For my birthday, my husband bought me a house

I like to mention this nonchalantly to strangers because I think it makes us sound like the type of people that might own a yacht or take exotic vacations. But the reality is that my 7-year-old truck has two large dents from camping trips and we routinely purchase Two-Buck-Chuck from Trader Joe’s.
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Cops reach the video age

Beset by sex scandals, a bad audit, budget cuts, and city hall demonstrators, some good news for the San Diego Police Department seemed last week to have finally arrived in the form of its latest high-tech gadget: a brand-new, custom-built “mobile command post vehicle,” packed with state-of-the-art electronics, all for an optimistically estimated price of around $250,000. “The vehicle shall be built on a new, current model year Freightliner MT-55 Chassis, with a 20 foot load space Utility Style Body,” says a request for bid issued by the city November 7. “The intent is to receive a vehicle approximately 30–31 feet in overall length. The vehicle shall have ahdialine, cellular and satellite phone service, cellular and satellite internet/intranet systems, and satellite television.” The contractor is to “Provide and install Three 42˝ LCD or LED television/monitors, with Smart Board overlays.” In addition, “All televisions/monitors [are] to have their own video selector switch, capable of selecting any video input available in the vehicle, (i.e. On Air Television, Helicopter Video Downlink, Satellite Television, etc.)” The specifications also call for a “complete hybrid telephone system, capable of operating on landline inputs, Tefellar, or satellite service,” along with “a complete .9cm Ku-band satellite system,” and “Three Panasonic CF31 Laptoor book computers, installed at the workstations.” A separately priced add-on package would include more police radios and “an all weatherproof exterior compartment for the mounting of the third 42˝ Flat screen television/monitor, which can be permanently installed, to provide video to large briefings conducted outside the Command Vehicle.” (As we approached deadline Monday, the status of the project, as reported by the city's procurement website, was changed to “canceled.” Reached by phone, procurement specialist Beverly Ashill-Gumbs said that the request for bids had been temporarily taken down because the city’s estimated project cost of $250,000 had been posted in error and had to be removed. Bids are still on, with a closing date of November 30.)

All the influence money can buy

Former city development director Marcela Escobar-Eck, let go along with colleague and land-use chief Jim Waring during 2007’s Sunroad Montgomery Field building fiasco, is now plying the lobbying trade. Her October 19 filing as principal of Atlantis Group LLC disclosed that Escobar-Eck has been raising campaign funds for councilmembers David Alvarez and Kevin Faulconer. Then, on October 30, Escobar-Eck reported that she had begun lobbying for McMillin-NTC regarding the firm’s controversial fourth implementation agreement with the city to redevelop the Naval Training Center property on Point Loma… That long tussle over city-granted kayaking rights at La Jolla Shores has resulted in two more jobs. Veteran lobbyist Janay Kruger found a client in La Jolla Kayak on September 26. Earlier that month, Kruger’s fellow La Jolla influence peddler Richard Ledford disclosed working on behalf of OEX Dive and Kayak… Trash-handling giant Republic Services, which owns Allied Waste and is said to have its eyes on taking over the city’s solid waste operations, gave $15,000 to the recently qualified city pension ballot measure backed by city councilman Carl DeMaio and Mayor Jerry Sanders… The state Republican party paid $21,000 on August 4 to stage a fund-raising bash at the Grand Del Mar Resort, owned by Doug Manchester, the La Jolla hotel mogul who has expressed an interest in buying the Union-Tribune from Beverly Hills-based Platinum Equity.

Up in smoke

There’s a new hired gun in town, and it’s smoking. Sacramento lobbyist shop California Capitol Solutions has registered to cast its spell on San Diego city hall on behalf of five medical pot shops, including Balboa Health Center, El Cajon Wellness Center, HB Wellness Center, Sirona Wellness, and Thirty Health Center. According to its September 16 report, the project is now plying the lobbying trade. Her October 19 filing as principal of Atlantis Group LLC disclosed that Escobar-Eck has been raising campaign funds for councilmembers David Alvarez and Kevin Faulconer. Then, on October 30, Escobar-Eck reported that she had begun lobbying for McMillin-NTC regarding the firm’s controversial fourth implementation agreement with the city to redevelop the Naval Training Center property on Point Loma… That long tussle over city-granted kayaking rights at La Jolla Shores has resulted in two more jobs. Veteran lobbyist Janay Kruger found a client in La Jolla Kayak on September 26. Earlier that month, Kruger’s fellow La Jolla influence peddler Richard Ledford disclosed working on behalf of OEX Dive and Kayak… Trash-handling giant Republic Services, which owns Allied Waste and is said to have its eyes on taking over the city’s solid waste operations, gave $15,000 to the recently qualified city pension ballot measure backed by city councilman Carl DeMaio and Mayor Jerry Sanders… The state Republican party paid $21,000 on August 4 to stage a fund-raising bash at the Grand Del Mar Resort, owned by Doug Manchester, the La Jolla hotel mogul who has expressed an interest in buying the Union-Tribune from Beverly Hills-based Platinum Equity.

Who Pockets Your Retirement Money?

By Don Bauder

Forget Occupy Wall Street. Forget Occupy Oakland and Occupy San Diego. The next protest movement should be Occupy Towers Watson. Or Occupy Mercer. Or Occupy International Business Machines or San Diego’s Sempra Energy.

Towers Watson and Mercer are pension-consulting firms that help their corporate clients to “tap their pension plans like piggy banks,” according to a hot-selling new book, Retirement Heist: How Companies Plunder and Profit from the Nest Eggs of American Workers, by Ellen Schultz, a reporter for the Wall Street Journal.

In the book, she highlights sticky-fingered strategies by many companies, such as International Business Machines. She also gives much attention to pension-draining strategies called cash-balance plans that shortchange older workers, according to numerous complaints, lawsuits, and one government study. She wrote about Sempra’s use of the alleged ruse in the Wall Street Journal.

Schultz relates how companies will claim that they are freezing traditional pension plans and slashing or eliminating retiree medical benefits so they can stay competitive, particularly with foreign companies that don’t have such burdens. But that’s hokey, says Schultz. Taking advantage of legal accounting maneuvers, companies are whacking benefits so they can boost their own profits and thus grant even higher remuneration to already-overpaid top executives.

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Decades ago, pension consultants like Towers Watson and Mercer began to realize that “Every dollar a company had promised a retiree — for pensions, prescription drugs, dental coverage, life insurance, or death benefits — was the equivalent of a dollar that could potentially be added to a company’s income.” So the consultants told their client companies (subtly, of course), “Cuts generate gains, which lift earnings, which help the stock price, which boosts the compensation of the executive whose pay is based on performance.”

In short, companies cut pension benefits so chief executives can rake in even more money. So, fleece the employees even more.

The book explains how companies make the pension changes so complex that employees don’t understand that they have been cheated. Even securities analysts may not see that a big portion of a corporation’s earnings come not from improved operations but from money squeezed out of pension funds.

Schultz tells how pension consultants and their clients talk in code but chuckle in private meetings that they have deluded the employees into thinking a pension fund is being “modernized” when, in fact, it is being plundered.

The law requires that pensions be managed for the exclusive benefit of plan participants, but “Pension law is like a toothless dog: it might sound scary, but it has no bite,” writes Schultz. To pluck the funds, companies exploit loopholes and rely on friendly judges and regulators.

She gives numerous examples. Retirees who elect to take a lump sum instead of a monthly payment wind...
Greg Palast is a corporate fraud investigator turned investigative journalist. In his new book, Vultures’ Picnic: In Pursuit of Petroleum Pigs, Power Pirates, and High-Finance Carnivores, he and his team crisscross the globe in a quest to report on disasters caused by oil giant British Petroleum.

Palast, a California native headquartered in New York, does most of his reporting for British media, including BBC, The Guardian, and the Channel Four network. He gained notoriety for uncovering the move to purge thousands of African-Americans from Florida voter rolls in the run-up to the 2000 presidential election, documented in The Best Democracy Money Can Buy.

I had a chance to speak with Palast in early November about some ongoing investigations, the state of American media, and a few chapters of his book particularly pertinent to a San Diego audience.

"San Onofre? You betcha, I know all about it!" exclaims Palast when I bring up the nuclear plant on San Diego County’s northern coast. I’ve steered the conversation to a disturbing chapter in Vultures’ Picnic regarding a plant in Shoreham, Long Island, where inspectors faked test results concerning the ability of the facility to withstand an earthquake.

In the past, Palast worked with the California Public Utilities Commission as an investigator. "Okay, here’s the thing, I don’t want to scare anyone, but..." he begins before launching into a lecture on the lax earthquake-proofing standards and faked test results at nuclear facilities across the country. Particularly disturbing are his comments regarding the diesel backup generators that are supposed to come online in order to prevent a nuclear meltdown in the case of an outage.

Diesel engines take time to warm up before they reach full power-generating capacity. But these massive engines, with base horsepower ratings well into the thousands (and subsequently doubled by strapping on a turbocharger), need to be online and running at full capacity in 10–12 seconds after a failure occurs in order to avert disaster. Frequently harvested from retired cruise ships, the engines simply aren’t capable of firing up as required. In the Shoreham test, two of the three backup generators failed almost immediately after being put under load — the third blew up as soon as it was turned on.

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LETTERS

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

Nostalgia Bump
I just love that Fred Hardin III’s letter “Chicken-Killing Thursdays” (November 10). It’s just really well written. I enjoyed it. It’s humorous. He should think about writing. It really gave me a bump into nostalgia. I appreciated it.
Candy Reilly
Ocean Beach, CA

Vets Missing
I am a high-school teacher in San Diego. As all public education and government job sectors have the day off in honor of Veterans Day, I searched the Reader this morning for any San Diego events that pay tribute to our country’s fallen and survived soldiers. I was not as much disappointed as shocked that your website had no mention of the holiday even existed.
While there is giant parade today in downtown and a college basketball game aboard an aircraft carrier, which President Obama is attending, neither were listed on your events calendar for the day or anywhere on your events page. A search for the word “veteran” returned only a quilling event. I was under the impression this was a staple San Diego place to find events and activities in San Diego. Apparently not.
Ashley Owen
Ocean Beach, CA

Comment From the Reader Website
Comments are not edited for spelling, punctuation, or grammar.
Cover Story: “Work 10 Weeks, Take 10 Months Off”
Published Nov. 10
Oh, man, this could’ve been a cool story.
Mr. Daugherty epitomizes the lazy left’s slacker attitude.
Suck at the union’s teat while the money is coming in, while ignoring the drug use, rampant environmental gaffes and outright theft of company equipment.
Oh, but once he got the boot, all of those ills were suddenly relevant.
It’s sickening, really, that these libs can live like this--as bragging rights as though they were suddenly relevant.

By DannyD 11:08 a.m., Nov. 12, 2011

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Discounts on Dining & Spa + $50 shopping gift card!

San Diego Reader November 17, 2011
**San Diego Reader**
November 17, 2011

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I’d been traveling for 20 hours: from Shinjuku to Narita, Narita to San Francisco, San Francisco to San Diego, and finally, the short cab ride home. Once I’d dropped my suitcase in my bedroom, I began shedding my stale travel clothes with one arm — first a sweatshirt, then shoes — while phoning my father with the other. “I just got home,” I said. “I’m going to hop in the shower, and then I want to come see you, okay?”

Dad had been out of the ICU for a full day and was now in a recovery area at the hospital. My sister Jane had been giving me updates, which had become fewer as family and friends caught wind of what happened and flooded like seagulls to her cell phone for any morsel of information they could get. The story was always the same — Dad had gone in for two robotic laparoscopic surgeries to remove a mass from each of his kidneys. The left side was textbook — a small incision, in and out, mass removed and ready to be biopsied.

It was on the right side that things went wrong. Jane didn’t have all the details, but she knew a major artery called the vena cava had been torn, that Dad lost more units of blood than a body holds, that he received transfusions, nearly died, lost a kidney, and woke up from what he’d assumed would be a simple procedure to find three worried daughters by his side and an 18-inch gash from his belly to his back on the right side.

When I entered the recovery ward, I was surprised to see Dad on his feet. His body, from fingers to feet, was swollen from all of the liquid that had been pumped into him. Aside from that, and the shroud of fatigue that relaxed his face and seemed to weigh him down all over, he looked way better than I’d expected.

I was still in the middle of a gingerly administered hug when he said, “Come here, I want to introduce you to someone.” Dad led me out of his room to a Japanese woman seated in an office I’d passed on my way to see him. “This is my daughter. She just got back from Tokyo.” I wasn’t surprised that he’d only been conscious for a day and still managed to meet nearly everyone on his floor.

I exchanged pleasantries with the woman — where I’d been, why I’d gone. Just after we said sayonara, a young man in a white coat appeared at Dad’s side. “How would you like to go home tonight, sir?” Dad’s face lit up in a way that reminded me of a photograph taken of him when he was ten. “Well, we’re working on the paperwork right now,” said the doctor. It shouldn’t be long.”

Back in his room — “It’s like an apartment, really,” I’d said upon seeing the giant space in which he’d been recovering — Dad told me how he couldn’t wait to get out of there, even though he admitted to loving the food.

Machines and IV stands surrounded the bed, leaking wires and tubes toward the floor. “Was all that in you?” In answer, Dad lifted his arms, flaunting the mottled black-purple coloring from wrists to elbows. “What was it, exactly, that happened? I mean, I know the gist, but do you know what went wrong?”

“I don’t know,” Dad said, the words seeming to deplete his energy reserve. “And I don’t want to — not yet.” For a millisecond, his eyes widened; in that flash of white I detected terror and tried to imagine what it would be like to awaken from an anesthetized nightmare.

“The way I’m looking at it right now is that I’ve been in an accident,” Dad explained. “Like someone hit by a truck. Out of the blue. Totally unexpected.”

“But you didn’t have all the details, that things went wrong. Jane reminded me of a photo-graph taken of him when he was ten. “Well, we’re working on the paperwork right now,” said the doctor. It shouldn’t be long.”

Back in his room — “It’s like an apartment, really,” I’d said upon seeing the giant space in which he’d been recovering — Dad told me how he couldn’t wait to get out of there, even though he admitted to loving the food.

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“The way I’m looking at it right now is that I’ve been in an accident,” Dad explained. “Like someone hit by a truck. Out of the blue. Totally unexpected. I’ve been in an accident, and I need to get better.”

A young woman, one of the nurses who’d been caring for my father, came in to go over the release paperwork and care instructions. In the matter-of-fact manner of someone accustomed to dealing with such things, she said, “Go ahead and take off your gown so I can show your daughter how to change these bandages.”

Dad hesitated. “I don’t want to traumatize my daughter, she doesn’t need to see her old man. Just show me how to do it, and —”

“You’re not going to be able to change these yourself,” said the nurse, polite but firm. “Dad, it’s no big deal, I’m going to be hanging out with you this week, and I’m happy to help out. If you try to do this yourself, it’s just going to take longer to heal.”

Dad pulled the gown away, and I got my first glimpse of the slash, crudely held together with 26 staples. They were huge, industrial, like the kind I once used for the thicker packets of paper back in my office days. They were so Home Depot, more suitable for two-by-fours; it was surreal to see them there, holding my father together like a weekend warrior project.

The nurse demonstrated how to change the bandages on one side and then, to prove I’d followed along, I changed them on the other side, right under a wounded patch from where doctors had ripped off tape that had taken a section of Dad’s skin along with it. From the look of his wounds, it became clear that my father was in even more pain than I’d noticed, or that he’d let on.

“You know, in a sick way, I’m sort of glad this happened,” I said once Dad was dressed and slowly walking with me back to my car. Dad raised his brows wearily...
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Heymatt:
As usual, while contemplating my navel I came up with another Matthew Alice question. How big is the biggest hole ever dug in the earth? And please tell us some ridiculous facts about it, as usual.
— Todd Manning, via email

Obviously a huge event in your life. You are counting on me to amaze and mystify you, perhaps even motivate you out of your navel-gazing and into some big-boy pursuit, like a job or at least a productive hobby. Maybe start digging a hole in your backyard?

So, did you mean dug, as in hand-dug? drilled? Machine-dug? Act-of-God dug? Earth’s full of holes. The biggest nature-made hole, larger than anything, is the Marianas Trench, an underwater feature in the Pacific near Japan, 36,201 feet deep into the earth, not just below sea level. Drop Mt. Everest in it, and the mount would disappear. It’s a tectonic plate subduction zone, where one piece of Earth’s moving crust dives under another. But somehow I don’t think this is what you’re looking for.

Okay, consider the Kimberley diamond mine in South Africa, a hand-dug, open-pit mine. Between 1874 and 1917, 50,000 miners excavated three tons of diamonds. The mouth of the mine measures about 42 acres. It’s 3,520 feet deep; or, it was. What does mankind do with a huge empty hole in the neighborhood? They fill it with trash. Kimberley has been partially filled in and partially filled with water runoff. But Kimberley is a has-been. Deeper yet is Mir (or Mirny), a Siberian open-pit diamond mine, 1722 feet deep, 3936 feet wide. So wide and so deep that the Russians have set up a no-fly zone over the thing after downdrafts around the mine opening began swallowing helicopters. The place seems to have its own weather system.

But the generally agreed-upon champ, mine hole in the world is right here in the Red, White, and Blewie. The Bingham Canyon mine, southwest of Salt Lake City, aka, the Kennecott copper mine. They’ve been digging since 1863 and are at least 3/4 of a mile down, with a mine opening of 2.5 miles.

Mines and trenches aside, the deepest Earth-hole ever wasn’t really dug, so maybe this won’t qualify for your list. But it’s pretty impressive, anyway. It’s the famous Kola Borehole, a core-sampling drill hole in Russia, along the Norway border, begun in 1970. At 40,230 feet, it’s the deepest hole ever drilled in the history of drill-holedom. (The U.S. took a shot at that record a few years later, but the funding went down the drainhole.) What stopped the Russian project was the temperatures reached at such depths in a hole that narrow. The core drills wouldn’t operate in 350-degree heat. Drilling stopped in 1999.

That was the dullest part of the story, though. Kola has reached mythic heights. Somewhere along the line, some scientists dropped microphones into the hole to register any Earth sounds they might catch. A few wild-eyed utter-Christians got wind of the project and barged in to test for themselves. From somewhere, the zealots produced one odd recording of what most others said (and still say) sounded generally like people milling around in a bar. But no, said the God brigade. Those are tormented souls in hell screaming from the pain. See? We were right all along. Hell exists! Those Godless Russians were trying to dig a hole to hell, and they did it! The tale still circulates. At various places around the web you can find recordings of the damned souls/bar patrons; in the world of Earth-sounds investigators, it’s known as the Hell Hole Sound. I hope this is complete and weird enough for you, Todd. We always aim to please.

Heymatt:
Why is it called a rap sheet? Did it have anything to do with a hit list?
— Anonymous, via email

Smokies, Anonymous! You almost, sort of, slightly nudged accidentally into part of the answer. (I always like to give credit where credit is due.) So, yeah, the word “rap” originally meant a hit or a strike or something like that. (Er, not a “hit,” like, I’m gonna get you, sucker!) A noun and a verb since the 1300s. It’s probably what’s called an echoic word, coined as a result of the sound of somebody hitting something. Unfortunately, word nerds are pretty much bound by the printed page when compiling ancient origins, while, of course, we idiots babble on, using words willy-nilly, however they suit us. The next we hear from the word doctors, it’s the 1860s, and through common use, apparently, “rap” has evolved into the punishment for a crime. By 1903, it was the crime itself. “Rap sheet” came into common parlance in the 1960s, no surprise. Word to the unwise: “rap” is not an acronym for “record of arrests and prosecutions,” despite what “common knowledge” says. That’s an acronym formed after the appearance of the word, a backronym, also known as a folk etymology.
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“These young ladies have been mocked by jocks their whole lives. Now they’re sharing their pain by bringing the hurt.”

HUNGRY FOR WHAT? Left offensive tackle Rebeca Arellano and Haileigh Adams as this year’s homecoming king and queen.

“Up until now, they’ve all been kind of butch. At least we can imagine these two kissing.”

EAGERLY ANTICIPATING THE INCORPORATION OF THIS STORY INTO A PLOT POINT ON GLEE — Patrick Henry High School senior Taylor Hunter was raised in an evangelical Christian home, where he was taught that homosexual behavior is an offense against God. “But sometimes,” he said, “you have to stand up for what you believe in, despite what you’ve been told all your life. And I believe in hot lesbians.”

Hunter was explaining his decision to vote for lesbian couple Rebeca Arellano and Haileigh Adams as this year’s homecoming king and queen — a first for a San Diego high school. “I believe that young people are the future,” he continued, “and we have the power to change things for the better. By honoring the beautiful people — whatever their sexual orientation — we can do our part to make the world a more beautiful place. I hope that 2011 will be remembered as the year that teenagers stood up for physical attraction in all its forms.”

For Arellano, the honor marks the triumphant end of a long and sometimes difficult journey. “Growing up as an attractive lesbian, it was sometimes hard,” she says. “There just weren’t that many potential girlfriends to choose from. I’m just so happy that I found Haileigh and that so many others are happy about it, too.”

Still, despite her attractive features, Adams admitted that not everyone has been so supportive. “Anonymous Patrick Henry students are saying they’re embarrassed and that it’s wrong for a girl to take the spot of king. But there’s no other way for us to run as a couple. I mean, it’s not like we could have been a couple of queens.”

Adams, who wore a cross over her homecoming court sash, took time during her acceptance speech to thank Jesus “for making all this possible.”

Philip Rivers to Coach Türner:

“Please Stop Making Me Throw All These Interceptions.”

Unsubtle, Earnest Quarterback begs Coach-Provocateur to Be Allowed to Throw to Teammates

“Frankly, I don’t understand it. What kind of playbook has interception patterns?”

Dawn outside our Lady of Excellence Church, after spending all night in prayer — In a rare outburst, San Diego Chargers quarterback Philip Rivers has complained publicly about Coach Turner’s decision to have him toss multiple interceptions in nearly every game this season. “I mean, I know Coach is scary-smart and everything,” said Rivers, “and I would trust him with my professional life. But it’s been hard, you know? Some people are even suggesting that I’m not doing it on purpose. I’d like to remind those people that in 2010, I was a Pro Bowl selection — for the third time since 2006. This year, I had two interceptions in week one, two interceptions in week two, two interceptions in week three, two turnovers in week five, two interceptions in week seven, two interceptions plus a fumble in week eight, and three interceptions in week nine. Do you imagine — do you for one second imagine — that all those interceptions are just happening?”

Rivers looked down, clearly emotional. “It’s hard, and it’s harder when people ask if there’s some way for me to stop releasing the ball like I’m sending a wounded butterfly on its noble and doomed migration to Mexico. Sure there is. Coach can call for a completion, and I’ll fire it like a gosh-darned RPG right into [wide receiver Vincent] Jackson’s breadbasket. But every time I ask Coach about it, he always does it and that is the greatest thing of all.”

“Big picture, Philip. Big picture.”
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The problem is, most overweight people are unable to find a simple, easy to follow system to reduce their fat and then keep it off. Even their coordination, daily movement and attractiveness are destroyed with this weight gain. That will all change when you start using this system.

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Reserve your spot today. Call the office now to have access to this amazing weight loss technology.

(10 spots available!)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011: Finding Your “Inner Chef” at Hipcooks

I’m a cooking class slut. Okay, that’s pretty dramatic. But, I just love them. You just never know what little tip you’ll walk out with, what techniques you’ll end up adopting, what new ingredient will become your new passion.

So, I was eager to check out Hipcooks, a new cooking school that opened in North Park in September. It’s one of a chain of five cooking schools first launched in L.A. in 2004. Manager Tristan Blash, a self-taught cook...opened the San Diego school, located on 30th St. just north of University, a couple of months ago.

And it is certainly hip. And urban. Cool colors, sleek modern furnishings.

The latest appliances. Yet, surprisingly, there are no built-in stovetops. Instead there are portable propane burners that turn a demo island into a hands-on class in moments.

You also won’t find any measuring tools or recipes (although recipes are e-mailed later to participants) in class. “My hope is that my students become, or stay, relaxed in the kitchen,” says Tristan. “That they learn to trust their instincts when it comes to cooking. By ‘banning’ measuring implements and instead tasting and using the senses to determine how much of this and that goes into a dish, people learn to trust their own likes and dislikes. They depend less on following the recipe line by line.”

The idea, she says, is to, “play, create. You may mess up, so learn from that and start over. You leave class believing that you know more about cooking and creating than you thought — and that the final product is up to you, not the chef that wrote the recipe.”

The three-hour+ class I took was all about soup making, with seven soups — watercress, carrot ginger, potato leek, butternut squash sage, Moroccan lentil with prunes and cinnamon, corn chowder with tarragon and sundried tomatoes, and creamy mushroom with thyme and sherry — on the menu. Prepped veggies and herbs were strategically placed on the island, where there were also about 10 round solid wood cutting boards and Wusthof chef’s knives marking each place. The class of about a dozen was launched with what was essentially a knife skills mini-class as Tristan first demonstrated how to hone a knife, then different ways to approach slicing, dicing, and chopping.

We got tips for cleaning leeks (peel away the green little by little to get the most out of the vegetable, chop, then wash to get out all the grit). And a fascinating, if noisy, tip for stripping the paper off garlic cloves: put them in a metal bowl, place another metal bowl the same size over the rim to make what looks like a ball (the two rims should meet) and then shake. The motion will release the peel off the garlic cloves. It’ll also freak out dogs, cats, and small children — but all for the common good, right?

We were divided into teams to work on each soup: four in the first half of the class, followed by partaking of the finished soups, followed by making the next three. As mentioned, there was no measuring. So with Tristan explaining why we were doing what we were doing, it was a handful of this, a pile of that, some spoonfuls of stock, dashes of wine, herbs to taste. Cook it down. Then ladle it into the Vitamix. Get a little whirring action going and then start tasting and adjusting the seasonings and consistency.

Then there was a very pretty table, set family-style, so we could dine in plain view of people walking on 30th St. We filled it up after serving ourselves with the carrot ginger (a bright stunner); the hearty potato leek with layers of flavor thanks to white wine, thyme, and lemon; and a thick and woodsy butternut squash soup punctuated with white beans. Then on to the next batch. From what I could tell, my fellow students were having a lot of fun and learning a lot.
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**Everyday Knew**

**SportingBox**

By Patrick Daugherty

Former Penn State teacher and coach Jerry Sandusky used his Second Mile program to prey on young boys.

Remembering that even this bastard is presumed innocent, it’s a quick transformation between a breaking news story and a corporate media storyline about said breaking news story. This is how torture becomes enhanced interrogation. You can see it happening with Penn State where child rape is turning into a human tragedy. Scores and scores of adults who knew and allowed child rape to go on for more than 15 years will carry on with their lives undisturbed. As farewell, the Box offers a few quotes for the record.

ESPN.go.com: Sandusky...was arrested Saturday on 40 counts of criminal sexual abuse involving eight boys — a ninth alleged victim came forward Tuesday...

The university’s online directory listed Sandusky...as an assistant professor emeritus of physical education in the Lasch building.

The grand jury investigating Sandusky found that he was given the office, a parking pass, and other amenities as part of his 1999 retirement package.

Sportillustrated.com: Penn State trustees statement: “Penn State has always strived for honesty, integrity, and the highest moral standards in all of its programs. We will not tolerate any violation of these principles. We educate over 95,000 students every year and we take this responsibility very seriously. We are dedicated to protecting those who are placed in our care....”

NYdailynews.com: Sandusky had been told in 2002 not to bring minors to the campus, yet continued to run his Second Mile program for underprivileged children out of the Penn State athletic offices and was seen at least once in 2007 at practice with a young boy described in the grand jury report as “Victim 1.”

Webcitation.org: Report of the Thirty-Third Statewide Investigating Grand Jury:

Page 1. Widely known as Jerry Sandusky, the subject of this investigation, founded the Second Mile program... It was within the Second Mile program that Sandusky found his victims.

Sandusky was employed by Penn State for 23 years as the defensive coordinator...played football for four years at Penn State and coached a total of 32 years.

Page 2 ...the Grand Jury heard evidence that Sandusky indecently fondled Victim 1 on a number of occasions, performed oral sex on Victim 1 on a number of occasions, and had Victim 1 perform oral sex on him on at least one occasion. Victim 1 testified that he was 11 to 12 years old...

Page 6 ...the graduate assistant entered the locker room doors, he was surprised to find the light and showers on. He then heard rhythmic, slapping sounds. He believed the sounds to be those of sexual activity...he looked into the shower. He saw a naked boy, Victim 2, whose age he estimated to be ten years old, with his hands up against the wall, being subjected to anal intercourse by a naked Sandusky. The graduate assistant was shocked but noticed that both Victim 2 and Sandusky saw him (italics mine). The graduate assistant left immediately, distraught. Associated Press: Then 28, McQueary was “distracted” after witnessing the alleged 2002 assault, according to the indictment. Yet it appears he may have continued to participate in fundraising events with Sandusky — including one held less than a month later.

Deadspin.com: When Jerry Sandusky was initially arraigned...prosecutors requested $500,000 bail and that Sandusky be required to wear a leg monitor. District Judge Leslie Dutschke, however, ordered that Sandusky be freed on $100,000 unsecured bail. She ordered that Sandusky be freed and pay nothing unless he failed to show up for a court hearing.

...according to her profile, Judge Dutschke is a volunteer for Sandusky’s group, the Second Mile.

Report of the Thirty-Third Statewide Investigating Grand Jury:

Page 14. The investigation revealed the existence of Victim 4, a boy who was repeatedly subjected to Involuntary Deviate Sexual Intercourse and Indecent Assault at the Hands of Sandusky.

The assaults took place on the Penn State University Park campus, in the football buildings, at Treetops Golf Resort and Conference Center (“Toftrees”) in Center County, where the football team and staff stayed prior to home football games... Victim 4 described Sandusky rubbing his genitals on Victim 4’s face and inserting his erect penis in Victim 4’s mouth.

Newsk.com interview with Barry Switzer: “Having been in this profession a long time and knowing how close coaching staffs are, I knew that this was a secret that was kept secret,” Switzer said. “Everyone on that staff had to have known, the ones that had been around a long time. “You think that a 13-year assistant... hasn’t told someone else?” Switzer said. “His wife? His father? People knew. The community knew.”

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This is a true story. This was told to me by a man I’ll call Tom Fuller. The story came to me outside of a meeting hall where an anonymous group meeting had been held. I am betraying no anonymity and use this story with permission.

Fuller and I were standing outside of a room in some church. It was a muggy August day, and Fuller was wearing one of those T-shirts they call “wife beaters.” I wore a Hawaiian shirt, unbuttoned. He pointed to the vertical scar on my chest and the round protrusion just beneath my skin above my left breast. Pacemaker. He asked me, “What happened to you there?” I told him about it briefly.

Fuller’s facial skin looked stretched too tight, as if he’d had plastic surgery. He had. I pointed to the mottled and discolored burn scars on his shoulders and upper arms and asked him the same question. I knew they were burn scars. I’d seen similar ones. Fuller cleared his throat.

“My wife divorced me four years ago. Mostly cuz my drinking. The day I got served, the landlord locked me out of the cottage I was living in. Hadn’t paid rent for two months. Oh yeah, I’d been fired from my job at the shipyard three weeks earlier. Anyway, I kicked the door in, holding a fifth of Ancient Bon and maybe four beers.”

He pointed to the horizontal scar just beneath my skin above my right breast. Pacemaker. He asked me, “So I go in and put a Dylan CD in the oven door start to get hot. The oven’s already hot and the kitchen’s freaking hotter than hell. I had to lift my head up off the oven door and sit back. I think I drank some more bourbon and some, by now, warm beer. I wanted a cigarette. I’m not thinking straight at all, right? I listen to Dylan some more. Different song now, ‘I’m your man, I’m tryin’ to recover the sweet.”

I knew he could recite scads of Dylan. I knew he could recite scads of the Bible, and he had told me he used to be a minister.

“Anyway,” Fuller continued, “I’m loaded and I put the oven on, full blast, open the oven door, and stick my head in, breathing gas. Nothing. I got bored with this after about ten minutes and felt like I was gonna pass out from the booze, not the gas. So I put my head on the surface of the inside of the oven door and fold my arms under my head like I’m just goin’ to go to sleep. I did. Or passed out, whatever. I remember hearing Dylan singing, ‘You find out you can always lose a little more/ Or passed out, whatever. I remember hearing Dylan singing, ‘You find out you can always lose a little more/ I’m just goin’ down the road feeling bad, tryin’ to get to heaven before they close the door.’ I was in a shithole of self-pity.

“Anyway, after a while. I don’t know how long, the oven door starts to get hot. The oven’s already hot and the kitchen’s freaking hotter than hell. I had to lift my head up off the oven door and sit back. I think I drank some more bourbon and some, by now, warm beer. I wanted a cigarette. I’m not thinking straight at all, right? I listen to Dylan some more. Different song now, ‘I’m your man, I’m tryin’ to recover the sweet love that we knew/ You understand that my heart can’t go on beatin’ without you/ Well your loveliness has wounded me/ I’m reelin’ from the blow/ I wish I knew what it was that keeps me lovin’ you so/ I’m breathin’ hard, standin’ at the gate/ Ah, but I don’t know how much longer I can wait.’ Don’t know what that one’s called, but I’ve listened to it a lot lately. Self-pity. Right?”

I was impressed that Fuller had memorized a good chunk of Dylan. I knew he could recite scads of the Bible, and he had told me he used to be a minister.

“Anyway,” I reach for a cigarette — not thinking at all — and I search around for a lighter, find a Bic, and sit on a kitchen chair. I start to light up the Bic. It doesn’t even flame, just the small spark blows the crap out of the kitchen and living room. I went head first through a patch of drywall. Had plastic surgery on my face. Mostly second-, but some third-degree burns.

“Wait a minute,” I stopped him. “Which Dylan record was it?”

“I can’t remember which album, and the only song I remember hearing that night — I guess I thought it was appropriate — was ‘Trying to Get to Heaven.’”

Don’t know what difference it made. Maybe I was wondering if the music had inspired despondency. I wasn’t familiar with that song, but later I listened to it. One stanza of the lyrics, representative of the tone, goes:

“The air is getting hotter, there’s a rumblin’ in the skies/ I’ve been wading through the high muddy water/ With the heat risin’ in my eyes/ Every day your memory grows dimmer/ It doesn’t haunt me like it did before/ I’ve been walking through the mirror to nowhere/ Tryin’ to get to heaven before they close the door.”

Fuller continued, “I loaded and I put the oven on, full blast, open the oven door, and stick my head in, breathing gas. Nothing. I got bored with this after about ten minutes and felt like I was gonna pass out from the booze, not the gas. So I put my head on the surface of the inside of the oven door and fold my arms under my head like I’m just goin’ to go to sleep. I did. Or passed out, whatever. I remember hearing Dylan singing, ‘You find out you can always lose a little more/ I’m just goin’ down the road feeling bad, tryin’ to get to heaven before they close the door.’ I was in a shithole of self-pity.

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“They arrested me for it. You know what for? Arson.”

Find more stories by John Brizzolara at SDReader.com/brizzolara
The days are still warm, but the nights are getting cold enough for cider. Patrick and I hail from the Northeast, and this time of year starts us hankering. I didn’t make it up to Julian, but I did make it to the Smit Orchards tent at the Little Italy farmers’ market, held Saturdays on Date and India from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Patrick wanted to start experimenting by adding bourbon, but I made him wait until after we assessed.

That night I poured us both some Trader Joe’s Spiced Cider ($2.99 for 64 oz.) and perused the label. “Well, it says the apples are fresh, but there’s lemon-juice concentrate.” We sipped. “The apple flavor is a bit light, but there’s cinnamon pucker at the finish.”

“I wonder if our next cider, Chadwick Farms ($7.99 for 64 oz. at Whole Foods) could stand up to the Smit’s.” It was, after all, flash-pasteurized. As Patrick shook the caramel-colored liquid inside the jug, he admired the sheen of tiny, creamy bubbles that crawled up the side.

“That’s a good sign,” he said. “It almost looks like the head on a beer.” I waited for him to sip. “It’s clean. Really beautiful, and there’s a long finish. But it’s more tannic than the Smit’s, as if the apples were pressed harder and more tannin came out of the skin. Maybe that’s why it’s darker. It’s better than any of the other pasteurized stuff, that’s for sure. But it doesn’t make me swoon like the Smit’s.”

Finally, I cracked the pale, golden Martinielli’s ($4.99 for 50.7 oz. at Whole Foods). “It’s made with fresh apples — no preservatives,” I chirped. “And there’s good apple flavor up front. But the finish tastes like apple peels. Not good apple peels — Red Delicious apple peels. There’s an almost unbearable tinge.”

“It’s a poor-man’s version of the Smit’s,” said Patrick. “I’m digging the candied sweetness, but it’s not honeyed like the Smit’s. Now how about we make a few cocktails? I hear a little ginger beer helps.”

“Still,” argued Patrick, “I like the unfiltered flavor. ‘There’s bright acidity up front, but the finish is flat,’” I said. “I know what you mean,” I replied, surprised at my own sympathy. “It’s like when you drop an ant on an apple and then take a bite of the bruised part before it starts to turn. It’s honeyed and complicated.”

Poor Patrick. I knew what he really wanted was the stuff from his childhood: fresh-pressed cider. Unpasteurized. The real deal.

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1: apple press

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-EVE KELLY

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1: apple press
Because Halloween is the greatest holiday of the year, especially when it falls on a Monday and, therefore, begins the previous Thursday, your humble crasher went to about 39 celebrations this All Hallows’ Eve megaweekend.

One of the best, by far, was on Sunday night, when my mom turned 60 years old. My dad and sister Cristina began working out the logistics for the party over a month ago, knowing that my mom had long secretly wished for a surprise birthday. About 70 of my mother’s friends (the Red Hat Society Ladies were out in full force) and relatives, some of whom she hadn’t seen in a number of years, found their places around tables in a ballroom at the La Jolla Sheraton hotel Sunday evening.

At 6:20, my dad called Cristina to ask if we had made it to the nearby Humphrey’s Grill, signaling his and mom’s arrival. Under the ruse of picking up a gift certificate for the small family dinner mom was expecting, the two made their way to the ballroom, where the party waited in the dark.

When the door opened, I flipped on the lights, everyone shouted “surprise!” and my roommate Marcus, a DJ and Jazz 88.3 radio host, played the Beatles’ “Birthday” over the P.A.

Mom’s priceless look of astonishment and gratitude revealed that, somehow, no one had slipped the secret, though some had traveled from as far away as the Bay and Arizona to attend the party. Marcus spun doo-wop and Motown hits while we ate, drank, and mingled around the ballroom for a few hours before making our ways home.

The next night, I went to the annual Halloween party at the Control Center, a music studio in the Linda Vista home of members of A Scribe Amidst the Lions, Knockout Bell, The E Team, and V Drago, who played a reunion gig in the living room after a set by the Flowerthief.

The costumes were impressive. Jeanna dressed up as her cat, Benny. Airykah, also a cat, ran translucent wire through her septum piercing as whiskers. Andrea was a crafty interpretation of Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds. Nikki painted her face like an Insane Clown Posse Juggalette, competing for best make-up with Dustin, who a few nights prior painted up as Aladdin Sane-era David Bowie.

I dressed up as a raccoon newsie zombie (fortunately finding a vial of fake blood in the bathroom after depleting my own reserves about town in days prior) — a mash-up of my power animal, favorite musical, and preferred holiday-appropriate archetype. My friend Bonnie designated the look “hipster black swan finds a jelly donut,” a fair if not flattering interpretation of the outfit.

Bobby, a resident of the Control Center and University of San Diego chow-hall chef, prepared sushi and a taco bar in a sharp Satan get up. My good friend Josper and Bobby’s fellow USD chef Rodney tore up the rain-weathered piano in the backyard while a demon-horned woman spit fire with kerosene in the late night mist. “Everyone thinks it’s crazy,” the she-demon later told me about fire-breathing, “but I’m not worried about it. You just have to do it right. I knew someone who inhaled on accident and charred the inside of their throat.”

Coincidentally, by the end of an arduous several days of Halloween festivities, I, too, felt as if I’d been inhaling flaming lamp oil. But perhaps Dustin put it best when, in one of his classic enigmatic colloquialisms, he said, “Dude, you look like you’ve been rode hard and put away wet.”

■

Crasher
RACCOON NEWSIE ZOMBIE

by Chad Deal

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$98

Stereo Outlet
2707 Garnet Ave. • Pacific Beach • 888-497-5927
Installation required
Additional parts may be required. Carryout price slightly higher.
But the reality is that my seven-year-old truck has two large dents from camping trips and we buy Two-Buck Chuck from Trader Joe’s.

I will also admit that we waited for the housing market to take a dive before purchasing our first home — or rather, my husband waited. He is the type of person who had his future mapped out by the age of six. Every day, he sets his wristwatch to alert him to his ten o’clock bedtime so that he will get exactly eight hours of shut-eye each and every night. That’s just how he rolls. Aaron does not make rash decisions, ever. When 900 square feet was going for half a mil in San Diego, he never considered becoming a homeowner.

I knew the moment we saw our house that it would belong to us, despite its old-lady mauve-y pink color and the weeds growing out of the rain gutters. It looked like us. It was on a cul-de-sac lined with trees. The sound of lawn mowers was coupled with children’s laughter. I could picture our kids setting up a lemonade stand in our driveway or riding their bicycles to school with the rest of the neighborhood kids.

Other people looked at the house that day. There was a middle-aged man in a baseball cap holding his wife’s chubby hand. Their sedan was parked haphazardly on the street, its rear window crowded with neatly arranged stuffed animals. Dozens of little black eyes stared at the road. The wife was unimpressed by the decades-old kitchen, but I overheard her say she saw “promise in the floor plan.”

There was a young couple with a newborn. The woman spoke loudly to her petite bleached blonde agent while balancing in one arm an oversized infant carrier with her sleeping baby bundled up inside. She spoke matter-of-factly about the offer they planned to make on the house. Her husband sat outside on the curb, smoking a cigarette. I felt anxious, worried that our home would end up in the hands of a smoker or a hoarder. The walls would yellow, or worse, the rooms would be overcrowded with stuffed animals, straight from QVC. That just wouldn’t do.

When we got in our car, I told Aaron that I wanted to die in that
Vonnegut’s dog-eared copy of Kurt fully in my sleep, with my house at an old age, peace-rest -would place our furniture. I could tell that I was already and heavy sigh because he could tell that I was already envisioning where we would place our furniture.

“Just don’t fall in love with it yet,” he warned.

I could tell by the way he said it, in that long drawn-out way, that he was in love with it, too, and trying his hardest to mask his excitement.

I tend to get my hopes up. What my husband refers to as insane expectations I like to think of as optimism. We are a good balance of rational and irrational. I tell myself that it makes our life together exciting, not messy.

On our drive back to our rental in Tierrasanta, Aaron reminded me of the Ronald McDonald house incident. Six years ago we bought a $200 raffle ticket for our dream home. Aaron did it for the cause. He was sucked in by the photos of bald children with IV’s running like spider webs across their arms. He wanted them to see Justin Bieber in concert or parade around Disneyland in princess costumes like other American children. He wanted their dreams to come true, while I wanted to live in a mansion. So we bought a ticket.

The home was in Rancho Bernardo, in a neighborhood where everything looked identical — the winding streets, the strip malls, the well-tended flower beds, the oversized silver SUV’s parked in just about every driveway.

It wasn’t us, but I didn’t care. I was drawn in by the home’s glossy wood floors and the staged little-girl bedroom dripping in butterflies, all pale pinks and purples. I could see myself in the master suite’s bubbling sauna with a glass of wine while rereading East of Eden after a rough day. I envisioned a life of potlucks, car pools, and block parties.

On the day of the raffle, after we toured the house, I was certain that we would win. I felt it was divine providence that led us to purchase a ticket. I was in disbelief when the winning name called out wasn’t ours. The people who won didn’t even show up that day. I wanted to punch them for robbing me of a life filled with pretty things.

On the car ride home, Aaron methodically processed the heartbreak: “Do you really think our furniture from craigslist would have looked okay in that house?” We both laughed hard, and I attempted to get over it.

When we first set foot in the old-lady mauve house, we had been actively looking to buy a home for two years. We had placed five offers on other houses. Our first was a townhome in Ocean Beach, less than a mile from the water. It had a community pool and fitness room frequented by thirtysomething professionals in tracksuits and dry-weave sweatshirts. The home was attached to the house next door. It would be a tight squeeze for our five-person household.

Aaron loved it immediately. He pictured family surf sessions and wet suits drying on our back porch. I didn’t love it, but I pretended to because Aaron was enamored with the idea of us being a beach family.

When our realtor took us to see the inside, the family who owned it was home. They were trying to unload it before the bank took it back. We were greeted at the door by their crotch-sniffing golden retriever. There was colorful artwork on the walls and a peaceful Zen decor. The husband told us that they had gone into debt due to a homeowner association nightmare having to do with mold issues in five townhouses on his side of the street. Through gritted teeth, he added, “Through no fault of our own, it cost all of us a fortune. Our mortgage doubled because of it. We can’t afford this place anymore.” At the end of the month, they would be moving into an apartment in Point Loma.

I felt awkward poking around their house. We were like the kind of...
people who cross a picket line. A teenage daughter was in her bedroom when we walked in. She rolled her eyes. Band posters decorated her walls, and a lilac-colored floral comforter spread across her antique-style bed. Dirty laundry littered the wood floor.

I felt uncomfortable about making an offer, but Aaron was in love. So we did. We offered $400,000. We were outbid. Five months later, we offered $410,000 on a nicer model across the street that had granite countertops and two spa-inspired bathrooms. Once again, we were outbid. It seemed Aaron’s beach-living dream would be out of our reach.

A short while later, we found a house in Santee whose backyard bordered Mission Trails Regional Park. It had a swimming pool, a white picket fence, and a fresh coat of pale blue paint. It was the nicest home on the street. Unknown to us at the time, a pedophile resided one block over. I saw his photo on the Megan’s Law website — two days after our offer was rejected.

We placed a modest offer of $360,000 on a home in La Mesa that was on the top of a hill near...
It reminded us of the first few years spent as Midwesterners in California, back when I used to make dinners from the glossy pages of cookbooks and still took a polite tone with Aaron. Everything shimmered. I envisioned elaborate sunset dinner parties with fascinating people. But the structure had serious foundation issues. If we had sneezed, that puppy might’ve crumbled to the ground. It was beautiful, though Aaron didn’t love it. He was hesitant to make an offer, but against his better judgment, he did it for me.

Each rejection crushed me. By the time we finally purchased our home, our realtor had gone through a midlife crisis. His salt-and-pepper hair, once dignified, was now jet-black. He’d whitened his teeth and bought a cherry red Mustang.

Aaron, the practical male, was horrified. “You should tell him how bad it looks,” he hissed. “You’re a woman. You can get away with it.”

But here’s the thing about the mauve house: for the first time, both Aaron and I adored the same place. It reminded us of home. Aaron saw his childhood in its shade tree; I remembered mine in its family-friendly cul-de-sac. It was oddly familiar to both of us. It reminded us of the first few years spent as Midwesterners in California, back when I used to make dinners from the glossy pages of cookbooks and still took a polite tone with Aaron.
Two months after we move in, my brother drives down from San Francisco to stay with us. He is in need of a Tijuana dentist. He has lost a tooth, an incisor, smack-dab in the middle of his smile. He resembles a bluegrass banjo player, the kind who should be sitting on a porch with a bottle of whisky somewhere in Alabama. In San Francisco, he was quoted $1500 to replace the tooth with a bridge. In TJ, it will be $450. It’s an excellent excuse to see our new place while taking advantage of our proximity to the Mexican border.

I’m planting succulents out front while chatting with the man across the street, the one with the BMW and the new backyard swimming pool, when my brother arrives after a 12-hour drive. Roger pulls into the driveway in his dusty Honda Civic, his curly brown hair in his eyes and his clothes wrinkled from the drive. I introduce him to our neighbor, who stares at the gaping hole in Roger’s smile. I consider explaining that my brother normally has all his teeth and is town to see a Tijuana dentist, but I’m not sure if that will make it better. So I let it go.

Two months later, for my father-in-law’s birthday, my husband and his brother take him to a Padres game. In celebration of his 63rd year, my husband’s dad gets inebriated. He is too drunk to drive home. Aaron offers to take him to our place so he can sleep it off. When they get home our kids are playing with the neighbor kids in our backyard. They are trying out the new swing we have just tied around a thick branch on our shade tree. My father-in-law staggers outside. He begins pushing the kids with such force that their skinny legs bump against the highest branches in the

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LITTLE ITALY FARMERS’ MARKET</th>
<th>2 HRS. FREE PARKING</th>
<th>Organic and Sustainable Produce</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date Street from Kettner to Union</td>
<td>at WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EVERY SATURDAY</td>
<td>“From our Family to Yours”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Saturday, rain or shine</td>
<td>9 am-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Try our fresh picked Sweet Valencia Oranges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baba Foods</td>
<td>Terra Bella Ranch</td>
<td>Near the Corner of State &amp; Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NORTH PARK FARMERS’ MARKET</th>
<th>$1 off when you buy 3 Giant Artichokes</th>
<th>$1 off Natural Farmstead Goat Cheese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every Thursday, rain or shine</td>
<td>Valid through November 24, 2011 only.</td>
<td>Valid through November 24, 2011 only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3pm to 7pm at University and Herman St.</td>
<td>One coupon per customer per booth.</td>
<td>One coupon per customer per booth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suncoast Farms</td>
<td>Nicolau Farms</td>
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<tr>
<th>PACIFIC BEACH TUESDAY FARMERS’ MARKET</th>
<th>Buy one natural pulled pork sandwich, get one 1/2 off!</th>
<th>$1 OFF any 2 Paninis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bayard Street from Garnet to Hornblend</td>
<td>Valid through November 24, 2011 only.</td>
<td>At Little Italy and NOW! at North Park weekly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every Tuesday Rain or Shine 2 pm to 6:30 pm</td>
<td>One coupon per customer per booth.</td>
<td>Valid through November 24, 2011 only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ranchwood Deli &amp; Catering</td>
<td>Seb’s Paninis</td>
<td>One coupon per customer per booth.</td>
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<tr>
<th>California raised grass-fed beef, free range chicken and natural pork.</th>
<th>$1 Off any $10 OF DELICIOUS GLUTEN FREE MIXES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SonRise Ranch</td>
<td>One coupon per customer per booth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Little Italy at Date and India, and Pacific Beach every Tuesday</td>
<td>Credit accepted!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sdweeklymarkets.com</td>
<td>Little Italy at the Corner of Kettner and Date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SD Weekly Markets
Visit the North Park Farmers Market Thursdays 3 pm to 7pm at the Little Italy Mercato Saturdays 9 am to 1:30 pm and the Pacific Beach Tuesday Farmers’ Market 2 pm to 6:30 pm Year round, rain or shine.
I am certain that some poor kid is seconds away from breaking a leg. I shoot Aaron a dirty look. “Make him go inside,” I whisper.

Ten minutes later, my father-in-law passes out on the dog bed in the living room. The kids come inside for Popsicles and giggle at the sight of him and his loud snores. It is 4:00 p.m.

I pretend he is a narcoleptic, but Andrew, my 12-year-old son, isn’t fooled. “He’s drunk,” Andrew announces. “He loves beer!”

My husband nudges his dad and sends him to our oldest son’s room. While I am cooking dinner, Andrew and our ten-year-old neighbor sneak downstairs to draw a curlicue mustache in black marker on my father-in-law’s face. My one hope is that our ten-year-old neighbor doesn’t say anything to his parents.

“Your dad is a mess,” I tell Aaron.

“Hey, your brother met our neighbor toothless.”

My husband has a point.

The next morning, when my father-in-law wakes up, I don’t mention the faux mustache on his face. He will have to cross the border on his drive back to his Rosarito home looking like that. I get a chuckle, imagining the Mexican customs agents pulling him over for his odd appearance.

Sometimes I feel as if our neighbors are silently judging us. They see the weeds in my flower bed and that my house is still pale pink. In our backyard, you can see our neighbors’ playhouse, a red-and-black pirate ship that rises above the trees and looks like a theme-park attraction. It has a drawbridge, working sink, and mini-fridge. The day we moved in, they gave us a tour of their backyard: a pond with a train that circles around the bubbling water; a saltwater pool with matching hot tub; an outdoor shower and dressing room for outside entertaining, so that guests don’t have to go inside with wet feet. They have a large-screen TV hanging in their outdoor den.

Meanwhile, we just want to replace the rusted backyard fence that keeps our senile dog from crapping in other people’s yards. Aaron would like to restucco our house in tan with white and red accents and install new garage doors, but we can’t afford those changes yet. A pool is nowhere near our
immediate future.

In July, after spending anordinate amount of money on new vinyl windows to replace the aluminum-framed originals, we go to a Padres game with our next-door neighbors. We drink $10 beers from plastic cups while they apologize for purchasing nosebleed tickets for us.

“Honestly,” I tell the wife, “these are the best seats I have ever had for a baseball game. We are usually way up there.” I point to the farthest regions of the stadium. Aaron shoots me a wounded look.

During the seventh-inning stretch, the husband leans in and asks what’s next on our home-improvement list.

The neighbor wife pipes up. “You should do the kitchen. It’s where, I’m sure, you spend the most time as a family. Have you seen ours? We redid it ten years ago.”

Aaron and I have discussed the kitchen already. We have considered repainting the faux wood cabinets in a bright white, but that’s about all we can do to update it. A remodel is out of our budget.

“You’re going to paint your house, right? It’s an easy fix,” the husband tells Aaron. “All you need to do is buy a case of beer and get some friends together. It’ll take you a weekend, tops.”

I can tell without looking at him that my husband’s face is turning red. Aaron would never allow his friends to paint our house. When we purchased our windows, he spent months researching. He had five different companies come to our home before deciding. We spent an obscene amount of time touring window showrooms so that he could figure out what he wanted. I thought I was going to lose my mind.

After our third consecutive weekend of window-shopping, I told him, “Can we just pick something out and get on with our lives!”

The reality of our situation is that there is no money left for our fixer-upper. We drained it on popcorn-ceiling removal, a tree service to eradicate the graveyard of tree stumps and dying palm trees from our front yard, a bedroom set, and the new windows. We will have to live with the 1980s kitchen cabinets and Formica countertops. We will be greeted by the mauve pink color upon our return home and the ugly gate will stay — for now,
SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS
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Do you suffer from symptoms of depression?

Have you tried taking ONE or TWO ANTI-DEPRESSANTS but aren’t relieved from your depression symptoms?
If so, please contact us today about our research study of an investigational depression medication.

Qualified participants must:
• Be 18 to 65 years of age
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• Have felt symptoms of depression for at least the past eight weeks

To learn more, please call toll-free.

Do you take a prescription Opioid Pain Medication and suffer from Constipation?

If you are:
• 18 – 84 years of age
• Taking at least one prescription opioid pain medication daily

The study will last 18 weeks and will require nine visits so that the study doctors and nurses can perform tests and monitor your health.

Qualified participants receive:
• All study-related care and study medication at no cost
• Compensation for time and travel

BLOOD DRAW for DOWN SYNDROME

We invite adults with Down Syndrome, age 18 and older, to participate in a blood draw research study.

It is only a blood draw -
Compensation may be available each time you donate.

Collection of blood samples from participants with Down syndrome is to support research and development.

Adolescent Smoking Cessation Study

Quitting Smoking isn’t easy...
Especially for Adolescents.

Learn about a research study created especially for smokers 12-19 years old who are trying to quit.

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South Bay: 1908 Sweetwater Road National City, CA 91950
1-888-619-7272
www.synergysandiego.com

North County: 710 E Grand Avenue Escondido, CA 92025
anyway.

On the car ride after the game, Aaron is quiet. I can tell he is annoyed. “You realize that you are amazing,” I tell him. “Out of all the families on our street you are the only person doing it alone. Everyone else has two incomes coming in. Look at what you have accomplished. You have a beautiful house in San Diego, and you did that by yourself.”

He softens a little before adding, “But you are going to get a job, right?”

Now that all three of our kids are in school full days, I am supposed to be working, but I’m not. I know it’s not fair to Aaron. Every morning I drop off the kids at school and come back home. I attempt to fill my days with some sort of purpose. I send out my résumé. I rearrange furniture, mop our linoleum floors, weed the garden of the pesky pepper tree seedlings that pop up. I hike to the top of Cowles Mountain. All of it makes me feel inadequate, as if I should be somewhere else by now.

I browse the job section on craigslist. A marijuana dispensary is hiring a receptionist, but that person “must be open-minded.” A businessman in Del Mar is looking for a personal assistant but needs a full-body photo along with a résumé and cover letter. A plastic surgeon’s office is in need of a social media expert. A busy law office needs a secretary.

I am none of those people.

I haven’t had a real job in nearly ten years. On my résumé are jobs I had between the ages of 15 and 19: a salesgirl at the

---

**Hepatitis C Research Study**

You may be eligible for the study if you:

- Are at least 18 years of age
- Have Hepatitis C, Genotype 1
- Failed previous Interferon treatment or
- Have been told by a doctor you are unable to have Interferon treatment

All study related medical examinations, tests and study drug will be provided free of charge. Compensation will be given for the time and travel.

Visit are at UCSD in La Jolla

If interested, call 619-717-1906 to speak to a study coordinator

---

**Smoking too much pot?**

We want to help you stop!

Researchers at the Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit smoking marijuana.

This 12-week program involves medication.

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**CLINICAL RESEARCH**

Schizophrenia • Depression • Bipolar Disorder

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

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

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

To learn more, call the Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital Clinical Research Center at (858) 836-8350.
You may be eligible if you meet the following criteria:

- 18 years of age or older
- Diagnosed with anemia due to low levels of iron (Iron Deficiency Anemia)
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To learn more and find out if you may qualify:

Visit www.IV-Iron.com
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We’re conducting a clinical research study evaluating an investigational drug designed to specifically target and block the effects of opioids at the opioid receptors in the bowel responsible for causing constipation. Utilizing an intensive approval that does not require any changes to your current pain medication, this research study aims to determine the safety and effectiveness of the investigational drug to see if it provides relief for constipation caused by prescription pain medication.

ALL STUDY PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE AT NO COSTS:

- An intensive and in-depth review of their condition conducted by dedicated research professionals.
- A confidential setting to discuss their health-related concerns.
- Study drugs (either the investigational drug or a placebo).
- Compensation for time and travel.

To learn more about this clinical research study, and to see if you may be eligible to participate contact:

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760.758.2222
MAC cosmetics counter at Nordstrom in Overland Park, Kansas; a salesgirl at Macy’s during the holiday season; a hostess at Perkins; a cashier at Marshall Fields; a bagger at a supermarket in the suburbs of Chicago; and a kitchen staffer at a home for elderly nuns across the road from my Catholic high school.

I have zero qualifications. The prospect of seeking a job makes me feel silly, like the person with a really bad perm in a roomful of well-dressed La Jollans. I don’t know what to do with my life.

I confess to one of the moms at the kids’ school, “I need to figure out what to do with my life.”

“Get a job at a coffee shop?” she offers.

I’m pathetic.

*     *     *

The honeymoon phase of homeownership has passed. For months, Aaron and I have been in the mood for bickering. We don’t talk to each other for two days, thanks to the vivid red fire extinguisher he mounts on the wall in our kitchen.

“I feel like we are changing, like this house has changed us.”

For an entire week, I collect the dirty socks he has thrown on our living room floor. On Friday morning I dump them on his side of the bed. In frustration, I blurt, “Do you see how many of them there are? This is what you do every single night! Who do you think picks them up!”

He gives me a look that says, “You have lost your mind!”

Nearly every morning I find a passive-aggressive Post-it note on the coffee maker: “I have only one pair of underwear left. PLEASE DO SOME LAUNDRY!”

For more information, please contact SD Uro Research Now for more information at 619-299-6500

For more information, contact:
Michael E. McManus, MD
(619) 692-1003

Do you feel depressed?

Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit drinking.

This 12-week program involves medication.

Announcing a medical research study for people with depression.

Depression isn’t just feelings of sadness — it can affect the way you see the world. Your body may feel constantly fatigued, and your mind may dwell on thoughts of worthlessness and guilt. If you are currently depressed and not taking an antidepressant, you may qualify for a medical research study to determine the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medication for Major Depressive Disorder. If you qualify, you’ll receive investigational study medication, study-related medical exams and lab tests at no charge. Financial compensation for time and travel may also be available.

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

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**Hepatitis C Research Studies**

eStudySite is conducting research studies on an investigational medication in patients with Hepatitis C. Please contact eStudySite if you or a loved one have been diagnosed with Hepatitis C to see if our study is right for you.

**Qualifying patients may receive:**
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- Compensation for time and travel.

For more information contact eStudySite toll free at:
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- Have High Blood Pressure

Please call for more information:
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Profil® Institute is seeking study participants, who are overweight and possibly have a non-alcoholic fatty liver, to participate in a clinical trial evaluating an investigational medication.

In order to qualify you must:
- possibly have non-alcoholic fatty liver disease
- be overweight
- not have Diabetes
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the garden. Everything is dying!”

We have been spending weeks silently hating one another. Our cold-shoulder treatment has been going on for far too long when we finally address the issue.

It’s one of the Fridays that Aaron has off, and he mentions how nice it must be to putter around the house all day.

“Are you mad that I don’t have a job?” I ask him.

He shrugs. “It just seems like you have a lot of expectations for someone who isn’t working.”

“I do not!”

“It seems like you are never satisfied!”

At this point, we are both yelling.

“You’re the one who isn’t satisfied,” I snap. “You have always said that you want me to stay home and raise the kids, so why are you making me feel bad about it now?”

“Why do you care so much what our neighbors think of us?”

There is more yelling and door-slamming. At some point, I say something about becoming a stripper. The thought of me topless and covered with glitter makes us both crack up.

The argument ends in a fit of laughter.

Yet both of us carry some unresolved anger. That night, when I am attempting to fall asleep, Aaron says, “I feel like we are changing, like this house has changed us.”

“I know.”

“The thing about us is that we have always embraced our dysfunction,” he says earnestly. “Let’s not pretend to be people that we are not. The house will get there. We should just enjoy it for now.”

“I know.” The bad feelings from our earlier argument disappear.

“But you are going to get a job, right?”

— Siobhan Braun
arts trophy 19 years after my first, charmingly informative, junior-college orientation class.

This glory run occurred back in the days when they paid you to go to university.

Oh, let us all gather round the camp fire and recount heroic tales of Pell Grants, NDSL loans, tuition waivers, and work-study programs.

College was a national youth stipend made available by an enlightened nation to those young seekers who wished to explore our great land.

The gig went like this: show up in a town, sign up at the local university, college, or junior college, apply for every student loan, grant, and award available, circle back two months later, collect the checks, and move on. Yes, there was more to it than that — the sending of transcripts, filling out paperwork, rapt attention to application deadlines, chit and chat with university loan officers — but the guts were: show up, sign up, come back, cash in. Ultimately, I graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, on my birthday, cast out at 37 into an uncaring world.

The college I liked best and attended the longest was the above-mentioned UNLV, which, at the time of my first induction, was known as Nevada Southern University, a modest outpost of the University of Nevada.

And what in the fuck is it with me that I can’t roll a straight joint!

Todd snorts. “The one from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez. The one that’s gonna hire 20,000 people. The one that’s gonna pay you $1000 a week.”

But I could never have become a pipeline laborer had I not begun, at age 18, my collegiate pro tour, attending 11 colleges before capturing the bachelor of arts trophy 19 years after my first, charmingly informative, junior-college orientation class.

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Reno. When you said NSU (go, Rebels!), it meant two classroom buildings and an administration center with the heart-tugging name of Maude Frazier Hall. The student population was 3650; the school mascot was a wolf garbed in a Confederate field jacket, the wolf wearing a military cap with a Confederate battle flag sewn on its front. More disturbing, the nearest cup of coffee was off-campus, across Maryland Parkway, in an outdoor vending machine located on the grounds of a sleazy apartment complex called Longacres.

I wound up at NSU in this way:

On August 24, 1968, Abby Pizer and I stood outside Hawthorne, Nevada, a redneck desert colony overrun with trailer-court Americana. Hawthorne is on Highway 95, part of that big empty space between Reno and Las Vegas. It was 108 degrees, and we hadn’t eaten in a day or had a change of clothes in two. She was 17. I was 24. We were in love.

Abby grew up in Columbia, a California town of 4000 in the Sierra Nevada. She was tall, 5’10”, and had fire-red hair falling to the middle of her firm ass. Additional attractions included green eyes, thin, wide lips, long legs, and large breasts. These delights came with a sweet disposition and significant talents in art and piano.

We’d met the preceding spring in Los Altos Hills, California. Mom (Dad was dead), though wealthy by way of inheritance, had declined to pay tuition to a four-year college, but Abby had an aunt living in Sunnyvale, down the street from Foothill JC. Match Abby with aunt and dirt-cheap tuition, throw in a political science class, add your servant, stir, and, voilà, supreme young love.

I was then living in a $75-a-month hovel, which became, within a week, a $75-a-month hovel/love nest. At the end of spring semester, Abby, at her mother’s insistence, went home to work in a photographer’s shop, a job Mom arranged the moment she heard from the aunt that Abby was off the leash. Meanwhile, I summbered on the coast of Washington, with side trips to British Columbia and Montana.

We set an August rendezvous for the Fresno airport, chosen because it was convenient to Ms. Pizer. The plan was for Abby to pick me up in her 1958 Ford Fairlane at 8:00 p.m. We’d drive to the Bay Area, where she would resume her studies,
and I, reformed by the love of a good woman, would begin the epic trek to a PhD, followed by a tenured life of piano recitals and faculty barbecues.

The Fresno airport closed at midnight, and at midnight I was patrolling the empty terminal under the visual custody of two janitors. Showing the kind of initiative that, 30 years later, would find her as sole owner of rare-book bookbinding company, living in an honest-to-god Southern plantation on the shores of the Sucarnoochee River, Abby got through via telephone to one of the janitors, who walked the length of the terminal, tapped me on the shoulder, and led me into his office.

Abby was calling from her mother’s house. She reported that, on the way to Fresno, on the zigzag portion of Highway 49, a turkey had sprung onto the highway, causing her to make a violent right turn, which caused the automobile to make an abrupt acquaintance with a large oak tree. Although uninjured, she was halfway in shock. She climbed out of the car to clear her head. This was fortunate, because the Ford exploded, a hell of a fire, the police said, which reduced to ashes not only upholstery and such, but all Abby’s money, clothes, luggage, purse, and ID. Our net worth now consisted of our luggage, purse, and ID. Oxygen in my backpack, plus the $7 and change in my pocket.

The janitors let me sleep in the terminal. I hitched a ride the next morning and made Columbia by noon.

Abby’s mother hated me. Completely understandable. If that evil strumpet were alive today, I’d tell her exactly that. I was halfway through my earnest-hippie period, with black hair flowing from my skull like a hairy waterfall. Worse, I arrived in Columbia dressed in ceremonial apparel: my patched traveling jeans. These splendid dungarees had been hand-embroidered by hippie women I’d met over the years. Regard the left knee patch and its colorful sunburst from Lawrence, Kansas. Inspect the right thigh patch and its nature scene that starred a bull moose grazing beneath snow-capped mountains of Dillon, Montana. Do not overlook the backside, particularly the right cheek area featuring an enormous full moon from Gainesville, Florida. Plus, hem to waist, a collection of mystical emblems copied from cultures either extinct or powerless.

When Mom realized I had come for her daughter, she did the motherly thing and called the California Highway Patrol, demanding my arrest on the grounds of transporting a minor for immoral purposes. Meanwhile, Abby and I slid out the front door and began a promenade, which turned into a hitchhike over the Sierra Nevada, figuring, correctly, that the Bay Area

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was blown. We crossed into Nevada at Devil’s Gate, which turned the crime into transporting a minor across state lines for immoral purposes.

My $7 was spent by nightfall. It was cold. We camped at 6500 feet, used newspapers, dirty clothes, and leaves as blankets, fed the fire, and told each other that everything was going to be all right.

It took two days to travel the 151 miles from Columbia to Hawthorne, Nevada. This was 1968, which meant we were exotic to locals. For this reason, we set up our hitchhiking post one mile south of town. I told Abby, “On all accounts, let us not excite the natives.”

Aside from the odd beer can thrown from passing pickup trucks, and the deputy sheriff, who drove by every hour to order us out of town, our deployment was a diplomatic triumph.

But, the heat! Motherfucker! No shade, no wind, no trees, shrubs, or flowers. I found out later that it takes living in the desert for an entire year before you see what’s in front of you, instead of the absence of yellows, reds, blues, and greens.

That day, the universe was pancake brown, occasionally relieved by motley mesquite trees and balls of dead, dirt-gray sagebrush. Adding another layer of discomfort was the silence. No breeze blowing. No birds squawking. No water rushing. No squirrels running along tree branches or dogs walking over dry leaves. Just…nothing.

Two, three, four, five, six hours. On average, one car every 19 minutes. An automobile emerges, a black beetle on the northern horizon, then grows to the size of a child’s toy. Due to the pavement’s reflected heat, the child’s toy takes on a shimmering, liquid form. Lastly, comes the horror as that shimmering vision mutates into a gigantic, straight-from-the-magazine-ads, ugly-piece-of-shit American automobile. Often — with husband driving and wife riding shotgun — a Chrysler or Buick or Mercury would slow as it approached our redoubt, causing an explosion of hope in our hearts.

We jumped up and down, like children unable to contain their ecstasy. The vehicle would crawl along at ten mph, as if entering an animal park, and, drawing alongside us, windows rolled up, air-conditioner on high, we’d witness a woman’s clean white hand reach toward the passenger door, find its lock, and ram...
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the knob down while hubby hit the accelerator.

So, you understand why we froze when the big, black Caddy stopped. The Caddy was a hearse, with purple window curtains drawn around sides and rear, and it stood at rest 20 feet from our backpacks.

“All, fucking right!”

A double-time jog to the hearse’s front door. Stow gear and climb in, remembering to observe hitchhiking etiquette, female in the center seat, male by the passenger door. Happiness, thy name is Jarrod.

Jarrod Pridham: a blocky, blond-headed 26-year-old, 5’10” of farm boy, born and raised in Valentine, Nebraska. His dad grew corn, soybeans, sorghum, and winter wheat. Jarrod had two brothers and one sister, didn’t care for the sister much, which didn’t matter as she’d died of bone cancer six years ago. Jarrod dropped out of high school. He wanted to join the Navy but was turned down, didn’t know why, but it was all for the good, because his uncle then invited him to Las Vegas. His uncle was a cement foreman at a big construction company and said there was plenty of work and to come on out. So, Jarrod moved to Las Vegas. He never did work for his uncle, but drove a taxi for a while, went to LA and stayed with a cousin, moved back to Vegas, didn’t like sports, but occasionally followed baseball on the radio because he liked the announcer’s voice. ‘Course, it was traveling that he loved. He was a traveling kind of guy, which “is why this job is so goddamn bitchin’.”

We learned the foregoing within five minutes, three minutes past the moment we understood that Jarrod was wrecked, fucked-up on speed.

At present, Jarrod worked for a Las Vegas mortuary: when a wealthy Las Vegan died out of state, he was dispatched to haul the carcass home. The carcass currently resting in the back had been retrieved from Seattle two days ago. We pieced this morsel of information together between Jarrod’s relentless monologues celebrating life on the road. “HEEEEY! You look like party people. YOU WOULDN’T BELIEVE HOW MUCH PUSSY I GET IN THIS THING! I’ve partied all the way from Seattle. PARTY-FUCKING-PARTY-FUCKING-PARTY-PARTY. FUCK-FUCK!”

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and Abby and I counted off every one of them. We were inside a steel holding tank with a guy who’d been alone for the last 50 hours, downing speed and communicating with the dead.

At the first red light in downtown Las Vegas, I flung open the passenger door, yanked Abby into daylight, likewise our backpacks, and fled across Fremont Street.

Great ball of fire! Free in downtown Las Vegas, in front of Benny Binion’s Horseshoe Casino. In the mid-’60s, you could always rake in a few bucks by scrapping, with the caveat that such activity must occur within designated areas. Begging was a picturesque novelty in collegiate America, but get yourself 30 miles from either ocean, or four city blocks from a university, and panhandling was on a par with selling babies door-to-door.

It took 35 minutes to hustle that first bit of change. Christ, where could we find a nest of liberals in casino world? A phone booth beckoned. I picked up the directory, began turning pages and muttering, “Liberals, liberals, liberals. Where are you? There’s got to be one.” I leafed past bakers, cocktail lounges, hardware stores, optometrists, and then, “Whoa, here’s a university.”

Ring, ring, ring. A woman’s voice: “Nevada Southern University.”

Quick, what’s the most liberal department in a college? “Ah, Sociology Department, please.”

Ring, ring, ring. “Sociology Department.”

“I’d like to speak to a sociologist.”

“One moment.”

Bruce Burger came to the telephone. “Hello.”

“You don’t know me, but...” I ran through current events, and Bruce invited us to his office.

We wound up staying six weeks in his apartment in Longacres, six doors down from the coffee, tea, or boul-"e". On vending machine. Bruce got us into school and lined it up a magnificent package of NSDL loans, Pell Grants, student loans, and work-study jobs. Soon Abby and I were pulling down more money as students than we’d ever made working in the hive.

We did a couple years at UNLV, née NSU. When the first checks arrived, Abby and I moved into a cabin on Mt. Charleston. Yup, they got a mountain there. We lived at 7200 feet, saw snow from November to March, watched elk strut through stands of aspen. We bought a lumbering, underpowered, post office step-van at auc-
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On the Tuesday I arrived, downtown Arden consisted of a double-wide dirt street one block long. On the east side was a crumbling warehouse with an office in front. The office provided a huge partner desk, perfect except for one missing drawer. Across the street were two dilapidated one-story wooden buildings; I guessed they’d been offices, too. One had a crushed roof, the other had no roof. In the center of town were three four-room foremen’s shacks.

Abby and I moved into the best shack, the one in the middle. I tacked clear Visqueen over window frames, installed new hinges on doors, built an outhouse, bought kerosene lamps, and rescued a wood-burning stove from a relic of a cabin 50 miles and 50 years south.

Arden was ours. At sundown, I’d stroll Main Street wearing trainman’s gray-and-white-striped bib overalls, no shirt, and Frye boots, the ensemble accessorized by an authentic Searchlight, Nevada, sheriff’s badge pinned over my chest. I’d walk to where Main Street curved into a dirt trail and watch the sun set behind the Spring Mountain Range, then follow its shadow as it raced 28 miles across the dirt road.

A left turn onto a nameless road, three miles west and make a left turn onto a nameless dirt road.

Arden was built in 1905 next to the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad Line. It was a railroad siding, then a railroad siding with a post office, which bloomed into a railroad siding with a post office that was also home of the Arden Plaster Company. When the plaster company shut down in 1919, Arden resumed life as a respectable railroad siding.

If you’re coming in from L.A. on I-15, Arden can be seen from the last downhill grade into the Las Vegas Strip. Take the Blue Diamond exit, just past a sign that reads: “Don’t Bring Drugs Into Nevada. Life Imprisonment.” Drive three miles west and make a left turn onto a nameless dirt road.

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valley floor to the base of Frenchman Mountain, there to work its way upward until the last pink of sunlight shining on mountain’s peak went dark. A riveting performance made boffo when accompanied by Ms. Pizer, who practiced Debussy or Chopin or Bach six days a week on a rented piano.

Our nearest neighbor was Ralph Robson, a black-haired prune-faced man in his 60s who lived one-half mile distant in a lumber-and-tin shanty that he’d built, one scavenged board at a time, from materials retrieved from the desert. It was a peculiar, personal-looking domicile. I enjoyed the Christian exhortations spray-painted on his roof and outside walls: “He that covereth his sins shall not prosper.” “Ye Must Be Born Again.” “Repent ye, and believe the gospel.”

Our relationship was limited to a nod of the head as we drove past each other on the dirt road into Arden, and my shouts of praise when Ralph painted another burn-in-hell slogan. I’d say to Abby, “Baby, Ralph’s having himself a good day.”

So, I was surprised, on a particularly cold, windy morning in January, to see Ralph at my front door. I invited him into the kitchen and poured coffee. Ralph announced that his mother had died. I’d heard he lived with his mother.

“I’m sorry. Has it been difficult for you?”

“No, not too difficult.” Ralph explained that he’d been expecting his mother’s death and that she had passed quietly.

“Well, you must be comforted by your religious beliefs.” I studied the coffeepot and reflected on what a pompous, hack little sentence that was. “When did she die?”

“Last night.”

“Ah, nighttime.” Spoken as if nighttime was the cause of death. “I suppose you sat by her bed and prayed.”

Ralph replied that the first thing he did after his mother died was to remove her dress and cut it into neat, three-inch squares.

One heartbeat. Two heartbeats, three. “Ralph, why did you cut your mother’s dress into squares?”

“I needed toilet tissue.” And a damn fine bit of frugal homemaking that was. But — and again, here’s the point — I could never have achieved my bachelor of arts degree had I not hitchhiked for five years.

On a hot May morning in 1970, I set sail from Arden. I’d planned a hitch-hike over to Berkeley to visit friends. I kissed Abby goodbye, accepted a sack lunch of two meat-loaf sandwiches, homemade coleslaw, paper napkins, and a dozen marijuana-laced oatmeal cookies. I swung the big green Kelty backpack over my shoulders and walked out the door.

— Patrick Daugherty
Retirement money
continued from page 2
up with a lot less money, she points out.

Another trick is companies telling retirees that in the past they have been overcompensated. They must return money to the company right away. She cites many examples of retired persons who are suddenly told they must give money back. But they don’t have the money. One widow was told that she had waived her right to her survivor’s pension. She couldn’t remember having done any such thing. She wanted proof. But the company told her she would have to subpoena the records. Living on $950 a month of Social Security, she could hardly afford a lawyer.

Companies siphon money from pension funds to finance downsizings and sell assets in merger deals. They purchase billions of dollars of life insurance on retirees to finance downsizings and sell assets in merger deals. They purchase billions of dollars of life insurance on employees who stayed on the job would see benefits rise sharply in later years. But under the new system, the company figures how much a pension would be worth if an employee quit immediately. That becomes the opening account balance, which grows slowly.

The bottom line is that older employees, whose salaries are higher and who have already accrued good benefits, get screwed. In 2005, the Government Accountability Office concluded that benefit declines under such plans are greatest for older workers. Professors at two universities concluded that when companies lower pension benefits, particularly through adoption of cash-balance plans, the pay of chief executives tends to leap inordinately.

Sempra Energy switched to a cash-balance plan in 2003. Older employees complained, “It became clear that it would take older workers more than a dozen years under the cash-balance plan to accrue the amount of money we had already accrued under the traditional plan,” recalls Don Wood, then a veteran Sempra employee. “I decided to retire from [Sempra] at age 56. Unless I worked past age 65 under the new cash-balance plan, I would never accrue as much as I had already accrued under the traditional plan.” It was a way for top management “to siphon money out of the employees’ pension system into their own pockets.”

In 2004, Sempra chief executive Stephen Baum raked in $13.5 million in total compensation, four times the industry median. Former San Diegan Graef Crystal, one of the world’s ranking experts on executive compensation, figured that Baum would then be making $154,000 a month in his retirement.

Baum was succeeded as chief executive by Donald Felsinger. He gobbled up $10.2 million last year, which was more than 300 times the median pay of American workers, according to the AFL-CIO. He was replaced as chief executive in June and will officially retire late next year when he turns 65.

Under the radar
continued from page 2
registration filing, the company, headed by M. Max Del Real, seeks the “establishment of a medical cannabis ordinance regulating dispensaries.” The firm is also registered with the California secretary of state, but reported no third quarter clients in its latest disclosure, October 9. In July, in his other role as president of the California Cannabis Business League, Del Real headed a posh political fundraiser in a private penthouse loft in Sacramento for Humboldt County District Attorney Paul Gallegos, according to an account in the Eureka Times Standard. Guests included members of the Humboldt Growers Association, the California Board of Equalization, medical marijuana dispensary owners, and former Sacramento City Councilman Robbie Waters, the paper reported. A biography on California Capitol’s website says, “As a former classroom teacher, Max inspired thousands of youths to excel in school and go to college.” It adds, “Through his lobbying efforts, Max helped engineer a local tax on medical cannabis that is projected to earn the City of Sacramento $1,500,000 annually.” Another newly arrived marijuana lobbyist is Cynara Velazquez, who runs Consumer Engagement Resources, which on August 2 registered to represent the Patient Care Association regarding “land use and public safety regulation for medicinal cannabis collectives.” The “outcome sought,” the filing says, is “fair regulation.” Like Del Real, Velazquez has been a spokesperson for the industry.

— 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 SDR reader.com/radar/

Never trust pigs
continued from page 3
cautions are being taken, but they’re about as effective for any purpose beyond appeasing the public as wrapping them in garland and a giant Christmas bow.

“Fraud is as much a part of a nuclear plant as the steel and cement,” says Palast, implying the plant operators are well aware of their safety devices’ shortcomings. “Nuclear power for profit is simply impossible if safety comes first.”

We switch topics to “smart pigs,” or pipeline inspection gauges, robotic devices that scan the inside of oil and gas pipelines to identify weak spots caused by corrosion or faulty connections. Palast conducted an interview with an industry insider he refers to only as “Pig Man,” who discovered a programming error that causes the devices to underreport the level of decay pipelines may be suffering, in direct violation of federal accuracy standards. His engineering team offered management a fix for the glitch, and he was promptly fired.

It turns out that making repairs to pipe when ever federal law says repairs should be made is a costly endeavor — to the tune of $31.25 million per mile for a project like Alyeska’s Trans Alaska Pipeline, which burst in 2006, spilling over 6300 barrels of oil and requiring a $500 million project to replace 16 miles of corroded pipe. Alyeska is a conglomerate of British Petroleum, ExxonMobil, and...
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San Diego Reader, November 17, 2011
other big players in the oil industry. The pig manufacturers feared that correcting the errors in the program would alert client companies to the need for even more pipe replacement, thus leading to further costs, which the clients wished to avoid. “It’s just better to pay off if it blows. It may blow, it may not blow, you know? But if it blows, well, gee — okay, then it’s an accident,” Palast says, describing another pipeline blowout in Chicago that cost a gas company there about $40 million in settlements and legal fees after 18 people died. “It’s just too expensive to do it right.”

On October 12, the Reader’s Dorian Hargrove reported on a Navy pipeline transporting diesel and jet fuel from San Diego Bay to MCAS Miramar. The line was installed in 1954. Jim Gilhooly, a Point Loma resident with 40 years’ experience in pipeline maintenance (including work on Trans Alaska), then stated, “Average life of pipelines without life-extension programs is 20 to 30 years.”

The Navy says it sends a smart pig through the line every five years to ensure safety, with the last test being performed in 2008. “I bet they do,” Palast replied. “It’s kabuki — pretend. They pretend that it’s safe.”

We also touched on the state of investigative journalism in America.
NEWS TICKER
continued from page 3
Plaza and push everybody out into the street,” said attorney Bryan Pease.
Spokesperson John Kenne presented a citation he was given by police last Wednesday for “illegal use of the horn” after honking for “three seconds” while driving past the protest.
Kenne posited that being allowed to have structures on the plaza (which was the case until the first police raid on October 14) makes the occupation safer, more sanitary, and more organized.
By Chad Deal
Wednesday, November 9

Publicity Stuntman
Occipper Comments on DeMaio’s Small-Biz Fundraiser Downtown — Last night, city councilmember and mayoral candidate Carl DeMaio held a fundraiser at Downtown Johnny Brown’s bar and grill during a fundraiser at Downtown DeMaio’s Small-Biz Occupier Comments on DeMaio’s Small-Biz Fundraiser

Dispensary Drama
Property Owners Allowed to Evict Marijuana Shops Rancho Bernardo — It is legal for building owners to evict pot dispensaries that are operating on their property, ruled San Diego County Superior Court judge Ronald Prager on November 1.
The decision came after Kimber Investment Group informed the court of their intention to evict the dispensary from one of their units in Rancho Bernardo. “There’s no place in the City of San Diego, including the shopping center in Rancho Bernardo here, where a medical marijuana dispensary is a permissible use. It is therefore illegal,” read Prager’s ruling. The ruling bolsters the city attorney’s efforts to shut down marijuana dispensaries throughout San Diego.
By Dorian Hargrove
Tuesday, November 8

Cheaper Quarters
Manchester is Looking at U-T San Diego — Hotelier and real estate magnate Doug ("Papa Doug") Manchester is considering purchase of the Union-Tribune, VoiceofSanDiego.org is reporting this afternoon.
More than a month ago, on September 29, the Reader, on this News Ticker, reported the rumor that Manchester might be buying the local newspaper.
After the Reader report, Rachel Laing, flack for mayor Sanders, sent out a tweet saying, “That post was an absolute travesty of journalism!”
Manchester’s interest would almost certainly be in the real estate. Some people in the newspaper business suspect that the U-T might be the first major daily to jetison its print editions and go strictly online. In that case, the U-T would almost certainly abandon its building on choice real estate in Mission Valley and move to cheaper quarters.
By Don Bauder
Monday, November 7

 find more Neighborhood News at SDR118
www.sdr118.com/news/neighborhood-news

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Issue 232
San Diego Reader November 1, 2011
Now on Tap

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Thursday | 17

WINE-AND-FOOD-FESTIVAL COOKING CLASSES
The San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival will host this array of cooking classes including Pleasure Principles: Spoil the One You Love with Cocktails and Cuisine, A Taste of the Mid-East, Brunch and Beyond: Weekend’s Favorite Meal, and Two Farms, Two Families, One Vision: From Portugal to Point Reyes.

**WHEN:** 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m (also Friday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)
**WHERE:** San Diego Wine and Culinary Center (and Macy’s School of Cooking), 200 Harbor Drive, Downtown. 619-312-1212; sandiegowineandculinary.com

Friday | 18

DAVID & LISA
This tale — adapted by James Reach, based on a novel by psychiatrist Theodore Isaac Rubin — will be staged by the Pickwick Players. “David is tortured by his mania against being touched, and Lisa has a split personality.” The play follows the two for one college term “under the sympathetic guidance of psychiatrist Alan Swinford.”

**WHEN:** 7:30 p.m. (also Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday)
**WHERE:** Moxie at Rolando Theatre, 6663 El Cajon Boulevard, Suite N, El Cajon. 619-448-5673; pickwickplayers.net

Saturday | 19

SIGHT AND SOUND: SPEAKEASY EDITION
This mini-festival will feature a group-art exhibit entitled *Ashcan Rantings*, video art by Kinetic Collage, live painting and portraits by True Delorenzo, and performances including Brian Karscig with Robbie Dodds, Erika Davies, and Now What. Seven bucks if you wear a tie (either neck or bow); ten if you don’t.

**WHEN:** 6 p.m.
**WHERE:** 3rd Space, 4610 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-255-3609.

Sunday | 20

FALL FESTIVAL
Shop, eat, and be entertained at the Encinitas Street Fair with over 450 vendor booths showcasing arts, crafts, and more along Coast Highway. Live music, food, and plenty of goodies to fill the stockings next month.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
**WHERE:** Encinitas, Highway 101 (between D and J). 760-943-1950; encinitas101.com/events/fall-festival/

Monday | 21

LET’S GIVE THANKS
Yak Academy, which focuses on play-based immersion language programs for kids, hosts this event for children three to seven with a focus on “being thankful and how gratitude is celebrated in other cultures” with the Dulce Sweet Kids. Art, music, and songs help make learning natural and fun.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
**WHERE:** Yak Academy, 9939 Hibert Street, Suite 105, Scripps Ranch. dulcesweetkids.com

Tuesday | 22

HOLIDAY LEGO TRAINS
It’s opening day for the Southern California LEGO Train Club’s annual holiday LEGO train exhibit at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum. See thousands of LEGOs make up train tracks, skyscrapers, and “the most detailed residential area you have ever seen.”

**WHEN:** 11 a.m. (exhibit ends January 14)
**WHERE:** San Diego Model Railroad, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park. 619-696-0199; sdmrm.org

Wednesday | 23

NATURE’S HARVEST COLORS
Enjoy the seasonal color of taxi-yellow goldenbush and other fall blooms on this guide-led tour along one of the trails running through the 5800 acres that make up Mission Trails Regional Park.

**WHEN:** 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. (also Saturday and Sunday)
**WHERE:** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Carlos. 619-668-3281; mtrp.org
Kayaking Elkhorn Slough, California
By Mary Spierling

Elkhorn Slough is one of the last coastal wetlands in California and one of 27 estuaries in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, set up to study and protect estuaries and coastal watersheds across the U.S.

Located inland from Monterey Bay near the town of Moss Landing, the slough is considered one of the best places for wildlife viewing and is California’s second-largest marine wetland. The slough is an important habitat for otters, harbor seals, and over 250 bird species.

Seals and otters spend time resting and playing in the calm environment of this expansive tidal wetland. By the mouth of the slough, near the harbor, sea otters are the area’s denizens. Most of the 60 to 90 sea otters residing there have lost their fear of humans and swim around kayaks, tugging at their bungee cords. The slough teems with wildlife almost within reach of your kayak.

This is an excellent paddle for beginners and a must-see for land-based naturalists. Kayaks can be launched at only two places in the estuary: Kirby Park (near the Elkhorn Slough Visitor Center) and the Moss Landing Harbor District launch ramp.

Most of the estuary’s channels and side channels are accessible at least at high tide. Several hiking trails bisect the preserve, but a kayak is the best way to take it all in.

On the Holy Ganges in Varanasi, India
By Sarah Ouderkirk

When I arrived in Varanasi, I was clueless. The first thing I did was walk down to the river — the fabled River Ganges, the holiest waters of India. I put my feet in the water, sandals and all.

“HEY!” someone yelled. I turned to see a furious Indian man who had obviously seen my type once too often. “My MOTHER!” he said, pointing to the water. I saw that the water was green and opaque with pollution, sewage, and trash.

“My MOTHER!” he yelled again. His eyes bulged out of his head. I looked at him, still confused. He pointed to my shoes. “No shoes!” I realized that I had committed a major faux pas. All the dirt on my shoes was now in this man’s most sacred water.

Supposedly, Varanasi is an ancient city where the original inhabitants were sun worshippers, praying along the river to the sun as God. The people are Hindu now, and they call the river Ganga (pronounced “gone-ga”), Mother Ganga.

As I tried to wrap my mind around the idea of water as the mother of life and death, I found a room with a window overlooking the river. I would soon begin to understand.

continued on page 56.
The cloud-mantled planet Venus reflects 76 percent of the sunlight falling on it. Less than one-billionth of the light that bounces away is intercepted by Earth. Most strikes Earth’s day side, but some falls on a crescent-shaped slice of Earth’s night side. Anyone inside that crescent may see – as we now see after sundown – Venus hanging lantern-like in the sky, far brighter than any other planet or star.

On a February evening some years ago, less than one-billionth of all the Venus-light shining on Earth was softly, almost imperceptibly illuminating the landscape around my desert campsite. A faint, sharply defined shadow, cast by Venus, moved as I moved across the white sand. When it was time to crawl into my sleeping bag, Venus had sunk to ridgeline in the west. I noticed a gossamer gloom advancing from the same direction. The leading edge of the shadow crept across the sand, jumped upon my Mylar ground cover, and climbed up my face. In two seconds, Venus faded and vanished from sight.

Right now, as then, the celestial circumstances are ideal for stalking the Venus-shadow. For the next three weeks. Venus stands high in the western sky at dusk and remains visible for the next three hours. Greatest brilliance occurs on February 24, when Venus will be almost as bright as it ever becomes in the Earth sky.

Seek out a very dark location in the mountains or the desert, far from any kind of artificial light. Bright surfaces work best; if you’re not on light-colored sand, spread a white sheet on the ground. Venus-shadows are sharp – not like the mushy shadows cast by the sun or moon - because Venus itself is practically a point source of light. A Venus-shadow cast by a mountaintop one-quarter mile away has a fuzzy edge only about one inch wide. A sun- or moon-shadow at the same distance has a fuzzy edge about 100 times wider.

Credit for our ability to discern Venus-shadows goes to the retinal rod in our eyes, which get remarkably sensitized under truly dark skies. The dark skies last until February 23, when the moon reappears in the evening sky as a very thin crescent below Venus. On the 24th, the slightly thicker crescent moon will lie very close to Venus, outshining it by a factor of 13.

NOTE: The information in this archived article may not be current. Verify phone numbers.
Outdoor Awakenings Hike
Outdoor Education Foundation and field naturalist Jordan Arce plan hike on Oak Canyon Trail, along sycamore and oak-lined ravine winding north from Old Mission Dam. Proceeds benefit Patrick Henry High School sixth grade camp scholarship fund. Requested donation: $5. Saturday, November 19, 2pm; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Silverwood Cleanup
Volunteers invited to help with construction of trails, invasive weed control, trail clearing, maintaining fire clearance zones. Bring gloves, pruners, loppers if you have them. Snacks, water provided. RSVP: 619-443-2998. Saturday, November 19, 9am; Silverwood Sanctuary, 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LA JOLLA)

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**Diamond Jubilee Home Tour:** All Souls’ Saint Nicholas Home Tour. A Marketplace, Tea, and Entertainment are included. Tour six Point Loma homes. Tickets $25 in advance or $30 at the door. Saint Nicholas Marketplace, 12:30 to 4 pm; Saint Nicholas Tea, 1 to 4 pm. Purchase tickets at: www.all-souls.org or www.allsoulsomt.net. Saturday, December 3, 10 am to 4 pm. Admission: $25 - $30. All Souls’ Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

“Food, Glorious Food”
“Fire walker” Vincent J poses as a chef for Dr. Sketchy’s Anti-Art School. Drawing, costume contest, drinks, music, contests, prizes. Bring art supplies. Donate can of food or non-perishable food item to food drive. 858-405-9453. Saturday, November 19, 3pm; 10. Ruby Room, 1271 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

“Odyssey”
Suite Briquette presents art show with live painting by Quentin Anderson 2, Anna Zappoli, Cobb Bobb, Martin Nasim, Lara Chromium. Music by the North Trio. Thursday, November 17, 8pm; H Street/K Street, 624 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

“Sight and Sound: Speakeasy Edition”
This “mini-festival” promises “Ashcan Rantings” group exhibit, video art by Kinetic College, Live jazz on stage by True Dekorenzo, performances by Brian Karsig with Robbie Dodds, Erika Davies, Now What, others. Tickets: $7-$10 wear a neck or bow tie; $10 if you don’t. Info@exodus-studios.com. Saturday, November 19, 6pm; 21 and up. 3rd Space, 4610 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Homeowner’s Association Anthology
Bob Lundby and Eliza-Beth Yahn Williams, a.k.a. Hither and Yahn, host publication party for poetry anthology. 760-414-1056, Friday, November 18, 7pm; Gallery 204, 204 Main Street. (CAMPUS HEIGHTS)

Bravo for Breast Cancer Walkers
Help out at official cheering station and water distribution point when Breast Cancer Walkers begin first leg of their 60-mile journey. More than 4000 walkers expected to travel through Del Mar. Friday, November 18, 7:30am; free. E Fuego Cantina & Grill, 1342 Camino del Mar. (DEL MAR)

Del Mar Antique Show
Antique dealers from all over offer antiques, vintage collectibles, decorative items during Calendar Antique Show. Antiques appraisal booth ($5 per item). Also on hand: repair and restoration artisans expert in fields of glass, crystal, porcelain, pottery, rugs, jewelry. 858-943-7501. Friday, November 18, 11am; Saturday, November 19, 11am; Sunday, November 20, 11am; $4-$8. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Encinitas Fall Festival
Shop, eat, be entertained when over 450 vendor booths showcase wares along Coast Highway during festival. Live music (Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind, Peter Sprague, others). Coast Highway 101 closed from D Street to J Street starting at 6am. 760-943-1950. Sunday, November 20, 9am; free. Encinitas, Highway 101 between D and J streets. (ENCINITAS)

Jingle Paws
Walk with or without a companion animal during event benefiting El Cajon Animal Shelter. Obstacle course, “dancing for dogs,” hay bale maze, vendors, photographs with Santa, more. Saturday, November 19, 8am; $30-$55. Wells Park Center, 1153 East Madison Avenue. (EL CAJON)

Lessons of the New Deal
Bring your ideas to forum hosted by Civilized Conversation group. 858-234-6319. Thursday, November 17, 7pm; free. 18 and up. Filer, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

New Year’s Eve Soiree!
Ages 45-65. Simply The Best Singles, an upscale organization for singles looking for relationships, marriage and more, offers this dance/mixer at the beautiful Carmel Mountain Ranch Country Club. Celebrate the New Year with entertainer, Pete Peterkin, a Finalist on America’s Got Talent! Complimentary appetizers, lock & key, champagne toast and more! $42. Must pre-pay at www.SimplyTheBestSingles.com or call 818-575-6077. Saturday, November 19, 10am; free. Oceanside Photo and Telescope, 918 Mission Avenue. (OCEANIDE)

Talmadge Art Show
Annual show, sale features work in variety of media by 82 artists. 619-559-9082. Sunday, November 20, 10am; free. HTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

Talismagic Art Sale
Treasures Art Sale. More than 4000 art objects from all over the world on offer, ranging from $1 to $3000, which have “been donated to Mingi International over the years but never accessioned into the collection.” Shop furniture, textiles, sculpture, pottery, toys, more. 619-704-7493. Saturday, November 19, 10am; $1. Mingi International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (LA JOLLA)


day, November 19, 9am; Johnson Avenue at Lincoln.

India continued from page 54.

Late one night, from the window in my room, I saw a group of men standing at the water’s edge. The man in the center was holding a white bundle in his arms. He was waiting for a boatman whose vessel gently eased out of the darkness. I realized that the white bundle was his dead baby, and he was about to release the little body into the Ganges.

There are six types of people whose bodies are released intact into the Ganges: Hindu holy men, pregnant women, victims of snake bite, victims of smallpox, victims of leprosy, and children under two years. The boatman took the man aboard his wooden boat. The man gently placed the bundle on the covered bow. An icon gleaming white, angelic in purity, its linen untarnished by even the slightest mark, it was prepared to be taken whole into the darkness.

When the boatman reached the center of the river, he stopped where the current was fastest to take the body quickly into the afterlife. With the bow pointing downstream, the man took the bundle into his arms one last time and gently set it into the green-black water. The boatman began rowing against the current, and as the boat turned back upstream to the family standing in golden lamplight, the white bundle floated away and sank gently. It was a beautiful funeral ceremony.

Win Tickets to See BB King at Belly Up!

His reign as King of the Blues has been as long as that of any monarch on earth. Yet B.B. King continues to wear his crown well, singing and playing the blues with relentless passion.

Enter by Monday, November 28 at 1PM

Win a Free Appetizer at Berta’s Latin American Restaurant!

Berta’s is located in a quaint, little cottage in the heart of Old Town where you’ll find some of the finest Latin American cuisine this side of Guatemala!

Enter by Wednesday, November 30 at 1PM

Win Tickets to Gospel Brunch at House of Blues!

Join us for a very special Thanksgiving themed Gospel Brunch on Sunday, November 27th as we give thanks for good friends, family and flavorful food!

Enter by Monday, November 21 at 1PM
San Diego Reader November 17, 2011

ATTEND A ONE DAY WORKSHOP THAT...WILL CHANGE YOUR LIFE FOREVER
LEARN THE “REAL” SECRET TO ENDING YOUR STRUGGLE WITH FOOD, TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL
We invite you to a FREE one day breakthrough program.
Saturday, November 19th 9am - 5pm

Lou Ryan, motivational life coach and CEO of SelfHelpWorks, is coming back to San Diego LIVE AND IN PERSON to teach his breakthrough strategies for beating weight-loss, smoking, and alcohol as an act of service to his community.

CALL NOW! ONLY 50 SEATS AVAILABLE!
Town & Country Resort & Convention Center
500 Hotel Circle North San Diego, CA 92108
RSVP: sondra@selfhelpworks.com or call 619.296.6001

Note:
This is Lou Ryan’s full program that normally costs $499 per attendee. He is volunteering his time and expertise to help his community. This event is completely free with the exception of a $5 parking fee at the Convention Center.

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FREE GUN RENTAL
Indoor shooting range: $12 first hour and $6 each additional hour. With this ad. See website for rental policy.

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We offer no-obligation, free trials of your choice - either a complimentary free date or complimentary free mixer!
**Rhyme & Verse**

**Annual Report (for Doug Lang)**

**A poem by Terence Winch**

I hate this entire year, the way it stops and starts, dries you out, soaks you, lulls you to sleep, then wakes you up in a cold sweat. Not to mention the pills that are required just to get through it. I’m on Tylenol with codeine at this very moment.

It sees to it that the bills keep coming, marked by obvious deceit. The dentist despires who keeps overcharging us, for example. It is so objectionable, so unfair. Where are the free lunches of yesteryear, the Martinis, Manhattans, highballs on the hotel terrace overlooking the magic domes of the glittering city?

It was not like this in 1982, I can tell you that. 1982 you smoke all the True Blues you wanted. It said, go ahead — have fun! Eat giant hamburgers, huge slices of cake, big plates of French fries.

F*ck all night, sleep late, call in sick. It told you to listen to Van Morrison singing “Cypress Avenue” over and over, all night long there was nothing left of it to inhale.

Terence Winch, originally from New York City, where he was closely associated with the Poetry Project at St. Mark’s Church, now lives in the Washington, DC, area. The son of Irish immigrants, he is both a musician and writer. In addition to an American Book Award and the Columbia Book Award, Winch has received a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship in poetry and grants from the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, the Maryland State Arts Council, and the Fund for Poetry. He is also the winner of a Gertrude Stein Award for Innovative Writing. Winch has published five books of poems and two collections of short stories. His most recent music project is a CD that collects his best-known Irish compositions on one disc: When New York Was Irish: Songs & Tunes by Terence Winch. “Annual Report” is from his collection Falling Out of Bed in a Room with No Floor, published earlier this year by Hanging Loose Press, and was originally published in the journal Conduit. It is reprinted by permission.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

**CLASSICAL MUSIC**

**“An American Salute”** “Pleasure of Your Company” music series continues with recital by San Diego Chamber Music Society Brass Quartet. Pops program features selections by Sousa, an armed forces salute, a Gershwin medley, Scott Joplin tunes, more. Reception follows. Donations appreciated. 858-538-8158. Sunday, November 20, 2:30pm; free. Scripps Miramar Ranch Library, 10301 Scripps Lake Drive. (SCRIPPS RANCH)

**“Unfinished Symphony”** The 40-member New City Symphony performs Schubert’s piece, along with selections by Mozart, Kuhlau, Faure during fall concert. 619-527-4457. Friday, November 18, 7:30pm; free. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (MILLHILL EAST)

**Bold, Sleek, Powerful** Concert hour series continues with “ultramodern New York” pianist, composer Shai Wosner performing his piece, Shai-wosner. 760-744-1150 x2317. Thursday, November 17, 12:30pm; free. Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10). (OLD TOWN)

**One Guitar — Four Centuries** Robert Wetsel presents solo classical guitar masterpieces by Praetorius, Purcell, de Visser, Haydn, Paganini, G. iuliani, Satie, Ponce, Barrios-Mangore, Williams in Recital Hall building 26-220. 619-644-7254. Friday, November 18, 8pm; $8-$10. Grossmont College, 8800 Grossmont College Drive. (EL CAJON)

**Unfinished Symphony** The 40-member New City Symphony performs Schubert’s piece, along with selections by Mozart, Kuhlau, Faure during fall concert. 619-527-4457. Friday, November 18, 7:30pm; free. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. (MILLHILL EAST)

**Music of the Romantic Period** Poway Community Symphony Orchestra performs selections by Borodin, Grieg, Strauss. Violinist Bridget Dolkas featured in Mendelssohn’s “Concerto for Violin in E Minor.” 858-748-6055. Sunday, November 20, 2pm; free. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

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**COMEDY**

**The Polo-Burger Comedy Comber “Up Comedy” Show** Features Andy Salinas, Maria De La Ghetto, Ben Garcia-Reyes, Jose Barrientos, headliners Polo Cenires and Dave Burger in New York Comedy Club. Reservations: 858-775-4818. Saturday, November 19, 8pm; $10-$12. The Horse and Hunt Club, 1140 West Mission Road. (ENCINITAS)

**Laugh Out Loud (L.O.L.)** The Hinges improv comedy group entertains. 858-534-8497. Saturday, November 19, 8pm; $10. Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Stage Monkeys Improvised Theater** Stage Monkeys perform long-form improvised theater, using “one single suggestion from the audience” to catapult into “characters, scenes, games, songs,” more. Friday, November 18, 8pm; $5. 18 and up. Café Lethalita, 3834 Fifth Avenue. (WILDCAT)

**Kerry Church**

**West Coast Funnies** Sketch comedy variety show with “Cana- dian funnyman” and headliner Michael Gelbart, fellow Canadian comedian Aaron Hughes, host Kurt Swann. Saturday, November 19, 8pm; $15-$20. 18 and up. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2822 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

**DANCE**

**“Suite Female: Part I”** Rebecca Bryant performs her newest solo, focusing “on cultural constructions of female identity within Western culture and the consequences of a consciously improvised movement” in Studio Theater (ENS-200). 619-594-1017. Saturday, November 19, 8pm; $10-$15. San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)
FOOD & DRINK

“Beaujolais and Beyond” French American Chamber of Commerce hosts French wine rendezvous. Tickets include two Beaujolais Nouveau and four other Beaujolais, paired food. 619-544-1445. Sunday, November 20, 4pm; $25-$30. 21 and up. Dulce Pane E Vino, 16081 San Dieguito Road. (POINT LOMA)

All-Star Mixologist After Party San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival party promises “savory hors d’oeuvres and endless cocktails” prepared by San Diego Bar Guild’s “all star cast” of mixologists from Craft and Commerce, Grant Grill, Noble Experiment, Prohibition, Searcutter, Tower 23, Vin de Syrah, others. Reservations: 619-744-2077. Saturday, November 19, 8pm; $50. 21 and up. U.S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

Bûche de Noël Chefs Arleen and Matthew Purnell of San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival hosts instruction at both culinary center and Macy’s School of Cooking. Among the topics: “Pleasure Principles: Spoil the One You Love with Cocktails and Cuisine,” “A Taste of the Mid East,” “Brunch and Beyond: Weekend’s Favorite Meal,” “Two Farms, Two Families, One Vision: From Portugal to Point Reyes,” more. Reservations: 619-312-1212. Thursday, November 17, 11:30am; Friday, November 18, 12pm; $45-$85. San Diego Wine and Culinary Center, 200 Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Wine and Food Festival Cooking Classes San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival continues with variety of classes with discussions led by winemakers, mixologists, sommeliers. The classes are tasting events; guests sample a variety of wines, beers, or spirits. 619-312-1212. Thursday, November 17, 11:30am; Friday, November 18, 12pm; $45-$85. San Diego Wine and Culinary Center, 200 Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

Tasting Seminars San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival continues with variety of classes with discussions led by winemakers, mixologists, sommeliers. The classes are tasting events; guests sample a variety of wines, beers, or spirits. 619-312-1212. Thursday, November 17, 11:30am; Friday, November 18, 12pm; $45-$85. San Diego Wine and Culinary Center, 200 Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

FOR KIDS

“Food Frenzy” Explore recipes, taste, and measurement during Family Science Saturday program for kids 5-12 in Discovery Lab.“with facts and stories” while meal is being created. Registration: 888-478-2433. Friday, November 18, 6pm; $35. Great News!, 1788 Garnet Avenue. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Argentina Tango with Colette will give you a first free class on Monday, November 21 at 7pm, when another 6-week session starts. Free classes are given any Monday or Wednesday at 7pm. Come and be introduced to the magic and passion of Tango at Dance Place San Diego. Visit www.TangoW.
jhColette.com. Monday, Nov. 21 at 7 pm. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Studio 106. (POINT LOMA)


Make Tamales! Make chicken and sweet tamales in class. Each student takes home one dozen completed tamales. 858-442-5252. Saturday, November 19, 9:30am; $45. Charlie’s Classic Cooking. 1291 Simpson Way suite H. (SAN MARCOS)

Taste of Opera — Moby-Dick Chef Katherine Emmenegger prepares recipes inspired by the opera such as smoked salmon carpaccio with heirloom tomato and hearts of palm. “Sous chef” Nicolas Revelles of San Diego Opera entertains guests while they enjoy the show!

“Kitchen Revolution” Make “radical recipes that are fun, tasty, and simple to create” during cooking class for teens (13-18) led by chef Matthew Purnell. 760-696-2964 or chefmatthewpurnell@yahoo.com Sundays, 11am; through Monday, December 18, 125. 21 and up. Center for Healthy Lifestyle, 533 Lomas Santa Fe Dr. (SOLANA BEACH)

Día de la Revolución Kids (three to seven years old) learn history of Mexico’s coat of arms, celebration of Dia de la Revolución, and culture through activities. Focus on “Latin traditions, experiences, and holidays” in bilingual setting with Dulce Sweet Kids. 619-900-4690. Sunday, November 20, 2pm; $30. Growing Place Montessori, 13242 Pomerado Road. (POWAY)


Family Sunday Explore museum’s exhibitions of folk art, craft, design; win a prize for completing a treasure hunt; enjoy storytelling, crafts. See Living Heritage from “The Soul of Mexico” film series

San Diego’s oldest, largest operation

1 (800) FREEFALL (373-3325) SkydiveSanDiego.com

Must be 18 years of age and weigh less than 230 pounds.

Bring this ad for a FREE VIDEO of your skydive on Sunday!

Expires 11/27/2011
Ongoing Bible Prophecy Seminar

End Time Mondays

• Dancing, movement, theater improvisation of dreams for beginners. No experience necessary.
• Painting Dreams for beginners. No experience needed!
• Power point with art work created from dreams and an introduction to the history of religious and psychological beliefs and practices of dreams

1200 Rainbow Valley Road, Fallbrook

Come find out!!!

Honoring Dreams
as sacred gifts with Rev. Bonnie Tarwater

Saturday, November 19, 2011
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
(9:30 am registration and w/ continental breakfast)

First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego
4190 Front St, San Diego, CA 92103

$75 suggested donation,
$50 with pre-registration before 11/17/11. Scholarships available.

Includes: Continental Breakfast and Greek lunch (vegetarian available)

• Power point with art work created from dreams and an introduction to the history of religious and psychological beliefs and practices of dreams
• Dream Group Sharing
• Painting Dreams for beginners. No experience needed!
• Dancing, movement, theater improvisation of dreams for beginners. No experience necessary.

To register call or email
Rev. Bonnie (858) 248-5123, RevTarwater@yahoo.com
www.RevBonnieTarwater.com
San Diego Reader: What is your favorite subject on which to preach?
Pastor David Montajes: I love to preach about the Holy Spirit. But when I preach I go on a series such as St. Paul’s Letter to Romans. So what I do is go verse by verse. I like that kind of approach. So for example, our theme for this year is “Finding God’s Purpose.” My focus is more on spiritual growth and understanding the importance of love in the community.

PD: Personally, my main concern is the financial and economic situation. I pray and encourage people to know that despite the situation going on right now that they believe that God is able to provide. We are being affected by what is going on.

SDR: Why did you become a minister?
PD: My sister inspired me. I grew up with my sister in the Philippines, where she was a pastor in a church. My mother died when I was three years old and my father remarried. So from that time on, I went from one sister to another — we have a big family with 11 of us. I’m the youngest. So with my sister pastoring in the Philippines, she took care of me after my father got married and moved to another place. So she pastored the church and I was there helping, playing the instruments — guitar, keyboard, and singing — and she inspired me.

SDR: What is the mission of your church?
PD: We are focused on our mission statement. We call it “BND” with the letters representing the different aspects of our mission. We “Bring people to Christ,” “Include them in the family of God,” “Nurture them in the Word of God,” and “Deploy them for mission and ministry.” That’s where we focus our efforts and our ministry — in those four mission statements.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?
PD: As far as heaven is concerned, Jesus clearly said that I am the way, the truth and the life and no one comes to the father but by me.” I always make it clear in my congregation, that irrespective of religion or denomination, what really matters is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. That’s what really counts. If you have that relationship, you can rest assured that when you die, as Jesus said, “I will prepare a place for you.” So it is his heart’s desire to be with you in heaven. So there is that beautiful hope we are looking forward to and we are preparing ourselves to be in the presence of the Lord.

SDR: What happens if someone doesn’t have that personal relationship with Jesus?
PD: If you don’t have a personal relationship with Christ — “He who believes in me, will have life,” he who rejects him does not have life. It is a clear statement. No Christ, no everlasting life. My stand on hell is that I am convinced that Jesus came to save the world; he doesn’t want anyone to perish. If it happens, that is our choice, not his will.

— Joseph O’Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDRReader.com/worship/
I Gotta Use Words When I Talk to You

You get caught up in the nebular gas pulsing from an “e” or the windswept blur of an “o.”

Born in 1960, the African-American artist Glenn Ligon grew up in housing projects in the Bronx but attended the privileged, mostly white Walden School in Manhattan, a one-hour commute each way. Later, after majoring in art at Wesleyan, he started out as an abstract expressionist painter, but his pictures were derivative. Young abstractionists who don’t already have a self-determining genius are likely to get stuck in a tentative wilderness of forms. For all his painterly skills, Ligon was stuck in such a wilderness. His genius awaited him in a different practice.

In 1984 Ligon was admitted into the Whitney Museum’s theory-heavy Independent Study Program, where he learned that art could be a way of thinking out loud in and for a crowd of listeners. Ligon realized he needed spelled-out statements as an enabling delivery system for his passions and intelligence, so he began to paint appropriated texts into his otherwise abstract pictures. He wasn’t using language for its alphabetic anonymity, as Jasper Johns had done, and he wasn’t floating coquettish, half-cracked Delphic utterances as Ed Ruscha was doing. He was making pictures out of words and giving pictorial form to something a character is saying. He was making pictures out of words and giving pictorial form to something a character is saying.

Ligon was cannily poker-faced in his selections: “Colored People: To dream of colored people means you will be comfortably rich. Enjoy it now: ‘Colored People: To dream of colored people means you will be comfortably rich. Enjoy it now:’” The cursive script is so clogged and swabbed by the surrounding field of pigment that the words look like they’re gasping for air. They’re struggling to come out.

The porn series freed Ligon into autobiography, though he isn’t given to sloppy joe confessionalistion that wails or pouts like a neglected child. He was preoccupied with hidden lives, secret knowledge, and wanted a fresh connection between the unconscious and society. He found it in material from dream books that women in his African-American community consulted. (Women in my own Italian neighborhoods also mined them.) A dream book supplied the meaning of your dreams and, since dreams dance with augury and premonition, they also provided numbers to play with the local bookie. Ligon was cannily poker-faced in his selections: “Colored People: To dream of colored people means you will be comfortably rich. Enjoy it now: ‘Colored People: To dream of colored people means you will be comfortably rich. Enjoy it now:’” The cursive script is so clogged and swabbed by the surrounding field of pigment that the words look like they’re gasping for air. They’re struggling to come out.

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Ligon’s posters are a coy, deadpan inquiry into what academics call “constructed” identity.

Glenn Ligon: America is on view at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art until January 22, 2012.

5905 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, 323-857-6000, lacma.org.
baked bread, though the recipe dates back to our civil history's bloodiest passages.

“Never fuck a faggot. I’d like to say this to all American men. Never fuck a faggot ‘cause they will lie. They always say ‘I won’t tell.’ They lie.” That’s Richard Pryor, whose stand-up routines Ligon used for a series of text pictures in 2004. Pryor’s lustily nasty, razor-wire language and yellow on red — outrage color schemes Ligon used — illuminates the eye: it’s optically painful and yellow on red — outrage.

In recent years Ligon has worked with your own laughter. He is a recalled memory. “Never fuck a faggot. I’d like to say this to all American men. Never fuck a faggot ‘cause they will lie. They always say ‘I won’t tell.’ They lie.” That’s Richard Pryor, always say ‘I won’t tell.’ They lie. “It’s Not My Fault” by the white wall the 19th and 20th centuries, each cat is unique; most are made of clay, but some are wood, metal, ceramic, paper mache. 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. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; free. $7. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Saint Bartholomew Museum features this painting, described as “the 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. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; 11am; free. $10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

“San Diego’s Craft Revolution” reveals important contributions of San Diego crafts- men to the post-war Southern California art scene. Show explores progress from sleek modernism to unconventional handmade objects of use such as furniture, doors, jewelry, ceramics by over 60 artists. Exhibition is part of “Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980.” Closes Sunday, April 15.

“Maneki Neko — Japan’s Beckoning Cats — from Talisman to Pop Icon” includes selections from a collection of 155 cats given to museum by collector Billie Moll-Fitz. Made in the 19th and 20th centuries, each cat is unique; most are made of clay, but some are wood, metal, ceramic, paper mache. 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. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; free. $7. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Phenomenal California Light, Space, Surface” enjoy in-depth look at 13 artists whose work with light as a medium in the 1960s and ‘70s defined an era of art making in California. Featured artists: Peter Alexander, Larry Bell, Ron Cooper, Mary Corse, Robert Irwin, Craig Kauffman, John McCracken, Bruce Nauman, Eric Orr, Helen Pashgian, James Turrell, De Wain Valentine, Doug Wheeler. “Combining key works from the museum’s collection” with major loans from public and private collections, the exhibition includes immersive light installations together with rare, ephemeral, and site-conditioned works, some seen in California for the first time in decades. Through Sunday, January 22.

View “Jennifer Steinkamp: Madame Curie,” a new digital video animation through Monday, January 2, inspired by Steinkamp’s recent research into atomic energy, atomic explosions, and the effects of these forces on nature. The “enveloping panoramic work will activate a field of moving flowers and flowering trees.” Thursdays, 11am; Fridays, 11am; Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am; free. $10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

“San Diego’s Craft Revolution” reveals important contributions of San Diego crafts- men to the post-war Southern California art scene. Show explores progress from sleek modernism to unconventional handmade objects of use such as furniture, doors, jewelry, ceramics by over 60 artists. Exhibition is part of “Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980.” Closes Sunday, April 15.

“Maneki Neko — Japan’s Beckoning Cats — from Talisman to Pop Icon” includes selections from a collection of 155 cats given to museum by collector Billie Moll-Fitz. Made in the 19th and 20th centuries, each cat is unique; most are made of clay, but some are wood, metal, ceramic, paper mache. 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. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; free. $7. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Saint Bartholomew Museum features this painting, described as “the 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. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; 11am; free. $10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1001 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN)

Translating California Sunshine Spencer Finch’s light-based instal- lations bridge an actual locale with a recalled memory. “Rome (Pan- theon, noon, June 14, 2011)” on view through Sunday, January 22, “evokes the moment and mood of a place by controlling the quality of light, color, or other sensory information.”

“Phenomenal California Light, Space, Surface” enjoy in-depth look at 13 artists whose work with light as a medium in the 1960s and ‘70s defined an era of art making in California. Featured artists: Peter Alexander, Larry Bell, Ron Cooper, Mary Corse, Robert Irwin, Craig Kauffman, John McCracken, Bruce Nauman, Eric Orr, Helen Pashgian, James Turrell, De Wain Valentine, Doug Wheeler. “Combining key works from the museum’s collection” with major loans from public and private collections, the exhibition includes immersive light installations together with rare, ephemeral, and site-conditioned works, some seen in California for the first time in decades. Closes Sunday, January 22.

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Sacred and Profane

I’ll shop at Walmart without the slightest prick to my conscience.

The following are classical music entries from the Reader’s “Jam Session” music blog. Click to Sandiegoreader.com/we-blogs/jam-session for more.

LA JOLLA SYMPHONY: WHERE’S THE DOMINANCE? (1 OF 2)

Why has Stravinsky eluded me? I know I’m supposed to get him. Some say he was the dominant composer of the 20th Century. If there is one thing I admire, it’s dominance.

While I’m not a Yankees fan, I admire them. I can’t stand the Patriots but I’ll watch Tom Brady dominate the opposing defense with joy. I’m not Roman, but give me all the biographies you can find on Caesar. I’ll shop at Walmart without the slightest prick to my conscience.

The La Jolla Symphony opened their concert with Stravinsky’s Symphonies of Wind Instruments, I was ready to “get it” but failed. I was impressed with the musicianship of the players but failed to understand Stravinsky’s musical grammar.

The second piece on the program was Debussy’s Danse Sacre et Danse Profane. This piece was for strings and harp. The harpist was Charissa Barger. Ms. Barger was a winner of the La Jolla Symphony Young Artist Competition.

I’m not a harp expert. The only thing I’ve heard about the harp is that harpists spend half of their lives tuning their harps and the other half playing out of tune.

Ms. Barger proved that to be a silly joke. Not only was her playing beautiful to hear, it was beautiful to watch. Her hands performed a dance of their own beyond the sacred and profane dances in Debussy’s music.

I liked the piecemeal approach to opening the season. First we heard the winds by themselves with the Stravinsky, followed by the strings alone with Debussy.

The third piece of music brought the entire orchestra together for Ravel’s Mother Goose Suite. The more I listen to Ravel, the more beloved he becomes.

I haven’t read much biography on Ravel, so I was delighted by the program notes, which explained his habit of leaving the adults at a party in order to go play games with their children. This is a temptation that I myself have given in to on occasion.

The Mother Goose Suite had all the elements of Ravel that I love. I get it. The La Jolla Symphony delighted the audience with their playing and the first half of the concert ended with a feeling of satisfaction.

LA JOLLA SYMPHONY: CARIBOU FOR DINNER (2 OF 2)
After intermission, Le sacre du printemps was ready to assert itself.

When The Rite of Spring was first performed, it nearly caused a riot. Now I understand why.

This music must be experienced live. Recordings are useless. The electrical divide is too great. I’ve listened to recordings post-concert and they don’t work. The energy generated by the orchestra is missing on a recording. On Sunday, the energy of the orchestra filled the hall.

What we got from the La Jolla Symphony was a massive orchestra in a medium-sized room. The audience could feel the music pulsating in, around, and through us.

I wanted to riot. I wanted to rip and tear the illusion of the polite audience member. I was ready to go pagan then and there.

The performance was more than dominant. It was on the edge of glorious chaos. At one point we could hear conductor Steven Schick inhale two beats of the score into his body before launching the orchestra, once again, into the abyss.

The La Jolla Symphony is composed of volunteer musicians. They are true amateurs if we go to the root of the word. Amateur means “lover of.” The root is the Latin amator, lover.

Amateurs play for love of the music. We get caught up in wanting professionalism and miss the importance of amateurism. We miss the significance of performing for love. Amateurism is more important than professionalism. And dilettantism is something else.

This was a performance that I will never forget. Stravinsky wanted to give us the out-of-control violence of the Russian spring as the earth erupts from its winter slumber. He wanted to give us the violence of primordial nature-worship. I got it. I finally got Stravinsky.

After the applause ended, the venerable ladies next to me said that they needed to go have a good dinner and recover. I thought the same thing. Except my good dinner should have consisted of tracking a caribou across the tundra, wrestling it to the ground, and snapping its neck after a tremendous struggle. Then I’d slit its throat and eat raw meat until my stomach lurched. Covered in gore, I’d bathe in an icy river and have wild pagan sex until dawn.

In reality, I went down to La Jolla Shores, sat down at a restaurant decked out in campy Halloween decorations, and ate pasta al forno—which is to say, macaroni and cheese.

I “got” Stravinsky but I failed to act on it. ■

Find more classical reviews online at Sandiegoreader.com/classical

With The Rite of Spring, Stravinsky wanted to give us the violence of the Russian spring as the earth erupts from its winter slumber.
Harvest Fests at Your Ease

It's no longer difficult to find a restaurant serving Thanksgiving dinner, in part because, in these hard times, it's a good opportunity (like Valentine's Day) for a restaurant to reap a little profit and possibly even goodwill. And the demand is ever-growing, what with smaller, scattered families, longer working hours, and the current obsession with watching chefs cook on TV rather than trying it yourself at home.

Nearly every restaurant open for T-Day is also likely to serve meals on Christmas Eve or Day, New Year's, Easter, Mom's Day, Dad's Day, Songkran, Diwali, Eid al-Fitr, and Yom Kippur. (When the fasts are finished, folks feel famished!) So clip and save this article if you're looking ahead to eat out on future holidays.

Reserve your T-Day choice ASAP; some restaurants are already fully booked. Many require a credit-card number, which may be charged if you're a no-show.

The list below begins with some takeout options for tackling the feast, presumably in finer form than supermarket versions. (Most use tastier free-range turkeys.) Next comes a long list of restaurants known for good food and/or fun atmospheres. (If you're looking for turkey dark meat, wherever possible we've included this detail for sit-down dinners; buffets usually carve the whole bird.) Restaurants are arranged by geographical area, so you need not drive too far while drowsy.

Prices quoted do not include tip, tax, or beverages. Kiddie prices generally apply to ages 5–12 (sometimes 3–11). Rugrats often eat free. Alas, at many restaurants, the kiddie meal offers chicken nuggets, mac 'n' cheese, etc., rather than a yummy mini-portion of traditional turkey and trimmings. So ask before you reserve.

Some of the listed restaurants are coded as follows: "KA" indicates a place with special appeal to children, such as special activities or runaround space outside. "VE" is for restaurants promising a vegetarian (not necessarily vegan) entrée on their prix-fixe menus. "VU" indicates a beautiful view or unique setting.

Most large hotels and gambling casinos also offer Thanksgiving dinners, and many casual-dining chains (e.g., Marie Callender's and Mimi's, which also do takeout) serve dinners of their customary quality.

Thank God for Albert's at the San Diego Zoo — the restaurant will serve Thanksgiving dinner from 10:00 to 4:00.

Available from November 21st to November 24th, 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

*May not be combined with any other special or discount.

Join us for an old-fashioned roasted turkey breast dinner piled high, Brian's 24 style.

Served complete with a dinner salad, Brian's Mom's special stuffing, real mashed potatoes, vegetables, turkey gravy, cranberry sauce and a roll.

$17.99* (plus tax and gratuity)

Add a large slice of our delicious pumpkin pie for just $4.99

Available from November 21st to November 24th, 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

Reservations recommended for Thanksgiving Day.

YES, WE ARE OPEN:

Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day
Christmas Eve
New Years Day
New Years Eve

*Closed only Monday, December 5th, 4:00 PM to 10:00 PM for our employee Holiday Party.

Complete menu available at www.brians24.com

The only 24/7 restaurant in Downtown
828 Sixth Avenue, between E and F Streets in the Gaslamp
619-702-8410

THE RESTAURANT THAT NEVER SLEEPS

YES, WE ARE OPEN:

San Diego Rod, November 17, 2011
San Diego
November 17, 2011

Best Japanese/Sushi Restaurants

Catch all the sports on our TV’s while enjoying your meal!

Japanese seafood buffet

Sun. 11:30 am-3:00 pm
Sat. 11:30 am-2:30 pm
Mon.-Fri. 11:30 am-2:30 pm
Lunch

Evening menu selections also include:

fresh seasonal fruit | 20 delicious French-style desserts

shrimp tempura | green lip mussels | Japanese noodle soup

18 different hot food entrées including beef, chicken and pork

45 kinds of sushi | 20 selections of salad | sashimi | fresh salmon

now available.

Party platters and catering now available.

Savory (see North Coast for info). Take-home dinner with 16–18 pound turkey, serves 15–18 people for $250, including a rosemary roast turkey with all the trimmings (artichoke and andouille stuffing!) and two pies. Whole turkey and gravy alone is $65; all trimmings (including gravy), side dishes, and desserts available à la carte. Full dinner for one, $21 (or entry only, $17). Order by Sunday night 6 p.m., pick up on T-Day.

Seaside Market, 2087 San Elijo Avenue, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-753-5445. Full Thanksgiving feast with roast Diestel free-range turkey, $20 per person, minimum of 6 persons. Order ASAP online at seasidemarket.com, or by phone.

Terra American Bistro, 7091 El Cajon Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-293-7088. À la carte take-out, several entrée choices (turkey $100, to serve 10). Order by 4 p.m. November 18, pick up after 1 p.m. Wednesday.

Whole Foods Market, locations in Hillcrest (619-294-2800) and La Jolla (858-642-6700). Offers Thanksgiving meals of Diestel natural roast turkey, stuffing, mash, gravy, and cranberry sauce (other sides extra, available in store) for 6 or more, from $100–$120, or trimmings only for $40 to serve 6. Free whole meals for one person (turkey or vegan) also available in stores, along with partially cooked roasted and smoked turkeys. Raw turkeys $2.69–$6.99 (for Heritage and smoked turkeys. Raw turkeys) per pound. Order by phone or online at wholefoodsmarket.com/shop. Pick up on Wednesday, November 23, or until 4 p.m. on T-Day. VE

EAT-OUT FEASTS

North Coast

333 Pacific, 333 North Pacific, Oceanside, 760-433-3333. Three-course prix fixe $50, kids $14; stuffed turkey breast and six other choices, including duck and tofu/ky; seaside view, 1–7 p.m. VE, VU

Arterra, San Diego Marriott Del Mar, 11966 El Camino Real, Carmel Valley, 858-369-6032. Three-course prix fixe featuring turkey or rib-eye steak, $30–$35, kids’ menu $10, plus limited à la carte menu, 3–8 p.m. VE

Dining Room at The Inn, The Inn at Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-1131. Huge brunch buffet in beautiful setting. $60, kids $24, under 5 free, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. VU

Aviara, 7100 Aviara Resort Drive, Carlsbad, 760-603-6800 for all restaurants. Brunch buffets at Argyle Cafe (on golf course), 11 a.m.–3 p.m.; California Bistro 11 a.m.–7 p.m.; $85, kids $42.50, toddlers $21. Argyle dinner (including turkey breast and stuffed leg roulade), 5–8:30 p.m., $38 (à la carte menu also available). At elegant Vivace Restaurant, deluxe four-course menu, plus regular menu, $75, kids TBA, 4–8 p.m.

Grand Del Mar, 5200 Grand Del Mar Way, Carmel Valley, 858-314-1900. Addison: prix-fixe feast $165 ($290 with wines), no kid price, 3–8 p.m. Amaya (858-314-2727), three-course meal noon–8 p.m., $70, $95 with matched wines, $30 kids’ menu. VU

Kitchen 1540 at L’Auberge Del Mar, 1540 Camino Del Mar, Del Mar, 858-793-6460. Chef Paul McCabe’s three-course prix fixe, several selections, including dark and light meat free-range turkey, $65, $32 kids, noon–8 p.m.

La Costa Resort, 2100 Costa Del Mar Road, Carlsbad, 800-854-5000. Legends Bistro buffet 11 a.m.–5 p.m., $65, kids $27. Dinner, prix-fixe turkey, $39, 5–10 p.m. BlueFire Grill, three-course prix fixe, $45, 5–10 p.m. VU

Mille Fleurs, 6009 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-756-3085. Chef Martin Woesel’s three-course dinner includes a turkey entrée, both light and dark, $59.50, plus exquisite à la carte additions, 1–7 p.m.

Pacific Del Mar, Del Mar Plaza, 1555 Camino Del Mar (at 15th Street), Del Mar, 858-792-0476. Chef Chris Ildo’s three-course dinner, with numerous choices, $39 for organic free-range roast turkey (white and dark), $49 with other choices, kids $15, noon–9 p.m.

Pamplemousse Grille, 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. Chef Jeffrey Strauss’s three-course dinner with choice of entrées (free-range turkey includes light and dark meat), $55, kids’ price variable, 2–8 p.m.

Rancho Valencia, 5921 Valencia Circle, Rancho Santa Fe, 858-759-6216. Buffet $79 (with champagne $87), kids $29, beautiful setting, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. VU

Red Tracton’s, 550 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-755-6600. Reserve early — fills up! Traditional Thanksgiving dinner, $34 per person (including dark meat); whole turkey carved at table for $38 per person ($27 kids) for tables of four or more (reserve five days ahead), seatings 2–6:30 p.m.

Savory, 267 North El Camino Real, Encinitas, 760-634-5556. Chef Pascal Vignau’s three-course meal with choice of entrées, $34.50–$42.50, 11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m., including dark and light meat rosemary-roasted turkey and trimmings (e.g., artichoke-andouille stuffing), or beef tenderloin; à la carte regular menu with holiday specials available 5–8 p.m.

North Inland

BernardO’ 12457 Rancho Bernardo Road, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-7171. Tasteful live music, lovely room. New chef Vincent Viale (from Tapenade) offers three courses for $32.50, kids $14.50, 11:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. VU

Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive (at Rancho Bernardo Road), 858-675-8500. Aragram Ballroom buffet brunch, $55, kids $25 (including free pony rides and petting zoo!) to age 14, a famously lavish spread, 11 a.m.–3 p.m. Veranda Bar and Grille (858-675-8555), three-course meal, dark turkey by request, $50, kids $25, 11:30
San Diego Zoo Safari Park, 15500 San Pasqual Valley Road, Nairobi Pavilion, Escondido, 760-738-5055 (call 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.). Buffet dinner $46, kids $16 (ages 3–11), seatings at noon and 3 p.m. Reservations required. Free entry for members; non-members pay regular park admission. KA, VU

La Jolla and Golden Triangle
A.R. Valentien, Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-777-6635. Chef Jeff Jackson’s three-course holiday dinner with options for every course (including dark meat), beautiful setting, $75, kids TBA, noon–9:00 p.m. Golfer’s Grill, three-course meal $45, 4–10 p.m., craft-beer tasting $10; lunch à la carte. VU

Elijah’s, 8861 Villa La Jolla Drive, La Jolla, 858-455-1461; 2638 Del Mar Heights Road, Del Mar, 858-259-4880. Three-course turkey dinner $20, kids $13, open 8 a.m.–9 p.m. George’s California Modern, 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. À la carte menu of chef Trey Foshee’s seasonal specials, entrées $28–$48 (including free-range roasted breast and braised leg), 1–9 p.m. VU

La Valencia Hotel, 1132 Prospect Street (at Herschel), La Jolla, 858-454-0771. All venues (except for the Sky
The Perfect Accompaniment to Your Fine Dining Experience

Our artistic glass bottles are collector-quality, but as part of our commitment to zero waste, they are refilled and reused and cannot be purchased. Admire them each time you order your Palomar Mountain spring and sparkling water.

Palomar premium spring and sparkling water...
The clear complement for your lifestyle.

760-743-0140

Our artisan glass bottles are collector-quality, but as part of our commitment to zero waste, they are refilled and reused and cannot be purchased. Admire them each time you order your Palomar Mountain spring and sparkling water.

Palomar premium spring and sparkling water...
The clear complement for your lifestyle.

760-743-0140

Room, which will be closed), buffet, seatings at 1, 3, and 6 p.m., $75 adults, kids $38.

Marine Room, 2000 Spindrift Drive, La Jolla, 858-457-7222. Chef Bernard Guillas’s à la carte holiday menu, close-up ocean view and adventurous cuisine, free-range turkey breast entrée, $32, noon–7 p.m. VU

NINE-TEN, Grande Colonial Hotel, 910 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-964-5400. Chef Jason Knibb’s three-course Thanksgiving menu with a choice of entrées, including free-range turkey breast, leg roulade, $55, $75 with wine, kids $18, 3–8 p.m.

The Shores, 8110 Camino del Oro (at Avenida de la Playa), 858-456-0600. Newly upgraded food and wine served overlooking the beach, buffet $44, kids (6–12) $22, or $4 per year under age 6; optional children’s buffet, 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m. Easy beach access for restless little ones. KA, VU

Torreyana Grille, Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines, 10950 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-450-4571. Lavish holiday buffet, $67 including glass of champagne, kids $19, noon–6 p.m. KA, VU

Beaches

Baleen, Paradise Point Resort, 1404 Vacation Road, Mission Bay, 858-490-6363. Buffet in charming indoor-outdoor resort bedecked with monkey-themed decor, bayside fire pit, three courses, $35 (dark turkey included), kids TBA, 5–10 p.m. KA, VU

Red Marlin, Hyatt Hotel, 1441 Quivira Road, Mission Beach, 619-221-4810. Buffet $36, kids $18, in scenic indoor-outdoor waterside venue, 5:30–10 p.m. Ask for parking directions when reserving, to avoid long walk from front entrance. VU

BO-Beau, 4996 West Point Loma Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-224-2884. The Cohn Restaurant Group’s remake of Thee Bungalow offers roast turkey breast, four other choices, in a three-course meal for $40, kids $13, 3–8 p.m.

Humphrey’s by the Bay, 2241 Shelter Island Drive, Shelter Island, 619-378-4281. Champagne buffet with a marina view in the dining room and live jazz in the lounge, $50, kids $20, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. VU

Island Prime and C-Level, 880 Harbor Island Drive, Harbor Island, 619-298-6802. Chef Deborah Scott’s three-course menu in scenic seaside setting, six choices (including turkey breast), $50, kids $13, 1–7 p.m. VU

Jordan (JRDN), 4551 Ocean Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-270-5736. Indoor-outdoor oceanside dinner, feet can touch the beach on the patio, three-course turkey dinner, $45, kids $21, 3–8 p.m. KA, VU

Mission Valley and the Mesas

94th Aero Squadron, 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. Traditional buffet including one glass of champagne in a fab faux-farmhouse with airport view, $30, kids $14, 12:30–9 p.m. KA, VU

Metropolitan San Diego

Bertrand at Mister A’s, 2550 Fifth Avenue, Uptown, 619-239-1377. A spectacular view and a three-course dinner with many choices, including roast Diestel natural turkey, $55, kids’ menu $20–$25, 1:30–8 p.m.

Bice, 425 Island Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-239-2423. Five-course family-style dinner, partly Italian, partly American, with generous communal pasta course (can be vegetarian entrée) and several entrée choices, including roast Diestel natural turkey, $55, kids’ menu $20–$25, 1:30–8 p.m.

Cosmopolitan, 2600 Calhoun Street (at Juan Street), Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, 619-297-1874. Three-course feast in restored stately dinner near Balboa Park, many entrée choices, including light and dark turkey, $30, kids $20, 1–6 p.m.

Lael’s Restaurant, Manchester Grand Hyatt, One Market Place, Downtown, 619-358-6735. Huge buffet includes sushi, free-range turkey, vol- canic salt–crusted roast beef, $65, seniors $45, kids $25, 11 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

McCormick and Schmick’s, Omni Hotel, 675 L Street (at 6th Avenue), Downtown, 619-645-6545. Three-course prix fixe $24, kids $8, or à la carte, 11 a.m.–8:30 p.m.

The Prado, House of Hospitality, Balboa Park,
619-557-9441. Three courses in beautiful park setting and garden patio, with a glass of champagne, five entrée choices, including turkey breast and leg roulade, and a vegetarian pumpkin risotto $50, kids $13, includes beverage, 3–8 p.m. VE VU

Sally’s, Manchester Grand Hyatt, 1 Market Place, Downtown, 610-358-6740. Prix-fixe four-course dinner, $45, three courses for $40, kids $15; regular menu also available, 11:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m. VU

San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, 619-557-3964 (call 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.). Sit-down dinner at Albert’s, $38, $14 kids, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Buffet at Treetops, $43, kids $16, 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m. Zoo admission for non-members is extra. Reservations required. KA, VU

Vela, San Diego Bayfront Hilton Hotel, 1 Park Boulevard at Harbor Drive, 619-564-3333. Indoor-outdoor venue with bayfront view, brunch buffet, $70 (with bottomless booze), kids $15, 11 a.m.–7 p.m.

Westgate Hotel, 1055 2nd Avenue, Downtown, 619-557-3655. Le Fontainebleau champagne buffet, $65, kids $32.50, 11 a.m.–6 p.m. (last seating at 5:00 p.m.); Westgate Room, four-course prix fixe, $59, kids TBA, 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

Coronado and South Bay

Café La Maze, 1411 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222. Prix-fixe three-course turkey dinner in historic old steakhouse, $17, 11 a.m.–9 p.m.

Coronado Boathouse 1887, 1701 Strand Way, Coronado, 619-435-0155. Prix fixe with traditional turkey entrée (light and dark), $35, kids $15, in casual bayfront setting, 2–8 p.m.

Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-8490 and 415-6611. Holiday buffets in both the Ballroom, noon–4 p.m., and the gorgeous Crown Room, noon–6 p.m., $90, kids $38. Ice-skating rink outdoors (price not covered in dinner). KA VU

Loews Coronado Bay Resort, 4000 Coronado Bay Road, Silver Strand, Coronado, 619-424-4000 $6300. MISTRAL features chef Patrick Ponsaty’s spectacular three-course prix fixe for $49 (plus regular fall menu), 5–9 p.m. Market Cafe offers a champagne buffet (with “chocolate fountain” for the youngsters) from 1–5 p.m., $59, kids $29. KA VU

Peeohe’s, Ferry Landing Marketplace, 1201 First Street, Coronado, 619-437-4474. Waterfront view, tropical decor with waterfalls, turkey dinner with all the trimmings (dark and light meat), $28, kids $11, 11 a.m.–9:00 p.m. KA VU

East County and Far East

Note: Most casinos are in this area and serve lavish T-day dinners in their various venues. Barona (888-722-7662) and Viejas (619-445-5400) are especially known for good food at reasonable prices. Phone for details, hours, and policies regarding children.

Andiamo, 5950 Santo Road, Tierrasanta, 858-277-3501. Three courses, $26, kids $15, 4–9 p.m.

Terra American Bistro, 7091 El Cajon Boulevard, La Mesa, 619-293-7088. Three-course prix fixe, $35 (kiddie meals TBA), seatings at noon, 2:30, 5 p.m.

Pine Hills Lodge, 2960 La Posada Way, Julian, 760-765-1100. Buffet, with seatings at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 4:00 p.m., $40, kids $25.

Rongbranch Restaurant, 2722 Washington Street, Julian, 760-765-2265. Roast-turkey dinner (light and dark), $22, kids $16, à la carte also available, noon–7 p.m.

Food Restrictions

Most restaurants offering prix-fixe meals include a fish entrée among the choices, and buffets have lavish seafood bars. Top farm-to-fork restaurants (e.g., 1500 Ocean, A.R. Valentien, George’s Modern, Kitchen 1540, Mille Fleurs, Mistral) may be able to accommodate vegetarians with something splendidly meatless; call to inquire (and/or reserve) ASAP. Buffets typically offer numerous meatless choices, but strict vegans need be cautious as ‘tis the season for heaps of cream among the greens. Whole Foods has a vegan feast (for one) to go. The following restaurants are also traditionally open for T-Day. Call to verify and reserve. You can find most at sandiegoreader.com under “Restaurants.” If not, check the phone book or Google.com. They’re listed in geographical order.

Cheap and Friendly (meals $25 or less): Tip-Top Meats (Carlsbad); Encinitas Cafe (Encinitas); Centre City Cafe (Escondido); Nick’s at the Beach (Pacific Beach, open late, football on TV, view); Nick’s at the Pier (Ocean Beach, football there, too, view); Red Sails Inn (Shelter Island); Tickled Trout, Ramada Plaza (Mission Valley); Valley Kitchen, Mission Valley Resort, (Mission Valley); Crest Cafe (Hillcrest); Johnny Rs (North Park).

Convivial Community Favorites: Karl Strauss Brewery (Carlsbad); Chart House (Cardiff); World Famous (Pacific Beach boardwalk, with view and kiddie appeal); Butter Shop Steakhouse (Kearny Mesa); Kaiserhof (Ocean Beach); Antique Row Cafe (Normal Heights); Thornton’s Irish Pub (El Cajon); Alpine Bread Basket (Alpine).

More Views with Your Chews: Poseidon (Del Mar); Blue Pearl Restaurant, The Dana Hotel (Mission Beach); Bali Hai (Shelter Island); Harbor’s Edge, Sheraton Hotel (Shelter Island); Tom Ham’s Lighthouse (Harbor Island); The Boathouse (Harbor Island); Buster’s Beach House (Seaport Village); Hornblower Cruises (book at hornblower.com).
Beautiful Mess

“You want to watch out for a heart attack, eating all this Philly food.”

I was more of a man, I’d actually do this. I’m looking at a sign on an artist’s easel: “McGonagle’s Cheesesteak Challenge: Eat 3 and Win $50!...Three double-meat cheesesteaks in 30 minutes.”

Hmm...double-meat. Meaning bigger, and also more cost. It works out to about seven bucks each, so that’s $21 you’ve gotta pay up if you don’t finish the cheesesteaks on time.

Still, I’m tempted, because I’m that hungry, I’ve been tramping the streets of National City for hours. Need some cheap and cheerful chow. And then I walk up past a vacant lot toward this long cinderblock-sided, stand-alone building. Way-big mural painted on it, full-length. A silhouette of a city skyline. But I can see: it’s not San Diego.

I come up to this refurbished old rock-faced frontage surrounding large storefront windows. “Can’t Beat Our Meat,” says the sign above the doors.

Then, just inside, that other sign: “Eat 3 and Win $50!”

It’s a challenge to all us red-blooded guys and gals with eyes bigger than our stomachs. Luckily, my wallet says “no way!” tonight. But I bet that skyline in the mural is Philadelphia’s. I have to go in.

The whole inside’s decked out in orange. There are long tables with bench seating, where three groups of customers are heads-down, chomping into their hoagies.

I head for the counter at the back, and take a seat. Menú’s pretty simple: five steak sandwiches and three chicken. The good news is that prices include tax. The basic steak sandwich, with steak and grilled onions, goes for $5.25 for a 6-inch hoagie, $8.25 for 12-inch. The “authentic Philly cheesesteak” is the same, but with Cheez Whiz squirited on top of the meat. It goes for $6.25/$9.50.

Guy at the counter is one of those cheery, challenging, carrot-topped Irishmen. Name’s Brian. Brian McGonagle. This is his place. Irish family, Philadelphia born and bred.

“You’re as regular a customer as they come,” she confesses to Brian. “The pizza cheesesteak last time she was here, but for her purist Philly heart, putting pineapple on a pizza.

Didn’t really go for it,” she says to Brian. “The pizza cheesesteak is my favorite, along with the cheesesteak fries [$3.50]. But tonight...think I’ll have the Authentic Philly.”

She turns to me. “These gentlemen are the real deal. They fly their buns in.”

“Fly their buns in?”

“Cheesesteak buns. From Amoroso’s bakery in Philly. No other bun comes near it. It’s like pizza: the water back East is better. These guys here toast the buns, too.”

It’s my turn to order. I ask Brian, “So this place is yours?” I’m surprised, because he looks well, young.

“It was my idea,” he says. “Two years ago. I was 27 and just retired from the Marines. I did eight years. Two tours in Iraq. So one day, I’m in the shower, wondering what to do with the rest of my life, and it hits me. It’s so clear. I call my brother David, and our buddy Marc in Philadelphia, and say, ‘Pack your bags. You’re coming out to California. San Diego. We’re going to open a Philly cheesesteak joint.’”

They certainly come from a town with a rich cheesesteak history. Philly, PA, gave birth to the sandwich in the 1930s, when somebody thunked up the idea of shaving beef into slivers so it wouldn’t be tough to eat, then sticking it all in a bun. Then they got the idea of combining the frizzled beef with grilled onions, and, finally, cheese. Pat’s King of Steaks and Geno’s Steaks are the competing shrines, Amoroso or Vilotti-Pisanelli are the go-to bakeries, and Cheez Whiz is the most squinted-on of the runny cheeses.

My McG, when Brian brings it, is a mess of Whiz, provolone, and a third cheese, plus scrambled eggs, steak, onions, and a hint of buffalo sauce. “That’s mainly Frank’s Hot Sauce,” he says. What a beautiful mess. Good thing they have paper-towel rollers on every table.

The Amoroso bun is light as a feather, with a nice delicate shell from the toasting. The cheesy, beefy, oniony, garlicky flavors come through, lush and luscious-tasting. I got the 6-inch, but heck, it’s plenty for me. Can’t imagine getting through three 12-inch, double-meat monsters.

Speaking of which, I have to ask Brian. “Anybody ever win that contest?”

“Sixty people have tried,” he says. “Five have done it. But three were professional hot-dog eaters. They just came here to practice. One guy, must have been four-foot-eleven, skinny little guy. He downed all three in 11 minutes.”

The Place: McGonagle’s Authentic Philly Cheesesteaks, 1231 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-259-2777

Type of Food: American

Prices: Steak sandwich (with chopped steak and grilled onions), $5.25 (6-inch), $8.25 (12-inch); Philly cheesesteak (with Cheese Whiz), $5.75/$8.75; Cali cheesesteak (like the Philly but with bell peppers), $6.25/$9.50; pizza cheesesteak (with steak, grilled onions, mozzarella, sauce), $6.25/$9.50; “the famous” McG cheesesteak (with egg, steak, grilled onions, three cheeses, and buffalo sauce), $6.25/$9.50. Philly chicken cheesesteak, $5.75/$8.75

Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. seven days (Saturdays, open from 11:00 a.m.; Sundays, open from noon)

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$5.75/$8.75

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Broadway? The most popular eatery on that’s Okay. Nobu? No Way. But for the latest blogs from writers and a complete searchable list of over 1300 restaurants, please visit sandiegoreader.com/weblogs/feast/

The most popular eatery on Broadway? Say snooty things such as, “Oh, honestly say, “Think I’ll just have an app. Not that hungry.” But remember: the one thing you need lots of is time. Evenings, that line outside often starts at 4:30 p.m., and the evening session doesn’t start till five.

**Ed Bedford’s “Top Pick”, SD Reader Restaurant Edition**

Today when I go by, there’s a crowd outside, as if a movie star has turned up. The group clustered by the entrance — Roger, Charlene, Cassandra, Ashley, and Rick — say what I say: it’s always a good deal, and the atmosphere’s kinda easygoing Japanese.

If you’re going somewhere in the Gaslamp — say, Nobu, heh heh — go here first. Then when those high-rent menus get slapped before you, you can honestly say, “Think I’ll just have an app. Not that hungry.”

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**Posted Nov. 7, 11:00 a.m. by Ed Bedford**

**San Diego Beer Week: Day Six**

With nearly 500 events — ranging from pint nights to festivals and all-out, multi-venue fermentable free-for-alls — San Diego Beer Week can be confusing...and that’s before you start drinking.

Fortunately, I know a thing or two about craft beer and the local scene, and I’m doing out daily info on some of the most special and significant goings-on during this ten-day span.

Feel something incredible is missing? Comment and help get the word out there. Get your drink on (responsibly, of course), San Diego! 10 a.m. – 3rd Annual Fling Disc Tourney Make a day of it by heading out to the Frisbee golf course for an annual tournament attended by brewers and drinkers alike. Enjoy breakfast, a day of competition, and some great cask beers as competition in this combo sporting event and excuse for an afterparty hosted by South Park’s Hamilton Tavern.

4 p.m. – Beginner Brewing Class & Growler at the Moon Ever wonder what goes into the process of brewing beer but were scared to engage your obsessive homebrewer friend on the topic? Get the basics from the pros at Home Brew Mart and serve apple-salsa-dressed duck tacos made from Ballast Point.

7 p.m. – Versus of Women to the craft beer industry and tasty brews featuring new performers every week from Ballast Point.

9 p.m. – Women Only: Celebrating Craft Beer It ain’t a man’s world…and Stone Brewing can prove it. Head to Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens for a presentation about the contributions of women to the craft beer industry and tasty brews including Great Divide Oak Aged Yeti and Stone 15th Anniversary Escondidian Imperial Black IPA.

**San Diego Beer Week: Day Five**

3 p.m. – Behind the Brewery The MIHO Gastrotruck will park behind the brewhouse in the back of Linda Vista’s Home Brew Mart and serve apple-salsa-dressed duck tacos made with Victory at Sea Coffee-Vanilla Imperial Porter. Enjoy that beer and a slew of others along with beer-infused yogurt from Fiji Yogurt next door.

6 p.m. – Master Pairings Dinner Relax at Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens while their Bill Syas takes on fellow food and beverage pairing expert Steve Beaumont to see who...
can find the perfect matches for five dishes, ranging from seared scallops to turducken. It's a battle for supremacy where dinner attendees decide who wins beery bragging rights.

6 p.m. – Hess Brewmaster's Dinner Pairing

Hillcrest newcomer (and former Pizza Fusion) Local Habit is pairing a quintet of beers from Mira Mesa nanobrewery Hess Brewing. Enjoy hard-to-get offerings such as Deceptio Cascadian Dark Ale and Pumpkin Stout on cask with Creole barbecue shrimp and vanilla bean panna cotta.

Posted Nov. 6, 10:43 a.m. by Brandon Hernández

San Diego Beer Week: Day Four

11:30 a.m. – Cellar-bration

The Linkery in North Park will be pulling some well-aged gems from their beer cellar. That list includes Ballast Point's tribute to Cabrillo-era S.D.-native ingredients, San Salvador Saison (‘10 and ‘11), and several Stone Vertical Epic Ale iterations from the past 11 years.

5 p.m. – San Diego IPA Insanity

The country’s reigning Small Brewpub of the Year, Pizza Port Ocean Beach, is celebrating San Diego and hops in one fell swoop. Pizza Port could show off local hop bombs all by their lonesome, but instead they’re loading up their taps with single and double IPAs from all over the county.

5 p.m. – Dogfish Head Dirty Dozen

Delaware’s Dogfish Head is the source for some of the most complex, imaginative, culinarily driven beers in the country, but they can be hard to come by. O’Brien’s owner Tom Nickel has been stashing away rarities such as Bitches Brew, My Antony, and the highly coveted 18% ABV 120-Minute IPA.

6 p.m. – Terra Bistro Manzanita Brewing Dinner

Enjoy a five-course menu featuring butternut squash gnocchi, smoked chili-rye cured salmon, caramel-glazed duck breast, and pumpkin-spice cake with Rustic Horizon Red Ale, Where’s the Smoke Rye Ale, Gillespie Brown Ale, and Pumpkin Ale from Santee’s Manzanita Brewery.

7 p.m. – Beer U: Intro to San Diego Craft Beer

Take in what’s sure to be one of the more enjoyable classes around — a session on the history of San Diego Brewing at Escondido’s Stone World Beer U: Intro to San Diego Craft Beer

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Bistro & Gardens. Enjoy local beers such as Iron Fist Martial Law, Mission Blonde Ale, and Mother Earth California Creamin’ along the way.

Posted Nov. 5, 2-4 a.m.
by Brandon Hernández

Pizza Revolución?
TJ Week continues!
I have just come out from an arcade where artists and musicians are making this feel like Paris when Paris was hot.

Guys selling old books, folk singers singing original songs, people sipping wine, sculptors sculpting...this is so, well, cool isn’t the word for it. It’s real.

Back out on Revolución, things are happening, too. Like right here, a new café with a protected bay of seats on the sidewalk. And guess what? It’s the guys from Little Italy, Landini’s Pizzeria (741 Ave. Revolución, Tijuana, 011-52-664-685-0042).

Ysidro’s standing outside with free pizza pieces. Trying to build up a bit of business here. Caroline the manager is standing beside him.

“We’ve been open two months,” she says. “Yes, it’s okay so far. It’s new for people here. We’re selling the concept of New York thin crust.”

“I just had a feeling,” says Omar Martinez. He’s been with Landini’s for three years and cooking Italian for 25 years. He pushed for opening up here in TJ. “A good feeling about this town. That things are starting to come back. Look at the building going on. People are investing in Revolución.”

The problem? “People here are not used to our pizza, the thin New York crust and all. They say, ‘We want more bread!’”

But they can’t be doing too bad: Omar says watch out for another Landini’s — maybe more upmarket, a new cuisine/fusion place, not just pizza — opening up in Agua Caliente in a few weeks.

“I’ve lived in New York for years. Everything’s risky. But when you have this feeling about a place, invest!”

Talking of investing, for us turistas the pie slices here are a bargain. In Little Italy you get two slices and a soda for $6. Here it costs 55 pesos. That’s, what? $4?

Posted Nov. 4, 10:02 a.m.
by Ed Bedford

POZOLANDIA!
After all the sightings of food for the dead, I’m kinda dying for some food myself.

I come across this place near Sixth with lots of talk and chat and the bubble of soup in cauldrons. Okay, saucepans.

“Pozole,” says the lady. Maggie, inside.

The place is called Pozolanda (1002, Revolución Avenue, Tijuana, 011-52-664-685-2848). Oh, I get it. A pozole place. Maggie — Margarita Figueroa Mendoza — and her two assistants Dolores and Evangelina are working away, chopping up garlic cloves, adding laurel leaves, sprinkling oregano, and then tying it all up in a cloth bag for dunking into the bubbling pozole pot.

A couple brings in a three-week-old baby. Everybody gathers and oogles it.

I sit up at the counter and ask Maggie for a pozole ($3). (Difference between pozole and menudo? Menudo’s beef, chicken breast, chilies. Pozole’s basically corn, pork, no chilies). “Chinese tourists go for the menudo, Mexicans the pozole,” says Maggie. “I don’t know why.”

When I hear that she has a grapefruit (toronja) juice drink, I ask for one.

“For $3 you get two cupfuls and the cup to take with you,” she says. Wow. It’s a nice earthenware mug.

I notice everything except the saucepans are like Old Mexico earthenware pots and plates. And a coffee olla on the stove, too.

She holds out a big brown cone and some cheroots of cinnamon. “Cinnamon and piloncillo,” she says. Piloncillo’s unrefined cane sugar. “I put them in with the coffee,” she says, Lord, her final brew’s gone (it’s late). Or I’d definitely go for that.

She brings my pozole, red in a pottery bowl. “The red’s from the guajillo pepper,” she says. “We put that in for color and the ancho chili for taste.”

So pozole does have chilies? “Neither’s real hot,” she says. The pozole soup’s swimming with pork and hominy — basically corn, right? — and onion and shredded raw cabbage, plus radish slices on top. A lime and a crispy tortilla fill out the plate. Mmm. Not spicy hot. But delicious.

“Pozole never is hot,” says Maggie. “But if you want hot, try adding some of this salsa.”

It’s really filling. And hey, nice to see this kind of genuine stuff going on, food-wise and pottery-wise. Not just the tourist schlock. And right here on the main drag.

Who knows? Maybe the Old Mexico is gonna be the New Revolución.

Post Nov. 3, 3:24 p.m.
by Ed Bedford

Bread for the Dead,
TJ Style
Down TJ way. Last night.

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November first was for the kids (like our Halloween).

Last night, the second of November, is for adults — for the serious business of remembering, revisiting loved ones who have passed on.

And food’s a big part of it.
The bread sits on the altar, next to a bowl of soup and a pair of skulls.

“It is pan de los muertos,” says Aldo Cayeros. “Bread for the dead. We put out the bread and favorite foods of loved ones who have died, so we can share it with them again.”

Aldo is a student at the Autonomous University of Baja California (UABC). He and his friends are competing in a Day of the Dead contest for best altar here on Revolución.

“People our age are interested in this again,” says Aldo. “The bread? Sweet.
The decoration? Bones across the top, representing the one who’s passed on, and a teardrop in the middle to represent how much we miss them. Nice.

But it’s a celebration, too. Students dress as La Calavera Catrina.

“La Catrina is probably the most famous figure in Day of the Dead celebrations,” Aldo tells me. “It goes back to a humorous etching of an upper-class lady made in 1913.”

Posted Nov. 3, 12:00 p.m. by Ed Bedford

Pastrami Wars: the Barrio
“We get around,” says Mike. “And this place is good.”

He and Ron are with CSI scaffolding, working on the big Mercado shopping project that’s going up across the road here in Barrio Logan.

Mike’s eating the seafood sub. Ron’s got a turkey and swiss. We’re at the Ponderosa Deli Market (1897 National
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**Speaking of Wine Dinners...**

For better or for worse, there’s but a small percentage of chefs who go Tony Gwynn, spending their entire careers in San Diego. With a restaurant scene that’s everchanging and a clientele that’s tough to peg, much less enjoy long-term success with, doing so is a daunting task.

Yet some stalwarts continue to plug away, either from a singular eatery à la Bernard Guillias at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club’s Marine Room or multiple locations, such as Amy DiBiase, a respected toque who’s logged time at Laurel, Baleen, Roseville, and, now, The Shores Restaurant.

At her new place, a property under the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club umbrella, she’s working under the aforementioned Guillias, who wants her to put her own stamp on the restaurant but is allowing her to do it gradually so as not to send long-time Shores patrons into shock. As such, the resto’s menu is tastefully salt-and-peppered with touches of DiBiase’s trademark Mediterranean-inspired fare.

Those who are looking for a full-on blast of DiBiase’s style can find it at a November 2 wine dinner featuring Paso-squeezed juice from Niner Wine Estates. An opportunity like this is worth writing about food, wine, and Paso Robles for a second day in a row.

DiBiase will start out with proffered plates stuffed with persimmon-stoked Humboldt Fog goat cheese, thyme-cauliflower fritters, and candied pancetta before moving on to a three-tiered “Muscovy duck study” that includes rillettes, duck prosciutto, and a terrine of the fatty fowl. Short-rib osso bucco with smoked celery root and a plate of wine-friendly American frog.
And besides, it always felt like a little piece of French elegance. I always thought that — in spite of the wannabe emperor, Maximilian, trying to make Mexico a French monarchy — the Mexican and French thing combines well. They appreciate each other. They were democratic pioneers when democracy wasn’t cool.

And then there was that painting of La Belle Claude herself, Claudia, beautiful, 17 and timeless, looking down at you from the wall mural behind the pastry counter.

Sigh.

But wait! A sign on the door says don’t give up. “We’ve transferred down to 7th Street between Ocampo and Pio Pico. Look us up there.”

So I do. Not an easy find. It’s down among the produce wholesalers. Smell of shrimp and fruit in the air. Barrow boys. Trucks backing in to loading bays. You’ve really got to watch your step as you look for the sign, “Café Angie Dresdner.”

But get inside (Café Angie Dresdner, Calle 7a, No. 2318, Zona Centro, Tijuana, 011-52-664-335-2745), and you’re back in a movie set like Gigi. Six little chairs and tables, a giant mural of the Moulin Rouge, European cakes and stuff such as nougat in glass cabinets, the smell of fresh coffee, and Andrea Bocelli singing “Besa Me” (“Kiss Me”) in that voice of his.

Angelica stands behind the pasteles (cake) counter. I recognize her. Claudia’s sister.

“It happened four months ago,” Angie says. “We had to move because the owner sold the building.”

And now, that same old delicious problem. Which cake? I settle for a champagne-colored monster with a chocolate disc on top.

“Rompope,” says Angie. “I take a while to work out what that means. But one chomp, and I know what she’s trying to tell me: this is an egg-nog cake. Costs me 40 pesos: say, $3. Is that rum or brandy I taste in there?

Cup of coffee’s $1.25. Man, what a beautiful combo. Nice thing is Angie bakes it right here. Everything. And what gets me is it’s all so danged inexpensive. Little chocolate horns (cuernitos de chocolate) cost, like, 12 cents each. Nougat’s 80 cents. Heck, the most expensive slice of cake is four bucks.

Angie says her mom still comes in and helps — she was the backbone of La Belle Claude — but Claudia, La Belle Claude herself?

“Married. Two sons. Homemaker.”

Sigh.

Posted Nov. 7, 1:47 p.m.
by Ed Bedford

Malarkey Going Ubiquitous

Goodbye, Gio’s Bistro in La Mesa; hello, Gingham. Brian Malarkey is becoming a one-man chain (a new Cohn?), with cloth-named restaurants — Seersucker downtown, Burlap in Del Mar, and now this one, which is expected to open in December.

Gio’s had annoyed the neighbors with amplified live music outdoors on the patio. It lost its music permit and shut down at the end of October.

Malarkey and business-partner Mike Mitchell plan to enclose the patio in the 7000-square-foot space, add a second bar on the patio, and keep food prices low, fit for an East County family venue.

After that: Gabardine, in Point Loma.

And then? And then?

Posted Nov. 8, 4:37 p.m.
by Naomi Wise

Happy (Hour) Blues

Dang. Just missed the Blue Line heading south. Standing at the Fifth Avenue trolley stop. Fifteen minutes to kill.

Hmm. Speaking of blue... I start wandering down Fifth toward the House of Blues terraza (1055 Fifth Avenue, downtown, 619-299-2583), filled tonight with Beautiful People (the women) and pallid, sweaty-faced men wearing
pork pie hats. Musicians. You’d know ’em a mile off.

I spot a sign saying the magic word. “Happy Hour, 4-7:pm. $2
domestic draft.”

I could view this as a business venture. I mean, who knows? Maybe the guy on the stool next to me will be a musician looking for songs. I’ll help him out, sell him my hit “Knead Me Now,” get famous, and not need happy hours ever again.

Turns out this is a private party. So you walk through the patio, in past the Company Store and to a long bar they call “Crossroads.”

I set myself up at the end, next to this guy Jerry. “Quesadilla,” he says, when I ask what he’s eating.

It’s nice, on a long square plate with tomatillo sauce looking green and evil in a little bowl. “Happy hour. Five bucks.”

So now we’re talking food. For five bucks they also have a dip with chips or cornbread with maple butter and manchego cheese and jalapeño mixed in there.

They have $6 and $7 specials too, such as two pulled-pork sliders for $6.

Cornbread: “Comes in a pan, really good,” says Brock the bartender, by way of assurance. So I order that and the whatever beer, Bud Light, for $2.

Bottom line, it is way filling, sweet (love the maple butter), and sure makes a good liner for the Bud Light. Jeff gives me a big chunk of his quesadilla (excellent), and I slightly regret not trying the sliders.

I look around, at the schmoozing couples, the Day of the Dead art, the long Spanish lanterns. Goth meets Zorro.

“What’s with the patio party?” I ask Eileen.

“Out on the Satchmo?” she asks.

“Satchmo?”

“That’s what we call the patio. ’Satchmo.’ Upstairs is ‘Hooker,’ the downstairs space is ’Big Mama.’ It holds around 1000.”

“So what’s with the Satchmo party?”

“Movers, shakers,” she says.

Leaves it at that.

That’s okay. Even if she threw out names, I’d probably have to pretend I knew them. Except I know that Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake have been through here.

I suddenly wonder about Eileen.

“Are you a singer on the rise, paying her dues?” I ask.

“Honey, I don’t even sing in the shower,” she says.

My fifteen minutes of chasing fame are up. Time to get back to the Blue — or is that Blues? — Line.

Posted Nov. 8, 12:35 p.m.
by Ed Bedford
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Kebabalicious!
Here is the news: The Middle East has just conquered Europe and is making serious advances across North America. You don’t believe me? Take a look at my belly.
On second thought, better not.
Carla and I just got through the most scrumo take-out box of beef kebabs and whole-grilled tomato and salad that I got at Ali Baba’s (Ali Baba Family Restaurant, 421 E. Main Street, El Cajon, 619-442-3622).
And — great plus! — a big circular waad of Middle Eastern bread that they had slapped against the side of their tan-door oven and baked while I waited, just like people were doing 5000 years ago back in, well, remember Ur, the world’s first city?
The kebabs are kinda warmly spicy (parsley helps), and that tomato, stuck on the grill and blackened, gushes out at you in a tangy, burned sort of way.
Of course, not the cheapest. It’s $9.95. But Ali Baba’s is one of the oldest and most beautiful of the Middle Eastern eateries around here.
Just look at the decorations and tents inside the place. Guy once told me everyone who has come originally from desert peoples loves getting back to that oasis tent-feast feeling.
Talking of feast in a tent, this group sure got it here.
While I was waiting for my take-out, Leena the server took them this $50 feast for three — which is big enough for all six of them — loaded with three skewers each of beef or lamb kebab, chicken kebab, and chicken teka, plus all sorts of other goodies.
Oh, and conquering Europe? Did I mention that bunch of students I found eating their “taste of Spain” at a sentimental reunion dinner after a year of foreign study in Madrid? Guess where they went for their “taste of Spain”? To the Kebab Shop downtown, where they ordered what they’d eaten on Madrid’s streets all year: lamb kebabs.

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Make For a limited time!! The 22” Challenge is on!! If you can finish it and make the “Wall Of Fame”, it’s FREE!
Some restrictions apply.

San Diego Beer Week: Day Nine
10 a.m. – Cooperrage d’etat
Do you like Ballast Point beers?
Do you like barrel-aged beers?
Do you like paying a buck to enjoy such rich brews? Today’s your day.
Hit up Home Brew Mart for $1 four-ounce tasters of 15 specialty numbers including Syrah barrel-aged Three Sheets Barleywine Blend and Bourbon barrel-aged Sextant Oatmeal Stout.

Noon – Green Flash Ninth Anniversary Celebration
Having moved to a huge new facility in Mira Mesa, it’s been a big year for Green Flash Brewing Company. They’re celebrating the coming of their ninth year in business with a blowout extravaganza complete with tons of beer, food trucks, and a great cause: the Susan G. Komen Foundation.
5 p.m. – Second Saturday with Marin Brewing
Show up early to Hamilton’s Tavern, wedge yourself in, and enjoy a happily ruckus crowd fueled by Italian hop sausage and peppers plus cask and draught beers from NoCa’s Marin Brewing Company (plus guest beers from Moylan’s, Drakes, Moonlight, Triple Rock, and Magnolia).
6 p.m. – Mission Brewery Beer-Maker Dinner
One of the best things about Beer Week is the chance to enjoy great local beers while supping at top tier eateries such as Loews Coronado’s standout, Mistral. Chef Patrick Ponsaty is serving up pork chops and carrot mousse with Mission Shipwreck Double IPA. Trés gourmet!
6:30 p.m. – Beer & Bacon Dinner
Many think Rock Bottom brewpubs are soulless links in a corporate chain, but each has its unique brews and identity. Savor beers from Rock Bottom La Jolla’s award-winning brewher (and SD Brewers Guild prez) Marty Mendiola with the protein of the moment: pork. Bacon-wrapped scallops with jalapeño-IPA cream sauce. Oinkers away!

Posted Nov. 10, 11:45 a.m. by Brandon Hernández
Abstract Swing. As Declan Halloran sees it, the all-age local band scene is easy to sum up. “The bands that play at Soma are either pop-punk, cookie monster [streamo], or ska. They pretty much come in one of these three flavors.” Halloran is the drummer/vocalist in Neveready, a seven-member group that is often lumped in with the local ska contingent.

“When we started two years ago my dad [radio veteran Mike] was the one who told us not to do the typical ska thing. He urged us to look at other styles and try to reach out to a wider audience.”

The young Halloran and his bandmates made sure they did not fall into a ska rut. “We saw how repetitive the other bands could sound,” Halloran adds. “The trend nowadays is to take old-school ska and just speed it up, which is cool, but that is not the direction we wanted to go... We realized we had to go into the roots of ’60s Jamaica dance halls. We throw in Motown, funk, soul, dub, hip-hop, and abstract swing.”

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“Ska funk-ups Neveready make their own shows. As De-

THE GORE HORSEMAN
KOFFIN KATS
Ska funk-ups Neveready make their own shows. As De-

THE GORE HORSEMAN
KOFFIN KATS

He said, ‘Absolutely.’”

Neveready appears near the rollercoaster” on November 26 and at Electric Ladyland (all ages) in O.B. on December 17.

— Ken Leighton

Lather, Rinse, Repeat

“I had my moment as a rock star,” says Larry Groupe. “I now equate being on tour with the directions on a bottle of shampoo: lather, rinse, repeat.” When Groupe, a San Diego–based composer/key-

Lather, Rinse, Repeat

“I had my moment as a rock star,” says Larry Groupe. “I now equate being on tour with the directions on a bottle of shampoo: lather, rinse, repeat.” When Groupe, a San Diego–based composer/key-

brassionist chanced to replace his idol Rick Wakeman in Yes, it was like a dream come true. “This is my favorite band. This is the band I grew up with.” He says it was the Brit-

brassionist chanced to replace his idol Rick Wakeman in Yes, it was like a dream come true. “This is my favorite band. This is the band I grew up with.” He says it was the Brit-

ish prog rockers that inspired him to become a musician. “It was a combination of Yes and hearing Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring in high school. I was 16, and I knew exactly what I wanted to do.”

The Yes gig came about when Groupe’s agent heard that the band wanted to make a record with an orchestra. Groupe said, “I have got to be that guy.” He had an initial meeting with Yes bass-

The Yes gig came about when Groupe’s agent heard that the band wanted to make a record with an orchestra. Groupe said, “I have got to be that guy.” He had an initial meeting with Yes bass-

ist Chris Squire. “A couple months went by and I didn’t hear anything. I assumed the project died or they went with someone else.” Instead, Groupe was asked to meet the band in a Santa Monica recording studio. He returned home to Oceanside with their demos, and ten days later went back to Santa Monica with his compositions. “We played them back in the booth. It was, “he says, “the most stressful playback in my entire life.”

But Groupe landed the gig and recorded the album Magnification with Yes. He describes conducting Yes with a different orchestra each day in each city on the 2001–2002 Yes Symphonic tour. “I’d get a 90-minute re-

But Groupe landed the gig and recorded the album Magnification with Yes. He describes conducting Yes with a different orchestra each day in each city on the 2001–2002 Yes Symphonic tour. “I’d get a 90-minute re-

hearsal, then a dinner break, and then we’d do a three-

hearsal, then a dinner break, and then we’d do a three-

hour show. We were sight reading over half the music, and if you know Yes, it can be extremely difficult.”

Groupe is perhaps better known as a film composer. Straw Dogs, a Sony/Screen Gems feature that opened in the working arrangements of Tim Burton and Danny Elf-

Groupe is perhaps better known as a film composer. Straw Dogs, a Sony/Screen Gems feature that opened in the working arrangements of Tim Burton and Danny Elf-

man or Alfred Hitchcock and Bernard Herrmann. Groupe, whose credits go back to the cartoon Ren and Stimpy, has scored nine of Lurie’s films.

For the past 20 years the two-time Emmy winner has both lived and worked in Oceanside, a choice of living arrangement that runs counter to the popular notion that music pros must live in New York or Los Angeles. “I go to L.A. for my meetings, recording sessions, screen-

For the past 20 years the two-time Emmy winner has both lived and worked in Oceanside, a choice of living arrangement that runs counter to the popular notion that music pros must live in New York or Los Angeles. “I go to L.A. for my meetings, recording sessions, screen-

ings, an event, but,” Groupe says, “I don’t have to go there every day.” He says it’s a close enough commute. “Being an hour and 15 minutes away from Hollywood is perfectly okay.”

— Dave Good

(continued on page 82)
**Chinese Beetles.** “We just returned from our 15th trip to China,” says Scott Stephens of Liquid Blue, the first San Diego band to sign with a Chinese record label (Shanghai Audio and Video). “Some of us are hell-bent on trying anything unique to whatever part of the world we’re in. In Hangzhou, a couple of us thought the trays of cooked insects displayed by street vendors didn’t look too bad. So, we had a nice meal of scorpions, beetles, and centipedes. After they’re fried up and spiced, they taste pretty good.”

Testing the local wares isn’t limited to food. “If the stuff is illegal in the U.S. but legal in the country we’re visiting, even better. We often perform mildly intoxicated.”

Among Stephens’s favorite high times, “Chewing coca leaves in Peru and then trekking up to Machu Picchu, smoking opium in the Middle East far removed from any Western authorities, sipping kava in Fiji with the locals, drinking the mate [tea] in Argentina, drinking real absinthe in Czech Republic nightclubs, and doing ‘shrooms in Amsterdam and tripping all over the city on roller skates.”

Wait, roller skates? “After partaking of the local mind-altering substances, I typically roller skate all over the city with the band wandering behind me on foot. I keep the skates with me everywhere we go. In 90 percent of countries, I can go into malls, restaurants, and bars with nobody hassling me. During this last trip to China, I kept the skates on during every show.”

Stephens says his overseas observations have given him an informed perspective on America’s “war on drugs.” “In Peru, the natives chew coca leaves daily with seemingly no ill effects. Coca leaves aid digestion, and the effect of the coca is milder than street cocaine. Everyone who visits Machu Picchu is given coca tea or coca leaves to chew, which helps with altitude sickness. Opium has been used for centuries, and its safest application comes when used closest to its natural form. The best example for legalization of drugs is Amsterdam. You’d be hard pressed to find any drug addicts roaming the streets.”

Scott Stephens and Liquid Blue appear at Anthology on Sunday, December 7. — Jay Allen Sanford

**Not Open-Mouth.** Happy Ron Hill’s 1500th performance happens at Lestat’s on Wednesday, November 23.

With nearly 1500 performances under his belt, Happy Ron Hill’s finally smooth. It’ll also be the native San Diegan’s first full show with his “smooth jazz combo,” the Smoothies. “I’ve been saying for years that my music was Sinatra-meets-South Park, despite the fact that the only thing I really have in common with Sinatra is my hat. This new band has a classy Rat Pack vibe, especially our theme song ‘Moments Like This.’ I wrote the song years ago, but it wasn’t until the Smoothies that I found a band smooth enough to play it. I really ain’t that smooth myself.”

Though his local stage debut was back in 1998, Hill kicked it into high gear around 2004, averaging five performances per week, most at open-mic events. The worst thing about over a thousand trips to the stage as a walk-on citizen songsmith? “ Hecklers in the crowd. I tell them, ‘It’s open-mic, not open-mouth.’” — Jay Allen Sanford

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**daily blogs**

**Mike Pinto EP Release Party Nov. 23 @ House of Blues**  
By Jay Allen Sanford — Nov. 14, 4:26 p.m.

**Behind the Scenes: Scott Wilson Music Video “Slow Movin’ Driver”**  
By Jay Allen Sanford — Nov. 14, 1:50 p.m.

**Groovetube: Galactic Reign Returns to Kava**  
By Chad Deal — Nov. 14, 1:38 p.m.

**San Diego Symphony: Mahler Keeps It Real**  
By Garrett Harris — Nov. 14, 11:40 a.m.

**Bangles Bang ‘Em Out at House of Blues**  
By Gail Powell — Nov. 13, 7:53 a.m.

**Capricorn Studio Local Band Comp Release Nov. 16 @ The Griffin**  
By Jay Allen Sanford — Nov. 13, 1:18 a.m.

**Swarmius — Can You Dig It?**  
By Dave Good — Nov. 11, 1:18 a.m.

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**Thursday 17**

**They Might Be Giants** share a crate at my place with Dave, Ridgeway, Pere Ubu, Zevon—

The satirists. Witty distractions from too-commercial pop culture, like movies by the Coens or reading Vonnegut. Healthy snacks! John Flansburgh and Linnell will be at Belly Up behind this year’s comebacker Join Us. Dryw Kelz wrote us a review when it dropped in July, if you want to tool through the music pinnacles for that.

I stopped buying their records in the ’90s — I think John Henry was the last — but I’ll never miss a show...except prolly this one, because Bob Mould is playing Casbah and I can walk there from my house. Bob was in Hüsker Dü, which made conceptual punk masterpiece Zen Arcade. After Hüsker Dü, he started Sugar, which made some pretty sweet power pop — ’92’s Copper Blue still holds water. Since, he’s made a bunch of solid solo records and, also, does this sort of punktronica dance-jams thing with chowhadeh producer Rich Morel called Blowoff. The dancing bears’ll crank that up at Casbah Friday night...Best of the rest: Palm Desert heavy-metal heads Kyuss will be at House of Blues with the lineup are working on a record, which they’ll probably play a healthy dose of. You can take a taste at their Space of new track “WTF is Going on Around Here?” Black Crowes Rich Robinson (Chris’s baby bro) will play an early set at Casbah. The blues-rock singer-songwriter is touring in support of his sophomore solo set Through a Crooked Sun. After that, it’s the aforementioned Blowoff with Bob ’n’ Dick.... Else: British psychobilly band the Phantom Rockers appear at Shakedown with Wrecking Dead, while folk /funk Lotus jam through genre mashups at Belly Up with Toronto-based remix trio Keys N Krates.

**Saturday 19**

Metalcore god squad the Devil Wears Prada sets up at Soma Saturday night. The Dayton-based Christian band is touring in support of their Space of new track “WTF is Going on Around Here?” Black Crowes Rich Robinson (Chris’s baby bro) will play an early set at Casbah. The blues-rock singer-songwriter is touring in support of his sophomore solo set Through a Crooked Sun. After that, it’s the aforementioned Blowoff with Bob ’n’ Dick.... Else: British psychobilly band the Phantom Rockers appear at Shakedown with Wrecking Dead, while folk /funk Lotus jam through genre mashups at Belly Up with Toronto-based remix trio Keys N Krates.

**Sunday 20**

So, Sunday’s the MLS Cup final between L.A. Galaxy and Houston Dynamo. Wicked long list of local pubs are playing it, so you do the legwork on that, will ya. I’ll be up there in Carson at the Home Depot Center, bouncing in the bleachers and going hoarse. I’m into it. MLS, Primera, EPL, Serie A, La Liga. If we’ve ever met, you know this about me. I probably squawked a tipsy cheer in yer ear about it being “THE MOST POPULAR SPORT IN THE WORLD” as I spilled beer on your shoes and groused about America’s indifferent worldview regarding “the beautiful game.” I probably called you a philtinme behind your back as you walked away. I’m sorry. It was reported last week that soccer’s outbelling pro hockey and basketball. We don’t have either of those, so I was thinking of trading the Chargers to L.A. for one of their MLS teams — if no one has any objections.... After you watch the match, there’s lots of fun places to go and spread the word. For inst., Little Italy supper club Anthology has booked Grammy-winner and “the MGR” mastermind Booker T. Jones. The Nashville native has a new one in Road from Memphis...there will be a U.V. tribute at Whistle Stop hosted by deep-crates DJ and Art Fag proprietor Mario Ordone...Detroit psychobilly band Koffin Kats and like-minded locals Hard Fall Hearts, Gore Horsemens, and the Frightners fill a greazy-beat bill at Brick by Brick...while Ozomatli’s Chali 2na & the House of Vibe will be serving up funk-n-soul at Soda Bar.

**Monday 21**

Speaking of funk-n-soul, hmmmmm, get to this set, as Sharon Jones & the Dap-Dangs do their thing at House of Blues. Last year’s

**Tuesday 22**

Morrissey graces the stage at California Center for the Arts Escondido. I have not kept up with him of “the fourth sex” and all his sociopolitical prancery, but still I enjoy his wit and pop. The ex-Smiths frontman is touring on the heels of EMILY & THE MONDAY team’s got

**Wednesday 23**

It’s Thanksgiving Eve, good night to lay low, sharpen your knives. But, if you absolutely have to have it, go get it from the late, Worldwidew. Mera and the Lesbians go first.
Seedy, Dark, and Crusty

“Floyd the barber, Otis the drunk, they’re all there.”

The hellbillies, formerly known as the Beat Farmers, are no strangers to lineup changes. Their longtime pedigree assures that some folks will find fault with any version of the band, including the omission of those departed from this mortal coil (Country Dick Montana, Buddy Blue) or defeaters from “classic” rosters (Rolle Love, Joey Harris, etc.), a fact not lost on the quartet now called the Farmers.

“Despite all the spin that certain peeps put on everything, the Farmers will motor on with pride, integrity, and passion, with the proven good old-ass-spankin’ style,” says founding guitarist Jerry Raney on the band’s website. “Having said that, there are many cool cats that have been involved with the legacy at one time or another. Some will be missed, and others will be pissed.”

The Farmers circa 2011/2012 are Jerry Raney, Joel Kmak, Chris Sullivan, and Corbin Turner. They’ll appear Saturday, November 19, at the Downtown Café in El Cajon, and Saturday, November 26, at the Kraken in Cardiff.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR MUSIC?
Raney: “Crunchy rock.”
Kmak: “Straight-ahead rock and roll.”
Sullivan: “Beatnik soul seems to appeal to all those idiots.”
Turner: “A select few seedy, dark, and crusty dive bars where the discreet and anonymous bartenders hook you up.”

FAVORITE CONCERT?
Raney: “Joel and Tai Kmak’s house, with him doing the DJ thing.”
Kmak: “The meadow on Big Laguna Trail.”
Sullivan: “Downtown La Mesa has a great Mayberry feel. Floyd the barber, Otis the drunk, they’re all there.”
Turner: “A select few seedy, dark, and crusty dive bars where the discreet and anonymous bartenders hook you up.”

WHERE DO YOU HANG OUT?
Raney: “Roy Orbison at the Starlight Bowl. Got so many chills, I thought I was catching the flu.”
Kmak: “The Rolling Stones’ Exile on Main Street tour, 1972 at the Sports Arena. Stevie fucking won the show!”

Kmak: “Kevin Connolly.”
Raney: “Bob Dylan.”
Sullivan: “A great Canadian group featuring Billy Cowsill from the Cowsills. Mostly covers, but a ton of fun.”

MOST EMBARRASSING SONG ON YOUR PLAYLIST?
Raney: “Shania Twain, ‘Man! I Feel Like a Woman.’”
Kmak: “Bobby Sherman, ‘Little Woman.’”
Turner: “A hip-hop remix of ‘Let It Be.’”

WHAT’S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?
Turner: “Trailer-park rock.”
Kmak: “Rolling Stones, Exile on Main Street.”
Sullivan: “Co-Dependents, the Mecca.”
Raney: “Floyd the barber, Otis the drunk, they’re all there.”

SEEDY, DARK, AND CRUSTY

San Diego, November 17, 2011

Sullivan: “Elvis in Las Vegas, at the International Hotel. I was a teenager, and for me it was like seeing Moses in the Holy Land. Except with souvenirs.”

EVER BEEN FIRED?
Raney: “When I was in my late teens I was the leader of a band called the Jesters, and they kicked me out of my own group.”

FIRST TIME DRUNK?
Sullivan: “I was seven, it was my brother’s birthday, and we went to this Italian restaurant in the Bronx. My dad ordered a rum cake, and we didn’t know it was made with real rum.”

WHAT REMAINS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?
Kmak: “I usually start in Borrego Springs and go through Laguna the back way to PB for a beer and wings at Good Time Charlie’s.”
Sullivan: “Filippi’s on India Street.”
Turner: “T’s Café in Solana Beach, for breakfast and bloody Marys.”

SOMETHING WE DON’T KNOW ABOUT YOU?
Raney: “I went to a different school every year until ninth grade.”
Kmak: “My first band in 1970 was a church group.”
Turner: “I’m a complete mama’s boy to the core.”
Sullivan: “If I told you...that would kind of ruin the magic.”

Find more musician interviews online at SDReader.com/interviews
A Horse with No Name" comes to the Belly Up
Sunday, February 26th

They Might Be Giants
Thursday 1/17 • 8PM

W/JONATHAN COULTON

Lotus
Friday 1/18 • 9PM

Wikeys and Krates

Strung Out
Saturday 1/19 • 9PM

W/JUGHEAD'S REVENGE AND HEARTSOUNDS (PUNK, ROCK)

Jay and Silent Bob Get Old
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W/JASON MEWES AND KEVIN SMITH

Pure 80's Rock!
Sunday 1/16 • 8PM

Platinum Rockstars

Wild Child
"An Amazing Live Recreation of A Doors Concert"
Friday 1/21 • 8PM

W/DAZED AND CONFUSED

Chris Isaak
Christmas Show
Saturday 1/22 • 9PM

W/KEVIN ISAAK

Floyd FX
Performing
Wish You Were Here
Sunday 1/23 • 8PM

W/GUEST

Timothy B Schmit
W/Guest
Monday 1/24 • 8PM

An Evening with Leo Kottke
W/Guest
Thursday 1/27 • 8PM

B.B. King
W/ Walter Trout

Nov. 30th

Just Added: • 1/4 Dick Dale

Upcoming Shows:

12/2 Frog Fitzmorr Proej: An Atomic Groove Christmas
12/3 Jason Mraz – You are Loved • SOLD OUT
12/4 Les Lobes
12/5 The Mickey Hart Band
12/6 Peter Murphy and She Waits Revenge
12/9 The Young Guns - 9th Annual Ugly Sweater Party
12/10 The Chris Robinson Brotherhood
12/11 Blind Boys of Alabama w/Sara and Sean Watkins
12/12 Digitallum (Live Show)
12/13 Omniscor & Performing PUC in its entirety w/ Henry Rollins Interview
12/14 The Moncurse-Rogers Band (Tortoise keyboardist)

Ray Manzarek and Roy Rogers

Roy Manzarek and Roy Rogers
12/15 Venice Christmas Show
12/16 Unwritten Law
12/17 Black
12/19 Potluck
12/21 Rotomouth Kings • Jingle Bell with Big B and Prance Monkey
12/22 A Cash’d Out Christmas
12/23 Cracker and Camper Van Beethoven
12/28 Lefrancor Salmon
12/29 Beets Antigue
12/30 The Greyboy Allstars • West Coast Boogaloo with Fred Wesley
12/31 New Year’s Eve – English Beat
1/6 Pato Banton
1/7 The Country Bender • "Dick Blue Ball" • A Farmer’s Celebration
1/13 41 Goes to Freedom
1/14 Raymond Scott and
The Moncurse-Rogers Band

The Pettybreakers

1/15 Romeo’s Park
1/20 Agent 51 and Pivit
1/21 Dead Man’s Party
1/22 The Steve Morse Band
1/23 Mark Hummel’s Blues Explosion
1/25 The Wood Brothers
1/27 & 28 (TBA)
12/9 March Forth Marching Band
1/31 The Jayhawks
2/3 Keller Williams
2/4 Martin Sexton
2/11 ALO
2/25 Los Lonely Boys
Acoustic Show
3/10 Who’s Bad (Michael Jackson Trib)

Happy Hours!
5-8PM

11/18 Atomic Groove • 11/25 Fokebook
12/31 - New Year’s Eve with Candy Kane

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BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The past couple of years have seen a wealth of good records from Raphael Saadiq, Fitz & the Tantrums, Mayer Hawthorne, and others working in the style of '60s and '70s soul and funk. But the best of these acts has been Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings.

Jones has been singing since the early '70s but struggled for years to land work as a backup singer. For a while she held a day job as a corrections officer at New York's Rikers Island prison. Her fortunes started to change in the late '90s when she met with some of the most in-demand session players in the world, especially after their work on Amy Winehouse's Back to Black. But the band seems to have found its collective soulmate in Jones, and vice versa.

The thing everyone says about Jones is that when she sings, you hear all her years of pain and disappointment and the toughness she needed to get through them. To paraphrase one of her songs, she learned the hard way. All that's true, but onstage you also see the joy she takes in music and performing.

From a distance, it's easy to say that Jones and the Dap-Kings are just revivalists, not contributing anything new. But you can't see them onstage and think they aren't 100 percent sincere and committed to the music. That quality transcends retro fashion. Maybe it transcends time.

SHARON JONES & THE DAP-KINGS: House of Blues, Monday, November 21, 8 p.m. 619-299-2583. $27.50.


The Kava Lounge: 2812 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-543-0933. Tuesday, 9pm — Nate Young, Drainolith, Endless Bummer, Dornob. Experimental/World. $5.


Liberty Hall Theater at Paradise Village: 2700 East 4th St., National City. Sunday, 7pm — The Bayou Brothers. $15-$20.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497. Thursday, 8pm — Miguel Zenón Quartet. $5-$25.


Molly Malone’s: 1270 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-9050. Friday, 9pm — Nemesis. Free. Saturday, 9pm — Stone the Giant. Free.


Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947. Sunday, 8pm — Enrique Bunbury and Zoe.


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BY DAVE GOOD

Comparisons to Blondie, says Jesper Anderberg, are to be forgiven. “I think there’s a slight similarity between us.” Anderberg plays keyboards and guitar in a Swedish indie-rock band called the Sounds. “I mean, we have a blonde girl and four guys, and we play, like, up-tempo. It’s an easy comparison. But I think it ends quickly after that. We’re two different bands.” Not to mention two different girls. Deborah Harry, a chemical blonde, was once a Playboy Bunny; Maja Ivarsson is a true blonde and a nasty, cock-rocking punk. Blondie was an antipop band with manufactured star power. The Sounds are aggressive and hard and bleak, like No Doubt but with better guitars and troubling lyrics.

“I think it’s hard to write songs about good times. I can never write lyrics about something happy in my life. There’s gotta be some sort of depressing story behind it.” Anderberg says it may be cultural. “I think Sweden, in general...well, it’s not a depressing country, but there’s always a lot of talk about it being dark and stuff like that.” He describes his country’s long, dark winters. “Six months a year. And we usually write music in those six months. There’s not much else to do.”

It turns out that Anderberg and I have something more in common than our Svensk heritage: John Denver. My mom, I confess, played John Denver albums every night at dinner for years. “He’s a great songwriter. Some of his songs are pretty cheesy, but he’s a piece of history, of U.S. culture...I think it’s weird to write about something that’s happy. I don’t like to listen to lyrics when people are running around saying how great life is. When someone says, ‘Oh, I love my life,’ you don’t trust that.”

Funeral Party, the Limousines, and Kids at the Bar also perform.

THE SOUNDS: Soma, Thursday, November 17, 7 p.m. 619-226-7662. $20.
Street Team

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April 8th, 2011

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San Diego Reader
November 17, 2011

91
Reviews from Our Readers

92 Reader
November 17, 2011

The Buddy Holly-esque opening track "Honey Bunny" is '50s sunshine pop for the modern age. The balance of the tracks will intrigue you. The up-and-down moods that are established from song to song are a thing of beauty. One song will bounce you along like the tambourine shake of "Magic," and the next, "Forgiveness," will have you staring into space to the dreaminess of "Magic." Owens sings as if he is heartbroken but on the prowl. It is a weary yet confident tone, and it’s strangely satisfying.

Like the trinity that gives the album its name, the songs make up a cohesive whole. Individually, the tracks are solid, but as a single piece, the album is near perfect.

Father, Son, Holy Ghost Girls
By Allison Mayoral
Back in July, the indie-music blogosphere didn’t know what to do with itself when Girls released the single "Vomit." The near seven-minute jam, complete with soul-singer backup vocals, was all hipsters needed to become obsessed with the San Francisco band. One listen of their sophomore LP, Father, Son, Holy Ghost, and you, too, will buy the hype.


The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-1449. December 1 — Marco Benevento. February 8 — Ben Russell.


Cosmos Coffee Café: 8278 La Mesa Blvd., La Mesa. November 26 — Jim Hinton.


November 26 — Friends & Enablers.


Eleven: 3519 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-450-4292.

November 25 — Paul Revere & the Raiders and Chuck Negron.


**HAPPY HOUR**

More information about these establishments can be found online at SDReader.com/drinks, including driving directions, coupons, and more.

**HOW TO SUBMIT A DRINK SPECIAL:** Please fax to 619-231-0489. mail to Reader Happy Hour, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186, or submit information online at SDReader.com/drinks.

**ALLIED GARDENS**

San Diego Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $3 select house & domestic beers, house wine, well drinks, 1/2-off appetizers.

**ALPINE**

Donato’s Italian Restaurant: Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domesticos, $3.50 imports & house wine, $6 Long Islands, $3 wells.

**BALBOA PARK**

The Prado: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: $3.50 well drinks, pints, house wine, margaritas, lounge only.

**BANKERS HILL**

Pizzicato: Daily, 4-6pm: $3 pints, house wine.

**BAY PARK**

Offshore: Tuesday-Saturday, 7-3pm: $2 domestics, $3 sangria, well and micro imports, $5 Tommy Bahama mojitos.

**BONITA**

Sapphire 18+ Lounge & Hookah: Tuesday-Saturday, all night: Cheap drinks. Cheap eats. 1/2-off hookahs Thursday-Saturday 7-10pm.

**CARDIFF**

Chart House: Monday-Friday; 4:30-7pm: $3 domestic drafts, $4 premium drafts, well, glass of wine, $5 cocktails, $6 martinis.

**CARLSBAD**

The Alley: Daily, 11am-7pm: $2.75 wells, domestics.

**La Costa Grill:** Daily; 4-7pm; 9-11pm: $4 glasses, house wines, $1 off calls & premiums, appetizers reduced.

**Flying Elephant:** Monday, 7pm-10pm: $2.50 domestic pitchers during Monday Night Football. Thursday, $3 you-call-it Thursdays. Saturday, 8pm domestic pitchers all day.

**Karl Strauss Brewing Company:** Monday-Friday, 4:630pm $3.50 beer.

**Mr. Peabody’s:** Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm: $2.50 domestic beer, wine, soup, shots, wells & juice. $3.50 margaritas. Free taco bar 3pm to 6pm with drink purchase.

**CARMEL MOUNTAIN**

Oggi’s Pizza & Brewing Co.: Tuesday-Friday, 3-7pm, 9-11pm: $1 beer, mixed drinks. 1/2-off appetizers.

**CARMEL VALLEY**

Tio Leo’s: Monday-Thursday, 3-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints, $4 house margaritas & wells & drinks.

**Twenty/20 Grill & Wine Bar:** Daily, 4-7pm: $2 off any drink. 1/2-off appetizers.

**CHAUL VISTA**

Achiote Restaurant: Daily, 4-7pm: Two-for-one drinks.

**B’Jos Brewhouse:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: $1 off beer, cocktails, 1/2-off mini pizza, $2 off appetizers.

**Black Cat Bar:** Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $3.50 import drafts, $2 PBR cans, $5 martinis.

**The Tower Bar:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 wells and import drafts.

**CLAREMONT**

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

**Joe’s Pizzas:** Thursday, 6-9pm: $2 any tap or bottled beer, glass of wine.

**COLLEGE AREA**

California Kebab: Daily, 4-8pm: $2 Heineken, Sam Adams, $5 Coors Light pitcher, Sangria carafes.

**Casa Machado:** Monday-Friday, 3-6pm, $2.50 margaritas, $2.50 domestic drafts, $3.50 imports.

**Cucina Fresca and Sons:** Daily, 3-5pm: $1.75 domestic beer.

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

**Saturn Lounge:** Thursday, 9pm-close: $1 Bud drafts.

**CORONADO**

Coronado Boathouse 1887: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 4-6:30pm: $2.50 domestic beers, $5 wine by the glass, 7/16 specialty martinis.

**Costa Azul:** Monday-Friday, 3-6:30pm $3 Bud Light pints, domestic bottles. $3.50 imported bottles, wells, house wine, sangria, $3.75 drafts, $6 margaritas, mojitos. $2.95 tacos, $3.50 shrimp, $5.95 nachos.

**DEL MAR**

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

**DOWNTOWN**

House of Blues: Daily, 4-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $3 wines, $3 wells, $4 martinis. Killer happy hour menu.

**Patrick’s II:** Daily, 10am-8pm: $2.50 bottle beer, $3 wells, Bud Light pints, $4 calls, margaritas, bloody marys.

**The Stage Rock Bar & Grill:** Daily, 4-8pm: 1/2-off all beers, well, wine.

**Time Out Sports Bar:** Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 3-7pm: $2.50 16-ounce draft Time Out Lager, Bud, Bud Light, Sam Adams, $3.50 1/2-off appetizers, Thursday, all day: Thirsty Thursdays. Buy one pitcher, get second 1/2-off.

**Yard House:** Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $3.50 domestic pints, $4 craft/imports pints, $4.50 goblets, $4.25 wells, $5.75 house martinis, $2 off wine by the glass. $6.50 sliders, 1/2-off select appetizers & pizzas.

**EAST VILLAGE**

Hive Sushi Lounge: Daily, 5-7pm: $2 domestic, $4 micro, $2.50 sake, $3.50 well, $4 house wine. Miso edamame, $9.99.

**Monkey Paw:** Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $1 off drafts and cocktails.

**EASTLAKE**

Chili’s: Monday-Thursday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts, house margaritas; $4.99 premium margaritas. $3.50 wings.

**EL CAJON**

Blarney Stone Pub: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $5 off all drinks.

**Main Tap Tavern:** Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: $1 off 16oz. drafts, $2 off pitchers, $3 calls. $5 nachos.

**ENCINITAS**

D Street Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 wells, $2.50 domestic drafts. $2 off all appetizers.

**Savoy’s:** Daily, 5-6pm: 30% off food & beverages in the bar & lounge area.

**ESCONDIDO**

Tango Restaurant & Lounge: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks; 1/2-off bar menu.

**Vinz Wine Bar & Tasting Room:** Daily, 5-7pm: $6 wine, tapas, $4.50 wells, $3 doggie bites.

**FALLBROOK**

Aqua Terra: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 domestic, $9 pitcher; $4 imported, $12 pitcher; $1/2-off sushi rolls (no sushi on Monday).

**Golden Hill**

Turf Supper Club: Friday-Sunday, noon-4pm: $2 off all beer/sprits. $5 lunch: 1/2lb. burger, chicken sandwich, or two Louisiana hot links & chips.

**GRANTVILLE**

JT’s Clubhouse Pub & Grill: Monday, 11am-7pm: $3 domestic pints. 11am-4pm: 254 wings. Tuesday, 11am-6pm: $3 domestics. 1am-4pm: $1 tacos. Wednesday, 11am-7pm: $3 domestic pints. 11am-close: $1 sliders. Thursday-Friday, 11am-7pm: $3

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THEATER

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In effect, director Kym Pappas keeps the characters stuck onstage. They simply can’t leave. And this choice mirrors their situation. The actors play the eight Jews hiding in an attic in The Diary of Anne Frank. One false move — a cough, a tipped-over plate — could cost them their lives.

Pappas, in effect, continues the tension during a time-out. She gives the preshow another touch. Almost out of nowhere, Margot Frank, Anne’s older sister, enters and sits, staring at the floor. She wears a bland dress on which a large yellow star holds prominence; it’s the emblem the Germans in World War II used to identify Jews. Rachel Throesch, who gives the role a quiet eloquence throughout, barely moves. Is she the first of the Franks to occupy the attic? Or Margot’s ghost haunting such a haunted place?

In the end, the cast crosses single file in front of the stage, as in a medieval Dance of Death. When they reassemble, many shed tears. This is one of the production’s few false moves. They shouldn’t cry. One of the oldest rules of theater: let viewers feel your suffering, don’t feel it for them. And, anyway, by then the audience is making full use of the complimentary Kleenexes the theater has provided.

Anne was so frank, her father Otto — the family’s sole survivor of the concentration camps — edited her diary for publication. He cut her vehement anger at her mother and the specifics of her growing womanhood.

He gave her the diary, which she called “Kitty,” on her 13th birthday in 1942. A month later, the family hid out on the top two floors, a “Secret Annex” at 263 Prinsengracht, in Amsterdam.

They couldn’t make a sound between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., when others were in the building. They blackened the windows — and thus never breathed fresh air — and lived in mortal fear, literally, of noise. Thanks to a Christian woman named Miep (a graceful Anya Tuerk), they had food, of sorts: beans, old potatoes, leeks. It’s almost impossible to imagine the cabin fever they must have felt.

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The Diary of Anne Frank, adapted by Wendy Kesselman OnStage Playhouse, 291 Third Avenue, Chula Vista Directed by Kym Pappas, cast: Lucia Vecchio, Sven Salumaa, Laura Preble, Rachel Throesch, Anya Tuerk, Mitchell Fitzmaier, Rob Conway, Teri Brown, Greg McAfee, Nick Young; scenic design, Chad Oakley, Bruce Wilde; costumes, Teri Brown, Laurie Thibodeaux; lighting, Chad Oakley; sound, Carla Nell Playing through December 4, Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-422-7787

The Great American Trailer Park Musical, music and lyrics by David Nehls, book by Betsy Kelso San Diego Repertory Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, downtown Directed by Sam Woodhouse, cast: Courtney Corey, David Krik Grant, Jill Van Velzer, David McBean, Melinda Gill, Leigh Scarlett, Kailey O’Donnell; scenic design, Ian Wallace; costumes, Alina Bokovkova; lighting, Lonnie Alcaraz; sound, Tom Jones; choreographer, Javier Velasco; music director, Anthony Smith Playing through December 4, Sunday and Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-544-1000

Onstage’s audiences make full use of the complimentary Kleenex during its production of The Diary of Anne Frank. (Rachel Throesch and Laura Preble play Margot and Edith Frank).
have felt. They lived this way for
despair, Anne's vitality — and
‘ture.” As the others battle with
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ding objects, Anne
entombed will be an “adven-
entumbers®. As she chases people around
and covers, they torment.
entirely deaf. As the decibel level also makes the dia-
entiments go from there. Enhanced
enseless hours. The constant
100 decibel level also makes the dia-
ment would also have an ear-
tionless hours. The constant

The OnStage production
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I’ve seen several Anne
 developed. She's delighted with the simplest
and Bruce Wilde's set intrude
inch beams on Chad Oakley
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that’s the Anne of Act
One. By the end of Act Two,
trains her into a young woman awakening to her
sexualitv and to first love. The
young woman awakening to her
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sexualitv and to first love. The

Instead of
Enrique Urueta's romantic comedy
Learn to Be Latina
Diversionary Theatre presents Enrique Urtola’s romantic comedy
about Hanan, a promising pop star. When record execs say her Lebanese heritage could be a drawback, they
exploit her slightly Latina looks.” Iris Saratil Misrady directed.
DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARN BL.
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097.
7PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SATUR-
DAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH
DECEMBER 18.

Love Letters
To celebrate its 30th anniversary,

THEATER LISTINGS

Critic's Pick.

San Diego Reader November 17, 2011 49

Kushner’s two-play epic, set in 1985-
1986, “a time of heartbreak, reaction, and transition.” Glenn Paris and
Claudio Rayaza directed.
LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA.
DOWNTOWN. 619-544-1000. 7PM
SUNDAYS, 3:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH
DECEMBER 11.

Late Nite Catechism
Welk Resorts Theatre presents the
popular comedy in which "Sister" conducts a catechism class with no
holds barred.
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8880 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO.
888-802-7469. 8PM FRIDAYS, THROUGH
DECEMBER 16.

Learn To Be Latina
Diversionary Theatre presents

The Great American Trailer Park Musical — the Rep’s
deeply thought-out holiday gift to San Diego

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Of A.M. and M.N.

New Village Arts has an up and, mostly, down season. Its staging of John Steinbeck's drama, however, ranks among its better efforts to date. Daren Scott's direction and Marny Fernandez's first-rate performance as Lennie — so innocent, so performance had acoustic difficulties. Critic's Pick.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY; CLOSES NOVEMBER 20.

Oliver!

Lionel Bart's musical retells the story, by Charles Dickens, about young Oliver Twist, an orphan who goes adventuring. ENCORE THEATER, 9650 CAMPO RD., SPRING VALLEY. 619-670-1627. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, AND SATURDAY, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAY; CLOSES NOVEMBER 20.

Ragnarok

Circle Circle dot dot presents an "explorative performance" of Katherine Harroff's new play about taking "your role playing fantasy games to the next level." Stephen Schmitz directed. TENTH AVENUE THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-237-4550. 8PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 10.

The Cherry Orchard

Palomar College presents Anton Chekhov's "quiet comedy questions of social boundaries, and love in all its incarnations." Dana Case directed. PALOMAR COLLEGE PERFORMANCE LAB (ROOM D-10), 1140 WEST MISSION RD., SAN MARCOS. 4PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY; CLOSES NOVEMBER 20.

The Diary of Anne Frank

OnStage Playhouse presents Wendy Kesselman's adaptation of the famous diary of a teenage girl, hid- ing from the Nazis in WWII. Kym Pappas directed. ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 4.

The Drowsy Chaperone

Coronado Playhouse stages this homage to Jazz Age musicals. Janet Van De Graff may abandon her showbiz career to marry an oil tycoon. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 4.

The Musical Paul Gauguin

Asian Story Theater presents a new musical, book and lyrics by Kent Brisby, about the world-traveling artist and "the social cost of cre- ative freedom." Brisby directed, with musical direction by Patrick Weyland.

Bali Hai; 2230 SHELTER ISLAND DR., SHELTER ISLAND. 619-222-1181. 8PM FRIDAY. 6PM SUNDAY.

The Musical Paul Gauguin

Asian Story Theater is work-shopping this new musical. The project was ready for a tryout, and with tinkering and revising, could have a long life to come. Gauguin (1848) was a complicated individual who strove with all his might for sim- plicity. The lengthy script tries to account for too much, and the performance had acoustic difficulties. But there are many strengths: a game cast, some terrific songs and projec- tions, and Byron LaDue's perform- ance as Gauguin. Never once does he hype the role, and never once hits a false note. Worth a try.

Bali Hai; 2230 SHELTER ISLAND DR., SHELTER ISLAND. 619-222-1181. 8PM FRIDAY. 6PM SUNDAY.

The Night Sky: A Revolution- ary Rebozo

Viviana C. Enriquez Acosta's rebozo is "ancestral weaving of a family's journey from ancient times through the Mexican Revolution to the present," performed with music, dance, and theater. Enrique Acosta directed. JUAN B. KROC THEATRE, 6611 UNIVERSITY AVE., LA MESA. 619-269-5592. 4PM SUNDAY.

The Rainmaker

PowPAC stages Richard Nash's drama about a con man who con- vince an entire town he can make it rain on their drought-ridden county. POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY THE- ATER, 13360 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858- 679-0885. 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY; CLOSES NOVEMBER 20.

The Servant of Two Masters

Lamb's Players has turned Carlo Goldoni's commedia-like farce into a musical comedy. The intermin- ional less piece could use tightening, but it makes for an always lively, often funny entertainment. The ensemble cast (four married couples in real life) does admirable work. But the headliner is Geno Carr. He plays the harried servant, Truffeldino, in an exasperated style and deftly shows that some want revealed, while others don't. Larkua Lury directed. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. 8PM THURSDAY AND FRIDAY, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAY.

You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE presents the Tony Award-winning musical about a day in the life of Charlie Brown and cartoonist Charles M. Schulz's Pena- mists gang. Joey Landwehr directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMEROY RD., SCRIPPS RANCH, 858-579-7728. 8PM FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECERNBER 17. Worth a try.

Jon Lorenz and Colleen Kollar Smith, creators of this revue of 1980s music, say that favorite songs "mark your memories." miXtape is performed with rampant energy and polish by an eight-person cast. Memory triggers zip past. Pet Rocks, Pac-Man, Nelson Mandela, AIDS. Most of the songs are actually song- bies. But backed by Andy Inger- soell'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.) 619-437-0600. Worth a try.

Horton Grand Hotel, 1142 OR- ANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAY, 8PM FRIDAY, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAY. Worth a try.
MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by David Elliott, Matthew Lickona, John Rubie, 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 Descendants — With his wife now comatose from an accident, rich landowner George Clooney goes on a Hawaiian trip that reveals secrets. Alexander Payne wrote and directed the drama with some comedy. With Judy Greer, Beau Bridges, Matthew Lillard, Amara Miller. Reviewed next issue.

(HILLCREST; LA JOLLA 12; FROM 11/18)

50/50 — A slice-of-life indie-looking movie about a peevish, aimless young man (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) facing cancer. Except it's mostly not really about the young man's struggle with cancer; it's about his difficulties with girls (Mom included). Once you have that down, it's easier to see why most of the film seems to involve the hero's best friend (Seth Rogen) talking about getting laid. Oh, and there's a girl (Anna Kendrick) — a beginning therapist with a poor sense of personal boundaries.

2011. — M.L. ★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION VALLEY 20)

Footloose — Spirited remake of the 1984 hit about hormonal teens who face a preacher’s ban on dancing, their liberation coming with the title tune. Dennis Quaid is the grim cleric who hates the devil’s music — funny, if you remember Quaid rippin’ and rockin’ in Great Balls of Fire! Kenny Wormald, the new Kevin Bacon done; James Dean, is the hip dude new to town, and Julianne Hough the preacher’s lass who knows how to wow. A vital cast fills the pop mold, so obviously but affectionately poured by director Craig Brewer.

2011. — D.E. ★★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15)

Gainsbourg: A Heroic Life — Drawing upon his graphic novel, director Joann Sfar often uses whimsy to tell the Serge Gainsbourg story, from Jewish childhood during WWII to French musical stardom. Eric Elmosnino is the grown hero, and Laetitia Casta, Lucy Gordon, and Anna Mouglalis play the famous women in his life. Reviewed next issue.

(KEN; FROM 11/18)

Happy Feet Two — Here is your chance to see a penguin pee upside down, to hear Brad Pitt and Matt Damon as brave krill eager to escape the swarm (“Goodbye, krill world”), and to hear a kid penguin sing a Puccini aria with lyrics such as, “Life’s just a big pile of crazy.” George Miller directed the Antarctic critter comedy, with good animation and voices (Robin Williams, Elijah Wood, Pink, Common) that should please the target demographic. But into the singing, dancing, ice athletics, big-eyed cuteness, and ethnic types as sea life...

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ENCINITAS LA PALOMA THEATRE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10     6:00 & 9:00 PM

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ENCINITAS tickets available at the La Jolla and San Marcos Sport Chalet stores and the La Paloma Theatre box office.
CARLSBAD tickets available at the La Jolla and San Marcos Sport Chalet stores and carlsbadvillagetheatre.com.

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the global warming-and-melting message slips like a cold shiv. — D.E.  

San Diego November 17, 2011

The Immortals

slips like a cold shiv. 2011. — D.E.

the global warming-and-melting message

TOWER 10; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE 19; TEMECULA TOWER 10; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE

In Time — If time were currency, would you board it for eternal life or make every day a risky spree of mortality? In the near-future of an L.A. shut down with elegant noir streamlineing by Roger Deakins and directed by Kiwi-Brit stylist Andrew Niccol (Gattaca), people live to age 25, stop aging, and then must buy, steal, or gamble time to keep living. Justin Timberlake is the cocky but time-short rebel, and doe-eyed Amanda Seyfried the spoiled princess who, Patty Hearst-like, joins his revolt against the pampered plutocrats led by her father. It’s a true Hollywood fantasy about a world forever young, yet also a nightmare about our current capitalist malaise. A few slippery details should not spoil your fun. 2011. — D.E.

The Interrupters — Steve James (Hoop Dreams) spent a year documenting the efforts of a trio of reformed hardcore gangbangers working to bring peace to Chicago’s volatile Englewood neighborhood. Instead of talling sports or rap music as the golden ticket, the “violence interrupters” champion a psychological approach to peaceful coexistence in an urban war zone. Another documentary that’s more engrossing (and enlightening) than 80 percent of its narrative counterparts. 2011. — S.M.

Into the Abyss — Werner Herzog’s documentary looks Lindsayly at a triple-murder case near Houston, Texas, and its impact on surviving families and the youthful killers. Reviewed next issue.

(LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 11/18)

J. Edgar — Under the stone-clas-

J. Edgar Hoover as an anal-retentive power freak firm, seeming to welcome disaster with a shark’s appetite. Writer-director J.C. Chandor makes high-rises feel like cold misted glass, though one can’t help hoping he’s at it). Watch Adam Sandler take the lash to himself for getting rich via crass hackwork. Watch them both pretend that they really want to get back to their humble roots. And see it all wrapped in the terrifying package that is Sandler in drag. Also starring Kate Holmes and fort jokers. 2011. — M.L.

The Man Nobody Knew — Carl Colby traces the life of his father William, who rose from OSS paratrooper to major CIA “spook” during the Cold War and Vietnam, going deeper into the secretive maze that finally consumed him as the agency’s head during the scandals of the Nixon/ Ford era. Despite strong file footage and many witnesses (including Colby’s sad widow), we never get very far into this brilliant, remote man, a patriot in his way. He never came in from the cold, until a cance carried him to suicide. 2011. — D.E.

Margie Call — Not bad, if you want the 2008 financial collapse reduced to an adrenalized ego showdown in a w-wordy debt to David Mamet. Kevin Spacey is the greed pig who squashes best. Jeremy Irons is the predator who heads the investment group, seeming to welcome disaster with a shark’s appetite. Writer-director J.C. Chandor makes high-rises feel like cold coffins, and unhappy occupants include Simon Baker, Paul Bettany, Zachary Quinto, Stanley Tucci, Demi Moore. In this film, involving cartoon of complex truths, are we truly meant to feel for Lonley Spacey because he mourns his dog? 2011. — D.E.
ity, though the New York Times has called her the new "it girl." Clara Bow, anyone? 2011. — D.E.
★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Melancholia — At a swank European estate that is mainly a golf course, bored heiress Kirsten Dunst wanders, frets, bathes, and has sex in a sand trap (but not with her dull new groom). Her impish father (John Hurt) steals silver spoons. Kiefer Sutherland has tantrums, Charlotte Rampling is Hitlers, in one scene, Larry squishes into a few of us will otherwise see. It hardly matters, though the flimflam of sophistication, but when it comes to narrative refinement, Melancholia remains a product of cinema's dark ages. The initial effects are enough to hold your attention, but all bets are off when the tin can man is taught a few dance steps and the inevitable third-act pathos kicks in. Shawn Levy directed; starring Hugh Jackman, Dakota Goyo, and Evangeline Lilly. 2011. — S.M.
★★★★ (GASLAMP 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY TOWER 10; RANCHO DEL REY CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; ESCONDIDO 20; HILLCREST; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TEMECULA TOWER 10; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

The DreamWorks animation team spins off the Hispanic mac-cho cat from the Shrek series for his own adventure. Kids may take it hard when Puss is betrayed by blood brother Humpty Dumpty, though the flamenco "fight dance" is fun and there is a charming episode in fluffy clouds. Yet too often we feel the animators falling back on proven reliables: big eyes, hectic thrills, snappy patter, boring humans. The contrivances are rounded off by 3-D. Voices by Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Zack Galif- anakis, Billy Bob Thornton, Guillermo del Toro. 2011. — D.E.
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Puss in Boots — The DreamWorks animation team spins off the Hispanic mac-cho cat from the Shrek series for his own adventure. Kids may take it hard when Puss is betrayed by blood brother Humpty Dumpty, though the flamenco "fight dance" is fun and there is a charming episode in fluffy clouds. Yet too often we feel the animators falling back on proven reliables: big eyes, hectic thrills, snappy patter, boring humans. The contrivances are rounded off by 3-D. Voices by Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek, Zack Galif- anakis, Billy Bob Thornton, Guillermo del Toro. 2011. — D.E.
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New York Times — An employ-ee of Sir Laurence Olivier’s documents the interaction between Olivier and Marilyn Monroe (Michelle Williams) during production of the 1957 comedy The Prince and the Showgirl. With Kenneth Branagh, Judi Dench, Dominic Cooper. (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 11/18)

Oka! — Pro-tribal, pro-animal messages slip in easily, because Lavinia Currier’s film has Kris Marshall as Larry, based on real ethnomusicologist Louis Sarno. It also has equatorial Africa and the Pygmy people of the rain forest, so alive and rooted. The jungle, music, critters, not-too-generically labeled “tribal” and “native” (and Marshall’s casual rootedness) also has equatorial Africa and the Pygmy people of the rain forest, so alive and rooted. The jungle, music, critters, not-too-generically labeled “tribal” and “native” (and Marshall’s casual rootedness) — pro-tribal, pro-animal messages — Oka! (LA JOLLA VILLAGE; FROM 11/18)

Moneypball — A rare sports movie with a brain. Brad Pitt does perhaps his best star acting as Billy Beane, the Oakland Athlet-ics general manager who, sick of being looted of talent by big-money teams like the Yankees, opted for a “sabermetrics” approach using computers and the advice of a smart, chubby nerd (Jonah Hill, very good as this composite figure). The script went through much overhaul (Robin Wright’s tiny role may be a symptom of that), and Steven Soderbergh left as director, but Bennett Miller came in as more than a relief hitter. Full of nuances, always sharp about the frictions of change, finely acting, fascinated by the game but not pious, the movie has the rich adulthood that), and Steven Soderbergh left as director, but Bennett Miller came in as more than a relief hitter. Full of nuances, always sharp about the frictions of change, finely acting, fascinated by the game but not pious, the movie has the rich adulthood

My Week with Margueritte — Gérard Depardieu puts his unwieldy bulk and asymmetrical face to excellent use as a village simpleton who befriends an elderly intellectual woman after the two discover a mutual interest in pigeons. The subsequent shared adventure into the world of words is a pleasure to look and even greater pleasure to listen to, but there’s a falsity at the heart of things. Margueritte is ultimately about mother-love (or rather, the lack thereof), a tough subject that demands unsentimentality. But who wants to be unsentimental about Mom? 2010. — M.L.
★ (GASLAMP 15)

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The Rum Diary — Johnny Depp delivers his second film-incarnation of a Hunter S. Thompson character: Paul Kemp, a freelance journalist who takes a job at a financially crippled newspaper in Puerto Rico. Paul is quickly tangled in a web of illegal real estate deals, dangerous romantic prospects, and all manner of related hijinks. The script is unapologetically literary; everyone talks like Thompson’s prose. The direction, much like Thompson’s writing, meanders more than it hits the mark. 2011. — J.R.
★★ (GASLAMP 18; HORTON PLAZA 14)
continued on page 104

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The Skin I Live In — Spain’s wizard of chic effrontery, Pedro Almodóvar, again wraps his elegant style around desperate, sly, restless people. But there isn’t the motor of female emotion (and perverse fun) that the gay director often finds in his leading women. Instead, Antonio Banderas is a statuesque plastic surgeon who uses a little young man who attacked his daughter to rebuff the dead girl (Elena Anaya) as his incisuous sado-tyo.

Happy Feet Two (PG) Special Engagement; No Passes Allowed, Fri & Sat: 10:45 AM, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 7:45, 10:20 Sun: 10:45 AM, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 7:45, 10:20.

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1 (PG) Special Engagement, No Passes Allowed, Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 Sat: 10:00 AM, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00 Sun: 10:00 AM, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00.

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Jack and Jill (PG) Fri-Sat: 11:15 AM, 12:15, 2:00, 4:00, 5:45, 7:30, 9:15 Sun: 11:15 AM, 12:15, 2:00, 4:00, 5:45, 7:30, 9:15.

Immortals (R) Fri-Sat: 10:45 AM, 12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15 Sun: 10:45 AM, 12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6:15, 8:15, 10:15.

Puss in Boots (PG) Fri-Sat: 11:00 AM, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 Sun: 11:00 AM, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00.

In The Final Year of the Great Depression the economy still laid in ruins, in the hands of afootball star (Gabriel) of Super Bowl (Stadium Square 14, VISTA VILLAGE).

Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part 1 — The vampiric and werewolf clans, mostly young hunkies and hoots with fabulous hair, clash again as the sobo erotized fantasy continues. With Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner.

Carmel Mountain 14; Escondido 16; Fashion Valley 18; Grossmont Center 10; Horton Plaza 14, La Jolla 12; Mira Mesa 18; Mission Valley 20; Mira Mesa Hazard Center 7; Oceanside Mission Marketplace 13; Otay Ranch 12; Palomar 24; Pacific Beach; Pajama Bonita 14; Poway 10, Rancho Del Rey; Rancho San Diego 15; River Village 6; San Marcos 18; Santee Drive In; Vista; Vista Village; From 11/18.

A Very Harold & Kumar 3-D Christmas — Separated at the outset and assigned new BFIs, America’s favorite taking twosome spend the holidays reconciling. The 3-D pot smoke is sublime, but the twee effects are suffocating. The story could grind what little momentum there is to a halt. It’s not as funny as the first nor as physically responsible as the second, but given the right amount of sativa, you'll be rolling in the aisle. Todd Strauss-Schulman directed; starring Kal Penn, John Cho, and the fearless Neil Patrick Harris as a closeted heterosexual. 2011. — S.M.

(CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; 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; OCEANSIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAY RANCH 12; PALOMAR 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PAJAMA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTÉE DRIVE IN; VISTA; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/18)

The Way — A linear film about a doctor (Martin Sheen) who goes to France for the body of his son’s real friend, Emilio Estevez, who directed. To honor him and to shake his own life out of torp (golf isn’t enough), he carries the ashes on a foot trek down the famous pilgrim road to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Sheen has seldom done better work, including a memorable drone scene. By not pitching tourism or Catholicism too hard and by showing remarkable places and engaging seekers, the story is humane in a sanctum, almost munionary way. 2011. — D.E.

** (GASALMP 15)

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San Diego Reader November 17, 2011 113
A puzzler and a writer?

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 readers.com. Your submission will only be counted if you successfully complete a puzzle and get it in by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2. Submit the correct answers to one of the puzzles along with your name and a brief message. More than 20 words or less, or no name or phone number. Entries must include a name to help us get a good way to express yourself. You may submit a new message weekly. We reserve the right to reject inappropriate text.
3. The puzzle context ranking, shown online and in the newspaper, will be added or every three months. Complete the journey four times a year.
4. Entries must be filled out in black ink or typewriter.
5. No entries will be considered. One entry per person per week will be disqualified.
6. Entries are not eligible for a new career.

NEW RULES
Starting with the issue of May 12, we will award writers of the best messages, among those who correctly solve the puzzle, one of the famous Reader baseball caps or T-shirts. We will print the winning messages in the puzzle. Puzzle winners with rankings will be posted online at SDReader.com.

Across
1. Novelist, e.g. Abbr.
11. Hopkins unit
13. "Go away!"
14. "Carrotblanca"
15. "Boy, am I trouble!"
18. Reverse the 16th letter of "robust"
19. suffix with Zion
20. chop shop arrival
22. Like some families
23. "Savvy?"
24. diner VIP
25. Brisk
26. Crucifix
27. Quito's country: Abbr.
28. Like some families
29. "Save me!
30. tank (up)
31. electric razor
32. Tank (up)
33. "Raven- of "The Cosby Show"
34. Olympic swimmer Ian
35. Celebrity head shot?
36. "Exploits" writer
37. singer of the 2009 hit "Tik Tok"
38. Homer's hangout
39. task for farmers... or for solving 17, 23- and 49-Across.
40. from one end of a battery
41. quiet (down)
42. until now, to a CPA
43. charming people!
44. tarzan porpoise Ron et al.
45. "I can't find the air"
46. "And I can't find the air"
47. "Exodus" writer
48. Homer's hangout
49. Ancient Asia Minor region
50. Pince-____ glasses
51. actors named English
52. How is fried food fried
53. Birch
54. Tanks (up)
55. Apley named English
56. How is fried food fried
57. ancient Asia Minor region
58. Pince-___ glasses
59. task for farmers... or for solving 17, 23- and 49-Across.
60. Some Chicago trains
61. Houston-to-Chicago dr.
62. From one end of a battery
63. Quiet (down)
64. Until now, to a CPA
65. charming people!
66. Tarzan porpoise Ron et al.

Down
1. org.
2. company that provides EZ-Load ramps
3. "Chinatown" screenwriter
4. Chop shop arrival
5. expert
6. ex ballplayer who managed 1960's miracle Mets
7. only arrival
8. Leo and Libra
9. Jacob who invented the electric razor
10. Suffix with Zion
11. people who enjoy candlelit dinners, for example
12. Likable sort
13. Completely livesless
14. Biblical king
15. Scrap
16. Diner VIP
20. "Boy, am I trouble!"
23. Star of the 1995 spoof "Cariblanca"
24. Like some families
25. Lampono
26. Suffix with expert
27. Like some positive reviews
28. spots
29. Laser printer battery
30. Aviv
31. suffix with material
32. Raven- of "The Cosby Show"
33. Olympic swimmer Ian
34. Celebrity head shot?
35. Apley named English
36. How is fried food fried
37. Electric razor
38. Homer's hangout
39. Task for farmers... or for solving 17, 23- and 49-Across.
40. From one end of a battery
41. Quiet (down)
42. Until now, to a CPA
43. charming people!
44. Tarzan porpoise Ron et al.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:
Name:
Address:
City: Zip Code:
State: ______________
Personal Message: ________________________________

Please check one:
Hat: __________________________
T-shirt: ______ M_______ L_______ XL_______

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

B APA A S A N S H E I K
E LAN N E R O T I L D A
A B C D E F G H I J K
M A K I N G T H E V I D E O
O N S T A R T I Q U
N O T T A B C I A D W I
A L L M Y C H I L D R E N
A L I E A L E A L E A L E A L E A
T Y R A N T S C H O W Y
R E T E R E T E R E T E R E T E R E T
L I V I Y S B A M
T H E C A I N E M U T I N Y
L E I C A B A U M A D E E
A S F I T E T R I E G E R
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**RENTALS**

**RENTALS REGION MAP**

BEACHES

La Jolla • Mission Beach • Ocean Beach
Pacific Beach • Point Loma

DOWNTOWN

Balboa Park • Banker’s Hill • Downtown
East Village • Golden Hill • Little Italy
Logan Heights • Sherman Heights
South Park • Stockton

EAST COUNTY

Alpine • Borrego Springs • Boulevard
Campo • El Cajon • Imperial Valley • Jamul
Julian • La Mesa • Lakeside • Lemon Grove
Mount Laguna • Potrero • Ramona
San Diego • Santee
Spring Valley • Warner Springs

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Allied Gardens • Bay Park • Clairemont
College Area • Del Cerro • Grantville
Kearny Mesa • Linda Vista • Mira Mesa
Miramar • Mission Valley • San Carlos
Serra Mesa • Sorrento Valley • TERRAINA • UTC

NC COASTAL

Cardiff • Carlsbad • Carmel Valley • Del Mar
Encinitas • Leucadia • Ocean Beach • Solana Beach

OLD TOWN & UPTOWN

City Heights • Hillcrest • Kensington-Talmadge
Mission Hills • Normal Heights • North Park
Old Town • University Heights

NC INLAND

Bonita • Carmel Mountain • Escondido
Fallbrook • Poway • Rancho Bernardo
Rancho Peñasquitos • Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos • Scripps Ranch • Temecula
Valley Center • Vista

SOUTHWEST SD

Mission Valley • Otay Mesa • National City
Reedley • Santee • Spring Valley • University City

SOUTHBAY

Bay Pointe Apartments • Chula Vista • Coronado
Imperial Beach • National City • Otay Mesa
Paradise Hills • San Ysidro

SOUTHEAST SD

Alta Vista • Bay Terraces • Oceanside • Encanto
Emerald Hills • Jamacha-Lomita • Lincoln Park
Mount Hope • Mountain View • Shelltown • Southwest • Vallecitos Park

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SOUTHEAST SD

Alta Vista • Bay Terraces • Oceanside • Encanto
Emerald Hills • Jamacha-Lomita • Lincoln Park
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**BEACHES**


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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 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). 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 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1701 India Street in Little Italy, or scanned and e-mailed to: Sudoku@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.

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

EASY:

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________
City: __________________ State: __ Zip Code: ________
Personal Message: __________________________
Please check one:
Hat: ________ T-shirt: S _____ M _______ L _______ XL _______

NERS with rankings will still be posted online at SDReader.com.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

MEDIUM:

HARD:

EVIL:

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

THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:

Don Bowman, Santee, 9. The rabbit was poor in math... his multiplication table was full of “hares.”

Shannon Barry, Pine Valley, 1. Of time, where does it land?

Paula Davis, Spring Valley, 5. If ignorance is bliss, then stupidity must be heaven!

Cole Macy, San Diego, 4. If a parrot had more than one mate, would that be poly-gamy?

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San Diego Reader: November 17, 2011
San Diego Reader: November 17, 2011
San Diego Reader: November 17, 2011
Under the Radar
p.2 892 should be 1992
News Ticker
p.3 644 construction should be $644 million
Dining review
p.62 it should be at it
p.62 it is a made should be is made
Of Note
p.84 remarkable should be remarkable
Ian DePanti (North Park) $50

Los Cabos Fights Back
p.48 use, should be use?
Off the Cuff
p.119 defiantly should be definitely
Shortcuts
p.126 pickup should be pick up
p.126 horror should be a horror
Rami Toteishi (University City) $40

How They Played...
p.2 was should be were
Roam-O-Rama
p.53 bikers, should be bikers
Kilian Roever (Claremont) $20

Events listings
p.58 Welsh should be Welsh
Carole Landale (Carmel Valley) $10

Table of contents
p.1 Dennis Anderson should be Chris Carpenter
Los Cabos Fights Back
p.48 la should be el
Francis Puente (Normal Heights) $20

Movie listings
p.104 Porsche should be Ferrari
Tom White (University City) $10

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number).

Exceptions: direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Exempt: ads, blogs, user reviews, movie showtimes, puzzle results, and letters to the editor. Submissions accepted until Monday at 7 a.m. after the issue in question. First identification of error wins $10 or a Reader baseball cap (indicate preference).

You may send submissions to Under the Radar, 1010 K Street, Suite 200, San Diego, CA 92101; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

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November 17, 2011
San Diego

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**Brainstorms**

by Don Rubin

**Board game**

The Black King is checkmated; you don’t have to move any pieces. Just show us where the board is.

We’d like you to indicate the corner of the chess board by darkening two of the lines. Not all the pieces will be on the board, naturally. In fact, the White King can’t be seen in its present position.

---

**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:**

**Sign language**

The signals to the batter followed the key sign by two. He was instructed to take the first, third and fourth pitches; punt on the second and hit away on the fifth and sixth.

The key, followed by the signs for take, punt and hit away (left to right).

---

**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 p.m. on Fridays.

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) The puzzle-context ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

4) Entries must be faxed to 619-233-7907 or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-8503, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy or scanned and e-mailed to Puzzles@sandiegoreader.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.

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---

**THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:**

(All winning entries will be screened for plagiarism)

Martha Avdziewicz, Clairemont, 8. A cake and the Padres both need a good batter.

Ed Barno, San Diego, 8. Light is red. Tent car back. Why can’t they all move at once when light turns green? Works for trains!

Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 7. The ‘Red Pelican’ (a Cause) fox was wearing eating women’s trousers. The newspaper headline read: “James Dean in Dames’ Jeans”

Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 5. Some people say the glass is 1/2 full, some say 1/2 empty. I say it’s the wrong size glass.

Norman Kenney, Carlsbad, 1. A down day in Torrance is like a cold day in Chile.

---

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**OCEAN BEACH, $945.**


**OCEAN BEACH, $950 & UP.**

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**PACIFIC BEACH, $1,025.**


---

**PACIFIC BEACH, $1040 & UP.**

1BD+B/A apartment. Great values. Nice, clean, convenient, multiple Pacific Beach locations. Studios from $775. 1 bedrooms from $995. 2 bedrooms from $1395. Some buildings with gated entry, pool and or deck, parking, laundry. No pets. 858-483-7296.

**PACIFIC BEACH, $1150.**


**PACIFIC BEACH, $1150.**


**PACIFIC BEACH, $1200.**


---

**PACIFIC BEACH, $1250.**


**PACIFIC BEACH, $1275.**


**PACIFIC BEACH, $1350.**


---

**PACIFIC BEACH, $1950.**

Del Sol Property Management, Broker.

PACIFIC BEACH, $1495. 2BD+1BA large downstairs front unit in PACIFIC BEACH, $1495. by E.J. Pettinger ©2011

by E.J. Pettinger ©2011

North PB. Stove, refrigerator, shared 2BD+1BA large downstairs front unit in PACIFIC BEACH, $1495.

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Dear Cashier Who Just Asked If I Wanted A Bag,

The answer is a firm “yes,” pal, and don’t give me that look. I know the look you’re giving me. It says, “You’re killing the earth by accepting this bag.”

Listen: I don’t want your guilt, bub. I just want your bag. And I’ll take two if you don’t hurry it up. Let’s do this.

Hastily,
A Shopper

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**LEAD STORY**

- The medical establishment generally regards placenta (afterbirth) as biohazardous waste, but to New York City placenta chef Jennifer Mayer, they are a nutrient-laden meat that can alleviate postpartum depression and aid in breast milk production (among other so-far-unverified benefits). Mayer typically sets up in clients' kitchens, she told New York magazine for an August story. Some placentas are "really intense, with grief or joy or something," she said. "Others might be more, sort of, big and round." Mayer's method: Drain the blood, blot dry, cool for a four-hour leave (meaning something brisket), chop into slivers, dehydrate overnight (making it Jerky-like). For a popular touch, Mayer then grinds it in a blender and pour the powder into several dozen capsules.

**Can't Possibly Be True**

- The Learning Channel's *Toddler's & Tiaras* series has pushed critics' buttons enough with its general support of the competitive world of child-beauty pages, but a recent episode produced unvoiced unruly rabid complaints, according to a September *New York Post* report. Mother Lindsay Jackson had costumed her four-year-old Matty as "Dolly Parton" — anatomically correct (chest and backside) Dolly Parton. The Post described Matty as "embarrass[ed]" at her chest when another four-year-old pointed at her and asked, "What is that?" (Ultimately, the judges liked Matty — for "sweetest face").

- Retired U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Bob Dickerson received his Purple Heart this summer, four years after he was seriously wounded in a rocket attack in Iraq and two years after he began a paperweight battle with the Army to prove his injury. Recently, the Army had apologized and made a $50,000 payment. 2BD, leaving Dickerson to pay the $21 fee. (The Army subsequently reimbursed Dickerson the fee, but Dickerson said he hasn’t been able to cash the check because it was erroneously made out to Roy Dikerson.)

**Inexplicable**

- Madrid's Getafe soccer club, struggling for customers, started Spain this summer by commissioning a porn movie, with zombies, hoping to attract more fans. As if that were not quixotic enough, it then tied the movie to a campaign to solicit sperm-bank donations. Explained the film's producer, Angel Torres, "We have to make a mass of fans to feed the world with Getafe supporters!"

A promo for the film follows a Getafe fan, armed with a copy of the movie for his viewing pleasure, as he disappears into a clinic's private cubicle to asphyxiate a live birth certified by a doctor or licensed midwife. However, the waiting list to hire either one is long, and Heather Mattingly went with an August dispatch in *The Learning Channel's* *Sundance Trailer Park*. Trailer space 6BD, $500 off first month! Huge apartment with master bedrooms. Free cable, nice, clean, upgraded. A/C, dishwasher. Laundry. 2 parking. No pets. 5919 Camber Place. Office: 619-504-0909.

**Central San Diego**


- LA MESA, $950. 2BD+1BA from $1245; 3BD+2BA apartments, from $945; A/C, laundry room, parking. No pets. Balcony, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, LA MESA, $895. 1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st! Upper, fireplace, garden community. 5810 Amaya Boulevard. Longford Street #8. 619-804-3325.

- Clairmont, $1250. 1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st! Upper, fireplace, garden community. 5810 Amaya Boulevard. Longford Street #8. 619-804-3325.

- Clairmont, $1100-$1275. Studio+1BA. 1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st! Upper, fireplace, garden community. 5810 Amaya Boulevard. Longford Street #8. 619-804-3325.

- Clairmont, $1150. 2BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st! Upper, fireplace, garden community. 5810 Amaya Boulevard. Longford Street #8. 619-804-3325.

- Clairmont, $1250. 3BD+2BA upgraded Clairmont house. Attached 2-car garage with washer dryer included, fenced backyard with patio and covered deck, professional upgraded kitchen. One small pet will be considered! 591 Camber Place. Office: 619-560-1178.

- Clairmont, $1250. 2BD+2BA house. Bonus room for office. On quiet cul-de-sac, 6BD+4BA $1275. 1BD+1BA downstairs apartment. Newer upgraded kitchen. One small pet will be considered! 591 Camber Place. Office: 619-560-1178.

**LAKESIDE**

- LAKEHILLS. 1BD+1BA apartment. Move-in special: 1/2 off 2nd month! Near shopping. Easy freeway access. 4BD+2BA, $1495. 3BD+2BA, $1695. 1BD+1BA, $895. 2BD+2BA, $1275. www.cal-prop.com. 858-768-4311.


- LAKEHILLS, $950. 2BD+1BA. On-site parking and laundry. 4BD+2BA, $1495. 3BD+2BA, $1695. 1BD+1BA, $895. 2BD+2BA, $1275. www.cal-prop.com. 858-768-4311.

- LAKEHILLS, $995. 2BD+1BA townhomes, $1095 and $1120. LINDA VISTA, $1095 & UP.

- LAKEHILLS, $950. 1BD+1BA, $975; 2BD+2BA, $1275. Pleasant Valley. 2BD+1BA. 1 story units, open layout, new paint and trim. 3135 Boulevard. 1-888-264-4729. www.cal-prop.com. 858-768-4311.

- LAKEHILLS, $950. 2BD+1BA from $1245; 3BD+2BA from $1495. Near Mount Helix area. Furnished apartments also available. Ask about the deposit special. 619-231-7864.

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A car is a luxury for many. But when it comes to time and money, there's no way to beat the convenience of owning a car. It's often thought of as the perfect mode of transportation for people who work long hours or have children in school. But for those who live in urban areas, it can be a major hassle. In fact, some drivers spend more time on their commute than they do at home! This article will look at some of the reasons why owning a car is so appealing—and why it's worth every penny.
shortcuts by ANDY BOYD

CELL PHONE? What would I use it for?

HITCHHIKERS! I've hitchhiked a lot in my past. Basically, whenever my car broke. One time my Dodge — it was my first car — needed a valve job and the closest place was in Storden, Minnesota, about 300 miles away from my college. I had to hitchhike to pick it up but my grandpa gave me a ride for the first 150 miles, so I only had to hitchhike the remaining 240. Obviously in Minnesota there was a blizzard, and I had a leg cast which kept filling up with snow. The Dodge made it about 80 miles on the way back before it died, so I hitched back to school. I would rather be dead than do that again.

CRAZIEST DRIVING RELATED INCIDENT? Before fuel injection, cars had carburetors, which were very inefficient, especially in the cold. Often in Maryland I'd see cars stalled, blocking traffic, so I would walk up, open the hood, remove the air cleaner, open the choke, just mess around a bit until it started. Then I would get back in my car and leave without saying a word. That probably happened about 15 times when I lived in Maryland.

WHAT'S YOUR CREATIVE LEGEND? Nothing that's in the category of “I need to find this.”

WHAT DO YOU LISTEN TO WHEN YOU DRIVE? I don't play any sounds.

ACCIDENTS? I was on a motor- cycle on Cold SBA Lightning, in Cyrus. While passing a bus, two guys opened a fire hydrant and totally washed my bike out from under me.

WORST TRAFFIC? Last Friday, it rained a little bit so all of San Diego seemed to get stuck on the 8 and get in car crashes. That slowed me down a bit.

FAVORITE DRIVE? Relaxing. I like to open up a road, a little twisty, but I'm not a fast driver.

LEAST FAVORITE DRIVE? I've been in many very terrible traffic jams they're all awful.

SHORTEST DISTANCE I've taken a ride is the 15 north, you can just sit it in my car and it's mad.

Once a month we visit United Cerebral Palsy Thrift Store to buy a bunch of jeans and shoes for said homeless. They sell everything half price to seniors on Sundays so if you're old, I recommend going there and getting 10 pairs of blue jeans for 50 dollars.

Free shortcut to share! E-mail abody@sandiegoreader.com

CRAZIEST DRIVING RELATED INCIDENT? One time I was hitchhiking with one of my friends and we needed to go to a party. We were both drunk and something happened to my car and I couldn't drive it. I needed a ride. So, I flagged down a passing taxi and told him I needed a ride. He said, “Get in!” I said, “Your meter is broken!” He said, “Okay.” So, we both got in and I asked him to do a free ride. He said, “Okay.” So, we rode to the party for free. I later found out the taxi driver was drunk and had said, “Get in!” to a homeless man who had flagged him down. The taxi driver gave him a free ride to the party. I later found out that the taxi driver had given him a free ride because he was also homeless and didn't have any money. It was a very strange and random experience. I later found out that the taxi driver was also homeless and didn't have any money. It was a very strange and random experience.

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MOUNTAIN BIKES, girls’ 10-speed, great condition, seat and wheels in excellent condition. $150. 619-462-0838.

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