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VOLUME 39 / NUMBER 19
MAY 13, 2010



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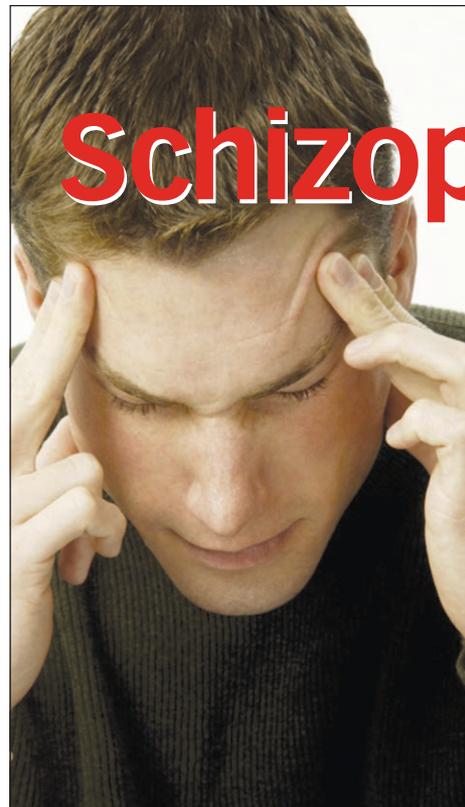
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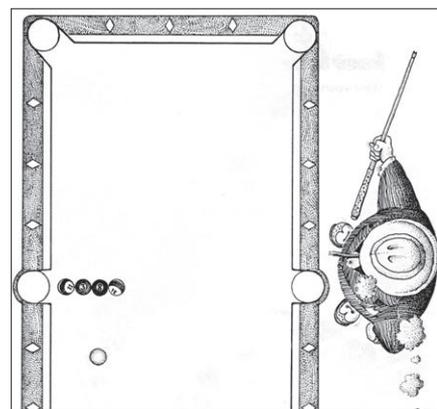
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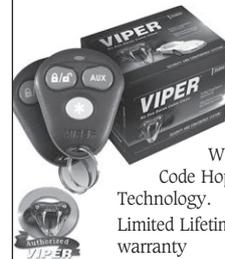


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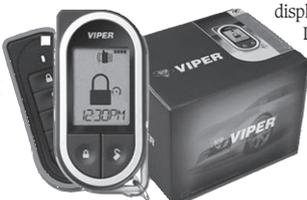
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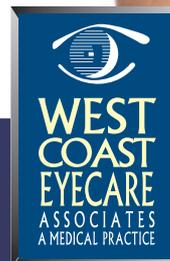
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UNDER THE RADAR

Red meat Donovan's Steak and Chop House, the San Diego-based chain of meat eateries, is prepared to admit that it failed to disclose its political contributions by not filing a so-called major donor report as required by state law, according to a stipulation agreement posted on the FPPC website. The \$27,101 of inadequately reported contributions, all of which were made in 2008, included \$5400 to the San Diego Restaurant and Beverage Political Action Committee and a total of \$4901 to the county's Republican Party. Donovan's, which has restaurants in San Diego, Phoenix, and Salt Lake City, is run by Chargers booster **Dan Shea**, who long has advocated a new taxpayer-financed stadium for the team. The company has agreed to pay a \$2230 fine to the state's Fair Political Practices Commission to settle the matter, to be taken up by the commission at its next meeting on May 13. ... San Diego City Council members continue to use free tickets to baseball games at Petco Park to curry favor with constituents. On April 17, Councilman **Ben Hueso** gave 2 admissions to the Dolores Magdaleno Memorial Recreation Council; on April 14, **Marti Emerald** handed out 26 tickets to the Crawford High School baseball team.

Gay times Quarterly lobbying reports are in, and they reveal the usual lineup by state legislators and their staffs for gifts parceled out by a variety of special interests. During the quarter, Sempra Energy spent a total of \$16,423 on so-called lobbying activity expenses. The utility giant paid for Democratic assemblyman Felipe Fuentes's \$112 meal at Zeffirino in Las Vegas prior to a "solar facility tour." **Gerard Loiza**, a field representative for Republican senator **Roy Ashburn**, got an \$85 admission to a "Gas Company Public Appreciation Dinner" held at the Visalia Convention Center on February 10. That was less than a month before Ashburn was busted by Sacramento police for drunk driving near a gay nightclub where he had been spotted. An evangelical Christian and outspoken homosexual-rights opponent, Ashburn subsequently came out of the closet and acknowledged he was gay.

On March 22, **Joe Patterson**, legislative director for GOP assemblyman **Martin Garrick**, got a \$165 ticket to a Kings basketball game

at Arco Arena in Sacramento, thanks to AT&T. **Patrick Bouteller**, a legislative aide to Republican assemblyman **Nathan Fletcher**, went to a Kings game on February 16, courtesy of a \$169 ticket from AT&T. **Erica Costa**, an aide to Democratic assemblywoman **Lori Saldaña**, saw the Kings on March 10 with a \$154 admission provided by the communications giant.

On February 25, the Barona Indian band picked up a \$124 meal tab at its casino's Barona Steakhouse for Republican state senator **Dennis Hollingsworth**. Ex-San Diego city councilwoman **Toni Atkins**, running for assembly, got a meal worth \$39 on March 22; Assembly Speaker **John Pérez's** \$34 tab was comped by Barona on January 22.

Contracting out San Diego city councilman **Carl DeMaio's** campaign to qualify his controversial city contracting measure—the so-called Competition and Transparency in City Contracting Initiative—for the city ballot isn't hurting for money, thanks to an array of contractors from across the state. As of March 31, according to its campaign disclosure statements, DeMaio's committee had raised a total of \$161,300



Carl DeMaio

this year; it spent \$165,212, much of it on the services of the La Jolla Group, a consultant specializing in signature gathering for initiative campaigns.

Two of the biggest donors so far have been the Coalition for Fair Employment in Construction, a Poway-based contractor-financed advocacy group, with \$45,237, and the Infrastructure PAC of the Associated General Contractors, with \$63,000. The Western Electrical Contractors Association gave \$20,000. TTS Construction of Lodi, California, gave \$1000, and Helix Electric contributed \$10,000. DeMaio's personal political committee, Reforming City Hall with Carl DeMaio, kicked in \$15,000.

Meanwhile, on March 2, the San Diego Restaurant and Beverage Political Action Committee, which is sponsored by the California Restaurant Association, gave \$10,000 to San Diegans for Accountability at City Hall, the campaign to pass Proposition D, which would maintain San Diego's strong mayor form of government.

— Matt Potter

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Dennis Hollingsworth



Ads for Bridgepoint Education's Ashford University are all over Petco Park.

For-Profit. For Learning?

By Don Bauder

On May 4, PBS's *Frontline* show interviewed a former recruiter for Ashford University, the online college that is part of San Diego's newest corporate darling, Bridgepoint Education. She complained

about the pressure to enroll students. "They used to tell us, you know, 'Dig deep. Get

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to their pain. Get to what's bothering them. So, that way, you can convince them that a college degree is going to solve all their problems," said the ex-recruiter.

On December 30 of last year, *Bloomberg Businessweek* magazine revealed how for-profit universities shamelessly take advantage of military personnel. The first example was U.S. Marine Corporal James Long, who has a brain injury. He knew he was enrolled at Ashford but couldn't recall what class he was taking. A winsome female Ashford recruiter had allegedly broken camp rules by recruiting students at a

continued on page 12

Neal Obermeyer

Re-elect BONNIE DUMANIS for District Attorney

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"She made an example out of me."
- Ron Saathoff, former fire fighter union president

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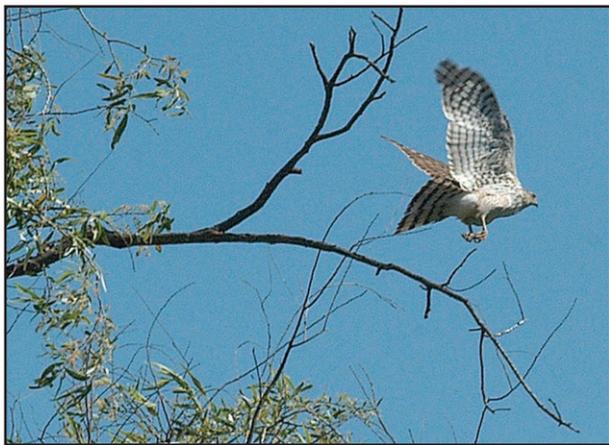
No One Asked Us About It

By Joe Deegan

Damon Lane County Park, two miles east of the Mount Helix summit, serves more than local residents' needs for a peaceful

commune with nature. "The park was put there," says Jack Phillips, chair of the local planning group for the incorporated area and a community leader for 25 years, "as a buffer between two types

each street. The land is currently zoned for agricultural use, with a maximum of one dwelling unit allowed per two acres. To complicate matters, Fuerte Elementary School occupies the southwest cor-



A Cooper's hawk takes to the air above Damon Lane County Park.

of density." On the park's south and east sides, Rancho San Diego along Jamacha Road is a crowded mixture of residential and business uses, while the region north and west of the park has retained its rural roots.

But according to the Valle de Oro Community Planning Group, a new development in the works north of the park would be the first step in destroying the community's character. Fuerte Ranch Estates is the venture of Reynolds Communities, an El Cajon development company that has already completed several smaller projects in the area. The company wants to build 36 homes on a 27-acre parcel, the site of a former chicken ranch, at the southeast corner of Fuerte Drive and Damon Lane. The development would have an entrance on

ner of the intersection.

Final passage of Fuerte Ranch Estates would require a general plan amendment. "There is no benefit for the community," Phillips tells



Rancho San Diego resident Laura Dvorak opposes the development plan.

me by phone. "The project has no reason except to help the developer buy a new yacht. And it is not normal for county planners to throw out the current general plan only for one developer."

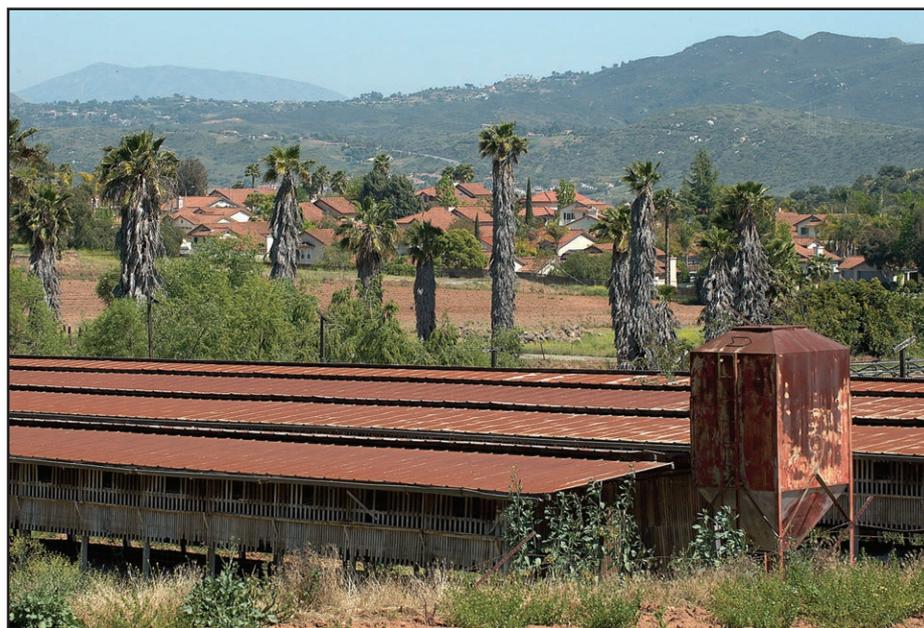
Let's go south on Damon Lane, down the hill along the old chicken ranch, whose dilapidated sheds still stand, to the northwest entrance of Damon Lane County Park. My guide is Laura Dvorak, a resident of Rancho San Diego. We look at an aging chain-link fence separating the ranch from the park. Dvorak tells me a concrete-block fire wall would replace the fence if the new development goes in. The slope downhill from the sheds is bowed, leaving much of the ground sunken in a trough that collects water in rainy seasons. That water drains southward, as does a subterranean

stream that emerges above ground in the middle of the park, eventually flowing into the Sweetwater River. Dvorak believes that any large-scale construction on the ranch would severely pollute the creek.

The developer plans to bring in fill dirt to create a "pad" on the ranch's low spot. That would raise the level of the project's houses so they would never flood. According to Dvorak, some residents on the west side of Damon Lane have complained they'd lose their view if the houses are built so high.

Dvorak loves Damon Lane County Park, and it's easy to see why. Its wide trails run along open meadows and riparian woodlands, with abundant cottonwood trees. The park lies within a county Multiple Species Conserva-

continued on page 14



Developer Reynolds Communities wants to build 36 homes where this abandoned chicken farm stands.

STRINGERS

What Does Everybody Here Want?

200 Attend Boardwalk Marijuana March Mission Beach, Pacific Beach—Approximately 200 San Diego residents participated in the Worldwide Medical Marijuana March Saturday, May 1. The march started at Crystal Pier and moved south



One of 200 pro-pot marchers

down the boardwalk to the rollercoaster in Mission Beach.

Demonstrators passed out lighters, NUG magazines, and shiny green marijuana leaf and peace sign necklaces, along with corked plastic green vials with blunts. A heavy scent of marijuana permeated the air. Many held hand-painted signs and waved "I love you" messages in sign language. One individual wore a marijuana plant costume.

"What does everybody here want?" yelled Craig Beresh, through a megaphone across the boardwalk.

"Legalization," yelled back the demonstrators and bystanders.

"When do we want it?" asked Beresh. "NOW!"

By Carolyn Grace Matteo
Monday, May 3

She Wouldn't Listen to Me

DUI Crash Warrants Former Attorney's Attention Pacific Beach—Three police vehicles arrived at the scene of an accident where a burgundy Chevy Blazer and a black Volkswagen Cabrio collided in Pacific Beach at approximately 8 p.m. on Sunday, May 2.

The cars were traveling east on Garnet. The Chevy was stopped at the red light but the Volkswagen Cabrio failed to stop as it approached from behind. The impact was heard several blocks away.

The trembling 22-year-old driver of the Volkswagen said, "I'm scared. I had a beer," her breath intoxicating from over a foot away. "Just try to sound sober," said her friend.

Other than aches, pains, and red marks from where the airbags had hit the neck and chest of the practically topless Chevy driver, no one from either car was aware of any other injuries at the time.

A man named Jim Kinder, a witness to the accident who introduced himself as a retired civil defense, civil litigation attorney, was unpopular with the SDPD; they addressed Kinder by name, without having to ask.



"Just try to sound sober."

"They hate me," said Kinder, "I tell people what their legal rights are. Their legal rights are that they don't have to take the pencil test—follow the pen

continued on page 16

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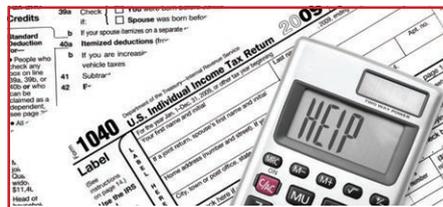


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For-profit learning

continued from page 6

barracks for wounded Marines. Eight to ten of them had signed up, including Long, who flunked his first test ten times.

The *Bloomberg Businessweek* story contained errors, says Bridgepoint, and its rules ban the high-pressure sales techniques its former employee described on TV. The company insists it does not recruit students just to suck in federal loan and grant money.

The online educator has convinced the San Diego establishment. Bridgepoint will be the new sponsor of the Holiday Bowl. Its ads are all over Petco Park. A new, widely touted study (financed by Bridgepoint) says the company is a big contributor to the San Diego economy. The firm is a media love kitten. The *Union-Tribune* has editorially puffed up Bridge-

point, which is also a sponsor of *Voice of San Diego*.

The new local cheer is "Sis boom bah, Bridgepoint!"

Emphasize that word "bah"! Few realize that the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Inspector General probed Ashford between 2005 and mid-2009. In its reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission, Bridgepoint admits that the government has found that the company may have been seriously out of compliance with Higher Education Act regulations and the penalties could be quite severe — even threatening the company's major source of funding, the federal government.

Wall Street's Warburg Pincus owns 63.4 percent of the company. Chief executive Andrew Clark, who founded Bridgepoint in 2004, owns 5.8 percent. Last year, Clark's total compensation was \$20.5 million, most of which consisted of stock option awards.

For-profit schools are

gaining students as public and private universities and colleges cut back in the tough economic environment. Stocks of these schools, such as DeVry, Capella, ITT, Corinthian, and Apollo Group (University of Phoenix), have collectively done well over the past year, although they took a hit when word leaked out before the PBS broadcast and Corinthian reported Department of Education problems. Also, the general market took a monumental plunge late in the week, although it bounced back Monday.

The best stock of the bunch has probably been Bridgepoint's. On April 15 of last year, the company went public, closing that day at \$11.10. The stock has risen steadily and this Monday afternoon was trading above \$24. But on May 4, Bridgepoint's stock was belted, along with others in the industry, even though the company

had just announced that first-quarter revenue had zoomed 85 percent as a result of a horde of students enrolling.

The for-profit education stocks get walloped from time to time for other reasons. Often, it's after Robert Shireman, deputy undersecretary of the U.S. Department of Education, gives a speech. Late last month, he scolded the for-profit schools for the huge and rapidly burgeoning sums of federal aid money they are sucking up.

Shireman is particularly worried about the amount of debt that low-income students are amassing. For-profit educational firms bear much of that responsibility. A report by the Department of Education indicates that in the 2007–2008 period, a whopping 53 percent of those who got bachelor's degrees from for-profit institutions had more than \$30,500 of debt, versus 17 percent at non-profit public and private schools. *Frontline* pointed

out that while for-profit schools have 10 percent of U.S. students, they account for 44 percent of debt defaults.

Actually, since the late 1980s, the Department of Education's Office of Inspector General has been probing for-profit schools, looking for such frauds and abuses as misleading recruitment practices, falsification of admission and financial aid records, untrue statements to prospective students, and the providing of aid to ineligible students. To keep their revenues and profits soaring, and their stocks climbing, the for-profit education companies cut corners to achieve growth.

Few companies of any kind have experienced the hyper-rapid growth enjoyed by Bridgepoint. In 2005, the company had revenues of \$7.95 million. By 2009, they had soared to \$454.3 million. Over the same period, the bottom line went from a loss of \$6.53 cents a share

to a profit of 74 cents.

The company has come a long way in a few short years. In 2005, it bought tiny Franciscan University of the Prairies in Clinton, Iowa, a former teachers' college, and changed its name to Ashford University. In 2007, the parent acquired a tinier school and renamed it University of the Rockies. However, 99 percent of Bridgepoint's 53,688 students attend online; 17.1 percent are in the military. There are 2495 faculty members, and all but 65 are part-time.

The company boasts that it is very liberal in accepting class credits from elsewhere. Indeed, it will honor up to 99 transfer credits, or potentially more than three years' worth — something only six schools do.

The federal government is the cash register. Bridgepoint students get grants and loans under Title IV of the Higher Education Act. Both

continued on page 14

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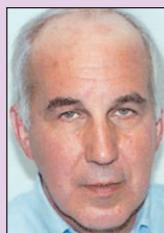
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For-profit learning

continued from page 12

Ashford and University of the Rockies get 85 percent of their revenue from the Title IV programs.

And that's why it is important for an investor — or a San Diego Bridgepoint cheerleader — to read the company's March 2 annual report and May 3 quarterly report to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Critically, the company mentions the possibility of "loss of access to federal loans and grants on which we are substantially dependent." The annual report spells out how the Department of Education's Office of Inspector General (OIG) looked closely into Ashford for four years.

"We expect that the OIG's draft report will assert findings of noncompliance, and if such findings are included in the OIG's final report, such final report could result in recommendations that the U.S. Department of Education Office of Federal Student Aid impose fines, liabilities, and/or adverse action on Ashford University," says the report.

Ashford could be required to modify Title IV administration procedures such as compensation of enrollment advisors. There could be a demand for "return of Title IV funds or the commencement of an administrative action to impose potentially significant fines or to limit, suspend, or terminate Ashford University's Title IV participation," Bridgepoint con-

fesses. (Italics mine.) Potentially, 85 percent of the company's business could be in trouble.

Any penalty may not be so severe, but the language used by Bridgepoint suggests the company is worried. And the language used by Shireman and other regulators in Washington suggests that student debt is a looming disaster, for-profit institutions such as Bridgepoint are inordinately to blame, and reform is urgently necessary. ■

No one asked us

continued from page 7

tion Program subarea. Dvorak is able to name more than 60 animals she's seen in the park, from swallowtail butterflies, ring-necked snakes, western diamond-backs, horned lizards, rac-

coons, and big brown bats to quail, blue herons, great horned owls, and American kestrels. She seems partial to raptors, which perch on high places around the whole area. From our vantage point, we can see a red-tailed hawk atop a telephone pole next to the chicken ranch's main house. "He sits on top of that pole every day," Dvorak tells me. "Once they start construction up there, he'll disappear forever." An early environmental document prepared for Fuerte Ranch Estates paid significant attention to potential damage to wildlife in the park. "But the wildlife issues have dropped out of the discussion lately," says Dvorak.

By phone, I speak with Susan Brownlee, a member of the Valle de Oro Community Planning Group. I ask what happened to the discussion of the Fuerte Ranch

project's potential effects on wildlife. Brownlee tells me that Reynolds Communities convinced the County's

Brownlee's children attended the school less than a decade ago, she served two terms as president of its Parent Teacher

"Once they start construction, he'll disappear forever."

Department of Planning and Land Use that an environmental impact report was not necessary, that there wouldn't be any significant impacts on wildlife. "The developer made the case in what's called a 'negative declaration.' In that document, they did have to do some biology."

To Brownlee, the one thing that most demands an environmental impact report is the traffic 36 new homes would foist onto Fuerte Elementary School's quiet life across the street. When

Association. "Fuerte Drive is a winding road and already crowded and dangerous," she says. "There was a death down the street to the west about a year and a half ago. Those fifth-graders doing crossing-guard duty at the school have a tough job trying to control all the cars dropping students off and picking them up every day. Now add 12 trips per day per new home. In the developer's traffic study, 432 new trips per day is not significant, but to me it is.

"Our planning board's

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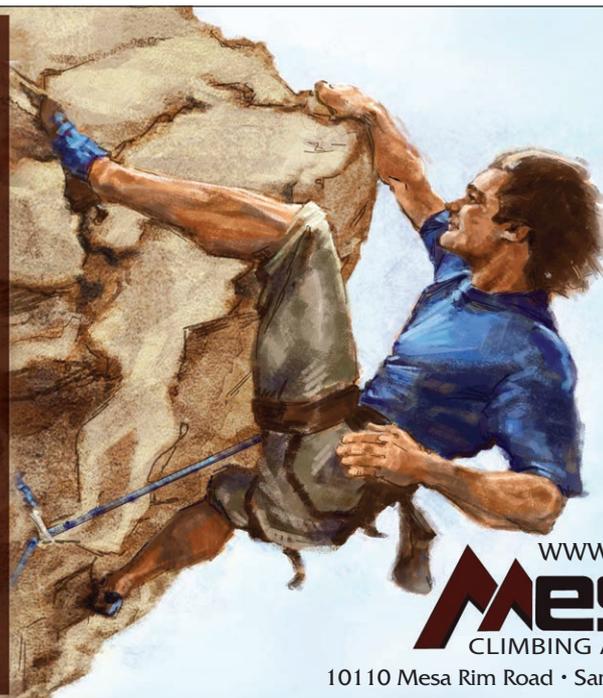
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desire is to keep land parcels to one acre, and more if they're on steep slopes," says Brownlee. "That's what happened in another subdivision a little to the north and east. At Fuerte Ranch Estates, you could probably build about 13 homes, given that some of the land has to be used for access streets and other things.

"I disagree with the county planners' approach to general plan amendments. Those should be very difficult to come by and only be granted when there are extenuating circumstances. Homeowners should be able to rely on a general plan to afford them protection from unforeseen violations of the community character. And why do the planners want us to develop like Los Angeles anyway? One of the great things about San Diego is that there are some places with high density, where it's appropriate, and others where things are more spread out."

What would a completed Fuerte Ranch Estates portend? Planning group chair Jack Phillips worries that the development is "likely to transform the whole area. Currently there is no sewer in the chicken ranch's vicinity; all the houses are on septic. The developer tells us septic won't be possible in Fuerte Ranch Estates, even though five houses on the property now have it. So this cookie-cutter subdivision has to annex a sewer district."

According to Phillips, the current general plan forbids the Spring Valley Sanitation District from putting sewer lines north of Rancho San Diego. To get around the restriction, Reynolds Communities solicited the Otay Water District to install pipes connecting Fuerte Ranch Estates to Rancho San Diego.

"I talked with the Otay Water District," says Phillips, "and they don't put in lines smaller than eight inches in diameter. That's big enough to handle 100 units. The presence of the sewer will encourage people nearby to subdi-

vide their properties and sell lots."

In the Reynolds Communities plan, the sewer line would run south, the same direction as the current drainage flow. Contractors would dig a ditch into Damon

Lane County Park and then across to where a residential street called Calle Albara dead-ends near the park's northeast corner. There the line would connect with Rancho San Diego's sewer system. Phillips tells me the Valle

de Oro planning group and the Grossmont-Mt. Helix Improvement Association have not wavered in their opposition to Fuerte Ranch Estates since the project was first broached seven years ago. Reynolds Communities then

wanted 72 units in the subdivision. By the time it arrived for the first time at the County's Planning Commission, Reynolds had dropped the number of housing units to 40. In early 2009, the commission rejected the project.

At a July 22, 2009 meeting of the board of supervisors, the developer requested that a final decision on the subdivision be postponed. According to a KFMB Channel 8 story later that day, "Reynolds Com-

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CITY LIGHTS

No one asked us

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communities plans to use the time to alter the design to alleviate the concerns of neighbors. William Schwartz, an attorney representing the developer, said his client was 'smarter' now and understands changes are necessary. [In the late 1970s, Schwartz worked in the county counsel's office specializing in planning and land-use issues.] Supervisor Pam Slater-Price said violations of the general plan for the area, which calls for one home per acre, 'will not get them where they want to go.'... Supervisor Dianne Jacob, who represents the area, requested that the developer work with area community groups and then resubmit a redesigned project to the Planning Commission."

But Reynolds Communities "did not attempt to work out differences with the community," according to Phillips. When the Planning Commission took up the project for the second time on January 8, the developer had reduced the housing units from 40 to 36 and decreased the height of the building pad from 16 to 10 feet.

The commission approved the project and has sent it to the board of supervisors for a final vote next Wednesday.

"Those changes were put together by the developer and county staff," says Phillips. "Our community groups were not consulted. We've been able to work with Reynolds Communities on other projects, but not this time. And county staff have been cheerleaders for the project all along."

Susan Brownlee tells me what it was like going to hearings on Fuerte Ranch Estates. "The developer sits huddling next to a county planner. Community members come up from the gallery to address the commissioners. Suddenly the chairman says, 'Stop, your two minutes are up.' It's very nerve-racking." ■

CITY LIGHTS

STRINGERS

continued from page 7

or pencil with your eye — they don't have to answer any questions under the Fifth Amendment, they don't have to do the sidewalk sobriety test, and if you're 21 or older you don't have to take the portable Breathalyzer. They [cops] try to get people to do all those things because that gets them convictions. And unfortunately, it's their job to get convictions," said Kinder.

Kinder spoke with all parties involved in the accident and informed them of their rights.

"Look, see, she's doing exactly what I told her not to do," said Kinder, watching the woman succumb to sobriety tests. "She's going to jail. She wouldn't listen to me. Too drunk to listen to me," said Kinder.

By Carolyn Grace Matteo
Monday, May 3

Not So Grand

Business Owners Peevied over BID Fees

Escondido — The Business Improvement District fees charged by the Downtown Business Association of Escondido were contested by a pair of business owners at the May 5 city council meeting.

Greta Kurtz, a business owner for 25 years, told the council that the business association promised downtown merchants that the "necessary increases" would benefit them. In one instance, they were told that the fees would help pay for a shuttle service for employees.

"The shuttle was short-lived," said Kurtz. "But the fees are still here. These fees have created a hardship for many small merchants."

According to Kurtz (a seamstress with a shop on Grant Avenue), she was expected to pay \$400 to the business association. "People are forced to make a choice between paying

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STRINGERS

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their overhead or the [Downtown Business Association]." After not being able to pay her fees, a business license was not issued and a code enforcement officer showed up to try and collect the money.

Vivian Doering, who operates a law office and has been a resident of Escondido for over 40 years, said, "I am not exactly sure what the value is of the BID to me.... I was told there would be more trash cans, that there would be better lighting. However, I know it hasn't happened."

*By Nathaniel Uy
Friday, May 7*

Cold!
Woman Finds Subway Employees in Freezer Midway District — On Wednesday, May 5, I went to the Subway Sandwich shop on Midway Drive. As soon as I entered the store,



Robbers put employees in the cooler.

I knew something was wrong. There was no one working, and a bag of potato chips was on the floor. The bread ovens were left ajar, and a half-made sandwich was on the counter. I called out, "Hello, is anyone there?"

I ran back to Moneytree, where I had been, and asked the manager to call the store — no answer! We went back to the store and still no one there. The manager grabbed a piece of napkin to protect from disturbing evidence and

proceeded toward the back. I yelled at him, "Open the freezer door" and out popped two cold, wide-eyed women! They immediately went to open the cooler door and there was the manager and another employee.

The police arrived almost immediately. Two black men wearing do-rags on their head remain suspects in the 8:00 a.m. robbery.

*By Gail Powell
Saturday, May 8*

Penny Flickers
Reports of Vandalism, Gas Siphoning in O.B. Ocean Beach — News from the Mariner's Cove apartments in Ocean Beach: car gasoline siphoning is causing consternation among

residents. A Navy man I know filled up his truck with gas on payday and the next morning, his gas tank was empty, though he drove nowhere. Roving thugs with backpacks are believed responsible, and locking gas cap sales are soaring.

Additionally, laundry room washing machines have been attacked by the "penny flicker" bunch. These groups push pennies into the coin trays of the washers, jamming them and making them unusable to residents. A neighbor: "They broke every washer in the front laundry room except for two!" A sign from the management office apologized for any inconvenience.

*By Gail Powell
Saturday, May 8*

Carpenters Union at 6th and B
Union Objects to Contractor's Labor Standards Downtown — On May 7, several members of the Carpenters Local 1506 Union set up banners in front of 600 B Street in downtown San Diego. They provided handouts to peo-

ple passing by and entering and exiting the building. According to information on their handout, they're objecting to Pacific Building Group's work on Bridgepoint's new office, claiming that they do not meet area labor standards, including providing for family health care and pension for all of their immigrant carpenter craft employees. They are urging the public to contact Bridgepoint and suggest that they choose another building company for their project.

*By Gian Ghio
Saturday, May 8*

Fright Wedding
Man Arrested after Ferrying Terrorists to Mexico San Ysidro — A man of Somali descent pleaded guilty in a Minnesota federal court on May 2 to charges of making false statements to federal investigators due to his involvement in transporting suspected terrorists to San Diego and into Mexico.

Abdow Munye Abdow, 26, rented a car and traveled from the Twin Cities to the San Ysidro border

crossing last October with three other men of Somali descent linked to the al-Shabaab terrorist group. The men entered Mexico, and it is believed they intended to return to Somalia.

During the trip, Abdow's vehicle was stopped by police near Las Vegas. One of the passengers (Cabdulaahi Ahmed Faarax) was on a terrorist watch list. During the traffic stop, the men claimed they were on their way to San Diego to attend a wedding. The trooper noted that none of the men could provide the name of the bride or groom and no "wedding clothes" were in the vehicle.

The Nevada patrolman contacted the FBI, who said that Cabdulaahi Ahmed Faarax was "being monitored, but it did not give them an independent reason to detain him." The trooper released the men.

Two days later, the three men were stopped by a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer at the San Ysidro crossing but were allowed to enter Mexico.

Abdow later told FBI investigators that he had had a fight with his wife and drove to Las Vegas with one friend and had not been stopped by police. He also claimed he did not know who paid for the rental car the men were riding in, nor who they were.

The FBI charged Abdow with making false statements, which he later admitted. He was sentenced to 10 to 16 months in prison.

*By Christopher Morgan
Friday, May 7*

Come On, Carl
Audience Implores DeMaio to Change Stance San Diego — Councilmembers Donna Frye and Carl DeMaio sat at the front of a meeting room inside San Diego County's Health

continued on page 20



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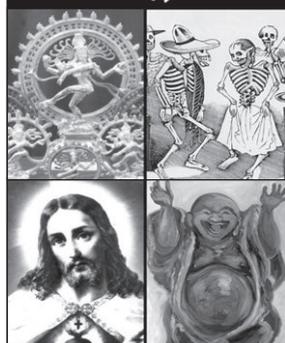
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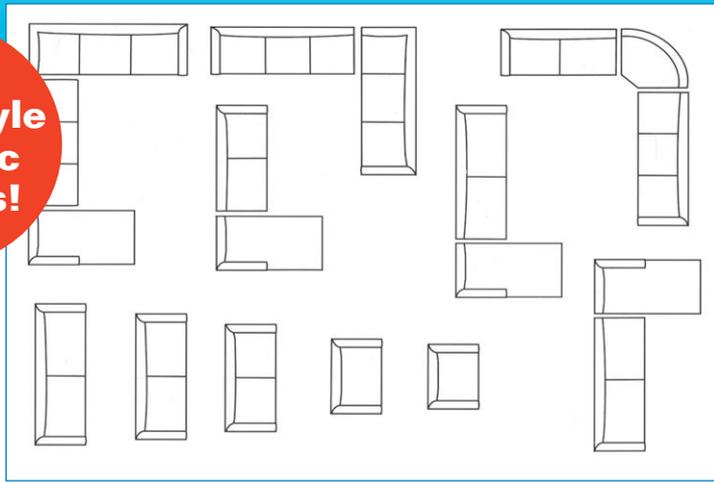
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STRINGERS

continued from page 18

and Human Services Complex for the "Strong Mayor Forum," sponsored by local political and social activist groups Empower San Diego and Common Cause.

Frye and DeMaio were invited to discuss Proposition D, the June ballot measure that if passed would make the current strong-mayor style of governance, enacted in 2005 with 51 percent of the vote, permanent.

According to Frye, if passed, developers have direct access to the mayor and will only need the votes of four councilmembers and the mayor to proceed.

While DeMaio cited improved accountability and a bolstered executive branch that would accompany a strong-mayor style of government, Frye hammered away at the diminished access to the mayor, the cost of adding a ninth council district, the unbridled and covert mayoral power, and requiring a supermajority of councilmembers to override a mayoral veto.

DeMaio and Frye answered questions from the audience. DeMaio reiterated that Proposition D

does not solve all of the issues in city government. "A lot of the issues that [Frye] and I fight on a daily basis are still going to be there despite a Prop D victory or failure."

Some anti-Prop D audience members, as well as Frye, took DeMaio's concession as an opening. "I wish we could convince [DeMaio] to come over and join us," said Frye. "I will keep pressing to get you to switch sides."

After Frye's comments, chants came from the audience: "Come on, Carl. Come on, Carl."

"We'll make a deal with you, Carl," said audience member and San Diego blogger on local politics Pat Flannery. "If you oppose Proposition D, we'll make you mayor in 2012."

*By Dorian Hargrove
Thursday, May 6*

Kick in the Pants

Uptown Planners Vote to Oppose Density Uptown — Now that the community plan update is underway, the issue of density in Uptown is a hot topic at community meetings. San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) estimates an influx of 1.2 million people to the county by 2050 and Uptown com-

munities are mentioned as potential locations for high-density, transit-friendly development.

At the May 4 meeting of the Uptown planners, the planning committee for University Heights, Hillcrest, Mission Hills, and Banker's Hill discussed a motion to oppose any substantial increase in density to the upcoming community plan, rejecting SANDAG's new forecasted density projections.

"It's unfortunate, but it does seem like we are spoken to and not with," said Uptown planner and *City-Beat* columnist John Lamb. "I'm getting a little fed up at these meetings, feeling like it's just a production for us."

"How can we have 20,000 more people with our traffic conditions and water shortage?" asked committee member Andrew Towne.

Marlon I. Pangilinan, senior planner for the City, commented on the motion. "I do feel that this discussion is premature and can be discussed at the plan update. But I do welcome the suggestion and the kick in the pants to get that discussion started."

After the comments, Uptown planners voted 9

to 3 in opposition of increased density in Uptown. The motion, along with additional ideas, will be presented to the City's advisory committee during the community plan update.

*By Dorian Hargrove
Thursday, May 6*

Story of a Pole

Man Gets Blight-Causing Pole Removed

Linda Vista — Back in October, a frequenter of the Starbucks on Linda Vista Road and Napa Street wrote to Donna Frye, city council representative for that area. He inquired about the disused 20-foot pole standing across the street from the coffeehouse. It had nothing attached — not a telephone wire, power line, light fixture, or camera. It just stood there, bare naked, in all its ugliness for the world to see. Could it be removed?

A fortnight later, he received word from Ms. Frye's office; they would take care of it. It took a half-year, but today the intersection is blight-free. Well, improved, anyhow.

Perhaps Ms. Frye's responsiveness will inspire the council rep for Mission Bay Park to get rid of the even taller naked pole

straight east of 3650 Crown Point Drive, at water's edge.

*By John Mann
Monday, May 3*

Gentler Cockfighting
TJ Bar Features a Tamer Version of the Sport

Tijuana — Sundays are special days here in Tijuana, days of languor, even torpor, afternoons of beer 'n' bullfights by the beach (commencing May 16), and, right now, cockfights in the Zona Norte.

A newly remodeled bar, Las Chavelas, on Calle Coahuilla, is featuring 5 o'clock cockfights on the dance floor normally reserved for hoochie dancers and go-go girls. Three big gamecocks, confined in cages on the sidewalk out front of the bar, strut and crow, glaring aggressively at each other as intrigued pedestrians pass by. Inside, the saloon is filled with chicken-fight aficionados eager to watch two pissed-off pieces of poultry punch each other out.

The squeamish spectator need not fear any bloody mayhem, since the pugnacious cocks do not have razor-sharp sabers attached to their talons, de rigueur in a regulation

duel-to-the-death match. The birds' talons are trimmed to a blunt half-inch stub and wrapped with foam rubber and adhesive tape, thus achieving a sort of padded bird-boxing glove.

Emilio, the TJ trainer, takes his rooster to the dance floor and puts it down in front of Roberto's fighter. The two birds begin to brawl, with plenty of high-hopping, chest-bumping, and karate-esque kicking, until one rooster is routed, pummeled to the mat, and pinned by his opponent's foot on the vanquished bird's chest.

Emilio grins at Roberto. "No que no?" he says, as he picks up his victorious gallo. (What did I tell you?)

The short match most resembles a version of avian cage-fighting, employing the martial arts of jiu-jitsu, French foot-fighting (savate), and hillbilly wrestling. Despite all the flapping and fury in the energetic bout, nary a feather was lost nor beak bent.

*By T.B. Beaudeau
Monday, May 3*

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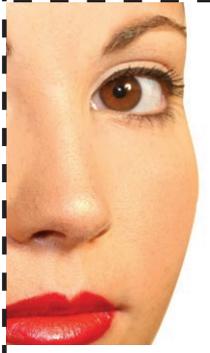


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LETTERS

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Benjamin's Boot Camp

As longtime fans of Mr. Benjamin's Cotillion, we were thrilled to find the story "Don't Look Down," with its much-deserved praise for Peter Benjamin and his dance class in the May 6 issue of the Reader! We belong to the vanishing generation that saw Peter's father give birth to the class, and we watched it become a treasured institution. We looked on as our children and later our grandchildren experienced the rigors and joys of Mr. Benjamin's basic training course, which turns San Diego's 11-year-olds into civilized young men and women. We also want to congratulate Laura McNeal on a beautifully written piece. Her humorous insight could only have sprung from a parent who had lived through the experience of sitting in the parents' gallery at those charged and touching get-togethers.

Tom and Jerry Williamson
via email

Needs A Companion

Kudos to James Ziegler-Kelly

for remaining in school regardless of events ("A Low-Budget Way to Higher Education," "City Lights," May6).

I find it unfortunate. I have an elderly neighbor, a man, who lives alone with his dog. He's willing to offer a room free to someone who'll just be there with him during the night. I feel there are others like him who could use a little companionship and reassurance in trade for a spare room. We live close to SDSU too.

A. Ravitch
via email

You People Don't Get It

After reading all the feedback in the letters page (April29) about the article "Broken Heart, Broken Skull" (Cover Story, April22), I felt that a few things just needed to be said regarding all the people that commented. First, I want to say it was a great article. (Yes, some might say that is a rarity, but, hey, we can't always bat a 1000 all the time, right?) I am glad that some people, such as Laurie Murray and Lynn Mariano, were able to understand the point of the article. It was disheartening to see that for some the whole point of the article was lost.

Mike, concerning your letter "Disturbed," it's too bad that you couldn't get past the cover—to the point of tearing it off and not bothering to read the article itself. Yes, life is disturbing, and that's the point that the picture was trying to make! You see, life itself and its truths aren't always submitted to us in a pretty package that has a neat

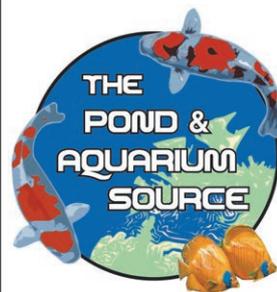
little message on the same comforting level as a Disney cartoon. Sometimes, the truths are disturbing, ugly, shocking, grimy, gritty, disgusting, and not easy to look at, but, you know, some of the lessons that we remember the longest are the ones that shock us to our very core. Maybe we need those harsh truths to drill those lessons in so that we never forget them.

The next person that wrote in was Dr. "Name Withheld," who sounded off with his letter "What an Insult" and felt the need not only to write in but to resort to character attacks—calling Dorian immature, careless, insecure, angry, self-absorbed. (Hmmm, you mean like a doctor writing in, whining because his patient didn't publicly kiss his ass in print?) Tell me, Dr. Withheld, what part of it was "derogatory" or in "poor taste"? Since when is expressing your opinion about the quality of health care received any of those things you claim? You complained that the article didn't go far enough to educate the public about the consequences of brain injury; hey, this isn't an article for the *American Medical Journal*, and frankly, between the content of the article and the picture on the cover, I thought it did quite well, but then again, the point of the article was not only his injury and his recovery but also his desire to share what he had been through in hopes that others will start wearing protective gear and not suffer his fate. Yes, "Doctor," he was immature and careless in the events leading up to his accident, but then again, most accidents are usually due to someone engaging in some kind of careless and maybe even immature behavior that in one moment of thoughtlessness leads to a tragic event that can have serious consequences. Then again, that's why they are called accidents—no one ever said, "Hey, I think I'll go out, not wear a helmet while skateboarding, and see if I can crack open my skull."

I don't know Dorian, nor have I ever met him, but I am curious to know if you ever

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continued on page 60

BACK WHEN *in the Reader*

Thirty-Five Years Ago

In general, I avoid eating at places with the words “jolly” or “happy.” Not because I am a misanthrope, but because the chain that calls itself the Jolly Ox serves little to give us the jollies. French restaurants, employing even one French word, such as *chez*, immediately have it made, whereas Mexican ones, beginning with Azteca House and ending with Su Casa, conjure up the inevitable combination plate — tacos, enchiladas, refried beans.

— “A TACO WAS NEVER LIKE THIS,”

Eleanor Widmer,
May 15, 1975

Thirty Years Ago

There is a certain sense of frustration and fear that accompanies even the smallest outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease. And thus it was ominous that a microbiologist isolated the disease three weeks ago in four smuggled parrots that died suddenly in Spring Valley.

This most recent report of Newcastle is the first in San Diego County since a 1977 flare-up of the disease caused the destruction of 4308 birds, most of them expensive tropical varieties.

— CITY LIGHTS: “SICK AS A BIRD,” Mark Orwoll,
May 15, 1980

Twenty-Five Years Ago

There’s a certain time in midmorning when a retired man’s home becomes his prison. He’s had his coffee, cleared his lungs of phlegm, smoked a cigarette or two, and had the routine quarrel with his wife over who left the thermostat on all night and who didn’t let the dogs out. The thought of watching the missus fuss over her dried-weed collection one more time, or worse, listening to her get on the phone and fret over her ailments, becomes intolerable, and he knows he has to get out of the house or he’ll lose his mind.

— “THE ONLY HONEST GAME IN TOWN,”
Steve Sorensen, May 16, 1985

Twenty Years Ago

There is a kind of irony about having a week so slow in movie houses around town that I am prompted to turn to *Twin Peaks* for something to write about. For if this TV show — a critic’s choice — *par excellence* — has done anything at all for me, it’s to make

me thankful my beat is movies and not television.

Rule of narrative thumb: if you don’t want to solve a mystery, don’t pose one in the first place.

— “VALLEYS,” Duncan Shepherd, May 17, 1990

Fifteen Years Ago

My husband, Jack, asked me what I wanted to do for Mother’s Day.

“I don’t want to do anything. I don’t want to wash a single dish or do any laundry. I don’t want to have to get anyone dressed and out of the house by a certain time. I want to sleep in until eight, drink a cup of coffee while it’s still hot, and read the entire Sunday paper without anyone asking me for juice.” Jack’s eyes got big. I knew I was asking a lot.

— KID STUFF: “PIZZA PEDDLER OR SUPER MOM?” Anne Albright,
May 11, 1995



San Diego Reader, May 16, 1985

Ten Years Ago

“They were throwing up on the boat, and no one was there to clean it up,” said one employee of the Clear Channel radio group about a “Ships and Salsa” promotion. Clear Channel’s 91X heavily promoted the one-day cruise to Rosarito Beach, which featured gambling and alcohol.

When it was over, Ships and Salsa was rechristened as the Vomit Cruise by some who took the voyage.

“People got seasick. People were hurling all over. Half the people who were throwing up were chain-reaction vomiting.”

— BLURT, Ken Leighton, May 11, 2000

Five Years Ago

“I drive a big car with a big name,” he says. “A 1959 Cadillac Series 60 Special Fleetwood. It was one of the lowest production numbers of all the 1959 Cadillacs. I hear stories of guys driving them off the cliffs in Mexico. Surfers from La Jolla saying, ‘Oh, man, me and a bunch of buddies one time...’”

— DRIVEN: “PAUL AND HIS DUELING MUFFLERS,”
Ken Kuhlken, May 12, 2005

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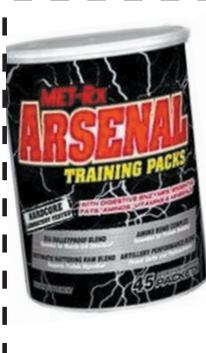


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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Matt:

Can I take my handgun into space when I go, or will I need to defend myself with a laser weapon like everybody else? I was really hoping I wouldn't have to buy new gear for the trip.

— *Captain Mike, San Diego (for the moment)*

Pack your pistol, Cap'n, we're on our way. Space is a mixed bag of atmospheres and temps and such, so without knowing where you plan to vacation, we can't give you a precise answer. But it's a sure thing that if the time comes when you need to murder your intergalactic host, your handgun will do the deed. "But, Matthew," you say. "Oxygen. What about oxygen? Don't we need oxygen to create Little Sparky that helps shove the bullet out? I won't haul an O₂ cylinder with me. Well, duh." Worry not, Mike. Bulletwise, after hammer hits firing pin, primer goes

a poof, powder goes boom, bullet scrams down the barrel. All the necessary oxidizing (boom-making) agents are sealed tight inside the bullet casing; no externals needed. Oh, and if your host gets suspicious and moves a few miles away until you go home, with no friction from air and only tiny gravity (depending on where you are), you can probably stand on the front porch and still get him. A bullet will travel five, maybe six times farther than it does back here.

Once you've gotten your little friend past the TSA goons, your biggest problem might be temperatures. Don't leave your gun on the dashboard. Outrageously hot temps from direct sunlight will make the thing explode. But in the shade, things might get so cold that your ammo just freezes up. Or your gun might crack into pieces. So, manage the extremes, and you can be the first interstellar serial killer. Bon voyage!

Hey, Matt

Lake Murray is aglow now with yellow flowers. Some are daisies, and the others are the mustard flowers. I got to wondering: if one has a recipe for mustard, can the mustard flowers that grow in San Diego County be used to make mustard? (At least a mustard that will not poison us!) Also, the pepper trees that are all over the place with the red pepper berries on them: are they edible also?

— *Dale Dickerson, on the trail*

Says Grandma Alice, eating your backyard is tricky business. But every spring she sends the elves out to gather weeds, which she then boils up into something that none of us have actually had the nerve to eat. But it hasn't killed her yet, so...

The wild yellowy stuff growing all over the place is wild mustard. But suppress the urge to go pickin' now. The very early leaves of the plant, well before the flower blooms, is the tasty stuff. Once the buds have opened, well, it's not so great. On the baby plant you can just nip off the whole stem, as long as the growing tip is closed tight. That does mean that you have to teach yourself what the plant looks like in its just-sprouted form. Then boil 'em, make salad, suit yourself. BTW, our wild mustard bears no relation to anything in a bottle labeled "mustard." You can put your mustard leaves on a

bratwurst, but you'll be disappointed.

Pepper trees are another matter. Grandma sez leave 'em alone. To back up a bit, we have two types of peppers, Brazilian and Peruvian. The guy from Peru is the droopy, feathery-leaved, full-sized tree with pinky-red berries. The one from Brazil is a denser, shrublike plant with thick, dark green leaves and redder berries. Both plants are cousins in the sumac family, which means they are more or less toxic. Irritating to the skin. Nothing that I'd like to serve the family, but there's a chance you have. The pink berries from the more laid-back Peruvian strain are said to be sold as "pink peppercorns" and sometimes are included in ground-pepper products. Maybe they work as filler. They certainly don't have the zing of true pepper.

But here's the real deal about wild mustard and pepper trees: Grandma sez, go out there and rip 'em all up. Just pull them out of the ground. Do what you gotta do. Get rid of them. Wild mustard is a very, very invasive, nonnative plant, as are the pepper trees. The Peruvian kind reproduces by seed but also by sucker, so they pop up all over the place. Pepper trees are actually illegal in four states. Would Grandma kid you? So, she says to stick with the mustard if you're going to be grazing your backyard.

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

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SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

That Time of Year



Final leg of Tour of California

The Tour of California (TOC) has been the preeminent cycling race in North America since its first go-around in 2006. The eight-day, 810-mile route attracts the best teams and best cyclists in the world. Andrew Messick is president of AEG Sports, the race's owner and organizer. We spoke on the phone Wednesday last. I wanted to know if he'd "thought about expanding the race, making it as big as the Tour de France."

"It's something that we think about from time to time, there's no doubt about that," Messick says. "The Tour de France and the Giro d'Italia, the two biggest stage races in the world, are three-week races."

"We're trying to find the right balance, what's right for a young race, what's right for California, what's right for a race that is in the May time frame, and what's the proper length of the race. This race is an important part of the preparation teams and athletes go through for the Tour de France. We think that somewhere in the seven- to ten-day range is the appropriate distance. It's a hard race, a serious chunk of training and work for guys who are preparing for the Tour [de France], but it isn't so difficult that it would have a negative impact on how people are riding in July. Eight days is a good length for us right now."

All true, all makes sense; yet and still, one wants The Big One cycling past our front door. "California is very close to the same size as France, certainly has as wide a range of climates and geography. People who don't live here love California. What would it take to bring the TOC up to a three-week world-class event. What would have to happen?"

"Well, there's a whole series of procedural things that would need to happen," Messick says. "We're part of the international cycling calendar, so the UCI [Union

Cycliste Internationale], the governing body for cycling, we would need to work with them to find out what would have to happen relative to other international races. We would need to be confident that we could continue to get the kinds of teams and riders we are currently getting. We would need to be a little more broad in the types of terrain that we cover. It would be easier to get to San Diego, easier to get further up into Northern California. We would need to have confidence that our sponsors and our broadcast partners would be supportive."

"I assume the other grand races would not be welcoming?"

Messick says, "I'm not so sure about that. It would depend on when we were on the calendar. We're going against the Giro d'Italia right now, and I don't think either the Giro nor the Amgen Tour of California think that having those two races at the same time is a huge issue."

"How come?"

"There's a different kind of rider who's riding the Giro versus our race. The Giro is going to continue to have a very, very strong field of Italian riders. I think ours is a little bit more international. For us, we're seeking athletes who aspire to be very successful in the Tour de France in July. For a lot of those athletes, a 20-stage, *hard* race in May isn't what they want in order to be at their best in July."

I ask, "How do you put a tour together?"

"It is a fairly complicated process," Messick says. "We have a broad sense of where we want the race to go. We choose cities that are very interested in being a part of the race. We balance that with parts of the state that we think are important to cover. And we balance that with particular types of stages — where do we want the flatter stages, where do we want mountain stages, where do we want the time trials, and whether there are broader considerations that are relevant either to our television partners or our sponsors. We started six months ago on 2011."

"How much does it cost?"

"Lots. We travel 1000 people. They've got to be fed, they need cars, they need places to park, they need places to work."

Last question: "Where is the best place to watch the race if you're from San Diego?"

"I would come out for the final weekend. On the 21st of May, you can watch our first mountaintop finish at Big Bear. On Saturday the 22nd, you can watch the individual time trial at downtown Los Angeles. And on Sunday the 23rd, the final stage is going to be in the communities of Thousand Oaks, Westlake Village, and Agoura Hills."

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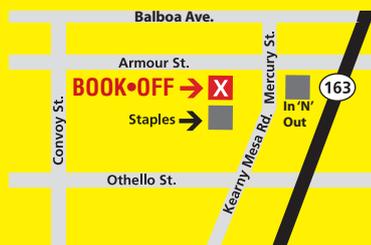
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BestBuys

— EVE KELLY

We're tightening the financial belt here in Kelly land. We're not starving, mind you, but unnecessary expenses are being trimmed. Meals out, movies, lattes, golf — all done for the time being. And I'm trying to rein in my beauty budget. So I tapped some of my gals and beauty professionals for tips on makeup essentials.

"Your eyes are the window to your soul," beamed Bernice. "Better have them look happy, open, and full of life. So when there's no money, I just buy eyeliner."

"I use concealer so I don't look dead," said MaryAnn. "And eyeliner and a blush bronzer for the same reason. I also don't spend money on things people don't see much, like my toenails."

"No money for makeup, that's my life right now," added Meg. "Until I sell my house, I'm down to applying a capsule of vitamin E to my face before I shower, for moisturizing. And L'Oreal Lash Out mascara [\$8.99 at CVS]. When I get money, I'm adding Aveeno Moisturizing Lotion with Sunscreen [\$7.32 for 8 ounces at Walmart]."

"Well, the French say you only need a touch of mascara and a touch of lipstick," offered Nancy. "I'm also a believer of less is more. I do eye and lip: the super-cheap pink Maybelline Great Lash mascara [\$9.94 for a two-pack at Walmart] and whatever lipstick is on sale."

"The blondies are in trouble without mascara," said Deirdre. "My must-haves are eyeliner and mascara. I could go without foundation and powder but not eye makeup. With summer coming, I want waterproof makeup that won't smudge, but I find the waterproof mascara doesn't give length to the lashes."

"Bare Minerals is a powder, base, concealer, and sunscreen all in one," explained Cherie [\$25 at Sephora]. "It's pricey but worth it for the flexibility. Moisturizer: L'Oreal Double Extend mascara [\$8.97 at Walmart]. And Burt's Bees lip gloss [\$6.99 at Target]."

Margaret's favorite beauty products are from the Jane Iredale line. "I use their Active Light Under-Eye concealer stick [\$25 at janeiredale.com], the Dream Tint Moisture Tint SPF 15 Light [\$36] for a dewy look, and their In Touch Cream Blush sticks [\$26]. Good-looking skin is the most important, especially for aging broads like me."

"The French say you only need a touch of mascara and a touch of lipstick."

Sarah favors a moisturizer made by Mary Kay. "I've found no other moisturizer that works quite as well as the Mary Kay Formula 1 Enriched Moisturizer [\$18 for four ounces at marykay.com]. It feels so nice, goes well under the eyes. I go cheap on the blush and powder, and I definitely use ChapStick."

"Number one on your list should be skin care," advised Sue, Macy's Clinique salesperson. "If you don't wash, tone, and moisturize, your makeup is not going to be perfect. Our 3-Step skin care is very popular. We sell our yellow moisturizer every four seconds throughout the world [Clinique Dramatically Different Moisturizing Lotion, \$22.50 for 4.2 ounces at Macy's]."

Sue's other recommendation: sunscreen. "Sunscreen is the main thing that is going to stop you from lining." "Well, of course foundation," said Craig, Macy's Estée Lauder salesperson. "I recommend Double Wear Stay-in-Place Makeup [\$33.50 for 1 ounce]. It's 15 hours of coverage, so it's long lasting, and it's oil-free so it is for all skin types. It has an SPF of 10. Also if you're on a really tight budget, at Estée Lauder we give out a foundation sample, so you're welcome to stop by our counter and get a free ten-day supply."

After applying foundation, Craig says the next step is up to you. "We want to go with lip and eye, or cheek and eye, or cheek and lip. Would you rather have more emphasis on your lips, or would you rather have more emphasis on your eyes?"

I'm with Bernice on this, so I answered eyes. "For eyes, I'd go with both eyeliner and mascara. If you wanted the bare essentials I would buy the foundation during one of our free-gift events, and that free gift usually gives you about seven pieces: lip, eye makeup, as well as skin care. Then I'd also pick up the free foundation sample and buy Double Wear Eye Pencil [\$19] and Double Wear Zero Smudge Lengthening Mascara [\$19.50]."

"Mascara is something you always want to have in your makeup bag," said Jael, the Lancôme saleslady at Macy's. "It will give your eye a lift; it brings up the eye area. You put mascara on, your eyes automatically open up."

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Nothing

M

emories of my decade in Normal Heights

came stumbling back when I received the following email from my old friend Hank, who still lives there:

“Yo, I want to apologize for my rant yesterday. I just had a meltdown. First this job I applied to and interviewed for twice (killer job in Old Town) hired somebody else. So being the little whiner I am, I cruised up to the market to get some brews. I’m leaving the place in broad daylight when these two little gangbanger wannabe jackasses pull a knife and tell me to give them my money and my bag! I f-cking lost it! I hit the kid over the head with my bag containing a Mickeys 40 oz., while screaming, ‘You f-cking losers, can’t even rob a guy with a gun?! Go home and show your parents the knot on your head and tell them it’s their fault! Come back, you forgot the bag!’ I totally lost it, dude, how was nobody seeing what was going on? And if they were, why did they not intervene? F-cking world.”

That’s Hank, and that’s Normal Heights and how I remember it — or certainly part of it. But someone *did* intervene for me in Normal Heights once, though I wasn’t under attack from other people.

I was out walking our dog, Alex, a rambunctious, 75-pound pit bull/German shepherd/Lab mix. Rambunctious is being generous. Mostly, she was out of control and required a steel-toothed choke collar on her walks (which in retrospect, with the help of many guilt-inducing programs on Animal Planet, I realize wasn’t helping).

That day we were walking south on Mansfield, north of Adams, when I saw at the end of the block a loose pit bull, a real pit bull, not a hybrid mixed nut

like ours. A big brindle pit, with dangling testicles the size of grade-A jumbo eggs. He had one of those intimidating giant heads that looked like a blacksmith could use it for an anvil. This was a hard, mean dog, I could tell right away. I froze. So did the pit. Our eyes locked. Alex was too busy smelling a pile of crap on a lawn to notice the other dog yet. I thought about walking away hurriedly, before she could see the pit, but I was afraid the other dog would run up behind us if I turned my back. Then my savior intervened.

“I can’t believe that goddamn dog is out again, said a bearded young man in tie-dye who was exiting his decrepit VW van at the curb. “Sorry about that. The guy who owns him

He turned and ran at the pit bull, cursing at him to go home, swinging his axe handle like a madman.

is just a worthless idiot. Won’t pay to fix his own fence.”

Alex now saw the pit and tried to run at the dog, the steel-toothed collar biting into her neck and holding her back. But she didn’t let up; it was like trying to restrain a horse. The pit flinched, looked ready to charge toward us. Alex reared up again.

“You think you could walk us back to the corner,” I asked the tie-dye guy, “and warn me if the dog is coming at us?”

“You bet, glad to, he said. I have an axe handle in the back, lemme grab it.”

continued on page 32

Normal About It

He armed himself with his lumber and escorted us to the end of the block, walking backward. I practically had to drag my wired and wild dog. Our bodyguard slapped the axe handle against his palm, as the pit followed us at a steadily decreasing distance.

"I almost hope that dog gives me a reason, he said. "I'm so god-damn tired of dealing with this."

We made it to the corner, and I thanked him. He turned and ran at the pit bull, cursing at him to go home, swinging his axe handle like a madman. And the pit ran away, tail between its legs, out of sight.

So Good Samaritans do exist, Hank. You've been one to me. Hell, even I was a Good

Samaritan more than once in Normal Heights. Just ask Ted the Peanut Man, if he's still with us.

* * *

My wife and I refer to him as the Peanut Man because it was ten pounds of the nuts in his overstuffed backpack that brought him down one afternoon. Left him on his peanut-bulging spine, helpless as a flipped turtle, in the middle of our neighbor's yard.

Everyone who lived on that stretch of 34th Street, between Meade and Monroe, was used to finding things on their lawn — condoms from hookers and their tricks, malt-liquor bottles, garbage, dog sh*t, weeds. But finding an actual person stranded on his back was a new

one. Always a new one in Normal Heights, you could count on that.

According to my elderly neighbor Vic, who witnessed it from a seat on his porch, this gentleman was walking slowly and unsteadily when the weight of his backpack proved too much. He staggered a bit, then fell back onto the lawn.

Vic said, "His name is Ted."

From the ground, Ted meekly lifted a hand in joking acknowledgment: that's me.

He looked to be in his 50s but was probably younger, very pale, his complexion dry and blistered, and he was thin, emaciated really, in a way that suggested a wasting disease. AIDS came to mind.

I asked him what happened.

"They were having a sale...on peanuts...at Rite-Aid," he struggled

to say, out of breath and weak as I lifted him into a sitting position. "So I thought I'd...take advantage of it...and load up."

Everyone on that stretch of 34th Street was used to finding things on their lawns. But finding an actual person stranded on his back was a new one.

"Peanuts? That's whats in your backpack?"

I removed the backpack from around his shoulders.

"Ten pounds," he said.

I paused, trying not to laugh.

"How far do you still have to go?" I asked.

"About a...mile maybe. Or two. I don't know. I live in North Park."

"And you're really

walking the whole way?" This guy looked in no shape to walk more than a block or two, much less several miles with a half-ton of

the routes. I offered to give him a ride home, which he accepted with a thank you.

In the car, his breathing seemed to

goobers weighing him down.

"I thought I could make it. I really love peanuts." He said this last line as if knowing how ridiculous it sounded.

"I guess you do," I said. "Next time you might want to take a cab."

"I can't afford it. And the bus...it's just not an easy trip."

I knew what he meant, having taken the bus a lot as a kid. Sometimes, it was quicker going 12 miles than 2, depending on

steady and calm. We chatted a bit, mostly about how the sale was too good to pass up; it was enough peanuts for more than a month, at a fraction of the cost. And he really believed he could make it.

"But I don't think I realized how far it was. Almost dropping dead in someone's front yard might be a clue."

I liked Ted and wanted to tell him to call me whenever he needed a ride, but just then we pulled into the parking lot of a dirty-stucco 1960s North Park apartment complex (Three Palms, Palm Gardens, Palmlive, something with a palm in the name). As I came to a stop, I noticed four or five tough-looking young black guys working on a couple of cars. Now, I'm a good liberal, I even have blood relatives who are black, but these guys were daunting, tall and ripped, with (whether they knew it or not) strangely cold expressions. "Pants on the ground" and angry times ten, or so it seemed. Two of them wore blue bandannas, which my honky instinct immediately associated with the Crips. In other words, I

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was a scared little white boy.

Ted's apartment was on the third floor, and I knew I'd have to help him up the stairs, but for a moment, I

had some seriously tight cornrows, jumped to help him out.

"Damn, we were worried about you, Mr. T," the guy said as he eased Ted from the car.

"Can you maybe turn it down a little? It's really kind of loud."

was afraid to get out of the car. At that point, the crew working on their cars realized who my passenger was, and they approached, smiling and waving, looking relieved to see him.

Ted looked at me. "Thank you again, and God bless. I can get out on my own."

He opened the door, but the biggest guy in the crew, who

"You can't be wandering away like that, you scare the hell out of us."

"You ain't strong enough yet, Mr. T," said another guy. "You gotta be more careful."

"We don't wanna lose you," said another.

"I'm sorry," said Ted. "I just had to get my peanuts."

"I told you I'd give you a ride. You only had to wait a few

hours."

The big guy walked around and shook my hand through the now-open window.

"Thank you so much for helping him out. We were worried sick. I'm Andre, by the way."

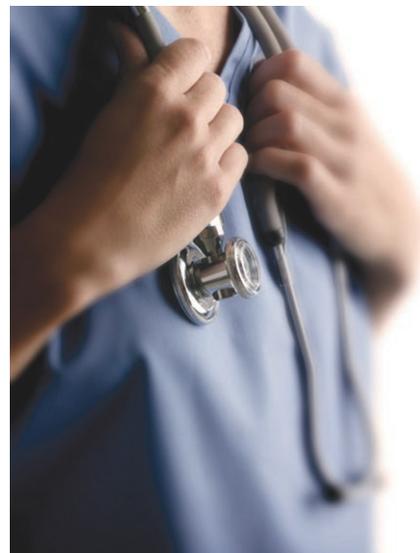
I introduced myself and told him the story of how Ted ended up on Vic's lawn. Andre responded with a chuckle, both amused and unsurprised, then walked away to affectionately chide Ted, their beloved Mr. T. Andre and his friends helped Ted up the stairs to his top-floor apartment. It would be a long, slow, joyful climb.

* * *

Shortly before we moved out of Normal

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RESEARCH STUDIES

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- Qualified participants may be compensated for time and travel

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU ARE:

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You may be eligible if you have:

- Chronic infection with Hepatitis C genotype 1
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- Otherwise good health

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Heights, I was rudely awakened at dawn, barely dawn, by mariachi music so blaringly loud I could not understand how it could be real, so loud I couldn't hear my wife next to me in bed asking... something. I didn't know whose stereo was blasting it, or how any stereo could, but I was going to find out.

I put on robe and shoes and walked out onto the empty street. How was nobody else out tracking the racket, the way I was? Helen Keller couldn't have slept through this. I looked around for any sign of where this seizure-grade fiesta of noise was coming from. Then, suddenly, the song ended.

Silence. What a

relief.

Out from a house across and up the street came an older Hispanic man, the father of the odd family who lived there. I say odd,

size of the original house. I could never figure out what they might be using it for or what was going on in there.

"Excuse me, was

Out rushed an entire ten-piece mariachi band in full dress, spangled sombreros as big as umbrellas, toting their shiny instruments.

because once he moved in with wife and two kids and grandma, he proceeded to build an addition onto the back of the house, and this addition looked like an airplane hangar. Shaped like a long box, it was easily twice the

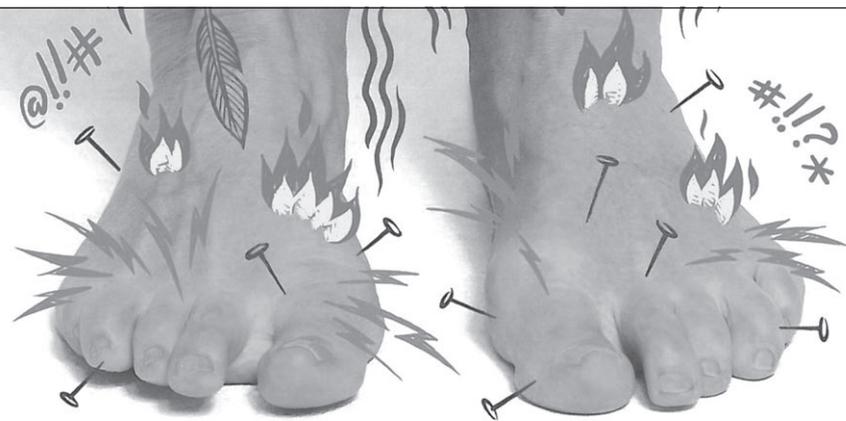
that your music?" I asked politely.

He gave me a playful grin. "Oh, yes, but don't worry, they're almost done."

"Can you maybe turn it down a little? It's kind of loud."

"It's Grandma's

RESEARCH STUDIES



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Other criteria will be reviewed with you by the clinic study staff. Participants will need to make about 15 visits to the study clinic over about 6 months. In addition, one visit to an eye doctor will be scheduled at the beginning and one at the end of study participation.

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Women with Migraine Headaches

...Does your period bring one on?

A medical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for women **who have migraine headaches associated with their periods**. Periods are tough enough without adding a migraine headache.

To possibly qualify:

- **Non-smoking** females, 18-34 years, with regular periods
- Have had migraine headache associated with 2 of your last 3 periods
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Participants may receive at no cost:

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- Compensation for your time and travel

Interested call:

Medical Center for Clinical Research
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PAIN?

Do you have pain from chronic pancreatitis?

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

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



Call: 1-888-365-3203

birthday, and she loves the mariachi music.”

“But it’s a little too early, don’t you think?”

“We had to surprise her on her birthday. It’s Grandma!”

I wondered how Granny didn’t drop dead from a heart attack, being awakened like this. But Dad went back to the house and

closed the door, and as he did, *boom*, the mariachi music started again, blaring a new tune.

I stood there and thought about what he’d said. *Don’t worry, they’re almost done.*

They. As in people.

Sure enough, a few minutes later, the song ended. And like some-

thing out of *Three Amigos* — or a silent-movie comedy — the front door of the hangar-house opened and out rushed an entire ten-piece mariachi band in full dress, spangled sombreros as big as umbrellas, toting their shiny instruments. Within seconds, and with an almost choreographed precision, they all piled into a primer-gray van and drove away. Sputtered away, actually.

And that was that. *¡Feliz cumpleaños, abuela!*

Unfriggiblebelievable.

Yes, there was always something new in Normal Heights. Only in Normal Heights.

Keep your head up, Hank. ■

— David Adler

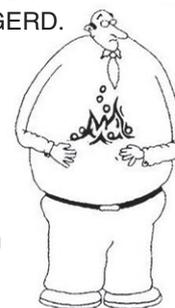
RESEARCH STUDIES

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You may qualify if:

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Do you have Restless Leg Syndrome?

A pharmaceutical company is currently conducting a research study to evaluate the safety, effectiveness and tolerability of an investigational drug for the symptoms of Restless Leg Syndrome.

You may qualify for this research study if you:

- Have been diagnosed with RLS or had RLS symptoms for at least 6 months
 - Experience your RLS symptoms between 5:00 pm and 7:00 am
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- Laboratory tests
- Study drug

Study participants will receive compensation for time and travel.

To find out more about this clinical research study, please call:

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CLINICAL RESEARCH

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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.

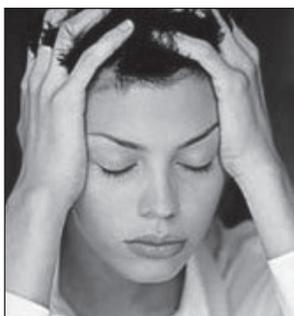
Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

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

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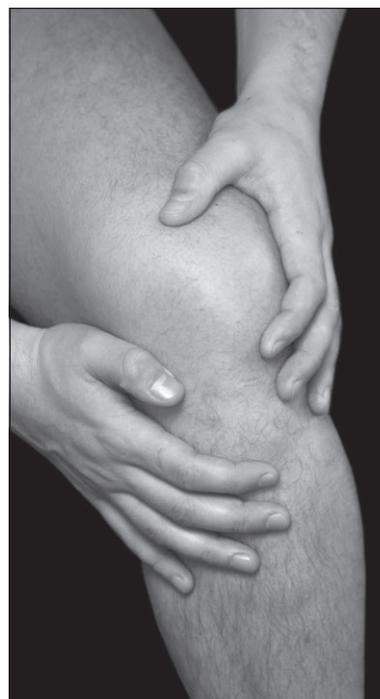
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Always worrying? Anxious? Panic attacks?

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



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Old Men in Chula Vista Are Different Now

I'm sitting alone in the Chula Vista library, reading a book about Jimi Hendrix, when an old man approaches me and begins to stare.



Author: Donald Breese
Neighborhood: Chula Vista
Age: 38
Occupation: Attorney

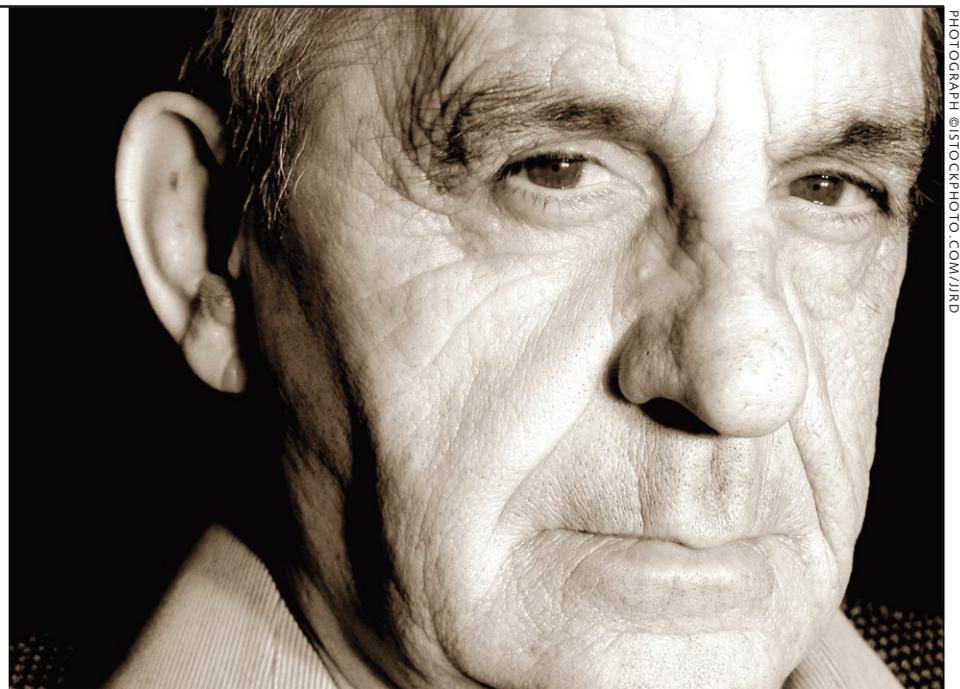
Editor's note: This is the winner of April's \$500 first-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-essay contest.

Deadline for the next contest is May 31, midnight.

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

The old man has a cadaverous body and a hollowed-out face. His brown clothes are plaid and oversized, like the outfit of a homeless circus clown. What saves his dignity are his eyes. They're blue and curious and razor sharp. And they're staring hard at my Jimi Hendrix book. He finally looks up at me. "You know something?" he says. "I once saw that guy Hendrix perform. I saw him at Woodstock."

My first instinct is to laugh in the man's face. *Give me a break*, I think. *This guy's way too old to have attended Woodstock*. But then I realize how wrong I am. Woodstock, after all, was over 40 years ago. Back in 1969, this old man wasn't the least bit old.



PHOTOGRAPH © STOCKPHOTO.COM/JJRD

Then I think, wistfully: *Old people are different now.*

I grew up in the Chula Vista of the 1970s and the 1980s. In a recent article, *Forbes* magazine called my home town one of the nation's ten most boring cities. Thirty years ago that was even truer. Chula Vista had no beach, no nightlife, no university, and no real

tourist attractions. It was a nice place to live, but it wasn't the least bit sexy.

Back then, the old men weren't sexy either. They were tough, tight-lipped guys who grew up in the America of the '30s and '40s. They worked in an economy with a 20 percent unemployment rate. They fought in a world war that killed 60 million people. They lived

RESEARCH STUDIES



Refractory Endometriosis Research Study

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Has schizophrenia affected your life?



From social withdrawal to a lack of motivation and emotions, these negative symptoms can seriously impact the way people with schizophrenia lead their lives. Unsurprisingly, this impact often reaches beyond the immediate sufferer to friends and relatives who often feel helpless and confused by their loved one's behavior.

We are conducting a research study of an investigational drug as an add-on for people with schizophrenia. We are looking for men and women, aged between 18-55 years old, who have been:

- diagnosed with schizophrenia
- taking Zyprexa, Risperdal, Seroquel, Geodon, Abilify or Invega for at least two months and are still experiencing negative symptoms

Participants will not have to stop taking their current medication.

Qualified participants will receive study drug or placebo (an inactive look-alike substance) in addition to their current medication, and all study-related medical care at no cost.

For more information, please contact:



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH

Call: 1-888-365-3203

Model in photo is for illustrative purposes only.



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



Overwhelmed by Depression?

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

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

Qualified participants will receive:

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



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Too Shy?

**Trouble with dating? Parties?
Public speaking?
Starting conversations?
Speaking to authority figures?
Always worried about what other people think of you?**

Confidential help is available. You may be eligible to

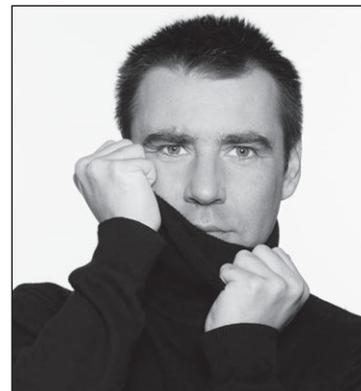
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Struggling with Psoriasis?

Therapeutics Clinical Research is conducting a medical research study of an investigational psoriasis medication. We are seeking adults with moderate to severe plaque psoriasis for which topical treatments and/or phototherapy have been ineffective.

Qualified participants must:

- Be 18 years of age or older and in general good health
- Have chronic plaque-type psoriasis for at least 6 months
- Be eligible for systemic treatment of psoriasis

Qualified participants will receive:

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

No Insurance Required • Confidentiality Maintained

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Attn: Heavy Drinkers

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

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

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

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





Creepy, Crawly, Tingling, Itchy, Burning, Restless Legs

Do you have Restless Leg Syndrome?

A pharmaceutical company is currently conducting a research study to evaluate the safety, effectiveness and tolerability of an investigational drug for the symptoms of Restless Leg Syndrome.

You may qualify for this research study if you:

- Have been diagnosed with RLS or had RLS symptoms for at least 6 months
 - Experience your RLS symptoms between 5:00 pm and 7:00 am
 - Are at least 18 years of age

Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related physical exams • Study-related office visits
 - Laboratory tests • Study drug

Study participants will receive compensation for time and travel.

To find out more about this clinical research study, please call:

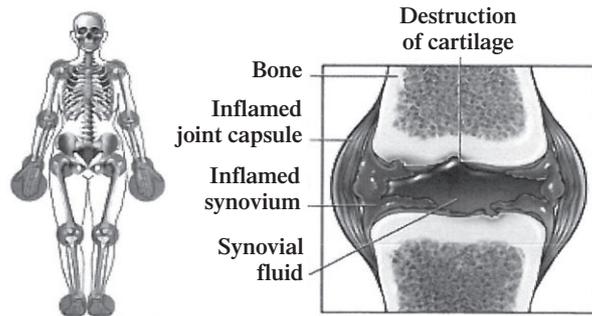
Avastra Clinical Trials
877-AVASTRA (877-282-7872)

Are you suffering from Rheumatoid Arthritis?

If you experience discomfort and swelling in your joints and it causes you pain, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication.

Eligibility requirements include (but are not limited to):

- Ages 18 to 75
- Diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis for at least 6 months



Joint pain occurring
in various joints

Enlarged view of joint

Qualified participants may receive at no cost study-related procedures and study medication or placebo. Compensation for time and travel is available. To learn more about this study, please talk to your doctor.

TriWest Research Associates
888-582-9626

childhood without television, computers, and rock music.

My father was one of those men. He was a dirt-poor farm kid who grew up in Kansas during the Depression. He married at 17 and had four children in quick succession. He first made a name for himself as a boxer, winning over 50 professional fights. Then he worked a variety of jobs to make ends meet — boxing promoter, reformatory guard, restaurant manager.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, he enlisted with the Marines. They assigned him to a brand-new military base named Camp Pendleton. Immediately he fell in love with Southern California. After the war ended he joined the civil service and relocated his family to San Diego. For the next 20 years he worked as a civilian firefighter at Naval air stations such as Miramar and Brown Field. During all that time, he never took a sick day, which allowed him to retire over a year early.

I arrived at the twilight of my dad's life, shortly before his retirement. I was his fifth and final child, the product of his second marriage to a much younger woman. He was 58 at the time — old enough to be my grandfather, even my great-grandfather. By the

time I reached the second grade he was officially a senior citizen. As a child I used to brag about my father's age, just to see my friends' shocked reactions.

My old man was literally an old man. But I count myself as lucky. Not too many people my age were raised by a member of the Greatest Generation. And in many

him, good music was Andy Williams and Lawrence Welk reruns on PBS.

The old man in the library is still staring at me. He's waiting for me to say something.

"Woodstock," he says again. "You know what I'm talking about, right?"

"Sure I do," I finally manage. "So. Was Hendrix as good as they say?"

My old man was literally an old man.

ways my father fit the romantic stereotype. He was a stoic man, practical to the core. His vocabulary didn't contain the words self-pity or narcissism. To him, life was about meeting your duties and obligations. He was a rock, the foundation upon which my entire youth rested. He gave me the gift of a stable, happy childhood, for which I'll be forever grateful.

My father died over a decade ago, at the age of 84. In my mind, he's Chula Vista's quintessential old man. And I know my dad would have despised something like Woodstock. He would have hated the drugs, the long-haired men, and the anti establishment tone of the whole thing. To

"He was better," the old man said, smiling. "You ever hear 'Voodoo Chile'? That was probably his best song of the set."

After a pause, I ask, "Did you see Bob Dylan?"

"He wasn't there." Immediately his face lights up. "So, you like Dylan, huh?"

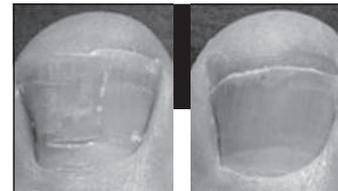
I nod rapidly. Dylan's my favorite musician.

"I've seen over a hundred Dylan shows," says the old man. "Wanna hear some stories about them?"

"Absolutely."

He motions for me to follow him outside. I set the Jimi Hendrix book down, and we leave the library together. Two old souls in Chula Vista with nothing better to do. ■

RESEARCH STUDIES



Got toenail fungus?

**Are your toenails thickened,
or have a cloudy appearance?**

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

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

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

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

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



Forgetting simple tasks? Memory fading? Can't seem to complete projects?

If you or someone you know is:

- Male or female • Between the ages of 45 and 90
- Experiencing memory loss? Unable to organize or plan? Forgetting simple tasks?
- In overall good health

If you answered yes to all of these questions, you may be eligible for our research study! If you qualify and choose to participate, you may receive an investigational study medication. You will also receive physician consultations, study-related medical examinations, laboratory evaluations and follow-up visits all at no charge.

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



If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Infants & Toddlers

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

Please call for more information

888-250-9925

Compensation for time and travel.

CALIFORNIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION



Do you want to quit smoking?

Quitting smoking is one of the most important things you will ever do because:

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

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

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



If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

Have GOUT and a history of cardiac disease like stroke or heart attack?

This clinic is conducting a research study.

You may qualify if you are:

- At least 50 yrs old
- Have experienced a gout flare
- Post menopause (female)

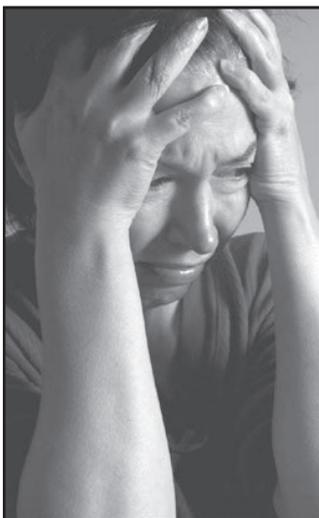
Study-related procedures are at no cost.

Qualified participants may be compensated for time and travel.

San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health

Call 619-229-3909

to see if you may qualify.



Do you suffer from Depression?

Does it feel like nothing matters?

Do you feel lonely and sad most of the time?

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

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



If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com



Have you been diagnosed with schizophrenia and currently taking medication?

Are you:

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

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



If you are interested in learning more about this study, please contact:

(619) 688-6565

See our website: www.ari-inc.com

BAKLAVA FOR Breakfast

“What! An Arab in this house? You’ve got to be kidding.”

Startled expressions all around the card table made me forget what was trump. I had not expected to break up the game when I mentioned that we were expecting a guest the next day.

“How many oil wells does he have?” “What will you do with his harem?” “Where will you stable his camel?” Good-natured jibes popped like grease on a griddle. In the sting of their humorous spatter, I began to doubt the wisdom of allowing the twain to meet. East and West, eyeball to eyeball, right here in my own house.



At the school where my wife taught English, the counselors were forever trying to persuade teachers to take in foreign students. They called it “total cultural immersion.” Housing foreign students was a problem for the school, even though the students were quite willing to pay for room and board. Some could just not find housing with American families. “The perfect couple,” the counselor had called us. “With all that extra room, too.”

Three extra bedrooms to be exact, and a very empty family room, since our three sons were scattered all over the world. Two weeks had passed since our talk with the counselor.

“I like Luzy. Luzy crazy lady. See Luzy Damascus TV.”

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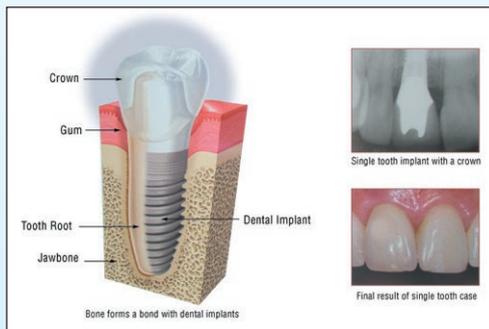
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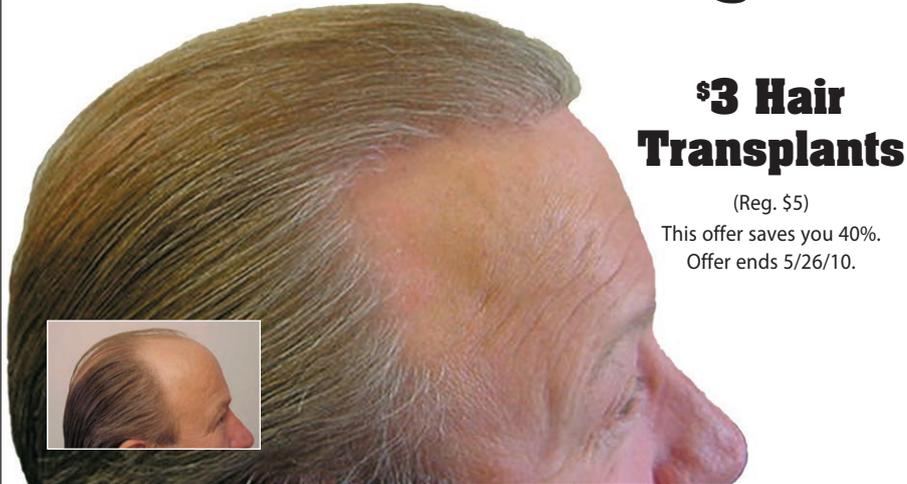
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Everything was ready for our guest.

He arrived the next day. When the doorbell rang, the last thing I expected to see was a tall, red-haired fellow, built like a football lineman, with fair skin. Not my idea of an Arab at all. "I, Ghassan," he announced with eloquent economy. I opened the door wide and put out my hand, but he didn't see it, I guess. He followed me down the hallway toward the room we had prepared for him. "Like diz," he said, looking around, "but where TV?"

Hmm...he's direct, I thought. Well, no problem, we had an extra one in the other room.

If I had met him on the street, I would have taken him for an American student at first glance, but his neat sport coat and tie, his brightly polished shoes with inch-high heels gave him a foreign look, and he reeked of strong-

smelling aftershave lotion. I noticed the heavy gold ring on his little finger. There was definitely a strangeness about him that went beyond his heavy accent.

"Cloz." He clipped the word and swept his hand up and down his body, then pointed to his one suitcase at his feet. "Airplane steal cloz." He held up a thumb, then his forefinger, and indicated his bag. "Two," he said. I nodded to show I understood. Poor kid. He probably had missed one of his bags at check-out.

"Sure. We'll go get it at the airport tomorrow. It will be okay," I reassured him.

"No okay!" It sounded like a command. His chin lifted in what I came to learn later is a typical Arab gesture of negation. "Airplane steal cloz. Trouble." It was a firm assertion.

Trouble for whom, I wondered, but smiled and

nodded without arguing the matter. "Okay, Ghassan." I tried to put as much hearty welcome into my words as possible. "Would you like a..." I had almost said "a snack," but thinking of the language barrier, quickly changed it to "some food?" Much later I was to learn that he would have understood our English word snack, for in Damascus, Ghassan's hometown, there are many "snak" shops.

"Food." The way he said it was a definite assent, and he emphasized his agreement with a single downward nod.

"Come." Our dialogue was beginning to sound like something from an old Tarzan movie. He was on my heels all the way to the kitchen.

I opened the refrigerator and gestured toward some fruit. His chin came up in that singularly distinct movement of denial. He bent down and looked

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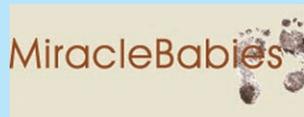
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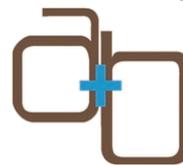
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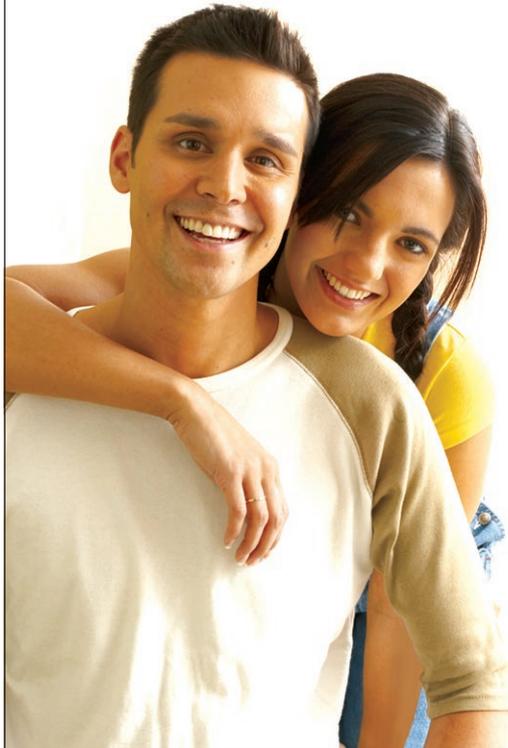
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into the box, then pointed to a squat bottle of fruit juice on the top shelf. "Sure," I agreed, and reached for it, but he was too quick for me. He grabbed it and tipped it toward his lips without touching the rim. I had never seen anything like it before. He didn't spill a drop, but it disappeared down his throat in gulps. Poor devil. He was thirsty, I thought. Must be all that heat and sand over there where he comes from. I realize now my own ignorance of his country, but my own education was to come later.

"Zank you, sir. Go room now." His accent was gutturally deep, his movements precise, and he had such an erect posture that I almost expected a click of his heels and an about-face. Then he surprised me. He shoved out his hand toward mine. We shook hands for the first time. He headed back down the hallway toward his room.

He remained there throughout the day. I looked in on him once to find him bolt upright in a chair in front of the television set I had brought from the other room. He was watching a rerun of *I Love Lucy* with somber eyes, then suddenly threw back his head and chuckled. He turned toward me in the doorway. "I like Luzy. Luzy crazy lady. See Luzy Damascus TV." I was amazed. Later, hearing his deep-throated chuckle again, I thought, Good for you, Lucy.

In succession, Mumtaz, a fellow Syrian, came to join Ghassan, and Bahram, a Persian, came, too. "Not Iranian, but Persian," he emphasized in almost perfect English. Iran is a political designation, he told us, and he preferred being called Persian. He spoke Farsi, while the two Syrians spoke Arabic, so when they wanted to converse, they resorted to English.

When Bahram arrived, I mentioned the Shah to him and was surprised to see my wife shaking her head at me in negation behind him. Bahram politely explained that his family had sent him from his country, purposely, because he had fallen into disfavor at the University in Tehran. He was a second-year student in architecture and quite an accomplished artist. He had slides of a huge mosaic he had worked on for the university's dining room. He enlarged the projection to show us the details depicting some of Iran's history. In the lower left-hand corner there was a figure holding out a rice bowl. Bahram explained that it was his way of protesting for the poor in his country. Since the Shah was scheduled to visit his university and was expected to view the mural, officials at that institution had sent him home to his parents.

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Besides, Bahram wore a six-pointed star on a gold chain around his neck. He was Jewish, he explained, and a minority in a land of Muslims.

We learned that many of the Persian students at my wife's school were neither enamored of the Shah nor of the reactionary revolutionaries who were then operating more or less covertly for his overthrow. A revolution is not a simple matter of an either/or situation, especially for those caught in the middle. Many of our students fell into the strange dilemma of being persons without a country. Their families, foreseeing the fomenting of the revolution, were sending their older children out of the country to schools in safer parts of the world.

The counselor at school had advised us that "cultural immersion" meant the students should see American families as we

really are, that we should not change our lifestyle for them. That suited me just fine. I wouldn't try to change their ways if they respected mine.

We usually enjoy a small glass of wine for dinner each night. We had believed that all Muslims abstain from any alcoholic beverage, so we had stocked fruit juices and soda for them in the refrigerator. Ghassan surprised us by saying he would enjoy a glass of wine, too. When he raised his glass, he and Mumtaz exchanged a few short words in Arabic. Mumtaz remained silent for the rest of the meal. Bahram refused the wine.

Later, it was Bahram, whose English was better than the others, who told us that within Islam there are sects, differing opinions, traditional and "modern" Arabs. Even though Bahram was Jewish and there was no injunction against his drink-

ing wine, he abstained unless it was a special holiday. But he explained that Mumtaz and Ghassan were in disagreement against the Koranic injunction against strong drink. Since the distillation of alcohol came after Muhammad, some Muslims drink it, saying that the Koran only forbids wine. Others drink what they please. But in one thing they all agreed: pork is unclean.

Aside from questioning if a dish had pork in it (and we do not eat pork in our house anyway), they were too courteous to refuse whatever my wife served at the table. Well, Ghassan would sometimes say that he preferred this to that dish. We came to admire his honesty. One day he told my wife she served too much *khabesa*, which is as close an approximation to what he said as I can come. As in Hebrew or Yiddish and German, the "kh" sounds

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like the "ch" of the *chutzpa* or *nacht* or the Scottish word *loch*. It sounds like a slight clearing of the throat, and we heard it many times when the fellows spoke Arabic. My wife calls it by its technical linguistic jargon form: "The unvoiced uvular fricative."

Anyway, we took *khabesa* to mean something good-natured like "garbage." Our own sons were not

above telling her such things, and we were used by this time to Ghassan's joking with us. Well, when Mumtaz found out what we had misinterpreted as "garbage," he was thoroughly shocked, even though we kept insisting we knew Ghassan was kidding us. He explained that *khabesa* means stew or mixed-up dishes. I suppose it's the Arabic equivalent for Mulligan stew or hash.

Mumtaz was as proper as Ghassan was fun loving, and remained so all the time he stayed in our home. Anyway, my wife quit serving casserole dishes.

Since my retirement, I had adopted the nightly chore of starting dinner. I rather like working around the kitchen. Usually, one of the students would help me. One day Mumtaz came home with a kitchen mar-

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vel, a machine that did everything. "Now you see and taste real Arab food," he said. Such a flurry of grinding, chopping, pounding, mincing, and rolling! When my wife came home that evening, it was as if Aladdin and his magic lamp had spread a feast fit for royalty. In the center of the dining room table was a huge, flat meatloaf made of lamb. Mumtaz called it *kibbeh*. Next to it was a dish of rice with bits of meat and onion; a *salut* made of soaked, cracked wheat, with chopped parsley and mint, crowned with short, stiff inner leaves of lettuce to be used as scoops for carrying it from bowl to mouth; and with it all was a rice-water and lemon drink, curiously refreshing.

Because so many Arabs use communal bowls, the salad was passed around so each of us could take a piece of flat bread and deftly (well, not so deftly in my case) twist some vegetables and meat within and pop it into our mouths. Before dinner was over, I managed to catch on. The Arabs used their right hands only for eating, with their left hand resting on the edge of the table or in their lap. I had heard about this custom, as their left is used for personal bathroom duties. But I had noticed that they had used both hands when they prepared their food. Ah well, customs really have no rhyme nor much reason, sometimes. I'm sure they noticed some discrepancies in some of the things we take for granted, too.

After dinner that night, Mumtaz, our genie of the kitchen, boiled up some powdered Turkish coffee, carefully skimming the foam three separate times. Then he whipped it up to a froth with a little whisk, and carefully ladled it into some wine glasses with a bit of foam on top for each of us. We sipped the sweetened tar-black stuff, and afterward the fellows took their fingers (right hands only) and wiped the sediment from the bottom of their glasses.

Near our home was a delicatessen that carried foodstuffs familiar to Middle Eastern persons. Whenever the students would put on a dinner for us, out would come the black-and-gold embroidered table-

cloths they had given us for gifts. They said our white tablecloths reminded them of funerals! And always there were elaborate bouquets of flowers on the table. "As necessary as food," they told us. Mumtaz said that

his mother brought fresh flowers home every day from the market with the day's supply of food.

For breakfast they usually took a glass of black tea with lots of sugar, a handful of sour black olives,

and a piece of pungent white cheese. They bought these supplies at the delicatessen. Once or twice we joined them, but preferred our orange juice and Danish with coffee, although my favorite breakfast, at least

for a while, was the baklava that Ghassan's parents brought with them from Syria when they arrived for a short visit. There must have been 20 pounds of the pastry in a white box with curlicues of Arabic

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inscription on the outside. Inside, wrapped in waxed paper and Arabic newsprint, were diamond-shaped pieces of toasted, crispy layers of phyllo leaves, filled with crushed nuts, cinnamon, sugar, and drizzled all over the top with honey. I could not get enough of the stuff. After that batch was gone, I used to buy triangular pieces of it at the deli, but it never tasted as good as the Syrian kind.

Life was not all dinner parties. Problems rose to plague us as the weeks went by. Often my wife and I would lie awake discussing their strange ways. Soft voices from their rooms told us they were probably talking about us, too. They had discovered the discos. Many times they brought their dates home. That was fine with us, but the dawn departures were not. For one thing, it was disturbing our rest, and for another, our house was beginning to

resemble a motel. We wondered about the extent of our parental duties, so my wife discussed the matter with the school counselors. After all, they were living under our roof, and although they were not exactly children, we felt some moral responsibility toward them. They were far from home and parental advice. All were from upper-middle-class backgrounds, experienced in the privileges that money buys. Mumtaz's father was a government official; Ghassan's family included doctors, engineers, and other professional people; and Bahram's family owned building-supply stores. Like any other young men far from home, they were making the most of their freedom. What bothered us was their interpretation of the freedom that girls in the United States enjoy.

Then it happened! We had been asleep one night

when we woke to hear the doorbell ringing incessantly. I turned on our bedside lamp. The clock read 2:30 a.m. "Are you going to answer the door?" my wife prodded me. I fumbled for the robe and slippers. Accompanying the bell was knocking on our front door. Loud. Insistent.

I switched on the outside porch light and opened the door to see a crowd before me. Between two police officers was Mumtaz. Behind him, Ghassan and Bahram were standing with more officers. I could see the green-and-white squad cars at the curb. Across the road, my neighbor's light came on. "Mr. Krueger, do you know these three men?" The officer's tone was professionally authoritative.

Yes, I assured him, they all lived with us, and I asked what they had done. He ignored my question.

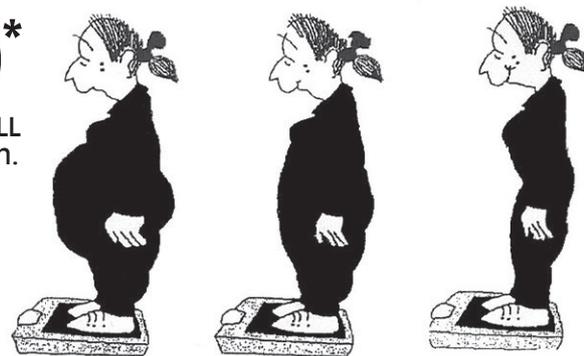
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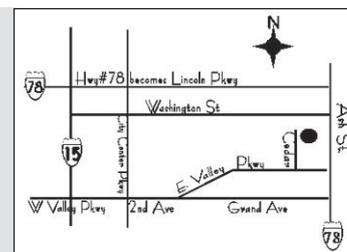


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cate with them in their native language?"

"Well, no, but at my wife's school there are..." His eyebrows shot up as if he questioned my intelligence in allowing persons with whom I couldn't speak to live in my home. "They speak English, officer." I tried to make my voice reassuring.

"Well, not very well, sir. Fact is, they don't make much sense. Maybe we should come in and talk about it."

My wife was right behind me in her robe and led the crowd into the living room. The officer who was doing the talking told us there had been some trouble at the disco that night — a fight in the parking lot. By the time the police arrived, Mumtaz's car was in no shape to be driven home. It was still there, tires slashed, windows broken. It probably should be towed away as soon as possible.

"These three were mixing it up with a pretty rough crowd." I felt as if I were being lectured about my delinquent children, as he told us their choice of companions was questionable. Others had taken chains and tire wrenches to smash the car. Witnesses said our three students were victims of what looked like a gang fight. He suggested we inform school authorities of the incident first thing in the morning, as it probably wasn't over yet. There might be revenge repercussions from gang members.

I looked at Mumtaz's torn jacket; Ghassan's face was bruised; and Bahrain's shirt was torn and his hand was bleeding. They were all uncharacteristically quiet while the officers were there, but as soon as they left, all three started talking at once.

INNOCENT! COMPLETELY INNOCENT! They had protested to the police, but they had been ignored. Crazy American policemen! Crazy disco club! And those crazy donkeys, those stupid guys who had jumped on them and had beaten them for no reason at all! Worst of all was that

crazy, crazy American woman. A bad, bad woman who did bad, bad things. So bad that if they spoke of it in front of my wife, her face would turn red, her hair would turn white, and she would cry in shame

at such vileness. They had to fight for their very lives! And their car! Completely wrecked by those ignorant donkeys who jumped on them!

My wife made us some coffee and assured them

that they could speak freely in front of her, that she wouldn't be shocked, but just *please*, tell us what had happened. Finally, the story came out.

They had taken one of the girls out of the club for

a ride; she had suggested they pick up some other girlfriends. According to Ghassan, the girls had been "joking" them (he meant teasing). He made his hand go back and forth in a gesture by now familiar to us;

it meant playing them for fools, a complaint they made often about American women.

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of the moment with members of the opposite sex was unheard of. American women were loose-moraled, they claimed, and yet, we had noticed, they certainly made capital of the “new” morality. Their scorn was mingled with envy of the freedom that American youth enjoy. It led them to erroneous ideas about the girls they met. We had tried to explain that just because a girl worked as a waitress in a café, coffee shop, or cocktail lounge, she might not be quite as “free” as they imagined. Working in a public place did not mean she was a prostitute.

But the height of immoral behavior to them was a couple who lived together without legal or religious ceremonies, and sometimes with full approval of their parents. This they just could not understand. The trouble this evening had been their attempts to go beyond a point the girls had in mind. In fact, they had headed the car toward the beach when the girls started protesting vehemently. So, obligingly, they had turned around and returned to the disco.

Once there, the girls abandoned them. Soon some friends of theirs approached Ghassan's table and invited them out into the parking lot — a scuffle ensued inside the club and the manager asked them all to leave. They carried the fight outside, where several interested bystanders encouraged both sides. Ghassan, Mumtaz, and Bahram had practiced their *savate*, foot-boxing, and had gotten in some good kicks before a couple of other men had brought them down with flying football tackles. (We had watched them in their exercises of *savate*, and Bruce Lee himself couldn't have done better. Their agility amazed us — the quickness of movements and their ability to move on one foot while jabbing and thrusting with the other rivaled a dancer's grace, if that dancer had decided to try to kill someone with his

feet. The thing we had noticed about the Syrians we had met through the school was their amazing physical well-being. They were strong, tough people with logical minds that served them well in argumentation. They had an incisive way of getting right to the point of a discussion, and a stubbornness in their conviction that they had an insight into human affairs the rest of us lacked.)

While they told us their version of the story, we heard overtones between the lines. Cultural conflict again. The girls had laughed at “bad” stories, at “bad” words, acting like men among men. They obviously were “free” American women, free for anyone. Didn't I agree? All the time they talked they addressed

their remarks to me and ignored my wife.

From their conversation, we gathered that Arab parents recognize their sons and daughters as sexual beings, and even make open references to the “facts of life,” while encouraging their sons to remain “moral,” and making every effort to insure their daughters remain “a closed garden.” Mumtaz's quaint phrase had a biblical sound. We were getting used to his aphorisms, but we sympathized with his perplexity in the matter. “A rose whose petals have never been touched smells more fragrant,” he once told us. Another time, he said, “A flash of lightning does not satisfy a man's thirst.”

“Tell that to Ghassan,” I advised, but he said something about each man being

his own master.

And so that night their education and ours continued. We have traveled enough to know that the world is no longer a costume ball, but wearing American-made jeans does not forestall cultural shock. Nor did the students' acceptance of our hospitality mean they fully accepted our values. They tolerated us, politely, and there was certainly genuine affection that had developed between us, but we saw that night that their older, far more conservative, traditional way of life clashed with our American ways.

They questioned us. “Why your sons leave this house before they marry?”

“It's the American way,” we explained. “They wanted to try their wings, to make

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their own way in the world, to be independent. And most American parents encourage this.”

“Why you not retire, too?” they wanted to know of my wife. It was the American women who perplexed them most. “Why you two not travel now, enjoy life. He retire; you retire, too. Spend time with husband.” This was an obligation for a wife, as they saw it.

She tried to explain that we did travel — during summer vacations when she wasn’t teaching. She liked her career, and the extra money was good, too. She would continue working as long as she was able.

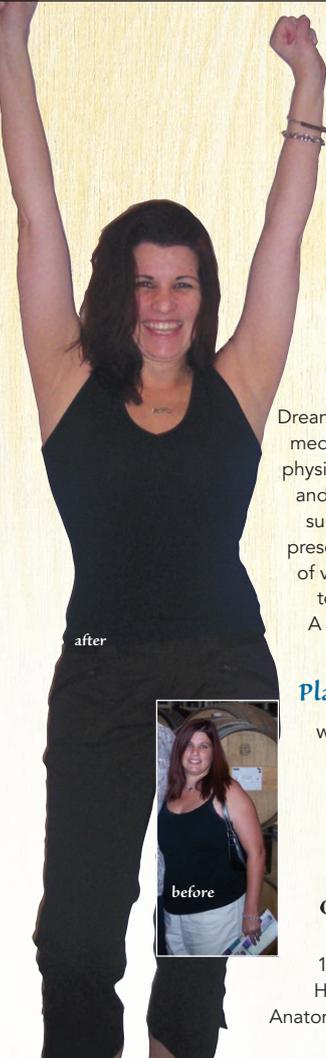
We tried to explain that it was common for American husbands and wives to have friends together, but also separately — colleagues at school, for instance. Just because the teachers, male and female, met in the teachers’ lounge didn’t mean it threatened

our marriage, nor was she abandoning me. Such is the American way of life — men and women socializing and working side by side, but usually choosing partners, two-by-two, just as it has always been since the beginning of time.

Ghassan surprised us by speaking. He was the silent one. “Those nice words,” he said to my wife. “But I not believe you in this thing. I think maybe you like other American women. You maybe like men too much. I see you with other teachers at school, men and women, make jokes together. Maybe some day you go away, leave this good man here home alone!” His voice had been rising as he warmed to his subject.

If it hadn’t been for the astonished drop of her jaw, her eyes and mouth in round O’s of disbelief and bewilderment, I would have laughed. We’ve been mar-

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ried for a long time and have weathered all sorts of storms together. We looked at each other, I shook my head. No use arguing with them. They just didn't understand. My wife is stubborn, and long years of teaching have made her patiently persevering. But patience can be drawn thin sometimes. The hour was late. She was tired.

She got up to leave, trying to act dignified in her robe and fuzzy slippers. "I'm going to bed," she announced, tying her belt in a double knot with an authoritative snap. "Good night." There was a finality in her voice that was familiar to me; I had heard it when she used to argue with our sons. It meant, No more; this is it; I've had it!

For a woman to turn her back on an Arab is the ultimate insult, and Ghassan wouldn't let it go by. "So, no answer for me, huh, American woman?" he called to her retreating back. "You run away now, huh? I think maybe you know what I say is true, huh?" He was shouting now.

She had stopped dead still in the doorway of the kitchen. The rigidity of her back spoke her annoyance, if not to them, then to me. I recognize her fighting stance, after all these years. She turned deliberately to face him, then retraced her steps slowly until her face was inches from his. "Shut up! You don't know how ignorant you are. You are an ignorant brat!" Each word was spaced emphatically.

He laughed up at her. "Oh, now you show us real American woman, huh? Maybe you like go disco, too, huh? Maybe you drink wheesky, smoke hashish, too, huh? Maybe play with other men, huh? Make face like doll, huh? Real American woman. *Say it!* SAY IT, AMERICAN WOMAN!"

The other two stared at him in disbelief. He had gone too far this time in his forwardness. Ghassan, our favorite, turning on us this way. What was this minor Oedipal comedy/drama being played out in our kitchen, I wondered. What was wrong with him? In ludicrous succession, I saw images of middle-aged temptresses, Delilahs with graying locks, Salomes of motherly girth, gyrating under disco lights

as fast as arthritis and low-back pain would allow. I was about to interfere but her recovery was quick. "DON'T YOU DARE TALK LIKE THAT TO ME, YOU ROTTEN KID! Where is your respect?" Her voice rose indignantly, but he stood and faced her down.

"Americans rotten! Americans rotten..."

As if he had spit on the flag, she just stared at him. Then she raised her hand and let him have it, right across the mouth. He moved, and so did I. Mumtaz and Bahrain made a grab at Ghassan. But he shook them off. "Now you show us real American woman, huh? Slap man, huh? Now you go slap husband, too, huh? Maybe you slap him when we not here? She slap you, Carl, this good American woman? I leave this house now. No woman slap Arab man, EVER..."

At this effrontery, Mumtaz tried to put his hand over Ghassan's mouth, but got a push that sent him

sprawling on the kitchen floor. Bahrain was yelling something I couldn't understand, and he made a grab for his friend. He got a good kick in the ribs from the flailing Ghassan. He doubled over, holding his sides. Mumtaz was back on his feet, shouting loudly something

thought I was coming to defend my wife's honor. After all, he had insulted her. It was the only Arabic I knew, and they had taught it to us: "peace be with you."

I brandished the knife above my head, twirling it round and round. I hadn't studied drama in college for

"She slap you, Carl, this good American woman?"

in Arabic. "Do something! Do something!" I could hear my wife above the noise.

It was either me or the police, I thought. Blessed are the peacemakers. I did the only thing I could think of. I reached over and opened the drawer where we kept the butcher knives. I drew out the largest one, held it high over my head, and yelled, "ASSALAAM-ALAIKUM!" It caught them all by surprise. The scuffling stopped at once. Ghassan's face went white. He must have

nothing. "Walaikum-Assalaam," the response came from Mumtaz. ("And peace be with you also.") It was almost a whisper. I motioned them all toward the family room. They moved ahead of me like a herd of sheep, my wife's fuzzy slippers making scuffing sounds across the floor. I indicated the couch, and the three students sat down. My wife headed toward her chair.

Ghassan was slumped in a corner of the sofa. I could see his face was red and he was biting his lips. Mumtaz and Bahram sat with bowed heads. I sat down in my chair. It probably was the only custom we had that they totally approved of, I thought. They'd told us that when their fathers and mothers sat in their salons, they had their chairs that none of the children dared usurp. They employed many French terms, and Ghassan's family spoke French as a second language. The French influence in Syria was strong in the Arabic countries, and still remains so in many ways.

"So, you don't like us anymore?" I directed the question to Ghassan. He didn't reply. He looked directly at me, then away. "Do you want to leave this house?" I persisted. "Since you so strongly disapprove of us, our customs. Or maybe you think we haven't treated you fairly. Or maybe you just don't understand Americans. You don't understand us, is that it?" Mumtaz started saying something, but I raised my hand to silence him. "I'm not talking to you two now; I'm talking to Ghassan."

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Perhaps it was my tone, or even the words themselves, for he looked at me again, in surprise, it seemed to me. Then I saw the tears in his eyes. He remained silent. "Well, whatever you think of us, we cannot help being what we are: Americans. Have you ever thought that we consider you different, too? Has that ever entered your mind? But that doesn't mean we don't respect you. We aren't trying to change you."

The three of them sat there. I glanced over at my wife and saw, to my surprise, that she was crying, too. I

thought of the go-rounds we used to have when our own three sons were home. A generation of difference can make for problems, too. There had been some shouting, some arguments, some differences in values. Times change and people are sometimes slow in changing with them. The thought of it made my eyes mist over. Damn it! I couldn't break down, too. After all, I had assumed command of this outfit. It was up to me. "You know what I think? I don't think you are an Arab, Ghassan, or you either, Mumtaz. You aren't Arabs. Where are your tents,

where are your camels? How about your oil wells? We Americans know all about you, and you just don't fit the picture.

"And how about you, Bahram? Are you really Persian? Where are your funny shoes and hat?"

Ghassan spoke first. "Don't joke me, Carl. You know I Arab. You know Mumtaz Arab. And you know Bahram. Why you joke us now? We don't joke you, Carl. We..." He stopped and looked away, biting his lips again.

"You know what I think you three are?" I looked at

the three of them, sitting where so many nights our own three sons had sat with us. What lessons were they learning now, I wondered, and were they hard lessons to learn, too? "I think maybe you're three *jinns*." (I used the Arabic word for magic spirits who can transform themselves into any shape or character they wish in the twinkling of an eye.) "You are three *jinns* who have come back to make life miserable for us, just to cause us trouble and make our hearts ache. Is that what you are? Three *jinns*, playing tricks on us? Tell us

who you really are."

It was Bahram who rose first. He motioned Mumtaz to his feet, and then Ghassan. They looked at each other, then at us, and moved like a consolidation of tribal sheiks in jeans to position themselves in front of my wife and me as we sat in our chairs looking up at them.

Bahram spoke, "You know us now, Carl. You too smart for us. You are right. We are *jinns*. We come back to you, but not to make trouble. No, never. We come to you because you open your house to us. You open your hearts to us." He put

his long arms around the other two. "What can we say to these people here? This man and this woman, huh? Say it, now." He pushed Mumtaz forward.

"I sorry, Carl. And I sorry to you, too," and he bowed to my wife.

"I sorry to you both." Ghassan looked directly at us, then smiled.

Bahram stood in the middle, his arms around his companions. Then he said, "Come, my brothers, say hello to your Mommy and Poppy because we have come home again." ■

— Carl E. Krueger

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LETTERS

continued from page 22

met or observed his behavior before his accident? Did it ever occur to you, “Doctor,” that *maybe* the reason for his behavior that you encountered and have such issues with might be due to *his head being caved in*? Now, I haven’t had years of medical training like you, but even I know enough to figure out that *maybe* a severe head injury might alter a person’s perception of things and their behavior, also considering the pain he must have gone through, the drugs he was on during treatment, as well as the frustration of his body no longer being in his control as it was before. It is very easy to be critical of others, but until you are going through what Dorian has gone through, how about a little bit of compassion and lighten the hell up.

The last letter, “Too Rude for the Kids” from Mr. Cobb—this guy really took the cake, having issues with how graphic the cover was for his small children. Granted the ages of these children were not mentioned, but newsflash update, the *Reader* is not made for kids; anyone with any common sense would be able to figure this out, unless you think those ads for breast enlargements, bars, casinos, and pot dispensaries are being marketed towards the grade-school crowd. Did it ever occur to you that *maybe* the traumatic image of what can happen if you don’t wear a helmet when you ride your bike, Rollerblade, skateboard, etc., might go a hell of a lot farther

than Daddy and Mommy doing the constant and easily ignored nagging of the kids to wear their protective gear?

And please, Mr. Cobb, tell me what the hell gangsta rap, Middle East terrorism, and the movie *300* has one thing to do with a guy that, without thinking of the possible outcome of a simple act like skateboarding with his dog without a helmet, had his life changed forever? Greg, no one is trying to partake in any “neo-barbaric movement,” nor do I think he was trying to glorify his injuries—he was just a guy that is stating what happened to him and what he went through, and continues to go through, in hopes of educating others so that *maybe* no one else will have to go through the horrible events that he went through.

Yes, you are 100 percent right—we are all going to die, but God forbid that we be “rude”—let’s not protect or educate children by showing them the possible horrible reality of *why* they *do* need to wear protective gear. Yes, it is better to let them run out in the world ignorant while parents shield themselves with crossed fingers with that wishful thinking of “It won’t happen to me if we don’t think about it, it will just happen to someone *else*.” But then again, I am sure Dorian thought the same thing when he got on his skateboard that day.

Chaos Rabbit
via email

Have A Heart, People

I was surprised to read so many complaints in your

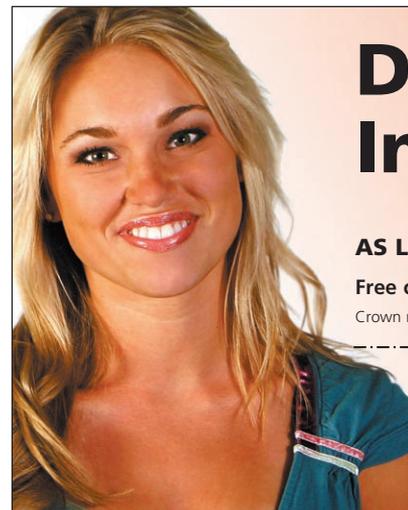
recent issue (Letters, April 29) regarding the article “Broken Skull, Broken Heart” (Cover Story, April 22). Dorian was brave enough to write his story and even made a comment that he hoped it would persuade just one child to put a helmet on before they go skateboarding. Those who wrote in described how gruesome and disturbing they found the cover photo to be. It hurts me to read these comments and just imagine what these types of people would do if they ran into Dorian on the street. Would they turn the other direction or put their head down while their children point and stare? His story is indeed horrific, but the *Reader* didn’t print a bloody and sickening picture of the doctors while in the process of removing his skull; they printed a picture of Dorian. I commend your choices for both the story as well as the image of him that was used and hope that some of those who wrote in can imagine how Dorian feels after sharing his experience only to receive letters of how “gruesome” and “disturbing” people found his appearance.

Janae
via email

Talent Show

This letter is in response to Don Bauder’s April 29 article “Orgy of Self-Congratulation” (“City Lights”).

In this article, Don addresses high compensation for a corporate CEO when the company had reduced earnings. I wonder what the nonexecutive employees received during this time? It’s likely that they received little



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or nothing, or maybe some got laid off?

This is a major problem in Corporate America. The usual comment by the board members who approve these bonuses is that "We must retain the executives because they have special talents."

First of all, there is usually nothing special about most executives. They tend to be manipulative people who surround themselves with yes-men and yes-women. They also tend to select the board members, and it goes without saying that they select people who they can control. The end result is a corporate CEO with a board of directors that approves everything that he/she requests.

I realize that board members must be approved by the stockholders; however, the candidates are generally nominated by the CEO, resulting in candidates who are beholden to the CEO. We also must understand that the board members must work closely with the CEO or chaos will ensue. If anyone has ever tried to run an organization by

committee, you know what I mean. Unfortunately, I don't have a better way to select board members.

I do, however, have an idea to help mitigate this problem. Incentivize the CEO and the board members to run the corporation based upon longer-term goals. This can be done by extending time frames for bonuses. Executives and board members should *not* receive "annual" bonuses. Instead, bonuses should be based upon three- to five-year time frames. Bonuses should be paid on average net earnings over a three- to five-year period, which means that no one should receive a bonus for year one or year two. This should include all types of bonus related to compensation for executives and board members. I believe that American businesses will be more competitive and stable when longer-term goals become the focus of the executives and board members.

I'm not going to hold my breath waiting for corporations to apply this concept. I

believe that it should become an accounting standard. CPA organizations need to adopt this concept and include it as part of their audit. Just as depreciation standards are applied and reviewed by CPAs, I believe that compensation standards should also be applied and reviewed.

I'm interested to hear other ideas to resolve this issue.

Ronald Harris
Scripps Ranch

Real News for Real Americans

Re "Broke Cities" ("City Lights," April 8).

Great article!! Thank you for doing real news that matters to all Americans.

Chris Williams
via email

VHS And Ravioli

Is there a *Reader* "Off the Cuff" rendezvous location that potential interviewees are being invited to? A mystical boat ride? A secret handshake I must learn? Based on the gray-scale portrait backgrounds, it seems likely that these people are meeting in

some sort of underground facility, which is quite surprising to me. I ask because I know nothing about your methods to find worthy respondents, and I'm growing weary in my desperate wanderings throughout this city, finding no one that will inquire me for my non sequitur ramblings to be included in such a fine publication. The questions presented are interesting and entirely relevant (hand claps to the columnist), but there's a certain buzz kill that takes place in my soul when Cliff from La Mesa is somehow gifted with an entire paragraph to explain how VHS tapes are far superior to ravioli. Perhaps the focus shouldn't be so much on politics, yeah? With no expectations, I request the opportunity to give answers on command. I greatly appreciate the effort it takes that you will spend on materializing this goal of mine. Thank you for being free.

Jake Glazier
via Facebook

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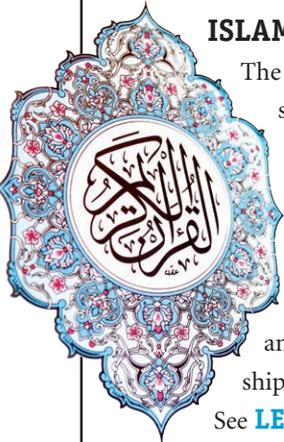
Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 13

ISLAM IN AMERICA

The Beyond Stereotypes series continues when USD associate professor Bahar Davary offers a look at how Islam came to America, its practices, and the variation of worship in the United States. See **LECTURES**, page 74.



SHANGHAI GHETTO

The Jewish Film Festival hosts a screening of this documentary chronicling the formation of a small Jewish community of exiles in 1939, far from the comforts of their European homes. Film historian Scott Marks kicks off the evening with an overview of the film in its historical context. See **FILM**, page 71.

Friday | 14

NATURE ADVENTURES

See live caterpillars, chrysalides, and butterflies and learn about their life cycles during this program for kids of all ages through songs, a trail hike, and craft-making. See **FOR KIDS**, page 72.



MOTHER'S DAY, ANIMAL STYLE

Read a story about an animal mother and her babies, meet an "irresistible mother animal," and create "a craft no mom can resist" during the Kindernights and Kindermornings program at the San Diego Zoo. See **FOR KIDS**, page 72.

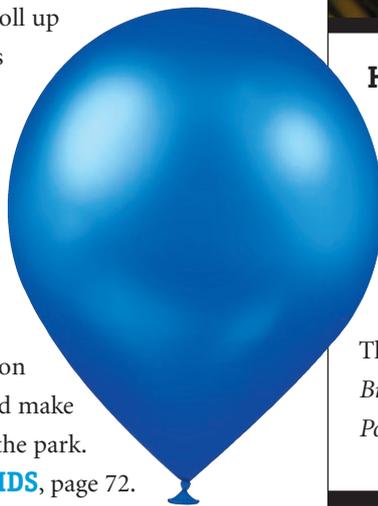
Saturday | 15

WILD WEST FEST

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park takes us back to the rootin' tootin' old days. Real cowboys will demonstrate shoot-outs, rope tricks, and more. Shop the trading post, ride a bucking bronco, and create your own cowboy hat to take home. See **SPECIAL**, page 69.

BALLOONS AND BUBBLES!

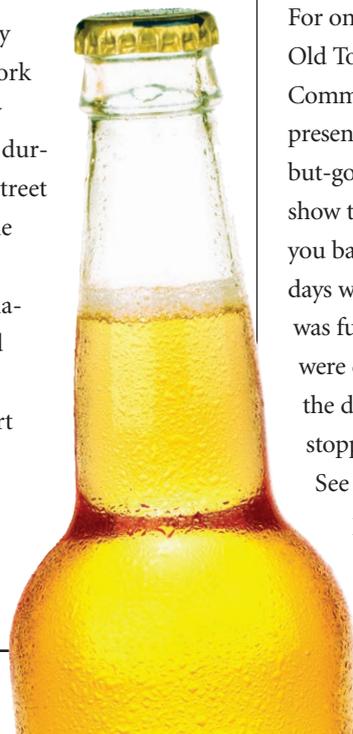
Get ready for a full day of bubbly fun at the New Children's Museum. Roll up your sleeves for a water-balloon toss, take part in the bubble-gum blowing contest, create balloon animals, and make bubbles in the park. See **FOR KIDS**, page 72.



Sunday | 16

NORTH PARK FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

See the community come alive with work by artists "in every possible medium" during this day-long street festival. Explore the historic neighborhood, enjoy international cuisines and the "Craft Beer Block," the Kids Art Beat area, and live entertainment on five stages. See **SPECIAL**, page 68.



SUNDAY, MAY 16: HOW PEOPLE GOT FIRE

HOW PEOPLE GOT FIRE

Catch this film at the Museum of Photographic Arts during the American Indian Film Festival, which includes eight family-friendly films created by Native Americans about their culture and life experience. The program also includes the film *Sing Birds: Following the Path of Cahuilla Power*. See **FILM**, page 71.

Monday | 17

SHAKE, RATTLE, AND ROLL: A FIFTIES AND SIXTIES ROCK & ROLL CELEBRATION

For one evening only, the Old Town Temecula Community Theater presents an oldies-but-goodies stage show that will "take you back to the days when music was fun, the nights were cruisin', and the dancing never stopped!" See **THEATER**, page 112.



Tuesday | 18

GET ACTIVE!

Activist San Diego, CODEPINK, and many other groups plan a demonstration "against the world's largest drone [unmanned aircraft] manufacturer, General Atomics." Events begin with a tutorial on nonviolent behavior, a forum on drones, and more. Demonstration scheduled the following day. See **SPECIAL**, page 68.

Wednesday | 19

THE DIET JOKE

What do Las Vegas and the diet industry have in common? Find out when Lisa Pedace (author of *The Diet Joke*) presents "It's Your Time to Lighten Up: Change Your Habits, Improve Your Health" in celebration of National Women's Health Week. See **IN PERSON**, page 73.

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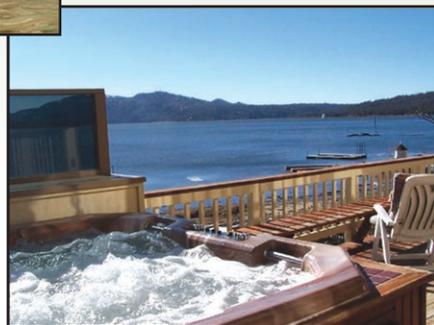
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TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS



'Burghers jump into a frigid waterway.

Polar Bear Plunge, Pittsburgh

By Robert Isenberg

When Bill invited me to jump in the Monongahela River it was New Year's Eve, and I had knocked back half a bottle of champagne. "It's tomorrow morning," Bill said. "Just bring a swimsuit and a towel."

"I'll think about it," I said.

By 8 a.m., I'd decided not to jump in with the local Polar Bear Club. But I took the bus to downtown Pittsburgh to support my friends — and to take some pictures. After all, it's not every day you watch several hundred 'Burghers jump into a frigid waterway.

The crowd was enormous — older folks draped in bathrobes, college guys wearing only Speedos, and tattooed punk-rockers swigging malt liquor as they kicked off their sandals. The crowd jumped in waves; one row of Polar Bears, then another, then a third. When my friends finally sprang, I had to push through the crowd to photograph them. After only seconds, they splashed toward the concrete wall, heaving for breath, convulsing with cold, and bleeding icy water through their towels.

"OH MY GOD!" they screamed. "YOU NEED TO TRY THIS!"

"Come on," I guffawed. "Somebody has to watch your stuff."

Delphi, Greece

By Derek Ray

In the shadow of Mount Parnassus, amid olive, pine, and cypress trees, Delphi stands about 2000 feet above sea level. Delphi was believed to have been the sanctuary of the god Apollo; thus, Delphi was considered the holiest place in the world.

Delphi is about 110 miles outside of Athens and can only be reached by car or bus. There are no airports nearby. A private-car tour is generally less expensive, and less stressful than a bus tour.

The mountains provide a spectacular location for the remains of ancient Delphi near the modern town. Various plateaus up the slope of Mount Parnassus hold the well-preserved ruins.

One of the most popular sites at Delphi is the Delphic oracle at the Temple of Apollo. The ancient Greeks believed that you could talk to the gods here and get answers to some of the most essential questions in life. People from all walks of life came here in search of guidance and wisdom. The priestess Pythia supposedly provided the answers from the god Apollo, although many of these were ambiguous and subject to interpretation.

The visitor reaches the site of the oracle and temple via a stroll down the Sacred Way. Up the hill from the Temple of Apollo are the theater and the stadium. The mountains surrounding the well-preserved theater must have been a

continued on page 66

Other Adventures



MsGrant: Strolling near the Ponte Vecchio in Florence, Italy



dnavarro: Kiera at the Grand Canyon



mveseskis: The flowery fields of Karlstejn, Czech Republic

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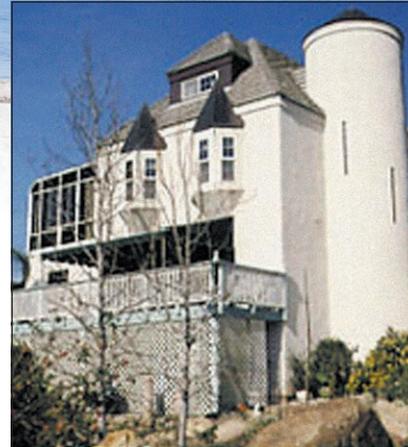
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OUTDOORS

Light Showers during April have delayed, for a week or two, the inevitable mid-spring “brown-out” of San Diego’s coastal vegetation. The wild oats and foxtails have

mostly turned gold, but other varieties of wild grass such as rye remain green in some areas. Yellow waves of wild mustard continue to put on a good show here and there, especially on the steep slopes and road cuts overlooking several of the freeways.

Rabbit and Rodent populations are peaking in the canyons and hillsides of coastal San Diego County. In many neighborhoods, car headlights illuminate the rear ends of scampering cottontail rabbits making raids on succulent garden vegetation. On the fringes of

suburbia, sleek coyotes are sometimes spotted slinking about in pursuit of rodents and rabbits, or easier-to-catch fare — house cats.

Wildflowers of San Diego County’s highest mountains are in full bloom this week. Take a walk along any trail above 4500 feet in the Laguna, Cuyamaca, or Palomar mountains and enjoy a palette of colors ranging from crimson red to indigo blue. Among the most common varieties are lupine (blue, occasionally yellow), wallflower (yellow), paintbrush (red), scarlet bugler (red), beard tongue (blue-purple), checker (lavender), woolly blue curls (violet), forget-me-not (white), wild hyacinth (purple), and yarrow (yellow and white).

Grunion Runs are predicted to occur during the late evening hours (generally after 10pm and before 1am), following the nocturnal high tide, May 14 through 16. The small, silvery grunion tend to spawn on wide, gently sloping beaches such as Silver Strand, Mission Beach, Pacific Beach, La Jolla Shores, and Del Mar. During the months of April and May, grunion are protected and may not be taken by fishers through any means. Open season for grunion starts in June, and from then until the end of summer the fish can be collected in reasonable numbers using the hands only (fishing licence needed for persons 16 years of age and older). For more information, visit dfg.ca.gov/marine/grunion-schedule.asp.

The Waxing Crescent Moon returns to the western sky at dusk on Friday, May 14. Look just above the west horizon to spot the exquisitely thin crescent, which closely resembles a ghostly up-turned smile. By Saturday at dusk (May 15) the somewhat thicker crescent moon will lie higher and close to the brilliant planet Venus. Both will sink toward the west horizon over the next two hours.

“Early Birds, Bugs, and Botany” Naturalist Lee Dezan plans slow-paced four-mile hike along moderate trails (depending upon group). Look for wildflowers. Wear hat, treaded footwear, bring water. 760-839-4680. Saturday, May 15, 7am; free. Daley

Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Afternoon Fitness Hike Join naturalist Rita Ospelt on 8.4-mile double-loop hike with brisk pace, some steep up- and downhill sections. Not suited for children. 760-839-4680. Thursday, May 13, 4:30pm; free. Daley Ranch — La Honda trailhead, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

Birding at Kumeyaay Lake Join bird enthusiasts on lakeside stroll led by trail guide to spot swifts, swallows, warblers, wood ducks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 8am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Daley Ranch Scenery A diverse plant population, expansive views await those taking “occasionally strenuous” four-mile hike with naturalist Rick Paul. Ask about “the Daley Ranch keepsake.” 760-839-4680. Sunday, May 16, 9am; free. Daley Ranch — Cougar Pass trailhead, North Broadway and Cougar Pass Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Discover Downtown Escondido Walking tour led by Escondido History Center guide, starting at southeast corner of Grand and Broadway. 760-743-8207. Tuesday, May 18, 6pm; free. Draper’s and Damon’s, 101 East Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

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

Experience a Grunion Run Grunion run program hosted by Birch Aquarium-Museum (which doesn’t take place at museum). Presentation on grunion, followed by “opportunity to witness grunion eggs hatch before your eyes.” Required reservations: 858-534-7336. Friday, May 14, 9:30pm; \$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Explore Mission Trails Day Day’s activities include viewing of sun “and its riotous hot spots

through a telescope safely equipped with a solar filter” (9:30am). At 12:30pm, enjoy “Fun Bug Nature Walk,” when trail guides lead easy walk in search of bugs, insects, other small creatures. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Explore Oak Oasis San Diego Natural History Museum Canyoneers lead easy to moderate nature hike. 619-255-0171. Sunday, May 16, 9am; free. Oak Oasis Open Space Preserve, 12620 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

Get to Know 20 Native Plants Explore canyons and open spaces during introductory walk in Tecolote Canyon led by California Native Plant Society. Bring sturdy shoes, water. 310-883-8569. Saturday, May 15, 10am; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Interested in Native Flora? Join Friends of the Point Loma Native Plant Garden, learn about native flora while caring for collection of rare, endangered native plants and trees. Watering, trail maintenance, invasive plant removal, other light gardening activities. Tools provided. Find garden next to GreenCliff Apartments, 4444 Greene St., Ocean Beach. 619-297-7380. Sunday, May 16, 9am; free. Point Loma Native Plant Reserve, Mendocino Boulevard and Greene Street. (POINT LOMA)

Nature in Marian Bear Learn about plants, animals living in Marian Bear Park during easy guided walk starting at East Genesee entrance (5700 Genesee). 858-581-9944. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am; free. Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Peak of Spring Nature Hike Trail guides “connect you to all things native at the height of the season.” Learn plants, animals, geology, history, more. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am; Sunday, May 16, 9:30am; Wednesday, May 19, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Plants, Snakes, Shakes Naturalist Jack Pomeroy leads moder-

ROAM-O-RAMA

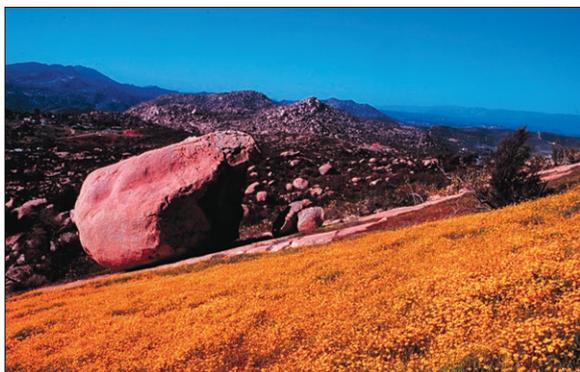
A Guide to Unexpected San Diego and Beyond | by Jerry Schad

SILVERWOOD WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Explore Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary’s new trails in the rocky hills above Lakeside.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 25 miles

Hiking length: Looping trails of up to 2 miles • **Difficulty:** Easy to moderately strenuous



“Big Rock Slab” on the Circuit Trail

Silverwood. The name comes from the glittering effect of sunlight upon the dark-green leaves of the coast live oak. Scores of these trees, some of them two-century-old giants scarred by wild-fire, shade the canyon floor at the entrance to the Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary. Owned and managed by the San Diego Audubon Society, the sanctuary preserves 700 acres of flora and fauna indigenous to the foothill region.

Silverwood is open to the public every Sunday (except in August and September, when it is too hot and dry) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. You’ll find the entrance on the east side of Wildcat Canyon Road at mile 4.8. (Mile markers on Wildcat Canyon Road begin from 0.0 at Maplevue and Ashwood streets in Lakeside. Ashwood becomes Wildcat Canyon Road north of Lakeside.) The map accompanying this article shows Silverwood in relation to the nearby area, which includes several county parks and open-space preserves that may be worth checking out before or after your Silverwood visit.

The 2003 Cedar Fire roared through Silverwood, incinerating all vegetation and all human-made structures on the property. Now, nearly seven years later, many of the coast live oaks have fully recovered, and the chaparral vegetation has returned in force. On a recent visit, ceanothus (wild lilac) shrubs were bursting with lavender-colored blossoms, and bush poppy plants were festooned with hundreds

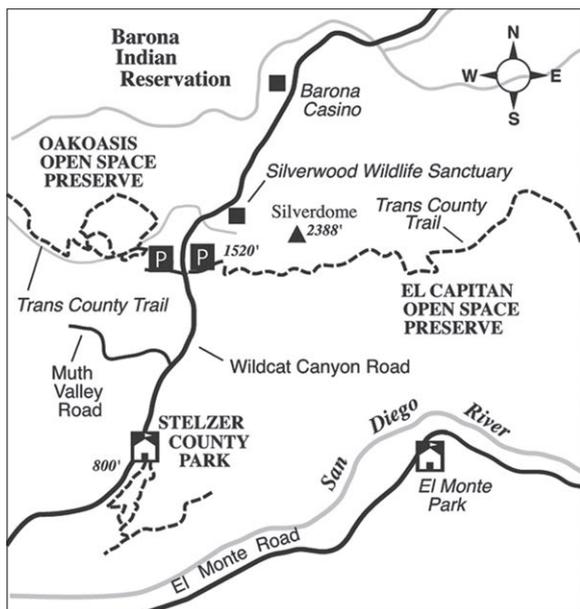
of bright yellow flowers.

The Cedar Fire and subsequent heavy rains took a heavy toll on the intricate trail system that once existed here. Since then, Audubon Society staff and volunteers have been busy renewing the trails, especially in the northern part of the property. When you arrive at the entrance, sign in as a guest, and then stop by the pint-size Frank Gander Nature Education Center nearby. Obtain a copy of the latest trail map, which is periodically updated to reflect newly opened stretches of trail.

For hiking purposes, start walking on the near-level Wright McConnell Trail. Arrive maybe ten minutes later at the man-

ager’s residence, which is surrounded by an observation/interpretive area and a picnic ground with drinking fountain. Just beyond the residence is a small *ciénaga*, or soggy meadow, adorned with spring wildflowers. If you’re up for a two-mile ramble along the rocky ridgeline above, find and follow the Spring and Big Oak trails, which take you sharply uphill to the ridge-running, view-rich Circuit Trail. Use the Circuit Trail to circle broadly north and return to the entrance parking lot. On the Circuit Trail you can spot, off to the east, a rounded granitic dome called “Silverdome” about 500 feet high, half-covered with lichens, mosses, and shrubs. Some geologists believe this to be the largest granite monolith in San Diego County. On the Circuit Trail itself, you cross the so-called “Big Rock Slab,” which has the same texture and vegetation as Silverdome.

This article contains information about a privately owned 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.



Greece *continued from page 64*

spectacular backdrop for classical audiences. The stadium was the site of the quadrennial Pythian Games, held here in ancient times during the third year of each Olympiad.

Another attraction at Delphi is the Tholos, a beautiful circular building at the center of the sanctuary of Athena Pronaia. It was built between 380 and 360 B.C.

Delphi, along with several of the other significant archaeological sites in Greece (Olympia, Delos), has an excellent museum to help the visitor connect



People came here in search of guidance and wisdom.

with the history of the site through artifacts and statues from various historical periods — most notably the classical period. A visit here helps to unwind layers of history.

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

ately paced 4.5-mile hike and discusses reptiles, geology, and plants along trails. Bring water, wear hiking boots. 760-839-4680. Saturday, May 15, 7:30am; free. Daley Ranch — Cougar Pass trailhead, North Broadway and Cougar Pass Road. (ESCONDIDO)

See Bright Galaxies Star party includes Saturn's rings and Mars viewing through telescope. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 8pm; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Tracking Critters Enjoy "discovery hike in search of tracks, scat, animal trails, and hiding places" during trail-guide led outing beginning at equestrian staging area (at end of Mast Blvd., west of Highway 52 junction). 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Transform an Acre of Turf! Help San Diego Flyway Cities Coalition create a community habitat garden for wildlife and people. Day begins with NatureScape workshop; learn to compost, save water, certify your property as official "Backyard Habitat" (9-10am).

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

15, 9am; free. EastLake Clubhouse at the Woods, 1150 Woods Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Tree Walk Offshoot Tours offers hour-long guided tour highlighting various Balboa Park trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, May 15, 10am; free. Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Twilight Nature Walk Trail guide-led stroll through grasslands to see changes at dusk, when wildlife emerges. Reservations: 619-668-2748. Saturday, May 15, 7pm; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

SPECIAL

"I Can Do It!" Conference "to energize your mind, body, and spirit" boasts speakers Wayne W.

Dyer, Marianne Williamson, Cheryl Richardson, Joan Z. Borysenko, Louise L. Hay, Dr. Christiane Northrup, Krishna Das, Sonia Choquette, many others. One-day and full-series passes available. 800-654-5126. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; Friday, May 14, 10am; Saturday, May 15, 8:30am; Sunday, May 16, 8:30am. San Diego Convention Center, 111 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

"I Would Prefer Not To" San Diego Great Books group wraps up season with discussion of American novelist Herman Melville's novella *Bartleby the Scrivener*. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Sunday, May 16, 2pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

"Messages with Love from the Other Side" Clairvoyant medium readings by psychic medium Reverend Roby Warren,

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

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

who will "connect with loved ones who have crossed over to the other side." Requested donation: \$15. 858-320-0090. Thursday, May 13, 7pm. Celebration Center for Spiritual Living, 5820 Oberlin Drive #108. (SORRENTO VALLEY)

Alex's Lemonade Stand for Enzo In continuing effort in battle against childhood cancer, the Rissolo family hosts sixth annual lemonade sale. Donation. 866-333-1213. Saturday, May 15, 10am. Botanical Building, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

American Indian Art Market The 27th annual event promises juried show of American Indian art plus music and family activities. Artwork ranges from traditional to avant-garde. Artist demonstrations, storytelling, dance. 619-239-2001. Saturday, May 15, 10am; Sunday, May 16, 10am; \$5-\$10. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Books to Good Homes Book fair includes used children's books, adult fiction and nonfiction, reference, some text books. 858-509-2300. Saturday, May 15, 10am. Notre Dame Academy, 4345 Del Mar Trails Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Chrononaut-SteamPunk Party Interested in the steampunk movement? Learn more during "night of great music, costumes, and fun." 619-255-5147. Thursday, May 13, 7:30pm; \$8. Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Dames, Drinks, Drawing Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School convenes for sketching session with Bibi Bordeaux of Hell on Heels burlesque revue. Bring your art supplies. 619-501-9325. Saturday, May 15, 3pm; \$10. 21 and up. Ruby Room, 1271 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Duck Racing! Annual fundraising duck race and "season pass preview." Purchase of \$5 duck includes admission to the park, attractions, duck. 760-940-WAVE. Sunday, May 16, 1pm. Wave Waterpark, 101 Wave Drive. (VISTA)

Esccondido Street Faire Enjoy live entertainment, over 600 vendors selling wares, international food on Grand Avenue (between Centre City Parkway and Ivy Street). 760-945-9288. Sunday, May 16, 10am; free. Downtown Esccondido, Grand Avenue at Centre City. (ESCONDIDO)

Gems from Zambia *Gems & Gemology* editor Brendan Laurs discusses his 2004 expedition to gem and mineral deposits in Zambia, where he gathered information on location, geology, gem production of Kafubu emerald region. "Bring your own faceted gems to show off and inspire new faceters" for this Palomar Gem and Mineral Club meeting. 760-743-0809. Wednesday, May 19, 7pm; free. Redwood Terrace — Dittus Hall, 710 West 13th Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

Get Active! Activist San Diego, CODEPINK, many other groups plan demonstration "against the world's largest...drone manufacturer, General Atomics." Events begin with nonviolence training (1-3pm); prop-making workshop (4-5pm); forum on drones (7pm) on Tuesday, May 18.

Rhyme & Verse

Those Winter Sundays
—A Poem by Robert Hayden

Sundays too my father got up early and put his clothes on in the blueblack cold, then with cracked hands that ached from labor in the weekday weather made banked fires blaze. No one ever thanked him.

I'd wake and hear the cold splintering, breaking. When the rooms were warm, he'd call, and slowly I would rise and dress, fearing the chronic angers of that house,

Speaking indifferently to him, who had driven out the cold

and polished my good shoes as well. What did I know, what did I know of love's austere and lonely offices?



Robert Hayden (1913-1980) was raised by foster parents in a household of "chronic angers" that left him with lifetime bouts of depression. Influenced by W.H. Auden, under whom he studied at the University of Michigan, and by the poets of the Harlem Renaissance, Hayden's work is marked by eloquence and humanity. Upon his marriage in 1940, Hayden converted to the Bah' ai faith. "Those Winter Sundays" is from the Collected Poems of Robert Hayden, edited by Frederick Glaysher, published by Liveright, and reprinted with permission.

Tuesday activities followed by demonstration, street theater, die-in at General Atomics headquarters on Wednesday, May 19 (8-10am). 415-575-5555. Tuesday, May 18, 1pm; free. First Church of the Brethren, 3850 Westgate Place. (OAK PARK)

House of Norway Take in ethnic music, songs, and dances for lawn program at International Cottages. 619-234-0739. Sunday, May 16, 2pm; free. House of Pacific Relations, 2125 Park Boulevard. (BALBOA PARK)

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

Lux at Night See artist-in-residence Robert Lobe's exhibit of metal repoussé sculpture, as well as metal sculpture he created during his residency. Enjoy art, refreshments, music. 760-436-6611. Wednesday, May 19, 7pm; free. 21 and up. Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

Masterworks of Body Art Art world and tattoo world combine when Southern California body artists "display their work on live canvases." Event promises work by

Bill Canales, Fip Buchanan, Rob Benavides, Roy "Loy-Loy" Leyva, Opie Ortiz, Louis Perez II. Tickets include tattoo runway show, music by Evan Robinson with War Stories, entrance to four exhibitions, refreshments "with the models." Reservations: 760-435-3720. Saturday, May 15, 6pm; \$20-\$25. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

May Festival Entertainment by Panamanian Folkloric Dancers, Monte Vista High School Polynesian Group, Monte Vista High School Step Team, Ballet Folklórico Cristo Rey, Ballet Folklórico Fiesta de Colores, Mariachi Real de San Diego, Dennis Dawson Jazz Ensemble, Christ the King Youth Gospel Choir. Fun zone, activities. 619-231-8906. Saturday, May 15, 9am; Sunday, May 16, 9am; free. Christ the King Catholic Church, 29 North 32nd Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

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

Neighborhood Law School "Employment Law and Worker's Compensation" provide topic for this week's Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association class helping citizens become more educated about the law. RSVP: 619-261-7781. Monday, May 17, 6pm; free. Christian Fellowship Congregational Church, 1601 Kelton Road. (EMERALD HILLS)

North Park Festival of the Arts Explore this historic neighborhood, see work "in every possible medium" by artists, enjoy international cuisines and "Craft Beer Block," live entertainment on five stages, Kids' Art Beat area, more. 619-233-5008. Sunday, May 16, 10am; free. North Park, University Avenue (between 30th and 32nd Streets). (NORTH PARK)

Patriot's Day Parade Time! TierraFest activities include parade (10am), arts and crafts fair, barbecue dinner (4-9pm), fireworks (dusk). 858-573-2648. Saturday, May 15, 9am; free. Tierrasanta Town Center, 10633 Tierrasanta Boulevard. (TIERRASANTA)

Pet Rescue Day on the Bay Bring your leashed dog and a new or "gently used blanket or towel" for donation to Helen Woodward Animal Center, then pay \$10 for one-hour harbor cruise on Hornblower Cruises. 619-686-8700. Sat-

urday, May 15, 10:30am, noon and 1:30pm. Hornblower Cruises, 1066 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Quilt Show See over 150 quilts during Chula Vista Quilters Guild's annual show, including a selection of entries from the Hoffman Challenge. Vote for your favorite in this year's "One Piece Challenge." Donation: \$5. 619-421-8163. Friday, May 14, 10am; Saturday, May 15, 10am. Community Congregational Church, 276 F Street. (CHULA VISTA)

Rare and Elegant Sailing The *Medea* and *Cangarda* Edwardian steam yachts will be in Glorietta Bay waiting for a rolling broadside salute from tall ship *Californian* to begin a race. From this standing start they will steam down Glorietta Bay, under Coronado Bridge, past Embarcadero to the west end of Shelter Island, back to Maritime Museum. Expect to hear a "salute from the museum's pair of 1847 Napoleon 12-pounder cannons." View racing from various Embarcadero locations (free).

Cangarda will be open for boarding at museum (May 13-20 except May 15, 2-4pm), with regular admission fee. 619-234-9153. Saturday, May 15, noon. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1306 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

RiverFest 2010 Festival promises live music on solar-powered stage, Fern Street Circus performance, information booths, art, vendors, more. Find fun in southwest section of stadium parking lot. 619-297-7380. Sunday, May 16, 9am; free. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Spark Romance, Mend Conflict Make and decorate a cloth doll when Lauren Becker Downey leads "Voodoo Doll Workshop." Embellish with paint, fabric, beads, ribbons, buttons, charms. Registration: 619-223-0058. Monday, May 17, 2pm; \$50-\$56. 14 and up. Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Decatur Rd., studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

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their wares. 619-218-7835. Sunday, May 16, 10am; free. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Who Was Karl Popper? Get to know this Austrian and British philosopher with P&R Discussion Group. 619-370-1027. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; free. Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Wild West Fest Shop the trading post, ride a bucking bronco in fun zone, create a cowboy hat to take home. Real cowboys will demonstrate shoot-outs, rope tricks, more. Enter salsa-making contest, or taste the entries; salsa tasting cards (\$3) include bowl of chili. Activity cards required for some activities: \$5. 760-434-2843. Satur-

day, May 15, 11am. Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, 6200 Flying Leo Carrillo Lane. (CARLSBAD)

CLASSICAL MUSIC

"A Gershwin Salute" Fallbrook Music Society's season concludes when Redlands Symphony is joined by Spanish pianist José Menor for Gershwin's "Piano Concerto in F Major." 760-451-8644. Sunday, May 16, 3pm; \$10-\$38. Bob Burton Center for the Performing Arts, 2400 South Stagecoach Drive. (FALLBROOK)

"A Night at the Opera" Benefit concert features opera singers

Gregorio Gonzales, Mary Jaeb, Janelle DeStefano, Joe Stanford, Palomar Chamber Singers. 858-748-0505. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; \$10-\$50. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

"Celebrating Fritts-Richards Opus V" Organist Hollace Jones presents 24th anniversary concert with music by Baroque composers, assisted by vocalists Martha Carey and Elisabeth Fidler. Reception follows. Donation: \$5. 619-223-6394 x13. Sunday, May 16, 4pm. All Souls' Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

"Requiem" Soprano Susan W. Kane and baritone Scott Gregory join Chancel Choir and orchestra

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BY SONIA ELIOT

What are you reading?

"Game Change, by John Heilermann and Mark Halperin. It's about the last presidential election. I normally avoid politics, but my fiancée bought it, and she said I had to read it. I didn't want to, but once I started getting into it...now I have only ten pages left. This was an historic election; we were either going to have our first woman president or our first black president."

What do you like about it?

"It really dives into the internal workings of McCain's team and Obama's team, and before that, all the primaries, to show the internal chaos that goes on during an election. It's like an insider story, but not smarmy or gossipy. It's just matter-of-fact about what they were thinking inside each campaign — the major concerns, the major gaffes."

What was McCain's major gaffe?

"I think picking Sarah Palin for a vice-presidential candidate was an unusual choice. He maintained grace with respect to her, but obviously she

What's That You're Reading?

NAME: MARK MORRIS | **AGE:** 50 | **OCCUPATION:** MANAGER
NEIGHBORHOOD: UTC | **WHERE INTERVIEWED:** FOOD COURT, UTC MALL



struggled with being a candidate. That was a big step for her."

What about Hillary Clinton?

"I think she had a couple of strategic mistakes. The first was that she didn't involve Bill enough. He was a huge asset for her. She could have involved him more and still stood on her own. The other thing was that I think she felt entitled among Democrats, given the history of everything the Clintons had done for everybody — especially minorities in the party. Then all of a sudden, it was like Obama was the favorite son and they felt like outsiders, and you could tell there was this anger and jealousy. I think it was a mistake to succumb to that. And Hillary was unable to really connect with women. She cared deeply, but many people perceived her as just kind of cold and icy. Such a contrast to Bill, who is so empathetic and has such a great connect- edness to people."

Do you have a favorite player in the story?

"Obama is really the most fascinating. His vision, his ability to kind of stay above it all and maintain his strategic direction through the whole campaign. Everybody else was kind of disorganized."

What book has been most life-changing for you?

"I read Herman Hesse's *Siddhartha* every four or five years. It just grounds me, puts things in perspective from a religious and philosophical point of view. It's about a man's journey through life, figuring out what's important. He starts out seeking in different religions to find the answer — he's always looking for the answer. I think that's part of it — at the end, he realizes that the journey is the answer."

Who is your favorite author?

"My dad and I read a series of mystery books by Lee

Child. They're about a guy named Jack Reacher. He's a retired military police officer, and he basically wanders around the country — no possessions, just the clothes on his back. He's trying to mind his own business, but he keeps finding himself in these situations where he'll have to become like a little mini-superhero — knocking heads, fighting a bad guy, helping someone in trouble. My father introduced the books to me; now, every time a new one is coming out, he tells me I have to order it and then send it to him when I've finished it. But I just bought an iPad, and he has one, too. This is my last paper book. Things are changing, and I will start reading electronically."

Do you read any magazines or newspapers?

"I read the *New York Times* online on my iPhone."

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

to perform the Brahms piece in English. Offering. 760-753-6582. Sunday, May 16, 7pm. San Diego United Methodist Church, 170 Calle Magdalena. (ENCINITAS)

Classical Concert San Diego Youth Symphony Ensembles in recital. Offering. 858-454-0713. Sunday, May 16, 7pm. La Jolla Presbyterian Church, 7715 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Electronic Music Concert Enjoy new electronic music by students enrolled in digital audio composition course. Expect "bleeding-edge technology and the hippest and newest of sonic experiences." 619-260-4171. Monday, May 17, 2pm; free. Shiley Theatre at University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

Haydn's "Heligmesse" Concert by Chancel Choir of Torrey Pines Christian Church with guest soloists and orchestra (5pm) preceded by introductory lecture by

Nicolas Reveles (4:30pm). Offering. 858-453-3550. Sunday, May 16, 4:30pm. Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Drive North. (LA JOLLA)

Hymns of Celebration The Chancel Choir, Masterwork Choral, and congregation will sing various arrangements of favorite hymns, accompanied by organ. 619-297-4366. Sunday, May 16, 4pm; free. First United Methodist Church of San Diego, 2111 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Organ Concert Organist Alison Luedecke in concert. 619-702-8138. Sunday, May 16, 2pm; free. Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2211 Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Spring Concert San Diego Young Artists Symphony performs selections by Bach, Brahms, Copland, Tchaikovsky. 619-235-8067. Saturday, May 15, 7:30pm; \$10-\$15. Cuyamaca College, 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

Two of the Biggest! San Diego Symphony and conductor Jahja Ling perform "Alpine Symphony" by Strauss and Stravinsky's "Rite of Spring" for Jacobs' Masterworks concert. 619-235-0804. Friday, May 14, 8pm; Saturday, May 15, 8pm; Sunday, May 16, 2pm; \$20-\$93. Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

DANCE

"On the Way" Malashock Dance's "Studio Series" continues when choreographer John Malashock unveils new sections of work being created for *The Floating World*, and company dancers "show Malashock's first round of choreographic 'sketching.'" 619-260-1622. Saturday, May 15, 7pm; Sunday, May 16, 5pm; \$15. Dance Place San Diego in NTC Promenade, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Suite 108. (POINT LOMA)

"Rhapsody in Blue and Other Dances" San Diego Dance Theater and artistic director Jean Isaacs present spring show with *Easter Oratorio*, *Hurt and More Hurt*, *When Strangers Meet*, and *Rhapsody in Blue*. 619-225-1803. Saturday, May 15, 8pm; Sunday, May 16, 6pm; \$10-\$25. Don Powell Theatre at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Bird and Water Dance Ensemble Taiwanese-American Heritage Week opening ceremony includes performance by troupe described as "the first dance ensemble formed by people with physical, visual, and other disabilities in Taiwan." Admission: free; phone to reserve box dinner: \$10. 858-560-8884. Sunday, May 16, 5:30pm. Taiwanese American Community Center, 7838 Wilkerson Court. (LINDA VISTA)

Bulgarian Dance Time Evening begins with Bulgarian dance workshop led by Iliana Bozhanova, ac-

companied by live accordionist (5:30-7:30pm); \$8-\$12. Dance party follows (8pm); \$4-\$8. 619-281-5656. Saturday, May 15, 5:30pm. Folk Dance Center, 4569 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Ranting Banshee Group provides tunes for San Diego Folk Heritage contra dance. Beginners' dance workshop: 7:30pm. Dances taught and called, 8-11pm. Wear soft-soled shoes. 619-283-8550. Friday, May 14, 7:30pm; \$7. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Swing Dance at Friday Jam Swing Dance Now presents swing dance for all ages with Lindy, East Coast, jitterbug, swing. This week: "role swap" workshop. Dance lessons (8-9pm); dance runs 9pm-midnight. Dance only: \$8. 619-291-3775. Friday, May 14, 8pm; \$8-\$15. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Swing Fun Firehouse Swing school's roster includes "Lindy Hop 1" class focusing on eight-count Lindy basics; Lindy 2 spin and turn variations; and specialty class on "the famous one-man dance with Joel Plys." Class fee (\$15 per class, or \$50 for four weeks) includes admission to Firehouse Swing Dance (8-11:30pm) featuring DJ Joel Plys. Dance only: \$8. All ages. 858-395-6060. Wednesday, May 19, 7pm. Firehouse Swing Dance, at San Diego Woman's Club: 2557 Third Avenue. (BANKER'S HILL)

USO Prom Night Costumes from 1940s encouraged — prizes will be awarded — during evening with ballroom, Latin, swing music. 858-565-9575. Saturday, May 15, 8pm; \$7. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Wednesday Night Fever Night promises West Coast swing, "a few hustles and nightclub two-steps for

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fun." 858-565-9575. Wednesday, May 19, 8pm; \$7. Dance for 2, 7528 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

FILM

How People Got Fire Catch this film during American Indian Film Festival, boasting eight family-friendly films created by Native Americans about their culture, life experience. Program includes *Sing Birds: Following the Path of Cahuilla Power*. 619-239-2001. Sunday, May 16, 10am; \$5-\$10. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Los Olvidados Luis Buñuel's 1950 film — following a group of destitute children in Mexico City's slums — screens for "Mexican Film Classics" series. 619-238-7559. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; free-\$8. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Missing This Academy Award-winning 1982 Costa-Gavras film starring Jack Lemmon and Sissy Spacek screens for Sunday Matinee series. 619-236-5800. Sunday, May 16, 2pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Serial Mom Don't cross Beverly Sutfin! Kathleen Turner stars with Sam Waterston and Ricki Lake in the 1994 John Waters comedy. 619-814-3434. Wednesday,

May 19, 7pm; \$10. Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Shanghai Ghetto Jewish Film Festival hosts screening of documentary chronicling formation of a small Jewish community of exiles far from comforts of their European homes in 1939. Evening begins when film historian Scott Marks provides overview of the film including historical context; postscreening discussion planned. Terra catering provides food. Reservations: 760-435-3720. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; \$20-\$25. Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Alternate Realities Scott McGehee and David Siegel wrote and di-



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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

rected *Uncertainty*, their 2009 film starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Lynn Collins. Catch flick when it screens for Film Forum. 619-236-5800. Monday, May 17, 6:30pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Follow the Bouncing Ball! Dress up as your favorite character from *Cinderella* and sing along with film (prize awarded for best costume) during screening (with lyrics) hosted by J*Company Youth Theatre. Reservations: 858-362-1348. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; \$8-\$10. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Heritage Language Film Festival 2010 See *Dunia: Kiss Me Not on the Eyes*, directed by Jocelyn Saab (2006). Screening takes place — in Arabic with English subtitles — in Muir Campus Applied Physics and Math Building room 4301. 858-534-0693. Saturday, May 15, 11am; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Press Rewind Glimpse some of “the earliest works of some of today’s most acclaimed cinematic auteurs.” Films explore “fantasy and illusion” theme. Donation.

858-534-TIXS. Wednesday, May 19, 8pm. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

SDSU Student Filmmakers Showcase Enjoy “four outstanding short films” by SDSU student filmmakers, followed by forum with casts and crews. Suggested donation: \$10, benefiting SDSU Student Filmmakers Scholarship Fund. Sunday, May 16, 6pm. Le-stat’s Coffee House, 3343 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

What World Do You Want to Live In? Based on environmental science research, High Tech High Media Arts students were asked to use art and multimedia to predict future of our planet. See resulting collection of short films, animations, mockumentaries, all under five minutes long. 619-398-8620. Tuesday, May 18, 6pm; free. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

FOOD & DRINK

“Cheers to Beer and Cheese” Ryan Ross of Karl Strauss Brewing Company leads journey through world of beer. Learn difference between yeast, hops, malts; enjoy “ample samples of our favorite pairings.” Reservations: 619-358-9081. Monday, May 17, 6:30pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo

Cheese — East Village, 871 G Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

“Master Pairings: Beer and Sushi” Expect “unprecedented flavor combinations presented in several courses” when Bill Sysak pairs beer “with exotic Japanese-inspired cuisine.” 760-471-4999. Tuesday, May 18, 7pm; \$49. 21 and up. Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

“Where the Wild Things Are” Enjoy wines, “culinary delights” from wineries and local restaurants, meet animals from San Diego Zoo, Nature Center animal encounters, music by Julie Mack, cooking demonstrations by Joe Busalacchi, Deborah Scott. RSVP: 619-409-5903. Saturday, May 15, 4pm; \$95. 21 and up. Chula Vista Nature Center, 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive. (CHULA VISTA)

Arts and Tea Celebration Home of Guiding Hands’ fifth annual fundraiser includes an array of traditional tea fare, art by local artisans for sale. Reservations: 619-938-2854. Saturday, May 15, 1pm and 3pm; \$25-\$35. La Mesa Community Center, 4975 Memorial Drive. (LA MESA)

Beer 101: History of Beer Beer historian Ken Wright leads discussion covering evolution of beer over the last 10,000 years, with “tasty historically representative beer samples as learning aids.” 760-

471-4999. Monday, May 17, 7pm; \$20. 21 and up. Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Chef Kitchen Experience Participants head to Hillcrest farmers’ market to select menu ingredients, return to Jsix kitchen for hands-on (or hands-off) cooking experience with executive chef Christian Graves resulting in three-course meal with wine. Reservations: 619-531-8744. Sunday, May 16, 10am; \$120. Jsix, 616 J Street. (DOWNTOWN)

Dig In! Taiwanese Culture and Food Fair presented for Taiwanese American Heritage Week. Enjoy selections from traditional Taiwanese cuisines (for purchase), music and live entertainment; performance by Naruwan Taiko Group. 858-560-8884. Saturday, May 15, noon. Taiwanese American Community Center, 7838 Wilkerson Court. (LINDA VISTA)

Red and Green Salsas! Cook some up when “Mastering Mexican Favorites” series continues with carne and pollo asada, guacamole, and the aforementioned salsas. Registration: 858-964-8513. Thursday, May 13, 6:30pm; \$45. RB Classic Cooking, 1291 Simpson Way, Suite H. (ESCONDIDO)

Taste of La Mesa Sample fare from 27 local restaurants. Tickets: 619-465-7700. Monday, May 17, 5:30pm; \$25. La Mesa Community Center, 4975 Memorial Drive. (LA MESA)

FOR KIDS

“Adventures in 3-D: Sculpture Garden” Family Drop-In Days program includes child-friendly tours, storytelling, art making. For families with children 6-12 years old. 619-232-7931. Sunday, May 16, 1pm; free. 6 and up. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Artification: Teen Art Fest” Teens invited to take over museum’s Jacobs Building galleries for “artistic revelry” with local bands, DJs, gallery tours led by teens, hands-on art-making activities, more. 858-454-3541 x153. Saturday, May 15, 7pm; free. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

“Breathing in Climate Change” Celebrate American Lung Association’s Clean Air Month during climate-themed “SEA Day” program.

Uncover link between air pollution, climate change, human lungs as Scripps Oceanography researchers demonstrate real-time experiments. Included in regular admission. 858-534-FISH. Saturday, May 15, 11am; free-\$12. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

“Mother’s Day, Animal Style” Read a story about an animal mother and her babies, meet an “irresistible” mother animal, create “a craft no mom can resist” during Kindernights and Kindermornings program. Fee does not include admission to zoo. Required reservations: 619-557-3969. Friday, May 14, 6:30pm; \$12-\$15. 3 and up. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Balloons and Bubbles! Roll up your sleeves for water-balloon toss, take part in bubble-gum-blowing contest, create balloon animals, make bubbles in park. Activities for kids of all ages. 619-233-8792. Saturday, May 15, 10am; free-\$10. New Children’s Museum, 200 West Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

How Does Your Garden Grow? Visit Balboa Park’s Botanical Building, learn history of this landmark during History for Half Pints program. Play garden games, hunt for butterflies, make a garden craft. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Recommended reservations: 619-232-6203 x129. Monday, May 17, 10am; \$5. San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Kumeyaay Kids Nature Walk Learn how Native American children lived, played during hike to historic grinding rocks. 619-668-3281. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Nature Adventures See live caterpillars, chrysalides, butterflies; learn about their life cycles through songs, trail hike, craft during program for kids of all ages (with an adult). Registration: 619-582-6261. Thursday, May 13, 10am and 3pm; Friday, May 14, 10am; free-\$5. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Nature Explorers Linda Hawley leads program for kids of all ages (with adult) to learn about life cycles of invertebrates, with live caterpillars, chrysalides, butterflies. Bring flashlight for night hike. Meet at campground shade structure. Reservations: 619-582-6261. Friday, May 14, 7pm; free-\$5. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Recycle for Mom Diane Lowrie of Coyote Tales Crafts leads recycled Mother’s Day craft-making for those in grades 1-6. 858-581-9935. Friday, May 14, 4pm; free. 6 and up. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

Recycled Art Workshop for children and parents led by artists Rodney McCoubrey and Jeremy Wright in conjunction with “Recycle, Reclaim, Repurpose” exhibition.

Completed artworks will be part of an outdoor exhibit at library. RSVP: 760-633-2746. Saturday, May 15, 9am; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Stay Healthy — Dance! Skate Everyday hosts Healthy Choice Dance Competition round two, with crews from SD schools displaying “dance skills while sharing their ‘Healthy Choice ideas.’” Bring “new or gently used blankets” to donate to homeless San Diegans. 866-528-6301. Saturday, May 15, 1pm; \$5-\$10. Otay Ranch High School, 1250 Olympic Parkway. (CHULA VISTA)

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. Friday, 7pm; Saturday, 2pm; Sunday, 2pm; through Sunday, May 16; \$8-\$14. Casa del Prado Theatre, 1650 El Prado, Suite 208. (BALBOA PARK)

Will the Slipper Fit? Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Cinderella*, described as “the first ever made-for-television musical,” is final production of season for J*Company Youth Theatre. Reservations: 858-362-1348. Saturday, May 15, 8pm; Sunday, May 16, 1pm and 4:30pm; \$13-\$17. David and Dorothea Garfield Theatre, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

GALLERIES

“Art Student Exhibition 2010” Reception for exhibit of art in variety of media. Pieces selected by instructors may be seen through Thursday, May 20. 619-644-7299. Tuesday, May 18, 7pm; free. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

“Blue Realm” Opening reception for exhibit showcasing “five artists with five different perspectives.” See the photography, modern portraits, print design, painting, collage “about coastal beauty” through Monday, May 17. 619-758-7743 x101. Saturday, May 15, 5:30pm; free. Ebb and Flow Gallery, 111 Chesterfield Drive. (CARDIFF)

Spring Art Exhibit Opening reception for exhibit by 18 fine artists working in mixed media sculpture, painting, assemblage. Closes Friday, May 28. 858-205-7558. Friday, May 14, 5pm; Saturday, May 15, 1pm; free. Brokers Building Gallery, 402 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN)

IN PERSON

“Change Your Habits, Improve Your Health” Local author (*The Diet Joke*)/comic Lisa Pedace presents “It’s Your Time to Lighten Up” in celebration of National Women’s Health Week. Why are calories like children? 858-272-8148. Saturday, May 15, 1pm; free.

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Logan Heights Library, 811 South 28th Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

"Sarah Silverman Comedy Program" Night of comedy with Tig Notaro, Steve Agee, Laura Silverman of the *Sarah Silverman Program*. 858-534-TIXS. Tuesday, May 18, 8:30pm; free. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Stand-Up Is Dead" Comedy show features Mack Lindsay, Steven Kendrick, Jim Panetta, Dan Venti, Rich the Stitch, other local comics. 760-734-2660. Tuesday, May 18, 8pm; free. Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill, 850 Tamarack Avenue. (CARLSBAD)

Are You Sleeping? Spring musical presented by Saint Thérèse of Carmel Church and Notre Dame Academy features "Mother's Day theme with songs and traditional hymns." Reception, arts and crafts for kids follow. 858-481-3232. Saturday, May 15, 2pm; free. Saint Thérèse of Carmel, 4355 Del Mar Trails Road. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Bee! Beyond the Frogpond and Back San Diego author Stewart Parks signs his new surf-themed novel. 760-721-6876. Thursday, May 13, 6pm; free. California Surf Museum, 312 Pier View Way. (OCEANSIDE)

Dragon Haven Fantasy author Robin Hobb visits to sign books. 858-268-4747. Friday, May 14, 7pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Madonna of the Harvest Artist John August Swanson, whose work reflects "devotion to his inner religious life and the surrounding social and urban experience," on hand to introduce his newest piece. 619-296-3161. Friday, May 14, 10am; Saturday, May 15, 10am; free. Bazaar del Mundo, 4133 Taylor Street. (OLD TOWN)

State Fair Mystery author Earlene Fowler signs books. 858-268-4747. Saturday, May 15, noon; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Strip Book signing by suspense author Thomas Perry. 858-268-4747. Saturday, May 15, 2pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

The Diet Joke Local author/comic Lisa Pedace presents "It's Your Time to Lighten Up: Change Your Habits, Improve Your Health" in celebration of National Women's Health Week. What do Las Vegas and diet industry have in common? 858-272-8148. Wednesday, May 19, 4pm; free. Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library, 9005 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Bowed Gongs and Basses Dresser/Nakatani/Turetzky plan performance "the likes of which many in the audience may have never heard before." 858-534-TIXS. Monday, May 17, 9pm; \$8-\$12. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Brew Ha-Ha Coffee and Comedy Night Performers include headliners Russ T. Nailz, Chris "Zoo Man" Clobber, Tommy Savitt.

619-922-9057. Saturday, May 15, 7pm; free. 17 and up. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Brothers and Science Fiction Authors Dani and Eytan Kollin hit Galaxy to sign *The Unincorporated War*. 858-268-4747. Sunday, May 16, 2pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Debut Science Fiction Author Kathy Porter signs *Earth's Ultimate Conflict*. 858-268-4747. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; free. Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Suite 302. (KEARNY MESA)

Gelato Poetry Series Bruce Tindal reads his poetry, followed by open-mike opportunities. 760-434-1240. Friday, May 14, 7pm; free. Korky's Ice Cream and Coffee, 2375 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

Meet Local Authors Richard Lederer, Jennifer Hughes, Keith Jones discuss and sign their works. Bonus: receive chocolate truffle with each book purchase. 619-313-3107. Sunday, May 16, 1:30pm; free. Eclipse Chocolat, 2121 El Cajon Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

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

Rose and Dimitri Forever Richelle Mead speaks, signs books to celebrate publication of *Spirit Bound*, the fifth installment in *Vampire Academy* series. 858-268-4747. Wednesday, May 19, 6pm. San Marcos Library, 2 Civic Center Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Science Fiction and Fantasy Author Kirsten Imani Kasai discusses her latest novel, *Ice Song*. 619-463-9819. Thursday, May 13, 4pm; free. 15 and up. Lemon Grove Library, 8073 Broadway. (LEMON GROVE)

Sight & Sound Enjoy "an interactive music installation" by Bliss Music Therapy, performances by Lauren DeRose, MC Flow, the 12-woman burlesque troupe Caburlesque Kittens, more. 619-846-7180. Saturday, May 15, 7pm; \$10. 21 and up. Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street. (NORTH PARK)

Student-Written, Student-Acted The "2010 One-Act Festival" returns, presented by students of theater school at North Coast Repertory Theatre. 858-481-1055. Friday, May 14, 5pm; Saturday, May 15, 5pm; Sunday, May 16, 2pm and 5pm; \$9-\$12. North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

LECTURES

"A Journey to the Galapagos Islands" Lynn Woodbury talks about history, geology, and wildlife of the islands, and shares a video he made during a recent trip, when San Elijo Life meets in room 201. 760-757-2121 x7782. Friday, May 14, 1pm; free. 18 and up. Mira-Costa College San Elijo Campus, 3333 Manchester Avenue. (CARDIFF)

"Alien Hybrids!" It's just one topic considered during forum hosted by MUFON (Mutual UFO Network). Also up for consideration: "Tut-Ankh-Amun vs. Starchild," "Historical Events 1961 and 1942," more.

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

760-753-2456. Sunday, May 16, 6pm; free. Sizzler, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

"An Ecological Inquiry: Jesus and the Cosmos" "Can Christ be connected to the Earth in an intrinsic, rather than forced, way? What would the result be for ecological ethics?" Elizabeth A. Johnson, distinguished professor of theology at Fordham University, considers these questions for Burke Lecture in multi-purpose room of Student Services Center. 858-822-1534. Thursday, May 13, 8pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"Botticelli — 500 Years Hence" DeWitt Drury "celebrates the 500th anniversary of the life of Sandro Botticelli" when Life at MiraCosta senior learning group meets in room 1068 (2:30pm). Drury's talk follows review of "June 8 Election Issues" by Mary Thompson of League of Women Voters (1pm). 760-721-8124. Friday, May 14, 1pm; free. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

"Can We Move Beyond the Quagmire?" Architect Mike Stepper and panelists focus on "Getting It Done" and San Diego's future when Friends of San Diego Architecture gather for discussion. Requested donation: \$5. 619-224-8584. Saturday, May 15, 9:30am.

NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

"How to Live a Brain-Healthy Lifestyle" Alzheimer's Association workshop; learn to identify "specific brain-healthy foods, understand how physical exercise can improve brain health," more. 858-581-9935. Thursday, May 13, 1pm; free. 18 and up. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

"Islam in America" "Beyond Stereotypes" series continues when USD associate professor Bahar Davary offers look at the faith, its practices, variations in U.S., how Islam came to America, its appeal to people, more. Donation. 619-298-9978 x8014. Thursday, May 13, 6:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

"The Way of the Dream" Video presentation by Jungian analyst Marie-Louise van Franz, as well as discussion led by local analyst, planned by Friends of Jung. 858-587-4651. Saturday, May 15, 10am; \$15-\$20. Mueller College, 6160 Mission Gorge Rd., third floor. (GRANTVILLE)

"The Way of the Dream" Redux Video presentation by Jungian analyst Marie-Louise van Franz, as well as discussion led by local analyst, planned by Friends of Jung. 858-587-4651. Saturday, May 15, 10am; \$15-\$20. Mueller College, 4607 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

"Urbanism Beyond the Property Line" Teddy Cruz "has in-

vestigated 'the neighborhood' as the urban laboratory of the 21st century." Cruz, a professor in public culture and urbanism in UCSD's visual arts department, offers his perspective for Tijuana Estuary Speaker Series. 619-575-3613. Saturday, May 15, 11am; free. Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Using Ancestry.com Databases and Family Trees Randy Seaver discusses this subscription website and its "many wonderful features" when San Diego Jewish Genealogical Society meets. How do you use it? 619-583-0826. Sunday, May 16, 1pm; free. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

"When Age Is No Limit: Conquering Mt. Whitney" Former Navy pilot, engineer Will Forman shares his experiences ascending to top of Mt. Whitney to mark his approaching 85th birthday. Forman will discuss his training and show slides. 760-753-7376. Saturday, May 15, 1pm; free. Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

"Wikis for Genealogy" Benefits and drawbacks of participating in these collaborative, community websites discussed by Randy Seaver for Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego. User groups for Family Tree Maker, DNA, and new genealogy websites gather at 9am. 858-674-0749. Saturday, May 15, 9am; free. Robinson Auditorium complex at UCSD, off Pangea Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Are You an Edupunk? Is education a right all Americans are entitled to? Pose questions to members of SD's academic community during iGrad's "Round Table on Higher Education." Featured guest is author/blogger/finance expert/ "Gen Y" advocate Anya Kamenetz, whose new book is *DIY U: Edupunks, Edupreneurs, and the Coming Transformation of Higher Education*. Reception (5:30pm), round table (6pm) in Yosemite Room at Canyon Vista (Voigt Drive and Equality Lane). 888-694-4723 x308. Thursday, May 13, 5:30pm; free. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Avoid Legal Issues A criminal defense attorney divulges "how to avoid the most common mistakes when interacting with law enforcement" regarding medical marijuana. Practice encounters that may occur with law enforcement. 858-864-8787. Saturday, May 15, 3pm; \$99. 18 and up. Legal Cannabis Institute Mira Mesa, 9808 Waples Street. (MIRA MESA)

Beyond Immigration and Drugs Richard Kiy, an economist with a public policy background, divulges "Why America's Bilateral Relationship with Mexico Matters" when Rancho Santa Fe Democratic Club gathers. Guests welcome. RSVP: 858-869-9515. Wednesday, May 19, 6:30pm; \$10. Rancho Santa Fe Golf Club, 5827 Via de la Cumbre. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

Get Ready, Get Set "Success in September Starts in the Summer" presented by speech-language pathologists, educational therapists. Topics include building basic skills like phonics, math facts, spelling rules; increasing fluency. Reservations: 858-509-1131. Tuesday, May 18, 6pm; free. Jodie K. Schuller and Associates, 2002 Jimmy Durante Boulevard #108. (DEL MAR)

Go Green at Home Registered architect Sema Yavuz plans seminar on "Green Home Remodeling." Learn how to start a green project; building permits, design, project budgeting and green incentives; hiring an architect or contractor; avoiding common mistakes. 858-205-4370. Wednesday, May 19, 6:30pm; free. Carmel Valley Library, 3919 Townsgate Drive. (CARMEL VALLEY)

Guest Lecture Series Alexei Leporc — curator in department of Western European art at State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia — discusses reinstallation of the modern art galleries at San Diego Museum of Art. 619-232-7931. Thursday, May 13, 7pm; \$7-\$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Interested in Genealogy? One-day beginning and refresher genealogy class offered by North San Diego County Genealogical Society and Carlsbad City Library. Materials provided. 760-434-2931. Saturday, May 15, 9am; free. Cole Library, 1250 Carlsbad Village Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Joys and Challenges Foster care seminar with workshops, breakout sessions for prospective and new

foster parents, agency personnel. Children's program for those 12 and younger. 619-764-5133 or 619-226-7625. Saturday, May 15, 9am; free. 18 and up. Rock Church, 2277 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Portrait Drawing Patti Schmidt leads portrait-drawing class. 858-581-9935. Friday, May 14, 1pm; free. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAIREMONT)

See, Touch, Smell Landscape designer Doug Kalal focuses on "30 Great Drought-Tolerant Plants for Your Garden," showcasing photographs, "flowers, foliage, and fun tales from the field." 619-200-7066. Wednesday, May 19, 6:30pm; free. Linda Vista Library, 2160 Ulric Street. (LINDA VISTA)

SPORTS

Alt Games College Action Sports Championships competition includes skateboarding exhibition, part of Sun Diego's Vans AM SLAM Skateboard Contest Series. Registration, information: 646-731-2357. Saturday, May 15, 2:30pm; free. WaveHouse Bar & Grill, 3125 Ocean Front Walk. (MISSION BEACH)

Baseball Rivals! San Diego Padres host Los Angeles Dodgers. Games broadcast on radio station XX Sports Radio (1090 AM), XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5555. Friday, May 14,

7:05pm; Saturday, May 15, 5:35pm; Sunday, May 16, 1:05pm; \$10-\$63. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

City of Encinitas 5k and 1k Run/Walk Encinitas Sports and Fitness Festival begins with this event over fast and flat course. Race-day registration opens at 6:30am in Moonlight Beach parking lot; 5k steps off at 8am, family 1k walk/run starts at 9am. 760-633-2740. Saturday, May 15, 6:30am; \$10-\$20. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

Escondido Excursion Join Knickerbikers for 45-mile bicycle ride around Escondido, San Pasqual, parts of Rancho Bernardo. 619-255-2890. Saturday, May 15, 8am. Kit Carson Park, 3333 Bear Valley Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

Grunt, Sweat, Laugh Bootcamp style interval training class open to everyone (parents must be present for children under 10), led by PHIT fitness instructor Paul "Pablo" Healing. 760-633-3316. Saturday, May 15, 8am; free. 10 and up. Cottonwood Creek Park, 95 North Vulcan. (ENCINITAS)

It's National Tennis Month! United States Tennis Association National Senior Women's Hard Court Tennis Championships return. Club's 38th annual spring senior championships for men take place concurrently. Also planned: the LURIE World Cup, an

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international tennis men's team match of players 90 years and older (May 15 and 16). Fee for parking, 858-454-6500 or 858-964-1979. Thursday, May 13, 8am; Friday, May 14, 8am; Saturday, May 15, 8am; Sunday, May 16, 8am; free. La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club, 2000 Spindrift Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Moonlight Beach Paddle and Swim Swimmers, runners, paddleboarders, stand-up paddlers, triathletes, all others invited to Encinitas Sports Festival, boasting 5km run/walk, sprint triathlon, one-mile rough water swim, three-mile and six-mile paddleboard race, expo, live music. Schedule, fees: 760-436-3589. Saturday, May 15, 8am; Sunday, May 16, 6:45am. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

Pads Take on Giants! San Francisco Giants in town for games against San Diego Padres. Games broadcast on radio station XX Sports Radio (1090 AM), XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5555. Monday, May 17, 7:05pm; Tuesday, May 18, 7:05pm; \$10-\$63. Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Ranch and Coast Horse Show Equestrian competition. 858-481-9085. Thursday, May 13, 8am; Friday, May 14, 8am; Saturday, May 15, 8am; Sunday, May 16, 8am; free. Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Riverfest Run This 5k run along San Diego River and around Qualcomm Stadium supports San Diego

River Park Foundation, working to restore the river to a healthy state. 619-297-7380. Sunday, May 16, 8am; \$30. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

MUSEUMS & PUBLIC ART

California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum Spring exhibitions include Seth Augustine's "Chimerica Dreality," described as "a visually dramatic installation reflective" of the artist's experiences in China. Installations urge viewers to consider perceptions of both countries by highlighting issues of public health, government power and control, illegal immigration, tourism, blurring of public and private spheres.

"Material Matters" showcases work by 23 members of Allied Craftsmen. Each artist demonstrates innovative techniques, designs incorporating wood, clay, wire, fabric, metal, gold, silver, other materials.

Wire, twine, thread, ribbon are manipulated in Anne Mudge's exhibition, "Chance & Circumstance." The forms "remind us of the beauty and complexity found in nature while simultaneously referencing the potential of the human mind to produce equally compelling and intricate structures." All three close Sunday, July 4. 340 North Escondido Blvd., 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

Chinese Historical Society and Museum "Five Dynasties of Chinese Pottery" features collection of pottery ranging from Han Dynasty to Ming Dynasty, tracing Chinese pottery from its humble, utilitarian origins to its culmination as an elite art form. Exhibit includes roof tile ends, grave goods, funerary jars, sculptures of horses and carriages, porcelain vessels.

See artifacts from San Diego's Chinese and Chinese-American history, culture, and art. Current museum artifacts include a 1920s warlord's bed, exhibits on Chinese footbinding and Chinese-American veterans. The museum is in a building originally built in 1927 for the Chinese Mission. Adjacent to the building is an Asian garden with koi pond and waterfall. 404 Third Ave., 619-338-9888. (DOWNTOWN)

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

Gemological Institute of America Museum Permanent exhibits include displays depicting science and art of gemstones and history, lore and cultural significance of jewelry. Reservations are required. 5345 Armada Dr., 800-421-7250. (CARLSBAD)

Heritage Walk Museum The museum includes the restored Victorian house, the city's original Santa Fe 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 Park 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 collections — is featured at the museum. The current featured attraction is an "Industrial Product Collection," with examples of the historical progression of auto technology from 1886-1915, "some classics and a concept car." 4233 Park Blvd., 619-296-3112. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Knox House Museum See how Amaziah Knox established a hotel serving drovers, miners, teamsters

on their way through the valley. Museum offers display of historical photographs of El Cajon valley, furnishings of the time period (1879-1912) including a pump organ, roll-top desk, wood-burning cast-iron stove, furniture brought around tip of South America, a Thomas Edison phonograph, ice box, Hoosier cabinet, bed warmer, clothing, children's toys. Museum is open on first Saturday of month (12:30-3:15pm); and second Saturday of month (11am-1:15pm). 280 North Magnolia Ave., 619-444-3800. (EL CAJON)

Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park Leo Carrillo Ranch Historic Park, old adobe buildings were once vacation retreat and working rancho of actor Leo Carrillo. Tours on Saturdays (11am, 1pm) and Sundays (noon, 2pm). 6200 Flying Leo Carrillo Lane, 760-476-1042. (CARLSBAD)

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum Housed in a historic building, the museum features five permanent galleries with artifacts, uniforms, vehicles, weapons, and photographs depicting Marine Corps history. The museum is lo-

cated in Building 26 at MCRD, just inside Gate 4, off Pacific Highway. Witherby Street and Hancock St., 619-524-6038. (DOWNTOWN)

Mingei International Museum North County "Rite and Ritual: Ceremonial Art Across the Cultures" focuses on beauty of objects used for special familial, tribal, community events in traditional cultures such as birth, childhood, initiation, marriage, death, and festivals and in various religious expressions among the world's peoples.

Admission is free until museum closes permanently on Saturday, June 26. 155 West Grand Ave., 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

New Americans Museum in NTC Promenade "Platt at Liberty Station: The Exhibition" features digital and fine artwork by students and teachers at Platt College school of media art and design. See work ranging from digitally enhanced art to fine photography, pastels, acrylics, watercolors and mixed media through Sunday, May 23. 619-255-9554. 2825 Dewey Road, Suite 102, 619-255-8908. (POINT LOMA)

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Sensual Spa

The ever-enchanting Mistral (née Azzura Point) has been remade again with a renovated dining room and new chefs. The executive chef for the whole resort property is Marc Ehrler, a hotshot direct from France. The chef de cuisine at Mistral, their fine-dining venue, is Patrick Ponsaty.

When it comes to Chef Patrick, I'm like that '60s girl-group ballad that runs, "I will follow him/ Wherever he may go..." Ten years back, he was head chef at El Bizcocho, and his cooking knocked my socks off at a time when most San Diego cuisine left all footwear firmly attached. Ate there again a couple of years later — another knockout. I just wanted one more dinner to see if he might really be worthy of five stars, but the evening of my reservation, fires swept through North County, closing the roads. By the time the smoke cleared, the owners of El Biz fired Ponsaty (I don't know why). He went on to work at La Bastide in Scripps Ranch and then Bernard'O in Rancho Bernardo, where I enjoyed excellent meals. When I interviewed him on the phone, he told me that the owner didn't set stringent limits on his ingredients. Still, I was glad when I heard he'd be cooking at a resort again, which presumably offers more scope than even a serious bistro.

Mistral's decor has also been renovated (yet again). They still have the old striped banquettes, but the look is airier, more casual and Mediterranean, and the views of the water are even clearer than before. The venue remains one of the most comfortable and romantic fancy restaurants in this area. Better yet, you need not dress up fancy, nor bring a thick wad of bills. Prices for entrées top out at \$29 — meaning, it's a lightweight splurge rather than a wallet-buster.

The one flaw that evening, in a restaurant known for romantic serenity, was a huge party of 20 hyenas, seated up front near the bar (to keep them somewhat out of the way). Their pe-



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

The extensive organic gardens make their presence felt.

riodic outbursts of hilarity managed to drown out not only quiet table conversation but the singer-pianist belting 'em out at the bar. There was no pause, not even when the group received their dinners. Yeah, I'm a sourpuss, I'm a spoilsport, but I wish every restaurant had a soundproof purdah room to isolate large parties whose revels disturb the quieter pleasures of fellow diners. But observing this group proved instructive. The need to feed diners like this, who are paying no attention to their finely crafted dinners, explains why some of the food is less venturesome than I'd expect from this chef.

The cocktail list is genuinely creative, with a wide range of fresh flavors, rather than the usual booze-candy and commercial mixes. My Pisco

Sour (Peruvian brandy, lemon, egg-white foam) was sourer than the typical tea-time (5:00 p.m.) rendition in Lima, but it grew on me. Emmy's beautiful blue Mystique (blackberry vodka, Cointreau, blue Curacao) was on the sweeter side but still clean. Michelle's Lavender Drop (citrus vodka, lemon, muddled lavender) strikes an ideal balance, to my taste. And Jim's more macho Park Avenue (bourbon, vermouth, Angostura bitters) was fine, too. Lots more temptations on that list. They run \$14 each, about the same as most appetizers, but for once you get flavor as well as alcohol for your money.

"This menu's got Patrick's name written all over it," I told my friends. "Every item has a host of garnishes, most of them labor-intensive and

Mistral

★★★★½ (Excellent to Extraordinary)

Loews Coronado Bay Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road, Coronado Silver Strand, 619-424-4000.

HOURS: Tuesday–Sunday 5:30–9:30 p.m.
PRICES: Starters, \$7–\$14; pasta/risotto, \$19–\$26; entrées, \$25–\$29; desserts, \$7.50.
CUISINE AND BEVERAGES: French-California with herbs and some veggies organically grown on-site. Creative, interesting cocktails (not sugar-bombs). Wine list in flux, still plenty for any size budget.
PICK HITS: Ahi tuna tartare with cucumber aspic; foie gras Napoleon (special); Maine lobster consommé; sautéed wild sea bass; sweetbread-stuffed Kurobata pork loin; "French kiss" dessert; chocolate bon-bons.
NEED TO KNOW: Valet parking with restaurant validation at porte-cochere. Nice-casual clothing (no glitz). Spectacular view. Few vegetarian choices but kitchen will accommodate dietary restrictions.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

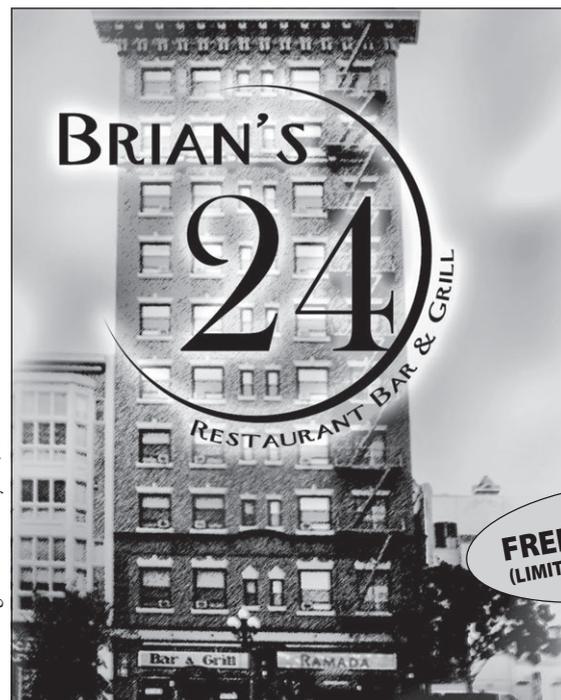
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matched to the main ingredient." The extensive organic gardens of the resort also make their presence felt in a new attention to fresh-picked herbs and vegetables. The amuse, for instance, was an architectural arrangement of skewered heirloom cherry tomatoes balanced over a shot-glass of "tomato water," which I think is the strained liquid surrounding the seeds. It was terrific, like snacking while wandering in a garden.

The most arresting and, let's face it, awesome starter wasn't on the menu at all, but a special lovingly described by our excellent waiter, Rick: a foie gras napoleon, layered with eel (yes, eel!), cele-

DINING REVIEW

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riac, and caramelized apples between two sheets of puff pastry. For this invention, Ponsaty won an award for “best appetizer of the year” years ago while he was working in Spain (at one of the top avant-garde restaurants there). I was delighted to discover that the foie gras wasn’t merely sautéed, but a section of a *torchon* (foie gras poached in a cheesecloth wrapper), lending both solidity and sensuality, with its baby’s-bottom “bite-me!” texture. The eel fell right into line in this odd combination, a taste of salty earthiness as a subtle anchor, which, along with the braised celeriac, established a sober side beneath the riotous sweetness of caramelized apple.

The on-menu appetizers take the opposite tack. Rigorously light enough to be a line of divine diet food, they tantalize rather than satiate. They include several interesting vegetable salads, plus one with Dungeness crab that sorely tempted me.

Our favorite was ahi tuna tartare, which is getting to be a bore on local menus except when the best chefs bring some imagination to it. The neat inch-high rectangle of chopped raw red tuna came with a quietly spectacular aspic of sliced cucumbers, a single Kumamoto oyster meat in the center. (I thought aspics were extinct, except for those ghastly Jell-O molds that some Americans inflict on each other at holiday dinners — but this dish proves that aspic is still a valid culinary art form.) Garnishes included fresh-picked herb salad, delicious even if naked of dressing, dill crème fraîche, and a sweet orange tuile cracker. It was all intensely bright and clean, a spa weekend in a few bites.

Maine lobster consommé is the opposite of a bisque — a thin, savory broth infused with more fresh garden herbs, with a couple of lobster mousseline dumplings afloat (that is, lobster bound with egg whites). This literally fits the definition of “appetizer,” making you hungrier for whatever’s next.

Steamed Santa Barbara blue prawns proved frustrating — I couldn’t make any sense of it. The prawns (in split-open shells, with long spidery legs reaching out all over the gar-

nishes) are large, undressed, bland, and, this evening, a little overcooked. They came with cigars of black truffle ricotta cheese cannelloni, artichoke leaves, baby fennel stalks, and a slick of tasty “sauce vierge” (which seemed a salty, lemony version of extra-virgin olive oil). A lot of playful ingredients, but none seemed to work well with the others. I wished I’d opted instead for that Dungeness crab salad or the endive salad with lardons and black truffle vinaigrette or, especially, for the roasted jumbo asparagus with morels.

When we were ordering wines, Rick disclosed that the restaurant is in the midst of shedding its old wine list and replacing it; if we happened to choose a discontinued wine, the staff would find an equivalent. For our appetizers, first choice was a Paso Robles Viognier — vanished! There was no sommelier on the floor that evening...not a good sign, as it was a Friday. I advised Rick to look among the French bottlings for a substitute, and soon he brought us two to sample from open bar-bottles, a Sauvignon, and a Macon-Villages Chardonnay. The Macon had it! Like the Lovin’ Spoonful’s “Nashville Cats,” it was “clean as country water...wild as mountain dew.” This oak-free Chard was wonderful with our appetizers and subsequent seafood choices. For our entrées, we presented the difficult-to-match test of one meat, one fowl, two fish. Rick suggested the E. Guigal Côte du Rhône Rosé. I’ve rarely tried rosé since the rise of pink zin made that genre anathema. This, however, was pure fun, a light, picnicy quaff to go with just about anything.

An entrée of sautéed wild sea bass was also pure fun, thanks to playful garnishes, each sweet in a different way: a fizzy “orange blossom mousse,” the heavier sweetness of carrot-orange emulsion, and a garnish of braised endive sweetened with lavender honey. Not a shred of this remained after making its round of the Clean Plate Club.

We were tempted by a citrus-steamed Alaskan halibut (with black mussels and a zucchini flower in lemon verbena broth) but succumbed to the

lure of another special: halibut cheeks with lentils. In Asia, fish cheeks are highly regarded for their tenderness and fine flavor, but you usually find them made from smaller species and end up chopsticking your way around a large, sharp-edged curvy bone to reach the precious morsels of flesh. Halibut, however, ranges from large to huge. Here, the cheek-meat was chopped into chunks rubbed with some flavorful form of paprika, mingling with savory lentils, chopped carrots, and seasonings — tasty, and no bones about it.

Slow-cooked Kurobuta pork loin comes stuffed with sweetbreads. Despite the stuffing (which, I felt, got lost amid the platoons of other ingredients), the pork was a tad overcooked — white all through, no blush. The sage-pork reduction imbued the surface with a delicious herbal glaze. Alongside were sausages of bacon-wrapped salsify (a parsnip-like root vegetable with a subtle, oyster-like flavor, hence its nickname “oyster plant”), an inspired combination. All around the plate were the upper thirds of thick carrots and whole white radishes still wearing their green top-knots.

I rarely order chicken, least of all breast, but wanted to see what chef Patrick would do with it. He cooks it sous-vide (slowly poached in a pouch) with a truffled chicken reduction, plated with wild-mushroom fricassee and a potato napoleon. I liked everything but the chicken, which was as dry as ever. Nobody ate much of this, once the potato and mushrooms were gone. Do-over? I’d choose the grilled Colorado double lamb chop with braised lamb shoulder moussaka.

This is where the party of hyenas comes in again. A resort restaurant must make them happy, even if not one is paying the least attention to the food. It also must make out-of-town guests happy, even food-fearing xenophobic Zonies, who want chicken breast well-done, halibut desert-dry, and medium-well beefsteaks. (Let them eat Sheriff Joe Arpaio!) It’s hard to please these people and to please me, too. There are limits to a chef’s freedom here in San Diego that they don’t have in San Fran-

cisco, New York, Chicago, or other foodie towns where the chef is king and if you don’t like it, well, there’s a pizzeria down the block. So, yes, I’m being too indulgent, too forgiving of a favorite chef. I liked his food best at El Biz, but I liked it better at Bernard’O than I do here — so far. Averaging everything we ate to come up with a star rating, here it totaled a wavery 4.25; but with in-between scores, I look for other factors in the meal, and the lovely ambience and friendly, collaborative service pushed it up a quarter-point. (Oh, golly, Patrick, I’m so sorry! I know you’re still yearning for that 5 stars you nearly got at El Biz. Alas, not yet.)

Dessert lists arrive in dark-brown envelopes tied with jade-green ribbons, like greeting cards. We chose Bisou au Chocolate — a crisp praline wafer glazed with bitter chocolate, topped with brandied cherries and chocolate sorbet. Chocoholic Jim’s craving was fully sated, and the rest of us loved it too, because it’s not icky or heavy. It may have a zillion calories but tastes natural, with

the cherries carrying the main thrust of sweetness. Our coffees were delivered as desired, with dessert, including my flawless espresso.

Chef Patrick had been wandering periodically through the dining room all evening. Now we spotted Rick pulling him aside and gesturing toward us. Were we busted as a reviewing party? (Maybe. If so, Ponsaty’s too much of a gentleman to embarrass me with it. Besides, we’d already eaten like anybody else.) Suddenly

Rick delivered an extra dessert. “Because you’re such good eaters,” he said, “really enjoying and paying attention to the food, Chef Patrick wanted you to taste these.” The plate included five exquisite chocolate bonbons, each with a different flavor.

I don’t think Ponsaty has fully found his footing here yet, after only a couple of months on-site. Oh, poor pitiful me, I guess I’ll have to drag myself back in a year or so to see how he’s progressed! ■

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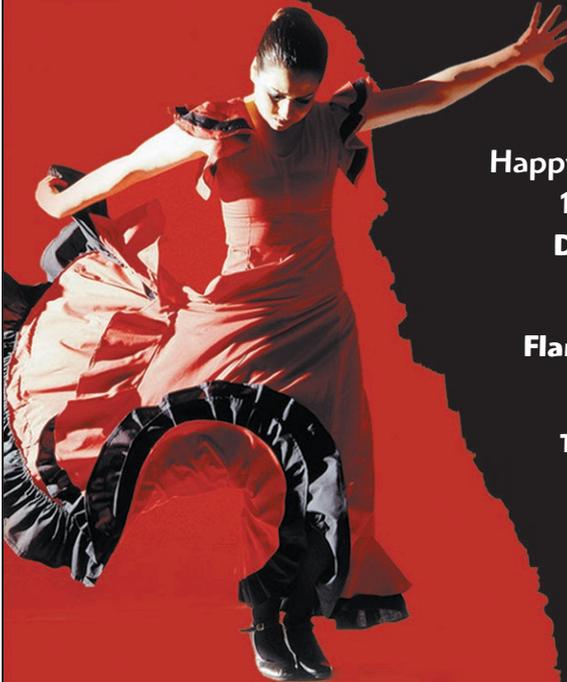
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Feta 1, Turkey 2

“Every house on the block has been painted. There’s been a change in philosophy.”

Is there life on Broadway, east of the I-5? I’ve got a couple of answers to that. Feta 1, Turkey 2.

No, we’re not talking World Cup soccer scores. Just the two sandwiches you gotta decide between next time you venture to the underbelly of Golden Hill, specifically to this old shophouse-turned-café named Influx. Feta 1 is a mush of roasted-eggplant spread, feta cheese, sliced red onion, tomato, and mixed greens. It’s served on focaccia bread, which they bake right here. Turkey 2 is roast turkey breast, bacon, Swiss cheese, red onion, mixed greens, and mayo, also on focaccia bread. Oh, man. That focaccia. Light fluffy pizza-style flatbread, with an olive-oily thing happening on the crispy crust. Mmm...

Okay. Back up. There I was, aboard the #2 (yeah, on the bus again), heading up Broadway toward Golden Hill and North Park. Course, first we had to swoop under the I-5. Big dividing line. Like comin’ out of Baghdad’s Green Zone, though east of the freeway’s mostly just a bunch of age-old houses and apartment buildings. But, where there used to be a shabby old thrift store on the corner of 20th, now there’s this pale green place with café tables along one side and stand-alone red letters that spell out “Influx.”

So, why not? I pull ye olde cord, hop out, cross the road, and walk into a big spare space with varnished plank flooring and white, art-free walls. There’s a rack of tables down the left side with cool cats all sipping java and staring at their iPads — okay, mostly Mac laptops. Gentrification 101! Place makes you think of Rebecca’s in South Park, Claire de Lune in North Park, or Java Jones in East Village. But cleaner, sparser decor. There’s a

cooler at the counter against the back wall with baked goods inside, a red Rancilio espresso machine nearby, and a rack of black coffee urns. But what you really notice is a way-big, bright-red, L-shaped settee. You just long to fling yourself into it. And all the chairs are those white tulip-shaped design by that famous Danish designer...d’agh...



“Saarinen,” says one of the girls sitting behind her computer. She’s seen me staring.

What I like is that the room — the whole place — feels new, even though the house is old, exactly 100 years old, according to this guy Jason who, turns out, owns the business. It was built in 1910. William Howard Taft was president. You blink, look out through the windows, and realize that people back then looked out these same windows, but they saw ladies in long dresses, bankers in bowler hats, drays with horses snorting, men in Stetsons, flicking reins, kids playing with hoops in the dirt road...cows mooing in the farmland...

“Sir, sir?”
Oh, right...not 1910, 2010. Lady wants me to order. I look up at the menu board. They have a bunch of stuffed breads, plus cereal bowls and salads. The Croissant Melt 1 has ham, brie, and Dijon mustard (\$6.50). Croissant Melt 2 has tomato and basil instead of the ham (\$6.50). Bagels start at \$2.25 with cream cheese and go up to \$4.50 for the bagel scramble with two eggs and Swiss or jack cheese. It’s \$7.95 for the Traditional, with cream cheese, smoked salmon, tomato, red onion, and capers. Then they have ten sandwiches, like the Feta 1, all \$6.50. Salads — organic — are mostly \$6.95, including the “Goat,” with goat cheese and cranberries



PHOTOGRAPH BY ALAN DECKER

Did this Golden Hill coffee shop improve a whole neighborhood?

(add chicken breast for \$2.50).

The gal behind the counter’s name is Trista. Means “sad” in French, right? Too cool. All we need is Jacques Brel singing for atmos. I ask for a coffee (\$1.50) and the Feta 1 sandwich with the eggplant, and when it comes (over to the big red couch, natch), I lunge into that crispy-covered pillow of focaccia (it means “fireplace”) bread. It is super-delicious.

“My wife Gina and I met in this neighborhood,” Jason tells me later. “That was 14 years ago. We wanted to have a place nearby where you could have a coffee, meet friends, eat, work, study. The problem was the neighborhood. Girls I knew feared to walk two blocks alone. It was pretty rough. And there was nowhere to go hang out.”

So they decided to be pioneers. They spent

two years cleaning out this former thrift store. Jason had experience working at Cafe on the Park and Sushi Deli. Gina had been at Williams-Sonoma.

When they opened eight years ago, it triggered a neighborhood change. “It’s amazing,” he says. “Every house on the block has been painted. There’s been a change in philosophy. You can call it gentrification, but people around here walk their dogs now. We’re getting a San Francisco feel. And we’re part of it. We’ve had a couple of novels and a thesis written in here. I’m proud of that.”

Now they’ve taken space in the new Q building in Little Italy for a second Influx. It’s a movement. Hey, why rent workspace when you have a laptop and Influx for your office? My only suggestion: snooze sofas, for those moments when you just can’t laptop anymore. ■

The Place: Influx, 1948 Broadway, Golden Hill, 619-255-9470. (Also at 750 West Fir Street, suite 105, Little Italy, 619-255-0735)

Type of Food: American light

Prices: Breakfast yogurt bowl (with fruit, granola), \$6.25; croissant, \$2.50; Croissant Melt 1 (with ham, brie, Dijon mustard), \$6.50; Croissant Melt 2 (with tomato, basil, brie, mustard), \$6.50; bagels with cream cheese, \$2.25; bagel scramble (with two eggs, Swiss or jack cheese), \$4.50; the Traditional (with cream cheese, smoked salmon, tomato, onion, capers), \$7.95; Feta 1 sandwich (eggplant spread, feta, onion, tomato, mixed greens on focaccia), \$6.50; Turkey 2 (turkey, bacon, cheese, onion, mixed greens, mayonnaise on focaccia), \$6.50; goat salad (with goat cheese, cranberries), \$6.95 (add chicken breast for \$2.50)

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Z O A D O O V

Let the Fruit Speak

“Opus One is 14 percent alcohol — the French would pour it down the drain.”

That's Matthew Richards of Matthew Richards Wines over there in the picture, and while it's a decent enough head shot, it's not really the right pic to accompany this piece.

The right pic would be a distance shot of Richards spraying down or hosing out his wine thief, which he seemed to be doing every time I looked up during my visit to the facility he shares with Chris Van Alyea of Christopher Cameron Vineyards.

“Nothing goes into the barrel unless it's been disinfected — sometimes twice,” he explains. “People make fun of me for it, but I still believe that cleanliness is half of winemaking. I went to school for mechanical engineering, and I take a very scientific approach.”

For Richards, the wine thing started in Italy — a solo tasting tour before heading down (by train and by boat, because of all the bottles he bought) to a family wedding in Greece. But it didn't take long for the Encinitas-born Richards to turn his attentions closer to home. “I started looking into it, and I quickly realized that California has the best growing climate and most innovative wine-making technology in the world. We have such a beautiful thing here in California, and I just wanted

to get involved. A hundred barrels later, it's going crazy.”

He started modestly enough, buying fruit from Frank Bons of Twin Oaks Valley Winery, taking up home winemaking, and reading, reading, reading. Then he began to apply his scientific approach to the question of sourcing. “I like to get the best grapes from the best appellation for that grape. I sat down and said, ‘Okay —

Cabernet. I'm trying to make great wine out of great grapes, so what are the best regions for Cabernet?’ ” Extensive bibulous research provided the answer: northern Napa Valley.

At this point, the Francophile will be tempted to bleat, to mention something about the centuries-old tradition of Cabernet in France's Bordeaux region. Richards is ready with an answer. “Cabernet from California tastes better, because we like to make ours a little more true to the grape. Average alcohol on a Bordeaux is 12 to 12.5 percent. In California, it's 14 to 16 percent. But that's just a by-product — you get more alcohol because you get more sugar when you leave the grape on the vine longer. And the reason you leave it on longer is because it brings out more character of the grape itself. You let it hang there

for two more weeks, you get a richer, heavier Cabernet.” In California, that kind of hang time is possible, “and California embraces that.”

Richards grants that you can go too far, too rich, too heavy. “But if you do it correctly, you can get a California Cabernet that is elegant and big at the same time. I want to embrace the bigness, but pull the wine back to where it's smooth and acceptable. Opus One is a Bordeaux blend at 14 percent alcohol — there's nothing overwhelming about it, but the French would pour it down the drain,” just because of its size. Not Richards. “I don't know if I've just gotten accustomed to it really quickly or if it's what I've been looking for my entire life, but there is nothing more perfect than a well-balanced Napa Cab.”

The French might call Richards a hedonist. He'd probably prefer “purist.” “I think it gives credit to the fruit. A French Cabernet at 12 percent, they have to put Merlot in it because it's too thin. My way is the simplest way. I may not blend anything into my Rutherford Bench Cab. I'm not anti-blending, but I shy away from it. In France, they plant five varieties and make one wine. I want to make five different wines. I want to make a Stag's Leap, a St. Helena, a Rutherford. I think the grapes should speak for themselves — where



Matthew Richards makes wine in San Diego from Napa and Sonoma grapes.

they're from, what's going on. I think that's the ultimate test: if you don't have to blend a Cab, then that's a pretty damn good Cab.”

Letting grapes speak for themselves — “where they're from, what's going on” — is a not-terrible shorthand for terroir. And it was terroir, says Richards, that led him to northern Napa. Of course, it led a lot of other people there first, so step one for the prospective winemaker was the careful cultivation of fruit sources. Richards packed some good San Diego beer, headed north, and started knocking on doors. “I've been to maybe 300 wineries in California. The fact that I could pop out of my truck — dirty from work, with my dog in the back, and without a horrible attitude — probably helped me make friends quicker.” (The beer

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

didn't hurt, either.) Richards made his first professional wine in '08. By the 2009 crush, Araujo Estate's winemaker/vineyard manager Matt Taylor was giving him advice, selling him one-year-old barrels, and helping him to score some Rutherford Bench Cabernet from the family behind Flora Springs.

"The fruit that comes out of the Rutherford Bench sells for well over \$100 a bottle," Richards marvels. "That's the caliber of wine I'm trying to make. I'm going for the gold." If that means five drives during crush to get his fruit from there to here, then so be it. "I'm always there harvesting, and then I dry-ice the grapes and tow everything back personally. I'll drive 12 hours, usually at night, pull in here, stretch, and start making wine." It's a drain, but he says it's worth it to get the grapes he wants while living in the place he loves. "I want to bring the best Cabernet in all of Napa down here to San Diego," he states. (And he may be on his way. Richards regularly brings his results north for side-by-side tastings and says that his '09 Cab merited fist-bumping praise from

folks who know.)

Mind you, it's not all Napa Cab. Among other things, he's got Napa Chardonnay from the vineyards that supply Cakebread, Pinot Noirs from Edna Valley and the Sonoma side of Carneros, and, under the San Dieguito label he shares with his friend Todd Hipper, Syrah from Frank Bons's estate vineyard. None of these wines is an afterthought; they're all the product of a similar process of research and experimentation. After region comes the question of a grape's clonal selection; after clone, the yeast he'll use for fermentation; and after yeast, cooperage. (It's always French oak, but it's not always the same French oak, and not always the same hand on the barrel.) "You change just one of those, and your wine is different." Sometimes, he says, "The difference is night and day. So, I'm always doing side experiments with different yeasts or tweaking my oak program." ■

RESTAURANT LISTINGS

A complete searchable list of over 1300 restaurants is available online at SanDiegoReader.com. Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$29; **very expensive:** more than \$30.

Alpine

Ramon's Smokehouse BBQ 1730 Alpine Bl., Alpine, 619-445-1008. The smell of mesquite burning under fresh-cut beef rib is too much to resist — the secret Texas recipe draws crowds. Go Sunday morning, when chefs in maroon aprons dance around the fat-spitting fire. Inexpensive.

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Baja

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

Café Français La Belle Claude 7th Street #8186-A, Tijuana. A family with their own farm outside town runs this chic Parisian outpost offering farm-made jams and cheeses, *panini*, *ciabattas*, an excellent French-dip sandwich, flaky dessert empanadas, and French pâtisserie to go with the genuine Cuban coffee. Inexpensive.

El Cid Lopez Mateos #993, Ensenada, 646-178-1809. Gourmet Mexican cuisine with unique specialties: Crisp quail with rose petal sauce proves delicious, and seasonal *chiles en nogada* (meat-stuffed poblano chiles with walnut cream and pomegranate) gain refinement from greaseless ground sirloin. Moderate.

La Diferencia Avenida Sánchez Taboada #10611-A, Tijuana, 664-634-3346. Mexican haute cuisine with inventive combinations. The menu re-frames the old dishes and devises new ones. Wine list centers on Baja wineries (Monte Xanic and Cetto) at reasonable prices. Inexpensive.

Fonda Roberto's Avenida Cuauhtémoc #2800 (at Agua Caliente Bl., next to CESUN Universidad), Tijuana, 664-686-4687. Unusual dishes from Chef Roberto's native Puebla include *huanzontle*, the Aztecs' "red spinach" in chocolate mole sauce, and *Dedos de Moctezuma* ("Montezuma's fingers" — cactus stuffed with steak). Moderate.

Super Antojitos Fourth Street #1810 (between Constitución and Niños Héroes), Tijuana, 664-685-5070. The house special, *mole poblano*, has complex, delicious house-made mole sauce with an enchilada, eggs, rice, beans, tortillas. Also delicious: stuffed pastries, pork rind *gorditas*. Inexpensive.

Banker's Hill

Extraordinary Desserts 2929 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-294-2132. Also 1430 Union St., Little Italy, 619-294-7001. Chef-owner Karen Krasne incorporates flavors inspired by her travels from Paris to Bali. The white cakes are food for angels. Uptown location desserts only; downtown offers light grazing meals, too. Moderate.

Hane 2760 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-260-1411. This city branch of legendary Sushi Ota is more comfortable, with bilingual chefs at the counter exercising impeccable craftsmanship, emphasizing pristine rolls and sashimi, not party rolls. The *omakase* sashimi platter offers Ota's most popular and showy creations. Moderate-plus.

Taco Rey Taco Shop 1870 Fourth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-234-6617. Everyone from garbage-truck drivers to doctors patronizes this sidewalk-

seating, canopy-shaded *taquería*. Their breakfast *huevos Mexicanos* and sunset California burritos are great al fresco. Inexpensive.

Campo

Campo Diner 1367 Dewey Pl., Campo, 619-478-2888. The burgers are made from Black Angus beef, so they cost more. But there are deals, too, like the huge The Works omelet and the robust lunchtime homemade soup of the day. Inexpensive.

Cardiff

Besta-Wan Pizza House 148 Aberdeen Dr., Cardiff, 760-753-6707. Their thin-crust East Coast-style pizzas are famous locally. Check for the big-pile spaghetti or lasagna specials if you want to fill up. Inexpensive.

Trattoria Positano 2171 San Elijo Ave., Cardiff, 760-632-0111. Original recipes, wonderful fresh fish, nightly specials, excellent lamb and pastas. Upper-moderate.

Carlsbad

Knockout Pizza 2959 Carlsbad Bl., Carlsbad, 760-434-4468. It's New York pizza here. They make the pies with thin, crisp crusts and toppings like meatball or garlic. Maybe their best is the Bronx Special: pepperoni, sausage, onions, olives, mushrooms, pepper, and garlic. Inexpensive.

O'Sullivan's Irish Pub of Carlsbad 640 Grand Ave., Carlsbad, 760-729-4072. Above-average pub grub, especially the moist corned beef with firm-tender cabbage, salads, and house-baked brown bread. Noisy interior, serene patio out back. Inexpensive.

Tip Top Meats 6118 Paseo del Norte, Carlsbad, 760-438-2620. Try German and American dishes like Big John's all-you-can-eat bacon, pork-link sausage, bratwurst, or ham breakfast with three eggs, home fries, and toast. Or the sausage plate: bratwurst, knackwurst, and smoked Polish. Inexpensive.

Chula Vista

Jimmy's 1198 Third Ave., Chula Vista, 619-427-7161. Also 9635 Mission Gorge Rd., Santee, 619-448-8994. Family-friendly restaurants offer a six-page plastic menu of good old-fashioned American food — huge breakfasts, big dinners like steak with all the trimmings, homemade desserts.

Restaurant el Patio 410 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-9745. Old-fashioned Cal-Mex with nothing new ex-

cept the Flying Saucer (fried tortilla stacked with beef, tomatoes, and a mound of salad). Otherwise, go for the *chile rellenos*, enchiladas, taco combo, and open-faced chiliburgers. Inexpensive to moderate.

City Heights

Saigon 4455 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-284-4215. The menu has over 250 items on it. Default choice: *pho*, the filling Vietnamese beef-noodle soup meal. Another safe bet is stir-fried crispy or soft egg noodles with seafood and assorted vegetables. Inexpensive.

Trieu Chau 4653 University Ave., City Heights, 619-280-4204. The menu includes Chinese, Khmer, and Lao dishes. In the morning, ask for "*djak kvai cof-fay dok ko*" — fried bread with Cambodian coffee, the standard French-Khmer breakfast. Inexpensive.

Uncle Joe's Pizzeria 4591 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-584-2535. Flower-strewn patio, plush interior, with sandwiches named after navy bases, rich entrées like eggplant Parmesan, chicken with mushrooms, served until midnight weekends. Inexpensive.

Clairemont

Buga Korean BBQ Restaurant 5580 Clairemont Mesa Bl., Clairemont, 858-560-1010. Aside from the BBQ meats and generous free side dishes, treats include simmered black cod in spicy sauce, miso soup with pork, stone pot *bibimbap* (rice casserole), *mandoo* dumplings. Moderate.

Coronado

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

Clayton's Coffee Shop 979 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5425. The food is all American: steak and eggs, veggie omelets, old-fashioned waffles, sandwiches both hot and cold. Dinner specials include pork chops and homemade meat loaf with gravy. Inexpensive.

Coronado Boathouse 1887 1701 Strand Way, Coronado, 619-435-0155. Fun "aloha" atmosphere with a bay view. Herbed artichoke appetizer and fresh macadamia-crust halibut sauced with coconut milk are tasty, and the tender roast beef is USDA Prime. Moderate.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill 1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5280.

Try Mulligan stew served in a hollowed bread loaf or corned beef and cabbage with tender, thick slices surrounding cabbage so young and sweet it ought to be carded. Raucous inside, but escape on big heated patio. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Peohe's 1201 First St., Coronado, 619-437-4474. Fabulous seaside venue, silly with Hawaiian decor, featuring steaks and seafood prepared with care, e.g., halibut in a lush, sassy Frangelico-touched macadamia beurre blanc. Expensive.

Del Mar

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

Del Mar Rendezvous Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-2669. Longtime restaurateur Mark Sun came out of retirement to try out a new concept of contemporary Asian tapas and Chinese entrées made over with prime ingredients — clean, creative, and greaseless, with a wide choice of wines. Moderate to expensive.

Iris Food and Spirits 2334 Carmel Valley Rd., Del Mar, 858-259-5878. At this comfortable but upscale "neighborhood restaurant" with patio overlooking Del Mar Lagoon's marshy beauty, chef-owner Tommy Golden (ex-Parkhouse and Beach Grass) turns out eclectic, home-tasting Euro-Cal dishes, climaxing in stellar desserts; a well-priced wine list accompanies them. Expensive.

Market Restaurant and Bar 3702 Via de la Valle, Del Mar, 858-523-0007. Chef-owner Carl Schroeder is all about seasonal, local, organic — and inspired culinary imagination. Menu changes but is always exciting. The vibe is "nice neighborhood restaurant" — diners have a good time here. Expensive.

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

Downtown

Alambres Mexican Grill 756 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-233-2838. Specialty is the namesake Alambres Mexican City-style taco, usually meat or fish plus bell peppers, onions, and bacon. Inexpensive.

Athens Market 109 F St., Downtown, 619-234-1955. Owner Mary Pappas serves huge portions of honest Greek home cooking (lentil soup,

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spanakopita, meaty gyros), in a classy white-tablecloth atmosphere. Inexpensive to moderate.

Bice 425 Island St., Downtown, 619-239-2423. It may be a chic offshoot of a worldwide Milanese chain, but the kitchen follows Italy's traditions of artisanal ingredients — "slow food" from the country that invented it, with regional cheeses, handcrafted salumi, house-made breads and pastas. Moderate.

Coffee and Art Photographic Art Gallery 777 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-501-8458. Come for the curry pies. This South African-run East Village neighborhood coffee place has healthy breakfasts and light lunches inside a cool art/photo gallery. But it's the ultra-flaky Brit-made "savory pot pies" that star, especially the beef or veggie curry pies. Inexpensive.

Darband Fifth Avenue Grill 1556 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-230-1001. Good, fresh Persian cooking, popular with local Persians. Tasty dishes include Khoresh Bademjan (baby eggplant and beef stew), Barg (marinated beef tenderloin with rice), and the vegetarian plate. Kebabs star, as do yogurt-y, cucumber-y, minty flavors. Inexpensive.

De'Medici Cucina Italiana 815 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-7228. Sinatra atmosphere, cool street patio. Fish dishes are exquisite, and anything with calamari (fresh local catch) is worth ordering. Moderate (simpler pastas) to very expensive.

Georges on Fifth 835 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-0444. The menu offers Prime and ultra-Prime steaks. Some of the best items are non-beef: the cold seafood appetizers ("lobster martini," oysters, tuna tartare). Expensive to extreme.

Harbor House 831 W. Harbor Dr., Downtown, 619-232-1141. This two-story Midwesterner-friendly eatery caters to tourist families and conventioners, but the upstairs Oyster Bar is a pretty spot to watch the sailboats over a margarita and a plateful of iced bivalves. Moderate to expensive.

Hot Dogs @ 428 428 G St., Downtown, 619-544-0428. Late-night dog house for after you've drunk your fill on Fifth. Good fast dogs, always Hebrew National. Regional dogs include New York, Deep South, Texas, even the Sushi with wasabi. Also: good-value lunches. Inexpensive.

Indigo Café 1435 Sixth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-6478. Favorite of San Diego Symphony players. Specialty: New Orleans dishes like jambalaya or gumbo. Really good: oyster or shrimp po boy sandwich. Inexpensive to moderate.

JJ's Sunset Deli by the Bay 200 Marina Park Way (behind the Convention Center), Downtown, 619-237-1070. JJ's delivers one heckuva harbor view plus an ambitious menu running from rib-eye steak sandwiches to a pork chop plate and sometimes a half-rack of BBQ baby back ribs. Inexpensive.

Mediterranean Café and Lounge 1352 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-515-2233. They serve a panoply of Middle Eastern and Greek food until 3 or 4 a.m. Best deals are probably the single lamb skewer on a roll of pita bread with hummus, tomato, lettuce, and pickles, or the meat pie on pita. Inexpensive to moderate.

Pauly's Pizza Station 1050 Park Bl., Downtown, 619-231-0300. Pauly hides inside a convenience store at the City College trolley stop, making flavorful, East Coast thin-crust pies with some creative toppings — plus breakfast pizzas and calzones for when Friday night turns into Saturday morning. Open late to very late. Inexpensive.

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

Quarter Kitchen 600 F St., Downtown, 619-814-2000. Local-born Belgian chef Nathan Coulon mingles American bistro cuisine (splendid short ribs) with Gallic classics (*moules frites*). Some extravaganzas (caviar tacos, Kobe) remain from ultra-chic opening era, along with weekend club-crowds, but weeknight scene's more down-to-earth. Moderate to exorbitant.

Rama 327 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-501-8424. Ravishing upscale decor and chefs from top Bangkok restaurants offer a special experience. The menu includes some rare authentic dishes like chicken and squid with flat noodles and caramelized palm sugar, and a wicked Thai version of Chinese twice-cooked pork. Moderate.

Red Pearl Kitchen 440 J St., Downtown, 619-231-1100. An anthology of

favorite Asian dishes creatively interpreted for American palates, with touches of fusion and some original dishes. Plenty of appetizers, but main dishes and veggie side dishes tend to be tastier. High-moderate.

Rei Do Gado Churrascaria 939 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-702-8464. Skewer after skewer of *churrasco* (Brazilian barbecue of many meats). The buffet (included in meal price) includes side dishes, salads, fruit, and hot entrées like seafood in coconut milk, with exotic but comfortable flavors. Moderate.

Sidebar Deli 225 Cedar St., Downtown, 619-525-1444. Cal Western students clamor for lunch specials like spaghetti and meatballs with garlic bread. Also breakfast burritos, breakfast sandwiches, French dip sandwiches, California wraps. Inexpensive.

Soleil @ K 660 K St., Downtown, 619-446-6088. The fare here is simple California cuisine that won't scare the conventioners, but the outdoor dining patio is a nice spot for a light meal. Starters may include a seasonally available fried-calamari salad and crabby crabsticks. Moderate to expensive.

The Strip Club 340 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-231-3140. It's DIY grilling here; no minors admitted. You can take the USDA Choice steaks up a notch with spice blends and sauces. Other choices include burgers, chicken, ahi, shrimp, and kebabs. Inexpensive to moderate.

East Village

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

Dirty Del's 499 Tenth Ave., East Village, 619-677-3789. A cozy neighborhood watering hole near the ballpark has half a dozen tables and half a dozen sports screens, and serves big, interesting sandwiches. Inexpensive.

East Village Tavern and Bowl 930 Market St., East Village, 619-677-2695. Big, noisy sports bar/bowling alley with creative pub grub until 2am nightly. Imagine three New York strip steaks, caramelized onions, and melt-

ing Gorgonzola tucked into a Hawaiian sweet bun. Or try a *Panino Cubano* or herb-brined chicken wings. Inexpensive.

El Cajon

Paipa's Oasis Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002. The salad bar is surrounded by a U-shaped table laden with everything from peel-and-eat shrimp to baked cod to certified Black Angus prime rib. Moderate.

Encinitas

The Bird House Grill 250 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-944-2882. Savory Turkish cuisine includes generous plates like Iskender Kebab (gyros, a.k.a. döner kebab with rice, tomato sauce, rich house-made yogurt) and *kofte* (ground meat kebab, rice, salad, pita, and *tzatziki* sauce). Inexpensive.

Firefly 251 N. El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-635-1066. Spacious wine-bar/restaurant features exciting wine choices and wine-bar snacks. The most popular lunch item is the Cobb salad, and at dinner there's a bourbon-and-mustard-brined pork tenderloin. Desserts and weekend brunches are strong suits. Moderate to expensive.

Firenze 162 S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., Encinitas, 760-944-9000. Gorgeous rooms and outdoor patio, offering heaping platefuls of multiregional Italian cuisine (including two dozen meatless selections) and affordable Italian and California wines. High-moderate.

El Q'ero 564 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-753-9050. The fare includes empanadas, tapas-like small plates, and full-size entrées — most from the family homeland, Peru. Be sure to try the house's *chicha morada*, a tangy soft drink made from Peruvian purple corn. Moderate.

Saint Germain's Café 1010 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-753-5411. Not French, despite the name, but all-American. Omelets are the best-known dish — 14 three-egg (or Eggbeaters by request). Sandwiches run to hearty American classics (including some veggie choices). Inexpensive.

Escondido

A Delight of France 126 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-746-2644. This French bakery is a delight indeed, offering authentic baguettes, brioches, quiches, and croissants, including true Parisian-style almond croissants studded with nuts and laced with almond paste. Inexpensive.

La Tapatia 340 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-747-8282. Take a walk on the mild side at this family favorite, in business since the 1930s. You'll find standard Mexican fare done low-salt and healthy style in a comfortable dining room or, in good weather, a lovely, arbor-like stone-walled patio. Moderate.

Vincent's Sirinos 113 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-745-3835. French-born chef-owner Vincent Grumel serves Gallic cuisine of rich dark sauces robbing fine ingredients, like a flavorful veal chop (no factory calf, that). Mushrooms and vegetables are the season's best and sensitively treated. Expensive.

Golden Hill

Los Reyes 2496 Broadway, Golden Hill, 619-231-0716. Also 47th and Market, Chollas View, 619-262-6052. Regular Mex dishes served, but the soaring specialty is Seven Seas Soup, a big bowl of savory red broth clunking

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with giant crab legs, clams, fish chunks, shrimp, octopus, and vegetables. Inexpensive.

Turf Supper Club 1116 25th St., Golden Hill, 619-234-6363. Every night's an indoor cookout as patrons huddle by the communal fire-pit tending their steaks, burgers, chicken breasts, or portobello mushrooms. Inexpensive to moderate.

Hillcrest

The Asian Bistro 414 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-296-4119. The adventurous Thai-accented pan-Asian menu is served until 3 am. Don't miss the Louisiana fried buster crab dish named Jumping Jarvis. Lunches inexpensive, dinners moderate.



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Latin Chef RESTAURANT

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Calendar RESTAURANTS

Banana Leaf South Indian Restaurant 3975 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-298-8888. Rarely found South Indian cuisine including crepes (*dosa*) and rice-flour pancakes (*utthappam*), best with simple vegetarian garnishes or unadorned as wraps for tropical curries (veg or non-veg), many with tangy tamarind and/or coconut milk. Moderate.

Bite Bistro and Wine Bar 1417 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-2483. Modern Mediterranean tapas are most of the menu, cleverly cooked and assembled into interesting bargain-price early-bird dinners some weeknights. Individual dishes inexpensive to moderate, but they can add up.

Busalacchi's Ristorante 3683 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-298-0119. Nooks and crannies for *liaisons dangereuses*, or there's the street-side casual level. Mainly Sicilian-style tomato-sauce-dominated dishes (like *torta di melanzana*, eggplant layered with mozzarella), but satisfying. Moderate to expensive.

Celadon 3671 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-297-8424. The entrées offer sauces (red curry, green curry, etc.) with your choice of protein, but go to the chef's specialty menu to find the rarest. Among the entrées, don't miss *choo chee duck* or the Queen of Thailand's favorite, pineapple fried rice. Moderate.

Chipotle 734 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-209-3688. Several San Diego locations. This chain that McDonald's acquired cleaves to the original vision: naturally raised tender meats in authentic marinades, including fresh-grilled carne asada and *carnitas*. Rock-bottom prices.

Islander Grill 3645 Park Bl., Hillcrest, 619-297-3929. Exotic food from

Guam includes chicken *kelaguen*, a citric salad resembling ceviche and brilliant coconut shrimp. Stews are flavorful: The saucy pot roast is definitely not your mother's, unless Mom's from Guam. Inexpensive.

Khyber Pass 523 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-294-7579. Fascinating Afghani cuisine. Don't miss the outstanding *aushak* (spring onion ravioli) and *mantu* (ground-meat ravioli) — both with lively yogurt sauces — and *zamarod chalow*, a spicy lamb-and-spinach stew. Moderate.

Imperial Beach

Big Kahuna's 600 Palm Ave., Imperial Beach, 619-429-5224. A mini chain, but with true Hawaiian roots. Go for the baseball-mitt size Big Kahuna Burger or the Killer Kalua pork sandwich — the pork comes straight out of the *imu*, the traditional Hawaiian underground oven. Inexpensive.

Kearny Mesa

Crab Hut 4646 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-565-1678. A local Vietnamese family runs this friendly, bare-bones eatery, specializing in Louisiana-style fried seafood and boiled seasoned shrimp, crabs, and crawfish. Inexpensive to moderate.

Pampas Argentine Grill 8690 Aero Dr., Kearny Mesa, 858-278-5971. Argentine specialties feature healthy, grass-fed, grilled beef, including an Americanized version (minus organ meats) of the *gauchos'* great *parrillada mixta* (mixed grill). Good beef empanada, potatoes. Moderate.

Sunrise Super Buffet 3860 Convoy St., Kearny Mesa, 858-715-1608. Apart from all the meats, fish, shellfish, lobster (on Sundays), and novelties like

stuffed mushrooms, stuffed clams, and dragon rolls, raw oysters in their shells are a big draw. Beverages included in price. Inexpensive.

Kensington-Talmadge

Bleu Bohème 4090 Adams Ave., Kensington-Talmadge, 619-255-4167. Classic French bistro, *très chic* but informal and noisy, emphasizes familiar favorites from the old-fashioned, French-in-America, bourgeois-cuisine restaurant repertoire. High-moderate.

La Jolla

A.R. Valentien 11480 N. Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla, 858-777-6635. California cuisine emphasizing the natural flavors of in-season produce and top-quality meats and seafood; scenic setting. Very expensive.

The Cookie Lady Café and Bakery 7596 Fay Ave., La Jolla, 858-456-1640. It's soup-and-sandwich land, and good in both departments. A half-and-half of turkey sandwich (with real house-roasted turkey) and Italian wedding soup will feed you all day for near-nothing. Inexpensive.

George's at the Cove — California Modern 1250 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-454-4244. The California Modern dining room continues to serve Chef Trey Foshee's ambitious California cuisine based on seasonal ingredients and emphasizing wild seafood, local produce, naturally raised meats and poultry. Very expensive.

Harry's Coffee Shop 7545 Girard Ave., La Jolla, 858-454-7381. Down-home eatery with a pretty patio, where the ham, steak, and eggs is a favorite breakfast, as are Hot Creamy Oatmeal

with strawberries, pecan pancakes, and thin, crisp waffles. For lunch, turkey burgers and the British Burger are popular. Inexpensive.

Jai 2910 La Jolla Village Drive/UCSD Campus, La Jolla, 858-638-7778. Chic Wolfgang Puck spinoff serves refined Asian fusion in beautiful woody setting, and you don't need tickets to L.J. Playhouse to enjoy it — it's all pure, playful pleasure. Open on performance days only; otherwise, catered special events. Expensive.

Piatti Ristorante 2182 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-454-1589. Reserve for the garden patio to avoid indoor din. Exquisite, creative Italian dishes include fine sweetbreads, ravioli *al limone*, prosciutto-grilled romaine, and key lime-raspberry tart. Moderate to expensive.

The Steakhouse at Azul 1250 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-454-9616. The Brigantine chain's upscale branch offers surf 'n' turf with a sea view. Big, tender steaks, reliably well-treated seafood. Very expensive.

Zenbu 7660 Fay Ave., La Jolla, 858-454-4540. Sashimi and the simpler sushi are better here than the big party rolls. Don't miss the live local *uni* (sea urchin) served on its shell most weeknights. Cooked fish entrées feature equally sparkling seafood. Upper-moderate to expensive.

La Mesa

Antica Trattoria 5654 Lake Murray Bl., La Mesa, 619-463-9919. Exuberant Italian food in family-friendly atmosphere. NY expats will rejoice at cooking and hospitality to equal Manhattan favorites. Moderate (pastas) to slightly expensive.

Ciao Bella Caffè Bar e Ristorante 5263 Baltimore Dr., La Mesa, 619-337-0238. Not your ordinary neighborhood Italian joint. Exciting dishes include

Penne Ciao Bella (salmon, shrimp, and spinach in a light sauce), *cartoccio* (baked spaghetti with seafood) and San Remo pizza (with sunny-side-up eggs). Moderate.

GIO Bistro & Wine Bar 8384 La Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-9100. The vast garden patio is the main draw, however punishing the wiry patio chairs. The hit-or-miss menu of eclectic Cal-Ital-Asian-fusion offers "something for everyone" — but there's no "there" there. High-moderate.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room 7777 University Ave., La Mesa, 619-713-6777. This rambling roadhouse reincarnates the Turf Supper Club's DIY communal grill, adding side dishes and desserts to the marinated raw steaks, portobellos, etc. Under 21 from 4 to 7 pm only; no reservations. Open late. Moderate.

Lemon Grove

Barnes Bar-B-Que 2625 Lemon Grove Ave., Lemon Grove, 619-462-9206. True Tennessee-style barbecue of meats and poultry slow-smoked tender over oak, plus mouthwatering Memphis-style soul food entrées and honest Deep-South sides. Inexpensive.

Taste of Polynesia 6937 Federal Bl., Lemon Grove, 619-466-6199. It's Samoan here, not Hawaiian, so be prepared for new stuff, like *muli pipi* (roasted turkey tail), *oka* (raw cubes of yellowtail with coconut milk), and corned beef with taro. Inexpensive.

Little Italy

Fat City Steakhouse 2137 Pacific Hwy., Little Italy, 619-232-9303. In the Deco pink palace at the edge of downtown, the USDA Choice steaks (and one velvety Prime cut) are cooked over

mesquite charcoal, which lends them a deliciously smoky flavor. Inexpensive to moderate.

Indigo Grill 1536 India St., Little Italy, 619-234-6802. Deborah Scott expands her original Native-American motif, with its focus on root vegetables, game, and roasted spices. Inexpensive to moderate, dinner moderate to expensive.

Pete's Quality Meats 1742-1/2 India St., Little Italy, 619-234-1684. Aficionados line up for Italian-sausage sandwiches, steak sandwiches, and especially *spitini* — veal rolled around cheeses, onions, tomatoes, pine nuts, currants, parsley, prosciutto, and bread crumbs. Inexpensive.

Puerto la Boca 2060 India St., Little Italy, 619-234-4900. Uncompromised Argentine cooking here, emphasizing healthy grass-fed grilled beef but also lush seafood, pizzas, and lacto-vegetarian pastas. Starters include luscious beef or corn empanadas and the filling *matambre* (rolled beef galantine). Moderate.

Logan Heights

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

Midway District

Country Kabob 3145 Rosecrans St., Midway District, 619-226-2524. Also 3375 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-563-6300. The star of this reasonably priced Greek place is owner-chef Karim Latif. He's Afghan and learned Greek cooking in NYC. He always has specials, sometimes even "pay what you can." Re-



Free NY style deli entrée
With the purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Some restrictions.

Elijah's Restaurant
La Jolla: 8861 Villa La Jolla Dr. 858-455-1461

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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

Pizza Pronto
La Jolla: 7556 Fay Ave. 888-895-5606

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



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Lunch \$6.99**
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*Seniors. ** Adults. Lunch Mon-Fri. Limit up to 4 people per coupon. Not valid with any other discount. Clairemont location only.

VIP Oriental Buffet
5541 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. (In Madison Sq. Plaza, west of 805) 858-571-8473
Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



50% off Extreme Pizza
Buy one pizza and get a second pizza for 50% off.

Extreme Pizza
La Jolla: 834 Kline St. 866-264-0533
Pt. Loma: 3553 Rosecrans #114 866-243-9746
Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free French or Italian entrée
with purchase of second entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Cannot be combined with other offers or specials.

Babbo Grande
University Heights: 1731 University Ave. • 619-269-8038

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free mini yogurt
with purchase of \$3 or more. Toppings not included. No stamp cards. Originals only accepted. One coupon per customer. Not valid with any other offers.

Paradise Yogurt
Mission Valley: 5664 Mission Center Rd. • 619-295-9648

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



10% off entire bill, anytime
Not valid with any other offer.

Bangin' Burgers
San Diego: 7070 Miramar Rd. 858-578-8000
www.bangin-burgers.com

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Two sushi rolls \$7.25
Sixteen pieces of sushi. Choose from ten rolls. Dine-in only. Cannot be used with any other offers.

Jump Tokyo Sushi House
Mission Valley: 10450 Friars Rd. Ste. R • 619-280-4043

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free burrito
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Los Primos
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Thai dinner for two \$20
Pick one appetizer and two entrées. Served all day. Ask for menu options. Not valid with any other offer. Some restrictions.

Basil Thai College: 5157 College Ave. 619-582-THAI
La Mesa: 8680 Navajo Rd. #104 619-460-THAI
Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



Free Thai entrée
Purchase one dinner entrée and two beverages, get a second dinner entrée of equal or lesser value free. Maximum value \$10.95. Dine-in only. Some restrictions.

Taste of Thai
Del Mar: 15770 San Andres Dr. 858-793-9695
Hillcrest: 527 University Ave. 619-291-7525
Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR



\$7.99 Indian lunch buffet
11 am-3 pm. Reg. price \$8.99. Limit one per customer. Buffet includes Paneer Tikka Masala, Tandoor Chicken, Beef Boti, Naan and more.

Village Indian Cuisine
San Diego: 9187 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. 858-874-3663
Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

liable choice: Number 36, the kobeda kabob. Charbroiled. Inexpensive.

Fairouz Café and Gallery 3166 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-225-0308. Seek out this family-owned restaurant for Lebanese and Greek food. The menu offers lamb, stuffed grape leaves, and exotic vegetarian meals, plus daily lunch and dinner buffets. Moderate.

Mira Mesa

Buca di Beppo 10749 Westview Parkway, Mira Mesa, 858-536-2822. Additional locations in Carlsbad and Downtown. Try *penne arrabiata* with its spicy sausage or the chicken parmigiana. Standard stuff in vast family-friendly quantities, but you're having fun. Inexpensive to moderate.

Mission Beach

Red Marlin Hyatt Regency Mission Bay Spa and Marina, 1441 Quivira Rd., Mission Beach, 619-224-1234. Blissful bay view, with hotel food enlivened by Chef de Cuisine Danny Bannister. Want Kurobuta pork medium-rare? He knows the secret. And his blue crab cake is all crab, minimal filler. Expensive.

Mission Hills

Lucha Libre Gourmet Taco Shop 1810 W. Washington St., Mission Hills, 619-296-8226. Wonderful shrine to Mexican wrestling, plus really excellent tacos. It's a taco joint, but definitely gourmet. Quesotacos are a must. Book 24 hours ahead and you can be seated in the Champions' Booth, treated like *El Rey*.

Sausage King 811 W. Washington St., Mission Hills, 619-297-4301. The German couple who run this place make 34 sausages and luncheon meats, plus 10 smoked meats like turkey, beef, Westphalian ham, Black Forest ham, and even bacon. Inexpensive.

Starlite 3175 India St., Mission Hills, 619-358-9766. The California-Mediterranean cuisine features naturally raised meats, house-made pasta and sausages, local produce. The Jidori chicken and Prime flat iron steak are knockouts; so is a toffee-chip ice cream sandwich. Nice back-patio seating. Moderate.

Venissimo Cheese 754 West Washington St., Mission Hills, 619-491-0708. You can get a baguette-style sandwich stuffed with cow cheese, sheep cheese, goat cheese...fruity, moldy, runny, stinky... Any cheese in the house, same price: around five bucks. Even *Boschetto* cheese, with truffles in it. Inexpensive.

National City

Asian Noodle 1430 E. Plaza Bl., National City, 619-477-5390. The main dish is Filipino-style chicken soup with egg noodles — a little bland, but filling. *Siopao* (stuffed steamed buns) make a good accompaniment — or try "sweet spaghetti." Inexpensive.

Birrias, Chivos & Cheves 2401 Highland Ave., National City, 619-477-7660. Goat is what you get here, and it's good. Guadalupe style. The taste is rich but not too gamey. Inexpensive.

Filipino Desserts Plus 2220-Q E. Plaza Bl., National City, 619-479-6748. The pride of the place is the desserts, from the *ube halea* (purple yam custard) and *maja blanca* (coconut-corn combo) to the *sapin sapin* (multicolored layer cake) and fried sweet *saba* banana on a skewer. Inexpensive.

Normal Heights

Blind Lady Ale House 3416 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-255-2491. The amazing, ever-changing draft ales will bring you here, but the unusual pizzas will help you keep chugging. Original salads, too. Basic draw: the civilized craziness of the place.

Cantina Mayahuel 2934 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-283-6292. Small room, short menu of fine, authentic mainland cooking including specials like complex house-made mole poblano and Oaxacan black mole, Chili Colorado (slow-cooked beef), or Yucatán seafood stew. Inexpensive.

Jayne's Gastropub 4677 30th St., Normal Heights, 619-563-1011. Clamorous interior, but you'll find sophisticated southern-European appetizers like hummus, fried calamari, and Spanish-style shrimp with garlic. Entrées run to comfort food. Grazing dinners moderate, mains moderate to expensive.

North Park

Alexander's 3391 30th St., North Park, 619-281-2539. A spin-off of Old Venice, serving neighborhood-style Italian with Greek touches, including interesting specials and imaginative thin-crust pizzas. Loud, bright interior; sweet, dim back patio. Moderate (pastas) to expensive.

Craze Burger 4201 30th St., North Park, 619-282-6044. You'll find creative, made-to-order burgers from beef to buffalo, gator, and ostrich (delicious!), and even fish and veggies — each with its own individualized seasonings and sauce, plus salads, German sausages, bargain wines, and serious beers. Inexpensive to low moderate.

Hawthorn's Restaurant 2895 University Ave., North Park, 619-295-1688.

When this Banker's Hill restaurant moved to new digs here, the change proved positive. Mediterranean-influenced menu choices are fewer but better, with seasonal locally grown vegetables matched to the individual entrées. Expensive.

Heaven Sent Desserts 3001 University Ave., North Park, 619-793-4758. Cookies, tarts, pies, custards, puddings, and intricate cakes and ice cream fantasies. The style is rich and often fancy with choices ranging from American favorites to ethereal Euro-style elaborations. Inexpensive.

Marie's Café 3016 University Ave., North Park, 619-220-0142. Old-time diner serving generous portions. Try the three-egger breakfast omelet with Italian sausage, avocado, and olives. If Erik's smokin' up some ribs (you'll smell them half a block away), grab them. Inexpensive.

Ocean Beach

Livingston's Chicken and Mexican Grill 5026 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-224-8088. "Broasted" chicken — pressure cooked in oil — is tastier and less greasy than standard fried chicken. Or try garlicky "potato Jo-Jo's," a California burrito, or pork salsa verde plate. Until midnight weekdays; 2am weekends. Inexpensive.

Ocean Beach People's Organic Foods Co-Op Deli 4765 Voltaire St., Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387. Virtuous, mainly vegan-prepared dishes include garlic eggplant with beet and onions, tempeh loaf, sweet squash and rice, millet spinach bake, veggie shepherd's pie, "mango madness." Inexpensive.

Oceanside

Ruby's Diner 1 Oceanside Pier, Oceanside, 760-433-7829. Additional

locations in Carlsbad and Mission Valley. Ruby's is part of a themed '40s-diner chain. Red-leatherette-and-chrome booths, white walls, portholes, old Coca-Cola signs, and that view to Hawaii. Good-sized servings — try their omelets. Open daily. Inexpensive.

Old Town



El Agave 2304 San Diego Ave., Old Town, 619-220-0692. Serious Mexican food highlighting mainland regional cuisines, including five different Oaxacan moles (plus a sixth from Chiapas). Moderate.

Jack and Giulio's Italian Restaurant 2391 San Diego Ave., Old Town, 619-294-2074. The traditional Italian entrées like veal parmigiana and fettuccine Alfredo are there, but go for house specialties like Spaghetti New Orleans with shrimp, crawfish, and crabmeat, or the scampi dishes. Moderate.

Pacific Beach

Bare Back Grill 4640 Mission Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-274-7117. Also 624 E St., Downtown, 619-237-9990. The Kiwi owners guarantee healthy, hormone-

free, organic beef and lamb from New Zealand — mainly in burgers, from grass-fed organic beef burgers to lamb burgers with wasabi dip. Inexpensive.

Broken Yolk Café 1851 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-9655. Additional locations in Chula Vista, Carlsbad, and Downtown. Breakfasting P.B.ers love this place for the sundeck, the 26 different four-egg omelets (which you can split with your partner, no extra charge), and the challenge of omelet #27. Inexpensive.

Gringo's 4474 Mission Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-490-2877. This noisy, popular indoor-outdoor venue is better than its name implies, with fresh, skillful cooking of slightly dumbed-down, gentled Mexican cuisine such as you might find in Cabo or Puerto Vallarta. Moderate.

JRDN 723 Felspar St., Pacific Beach, 858-270-5736. Beachfront dining room and patio, with dishes covering the waterfront, ranging from mac 'n' cheese to die for to a sexy, fruited gazpacho to swoon over. Chic, relaxed atmosphere, great grazing, youngish crowd. Entrées expensive.

Joe's Crab Shack 4325 Ocean Bl., Pacific Beach, 858-274-3474. Additional locations in Mission Valley, Oceanside, and Downtown. Buckets of crab or fried or grilled seafood in raucous, kid-friendly atmosphere. Inexpensive to low-moderate.

Pine Valley

La Posta 32337 Old Highway 80, Pine Valley, 619-478-5600. Old West atmosphere, vintage American food including hefty anytime breakfasts (bulging omelets, chicken-fried steak with eggs). Their burgers are big, their chili is legendary, and the dinner rib-eye steak can make city folks swoon. Inexpensive.

Free entrée
With the purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and 2 beverages. One coupon per table. Dine-in only. Max value \$10. Not valid with any other offer. Not valid on holidays. Lunch specials not included.

DiMille's Italian Restaurant
Kensington: 3492 Adams Ave. 619-283-3153

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

50% off entrée
Buy one entrée at regular price and get a second entrée of equal or lesser value for half off.

Skewers
Mira Mesa: 9254 Scranton Rd., Ste. 106 • 858-658-0109

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Thai lunch or dinner
With the purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. Up to a \$10 value. Not valid on holidays. One per table.

Jade Thai Cuisine
Mission Gorge: 10330 Friars Rd. #105 • 619-280-4048

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free special sushi roll
Buy one special roll and get a second of equal or lesser value free.

Our special rolls include the rainbow roll, fire roll, caterpillar roll and more!

Convoy Sushi & Fish Market
Kearny Mesa: 7905 Engineer Rd. 858-634-3233

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

\$1 off Indian buffet
Limit one per customer.

Sher Punjab Indian Cuisine
Mira Mesa: 9254 Scranton Rd. Ste. 102 • 858-458-2858

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free buttermilk pancakes
Short stack with purchase of two entrées. May not be combined with any other offer. One coupon per table. Not valid on holidays.

The Trails Neighborhood Eatery
San Carlos: 7389 Jackson Dr. 619-667-CAFE

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free entrée or sushi roll
With purchase of a second entrée of equal or greater value and two drinks at regular price. Maximum value \$8. Not valid with any other offer. One coupon per table or per party.

Kirin Sushi
San Diego: 4111 Voltaire St. 619-223-3388

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Asian fusion entrée
Buy any lunch or dinner entrée and two beverages, receive a second entrée of equal or lesser value free. Some restrictions.

Khan's Cave
Kearny Mesa: 9350 Clairemont Mesa Blvd., Ste. F 858-279-9799

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Mexican combo plate
With purchase of a combo plate of equal or greater value and two drinks. Some restrictions. Valid Mon.-Thurs. only. Only combos 1-16.

Emiliano's Mexican
Del Cerro: 6690 Mission Gorge Rd. Ste. E • 619-284-2460

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Italian entrée
With purchase of any entrée of equal or greater value and two beverages. One coupon per table. Dine-in only. Max value \$10. Lunch specials not included. Not valid with any other offer or on holidays.

Da Nino's
Bay Park: 410 Ashton St. 619-275-0321 • 619-275-4395

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Free Sizzler entrée
Up to \$10.99. Purchase one adult entrée with two beverages and receive one adult entrée of equal or lesser value free.

Sizzler
San Diego: 2855 Midway Dr. 619-224-3347

Escondido: 355 N. Escondido Blvd. 760-741-2568

Oceanside: 3805 Plaza Dr. 760-630-1551

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

50% off breakfast or lunch
Purchase one entrée and two beverages at regular price and receive a second entrée of equal or lesser value at 50% off. Some restrictions.

Honey's Café
San Diego: 7947 Balboa Ave. 858-565-4244

Expires 6-3-10 • Coupon code: G1FSDR

Throw Me a Metaphor

While Poison front man Bret Michaels recovers from a potentially fatal brain hemorrhage, San Diego writer-psychic David Moyer recalls interviewing the L.A.-based rocker in 2007, after which he

That year, VH1 announced that Michaels would be the bachelor star of *Rock of Love*, a reality-format TV show with the main goal of hooking up Michaels with a significant other.

“He’s into rock,” says

blurt

the inside track

says he gave Michaels a psychic reading.

“We talked a little bit about his band’s new record, his reality show, and various

Moyer, “and he’s into love.”

Moyer says he wrote a story based on the interview. “He’s hilarious. I’m not a big hair-rock fan, but I’ve found



RECOVERING ROCKER BRET MICHAELS

other projects.” At the time, Moyer was employed as an editor by Wireless Flash, a news service. He says he contacted Michaels by phone from the Flash offices in Hillcrest.

that heavy-metal guys are great interviews. They like the weird questions,” he says, “as opposed to some of the people [I’ve interviewed] who were more tight-assed.”

Michaels also appeared as a contestant on Donald Trump’s *Celebrity Apprentice* in an effort to raise money for type 1 diabetes, a disease Michaels has suffered since childhood. Doctors think that diabetes is the likely cause of the internal bleeding at the base of the brain that caused Michaels to suffer a stroke.

Days before his stroke, on April 12, the 47-year-old pop star had an emergency appendectomy, also thought to be diabetes-related.

“I told Michaels that 2007 would be a good year for accentuating independence but that he’d feel like he was surfing a tidal wave and that he was the only one not falling off the board. He said, ‘Oh, my God! I was just telling my secretary that it’s really strange out there, like I’m surfing on some tidal wave.’ He threw my metaphor right back at me.”

In the early ’90s, Moyer was employed by a psychic call center, the Psychic Friends Network, off of Fairmount Avenue in City Heights. “I had some experience as a psychic, and I knew just enough to be dangerous.” Moyer says Michaels wanted to know if he was going to find true love on his reality show.

“‘No,’ I said, ‘but you’re going to find out how many people love you.’ He said, ‘Well, I can live with that.’”

Moyer says he did not predict the current health trou-

ma Michaels has suffered but says he was dead-on about the man’s television love life. Thus far, none of Michaels’s *Rock of Love* romances have lasted.

— Dave Good

Leaving San Diego

“I love San Diego and miss it,” says Japanese Sunday mastermind Eric Kusanagi, who lived in Golden Hill and worked downtown at Sushi Deli. “It’s where I was reborn.”

The core member of dreamy shoegaze JS relocated to Philadelphia in 2007 after his wife gave birth to a son with a rare birth defect that “left my wife and I so broke I might as well be selling Chiclets on a Tijuana bridge.”

JS started as a bedroom project. While Kusanagi recovered from a botched knee surgery, a friend gave him a guitar. He quickly outgrew his acoustic guitar and formed a rotating cast of musicians to actualize his layered compositions. Debut *Taps, Taps, Lights Out* was released in April of ’06 and was a welcome addition to San Diego’s post-rock sound forged by locals Tristeza and the Album Leaf. The band toured Japan in March of ’09,

during which time Kusanagi had a falling-out with drummer Justin Jay (Boyscout). “To this day, I don’t think he even knows what the songs are about or what the record is about,” Kusanagi says.

Kusanagi is now shopping

All Denominations

Honored “*The Reverending Story* is designed to explain the strange workings in my past lives,” says North Park resident Reverend Stickman of his musical stage show debuting June 24 at Swedenborg Hall.



A LITTLE LESS AMBIENT WITHOUT JAPANESE SUNDAY

around labels to press his new album, *Fair Winds and Following Seas*. “It’s kind of like a mariner’s goodbye — fitting, I think, because I was in the Navy for four years. It’s kind of a goodbye record to San Diego and all the friends and nice people I’ve met through the years [there].”

The new album contains tracks recorded in San Diego’s Black Box Recording Studios with Mario Quintero.

“To me, this record is about my family and the struggles and sacrifices we made to give my son a better life, leaving everyone I had known and loved...leaving San Diego — a place that had been my home for the past ten years.”

— Chad Deal

“The idea behind the production came from the fact that my songs are generally stories from some place or time in my life. I’ve never been much for writing love songs, but I do have some wild tales to tell during the show.”

The multimedia production includes film footage, spoken-word skits, dancing (“of a sort”), and several guest performers, including a choir. The debut event also serves as a release party for the accompanying nine-song CD, *Half Alive: Stories from Under the Black Hat*. “We actually cut 13 songs in a six-hour studio session,” says the folk-blues rocker. “The concept behind the recording was to lay down the basic

(continued on page 86)

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<p>FRIDAY • MAY 14</p> <p>CASH'D OUT • BRAWLEY</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • MAY 19</p> <p>AN EVENING WITH</p> <p>JONATHAN RICHMAN</p>	<p>TUESDAY • MAY 25</p> <p>SWEETHEAD</p> <p>THE OLD IN OUT</p>
<p>SATURDAY • MAY 15</p> <p>BOB LOG III</p> <p>JAIL WEDDINGS</p> <p>GLOSSINES</p>	<p>THURSDAY • MAY 20</p> <p>CARIBOU • TORO Y MOI</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • MAY 26</p> <p>ISIS • TOMBS</p> <p>JAKOB</p>
<p>SUNDAY • MAY 16</p> <p>RED FANG</p> <p>GHETTOBLASTER</p>	<p>FRIDAY • MAY 21</p> <p>CD RELEASE SHOW</p> <p>JOHN MEEKS</p> <p>THE DONKEYS</p> <p>TOBYN CLARKE & FRIENDS</p> <p>DREW ANDREWS</p>	<p>THURSDAY • MAY 27</p> <p>FROG EYES</p>
<p>MONDAY • MAY 17</p> <p>ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS</p> <p>GIL MANTERA'S</p> <p>PARTY DREAM</p> <p>SUNDAY TIMES</p> <p>LION CUT</p>	<p>SUNDAY • MAY 23</p> <p>NOKIE EDWARDS</p> <p>OF THE VENTURES</p> <p>VENTURES MANIA</p> <p>DEKE DICKERSON</p> <p>& THE ECCO-FONICS</p>	<p>FRIDAY • MAY 28</p> <p>BLACKOUT PARTY</p> <p>LADY DOTTIE & THE DIAMONDS</p> <p>EL MONTE SLIM</p> <p>THE HOWLS</p>
<p>TUESDAY • MAY 18</p> <p>HORSE FEATHERS</p> <p>DAWN LANDES</p> <p>JOEL P WEST</p>	<p>Charge by phone:</p> <p>888-512-7469</p>	<p>SATURDAY • MAY 29</p> <p>GET BACK LORETTA</p> <p>OR, THE WHALE</p>
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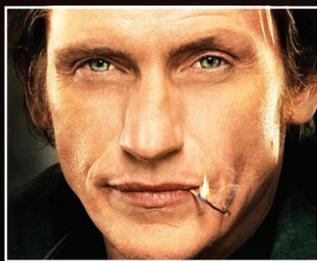
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THE ROBERT CRAY BAND**
Thursday, June 3

**THE RESCUE ME
COMEDY TOUR 2**

featuring **DENIS LEARY**
with performances by
LENNY CLARKE & ADAM FERRARA
Tuesday, June 8

**BASIA**

Thursday, June 10

**OPENING
NIGHT****BROKEN BELLS**

with special guests **THE MORNING BENDERS**
Tuesday, May 18

MAY

Tuesday, May 18 • 7:30

BROKEN BELLS

with special guests
THE MORNING BENDERS

Friday, May 21 • 7:30

THE BLACK CROWES

with special guests
CITIZEN BAND

Tues/Wed, May 25-26 • 7:30

CROSBY, STILLS & NASH**JUNE**

Wednesday, June 2 • 7:30

BOZ SCAGGS

with special guest
DAVID JACOBS-STRAIN

Thursday, June 3 • 7:00

**JONNY LANG / THE
ROBERT CRAY BAND**

Tuesday, June 8 • 8:00

**THE RESCUE ME
COMEDY TOUR 2**

featuring **DENIS LEARY**
with performances by
LENNY CLARKE & ADAM FERRARA

Thursday, June 10 • 8:00

BASIA

Friday, June 11 • 8:00

DIANA ROSS

Friday, June 18 • 8:00

**COMEDIANS OF
CHELSEA LATELY**

Sunday, June 20 • 7:30

IMOGEN HEAP

with special guest **GEESE**

**THE BLACK CROWES**

with special guests **CITIZEN BAND**
Friday, May 21

Tuesday, June 22 • 7:30

ERYKAH BADU

with special guest **JANELLE MONAE**

Saturday, June 26 • 8:00

JESSE COOK**JULY**

Tuesday, July 6 • 7:30

COLBIE CAILLAT

Friday, July 9 • 8:00

CHRIS BOTTI

Sunday, July 11 • 7:30

**OTTMAR LIEBERT
& LUNA NEGRA**

Wednesday, July 14 • 8:00

GIPSY KINGS

featuring **NICOLAS REYES
& TONNINO BALIARDO**

Friday, July 16 • 6:30/9:00

JIM GAFFIGAN

Sunday, July 18 • 7:30

JAMIE CULLUM

Wednesday, July 21 • 7:30

JACKSON BROWNE

with **DAVID LINDLEY**

Thursday, July 22 • 8:00

JEFFREY ROSS

Friday, July 23 • 6:30/9:00

JOEL McHALE

Saturday, July 24 • 7:30

BARENAKED LADIES

with special guest **ANGEL TAYLOR**

Sunday, July 25 • 7:30

**LYLE LOVETT
AND HIS LARGE BAND**

Wednesday, July 28 • 8:00

**PAT BENATAR
& NEIL GIRALDO**

Friday, July 30 • 8:00

RUSSELL PETERS

Saturday, July 31 • 7:30

BONEY JAMES**AUGUST**

Thursday, August 5 • 7:30

MICHAEL McDONALD

Friday, August 6 • 8:00

**RINGO STARR AND
HIS ALL STARR BAND**

featuring **Edgar Winter, Gary Wright,
Rick Derringer, Richard Page (Mr.
Mister), Wally Palmar (Romantics) and
Gregg Bissonette**

Wednesday, August 11 • 8:00

JOAN BAEZ

Thursday, August 12 • 7:30

**CREEDENCE
CLEARWATER REVISITED**

Friday, August 13 • 7:00

**DAVE KOZ AND
JONATHAN BUTLER:
TOGETHER AGAIN**

with special guests
SHEILA E. and PEABO BRYSON

Monday, August 16 • 7:30

RODRIGO Y GABRIELA

Thursday, August 19 • 8:00

CHICAGO

Friday, August 20 • 8:00

BILL MAHER

Sunday, August 22 • 7:30

CROWDED HOUSE

with special guest
LAWRENCE ARABIA

**CROSBY, STILLS & NASH**

Tues/Wed, May 25-26

Monday, August 23 • 7:30

**A PRAIRIE HOME
COMPANION** featuring
GARRISON KEILLOR

Wednesday, August 25 • 7:30

CHRIS ISAAK

Sunday, August 29 • 7:30

THREE DOG NIGHT**SEPTEMBER**

Wednesday, September 8 • 7:30

DOOBIE BROTHERS

with special guest **LARA JOHNSTON**

Thursday, September 9 • 8:00

SHERYL CROW**SOLD
OUT!**

Friday, September 10 • 7:30

THE BEACH BOYS

Saturday, September 11 • 8:00

AIR SUPPLY

Thursday, September 16 • 8:00

TOWER OF POWER

Friday, September 17 • 8:00

**THE FAB FOUR –
THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE**

Sunday, September 19 • 7:30

LAST COMIC STANDING

Friday, September 24 • 6:30/9:00

MARGARET CHO**OCTOBER**

Friday, October 1 • 7:30

KEALI' REICHEL

Sunday, October 3 • 7:30

AMERICA

Friday, October 22 • 7:30

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tracks — bass, drums, and guitar — live in the studio and then add vocals and solos via multitracking. ‘Half Alive’ stems from the fact that it was recorded that way.”

Produced by Sven-Erik Seaholm at Kitch 'n Sync Studios and mastered by Paul Abbott at Zen Mastering, the CD features a full band, with Stickman covering 6- and 12-string acoustic and electric guitars, slide guitar, and lead and backing vocals.

So, how did the Reverend attain his ministerial credentials? It all started with two friends who wanted him to officiate their marriage. “After

order reverend. I can marry, baptize, and perform legal unions, but I do not preach, and I’m not affiliated with any single religious belief. All faiths and denominations are honored, even if not always understood.

“Spirituality is something we can all feel.... Religion divides us from each other.”

Reverend Stickman can frequently be seen walking through Balboa Park with his guitar and Jack Russell terrier, or hanging out at the Stage Saloon downtown, where he appears nearly every Saturday night from 7 to 8 p.m.

— Jay Allen Sanford

You Hear It, You Know It Two teenage boys walk into Steel Guitars of North County in Oceanside,



PRAY-TO-PLAY? (REVEREND STICKMAN)

quite a bit of preparation — i.e., writing a money order — and profound thought — i.e., drinking — I became a mail-

scan the assortment of vintage oddities arranged on the walls, do a quick appraisal of the pack of 50-somethings



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trying them out, turn on their heels, and exit the store.

“Happens a lot,” owner Jim Palenscar says of the kids who find his shop and confront instruments not of rock and roll but what Texas musician Bugs Henderson calls the sit-down guitar.

“They come in and say, ‘What’s this all about?’ and turn around to leave, and I say, ‘Let’s talk.’ As a result, we’ve gotten some converts.”

Steel guitars come in lap steel and pedal steel, and aside from having strings and fretted necks, they bear no resemblance to conventional guitars. Both are relics from another time, devilishly hard to learn, and possessed of a curious sound that immediately says country music.

“Steel guitar,” Palenscar says, “you hear it, you know it.”

Steel guitarists are as rare as their instruments, and the steel-guitar shops that serve

them are a distinct minority. “Blackie Taylor has a shop in Riverside, and that’s the only other shop in California that I know of,” Palenscar says. “It’s such an underground type of thing that nobody wants to admit playing one.”

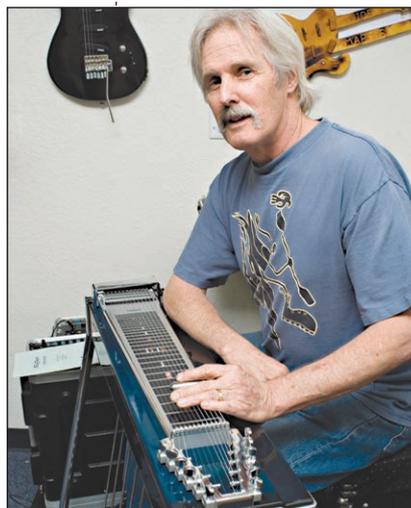
Palenscar says he got the lap-steel bug in high school after hearing David Lindley and Sneaky Pete Kleinow backing Jackson Browne. “Especially on ‘Take It Easy’ on the *Everyman* album. It was Sneaky Pete playing an old Fender pedal-steel guitar through a phase shifter. It was the coolest thing I’d ever heard.”

Palenscar has played ever since, appearing with a band

called the Steamers for nearly 30 years.

A veterinarian by trade, he opened the guitar store’s doors five years ago after being diagnosed with asthma.

“The doctor told me I



PALENSCAR AT A “SIT-DOWN GUITAR”

shouldn’t be around dogs and cats anymore, so I hung out at my house for about a year.” Boredom set in. “I told my

wife, I gotta find something to do. She said that I could start by cleaning up the living room. I had steel guitars and amplifiers everywhere.”

On Saturday, May 22, from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m., Palenscar will open his shop to guitar collector Barney Roach, who plans to host his First Annual San Diego Vintage Lap Steel Guitar Show there, featuring displays of old steel guitars and performances by local lap players Jack Butler, Adrian Demain, and Robin Henkel.

“Steel guitar,” says Roach, “you hear it every day and don’t know it. It’s all over [Pink Floyd’s] *Dark Side of the Moon*. And,” he says, “it’s in the soundtrack for *SpongeBob*.”

— Dave Good

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

Friday, May 21 **etix**

SMOOCH KNOB & THE SMOOCHGIRLS

YOUNG GOODMEN
THE SHE BOPS



Saturday, May 22 **etix**

THE BLASTERS

FAR AWAY BOYS
HARDFALL HEARTS
THE WATCHMEN



BRICK BY BRICK

Thursday, May 13
GSMG • NUFORM UNEXPECTED YOUNG MIIDAS • EDUCATE

Friday, May 14
TAYLOR BROWN HIGH TIDE • STONE SENSES

Saturday, May 15
TASH (of Tha Alkaholiks) BLACK SILVER THE DOUGH NATION THE COMMITTEE

Sunday, May 23
Afton presents
KAT HOPKINS MAD BRONSON • LEO JAMES

Wednesday, May 26
YOUTH ENVY • THE DROPOUTS BLOW ME DOWN • SAN DEVIANTS

Thursday, May 27
THE 383's

Friday, May 28
SICARUS DESPITE ATROPHY SOFA KINGS BREAK THE CHAIN

Saturday, May 30
GK • TEN BOYS D'POITT • GRANZLAM

Tuesday, June 1
DANGEROUS CURVES AHEAD
“Burlesque on the Go-Go!”

Friday, June 4
DEADBOLT (CD release) EMBALMERS

Saturday, June 12
IN EVERY BREATH

6/17 Chiddy Bang
6/18 Slim Jim Phantom of Stray Cats with Robert Gordan of the King Bees
6/24 Discharge • Systematic Abuse • Mass Terror • Wanted Dead • Adseg • Massakro
8/1 Otep • 8/6 Nappy Roots • 8/7 The Untouchables • 8/28 Hell on Heels

Saturday, May 29 **etix**

NASHVILLE PUSSY

GREEN JELLY
PSYCHO STICK
THE RIOT BRIDES
SCREAMIN YEEHAWS



Saturday, June 5

BIZZY BONE



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Klymaxx Debbie Deb
MAY 15

MERLE HAGGARD
JUN 10

FreedomBand
Chick Corea
Kenny Garrett
Christian McBride
Roy Haynes
JUN 11

THE TEMPTATIONS
JUN 12

Boyz II Men
JUL 09

Vicki Lawrence and Mama
JUL 10

Cinderella JUL 30
Los Lonely Boys AUG 15
Keith Sweat OCT 08

George Benson AUG 13
Asia AUG 26
Taj Mahal & Vieux Farka Toure . OCT 21

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MAY 15 9:30PM-1:00AM
DJ Chuck Fresh

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MAY 14 8PM-1AM
Popvinyl
MAY 15 8PM-1AM
Siren's Crush

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SUNDAY, MAY 30th

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**ZIGGY
MARLEY**
Saturday, July 24th



**HUEY LEWIS
AND THE NEWS**
SATURDAY, AUGUST 28TH

**DAVID GRAY
AND
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SEPTEMBER 4TH**

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Coming Soon!

- Yes & Peter Frampton – 7/10
- Gladys Knight & Smokey Robinson – 7/17
- B.B. King & Buddy Guy – 8/14
- Gary Allan – 9/10
- Willie Nelson – 9/26



ECLIPSE
THE POOL AT HARRAH'S RINCON

**Harrah's Poolside Nightclub.
Every Saturday at 9pm.**

club crawler

This Week In Music

Thursday 13

San Diego's new math-punk supergroup **Ghetto Blaster**, featuring Ryan Foxe (Fishwife), John Cota (Hostile Combover, Rats Eyes), Greg Sudor (Irradio), and Cole Mears (Combover), will make their world premiere at Bar Pink tonight. Dorian had a beer and a Blurt with these cats a couple weeks back, in case you missed it: sandiegoreader.com/news/2010/may/05/blurt1/. The quartet will split a bill with simpatico Nor'west punkers **Dog Shredder**.... NorCal roots-reggae collective **Groundation** brings its Fuzion tour to Belly Up for two nights. Press on Fuzion says it's "a showcase of two bands leading a new movement with music as the weapon...." Huh. The other band is sprawling Hollywood nonet **Orgone**.... **Jewel** plays Pechanga. *SHE USED TO LIVE IN A VAN DOWN BY THE RIVER!*

Friday 14

Jimmy LaValle's **Album Leaf** will bring a *Chorus of Storytellers* to the Birch North Park Theatre. I mention the gig to my gf, an ambient aficionado, and she tells me "the Leaf's a constant on Groove Salad." (I've no idea what she means by this.)... Around the bend at Bar Pink, **Pocket**'ll roll the Hammond in for a funkified night of acid-jazz grooves. That record is one feel-good



HALCYONAIRE AT TIN CAN ALE HOUSE

disc, catdaddys. Ha-ha-highly rock-o-mend it. "Sweet Papa Lou" Donaldson's "friended" them, so you should friend them too.... A jazz-fusion band that could maybe might be on the LaValle and Pocket family trees, **Spyro Gyra**, plays Anthology.... And Tin Can Ale House has a tempting triple bill, as freaky folkies **Halcyonaire** return to the Banker's Hill bar with **River City** and **Lonesome Heroes**. That dude singing those songs on their Space dot com has one rad voice. Reminds me of those early Banhart lo-fi lullabies. Get "Weeping Canopy" in yer earholes asafp, folk fan.

Saturday 15

Lotsa cool crap t'do Saturday, too, starting with OMBAC's Coming Out Party on Mariner's Point at noon. It's a summer-kickoff thing and features a buncha bands and beer and junk. **Fishbone**'s playing



BOB LOG III AT CASBAH

it...and it sorta looks as if they're playing O.B. rock spot Winstons that night, too, but I'd call the club to confirm this. They all lead such complicated lives.... One-man-band **Bob Log III** rolls into Casbah behind **Jail Weddings** and the **Glossines**. Log's the former Doo Ragger who sings through a telephone lodged in a helmet. He's got a new Hank Williams Sr. trib out called *Hiram and Huddie Disc 1* that sounds interesting.... Carolyn Pennypacker Riggs and her SanFran folk-pop band the **Finches** land at Ché Café with **Key Losers** (ex-Dear Nora) and **teamAWESOME!** for some lighthearted fare for the punk club.... Folksinger and Woodstock icon **Richie Havens** and his beard settle on a stool for two at Anthology at 7:30 and 9:30p.... **Paddle Boat** drifts into the Tin Can with Sleeping Peep **Kenseth Thibideau**, **Worker Bee** from San Jose, and former First Wave Helloer Jacob Turnbloom's new joint **Mrs. Magician**. Worker Bee sounds pretty cool, like some of them Slint offshoots, particularly the For Carnation. Check out "No Dreams": myspace.com/workerbeebuzz.... Soma stages Welsh metalcore crew **Bullet for My Valentine**. *Dual Flying Vees? Shut the f-f-f-front door!*

Sunday 16

Sunday's the 14th annual North Park Festival of the Ahts. More beer, bands, and junk. Is it me, or does there seem to be a lot of these outdoor-daytime-

gathering things going on in town. Too many?... Sunday night, Rolling Stoner **Mick Taylor** joins Dire Straits cofounder **David Knopfler** at Brick by Brick. Gonna go press release on this one: "After leaving the Stones, Taylor went on to play with Bob Dylan and to tour England and the U.S. with various touring blues bands. Knopfler has written and produced ten solo albums since his days with Dire Straits." There you have it.... Seattle's **Unnatural Helpers** is a new one on me, and the guitar-heavy punk-pop quartet sounds pretty f-ing good. Short and sharp, loud and fun, like a sloppy-drunk Imperial Teen, and who doesn't love a sloppy-drunk Teen? The quartet, which I think still includes Kim Morrison of the Dutchess & the Duke (seems to be a rotating cast over there at UH HQ), signed to the burgeoning Sub Pop imprint **Hardly Art** for sophomore set *Cracked Love and Other Drugs*. Go fall in love with them at Bar Pink before Pitchfork skew(er)s your view.... Elser: one of the Windy City's longest running R&B road shows, **Earth, Wind & Fire**, will turn Harrah's into "Boogie Wonderland"...and metal stalwarts **Fear Factory** sets up shop at House of Blues with the equally long-in-tooth **Prong** and some other bands like that.

Monday 17

You like bowed gongs and basses? Sure you do. Let down your avant-garde, kids, and let in some sonic enculturation as instrumental experimentalists **Dresser, Nakatini, and Turetzy** play the Loft at UCSD.... Synth-pop more your style? Then Casbah's Anti-Monday dilly pairs **Gil Mantera's Party Dream** with that cat-crazy couple **Lion Cut**.

Tuesday 18

Humphrey's by the Bay is kicking off its summer run by tolling **Broken Bells** Tuesday night. That's that indie-rock-meets-synth-pop project with that guy from that band, not the guy from Death Cab, the other guy from the other band, but doing as the guy from Death Cab did. I should look it up, but I

just...you know?... Hay! **Horse Feathers** plays Casbah with **Dawn Landes** and **Joel Partyboy West**. Kill Rock Stars quartet Horse Feathers comes to us from Portland, Oregon, by way of Nick Drake and Iron & Wine. Lots of string-y things on new one *Thistle Spring*, which is just lovely, I'm told.... It's going to be a **Bonerama** at Belly Up. As in trombone-a-rama, pigs. This brassy New Orleans big band brings the funk.... Coupla good ones uptown, too, as Illinois' roots-rocking **Forecast** and Kansas City royals **Queens Club** set up at Soda Bar...while Radio Room dials in Portland pop-rock four piece **Microtia** with our own **Misc. Ailments** and **Oh Air Night**. *James Mercer from the Shins!!*

Wednesday 19

I re-e-e-eally dig these guys the **Jacuzzi Boys**. They're a trio from Miami, tubbing with the likes of King Khan & BBQ and the Black Lips. They describe their sound as tropical deathmetal. If by "tropical" they mean "totally" and by "deathmetal" they mean



JACUZZI BOYS AT BAR PINK

"awesome," then yes. Haul ass here to check 'em out: myspace.com/jacuzziboys. Crank up "Island Ave." Your mileage may vary. Our own tropical deathmetal trio **Christmas Island** will set the stage for one of the gigs to get to Wednesday night...yeah, there's a few, making this humpnight a tough one, but I've seen Modern Lover **Jonathan Richman** (Casbah) do his pop-crooner thing (bit of a tool, actually) and **Greyboy** (Belly Up) and **Primitive Noyes, Jamuel Saxon**, and the **illuminants** (Soda Bar) are all from here, so-o-o...see you at the Pink.

— Barnaby Monk



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Saturday, May 15 • No Cover

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BILL MAGEE

(night)

Sunday, May 16 • No Cover

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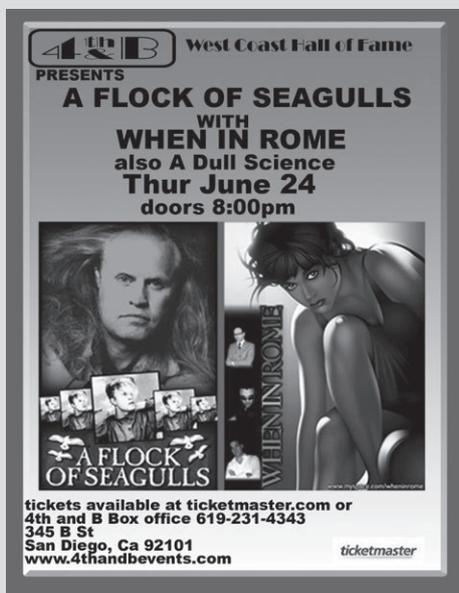
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W/ PSYDECAR | 7/30 :: TAINTED LOVE |
| 5/27 :: LANCE LOPEZ-SALVATION
ALLEY STAGE-FREE SHOW! | 6/9 :: CAGE THE ELEPHANT | 6/26 :: THE CURED | 8/14 :: REVEREND HORTON HEAT |
| 5/27 :: ANGELS AND AIRWAVES | 6/10 :: MIYAVI | 6/30 :: STEEL PANTHER | 8/22 :: CYNDI LAUPER |
| 5/30 :: CLUB VICTORY PRESENTS
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MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND | 6/11 :: DIPLO | 7/8 :: JORDIN SPARKS | 9/15 :: THE ADICTS W/
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| 6/2 :: BONE THUGS-III-HARMONY | 6/13 :: FISCHERSPOONER | 7/14 :: STEEL PANTHER | 9/18 :: HANSON |
| 6/7 :: BUZZCOCKS | 6/16 :: STEEL PANTHER | 7/19 :: THE DEAD WEATHER C | 10/2 :: KAMELOT |
| | 6/18 :: LED ZEPAGAIN
W/ FAN HALEN | 7/23 :: PATTON OSWALT | 10/11 :: THE SCRIPT |

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Drive By

"I said I want to make a living playing music, like my dad. Kids are so stupid."

John Meeks doesn't just listen to classic country, he lives it. "That was the music on the radio in the car when I was a kid." His dad performed country music in honky-tonks across New Mexico, and the family traveled as a unit. "As much as I was irritated that I had to be awake at three in the morning, I did get extra cherries in my Shirley Temples," he says.

Meeks still spends a lot of time on the road. "I think every song on my album was started in the car." He records his inspirations on an iPhone. "In the car is where I can sing without feeling self-conscious. It's a good place to write. I think Dylan said the same thing — that he's always got to be in motion to write music." At the end of a day, Meeks says he makes a proper demo at home, which his bandmates — Brian Holwerda, Matt Resovich, Tom Peart, Brad Lee, and Kyle Zantos — flesh out later in the studio.

John Meeks writes all the music and heads up the band that bears his name, which performs at the Casbah on Friday, May 21.

WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON NOW?

"Getting my new record *Old Blood* out and playing beyond the reaches of San Diego as much as possible."

IS THERE A COMMON THREAD THAT RUNS THROUGH YOUR SONGS?

"Lost love, heartache, and murder. The normal stuff."

WHAT INSPIRES AND INFORMS YOUR MUSIC?

"Other great music, whether it is a well-written song, a beautiful melody, an interesting use of rhythm, or a lyrical phrase that rips your heart open and makes you want to lie on the floor."

MUSIC

DAVE GOOD

IS WRITING A TORTUROUS PROCESS?

"Mostly it's torturous. Lyrically, anyway. I've had a few songs that have written themselves, and those of course are my biggest-selling hits. Two people streamed them last year on Rhapsody, and I made 17 cents."

IS SAN DIEGO A HARD PLACE TO LAUNCH A MUSIC CAREER?

"It's my opinion that the planet Earth in general is a hard place to launch a career in music. But San Diego does have a lot of really good musicians making quite the range of sound, and everyone here is very supportive of each other."

WAS THERE AN "AHA" MOMENT WHEN YOU KNEW YOU WERE GOING TO BE A MUSICIAN?

"I was about seven, and someone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up. I said without hesitation that I want to make a living playing music, like my dad. Kids are so stupid."

FROM A BUSINESS STANDPOINT, WHICH IS BETTER: TO HUSTLE CDs AT A GIG OR



PHOTOGRAPH BY RON NATHAN

John Meeks: "Planet Earth is a hard place to launch a career in music."

SELL DOWNLOADS?

"Both. In fact, you can download my first single 'Been Down by Love' right now anywhere you buy music digitally, or you can come to our record-release party at the Casbah and I'll hustle you for a hard copy."

IF MUSIC DOESN'T MAKE IT, DO YOU HAVE A PLAN B?

"Absolutely not."

BEST SONG TO HAVE SEX TO?

"I'm saving myself for Jesus, so maybe Handel's *Messiah*?"

BEST PLACE TO SCORE MEXICAN FOOD?

"If you ask me this question in one hundred years, the answer will still be El Zape in University Heights."

TEN CLASSIC DISCS?

1. Lee Hazlewood, *Cowboy in Sweden*
2. Miles Davis, *Sketches of Spain*
3. Willie Nelson, *Red Headed Stranger*
4. George Jones, *Singing the Blues*
5. Marty Robbins, *Gunfighter Ballads and Trail Songs*
6. Bob Dylan, *Blood on the Tracks* (New York sessions)
7. Flatt & Scruggs, *The World of Flatt & Scruggs*
8. The Louvin Brothers, *Tragic Songs of Life*
9. Sons of the Pioneers, *Cool Water*
10. Aaron Copland, *Appalachian Spring* (Leonard Bernstein conducting the New York Philharmonic) ■

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MY DEAD BODY

SATURDAY: MAY 15
GIVEN LIFE
CAUSING PROBLEMS
MONKEYS IN SPACE

SUNDAY: MAY 16
ELEVATION (a U2 tribute)

MONDAY: MAY 17
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TUESDAY 5/25 • 8 PM

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KYLE FITZGERALD
WEDNESDAY 5/26 • 8 PM

MAD HOUSE II
HYENA, MR. BIGGS, DJ LEIF,
ARTISTS RICK WALKER,
ALEX JULIAN & RICK RODRIGUEZ
THURSDAY 5/27 • 8:30 PM

The EXPENDABLES
TOMORROW'S BAD SEEDS
BIG D
DIRTY PENNY
FRIDAY 5/28 • 9 PM

JUST ADDED!
7/13 Pablo Moses
7/25 Black Seeds
8/11 Seu Jorge & Almaz
8/12 Aterciopelados - On Sale Friday

MATINEES
5/16 Left for Dead 3 PM
6/13 San Dieguito River Valley Benefit featuring 007 & The Souls 3 PM

HAPPY HOURS 5:30 PM
5/14 The Brokers \$5
5/21 The Heroes

- Upcoming shows:
- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 5/29 Stripes & Lines and Dynamite Walls | 6/10 Robert Randolph and The Family Band | 7/1 Coco Rosie |
| 5/30 Cash'd Out | 6/11 Common Sense | 7/3 80's Heat "Back to the Beach" |
| 6/1 Miike Snow - SOLD OUT | 6/12 Crash Test Dummies - Early Show! | 7/6 Femi Kuti |
| 6/2 The Resounding Joy Benefit:
w/ Cactus Twang, The Duotones,
Jeff Moore, Shoreline Rootz | 6/12 Skatalites | 7/7 Leon Russell |
| 6/3 Bushwalla & Pigeon John | 6/15 Rootz Underground & Stone Love | 7/9 Don Carlos |
| 6/4 & 6/5 The English Beat | 6/16 Playing for Change | 7/17 Pato Banton |
| 6/6 Mumford and Sons - SOLD OUT | 6/17 The Whigs | 7/18 Drinking Made Easy - Zane Lamprey |
| 6/7 Li(f)e on the Road Tour - Sage Francis
w/ live band Free Moral Agents
(feat. Ikey Owens of The Mars Volta)
and B. Dolan | 6/18 Young Dubliners | 7/21 Atomic Groove - opening day party! |
| 6/8 Delta Spirit | 6/20 Candye Kane and Stone River Boys | 7/28 Level 42 |
| 6/9 The Midwinters | 6/22 Josh Ritter | 7/31 Atomic Punks |
| | 6/23 The Psychedelic Furs with
She Wants Revenge | 8/1 Go West Young Kinky Tour -
Kinky Friedman w/Mojo Nixon |
| | 6/26 Switchfoot BroAm After-Party | 8/7 Dead Man's Party |
| | 6/27 Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings | 10/17 Gaelic Storm |
| | 6/30 World Anthem, Diversifyd
and Shoreline Rootz | |

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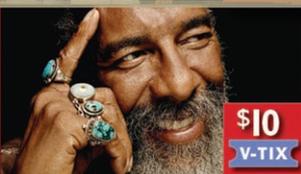
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5/19 POP
SOPHIE B. HAWKINS
8:30PM



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5/16
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5/20
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Calendar MUSIC SCENE

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

HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING:

To send a weekly or monthly schedule, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online at sandiegoreader.com/music/.

THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.

Saturday — Pearl. Rock.

AMSDconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.

Friday — Michael Chapdelaine.

Guitarist.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300.

Friday, 7:30pm and 9:30pm —

Spyro Gyra. Contemporary jazz.

\$28-\$32.

Saturday, 7:30pm — Richie Havens.

Folk/rock. \$28-\$72.

Wednesday, 7:30pm — Sophie B.

Hawkins. Pop. \$29.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.

Thursday — Ghetto Blaster. With

Dog Shredder. Punk.

Friday, 10pm — Pocket. Blues/

funk/jazz.

Sunday — Unnatural Helpers.

Punk/pop.

Wednesday — Jacuzzi Boys. With

Christmas Island. Alt/rock.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South

Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-

8140.

Thursday and Friday, 9pm —

Groundation. With Orgone. Roots

reggae. \$18-\$20.

Saturday, 9pm — The Lieutenant

Dan Band. Rock/covers. \$25-\$27.

Monday, 9pm — Midnite. Reggae.

\$20-\$22.

Wednesday — The Greyboy Allstars.

Funk/jazz/soul.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps:

2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-

534-3474.

Wednesday, 6pm — Rockola.

Covers/rock. \$35-\$40.

Birch North Park Theatre:

2891 University Ave., North Park,

619-239-8836.

Friday, 7pm — The Album Leaf.

With Seawolf. Alternative/indie.

Saturday — Poncho Sanchez Latin

Jazz Band. Jazz/Latin.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos

Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.

Friday, 8pm — High Tide. With

Stone Senses and Taylor Brown.

Reggae. \$7.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl.,

Little Italy, 619-232-4355.

Thursday — The Ruse. With Honor

by August. Alternative/indie/rock.

\$8.

Friday — Cash'd Out. Johnny Cash

tribute band. \$15.

Saturday — Bob Log III. With Jail

Weddings and the Glossines. \$10.

Monday, 8:30pm — Gil Mantera's

Party Dream. \$8.

Tuesday — Horse Feathers. With

Dawn Landes and Joel P. West.

Alternative/indie. \$8-\$10.

Wednesday — Jonathan Richman.

Acoustic. \$10-\$12.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Dr.,

UCSD, 858-534-2311.

Saturday, 8pm — The Finches. With

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Friday, 6pm — Channel 933

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Saturday — Brad Paisley. Country.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway,
Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.
Friday, Saturday — Nemesis. Rock.

**Friendly Grounds Coffee
House:** 9225 Carlton Hills Bl.,
Santee, 619-249-0519.
Friday, 7pm — Tom Smerk.
Acoustic/folk/rock. Free.

Galley at the Marina: 550
Marina Parkway, Chula Vista, 619-
422-5714.
Saturday, 6pm — Joey and the Sting
Rays. Blues/country/rock.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's
Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-
3100.
Sunday, 8pm — Earth, Wind & Fire.
R&B/soul/dance. \$45.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave.,
Downtown, 619-299-2583.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Steel Pulse.
Roots/reggae.
Sunday — Fear Factory. Metal.

**Humphrey's Backstage Music
Club:** 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point
Loma, 619-224-3577.
Thursday — Ruby and the Red
Hots. Blues/rock.
Friday — Makai. Disco/dance.
Saturday — Rising Star. Disco/
dance.
Sunday — Reggie Smith. Jazz.
Monday — Missy Andersen.
Blues/soul/funk.
Tuesday — Indie by Design. Rock.
Wednesday — Blow by Blow. Jeff
Beck tribute band.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241
Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-
224-3577.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Broken Bells.
With Morning Benders. Indie rock.
\$35.

Java Joe's at Café Libertalia:
3834 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-
9360.
Thursday — Gregory Page.
Acoustic/alternative.
Friday — Sara Petite. Acoustic/
country/bluegrass/roots.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway
101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.
Friday, 9pm — Blasting Idiots.
Rock. Free.

Larry's Beach Club: 1145 S.
Tremont St., Oceanside, 760-439-
6646.
Friday, 5pm — Hi-Five. '60s rock.

Last Call: 4977 El Cajon Bl., City
Heights, 619-287-9505.
Friday — The Cory Wilkins Band.
Blues/country/rock. Free.

Lips Restaurant: 3036 El Cajon
Bl., North Park, 619-295-7900.
Sunday — FLAVA presents So You
Think You Can Drag. Drag competi-
tion. \$10 food minimum. \$5.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr.,
UCSD, 858-534-8497.
Monday — Dresser, Nakatini, and
Turetzky. Instrumental/
experimental.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:
1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-
435-5280.
Friday — Mystique. Acoustic/
blues/jazz.
Saturday — Bordertown Blues.
Wednesday — The Taylor Harvey
Band. Bluegrass/roots rock.

Mission Valley Library: 2123
Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley,
858-573-5007.
Tuesday, 6:30pm — Dean Ratzman.
Hits of the '40s-'60s. Piano, trumpet,
trombone, and vocals.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main St.,
Ramona, 760-789-9050.
Saturday — Hear No Evil. Rock.

Patrick's II: 428 F St., Downtown,
619-233-3077.
Friday, 9pm — Bill Magee. Blues.
Monday, 9pm — Jeff Moore & the
Witch Doctors. Blues/rock.
Tuesday, 9pm — 145th Street
Deluxe Blues Band. Blues/funk.
Wednesday, 9pm — Missy
Andersen. Blues/funk/soul.

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
45000 Pechanga Parkway,

Temecula, 951-693-1819.
Thursday, 7pm — Jewel. With
Luke Bryan. Pop rock.

Pete's Place: 8330 La Mesa Bl.,
La Mesa, 619-464-9535.
Saturday, 9:30pm — Fearless in
Fairweather. Reggae/rock/ska. Free.

Poway Library: 13137 Poway
Rd., Poway, 858-513-2900.
Saturday, 2pm — Dean Ratzman.
Hits of the '40s-'60s. Piano, trum-
pet, trombone, and vocals.

Powerhouse Park : 1600 Coast
Bl., Del Mar, 858-755-1524.
Sunday, 9pm — Sabira Woolley and
Island Fever. Latin/reggae/world.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466
Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-
270-4030.
Thursday — The Pheromones.
Blues/rock/soul.
Friday — Flock of '80s. Covers/
pop/rock.
Saturday — The Alternatives.
Rock.

Radio Room: 3519 El Cajon
Bl., Normal Heights, 619-284-
3323.

Tuesday — Microtia. With Misc.
Ailments and Oh Air Night. Rock.

**Ramona Mainstage
Nightclub:** 626 Main St.,
Ramona, 760-789-7008.
Saturday — Hypocrisy. With Scar
Symmetry, Hate, Swashbuckle,
more. Metal/hardcore.

**San Dieguito Heritage
Museum:** 450 Quail Gardens
Dr., Encinitas, 760-632-9711.

Sunday, 1pm — Carl Verheyen
and Steve Travoto. Bluegrass/jazz.
\$10-\$15.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl., City
Heights, 619-255-7224.
Friday — Of Sons and Ghosts.
With Old Tiger. \$4.
Tuesday — Forecast. With Queens
Club. Roots rock.
Wednesday — Jamuel Saxon. With
Primitive Noyes and Illuminatus.
Electronica/indie. \$3.

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and The Wabos



JUNE 17 \$5 Donna Summer



JUNE 19 \$5 Guy Fieri



JULY 2 \$5 OneRepublic



JULY 3 \$5 Jeff Dunham

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- JUNE 13 Los Tigres del Norte* \$5
- JUNE 15 Jeremy Camp with Steven Ubarra
- JUNE 16 \$5 Dennis DeYoung: The Music of Styx
- JUNE 18 \$5 KC and the Sunshine Band
- JUNE 20 La Arrolladora Banda El Limón* \$5
- JUNE 22 Mitchel Musso and Honor Society
- JUNE 23 \$5 Kenny Loggins

DINNER PACKAGE AVAILABLE: Includes dinner in the Turf Club, preferred concert seating, Fair admission and preferred parking.
Shows listed are FREE with Fair admission unless otherwise noted. **\$ PAID SHOW.** Limited number of reserved tickets available for purchase to all shows.
All acts subject to change and subject to Board approval. For details and updates, visit www.sdfair.com/fair. Tickets on sale NOW at the Fairgrounds Box Office and
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Del Mar Fairgrounds I-5 at Via de la Valle
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Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-226-7662.
Friday, 6:30pm — Brokencyde. With Jeffrey Star, Blood on the Dancefloor, the Bangz, and Stereos. Hip-hop/pop. \$13.
Saturday, 7pm — Bullet for My Valentine. With Chiodos, Airbourne, and Arcanium. Alternative/rock. \$20.

Soundwave Music Hall: 3125 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-228-9283.
Saturday — Tribal Theory. Reggae/ska.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863 Fifth Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-955-8525.
Friday — Halcyonaire. With River City and Lonesome Heroes. Folk/rock/blues.
Saturday — Paddle Boat. Pop/soul/funk. \$3.

Tio Leo's: 5302 Napa St., Linda Vista, 619-542-1462.
Saturday — Alan Iglesias & Crossfire. A tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan.

Trisler's Wine Bar: 8555 Station Village Lane, Suite C, Mission Valley, 619-298-1501.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Keith Jacobson. Jazz. Free.

VFW Post 5179: 1116 South 43rd St., Southcrest, 619-262-0566.
Wednesday, 8pm — Willowealot. Blues/soul. Free.

Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room: 5000 Willows Rd., Alpine, 619-445-5400.
Saturday, 7:30pm — Lisa Lisa. With Klymaxx and Debbie Deb. Dance/R&B/soul. \$32-\$52.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
Tuesday, 6pm — Off the Wagon. Country.

UPCOMING SHOWS

4th&B: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.

May 21 — Queensryche.
May 22 — Eek-A-Mouse.
May 26 — Little Brother.
June 3 — Hole.
June 4 — Enrique Bunbury.
June 10 — Korn.
June 24 — A Flock of Seagulls.
July 14 — La Roux.

AMSDconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.
May 21 — I See Hawks in L.A.
June 1 — Crooked Still.
June 17 — John Keawe.
June 18 — J.D. Souther.
July 9 — Mary Gauthier.
July 17 — Barry McGuire.
July 18 — The Tannahill Weavers.

Anthology: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 619-595-0300.
May 20 — Trevor Davis.
May 22 — Vienna Teng.
May 28 — The Average White Band.

May 29, May 30 — Jane Monheit.
June 10 — Dr. John.
June 11 — Greg Laswell.
June 13 — Andy McKee.
June 15 — The Manhattan Transfer.
June 16 — Tommy Emmanuel.
June 17 — Wang Chung.
June 17 — Lalah Hathaway.
June 18 — Tierney Sutton, Hubert Laws, & Larry Koonse.
June 23, June 24 — Keiko Matsui.
June 25 — Oleta Adams.
June 26 — Thunder Road.
July 7 — Bobby Long.
July 9, July 10 — Pete Escovedo Orchestra.

ON NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Let's say you're in your early 20s and you have a band with a really cool sound — way ahead of your time. And let's say you record a masterpiece album, but your record company doesn't release it until three years after your band has broken up. Where do you go from there?

If you're Modern Lovers drummer David Robinson, you go on to cofound the Cars. If you're Modern Lovers keyboardist Jerry Harrison, you go on to join the Talking Heads. And if you're Modern Lovers leader Jonathan Richman, you go on to have one of the most improbable careers in rock.

When the Modern Lovers' album finally came out in 1976, their stripped-down sound had become a favorite of punk rockers. (The Sex Pistols covered the album's immortal classic, "Roadrunner.") By that time Richman had moved on to a new, all-acoustic version of the Modern Lovers that specialized in '50s rock 'n' roll-inspired numbers with lyrics about dinosaurs and ice cream — a precursor to the Laurie Berkner Band and every other kid-rock act playing at a preschool near you today. By the '80s, Richman was playing solo, singing naive but often deeply affecting songs about romance — this was twee indie pop a good 15 years before Belle & Sebastian. In the '90s, Richman was finally recognized as a cult hero. He even had a role in the movie *There's Something About Mary* as a sort of musical narrator. But rather than reap the rewards,



JONATHAN RICHMAN

Richman moved on again, writing songs in Spanish and French about marriage and painters he admires. If the pattern holds up, ten years from now about 100 bands will be doing the same.

JONATHAN RICHMAN: Casbah, Wednesday, May 19, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$10; 12 day of show.

Bar Leucadian: 1542 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Leucadia, 760-753-2094.
May 22 — Custard Pie.
May 29 — Samz Jam.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.
May 20 — Brawley.
May 21 — The Urinals.
May 23 — The Box Elders.
May 24 — The Styletones.
May 26 — Drew Grow & the Pastors' Wives.
May 27 — Stealing Love Jones.
May 29 — The Dabbers.
May 30 — Gary Wilson.
May 31 — The Styletones.

Belly Up Tavern: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
May 22 — Atomic Groove.

May 23 — Kaki King.
May 24 — Nada Surf.
May 25 — Shelby Lynne.
June 1 — Miike Snow.
June 5 — The English Beat.
June 8 — Delta Spirit.
June 11 — Common Sense.
June 12 — The Crash Test Dummies.
June 18 — The Young Dubliners.
June 23 — The Psychedelic Furs.
July 9 — Don Carlos.
July 17 — Pato Banton.

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: 2300 Expedition Way, La Jolla, 858-534-3474.
June 16 — Venice.
July 21 — Shawn Mullins.
August 18 — Steve Poltz.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Ave., North Park, 619-239-8836.
May 28 — Dirty Sweet.
June 2 — The Terrell Stafford Quartet.
July 7 — Denise Donatelli.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buena Vista Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
May 21 — Smoochknob & the Smoochgirls.
May 22 — The Blasters.

May 26 — Youth Envy.
May 28 — Sofa Kings.
May 29 — Nashville Pussy.
June 4 — Deadbolt.
June 5 — Common Sense.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
May 20 — Caribou.
May 21 — John Meeks & the Donkeys.
May 22 — Frightened Rabbit.
May 23 — Nokie Edwards.
May 24 — Patrick Watson.
May 25 — Sweethead.
May 26 — Isis.
May 27 — Frog Eyes.
May 28 — Blackout Party.
May 29 — Get Back Loretta.
June 1 — The Melvins.
June 2 — Neon Indian.
June 3 — Buddy Akai.
June 4 — Dan Black.
June 7 — The Good Life.
June 10 — Lou Barlow.
June 11 — The Sadies.
June 13 — Tortoise.
June 17 — Local H.
June 18 — El Vez.
June 19 — Athlete.
June 26 — Mr. Tube & the Flying Objects.
June 29 — Damien Jurado.
June 30 — Saint Vitus.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2311.
May 21 — Sean Bonnette.
May 22 — Weatherbox.
May 29 — Boomsnake.
June 2 — Good Luck.
June 12 — Thou.
June 19 — WITT.
June 26 — Author & Punisher.
June 30 — Sorrows.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B St., Downtown, 619-235-0804.
September 3 — Melissa Etheridge.

Cricket Wireless Amphitheatre: 2050 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
May 23 — The Eagles.
June 2 — Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers.
June 4 — Tim McGraw.
June 6 — The Bamboozle Roadshow 2010.
June 13 — Sting.
June 17 — Country Throwdown 2010.
July 7 — Lilith Fair.
July 9 — Kings of Leon.
July 16 — Vicente Fernandez.
July 17 — Slightly Stoopid.
July 24 — Elton John.

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 Fri., May 14 • 6:30-9:30 pm • Classic Rock Trio **Von Swayzi**
 Sat., May 15 • 6:30-9:30 pm • Reggae, R&B, Rock **Jerry McCann Trio**
 Sun., May 16 • 1-4 pm • Hawaiian Style **Quintinn Holi**
 Mon., May 17 • 6:30-9:30 pm • Acoustic Solo **Chris Cram**

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Free food Fridays at Rock Bottom

See pages 104-108 this week.

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Del Mar Fairgrounds: 2260 Jimmy Durante Bl., Del Mar, 858-755-1161.
 June 11 — Sammy Hagar.
 June 12 — Paul Rodgers.
 June 15 — Jeremy Camp.
 June 16 — Dennis DeYoung.
 June 17 — Donna Summer.
 June 18 — KC & the Sunshine Band.
 June 23 — Kenny Loggins.
 June 24 — Switchfoot.
 June 25 — Julio Iglesias.
 June 26 — Gospel Festival.
 June 27 — Intocable.
 June 29 — Uncle Kracker.
 June 30 — Lonestar.
 July 4 — Joan Jett and the Blackhearts.

Dizzy's: Harbor Club Towers, Downtown, 858-270-7467.
 June 26, July 17 — Gilbert Castellanos & His Quartet.
 July 23 — Brian Levy.
 July 25 — The Double Bass Summit.
 August 26 — Joshua White.

Gaslamp Quarter: , Downtown.
 May 29 — Smooth Jazz 98.1 Jazz Festival.

Harrah's Rincón: 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.
 May 28 — Heart.
 May 30 — NAS.
 June 26 — Vietnamese Concert.
 July 10 — Yes and Peter Frampton.
 July 17 — Gladys Knight and Smokey Robinson.
 July 24 — Ziggy Marley.
 August 14 — B.B. King and Buddy Guy.
 August 28 — Huey Lewis & the News.
 September 4 — David Gray and Ray Lamontagne.
 September 10 — Gary Allan.
 September 26 — Willie Nelson.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown, 619-299-2583.
 May 20 — The John Butler Trio.
 May 22 — OK Go.
 May 25 — Talib Kweli.
 May 27 — Angels & Airwaves.
 May 31 — Tech N9ne.
 June 2 — Bone Thugs-N-Harmony.
 June 9 — Cage the Elephant.
 June 10 — Miyavi.
 June 11 — Diplos.
 June 13 — Fischerspooner.
 June 18 — Led Zepagain.
 June 19 — The Original Wailers.
 July 8 — Jordan Sparks.
 July 19 — Dead Weather.
 July 30 — Tainted Love.
 August 14 — Reverend Horton Heat.
 August 22 — Cyndi Lauper.
 September 15 — The Adicts.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
 May 20 — The Soul Persuaders.
 May 22 — Rockola.
 May 23 — Jesse Davis.
 May 24 — The Robin Henkel Band.
 May 27 — Jesse Davis.
 May 28 — The Mighty Untouchables.
 May 29 — Detroit Underground.
 May 30 — Aubrey Fay.
 May 31 — The Burnsville Blues Band.

Humphrey's by the Bay: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Point Loma, 619-224-3577.
 May 21 — The Black Crowes.
 May 25, May 26 — Crosby, Stills & Nash.
 June 2 — Boz Scaggs.
 June 3 — Jonny Lang.
 June 10 — Basia.
 June 11 — Diana Ross.
 June 13 — Los Van Van.
 June 26 — Jesse Cook.
 July 6 — Colbie Caillat.

OF NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

NOTE: This show was cancelled at press time.

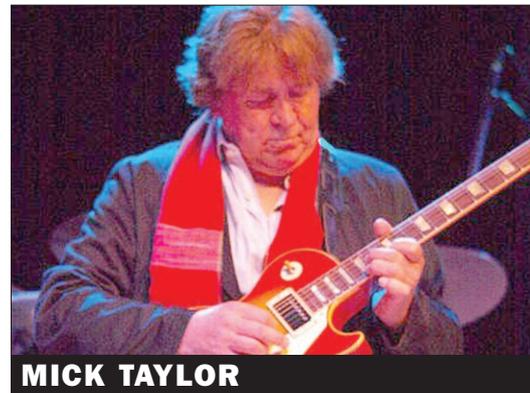
At the age of 17, Mick Taylor became a member of the legendary Bluesbreakers, following in the footsteps of heavy predecessors Peter Green and another guitarist often referred to at that time as "God," Eric Clapton. In 1969, after the Stones sacked Brian Jones, the band hired Taylor as his replacement. Taylor's first big outing with his new employers, a free concert, became a memorial for Jones when the ex-Stone was found dead in his swimming pool.

But the thing that has dogged Taylor over the years is this: Why did he quit the Stones? I wanted to ask this very question, which may be

the reason his publicist never returned my calls. The best we rock press can do is to pester the man about what happened back in December 1974. Reasons for the split vary, but there are rumors that Jagger and Richards scammed Taylor out of royalties. Last year, Taylor, now 62, told *Mail Online* that he hadn't seen one penny from the Stones since 1982.

1969 through 1974 were salad years for the Stones, and they would never again sound so good. "If I could magically create a situation," writes former *Spin* critic Chuck Klosterman, "where the Rolling Stones had recorded ten studio albums with Mick Taylor instead of five, I would create this situation immediately."

Taylor's nasty blues was in bombastic contrast to Keith Richards's drugged flogging. The Taylor era's shining hour, *Exile on Main Street*, has been called by many one of the greatest



MICK TAYLOR

rock records of all time. The lesson of Mick Taylor is this: never outperform your boss. Post Stones? Taylor, if broke, has lived the quiet life of a bluesman, which is all he wanted to be.

David Knopfler also performs.

MICK TAYLOR: Brick by Brick, Sunday, May 16. 619-275-5483. \$25.

July 9 — Chris Botti.
 July 11 — Ottmar Liebert and Luna Negra.
 July 14 — The Gipsy Kings.
 July 18 — Jamie Cullum.
 July 21 — Jackson Browne.
 July 24 — The Barenaked Ladies.
 July 25 — Lyle Lovett.
 July 28 — Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo.
 July 31 — Boney James.
 August 5 — Michael McDonald.
 August 6 — Ringo Starr & his All Starr Band.
 August 11 — Joan Baez.
 August 12 — Creedence Clearwater Revisited.

August 13 — Dave Koz & Jonathan Butler.
 August 16 — Rodrigo y Gabriela.
 August 19 — Chicago.
 July 18 — Crowded House.
 August 25 — Chris Isaak.
 August 29 — Three Dog Night.
 September 8 — The Doobie Brothers.
 September 9 — Sheryl Crow.
 September 10 — The Beach Boys.
 September 11 — Air Supply.
Larry's Beach Club: 1145 S. Tremont St., Oceanside, 760-439-6646.
 May 21 — Loss of Control.

June 12 — Smooth Operator.
 June 19 — Fleetwood MAX.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill: 1107 Orange Ave., Coronado, 619-435-5280.
 May 20 — Jackson/Jesus.
 May 21 — The Offbeats.
 May 22 — 4-Way Street.
 May 26 — Tommy Price.

Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
 July 15 — MGMT.

Patrick's II: 428 F St., Downtown, 619-233-3077.

May 20 — The Burnsville Blues Band.
 May 22 — The Barry Rillera Band.
 May 23 — The Rhythm Jacks.
 May 24 — The Bayou Brothers.
 May 25 — 145th Street Deluxe Blues Band.
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 May 27 — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak.
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 May 31 — Missy Andersen.

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Sat. 5/15 National Recording Legends FISHBONE with CHILL CLINTON	Tues. 5/18 6-9 PM: Think 'N' Drink Trivia TONIGHT • ROCK OTTLY MERCER SHERM THE BAND STICKY FUNK • DESOLACE
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August 11, August 13 — Billy Idol.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466
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270-4030.

May 20 — Danny & the Tramps.
May 21 — Helicopter.
May 22 — The Pheromones.
May 23 — Inhale.
May 24 — Flock of '80s.

Ramona Mainstage

Nightclub: 626 Main St.,
Ramona, 760-789-7008.
May 20 — Chase Long Beach.
May 28 — HeXeN.
June 1 — Pat Travers.
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June 4 — Slough Feg.
June 25 — Powerman 5000.
June 30 — The Sugar Hill Gang.

San Diego Civic Theatre:

1100 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-
570-1100.
May 21 — Sarah Geronimo.
November 5 — Celtic Thunder.

San Diego Sports Arena:

3500 Sports Arena Bl., Midway
District, 619-224-4171.
May 23 — Chayanne.
May 26 — Roberto Carlos.
May 27 — Pitbull.
July 21 — Alejandro Sanz.
August 27 — Michael Bublê.
August 28 — Sean Hannity
Freedom Concert.
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Heights, 619-255-7224.

May 20 — Heavy Glow.
May 21 — Fever Sleeves.
May 23 — Chayanne.
May 25 — Ape Machine.
May 29 — Red Hand.
June 9 — Patrick Norton.
June 17 — The Radar Brothers.
June 26 — The Archons.
July 2 — Mammoth Life.

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

May 21 — As I Lay Dying.
May 22 — Minus the Bear.
May 29 — 3OH!3 & Cobra
Starship.
May 30 — Cute Is What We Aim
For.
June 9 — Good Old War.
June 12 — Tribal Seeds.
June 19 — A City Serene.
June 22 — American Me.

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC**Tetrafusion:
Absolute Zero**

CD Review
by Michael Caldwell

On their debut prog-
concept album,
Louisiana-based metal
quartet Tetrafusion
dares to depict the life
of the universe — sans
vocals! Not only are
they up to the task,
they have created a
tour de force.

"The Beginning"
commences with a
bang — the Big Bang.
A portly bass line
emerges from the void
as if matter coalescing.
Drums slam alongside
a crunchy guitar like a

Harley triggering car alarms.
A synthesizer enters the mix
and the quartet takes off for
the next ten minutes, execut-
ing challenging time signa-
tures and angular melodies.
The chaotic tension and pace
build to a climax represent-
ing life on Earth.

"Dark Matter" is introduced via a morose duet
between piano and cello. Then the full group kicks
in with one of the album's more straightforward
rock riffs. As with everything on *Absolute Zero*, its
temporary, as a drum-and-bass breakdown ensues.
Guitarist Brooks Tarkington provides a cosmic lead
before the band shifts gears into a vortex of obscure
chord progressions, including a brief flexing of their
funk muscle, which gets sliced and diced by J.C.
Bryant's otherworldly drumming.

At "The End" of this 50-minute epic, a lone
piano reflects on the bittersweet...before it, too,
ceases.



Like a Harley triggering
car alarms

Music Reviews from Our Readers**She & Him:
Volume Two**

CD Review
by Rollo Cabeza

Actress Zoey
Deschanel has nailed a
role that legitimizes
her as a singer-song-
writer, not just some
hipster starlet testing
her cred.

Backed by song-
smith M. Ward, She &
Him's new LP is loaded
with stripped down,
classic pop songs that
feature Deschanel's
playful, though power-
ful, country drawl and
guitarist Ward's mod-
est but full rhythmic

compositions. Here, his styl-
ish vibrato playing seems to
keep Deschanel bouncing,
reaching higher in tone and
cadence, clarifying those
lovelorn lyrics of hers with
full-voiced intent.

"Well, I am back in your
good graces again. Remem-
ber when you told me that I was your only friend,"
sings Deschanel at the start of "Me and You," con-
juring country-pop luminaries Patsy Cline, Dolly Parton,
and Loretta Lynn.

The collection is musically jovial, if at times a lit-
tle bright for the lyric: "Why do I always want to
sock it to you hard/ Let you know what love is like?"
preens Deschanel on "Over and Over Again."

Volume Two confirms S&H is not imitation, not
an act to go with Deschanel's jet-black bangs and
mischievous smile. It is an exclamation point to the
duo's laudable debut.



Not just some hipster
starlet testing her cred

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**July 28, July 29 — The Devil Wears
Prada.**

September 25 — The Black Keys.

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Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach,
858-228-9283.
May 21 — Sweet & Tender
Hooligans.
May 29 — Atomic Punks.
June 11 — Barrington Levy.
June 16 — Rooney.

Spreckels Theatre: 121

Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-
9500.
May 23 — The National.
August 14 — Natalie Merchant.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863 Fifth

Ave., Banker's Hill, 619-955-8525.
May 20 — Rafter.
May 22 — Flowerthief.
May 28 — Behind the Wagon.

Tio Leo's: 5302 Napa St., Linda

Vista, 619-542-1462.
May 21 — The Red Elvises.
May 28 — The Farmers.

Viejas Arena: 5500 Canyon

Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
September 18 — Paramore.
September 22 — Muse.

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COVER BAND	MAY 21	FRIDAY
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REGGAE/ROCK	MAY 22ND	SATURDAY
EASE UP WITH RESIDENT DJ		
METAL	MAY 27	THURSDAY
NIHILIST SILENCE BETRAYED & MORE		
FOLK/ROCK	MAY 28	FRIDAY
TROUBLE IN THE WIND WITH RESIDENT DJ		
REGGAE/SKA	MAY 29	SATURDAY
JET WEST WITH RESIDENT DJ		
INDIE/ROCK	JUNE 3	THURSDAY
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EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Music Reviews from Our Readers

High-Five Your Neighbor

Concert Review
by Wate Charles

The sold-out Belly Up show saw a front-row throng of doe-eyed hippie chicks in tangled hair casting quixotic glances at Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros' singer Alex Ebert while eight other performers sing and play along. The distinctly barefoot sound is straight out of a different era (the Summer of Love comes to a head in rural Minnesota), stirring nostalgia for a post-utopian farm life which most of us have never lived.

Nora Kirkpatrick swirls hips behind a

keyboard in cool, patient gyrations of bottomless feminine vitality. Jade Castrinos sits cross-legged on the stage in white dress, singing salvation, desert visions, and love. The music is a heady wine, invoking visions of its own, an American Daisychain Daydream, revised: cornpone freedom, a cavalier messiah, the benevolent highway, eternal dusk.

"Everybody high-five your neighbor," Ebert says.

He invites everyone on stage for the last song, so maybe 30 of us pile into each other's laps, smiling and chatting like old friends. After the show, as if to exemplify the archetypal death of the Dream, it is announced that someone has stolen a musical shaker. It only takes one ass to spoil the party for everybody. This anti-rebellion of vibrant youth.

Concert: Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros

Date: April 15

Venue: Belly Up Tavern

Seats: front row and on stage



An American Daisychain Daydream, revised

Jazz Classic

Concert Review
by Robert Bush

Golson is the composer of at least eight jazz classics that are played every night by jazz musicians all over the world. At age 81, he looks and plays like someone 20 years his junior. A solid crowd gathered to catch his performance.

As he reminded the audience several times, Mr. Golson enjoys talking. Indeed, he spent almost as much time introducing the tunes as he did playing them. You pay attention because he's earned the right to do as he pleases — but

also because his stories are entertaining. This is a guy who could count the entire pantheon of jazz as true friends. Golson performed and provided the backstory on "Whisper Not," "Along Came Betty," and a poignant "I Remember Clifford."

The man can also play the saxophone. He was sublimely aided in that pursuit by an all-star band. Local legends Mike Wofford on piano and Bob Magnusson on bass provided support and offered breathtaking solos. Ex-Cannonball Adderly drummer Roy McCurdy kept the time rock-steady and traded fours and eights with aplomb. The combo finished their 90-minute set with an up-tempo romp on Coltrane's "Mr. P.C."

Concert: Benny Golson Quartet

Date: April 23

Venue: Anthology

Seats: general admission



Could count the pantheon of jazz as true friends

industrial/underground. 3054 University Ave., North Park. 619-299-2032.

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Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: Tuesdays, 7pm: Basic Tuesdays. Art, fashion, and music. Free. 410 Tenth Ave., East Village. 619-531-8869.

The Brew House at Eastlake: Saturdays: Brew 30 DJ. Dance. 871 Showroom Pl., Chula Vista. 619-656-2739.

Café Sevilla: Thursdays, 10pm: DJ New Yo Rican. Salsa. Tuesdays, 10pm: DJ Israel. Bachata. 555 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-233-5979.

Camel's Breath Inn: Fridays, Saturdays: Live DJ. 10330 Friars Rd., Mission Valley. 619-281-1722.

Candelas: Fridays: Sessions at 420 Third Avenue. DJ Chris Renzulli and DJ Eric B. Adult/contemporary. 416 Third Ave., Downtown. 619-702-4455.

Club 67: Wednesdays, 9pm: DJ Power. Electronica. Free. 10109 Main St., Lakeside. 619-443-4100.

Confidential: Fridays, 10pm: DJ Henry Diaz. With Tone Capone and Omar. Electronic/hip-hop/lounge. 901 Fourth Ave., Downtown. 619-696-8888.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Thursdays, 10:30pm: DJ Swoll. Fridays, 10:30pm: DJ Gary B.

445-5400.
June 11 — Chick Corea.
June 12 — The Temptations.
July 9 — Boyz II Men.
July 30 — Cinderella.
August 13 — George Benson.

August 15 — Los Lonely Boys.
August 26 — Asia.
October 8 — Keith Sweat.
October 21 — Taj Mahal.

DJ

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week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online, get direc-

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Saturdays, 10:30pm: DJ Paul Dumesnil. Saturdays, 10:30pm: DJ Paul D. 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad. 760-729-4695.

El Cajon Grand: Fridays, 8:30pm: DJ Neko. Spins classic rock. Saturdays, 8:30pm: DJ Chuck. Spins classic rock. 351 W. Main St., El Cajon. 619-444-0949.

Fannie's Nightclub: Thursdays, 8pm: DJ Mick B. Spins hip-hop tunes. Thursdays, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. Sundays, 9pm: DJ Demond. '80s/hip-hop/pop. Free. Mondays, 9pm: DJ Undaground. With guests Hip-hop/rap/reggae. Wednesdays, 9pm: J & Biko. Hip-hop/reggae. 9143 Campo Rd., Spring Valley. 619-698-2204.

The Flame: Wednesdays, 9pm: Cookies with DJ Dirty Kurty. 3780 Park Bl., Hillcrest. 619-295-4163.

The Fleetwood: Saturdays: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. 639 J St., Downtown. 619-702-7700.

The Flying Bridge: Fridays, 9pm: DJ Ricardo. Reggaeton/salsa. Saturdays, 9pm, Sundays, 9pm: DJ Waistline. Hip-hop/R&B. 1105 N. Coast Hwy., Oceanside. 760-722-0081.

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

Harney Sushi: Wednesdays, 9pm: Hot Like Wasabi Wednesdays. With DJ Matty A. Electronic. 3964 Harney St., Old Town. 619-295-3272.

Harrah's Rincón: Thursdays, 8pm: Noche Latina. With DJ Don

Jose. Electronica, Latin. 777 Harrah's Rincón Way, Valley Center. 760-751-3100.

Hawthorn's Restaurant: Wednesdays: DJ Kiki. 2895 University Ave., North Park. 619-295-1688.

Inferno Young Adult Nightclub: Fridays, 9pm, Saturdays, 9pm: DJ Kool T. Spins Top 40, techno, and '80s. 15 and up. 775 Metcalf St., Escondido. 760-741-1271.

Kadan: Tuesdays: Darkwave Garden. With DJ Bryan Pollard, DJ Heather Hardcore, Pet M1. Gothic/industrial. Wednesdays: Night Vision. Drum 'n' bass with live MCs. DJ. Free. 4696 30th St., North Park. 619-640-2500.

McDini's: Tuesdays, 9pm: '90s Throwback Tuesdays. Hosted by Zerland of Pali Roots. 105 E. 8th St., National City. 619-474-6771.

The Office: Sundays, 10:30pm, Sunday: Club '80s. Featuring DJs Bryan Pollard, Adamnation, MasterBlaster, and Roxanne Redlight. Industrial/underground. Free. 3936 30th St., North Park. 619-450-6632.

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

Padre Gold: Fridays, 9pm: DJ Dave. Old-skool jams. Free. 7245 Linda Vista Rd., Linda Vista. 858-277-8681.

Pier View Pub: Mondays, 6:30pm: Metal Mondays. Metal all night long. 301 Pier View Way, Oceanside. 760-757-2827.

>most downloaded

BY JAY ALLEN SANFORD

"We're a rock band with heavy electronic elements," says singer-guitarist Ephraim Wecker of San Marcos-based Hello Drama. "Our music is dance-y and energetic, hopefully something you can have fun listening to."

Hello Drama's track "Here She Comes Again" was the most downloaded MP3 from *SDReader.com* during April, taken from an upcoming EP and available on iTunes as a single. Wecker provided some background.

What was the origin of "Here She Comes Again"?

The song was inspired by a crazy ex-girlfriend and stalker, the "If I can't have you, nobody else can" type.

Which sample lyric best sums up the song?

In San Diego/ while we're playing a show/ She climbs up on the stage/ and screams "you don't even know"/ So did she really proposition the band/ did anyone take her up on it/ and was her boyfriend really out of town?/ Yes, he



Hello Drama

still wants to kill me.

Finally, with all the venue closures up there, what's the gig situation in San Marcos like nowadays?

If there's a music scene in

San Marcos, we don't know about it.

TO GET YOUR MUSIC ON THE READER WEBSITE, GO TO: *SDReader/mp3*

To download music, see our home page: *SDReader.com*

RT's Longboard Grill:

Mondays, 9pm, Wednesdays, 9pm: DJ Famous Dave. Mixes music videos. 1466 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-270-4030.

Ramada Inn:

Saturdays, 9pm: Dance Party. Hip-hop/reggae/dancehall. DJ. Free. 5550 Kearny Mesa Rd., Kearny Mesa. 619-985-5168.

SIN Niteclub: Sundays, 9pm: Reggae Sundays at Sin. With DJ Ez Doe, DJ Hektik, and DJ Winston T. Dancehall, reggae, hip-hop, and

soca. 526 West F St., Downtown. 619-232-4746.

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah:

Saturdays, 9pm: Rasta Nation Posse. Reggae. 4076 Bonita Rd., Bonita. 619-470-8000.

Satin Lounge:

Thursdays, 9pm: Hot Latin Beats. Reggaeton, salsa, and merengue. 18 and up. Fridays, 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.

Seau's: Thursdays, 7pm: DJ FOS. Hip-hop/jazz. 1640 Camino del Rio North, Mission Valley. 619-291-7328.

Side Bar:

Thursdays, 9pm: Ruby Thursdays. 536 Market St., Downtown. 619-696-0946.

Sixty-Seven Bar and Grill:

Thursdays: Tattoo Thursdays. With DJ Viktor and DJ KB. Saturdays: DJ Girth. Spins hip-hop and rock hits. Mondays: Latino Mondays.

With DJ Power. Wednesdays: Beer Pong. With DJ Power. 10109 Maine Ave., Lakeside. 619-561-6767.

Soda Bar: Thursdays, 9pm: Expressway to Yr Skull. Punk/rap/rock. Free. 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights. 619-255-7224.

Static Lounge: Saturdays, 9pm: Club Backbeat. Hip-hop/rap. \$15-\$20. 18 and up. 634 Broadway, Downtown. 619-544-1609.

Stout Public House: Fridays, 9pm: DJ CC. 1125 Sixth Ave., Downtown. 619-702-7933.

Tavern at the Beach:

Thursdays, 10pm: DJ D-Skwiz. Fridays, 10pm: DJ BDP. Saturdays, 10pm: DJ BDP. With DJ MIC-E. Wednesdays, 10pm: DJ WhO. Hip-hop/rock. 1200 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-272-6066.

Tiki House: Tuesdays, 9pm: Tunes by Joe Marson. Every Tuesday. 1152 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach. 858-273-9734.

True North: Thursdays, 10pm: DJ Bacon Bits. Fridays: DJ Ramsey. '80s/hip-hop/house. Sundays, 10pm: DJ Waly Mayhem. Mondays, 10pm: DJ Wonderbread. Tuesdays, 10pm: DJ WhO. Hip-hop/rock. 3815 30th St., North Park. 619-291-3815.

U-31: Thursdays, 8pm: DJ Artistic. With Cros 1. '80s and '90s hip-hop. Fridays, 9pm: Feel the Noise. With Gabe Vega and Saul Q. Dance/indie/rock. Saturdays, 9pm: Dance Party Mash-Ups. Sundays, 9pm: Tribe of Kings. Featuring DJs Jester, Peril, Dash Eye, Unite, and Rashi. Reggae. 3112 University Ave., North Park. 619-584-4188.

Whiskey Girl: Fridays, 9pm, Saturdays, 9pm: DJ Marc Thrasher. Mixes music videos. Mondays, 9pm: U-Call-It Mondays. With DJ Marc Thrasher. 600 Fifth Ave., Downtown. 619-236-1616.

Whistle Stop Bar: Sundays, 9pm: Too Many Creeps. With DJ Mario O and guests. Post-punk. 2236 Fern St., South Park. 619-284-6784.

The Wit's End: Fridays, 5pm: DJ Artistic. 420 Robinson Ave., Hillcrest. 619-294-4848.



HUMPHREYS BACKSTAGE LIVE

humphreysbackstage.com
2241 Shelter Island Drive
619.224.3577

Thursday, May 13
8 pm • Rock & Blues

Ruby & The Red Hots

Friday, May 14
5 pm • Rock & Blues

Rio Peligroso

9:30 pm
Disco/Dance

Makai



Saturday, May 15
3 pm • Singer/Songwriter

Songwriter Guild Contest Finals

9:30 pm • Disco/Dance

Rising Star



Sunday, May 16
8 pm • Smooth Jazz

Reggie Smith

with

DJ John Phillips

Monday, May 17
7 pm • Blues

Missy Andersen

Tuesday, May 18
9 pm • Original Rock

Indie by Design

Wednesday, May 19
8 pm • Classic Rock

Blow by Blow Jeff Beck Tribute Band

UPCOMING

Friday, May 21
Delta Nove

Sunday, May 23
Marcus Johnson

Sunday, May 30
Memorial Day
Jazz Fest



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Thursday
\$3 Heineken
Light bottles

Reggae Thursday with

Revival

DJ Skizz

\$3.50 Heineken
Pints

Friday

Happy Hour with Jason Ott, then

Help I'm Alive

Rock & Reggae

Saturday

The Mighty Regis

with DJ Chelu

Wednesday

\$4 Jack Daniels
All Night

Blues with

Lady Dottie & The Diamonds

Saturday/Sunday

Happy Hour 11 am-3 pm
\$3 Bloody Marys, Screwdrivers,
Greyhounds, Mimosas
Pub Quiz @ 7 pm, DJ after

Monday

Game Night
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Tuesday

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JOHN LEGUIZAMO'S DIARY OF A MADMAN photo by Carol Rosegg.

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San Diego Reader May 13, 2010 103

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THUR., 5/13	LIVE MUSIC • ACOUSTIC J-MAN • THE RATBIRDS MESETTA APOLLO & LACUNA DOUG MCCARRON JOSHA NAPIER • LIL' NICKY	THUR., 5/20	CANINE CANCER BENEFIT LIVE MUSIC FEATURING FILTH JUGGERNAUT RIDE THE SUN DIRTY LEGGS • IRADIO
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	FRI., 5/21	LIVE MUSIC HYPNOTIC ODYSSEY BEWILDERNESS
SAT., 5/15	LIVE MUSIC • ALT ROCK/R&B PEARL • JODI V 12:30 • BOOGIE ON THE LINE THE UNDISCOVERED	SAT., 5/22	LIVE MUSIC ABSENCE OF LIGHT UNIFIED DIVISION 30-30 DISASTER MAGNET WHEATSTONE
SUN., 5/16	EVERY SUNDAY • FYAH HOT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS REGGAE VIBES AT DREAMSTREET HOSTED BY REGGAE LEGEND LLOYD HEMMINGS MUSIC BY RASTA NATION POSSE	SUN., 5/23	EVERY SUNDAY • FYAH HOT ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS REGGAE VIBES AT DREAMSTREET HOSTED BY REGGAE LEGEND LLOYD HEMMINGS MUSIC BY RASTA NATION POSSE
WED., 5/19	LIVE MUSIC REGGAE/HIP-HOP/R&B DECIMAL • MR QUINCE • SUBMISSION NEKTAR REGGAE BAND NUTTY BUDDIES • MZ CHIEF PROBLUMZ & TEMI-AUTO LIKWIT • VINDETТА • DOUGH NATION FAULTLINE • I'M MY OWN BOSS A-HIT • MS KITTY	WED., 5/26	LIVE MUSIC THE MOVEMENT PEARL • JODI V 12:30 • BOOGIE

Now booking all genres. Call Billy or Drew: 619-222-8131 • Attention bands! Go to: myspace.com/dreamstreetlive

HAPPY HOUR

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

HOW TO SUBMIT A DRINK SPECIAL:

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

ALLIED GARDENS

San Diego Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 select house & domestic beers, house wine, well drinks. 1/2-off appetizers.

ALPINE

Alpine Inn: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 drafts, \$3.75 wells, house wine, \$4.75 calls.

BALBOA PARK

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

BANKER'S HILL

Azuki Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$5 large sake, \$5 large Sapporo. \$4 sushi rolls, discounted specialty rolls and appetizers.

Bertrand at Mister A's: Monday-Friday, 2:30-6pm: Specially priced cocktails, beer, wine, small plates on patio.

Pizzicato: Every day, 3-7pm: \$3 pints, house wine; \$6 pizza slice + pint or wine.

BAY PARK

Bay Park Fish Company: Every day, 3-5pm: \$2 fish tacos, 20% off sushi rolls, 25% off draft beers, wines by the glass, and appetizers.

BONITA

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-9pm: Two-for-one all well drinks. \$4 six-piece chicken wings, falafel, or mozzarella sticks; \$5 small hummus. 1/2-off hookahs all day Tuesday.

CARDIFF

Besta-Wan Pizza House: Every day, 11am-6pm: \$1 off pint, glass of house wine. \$3 off pitcher.

Chart House: Monday-Friday, 4:30-7pm: \$3 domestic drafts, \$4 premium drafts, wells, glass of wine, \$5 cocktails, \$6 martinis.

CARLSBAD

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

Bellefleur: Every day, 5-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, happy hour wine, well highballs.

Boar Cross'n: Every day, 7am-8pm: \$2.50 domestic bottles, \$3.50 premium bottles, \$2.75 wells.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 wells, beer, margaritas. \$3 off appetizers. 10pm-midnight: \$3 beer, wine, well drinks. Saturday-Sunday, 10pm-midnight: \$3 beer, wine, well drinks.

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

Mr. Peabody's: Monday-Friday, 10am-6pm: \$2.50 domestic beer, wine, spooli shots, wells + juice. \$3.50 margaritas. Free taco bar 3pm to 6pm with drink purchase.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Conway's Irish Pub: Monday-Saturday, 10am-8pm: \$2.50 domestic bottles. \$2.75 wells (short). \$3.25 wells (tall).

CARMEL VALLEY

Arterra: Every day, 4-8pm: \$3 snacks, \$10 grilled calamari, \$5 premium drafts, \$6 Arterra wines, \$7 specialty signature collection.

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

CHULA VISTA

Achiote Restaurant: Every day, 4-7pm: Two-for-one drinks.

Anthony's Fish Grotto: Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, house wine, margaritas, appetizers.

BJ's Brewhouse: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: \$1 off beer, cocktails, 1/2-off mini pizza, \$2 off appetizers.

Blue Haven: Every day, 2pm-close: \$2 domestic beer bottles & wells.

Chili's: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$1 off drafts, house margaritas; \$4.99 premium margaritas. \$50 wings.

Dimond Jims: Monday, Wednesday, all night: \$3 Jäger shots, \$4 Jäger blasters, \$5 margaritas, \$9 Firehouse pitchers. Tuesday, all night: \$2 Cuervo shots, \$3 Cazadores shots, \$5 margaritas, \$9 Firehouse pitchers. Thursday-Saturday, all night: \$5 margaritas, \$9 Firehouse pitchers. Sunday, all night: \$2 Cuervo shots, \$3 Hornitos shots, \$5 margaritas, \$9 Firehouse pitchers.

El Dorado Seafood & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 beer, margaritas. \$1.50 tacos.

Veni Vidi Vici: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1 off all drinks.

CLAIREMONT

Blarney Stone Pub: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3 wells, Bud draft, Michelob bottles, Drifter Pale Ale. Discounted appetizers.

Cucina Italiana: Wednesday, 1/2-off select wine bottles.

Fat Tony's Pizza: Thursday, 5pm-midnight: \$2 drafts.

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

COLLEGE AREA

4.0 Deli: Monday-Friday, 4-7:30pm: \$6.75 Stella, \$5.75 Uncle Jesse/Shock Doc/Hefeweizen, \$4.75 Bud Light.

Casa Machado: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm, \$2.50 margaritas, \$2.50 domestic drafts, \$3.50 imports.

Cucina Fresca and Sons: Every day, 3-5pm: \$1.75 domestic beer.

Pal Joey's: Every day, all day: \$3 personal pitchers.

CORONADO

Beach 'n' Diner: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 beer, wine. \$2 off shakes, floats, malts, appetizers. All day: \$3 beer of the month.

Clubhouse Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic drafts. \$3 domestic bottles, wells, house wine.

Coronado Boathouse 1887: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 5-6:30pm: \$2.50 domestic beers, \$5 wine by the glass, \$7 specialty martinis.

Costa Azul: Monday-Friday, 3-6:30pm: \$3 Bud Light pints, domestic bottles. \$3.50 imported bottles, wells, house wine, sangria. \$3.75 drafts. \$6 margaritas, mojitos. \$2.95 tacos, \$3.50 shrimp, \$5.95 nachos.

Lil' Piggy's Bar-B-Q: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 beer, wine. \$1 off appetizers, \$1.50 sliders. All day: \$3 beer of the month.

Village Pizzeria: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 beer, wine. \$3 slices, 1/2-off appetizers. All day: \$3 beer of the month.

DEL MAR

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

Del Mar Rendezvous: Wednesday, Sunday, 1/2-off select bottles of wine.

Shimbashi Izakaya: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$5 cocktails, \$5 glass of wine, \$3 draft beer. Sake & appetizer specials. Saturday-Sunday, 12-6pm: \$5 cocktails, \$5 glass of wine, \$3 draft beer. Sake & appetizer specials.

DOWNTOWN

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

Anthony's Fish Grotto: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$1 off drinks, appetizers (only in the lounge).

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

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

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

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

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

De'Medici Cucina Italiana: Monday-Thursday, 5-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, \$3.50 imported beer, \$5 wells, \$6 house wine by the glass. Discounted appetizers. Sunday, all day: 1/2-price any bottle of wine.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Friday, 5-9pm: \$5 menu cocktails. Saturday-Sunday, 7-9pm: \$5 menu cocktails.

The Field Irish Pub and Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm: \$3 domestics, \$4 imports. Saturday-Sunday, open-5pm: \$3 domestics, \$4 imports.

Gaslamp Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 drafts, house wine, wells. Appetizer specials.

La Gran Tapa: Tuesday-Thursday, 5-7pm: \$3 cash wine, sangria, draft.

House of Blues: Every day, 2-7pm: \$2 drafts, \$3 wells & wines, \$4 martinis, 1/2-off select appetizers.

Jsix: Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: 1/2-price wine by the glass, \$2 off bottle & draft, including local beers.

O'Brothers: Every day, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$5 glass of wine. \$7 sliders with fries.

Patrick's II: Every day, 10am-8pm: \$2.50 bottle beer, \$3 wells, Bud Light pints, \$4 calls, margaritas, Bloody Marys.

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

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

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

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

Taste & Thirst on Fourth: Monday-Saturday, 3-8pm: All drinks two-for-one.

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

Wolfy's Place: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Two-for-one all beers, \$4 wells & house wine. 1/2-off all appetizers.

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

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CALLS \$4
MARGARITAS \$4
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\$3 Voli Vodka
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\$2 wells & domestics 'til 3:30 pm
\$6 steak + 2 sides 5:30 pm

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May 15 **Rhythm Red**

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Signature cocktails!
Handcrafted beer!
Great music!

FREE FOOD FRIDAYS

1 pass through our buffet per cocktail or beer purchased.

\$1 OFF all beers & cocktails
Fridays 4-7 pm

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the Filling Station PUB & GRILL

Daily Happy Hour

11:30 am to 7 pm
Nightly Drink Specials

THURSDAYS
\$2 Pints, \$6 Pitchers & FREE Pool after 7 pm

FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHTS
DJ Dance Party/ Karaoke 9 pm-1 am

SUNDAY THRU THURSDAY
Karaoke 9 pm-1 am

9522 Miramar Rd. 858-578-0757
Northeast corner of Miramar Road & Black Mountain Road

EAST VILLAGE

Café Chloe: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$4 verdejo, Côtes du Rhône, oatmeal stout; \$5 white Bordeaux, Monte Bucciario, blonde ale; \$6 Chardonnay, Zinfandel, Trapezoidale.

Hive Sushi Lounge: Every day, 5-7pm: \$2 domestic, \$4 micro, \$2.50 sake, \$3.50 well, \$4 house wine. Miso, edamame, \$9.99.

Jewel Box: Wednesday, 6pm-2am: \$5 Jäger bombs; happy hour all night w/military ID. Thursday, 8pm-2am: Industry Night. \$3.75 calls.

Phi Terrace: Monday-Thursday, Saturday, 5-8pm: \$4 domestic bottled beer, wells, select wines. Friday, 5-8pm: \$4 domestic bottled beers, wells, select wines. Sunday, all day: \$4 Bloody Marys, mimosas, tequila shots.

EL CAJON

Blarney Stone Pub: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$.50 off all drinks.

The Broken Piñata: Wednesday-Sunday, 11-6pm: \$2 wells, \$3 drafts.

Double D's on Broadway: Every day, 10am-noon, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestics, \$.50 off mixed drinks, \$1 off shots.

Flinn Springs Inn: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.25 domestic bottles, \$3 wells.

ENCINITAS

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: Tuesday-Friday, 5-6pm: 1/2-off wine, beer, sake, select appetizers and sushi rolls.

Boston Gourmet Pizza: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-close: \$1 off pint, \$2 off schooner. Saturday-Sunday, all day: \$1 off pint, \$2 off schooner; \$5 Bloody Mary, screwdriver.

Bullpen Pub & Grill: Monday-Friday, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off pitcher, \$2 off wine.

El Callejon Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic, \$2.75 imported, \$3 house margarita. \$2-\$7 appetizers: pork tacos, fried calamari, grilled shrimp skewer.

Cap'n Kenos: Monday-Friday, 6pm-midnight: \$2.50 drafts, wells. Free appetizers.

D Street Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 wells. \$2.50 domestic drafts. 1/2-off all appetizers.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: Tuesday-Saturday, 3:30-7pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5 red wine, \$7 Krista vodka cosmo, \$7.50 margarita.

El Galeon Mexican Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Two-for-one draft beer, margaritas.

Holiday Wine Cellar: Monday, 5:30-7:30pm: \$5 for five wine tastings.

Tango Restaurant & Lounge: Every day, 4-7pm: \$1 off all drinks; 1/2-off bar menu.

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: \$3 domestic, \$9 pitcher; \$4 imported, \$12 pitcher; \$1/2-off sushi rolls (no sushi on Monday).

GOLDEN HILL

Turf Supper Club: Friday-Sunday, noon-4pm: \$1 off all beer/wine/spirits. \$5 lunch: 1/2-lb. burger, chicken sandwich, or two Louisiana hot links + chips.

GRANTVILLE

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

HILLCREST

The Alibi: Every day, all day: \$3 dipper, wells.

Baja Betty's: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$3 bottled beer, salsa margarita, wells, house wine, sangria, quesadillas.

Bangkok Thai Bistro: Every day, 4-7pm: 1/2-off wine, beer, appetizers.

Bite Bistro and Wine Bar: Monday-Saturday, noon-2pm, 5-7pm: \$3-\$4 bar menu. \$4.50 glass of wine or champagne, 25% off champagne bottles.

CJ's Club: Every day, 5-7pm, 9pm-midnight: All wells \$2.75.

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

shrimp cocktail, stuffed mushrooms, Thai chicken skewers.

The Caliph: Every day, noon-7pm: \$4 wells, \$3 domestic bottles.

Nami: Every day, 5-7:30pm: 1/2-off sake, beer, \$3 house wine. 1/2-off sushi rolls, appetizers.

Taste of Thai: Monday-Thursday, 9-11pm: \$2.50 domestics, \$3 imports, house wine. 1/2-off appetizers.

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

IMPERIAL BEACH

Baja Oyster Bar: Monday-Thursday, All day: \$.99 fish tacos. 3-6pm: Two-for-one domestic bottle, discounted special roll.

KEARNY MESA

94th Aero Squadron: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.50 house wine, \$2.75 Bud Light 16 oz. on tap, \$9 pitchers, \$3 wells, \$3.25 margaritas. Free buffet. Saturday-Sunday, all night: 1/2-price bottles of wine.

Black Angus Steakhouse: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 1/2-off all classic martinis, classic margaritas, wine by the glass, 16-oz. drafts, wells, appetizers.

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

Churasan: Monday, Sunday, football special: \$4 hot dog, garlic fries, small beer. Tuesday-Friday, 5-8pm: \$4 large Japanese beers.

Khan's Cave Grill & Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-6:30pm: \$1 off draft, glass of wine. Saturday, 3pm-close: 1/2-off bottles of wine.

Pampas Argentine Grill: Tuesday-Saturday, 4:30-7pm: \$3 wells, \$3.50 drafts, \$4 wine specials. Discounted empanadas and appetizers.

Shogun Kobe Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm (sushi bar only): 30% off sushi and rolls (excludes sea urchin, giant clam, toro & cocktails). 30% off sake and beer.

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

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE

Beauty Bar: Wednesday-Thursday, 3-7pm: \$5 wine. \$6 martinis. 1/2-off select wine bottles.

Kensington Cafe: Every day, 3-7pm: \$3 all beers, \$4-\$5 all glasses of wine, all tapas under \$5.25.

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

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



\$2 TACO TUESDAY

Choose from chicken, beef, fish or carnitas.

\$2.50 Margaritas Tecates Tequila

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HAPPY HOUR

LA JOLLA

Alfonso's of La Jolla: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.25 drinks, bar appetizers.*

Aloha Sushi Hawaiian Grille: *Every day, 4-6:30pm: \$2.50 small sake, \$4 large sake, \$1.95 select hand rolls, \$3 cucumber roll, \$3.50 California, spicy tuna, veggie roll.*

Barbarella: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$4 drafts (Stella Artois, Hefeweizen, Trumer Pils), bottles (Corona, Newcastle, Moretti), wells, select wines by the glass, \$7 Barbarell martinis. 1/2-off appetizers.*

Beaumont's: *Every day, 4-6pm: \$3 draft, well; \$5 Cabernet, Chardonnay. Special prices on margarita, sangria, wine cooler.*

Bird Rock Pizza & Sports: *Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 pint, \$12 pitcher; \$7.50 pint with appetizer, \$15 pitcher with appetizer. Saturday-Sunday, all day: \$3 pint, \$12 pitcher; \$7.50 pint with appetizer, \$15 pitcher with appetizer.*

Bull and Bear Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2 Bud/Bud Light; \$3.50 wells, Bull & Bear wine.*

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

Crab Catcher: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, wine, champagne by the glass, margaritas. \$5 select specialty martinis. 1/2-off select appetizers. \$1.50 oyster shooters.*

Edo Sushi: *Monday-Friday, all day: Buy one sake, get one half off. 3-6:30pm: 25% off select nigiri and maki rolls.*

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

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

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

Lupi Italian Restaurant: *Tuesday-Sunday, 5-7pm: \$3-\$5 martinis, beer, wine. Free doggie treats.*

The Melting Pot: *Every day, 5-7pm: 1/2-off cheese fondue, salads, chocolate fondue.*

Rock Bottom Brewery, La Jolla: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$3.50 beer, house wine, well drinks. Saturday-Sunday, 10pm-midnight: \$3.50 beer, house wine, well drinks.*

Roppongi: *Every day, 3-6pm: 1/2-off Asian tapas & sushi rolls.*

La Sala: *Monday-Friday, Sunday, 4-7pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 drafts. \$5 house wine. \$7 specialty cocktails.*

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

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

The Steakhouse at Azul: *Every day, 4-7pm: \$1 off beer, \$2 off wine by the glass, \$6 appetinis, lemon drops, cosmos, margaritas. 1/2-off lounge, patio appetizers.*

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: 1/2-off wells and appetizers (excludes seafood & guacamole).*

Sushi on the Rock: *Every day, 5-6:30pm: \$2 hot sake, Coors Light, \$3 cold sake, \$4 Soju spritz, \$5 house wine. \$1.75 vegetarian roll, spicy krab roll, \$2.75 spicy tuna roll.*

Whaling Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3 bottled beer, \$4 drafts. \$5 house wine. \$7 specialty cocktails.*

LA MESA

Anthony's Fish Grotto: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off drafts, house wine, margaritas, appetizers.*

Banbu Sushi Bar & Grill: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 2:30-6:30pm: \$2 off drafts, wells, house wine, California/Philly/veggie roll, gyoza, calamari, shrimp tempura.*

Brigantine: *Every day, 4-7pm: \$4 pint, single wells, house-blended margarita, glass of CA sparkling wine; \$5 glass of Mezzacorona Chardonnay, glass of Rosemount Cabernet Shiraz; \$6.50 double wells.*

Casa de Pico: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: Free appetizer with purchase of bar drink. \$3.95 margarita.*

Centifonti's Restaurant: *Monday-Thursday, all day: \$2 tap beer. Friday-Sunday, all day: \$2 tap beer. \$1 mimosa with entrée purchase.*

Charcoal House: *Every day, 11-7pm: \$.75 off all drinks, \$1 off all appetizers.*

Chico Club: *Every day, all day: \$3 big-ass beer (23 oz).*

Hearth House: *Every day, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic beers, \$3 premium beers, wine & wells. \$2 bratwurst & fries, \$3 burger & fries.*

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: *Every day, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: \$1.50 off drafts, \$1 off all mixed drinks, bottled beers, glass of wine.*

Riviera Supper Club & Tiquisno Room: *Every day, 4-6pm: \$2 off all cocktails, wine, drafts; \$2 off 8-oz. sirloin.*

Tarroz Sports Bar: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 2-7pm: \$2.50 domestic beer, tequila shots, \$3 imported beer, \$4 premium drafts.*

LAKESIDE

Coach Stop: *Monday-Friday, 9am-noon, 4-7pm: \$2.50 large drafts, domestic bottles. 7-11pm: \$1.50 12-oz. drafts, \$6.50 60-oz. pitchers.*

LEUCADIA

Bar Leucadian: *Every day, 4-7pm: \$2.75 wells, \$2.50 beer of the month, shot special.*

The Calypso Café: *Every day, 5:30-7pm: \$4 wells, sangria, margaritas. \$4 house wine. \$3.50 beer.*

LINCOLN PARK

L & L Hawaiian BBQ at Market Creek Plaza: *Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$1 off appetizers. Sunday, all day: \$1 drafts. \$1 tacos & wings.*

LINDA VISTA

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

The Morena Club: *Every day, 2-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.50 wells and domestic bottles.*

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

LITTLE ITALY

Anthology: *Tuesday-Friday, 5:30-7pm: \$6 wells, wine, featured beer, martinis, margaritas.*

Fat City Steakhouse: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 drafts, \$3 wells, \$4 wine. 1/2-off appetizers.*

Puerto la Boca: *Every day, 4:30-7:30pm: \$3 house wine, \$3.50 drafts, wells, \$6 house martini. 30% off appetizers.*

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Desi N' Friends Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday, 2-7pm: \$2 wells, domestic beers. 11pm-midnight: \$3 drafts.*

Devine Pastabilities: *Monday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$2.50 drafts. Discounted wines by the glass. Three free bread holes with drink purchase.*

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

MIRA MESA

A Taste of Boston: *Every day, 3-7pm: \$2.25 Bud draft, \$2.75 bottled beer (except Guinness), \$3 drafts, \$3.75 all wine. Discounted appetizers.*

Bamboo Hut: *Every day, 3-6pm: Buy large beer, get small house sake free. \$2.75 small beer, \$3.25 house wine.*

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3 house beer, domestic drafts, well drinks, house wine, \$1 off appetizers.*

Mira Mesa Lanes: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic pints, \$7 pitchers. \$3 import pints, \$10 pitchers. \$2.50 wells. \$3.50 chicken strips, chicken wings.*

MIRAMAR

Abbey's Real Texas Bar-B-Q: *Every day, 3-6pm: \$2.49 small sandwich, \$1.99 hot link, \$2.49 pint Bud, \$2.99 Hefeweizen, Shiner Bock.*

Excilibur Cigar Lounge & Piano Bar: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 select pints, \$5 house wine.*

The Filling Station: *Monday, 7pm-close: \$4 margaritas. Tuesday, 7pm-close: \$2 kamikazes. Wednesday, 7pm-close: \$3.50 premium drafts. Thursday, 7pm-close: \$2 wells, domestic beers, \$6 domestic pitchers. Saturday, noon-7pm: \$3 mimosas. Sunday, noon-7pm: \$3 Bloody Marys.*

MISSION BEACH

Coaster Saloon: *Monday, 3-5pm: \$3.99 cheeseburger with fries. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). Tuesday, 2-10pm: \$2 Pacifico and Dos XX drafts; \$1.99 tacos. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). Thursday, 7pm-close: \$2 well drinks and drafts. 5-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers (some exclusions). Friday, all day: \$2 well drinks and drafts.*

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: Two-for-one cocktails, beer, shots.*

MISSION HILLS

Bar Dynamite: *Monday-Saturday, 5-9pm: \$2 domestics bottles and drafts, \$3 wells. Free food from Lucha Libre Taco Shop.*

Cafe Bleu: *Every day, 4-6pm: \$5 select wine by the glass; special prices on starters, hors d'oeuvres, sandwiches.*

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: *Every day, 4-7pm: \$4.95 imported 20-oz. beer, \$3.75 well drinks, \$1 off bottled beer and house wine by the glass.*

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

MISSION VALLEY

950 Lounge: *Wednesday, \$3 wells, beer, house wine.*

Adam's Steak & Eggs: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-7pm: Double well drinks, complimentary hors d'oeuvres.*

All American Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3.75 selected craft beers, \$5 specialty drinks, \$2 off wine by the glass and grazing menu.*

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn: *Monday, 4-7pm: \$3 Gold margaritas, house wine, \$2 drafts, \$3.50 wells. Tuesday, Saturday, 4-7pm: \$3 house wine, \$2 drafts, \$3.50 wells. Wednesday, 4-7pm: \$5 any martini, \$3 house wine, \$2 drafts, \$3.50 wells. Thursday, 4-7pm: \$3 house wine, wells, \$2 drafts. Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off any tequila shot, \$3 house wine, bottled beer.*

Bing Crosby's Restaurant and Piano Lounge: *Every day, 3-7pm: \$3 drafts, \$5 wells, \$6 glasses of wine, \$7 house cocktails.*

Bully's East: *Monday-Friday, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-close: \$2.50 domestic, draft; \$3.50 wells, \$5 wine: Chardonnay, Merlot, Jacob's Creek Cabernet.*

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

NATIONAL CITY

Café La Maze: *Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$1 off all drinks; 1/2-off appetizers in the bar.*

Miyako Japanese Restaurant: *Monday-Saturday, 5-7pm: Sapporo pints \$1.99, large bottles \$2.99, pitchers \$6.99. Hot sake \$1.75. California roll \$2.50, spicy tuna/Philly roll \$3.50, Japanese-style chicken bites \$3.*

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Air Conditioned Lounge: *Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$3 draft, Bloody Mary; \$5 you-call-it; \$6 Jayne's Gastropub fare.*

Bourbon Street: *Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: \$3 domestic pitchers, \$4 well drinks, \$5 imported pitchers.*

Triple Crown Pub: *Saturday, noon-5pm: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off beer pitchers. Sunday, noon-2am: \$1 off all pints, \$2 off beer pitchers.*

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NORTH PARK

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

Craze Burger: Every day, 3-6pm: \$2.99 drafts, \$15 pitchers, \$3.99 select glasses of wine. \$2.99 bratwurst, \$3.99 turkey burger.

Crickets Pub and Grill: Monday-Friday, 8am-2pm: \$2 domestic pint, \$6 domestic pitcher. 4-6pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, \$.50 off domestic bottles, wells, pints.

Lips Restaurant: Sunday, all night: Industry Night, \$3.50 wells, \$5.50 calls, 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

The Office: Every day, 5-8pm: Two-for-one price on all drinks.

Redwing Bar & Grill: Every day, 11am-6pm: \$2.75 wells, domestic bottles.

Splash: Tuesday, all day: 1/2-price wine. Wednesday, Sunday, all day: \$3 select wine and beer. Thursday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$3 select wine and beer.

Toronado: Every day, 11:30am-5pm: \$1 off drafts.

True North: Monday, noon-close: \$1 off all beer, wine, spirits. Tuesday-Saturday, noon-7pm: \$1 off all beer, wine, spirits. Sunday, 7pm-close: Industry Night, \$3 calls.

OCEAN BEACH

The Arizona Bar: Every day, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3 house wines, 20-oz. domestics, microbrew pints, wells, 1/2-off all pitchers. \$3 food specials.

Blue Parrot: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$1 off all drafts, \$3 margaritas, wells, \$1 off select appetizers.

Bravo Mexican Bistro: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1-\$3 off margaritas, \$1 off tequila, \$1 off tacos, \$2 off nachos, \$4 off shrimp cocktail and sampler plate, \$4.50 off nachos supreme.

Cheswick's West: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3 wells, \$6 domestic pitchers.

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

Portugalia: Tuesday-Sunday, 10pm-1am: \$3 domestic beer, \$5 wine.

Sunshine Co.: Every day, 5-6pm: 1/2-off all pitchers.

The Vine: Every day, 4-6pm: 1/2-price entire wine and specialty beer list.

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

OCEANSIDE

333 Pacific: Every day, 4-7pm, 9-10pm: \$7 vodka cocktails (100+ types of vodka). \$7 appetizers (calamari, oyster trio, Caesar salad).

Aryana @ Holiday Inn: Every day, 5-7pm: \$2 domestics, wells; \$3 premiums, glass of wine. Appetizer specials.

Firewater Saloon: Monday-Thursday, 3:30-6:30pm; 10pm-midnight: \$5 Jäger bombs, Long Islands, Jameson. \$2 off all pitchers, \$1 off drafts & wells. Friday, Sunday, 10pm-midnight: \$5 Jäger bombs, Long Islands, Jameson. \$2 off all pitchers, \$1 off drafts & wells.

The Flying Bridge: Every day, 4pm-7pm: \$3 beer, \$4 wine, 20% off appetizers.

Hana Japanese Restaurant: Every day, 5-7pm: \$3 beer, 1/2-off cocktails.

Harney Sushi: Thursday, \$5 specialty cocktails.

Pier View Pub: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts, \$2 off pitchers.

Rockin' Baja Lobster: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 pints, wells, \$4 wines, margaritas, \$5 Long Islands, 25-oz. drafts. 1/2-off starters. Saturday-Sunday, 9pm-close: \$3 pints, wells, \$4 wines, margaritas, \$5 Long Islands, 25-oz. drafts. 1/2-off starters.

OLD TOWN

Acapulco Mexican Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 1/2-price appetizers, \$1 soft taco, \$3 draft beer, \$3.50 well, house wine, \$3.95 house margarita.

Alamo Mexican Cafe: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: 1/2-price drinks, food specials.

Barra Barra: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2 drafts, house wine, \$3 house margaritas, \$2 off absinthe specials. \$2 flat-bread tacos.

Café Coyote: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6pm: \$3.75 draft beers, \$4 specialty shots, \$4.95 Coyote drinks, \$5.95 flavored margaritas, flavored shots, \$2 assorted tacos.

Casa Guadalajara: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: Free appetizers. \$3.50 well drinks, margaritas, drink specials.

Fred's Mexican Cafe Old Town: Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm: \$3 12-oz. house margaritas, \$5 20-oz. house margaritas, \$2.50 14-oz. domestic drafts, \$3.50 20-oz. domestic drafts.

Harney Sushi: Wednesday, \$5 specialty cocktails.

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Every day, 4-7:10pm: 1/2-off food & booze.

The Australian Pub: Monday-Friday, 7-9pm: \$3 Long Islands. Saturday, \$2.50 Karl Strauss. Sunday, \$3 Bloody Marys.

Bare Back Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$3 Miller Lite, amber ale, well drinks.

Big Kahuna's: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 beer, wine.

Bub's Dive Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$3 drafts, \$10 pitchers. 1/2-off appetizers.

Cass Street Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$2.25 domestic bottles, \$2.75 micro-brew pints, \$7.50 pitcher, \$3 house wine.

Chateau Orleans: Wednesday, all day: 1/2-off all wine bottles. Thursday, all day: \$5 Louisiana hurricanes, margaritas. 1/2-off champagne bottles.

Costa Brava: Every day, 4-6pm: 1/2-price sangria. 1/2-price tapas.

Dave's Tavern: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic draft. \$3 mimosas. \$3.25 wine. Free pool.

The Dog: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, \$6 pitchers.

Firehouse American Eatery and Lounge: Monday, 4pm-midnight: 1/2-off specialty drinks, \$2 mini-inferno burgers. Tuesday, 4pm-midnight: \$6 draft and a shot, \$50 ribs. Wednesday, 4pm-midnight: 1/2-off bottle of wine, \$1 oysters. Thursday, 4pm-midnight: \$2 calls.

Hennessy's Tavern: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic drafts, \$1 off house wine, wells, \$3 well shot/\$4 call shot, \$5 drink specials. Saturday-Sunday, till 1pm: \$3 Bloody Marys.

Hooters: Monday, 11am-10pm: \$4 drafts, \$14.99 pitcher Pyramid Haywire & Hefeweizen. Tuesday-Wednesday, Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.50 Bud, Bud Light, Coors Light, Miller Lite drafts, \$3 wells. Thursday, 11am-10pm: \$4 drafts, \$14.99 pitcher Newcastle Brown Ale. Saturday, 11am-11pm: \$3 drafts, \$10.99 pitcher Coors Light, Miller Lite. Sunday, 11am-10pm: \$3 drafts, \$10.99 pitcher Bud Light.

Johnny V: Tuesday, 4pm-close: \$3 wells, drafts, selected wines. \$1.95 street tacos, \$3 off appetizers. Wednesday, all day: \$3 wells, drafts, selected wines. Friday, 4-9pm: \$2 drinks. Complimentary appetizers. Saturday, all day: \$2.50 Bud Light bottles, Absolut, \$3 margarita.

Lights Out Hooters After Dark: Monday, 8pm-close: Two-for-one drinks. Tuesday, 8pm-close: Beer and a shot, \$5. Wednesday, 8pm-close: \$2 you-call-its. Thursday-Saturday, 5-8pm: \$1 wells/domestic drafts. Sunday, 5-8pm: Industry Night: 1/2-off the bill.

Moondoggies Pacific Beach: Tuesday-Sunday, 3-7pm: \$2 wells, house wine. \$3 imports, microbrews. \$2 off all drafts.

Moray's Lounge: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2.50 drafts, \$3.50 wells, \$4.50 house wine. 4-6pm: \$4 appetizers: spicy chicken wings, fried calamari, potato skins.

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HAPPY HOUR

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Pacific Beach Bar & Grill: Tuesday, \$2.50 Mexican bottled beer, \$3 frozen margaritas. Wednesday, \$2 off all drinks, \$2 beers. Thursday, 8pm-close: \$2 wells, drafts, 1/2-price drinks. Friday, 3-10pm: \$2 drafts, wells, 1/2-price drinks. Saturday, 4-10pm: \$3 wells, wine, drafts.

Sinbad Café: Every day, 4-8pm: \$1.50 drafts, \$2 wells, shots, \$2.50 imports. 11am-8pm: \$12-\$15 hookahs.

Society Billiard Cafe & Bar: Monday, Wednesday, Sunday, all day: \$3 wells/Bud Light pints, \$4 flavored Smirnoff, premium draft pints, Heradura tequila shots. Tuesday, Thursday, all day: \$8 12-oz. bottle of beer and a shot, \$3 pints of Bud Light. Friday-Saturday, noon-10pm: \$3 Bud Light pints, \$4 flavored Smirnoff.

Tavern at the Beach: Monday-Saturday, noon-7pm: \$3 drafts, bottles, wells, wine. Sunday, noon-7pm: Industry Night: \$3 domestic beers, \$2 make your drink a double, \$3 calls for industry. Pay stub required.

Tony Roma's: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 house margaritas, Long Is-

land Iced Teas, \$3 wells, draft beer. Appetizer specials.

The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa: Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 5-7pm: \$3 cash wine, sangria, draft. \$3 tapas selection.

POINT LOMA

Blue Wave Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$1 off drinks, \$2 off appetizers.

The Boathouse: Every day, 2:30-5pm: \$1.99 house margaritas (\$3 Cuervo Gold), \$3 beer of the month, \$4 wine of the month.

Brigantine: Every day, 4-7pm: \$4 Brig brew, Alaskan amber ale, house champagne; \$5 featured Cabernet; \$7 Brigantine 40th anniversary Chardonnay, featured Cabernet; \$7.50 margarita, pomegranate margarita.

C-Level: Monday-Friday, 3:30-5:30pm: \$3.50 Bud Light, Karl Strauss, Stone IPA, \$5 specialty drinks, wells, house wine. \$5 crispy calamari, ahi tuna poke, steamed Fox River mussels.

Captain's Quarters: Every day, 3-7pm: \$2 you-call-it wells, \$2.25 domestic drafts and bottles, discounted shots.

Extreme Pizza: Every day, 4pm-7pm: \$6 craft beer pitchers.

Fiddler's Green Restaurant: Every day, 5-7pm: \$4 house wine and house beer, \$5 well drinks and margaritas.

Humphrey's Backstage Music Club: Every day, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

Paradise Lounge and Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2.50 well drinks, domestic bottles; \$6.50 domestic pitchers. 8-9:30am: 1/2-off breakfast.

The Pearl: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3 beer, \$4 wells, \$5 wines.

Pete's Grill: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2.50 Bud drafts, \$3 microbrew drafts, house wines. \$.99 sliders, \$1.99 fish tacos.

Riley's Music Lounge: Every day, 4-8pm: \$1 off everything, \$2 beers.

POWAY

Brigantine: Every day, 3-6:30 pm: \$1 off draft beer, \$3.50 champagne, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5.75 Chardonnay, red wine, \$7.50 Cuervo Gold hand-shaken margarita.

Kaminski's BBQ & Sports Bar: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm, 9-11pm: \$1 off all wells, drafts, bottles, wine.

Phileas Fogg's Bar & Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints/\$7.95 pitcher, \$3.50 import pints/\$11.95 pitcher. \$2.95 cheese quesadilla, \$3.95 chicken wings.

RAMONA

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RANCHO BERNARDO

Bernard'O Restaurant: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7pm: \$4 wells, \$2.75 domestic, \$3.50 imported/specialty, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5 house wine.

Café on the Park: Monday-Friday, 5-6:30pm: \$3 wells, \$4 house margaritas, 1/2-off house wine by the glass, \$1 off beer. Complimentary cheese & crackers, 1/2-off appetizers.

Capri Blu: Every day, 3-7pm: 1/2-price drafts, wells, discounted bar-menu food.

Carvers Steak & Chops: Monday-Friday, 2-6:30pm: 1/2-off drinks. \$3-\$4 off appetizers.

Kelly's Public House: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$8 pitchers, \$3.50 wells, house wines.

RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS

Deli Stop Sports Pub: Every day, 4pm-7pm: \$1 off all beer; \$3 Corona, \$3 wine; \$1 off all appetizers.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Cottonwood Golf Club Bar & Restaurant: Every day, 4-6pm: \$2 drafts. 1/2-off all appetizers including pizza, quesadillas, wings, calamari.

Press Box Sports Lounge: Monday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$4 martinis. Tuesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$3 you-call-its. Wednesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. 1/2-off wine bottles. Thursday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$1 off wells, all drafts. Saturday, all day: \$3 mimosas & Bloody Marys.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Delicias: Every day, 4-6pm: \$5 draft beers, house wines, wells.

SAN MARCOS

Alfresco's Italian Buffet: Every day, 5:30-7:30pm: All drinks 1/2 price.

Back Alley Grill: Every day, Every day: \$3 domestics, \$4.50 imports, \$4 house wines.

Cow Shed Bar and Grill: Every day, 4-7pm: \$3 domestic. \$3.50-\$4 wells.

Dalton's Road House: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 off house wines, wells. \$5 margaritas. 1/2-off appetizers: cheesy fries, potato skins, buffalo wings.

The Jumping Turtle: Monday, 11am-close: PBR \$2.75/pint, \$6.75/pitcher. Tuesday, 11am-close: \$2 Corona, Pacifico, margaritas. Wednesday, 11am-close: \$4 drop drinks. Thursday, 7pm-close: \$3 Jäger, \$2.50 Bud Lime. Friday, 5pm-midnight: \$5 Long Islands. Saturday, 11am-close: \$3 Orange Patrón, Tanqueray. Sunday, 11am-close: \$2.50 Bloody Marys.

SERRA MESA

Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill: Sunday, \$2.50 mind erasers, kamikazes. \$3.50 mimosas, Bloody Marys.

SOLANA BEACH

Chief's Burgers and Brew: Tuesday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2.50 domestic, \$3.50 microbrew. 1/2-off appetizers.

The Fish Market: Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3.50 wells, \$3.95 drafts, domestic bottles, house wine. \$.95 oysters, \$4.25 smoked trout quesadillas, \$4.95 mahi mahi sliders. Saturday-Sunday, 11am-4pm: \$3.50 wells, \$3.95 drafts, domestic bottles, house wine. \$.95 oysters, \$4.25 smoked trout quesadillas, \$4.95 mahi mahi sliders.

Pacific Coast Grill: Every day, 4-7pm: \$5 gold margaritas, \$1 off draft, wells, wines by the glass, 25% off wine bottles.

SORRENTO VALLEY

Ali Baba's Cave: Every day, 4-6pm: Two-for-one drinks.

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

SOUTH PARK

Alchemy: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$2 off wells, including Skyy, Seagram's, Jim Beam, Sauza Gold, \$2 off wines/glass, draft.

Hamilton's Tavern and Café: Every day, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

Whistle Stop Bar: Every day, 2-8pm: \$1 off all cocktails, pints.

SPRING VALLEY

California Comfort: Every day, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, wells, house wine.

TIERRASANTA

Bellagio Ristorante & Bakery: Monday, 4-7pm: 10% off for military. \$2 drafts. Wednesday, 4-7pm: 1/2-off select wine bottles. Friday, 4-7pm: \$10 wine flights.

Bud's Louisiana Café: Tuesday-Friday, 1-2:30pm, 4:30-6pm: 1/2-price wine and beer.

JP's Pub: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: Every day, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 ouzo aperitif, \$2 bottled beers, \$3 wine by the glass.

Café Japengo: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$3 drafts, sake, \$4.50 wells. \$4 chicken spring rolls, duck potstickers, California rolls.

Donovan's Steak and Chop House: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$8 martinis (complimentary steak sandwiches and burritos 4-6pm).

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cheers: Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm: \$2.50 domestic bottles. \$3 single wells. \$3.50 domestic drafts.

Gulf Coast Grill: Every day, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3.95 wells, drafts, wine.

VALLEY CENTER

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: \$2 domestic. \$3 imports, wells. Discounted appetizers.

VISTA

Jumping Bean Cafe & Mexican Grill: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic, imports, \$2.75 margaritas, \$3 wells, microbrews, \$4 Leaping Horse wine. 3-5pm: \$1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

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She's the Best Man

Golda Meir has the means to start World War III: armed nuclear warheads loaded on airplanes.

Sometimes when she talks, a cigarette dangles from the right side of her mouth, the tip bobbing up and down — à la George C. Scott — with each word. At other times she leans both hands on a table and barks orders that will change, or take, countless lives. Some of the most poignant times, in *Golda's Balcony*, come when the fourth prime minister of Israel hits an emotional wall her words can't penetrate.

She pulls back, retreating from events no one should have to face. Music verging on schmaltz, as if for a Hollywoodized bio, often accompanies her upswings — until she orders it stopped, with the same force with which she makes major decisions. As always, William Gibson's interlaced script refuses to flatter the portrait of a woman as tough as she was idealistic. And since her estranged husband, Morris Meyerson, loved music, it banishes painful thoughts of him as well.

David Ben-Gurion called Golda Meir “the best man in the government.” Born Golda Mabovitch in Kiev in 1898, she grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and helped found the state of Israel in 1948. She became prime minister

in 1969. Although she fought for peace initiatives, during the Yom Kippur War of 1973, when 32,000 Egyptian soldiers and 850 tanks crossed the Suez Canal onto the Sinai Peninsula, she stood at ground zero for the Apocalypse.

THEATER REVIEW

JEFF SMITH

The play begins near her end in 1978. She's “run out of stories,” she says, slouched over and hacking as she lights up another smoke. She takes an unvarnished look back on her amazing life, from the one that people expected her to live — her domain a kitchen in Wisconsin — to world leader.

That's the introduction. The framing event happens in 1973. Egypt and Syria are invading Israel during the Yom Kippur War. The surprise attack catches Israel off guard. Meir paces around a desk, receiving negative reports and waiting for a phone call from Washington, D.C. Henry Kissinger may or may not pledge support and is taking his sweet time with the decision. If he doesn't, Meir has the means to start World War III: “Temple Weapons,” armed nuclear warheads loaded on airplanes. Like JFK and the Cuban Missile Crisis, Meir knows that they would have a domino effect. A key ques-



Golda Meir stood at ground zero for the Apocalypse.

Golda's Balcony by William Gibson

Old Globe Theatre, Balboa Park

Directed by Scott Schwartz; cast: Tovah Feldshuh; scenic design, Anna Louizos; costumes, Jess Goldstein; lighting, Jeff Croiter; sound, Mark Bennett

Playing through May 30; Sunday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-234-5623.

tion the play raises is how could Meir — who devoted her life to survival and peace — reach the point where global extermination was possible?

The script splits her down the middle. She has two balconies: one in Tel Aviv overlooking

the Mediterranean, wafted by warm breezes; the other, named for her by the workers, is a platform at Dimona, Israel's nuclear research center in the bleak Negev Desert, where she watched the progress of the weapons. Gibson hits his theme, about creation versus destruc-

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Calendar THEATER

tion, so hard it threatens to turn his portrait into a thesis play. And if people miss his point, he has Meir ask, "What happens when idealism becomes power?"

The critic Walter Kerr wrote that, in playwriting, "It is better to make a person than to make a point." Although the script wants to leave you with its burning question, Tovah Feldshuh subsumes issues in her masterful performance.

Feldshuh breathes Meir. Padded, wearing a steel gray wig, her nose and forehead extended, her legs wrapped, it's near impossible to see Feldshuh, the person, through her makeup (and completely impossible to see the young Feldshuh, who played Juliet 30 years ago at the Old Globe). What she does with her costume's a marvel in itself. She wears a gray suit coat and dress and a patterned blouse. A small alteration, like unbuttoning the top button, adds to

or strips decades from the character (and even changes the weather). If each period of Meir's life were a note, Feldshuh leaps from one to the other like a jazz improviser. She does the same with the fickle moods of scenes: she reflects, bemoans, explodes with breathtaking speed.

She plays all the characters (her take on Kissinger's a hoot) and uses minimal props. Behind her, a screen projects videos. These do and do not work. The show's overall style is humble, making the most from the least. Portraits of various historical figures help without intruding. But when cartoony jets fly at the audience in a 3-D effect, the stage threatens to become that movie the script's been trying to avoid.

The late Craig Noel valued "simple" acting (i.e., no "acting" at all). Noel would have cherished this performance. In fact, Feldshuh does such clean, splendid work, it's tempting to give her the Technique Test: pull yourself

out of the story and watch how she crafts her portrayal. But she's so in the moment, so fully *now*, she yanks you right back in. You forget technique and watch, to my mind, one of the two finest solo performances — along with Jefferson Mays in *I Am My Own Wife* — San Diego has seen in decades. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

All in the Timing

David Ives honed his craft at a theater where "the shows have to be good because the bathrooms aren't working." Ives's absurdist vignettes had to hit the mark and stay on it at top speed. As Bill tells Betty in "Sure Thing" — variations on the myriad ways a chance encounter can go wrong — it's "all in the timing." Ion Theatre has reprised its popular staging with some new cast members but the same polished, often hilarious results. Now Brian Mackey plays



All in the Timing: Truly wacko situations

Leon Trotsky with an axe in his head for 36 hours; an elastic Steven Lone's the charlatan wordsmith in "The Universal Language"; Kim Strassburger returns as a monkey trying to write *Hamlet* from scratch (but coming closer to Milton's *Paradise Lost*)

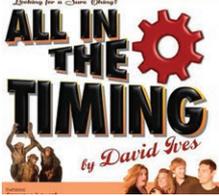
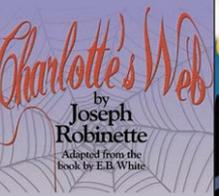
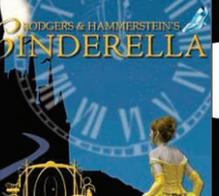
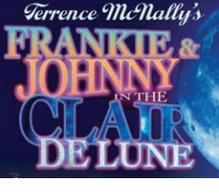
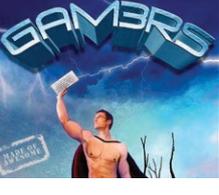
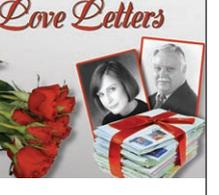
and Trotsky's multifaceted wife; and Karson St. John shows her remarkable range in several roles. Ives's title calls attention to technique. Under Glenn Paris and Claudio Raygoza's codirection, however, the actors never make one aware of their "timing." In-

stead they sustain focus on Ives's truly wacko situations.

Worth a try

ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILL-CREST. 619-600-5020. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH MAY 29.

ARTS TIX – YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR SAN DIEGO ARTS!

 <p>ALL IN THE TIMING by David Ives</p> <p>BLKBOX @ 6TH & PENN SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 13-15 • 8:00 pm</p>	 <p>AMIGOS EN CONCERTO</p> <p>COPLEY SYMPHONY HALL SAN DIEGO, CA Date: June 19 • 8:00 pm</p>	 <p>CELEBRATION OF SONG</p> <p>MISSION HILLS UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: Saturday, June 5 • 7:30 pm Sunday, June 6 • 3:00 pm</p>	 <p>CHARLOTTE'S WEB by Joseph Robinette Adapted from the book by E.B. White</p> <p>CENTERS FOR LEARNING BY THE SEA SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 14-15 • 7:30 pm</p>	 <p>Rogers & Hammerstein's CINDERELLA</p> <p>J*COMPANY YOUTH THEATRE LA JOLLA, CA Dates: May 13, 15, 16 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>DOG SEES GOD: Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead by BERT V. ROYAL</p> <p>Directed by Kym Pappas</p> <p>DOG SEES GOD Confessions of a Teenage Blockhead DIVERSIONARY THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: June 4-6, 9-13, 16-20 & 23-27 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>REDLANDS SYMPHONY "GERSHWIN SALUTE"</p> <p>BOB BURTON CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS FALLBROOK, CA Date: Sunday, May 16 • 3:00 pm</p>	 <p>FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL</p> <p>WELK RESORTS THEATRE ESCONDIDO, CA Dates: Runs through June 27 Various times. See website for more information.</p>
 <p>FRANKIE & JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE</p> <p>BLKBOX @ 6TH & PENN SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 16-18 & 23-25 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>GAM3RS</p> <p>BLKBOX @ 6TH & PENN SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 14-15, 21-22, 28-29 & June 4-5 All shows at 10:30 pm</p>	 <p>GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?</p> <p>COMMUNITY ACTORS THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 14-16 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>HARVEY</p> <p>LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE CORONADO, CA Dates: June 4-6, 8-10, 12-13 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>HOPE</p> <p>BALBOA PARK FERN STREET CIRCUS SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 21-23, 28-30 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>KING JOHN</p> <p>INTREPID SHAKESPEARE COMPANY SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 12, 14, 16, 21-23, 27, 29-30 & June 4-6 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>LOVE LETTERS</p> <p>BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Date: June 6 • 2:30 pm</p>	 <p>MAINLY MOZART FESTIVAL 2010</p> <p>BALBOA THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: June 8, 10-12, 15, 17-19 Various times. See website for more information.</p>

Go to SDArtsTix.com, click on the performance or event you want, and enter promo code "Reader" to save \$1 per ticket when making purchase. Or visit Arts Tix at Horton Plaza or call (619) 497-5000.

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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 SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 30.

Footloose: The Musical

Welk Resorts Theatre stages the musical based on a real-life event: a small town in Oklahoma banned rock music and dancing. Well, not for long...
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1:45PM AND 8PM THURSDAYS, 1:45PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 1:45PM SUNDAYS, 1:45PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 27.

Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune

Ion Theatre stages Terrence McNally's bittersweet comedy about an unlikely romance between middle-aged "losers" previously scarred by love.
ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 4PM AND 7:30PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM MONDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 1.

Golda's Balcony

The Old Globe Theatre 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. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 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. 619-264-3391. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, 3PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MAY 16.

Hot L Baltimore

The Sullivan Players stage Lanford Wilson's comedy-drama about the denizens of a hotel slated for demolition. D.J. Sullivan directed.
SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 7PM FRIDAYS, 7PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH MAY 30.



Cinderella: Hags and rags to riches

King John

Intrepid Shakespeare Company stages the Bard's history play about "the most unkingly of kings."
Christy Yael and Sean Cox directed.
King John runs in repertory with *The Taming of the Shrew*.
THEATRE, INC., 899 C ST., EAST VILLAGE. 619-216-3016. 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 6.

Moscow

Diversionsary Theatre presents the musical — book and lyrics by Nick Salomone, music by Maury R.

McIntyre — about three gay men. Trapped in limbo, they decide to stage a musical version of *The Three Sisters*. Ira Spector directed.
CHRISTY Yael and Sean Cox directed.
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BLVD., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM MONDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 30.

National Comedy Theatre

The National Comedy Theatre presents a 100-minute improv comedy show based completely on audience suggestions. The show is "appropriate for all audiences."

NATIONAL COMEDY THEATRE, 3717 INDIA ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. 7:30PM AND 9:45PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM AND 9:45PM SATURDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Night of the Laughing Dead...We're Dying to Cast You!

Mystery Café Dinner Theatre celebrates its 20th season with Victo-

ria Velasco and James Pasarella's interactive comedy. An eccentric director is doing a live broadcast of his full-length horror film, and the audience is encouraged to audition. Velasco directed.
MYSTERY CAFÉ, 505 KALMIA ST., BANKER'S HILL. 619-544-1664. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Nina

The great Nina Simone backed into her storied career as "The High Priestess of Soul" and the "Voice of the Movement." As a child, she dreamed of becoming the world's first black classical pianist. Events, like the KKK bombing of an Alabama church and the murder of African-American leaders politicized her — she would be "nonviolent no more" — and her music (including the explosive "Mississippi Goddamn," which was banned throughout the South). Calvin Manson, who has staged tributes to Billie, Ella, and others, created a show with four women representing Simone (an irony: she wrote a song about "Four Women," each a black stereotype; whereas Manson's quartet defies stereotyping). The evening includes favorites: "I Loves You, Porgy," "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood," and the anthem of the Movement, "To Be Young, Gifted, and Black," sung with flair by Janice Edwards and with grace and subtlety by Ayanna Hobson (Sarah Roy and Nicole Bradley also make solid contributions, as do four young dancers and pianist Anthon Smith, who gives songs classy Julliard licks). The show needs tightening, especially Act 2, which packs too many numbers and at times becomes too subdued. Overall, the world premiere's a fitting showcase for the woman who became "every woman I could." Dinner-theater packages are available.

Worth a Try:

SUNSET TEMPLE THEATRE, 3911 KANSAS ST., NORTH PARK. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 23.

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Calendar THEATER

The Philadelphia Story

Powpac presents Philip Barry's comedy about a socialite about to be married, until her ex-husband arrives along with an attractive journalist. Sherrie Colbourn directed
POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY THEATER, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY, 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 23.

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 extroverted Douglas preached "popular sovereignty"; introverted 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 unheralded, 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 McKeon's set, a sturdy loading dock, and Jeannie Reith's costumes (which shorten Douglas and lengthen Lincoln) set the time



The Rivalry: Stephen Douglas resurrected

and the place. But the opening-night performances needed many more rehearsals. Both first- and second-act climaxes 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 president. 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, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MAY 16.

Seven Against Thebes

UCSD Theatre & Dance presents Aeschylus's tragedy: King Oedipus is in exile; his sons Etioles and Polyneices must decide who will rule. Charlie Oates directed Marianne McDonald's translation.
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. 7PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH MAY 22.

Shake, Rattle and Roll: A Fifties and Sixties Rock and Roll Celebration

For one evening only, Old Town Temecula Community Theater presents an "oldies but goodies stage show" that will "take you back to the days when music was fun, the nights were cruisin', and the dancing never stopped!"
OLD TOWN TEMECULA COMMUNITY THEATER, 42051 MAIN ST., TEMECULA. 866-653-8696. 7:30PM MONDAY.

Sylvia

Point Loma Actors present A.R. Gurney Jr.'s comedy about "midlife angst and the role pets play in our lives," in particular a dog named Sylvia and her master Greg. David Sein directed.
POINT LOMA ASSEMBLY, 3035 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-225-0044. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH MAY 16.

The Taming of the Shrew

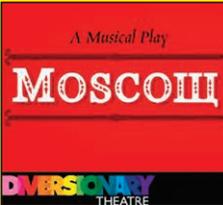
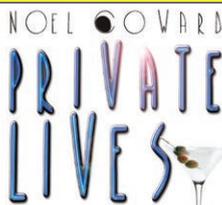
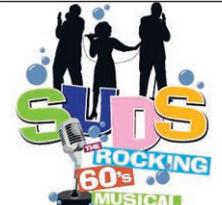
Intrepid Theatre's concept is an eyebrow-raiser. What if Shakespeare's interecine duo, Petruchio and Kate, were played by two women, both in their sixties? That would reshuffle the play's rip-roaring male chauvinism and give new slants on the familiar lines (but problems arise immediately: how old would young Bianca be — 50? — and what happens to the dowry once Petruchia reveals her gender?). Intrepid's staging, however, is a mishmash of eager actors filling in blanks left by uncertain direction: individual performances, not tight ensemble work, with many actors substituting speed of speech and shouting

and slapping each other for articulated characterization and working way to hard to make the play funny (when Danny Campbell finally comes on stage, as old Vincentio, his clear, simple, accurate portrayal outclasses the field). As the leads, Sandra Ellis Troy has fine moments as Petruchia, especially when she *really* falls for Kate. The script has been trimmed. In the process Jenni Prisk's Kate's been de-shrewed, leaving her with a narrow, often passive/aggressive palette and stealing energy from her scenes. (Note: *Shrew* runs in repertory with *King John*.)
THEATRE, INC., 899 C ST., EAST VILLAGE. 619-216-3016. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 6.

The Whipping Man

The Old Globe Theatre presents the West Coast premiere of Matthew Lopez's Civil War drama. A Jewish Confederate soldier returns to his childhood home, but it's occupied by his former slaves, preparing a Passover Seder. Giovanna Sardelli directed.
SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 13.

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 <p>MOSCOW DIVERSIONARY THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA May 13-17, 21-23 & 27-30 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>CIVIC YOUTH BALLET SPRING SHOWCASE CASA DEL PRADO THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Date: May 22 2:30 pm & 5:00 pm</p>	 <p>NEW DIRECTIONS: CHOREOGRAPHER'S SHOWCASE LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE POTIKER THEATRE, LA JOLLA, CA June 3-5 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>PRIVATE LIVES OLD TOWN THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 27-30; June 2-6, 9-13, 16-20, 23-27, 30, July 1-3 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>RAIN: A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 14-16 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>RHAPSODY IN BLUE & OTHER DANCES DON POWELL THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: Saturday, May 15 • 8:00 pm Sunday, May 16 • 6:00 pm</p>	 <p>THE RIVALRY LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE CORONADO, CA Dates: May 12-16, 20-23 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>FIRST ANNUAL SAN DIEGO CHRISTIAN FILM FESTIVAL ON THE CAMPUS OF SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY Dates: December 27-30</p>
 <p>SENIOR FOLLIES BALBOA THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: June 24-27 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>SEVEN AGAINST THEBES LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE FORUM THEATRE LA JOLLA, CA Dates: May 13-15, 20-22 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>SMOKE ON THE MOUNTAIN HORTON GRAND THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 26-30, June 2-6, 9-13, 16-20, 23-27 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>SUDS: THE ROCKING 60'S MUSICAL STARLIGHT THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: June 17-20, 24-27 & July 1-4 8:00 pm</p>	 <p>SYLVIA POINT LOMA ASSEMBLY SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 14 • 8:00 pm May 15 • 8:00 pm May 16 • 7:00 pm</p>	 <p>THE TAMING OF THE SHREW INTREPID SHAKESPEARE COMPANY SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 15-16, 22-23, 28-30 & June 3, 5-6 Various times. See website for more information.</p>	 <p>TCHAIKOVSKY'S SYMPHONY No. 5 COPLEY SYMPHONY HALL SAN DIEGO, CA Date: May 20 • 7:30 pm</p>	 <p>VOICES FOR LIFE TENTH AVENUE THEATRE SAN DIEGO, CA Dates: May 21, 28 & June 4, 11 8:00 pm</p>

Go to SDArtsTix.com, click on the performance or event you want, and enter promo code "Reader" to save \$1 per ticket when making purchase. Or visit Arts Tix at Horton Plaza or call (619) 497-5000.

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Calendar MOVIES

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Alice in Wonderland — Tim Burton's adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic gives him license, free rein, greased rails, to stage a congenial freak show in a hermetic netherworld: a 3-D moving-picture book. The customary merger of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and its sequel, *Through the Looking Glass*, has the innovation of a marriageable age-of-consent heroine, diving down the rabbit hole to escape a surprise engagement party and an odious snooty suitor. This innovation serves the dual purpose of heading off all the tired old sophisticated drooleries about the Reverend Dodgson's fondness for little girls and, secondly, of feeding the bottomless contemporary appetite for feminist fantasies of empowerment. (The Australian newcomer Mia Wasikowska evolves from a pasty spaced-out flower child to an armored and sword-wielding Saint Joan, Jabberwock-slayer.) In due time, in fact in short order, the movie achieves a different sort of dullness from that of the forced and haphazard novel, a dullness of satiation. Just as Alice has been taught to pinch herself to return from a dream, you can try pinching yourself to reverse your slippage into a CGI stupor, and



Letters to Juliet — Insufficient counterweights to the slop bucket of false sentiments.

at any such pinch, snapping to attention, you can appreciate the amount of labor that went into it, the thorough planning, the attention to detail. And then very soon satiated again, under the glut of computer-manufactured topography, flora, and fauna, you can drift back into stuporville. Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hathaway, Crispin Glover. 2010.

★ (MISSION VALLEY 20)

Babies — A kind of nature documentary that looks at the human species the way another documentary might look at apes: a

human-nature documentary, if you like. The French filmmaker Thomas Balmès follows four newborns from far-flung corners of the globe — a Namibian, a Mongolian, a Japanese, an American — from birth to rubber-legged ambulation. There is no commentary (nor are there subtitles for foreign tongues), so that we're left to draw our own conclusions. Inasmuch, however, as the evidence is highly anecdotal and arbitrary, any conclusions are probably better left undrawn. And the procession of Kodak Moments adds up to little more than a glossy coffee-table movie or glorified home video: a rooster

hops up on the bed with the Mongolian, and a goat sneaks a sip from baby's bath water; the Namibian notices analytically that her older brother has a peepee where she has none; the petulant Japanese girl's tiny tantrums in a roomful of toys are intercut with the Mongolian happily playing with a roll of toilet paper (conclusions?). Each of the newborns also has a cat in the house, adding to the entertainment value, excepting the Namibian, who has less entertaining dogs. At well under an hour and a half, the film won't wear out its welcome. 2010.

★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; GROSSMONT CENTER 10, FROM 5/14; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; MISSION VALLEY 20; TOWN SQUARE 14, FROM 5/14)

The Back-Up Plan — Jennifer Lopez, artificially inseminated and pregnant with twins before she meets Mr. Right, stands out as a pearl among pebbles. Her hair and makeup (in the part of a pet-shop proprietor) are a wonder to behold, and are indeed beheld with tunnel vision and starry eyes by director Alan Poul and photographer Xavier Pérez Grobet. Her charm is unmissable if not irresistible, her talent as well-honed as it is narrow. And her biggest laugh, for sheer incongruity, comes when she explains how she knows the new man is The One: "He's very real." More truthfully, he's very ideal, a masculine accessory — second-tier Australian actor Alex O'Loughlin, a composite of Matthew McConaughey (torso) and Jon Stewart (head) — who will never compete for the spotlight, will mold himself into a devoted slave, will put up with nuttiness of any degree or duration, and will afterwards Always Be There For Her, like a favorite handbag. Not everything, needless to say, is roses: "I miss my old ass," the star plays up to, or rather down to, her fans: "It was kinda like this, but way hotter." Too, the public childbirth attended by members of the Single Mothers and Proud support group — not the heroine's childbirth but that of one of the pebbly supporting players — adds something new to the annals of parturition on screen, namely an unparalleled element of demonic possession. (The bowel movement has been paralleled, thank you.) Even outside of that, the movie achieves a level of biological repugnance to rival Ingmar Bergman, except with a sense of humor. A crude one. 2010. ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKET-PLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12;

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CASTING BY PATTY LONG COSTUME DESIGNER RYAN KAYANAGAR TICKER TOLLEY ANITA SCHAEFER SEAN MEYERS ERIN BAYO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BLONDE MICHAELS JOHN GOLDBLATT PRODUCED BY WILL FERRELL & JOHN SILVERMAN A JONAS TACARINE
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Calendar MOVIES

PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14;
POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Bringing Up Baby — Screwball comedy involving, among others, a paleontologist, a society girl with an uncorrectable high opinion of herself and an unstoppable word flow, a fox terrier who has stolen and buried a priceless brontosaurus bone, a big-game hunter, and a pet leopard whose temper can be soothed by the singing of “I Can’t Give You Anything But Love, Baby,” all of whom, plus others, come together at top volume for the finale in the sheriff’s office. The infectiousness of the thing doesn’t come so much from Howard Hawks’s directorial touch (he’s normally light on drama and ham-handed on comedy), but from the perfectly natural, unselfconscious, and idiosyncratic sense of humor. What Hawks finds funny is easy to identify because of the persistent resurfacing of the same ideas in other movies: a bookworm for a hero; Cary Grant in women’s clothing; a woman oblivious to the fact that the back of her dress is missing; the

ragging repetition of a person’s name until it begins to sound like an accusation; and so forth. With Katharine Hepburn, Charles Ruggles, Barry Fitzgerald. 1938.
★★★ (CINEMA UNDER THE STARS, 5/13 THROUGH 15, 8:30 P.M.)

City Island — Amiable domestic comedy about a nuclear blue-collar family in which everyone’s got a secret, and one’s got several. Writer and director Raymond De Felitta orchestrates some lively passages of household discord, and he has set the action in a flavorful locale, a New England-y “fishing village” in the middle of the Bronx, where lifelong residents go by the name of “clam-diggers” and outside transplants go by “mussel-suckers.” The farcical finale is a bit uncomplicated in its resolution. Any viewer willing to entertain the rampant deception in the film ought to be willing to entertain a bit more mess at the end of it. Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies, Steven Strait, Emily Mortimer, Alan Arkin. 2010.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14, FROM 5/14; FLOWER HILL 4; HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Clash of the Titans — Any remake would have been hard put to be worse than

the laughable original of 1981, and the latest CGI technology, with or without the augmentative 3-D (added as an afterthought in the laboratory), oughtn’t to have had too impossible a job of improving upon the herky-jerky stop-motion monsters of Ray Harryhausen: the Pegasus, the Medusa, the Kraken, and the rest. But the jiggly camera and the muddy color establish themselves as fundamental no-no’s for an appreciation of the receding planes of 3-D, and Louis Leterrier’s sloppy staging of the action — not so much action, really, as mere motion — would be unforgivable even if your eyes were able to focus. Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes, Gemma Arterton, Mads Mikkelsen. 2010.
● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Crazy Heart — Jeff Bridges is pretty much the whole show, and a generous show it is. His Bad Blake, given name to be held back for the gravestone, is an over-the-hill and down-on-his-luck C&W singer still living the life of a C&W song, four marriages behind him, long lonely drives and cheap motels and cheaper women in front of him, a chain smoker and a hard-at-it alcoholic (preferred poison, fictitious McClure’s bourbon) on a free fall to the unseen bottom and, on impact, the uncertain bounce-back to redemption. As one of his lyrics neatly sums it up: “I used to be somebody, now I’m somebody else.” The actor’s singing voice amounts to a dull blade that has a hard time cutting through the expert arrangements by T Bone Burnett, who with the late Stephen Bruton co-wrote the original songs in the crying-in-your-beer genre. But then too, the actor’s speaking voice, a low rumble through a mouthful of marbles, has a hard enough time cutting through thin air, as if he could use a hit of oxygen before and after each utterance. To outward appearances, he’s approximately one-third Kris Kristofferson (the constipated voice and the wheezy wince to produce it) and two-thirds Waylon Jennings (the greasy stringy hair, the bedraggled beard, the shades, the leather vest, the paunch), in no part original but in every part authentic. With Maggie Gyllenhaal, Colin Farrell, and Robert Duvall; directed by Scott Cooper. 2009.
★★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Date Night — A hedged bet, marital comedy cum action thriller, with a “boring” New Jersey couple enlivening their stale marriage by getting themselves mistaken for high-stakes blackmailers. Tina Fey will never in her lifetime use up the eternal gratitude she earned for her role in the 2008 presidential campaign (the *faux* Palin), and her intelligence intermittently peeks through the constant crassness, if only by stark contrast. Steve Carell, not so smartly, armors himself in protective irony, sort of like Jack Lemmon in quotation marks when we want Jack Lemmon straight. He never for an instant lets us feel that after the adventure is over, he’ll be obliged to return to suburbia. A parade of familiar faces, amounting almost to a “stellar” cast, substitutes to some extent for the dearth of laughs: Mark Wahlberg, Mark Ruffalo, Kristen Wiig, Taraji P. Henson, Ray Liotta, William Fichtner, James Franco, Mila Kunis, and, as himself, Will.i.am. Directed by Shawn Levy. 2010.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; 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; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Death at a Funeral — The American remake, a scant three years after the British version, is tantamount to a summer-stock production in Cleveland, a black comedy made over into a black comedy, or more distinctly a dark comedy made over into an

African-American comedy. Beyond the casting of Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Tracy Morgan, Regina Hall, Zoë Saldaña, Loretta Devine, Danny Glover, et al., it has been only sporadically African-Americanized in the script (“The catfish nuggets are to die for”), and it has been plain old Americanized mainly in the grossness of the toilet humor. Who could ever have foreseen that director Neil LaBute, the contemporary cinema’s iciest misanthrope, would stoop to poop jokes to bring down the house? Among the few white faces in the crowd, dinky Peter Dinklage reprises with total authority his role from the original, sort of like a Broadway headliner re-upping for the road company, and James Marsden intrepidly negotiates the bumps and curves of a bad acid trip. 2010.
★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; PLAZA BONITA 14)

Diary of a Wimpy Kid — The live-action adaptation of Jeff Kinney’s popular series of cartoonishly illustrated “tween” books is not in diary form but is nonetheless sufficiently episodic (the “Cheese Touch” episode, the “Devil Worship Woods” episode, and so on), covering the hero’s traumatic first year in middle school, with no help from his tormenting older brother. The dishonorable, even dastardly hero, or better say antihero, can be charitably said to have a lot of growing up to do. But whatever lesson the target audience may take away, actual grown-ups can appreciate the spectacle in the full knowledge that the growing-up in many ways and in many cases never gets done. The universality of the character extends way beyond his age group. Zachary Gordon is, for all the character’s faults, vulnerable and sympathetic in the title role. No less is Robert Capron as his cherubic best friend, a mutual outcast than whom the antihero firmly believes he will soon find someone better. Though there are bits of mandatory, albeit moderate, gross-out humor (boogers and such), there are also truly witty touches (the montage of physical changes over summer vacation in children on the verge of puberty; the animated popularity rankings, forever open to revision, from the top of the class to the bottom; the screaming headline in the school paper, “Cheerleader Gains Pound”), and the photography by Jack Green is gaily colored, and the direction by Thor Freudenthal has energy and flair. With Rachael Harris, Steve Zahn, and Devon Bostick. 2010.
★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Exit through the Gift Shop — Halfway engaging, halfway aggravating documentary on street art and its inevitable commercialization. Signed by the pseudonymous Banksy, a British graffiti artist who zealously guards his true identity (“The Scarlet Pimpernel of Street Art,” as one newspaper headline puts it) and who appears here on screen wearing a hoodie in silhouette or with his face digitalized, the film ostensibly began as the work of Thierry Guetta, a mutt-chopped French émigré who operated a vintage clothing store in L.A., became an obsessive amateur videographer, trained his camera in particular on the activities of guerrilla artists, turned himself into one of them under the moniker of Mr. Brain Wash, and ostensibly edited his footage into an unreleasable mess, at which point Banksy ostensibly took over the project, utilizing and supplementing Guetta’s footage, whipping it into the present shape. We must keep saying “ostensibly” because — well, who knows? Anonymity is not a trustworthy persona for a documentarist, especially one with a prior reputation, a prior rap sheet, as a prankster. (Nor does the irony-dripping narration delivered by Rhys Ifans inspire much confidence.) Whatever the provenance or purpose, we have here a lot of footage of street artists in action, poor in quality but suffi-

cient in quantity to enable us to gauge the range of cleverness, and to think our worst thoughts about the impact of money and hype in the art world. “Anthropologically, sociologically,” remarks street artist Shepard Fairey, *a/k/a* Space Invader, who could be talking about the film itself, “it’s a fascinating thing to observe.” Artistically, aesthetically, it’s a confounding thing. 2010.
★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

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; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; 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 silent collaborator who has unaccountably left his car on the ferry and washed up on shore: accident? suicide? And is it only a coincidence that the ex-P.M. is just now coming under fire for alleged human-rights violations in the War on Terror? The adaptation of a Robert Harris political potboiler really doesn’t amount to much: standard portions of knee-jerk paranoia and mechanical plotting, to say nothing of the so-what final revelation that feels as concocted as it feels anticlimactic. But director Roman Polanski proves himself a masterful judge of the material, pacing himself prudently, walking a razor’s edge between anxiety and mirth, allowing the plot to unfold without rush, getting to know the cast of characters as palpable human beings — Olivia Williams a standout as the politician’s astringent wife — and keeping the bedrock of political piety pretty well buried. When at last he elects to turn up the heat — the brilliant device of following a preprogrammed computer route in the dead man’s car to a destination unknown, the prickly interview that awaits at that destination (“A less equable man than I,” rasps a pedantic Tom Wilkinson, “might begin to find your questions impertinent”), and the black sedan with tinted windows lurking outside afterwards — the effect is delectable. A sustained tingle. It may not hold all the way to the end, but it comes close. Kim Cattrall, Timothy Hutton, James Belushi, Eli Wallach. 2010.
★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; HORTON PLAZA 14)

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo — Homegrown adaptation by Niels Arden Oplev of the international best-seller by Stieg Larsson, from the Scandinavian wave of detective novels. The movie, like the book, is long: two and a half hours with almost half an hour of anti- or post-climax. In the early going, it juggles two separate cases and two separate investigators, a Leftist muckraking journalist (Michael Nyqvist, with his Richard Burtonish full-moon cratered face) and a security-firm computer geek (Noomi Rapace, a sort of young Claire Bloom) who sports two nose rings, numerous ear piercings, a Goth hairdo and wardrobe, and of course the titular tattoo over her entire back. Eventually the two investigators team up on the sketchier and shakier of the cases: the forty-year-old disappearance and presumed murder of a teenage girl whose body, on a sealed-off island, was never recovered. Mystery fans’ alarm bells will begin ringing even before the girl’s favorite uncle explains how she was in the habit of giving him an annual framed botanical and how he has continued annually to receive an anonymous framed botanical which he theorizes has been sent tauntingly by her killer. Kooky theory. Per-

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haps our indignity over the multiple revelations of ugly sexual violence is hoped to blind us to the shoddy plotting and the plodding development. (That, and perhaps also the cracklingly crisp photography.) But the would-be “touching” ending will be soured by the unasked question of how many women were raped, tortured, and murdered over those forty years so that we could have a touching ending. 2009.

● (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

The Good, the Bad, the Weird — Asian Western set in WWII-time Manchuria, directed by Ji-woon Kim. (KEN, FROM 5/14)

Greenberg — Noah Baumbach, writer and director of *The Squid and the Whale*, features Ben Stiller as a kind of middle-aged-crazy Jesse Eisenberg (nose up, shoulders forward), a self-absorbed self-conscious ineffectual intellectual, who, upon his release from a mental hospital, wants to concentrate on “really trying to do nothing for a while,” aside from house-sitting for his brother in Los Angeles, maybe building a doghouse for Mahler the family pet, firing off letters of complaint to impervious corporations, and, not least, drinking like a fish. The fecklessness infects the entire film, which is sort of like a Woody Allen without the polished one-liners. Greta Gerwig, a diva of the “mumblecore” movement, as the brother’s personal assistant who is always on call to assist, has an odd, ditz, dishraggy appeal. With Rhys Ifans and Jennifer Jason Leigh (Baumbach’s wife, who co-wrote the story with him). 2010.

★ (GASLAMP 15)

Hot Tub Time Machine — Guy-jinks involving three middle-aged buddies and a nephew who, for R&R, repair to a rundown mountain resort, the playground of their salad days, where a malfunctioning hot tub transports them magically (as opposed to science-fictionally) back to 1986. They still look middle-aged to us and themselves, but everyone else sees them as their younger selves, excepting the already young nephew, who looks no younger. So we get all the raunch and all the grossness of guy comedy, and all the slobby appearance in photography and set design, plus all the irrationalities of time travel into the bargain. And what sense does it make for one time traveller to tell the dwellers in 1986 that “John Lennon gets shot”? John Lennon got shot six years earlier. With John Cusack, Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson, Clark Duke, Chevy Chase, Crispin Glover, and Lizzy Caplan; directed by Steve Pink. 2010.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15)

How to Train Your Dragon — Computer-animated, seemingly computer-written, Viking tale, revolving around a twiggy little lad named Hiccup, “different” from his stout fellows, odd, aberrant, queer you might say, who rather than slay dragons, gets to know them, understands them, negotiates for peace between the species, yet still proves his mettle as a “real” Viking in a cataclysmic climactic battle against a unifying monster beyond all understanding. A movie awash in wishfulness. Available in 3-D. With the voices of Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler, Craig Ferguson, and America Ferrera; directed by Dean DuBouis and Chris Sanders. 2010.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14)

The Hurt Locker — Fictitious countdown of the final six weeks in the twelve-month tour of an army bomb squad in Baghdad. The living and working conditions in a

color-free wasteland appear perfectly credible, and the quasi-science-fictional details of the job — the spaceman protective suits, the remote-control bomb-sniffing robot, the tangle of colored wires, the hide-and-seek triggers — are highly enlightening. And the defusing of bombs — the constant prospect of their blowing up in our faces — carries a guaranteed tension, as witness such forerunners as Robert Aldrich’s *Ten Seconds to Hell* or Michael Powell’s and Emeric Pressburger’s *The Small Back Room*. The ambush in mid-desert, outside the squad’s normal sphere of operations, is if anything even tenser: more unpredictable, more open to possibilities. Kathryn Bigelow, one of the rare female action directors, dead-set on matching any man in muscle, favors here the combat-footage filmmaking style of jostles and jars to the camera, punchy zooms, whiplashing pans, and a chronic shaky hand, not necessarily restricted to scenes of combat. This is trendy at best, a tired cliché at worst. (The amplified heartbeat and the slo-mo explosion ought to be put to bed for a rest period of not less than a generation.) She takes a lot of time on the action scenes, or more broadly the tension scenes, and not much time in between, so that the three principals — Jeremy Renner, Anthony Mackie, Brian Geraghty, each of them looking the part — are thin on character, static in development, no more than generic as opposed to individual soldiers. With Guy Pearce, Ralph Fiennes, David Morse. 2009.

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Iron Man 2 — Superhero sequel with Robert Downey, Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow, Scarlett Johansson, and Mickey Rourke, directed by Jon Favreau.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN

SQUARE 14)

Just Wright — Basketball romance with Queen Latifah, Common, Paula Patton, and Pam Grier, directed by Sanaa Hamri. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 5/14)

Kick-Ass — Alias *Smart-Ass*, a black comedy marking another advance in the decadence and self-consciousness of superhero mythologies. The central premise of a teenage comic-book geek (Aaron Johnson) donning a green wet suit with rosy yellow trim to act out his crime-fighting fantasies, prosaically dubbing himself Kick-Ass for the purpose, is not as original as the script makes believe — “How come nobody’s ever tried to be a superhero?” — although the current generation of fanboys (were they known as fanboys before the current generation?) could not be expected to remember a thing like *Nunzio*, dated 1978. (Things like *Blankman* and *Unbreakable* are not so dust-covered.) Such a premise cannot stay for long in touch with “reality,” and soon the teen sex comedy — “My only superpower was being invisible to girls” — crosses paths with a *Death Wish* revenge story, and a “real” superhero surfaces: Big Daddy in a Batsuit knockoff (Nicolas Cage) and his bred-from-the-cradle prepubescent sidekick, the raccoon-masked, purple-haired Hit Girl (Chloe Grace Moretz, who steals the show from her elders), together pressing a private vendetta against a Manhattan druglord (the tritely cast Mark Strong). You might say that the film deconstructs and then reconstructs the superhero fantasy, or anyway you might say it if those words are in your vocabulary. And if truly gory and nasty and ugly violence does not drag down or perhaps even boosts up your high spirits (consider Tarantino a test case), you are fairly well guaranteed to get at least a little kick out of it. Directed by Matthew Vaughn. 2010.

★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

The Last Song — Miley Cyrus gets to shed her Hannah Montana alter ego for an insipid summer romance, thick with pop songs and montages, from the sparkless pen of Nicholas Sparks. The central character, a one-time piano prodigy accepted into Juilliard on past performance, though she hasn’t touched a keyboard in years, goes griping to Georgia, together with her little brother, to read Tolstoy, to save turtles, and principally to reconnect with her estranged father before (spoiler alert) his surrender to cancer, and, in a meet-cute, she literally bumps into a blond beach volleyballer, spilling her milkshake down her front, who turns out (spoiler alert) to be a plantation-bred blueblood. Along the way, she sulks, she sasses, she flounces off in countless huffs, she cries, she laughs, she kisses, she sings along to the car radio, she tries on girly dresses for a wedding at which we never meet either the bride or the groom,

and she plays a piano solo at her father’s funeral so stirringly as to summon up an invisible orchestra in accompaniment. Altogether, she proves herself a perfectly adequate actress for a piece of dreck. As an example for the girls of America, her level, declarative, strong, sour speaking voice is surely preferable to the generational epidemic of wee, high, squeaky, helium-filled voices. Her hunched shoulders, giving her body the appearance of hanging on a coat hook, are another matter. With Liam Hemsworth, Greg Kinnear, Bobby Coleman, and Kelly Preston; directed by Julie Anne Robinson. 2010.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18)

Letters to Juliet — The poise and grace of Vanessa Redgrave, her reunion on screen with Franco Nero (her Lancelot in *Camelot*, the father of one of her children), and a mouthwatering tour of Tuscany are insufficient counterweights to the slop bucket of false sentiments about romantic love. With Amanda Seyfried, Christopher Egan, and Gael García Bernal; directed by Gary

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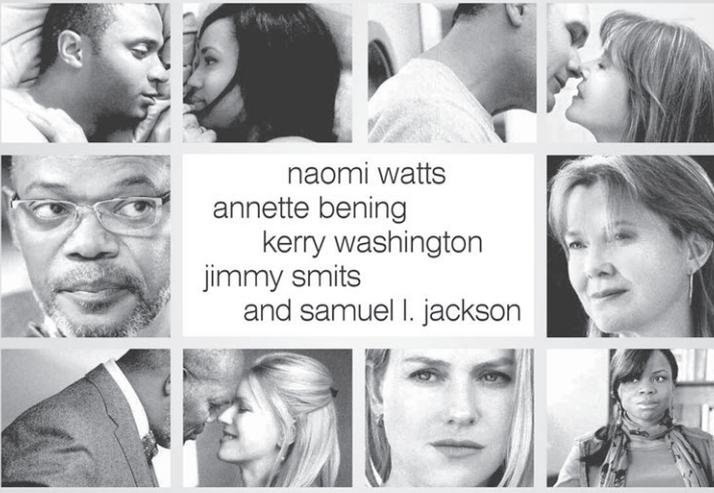
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The Losers — Preening action film about a five-man commando team with a delicate moral sense and robust appetite for fun. Idris Elba acts as though he were playing a

real character instead of a video-game simulacrum. With Jeffrey Dean Morgan, Zoë Saldana, Chris Evans, and Jason Patric; directed by Sylvain White. 2010.

● (GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; PLAZA BONITA 14)

La Mission — A Bratt Family project, set in their native Mission District in San Francisco, written and directed by Peter Bratt and starring his better-known brother Benjamin as a recovering alcoholic ex-con, a leisure-time lowrider and full-time macho man, unable to accept that his straight-A

son isn't straight: "From now on, you're fucking dead to me." A forceful performance despite the stereotypical, predictable, exasperating nature of the character, and despite the teacherly, preacherly dramatization. With Jeremy Ray Valdez, Erika Alexander, and, the star's wife, Talisa Soto Bratt. 2010. ★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; PALM PROMENADE 24)

Mother and Child — Rodrigo García's tale of three women, played by Annette Bening, Naomi Watts, and Kerry Washington. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE, FROM 5/14)

A Nightmare on Elm Street — Back to square one with a new Freddy Krueger (Jackie Earle Haley), directed by Samuel Bayer. (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14)

No One Knows about Persian Cats — Shaggy dramatization of the perils of rock-and-roll in repressive Iran. Through photography often out of focus and carelessly

framed, we get the general idea even if we do not get the full impact. One fine and funny scene of a motor-mouthed bootlegger talking his way out of a grilling at police headquarters. The unpretentious songs are occasions for makeshift music videos. With Negar Shaghghi, Ashkan Koshanejad, and Hamed Behdad; directed by Bahman Ghobadi. 2009. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

Oceans — The *Winged Migration* team, Jacques Perrin and Jacques Cluzaud, take their clear-eyed cameras out of the air and into the water, carrying on in the wake of

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Showtimes subject to change.
(Bargain showtimes in parentheses.)

CENTRAL

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Carmel Mountain 14

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (800-326-3264 #2704)

The Back-Up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. 7:40, 10:05 Sun. 7:40p.m.; **City Island** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 1:15, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55, 10:10 Sun. (11:00, 1:15, 3:25) 5:40, 7:55; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:20, 1:20, 3:35) 5:35, 7:50, 10:00 Sun. (11:20, 1:20, 3:35) 5:35, 7:50; **Diary of a Wimpy Kid** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 1:00, 3:10) 5:25; **Fury Vengeance** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:55, 1:10, 3:15) 5:20, 7:35, 9:45 Sun. (10:55, 1:10, 3:15) 5:20, 7:35; **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:35, 2:20) 4:50, 7:40, 10:20 Sun. (11:35, 2:20) 4:50, 7:40; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:25, 2:00) 4:15, 7:05, 9:25 Sun. (11:25, 2:00) 4:15, 7:05; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:35, 11:30, 1:15, 2:15) 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:35 Sun. (10:35, 11:30, 1:15, 2:15) 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; **Just Wright** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:05, 3:30)

5:45, 8:05, 10:25 Sun. (10:45, 1:05, 3:30) 5:45, 8:05; **Letters to Juliet** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:45, 2:30) 5:05, 7:45, 10:15 Sun. (11:45, 2:30) 5:05, 7:45; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 11:15, 1:30, 2:20) 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:15, 1:30, 2:20) 4:30, 5:30, 7:30

CLAIREMONT

Town Square 14

4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)

Babies (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 1:15, 3:10) 5:05, 7:20, 9:25; **The Back-Up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 12:55, 2:55) 5:00, 7:05, 9:20; **Fury Vengeance** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:10, 3:20) 5:30; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:20); **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (3:00) 5:20, 7:30; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (3:50) 6:30, 9:30 Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 11:30, 12:15, 1:35, 2:20, 3:05) 4:25, 5:10, 5:55, 7:15, 8:00, 8:45, 10:05, 10:50, 11:30 Sun. (10:45, 11:30, 12:15, 1:35, 2:20, 3:05) 4:25, 5:10, 5:55, 7:15, 8:00, 8:45, 10:05, 10:50; **Just Wright** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 1:05, 3:25) 5:40, 8:05, 10:20; **Letters to Juliet** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 12:10, 1:45, 2:45) 4:15, 5:15, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40; **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) Fri.-Sun. 9:55p.m.; **Oceans** (G) Fri.-Sun.

(10:40, 12:45); **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:30, 11:15, 12:50, 1:40, 2:25, 3:55) 4:40, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30 Sun. (10:30, 11:15, 12:50, 1:40, 2:25, 3:55) 4:40, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:00, 10:45

DOWNTOWN

Gaslamp 15

701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)

The Back-Up Plan (PG-13); **Crazy Heart** (R); **Death at a Funeral** (R); **Greenberg** (R); **Hot Tub Time Machine** (R); **The Hurt Locker** (R); **The Losers** (PG-13); **No One Knows about Persian Cats** (Not Rated); **Robin Hood** (PG-13); **Shinjuku Incident** (R); **Shutter Island** (R); **Terribly Happy** (Not Rated); **Why Did I Get Married Too?** (Not Rated)

Horton Plaza 14

Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)

Clash of the Titans (PG-13) Fri. (12:25, 2:50, 5:25) Sat.-Sun. (12:25, 2:50) 5:25; **Clash of the Titans 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:25, 10:00; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. (12:05, 2:20, 4:40) 7:15, 9:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:05, 2:20) 4:40, 7:15, 9:35; **Fury Vengeance** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 2:15); **The Ghost Writer** (PG-13) Fri. (1:10, 4:05) 7:05, 9:55 Sat.-Sun. (1:10) 4:05, 7:05, 9:55; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun.

7:55, 10:15; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri. (12:20, 2:45, 5:05) Sat.-Sun. (12:20, 2:45) 5:05; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13) Fri. (12:30, 1:30, 2:00, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00) 6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 Fri. (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. (12:30, 1:30, 2:00, 3:30) 4:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30 Sat.-Sun. (1:00) 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; **Just Wright** (PG) Fri. (12:10, 2:35, 4:55) 7:20, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35) 4:55, 7:20, 9:50; **Kick-Ass** (R) Fri. (4:30) 7:10, 9:50 Sat.-Sun. 4:30, 7:10, 9:50; **Letters to Juliet** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 1:15, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10) 7:10, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10 Sat.-Sun. (12:15, 1:15, 2:40) 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 7:40, 9:40, 10:10; **A Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) Fri. (12:40, 2:55, 5:20) 7:35, 10:05 Sat.-Sun. (12:40, 2:55) 5:20, 7:35, 10:05; **The Runaways** (R) Fri. (12:35, 2:55, 5:15) 7:45, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (12:35, 2:55) 5:15, 7:45, 10:20

KENSINGTON

Ken

4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)

The Good, The Bad, The Weird (NR) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (5:00) 8:00, Sat. & Sun. (2:00) 5:00, 8:00; **The Human Centipede** (NR) Fri. & Sat. 11:00

LA JOLLA

La Jolla 12

8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)

Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:50) 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; **Princess Kaulani** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 2:05, 5:00, 7:55, 10:55; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 12:35, 1:35, 3:40, 4:40, 6:45, 7:45, 9:50, 10:50

La Jolla Village

8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)

Mother And Child (R) Fri. Mon.-Thu. (1:50) (5:00) 8:10, Sat. & Sun. (10:40) 1:50, 5:00, 8:10; **Babies** (PG) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (1:10) (3:10) (5:10), 7:20, 9:30, Sat. & Sun. (11:00), 1:10, 3:10, 5:10, 7:20, 9:30; **City Island** (PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (1:30) (4:20) 7:10, 9:40, Sat. & Sun. (10:50) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40; **The Secret in Their Eyes** (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (1:20) (4:10) 7:00, 9:50, Sat. & Sun. (10:30), 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50

MIRA MESA

Mira Mesa 18

10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)

Call theater for program information.

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MISSION HILLS

Cinema under the Stars

4040 Goldfinch Street (619-295-4221)
Bringing Up Baby (NR) Thu.-Sat. 8:30

MISSION VALLEY

Fashion Valley 18

7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
The Back-Up Plan; Clash of the Titans;
Date Night; Death at a Funeral; Furry
Vengeance; Hot Tub Time Machine; How
to Train Your Dragon; Iron Man 2; Just
Wright; Kick-Ass; The Last Song; Letters to
Juliet; A Nightmare on Elm Street; Robin
Hood

Mission Valley 7

7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)



Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri. & Sat. (12:30)
(3:00) 5:30, 8:15, 10:45 Sun.-Wed. (12:30)
(3:00) 5:30, 8:15, Thu. (10:00 am) (12:30)
(3:00) 5:30, 8:15; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.
& Sat. (11:30) (12:45) (3:30) 4:15, 7:15,
7:45, 10:15, 10:45, Sun.-Thu. (11:30) (12:45)
(3:30) 4:15, 7:15, 7:45; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13)
Fri. & Sat. (11:00) (1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00,
7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00, Sun.-Thu. (11:00)
(1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; **A
Nightmare on Elm Street (2010)** (R) Fri. &
Sat. (11:15) (1:30) (3:45) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45,
Sun.-Thu. (11:15) (1:30) (3:45) 6:15, 8:30;
Date Night (PG-13) Fri. & Sat.: (11:45)
(2:15) 4:45, 7:30, 9:45, Sun.-Wed. (11:45)
(2:15) 4:45, 7:30, Thu. (11:45) (2:15); **Barbie
in a Mermaid Tale** (NR) Sat. & Sun. 10:30
am;

Mission Valley 20

1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)
Alice in Wonderland; Babies; The Back-Up
Plan; Clash of the Titans; Date Night; How
to Train Your Dragon; Iron Man 2; Just
Wright; Kick-Ass; Letters to Juliet; The
Losers; A Nightmare on Elm Street; Robin
Hood

UPTOWN

Hillcrest Cinemas

3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Princess Kaiulani (PG) Fri. Mon.-Thu. (1:45)
(4:05) 7:10, 9:35, Sat. & Sun. (11:15) 1:45, 4:05,
7:10, 9:35; **Please Give** (R) Fri. Mon.-Thu.
(2:00) (4:35) 7:20, 9:45 Sat. & Sun. (11:30)
2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 9:45; **Exit through the Gift
Shop** (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (1:30) (3:50) 6:50,
9:25, Sat. & Sun. (11:00) 1:30, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25;
La Mission (R) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (4:20), 10:05,
Sat. & Sun. (10:45) 4:20, 10:05; **City Island**
(PG-13) Fri., Mon.-Thu. (1:30), (3:50), 6:50,
9:25, Sat. & Sun. (11:00) 1:30, 3:50, 6:50, 9:25;
The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (NR) Fri.,
Mon.-Thu. (1:15) 7:00, Sat. & Sun. (1:15) 7:00

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Hubble 3D (G) Fri. 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00
Sat. 10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00 Sun.
10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00; **Mystery of the
Nile** (Not Rated) Fri. 8:00p.m.; **Sea Monsters:
A Prehistoric Adventure** (Not Rated) Sun.
6:00p.m.; **The Dolphin (El delfin: La historia
de un sonador)** (Not Rated) Fri. 2:00p.m.
Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00; **The Greatest Places**
(Not Rated) Fri. 4:00p.m. Sat. 4:00, 6:00 Sun.
4:00p.m.; **Yellowstone** (Not Rated) Fri.
6:00p.m.

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Parkway Plaza 18

405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Grossmont Center 10

5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264
#2710)
Babies (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 1:50, 3:45) 5:40,
7:35, 9:30; **The Back-Up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-
Sun. (11:05, 3:30) 5:50; **Date Night** (PG-13)

Fri.-Sun. (1:25) 8:10, 10:20; **How to Train
Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:15, 2:40) 5:00;
Iron Man 2 (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:45,
12:40, 1:35, 2:30, 3:25) 4:20, 5:15, 6:15, 7:05,
8:00, 9:00, 9:55, 10:45; **Letters to Juliet** (PG)
Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 12:00, 1:15, 2:25, 3:35) 4:50,
5:55, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40, 10:40; **A Nightmare on
Elm Street** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:25, 9:45; **Robin
Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:55, 1:45,
2:55) 4:45, 6:00, 7:50, 9:10, 10:50

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Rancho San Diego 15

2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
The Back-Up Plan (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:15,
3:15) 6:40, 9:35; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.
(11:10, 2:35, 4:55) 8:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:10, 2:35)
4:55, 8:20; **Death at a Funeral** (R) Fri.-Sun.
10:35p.m.; **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG)
Fri. (11:20, 2:10, 4:45) 7:15, 9:45 Sat.-Sun.
(11:20, 2:10) 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; **Iron Man 2**
(PG-13) Fri. (11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00, 2:30,
3:00, 3:25, 4:30) 5:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:30,
9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:30 Fri. (11:00, 2:00, 5:00)
8:00, 11:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:00,
2:30, 3:00, 3:25) 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30,
8:30, 9:30, 10:00; **Just Wright** (PG) Fri.
(11:50, 2:40, 5:05) 7:40, 10:25 Sat.-Sun. (11:50,
2:40) 5:05, 7:40, 10:25; **Letters to Juliet** (PG)
Fri. (11:15, 11:40, 1:50, 2:25, 4:40, 5:10) 7:20,
7:50, 10:10, 10:40 Sat.-Sun. (11:15, 11:40, 1:50,
2:25) 4:40, 5:10, 7:20, 7:50, 10:10, 10:40; **A
Nightmare on Elm Street** (R) Fri. (11:45,
2:15, 4:50) 8:15, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (11:45, 2:15)
4:50, 8:15, 10:50; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-
Sun. (11:05, 11:35, 12:05, 2:20, 2:50, 3:20) 6:35,
7:05, 7:35, 9:50, 10:20, 10:45

SANTEE

Santee Drive In

10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
The Back-Up Plan (PG-13); **Date Night**
(PG-13); **How to Train Your Dragon** (PG);
Iron Man 2 (PG-13)

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

Chula Vista 10

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



Just Wright (PG) Fri. & Sat. (11:15) (1:30)
(4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45, Sun. (11:15) (1:30)
(4:00) 6:15, 8:30, Mon.-Thu. (4:00) 6:15,
8:30; **Letters to Juliet** (PG) Fri. & Sat.
(12:00) (2:45) 5:30, 8:15, 10:45, Sun. (12:00)
(2:45) 5:30, 8:15, Mon.-Thu. 5:30, 8:15;
Robin Hood (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (12:15)
(12:45) (3:45) 4:15, 7:15, 7:45, 10:15, 10:45,
Sun. (12:15) (12:45) (3:45) 4:15, 7:15, 7:45,
Mon.-Thu. (3:45) 4:15, 7:15, 7:45; **Iron Man 2**
2 Fri. & Sat. (11:00) (1:00) (2:00) (4:00)
5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00, Sun. (11:00)
(1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, Mon.-
Thu. (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; **Furry
Vengeance** (PG) Fri. & Sat. (11:00) (1:15)
(3:30) 5:45, 8:15, 10:30, Sun. (11:00) (1:15)
(3:30) 5:45, 8:15, Mon.-Thu. (3:30) 5:45,
8:15; **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; **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; **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; Mon.-Wed.:
5:15, 7:45; **Barbie in a Mermaid Tale** (NR)
Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

Otay Ranch 12

Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)
The Back-Up Plan; **Date Night**; **Furry
Vengeance**; **Iron Man 2**; **Just Wright**; **Let-
ters to Juliet**; **A Nightmare on Elm Street**;
Robin Hood

Palm Promenade 24

770 Dennerly Road (888-262-4386)
The Back-Up Plan (PG-13); **Diary of a
Wimpy Kid** (PG); **How to Train Your
Dragon** (PG); **Iron Man 2** (PG-13); **Just
Wright** (PG); **Kick-Ass** (R); **Letters to Juliet**
(PG); **La Mission** (R); **A Nightmare on Elm**

Street (R); **Princess Kaiulani** (PG); **Robin
Hood** (PG-13)

Rancho Del Rey 16

1025 Tierra del Rey (off East H Street)
(619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information.

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)
The Back-Up Plan (PG-13); **Clash of the Ti-
tans** (PG-13); **Date Night** (PG-13); **Death at
a Funeral** (R); **Furry Vengeance** (PG); **How
to Train Your Dragon** (PG); **Iron Man 2**
(PG-13); **Just Wright** (PG); **Letters to Juliet**
(PG); **The Losers** (PG-13); **A Nightmare on
Elm Street** (R); **Robin Hood** (PG-13)

NORTH INLAND

ESCONDIDO

Escondido 16

350 West Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information.

FALLBROOK

River Village 6

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



Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri. & Sat. (11:30)
(2:15) 4:45, 7:15, 10:00, Sun. (11:30) (2:15)
4:45, 7:15, Mon.-Thu. 4:45, 7:15; **Robin
Hood** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (12:45) 4:15, 7:30,
10:30, Sun. (12:45) 4:15, 7:30, Mon.-Thu.
4:15, 7:30; **Iron Man 2** Fri. & Sat. (11:00)
(1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00,
11:00, Sun. (11:00) (1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00,
7:00, 8:00, Mon.-Thu. (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00;
A Nightmare on Elm Street (2010) (R) Fri.
& Sat. (12:30) (3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:00, Sun.
(12:30) (3:15) 5:30, 7:45, Mon.-Thu. (3:15)
5:30, 7:45; **How to Train Your Dragon 3D**
(PG) Fri. & Sat. (11:15) (1:45) 4:30, 7:00,
9:30, Sun. (11:15) (1:45) 4:30, 7:00, Mon.-
Thu. 4:30, 7:00; **Barbie in a Mermaid Tale**
(NR) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

POWAY

Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)



Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri. & Sat. (12:45)
(3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun.-Tue. (12:45)
(3:15) 5:45, 8:15, Wed. (10:00) (12:45)
(3:15) 5:45, 8:15, Thu. (12:45) (3:15) 5:45,
8:15; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (11:30)
(12:45) (3:30) 4:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 10:15,
10:45, Sun.-Thu. (11:30) (12:45) (3:30) 4:15,
7:00, 7:45, 8:30; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13) Fri. &
Sat. (11:00) (1:00) (2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00,
8:00, 10:00, 11:00, Sun.-Thu. (11:00) (1:00)
(2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; **Furry
Vengeance** (PG) Fri.-Thu. (11:00) (1:15)
(3:45) 6:00; **A Nightmare on Elm Street
(2010)** (R) (R) Fri. & Sat. (12:30) (3:00)
5:30, 7:45, 10:15, Sun.-Thu. (12:30) (3:00)
5:30, 7:45; **The Back-up Plan** (PG-13) Fri. &
Sat. (11:15) (1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, Sun.-
Thu. (11:15) (1:45) 4:30, 7:15; **Date Night**
(PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (11:45) (2:30) 5:15, 7:30,
9:45, Sun.-Thu. (11:45) (2:30) 5:15, 7:30;
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) Fri. &
Sat. (11:15) (1:30) (4:00) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45,
Sun.-Thu. (11:15) (1:30) (4:00) 6:15, 8:30;
Barbie in a Mermaid Tale (NR) Sat. & Sun.:
10:30 am

SAN MARCOS

San Marcos 18

1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old
California Walk) (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

VISTA

Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive
(760-945-7469)

Alice in Wonderland (PG) Fri.-Sun.
(10:50a.m.); **The Back-Up Plan** (PG-13) Fri.-
Sun. 7:15, 9:40; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun.
(1:20, 3:30, 5:40) 7:55, 10:15; **Furry Vengeance**
(PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:50, 2:15, 4:45); **How to
Train Your Dragon** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30,
2:00, 4:30) 7:00, 9:30; **Iron Man 2** (PG-13)
Fri.-Sat. (10:10, 10:50, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30, 1:10,
1:50, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30) 6:05,
6:30, 7:10, 7:50, 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:10, 10:50,
11:30 Sun. (10:10, 10:50, 11:30, 12:00, 12:30,
1:10, 1:50, 2:30, 3:00, 3:30, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30)
6:05, 6:30; **Just Wright** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45,
2:25, 5:05) 7:35, 10:15; **Letters to Juliet** (PG)
Fri.-Sun. (10:15, 12:00, 12:40, 2:20, 3:05, 4:40,
5:25) 7:05, 7:45, 9:25, 10:10; **A Nightmare on
Elm Street** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:20, 2:50, 5:15)
7:40, 10:05; **Robin Hood** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat.
(10:20, 11:00, 12:40, 1:20, 2:00, 3:40, 4:20, 5:00)
6:40, 7:20, 8:00, 9:40, 10:20, 11:00 Sun. (10:20,
11:00, 12:40, 1:20, 2:00, 3:40, 4:20, 5:00) 6:40,
7:20, 8:00, 9:40, 10:20

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Call theater for program information.

DEL MAR

Del Mar Highlands 8

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



Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri. & Sat. (10:15)
(12:45) (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun.-Tue.
(10:15) (12:45) (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, Wed.
(10:00) (12:45) (3:15) 5:45, 8:15, Thu.
(10:15) (12:45) (3:15) 5:45, 8:15; **Robin
Hood** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (10:15) (10:45)
(1:15) (1:45) 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:30,
10:15, 10:45, Sun.-Thu. (10:15) (10:45) (1:15)
(1:45) 4:15, 4:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:30; **Iron Man
2** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (10:00) (11:00) (1:00)
(2:00) (4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 11:00,
Sun.-Thu. (10:00) (11:00) (1:00) (2:00)
(4:00) 5:00, 7:00, 8:00; **Furry Vengeance**
(PG) Fri. (11:15) (1:30) (3:45) 6:00, Sat.
(1:30) (3:45) 6:00, Sun.-Thu. (11:15) (1:30)
(3:45) 6:00; **Date Night** (PG-13) Fri. (10:00)
(12:15) (2:45) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, Sat. 5:15,
7:30, 9:45, Sun. (12:15) (2:45) 5:15, 7:30,
Mon.-Thu. (10:00) (12:15) (2:45) 5:15, 7:30;
How to Train Your Dragon 3D (PG) Fri.
(10:00) (12:30) (3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:15, Sat.
(12:30) (3:00) 5:30, 8:00, 10:15, Sun.-Thu.
(10:00) (12:30) (3:00) 5:30, 8:00; **Barbie in
a Mermaid Tale** (NR) Sat. & Sun.: 10:30 am

Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)



Letters to Juliet (PG) 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; **Babies**
(PG) Fri. & Sat. (10:00) (12:15) (2:30) 4:45,
7:00, 9:30, Sun.-Thu. (10:00) (12:15) (2:30)
4:45, 7:00; **The Secret in Their Eyes** (R) Fri.
& Sat. (10:30) (1:30) 4:30, 7:30, 10:30, Sun.-
Thu. (10:30) (1:30) 4:30, 7:30; **City Island**
(PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (10:15) (12:45) (3:15)
5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun.-Thu. (10:15) (12:45)

(3:15) 5:45, 8:15

ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
Kick-Ass (R) Fri. 9:00p.m. Sat.-Sun. (1:45)
9:00; **The Runaways** (R) Fri. 6:40p.m. Sat.-
Sun. (4:20) 6:40

LA COSTA

La Costa 6

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



Letters to Juliet (PG) Fri. & Sat. (10:00)
12:30, (3:00) 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun.-Thu.
(10:00) 12:30, (3:00) 5:45, 8:15; **Robin
Hood** (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. (10:

Calendar MOVIES

another Jacques — Cousteau — to build a big-screen aquarium, phantasmagoric in effect, and maybe sometimes stupefying. A fair amount of fish-eat-fish and bird-eat-fish, to say nothing of man-eat-fish, churns up an undercurrent of grimness. 2009.

★ (GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; TOWN SQUARE 14)

SEEN ON DVD



Fight Club

TYLER RICHARDS HEWES

Executive director, Orchestra Nova, orchestranova.org

My friend Trevor hosts the occasional Man Night at his house; we watch “manly” movies, drink beer, eat pizza, and add our own commentary. The movies always have a strong action vibe and range from very smart to very, very dumb. Here are two examples. Based on the Chuck Palahniuk novel of the same name, *Fight Club* is a pitch-black joy. Perfect for the testosterone-fest that is a Man Night. How often does a movie make you turn to your friend and ask if he'll punch you in the face? The film is also cerebral in its own way.

Bad Boys I and II by Michael Bay are loud, fast, unrepentantly stupid, and lots of fun. With recycled plots and generic characters, Bay loads up the frame with fast cars, slick cinematography and well-executed gun battles. Overblown action doesn't have a more assured master than Bay, and these *Bad Boys* are his magnum opus.

FIGHT CLUB (USA) 1999,
Twentieth Century Fox
List price: \$19.98

BAD BOYS/BAD BOYS II (USA)
1995/2003, Sony Pictures
List price: \$19.94

Please Give — Writer-director Nicole Holofcener, of *Friends with Money*, *Lovely and Amazing*, *Walking and Talking*, transfers her base of operations from the Big Orange to the Big Apple, to consider matters of vanity and charity, love and lust, life and death, among two intersecting circles, or intersecting triangles, of characters. Something of a Nora Ephron without the same craving for popularity, Holofcener is a fount of sophisticated, tart, facile, casual, and, not necessarily all at once, trivial observations on her chosen sphere: the *de rigueur* autumn-in-New-York activity of “going to see the leaves,” the shade of hair dye expres-

sively labelled “menopausal red,” bad skin, salon tans, overdefined muscles, disproportionate height. And the like. All of that sort of thing — and there's very little of any other sort of thing — could appear inconsequential except for the cumulative sense of being in the flow of life, noticing the world around us, reacting to it, grappling with it. That's no small exception: a movie, to put a finer point on it, that makes you feel alive. With Catherine Keener, Oliver Platt, Rebecca Hall, Amanda Peet, Sarah Steele, and Ann Morgan Guilbert. 2010. ★★★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)



Lethal Weapon

TREVOR WALKER-BENNETT

Systems administrator, UCSD

Here are the best manly Christmas movies of the '80s. *Lethal Weapon* is the quintessential “buddy cop” movie. From Jackie Swanson's topless introduction to Mel Gibson and Gary Busey's final fight, *Lethal Weapon* delivers an unapologetic cop drama where good guys shoot bad guys and to hell with the consequences. Plus it takes place at Christmas. I must say, I will never get too old for this s@#t.

And what could be more appropriate for the holidays than Bruce Willis swinging through a window, guns blazing, while a helicopter explodes above him? *Die Hard* remains one of my favorite action movies. The bad guys are ruthless and merciless, the good guys take no prisoners, and the action moves along from the moment Alan Rickman shows up sporting a German accent. Bloody, loud, and full of the best one-liners in cheesy cinematic history, *Die Hard* definitely ranks as my favorite Christmas flick.

LETHAL WEAPON (USA) 1987,
Warner Brothers
List price: \$19.98

DIE HARD (USA) 1987,
Twentieth Century Fox
List price: \$14.98



Robocop

SHERIEF ABDEL-RAHMAN

Software engineer, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems

Ask an auto enthusiast about his favorite movies, and one of them is likely to be *Ronin*. It's the *Bullitt* of the modern generation. John Frankenheimer assembled a talented cast for this fast-paced thriller, but their stardom is rivaled by the high-performance European machines featured in its spectacular, edge-of-your-seat chases through narrow European streets. A welcome contrast to today's dumb, overblown action movies; the budget is modest, the directing is tight, and the only soundtrack is gunfire, roaring engines, and screeching tires.

Sci-fi doesn't get much manlier than *Robocop*. Set in a dystopian future Detroit run and owned by a mega-corporation, *Robocop* is a satire of American culture and a critique of our consumerist lifestyle. It also has a heroically awesome soundtrack. It'll make you want to go out and punch something. Part black comedy, part ultra-violent action, part philosophical satire, *Robocop* is all classic.

RONIN (England/USA) 1998,
MGM

List price: \$14.98

ROBOCOP (USA) 1987,
Orion Pictures
List price: \$14.98

Princess Kaiulani — Hawaiian historical drama with Q'orianka Kilcher, Barry Pepper, and Will Patton, directed by Marc Forby.

(HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; FROM 5/14)

Ran — The happy coincidence of an actual old man (Akira Kurosawa, age seventy-five) electing to do a treatment of *King Lear* opens plenty of room to read things into it, and thereby to overrate it. The familiar story, freely altered to fit into the samurai genre, even down to a sex change in the three contentious offspring, retains all of its universal potency, and perhaps even picks up some extra, from the traditional Japanese perspective, in the characterization of the shockingly violent and emasculating warrior's wife, soon his widow, sooner again his brother's wife. (Great detail: her taking time out from sham weeping to crush a wayward moth, and without missing a sob.) But the movie is still rather surprisingly slow and static to have come from one of the past trailblazers of the kinetic. Its untainted showpiece is the battle scene that precipitates the protagonist's “madness,” a jagged mosaic of the horrors of war, with startlingly beautiful effects from a pretty-pink fusillade of gunpowder flashes or a shower of flaming arrows, and carried on for at least half its length with no sound effects at all, only a thick blanket of Brucknerian music. This scene alone, beyond such a standard measurement as being Worth The Price Of Admission, proves conclusively that Kurosawa has not lost so many faculties as to make him fair competition for the mob of moviemakers. And in that sense one certainly ought to be careful not to identify the director too closely with his central character. Tatsuya Nakadai. 1985. ★★★ (KEN, THROUGH 5/13)

Robin Hood — Ridley Scott retells the legend with Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, William Hurt, Mark Strong, and Mark Addy. (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RIVER VILLAGE 6; TOWN SQUARE 14; FROM 5/14)

The Runaways — The story of the eponymous all-girl rock band assembles some backstage clichés to facilitate the continued growth, right before our eyes, of Kristen Stewart and Dakota Fanning, as guitarist Joan Jett and vocalist Cherie Currie respectively. “This isn't about women's lib,” announces their mid-Seventies Svengali. “This is about women's libido.” (Tired cliché, twice used, is the dreaming of dreams beneath the Hollywood sign.) You might expect a degree of candor in a movie that starts out with a splash of menstrual blood (Fanning) on the pavement outside the Pup 'n' Fries, or that permits revenge to be taken on a chauvinist-piggy rock star by peeing (Stewart) on his guitar. And yet, in first-time filmmaker Floria Sigismondi's screenplay, we hardly get to know these people beyond Currie's curious tolerance for the sappy “Starry Starry Night” of Don McLean. Was that Sapphic kiss just a kiss? Was there ever a sequel to it? Or is it simply another growth spurt for Stewart and Fanning? In the void, the movie emerges as scarcely more than costume-party dress-up. (Theme: the Me Decade.) The two leads unquestionably look their parts — the jet-black Jett with her Kabuki hair and the jail-bait Currie, “a little Bowie, a little Bardot,” and, we might add, a little Lolita — but their natural modes, Stewart's tortured introversion and Fanning's fawnlike timidity, are a lot to overcome in the roles of barrier-smashing rockers, and they neither of them overcome it. 2010.

★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA)

The Secret in Their Eyes — From Argentina, an old-fashioned slick manipulative commercial entertainment that took home the Oscar for foreign film. Firm-footed, smooth-surfaced, it centers on a retired public prosecutor struggling to write a novel on a nagging twenty-year-old case, the rape and murder of a newlywed schoolteacher. Generating suspense partly through its coyness as to the outcome of that case, the film shuttles between two time zones, then and now, plainly signalling the period by way of the relative blackness or grayness of the beard and hair of the leading man, Ricardo Darin, a masterly underplayer, a shrewd economizer, a dignified sublimator, once you get past his constant look of acid indigestion. In addition to Darin's tormented hero, the film is filled with well-drawn characters: his alluring but seemingly unattainable new boss (Soledad Villamil), still at work — now a judge — and still alluring twenty-odd years after the murder case; his erratic alcoholic colleague; the sarcastic tyrannical department head; the self-aggrandizing policeman; the obsessed husband of the victim; and, when at length he turns up, the hateful perpetrator. The sturdy storyline braids together a number of complementary strands — the unravelling of a mystery, for starters, with flashes of psychological and philosophical insight worthy of Simenon; political corruption (but of course) and abuse of power; unrequited love; the regrets of advanced age — en route to a satisfying if unsurprising surprise ending. Directed by Juan José Campanella. 2009. ★★★ (FLOWER HILL 4; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Shutter Island — “Disturbing” would be one word, maybe the best word, for Martin Scorsese's adaptation of the Fifties-period Dennis Lehane detective novel. Nothing, let's be clear, in the list of ingredients — the Alcatraz asylum for the criminally insane, the locked-room mystery of a vanished female inmate, the dreamland visitations from the detective's dead wife, his guilty flashbacks to WWII, his allegations of Nazi-like medical experiments funded by HUAC, the approaching hurricane — is particularly disturbing. Although all of it is likely to cause difficulty in swallowing, the locked-room part of it is actually appetizing. What's disturbing, by and by, is to see a director of Scorsese's stature (not physical stature of course) stooping to the unscrupulous bait-and-switch tactics that have become a vogue, if not a full-blown genre, ever since *The Sixth Sense*. The thickening Kafka-esque atmosphere, as befits a rat in a maze, alerts us that we're not going to get the type of locked-room solution we expect from a detective like Dr. Gideon Fell. But it is only our instilled deference to Scorsese that would prevent us from anticipating, at the heart of the maze, the cheesy cheat which makes nonsense of everything we've come through. Or if not nonsense, at best irrelevance and at worst malpractice. The upshot is a terrible waste of energy, and indeed a great deal of energy unmistakably went into it, primarily that trademark overdirection that serves always as a sort of methodology of self-hype: the flash pans, the vertiginous overhead shots, the pumpkin-head closeups, the portentous tracking shots, the ponderous s-lomo, the full range of eye-grabbing gimmicks by which Scorsese sells, sells, sells his stuff. We like to see a director taking command, but when the material is piffle it can have the effect of travesty — rather like an orchestral transcription of “Itsy-Bitsy Spider” in the style of Beethoven. With Leonardo DiCaprio, Mark Ruffalo, Ben Kingsley, Max von Sydow, Michelle Williams, Emily Mortimer, Patricia Clarkson, Ted Levine, John Carroll Lynch. 2010. ★ (GASLAMP 15)

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CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS, 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day (including sleep and meal periods). Weekends and hourly. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$150 hiring bonus for employees accepting North County live-in assignments (after 90 days of

employment). Free seminar at our San Diego office: "What It Takes To Be A Comfort Keeper," first Monday of each month at 5pm. Space is limited, call for a reservation. Comfort Keepers, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

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Visiting
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Fundraising

A national Telemarketing firm with over 20 years in business, specializing in fundraising for the Democratic Party and charities, is currently hiring Telemarketers for its San Diego center.

- \$9.50/hour • Paid training • Performance bonuses
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TELEMARKETING

9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108
San Diego, CA 92123-1369

Call 10 am-5 pm for interview: 858-496-2100

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Seeking individuals who are looking for high pay structure, direct marketing, base pay with huge bonus incentive, comfortable hours. Advancement opportunities. All training provided. No experience necessary.

Looking for: Go-Getters/Go Green

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Home Remodeling, Inc.

SOCIAL SERVICES. Need reliable, responsible person to work with developmentally disabled in North San Diego. Part-time: \$9.00/hour. Experienced, Spanish-speaking preferred. Call 760-258-6643. Fax resume: 760-258-9347.

HELP WANTED JOBS WANTED

NOTICE TO READERS: This category is for individuals seeking employment, so employers can contact them with available job openings.

JOB WANTED. Errands for anyone. Need an extra pair of hands or hours in the day, cleaning, shopping, cooking? Call Robert or Rachel, 619-381-0829.

JOB WANTED. Short order cook. Willing to take any job available. Leopold, cell, 954-599-4715.

JOB WANTED. Affordable lucky lady bug services. I'm not an agency, I will work for you as a caregiver, child giver, housekeeper, personal assistant, travel mate. Professional, passionate, warm, and kind. Excellent references, very affordable. Call Marree, 619-444-7679.

JOB WANTED. Caregiver, certified, CNA, but affordable, 15+ years experience. Very caring, also experienced with dementia, light housekeeping. Excellent references. Call Cindy, 619-656-2299.

JOB WANTED. Phone operator, 20+ years experience. Outstanding customer service skills. Seeking part-time phone customer service work. No telemarketing. 619-561-3109.

HELP WANTED MISCELLANEOUS

ALL NORTH COUNTY. (56 north): Circulate state-wide petitions; no experience, no sales. Petitioners (circulators) earn \$20-\$50+/hour as independent contractors. Full/part time. 760-643-1150.

CIRCULATE ALL PETITIONS. Collect signatures on statewide petitions. No experience necessary. Paid 2x/week. \$10-\$30+/hour. Independent contractor, immediate openings. Full/part-time. 619-615-8703.

CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT Program for Veterans separated within the last 48 months. Space is limited. Call 619-424-6860.

DONATE QUALIFIED PLASMA, earn money every week. Requirements: 18-65 years old, good health, proof of Social Security number, proof of current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. www.octapharmaplasm.com.

EARN MONEY EVERY WEEK for qualified plasma donations. Requirements: 18-65 years old, good

health, proof of Social Security number, proof of current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. www.octapharmaplasm.com.



EMPLOYMENT EXPO! Friday, May 21, 12-6pm, and Saturday, May 22, 9am-5pm, at Liberty Station Conference Center, 2600 Laning Road, San Diego, CA 92106. Meet with employers, learn about schools and take advantage of great opportunities! For more information and exhibit details, please visit www.OpportunityExchangeExpo.com. 800-408-9945.

GET PAID TO SHOP! Mystery Shoppers. Earn up to \$200/day. Experience not required. Call now: 800-486-7204.

HELP WANTED. Work from home in your spare time. Entry-level/easy work. Up to \$375 paid weekly for part-time. For information visit www.wrprocessing.com.

HELP WANTED. Earn extra income assembling CD cases from home. No experience necessary! Call our live operators now! 1-800-405-7619 x2450. www.easywork-greatpay.com. (AAN CAN)

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INSTRUCTORS. Evening Fitness Instructors. Tai Chi needed now. Luxury residential and corporate facilities. All client types. Minimum certification and 2 years' experience required. E-mail: fitx@fitsandiego.com. Fax resume: 858-715-8681. Call 858-715-8611.

JOIN THE ARMY. Becoming Army strong will open doors, including those on college campuses. There's strong. Then there's Army Strong. As a Soldier, education continues long after basic training. It means becoming skilled in one of more than 150 career fields. And taking advantage of the U.S. Army's college scholarships. Learn more from your local recruiter, goarmy.com or 1-800-USA-ARMY. For more information, call First Sergeant Bryan Williams at 888-562-4060 or visit www.goarmy.com/jobgiant.

PARK OPERATIONS. SeaWorld is currently seeking candidates who possess a positive attitude, high levels of energy and a commitment to quality throughout all aspects of the job. Pay rates start at \$9 per hour. Please visit SeaWorldJobs.com for job descriptions, position requirements and to apply online. Hours of operation: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. Office: 619-226-3842; Job line: 619-226-3861. Apply in person: SeaWorld employment center, 500 SeaWorld Drive, San Diego, CA 92109. SeaWorld San Diego is an equal opportunity employer supporting a drug-free workplace.

VETERINARY TECHNICIAN needed for part-time position. Saturdays required. Friendly Ocean Beach animal hospital. Technician experience required. Receptionist also needed. 4862 Santa Monica Avenue. 619-224-0773. www.SunsetCliffsAnimalHospital.com.

HELP WANTED OFFICE / ADMINISTRATIVE

TICKET SERVICES REP. Required good customer service/ phone/ computer skills. Experience with Tessitura and subscription sales a plus. Able to work day, evening and weekend shifts. 36+ hours per week. Apply to San Diego Symphony, Attention: Human Resources, 1245 7th Avenue, San Diego, 92101. Fax 619-235-0005.

HELP WANTED RESTAURANT / HOTEL / CLUB

BARTENDERS NEEDED! Earn \$150-\$250 per shift. No experience necessary. Part or full time. Days and nights. Will train. Call now! 619-677-1972.



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HOTEL Front Desk/ Relief Night Audit. Full time, flexible hours required. Customer service experience. Competitive pay! Apply Old Town Inn, 4444 Pacific Highway, fax/ email resume (619) 296-0524/ hotelmanager@oldtown-inn.com

HOTEL: DEL MAR INN. Great money to start! Full time/ part time. Front Desk, Guest Services Relations, Sales Associate, Sales Manager, Maintenance, Housekeeping/ Laundry. No calls. Apply in person: 720 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar.

RESORT. Campland on the Bay is hiring! EOE. Shuttle Driver, Site Cleaners, Janitors, Pool Attendants, Market Clerks, Hospitality Rangers, Market Shift Leader, Gameroom, Cashier Food Servers, Market Stockers. Please apply online at: www.campland.com or in person at 2211 Pacific Beach Drive, San Diego, 92109, Monday-Friday, 8:30am-12pm, or 1:30pm-5pm. Jobline: 858-581-4208.

RESTAURANT: Lead Line Cook and Server. Motivated self-starters needed in Carlsbad/ Encinitas. Cook needs minimum 5 years' experience, Server 3. Full-/ part-time positions available, 7am-4pm. Spanish and English speaking. 858-829-1789 or 619-887-7670.

HELP WANTED SALES / MARKETING

ACT/SAT CALL CENTER. Potential range weekly: \$530-\$880. Outbound sales experience required. No exceptions! Leave message and list your last three previous jobs. 1-800-858-9673 x331.

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FUNDRAISING for national charities and the Democratic Party. Over 20 years in business. \$9.50/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hiring 12:30pm-9pm shift. Convenient Kearny Mesa location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego, 92123-1369. Please call 10am-5pm for interview: 858-496-2100.

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- Paid training (Mon.-Fri. 7 am-3pm) • 401(k)
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INSIDE SALES. Great money plus career opportunities! Immediate Sales openings for entry-level and closers. Great work environment. Convenient location. 401(k), medical, dental, paid vacations, holidays. If you are disciplined, coachable and looking to join a great team with an easy-to-sell product and high integrity, call today! Average closer \$60K+/year! Media All-Stars, 8525 Gibbs Drive #206, 92123. Ask for Shannon, 858-300-9734. www.MediaAllStars.com.

INSIDE SALES. Exempt from "no-call" law! Business to business only. For a national healthcare training company. We have expanded our customer base and require more telephone sales reps to cover our territories. Sales and customer service experience required. Great hours: 7am-3pm (no weekends). Base pay guarantee (\$10-\$12/hour) with

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MARKETING. Make great money and reduce global warming! Seeking individuals who are looking for high pay structure, direct marketing, base pay with huge bonus incentive, comfortable hours. Looking for money-motivated go-getters who enjoy working as part of a team. Call today to schedule an interview: 858-866-0183. PacificHomeRemodeling.com.

PART-TIME SALES. Great potential! High income. Flexible hours. Call 858-633-1099.

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SALES. Come on in and give it a try! 39-year-old aggressive sales company in San Diego needs smart, funny people who want to learn how to sell. Must be able to read. No experience necessary. Apply today, start tomorrow! 3 locations. Paid training. Monday-Friday, 7am-3pm. 401(k), medical, dental, vision (after 90 days). Don't let this opportunity pass you by! Kearny Mesa: Allen, 800-854-1549 x101. Sorrento Valley: Dan, 800-854-2830 x233.

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TELEMARKET AD SPECS. Work your own schedule. Sell this week, get paid cash this week. English and Spanish leads provided. No charge backs! 866-259-PENS (7367).

TELEMARKETING. Fundraising for Democratic Party and national charities. Over 20 years in business. \$9.50/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Hiring 12:30pm-9pm shift. Convenient Kearny Mesa location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 108, San Diego, 92123-1369. Please call 10am-5pm for interview: 858-496-2100.

TELEMARKETING. We are seeking a few more telemarketers to set appointments for eco friendly home improvements. Call today, start tomorrow. Jerry Watkins. 858-222-9305.

TURN HEALTH INTO WEALTH! Part-time opportunities. Call 858-633-1099.

WORK FROM HOME! Great potential! High income. Flexible hours. Call 858-633-1099.

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SERVICE TECHNICIAN. Sears Carpet, Tile & Air Duct Services seeking hardworking person to work with clients in San Diego. E-mail resume to jramer@searsclean.com.



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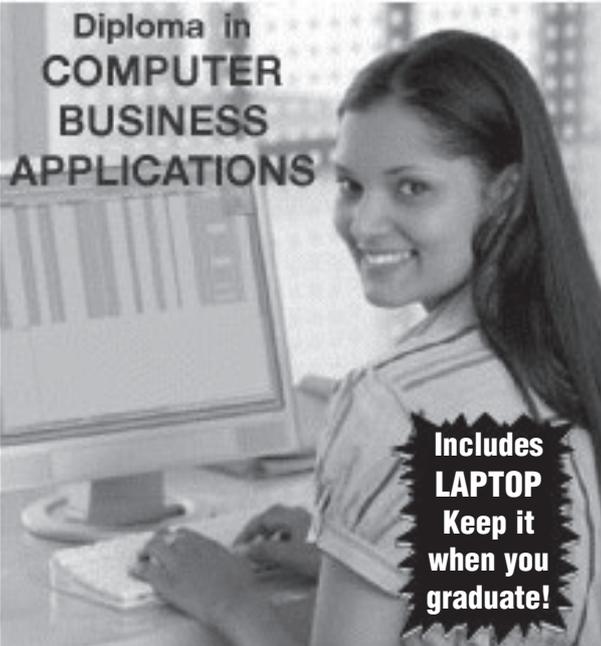
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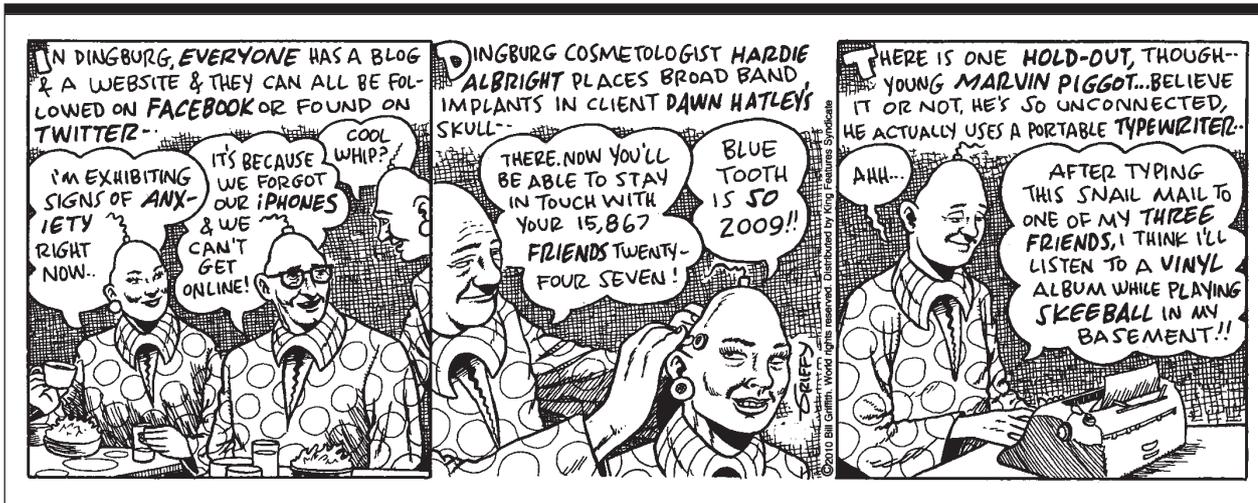
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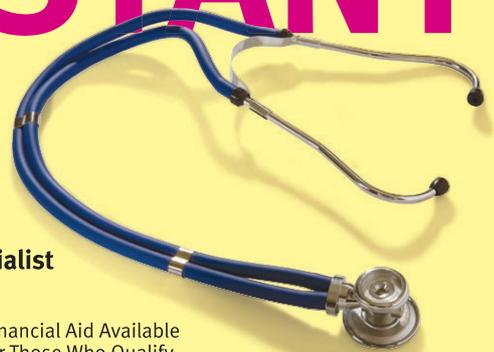
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Dimitri Price
Student
North Park

The present and the future — where I'll be and who will be in my life. I think a lot. I think about all the days until high school's over and I'm in college. I want to go to Virginia Tech. They're an up-and-coming school — good sports program, good for chemistry and stuff.



Addis Hikssa
Respiratory Therapy Student
North Park

I would say the past. But I would like to think about the future. Starting today I've been thinking about the future more. It's a lot brighter. I've stopped worrying about the past because things are happening for me. Family and health are very big for me — I care a lot what happens to my family. My mom had cancer, and my grandfather had diabetes. That's been on my mind. But now, it's more like that's in my past. They're okay, so I can think about the future now.



Stefanie Schmitz
Events Coordinator
North Park

Wow. Well, I think about the past a lot because memories and photos and nostalgia are really important to me. I think about the future a lot because I'm in a place where I'm trying to figure out my life and figure out what's next. But a big focus in my current life is staying in the present, and being present, being mindful, being aware of the life that I'm living today. I'm constantly thinking about today and what I have to do today, but then I think a lot about my life and what my wedding will be like and what my future career's going to be like.



Vinnie Beltran
Recycling Associate
Barrio Logan

I think more about the past, that I could have done better. Mostly school and that I should have kept going. I could have probably had something better by now. Now I have responsibilities — I have my son, I have my wife. I have more responsibilities than I used to have back then. A few years back, back in high school, that's when I started making mistakes. I wish I could go back and redo those things; I would do them way better. All the wrong decisions I made back then are costing me now.



Edward Chen
Student
UTC

Probably the future, because I'm a college student. I'm studying computer science and management science at UCSD. I've got my whole future ahead of me, so I think about what's going to happen post graduation. College prepares you for the future. My parents are actually taking care of my student loans, so I don't have to worry about that.



Jackie Dunsmore
Project Coordinator
Imperial Beach

Future. I think about my five-to-ten-year plan. It's more so what I need to do now in order to prepare for what I want five years from now. I want to have my own business, working for myself. And I want to have a close-knit community, whether it's a partner or family or friends. I'm going to school to become a holistic health practitioner. I want to have my own space where I'll offer massage, a few herbs, and nutrition.

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THE READER PUZZLE:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online each week to sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.

3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: puzzles@sreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

5) 10 *Reader* T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!

And now for the really small print:

- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
- 2) Late entries will not be considered.
- 3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
- 4) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

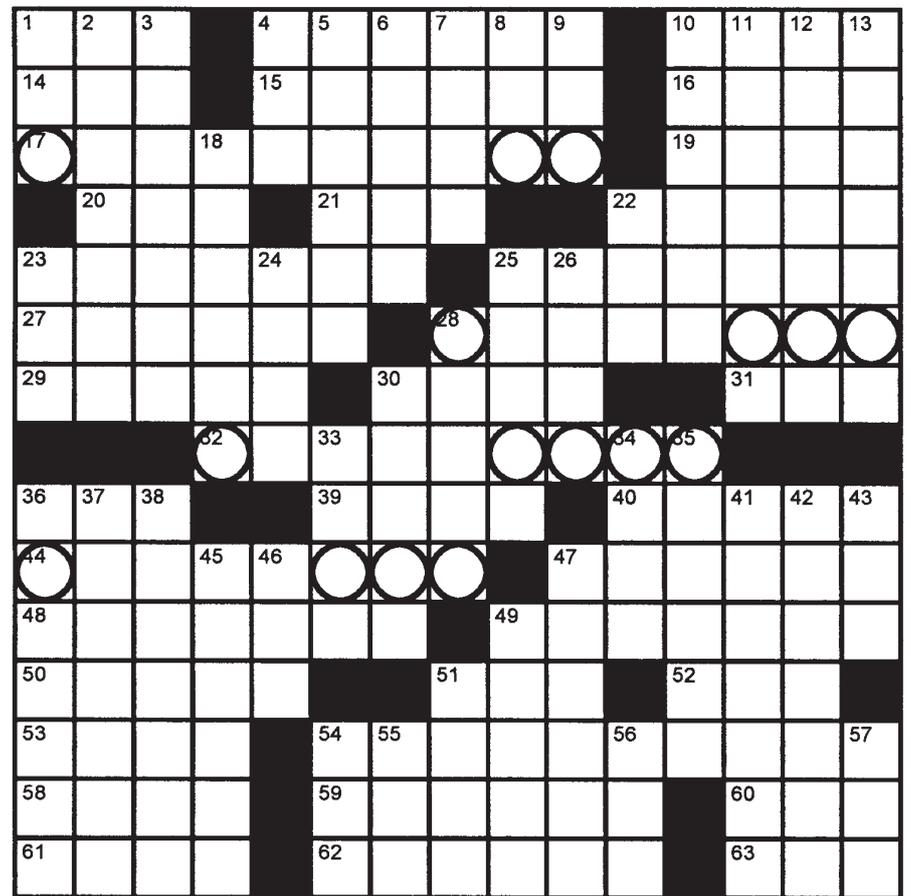
1. Wall St. buy
4. Madonna's "La Isla ____"
10. "Her ____" ("Miss Saigon" song)
14. MTV show hosted by Carson Daly
15. How Altoids are packaged
16. Linguist Chomsky
17. Baseball feat

19. Arranger of locks?
20. Moms and dads belong to it: Abbr.
21. "S" on a French shaker
22. Venomous African snake
23. Dies (out)
25. It's been roaring at movie audiences since 1928
27. Beat, as the competition
28. Edible whose bulb resembles that of a scallion
29. Org.
30. Secretary of Education ____ Duncan
31. Campus activist org. reformed in 2006
32. High ordinal
36. It bought Motown Records in 1988
39. Part of FEMA: Abbr.
40. ____ and aahed
44. Jellystone Park resident
47. End of many college addresses
48. Washer setting
49. It's worth next to nothing in Costa Rica
50. Money drawers
51. LAX approx.
52. Language suffix
53. Intestinal parts
54. Durations ... or the function of the circles in this puzzle's grid
58. Filly's brother
59. Get high?
60. Solid ____ rock
61. Eyelid woe
62. Pulpit delivery
63. Kind of profit or loss

Down

1. Norm: Abbr.
2. Hot, hazy and humid locale
3. Stumblebums
4. Puppeteer Baird

5. Quick round of tennis
6. Scruffs
7. "____ cost you!"
8. Madre's sister
9. Whatever
10. Standing by, in a way
11. Dorm buds
12. Did a Cuban dance
13. Builds up, as a river's edge
18. 1954 hit "(____) I Need Your Lovin'"
22. C x XXV
23. Sky safety org.
24. One of LBJ's daughters
25. Unimportant
26. Small valley
28. More twisted, as humor
30. Name in cosmetics since 1931
33. Womanizer's look
34. Pixar drawing
35. Help in fighting a sore throat
36. Seance holders
37. Cockpit companion
38. How gymnasts perform
41. Big honor for a college athlete
42. "With Reagan" memoir writer
43. Batman and Robin, e.g.
45. Arriving home after curfew
46. What directors sit on: Abbr.
47. Not heeding
49. Third-stringers
51. Kuwaiti leader
54. Univ. aides
55. "Now ____ seen everything!"
56. Stimp's pal on TV
57. Plopped (down)



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:

R	A	B	B	I	W	A	R	D	T	K	O	S
O	N	E	O	N	A	L	O	U	O	N	I	T
B	A	R	B	Q	R	O	O	M	F	I	L	A
					G	O	U	R	M	E	T	B
									U	F	F	E
									R	E	E	S
V	A	L	E	T	W	H	I	S	T	L	E	
I	C	O	M	E		N	Y	U		B	M	I
C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	B	A	L	L
K	E	N				A	L	I		D	I	A
						C	A	B	A	R	E	T
A	L	S	O	P					Y	O	S	
C	O	L	B	E	R	T	R	E	P	O	R	T
T	H	A	W			O	R	A	L	N	O	O
S	A	V	E			N	A	Z	I	T	A	N
O	N	E	B			I	P	A	D	O	N	E

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Ron Akers, Sabre Springs, 4.

Sandy-you're the greatest!

Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley, 4.

Nero fiddled, Obama twiddled, alas-both empires whittled!

Mary Arana, Encinitas, 4. *Support the arts-Get more than you give!*

Leo Baggerly, Encinitas, 4. *Why me?*

Thomas Baggot, Carlsbad, 4. *This is a clever puzzle.*

Kaye Benton, San Diego, 4.

These should get progressively more difficult...

Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 4.

Before Reader Puzzle, I had a life!

Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 4. *Hi Kathy. Welcome to San Diego!*

A. T. Certik, Bonita, 4. *"Illegal"*

becomes meaningless where the law is an ass.

Jon Christianson, El Cajon, 4.

Today is Friday eve.

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 4.

...three-legged dog hunts down man who shot his pa.

Jon Connor, Oceanside, 4. *"Baby, I'm not from Havana"*

Victor Correa, San Ysidro, 4.

Day after day the earth keeps slipping away.

Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 4. *No, I won't; yes, I will!*

William Cushing, Rancho Bernardo, 4.

We're outta here! See you next month.

Thomas Diehl, Escondido, 4. *We all have flaws; I can't seem to cite mine!*

John L. Drechner, North Park, 4.

When a bus shows the sign "Charter" Where is Charter?

Rich Dudka, Escondido, 4. *Hi Mom!*

Dale Duffala, La Jolla, 4. *Have a fun trip Carol and Marie!*

George Elam, Vista, 4. *Happy birthday PJ.*

Jacque Glick, El Cajon, 4. *Quiet "T".*

Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 4. *But this feels so unnatural-Peter Gabriel too.*

Sean Holt, Ocean Beach, 4. *Formula 1 Grand Prix of Monaco. Go Lewis Hamilton!*

Richard Hutchings, Santee, 4. *I miss Mary!*

George Jackson, Oceanside, 4.

Curbside Cafe in Vista: Everyone's favorite dining spot.

Willie McGee, San Diego, 4. *Wait till this year.*

Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 4.

Life is beautiful.

Ron Meyer, Santee, 4. *Hunny, I love you.*

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 4.

Toxic greed on Wall Street finally makes the evening news!

Elizabeth Noll, Alpine, 4.

The wedding countdown has begun!

Jim Odell, Vista, 4. *Imagine a silent tee party!*

Michael Panther, Point Loma, 4.

Yancey Thigpen.

John Pertle, Santee, 4. *Believe in Jesus Christ, receive inviolable eternal life.*

John Pilch, San Carlos, 4.

Support LLMP at LakeMurraypark dot org.

Bill Pischke, Ramona, 4. *Jazz is aperitif for life's orange feast.*

Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 4. *Sorbet, okay?*

Tom Seaman, Alpine, 4. *Always tell the truthness.*

Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 4. *Thank God for Arizona-finally getting serious about their illegals.*

Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 4. *P. Town for life!*

Linda Tripp, Rancho Bernardo, 4.

An eye for an eye, or turn the other cheek?

Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 4. *Ten T-shirts last week-maybe even randomly selected!!*

Norman Williams, San Diego, 4.

What da fus??

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 4. *The Hon-*

eymoon's over, here come the taxes.

Bruce Campbell, Portland OR, 3. *Scars are how nature reminds us the past was real.*

Craig Curtis, Escondido, 3. *Wel-*

come! Andrea-INDY. ...

Vince Cuseo, San Marcos, 3.

Able was I, ere I saw Elba.

Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 3.

I'm tom on the answer Lorn.

Harry Engel, La Jolla, 3. *Easiest*

puzzle ever.

Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 3. *Just*

have to get on the first page!

D. Faulkner, University Heights, 3.

Be well spoken; ride your bike.

Marty Ferullo, Pacific Beach, 3.

Happy Birthday Marc!!

Carolyn Foley, Carlsbad, 3. *Happy birthday Grand Daughter Kim-*

berly!

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Joseph Gold, San Diego, 3.

Dreamed I was an Admiral...

Sara Khwaja, Poway, 3. *Welcome to the world Gavin.*

Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 3.

Hi Kids!

Archie McAllister, Chula Vista,

3. Break a leg Kacey Kelly.

Pam Mecklenborg, Pacific

Beach, 3. *Hi Larry! I love you with all my heart!!!! Kisses.*

Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 3. *The blue trash bin is for recycling! Use it!*

Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 3. *Go Padres!*

Robert Ott, Mira Mesa, 3. *Friends of Coal.*

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens,

3. *A message!*

Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo,

3. *Immediately they raise gas prices to pay for their spill!*

Don Romero, La Mesa, 3. *Back to the rat race sweet Mei Ling.*

Henry Romero, San Diego, 3.

Hello East Coast!

Robin Serfass, Leucadia, 3.

Everybody's got a hungry heart.

Dave Small, San Carlos, 3. *Feels like T-shirt weather.*

Carly Stone, San Diego, 3.

Persistence is the art of never letting go.

David Tomasin, San Diego, 3.

Soban? That wasn't right.

Lisa Torrescano, Spring Valley,

3. *I'm waiting for you Kelley!*

Duane Tremaine, East Village, 3.

If you can meet with triumph and disaster.

Jolice Wiedenhoff, Carlsbad, 3.

1,000 pts. Down, who's pulling the strings?

Susan Williams, North Park, 3.

Bird and the Bee, Hall and Oates, interesting!

Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 3.

We learn the lesson before we get the blessing?

Ken A., Ocean Beach, 2.

Oh no! Here come the east county nazi's!

Ellen Bourne, San Carlos, 2. *Cat got me!! "Ooo-da-pain".*

Alice Bryant, Mission Hills, 2.

Too bad about Thomas!

Maria Coda, Oceanside, 2. *Hi All!*

Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 2.

Music, music, music.

Irvin C. Gavidor, Golden Hill, 2.

Gloomy days get brighter with cards.

Shop India Ink Papers.

☛ **Juanito Gerardo, Mira Mesa,**

2. Obamacare and millions of illegal aliens equals bankruptcy.

☛ **Drew Lettington, Mission**

Hills, 2. *Obama says I've made enough money, he wants the rest.*

Dawn Metrisin, San Diego, 2.

What can you make of this? Hat...

F.A. Nalu, El Cajon, 2. *With rights comes responsibility.*

Mary Page, Encinitas, 2. *Thanks for the help Cortez.*

P. Drew Papas, La Jolla, 2. *Happy Mom's day...*

Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 2. *You rocked for Jake. Thank you!*

Chuck Richardson, San Diego, 2.

Bobo the Clown? There's no Bobo the Clown.

Debbie Schultz, El Cajon, 2.

Thanks for all the T-shirts!

Chris Senungetuk, San Diego, 2.

Breakig Bad.

☛ **Ernest Verano, Downtown, 2.**

Everyone has the right to enjoy life.

Jennifer Vukinich, El Cajon, 2.

Hola amigos!

Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 1.

Love you, Debbie, Dustin and Danielle!

Evelyn Bowser, Hillcrest, 1. *Moving in June!*

Jim Chris, San Diego, 1. *Girls! Find Brian Claypool before other women get him first!*

Sue Coffey, Southwest S.D., 1.

Magic 8 ball-is all this studying for nothing?

☛ **John A. DeVries, Escondido,**

1. *Pen.*

Andre Desilets, Downtown, 1.

Sports news stinks not enough Hockey-News Channel. 5-39-51-5/69

Howard Donnelly, Mission

Valley, 1. *Greeks are wolves in pigs clothing.*

Greg Elam, Santee, 1. *Where are you L Rusty guts.*

Manny Faria, Point Loma, 1.

Finally on the board! I love you my Pooh!

☛ **Rhona Fulling, San Diego, 1.**

Visit Edinburgh Scotland.

Glen & Tesi, Chula Vista, 1.

I love you, Mom.

Jeff Hancock, Escondido, 1. *Hope all the Mom's had a great Mother's Day.*

Greg J. Hurst, Huntington

Beach, 1. *"Mok" is the man, who does what no other can!*

Janet Kaye, Linda Vista, 1. *I need your resume ASAP.*

☛ **Martha Klages, Encanto, 1**

I did it all by myself.

Susie Lektorich, Coronado, 1.

He was a wise man who invented beer-Plato.

Michael Long, Banker's Hill, 1.

I love my wife more than ever.

Kevin Martin, Rancho Bernardo,

1. *Happy Birthday...*

Mac McGaw, San Diego, 1. *We only get one planet. Keep it alive.*

Greenpeace.

Terri Mortrud, Chula Vista, 1. *Let our pumpkin grow!*

Steve Murawka, San Diego, 1.

Look in your purse, Kitten.

Sunny Nelson, El Cajon, 1. *Go Lakers!*

Phil Nichols, Escondido, 1. *What's up, Dana? Tom?*

Jay Nunez, Encinitas, 1. *Time fades away.*

Tim Parrott, Carlsbad, 1. *Where can I get a Rex Parker action figure?*

Claire Phillips, Clairemont, 1.

Hope your Mother's day was great.

Lillian Santander, San Diego, 1.

Yeah...

☛ **Julie Simons, City Heights, 1.**

Great idea Michael and David.

Erin Small, Pacific Beach, 1. *I love you Mom! Z and B forever!*

Marjorie Stewart, Point Loma, 1.

Vinny you deserve "Pup of the Year" award!

Chris Van Haften, Murrieta, 1. *Hi Jimmy, Jordan, Justice.*

Del Venturi, North Park, 1. *Emily, Lisa, Liz Vamanos a Cancun!*

☛ **Katie Whelan, Coronado, 1.**

Nice haircut Ollie Binx!

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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 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.

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9) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

EASY:

3	5			7				
		9	6		3		5	7
	7			1				6
	2	7				6	8	3
9	4						2	5
5	6	8				9	7	
2				5			6	
7	3		8		9	5		
				2			4	8

MEDIUM:

6		7	3					1	9
9		4							
	8	2		9					
2		6	7	8					1
				6					
7				2	5	6			3
				5		3	9		
						1		5	
3	6				4	7			2

HARD:

				5	6			1	
6		2	1						
	4								
4	5			9	1				3
8			2		3				9
2			6	4			7	8	
							8		
					4	9		7	
5	6		1						

EVIL:

				9					
6	5				4				
		1		6	2	5	4		
8	4					7			
			3		7				
		2						9	4
	1	7	8	2		4			
			4					1	2
				3					

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Neighborhood/City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

5	3	6	4	2	1	7	8	9
9	4	8	3	7	6	5	2	1
1	7	2	9	8	5	6	3	4
6	8	1	7	4	9	2	5	3
4	2	3	1	5	8	9	7	6
7	5	9	6	3	2	1	4	8
3	9	4	2	6	7	8	1	5
2	1	5	8	9	3	4	6	7
8	6	7	5	1	4	3	9	2

MEDIUM:

1	9	6	5	7	3	2	4	8
8	2	7	4	9	1	6	3	5
5	4	3	8	6	2	7	9	1
3	8	4	2	1	6	9	5	7
9	6	5	7	3	4	8	1	2
2	7	1	9	5	8	4	6	3
7	1	8	6	4	5	3	2	9
4	5	9	3	2	7	1	8	6
6	3	2	1	8	9	5	7	4

HARD:

1	3	7	6	4	8	5	9	2
8	9	2	5	7	1	3	4	6
4	5	6	3	9	2	1	7	8
7	8	1	2	3	4	9	6	5
3	6	5	8	1	9	4	2	7
9	2	4	7	6	5	8	1	3
2	1	8	9	5	6	7	3	4
5	7	9	4	2	3	6	8	1
6	4	3	1	8	7	2	5	9

EVIL:

2	1	3	8	4	5	7	6	9
6	7	5	1	2	9	3	8	4
9	8	4	7	6	3	2	1	5
5	9	8	4	3	6	1	2	7
3	2	6	9	1	7	4	5	8
1	4	7	2	5	8	9	3	6
8	6	1	3	7	4	5	9	2
4	3	9	5	8	2	6	7	1
7	5	2	6	9	1	8	4	3

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

EASY:

Don Bowman, Santee, 4. Judy Garland/ bank.. They both have an Auntie M. ...ATM.

Misty McDaniel, Lakeside, 4. Calgon take me away... (are we there yet?)

Lloyd Payne, Merlin, 4. keep sending- I love you.

John Pertle, Santee, 4. Believe in Jesus Christ, receive total forgiveness.

D. Stiewig, Santee, 4. Great party.

Perry Thomas, Chula Vista, 4. Live longer...

Duane D. Tremaine, San Diego, 4. ...and treat those two imposters just the same.

Cherie Calvo, San Diego, 3. Thank you for the t-shirt.

Ann Grudzinski, San Diego, 3. Happy happy days.

Erin Nogle, Ocean Beach, 3. Happy 1st birthday Kordelia.

Stuart A. Young, San Diego, 3. Have a great summer.

Goldmember and R1Rabbit, San Diego, 3. I missed them blowing up the bike on the beach...

Ellen Bourne, San Carlos, 2. Cat ate my leg. Bad cat!

Pauline O'Malley, Point Loma, 2. I love my two sons, Tom and Allen and Phil...

☛ **Josie Ranches, San Diego, 2.** Happy Mother's day.

Susan Berry, San Diego, 1 Hi Lily pye.

Felix E. Charfauros, San Diego, 1. Looking forward to this summer.

☛ **Obie Fox, Escondido, 1.** 15 years with Frank Fox Mary Gordon. Godbless Jerry Fox.

Phil Leal, San Diego, 1. What up RCP Block and Brick entourage!

Teddy Moore, Santee, 1. Thanks Grampa.

MEDIUM:

Linda Bible, El Cajon, 4. No one can do everything, but we can do something.

Harry Chiou, Mira Mesa, 4. Happy Mother's day.

Oldman-Grandpa Steve, Temecula, 4. She wouldn't let me out! I gotta get out soon!

William Stiewig, Vallejo, 4. I'm coming home.

Elliott Estrine, Poway, 3. May and June- no gloom.

Manny Faria, Point Loma, 3. Pete Rodrigues is bakla. I love you baby!

Jerry Riccio, Rancho Bernardo, 3. What's up/down with the stock market?

Todd Wilkins, San Diego, 3. Was it a cat I saw?

Roy Bartolome, San Diego, 2. Happy 13th birthday Leni! See you tomorrow. Love you!

M. Elliott, Rancho Bernardo, 2. I still love Bob every second!

☛ **Marcia Metzger, San Diego, 2.** Good bye San Diego hello New York.

Ed Rull, San Diego, 2. Go Padres!

Dave Small, San Carlos, 2. Happy Mother's day.

Dr. Dave Spera, Point Loma, 2. Prey for waves!

Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 1. God bless you all.

Vincent Blas, San Diego, 1. Happy birthday Paul Zumaya drinks at chiquitas?

Paul Boland, Bay Park, 1. These are getting harder.

☛ **Phil Brockman, Happy Valley, 1.** Two is always better than one.

Tadros I. Endrawes, Mission Valley, 1. Happy b-d Janet.

Omar Lara, Chula Vista, 1. Tony...Will never win! What?

Juli Richardson, Chula Vista, 1. Go CVA Astros!

Kelly Sakoi, Rancho Penasquitos, 1. Go Padres!

HARD:

☛ **Wayne Ameele, Penasquitos, 4.** Hello everyone!

Nel Cristobal, Chula Vista, 4. For all the Mothers... Happy Mother's day.

Amada Garcia, Chula Vista, 4. Thank you for the t-shirt.

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 4. Are politicians on their... sposed to regulate those fools?

☛ **Green Dave Gietzen, Sunset Cliffs, 4.** Hop replacement return- Mission Bay Deli, Saturday May 30, 2pm.

Skully, San Diego, 4. You wasted my time, bad on you. Love you Kitten.

Mandy Smith, Boulevard, 4. How does my garden grow? With veggies and flowers everywhere.

Howard Donnelly, Mission Valley, 3. ...for illegal parking

John Gaughen, North Park, 3. Congrats, Audrey- SDCDA's newest company dancer!

Henry Romero, San Diego, 3. Back to Susan.

George Elam, Vista, 2. It's brush fire season all ready?

H.M. Stiewig, Redmond, 2. It's golfing time.

David Tomasin, San Diego, 2. No really evil next week!

Kitten, Nado, 1. I love you paw-paw. I wanna lay in your arms.

Val Beh, San Marcos, 1. For the love of music and sudoku.

Heather Bryce, Lemon Grove, 1. I love and miss you mom... Happy Mothers Day!

Elar Canani, Talmage, 1. Happy Mother's day to all the ladies.

Henry Ching, San Die, 1. Going from medium to hard! How fun!

Tiu Dexter, San Diego, 1. Finally, back in the game!

Lark Herrick, Alpine, 1. Hey Butch, do you have any stock tips?

Dennis Jardim, Oceanside, 1. Thanks for the fax Jenna

Rebekah Mathieu, San Diego, 1. Back from Biola.

Vicki Reece, Clairemont, 1. Even evil only took one guess.

Steve Schorr, Encinitas, 1. Happy Mother's day Miki!

M. Sherritt, Santee, 1. What if I'm a medium?

Spanky's Portable Service Inc., Carlsbad, 1. Visit us online.

Andrew Thomc, La Jolla, 1. Or an XXXL?

Lise Yakut, Gaslamp, 1. Thanks for the t-shirt.

EVIL:

Joe Arbusto, Rancho Penasquitos, 4. BP is toxic sewer equivalent 2 Goldman Sachs toxic economics!

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Bliss Beedle, Encinitas, 4. *With a little help from my friend.*

Loren Boyer, El Cajon, 4. *Banned from Comic Con. Stalking summer glau.*

Mike Bullock, Rancho Bernardo, 4. *This was a toughie.*

Jorge Castro, Alpine, 4. *Next time Megamillions.*

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 4. *Overeager and impatient bride blissfully came down the aisle.*

Larry Clark, Clairemont, 4. *Hellen Keller falls over in a forest; doesn't make a sound.*

Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 4. *Going gator this weekend!*

Roger Doughman, San Diego, 4. *Ephesians 5:1-2.*

Matthew Evans, Encinitas, 4. *may the force of love be with you always!*

Juanito Gerardo, Mira Mesa, 4. *Tea Party Americans weapon against Obama's regime.*

Jane Flammang, Encinitas, 4. *Smile.*

Lily Gonzalez, Logan Heights, 4. *Quiero mas cerveza!*

J. Gorman, UTC, 4. *Peace in our time.*

Linda J. Hall, La Mesa, 4. *Hey! Wak-a-doo I love you.*

Butch Hays, La Mesa, 4. *Evil 2's and 5's were the key this week :-)*

Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 4. *Where's that beer Chuck?*

Zdenek Hostomsky, La Jolla, 4. *Greece- Western world's glorious past and grim Financial future.*

Joan Hubert, Clairmont, 4. *Four aces!*

Jim Hurlay, San Diego, 4. *Luck definitely helps.*

Lynnette Lampton, La Mesa, 4. *Happy birthday mom!*

Roy E. Leeper, Chula Vista, 4. *have a great vacation Jean.*

Stuart Lester, Santee, 4. *Happy birthday Susie Long!*

Ralph Levy, La Jolla, 4. *Out with Obama ASAP.*

Marv Lorenz, Encinitas, 4. *They've still got half-price Frappuccinos. Too hip, gotta go!*

Karen Maegley, Sorrento Mesa, 4. *We must keep our standards high.*

Julio Magno, San Diego, 4. *Eileen is very...*

Bruce Ness, Mira Mesa, 4. *Does Mary Bently still play Dominoes? Please call.*

Jerry Noser, Bankers Hill, 4. *Love you Jake, and Jessie. Pepe.*

Lee Overholser, San Diego, 4. *Truckin like the...*

Charles Reader, Del Mar Heights, 4. *Less government- less taxes- less evil.*

Roy Respress, Carlsbad, 4. *Evil, evil, evil is not good; Mother's day is good!*

Charles Rion, Allied Gardens, 4. *Ralph how about that beer.*

David Schwartz, Clairemont, 4. *Can the Sharks finally live up to their cup potential?*

Rich Sewell, Ocean Beach, 4. *Three Irish car bombs...*

Marv Simcox, San Diego, 4. *Plan- Drink up that 40 you owe me.*

Joe Steinbach, Clairemont, 4. *Take a hike- see calendar/local events/outdoors.*

Susan Williams, North Park, 4. *Earthquakes, eruptions, floods, yikes!*

Ric Witt, Clairemont, 4. *Greece... Spain, Portugal, California Next?*

Mark Xitco, San Diego, 4. *Summer in Del Mar is coming!*

Stan Alexander, Ocean Beach, 3. *No mas no gusto.*

Carl Baltrunas, Milpitas, 3. *Thank you Jeff Loeb! Someone hire me! I solve puzzles well!*

Bill Black, La Jolla, 3. *Done again. I see my buddy AC here.*

Robert Bradley, Spring Valley, 3. *What would you do with money?*

Alford Claiborne, Encanto, 3. *Missed my window.*

D. Faulkner, University Heights, 3. *The BP disaster should get you on your bike.*

Rich Dudka, Escondido, 3. *Geoff Hill, South Park, 3.* *Lane-Splitting is unsafe! It's in the book.*

☛ **Jacqueline Jordan, San Diego, 3.** *Maybe Maybe not.*

Michael Panther, Point Loma, 3. *Get your relish insurance before it's too late!*

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 3. *A message!*

Tess C. Sutton, San Diego, 3. *Five you C and...*

Shalamar Brown, La Mesa, 2. *Hello!!!*

Saad Kassab, Mission Hills, 2. *Don't forget to vote!*

Joe Selig, San Diego, 2. *Happy Mother's day mom! I love you Linda!*

Larry Terbell, Golden Hill, 2. *Farewell to Lorena Ochoa.*

Hisae Anderson, La Mesa, 1. *Good health and bad memory equals happiness.*

Jose Barron, Bonita, 1. *In the groove!*

☛ **Louis Benton, Livingston, 1.** *Happy 50th wedding anniversary Anneliese.*

Jenna Buchman, Spring Valley, 1. *Get it together...*

Rhonda Corn, Poway, 1. *Hi Jo and Ivy. Go Padres!*

Cheryl Deegan, Scripps Ranch, 1. *I love you Walter.*

☛ **David Eddleman, Oceanside, 1.** *Concentrate.*

Cindy Fisher, San Clemente, 1. *First attempt, Lynda!*

Daniel Green, Chula Vista, 1. *Erin and Daniel, I love you Happy Mother's day!*

Steve Kolb, San Diego, 1. *On to the next one...*

John Strauch, Point Loma, 1. *Hiked the pothole north of Lake Piru.*

Tom Thetford, Lemon Grove, 1. *Need a new Reader shirt- others worn out.*

Katie Whelan, Coronado, 1. *Lily fancy pants is chew crazy.*

Erin Zamora, San Diego, 1. *We're ready for you Wiley!*

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DEBTORS ANONYMOUS is a 12-Step Program for people with problems with money and debt. Contact us at www.dasandiego.org or 619-525-3065.

DINNER-ON-A-DOLLAR. Free newsletter. Get yours: http://www.dinneronadollar.org/newsletter.html. email: hungry@dinneronadollar.org. Can cost \$1.99, but under \$2. We need your recipes, too. Thanks. Claudia, 858-693-3939.

DIVORCE ANONYMOUS. Get guidance/support during your emotional adjustment. 12-Step group meets Fridays, 6:30-8pm, Ascension Lutheran Church, 6106 51st Street, Allied Gardens, off Waring Road. 619-422-7373. www.divorceanonymoussandiego.org.

DIVORCECARE SUPPORT GROUP. "Now I know I am not alone" — our motto for the heartbroken suffering from divorce/separation. 9am Sundays. DVD Seminar, refreshments, conversation. 10615 Tierrasanta Boulevard, Suite D, 92124. Bruce, 619-416-4480, www.divorcecare.org.

FAMILIA DE ALIMENTOS. Donacion .50 centavos minimo. Pan, pasteles aveces, otros productos. Martes 12:30-2:15pm, Iglesia de Grace, esquina Fairmount Avenue en Redwood y Poplar. No necesita reservar.

FAMILY FOOD LINE. Bread Days: Tuesdays 12:30pm-2:15pm, Grace Chapel Church, 435 South 35th Street. Fridays at Christ Church, 33rd/ Meade

Avenue (1 block north of El Cajon Boulevard), 1:00pm-3:00pm.

Become Debt Free!

Free attorney consultation! Chapter 7 Bankruptcy: Wipe out debt from credit cards, medical bills, wage garnishment, taxes, repossessions, lawsuits. Wipe out credit card debt, keep your home and car. Chapter 13 Bankruptcy: Consolidate back mortgage, credit cards, child support, taxes, car loans. Eliminate your second mortgage and keep your house. Only \$300 starts attorney representation. Call for details. Expires 5/31/10. Bankruptcy Legal Group, specializing in Bankruptcies and Loan Modifications. 501 West Broadway, #510, San Diego 92101. Free consultation: 888-219-7566. www.bankruptcyd.com.

FREE CUSTOMIZED EMPLOYMENT Program for Veterans with a Service Connected Disability or those **Honorably Discharged within the last 48 months.** Space is limited. Call 619-424-6860.

FREE PRESCHOOL. Alpha Kappa Alpha Head Start is now enrolling children ages 3-5 years old from low-income families in the East County, and children with special needs/disabilities. 619-444-0503.

MOVIE BUFFS. Interested in watching movies and then discussing them afterwards (like book clubs)? Ages 25 to mature welcome. Please call 619-850-6075 or 858-231-0647.

NEED FORGIVENESS and a new life? It is never too late! Visit today: www.JesusSanDiego.com.

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE Anonymous. 12-step meeting for people with OCD/ interested others. Free. Mondays, 6-7pm. Department of Health Services Complex, 3851 Rosecrans Street, Harbor Room. oasandiego@hotmail.com.

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Meetings daily. No dues or fees. 619-521-2538. www.oasandiego.org.

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PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? Talk with caring agency specializing in matching birthmothers with families nationwide. Living expenses paid. Call 24/7, Abby's One True Gift Adoptions, 866-413-6293. (Void in Illinois) (AAN CAN)

PUBLIC AUCTION FOR STORAGE UNITS 6/1/2010. Storage customers include

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RUMMAGE SALE/FAMILY FESTIVAL. Sacred Heart Church and Academy, 4895 Saratoga Ave., Ocean Beach. May 15, 9am: Pier Walk. Festival: 10am-6pm. Games, talent show, bands, plant sale, resale shop, carne asada booth, beer garden. Rummage sale: 6am-6pm.

SHOP ONLINE—20% TO CHARITY! Place your Avon orders online, choose the event or charity you want to support and 20% of the gross proceeds will be donated. Fundraising available for your group. www.youravon.com/kennis.

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Brainstorms

by Don Rubin

The Spectacular

We'd like you to sink all four balls with one shot. That's right — all four balls. Now it's a tricky assignment, so we've asked Fats over there to explain exactly how it's done. Fats?

"Thanks, Fast Eddie. Well, this particular shot is called the Spectacular, and to make it, you gotta hit the cue ball hard, a little below and just to the right of dead center. (A real hustler would say 'right English with draw.')

You should aim for the left-hand side of the eight ball, and look for a carom (ricochet) onto the three. It's a simple shot, really, but I wouldn't bet my thumbs on it."

Did you get that? Great. Now, following the Fatman's instructions, try to complete the shot, indicating with solid lines the path that each of the four balls takes on its way to a pocket. Think about it carefully; that eight ball could surprise you. And don't forget to chalk up.

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Neighborhood/City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

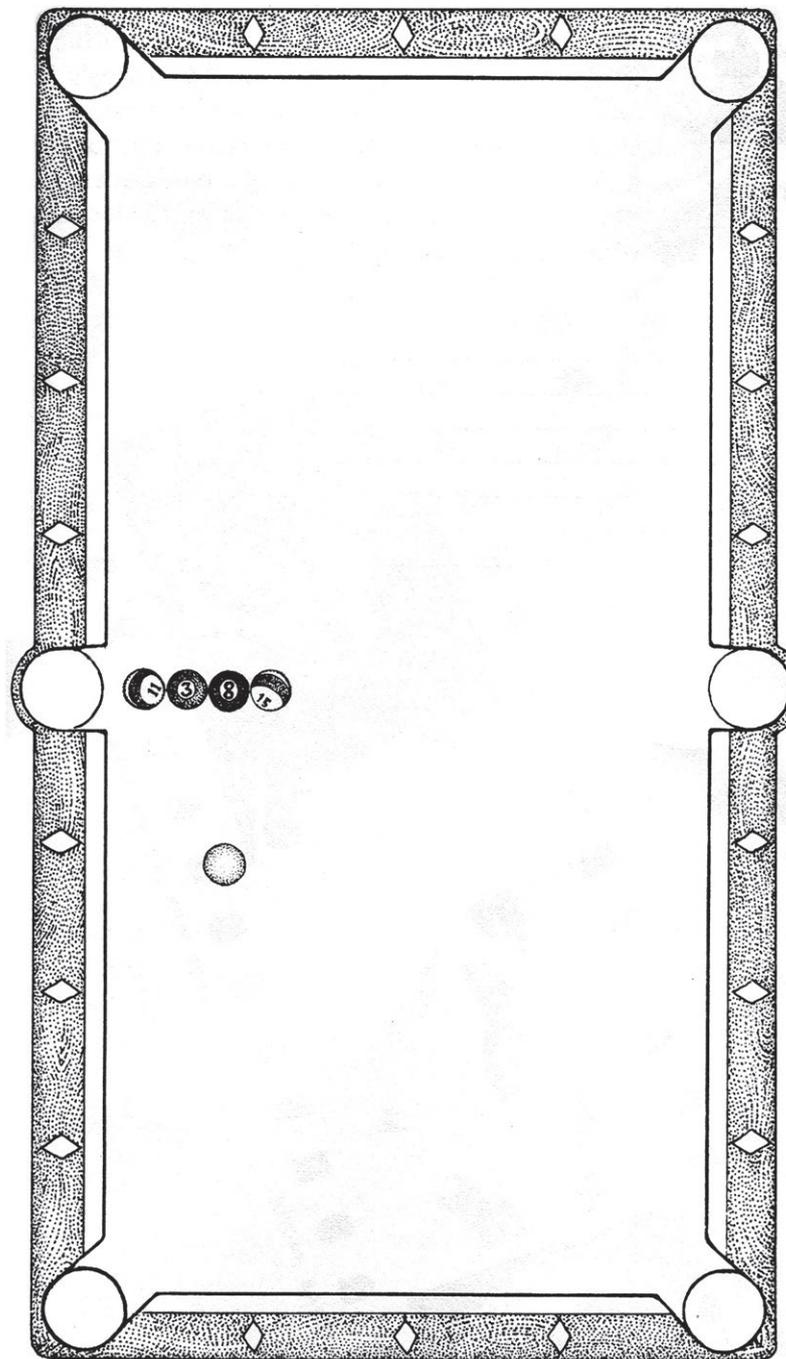
Circle T-shirt size: L XL

Personal Message: _____

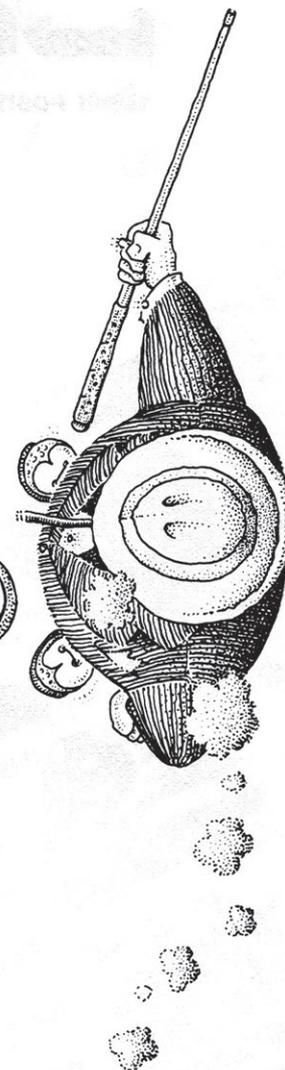
SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

Relax. We know we used the "104" designation twice. (It was that or risk a lot of flak from purists.)

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| A – 29 | Ju – 89 |
| Ai – 104 | Kawa – 97 |
| Ar – 95 | Mitsu – 96 |
| B – 24C | Mitsu – 104 |
| B – 26A | P – 38 |
| Fairey – 1 | P – 40E |
| Ha – 139 | Short – 2 |
| Ju – 52 | |



Roger Jones



BRAINSTORM PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit one completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for entry into another contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online at sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Be one of the first 125 people who submit the correct answers to one of the

puzzles and we will print your name in the paper along with your brief message (10 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Entries must include a message. This is a great way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to edit or reject inappropriate text.

3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

4) Entries must be faxed to **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803 or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy or scanned and e-mailed to: Puzzles@sdreader.com.

Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

5) 5 *Reader* T-shirts are awarded weekly to contenders chosen randomly!

6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.

7) Late entries will not be considered.

8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.

9) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner.

Ed Barno, San Diego, 4. Are you doing Reader puzzles at work instead of working?

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 4. Want to sleep like a baby?...

Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 4. Tough one... I hope I don't get shot down.

Douglas Meyers, La Mesa, 4. Hope I wasn't an AA gunner in a previous life!?!?

Conway Redding, La Mesa, 4. Gee, back to my Jr. aircraft spotter days.

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 4. Aichi 104 is a Navy, Mitsu 104 is Army. Trick question.

Glenn A. Walker, Pacific Beach, 4. Just winging it.

☛ **Joe Arbusto, San Diego, 3.** Oil- H2O doesn't mix, but will still make everyone sick!

Ralph Hayward, El Cajon, 3. Kung fu- that was one of my good ones.

Susan Morfey, Little Italy, 3. To all mothers and others- we thank you.

Ted Scafidi, San Diego, 3. Visit the San Diego Air and Space Museum.

Dave Small, San Carlos, 3. Bombs away!

Craig Stein, El Cerrito, 3. Hoping my upcoming trip to Singapore uses more modern airplanes.

Mike Barry, Pine Valley, 2. But which 104 is which.

Michael Carchidi, Chula Vista, 2. Slip earth's surly bonds touch the face of god.

Don Larson, San Diego, 2. Birds above- look out below.

Barbara Larson, San Diego, 2. Happy landings!

Bruce C. Mengler, Solana Beach, 2. Liked last week's better.

Dave Newman, UTC, 2. Good spatial relations is the key to this one.

Dennis Beabout, Temecula, 1. Airplains! Yahoo!

George Bisharat, El Cajon, 1. Aircraft identification is a dying art in the US.

Dan Bois, La Mesa, 1. Like the WWII airplane puzzles! Like the subtle hints, B-24c...

Chuck Buckley, Rancho Bernardo, 1. Come fly with me at brainstorms.

Chris Conole, La Mesa, 1. War nerds rule!

☛ **Jeff Denton, San Diego, 1.** I finally found a use for airplane trivia from WWII.

Cary H Robinson II, Carlsbad, 2. Hi.

☛ **W. Hodgson, Escondido, 1.** Only old guys will solve this.

Bill Ketchure, Point Loma, 1. You had two 104- didn't fool me- see arrows on...

Rich D. Kirby, Kensington, 1. Hey, people of the village! Reminder, life is...

Emilio Lee, San Diego, 1. What a fun game!

Michael May, San Diego, 1. Stop driving slow in the passing lane!

George Saunders, Chula Vista, 1. Grand days of aviation planes were designed with paper pen.

Vladimir Midoon, San Diego, 1. An old flying leather neck knows his birds from their...

Ray Plauske, Carlsbad, 1. I love you Jolice!

Burt Reckless, Sugar Land, 1. Thanks Kim, Don Reese, and Spencer. We had a great...

☛ **Ernest Verano, Downtown, 1.** Sarah Palin is Demagogue.

☛ **Jolice Wiedenhoff, Carlsbad, 1.** I love you Rabies!

TRAVEL & GETAWAYS

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Typo Patrol Results

Issue of May 6, 2010

City Lights

- p.7 stu-dent *should be* student
- p.14 morn-ing *should be* morning
- p.14 re-turned *should be* returned
- p.14 get-ting *should be* getting
- p.14 de-gree *should be* degree

Events listings

- p.66 style-style *should be* style

Sheep and Goats

- p.152 him *should be* Him
- p.152 his *should be* His

Gian Ghio (Chula Vista) \$80

Everyone's a Critic

- p.104 Suzie *should be* Suzi

Jan Kent (San Diego) \$10

Back When

- p.22 its *should be* it's
- p.22 in *should be* an

Sporting Box

- p.24 there *should be* they're

Carlos Rojas (Pacific Beach) \$30

Best Buys

- p.25 'n' pop *should be* 'n' pop

Sheep and Goats

- p.153 him *should be* Him

Clyde Christie (Coronado) \$20

Typo Patrol Results

- p.148 Revolución *should be* Revolución

Nathaniel Uy (Riverside) \$10

Events listings

- p.66 north pier beach *should be* North Pier Beach
- p.68 studio 25 *should be* Studio 25

Karen Guarnotta (Linda Vista) \$20

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number). Exceptions: direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Exempt: ads, blogs, user reviews, movie showtimes, puzzle results, and letters to the editor. Submissions accepted until Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. First identification of error wins \$10 or a Reader T-shirt (indicate preference). Winnings limited to \$300/year per household. Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

Typo Patrol Results

- p.148 \$10 *should be* \$20

John Mann (Linda Vista) \$10

Stringers

- p.7 Council members *should be* Councilmembers

Ricardo Loves Dinosaurs

- p.50 youre *should be* you're
- p.51 didnt *should be* didn't
- p.56 theyd *should be* they'd
- p.56 theyre *should be* they're
- p.56 its *should be* it's
- p.56 Lindberg *should be* Lindbergh

Bonnie Nickel (Point Loma) \$70

Don't Look Down

- p.48 ugg *should be* Ugg

Today in the Backyard

- p.54 Cormorant *should be* cormorant

Dining Review

- p.79 cous-cous *should be* couscous

Restaurant listings

- p.81 tlalpeno *should be* tlalpeño

Sheep and Goats quote

- p.153 City of God *should not be* italicized

George Schwab (Encinitas) \$50

Ricardo Loves Dinosaurs

- p.51 Cesar *should be* César

Samer Mouwakeh (Miramar) \$10

Sporting Box

- p.24 delta *should be* Delta
- p.24 depression *should be* Depression

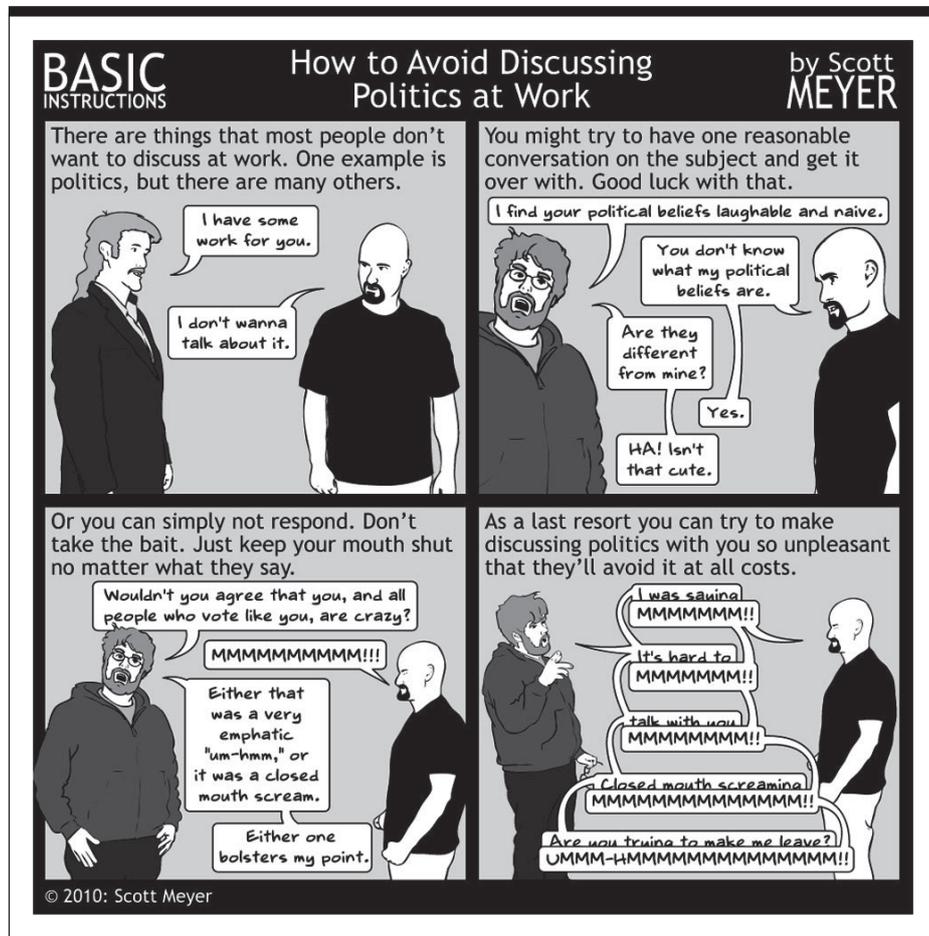
Your Week

- p.63 Mestizo *should be* Mestizo,

Andrea Martinez (Carmel Valley) \$30

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CHULA VISTA. \$775/ month. Low \$150 deposit. 1 bedroom, fully furnished or unfurnished. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center and trolley. Off-street parking. Laundry room. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). Call 619-420-5084.

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CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 700 square feet. \$750. Renovated, gated community with parking. 4058 51st St. www.innoreventerprises.com. Angel, 787-246-6117.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. \$775 rent. Available now. 4153 42nd Street #4. Downstairs unit. Laundry, parking. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Gated parking, laundry, \$775/ month. Available 5/15. 4344 Van Dyke Ave #5. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

CITY HEIGHTS. Senior Community. Move-in \$199 plus \$200 deposit (OAC). 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Elevator, laundry, TV room, lounge with free coffee daily. Small pets welcome! 619-229-9171.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$595. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Senior (62+). Laundry. Available now! Small pet OK with approval. 4154 46th Street #7. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$1025. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Spacious, upstairs apartment. Access to shopping and schools. Available now! 4226 Chamoune Ave #5. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Move-in Special: \$300 off 1st month's rent, OAC. Nice 1 bedroom unit, gated entry. On-site laundry. Parking. Available 6/15/10. 4264 42nd Street #5. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$750. Upstairs, water/ sewer/ trash included, assigned parking, tile floors, wall A/C. 4316 52nd Street #2, #3 and #7. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$700, water/ sewer/ trash included, parking, tile floors. 4366 51st Street #5. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS. \$950. 4275 Chamoune Avenue. 2 bedroom, 2 bath townhouse apartment. Central A/C, laundry room, plenty of parking not assigned. No pets. Also available: 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775. Almost corner El Cajon Boulevard, across KFC. Same amenities. Section 8 OK. Phillips Realty, 619-291-6686.

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CITY HEIGHTS. \$1100, 2 bedroom duplex. New carpet/ paint. Yard parking. No smoking/ pets. Shops, bus. Section 8 OK. 3822 47th Street. 619-275-2648.

CITY HEIGHTS/ NORTH PARK. 1 bedroom, \$825. Newly remodeled. Ceiling fan, reserved parking, tile, gated, laundry. No pets. 619-279-0031. akamazes@yahoo.com.

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CLAIREMONT. La Casa Balboa. Senior community central to wonderful amenities. Enjoy spacious 1 bedroom homes starting at \$835/ month. Call about move-in specials. 858-560-8325 or email lacasabalboa@cgpinc.com.

CLAIREMONT/ BAY PARK. \$1075. Large, upstairs 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment with view, walk-in closets, on-site laundry, assigned parking. 2537 Chicago Street #7. Agent, 858-560-1178.

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COLLEGE AREA. Senior/ disabled building. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Dishwasher. Air conditioning. Courtyard. Tile kitchen/ bath. \$750 rent, \$400 deposit. Bus nearby. Gated building. Water, garbage included. Section 8 OK. www.innoreventerprises.com. 858-336-3096.

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COLLEGE AREA. \$925. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry and parking. Clean, quiet, secure. 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Rachel, 619-804-1044, or Lynette, 619-602-0959.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1175. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace. Central heat/ air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. Intercom entry. 4828 Art Street. 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1050. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Attached garage. Fenced yard. Close to College Grove Shopping Center. No pets. 3547 College Ave. 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA. 1 bedroom from \$749. \$400 off 1st month's rent. Pool, laundry, and barbecue. Close to SDSU and all conveniences. No pets. 4333 College Avenue. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA. \$750-775. 1 bedrooms. Near bus, shops, SDSU. Laundry room. No pets. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 858-866-5636.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1125. Remodeled 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo. Garage. A/C. Washer/ dryer. Parking. No pets. Fireplace. Appliances. New carpet/ paint. 4869 70th Street. 619-275-3455.

COLLEGE AREA. \$1299-\$1349. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Walking distance to SDSU. All electric in unit, stove, refrigerator, and dishwasher. 5565 Hardy Avenue. www.stevenleerproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

COLLEGE AREA. \$650 rent, \$700 deposit. OAC. 1/2 month free rent! Lower 1 bedroom apartment, laundry, parking, no pets, at 6735 El Cajon Boulevard #A-2. Agent, 619-299-8515.

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Events Calendar

Spiritual Dowsing Certification Course. Friday, June 4, through Sunday, June 6. Harness the power of your Super Conscious mind in finding answers and shifting energies! This three-day hands-on intensive program will prepare you to perform a professional-level Dowsing session for clients, or simply for your own deep inner work. Cost \$399. Indigo Village, 1054 2nd St., Suite B, Encinitas, CA 92024. To reserve your space and for all other inquiries contact Colleen Campbell, 760-445-0166/ 949-677-5169. <http://www.outlines.bluesunenergetics.net/SDC.pdf>.

Meditation and Healing Techniques. Saturday, May 22, 1-3:30pm. Presented by teacher, energy healer and published writer Sindi Somers. Learn life-changing visualization techniques and discover your unique healing energy. Learn grounding, centering, releasing unwanted energies and experience using your healing energy to heal yourself. Benefits beginning meditators and healers and those wishing to add techniques to their current practice. Advance registration and pre-payment of \$25 required. Space limited. Email sindi@wildtame.com or call 619-384-0761.

Crystal Healing Seminar. Wednesday, May 12, 12-1pm. Origins, History and Geography. Science and Energy. Choosing, Cleansing and Uses. 10 Common Crystals & Their Properties. Chakras and Placements. Admission \$25. 2040 India St., San Diego 92101. R. D. Alchemy Natural Products, Regina 619-825-6078, www.rdalchemy.com.

Heal Your Body, Get Fit, Clear the Mind of Stress. Thursday, May 13, Tuesday, May 18. 5pm: Fitness class—core strength stability and conditioning mat class. 6pm: Yoga—Hatha Vinyasa mix. 7:30pm: Alternative Wellness Clinic—Acupuncture/ Massage/ Energy Medicine; learn meditation healing and more. \$10 donation for the entire evening. Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive, San Diego 92116. For more information, call 619-884-2662, prakasheffulgence@yahoo.com.

Depression and Exhaustion Remedies Seminar. Saturday, May 15, 3-4pm. Physiology and causes of depression and exhaustion. Diet, vitamins, nutraceuticals and herbs for depression and exhaustion. Bodywork and lifestyle techniques. Admission \$25. 2040 India St., San Diego 92101. R. D. Alchemy Natural Products, Regina 619-825-6078, www.rdalchemy.com.

Astrology, Prosperity and Law of Attraction. Friday, May 14, 7:30pm. Kevin Burk shares "the ultimate 'secret,' the simple principle that, when applied consistently, will guarantee true happiness and the means and the freedom to enjoy it" with San Diego Astrological Society. Admission \$6-\$12. Joyce Beers Community Center, 4065 Vermont Street, San Diego 92103. 619-307-1636.

Nature Adventures. Thursday, May 13, 10am. See live caterpillars, chrysalides, butterflies; learn about their life cycles through songs, trail hike, craft during program for kids of all ages (with an adult). Registration: Admission free-\$5. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Carlos 92119 619-582-6261.



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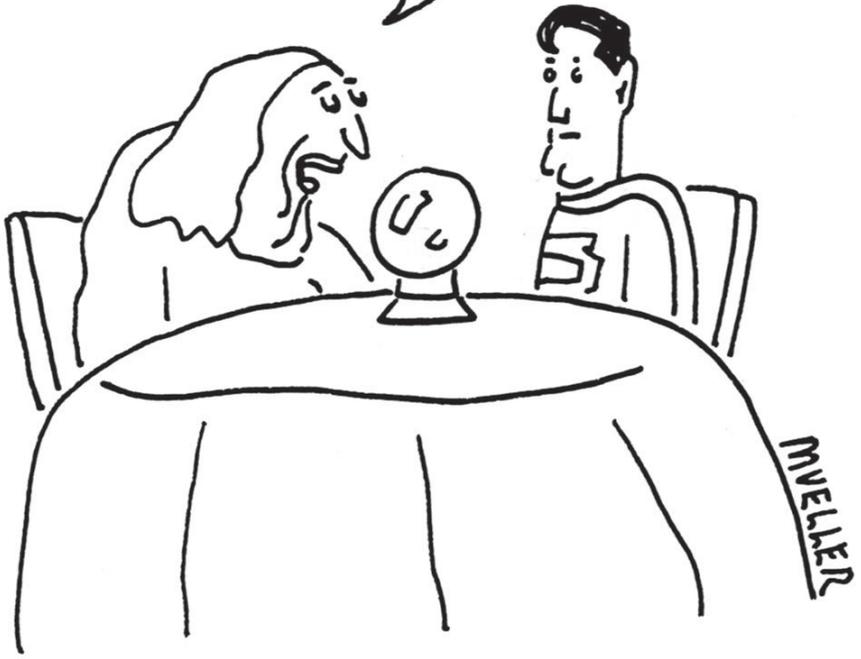
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DOWNTOWN/ GASLAMP. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. \$125/ week and up. Four-week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN/ GASLAMP. Historic Beaumanor, unique urban mini lofts, \$650-\$900. Several sizes, 12' ceilings, brick walls, hardwood floors, near Horton Plaza. Hardwood furniture available. Paid cable/ electric/ water. Most include sleeping decks. Refrigerator/ microwave included. High-speed Internet available. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, outdoor kitchen. Impeccable renovation. No pets. 927 6th Avenue. Michael, 619-232-1517. beaumanor927@yahoo.com. http://www.sdreader.com/places/beaumanor.

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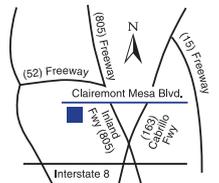
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HILLCREST. Studio, \$950. 1/2 off 1st month. The studio features a full-size kitchen with a built-in diner booth, gas range, refrigerator and microwave. Main living area has hardwood floors, a built-in Murphy bed, walk-in closet with a built-in dresser and a ceiling fan. The bathroom has full ceramic tile tub/shower and a pedestal sink. The unit is freshly painted in designer colors. Walking distance to all the great things Hillcrest has to offer. Available now. Low deposit of \$400.00. Small dogs OK. 3750-56 4th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92103. **Chris, 858-336-4700 or ch@hendershaw.com.**

HILLCREST. Near Zoo. \$1125. 2 bedroom immaculate apartment in small complex located in a quiet residential neighborhood. Gas stove, air conditioning, dishwasher, large closets, patio, laundry, parking. Walk to an eclectic array of restaurants as well as the San Diego Zoo. Cat okay. **Open Saturday 2:00-3:00.** 3706 Georgia Street. TPPM 619-296-8802, www.torreypinespm.com.

Seniors 62+
Hillcrest, \$1050. Attractive senior complex. Extremely large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, air conditioning, parking. Brand-new condition. Park-like grounds, peaceful living. Sheltered patio, laundry on premises, controlled entry. Near bus and shops. 4574 Campus Avenue. No pets. 858-703-4932 or 619-461-9415.

HILLCREST/ BANKER'S HILL. \$865-\$995. Large studio with full kitchen and large 1 bedroom. Coin laundry. Nice shared courtyard, gated entry. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 3502 First Avenue. Manager, Michael, 619-296-1918; mtcerda@pacbell.net.

HILLCREST/ MISSION HILLS. \$695-\$775. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios, alcoves, in excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

HILLCREST/ UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. \$1075. Extra large, lower 2 bedroom, 825sqft. Off-street parking, quiet neighborhood. Cat OK. 4575 North Avenue #5. 858-270-9086, leave message.

IMPERIAL BEACH. 1 bedroom apartment, stove, refrigerator, \$895. 2 bedroom, \$1450. Feet from the beach. Pets negotiable. Laundry facilities. Off-street parking. Conveniently located. 619-424-9233.

KENSINGTON. \$950. 1 bedroom, upstairs. Large deck. Appliances, coin laundry. Small pet upon approval with extra deposit. In the heart of Kensington. 4192 Madison. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

KENSINGTON/ TALMADGE. \$1150. Spacious 2-bedroom, 2-bath apartment. Condo-quality building. Washer/ dryer included. Fireplace. Carport. No pets. 4452 Highland Avenue. Agent, 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

LA JOLLA. \$1195. Studio. Includes utilities. Block to bus, beach, Starbucks, restaurants, UCSD and Scripps by bus or bicycle. Living room, kitchen. Appliances. Walk-in closet. Laundry. Pets ok. 858-336-0252.

LA JOLLA. Ocean view. \$1600. Modern 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment in Bird Rock. Large, private balcony; 2 parking spaces; coin laundry; controlled access. 5538 La Jolla Boulevard. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

LA JOLLA/ UTC. \$1300. 1 bedroom plus loft, low-rise complex, quiet, no pets.

Washer/ dryer in unit. Updated. Complex has pool and spa. 858-481-9567.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath starting at \$750 plus \$25 credit check fee and deposit. Nice and clean. New carpet, new appliances, gated with community pool. Near SDSU area. Within walking distance from local stores, bar, etc. No pets. Keeney Plaza Apartments. 5010 Keeney Street, 91941. Contact Robaia, 619-698-0777.

LA MESA. Starting at \$963. Newly remodeled, affordable apartment. 2 bedroom and 1 bath. Brand new interior features: Flooring (carpet and vinyl), paint, windows, cabinets, stove (gas). Quiet cul-de-sac location, playground, business computer center. After-school program, job training and resume assistance (coming soon), mommy and me yoga classes (coming soon). Income restrictions apply. Call for details. We accept Section 8. Se habla español. Village Green, 4150 Bonillo Drive, San Diego, CA 92115. 888-649-8918. www.villagegreen@conam.net.

LA MESA. 1 free month with one-year lease! 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$925/ month with \$450 deposit. Storage. No pets. \$25 credit. 5435 Morengo Avenue. Call 619-698-7926. www.villaknollsapts.com.

LA MESA. Mellmanor Apartments. \$890/ up, 1 bedroom, \$1210/ up, 2 bedroom. Across Grossmont Center, trolley, Costco. Quiet, spacious units. Pools. 8750 Mellmanor Drive. 619-461-1940.

LA MESA. Villa Morocco. 1 bedroom, starting at \$870. 2 bedroom, \$1190. Spacious. Near Grossmont Center. Great neighborhood. Near all. 5545 Morro Way. 619-589-8854.

LA MESA. From \$1300. 1/2 off first month with mention of ad! 1 and 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartments. Completely remodeled. Granite counters, washer/ dryers in units. Dual-pane windows, central heated air, garage parking. Available now. Call Nicole, 619-698-7600; 619-742-4775.

LA MESA. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. On-site laundry and parking. Just steps to La Mesa Village! Will not last! 8465 La Mesa Boulevard. Rachael, 619-804-1044.

LA MESA. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment, \$995. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry room, parking. No pets. 7490 Collins Avenue #1. Agent, 619-232-6811.

LA MESA. Very spacious 1 and 2 bedrooms. Dishwasher, central heating/ air, park-like setting, pool, views. Near 94, 125, 8 freeways. Pets welcome. 619-204-0610.

LA MESA. \$1049, spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Pets OK. Hablo Espanol. 619-857-0365.

LA MESA. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$995. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$1095. Air conditioning, balcony, intercom entry, laundry, garage. Available 6/1. 4311 Parks Avenue. 619-741-1307.

LA MESA. \$975, 1 bedroom. Award-winning community for beautiful landscaping. Pool and spa. Great location. No pets. **\$375 Move-in special!** 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

LA MESA. 1 month free! Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$1050. New carpet and flooring, appliances, A/C, huge private balcony, laundry, off-street parking. 6004 Lake Murray Boulevard. 619-384-9219.

LA MESA/ MT. HELIX. 1 bedrooms; 2 bedroom, 2 bath; 3 bedroom, 2 bath: from \$945; \$1145; \$1395. Furnished apartments also available. Elegant, sculptured courtyards with flower gardens, fountains, gas lamps, park benches. Charming New Orleans ambiance. Huge patios/ balconies. Gated access, parking. Small pets OK. 3903 Conrad Drive. 866-894-6343.

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LAKESIDE. Move-in special: 1/2 off 1st month! 1 bedroom, \$700. Near shopping.

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LAKESIDE. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. 1st month free! Special OAC. Laundry, parking. Available now! On-site manager, 619-561-4155. 12718 Mapleview Avenue #6. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

LAKESIDE. \$895. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. 1st month free! Special OAC. Laundry, parking. Available now. On-site manager, 619-561-4155. 12718 Mapleview Avenue #14. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

LEMON GROVE. Move in today! 2 bedroom, \$1000/ month. 1 bedroom, \$800/ month. Quiet, clean, well-located complex. Credit check required. Leave message. 619-916-9187.

LEMON GROVE. Sundance Trailer Park. Trailer space rental, \$450 monthly. Trailer with space, \$650 monthly. Upgraded shower facilities available. New on-site coin laundry. Peaceful. Front-secured electric gate. Near trolley/ freeway. Lease. Deposit. No dogs; cats considered. Manager, 619-463-0902.

LEMON GROVE. Duplex. \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. 1962 Nobel Street. Available now. Near trolley. 619-885-8301.

LEMON GROVE. \$975. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath with nice kitchen. Laundry hook-ups. Patio. Parking. No pets. Agent, 619-298-7724.

LINCOLN PARK. \$850. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Brand new paint/ carpet/ blinds! Downstairs corner unit. On-site parking/ laundry. No pets! 430 S. Willie James Jones. Agent, 619-820-2584.

LINDA VISTA. May move-in special: \$625-\$1095 rent, \$400-\$800 deposits! No pets. Studios (utilities included), 1, 2 and 3 bedrooms. 2249 Ulric Street. 858-565-6400.

LINDA VISTA. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom units \$1045, \$1095, \$1145, and \$1195. Deposit \$400. Beautiful, charming apartments, new paint in designer colors, backyards, assigned parking, lots of open space, close to freeways and a mall.

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LINDA VISTA. \$1150. 2 bedroom. Near all. Ground level duplex. Stove, refrigerator. On-site laundry. Private patio. No pets. Call anytime, 858-541-7852.

LINDA VISTA. 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Upstairs. Near USD. \$1475/ month. 5605 Mildred Street. More Property Management. 858-514-8201.

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LOGAN HEIGHTS. \$750. Reduced move in! 1 bedroom/ 1 bath downstairs apartment with off-street parking. 3074 Martin Street. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

MIRA MESA. 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom condo. New carpet, paint. Community pool, spa. Washer/ dryer. Fireplace. Covered parking. \$1350 plus deposit. 619-805-9137.

MIRA MESA. 10828 Aderman Avenue #135. 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo with fireplace, dishwasher, microwave. Pool, Jacuzzi, fitness center on site. Available end of May. \$1375. 619-296-6699. www.centrecty.net.

MISSION BEACH. \$1250. 1 bedroom. Parking, appliances, laundry on site. Great location to beach, restaurants, shopping. Across from Catamaran Hotel. 4012 Mission Blvd. 858-272-9547.

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- Adjust fuel-to-air mixture
- Inspect clutch

- Adjust clutch
- Inspect brakes
- Adjust brakes
- Adjust emergency brake
- Inspect & replenish all fluids
- Inspect all exposed belts
- Check electrical fuses
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MISSION HILLS/ HILLCREST. \$745. Studio. Bright and airy top floor end unit offers new carpet, paint, gas stove, parking. Utilities included. Steps to UCSD Medical Center, Mercy Hospital and the Hillcrest nightlife. No pets. **Open Saturday 11:00-12:00.** 4130 First Avenue. TPPM 619-296-8802, www.torreypinespm.com.

MISSION VALLEY. 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Upper level unit, balcony overlooking pool. Laundry rooms, tennis courts, fitness room. Small pets OK. \$900 rent. 619-287-9610.

MISSION VALLEY. \$950 1 bedroom, 1 bath condo. Near SDSU. 6665 Mission Gorge Rd. Available now. Call 619-469-0031.

MISSION VALLEY. \$2450. 3 bedroom, 3 bath condominium, balcony. Stainless steel appliances, granite tile tops, washer/ dryer. 2-car garage. Small pets OK. Deposit \$2000. 619-227-6791.

MISSION VALLEY. Studio, \$850. Partially furnished, parking, water/ sewer/ trash included, patio. 6202 51st Street #5. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

MISSION VALLEY. Park Villas. Updated 2- story 2 bedroom, 1 bath end unit on river. Quiet, gated, 2 parking spots, laundry, pool. Pets negotiable. Caminito De Pizza. \$1350. 619-279-0031.

MISSION VALLEY/ EAST. \$895. Spacious 1 bedroom, with dual closets. Completely renovated! Upstairs corner unit. Move-in Special! Laundry, parking, pool on site. No pets. 4550 Vandever. Manager, 619-282-8000.

MISSION VALLEY/ MISSION RIDGE. \$1199. Light and airy 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 868 square feet. Tree and sky view. Air conditioning, balcony, entry hall, fireplace, and appliances. Elevator, laundry facility. Carport plus one space. Beautiful gardens, clubhouse, gym, lighted tennis, heated pool. No pets/ smoking. Available 5/1 or sooner. 10250 Caminito Cuervo, #11. Agent: 858-395-7237, jansjag@aol.com.

MISSION VALLEY/ SAN DIEGO. 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhouse in Escala Complex on Friars Road. Two-car garage. Washer/ dryer. Stainless steel appliances. Balcony. Pool, gym. No pets. One-year lease desired. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, 858-488-2228.

MISSION VALLEY/ WEST/ USD. From \$750. Unique, nicely upgraded studios.

Near trolley. 3- month leases, monthly thereafter. High ceilings. Gated courtyard. 5411 Linda Vista Road (near Mildred). http://www.info101.net. 619-297-3000.

NATIONAL CITY. 1 bedroom apartment, \$825/ month. Newly renovated. Gated community. Laundry on site. Available early June. No pets. Hilltop Villas, 315 East 30th Street. Call 619-477-7442. www.melroyproperties.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. Hacienda-style 1 bedroom apartment, private balcony, washer/ dryer, all appliances, granite floors, custom counters, minibar. \$995. No pets. 619-787-9560.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$745. Clean. 1 bedroom apartment. New carpet/ paint. Parking space. Laundry facilities. Security Gates. No pets. 4334 35th Street. Shore Management, www.shoremgmt.com. 858-274-3500.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom. Move-In Special! Upstairs and downstairs units with new carpet, laundry and parking. \$995 rent. 4640 Wilson Avenue #3. Call 858-514-8201.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$650. Reduced move-in! Studio, laundry on site, small pet on approval. 4663 Felton St. #C. www.sdforrent.com. 619-640-7530.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$695. Studio. Gas, water, trash paid. Newer cabinets. Ceramic tile floors. Laundry. No pets. Near Adams. www.SeeTheUnit.com. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$1250. Beautiful 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Wood floors, granite counters, stainless steel appliances, dishwasher. 2 private patios, on-site laundry, 1 parking. 4625 Kansas Street #3. www.stevenleerproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4681 35th Street #6. \$825. 1 bedroom. Refrigerator, stove, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 4465 Mississippi Street #1. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Dishwasher, washer/ dryer, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

NORMAL HEIGHTS. 1/2 off 1st! Gated 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$775. Appliances, ceiling fans, on-site laundry, off-street parking, near all Section 8. 4368 Wilson Avenue. 619-804-3325.

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NORTH PARK. \$850. 1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Hardwood floors. Walk-in closet. No pets. 3942 Bancroft Street, San Diego, CA 92104. 619-284-3324.

NORTH PARK. \$1125. Upper 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Fireplace, garage, balcony. Newer, secure building. On-site laundry.

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NORTH PARK. \$1185. 2 bedroom, 2 full bath. Sunset view, fireplace, kitchen bar, lots of storage, dishwasher, gated parking, laundry, 2 cats OK with additional security deposit. 619-255-7805.

NORTH PARK. \$875. 1 bedroom, upstairs in 4-unit property. Stove, refrigerator, garage, deck. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Available now. 4046 Oregon. Del Sol Property Management, Broker, 858-270-2071. www.delsolpm.com.

NORTH PARK. \$750. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit available. Parking and laundry! Close to bus stop and many shops! No pets. 3828 Cherokee Avenue #7. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.LiveAtTheBeachNow.com.

NORTH PARK. 4124 Texas Street. First floor 1 bedroom. Built-in bookshelves. Off-street parking, on-site laundry. Cats OK. Available end of May. \$850. 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

NORTH PARK. 4170 Texas Street. 1st and 2nd floor 1 bedrooms. Close to shopping, built-in bookshelves, off-street parking, on-site laundry. Cats OK. \$850. 619-296-6699. www.centrecity.net.

NORTH PARK. \$675. utilities included. Small, private studio. Kitchenette with microwave, dual-pane windows. \$500 deposit. No smoking/ pets. Laundry additional. Available 6/1. 619-640-2575.

NORTH PARK. \$850. Reduced move-in. Studio with free laundry, street parking, private patio. Section 8 OK. 3682 Texas

Street. www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. \$1175. Reduced move-in. 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage. Small pet on approval, Section 8 OK. On-site laundry. Street parking. 4343 Utah St. www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

NORTH PARK. \$1000. Reduced move-in. 2 bedroom, 1 bath duplex. Alley access, shared laundry, off-street parking. Section 8 OK. Small pets on approval. 3552 Nile Street. www.sdforrent.com, 619-640-7530.

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NORTH PARK. \$850. Spacious remodeled 1 bedroom, upstairs. Stove, refrigerator, carpet, blinds, dishwasher. On-site laundry, parking. 4169 Alabama Street. No pets. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK. \$725. Spacious upstairs 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Cathedral ceilings, gated community, parking. No pets. www.SeeTheUnit.com, 619-298-7724.

NORTH PARK. \$775. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Lower unit, laundry, parking. Centrally located, close to freeway, newer carpet. 4553 Texas Street #2. www.amgsd.com. 619-295-1165.

NORTH PARK. \$725. 1 bed, 1 bath remodeled corner apartment. Move-in special. Parking. 4174 Wabash Avenue. Xlarent.com. 619-683-7638.

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Improves Gas Mileage and Engine Performance
Tune-up, new spark plugs, lube, oil & filter, choice of 5w20 or 5w30 premium oil, 14-point safety inspection, fuel injection service. \$2 waste fee.

30K/60K/90K SERVICE \$99⁹⁹
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TUNE-UP \$24⁹⁹
4-cyl. Most vehicles. 6-cyl. \$34.98, 8-cyl. \$44.98. New spark plugs, 14-point safety inspection, adjust timing (if applies) & air fuel mixture (if applies).

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LEAD STORY

Computer hardware engineer Toshio Yamamoto, 49, this year celebrates 15 years' work tasting and cataloging all the Japanese ramen (instant noodles) he can get his hands on (including the full ingredients list, texture, flavor, price, and "star" rating for each) for the 4300-ramen database on his website, expanded recently with "hundreds" of video reviews and with re-reviews (in case the taste had changed). Yamamoto said he had always eaten ramen for breakfast seven days a week, but cut back recently to five. "I feared that, if I continued at [the seven-day] pace, I would get bored."

Compelling Explanations

— In January, the California Historical Resources Commission formally claimed, on behalf of the state, about 100 items of property on the surface of the moon having been left behind during the 1969 Apollo 11 landing (since California companies were instrumental in that mission and since only the moon surface itself is off limits to ownership claims under international law). Among the items declared are tools, a flag, bags of food, and bags of human waste left by astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin.

— Nicolas Damato, 20, filed a lawsuit in March against Media, Pa., police officer Matthew Bellucci for false arrest after a 2008 traffic stop. Bellucci claimed Damato threatened bodily harm (but a judge later dismissed the charge). Damato acknowledged sending two letters to Bellucci's home, one of which said in part, "God is just, and you will be punished. F you! You are an a——! A f—— a——!" (as the words were represented in the Philadelphia *Daily News* story). Damato said it was not a threat but that he was merely expressing a "religious" opinion.

— Louis Woodcock, 23, testified at his Toronto trial in March that he was not involved in the 2005 shooting of a woman, despite being seen on surveillance video approaching the woman and holding his hand inside his jacket until gunshots rang out. He said he often kept his hand inside his jacket to keep from sucking his thumb, which is a habit he picked up in childhood and which did not go over well on the street. (The jury, apparently not seeing him as the thumb-sucking type, convicted him of manslaughter.)

Ironies

— Karen Salmansohn, 49, prominent author of self-help books for women with relationship and

career problems, including *Prince Harming Syndrome* and *How to Make Your Man Behave in 21 Days or Less Using the Secrets of Successful Dog Trainers*, filed a lawsuit in March against Mitchell Leff. Salmansohn said Leff had strung her along for months with promises of marriage and a baby but abruptly cut off support when she became pregnant. Said Salmansohn, "I'm a self-help author, not a psychic."

— Former baseball star Lenny "Nails" Dykstra recently started accepting clients for his investment advice service, charging \$999 a year, according to a March *Wall Street Journal* report. His website discloses that while Dykstra is "NOT" (his emphasis) a "registered" financial adviser, his "proven track record has caught the attention of many." (Dykstra filed for bankruptcy in July 2009 to stave off more than 20 lawsuits against him for entrepreneurial ventures gone bad, and in November, the bankruptcy judge denied him the right to reorganize his debts, converting his case to a chapter 7 liquidation.)

Government Health Care Follies

— Britain's National Health Service in Warwickshire recently assigned Mavis Eldridge to receive care at the Selly Oak Hospital in Birm-

ingham for the age-related macular degeneration she is suffering in her left eye. The decision was puzzling to Eldridge and her doctors because her right eye is already being treated for the same disorder at University Hospital in Coventry, 20 miles away. University officials said they were booked up.

— Paula Oertel, on Medicare, has a brain tumor that had been in remission for nine years thanks to a type of interferon approved for multiple sclerosis but not for cancer. Medicare had been paying about \$100,000 a year for the drug, but when Oertel relocated from one county in Wisconsin to another, 30 miles away, it triggered an automatic, full-scale review of her records, at which point officials realized that her drug was unauthorized and stopped paying. According to a March *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* report, her doctors scrambled to find a drug on the "approved" list, but discovered neither a less expensive one nor one nearly as effective, and Oertel's tumor has returned.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@Yahoo.com

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NORTH PARK/ NORMAL HEIGHTS. \$950 rent, \$800 deposit OAC. 1/2 off first month's rent! Lower 2 bedroom, 1 bath fourplex, new carpet, parking space,

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OCEAN BEACH. Beautiful beachfront view! Studio, \$995. 1 bedroom, \$1100-\$1350. 2 bedroom, \$1500-\$1700. Some with great ocean views! Serene, security, garden buildings. Hardwood floors, ceramic tile, laundry. Garages available. Pets considered. For address and availability, call 619-224-1748. For applications, call 619-501-5553.

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OCEAN BEACH. \$1295. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. 3 blocks to beach. New carpet. No pets. 4974 Muir Avenue. 619-222-6427.

OCEAN BEACH. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath darling cottage. Walking distance to restaurants and Ocean Beach pier. No pets. 1817 Bacon. www.cal-prop.com. 858-483-3534, Eva, x23.

OCEAN BEACH. \$850. Large downstairs studio in South Ocean Beach! Parking and laundry facility on site! No pets. 4922 Santa Cruz Avenue #5. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath, downstairs attached cottage, block to beach! No pets. 5069-1/2 Cape May Avenue. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

OCEAN BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath upstairs unit available. Parking and laundry! First block on beach! No pets.

2243 Abbott Street. Apt. E. Call 619-222-4836x14, www.liveatthebeachnow.com.

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OCEAN BEACH. 5020 Santa Monica Ave. 1 bedroom with garage, \$1100. Block to the beach. Refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. Cottage. 4910 Saratoga Ave. \$1100. 1 bedroom with garage, refrigerator, stove. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 4840 Del Monte Ave. #D. \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath

apartment. Laundry, parking. No pets. 619-226-7368 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 2138 Abbott Street. \$695. Studio, 1 bath. Close to beach. Refrigerator, new carpet. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

OCEAN BEACH. 5055-1/2 Muir Avenue. \$925. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Refrigerator, stove, parking. No pets. 619-200-1657 or www.bkbinc.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$2295. 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath condo. 1-car garage plus 1 carport parking space. Patio, fireplace, washer/dryer. 1668 Grand Avenue #A. www.calprop.com. 858-483-3534.

PACIFIC BEACH. \$950. 1 bedroom, 1 bath large apartment. Spacious, parking, laundry. No pets. 2112 Balboa. www.calprop.com. 858-483-3534, Eva, x23.

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1095. 1 bedroom, 1 bath in the perfect walk-to- all location. New carpet. Near beach, Henry's, and Garnet. **Open Saturday 2:30-3:30.**

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PACIFIC BEACH. \$1550. 2 bedroom townhouse with designer paint and new flooring. Washer/ dryer in unit, parking. Walking distance to all Pacific Beach has to offer. 1620 Emerald St. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreyepinespm.com.

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PACIFIC BEACH. Quiet 2 bedroom, 1 bath, newly remodeled. Laundry, parking, dishwasher, ceiling fans, patio. \$1325. 1941 Thomas. No pets. 619-279-0031.

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Religion and Culture
Christopher Dawson
 Western philosophy started with the Hellenic conception of Nature. Its *raison d'être* was to explain and rationalize nature, and God was ultimately brought in as the key-stone of the philosophic

edifice — as the First Cause or the Prime Mover. Eastern Philosophy, on the other hand, started with the principle of Transcendent Being and then attempted to explain the world...in terms of the absolute... But whatever path is followed, Natural Theology involves the

affirmation of Transcendent Being; whether this is attained by a cosmological inquiry which leads to the Eternal Cause and First Principle of Nature, or whether it is reached by a direct intuition of the Absolute as present in us and transcending the deepest limit of our con-

sciousness. — *Christopher Dawson, "God and the Supernatural"*

Christopher Dawson (1889–1970) was a Catholic scholar and historian whose works have influenced such literary greats as T.S. Eliot, C.S. Lewis, and J.R.R. Tolkien. An astute proponent of the "large view"

of history, Dawson wrote largely about the central historical importance of Christianity. Originally published in 1948 as part of the Gifford Lectures Dawson delivered at University of Edinburgh, Religion and Culture shows how Western culture's source and summit is Christianity.



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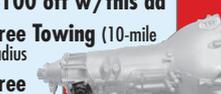
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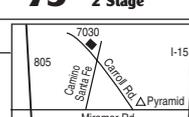
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LA MESA. Multi-family sale. Furniture, clothes, books, games, lamps, curtains, tools, more. All proceeds to Galilee

Home, an orphanage. 5/15, 7am-2pm. 4502 Calavo Drive.

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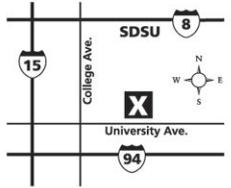
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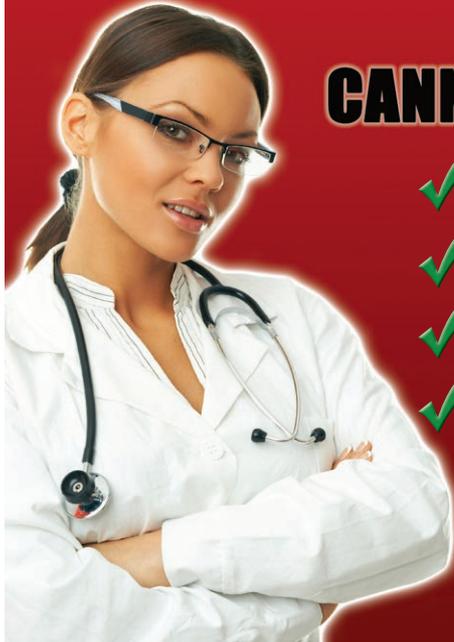
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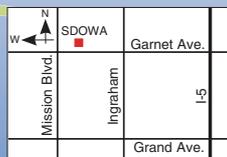
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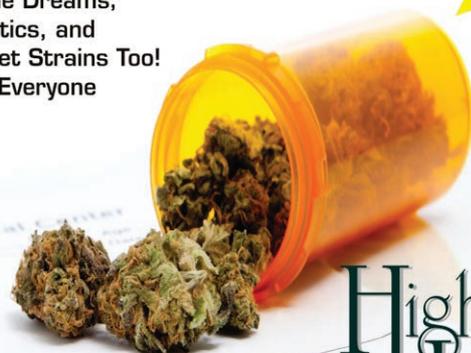
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