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Info on page 4
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Aeria Chang, M.D.

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NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights
Is Sempra Energy bulldozing Mexico with bribery and sham transactions?; and News Ticker .................................................. 2
The astroturfing of Carmel Valley; and Under the Radar .................. 3

Letters .................................................................................................................. 4

Diary of a Diva
Barb in limbo — it’s better than the circus .................................................... 6

Straight From the Hip
You know what? Chicken butt won’t give you cancer ............................... 8

SD on the QT
Almost factual news ......................................................................................... 12

Blog Diego
Thanks for inspiring my book, lousy roommate .......................................... 16

Best Buys
Nuts! An allergy in the family ....................................................................... 18

Style Stalker
Summer supplements ...................................................................................... 20

Our 10 Best Movie Theaters
Author Scott Marks — really addicted to film ............................................ 22

I Wait for My Superiors in New York to Scream
Cheap bastards and bottom-feeders. By Kevin Foster Cox ........................................ 34

Puzzle
Wordsmiths play here ..................................................................................... 112

Sudoku
Find fame in a numbers game ...................................................................... 114

Typo Patrol Results ......................................................................................... 116

News of the Weird .......................................................................................... 122

CALENDAR

Events
Outdoors, Special Events, Dance, Food & Drink, For Kids, Galleries, Spoken Word, Comedy, Book Signings, Lectures, Sports, Art Museums, Classical Music ...................................................... 51

Travel & Getaways
Teens slink to the cemetery at an Iowa picnic ............................................. 52
Recovery from the 2003 Cedar Fire along Descanso Creek ............................ 53

Poetry
“Reunion,” by Jacqueline Kudler .................................................................... 56

Religion
The business of God appealed to Stephen Myatt ......................................... 60

Art
Marfa’s desert is for metal. By W.S. Di Piero ................................................ 62

Restaurants
Tin Fork ........................................................................................................... 65
Feasters’ delights (and disappointments) ....................................................... 66

Music
Blurt ................................................................................................................ 74
Club Crawler ................................................................................................ 80
Paul Kamanski stands up for Indians and the coyote-crazy ...................... 82
Everyone’s a Critic .......................................................................................... 88
Here’s the Deal: The Wong Cup at the right price at La Mesa’s Dragon Room 92
Happy Hour .................................................................................................... 92

Theater
The Scottsboro Boys at the Old Globe .......................................................... 96

Movies
The Dictator — Sacha Baron Cohen’s political gimmick reaches beyond stupidity ................................................................. 98

ADVERTISING

Classified Ads
Classified Index ............................................................................................. 123

Display Ads
Automotive .................................................................................................. 119
Career Training ............................................................................................. 105
Health and Beauty ....................................................................................... 36
Help Wanted .................................................................................................. 103
Legal Solutions ............................................................................................ 10
Music ............................................................................................................. 74
Rentals .......................................................................................................... 114
Research Studies ......................................................................................... 26
Services ......................................................................................................... 116
Travel & Getaways ....................................................................................... 52
Memorial Paddle-Out
Surf Community Honors Former Charger
Junior Seau
Oceanside — Over 250 surfers joined the memorial paddle-out to honor Junior Seau on Sunday, May 6. The Oceanside beach, in front of the former San Diego Charger linbacker’s home, was packed with two to three thousand people. Jessica and Bob from Oceanside joined the paddle-out because Bob had surfed with Junior and worked out with him at their gym. Michael from San Marcos sported his Chargers lightning bolt surfboard and wore Junior’s #55 jersey over his wetsuit.

The four-hour meeting was filled with public complaints about district problems and priorities of district spending.

A controversial purchase of iPads became even more controversial with the district’s request to spend an additional $26,000 on iPad covers. One of the teachers who had been laid off told the trustees, “I’m getting the feeling I am worth less than an iPad.”

The chaotic meeting concluded with a parent volunteer — denied two minutes to speak because her card had not been submitted in time — standing on a chair yelling to whoever would listen about her frustration with the district.

San Diego}
May 17, 2012

San Diego attorneys Dan Gilleon...and Gary Aguirre filed suit against Sempra.

By Susan Luzzaro, Tuesday, May 8

Fiancée into the Fray
Utilities Commission Employees Want Investigation of Its Commissioner
San Diego — Employees of the California Public Utilities Commission have submitted a complaint to the Office of the Governor and the Fair Political Practices Commission, complaining of the “illegal and unethical” behavior of CPUC commissioner Timothy Alan Simon.

The complaint states that Simon’s long-time fiancée (of ten years), Kimberly Brandon, is chair of the Museum of African Diaspora. At a San Francisco dinner, while Simon was away from the table, Brandon hit up a senior executive of San Diego Gas & Electric for

continued on page 47

continued on page 44

Political Practices Commission, complaining of

not responding adequately to information requests under the Freedom of Information Act.

In 2010, Michelon filed a still-pending suit against Sempra, alleging wrongful termination and that the company passed bribes in Mexico, among other things. Later, Michelon filed a whistle-blower complaint with the SEC and SBC, exonerated the company?

A lawsuit filed in federal court in late April may shed light on those questions. Rodolfo Michelon, who had a high Sempra accounting position in Mexico, filed suit against the SEC and FBI, stating that they did not respond to its proposed liquefied natural gas plant at Costa Azul, near Ensenada. "Sempra concocted a sham transaction to purchase the land from another purported owner who had died two years earlier," charges the suit. There was a family living on the property. Under instructions from Sempra, Michelon withdrew the equivalent of $16,000 in pesos for a so-called bond to cover the Mexican prosecutor’s office, as a first step in evicting the family, according to the suit. Shortly, the family was ousted and the house leveled by a bulldozer driven by a Sempra...
Our Roots Are Real Grass

By Dorian Hargrove

What better way to defeat a grassroots movement than to create an astroturf campaign? That’s what residents of Carmel Valley believe Kilroy Realty is doing to gain approval for its massive mixed-use project, One Paseo.

Residents say that in order to pass what will be the largest development project ever in Carmel Valley the developer has hired a Santa Barbara–based public relations firm that specializes in creating fake grassroots campaigns to make “NIMBYs and naysayers irrelevant.”

One Paseo is a 1,857,440-square-foot development on 23.6 acres planned for the corner of El Camino Real and Del Mar Heights Road. If the project is approved in its current form, its ten multi-story buildings will house a movie theater, a 150-room hotel, 608 multifamily units, and 806,000 square feet of retail and office space.

However, to proceed, the developer needs to persuade Carmel Valley residents and San Diego city council members to change the zoning from commercial, which allows a maximum of 500,000 square feet of office space on the site, to a designation that permits residential and commercial buildings almost four times that size.

So far, persuading the community has been difficult.

After the plan was announced, concerned community members quickly launched a grassroots effort in opposition to One Paseo. The group’s website, What Price Main Street?, is a platform for local residents to express objections. They say the projected 26,000 daily trips generated by the new homes and offices will create gridlock on city streets and at the intersection with I-5. They say the project is incompatible with community character.

Those residents believe that executives at Kilroy Realty have taken steps to quell the opposition by hiring a former director of public relations at the City of San Diego, Marcela Escobar-Eck, to serve as a project consultant. Kilroy has also hired Davies, a public relations firm in Santa Barbara, which created a website, “Kilroy for Carmel Valley,” that says the project is compatible with community character.

Davies creates, according to O’Dwyer, “grassroots programs to gain (or divert) the attention necessary to favorably shape public opinion and build genuine support for their clients’ projects. Davies uses authentic programs to earn the results their clients want.”

Continued on page 46

CITY LIGHTS

Developers seek an exception in current zoning to build a nearly two-million-square-foot mixed-use complex.

Dennis Ritz says developers are fabricating community support for the project.

Richard Ledford is lobbying for permits to redevelop historic Armed Services YMCA as the result of “Contingency fees earned for lobbying performed in a previous reporting period,” the disclosure says. In that category was $8000 from La Jolla Crossroads II, LLC; $12,000 from Palm Properties, LP; $11,000 from St. Paul’s Senior Homes and Services; and $8000 from High Flying Foods, Inc. High Flying, which specializes in running trendy bistros at airports, won a big contract last fall with the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, due in part to Ledford’s lobbying.

Quick draw San Diego County sheriff Bill Gore is back shopping for riot gear.

This time the FBI veteran is in the market for nineteen 40mm “multi-launchers” for crowd management. They run about $3000 each.

Continued on page 44

...and so I will be purchasing the Orange County Register and two dozen other local Orange County papers.

Hey John—have you noticed nobody is pointing and laughing as we walk by? Gosh, Papa Doug, maybe they just don’t know who we are yet?

Last Week, San Diego

Two Weeks Ago, Orange County

Under the Radar

Lobbyist joins fluoridation plot

One very busy city hall lobbyist is Richard Ledford, the former aide to GOP ex-mayor Susan Golding. According to his most recent disclosure filing, covering the first three months of this year, Ledford got $8000 for working on behalf of Alliant Real Estate Investments, Inc., regarding the “development of a project at 50 West Broadway.” That’s the address of the former Armed Services YMCA building, a city historic site designed by master architect Lincoln Rogers that is now being used as a hotel. The ornate structure carries many memories for aging Navy and Marine warriors, who have opposed making dramatic changes to the venerable facility. Ledford lobbied city development aide Jeff Graham to “Obtain necessary permits for redevelopment of the site.”

Another lucrative Ledford client was the California Dental Association, which paid the Republican lobbyist $12,000 to “promote the fluoridation of potable water supplied by the city of San Diego.” Ledford and his associate Liz Saidkhanian — former field representative for GOP ex-assemblyman George Plescia, now running for state senate against incumbent Democrat Marty Block — met with deputy city attorney Romance Palmucci and the city water department’s James Fisher.

Ledford’s firm picked up $4000 from General Dynamics NASSCO, the big shipbuilder on the bay, to facilitate the establishment of a bicycle path adjacent to the facility. The goal: “completion of a bicycle path with minimal impact to the business facility.” On that assignment, they consulted with Travis Knowles, a staffer with District Eight city councilman David Alvarez.

A great deal of Ledford’s revenue this winter came as the result of “Contingency fees earned for lobbying performed in a previous reporting period,” the disclosure says. In that category was $8000 from La Jolla Crossroads II, LLC; $12,000 from Palm Properties, LP; $11,000 from St. Paul’s Senior Homes and Services; and $8000 from High Flying Foods, Inc. High Flying, which specializes in running trendy bistros at airports, won a big contract last fall with the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, due in part to Ledford’s lobbying.

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Continued on page 44

CITY LIGHTS

CITY LIGHTS

CITY LIGHTS
Featured Deals This Week

$99 for 6 laser hair removal treatments
West Coast Med Spa

$31 for 1-hour Custom Facial
Spa 33

50% off ice skating
$15 for 3 admissions and skate rentals
San Diego Ice Arena

The title of your article “Ferrets Eat Babies. They Shred Human Tissue. They Drink Blood” (Cover Story, May 10) is appalling. The article itself is good, but it is titles and headlines like this that put ferrets at risk of being confiscated and hamper the legalization efforts. People may not read the article, but will remember the title so next time some crazy person reports a ferret owner because they remember your title you will have been partially responsible for the pain and suffering of the owner and the animal!

Please reprint the article in a second issue with an appropriate title.

Name Withheld via email

No Insights Wanted
The conference at USD described in “Catfish, Tulsa, Nazis, Jefferson — Civility” (City Lights, May 10) seemed to get no further engaging the issue of Political Civility than the one I attended at UCSD a few weeks earlier. It was sponsored by a consortium of departments, importing guest speakers from top-tier universities in this country and Europe in an attempt to elevate objective science over partisan rhetoric. I understood the liberal bias of this era’s public universities, but had hoped that a conference dedicated to transcending this in political life would achieve such purity, at least in this setting.

While there have been no reports or transcripts of the presentations, I personally got a great deal out of attending the three-day event. Beyond the objective presentations, I discerned a clear subtext of the content that reflected values attributed to the left. Ironically, only a few weeks after the conference, and after I created a website based on it, a major report, “Virulent Incivility, the Academic Challenge,” was released by an association of conservative academics on the liberal bias of the University of California, exactly the issue I had attempted to engage.

I sent a critique of the analysis to their director of communication who invited me to write an article on it, as she concurred with many of my points. But, after many attempts, I was struck by the realization of the same conundrum facing both the USD and the UCSD conferences. I could not express any insights on this issue of partisanship without political self-identification, without which the message is meaningless.

My goal is to push for a space where knowledge is untainted by values, no matter how convinced its academic advocates may be of their worth.

You can read more about the UCSD conference, along with my interactions with the participants, on my personal website: AlRodbell.com.

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012 5
I have issues with time. Not the laid-back, “I'll get there when I get there” variety that seems to afflict so many here in San Diego. My time issues are more Swiss-German.

I was standing at my computer, applying makeup while scanning email, when I decided to double check the time on my Cirque du Soleil tickets. When I'd first received them, I’d noted “7:30 p.m.” and assumed that was when the outside tents would be opened — the area where people perused merchandise and the concession stands prior to taking their seats.

“Oh, shit. Shitshitshit,” I said, dropping my compact mirror and shoving items (phone, lipstick) into my purse. "What is it?"

“First of all, you need to learn to discern the consequential from the inconsequential. This is not consequential,” David said in his last-resort, drill-sergeant tone. “I can’t handle that right now. Oh my God, we’re not going to make it — the actual show starts at 7:30.”

“Relax, it’s okay if we don’t mill around, we have time,” David said.

“You don’t get it. We should be there by now, and we haven’t even left. Sorry, I don’t mean to snap. You’re right, I just want to be sure we have time to pee and find our seats before the show starts, and then there’s parking, and fuck. Okay, no, I’m good, you’re right, let’s go.”

As I drove (fast, frantic), David continued to reassure me, but I wasn’t hearing him. My inner monologue was deafening: Why didn’t you check the tickets? You’re never going to make it. You’re going to miss the beginning, and they don’t seat you until the next break; you fuck-up. Why didn’t you check? “It’s just a show,” David said.

“One I really want to see,” I shot back. But I was beginning to calm down. It was 6:48, and we were only a few miles from the exit. We were going to make it; everything was going to be okay.

“Oh, no, NO, NO, what’s this?” Traffic to the exit was backed up by at least half a mile. I brought the car to a stop. I was so close, I could see the tents set up at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. “This is not happening,” I said. “You know when we have a tight flight connection? How when there’s plenty of time I’m relaxed, and how when I know I’ve missed it I’m relaxed, but how I am when there’s still a chance of making it based on when we land and how far we have to run to the next gate?” David nodded. “I can’t handle that limbo,” I said.

I took a deep breath. David was already showing signs of irritation — rolling his eyes, making comments along the lines of, “Let’s just forget about it, then.”; things that told me I needed to stave off the freak-out that was building inside of me with each passing minute. I glared at the clock as if trying to telekinetically set it on fire.

I tried to not talk, but the words just came. “This is all my fault. I should have checked. I can’t believe this. We were just hanging out, it’s not like I even have a good reason, and if we miss the beginning…” I sensed I was further angering David, which only made me feel like more of a fuck-up, so I stopped talking. My car inched forward. “I can see it. This is torture. So close and yet so far away, knowing we’re right here and going to miss it,” I said, mentally slapping myself for not holding it in.

“First of all, you need to learn to discern the consequential from the inconsequential. This is not consequential,” David said in his last-resort, drill-sergeant tone. “It’s not like we’re rushing somebody to a hospital and can’t get there — this is just the fucking circus.”

“Cirque du Soleil,” I said quietly. “It’s better than the circus.”

David sighed so hard I could smell the mint in his mouth. “If we get there late, they’ll seat us when they’re able to seat us. Worst-case scenario, we miss the first half but we’ll be able to watch it on the big-screen monitors while we sip champagne.” He looked at my face, which was pulled tight. “Look, if it means this much, we’ll just buy tickets for another night. None of this is worth being self-destructive over.”

“What do you mean by that?” David looked pointedly at my arms, or, more specifically, to the fingernails I was digging into them — methodically, evenly, so that no spot was missed. “I can’t…” I forced my nails away from my arms, squinted my eyes, and bit my bottom lip so hard I could feel it turning white beneath the red lipstick. My eyes started to water. It was 7:15, and we were nowhere near the light at the end of the exit.

David didn’t get it — it wasn’t the show, or at least it wasn’t only the show. It was the principle. I have never attended an event I wasn’t at least 30 minutes early for. We don’t go to the movies anymore, mostly because David is sick of arriving up to two hours before showtime. When going to any theater, I need time to adjust — to relax, to buy a drink, to find a seat, to pee. I spurn those who arrive “on time,” which is late in my world. Everyone knows if the show begins at 7:30, you need to be in your seat before then. I closed my left hand into a fist and pounded my forehead.

“I’m going to get out of this car and get a cab home if you don’t stop it,” David said.

“I’m sorry, I’m sorry, I just… I can’t accept it. I can’t let go of it. I keep chiding myself for not looking at the damn ticket better.”

“You need to get over it. Because I can’t be around you like this.”

“And now I’m feeling more anxious because I’m upsetting you, on top of being able to see the place I’m trying to get to, but can’t reach.” I wouldn’t find out how hard I was gripping the steering wheel until we almost needed to cut off one of my fingers to remove a deformed ring later that night. I still maintain it was from the clapping during the show and not my death grip on the wheel.

“I hate feeling like I don’t have any control,” I said. “Of this traffic, of the way I’m reacting to it. I just… I hate it.”

“I know,” David said, softening his tone for a moment. “I know.”

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<th>PRESTIGE TWO-WAY LCD COMMAND CONFIRMING SECURITY SYSTEM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Code Hopping Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selectable Manual Override Mode</td>
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<td>Remote Panic In All Modes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protected Valet</td>
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<tr>
<td>User Programmable Manual Override Code</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Function LCD</td>
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<td>Intrusion Alert with Memory</td>
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Hey Matt:
A question popped into my mind today so creepy, so disgusting, it actually made me feel slightly sick just to think about it. Figured it was right up your alley. Do chickens get breast cancer? I figure with some 300 million or so Americans, we must eat a good billion of the little cluckers a year. Surely not all of them could be aware of the importance of regular self-examinations. And even if they were, who’d make sure they were following through? So my questions are:
1) Do chickens get breast cancer?
2) If they do, what are the chances someone has eaten it?
3) Would you be able to tell if you WERE eating it? (You know how sometimes you’re eating an otherwise good piece of chicken, and then you hit that weird, stringy stuff? Could that be it?"
4) And of course, most importantly, if you did eat it, could it pose any health risk?
— Chicken in Lakeside

We haven’t had a really good creepy, disgusting question since sometime in the Nixon administration. Thanks, Chicken. I’m remembering every tendony, lumpy, suspicious bite of fast-food chicken I’ve ever had. Yowza!

So, no, chickens don’t get breast cancer because chickens don’t have breasts. Strictly speaking, a bird’s “breasts” are its pectoral muscles, with no overlying mammary tissue because birds don’t need it. Human breast cancer usually arises in cells in milk ducts or milk glands. That’s both for women and men; men do have a rudimentary baby-feeding system in their breasts, so it’s rare, but men can get breast cancer.

Chickens’ pecs are for flight. There’s a long-shot chance that a chicken could develop DNA changes in pectoral cells. Those changes would have to be in a DNA string that controls the rate of cell reproduction. When the genetic brakes go bad and cells reproduce willy-nilly, you’ve got a tumor. Maybe cancer, maybe not. Cancer in general is a disease of older age, with some genetics thrown in. You usually have to rack up many years of life to be susceptible. Commercial chickens go from egg to frying pan in a flash, without time for deadly diseases to sprout.

If chickens don’t often get cancer in muscles, they do get bone and oviduct cancers. But unless you’re eating chicken butt or going all Neanderthal on that leg bone, you’re probably in the clear. Okay, say you’ve got some stray cancer lump in your bag of nuggets, what would happen? Nothing; the cells would be dead from the cooking. Nothing; your stomach would digest it like any other tissue. And nothing; cancer is not a disease you get from contact with tumors.

Hi Matt:
Can you explain this? Suddenly the news is all buzzing about “phantom electricity.” If I understand the concept, it seems to suggest that I am using my expensive electrical power to energize unused charging devices, televisions, and media centers that have been turned off for weeks. If the preceding is actually true, how do I take control of my ever-increasing electric bills and save money for my huge water bills (which is another issue all by itself) and my disgusting gasoline charges, which sicken me at every gas stop.
— Phil Nichols, North County

It goes by many names (vampire voltage, my favorite), but best I can tell, Phil, you’ve got it right. It’s the sneaky voltage drawn by various appliances and gadgets plugged in to house power, even when the gadget itself is turned off. The power’s necessary in devices that are controlled by remotes or that have to maintain settings from session to session or that need to be on their toes in case they’re needed — an answering machine or motion sensors, Frintance. The more Wi-Fi we go, the more of it there’ll be. When you can control your toaster from the comfort of your bed each morning, your toaster will turn into a voltage vampire. Basically, any device with a stand-by mode is guilty.

Until recently, there were no limits on how much power this mode could draw. Some estimates say the average American electrical bill includes as much as 10 percent stand-by power. (One watt of stand-by power translates to roughly 9 kW hours of juice per year.) But a relatively new set of international regulations limits phantom power to one watt per device manufactured after 2013. Soon that will be down to 0.5 watt. But you’d have to replace all your old devices with new ones. No savings there. And to tell you, personally, how to cut your stand-by expenses, we’d have to survey all the appliances and electrical gadgets in your home and see which ones you can unplug from house power. But you’ll still be left with home security systems, motion sensors, and the like that are useless without power. In short: unplug and save.
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DEA Apologizes to Daniel Chong

Federal Agents Say Methamphetatine Left in Cell with Stranded San Diego Student Was Supposed to Have Been Heroin

“We were trying to ease him out gently, you know?”

TRYING TO REMEMBER WHAT THE SUN LOOKS LIKE, KEARNY MESA DEA OFFICES — Daniel Chong, the UCSD student who was “accidentally” left in a DEA holding cell for five days without food or water, has received a formal apology from the organization’s director, Larry Park.

“On behalf of the entire United States government and the Drug Enforcement Agency in particular, I would like to extend my sincere apologies to Mr. Chong,” said Park at a televised press conference. “No man, not even some punk stoner swept up in a drug raid, should have to endure what he endured until after he is convicted in a court of law. After an internal investigation, combined with the narcotic effect of industrial grade heroin, there is nothing like tweaking on an empty stomach to make a person just keep going, on and on and on. It’s inexcusable, really. We’re the Drug Enforcement Agency. We’re not supposed to make mistakes about which drug is which.”

Park stressed that the mistake, though grievous, did have an upside. “Being on meth probably made it a lot easier for Chong to drink his own pee, which proved to be a life-saving move. Trust me, I’ve seen meth-heads do a lot worse without batting an eye.”

As of press time, the DEA had yet to offer any explanation for why they wanted Chong dead, though some have speculated that they figured he would rather die than have to face the shame he had brought to his parents. (Chong’s attempt to carve the words “Sorry, Mom” into his arm with a shard of his broken glasses seems to lend credence to this theory, but nothing has been confirmed.) But ABC has reportedly expressed interest in a prison-based reality game show wherein scientific breakthroughs have been reversed by popular outcry. In the first, many national grocery chains promised to stop using finely textured beef — so-called “pink slime” — to bulk up their traditional ground beef. The activists objected because Senomyx used human embryo kidney cells obtained from an electively aborted fetus in its development process. PepsiCo eventually disavowed the use of fetal cells in connection with its products.

Soylent Pink?

“In Wake of Twin Bans on Pink Slime and Abortion-Cell Flavor Enhancers, Local Biotech Shifts Gears

“When life gives you lemons, make a new and terrifying food product.”

MIRAMAR — “We get it,” said Senomyx chief engineering officer Hans Von Hanselhans. “Nobody wants to see how their sausage gets made. They just want the delicious and inexpensive results of what can be a gruesome — if completely legal and totally sanitary — process. Fair enough.”

Von Hanselhans was referring to two recent food-related controversies wherein scientific breakthroughs have been reversed by popular outcry. In the first, many national grocery chains promised to stop using finely textured beef — so-called “pink slime” — to bulk up their traditional ground beef. But people see the texture and hear the word ‘ammonia,’ and suddenly, they think Big Food is trying to kill them. When really, Big Food is trying to get the most out of every cow it slaughters, so that you can make your delicious burgers for less.”

In the second, pro-life activists agitated for a boycott of PepsiCo products when it was revealed that the company had contracted with Senomyx, a local biotech that produces organic flavor enhancers. The activists objected because Senomyx used human embryo kidney cells obtained from an electively aborted fetus in its development process. PepsiCo eventually disavowed the use of fetal cells in connection with its products.

“On the one hand, you had an industry that had just lost a huge source of supply,” explained Von Hanselhans. “On the other, you had a company that just lost a major client. So we evolved on the fly, and shifted from an emphasis on improved food quality to an emphasis on quantity. It turns out that fetal cells can be made to grow at astonishing rates in the right conditions. Processed correctly, the resultant material looks and tastes an awful lot like pink slime. But it’s not pink slime. We’re calling it human beef supplement, or HBS. The beef people get their cheap supply line back, and as long as no one goes hollering to the press, everybody’s happy.”

“Wait,” added Von Hanselhans. “You’re not recording this, are you?”
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— Debra H.""
POST TITLE: Permission to Transition, Part II
POST DATE: March 27, 2012

Sometimes, you need to give yourself permission for peace.

#1. Like that time my former coworker tried to force himself on me and didn’t stop when I said no — and I’m the one who got in trouble at work for reporting him.

#2. Like that time my roommates were so messy that I paid double rent just to move out immediately — and I had to leave the church we all attended because it was so awkward.

#3. Like that time my coworker acted inappropriately towards our boss at a Christian company — and I quit my job and moved back in with my parents.

#4. Like that time my guy friend acted like he liked me and then started dating someone else — the only girl I confided in about him.

Just because I felt in the right, didn’t give me permission to give others the middle finger. That is when I needed peace the most.

“There will be times when we have to defend ourselves. When those times occur, let’s be sure we don’t confuse our job description with God’s job description. He is the consuming fire; we are not.” (One Year Alone with God, Ava Pennington)

Going back to #1. After I quit my job God brought me into a place of abundance. Because that experience was so humiliating I ended up writing again. I started blogging. Most of the pages to Faithbook of Jesus, my first book, were from those few years of asking God where the heck he was.

Going back to #2. God restored my relationships, although not to the point where they were — but it gave me permission to find a roommate that suited my needs at the moment. I wrote Faithbook of Jesus there, and I couldn’t have done it without my roommate.

Going back to #3. I am only responsible for my actions. I am only responsible for my actions. It took me months of therapy, disability classes, and anxiety meds for me to see that I was the one in error. God wanted me at that moment in time to leave room for faith and start writing full time as my ministry.

Going back to #4. I am not proud of how I handled that situation at all. It was the first time that I had the guts to give someone a piece of my mind — to their faces. Still, I felt awful for my actions. After I apologized and calmed down, God used their prayers to bring the most amazing man into my life almost immediately — my husband.

Oftentimes, when God wants to transition our lives is when we’re most vulnerable to attacks of the enemy. Satan knows how to push our buttons. He knows our weaknesses. God is patient and waits for us. If you’re struggling with playing the blame game, here is a chart to keep you on the right path for peace.

Common Signs of Bitterness
1. Gossip and Slander. “See to it that no one comes short to the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled…” (Hebrews 12:15-17)

2. Ungrateful and Complaining. “Do all things without grumbling or disputing…” (Philippians 2:14)

3. Judges Motives. “Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness…” (1 Corinthians 4:5)

4. Self-Centered. “…do not merely look out for your own personal interests…” (Philippians 2:4)

5. Excessive Sorrow. “But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart” (John 16:6)

6. Vengeful. “Never pay back evil for evil to anyone…Never take your own personal revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God…” (Romans 12:17, 19)


9. A Critical, Judgmental Attitude. “You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye” (Matthew 7:5).

(Taken from The Excellent Wife, Martha Peace)

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<tr>
<th>Tire Size</th>
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1: Mrs. Meyer’s Clean Day Laundry Detergent
2: Seventh Generation’s “green” packaging

BestBuys
– Eve Kelly

My ten-year-old has always had dry, sensitive skin. A few months back, the issue exploded. Dry and sensitive became rashy and painful. We had her tested for allergies. The tests came back: intolerance to gluten, soy, and peanuts. Those ingredients were cut out of the family meals.

It was no small feat for this carb-loving, nutty family. We quickly found out that gluten is in more than just bread and pasta (ice cream!). Even some lotions and toiletries contain gluten. Soy is also a sly ingredient that lurks in many food products. If it comes in a wrapper, we found, it almost certainly has soy in it.

After we cut out the pertinent allergens, the red raised rash on our little girl’s arm disappeared. But the lighter rash up around the neck and shoulders remained. It had the look of a contact allergy.

Patrick furrowed his brow as he examined it. “Certain laundry detergents make my dad break out,” he said. “Maybe she inherited her grandpa’s sensitivity.”

Why hadn’t I thought of that? I asked around and found many of my friends have similar issues in their family.

“Whenever people complain of a rash, I ask if they use Tide,” said Serena as we sat together at Easter. “I think that Tide is an offender when it comes to contact-rashes.”

Funny she should mention Tide. I have been a Tide believer for years. It’s the one laundry soap that can wash the deepest dirt out of my hubby’s pants. The following week, I bought Tide Free & Gentle ($11.97 for 64 loads at Walmart). Perhaps a detergent free of dyes and perfumes would help my little lady. The clothes got clean, but my daughter’s rash remained.

“We use All Free Clear ($8.77 for 64 loads at Walmart) and the Costco Kirkland Free & Clear ($14.39 for 120 loads),” said Lisa. “It does not get stains out. So I just buy brown pants for my toddler. If the stain is still there, no one notices.”

Jules was another All Free Clear user. “I add a small amount of OxiClean Versatile Stain Remover Powder ($7.92 for three pounds at Walmart) to each load,” she explained. “I think it helps with stains. I also have a lot of peec- accident clothes around here, and I think it’s more of a disinfectant.”

OxiClean would not be wise here in rashland. But my friend Sophie offered another option. “We use Method Free and Clear Laundry Detergent. It rocks. A small bottle gives you 50 loads. I buy it at Target [$14.99].”

“Yes we use Trader Joe’s Liquid Lavender Laundry Detergent,” said Andrea ($9.99 for 64 loads). “I am allergic to the powder detergents — they make my skin itch and the smell makes my eyes water.”

“Mrs. Meyer’s Clean Day Laundry Detergent [$15.99 for 64 loads at Sprouts] is my favorite, but a bit pricier,” said Cherie. “Lavender is my favorite, and I also like lemon verbena. The lemon reminds me of college and my friend’s verbena garden.”

I like the smell of lavender and lemon, too. But the saleslady at Whole Foods said I should go fragrance-free if skin irritation is an issue. She suggested the Seventh Generation Natural Laundry Detergent Free & Clear ($8.49 for 66 loads at Whole Foods). The text on the bottle quotes the Great Law of the Iroquois Confederacy: “In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.” The container of the soap is a compostable cardboard.

“My nanna breaks out in rashes from Tide and some soaps,” offered Bernice. “She uses All Free Clear. But in our home, I have started to make my own laundry detergent. I don’t know if it is hypoallergenic, but it is gentle on the nose. A lot of regular detergents have heavy perfumes.”

Bernice’s homemade detergent is a combination of melted Fels-Naptha Heavy Duty Laundry Soap bar ($5.99 a bar at Walmart), Borax All Natural Laundry Booster ($3.38 for 76 ounces at Walmart), and Arm & Hammer All Natural Super Washing Soda ($3.24 for 55 ounces at Walmart). “The Fels-Naptha has a light, clean scent.”

Bernice adds a bit of lavender oil for a mild, natural scent. “Making my own detergent costs me a fraction of the price to buy regular laundry soap. I can make it for about $7, and it lasts for over a month.”

Detergent. It rocks. A small bottle gives you 50 loads. I buy it at Target [$14.99].”

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PUZZLES AND LIMERICKS

There was a Young Lady whose chin Ressembled the point of a pin: So she had it made sharp, And purchased a harp, And played several tunes with her chin.
- Edward Lear

There once was a man from Peru Who had a lot of growing up to do, He’d ring a doorbell, then run like hell, Until the owner shot him with a .22.

There was an Old Man of Nantucket Who kept all his cash in a bucket. His daughter, called Nan, Ran away with a man, And as for the bucket, Nantucket.

Crossword and Sudoku contestants will be asked to submit a 5-line clean limerick with their winning puzzle answer.

The five top limericks with each correct puzzle answer will get the cool Reader hats.
Some histories are best left unrepeated.

**SUMMER SUPPLEMENTS**

The beach is no place to be bogged down. Forge a footloose and fabulous front by singling out the essentials!

Set one shoulder free! Whether you're draping a loose sweater over your swimsuit or looking for a chic top to pair with shorts, this throwback to the '80s look adds just the right amount of sexy and casual. (Banded bottom one shoulder top, $50 at Express)

Shades are a must in the sun. Glow brighter by adding bold and funky colors to your sun specs.

Big, bulky bags are best left behind. When you're tooling around the boardwalk, don a cute and compact cross-body bag.

**Marginable MUSES:** Some histories are best left unrepeated.

Burning Man chic  
Tina Fey channels Steven Tyler  
Maria von Trapp would approve

**THE CAPTION:** Does the carpet match the Drake?  
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We’re a gregarious lot and one that can stand being cooped up in front of a television set for only so long. Compared to what they soak you for to attend the opera or live theater, movies are still your best entertainment value.

What follows are ten auditoriums that still maintain the magic of moviegoing.

1 Reading Cinemas Gaslamp #1

Bonus Features: A 44-x-18-foot screen, eclectic booking, and flowing velvet curtains.

Number of Seats: 476
Total Number of Screens: 15
701 Fifth Ave.
619-232-0401
GASLAMP QUARTER

It opened as a Pacific Theatre in November 1997 and quietly changed hands in 2008. What was once a mainstream multiplex vying for first-run hits with neighboring Horton Plaza became Reading Cinemas’ flagship theater in San Diego. It’s the best of all possible movie houses, turning its 15 screens over to everything from mainstream hits to art, foreign, and even revival bookings.

Instead of the iridescent Ringling Bros.-on-meth design scheme of Horton Plaza, architectural firm Benson & Bohl held true to the Gaslamp Quarter’s Victorian surroundings while bringing a stylish touch of ’20s art deco to the imposing two-story lobby. The interior looks like something art director Cedric Gibbons would have whipped up on an MGM soundstage. The frosted-glass doors give way to a remarkable entrance hall flanked by two stairways that lead to the upstairs theaters. There is also a frequently out-of-service escalator and, if all else fails, an elevator to transport patrons to their heavenly destination.

The #1 house is neither San Diego’s biggest nor does it lodge the most expansive screen. What it does have is something you won’t find anywhere else: lush floor-to-ceiling red-velvet curtains that act as a nostalgic reminder of what once was. The 44-x-18-foot screen is sizable enough and the sound and focus will blow you away. They recently installed a Sony 4K projector in their #7 house and the 3-D presentation is impeccable.

So why are there no lines snaking around the block clamoring for a ticket to watch a movie in San Diego’s premier showcase? Parking. With the exception of the Ken, this is the only local theater that doesn’t offer free parking. In this case, you’re going to have to work a little for your art. You didn’t hear it from me, but...
UltraStar Mission Valley Cinemas at Hazard Center, San Diego’s premier showcase for film festivals, is facing demolition.

Horton Plaza offers three hours of free parking in their spacious lot. Save your ticket and keep an eye on the clock — every 15 minutes over the three-hour limit will set you back $2. And if you attend an evening performance, make sure to stamp your tickets prior to showtime.

Take it from one who knows: the machines stop validating at 9:00 p.m., and unstamped tickets pay full price.

2 Landmark Theatres
Ken Cinema

Bonus Features: Single screen house, quality films, spotless presentation, a knowledgeable staff, and the best popcorn in town!

Number of Seats: 575
Total Number of Screens: 1
4061 Adams Ave.
619-819-0236
KENSINGTON

Guess what turns 100 this year? Built in 1912, the Ken Cinema underwent a streamlined Art Moderne makeover in 1947, and in 1975 the theater became the second house to be acquired by the Landmark chain. In its youth, the Ken was little more than a standard-issue neighborhood theater, not a patch on downtown picture palaces like the California or the Fox. In its ability to outlast its ritzier counterparts, the Ken achieved San Diego movie immortality by being the last of its breed: a single-screen neighborhood art house.

It’s a safe bet that at one point many refrigerator doors in San Diego County were enhanced by a Ken Cinema calendar, alerting film fans of their daily change of double features. That was when the Ken was known as a revival house. The theater has gone through several different personality changes over the years — for a time it appeared to follow a strict “if it’s gay, it..."
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- **One coupon per customer per booth.**

### FREE Polito Farms market bag with $10 purchase
- **Valid through May 24, 2012 only.**
- **One coupon per customer per booth.**

### 6 UltraStar Mission Valley Cinemas at Hazard Center #7
- **Bonus Features: Side-to-side masking and curtains that work!**
- **Number of Seats: 398**
- **Total Number of Screens: 7**
- **7510 Hazard Center Dr.**
- **619-574-8684**
- **MISSION VALLEY**

It opened in 1990 as part of the Mann chain and for a brief time was owned by Madstone. (Was there ever a less conducive name for an entertainment venue than Madstone Hazard Center?) Currently run by locally based UltraStar Cinemas, San Diego’s premier showcase for film festivals (Asian, Jew-
ish, and Latino) is facing demolition.

Two years ago it was announced that UltraStar Hazard Center was slated to meet the wrecking ball. An off-ramp from the 163 is in the works to give drivers easier access to the shopping center. Something had to give.

The good news is the theater has been given a stay of execution, so to speak, and should be around for at least two more years. Six of the seven screens are no great shakes, but house #7 is a marvel. Excitement surges every time the traveling curtains open to reveal the massive 40-x-16-foot curved screen. Their impeccable exhibition of Jackie Chan's Little Big Soldier for the Asian Film Festival was last year's single most memorable presentation. The focus was so sharp you could count the grain pattern.

There is not much time left to take advantage of the space — the two years will pass faster than the pop of a flashbulb — so by all means make it one of your destination cinemas.

4 Landmark Theatres
Hillcrest Cinema #1
Bonus Features: Quality films, spotless presentation, a knowledgeable staff, and no more Stella Artois beer commercials before each movie.

Built by Landmark Theatres in 1991, Hillcrest Cinemas stands firm in its commitment to bringing the finest in art, independent, and foreign films to the community. Prior to Reading Cinemas' arrival in 2008, chances are if it was a quality art film, it played at either Hillcrest, the Ken, the La Jolla Village, or the late, lamented Cove, all Landmark Theatres.

Hillcrest has been forced to change with the times, particularly between January and April, when the smaller art films take a backseat to potentially moneymaking awards winners and contenders. Far be it from me to begrudge their success, as these films, along with compensatory hits such as The Blair Witch Project and Napoleon Dynamite,
ensure that the artier product, prone to underperforming, will follow in their wake.

It is almost unfair to include the #1 Hillcrest on this list because it feels more like home than an afternoon at the movies. Not long after I hit town in 2001, it became clear that the majority of the morning press screenings would be held there. A disc jockey at a nighttime promotional show was handing out bumper stickers and one just happened to find a permanent home plastered to the bottom of my favorite seat to help mark the territory.

You never know when that morning cup of coffee is going to hit, and on the rare occasions that a mid-movie visit to the restroom is in order, the sticker makes it easier to find my place in the dark. Two thousand screenings later, the sticker remains in that treasured spot. I invite you to try it out, just not when I am in attendance.

5 Reading Cinemas Grossmont Center #10
Bonus Features: Side-to-side masking and the largest screen(s) in town!
Number of Seats: 625
Total Number of Screens: 10
5900 Grossmont Center Dr.
619-465-3040
LA MESA

Size matters! Built as a Pacific Theatre in the early '90s to replace an existing triplex, the Grossmont Center 10 is home to the largest viewing surfaces in the area. Both theaters #1 and #10 house enormous viewing surfaces.

---

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(ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER)

Do You Have **bipolar disorder**?

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**Qualified participants must:**

- Be 18 to 65 years of age
- Feeling depressed, mixed or manic
- Currently taking a medication

**TO LEARN MORE, PLEASE CALL TOLL-FREE**

**ADHD**

(ATTENTION-DEFICIT/HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER)

Research Study

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW ARE:**

- **18 – 65 YEARS OF AGE**
- **DISTRACTED**
- **DISORGANIZED**
- **DIFFICULTY CONCENTRATING**
- **NON-SMOKER**

You may participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for ADHD.

If you qualify you will receive study related care and study medication at no cost.
60-x-24-foot screens. As with Reading Cinemas Town Square, an ever-changing touch of homemade craftsmanship in the form of employee art, designed to herald upcoming pictures, can be found situated behind the lobby ticket booth. Sure it’s kitschy, but so is much of what plays on-screen. These minimalist attempts at ballyhoo add an expressive touch that in their own small way hearken back to the Golden Age of moviegoing.

**Edwards Mira Mesa IMAX**

*Number of Seats: 312  
Total Number of Screens: 18  
10733 Westview Parkway  
858-635-7716  
MIRA MESA*

Built in June 2000, of all the venues up for discussion, Edwards Mira Mesa is the most efficiently run megaplex in the county. After seeing many a movie under their roof, I have the pleasure of reporting that it’s the one venue where I’ve yet to make an un-billed mid-movie cameo in the lobby to grouse about presentation issues.

Is it IMAX or LIEmax? The consensus among the cinematic cognoscenti is that in order for a film to be true IMAX, it must be projected in 70mm on a screen that measures at least 52 feet high and 72 feet across. The digital IMAX house at Edwards Mira Mesa is a reasonable facsimile thereof.

---

**Do you or someone you know suffer from:**

**Anxiety? • Depression?**

**Bipolar Disorder?**

**Schizophrenia?**

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Participants may receive all study-related:
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3) Compensation to $400.00 for time and travel

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...burning...pain...frequent urination
SAVE THIS AD!!
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Call the Medical Center for Clinical Research at 619-521-2841, available 24 hours a day to serve you.

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MIGRAINE HEADACHES COMING TOO OFTEN?
Are you having migraine headaches several times per month, interfering with all aspects of your daily life? A 4-month medical research study is underway to evaluate an oral investigational medication for men and women experiencing frequent migraine headaches.

To possibly qualify for this study you must be:
• Men and women, 18-64 years of age.
• History of frequent migraine headaches, with or without aura, for more than 1 year.

Participants may receive study-related:
• Exam and consultation with a board-certified physician
• Labs, EKG, study-related medication at no cost.
• Compensation to $360 for time and travel.

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There are currently five IMAX houses serving San Diego County: Edwards Mira Mesa, AMC Mission Valley 20, AMC Palm Promenade 24, AMC Westfield Plaza Bonita, and the domed IMAX at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center in Balboa Park. The latter was the first giant screen house to grace our town and is the real deal when it comes to fitting the proper technical specifications. With this tradition of excellence comes the equally customary selection of non-narrative, wide-gauge science and nature documentaries that tend to resemble high-end versions of the National Geographic Channel. And no matter how many times they try to solve the problem, the seams in a domed IMAX screen remain annoyingly visible during brightly lit scenes.

The closest we come to genuine IMAX is the Edwards Spectrum IMAX Theater in Irvine. Of the four local-area IMAX screens I’ve visited (one day, Plaza Bonita), Mira Mesa is the amazing colossal screen du jour. Management was loath to release specific screen dimensions, but a quick eyeballing gives it a slight edge over its counterparts in Mission Valley or Palm Promenade.

AMC Mission Valley was my first brush with stadium seating. While vacationing in 1995, the year the theater opened, I stopped by for a showing of the relatively obscure romantic comedy Paperback Romance. It was like stepping onto Noah’s Ark, had the vessel come equipped with high-backed turquoise blue chairs and raked rows. Once seated, you could barely see the tops of other patrons’ heads, and the unobstructed view contributed to a surprisingly pleasurable viewing experience.

It’s a crunch to get in on the weekends, and while some of their smaller cookie-cutter auditoriums are cramped and impersonal, the 40-foot screen and crisp acoustics make Cinema #17 the local jewel in AMC’s crown.

8 The Museum of Photographic Arts
Joan and Irwin Jacobs Theater

Bonus Features: Twinkle lights and functioning curtains!
Number of Seats: 226
Total Number of Screens: 1
1649 El Prado
619-238-7559
BALBOA PARK

This is an auditorium I can personally vouch for, as I was there before so much as one seat was nailed to
the floor. (Sadly, I cannot take credit for the twinkle lights.) As the museum’s inaugural film curator, I had the honor to ensure that MoPA’s booth, built in 2000, was the most technically proficient one in town, stocked with the finest 35mm projection and sound equipment.

The place is not perfect. The center aisle robs the auditorium of its “sweet seats,” and the cherrywood slabs that adorn the walls tend to deaden sound — but it’s unlikely you will find a venue with sharper focus and more comfortable seating than the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Theater.

Why did the MoPA film series fold? After an almost five-year run, they closed my program due to a shrinking budget and, quite frankly, a lack of interest. People don’t want to sit in a dark room watching old movies when it’s warm and sunny outside in Balboa Park.

Currently home to several local festivals (Italian, German, Coming of Age, Human Rights Watch, etc.) and MoPA’s signature POP Thursdays series, the theater doesn’t get nearly the amount of use it should.

---

**Reading Cinemas Town Square**

**Bonus Features:** The friendliest staff in town.

**Total Number of Screens:** 14

4665 Clairemont Dr.

858-274-9994

CLAIREMONT MESA

From the looks of it, Reading Cinemas Town Square is nothing more than your typical nondescript suburban house with 14 screens pumping out pretty much the same fare as any other show in town. The difference lies in management. Jennifer Deering, aided and abetted by a staff of 35, helps to make the Town Square the friendliest place in the county to watch a movie.

Deering started with Mann Theatres in the ’70s, at the 2252-seat Fox Theatre, now Copley Symphony Hall. She subsequently wound up managing several venues and was there the time Barbra Streisand visited the Valley Circle Theatre to oversee the presentation of *The Main Event.* “She didn’t like the color of the walls,” Deering remembers, “and had them repainted to suit her taste.”

Deering made the move to Pacific Theatres in 1996 and took command of the Clairemont Town Square in 2000. She stayed on after Reading Cinemas bought out the competing chain in 2008. When it comes to adding a personal touch to the job of multiplex overlord, Deering is this town’s supreme show person. The lobby art (particularly the jumbo standees) is always precisely assembled and situated. Except for the time a life-size Bart Simpson figure turned up missing, later to be found seated in a stall during a bathroom check.

She is not the type of manager that spends her day hiding in the office, and her knowledge of and
passion for film is boundless. Next time you visit, ask to speak with “Ms. D.,” as her adoring staff calls her. Consider it time well spent in a movie theater lobby.

10 Vintage Cinemas
Village Theatre #1
Bonus Features: Art deco lobby, illuminated murals in each auditorium, and functioning curtains.
Number of Seats: 215
Total Number of Screens: 3
820 Orange Ave.
619-437-6161
CORONADO

The 25,000 residents of Coronado Island once again have a movie theater to call their own. After 53 years of serving the community, Coronado’s Village Theatre, dilapidated and in sad need of repair, was shuttered in 2000. Last year, Los Angeles–based Vintage Cinemas restored the theater — to the tune of $3 million — beyond its former glory.

Vintage Cinemas refurbished the landmark theater with a jeweler’s eye. Their attention to detail is striking; more thought went into designing the lobby than you’ll find in a dozen new builds. With its shimmering blue curtains and phosphorescent wall art, the 215-seat main auditorium is a compact hint of what theatergoers experienced during cinema’s halcyon years. Though beautifully engineered, the two 48-seat rooms resemble swanky home theaters, the type you’d find in many homes on the island.

The purist in me wishes they had renovated the 600-seat single-screen theater instead of slicing it in three, but with all the movies currently jockeying for screen space, it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to book mainstream films in a house with only one auditorium. ■

— Scott Marks

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The Scripps Research Institute

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877-500-eStudy (877-500-3788)

Se Habla Español
info@eStudySite.com • www.eStudySite.com
I have to ask you a question: Did you steal those photos?

These cozy images of the woman and her old boyfriend at Solana Beach may be the last ones taken of her alive. I'm a freelance TV producer, working for a syndicated entertainment show. In the process of completing the assignment, it's also been my good fortune to hose a major television network, which has already scored a set of the prints. But they're being held for a weekly television newsmagazine, which won't air until tomorrow. Bad mistake.

It gets worse for the competition. The cheap bastards haven't locked up the photo rights. My syndicated show quickly makes a deal. The images will be broadcast in a few hours, scooping the network.

In Los Angeles, my bureau chief is ecstatic. Over the phone he crows, "We really put the boot up their asses this time."

Moments like this burnish my reputation as the go-to guy for stories in San Diego. But I've also angered the media gods, who have ways of demonstrating displeasure with a lowly day-hire who crosses them.

* * *

When a national story breaks in San Diego, and there's no time to send a crew from L.A., I get a phone call. Or maybe a news outlet needs a door-knock, a document run, or other off-camera chores. This is menial labor in the glamorous media world, but it's embarrassingly easy. No tapes to log, no scripts to write. Just fax or FedEx the raw material and everybody's happy.

The overnight jobs are more challenging. Producing a network live shot means arriving with the satellite truck, usually at 2:00 a.m. The morning shows don't hit on the
East Coast for two hours after that, but start times are non-negotiable. Waking up at 1:00 a.m. always hurts. Plus, it’s no fun dealing with some of the staff for these early shows, who are truly disturbed.

I go to bed early the night before. Fearful that I’ve overslept, I jolt upright several times to look at the clock. When I finally get some decent REMs going, the alarm startles me. I’m instantly awake, thanks to a massive adrenaline dump. I splash water on my face and get dressed quickly. It takes me one second to style my hair. It’s called a ball cap.

Forget about the shower or the makeup. As a freelance producer, I never appear on-camera. There are many others who toil behind the scenes, but a temp like me is an amoeba in the national media’s food chain. As the lowest form of life, I wait for my superiors in New York to scream when something goes wrong on the shoot. The control room keeps a phone line open, waiting for those opportunities.

This morning, I’m at the zoo, where one of the pandas recently gave birth. There’s a major problem just before airtime. Bai Yun, which means White Cloud in Chinese, won’t come out of her enclosure. Across the country, this infuriates a guy named Jim, who’s communicating with the crew in San Diego. He starts yelling at me.

“You just blew through the tease, Kevin. I hope you’re happy.”

”Sorry. We’re doing the best we can.”

”Sorry? Sorry? What good are you? If you can’t handle this job, we’ll find another producer.”

Good luck with that, pal, at fricking 4:30 a.m. He must have forgotten about the time difference. The West Coast is still sleeping. Sadly, this includes Bai Yun.

I hold the phone away from my ear, hoping Jim will punch himself out. I look around the fake jungle, shrouded in darkness. It’s surreal. I tune back into his rant.

“…do something, Kevin. You’re talking to a very upset person in New York.” He’s more like a deranged poodle, frothy and shrill. But I know what he wants. I’m supposed to get angry with the zoo’s PR guy and the panda expert, both of whom are standing right next to me. These poor bastards had to get up in the middle of the night to help.

**RESEARCH STUDIES**

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San Diego Sports Medicine and Family Health Center is conducting a research study of an investigational pain patch for treatment of acute shoulder pain.

- Patients must be age 14 years or older
- Pain onset must be between 24 hours and 7 days prior to clinic visit

If you qualify, study-related exams and study patch are provided at no cost.

Study participants may be compensated for time and travel.

SAN DIEGO SPORTS MEDICINE AND FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
For more information call 619-229-3909
the middle of the night, too. “Hey!” I say to them, speaking a little louder than usual. Maybe I can trick Jim into thinking I’m furious. “New York wants to know if there’s anything you can do.”

The zoo people look at me like I’m an idiot.

“Well, they’re wild animals,” the panda expert says. “Their behavior is unpredictable.”

I want to debate the primal instincts of any animal named after condensed water vapor. My cat, a serial killer of lizards, rats, and even small cottontails, could take a panda. Jim, who has been monitoring the conversation, is also unimpressed.

“We’ve done wild animals before,” he says. “We’ve never had a problem, Kevin. Do something.”

I can’t recall now if Bai Yun ever came out of her enclosure. What I do remember is speaking to Jim on my cell phone later that morning, following his miraculous recovery from an aneurysm. He doesn’t mention the pandas. It’s as if the blown live shot never happened. Instead, we discuss some procedural nonsense about using different telephone numbers to reach the control room in New York. I take notes. The sad truth is that I will work with this clown again. As I head to my bedroom for a nap, I wonder if Jim is a master at compartmentalizing or just one miserable human being.

• • •

When I’m not freelancing, I’m home working on a novel. During breaks, I talk with my neighbor when I see her outside. “Right now, a celebrity is doing something incredibly stupid,” I say. “I just hope it’s in San Diego. That way, I get paid to cover it.”

“I never thought of that way,” she muses. The poor lady is accustomed to my bottom-feeder cynicism.

I need another Tiger Woods or Jesse James. Both of those bad boys had lovers in San Diego County. Bimbo eruptions are the best, especially if there’s juicy evidence. What, those text messages didn’t get erased? Cha-ting?

I join the Tiger beat and the James gang for a day each. This amounted to the usual media clusters, clogging up neighborhoods like an occupying force. Everybody was looking for a unique angle, but
basically, nothing. We all got the same thing: them. Finally convince her to sell, who has the photos, but I trips to cajole the woman like my gotcha with the somebody else’s exclusive, when you’re snatching like my gotcha with the some other news magazine gets tweaked when I recommend a local cameraman to spray some video out-

“I already gave them to the network,” she reminds me.

“They didn’t give you any money, so you don’t have a deal with them. They’re exploiting you.” There’s genuine anger in my voice. I’m pissed at the national media. It’s their hypocrisy that really gets me. I hear the sanctimonious denials of checkbook journalism, but I received a $400 finder’s fee for hooking up another news magazine with photos of the adolescent Kristin Rossum. She was the toxicologist at the San Diego County Medical Examiner’s Office who poisoned her husband in the infamous “American Beauty Murder.” The forensic female fatale is serving a life sentence, though she is appealing her conviction.

I mix it up with a second network over the Rossum story. A female producer asks me to take notes during the murder trial, which lasts for weeks. “Do you have any idea how extraordinary it is for you to be working for us under these circumstances?” she demands, sensing my lack of deference. She’s based on the East Coast, one of the feudal lords who rule the media fiefdoms. I’m in San Diego, a clueless serf.

Her partner at the news magazine gets tweaked when I recommend a local cameraman to spray some video out-side the courthouse. He’s freelanced for other big-name outfits, but she’s never heard of him.

“I can’t deal with this,” she whines.

The bikini model won’t be nearly as big as Rossum was, though the bathing beauty has her own salacious kick: her body, stuffed in a suit-case, was so mutilated that pathologists identified the corpse by serial numbers on her breast implants. That’s why the syndicated media love the story. It’s another nice payday for me, if I can keep the deal from going sideways.

The Chula Vista woman with the $750 portfolio is worried. “I just don’t want to get in trouble with the network,” she says.

“Give them my number. I’d love to tell them exactly what I think of the way they treated you.” I never get the chance. By the time I return from copying her prints, which I scanned and emailed to the syndicated show, I’ve become the bad guy. The news magazine is now offering more money than the woman has already accepted from my bureau chief. Naturally, she wants the extra cash.

“But you didn’t have anything before I showed...
“up,” I explain patiently. “The network is the one that’s screwing you. We’re the people who are treating you fairly.”

“No, you’re taking advantage of me. I never agreed to anything.”

I apologize, but she’s the one who should be thanking me. It’s pointless to continue the discussion. This frazzled woman doesn’t understand how she’s getting abused again. The gutless TV execs in New York are using her to cover up their own incompetence.

I drive home to North County. The bureau chief in L.A. calls with even more distressing developments. “Kevin, I have to ask you a question: Did you steal those photos?”

“No, I’m better than that.”

“Oh, I know.” He’s laughing, so everything’s cool. “Their lawyers called our lawyers,” he continues. “They’re claiming that Kevin Koch grabbed the shots out of the lady’s hand and ran out the door.”

The vicious lies about my behavior aren’t as comical as the mishandling of my last name. It’s Cox, not Koch.

“They couldn’t get one frigging fact right?”

We chat about the network’s pathetic tactics. There’s a perverse pleasure in being labeled as thieves. If the newsmagazine’s attorneys are lashing out like this, we must have really nailed them with our Doc Martens. Like most legal bluster, it all evaporates.

Later that afternoon, the bureau chief calls back. I’m not being accused of a felony anymore. The woman in Chula Vista is happy. She’s undoubtedly realized that she’s $750 richer, thanks to a freelancer named Koch.

***

I’m working another job for the syndicated entertainment program, following up on the guy who kidnaps a teenager from Utah named Elizabeth Smart. Apparently, the perp gets on I-15 and keeps heading south, because he ends up in Lakeside. When he hits the streets — in a beard and a bathrobe — a woman in her car takes home video of the spectacle through the windshield, complete with a hilarious audio track.

On the tape, she makes up a name for the hairy freak: Osama bin Dairy Queen, because the dude is standing outside

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the fast-food joint. “He’s a very scary man,” she adds.

That clip, maybe a couple of minutes long, was worth $1500 to the amateur newshound. I feel sorry for the local affiliates who can’t keep up when my bureau chief in L.A. whips out his wallet. He is also buying lunch today to celebrate our East County score. I join the crew from the bureau as we chauffeur the four-figure videographer around town so the competition can’t find her.

As we’re cruising west on I-8, my cell phone rings. It’s an assignment editor at a TV station in San Diego, where I once worked as a reporter.

“Where are you right now?” he asks, a blast from the past that was his opening line as he prepared to launch me like buckshot at stories from Oceanside to San Ysidro.

“I’m going to feed the Lakeside video.”

“Oh there any way I could get a copy?” He’s pleading because his bosses are all over him. I know the players and can imagine the scene. I haven’t been gone that long. But they’re SOL because my syndicated show appears on a different affiliate in the market, and I can’t share with them. Even if I could, the locals don’t have that kind of coin. I’m not about to cheat the woman who bagged Osama bin Dairy Queen.

But my former employer would have the video, if I hadn’t been fired. The irony is as delicious to me as my combo plate at the Mexican restaurant near Montgomery Field, where the L.A. bureau treats the stringer and the rest of us to lunch.

As on-air talent in San Diego, I only lasted for five years, which is nothing in this market. Some of the locals hang on for decades. That’s a lot of Mother Goose parades.

I was a short-timer because I sabotaged my career. When the Russians detain a Qualcomm tech and accuse him of espionage, I cover the story. It’s like the Cold War all over again, so I’m reminiscing about the Reagan era. I attend a news conference where Irwin Jacobs, the company’s founder, makes an appearance. Everybody is properly deferential, except for me. I make a joke about the health of his overseas employee, behind enemy lines.

“Yeah, he’s got a cold. You know, like Yuri Andropov.”

It takes awhile for everybody to get the reference to the dead Soviet leader, who disappeared for months with major health problems while the Kremlin insisted he wasn’t really that sick.

Jacobs groans. So do his underlings. I shrug and mumble an insincere apology.

A few years later, I’m one of the presenters at a ceremony to hand out local Emmys. We’re at Sea World, dressed in formal wear for dinner and the awards. There are lots of cutbacks going on at my station. Even though I compete vigorously with my coworkers for the best stories, I still respect their professionalism. In honor of the recently departed, I make a sardonic remark about nobody being left to show up for work next week. More groans. Another shrug.

I wind up in the assistant news director’s office. “We are very disappointed in your comments,” he says. I’m officially a troublemaker, but at least I’m a productive one. I uncover another exclusive angle on the Kristin Rossum story, which I broke when I was still working at my station.

But my editor isn’t offering me extra air time as a reward. She wants me to cover a brush fire instead. We’re not talking about the major conflagrations that burn half of San Diego County. This is one of those smoldering jobs...
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**Skin Tightening & Lifting**  
(no downtime)  
- Ultherapy for Face and Neck  
- Thermage CPT for Face, Neck, and Body

**Skin Rejuvenation / Anti-Aging**  
Sun damage, brown spots, redness/Rosacea, Melasma, large pores  
- Clear & Brilliant Laser  
- elos Fotofacial  
- eMax Triniti

**Body Shaping & Cellulite**  
(no downtime)  
- Liposonix  
- Thermage CPT Body  
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**Spider Veins**  
- Laser Hair Removal  
- Tattoo Removal  
- Aeria Chang, M.D.

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- **Juvéderm Ultra XC**  
  1 ml $389/syringe

- **$100 Rebate**  
  with the purchase of one syringe of Juvéderm & 20 Units Botox.

- **Laser Resurfacing Treatments**  
  from $800-$2500

- **Body Shaping Packages**  
  start at $899

- **Acne Packages**  
  from $720-$2399

- **Thermage CPT**  
  Face, Neck, Body
  from $1795-$2495

- **Liposonix**  
  $2500*

  *Average treatment. Actual price varies based on treatment size.

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**Liposonix**  
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- Dysport (Plus 550 Md in Nebulat) $3 per unit
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- Perlane 1cc $345
- Juvéderm XC $320
- Juvéderm Plus XC $370
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**Free Underarm Laser Hair Removal**
with purchase of any package.
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- Regular Bikini $69
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- Both Underarms $49
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Before

After
rough neighborhood off the 805 — we drive past houses with bars on the windows. We arrive and meet up with the strip-club manager. But he can’t deliver on a promise he made to the L.A. bureau. There is no paperwork with the celebrity mom’s signature on it.

Without proof, the story will be killed, but we interview one of the strippers anyway. We also talk to the manager. With his pinstriped white suit and shaved head, he looks great on camera. To make the shot even better, I ask another stripper to dance in the background. She’s still wearing lingerie, and the stage is far enough from the lens that she’s not recognizable anyway. With those limitations, I don’t expect her best work, but her listless shuffle reminds me of the morning coffee line at Starbucks.

As we’re packing up our lights, the stripper asks the camera operator for a $100 tip. He laughs, thinking that she’s joking. She’s not.

The manager pulls me aside. I smell nicotine mixed with his cologne, plus hints of desperation from the girls who are constantly rubbing against him.

“Hey, I gotta tell ya something,” he says. His voice is straight bourbon. “I’ve turned down more [sexual favors] than most guys get in their entire lives.”

He uses much more descriptive language, which I won’t repeat here. But the unedited version is in my novel, on page 231.

— Kevin Foster Cox
Creating Beauty One Face at A Time!

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Grace under lobbying
  Former San Diego County Regional Airport Authority board-
  member Xema Jacobson, once business manager for the San
  Diego County Building Trades Council and an ex–chief of staff
  to Democratic city councilwoman Marti Emerald, is now in the
  public relations and lobbying business. She and an associate,
  advertising man Robert Billings, have set up Trilogy PR Group to
  peddle what they say is their considerable influence. “We are ex-
  perienced ‘insiders’ who successfully guide you through the maze of
  public relations and politics,” Emerald says.

Did Sempra bribe?
  continued from page 2

CITY LIGHTS

Under the radar
  continued from page 3

by a groundhog, the devices are favored by law enforcement for
SWAT and crowd-management operations using tear gas and pep-
per spray. “The 40mm grenade launchers feature a rifled barrel
vs. the 37mm’s smooth bore, and the 40mm grenades/munitions
are smokeless,” notes the website Defense Review. “The 40mm’s
accuracy potential allows an operator to put the munition exactly
where he needs to, whether it be the upper corner of a window or a
specific spot on a hostile subject’s body — from a (relatively) safe
stand-off distance.” Long gone are the days when all a county
lawman needed was his cheap and trusty six-shooter. The PGL-
65 models sought by Gore are quoted at about $3000 per unit online.

operation, and some of the
money may have landed in
the offshore tax and secrecy
havens of the Cayman Islands and Switzerland.

The second prong of the
April suit describes how the SEC and FBI allegedly
let Sempra’s law firms do the purported digging. The
security agency has a program to “outsource” whistle-
blowing complaints originating within major banks
and corporations to law firms that will be paid by
those entities, says the suit. This is inherently contradic-
tory, because law firms “are obligated to act as zealous
advocates of their clients’ interests,” says the suit. So
how could those law firms do anything but exonerate
their clients?

The FBI refuses to com-
ment. Although he won’t
comment specifically on
any investigations, a spokes-
man for the SEC claims, “Our
enforcement division does not rely on any company’s internal review, but conducts
its own investigations.” But
Aguirre and Gilleon pro-
duced emails showing that
the agencies met repeatedly
with Jones Day. The lawyers
couldn’t find anything sug-
gesting that either agency
interviewed Mexicans.

I question the securities
agency’s statement. For some

Under the radar
  continued from page 3

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did Sempra bribe?
  continued from page 2

employee, according to the

In 2010, a Mexican court
declared that the family was
the rightful owner of the
land. That same year, a fed-
eral judge in San Diego dis-
missed the family’s Ameri-
can suit against Sempra,
claiming that the charges
should be aimed at the
Mexican government, not
Sempra. Michelon, con-
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smacked of bribery, wanted
more information from his
employer. Sempra’s private
security force escorted him
off the property, generating
his 2010 suit. Sempra claims
Michelon was a “disgruntled
employee” trying to “extract
money from the company.”
Sempra complained
to Michelon’s supervisors
in 2006 that his account-
ing staff was obstructing
a $5 million payment to a
so-called charitable trust
established for Ensenada.
Michelon was suspicious.
The suit notes that Interfor,
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In November of 2010,
Aguirre attended a confer-
ce of securities attorneys
in New York City. Congress
had recently passed the
Dodd-Frank Act, which
made sweeping changes in
financial regulations. The
act would give monetary
rewards to whistle-blow-
ers who provide original
information to regulators,
San Diego Reader
May 17, 2012
45

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What is Botox/Dysport?

Effects of Botox/Dysport

What is it?
What does it feel like?
Best candidates?

Real grass roots

continued from page 3

win approvals for any con-
troversial project—from
natural resources extrac-
tion and mining, real estate
developments facing tough
NIMBY opposition, to per-
mitting energy facilities
(from wind to coal plants)
in sensitive environments.”

Last summer, Carmel Valley residents believe they
saw Daviess’s strategy unfold.

“We got this elaborate
brochure in the mail, and
we wondered why they were
sending it to us. Something
just felt weird about it,” says
Carmel Valley resident Car-
olyn Keen.

“And then we started
seeing these letters printed
in the Carmel Valley News
in support of the project. I
knew this wasn’t grassroots,
just pretended to be.”

Dennis Ridz, chair of the
Torrey Pines Community
Planning Board and last-
minute candidate for the
District 1 city council seat,
noticed something strange at
a project review committee
meeting.

“I started seeing people
coming in with sunflower-
shaped signs and buttons
saying something like ‘We
love One Paseo.’ One woman
sitting next to me had a bag
full of fans with ‘One Paseo’
printed on them. I was wait-
ing for somebody to pop out
of a birthday cake.”

Another Carmel Valley
resident, who wishes to
remain anonymous, has
an idea why so many sup-
porters were at that meet-
ing. Two hours before the
meeting, she received a
phone call.

“An older lady called me
earlier that day. She asked
me to attend the meeting
because they needed sup-
port, and then she invited
me to a little get-together at
Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza
after the meeting.”

The resident said more
phone calls came asking for
a different kind of support.

“It sounded like the same
lady. She asked if I’d be will-

ing to write a letter to city
council, and if I was unsure
how to do that, they have
people who can write the
letter for me. She said they
would write it, send it back
for me to sign, and I would
send it back to them. It’s
sleazy and dishonest. They
are trying to dupe us.”

Phone calls, mailers, and
rewarding residents for
attending community meet-
ings was not all.

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855.625.0367
Toll free
Top executives at Kilroy and Davies have given the maximum contribution allowed to District 1 city councilmember Sherri Lightner’s reelection campaign. In all, Lightner has received $499.22 in donations from the developer and the public relations firm.

According to campaign finance reports, the president of Kilroy Realty, John Kilroy Jr., personally contributed $500, as did chief operating officer Jeffrey Hawken, vice president Elizabeth Smagala, and senior vice president Justin Smart. Vice president of development and project manager Robert Little made two donations to Lightner totaling $900.

Executives at Davies Public Affairs matched those contributions. John Davies and his wife gave a total of $1000, as did executive vice president Patrick Canfield and his wife Angela; Rosa Estraellas, wife of another Davies executive, gave $500.

Bob Little, vice president of development for Kilroy, denies the residents’ allegations of astroturfing. “We hired Davies to make the brochures, but they are not in charge of recruiting people to go to meetings,” he says. “And we never hired them to start an artificial grassroots campaign.”

As for the claim that Davies or Kilroy had people phone residents to solicit letters in support of the project, Little doesn’t know who would be making those calls. “That call didn’t come from me, I can tell you that,” he says.

Little says the owners of the neighboring shopping plaza, Del Mar Highlands Town Center, are behind the campaign against One Paseo. “The opposition is not grassroots. That website is funded by the owner of the shopping center across the street. The owners, Donahue Schriber, had their names on the What Price Main Street? website. They are the ones trying to pose as grassroots for their own economic interests.”

Bob Fuchs, who started the website in September 2009, admits that Donahue Schriber hosted the site for about a year but only because Fuchs didn’t have the know-how to do it himself. “Somehow Donahue Schriber heard about what I was doing, and I brought over my materials. They said they have a common interest because of the traffic impacts. They offered to get the message out to the community. I maintained editorial and content control and managed everything that went on the website. There is nothing on that website from anyone but community members.”

Ken Farinsky, a former planning group member, has taken over hosting the site. “There is absolutely no connection to Donahue Schriber,” he says. “This is absolutely a grassroots campaign, a real grassroots campaign.”
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Actual patients with the Smile Designers Team

Downtown Lions Club in a PowerPoint presentation yesterday (May 8) that the UT is in final talks to purchase the Orange County Register, Coast Magazine, and 24 local newspapers in Orange County.

The newsrooms of the two papers would be combined to provide “one media brand” for all of Southern California, Lynch said, according to former UT reporter and editor Trish Barr, who was a guest.

It is not clear what Lynch meant by “one media brand,” particularly since a new UT sign is scheduled to go up on the Mission Valley headquarters. A combination of the two news staffs would probably involve more layoffs, although he did not say that, according to Barr.

Barr says Lynch also talked about the UT’s commitment to a downtown sports stadium, which the paper has covered at length.

Asked about the hiring of Tom Blair, longtime popular three-dot columnist, Lynch said veteran staff members have been told they have to “reinvent themselves,” but some “are not going to embrace” the company’s new policy.

By Dorian Hargrove
Wednesday, May 9

Radioactive Steam Up

Edison Backs Off Nuclear Station Restart Proposal

San Onofre — Southern California Edison, operator of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, has announced that more than 1300 tubes that carry radioactive water and steam through the plant’s generators are so heavily damaged they will be taken out of service.

The new damage estimate is more than three times that reported by Edison International chairman Ted Craver to stockholders last week.

While the Reader has not reported that a request with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to restart operations at the plant had been filed, we did note that Southern California Edison executive vice president Stephen Pickett told UT-San Diego that “we would present [a proposal for resuming operations] to the (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) in mid-May.”

By Dave Rice
Wednesday, May 9

The National Park Service agrees. In a letter to councilmember Kevin Faulconer, associate director of cultural resources Dr. Stephanie Toothman wrote, “The Project will physically destroy a part of the (National Historic Landmark) property, and the Project will introduce visual elements and spatial changes that will diminish the integrity of the property’s historic features.”

In summary, the letter supports statements from Save Our Heritage Organisation and others that say there are easier alternatives to removing traffic from the plaza.

By Dorian Hargrove
Wednesday, May 9
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-Patty S., El Cajon

“I found Dr. Sarosy and his team to be the most professional and warm, compassionate people. Thank you, everyone!”

-Carmen P., San Diego

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Member of the American College of Phlebology. Telangectasia appears in women during adolescence when hormonal development starts. Better known as “spider veins” or sunburst” they are small veins visible throughout the skin in different shapes and colors. SCLEROTHERAPY is the solution. 5 minutes from border in Zona Rio.
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Thursday | 17

O.B. BEACH BALL
Book it to the boardwalk for live music, action sports, Human Haulin’ contest, mechanical bull, micro-brew festival, games, food, and a giant water slide. And take a ride on a 60-foot Ferris wheel! All set up at O.B. pier and main beach parking lots and Saratoga Park.

WHEN: Noon to 10 p.m. (also Friday through Sunday)
WHERE: Ocean Beach Pier, 5091 Niagara Avenue, Ocean Beach. 619-224-4906; obbeachball.com

Friday | 18

TOPDOG/UNDERDOG
According to the Reader’s Jeff Smith, this production about African-American brothers’ escalating escapades to one-up or “top dog” each other is “fierce, quirky, funny, and first rate.” This “darkly comic fable of brotherly love and family identity” has been extended by popular demand, so catch it while you can.

WHEN: 8 p.m. (also Thursday through the last show on Sunday; check for times)
WHERE: Ion Theatre, 3704 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-600-5020; iontheatre.com

Saturday | 19

CROSSROADS OF THE WEST GUN SHOW
Bring your gun to sell or trade (unload, please), or simply get it appraised. Browse hundreds of tables for a spectrum of collectors — from the occasional hunter to pistol hoarders — at what is billed the “largest gun show in America.”

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (also Sunday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)
WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. 801-544-9125; crossroadsgunshows.com

Sunday | 20

SAN DIEGO FAMILY KITE FESTIVAL
Take part in this second-annual festival of kite-making, decorating, and (if the winds are right), flying! Experts will share how to properly fly a kite. Bring a picnic lunch to make a perfect day of it, and enter the drawing contest, with proceeds going to benefit Rady Children’s Hospital.

WHEN: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: Mission Bay Park, Vacation Isle (off Ingraham Street), Pacific Beach. 858-722-7362; sandiegokiteclub.com

Monday | 21

POCKETS OF PARADISE
Hawaiian poet Keoni Cabral — who “weaves his experiences growing up in Hawaii into his original spoken-word poetry” — will perform for the San Diego Library’s Downtown Verse series.

WHEN: 4 p.m.
WHERE: San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, Downtown. 619-236-5817; sandiego.gov/public-library

Tuesday | 22

NOBODY LOVES YOU
The Old Globe stages the world premiere of a musical romantic-comedy about reality television and real life. “When Jeff, a philosophy grad student, joins a dating show to win back his ex, he breaks all the rules and tries to blow the game wide open.”

WHEN: 7 p.m. (additional dates through June 17; check for times)
WHERE: The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way, Balboa Park. 619-234-5623; theoldglobe.org

Wednesday | 23

LIVE, LEARN, AND SERVE OVERSEAS
What will you do after college? Why not consider the Peace Corps? Learn more about this opportunity when Diana Gomez, a recruiter and returned Peace Corps volunteer, visits the Career Center to discuss service abroad, eligibility, life as a volunteer, benefits, and more.

WHEN: Noon to 1:30 p.m.
WHERE: UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla. 800-424-8580 (Peace Corps headquarters); peacecorps.gov
In order to describe Iowa, you have to start with the land. Its freshly overturned sod is as black as a starless night, and a handful of dirt is richer than any potting soil you can buy. Too cliché to say that Iowans are the salt of the earth, but they’re certainly warm, friendly, and down to earth. Most boast the name of their hamlet by emblazoning it on the local water tower.

Our travels took us to the Bauer Picnic, an annual event held in south-central Iowa. (Lacona, population 349, is the closest official jurisdiction, for those keeping score at home.) At one time, Bauer was an actual town, albeit small, comprising a school, a church, and a grocery store. Now only the church remains and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. Built in 1876, St. Joseph’s Catholic Church is one of the last religious structures in the often-called German Town area that has not been burned down or extensively vandalized.

The structure is a tall red-brick building with bell tower and stained glass windows. A single stair separates the outside from the inside. Two freshly painted white doors open into another era: you’re immediately treated to the sight of old wooden pews facing the altar, where worship has been led for almost 150 years. Multicolored rays of light stream through the tall narrow windows. A large crucifix dominates the back wall.

Behind the church lies the cemetery. Grave markers and headstones date back to the early 1800s and pre-statehood. Nearly 50 percent of those interred here are named Bauer; at least 95 percent appear to be related in some manner. The grounds are neatly manicured and the grass a dark emerald green.

Adjacent to the church, a white wooden utility building has been constructed. Newer by a hundred years, it stands in sharp contrast to the rest of the area. It provides for parties, receptions, and in our case, the picnic.

We arrived around two in the afternoon and the event was already in full swing. Young and old abounded, all conspicuously white. Although there were a lot of John Deere and DeKalb caps, the majority of the headgear worn supported the University of Iowa Hawkeyes. Picture any summer barbecue and you have the Bauer Picnic: hotdogs and brats on the grill, cold sodas iced down in large steel troughs. Younger children were entertained by simple games of ring toss and face painting. The teens grew bored quickly and slinked away into the cemetery, away from the crowd, or, more likely, the adults. The older attendees seemed the happiest, reminiscing about times gone by, quick to tell you a story or give you a history of the area.

We stayed for a while but left just before dusk arrived. As I looked back, I couldn’t help but think that perhaps the sun was also setting on this rural lifestyle, and it would not be long before it too would be enveloped in the darkness we like to call progress.

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Other Adventures

Sanso66: Kilkenny Castle in Kilkenny, Ireland
Russevi1: Transportation in Cambodia’s Capital — Phnom Phen
Jhian12: Coron, Palawan, Philippines

Gather No Moss
TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS

Bauer, Iowa
by Joe Tuborg

In order to describe Iowa, you have to start with the land. Its freshly overturned sod is as black as a starless night, and a handful of dirt is richer than any potting soil you can buy. Too cliché to say that Iowans are the salt of the earth, but they’re certainly warm, friendly, and down to earth.

Sure, there are those who live in the city. Des Moines, the state capital, now touts a population in excess of 200,000, with a metro area over 500,000. For a state of just over 3 million people, it is their metropolis. Yet it is in the country where you feel that the real Iowans dwell.
ROAM-O-RAMA
San Diego Outdoors with the Canyoneers

OAKZANITA PEAK & DESCANSO CREEK

A great hike in spring to early summer to catch blooming chaparral and annual wildflowers while bagging a peak with an inspiring view.

Distance from downtown San Diego: About 45 miles. Allow 1 hour driving time. Take I-8 toward Alpine and continue east to exit 40, signed as Hwy 79/Japatul Rd. Go north on Hwy 79 about 3 miles to Oakzanita, which is on the right. There is limited parking in a small gravel lot beside the road and no facilities or drinking water.

Hiking length: Almost an 8-mile loop. Difficulty: This is a moderate hike over easily navigated, well-marked trails with an elevation gain of about 1000 feet. A sign at the trailhead warns of mountain lions. Poison oak and rattlesnakes are also possibilities. Long pants are recommended for protection from chaparral plants that are beginning to encroach onto the trail in a few places.

Although the 2003 Cedar Fire took its toll in this area, the chaparral is coming back beautifully. Visitors in late March into June will be met with a multi-hued display of California Iiaccs, manzanitas, winter currant, wild rose, the occasional peony or lupine, and a brilliant assortment of small annual wildflowers. Also the view from the peak on a clear day is inspiring.

The Lower Descanso Creek trailhead is about ten yards from the Oakzanita sign, just off the highway. The name is a give-away as to what you will be seeing in this area — lots of oaks and manzanita. Begin hiking south (to the right as you face the sign). The trail soon turns east and follows Descanso Creek, taking you past an abundance of arroyo willow, basket bush, wild rose, winter currant, eastwood manzanita, and California Iiacc, with occasional sycamores and oaks in various stages of recovery.

Shortly after crossing the creek and passing through an oak grove, you come to the East Mesa Fire Road (0.8 mile from the trailhead). Go right on the fire road for a short distance (0.11 mile) and find the Upper Descanso Creek Trail on your right (0.91 mile from the start). The Upper Descanso Creek Trail gradually but steadily takes you away from the creek and up the northwest facing slope of the canyon through vigorous growing ceanothus, mountain mahogany, and scrub oak. The skeletons of the pre-fire manzanitas protrude above the living chaparral but are only sparsely represented among the living here. After you have gone about 1.6 miles, the Upper Descanso Creek Trail ends at a low saddle where you meet the Oakzanita Trail.

Go to the right on the Oakzanita Trail for an easy 0.6 mile to reach the boulder-strewn, 5054-foot peak. Look for the peak register at the top if you want to sign your name. On a clear day you can expect dramatic vistas in every direction. Note both Cuyamaca and Stonewall peaks in the distance. There is even a hitching post to tie up your horse, if one brought you.

After descending from the peak via the Oakzanita Trail, continue east, past the junction with the Upper Descanso Creek Trail and through what must have been a beautiful stand of massive oaks and pines. Most of the pines are now charred stumps. Some scatted Jeffry and Coulter pine seed trees survived, so the area may eventually recover. Seedlings have been planted to help this recovery along, some of which have survived and are growing vigorously.

After hiking 1.5 miles from the peak along the Oakzanita Trail, you will arrive at the East Mesa Fire Road. Go left down the fire road. After 2.5 miles of easy downhill walking on this narrow dirt road, you will come to the well-marked Lower Descanso Creek Trail off to the left. Take it, and in 3/4 of a mile, you will be back at your car.

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to lead interpretive nature walks that teach appreciation for the great outdoors. For a schedule of free public hikes: http://www.sdnhm.org/education/naturalists-of-all-ages/canyoneer-hikes/

For more information on this hike call the Canyoneers, 909-866-7374.

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San Diego Reader, May 17, 2012
**Comedy**

"Jimpromises" Entertainment by "YouTube sensation and mas- sive imposter," who provides纤维all.com political animation voices. Program includes appearances by "YouTube's Profes- sor Kreator Jackalows," "deyen-year- old comedian Trevor Harrison," warm-up comic Ken Harrison, music by Ray Meg/Papa Grande duo, Saturday, May 19, 17pm; $12. 850 S. Coast Hwy. 101. (ENCINITAS)

**Dance**

"The Door is Open: An Inter- generational Dance Project" Program features five stories gar- nered from weekly Jean Isaacs' class in which students, age 60-84, journaled about any memories or life stories triggered from the movements generated in class. Eight company dancers and six- teen seniors featured in evening merging dance, video, sound, and projections. Friday, May 18, 9pm; $10-$15. San Diego Children's Ballet, 3567 Del Rey Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Music**

**Jazz**

"Fusion Jam" at the Enrichment Center, 16704 South St. John Jay Hopkins Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Klezmer**

Triptych" by Michael Daugherty, ten for Hindemith's "Symphonic Concerto," Mendelssohn, Berlin, Gershwin. Sunday, May 19, 2pm. David and Dorobefa Garfield Theatre. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Children's Music**


Children's Book Festival Meet authors and illustrators of chil- dren's books and young adults books including Ned Vizzini (It's Kind of a Big Deal), Lucinda Lambton (Gabby and Gator), Kelly Bennet (Mommy Was Just Like You), PJ Haarsma (The Software Series), DJ Macfalle (The Pendragon series), Elizabeth Winthrop, and Sam Maloof and others. Vendor booths, activities for young readers. Sunday, May 20, 10am; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Family-Friendly Events**

**Musical Theater**

"The Price of a Funny Story" performed by "The Improv" at the Petersbog Bookshop, as well as selections from her translations from Prol附件en: America's Rebel Yiddish Poets 858-456-1800. Sat- urday, May 19, 7pm; free. D. G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Flamenco**

**Reno**

"Tu canción" and "Siempre," performed by member of Civic Youth Orches- tra, San Diego Youth Symphony, and Young Artist’s Symphony to perform "El manana" by "the Common Man" by Copland and the Brahms “Symphony No. 1 in C Minor.” Complimentary tickets may be reserved by email only: 753@sandie- goflame.com. Monday, May 14, 7pm. 2250 Wall Street. (CENTRAL ORLEANS)

"Deep Pit Barbecue Time!" Celebrate American Lung Asso- ciation's Clean Air Month with an evening of barbecue and a "dying elegance" exhibitions. Saturday, May 20, 12pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Family Day**

**San Diego Embrace**

"Women of World War II" featuring historical presentations of women who served in World War II and the military, at the Balboa Park. (BALBOA PARK)

**Deep Pit Barbecue Time!** Celebrate American Lung Asso- ciation’s Clean Air Month with an evening of barbecue and a “dying elegance” exhibitions. Saturday, May 20, 12pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

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**Mozart and the Mind**


Children’s Book Festival Meet authors and illustrators of chil- dren’s books and young adults books including Ned Vizzini (It’s Kind of a Big Deal), Lucinda Lambton (Gabby and Gator), Kelly Bennet (Mommy Was Just Like You), PJ Haarsma (The Software Series), DJ Macfalle (The Pendragon series), Elizabeth Winthrop, and Sam Maloof and others. Vendor booths, activities for young readers. Sunday, May 20, 10am; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Musical Theater Birthday Bash Celebrate museum’s fourth anni- versary by “listening, building, and performing with sound projects based on trash and recycling, and insights from artists, musicians, and engineers to create original musical compositions.” Perform in a music ensemble made from obsolete computers, build an electric drum kit from old electronics, and contrices into electric drums. Included in admission (free)-$10. 2133- 8792. Sunday, May 20, 10am; New Children’s Museum, 200 West Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

**Pop-Up Cards for Pop!** Create a one-of-a-kind Father’s Day pop-up card to celebrate your dad during “Crazy Sunday.” Sunday, May 20, 1pm; $4. Museum of Photographic Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Woodwind Quintet: Family con- cert promises “show and tell” with the instruments to pique children’s interest, followed by performance of “The Common Man.” Saturday, May 19, 10am; $100. 21 and up. Claritin Children’s Hospital. Marsac@Team- g.com or 858-722-7362. Sunday, May 20, 11am; free. Mission Bay Park, Vacation Isle, off Ingramham Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Target Free Family Day and Festival** Enjoy art-making, per- formances, special tours inspired by museum’s permanent collec- tions of “Echoes of the Past” and “Dying Elegance” exhibitions. Sunday, May 20, 12pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Thomas Family Day Dress as a national costume, shirt, or pajamas — for this party. Create a Thomas mask, pretend to be Sir Topham Hatt, operate the G-scale train, and make a craft. Enjoy the tracks. Saturday, May 19, 11am; free. $5. San Diego Model Railroad Museum, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Model Railroad Museum** Family Day presents “Echoes of the Past” and “Dying Elegance” exhibitions. Saturday, May 20, 12pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Mozart and the Mind**


**Mozart and the Mind**


**Mozart and the Mind**


**Mozart and the Mind**

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“Rites of Passage” “In Greek culture, events were marked with rituals designed to make sense of the transformations encountered in life, society, and nature.” Loyola Marymount University classics professor Katerina Zacharia leads discussion on rites of passage. Sunday, May 20, 2pm; free. San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

“The Home Clinic” Educational event hosted by the Housing Opportunity Collaborative, a coalition of nonprofit organizations and housing agencies helping homeowners. Homeowners receive one-on-one counseling about their individual mortgage situation from HUD-certified lending representatives, attorneys, housing officials. Recommended registration: HOMEclinic@housingcollaborative.org or 619-283-2200. Saturday, May 19, 10am; Ramona Library, 1406 Montecito Road. (RAMONA)

“Tropical Forests and Global Climate Disruption” California Western School of Law professor Richard Finkmoe traces development of REDD+ (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and assess its current status. Head to Social Sciences Building room 107 to learn of “controversial issues which must be resolved in order to ‘get REDD right.’” ticket-event@ucsd.edu, Thursday, May 17, 3:30pm; free. UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

“Wild Willow Farm: Opportunities and Education in Growing Food” Learn about this nonprofit farm striving to educate and engage the community about sustainable farming when Tijuana Estuary Speaker Series continues with talk by Lisa Ordóñez. Farm provides farming and education internships, school field trips, community potlucks, workshops, more. Saturday, May 19, 10am; free. Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

Cataloging the Collection John Marciari — museum’s European textile techniques expert — launches lecture series with examination of khadi, described as “the finest cotton in the world…. The symbol of simple luxury as well as India’s independence.” Reception follows. 858-259-2622 or 760-613-2904. Thursday, May 17, 4pm; free. Amba Gallery, 355 N. Coast Hwy. 101. (SOLANA BEACH)

“The E.T. Presence Explanation” Inventor, author Reginald T. Miller speaks for MUFON (Mutual UFO Network). 760-753-2456. Saturday, May 19, 10am; Ramona Library, 1406 Montecito Road. (RAMONA)

“Textile Techniques of India” Gallery founder Nirmala Jagannath launches lecture series with examination of khadi, described as “the finest cotton in the world…. The symbol of simple luxury as well as India’s independence.” Reception follows. 858-259-2622 or 760-613-2904. Thursday, May 17, 4pm; free. Amba Gallery, 355 N. Coast Hwy. 101. (SOLANA BEACH)

Rhyme & Verse

Reunion

A poem by Jacqueline Kudler

After the name-tag squinting and the quick refills of Chablis, after the introductions, the recognitions — eighteen-year-old faces peering out from behind time’s compromises in the flesh — after the big-bosomed hugs, the handshakes, the celebratory speeches (only the reasonably self-satisfied attend these things).

I wander out onto the campus quad wondering… looking for why I’d come — the grass, the great shade trees just as I’d remembered, light lingering in the evening sky, loamy fragrances of late May rising from my footsteps — exactly the kind of insidious spring I remember running away with me each year.

No wonder I find her seated there on the steps of Boylan Hall between classes — it was always between classes in May — and the boy sprawled beside her is the boy she’d been flirting with the better part of freshman year.

When she looks up from her lap to meet his gaze, she notices how his hair curls over the rim of his fisherman’s cap, and the impulse to reach over and touch a small strand springing up just above his left ear is so intense, it prickles in my fingertips fifty years later.

Jacqueline Kudler is a teacher of memoir writing and literature at the College of Marin in Kentfield, California. Her poems have appeared in numerous literary reviews and anthologies. Kudler was awarded the Marin Arts Council Board Award in 2005 and the Marin Poetry Center Lifetime Achievement Award in 2010. She lives in Sausalito, California. “Reunion” is from her second book, Easing into Dark, published by Sixteen Rivers Press, and is reprinted by permission. Author’s photo by Mary Ann Pacula.

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012

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Drink and food specials until 7pm.
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art curator and head of provonance research — considers the task of cataloging “From Reginald Poland and the Putnam Sisters to Punchmarks and Provenances.” Friday, May 18, 10am; $8-15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Get Into Storytelling on Film Calling writers, filmmakers, students, creative souls “looking to create their own short film.” During three-part workshop, learn basics of video production process, from script selection, locations, auditions to what is needed on day of production, what to do when film is completed. Fee: $30 per class. Registration: $120 for three workshops. (SOUTH PARK)

Birding at Kumeyaay Lake Park’s resident birder Jeanne Raymond leads search for late-nesting migrants and and newly fledged birds inhabiting the lake’s scenic environs. Bring a bird book and binoculars (optional). Meet at campgound entry station, Saturday, May 19, 6:30pm; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Calling All Naturalists Go “a-trail” with a guide in search of butterflies, wildflowers, burrowing residents, woodrat nests, more. Learn about native and non-native plant varieties. Saturday, May 19, 9:30am; Sunday, May 20, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Potluck in Nature! Meet others who share an interest in birds, animals, native plants during community potluck in natural setting. Enjoy a walk on trails, see restored native habitat. hollywillbanks@yahoo.com or 760-295-1548. Saturday, May 19, 1pm; free. Anstine-Audubon Nature Preserve, 2437 Hutchison Street. (VISTA)

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

Star Party Lights Park’s resident stargazer George Varga leads “solar exploration of the Whirlpool (M51), Sunflower (M63), Black-Eye (M64), and Sberoero (M104) galaxies and more.” Join group at end of campground’s day-use parking lot, 619-688-3281. Saturday, May 19, 7:30pm; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

“A Broadway Montage” San Diego Master Chorale performs a concert collaboration with Lincoln High School choir. Listen for “some of the finest hits from the American musical theater songbook in choral arrangements.” 858-581-2203. Sunday, May 20, 2pm. $25. 21 and up. Fifty Seven Degrees, 1735 Hancock Street. (MISSION HILLS)

“It’s How I Roll!” Prepare your bike, take part in National Bike to Work Day 2012. Register in advance to be eligible to stop at one of 80 pit stops (throughout the county!) to pick up free t-shirt, snacks, beverages on Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 18, 6am; free. San Diego County

“PavoneArte” Center for Academic and Social Advancement plans fundraiser “supporting after-school education for underserved communities.” Mingle with artists, shop the art auction, enjoy hors d’oeuvres, entertainment by Kendrick Dial and the Lyrical Groove. Thursday, May 17, 5pm; $10. Alexander Salazar Fine Art Exhibitions, 1040 Seventh Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)


Cirque Wings Enjoy a “circus theatrical production...exploring the history and passion to fly from ancient times to modern days. Performances include trapeze, aerial dance, flying on fabric, hand balancing, contortion, acrobatics, comedy, dance. Admission free for kids (3-12) with purchase of one adult ticket per child. 619-570-1100. Saturday, May 19, 2pm and 6pm; $100. Balboa Theatre, 864 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

Create Compost “To make terrific compost at home” during Solana Center workshop focusing on making compost piles. Registration: 760-436-7986 6:22pm. Saturday, May 19, 11am; free. Summers Past Farms, 15602 Olde Highway 80. (EL CAJON)

Crossroads of the West Gun Show Exhibits designed to appeal to hunters, gun collectors. 9am, Saturday and Sunday, May 19 & 20; free-$12. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durande Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Del Mar Quilt, Craft, and Sewing Festival Show features variety of sewing, quilting, needle-art, craft supply exhibits from many companies. 858-793-5555. 10am, Thursday, May 17, through Saturday, May 19; free. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durande Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Enter a Laboratory! Learn about marine research in SD and local ecosystems during open house showcasing marine research facilities. Research talks, guided lab tours, turtle-tracking demonstration, fish printing, marine-science music videos, touch tank, games, more. Information: info@travelingstories.org. Sunday, May 20, 10am; free. Coastal and Marine Institute Laboratory, 4165 Sprague Road. (DOWNTOWN)

Explore a Custom Cat Compound! Bob Walker and Frances Mooney have turned their bungalow “into a pet paradise for their cats,” with “architectural design and décor” geared towards contentment of their nine cats. Open house is benefit for East County Animal Rescue. info@catshouse.com or 619-276-3621. Saturday, May 19, 7pm; free. 13010 Northaven Avenue. (BAY PARK)

Gender Queer Sideshow Canvas for a Cause is hosting a night of gender queer celebration, with performances by New Queers on the Block, Hardtie Hangin’ and more, to support a campaign to save the Fair Education Act and fight against LGB bullying! Sliding scale donations at the door will lead to a night of fun. Drag and gender
Skydive!
Scenic views of the ocean, downtown, the mountains & more!

San Diego’s oldest, largest operation!

888-391-0251 | SkydiveSanDiego.com
Other conditions may apply.
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 05/27/2012

Legacy Week
Honoring the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway

Three Dog Night
May 26, 2012
Tickets on sale at midway.org

Performing live on the Flight Deck of the Midway!

A benefit concert for our Veterans and Men & Women of America’s Armed Forces!

May 26
Veteran’s Wreath Ceremony
An inspirational ceremony honoring Veterans.

May 26 - May 28
Pilots, Up Close and Personal
Meet pilots that have flown the type of aircraft on board!

May 26 - May 28
The Battle of Midway Experience!
A sneak peak of Midway’s newest exhibit coming soon!

May 28
American Legion, Post 492
Memorial Day Ceremony
Remembering our heroes 12:30pm

May 26 - May 29
Adventure Discovery Zone
Restoration activities, interactive exhibits, military equipment!

Flight of a Life Time
Enter to win a flight over San Diego in a B-17 bomber!
Winner announced on Memorial Day!

USS Midway Museum
Like the Adventure, Honor the Legend

Open Daily, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Last admission at 4 p.m. • 910 N. Harbor Drive (Downtown San Diego)
(619) 544-9600 • www.midway.org
San Diego Reader: What is your favorite subject on which to preach?
Pastor Steven Myatt: The grace of God is all about what God has done for us. So much of religion is about man’s attempt to reach God but God has, through his son, sent so much to us. The Gospel is called the Good News because it is no longer about man’s attempt but about what God has done. Most of us don’t get it, so it needs to be said over and over and over. It is the essence of the message of the Gospels.

SDR: Why the Assembly of God?
PS: I grew up Catholic, so my roots are Catholic, but I wasn’t really getting much out of it when I went to college. My neighbors started sharing with me a greater understanding of what the Bible says who God is than what I got in the Catholic Church. They attended an Assembly of God church, so I started to attend and it was there that I got established....When I began to understand, I realized that I agreed with where the Assembly of God stands on the Holy Spirit, the work of God, and so it felt like a comfortable, natural fit for me. They believe that the gifts of the Holy Spirit — the gifts of prayer for the sick, prophecy, miracles — are still available for us today.

SDR: Why did you become a minister?
PS: I never set out in life to be a minister. My dad is a businessman, and he wanted me and my brothers to be part of his business. I grew up with that mentality — that’s why I have a business degree and that’s what I went to school for. But along the way, as I’m a very introspective person, I thought that there had to be more to life. I was always asking the bigger questions, and wanting more, wanting purpose and meaning. I was on a quest, trying out a lot of different religions, gurus, and all kinds of junk along the way. I felt there must not be anything, until I encountered some real Christians who demonstrated a real love for God and lives changed by that love.

SDR: Where do you go when you die?
PS: God’s desire is that none would perish, the Bible says, and that all would be saved. Our sins, the Bible teaches, separate us from God, so Jesus became the ultimate sacrifice so that through Jesus we could have access to God both here and in eternity. So it’s through Christ that we have that blessed hope to look forward to; but those who don’t receive that gift won’t be admitted to heaven and will miss out. The gift is free to everyone; there are no strings attached. You have to receive Christ and the gift of forgiveness of your sins. He’s done the work for us; all we have to do is receive it. The Bible teaches there is a hell, and hell is a real place, a place of eternal torment for those who continue to reject the free gift that God makes available.

— Joseph O’Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDReader.com/worship/
by the end of class” and do simple projects with instructor Risa Getl.
er. 619-223-0508. Sunday, May 20, 1pm; $60-$86. Bravo School of Art at
TCT Promenade, 2690 Decatur Rd., Studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

Patriot’s Day Parade Time! TierraFest activities include parade
(10am), arts and crafts fair, bar-
beque dinner (4-9pm), fireworks
(dusk). Games, activities for kids.
amyhall@san.rr.com or 858-573-2648. Saturday, May 19, 9am; free. 
Tierrasanta Town Center, 10633 Tierrasanta Boulevard. (TERRASANTA)

Run to the Hills Car Show Monday Night Car Club and Moun-
tain Empire Men’s Club join forces to present tenth annual show. Old 
Highway 80 will be closed through town as custom cars line the his-
 toric highway. 619-440-6148 or 619-460-4945. Saturday, May 19, 9am; free. Pine Valley

SD UFO Society Special Event Guest Cynthia Crawford (contactee, experiencer, hybrid) World known for E.T. sculptures. Life-
long E.T. & Paranormal ex-
periences. Join us and leave more enlightened! Fees: $15 public, $10 members. First time guests $7! For more information call Alma, 619-925-8023. Sunday, May 20, 2pm; Joyce Beers Uptown Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)

Spiritual and Gospel Concert Martin Luther King Jr. Community Choir performs benefit concert. 619-298-2130. Saturday, May 19, 6pm; free. St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 3725 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

Student Recital! Coast Music Therapy hosts seventh annual concert. Performers are children, young adults “with a variety of special needs, including diagnoses such as autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, Rett Syndrome, Williams Syndrome, neurologic impairments, and developmental disabilities.” Two groups perform, beginning at 10am and 12:30pm. RSVP 858-831-0387. Saturday, May 19, 10am; free. Christ Com-
munity Church, 9355 Kearny Villa Road. (MIRA MESA)

SPOTTED

Poetry Slam under the Big Top Full Moon Poets and museum host night of open-air poetry. Poet’s call; 6:30pm (bring three original poems). Beer, other beverages, snacks available. Donations collected for poet’s prize money. Friday, May 18, 7pm; San Diego Wild Animal Park, 1300 Enjoy Safari Park. (ESCONDIDO)

FANTASTIC ADVENTURES

Catch the Wildflowers - In Bloom Now!

Sky Sailing offers a variety of breathtaking scenic sailplane rides. The adventure begins as you slip into the deck sailplane for an experience you will remember forever. You will be treated to a gentle, tranquil ride or a roller-coaster ride – whichever you prefer – at no extra charge. All our pilots are FAA-certified commercial pilots. Rides for two start at $80 per person. If you think that special someone would like to take the controls and handle most of the flight, then an Introductory Lesson (starting at $125) is just the ticket.

SKY SAILING* (760)782-0404 31930 Highway 79 • Warner Springs, CA 92086 http://www skysailing.com • Open 7 days a week

Sports

“Barona’s Battle of the Badges X” Charity boxing event promises ten bouts by law enforce-
ment officers to raise money for Community Youth Athletic Cen-
ter. Saturday, May 19, 4pm; $20-
$5. Barona Resort & Casino, 1932 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKEHIPSIDE)

“That Dam Ride” San Diego Bicycle Touring Society riders head to Miramar Dam on this 50-mile ride. 619-243-8617. Sat-
urday, May 19, 8:45am; free. De Anza Cove, 3000 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)


City of Encinitas 5K/1E Encinitas 5K/1E includes this event over course through downtown Encinitas. Race-day registration (6:30am) in Moonlight Beach parking lot; 5k steps off at 8am, 1k walk/run starts at 9am. Also planned: paddle board and SUP races. Saturday, May 19, 8am; $25-$35. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

Clay MacLeod Quarter Horse Show Equestrian competition. 858-794-1171. 8am, Thursday, May 17 through Sunday, May 20; Del Mar Horsepark, 14550 El Camino Real. (DEL MAR)

Drew Brees Celebrity Championship More than 50 celebrity golfers compete for $100,000 purse during 14th annual event, seeking to crown “best celebrity golfer in the United States.” 858-836-0133. Thursday, May 18 through Sun-
day, May 20; $10-$15. La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

SPORTS

Encinitas Sprint Triathlon 2012 So many sports, so little time! Encinitas Sprint Triathlon concludes with triathlons, relay, and duathlon, as well as health and fitness expo. Sunday, May 20, 9am; $80-$125. Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

Learn-to-Curl Clinic Curl San Diego hosts clinic for people who have never curled before. Learn basics of the game, ice safety, delivery, sweeping. Includes “fun practice game.” Saturday, May 19, 7:05pm; $25. Iceoplex Escondido, 555 North Tulip Street. (ESCONDIDO)

Padres Host Dodgers San Diego Padres meet up with Los Angeles Dodgers. Games broadcast on radio station XX Sports Radio (1090 AM). E&MCO (860 AM) in Spanish. Tickets: 619-795-5000. Thursday, May 17, 7:05pm; Petro Park, 100 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

Pick-Up Curling Practice or pick-
up games with Curl San Diego for new and experienced curlers. Sat-
urday, May 19, 7pm; $25. Iceoplex Escondido, 555 North Tulip Street. (ESCONDIDO)

ROC Race 5K The “ridiculous obstacle challenge” is described as “a creative collision” with “mili-
tary-style and game show-inspired obstacles spread throughout” the course. Dress for costume con-
test with prizes. Saturday, May 19, 8am; Sunday, May 20, 8am; $45-$50. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Looking for a job? The San Diego Reader’s classifieds have 400+ new job listings.

San Diego Reader, May 17, 2012
Marfa Moments

The scruffy landscape and stark mountains have a diffuse energy.

I was standing in a bookstore next to the actor Randy Quaid — a slouchy galoot in cargo shorts and flip-flops — when he was a wanted man, a warrant having been issued for him and his wife Evi for running out on a $10,000 hotel bill in Santa Barbara. Running, too, from a purported Hollywood hit squad that was targeting movie people, Randy among them, or at least this is what Evi believed. I was standing next to Randy in the Marfa Book Company, in the small town of Marfa (pop. 2121) in the high desert of West Texas, where the Quaids had fled to elude both the assassins and the law. A week later the celeb fugitives were taken into custody and I haven’t tracked their fortunes since.

That was two years ago, when I was spending a month in Marfa on a writing retreat, courtesy of the Lannan Foundation. I was recently back for another such gig and spotted — in various bars and in the garage-size space that does duty as a coffeehouse/laundromat/ice cream parlor — the movie director Larry Clark, who was shooting a picture with the working title Marfa Girl. Clark’s movie Kids, about an HIV-positive high-school boy who intentionally infects local girls, got up in viewers’ nostrils some years ago, and his 1971 photographic essay, Tulsa, featured images of his pals (one of them pregnant) shooting up, having sex, playing with guns, and indulging in other sorts of X-rated behavior, all of which made me wonder if the good citizens of Marfa knew exactly who was in their midst, auditioning their children.

The movies like Marfa. The scruffy landscape and stark mountains have a diffuse energy against which to play out extremities of conflict. And the beautiful (and the meaningful) in the spatial intervals between volumes. His work trains the eye to see relations between things — any things — in a fresh, inventive way.

For Donald Judd, the sublime was a collaborative condition between an object-reality and our own perceptual desires (pictured: 100 Untitled Works in Mill Aluminum, 1982–1986).

For information about Donald Judd and John Chamberlain: chinati.org; for information on Marfa: marface.com.
had been, and to occupy them he designed 100 Untitled Works in Mill Aluminum. Judd wanted to integrate the products of the form-making imagination (his) with a given space (the gunsheds) and the natural order (the desertscape visible out those windows). The bright, finely chased boxes — 48 in one shed, 52 in the other, the sheds sited end to end north by south — stand equidistant from one another and proportionally arranged in relation to the windows and floor squares. Each box has the same outer dimensions (41 x 51 x 72 inches), but no one replicates another. Each is differently inflected by interior or exoskeletal planes, and when those planes are doubled up, they are always proportioned four inches apart. Each box readjusts our perceptual apparatus. Look at a box with an interior panel slanting across its upper half and the space filling the interval looks like a solid black surface. Move slightly to the left or right of another box and one or more of its panels, because of refracted light inside the sheds, looks transparent.

For Judd, the sublime was a collaborative condition between an object-reality and our own perceptual desires. (See the trim, dense lyricism of a 1972 shelf, made from anodized aluminum and galvanized iron, that’s hanging in the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art.) The gunsheds in their entirety — buildings, windows, landscape, light, boxes — comprise an art in which each aspect exists in a calibrated but changing relation to every other. Judd once said to a group of students: “Everything happens together and exists together.” The boxes change. Their surfaces and spaces are washed or scoured or befogged by whatever quality of light is falling on them, and that same light strikes and shines the stone floor, and light bounced off one box ghosts over other boxes. And because of the desert’s ambient temperature, which from noon to midnight can vary more than 30 degrees (there’s as yet no temperature control in the sheds), the aluminum expands and contracts. A former Judd assistant who showed me around said that when the extreme heat cools, the restless molecules can sound like rain falling on the roof. There’s visual evidence, too: some of the boxes have walked a little — you can see where one corner over the course of time has crept six inches.

Until I experienced 100 Untitled Works in Mill Aluminum, Judd’s work felt remote to me and I felt indifferent to it. No more. The act of the form-finding mind to create more complex and harmonious and complete fields of relatedness, fields that are also overwhelming pleasure-givers — that act is passionately human and immediate. The sheds are such fields: the mind centers itself on the unity and the continuity of landscape, industrial fabrication (of buildings and boxes both), and Judd’s ratio-driven...
and you see, beyond and upon them, the greasewood, goathead, sagebrush, prickly pear, and desiccated terrain stretching beyond the walls. All these actions and relations stir up a terrific unworldliness totally in and of the world.

Judd first thought to install his aluminum blocks in the empty Marfa Wool & Mohair Building in the center of town, but that space became instead a site — the best I’ve ever seen — for John Chamberlain’s sculptures. Chamberlain (who died last December) is best known for his work constructed of automobile scrap metal. He scavenged fenders, tail-light assemblies, radiators, bumpers, dashboards, and other stuff, put the pieces in a compactor, crunched them to an appropriate dimension, and then cut or used them whole, tack-welding while he explored the composition. His raucous, industrial flora shouldn’t be as lyrical as they most certainly are. They have Walt Whitman’s rousing energy (as Judd has Emily Dickinson’s rhapsodic severity), and they are magically light, partly because of the way he worked the surfaces: he left the original paint job intact, or scraped and sanded it, or painted over it with a runny, splashy enthusiasm.

Considering their congested volume, the 22 pieces, made between 1972 and 1975, have incredible speed and brevity. They’re built on a human-ish scale, even the regal reliefs on the walls, and they look vaguely “of use,” like the original machines their materials derive from. Consistent with Judd’s aspirations regarding everything, Chamberlain’s works are positioned and spaced in the hangar-like interior at measured intervals, and their forms are modulated by the actions of available light. Nearly every piece — restlessness and physicality never looked so desirable — stand on dainty feet where scrap corners touch the floor.

Chamberlain was literary and loved giving his work crazy titles. The Marfa installation contains two “gondolas” (as he called them), low-built, long-framed, constructions that stretch Chamberlain’s more usual sapid bunchedings. One gondola, William Carlos Williams, looks seaworthy and anxious to be splashed. It’s a visual equivalent of idiomatic speech turned into a poetic vernacular. The other gondola, Ezra Pound, reminds you of Pound’s poetry: it looks like something broken — a taboggan, maybe, or bed-frame — with messy, sharp edges and barely coherent relations of part to part. Williams believed all poetry could be reduced somehow to sex. Chamberlain, too, had his own ideas about that. In Marfa, you see realized what he said about his work, that it all came out of “sexual and intuitive thinking,” and that “the sexual decisions come with the fitting of the parts.” The sexuality is muscular, liberated, jaunty, and nonstop. The ten-year-old tourist I chatted with, however, had none of that in mind. When I asked what he liked about Chamberlain, he said: “I like how you know how old the car is by its color.”

“Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads: Gold” At Werweke’s gallery-sized installation, continuing through Sunday, July 29, comprises 12 animal heads, each depicting a segment of the ancient Chinese zodiac. “Continuing his work of re-interpreting cultural objects from his own fancy and historical knowledge,” Ai’s art “comments on the tension between what is ‘fake,’ what is ‘authentic,’ and what may constitute the better of the two.”

Isaac Julien’s nine-screen video installation Ten Thousand Waves “poetically weaves together three stories linking China’s ancient past and present and explores the movement of people across countries and continents, meditating on unfinished journeys.” Also on view through November is Julien’s single-screen projection True Norths (2004), as well as several photographic stills.

Free: $10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (619) 557-1000

“Liquid Capture: Masters of Underwater Photography” This juried exhibition boasts “the best underwater photographic art from around the world,” organized by photographer Lee Peterson. Images gathered in categories such as ocean environment underwater, macro, diver, ocean environment above water, marine mammals, submersions (a creative look at diving). Shows close Sunday, June 17.

Personalized automobiles known as lowriders “are part of our subculture whose aesthetic tendencies cross over into the world of fine art.” Lowrider cars are typically customized with a hydraulic setup to be low to the ground, an elaborate paint job, striking chrome features, uniquely designed upholstery. Lowrider culture can be seen in cars and motorcycles as well as in sculpture, photography, paintings as an expression of individuality, cultural pride. “Cruisin’ Cali: The Art of Lowrider,” including several full-size cars and motorcycles as well as in sculpture, paintings and sculptures, continues through September. Featured artists: Victor Cordero, Eddie Gallindo, Rick Alvarez, David Avalos, Magu, Teen Angel, Salvador Gonzalez.

“Lee Sifton: Evolution” juxtaposes organic shapes to create a lyrical sense of design. Sifton’s three-dimensional wooden wall sculptures have a sense of motion while exploring universal themes of encapsulation, isolationism, and escapism. The largely abstract pieces are “expertly crafted through the layering of wooden panels painted in a monochrome or polychrome scheme,” tracing “the trajectory of the artist’s career over the past ten years, focusing on a collection of pieces that show her evolution of style from a more figurative approach to a stronger abstract sensibility.” Closes Sunday, August 12.

“Contemporary Art Wins a Beachhead: The La Jolla School of Arts 1960-1964,” closing Sunday, July 8, chronicles this institution which drew artists from all over the nation. Students, educators, and artists-in-residence. Exhibition focuses on work of six artists who were school’s faculty, including Rhoda Loper, Fred Holle, Sheldon Kirby, Guy Williams; ceramics of Rhoda Loper; ceramics and paintings of Malcolm McClain.

The painting installation “Penumbra: An Ode to Oceanside in a Time of War,” continuing through Sunday, June 3, is described as “a poetic homage to Oceanside by artist Geoffrey Cunningham, created as an ode to his hometown in a time of war.” Free. $8, Oceanside Museum of Art, 704 Pier View Way. (619) 585-4660.

“Object Lessons: France in the Golden Age” View this “concentration of five French 17th-century paintings” through Sunday, June 3. The inaugural group is mounted with Cleveland Museum of Art’s loan of Nicolas Poussin’s The Holy Family Returning to Nazareth, shown alongside paintings by Poussin’s contemporaries: Christ Healing the Blind by Philippe de Champaigne, Pastoral Landscape by Claude Lorain, Simon Vouet’s Aeneas and his Father Fleeing Troy, and The Holy Family with Saint John the Baptist in a Classical Landscape, attributed to Nicolas or Pierre Mignard.


“Sutures: Stories with Seams” Reception for exhibit by Rebecca Webb, Saturday, May 19, 5pm; free. Show runs through June 30. jdc Fine Art, 2400 Kettner BL, Suite 208. (LITTLE ITALY)

“Three Story House” Drawn from museum’s photography collection of more than 7,000 images this exhibit “traces how photographers have captured the familiarity of the domestic environment to tell stories of how we live and where we live, as well as transforming it into a creative space to make art.” Continues through September.

In 1957, W. Eugene Smith, a former Life magazine photographer, moved out of his home and into a dilapidated, five-story loft building in New York City’s wholesale food district. Between 1957 and 1965, Smith made approximately 40,000 exposures of the nocturnal jazz scene inside the loft, and of the street below as seen through his fourth-floor window, as well as creating 3,740 reeds (4,000 hours) of stereo and mono audiotapes, capturing more than three hundred musicians. Enjoy the results of his work in “The Jazz Loft Project: Photographs and Tapes of W. Eugene Smith,” on view Saturday, May 19 through Sunday, October 7. Free. $6. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)
Wild Pork Wings!

“Actually,” says Joe, “we were arguing over this, me and Doug, the kitchen manager.”

M e thinks a trend is happening. A new wave of small-scale, back-to-the-future neighborhood bars. The Cheers thing. You see downtown blossoming with places like, well, Neighborhood (Eighth and G), or, in South Park, Hamilton’s (30th and Beech), or Whistle Stop (2236 Fern).

Imperial Beach has beautiful never-change outfits like Ye Olde Plank (24 Palm Avenue, right on the beach), a local watering hole plastered with customers’ souvenirs and portholes and fish... I’d be there now, except they don’t do food anymore.

I’m mulling all this as I amble up Palm Avenue in IB. I mean, face it, Palm Avenue isn’t exactly the cheesiest street in town. It’s a mix of auto shops, carpet outlets, parts stores, the kind of strip you drive past on your way to somewhere else.

Then, suddenly, right next to Mason’s Car Clinic, the one with the “flying” yellow ‘40s car, a front end stuck at the top of a 15-foot pole, you hear laughs, clinking of glasses, music, the sound of sports TV.

It’s all coming from this anonymous white-and-blue cinderblock place. Well, not quite anonymous. They have a neon Budweiser sign in the window and big blue-and-black letters painted along the wall.

“The Scoreboard Sports Bar & Grill.”

I peer through the window. Looks so warm, Woody, inviting inside…

Moment later, I’m in there, hopping aboard a bar stool and clunking my elbows onto the shock-handle. A ready-made corndog effect. So one end of the shank. Result: you get a natural chicken wings. But, no. These’re really bone-in pork wings. They’re $7.99, but I can’t resist.

Ten minutes later, Pia brings a plate with three of them. They look pretty fat for wings, more like drumsticks, though twice as big as chicken drumsticks, plus chips. Lots of big, crackly, homemade chips. Must say, the “wings” are convenient. You hold the flat-ended bone at one end and chew the meat off the other. The pork tastes like they slow-roasted it. The sauce is dark and sweet. Wish they had more, but I never do get around to asking.

“Delicious,” says Cheryl, when I ask about her carnitas tacos. I’m thinking, bet they taste like my wings. Because they’re both real, slow-cooked pork.

But, pork wings! I ask around. Guy on my left googles it on his iPhone. Seems the whole idea started when a pig farmer named Bob File noticed pork novelty stalls selling them at NASCAR, around 2003. These little bits of fibula bone with spare meat attached had always been throwaways scraped for pet food, at best, till these NASCAR guys noticed how easy they were to eat — if you prepared them right.

The kicker is that during the slow roast of 6–8 hours, the meat contracts, pulling back to one end of the shank. Result: you get a natural bone handle. A ready-made corndog effect. So easy to eat! Pig farmer File and others have spent this last decade wholesaling pig wings to places like the

They’re $7.99, but I can’t resist.

“Great,” I say. “A Bud draft. And the menu.”

I’m not expecting any revolutionary food here. Really, just hoping to get a good price and enough for the money.

But I’m about to make a discovery. A first. Or maybe I’m the only guy in the county who hasn’t eaten pigs’ wings before.

“K.C. Wild Pork Wings, w/chips, $7.99,” says a handwritten addition to the menu that lists today’s specials on a stapled-on sheet. There’s also spaghetti with meatballs, $6.99, and a grilled meatloaf sandwich, $6.99. Teriyaki shrimp for $8.95. The regular printed menu includes “Scoreboarders,” with “hand-formed” patties — they start at $2.99. And what a deal on biscuits and gravy: only $1.99. But I see that’s weekends only.

Then this couple sits down beside me at the bar. Cheryl and Doug. They’re lifetime I-Bethans. “But this is the first time we’ve eaten here,” Cheryl says. “We came in for the tacos.”

Taco Tuesday! Which is today. I hadn’t noticed. But now I see they have 99-cent deals for carnitas, shrimp, carne asada, even imitation-crab tacos.

Pia, the waitress Joe has sent around to take my order, points to another handwritten addition on the regular menu.

“Wild Pork Wings!” she says. “You’ve gotta try them.”

“Oh, pork wings? Pigs that fly?”

“Sure,” she says.

I take a slurp of Bud (which, okay, I secretly love, of course, but what’s really great is that during the slow roast of 6–8 hours, the meat contracts, pulling back to one end of the shank. Result: you get a natural bone handle. A ready-made corndog effect. So easy to eat! Pig farmer File and others have spent this last decade wholesaling pig wings to places like the

Pig farmer File and others have spent this last decade wholesaling pig wings to places like the

The Place: The Scoreboard Sports Bar and Grill (951 Palm Avenue, Imperial Beach, right beside Mason’s Auto Clinic, at Emory Street, 619-424-9909)

Prices: Spaghetti with meatballs, $6.99; grilled meatloaf sandwich, $6.99; teriyaki shrimp, $8.95; quarter-pound Scoreburger, $2.99; TJ tacos are $1.25, on Taco Tuesday, 99 cents; K.C. Wild Pork Wings w/chips, $7.99

Kitchen Hours: 11:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Monday–Thursday; 11:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., Friday; 9:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., Saturday; 9:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Sunday

Buses: 901, 913, 934

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012 65
Oh! the Presentation

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A Car Wash...and Persian Food?
The Shell gas station at the corner of Leucadia Boulevard and El Camino Real offers gas and a full-service car wash, as well as the usual fare of snacks and fountain drinks. If it's about lunchtime, it offers something more: Persian food. Skewers Grill, which has been at this location for seven years, sells primarily kebabs, rice, and salads.

The set-up is low key, from the simple sign outside and above the counter to the bistro-style tables surrounded by a Lotto machine and displays for Red Bull. There is nothing to indicate that the food served is authentic Persian food from the personal recipes of Mary Ghandy, a regular fixture at the counter and the owner's mother.

I brought a friend who lives down the street. She was amazed that she had never heard of this place and that it was located in a gas station. I chose a combination plate with a beef-kebab skewer, herb rice, and Caesar salad for $10.50. My friend ordered the same, except with a chicken skewer and the mixed salad ($8.75). There were other diners and an equal number of people waiting for their cars to be washed.

Since I had eaten there before, Mrs. Ghandy came out to chat with us. We discovered that it isn't so surprising that many people aren't aware of Skewers Grill — they do not advertise and have relied on word of mouth for business.

Our food came out — not fast, but quickly. Our meat skewers were tender and deliciously marinated. My beef was cooked just right: a little rare and easily cut with my plastic knife.

The herb rice was a real treat. It's made with basmati rice, which was fluffy and contained plenty of dried herbs. My friend and I kept trying to determine what other seasoning was used. She thought cardamom, and I felt sure that it was cinnamon. We couldn’t get an answer from Mrs. Ghandy.

In addition to the meat kebabs, there was also a marinated vegetable skewer as an option. They also have hummus, tabbouleh, and wraps. Interestingly enough, you would have to read the menu to find out that the menu is authentic Persian food. The menu also gives a catering price list.

My friend took a menu for future take-out nights. And I thought about how this is a great way to combine a fill-up, car wash, and tasty lunch in one stop.

Skewers Grill, 1060 El Camino Real, Encinitas. Posted May 4 by Amy Davis

Counting Calories at the Coffee Bean
There was a time when I didn’t think much about calories. I’ve recently attributed my newfound calorie counting to my age and the slowing of my metabolism, but it might have more to do with California’s menu labeling law.

This morning I went corporate for my (third cup of) morning coffee. I usually make the trip to North Park, but today I wanted to stay within the general vicinity of my daughter’s school so I could maximize my work time.

The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf on Clairemont Mesa had an open table next to the window and an outlet, so I spread out my computer, notebooks, and pens and went to the counter to order.

I’m usually partial to bagels and breakfast sandwiches at this time of day, but the Coffee Bean is more of a pastry kind of place. I’ve heard that muffins are one of those traps for people seeking to cut back on calories. You hear “muffin” and you think, better than a donut. But they’re high in calories.

Sometimes I pretend I don’t know this and order one anyway. Other days, I order a scone. I’m usually partial to bagels and breakfast sandwiches at this time of day, but the Coffee Bean is more of a pastry kind of place. I’ve heard that muffins are one of those traps for people seeking to cut back on calories. You hear “muffin” and you think, better than a donut, but they’re high in calories.

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Bunz: Burgers and Shakes in Hotel Circle
The Days Hotel (not Days Inn!) may not be the most exclusive location in town, but Bunz is a credible effort at putting a legit burger shop in an unexpected place: Hotel Circle.

Brandon Hernández gave the background on the burger restaurant when it was just a rumor. In short, chef/owner Jeff Grossman of Terra American Bistro is the driving force behind the Hotel Circle hamburger joint.

The interior of Bunz belies its history. Something about the layout of the dining area screams “Denny’s!” Regardless, the current application of space has made good use of the sunny patio and brought it into the 21st Century.

The menu is limited to burgers, fries, dogs, salads, ice cream, and shakes. Simplicity like that can be lovely. Burgers are the focus, with special builds such as the Three Li’l Pigs with bacon, ham, and pulled pork on top for $9.95. The All American Classic overflowed its whole-wheat bun and came with an excellent blend of sauces, seasonings, and toppings. Garlic fries, which could be added for $1 and were super garlicky, were also excellent.

Service was a sticking point — the servers were chipper enough, but since the restaurant was not busy, the staff could have been more attentive.
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$10 Lunch: Indigo Café

I stood in a strip mall in Kearny Mesa, faced with two options. This was a moment not unlike another I had in Julian a couple of months ago. On the one hand, here was Abbey’s, a barbeque joint I knew would satisfy the calories-are-a-myth carnivore in me. And on the other hand, directly next door, was Indigo Café, whose website calls this location (one of two in San Diego) “Kearny Mesa’s Healthy Alternative.”

I’ll be honest and say that I made my decision on the number of empty seats. It was lunchtime, and Abbey’s was far more crowded. I didn’t want to eat standing up, so I chose Indigo Café. That said, once I’ d made my decision on the number of empty seats. It was lunchtime, and Abbey’s was far more empty in San Diego. (believe it or not) fresh lettuce became the deciding factor. Although I didn’t have the best experience, I feel like it might have been better had I not expected healthy food in its purer form. But, on the road — when faced with a choice between Indigo Café and fast-food chains — this wrap feels like eating organic sprouts straight from the ground and washed in a mountain stream.

Herringbone in La Jolla Set to Open May 23

Herringbone, the fifth installment in the Brian Malarky/James Brennan San Diego restaurant empire, is slated to open in the long-empty space at 7837 Herschel Street in La Jolla on May 23. Heading up the kitchen is Amanda Baumgarten, another Top Chef alumni. Trained at Le Cordon Bleu in London, Baumgarten’s most recent stint was as executive chef at Los Angeles’ Water Grill.

Herringbone will serve “ocean bazaar” cuisine featuring seafood specialties from around the world as well as unconventional surf-and-turf combinations. The menu will be divided into Cold, Hot, Green, and Crust, combining unusual proteins with more traditional ingredients such as olives, lemon, and garlic.

The Snake Oil Cocktail Company has created the drinks. Traditional spirits, local craft brews, and small production wines will be available.

The interior of the restaurant has been designed by Thomas Schoos, who did the work on Searucker, Gabardine, and Burlap. The vintage warehouse structure has been transformed by adding six massive olive trees, each nearly 100 years old, which arch over the space, converting it into an indoor garden.

Although I didn’t love love love my sandwich the way I wanted to, the rest of the lunch options in the $10 range could inspire a second visit. Korean Duck Tacos ($11), the Fresh Grilled Hawaiian Albacore Huli Huli Sandwich ($10.50), and the Sloppy Dave (a pulled pork sandwich for $10) all sound good to me. They also have lunch combos that allow you to pick two items: half sandwich, cup of soup, and/or a small salad for $9.

$10 Lunch: Beaumont’s Eatery

A recent post by Mary Beth Abate inspired me to set up a lunch date at Beaumont’s Eatery in Bird Rock. Initially, I planned to indulge and spend a little more than usual for lunch. But when I sat down and opened the menu, I was happy to find that it would be easy to keep my bill close to $10. They have several options, including burgers, fish tacos, and sandwiches right around the $9 and $10 mark.

My lunch date ordered the Double-Grilled Cheese Sandwich ($9), which comes with white cheddar, tomatoes, bacon, and avocado. I went with the Brie-Nini Panini ($9.50), a fancy grilled cheese that features prosciutto and green apples.

It wasn’t the to-die-for sandwich I thought it would be. The brie overpowered everything else. While I love the flavor of brie, I thought the apple and prosciutto needed a bit more presence.

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Oscar’s Mexican Seafood

The opening of another fish taco shop in the Bird Rock/Pacific Beach area isn’t newsworthy — there’s one almost every corner. So when I saw a line out the door at a tiny storefront on Turquoise Street, I figured it was worth a stop. Oscar’s Mexican Seafood has only been open for nine months, but it’s already built a solid following among the locals for serving ultra-fresh, inexpensive fare. The kitchen is twice as big as the minuscule dining area, but there are a few tables and a long counter.

I ordered a battered fish taco ($1.99); you can also get it grilled), a spicy shrimp taco ($3.49), and agua fresca ($1.50). Each came dressed with thinly sliced cabbage, chopped tomato, and onion, and a shower of cilantro leaves. A large slice of...
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bottled sauces. I didn’t do a shrimp count, but the tortilla was stuffed — every bite had a good amount. It was spicy enough, but not overly so. I couldn’t resist, either. For starters, this place is pulsing — we’re talking around nine at night. Plus, I like the little island of warm lights and timbers. And then there’s Derek. He’s a bouncer who actually makes you feel welcome.

And then the long plank tables inside, with lots of old exposed beams everywhere. Kind of an urban take on a loggers’ social hall. What’s not to like?

The guy behind the bar, Morgan, the manager, helps me scan the board of two-dozen craft brews. He gives me samples, names I’ve never heard of, such as the Beachwood Hop Ninja (“Sneaky hops, deadly kick”) and the Petrus Monk’s Café Sour Flanders Red (“It tastes sorta like lemonade”).

I end up with a pretty good Bear Republic Hot Rod Rye. But what I like best is that Morgan is interested. He’s not a beer-pro snooty. Same with the chef. Aaron La Monica. Right now he’s stoking the wood-fired brick oven.

“This is a scratch kitchen,” he says, “Beer-oriented, of course. Oysters go so well with beer. Especially, say, an Irish stout. That’s why we have lots of oysters on the menu. They’re from Carlsbad. We go for local and organic. That puts the price up. Not like France. There you have to pay extra not to be organic.”

They’ve got a mushroom lentil sandwich for $7, a pork brat-wurst for $9, and, hey, an oyster po’ boy for $10: “Chicken-fried oysters, cabbage, remoulade, pickled chili, shaved red onion on a baguette with a side of pickles.”

That’s the one, and it goes down great. Squishy, tasty, creamy, and tangy with the pickled chili and pickles. So, no, not cheap. But healthy, pretty delish, and eaten with people who want to talk beer all night long. Met the owners, too. Way-cool dudes. More in Tin Fork, soon.

Posted May 8 by Ed Seaford

$10 Lunch: Noodles & Company

I was a bit confused when I first went into the Noodles & Company at Sports Arena and Rosecrans (other local locations include San Marcos, Encinitas, and University Towne Centre). I knew the place had noodle-ously, obviously, but that was all I knew. Turns out their menu is separated into three categories: American, Asian, and Mediterranean. Each category offers salads and sandwiches as well as noodle dishes such as macaroni and cheese, stroganoff, spaghetti, and Japanese pan noodles. That’s easy enough.

What I didn’t understand was why there was no pricing next to the dishes. It took me a minute, but I figured it out. It goes like this:

You start with a bowl, either small ($4.25) or regular ($5.55). If you pick small, the guy behind the counter will tell you “a regular gives you twice as much food for only $1.10 more.” For this price, you can get any item on the menu (pad Thai, penne rosa, etc.), except

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<th>Appetizers</th>
<th>Entrées</th>
<th>Side Dishes</th>
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For this price, you can get any item on the menu (pad Thai, penne rosa, etc.), except...
those marked otherwise. And on the menu, written in red, you’ll see suggestions such as, “Try this with marinated steak” or “Try this with sautéed shrimp,” which will add to the price. You can also add soup or salad for $1 more.

In my case, I went with the small bowl of Japanese pan noodles with marinated skirt steak (add $2.65). The meat had a fine consistency. It was soft, but cooked through. The sauce on the noodles had a good kick, tempered by the cool sprouts, but it made for a terrible combination (my fault) with the fizzy blackberry Izze ($2.25). I bought to accompany my meal.

I’d probably venture to try other dishes on the menu before I go back and order this dish again. I found it a bit heavy on the sauce side. It overpowered the noodles. I have a soft spot for buttered egg noodles, so next time I’m in that area I might pop in and give them a try. They might be great with that skirt steak.

It was a plus to see that although it’s an order-at-the-counter venue, they don’t use disposable plates or utensils. Everything but the chopsticks is wash-and-use-again.

Total bill: $9.96.

*Posted May 8 by Elizabeth Salaam*

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**Chicken, Waffles, and a Ton of Butter at Bootlegger**

Some dishes are confounding to me in their ability to draw me to them again and again. Count chicken and waffles as one.

Over the past several years, as the dish has become more popular and widespread locally, I’ve sampled multiple versions, looking for one I really enjoy. Funny thing is, in all those years, only West Coast Tavern’s has won me over. That’s a success rate that makes a 2012 Padres batting average sound good.

Yet, during a recent pre-Padres meal at Bootlegger in the East Village, as I perused a menu with plenty of appealing entries I once again succumbed to the draw of butter, crisper up in a press and slathered around poultry parts. And, again, I was disappointed… but not terribly.

The chicken itself came in the form of boneless tenders that were nice and juicy. Big plus there, but the breading was bland and uneven. I could see the meat peeking out like skin on a scantily clad Gaslamp goer.

I don’t know when this trend of bucking thick batter — you know, the kind that makes for full, crispy coverage associated with traditional fried-chicken cookery — became en vogue, but I’m longing for a buttermilk renaissance.

The waffle was fine. It could have been crispier, but that’s not such a huge deal, considering it was bound to be doused with butter and syrup (a maple gastrique, actually, but since it lacked a gastrique’s vinegary characteristics, it might as well be referred to as syrup). And speaking of butter, somebody there either loves it or overestimates the customers’ affection for it.

The dish is one of a trio of Bootlegger TV dinners, which come served on platters that have been fabricated to look like the compartmentalized TV-dinner trays of yore. The largest compartment holds the chicken and waffles, the compartment that was reserved for dessert in my day holds the gastrique, and the compartment beside that holds a choppy mound of butter so immense that everyone at my table mistook it for mashed potatoes.

I’d have preferred that they put spuds there…or any side to them again and again. Count me in their ability to draw me some dishes are confounding to at Bootlegger and a ton of butter chicken, waffles, the compartment holds the chicken also only $9.95

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dish. Even some clever take on carrots and green beans would have been welcomed. Man cannot live on carbohydrates alone, and something should have been there to break up that heavy dish. As it was, the only other thing they offered was rice and mac salad in the island style. Kalua pig, a dish of pork and cabbage that’s familiar to me from Hawaiian restaurants, was too watery, but the flavor was good. Simply draining the meat before serving would have made it just fine.

A plate of chicken that had been braised in spiced coconut milk was a serious undertaking. With all dark meat, and plenty of it, the chicken was spicy and rich from the coconut broth. Everything was served take-out style, even if not ordered to go, and prices on all the entrees were held under ten bucks. The rice and mac salad in the island style. Kalua pig, a dish of pork and cabbage that’s familiar to me from Hawaiian restaurants, was too watery, but the flavor was good. Simply draining the meat before serving would have made it just fine.

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Chamorro Grill, 6628 Mission Gorge Road.

**Don’t Order Your Grilled Cheese From a Kiosk (Especially If It’s Not on the Menu)**

I went to Bird Rock on an errand a couple of weeks ago and found myself hungry. My daughter was hungry, too, so we peeked in at Bird Rock Yogurt, a tiny little kiosk of a place right outside the Starbucks at Forward Street and La Jolla Boulevard. They had a handwritten sign advertising the day’s special sandwiches and wraps, but I wanted simple, plain, and quick. I asked the woman inside if she could do a grilled cheese, and she said “no problem,” even though it wasn’t on the menu. She offered our choice of bread, cheese, and whatever else we went with cheddar on wheat, mine with tomato, my daughter’s without. The wait was a long one but not unpleasant. It was a beautiful day, and we sat at one of the little tables in front of the kiosk while we waited for our food. A nearby fountain trickled, and little birds hopped about.

The food was blah. Our sandwiches were lacking that grilled-cheese-made-in-a-restaurant quality that usually makes them so tasty. I don’t know how she made them. They were warm, and the cheese was melted, but the melting was likely done in a toaster oven instead of a pan with butter. The little booth is really tiny, not even room enough for more than one person — so that would make sense. The strawberry smoothie we ordered, however, was just what a strawberry smoothie should be: sweet, cold, and fresh. Clearly, ordering from items on the menu is the best option.

Next time, if we stop for a sandwich, we’ll choose from the menu — something cold that doesn’t require melting. A wrap is probably more suited to kiosk dining.

**Szechuan Mandarin**

Across the street from a Toyota dealership, on a well-developed stretch of Mission Gorge Road, Szechuan Mandarin is a great example of a time-forgotten restaurant that hasn’t changed much in the past 30 years.

Inside, it’s 1982 forever, with vinyl booths and fish tanks, the coolness of which is a contrast to the somewhat dowdy facade and exhaust fumes of the Mission Valley streets outside. I opted to pass on the tiki-style cocktails, because wash-
The media is often treated to a lot of imagination. This is particularly true when a venue is a construction-stage, pre-open building where new owners can learn all about their fancy new venue, one remains distinctly aware of the building’s primary purpose.

As far as the restaurant goes, the photos I took give a rough idea of what things will look like, but without furnishings, staff running to and fro, and diners taking up space and filling the place, there will be a lot of view to take in. Westward views from the floor-to-ceiling windows provide an opportunity to catch a pretty sunset against a silhouette of rolling hills. It’s easier to take in that view from an outdoor terrace that is equipped with some nice patio furniture and fire pits. That spot gives way to an event area that can be rented out and is already home to a concert series.

Vintana’s menu will be made up of California modern cuisine from longtime San Diego chef and culinary lifefood of the CRG, Deborah Scott. Menu items include langoustine sweetcorn fritters with honey-bacon crème fraîche and blackberry-glazed bison spare ribs served over bacon-pecan waffles. The latter, which I was able to sample, had great sweetness and texture and makes a case for ditching fried chicken for this tender, gamey option.

Boutique wines as well as a vodka lounge said to be stocked with over 100 varieties of the crystal-clear spirit will form the backbone of the beverage program.

Vintana, 1205 Auto Parkway.

Posted May 11 by Brandon Hernández
We’re in L.A. Now.
Travis Baucum, the lead singer of Oceanside hard-rock five-piece Red Wizard, was beaming onstage about an upcoming gig. “We’re playing the House of Blues May 31. And it’s not the Voodoo Lounge, it’s the fucking main stage.”

The kids in Red Wizard say they feel they’re “being extorted.”

The Inside Track
Steeped in the rock sound of their parents’ generation — Deep Purple, Sabbath, Zeppelin, the Who — the band knows they aren’t like other musicians their age. “Popular music has definitely changed,” says guitarist Miles Ricketson. “And we’re definitely not what pop music is now.” Ricketson, at 22, is the oldest Wizard. The others are aged 19 and 20. So, if the House of Blues main-stage booking seems remarkable, it’s because it is. All the kids have to do to play the House of Blues main stage that Thursday is pay $750.

“The guy named Garrett from Breakthrough Entertainment hit me up on Facebook,” says Ricketson. “He’s from Anaheim or L.A. He said people down here have been asking him to come down to San Diego....”

Red Wizard took the offer and signed an agreement that said they were obligated to sell 75 tickets at $10 each. Ricketson says he signed the contract with a guy named Mo. Attempts to reach Mo and Garrett have been unsuccessful.

“With all the kids, they just have a lot of money and numbers. We could be brutalizing young animals onstage and as long as we bring in money and publicity...it’s okay.” — Ken Leighton

Blurt

The kids in Red Wizard say they feel they’re “being extorted.”

Silhouette of a Band.
“A friend of mine, Ray Suen, he’s a local musician. He called me and said that Trey Anastasio [the leader of the band Phish] was looking for musicians and did I want him to submit my name?” Adrian Demain’s answer was yes. “But, I really didn’t think about it much after that.” The Oceanside-based guitarist says he was surprised to hear from Anastasio. “He said to me, ‘You’re the one I want.’” No audition? “He looked at some of my YouTube clips.”

Anastasio scored the musical adaptation of Hands on a Hardbody and was responsible for hiring a band to perform his music during the play’s run at the La Jolla Playhouse.

Demain says Anastasio wanted a different feel for the production. “He wanted real band players...not a generic pit band. It sounds kind of country, especially with Rick Schmidt on pedal steel.” Schmidt, also from San Diego, has performed with Heather Myles, Dennis Kaplinger, and Eve Selis. The rest of Anastasio’s band are from New York.

“We’re part of the set design, which is a parking lot,” says Demain. “We’re on a little stage on the stage. We’re a silhouette.”

La Jolla Playhouse directors commissioned Hands on a Hardbody, which is based on a 1997 documentary film of the same name. “Their goal,” says Demain, “is to get it to Broadway.” The plot: ten strangers compete to win a brand-new truck over a span of several hours by keeping at least one hand on the truck at all times. How can you make a story about a guy standing around keeping his hands on a truck? Demain says, “You’d be surprised. It’s got everything, including humor and the American dream.”

He won’t say how the play ends, but of working directly with Anastasio, Demain says, “He’s been at rehearsals and at every premiere. He’s been pretty hands-on with the music.”

Being part of a house theatrical band is a change for Demain, a hired gun who often performs with Billy Wayward or Brawley, has a residency as Exotica Tronica at Bar Pink in North Park, and sometimes plays a uke gig with Susanna Kurner. “It’s not what I do. I read music, but I’m not one of those guys who can throw a piece of music in front of and have me read it on the spot. Sight reading is a challenge.”

Hands on a Hardbody runs through June 17.

— Dave Good

Diamond Dust
After nearly seven years of curating the monthly Fashion Whore (largely at the Ruby Room), Club Pop, and other club parties, promoter May Star is dropping her usual dance nights to initiate a new monthly event at the under-construction Kitty Diamond. The venue’s Park Boulevard location in Hillcrest was previously home to the Flame. The Diamond is being cut by designers Bells & Whistles
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**JEFF FOXWORTHY**

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- **July 7**
  - Meat Loaf
- **July 13**
  - Joe Cocker & Huey Lewis and The News
- **July 21**
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- **July 27**
  - Gladys Knight & Natalie Cole
- **July 29**
  - Barenaked Ladies, Blues Traveler, Big Head Todd & The Monsters and Cracker

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- **September 9**
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(the aesthetic minds behind the Loft at UCSD and Starlite), under the vision of former Beauty Bar manager Erica Jessup, whose résumé includes stints at Old Madrid, Voyager, U-31, and the Onyx Room.

May Star’s Diamond Dust debuts at the venue’s grand opening on May 19 with two rooms of music and a fashion show from five local designers and around 75 models. One room will showcase Star’s signature dance-friendly electro, indie, nu-disco, “with a possible chance of ‘90s music,” from Tigh, Futuureweapon, and Volz, while the other hosts disco-dance-off Bosom Badies with Dr. Trevorakan (free dance lessons 9 to 9:45 p.m.).

Sticking with the Flame’s landmark neon signage, Kitty Diamond will host live music, burlesque, and dance nights. The venue’s adjoining dive bar, the 40th Door, will open in July.

You can take a look at Kitty Diamond’s soft opening on May 18 followed by Mannstar Minor Thursday nights (happy hardcore/dubstep), events with Gabe Vega and Saul Q., and, at the end of May, Mondays with blues-rock gems Lady Dottie and the Diamonds.

Club Sabbath, the venue’s staple goth/industrial/darkwave dungeon, will continue to convene at the location every second, fourth, and fifth Saturday.

— Chad Deal

Metaphorical Maren.

San Diego via Tübingen, Germany, pop songwriter Maren Parusel layers reverber-drenched guitar hooks with an assortment of vintage synths on her sophomore album, Tightrope Walker, which is set to be released June 19 on Requiemme/BMG Chrysalis.

The themes presented on the LP were inspired by Nietzsche’s landmark book, Thus Spoke Zarathustra and the documentary Man on Wire about a French highwire walker who traversed a line between the World Trade Centers in 1974.

“Metaphorically, life is you walking on a tightrope,” says Parusel, whose debut Arti
cial Gardens (produced by Black Heart Procession’s Pall Jenkins) won Best Pop Album at the 2011 San Diego Music Awards. “You’re balanced on your own rope. You can slip and fall. This album is about believing in yourself rather than looking up to figures. It’s about living your own dream.”

Parusel’s revamped synth-driven sound comes after her gear was stolen on tour in New York City last year; although, Parusel says, “I was already Parusel strives for synth-driven balance on Tightrope Walker.

Parusel teamed up with Christopher Hoeffe at Chaos Recorders in Escondido, whose array of analog synthesizers and vintage plug-ins lend dreamy, dance-friendly textures to Parusel’s falsetto vocals.

Backed by a live band of Eric Brosgold (drums), Josh Cass (guitarist from Get Back Loretta), and Kory Mcmee (bass), Parusel and company recently garnered attention from R.E.M.’s Mike Mills (“I loved her set”) and photographer BP Fallon at South by Southwest, where she played several shows, including Alejandro Escovedo’s (brother of Requiemme manager Mario Escovedo) day party at the Continental Club.

Celebrate the release of Tightrope Walker on June 30 at the Casbah with Maren Parusel and the Nervous Wreckords.

— Chad Deal

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

COMMUNITY

MODS REUNITED: MANUAL SCAN RECORDS 1st NEW MUSIC IN YEARS

Mojo’s Reunited: Manual Scan Records 1st New Music in Years
By Jay Allen Sanford — May 14, 7:01 a.m.

Local MP3tunes, Embattled by Lawsuit, Declares Bankruptcy
By Jay Allen Sanford — May 12, 11:53 p.m.

Nerdcore Night - A Safe Place to Geek
By Chad Deal — May 10, 3:46 p.m.

Jaime Valle & Equinox at 98 Bottles, May 17
By Robert Bush — May 9, 6:41 p.m.

Mystery Cave and Killer Swan Release Ethereal Beat Cassette Package
By Chad Deal — May 9, 9:11 p.m.

Attack Gypsies: San Diego Symphony Strings
By Garrett Harris — May 9, 10:53 p.m.

DJ Tiésto to Spin at Hard Rock Hotel Pool Party May 20
By Jay Allen Sanford — May 8, 10:51 p.m.

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THURSDAY • MAY 17
THE LONDON SOULS
The Continental Club.

SATURDAY • MAY 19
MILO GREEENE • PAPA
MAREN PARUSEL

SUNDAY • MAY 20
SUCKERS • YOUNG MAN
VANAPARASTA

MONDAY • MAY 21
ANTI MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS
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RIVER CITY • 7TH DAY BUSKERS

TUESDAY • MAY 22
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WEDNESDAY • MAY 23
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THURSDAY • MAY 24
THE CROWLERS
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THE DUKE SPIRIT • HACIENDA

FRIDAY • MAY 25
MARGOT AND THE NUCLEAR 50 & 50’S • DINOSAUR FEATHERS
WHISPIERTOWN

WEDNESDAY • MAY 30
HORSE FEATHERS • DEATH SONGS MANUK

THURSDAY • MAY 31
G.B.H. • FAR FROM FINISHED
SOCIAL SPIRIT • RAT CITY RIOT

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AUG 18 berlin featuring terri nunn
AUG 25 david cassidy
AUG 30 jerrad niemann
SEPT 30 mark chesnutt

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Thursday 17
Soda Bar delivers Baby Buffalo Thursday night. Rami and Odile have been a duo since the first grade, finding common ground in hip-hop music and playing with bees. The Buffalo babies have relocated to San Diego and bring with them an electropop sound that’s “like if Prince and Passion Pit got together and played Mouse Trap in Bon Iver’s attic while listening to M83.” Ah, youth....

Friday 18
For those of you who did not get tickets to the Clap Your Hands Say Yeah/Darcy’s show at Casbah, boo frickity hoo, there’s still some wicked kewl shows around town. For inst., from Brooklyn, rooftop party band the Beach Fossils wash up at the Irenic in North Park, with Catwalk, Mini Death, and DJ Mario Orduno at the decks between sets. Seattle ghetto tech punx the Narrows (Unbroken, Some Girls, These Arms Are Snakes, Makeout Boys) will be at Eleven with SD’s Secret Fun Club and Bumbklaat. Last Years, Sculpins, Mr. Nobody, and Methlabs fill a punk’d throwback bill out at Tower Bar... Tin Can Ale House dials in Afro-punk five-piece Iradido with Lands psych-pop band has been at it for almost 20 years, and though they have “grown,” agrees blog-psych-pop band has been at it for almost 20 years, and though they have “grown,” agrees blog-punk guitar and bassist and SST co-founder Chuck Dukowski and his Secret Fun Club (the Slackers from NYC), less Roses...!

Saturday 19
Courtney Taylor-Taylor and the Dandy Warhols will revisit their 15 minutes of fame at Belly Up on Saturday. With this year’s warmly received and goth-leaning, this show at the Che Café. Twisting Tongues and Harness will open the show.

Sunday 20
For all you creative types, there’s going to be an art show and swap at the Che Café on Sunday.

Monday 21
Belly Up gets Trampled by Turtles on Monday. The indie folkies from Duluth, Minnesota, specialize in a rocky nu-grass vibe that has as much to do with Bob Dylan as Ralph Stanley. I’ve caught the quintet a few times on the folk-fest circuit, and they always hit hardest. Fans of the brand might want to find the merch guy for this year’s Stars & Satellites on the way in, as there won’t be any left by the end of the show. Happens....

SPRITUALIZED AT BELLY UP

SPIRITUALIZED AT BELLY UP

TRAMPLED BY TURTLES AT BELLY UP

THE DANDY WARHOLS AT BELLY UP

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012

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THURSDAY 5/17 • 8 PM
SEE-I
W/ Project: Out of Bounds
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FRIDAY 5/18 • 9 PM
THE CURED AND STRANGELOVE
W/ Blue Order

SATURDAY 5/19 • 8 PM
THE DANDY WARHOLS
W/ 1776

SUNDAY 5/20 • 9 PM
SPIRITUALIZED
W/ Nikk Lane

MONDAY 5/21 • 8 PM
TRAMPLED BY TURTLES
W/ Mishka and Anuhea

TUESDAY 5/22 • 8 PM
HUGH LAURIE
W/ Freshwater

WEDNESDAY 5/23 • 8 PM
MISHKA AND ANUHEA
W/ Mica Brown

SATURDAY 5/26 • 8 PM
PLATINUM ROCKSTARS
W/ Livin on a Prayer
and DJ Man Cat

WEDNESDAY 5/26 • 8 PM
CASH’D OUT
W/ Lexington Field

Upcoming Shows:

5/29 Greg Laswell
5/30 Everlast
5/31 Tyche
6/1 The English Beat
6/2 Donavan Frankenreiter - SOLD OUT!!!
6/3 Mogwai
6/4 Donavan Frankenreiter
6/5 BFD Comedy w/ Erik Rivera
6/6 Pending Together Benefit w/ Burning of Rome,
Fem Sheehan, and guests
6/7 Balkan Beat Box
6/8 Cocorosie
6/9 Wayward Sons
6/10 The Slackers
6/13 Mayer Hawthorne &
The County: How Do You
Do World Tour
6/14 Simphil Project
6/15 Israel Vibration
6/16 Thunder Road and
The PettyBreakers
6/18 Project Walk
Slang Senses, the Mar Delis
6/19 Down Mitsubishi
w/ Lee Coulter,
Michael Tiernan
6/20 Cee
6/21 Summertime Benefit for Freedom of Voice
6/22 Common Sense
6/23 Shoreline Reest
6/24 Monique - seated
comedy show!
6/29 The Soft Pack
6/30 Stripes and Lines
7/1 Abbey Road - “Rubber Soul”
7/2 Return to the Rescue
Benefit for Andy Redder-Powell
Feat. The Devastators
7/3 80’s Heat
7/6 One Drop’s Black Book
Diaries Album Release
7/7 Dead Feather Moon
7/8 Blind Pilot
7/13 Pato Banton
7/15 Floyd Television
7/16 Katchafire
7/21 The Young Dubliners
7/22 Mistrim Seeds & JGB
8/2 Real Estate
8/9 Paul Thorn
8/14 Sharon Van Etten
and Tomatis
8/19 Dick Dale
9/2 Dragonetts
9/9 John Hiatt & The Combo
9/26 Rebel Gilberto Trio
seated show
8/28 The Psychedelic Furs

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012
Good Stuff, Bad Stuff

“If we could, we’d figure out a way to take away their frigging casinos.”

A saloon-type upright piano is the first thing a visitor sees. “That’s Country Dick’s old piano,” says Paul Kamanski. He coaxes a few notes out of it.

In his living room–turned recording studio, Kamanski plugs a Mac PowerBook into a 1960s-era McIntosh amplifier (“A Mac and a Mac,” he says) and fiddles with the laptop. The new music he’s been recording begins to play, and it is pure Comanche Moon goodness: the Heartbreakers meets the Rock Trio (Joey Harris, Paul Kamanski, and Billy Thompson). Kamanski and his wife Caren, their twin daughters, and a mountain of music equipment.

Comanche Moon is an underrated local band and an ongoing side project for Kamanski, best known perhaps for having written hits for the Beat Farmers, a San Diego cow-punk band of national stature. The shoulder-length hair has turned gray, but Kamanski, 56, still makes music.

He also restores vintage motorcycles at the Mission Hills duplex he shares with his wife Caren, their twin daughters, and a mountain of music equipment.

The Rock Trio (Joey Harris, Paul Kamanski, and Caren Campbell) perform at McP’s Irish Pub & Grill in Coronado May 27 at 4 p.m. The Indians would use that in their nightly raids.

“I believe it’s the Texas moon, the big harvest moon. The Rock Trio (Joey Harris, Paul Kamanski, and Caren Campbell) perform at McP’s Irish Pub & Grill in Coronado May 27 at 4 p.m. The Indians would use that in their nightly raids.

I noticed that the vocals in pop music kept getting higher and higher. It became interesting, Joey and I had a falling out. I moved to San Francisco, and that’s where I really said, ‘I want to be the coyote-crazy guy who was always diving off the stage. He wanted to sing a country ballad that made you cry.’

Did you ever strike it rich?

“I made a little bit. There were royalties for a while. When you get your first check for 700 dollars you go, ‘What? For writing music? Are you serious?’ Then one day you get a bigger check and you go, ‘Oh, my, I could actually make some money.’ But you watch it go up and down. The weirdest thing about the business is that when you go into it, you’re hyper and scared to death and excited about getting signed but what you don’t know is how you’re gonna get screwed. You know you’re gonna get screwed, you just don’t know how.”

Find more music interviews online at SDReader.com/interviews

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Saturday, 9pm — The Cured.

San Diego Reader: May 17, 2012

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

When the Spiritualized song “Hey Jane” began streaming online a few months ago, a friend of mine said it was really good...and then it went off the rails. I told him I thought it didn’t really get going until the moment where it seems to fall apart. “Hey Jane” starts off as basically the same song Jason Pierce has been writing for the past 20 years with Spiritualized and for ten years before that with Spacemen 3 — a minimal two- or three-chord update on the Velvet Underground. (He even calls the Jane of the title “Sweet Jane” at one point.) Don’t get me wrong, it’s a great song. But I’ve always thought that the most interesting parts of any Spiritualized record are the moments when the formula starts to break down.

There is a real breakdown at about the four-minute mark in “Hey Jane” when the guitars and drums spill off into noise. The song then reconstitutes itself as a Stereolab-style one-chord krautrock number. But for me the song doesn’t really take off until almost another three minutes of this has gone on, when backup singers start harmonizing and Pierce begins repeating, “Sweetheart, sweetheart of mine.” It’s hard to tell exactly what changes in the song, but it slowly turns into something extraordinary. I watched a video of the band playing it live in an old Irish church, and when they got to that part I could swear they were going to start levitating.

Again, this is the same kind of thing Pierce has been doing forever: achieving transcendence through repetition. It’s rock as a kind of meditation, and Pierce is the high lama of the practice.

Nikki Lane also performs.

SPIRITUALIZED: Belly Up Tavern, Sunday, May 20, 9 p.m. 858-481-8140. $20 presale; $22 door.

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note.

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

HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING: To send a weekly or monthly schedule, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186. You may also submit information online at SanDiegoReader.com/music.
Friday, Saturday, 8pm — Peter Cetera.
The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-929-6855.
Thursday, 6pm — The Brokers Band. Free.
Friday, 6pm — Clay Colton Band. Free.
Saturday, 6pm — Shellie Blue. Free.
Cuyamaca College: 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway, Cuyamaca College, 619-660-4000.
Friday, 7:30pm — Cuyamaca College Rock Pop and Soul Ensemble. The Beatles’ Rubber Soul in its entirety. $5-$8.
David and Dorothea Garfield Theater: 4126 Executive Dr., La Jolla, 858-362-1348.
Saturday, 8pm — Howard Alden. Inspired by Armstrong, Basie. $22-$33.
Friday, Saturday, 9pm — Nemesia. Downtown Café: 182 E. Main St., El Cajon, 619-440-5687.
Saturday, 6:30pm — The Farmers. Free.
Eleven: 3519 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-450-4292.
Thursday, 9pm — Columbian Necktie and KDC. $5.
Friday, 9pm — The Narrows, Secret Fun Club, Bumbklaat. $10.
Saturday, 9pm — Hot Bottle Bombers, Band-Droidz, Re-Mones. $5.
Sunday, 4pm — Stephen Rey, Misery, Jackals. $4.
Wednesday, 9pm — Six String Samurai. $5.
Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
Friday, 7pm — Satamote and Deep Sea Thunder Beat. Saturday, 7pm — Rogue Radio.
Escondido Elks Lodge: 2430 South Escondido Blvd., Escondido. Saturday, 7:30pm — The Stoney B Blues Band and Annette Da Bomb. $10.
Flying Elephant: 850 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, 760-434-2660.
Friday, 8pm — Willie Nelson Tribute. Saturday, 8pm — The Heavy Guit and the FMera.
Monday, 8pm — Crystal Riot. Wednesday, 8pm — Patrick Norton.
Gallagher’s Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-222-7300.
Thursday, 8pm — Otly Mercer. Friday, 8pm — Brian Jordan Band.
Saturday, 8pm — Torii Roze. Sunday, 3pm — The Hips. Wednesday, 9pm — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Free.
Thursday, 9pm — Colour Vision, Talk in the Static, Nono Floor. Free.
Friday, 8pm — Vanity Theft, Enemies, Small City Calling. $6-$8.
Saturday, 9pm — Stephen Rey, Nancarrow, Christy Littlemore. $8-$10.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Beat Club and Tonto. $5.
BY DAVE GOOD

“Make a tricky record,” Warren Spicer once said, “and then spend the next year learning how to play it live.” He co-founded Plants and Animals, a Montreal indie trio, and, yes, their music is tricky. They spent two years making 2008’s Parc Avenue and it’s got a 12-piece choir, just to name some of the added attractions. It sounds like Abbey Road, but streamlined for possible use behind slick television commercials for iPads or soft drinks or in the soundtrack of Grey’s Anatomy. They describe their music as “folk-jazz-digital-improv.”

But in music-industry shorthand, the rich complexity of Plants and Animals is reduced to post-classic indie rock. This is about as enlightening as calling Van Halen post-screamo power metal. You come to the place where words fall flat or the music defies description. In truth, I think that at one time Plants and Animals wanted to be a whole jam-band movement fizzled out and left a genera-

Plants and Animals began with guitarist Warren Spicer and drummer Matthew Woodley. They’d been playing music together since they were 12, for over a decade. They met their third band member, bassist/guitarist Nicolas Basque, at Montreal’s Concordia University. P&A gained a following by putting on large, high-energy live shows. But Plants and Animals as a name is hard to take seriously, like The The or Nickelback or Matchbox 20. They titled their 2010 CD La Land, fitting for a band that once dressed up like fairies for a promo shoot. Cheesy fad-band or super-creative dedicated career musicians? Too hard to call. But as Dick Clark once said (I paraphrase), “If it’s got a beat, and you can dance to it, that’s all that matters.”

River City also performs.

PLANTS AND ANIMALS: The Casbah, Monday, May 21, 8 p.m. 619-232-4355. $10.

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/NOTE

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MICHAEL TIERNAN
EVERYONE’S A CRITIC

Mixtape POP ETC

by Jeremy Dean

The Morning Benders have changed their name to POP ETC; yes, caps lock on. As detailed in a lengthy post on the band’s old website, the cause of the change centered on their use of “bend-ers,” which carries a homophobic association in parts of Europe and the U.K.

POP ETC is a generic moniker, and it sadly nutshells their current (and possible future) sound. The “pop” part is predictable, unoriginal, and plastered with prepack-aged, Katy Perry-esque beats and rhythms. The album seems fragmented, with several short, wordless tracks that serve little purpose except for testing the “Next” button. Track 3, “Where’s the Love?,” ends with a sound bite of a Tupac Shakur four-letter-word-laden rant about motivation. Random much? The high-fill, little-thrill result leaves me wanting.

The brothers Chu’s saving grace is their exploitation of a proven formula and familial harmonizing, particularly on the track “Settling Scores.” And, yet, the overuse of auto-tuning, drum machines, and shoddy “bathroom-studio” production bore me. I want more “Etc.”

Final count for Mixtape: 11 tracks, minus 4 interludes and a mediocre Björk cover (“Unravel”) leaves but six new songs. It’s a bloated EP. Will the name change and a weak re-debut be the deathblow for this Berkeley trio?

POPETC Mixtape tests the “Next” button.

POPETC

98 Bottles: 2400 Kettner BL, Little Italy, 619-255-7885.
May 24 — Toad the Wet Sprocket.
May 25 — John Patitucci Trio.
May 27 — Danny O’Keefe and Bob Lind.
May 31 — Steve Smith & Vital Information.

9:30pm • Classic Rock

Ballyhoo!: 2411 Argueba St., Ocean Beach, 619-224-3577.
May 25 — The Storytellers.
May 27 — Dusty Springfield.
May 28 — Mudhoney.
May 29 — The Hanging Light.
May 30 — Beth Hart.
May 31 — Counting Crows.

9pm • Rock

Upcoming Shows

4th&b: 345 B St., Downtown, 619-231-4343.
May 25 — Don Omar.
May 26 — Oscar D’Leon.
May 31 — Rusko.
June 15 — J Boog and Fiji.
June 17 — Jack Russell’s Great White and Faster Pussycat.
June 23 — Greyhoundz and Typecast.
July 2 — Marcy Playground.
August 10 — Sheila E & the E Family.
August 11 — Pesado.

Anthemly: 1337 India St., Little Italy, 877-828-0891.
May 24 — Rusko.
May 25 — J Boog and Fiji.
May 31 — Jack Russell’s Great White and Faster Pussycat.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
October 17 — Jethro Tull.
Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.
May 24 — The Blind Shake and Ghetto Blaster.
May 25 — Bonkers! Dance Party.
May 26 — Astra & Ancestors.

Belly Up: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-
**May 24, 2023**

**Little Italy, 619-232-4355.**

**May 25, 2023**

**Vista, 619-671-3600.**

**Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-684-1816.**

**May 26, 2023**

**Eleven: 1130 Morena Blvd., Linda Vista, 619-684-1816.**

**July 20, 2023**

**June 27, 2023**

**June 3, 2023**

— 91X-Fest.

**May 27, 2023**

**Sands.**

**May 28, 2023**

**Escondido.**

**The Centre at Lexus: 1205 Auto Parkway, Escondido, 619-299-2583.**

**May 29, 2023**

**May 30, 2023**

— Body Count.

**August 9, 2023**

**August 12, 2023**

**August 14, 2023**

— 311 and Slightly Stoopid.

— 7 Horns 7 Eyes, the Untouchables, Jivewire, One Nation Under A Groove, Hills Like Elephants.

**May 29, 2023**

**Barcelona.**

**May 30, 2023**

— Soul Ablaze, Keng Doja & the Royal Roots, the Broken Stems, F.U.Z.Z.

**Harrah’s Rincon: 777 Harrah’s Rincon Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.**

**May 26, 2023**

— Dwight Yoakam.

**June 22, 2023**

— Melissa Etheridge.

**June 29, 2023**

— Squeeze and the B-52s.

**July 7, 2023**

— Meat Loaf.

**July 13, 2023**

— Joe Cocker and Huey Lewis & the News.

**July 21, 2023**

— The Jacksons.

**July 27, 2023**

— Gladys Knight and the Pips.

— Natalie Cole.

**August 5, 2023**

**August 8, 2023**

— Dirty Projectors.

— Enanitos Verdes.

— Me First & the Gimme Gimmes.

— Buckethead.

— Wilson Phillips.

**August 10, 2023**

— The Music of Burt Bacharach.

**August 11, 2023**


**August 17, 2023**

— Burt Bacharach.

**August 24, 2023**

— The Beach Boys and the Monkees.

**August 25, 2023**

— The Jacksons.

— Rascal Flatts.

— Rascal Flatts.

— Jason Mraz.

— 311 and Slightly Stoopid.

— Steve Aoki.

— Tainted Love.

— Split Finger.

— The Gift/Curse, the Untouchables, Jivewire, One Nation Under A Groove, Hills Like Elephants.

— The Growlers.

**July 2, 2023**

— Julion Alvarez.

— Train.

— KC & the Sunshine Band.

— Guinness World Records.

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— KC & the Sunshine Band.

— Guinness World Records.
June 20 — k.d. lang.
June 25 — Michael McDonald, Boz Scaggs, Donald Fagen.
July 2 — Lyle Lovett & His Large Band.
July 20 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.
July 23 — Yanni.
July 26, July 27 — Sheryl Crow.
July 29 — Earth, Wind & Fire.
August 1 — Lou Lonely Boys.
August 2 — Chris Isaak.
August 6 — Seal and Macy Gray.
August 9 — Buddy Guy and Jonny Lang.
August 10 — The Gipsy Kings.
August 12 — America.
August 14 — Colbie Caillat.
August 17 — The Fab Four.
August 18 — Yes.
August 23 — Steve Martin & the Steep Canyon Rangers.
August 24 — Air Supply.
September 6 — Pink Martini.
September 11 — Chicago.
September 13 — The Doobie Brothers.
September 15 — Tower of Power.
September 16 — Roger Hodgson.
September 23 — Tony Bennett.
September 25 — Ronnie Saitt.
September 29 — Crosby, Stills & Nash.
The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.
June 2 — Ben Howard.
June 7 — Patrick Watson.
Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
July 29 — Tenaquous D and the Sights.
August 15 — Fun.
October 2 — Phil Lesh and Bob Weir.
Pala Casino: 35088 Pala Temecula Rd., Pala, 877-946-7252.
August 10 — Diana Krall.
May 26 — White Party, hosted by Grammy.
July 19 — Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band.
September 30 — Crosby, Stills & Nash.
Petco Park: 100 Park Bl., East Village, 619-795-5000.
May 26, May 27 — “I Love This City” Electronic Festival.
September 22 — “O Berkley, Where Hart Thou?”
October 12 — Jake Shimabukuro.
October 27 — Natalie MacMaster.
Queen Bee’s Art & Cultural Center: 9255 Ohio St., North Park, 619-255-5147.
May 25 — Everthony.
Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.
June 1 — Destruction.
June 8 — Barb Wire Dolls.
June 9 — Rick Derringer.
Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: 7777 University Ave., La Mesa, 619-713-6777.
May 24 — Wendy Bailey.
Ruby Room: 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
May 24 — For Strangers & Wardens, The High Rolling Loners, Abe West.
May 25 — Backyarda Dance Party with DJ Sherwood.
May 26 — Danny the Wildchild.
San Diego Civic Theatre: 1100 Third Ave., Downtown, 619-570-1100.
June 15 — Kris Kristofferson.
November 24 — Straight No Chaser.
Shakedown Bar: 3048 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-487-0373.
May 24 — Static Thought and Among the Enemy.
May 25 — The Bourbon Saints.
May 26 — Nick Bone & the Big Scene.
Solo Bar: 3161 El Cajon Blvd., City Heights, 619-255-7224.
May 25 — Monsters From Mars, Rachel Fannan, Just Another Snake Cult.
May 26 — Mrs. Magician and New Mexico.
May 25 — To Each His Own.
June 1 — Carnifex.
June 2 — Ottly Mercer.
Spreckels Theatre: 121 Broadway, Downtown, 619-235-9500.
August 11 — Andrew Bird.
June 5 — Morris Day & the Time.
June 7 — Steel Magnolia.
June 16 — Larry Gatlin & the Gatlin Brothers.
June 23 — Edwin McCain.
July 5 — Lee Greenwood.

Upcoming Shows!
— Phil Lesh and Bob Weir
— Ringo Starr & His All Starr Band
— Yanni.
— Tenacious D and the Fearless Freaks
— Earth, Wind & Fire.
— The Gipsy Kings.
— Steve Martin & the Steep Canyon Rangers
— Pink Martini.
— Olivia Newton-John.
— Chicago.
— The Doobie Brothers.
— Tower of Power.
— Roger Hodgson.
— Immovable Objects
— One Direction.
— The Gatlin Brothers
— Edwin McCain

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June 8 & 9 - Chris Porter
June 15 & 16 - Pauly Shore

May 18 – 21 — Quiet Riot & Dokken.
May 18 — Berlin Featuring Terri Nunn.
May 25 — David Cassidy.
August 30 — Jerrod Niemann.
September 30 — Mark Chesnutt.
Til:Two: 4746 El Cajon Bl., Kensington, 619-516-4746.
May 26 — The Emulators and Blood on the Saddle.

May 24 — Northern Tigers, Electric Healing Sound, Bagdad.
May 25 — The Lyon Crowns and Shiva Trash.
May 26 — The Deadly Birds, the County Fair, Little Fowl.

The Tower Bar: 4737 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0158.
May 24 — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds.
May 26 — Immoveable Objects and Roswell That Ends Well.

Valley View Casino Center: 3500 Sports Arena Blvd., Midway District, 619-224-4171.
June 9 — LMFAO.
September 23 — Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Viejas Arena: 5500 Canyon Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
June 8 — One Direction.
June 14 — Van Halen and Kool & the Gang.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
May 25 — The Heavy Guilt and Blackout Party.
May 26 — Psychedelic.

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You’ve probably seen Wong’s neon towers glowing along the University Avenue corridor through La Mesa. You probably mistook the place for a drug front or maybe the entrance to a theme park. The truth is even better. Like a waft of samurai nostalgia on an autumn Shanghai breeze, the Dragon Room has a dreamy, faraway quality. Established in 1966, the electric hallucination sees paper Tsingtao serpents flying among Chinese lanterns and Budweiser signs. Cocktails come out strong and occasionally on fire. The happy hour is a miracle. Wong’s crown virtue, however, is its cozy patio, where an ornate fountain runs into a koi pond and you can smoke in the open air without ditching your drink.

The Palace’s mediocre cuisine lends credence to the dojo-ring vibe. But the Dragon Room, which plays host to diversions such as darts, foosball, billiards, pinball, free Wi-Fi, corn nuts, and a Lotto machine, is an effortless neighborhood dive whose weekday happy hour (5 to 7 p.m.) offers $2.50 drafts from 11 taps and $2.75 wells (add a quarter for juice). There’s no finer prelude to Friday-night karaoke, which starts at 7 p.m.

You can start your Saturday with an omelet or pork chops and eggs ($6) and then stick around for a night of live music from the likes of rock-and-soul stalwarts the Tighten Ups, the Johnson Project Band, Cametones, and Joey Harris. A $7 steak-and-eggs breakfast is served from 9 a.m. until noon on Sundays, and a half-pound burger or sandwich lunch special ($7.25) with fries/rings and a well/domestic is available from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on weekends. Remember, you aren’t here for the food.

Stick to the cheap cocktails and signature tiki drinks in ridiculous ceramic bowls touting exotic names such as China Dream, Confucius, and the Wong Cup.

“It’s like a Mai Tai but worse,” explains bartender Danielle as she hands me Wong’s namesake pint of hooch.

The classic Scorpion ($8) — a flaming bowl of high-octane rum and fruit juice — is mixed on the restaurant side and may require added shots to taste. The bar, on the other hand, pours heavily. Never, ever drive to the Dragon Room.
House of Blues: Daily, 4-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $3 wines, $3 liquors. Killer happy hour menu.

Ocean Room and Lounge: Daily, 4-7pm: $3 drafts, $4 house wines, $6 martinis. 1/2 off selection of sushi. $15 oyster shooters, $5 spring rolls.

Patrick's Gaslamp Pub: Daily, 10am-4pm. Luminaries from $2.50, wells from $3.25.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: Daily, 5-8pm: 1/2 off all beers, wine, and wine specials.

JT’s Clubhouse Pub & Grill: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: $3 domestic beers, $4 house wines, $6 martinis. $1 off of selection of sushi. $15 oyster shooters, $5 spring rolls.

The Turf Supper Club: Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm: $3 domestic beers, $4 house wines, $6 martinis. 1/2 off selection of sushi. $15 oyster shooters, $5 spring rolls.

GOLDEN HILL

The Shack Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-7pm: $1 off domestic drafts, wines.

The Shores Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: 5 for $5 Happy Hour menu; 5 appetizers & 5 drinks for $5 each.

The Steakhouse at Azul: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off beer, $2 off wine by the glass, $6 appetizers, lemon drops, cosmos, martinis, $1/2 off lounge, patio appetizers.

La Sala: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 4-7pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 drafts. $5 house wine. $7 specialty cocktails.

The Revue Bar & Grill: Daily, 3-7pm: $1 off domestic drafts.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: Daily, 5-8pm: 1/2 off all beers, wine, and wine specials.
**LEUCADIA**

**Bar Lucadadian:** Daily, 4-7pm $2.75 wells, $2.50 beer of the month, shot special.

**The Calypso Café:** Daily, 5:30-7pm $4.50 all drinks $4.50 or less. Sunday, 6am-2pm $1 off bloody marys.

**LINCOLN PARK**

**L & L Hawaiian BBQ at Market Creek Plaza:** Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: $2 domestic drafts. $1 off appetizers. Sunday, all day: $1 drafts. $1 tacos & wings.

**LINDA VISTA**

**Brick by Brick:** Daily, 3-6pm: $2.50 house wines, $2.75 domestic, $5.25 imported.

**Bull’s Smokin’ BBQ:** Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: $2.50 bottled beer, $3 draft pint, $10.50 domestic pitchers (all 12-15 domestic pints, $2 sliders).

**The New Morena Club I M1319:** Daily, 2-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $2.50 wells and domestic bottle.

**Pete’s Place:** Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 2-7pm: $2.50 domestic beer, tequila shots, $3 imported beer, $4 premium drafts.

**LITTLE ITALY**

**The Glass Door Restaurant & Lounge:** Daily, 3-7pm: $5 specialty cocktails (Mojito, Ginger Pear Smash, mint-tea juleps, margaritas, & Cuba Libre) $3 French dinner sliders, $10 charcuterie platter & artisan cheese plate.

**Puerto la Boca:** Daily, 4-7pm $3 house wine, $3.50 martini 30% off appetizers.

**MIDWAY DISTRICT**

**Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic drafts, $8 pitchers, $2.50 French fries, $4.50 chicken wings.

**Desi’s Bar and Grill:** Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm: $2 domestic beers. 11pm-midnight: $3 drafts.

**Devine Pastabilities:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 drafts. Discontinued wine by the glass. Three free bread holes with drink purchase.

**Shakedown Bar:** Monday-Friday, 2-8pm: $2.50 domestic drafts, $3 tall boys, wells $3.50 lack & colas. 5-7pm $1.50 tacos, $2 burgers. Sunday, 5-7pm: $1.50 tacos, $2 burgers.

**Rooftop Sports Grill:** Monday-Thursday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic drafts, wells, $1 off premium beers/ wine by the glass. $3 off pitchers. 1/2-off appetizers. Friday, 4-9pm: 1/2-off all drinks.

**MISS MESA**

**A Taste of Boston:** Daily, 3-7pm: $2.25 Bud draft, $2.75 bottled beer (except Guinness), $3 drafts, $3.75 all wine. Discounted appetizers.

**Bamboo Hut:** Daily, 3-6pm. Buy large beer, get small house sake free. $2.75 small beer, $3.25 house wine.

**Callahan’s Pub & Brewery:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 house beer, domestic drafts, well drinks, house wine, $1 off appetizers.

**Mira Mesa:** Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $2 domestic pints, $7 pitchers. $3 import pints. $10 pitchers. $2.50 wells. $3.50 chicken strips, chicken wings.

**MIKAMAR**

**Excitbull Cigar Lounge & Wine Bar:** Daily, 4-8pm: $6.50 select pints, $5 house wine.

**The Filling Station:** Monday, 7pm-close: $4 margaritas. Tuesday, 7pm-close: $2 kamikazes. Wednesday, 7pm-close: $2.75 domestic drafts. Thursday, 7pm-close: $2.50 domestic beers, $7.50 domestic pitchers. Saturday, noon-7pm: $3 bloody marys.

**Fish Boutique:** Monday-Thursday, Sunday, 3-6pm: $6 fish & chips; $4 all draft beer.

**Mission Beach**

**Coaster Saloon:** Monday, 3-7pm: $3.75 cheeseburger with fries. Thursday, 2-10pm: $2 Pacifico and Dos Xx drafts. $1.99 tacos. 5-7pm: $1 domestic drafts. Thursday, 7pm-close: $2 well drinks and drafts. 5-7pm $2 off appetizers (some exclusions). Friday, all day: $2 well drinks and drafts.

**Guava Beach Bar & Grill:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 2-for-one domestic cocktails, $1 off all drinks.

**OCEAN BEACH**

**The Arizona Bar:** Daily, 3-7pm: 30% off appetizers. Monday, Thursday, 3-7pm: $4 well, house wine, $5 domestic & Mexican pints; $4 house wine.

**The Air Conditioned Lounge:** Daily, 3-7pm: $3 domestic pitchers, $4 well, house wine, $5 all drinks.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS**

**The Air Conditioned Lounge:** Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: $3 domestic pitchers, $4.50 well, house wine, $5 domestic & Mexican pints, $6.25 domestic pitchers.

**Mother’s Saloon:** Monday, 11am-close: $1 off drafts, $2.75 wells. 2-5pm: $10 burger, fries, and a beer (excludes Sculpin). 12-5pm: $3.50 Mon-Fri. Excludes Sculpin. 3-7pm: $1.50 domestic draft beers; $2.75 $1 off drafts. 7pm-close: $5 Rolling Rock and shot. Thursday, 12-5pm: $10 burger, fries, and a beer (excludes Sculpin). 12-5pm: $1.50 domestic, $2.75 $1 off drafts. 9pm-close: $1.50 sliders, $3 off appetizers.

**Nestor**

**Baja Oyster Bar:** Monday-Thursday, daily, All night: $3.99 fish tacos. 3-6pm: Two-for-one domestic bottle, discounted special roll.

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The Australian Pub: Monday-Friday, 7-9pm: $3 Long Islands. Saturday, $2.50 Karl Strauss. Sunday, $3 bloody marys.

Sinbad Café: Daily, 4-9pm: $1.50 drafts, $2 wells, $2.50 imports. 11am-8pm: $12-$15 hookahs.

Tony Roma’s: Daily, 1-4pm: $3 wells, drafts. $3 off appetizers.

The Turquoise Café-Bar: Tuesday-Saturday, 5-7pm: $2 drafts; $3 cask wine, sangria; $4 wells.

SHELTER ISLAND
Blue Wave Bar & Grill: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off drinks; $3-$5 appetizers, including jumbo shrimp cocktail and crispy fried calamari.
Fiddler’s Green Restaurant: Daily, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

Humphrey’s Backstage Music Club: Daily, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks.
Kelly’s Public House: Daily, 4-7pm: 1/2-price wine.

Reptile Bar: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks. $5 well drinks and margaritas.
Humphreys Backstage Music Club: Daily, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

SOLANA BEACH
Chief’s Burgers and Brew: Tues-Sat, 4-6pm: $2 drafts.

Sorrento Valley
Ali Baba’s Cave: Daily, 3-7pm: 22-oz. beer $4 (including tax). $12 hookahs, $5 refills.

SOUTH PARK
Alchemia: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $2 off, including Sky, Seagram’s, Jim Beam, Sauza Gold, $2 off wines, glass, draft.

Hamiton’s Tavern and Café: Daily, 5-8pm: $1 off local drafts.

SPRING VALLEY
California Comfort: Daily, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic pints, wells, house wine.
Fannie’s Nightclub: Daily, 4-6pm: 50% off all drinks.

TIERRASANTA
Bellagio Ristorante & Bakery: Monday, 4pm-7pm: 10% off for military.

JUMPING BEAN CAFE & MEXICALI CALL GRILL: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $2 domestic, imports, $2.75 margaritas, $3 wells, microbrews, $4 Leaping Horse wine. 3:30pm-5:30pm: $1 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

Santarosa Heights
Aperitivo Italian Tapas & Wine Bar: Daily, noon to 6pm: $3 beer, wine, and sangria.

POWY
The Beach Grass Poway: Daily, 4-7pm: $2.50 drafts, $3.50 microbrews, 4 select wines. $5 appetizers: panko-crusted calamari, tempura avocado, veggies and hummus, more.

Kaminski’s BBQ & Sports Bar: Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 3-6pm, 9-11pm: $1 off all drafts, wells, bottle, wine.

Philae’s Fogg’s Bar & Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic pints/$7.95 pitcher, $3.50 import pints/$11.95 pitcher. $2.95 cheese quesadilla, $3.95 chicken wings.

RAMONA
Boll Weevil Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: $2 off all appetizers.

Cheers: Monday, 2-5pm: $1 off drinks. $10 steak. Tuesday, 2-5pm: $1 off drinks. $1 tacos. Wednesday, 2-5pm: $1 off drinks. $5 wings. Thursday, 2-5pm: $1 off drink.

RANCHO BERNARDO
Capi Blu: Daily, 3-7pm: 1/2-price drafts, wells, discounted bar-menu food.

Kelly’s Public House: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: 2 domestic drafts, $8 pitchers, $3.50 wells, house wines.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS
Deli Stop Sports Pub: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off all beer; $3 Corona or glass of wine. $1 off all appetizers.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO
Cottonwood Golf Club Bar & Restaurant: Daily, 4-6pm: $2 drafts. 1/2-off all appetizers including pizza, quesadillas, wings, calamari.

Da Boyz Pizza & Pasta: Monday-Thursday, 2-6pm, 9pm-close: $2 drafts. 1/2-off select wine bottles. Friday, 4-7pm: $10 wine flights.

RANCHO SANTA FE
Delicias: Daily, 4-6pm: $5 draft beers, house wines, wells.

SANTITEE
Landre’s Sports Bar & Grill: Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off all drinks. $5 appetizers: potato skins, garlic/bacon fries, shrimp cocktail, more.

SCRIPPS RANCH
Stone Flats: Daily, 3-5pm, 7pm: $1 Bud/Bud Light. 1/2-off all other beer/wine.

SERRA MESA
Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill: Sunday, $2.50 mind erasers, kamikazes. $3.50 mimosas, bloody marys.
Lynch Fever

The nine served time on death row — and heard the electric chair screech when in use.

Early in John Kander and Fred Ebb’s *Scottsboro Boys*, Clifton Duncan takes center stage. He plays Haywood Patterson, one of nine black men wrongly accused of rape in 1931. He sings “Nothin’: “I ain’t done nothin’! But I’m going to die/ So I won’t say nothin’/ It wouldn’t help nothin’/ But I’m going to die/ So I won’t say nothin’/ When you can’t help nothin’.” As he sings, Duncan alternates between radically different styles: overwritten “real” anger and the warped, blackface caricature of old minstrel shows. He fires away, as the most melodic song in *Cabaret*, “Tomorrow Belongs to Me,” envisions the rise of the Third Reich. Scottsboro doesn’t just tell the story. Kander and Ebb present it as a minstrel show.

White-haired Ron Holgate — decked out like Colonel Sanders — is the MC. When he tells his all-male, all-black minstrel troupe they’ll do the Scottsboro story tonight, Haywood asks, “This time, can we tell the truth?” But as in the two-sided version of “Nothin’,” they must nod a yowza yes while feeling an adamant no.

The cast tells the tragic story with cakewalk kicks and shuffles. They live down to the stereotype. It’s tempting to shout “Enough already!” since they make the point from the start. But, like the false accusation that drives David Thompson’s...
Theatre listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

An Evening on Broadway III
The San Diego chapter of 13 — Triple Threat Youth Mentors — presents a fundraiser for its performing arts, summer day camp for teens in North Park. Lion’s Club, 3927 UT State, North Park. 8PM Sunday.

Brownie Points
Five mothers follow their daughters to a Girl Scout camp in upstate Georgia for a weekend of earning merit badges. Janece Shaffer’s play combines goofy slapstick with serious drama as the women learn to see beyond their expectations. When Allison makes a possibly racist mistake in the timidity, she and Deidre go toe-to-toe with such ferocity that resolution seems impossible. Deborah Gilman’s fiery teach-in play is substituting teaching tonight. Welk Resort Theatre, 8600 Old{//index:0}Globe Drive, Escondido. 888-802-7469. 7:30PM Saturdays, through May 19.

Master Harold…and the Boys
For its inaugural production, Living Light Theatre performs Athol Fugard’s three-character, autobiographical drama about a horrific brutal act. The intermissionless play recasts the pressures that prompt young Hally — i.e. Fugard — to do the unthinkable. The production benefits from George González’s appealing, detailed set — a tearoom in South Africa — and Shaan T. Evans’s standout performance as Sam, who sees the betrayal coming but can’t stop it. Young Aystyn Myers, who formed the company, is an obvious talent. Too often, his opening night deliveries were identical: too fast to comprehend and trailing off at the end. It was hard to tell if those were inaugural jitters or ingrained mannerisms. In either event, they detracted heavily from the story. Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-544-1000. 8PM Thursdays & Fridays, 2PM & 7PM Saturdays, through May 19.

Respect: A Musical Celebration of Women
A women’s history of the 20th Century told through popular songs. The musical came from Dorothy Marcic’s book Respect: Women and Popular Music. Though the songs are fairly predictable, the revue calls attention to the lyrics and how the words underline values women were expected to embrace (going from “Stand by Your Man” to “You Don’t Own Me”). Most of the 50 songs are brief excerpts, which frustrates since the four-person cast could belt them with brass: Leigh Scarratt, Kelsey Venet, Nancy Snow Carr, and Lasa H. Payton perform with tight harmonies and, when given the spotlight, they shine. Although the videos, projected onto three circles, often lack sharpness, the sound design and Chris O’Bryon’s four-piece band are tops. Worth a try.

Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-544-1000. 8PM Thursdays & Fridays, 2PM & 6PM Saturdays, 2PM & 7PM Sundays, through May 19.

No Child
InnerMission Productions and Mesa College team up to produce Nilaja Sun’s award-winning, one-woman show based on her experiences as a visiting artist in the New York public schools. Mesa College, 7250 Mesa College Dr., Kearny Mesa, 8PM Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, 7:30PM through May 20.

Nobody Loves You

That’s Baseball
The Lipinsky Family San Diego Jewish Arts Festival presents Andy Straberg’s stories about his experiences in baseball. Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza, Downtown, 619-544-1000. 7:30PM Wednesday.

The Dinner Detective Interactive Murder Mystery
The Dinner Detective warps its patrons: in the new mystery show “be careful! Everyone’s a suspect, and the killer might be at your table.”

No Child, at Mesa College through May 20, is based on one woman’s experiences as a visiting artist in New York public schools.
Laugh or Shut Up

Most of the jokes could be found in the monologue of any late-night talk-show host.

The Dictator
Sacha Baron Cohen, finding his face too familiar now (even in disguise) for the hijinks of movies such as Borat and Bruno, assembles a ragtag narrative, pillered from the headlines of international news. He plays “Admiral-General” Aladdin, the brutal dictator of a fictional Middle Eastern country, the Republic of Wadiya. He finds himself stranded in Manhattan after an imposed case of mistaken identity. Taken in by a feminist/organic gardener/co-op owner/insert activist stereotype here, the destitute refugee must attempt to acclimate himself to common life in a democratic country.

From the outset, much of the humor relies on sequences of sh*t that outlast their wit. Most of the jokes could be found in the monologue of any late-night talk-show host. Beyond the guise of political satire, the movie is simply an attempt to gain immunity from its own offensiveness: “Anyone outside of America is technically an A-rab.” The few scenes that generate sustained laughter involve setups independent of the political gimmick. But unlike Chaplin’s The Great Dictator (to which the filmmakers are obviously trying to pay homage), Cohen lacks the ingenuity to be funny and make a statement at the same time.

At best, he manages to sanitize some of the tastelessness: racial intolerance, funeral desecration, 9/11. However, other scenes reach beyond stupidity to the point of verbal assault, such as those involving rape and pedophilia. Cohen is eager to make these jokes because he has no real interest in the atrocities he is mocking. They are merely fodder. He thereby alleviates himself of responsibility for how people might be affected by them — that is, any affect other than laughter. The audience members, in essence, become subjects to a kind of comedic dictatorship: laugh or shut up. As Cohen’s “supreme leader” frequently comments when opinions are expressed, “Who cares?”

In The Dictator, Sacha Baron Cohen has no real interest in the atrocities he is mocking.
Director and co-writer Nanni Moretti presents us with a "what if" meditation on the passing of the papal torch. Following the death of the old Pope, the conclave of Cardinals elects Father Melville (played with timid sincerity by Michel Piccoli) to the post. We are given a well-realized view of the proceedings: the electoral process, the eager public, the media attention, the debate over the color of the smoke rising from the conclave chimney.

These opening ceremonies are rather heavy handed. As a psychologist states upon analyzing the new pope when the latter finds himself unable to emotionally face the responsibility of his new station: "It’s a little too much." This is one of the finest scenes in the film — an absurd therapy session, the man of science questioning the man of faith, surrounded by Cardinals. The psychologist (an atheist to boot) is given strict instructions: no questions about childhood, desire, or dreams.

Another standout includes a sequence where we bid goodnight to the Cardinals in their individual quarters, each occupied in a separate banality to pass the evening hours. Some moments achieve an absurd fascination, such as a round-robin volleyball tournament for the conclave. The sight of dozens of seniors jumping to spike the net would be odd enough, even without the holy garb.

These sights are punctuated by everyday banalities that become gems of wit in the ritualistic context: a Cardinal tumbling to the ground in the dark, a reporter interrupting a chant of the environment. The acting is uniformly strong, to good acting — all contribute to a sense of realism.

At the heart of the story is the reluctant new Pope: "God sees abilities in me I don’t have." Even more telling is his statement to a second psychoanalyst when she questions him about his profession: "I’m an actor." The film delves into the pressures of belief in the immortal on the sensibilities of mortal man.

The acting is uniformly strong, especially in the credibility of those playing the Cardinals. Even while participating in secular activities, they preserve a decorum as devout men. There are no spotlight hoarders in the cast, but rather an impressive commitment to the ensemble nature of the film. The power of the acting comes from its communal dynamic.

The camera, while wide in scope, capturing the grandiosity of the Vatican chambers, never escapes a sense of voyeurism. The tenacity of the subjects, clergy and parishioners alike, always makes us feel as if we’re spying. Outside the Vatican walls, the camera is more pedestrian, and also more sluggish. Unfortunately, this is the majority of the time we spend with our main subject: the new Pope. We are left feeling sympathetic to his trials and a bit bored by their length.

**First Position**

Filmmakers follow the lives of several aspiring ballet dancers from around the globe (ages 9 to 19) as they train for the Youth America Grand Prix, a prestigious dance competition in New York City that holds the potential for career stardom. The documentary design that was original and invigorating in Hoop Dreams has become a formulaic superficiality. There is nothing new revealed in the storytelling arc here, as the players converge on the same climactic competition.

The dancers themselves offer some humanity to the standard proceedings. Michaela, the adopted refugee from Sierra Leone, has a grim backstory: murdered parents, a war-torn country, and racism in the dance world. By contrast, the wealthy, white, blonde cheerleader (nicknamed "Princess" at home, "Barbie" at school) comes across as vain and undisciplined, especially after watching the financial sacrifices of most of the other families. We never learn if one character is any more driven or passionate than another, but the film enjoys setting up these dynamics.

There is, however, a curious paradox of maturity in the young performers: the immature development of their bodies vs. the mature grace of their abilities; their youthful age vs. their sophisticated speech. They show a thick skin and determined will against the demands of their respective coaches: "Remember, you’re not jumping, You’re flying."

The most compelling sequence is Joan Zamora’s (one of the older dancers) visit home to Colombia after a year’s absence. We are witness to his heartfelt family reunion and are captivated as he practices his routine in a back alley, the beauty of his movements juxtaposed against the squalor of the environment.

Unfortunately, the film quality is a far cry from the poise and creativity of the performances: grainy film stock, generic angles — more like a parent’s home movie than an aesthetic eye.

Reviewed in the movie capsules: Murder Capital of the World.

— John Rubio
Bull— It struggled to get a PG-13 rating because of some f-word, and Lee Hirsch’s documentary about vulnerable kids bullied in schools (and their sometimes woefully inadequate official guardians) has no snappy style. But if it bullies home its point a little, those points need to be made, and the victims (including the woefully moving Alex) need to be seen. And saved. 2012. — D.E.

Bully— Here’s a film for the Reaping: every year they have to send a couple of teenagers to the Capitol. There, the kids try to fight the death in a regulated, televised competition. Stropily directed by Gary Ross, it’s more games than hunger and more on a comment media manipulation than games. But Jennifer Lawrence keeps things going. It’s actually a young professional whose performance in a semi sendup comedy about a young chef resentful when teacher Blunt outshines him. Engaged, they push off marriage, and the main reason (unspoken) is that they never seem like a couple. Pathetic, often crude jokes extend their silly predicament in dumb ways, though Blunt keeps the mess intermittently watchable. 2012. — D.E.

** (FASHION VALLEY 18; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

** (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 15; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

** (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

** (MARVEL’S THE AVENGERS 3D; BATTLESHIP)

** (REGAL HORTON PLAZA 14; CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER 15; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OCEANIDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13)

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★★ (GASLAMP 15)

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| MOVIE SHOWTIMES |

### SOUTH BAY

#### CHULA VISTA

**AMC Pechon Road**

**45** 3D Fri-Sat: 11:00 AM, 2:00, 4:45, 7:00 Sun: 11:30 AM, 2:00, 4:45, 7:00

### SAN DIEGO

#### IMPERIAL BEACH

**South Bay Drive In**

2701 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2277)

Call theater for program information.

#### NATIONAL CITY

**AMC Plaza Bonita**

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)


Dark Shadows (PG-13) Fri: 10:15, 11:45, 2:15, 5:45, 8:15

Marvel's The Avengers (PG-13) Fri: 11:30, 5:05, 7:45, Sat: 10:15, 11:30, 5:05, 7:45

What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13) Fri: 11:00 AM, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

**The Hunger Games (PG-13)** Fri: 10:00, 1:50, 5:00, 7:45

Call theater for program information.

#### SOUTH BAY

**SANTÉE**

Sante Drive In

10969 Wisconsin Avenue (629-447-4414)

Call theater for program information.

#### NORTH INLAND

**ESCONDIDO**

Regal Escondido

3737 North State Parkway (760-291-0119)

Call theater for program information.

#### FALLBROOK

**UltraStar River Village**

5256 S. Mission Road. (619-945-7848)

Men in Black 3 (PG-13) Thu: 12:00 AM, Battleship (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 11:00 AM, Sun: 12:00 AM

The Hunger Games (PG-13) Fri: 12:00 AM, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00

Dark Shadows (PG-13) Fri: 11:00 AM, 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45

What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13) Fri: 11:30 AM, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

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501 Parkway Plaza Drive (858-627-3846)

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#### LA MESA

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3300 Grossmont Center Drive (619-228-3624)

The Avengers (PG-13), Dark Shadows (PG-13), The Hangover (R), What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13)

#### RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Regal Rancho San Diego

2951 Jamacha Road (858-326-3264)

The Avengers (PG-13), Dark Shadows (PG-13), The Hangover (R), What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13)

### ENCINITAS

La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)

Marley (PG-13)

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about an émigré Algerian who talks his way into teaching at a Montreal school. He helps repair the traumatized morale of students and staff after a loved teacher commits suicide. In the fine cast (the kids are beyond just acting), Mohammed Fellag as Lazhar has the power of an unpretentious life force, vulnerable but imposing. At heart, Philippe Falardeau’s film is about a tenuous life force, vulnerable but imposing. Minn commits suicide. In the fine cast (the kids are not so bad as Turner, Chamberlain, and Elizabeth Peña looking so far past their prime. 2012. — D.E. (GASLAMP 15)

**The Perfect Family** — Eileen (Kathleen Turner) hopes to be Catholic Woman of the Year, even though she drops holy wafer on the church floor near her priest (Richard Chamberlain). Onward to douchebag humor! Eileen, torn up about (Richard Chamberlain). Onward to douchebag humor! Eileen, torn up about her lesbian daughter (Emily Deschanel), starts to feel like a nun in hell. In Anne Renton’s movie the mechanical sitcom gags are not so bad as Turner, Chamberlain, and Elizabeth Peña looking so far past their prime. 2012. — D.E. (GASLAMP 15)

**Pina** — An elegant, heartfelt, never-sappy salute to the late German choreographer Philippina “Pina” Bausch and her dancers. Veteran fan and auteur Wim Wenders uses 3-D superbly to put us inside immensely kinetic, body-stressing dances (most in short form). They can be a little retro-vanguard but are always vivid, witty, and/or hopeful. This is a great tribute by one art form to another, as both stretch admirably. 2011. — D.E. (GASLAMP 15)

**The Pirate’s Band of Misfits** — Aardman Animations makes a solid case for its brand of gussied-up claymation (contra the grandeur of Pixar and the flash of Dreamworks) with this story of a foppish swashbuckler who just wants to be Pirate of the Year. You could spend a good chunk of your time just studying the magnificently detailed backgrounds. Unfortunately, the story is scattered enough that you may be tempted to do just that: The humor runs both high and low: a fad-happy Jane Austen and a steampunk Queen Victoria. Plus Charles Darwin and his manpaducer builder. 2012. — M.L. ★ ★ ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION VALLEY 20; MISSION VALLEY HAZARD CENTER 7; OTAÑO RANCH 12; PLAZA BONITA 14; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Safe** — A grimy homage to New York City before Giuliani applied the Disneyfied glaze. Wanted by Russian mobsters, the Chinese Triad, and his former NYPD allies, Jason Statham finds himself having to protect a fourteen-year-old Chinese girl (Catherine Chan) whose photographic memory houses a precious numerical code. The story is so unnecessarily intricate it leaves once-promising director Boaz Yakin (Fresh, A Price Above Babies) little more to do than cross-cutting to show parallel actions. 2012. — S.M. ★ ★ ★ (HORTON PLAZA 14)

**Salmon Fishing in the Yemen** — The charm stretches but doesn’t break in Lasse Hallström’s gentle comedy about a visionary sheik (Amr Waked) who devises a dam, river, and imported salmon in dry, hot Yemen. Caught up in his crazy but moving scheme are two Brit dreamers (Emily Blunt, Ewan McGregor). It has some of the old Ealing Studio–grace of loveable silliness, though Kristin Scott Thomas is pushy as a political opportunist. One imagines Lawrence of Arabia looking at this from the desert, rubbing his eyes, and dreaming of a salmon steak. 2012. — D.E. (GASLAMP 15)

**Think Like a Man** — Exactly what you might expect in a movie based on a relationship manual written by comedian and game-show host Steve Harvey. Harvey—who actually shows up on screen to dispense his grandmatherly wisdom—tells the ladies that while “times have changed, your playbook hasn’t.” Nor, it seems, has the object of the game: getting dudes to grow up, get a job, pop the question, and settle down. Remarkably, the extremely game (and mostly charismatic) cast almost obscures the fact that the story is literally by-the-book. 2012. — M.L. ★ ★ ★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN 14; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER 10; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANAISDE 16; OCEANAISDE MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; OTAÑO RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; VISTA VILLAGE)

**We Have a Pope** — Reviewed this issue. ★ ★ ★ (HERE FROM 5/18)

**What to Expect When You’re Expecting** — Five expectant couples realize the demands of parenthood...
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Across
1. Cookie used in milkshakes
2. Tijuana’s region
3. One of the Castros
4. Brand name that might ring a bell?
5. “Too rich for my blood”
6. It’s covered in silk
7. State games
8. Start to make a scene?
9. Occupied, as a lavatory
10. Checkout choice
11. Spa option
12. Actor Corey
13. A blimp may hover over one
14. Avoid flunking
15. CPR expert
16. “Northanger Abbey” novelist
17. Cryer in a sitcom
18. Ortiz of “Ugly Betty”
19. Last
20. Become clear
21. Film characters Desmond and Rae
22. Sound purchase?
23. Actor, Dental Assistant, Medical Therapy, A.S. in Physical Therapist Assistant, Associate of Science degree in Web Media Design, Business Administration, Business Management, Office Management, Office Systems, and Business Technology.
24. Young and feminine
25. Fail to mention
26. Scandal involving a goat and a racing
27. With 55-Across, scandal
28. Gush on stage
29. It’s covered in silk
30. State games
31. Start to make a scene?
32. Occupied, as a lavatory
33. Checkout choice
34. Spa option
35. Actor Corey
36. A blimp may hover over one
37. Avoid flunking
38. CPR expert
39. “Northanger Abbey” novelist
40. Cryer in a sitcom
41. Ortiz of “Ugly Betty”
42. Last
43. “Northanger Abbey” novelist
44. Gush on stage
45. It’s covered in silk
46. State games
47. Start to make a scene?
48. Occupied, as a lavatory
49. Checkout choice
50. Spa option
51. Actor Corey
52. A blimp may hover over one
53. Avoid flunking
54. CPR expert
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56. Gush on stage
57. It’s covered in silk
58. State games
59. Start to make a scene?
60. Occupied, as a lavatory
61. Checkout choice
62. Spa option
63. Actor Corey
64. A blimp may hover over one
65. Avoid flunking
66. CPR expert

Down
1. Hobbit enemy
2. “Go team!”
3. It borders the At.
4. 1980 Shelley Duvall role
5. Maine college
6. Enthusiastic
7. Cryer in a sitcom
8. Oriz of “Ugly Betty”
9. Last
10. Become clear
11. Film characters Desmond and Rae
12. Sound purchase?
13. Pale title
14. Area component
15. Cookie used in milkshakes
16. Tijuana’s region
17. One of the Castros
18. Brand name that might ring a bell?
19. “Too rich for my blood”
20. It’s covered in silk
21. State games
22. Start to make a scene?
23. Occupied, as a lavatory
24. Checkout choice
25. Spa option
26. Actor Corey
27. A blimp may hover over one
28. Avoid flunking
29. CPR expert
30. “Northanger Abbey” novelist
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47. Occupied, as a lavatory
48. Checkout choice
49. Spa option
50. Actor Corey
51. A blimp may hover over one
52. Avoid flunking
53. CPR expert

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

TRL FRIEDN LAOS AAA LONNIE INNO HID ATTICA ODDS ILLEGAL DEFENSE TOES NET OMS INDEPENDENCE DAY OLGAMON FOURS FORMS OF ID LAVA EAUS ITALIANDRESSING PTLRDA TRUE INTERIOR DESIGN PEER ALLIED SET ESSE TEMED ENL ITSY EDGERS STE

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ______ Zip Code: ______

L. Barling, El Cajon, 1.
You want your puzzles to rock At composing a true limerick
You must learn to spell it Correctly not swell it:
You must learn to spell it

Dale Duffula, Bird Rock, 11.
The man from Bird Rock played by the blues
He traveled ‘round payin’ his dues
But try as she might,
Till she finally finished the cross-word.

Mary Arana, Encinitas, 9.
There once was a girl named Clara,
Who most times felt quite absurd,
But try as she might,
Till she finally finished the cross-word.

Lana Andrews, La Mesa, 1.
There once was a girl named Clara,
Who most times felt quite absurd,
But try as she might,
Till she finally finished the cross-word.

Moses McCabe, El Cajon, 1.
I once knew a Gaucho named Bruno,
Who said there is one thing I do know
I once knew a Gaucho named Bruno,
Who said there is one thing I do know.

We are temporarily out of T-shirts. Winners will receive caps.

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Central San Diego

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COLLEGE AREA, 5690. Room available now in 4-bedroom house. Washer/dryer, hardwood floors, garage, big backyard. Safe neighborhood, close to SDSU. 619-945-0456.

East County


LA MESA, 5590. 1/2 utilities. No pets. Please call 858-277-2044.


Santee, 5650. One room in our 4-bedroom Santee house available now! Walking distance to Santee Lake! Full house privileges! Shared bath with one other housemate! Utilities included. Basic cable available! No couples. No smokers, pets, drugs. Must be employed! $500 deposit and 1-year lease required! Call Steve, 619-312-7206.


North County Inland

RANCHO PENASQUITOS, 5560. Room for rent in 3-bedroom house. Includes laundry facilities. Good neighborhood and location. I smoke and have 2 cats. New carpet. 858-538-2561.

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RULES OF THE GAME:
1) Submit 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 and ranking are posted online at SDR reader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 11 a.m. Monday.
2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name and a clean limerick.

EASY:

1) 5 6
2) 3 2
3) 4 1
4) 7 8
5) 9

MEDIUM:

1) 3 5
2) 2 4
3) 1 6
4) 7 8
5) 9

HARD:

1) 4 7
2) 3 6
3) 1 5
4) 8 9
5) 2

EVIL:

1) 6 5
2) 3 8
3) 2 7
4) 1 4
5) 9

We cannot accept your entry without the following:
Name: __________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip Code: _______
Limerick: ___________________________

Please check one:
Cap: __________________ T-shirt: $_____

We are temporarily out of T-shirts. Winners will receive caps.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

1) 5 2 1 8 7 4 6 9 3
2) 4 6 2 3 9 7 1 5
3) 7 3 9 1 5 6 8 2 4
4) 3 8 5 9 1 7 2 4 6
5) 1 6 2 4 3 8 9 5 7
6) 4 9 7 6 2 5 1 3 8
7) 2 5 4 6 1 8 9 7 3
8) 9 1 3 5 4 2 6 8 6
9) 8 3 1 5 6 7 2 4

MEDIUM:

1) 6 7 5 1 3 2 9 4 8
2) 5 3 2 9 4 8 6 7 1
3) 8 4 6 2 3 9 7 1 5
4) 7 3 9 1 5 6 8 2 4
5) 3 2 8 4 6 7 9 5 8
6) 2 4 5 7 1 8 9 3 6
7) 8 1 3 6 4 7 5 2 3
8) 9 8 3 1 5 6 7 2 4
9) 5 3 2 4 7 8 6 3 1

HARD:

1) 1 5 2 6 8 9 3 7 4
2) 4 8 6 7 9 1 3 2 5
3) 5 3 2 9 4 8 6 7 1
4) 2 4 6 7 1 9 6 8 3
5) 8 3 7 2 5 4 1 6 9
6) 4 9 7 6 2 5 1 3 8
7) 9 1 3 5 4 2 6 8 6
8) 9 8 2 4 5 7 3 6 1
9) 7 3 2 8 5 4 9 1 6

EVIL:

1) 6 1 3 4 9 8 7 2 5
2) 7 9 2 1 5 4 6 3 9
3) 4 8 5 3 2 7 9 6 8
4) 8 5 3 2 7 9 6 8 4
5) 9 1 3 5 4 2 6 8 6
6) 2 4 6 8 3 7 5 2 5
7) 3 7 8 9 1 5 4 2 3
8) 6 8 9 2 4 3 7 5 1
9) 5 9 3 1 4 6 2 8 7

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.

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San Diego Reader May 17, 2012
114


**Balboa Park, $1550.** 2BD+2BA apartment in Balboa Park area. 1738 Hornblend. Available for viewing now. 858-270-4492. 2050 Grand Avenue. 858-270-4492 x203. Available mid-May. 858-270-4492 x203.

**La Jolla, $1240.** Beautiful apartment homes starting at $1240! 30 deposit. OAC. City bay views, stainless steel gourmet appliances, custom cabinetry, bamboo laminated floors. Barbecue, tile fireplace, lounge, extra storage, hot tub, brand new fitness center. Pet friendly: South Bay Pointe, 3811 Point Loma Blvd. 858-223-8577. Gables.

**Ocean Beach, $1345.** 2BD+1BA apartment in great building with views. West Point Loma. Gated complex, easy access to shops, restaurants. 649 Diamond Street. 858-270-2071.

**Ocean Beach, $4400.** 2BD+2BA apartment. Large balcony, fireplace, parking. All appliances including dishwasher, washer, dryer, refrigerator, kitchen, heat. A/C. Cats welcome! 4811 Del Monte. 619-224-4215.

DOWNTOWN, $600. Large, remodeled units with high ceilings, tall windows. Includes utilities and cable. On-site laundry and kitchen. No pets. 1066 10th Ave. 619-236-2385.


DOWNTOWN, $850 & UP. Studio or 1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st! Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Near bus and la, Mesa. No blocks from harbor. On-site manager: Villa Capistrano, 452 Columbia St. 619-232-3400.

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LA ESQUERDA, $950. 3BD+2BA house on Quiet Street. 3BD+2BA townhouse. Spacious 2 story. Fireplace. 2 parking spots. Patio. Swimming pool. Basketball court. 1/4 mile from SDSU. 1/2 block from 805. 619-360-7920.


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NORTH PARK, $1380. 2BD+1BA apartment. Large unit in complex. 858-270-2071.


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1216. Where the working actors train.

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R&D FOOD DISTRIBUTION.
LEAD STORY
— The multicultural Macquarie University, in suburban Sydney, Australia, said its restroom posters, installed last year, have been successful in instilling toilet etiquette. The lined-through figure of a user squatting on top of a toilet seat was especially helpful, apparently. Complaints of unsanitariness were such that some students were timing their classes to use restrooms in a nearby mall instead. (Lead anyone believe the problem is confined to multicultural institutions?)

[Daily Telegraph (Sydney), 1-12-2012] [Above The Law blog, 2-1-2012]

Zombie Goes to Court
— In December, Pennsylvania judge Mark Martin dismissed harassment charges against Muslim Talaag Elbayomy, who had snatched a “Zombie Mohammed” sign from the neck of atheist Ernie Perce at last year’s Halloween parade in Mechanicsburg, Pa. (Perce was mockingly dressed as an undead person, in robes and beard.) In tossling out the charge (even though Elbayomy seemed to admit to an assault and battery), Martin ruled that Sharia law actually required Elbayomy to take the sign away from Perce. Judge Martin later explained that the technical basis for the ruling was (he-said/he-said) lack of evidence. (The December ruling did not attract press attention until [WHTM-TV (Harrisburg, Pa.), 2-21-2012; Carlisle Sentinel (Pa.), 3-3-2012])

Creme de la Weird
— Madeleine Martin, the chief animal protection official for the state government of Hesse, Germany, told a newspaper in Frankfurt in February that among the reasons why the country needed an anti-bestiality law was that she knew “of animal brothels” in Germany (presumably, animal-non-animal mating services but human-animal facilities). (Without an anti-bestiality law, authorities usually must prove that the animal has been physically harmed in order to obtain a conviction.)

Questionable Judgments
— According to a municipal street sign in front of Lakewood Elementary School in White Lake, Mich. (filmed in February by Detroit’s WJBK-TV), the speed limit drops to 25 mph on “school days only,” but just from “6:49–7:15 a.m., 7:52–8:22 a.m., 8:37–9:07 a.m., 2:03–2:33 p.m., 3:04–3:34 p.m. [and] 3:59–4:29 p.m.”

In storage in San Diego, [WHTM-TV, 2-15-2012]

Jack Taylor, 18, of Worcester, England, was given a lenient sentence in January for an August burglary he admitted. He and another youth had tried to steal a resident’s motorcycle but damaged it in the process. Since he was remorseful, made restitution, observed a curfew and did community service, he was released by the judge when he secured full-time employment. (However, the court later learned, was a slaughterman in Norway, where he was to take part in the cul-
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