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- **Standard Lasik**
- **All Laser Standard**
- **Custom Lasik**
- **Custom Intralase (Lask or All Laser Custom Lasik)**

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<td>1. Standard Lasik</td>
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<td>✔</td>
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<td>$799</td>
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<td>2. All Laser Standard</td>
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<td>✔</td>
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<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<td>$35</td>
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We are often told by our patients that other centers charge upwards of $1000 more for the same procedure! So, how have we been able to keep our Lasik prices so affordable? When doctors lease Lasik surgical equipment, they have to charge their patients more money to cover their expenses. That’s because doctors pay a lot more money to rent the equipment than if they owned it. Since we own our lasers and facility, we are not beholden to any additional rental fees or the whims of landlords. This means that we can keep our prices more affordable. So why the 4 different prices? Even though we own our own lasers, there are “royalty fees” per each usage of either Intralase and/or Custom Wavefront lasers in the United States charged by the manufacturers of those laser machines. Those royalty fees are added to the prices of the Lasik procedures which utilize any of those technologies.

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Do they offer 4th generation FS Intralase to create a safer, faster, more controlled, bladeless all-laser procedure? ................. Yes ?
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“Having the LASIK procedure has completely changed my life. I never thought I’d be so excited to wake up and be able to see my alarm clock! As nervous as I was to have this procedure done, Dr. Katzman and his staff were extremely comforting and explained everything as it was happening. I’d go back and do it a million times to keep my vision as perfect as it is now.”

– Marisa K.

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Casting call  Hopes were high for California’s Citizens Redistricting Commission last December, when nearly 30,000 applications poured in from all over the state for a seat on the 14-member board that is to draw up new boundaries for state assembly, senate, and board of equalization districts. By April 22, a few days after the final deadline, the state auditor had announced that almost 9000 of the initial applicants had submitted supplemental application packages and letters of recommendation, required to qualify for consideration. The commission, created by the passage of Prop 11 in November 2008, is to be made up of 5 Democrats, 5 Republicans, and 4 members of neither party. A 3-member applicant review panel will narrow the number of finalists to 60. Legislative leadership can cut 24 of those at will; from the remaining list, the state auditor will choose 8 members at random, and those 8 will then pick the final 6 members.

Some of the applications include lengthy essays recounting past glories. Mesa College professor Carl Luna, who declined to state his political party, recalled a 2002 project he'd undertaken to make peace between Russia and its political party, saying April 29, 2010

Reader

in pressure from the Russian government — with-
taken to make peace between Russia and its
political party, recalled a 2002 project he’d under-
less essays recounting past glories. Mesa College
members.

random, and those 8 will then pick the final 6
list, the state auditor will choose 8 members at
that would keep one or both of them from
being subjected to severe physical punishment. I
found that solution.”

Asked to describe his “appreciation for California’s diverse demographics and geography,” Republican Charles Rosen of San Diego, a retired electrical engineer, wrote: “One winter day, my wife and I drove to the mountains for breakfast in historic Julian. By forenoon we dropped down into the desert at Borrego Springs to enjoy the warmth and sunshine. By mid afternoon we were tromping in the snow atop Mount Palomar. The evening ended with a meal at a favorite Mexican restaurant on the beach at Cardiff-By-The Sea. Where else could this be done except in San Diego County?”

Fun raising  Politics can be fun and pro-
itable at the same time. Just ask GOP congress-
man Duncan Hunter. On March 29, his reelection cam-
paign offered special seats at a Bon Jovi concert held at
Verizon Center in Washington, D.C., to political action
committees that kicked in $2000 each. Democrat Bob
Filner, chairman of the House Veterans’ Affairs Commit-
tee, threw two April fund-raisers, a breakfast at the
Tortilla Coast restaurant near Capitol Hill and a “gala reception” at the Mission Bay Hilton. Admission for each ranged from $1000 to $5000 per person. In March, Fil-
ner’s fellow Democrat Susan Davis offered “home-cooked-
to-order omelets” at her house on E Street Southeast in Wash-
ington, D.C., where admissions also ranged from $1000
to $5000.... On March 29, the San Pasqual Indian Band won its case in fed-
eral court against Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger over how many slot machines it could install at its Valley View casino. On April 14 and 15, according to campaign disclo-
sure records, the tribe’s San Pasqual Casino Development Group gave a total of $37,500 to the gubernatorial effort of Democratic state Attorney General Jerry Brown.

— 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.

Orgy of Self-Congratulation

By Don Bauder

Fore!! Callaway Golf — the big maker of golf clubs, balls, and other accoutrements — has hit an errant shot that may plunk its shareholders on the head. The blog Footnoted.org says Callaway is “taking a mulli-
gan,” but that may be a lit-
ttle harsh. In golf, a mulli-
gan is a do-over: if you make a
lousy shot off the tee, you hit another one without los-
ing a stroke. It’s against the
rules, of course, but if the
friends in your foursome
don’t object, it’s okay.

What Callaway has done is hardly illegal, but share-
holders attending the annual meeting May 18 at the com-
pany’s Carlsbad headquar-
ters may ask about it. Like

Callaway CEO George Fellows; $6.26 million in 2009, $5.51 million in 2008

Callaway Golf — the big maker of golf clubs, balls, and other accoutrements — has hit an errant shot that may plunk its shareholders on the head. The blog Footnoted.org says Callaway is “taking a mulligan,” but that may be a little harsh. In golf, a mulligan is a do-over: if you make a lousy shot off the tee, you hit another one without losing a stroke. It’s against the rules, of course, but if the friends in your foursome don’t object, it’s okay.

What Callaway has done is hardly illegal, but shareholders attending the annual meeting May 18 at the company’s Carlsbad headquarters may ask about it. Like standards of corporate governance.

The proxy states, “A signif-
ificant portion of total com-
ensation should be related
to performance,” and that’s particularly true of senior
management. But also, “Com-
ensation levels should be
sufficiently competitive to
attract and retain the exec-
utive talent needed.”

You can see the loophole
here. The company pledges
to pay its executives based
on performance. But it also
pledges to pay them based on retention incentives. Thus, when the performance is poor, the board can always shift focus and hand out bonuses as incentives to keep them...
Historic Papers in the Wind

By Jeanne Schinto

Bidders at the auction of the now-dissolved James S. Copley Library, held at Sotheby’s in New York City on April 14, drove the price of a 75-word letter signed by one Button Gwinnett to a phenomenal $722,500. That’s $9633.33 per word — and the obscure member of the Continental Congress from Georgia didn’t even pen the letter himself. A scribe wrote the message; Gwinnett and others merely signed it on July 12, 1776. But his signature is the most sought after by members of a very small club, who collect examples of signatures by each of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence.

A Sotheby’s spokesperson said there were only two bidders, but at an auction that’s all it takes.

A collector’s personality is often revealed in what he or she chooses to collect, but Jim Copley didn’t begin seriously collecting early Americana until less than a decade before his death, using a Copley executive named Richard Reilly as his scout. After Copley died, the collecting, like his newspaper empire, continued under the direction of an entirely different personage — his widow Helen — with, by some accounts, the help of her son David. So there’s no real sense in analyzing the library contents — some 2000 letters, documents, manuscripts, books, pamphlets, broadsides, maps, etc. — on the psychological level. Besides, the collection and its dispersal have other stories to tell.

The consignor of the James S. Copley Library is Copley Press Inc., with Gurr Johns Inc. acting as its agent — i.e., for doing the deal and handling the logistics, the “Valuers and Fine Art Consultants” get their percentage, just as Sotheby’s gets theirs. The reason for the sale, according to a prepared statement by Gurr Johns president Elizabeth von Habsburg, was the library’s “wish to share” the historical wealth "with a broader audience.” But if that were the goal, the library could have done it much more effectively in other ways. Just one idea: elimination of the requirement, stated on the library’s former website, that any potential visitor needed to submit “letters of recommendation from two people of recognized standing in the academic field who can testify to his or her qualifications as a scholar.”

continued on page 12

This letter, dated July 12, 1776, sold for $722,500 at Sotheby’s, which is auctioning the contents of the James S. Copley Library. The single sheet bears the signature of Button Gwinnett, along with other signers of the Declaration of Independence, including John Hancock.

End of the line for teen car thief

Photograph by Jeanne Schinto

Part of the exhibition of Copley Library items at Sotheby’s in New York City. INSET: An oil portrait of James S. Copley by Peter Hurd hung at Sotheby’s when items from the library were on presale exhibit. According to the auction house, the painting is not for sale. Note that the newspaper on the desk is the San Diego Union. The headline reads, “Blizzard Cripples Northeast Cities.”

Chula Vista Drag

Teens’ Stolen-Car Drag Race Ends in Crash

Bonita — A 17-year-old male’s joyride ended in a crash with police and a car stopped at a golf course just before midnight on April 20.

The owners of the stolen blue Volkswagen Passat hadn’t reported the vehicle stolen before the juvenile caught the attention of a Chula Vista Police officer. The officer noticed the Passat and another suspect in a black Nissan Sentra in the area of East H Street and Auburn Avenue as both vehicles were speeding in tandem.

Both vehicles sped up upon spotting the police car making a U-turn toward them. They refused to yield as it pursued them northbound on Otay Lakes Road, where they reached speeds approaching 80 miles per hour down the two-mile stretch.

According to CVPD, the suspect in the Passat failed to negotiate the right turn at the bottom of the hill at the Bonita Road and Otay Lakes T-intersection. Instead, the vehicle headed straight into the Chula Vista Municipal Golf Course, where it crashed into a chain-link fence adjacent to the course’s duck pond.

The car flipped over and the suspect attempted to flee the scene on foot, but was apprehended by the officer.

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top brass on the payroll.
That’s what happened at Callaway last year. Sales slumped from $1.1 billion in 2008 to $951 million. Earnings per share plunged from $1.04 to a loss of 33 cents. The stock, which had traded in the $30s in the late 1990s, dropped as low as $4.66.
Callaway had given the chief executive, George Fellows, along with four other officers, performance awards going back to 2006. One award was stock options that they could exercise at around $14, but that wasn’t going to happen with the stock so depressed. Last year, “All outstanding stock options were underwater and had no intrinsic value,” laments the proxy statement. Indeed, all options granted since 2006 were worthless.
That’s what performance rewards are all about: you don’t perform, you don’t get emolument. So the do-nothing, don’t perform, you don’t get anything. The so-called “phantom stock” was worthless.
Phantom stock, sometimes called “shadow stock,” really isn’t stock. It consists of cash payments that go up and down with the price of the company’s stock. Fellows was granted 254,130 units of phantom stock. He can cash half of them in after two years and the other half after three. Callaway puts a value of $2 million on that phantom stock given Fellows. The other officers were awarded from 44,473 to 69,886 units of phantom stock.
Let’s start adding this up. On January 29 of 2009, the board agreed to give Fellows 135,881 shares of Callaway stock free. The company valued those shares at $1.07 million. On the same day, Fellows got an option to buy 900,521 shares at $7.85. Those aren’t underwater; Callaway stock has rebounded and late Monday was trading at a shade under $10. The company puts a value on those shares of $2.13 million. Then there are those 254,130 phantom shares that Callaway says are worth $2 million. Fellows has a base salary of $925,000. In addition, he gets $136,105 for life insurance, travel expenses, country club dues, free golf clubs and balls, and other so-called privileges of rank.
So on page 41 of this year’s proxy, Fellows’s total compensation for 2009 — that lousy year — should turn out to be $6.26 million, says Callaway, up from $5.51 million in 2008, a good year, and $4.45 million in 2007, another good year. Of course, we don’t know exactly what that 2009 total compensation will be because we don’t know what future Callaway stock prices will be. But we have to go with the value that Callaway puts on these grants.
Eric Struik, vice president of finance, explains that the so-called incentive grants “are intended to cover what had been lost since 2006. We’re trying to compete effectively; these grants restore the retention incentive.” Yes, but they also erase losses suffered from poor performance. Fellows’s ear-}

### Fellows has a base salary of $925,000. In addition, he gets $136,105 for life insurance, travel expenses, country club dues, free golf clubs and balls.

Callaway has many things going for it: golf’s darling, Phil Mickelson, uses the company’s clubs and balls. The company says its first-quarter earnings will more than double to 25 cents a share this year. “However, a lot of golf courses are underwater. You’ll see golf courses turning fallow, the land converted to homes. People aren’t playing as much golf as they used to,” warns Leedom. Callaway stock has made an excellent run this year “but may be ahead of itself.”

Struik, Leedom, and Crystal agree that other companies use such maneuvers so that executives don’t get punished for poor performance. But that doesn’t make it right. It’s out of bounds.

### Historic papers continued from page 7

Undoubtedly, the sale is part of Copley Press’s continuing campaign to raise cash by selling its assets, even in down markets.
When asked last month for a list of researchers who had made use of the library, a spokesperson said the registry had, just hours earlier, been hauled away to be destroyed, along with other library records. After all, the building that had housed the collection in La Jolla since 1982 was itself on the market.
That the library would be jettisoned by David Copley isn’t all that surprising. He is known for his passion for collecting such things as motion-picture fashion illustrations — e.g., Cecil Beaton’s original sketches for the costumes Audrey Hepburn wore continued on page 14
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Historic papers

continued from page 12

in My Fair Lady— not for any love of scribblings by our Founding Fathers. Still, the library was his parents’ pride.

By one estimate, it took 22 years for the library to complete its collection of all 56 Declaration of Independence signers. It took only a couple of hours to disperse the bulk of it (a few signatures were held back for future sales), along with 188 other historical documents, including letters by George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin, as well as items either handwritten or signed by others who loom large in the early history of this country.

Someone paid $313 for an Abigail Adams thank-you note. Another bidder spent $7500 for a love letter by Benedict Arnold. A third plunked down $25,000 for a letter by John Hancock discussing, among other things, employment for his brother. The final bid for a letter by Declaration of Independence signer Joseph Hewes of North Carolina was $53,125. The price for an example of writing by another North Carolina signer, William Hooper, was $206,500.

All told, the final take for this first of four scheduled sales at Sotheby’s was $4,362,884. Not an inconsiderable sum, it was still below what the auction house predicted the sale would bring. That’s because about a dozen key lots (including a number of George Washington items) didn’t sell at all, while a letter signed by Abe Lincoln, which had been expected to sell for $500,000 to $700,000, fetched “only” $482,500.

Asked to characterize the sale and its results, a prominent antiquarian-book dealer who attended the auction said, “I’d say the overall results were not bad but that over-estimating and overreserving of lots hurt the sale because it reduced participation by potential bidders.”

Translation: “Reserve" is the term for the price below which a consignor won’t allow an item to be sold. Reserves are invariably employed at auction houses like Sotheby’s, while smaller houses may use them only on their biggest-ticket items. Reserves are tied to estimates, which are expressed in a range of low to high and made public in a sale’s printed cata-log, while reserves are not. But reserves are generally understood to be about two-thirds of an estimate’s lower number.

One would think that bidders would know what they wanted to spend on something by the time an auction begins, and for the most part they do, but they also like to play the game. They like to bid. If a reserve is too high, requiring them to start their bidding at or near the level where they expect to end up, they may rebel by refusing to play.

Remember, we’re talking here about little pieces of paper, not anything that anybody actually needs.

Why Copley Press chose to be hard-nosed when offering these items, when it has been willing to sacrifice so many other assets, not the least of which was the Union Tribune, is anybody’s guess. In any event, the dealer added, “Despite [the unsold lots], the sale did quite well.”

Surely, he was thinking above all about the Gwinnett signature, whose buyer chose to ignore its $500,000 to $700,000 estimate, willing to pay slightly above.

Incidentally, the letter’s provenance — i.e., its chain of custody going back to its beginning — has an iron link, bonding forever Helen Copley with another rich widow. Here’s the story.

The letter’s recipient — the person to whom Gwinnett was writing in the first place — was John Ashmead, clerk of the Revolutionary War-era frigate Randolph. (He was also a member of an infantry company, and Gwinnett wanted him to remain at sea instead of joining that company. He complied.) The letter was handed down in Ashmead’s family, spent some time stored in a box in an outhouse (if the lore is to be believed), and eventually found its way to auction for the first time in 1927, where it sold for $51,000. More than 20 years later, in 1948, that owner sold it for an unknown sum to the widow of oil tycoon Edward L. Doheny, who was implicated in, but acquitted for, his role in the Teapot Dome scandal of the 1920s.

Like Helen Copley, Carrie Estelle Betzold Doheny was a second wife, and like her, she held an office job before her auspicious marriage. Helen was once Jim Copley’s secretary; Carrie Estelle was a telephone operator. Carrie Estelle and Helen had something else in common: rare books. While Helen took up rare-book collecting where Jim left off when he died, Carrie Estelle began a rare-book collection from scratch, in her dead husband’s honor. Each also built a library building.

Carrie Estelle’s was the Edward Laurence Doheny Memorial Library at St. John’s Seminary in Camarillo, California. Like Helen, Carrie Estelle, who died in 1958, expected her library to be permanent. Instead, the Doheny Library contents were sold on behalf of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles in a series of seven sales at Christie’s in New York City, London, and elsewhere between 1987 and 1989.

At the Doheny sale in New York on February 22, 1989, the Copley Library got its Gwinnett (thereby completing its set of signers) for $209,000. The return on that investment, then, has obviously been considerable, showing the Copley Press has made at least one good deal lately — except, of course, it was never intended to be an investment. And one has to wonder if Helen, in plucking that document from the dissolved Doheny collection, sensed a foreshadowing — or else swore to herself that what had happened to Carrie Estelle would never happen to her.

Some years earlier, on July 23, 1983, on KGTV’s program Eye on San Diego, Richard Reilly, the library’s erstwhile scout, then curator (and now its curator emeritus who, like the library’s spokesperson, declined to be quoted for this report), told the program’s moderator, John Beatty, “The James Copley Library is really a love story. It’s the story of a man’s love for his books and manuscripts and a love story of Helen Copley for Jim Copley and her wish that all of his books and manuscripts were preserved forever and housed in this building.”

Reilly was speaking shortly before he had completed a book about the library. Published by Copley Press, it was called A Promise Kept: The Story of the James S. Copley Library. The title refers to the fact that Helen not only kept collecting but also built the building as a kind of monument to Jim. In fact, many of the library’s best pieces were bought by her long after Jim’s 1973 death, and that includes the Gwinnett autograph.

The last line of Reilly’s book is this: “One wonderful aspect to the story of the James S. Copley Library is that, seemingly, it has no end.” Well, now it has.

Many citizens of San Diego have expressed regret that the city “lost” the library. But they forget that, despite the historical importance of the material and the proprietary feelings such artifacts engender, the library was never theirs. It was a private entity, owned by a corporation that could do with it what it pleased. Still, one can imagine they’ll feel even more regret when a future sale offers material relating to the settlement of California, going all the way back to the Jesuit missionaries. One piece, a list made by Father Junipero Serra on March 1, 1777, of all the missions he founded in Alta California, is estimated to fetch $250,000 to $350,000. Another California item, dating from 1782, is expected to sell for $300,000 to $500,000. Drawn by the Spanish explorer Juan Pantoja y Arriaga, namesake of a small downtown park, it is one of the earliest surviving maps of the Port of San Diego.
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The adults are getting too carried over drinking after the Little League games, and they’re staying there at the park,” said Little League Board member and parent Ed Lopez. “They’re just tipping them and tipping them…eventually it’s going to create a problem.” Lopez believes that the alcohol could eventually lead to brawls between angry, inebriated parents.

By Nathaniel Uy Saturday, April 24

Craigslist Tips Them Off
Tandem Bike Thief Caught after Posting Ad
El Cajon — A suspected burglar was arrested after a random tandem bike ride in El Cajon on April 22. The 35-year-old parolee allegedly marketed the stolen bicycle on craigslist after the owners reported it stolen from a Rancho San Diego trailer, along with several other items on April 18.

Detectives from the Lemon Grove sheriff’s station followed up on a lead from the owners, who said they saw an ad for their bike on the website. While conducting surveillance on Graves Avenue, detectives spotted two women riding the tandem bike and a man following closely behind on another bicycle.

Deputies from the Sancrete sheriff’s station tried to help detain them, but the male suspect fled to a nearby apartment complex where he was located hiding in a bedroom.

By Karina Hernandez Saturday, April 24

What in the Worm? Strange-Looking Sea Worm Found on Beach
Mission Beach — On April 14, while walking at the edge of the water in Mission Beach, I came across a strange creature that had washed up on the sand. Unsure as to whether or not this purple-veined thing was poisonous (and envisioning alien projectiles reaching out to grab my camera upon touching it), I decided against picking it up. Instead, I gently prodded it with a stick to see if it was soft or hard. It was soft and had a white funnel-like protrusion at the end not visible in the photo. I snapped a few photos just before the next wave embraced it and pulled it back to sea.

I spent the next several days trying to figure out what I had seen. I stopped several lifeguards as they drove by me on subsequent walks. I showed them the photo. “Can you tell me what this is?”

“Hmm...never seen that before...the oceans are changing,” said a Mission Beach lifeguard.

I then emailed the photo to Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Two days later, I got this response from Fernando Nosratpour, assistant aquarium curator at the Birch Aquarium:

“I believe the animal in your photo is a peanut worm,” said Nosratpour.

“I’m not sure what species. I’m guessing — because the animal you found is exposed to air — it’s probably pretty stressed and has retracted into a ball shape. This shape may help it conserve water until the tide comes up. Normally, these guys live under the sand and siphon water/food through their tube burrow. The one you found is quite a bit larger than the more common ones we find locally.”

Google images seem not to support Nosratpour’s peanut-worm designation. Can you help solve this marine mystery?

By Carolyn Grace Matteo Monday, April 19

Wreck the Rec? Council Looks at Ways to Reduce Deficit
Lemon Grove — In recent months, the Lemon Grove city council has looked at ways of reducing the deficit. Projected revenues for fiscal year 2010-11 are $11.8 million, while expenditures are projected to be $12.7 million.

On April 20, the city council reconvened inside the community center for another budget discussion. On the agenda for the night: should the city continue to offer youth recreation services?

Currently, Lemon Grove subsidizes three recreation programs for children, explained Mike Hale, director of recreation services. Those programs include organized youth sports, such as soccer, flag football, and basketball; a summer and spring day camp; and an after-school “drop-in” program, where kids in grades kindergarten through fifth grade can go from 2 to 6 p.m.

The city pays nearly $95,000 per year to fund the youth activities, but Hale presented a plan that would bring that down to $17,000. The plan increases the children-to-staff ratio, raises fees, encourages utilizing volunteers for some youth sports activities, and includes implementing a daily fee of $2 for the after-school drop-in program.

The city manager offered one additional alternative: ditch the cost-savings plan and try to get the Boys and Girls Club to take over.

“I don’t believe it is our job to provide after-school care for kids,” said Mayor Mary Teresa Sessom during council comment.

By Dorian Hargrove Wednesday, April 21

Earth Lovers and Baby Killers
Pro-Lifers Protest at Earth Day Fair
Balboa Park — Thousands of people flocked to Balboa Park on Sunday, April 18, to celebrate EarthFair 2010, billed as “The world’s largest annual environmental fair” by event producer San Diego Earthworks. Educational exhibits, music, and earth-friendly food were offered alongside a dose of shock and controversy: anti-abortion activists protested near the Planned Parenthood booth.

“Three hundred and seventy-five dollars! Best money you could ever spend. No child support. No kids walking around,” shouted Jeff White sarcastically while holding one of many giant signs depicting aborted fetuses. He and other pro-life advocates made their voices heard just a few feet from pro-choice supporters who offered information on safe sex, birth control, and abortion.

Many people walking by expressed their disapproval of the use of the...
venue for the debate as tensions ran high between the two groups. Upon her arrival to help staff the Planned Parenthood booth, a volunteer said she was confronted by a member of the Survivors of the Abortion Holocaust, who said, “Here comes someone who’s found her place on Earth. She’s a baby killer.” The woman later reflected on her experience by saying, “It was pretty disturbing, but, because of their antics, tons of people came to talk to us.”

By Barry Meyer
Tuesday, April 20

Watch for the Blondes
Female Burglars Seen
Breaking Into Home
El Cajon — Two women broke into a home in Fletcher Hills on the morning of April 8. While the neighbors were on their way to work, two blonde women driving a white Ford F150 with gold Eddie Bauer trim walked to the back of the home, broke the glass on the door, and entered the home of Susan and Tirrell Payton.

They took several cameras, as well as costume jewelry and an empty purse.

“I used the cameras for my business and had only just bought the nicest one,” said Susan Payton of the theft. “We just moved here, and I can’t believe that someone would rob us in broad daylight.”

By Susan Payton
Saturday, April 24

Someone’s Gotta Do It
Homeless Man Wants to Help Clean Up Waste
Downtown — Jeff Trevethan, a man living homeless in San Diego, appeared before the city council to comment on his personal difficulties with trying to remove human waste and animal feces that remain uncleansed in the streets.
A Vista man who befriend a fellow marijuana user reported being robbed by his new acquaintance in Vista on Thursday.

Officers were called to the 1200 block of Buena Vista Drive shortly before 6 p.m. to investigate a report of a home burglary with shots being fired, Sgt. Art Wagner said.

The victim, 32, told authorities he met “Phil” on Tuesday at the “Cal Med 420 Medical Marijuana Dispensary” on Rosecrans in San Diego.

He invited the man to come to his home to smoke the weed, which the victim said he needs to use for unspecified medical problems.

The victim told investigators that when he went to his bedroom to get his pot, his “guest” pulled a handgun and fired off a shot that missed him but lodged in the wall, Wagner said.

After “Phil” ordered him to the ground and demanded the man’s medical stash, a second man arrived and began demanding “the money,” Wagner said.

The victim told authorities he begged for his life and handed over his cash. They also took an unspecified amount of marijuana and a bong.

By Steve Perez
Friday, April 23

Comments
1. And the police are really going to help him recover his weed?

I think we are beginning to see what sort of problems we are going to have with this “medicine.” Most of the people in my community that I’ve heard from or talked to are firmly against having one of those “dispensaries” anywhere near here.

By Dorian Hargrove
Thursday, April 22

2. That’s unfortunate. I’m finding medical marijuana to be very helpful with an arthritic condition but am not sure what goes on around a dispensary, as I’ve not been actually in one.

By SDaniel 7 p.m., Apr. 23

Spirited Debate
Prop G Could Sideline Bayfront Development
Chula Vista — During last week’s mayoral debate, a potential problem for developing Chula Vista’s bayfront was revealed. In June, Chula Vistans will vote on Proposition G.

Proposition G wants to change the Chula Vista Municipal Code language to say, among other things, that in projects paid for by city or redevelopment funds the City cannot “become a signatory to a collective bargaining agreement” or be “required to make payments on behalf of employees to union benefit plans or other trust funds.”

At the debate, mayoral candidate and councilmember Steve Castaneda interpreted the consequences of Proposition G by saying: “Proposition G will prohibit the City from investing in projects that have some sort of labor agreement...that doesn’t necessarily mean organized-labor agreement—it could be contributing to a trust fund or pension fund. The language is so loose, our attorneys and those of the port district don’t really know what it means. Right now, Pacifica companies has an agreement with organized labor for a hotel on the bayfront. If Proposition G passes, the City would not be able to contribute to the infrastructure for that project...which would essentially kill that project.”

By Susan Lazzaro
Tuesday, April 20

Become a Stringer. Earn up to $100 for your neighborhood news story, $25 for photo, $25 for video. See guidelines at SDReader.com/stringers.

By CuddleFish 6:13 p.m., Apr. 23

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LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, ext. 460; address them to Letters to the Editor, Box 85803, San Diego CA 92186-5803; fax them to 619-231-0489; or use our web page at SanDiegoReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and telephone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

What An Insult
I was insulted by your article “Broken Skull, Broken Heart” (Cover Story, April 22). I was one of the physicians caring for Dorian. The derogatory depiction of his medical care and physicians in particular was in poor taste. Your readers have no idea of the time, skill, care, and interest myself and others had in trying to provide medical advice, support for him and his family. It is clear he is and probably always was an insecure, angry, and self-absorbed person. Trust, I had no economic gain in his care, and I am unsure I have ever been paid. Someone should have edited this article. He comes across as an immature, careless person. The article does nothing to educate the public about the social, personal, neurologic consequences of brain injury, which are substantial. The Reader missed a great opportunity to help the public understand this endemic problem but settled for a hit job on the medical community.

Name Withheld by Request via email

Thanks For Sharing
Dorian, your story was one of the best that I have seen in the Reader in a while (“Broken Skull, Broken Heart,” Cover Story, April 22). My brother had a major head injury about 30 years ago, and reading your story and Aimee’s experience during the time you were in a coma really touched me. I also answered a lot of questions I had about why my brother acted the way she did after the accident. Thank you for sharing such an emotional and difficult time.

Laurie Murray via email

One Mind Changed
I was moved by Dorian Har- grove’s account of his head injury and rehab after a skate-boarding accident (“Broken Skull, Broken Heart,” Cover Story, April 22). As the mom of a teenaged skateboarder, his story is my worst night- mare. Dorian states that “if I can persuade one kid to put on a helmet before skating then something good will have come from my misfortune.” I would like him and his wife to know that my son read the article and has told me that it has changed his attitude about wearing his helmet. I believe this story will save lives. Thank you for sharing it, and I hope for continued recovery for Dorian.

Lynn Mariano via email

Disturbed
I just have a comment about your latest edition of the

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Wednesday, April 28
In A New Light
Stowe Biotherapy Medical Oasis in La Mesa was the featured story on 60 Minutes last night. I read the stories that appeared in 2008 by the Reader (“Best Buys,” January 16 and 23, 2008). Would you say that you should revisit your report and shed some light on what is happening? If you think Stowe Biotherapy has duped you, then you owe yourself and your readers a further report based upon what 60 Minutes reported.

Peter Hepburn
via email

Eve Kelly responds: Thank you for your attention to “Best Buys” and for letting me know about the 60 Minutes story. I tried to be very careful in my column not to give credence to (or even include) any claims about reversal of any particular disease because I knew I was not competent to evaluate any such claims. Rather, those columns (and others) were intended to serve as an exploration of the general principles behind a branch of “alternative medicine” — in this case, energy and sound therapy. To my memory, Stowe’s reports of cures were not a heroic victory over self-endured. It was an accident, not a heroic act that seems to dominate the coverage.

Gregory J. Cobb
Point Loma

Too Rude For The Kids
Your cover art the last two weeks (“Want to Be Sent Home in Pieces?” April 8, and “Broken Skull, Broken Heart,” April 22) has been too graphic to have in my home. We have small children, and we don’t need yet another source of traumatic imagery for them to see. Please don’t join the neo-barbaric movement that seems to dominate this culture ever since the advent of gangster rap and Middle East terrorism. Yeah, 300 was a great movie, but it shouldn’t be a goal for the new world order. You could have used the photo inside for the cover — the one that shows the effect of the head injury on the young man’s motor skills — instead of glorifying the injury as something heroic that he has endured. It was an accident, not a heroic victory over self-destructive behavior. Please, let’s tone down the cover art so the kids don’t have to see it out in public, so they can still enjoy some peace in this world. Yes, they are going to die someday, but don’t tell them. (That’s just rude.) For God’s sake, let the children play.

Lisa via email

Just Too Ugly
The Reader cover page continues to get uglier and uglier. Last week’s (“Want to Be Sent Home in Pieces?” April 8) was so bad that I couldn’t even bring myself to take one to bring home. I realize you will not appeal to everyone with your cover stories — you never will — but when the cover is absolutely hideous, my guess is that I am not the only one that отметил not to pick one up. Not sure, but my guess is that advertisers would not be pleased to hear that. Of course, maybe you don’t really care.

Mike via voice mail

“Audio Sport pimped my ride!”
“Audio Sport worked with my budget and was able to put a new set of wheels and tires on my new BMW. They had a nice selection and the service was excellent.”

— Bobby G.

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One estimate puts the total number at 27, countwide. A surprise, no doubt, to many of those who were included in the count.

— CITY LIGHTS: “GAY COPS STAY UNDERCOVER,”
Brace Calien, May 3, 1990

Fifteen Years Ago
In rehearsals, though [Jefferson] Mays felt secure in scenes with other actors, soliloquies filled him with panic. “It’s just me and that great big void of an audience out there. That’s when, I was sure, dangerous thoughts would intrude.”

But during actual performances, it was different. “Hamlet isn’t just talking to himself. He’s opening up his soul. During the soliloquies the audience became my best friend. I could tell them everything. Shakespeare must have known this all along, how those speeches fuse the actor with the audience.”

— “HIS ARMPITS SMELL OF VODKA,” Jeff Smith, April 27, 2000

Five Years Ago
I should have known better than to write about my boss. I listed her faults to my friends, explained in detail why her write-ups were bullshit and how she plotted and schemed like a witch to suck the most out of her employees’ commissions. I also wrote of my weekend exploits, from clubs to drugs, amusing few details. I used my Yahoo! account instead of company e-mail. I wasn’t thrilled to discover such culinary delights and thought of them as one of the many advantages to receiving an education in sunny Southern California.

— BEST BUYS, Eve Kelly, April 27, 2000

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

My son and I were in the park the other day, and we heard this very, very loud peeping noise. We finally decided the peeping was coming from a squirrel. It just kept peeping and never shut up. My son said, “It sounds like he’s got the hic-ups.” I suggested that squirrels don’t get hiccups even though I didn’t really know. Anyway, to set the record straight, did the squirrel have hiccups? Can squirrels even get hiccups? My son is still convinced that’s what was going on.

— Just One Dad, Carlsbad

A real wildlife adventure in the park, I’d say. First of all, you’re right, the loud, irritating, endless peeping was coming from a ground squirrel. Your furry friend was fulfilling his duty to warn his friends that danger lurked nearby. The lurking danger, of course, was you and your son. Aggravating peeping is the ground squirrel alarm system.

The evenly spaced peeps might sound like hiccups. Pretty imaginative kid you’ve got there, Dad. And believe it or not, squirrels can get hiccups. We’re just one more bunch of animals in the wild world that has hiccups in its repertoire. If an animal has a diaphragm as part of its breathing apparatus, it can get hiccups. Cows, kittens, mice, moose, all hic-susceptible. In domestic animals, hiccups seem to be related to digestive problems; usually, the pup or kitten ate too fast and sucked in a lot of air. It takes care of itself eventually. In an animal like a horse, the hiccup is heard in the belly, not the throat, and can be a sign that the large-animal vet should trot right over and check things out.

A hiccups is just an irritation of the diaphragm or esophagus. In people the reaction to the irritation starts with a big inhale, then ends with a hic noise caused by the epiglottis snapping shut. Different animals have different acoustic properties, so if they make a sound at all, it might not come from the throat. Your squirrel in the park wasn’t hiccuping, but maybe if you force-fed it acorns for a while it would develop a good case.

Dear Matthew Alice:

Where does the word “fly” come from for men’s trousers? I believe the WW2 dress blue trousers had “panels” in front. Do you know the significance of the number of buttons, if any?

— Walt in PB.

It’s a no-go on the button question. Just a design element, as far as I can tell. But the word fly has flown through much of history and landed right at the front of a man’s pants. It’s a sort of logical story. At least not as ridiculous as some word tales from the word nerds.

“Fly” is a very, very old word, originally meaning to float or flow along. Old English broke the word up into noun and verb forms; the verb began to mean “to fly with wings,” then became linked with flags that now were “flown.” Oddly enough, we can forget about the evolution of the noun form, which was attached to flying insects. So the pants-noun “fly” comes from the old verb, not the old noun.

Now think of a flying flag. A piece of cloth attached to a pole along one edge. I guess old-timey tailors didn’t miss the connection when they began calling the flap of cloth covering the closure on the vital area of a man’s pants “the fly.” This happened sometime in the 1800s, when lots of even stranger things were going on. This is a stroke of vocabulary genius by comparison. I hope this buttons things up for you, Walt.

Dear Matthew:

Can you find out why, when I stick out my tongue, it sometimes shudders or vibrates or pulses and other times it doesn’t? Am I the only weirdo with a shuddering tongue? It’s not happening right now when I do it…. Ever happen to you?

— Donna Mackersie, via email

Yep. Often stick my tongue out at the elves. Sometimes it shakes, sometimes it doesn’t. Seems to depend on exactly how irritated I am. This explanation is confirmed by physicians. Our tongues are a huge medley of muscles going in all sorts of directions. Stick your tongue out too far, and you strain these muscles and they can shimmer. But if it’s an ordinary tongue-stuck-out event, then the shuddering can come from nervousness, fatigue, too much coffee or nicotine, anger, or other high emotion. A once-in-a-while event is probably nothing. Continual shaking can indicate a serious illness, and you’d better go stick your tongue out at your doctor. But, Donna, just how often do you stick your tongue out? So often that you can come up with this question, apparently. That might require a shrink instead of a neurologist.

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

Got a question you need answered? Send an email to hey matt@cts.com or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.
San Diego April 29, 2010 — no more than six feet away, SDReader.com

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American Goldfinch

I mentioned last week that I was on my way to Point Reyes. There’s a birding festival headquartered in Point Reyes Station, a small, unincorporated town set next to the park.

Bird festivals are everywhere, literally. Every state, country, and continent. A Google search of “Bird Festival” turns up 3,180,000 hits. (San Diego Bird Festival is number 3.) I’ve only been to a few, but all of them have followed the same script. Every bird festival has a festival headquarters, this one is the Point Reyes Station Dance Palace (community center). There will be name tags, carpools, a gala dinner, and keynote address. I have yet to attend a gala dinner that measures up to the all-you-can-eat buffet at the old Mizpah Hotel & Casino in Tonopah, Nevada, but then, no one goes to a bird festival for the food. Speakers can be good.

I’ve signed on for “Spring Migration at Limantour Estero,” “Egrets of Pitcher Canyon,” “Spring Migrations at Bodega Bay,” and the not to be missed, “Banquet with Keynote Address.”

As I said, festival base camp is the Dance Palace, and early Friday afternoon, 15 birders, whose median age I’d put at 66, are in the Main Hall, standing in a circle like happy penguins. We are listening to our guide, a man on the long side of 50 — I’ll call him Tommy — check off our names.

It’s a 25-minute drive from the Busy Bee Bakery in Point Reyes Station to the crest of Inverness Ridge and first glimpse of the Pacific and Limantour Beach. We gather in the parking lot, count heads, and then walk down to a pedestrian bridge that spans a small marsh.

Limantour Beach is a spit, with a wide, sandy beach and Pacific Ocean on your left (walking upcountry), and the mudflats of Limantour Estero on your right. Dunes, marsh, mudflats, fresh water ponds, all placed in a temperate zone located on the Pacific Flyway. The park service says 45 percent of all the bird species in North America can be found here.

We stop on the bridge, maybe one hundred yards in. This is standard bird world. Walk a little bit, stop and gawk a little bit, the guide points out several birds, birders gaze at pointed-out birds. And repeat. But not this time. This time, Tommy immediately begins his chant, “We’ve got to move along in order to get back by 4:30.”

I never did find out why it was critically important to get back by 4:30, but it was, and so, almost immediately, within minutes, which counts as very immediately in birder world, Tommy tramps forward on a narrow pathway. “I’d like to make it to the pine trees before we stop,” Tommy says, pointing to three pine trees oddly placed on the top of a dune way, way in the distance.

Tommy did stop along the way to look at Western Grebes out yonder on the mud flats. A few minutes pass, then, “We have to get moving.” At the pine trees Tommy tells us, “You have to earn your birds here.”

We make our way down to Limantour Estero; unnamed shorebirds are seen in the distance. Whoa, here’s something. 18 American White Pelicans are resting on a sandbar. Close enough to get a good look this time. Stunning. Beautiful animals.

We’re a couple miles out. Doubt if we’ve spent 20 minutes actually looking at birds. Tommy says, “I know we are going faster than some of you like, but we’ve got to keep moving.”

I take off my daypack and sit cross-legged on the moss, drink some water, scoop a handful of trail mix out of a Ziploc bag, and soak up the gorgeous day.

The gang moves on. Not me. Instead, I turn to David Sibley’s birding method, to wind: find a spot, stay there. All around me spring is exploding. Sunshine. Silence. Solitude. Ocean and mudflats. After a long while, I get up and begin to amble back, deeply satisfied with how the afternoon has turned out, if not the birding. No rush now, no pressure.

In due time I am back at the three-pine-trees-on-top-of-the-dune landmark. Here, the trail doglegs left and as I make the turn — boom — no more than six feet away, perched on a scrub bush, is a male American Goldfinch. He’s in full breeding plumage — bright, bright lemon yellow feathers and a coal black cap (skull). Let me hasten to add, this is a common bird. What is uncommon is that the bird didn’t move.

I notice no other birds. No other animals. No people. Just me, and six feet away, a sunlight yellow bird that just stays there. And stays there. And stays there.

So do I.

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It’s hot,” complained Patrick. “Ice cream?”
I contemplated the calories. “You know,” I said, “if I’m going to indulge, I’m going to indulge. I want something special.”

I put in a call to Niederfrank’s Ice Cream in National City (619-477-0828; niederfranks.com) and spoke with Patti Finnegans, who owns the store with Mary Ellen Faught.

Finnegan tells me that the shop, which opened in 1948, almost closed in 1995. “Nobody wanted to do the work it takes to make this kind of ice cream. But I came down here and fell in love with the place, and now I’m here about 12 hours a day.

“The machine we use to make the ice cream is 100 years old. It works just like a homemade ice-cream maker, except instead of salt and ice around the ice-cream tub, we have copper coils keeping things cold. And ours has two blades — one whips the ice cream one way, the other whips it the other way, and the machine freezes the cream as it whips. The blades naturally incorporate air into the ice cream as they whip. The modern way is to blast the ice cream full of air. That gives you more volume in your product, but, really, it’s just less ice cream.

“We have our own dairy mix, just cream and sugar. If you watch my ice cream melt side-by-side with a commercial ice cream, you can see the difference. Mine will melt into an ice cream—shake consistency. Theirs will separate into a foamy top — that’s the air — with the chemicals at the bottom.”

Finnegan continues, “I blend my own chocolate and make my own fudge. Sometimes the flavoring goes right into the hopper with the cream at the start. Sometimes I’ll whip it a bit first — say, if I’m making strawberry. I don’t want the berries to be totally mashed; I like to see little chunks of berry in there. So, I let the ice cream thicken before I add them. Right now, the chai tea is my personal favorite — I steep the tea for two days before adding it to the ice cream. The store is selling a lot of French vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, butter- rum pecan, and papaya-pineapple. Most of my recipes are over 50 years old and come from the original owner, Elmer Niederfrank.”

Cones sell for $2.90 a scoop; $4.90 for two scoops. The cones are “handmade roller cones from our own recipe. They’re like waffle cones, but we started doing ours long before waffle cones came into the other stores.” Hours are noon to 6 p.m. You can also find Niederfrank’s ice cream in restaurants around town at places such as Roxy in Encinitas, Big Kahuna’s in Pacific Beach, and Vinaka Cafe in Carlsbad.

Next I spoke with Dick Magana of Mariposa Ice Cream in Normal Heights (619-284-5197; mariposaiscream.com). “You’ve found San Diego’s best-kept secret!” he exclaims. “We are a true ‘mom-and-pop’ store. I’ve been making ice cream for 60 years. I was raised on a dairy farm, and my dad, granddad, and great-granddad all made ice cream — that’s where the recipes come from. Our machine has been preregulated to duplicate the old hand-cranked method.”

Like Finnegans, Magana says his ice cream has less air whipped into it than commercial ice cream — half as much, in fact. “Ours has a creamier, thicker consistency. And because we use a third less sugar, it has a cleaner, more refreshing mouth-feel. When people complain that commercial ice cream leaves a sticky, filmy feeling in their mouths, they think it’s because of the cream. But it’s not — it’s because of the sugar.”

Mariposa’s most popular flavor is Mexican chocolate, followed by cookies and cream (“I use whole Oreos that I crush myself”), vanilla, raspberry, and almond fudge. “We also make a lemon sherbet from Meyer lemons brought in by customers who live in the neighborhood. Some people use egg whites to make their sherbet, but we use two-percent milk. Our sorbet, however, uses just fruit, sugar, and water.”

The cost for a single cone at Mariposa is $2.50; $4 for a double scoop. “You can get commercial sugar or cake cones. Or, for $1 more, you can have a homemade waffle cone — it’s my wife Anna’s recipe. You won’t get a waffle cone like it anywhere else.” Mariposa Ice Cream is open Wednesday through Saturday 1 to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 2 to 8 p.m.
No great artist ever sees things as they really are. If he did, he would cease to be an artist.

— Oscar Wilde

See how calm that water looks? That’s because it’s a long exposure. Waves were crashing against that jetty, but the ghostlike mist between the rocks was all that registered on the film when he left the lens open for two minutes,” I explained to the man. Having caught the authoritative tone of someone in the know, two women who had been walking by paused to listen in. The man had asked a technical question, but I felt compelled to explain the rest via a personal anecdote for the ladies’ sake.

“David loved going to the beach at dawn because he found it peaceful. But when he tried to capture the feeling, the snapshots of waves crashing appeared chaotic, even violent, which isn’t how he felt when he was there. He realized it wasn’t the water alone he found so calming, it was also the strong line of the horizon, the vast expansiveness of the ocean, and the steady rhythm of the waves against the shore. When he took a long exposure, the waves became placid, and finally he had an image that reflected his mood as he watched the water over time.”

When I finished speaking, my audience had grown to five people. The group looked from me to the black-and-white photos on the wall and nodded in appreciation. “Let me know if you have any other questions — after years of hanging around and listening to my man at events like this, I’ve memorized most of his answers,” I smiled and turned to greet friends who were just arriving.

This was David’s first exhibition at the Ordover Gallery in Solana Beach, but no matter where his work is shown, the questions are always the same — people want to understand more about the artist’s creative process, the whys and hows behind the pieces. It was only after I’d absorbed David’s approach to his own work that I began to consider not only the philosophies and methods of other artists but those of art buyers.

I didn’t have much of an appreciation for art before I met David. Artists, yes — I’ve always loved to surround myself with creative people; they give off a certain buzz I find stimulating. That’s one of the traits that originally drew me to David — a fine-art photographer. But, Art? Not so much. Sure, I might’ve found myself in a museum contemplating a historic statue or a pretty painting, but no individual piece ever meant anything to me.

“If you couldn’t tell the difference between a copy and an original work of art, would you still value the original more?” David asked our friend Mia, who, along with our friend Liz, had joined us for dinner at Pacific Coast Grill after the show.

“Yes, I would,” Mia answered. When David asked why, she said, “Because it’s worth more.”

“But even if you couldn’t tell the difference?” David prodded.

“Yes, even then. Maybe it’s an ego thing, but I would want to know I had the original,” said Mia.

“I don’t think it has much to do with ego,” I said. “I like having something original, even if it’s a sketched study, because it’s like possessing a piece of the artist — capturing a segment of time during their creative process. It makes me feel more connected to them.”

I thought of my own modest collection, the handful of items adorning the walls in my home office. Each piece has its own story, and each conveys a message from the artist that speaks to me on three levels — visual, visceral, and intellectual.

When I lived alone, the walls in my apartment had been bare but for two items — a brush-varnished poster of Bouguereau’s Birth of Venus in an ornate frame that was worth way more than the poster itself, and a big sheet of white construction paper covered in varying shades of red lipstick kisses (upon moving in, I had taped the paper to the wall by my front door as a sort of decorative blotter). At the time, I considered “art” to be synonymous with “decoration.” Now, I realize that though the two may overlap, as concepts they are decidedly different.

“My personal and unpopular opinion,” David shared, “is that art is the communication of an idea or feeling through craft — the concept is art, and the execution is craft. We commit art.”

“So anything can be art?” I asked.

“Well, yeah, if an ‘artist’ claims that it is, like, if she’s trying to communicate some message through the work,” said David. “But that doesn’t mean it’s good art. I think the measure of whether a work of art is good or bad is how successfully it communicates the intention of the artist.”

“But you can also create art for yourself,” said Liz. “My dad will never sell one of his pieces.”

“I suppose it can also be a form of personal exploration,” David said.

“But even exploration is a form of communication,” I said. “The only difference is that you’re seeking to communicate with yourself.”

“Most artists want an audience for their art,” said David.

“Then I guess it’s up to the viewer to decide if that message is worth seeing,” I
said. I remembered David’s advice to a fledgling photographer: “Show me something I haven’t seen before.” Now I realized it’s not just about what is seen — people want more than a surface understanding. That’s why they stop to listen to the stories I have to share about David’s work.

As stunning as an image may be visually, gallerygoers seem to appreciate it more when they learn, for example, that it took David three years to capture his ideal image of the jetty or that he braved a humid sky to photograph the unfinished pier while I played Scrabble on my phone in the comfort of an air-conditioned car.

“Why do you prefer to have an original piece over a copy?” Mia asked David.

“I get pleasure imagining the artist working on it,” he said. “To think that this exact physical object was formed by his or her hands during the creative process. It’s a unique record of a period of creativity in the life of the artist. It’s almost like owning a piece of that person’s life — like Barb said, it feels like there’s a connection there. I guess that’s not so different from someone wanting to own a famous Mickey Mantle home-run baseball or a page from the flight log used by the Apollo astronauts during the first moon landing.”

“I do have to admit,” I said, cutting in, “that I like the fact that my favorite piece — my painting called Writer’s Block — is the only one in existence. Would that be ego?” Three heads nodded in response. “Well, then, I guess that explains why limited editions are so popular,” I said. “We value more what there is less of. But then we’re getting into economics, and I’m going to need a lot more wine before I try to tackle that subject.”

For more stories and videos by this author, go to sdreader.com.
“They’re coming…”

Carla stares at the computer screen. Her face is like a little girl’s.

“That they’d come all this way,” she says, “just for my birthday. I can’t believe it.”

I’m reading the email over her shoulder. It’s from my English pal Geoff (not his real name, don’t want to impose on the poor boy), a friend from back in the hitch-hiking days. Asia. Middle East. Always kept in touch. Carla’s gotten to know and love him through years of emailing, the kind of intimacy that sometimes pops up online. Now Geoff and his lady — let’s call her, uh, Debby — are flying in from London, England.

“Oh, Ed,” Carla says. “You’ve got to make enough money so we can entertain them properly. Show them California. Not be ashamed…”

continued on page 30

“This town is so clean, shiny, new.”
This all started when we were talking about a problem we have every December: Carla’s birthday. It comes just five days after Christmas, when everybody’s exhausted and broke and trying to gather their wits together to finance New Year’s. And my record hasn’t been that great in making it an occasion for Carla. Half the time, like last year, we’ve agreed silently to forget about it. Sounds bad, I know. But honestly, it’s a tough time to get anyone aroused.

So, this year we decided to make up for past transgressions. Have a party. Not expensive, but, yes, we’d do it in Carla’s beloved Coronado, at Costa Azul, and for maybe a couple dozen of her closest buddies. Why Costa Azul? ‘Cause when we called all over the place, they gave us the best deal on a per-head basis, $16.

That’s when Carla zipped off the email to Geoff. “Come on over,” she wrote, “to a real Californian par-tay! Get out of the snow! Stop shivering! Don’t be English and reserved! Make your reservation!’ Course we never expected they’d actually want to do it, right after Christmas and all. And it’s not as if we embody the American Dream. Not with my chronic finances.

So, the first thought was, how fantastic that they’d send themselves and not just an online greeting. We felt awestruck, if you want to know the truth.

The second thought was: “How long will they be here?”

“Ten days,” Carla says.

“Ten days? Jeez… wait, no, that’s great. It’ll give us time to show them around.”

“You get the money, honey, we’ve got the time,” Carla says. “But, darling, how can you stop working for ten whole days? And do you realize what they’ll want to see? Do you know how much it will cost? Disneyland, Hollywood, Wild Animal Park, the ‘World-Famous’ San Diego Zoo, SealWorld? Whale watching, Universal Studios, Scripps Aquarium, Viejas Casino… That’s good for $1000 right there. Each. Plus we’ve got to first get through Christmas, Hanukkah, Eid, Kwanzaa, and then — have we forgotten — my birthday? Carla is brooding now. “We’d better email them back right away,” she says. “Nip it in the bud. I love Geoff, and it’s the most beautiful gesture, but we’d be stripped naked for all to see. All those lyrical emails about glamorous California…-

we’d have to deliver…”

“Look, sweetheart,” I say. “We’ll just show them everyday California, not California theme parks. We’ve got the real thing outside. The desert, the beaches, the border, Big Bear, Balboa Park.”

But the big question thumped in my brain: How do we show off California without busting the bank?

*   *   *

Cut to ten days later, December 28. We drive...
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
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Qualifying participants receive at no cost, study-related:
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Interested, call: Medical Center For Clinical Research
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We are looking for male and female participants who:
• are age 65 or older
• have experienced overactive bladder symptoms for at least 3 months
• have strong, sudden urges to urinate
• experience frequent wetting episodes
• have health problems related to aging

If qualified, you:
• will attend five office visits over a 14-week period
• will receive the study medication or a placebo (an inactive look-alike pill) and study-related care at no cost
• may be compensated for time and travel

For more information, please contact:
Medical Center for Clinical Research
619-521-2830

A 6-month 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
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• Compensation for time and travel

Medical Center for Clinical Research
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Women... Lost that loving feeling?

Wishing your period would never come?

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

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

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

Medical Center for Clinical Research
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As we age, OAB symptoms such as sudden urges to urinate and frequent wetting episodes become more common. If you are frustrated living with OAB, you may be interested in a research study we are conducting to evaluate an approved medication for overactive bladder.

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Going, Going, Going Too Often at Night

Menstrual Migraine Headaches
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We need participants:
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- Have had pain caused by DPN for at least 6 months but not longer than 5 years with pain that must have started in the feet
- Have had stably controlled blood sugar levels for the past 3 months
- Have had stably controlled blood sugar levels for the past 3 months
- Be at least 18 years old
- Have been taking pain medications for DPN for at least 2 of the last 3 months and the medication is not helping the pain
- Other criteria will be reviewed with you by the clinic study staff.

Put $450 down for a rental car. We need participants: to see if you qualify for this research study.

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

We need participants:
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- Eligible for systemic treatment of psoriasis

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drunken haze in some bar on Patpong in Bangkok. Or was it quaffing soft drinks in the Doha Club in Qatar? Whatever, we got around then. Sigh. What a difference a year or 20 makes.

“I’m afraid I just about pooped in my pants the whole way over,” Geoff says, “looking for people removing their shoes.”

“Guess he’s thinking shoe-bomber.”


“Clean!” says Geoff. “This town is so clean, shiny, new. And I never realized you were such a big city. These stupendous buildings.”

It’s about 9:30 now. We’re cruising south on Harbor Drive. Must say, you become acutely aware of everything with first-time visitors in the backseat. Debby has done the East Coast thing, but this is Geoff’s first moment in America. Ever. You wonder what it all looks like to them. So far, the city’s doing all right. Seen at night, it’s glowing, subtropical, mysterious. The yachts and the winking harbor lights on the right, just a minute from Lindbergh, make for one great intro. The Santa Fe Depot and its Canary Island palms also key the atmosphere. With those two great ladies, the Hyatt and the Mar-

“I want to sit where Kelly McGillis sat,” says Debby.

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

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

Refactory Endometriosis Research Study

Are you a pre-menopausal woman age 18-49 who has failed current or previous treatment and have been surgically diagnosed with Endometriosis? If you qualify and participate, you’ll be provided with all study-related care at no charge.

Please call: 619-229-3909

San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center
6699 Alvarado Rd., Suite 2100, San Diego, CA 92120
Email: lburchard@sandiegosportsmed.com
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.

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.

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)
“Look!” says Geoff. “Clean, shiny, red! Set in parkland. London is a great city, but, well, scruffier in places. This is like a dream. Like Rio in those ‘30s movies.”

Huh. I like that.


The lights of Kansas City BBQ are blazing. Good sign, because at this hour, finding someplace to eat won’t be easy, and I don’t want to get log-jammed in the Gaslamp, ‘specially with its platinum expense-account eateries.

I do a 180 and sneak in to park alongside Kansas City BBQ. We bail out and head in for the first American meal of the visit.

“It’s a lucky start. Couldn’t have thought of a better introduction to Americana if we’d tried. We go in past the patio deck, where some brave souls sit under standing pole-heaters, ripping off meat from ribs like starving wolves, and into the cafe and bar area where dozens of tossed bras and hundreds of Navy ship caps fight for ceiling space. The piano where *Top Gun*’s “Maverick,” Tom himself, sat and guzzled a Bud with his number two, Goose, has been moved to the other side of the bar — they had a kitchen fire a couple of years back — but every-

“*We just must see Universal Studios,*” says Debby. “*And we can’t not do SeaWorld.*”
of the first table. She leans back and spreads her arms over the red-and-white-check plastic tablecloth. “Just like the movie,” she says. “Goodness gracious…” “…great balls of fire!” Geoff and I can’t help chorusing that one out. “That’s it!” says Debby. “That’s what they played on that piano. And look, they have the jukebox.” She leaps up and swings around, facing what looks like an old Wurlitzer. “F2,” she says reverently. She looks at me. “Don’t suppose you have a 25-cent piece? That’s what they used.

RESEARCH STUDIES

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 may receive an investigational study medication. You will also receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits at no charge.

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

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

Do you want to quit smoking?

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

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

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See our website: www.ari-inc.com

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 at no charge.

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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

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

GOUT

Clinic Research Study

You may qualify if you:
- Have or had heart disease or blood circulation problems
- Are at least 50 years of age
- Have been diagnosed with gout

Study-related procedures are no cost. Compensation may be provided for time and travel to the clinic.

San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center
6699 Alvarado Road, Suite 2100
Call: 619-229-3909

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.

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- 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

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The Embarcadero is item #1 on our list of Things We Can Do Without Busting the Bank.

This is too good. It will probably be the best moment of the visit, before all the tensions and expectations and disappointments come. These ten days are going to be fraught, I know, what with Carla's birthday, and New Year's, and Debby's birthday, too, which, we've learned, is five days later. Then there are all those days to fill in between, and want to see?

Carla shoots me a look. Maybe she's thinking, if we just take them to cheap places they won't ask about the expensive ones.

"Shamu, Shamu, Shamu!" says Geoff, like a kid.

"Well! We just see Universal Studios," says Debby. She's a quick, nervous London gal with a ready laugh. Spirited. I like her already, but my heart goes thud. "And we can't do SeaWorld. And I'd love to go whale watching. And I would rah-ther like to see that fabulous Getty Museum. We've been reading about it on the internet, have we not, Geoff? And something to do with cowboys.

And Geoff ought to learn to surf, right, darling? When in Rome…"

I notice Geoff gulp. I gulp too. My friend Joe has tried a dozen times to get me into the longboard game. But, man. It's like snowboarding with an avalanche chasing you.

Carla's eyes are spinning like pinwheels in a hurricane. This morning we'd done a quick scan of the obvious tourist traps. Not a pretty picture. SeaWorld: $69 each. Universal Studios, $69. Legoland, $67. Dennis Conner's America schooner-cruise, whale watching, and Maritime Museum: $65, or $85 weekends. Sail on Stars and Stripes, plus Maritime Museum tour, $99. San Diego Zoo, $37. Wild Animal Park $37. Add, say, $15 parking at most of these. The only nice surprise was
the Getty Museum up in L.A. It’s free, except for parking. But all in all, these attractions are for the rich and infamous. Carla had said, “So, if we want to, say, do one a day, that’d be…less—see…$300, $300, $300, $250, $400. And, okay, let’s say we split everything. We’re looking at $1550, divided by two — $775 each! And that’s just for the first five days. Then we’ve all got to eat and buy gas and we’ve got to pay rent, and you’ve got my birthday tomorrow, 24 guests, $16 each, another $400. We’re back up around $1200. With another whole week to go! More rental car, more tourist traps. No, Bedford, no. Those big-ticket things our guests do alone…”

“And maybe,” Debby is saying, “go and ride the cable car.”

“You mean San Francisco?” says Carla. “Yes. How long a drive is that?”

“It’s too far,” Carla says, “unless you fly. But I think the Getty’s a brilliant idea. You can go in and never get out for ten days, it’s so interesting. Don’t you agree, Bedford?”

“Yes, the Getty sounds great,” I say. “And we want to get shoes and blue jeans while we’re here,” Debby says. “Definitely blue jeans from the land of cowboys.”

“Just remember, darling, we’re not made of money,” Geoff says. Whew. I can’t thank him enough for that. Maybe we’re in the same boat after all.

Debby yawns. She puts an arm around Geoff. “You big stud, take me to bed or lose me forever.”

Ha, straight out of that Top Gun scene in this very room.

Guess 18 hours’ flying is catching up with them. Geoff says he feels light-headed. Me, light-pocketed. I know.

---

**RESEARCH STUDIES**

**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

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**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

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**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

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Sounding mean-spirited here. ‘Cause I love hav- ing them already. But jeees’ recording the fact: The bill for four rib meals and drinks is $78.79. Plus tip.

Bonk!
That’s the sound of Geoff’s skull, hitting a Russian sub.

“Okay, you chaps rat gallery? And how did you capture it?”

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“Okay, you chaps rat gallery? And how did you capture it?”

“Good Lord,” says Geoff. “One more time.”

“All right,” says Geoff. “One more time.”

We wait for the kids to clear, then run through the hull, diving through the hatchways. I go first. Bonk!” “I think you’ll find if you grab the hand-holds first…” says Geoff.

This is down at the embarcadero, item #1 on our list of Things We Can Do Without Bust- ing the Bank. We got in on tickets of $12 each. For that, we get two subs, two sailing ships — the HMS Surprise and the Star of India...

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Includes 50-minute hands-on treatment, consultation, and home care recommendations.

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“When I first came to Beatitude, my acne was so severe that it caused me not only pain but also embarrassment. Thankfully, Beatitude restored my confidence. The transformation of my skin is miraculous.” – D.L.

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• Committed to excellence
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• Treatments for men and women
• Painless procedures
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(20 units, additional units just $9/unit)

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• Botox®
• Fillers (Juvéderm™ & Radiesse®)
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Treat Mom to a day of wellness and rejuvenation for only $99.
Choose any of the 2 services below:
• European Facial
• European Manicure and Pedicure
• 90-minute therapeutic massage
• Back facial
OR Enjoy a mother and daughter day together and receive all 4 services for only $180.
(You can repeat services as desired to include 4 total)

Mini Day Spa $90 (Valued at $100) Includes: 1-hour facial with 15-minute head and neck acupressure and back massage, alpha hydroxy peel (smooths and softens skin texture and appearance), European facial, plus spa manicure and pedicure. A natural face-lift that helps cleanse the skin and removes fine lines, freckles and blemishes.

Pamper Yourself Package $124 (Valued at $145) Includes: Microdermabrasion, 1-hour full body massage, manicure, and your choice of one spa body therapy.

Escape a Day Away $159 (Valued at $210) Includes: Microdermabrasion, 1-hour full body massage, manicure, pedicure, and your choice of one spa body therapy.

Permanent Makeup Eyeliner $200 ($300 value), Eyebrow $200 ($300 value), Lip-liner $200 ($300 value), Permanent Makeup and your choice of one spa body therapy.

Eyelash Extensions $99 (Valued at $130) New Japanese technique. Lasts 4-8 weeks. All natural.

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India — and the Berkeley museum ship. Deal, really. But it doesn’t include Midway. That’d be another $18.

It’s great, but not exactly what Carla and I had planned. We’d worked out what we couldn’t afford, and then, all last night we were stewing again, still wracking our brains as to what da heck was important to do.

By then, Geoff and Debby were tucked up in their hotel. “Okay, tell me,” Carla said to me, “what kind of San Diego do we want them to see? What is San Diego exactly?”

“Uh, the ‘Gibraltar of the Pacific!’” I said. This was strictly to needle her. We’d seen this TV doc about our fair city that claimed that a fortress is what San Diego’s role in life is, and the credits weren’t rolling before Carla, with her California background, was frothing at the mouth, rending her garments.

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San Diego, not some Top Gun playground. “Hey, Top Gun was your idea,” I said. “But let’s face it, they’ve come for the California sun, surf, sand, and fun. The whole thing doesn’t have to be one big stern, guilt-inducing history lesson.”

“Well then,” Carla said, “the only thing I care about is cost.” So we’d started a list, again. Lord. Lists. This must’ve been List #23.

— La Jolla, Children’s Pool, to see the seals. Free.

— Find those giant turtles off the Duke power-plant outfall in Chula Vista. Free, after cost of boat.

— Go see the wreck of the Monte Carlo, that gambling ship beached off Coronado. Free. Have them dive for the dollar coins still stuck down in the 1930s slot machines. On second thought, no. That could be dangerous.

— Walk through the Marilyn Monroe exhibit at the Hotel Del. Free.

— Drive out to the tower at In-Ko-Pah, with its views of Mexico and the Salton Sea, just before the 8 freeway plunges into Imperial County. Free, except for 120 miles’ worth of gas and a small entry fee ($3.50 adults, $2 for kids, open “sunlight hours”).

— Go see the tourmaline mines at Santa Ysabel, or outside Fallbrook, where the Empress of China sent her emissaries to find pink tourmaline for her funeral pillow. Cheap.

— Go visit Mission San Diego, overlooking Mission Valley. First mission in Alta California. Or we could visit Mission San Luis Rey, up Oceanside way. (Tours $6 adults, $4 children.)

— Drive to the Owl Cafe in El Centro. The ultimate Wild West bar, with eats on one side, drinks on the other, and gambling traditionally in the back. Up till recently, they had a sign: “Please leave your firearms at the door.”

— Find that Vallecitos stage post where the lady ghost wanders, in the Anza-Borrego Desert, on the Great Trail. (Tours $6 adults, $4 kids, open “sunlight hours”).

— Go see the tourmaline mines at Santa Ysabel, or outside Fallbrook, where the Empress of China sent her emissaries to find pink tourmaline for her funeral pillow. Cheap.

— See the Hollywood stagecoach grave-yard in Oak Grove, up near Pendleton. Free.

— Go drink at the Whaling Bar in La Jolla, where Raymond Chandler (creator of Philip Marlowe of The Big Sleep), and a bunch of other Hollywood celebs, like Gregory Peck, hung out.

— Or heck, jes’ wander round Coronado, since that’s where they’re staying, to see where Jim Morrison of the Doors grew up, son of an admiral, and where Nicky Reynolds of the Kingston Trio lived, and where Frank L. Baum wrote some of his Wizard of Oz books, near Orange Avenue. They say Orange Avenue inspired the Yellow Brick Road, and the Del Mar and its towers became the Emerald City. Free.

... Except, when it comes down to it, what happened was that a bit of ye olde jet lag set in. On their first full day, Geoff and Debby want to laze around the hotel — Village Inn on Coronado — enjoy a winter that’s like summer back home, have a late breakfast at the Beach-n-Diner, and then start planning. When I finally make it over, Geoff says, “Why don’t we just look at that marvelous aircraft carrier at the port!”

“Or yes!” Debby says. “Truth is, for all we complain about you guys being ’too big, too cocky, too young to handle the big toys,’ we’re a little jealous. You know, we British used to be the cock of the roost. The Royal Navy was number one. But we also understand the strain you must feel of being primus inter pares — first among equals. It’s a weight to carry. And we’ve all heard of the Midway, haven’t we, Geoff?”

“I’m kinda surprised that they think of San Diego first as a massive Pacific naval port. Much more so than the hi-tech, surf ’n sand, air-head central, California-lite kind of image. Last night, when we were crossing the Coronado...”
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bridge on the way to their hotel, Debby had cried out, “Dahling! You must look. The lights of the Pacific Fleet, the greatest navy in the world!”

Except that Geoff, turns out, has a problem with heights. Getting him to open his eyes up there wasn’t easy. So I added some extra spice. “And beyond,” I said, “behold, the lights of Mexico.”

“Ohmygod!” said Debby. “Geoff! Open your eyes. Mexico! I never knew it was so close.” She turned to me. “Don’t you feel insecure? Drug wars, all that?”

“We can go there, if you like,” I said. Something like fear and excitement flashed through their eyes. Tijuana is a name that registers, even in London.

But for now, for today, something simple. The Maritime Museum.

“The lights of the Pacific Fleet, the greatest navy in the world!”


Which is how come we’re aboard the Russian sub. Afterward, we take a quick tour of HMS Surprise, surprise costar of Master and Commander with Russell Crowe. Then it’s on to the Star of India. Now, it’s nighttime. Star looks romantic like this. What stuns them, though, is that, according to the Maritime Museum, she’s the oldest active ship on this planet.

“What about our Cutty Sark?” Geoff asks.

“She was a tea clipper on the China route. Built in 1869.”

“Sorry, buddy. Star was launched in 1863.”

“What about HMS Victory, 1765? She’s still in fine fettle, in Portsmouth.”

“Problem is, your guys are all anchored in

Geoff seems grudgingly impressed. Like, England was supposed to have the rights to the oldest everything, while America was supposed to be the land of the chronically new. “Old” could mean cowboy era, but that’s where this renegade colony’s license ran out.

We’re sitting in the cozy saloon at the stern of the *Star*. Even up here, you can hear the cracking of the snapping shellfish anchored against the outside of the iron hull. We come out into the well deck, just us, alone amongst the rigging and low deck lamps. We lean on the bulwarks. A ferry passes. Waves make the black water below glint. You could almost be one of those passengers on a four-month voyage from England to New Zealand in the 1870s, when *Star* was the *Euterpe*. She rocks a little in the wash.

“Marvelous,” murmurs Geoff.

Of course, we’ve screwed around too long to make it to the *Midway*.

* * *

“Our honored guests,” says Carla. “Welcome!” She’s standing up. Her birthday party is going really well. Geoff and Debby are easy to pick out in the crowd. He’s got on a somber jacket, tie, handkerchief in the breast pocket, and for Debby, a beautiful, long, back-dip dress. Very proper. Then this old buddy of ours is giving a birthday speech. It’s like Marco Polo speaking to the Imperial Court in Beijing. (Or was it Peking then?) “Our two countries may be very different, but when you have a lady like Carla…”

We’ve got two long rows of guests in the big, blue-lamped room at Costa Azul. My sweetie’s dressed in red, with gold earrings, sitting like a queen, ding the glass every now and then so someone else can get up and speak. It’s formal, but the talk is wild and crazy among Carla’s relatives. Heck, they haven’t gotten together like this for years. Cousin Carly has people jaw-dropped, telling all about fighting the Witch fire. She was there, she’s a wildfire firefighter. And Cousin Tita is talking about her artists’ retreat in Sedona. Vor- texes, Georgia O’Keeffe. Natch, Geoff’s leaking secrets from the wilder times he and I shared. Man, I love this guy. He could play that Paul McCartney song “Black-
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I’ll deny it all the way to the Supreme Court.

Carla sits this one out. She refuses to go to TJ on principle. It’s to do with loving it too much when she was growing up, she says, and its having changed. Whatever, moving the Statue of Liberty would be easier than persuading me.

Zoom!

The taxi drops us off near Caesar’s Hotel. It’s open, but Caesar’s Restaurant — where Caesar Cardini invented the Caesar salad back in 1924 — is closed. We stand here a moment. The little terrace area swells with papers and cigarette stubs. No tables, no chairs. I see a guy I know, Alfonso. “Closed, my friend,” he says.

Man. This is a blow. It was one of the few aces up my sleeve. I knew Pedro, a waiter who specialized in making the Caesar salad come in and order it. Pedro would squish the anchovies in the wooden bowl, right there at the table, add olive oil, doinks of salsa ingleses — Lea and Perrins Worcestershire sauce — and a couple of teaspoons of chopped garlic, squish, squish, add a warmed raw egg yolk, toasted croutons, hearts of romaine, Parmesan, pepper, swirl it together, maybe add a couple of strips of grilled chicken breast, and voila! History. All this for $6, $8 if you added chicken.

“Jeez. This is one of the storied places,” I say to Geoff and Debby. “Maybe we can come back tomorrow.”


Thus begins Disas-tuer Day #1.

We’ve just clanked the Caesar salad — Lea and Perrins, Worcestershire sauce — and a couple of teaspoons of chopped garlic, squish, squish, add a warmed raw egg yolk, toasted croutons, hearts of romaine, Parmesan, pepper, swirl it together, maybe add a couple of strips of grilled chicken breast, and voila! History. All this for $6, $8 if you added chicken.

“Can we go now?” Geoff asks. We scoot her away and get a picture, even though the owner, Lucio, isn’t exactly running for our business. It’s New Year’s Day, and he forgot to bring his camera. “I’ll use yours,” he says, and slaps Tijuana sombreros on us. I know it’s touristy, cheesy and all, but I love it. “I have been right here on Revolución 60 years,” Lucio says. “I am from Zacatecas. Too far. My father brought me when I was 5. And

**Debby is taking photos of the heavily armed Mexican marines wearing face masks.**

added that Revolución’s on life support at the best of times, these days. Now, whatever life they’d had on New Year’s Eve is gone. People haven’t even bothered to open their stores.

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Geoff and Debby and we wander down. It’s like Tombstone right after the fight at the OK Corral. Not even the usual thumping of the balcony-bar boom-boxes. All you can hear is this anguished donkey hoo-hawing away. We find him at Fourth Street. Name’s Pepe, standing with his cart. I make us all step aboard and get a picture, even though the owner, Lucio, isn’t exactly running for our business. It’s New Year’s Day, and he forgot to bring his camera. “I’ll use yours,” he says, and slaps Tijuana sombreros on us. I know it’s touristy, cheesy and all, but I love it. “I have been right here on Revolución 60 years,” Lucio says. “I am from Zacatecas. Too far. My father brought me when I was 5. And

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tomorrow I will be 70.”

The rest of Revolución is just a few lost souls and us. Even the Chiki Jai is closed. The only sign of life is down at Plaza Santa Cecilia, where some musicians have taken the stage under the arches of the old city wall. A little squat guy with a mike is belting out jaunty, happy songs. Maybe 50 people stand around listening. He sees us, stops the music. “Señores, señoras, I see we have visitors from across the line! ¡Estados Unidos! Welcome! Welcome back! Thank you for coming, and know that our city is welcoming and secure. Please tell your friends that we miss you!”


He and the trumpets launch into a song with the rhythm of a relaxed donkey trot. Most of the words seem to be Baila, baila-la! “We stick out like sore thumbs,” says Geoff.

He and Debby seem keen to get back while the day is young. But I want them to have one good memory of Mexico. “Let’s do one thing before we go,” I say. “Sit at a cantina, eat a taco, hear a song from some mariachis.”

“You have the taco,” Geoff says. “We’ll listen to the mariachis.”

We walk up Plaza Santa Cecilia toward Second Street, past the hotels with upstairs rooms for rent. We stop at Tradición. I order a deelish fish taco and a cerveza. About $2 each. Geoff and Debby share a beer. Just as I finish, up comes this pair of musicians. Pedro and Bernardo. Accordion and guitar. For a couple of bucks, they do a pretty fine “Cielito Lindo.” I love that line: “It’s better to sing than to cry.” I ask for another song from the Revolución, and they come up with “The Tomb of Pancho Villa.”

Me, I’m in fat city. This is what I like to do. This is where I like to do it. But I suddenly realize: Geoff and Debby have hardly scratched the surface of Southern California, and here I’ve brought them over the border to a city with a lot of bad publicity, on probably its deadest day of the year.

“Thanks for indulging me, guys,” I say. We jump in a cab, where the driver says he’s never known things
San Diego
April 29, 2010
It is nice to
ball stadium. "I say. "And see this park-
ado, we pass Petco Park.
Debby.
“Why? How old is
the present one?”

“Forty-three years. They want a new one to fit
in more fat-cat lux-
ury boxes. That’s where
the big corporate bucks are.”

“Heavens, 43 years old?” says Geoff. "Our
Wembly Stadium has been going since 1880. Updated
every now and then, of course. And Lords, our cricket
grounds, have been working perfectly well since 1814.”

“Listen,” says Carla. "I think
you’re pushing them too hard. They need a little
time to themselves. We
can’t afford the whole Dis-
neyland thing. Let them
go off by themselves. They’ll probably be
relieved.”

And it does sound as if they are, when I put
it to them that night. "We’ve got to see some
of the rest of California, after all," says Debby.
"And L.A. Can’t go
without feeling the vibe
up there. Stars’ homes,
Universal Studios, Hol-
lywood Walk of
Stars…”

Next morning, Sun-
day, bright and early, I
drive them to the Grey-
hound terminal. “We’ll
save on this,” says
Debby. She’s been
checking it out. It costs
half what it would by
train. We’ll do Universal
Studios, then the stars’
homes tour. See you
tonight!”

Phew. It is nice to
have a bit of R&R, with
a car. Carla and I spend
the rest of the day fool-
ing around, doing more
cleaning, working out finances. Then we hop
in the car and head to
Jalisco’s in I.B. for a late
lunch. They’re
good…and cheap.
“I’ve been thinking,” says Carla, as we
chow. "Whale watching. That’s unique, right?
Debby seemed like she
was all for it. And they
say on Yelp it’s not that
expensive. We can do
the sailing one on the
America, the boat that
won the America’s Cup
in…what?”

“1851,” I say. Don’t
ask me how I remember
these things. On
impulse, Carla calls the
outfit up on the new cell
phone and starts to
make a booking. Then
she stops. "I forgot," she
says. "It costs $65, $85 a
head on weekends.”

“Just make it the
standard tourist-boat
thing,” I say. “How
much is that?”

Turns out it’s $30 a
head, $120 all told. “At
least that’s something
for tomorrow,” she says.
“Do you realize we’re
actually getting organ-
ized? It’s like running a
tour company.”

About 8:00 that
night, we get a call.
Geoff. “We’re back,” he
says. “We’re tired. Can
you suggest somewhere
easy to eat? Easy and
cheap?”

We meet them at
Clayton’s coffee shop,
the island, even
though we’ve already
dined. No problem, they
say. "Jalisco’s in I.B. for a late
lunch. They’re
good…and cheap.”

But the Greyhound was
full, so we caught the
train. Cost twice as
much, and we got there
late.

“If we’d gone
straight to Universal Studios by under-
ground,” Debby says. “If
Geoff hadn’t…”

“Entirely my fault,”
says Geoff. “I thought it
would be more interest-
ing to go overground, by
bus. Then we got lost.
Hours. Walked for
miles. Did find the Walk
of Stars, but remarkably
mean. A few street per-
formers, a decent Greek
meal, but…”

“We never did make
it to Universal Studios
or the stars’ homes,”
Debby says. “We went
all that way. Waste of
time and money.”

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“Not to worry,” says Carla. “I’ve booked us for whale watching for tomorrow morning.”

“You’ll be able to say you’ve sailed the Pacific,” says Carla.

“I’m awfully sorry, but I just can’t handle the open sea. Get sick, every time. I’ll be just miserable.”

Carla whispers to me, “How am I going to get that money back?”

“So, I’ve been asking myself what in heaven’s name I can do to make it up to Debby, to give her a decent birthday present, and I was glancing at a paper and I saw an ad. For skydiving.”

* * *

“Ha! Ping-Pong and parachutes!” says Geoff. It’s next morning, about 10:00. Bright, and crackling cold, unless you’re in the sun. We’re in a kind of open hangar here at Brown Field. Carla wasn’t interested, but Debby’s all gung-ho to do something new, ‘specially for her birthday. She’s getting suited up into her parachute, while Geoff and I slam away at the Ping-Pong table we’ve discovered. Heck, last time we played was in Doha, Qatar. Yeah. Doha Club. They let us longhairs in for some reason. Sweatingly hot. We never finished the final, even though the score was about 20–20. Now, here in this open hangar, the gods have given us another chance to establish, once and for all, who’s the champ of champs in the sport.

“You’re going to be sitting at the edge of the aircraft,” Jessica says to Debby. She’s the Pacific Coast Skydiving gal who’s kitting Debby out into a black parachute harness. She looks at Geoff and me. “None of you men are willing to try this?”

We shake our heads. “Ping-Pong. Much more important.”

Truth is, Geoff’s got his problem with heights. I’ve got a problem with heights and money. “We shouldn’t feel bad,” Geoff says. “This is my paramour’s birthday treat. I don’t want to spoil it by hovering as she dives out of a plane 10,000 feet in the air.”

“Quite right, and totally selfless,” I say. “Plus, you have your obligations to Ping-Pong. That, too, takes a certain type of courage.”

“Uh, darling.” Debby points toward an office. It’s right above where some guys are editing a video of the last batch of jumpers. “Got to pay first.”

“Ah, yes,” Geoff says. I follow him and Jessica up to the office. “That’s $278.10,” says Jessica. “Credit, debit, or cash?”

“Credit,” says Geoff. He shuffles through a clutch of cards. “How much is that in pounds? A hundred and fifty? Here.”

“Here, try this one,” says Geoff. “I can’t understand...”

“These are British?”

“Yes, but we haven’t had problems. Can’t believe we’ve maxed them both out...”
Ten minutes and two cards later, Geoff says, “Edward, Eddy, old chap. If I let you win the Ping-Pong below, could you possibly try your card? Can’t let Debby know. After L.A., she’d kill me.”

“Oh, sure,” I say. “But…can you make it good this afternoon, so I can fill it up before Carla gets wind? She runs our finances like a Swiss banker. My life wouldn’t be worth a plug nickel. I mean, I’m in charge, but I let her think…”

“Sure,” says Debby. “Yes, yes. More too. But of course. We’ll straighten it out as soon as we get to a bank.”

I have one debit card, and, miracle! It goes through. Man, does this give me an edge with my buddy. He always seemed to have money. I always seemed not to have it. Now, for one brief, shining moment…

Back downstairs, Debby’s looking at a list of songs on the wall. She has to choose the theme music she wants put in over the video that Eric, her tandem instructor, will shoot from a camera held in his out-stretched left hand. “Hmmm… Number 5?” Debby says. “Over the Rainbow,’ Judy Garland. Rather have Freddy Mercury, really, as I will probably never do this again….Ooh. ‘We Are the Champions.’ Or maybe ‘We Will Rock You?’ Don’t Stop Me Now….? Yeah, that’s the one. Disk 5, track 8, Queen. ‘Don’t Stop Me Now!’”

Jessica’s standing near a sign that says, “Jump More. Bitch Less.” Debby turns to her. “So, tell me again?”

Jessica says, “You’ll be sitting at the edge of the airplane, and your instructor’s going to be straddling you from behind. And then he’ll wiggle you to the very edge. You’ll be sitting down, arms across your chest, legs hanging out. You want to try to touch your feet to the bottom of the airplane, with your heels back and your head on Eric’s shoulder. He’ll say, ‘One, two, three, go!’ The second you feel your body start to leave the airplane, you’re going to push your hips out as far as you can.”


“Excuse me, I win. That’s the deal, remember?”

“So it’s not your back arching,” Jessica continues, “it’s your hips. And you just try and kick your instructor in the butt, and then you’ll feel him give you a tap-tap, and then you’ll fling your arms out. And then you’re skydiving!”

“So arch…” says Debby.

“Like a banana,” says Jessica.

Eric, the tandem instructor, comes in.

“Legs back,” he says, “then tap-tap, and spread your arms out, like, ‘Hey, wasn’t me. I didn’t do it.’”

“All right! Fourteen-all.” This is me, in with a chance to redeem a 20-year-old Ping-Pong grudge.

“And don’t look at the ground,” says Jessica. “It’s always there. Look out and around you. Just don’t over-think it. Have fun…Hey, Errol, happy birthday!”

Turns out Errol’s the pilot. He’s never parachuted. “Fliers don’t,” he says. “Like a captain never jumps off his ship.”

“Your birthday’s the same as mine,” Debby says. “That’s a lucky sign.”

Now Debby’s heading out the door to the Cessna 206 sitting on the tarmac. She looks back at Geoff.

“You at least coming to see me off, darling? I am going to be jumping out of a plane at 10,000 feet…”

“Just be right…there, darling. So — 20-18. Ha! Die, you antiroyalist running dog!”

“Easy there,” I say.
“We had a deal, remember?” But we put down our paddles and catch up with the little group walking out to the plane.

“Goodbye, Debby,” says Jessica.


“It’s a good day,” says Errol. “Wind ten knots out of the west. Clear. You can see all the way to Ensenada.”

Now Debby’s being bundled into the floor-space behind Errol, sitting between Eric’s spread-eagled legs, with the engine rattling into life. “Bye, darling!” Geoff shouts. “Enjoy yourself. We’ll be waiting at the landing area.”

“We finish this, once and forever,” says Geoff.

Long and short of it is, Geoff does one smash after another and I’m finished just as Scott, the parachute folder, instant video-editor, and chase-van driver, comes to take us to the drop zone, four miles east. “I live with fear and danger every day,” says a sign inside the van, “but sometimes I leave her behind and go skydiving.” By the time we get there, Debby has to be at the 10,000-feet ceiling. We lunch to a stop in a field. We dash out. A little black bundle under an orange canopy is just dropping into sight. The orange canopy circles with a red
San Diego
Is the Atkins Diet safe?
How does it work?
April 29, 2010
What is Botox/Dysport?
Effects of Botox/Dysport
Male breast surgery
After surgery
Breast lift
Exercise: How much?
Surgery
Breast reduction
Invisalign, the clear straightener
How is it performed?
About our office
Your eye exam
Best candidates?
Body Mass Index (BMI)
What should I eat?
How much can I lose?
How much does it cost?
— and
Breast augmentation
Crowns, bridges & surgeries
Veneers & teeth whitening
What is it?
About LASIK
The professional who provide this information are solely responsible for its content. This information does not address all medical situations, nor is it intended to replace a medical consultation. It is provided free, but if calling from outlying areas, you may incur toll charges on your telephone bill.
the Gaslamp thing. Even on Monday night, a glass of Coke’s $10, but the piano band is great. “I didn’t know you had jazz on this coast,” Debby says.

I’ve been begging Geoff to let me play a round of golf with him, ’cause he’s good. Even propose Torrey Pines, though, Lord, green fees range from $156 to $279, just to play a single round. He takes me aside, like a boss about to fire his favorite employee. “Look, old son,” he says. “You may be almost good at Ping-Pong, but golf, one has to have standards. If I was caught out there playing with you, flailing from bush to pond, I could never show my face again on a decent course, no matter what side of the Atlantic. I’m sure you understand. What’s your handicap?”

“Uh, handicap?”

“Well, you’ve got a handicap right there. Listen. No tears. We’ll find a driving range somewhere. Besides, it’s more affordable. After that skydiving lark, we’re starting to run low. Best all ’round, don’t you think?”

We find a driving range in Del Mar, the Del Mar Golf Center, lay out $9 for a bucket of 75 golf balls and a couple of clubs, and start whacking. And if I do say so myself, I zing those suckers out. Okay, not like Geoff. He’s a damned machine. Full distance, sailing aloft each time. ’Course, I knew that already, when we tried this in the desert outside Doha. You’d fire across the sands to browns, not greens — oil-soaked circles of sand with a flag in the middle. Natural hazards were the camels. Obviously, he’s gotten more serious since then. If I’d thought of it, I’d’ve been better off challenging him to a game of Frisbee golf at Morley Field, specially as it has green fees even I can handle — $3.

Afterward, we head to Fidel’s, up in the hills. They love that atmosphere. And I love that during happy hour Fidel’s has $2 taco bargains. They even try one between them. As we say, poco a poco…

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and making it the first electric-lit hotel in the world. Geoff and Debby loved that Prince Edward and Wally Simpson may have got their romance going here. And the whole Marilyn/Some Like It Hot and Peter O’Toole/The Stuntman exhibit had them oohing and aahing.

Best part, though, is ending up at the open-pit cocktail area by the ocean-view lawn. Sunset Bar. They say the Del has the best view for sunsets anywhere on the coast. We’re just in time for a full-on show with rosy clouds, then a clear, deep-blue sky with stars a-twinkling. The whole California deal. It definitely blows Geoff and Debby away. Must admit, though, that when the check comes, the prices blow us all away. I mean, my cocktail cost $15.

Carla’s iced tea, bless her, cost $4. So drinks: around $45, two — see-licious — appetizers, Carlsbad mussels in a white-wine garlicly slurp ($16) and a plate of cured meats ($15), took it to, say, $75, and with tax and tip, think 90 buckeroos. Mind boggles, if we were staying on for din-dins. At that price, it had better be the best damned sunset view in the country.

I think we all feel a little shell-shocked, so Carla cooks up a bowl of spaghetti for dinner, and nobody complains.

* * *

The biggest surprise comes on the last day. We drive up to Julian. It really does feel like cowboy country, with its ranchettes and meadows and forests of native oaks. As dusk starts coming on, we roll into town.

“Oh, my God,” says Debby. “Oh, my GOD. This is the West we dream of. The gold-mining town, the western-frontier town. Why didn’t you tell us about this before?”

When you look at it through their fresh eyes, it does feel like the real thing. Houses and shops with front porches, lil’ old town hall, all cheek by jowl. And, yes, you do expect cowboys to come roaring through. We’re too late for the Eagle mine, but we sneak into the Julian Hotel because I want them to meet Albert Robinson, who’d been a slave in Missouri. He started this hotel with his wife Margaret in 1897.

Oh, Lord. It looks so cozy, with its lamps and easy chairs on the front porch. We sneak up the steps and click through the door into a room that feels like my own grandma’s place. Flowers and flags and wicker chairs with big cushions, and rich fabrics and heavy curtains.

Gal named Holly comes out. “Can I help?”

“We just wanted to see the photo of the Robinsons,” I say.

“Oh, right here,” she says, and points to a black-and-white picture in a big, polished wood frame. The Robinsons are wearing hats and fancy go-to-church clothes. “Sorry about Disneyland and Universal Studios,” I say to Geoff and Debby, “but to my mind this beats them hands-down. Here’s a man in the 1800s who had a dream, to own a bakery and a hotel. He’d been a slave. Yes, there was prejudice, but he and Margaret made it. They were beloved. And well-to-do. Right here in Julian. Only in America, dude. That’s what I like best about Southern California. It has a good heart.”

Jeez. I’m getting choked up at my own speech. I must mean it.

We get back down from the mountains, all four of us go to McP’s, the unofficial HQ for off-duty Navy SEALs. Band’s playing. First thing Debby does is buy them all drinks. Then, boy, do they sing. Kingston Trio, Marty Robbins, you name it. We all down burgers, slowly, because we know this is the last night.

* * *

“People are so open in California,” says Debby next morning. We’re having breakfast at Denny’s, at China Camp, near the airport. “I think your food’s more expensive here than at home, but that’s my only complaint. You don’t realize how beautiful and pristine all this looks to us.”

We’re chowing down on all the bad things: bacon, sausages, pancakes, syrup. They have half an hour to check in. “Seriously,” Geoff says, “we hope we didn’t cost you guys too much. We know you’re not made of it, but you did us proud.”

He hesitates a moment.

“Still, shame about Shamu, and your Ping-Pong wasn’t up to my expectations. Work on that, will you?”

Guess they did cost us a bit. Car rental was $737.88 in all. But, hey, they flew across the Atlantic for us. They put their jobs on hold too. And they paid for the last three days on that rental car. I think the books are pretty much balanced.

Afterward, Carla and I try and see where we’re at. Guess the visit cost $1000, max. Would have been a lot more with SeaWorld, the Zoo, Wild Animal Park, and Universal Studios. But what it has done is, well, priceless. It got us back together with our old buddy. And here’s the odd thing: it’s shown us what Southern Cal’s really all about. Honestly, it’s been quite an education. We owe those two, big time. ■

— Ed Bedford
A Family Offended

We, the owners, management, and employees (our “family”) at Indigo Café and Catering in downtown San Diego would like to take a few moments to respond to the recent review of our restaurant in the April 15 issue conducted by Ms. Naomi Wise. We found this review to be offensive, inaccurate, and unprofessional.

Before attending to the multiple mistakes made by Ms. Wise regarding our California-Cajun menu options, we would first and foremost like to address the offensive tone and culturally sensitive content featured in Ms. Wise’s critique. Her review began with an assumption — that upon first glance, our cook “looked more likely to be from Nuevo León, “Mexico, “than from Nuevo Orleans,” but she “didn’t yet lower [her] expectations.” Is this comment necessary? What does ethnic background have to do with cooking abilities? Moreover, it is impossible upon first glance to tell the ethnicity or cultural backgrounds of any San Diegan, and this cultural stereotype is neither appreciated nor taken lightly by our staff or our regulars. Although Ms. Wise does suggest that “good cooks in San Diego easily learn other cuisines,” it is inappropriate and borderline racially discriminatory to suggest that ethnic background can be determined by looks alone, and therefore that any expectation of food quality should be lowered or questioned.

Our staff is highly trained in the art of California-Cajun cuisine, and our cooking staff has taken personal offense to the judgments asserted by Ms. Wise.

Ms. Wise also felt comfortable making several cor- rective suggestions regarding our menu selections. We stand behind our food 100 percent and have operated successfully for ten years within the San Diego community with great success. Never on our website, nor in our restaurant, do we claim to offer authentic Louisiana cuisine, nor authentic Creole, nor authentic Cajun. Rather, we pride ourselves on our ability to offer a California-Cajun-inspired menu, one that celebrates the delicacies passed along through Louisiana recipes and culture. By definition, the word “Creole” (coming from the Latin word Create) means “to create.” Creole food is the creation or evolution of cultures and cuisines that have inspired recipes from the South for decades, and we in California continue to “create.”

Ms. Wise also states that “somebody got their recipes crossed,” and we are afraid that has been Ms. Wise! Our jambalaya is tomato-based, made with thick Andouille sausage, the description that Ms. Wise gives of our gumbo; and our gumbo is roux-based, the description Ms. Wise gives for our jambalaya. We do not prepare our jambalaya with a roux base, nor do we prepare our gumbo with a tomato base. We understand that everyone has different and unique food preferences; however, Ms. Wise was clearly confused which items she was in fact critiquing. These were not her only mistakes — our Cajun Pesto Pasta does not feature shrimp nor any type of seafood, nor does it contain “mozzarella” (rather, Parmesan cheese), a claim made by Ms. Wise; we do not serve 1000 Island dressing on our Po’Boy Sandwich (1000 Island contains relish, our homemade sauces do not); we do not feature a “chipotle aioli,” rather a chili aioli made from scratch.

Calling out our staff’s professional experience, specifically our owners’, by questioning “have the owners never heard of cookbooks? For a few bucks’ investment, the kitchen could get some education” assumes that our owners are inexperienced and uneducated. Rick Trevino, owner and chef, is a graduate of the San Diego Culinary Institute, and his outstanding talent and creativity earned him the Peter Metz Award — clearly he has read a cookbook or two.

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While we do not argue that each individual maintains their own food preferences, we strongly stand behind our expertise and our recipes and believe that each one, upon critique, should be reviewed professionally.

Given the current economic climate, when “mom and pop” businesses strive to bring in new business, we cannot help but assume that the harsh tones in the article were meant to hurt both our employees and our business. We question whether Ms. Wise’s critique was person—community influence would write this critique has strengthened our bond as a “family.” We appreciate the opportunity to express our feedback and thank you for your time and consideration.

Rick and Tiffany
Gretchen Vedder
Owners
Indigo Café and Catering

Naomi Wise responds: In today’s climate, any mention of race at all seems to translate instantly into “racism” for those who are looking for it. Hell, everybody knows that in San Diego, Latinos make up most restaurant kitchen staffs at every economic level, and as I mentioned in that review, any good cook can master another cuisine. (Off the top of my head, I’ll cite Tijuana-born Damaso Lee, famed for his Italian cooking at Trattoria Acqua.) Only, somebody’s got to teach them, to make that happen. (Whereas, if the cook behind the counter were a born Louisianan, she wouldn’t need any instruction from the boss to correct the cockamamie recipes that shaped the food we ate there.) I’ve spent a lot of time in Louisiana (mainly New Orleans, but also some in “Cajun Country”), eating happily, and have been cooking this cuisine at home for some 30 years. (I also collaborated with “Queen Ida” Gallory, zydeco accordionist, on her cookbook for Prima Press, Cookin’ with Queen Ida.)

The essential problem at Indigo is that almost nothing has the authentic taste of Louisiana! It’s fine to do “creative” versions of this cuisine (as, for instance, Susan Spicer does), but Indigo’s dishes seemed deracinated — Louisiana ingredients assembled in very non—Louisiana ways. Accusing me of being drunk as a skunk doesn’t get you off the hook: even if I had been (and I wasn’t), I had ample doggie bags of every entrée to reheat very gently, retaste at length (at least twice each), and examine visually in a strong kitchen light over the several days after my dinner, before signing off on the review. I don’t want to get into a slapdown here, but normally the taste of a proper dark gumbo roux is a vital component of gumbo flavor, whereas if there’s a roux in yours, it must be a roux blonde, as it’s imperceptible — tomato is dominant. And in two doggie-bag dinners involving the jambalaya, I didn’t spot or taste a whit of tomato — the liquid tasted more like a light turkey gravy. So who should I believe, you or my own eyes and mouth? The best I can suggest is that perhaps we ate there on one of those nightmare evenings that befall all restaurants sometimes, when nothing turns out right.

A Plate Of Cruelty
After reading Ms. Wise’s review of Indigo Café (Restaurant Review, April 15), I have to say that it was one of the most mean, unprofessional reviews I have seen in your publication. I have dined at that restaurant several times. At no time did I ever think I was going to experience a New Orleans—style cuisine. While I do agree that they have some items on the menu that do have a New Orleans theme, it is an American-style restaurant. It has always been a wonderful dining experience. She was so cruel in her review. The article honestly felt like she had a personal problem with the owners. I fully support varying opinions and usually agree with her take on restaurants, but I was shocked at how incorrect she was in regards to the type of restaurant and also how scathing she was.

People who own these smaller restaurants are trying to provide a quality experience at an affordable price during these difficult times. She has the potential to greatly affect these restaurants’ revenue streams. She should, at the very least, make sure she is reviewing a restaurant based on the correct cuisine. It would also be a much better read if she did not sound like such a miserable, bitter person.

Kris Moriarty
via email

Reflection
I would like to say that I liked “Black Elk Speaks” on page 153 of the Reader (April 15). It’s a little shout-out to the Lakota Native American tribe. It was the tip of the iceberg, but it was still nice to reflect on him.

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San Diego Reader April 29, 2010
### Thursday | 29

#### LUNAFEST!
Head to the Museum of Contemporary Art's Sherwood Auditorium for a film festival featuring a diverse lineup of short films by, for, and about women. A wine reception will be followed by film screenings, including *A Summer Rain*, *Monday Before Thanksgiving*, *Kinda Sutra*, *Anjali*, *Omelette*, and more. See [FILM](#), page 68.

#### AN ASIAN STATE OF MIND
Local Asian-American authors speak on topics such as writing and publishing, Asian-American identity, and pursuing your dream. Participants include authors of *The Jade Dragon*, *The Problem with Being Perfect*, *Why Chinese Women Are Not Broke*, and more. See [LECTURES](#), page 71.

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### Saturday | 1

#### MAY FAIRE FESTIVAL
Head to City Heights for a May Day celebration of “old-time merriment and tradition.” Children can weave maypole ribbons, and all participants are invited to make crafts, enjoy food, and join in a puppet show, a petting zoo, and games. See [FOR KIDS](#), page 70.

#### BARRIO LOGAN GRAND PRIX
Expect a full day of bicycle racing and festivities in conjunction with a Cinco de Mayo celebration in the barrio at this 14th annual event. The racing action will be easy to view on the figure-eight course, with each race including up to 150 cyclists. Also, racing events for kids. See [SPORTS](#), page 72.

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### Friday | 30

#### DINO-MITE NIGHT
Experience an overnight camp-in at the San Diego Natural History Museum. Try your hand at paleontology, view *Dinosaurs Alive! 3D*, tour the “Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries” exhibit, and then settle under your favorite dinosaur and drift off to sleep in the exhibit hall. The fee includes an evening snack, continental breakfast, and plenty of fun. See [FOR KIDS](#), page 69.

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### Sunday | 2

#### THE TAMING OF THE SHREW
The Intrepid Shakespeare Company presents a fresh interpretation of Shakespeare’s comedy: the two leads, Kate and Petruchio, will be portrayed by women, as women, “and both of them over 60 years of age.” See [THEATER](#), page 110.

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### Monday | 3

#### MOZU
Singing, not shushing! For one evening only at the Carlsbad City Library, James Strait will direct a reading of Steven Oberman’s new musical about Mozu, a physically challenged macaque, or Japanese snow monkey. See [THEATER](#), page 110.

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### Tuesday | 4

#### THE PHYSICS OF SMALL THINGS
Ivan K. Schuller of UCSD discusses nanoscience, including how “materials physics at sizes approaching atomic dimensions” is revolutionizing physics, chemistry, and biology. His talk will highlight not only recent scientific advances but also new directions for the field. See [LECTURES](#), page 71.

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### Wednesday | 5

#### ARE VACCINES REALLY SAFE?
Do the benefits outweigh the risks? If there is a possibility of harmful side effects, how should the medical community promote vaccines? Find out what the experts think when panelists Ed Morgan, Eric Courchesne, and Stanley Maloy gather for this “Exploring Ethics” discussion at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. See [LECTURES](#), page 71.

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### Your Week

**April 29–May 5**

**Thursday, April 29:** *KINDA SUTRA* at Lunafest!

**Saturday, May 1:** *MAY FAIRE FESTIVAL*

**Friday, May 3:** *MOZU*

**Sunday, May 2:** *THE TAMING OF THE SHREW*

**Monday, May 3:** *THE PHYSICS OF SMALL THINGS*

**Tuesday, May 4:** *ARE VACCINES REALLY SAFE?*
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Gather No Moss
TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS

Hilton Head, South Carolina
By Robert Isenberg
Taking a much-needed break from my grandfather’s funeral, I drove to Hilton Head for some sightseeing. I didn’t know much about the island — only its reputation for golf courses and wealthy tourists.

When I reached “downtown” Hilton Head, I found only strip malls and beachfront hotels. A light rain washed over the sidewalks, and I ducked from one awning to the next. Tourists window-shopped; bicyclists hid beneath trees. At first I thought I’d picked the wrong day, given the grisly weather. But as I passed yet another nail salon and souvenir shop, I decided I’d picked the wrong island.

Between the rows of shops, I found a small pond. And there, next to the boardwalk, stood a puffy, humpbacked stork. Pedestrians floated past the bird, grimaced at its curious round eyes, then moved on. But I lingered for a moment to keep the stork company. The only place to go was my hotel, and after that the funeral home. No hurry, I thought. So, I stood there, on the pond’s muddy bank, not sure where to go next, as the drizzle misted all around.

Rome (in a Day)
By Derek Ray
“I love it here, but after a while we get a little tired of seeing all these naked statues,” a Midwest couple confided to me about their first trip to Rome.

I had already decided that Italy was my favorite country on my first trip to Europe. A Eurorail pass was my ticket to scour the country. After traversing Italy back and forth a few times, the sensory overload from being exposed to so much art, pasta (washed down by portable flasks of Chianti), and history was intoxicating.

The Italian culture had cast a spell over me, as did each town and area that I visited: Venice, Florence, Capri, Pompeii, Assisi, Umbria, Tuscany. Travelers may be drawn to any of these locations and land in Rome with only a day en route to their desired destination. But to me, the Eternal City was the pinnacle of my trip.

If you have just one day in Rome before heading out to other spots in Italy, my recommendation is to first head to the Coliseum and the ruins of the Roman Forum, the heart of ancient Rome. Present-day Italy is fascinating and wonderful, but firsthand exposure to layers of history will make your visit a transcendent one.

Walk up the steps of Capitoline Hill for a magnificent view of the Roman Pedestrians floated past this Hilton Head stork.

Pedestrians floated past this Hilton Head stork.

Mango: The Winchester House in San Jose. Sarah L. Winchester was supposedly instructed by spirits to build a house and to never cease its construction.

misshottie45: Casa Grande Ruins National Monument, the nation’s first archaeological preserve, in Coolidge, Arizona.

ssandkb: Fall foliage at sunset frames the red rocks of Sedona.

other Adventures
continued on page 64
**Going to France?**

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Two hundred thirty-eight years ago, a small party led by the Spanish Colonel Pedro Fages chased after army deserters from the Presidio of San Diego, trekking through a narrow declivity known as Oriflame Canyon on their way east from the Cuyamaca Mountains. This was the first recorded passage by Europeans into the low-lying, arid region now called the Anza Borrego Desert.

Today, Fages and his men would find the trek down Oriflame Canyon somewhat easier. No pavement has ever been laid down here, but a graded dirt road, open only in part to motorized vehicles, makes walking or mountain-biking easy — especially when done in the downhill direction as described here. The entire trip measures 8.5 miles, with a descent in elevation of more than 2000 feet. Since this is a one-way trip, you’ll have to arrange for a pick-up at the end of the reasonably narrow trail. There are 28 miles of two-lane highways to drive between the start and end points. Perhaps your volunteer shuttle driver can while away three or more hours in an air-conditioned car while you’re hiking (or spend less than an hour there if you’re biking). Don’t wait until summer to take this trip; by late May the lower part will get uncomfortably warm. Also, don’t forget to pack along plenty of water.

Start at the Pedro Fages historical monument along Sunset Highway. 1.7 miles east of Highway 79. Find and follow the California Riding and Hiking Trail, which strikes northward through a broad meadow. Pass through a cattle gate and turn right at the next road. Now choose between two alternate routes. The left branch, traveling into upper Chariot Canyon, is rougher and harder. The right branch, Mason Valley Truck Trail, offers a more gradual descent.

On ahead, the truck trail cuts more sharply down the precipitous north wall of Oriflame Canyon, losing about 1000 feet of elevation in a mile and a half. From far above the canyon bottom, you’ll probably hear the sound of rushing water, at least before summer’s heat silences it. After a junction with Rodriguez Canyon’s four-wheel drive trail on the left, Mason Valley Truck Trail skirts the base of massive Granite Mountain. Cholla cacti glisten on its slopes. Then the road eventually curves right, away from the mountain, but a remnant of the California Riding and Hiking Trail continues east along the mountain’s base and strikes Highway S-2 at mile 26.5 — a good place for you to be picked up. This point on the highway can be found 0.8 mile west of Anza Borrego’s Box Canyon Historic Site.

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.

Explore Plants and Plant Communities
Mike Crouse leads class for wildlife trackers — and anyone with an interest in learning about regional flora — wishing to enhance their knowledge of plant communities and associated fauna. Join group in beach parking lot. Required registration: 858-725-7227. Saturday, May 1, 10am; $30. Torrey Pines State Beach and Reserve, North Torrey Pines Road. (DEL MAR)

Guided Nature Walk
Learn about birds and plants of the area during ongoing beginning at “comfort station” on west side of park (5250 Regents Road). Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9961. Saturday, May 1, 9-10am; free. Marian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Genesee Avenue. (CLAREMONTE)

Help Restore the Preserve

History Walk
Offshoot Tours offers hour-long history walk, blending Balboa Park history with its wealth of architectural and botanical treasures. 619-235-1121. Saturday, May 1, 10am; free. Balboa Park Visitors’ Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Transform an Acre of Turf!
Help San Diego Baywatch Cities Coalition create a community habitat garden for wildlife and people. Day begins with Native Plant tour and hands-on planting and gardening about regional flora — wishing to learn more about regional flora — wishing to enhance their knowledge of plant communities and associated fauna. Join group in beach parking lot. Required registration: 858-725-7227. Saturday, May 1, 10am; $30. Torrey Pines State Beach and Reserve, North Torrey Pines Road. (DEL MAR)

Guided Nature Walk
Learn about birds and plants of the area during ongoing beginning at “comfort station” on west side of park (5250 Regents Road). Bring binoculars, drinking water. 858-581-9961. Saturday, May 1, 9-10am; free. Marian Bear Memorial Park, Highway 52 and Genesee Avenue. (CLAREMONTE)

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After workshop, plant native shrubs, trees to “promote sustainable, nature-friendly landscaping” (10am-1pm). Wear long pants, sturdy shoes, hat. Bring tools if you have them. Gloves, water, snacks provided. Registration: 858-273-7800 x101. Saturday, May 1, 9am; free. EastLake Clubhouse at the Woods, 1150 Woods Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

“A Landscape in Transition” American Society of Landscape Architects garden tour is guided bus tour of four private residential gardens and public projects designed by professional landscape architects. 619-225-8155. Saturday, May 1, 1pm; $45. Kilroy Business Center Del Mar, 3611 Valley Centre Drive. (CARMEL VALLEY)

“Dreamz and Seamz” “Play your part in the theatrical world” of Zandra Rhodes’s Aida designs, enjoy music by Dreamtiger, during A-list party. Reservations: 858-454-5872. Thursday, April 29, 7:30pm; free-$12. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

“Grow” a Tree of Life! Artist Jane LaFazio leads class with inspiration from ¡Viva México! exhibition. Participants “create a personalized tree of life in the form of a multimedia watercolor painting,” bring small images of memories, symbols to integrate with materials synonymous with Mexican culture. Materials included in fee. Reservations: 619-239-0003 x135. Saturday, May 1, 10am; $50-$60. 12 and up. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Tesoros Mexicanos” Opening activities for “Mexican Treasures from Two Folk Art Collections,” an exhibition of 120 works of art underscoring “both the diversity of Mexican culture and the unending creative vitality of the Mexican people.” See film about Mexican artist Frida Kahlo (3pm), stay for reception (4-6pm). Exhibit continues through Sunday, June 27, 760-602-2061. Sunday, May 2, 3pm; free. William D. Cannon Art Gallery at Carlsbad Library, 1439 El Prado. (CARLSBAD)

“The Things They Carried” Reception for “World War II Trench Art.” Exhibition of “emotionally charged souvenirs such as jewelry, model planes, and personalized cigarette cases and lighters” continues through June 4. 760-435-3720. Saturday, May 1, 3pm; $8.
lifeguard rescue demonstration, professional sand sculpting, art, more. Saturday, May 1, 10am; free. Carlsbad. (CARLSBAD)

Carlsbad Village Fair Nearly 900 vendors offering arts and crafts, antiques, clothing, food, more, in downtown area. 760-945-9288. Sunday, May 2, 8am; free. Carlsbad. (CARLSBAD)

Celebrate Law Day Legal clinic by lawyers from Bar Association of North San Diego County, offering consultations in probate, family law, landlord/tenant, criminal law, general civil law matters. Firstcome, firstserved. 760-940-4386. Friday, April 30, 9am; free. San Diego Public Library Law Library North County, 325 South Melrose Drive. (VISTA)

Dish Gardens! Individual Specimens! Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society hosts plant sale, including “plants acquired from several estates,” and more. 760-741-7553. Saturday, May 1, 10am; free. Alta Vista Garden, 1270 Vale Terrace Drive. (VISTA)

Doggie Café Take your friendly, on-leash dog to socialize with other canines. Trainers offer training tips on keeping dogs calm, civilized around distractions. One dog per human handler. Donation: $10. Reservations: 619-299-7012 x2230. Friday, April 30, 6pm. San Diego Humane Society and SPA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

Explore “Globular Clusters” Take “digital tour” of night sky during “The Sky Tonight” planetarium show, then view real sky through telescopes after show (weather permitting). 619-238-1233. Wednesday, May 5, 7pm and 8pm; $9-$10. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1857 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Fair Trade Market Celebrate World Fair Trade Day by shopping open-air market with fair-trade chocolate, coffee, wine tastings, vendors selling crafts and other goods. Slide shows, educational materials, local social justice organizations. 619-446-7932. Saturday, May 1, noon; free. Christ Lutheran Church, Pacific Beach, 4761 Cass Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Fiesta Old Town Cinco de Mayo Take in Latin sounds, food, drinks, and downtown San Diego atmosphere. 760-945-7555. Saturday, May 1, 10am; free. El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

KnitNight Gather with fellow fiber artists for social knitting, crochet, spinning. 760-886-6744. Tuesdays, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Clever Knits, 214 South Indiana Avenue. (VISTA)

Legal Clinic Foothills Bar Association and the San Diego County Public Library present clinic providing “general legal advice and referrals only” 619-441-4451. Friday, April 30, 10am; free. and up. San Diego County Public Law Library East County, 250 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

Listen to Luthiers Woodworker Sue Spray presents “Luther’s CoOp First Annual Guitar/Art Exhibition,” displaying fine handmade guitars and harps and artwork of local American artist (and E St. Cafe owner) Dominic Alcorn. Luthiers and Alcorn on hand to describe their work. 760-599-WOOD. Saturday, May 1, 3pm; free. E Street Cafe, 128 E Street. (ENCINITAS)

Middle-Eastern Drum and Belly-Dance Class Donumbe drumming class for all levels, taught by Frank Lazzaro (6-7pm), Middle-Eastern Drum and belly dance class for all levels, taught by Sue Spray presents “Luthier’s Cooperative.” 760-703-1487. Mondays, 6pm; drumming (7-8pm). $12 per class. San Diego Art Department, 3830 29th Street. (VISTA)

Mancini, O.M.D. RSVP: 619-287-3407. Friday, April 30, 10am; $8-$16. Felicita Park, 7426 University Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

North Park Paint Out Local Art Alliance and the San Diego Art Dept. present annual plein air juried show of iris and floral displays, music, and dancing at Internat. 619-234-6739. Sunday, May 2, 7pm; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

Iris Society Spring Show Judged show of iris and floral displays using iris, in room 101. Sales of potted irises too. 619-561-6323. Saturday, May 1, 1pm; Sunday, May 2, 10am; free. Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Professional sand sculpting, art, lifeguard rescue demonstration, “Weeding the Cosmos,” public by La Alamedas Press and reprinted by permission. Visit Balboa Park on Cinco de Mayo weekend, May 1, 10am; $8-$16. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Sacrament Fair San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 6905 La Jolla Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Local Events

**Pacific Coast Skydiving**

$125* Tandem

* Scenic flights over the ocean and downtown San Diego
* Jump from altitudes over 2 miles above the ground
* Ask about RVT video technology

Call or go online for reservations.

(619) 661-0194 www.pcskydiving.com

Open 7 days a week • MC/Visa • Gift certificates available.

*Must purchase $70 video ($195 total cost). Weekdays only. Add $20 for weekend jumps.

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(per person)

Call for more details!

Price includes:

• Limo ride • Concert ticket
• Drawing for 2 meet-and-greet tickets with artist of your choice

Performances by:

Usher • Justin Beiber • Ke$ha • Kanye • Akon & more

888-474-6953 flamingolimousine.com

**What Is Chi Kung?**

Learn movements “to improve your energy level, calm your nervous system, and boost function” during introduction presented by Dr. Mario A. Mancini, O.M.D. RSVP: 619-287-4005. Friday, April 30, 3pm; free. Kroc Corps Community Center Education Building, 6605 University Avenue. (COLLEGE AREA)

**Yoga for Voice**

Voice lesson uses yogic techniques to develop, increase vocal range. No experience needed, but bring your desire to sing! Donation. 858-245-8246. Mondays, 6:15pm. Robbins Nest, 6905 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)
CLASSICAL MUSIC

“Bach and the Concerto di Camera in Italy and France”
Concerto Köln — dedicated to presenting period performances of music of the 18th and early 19th Centuries — performs music by Sammartini, Vivaldi, d’Auvergne, and fourth and fifth “Brandenburg Concerti” of J.S. Bach for San Diego Early Music Society. 619-291-8246. Sunday, May 2, 7pm; $10-$35. Qualcomm Hall, 5775 Morehouse Drive. (Sorrento Valley)

“Egmont Overture” San Diego Symphony and pianist Yefim Bronfman wrap up Beethoven Festival with performance of this piece, along with “Piano Concerto No. 2” and “Piano Concerto No. 3.” 619-235-0804. Saturday, May 1, 8pm; $20-$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (Downtown)

“Live ‘n’ Wired” Theatre Organ Society’s concert series continues with “long-awaited return” of musician Direk Wickerham, playing the four-manual/24-rank Wurlitzer theater pipe organ. 888-618-6773. Saturday, May 1, 2pm; free-$12. Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3902 Kenwood Drive. (Spring Valley)

“Welsh Is Longer Than Stockhausen” Take in new and experimental music from UCSD’s graduate music students during Spring Music Festival. 858-534-3229. Monday, May 3, noon; free. Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD, Russell Lane at Gilman Drive. (La Jolla)

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. Friday, April 30, 8pm; Sunday, May 2, 2pm; $20-$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (Downtown)

Chamber Ensemble Concert
San Diego Youth Symphony’s advanced chamber ensembles of string, wind, and brass instruments perform their annual concert. 619-233-3232. Thursday, April 29, 7pm; free. Neurosciences Institute, 10640 John Jay Hopkins Drive. (La Jolla)

Chamber Music Recital
USD Chamber Music Ensembles, under direction of Angela Yeung, perform in French Parlor of Founders Hall. 619-260-4171. Tuesday, May 4, 7:30pm; 55-510. University of San Diego, 5958 Alcala Park. (Linda Vista)

From Bach to Takemitsu
Kevin Flowers (guitar) and Patricia Wang (piano) plan concert ranging from Bach, Mozart, Chopin, Scriabin,
Gregorian Chant Mass

4 pm on the second Sunday of every month

- May 9
- June 13
- July 11
- August 8
- September 12
- October 10
- November 14
- December 12

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

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
State and Date Streets (Little Italy), Downtown San Diego

DANCE

“Firehouse Fusion Dance Party” Evening begins with fusion dance workshop led by Messie and Alan (7:30pm), followed by live “downtempo/ambient” music from XIV. Tickets include lesson, dance. All ages. 858-395-0600. Thursday, April 29, 7:30pm; $10. Queen Bee’s Art and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Ballet Folklorico Tierra Caliente Celebrate history, traditions of Mexico during performance. Tickets for “Free First Wednesdays” series available on first-come, first-served basis, one hour prior to curtain. 800-988-4253. Wednesday, May 5, 4pm and 7pm; free. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

Chopin Tribute California Ballet Company performs full-length ballet Les Sylphides and premieres “the original ballet Chopin Concerto No. 1.” 858-560-6741. Saturday, May 1, 2:30pm and 8pm; $25-$60. and up. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Flight Path Band provides music, Martha Wild calls for contra dancing hosted by San Diego Folk Heritage. Beginners’ dance workshop 7:30pm; dances taught and called to live music 8-11pm. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Friday, April 30, 7:30pm; $7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Latin Club Dance Mix Noches Latinas with DJs Luis and TLM playing tunes for cumbia, merengue, bachata, salsa. 619-985-5168. Fridays, 8pm; $5. 21 and up. Ramada Inn, 5550 Kearny Mesa Road. (HEARNY MESA)

Main Event Mixer Enjoy ballroom, Latin, swing music for dancing. 858-565-9755. Saturday, May 1, 8pm; $8. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (HEARNY MESA)

May Faire Ball San Diego English Country Dancers host annual dance, with music by Off the Cuff with Jon Berger. Dance master is Erik Weberg. “Regency attire admired but not required.” 760-789-7796. Saturday, May 1, 5:30pm; $15-$40. Soledad Club, 3050 Soledad Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

FOOD & DRINK

“Inside the Craft Beer Industry” Stone CEO Greg Koch and “resident beer geeks” Ken Wright plan “Beer U” talk with samples of craft brews and “insider’s view of the craft beer industry.” 760-471-4999. Monday, May 3, 7pm; $20. 21 and up. Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Flowers After Hours “Culture and Cocktails” program includes “Art Alive” viewing, “a signature..."
cocktail, live entertainment, and flower-power activities.” 619-232-7931, Friday, April 30, 7pm; $25-$35, 21 and up. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, (BALBOA PARK)

Island Divine Santorini  Tenth annual food, wine, brew event benefits Junior League of San Diego. 619-234-5573. Saturday, May 1, 3pm; $80-$125, 21 and up. Scripps Park, 1133 Coast Boulevard, (LA JOLLA)

Wonderful, Not Weird! Michelle from Java Jones Coffee Roasters shares “the beauty of pairing cheese with coffee and tea.” 619-358-9081. Thursday, April 29, 6:30pm; $30. Venissimo Cheese — East Village, 871 G Street, (EAST VILLAGE)

FOR KIDS

“Art Made Simple” Art instructor, illustrator, author Lisa Davis DeMatte leads art class for children (6-12). 858-581-9935, Wednesday, May 5, 4pm; free. 6 and up. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

“Dino-Mite Night” Try your hand at paleontology, view Dinosaurs Alive! 3D, tour “Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries” exhibit during family dinosaur camp-in. Fee includes evening snack, continental breakfast, plenty of fun. 619-255-0203. Friday, April 30, 6pm; $50-$65. 5 and up. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, (BALBOA PARK)

Bored Games For Kids Pajama-night event promises “dozens of fun and free ways to entertain kids of all ages.” Authors will demonstrate activities, involve everyone in fun and games. 619-232-4855, Tuesday, May 4, 7pm; free. 3 and up. Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House, 835 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Charlie Brown & Friends Carrillo Elementary’s theatrical showcase performed by Carrillo Elementary’s Starz2B 3rd Grade theater troop. 760-290-2900. Friday, April 30, 5:30pm; Saturday, May 1, 3pm; Sunday, May 2, 3pm;
**Local Events**

- **The Princess and the Pea** Joe Productions present full-stage marionette production with Princess Haisa traveling in a strange land. 619-544-9203. Thursday, April 29, 10am and 11:30am; Friday, April 30, 10am and 11:30am; Saturday, May 1, 11am, 1pm and 2:30pm; Sunday, May 2, 11am and 1pm; Wednesday, May 5, 10am and 11:30am; $3-$5. 4-5. Salsipuedes, 5375. Art Alive programs include family-oriented multigenerational workshops with floral-inspired arts and crafts. 619-232-7931. Saturday, May 1, 12 noon; Sunday, May 2, noon; $5-$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

- **Garden of Activities Art Alive** programs include family-oriented multigenerational workshops with floral-inspired arts and crafts. 619-232-7931. Saturday, May 1, 12 noon; Sunday, May 2, noon; $5-$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

- **Apps Race** is described as “an urban adventure race”; participants figure out clues, read a map, and work as a team. Teams must complete a task or answer a question correctly in order to move on in a race. Fee: $30 for teams of 2-3; $50 for teams of 4-5. Salsipuedes, 5375. Art Alive programs include family-oriented multigenerational workshops with floral-inspired arts and crafts. 619-232-7931. Saturday, May 1, 12 noon; Sunday, May 2, noon; $5-$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

- **KidsFest San Diego** celebrating local organizations working to “provide services and enrich the lives of members of our community.” Among the songs: “Home” from The Wiz, Bernstein’s “Make Our Garden Grow,” more. 619-239-8836. Saturday, May 1, 1pm; Sunday, May 2, 1pm; $3-4. 50 Birch North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

- **Life as a Sandwich** Author Eric Peterson signs books. Portion of book proceeds go to North County Health Services Reach Out and Read literacy program. 760-529-0270. Friday, April 30, 5pm; free. Barnes and Noble Bookstore Encinitas, A.1. West Valley Parkway. (ECONDIO)

- **Mexican White Boy** Novelist Matt De La Pena reads from his work, including Ball Don’t Lie, in the Student Center. 619-644-7486. Thursday, April 29, 7pm; fee. Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (EL CAJON)

- **The Biggest Liar in Los Angeles** Comedian John O’Brien is funny in person when he takes the stage. 800-745-3000. Friday, April 30, 7:30pm; free. UCSD, jews2010.com.

- **The Light That Never Sleeps** couch organization and the UCSD Office of Community Service present a community play. “A Night in America” is a coming-of-age story based in the 1960s, a definitive personal expression about race, friendship, and his personal love for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.” Signing follow-ups. 858-755-3735. Saturday, May 2, 4pm; fee. Book Works, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

- **The 100th Job** The reunion of the group is on Friday, April 30, 8pm; $5-$10. Patio Playhouse, 2015. Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, May 9. 7-10. Patio Playhouse, 201 East Grand Avenue. (ECONDIO)

- **Up With People** Concert featuring 20 different countries presents songs, dances from many different cultures, “spreading a message of peace and hope through performances and community service.” 760-724-2110. Friday, April 30, 7:30pm; $10-$20. Moonlight Amphitheatre in BALLENG Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace. (LA HABRA)


- **Cassie’s Kids** Children’s Day Storytelling Program with professional singer-songwriter Gabriela Flores, storyteller Lisette Atala “take listeners on a journey to 18th-century France and the world of Louis XVI” for Spanish-language storytelling program. 619-239-5384. Saturday, May 1, 11am; free and up. Marie Hitchcock Pappet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

- **Design Small Works of Art** Children make mixed-media collages with magazines, colored papers, found objects inspired by Alison Renshaw’s “Plastic Fantastic” exhibition during family art day. Renshaw leads tour of her exhibit for kids at 2pm. 760-435-3720. Sunday, May 2, 1pm; free. Ocean side Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

- **Enjoy Scavenger Hunts? How about solving clues?** Kids: Urban Race is described as “an urban adventure race”; participants figure out clues, read a map, and work as a team. Teams must complete a task or answer a question correctly in order to move on in a race. Fee: $30 for teams of 2-3; $50 for teams of 4-5. Salsipuedes, 5375.

- **May Fair Festival** Join in celebration of “old-time Merriment and tradition” when children dance, make music, weave maypole ribbons. Participants invited to make crafts, enjoy food, join in a puppet show, petting zoo, games. Local artists offer wares. 619-280-8016. Saturday, May 1, 11am; free. Wal dorf School of San Diego, 3547 Al tadena Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

- **The Cat in the Hat Is Back!** San Diego Junior Theatre presents Seussical, featuring the Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, other favorite Dr. Seuss characters. Performance on May 15 is ASL interpreted. Reservations: 619-239-8355. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 2pm; Sundays, 2pm; through Sunday, May 16; $8-$14. Casa del Prado Theater, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (BALBOA PARK)

**GALLERIES**

- **“Hollywood 1939”** Opening reception for exhibit of original artwork by Disney and Warner Brothers fine artist Joseph Yakovetic. 760-703-3889. Saturday, May 1, 7pm. Twin Oaks Gallery, 737 North Twin Oaks Valley Road #3, (SAN MARCOS)

- **“Our House”** San Diego Gay Men’s Chorus plans concerts honoring local organizations working to “provide services and enrich the lives of members of our community.” Among the songs: “Home” from The Wiz, Bernstein’s “Make Our Garden Grow,” more. 619-239-8836. Saturday, May 1, 1pm; Sunday, May 2, 1pm; $26-$40. 50 Birch North Park, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

**calendar**

**Cultural Calendar**

- **“The Light That Never Sleeps”** A community play about true stories in front of a room full of strangers, with extra points awarded for visual aides or evidence of said humiliation appearing onstage with them. Musical guest: Meaghan Maps. 619-284-6784. Thursday, April 29, 8:30pm; free. 21 and up. Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern Street. (SOUTH PARK)

- **Spring Literary Series** College’s International Book Fair concludes with debut of 2010 City Works Press Review in room d-121A/B. 619-388-5396. Wednesday, May 5, 1pm; free. Congregational Towers, 288 F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

- **True Crime** Tom Basinski, Chula Vista Star News columnist, discusses his books and the writing process. 619-420-8700. Thursday, April 29, 3pm; free. Congregational Towers, 288 F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

- **Up With People** Cast of 90 performers from 20 different countries presents songs, dances from many different cultures, “spreading a message of peace and hope through performances and community service.” 760-724-2110. Friday, April 30, 7:30pm; $10-$20. Moonlight Amphitheatre in BALLENG Terrace Park, 1200 Vale Terrace. (LA HABRA)
**LECTURES**

**“An Asian State of Mind”**
Local Asian-American authors speak on topics such as writing and publishing, Asian American identity and pursuing dreams, in room 1-101A. Participants: Virginia S. Loh (The Jade Dragon), Wayne Bartell, host R.J. Dharni entertain. 858-204-3111. Friday, April 30, 7pm; free. San Diego Miramar College, 10440 Black Mountain Road. Dieaga Miramar College, 10440 Black Mountain Road. 619-441-5988. Fri-
day, April 30, 6:30pm; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

**“The Fascination with Ivory”**
Godfrey Harris of International Ivory Society discusses importance of ivory, its historic and modern uses, for Life senior learning group in room 1068 (1pm). Learn about “Unusual and Noteworthy Plants” when Jason Kubrock of college’s horticulture department introduces “some truly amazing plants with insights into their complex ecologies” (2:30pm), 760-721-8124. Friday, April 30, 1pm; free. Mira-
Costa College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

**“The Physics of Small Things”**
“Materials physics at sizes approaching atomic dimensions is revolutionizing” physics, chem-
istry, biology. Ivan K. Schuller of UCSD focuses on “Nanoscience” for Doc Morris Public Lecture, in North Education Building room 60. Talk highlights “recent scientific advances in the field and possible new directions.” 619-594-
6240. Tuesday, May 4, 7:30pm; free. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

**Food(sheds) for Thought**
Global climate change, competition for use of cropland, population growth — all raise questions about our nation’s ability to feed itself over time. Focus on “Devel-
oping Sustainable Foodsheds” during panel discussion with members of Roots of Change. Re-
servations: 619-255-0283. Tuesday, May 4, 6:30pm; $5. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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**The Mar Dels Band**

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**1 pack of pita bread for $1**
With purchase of any 2 items. One coupon per customer per booth.

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**Elī’s Farm**
$1 off any 10 purchase. One coupon per customer per booth.

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**Baba Foods**
$1 off every 10 purchase. One coupon per customer per booth.

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**Maldonado Fresh Cut Flowers**
$1 off any 10 purchase. One coupon per customer per booth.

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**Lone Oak Ranch**
$1 off any 10 purchase. One coupon per customer per booth.

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**Feppar’s Fresh Fish Company**
All coupons valid at both locations.

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**The Food Network will be filming Sun., May 2, 10 am at the Point Loma location. Come join the fun!**

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**Mission Valley Farmer’s Market**
Enjoy 50% off Every Friday from 3-7 pm at the Westfield Mission Valley Mall

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**San Diego Reader April 29, 2010 71**
Neighborhood Law School will present its 19th annual Neighborhood Law School Day, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., April 29. The day is designed to provide free legal information to the public. The event is free and open to anyone in need of a legal consultation.

The Law School has 12 in-house volunteer attorneys and paralegals who will answer questions about topics ranging from real estate to immigration. Attendees can sign up for 30-minute appointments with an attorney and paralegal in the area of law in which they have expertise.

To schedule an appointment, go to neighborhoodlaw.org.

For more information, call 858-655-7090 or send an email to info@neighborhoodlaw.org.
San Diego Train Depot, a railroad car with model train, working blacksmith shop, and a barn. Find Heritage Walk in Grape Day Park. 321 North Broadway, 760-743-8207. (Escondido)

House of Pacific Relations International Cottages are open every Sunday, noon-4pm, presenting history and traditions of 30 ethnic groups. On fourth Tuesday of each month, Children around the World videos screened in Hall of Nations, select cottages open. 2125 Kettner Blvd., 619-234-0739. (Balboa Park)

J.A. Cooley Museum An eclectic collection of items — including displays on phonographs, clocks, electric trains, and 20 other types of devices spanning 1900-1940. 3112. 2125 Park Blvd., 619-234-0739.

San Diego Museum of Art Includes visitor center, neighborhood library, bookstore, gallery, and cafe. Free to members and under 18. 1450 El Prado, 619-234-9223. (Balboa Park)


San Diego Archaeological Center Features monthly archaeological-themed lectures, workshops, and family events on second Saturday of each month. Museum is dedicated to curating and sharing archaeological collections with public for educational, scientific, and cultural use. 16666 San Pasqual Valley Rd., 760-291-0370. (Escondido)

San Diego Automotive Museum “Economy of Motion” — continuing through Sunday, May 23 — tells story of fuel efficiency, automotive design of small cars. Exhibit features cars are efficient due to their size, and cars that are efficient due to their design. More than 80 automobiles and motorcycles from horseless carriages to future prototypes are included in the museum’s permanent collection. Find the museum near the Starlight Bowl. 2080 Pan Am Plaza, 619-231-2891. (Balboa Park)


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Easy Does It

Chef Frankie “the Bull” Terzoli believes in “big, bold dishes.”

The Big Easy

★★★ (Very Good)

127 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-294-3279, thebigeasyrestaurant.com.

HOURS: Tuesday–Friday 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., 5:00–10:00 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., 5:00–10:00 p.m. Sunday 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., Monday 7:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. (No dinner Sunday–Monday.)

PRICES: Dinner starters, soups, salads, $7–$17; entrées, $17–$26; desserts, $8–$12 (for two).

CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: Revisionist New Orleans cuisine, plus French and Southern dishes.

PICK HITS: Foie gras over crêpe Suzette; red beans and rice; gumbo; oysters Bienville; meat loaf. Good bets: Sunday supper live crawfish boil (when available) or shrimp boil; breakfast beignets, especially weekend bacon-stuffed beignets with maple syrup.

NEED TO KNOW: Alcohol license pending, but okay to BYOB (no corkage). No menus on website yet. Street parking. Zydeco Sunday supper with live music, crawfish or shrimp boils (call the day before to see if the live crawfish crawled in).

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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San Diego Reader April 29, 2010

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few kernels of rice mixed in (in place of the usual mound of steamed rice served on the side, to be added at will). “Don’t they eat bread in Louisiana?” asked Mark. “I wish I had some to sop up this gumbo.” It would indeed be nice if Big Easy served some sort of table bread, as most restaurants do. At Bull’s BBQ, the gumbo comes with divine cornbread muffins. Why not here?

The one traditional dish that slides way too far from tradition is the jambalaya. Jambalaya is a Louisiana version of paella — rice cooked with tomato, oil, full-flavored seasonings, and varied proteins (shrimp, poultry, sausage, etc.). The texture can range from soupy-loose to tomato-heavy to a moist pilaf texture (as at Magnolia Restaurant, and in my own kitchen). But this was the driest ever, devoid of tomato, served in a round, flat-topped heap tapped out from a mold. The top is red from a dusting of paprika and cayenne. Without tomato, it’s not really jambalaya, nor even marginally good. Tastes like something dire from Popeyes.

The most exciting appetizer isn’t from Louisiana but the chef’s own fevred imagination: perfectly seared duck foie gras is hilariously plated over a crépe Suzette with orange liqueur sauce and a scooplet of butter pecan ice cream. Outrageous! And fabulous, mesmerizing, seductive (pilie on those adjectives!), proving that under even the most sophisticated American palates remains a childhood yearning for dessert. We all went bonkers for it — duck-liver dessert.

As at most restaurants, entrées were a bit of a comedown. We didn’t try the Continental gourmet dishes (duck à l’orange, steak Diane, rack of lamb) but cleared to the Louisiana choices that we’d come for. Crawfish étouffée is a moister, tastier remake of the jambalaya — slightly sweet, muddin’ spicy, enjoyable, but again, revisionist. Typical étouffées include tomatoes as the main sauce ingredient; this one has none. Terzoli claims he eschews tomatoes because he doesn’t like canned tomato sauce, but that’s just silly: The étouffée recipe I copied from my friends in Eunice (on the Cajun prairie) calls for cooked-down canned tomatoes — which, like any Sicilian-American, Frankie grew up eating. (He could also use Pomi purée, which, like any Sicilian-American, Frankie grew up eating.)

The food tastes like a Sicilian-American version of paella — rice cooked with tomato, oil, full-flavored seasonings. The food terms, think of those play with free verse, you have to master its traditions. Reminds me of a lecture that then-famous poet and critic John Ciardi gave at my high school, sternly advising a group of crestfallen teenage poetesses that before you can successfully play with free verse, you need to master the classical rhymed verse forms, such as sonnets. In food terms, think of those screamingly harsh curry-mayonnaise chicken salads that ran rampant through sandwich shops in the early ’90s, an excusable attempt to incorporate exotic Indian flavor into a bland mom-dish. Underlying problem: In India, curry powder, when used at all, is always cooked into a dish, never flung raw onto anything.

At Atigdo, the problem was that only a couple of dishes (fried oysters and po’boys) had any recognizable taste of Louisiana, seeming more like a bunch of Louisiana’s signature ingredients assembled by somebody who’d never been there, with no fundamental comprehension of the cuisine. I brought home ample leftovers, reexamined them under bright light, reheat them over so gently, and retasted them several times each — and still, nothing but the po’ boy tasted like actual Creole or Cajun food.

I’ve got no objection to a talented chef getting creative with traditional recipes. That’s the signature of Susan Spicer, for instance, one of New Orleans’ most revered chefs. Cooking or eating the classics every day could become boring, no matter how delicious they are. But before you can play with free verse, you have to be able to knock out those sonnets.

Frankie Terzoli has cooked professionally in Lafayette and New Iberia. He’s got chops. Even if I don’t like all his revisions, he has sufficient background in the classics to have earned the freedom to play around. His Louisiana cooking may not be traditional, but however tweaked, nearly every dish carries the fundamental, vivid flavors of the City That Care Forgot and its surroundings. The food tastes like southern Louisiana, and mostly, it tastes good.
Double Cheapburger

“Don’t even think of bringing back any burgers.”
“You eating nuts and twigs again?”

Where are you?” says Carla. “You don’t want to know,” I say.

“Oh no. Not…?”

“Yes, I’m afraid so.”

“Not Mc…aaargh! Say the name.”

“Mc…Mc…Mc-D-d-d-d-d-...”

“McDonald’s. Say it!”

It feels better when I finally blurt it out. It also feels better
when I tell Carla how much I spent. Like, a dollar for coffee, a dollar for two pies, and a
dollar for a small fries. Plus Ann, the cute lady behind the counter, gave me a free refill
on the coffee.

And by Jiminy, that filled me up. Three
bucketloads.

But Carla has this thing about McDonald’s. “They’re ruining the planet!” she says.

“They should have been hauled up in Copenhagen. Think of how many miles of Amazon
jungle have been chopped down so farmers can grow cows to be killed for McDonald’s.
McDonald’s buys more beef than anyone in the world. And antibiotics and hormones are
stuffed down them in factory farms. We eat that!”

This is a cell-phone conversation. It’s around 8:30 at night, and I’m in the McDonald’s east of Paradise Hills — and I never go
to McDonald’s because I like to support the little guy rather than the big chains, and they
don’t come bigger than Big Mac’s. They’re 32,000 restaurants strong and turning even
the French into obese little burger-munchers. Heck, they’ve opened a McDonald’s in the
Louvre in Paris. Is nothing sacred?

“Look, 50 million Americans are obese,” says Carla, on the phone. She’s not letting go
of this one. “Only smoking kills more of us. “

“Carla, what are you reading from?”

really spells it out.”

Her voice grows wary.

“Why are you eating there?”

Good question. Actually, that’s why Carla’s fork-

Around 6:00 was the general idea. Meet — just meet — at McDonald’s. Except I got held
up. Two hours late, if I have to confess. Fig-

ured I’d better still come. Irony: I have a cell, he
doesn’t; he could still be waiting. As I
cought the 961 bus in the dark, the driver

‘course, my buddy wasn’t there. Dammit,
totally wasted evening. But I was definitely
hungry, and I figured I’d better stay close to
that stop. This big McDonald’s on Paradise
Valley Road is only 100 yards away. There’s,
like, two people inside. One guy drinking cof-
fee, surrounded by big floppy books. And

behind the counter, Ann. “What would you
like?” she asks.

I don’t even bother looking at burgers and
just order what look like total deals: a small
coffee, two pies for the price of one, and a
small pack of fries. A buck, a buck, a buck.
How can you beat that? No wonder they have
30,000 stores. I grab my stuff and head for a
table. First thing I see, looking ’round, is a
“McFact: ‘Some 4000 family members of crit-

ically ill children sleep in a Ronald McDonald
House somewhere in the world every night.’ ”

Hmm… They can’t be all bad.

The one guy and I get to talking. Rusty’s a
survivor of the marketing world’s downturn.
He’s decided to go into the health industry.

“That’s got to be expanding,” he says. He’s

studyng coding for medical billing. Oh, man.

“I come here because it’s peaceful at night,
and I like their double
cheeseburgers,” he says.

“They’re only $1.30. I don’t know why everybody
doesn’t love McDonald’s.”

Lord. How did I not spot
that buck-thirty burger?

Still, I’m getting a good buzz

chomping into my fries,

combining them with the
cherry pies. Sweet with salty.

The pie’s hot in its cardboard
box. Yes, it’s a sterile-

looking turnover of pastr

y and red gunk, but guess

what? It’s delish, ‘special-

ly with the coffee. Rusty sees
my cup’s empty. “You get

refills,” he says. So I get up

and take my cup to Ann. No
prob. She fills it for free.

Long as I’m up, might as

well check the menu.

Two girls come in. Bever-

ley and Brandy. I ask their
advice on which is the best
deal. “My favorite’s the

McDouble,” says Beverley.

“It’s like the double cheese-
burger but just one slab of
cheese, so you taste the

grilled meat better. And it’s

only a dollar.”

Dang. Another dollar
deal missed.

“I don’t eat red meat,” says Brandy. “So I

always get the McChicken. That’s a dollar,
too.”

Unbelievable, when you think about it. Of
course, things like quarter-pounders are $4,

$6 with fries and soda. But I’m full on three

bucks. Maybe we need big bad corporations

like Mr. Kro’s in hard times.

“I don’t even bother looking at burgers and

for any burgers from McDonald’s.”

“...You eating nuts and twigs again?”

“Not exactly. I ordered in a Domino’s dou-

ble pepperoni pizza with sausage and jala-

peteroni and olives and a side of chicken

wings.”

Sigh. Say what you will, what Carla’s fork-

out for her pizza would’ve fed us for a

week at Mickey D’s.

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RESTAURANT LISTINGS
A complete searchable list of over 1400 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.

 Allied Gardens
Brothers Family Restaurant $150 Waring Rd., Allied Gardens, 619-285-0880. All the staples: country-fried steak and eggs, pork chops with eggs, Grandma Jenn’s pancakes with ham, bacon, and sausage — even hefty beef or tuna or turkey sandwiches with soup. Inexpensive.

 Alpines
Fred’s Old Fashioned Burgers 2754 Alpine Bl., Alpine, 619-445-1264. You get a bang for your burger buck, from the junior burger to quarter-pounders and half-pounders to Fred’s three-quarter-pound “monster burger.” Even the Baja sandwich comes loaded with six slabs of bacon. Inexpensive.

 Baja
From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico. Cien Años Calle Jose Maria Velasco #1407, Tijuana, 664-634-3039. Mexican haute cuisine, with complex sauces based on Mexican ingredients including tropical fruits, nuts, and chili peppers. Treats: mushrooms steeped in beef marrow, crocodile-meat mini tacos, poole with crabmeat. Moderate.

 Happy Face Restaurant In Plaza Viva Tijuana (near Yellow Cab parking area), Tijuana. Breakfast (all day) includes chilaquiles with chips doused in cheese, a thin steak, frijoles, rice, chips, salsa, coffee, and a house salad. Inexpensive.

 Rica Torta Niños Héroes Avenida #8990, Tijuana, 664-885-8799. This café may have the best torta (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated carne asada, slices of ham, squares of cheese, chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado. Inexpensive.

 Salón Azteca Rosarito Beach Hotel (south end of Blvd. Benito Juárez), Rosarito, 661-632-1111. This tábado old hotel’s all-you-can-eat Sunday brunch buffet offers a great excuse to check out the gorgeous architecture and meet other travelers in town. Somewhat expensive for the area.

 Banker’s Hill
Hexagon 495 Laurel St., Banker’s Hill, 619-236-0467. This urban spin-off of Rancho Bernardo’s French Market grille offers provincial “bourgeois cuisine” (snails, frog legs, bouillabaisse) nearly identical to that of the mother ship — including the inconsistent nightly quality. Moderate to expensive.

 Hob Nob Hill 2271 First Ave., Banker’s Hill, 619-239-8176. All-day breakfasts and sandwiches, and at dinner, while there are a la carte choices, affordable three-course prix fixe dinners (with a regular entrée for each day of the week, Mom style) are the order of the day. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

 Bay Park
Bay Park Fish Company 4121 Ashston St., Bay Park, 619-236-3474. Go big (surf ‘n’ turf can cost you thirty-plus) or small: a filling seafood stew or the panko-crusted halibut tacos go for $10. Lunch, dinner daily. Inexpensive to expensive.

 Borrego Springs
Olde Homestead Fudge Co. 590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs, 760-767-7782. The chocolate walnut fudge is delicious, but the masterpiece when in season is the Date Shake — a cold gauqff that’s ambrosial on a hot afternoon. Inexpensive.

 Pabelló’s of the Desert 590 Palm Canyon Dr., Borrego Springs, 760-767-5753. The most authentic dishes come from the Specialties section of the menu, including a good pork in green chile sauce, enchiladas, and chilaquiles. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Mother’s Day Brunch
Sunday, May 9, 2010
10 am to 2 pm (Seatings on the hour)
Elegant Torreyanna Grille Buffet
Assorted Salads • Freshly Made Sushi Rolls • Omelet Station
Eggs Florentine • French Toast with Pineapple-Maple Glaze
Breakfast Sausage • Smoked Bacon
Herb-Crusted Halibut Colbert-Dijonnaise
Citrus Grilled Chicken–Ancho Chile Cream
Seasonal Vegetables • Caviar Rice • Mashed Potatoes
California Rolls • Spicy Tuna Rolls • Vegetable Rolls
Philadelphia Rolls • Wasabi • Shoyu • Pickled Ginger
Carving Station
Pepper Roasted Prime Rib of Beef • Roasted Leg of Lamb
Assorted Pastries
Chocolate Waffle Station
Vanilla Ice Cream • Fresh Berries
Cheesecake • Chocolate Mousse Cake • Key Lime Brûlée • Chocolate Eclairs
White Chocolate Bread Pudding • Carrot Cake • Tiramisu
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Adults $55 • Children (5-12) $17.95 • Children 4 and under are free
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Beach House
princes, not Italian haute cuisine — think Medici (pastas) to very expensive. Tasting dinner a relative bargain, but substitute) or Shelton’s jerk turkey in fig sauce are usually the daily specials, like traditional SoCal-Mexican dish and jita when you can order just about any modern Mex, but who gives a flyin’ fat. Carlsbad, 760-729-0903. It’s not upscale end brunch moderate, dinner moderate — burgers, steak, unfussy eggs. Week-101, Cardiff, 760-753-1321. Branch of 1967, Carmel Valley, 858-783-7755. Organic grocery chain with pre- pared foods to go. Best deals at the lunch case are usually the daily specials, like vegan setan stew (a low-fat meat sub- stitute) or Shelton’s jerk turkey in fig sauce. Inexpensive to moderate.

**Beach House**

4-course meal, not Italian haute cuisine — think Medici entrées. Inexpensive. Inexpensive. Inexpensive.

**Spicis Thai Café**

310 Valley Center Dr., Carmel Valley, 858-259-0899. Additional locations in Mira Mesa and Rancho Bernardo. Not only elegant, but the food contains no MSG and very little fat. The seafood dishes rate highly. Among other specialties are, follow frog leg. Inexpensive to moderate.

**Asia Café**

670 Market St., Chollas View, 619-527-1917. Rare Laotian restaurant’s dishes include the famous “Green” curry (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Inexpensive.

**Chula Vista**

The Family House of Pancakes 362 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-5133. Famous for Grandma’s buckwheat pancakes, banana-pecan pancakes, and rolled pancakes. Other good bets: deluxe burger with french fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Inexpensive; Miguel’s Cocina 970 Eastlake Park- way, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Additional locations in Coronado and Point Loma. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the shellfish-stuffed tortilla conchon (shrimp en chiladas, lobster burritos) are luscious.

**Coronado**

Bino’s European Coffees and Cripes 1120 Adella Ave., Coronado, 619-522-0612. House-made breads and croissants and crunchy imaginative sandwiches like the Brie Fantasy (Brie, chicken, roasted peppers). Bino’s Austrian wife makes great Viennese-style coffee. Inexpensive.

**City Heights**

Asmara Eritrean Restaurant 4115 University Ave., City Heights, 619-677-3999. Similar to Ethiopian food, with a long, interesting menu, including a fine three-meal combo platter, lunch specials. Seasoned to your spec- ifications “hot” means “hot!” Cash only. Inexpensive.

**College Area**

D.Z. Akin’s 6930 Alvarado Rd., College Area, 619-265-0218. A full range of European-Jewish specialties includ- ed lamb, grass-fed cattle. Inexpensive, if you taste sweeter, and comes only from Little Italy. Their Tallgrass beef is juicy, with a long, interesting menu, includ- ing a fine three-meal combo platter, lunch specials. Seasoned to your spec- ifications “hot” means “hot!” Cash only. Inexpensive.

**Chollas View**

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Asia Café 4710 Market St., Chollas View, 619-527-1917. Rare Laotian restaurant’s dishes include the fa- mous “Green” curry (chicken salad with hot peppers, lemon grass, and sticky rice). Inexpensive.

**Chula Vista**

The Family House of Pancakes 362 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-5133. Famous for Grandma’s buck- wheat pancakes, banana-pecan pan- cakes, and rolled pancakes. Other good bets: deluxe burger with french fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Inexpensive; Miguel’s Cocina 970 Eastlake Park- way, Chula Vista, 619-656-2822. Additional locations in Coronado and Point Loma. Soups are built on fine stocks, salads can be vibrant, and seafood is treated so tenderly that the shellfish-stuffed tortilla conchon (shrimp en chiladas, lobster burritos) are luscious.

**City Heights**

Asmara Eritrean Restaurant 4115 University Ave., City Heights, 619-677-3999. Similar to Ethiopian food, with a long, interesting menu, including a fine three-meal combo platter, lunch specials. Seasoned to your spec- ifications “hot” means “hot!” Cash only. Inexpensive.

**College Area**

D.Z. Akin’s 6930 Alvarado Rd., College Area, 619-265-0218. A full range of European-Jewish specialties includ- ed lamb, grass-fed cattle. Inexpensive, if you taste sweeter, and comes only from Little Italy. Their Tallgrass beef is juicy, with a long, interesting menu, includ- ing a fine three-meal combo platter, lunch specials. Seasoned to your spec- ifications “hot” means “hot!” Cash only. Inexpensive.

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Croce's 802 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-233-4355. Live music comes free with dinner. Seasonal, creative menu, but simple dishes are best here, like the shrimp carbonara fettuccine in white garlic cream sauce. Fun people-watching from window tables. Expensive.

Jsix 616 St., Downtown, 619-331-8744. The chef's charcuterie — sausage, cured beef, and smoked ham — is impossible to pass up. Waitstaff talks up delicious seafood, but the beef dishes are better — rib eye and Angus short ribs, especially. Gracing meals moderate to expensive, full dinners very expensive.

Maryjane's Coffee Shop Hard Rock Hotel, 2007 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-764-6950. Back to the '50s with frozen peas and instant-tasting mash. The meaty meat loaf may improve on Mom's, but the chicken pot pie is barely better than Morton's. Moderate.

Ocean Room and Lounge 630 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-501-6550. Pleasant dishes include mussels marinière, Cajun seafood pasta, seafood pan roast, and Fanny Bay oysters on the half-shell. Or try the oyster shooters. Expensive (but less than average for the neighborhood).

Operacaffe 835 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-234-6538. True Tuscan cuisine, not austere but simple and sensual, priced for a song — with salads to size up, unique Florentine home dishes, and sublime seasonal specials. This one's for us, not conventioners. Low-moderate.

Organic to Go 1143 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-236-0998. Lunch for most is a lunge at the salad bar, but they make a cheddar albacore tuna melt, a toasted meat loaf sandwich, and a vegan Thai-style veggie wrap. Other interesting dishes include mango-chutney-curry chicken sandwich salad. Inexpensive.

Osteria Panevino 722 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-595-7959. The glory days have passed, but starters (mozzarella campagnola, frito misto) still shine, and pastas can be excellent. Osso buco with marrow is best entrée. Try the lemon tart, leave the cannoli. Expensive on up.

Roy's Marriott Hotel, 333 W. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-236-7657. Also 8670 Genesee Ave., La Jolla, 858-455-1616. Our outpost of top Hawaiian chef Roy Yamaguchi's ever-expanding chain, serving Pacific Rim fusion and sushi on a daily changing, seafood-oriented menu. End with the signature chocolate soufflé. Very expensive.

Royal India 329 Market St., Downtown, 619-269-9999. Standard North Indian Sikh menu. The lunch buffet costs a bit more than rock bottom, but is a decent deal if you care about flavor — none of the dishes have that sludgy sammarts that make cheap buffets. Moderate to expensive.

Sadaf 828 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-338-0008. Also 613 Pearl St., La Jolla, 858-551-0843. Good Persian food, better at the more adult-oriented I.J. branch. Try skewers of chicken or ground filet mignon with rice or salad, or alfalo polo (rice, dried cherries, and chicken). Inexpensive to moderate.

Suite & Tender Hotel St, 1047 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-515-3003. Chef Christopher Lee officially presides — phoning it in from Manhattan. Cocktails are more creative than the corporate Vegas-created “pick hits” menu. Fine raw bar and surf ‘n turf combos won't rock your world. Expensive.

Tabule 355 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-238-0048. Offshoot of popular Tunisian restaurant offers eclectic, Mexican-based global fusion including fine steaks, duck, seafood, in unexpected preparations — with glimpses of the owner’s native Persia and Southeast Asia. Long menu is made for play, no boredom. Low-moderate to expensive.

Toscana Café and Wine Bar 238 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-231-5788. This dubby bistro/coffee/wine place offers reasonable breakfasts with organic coffees, lunch specials, and elegant happy-hour specials on bites, wines, and local beers. Inexpensive to moderate.

Vela 1 Park Boulevard (at Harbor Drive), Downtown, 619-564-3333. “Farm to fork” local-owned dinners include surprise international luxury ingredients, and first week of the month offers a bargain prix fixe exploring a national cuisine. Vibrant starters and indulgent desserts could make a great grazing meal with a view. Expensive, but not very.

The Westgate Room Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Ave., Downtown, 619-238-1818. New, less-formal dining room brings air and modernity to a formerly stuffy venue. Skip the old menu classics; French chef Fabrice Hardel uses modern techniques to create thrilling, fresh seafood dishes with pleasure-value well beyond their price. Upper-moderate to very expensive.

East Village

La Casita 1247 C St., East Village, 619-331-0044. Some of the best chorizo con huevos (spicy pork sausage with eggs) in town. Most delicious is watching Anglo city-dwellers trying to love the house-made menudo (tripe soup). Inexpensive.

J. Wok 744 Market St., East Village, 619-231-1888. Brave attempt to fuse Asian and American foods. Eat on the sidewalk or inside under The Tiger (a great mural by local artist Mark Richmond). Try the “Modern Mix” side of the menu — with, say Korean BBQ getting the Philadelphia treatment — or the “Traditional” side, with standards like pad thai. Open daily, lunch till late. Inexpensive.

Lotus Thai 906 Market St., East Village, 619-395-0113. Also 3561 Sixth

Mother's Day Breakfast Special Eggs Benedict & Mimosa

Served with Home Fried Potatoes, Bagel & Cream Cheese

Free-Flowing Champagne & Mimosas!

$14.95 plus tax

Served all day

Voted “Best Ethnic Restaurant in 2009” by Union-Tribune Readers’ Poll & One of the Top 3 Best Bites

Complimentary Carnation for Mom

while supplies last.

April 22-May 8

Nuevo León
Festival

come and try the regional specialties of Nuevo León.

call for info & reservations.

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2304 San Diego Ave., Old Town
Phone: (619) 220-0692
www.elagave.com

Champagne & Mimosas!

Free-Flowing

San Diego Reader April 24, 2010

79
Hacienda Casa Blanca 780 N. Johnson Ave., El Cajon, 619-422-9827. Old California-style family-friendly Mexican atmosphere and food, including live mariachi music and tequila and chilean sauces. Small and huge burritos. Inexpensive to moderate.

Hambrunni Family Restaurant 401 W. Main St., El Cajon, 619-401-3200. This Chaldean eatery in Iraq-rich El Cajon offers exquisite like stuffed peppers, lamb shanks, and the cuisine, including Sloppy Joes, and the half-pound shrimp cheese basket, and 11 types of burger (including salmon). Open early to midday, daily.

Hong Kong Kong Restaurant 3871 Fourth St., Hillcrest, 619-295-2910. Very old-school Chinese restaurant, this place has been serving the same family for over 40 years. Limited menu, but they do have some good dim sum.

Kazumi Sushi 3975 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-4074. Kazumi's simple and elegant dining rooms are a welcome change from the more hectic oceanfront places.

Kous Kous Moroccan Bistro 3940 Fourth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-5560. Witty staff serve you like diners in a classic restaurant setting. Great shrimp and chicken, fritters, and drinks. The menu is extensive and includes some vegetarian options.

Kram's Restaurant 711 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-294-2800. This is a classic San Diego-style restaurant, known for its great burgers and friendly atmosphere.

La Brea Bistro 111 W. Broadway, Hillcrest, 619-295-2002. This is a very popular restaurant in Hillcrest, known for its great cocktails and live music.

Lucky Belly 4284 30th St., Hillcrest, 619-295-2002. Lucky Belly is a great spot for lunch, with a focus on sandwiches and salads.

Mama Mia 5041 Blackhawk Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 619-582-4100. Mama Mia is a cozy Italian restaurant, known for its great pasta dishes and friendly service.

Mama Roma 3871 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-295-4074. Mama Roma is a classic Italian restaurant, known for its great pizza and pasta dishes.


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come with a bowl of small accompaniment dishes. Adventurous? Go for the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak. Inexpensive.

Adobe el Restaurante
9353 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., La Jolla, 858-551-5252. Gorgeous interior, large, active seasonal dishes with local produce and something for every taste. Moderate.

Bull and Bear Bar and Grill

La Jolla Rancheria
7041 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla, 858-459-5877. When local spiny lobsters are in season (typically from late October to about February), here's one place that does them right. The juicy clams come with two melt-buttered dill tips, tart coleslaw, and comforting mashed potatoes. Moderate.

Roppongi
875 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-351-5137. Gourmet interior, large, heated street patio, Euro-Asian fusion menu with tapas and sushi as well as entrees. The treats of any size add up to expensive.

The Shores Restaurant
8110 Camino del Oro, La Jolla, 858-458-0686. The hotel restaurant with close-up sea views serves “Neighborhood American Cuisine” with a fun wine list. Moderate to high, with weekendin- expensive happy-hours bites 4 to 6pm.

Sky Room
La Valencia Hotel, 1332 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-551-3744. After renovation in 2007, Sky Room is now modern, sleek, and quietly chic, with a simplified menu of California cuisine and slightly lower (still steep) prices. The romantic, panoramic view remains, of course. Expensive.

La Taverna
927 Silverado St., La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Italian home-style, including chef-owner Mary Ann Vitalle’s house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage. If the feather-light potato gnocchi is on special, just say “yes.” Moderate.

Himalayan Cuisine
7918 El Camino Real, La Jolla, 858-461-2503. Nepalese-Indian-Tibetan food, ranging from high-culture exotic to steam-table buffet clichés — but subtly different from standard Punjabi renditions. Worth the detour. Tibetan momos (steamed dumplings) resemble fine dim sum, stuffed with beautifully seasoned lean lamb or gentler greens. Also: Nepalese samosas. Inexpensive.

Jitters Coffee
2801 La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa, 619-460-4800. This small corner café is a local morning favorite. Hawai’i-inspired waffles include macadamias, chocolate, banana syrup, whipped cream, but “plain” standards like the breakfast burrito are plain good. Lunches offer homemade soups, sandwiches, and salads. Inexpensive.

Lemon Grove
Charley’s Famous Hamburgers
2821 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-460-2650. An old red-white and blue gas station that looks like a café. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebabs. Inexpensive.

La Especial Norte
604 N. Coast Hwy. 101, La Jolla, 760-753-9228. Standard but generous breakfast and lunch fare in an old-time station that looks like a café. The palm tree remains, of course. Expensive.

Pappalecco
1602 State St., Little Italy, 619-288-4590. Copy of a café in the Mission District. San Diego’s answer to Authentic Mexican cuisine. A few secret dishes. Adventurous? Go for the beans (from Pete’s Meat, up the block) are thick and hearty. Moderate.

Little Italy
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Logan Heights
La Fachada
20 25th St., Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. Open until 3am (and 24 hours on weekends), this restaurant serves both Mexican and Anglo food. Good Western smothered breakfast, great Mexican seafood soups, and fun outdoor eating evenings until 11 pm. Inexpensive.

Patty’s Fishland
1789 National Ave., Logan Heights, 619-239-3085. The special fish blues — in drinks, salads, and combos like pico de gallo (rooster’s beak) with fresh-sliced fish and raw veggies (jicama, cucumber dusted with cayenne pepper). Also meat sandwiches, shrimp tostadas, hot dogs. Inexpensive.

Mira Mesa
Gateway to India
5260 Black Mountain Rd., Mira Mesa, 858-566-5522. Friday or Saturday, it’s crowded with Indian families coming for the all-you-can-eat buffet of Punjabi and Gu-
What the Chef Eats by Pamela Hunt-Cloyd

FILET A LA RIOJANA
By Chef Hugo Arroyo
Executive Chef, Puerto la Boca
(WITH ROBERTA COTTA & CARISSA SANCHEZ)

I have been a chef since 1981. A good friend of mine was a chef, and he opened a French restaurant in Tucuman, Argentina. He taught me how to cook delicious food, and I fell in love with the art. I continued to learn more through culinary classes, and that began my career. I came to the U.S. in 2004 and was brought here from Puerto la Boca. They chose me and told me about the restaurant they wanted to open. I have been cooking for them ever since. I grew up in Tucuman. It’s a very small town with many people. The Argentinean Declaration of Independence was signed in Tucuman in 1816, and the town is dedicated to my country’s independence from Spain. No one was a chef in my family, but we had to eat somehow. Both my mother and father cooked simple meals, and I liked to learn and help out. I’ve always liked to cook, even as a kid. In Argentina, we make homemade comfort food with a faint Southern accent, in the French style — pâté, ratatouille, café’s café — in a homey atmosphere. Start off with escargots or mussels and hope that the soup du jour is gingered cream of carrot. Fine desert pastries and cheese plate. Moderate to expensive.

Great Moon Buffet

Kono’s
784 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-223-1840. Chow down on a patio at this inside/outside cafe, the prototypical California surfer hangout. Tourists and locals alike flock here for generous breakfasts and burgers. Inexpensive.

World Famous
711 Pacific Beach Dr., Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. Right on the boardwalk with sea view, the prime rib, surf ‘n’ turf, and tournedos are fine. To beat the big prices, try the beach burger or fried red snapper. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive.

Ocean Beach

Roots
2041 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-222-2800. Tiny vegan-organic eatery offers crunchy wraps like the Thai Peanut and the Artichoke hearts, feta cheese. Interesting sandwiches include portobellos mushroom with tomato and provolone on ciabatta or the Avo (avocado, onion, and tomato). Inexpensive to moderate.

Sapporo Japanese Restaurant
3949 Newport Ave. Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. Lunchtime specials give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo like chicken teriyaki and California rolls with a miso soup, salad, and a combo like chicken teriyaki and California rolls. Organic in Oide, including Cajun chicken for lunch and breakfasts of tofu/spinach scramble and pan perdu (to us peasants that’s French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Inexpensive.
What the Chef Eats

for our good steak.

INGREDIENTS
Serves 1–2
2 strips bacon
2 filet mignon steaks (about 1½–2” thick)
2 T butter
2 eggs
Salt and pepper to taste
2 T olive oil
½ onion, cut into thin slices
½ bell pepper, cut into thin strips
½ cup tomato sauce

HOW TO DO IT
Prepare a fire in a charcoal or gas grill. Wrap a strip of bacon around each steak, securing it with a toothpick or kitchen twine. Grill the steaks for about 8 minutes per side (5 minutes per side for rare). Set steaks aside to rest for at least 10 minutes.

Set an 8-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat and add 2 tablespoons of butter to the pan. When the butter is foamy, carefully crack 2 eggs into the skillet and season lightly with salt and pepper. Reduce the heat to medium-low, cover, and cook until the whites are firm, 2 to 2½ minutes. Remove pan from hot burner.

In another skillet, heat olive oil over medium heat and add the onions and bell peppers and cook until the onions are translucent. Then add the tomato sauce, green peas, and white wine.

Top the filets with “Riojana” sauce, and place a fried egg on top of each. I recommend serving this dish with Spanish potatoes.

To get other recipes from local chefs, go to sdreader.com.

Scripps Ranch
Chez Nous Gourmet Deli-Café
9821 Carroll Canyon Rd., Scripps Ranch, 858-566-4766. Their roast beef with garlic-garlic and Dijon sandwich, their spicy chicken melt, or the leg of lamb they roast each day to make a juicy lamb sandwich — all original. Inexpensive.

Solana Beach
Pamplemousse Grille
314 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. Handsome bistro where chef-owner Jeffrey Straus schmoozes with guests and dishes up hearty, often salty French-California comfort fare and fine-quality grilled meats with local veggies. Superly, pricey wine list. Very expensive.

South Park
Vagabond
2510 30th St., South Park, 619-235-1035. Eclectic bistro fare, French-based but with ever-changing global menu. Don’t miss the moules fricot, the deep-flavored Peruvian acaí carne meat stew. Noisy when full. Moderate.

Southwest
Elaine’s Coffee Shoppe
1212 S. Midway Blvd., Southcrest, 619-284-6535. A bright, 70s-style breakfast all-day spot where long-time owner Su Cha Yang also caters to vegetable, Muslim, and Korean customers. Try the ham, bacon, mushroom “hunter” omelet, or full up on the pork chop plate. Inexpensive.

Rancho Santa Fe
Mille Fleurs
6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-736-3888. The daily changing menu sports first-rate modern French/Fusion cuisine by chef Martin Woesle. The menu’s often most exciting on weekdays, when chefs have time to stretch, but more luxurious dishes appear on weekends. New “bistro menu” of casual French cuisine and weekend three-course prix fixe offer some affordable choices. Otherwise expensive.

Ramona
Kountry Kitchen Ramona
826 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-3200. They still open at 9am for the farmers. Try the Italian Sausage breakfast, a sausage with a rich, sharp flavor, with eggs and hash browns. Or the Cowboy Country Special, a buttermilk short stack with eggs and sausage or bacon. Inexpensive.

Rancho Bernardo
Pearl Chinese Cuisine
1166 Avenida Pl., Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. Authentic Hong Kong cuisine, beautiful setting. Daytime dim sum includes irresistible Shaobing soup dumplings. Dinners range from folk to “gold cup” dishes. Try the sea bass with pine nuts. Moderate, with some expensive specialties.

Point Loma
Tender Greens
2400 Historic De- catur Rd., Point Loma, 619-226-6254. This “healthy food” chain features great soups, desserts, and local, organic produce served cafeteria style with or without mesquite-grilled natural beef, free-range chicken, or local guava salads or cababba sandwiches. Inexpensive.

San Diego
Deli Mama’s Bakery and Lebanese Café
1328 39th St., Southcrest, 619-284-6535. They’re famous for their omelets, all 19 of them, from the Just Say Cheese (with Swiss, jack, cheddar, or American) to the Factory Omelette (a build-your-own up to four meats, veggies, or cheeses). Inexpensive.

 remake}

fontina cheese omelet and eggs Benedict with non-Canadian bacon, and the indulgent blueberry buttermilk pancakes. Inexpensive.

Panama Jack's
2512 Jamacha Rd., University City, 619-660-6100. Longstanding soul food restaurant, serving until 11am. Try gray-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, and rice, or Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Inexpensive.

University City
Café Japengo
8660 University Center Lane, University City, 858-430-3355. Chic scene where men with Benettys and glam glads nibble above-average sushi and Asian fusion, especially on jam-packed Thursday nights. Best bet: grab appetizers and creative party rolls. No reservations for sushi bar, so come early. Very expensive.

University Heights
Brians’ American Eatery
1431 Washington St., University Heights, 619-296-8268. Open all night on weekends, and late night is a scene. But for many, breakfast is the thing. Charbroiled top sirloin with eggs and potatoes is a Saturday or for lunch specials. Some restrictions.

Valencia Park
Huffman’s Bar-B-Que

Washington St., University Heights, 619-297-7888. The round Lebanese oven cooks flat bread (la’aj) that goes with baba ganoush (eggplant dip) and foul madamin (fava and garbanzo stew). Must-haves include beef shawarma wrap, falafel wrap, and savory meat pie. Inexpensive.

$5 off Mexican cuisine
Any check over $25. Some restrictions.

Casa Machado
College Area
6590 El Cajon Blvd., 619-484-3667
Montgomery Field: 3750 John J. Montgomery Dr. 858-292-4716
Expires 5-20-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free burned, lunch or dinner
With purchase of equal or greater value and two drinks. Excludes manager & window specials. Some restrictions. Max $5 value.

ChickeNest
La Mesa, 7100 Parkway Dr, 619-589-0088
Expires 5-20-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Italian entree
With purchase of an entre of equal or greater value & 2 beverages. Not valid with reservations. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per party. Only good at Lemon Grove location. Dine-in only.

Boll Weevil
Lemon Grove, 6966 Federal Blvd, 619-589-6966
Expires 5-20-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free fremozen yogurt
Buy any yogurt for $2.50 or more and get a free yogurt valued up to $2.50. Some restrictions.

YoYo’s Frozen Yogurt
El Cajon, 2620 Jamacha Rd, 619-660-7362
Expires 5-20-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free carryout order
Any check over $25. Some restrictions.

Café Japengo
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Reader time out of her suddenly
Wall of Sound. Dee Dee took
ing through whirlwind re-
and guitars soar-
ate over drums
sweetly insinu-
voices coo and
circa 1964:
A half hour or

Dum Dum
the band name
released the
friends in a studio, and
and occasionally some
around in your bins?
The Talk Talk reference
unintentional, a coinci-
dence of paying homage to
Iggy Pop (the song "Dum
Boys") and the Vaselines
[their album Dum-Dum].
You’ve worked the music
scenes in San Diego and Los
Angeles. Do you prefer one
to the other?
I was happy to remove
myself from any local scene.
I don’t want to make music
within that context, and
DDG started as a bedroom
project — it didn’t matter
where that was.
Of all the instruments you
play, which one do you enjoy
the most? Which one are you
best at?
I’m out of practice on the
drums, but I am certainly
better at them than the gui-
tar, although that is my
primary focus at this point.
Producer Richard Gottehrer
[Link Wray, Blondie, the
Raveonettes] gives you a link to
the music that inspires you.
How did you get him involved
in the project?
Working with him was an
unbelievable and surreal
experience. Sub Pop basically
cold-called him, gave him the
backstory, and we all freaked
out when he was interested.
He really helped define each
instrument and paid special
attention to the vocals.
You dedicated this album
to your mother and put her on
the record’s cover. What were
her thoughts on the finished
project? Was she always sup-
portive of your music?
She maybe doesn’t under-
stand the noise aspect of
DDG, but she’s a proud sup-
port of your music?

Evil Empire “Kim Fowley
is seeking groups, solo
artists, composers, and lyri-
cists who dream of interna-
tional stardom,” read the
large display ads running in
the Reader circa late 1980.
Several photos of the man
behind jailbait rockers the
Runaways accompanied each
ad, including one of him
with Jimmy Page, along with
a request for cassettes, bios,
photos, and “a summary of
your career goals.”

Thirty-eight years old at
the time, Fowley (whose half-
brother is San Diego County
Treasurer Dan McAllister)
was considering a permanent
move from L.A. to San Diego
and had already been scout-
ing the city for his next all-
girl band for nearly a year.
His interest was first piqued
by locals the Dinettes,
who — á la Josie and the
Pussycats — had a black girl
in the group, guitarist Joyce
Rooks (at least for a while in
’79). Fowley booked the
Dinette’s for his Battle of the
Girl Bands at the Coo Coo’s
Nest in Costa Mesa, express-
ing interest in signing them
to some unspecified label or
rep firm. However, that
band’s constant lineup shifts
and an aggressive fast-talking
manager named Gene King
led Fowley to instead pine for
local Girl Talk singer Lauralei
Combs (though they never
signed a deal).

“I spent a good portion of
my formative years in San
Diego,” he told local Kicks
magazine in November of
1980. “The kind of music I’m
producing now, most of it
sells and is released outside
of the continental United States.
I can record records in, let’s
say, San Diego, and get them
to all over the world without
having my acts go through
the psychological rape of playing
the horrible L.A. clubs.…
Right now, if you’re a San
Diego band and want to have
an American record out, you
have to move to New York,
L.A., or Nashville and start all
over again at the bottom.”

For Fowley’s local talent
search, he said, “I’m looking
for people to work with who,
in the past, have held back
selling themselves to the San
Diego rock community, either
because they don’t think there
is a rock community in San
Diego or because they have
bigger ambitions than being
the most popular thing from
National City to Leucadia.”

“It’s necessary for a band
to have charisma, and it’s
necessary for a band to have a
Kim Fowley in there some-
place. The behind-the-scenes
people are as much a part of
rock ‘n’ roll as the guys
onstage.… Kim Fowley is a
necessary evil.”

Fowley — colorfully por-
trayed by Michael Shannon in
the new Runaways movie —
ultimately opted to maintain
his evil empire near L.A.
— Jay Allen Sanford

David’s Weird World
“I’m kinda on rock ‘n’ roll
probation,” says David Buck,
of semi-defunct San Diego
band the Homeless Sexuals,
which at press time was
scheduled to reunite its 2005
lineup on April 23 at the
Ruby Room in Hillcrest.

“If I break any equip-
ment, the other guys will quit
again. I do understand their
concerns. You work on songs,
practice for years, and then
onstage the singer runs
around naked, smacking his
wiener on the cymbals… I

(continued on page 86)
Due to internal band strife, most of which Buck admits causing, a sophomore album by the Homeless Sexuals remains unreleased.

“I’m very shy and polite the other 99 percent of the time. I’m really not sure why I change onstage. I thought I was insane my whole life, and I definitely don’t act normal. I even checked myself into anger-management classes and went to a head doctor. She told me I was just over stressed and pretty much told me to get a divorce.

“But I convinced her to give me Paxil.”

Local blogger Rosey Bystrak at sddialedin.com says, “Anytime the Homeless Sexuals play is pretty nuts, but the first time I saw them at the Zombie Lounge, a chick in the opening band peed on Dave Buck. Allegedly. I was at the bar getting a drink, and I kicked myself because I always miss the good stuff.”

— Jay Allen Sanford

Record-Release Roundup

The Silent Comedy will throw an April 29 shindig at El Dorado to celebrate their new album Common Faults. “Last time we hosted a party there, we surprised everyone with an impromptu acoustic performance,” says singer-bassist Joshua Zimmerman, who fronts the band with brother Jeremiah. “This time, there may be a music video debut and a few other surprises.”

Also new this week is Underpowered and Overdriven, the debut full-length from Ristband. “The idea behind the title comes from the guts of an old guitar amp,” says front man Dave Gladish. “Little vacuum tubes that get pushed well past their intended design limits to perform at peak level. The cover art is an adaptation of an old RCA tube box.”

Circa Now launches Hotter Than a Pistol, produced by Alan Sanderson (Rolling Stones, Weezer), with a May 8 rooftop gig at downtown’s 10th Avenue Theatre. The show will also include Scarlet Symphony, DJs Artistic and Morgan Young, video art from Avisious, and a Jennifer Grace fashion show.

On May 15, Scottish singer-songwriter Colin Clyne debuts Doricana (mixing Scottish Doric dialect with Americana) at Hensley’s Flying Elephant in Carlsbad, where Skelpin and Cathryn Beeks will also perform. “Flogging Molly’s Matt Hensley performs on my record and will make a guest appearance,” says Clyne, “and my good friend and bagpipe player Robert Burns will pipe us onto stage.” Clyne’s album was also coproduced by Alan Sanderson.

Western crooner John Meeks spills Old Blood at the Casbah on May 21, with the Donkeys also on the bill. The album on Loud and Clear Records includes local luminaries Pall Jenkins and Jimmy LaVelle.

May 22 sees the release of Living on the Rightside by country-gospel group Rightside, fronted by singer-songwriter Tom Smerk (whose solo album For the Faithful is slated for an October release). Other locals with spankin’-new offerings include electrorockers White Apple Tree (Velvet Mustache), heavy headbangers As I Lay Dying (The Powerless Rise), Rafter (Animal Feelings), Ratt (Infestation), C-Money (Family Business), Jefferson Jay (Yellow), Republic of Letters (The Painted Hour EP), Shaun T. Morgan, Destruco Bunny, Tan Sister Radio, Holding Air Hostage, the Hardway, and Emerson.

More new releases are due in May from rapper Jimmy Powers (Cali-Foreigner), retro-rockers Privatized Air, pop-tastic Sayvinyl, the road addicts of the Suicide Chords, metalheads Bitter Frost, and an instrumental album from the Taxi Taylor Band. Also, new EPs from the Lennon-esque Hargo (The Faint Glow), and indie rockers the Midwinters, featuring Paul Donovan (Dryye) and Josh Hagquist (Beautiful Mistake), who also happen to be brothers-in-law.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Contributors

David Stampone, Bart Mendoza, William Cram, Ken Leighton, Larry Harmon, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Hammon, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone
April 30: Free show with Sight Unscene, Just Like Jenna, The Inheritance, and Young Goodman

May 8: Too Short  •  May 14: Mack 10 WC & Glasses Malone
May 29: Kaskade  •  June 3: Hole

June 4: Enrique Bunbury  •  June 10: Korn  •  June 26: Brenton Wood & the Delphonics

4thandbevents.com • For tickets call 619-231-4343

Featuring Scott Ian of Anthrax, Meatloaf’s daughter Pearl, and members of the Henry Rollins Band

Iron Maidens (all-female tribute to Iron Maiden)
Monsters of Rock
Sunday Girl
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SPEND AN UNBELIEVABLE NIGHT

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PETER FRAMPTON
OF UNFORGETTABLE MUSIC

SATURDAY, JULY 10TH

HUEY LEWIS AND THE NEWS
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH

EARTH, WIND & FIRE
BEYOND THE ELEMENTS TOUR 2010
SUNDAY, MAY 16TH

SEASON GRAND OPENING

Gilberto Santa Rosa & Oscar D’León – 5/8
Heart – 5/28
Nas & Damian “Jr. Gong” Marley – 5/30
Gladys Knight & Smokey Robinson – 7/17
Ziggy Marley – 7/24
B.B. King & Buddy Guy – 8/14
Gary Allan – 9/10
Willie Nelson – 9/26

Entertainers subject to change or cancellation. Must be 21 or older to gamble and attend concerts. Know When To Stop Before You Start® Gambling Problem? Call 1-800-522-4700. Owned by the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians. Managed by HCA, LLC. ©2010, Harrah’s License Company, LLC.
San Diego will play two shows at Anthology after playing nice at Tin Can Ale House and clop into Casbah Sunday night behind the bill, btfw, ya get Lanterns, Jehovahs Fitness, Derrida, the Preteens, Bicycle Voice (SLC), teamAWESOME!, Unknown Motive, and the Buckshoots—all four food groups and dessert for eight bucks. Happy birthday to me. (Yes, it is)…. So much kewl stuff to choose from Saturday night, toss a lawn dart: Radio Room delivers Drag the River’s Chad Price and Two Cow Garage’s Micah Schnabel. Coda’s heavy-duty garage-rock trio Heartless Bastards hit Casbah. Superducker Eddie Spaghetti serves up a set of barroom rock at Brick by Brick… D.C. power-poppers Title Track (ex-Q and Not U) play Soda Bar with Wild Weekender Maren Parusel. Ocala hardcore: A Day to Remember sock it to Soma…and SD mainstays the Shambles are gonna rawk Cheap Trick’s Live at Budokan at Bar Pink.

They’re out to tout this year’s Hellcat Record skinny tie alive with garage-rock undertones. The Brooklyn band’s been touring and won an SDMA for Best Hard Rock last year. They’ll check into Belly Up Friday and Saturday nights. They’re a five-piece, at Radio Room.

JAPANTHER AT THE CHE CAFE
Remember sock it to Soma...and SD mainstays the Shambles are gonna rawk Cheap Trick’s Live at Budokan at Bar Pink.

Sunday 2

The Ponys drop in Casbah Sunday night behind fellow Chicagoans Disappears and up-and-coming locals Christmas Island. I caught the Ponys on their Turn the Lights Out tour in ‘07 opening for Deerhunter, and crappin’ you negative, the psych-pop quartet blew Bradford and the boys away. They’ve got a spanking-new EP in Deathbed + 4 to get your merch mitts on. This b’d the set to see. Sunday-nighters—Ex: chowdown junkpunk BANE will play two at the Ché at 4 and 8p…. And across campus, it’ll be Cape Town trio Civil Twilight alt-rocking the Loft with the U2-y tunes from their brand-new s/t debut.

Monday 3

Brooklyn drones Growing do the honors at Casbah’s Anti-Monday thing this week with locals Heavy Hawaii and the Illuminatui. You like Spacemen 3, Eno, Earth, you’ll like Growing. The trio has a shimmering new do out on Vice Records, Pumps!

If ye’re doing the Cinco de Mayo thing, get with Mario Esquivel’s MEX at Bar Pink for some south-of-the-border sock-hopping showstoppers. It’s always a party when MEX is in the casa…. Other hump night highlights: Atlanta’s heavy-metal hits Mastodon will Crack the Skye at House of Blues with the equally voluminous Between the Buried and Me, Baroness, and Valient Thorr…. Consummate kazooist Roger Clyne will country-fy the Casbah with rootsicana duo Jay and Lou, the Smart Brothers…. While Sweden’s answer to Bob Dylan, Kristian Matsson, aka The Tallest Man on Earth, ducks into town. Dude’s new Dead Oceans disc Wild Hunt is some heady acoustic-rock, folk fan. Suggest you get it in your carousel and cop this hot ticket to the Loft. See it at school.

— Barnaby Monk
Thursday, April 29
7 pm • Jazz Vocalist
Jesse Davis

Friday, April 30
5 pm • R&B/Dance
Stelita’s Groove
9 pm • Disco/Dance
Rising Star

Saturday, May 1
6 pm • Folk/Country
Thomas Connor
9:30 pm • Classic Rock
Rockola

Sunday, May 2
8 pm • Smooth Jazz Guitarist
Patrick Yandall

Monday, May 3
7 pm • Blues
Chet Cannon’s Blue Monday Blues Party

Tuesday, May 4
7 pm • Acoustic
Songwriters Showcase Competition

Wednesday, May 5
8 pm • Sweet Soul Music
The Soul Persuaders

UPCOMING

Thursday, May 7 • 6 pm
Laurie Morvan

Friday, May 7 • 6:30 pm
Johnny “V” Vernazza

Monday, May 10 • 7 pm
Griffin Jazz All-Stars

HAPPY HOUR
EVERY DAY 5-7 PM
1/2 OFF ALL DRINKS & FOOD
Excludes holidays & concert nights.
“If you’re looking for raw energy in your music, this is it.”

Circa Now won the Freedom Sessions band competition in 2008, the same year they were nominated for Best Rock Album at the San Diego Music Awards. Among the opportunities that subsequently opened for the glam-garage trio was the chance to have their next album Hotter Than a Pistol recorded by A-list producer Alan Sanderson (Rolling Stones, Weezer, Elvis Costello), who likens the band to T. Rex and the Stooges. “These three have the right idea,” says Sanderson. “If you’re looking for raw energy in your music, this is it.”

An album-release party will be held May 8 with a rooftop gig atop the Tenth Avenue Theatre in downtown’s artsy East Village. In addition to sets from Circa Now and Scarlet Symphony, the show will include video art by AVicious, a musically interactive fashion show from Jennifer Grace, music by DJs Artistic and Morgan Young, and a preview of an upcoming film documentary about San Diego’s indie-music scene produced by Craig Rain Films. The $15 admission price includes a copy of Hotter Than a Pistol.

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1. Band of Skulls,
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5. The Noisettes, Wild Young Hearts: “This record was a bit more R&B and pop-influenced than their first album, but it grew on me.”

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3. Mariachi El Bronx, self-titled. “This mariachi music from an L.A. punk band is what you’d want to listen to while having a ginsuliner fight.”
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Josh: “He was very shy and timid as a kid.”
David: “He’s doing exactly what he said he was going to do being.”
Scotty: “Good job not ending up in jail.”

BEST PICKUP LINE?
Josh: “Nice boots.”
David: “I’ve studied French, so I’m guilty of using some of that every once in a while.”
Scotty: “Wanna watch some hockey?”

ANY FEARS OR PHOBIAS?
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Josh: “‘Can I raise a practical question at this point? Are we gonna do Stonehenge tomorrow?’”
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It Drops in May

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

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

A MSDConcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Neil Innes. Rock.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Bluegrass Etc. Bluegrass. $20.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-395-0300.
Friday, 7:30pm and 9:30pm — Raul Midon. Acoustic/jazz/funk. $25-$30.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
Friday and Saturday, 9pm — The Dark Star Orchestra. A tribute to the Grateful Dead. $28-$30.
Sunday, 8pm — NeedToBreathe.

Thursday, 6pm — David Patrone. Jazz.

Friday, 8pm — Bankers Hill. With Cellphish and Fiction Reform. Punk/rock.
Saturday, 7pm — Eddie Spaghetti. With Stalkyard and Cotton Fever. Punk/metal. $20.
Sunday, 6pm — Acoustic Alliance. Singer-songwriter/folk.

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Thursday, 8:30pm — The Hold Steady. Reggae.
Friday, 8:30pm — Buckfast Superbee. With Wirepony. $12.
Saturday, 8:30pm — The Heartless Bastards. Alternative/indie/rock. $12-$14.
Sunday, 8:30pm — The Ponds. With Disappears. Alternative/indie/rock. $10.

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Monday, 8:30pm — Growing. With Heavy Hawaii. $8-$10.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Eluviam. With Benoit Pietard. $8-$10.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Roger Clyne. Rock/indie. $15.

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San Diego’s #1 Irish Pub
Happy Hour 3-8 pm Mon.-Fri., 11 am-3 pm weekends
3 wells, 5 shot + a pint, 10/12/14 pitchers

Thursday $5 Heineken Light bottles
$3.50 Heineken Pints

Live Zion
DJ Ski

Friday Happy Hour with Jason Ott, then

Stone Roses
(Stones Tribute)
DJ R2

Saturday Defamation League
with DJ Chelu

Sunday Happy Hour 11 am-3 pm
$3 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers, Mimosas
Pub Quiz @ 7 pm

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Stone Roses
(Stones Tribute)
DJ R2

Saturday Defamation League
with DJ Chelu

Wednesday $4 Jack Daniels All Night

Lady Dottie & The Diamonds
Blues with

Sunday Happy Hour 11 am-3 pm
$3 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers, Mimosas
Pub Quiz @ 7 pm

Monday Open Mic with Jody Wood
Great specials!

Tuesday Game Night
$7 domestic pitchers

Never a cover! Drink specials nightly!


Sunday, 5pm — Billy Watson. Harmonica blues.


Friday, 7pm — LA Riots. Punk. $12-$27.

Sunday, 6pm — Emily Osment. Alternative/rock/pop. $20-$22.

Wednesday, 6:30pm — Mastodon. With Between the Buried and Me, Baroness, and Valient Thorr. Metal/hardcore. $25-$27.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577. Thursday, 7pm — Jesse Davis. Jazz. $5.

Friday, 9pm — Rising Star. Disco/dance. $12.

Java Joe’s at Café Libertalia: 3834 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-9360. Thursday, 8pm — Gregory Page. Acoustic/alternative.


Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-6641. Friday and Saturday, 9pm — Stone Wolf. Rock.


**UPCOMING SHOWS**

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.
May 8 — Too Short.
May 21 — Queensryche.
May 26 — Little Brother.
June 4 — Enrique Bunbury.
June 10 — Korn.
June 24 — A Fleck of Seagulls.
August 28 — Lost 80’s Live.

AMSDconcerst: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
May 8 — Dave Alvin.
May 9 — Bert Lams.
May 14 — Michael Chadalene.
May 21 — I See Hawks in L.A.
June 2 — Crooked Still.
June 17 — John Keave.
June 18 — J.D. Souther.
July 9 — Mary Gauthier.
July 17 — Barry McGuire.
July 24 — The Tannahill Weavers.
August 13 — Hot Club of Cowtown.
August 14 — Chris Smither.
August 18 — Livingston Taylor.
September 11 — David Wilcox.
September 19 — Eliza Gilkyson.
September 29 — Jo’Girl.
October 23, October 24 — John Sebastian.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-4180.
May 7 — Eliza.
May 8 — Straus & Farah.
May 12 — Chuchito Valdes.
May 14 — Spyro Gyra.
May 15 — Richie Havens.
May 19 — Sophie B. Hawkins.
May 20 — Trevor Davis.
May 22 — Vienna Teng.
May 28 — The Average White Band.
May 29, May 30 — Jane Monheit.
June 11 — Greg Laswell.
June 16 — Tommy Emmanuel.
June 17 — Lalah Hathaway.
June 17 — Wang Chung.
June 23, June 24 — Keiko Matsui.
June 25 — Oleta Adams.
June 26 — Thunder Road.
July 8 — Bobby Long.
July 9, July 10 — Pete Escovedo Orchestra.
July 16, July 17 — Dwele.

The Bailey Wood Pit Barbecue: 2307 Main St., Julian, 760-765-3757.
May 8 — Dave Phillips and the Pescadero Pickers.

May 29 — Sammi Jam.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.
May 6 — Wendy Bailey.
May 12 — Behind the Wagon.
May 14 — Pocket.
May 20 — Brayley.
May 23 — The Box Elders.
May 26 — Drew Grow & the Pastors’ Wives.
May 27 — Stealing Love Jones.
May 29 — The Dabbers.

May 7 — Irrado.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
May 6 — Martin Sexton.
May 7 — The Stanton Moore Trio.
May 8 — Dennis Quaid and the Sharks.
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.

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

North Carolina brothers Scott and Seth Avett have been playing folk-inspired music as the Avett Brothers since 2000 and rock ‘n’ roll in other bands before that. Through constant touring and a series of albums on small indie labels, the brothers developed a following that seemed to get bigger every year. By the time of their 2007 release, Emotionalism, the Avett Brothers were flirting with stardom. They signed to Rick Rubin’s American Recordings, and the famous producer helped them put together last year’s breakthrough I and Love and You.

There was a period last fall where it seemed that half my music friends were talking about the Avett Brothers or posting Avett Brothers videos on Facebook. My favorite radio station still plays one of several songs from I and Love and You seemingly once an hour. I confess, for a long time I did not understand what the fuss was about. “January Wedding” struck me as a sweet folk song with plaintive vocals and brotherly harmonies — nice, but nothing I hadn’t heard before. I thought the more rock-oriented “Kick Drum Heart” was uncomfortably reminiscent of Huey Lewis’s “Heart of Rock and Roll.”

But one day recently I heard the I and Love You song “Laundry Room” — perhaps the 15th time I’ve heard it — and when the brothers sang, “Tonight I’ll burn the lyrics, ‘cause every chorus was your name,” I don’t know what happened, the song just won me over. There’s nothing flashy or groundbreaking about the Avett Brothers. They’re just really good at what they do. They slowly built an audience, and they’re slowly conquering the country, one music lover at a time.

AVETT BROTHERS: House of Blues, Thursday, April 29, 7 p.m. 619-299-2583. $26, $37.50.
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THUR., 4/29
LIVE MUSIC • INDIE
ROCK PAPER TIGER
THE TOUCHIES
PETER MERRIT

FRI., 4/30
LIVE MUSIC • ALT ROCK
THE BLUE MOONIES
RAIN BRINGS WEATHER
HULA GUNS
DEAD DAZE
THE UNDISCOVERED

SAT., 5/1
MILITARY APPRECIATION NIGHT
LIVE MUSIC • ROCK
SILENCE BETRAYED
QUAR
HER BED OF THORNS
SOUTHERN STORM

SUN., 5/2
EVERY SUNDAY • FYAH HOT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS
REGGAE VIBES AT DREAMSTREET HOSTED BY REGGAE LEGEND
LLOYD HENMINGS
MUSIC BY RASTA NATION POSSE

WED., 5/5
PEDALAY THE BOSS
CHASE DREAMS
S.I.E. WROTE IT FOR YOU SUBMISSION
HOLICK OF 8 WEST
BLACK SANCHO
DJ UNDGROUND SPINNING
BLACK WARFARE & GUEST

FRI., 5/7
LIVE MUSIC
MAD TRAFFIC • LISTEN ON MUTE
WITHOUT PAPERS • PLATYPUS EGG
3 MINUTE PARKING

SAT., 5/8
BAND MINUS LABEL PRESENTS
HEAVY METAL PARKING LOT
LOKED • ONE THEORY • AGHORI
COMFORT IN RAGE
BENEATH LANSTON
AWAITING SAMASARA
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WED., 5/12
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J-RAS • SELEKTAH MUFFINMAN
JAH SOLDIER • MISTA GETDOWN

THUR., 5/13
LIVE MUSIC • ACOUSTIC
J-MAN • THE RATBIRDS
HEATHER GREEN • JOALBY
KATIE LEIGH • DOUG MCCARRON
JOHNNY Q • LIL’ NICKY

FRI., 5/14
CADIE PALOOZA
CYSTIC FIBROSIS CHARITY CONCERT
LIVE MUSIC • ALT. ROCK
IDLE TRAIN • THE GIFT CURSE
STRIKE THE DESIGN • MY ELYSIAN
ABANDON THE RAFT

Now booking all genres. Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131 • Attention bands! Go to: myspace.com/dreamstreetlive
Graham Dechter's jazz-guitar sound is right out of the ’30s and ’40s, a musical era that he can have heard only on disc — Dechter is in his early 20s. Dechter’s playing is hip, confident, and the asides — meaning the little afterthoughts he plays following a main lick — are slick and interesting. He favors a modified arch-top guitar that generates a fat, warm tone, and he plays with emotions out of the Billy Strayhorn songbook. As a jazz guitarist, Dechter makes no wrong turns.

By Dave Good
High on Fire: Snakes for the Divine
CD Review by Michael Caldwell
High on Fire’s fifth studio album is a satisfying platter of high intensity, low frequency rumblings from one of metal’s most honest, hard-working, and ferocious bands. Producer Greg Fidelman (Metallica, Slayer) ensures the trio’s roar rises above the over-modulated, nether-world mix of previous offerings to reach the light of clarity.

Like a fist full of snakes writhing in the brain, a sinewy guitar introduces the title track. Mountains of bass and drums hit like a meteor shower. Vocalist-guitarist Matt Pike, who sounds as if his breakfast bowl is full of glass shards and whiskey, howls over the storm. For over eight minutes, tempo race from redline speeds to careening off concrete walls before crashing to an abrupt halt. “Frost Hammer” erupts like a riot during a European soccer tournament with cannon-fire accents. Pike over the barrage repeatedly belts out the title; his voice creaks, cracks, and induces shivers.

High on Fire prove they are comfortable pillaging hi-fi via slower tempos as well. Check out “Bastard Samurai”; with its delay-drenched guitar, this could be the soundtrack to a slow-motion hara-kiri: drawn out, deliberate, deadly.

Snakes for the Divine will do until such time a definitive domestic release of everything the Shop Assistants and Introducing will do until such time as we get a decently priced definitive domestic release of everything the Shop Assistants ever recorded.

In case you missed the Shop Assistants, they sounded like someone set them up inside an enormous concrete dome where they had to get on top of and surf their own galactic slapback. Vocals were high-pitched and lyrics sinister, the sardonic side of quotidian days. This bunch comes on not quite so angry, more open to the sensual possibilities of churning reverb. I was going to say that in 1978–1986 we needed this stuff badly to counter what was going on in the TV, in the boardrooms, in the nation’s capitals. But now everyone’s a lot older and we still need this stuff. I wish I could file a complaint. But who to? Regardless, you should pick up this energetic, if short, record and wash the grey out of your day.

University Ave., North Park. 619-299-2032.


Cafe Sevilla: Thursdays, 10pm: DJ New Yo Ricaz, Salsa. Tuesdays, 10pm: DJ Israel, Bacha. 555 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-233-9797.


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EVERYONE’S A CRITIC

Bring on the Freaks
Concert Review by Bustamont

Rolling Stone recently pronounced freak folk dead. Perhaps, but no one told Devendra Banhart. Charismatic, unpretentious, waif-like, and prone to effeminate arm flailing, Banhart culled songs from his past, most of his latest release, What We Will Be, and a couple that he sang in Spanish.

Hints of Dylan and Bryan Ferry permeated his solo selections, and his feel for the vibe of the crowd and improvised remixes of his full band gave the show an “of the moment” feeling, not unlike that of a Grateful Dead event. The hippie with the late-’60s Keith Richards haircut was more than happy to share the stage and the mike with each of the members of his blues-based band the Grogs, as well as a “random fan” plucked from the Belly Up crowd. A Juno-esque Kira from Kira and the Lesbians accepted Banhart’s invitation to perform “any previously unheard original song” and jumped onstage midway through the band’s set. Accompanied only by Banhart’s borrowed Les Paul, Kira performed a rousing screamer to the delight of her pose.

Banhart, the Grogs, and Kira hardly represent a movement of the past, but a youthful energy painting from a psychedelic palette, borrowing from the masters to create vivid new interpretations. Bring on the freaks.

Concert: Devendra Banhart & the Grogs
Show date: March 25
Venue: Belly Up
Seats: 20 feet back, stage left

You Feeling?
Concert Review by Wate Charles

Lord Howler played their third show to a crowded Bar Pink. A Flying V and a left-handed Les Paul harmonized leads over driving, Van Halen bass.

“Let’s get it on!” Frontman Charlie says.

“This song is called ‘Fuel-Injected Death.’”

In jeans, Cons, and black Ts, Lord Howler carries the torch of old Slayer, AC/DC, and Black Sabbath. Goes well with Annihilation Time and Dead Meadow.

The band plays “Laughing Through the Blood” while a stoic cocktail waitress makes her rounds.

After the set, a dude at the bar says, “Anyone can play throwback psychedelic rock. Nobody in San Diego sounds like these guys.”

The Bloodflowers blast forth said psychedelic rock. With frontman Rey’s Hendrix look, Jimi is an obvious comparison. However, the group has an MCS punk energy that sets them apart from the bulk of psych-rock wannabes.

“How you guys feeling tonight?” Rey inquires before playing a raucous cover of “Moonage Daydream.” “You feeling?”

“I make up some of my lyrics on the spot,” Rey tells me. “I’m tired of rock and roll being so proper.”

Concert: Lord Howler, the Bloodflowers
Date: April 1
Venue: Bar Pink
Seats: standing

Up to $100 for your concert review, $25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader/critic.com

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Gaslamp Tavern: Thursdays, 8pm, Fridays, 4pm, Wednesdays, 8pm: C-Phish. 868 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-239-3339.


Harrah’s Rincon: Thursdays, 8pm: Noche Latina. With DJ Don Jose. Electronica, Latin. 777 Harrah’s Rincon Way, Valley Center. 760-751-3100.


Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays, 9pm, Saturdays, 9pm: DJ Koel T. Spins Top 40, techno, and ’90s. 15 and up. 775 Metcalf St., Escondido. 760-741-1271.


McDIni’s: Saturdays, 9pm: ’90s Throwback Tuesdays. Hosted by Zeland of Pali Roots. 105 E. 8th St., National City. 619-474-6771.


Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: Wednesdays, 10pm: DJ Tony. 860 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-272-7278.

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Music Reviews from Our Readers

Bca
Fridays
Devendra Banhart & the Grogs
Lord Howler, the Bloodflowers

Wednesdays
Belly Up

Fridays

Sundays

Sundays

March 25

Standing

April 1

Reviews from Our Readers

Bar Pink

Cajon. 619-444-0949.

matic rock. 351 W. Main St., El Cajon. 619-444-0949.

Fannie’s Nightclub:

Hip-hop/rap/reggae. 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests

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Barry Diamond
From The Tonight Show & Curb Your Enthusiasm

Jodi Miller
From CNN's Showbiz Tonight

Jade Catta-Preta
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Pieview Pub/Bub’s Whiskey Dive Bar: Mondays, 8-30pm: Metal Mondays. Metal all night long. 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-2827.


Satin Lounge: Thursday, 9pm: Hot Latin Beats. Reggae, salsa, and merengue. 18 and up. Fridays, 8pm: Funky Fresh Fridays. Hip-hop/mash-ups. 18 and up. 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.


Side Bar: Thursdays, 9pm: Ruby Thursdays. 536 Market St., Downtown. 619-606-0946.


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.


Winstons: Saturday, 9:30pm: Rob and Burke (members of Vokab Ko.). With Heavyweight Dub Champ and Buddriver. DJ, 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach. 619-222-6822.


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Bully's Del Mar: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 5-7 pm, 10 pm close; $3 bottle beer, $3 domestic pints, $4 micro-brew pints, $4.50 wells, $3 house wine by the glass, $6 wine by glass. 1/2-off appetizers.

Clubhouse Grill: Every day, 4-7 pm: 1/2-off draft beer, wine by the glass.

400 West: Monday-Friday, 4-7 pm: $4 domestic, $5 wells/imported beer, appetizers.

923 Dive Lounges: Wednesday-Saturday, 8-9 pm: $2 wellcrafts. All night Thursday: $2 Manhattans, martinis.

Altitude Sky Lounge: Monday-Friday, 5-7 pm: $4 domestic drafts. $5 premium wells. 1/2-off artisan flat bread.

Asti Ristorante: Every day, 3-6 pm: 1/2-price cocktails & appetizers.

Athens Market: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30 pm: $5 appetizer menu. $4 shots. Jameson, Jack Daniel's, Jager, Cuervo Gold.

Bandar Fine Persian Cuisine: Friday. $6 pomegranate martini. Saturday: $6 cosmos.

Bella Luna: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: $5 house wine, 1/2-off appetizers.

Bice: Every day, 5-6:30 pm: $5 house wine, wells, draft Moretti.

Blue Point: Monday-Friday, 5-6:30 pm: 1/2-off drinks, select appetizers; discount on caviar; $1 oysters.

Cafe Sevilla: Monday, 5-6:30 pm: $3 domestic, $4 micro-brews, 1/2-price wine bottles. Wednesday, 5-6:30 pm: 1/2-price martini. Thursday, Sunday, 5-6:30 pm: 1/2-price sangria. Friday-Saturday, 5-6:30 pm: 1/2-price garlicabo.

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

Chiante: Every day, 4-7 pm, 9-11 pm: $3 martini, house wine.

Curren: Every day, 4-7 pm, 10 pm-midnight: $5 wells, sangria, house wine. 1/2-off entire bar menu.

Downtown Johnny Brown's: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: 3 domestic bottled beer, $3.50 pints of the day. 40% off appetizers.

Dublin Square: Every day, 2-7 pm: $3 wells, drafts, 1/2-off appetizers.

Dussini Loft Bar: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6:30 pm: 10:30 pm close: $1 off draft beer & wells. 1/2-off select taps. Sunday, all day: $1 off draft beer & wells. 1/2-off select taps.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Friday, 5-9 pm: $5 menu cocktails. Saturday, Sunday, 7-9 pm: $5 menu cocktails.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 11 am-7 pm: $3 domestics, $4 imports. Saturday-Sunday, open-5 pm: $3 domestics, $4 imports.

The Fish Market: Monday-Thursday, 5-6 pm: $3.75 draft, $3.95 wells, $2.95 domestic beer. $3.95 oysters, $4 fish tacos. $3.75 mai tai house margarita.

O'Brothers: Every day, 3-5:30: $3.65 beer, $5 glass of wine. $7 sliders with fries.

Ocean Room and Lounge: Every day, 4-6 pm, 8pm-midnight: $3 drafts, $4 house wine, $6 martini. 1/2-off sushi, $1.50 oyster shooters, $5 crab cakes, popcorn shrimp, calamari, spring rolls.

Patrick's II: Every day, 4-7 pm: $3.50 wells, house wine. 44% off Specialty drinks/martini.

Red Zone Sports Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-6 pm: 1/2-price lights. 7 pm: $9 Bud Light pitchers. Wednesday, 2-7 pm: 2 domestic pints, 3 Firehouse pints. Thursday, 4-6 pm: $5.50 Jager, Friday, 5-7 pm: $3 Patron cocktails. Saturday, 11 am-7 pm: $3 Bloody Mary/mimosa. Sunday, 4-6 pm: $5.50 lemon drop martini/apple martini.

Rock Bottom Brewery: Monday-Thursday, 4-7 pm: 10 pm-close: $3.50 pints, wells, house wine. 44% specialty drinks/martini.

Rockin' Baja Lobster: Monday-Friday, 5-7 pm: $3.50 margaritas. $4 Long Islands. $3-$5 drafts.

Sally's Seafood on the Water: Monday-Thursday, 4-6 pm: $2.50 chicken/stir tacos. Wednesday, 4-6 pm: $1.50 big pitchers. $2 BBQ pork sliders. Thursday, 4-6 pm: $1.50 jager, wells, drafts, bottle beer. $3 lobster tacos. Friday, 5-7 pm: $1 off wells, wine, drafts. Saturday, 8-10 pm: $5 premium liquors.

Mister Tikia Mai Tai Lounge: Every day, 3-7 pm: $3 Hase di mai tai, Lollis mojito, Coconut Kiss martini, large Sapporo, house wine. $5 sushi roll specials, pu pu specials.

Stage Saloon: Every day, 5-7 pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.

Suicide & Tender: Monday-Friday, 5-6 pm: $2.50 bottleless wine, 1/2-off specialty cocktails.

Tabule: Monday-Friday, 5-6 pm: 1/2-off all drinks and appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 2-6 pm: 1/2-off all drinks and appetizers.

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: Monday-Saturday, 3-8 pm: All drinks two for one.

Tivoli Bar: Every day, 4-7 pm: $1 off pitchers, $3 off liquor.

Tom Ham's Lighthouse: Monday-Friday, 4-6 pm: $3 house wine, domestic/martini. $3 domestic, $5 wells. $5 signature cocktails, $5 house wine. 1/2-off appetizers.

Wolfgang's: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: Two-for-one all beers, $4 wells & house wine. 1/2-off appetizers.

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

 Yard House: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: $3.50 domestic pints, $4 craft/import pints, $4.50 goblets. $4.25 wells, $5 domestic beers, $2 off wine by the glass. $6.50 sliders, 1/2-off select appetizers & pizzas.

EAST VILLAGE

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7 pm: $5 mason jar Russian standard vodka, $3 carafe, beer, wine. Complimentary Basic pizza.

Hive Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7 pm: $2 domestic, $4 micro, 2.50 sake, $3.50 house wine, Miso, edamame, $99.

Hotel Indigo: Every day, 5-8 pm: $4 domestic & local bottles, wells, wines.

Jewel Box: Wednesday, 6pm-2am: $5 jager bomb, $10 hourall night w/military ID. Thursday, 8pm-2am: Industry Night. $7.35 calls.

EL CAJON

The Broken Piñatas: Wednesday-Sunday, 11-6 pm: $2 wells, $3 drafts.

Calypso: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: $2.75 bottled beer (12 oz.), $3.75 beer (22 oz.), $4.25 house wine. Miso, edamame, $99.

Double D's on Broadway: Every day, 4-7 pm, $2.50 domestic, $3.50 off mixed drinks, $1 off shots.

El Cajon Grand: Monday-Friday, 4-8 pm: $2.50 domestic beer, $3 wells. Saturday-Sunday, $5-20 oz. Bloody Mary w/jumbo shrimp.

Flinns Springs Inn: Monday-Friday, 4-6 pm: $2.25 domestic bottles, $3 wells.

Main Tap Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4-6 pm: $1 off 16 oz. drafts, $2 off pitchers, $3 calls. $5 nachos.

ENCINITAS

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: Tuesday-Friday, 5-6 pm: 1/2-off beer, wine, sake, select appetizers and sushi rolls.

Bullpen Pub & Grill: Monday-Friday, 2-7 pm, 10pm-2am: $1 off draft beer; $3 domestic, $5 craft beer.

El Callejon Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: $2 domestic, $2.75 imported. $3 house margarita, $2.50 appetizers pork tacos, fired calamari, grilled shrimp skewer.

Cap'n Kenos: Monday-Friday, 6pm-midnight: $2.50 drafts, wells. Free appetizers.

Savoy: Every day, 5-6 pm: 30% off food & beverages in the bar & lounge area.

When in Rome: Tuesday-Sunday, 5-7 pm: Two-for-one all wine by the glass.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: Tuesday-Saturday, 3:30-6:30 pm: $1 off draft beer, $4.75 house margarita, $5 red wine, $7 Krusta vodka cosmopolitan, $7.50 margarita.

El Galeon Mexican Restauran: Monday-Friday, 3-6 pm: Two-for-one draft beer, margaritas.

Tango Restaurant & Lounge: Every day, 4-7 pm: $1 off drinks; 1/2-off bar menu.

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30 pm: $3 domestic, $9 pitcher; $4 imported, $12 pitcher; $8.50 sake rolls (no sushi rolls).

GOULDEN 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.
Hennessey’s Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4:30-7:30 pm: domestic drafts, $1 off house wine, wells, $3 well shots/$4 call shot, $3 drink specials. Saturday-Sunday, till 3 pm: Bloody Marys.

Johnny V: Tuesday, 4pm-close: $3 wells, drafts, selected wines. Monday, 4-7 pm: 1.95 street tacos, $3 off appetizers. Wednesday, all day: $3 wells, drafts, selected wines. Friday, 4-5 pm: $2 drinks. Complimentary appetizers. Saturday, all day: $2.50 Bud Light bottles. Absolute, $3 margarita.

Lights Out Hooters After Dark: Monday, 9pm-close: Two free domestic drinks. Tuesday, 8pm-close: Beer and a shot. Thursday, 8pm-close: $2 you call its. Thursday-Saturday, 5-8 pm: $1 wells/domestic drafts. Sunday, 5-8 pm: Industry Night: 1/2-off the bill.

Mora’s Lounge: Every day, 4-7 pm: $2.50 drafts, $3.50 wells, $4.50 house wine. 4-6 pm: 4 appetizers: spicy chicken wings, fried calamari, potato skins.

Pacific Beach Ale House: Monday-Saturday, 3-6:30 pm: $3 drafts, wells, house wines. 1/2-price appetizers.

Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: Tuesday, 2-5pm Minimum drink order, $3 frozen margaritas. Wednesday, $2 off all drinks, $2 beers. Thursday, 8pm-close: $2 wells, $2.50 price drafts. Friday, 3-10 pm: $2 beers. Saturday, 5-8 pm: $1 wells/domestic drafts. Sunday, 5-8 pm: Industry Night: 1/2-off the bill.

Sonnys: Every day, 4-7 pm: $2.50 domestic drafts, $3.50 wells, $4.50 imported drinks. 11am-2 pm: ½ off all drinks. 2-6 pm: $2 domestic. $3 imported.

Café Beausoleil: Monday-Saturday, 11am-10 pm: $1 domestic pints/$7.95 pitcher, $3.50 domestic imports. $4.50 domestic/petite pitchers. 8-9:30 am: ½ off appetizers.

Brigantine: Monday-Friday, 5-7 pm: $2.50 fish tacos. Monday-Saturday, 5-9 pm: $2 fish tacos. Monday-Friday, 5-7 pm: 10% off for military.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar: Every day: 5-7 pm: 1/2-price domestic drafts, $2 wells, domestic bottles; $6.50 domestic pitchers. 8-9:30 am: ½ off appetizers.

The Boathouse: Every day, 2:30-5 pm: $1.99 house margaritas ($3 Caesers Gold), $3 beer of the month, $4 wine of the month.

Alfresco’s Italian Buffet: Every day, 5:30-7:30 pm: $3.50 domestic pints, wells, domestic bottles, house wine, $4.50 domestic pitchers. Monday-Saturday, all day: $3 mimosas & Bloody Marys.

C-Level: Monday-Friday, 4-6 pm: 1/2-off appetizers. Every day: 4-6 pm: $3 mimosas & Bloody Marys.
Craig Noel died in his home on April third. He was 94. Friends remember the Father of San Diego Theater.

Everyone who loved Craig will say that he invited you to be his good friend and always made you want to see him again. He did these things without affectation.

Craig shouted, as only Craig could: “You only act five feet out! Don’t stop at the camera! Go all the way to the wall!” During the show’s run, a TV pilot I’d worked on — Happy Days — got a contract. I was torn. But Craig said, “Go! I’ll get you an understudy.”

Ten years later, the series ended. It was so hard to leave. I was very upset. Craig said, “Come home.” Once again, with perfect timing, he was right there for me. Always there.

THE DIRECTOR
Fred Moramarco, artistic director, Latthernenever Productions. Craig cast me in my first play in the late 1970s, The Advocate, about the Sacco-Vanzetti trial. I had no training as an actor and accidentally showed up during callbacks. Craig asked if I had any experience.

“No.” I said the only reason I wanted to audition was that this play had 27 male roles, and I wanted to get over my fear of being unable to memorize lines. He handed me a script. “Look at the part of Schreiber.” I did.

“Now perform Schreiber’s lines,” he said, taking back the script.

I raised my right hand: “Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?”

“See,” said Craig, “you know the part already!”

Craig Noel “had a keen awareness of actors, an uncanny ability to work with each one.”

Craig Noel died in his home on April third. He was 94. Friends remember the Father of San Diego Theater.

THE PERSON
Conrad Susa, composer.
Craig was my deep soul brother. I first met him at Carnegie Tech in 1958. I told him I was a composer who heard he might be using music for a show in San Diego.

“Would you really come so far?” he asked, genuinely surprised.

I said yes and began working at the Globe in 1959. Over the next 40 years I spent summers in various rooms at Craig’s home on Jackdaw Street.

He was deeply shy and deeply unsentimental. His sense of humor was in his timing and rhythm. He liked to play various roles, so that from moment to moment he might turn into just about anybody. As others will agree, he had a temper that could be amazingly powerful. One time when a well-meaning friend insisted on taking him on an outing, he shouted, “When I say no, I mean No! No! No! No! Goddamit! Get out and leave me ALONE!” Then he spun on a dime and said, calm as can be, “Please pour me some orange juice, or I’ll faint.”

To Craig, the Old Globe was a public trust, and he was the caretaker. One time I told him, “You have lived so long you have become a myth.” To which he replied, “Yes, I was so tired of being a legend.”

Craig was more than that. He was an era.

Marion Ross, actor. At every crucial time — every crisis — in my life, Craig was there. He cast me as Olivia in Twelfth Night, the first Shakespeare performed at the Old Globe after the war. I was 19. He came to see every play I did at San Diego State. When I graduated, he said, “Casting agents will need to see you in something.” So, typical Craig, he pulled some amazing strings and I got cast at the Pasadena Playhouse in Maxwell Anderson’s Journey to Jerusalem — as the Virgin Mary! A talent scout from Paramount saw me, and I signed a contract at age 22.

Skip ahead 20 years. I was getting a divorce and was in a shambles, crying day and night. Craig called, said, “Come home; do anything you want.” I went to San Diego and played neurotic Alma Winemiller in Summer and Smoke (in rehearsal Craig shouted, as only Craig could: “You only act five feet out! Don’t stop at the camera! Go all the way to the wall!”). During the show’s run, a TV pilot I’d worked on — Happy Days — got a contract. I was torn. But Craig said, “Go! I’ll get you an understudy.”

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Craig Noel “had a keen awareness of actors, an uncanny ability to work with each one.”
He cast me as the court clerk who has just that one line in the play.

Darlene G. Davies, former Old Globe actor. Craig asked me to perform in the Shakespeare Festival Concert in the summer of 1961 at Starlight Bowl. I did the balcony scene from Romeo and Juliet. We had only two or three rehearsals. I was 22 at the time and attending San Diego State. At the final run-through, I didn’t know my lines, which was unusual for me. But Craig was patient and unconcerned, and I remember being totally mystified that he wasn’t exasperated. Why did he trust me to go onstage in front of thousands of people and not embarrass the Globe? Because he had a keen awareness of actors, an uncanny ability to work with each one.

The performance went smoothly, and as I walked into the wings, Craig gave me a giant hug. He must have been certain I wouldn’t let him down, or was he just relieved? Probably some of each. But there’s a deeper explanation: Craig was an artist. He sensed things. Directors and visionaries are like that. And Craig was both.

All of us, who knew Craig for so many decades, have cherished memories. When Mercy Hospital gave Lowell [Davies, for whom the Festival Theatre is named] his unwelcome di- rectors and visionaries are like that. And Craig was both.

Jill Drexler, artistic director, Scripps Ranch Theatre. I had the privilege of working with Craig on, I believe, the last show he ever directed: Henry Wants a Renaissance by Jason Connors, for the Playwright’s Project. I was fascinated to watch Craig — who seemed to live on popcorn and cigarettes — and a very brave Jason discuss script changes. They became a team.

During a break I asked Craig about his philosophy of directing. He said he rarely looked at actors during rehearsals. He preferred to listen only, as if he were listening to music. He said he could always catch a false note that way. That has stayed with me as a unique tactic from a master director.

Jason Connors, actor, writer, musician. When Craig agreed to direct my play for Playwrights Project — his last at the Carter — I was 18. I had about seven years of theatrical experience, as opposed to his seven decades. Nonetheless, Craig treated me as an equal. We joustied over casting decisions and reworked important moments in the text.

At rehearsal I watched his patient and gentle directing style, giving our actors just the right amount of words to lead them toward a moment of discovery. The graciousness he showed to me and the enormous respect he gave my work were no doubt emblematic of his reverence for playwrights and the theater as a tradition. I will never forget his example.

The ADMINISTRATOR

Charlene Baldridge, theater critic, former press contact for the Old Globe. Craig was the master of the withering look, delivered with the well-chosen phrase. He was caustic and devastatingly funny (and hated talking about himself). If only I could transmute the sound of his voice and laughter. Anyone who loved him will hear it forever.

You can hear his voice in this transcript from Company Call, December 7, 1982, Craig’s speech to the cast of The Skin of Our Teeth:

“Jack [O’Brien] asked if I would make preliminary remarks. I am enthusiastic and would say almost wildly enthusiastic, considering my age, about this particular season. The Skin of Our Teeth and the whole PBS extravaganza [a performance was televised nationally] is more than anyone could hope for. I will be sitting in on rehearsals and trying to ease Jack’s pain in any way I can. I will not ever reprimand you personally, but I will go to the proper authorities if I feel that dear, sweet Jack, lovable and attractive Jack, is not getting everything he deserves to have. I’m looking forward to this season, and I hope that I will be able to aid and comfort you in some way. If you have any complaints, do not come to me; go to someone else. But if you have anything nice to say about this organization, do let me hear it because it overjoys me and brightens my day, and I have so few left.”

THE ACTOR

D.J. Sullivan, teacher, actor, director. Craig changed actors’ lives. In rehearsals, he’d walk right beside you, like a close-up camera, and whisper notes. He could have been a great actor as well. I was blessed to watch him in Our Town.

He hadn’t acted in decades.

I never thought of Craig as nervous. But when he played the Stage Manager in 1975, he was a wreck. Not just opening night. Every performance, he said, “was sheer hell.” Lines were hard for him to learn. Panic always set in. He was one of us after all!

I had a dressing room next to his. Every night he paced, mumbling lines, and couldn’t sit down. “What time is it?” he’d ask. Or, “WHY AM I DOING THIS?”

And every night he was brilliant. He was so calm onstage. Craig loved acting that was rich, rare, and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

All in the Timing


ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILL CREST. 619-660-5020. 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, ‘THROUGH MAY’ 29.

The Caucasian Chalk Circle

Miracosta College stages Bertolt Brecht’s tale, based on a 16th-century Chinese play, about a kitchen maid who risks her life to save a noble child, and the child’s mother who tries to reclaim her infant. Eric Bishop directed.

MIRACOSTA COLLEGE, ONE BARNARD DR., OCEANSIDE. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 7:30PM SATURDAYS, ‘THROUGH MAY’ 1.

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 THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7:30PM SUNDAYS, ‘THROUGH MAY’ 30.

The Comedy of Errors

Mesa College Apolladi Theatre presents Shakespeare’s comedy about twins separated at a shipwreck, mishaps, mistaken identities, madness, and confusion.

MESA COLLEGE, 7250 MESA COLLEGE DR., KEARNY MESA. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, ‘THROUGH MAY’ 9.

Ghosts

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. And for 19 years she has fought to keep them from collapsing her public image. In the North Coast Rep’s uneven but ultimately moving production, Rosina Reynolds pins Mrs. Alving in a tug-of-war between “dead” be-
lief and personal freedom. Richard Baird’s excellent Oswald, Mrs. Ah- ing’s fragile, “worm-eaten” son, moves in an inexorable line from flames to embers. Under David El- lenstein’s direction, Reynolds and Baird’s scenes together are so spon- taneous it’s as if the characters are simply riffing from the heart. Jonathan McMurray (with Isen- like, muttonchop sideburns) makes carpenter Enstrand much slimmer than most “bumpkin” readings. Young Aimee Burdette’s pert Regina brightens the stage, though her recognition scene lacks specifi- city. And John Herzog’s flat, ama- teurish effort as Pastor Manders drops down the scenes he plays and never conveys the sense, the moral passion, that he believes a word the clergymen says.

**WORTH A TRY:**

**North Coast Repertory Theatre**

987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach. 858-481-1055. 7PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MAY 2.

**Golda’s Balcony**

The Old Globe presents Tovah Feldshuh as Golda Meir: Russian immigrant, American schoolteacher, and fourth prime minister of Israel.

**Old Globe Theatre**

1363 Old Globe Way, Balboa Park. 619-234-5623. 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 30.

**Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner**

Community Actors Theatre stages an adaptation of the Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Sidney Poitier movie, by Bleu Moody, who also directed.

**Community Actors Theatre**

2957 54TH ST., COLLEGE AREA. 619-264-7621.

**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. Mc- Colluck directed.

**OnStage Playhouse**

291 third Ave., Chula Vista. 619-422-7787. 8PM FRI- DAY, 8PM SATURDAY, THROUGH MAY 1.

**A Midsummer Night’s Dream: Benefit Performance**

SDSU professor Peter Latham is raising funds to build a small library in an elementary school in Tanzania (which he attended from 1953 to 1958). All proceeds from the Saturday matinee of Shakespeare’s Midsummer Night’s Dream, on May 1, will go to the Miyakongo School Library Project.

**SDSU’s Experimental Theatre**

5500 Campanile Dr., College Area. 619-544-6884. Thursday, Thursday.

**The Rivalry**

If Stephen Douglas never debated the relatively unknown Abraham Lincoln, Douglas might have become a U.S. president. But the twice-incumbent senator from Illinois debated Lincoln in seven, nearly three-hour sessions throughout the state. The extro-verted Douglas preached “popular sovereignty,” introduced Lincoln, that “a house divided” could not stand. Lamb’s Players is staging a slightly (and smartly) trimmed version of Norman Corwin’s drama. A writer’s writer, and perennially un- heralded, Corwin re-creates the speeches and the forces behind the 1858 debates, in the process deftly resurrecting Douglas as a man — though blindly biased in many ways — of principle. For Lamb’s, Michael McKeown’s set, a sturdy loading dock, and Jeannie Reith’s costumes (which shorten Douglas and lengthen Lincoln) set the time and the place. But the opening-night performances needed many more rehearsals. Both first- and second-act versions dissipated, and the performances, especially Robert Smyth’s barely (and surprisingly so) off-book Douglas, lacked Lamb’s usual polish. As Lincoln, David Cochran Heath put passion into the speeches — and humor (Lincoln could be as funny as Mark Twain) — but couldn’t settle on a consistent voice for the 16th presi- dent. Craig Noel Award-winner Colleen Kollar Smith did a fine turn as Stephen’s wife Adele, who narrates — and outlived both men by 30 years.

**Lamb’s Players Theatre**

1542 or- ange Ave., Coronado. 619-437-0000. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUN- DAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MAY 16.

**Shakuntala**

Chromos Theatre Group stages the ancient Indian love story by Kali- dasa. Celeste Innocenti directed.

**Chromos Theatre Group**

1430 8TH AV., SAN DIEGO. 619-232-4855.

**The Pirates of Penzance**

The Welk Resort presents Ira Aldridge Repertory Players presentation of the British version of Gilbert and Sullivan’s comic opera.

**The Welk Resort**

8860 Opening of the Winter’s Tale

The Rivalry

The Calendar Theatre

Be Part of Our New Show!

“TO BE OR...OH, NEVER MIND...”

**Friday & Saturday**


San Diego Reader April 29, 2010

110 Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

**SDSU Theatre presents Shakespeare’s**

**The Winter’s Tale**

The hottest show in town! Sean Murray and James Vasquez’s co- starring brims with excellence. The cast across the board has no weak links, and since a majority of them are San Diegans, this amazing pro- duction does us all proud. Best of shows: Cynget Theatre gets the Stephen Sondheim-ness of the musical: wild fluctuates of notes that cre- ate sheer, swirling turbulence. But as in Chaos Theory, there’s an un- derlying order beneath. As Sweeney, the tempestual serial killer, Sean Murray probes Sweeney’s pain and rage, both beyond redemption. Deborah Gilmour Smyth’s bound- ary-free Mrs. Lovett, a maternal re- civist, 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 Cal- trider and Steve Gunderson’s bipa- lar 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 cos- tumes range from pinpoint accu- rate to gloriously screwball. And Eric Lester’s lighting is special. He does with light what Sondheim does with music.

**Our pick**

**Chronos Theatre Group**

SAN DIEGO — OLD TOWN, 4040 SWEGEDENHALL HALL, 1551 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MAY 2.

**Shakespeare Company**

The Taming of the Shrew

Intrepid Shakespeare Company presents a new interpretation of Shakespeare’s comedy: the two leads, Kate and Petruchio, will be portrayed by women, as women: “And both of them over 60 years of age,” (Note: Shrew runs in reper- tory with King John.)

**Intrepid Shakespeare Company**

THEATER, INC., 899 C ST., EAST VIL- LAGE. 619-216-3016. 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 6.
Had I consented to watch my DVD screener of *The Square*, there would have been more than a couple of days left in its solo week at the Ken Cinema before I could say that it was the most fun I've had at the movies so far this year. (Happily, it and the fun will be extended into a second week on a shared screen with *The Eclipse.* A friend of mine, not alone, has suggested that the brothers Edgerton, Nash and Joel, be anointed the Australian Coen brothers, and I concede the justice of it as long as the scope of discussion is limited to first films. We'll see where they go from here. Both of the Edgertons have a lengthy list of credits as actors, and Nash has a lengthier list for stunt work, and they've divided the tasks on *The Square* like so: director, editor, and co-producer, Nash; co-star, co-writer, co-producer, Joel. Apart from the fraternal collaboration, similarities to the Coens' debut, *Blood Simple*, can be sensibly confined to the broad neo-noir genre, the basic plot type of worst-laid-plans, and the pitying point of view that permits us, as the plans descend from bad to worse, to see much better than the participants how and where things are going awry. The catbird seat is crucial to the fun.

If the Edgertons' first feature lacks the flash of the Coens', that's arguably a point in favor of the former, a work of self-restraint and self-effacement that lacks little in fluidity of camera, solidness of construction, steadiness of pace. The narrative agenda of adultery, graft, theft, arson, homicide, blackmail, betrayal, mayhem — all that good stuff that tells us something fundamental about our species — remains resolutely human in scale, renouncing gaudy special effects and amplified action; and the unfamiliarity of the cast, while sacrificing nothing in competence, serves above all to underscore the humanness: David Roberts, a Gloomy Gus, and Claire van der Boom, a bargain-basement femme fatale, as the no-time-for-play adulterers, Joel Edgerton as the rough-and-ready firebug for hire, Lisa Bailey as his slow-witted girlfriend, among others. The ambience may be a trifle thin, a besetting problem in neo-noir, a natural by-product of color perhaps, and the character of the cheated-on wife seems neglected and underwritten — not a bit the cheated-on husband — and the whole derivative business could be branded as a mere exercise. But the execution of that exercise, vigorous and invigorating, is A-plus, the detail fresh and abundant (the two dogs from separate households who threaten through their unaccountable friendliness to give away the affair, the Down Under summertime Santa who quick-changes into firefighter's gear to answer the alarm bell, the beautiful hilltop overlook on the fire from the vantage of the admiring arsonist, the nervous

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**Win a Movie Pass for Two!**

One lucky winner will receive their own set of a dozen gourmet Babycakes!

To enter, visit the Reader website and click on “contests.” SDReader.com

Deadline to enter is Friday, April 30 at 1:00 pm.

Limit one entry per person. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

In Theatres Mother’s Day Weekend, May 7!
doodling that develops into a clay, etc., etc.), and the raw emotion of the cli-
max brings it home to us that, for all the diverting cat-and-mouse machin-
ymas, mice, not cats. Not cogs.

The diverting cat-and-mouse machin-

max brings it home to us that, for all

etc.), and the raw emotion of the cli-

us to gauge the range of cleverness,

fascinating thing to observe. “Arti-
stically, aesthetically, it’s a confounding

thing.

M O V I E  L I S T I N G S

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd.

Choosing Adventures in Wonderland

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 mar-

rriage of age-constancy heroine,

down the rabbit hole to escape a surprise

engagement party and an odious snoopy

suitor. This innovation serves the dual pur-

pose of heading off all the tired old sophis-
ticated drolleries about the Reverend Doder-

ford’s fondness for little girls and, secondly,

of feeding off the bare minimum ap-

petite for feminist fantasies of empower-

ment. (The Australian newcomer Mia

Wasikowska evolves from a pasty spaced-

out flower child to an armored and sword-

wielding Saint Joan, Jabberwocky-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 saturation. Just as Alice has been
taught to pinch herself to return from a
dream, you can try pinching yourself to re-
verse 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 at-
tention to detail. And then very soon sati-
tisfied to again, under the glut of computer-

manufactured topography, flora, and fauna,
you can drift back into stuporville, Johnny

Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hath-

away, Crispin Glover. 2010.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10;

FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4;

GALSLAMP 15; GROSSMANN CENTER 10; LA

JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION

VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OAK RUNCH 12;

PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14;

POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14;

THE Back-Up Plan — Reviewed this is-

issue. With Jennifer Lopez, Alex O’Loughlin, Anthony Anderson, and Linda Lavin; di-

rected by Garry Marshall.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10;

FASHION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4;

GALSLAMP 15; GROSSMANN CENTER 10; LA

JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION

VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OAK RUNCH 12;

PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14;

POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14;

The Bounty Hunter — Laboriously con-

structed rom-com action thriller, laboriously
directed by Andrew Davis, wherein a band of hostile exes, he, a skip-tracer and she a ball-

rebound, re-bond after solving a murder

and dodging a hit man en route to the

dighthouse. Not a good showcase for the

assets of Jennifer Aniston, apart from her

well-roasted exterior; Jennifer Tannion.

Gerard Butler endevors to match that with his

bearded stable, Jason Sudeikis, Christine

Baranski, Peter Greene, Siobhan Fallon, Jeff

Garlin. 2010.

★ (HORTON/PLAZA 14)

Chloe — A rehashing and reworking of

Atom Egoian by the French film Nathalie

by Anne Fontaine. Despite the pedigree

(Egoian, if you need reminding, has signed

such tony items as Ararat, The Sweet Here-

after, Exotica, among others), this would fit

comfortably on the Lifetime Movie Net-

work: a suspicious wife sics a high-end

escort onto her husband as a temptation, a

test. True, the escort’s oral reports have a

graphicness 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 muscologist

Liam Neeson, you see more acting per

second than you get from Judiith Light or

Joanna Kerra, and the expanes of flesh

(not just the always game Moore, but also

the unimitated Amanda Seyfried as the es-

cort) 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, grad-

ually proving herself even as she is an eaten

by her client, develops an at first reciprocated

crush on the woman and then, when re-

buffed, turns her attentions to the later’s

teenage son. (Fatal Attraction 20/20. I have

been a franker title.) Neither of the women,
in fairness, takes further leave of senses than

Egoian. The Canadian locale only firms up

the Lifetime affinity. 2010.

★ (GALSLAMP 15)

City Island — Amiable domestic comedy

about a banking executive, which

everyone’s got a secret, and one’s got sev-

eral. Writer and director Raymond De Fe-

litta orchestrates some lively passages of

humor and darkness, and he has set the

action in a flavorful locale, a New England-y “fish-

ing 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

PREPARED FOR:

San Diego Reader. April 29, 2010

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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 gravesite, 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-up. As Bridges’ character, the actor’s speaking voice, a stringy hair, the bedraggled beard, the cherubic best friend, a mutual outcast than the title role. No less is Robert Capron as his son, Tom Wilkinson, “might begin to find your way,” rasps a pedantic interview that awaits at that destination (“A moving sequence, from the top of the class to the so-what final revelation that feels as con-""

The Eclipse — Irish ghost story, slow, quiet, tasteful to a fault, easy to overrate for its avoidances. It deserves credit, even so, for its low-keying ghosts as a prelude to the shadowy phantom that visits in the middle of the night earns an easier shiver. Even the living are treated through- out to a lot of half-light and silhouettes, as if the film wants to tend that their separation from the other side only slight. The dramatic situation, an unformed romantic triangle at the annual Cobl Liter- ary Festival, is sufficiently interesting not to have needed the couple of corridor ghost appetizers (blessed brief) meant to re- move the chill from your socks. And yet, some- thing more, something else, seems to have been needed, something subtle, something frequenter. A drowsy firstlight, just to pre- serve the Irish good name, brings in more per- sonal relations to a realistically messy cli- max, and tastefulness reassets itself for a final ghostly apocalypse, a final shiver. With Ciarán Hinds, Ben Helye, and Aidan Quinn; directed by Conor McPherson. 2009. ★★ HILLCREST CINEMAS, THROUGH 4/29: REN, FROM 4/30)

Exit through the Gift Shop — Review this issue. With Thierry Guetta, directed by Banksy. ★★ HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 4/30

Furry Vengeance — Woodland critters revolt against a real-estate development, with Brendan Fraser, directed by Roger Kumble. (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; POLOW 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

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 scribe who had unaccountably left his car on the ferry and washed up on shore: accident? suicide? And is it only a co- incidence that the ex-P.M. is just now com- ing 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, mechanical plotting, to say nothing of the so-what final revelation that feels as con- cated as it feels antediluvian. Roman Polanski proves himself a masterful judge of the material, pacing himself pru- dently, 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 politi- cian’s estranged wife — and keeping the bedrock of political pretty well buried. When at last he elects to turn up the heat — the abortive device of following a prepro- duced botanical and how he has continued his research 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. Per- haps our indignity over the multiple revela- tions of detective novels. The movie, like the book, is long, two and a half hours with al- most half an hour of anti- or post-climax. In the end, it juggles two separate cases and two separate investigators, a Left- ist muckraking journalist (Michael Nyqvist, with his Richard Burtonish full-moon co- framed botanical and how he has continued his research 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. Per- haps our indignity over the multiple revela- tions of detective novels. The movie, like the book, is long, two and a half hours with al- most half an hour of anti- or post-climax. In the end, it juggles two separate cases and two separate investigators, a Left- ist muckraking journalist (Michael Nyqvist, with his Richard Burtonish full-moon co-
Hot Tub Time Machine — Guy-jinks involving three middle-aged buddies and a naked yeti, for E&R and for B&B, to a rundown mountain resort, the playground of their 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 was an early participant. So let’s get a raunch and all the grossness of guy comedy, and all the sloppy appearance in photography and sound design allowing all the levities of time travel into the bargain. And what sense does it make for one time traveler to tell the dwellers in 1986 that “John Lennon is dead” and that John Lennon got shot not six years earlier. With John Cusack, Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson, Clark Duke, Chevy Chase, Crispin Glover, and Lrazy (Baumbach’s wife, who co-wrote the script), a comedy adventure. *** (GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

How to Train Your Dragon — Computer-animated, based on the children’s book, Viking tale, revolving around a twiggly little lad named Hiccup, “different” from his stout fellows, odd, aberrant, queer. He befriends his dragon, Toothless (a black dragon, for those who knows), gets to know them, understands them, negotiates for peace between the species, yet still proves his mettle as a “real” Viking in a cast of characters that includes the chief signaller, the chief bean-spiller, of the coming thrash. With Amber Heard, Ben Hollingsworth, Gary Cole, and Glenne Headly; written and directed by Derek Borte. 2010.

Mid-August Lunch — ARF I L MB Y

The Last Song — Milly Cyrus gets to shed her Hannah Montana alter ego for an inspired 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 julliard on past performance, though she has n’t touched a keyboard in years, goes grip- ping 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, which turns out (spoiler alert) to be a plantation- bred blueblood. Along the way, she falls in love, she sings along to the car radio, she tries on a Borte. 2010.

The Losers — Action film with Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Zoe Saldana, Chris Evans, and Idris Elba, directed by Sylvain White. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GRASSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Malice in Wonderland — Simon Fel- low’s retelling of the Lewis Carroll children’s classic, updated (albeit little more distant from the Tim Burton’s) in a popu- lated urban underground in North East England, with a funhouse atmosphere of tilled cameras and electric Expressionistic color. The picture is well shot, at least for the comely Maggie Grace as an amne- stic adult Alice, but the forced fidelity to the original text — to the Mad Hatter, to Tweed- leedum and Tweedleded, to the Cheshire Cat, to the (now male) Queen of Hearts — becomes a ball-and-chain. With Danny Dyer, Matt King, Nathaniel Parker. 2009.

Mid-August Lunch — Italian comedy written and directed by Gianni Di Gregorio, who also stars as a middle-aged man living with his mother. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 4/30)

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The Lost Boys — quasi-a Ben Stiller, an American schoolboy accepted into julliard on his past performance, though she has n’t touched a keyboard in years, goes grip- ping 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, which turns out (spoiler alert) to be a plantation- bred blueblood. Along the way, she falls in love, she sings along to the car radio, she tries on a Borte. 2010.

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SANTEE
Sanantee Drive In
20990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Hot Tub Time Machine (R)
Kick-Ass (R)
The Losers (PG-13), A Nightmare on Elm Street (R)

SOUTHBAY
Chula Vista 10
Chula Vista
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)

SOUTH BAY
Furry Vengeance (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15; Sun.: (11:30, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, Mon.-Wed.; 4:15, 7:00), A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) (R) 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.-Wed.; 6:15, 8:30, Phish 3D (NR) Fri. & Sat.: 10:00 pm; Mon.-Thu.: 7:00 pm; Tue.: 8:00 pm; Wed.-7:00 pm.
The Back-up Plan (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.: (11:45, 2:30), 5:15, 7:45, Mon.-Wed.: 5:15, 7:45; The Losers (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:15, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15), Mon.-Wed.: 4:30, 7:15, Death at a Funeral (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:15), 5:00, 7:30; Mon.-Wed.: 5:00, 7:30.
Kick-Ass (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Sun.: (12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15; Mon.-Wed.: 5:45, 8:15; Date Night (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:55, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.: (11:00, 1:55, 3:30), 6:00, 8:15; Mon.-Wed.: 6:00, 8:15; Clash of the Titans (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (12:15, 2:45), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun.: (12:15, 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, Mon.-Wed.: 5:30, 8:00; Clash of the Titans 3D (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:30, 2:00, 4:45, 7:15, Mon.-Wed.: 4:45 pm; How to Train Your Dragon (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (12:30, 3:00), 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sun.: (12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 am

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A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00; Sun.: (11:00, 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00)

THE BOUNTY HUNTER (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.: (9:45, 12:30, 3:15)

CLASH OF THE TITANS 3D (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:30, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30)

DATE NIGHT (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.: (11:00, 1:15, 3:45, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30)

DEATH AT A FUNERAL (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (1:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30)

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DEATH AT A FUNERAL

KEITH DAVID ROB HILL KEN HART WITH CHRISTOPHE BECK JIMMY TAUBER BRUCE TOLL DEAN CRAIG GLENN S. GAINO

The Back-up Plan (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)

La Mission (R) Fri. & Sat.: (10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15)

Sun.-Thu.: (10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15)

THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO (NR) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 1:00, 4:00)

7:00, 10:00; Sun.-Thu.: (10:00, 1:00, 4:00)

ENGINNITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri. 6:20, 8:45 Sun.-
Sun. (4:00) 6:20, 8:45

LA COSTA

6941 El Camino Real (at Araisi/Alga)
(760-599-4211)

Furry Vengeance (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00)

A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) (R) Fri. & Sat.: (10:30, 1:00, 3:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Wed.: (10:30, 1:00, 3:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:45; Sun.-Wed.)

Ocean Village
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue
(760-806-1790)

Furry Vengeance (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sun.: (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00)

A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) (R) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30; Sun.-Wed.: (11:00, 1:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:15, 10:30)

PHISH 3D (NR) Fri. & Sat.: 1:00 pm, Mon.: 7:00 pm; Tue.: 8:00 pm; Wed.: 7:00 pm


La Mission (R) Fri. & Sat.: (12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15)

Sun.-Wed.: (12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15)

Barbie in a Mermaid Tale (G) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

OCEANIDE

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

Furry Vengeance (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sun.: (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00)

How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) Fri. & Sat.: (10:15, 12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 8:15)

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San Diego Reader April 29, 2010 17
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HEALTH CARE

ADULT FOSTER CARE. Experienced Medical and Mental Health professionals to care for our adult clients with developmental disabilities in your own home. Mon-Thur 9am-5pm. $20.00/hour. Send resumé to jobs@harmonium.org www.harmonium.org

HELP WANTED
ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE. Local service company looking for experienced Alt. Clerk. Must be bilingual. QuickBooks experiences a plus. Please fax resumes and references to 1-844-782-9295.

HELP WANTED
CUSTOMER SERVICE

CUSTOMER SALES/ SERVICE.

HELP WANTED
DOMESTIC SERVICE


HELP WANTED
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DISPATCHER/ BILINGUAL Office Assistant. Full-time. 5:30-10:30am and 1-5pm Monday-Friday. Must have valid Class B LPN/ LVN/ RN/ CNA. Pay: $14.50/hour. Apply online at www.goldenparkplace.com.

HELP WANTED
EDUCATION

EDUCATION. Harmonium Children’s Programs seeks quality full-time and part-time staff to work on school grades. Activity aides and inclusion facilitators for kindergarten school care. High School Teacher for licensed daycares. License #70760208. E-mail resumes to jobs@harmonium.org www.harmonium.org

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JOBS WANTED

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in Home Caregiving seeking full-time work. Passionate and kind. Housekeeping, medication reminders, etc. References. 619-315-6788.

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HELP WANTED


HELP WANTED

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HELP WANTED


HELP WANTED


HELP WANTED


HELP WANTED

PERSONAL ACCOUNTANT. Looking for someone to help me write a business plan to show to investors. Part-time hours with some day trips to Orange County and Los Angeles. Call Mark, 619-690-5540.

HELP WANTED

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Okay, kids...you can go to sleep now. All our home security systems are activated.

Sure. I locked the doors and windows and sprinkled tasty treats on the stairs and in the hallway so we'll hear any footsteps.

Butter...? Oh, that's ridiculous. I think this “monster” obsession of yours has gotten a little unhealthy.

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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 email address.

3) All answers must be legible and
to express yourself. You may submit a
URLs or phone numbers. Entries must
the puzzles and we will print your
name in the paper along with your email address.

4) One entry per person per week or
2) Late entries will not be considered.

5) Made some waves?
6) The only word in English that ends with the letters
“mt,” according to the

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
Neighborhood/City:________________________ Zip Code: ______________________
State: ________________________
Circle T-shirt size: L XL
Personal Message: ___________________________________________________________

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

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ETAC HEBALT NELL
ACHE LATER
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HESS OSHY NEA
I TIOO HEALTHCARE
STUF ELLIS OXEN
SERF SPED WELD

THIS WEEK’S CONTENDERS:

Ron Akers, Sabre Springs, 2.
We need a hockey team.

A.T. Ceralik, Bonita, 2.
Alles Affenstache!

Rick Chambless, San Diego, 2.
How bout those Yankies?

Leslie Chase, Campo, 2.
Me too.

Tom Christianson, El Cajon, 2.
To Sal and Eric.

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 2.
Viruous people have really bad memories.

Jon Connor, Oceanside, 2.
“Hi Baby, you’re so tall!”

Victor Correa, San Ysidro, 2.
Seems it never rains in Southern California.

Betty Cory, Chula Vista, 2.
“Betsy-Cory, bird rescuer, my hero” - Cousin Bob

William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 2.
Read a truly great novel “Matterhorn” by Karl Marlantes.

Thomas Diel, Escondido, 2.
Hard work never hurt anyone… but why take the chance?

John Drehner, North Park, 2.
Elvis Presley’s “You aren’t anything but a beagle.”

Richard Dutka, Escondido, 2.
Did I win a t-shirt?

Dale Duffalo, La Jolla, 2.
Pens rock!

George Elam, Vista, 2.
This home reminder I’m giving my retirement.

Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 2.
April showers bring May flowers.

Gracie Glick, El Cajon, 2.
“R” we ok?

Jon Christian, Ocean Beach, 2.
I thought I’d be famous by now!

Bill Pischke, Ramona, 2.
I am in the orange of health.

Linda Morris, Clairemont, 2.
Go Twins!”

Kevin Harris, that was Bullcrap!

Rich Sowell, Ocean Beach, 2.
Bring on the beefsteak and crush the Brewers!

This Sunday: Buschemail! Beerfest at Cado! Money and sex in the air.

David Tomasin, San Diego, 2.
This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a
NATURAL HEALTH & FITNESS

ATTENTION: Wellness Coaches/ Personal Trainers. Earn extra income. Flexible hours/full training. La Jolla Wellness. 888-446-9650


FLEXIBLE HOURS/ FULL TRAINING. La Jolla Wellness offers students the opportunity to learn practical business skills, including our full-service website, that will help you run your own private practice. Flexible hours/ full training. CENTRALLY LOCATED. La Jolla Wellness offers students the opportunity to learn practical business skills, including our full-service website, that will help you run your own private practice. CENTRALLY LOCATED. 858-454-6664.

GODDESS A WAKENING. Call Ken, 619-417-1350.

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GENIE. 651 E. Grand Ave. Now 10 off 1-hour massage to each individual to please and fulfill your needs. Contact Dr. George. 858-273-9435.

Realms! A journey beyond time. Flower essences. 90 minutes 90 dollars. Experience HHP. You’ll like it! Lic-22746.

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Church services or barefoot on the beach. Call 760-527-2613. See: www.personalizedweddings.com.

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Another Chance for Fame and Glory!

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 sandalsanet.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 (100 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, PO Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92126-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPEG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don’t fit the format will not be counted or scored.
5) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
6) Late entries will not be considered.
7) One entry per person per week, or you will be disqualified.
8) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Easy:

WE CANNOT ACCEPT YOUR ENTRY WITHOUT THE FOLLOWING:
Name:___________________________
Address:_________________________
Neighborhood/City:_________________
State: __________________ Zip Code:__________
Circle T-shirt size: L X L
Personal Message:_______________________________

Medium:

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

Easy:

Medium:

Hard:

Evil:

This week’s Contenders:

Easy:

Don Bowman, Santee, 2. What do Judy Garland in the "Wizard of Oz" and Sebastian Certik, Bonita, 2. Héman are related?
Dr. Dave, Pt. Loma, 2. Toyta, god bless you, and be with you Tuesday. Love.
M. Elliott, Rancho Bernardo, 2. Who invented sudoku?
Ann Grudzinski, San Diego, 2. I did it again!
Ken Hansen, Clairemont, 2. Go Padres!
Misty McDaniel, Lakeside, 2. I have nothing to say today.
Lloyd Payne, Merion, 2. Nice try, see you next time.
John Pertle, Santee, 2. Jesus Christ paid for your sins. Believe and receive forgiveness.
D. Stiewig, Santee, 2. Spring is here.

Medium:

Linda Bible, El Cajon, 2. Happy Birthday Rodger!
Hans Butkofer, Mission Beach, 2. Will try harder next week!
Henry Chung, San Diego, 2. 2010 is over.
Manny Faria, Point Loma, 2. Happy two-year anniversary baby! I love you so much!

Hard:

Vicki Flora, Bonita, 2. Héman was the way.
Richard Markson, Indio, 2. What is the desert in May?
Teddy Moore, Santee, 2. Have a nice day.
Rick Rotzch, Ocean Beach, 2. Electric cars will beat Middle East oil.
Steve Schar, Encinitas, 2. Is Ryan M... the new LT?
Oldman-Gregg-Stever, Temecula, 2. Gotta get out! Gotta get out! Gotta get out!
William Stiewig, Vallejo, 2. What happened?
Roy Bartolome, San Diego, 2. I’m thor... your thor?... well it...
Ellen Bourne, San Diego, 1. I’m done with you.

Evil:

Wayne Ameele, Peñasquitos, 2. Rocky is quite talented.
Genevieve Coleman, San Diego, 2. My money on Kobe and the Lakers suxka.
Nel Cristobal, Chula Vista, 2. A person is never too old to learn.
Carol Dobrowolski, San Diego, 2. I’m thor... your thor?... well it...

Mandy Smith, Boulevard, 2. Global warming is the earth with a fever!
Marjie Souza, Ocean Beach, 2. Where’s the sunshine?
George Elam, Vista, 1. Padres pretenders or contenders?
Henry Romero, San Diego, 1. Let it rain!

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.

Mandy Smith, Boulevard, 2. Global warming is the earth with a fever!
Marjie Souza, Ocean Beach, 2. Where’s the sunshine?
George Elam, Vista, 1. Padres pretenders or contenders?
Henry Romero, San Diego, 1. Let it rain!

Evil:

Joe Arista, Rancho Peñasquitos, 2. “Obama care” was manure, allowing “tea party” to mature into party.
Bliss Beedle, Encinitas, 2. Faith Hope Love.
Loren Boyer, El Cajon, 2. Finished sex rehab. Still can’t break 80!
Jean Bradley, Spring Valley, 2. I like my dogs better than I like most people.
Jorge Castro, Alpine, 1. I got sunshine on a rainy day.

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 2. I find a amusing that I was diag- nosed with Anthedonia.
Larry Clark, Clairemont, 2. Love your Mother Earth. She’s the only planet we have.
Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 2. Happy earth, happy people.
Michelle Dutra, Serra Mesa, 2. Adelaide rocks!
Matthew Evans, Encinitas, 2. May the...
Jane Flamming, Encinitas, 2. Happy birthday Dennis.
Juanito Gerardo, Mira Mesa, 2. This is not evil.
Lilly Gonzalez, Logan Heights, 2. The bus makes my numbers jiggly.
J. Gorman, UTC, 2. I coulda been a contender.

Linda J. Hall, La Mesa, 2. You are the best! Mom thank you.
Butch Hays, La Mesa, 2. Happy anniversary, Esther.
Panda Henderson, La Jolla, 2. John 3:16!
Christine Hennes, San Diego, 2. One world is enough for all of us.
FOUR-WEEK ACTING WORKSHOP needed for photo, video. Ages 18-60. All and singer too. Call producer for preparation! Previous training 12pm-3pm. $220, discounts available. NORTH PARK
3134 El Cajon Boulevard
Hot Baths/Body Scrubs
$10 off 1/2 hr.

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9:30-10:30 pm • 7 days
Tropical Oriental Massage
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Brainstorms
by Don Rubin

Divide and Conquer

Each of the symbols at the right represents an Arabic numeral in (what was originally, at least) a fairly simple division problem. Pretty calculating, don’t you think? Using your knowledge of math, your calculators, or your fingers, see if you can express this problem in more conventional terms.

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:

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.
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:

Ed Barno, San Diego, 2. Did Leo have a friend named Rex?
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 2. Relative: a person you don’t want to lend money to.
Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 2. Go Padres!
Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 2. Not Uncle Leo! Another great puzzle! Thanks!
John Redmond, Santee, 2. The name is John.

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 2. A message!
Phyllis Talbot, Spring Valley, 2. Thanks for the shirt. Good luck everybody. God bless Chelsea.
Glenn A. Walker, Pacific Beach, 2. Signed original artwork by Gangster Leo, now on sale.
Mike Barry, Pine Valley, 1. Happy 14th birthday Shannon!

Bob Bent, San Diego, 1. Leo is guilty.
Tom Burgesson, Clairemont, 1. Bad handwriting.
Michael Carchidi, Chula Vista, 1. Give me war or give me peace, I’m not fussy.
George Elam, Vista, 1. That’s my cat’s name!
Ann Gammon, Santa Clarita, 1. It’s not hard when you give us the answer.

Riza Laraya, San Diego, 1. It was obviously Leo who did it. He was an...
Jessica H. Lopez, San Diego, 1. Leo is guilty.
Tom Burgesson, Clairemont, 1. Bad handwriting.
Michael Carchidi, Chula Vista, 1. Give me war or give me peace, I’m not fussy.
George Elam, Vista, 1. That’s my cat’s name!
Ann Gammon, Santa Clarita, 1. It’s not hard when you give us the answer.

John Pertle, Santee, 1. Don’t worry about evildoers. Don’t envy the wicked. Trust God.
Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 1. Is it “Leo”?
Not sure why it’s 5 before 6.
Ted Scafidi, San Diego, 1. Drop the heater, Leo!
Craig Stein, El Cerrito, 1. Check it out — Papa’s published! Love you Danielle and Natalie.
Duane D. Tremaine, San Diego, 1. Or, being hated, not give way to hating.

Dave Small, San Carlos, 1. Leo did it!
Janette Tucker, Ocean Beach, 1. Need a pet sitter? Help the critter sitter!
Jim Wadman, North Park, 1. I love Sharon and she loves me!
Rem Whilden, Carlsbad, 1. It was no ‘Nardo da Vinci.
Free fridge cleaning
State-of-the-art equipment and supplies. First-time customers only.
Call for details.

30% off pavers and block
Includes free demo of existing concrete or asphalt. Certified installer of Belgard, RCP, TerraStone, and Angelo Block. Call for details.

Granite countertop in 5 days just $2,995
Up to 50 sq. ft. Choice of ten colors and six edge profiles. Call for details.

$750 off cabinet refacing
Custom cabinet refacing installed in 3 to 5 days. Financing available OAC. Call for details and a free in-home consultation.

$600 off whole water treatment system
For home only. Installation available. Call for details.

Free hour of house cleaning
With the purchase of 4 hours of cleaning. Only $69.95 for 1 hour! The most thorough cleaning you’ve ever experienced.

20% off synthetic lawn
Call for details.

$20 off any plumbing repair
Complete service and repair. Call for details.

Free installation of patio cover or sunroom
With purchase.

$500 off garage door tune-up
Balance and adjust, lubricate all moving parts, inspect opener, adjust springs. Parts extra. Call for details.

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Call for details.
$395 Artist Studio
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Painting, drawing, sculpting, photo, writing, etc. 1155 7th Avenue. 619-239-1839 1030.


LA DUNA. Attractive approximately 2800sqft of commercial space for lease in prime location. Previously was Baby's Restaurant, tenant improvements negotiable. 5755 La Jolla Boulevard. 619-295-6749. www.centrecity.com.

LENOR GROVE. $600. Spacious 300sqft office with view/own bathroom. 2 minutes from freeway. Includes trash, water, sewer. Month to month. 7977 North Ave. 619-518-5129.

MISSION MILLS. Great retail or office space with floor-to-ceiling windows. Corner unit, good street visibility. 5710 University Ave. 619-483-0376.

NORTH PARK. Space for rent, 300-3000 square feet in near at retail store. $200 or 10% of base-ten events whichever is greater. $18 extra for out-of-store-hour times. Perfect for classes, meetings, or parties. 619-280-5529.


POINT LOMA. $795 1bd. 1 bath. 1 year lease. 1950-1677 or 858-654-4220 x203.


PACIFIC BEACH. 1175. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 block from the beach. $650 rent. 619-445-6301.

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LEAD STORY
— In February, the Minnesota Board of Chiropractic Examiners reclassified Scott Fredin, even though he is still registered as a sex offender following a 2003 conviction for fondling two female patients during "examinations." Released from jail in 2006, he had appealed to the board, "I’ve been released from prison," then found them "rehabilitated." He agreed to several restrictions on his office practice, but the board declined to order him to disclose his crime to patients. (And in March, the Tennessee Board of Medical Examiners finally expelled Dr. David Livingston, whom it had licensed in 1992 despite knowledge of his sex-crime-related expulsions in two states and his being labeled a "violent sex offender" by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation.)

The Continuing Crisis
— Ralph Conone, 68, was arrested in Columbus, Ohio, in March after witnesses identified him as the man who some times had walked up behind young children, punched them on the head when their parents weren’t looking, and walked away as if nothing had happened. According to police, Conone confessed that he had been punching children in public since January because he liked the "excitement" of getting away with something.

— Police who were called to a home in Charleroi, Pa., in February arrested Linda Newsom, 49, and Lennard Newsom, 37, who were allegedly sophomoric and beating the 21-year-old son they had come home drunk. (She whiffed on the first two swing but connected on the third.) Newstrom told police, "I brought him into this world, and I’ll take him out of this world.

— Roberta Feinstin, 67, who had been fired by the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, filed a wrongful-discharge lawsuit in February, claiming that, despite glowing job reviews for 12 years, she was terminated because of her age and because she complained to other workers about her recently hired supervisor’s "constant bavages of...flatulence.

— In February, a one-armed man switched a single cufflink from the CJ Vinten shop in Leigh-on-Sea, England, and in March, a one-legged man swiped a single Nike trainer shoe from a store in Barnsley, England. The one-armed man is still loose, but the one-legged man was arrested.

Yikes!
— A popular TV chef in Italy was fired in February after musing on the air about the historical popularity of gourmet cat meat. According to Beppe Bigazzi, 77, steat is best cooked after leaving the meat under running water for three days to make it "tendine," and then "eat it," he said, "many times." Bigazzi later explained that he was referring only to a tradition in Tuscany in the 1930s and 1940s and never intended to encourage eating cats today, but apparently his bosses could not resist the opportunity. (In an earlier move, the woodcock was removed from the original list of birds.

— China’s Yangcheng Evening News reported in March that a 6-year-old boy in Ha’erbin City, with 15 fingers and 16 toes, had surgery to get down to 10 and 12. (In March, Zhang Ruijing, 101, of Linlou Village in China’s Henan province, was reported to have a "rough patch" of skin on her forehead that had recently grown to a length of 2 1/2 inches in the shape of a horse. (However, dermatologists in the U.S. point out that the condition is not all that rare.) (3) In February, the Parsee of Deepak Kumar, 7, of Behari in India’s Bihar state, sought financial help for surgery to remove the parasitic twin joined at the hip with the now-right-leg-imbod. (His father told an Agence France-Presse reporter that he rejected suggestions that Deepak remain as is so that vilLAGers could worship him as a deity.

Bright Idea
— The city health office in London, Ontario, created an online sex-education game that official hopes will appeal to teenagers in that its messages are delivered by a cast of iconic super heroes. According to a February report by CanWest News Service, the game featured a comic book con- dom (who wears a “cap”), Wonder Vag (a girlish power), and Willy the Kid; each fights the villain Sperminator, who wears a red wrestling mask and phallicus for arms. The characters answer sex-educated questions and, with correct answers, protect "out of a wrong" but one a gets the player quirked with sperm. At press time, the game was still accessible at www.GetOnLondon.com.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85903, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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of glory coming down the clouds with fire! The whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes. (They were more of a performer-type band as a sing-along outfit — when worship pastor Lem Uita crooned “Left my fear by the side of the road! Hear you speak, won’t let go,” the effect was much more singer-songwriter than group songleader.)

Graves generally worked high and fast in his delivery, but he dropped things down a bit for the opening prayer: “Bow your head, close your eyes, and pretend that there’s no one else in the room but you and God.... Tell Him now what’s weighing heaviest on your heart...lift that room who call You Father, that You will show them that You are ‘Abba, Father’ — Daddy. That You want to take care of Your kids.”

Because you know what? Earthly daddies: “whether you want to or not, sometimes in life, your kids end up following your mistakes.” Your successes; maybe, your mistakes, almost certainly. (Graves cited statistics showing that children of divorced parents are four times more likely to get divorced themselves.)

As a case study, Graves took up the story of King David, a man after God’s own heart. Even so, he committed adultery with Bathsheba and then, when she turned up pregnant, conspired to have Bathsheba’s husband killed in battle. Graves made David a case study and showed how his sins were both multiplied and magnified. First, the multiplication: David had a hand in one murder; as a result, no less than four of his sons wound up dead, two at each others’ hands. Then the magnification: David committed adultery in private, but one of his sons raped his own sister and another slept with his father’s concubines in a tent on the king’s roof.

The means to change, said Graves, came through Jesus Christ. “The burden is on you to change. You’re not under a generational curse; you’re under generational consequences. So, if the curse is broken through salvation, because of that, you become a new creation, and because of that, you have no condemnation.” Still, he warned, your sins will become your kids’ problems. “Put away every doubtful habit. Think: if your behavior were magnified, would it be a problem?” Because, he noted, “sin always escalates.”

What happens when we die?

“We’ll all stand before God,” said Graves, “and those who have made that personal decision to follow Christ will enter into eternal heaven. If you haven’t asked Christ into your life, try to make that decision before you die. That way, you’re not asking at the wrong time.”

Matthew Lickona

Videos of this church and others featured in this column are available at sandiegoreader.com.
**Typo Patrol Results**

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**Letters**
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**Under the Radar**
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**City Lights**
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<td>15% off edibles!</td>
<td></td>
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**21 & up only**

Our menu is updated every day via our website. We have over 40+ strains, seeds, tons of edibles, and always great customer service.

737 Pearl Street, Suite 202
(in the La Jolla Village Plaza, next to Dick’s Liquor)
888-636-0640
www.lajollamc.org
We accept Visa & Mastercard
MUST SHOW DISCOUNT CARD

La Jolla Medicinal Cooperative is an incorporated CA Not For Profit Mutual Benefit Corporation organized under the Consumer Cooperative Corporation Law of California in full compliance with the California Attorney General’s guidelines, California Proposition 215, and California Senate Bill 420.

**$50 off** Any 1/8th of your choice

**FREE Gift New Members!**

HILLCREST
3740 5th Avenue
619-269-1824
www.AllGreenCoop.com
420/215 compliant

**4g eighths!**
High-quality medications • Open 11 am-11 pm daily
www.AlternativeCareGroup.org

**Alternative Care Group**
3930 Oregon St. Suite 260
San Diego, CA 92104 • (619) 795-1887
Non-profit. Members only. Friendly and knowledgeable staff. ATM available.

In compliance with Prop 215 and Senate Bill 420.

**$10 Off**
With minimum $120 donation. Not valid with daily special.

**FREE GRAM**
One free gram with $60 donation. Not valid with daily special.

**FREE GIFT**
For first-time patients or for referrals.

Safe Bird Rock location, professional atmosphere, and high-quality affordable medication.

5544 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla • 888-412-3105
SDHolisticHealing.net

**$10 Off**
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(New members only)

Sorrento Valley
5703 Oberlin Drive, Suite 201
(Minutes from 805, off Miramar Rd.)
858-550-0445
TheHappyCooperative.org
**In Bankers Hill**

**BCC**

Beneficial Care Collective • 619-702-3110 • www.sandiegobcc.com

740 Broadway • Downtown location • Free parking behind building

Free Gift
First-time member with donation. One per person.

FREE Gift for New Members!

- $10 off 1/8ths w/membership
- Every 1/8th is 4 grams
- $55 cap on all 1/8ths

7 days a week
Mon.-Sat. 10 am-9 pm • Sun. 10 am-8 pm

Patients must have a recommendation from a licensed doctor. Recommendations will be verified. Our compassionate care is distributed only in accordance with California’s Health and Safety Code 11362.5 and 11362.7, Prop 215, and SB 420.

Free gift for first-time patients.

**In La Jolla**

**La Jolla**

909 Prospect St., Suite 130-B
Mon.-Sat. 11-8 • Sun. Closed
760-521-2275
AvailCollective.com

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$25.00 COUPON
New Qualified Patients Only.
Minimum Order of $60.

(619) 825-0955
3251 FOURTH AVENUE San Diego, CA 92103

Operating in accordance with Prop. 215 - S.B. 420 - H&S 11362.5

**New Qualified Patients Only.**

$10 Off
With minimum donation of $50.
One per person.

**California's Best Meds**

619-582-4035

Wellness Center Collective
619-795-7725
4111 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA 92105
wellnesscentercollective@yahoo.com

Mon.-Sun. 9 am-10 pm
A nonprofit organization, in compliance with Prop 215, SB 420, and HS 11362.5.

**For new patients only with $50 donation**

$100 Off
With minimum donation of $100.
One per person.

**FREE**

Free gram for pre-registration May 1-7
A collective dedicated to helping our patients, cleaning our beaches and strengthening our community.

SONSofBEACHES.org
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“Home of the free eighth!”

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Visit San Diego’s newest dispensary, offering safe, legal access to Medical Marijuana from friendly, knowledgeable staff.

Diverse and effective strain menu available daily, with updates.

New patients receive gift. Love dispensed to all patients.

Sun.-Wed. 11 am-7 pm • Thurs.-Sat. 11 am-9 pm

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Ocean Beach CA 92107
(619) 226-2653

admin@obwellnesscenter.com

A collective established in the spirit of Prop 215 and SB 420

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- Every 1/8th is 4 grams
- $55 cap on all 1/8ths

7 days a week
Mon.-Sat. 10 am-9 pm • Sun. 10 am-8 pm

Patients must have a recommendation from a licensed doctor. Recommendations will be verified. Our compassionate care is distributed only in accordance with California’s Health and Safety Code 11362.5 and 11362.7, Prop 215, and SB 420.

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A nonprofit organization, in compliance with Prop 215, SB 420, and HS 11362.5.
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3780 Hancock #G
Sports Arena Area
www.420cc.org

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**New Patients**

(888) 554-4404

3780 Hancock #G
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www.420cc.org

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**Top Shelf 1/8’s $40**

(Regularly $55) or

Free Gram of Choice
(with $50 minimum donation)

7750 Dagget #203, Kearny Mesa 92111 • 10 am-9 pm 7 days

*Limit 1 per patient. New patients only. Expires 5/31/10.

In strict accordance with Prop 215, SB 420, H&S 11362.5.

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Free Yoga/Breathwork to collective members!

20+ strains • Gourmet edibles

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www.SDTMC.net

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*Limit 1 per patient. New patients only. Expires 5/31/10.

In strict accordance with Prop 215, SB 420, H&S 11362.5.

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