No pets. 1119 Oliver Avenue #1. Agent, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1395. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry room, parking, patio. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #16. Agent, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1450. 2 story, 1 bedroom loft-style apartment, 1-1/2 bath, fireplace, 2 exterior decks, 900 square feet. Available May. No pets. 1455 Garnet Avenue. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1650. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off-street parking. On-site laundry. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2600. Clean, light, airy 3- bedroom, 2-1/2- bath townhouse, 2-car garage. Fireplace. Washer and dryer, patio, deck. No pets. 1539 Hornblend. 858-270-4492.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2500. 3- bedroom, 3-bath townhouse. 3- car garage. Fireplace, washer/ dryer, patio, deck. Clean, fresh paint, new carpet. No pets. 1849 Grand Avenue. Call Chris, 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH. Half off 1st month's rent! 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1995. Close to beach. Washer/ dryer. Fireplace. Patio. Sorry, no pets. 1420 Reed Avenue. Call Agent, 619-582-4119.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1025. 1 bedroom; large, upstairs, back unit; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave; coin laundry; balcony; garage space. Cat OK with extra deposit. 3711 Ingraham. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1125 and \$1625. 1 bedroom, 1 bath and 2 bedroom, 2 bath; large, remodeled units. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Pool, coin laundry, elevator, parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. 1433 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. \$1200 rent. Close to all. Walk to bay. Laundry, parking, no pets. 4117 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2025. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome. Updated flooring, private patio, washer/ dryer. Well-landscaped property. Near all that Pacific Beach has to offer. **Open Saturday, 4/24, 11:30-12:30am.** 1738 Hornblend

Street #2. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Excellent location near Sail Bay. Recently remodeled. Private end unit in small complex. **Open House Saturday, 4/24, 10:00-11:00.** 1536 Pacific Beach Drive #4. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$995. 1 bedroom. Convenient central location across from Henry's Market and Garnet shopping. Short walk to beach. No pets. 1236 Felspar Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2300. 3 bedroom, 2 bath near beach and Garnet Avenue shopping and restaurants. Parking, laundry. 1016 Hornblend Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$2200. Bright 2 bedroom house. Designer paint colors, hardwood floors, French doors leading to a private front patio. Garage and laundry hook-ups. Close to all Pacific Beach has

to offer. 1419 Oliver Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath. Excellent central location. 2015 Thomas Avenue. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1125. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in the perfect walk-to-all location. New carpet. Near beach, Henry's, and Garnet. 1222-1/2 Felspar Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. 2 bedroom townhouse with designer paint and new flooring. Washer/ dryer in unit, parking. Walking distance to all Pacific Beach has to offer. 1620 Emerald St. TPPM 858-699-3851 www.torreypinespm.com.

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San Diego Reader April 22, 2010 151

SHEEP AND GOATS
PLACES OF WORSHIP REVIEWED

Denomination: nondenominational
Address: 13617 Midland Road, Poway, 858-748-2327
Founded locally: 1950
Senior pastor: Ed Turley
Congregation size: 250
Staff size: 2 full-time, 2 part-time
Sunday school enrollment: 170 (including high school)
Annual budget: n/a
Weekly giving: n/a
Singles program: no
Dress: casual to semiformal
Diversity: majority Caucasian, but diverse
Sunday worship: 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m.
Length of reviewed service: 1 hour
Website: cornerstonepoway.com

“Relevant teachings by Pastor Ed Turley,” advertised the Cornerstone Church website.

“If you can’t use it on Monday, he won’t say it on Sunday!”
The banners hanging on the walls at the church on Sunday were familiar, each one naming a particular aspect of church life: “Fellowship, Service, Worship, Maturity, Outreach.” Less familiar was the knotted rope hanging from a beam in the ceiling. Curious, until you noticed the stage, where padded weapons rested next to a balance beam. Time for the third installment in Cornerstone’s series on obstacles — as Pastor Turley put it, “things that keep us from having a close relationship with God.” The first two sessions had covered guilt and the needs for spiritual sightseeing “that God wants to do something

amazing in your life, and has the power to do that, if we’ll just simply believe in Him.” (During those first two sessions, Turley actually ran the obstacle course.) This week: religion.
But first, the music, raucous and a touch raw, one song charging into another, the band and choir mostly young and amped, with the exception of a middle-aged guy, smoothing things over with his electric guitar. The hymns strayed from the standard pop-worship repertoire, sometimes venturing into sensuous territory: “I feel I’m moving to the rhythm of Your grace/ Your fragrance is intoxicating in the secret place... Spread wide in the arms of Christ/ there’s a love that covers sin...”

Cornerstone Church
Poway
★★

Sermon content delivery ★★★
Liturgy ★★
Music ★★
congregational band ★★
Snacks (served between services) ★★
Architecture ★★
Friendliness ★



Ed Turley

Poor to satisfactory (none)
Good ★
Very good ★★
Excellent ★★★
Extraordinary ★★★★★

Others stuck to more familiar themes: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom/ Or let the strong man boast in his strength/ Let not the rich man boast in his riches/ But let the humble come and give thanks.”

Because, as Turley noted in his opening prayer, “there’s nothing we can do to earn Your approval. Forgive us when we think that somehow we need to, and we cheapen Your grace.” This was the ultimate problem with religion, the

way it could become an obstacle. In his sermon, Turley put it this way: “Religion is all about, ‘I’ve got to do something.’ It’s all about man trying to reach up and somehow make God like him more, when the truth of it is, we’re

PACIFIC BEACH. \$1225. 2 bedroom updated unit with wood floors and designer paint colors. Garden setting patio and garage parking. Open Saturday, 4/24, 1:00-2:00. 2077 Emerald Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$925. Very nice 1 bedroom newly remodeled unit in garden setting. Lush landscape. Open Saturday, 4/24, 1:00-2:00. 2077 Emerald Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1325. A must see 2 bedroom in attractive garden complex in perfect, central location. Parking, laundry. Call now for more information and viewing. 1461 Missouri Street. TPPM 858-699-3851 www.torreypinespm.com
PACIFIC BEACH. \$845, 1 bedroom. Garden setting, easy access location. Pool, recreation room. No pets. Well-maintained property. Move-in special! 1/2 off first month's rent

with one- year lease! 2710 Grand Avenue. TPPM, 858-273-8657, www.bayinnapts.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$2350. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath. Large townhome in attractive building. Only steps to shopping, dining and the beach. Garage and washer/ dryer. 1038 Hornblend Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$850. 1 bedroom. Utilities paid. New paint, new carpet. Parking. Near shops and transportation. 1- year lease. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.
PACIFIC BEACH. \$1795. 3 bedroom, 2 bath lower unit in duplex. Parking. New carpet, new paint. Available May 1. No pets. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.
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unit. Available now! 1536 Moorland #2. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.
PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. Studio. \$950 rent, \$500 deposit. Spacious unit right on Mission Bay. No pets. 6- month minimum. 3976 Morrell Street. 858-483-3221.
PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. \$1125. 1 bedroom in great property with pool. Fantastic location. One block to Sail Bay! 3773 Haines Street. TPPM, 858-483-9303. www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 1 bath in very attractive property. Steps to Sail Bay. 3803 Riviera Drive. TPPM 858-699-3851 www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. \$1395. Bay view 2 bedroom, 2 bath in best Crown Point location one block to Bay! Pool and parking. 8580-3860 Haines Street. TPPM, 858-272-9635, www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT. \$1425. Pristine 2 bedroom, 2 bath in pride of ownership property two blocks to bay. Great second- floor unit. On-site laundry, 2 parking spaces. 3803 Jewell Street. TPPM, 619-933-7400. www.villalaplaysa.com.
PACIFIC BEACH/ EAST. \$975. 1 bedroom with garage. Stove, refrigerator. Small, quiet complex. Easy freeway access. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 2753 Hornblend. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071, www.delsolpm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. 2 bedroom, \$1695. Studio, \$995. Both: Immaculate. Patio, yard, laundry, parking. Ocean: 2 blocks. Available May 1. No pets. 863, 869 Missouri. 858-273-1005.
PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. \$1495. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, remodeled in 4- unit property. Refrigerator, dishwasher, coin laundry, pool. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Available now. 820 Tourmaline. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTH. \$1475. Very nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath, custom colors, fireplace in attractive garden property in perfect North Pacific Beach location north of Turquoise at corner of Dawes. Open Saturday, 4/24, 2:30-3:30. 1075 Agate Street. Corner of Dawes and Agate. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.
PACIFIC BEACH/ NORTHWEST. \$1300. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet complex. Ingraham at Missouri. Large, light. Dishwasher, laundry, parking. Very clean. No pets. 858-483-9009.
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POINT LOMA. No deposit, on approved credit.* Studio starting at \$910! Close to ocean. Off- street parking, spa area, on-site laundry. Cats/ dogs 20 pounds OK. Water and trash included. *Limited time offer, on approved credit, see manager for details. 2449 Soto Street, Apartment #102, San Diego, 92107. 619-224-1973. Or visit us on our website at www.sdrenting.com.
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POINT LOMA. 4716 Point Loma Ave. \$1600. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, upstairs. Dishwasher, laundry, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

POINT LOMA. \$300 off first month! Refurbished studio, \$995. Newly remodeled with fantastic upgrades! Extraordinary! Everything is new! Gated, parking, laundry, barbecue area. In Point Loma near Nimitz. 2089 Chatsworth Boulevard. 619-222-0152.
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The Key to Understanding the Bible

The key to understanding the Bible is “All the Bible is for us, but not all the Bible is about us.” Join us every Sunday morning at 10:30 am and see what we mean.

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Sunday 10:30 am
Pastor Mike Delamarian, Jr.
619-296-2237 or 858-487-4442

all sinners.”

He recalled attending Mass with his Catholic stepsister back in high school and wearing a St. Christopher medal, “hoping that this was going to help.” But, he said, “Nothing we can do can measure up to God’s holy and righteous standard. But with Jesus, it’s *done*.” He walked slowly to the cross at the right side of the stage and rested his hand upon it. “If the cross isn’t enough, if I have to do something, then I just cheapened the cross. Salvation is all about: *by* God’s grace — unmerited love — *through* faith — trust in God — *for* works — what God has planned for us to do.”

Turley cited an article by Paul Tripp that outlined four particular ways that religion can get in the way of God: formalism (“I participate in regular meetings and ministries”), legalism (“I live by the rules”), mysticism (pursuit of emotional

experiences with God), and activism (“I am passionately involved in fixing this broken world”). “Make an inventory of your own heart,” he exhorted the congregation. “I want you to take this personally today. Try to see what it is that you kind of push in front of God sometimes.”

To illustrate, Turley hauled a fishing pole and cooler up onto the stage. “I love fishing. Could this take its place in front of God? It could.” Then he slipped into a story about a man who invited Jesus into his home but wouldn’t let Him investigate the rotten smell coming from one particular closet. That led to a story of his own, one about a bag of yellowfin tuna that slipped out of his freezer and stank up his garage. By the time he got to “Day 10,” the congregation was laughing and groaning in equal measure. Then he moved back to the Jesus story: “Jesus said, ‘I can’t



“If the cross isn’t enough...”

live here with this smell.” The man surrendered, and “through the power of Christ, he started cleaning his closet.”

After the service, a congregant approached Turley and asked about church-run recovery programs. “Right now, I’m just going to AA...” He imme-

diately left to fetch some material on Celebrate Recovery. “It’s like a 12-step program,” he advised, “but it’s Bible-centered. I’m really proud of you — you’re seeking help, and that’s really the first step.”

What happens when we die?

“We have a face-to-face interview with God,” said Turley. “The entrance exam is simple: what have we done with Christ? He’s either your Savior or He’s not. God’s desire is that none would perish, but all would come to repentance. God has provided the way of salvation through Christ and Christ alone.”

— Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.

SAN CARLOS. Super special! 2 bedroom townhouses. \$1375/ month and up. Stove, dishwasher, garage, large patio, pools, laundry facilities. Lakewood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive, San Diego. Available now. Call 619-469-3585; 619-944-0671.

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SOLANA BEACH. \$1550. Charming 1 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Walk to beach/ Coaster. All appliances. Large yard, gardener included. Available June 1. 322 North Granados. 858-792-5002, 858-442-3798.

SOLANA BEACH. Secluded 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhome with skylights, fireplace, 1- car garage, new wood floor. Modern design, high ceilings. Available now. \$1750. 858-755-6560.

SOUTH PARK. \$1125. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site parking. Great location. If you can find one better, rent it. 2902 30th Street. Call Rachael, 619-804-1044, or Jeff, 619-713-1044.

SOUTH PARK. \$700. Large studio with 2 huge closets for storage. Ceramic tile throughout. 2 ceiling fans. Walk to nearby market and flower stand. Available now. 3011 30th Street. www.stevenleeproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

SOUTH PARK. \$900. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, upper unit. Wood floors, lots of light, close to bus lines. Small dog OK with additional deposit. Available now. 3013-1/ 2 and 3015-1/2 30th Street. www.stevenleeproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

SOUTH PARK. Secluded 1 bedroom, 1 bath cottage, \$1075. Wood floors, appliances, new paint, breakfast nook, fenced yard. Pet negotiable. Section 8 OK! 3074 Juniper Street. 619-804-3325.

SPRING VALLEY. 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo, \$975. Washer/ dryer, assigned parking, A/C, storage, downstairs, 700 square feet. 2904 Anawood Way. People

Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

TALMADGE. \$725. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. New carpet, dishwashers, fireplaces, laundry on site, underground gated parking. No pets. Move-in special. 4416 47th St. 619-298-7724.

TALMADGE. Spacious 2 bedroom, 2 baths. Gated, A/C, dishwasher, balcony. Parking, pool. Pets negotiable. Starting at \$1150. 619-284-1045.

TALMADGE. 1/2 off move-in! Spacious, upstairs 1 bedrooms, month- to- month, \$865. Must see! Quiet, gated, laundry, air, parking. 4544 Winona Avenue, 92115. 619-229-1406.



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The Canterbury Tales Geoffrey Chaucer

The Monk’s Tale
“Moreover when it comes
to brawn and bone,
You seem to be well-

cared-for, you must own.
God send confusion
on the fellow who
First had the thought
to make a monk of you!”

Geoffrey Chaucer was born in

Pet friendly with restrictions. Community provides pool, Jacuzzi. \$1500/ month. Call to view: 619-471-2201.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1530. 2 bedroom, 2 bath deluxe condo. Upper. Garage. Washer/ dryer. Fireplace. Large balcony. Cathedral ceilings. A/C. Window seat. Available 5/1. No pets. 4560 Cleveland Avenue. 858-565-2393.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$845. 1 bedroom. Immaculate first floor unit with designer paint, carpet and ceiling fan. Garden setting. Walk to shopping and bus lines. Laundry, parking. Cat OK with additional deposit. **Open Saturday, 4/**



London, the son of a vintner,
in about 1342. He began to
translate the French poem of
courtly love, the Roman de la
Rose. He became a knight of
the shire for Kent in 1385. He
was buried at Westminster
Abbey in 1400.

24, 11:00-12:00. 4475 Hamilton Street #3, #4. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 1/2 off 1st! Large, gated 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1125. All appliances, new paint and vinyl, on-site laundry, private patio, shared garage. No pets! 4550 Louisiana Street. 619-804-3325.

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from the secret files of
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Glad you recommended this movie, Son. I've never seen special effects this incredible.

What do you mean?

It's amazing how they make the astronaut look like he's really on top of that dinosaur.

What dinosaur, Dad? This movie's about mountain climbing.

I'll be darned. I must've grabbed your mother's glasses by mistake.

You want to move up to the front row so you can see better?

Nope. I'm really enjoying my dinosaur movie.

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UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$825. Clean and spacious one bedroom apartment. Unit has fresh paint, gas range and refrigerator, new carpet. Updated light fixtures and door hardware. Mirrored closet doors and ceiling fan in bedroom. Large living room. Dine-in kitchen. Comes with one off-street parking space. Property has on-site laundry. Easy access to I-8 and Mission Valley. Low deposit of \$400.00. One-year lease is required. Application fee is \$30.00 for one/ \$50.00 for two. 4568 Idaho Street, San Diego, CA 92116. Available now. \$500 off first month's rent! **Contact Scott, 619-846-6615.**

UTC. 55+. Spacious luxury living. 1 bedroom, \$1035. 2 bedroom/ 1 bath, \$1175. \$250 deposit, OAC. \$100 off for same-day lease sign. Town Park Villas, 4633 Governor Drive. 858-453-0441.

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GARAGE SALES

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CLAIREMONT. Moving. Saturday, 4/24, 7am-1pm. Tools, toys, baby stuff, decor, electronics, office, holiday, crafts, household, clothes, shoes, jewelry, furniture and more! 3344 Mount Carol Drive.

Auctions Wednesdays! Electronics, appliances, home furnishings, antiques, collectibles, jewelry and more! Every Wednesday at 4:30 pm. At 130 East 8th Street, National City. Consignments available. 619-474-8296.

GOLDEN HILL. Moving sale. Saturday, 4/24, 8am-1pm. Furniture, household, miscellaneous. 2559 C Street #2.

LA MESA. 200+ trade paperback comics from DC/Vertigo. Most never read, excellent condition. Superman, Batman, Flash, crossovers, etc. April 24, 8am-12pm. 8689 Mariposa Street.

MISSION HILLS. Multifamily sale. Saturday, 4/24, 8am-noon. Big bargains. Don't miss! Proceeds Rady Children's Hospital. 2370 Juan Street, San Diego, 92103.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Moving sale. Antiques, furniture, electronics, more. Saturday/Sunday, April 24/ 25. 9am-2pm. 4238- 40 #B 37th Street, San Diego 92105.

PACIFIC BEACH. Moving/ garage sale. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 4/22-4/24. Household items, clothes, sporting, furniture, stereo, DVDs, books, dishware, glasses. Everything must go. 931 Loring Street.

SAN DIEGO. Spring parking lot rummage sale. Saturday, 5/1, 8am-noon. Bargains on furniture, clothing, housewares, electronics, books, toys and more! 2929 Market Street, 92102. 619-239-0896. www.btsd.net.

TIERRASANTA. Garage sale. Saturday, 4/24, 8am-1pm. Nonprofit Tierrasanta Junior Women's Club. Clothes, furniture, books, toys. Donations: 858-576-1344, 5974 Corte Playa Cartagena, cross street is Portobello.

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MISCELLANEOUS. Microwave oven, guitar, movie posters, photos of and books about celebrities, magazines, autographs, Derby hat, figure skates, record albums, 45s, much more! 619-420-3312.

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In compliance with Prop 215, SB 420, HS Code 11362.5

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Free Gram of Choice
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IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROP 215 S.B. 420 H&S 11362.5

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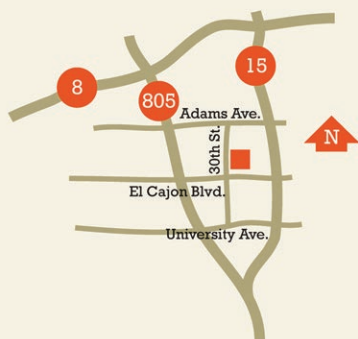
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