It’s Friday night around 10:00 and I’m just getting off work. Before I lived on my own, 10:00 p.m. was too late to even think of going out. Now I know nothing good ever happens before midnight.

$80 for $250 airplane tour for two! See page 4.
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Lightning Brewing Company
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New English
Oceanside Ale Works
Odornata Brewing
Ogg’s Pizza and Brewing Company
Ommeqang Brewing Company
Pacific Beach Ale House
Pyramid Brewing Company
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Sierra Nevada Brewing Company
Speakeasy Brewing Company
Stone Brewing Company
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Taps Fishhouse and Brewery
Telegraph Brewing Company
The Beer Company
Trumer Pils
Uncommon Brewers
Widmer Brothers Brewing Company

See our complete ad in the Health and Beauty section.
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**Broke Law Firm Trying to Make Deals**

By Don Bauder

On March 24, San Diegan Laura Perry received a letter from Kerry Steigerwalt's Pacific Law Center, once San Diego's best known, most notorious, and most aggressively advertised law firm. Perry, 73, had paid $2000 to the firm to handle a Chapter 7 bankruptcy for her. She had received no service — one of thousands who allegedly paid money up front but got little or no legal help.

Steigerwalt law firm, which went out of business last year, offered her a refund amount of $252, to be paid in installments. "The agreed amount will be paid, but [the firm] is financially unable to pay it today," lamented the letter, which included a check for $42 signed by Steigerwalt. Perry's attorney Gary Sehnert, who successfully handled her bank-

On April 18, Perry got a second letter, fretting that the law firm's "financial condition has worsened." She would not get the promised April check. She also got a solicitation phone call from one Joe Rivera, representing the law firm, who wanted her to take a lowball settlement of $105. "I said that is a rip-off," says Perry. "Every time I think of [this] it makes my blood pressure rise." Rivera would not reply to name to the front. The firm specialized in drunk driving, personal injury, defective product, loan modification, and bankruptcy cases. Taking over the Pacific Law Center "was the worst decision of my life," says Steigerwalt, who once again has his own firm. "It cost me millions." That April 18 letter to Laura Perry stated, "Vendors and creditors of [the defunct legal institution] claim the

---

**Spending like no tomorrow**

Another contractor picking up some sweet change from the City's Centre City Development Corporation is the Portland, Oregon landscape architectural firm of Walker Macy, designer of that city's Pioneer Courthouse Square, which local politicos lust to emulate on the site of the old Robinson's building at Horton Plaza.

A cool $1,199,647 will be paid to the firm. Of course, this being a project favored by the city hall powers that be, the use of a well-connected local public relations agency and political consultant is also provided for.

This time it's Marston & Marston, the firm owned by longtime City lobbyist, GOP stalwart, and onetime assemblyman Jeff Marston and wife Myr na. According to Centre City Development's April agreement with Walker Macy, "The Corporation may from time to time authorize Consultant...to perform additional services related to the Project that are outside the Scope of Services." The contract adds, "Consultant shall not be compensated for any services rendered that are outside the Scope of services without a written amendment to this Agreement."

Under the deal, Marston & Marston, which is among 14 firms on the contract's list of out-of-scope service providers, would be paid $150 an hour each for the services of a "Strategic political counsel" and "Community outreach specialist — project liaison." A "project supervisor" would make $100 hourly, and "Project manager: strategic planning and design" would fetch only $80.

Marston & Marston isn't the only one to get in on the potential gravy train. The services of art consultant Gail Goldman, who departed as head of the City's public arts program in 2000, are listed at $165 an hour. Myrna Marston confirmed that her firm was now working on the project, adding that the company's contract was with Macy Walker Centre City Development spokes-

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**Boxer Speaks on Nuclear Safety**

By Dave Rice — June 20, 10:44 a.m.

**WD-40 Borrows $75M to Fund Expansion, Stock Buybacks**

By Dave Rice — June 17, 201 p.m.

**SD Unemployment Rate Drops to 9.6%**

By Don Bauder — June 17, 12:28 p.m.

**Mark Fabiani to Spin Chipotle**

Undocumented-Alien Woes

By Matt Potter — June 17, 11:52 a.m.

**The Stench from Mt. San Diego**

By Darius Hargrove — June 17, 11:15 a.m.

**Mitt Romney’s La Jolla Ties Attract Increasing Notice**

By Matt Potter — June 17, 9:41 a.m.

**Assemblyman Martin Garick Arrested in Sacramento on DUI Charge**

By Matt Potter — June 16, 10:51 a.m.

Read these and other breaking news stories at SDReader.com/news-ticker
Oil Speculators: They Puked, Us Too
By Rex Dalton

From his $4.4 million estate behind the gates of Fairbanks Ranch, Nicholas J. Wildgoose couldn’t see the traffic streaming along I-5, one of America’s busiest freeways. But in 2008, the oil trader and his web of international associates had to know driver anxiety, and soon anger would rise over skyrocketing gas prices as the team launched one of the nation’s most audacious crude oil speculation schemes in years.

From January through April that year, federal officials allege, the trading group illegally manipulated crude oil prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange and then made trading moves to net at least $50 million.

On May 24, 2011, in federal court in New York, the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, an independent agency created by Congress, sued the group.

The civil enforcement complaint names Wildgoose; James T. Dyer, an internationally famous oil trader who lives in Australia; and three firms controlled by John "Big Wolf" Fredriksen, who owns the world’s largest oil tanker fleet and is Norway’s richest man. The suit seeks disgorgement of the $50 million, damages triple that amount, and trading prohibitions.

"Defendants conducted a manipulative cycle, driving the [oil] price to artificial highs then back down again to make unlawful profits," says the suit.

During the first of their two successful attempts to yo-yo prices, the lawsuit alleges, the team surreptitiously purchased 66 percent of the estimated crude oil available at the country’s primary depot, in Cushing, Oklahoma. The government says the team had no commercial need for the oil.

In an exercise that Wildgoose referred to in an email as the “inevitable puking” of the oil, the team rapidly sold off about 4.6 million barrels, the suit says, catching by complete surprise the nation’s commodity market. The trading move “had the desired effect,” Wildgoose noted in another email. The team earned big profits on derivatives on the future price of oil.

In the aftermath of the team’s maneuvers, there was widespread vomiting nationwide as speculative maneuvers drove crude oil in July to $147 a barrel, thereby producing near-record-high gasoline prices.

As Dyer had predicted in a 2007 email, there is a "shit-load of money to be made" in crude oil speculation.

From a small office tucked behind the Ranch Market and Deli in Fairbanks Ranch, Wildgoose worked for Par Non Energy Inc., one of the companies named in the commission’s lawsuit. The other two companies are Arcadia Petroleum Limited in London and Arcadia Energy (Suisse) SA in Switzerland.

Via electronic tentacles, the players set their trading sights in 2008 on the depot made trading moves to net at least $50 million.

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Via electronic tentacles, the players set their trading sights in 2008 on the depot continued on page 48
LETTERS

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

Oh, You’re Too Modest

Okay, I thought at least one modern-day puritan (Letters, June 16) would react to the “bare Barbies” on last week’s cover (“I Want Love Now,” June 9). Sir, do you have the same reaction when your child innocently takes her topless doll out of the privacy of her Barbie mansion? (“Put a shirt on that Barbie now!”) Do you waste as much effort advocating for flat-chested Barbie with permanent granny underwear? Our society enhances sexuality by making it so titillating. Remember how in junior high everything forbidden was so much more fun? Seriously, the internet porn industry loves your kind of modesty. Here’s another brainiac notion: women have breasts! Time to grow up.

Michelle via email

Harley Jerks

“Dad Was a Bum” (Cover Story, June 16) reminded me that we have no basis to draw facile conclusions regarding total strangers we may encounter during the typical day. We have no idea what life forces carried them to the point where our paths intersect.

So it is only after careful consideration that I reaffirm my position that Harley riders who roar through neighborhoods at 6:00 a.m. are antisocial jerks of the first order.

EZ Eddie via email

Jobs For Dogs

Re “I Want Love Now” (Cover Story, June 9), I have been complimented for a pleasant telephone voice, the problem being that we all judge a book by its cover. While on the phone, a woman has images of George Clooney. What greets her is closer to George Costanza (from Seinfeld). I’ll see a brief reaction of profound disappointment, like that of a child opening a present only to find clothes instead of a toy.

The effect on one’s social life is difficult enough. But it also limits one’s earning potential. Virtually all executive positions are held by those who were pretty and popular in high school, as opposed to the nerds who could not get a prom date. One can, with some difficulty, forbear a love life. But the unattractive still need even a shirt on that Barbie now!”

Mansion For The Homeless

Re “Under the Radar” (June 16).

Bill Lerach and his wife Michelle Ciccarelli, as recently as six weeks ago, donated the use of their mansion to hold a fund-raising event for the Coalition for Basic Dignity, which abates homelessness. The end result promises the biggest dent so far in the homeless problem. CBD also operates the Girls Think Tank and helps the San Diego Homeless website.

John Kitchin via email

A Little Sugar, A Little Trash

Daugherty does one of the sharpest, most concise, most amusing take-downs of the NCAA oligarchy this sports lover has ever read (“Sporting Box,” June 16). We live in obscene times, and I appreciate Daugherty sweetening the filth of the hypocrisy our moral guardians force us to choke down.

J. Michael Robertson via email

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Food and drinks from Philly Frank’s Cheesesteaks in San Marcos. For sale online Thursday, June 23, at thedailysave.com

$80 for $250 airplane tour

Sky tour of the San Diego area for two with Air2Air Corp. For sale online Friday–Sunday, June 24–26, at thedailysave.com

continued on page 54
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LASIK 24 Mo 0% Interest (OAC)

San Diego Reader June 23, 2011
Not a Crime

Parents can be irritatingly protective of their children. I get it — no one wants anything nefarious to happen to the innocent. But I don’t think people realize how ridiculous much of their sheltering is when you separate fantasy from reality.

As a child-free adult, I try not to concern myself with thoughts of parenting; even if I disagree with certain choices my sisters or friends make in regard to rearing their children, I keep my opinions to myself because I recognize that, as the saying goes, it’s not my dog. But when an overzealous guardian not only crosses, but also obstructs my path, I pipe up.

I’m in the media, and my husband is a fine-art photographer. If we are outside of our home, chances are one of us is documenting our escapades via iPhone, camcorder, or large-format view camera. If our general experience is any indication, any parent who claims to care about his or her child’s vicinity intends to kidnap, rape, kill, and bury the kid.

Because of our understanding that logic and reason don’t necessarily play a part in parenting, particularly when one’s protective instincts are triggered, David and I arm ourselves with information — basically, we know our rights. This knowledge comes in handy quite often. Just yesterday I had to read my own rights to a parent who plans to make for specific events. But the child’s father looked my way, I said, “This is for the news,” and pointed to the badge on my shirt.

The man put his hand in front of his kid’s face. “No,” he said.

I lowered my camera. “Look,” I said. “I’m going to stop filming your kid because I don’t want to make you uncomfortable. But just for you to know, I’m perfectly within my rights, and I’m stopping as a courtesy to you only. But you should know that it’s legal for anyone to take pictures of your kid when you’re in public, whether you like it or not.”

“That’s not true, you need my permission,” he said. “I’m a photographer and I have to obtain model releases from anyone I photograph.”

“No, you don’t,” I argued. “Not unless you’re using someone’s image to sell or endorse a project. For art or news, you don’t need a release. See? I just saved you some work. I strongly encourage you to read up on the law.”

“What about at a park? You can’t take pictures of kids at parks,” he said.

“Oh, yes, I can. You have no assumption of privacy in a public place. Anyone can take pictures of you or your kid when you’re in public, and they don’t need a release.”

“What if they go home and put it up on the internet?”

“They can do whatever they want with the image — put it in a gallery, put it online, anything as long as they’re not using the image to endorse a product or slander or libel the person depicted,” I said. “But I don’t want to cite the entire law to you, just go home and educate yourself.”

“If that’s the case, how am I supposed to protect my daughter from perverts?”

“You could lock her in a closet until she’s 18,” I said. “Or make her wear a burka.” The man shook his head as if this was an insane suggestion. “You can’t control what people think about what they see, that’s so 1984,” I said. “And by the way? I don’t think it’s people in parks you need to worry about — 96 percent of child molesters already know their victims. They’re fathers, stepfathers, priests, uncles, someone who insinuates their way into a kid’s life in a position of authority and gains the kid’s trust. If you’re going to worry, I’d focus a little closer to home than on any randoms with a camera that you see in the park.”

He began to argue another ill-informed point, but I cut him off. “It was nice to meet you, but I have to continue working now. Again, I encourage you, for both your sake as a photographer and as a parent, that you go home and look up the laws pertaining to photography.”

Drunk Baker

There are a lot of weird things people do when they’re inebriated. Some drunk-dial (not recommended), others drunk-drive (so unbelievably uncool); some drunk-smoke, some drunk-kiss (or more — and stop looking at me like that), and, of course, there are those who tend toward drunk-dancing — the same ones who would never, ever dance when sober.

My man? He drunk-bakes. Not the dop-ey-smokey kind of bake — mixing pot with alcohol is a fast track to puking. No, David actually bakes, like with flour and shit.

I’d forgotten about this quirk of his, as we rarely have fresh baking materials (i.e., milk) on hand. We keep eggs and flour, sugar and salt, but we don’t drink milk; David only buys enough for whatever it is he plans to make for specific events. But the other night, my man made a discovery.

Our friend Terri was over — I’d lured her into our abode with the promise of wine so I could tap her creativity for a project of mine. After dinner and two bottles of PKNT, David went straight to the kitchen. He takes his role as host more seriously when drinking, as if the lightheartedness of a buzz compels him to be even more hospitable than usual. The wine

continued on page 53

DIARY OF A DIVA

by Barbarella

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Thirty-Five Years Ago

[T]he dominating mood among the middle-class graduates is one of passive acceptance of a decayed world, handed to them on a platter beyond meaningful repair.

While the middle-class kids tend to view themselves as day nurses in a terminal ward, the Third Workers in foreign lands like Logan Heights and points southeast are beginning to view the world as theirs. Their time is just beginning. Let the middle-class kids have their ennui. They don’t know what street wisdom is.

Juan Perino...first entered the Golden Hills area to steal a car battery and stayed to become a counselor at the Neighborhood Outreach Program.

— "BRAVING THE NEW WORLD," Richard Louv, June 24, 1976

Thirty Years Ago

I imagine that a perfect production of King Lear would inspire an awesome, mass catharsis in the minds of its observers. As if they had been assaulted by a metaphysical hurricane, audiences would leave the theater shaken, stumbling over what they had seen. They would also regard the slightest act of human kindness as cause for extreme jubilation. The current production by the Old Globe Theatre, as part of the Thirty-Second National Shakespeare Festival, falls short of this lofty — many scholars have said impossible — ideal.

— "THE KING IS MAD," Jeff Smith, June 25, 1981

Twenty-Five Years Ago

For the last eight years, some of the condo dwellers at Coronado Shores have been able to stand on their balconies and see the San Diego skyline, the Tijuana haze, and men taking off their bathing suits at the municipal pool across the street.

When the Coronado municipal pool was built in 1958, the ten condo towers at Coronado Shores had not yet risen from the ground. In 1977, while Encanto (one of two 15-story-highrises that overlook the pool) was being built, female swimmers, toweling off after a shower, noticed male construction workers with binoculars. A slatted roof was soon erected over the women’s outdoor changing room. But no one fretted about the nude men. They don’t know what street wisdom is.

Joaanne Larson, the recreation director, says her department had evaluated the problem but concluded that the expense of a roof outweighed the visual discomfort.

— CITY LIGHTS: "ROOMS WITH A VIEW," Brue Canlen, June 26, 1986

Twenty Years Ago

Chee-Chee’s at 3:00 p.m. Self-hatred, failure, perversion line the old queers’ faces. They’re all here. Sailors who never left port. Scrappy hustlers trading butt for drugs. A couple middle-aged fatties sporting that perversely youthful corrupt, no-chin visage that is normally seen on actors playing Nero or on extras in Fellini’s Roman epics.

— "SAN DIEGO, MY LOVELY," Adam Parfrey, June 27, 1991

Fifteen Years Ago

Right beside me stands a chair. I look up into its pathetic underbelly and think, What a strange simulacrum of a beast. Its body is grotesquely inverted to mirror ours. Children may sit in laps, but adults, except when amorous, do not. We don’t sit on a chair’s lap but on its seat; nor do we lean against its chest but against its back. If chairs had faces, those, too, would be turned away, eyes to the wall.


Ten Years Ago

My husband is the least sexist man I know.... Unfortunately, he has a best friend who’s one of the most sexist men I’ve ever met. Frankly, I can’t fathom what my husband sees in this guy. Whenever my husband goes out to dinner with this man, they spend the whole evening looking at women’s breasts and exchanging comments about them. What kind of a way is this for grown, supposedly sophisticated men to act?

— ASK AUNT TRUDY, June 21, 2001

Five Years Ago

In his rambling book, Killing Yourself to Live, rock critic Chuck Klosterman devotes much of a chapter to dissecting the ways in which Kid A predicted the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks a year before they happened. No doubt he’s working on a follow-up about how 2003’s Hail to the Thief predicted voting irregularities in Ohio in 2004 and the government’s poor response to Hurricane Katrina.


San Diego Reader, June 26, 1986
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San Diego Live-Aboard

It’s at the point of being rare, talking to a stranger in a bar and realizing, from the start, that you’re having an interesting conversation. I’m at the Harbor Bar (that’s Pillar Point Harbor to you, landlubber), taking a rest-stop from a short camping trip. This is a working fishing harbor and the bar is crowded with men. Standing next to the wall is a tall fellow with blond hair, mustache, beard, wearing a checkered wool shirt, jeans, drinking beer and talking to two buddies.

His name is Joshua Gift, he’s 33 years old, four years married to Christal, who has a seat at the bar. Follows is his story.

“I crab during the winter. In the fall, if there’s a tuna run, I work a tuna boat if I can get on one. Salmon fishing now. I’m on a boat called the Aurora. It’s a 50-foot, steel, Monk-type boat, capable of fishing for just about anything that you can pack in it. The boat I live on with my wife is a sailboat.

“What I want to do is get a live-aboard boat, cruise around San Diego, and be able to fly home to my own salmon boat during salmon season. Fish one season a year. People are able to cruise the Pacific on less than $10,000 a year, easily. That includes airfare to go back and forth.

“I went to college for computer graphics, graduated with an associate’s. Worked, for a brief period of time, in advertising. Went up to Seattle for awhile, wound up living out of the back of my pickup truck. Moved to Northern California [Mendocino County], worked construction for six months. Somebody offered me an agriculture job, medical marijuana. I worked on a medical marijuana farm for three seasons.

“I started going down to San Diego in the winter. At the end of the third season, the owner picked up a coke habit. You can’t have a controversial business that is state legal and not federally legal, pick up a drug problem, and expect things to be okay. I decided to leave.

“To San Diego. This was 2006. I was at a party at Black’s Beach, which is just north of Pacific Beach. I meet this guy and mentioned I wanted a boat. He said he knew about a 26-foot trimaran — ‘I haven’t been on it, but I hear it’s in good shape.’ He told me to go to Pepper Park in National City and look for somebody by the name of Sharky.

“Sure enough, Sharky was there. Short, gray-haired, overweight dude with a little stainless steel flask full of rum and already had a buzz on at 8 o’clock in the morning. He said he wants $200 for the boat, a 1965 Piver trimaran.

“It was out at anchor, so I borrowed his rowboat and rowed out to it. I looked at it pretty good. The bottom needed to be scraped, but that only costs $40. I went onboard and found sails, found all the cushions, and they didn’t smell. There was a stove built in and all the parts to the boat, inside and out, were there. So, I gave the guy $200, he gave me the pink slip.

“I started working for another live-aboard. He supported his 70-schooner family and family by buying abandoned boats in areas like Oxnard and San Diego. He’d move them to a friend’s dry dock in Santa Barbara. Fix and sell. I was one of the people he hired to move boats.

“The boats have to have sails. Of course they had to be floating. The inside didn’t matter.

“I brought my own sleeping bag and sometimes sleeping mat. They had to have a rudder and a way to steer. And a way to get the sails up. I’d get $200 for a trip, made 20 trips for him over the course of a year.

“Other than that, I sailed from place to place in my own boat. The rules of anchoring around San Diego were tough. You couldn’t be out at anchor for more than 72 hours. You could stay for 72 hours in Mission Bay, Gloria Bay, A-8 Anchorage, and a few other places. When you left one spot you couldn’t go back there for a week.

“You have to know what you’re doing. You have to know what to do in case of an emergency. Three o’clock in the morning, you wake up because the bilge alarm is going off. Get out of bed into a foot-and-a-half of water. The bilge alarm suddenly quits because the water got over the battery and you need to find the leak and get as much water out of the boat as possible. In the dark.”

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Local Mobile ATM Operator “Cashes In” on State’s Decision to Ban Use of Welfare Debit Cards in Strip Clubs, Casinos, and Massage Parlors

“I’m there when you need me.”

PARKING LOT OF CHEETAH’S TOTALLY NUDE — Earlier this month, the California legislature voted to pass AB493, a bill outlawing the use of CalWORKS debit cards at ATMs located inside strip clubs, casinos, and other places where a guy who’s down on his luck can go to forget his troubles for a few hours. When he heard the awful news, Lemon Grove entrepreneur Mike McIntyre knew it was time to start making sweet, sweet lemonade from the sour lemons put forth by the new law. McIntyre, who owns a local EZ-ATM mobile cash machine franchise, decided to start working nights.

“Look,” explained McIntyre, “people are going to get their swerve on, and that’s all there is to it. The government has decided to make it a little harder, but really, all that means is an increased opportunity for the private sector. I feel bad for these guys — they’re already short of ready cash, and my ATM charges $5 per transaction instead of the usual $2.75. But sometimes you have to pay a premium for convenience, you know? I post my nightly route online, so they know right when I’ll be there for them.

“I’m just sorry they didn’t ban the use of those cards at liquor stores, too. I mean, can you even imagine?”

(Fast and) Loose Troop

Scandal Erupts Amid Accusations of Slot-Loosening Exaggerations by Members of Barona Casino’s Loose Troop

State Board of Loose Regulation Considers Revocation of Barona’s Loosening License

“We have to keep a tight watch on those who claim to be loose.”

Slut Walk Devolves into Rape Run

It was supposed to be a triumph for women eager to reclaim their sexuality from the threat of sexual violence. But sadly, this year’s Slut Walk San Diego went horribly awry as some 50 men, many of whom claimed to be unable to control their animal urges when presented with such a plenitude of hot female flesh, plunged into the crowd of over 2000 sluts in a quest for sexual gratification, consensual or otherwise. Dozens of arrests were made, and police say it may be weeks before all the snatched panties have been returned to their rightful owners.

When this reporter questioned the wisdom of the sluts’ decision to steam their march past both the county jail and the convention center during the annual gathering of Sexaholics Anonymous, one of the more vocal sluts replied, “Don’t you get it? That’s just the point! It doesn’t matter if we put on thigh-high f-k-me boots with five-inch stiletto heels, slather our naked bodies in baby oil and then teeter and drip our way down SDSU’s fraternity row on a Saturday night! We are not asking to be raped!”

“Oh, sister, you don’t have to ask!” cried out two-time rapist Bruno Bruske-wicz as police officers dragged him to the ground and tased him.

Meanwhile, sexual addict Mark “Tiger” Woods sat on a curb, nursing a sensitive region that had been repeatedly kicked and wept softly. “Right in the middle of my speech,” he sobbed. “I was at the podium, and I had just gotten to the part where I said that thanks to SA, I don’t think I’d lose control now unless something like 500 sluts just happened to walk by. And then — BLAMMO. I just lost it. Oh, God, I hate myself.”

Despite the setback, Slut Walk organizers pledged to keep slutting it up over town. “We will not be slut-shamed, slut-silenced, or otherwise prevented from owning our sluttiness,” declared a slut who identified herself only as Fierce.

Almost factual news

WHO PLAYS WHO

GENDER-BENDING THE MAYORAL CANDIDATES EDITION

In Aliens, Sigourney Weaver advised the Alien Queen, “Get away from her, you bitch.”

Assembleman Nathan Fletcher authored Chelsea’s Law, which requires life sentences for sexual assaults against children.

After a string of horrific comedies such as Look Who’s Talking Too, John Travolta got a second career as an A-list action star following his appearance in Pulp Fiction.

District attorney Bonnie Dumanis feels she is ready for a second career as mayor.

In Planes, Trains, and Automobiles, Edie McClurg memorably informed Steve Martin, “You’re f-k-edy.”

Councilman Carl DeMaio thinks San Diego’s finances require drastic measures if disaster is to be avoided.
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I told Ahmed I’d probably take to bed again and celebrate “the nearly narcotic pleasures of desolation.” Ahmed only stared at me.

One sometimes finds oneself slightly off balance when approaching a topic that may have short-term and changeable elements. I’m experiencing that somewhat this morning: the changeable element is the weather, not often that changeable in San Diego. See, I’m writing this several weeks before it will appear online or in print. Still in May, in fact. Quite a bit of actual weather recently, back here on the timeline — May Gray, rain and wind, turbulent skies, that sort of thing. I’m relying on a kind of local wisdom having to do with May Gray segueing into June Gloom. Assuming that to hold up and further assuming that at least some readers are like me, the idea here is that reading habits change around this time of year (mine do), and winter’s heavier subject matter gives way to breezy, colorful, and fun stuff, the kind of thing one might read poolside or at the beach.

Before metaphorically shedding galoshes and overcoat at the end of spring, I will at least remove my mittens to more easily read a few books left over from my winter/spring to-be-read stack on my night table and dig into at least one or two of these this morning at the bus stop. Five books in the pile, and I take them all with me on my way to work. I’ll decide later. The titles: With Lawrence in Arabia, by Lowell Thomas; The Roots of Heaven, by Romain Gary; The Wall, by John Hersey; An Island Called Moreau, by Brian Aldiss; and Notes from Underground, by that madcap master of mirth and mischief Fyodor Dostoevsky.

I’ve read Notes before, and it was a favorite, too, of my former wife, Diane Clark, whose latest short fiction appears in San Diego Noir (there, I gave you a plug), edited by Mary Elizabeth Hart. It occurred to me that to reread Notes from Underground would be fun for me, and yet you run no risk of ingesting nutrition/substance-free literary Jell-O.

Last week, after I had bought the book at Blue-stocking, in Hillcrest, while interviewing one Sharif Ahmed as to how he spent his weekends (scuba diving), he asked me how I spent mine. Having read a new introduction to Notes by Ben Marcus, I told Ahmed I’d probably take to bed again, get under the covers, and celebrate “the nearly narcotic pleasures of desolation.” Ahmed only stared at me.

The Wall, by Hersey, is a hefty novel, maybe 150,000 words, about the Nazi resisters in Warsaw’s ghetto during WWII. It is a story I heard about growing up, or rather a steady stream of stories that emerged. Hersey published The Wall the year I was born, 1950, and I became aware of it as a boy but never got ahold of a copy until recently — at a library sale for 33 cents. The fascination for me is the enemy; the Nazis are very close to a pure representation of evil on Earth, the embodiment of everything worth resisting, fighting, and lashing out against — with cool machine guns and other neato, mid-20th-century weapons.

The Roots of Heaven, by Romain Gary, is another book that eluded me for years. Even the movie, directed by John Huston (a favorite) and starring Errol Flynn (another), has dodged all my attempts to view it. I’ll try Kensington Video again. Meanwhile, I have the 1958 paperback (another library find) that is falling into loose-leaf pages at every hefting.

The book is about elephants in the way Moby Dick is about a whale; and Errol Flynn’s days were severely numbered when he played “A joyous, amoral gun-runner.” This is another book that my former wife raved about, comparing Gary to Graham Greene. There can be no higher recommendation: Greene, Huston, Flynn.

With Lawrence in Arabia, when I spotted it at, I think, Fifth Avenue Books, clearly lay in wait for me and my fascination, since age ten, with all things Lawrence. Author Lowell Thomas seems surely to be the real-life counterpart of the American newspaperman, played by Arthur Kennedy in the David Lean epic.

Finally, I have An Island Called Moreau, Brian W. Aldiss’s 1981 science-fiction novel. Aldiss has done a tribute here to H.G. Wells, whom he calls “The Master” in his dedication. Wells is another lifelong fascination — The Island of Doctor Moreau, a favorite story. This is the one I’m easing into summer with at Coronado’s beach. A big toe in small waves as I read of Edward Prendick (Wells’s character) becoming Calvert Roberts in the Aldiss book and their shipwreck onto a scene of tropical terror.

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Well, the Rapture didn’t happen, but it did get me thinking about firearms. When the tribulation comes, I want to know how to shoot.  
Marc Halcon, owner of American Shooting Center in Kearny Mesa (858-279-7233; gotammo.com), assured me that gender would not be an issue in gun training.  
“The ratio of entry-level shooters is generally 50/50, male to female.” What are some of the reasons women attend? “What we hear is, ‘I want to be able to protect my home, myself, and my children.’ Or, ‘My husband or boyfriend has firearms, and I just want to be more comfortable with them’. Or, ‘This is kind of empowering.’”  
Halcon told me that their entry-level training course “covers the basic laws regarding guns and the fundamental mechanics of how a gun works. We also go over the differences between various types of firearms, and there’s some time spent shooting on the range. It takes four or five hours, and we provide the gun, the ammunition, and the safety gear. Class size is usually around seven people, and there are two instructors, so you get a lot of one-on-one instruction. The cost is $150.”  
Students are allowed to bring their own guns, but Halcon prefers that you choose from their selection. “We can tailor the instruction to fit your needs, depending on your weapon, but we like people to be open-minded enough to consider whether or not a particular gun is the right fit for them. Maybe the recoil isn’t right for you, maybe there’s something else.”

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Janel at Discount Gun Mart in Santee (619-596-0499, discountgunmart.com) said that their Home Firearms Safety Course (four hours, $95) covers “general safety rules, firearm terminology, and the laws regarding possession, storage, and transportation of firearms. The fee includes firearm, safety gear, and target, but not ammunition.”
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It’s Friday night at around 10:00

and I’m just getting off work. Before I lived on my own, 10:00 p.m. was too late to even think of going out. Now I know nothing good ever happens before midnight. I’m 20 years old and 10:00 o’clock leaves only a few options: Kearny Mesa Bowl, a late movie at Fashion Valley, or crossing my fingers and hoping all my friends who are older than me will choose not to go to a bar tonight and feel like hanging out at home. That rarely happens.

Rewind to earlier in the day. The week is gone and Friday afternoon comes quick.

No one has to be up for class in the morning. I’m scrambling to make plans so I won’t have to spend another night with my DVR, at home, the scene of so many weekends, where I drink from the tap and enjoy premade meals from Trader Joe’s.

You’d think I was a 90-year-old woman. This is not a pity party. But as much as I love hanging out with Carrie Bradshaw and reruns of Sex and the City, it would be nice to get all dressed up and have somewhere to go.

The struggle to figure out how to spice up my social life goes back to high school, when countless nights...
were spent alone in my room with nothing to do because most of my friends were over 18. They went to clubs and hookah bars, where the bouncers and the servers most definitely did check your ID. Every time.

My alternative was tagging along to some stupid house party. I never understood the idea of house parties in high school. Someone always knew someone else who could score a couple of cases of Smirnoff Ice, and that constituted a good Friday night. You weren’t anybody if you weren’t Myspace and see girls with drunk eyes and big smiles hanging all over cute college boys and wish I could do it, too. Looking back, I laugh at myself. I’m doing my best to not remember a lot of that time, when I was stupid and naive, a silly high-school girl. Underage drinking was not something that really appealed to me, but, boy, did those girls make it look glamorous.

I will buy 46 Diet Cokes if it means I can come to the show.

most definitely did check your ID. Every time.

It’s Super Bowl Sunday, last year. I’m at my friend Arty’s apartment in Hillcrest, hanging out with my closest friends, eating delicious finger food and laughing hysterically at bad jokes and other silliness. I take in my surroundings and, of course, I’m the youngest one here by at least three years. I’m 19, but because we’re at Arty’s apartment, there is no real concern.

Until Chuck pipes up, “Let’s go to a bar! This game is boring and the commercials suck.” Everyone agrees, murmurs. They start tossing ideas back and forth.

“Let’s just go to Pecs. It’s right here. We can walk.”

We Pay Cash For Used Designer Handbags

San Diego Reader
June 23, 2011

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We Pay Cash For Used Designer Handbags

San Diego Reader
June 23, 2011

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I quietly sit, reclined in my chair, hoping everyone will let the idea fizzle away, because it’s only 5:00 o’clock and if they’re bar-hopping, I’m homebound.

I’ve never wanted a fake ID to go out and get drunk. The only time I wished for one was to get into 21+ music venues. My favorite San Diego band, Dynamite Walls, plays so many 21+ venues — like the Belly Up in Solana Beach and the Ruby Room in Hillcrest — that I have to miss, just because I’m underage. I’ve never understood why some music venues are 21+. If it’s about money in drink revenue, I will buy 46 Diet Cokes if it means I can come to the show. I will help increase your profit margin; just let me enjoy my music.

Back at Arty’s apartment, most of the group is gearing up to walk to the bar. And then my favorite thing ever happens.

“Oh, wait...” Arty says, in a completely forlorn tone of voice. “Hayley’s under 21...”

A collective aww fills the room, and I want to sink into my hoodie and die. I hate the constant reminder, like I don’t know I’m underage and can’t join the fun. Like I don’t think of it every single time I hear about anything fun happening in the greater San Diego area, and I have to go online and make sure the venue will accept my underageness.

There is no face on the picture, only the outline of a head, brown hair, and white skin.

I feel bad. I can’t do anything to change how old I am, but I don’t want to ruin anyone else’s fun or bring them down, so, like I’ve said approximately one million times before, I tell them, “Oh, guys! Go ahead. I don’t have to come. You’ll have fun without me!”

I am a renowned Shakespearean actor: I have recited these lines so often, there’s
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Because I am such a worrywart, I imagined walking to this dive bar, showing the ID, getting turned down, then getting thrown in jail for identity theft or someone else getting thrown in jail for the ID, getting thrown in jail for identity theft or some other reason. I assume this is how it would happen in a world where I get fined, thrown in jail, and thus smudge my identity theft or some other reason. I ask Aliah, “What’s the worst thing that could happen to me if I get in trouble?”

I say the years between 19 and 21 are the most awkward ages to live through. Post-pubescent is awkward, too, but at least when you’re 13, having your mom drop you off at the mall for a couple of hours is an acceptable way to spend a Saturday night.

What do you do when you’re too old for the mall? You could do what I do and hope someone feels like going to see a late movie (the latest showing, of course, because if you go to the 7:30 showing of any movie that isn’t rated R on a Friday night, you’re asking to be surrounded by hordes of awkward preteens holding hands and picking popcorn out of their shirts); or you can hope someone is having people over to their apartment to hang out and play beer pong. But no one really likes opening up their apartment to a bunch of drunkens spilling cheap beer everywhere, and movie tickets are stupidly expensive.

So, off to the bowling alley we go. Good, clean, all-ages entertainment lies in the middle of Kearny Mesa, otherwise known for its gun stores.
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strip clubs, and car lots. Kearny Mesa Bowl is a little grumbly, in the fun-loving and charming way only a bowling alley can be. Just off Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, not too far from the 805 and 52 freeways, the parking lot is eerily quiet. The tint on the glass doors makes you wonder if the place is even operating. But as soon as your hand touches the dirty door handle and cracks open the door, doubt is far from the 805 and 52 Mesa Boulevard, not too far. Just off Clairemont loving and charming way little grimy, in the fun-Kearny Mesa Bowl is a strip clubs, and car lots.

San Diego Reader June 23, 2011

Muffled cheers of excited overload: crashing pins, pushed away by sensory open the door, doubt is door handle and cracks hand touches the dirty makes you wonder if lot is eerily quiet. The far from the 805 and 52 Mesa Boulevard, not too far. Just off Clairemont loving and charming way little grimy, in the fun-Kearny Mesa Bowl is a strip clubs, and car lots.

Beige walls are complemented with a dark-brown stripe and an even darker brown trim. There are large murals on the long walls surrounding the 40 lanes. An ocean-blue stripe serves as a background for a black-and-white checkered lane. At the end of the painted lane is a bowling ball smashing what looks like a perfect strike; this is the ultimate goal. Re-create this picture and your night will be a marvelous one. The carpet is brown-and-black checkers and stained. There’s usually only one man working the counter, maybe two on a busy weekend. This man calls lanes, he rents shoes, and he controls the lights on weekends after 9:00 p.m., when the room turns cosmic. He is the master and commander. Piss this guy off, and you get stuck in the corner lane with the wonky pin collector, next to the kid’s birthday party. Kearny Mesa Bowl also accommodates the older crowd, offering a bar filled with billboard tables and beer on tap. A sign prohibiting entrance to anyone under the age of 21 is plastered on its glass doors. Even at the one place in San Diego I thought I could escape age discrimination, these taunts creep in. Next to the bar is a more kid-friendly and much less glamorous snack bar serving the greasiest of the greasy — burgers, nachos, fried zucchini — and pitchers of soda.

The guy behind the counter looks about as happy as I do to be there. He’s not very excited to put me on lane 18, he’s not thrilled to hear that I wear a size 8 ½ shoe, and he is definitely not even polite when I ask him to put up the bumpers on my lane.

“They’re not allowed for kids over six,” he says in a drab monotone.
bowling is how gross it actually is. Thinking of how dirty people’s hands are and the fact that you’re sharing shoes with an entire city is something I try and put out of my head. It’s fun for the first couple games until…it’s not. One time I went six frames without hitting a single pin. And at Kearny Mesa Bowl, the hundreds of people who have scored 300s have plaques placed just above eye level as you’re about to hurl the ball, so that really doesn’t help your confidence.

What I’m trying to say is, if bowling is your only option for a bangin’ Friday night, it might be better to stay home.

... My friends Meredith and Desiree are a year younger than me. The three of us met in our French class at Mesa College. We all love hanging out, but are, time and time again, at a loss for what to do when we get together.

After numerous texts back and forth, I feel like I’m gonna give up.

“What do you wanna do?” I’ll say.

“I don’t know, what do you wanna do?” Meredith will respond.

“I don’t know, whatever sounds good,” Desiree will say.

And then we’re back to square one: bowling alley, hookah bar, movie theater. It’s exhausting, being perpetually frustrated.

Until one week, Desiree has an idea.

“Why don’t you guys come over to my house, we’ll cook dinner and play some board games.”

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“Why don’t you guys come over to my house, we’ll cook dinner and play some board games.”

It sounds fun. A nice change. It fuels a brilliant idea.

Every Thursday, the three of us get together. We make dinner, we play board games, we drink wine. We call it Classy Thursday, and we have a blast, so I guess not all hope for under-21-year-olds is lost.

Meredith and Desiree have a French class at Mesa that goes late, so we don’t end up getting together until 8:30 or 9:00 p.m. The evening starts off with a trip to the grocery store for dinner fixings and a couple bottles of Two-Buck Chuck, the pièce de résistance of our night. It’s what makes our Thursdays so classy. This is where it’s useful
to have an older brother around to enhance the evening. He’s over 21, but buying alcohol for us isn’t the only reason we keep him around. He’s a fun guy.

There’s nothing sexy about faux-Western-town facades and wooden cutouts of cowboys.

Our first Classy Thursday, we cook steak in the oven and go through two bottles of Sutter Home White Zinfandel (retail price: $3.49 a bottle...like I said, classy). The next logical step is board games.

Desiree has a game called Last Word, one I’ve never heard of before. The objective of Last Word, as with many board games, is to be the first to get to the finish line. There is a category given, a die with letters on it, and a timer. When a category card is displayed and a letter of the alphabet rolled, you have until the timer runs out to name as many words that begin with that letter as you can. The winner gets to advance a space.

It is the four of us, each against the other. Every wino for her/him self.

This game gets loud. The Two-Buck Chuck doesn’t help the volume control. It's an exciting shouting match, with Meredith triumphantly emerging as the victor.

After Meredith wins the game, we turn to Wii sports. Bowling manages to creep its way in as well.

In between dinner, board games, and Wii, we migrate to the piano. We play songs, we sing, and we laugh.

Classy Thursdays also takes field trips. We go to a show at Soma. Another night, it’s Forever Fondue in La Jolla. But no matter what, somehow, we have more fun sitting around the house playing board games and being silly. Who needs nightlife?

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**“I don’t have a favorite band,” he says flatly. “I don’t really like music.”**

Most dates are forced into the categories of midday coffee-shop dates, nighttime sitting-outside-of-coffee-shop dates, or any-hour-of-the-day (you guessed it) bowling or, worse, mini-golf at Boomers, just down the street from Kearny Mesa Bowl. Coffee-shop dates are nice, innocent, and very much neutral territory, which is good for a first date, but after awhile, there’s not much romance in sitting on a wicker chair outside of Coffee Bean in Mission Valley. Bowling is cute for a date or two, and mini-golf is all right, too. But let’s try and put a little thought into it. There’s nothing sexy about faux-Western-town facades and wooden cutouts of cowboy-boys watching you suck at the ten-hole course. The whole thing makes me lose faith in dating, period.

I meet up with this guy, Billy (not his real name), at Boomer’s. I can’t find the parking lot and spend ten minutes driving around looking
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for it. I walk up, pretty embarrassed, 15 minutes late. It’s a Wednesday night. I just got off work and was ready to go home and go to bed, but, as usual, boys always come first.

I’m not sure how I felt about Billy. We met online and just to fulfill every cliché about internet dating, he is shorter than he said, he looks nothing like his picture, and trying to have a conversation with this kid is like pulling teeth.

He pays for golf (a wallet-busting eight bucks for the two of us), and I do the talking…all the talking.

“So, what’s your favorite band?” I ask, hoping this question will kick-start a conversation about his favorite song, favorite type of music, favorite radio station, favorite eight-track tape — anything.

“I don’t have a favorite band,” he says flatly. “I don’t really like music.”

How can you not like music?

“Okay…” I search my brain for another question. “Favorite movie?”

“Ace Ventura: Pet Detective.”

That’s when I know it’s going to be a long night.

We don’t talk much for the remaining eight holes of the mini–golf course. Billy tells me about his pet snake and how he loves feeding live mice to it and how he just dropped out of school because he didn’t really see his education “taking” him anywhere.

Still, after the golf, I’m not sure I want the night to end. I am, if nothing else, willing to give Billy the benefit of the doubt…maybe he’s just nervous.

We stand in the parking lot for a few minutes, trying to figure out where to go next.

And where do we end up? Kearny Mesa Bowl.

I swear, they should give me some sort of frequent-bowler card.

Except, we don’t even go in the bowling alley. Billy decides, after we get there, that it’s too crowded, and it’s going to make him anxious.

The bowlers leaving the alley and walking by us, staring, don’t help this poor kid’s anxiety.

I’ve never wanted to be inside that seedy joint more.

But what can we do? You can’t rely on a guy to get creative with

The girls look so uncomfortable in their stilettos and tiny dresses, but I can’t wait to be one of them.
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dates. The most creative date I’ve ever been on was with a guy who took me to Shelter Island at 9:00 o’clock at night. We had a pretty cool view of the downtown skyline. But that’s not a date. Sorry for being old-fashioned, but take me out on the town!

What I wouldn’t give to just go to a dive bar and grab a beer and flirt with a cute guy. Let’s cause some trouble!

But not too much trouble, because that Jewish grandmother inside of me gets a little jumpy if she’s out past midnight.

*   *   *

Going out to bars when you’re 21 provides a step in the direction of actual adulthood. Once I turn 21, what else will I have to look forward to? When I turn 25, I can rent a car. I can run for president when I’m 35. I’ll start getting information from the AARP when I’m 50, and I’ll get senior discounts when I’m 60. What does all that mean in the grand scheme of things?

Maybe I’ll miss the 18- to 20-year-old’s innocence when I’m strutting around the Gaslamp district in uncomfortable shoes.

Every now and then I’ll head down to Fifth Avenue at night and drive around streets that turn into a jungle after 10:00 p.m. I look at all the people spilling out of bar patios, zigzagging across the streets, standing in winding lines to get into places such as Whiskey Girl. I lust after such nights, though the girls look so uncomfortable in their stilettos and tiny dresses. It sounds terrible, but I can’t wait to be one of them.

And the pedicabs. Those are even horrible to drive next to. Whoever thought them up is a crazy genius. The idea of getting into a tiny wagon attached to a bicycle, wheeled around by a scrawny foreigner, repulses me. I’m sure they make a lot of money, but I’ll opt for the blisters on my feet from my uncomfortable but cute shoes.

I can’t wait for those blisters. I can’t wait to go out, really go out.

Maybe I’ll end up at the East Village Tavern and Bowl on Market Street. With that white Russian in my hand, you can keep the bumpers. ■
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San Diego Reader
June 23, 2011

Rosa/Luisa: The California Whirlwind, Part One
She thought she’d finally found a home.
For two decades, Luisa Moreno abandoned her private life and championed the rights of workers. She zigzagged around the country, protesting, organizing, and negotiating for labor unions: garment shops in New York; cigar plants in Tampa; tuna-cannery workers in San Diego. Along with being the first Latina vice president of a union, Moreno helped found the first national civil-rights assembly for Latinos: The Congress of Spanish-Speaking Peoples. “She was one of the most prominent women labor leaders in the United States,” writes Vicki L. Ruiz, “comparable in stature to Mother Jones, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and, more recently, Delores Huerta.”

In 1947, Moreno went into semi-retirement. She and her new husband, Gray Bemis, moved to San Diego. At first they had an apartment near the beach. Then, in 1949, Bemis, who managed the Consolidated Pipe & Supply Company, built a small frame house on Medio Drive in Encanto. The red building with white trim and a backyard flush with azaleas stood on a quiet hillside. People called Moreno “the California Whirlwind” for her relentless efforts, but compared to those days, her new home felt as peaceful as a convent. “That house symbolized some of the happiest moments of my life,” she said.

Bemis had a darkroom for photography; Moreno, an office with a view of San Diego Bay. She planned to write a guide to organizing labor unions.

QUOTATIONS
1. Luisa Moreno (in a poem about her first husband): “I know / that you are a tear in my life / That your hands/will strip off my petals / and break my stem.”
2. Carlos Larralde and Griswold del Castillo: “The contemporary struggle for Mexican American civil rights and fair treatment in San Diego had its roots in the activities of Luisa Moreno during the World War II and post-War periods.”
3. Larralde and del Castillo: “Moreno loved things well done. As she used to say, ‘If you do something, do it once and do it right.’”

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An inveterate collector, she kept everything from postcards and personal letters to signed contracts. As she thumbed through her massive files, her life flashing before her eyes, the thought struck her: why not a book about her activities?

One day, while preparing a sandwich in the kitchen, Moreno noticed her gardener Manuel peering through a window into her office, straining to read something: either a manuscript on her table or the titles in her library, such as Lenin’s State and Revolution, M.F. Olgin’s The Struggle Against Imperialist War, and Marx’s Communist Manifesto.

 quintessential reader of people — many said her eyes looked right into you — Moreno stared him down.

Manuel broke: the FBI wanted incriminating evidence on Moreno, he confessed. If he could find any, his relatives would become American citizens.

Manuel also warned her the FBI was questioning neighbors and friends: What car did she drive? Was she living “beyond her means?” Did she read “foreign magazines” or The Daily Worker? At one point an agent asked: “Do you have any reason to suspect that she might not be, you know, 100 percent American?”

Moreno told Manuel to “say whatever it took to protect himself and his family.” She kept him as her gardener.

That night when her husband came home, they decided to destroy anything that might incriminate friends and former associates. They set family photos aside and threw everything else into a backyard bonfire. “Photos that depicted union groups perished,” wrote Larralde. “Pigs, “ Moreno recalls, “I regretted the burning, how shed watched the record of her political life flame, writhe, and curl into thin black ashes.

At her birth in Guatemala City on August 30, 1907, political activism was Moreno’s least likely path. Her father, Ernesto Rodriguez Robles, was a wealthy coffee grower. Her frail, socialite mother Alicia was “a peacock,” Moreno recalled, “who never emerged from her boudoir until 11:00 a.m.” They christened her Blanca Rosa (“white rose”) Lopez Rodriguez. She grew up on a large estate and, until she was eight years old, seemed destined for a life of pampered ease.

Then she caught a fever so fierce her doctor feared she might die. Her father prayed and promised that if she lived, he would “consecrate her to God” — in other words, she would become a nun.

She survived, and Ernesto fulfilled his vow: he enrolled her in the College of Holy Names (a junior high/high school for girls) in Oakland, California. She lasted four-and-a-half years and learned more about discrimination than the religious life. When a classmate muttered the phrase “Spanish pigs,” Moreno recalls, “I
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invited Moreno to see her baby. The incident, Moreno recalled, became “the defining moment of my life.”

As they walked up the crowded tenement stairs, a baby wailed. They ran to the woman’s apartment and saw her child: a mass of blood on the floor. A rat had chewed off half its face. Moreno “did not know quite what to do,” writes Ruiz, but “knew she had to do something to change the material conditions of her fellow workers.” She decided to become a political activist.

“An absentee mother by circumstance and choice,” continues Ruiz, she also “found her radicalism an escape from a disintegrating marriage.” Her husband spent much of her earnings at a saloon, where he propped Mytyl on the next stool. Often, he left without her. Mytyl recalled having to cross wide streets, streetcars blaring, by herself.

In 1930, Moreno participated in her first strike. Zelgreen’s Cafeteria, in New York City, exploited its workers with long hours, constant sexual harassment, and the threat, should anyone object, of dismissal. The attitude: this was the Depression; they were lucky to have jobs.

Hearing that workers would picket the cafeteria, police formed a line on the sidewalk that allowed customers to pass through. A woman approached (Moreno). No more than five feet tall in high heels, her hair meticulously in place, she wore a fur coat — and a stern, patrician air — and looked determined to have a meal inside. The police let her pass through, perhaps tipping their hats to such dignity. When Moreno reached the front door, she spun around, yanked a sign from her coat, and held it high. “Strike!” they say she shouted.

For an instant, she was a one-person picket line, blocking the entrance. Then policemen grabbed each elbow and hauled her down the street. When she emerged from an entrance next door, they had bloodied her face. Years later, Moreno said she was lucky she wasn’t disfigured.

Not long after, she joined the Communist Party. With very little money or outside help, she organized coworkers into La Liga de Costureras, the League of Seamstresses.

For the next four years, under the tutelage of labor leader Ernesto Galarza, she rose from “junior organizer” to a front-line activist. Galarza: “She knew how to adapt herself to everyone else and how to handle her opponents. She knew how emotions could taint everything, and

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She cherished the value of being consistent.
To those who knew her, Moreno seemed two people. The public person spoke with passionate conviction. But in private she was inward, controlled, and impeccably dressed. Bert Corona, labor organizer, remembered: “Even if you knocked on her door at 8:00 in the morning, you’d find her well put together.... She was always proper and rarely complained.”
The public Moreno encountered “double discrimination” — as a woman and a Latina — from local, male-dominated unions.

During this time she met Gray Bemis, a soft-spoken New York cabbie and activist originally from Nebraska. They kept running into each other at meetings and became friends, then good friends. But Moreno wanted no more: “I liked him, but he was married.... Although I was in a miserable marriage, I do not fool around with married men.”

Throughout her life, Moreno made sudden, complete breaks from her past. In 1935, she severed more ties. She left her abusive husband. (They divorced in 1937.)

She quit the Communist Party, she told an interviewer, “because of ideological disputes” (or racial, as Bert Corona speculated: the left and the Communist Party defended “only labor leaders...of European descent and not Latinos”). And she left New York. She took Mýtay on a bus to Florida, where she would organize workers for the American Federation of Labor.

She also changed her name. Until then, she had been Rosa Rodriguez-Lopez, then Rosa de León. In Florida she became “Luisa Moreno.” Some say she identified with Luisa Capetillo, the Puerto Rican organizer; others, with Mexican activist Luis Moreno.

“With her light skin, education, and unaccented English,” writes Ruiz, “she could have ‘passed.’ Instead, she chose to forego any potential privileges based on race, class, or color.”

The name also reflects this choice: where once she was “Blanca Rosa” (white rose), now, writes Ruiz, “she chose the alias ‘Moreno’ (dark).”

In the years to come, “Luisa Moreno” became an internationally recognized activist. But as her achievements and reputation grew, so did the forces determined to bring her down.

— Jeff Smith

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I am surrounded by papers and books at 10:30 at night. I am trying to concentrate on writing a rhetorical masterpiece on the financial recession of 2008 that will hopefully get me an A in my freshman rhetoric-and-writing class at San Diego State University. But, like any regular college student, procrastination reigns, so I haven’t even started it yet.

I am a regular teenager, and like any regular teenager, getting away from home after high school is the ultimate goal. Unfortunately, I am stuck at home in the suburbs of the South Bay. I am stranded in a void of normal, plain, and mundane. Patience isn’t a talent of mine.

The ever-expanding area of East Chula Vista has opened doors to six schools in the past decade or so to accommodate the ever-popular image of American suburbia. Hallways of white walls line each school in the exact same fashion. Starbucks are within walking distance of each other. Large warehouse stores, such as Walmart and Costco, fill family pantries for the week.

The Otay Ranch Mall, the hub of all teenager life, is at the center of this suburban poster-child of a community. The parking spaces of this community are made extra large for mom’s minivan and that kid who just got his driver’s license who doesn’t yet know quite how to park. It is the not-so-cool younger sibling of the Southern California image that popular TV shows portray.

It’s like Wally and the Beaver had an upgrade to the 21st Century, bringing along the uninspired and colorless life of black-and-white. This is why everyone who graduates jumps in a
With status updates of the summer weather and studying for finals — but most of all, the anxieties and joys of the school year ending.

As the semester ends, my homesick friends start to trickle in from all the corners of the country. Their eyes light up when they see the slightly older faces of childhood friends, the fields of Sunset View Park, and the streets of Eastlake Greens that are lined with the familiar homogeneous cookie-cutter houses. It makes me wonder if they ever close their eyes and click their heels together and whisper the timeless line, “There’s no place like home.”

Their happy eyes make me believe that there might be a vast world out there to explore, but there is only one place where I can call home. The quintessential suburban visegrip of boredom and motherly love known as San Diego’s South Bay is my home. Like any normal family, we might fight and test each other’s patience, but I know this is my home, where I will always be welcomed with open arms.

But until it is my chance to explore the world, my couch-diving ventures and Coinstar trips will not cease. Maybe my prayers will be answered, and the federal government will decide to bail out a poor college student for a change.

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Broke law firm

continued from page 2

The firm owes them more than $3 million.

The sum could be larger than that. Steigerwalt hired the Chicago law office of J. Kevin Benjamin, who set up a Mission Valley office. Steigerwalt pays Benjamin $250 to take over each client who has not been provided service. Benjamin explains to the people that he is not replacing the shuttered law firm. He will take the case himself for a very low fee of, say, $395 for a Chapter 7.

Benjamin says he saw the closed law firm’s records: there were more than 6000 people who had paid some money and not received their service — a number that Steigerwalt, although conceding the firm is insolvent, says is too high. “Some had paid in full, some had not,” Benjamin says. Depending on the average amount shelled out, the money owed to nonserved clients could exceed $3 million, he says. And that doesn’t include vendors and other creditors.

San Diego attorney Scott Harris feels sorry for “all the people that got screwed, that paid $1500 to $3000 and never got service. Lawyers at [the law firm] had retainer agreements that permitted them to get out of the liability responsibility on the cases they were handling.”

In his frequent trips to San Diego, Benjamin and an assistant handle “70 to 100 people a week who had paid and not gotten service,” he says, asserting that he is losing money on the arrangement. Initially, “people were calling every five minutes. I had to get a separate receptionist and a different line. Some were saying I was a crook. I said, ‘I don’t have your money.’ Clients thought that the upfront fees paid to Kerry Steigerwalt’s Pacific Law Center were paid to Benjamin, and that wasn’t so. He must stress to each cuckolded client that he is not taking over the Steigerwalt firm or the clients’ files. He has to begin every case anew. ‘This has been going on for a year, and I am debating if I will do it anymore.’

Benjamin says that investigators from the U.S. trustee’s office in San Diego, which oversees bankruptcy cases, have been looking into Steigerwalt customers who did not get served. The probe went over Benjamin’s files and interviewed one of his assistants. “They have their own investigation going of Kerry Steigerwalt,” Benjamin says. “They were asking us about Kerry and about our own operations.” Also, Benjamin says he talked briefly with an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who later checked with Benjamin’s lawyer. But the subject of those inquiries was loan modifications, in which Benjamin is not involved. Steigerwalt’s firm got into the controversial loan modification business.

Steigerwalt says he is not aware of any Federal Bureau of Investigation probe. As is traditional, the agency will not confirm or deny the existence of a probe. The U.S. trustee’s office, while not confirming a formal investigation, did reveal that it has been actively involved, stating: “The U.S. Trustee’s office responded to inquiries from individuals who have concerns about their legal representation in bankruptcy cases after the closure of Kerry Steigerwalt’s Pacific Law Center.”

“Benjamin is making a grand effort to do what is right,” says Schnert. However, “It would be really nice to have an accounting of that $3 million.” He notes that the check that Laura Perry received was from “Kerry Steigerwalt’s Pacific Law Center Client Trust Account.” Money in client trust accounts belongs to clients, not to the lawyers, who should follow strict accounting procedures, he says. However, a former member of the firm says that in this instance the money paid up front did not have to go into client trust accounts.

Meanwhile, a firm named Golden State Law Group is now advertising heavily, à la Steigerwalt’s deceased enterprise. Golden State’s marketing director is Austin Majors, former executive director of Pacific Law Center. After Steigerwalt’s firm closed, Golden State was launched by two former members of that concern, Don Bokovoy, who is going into semiretirement, and David Weil. On its website, Golden State says it is responding to “unanswered complaints with Kerry Steigerwalt’s Pacific Law Center. Many of Mr. Steigerwalt’s clients have called Golden State Law Group seeking help with their bankruptcy case after complaining to Mr. Steigerwalt that they paid him a retainer to file their bankruptcies and he has, in many cases, failed to do so.” Those who unsuccessfully went to Benjamin’s Chicago law firm “felt cheated and scammed,” says the website.

Steigerwalt says he is disappointed by the criticism, given Weil’s and Bokovoy’s “involvement in the bankruptcy department at [Kerry Steigerwalt’s Pacific Law Center].”

Benjamin is more succinct: Golden State “can go f**k themselves,” he says.
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The current speculative climate in crude oil was made possible by regulatory and federal law changes during the presidencies of Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton. Those changes made oil derivatives a hot play.

With President George Bush in the White House, the oil market gamers began to have a field day. But trading irregularities under Bush became so blatant that the Commodity Futures Trading Commission had to step in.

In 2003, international oil conglomerate BP agreed to pay a $2.5 million fine after the commission filed a civil lawsuit alleging crude oil price manipulations similar to those in the current lawsuit. BP admitted no wrongdoing in the settlement.

And guess who the key players were on BP’s energy trading team? Wildgoose and Dyer.

Dyer ran BP’s oil-trading operation in Chicago. He is reported to have made so much money on commissions that the firm changed future contract conditions for all its traders. Wildgoose was listed as a BP trader until 2004. After the fine, Wildgoose and Dyer left BP without public governmental sanction.

Previously, in 2001, Dyer had garnered attention in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attack. He offered the U.S. Department of Energy 750,000 barrels of oil if the government would slow down oil stockpiling. The Bush administration rejected the offer, which was apparently designed to protect oil trader positions.

Upon leaving BP, Dyer, an Englishman, went to Brisbane, Australia, reportedly retiring to a nearly $3 million mansion, where he dabbled in investing in similar coastal properties.

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San Diego Reader/June 22, 2011
When Arcadia hired Dyer in 2006, the British press heralded his return as it might a star athlete lured out of retirement to boost a sagging sports franchise to a championship.

Wildgoose and his wife Helen sold their suburban Chicago home for $530,000 in 2005; they sold their Lincoln Park townhouse for $3.1 million in January 2007, just before the U.S. economy collapsed.

The year before, the Wildgooses bought their current abode on Via Lago Azul, a newly rebuilt 9850-square-foot house that includes a six-car garage. Coincidentally, it, too, harbors a history touched by irregularities.

In 1995, the property was owned by a now-disbarred attorney who was convicted in federal court here of bank fraud in a $2.4 million house-buying scheme.

As the commission’s litigation ramps up, other court actions are being fired up, too. Right after the commission filed its lawsuit, the president of the Commodity Floor Brokers and Traders Association in New York, Stephen E. Ardizzone, sued the Wildgoose/Dyer team in federal court in New York. Ardizzone, himself a trader, may convert the civil complaint to a class-action suit to help many traders recover losses from what he alleges are violations of U.S. commodity and monopolization laws. He couldn’t be reached for comment.

And on a potentially more ominous front, the Obama administration in April formed a task force of government agencies to examine possible fraud and manipulation in the oil/gas markets. The Oil and Gas Price Fraud Working Group includes the U.S. Department of Justice, which can file criminal charges.

Some observers, like van der Valk, the petroleum analyst from Montana, see the commission’s action as a possible squeeze to get the traders to roll over and implicate the big-money players behind the scheme, like, say, Fredriksen? Or a big New York investment bank? ■

**STRINGERS** continued from page 3

school in the 1000 block of Grove Avenue. The driver’s 12-year-old brother allegedly jumped on the hood of the Cruiser and the driver drove forward, swerving from side to side in an attempt to shake him off. When the driver pulled into a driveway to turn around, the witness threatened to call the boys’ mother. The boy on the hood got into the Cruiser, which, according to the witness, then drove off.

“I don’t know how fast,” said the witness, “but it didn’t stop at the corner and drove right into the fire hydrant.”

Laughter was heard coming from the Cruiser as water sprayed 10 to 15 feet in the air. The three passengers, said to have been sixth-graders at the school, then exited the vehicle and tried to blend into the growing crowd of students. The driver then tried to back off the hydrant, which caused water to shoot 50 feet or more into the air.

The driver explained to responding sheriff’s deputies that he was alone in the car and was cut off by a green car. After the witness talked to a deputy, he told her, “Ma’am, you just turned this kid’s story on its end.” The driver was taken into custody.

By Peter C. Salisbury

Friday, June 17

“We need people to get off their asses,” commented one of the protesters. “Everyone who sees us today and honks in support, it’s now their turn to...” continued on page 32

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**End to the Wars**

San Diego Veterans for Peace Protests on Flag Day

Downtown — An assortment of peaceniks, activists, war veterans, and their families gathered on the Sixth Avenue overpass of Interstate 5 at around 4 p.m. on June 14, Flag Day.

They were there, in the words of one activist, to “take over this bridge,” to protest against the wars and armed conflicts the U.S. finds itself embroiled in around the world.

“We need people to get off their asses,” commented one of the protesters. “Everyone who sees us today and honks in support, it’s now their turn to...” continued on page 32
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**San Diego Veteranos for Peace** was the organizing force behind the event. The group regularly stages demonstrations around town, frequently gathering on freeway crossings to post signs demanding an end to the wars.

By Dave Rice
Wednesday, June 15

**Thirsty Burglar**

Soda Can Leads to Arrest

Oceanside — A soda can left in the bathroom of a burgled residence in Oceanside last January recently led to an arrest, according to Detective Douglas Baxter of the Oceanside Police Department.

DNA collected from the can of Dr Pepper soda (which the burglar allegedly took from the refrigerator) was matched to “a known offender” named Gilbert Guillermo Vasquez, 34, according to papers filed in court.

By Eva Knott
Thursday, June 16

**Without a Kiss**

Clothing Robbery Outside Boutique

La Mesa — Last Friday, the only witnesses to a snatch-and-grab robbery outside the Fashion Kiss Boutique in La Mesa was a mannequin named Francesca...and a surveillance camera.

Fashion Kiss owner Michelle Dresselhuys installed a surveillance camera in her store earlier this year, after her mannequin named Francesca was stolen in December. The camera’s viewfinder takes in the sidewalk in front of the store, where Dresselhuys has an outdoor display rack.

Shortly before 3:00 p.m. on June 10, Dresselhuys’s camera captured images of a young man wearing a ball cap and sunglasses as he approached the outdoor display rack.

“I submitted some photos taken from the surveillance camera footage to the police department and they are looking out for this car,” said a frustrated Dresselhuys. “I want other merchants in the area to know what can happen in broad daylight.”

By Peter C. Salisbury
Tuesday, June 14

**Other Ideas**

Man Attempts to Enter Sewer in Front of Rock Church

Point Loma — The Rock Church in Point Loma attracts big crowds every Sunday for their five services. At the 10 a.m. service on June 12, as congregants hurried in to catch the worship music, many saw a man on the ground in front of the church surrounded by Rock security guards.

Wearing a neon orange T-shirt with the words “Supreme Court east and west,” the 30-something male had been attempting to open a street manhole and get into the sewer. He was carrying a notepad and a bundle of what looked like a blanket or sleeping bag. It seemed the three security guards were talking quietly to the man and attempting to keep him calm.

Two police cruisers pulled up in front — after the service had started — and the man was handcuffed and taken away, still insisting he “needed to get into the sewer.”

By Gail Powell
Tuesday, June 14

**Under the Radar**

continued from page 2

The work being done by Marston currently falls within the scope of the contract and will not result in additional cost.

— Matt Potter

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

Find more Under the Radar columns online at SDRreader.com/radar/
DIARY OF A DIVA
continued from page 6

was gone, and our guest could not have an empty glass — oh, no, this would not do. David hummed his way around the kitchen to create a cocktail. He must have tasted quite a bit as he worked, because his smile was a little looser by the time he delivered our glasses.

A while later, David went back to the kitchen. He gasped as he opened the fridge. There before him was a gallon of milk, a whole great big white jug. Seconds after he closed the refrigerator, I heard the telltale beeping of the oven being preheated.

“Uh-oh, I hope you left some room,” I said to Terri. "David drunk-bakes. He’ll be offended if you don’t taste whatever it is he whips up now.” I explained to Terri that it was my sister Jane who left the milk. ‘She meant to bring it home; her kids go through the stuff like water, but she kept having to run errands after working and said it was easier just to leave it here and grab another jug on her way home, I don’t know…”

To her credit, Terri accepted this information with a polite smile, as if I’d just told her I was thinking of getting my hair cut. I was amazed that David (who didn’t seem able to lift his feet entirely off the floor as he shuffled back and forth) had the wherewithal to fetch his laptop, find the recipe he was looking for, and successfully measure the right amounts of flour, eggs, milk, and salt.

About 45 minutes later, David served up a freshly baked popover. He topped it with ground salt and powdered sugar. “This is the best one you’ve ever made,” I said as I reached for my second piece. “I’m going to ask Jane to leave milk here and then get you drunk more often.”

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LETTERS

continued from page 4
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Jason Kron
Lakeside

Disability Is No Crime

You cover stories about how overworked social service people are (“It’s Not Correct, But at Least It’s Done,” “City Lights,” June 9). Why don’t you cover what the state is doing to the people who are disabled, old, and homeless. I am permanently disabled, and working is not an option. Yet our government has cut SSI benefits three times in the last year and a half. We get no cost-of-living increase this year, and we are being cut again as of July. Since when is it right for the disabled people in this country to be punished for their disability? Soon I will be living in a car, spending all my time in food lines, and just trying to survive.

All this crap our government is doing is to us is wrong. The only thing that can come of this is people turning to things they normally would not do. Try stealing, dealing drugs, identity theft. Hell, why not? They are just cutting all the people in jail loose, anyway, and they will have food and shelter for a little while anyway. I doubt anyone making these rules has ever gone hungry or had to find some place safe to hide and sleep or even had to go without a shower for days. This country is broken, but we are now the degenerates of society, and no one will listen to what we have to say. Why not print how many people jump in front of trains, jump from freeways, or just blow themselves away because they just can’t try anymore. I was born here and taught to be proud to be an American. Sorry, but I’m just ashamed to be now.

Dory Fenley via email

My Comment Beats Your Comment

The Reader’s new puzzle rules are a negative step and pervert the whole process. Previously, you solved the puzzle and added a comment, usually an honest one, and if you were one of the first to submit the correct answer, your name was published. Now, it has become a contest to come up with the cutest or most profound-sounding comment to be one of five “winners.” Why don’t you just have another contest for comment writers?

Steve Schorr via email

Comments from Reader website

Cover Story

Published June 15
Great story Mike. Glad you got the Harley. I paid off my student loans with my own version of your story. Ride on brother. Oh, I did get my Harley too...but that’s another story. Steve

By beachdogger 6:21 a.m., Jun 16, 2011

Wow, I thought the “Let’s Bash Dads on Father’s Day” trend went out of fashion years ago. I guess not!

This character assassination bears all the classic menacing hallmarks – “Dad was a drunk,” “Dad was an abandoner,” “Dad took off with the hot girlfriend in the fancy car and left Mom with the hot girlfriend, “Dad was nowhere to be seen.” This country is broken, but it’s always the right thing to do, especially when children are involved. Mike’s mother made conscious decisions over and over again to shirk his responsibilities and deny himself the joy of knowing his own children and grandchildren (who are terrific!), even when others encouraged him to do so. Some people run when others stand firm and endure. It may not be easy but it’s always the right thing to do, especially when children are involved. Mike’s mom stood firm and strong and endured. His father was nowhere to be seen. He wasn’t there for anyone in the bad times and he wasn’t there to share in the joy of the good times. Good job Mike. I’m proud of you for speaking out. Maybe some dad who is not measuring up will benefit from hearing the harsh facts. Good job!

By bab 9:25 a.m., Jun 16, 2011
Thursday | 23
BEER & SAKE FESTIVAL
The Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana announces their ninth-annual shindig with top local sushi chefs showcasing their Japanese culinary and sake traditions. The event highlights imported Japanese beers and local microbrews in many flavors and styles, plus signature dishes. See FOOD & DRINK, page 61.

Friday | 24
THE JUNIE B. JONES STUPID SMELLY BUS TOUR
Everyone’s favorite first-grader visits Barnes and Noble in Oceanside for a “theatrical performance that includes a show-and-tell of some of Junie B.’s favorite things from home.” Script by series-author Barbara Park. After her performance, Junie will stamp books for kids with her signature stamp pad. See FOR KIDS, page 62.

Saturday | 25
SKATE-JAM AND WALL-RIDE CONTEST
This annual competition, part of the O.B. Street Fair, features a street-course skate jam, a wall ride with cash prizes, and demonstrations by the “industry’s hottest skateboarders and teams.” Contests open to all ages and abilities. See SPORTS, page 64.

Sunday | 26
DIG OUR DIFFERENCES!
Celebrate Diversity Day at the New Children’s Museum with a viewing of the animal art exhibition, hands-on art-making, and cultural entertainment. Share creative talents in a collaborative art project to be exhibited throughout the community. See FOR KIDS, page 62.

Monday | 27
FRESH BERRY DESSERTS
Cookbook author George Geary (The Cheesecake Bible, The Complete Baking Cookbook) creates an array of light- and-easy desserts for any sweet tooth. Recipes include strawberry white-chocolate torte, tri-berry pie, chocolate-raspberry cookies, blackberry sorbet, and fresh strawberry tarts — all at Great News in Pacific Beach. See FOOD & DRINK, page 62.

Tuesday | 28
THE MUSIC MAN
Jeff Smith’s critic’s pick at Lamb’s Players Theatre is a “monster hit.” The direction and choreography of this production “coaxes out nuances and details that make the familiar feel brand new.” See THEATER, page 91.

Wednesday | 29
RACE TO THE FAIR
Just one weekend left before the San Diego County Fair wraps it up for the season! If you haven’t been, get to Del Mar for exhibits that include fine art, livestock, landscaping, gems, and much more. Play in the fun zone with rides and games, plus commercial exhibits, food, numerous contests, and lots of music. See SPECIAL, page 60.
There’s So Much More to Detroit
By Tamar Fleishman

Detroit has taken a beating in the press but still offers a vibrant culture: diverse restaurants, museums, architecture, and lots of live entertainment.

Learn the stories behind America’s favorite songs at the Motown Museum. See the bus where Rosa Parks made her historic ride, along with vintage cars, at the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village.

While Greenfield Village has several dining options, the most unique is Eagle Tavern, which serves fare similar to what the tavern offered in 1831: juicy quails, whitefish, hard apple cider, and Michigan corn liquor.

Nearby Dearborn has the largest Arab population outside the Middle East; count on it for authentic Middle Eastern food. Al-Ameer serves homemade specialties and fresh raw juices.

In the museum district, listen to rare music recordings on the gorgeous third floor of the Detroit Public Library. Learn about Detroit’s history and culture at the Detroit Historical Museum.

Sanders is a 134-year-old dessert parlor that reputedly served the first ice cream soda. With several locations, the parlor’s caramel tea cake is a “must eat.” Mackinac Island fudge ice cream (rich vanilla fudge with chocolate chips) topped with caramel pear sauce redefines decadence.

Cadieux Café was featured on Anthony Bourdain’s No Reservations. A Belgian restaurant/pub, it has live music and feather-bowling. Pegasus is a family-owned restaurant in Greektown, connected to the Greektown Casino, which is open until 4 a.m. on weekends. Their spanakopita is creamy, not overcooked, and full of fresh nutmeg. Their saganaki (flaming cheese) has a choice of kasseri or the more pungent halloumi cheese.

For a country feeling downtown, stay at the Inn on Ferry Street, a collection of six historic homes with different styles. Amenities include free shuttle service, breakfast, and deep bathtubs.

Another great place to stay is the Best Western in Sterling. It has an ADA-
Camel Lake, Apalachicola National Forest, Florida
By Ruth Newell

After a week on the road together, my friend and I had a coffee and scone in St. Mary’s, Georgia, and plotted our course south toward Tallahassee.

When we arrived at Camel Lake in the Apalachicola National Forest, south of Tallahassee, the first thing I did was dig out the hammock and string it up between two trees beyond our campsite, on a meandering lawn beside a crystal-clear lake. Took me all of three minutes, tops. Kicking off my flip-flops, I fell back into it.

There wasn’t a cloud in the sky, and a cool wind swayed my encased body. And I noticed the silence. The park was the quietest park we’d stayed at yet. Good thing quiet was what we were looking for. Couldn’t hear a motor of any kind — no highway nearby, no major roads, no airport, no neighborhoods, no voices… nothing. Just ten campsites set in a circle around ultra-clean restroom facilities, beside a spring-fed pond that in the early morning was as still as glass, in the middle of thousands of acres of forest.

In that secluded, silent lake, alligators lurked. We were later told that you can estimate the length of an alligator by the distance between the nostrils and eyes; one can convert the inches to feet and arrive at the reptile’s approximate length. The alligator that I stumbled upon — which, thankfully, leapt in the opposite direction — was about three feet long.

Walking a bit further toward the designated swimming area, there were signs posted that explained the park was their habitat and they were harmless unless provoked.
Rhyme & Verse
Reuben Bright
A poem by Edwin Arlington Robinson

Because he was a butcher and thereby
Did earn an honest living (and did right),
I would not have you think that Reuben Bright
Was any more a brute than you or I;
For when they told him that his wife must die,
He stared at them, and shook with grief and fright,
And cried like a great baby half that night,
And made the women cry to see him cry.
And after she was dead, and he had paid
The singers and the sexton and the rest,
He packed a lot of things that she had made
Most mournfully away in an old chest
Of hers, and put some chopped-up cedars
In with them, and tore down the slaughter-house.

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San Diego

OB Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off
The 32nd annual Ocean Beach Street Fair and Chili Cook-Off Festival includes five stages of music, artists alley, community mural project, “Wonderland Children’s Area,” chili cook-off (10am-2:30pm), food for sale, vendors’ booths, skateboard exhibition, 619-242-4986. Saturday, June 25, 9am; free; Ocean Beach, Newport Avenue and Abbott Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

“Race to the Fair” San Diego County Fair promises numerous competitions and exhibits, including fine arts, livestock, children’s art, landscape, gems, minerals, home arts; fun zone with rides, games; commercial exhibits; food court (including jalapeño eating, home-harvested honey; many concerts. Closed on Mondays except July 4. Parking: $10. 858-793-5555 or 858-755-1161. Thursdays, 11am; Fridays, 11am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; Tuesdays, 11am; through Monday, July 4. free; $13. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

San Diego Gem Fair/Over 100 dealers offering jewelry, gems, beads, crystals, silver, rocks, minerals, more. Classes, demonstrations. Weekend pass: $7. 60-760-390-3599, Friday, June 24, 12pm; Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, 10am. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South (MISSION VALLEY)


The Evolution of Sight Meeting of the Minds discussion group considers the topic: 619-370-1027. Wednesday, June 29, 7pm; free; Filtor, 4086 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

The Future of Architecture... Open studio “Thesis Exhibition” of work by graduating seniors. Projects from both undergraduates and graduate thesis studios displayed. 619-684-8875. Friday, June 24, 5:30pm; NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)


Virtual Prom Best-dressed prom-goers crowned prom king and queen when Urbanist and the Pearl host party with DJ DexDego spinning tunes from 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s. Proceeds benefit local charities. Tickets: 25 singles, $40 couples; packages available. 619-226-6100. Saturday, June 25, 9pm; 21 and up. Pearl Hotel, 1410 Rosecrans Street. (PONT LOMA)

ART MUSEUMS

“Bold Expressions” More than 50 quilts made in the American South between 1910 and the 1970s are showcased in exhibition of “African American Quilts from the Collection of Corrinne Riley,” on display through Sunday, November 6. Many of the quilts are made from materials that were readily available to the makers, including flour sacks, old blue jeans, work clothes, fabric remnants. Exhibition explores variety of construction techniques and quilting.

“In Their Own Words — Classic and Contemporary Native American Art” presents classic art from North America’s indigenous artisans shown alongside paintings by native Californian contemporary artists L. Frank, Robert Freeman, Billy Sora Wadsoldier, Catherine Nelson-Rodrigues. These artists “predominantly work on canvas with oils or acrylics and they all project a personal message in their work.” Closes Monday, September 5.

“Maneki Neko — Japan’s Beckoning Cats — from Tsalimans to Pop Icon” includes selections from a collection of 155 cats given to museum by collector Billie Moffitt. Made in the 19th and 20th centuries, each cat is unique; most are made of clay, but some are wood, metal, ceramic, papier mâché. A fabricated cat with a paw upraised in the Japanese gesture of beckoning has been considered a good luck charm, drawing good fortune to individuals and businesses, since the Edo period (1603-1868). Enjoy the cats through Sunday, January 15, Daily, except Mondays, 10am-10pm; free; $6. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Face to Face: Works from the Bank of America Collection” Show illumines “the rich historical diversity of photographic portraiture.” Exhibit “includes some of the earliest techniques, including a salt paper print from the 1840s by David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson and a half-plate daguerreotype by Albert Southworth and Josiah Johnson Hawes.” Also on view; portraits by Yousuf Karsh, Lisette Model, Tina Barney, Rineke Dijkstra, Walker Evans, Richard Avedon. Closes Sunday, September 25.

What is a portrait? “Inside Out: Portraits from the Permanent Collection” explores the question by looking at the many varieties of photographic portraiture, from daguerreotype to interpretive portraiture. Through Sunday, September 25. Daily, except Mondays, 10am; free; $6. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“George Inness in Italy” Organized by Philadelphia Museum of Art, exhibition examines Inness’s two Italian sojourns (1851-52 and 1870-74), their formative impact on his experimentation with style, composition, and subject as he sought inspiration in art of the Old Masters and his personal experiences of the places they painted. Exhibit, showcasing ten oil paintings and watercolors, continues through Sunday, September 18.

Museum features Saint Bartholomew, said to be “only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego.” Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 11:30am; free. Timken Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Patricia Patterson: Here and There” Exhibition attempts to summarize a lifetime of Patterson’s work, while giving attention to the museum’s “spaceous rooms, tall ceilings, cool and classic design.” Patterson will create a new work then unveil it for purchase. Fusioning two previous environmental pieces she created for distinct shows. Patterson makes art about “ordinary things,” even though “domestic material is risky… it can seem too sentimental, too intimate. Patterson navigates around sentimentality by “creating works monumental in both scale and subject matter.” Closes Monday, July 4. Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 1pm; free; $5. California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

“Prospect 2011” The museum’s Contemporary Collectors and International Collectors groups present funds for acquisition of new works for permanent collection. Exhibit showcases works from the collection, alongside several new works to be considered, then voted on for purchase by the group. Created in media including sculpture, photography, and installation work. The proposed selections include work by David Ellis, Helen Pashgian, Al Weiwei, Sam Gilliam, Janine Antoni. On view through Sunday, July 10.

“Joan Jonas: The Shape, the Scent, the Feel of Things” — on display through Sunday, July 17 — features “a complex five-channel video installation,” an artistic consideration of the Hopi snake dance. "Jennifer Steinkamp: Madame Curie," a new digital video animation continuing through Monday, January 2, is inspired by Steinkamp’s recent research on atomic energy, atomic explosions, and the effects of these forces on nature. The “enveloping panoramic work” will activate a field of movement and the effects of these forces on nature. The “enveloping panoramic work” will activate a field of movement and activity. The museum’s exhibit considers the topic: 619-370-1027. Wednesday, June 29, 7pm; free; Filtor, 4086 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

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CLASSICAL MUSIC

“Abendmusik” Pacific Camerata vocal ensemble, with organist Steven Gray and an instrumental ensemble, in recital “emulating one of Dietrich Buxtehude’s ‘Evening Music’ programs of the early 1700s." Listen for several Buxtehude cantatas, motets by his early German Baroque predecessor Melchior Franck and Heinrich Schütz. 619-527-4457. Saturday, June 25, 7:30pm; $10-$15. St. Andrew’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1050 Thomas Avenue, (PACIFIC BEACH).

“Ten for Ten” Ten amateur pianists each perform for ten minutes during Amateur Pianists San Diego recital. Listen for selections by Liszt, Arensky, Rachmaninov. Donating proceeds to the Sea Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Boulevard.

DANCE


Belly Dancing Show Sabrina Fox and Shahlaa Farah perform, with live music by Middle Earth Ensemble. Cover: $10. 858-488-4200. Sunday, June 26, 8pm; Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH).

Summer Workshop Concert Westwind Brass hosts concert by participant ensembles as culmination of summer workshop. 619-501-7562. Saturday, June 25, 1pm; free. Scripps Miramar Ranch, 1050 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA).

FOOD & DRINK

“Cooking from Scratch” Class covers kitchen safety, sanitation, kitchen equipment, stocking, managing supplies. Learn to read recipes, along with measuring, basic chopping and cutting. 858-442-5252. Saturday, June 25, 6:30pm; $45. 16 and up. Charlie’s Classic Cooking, 1291 Simpson Way, Suite L (SAN MARCOS).

Belly Dancing Show Sabrina Fox and Shahlaa Farah perform, with live music by Middle Earth Ensemble. Cover: $10. 858-488-4200. Sunday, June 26, 8pm; Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa, 873 Turquoise Street. (PACIFIC BEACH).

“Why Wine?” Hosted by local vintner and sommelier Richard F. Weiss with the help of Debbie Maxfield, wine author and wine consultant. $25. 760-723-0240. Thursday, June 23, 6pm; The Kona Kai Resort, 3000 Spinnaker Drive, (SAN DIEGO).

“Abendmusik” Pacific Camerata vocal ensemble, with organist Steven Gray and an instrumental ensemble, in recital “emulating one of Dietrich Buxtehude’s ‘Evening Music’ programs of the early 1700s.” Listen for several Buxtehude cantatas, motets by his early German Baroque predecessor Melchior Franck and Heinrich Schütz. 619-527-4457. Saturday, June 25, 7:30pm; $10-$15. St. Andrew’s by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1050 Thomas Avenue, (PACIFIC BEACH).

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I Answered the Call

Imperial Beach United Methodist Church

Contact: 455 Palm Avenue, Imperial Beach; 619-424-5818; ibunitedmethodists.org

Membership: 124
Pastor: Phyllis Ash

Born: San Francisco

Formation: Claremont School of Theology, Claremont; National University, La Jolla

Years Ordained: 12 years.

San Diego Reader: How long do you spend writing your sermons?
Pastor Phyllis Ash: I’m always looking for something and I’m always reading — I’ve never read so much in my life — and picking up things during the week that would be good sermon food. On Thursdays, they’ve given me a reading day, and I read and look over what I’ve accumulated over the week and start writing my sermon.

SDFR: What is your favorite subject on which to preach?
P: The grace of God and all those wonderful stories in the Bible, because it gives people hope and a reason to come back to church. Hopefully, they’ll read about God’s grace and love for them and they will know their sins are forgiven; they will be saved and they will be in Heaven someday. Of course it is necessary to be accountable and follow the Commandments, but the mission of the church is to make disciples, and so salvation is available to everyone of us if we turn to Christ.

SDFR: Which of the Ten Commandments does your congregation have the hardest time keeping?
P: Generally, pride is the big problem. Like everyone else, we’re generally thinking about “me first” before everyone else. I’m thinking this is what society encourages us to do and that affects the kids and how they think and plan. It would be so much better if we turned our lives over to the Lord and let the Lord guide our lives.

SDFR: What is the mission of your church?
P: The mission of our church is to make disciples of Christ for the transforming of the world.

SDFR: What is the greatest strength of your church in carrying out its mission?
P: Our church has marvelous outreach. Every Saturday morning, we open our fellowship hall to the homeless and anyone in the community who would like to come in for breakfast and take a shower. And since we have clothing donations from all over the place, a lot of people get out of the showers get into clean clothing. We are blessed because there are people who donate money or come to church and bring food.

SDFR: Where do you go when you die?
P: Hopefully we’ll all be in Heaven together. Scripture tells us Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life and only by knowing Christ can we get into Heaven, but I think since the Jewish people are God’s chosen, you can’t tell me they’re not going to have as good a chance to get into that place. I don’t know what’s going to happen, but I trust our Lord to be faithful and loving to his people and filled with grace.

SDFR: Does Hell exist?
P: Scripture tells us there is that place, but people will have an opportunity to accept Christ after they die. They still have free will and can turn away and not accept Christ, but I think many people do not have all the information they need to make a decision. But when people do have the information they need and still choose not to accept Christ, then they will go to that place.

— Joseph O’Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDRreader.com/worship/

In Person

“Día del Folklor 2011” Ballet Folklórico Jaliscense celebrates 20th anniversary with folkloric music and dances from Jalisco, Nuevo León, Puebla, more. Mariachi Galbani performs songs. Program includes performance by Ballet Folklórico Casa Familiar of San Ysidro. 619-247-5524 or 619-887-6016, Saturday, June 25, 5-30pm; $12. Saville Theatre at San Diego City College, 14th and C Street. (EAST VILLAGE)


“Sea Spells and Moor Magic: Tales and Legends of Scotland” Highland Games get underway with storytelling concert by renowned tellers Sarah Sautler, Charles Johnson, Harlyne Geisler, Cynthia Griffin, Marilyn McPhie. 858-484-1325. Friday, June 24, 7pm; free-$10. Bringle Terrace Park. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

Lectures

“America’s Boating Course” San Diego Sail and Power Squadron hosts four sessions covering information such as safe boat handling.

Lectures

Teaching the Inner Christ

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Sunday service 10:30am. Deep meditation 9:50am (1/2 hour before service). Faith Lift 7pm. For more information go to: www.teachingtheinnerchrist.com or call (619) 447-7007.

El Cajon

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Congregation Beth Israel

American Jewish History

From 1654 through 1924. Wednesdays, 10:00 am to 11:30 am at Congregation Beth Israel. 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at JCC. From July 6 through August 10.

La Jolla

9001 Towne Centre Drive

(619) 535-1111

Calvary Chapel - Carlsbad

Men’s Basketball

Devoion, fellowship, and 3-on-3 basketball. Mondays, 6:45 pm to 9:00 pm. Pointsettia Park, Carlsbad.

Carlsbad

6355 Corte del Abejo

(760) 603-9777

Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way.

San Diego

(619) 535-1111

Four Points by Sheraton, 8110 Aero Drive. (KENNEDY MESA)

New Testament Texts in a Jewish World

Books of the New Testament, including the four Gospels, Paul’s Letters and the Book of Revelation to understand their historical Jewish context. Tuesdays, 10:00 am to 11:30 am, from July 5 through August 2.

La Jolla

9001 Towne Centre Drive

(619) 535-1111

SDFR: Do you have a reading day?
P: Yes. I have a reading day on Thursdays.
**St. Anselm of Canterbury**

Therefore, Lord, you have given understanding to faith, grant me that I may come to understand (as much as You think best) that You exist, as we believe, and that You are what we believe You to be. Now, we believe You to be a being than which none greater can be thought. Or is it possible that such a being does not exist, since the fool has said in his heart: there is no God (Ps. xiii)? And yet when that very fool hears what I am saying, namely, a being than which none-greater-can-be-thought, he understands what he hears, and what he understands in his understanding — even if he does not understand that such a being exists. For it is one thing for a being to be in the understanding, and another thing to understand that a being exists. When a painter thinks over in advance what he is going to make, this is in his understanding; but he understands that what he has not made does yet exist. However, when he has painted it, he both has in his understanding what he has made and he also understands that it exists. — from *The Prologion*, chapter II

**St. Anselm of Canterbury (ca.1033–1109) was a** Benedictine monk and one of the most influential theologians of the Middle Ages. He was archbishop of Canterbury (1093–1109) and known as the father of Scholasticism chiefly due to *The Prologion*, which presents the ontological argument (that is, based on reality or “being”) for the existence of God. In 1720 he was proclaimed a doctor of the church — a place of honor held by a select number of men and women who made significant contributions to the development of church teachings.
Coop's is the new barbecue with the buzz. Since opening last October, it's already garnered one major huzzah (Candice Woo in San Diego Magazine's "best restaurants" issue for best barbecue). On Yelp, it's incited an ongoing war between fans of Phil's-the-Grill (aka Phil's BBQ, which isn't really a barbecue because it's a no-smoking zone) and Coop's converts. Coop may have started the controversy himself — once he registered his business on Yelp, he told me, he posted a few rave reviews under his own name (no fakery), until the site administrators made him stop.

Coop is friendly and personable enough that he may become the San Diego ambassador for Southern-style barbecue. "I understood when I opened Coop's that Southern California is a completely different style of barbecue," he says. "It's basically backyard grilling, like Phil's, and I knew I'd have some hard work ahead to make smoked barbecue popular here. I'm on a mission to be known as the best purveyor of barbeque in Southern California, and I keep learning and experimenting to try and perfect my food."

He grew up here and in Midland, Texas, where his father taught him the art of the Q. Hence, Coop's is a genuine Texas-style barbecue, smoking meats "low and slow" for as long as 12 hours in a brick pit-smoker indoors or in giant steel "big boy" aqua smokers outside the restaurant. Coop's fuels the smokers with mesquite wood or chips, red oak and/or white oak (depending on availability, all Texas Q classics). Nothing's braised or simmered to tenderize it before it hits the smokers, but meats are rubbed with complex spice mixtures. Coop's took over the old site of Barnes BBQ, which moved its Tennessee-style Q a few blocks north to larger quarters. The room here is so tiny that hardly anybody eats on-site, especially since there's no beer, but on a late Saturday afternoon, patrons were lined up out the door to pick up takeout.

First taste was best taste: a huge, heaped-up "big boy" (as the menu calls it) pulled-pork sandwich on a soft roll thinly spread with mayo. The pork strips were tender, smoky, everything you want. They barely needed sauce, although the enigmatic clove undertones, proved an exemplary Texas model, velvety and dark, not too sweet or thick or spicy. The standard side for pulled pork is cole slaw, which typically goes on top of the pork in a sandwich. Coop's slaw is idiosyncratic, starting out light and tangy-sweet (no mayo, hurrah!), fresh and crisp. Then the hot stuff sneaks up. There's a lot of visible black pepper and a ring of pink meat that shows up in fully cooked meats — but the day we tried them they were too dry. "Yeh, Saturday, they didn't turn out too well," Coop said later. "The guy who stuffed them into the casings left the mixture too loose, so it overcooked." (Well, I still wish there was a cornbread.)

Then we hit our two Kit and Kaboodle samplers, each with four meats and two sides. The Southwestern Jerk Chicken consists of strips of boneless thigh, mopped with Jamaican jerk paste mixed with the house barbecue sauce, to calm down the heat level. I wish the newly introduced smoked-wing version had been available, because I found the poultry overcooked, but Dave enjoyed it.

Contents of fine-grained house-made sausage vary — Coop is still experimenting — but they're mainly pork carnitas-meat and beef; sometimes chicken enters the mix. They have the smoke-ring — a ring of pink meat that shows up in fully smoked meats — but the day we tried them they were too dry. "Yeah, Saturday, they didn't turn out too well," Coop said later. "The guy who stuffed them into the casings left the mixture too loose, so it overcooked." (Well, I still wish there was a cornbread.)
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little more pork fat in the mix to keep it moist. Barbecue isn’t a staple. I don’t eat it for my health, but for pure pleasure!

Classic Texas Q (if you’re old enough, think LB) preserving over huge briskets on the Pedernales Ranch) mainly runs to beef, whereas barbecue from the Southeast runs to pork — all coming from whichever animals flourish there. Coop’s splits the difference, covering both pork ribs and beef ribs (and brisket). Like modern pit bosses in Memphis these last 20 years or so, he’s into doing complex dry-rubs and serving sauce on the side, the better to taste the rubs undisguised. The full array of smoked ribs — pork ribs, rib tips, spare ribs, beef ribs with their crisped surface “bark” — seemed a little dry, like the sausage, but after reheating the takeout gently in the nuker, slathered with the wonderful sauce, they bloomed like desert flowers after a rain.

As for brisket, far as I’m concerned, it’s a Texas thing: a tough, low-fat cut from low on the cow. My ethnic people saw it fit only for braising; and the Irish for pickling as corned beef. Didn’t Cookie, out on the range, making those long-simmered beans, also simmer the brisket? Anyway, the barbecue brisket here is tough and dry, just as I’ve tasted it at other Texas Qs (including some around Austin, which is NOT the barbecue capital of the state). The surface fat-layer seems to have been removed — not a good idea. It’s like going to the famous Katz’s Deli in lower Manhattan and ordering your pastrami sandwich “lean.”

The famous side dish (as per Yelpers) is the eccentric, tasty baked beans made with pineapple chunks. They’re cooked in an open pot in the smoker, so they take on a touch of smoke flavor. I didn’t much like the red beans and rice, with their mushy, short-grain rice and occasional shreds of brisket or chicken; in NOLA, the beans get to gobble up smoked pork fat from ham hocks, etc. I did like the soggy Southern vegetarian collard greens. The potato salad is the standard New Orleans version with mashed egg yolks and minced scallions, but it could use a tad more mayo to loosen it.

The peach cobbler had a glutinous texture and (apparently) canned peaches. Forget I even mentioned it. But the pies — oh, the pies! Buttermilk pie, which I’ve never tried before, seems a relative of the better-known Southern favorite, chess pie. (I’ve never cooked either, so if you want details, go to Google.) In both, the filling is a thick custard of milk or buttermilk, butter, eggs, flour or biscuit mix, vanilla and sugar, and maybe lemon rind. Most Southerners overdo the sugar but not Coop. This was creamy and velvety and only sweet enough to please, and it came on the thinnest, most delicate crust, barely solid enough to support the filling. The same crust is used for the fluffy sweet-potato pie, which revealed equal restraint with the sugar. Both are flawless finishes for a meaty, smoky, saucy barbecue meal.

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“This used to be a drugstore with a soda fountain,” says Danielle. “Goes back to 1939.”

They sit in a row: Bad Boy, Duet, Odin’s Raven.

“We’re talking bottles. Beer. Alpine beer. Yum.”

“You first,” says Bro Bill. He’s Carla’s brother.

“Ladies first,” I say, looking at Marjorie. She’s Bill’s glamorous lady.

“Boys, boys,” says Marjorie.

I know the one I want. The black one. Odin’s Raven. I can see Bill’s hand twitching in that direction, too.

The three of us are up in Alpine. Tomorrow, Bill and Marjorie are flying home to Alaska. I wanted to give them something to remember before they hit that far-north, building with a shingled roof and a canvas sign in the bay window — “Alpine Beer Company.” This is where Pat McIlhenney, a retired fireman, has been making craft beers and winning the World Beer Cup again and again. Putting Alpine on the map. You go through a modest little wooden door into a full pub, with a bar, a bunch of tables, and a row of black booths. It looks new. White walls and bright-red air ducts snaking around under the roof. But old, too, with brick walls (brown in here) and dark wooden rafters.

“This used to be a drugstore with a soda fountain,” says the server, Danielle. “Goes back to 1939.” She’s brought us menus. Most everything seems to be $7.95, except for “dinner plates.” Those top out at $32.95 for a full rack of pork ribs with two large sides. But first, drinkies.

We scan lists on the wall, looking more like a bookie’s board at Caliente racetrack. Even the brews sound like horses’ names: Willy Vanilly, Apricot Nectar, Duet, Bad Boy, Alpine Ale, Odin’s Raven. I asked about the Duet.

“It’s a single IPA with double hops, Simcoe and Amarillo,” Danielle says. “They give a floral finish with pine aromas. The hops add bitterness, but it’s not overbearing.” The Bad Boy? “A double IPA with all-English Maris Otter malts, and Columbus, Amarillo, and Citra hops, dry-hopped…”

This gal is a walking encyclopedia. We pick three small glasses ($2.50 each), ‘cause Bill’s gotta drive. She brings them out, points to the last, Odin’s Russian Imperial Stout. “This was created by Shawn, Pat’s son, and the man I…” She blushes. “He created this stout. He puts in Hershey’s chocolate syrup, along with chocolate malt, agave syrup, brown sugar, molasses. It’s big — 11 percent alcohol, chocolatey, roasty.”

So who gets what? “Let’s just share them,” says Marjorie. She reaches for the Odin’s Raven. “Oh, my goodness. This is beautiful.” She puts the glass down. “I’ve never seen it before. It’s sweeter than, say, North Carolina,” he says. “We don’t marinate. We want you to taste the actual meat.”

And the flavor of Memphian sauce? “It’s sweeter than, say, North Carolina,” he says. “They like it vinegary. You might say there’s a ‘sweet belt’ running between Kansas City and Memphis.”

So, basically, we’re talking those appetizers, salads (like the Southwest, with corn, my favorite sauce: Memphis-style. But not too much of it. “We dry-rub in Memphis,” he says. “We don’t marinate. We want you to taste the actual meat.”

We cruise up Alpine Boulevard, me searching for this brew-pub I’d heard about. Ah…

“Bill, there is it, on the right.”

We swing across Alpine Boulevard and park. It’s a long, low, white-painted brick
beans, cheese, tomato, avocado, $6.95), sandwiches, and dinner plates. We decide to stick to sandwiches.

Pulled pork ($7.95) comes on a sweet roll, topped with cole slaw. You get one side, choosing from baked beans, fries, sweet-potato fries, potato salad, green beans, breaded beans (deep-fried breaded string beans — that’s a first), or onion rings. Pulled chicken’s the same price. There’s a beef brisket sandwich, sausage sandwich (bratwurst or spicy chicken, both $7.95), and a grilled-cheese with smoked gouda ($5.95).

Bill gets the brisket with sautéed beans as a side, Marjorie gets the pulled pork and onion rings. I hate having the same thing as someone else, so I go for the spicy chicken-sausage sandwich, with breaded beans, just to see what they are. Turns out that the sausage is surprisingly flavorful; at the last moment it kicks you with peppery heat. Duet mellows that out like a kind hand on the shoulder. We end up passing round the food, the same way we’re sipping from all the glasses. Brisket’s great, but that sweet pulled pork and the Odin’s Raven dark brewski are one fab combination. ‘Course, it’s 11 percent, so it’s only right that Marjorie and I glug the lion’s share.

Bill isn’t bitter. “I have to say, this food is exceptional. We’re taking a bottle of that Odin’s Raven back with us to the cabin.”

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**San Diego Reader**

**June 23, 2011**

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- IPA

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BO-beau in Ocean Beach

The people who brought Bleu Bohème to Kensington have teamed up with the Cohn Restaurant Group to transform what used to be Thee Bungalow into a “casual neighborhood bistro” reminiscent of Provence, called BO-beau kitchen and bar.

The “BO” stands for “Bohémian.” Bleu Bohème’s web site states: “Bleu Bohème is designed to create a feeling of France’s past generations. It mixes the Bohémian and Artistic free spirited Left Bank of Paris with the roots and tradition of the Rural Areas. Bleu Bohème is a neighborhood restaurant that serves accessible, affordable and comforting French Cuisine.” This could just as easily describe BO-beau.

Having spent time in Provence, I can say with confidence that BO-beau does give off the small-town in the south of France feel, with stone walls, menus written on chalkboards, and rustic iron accoutrements. The only differences are the loud and rustic iron accoutrements.

Speaking of which, David absolutely loved his rib-eye steak and fries. He asked for medium-rare, and not only was it cooked perfectly for that request, but the cut of meat itself was well-trimmed, both tender and flavorful but free of gristle. The frites were also excellently executed, crunch on the outside, soft on the inside, with a complimentary but not overwhelming flavoring of rosemary and salt.

We were way too full (even with our boxes to go) to think about dessert. But I liked the feel of the place, the service was great and the food (save for one dish) didn’t nab that prestigious title this year, their winningest member, Paul Sangster, took home the American Stout Beer Category: Silver - Paul Sangster (Carlsbad), Special/Best/Premium Bitter American Ale Category: Bronze - Richard Solis (Sun City), American Pale Ale Stout Category: Bronze - Paul Gagnon (Santee), American Stout Strong Ale Category: Michael Habrat, Chris Bartik, Brett Goldstock & SuzyPesutosi (San Diego), American Barleywine Smoke-Flavored & Wood-Aged Beer Category: Silver - Kelsey McNair (San Diego), Wood-Aged Beer Bronze - Sean Gardinier (San Diego), Wood-Aged Beer

With the exception of the lone RiverSider, all of the winners noted above are members of QUAFF, the San Diego-based Quality Ale and Fermentation Fraternity. This group was named best homebrewing club in the nation four years in a row over the past decade. While they didn’t nab that prestigious title this year, their winningest member, Paul Sangster, took home the Ninkasi Award which is awarded to the homebrewer who scores the most points in the second judging round of the NHC.

SD Homebrewers Shimmer in National Spotlight

The whole world knows San Diego is home to some of the best professional brewers on the planet. Before they took charge over big ol’ brewhouses, those sudsy studs manned stovetop stock pots in their humble kitchens. This base-level brand of brewing was celebrated with the grandeur it deserves at the American Homebrewers Association’s 33rd annual National Homebrewers Conference, which was held here in America’s Finest City this week and culminated last night with a banquet at which winners of the most coveted homebrewing awards in the country were announced.

Once again, SD proved its supremacy as a region behind talented homebrewers who know their stuff. Local brewers took home gold, silver, or bronze (mostly the Gold) in 7 out of 28 total beer style categories. That’s a staggering 25% for those of you who aren’t big fans of math, and even more impressive when one considers there were THOUSANDS of total entries from all 50 states.

Here’s a breakdown of all the individual style category winners from SD (plus an adopted winner from the nearby Temecula area):

Bock Category: Gold - Paul Sangster (Carlsbad), Eisbock Amber Hybrid Beer Category: Gold - Kent Shultz (San Diego), Dusseldorf Altbock English Pale Ale Category: Silver - Paul Sangster (Carlsbad), Special/Best/Premium Bitter American Ale Category: Bronze - Richard Solis (Sun City), American Pale Ale Stout Category: Bronze - Paul Gagnon (Santee), American Stout

Sin Truck

Oh, and one more Food Truck thing:

Cupcakes. Had my first since I was a kid at the Corner Cup-
Burrito Barato: MXN Achiote Chicken Tacos

Si, I lament Santana’s going the way of MXN. Si, I survived much of my seventh year on Santana’s one pound veggie burritos.

I spell my farty for you, Santana. Every day. Pero, no, I will not abuse affirmatives in a language I only sort of speak to wax nostalgic about one of my favorite institutions in San Diego Mexican food.

When the countywide Santana’s chain went MXN over the course of the past few years, portions got smaller, dining rooms began to look like Starbucks, and oddities like the chicken caesar burrito found their way into the local late-night Mex-run lexicon. But to hell with it. In favor of some good of fashioned San Diego optimism, let’s look on the bright side.

The achiote chicken tacos go for $1.99, 24 hours a day. Achiote comes from the seeds of the annatto plant and lends a mild, nutty flavor to its dish. MXN’s chicken is tender and moist and, like, super yum. And to MXN’s credit, the place now has frequent-eater cards, which means after 12 meals at $7 or more, you get a free meal up to $7.

Posted June 18, 12:08 p.m. by Chad Deal

Food Truck Field Report #2: Poway? No Way!

Nuts-and-twig people, cast your eyes aside.

J.R. Kaminski, third-generation BBQ guy down from Poway with his “Super Q” BBQ truck, has just handed me the most disgustingly delicious plate of carne asada fries ($6.99) I’ve ever had. Actually, it’s the only combination of carne asada and BBQ sauce I’ve ever had.

“My whole family, eight of them, said it was ridiculous,” says J.R. “You can’t mix carne asada fries with BBQ sauce! I did. And guess what? Customers went ape.”

J.R.’s black-and-green food truck, Super Q, is his idea too. He says they’re doing great. I went ape. I’ve got these food trucks parked around the perimeter. All you hear are generators, the occasional Coaster honking its way past, and then just the buzz of folks meeting up and eating up — and kids whooping it up.

Zack from Lebanon is sharing the same table with me.

“What you got, Zack?”

“Knock Out Chicken, $5.99,” he says. “Wicked. You could make millions selling this food-truck stuff in Beirut. We don’t have it there yet.”

He got his chicken in a sandwich from the black’n green truck stuff in Beirut. We don’t have it there yet.

It’s at Beachside Grill (215 North Coast Highway), their first (hopefully) annual Band Fest. Bands include Bedlam’s Edge, Almost New, White Buffalo and Red Wizard. (My buddy Miles is in that one. Axes shudder when he reaches for them. That’s how I heard about this.)

And a bunch of others, including 3 Shots, Broken Clown, and Sloppy Seconds. Heck, the names are enough to get you there.

Foodwise, burritos start at five buckeroos, entrees and burgers at nine. And the five-pound burger? It’s for real, and here’s the deal: You down it in 20 minutes, it’s free. You don’t pay $25. But hey, you can probably live off the leftovers for a week.

Band Fest cover charge is $5, or $8 for the three days if you buy tonite.

Posted June 17, 7:19 p.m. by Ed Bedford
Stone Brewing: We’ll Come to You
Beer things just keep happening. This Saturday, it’s Mission Brewery’s opening (see blog “Your Mission, This Saturday”), and next week it’s Stone. They’re coming down from their lofty Escondido Empire to Be With The People here in South Park. Honestly, they don’t have that attitude: they just get stuck with it because they’re so big compared to most everybody else in the local beer scene. But this is a good move. Wednesday, June 22, will be the grand opening of The Stone Company Store at 2215 30th Street. It’s gonna be a big opening party, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Feisty founder (okay, co-founder) Greg Koch will be there, and so will Mayor Jerry Sanders.

The store will be the first retail outlet away from their North County HQ. Idea for the store is to basically, uh, sell beer. But you can growlers and try tasting flights there (four 4oz tasters for $5, “and patrons get to keep the glass!” Not sure if that’s opening day only). Nearby watering holes like Whistle Stop, Station, Grant’s Marketplace, Mazar Pizza, and Vagabond will have Stone specials thru the night, including interesting beers with really long tags. Stone Ruination IPA Double Dry Hopped with Simcoe, Nelson, Centennial, Boadicea, and Citra hops, anybody? Best news if you’re going to do the rounds on the big night: The #2 bus is super-regular. Posted June 16, 1:50 p.m. by Ed Bedford

Noodling Around: Hu Tieu Mi Kho from Pho King
Here’s another nice Vietnamese noodle dish that’s good when it’s a bit warmer. This one combines the stretch and chew of Hu Tieu along with the crunch of Mi, or egg noodles. It’s a winning combination when you’re not sure what to get.

The dish is served “dry”—that is, with some pork based broth on the side—in addition to the a very nice salty/sweet, soy-based sauce studded with garlic and some ground pork. Chinese celery, lettuce, and bean sprouts are provided as garnish, adding another layer of texture to the dish.

The noodles come topped with a wide array of items including shrimp, squid, fish balls, BBQ and ground pork, and dried shallots. Sometimes figuring out how to eat the dish might be the biggest challenge of them all. I usually start with chopstick and spoon in hand and mix the items in the bowl. I add the Chinese celery (which has a much stronger, assertive flavor then Western Celery) and bean sprouts and mix again. Depending on how you want your noodles: some prefer segregation, Hu Tieu on one side, Mi on the other for each bite. You can work a bit harder and get everything mixed together in more thorough manner, but I’m usually too impatient.

I’ll usually start by dippings the noodles into the sauce for each mouthful, or even sometimes the pork broth. In the end, staring at all the ground pork and what ever may be left, I’ll pour the remaining sauce into the bowl and go at it. If you enjoy contrast textures, this might be the noodle dish for you. It’s priced right at $7.25 for a large bowl. As for the endless puns and riffes of the name of the place..... I was told by a couple of sources what the story is. But I’ll save that for another day.

Pho King Restaurant 4658 El Cajon Blvd San Diego, CA 92115 Posted June 16, 7:57 a.m. by Kirk

Are We En Route to $100 Beer?
When it comes to beer, I’m into Belgian tripels and triple IPAs. What I’m not into is the thought of paying triple DIGITS for a single bottle. Yet, much like the cost of gasoline, the value of my favorite liquid fuel is on the rise. And, to further pump this analogy, octane appears to be the main driver — the higher the alcohol content, the higher the price.

Case in point is Samuel Adams Utopias, an annual special-release blend of numerous barrel-aged beers that comes in at 27% alcohol by volume (ABV) and an even more staggering $150 a bottle (and a lot more second-hand...Google the beer and be prepared for a shock). When you consider that the beer comes across more as a liqueur — something uncarbonated with a smooth, brandy-like flavor and mouthfeel that’s sippable in small quantities — the price tag seems justifiable. It’s something you can keep and drink over a long period of time, much like a fine cognac. But will people pay $100 and up for a single sitting experience? “I think we’re definitely on
the way to $100 beers,” says Peter Zien, owner and head brewer of AleSmith, which was mobbed by over 600 beer fans yesterday (including many who camped out and were in line by 8 a.m.) looking to get their hands on newly released barrel-aged versions of the brewery’s 2009 Speedway Stout and 2008 Decadence English-style barleywine.

The price of those offerings was just $25 (a mere pittance), but similar releases from other Southern California brewing companies go for much more, such as San Marcos’ Lost Abbey, which puts out beers at $35 (Veritas 009 bourbon-and-wine barrel-aged ale) and $45 (Duck Duck Goose guéuze and Veritas 006 “sangria-style” sour ale) on a relatively consistent basis.

That’s nothing compared to Tactical Nuclear Penguin, a 32% ABV imperial stout, produced by Scottish brewing company BrewDog, which retail for over $100.

We’re standing outside the Stout Public House, the pub at 1125 6th. It is totally packed. Upstairs, downstairs, inside and out. All eyes are glued to the two giant screens. Boston Bruins are pounding on the Canucks. It’s three-zip so far.

One clump of pro-Bostonites is cheering. Most of the house is groaning.

Dave Tothills one of the owners. “He’s from Vancouver,” says Dave LaSorte, who’s out here on the mini patio helping his English buddy, Nick Coombes, munch down a long plate of calamari. Whew. Nick. For a moment I thought this was Dave Nite Out here. Also turns out the other owner is Mark Prendergast, an Irishman.

Calamari cost around five bucks, during happy hour (4-8p.m. daily).

Me, I’m chowing down on a plate of Canada’s national dish, poutine, basically fries and gravy and gravy ($3).

I’m only here because I heard the racket from the Fifth Avenue trolley stop. Haven’t seen such a crazy scene since maybe last time the Padres had their big chance.

Officially this is an Irish pub. Not tonight, though.

“It’s kind of Little Canada here tonight,” says Dave “Dabbles” Riddle. “And you know what?! It’s cheaper for a Canadian fan to fly down here, spend a couple of nights, and watch this game on TV right here in San Diego than to buy tickets for the actual game in Vancouver. My buddy just sold four tickets for $200. That’s how fanatical they are up there.”

The fries with the poutine are pretty delish in a gravy-crisp sort of way, and soon we’re sharing them and the calamari. There’s certainly a good vibe here.

I also order a half-pounder Stout Burger ($8) to take back to Carla. What with all that’s going on, the noise, the crush, it’s a miracle that Stephanie the server gets it to me in fifteen minutes. Looks pretty big.

One thing I know. I’m coming back, give this place a serious work over.


“Maybe next year,” says Dave Dabbles.

“Time for some more poutine,” says someone.

Guess I should go. Bound to be poutine’ with theoutine Little Canada is going to need time to deal with this.

Posted June 15, 9:13 p.m. by Ed Bedford

Chef Jeff Rossman’s Standing on Terra Firma

Often, cookbooks that are self-published and slated for a locals-only demographic tend to be... how can I put this nicely...not something to drool over. That’s for sure not the case with From Terra’s Table: New American Food Fresh from Southern California’s Organic Farm, a hefty instructional piece put out by chef Jeff Rossman last year.

Going by page count alone, the book weighs in as an entrée, but there’s more than a lot of paper to speak of, recipes plucked from Rossman’s decade and a half at the helm of his restaurant, Terra (which recently relocated from Hillcrest to the College East area).

No expenses nor effort on Rossman’s part were spared in the production of the piece, which my colleague Naomi Wise noted in a review last year. In addition to recipes, there is information on local farms and artisanal food and beverage producers, driving home Rossman’s assertion that From Terra’s Table is his love letter to San Diego growers.

Recently, Rossman got a little of that love he’s been putting out back. His book earned top honors as the Best Cookbook of 2011 from the San Diego Book Awards Association. Considering Rossman’s tenure as a chef on the local scene and the work he put into showcasing himself and other food folks in San Diego County, I’d say the book awards group got this one right.

Available online and at Rossman’s new digs, Terra American Bistro at 7091 El Cajon Boulevard.

Posted June 15, 6:15 p.m. by Brandon Hernandez

Must We Kill to Eat?

Do we have to kill to live? Turn fellow creatures into dead flesh to eat? Been thinking about this ever since I found out Harsh, one of the guys who started up hART — the new coffee/hookah lounge across by the NewSchool of Architecture in East Village (see blog Great Bathrooms) — is a Jain.

That is, he belongs to the ancient Jainist movement of India which tries to do no harm to any Nature offers. Like fruit, or grains which tries to do no harm to any animals. Animals, and kill them. I guess I sit easiest with what I heard many native Americans do. Apologize and ask permission at least from the animal or tree they’re going to kill. And be very sure they need to do it for survival’s sake.

But Harsh, at hART, is at a whole ‘nother level. I want to learn more.

Posted June 15, 5:34 p.m. by Ed Bedford

Korean BBQ at Jeong Won

Korean BBQ Buffet Super Wild Deal $16.95

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Dinner & Weekends $19.95

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Autonomic for the People. Experimental 170-beat-per-minute music was popularized about two years ago by London drum-and-bass producers dBridge and Instra:mental via the Club Autonomic podcast. According to Futureproofing, an electronic-music blog, "Autonomic is a flood of outside influences entering a distinct strain of minimalist, careful drum-and-bass (informed by electro and minimalistic, careful drum-n-bass entering a distinct strain of flood of outside influences)

The first two monthly 170SD nights took place at Kava but will be held at Bar Dynamite starting this month. "In the past two years it's got a lot more popularity in the drum-and-bass scene," says DJ bass (informed by electro and minimalistic, careful drum-n-bass entering a distinct strain of flood of outside influences) of the inside track as "more outside the norm, particularly rhythmically. There're no real rules. ASC is more ambient. I'm more dub reggae. So it depends on your influences and what you bring to the table."

Catch ASC, Will Guise, and Calculon at Bar Dynamite on June 27 for the third installment of 170SD.

"It's going to be more like the Autonomic nights in the U.K," says Guise. "The first part of the night we will be playing people who influence what we play and make — hip-hop, electro, IDM, drum-and-bass. Later in the night will be individual sets from each of us in the experimental 170 genre."

— Chad Deal

Contempo Occultism. "After four albums, we're playing our first show," says Eric Nielsen of High Mountain Tempel, who'll make their stage debut June 25 at Kava.

A duo featuring Nielsen (Maquiladora, Buzz or Howl) and Keith Boyd, High Mountain Tempel experiments with tonality, ambient soundscapes, found sounds sampled from nonmusic sources, and nonlinear storytelling. "The type of music we make isn't really a good fit for a night out drinking at a club," says Boyd, "so playing live wasn't really considered. Wël toyed with the idea of playing in remote or unusual settings for invited guests, a sort of quiet rave concept or something where the audience could come, go, sleep, basically do as they pleased and engage with the music at will. But it never really found a footing."

As for what to expect at their first public performance, "It's an open page, really. Eric and I have found memories of creating Worship present their wild rituals, and we'd like to incorporate lights, video, costumes, and movement. While wël like to approach this with some zeal and conviction, we're also up for some chaos and misadventure."

The band is working on a fifth album, Gnosis. "We've been exploring some new sound palettes," says Boyd. "We're still using synths and loops, but we're also bringing in electric dulcimer, tambora boxes, and vocal layering."

Meanwhile, a remix of High Mountain Tempel's song "Pilgrimage to Thunderbolt Pagoda" will appear on a compilation CD included with a British periodical published by Fulgar Limited. "They put out a high-quality journal of historic and contemporary occultism called Abraxas, and with this issue they wanted to include a CD companion of musically diverse but like-minded artists." The CD will also include music by Ragnarok, Cyclobe, and Arktau Eos.

High Mountain Tempel calls itself "San Diego's most occult band," but does that mean the band endorses Satanism or something akin? "The word occult is an often misunderstood and misused word," explains Boyd. "Essentially, it means hidden. Another sense of the word refers to knowledge or wisdom only available to one who has been initiated. We're interested in the underlying meaning of life and our experience of it. There's no one creed or faith we ascribe to.

"All paths are equally valid expressions of the primal drive humans have to seek the divine."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Blowing Gaskets. The Euphoria Brass Band, a New Orleans–jazz outfit, is working out some rhythm parts on a Monday night in the band room at Mission Bay High School. When fully engaged, it is a brassy conflagration. The horn players sound as if on the verge of blowing gaskets. But in this case, the members of Euphoria are determining where the snare and bass-drum accents will land in their arrangement of "Blues for Ben."

"Less Bonerama, more Stanton Moore," says Drew Miller by way of direction.

Miller is Euphoria's brass drummer and host of a weekly radio program called the Second Line Parade on the City College radio station Jazz 88. Miller cofounded Euphoria Brass three months ago with a pair of New Orleans musicians who moved to San Diego post-Katrina. Oceanside guitarist Dave Bandrowski of the Zapf Dingbats and snare drummer Ron Bocian are both former students of a New Orleans wild man named Johnny Vidacovich. The two have the air of hipsters; one wonders how they came to be drawn to such traditional music.

"Living in New Orleans, you hear this stuff constantly," says Bocian. "You hear a few second lines, then, you start looking for them. Then you're staying out and partying and the next thing you know, you're looking for rebahs. He laughs. Bocian says (continued on page 74)
Bandrowski as a featured guest on Miller's radio show, connections were made, says Bocian, and the band was launched. The eight-piece includes trombonist April West, Dave Jackson on tenor sax, tubist Wayne Rice, Steve Ebner and Tim Jameson on trumpets, and J.P. Balmat on baritone sax and reeds. Balmat is band instructor at Mission Bay High.

Miller says that the Euphoria Brass Band is the only New Orleans jazz band in town and as such, they have been invited to play club dates and the recent Gathering of the Vibes by the Bay and Fiesta Del Sol festivals. In keeping with tradition, they were also asked to play a funeral. "It was a guy's death-bed request," says Bocian. "The term "second line" refers, in fact, to a funeral procession."

"The first line (or main line) is the deceased, friends, and family," says Miller. "And the second line," he says, "is the band."

The Euphoria Brass Band plays Dizzy's on Sunday, July 3.

— Dave Good

Imported Coulter.

For Lee Coulter, who was originally inspired by Simon and Garfunkel and Back to the Future ("I played the tennis racket to the soundtrack"); it’s about the music. And producing. And giving "Rockstar 101" lessons on YouTube. It’s also about turning on people to unheard gems by other musicians via "Live from the Laptop."

"It’s another way to share music," says the 30-year-old Encinitas resident, who left Australia in 2002 to join Sharisse in America. ("She imported me.") From the couple’s Encinitas home, he messages, "I post ‘Live from the Laptop’ Mondays, on YouTube. Playing obscure covers is a result of being covered by other musicians. I thought I’d do the same for virtually unknown songwriters that I admire."

Coulter makes ends meet "with performances at corporate and private events and bread-and-butter gigs around town. As Lee Coulter’s Perfect Wave, I produce butter gigs around town. As Lee Coulter, I thought I’d do the same for virtually unknown musicians. I thought I'd do the same for virtually unknown songwriters that I admire."

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How did your Sirius Radio exposure happen?

"A friend of a friend came to a show and said he wanted to help. He had no experience and no connections. At first I was suspicious. I guess I’m so used to being under the radar...it’s the kind of thing I hear all the time, and nothing comes of it. On this occasion, I lucked out. This guy just sent my CD in cold. Sirius picked up ‘I Would Love’ and started playing it three times a day on The Coffeehouse."

"Then I flew to Sirius’ New York headquarters for a live recording. They have a studio called the Fishbowl, with glass walls so people can watch from the lobby. I played five originals and ‘9th Street Bridge Song.’ It aired the last week in April."

As his “misguided, sexier alter ego, Walter Legeaux,” Coulter morphs into hip-hop mode for the “Rockstar 101.”

“Rockstar 101 is about having fun with the absurdities of ‘Indie Cred.’ Anyone can be a star. It’s about attitude and being larger than life.”

Lee Coulter appears Friday, July 22, at Across the Street at Mueller College in University Heights.

— Mary Leary

Privatized Air Tour Recorded For Live Album

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 19, 10:08 p.m.

Temple Of Roots — Foreign Love Sound System Meets Blackheart Warriors

By Chad Deal — June 17, 6:50 p.m.

Illness AND Car Crash Delay Heretic CD

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 18, 7:42 p.m.

No Rest For Mark Dresser

By Chad Deal — June 17, 9:01 p.m.

R.I.P., Larry “Wild Man” Fischer, Frank Zappa’s Discovery

By Chad Deal — June 16, 8:39 p.m.

Ocean Beats Pool Party

By Chad Deal — June 16, 7:50 p.m.

Third Thursdays Rule (Makeout Weird - Liquid Geometry)

By Chad Deal — June 16, 3:13 p.m.

“They Threatened to Ban Me,” Says Local Elvis Impersonator

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 16, 7:58 p.m.

Read these and other daily breaking music stories at SDReader.com/jam-session

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 17, 9:01 p.m.

By Chad Deal — June 19, 12:55 p.m.

By Chad Deal — June 16, 8:39 p.m.

By Chad Deal — June 17, 3:13 p.m.

By Robert Bush — June 17, 9:09 p.m.

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 17, 6:50 p.m.

By Jay Allen Sanford — June 17, 9:01 p.m.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

DON HENLEY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

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collection is a grower that, given the chance, will scratch all the iches Okkervil fans funnel for. Okkervil River flows into Belly Up with the equally verbose (and trebly bearded, i can’t add) Titus Andronicus, who are out to tout last year’s indie-crit-hit The Monitor. I have seen/heard both these bands in this room, and it suits them beautifully. Should and more likely will sell out, so, chop chop!... “Pardon us for living, but the graveyard is full,” so says the other big giggers this Friday, as NYC garage-rock gurus the Fleshtones play this year’s Yep Roc release Brooklyn Sound Solution (feat. Lenny tucking Kaye) for Bar Pink. Afterward, it’ll be Junior and Leaunth’s monthly EDM dance party “Go Bonkers!” at the North park hot spot... Hong Kong Fuzz (Dirty Sweet) and Operation Mindblind will bring some homegrown to Tin Can Ale House... While W&H Stop serves up dinner and a show with Joey Harris and the Mentals on the floor and yummy supper truck Miho Gastro at the curb.

Saturday 25

Ramones-core” trio the Queens take down the Shakedown behind Back in the Basement, the New Hampshire band’s return to Asian Man Records. The SoCal label has been reissuing a bunch of the punks’ back catalogue. Try to get your hands on Queens essential Love Songs for the Retarded for a primer. The Aperas and Secretions will lube the room... Get your guilty pleasure on when the Cured, Murmur, and Still Ill bring ‘80s dance rock back to Belly Up. I haven’t seen the Cure or Smiths covers, but Mikey Stripey and the REM tribbers in Murmur fairly nail the iconic Athens of blood clubs,” I have seen/heard both these bands in this room, and it suits them beautifully. Should and more likely will sell out, so, chop chop!). “Pardon us for living, but the graveyard is full,” so says the other big giggers this Friday, as NYC garage-rock gurus the Fleshtones play this year’s Yep Roc release Brooklyn Sound Solution (feat. Lenny tucking Kaye) for Bar Pink. Afterward, it’ll be Junior and Leaunth’s monthly EDM dance party “Go Bonkers!” at the North park hot spot... Hong Kong Fuzz (Dirty Sweet) and Operation Mindblind will bring some homegrown to Tin Can Ale House... While W&H Stop serves up dinner and a show with Joey Harris and the Mentals on the floor and yummy supper truck Miho Gastro at the curb.

Sunday 26

Super Sunday sets at Ché Café as the collective’s Spirit Animals conjure Japanther and Crystal Antlers. Japanther is a prolific spunky punk duo from New York City that specializes in sugary, gnarly noise. Get yer mitts on the hits of high-water mark Tut, Tut, Now Shake Ya Butt ’til U... “Um Like Yer Smile Is Totally Ruling Me Right Now.” Like-minded Los Angelinos Crystal Antlers add a little avant to the ouvre. Fidlar and Twin Cabins are also on the bill. Doors at 8p.... Loopy lady Jay Allen had a chat with “contemporary occultists” Keith Boyd and Eric Neisen of High Mountain Tempel for this week’s “Blurt”... Daily note: the Holly Golightly/Kid Cargo show was moved from Soda Barb to Casab... And the “Eat Your Heart and Brains Out Burlesque Revue” at Ruby Room promises titilating zombie action.

ANDREW WILLIAMS AT SODA BAR

Though not the Will Silerian concept rock of Black Sheep Boy or Stage Names, Okkervil River’s new I’d, I Am Very Far, measures the weight of the frontman’s rising notoriety with Silerian plains and humor. Verbose and wryly, the outsider’s Americana

QUEEN BEE’S

Hosted by Professor Greysnake tickets on sale now! Premiere Steampunk Band Worldwide. Extraordinary Gentlemen. Comic-Con Weekend!

PATRICKS II

GASLAMP QUARTER’S FINEST LIVE MUSIC in the Gaslamp!

LIVE MUSIC in the Gaslamp

Thursday, June 23

Paradise with Michele Lundeen

Friday, June 24

Missy Andersen

Saturday, June 25

Sam Hooper Group

Sunday, June 26

Grady Champion

Monday, June 27

Chet & The Committee

Tuesday, June 28

145th Street

Wednesday, June 29

Bill Magee

Blues Band

FM 94/9 floats a freebie at Casbah with Heavy Glow, the Tuggs, and Just Like Jenna, with grindsage from Gaglione Brothers (the Bay Area boys can rock a cheesesteak, yo).

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Watch Out!

“The Baritar baritone guitar is tuned down to a low A! That one has very lethal tone.”

Oceanside’s Nathan James became a blues guitarist by mastering the Piedmont fingerstyle, which produces a complex ragtime sound and is created by thumbing the bass string while picking out a syncopated melody with the fingers. James learned by listening to old records by Blind Boy Fuller and Big Bill Broonzy, Blind Blake, and Blind Willie McTell.

“For some reason,” he says, “all the blind guys were phenomenal pickers.” By the age of 19, James left his native Fallbrook for the road with internationally known bluesman James Harman. He worked with Harman exclusively for over three years before going solo. Later, James teamed with Ben Hernandez, a young mohawk-sporting blues traditionalist from San Diego. In 2007, the duo took first place at the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, Tennessee.

Nathan James performs at the Del Mar Fair Coors Light Stage with the James Harman band on Thursday, June 23, at 7:30 p.m.

BEFORE BEN HERNANDEZ MOVED, I CAUGHT YOUR SHOW AT THE BELLY UP IN SOLANA BEACH. YOU TWO WERE CAUGHT YOUR SHOW AT THE BELLY BEFORE BEN HERNANDEZ MOVED, I
don Thursday, June 23, at 7:30 p.m.

Coors Light Stage with the James Harman band

THE BLUES. HOW MUCH OF THAT WAS REHEARSED?

“Most of everything Ben and I did was never rehearsed or planned. Certain songs were done the same, but we were always rearranging them or improvising new ones on the spot, which is something I learned from James Harman.”

WHAT DID HARMAN TEACH YOU?

“He told stories about things he learned from people such as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, and many other legends he personally knew — stuff that would be impossible to learn from reading a book or going to college.”

FOR EXAMPLE?

“Stories of his band playing, and someone like T-bone Walker or Freddy King would walk in and sit in on guitar. They would have their own tone, no matter what kind of guitar or amp it was. He taught me that it’s all in your fingers, and about having your own style.”

HAVE YOU WORKED ANY STRANGE DAY-JOBS IN THE PURSUIT OF A CAREER IN MUSIC?

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HAVE YOU WORKED ANY STRANGE DAY-JOBS IN THE PURSUIT OF A CAREER IN MUSIC?

“I did quite a bit of soldering on the washboard guitars but haven’t had to weld anything on them yet. My dad was a handyman and taught me how to work on most anything.”

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BUILD SUCH AN INSTRUMENT?

“At first it was just to create something wild looking, but then I realized it was practical for playing the washboard part of it also.”

WHERE DO YOU GET WASHBOARDS?

“I hadn’t, but I have been brainstorming for quite some time.”

FOR AN ELECTRIC-BLUES GUITARIST, YOU TEND TOWARD THE OLD SCHOOL...

“I think the guitar-based blues-rock styles are dead and not original anymore. The over-the-top, never-ending, loud, electric-guitar-driven blues are boring for young people. I think new blues fans are more likely to be drawn to the raw and stripped-down, even acoustic styles — maybe because it’s the antithesis of the over-saturated electronic music of this era.”

THERE’S A RUMOR THAT YOU’RE BUILDING A TWIN-NECK WASHSTAR

“That’s a secret!” He laughs. “Just kidding. Yes, that is my plan for the next one. It will be made from the larger-sized washboard and will probably be a Tri-Tar and regular six-string in one. Watch out!”

“THE FIRST ONE I GOT WAS FROM AN ANTIQUE STORE. I’VE BOUGHT SEVERAL FROM EBAY, BUT THE ONES I PREFER ARE ACTUALLY STILL MADE BY THE COLUMBUS WASHBOARD COMPANY. THE DUBL HANDI TRAVEL SIZE.”

THEY SOUND VIVID, CONSIDERING...

“Well, there were small problems at first, but I’ve pretty much got them working good now, including battery-powered LED lighting systems. The first one I made is a standard six-string I call the Washstar Gitboard. The second one I call the Tri-Tar. Its neck is made from an axe handle, and it has three strings. It’s tuned down to the key of C, so it has a lot of crunch. And the third one is the Baritar Baritone guitar tuned down to a low A! That one has very lethal tone.”

BEFORE THE WASHBOARD, DID YOU THINK ABOUT TRYING OUT DIFFERENT HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, SUCH AS A CUTTING BOARD OR A SKILLET?

“Most of everything Ben and I did was never rehearsed or planned. Certain songs were done the same, but we were always rearranging them or improvising new ones on the spot, which is something I learned from James Harman.”

WHAT DID HARMAN TEACH YOU?

“He told stories about things he learned from people such as Muddy Waters, B.B. King, and many other legends he personally knew — stuff that would be impossible to learn from reading a book or going to college.”

FOR EXAMPLE?

“Stories of his band playing, and someone like T-bone Walker or Freddy King would walk in and sit in on guitar. They would have their own tone, no matter what kind of guitar or amp it was. He taught me that it’s all in your fingers, and about having your own style.”

HAVE YOU WORKED ANY STRANGE DAY-JOBS IN THE PURSUIT OF A CAREER IN MUSIC?

“I think the guitar-based blues-rock styles are dead and not original anymore. The over-the-top, never-ending, loud, electric-guitar-driven blues are boring for young people. I think new blues fans are more likely to be drawn to the raw and stripped-down, even acoustic styles — maybe because it’s the antithesis of the over-saturated electronic music of this era.”

THERE’S A RUMOR THAT YOU’RE BUILDING A TWIN-NECK WASHSTAR

“That’s a secret!” He laughs. “Just kidding. Yes, that is my plan for the next one. It will be made from the larger-sized washboard and will probably be a Tri-Tar and regular six-string in one. Watch out!”

Find more musician interviews online at SDRreader.com/interviews

Nathan James prefers Columbus Washboard Company’s Dubl Handi travel size.

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The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-4600. Friday, 6pm — Firefly Band. Free.

Laundry: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194. Thursday, 9pm — Maren Parusel. Rock/indie/German pop.

Friday — Fleshtones. Garage rock.

Saturday, 10pm — Grant Hart and Brothers of Brazil.

Sunday — Ferocious Few. Funk.

Monday — The Show Is the Rainbow.

Coastin: 14600 Lakeview Dr., Helix, 619-442-4200. Saturday, 6pm — Tlnea Yards. Free.


The Kraken: 1431 Ocean Beach Dr., Ocean Beach, 619-222-0168. Saturday, 6pm — ’70s Soul Revue, Main Tap Tavern. Free.

Monday, June 27

7pm — Zydeco Blues

Monette Marinoka

Monday, June 27

7pm — Zydeco Blues

Bayou Brothers

Tuesday, June 28

7pm — Billy Joel Tribute Band

52nd Street

Wednesday, June 29

8pm — Original Rock & dance

Laura Roppe & Cool Band Luke

Upcoming

Friday, July 1

Dennis Jones

Friday, July 8

Temple Of The Dead

h o l i | (again, the typogra-phy — the title was originally going to be Women Who Kill), which she recorded mostly in a proper studio. Onstage, Gar- bus is accompanied by Nate Brenner on bass and on some dates by a small saxophone section, but she still creates rhythm loops on the spot with the help of an effects pedal. So, what’s all this loop- ing about? Garbus is signed to the respected record label 4AD, and she’s earned worshipful reviews; if she wanted to hire a drummer, she could easily find one. But the looping in the music works because it calls attention to the looping in Garbus’s vocals. In the vaguely R&B-sounding “Powa,” Garbus adopts a deep voice, somewhere between sultry and sassy, and sings an explicit tale of sexual politics, repeating “Your power inside/ It rocks me like a lullaby.” By the end of the song she’s asking her lover to “bomb me with lies, humiliations every day.” The repeated phrases in the song are like the repeated phrases of an abused woman tells herself.

Rafter and T.V. Mike & the Scarecrows also perform.

TUNE-YARDS: The Soda Bar, Sunday, June 26, 8 p.m. 619-255-7224. $10.

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BY DAVE GOOD

Lest we forget: Ted Nugent’s three-chord opening to “Cat Scratch Fever” was schoolin’ for a generation of adolescent guitarists during the late 1970s. You didn’t even have to know how to play the rest of the song, just that opening riff. It was instant cool back then. As we learned, cat-scratch fever is the name of a real disease, but in song it defined the Nuge as a writer with enough skill to turn pretty much anything into a double entendre: “The first time I got it / I was just ten years old / got it from some kitty next door.”

It was nearly a decade earlier that Ted Nugent first gained national attention with the Amboy Dukes and Journey to the Center of the Mind. The Dukes gig established three important things about Nugent: his undying affection for big, fat, screeching Gibson Byrdland guitars; his sound, a mingling of Mitch Ryder, Chuck Berry, and Vanity Fudge; and that he could play longer solos than anybody else at the time.

Ted Nugent turns 63 in December. The author of the cookbook Kill It and Grill It and Guns, God, and Rock ‘n’ Roll (a New York Times bestseller), Nugent has finally grown into his pro-gun far-right meat-eating persona. Back in the day, he was just another skinny, long-haired freak like rest of us, and hardly anyone believed that his mania wasn’t the product of dope. But then he did earn a place on Spin’s 2000 entry “100 Sleaziest Moments in Rock” (where Ted Nugent became the legal guardian of his under-age girlfriend). Likewise, I thought “Girl Scout Cookies” from 2007’s Love Grenade was a regrettably reach into the same abyss that spawned other Nugent no-brainers such as If You Can’t Kick ‘Em...Kick ‘Em. But then, one doesn’t go to the Nuge for brains. You go for fuse-blowing brown like “Cat Scratch Fever.”

TED NUGENT: House of Blues, Wednesday, June 29, 7 p.m. 619-299-2583. $37.50, $27.50.
This Week: OysterFest!
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Gleeder backstage with the headline Pepper.
Yes, he was allowed to be back there...

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You threw beanbags into these holes in that wood thing.
I can't remember.

“Sorry for partying.”

Evening crew: See “Hi” for a price!

Early birds, sweet background too!

see these photos, and many more on our
Facebook and Twitter for live updates!

GREAT DAY AT SD OYSTERFEST. VIP area all ours to organize. Free beer, food and oysters most of the day. Big shout outs to OysterFest, Ballast Point, Green Flash, Coralado brewing company, and Michael’s for supplying the consumables. Thanks to 4th & B, SD Smokeshop, and De Anza Springs for the booth giveaways.

Hope you all are ready for

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EVERYONE’S A CRITIC

How to Become Clairvoyant
Robbie Robertson
By Alan Segal

Sometimes, in the middle of a movie I’m enjoying, I’ll get a brain tick that tells me it’s a winner. As I write this, I’m listening to ex-band guitaristsongwriter Robbie Robertson’s new solo album, and that brain tick hits me.

Robertson, who penned all the new songs (with help from Eric Clapton on a few) evokes memories of his oldies “The Weight” and “Up on Cripple Creek,” with catchy lyrics, clean studio arrangements, and tasteful guitar work.

Clairvoyant opens with its strongest song, “Straight Down the Line,” a bluesy foot-tapper about being an older rock star: “Son I’ve seen it all, and it’s not what you think the demons are out tonight.” He follows that with “When the Night Was Young,” a soft-rock platter with a strong melodic hook and lyric: “We had dreams when the night was young; we were believers when the night was young we could change the world.” Robertson includes a revealing song about the Band going solo years ago, aptly titled “This Is Where I Get Off.”

Robertson’s voice is no longer young but no less pleasing, and a little help from his friends — Clapton, Steve Winwood, Trent Reznor — is a fine bonus.

His voice is no longer young but no less pleasing.

TV on the Radio
Marches On
By Brett Uddenberg

Most rock acts would be brought to their knees by a whispering sound system. While the unflattering acoustics of 4th&b could have spoiled the evening, Tunde Ademibie and his TV on the Radio cohorts are too talented to not put on a great show. Their set list featured classics such as “Wolf Like Me” along with newer tunes from Nine Types of Light, “Will Do” and “No Future Shock.”

The Brooklyn-based band’s energy peaked with a stellar rendition of “Red Dress” from 2009’s Dear Science. Ademibie and fellow frontman Kyp Malone powered through the dissonance and distortion, and delivered the infectious melodies that the sweat-soaked dance floor demanded.

It’s hard to imagine what it must be like for TVOTR to be playing this run of shows on the heels of bassist Gerard Smith’s death. Touring behind their most commercially successful album to date, it’s tragic that Smith doesn’t get to bask in the glow. His band mates march on to his lingering bass.

Concert: TV on the Radio
Date: May 13
Venue: 4th&b
Seats: General admission

Music Reviews from Our Readers

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July 1 — Cattle Decapitation.
July 2 — Corey Cottrell.
July 9 — Tribal Seeds.
July 15 — Tamer Your Dead.
July 16 — In Fear & Faith.
July 17 — Greedley Estates.
July 23 — Breakbread Carolina.
July 31 — Dredg.
September 2 — Explosions in the Sky.
October 26 — Deadmau5.

**Spreckels Organ Pavilion:**
July 7 — Dixie Express Jazz Band.
July 13 — Cool Fever.
July 14 — The San Diego Six.
July 19 — Ron Jermain Band.
July 20 — Hillcrest Wind Ensemble.
July 21 — Uncle Bob & The Earthernmovers.
July 26 — The Bayou Brothers.
July 27 — The Cockroaches.
August 2 — San Diego Concert Band.
August 3 — Kearny Mesa Concert Band.
August 4 — Diamond Is Forever.

**Spreckels Park:**
601 Orange Ave., Carlsbad.
July 1 — Yo Mama’s Big Fat Booty Band.
July 8 — B-Side Players.
July 9 — Earthmovers.
July 10 — The Stilettos.
July 14 — Dixie Express Jazz Band.
July 20 — Toots & the Maytals.
July 24 — Charlie Chavez y su Afrotruko.

**Show Room:**
3500 Sports Arena Blvd., Midway Valley View Casino Center:
August 6 — Ramon Ayala.
August 21 — Liquid Blue.
August 28 — Diamond Is Forever.

**Spreckels Organ Pavilion:**
143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach
415-382-6969.
July 22 — Appetite for Illusions
July 21 — Kut U Up Reunion
July 20 — Better Chemistry
July 19 — Ky-Mani Marley
July 17 — The Beautiful Girls & Mishka
July 16 — The Mutaytor
July 15 — Steely Damned
July 14 — Better Chemistry
July 13 — Seun Kuti and Egypt 80 w/ JR Toots
July 12 — 70’s vs 80’s w/ The Pettybreakers
July 9 — Stepping Feet
July 7 — The New Mastersounds
July 6 — The New Archaic
July 3 — The Stilettos
July 2 — Toots & The Maytals
July 1 — Yo Mama’s Big Fat Booty Band
July 8 — B-Side Players

**Spreckels Park:**
601 Orange Ave., Carlsbad.
July 1 — Yo Mama’s Big Fat Booty Band.
July 8 — B-Side Players.

**Stagecoach Park:**
3420 Camino de los Coches, Carlsbad.
July 1 — Yo Mama’s Big Fat Booty Band.
July 8 — B-Side Players.

**Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre:**
5669 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002.
July 16 — Ramon Ayala.
August 6 — Herman’s Hermits.

**Tin Can Ale House:**
1863 Fifth Ave., Bankers Hill, 619-955-8525.
July 2 — Primitive Noyes and Colony.
The Tower Bar:
4757 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0158.
July 1 — The Amandas.

**Town Center Community Park:**
Riverwalk and Park Center Dr., Santee.
June 30 — The Corvettes.
July 14 — Three-Chord Justice.
July 21 — Bill Magee Blues Band.
July 28 — Phat Cat Swinger.
August 4 — The Alley Cats.
August 11 — Clay Colton Band.
August 18 — Cat-Illacs.

**Valley View Casino Center:**
August 9 — Katy Perry.
August 20 — Selena Gomez.
October 20 — Taylor Swift.

**Viejas Arena:**
5500 Canyon Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
August 16 — Josh Groban.
September 22 — Marc Anthony.
October 17 — The Foo Fighters.

**Viejas Casino DreamCatcher Show Room:**
5000 Willow's Way, Alpine, 619-442-5400.
September 1 — The Human League and Men Without Hats.
HAPPY HOUR

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ALPINE

Alpine Inn: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $2.50 drafts, $3.75 wells, house wine, lounge. Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers.

BAY PARK

Offshore: Tuesday-Thursday, 4-7pm: $3 domestics, $3 sangria, well drinks, house margaritas. Lounge only. Thursday, 3-7pm: 1/2-off appetizers.

BANKERS HILL

Avenue 5: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-8pm: $2 off wines by the glass; $2 off draft beers & wells. 1/2-off appetizers.

BONITA

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah: Tuesday-Saturday, all night: $1 off all drinks.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Conway’s Irish Pub: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:30pm: 1/2-off imports & domestics. $5 domestic & Mexican pints, $4 house margaritas. Lounge only.

CARAMILLL VALLEY

Arteena: Daily, 4-8pm: $5 barrel-aged classics, $4 house margaritas. 1/2-off appetizers.

CHULA VISTA

905 Sushi: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.25 Bud Light, Corona, $4 large Kirin, Sapporo, sake, 1/2-off appetizers.

CITY HEIGHTS

Black Cat Bar: Monday-Friday, 5-9pm: $3.50 import drafts, $2 PBR cans, $5 martinis.

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Boomerangs Gourmet Burrito Joint: Daily, 4-7pm: Discounted draft beer. $3.50 house wine.

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California Kebab: Daily, 4-8pm: $2 Heineken, Sam Adams, $5 Coors Light pitchers, $6 sangria carafes.

Pal Joey’s: Daily, all day: $3 personal pitchers.

CORONADO

Candelas on the Bay: Daily, 4-6pm: 1/2-off drinks & bar menu.

DEL MAR

Del Mar Renovados: Wednesday-Sunday, 1/2-off select bottles of wine.

DOWNTOWN

400 West: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4 domestic & Mexican pints, $5 Coors Light bottles. 1/2-off appetizers.

THE PRADO

Alpine Inn: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $4 calls. $2.50 drafts, $3.50 wells, house wine, 1/2-off appetizers.

Stage Saloon: Daily, 5-8pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.

Time Out Sports Bar: Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 16-ounce draft Time Out Lager, Bud, Bud Light, Sam Adams, $3.50 1/2-off appetizers. Thursday, all day: Thrifty Thursdays: Buy one pitcher, get second 1/2 off.

EAST VILLAGE

Hive Sushi Lounge: Daily, 5-7pm: $2 domestic, $4 micro, $2.50 highballs.

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

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

House of Blues: Daily, 4-7pm: $2 drafts, $3 wells, $4 martinis. 25% off lunch on the patio Monday-Friday 11:30am-4pm.

Patrick’s II: Daily, 3-7pm: $2.50 bottle beer, $3 wells, Bud Light pints, $4 calls, margaritas, bloody marys.

Sapphire 18+: Lounge & Hookah: Daily, 5-7pm: $2.50 call, $3.50 well.

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Erik Stage, owner of the Stage in the heart of the Gaslamp, calls the venue “three floors of entertainment in our haunted house of corridors and mezzanines.” In its third year, the Stage recently underwent a facelift, including new lights, sound system, and flooring.

“We’re trying to create a venue for all types of acts to perform for the busy Fifth Avenue Gaslamp market,” says Stage, “a good mix of bands and DJs with occasional surprises.”

Sure, the Gaslamp is Babylon, but to the Stage’s credit, the bar mixes up the vibe with a range of live music, including reggae, blues, rock, metal, and just about every other genre you might expect from a bar whose aesthetic hinges upon Flying V guitars, a pirate flag, and broken crash cymbals affixed to red brick walls. Thursdays feature a live early-era Van Halen tribute band from 8:30 to 10, followed by dubstep DJs until close.

As part of the regular Seismic night, renowned Los Angeles-via-San Diego DJ 6 BLOCk smashed realities a couple of weeks ago with ruthless dubstep drops shrouded in piped fog and laser beams from the eponymous stage, which is covered in leopard print. Prerecorded go-go dancers spun on a flat screen while another screen explored an animated solar system over the full bar. Downstairs, a DJ mixed drum-and-bass to a small crowd. A lone stripper pole beckoned from the middle of the dance floor. The third floor held an intimate lounge, closed and apparently being remodeled, which overlooked the central stage and dance floor. On the more economical end of the Gaslamp scene, the Stage offers a small selection of domestics ($5) and imports ($6), both bottled, or the ever-tasteful Pabst Blue Ribbon tall can for a whopping $7.

The Stage’s website toutsthe byline “Live music venue and Tennessee BBQ,” but for now the menu is limited to classic bar-food selections. Stage recommends their “famous San Diego burrito,” an adaptation of the California burrito. “It is the ‘anticorporate bar,’” says Stage. “No suits here!”

Find more stories by Chad Deal at SDReader.com/deal
San Diego Reader June 2, 2011

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 members. Ask at the box office.

Amadeus
As part of its Shakespeare Festival 2011, the Old Globe Theatre stages Peter Shaffer’s drama about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, genius, and Antonio Salieri, genius wannabe.

Adrian Noble directed [Note: Amadeus runs in repertory with The Tempest and Much Ado About Nothing].

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM DAILY, EXCEPT MONDAYS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22.

Death of a Salesman
For 34 years, Willy Loman lied his way into the American Dream. In Arthur Miller’s drama, the walls tumble down. New Village Arts’ staging boasts three fine performances: Jeff Anthony Miller’s Ben, the rich uncle, is an epic marm’s janitor killed in the fire of 1843! 760-489-2496.

MIKKI’S CAFE, 1639 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 5:30PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25.

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A war of wits might turn into love in the Bard's comedy Much Ado About Nothing, now at the Globe. (John Cariani as Dogberry and Michael Stewart Allen as Borachio)

Rick Meads has a lark as Hill (and suggests throughout that he's really a preacher, his sermon is belief in the imagination, and he's conducting a secular revival). As Marian the Librarian, Sandy Campbell is special. Her beautifully clear voice illuminates everything she sings. The fine ensemble cast takes up six pages in the program (but never seems cluttered on stage). Designer Jeanne Keith decks them all for a summer in Iowa. Mike Buckley's white picket set is efficient to the point of eloquence. Critic's Pick. LAMM’S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0860. 7:30PM TUESDAYS THROUGH THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 8PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JULY 24.

The Tempest
As part of its 2011 Shakespeare Festival, the Old Globe Theatre presents the Bard’s late comedy, in which Prospero can enact revenge on his enemies or, “the rarer action,” forgive them. Adrian Noble directed. [Note The Tempest runs in repertory with Much Ado About Nothing and Amadeus]. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK, 619-234-5623. 8PM DAILY, EXCEPT MONDAYS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 25.

Why Torture is Wrong and the People Who Love Them
North Park Vaudeville presents Christopher Durang’s latest play, a satire on America’s “growing hemorrhage of innocence.” NORTH PARK VAUDELVE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BL., NORTH PARK, 619-267-4056. 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, THROUGH JULY 9.

mIXtAPE
Jon Lorenz and Colleen Kollar Smith, creators of this revue of 1980s music, say that favorite songs “mark your memories.” mIXtAPE is a longish evening but performed with rampant energy and polish by an eight-person cast. Memory-triggers zip past: Pet Rocks, Pac-Man, Nelson Mandela, AIDS. The musical has a 2010 radar-blip attention span. Mostly the songs are mere song-bytes. Showcasing a full number (like Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believin’”) would help. But backed by Amy Ingenohl’s versatile band and under Kerry Meads’s feisty direction, mIXtAPE is always entertaining — and memory-provoking. (Note: Lamb’s Players has extended the run several times.) Worth a try. HORTON GRAND HOTEL, 311 ISLAND AVE., DOWNTOWN. 800-542-1886. 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS AND THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 4.

Ten Cent Night
Hewitt Finley, who wrote the country song “Ten Cent Night,” committed suicide. Those who knew him can’t decide which — the song or the suicide — was the best thing he ever did. His children reunite, in Marisa Wegrzyn’s offbeat comedy, and dysfunction reigns. Sometimes in the longish script as well, since her plotting tends to have a monster hit on its hands. It’s too bad Lamb’s Players couldn’t put its near future on hold. It looks like a hit on its hands. Don just keeps shooting himself in the foot. His solution? Get a bigger gun. Worth a try. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 20455 POMEROADO RD., SCRIPPS RANCH, 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, THROUGH JUNE 25.

Swimming in the Shallows
Barb wants to prune her possessions. But her husband, a model consumer, replaces them. Other residents of Twig Beach, Rhode Island, are in disconnect. Carla Carla won’t marry Donna until she quits smoking. Nick falls in love too quickly. Even with a mako shark. On paper, Adam Bock’s comedy shows spunk. But the episodic series of “how to” skits can’t decide whether to be cool, crazy, or plain old cute. Carla Nell and InnerMission Productions usually feast on this kind of material. But like the play, the staging never finds a workable style. The one that doesn’t work best involves their main characters, actors morph as well. Like musical chairs, when songs change, the actors morph as well. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-237-4510. 8PM THURSDAYS THROUGH SUNDAY, 7PM SUNDAY, THROUGH JUNE 26.

Ten Cent Night
Hewitt Finley, who wrote the country song “Ten Cent Night,” committed suicide. Those who knew him can’t decide which — the song or the suicide — was the best thing he ever did. His children reunite, in Marisa Wegrzyn’s offbeat comedy, and dysfunction reigns. Sometimes in the longish script as well, since her plotting tends to run away from her. The Moxie production, directed by Delicia Todd, is a rough hewn Florida, flushes out sketchy roles where they can. As do Jennifer Brawn Gitting’s precise, often hilarious costumes. Karen St. John, a Craig Noel Award winner often hilarious costumes. Karson St. John, a Craig Noel Award winner, about sisters “under Man-in-the-Moon Silverdews.” Debra Gilmour Smyth, who directed. “raw aftermath of heartbreak.” Hart of the West Coast, a new, “collaborative community-based” theater, presents Katherine Harroff’s comedy, which pokes fun at the “raw aftermath of heartbreak.” Harroff directed. TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 900 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-237-4510. 8PM SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, AND WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JULY 11.

The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds
The INDEPENDent Players present Paul Zindel’s Pulitzer Prize-winner about sisters “under the lock and key of their abusive alcoholic mother.” Brad Ashten directed. 310-569-8433. CARLSBAD PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY, 6203 AVENIDA ENCINAS, SUITE F. CARLSBAD. 760-438-4947. 8PM THURSDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS, THROUGH JULY 2.

The Laramie Project
For one performance only, Cygnet Theatre hosts a staged reading of Moises Kaufman and the Tectonic Theatre’s collage about the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard and its aftermath. Kim Strassburger directed. CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWAGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-237-1525. 8PM SATURDAY.

The Music Man
It’s too bad Lamb’s Players couldn’t put its near future on hold. It looks like a monster hit on its hands. This Music Man could run until the cows trundle home. The original played at the Majestic Theatre, one of Broadway’s largest. In Lamb’s relatively smaller space, the trombones still blare, but the more intimate staging — expert direction by Deborah Gilmour Smyth and choreography, Kollen Kollar Smith — coaxes out nuances and details that make the familiar feel brand-new. Ablaze with rap-like riffs and Souza-marching steps,
Hey, Focus!

“Seven minutes in, I’m out of my seat and half out of my mind.”

June 8, 2011

A

n open letter to Gerry Lopez, CEO and President AMC Entertainment:

Mr. Gerardo “Gerry” Lopez, CEO and President AMC Entertainment, Inc. 106 W. 14th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105

Hello Gerry,

Would it upset you to discover someone is sabotaging your theaters by representing them in a manner that isn’t in your best interest? I’m guessing, “Yes.”

If a major movie-studio invests tens of millions of dollars and many months or years in creating a product that ends up dark and/or out of focus on one of your screens, should the studio be upset? You bet.

The food chain starts at “action” and ends at the multiplex. If what the director wanted and got — and shipped to the theater — doesn’t show up on the screen, it is either the fault of the exhibitor or a bumbling lab technician.

According to your company perspectives, “AMC Theatres has changed the way people watch movies by transforming the experience into an adventure.” I was at one of your complexes the other morning and, sure as it’s summer at the movies, the adventure continues.

My week kicked off in the back end of your Fashion Valley depot. Auditorium 15 is a small, efficient bunker where just two weeks earlier I witnessed a sparkling digital presentation of The Tree of Life. By now, it’s certain that someone has brought to your attention Ty Burr’s Boston Globe piece concerning illumination problems in AMC theaters resulting from a misuse of 3-D lenses on Sony 4K projectors. While the foot-lamberts appeared to meet industry standards, Monday morning’s presentation was anything but brilliant.

As a former theater manager, I know that it’s not the audience’s job to spend precious movie-going time in search of an attendant to fix a focus problem. The second the white credits hit the black background, something appeared out of whack. I flagged a security guard, who said he’d “get right on it.” Five minutes later, the same guard assured me the problem was fixed.

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Dig A Hole: Clarence Clemons
By Scott Marks — June 19, 11:45 a.m.

Director Jill Godmilow Reads The Big Screen!
By Scott Marks — June 18, 9:22 p.m.

Review: Mr. Popper’s Penguins
By Matthew Lickona — June 17, 4:35 p.m.

Warner Bros. Uses Military Families to Hype Green Lantern
By Scott Marks — June 17, 1:58 p.m.

American Artifact Documentary Celebrates Concert Poster Art
By Jay Allen Sanford — June 16, 11:31 p.m.

Roundup: Look Out, Peter Sarsgaard in Green Lantern
By Matthew Lickona — June 17, 1:20 p.m.

Jeff Lipsky, Writer-Director of Twelve Thirty
By Scott Marks — June 16, 7:01 p.m.

Read these and other breaking movie stories at SDReader.com/big-screen

EVERY FATHER WANTS MORE FOR HIS SON.

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF ABOUT A BOY

EVERY FATHER WANTS MORE FOR HIS SON

SAN DIEGO WEEKLY

Reader

ENTER TO WIN TICKETS TO AN ADVANCE SCREENING OF

A BETTER LIFE

From the Director of About A Boy.

TO ENTER, VISIT SDREADER.COM AND CLICK “CONTESTS.”

DEADLINE TO ENTER IS FRIDAY, JULY 1ST AT 1:00PM.

IN THEATERS IN SAN DIEGO JULY 8TH.

Every Father Wants More for His Son.

From the Director of About A Boy.

To enter, visit sdreader.com and click “Contests.”

Deadline to enter is Friday, July 1st at 1:00pm.

This film is rated PG-13. Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Please note: Passes received through this promotion do not guarantee you a seat at the theatre. Seating is on a first come, first served basis, except for members of the reviewing press. Theatre is unreserved to ensure a full house. No admittance once screening has begun. All federal, state and local regulations apply. A recipient of tickets assumes any and all risks related to use of ticket, and accepts any restrictions required by ticket provider. Summit Entertainment, San Diego Reader and their affiliates accept no responsibility or liability in connection with any loss or accident incurred in connection with use of a prize. Tickets cannot be exchanged, transferred or redeemed for cash, in whole or in part. We are not responsible if, for any reason, recipient is unable to use his/her ticket in whole or in part. All federal and local taxes are the responsibility of the winner. Void where prohibited by law. No purchase necessary. Participating sponsors, their employees and family members and their agencies are not eligible. NO PHONE CALLS!

IN THEATERS IN SAN DIEGO JULY 8TH.
was reported.

Tick, tick, tick...

Seven minutes in, I’m out of my seat and half out of my mind. I am an ineffectual-theater-manager’s worst nightmare. Don’t expect me to be chipper when I am forced to leave my seat for the third time and take a jaunt from the back end of a multiplex, up the temporarily out-of-service escalator, and to the main floor to find the manager on duty. Make that, “managers.” There were two.

“It’s digital,” I told. “We can’t focus. It’s all internal.”

I wasn’t sure about this until the following day when I was introduced to “George Kaplan” (he asks that I not use his real name), a budding journalist and former projectionist who is well-versed in AMC booth procedure. Once I was blind, and now I see. George was at Monday morning’s Fashion Valley fiasco and assured me that I was not alone in my disdain for the fuzzy presentation.

George set me straight: Once a Sony 4K projector is calibrated, there is no way to adjust the focus. He pointed me to the Alamo Drafthouse blog: “When the (3-D) image leaves the lens of the projector, it passes through a polarizing filter in front of the lens.” The projectionist failed to remove the polarizing filters from in front of the lens for 2-D screenings, thus accounting for the focus problem.

Here is something even more troubling. The auditorium in question also showed the new 2-D X-Men sequel all weekend to the paying public. The focus issue remained the same, yet nobody complained until I barked at them Monday morning!

In 2007, your revenue totaled $2.5 billion, with a net income of $134 million. I know you train your staff on the art of popping corn and filling soft-drink cups with glaciers. Why not spend a few dollars training them in the art of visual presentation? If only you could fill our eyes in the same gratifying manner that you do our bellies.

They’re turning up the heat on you, Gerry. Even Terrence Malick’s private letter, instructing projectionists on the proper manner in which to present The Tree of Life, went public. Aren’t you tired of hearing people say, “The picture looks better in my living room?” Do you want to see an end to film-going as we know it? Few people are in a position of power to make a change. Step up to the plate and prove your mettle.

I left several messages with your PR underlings, to no avail. Until you have the problems straightened out, I suggest that you alert your manag-

ers that they should only book press screenings in 2-D houses and remove all filters before each screening. It sounds like you could use someone to travel from theater to theater to investigate and weed out projection problems. I’ll check my availability.

Drive safely,
Scott Marks

Reviewed in this week’s movie capsules: Cars 2, City of Life and Death, Conan O’Brien Can’t Stop, Green Lantern, Mr. Popper’s Penguins, The Last Godfather, Submarine, and 3 Backyards.

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by David Elliott, Matthew Luckona, John Babbo, Scott Marks, and 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.

The Art of Getting By — As a bright, depressed teen slacking through his grad year at prep school, former child star Fred Highmore still gets closeups that follow him like fawning groupies. He and sexy Emma Roberts cooly play “just friends,” as the story dawdles. Gavin Wiesen directed this Highmore showcase, with not enough art to get by convincingly. The charming teen desparately gets modest help from Sam Robards, Blair Underwood, Rita Wilson, and Sasha Spielberg (Steven’s daughter). 2011. — D.E. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20)

Bad Teacher — Jake Kasdan’s comedy about rival middle-school teachers (Cameron Diaz, Justin Timberlake). The educational humor includes a bowel movement said to be explosive. With Jason Segel, Lucy Punch, Phylicia Smith. (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANSIDE 16; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 8; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 6/24)

Beginners — When writer-director Mike Mills isn’t flashing ondes of perky technique and “stylish” doodads (drawings, meet-cutes, old news clips, vintage music), his talented cast inserts human value and charm into this tale of a nice, lonely gay (Ewan McGregor) who lost his suddenly gay, then dead dad (Christopher Plummer) and finds love with a free-minded beauty (Melanie Laurent). Facile but enjoyable, blockbuster and grating, the movie includes Plummer’s Jack Russell terrier Arthur, perhaps the friskiest movie pooch since Bogart’s Pard in High Sierra, or at least Richard Dreyfuss’s Mattie in Down and Out in Beverly Hills. 2011. — D.E. ★★★ (HILLCREST)

Bridesmaids — A raunchy comedy with integrity from star and cowriter Kristen Wiig. The movie is unquestionably from a female perspective, a quality that is pervasive but never exclusive. Wiig plays Annie, a heart-ravaged, recession-broken middle-ager struggling to maintain an emotional parallel with her best friend whose life is on the up-and-up. The chief area of contention is the latter’s upcoming nuptials, for which Annie is the maid of honor. Wiig achieves a splendid vulnerability. Some moments miss the mark, but overall the movie maintains a genuine spirit. 2011. — J.R. ★★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; TOWN SQUARE 14)

Buck — A great documentary portrait. Buck Brannaman, inspiration and advisor for Robert Redford’s The Horse Whisperer, seems able to get inside horses on an intu-itive, spiritual level, gentling the animals (except one that is dangerously crazy) as he teaches them and their owed owners. A survivor of paternal brutality, Buck is a real hero, without airs, and has a plain-spun directness laced with charming humor. Even if you never ride horses, Cindy Mead’s beautifully crafted movie is worth sadding up for, an equine and humane essay in life as cogently honest as Budd Boetticher’s classic Westerns. 2011. — D.E. ★★★ (HILLCREST)

Cars 2 — For all the kinetic vroom, the imagination is static. 3-D can do little for a
story this flat, as the cute Pixar cars get involved in a Grand Prix race and Bond-like thrills. When the animators rely so much on sparkly verbiage, we know their ‘toon tank is basically empty. This loud, gaudy rush of clichés includes some famous voices (Owen Wilson, Michael Caine), and the hot-racing hero car, Lightning McQueen, reminds some of us how bored we were by Steve McQueen’s 1969 racing movie Le Mans. 2011. — D.E.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 19; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 24; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VILLAGE HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANSIDE 16; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 10; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; TOWN SQUARE 14; VILLAGE THEATER; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 6/24)

Cave of Forgotten Dreams — Intrigued auteur Werner Herzog goes with a tiny crew into the Chauvet cave in France, otherwise visited only by scientists for a brief time each year. His camera and imagination feast on the sculpturally elaborate caverns, the bone-covered floors, the amazingly vivid Cro-Magnon paintings of animals. Typically, the narrating Herzog has to mention cinema, Wagner, Fred Astaire, even Vivien Leigh. But this mural of havoc — a Japanese soldier in black-and-white, the panic, rapes, and black-and-white, the panic, rapes, and Soviet-Nazi hell in Russia. In cold, ashen thousands, see Nazimova’s Come and Sce did for the Soviet-Nazi hell in Russia. In cold, ashen black-and-white, the panic, rapes, and atrocities pile up, along with some heroic Chinese resistance. Attempts to personalize this mural of havoc — a Japanese soldier brings presents to an enslaved woman, a German businessman feels bad about leaving behind his servants — are dramatically both poignant and primitive. Surprising is the attempt to fathom the Japanese Army’s proud, cruel code of behavior, which includes a solemn victory parade and one guilty officer. (For better details on the German Nazi factory rep who helped save thousands, see Nankong and John Kaja). 2011. — D.E.

★★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 6/24)

Conan O’Brien Can’t Stop — Late-night deity Conan O’Brien is such a good scout that he’ll stop at nothing short of washing the feet of lier’s to win you over in Rodman Flender’s Eyepopping, shoot-now-figure-it-out-later documentary. Taped during a concert tour that took place between the time NBC dropped O’Brien and TBS picked him up, they could just as easily have called this Conan O’Brien Can’t Sing, but That Doesn’t Stop Him. Strictly for fans or those who don’t have cable or a DVD player. 2011. — S.M.

● (KEN; FROM 6/24)

Green Lantern — Ryan Reynolds’ neat ‘n’ tidy physique, plunked down into a garish and unctuous superhero movie. The story makes much of the character’s mythological underpinnings, then chuck’s ‘em for the sake of Daddy issues and growing up. Oh, and there’s a girl. But the bag bad thing that threatens the universe is suitably big and bad, and the final battle has the good sense to keep from dragging on past the point of entertainment. 2011. — M.L.

★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; CHULA VISTA 10; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 19; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; HORTON PLAZA 24; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VILLAGE HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANSIDE 16; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 10; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; Santee Drive In; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTAS VILLAGE)

The Hangover Part II — Director Todd Phillips reenacts his hit comedy The Hangover — a story about bachelor-party boys who wake up with an absent friend and no memory of the night before. — only this time it’s bigger, louder, dumber, and completely joyless. (Original touch: a cute little monkey who smokes, deals drugs, and performs fellatio.) As part of the generally upped ante, the search for the missing buddy starts off with a severed finger. But the real problem is a missing heart.

2011. — M.L.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

I Am — Tom Shadyac, director of such comedy hits as Ace Ventura: Pet Detective and Liar, Liar, did not find laughter the best medicine after a bad accident sank him into depression, and his lavish lifestyle was no consolation. He turned to wiser souls and made this benign tract using clips and interviews (the famous include Desmond Tutu, Noam Chomsky, Howard Zinn). It’s against material consumerism, aggressive competition, and dumb conformity. It’s for nature, holistic synergy, and universal cooperation. It is hopeful about New Age science (“particle entanglement,” etc.) and vague about cultural and political obstacles. The likeable Shadyac, having simplified his life, seems happy. 2011. — D.E.

★★ (GASLAMP 15; LA PALOMA)

Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer — Bright colors, ‘toony graphics, abundant closeups — mostly of adorable redhaired Judy (Jordanana Reedy, soon to be filmed as fabled Eloise of the Plaza Hotel). She is like a typhoon sugar high, her kid brother is named Stink, and Aunt Opal (Heather Graham) is also juvenile. The ancestral muse is Pee-Wee Herman, the source is Megan McDonald’s novels, the high point may be a garish barf-up on a roller coaster. Okay fun for its demographic. 2011. — D.E.

★★ (MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

Korkoro — The title means “liberty.” The story’s Roma (Gypsies) feel their nomadic freedom being trapped in rural Vichy, France, as Nazis tighten the noose. Local bigots want them eradicated, but some citizens realize that their spirit incarnates, in primal form, the freedom that France has lost. Tony Gatlif continues his cycle of richly sited, ethnically juicy, musically vital films about Roma life, this time more tragic. Mathias Laliberté is the appealing boy helped by the Roma clan, and James Thérèère, grandson of Charles Chaplin, has a raffish edge of mad mischief that heightens the tension. 2011. — D.E.

★★ (GASLAMP 15)

Mr. Popper’s Penguins — Yes, it’s a Mr. Popper car vehicle about a wisecracking mermaid who captivates the attention of a confident and neat observations, but director-writer Richard Ayoade often falls back on flashy technique. The depressing use of the latest zit-pop of adolescent angst is that Hawkins, involving and alive in Happy-GO-Lucky, does a crafty trick, and Taylor, remembering her young Hitler in Max, is even dumber. 2011. — D.E.

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MOVIE SHOWTIMES

3D (PG-13) Fri. - Tue. 12:00 AM, Bad Teacher (R) Fri. - Tue. 10:30 AM, 12:50, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45; Cars 2 in Disney Digital 3D (PG) Fri. - Mon. 10:00 AM, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Stephen Sondheim's Company (NR) Sun. 3:30 PM, Green Lantern 3D (PG-13) Fri. - Tue. 10:20 AM, 1:15, 4:05, 7:00, 10:10; Mr. Popper's Penguins (PG) Fri. - Tue. 10:00 AM, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, 10:10, X-Men: First Class (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 10:40 AM, 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20; Sun. 10:40 AM, 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20; Mon. & Tue. 10:40 AM, 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:20; Bridesmaids (R) Fri. 10:50 AM, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:50; Thomas & Friends: Hero of the Rails (G) Sat. & Sun. 10:30 AM

UP TOWN

Landmark Hillcrest
J965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Page One: Inside The New York Times (R) Opens Friday, July 1

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1333)
Bears In IMAX (Not Rated) Fri. 8:00 P.M., Born To Be Wild IMAX (G) Fri. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00 Sun., Sat. 11:00, 12:00, 2:00,

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON
Regal Parkway Plaza
405 Parkway Plaza (619-403-3436)
Call before you program information.

LA MESA
Reading Grossmont
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264)
Cars 2 opens Friday June 24!

REGAL SANTÉE
SANTEE Drive In
9999 Woodside Avenue (629-448-7427)
Green Lantern 3D

SAN DIEGO

RANCHO SAN DIEGO
Regal Rancho San Diego
2951 Sanacito Road (665-326-3264)
Bad Teacher (R) Fri. (11:00, 1:45, 2:15, 4:30, 5:00) 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30, Sat-Sun. (11:00, 1:45, 2:15) 4:30, 5:00, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 10:30, Bridesmaids (R) Fri. (1:15, 4:10) 7:50, 10:50 Sat-Sun. (1:15) 4:10, 7:50, 10:50; Cars 2 (G) Fri. (10:45, 11:45, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:45, 10:45; Cars 2 in Disney Digital 3D (G) Fri. (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sat-Sun. (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; Green Lantern (PG-13) Fri. (11:10, 1:50, 4:50) 7:40, 10:25 Sat-Sun. (11:10, 1:50) 4:30, 7:40, 10:25; Green Lantern 3D (PG-13) Fri. (10:50, 1:35, 4:20) 7:10, 9:35, Sat-Sun. (10:50, 1:35) 4:20, 7:10, 9:35, The Hangover Part II (R) Fri. (11:50, 2:20, 5:00) 8:00, 10:40 Sat-Sun. (11:50, 2:20) 5:00, 8:05, 10:40; Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) Fri. (11:20, 1:40, 4:00) 6:30, 9:30 Sat-Sun. (11:20, 1:40) 4:00, 6:30, 9:30, Midnight in Paris (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (10:50, 1:25, 4:15) 6:45, 9:35 Sat-Sun. (11:05, 1:15, 4:25) 6:45, 9:35, Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:30, 3:00) 7:05, 10:05; Super 8 (PG-13) Fri. (11:20, 2:00, 4:40) 7:25, 10:00 Sat-Sun. (11:20, 2:00) 4:40, 7:25, 10:05; X-Men: First Class (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:30, 3:35) 7:20, 10:35

SOUTHBAY

CHULA VISTA
AMC Palm Promenade
270 Democracy Road (888-262-4386)
Bad Teacher; Bridesmaids; Green Lantern; The Hangover Part II; Kung Fu Panda 2; Mr. Popper's Penguins; Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides; Super 8; X-Men: First Class Cars 2: An IMAX 3D Experience (G) Fri-Sun. (11:45) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45

Regal Rancho Del Rey
1025 Tierra Del Rey (off East H Street) (619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information.

UltraStar Chula Vista
Broadway between H and I (619-338-2414)

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2630 Via De La Valle
Movie Line: 858-646-9425
Mission Valley Hazard Center
7510 Hazard Center Drive
Movie Line: 619-685-2841

Bonsall River Village
5256 S. Mission Rd.
Movie Line: 760-945-8784
Poway Creekside
13475 Poway Rd.
Movie Line: 858-646-9423

UltraStar Chula Vista
10
555 Broadway #2050
Movie Line: 619-338-4214
Oceanside Mission Marketplace
431 College Blvd.
Movie Line: 760-806-1790
light-entranced imagery wraps sensual sites around people whose feelings often fail to find words: an alienated husband (Elias Koteas), a chipper housewife (Edie Falco) frustrated by a troubled actress (Embeth Davidz) who refuses her help, a pretty African émigré (Dania Gurita) looking for a job. Also a little girl, a disturbed man, a lost dog. They intersect in enigmatic but touching ways, and the mystery of connection remains. Fine acting, deft direction, and busy but subtle music by Michael Nicholas create what almost seems a wistful waltz by the ghosts of Antonioni and Updike. 2011. — D.E.

The Tree of Life — In only his fifth film in 38 years, eye-of-God director Terrence Malick wraps the pains of a family in ’50s Texas (partly based on his youth) in a bloated burrito of suffocating pomposity.

Twelve Thirty — A young man loses his virginity to the woman of his dreams, only to turn around and deflower her younger sister...before finally being shown a good time by their divorced mother. The only thing separating writer-director Jeff Lipsky’s low-budget, tripod-free, string-of-dialogue scenes from mumblecore is a non-improvised, overly elaborate script. In spite of its obvious shortcomings, the melodramatic downward-thrust and unexpected moments of frank desperation these characters are forced to endure eventually won me over. With Jonathan Groff, Ma-mie Gummer, Portia Reiners, and Karen Young. 2011. — S.M.

Water for Elephants — Hal Holbrook doesn’t quite steal the show as the old-man-remembering-verse of pretty Robert Pattinson in this love story set in the days when a traveling circus was still enough to inspire wonder. No, the real thief is Christoph Waltz, who gives a monster performance as the circus owner, ringleader, and controlling husband of pretty Reese Witherspoon (doing her best Jean Harlow). One might even go so far as to call Waltz the real star here, except folks don’t go in for tragedy these days. 2011. — M.L.

X-Men: First Class — An ambitious superhero movie, one wanting to invoke the Holocaust in its treatment of a feared and persecuted minority. This time it’s mutants instead of Jews, except for one mutant who is also a Jew, and who is looking to avenge his mother’s death at the hands of the Nazis, one of whom is also a mutant. Sadly, the proceedings get bogged down by the parallel story of teenage mutants struggling with their “gifts” and by sloppy execution all ’round. Not sloppy: the prequel’s fanboy devotion to getting up what we all know comes later. 2011. — M.L.

★ ★ ★ (GALSPAMP 15)
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AIDE NEEDED. Female only! Get me up, make breakfast, 1 hour in morning, 1 hour in afternoon, 1 hour at night, Saturday and Sundays. $8/hour. Friendly, easygoing references. Own transportation. Ramona area. Non-smoking. 760-788-5859.

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DRIVER. Class C Driver, Bobtail/Truck. Strictly a part-time job. Expect to work 2-3 days a week, 8am-5pm, Monday through Friday. Independent contractor, immediate need. Male or female, some physical lifting required. 888-664-4621. www.visitingangels.com/sanleandro.


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Female amateur exotic models also needed, will train: $8.75/hour. Call Jennifer, 760-643-9394.

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Directors needed for the new film and television industry. Must be willing to relocate to San Diego. Fulltime: 3-4 stops per day, 8am-5pm. Parttime: 2 stops per day, 8am-5pm. Call Alex at 619-562-6330 or fax 619-562-9265.

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For more information, please visit www.RanchoValencia.com/careers for driving directions, please go to www.ranchovalencia.com/resort/directions

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SALES

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SALES

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• Knowledge of the San Diego North County Inland area is a plus
• Fast delivery experience preferred
• Use your own vehicle. Truck helpful, but not required.
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Website: www.PacificCollege.edu

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MEDIA TECH INSTITUTE. Train for an exciting and lucrative career in Film and/or Audio Engineering at the industry-leading MediaTech Institute. Hands-on courses at our state-of-the-art facility prepare students to become top-notch recording engineers or filmakers. 352 Oceanview Boulevard, Oceanacca, California 92054. Visit: Mediatech.edu or call: 760-231-5388. www.MediaTech.edu.


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Career placement assistance | Financial aid available for those who qualify

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KAPLAN COLLEGE

San Diego Reader June 23, 2011 103
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San Diego Reader June 28, 2011

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San Diego Reader June 23, 2011 105
OPEN LETTERS by Jory John & Avery Monsen ©2011

Dear Tiny Hairs Sprouting Between my Eyebrows,

I see you, Tiny Hairs. You’re on the move and I don’t like it one bit. Why couldn’t you just be happy being two distinct eyebrows, with an aesthetically pleasing gap between? You got greedy, that’s why. You wanted more face-territory, like tiny, hairy pioneers. Well, turn your covered wagons around and go home, Tiny Hairs, or I’ll be forced to take out the tweezers I hide in the back of my drawer. You’ve been warned.

I remain,
Image-Conscious

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*www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/education/cps2006.html (See Table 8) †Offered fully online by Stevens-Henager College Salt Lake City/Murray, an affiliated college. ** Certifications/licenses may require additional study and cost.

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- Complete your degree in 15 months.
- Earn your degree online or attend class just 1 night a week on campus.
- Benefit from relevant learning and real-world application.
- Apply leadership skills and business principles to a wide spectrum of professional roles.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS*
- At least 25 years old
- Minimum 60 units of transferrable credit
- GPA of 2.0 or above in transferred classes

*If you don’t meet the requirements, contact us! You may still be eligible.

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San Diego Reader June 23, 2011 107
Rental Specials:

- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1475-1525**: 2 BD/1.5 BA, townhome behind 1859 in N Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry. 1-bedroom. 4869 Lotus St. Available 9/1. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1500**: 2 BD/1 BA apartment for $1150 and 2 BD/1 BA for $1350. 4826 Santa Aero Dr. 760-201-3818.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1350**: 1 BD/1 BA. Sunny, block to ocean. Remodeled kitchen/bath. Custom tile. No dogs. 851.5 Diamond Street. 760-201-3818.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1450**: 2 BD/1 BA. Large, gated apartment. Close to beach. No pets. 4832 Coronado Avenue. 619-224-4215, 619-224-0396.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1295**: 1 BD/1 BA, large, remodelled, west-facing apartment in North Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, coin laundry. 1- bedroom. Call Coldwell Banker Property Management, Broker. 858-270-2071.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1375**: 2 BD/1 BA apartment. 3 blocks to ocean. Garage. Shared yard. Laundry. No pets. 975 Torque Career St. 619-224-0306 or 858-270-4747.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1250**: 1 BD/1 BA apartment. 1/2 off 1st! On Select Units. OAC. 483-3369.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $1325**: 1 BD/1 BA upper unit. 1/2 off 1st! On Select Units. OAC. 888-424-4741.
- **PACIFIC BEACH, $995**: 1 BD/1 BA. Sunny upstairs. 1/2 off 1st! On Select Units. OAC. 488-2228.
A puzzler and a writer?

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) Submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles along with your name and a brief message (20 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) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
4) All winners will be notified by email to the email address they provided on ReaderPuzzles.com. This is a great way to connect with other Reader puzzle fans.
5) All puzzles will be posted online at SDReader.com.

THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:
Allan Dorfman, Del Mar, 12.
Life’s a freebie, the law’s 60. Everyone does #5.

A T Certik, Bonita, 10. It’s better to fail your Wasserman than to never to have loved at all.

Vince Cuseo, San Marcos, 10. Sum quod sum, non sum differentium! (Popeye’s last words)

Cindy Fisher, San Clemente, 10. One-half of a large intestine = 1 semicolon.

Johanna Barry, Pine Valley, 8. Life is a carbon atom.

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City: ______________________________________________
State: __________ Zip Code: __________
Personal Message: __________________________________

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

Across
1. Finish for the wealthy
6. Derivatives
10. Small boats
13. Online reading matter
15. Suffix for the wealthy
16. Verbs’ “-ly”
17. Political term named after a Massachusetts governor
19. Lawn layer
21. “Dee-licious!”
22. Some 1960s protests
23. A 1988 #1 country album
24. Hockey position
25. Permissible
29. It might be physical: Abbrev.
32. Expert
33. Complete
35. Word before cow or crop
36. Road curve
39. Unfair differential ... or what can be spotted in 17, 26, 55 or 65-Across
40. Lockhead product
45. Origin
46. Status before an inning-ending play
50. Touch, e.g.
52. Lingua Franca
54. Former Georgia senator
55. Actor born Jerome Silberman who, after he saw “Our Town,” took the playwright’s name
59. Daniel of Comedy Central
60. “I’ve already been to that movie”
61. Slow (down)
63. Sch. in Troy, NY
64. Backing
65. Bingle
69. Sch. with a Spokanec campus
70. Circle dance
71. Sign in a boardinghouse window
72. Indy letters

Down
1. Like good penmanship
2. First coed college in the U.S.
3. Proper
5. Noir novel
6. Outline
7. Relieve (of)
8. “____ my case”
9. Creepy
10. What’s left
11. Ones with pressing duties?
12. Clothing chain for tykes
14. Self-satisfied
15. Singer Ton
16. “Star Trek” series, to fans
17. Kristen of “SNL”
18. Gave consent
19. Makeup artist?
20. Very, in Vichy
21. GPS heading
22. Word with a handshake
23. Solve without pen or pencil
24. Certain Olympic athlete
25. Molded one’s muscles
26. Not in stock yet
27. Like money in the bank
28. Not currently popular
29. Self-satisfied
30. Makeup artist?
31. One who is in Vichy
32. One-half of a large intestine = 1
33. A puzzler and a writer?
34. Say “nothing”
35. Pensioner
36. “I saw ‘Our Town,’ took the playwright’s name”
37. “____ Your Name” (1994 REM song)
38. Gen. E. Lee
39. Elucid’s subj.
40. Pizarro’s prize
41. “Illicit” drug
42. Puzzles solved without pen or pencil
43. Marijuana
44. “Illmatic” rapper
45. Euclid’s subj.
46. Makeup artist?
47. “C 数”
48. “ ____ looking for another, ____ finding one”
50. Touch, e.g.
51. Sch. in Troy, NY
52. Lingua Franca
53. A 1988 #1 country album
54. Actor born Jerome Silberman who, after he saw “Our Town,” took the playwright’s name
55. Daniel of Comedy Central
60. “I’ve already been to that movie”
61. Slow (down)
63. Sch. in Troy, NY
64. Backing
65. Bingle
69. Sch. with a Spokanec campus
70. Circle dance
71. Sign in a boardinghouse window
72. Indy letters

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A puzzler and a writer?

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 not be counted or viewed if it is not fully completed. Cut and paste text into the spaces provided. Evils must be faxed to 619-233-7907 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 8583, San Diego CA 92116-5830, or delivered through our mail slot at 1701 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to Sudokushed@aol.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in .PDF format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don’t fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
2) Submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles along with your name and a brief message (20 words or less, no URLs or phone numbers). Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified. 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 8583, San Diego CA 92116-5830, or delivered through our mail slot at 1701 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to Sudokushed@aol.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in .PDF format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don’t fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

EASY:

MEDIUM:

HARD:

EVIL:

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

Don Bowman, Santee, 12. If you first don’t success come in second.
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 12. You can ridicule me for being different if I can laugh at all of you for being the same.
L.J. Tamura, Del Mar, 12. After Monday and Tuesday, even the calender say WIT.
Cindy Fisher, San Clemente, 11. How did dead bugs get into closed light fixtures?
Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 8. How much resistance was there to Chef’s law?

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit www.SDRreader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the “comments” feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:

Don Bowman, Santee, 12. If you first don’t success come in second.
Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 12. You can ridicule me for being different if I can laugh at all of you for being the same.
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Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 8. How much resistance was there to Chef’s law?

SD R E A D E R  O U T L O T — J U N E 2 3 , 2 0 1 1


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DOWNTOWN. From $525 up! Just 1 mile from Petco Park, Gaslamp and Horton Plaza. Several sizes. 12 ceilings, brick walls, hardwood floors. 5 minutes walk to San Diego Bay, Balboa Park entertainment and daily shopping. Hardwood furniture available. Paid cable, electric, water! Most include sleeping decks. Refrigerator, microwave included. On-site laundry, barbecue deck, indoor and outdoor kitchens. Impeccable renovation. No pets. 927 6th Avenue. Michael, 619-237-5517. beaumanor927@yahoo.com.


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BASIC INSTRUCTIONS

How to Give Constructive Criticism

by Scott Meyer ©2011

One of life’s most flattering and nerve
wracking experiences is when someone
asks you for constructive criticism.

If you’re to be any help, you must be
honest, even if the news is not good.

There is no sequence in which
anyone can be given constructive
criticism. They may change their mind.

Just because the book is called “Blood, Sheik,
that doesn’t mean the sheik went too fast. Blood
could just mean someone’s done a
bunch of bleeding.

And where would you have done all this bleeding?

Okay, see your point.

In the end, all you can do is tell them
the truth. They’ll either listen, or not.

It’s nothing but people wandering what’s in
the shed. Fill the last page, when open the
front.

Then it’s all I was hoping. OKOOD.

And that’s the end.

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And that’s the end.
Brainstorms
by Don Rubin

Medicine cabinet

We’re cleaning house. Each of these products is well past its “use-by” date (some by more than 20 years). How many can you identify?

1) ____________________________ 12) ____________________________
2) ____________________________ 13) ____________________________
3) ____________________________ 14) ____________________________
4) ____________________________ 15) ____________________________
5) ____________________________ 16) ____________________________
6) ____________________________ 17) ____________________________
7) ____________________________ 18) ____________________________
8) ____________________________ 19) ____________________________
9) ____________________________ 20) ____________________________
10) ___________________________ 21) ___________________________
11) ___________________________ 22) ___________________________

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
Neighborhood: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: _____ Zip Code: ________
Personal Message: ____________________________________________________________

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

BRAINSTORM PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME
1) Submit one completed puzzle to the Reader each week for entry into another contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete and the results are posted online at sandiegoreader.com. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2) Submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles along with your name and a brief message (20 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) If you don’t solve the puzzle correctly, we will keep your entry and send you the answer. 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) 231-1917 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) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
6) Late entries will not be considered.
7) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
8) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.
9) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

NEW RULES
Starting with the issue of May 12, we will award writers of the five (5) best messages among those who correctly solve the puzzle one of the famous Reader baseball caps. And we will print the winning messages in the paper. Puzzle winners with rankings will still be posted online at SDRreader.com

This week’s winners:

Cindy Fisher, San Clemente, 8. Always check to make sure you haven’t any words out.
Miyuki Passchier, Clairemont, 7. Brainstorm brainstorming’s better than backbreaking brickwork!
Richard Hutchings, Santee, 4. These are the answers I’m going to fly with!
Stephan McReynolds, Clairemont, 1. When once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward...
Vince Meehan, Mira Mesa, 1. Aircraft: if it looks cool, it’s American! If ugly it’s Russian!

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(corner of Fig & E. Grand)
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Ten goals I guess I could say we have is just to take more advantage of the free stuff to do in town. Sometimes you can end up spending a lot of money on the weekend just because you think there’s nothing else to do. But so many nice free things to do in the city. We need to take advantage of that. You don’t have to spend $300 a weekend to have a good time.

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**LEAD STORY**

The cure for emphysema is cigarette smoke (non-nicotine industry). Though 400,000 Indonesians die yearly from smoking-related causes, nicotine “addiction” was only reluctantly and subtly mentioned in recent regulations. One pharmacology professor said he had never heard of anyone dying of smoking, which he called “a good, cheap alternative” to expensive drugs.

**Unclear on the Concept**

Marla Gilson, 59, was fired in April after her employer rejected her offer to work from home in Chevy Chase, Md., at reduced salary, while she recovers from chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant for her leukemia. Gilson’s job was chief executive of the Association of Jewish Aging Services of North America, which serves 112 facilities that help frail and elderly Jews during their final years. Gilson’s termination also made her health care much more expensive and potentially made her uninsurable in the future if her treatment is successful. (Nonetheless, the board of directors thanked her for her service and wished her a “speedy recovery.”)

— Thomas Cavender, 60, of Bessemer City, N.C., pleaded unsuccessfully with a judge in March to remove him from the National Sex Offender Registry, to which he had been added as part of his sentence in 2000 for molesting a third-grade girl. Cavender told the judge that he had become a preacher and evangelist and that it “hurts my ministry when you’re in the pulpit, and someone goes to the computer, and there you are.”

— In April, two police constables in North London, England, threatened Louise Willows with arrest for criminal damage and forced her to clean her artwork from a city sidewalk. Willows had cleared off 25 deposits of droppings that dog-walkers had failed to remove and in their place drawn pink cupcakes in chalk (with a nearby message, “Dog owners, Please clean up your dog’s mess. Children walk here.”).

**Can’t Possibly Be True**

— The notorious U.S. military contractor KBR, prominent for having earned several billion dollars from no-bid contracts during the Iraq and Afghanistan wars and which has been accused of numerous employee sexual harassment-ups (including nine pending lawsuits filed by female employees), has apparently been voted by readers of Woman Engineer magazine as one of the top 50 places for women to work. (KBR and other companies on the list made announcements in April, but at press time, Woman Engineer’s issue containing the list had not been published.)

— Nursery school teacher Elizabeth Davies, 48, was fired in February from Hafod Primary School in Swansea, Wales, after accusations that she had sprayed pine-scented room-fresheners on kids who passed gas and on Bangladeshis whose kids had gas and on Bangladeshis (nonetheless, the board of directors thanked her for her service and wished her a “speedy recovery.”).

**Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 58503, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTipsYahoo.com**
**Typo Patrol Results**

**Issue of June 16, 2011**

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**NORTHERN HEIGHTS, $1295**

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**NORTHERN HEIGHTS, $1395**

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**NORTH PARK, $1195**


**NORTH PARK, $1195**

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**NORTH PARK, $1195**


**NORTH PARK, $1195**

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**NORTH PARK, $1195**


**NORTH PARK, $1195**

1BD-1BA apartment. Beautifully finished with new carpet, paint, appliances. Mins. to all! Section 8 welcome, sorry no pets. Call today! 858-271-5100.

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1BD-1BA apartment. Beautifully finished with new carpet, paint, appliances. Mins. to all! Section 8 welcome, sorry no pets. Call today! 858-271-5100.

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PET EVENTS
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SHIM TIZUS. Reggie and Chloe, ID#38975. Very bonded siblings seeking a home together. Older but young at heart. Love to play and be with people. Gentle, sweet, great with other pets. Chloe is usually IMPACTED but very adaptable. See website for more info! Have adoption fee reduced. See website for more info. Contact: 858-787-6757. Pet Kingdom, 619-224-2841.


COCKAPOO MIXES. Tessa, 3 years old, domestic short hair, female, declawed, friendly, good with other cats. P第二次, 7 weeks old, male, black. Kitten City, 619-276-2900.


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