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NOVEMBER 21, 2012

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Hispanic vote calls shots in San Diego – see page 2

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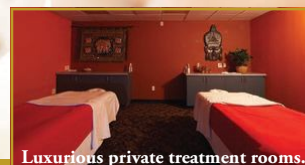
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November 21, 2012



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Bayfront project under water?

Port commissioners to address rising sea level issues resulting from climate change

Chula Vista/San Diego — A KPBS story on November 15 focused on San Diego Port Authority draft maps that indicated a rising sea level might call into question the expansion of the San Diego Convention Center and the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan.

According to the KPBS report, the maps examining the rising sea level were prepared by San Diego port contractor Environ and were being reviewed by the port's environmental advisory committee.

Port commissioner Lee Burdick, a member of the advisory committee, referred to the potential flood risk as "alarming" if public agencies do nothing. She also said, "Clearly the South Bay, Chula Vista, Imperial Beach, the Silver Strand, and Coronado are particularly vulnerable."

In a November 16 interview with the *San Diego Reader*, port commissioner Ann Moore calmed the troubled waters. "Those maps are draft maps — they are looking at possible changes over a 100-year time frame. I look at it like an earthquake fault; you can't ignore it."

To that end, Moore anticipates the port will have a workshop in February that will dig into climate-change issues.

She also said she was concerned that misinformation might have been communicated about the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan. "The CVMP was ahead of the curve in what we looked at environmentally — the rising sea was one of the things that the plan has already taken into consideration."

By Susan Luzzaro, Nov. 16

Throwing in the towel

Congressman Brian Bilbray concedes House race to Scott Peters

San Diego/Outside S.D. — More than a week after Election Day, now-former congressman Brian Bilbray announced he was throwing in the towel, conceding to his Democratic opponent Scott Peters.

The margin of victory was thin — a few thousand votes thin — and was one of the more closely watched races in the nation, with several outside PACs pouring in hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Bilbray is one of several local politicians leaving public service. Unlike former state assemblyman Nathan Fletcher and state senator Christine Kehoe, Bilbray has not announced what he plans to do once he returns to San Diego County.

Shortly after Bilbray's announcement, newly minted congressman Scott Peters released a statement.

"I'm encouraged by the tremendous group

of colleagues I've met here so far — freshman members of Congress — because, like me, they all heard loud and clear during their campaigns that voters are tired of the partisanship, tired of politicians who put party over people."

By Dorian Hargrove, Nov. 16

Family fight gets ugly...

Man took a baseball bat to his sister, then burned down family home

San Marcos — A San Marcos man who attacked his sister with a baseball bat and then set the family home on fire last August pleaded guilty this week.

Edward Louis Nickols, 48, admitted two felonies: assault with a deadly weapon causing great bodily injury and arson of an inhabited structure. Both are considered "strike" offenses. In the plea deal, one charge of attempted murder was dropped.

On August 14, deputies responded to a



Edward Louis Nickols in San Diego's North County Superior Courthouse.

call about a fight between a brother and a sister. A neighbor reportedly saw Nickols's sister running down the street, screaming and bloodied.

Nickols refused to come out of the family home on Concha Lane, and a crisis team was brought in. There were negotiations for about two hours, during which time the Nickolses' home became fully engulfed in flames. The neighborhood was evacuated for blocks around. At about 3 p.m., Nickols was taken into custody. The burned home was reportedly a "total loss."

By Eva Knott, Nov. 15

Unions flip

Drop opposition to convention center expansion, project labor agreement struck

Downtown — The San Diego Building and Construction Trades Council, which represents a number of labor unions tied to the construction industry, announced yesterday that it had entered into a project labor agreement with the general contractor handling the \$520 million convention center expansion downtown.

The move signaled an about-face from the labor community, which had previously denounced the project's approval process as

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Hispanic vote calls shots in San Diego

By Don Bauder

If demographics is destiny, the local corporate welfare boosters — Lincoln Club, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce, Centre City Development Corporation, San Diego County Taxpayers Association, ad nauseam — face future bellyaches. And the mendicants' despair will be nirvana for most county residents.

Look at the election results. A Democrat was elected mayor — not surprisingly, because

there are about 13 percent more registered Democrats than Republicans in the city. Even in the county, Democratic registrants are in a

slight majority. The San Diego City Council now has a Democratic majority. Barack Obama carried the county two elections in a row — he and Franklin D. Roosevelt have been the only presidents to do that.

On the other hand, San Diego County clung to its antipathy to taxes and labor unions: 54.16 percent of voters thumbed down Governor Jerry Brown's Proposition 30, which will raise taxes to support education, and 51.4 percent voted for Proposition 32, which would have eliminated unions' ability to deduct political contributions from members' paychecks. Statewide, Proposition 30 won and Proposition 32 was defeated, greatly because of organized labor's indefatigable opposition.

All told, Democrats are euphoric, and demographics tell much of the tale. According to the most recent U.S. Census data, non-Hispanic white persons make up 48 percent of the



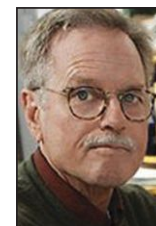
Erik Bruvold



Mel Shapiro



Steve Erie



Gary Jacobson



Richard Rider



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Pete Wilson

in the county, says Erie. He is Pete Wilson, former San Diego mayor, California governor, and United States senator. Back in 1994, Hispanics did not participate much in political activity. Pete Wilson was running for reelection as governor and was trailing in opinion polls by more than 20 percent. To boost his prospects, he backed Proposition 187, which through a screening system would have prohibited illegal aliens from using public education, health care, and other social services. The proposition won,

and so did Wilson. But, says Erie, the proposition was ultimately declared unconstitutional,

and irate Hispanics got involved in the American political process — eventually deeply.

San Diego's downtown overlords "have been dealt a double

whammy" in the November election, says Erie. Filner has pledged to steer money to the neighborhoods and away from downtown and "won't put the same old 20 faces on the committees and task forces," says Erie. Minorities, women, and neighborhood activists will be named to these groups. *U-T San Diego* "will shield the old guard, but most people realize that our local 'Papa Doc' [as in former Haitian dictator Duvalier] and his Lynch mob at the *U-T* have no credibility."

Gary Jacobson, also a political science professor at the University of California San Diego, notes that demographic changes are gradual, but they are now moving politics in a

continued on page 38

Poor parents bitten by bank card fees

By Sheila Pell

It was a good year for collecting child support in California. More aggressive collection efforts helped the state bring in

\$38 million more in the fiscal year that ended in June. San Diego ranked 22nd out of 58 counties for getting parents to pay support. But some beneficiaries are not happy with a new system for distributing the money.

In February, the state contracted with Wells Fargo Bank and Affiliated Computer Services, a Xerox company, to offer child-support payments on a prepaid debit card.

Dozens of states now use electronic-payment cards to deliver various government benefits.

The state saves money, having fewer checks to print and mail. The companies make money. Some families who choose the card over payment by check or direct deposit to a personal bank account, however, are losing money. "It's outrageous," says Kim Sever, a New Jersey parent who launched a website in 2009 to oppose the EPPICard, an ATM debit card issued by Wells Fargo, in this case for child support.

Sever criticizes the card's fees, which she tracks on her website,

comparing them by state. Her chart shows that Californians pay some of the highest charges for common transactions.

"Not too many people read the fine print or balance their checkbook, so they don't even realize that the money is being taken," she says.

California's EPPICard terms describe various rules and fees, which change at non-Wells Fargo automated teller machines. A balance inquiry costs \$.60. After four free monthly cash withdrawals, each additional one costs \$1.75. Only one free monthly decline for insufficient funds is allowed.

There are even fees for calling customer service more than three times per month, \$.50 per call, including automated balance checks.

"How can there be a fee for calling customer service?" Sever fumes.

According to the card's website, "fees can be avoided by asking for cash back with purchases." And cardholders can view their account online for free. "The card has some problematic fees, especially the balance inquiry fee, the ATM decline fee, and the fairly high ATM fee," says Lauren Saunders, managing attorney of the National Consumer Law Center, which is trying to get states to cut better deals for customers with the banks and companies

UNDER THE RADAR

Job security, priceless

Though the Obama administration's second-term housecleaning begins soon, one controversial San Diegan is given good odds to hang around another four

years in one capacity or another. **Alan Bersin**, currently assistant secretary of international affairs at Homeland Security, is a long-time friend of **Bill** and **Hillary Clinton**, having gone to Yale Law and Oxford University on a Rhodes scholarship.

Brooklyn born, Bersin moved to Los Angeles and met **Lisa Foster**, wealthy heiress to San Diego's garment-making and border-area-real-estate Ratner fortune. After marrying, the couple moved to San Diego, and Bersin became local chairman of Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign. Following the election, Clinton named him U.S. attorney here.

Though Bersin had a rocky tenure, criticized by some for forcing illegal border crossers east into the perilous backcountry, he also became Southwest "border czar," named by Clinton's attorney general **Janet Reno**. In 1997, he endorsed a San Ysidro real estate development at the same time he and family members owned property near the frontier with Mexico.

But the fireworks really began for Bersin in 1998, when instead of heading to Washington to assume a high-ranking Justice Department post as widely expected, he became superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District. Seven years and many privatization battles with the teachers' union later, Bersin was unceremoniously let go by a newly elected school board majority. The Democrat became GOP

governor **Arnold Schwarzenegger's** secretary of education, and later Republican San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders** appointed him to the board that runs San Diego's international airport.



Alan Bersin may be thumbing yet another ride on Barack Obama's political appointment highway.

Then came the 2008 election of **Barack Obama**, and Bersin wound up as assistant secretary for international affairs and special representative for border affairs at the Department of Homeland Security. The president named him commissioner of customs and border protection but was forced to use a so-called recess appointment after a Senate committee failed to act on the nomination and details emerged of reporting problems regarding his household staff in Point Loma. When that gig timed out last December, Bersin was made assistant secretary of international affairs and chief diplomatic officer of Homeland Security.

Bersin and his extended family have long been heavy donors to Democratic causes, including Obama's presidential campaign. Before he got his job in the new administration, Bersin gave \$28,500 to the Democratic White House Victory Fund in July 2008; \$2300 to the Obama Victory Fund the same month; and \$6500 to the Committee for Change that October. He also kicked in \$28,500 to the Democratic National Committee Services Corporation.

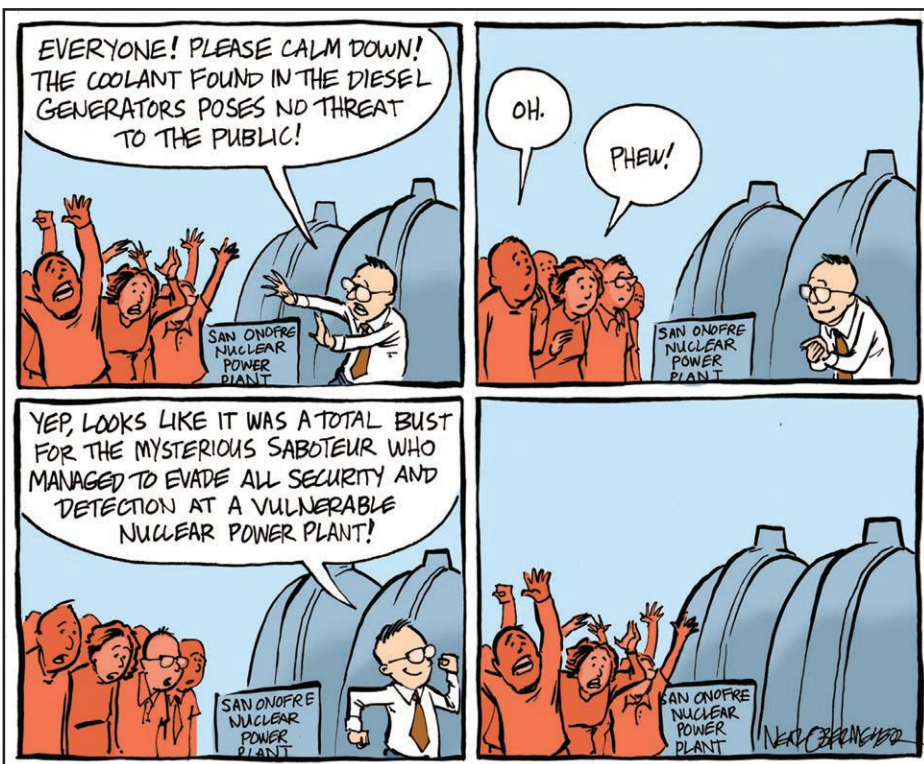
This year, records show, continued on page 38

NO EPPICARD!



The fees associated with California's EPPICard child-support payment system have upset some users.

Neal Obermeyer



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Featured Deals This Week



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LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, x460; address them to Letters, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or submit them at SDReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Standing Up for Servers

Re: "Outside the Bubble," November 15 (Feast!)
I have been an avid fan of the Reader for over ten years. You have written great articles about my friends, local bands, I love the food reviews, etc. But this tidbit written by Ian Pike degrading servers in San Diego will make me never pick up a magazine again. His insanely unintelligent, verbosely disgusting article on servers here — and trust me I have worked with the best chefs in San Diego — makes me think he is a completely out-of-touch jerk.

Julie Dalforno
via email

No Homeless Expert

I am writing in response to

Ken Harrison's story about homeless people ("Will Work for Food," October 25). While a lot of homeless people do have substance abuse problems, this is not true of all of them. What about veterans? Young people? Couples and families that have lost homes due to the economy?

Another issue I have with the article is Mr. Harrison stating that homeless people can get help if needed. What if the person in question is mentally ill and has no family?

I agree that a lot of the sign holders are not legitimately homeless, but just because Mr. Harrison held a sign for one day at an off-ramp, that does not make him an expert on homelessness.

Destri Heuschkel
via email

\$1 Not to Lie

I know most of these panhandlers are scammers, but some stories really get to me ("Will Work for Food," October 25). I recall the last time I turned down a guy who claimed to be a vet, wounded in Afghanistan or somewhere like that, with a family to support and no way to support them until his disability got approved. He even showed me scars on his leg

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

LOMA PORTAL

Gas station thief on the loose Loma Portal Shell station robbed, again

A suspect who robbed a Loma Portal gas station on Wednesday, November 14, was still on the loose Thursday afternoon.

The Shell gas station on West Point Loma Boulevard and Adrian Street was held up by a man who displayed a gun in his jacket to threaten the clerk.



This gas station has been robbed three times in the past three years.

The thief forced the female employee into the bathroom and told her to lock the door and not come out, according to an unidentified employee. He then ransacked the gas station, taking cash and cigarettes.

The clerk I spoke with on the morning of November 14 told me they felt like they had been “staked out” before the crime occurred and that the female clerk who was robbed was “very shook up” by the incident.

This is not the first time the gas station has been robbed. A man armed with a box-cutter held up the station in June 2010; four months earlier, in February, another gun-wielding crook stole money and got away.

BY JUSTIN POWELL, NOVEMBER 15

LA MESA

Med-pot for La Mesa?

City to vote on pot shops after ballot item approved

A ballot item approved in a 4-1 vote at the November 13 La Mesa City Council meeting means voters will decide in November 2014 whether medical marijuana dispensaries will be allowed in the city.

Mayor Art Madrid voted against the proposal to place the Compassionate Use Dispensary Restriction and Taxation Ordinance on the ballot.

An initiative petition signed by 5135 registered voters prompted the council action. The number of petitioners calling for a public vote was above the 3041 signatures needed for a vote, a figure representing 10 percent of registered voters.

According to the California Election Code, the council had three choices: adopt the ordinance, turn the issue over to the voters, or order a report on the issue and then approve the ordinance or schedule an election. Madrid wanted city attorney Glenn Sabine to prepare a report about legal implications of the ordinance.

The ordinance would establish a 2.5 percent sales tax on cannabis products, with proceeds allocated to the city's general fund.

BY LIZ SWAIN, NOVEMBER 14

HILLCREST

Drill, baby, drill

Loud drilling in shopping area for soil samples, say workers

Patrons at the Uptown shopping center were treated to several hours of deafening noise today, November 14, as Boart Longyear Drilling Services drilled 147 feet below the surface of the parking lot.

Workers on the site stated the plan was to continue drilling until the subsurface freshwater aquifer was reached.

Soil samples were being obtained as the drilling progressed and are being used to check for pollution, chemicals, and to determine volume and direction of underground water flow.

BY J. VINCENT PILUSO, NOVEMBER 14

CHULA VISTA

Clear as mud

Sweetwater schools forum fails to shed light on district's use of tax dollars

Concerned Sweetwater Union High School District parents and residents lined up to ask superintendent Ed Brand questions at a November 8 meeting. They wanted an accounting of the money they've paid into the 17 Mello-Roos special tax assessment districts and also wanted to know why Brand authorized so many student transfers that resulted in overcrowded schools.

Residents stressed that Chula Vista's east-side schools are aging and the Mello-Roos



Sweetwater boardmember Bertha Lopez took the microphone and challenged Brand for bringing forward the iPad proposition without a thoughtful implementation plan.

taxes need to be reinvested in them. They also expressed concern that the money they have already paid will be used for future facilities rather than for the needs of existing schools. The district envisions, among other things, a \$129-million high school.

Sweetwater's chief financial officer, Rick Knott, was asked in a November 13 email exchange: “Will the money already accumulated in the Mello-Ross funds be used toward the new high school or future facilities?”

Knott's reply was ambiguous: “Short answer is that some will likely be used in that way. As was mentioned at the meeting on Thursday, the district is starting the update of its Master Plan for Facilities. In that process we'll include the best information we have at this time for the need for a new high school or other facilities.”

A fiery moment in the meeting occurred when recently reelected Sweetwater boardmember Bertha Lopez took the microphone and challenged Brand for bringing forward

the iPad proposition without a thoughtful implementation plan. The district's \$4.3-million purchase of iPads was funded in part by Mello-Roos taxes.

BY SUSAN LUZZARO, NOVEMBER 14

IMPERIAL BEACH

No walk in the park

Access to state park on border closed after rains, \$4M in repairs needed

Just a month after the U.S. Border Patrol promised better public access to Monument Mesa in the historic Border Field State Park, the gates to the mile-and-a-half-long road from the park entrance to the mesa — where Friendship Park remains behind more Border Patrol gates — were locked all weekend.

The state park announced the closure on November 9. The lowest part of the only road through the park flooded during recent rains, making access by vehicles impossible.

The state park website says the park needs \$4 million to repair the quarter-mile stretch of road, which leads through the low part of the salt marsh to the picnic area on the mesa immediately adjacent to the beach. There is a road parallel to the flooded portion, but it is restricted to Border Patrol vehicles.

BY LUCY D. BARKER, NOVEMBER 14

DOWNTOWN

Tack on \$4 million

Horton Plaza project approved, but planned art unfunded

The San Diego City Council on November 13 unanimously approved authorization to “advertise, bid, award, and construct” the multimillion-dollar Horton Plaza Improvement Project. The council acted in its role as the successor agency to the defunct San Diego Redevelopment Agency.

Mark Caro, senior planner and landscape architect at Civic San Diego, said in his presentation they should have completed drawings by “the end of the year,” and then bids can go out. Civic San Diego (formerly the Centre City Development Corporation) will administer the construction contract.

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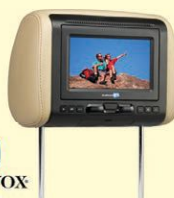
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by Barbarella

Barb, MD

Asquawky, unintelligible, robot voice emanated from my phone — my latest ring tone. When I answered, my sister Heather said, “Well, I guess you need to let me know what night is good for you and David to come up here for dinner.” But I knew that what she meant was that she had been officially diagnosed with shingles.

“I’m sorry you’re suffering, but at least you’re on the road to being better,” I said. “Also, I can’t wait to see what Sean cooks for us.”

The day before, the family was gathered at Mom’s for a weekend barbecue. Minutes after she’d arrived, Heather lifted her shirt a few inches to show me the small rash on her left hip. “I don’t know what this is, but it hurts like hell,” she said.

“It’s shingles,” I proclaimed.

“It’s true, though, and I do it, too,” I said. “There’s this whole cultural phenomenon that prizes stress. When I tell someone how busy I am, I’m not complaining — I’m bragging.”

Once she got a peek, Jane — our eldest sister — backed me up. “Oh, yeah, that’s definitely shingles.” Though I was the first to call it, Jane’s opinion had clout; she used to sell Famvir, the drug used to treat the irritating reactivation of chicken pox.

“How can you be so sure?” Sean asked. “There are hundreds of things that could cause irritation like that.”

I smiled at my brother-in-law. “Because both my father and my friend Jordan had shingles in the past year, and I recognize the symptoms. Heather, you’ve been super stressed lately, yeah?” Heather nodded. Working full time, going to school at

night for a master’s degree, mother of two kids...it would have been surprising for her immune system to be cool with it all.

“You guys, I’m an expert on this,” Jane insisted. “It’s shingles. I used to have to describe the symptoms every day as part of my job.” She huffed when Sean and I continued as though she hadn’t said anything.

“Just go to a doctor tomorrow and get the meds you need, and in the meantime, don’t go touching the baby without washing your hands first,” I said. This prompted nods all around and a side discussion about whether or not anyone should mention Heather’s condition to Jenny, our youngest sister and mother to a two-year-old and a newborn. Some argued Jenny had a right to know, while others maintained her Mama Grizzly instincts might cause a freak-out. In the end, she was told, and Heather steered clear of the baby, though it killed her to forego holding her littlest nephew.

When we circled back to the topic, Sean remained unconvinced. “You know

Heather has a ridiculously low pain threshold,” he said, “so when she says it hurts, it’s probably not the level of pain that your father and friend described. Shingles is supposed to be very painful.”

“I’m telling you, it hurts,” Heather argued.

“Okay, then, let’s make a bet,” I said to Sean. “If Heather has shingles, you have to cook us dinner. And if she has anything else, David will cook you dinner.”

“Whoa,” David said. “You just offering me up like that?”

“Don’t worry, beh-beh. It’s not going to happen. She totally has shingles. The WebMD in me is strong.” It was true, and my man knew it. I’d correctly diagnosed all kinds of friends’ ailments, from strep throat to anal fissures. Still, I was relieved by Heather’s call, because even though I was confident the chances of that rash being anything other than shingles were slim, I didn’t want to have to deal with David’s rolling eyes should he end up having to execute an elaborate menu all because I’d gambled his services.

When I finished talking to Heather (“I’m sorry you’re all shingle-y, but I’m looking forward to an excuse to hang with you guys”), I relayed the call to David. “See? You don’t have to do any work — but, come on, even if I lost the bet, it wouldn’t have been all that bad. You do like to cook.” He could have argued that just because he likes to do something doesn’t mean I get to say when, where, and for whom he does it, but David let it slide — this time.

“That’s three people I know who

got shingles after a period of being extra stressed,” I said. “I was just reading an article about how stress has become a status symbol. Gives people a sense of self-worth and importance when they play the ‘I’m Busier Therefore I’m Better’ game. I guess getting shingles makes you a winner. Speaking of which, I’m always stressing myself out for no good reason. Why haven’t I gotten shingles yet?”

“Because you metabolize stress,” David said. “Your superpower is to absorb the energy you get from stress and grow stronger from it.”

“If that were true, I wouldn’t be going to the psych tomorrow for more anti-anxiety meds,” I said. But, quietly, I wondered if it would be possible to drag myself out of bed each morning if it weren’t for a sense of urgency. “Also, despite any stresses I might have, I get tons of sleep. Loss of sleep is the quickest way to a weakened immune system. So, though I may be just as swamped as anyone else, ten hours or so of sleep a night keeps my white blood cells *muy fuerte*.” I flexed my bicep to illustrate.

“Or maybe you’re not stressed enough,” David said with a playful sparkle in his eye. “Maybe if you were working hard enough or if you really cared about what you did...” He trailed off and showed his dimples in response to my glare.

“It’s true, though, and I do it, too,” I said. “There’s this whole cultural phenomenon that prizes stress. When I tell someone how busy I am, I’m not complaining — I’m bragging.” A butterfly outside the window

continued on page 44

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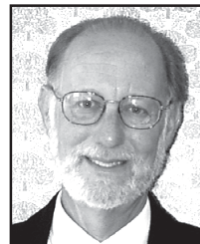
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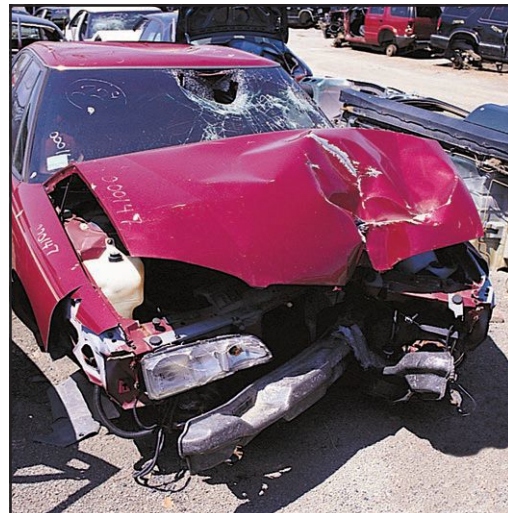
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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news



Strong Mayor Defeated!

We here at SD on the QT thought that we had seen the last of this sort of thing. But apparently, fate had other plans. The San Diego City Council just granted mayor-elect Bob Filner absolute power over \$30 million in city contracts, which is 30 times more power than Strong Mayor enjoyed.

Media Watch: North County Times Shifts to “Just-Mostly-Real-Estate” Format

New owner Manchester: “We believe in giving people what they want.”

Business section permitted to remain, plus surf report, “for the weirdos in Leucadia.”

“In today’s media-saturated environment, we know that consumers have an unprecedented number of choices when it comes to bathroom reading material,” said incoming editor-in-chief Sam Toady. “Which is why we’re now printing the *North County Times* on cottony-soft Plushprint (TM) paper. But that’s another story. Given that wide range of choices, we realized that it was important to stop wasting readers’ time with stuff they don’t

care about: stuff like politics, national and world news, and health reports not related to weight loss. We did our homework, and we found that what people in North County care about is real estate — how much their own is worth, how it compares to homes in nearby neighborhoods, and what’s out there in terms of upgrades. So that’s what we’re giving them. And to mark the shift, we’re renaming the paper the *North County Homebuyer’s Journal*. Enjoy!”

Democrat Avengers Assemble!

Stronger Mayor Begins Putting Together Super-Team of Super-Governors to Save City



First Up: Donna Frye, aka Transparency Woman, aka head of the city’s new “open government department,” capable of making even the most smoke-filled room behind even the most closed door look like a public forum in Civic Center Plaza!

REVEALED! Halftime Locker Room Photo Exposes Source of Chargers’ Second-Half Meltdowns

Coach-provocateur Norv Turner points to demotivational banner posted in Chargers’ locker room during halftime of the team’s November 11 game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. At the half, the Chargers led 21-17, but they ultimately lost 34-24. It was the third such meltdown of the season; the previous two came against the New Orleans Saints and the Denver Broncos. No one knows the reason for the halftime banner, or even who puts it up, but, according to a locker-room source, “It has all the force and clarity of a Zen koan and, so far, we have found its siren call to suckiness totally irresistible.”



An Open Letter from Eyecandy Chula Vista Strip Club Manager Randy Bumregard to the City of San Diego

First of all, I would like to thank Walter Mencken for giving me this opportunity to address the government of the City of San Diego. I myself live in Chula Vista, but I figure it’s best to start at the top of Mount SANDAG on this one.



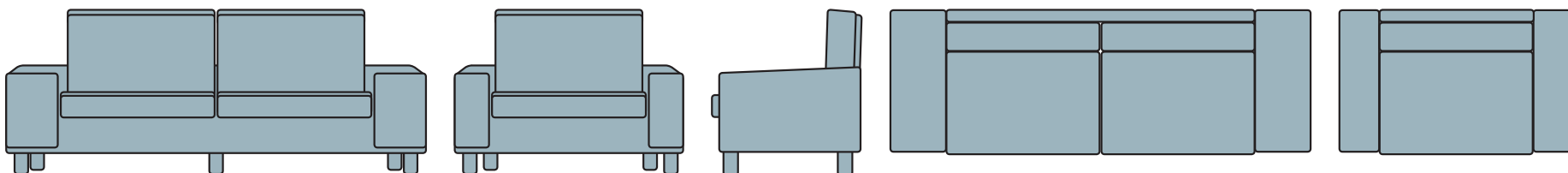
Dear City of San Diego,

Just heard that you’re due to pay \$675,000 to a lady named Melissa Wilde because one of your fine police officers, Anthony Arevalos, grabbed her breasts, asked her to expose them, and then offered to help her out financially if she let him touch her sexually. That’s a lot of money. Tell you what: repeal the no-touch law for San Diego’s strip clubs, and I promise you that we’ll work something out where each of your officers can do all those things for approximately \$674,900 less than what you paid Wilde.

Sincerely,
Randy Bumregard
General Manager
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— Debra H. **”**

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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Heymatt:

What is the difference in our culture between accepting topless males, versus topless females, in public? Is it a Puritan hangup? How about the stories about it being lawful for females to show their breasts in public in New York? Is it true? Are there any other places where it's OK for females to go shirtless (and bra-less) in public other than Black's Beach? I'm talking about public streets, parks, etc.

— Curious in Clairemont

Oh, I wish I could pass this one off as "it's complicated," because it truly is. I'll attempt to offer some elucidation on the matter, but I must warn you, the laws surrounding public nudity constitute a morass of legal mumbo-jumbo that I'm not lawyerly enough to parlay to the common woman (topless or otherwise) in a way that constitutes any kind of legal advice! That said, let's start with the fact that there's no law on the federal books that prohibits public nudity.

Yup, that's right. Uncle Sam isn't about to say you can't run around naked if you want. Neither will the State of California. In fact, any regulations on public nudity in California are strictly local ordinances and enforced by city or county governments. San Francisco, for example, has refused to legislate nudity and full-frontal is legal there. Keep your eyes peeled next time you're in the Castro! And the rumors are true about NYC: women are free to bare their bosoms in the state of New York because of a ruling by the high court there that said it's discriminatory for women to be banned from going topless in places where it's acceptable for men to do so. The full monty, on the other hand, remains prohibited.

Here in SD, the city has put a big "negatory" stamp on walking around in the buff. It's permitted at Black's Beach, however, because that is a state park and therefore subject to the state's policy on nudity, which is complicated. Basically, "traditionally" clothing optional areas are allowed to stay that way so long as nobody puts up a big fuss on either side of the aisle. Weird, right?

The best bets for other places to go bare-chested would be national parks, like the Cleveland National Forest, but I wouldn't be surprised if park rangers were less than sympathetic. There's nothing illegal about walking around nude in a national park, but it still might cause trouble. Best to check with local authorities and naturist groups before experimenting with public toplessness.

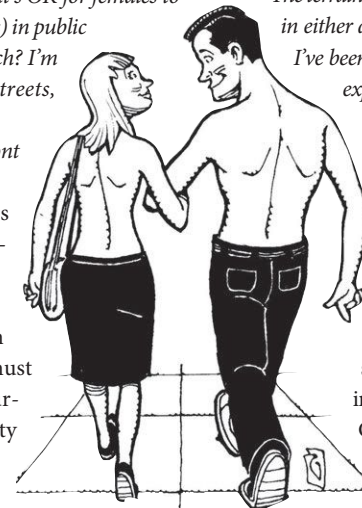
Hey Matt:

Can you find out why an earthen berm was constructed along the north side of the National Trails Highway/Route 66 for many miles east of Amboy, CA? Does it still serve any purpose? Was it to protect the roadway from drifting sand? If so, why only there?

The terrain seems the same for many more miles in either direction east and west of the berm.

I've been able to find references to it, but no explanation.

— Old Codger, La Mesa



When it rains in Amboy, or anywhere out in the desert, the sky has the annoying habit of dropping two inches of water in ten minutes. This, in conjunction with damage from traffic, destroys roadway shoulders. Berms, like the ones out in Amboy and other places in rural California, are in place so that graders can come and "shoulder" the road with the earth from the berms.

The section of highway you're thinking of was constructed mostly in the 1950s, and it was maintained by the state (which built the original berms) when Route 66 was the "Mother Road" and the way that everyone from Dust Bowl Joads to hopeful young actresses got to the promised land of L.A. Nowadays, I-40 is the main corridor and the county maintains the sections of old Route 66 that still exist and pass through ghost towns, broken dreams, and half-forgotten memories. Traffic is less than it once was, but the roads still need maintenance and the berms still serve their purpose.

Hi Matthew:

I read that the Sandcastles Festival here in Imperial Beach had over 400,000 visitors during the three-day weekend, more than any previous festival. Any clue how they can possibly calculate that figure and how precise they are able to be in their calculations?

—Donna

Attendance figures were provided by the Imperial Beach lifeguards. Their method is best described as an "informed guess" inasmuch as there's no real way to count the people who visit the beach. Lifeguards are out there all day, every day, looking at the ocean and watching the swimmers, boaters, surfers, and sunbathers ebb and flow like human tides. If anyone's in a position to guess correctly, it's the lifeguards. To them, the beach is a regular, predictable environment that has its patterns and rules. They can read a busy beach the way meteorologists look at those swirly doppler radar pictures and discern meaning from the chaos. By the by, the IB lifeguards rescued over 300 people last year and nobody drowned on their watch. Kudos.

Find more Matthew Alice online at SDReader.com/hip

Got a question you need answered? Send an email to hey matt@sdreader.com or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

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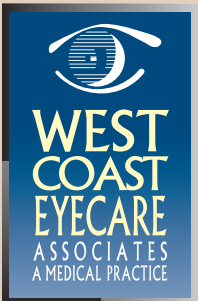
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Torrey Pines players hold their helmets up at the end of the national anthem.



Eastlake senior running back Aaron Baltazar

Game of the Week: Torrey Pines at Eastlake

Chula Vista — One of the fastest teams in the section appears to have reached its top speed at the right time. Second-seeded Eastlake used its speed to run past tenth-seeded Torrey Pines on Friday night in a 28-10 victory in the Division I quarterfinals.

From the outset, Eastlake (8-3) displayed its quickness on both sides of the ball. After stopping Torrey Pines (6-6) on the opening series, the Titans drove 76 yards for the game's first score, a 13-yard touchdown run by senior running back Aaron Baltazar.

"They were there — I just had to make one guy miss," Baltazar said.

Twenty-two seconds into the second quarter, Torrey Pines got on the board with a 35-yard field goal by senior Spencer Brewster. With less than two minutes left in the first half, Baltazar scored on an 11-yard run to put Eastlake ahead 14-3 headed into the break, a drive that included a Baltazar 41-yard carry on fourth-and-short near midfield.

"I knew I had to do something big for my team. I'm the best player on this team, so I have to be able to make those plays," said Boise State-bound Baltazar. "It was a very important score. We practiced the two-minute drill during the week, so we were prepared for that."

A 12-yard run by Baltazar made it 21-3 with 3:16 left in the third quarter. On the opening play of the fourth quarter, senior running back Tavarus Green sealed the Titans victory by weaving 46 yards through the Falcons defense for a touchdown.

"Baltazar is a beast and Green is the fastest kid I know — once those guys get in the open field, you're not going to catch them," Eastlake's senior linebacker Blake Wilson said. "It's definitely good to have those guys on your team."

CIF Quarterfinals Scoreboard

Division I

at (1) Mission Hills 35, (9) Carlsbad 7

at (4) San Pasqual 20, (5) El Camino 16
at (3) Grossmont 55, (11) Rancho Buena Vista 34
at (2) Eastlake 28, (10) Torrey Pines 10

Division II

at (1) Oceanside 50, (9) Hilltop 0
at (5) Valhalla 34, (4) La Costa Canyon 33
at (3) Poway 31, (6) Westview 0
at (2) Helix 48, (7) Steele Canyon 21

Division III

at (1) Olympian 40, (9) Mt. Carmel 7
at (4) Lincoln 21, (5) Point Loma 17
at (3) Ramona 41, (6) West Hills 21
(7) Serra def. (2) Cathedral Catholic (forfeit)

Division IV

(1) St. Augustine 42, (8) Del Norte 14 (at Mesa College)
at (4) Valley Center 23, (5) Mar Vista 21
at (3) Brawley 26, (6) Imperial 21
at (2) Madison 46, (7) Mt. Miguel 38

Division V

(1) Santa Fe Christian 31, (8) Mountain Empire 6 (at Torrey Pines High)
(4) Horizon 40, (5) La Jolla Country Day 24 (at San Diego High)
(3) Christian 56, (11) Calipatria 3 (at Granite Hills High)
at (2) Francis Parker 38, (7) Bishop's 10



Eastlake and Torrey Pines captains meet at midfield for the coin toss.

The Red Zone can be found at SDReader.com/football

SportingBox

BY PATRICK DAUGHERTY

Waiting for Lightning



San Diegan Danny Way jumped the Great wall of China — on a skateboard.

Here's how you can tell if it's a good sports movie: If the film is about a sport you've never played, don't want to play, a sport you don't watch, don't read about, don't follow, and somehow, almost always by accident, you end up watching a movie about that sport, and you like it. That's a good sports movie.

Waiting for Lightning is a good sports movie with one king-hell of a hook, to wit: a San Diego North County guy decides to jump the Great Wall of China on a skateboard. Still, good hook or no, let's say the jump happens... there goes ten seconds. What do you do with the other 86 minutes?

A lot. Director Jacob Rosenberg tells the story of Danny Way, sunnyside up. Mr. Way won his first skateboarding contest at the age of 11, has been a skateboarding pro since the age of 14, and in the film, in the year 2005, is 31 years old, preparing to jump the Great Wall of China on a skateboard.

We meet Way's mother, Mary, early on. She talks about hooking up with Danny's father, Dennis, in Carlsbad and taking the hippie trail up the coast to Portland in a VW van. Danny was born in Portland, but the family shortly returned to Carlsbad where his father was sent to jail for failure to pay \$50 in child support to a previous wife.

Nine days after checking into jail Dennis was found "hanged in his cell." Danny was eight months old. His mother, Mary, fell into meth and coke. Over the years, many men, some violent, came home with mom. She would be gone for days at a time. In the film, Mary says, "My kids grew up never knowing what they were going to come home to."

Mary remarried and Danny formed a

strong bond with his stepfather, Tim O'Dea. It was O'Dea who built his first skateboard. But, that marriage collapsed and Danny lost another father figure.

Speaking as a civilian moviegoer and stone-cold Skateboard World outsider, this could get tedious. But it doesn't. Just when you think the next relative's or friend's or promoter's remembrances will shove your eyes into the back of your skull, the movie jumps to Way manipulating a skateboard with his feet while traveling at high speeds through air, way too high above the ground. To see an athlete, no matter the sport, who is the best at what he does, is mesmerizing.

Follows is from a 2010 *Men's Journal* profile: "Danny won his first pro contest, beating veterans and newcomers alike, and he began collecting monthly royalty checks in the neighborhood of \$20K. He was 15." For a kid who dropped out of school in the ninth grade, living with no parental supervision, that kind of money is trouble.

The film goes back and forth from China to North County and his early teenage years, on to his reckless, rampaging young-adult years, and back to China and a crew building the monstrous ramp, then back to 1997 San Diego and Danny jumping out of a *helicopter* onto an enormous vert ramp. In slow-mo. Scattered throughout the film are interviews with family, friends, fellow skateboarders, promoters, people billed as "Del Mar local," archival footage, and reenactment footage. Now back to China, now back home to invent the Mega Ramp on which he sets a world record in distance (65 feet) and height above the ramp (23.5 feet). Back to China and building the Super Mega Ramp, back to a Tony Hawk interview, back to China, everything interspaced with injuries and rehab. Between 1999 and 2002 Way had surgery on his knees five times and shoulders twice. He celebrated his 14th surgery *two* years ago.

For skateboarding nonparticipants it becomes a blur, and efforts to explain the philosophy of Danny Way feel forced and occasionally a little strange. Danny tells an interviewer, after a vicious crash at X Games 14, "Part of the challenge sometimes is battling the injuries. It's always gratifying to push the human potential as far as how much abuse you can take and come back from."

No matter, what counts is China and the Great Wall and the jump. Consider the look of the ramp, 12 stories high, said to be the largest skate structure ever built, but appears to be nothing more than plywood on scaffolding. The wind shakes the structure, there are no rails, no alleys, nothing to stop you from falling or skating off an edge. A crew member, walking away from the ramp, says, "They would never let us do this in the States."

Waiting for Lightning can be seen at La Paloma Theatre in Encinitas or downloaded from iTunes starting December 7.

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BLOG DIEGO

TITLE: **Whitneybutler's Blog** | ADDRESS: **whitneybutler.wordpress.com**
AUTHOR: **Whitney Butler** | FROM: **Escondido** | BLOGGING SINCE: **2010**

POST TITLE: **Birthday Fantasy**

POST DATE: **October 31, 2012**

I'm in a public gym on a Stairmaster having an erotic fantasy. What is going on with me? It's a few days before my birthday, I'm about to turn 26, and I'm projecting a steamy shower scene from an endless staircase. Perfect.

Am I the only 25-year-old kind of freaking out about being 26?

Trust me, this isn't melancholy over passing the proverbial threshold of the early 20s. It's not about how "making out with a stranger in-da'-club" no longer satisfies my abnormally chauvinistic sexual prowess. Nor is this about the youthful excuses that are slowly becoming socially non-applicable:

"Yeah...sorry about the house. I was really drunk. Tell your parents I said 'my bad.'"

"Sorry, Jason, I've just never done this before. I don't think I'm ready."

Nope, that's certainly not going to work anymore. This isn't even about the fact that shopping at Forever 21 now makes me feel more self-aware of my imminent super-morbid obesity.

Actually, I have no idea what this is about, because right now, I'm having an erotic fantasy at the gym. What was I talking about?

At 26, I guess I was expecting to be further along and not having to shovel dirt into an empty hole of promise made to a generation of 20-somethings, all trying to *figure it out* during some serious national bullshit.

It's a big, scary world out there, people, and I don't mean to sound dark, but the bottom line is this: being 26...kind of sucks, and not because of the aforementioned inequalities between myself and those still on the underbelly of adulthood, clinging to their aspirations like baby monkeys.

Twenty-six sucks because those aspirations are entirely possible, and I'm the only thing standing in the way of realizing them. But resources have become increasingly more limited across every plane of personal growth and prosperity this beautiful country has to offer.

"But, Whitney, you've got your whole life ahead of you."

Shut-up, Grandma! When you were

26, you had a husband, kids, a house, and Social Security. Your man enjoyed real wage increases and the Federal Reserve wasn't ruining everyone's life savings. I work 60 hours a week on a 1099 contract, for God's sake. Where's my benefit? Oh, that's right, I can have an abortion.

So, excuse me for my lack of celebration. I'm too busy being an emotionally introspective writer-type who occasionally has amazing fantasies at the gym.

However, I promised myself to be progressive about this birthday; to stand bold and take command of these feelings

that may just be disillusioned anxieties creeping up my backside like icky black spiders. The spiders are just hyperbole, but the feelings are real — however disenchanted they may be.

Instead of letting those feelings thwart my birthday promise, I'll be busy looking at the bright side of gaining invaluable life experience, priceless seconds of unadulterated joy and the company of people I am truly honored to share this journey with.

[ONE YEAR EARLIER...]

POST TITLE: **Homecoming**

POST DATE: **October 30, 2011**

I feel like I have been living out of a suitcase for the past fifteen months. I get the sense that most people enjoy some level of stability or permanency; a sense of what is to come, at least an idea of how to speculate one's future. But when you barely have an address, when you pick up three different coin currencies off the bottom of the washing machine, look at them in your hand, you start to wonder: *what am I doing?* And if and when you figure it out, you wonder even more if you made the right decision.

I was lost. Somewhere between jobs, between countries, between thoughts on what I was going to do next. It's hard to imagine that anyone could miss home when they're touring through one of the most beautiful places on the planet: the French Riviera is beautiful. A ride along the Amalfi Coast is said to be a religious experience, but I wasn't looking for God. I was thinking about home — whatever that means.



At 26, I was expecting to be further along and not having to shovel dirt into an empty hole of promise.

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My son recited a Gandhi quotation at dinner.

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again," he stated.

"Getting inspired to give thanks?" I asked.

"How about Muhammad Ali's?" interrupted my man Patrick. "Service to others is the payment you make for your space here on Earth.' So get up and go do the dinner dishes," he laughed.

"I always liked Gandhi's quote about finding yourself," I continued, drawing the conversation back to the edifying. "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.' I think we should take that to heart this Thanksgiving and do some volunteering."

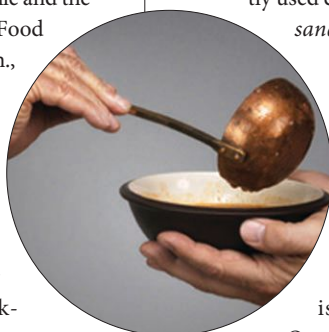
The next day the research began, and that night I laid out some options for the family.

"I like the idea of exercise on Thanksgiving," I began. "Work off some calories, help the needy, and then enjoy family at a holiday meal. Thanksgiving morning, the Pure Fitness United Run for the Hungry will be held downtown [unitedrunforthehungry.org]. Proceeds benefit Foodmobile and the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank." The 10K starts at 7:10 a.m., the 5K at 8:15. Adult registration is \$35; 12 and younger are \$23.

"Or we could go with Father Joe's Villages Thanksgiving 5K Run/Walk that starts at the Museum of Man," I added (my.neighbor.org). "Free beer garden, complimentary breakfast, and live music. Sounds like you, Patrick," I said, looking at my man. "Their site states, 'As Southern California's largest residential homeless services provider, we prepare up to 4000 meals per day and provide a continuum of care to nearly 15,000 individuals every night.'" Registration is \$40 for ages 13 and up and \$25 for ages 6 to 12. It's \$3 extra for a timed [race] result.

"If we want to try our own culinary skills, we could volunteer at Just Call Us Volunteers," I offered (justcallusvolunteers.org; 619-631-JCUV). "This organization serves healthy meals to the homeless, and you can volunteer to do a food-prep shift or a serving and cleanup shift for their Thanksgiving meal.

"Or we could go the hospitality route," I continued, "show some hospitality by hosting



"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

two Marines for Thanksgiving [camppendletonasymca.org; 760-385-4921]. The program is called Adopt a Marine for Thanksgiving. These Marines only get about eight hours off on the holiday, and if they have no family nearby, we could be their hosts. We need to provide transportation to and from the base for them, also.

"If we're too late to jump in on that, there's also a Camp Pendleton ASYMCA Bicycle Giveaway in December," I added (camppendletonasymca.org; 760-385-4921). "We can donate to help purchase bicycles for military."

"I like the idea of giving thanks to those who give their lives to protect us," added Patrick. "Here's one that tugs at my heart,"

I admitted, continuing on with my list. "The YWCA San Diego County is a shelter for survivors of domestic violence and homeless women and children. Their site states, 'We help women, children, and families break the cycle of domestic violence and homelessness and achieve self-sufficient healthy lives.' Donations of grocery-store cards, frozen turkeys, hams, toiletries for their emergency shelter, furniture, and gently used clothing are welcome [ywca sandiego.org; 619-239-0355]."

"Front-burner that one," said my boy, seeing my enthusiasm. "What about a clean-up San Diego effort?" he added.

"Surfrider Foundation organizes beach cleanups and the next one is on November 24 at the Ocean Beach jetty, meeting at the Dog Beach Entrance," I explained (sandiego.surfrider.org). "I also found the San Diego River Park Foundation, which will be having a cleanup effort on November 25 from 8 to 10 a.m. [sandiegoriver.org; 619-297-7380]. 'Help us care for Mission Valley's premier native water-wise public garden,' says the site.

"This one is for you," I said, looking at my animal-loving daughter. "The Helen Woodward Animal Center has an AniMeal program that delivers food for the pets of elderly or disabled people [animalcenter.org; 858-756-4117]. I wonder if dogs and cats like turkey and stuffing..."

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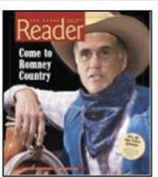


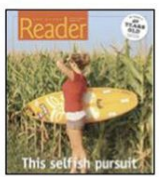



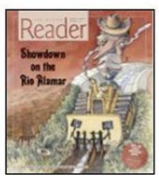

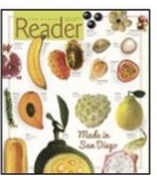
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San Diego Reader November 21, 2012 **21**



Jan Eli has raised over \$18,500 for her UCSD tuition by busking.

We sing for bling

It's a Friday night at 9:00 in the Gaslamp, and the streets are filled with club-goers. I walk past a street performer on Fifth Avenue. The busker is shirtless and wears a wrestling mask, and he's pumping a Shake Weight in one of his oversized arms. He poses for a picture with a group of young women. "What a freak," one of them says with a laugh.

One block over, in front of the Reading Cinemas at the corner

of Fifth and G, Jan Eli sits on a metal folding chair, playing her cello. Her posture is perfect. She holds a bow in her right hand, the neck of the cello in her left. At Jan's feet sits a tip jar stuffed with dollar bills. A neon sign affixed to her music stand says: *I have raised \$18,500 for my UCSD tuition. Thank you for your support.*

Jan wears brown oxford shoes, faded jeans, and a T-shirt. Her hair is pulled into a loose ponytail. Despite her casual dress, the cello gives her an air of classical elegance.

To Jan's left, a man in a wrinkled pin-striped suit, a burgundy button-down shirt, and a fedora attempts to earn cash by shining shoes. He shouts at pedestrians to stop. On occasion, he curses at those who walk past without

making eye contact.

When I stop to admire Jan's music, the shoe-shiner is irate.

"What's your problem?" he says. "Do you hate black men? You only like the sisters? Bitch!"

Jan rolls her eyes and lets out a sigh. She looks tired.

A tour bus pulls up, and the driver steps out. He says to Jan, "My passengers would like to know if you could come on the

bus and play for them. Ten minutes for \$10?"

She makes a face. "I'll do ten minutes for \$30."

The driver chuckles. He climbs back onto the bus to haggle with his passengers on Jan's behalf.

"Ten dollars!" she exclaims when he's out of earshot. "I'll make more on the street."

The driver emerges for more haggling, but Jan won't waver on her price. The bus drives away without leaving a tip.

For the next hour, I watch Jan perform. People pause to read her sign, and many drop money into the tip jar. Some offer words of encouragement. Others walk past without looking at her. A lanky frat boy slurs, "I saw you here last week. You're amazing! Keep it up."

Another man, a stocky guy with a ponytail, drops five dollars in the jar. "This is from me and him," he says, motioning to his buddy. "I'm a musician, too. Never stop playing, sweetheart."

A group of Hare Krishnas parade past with drums, chanting: "Krishna, Hare Krishna, Krishna, Krishna."

"I hope they don't stop in front of me," Jan says. "Sometimes they do."

They usually ask first. It's hard to get mad at them because they're doing it for a good cause."

The Krishnas move on. A man in pleated dress pants listens as Jan plays "The Swan," by Camille Saint-Saëns, and the "Sarabande," from Bach's *Suite No. 3*. He stands at a distance. At first, I think he's waiting for someone, but when he closes his eyes and sways along with the music, it's evident that he's sticking around to listen. He drops a ten in Jan's jar.

Twenty-one-year-old Jan relocated to San Diego from Florida in the summer of 2009 to attend UCSD. She received a small academic scholarship, but still had \$9000 of out-of-state tuition to contend with.

"When I first moved here, I had a few ideas on how I would make money. I thought about being a taxi driver or a

bartender. But I couldn't bartend because I was 18, and I wouldn't make money as a taxi driver because I couldn't make my own hours. When I was in middle school, my mom would take my sister and me in front of

Walgreens [to play]. My sister played the violin, and I played cello. We did it to fund-raise for different trips we took. I thought I could make money doing that out here."

Jan started playing

cello in elementary school. On the first day of third grade, her teacher played all the instruments for the students. Jan fell in love with the sound of the cello and decided to give it a try. After the

first year, she considered quitting.

"I thought it was too much pressure. My mom told me to try it for longer, so I continued. The next year I really progressed. I started really practicing. I got better."

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Pulling from the success she had as a child — she'd busked with signs that explained how she was using the money she raised — Jan decided to purchase vibrantly colored poster board and try street performance. On the sign, she wrote: "Help me pay for my UCSD college tuition."

"Busking paid for my first two years of tuition at UCSD, which was \$18,000. That covered school, food, and room and board. Now that my tuition is in-state, the university covers everything except room and board and my supplies. My busking has to cover that."

When Jan first started out, she busked in downtown La Jolla on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from 7:00–9:00 p.m. She made decent money. A year ago, she discovered her spot in the Gaslamp at Fifth and G. She makes more there. She works every weekend, Friday to Sunday, 7:00–9:00 p.m. If she really needs the money, she plays four-hour sets.

"I get anywhere from \$50 to \$100 an hour on



"I made a name for myself in Phoenix," says 27-year-old Charlie Rae. "I worked really hard. When I came here, no one cared."

a typical night. People think it's insane that I make that much money. I don't think other street musicians make as much. I think it's because of my sign that explains why I do this."

Jan has had her share of run-ins with interest-

ing people while busking, including a few people so consumed with emotion over her playing that they cried.

"One night, a homeless guy started crying. I think he was on something, though."

On multiple occa-

sions, cops have told her to leave or be ticketed. Busking isn't allowed in the Gaslamp, though the rule is routinely ignored. Evenings, you can find street performers on most corners. Buskers can be territorial about their spots. Shoe-Shine,

for instance, isn't always cool with Jan's presence.

"Last year was the first time I met him. I had 15 to 30 minutes left before I was going home. He was freaking out and said, 'This is my spot, you need to leave.'

"I said, 'Excuse me, none of us is paying to be here. I'm going to finish my job. I only have 15 minutes left.' He called me a bitch. 'Do you know who the fuck I am?' he said. 'Get the hell out of here!' I just ignored him."

During the exchange, Jan recalled, a nearby graffiti artist had defended her, calmly telling the other guy to back off. "The shoe-shiner pulled out a big blade and threatened to stab both of us. I packed up my stuff. He was drunk. When he's drunk, he gets angry." When the artist stepped in front of Jan to shield her, the shoe-shiner put his knife against the artist's stomach. They yelled at each other.

Jan went into a nearby Subway. "I saw two cops and told them what had happened. They said,

'Wait, wait, where was this?' I said, 'Fifth and G,' and they said, 'Oh, that's not our jurisdiction. We only take care of the Metrolink.' I couldn't believe it. I was, like, *Are you effing kidding me?* After that I called 911. I don't know if they came. I left."

Despite that exchange, Jan returns every weekend and sets up next to Shoe-Shine, whose name she has yet to learn.

Over the summer, she played her cello during Comic-Con. She wore her normal jeans and T-shirt. The street performer with the Shake Weight and wrestler's mask dressed up that week as Captain America.

"He was jumping into trees and swinging around. People thought it was an act for Comic-Con, and I was, like, 'He's crazy. He's not just doing it for Comic-Con. He does this all the time.'

"Comic-Con was a good week for me. I made \$650 in three days."

Over Jan's four-year busking career, she has made three big tips. In

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Participation includes up to 7 visits to the study center.



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downtown La Jolla, a guy watched her play for an hour and a half. Jan was so creeped out, she packed up 20 minutes early.

"I got really weird vibes from him. While I was packing up, he came over to me and said, 'I really enjoyed your music.' He handed me a hundred-dollar bill!"

Another night in the Gaslamp, a guy out with a group of friends approached Jan and told her he would give her a tip if she could name her school's mascot. "I said, 'Go Tritons!' and he handed me a hundred bucks."

Not long after that night, a drunken man out with his girlfriend approached Jan. He also handed over \$100.

"I'm not sure if he meant to give me that much. His girlfriend definitely wasn't happy. He gave me a hug and told me he thought what I was doing was great."

In June, Jan will graduate from UCSD with a Bachelor of Arts in linguistics and music. She will give up performing in the Gaslamp.

"I plan on traveling for four or five years. I'm going to South America first because I want to learn Spanish. I'm teaching English in Mexico. I plan to street perform while I'm there, but I doubt I'll make money. It's a really poor country."

* * *

Three blocks away, 27-year-old Charlie Rae sings and plays her guitar in front of the Sam Goody outside Horton Plaza. I can hear her from a block's distance: she sounds like a mix of Ray LaMontagne and Ani DiFranco.

A young couple walk-

ing in front of me speeds up.

"We have to stop and listen," the guy says to his girlfriend. "I heard this girl down here a few weeks ago. She's really good."

More than 20 people gather in front of Charlie. Many take video recordings with their

5. At 6, she was writing symphonies.

"My parents aren't supportive of my music," she says. "They've only come to maybe three of my shows. They told me music was a waste of time. After hearing the first song I ever wrote, my dad said, 'Follow your checkbook, not

"I get anywhere from \$50 to \$100 an hour on a typical night. People think it's insane that I make that much money."

phones. A homeless man on a bench scolds someone for obstructing his view. A woman in a black leather jacket with shopping bags at her feet listens with a hand placed over her heart.

A guy dressed in cargo shorts and a T-shirt (he has a rolling backpack with him) sprawls on the ground in front of Charlie. Though she tries to ignore his bizarre behavior, an amused smile slips across her face. He disappears during the next song, only to return with a single white rose and what appears to be a teriyaki bowl from a takeout diner. He drops his gifts at Charlie's feet and bows. Charlie remains unfazed.

Her girlfriend, Lauren, works the crowd, selling CDs.

"Charlie Rae recorded this in our apartment. It's super professional," Lauren tells me.

Charlie taught herself the guitar at 17. Before that, she played the piano; she took lessons for a year when she was

your heart.' They're very type A. They didn't know what to do with me. I moved out at 17 and did my own thing. I don't talk to them anymore."

As a kid, Charlie would secretly listen to Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey, musicians her parents disapproved of. She tried to copy all their notes.

"My parents took my boom box away from me because they didn't want me listening to the radio. It wasn't an easy childhood. I think it made me a better musician."

On the street, a large black man whose neck is as thick as my waist stands a few feet from Charlie.

"We hired him for the night," Lauren says. "Last weekend, a homeless man tried to punch Charlie. It's getting really unsafe down here."

In March, Charlie and Lauren moved to San Diego from Phoenix. They needed a change. Charlie was growing bored with the music

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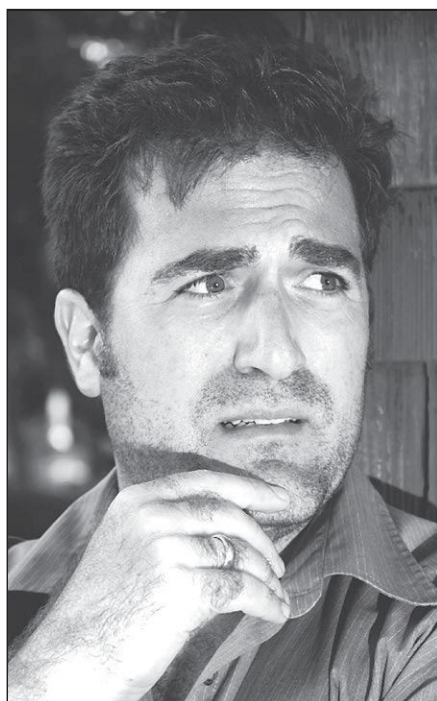
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scene in Arizona.

"When I got here," she says, "I started doing open mics everywhere. I played at Patrick's Gaslamp Pub on F every Tuesday. I had a tiny bit of a following there. A saxophone player named Walter told me to start playing on the street downtown. That was completely out of my comfort zone."

By early June, Charlie was desperate. Open mics were getting her nowhere. She tried to arrange bookings at different clubs, but most were looking for cover bands, not blues musicians who play original music. She sent her bio out to multiple venues but didn't hear back from anyone.

"It was an ego hit. For nine years, I've been playing professionally. I made a name for myself in Phoenix. I worked really hard. When I came here, no one cared. Finally, I was, like, *If I want to eat today and put gas in my car, I need to start busking.*

Walter, the saxophone player, let Charlie borrow his sound equipment. The first night she played in front of Horton Plaza on Fourth and Broadway was a small disaster...at first. Charlie brought the wrong guitar and had to mic it instead of plug it in. She didn't have a monitor, so she couldn't hear herself. Charlie was so stressed out, she closed her eyes and started to sing.

"When I opened them, there was a crowd. I was excited, but at the same time I was, like, *Why are they all here? Why are they staring at me?* It took me about a month to realize that they really liked my music. I was shocked."

Charlie says playing on the street is nothing like

being on a stage. When you play at a venue, you have managers, a band tab, and people eating, drinking, and being loud. On the street, her music stands on its own.

"I played that first night in front of Horton and became kind of addicted. It really built my confidence. It takes a lot to sit on a busy street and start playing your own music loudly. If I can play at Horton with

in the middle of a song and yelled, 'You stole the teeth out of the mouth of my children! You stole my teeth!'

"I was, like, 'I swear I didn't steal them!' She was yelling, 'F--- you, give me my teeth back!' My friends were laughing so hard. My girlfriend's dad comes down frequently and stands there because things have been getting worse." He advised

"After hearing the first song I ever wrote, my dad said, 'Follow your checkbook, not your heart.'"

all the crazy things that happen, I can handle any crowd. It's almost dangerous, but it's a thrill."

The weekend prior to our meeting, Charlie was nearly assaulted by the homeless man.

"I closed my eyes during a song for a second. When I opened them, a disheveled drunk guy was standing in front of me. He acted like he was going to hit me with a stick that was in his hands. Afterward, he sat 15 feet away and stared at me. [Horton Plaza] security asked him to leave. After I calmed down and took a break, he came back and tried to hit me again with the stick. My friend jumped in front of him."

Charlie has had other difficult experiences.

"I had another lady stand in front me during a song and tell me she was going to kill me. Two weeks ago, this tiny lady in a biker jacket — she was maybe 4'11" — came up to me

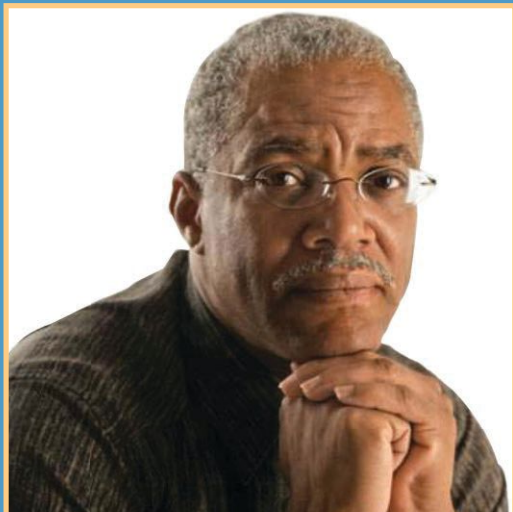
her to hire a professional bodyguard.

Charlie goes on to say that she's had many more positive experiences than negative. People have placed bottles of champagne, notes of encouragement, and love letters in her tip jar. Fans offer to help pack up her things at the end of the night. A few weeks ago, when a police officer threatened to ticket Charlie on a noise complaint, the crowd offered to pay for the ticket.

One of her fans told the cop, "She's doing a good thing down here."

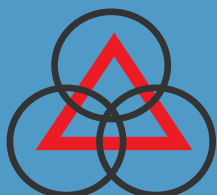
"The guy who left me the white rose tonight buys me candy. Last week, he left a bag of gummy bears. People have written me notes that say, 'I've been struggling with depression for 12 years, and this song has made me realize that it's going to be okay.'

"I got one that said, 'I will love you for the rest of my days.' Another said, 'I just lost my job,



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The **Depression Outreach study** is evaluating an investigational drug that's intended to be taken with your current antidepressant (SSRI), to see if it helps to lessen any ongoing symptoms of depression.



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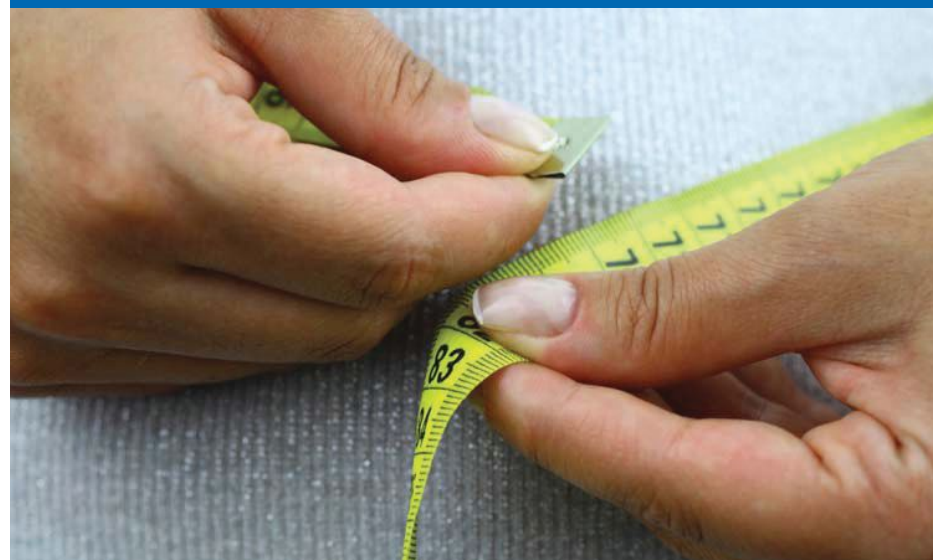
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Type 2 Diabetes

STUDY PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

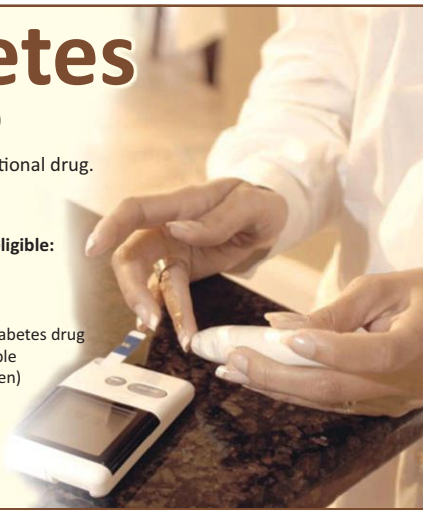
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and your music made me forget how crappy my life is.' That's why I love playing music. Every single time I come out here, I hope someone will benefit from what I'm doing. That's what gets me through the first hour. It's loud. I play over planes, motorcycles, groups that come and play over me, and people that walk past and don't even look at me. Then there are the moments when I look up from my guitar and see people really into it. That makes it worth it."

Nightly, Charlie makes about \$100 in tips, plus \$50 in CD sales. She performs most Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays in front of Horton Plaza. Recently, the mall hired Charlie to perform on Saturday afternoons in exchange for mall gift-cards.

In mid-June, a man who recorded one of Charlie Rae's Gaslamp performances uploaded a video of her singing "The Sun Lights the Pavement." The video went viral.

"Someone who recognized me emailed me

the link. Before I knew it, there were 50,000 views. I was floored. I contacted the guy who posted the video. He said, 'You should go on Reddit and say who you are.' I did.

"I was invited to do an AMA, which is 'Ask Me Anything.' It's a

Charlie has started booking more shows. She recently played at Humphreys and in L.A., at Hotel Cafe. She has a manager now. Proactiv, the acne medication, contacted her manager and requested to use a few of Charlie's songs

"I played that first night in front of Horton and became kind of addicted."

worldwide video. I was on the Reddit website for 12 hours, answering questions. That same video was on the front of YouTube trends for two days as the most-viewed video. It was on MSN. Someone at ABC News did a story on me. I got a lot of exposure, but I haven't gotten any gigs because of it. I did get a lot of downloads and purchases on my iTunes account. It was really nice, because I was starting to feel a little lost in the crowd out here."

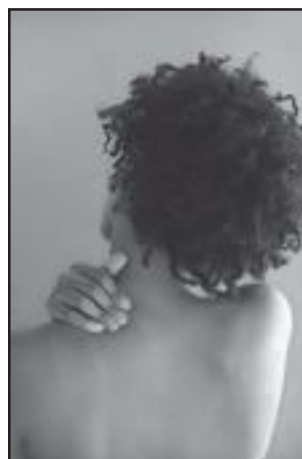
in an upcoming ad campaign.

"Hopefully, I won't have to play at Horton much longer," she says.

Charlie believes she will be famous. She sees herself touring with a band and playing large venues.

"I want it so bad. I feel I deserve it. I see myself as a Bonnie Raitt. She does tours alone. She has a bad-ass band behind her. I want to be a girl Kid Rock. I know some incredible musicians, but I'm not ready for them yet. I'm getting there."

RESEARCH STUDIES



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* * *

The first time I hear the Yes Team perform, I'm at the Encinitas Station Farmers Market. The Yes Team is a folk group composed of three musicians; two guys — TJ Moss and Jonathan Walsh — and one girl, Kinnie Dye. Halfway through their third song, they're interrupted by a passing trolley, their voices drowned out. Kinnie laughs. The three pause to let the trolley pass.

The crowd consists mostly of toddlers whose eager parents snap photos while their children dance. A boy wearing only a diaper shakes his booty for a two-song set. A little girl in a purple

tank top knows all the words. Another toddler with curly blond hair runs up to Kinnie, Jonathan, and TJ. She hugs all three.

"I'm getting so big!" she proclaims.

The band hands out Easter egg-shaped shakers to the crowd of children. They play "Rockin' Robin," "Country Roads," "Africa" (by Toto), and a handful of Yes Team's original music. From time to time, people bend down and deposit dollar bills in the tip basket.

TJ tells me, "We've gotten things like guitar strings, cases of beer, and hippie tips [weed] in our tip jar."

When I ask if kids are their usual fans, Jonathan shrugs. "Kids are drawn to our music. It used to be really dis-

"Kids are drawn to our music. It used to be really distracting...but I love it now. Children have great energy."

tracting. They don't keep rhythm with their shakers. It used to drive me crazy. But I love it now. Children have great energy."

Three hours prior to

the market gig, I met them at Jeremy Miller's house. Miller is engineering the Yes Team's new CD, *Life Is Good*.

puter chair. He greets us with high-fives. "Do you want to hear what I've been working on?"

"We've got about five minutes before we need to leave," Kinnie says.

TJ has spent the day mixing their new CD. "It's my favorite part of this whole thing," he says. "I love getting a crisp studio recording and making the album."

I sit down to listen. Everyone else stands. They tap their feet and sway to the sound of their own voices. TJ smiles proudly. When it's over, they all talk at once, each offering praise and advice.

On the drive up to the market, I'm offered shotgun in Purple Reign, the band's 1998 Dodge Ram van. They purchased it on Craigslist for \$1600 in December 2010, while living in Manhattan.

"Five years ago, while

we were all living in New York, San Diego popped into my mind," TJ says. "'San Diego 2010' became my mantra."

At the time, Kinnie was a bartender at a swanky place on Fifth Avenue, TJ was working for a catering company, and Jonathan was a singing waiter in Times Square.

"When Kinney and TJ asked if I wanted to come to San Diego, I was still going to Broadway auditions," Jonathan recalls. "I'd spent nine years hearing 'No,' with an occasional 'Yes.' I heard the words 'San Diego, California,' and I said, 'Yes!' I thought, *This island has held me captive for too long.*"

The three set off from Manhattan on January 4, 2011. Their van broke down just past the "Welcome to California" sign. Their first night in the state was spent sleeping in the parking lot of the auto-repair shop.

"We bought a bottle of wine and watched *The Big Lebowski* in our van," Kinnie says.

The first time the Yes Team performed together was two nights later. They played an open-mic night at Rebecca's Coffeehouse in South Park.

"Three months went by and we were still

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here,” says Kinnie. “We were only supposed to be here for eight weeks. That’s all the money we had.”

Busking became the group’s livelihood. Jonathan says, “It put gas in our van and food in our stomachs.”

“We lived off the kindness of strangers,” Kinnie says. “We slept on people’s couches for three months. We were lucky if we made \$75–\$100 for three hours [of street performing]. On an average day, we made \$40 to split between the three of us. We played mostly O.B., P.B., and sometimes La Jolla.”

The Yes team has had many interesting moments while busking. They endured a busking war with another street performer in P.B. over a prime boardwalk location. Homeless people have inserted themselves into the group’s performances. Law enforcement has asked them to leave for not having a permit.

“One time we were in P.B.,” Jonathan says, “and a family sat down and watched us. Afterwards, they came up to me and said, ‘Were you in New York back in December, waiting tables in Times Square?’”

“I said, ‘Yes,’ and they said, ‘You were our server!’ I’d gone from wearing a sparkly bowling shirt, standing on top of chairs singing ‘Earth Angel’ to being on the beach wearing cut-off shorts and busking. They were, like, ‘You’ve made it!’” Jonathan laughs.

After three months in San Diego, the band was exhausted. In March 2011, they decided to head back to NYC. They continued to play together but decided to

get “real jobs” to save up in order to move back to San Diego and rent an apartment — they never wanted to couch-surf again. Jonathan returned to his singing-waiter gig, TJ worked for a catering company, and Kinnie was a swim instructor.

In January 2012 they moved back to San Diego. They’ve been here ever since.

“We decided not to get jobs,” Jonathan says. “Music is our job. We’re going to make this work.”

Shortly after their second arrival, a friend took the Yes Team to the Hillcrest Farmers Market. They saw a performer whose tip jar was full and soon discovered that there were markets every day. The crew played on the sidewalk in Hillcrest on Sundays. Every week, the crowds increased. Before long, the various markets were paying them to play. Most offer a flat fee of \$40 for three hours; the performers earn about \$80 more in tips and CD sales.

“We’ve moved on from open mics and are graduating from markets, as well,” TJ says.

The group has begun booking more venues. They’ve played gigs at Burlap in Del Mar, Pacific Beach Alehouse, and at Union Kitchen and Tap in Encinitas.

They are no longer couch-surfing. The Yes Team recently rented a 1050-square-foot apartment in Loma Portal.

“Our credit was pretty sketchy,” Jonathan says, “so we gave the apartment manager our CD. Luckily, she rented to us.”

TJ says, “We’re out to make the next American hit song.” ■

— Siobhan Braun

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* A clinical trial is a carefully managed study done by doctors to learn more about potential new medicines and treatments.

† An investigational vaccine is an unapproved vaccine that is being tested in a clinical trial.

Neighborhood Watch

The cultural dichotomy of my neighborhood is one that leaves me with polarized feelings of appreciation and resentment.



Author: Jermaine Simpson
Neighborhood: Talmadge
Age: 34
Occupation: Counselor/
 Educator

Editor's note: This is the winner of August's \$200 first-place prize for our monthly neighborhood-essay contest.

Deadline for the next contest is November 30, midnight.

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

Though my apartment building is technically located in Talmadge,

it has more resemblance to City Heights. For all the San Diego transplants, I'll explain each.

City Heights is one of the most ethnically diverse communities in the United States. It is located in central San Diego, where the residents are mainly poor and "working poor." Talmadge is adjacent to City Heights and is a predominantly white, middle/upper-middle-class suburb. Within Talmadge, there is a noticeable divide in which south of Madison Avenue resembles City Heights more so than Talmadge. When I cross my street



to the north, I go from *Boyz N the Hood* to *Leave It to Beaver*.

I've lived in this community for six years. I can afford the cheaper housing in the area while enjoying the view of green lawns and eclectic homes during walks with my son. As a prelicensed marriage and family therapist and part-time college lecturer, I consider myself to be on the verge of success. After three decades of poverty and struggle, I look forward to owning a home here. But my sentiments toward Talmadge changed

after an incident that took place on the night of May 4, 2008.

It happened at approximately 10:00 p.m. After an intense argument with my lovely wife (ex-wife), I decided to use one of the anger-management skills that I teach to troubled youth. I left my apartment and started walking. I had no destination, just needed to do something physical and get some fresh air.

Walking north of Madison Avenue, I called a close friend on my cell phone. About ten minutes into my

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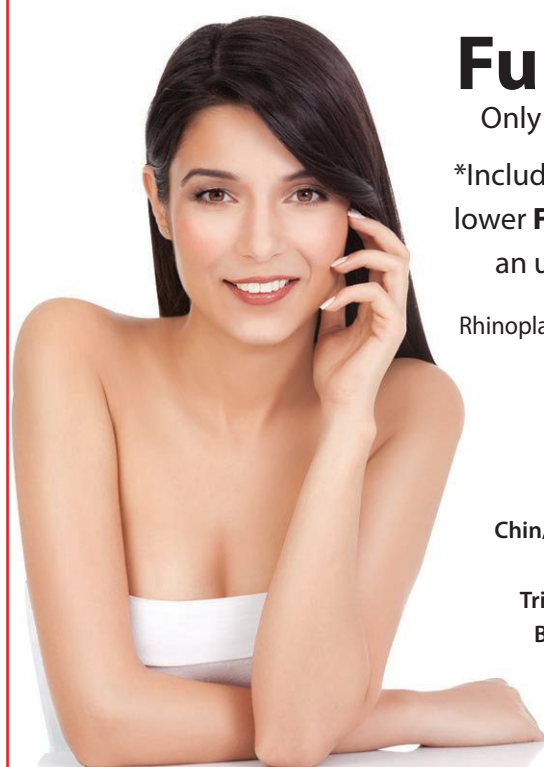
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walk through the peaceful, quiet, lit streets of Talmadge, I was startled by the headlights of a vehicle pulling up behind me. My heart stopped and I spun around, barely able to get the words "What the..." out of my mouth. The vehicle was a white van with the words "Talmadge Neighborhood Watch" on the side. I stayed on the phone so that my friend could hear whatever was about to go down.

The driver was a retirement-aged white male, the passenger a white lady in her 40s. My heart clocked back in as the passenger asked me a series of questions:

"Where are you going?" "Where do you live?" "What is your name?" Etcetera.

By this time, my brief moment of fear had turned to anger. The lady claimed that residents in the area had reported a suspicious-looking man wandering through the neighborhood. She asked if I was with the "two Hispanic women seen sitting in their car up the street."

I answered her questions: "Don't worry about where I'm going." "I live on Winona Avenue." "You don't need to know my name." "No, I'm not with them."

Of course, my answers also contained a few expletives. I refused to answer any more ques-

tions and continued walking and talking on my phone.

About five minutes and two blocks later, I noticed the van trailing a half block behind me. I stopped, waited for them to approach, and asked what the problem was. The woman continued to ask questions, almost inviting me to cuss her out. I told her to stop harassing me and suggested she call the police if I'd done

tion that she gave me.

I continued walking. As I got closer to my apartment, I spotted two police cars coming my way. They pulled over and I put my phone in my pocket without hanging up. I'd have a witness to my potential ass-whoo-pin' by America's Finest.

As one of the cops interviewed me, a third cop car pulled up. All of this for a suspicious wanderer! I'm sure that someone on

them what happened. The "neighborhood zealot" was present and on the defense. She accused me of being belligerent and aggressive. Of course I was belligerent. She scared the mess out of me and then interrogated me. The end result was an apology by their person in charge and an invitation to be a part of the neighborhood watch. No, thanks.

Since then, I've moved a couple of blocks away but still on the more affordable side of Talmadge. There is an alley behind my apartment building where some shady activities sometimes occur. I have wondered, *Where was that neighborhood zealot?* when someone knocks down my patio fence while running from the police. Where were they when a suspected pimp beat the mess out of a lady right in front of my bedroom window? Or when someone stole my grandpa's fishing poles out of my patio? Would that woman have pulled up behind a pimp and asked him where he lived? I doubt it. I also realize that if the overzealous patrol woman was armed, the evening could've turned into a Trayvon Martin incident. Vigilantes can be more dangerous than the police.

Despite all of this, I continue to enjoy walks with my son through the "Mayfield" side of the neighborhood. In the daytime, the people of Talmadge are nice and friendly. At night, however, they are vigilant and suspicious of those who look different. How could a counselor, educator, and law-abiding citizen turn into the boogie man within a few hours?

Regardless of the answer, I got their message loud and clear. If I need to take a nighttime walk, I'm better off heading down El Cajon Boulevard, where I blend in. ■

The end result was an apology and an invitation to be a part of the neighborhood watch. No, thanks.

something wrong.

She replied: "I already called them. They are on their way."

I also told her that I have a right to walk in my neighborhood without being harassed. If I was a criminal, she would've been my very first victim! Besides, who burglarizes homes at night wearing a white T-shirt, gray sweats, and running shoes? I guess a crackhead or a tweaker would...but I digress. I demanded the information for the next neighborhood-watch meeting so I could give them the business. The woman fumbled her response, trying to quickly think of the false informa-

the other side of El Cajon Boulevard was being stabbed or robbed while they were shaking me down. The cop, however, was a nice guy, and after he realized that the call was bullshit, he told me to have a good night. When I arrived at home, I took a shot of something warm and watched ESPN SportsCenter. I had forgotten about the initial argument with my wife... it was irrelevant.

I found out the correct information for the neighborhood-watch meeting from the Mid City Division of the police department, and two weeks later, I went to the meeting and told

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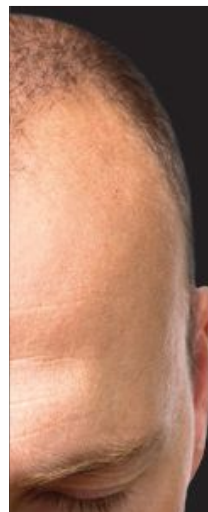
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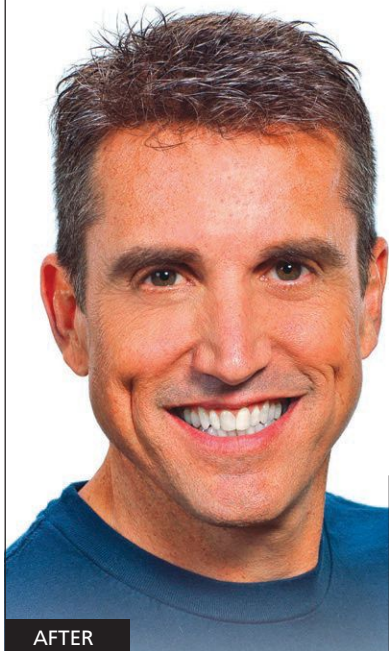
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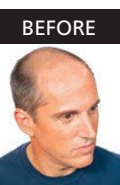
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CITY LIGHTS

Hispanic vote

continued from page 2

predictable direction. San Diego “is clearly a Democratic city. The downtown establishment should be worried; demographics won’t help them as more and more Latinos get registered.” Young voters are not likely to change their liberal views on social issues even as they age, says Jacobson.

In California, Democrats hold the major statewide offices and are expected to have supermajorities in both houses of the legislature. It is less likely that politicians will restore redevelopment by some other name. Tax increment financing, which is used for subsidized redevelopment, isn’t coming back, says activist Mel Shapiro. In court, Shapiro is arguing that the financing of the convention center expansion should go to the ballot. “Backers of downtown redevelopment can’t be as optimistic,” he says. He thinks the downtown football stadium won’t be built.

I talked to three Republicans, and they believe their party is in trouble and the Chargers stadium probably is dead. “Unfortunately, a few rabid anti-immigrant folks in the [Republican] party blame everything on illegal immigrants,” says Richard Rider, a former Libertarian who switched to Republican. “The perception is that [Republicans] are antiminority, not just anti-illegal immigrants. Republican leaders have to tell these idiots to shut up.” Rider believes that the football stadium will have to go to the ballot and that it will fail for lack of funding. He thinks Republicans should push school-choice issues such as vouchers and tax credits that appeal to minorities.

Republican Erik Bruvold of the National University System Institute for Policy Research worries that the urban move toward Democrats “is a permanent trend.”

CITY LIGHTS

However, in San Diego, if Democrats become dovish and antimilitary, they will lose votes. He agrees that Republican anti-immigrant rhetoric hurts the party but feels that labor unions will resist immigration reform, and that could hurt Democrats. He once believed the downtown stadium would be built; he no longer thinks so.

Former councilmember Bruce Henderson, a Republican, says the social issues present “an extremely difficult problem” for Republicans. The party just can’t cast out members who feel strongly about these issues. He feels that in San Diego, many Republicans couldn’t vote for a gay mayoral candidate or for a Mormon for president, no matter what they told pollsters. He is not sure the Republicans will ever win the Hispanics, because in their countries of origin they are accustomed to big government.

He thinks it’s too late to stop the convention center expansion although “it’s a terrible misdirection of public resources,” but he thinks “the football stadium is in trouble” for absence of financing.

With both liberals and conservatives thinking the stadium’s chances are much dimmer, San Diego may be going through a great awakening. ■

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Bersin hasn’t made any contributions, though daughter **Alissa** by his first marriage gave \$500 on August 25. She works for the McDevitt Company, a high-end retail real estate firm from Philadelphia. According to a May 2010 wedding notice in the *New York Times*, Alissa “helps design and execute expansion strategies for retailers” and has a bachelor’s degree from Harvard and a master’s in European cinema studies from England’s University of

CITY LIGHTS

Bath. Her husband Zachary Miller coproduced 2009’s *The Messenger*, a war drama starring **Woody Harrelson** and **Ben Foster** and directed by Israeli screenwriter and former journalist **Oren Moverman**. Miller gave Obama \$288 in 2008.

Bersin’s mother-in-law, **Pauline Foster** of Rancho Santa Fe, gave \$2500 to the winning congressional campaign of Democrat **Scott Peters**, as well as \$1750 to ex-Democratic assemblywoman **Lori Saldaña**, who narrowly lost to Peters in the primary. Foster also gave \$2000 to Democratic congresswoman **Susan Davis**.

Her daughter, **Karen Silberman**, gave \$3500 to Peters. Karen’s husband, **Jeff Silberman**, son of ex-federal prison inmate **Richard Silberman**, who was once married to ex-San Diego mayor **Susan Golding**, gave \$5000 to Peters. In addition, Jeffrey gave a total of \$500 to Obama and \$2500 to the U.S. Senate campaign of Wisconsin Democrat **Tammy Baldwin**, who beat former GOP governor **Tommy Thompson**, thus becoming the first openly gay senator in history.

To serve big government

The local branch of Service Employees International Union, the giant public employees union, has been in the market for a new employee. “We’re looking for a Political Organizer to work in our San Diego office who lives and breathes for political action,” says a recent job notice. “This person coordinates the political action activities of our membership, develops fund-raising activities and prepares officers, staff and members to interact with elected officials.

“S/he also recruits state employees to act as volunteer advocates for issues related to providing public services and improving the public’s opinion of the value of government and its programs.” Duties include planning for “election campaigns, including voter identification and GOTV efforts.”

— Matt Potter

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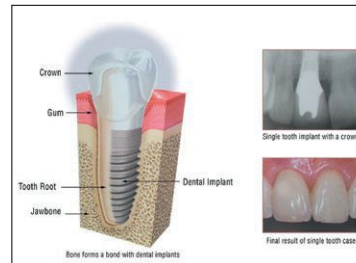


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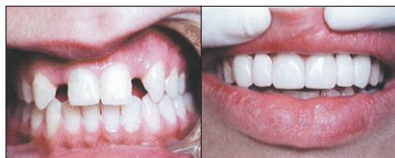
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CITY LIGHTS

Bitten by bank card

continued from page 3

involved.

Californians don't have to accept the debit card. Checks are still available. "Another option for our customers is no-fee direct deposit," says Connie DaMant, assistant director of legislative and external affairs at the Department of Child Support Services.

Consumer advocates say that all states should offer direct deposit to recipients' own bank accounts, which typically have better terms.

For those who have no bank account, the debit card does eliminate check-cashing service fees.

According to state data, of the three payment options, the prepaid debit card was the one least chosen in July. Of the 1,214,578 child-support payments disbursed, 26 percent were on a card, 27 percent were by check, and 47 percent were made by direct deposit.

That means over 300,000 Californians have a card, and the state doesn't know how much cardholders are losing in fees.

"The department has not requested a report on bank fees collected from EPPICard," DaMant says.

"The state should track the costs to consumers," Saunders says, but they often don't.

For years, banks pursued the untapped market of government benefits, which helps drive the booming prepaid-card market, according to the research firm Mercator Advisory Group.

In 2010, California also began using prepaid debit cards to distribute unemployment benefits, paid family leave, and disability insurance.

"The bulk of the profits from a prepaid-card program come from the

CITY LIGHTS

interchange fees that merchants pay, though fees on consumers do contribute," Saunders says.

Those fees add up. The Western Center on Law and Poverty estimated that surcharges paid by California's poorest families, welfare recipients, exceeded \$16 million last year.

Prior to the EPPICard, California provided electronic child-support payments on a Bank of America Visa card, first issued in 2004. The EPPICard has new features, such as the option to receive low-balance alerts by email, phone, or text, but it also has new fees, including the \$.60 teller-machine balance inquiry.

"A change in bank was made due to the change in the state disbursement unit vendor," DaMant says of the new service provider, Affiliated Computer Services. The contract was awarded through a competitive bid process, she says.

Sever's website, noep-picard.com, isn't alone. Another site slams the California Employment Development Department's "EDD" card, used to pay unemployment compensation. On EDDsucks.com, people "share EDD stories and trouble." Then there's the Department of Consumer Affairs website, an independent consumer news and resource center, where the EPPICard has received hundreds of complaints, many over fees and poor customer service.

One unemployed San Diegan, who wants to be anonymous, isn't complaining. Unemployment recipients can choose direct deposit. The state deposits benefits into a Bank of America account. "I just transfer all the funds to my real bank account, so it's not a hassle for me," she says. And since her bank consid-

CITY LIGHTS

ers the transfer a direct deposit, "they waive my monthly fee."

In May 2011, Saunders coauthored a report on unemployment prepaid cards and junk fees for the National Consumer Law Center, which rated California's Bank of America unemployment card the best in the nation. Its consumer fees are under \$2 million a year, Saunders says.

"The issues are pretty much the same," she says of the various benefits cards.

At a U.S. Senate subcommittee hearing on the subject in March, Saunders discussed the potential for prepaid cards to help "the unbanked" enter the modern electronic payment system.

"But we're not there yet," Saunders warned.

Three years after Sever posted her website, she continues adding to the list of states that have gone plastic, updating information to give consumers everywhere a clear guide to the fees. There is no sign the opposition is working, she says. "It's not encouraging."

But some states have listened.

Last November, after Saunders's report, Oregon lowered fees on its debit card for child support and unemployment benefits, offering unlimited free automatic-teller-machine and over-the-counter cash withdrawals. And last October, Colorado adjusted fees on its unemployment card, a press release stated, "thanks to the Department of Labor and Employment's renegotiated contract with J.P. Morgan Chase." The new contract saves cardholders more than \$500,000 each year.

That's a lot for a small change, according to the center's report. "Even a few dollars can mean a meal skipped." ■

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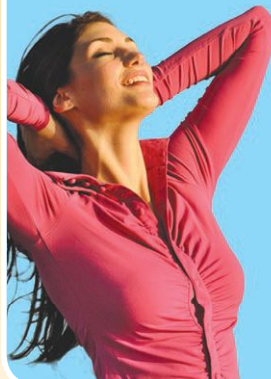
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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

"shady" and questioned the legality of the hotel taxes to be implemented to provide funding for the operation.

An announcement of the contract drew criticism from Associated Builders and Contractors of San Diego, a trade group representing non-union contractors that, according to KPBS, was the "driving force" behind the successful Proposition A campaign in June that banned the city from implementing a project labor agreement on any undertaking.

Lorena Gonzalez of the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council, another union group, said that deals were reached with individual unions and the lead contractor on the project without city involvement, thus avoiding any violation of Prop A.

By Dave Rice, Nov. 16

Drug busts questioned

Baja continues huge narcotics seizures, Mexico questioning U.S. states' legalizing marijuana

Baja/Beyond SD — The Baja California Attorney General's Office released October figures from police and military seizures on Wednesday, November 14. The announcement comes on the heels of Mexico and other Latin American countries questioning the legalization of marijuana in Colorado and Washington state.

The PGR announced in a press release that 5.6 tons of marijuana, 14.7 kilos of heroin, 14.1 kilos of cocaine, and 333 grams of methamphetamine were seized in October.

Baja California has consistently led Mexico in massive drug seizures in recent years, and the effort is now being questioned as mari-

juana has been legalized in two U.S. states. Both current president Felipe Calderon and incoming president Enrique Peña Nieto believe that legalization is jeopardizing Mexico's effort in the war on drugs. Peña Nieto has, however, previously stated he would steer Mexico's drug efforts away from seizures and more toward safety for citizens.

By K. Mennem, Nov. 14

Another nuke fail

Diesel backup generators among the problem areas *San Onofre* — More safety concerns have come to light at the beleaguered San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, including a coolant leak into one of the emergency backup generators at the site.

During routine maintenance at one of the diesel generators, workers found coolant leaking into the

unit's oil system. According to plant operator Southern California Edison, this could have caused a failure in the generator's governor system that stops the unit from operating at too high a speed, the *Voice of OC* reports, also noting that failures of the diesel backup generators at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant were one of the causes of the meltdown.

Last year the *Reader* spoke with investigative journalist and former nuclear investigator Greg Palast, who expressed serious concern about the ability of diesel generators to function properly in the event of an emergency, regardless of their condition, saying their installation serves the sole purpose of pacifying the public.

By Dave Rice, Nov. 13

Permits?

Manchester's Grand Del Mar applies for necessary permits for helipad one year late *Del Mar* — Roads? Who needs roads to get to the Grand Del Mar when you can land your helicopter just steps from the front entrance?

And permits? Why get the necessary permits from the City for said helipad when your name is Douglas "Papa Doug" Manchester?

In a public notice posted

October 31, the City announced that Manchester and his Grand Del Mar Resort finally applied for permits for a helipad that had been built approximately one year earlier without permission from the City of San Diego.

In a February 25 post on the resort's Facebook page, staff at the Grand Del Mar boasted about the new landing pad.

"Touch Down. Check In. However you arrive, we look forward to welcoming you to the Grand life," was the post on Facebook, accompanied by a picture of a rich-looking white couple walking past the two-person helicopter crew.

The construction of a helipad at the Grand Del Mar is just the latest example of Papa Doug's refusal to go through the proper permitting channels at the City.

By Dorian Hargrove, Nov. 12

Time to rethink?

Election results have Democrats celebrating and Republicans regrouping *San Diego* — Democratic Party chairman Jeff Durfee attributes the party's success in this year's election to a number of factors. In a November 10 interview, Durfee cited the changing demographics in San Diego, the teamwork with labor, and the years of work put into party infrastructure.

The party also profited with the new voter online registration. Durfee said Democrats have been relentless in their campaign to register voters. They've signed people up while walking precincts, on campuses, and by attending every street fair in the city.

Durfee said next year the state will allow online registration and voting on the same day.

NBC7.com ran a story about Lincoln Club director David Malcolm. The substance of reporter Wendy Fry's *NBC7* story was that Malcolm's fed up with partisan divisiveness and has registered "Decline to state." In the same article, Lincoln Club spokesperson Tony Manolatos distanced the club from the Republican party and the appellation "conservative."

When I asked Jeff Durfee what he thought about the repositioning of the Lincoln Club members, he said the positive in the situation was that people will begin to say, "Let's see if we can figure out how to make things work." Durfee also said that Republicans and Lincoln Club members are simply adapting to the new scenario, but that poll results demonstrate that "not even a moderate Republican platform is a winning strategy."

By Susan Luzzaro, Nov. 11

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LETTERS

continued from page 4

that he claimed were from bullet wounds.

Now, being disabled myself, I know that he should be able to get SSI while he waited, unless he made too much money for SSI, so I know his story probably wasn't true, but I still felt like a jackass for lying to him and telling him I didn't have any money when I really did. It would have been worth a buck to avoid lying to him.

When I had a job and was making plenty of money I used to give a buck or some change to anybody who asked just because I was grateful I had it to give. I don't have as much surplus anymore and I've stopped, but it feels too cold-hearted.

David Wallis
via email

Homeless for Real

I just had to write after reading "Will Work for Food,"

by Ken Harrison (October 25). Please tell me that was a joke. If not then it is one big huge load of BS. No one makes that kind of money on any off-ramp. I know this for a fact as I am homeless and many times have to resort to holding a sign — although I don't dirty myself up when I do, as washing my clothes is costly for me. So, I'm out there wearing clean clothes.

If any of you want to really know what it's like out there and what the real story is, come out and spend some time with me. I can tell you that there are a lot of people out there working on getting back to where they were. Also, many are mentally ill, addicted to something, or on the lam. There are more, but these are the largest groups. Most of the people I know out there put forth a serious effort to keep up their appearance and look decent. It's insulting that people just assume homeless people are all dirty grimy bums. Grow

a brain. Or, better yet, come find out the truth in person.
Edward Welth
via email

The Road to Theocracy

Concerning the anonymous advertisement on page 13 of the *Reader* for the week of October 25, which is supposedly the Thanksgiving Proclamation written by George Washington in 1789. Along with other proselytizing religious ads that the *Reader* has printed, it was almost certainly paid for by a particular right-wing wacko church organization which, as stated, decided to remain nameless.

This ad was placed to try and show that God is part of American traditions and values, as a large amount of Americans believe. The proclamation however, was written at a time when man knew almost nothing of science and the universe around him. One thing I think that most Americans can agree on, as evidence of our Con-

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LETTERS

stitution, is that our founding fathers intended to keep God out of our laws. God is a personal thing. Keep him in your life if you wish, but we start down a dangerous road to theocracy if we allow him into our laws.

Mike Myers
via email

Lost in Florida Canyon

I pray that whomever finds my body will send this note to the *Reader*, whose incorrect directions within the October 25 Roam-O-Rama ("Seven Bridge Walk") sent me tripping down some

brush a few nights ago into what I've heard passing bicyclists refer to as "Florida Canyon" during the hellish days I've been stranded in these bushes, legs useless, throat too dry to cry out. The next-to-last paragraph, "Turn left/west on Robinson Avenue" is most definitely incorrect. You must have meant "right/west."

You've seriously messed up a longtime fan who was using your guide with abundant trust for the first time. And, I fear, the last. There is no hope. Had to eat my left arm this morning. Things are getting bl—

José Sinatra
North Park

Real Solid Poetry

I am sincerely asking myself: Why do you guys choose to publish terrible poetry? "Family Reunion 2012" (October 18) has to be one of the most boring and mediocre poems I've ever read. If the rest of Tomás Gayton's poetry and prose is anything like

it, I am in utter awe of its publication. And you expect people to take a genuine interest in poetry, which already has a reputation for pretentiousness and tediousness, with mundane publications such as this?

It seems to me as though the writers you publish have better sounding credentials than actual interesting things to say. Give me a break with this crap and publish some real solid poetry so that I might continue to take a peek at what's being offered.

Marco Alvarez
via email

More Meidai

I saw that you featured San Diego rapper Meidai in an article (Blurt: "Record-Release Roundup," October 25). I heard some of his music after that and was inspired by his new album. I would enjoy reading more about him. Hopefully you can do a larger piece on him soon.

Bradison Jones
via email

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DIARY OF A DIVA

continued from page 8

caught my eye; I watched it until it disappeared from view. "You know who really has it right?" I said after looking back to David. "Europeans. Talk about people who know how to relax."

David smiled, and I knew he was recalling our sojourns in Italy and France, where things like

"to-go cups" don't exist and time seems to slow, as if to accommodate the pleasure taken in every moment.

"Those were great days," I said in agreement with the look on David's face. "Maybe if we started priding ourselves in our ability to appreciate leisure time, we wouldn't feel so guilty about enjoying some." ■

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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 22

PETER PAN & WENDY

This SDSU production of a “story that bridges the generations” explores the adventures of Wendy and Peter Pan “with a nod to modern California and a bit of fairy dust.” Directed by Margaret Larlham. \$13-\$15.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m. (ongoing through December 2; check for dates and times)

WHERE: Don Powell Theatre at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive, College Area. 619-594-5091; theatre.sdsu.edu

Friday | 23

CHEESY HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING IDEAS

Learn how to mold your cheese board to fit the festive season and “how to jazz up your pairings” at this complete Cheese 101 course, featuring “holiday favorites, a little history, what to pair, ways to serve,” and more. Taste samples, sip wine, and have fun. \$50.



WHEN: 6:30 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Venissimo Cheese, 871 G Street, East Village. 619-358-9081; venissimo.com

Saturday | 24

SURFIN' SANTA

San Diego does the season Southern California style. Santa Claus sails his yacht into Seaport Village wearing board shorts and flip-flops. Greet Santa, watch a parade down the boardwalk, and get photos (for free!) of the kids standing on Santa's surfboard. Also, kids' craft tables, entertainers, and plenty of shopping.

WHEN: 1 to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Seaport Village, 849 West Harbor Drive, downtown. 619-235-4014; seaportvillage.com

Sunday | 25

A CHRISTMAS CACTUS

PowPAC (Poway's community theater) stages Eliot Byerrum's film noir-style comedy, in which private investigator Cactus O'Riley (“a white-hot redhead with the holiday blues”) solves mysteries and takes a second chance on love. Directed by Missy Hendrick. \$15.

WHEN: 2 p.m. (ongoing through December 22; check for dates and times)

WHERE: PowPAC, 13250 Poway Road, Poway. 858-679-8085; powpac.org

Monday | 26

PRAIRIE LOVE

From the North Dakota tundra comes this 2011 (Sundance Film Festival



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24: SURFIN' SANTA IN BOARD SHORTS!

Official Selection) tale of three lost souls desperate for love. This screening is part of the library's Film Forum.

WHEN: 6:30 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street, East Village. 619-236-5800; sandiego.gov/public-library



Tuesday | 27

BLUEGRASS HARMONY SINGING

Veteran workshop instructors Janet Beazley and Chris Stuart lead this three-class series to demystify bluegrass-style harmony singing. Good for beginners or experienced singers looking to improve harmonizing skills. \$75.

WHEN: 6:30 to 8 p.m. (also December 4 & 11)

WHERE: New Expression Music, 4434 30th Street, North Park. 619-280-9035; sdoldtimemusic.com

Wednesday | 28

CHANUKAH CRAFTS

Orna McCann leads a class in wood and glass Chanukah assemblage “inspired by the art of the feminist sculptor Louise Nevelson.” Participants create a three-dimensional composition. Concurrently, Lauren Becker Downey leads “Chanukah Glass Tray: Replace the Tin Foil!” Imagery, patterns, borders, and color ideas provided. \$62-\$68.

WHEN: 6 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Decatur Road, Point Loma. 619-223-0058; bravoschoolofart.com



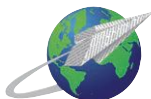
Travel & Getaways

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TRAVEL STORIES AND TIPS FROM OUR READERS



Bison are the biggest cause of traffic jams in Yellowstone National Park.

Yellowstone Must-Sees

By Susan Avery

Yellowstone National Park is a geological spectacle. The colors are vivid, the smells unforgettable, and the power of the geysers and waterfalls will fill you with awe.

The major attractions are all located along Grand Loop Road, which forms a circle, utilizing the 12-mile Norris Junction to Canyon Village Junction as its north boundary.

We spent a week at Canyon Village in a cabin that had a bed, desk, and bathroom. The one luxury was an ice machine. The absence of TV and internet was insignificant; we were asleep before

dark on more than one occasion. It would have been nice to have a little fridge, but they want you to rely on their restaurants, so the only food you could keep in your room were nonperishables.

We bought our trail mix, juices, and snacks in West Yellowstone before we entered the park, and with the variety of food available at each of the lodge areas, we were working hard to finish it all before we left.

The Yellowstone Caldera is over 40 miles wide, and it's a long way around from one place to another. Maybe not long in miles, but the traffic is one lane each way and there are many things that can slow traffic down. The bison are the biggest cause of traffic jams. Sometimes they wander onto the road and cars can't pass. Too often, people stop to take pictures of them, wandering several yards off the road. I saw people stop their car in the middle of the road to get out to take a picture. After you've been in the park over a day, you will realize the bison are everywhere and there's no need to cause these traffic delays.

The following is my list of places to be sure to visit before you leave the park: The Lower Falls of the Yellowstone

Grand Canyon crashes 308 feet down into the canyon. There are several overlooks along the north rim that are easy to get to, but for those who can make it, the Brink of the Lower Falls overlook is a sensational experience. The roar and pounding of water as wind sprays you and it disappears over the brink creates the feeling that you're following the water down into the depths.

If you're up for a workout, another good view of the Lower Falls is from Uncle Tom's Trail on the South Rim. There are 328 steps going three-quarters of the way down to the river. The original trail descended another 200 steps, followed by ropes to bring people to the water's edge. If you can climb the equivalent of 21 flights of steps, don't miss this trail.

Surrounding the most famous attraction in the park, Old Faithful—area



A tough scramble up a dead-tree-strewn hillside is rewarded by this view of the Grand Prismatic geyser

trails are packed with geysers. We spent the entire day walking around and saw six geysers shoot off. If we didn't have dinner reservations, we could have seen two more. Most of the walking area is boardwalk or smooth pavement, and several of the geysers have benches, leading to a leisurely stroll along almost five miles of trail.

continued on page 48

Other Adventures



acaliff: Market place in Peru, May 2012



themrbash: Mount Fuji



hkyung: Balinese dancers awaiting a wedding in Bali, Indonesia

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ROAM-O-RAMA

San Diego Outdoors with the Canyoneers

FIESTA ISLAND

Hike on a man-made island in Mission Bay where invasive plants dominate the landscape

Distance from downtown San Diego: Approximately 8 miles. Allow 15 minutes. From I-5, take the Sea World Dr./Tecolote Rd. exit (exit 21), turning west onto Sea World Dr. Take the first right onto E. Mission Bay Dr., then the first left onto Fiesta Island Rd. Use the parking lot at the corner of Mission Bay and Fiesta Island before crossing the water onto the island itself. If the lot is full, there is additional parking to the right once you drive onto the island. Porta-potties are available, but there are no water fountains.

Hiking length: A 2-mile loop. • **Difficulty:** Easy and no change in elevation. Walk on loose sand most of the way. Good for children.



Two miles of sandy trail loops around the southern end of Mission Bay's Fiesta Island.

This loop around the southern half of Fiesta Island is a good way to see the variety of invasive plants that have colonized this disturbed area and to note the native

wildlife that still manages to call it home. This hike is a demonstration of the effects of man on the natural environment of San Diego. Mission Bay itself is almost entirely

man-made; it is a much-expanded version of what the natural San Diego River estuary would look like. Situated on the east side of the bay, Fiesta Island is the biggest island

in the bay and was created from the dredged sand that came from the widening and deepening of the estuary.

Fiesta Island supports many uses, many of which continue to disturb this ecosystem that itself was created from disturbance. Dogs (along with any seeds, burs, insects, etc. they carry with them) are free to run without being leashed on the entire island. Additionally, many of the plants used in landscaping in the surrounding neighborhoods are nonnative and have escaped from yards and businesses onto the island.

Despite the abundance of invasive plants, there are native species thriving on Fiesta Island, as well. Many of these plants, such as beach evening primrose (*Camissonia cheiranthifolia*), are specifically adapted to growing on the bare sand of natural dune areas. Others are generalists that can grow basically anywhere and tolerate a high degree of disturbance. The most common of these is coast goldenbush (*Isocoma menziesii*). There are even five plant species



that the state considers to be sensitive, including Nuttall's lotus (*Acemison prostratus*). Most of these are sand and dune specialists that are hard to find on the increasingly developed San Diego coast.

In part because of the grassy habitat created by the many invasive plants, Fiesta Island is home to many interesting bird species. Grassland birds such as western meadowlarks and horned larks are commonly found all year, and American pipits can be found in the winter. The shoreline provides the

mudflats and sandy beaches preferred by a variety of shorebirds. The northern tip of the island is fenced off as a least tern nesting area, and snowy plovers nest on the sandy beach on the west of the island. Raptors such as red-tailed hawks and barn owls take advantage of the many California ground squirrels and rabbits.

This is a great hike for any would-be trackers. Because it is an island made of sand, every bird, lizard, insect, and mammal makes tracks for all to see. See if you can identify the different animals by their footprints. Because it is a flat and relatively short trail, even the youngest hikers will be able to join in the fun.

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, refer to the San Diego Natural History Museum website.

Find more Roam-O-Rama columns online at SDReader.com/roam



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OUT & ABOUT

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More than 20 bands and guest artists from across the U.S. and the S.D. area will play for dancers and listeners in nonsmoking venues. Multi-day badges available. jazz-info@dixielandjazzfestival.org.

When: Thursday, November 22, 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday, November 23, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, November 24, 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Sunday, November 25, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Where: Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center, 500 Hotel Circle North, Mission Valley



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Barrio Film Festival 2012

Enjoy independent short films exploring "sub-cultures of people and communities who live in everyday working class neighborhoods in the U.S. and across the border." Program includes narrative, documentary, experimental, animation, and music video shorts. Silent art auction, live music, interactive film installations. Saturday, November 24, 12pm; Sunday, November 25, 12pm; \$5-\$10.

Roots Factory, 1878 Main Street. (BARRIO LOGAN)

Blacklight Illusion Theater

Technomania Circus show features Robofriend, Disappearing Technoman, Snotty and Surly, Alien Girl 34, as well as live music, acrobatics, more. 619-236-1971. Saturday, November 24, 8pm; \$10-\$15. Victory Theater, 2558 Imperial Avenue. (GRANT HILL)

Holiday of Lights

More than 400 lighted, holiday-themed displays for viewing from visitors' cars. Holiday hayrides: November 23 and 30, December 7 and 14 (5:30-9:30pm). Admission: \$14 per vehicle (up to five people), \$19 per vehicle with six or more people, \$49 per bus. 858-793-5555. Daily except Mondays, 5:30pm; through Tuesday, January 1, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Open House at Liquid Glass Co.

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Kobey's R

Yellowstone continued from page 46

The 2.1-mile Observation Point loop is up a small hill and a shady walk back to Solitary Geyser. If you have the time and inclination, there are two extended trips you can take to Black Sand Basin and to Biscuit Basin. Both have visually stunning features.

Norris Geyser Basin is one of the visually striking areas of Yellowstone; however, be aware that it stinks and the acid in the escaping gases is toxic and can choke you. Wear a hoodie that's thick enough to provide something to breathe into. The wind determines how much the gases will be a problem, so on a calm day you're less likely to have steam blowing in your face.

There are many thermophile communities creating brown, red, green,

rust, and yellow colors in the heated water. The upper part of Norris is aptly called Porcelain Basin for the milky smooth and typical blue colors seen in porcelain. Back Basin is much larger and covers about three miles of steaming geysers and bubbling springs.

The Grand Prismatic, located in the Midway Geyser Basin, is another well-known feature of Yellowstone. There's a walkway past it, but it is difficult to see it all so close up and the wind could easily be blowing toward the walkway, totally obstructing the view. The best view is up a steep hill located one mile in on the trail to Fairy Falls as it passes the south side of the feature. There are many fallen trees going up the hill, so it requires a fair amount of agility, but the postcard view of the Grand Prismatic is worth the climb.

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

10am; **free.** Oak Valley Glass - Liquid Glass Co., 15250 Oak Valley Road. (RAMONA)

Valitar Shows “feature the strength of both horses and humans in a riveting performance sure to impress spectators of all ages.” More than 20 entertainers and 40 horses of all breeds perform under the big top. Performances continue through December. 858-793-5555. Wednesday, November 21, 7:30pm; Friday, November 23, 7:30pm; Saturday, November 24, and Sunday, November 25, 7pm; November 28 through 30, 7:30pm; \$45-\$225. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

NYE 2013 Concert Join over 2000 people as they ring in the New Year in style at the Broadway pier “the Pavilion,” the finest venue in San Diego. Purchase your tickets early. The price goes up as we sell more tickets; this party will sell out!! 3 ballrooms of entertainment. DJs Spinning Retro/Disco Music during and in between live event to keep the party going nonstop. Live bands Cameo, Angela, Winbush, Jay Lamont Benefit Concert to support Lulu’s Hands of Hope. Price: \$100 — General Admission; \$150 — Premier Seating. Lulushandsofhope.org/events. Monday, December 31, 8 pm. Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier, 1000 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

OUTDOORS

Audubon Society Bird Walk Outings may be canceled due to inclement weather or poor trail conditions. 858-581-9944. Saturday, November 24, 8am; **free.** Tecolote Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road. (CLAIREMONT)

Family Discovery Walk Active outing for kids and their parents to “explore the trail to the Kumeyaay grinding rocks site.” Sunday, November 25, 3pm; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Harvest Colors Experience the colors of the season from taxiphyllum goldenbush flowers to rusting sycamore tree leaves during trail guide-led walk through sage, chaparral, and riparian communities. 619-688-3281. Saturday, November 24, 9:30am; Sunday, November 25, 9:30am; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Kumeyaay Feast What’s on the menu for the Native American harvest celebration? Learn how the first San Diegans celebrated the bounty of nature on trail guide-led walk. 619-688-3281. Saturday, November 24, 8:30am; **free.** Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

ART

“Behold, America!” “Art of the United States from Three San Diego Museums” is a collaboration between Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego Museum of Art, and Timken Museum of Art. “Frontiers” celebrates “the rich natural beauty of the United States, its vibrant urban spaces, its legendary westward settlement, and the

breathtakingly beautiful California landscape.” View works by Asher B. Durand, Albert Bierstadt, George Inness, Thomas Moran, John Sloan, Marsden Hartley, Jenny Holzer, Alfredo Jaar through Sunday, February 10. **Free**-\$10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla, 700 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

“Charles Reiffel: An American Post-Impressionist” San Diego Museum of Art and San Diego History Center present collaborative,

two-museum retrospective of work of Charles Reiffel, celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth. View more than 90 of Reiffel’s works, primarily oils on canvas but also watercolors, gouaches, drawings in both pencil and crayon, through Sunday, March 10.

“Behold, America! Art of the United States from Three San Diego Museums” is a collaboration between Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, San Diego Museum of Art, and Timken Museum of Art.

San Diego Museum of Art hosts the “Figures” component of the exhibition, showcasing portraits by John Singleton Copley, Cindy Sherman, and John Currin. Closes Sunday, February 10. **Free**-\$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

“Heart & Soul of Mexico” Enjoy “Mid 20th Century Drawings by Raúl Anguiano” through Sunday, December 2. Anguiano was one of the most prominent

Mexican artists of the 20th Century and a member of the second generation school of mural painting embracing artistic traditions of Rivera, Orozco, Siqueiros. Exhibition boasts more than 130 pieces including sketches, pastels, paintings, ceramic plates and vases. Concurrently, see display of photographs taken in various regions of Mexico by photographer Mario Castillo. 760-839-4120. California Center for the Arts, Escondido

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Calendar LOCAL EVENTS

Museum, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

"Margaret Noble: 44th and Landis" As part of museum's ongoing "Cerca" series, which highlights the work of regional artists, Noble's mixed-media installation and performance charts a psychological path through the City Heights neighborhood, where the artist grew up. Piece "takes the form of an intricate sculptural environment made up of hundreds of cut paper dolls and other forms." The installation — on view through Sunday, January 20 — also incorporates an experiential sound track emanating from 14 handmade paper speakers.

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 North* (2004), as well as several photographic stills.

"The Very Large Array: San Diego/Tijuana Artists in the MCA Collection" opens Thursday, November 29 and continues through Sunday, June 1, 2014. Featuring more than 80 artists and representing five decades

of collecting, the group show of museum acquisitions "highlights many of the region's most beloved and accomplished artists." Many of the two-dimensional works will be displayed in a dense, salon-style hanging covering the walls. A separate white cube space designed for the exhibition occupies the center of the room, presenting focused selections of works inside the cube, which will change seasonally. Thematic installations will rotate inside the cube every three to four months. **Free-\$10.** Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

"Nature, Tradition, and Innovation" Explore "evolution of contemporary Japanese ceramics through the work of many artists and a variety of forms, from tea bowls and noodle cups to stunning vases and robust platters." These organic objects "and their clear connection to nature will be enhanced with large-scale photographs of Japanese landscapes and natural elements." Closes Sunday, January 6.

"Pre-Columbian and Mexican Miniatures" tantalizes viewers with "their stylized forms, their earthy colors and the histories they evoke." These unusual objects "offer further charm because of their tiny size." Also on view: contemporary Mexican folk art objects of daily life that carry into the present an ancient fascination with the miniature. Through November.

"True Blue: Indigo, Turquoise, Cobalt, and Lapis Lazuli" celebrates

Rhyme & Verse Owls

A poem by Robert Hedin

Owls glide off the thin
Wrists of the night,
And using snow for their feathers
Drift down on either side
Of the wind.

I spot them
As I camp along the ridge,
Glistening over the stream beds,
Their eyes small rooms
Lit by stone lamps.



Robert Hedin is the author, translator, and editor of numerous books, most recently *The Dream We Carry: Selected and Last Poems of Olav H. Hauge* (co-translated with Robert Bly, Copper Canyon Press) and *Poems Prose Poems* (Red Dragonfly Press). He serves as director of the Anderson Center, an artist retreat in Red Wing, Minnesota, and edits *Great River Review*.

"Owls" is from *The Old Liberators: New and Selected Poems and Translations by Robert Hedin* (Holy Cow Press, 1998). The poem is reprinted by permission of Robert Hedin.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

these four natural materials and their combination with human emotion, technical skill, and the spark of creativity. Exhibition of objects from Mingei's permanent collection, featuring a broad variety of media from many different cultures, continues through Sunday, February 17. **Free-\$7.** Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

"Strange Beauty" Explore the world of Ruud van Empel in the artist's first solo exhibition in an American museum. The artist "builds vibrant photomontages of fascinatingly fabricated realities." View more than 40 of van Empel's digitally enhanced pieces through Saturday, February 3. Van Empel constructs his works through staged

photography, digital enhancement, and collage.

Explore the power of photography to communicate important ideas about the environment and sustainability in "Photo|Synthesis: 7th Annual Youth Exhibition," a juried selection of artwork showcasing creativity and artistic expression of SD's youth. Closes Sunday, January 27.

"Soapbox! The Audience Speaks" is the museum's "first crowd-sourced exhibition that uses engaging new technology and interactive processes to allow visitors the opportunity to rate images both online and in the gallery." Visitors selected pieces from a random selection of 120 images from museum's permanent collection. Through Sunday, September 22, 2013. **Free-**

\$8. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Holiday Show Meet local artists and view their art. "Hosted bar and sumptuous buffet." Musical entertainment. debbie@fusionglassco.com or 619-461-4440. Saturday, November 24, 7pm; **free.** 21 and up. Fusionglass Company, 8872 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Thursdays on the Coast Art Walk Join the Carlsbad-Oceanside Art League and other downtown Carlsbad art venues for live music, refreshments, lots of art. 760-434-8497. Friday, November 23, 5:30pm; **free.** Carlsbad Village, 2930 Roosevelt Street. (CARLSBAD)

COMEDY

Improvised Comedy Stage Monkeys perform an "unscripted and one-of-a-kind show" promising a "cornucopia of scenes, where anything can happen." Friday, November 23, 8pm; \$5. 18 and up. Twiggs Bakery Coffeehouse, 4590 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Stand-Up Comedy by Felipe Esparza Entertainment by comedian from *Last Comic Standing*. Comedy Central, BET. 619-795-3858. Friday, November 23, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, November 24, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, November 25, 8pm; \$22. 21 and up. American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

The Clean Comedy Experience New Growth Entertainment presents: The First Annual "The Clean Comedy Experience" with BET's Comic View, HBO Def Jam and Comedy Central Comic's. \$20/\$25/\$30 Tickets at 800.988.4253 or www.ArtCenter.org/Performances. Saturday, November 24, 8pm; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

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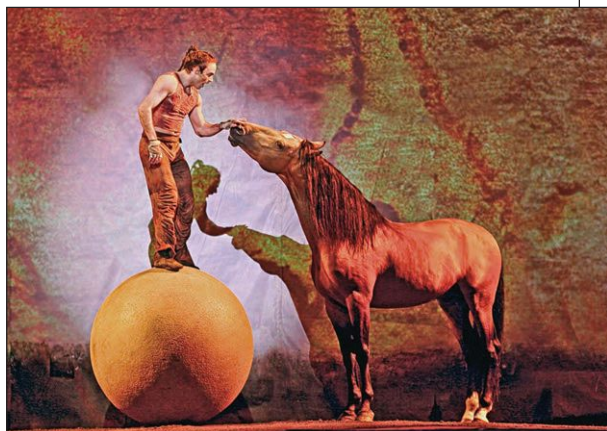
CAVALIA

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When: Saturday, November 24, 3 p.m.; Tuesday, November 20, 8 p.m.; Wednesday, November 21, 8 p.m.; Friday, November 23, 2 p.m.; Friday, November 23, 8 p.m.; Saturday, November 24, 8 p.m.

Where: Cavalia big top, 1081 Imperial Avenue, East Village



gain mastery over time, point of view, and sensory imagery when Tamara Guirado shares writing techniques for drawing readers into your writing. Expect writing exercises, discussion, short readings. programs@sandiegowritrs.org. Saturday, November 24, 10am; \$60-\$72. Ink Spot, 710 13th Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Dealing with Loss in a Season of Joy The holiday season is difficult for many people, particularly those struggling with significant losses. Reverends Alexis Solomon (Odyssey Hospice chaplain) and Scott Landis (Mission Hills United Church of Christ pastor) offer a seminar to help those dealing with loss. Participants receive "help-

ful techniques to honor that loss during the holiday season." 619-296-2169. Sunday, November 25, 2pm; free. Kensington Community Church, 4773 Marlborough Drive. (KENSINGTON)

Get fit where you sit! Increase strength, flexibility, reduce stress and have more mental focus. Join us for Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am and 5:30pm. Reservations required. Try your first class free! Reg. \$10/class. Use code 1ST_FREE when booking online. Book online at www.onwardpt.com/bookeyo or call 619-202-7602. Thursdays; through Friday, November 30, Onward Physical Therapy, 5055 North Harbor Dr., Suite 110. (POINT LOMA)

DANCE

Argentine Tango With Colette

Learn Tango Now! Take a first Free class this Monday, November 26, at 7pm, or Wednesday, November 28, at 7pm (or any Monday or Wednesday at 7pm!) at Dance Place San Diego. No need for a partner. We will introduce you to the passion and magic of Tango. Visit www.tangowithcolette.com and call today: 514-726-5567. Monday, November 26, 7pm. Wednesday, November 28, 2012, 7pm. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Road Studio 106. (POINT LOMA)

MORE CHANCES TO WIN!

sdreader.com/contests



Win a Pair of VIP Tickets to Reader Appreciation Night!

Join us for Reader Appreciation Night with Unwritten Law at House of Blues on Friday, November 23.

Enter by Wednesday, November 21 at 1PM



Win a Pair of Tickets to Snoop Dogg!

Snoop Dogg performs at Belly Up on Tuesday, December 11.

Enter by Thursday, December 6 at 1PM



Enter to Win Dinner for 4 at Coaster Saloon

Dinner for 4 includes 2 apps • 4 entrees
4 craft beers • 4 take home glass

Win Dinner and Drinks for Four!

Win two appetizers, four entrées, four craft beers, and four take home pint glasses from Coaster Saloon.

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SHEEP and GOATS

I Sing of Equality

Who are you? — A Parsee? A Jain? A Jew? A Santal, a Bheel or a Garo? A Confucian? A disciple of Charbak? Go on — tell me what else! Whoever you are, my friend, whatever holy books or scriptures you stomach or carry on your shoulders or stuff your brains with — the Qur'an, the Puranas,

the Vedas, the Bible, the Tripitaka, the Zen-Avesta, the Grantha Saheb — why do you waste your labor? Why inject all of this into your brain? Why all this — like petty bargaining in a shop when all the roads are adorned with blossoming flowers? Open your heart — within you lie all the scriptures,

all the wisdom of all ages. Within you lie all the religions, all the prophets — your heart is the universal temple of all the gods and goddesses. Why do you search for God in vain within the skeletons of dead scriptures when he smilingly resides in the privacy of your immortal heart? I'm not lying to you, friend. Before this heart

all the crowns and royalties surrender. — by Kazi Nazrul Islam (trans. Sajed Kamal)

Kazi Nazrul Islam (1899–1976) was a Bengali poet and musician who is considered the national poet of Bangladesh, with similar reverence paid in India. Born in India and raised Muslim, Islam served in the Indian military and worked as a journalist in

Calcutta. He began writing revolutionary poetry in defiance of the British Raj in India and was often imprisoned for his activities in support of an independent India. Having penned short stories, novels, and essays, Islam is best known for his poems. All his writings explore the themes of love, freedom, revolution, and especially equality.



Find more excerpts online at SDRReader.com/worship

SDFH Contra Dance San Diego Folk Heritage hosts dance with calling by James Hutson, live music by Tectonic Shakedown. Beginners' dance workshop 7:30pm; dances taught and called to live music 8-11pm. Wear soft-soled shoes. No partners or experience needed. 619-283-8550. Saturday, November 24, 7:30pm; \$10. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Tango Dinner Show Tango dinner show with live dancers. Recommended reservations: pampasgrill@gmail.com or 858-278-5971. Fridays, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; **free**. Pampas Argentine

Grill, 8690 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Zumba Glow Party Wear white for party with multiple instructors. Ditch the workout! 858-449-5371. Saturday, November 24, 8pm; \$8. ZFitness Classes and Apparel, 6635 Flanders Dr., Suite G. (MIRA MESA)

FOOD & DRINK

Cheesy Holiday Entertaining Ideas Head to holiday entertaining class to "eat your way through many of the world's greatest cheeses while learning how to

use them simply and elegantly for all your upcoming holiday parties." 619-358-9081. Friday, November 23, 6:30pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo Cheese, 871 G Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Classic Thanksgiving Dinner Buffet Feast on Turkey Day favorites at the Edge restaurant, where a classic traditional Thanksgiving dinner buffet awaits. Enjoy a variety of soups or salads for starters, and hand-carved herb and butter-basted turkey or apple-wood smoked ham accompanied by corn-bread stuffing, whipped russet potatoes, baked yams, sautéed fall vegetables, and cranberry sauce.

Top it off with holiday pastries, apple, pumpkin, pecan and sweet potato pies, along with views of authentic San Diego Bay! \$29.95 for adults and \$15.95 for children. Thursday, November 22, 5pm; \$15-\$29. Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, 1380 Harbor Island Drive. (HARBOR ISLAND)

Temecula Turkey Trot 5K 10K Run off your Thanksgiving dinner. Free wine tasting after the event for all runners over 21. Half off wine tastings at neighboring wineries too. Saturday, November 24, 8am; \$25-\$40. Cougar Vineyard &

Winery, 39870 De Portola Road. (TEMECULA)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Rincon Literario — Bilingual Book Discussion Literary guide Miriam Ruvinakis leads discussion of *Always Running: La Vida Loca*, by Luis J. Rodriguez. 760-839-4601. Saturday, November 24, 3:30pm; **free**. Escondido Library, 239 South Kalmia Street. (ESCONDIDO)

FOR KIDS

Make a Pinecone Turkey Centerpiece Learn the history of Olivenhain farmer John Tetens, who supplied 1000 turkeys a year to the San Dieguito area around 1928, and craft a pinecone turkey centerpiece. 760-632-9711. Saturday and Sunday, 12pm; **free**. San Dieguito Heritage Museum, 450 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Material Science Explore surprising and fun properties of packing peanuts and other materials, discover novel ways

\$15 Special price for listings of this size on these Sheep & Goats pages. 50 words or less, 50 cents for each additional word. Call Andrea Ormerod: (619) 235-3000 ext. 296 or email her: aormerod@SDReader.com. Or — easiest of all — go to SDReader.com/ SheepAds and place your ad automatically any time of day or night.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY CHURCH Latin for Home-schoolers Wednesdays 11:00-11:45am. Grades 2-12 (must be able to read English at least 2nd-grade level). We use the Phenomenon of Language for younger grades, Jenney's first-year book for older. Volunteer teachers welcome. First class is Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 11am. More information, (619) 235-3000, ext. 222 or email Materdomo@aol.com. No charge except for books. LITTLE ITALY 1629 Columbia Street (619) 234-4820

NORTHMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Christ Centered Yoga Classes



Exercise With Purpose

Finally a yoga class that is non-harming and gentle for all to come and enjoy the benefits that yoga has to offer in a nonjudgmental environment. The 1st Tuesday of each month is FREE with a Six week series starting Nov. 13. No Experience required. Classes are held weekly on Tuesday's from 10-11:30 \$5 per class. All classes held by a YA certified instructor specializing in yoga that is safe for you and your body, Everyone is welcome! achristcenteredyoga.com, (619) 929-9806. CLAIREMONT 4324 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard

BAHIA RESORT HOTEL Retreat with Sogyal Rinpoche The Wisdom of Compassion: awakening the mind, opening the heart. A ten-day retreat (short option 3 days) with Sogyal Rinpoche, author of *The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying*. Friday, Nov. 23 through Sunday, Dec. 2. Call (866) 200-5876 or visit usa.rigpa.org to learn more. Student rates and scholarship discounts available. MISSION BEACH 998 West Mission Bay Drive (888) 784-1396

HOUSE OF PRAYER LUTHERAN CHURCH Looking for a New Church? House of Prayer Lutheran Church is a church with a friendly congregation, located in Escondido. House of Prayer is an Anglo-Hispanic integrated congregation. Please join us! Our Sunday services are at 9:00 am and 10:45 am every Sunday. hoplutheran.com. ESCONDIDO 795 N. Rose Street (760) 745-3738

UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH Dance Like No One is Watching!



Contemporary Workshop Gathering- Saturday, November 24 at 5:11pm in Koehler Hall. With December almost here, are you looking for something to do other than shop for Christmas? Join us for some good music and to celebrate your individuality! Call (858) 453-3444 or visit our website at UCUC.ORG for details. . UNIVERSITY CITY 2877 Governor Drive (858) 453-3444

JOHN SMITH, LCSW Inner Faith Sanctuary If you are seeking to reconnect to your unique spiritual path, or if you wish to heal the pain of religious trauma, contact John M. Smith, LCSW, interfaith minister and licensed counselor at (858) 344-2318. LA JOLLA 7734 Herschel Avenue

ST. ANNE CATHOLIC CHURCH Five Latin Masses Every Sunday. 7:30 am low Mass; 9:00 am sung Mass; 11:05 chant Mass; 12:30 pm low Mass with sermon and some hymns in Spanish; 6:00 pm low Mass. LOGAN HEIGHTS 621 Sicard St. (619) 239-8253

BABAJI TEMPLE Babaji's Birthday Celebration



Celebrate the forever youthful Sathguru who has graced us with 1809 years on planet Earth! Join us on the Sunday, 25 at noon. You may wish to bring a coconut to be offered with your prayers. ESCONDIDO 11152 Arco Drive

1ST SPIRITUALIST CHURCH Meditation/Auric Healings



Sunday Service, Nov 18: Meditation/Auric Healings : 10:00am. Lecture Service/ Messages: 11:00am. Guest Speaker: Art Fietze Tuesday, Nov 20: Tuesday Healing Circle 7:00–9:00pm. Wednesday Nov 21: Reiki Practice Group 7:00–9:00pm. Thursday, Nov 29: Full Moon Meditation 7:00–9:00pm. 1st-spiritualistchurch.org CITY HEIGHTS 3777 42nd Street (619) 284-4646

CELEBRATION CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL LIVING Spiritual But Not Religious Join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am for great music from our new Music Director, Christopher Spinks, who is a featured soloist at Agape International in LA. Conscious people. Enlightened Message. Come see our New Home! TheCelebrationCenter.org. SORRENTO VALLEY 5744 Pacific Center Boulevard, Suite 306 (858) 320-0090

CHABAD OF EAST COUNTY New Weekly Jewish Torah Studies Class Chabad of East County, is proud to present our Torah Studies catalog of classes for the first season of the 2013 academic year. Classes are Tuesday evenings from 8 -9 PM. Please call (619) 387-8770 or email info@JewishEC.com for more information, to sign-up or to host a class in your home. Or visit www.JewishEC.com/ TorahStudies

THE CHURCH OF YESHUA HA MASHIACH Hebrew for Jesus the Messiah THE CHURCH OF YESHUA Ha Mashiach (HEBREW FOR JESUS THE MESSIAH) As a local church, we are teaching the gospel of the kingdom and training a new generation of believers how to live and walk in the authority that God has given each of us. Stay tuned to our website at www.coyhm.org and go to the Event Tab to view the upcoming events. KEARNY MESA 8334 Clairemont Mesa Blvd

ST. LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Our Stained Glass Tells A Story We are called as a community of Christians saved by grace - through faith alone in Jesus Christ - to spread the Holy Gospel in word, sacrament and action soli deo gloria. Sunday Worship at 9am. 619.463.6633, www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org. LA MESA 5150 Wilson Street (619) 463-6633

OUT & ABOUT

PLANES, TRAINS, AND AUTOMOBILES

John Candy and Steve Martin star as mismatched Thanksgiving travel companions in this 1987 John Hughes comedy screening for Dive-In Theatre. Swimming pool is open to hotel guests for free and all others with drink purchase. 619-226-6100.

When: Wednesday, November 21, 8 p.m.
Where: Pearl Hotel, 1410 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma



of using ordinary materials to create extraordinary objects during Family Science Saturday. Included in admission. 619-238-1233. Saturday, November 24, 1pm; **free.** Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Peter Pan & Wendy This SDSU production explores, "with a nod to modern California and a bit of fairy dust," the adventures Wendy and Peter Pan. Thursdays, 7:30pm; through Sunday, December 2, San Diego State University, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Pokémon Trading Card Game City Championship Three organized play-recognized age divisions battle to earn points toward a potential invitation to World Championships in 2013 during tournament. For players of all ages, skill levels. 858-566-0506. Friday, November 23, 9:30am; **free.** San Diego Games and Comics, 9910 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Suite C. (MIRA MESA)

Surfin' Santa in Board Shorts! Santa arrives by yacht to spread cheer and pose with guests for surfing photographs. Entertainment, crafts for kids, more. 619-235-4014. Saturday, November 24, 1pm; **free.** Seaport Village, 849 West Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

"Black Friday" American Wrestling Alliance hosts AWA Heavyweight Championship bout between "Radiant" Jason Redondo and Eddie "Too Hot to Handle" Randle and many other matches. Friday, November 23, 8pm; \$10. 21 and up. Sky Box Sports Grill, 4805 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

"Calories for Charity" JJ Brawley and his staff plan three-hour marathon workout on Thanksgiving morning; work out for as few as 20 minutes or stay for the entire session. Proceeds benefit homeless organizations. Nonmembers welcome. contact@sdtrainer.com or 619-800-3480. Thursday, November 22, 8am; \$20. La Mesa

Fit Body Boot Camp, 8322 Parkway Drive. (LA MESA)

Bolts versus Baltimore San Diego Chargers host Baltimore Ravens. Broadcast on CBS. 877-CHARGERS. Sunday, November 25, 1:05pm; Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

Father Joe's Villages Thanksgiving 5K Help feed the hungry, take part in annual run/walk fundraiser for St. Vincent de Paul Village meal service. Event day registration: 6am. tessa.maxsimic@neighbor.org or 619-446-2108. Thursday, November 22, 7:45am; \$23-\$40. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Get fit where you sit! Increase strength, flexibility, reduce stress and have more mental focus. Join us for Chair Yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10am and 5:30pm. Reservations required. Try your first class free! Reg. \$10/class. Use code 1ST_FREE when booking online. Book online at www.onwardpt.com/bookeyo

or call 619-202-7602. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am & 5:30pm. Onward Physical Therapy, 5055 North Harbor Drive. (POINT LOMA)

Oceanside Turkey Trot "Move your feet before you eat" during event with 5-mile run and 5k run/walk. Course finishes at pier. info@kinaneevents.com or 760-434-5255. Thursday, November 22, 7am; Oceanside Civic Center, 300 N. Coast Hwy. (OCEANSIDE)

Pure Fitness United Run for the Hungry Jewish Family Service and the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank host eleventh annual 10k (7:10am) and 5k run/walk (8:15am), starting at Broadway Circle (in front of Horton Plaza). Wear your "zaniest Thanksgiving-themed costumes." Race-day registration: 7am. Thursday, November 22, 7am; \$23-\$35. Westfield Horton Plaza, 324 Horton Plaza. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Thanksgiving Soul Vinyasa Thanksgiving Day all-levels yoga class led by Infinite Yoga studio

Lowest Price Del Mar Balloon Ride! \$145/Person

Restrictions apply. Smaller gondolas for unobstructed views. No mileage restrictions.
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\$25 for your travel story

(plus \$10 for photo) to run in the Reader's Gather No Moss section.

Just want to send photo?

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To submit a story and/or photos:
Scroll down Reader homepage (SDReader.com) and click on Travel.

owner Dana Rae Paré will "uplift your spirit and make your body feel great." Proceeds benefit American Red Cross "superstorm Sandy" work. Donation. 619-269-7043. Thursday, November 22, 9am; Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxtun Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

Waddle and Trot 5K and Fun Run For runners and walkers of every fitness level. Proceeds benefit Santee Santas and the Santee Food Bank. Fun Run for kids ten and younger: 9am. Thursday, November 22, 8am; \$15-\$30. Pathways Community Church, 9626 Carlton Hills Boulevard. (SANTEE)

Zumba Dance Fitness for Seniors Program fuses Latin rhythms with easy-to-follow moves, featuring interval training sessions. 858-538-8163. Fridays, 1pm; through Tuesday, November 27, **free.** 18 and up. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

LECTURES

"Information System Security: Trending Today" Daniel A. Libby, director and chief examiner for Digital Forensics, Inc., addresses the SD Association for Rational Inquiry. Sunday, November 25, 7pm; **free.** Joyce Beers Uptown Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)



33rd Annual San Diego Jazz Fest
Nov 21-25, 2012
SDjazzfest.org
Town & Country Resort
500 Hotel Circle North
I-8 and SR 163

Over 25 Bands including local groups

• Sue Palmer & Her Motel Swing
High Society JB • Red Pepper JB
• Heliotrope Ragtime Orchestra
Dixie Express JB • Chloe Feoranzo
Euphoria Brass Band

Traditional New Orleans Jazz
Swing • Boogie Woogie • Gospel
Ragtime • Stride • Pianorama

Admission: Wed \$15; Thurs \$20; Fri/Sat \$40; Sun \$25
12 & under FREE w/adult 🎵 Under 30 discounts
Fri/Sat after 6pm \$20 🎵 Active Duty Military FREE

Hours: Wed 7-11pm; Thur 6-11pm; Fri 10am-11pm
Sat 9am-11pm; Sun 8am-5pm



Financial support
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SDjazzfest.org
619-297-5277

ELITE TRUCK EVENT

December 1st & 2nd



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Saturday and Sunday, December 1st & 2nd

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ENJOY A SCENIC RIDE AROUND THE
Del Mar Racetrack ON AN OPEN AIR WAGON
—THE BEST VIEWING OF THE 400+ LIGHT
DISPLAYS. ALSO INCLUDED IS HOT COCOA
OR CIDER & A HOLIDAY COOKIE.

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Pacific Beach TUESDAY Farmers' Market

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Yakima Applewood
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Terra Bella Ranch

Winter Squash \$2 per pound

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Ask about our CSA
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**100% Raw Almonds, Roasted
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**One Free Birthday Entree OR
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Save \$1!
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Gilbert Quintos Farms
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**Buy one natural pulled pork
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Save \$1!
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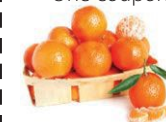


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\$1 OFF any 2 Paninis
At Little Italy

Valid through November 29, 2012 only.
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**Seb's
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**\$1 off when you buy
3 bunches of broccoli**

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One coupon per
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**Suncoast
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Castaways Shell Gardens



Free Plant Hanger
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Come up and visit us
at the top of Date St.

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TUESDAYS



THURSDAYS



SATURDAYS



sdweeklymarkets.com

Cali, as in Colombia

In spite of the ever-rising price of gas, I try to get out of my neighborhood(s) and see what's going on elsewhere. And so, one morning about three months ago, I took a drive along the southern border of Grant Hill, up colorful Imperial Avenue. I'd heard that the long-standing farmers' market was being turned into a Walmart and wondered what other changes were in store.

A few of the food stands that had once been located within the market had moved out to the street, a good sign. A few blocks on, next to El Savadoreño (a fixture on Imperial) I noticed the tricolor yellow, blue, and red of the Colombian flag painted below a sign: "Antojitos Colombianos." This was a surprise, as I'd been aware of only one Colombian restaurant in San Diego; a decent place, but nothing special. It was about 8:00 a.m. and Antojitos Colombianos looked closed. I made a mental note to return, then promptly forgot about it.

A few months later, the missus and I were craving something different. Suddenly those dormant synapses fired and I mentioned the "Colombian place." A short drive down I-5 and up Imperial and we were there.

The interior of Antojitos Colombianos looks

a bit disorganized at first, maybe even disheveled. Random tchotchkes are scattered about, Colombian and South American grocery items line a glass case, and a flat-screen television is mounted on one of the walls in the dining area. I've gotta be honest, though, the decor kind of grows on you.

On our first visit, I went all in and ordered the *bandeja paisa*, the classic Colombian gut-bust-

ing platter (*bandeja*) of protein and carbs that many consider the national dish of Colombia. This isn't quite the 13-item classic, but

the huge plate of rice, *peruano* beans flavored with pork, chorizo, fried plantain, *arepa*, beef, *chicharron*, avocado (you do need something green, right?), and rice topped with a fried egg is more than enough to leave you crying, ¡No mas! Having eaten this dish before, I was surprised at how tender the thinly sliced sirloin was; usually, it's the texture of shoe leather. The empanadas looked as if they might be greasy but were crisp and light, with a mild chew. The filling of beef and potatoes was well seasoned. It was accompanied by an *aji* (hot sauce) that wasn't too spicy, adding an acid component to cut the richness. The *arepa* here isn't stuffed, just a simple griddled corn cake with nutty tones. We ordered it with chorizo (which differs from the sausage that usually accompanies a *bandeja paisa*): it was spicy and dense, a wonderfully flavored sausage. The missus adored the *aborrajado*, a fried plantain stuffed with cheese.

Subsequent visits have turned up other decent dishes. One is a *papa rellena* the size of a softball, the exterior crisp, the inner layer full of potato goodness (the filling of saffron rice and chicken could have used more flavoring). The *chuleta de cerdo*, a pork cutlet, was well tenderized, breaded, and perfectly fried, though the taste was routine.

After a couple of visits, we found our favorite item on the menu: *lengua en salsa*, a beautifully moist slice of fork-tender beef tongue, cooked to perfection and topped with a tangy salsa of sautéed



The *bandejas paisas* is more than enough to leave you crying, "¡No mas!"



The Colombian restaurant's Imperial Avenue storefront



The crisp exterior of the softball-size *papa rellena* gives way to an inner layer of potato goodness.



After a couple of visits, we found our favorite item on the menu: *lengua en salsa*.

onions and peppers. It doesn't get much better than this. The *lengua* has a deep, beefy flavor, stopping just short of a taste like offal. If you've ever been a victim of waxy, off-tasting beef tongue, I'd recommend this version. Another recommendation: when faced with the choice of *papas fritas* (french fries) or *yuca frita*, choose the latter.

We love the way we've been treated at Antojitos Colombianos, the casual warmth. On our first visit, the restaurant crew consisted of one young lady who did everything in the half-filled room: wait, cook, and bus, all with amazing efficiency. She gave us her time and attention, explaining items on the menu, then stopping by later to see how we enjoyed what we had. She even made recommendations for other dishes.

The other person we've seen cooking here is the owner, Javier. His dishes come out more masculine, more seasoned, and, man, does he know how to fry. Javier, when faced with my question of "what

to order," did not treat me like *el gabacho*, but went right for the *lengua*.

The tall gentleman who often runs the front of house is Javier's cousin's husband...I think. He doesn't speak much English, but his warmth and friendliness transcends language. I once saw him show an Asian couple how to wrap napkins around their empanadas so as not to burn themselves. When things slow down, Javier will come out and stop by the tables to chat. This is how I found out that they are from Cali, Colombia.

On our second visit, a well-dressed gentleman — tie and all — brought us two menus. We thought he worked at the restaurant, but then he sat down to finish his dinner. We realized that, when you've been here more than twice, you learn how things work and feel completely at home. There must be any number of excellent family-run restaurants in San Diego that fly under the radar. Antojitos Colombianos is one. ■

Antojitos Colombianos

2851 Imperial Avenue, Grant Hill, 619-237-0396

Fare: Traditional Colombian favorites

Vibe: Casual

Must Try: Lengua en salsa; empanadas: "For Mexican food here, you have to have tacos. For Colombian food, you need empanadas," says Javier.

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Leave it to me

“I do everything, from buying to prepping to cooking to driving,” she says. “But I love it.”

Is there an east wind blowing? I mean food culture-wise. Just last week I was eating Korean-cooked Japanese fare in

Mission Beach, and now here I am, totally seduced by this food truck at the back of a boiler factory in Barrio Logan. And, guess what they’re serving? Sushi.

This started when I wandered into the new farmers’ market in Barrio Logan. It’s held in the old Fraser’s machine shop, where they used to make ships’ boilers.

Now, the outside’s been painted bright orange, and every Wednesday and Sunday stalls loaded with everything organic fill the aisles. Like, carrots as big as your arm (Maciel Family Farms); and sausages as big as your other arm, from Mr. Kappeler, the Swiss sausage-maker in San Marcos (T&H Prime Meats and Sausage — must visit sometime); or soups as thick as a stew, like the mushroom-and-wild-rice one I got after stopping under a canopy that advertised “Organic Vegan Soup.” That place is run by a Chilean civil engineer named Camilo. Paid \$5 for an eight-ounce cup, with bread.

Tasty and filling. For the moment, anyway.

Afterward, I headed to the back of the cavernous space, where I noticed this food truck parked inside, with folding chairs and tables set up in front of it. Quite a few people were eating at the tables.

A bright-eyed gal pops down and out of the truck. Everybody calls her Kate. She’s carrying a couple of paper plates loaded with sushi rolls as colorful as all get-out. One, a veggie tempura roll, she gives to this guy Ron. His two buddies are already chowing down on spicy tuna salads.

“We’re open ten more minutes,” she tells me. “Want something?”

I hadn’t thought, but seeing as I’m here, and those rolls...

“Is it good?” I ask Ron.

Ron nods.

“And these spicy tuna salads are terrific,” says his buddy Patrick. According to the chalkboard menu, they’re spicy tuna with “cucumbers

marinated in rice vinegar and ginger, topped with seaweed salad, avocado, sprouts, and ponzu [a lemony sauce mixed with soy],” \$10.

The menu lists a bunch of sushi: like, tuna, salmon, yellowtail, even “live sweet shrimp” and “live sea urchin,” all selling at “market price.” Not everything is expensive. A spicy tuna roll goes for \$3. Plus, they have cute takes on east-meets-west:

a yellowtail tostada (\$4) is “local yellowtail or spicy tuna” served with seaweed salad, avocado, sprouts, and *ponzu*, all sitting on a crisp wonton shell. Chicken *katsu* sliders (two for \$6) are fried chicken and cabbage with orange zest and *katsu* sauce on a Hawaiian bun. There’s even plain asparagus on rice, “drizzled with eel sauce and Sriracha” (market price — can’t be much).

“You want my advice?” says Matt, guy I met at an Alaskan salmon tent (his buddy John catches ’em up there, freezes ’em, sends ’em down), on my way through the market. “Just tell Kate to choose for you. I eat here a lot, and I always say, ‘Gimme something interesting.’ She always does.”

“Leave it to me,” says Kate when I repeat this to her.

Five minutes later, she appears with two different lengths of sushi, each cut into two pieces. Oh, man, the colors. The green and yellow-striped one has tempura-fried veggies, with seaweed salad and avo wrapped around the outside. The red-and-yellow’s got crab inside. Lots. And so-oo tasty.

“It’s because it’s real crab, Pacific stone crab,” Kate says. “From Baja. None of that processed ‘krab.’ Everything I use is organic and local and real and fresh, not frozen.”

I pay \$6 for it.

Then I have to ask.

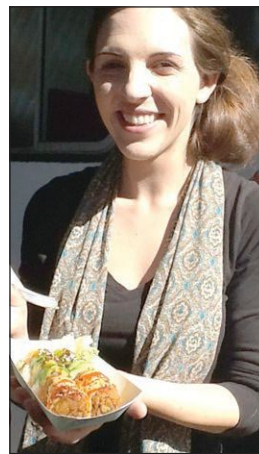
“Is this...unusual, what you do? I mean, how come you’re the first woman sushi chef I’ve ever seen?”

“Long story,” she says. “But you’re right.

Women don’t do sushi — traditionally, it’s men. Old-school chefs have told me, in no uncertain



Sushi from a food truck...sounds bad, but tastes great



Miss Sushi herself, Kate Murray

terms: “Women should not try to be sushi chefs. Sushi is about raw fish. And women are warmer than men. You put raw fish in their hands, and the fish starts to cook right there in their palm. Also, their perfumes contaminate the taste of the sushi.”

With attitudes like that, how did she pull it off, becoming a sushi chef?

“When I was at Grossmont College, I heard about the California Sushi Academy in L.A., the first sushi-chef training academy in the U.S. I loved everything about sushi. Of course, my parents were horrified when I said I wanted to go.”

Turns out, her sushi-pioneering got noticed and documented in a book: *The Story of Sushi*, by Trevor Corson, the guy who wrote *The Secret Life of Lobsters*.

“He followed my class around,” says Kate, “and ended up focusing a lot on me. Maybe because I was a woman.”

Kate says she learned plenty at the academy, about the samurai traditions of the knives they use, the samurai attitudes of the instructor chefs, and how “sushi” doesn’t actually mean “raw fish,” but “rice seasoned with vinegar.”

At age 20, she graduated, returned to San



Ron, Patrick, and Raul turned me on to Miss Sushi.

Diego, and started working the farmers’ markets and in sushi joints. This March, she found the truck, took a deep breath, and bought it. “It cost me \$25,000.”

Now she runs what’s very much a one-woman operation.

“I do everything, from buying to prepping to cooking to driving,” she says. “But I love it.”

Her recommendation for next time: the Red Head Roll. Shrimp, crab, spicy tuna, with “something crunchy” on top (\$7.50).

I leave a fuller, happier, and, yes, wiser man.

This gal ain’t just a sushi chef, she’s a bona fide revolutionary. ■

The Place: Miss Sushi San Diego, 4637 Market Street, misssushisandiego.com, 619-233-7010; at Barrio Logan Farmers’ Market, 1735 National Avenue, Barrio Logan, 619-233-3901
Prices: Veggie tempura roll, \$5.50; caterpillar, with crab, eel, \$9; spicy tuna salad, \$10; spicy scallop, \$3; yellowtail tostada, \$4; chicken katsu sliders, two for \$6; asparagus on rice with eel sauce, market price
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Think Mondrian

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Toni's Weincakes: Post-election comfort food?

This is a cupcake?

"It's my french toast cupcake," says Toni. "It has bacon bits and maple butter cream frosting, plus bacon bits on top. It flies out of here."

Actually, so does Toni. She's a longtime flight attendant with Delta. Flies out of Lindbergh to Atlanta and back. But now she has set up this cupcake place (Weincakes Dessert Bistro, 1033 B Avenue, at the corner with Ynez, Coronado, 619-437-6400) with her family.

Okay, every day she's not in Atlanta.

I came across her place yesterday after I promised Carla I'd bring back a couple of red velvet cupcakes, come hell, high water, or elections.

When I come in, this customer Yanna is taking delivery of a carrot cupcake (\$2.95).

She bites in. "Ooh, real carrot pieces," she says.

The place is bright? Oh, yes. Think Mondrian, that abstract kinda grid painter (art lessons with Carla are working!). Red, blue, lime green walls, yellow floor. It's great.

I check the display cabinet. Quite a bit of empty space. And none of the bacon-maple cupcake she's just been getting me salivating about.

"Yes, we had a huge run today," says Toni. "Election Day parties."

I see two red velvets (\$2.95 each), grab them for Carla, then decide maybe I deserve one, too, given the effort and all. Toni recommends their

vegan cupcake (\$2.95), a chocolatey little number with nice, moist cake and icing. Goes great with the coffee (\$1.75).

"It's gluten- and sugar-free," says Toni. "Soy milk and lemon instead of eggs, coconut oil instead of butter in the frosting."

It tastes way better than it sounds.

Only problem: I see they also have actual food in the afternoons. "Lite Bites."

So, now I'm having a bowl of a soup-of-the-day (\$5.50; could have had a cupful for \$3.75). It's loaded with veggies and chunks of steak. Plus onions, and you can detect herbs and the presence of bay leaves.

Then, daggone it, I have to have one of their salads, a pretty delicious strawberry salad with romaine, chunks of feta cheese, almonds, strawbs, and balsamic dressing (\$6.95).

"We're hoping for a beer-and-wine license," says Toni, "because my dream is for this to become

a dessert bistro, where you can come, have something light, and dessert wines, or even local craft beers, to go with it. That's why the name. 'Weincakes.' Wine and cakes. As well as a play on my last name, Weinfurtner. It means 'wine forager' in German."

Meantime, Toni says she bakes eight different cupcakes every day. "Always carrot, red velvet, white, and chocolate," she says. "After that,

for the next four, I just let my imagination run hog-wild."

It'll be a few months before the wine-and-beer thing happens, but I'm already dreaming: a Mission Dark Seas Russian Imperial Stout and a red velvet? Can't wait.

by Ed Bedford

FEAST!



The french-toast-and-bacon cupcakes fly out the door at Coronado's Weincakes.



On a beautiful day, why go inside for coffee when you can walk up to Meshuggah Shack's kiosk in Mission Hills?

sauce in the world and throwing it into a cup of coffee is a rad way to say "wake up."

Meshuggah Shack has WiFi, as far as I know, so sitting and messing around on the interwebs is a possibility. But a little conversation never hurt anyone and John (the owner) is expert in all things coffee talk and more entertaining than YouTube cat videos on any given day.

Meshuggah Shack, 4048 Goldfinch Street.

by Ian Pike

Mission Hills' mini coffee spot

On principle, I'm a fan of being able to get coffee outside. It makes a lot of sense to avoid going into a building to get something that's perfectly suited for on-the-go consumption. Why, when it's a beautiful day, go in when you could stay out?

I pass by the Meshuggah Shack on the regular, as it's on the corridor for bicycle travel heading toward La Jolla. It's hard *not* to stop and grab a shot of espresso for the road. The green kiosk is right at the corner of Goldfinch and Fort Stockton. Motorists will be happy to hear that the business just succeeded in getting the curb out front painted green for 15-minute parking.

Yiddish speakers will be familiar with the word for "crazy" in the shack's name...and death-metal fans will mistakenly wonder why name a coffee klatch after a metal act? The Shack's been done up in bits and pieces of conventional wisdom (Jewish and otherwise), my favorite of which is the "no kvetching" sign. English owes some truly awe-inspiring words to Yiddish roots, "schlep" is just about the best way to imply burdensome carrying, and it's a pity that "kvetch" doesn't get more usage.

Because, seriously, quit kvetching and have some coffee. It's a beautiful day!

Maybe try the serpent-themed mocha at the Shack that's been laced with Sriracha. It's easy to make a case for Rooster Sauce as the greatest hot

Confusion at Infuzon

"This is usually Thomas Jefferson Lawsuit Night," says Brandon.

Say what?

I've just popped across from the Park and Market trolley stop. Was waiting for the Orange Line.

Heard sounds coming from this little place on the west side of Park Boulevard.

Oh, yeah. Remembered this was the really great cellar that's like a sushi-serving wine bar. It's far from the cool part of downtown, but all the cooler for that: Infuzon Sushi Wine Lounge (550 Park Boulevard, 619-794-2421).

When I looked, the place was packed. Can never resist a crowd, so two milliseconds later, I'm inside.

And here, right behind the black marble bar is Brandon, the owner, hands flying, fighting squeaky-tight corks to get a bunch of wine bottles open. Remembered him from a month or so back.

"Have a glass of wine!" he says, like he really means it.

And now that I think about it, I remember the beautiful house red — or was it the white? — I had last time, for five buckeroos.

Whichever, I get the house red this time (also \$5), so fruity and smooth, and start talking with the guy next to me. Aaron.

At the end of the bar, Damian, the sushi guy tonight, is making an Infuzon roll (about ten

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bucks).

"Brandon let us come in and kind of take them over tonight," Aaron's saying. "We're the Jewish Federation of San Diego. This is our singles event."

He says this past year the federation raised \$6 million here in San Diego alone, for charities, mostly but not all Jewish. "We give a lot to food kitchens," he says. "Nationally, the Jewish Federation raises about \$6 billion each year for good works."

Wow. That is truly astounding.

"Yes," says Brandon, "usually right now we'd have Thomas Jefferson Law School students competing to answer difficult legal court issues. Their profs come and lay out the questions. Case law, claims, anything in their courses. Whoever gets most points wins dinner on the house. Lots of cut-and-thrust arguments. You should come some Wednesday and watch. It's open."

Then it hits me. Oh. Right. This is a private party. I take my last gulp of red. Says a lot for Aaron and Brandon that they didn't kick me out.

I knew I liked this place for a reason.

by Ed Bedford

New kebabs on the block

Add another layer to the recent history of the building at 1290 University. In January, I wrote about how the Kebab King restaurant moved into a defunct barbecue joint and simply put signs in the windows, leaving the "BBQ" sign intact. Now, the Kebab King has shuffled out and Shawarma House has moved in. It took a little while for me to figure it out, however, because Shawarma House's method of indicating the change was to hang a small, vinyl sign over the door and leave the rest of the architecture intact. Hasty remodeling scores another victory!

Shawarma House is visually indistinguishable from Kebab King on the surface, but the new owners did change the food up. Gone are the tortillas and the weird hot sauce that surrounded the roast and grilled meats. Instead, the more familiar pita breads ensconced my beef shawarma sandwich, along with lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions, what I think were pickled turnips, and a tangy dressing.

Not bad, but not great, either. Better than the previous place,

but still not as good as Michoz across the street, or Mama's just around the bend. It's tough to break into the Turkish/Lebanese kebab market with packaged pita when any number of other spots are baking their own bread to order. The Shawarma House's sandwich fell apart in my hands in an inconvenient way. This was a fault in packaging as much as in the sandwich itself, but once it's unwrapped there's no going back.

I also find that menus rife with typos offend me. Even for a takeout place, I can't fathom

why anyone would skip the step of asking someone to proofread the copy. There are any number of out-of-work English majors who would do the job for \$10. I'm not, like, out to shred a restaurant for misspellings on the menu, but it implies a degree of sloppiness that often correlate with the quality of the food.

Frankly, I don't foresee a long tenure for the Shawarma House, if for no other reason than that the location might be junk. There are too few seats in too large of a building, the rent is probably stratospheric, parking is a wash during peak



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hours, and there's no shortage of competition. I'm hard pressed to think what *would* be a good business to fill the building in question. Weirdly, I think a donut shop could stick.

For now:

Shawarma House, 1290 University Avenue.

by Ian Pike

Dinner with Karl

A little while back, I was reading through *A Framework for Understanding Poverty*, by Ruby Payne. The book mostly deals with the social structures that surround the culture of poverty in an attempt to construct an understanding of working-class ethos and how it's perpetuated along generations of people. The book's not particularly riveting or widely relevant to restaurant criticism, but it does contain an interesting table that diagrams the "hidden rules" that govern behavior in different social classes.

One of those rules pertains to food. Specifically, it gives a one-sentence breakdown of

how a meal's *value* would be judged from different cultural perspectives.

From a working-class point of view, the key question is one of quantity: was there *enough* food? Many people face the very real challenge of keeping food on the table and this concern is no doubt born from that struggle.

For the middle-class diner, it becomes a question of "did you like it?" When food becomes a regularity, it's easier to focus on the quality.

Among the wealthy classes, quality is taken for granted and the value of a meal becomes tied into its presentation. The ceremony of gathering and eating is used to enshrine upper-class social mores.

From the position of the restaurant critic, I can't help but wonder how this is reflected in the culture of restaurants in this and other cities. It's obvious that there are certain places where one can go to pig out if cash is short. Almost everyone has such an outlet at his disposal. I mean, it's what potatoes were cultivated for, and my friends who were dumpster diving for a while said "nobody should even pay for potatoes." At the other extreme, it's plain

that the gracious waiters and white table cloths of fine dining are specific to situations in which money isn't a concern and cost is no problem. It's the center that interests me most, specifically the way in which it applies to popular trends in restaurants right now.

I'm thinking largely of the craft/local/sustainable/farm-to-table style that's become definitive in San Diego and other cities. Many restaurants have adamantly rejected the "constraints" of fine dining, stripping away things that signify luxury. The result has been a series of restaurants which have made a concerted effort at this humble, "back to basics," often a touch Earth Mother-y, sometimes borderline pathological sentimentality for dirt, and farmers, and the quality that's perceived as coming from localized labor.

What's interesting to me is that the extreme focus on the *quality* of food has often been highlighted by a rebellious attitude toward "snooty stuff," which hints at the aforementioned middle-class social concerns. Of course, it's easy to drop \$100 at the Linkery, Sea Rocket, Tractor Room, or any of the admittedly good cham-

pions of quality over quantity and ostentation. While such places may thumb their noses at fine dining, they've learned how to charge a pretty penny for their services.

All of which, I'll remind you, I'm quite happy to pay for.

It's just *interesting*, especially when things started trickling *upwards* and fine-dining places began emphasizing the quality of their food, something which would have been taken for granted until recently. There's a little tension in the culture of restaurants and I think it reflects shifting trends in the social order as a whole. It is the way of society to grow and change, its very nature, and we can see the details of that endless shifting being written out on menus all over town.

At some point, eating a salad made with greens from Suzie's Farm became a gesture of bourgeois pride, mixed with a certain degree of sensibility and humility that's both valid and valuable. It became a simultaneous rebellion and affirmation of the establishment and its structures. Maybe think about that next time you go out for a grass-fed burger?

by Ian Pike

Warm North County coffee stop

The chilly weather over the weekend put a damper on one of my favorite activities: sitting outside cafés and drinking coffee. The act is made less pleasant for me, who chills easily, when the air has such bite to it. Stopping by Cafe Elysa in Carlsbad was sort of a lucky break for me in that respect because the patio comes complete with open fire pits. It's almost impossible for me to be too warm, so that was enough to win me over right there.

I imagine that Elysa suffers on rainy days, as the minuscule interior could barely hold the line of people waiting to get coffee and breakfast on a weekend morning. It's the patio that makes the place. It wraps around the edge of the building, encompassing a few of those wonderful fire pits along the way.

I ordered a cappuccino (which was merely adequate because the foam wasn't dense enough) and an apple turnover, which was quite good. The crumbly puff pastry encompassed a sweet core of apple filling that was a lighter alternative to the oil-heavy, sugar-

laden pastries that I usually feed myself if given half the chance. In front of a raging fire on a chill-but-sunny day, it was pretty hard to beat. The other pastry selections look mediocre at best, and I think the turnover was a standout, kind of like the apple dumplings at Squire's. Muffins and croissants looked only so-so and the little tarts and whatnot to the right of the register had clearly languished for a while.

The café could stand a touch more organization. Staff was friendly enough, but I did sense a little amateur incompetence during the long wait for my coffee. At one point, I heard the baristas trying to figure out which customer had ordered which meal and with which drink. Such problems shouldn't happen in the first place, but they always do and tend to slow down service.

Cafe Elysa had a compelling list of heartier breakfast fare. Everything was priced reasonably, considering the upscale neighborhood surroundings, in the \$5-\$10 range. The stuffed french toast plates looked good, as did the abundant hash browns piled alongside the omelet and egg dishes. The tea selection was remarkable,

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with countless iterations of fruit-infused tea, both black and green, and other herbal infusions. I might venture that the “meh” coffee could easily be outdone by a hot cup of tea!

Just make sure to snag a seat by the fire pit.

Cafe Elysa, 3076 Carlsbad Boulevard.

by Ian Pike

Downtown Magnolia tribute

It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. It was San Diego Beer Week, a ten-day fermentation fête made up of hundreds of individual yet significant events. Something that large and magnificent deserves a food-and-beer journalist’s full attention. How could I not devote the space allotted by the *Reader* to giving readers the inside scoop on some of the finest events going on and really getting into the nitty-gritty about our local breweries?

Simple answer — I couldn’t. It was my duty and, like all things edible and quaffable in San Diego (particular those built on hops, malt, water, and yeast), I took it very seriously. Still, as the weeks of coverage I provided rolled along, I felt pangs of withdrawal from what it is I really enjoy about writing: reporting.

Over the past several weeks,

there have been tons of new and emerging businesses and San Diego-based beer developments that I’ve unearthed, but because of Beer Week, I was unable to disclose them. Some of them are huge and would have gotten buried beneath the onslaught of Beer Week info. So, I kept that stuff under wraps, holding out for this moment where, finally, I am able to return to the everyday pace of a workday not awash in pale ale, porter, and IPA. Now, I’m happy to get back in the swing of things. Here’s a nice little local beer nugget to kick things off.

Daniel and Edna Drayne, the owners of the Field (544 Fifth Avenue, Downtown), the long-popular Irish pub in the southwest expanses of the Gaslamp Quarter, are working on opening up a second business. No, not a center for shepherd’s pie, lamb stew, Guinness, and Harp. This one’s going to be a brewpub. For those unfamiliar with the term, a brewpub is a dining establishment with an onsite brewhouse. High profile local examples include Rock Bottom Brewery Restaurant, San Diego Brewing Company, and, of course, the famous Karl Strauss Brewing Company and Pizza Port chains.

But what do these folks from the Field know about brewing? Good question. At least we know there are minds behind the operation that have been capable of keeping an Irish pub open and well patronized

What the Chef Eats by Pamela Hunt-Cloyd

PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM FLATBREAD

RECIPE BY CLIFF PLEAU

Culinary director, Seasons 52

My earliest memory of wanting to be a chef was when I was about four years old. I was still sucking my thumb and my dad was pretty upset by this. One day he put Tabasco sauce on my thumb to deter me, but I loved it. I always look back to that moment as the start of my career.

Cooking appealed to me as both an alternative lifestyle and a career. I have been fortunate to have traveled the world and worked for great chefs. But making people happy with great food and

drink and helping people celebrate living well is what I find to be ultimately gratifying.

It came to a point in my cooking where I realized that having a job in hospitality meant that I needed to be of service. This was right around the time I heard about the West Coast chefs Alice Waters and Wolfgang Puck. I threw out my classical traditions, let go of what I knew, and set out to seek what I didn’t know. I wanted to explore new culinary frontiers and innovations in California.

I began to understand that being healthy is not just what you put into your mouth, but how you behave. I wanted to share these ideas with the people I feed.

When I’m not working, I visit our restaurants or eat at home and test recipes. I cook everything outdoors over a wood-burning charcoal fire and make simple things like fresh fish and herbs and salads. Cooking for family is so rewarding and enjoyable, never too fancy and it’s always healthy and delicious.



“Cooking appealed to me as both an alternative lifestyle and a career,” says Cliff Pleau.

INGREDIENTS

(SERVES 4)

- 3 portobello mushroom caps, grilled or broiled and sliced
- Balsamic vinegar and extra virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 4 tablespoons truffle oil (divided use)
- ½ cup grated four-cheese

in a part of town awash with nearly identical bar-restaurants for many years. That brand of business savvy should give them a leg-up since brewpubs are, at their core, restaurants. This one will be modeled after a certain brewpub in San Francisco called Magnolia.

Earlier this year, after deciding to take my business elsewhere during my much publicized excursion to San Francisco’s infamous craft beer bar, Toronado, I walked just under a mile up Haight Street to Magnolia Pub and Brewery, took a seat, and discovered a lovely place that made me happy I hadn’t wasted another second at my first stop. Mag-

nolia is a brilliant brewpub that was made all the better by the fact that, during my visit, it was San Francisco Beer Week.

I spent over an hour there, sampling the quality beers they produced on-premise in tandem with a food menu that provided artfully prepared, innovative small plates built around seasonal produce and a wide-ranging array of proteins both common and rare. The only reason I left was to have dinner at San Fran’s much celebrated craft beer-focused restaurant, the Monk’s Kettle. My meal there was rather good, but when I go back, I intend to skip other venues and devote an entire night or

two to Magnolia.

I’m pleased to hear someone is as taken with that first-rate operation as I was and is doing their best to bring something like it to San Diego. When they do, it will be housed... well, in a house. The white domicile-turned-brewpub will be located at the intersection of Ninth and Island avenues in the East Village. Once open, it will operate under the name Half Door Brewing Company. The owners are currently interviewing chefs, whose names I have sworn to keep under my hat for now. What I can say is that they include reputable, farm-to-tables I’d be pleased to see take the helm. This will

certainly be a lead I continue to explore as it develops into something real.

by Brandon Hernández

Rush lobster job

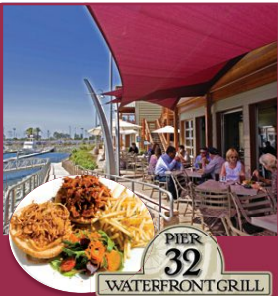
You know how things you have to rush are the best?

You kinda have memory flashes of the hot dog you couldn’t finish, or the beer you couldn’t chug before you had to go catch a stretch limo.

Happened to me.

I’m sprinting down C, turn left onto Fourth, heading for the bus stop at Third and Broadway.

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What the Chef Eats

mix; parmesan cheese, blue cheese, goat cheese, mozzarella
1 handful fresh organic spinach leaves (approx. 1 cup)
2 to 3 tablespoons garlic; chopped or minced, roasted or caramelized
¾ cup non-fat sour cream
¾ cup Caesar dressing

HOW TO DO IT

Wash the mushroom caps gently and scrape and dis-

card the dark part. Brush the caps with balsamic vinegar and extra virgin olive oil, sprinkle with salt and pepper. You can grill or broil in your oven on the “broil” setting.

Preheat oven to 350°. Prepare all ingredients for the flatbread and prepare dough by rolling it out until thin. Brush dough lightly with truffle oil. Sprinkle with

¼ cup four-cheese mix. Tear spinach leaves over the cheese. Layer thinly sliced grilled portobello mushrooms over spinach and sprinkle with roasted or caramelized chopped garlic. Top with remaining ¼ cup four-cheese mix.

Bake flatbread until crispy golden brown. Remove and cut. Garnish with a zig-zag of truffle

sour cream, dispensed from a squeeze bottle.

For truffle sour cream:

Combine 6 ounces (¾ cup) of non-fat sour cream and 6 ounces (¾ cup) of bottled Caesar dressing with 1 to 2 tablespoons of truffle oil and whisk together in a small bowl.

Find What the Chef Eats online at SDReader.com/chef/

Hear the crowd.

See a smug guy munching on steaming-hot french fries.

What thu heck. Check the watch. Ten minutes. Veer inside. Leap on stool. Look around. Face a sign.

“Drink enough beer and you will start to see the ocean view.”

Finally, focus. This is the Local Eatery Drinking Hole (1065 Fourth Avenue, downtown, 619-231-4447).

Matt and Sean, two big fellas, are working behind the bar.

Explain my problem. Hunger. Thirst. Time.

“Not a prob,” says Sean. “Try the Green Flash Belgian Blonde. Slightly sweet, and dry. Only 6 percent. Goes well with our lobster taco.”

He rams a menu in front of me. Oh, yeah.

“Local’s Lobster Tacos. Plump lobster slipper tails lightly seasoned and fried. Topped with cabbage, cheese, pico de gallo and our house white sauce, on flour tortillas. Served with black beans and jasmine rice, \$10.95. A la carte,

\$4.95.”

“Deal,” I say. “For the à la carte.”

Result: in unbelievably quick time, that sucker appears before me, along with the Belgian Blonde.

Beer’s definitely sippable. But, man, it’s that lobster taco that achieves total lift-off on Mission Deliciosity.

Plenty of actual lobster, and that white sauce helps the slipper tails slip right on down.

Only problem. Three minutes to go, and counting. I do one mighty python-eats-whole-pig drop-jaw chomp, try to slurp the Belgian, achieve total throatal blockage.

Everything stops. Take an entire minute to recover, tap out begging message in morse code to Matt or Sean to pack the rest.

I pay up (\$12.34; \$4.95 for the lobster taco, rest for the brewski and tax), fall off stool, hit the ground running.

At the entrance, at the risk of turning to stone like... Lazarus, wasn’t it? No. Lot. No. Lot’s wife. Looked back on Sodom. Turned

into a pillar of salt... Whatever, I turn for one last longing look at the two thirds of my beer I left behind. A shaft of light hits it, golden, sparkling, on the counter.

“Come ba-ack!”

Sigh.

Still, make the bus.

Only problem left: eating the rest of this dee-lish taco without the bus driver catching me.

by Ed Bedford

Schooled

Back in July, Mary Beth Abate did a thorough job of getting at what Village Vino is all about. The Kensington wine bar gets ahold of interesting vintages from small New- and Old World vineyards. Owner Rita Pirkel is an obvious wine buff and it’s clear that the wine bar is as much an expression of her passion for the grape as it is a business venture. Many of the wines seem to be priced affordably if purchased by the bottle, and a nominal discount for retail purchases

further encourages customers to buy and drink more wine. This is just an educated guess, but I surmise wine prices at Village Vino run much closer to retail value than the same wines would in a conventional restaurant.

Having heard good things about the place, I popped in with a group of friends. It’s an interesting concept, and mostly well executed, but not

without its quirks. I got the feeling that Pirkel, and some of the other staff members, are experienced in wine and much less so in table service and hospitality. Their table-side manner involved much shrewd criticism of my party’s wine decisions. This is not in keeping with the longstanding tradition of restaurant sommeliers, most of whom keep their extensive knowledge in check while they attempt to make the guest feel superior in his or her taste.

For me, Pirkel and company’s direct manner was a breath of fresh air. I basically threw myself in their hands and asked for something delicious. I was justly rewarded for doing so. My friend, on the other hand, felt wholly intimidated at the implication that her choice in wine was insufficient and that she could expect disappointment, even from a good wine, if we weren’t willing to shell out for another excellent one. I stuck up for her as best I could, but there was no denying the truth of what we were hearing.

They’re straight shooters at Village Vino, I’ll give them that.

And I’d say keep it that way. It’s a great opportunity for a

little education.

Mary Beth had also said that Village Vino planned to add more food to the menu than what they opened with. Six months later, I found the food to be problematic. I tried some hummus and a \$12 smoked salmon flatbread plate that featured three little rounds of toast with crème fraîche, salmon, and a lovely dotting of caviar. I hate to grouse, but I think I could get equal amounts of salmon for half the price at some local coffee shops.

I would like to see the food at Village Vino being given away for as little as possible in order to facilitate more and better wine drinking. The little snacks and bites are hard pressed to compose an entire meal, and I would have felt more strongly encouraged to explore the wine menu if the food had been a non-issue in terms of cost, quantity, or quality. To wit, make the food act as an excuse to drink more. Everybody likes that kind of excuse.

by Ian Pike

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Is this mic on? Is FM 94/9 in trouble or are radio ratings flawed? Maybe both.

One local radio exec says that men aged 25–34 is the most sought-after group — the “bullseye” for modern-rock stations. According to Arbitron, the Maryland-based ratings

Rock 105.3 has more P-1 listeners among men 25–34 than any other station. Arbitron reports that Rock 105.3 had 25,600 (10 percent of San Diego men 25–34) P-1s in October. KSON had 18,600, and 91X had 7900 P-1s in October.

Arbitron reports that of

Morning Jacket and the Black Keys, but now 94/9 has a much less adventuresome format relying on safer, more commercial artists such as Incubus and Fun.

Also, the introduction of Mike Esparza and his morning show may have put a dagger in 94/9's cred. *The Mikey Show*, which was heard from early 2010 through March 2012, supplanted music with comedy bits laced with forced laughter and a weekly religious testimonial. (Now a podcast, *The Mikey Show* can be heard at mikey-show.com.)

While 94/9 seems to be in trouble, every radio insider contacted maintains that Arbitron's data cannot be trusted as much as it used to be. Until two years ago, Arbitron relied on monthly “diaries” that were filled out by listeners and sent back to Arbitron's headquarters. But then came Portable People Meters (PPMs), which are carried around by the listeners being sampled. Every minute a listener spends with a station is recorded by the PPM, and that info gets sent to Arbitron.

While that process sounds more scientific, the local radio industry decries the process because Arbitron is using a smaller group of listeners. For instance, of the 249,000 male listeners aged 25–34 in San Diego County, Arbitron PPMed just 83 daily listeners (on average) for October. “When [Arbitron] used diaries, it used to be that they would sample one out of every 1200 or 1500 persons,”

says one insider. “Now they use fewer than half of that sampling size because those meters are so expensive. Arbitron just won't spend the money it would take to get a proper sampling in a market this size.”

— Ken Leighton

Cow-chip bingo? “The old band director came in here one day,” Michael Bengé says. “He stood right there and he said, ‘Do you know how old this carpet is?’” Indeed, the carpet in the band classroom at Helix High School is shot. A dozen battered sousaphones hang on pale green walls like trophy mounts. They might as well be; only six of them work. Bengé says there is no budget for new instruments or repairs.

Mitchell Way, 31, director of instrumental music at the La Mesa campus, pulls a tool kit from his drawer in his desk. “We use this every day.”

In fact, Bengé says, there is no budget for anything. “We don't get any money from the district to run the music program.” Parents take up the slack in the school's cash flow via a nonprofit called the Helix Instrumental Music Association. The associate director of instrumental music by day, Bengé, 32, plays trombone in the B-Side Players by night. He says parents also provide meals on the road, stitch torn band uniforms, and they drive. “There is no money for buses. We carpool 125 kids to events.”

Bengé says that fundraising

is another source of cash flow. “It's becoming a full-time job, fundraising.” In recent days, Helix music students have been seen on La Mesa street corners

let some cows loose. You take bets on where they will dump.... We're still trying to work that one out.” The band also has a PayPal account set up to receive



Helix High band kids are raising funds by selling beds. No, not theirs.

bearing flashy green placards that advertise discounts on mattress sets.

Mattresses?

“There are different organizations that recognize the fact that school bands need to raise substantial amounts of money,” says Way, bedding discounters among them. “We made a couple thousand dollars.”

Ironically, the cash-starved music program will move into a high-tech campus performing arts center next year. The construction money was set aside, Bengé explains, in a bond measure that was passed by voters over a decade ago. In the meantime, both he and Way are considering applying for grants and are vetting a host of other fundraisers.

“We're thinking about setting up cow-chip bingo,” Way says. “You grid off a field and

donations at <http://bit.ly/HIMA2012>.

— Dave Good

I call it blunk. “It frustrates me that my school won't help its own students,” Ariel Schwartz, 21, sings and plays bass in Pleasure Fix. She attends SDSU, where she's studying marketing. Sister Emily, 19, is an SDSU theater major who's also in the band. All Ariel wants for her Chula Vista-based blues-punk trio (“I call it blunk”) is for a chance to play before fellow students.

She says Pleasure Fix doesn't need to get paid. “We will play anytime, anywhere [on campus].”

But Schwartz says the students that currently control on-campus entertainment have a DJ fixation.

(continued on page 66)

the inside track blurt

company that has a virtual monopoly on radio-ratings research, there are about 249,000 men aged 25–34 in all of San Diego County. Although most listeners move around between

the 249,000 men in San Diego County in that age range, none claimed FM 94/9 as their favorite station.

Insiders point to two factors that may have driven longtime



Ron Kolessar, vice president of technology at Arbitron, and his Portable People Meter

different stations, Arbitron has one category called “P-1.” If you spend more time with one particular station, you become a P-1, or a loyal listener for that station.

listeners from 94/9, which launched ten years ago this month.

They say the station used to engender listener loyalty by championing artists such as My

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"They used to have bands play all the time. All they've had lately is DJs and an occasional ska band. Usually they hire people who don't even go to our school." She says the students who book the entertainment at SDSU have ignored her. "We have contacted them multiple times. All they tell us is, 'We really don't have bands play here much anymore. We don't have the setup.' But we will bring our own P.A.

"We went to the Associated

Students. They referred us to CASE [Cultural Arts and Special Events]. Then CASE sent us back to Associated Students. I was so frustrated...it seems like they are pushing us back. They just keep giving us a bunch

of excuses," Schwartz contends.

No one from Associated Students called back to answer questions for this article. But Yevy Kopel-eva, assistant program co-ordinator for

CASE did respond: "We're in a transition year." She explained that the old Aztec Center was torn down and a new student center is being built.

So why can't Pleasure Fix



Pleasure Fix can't get a gig at SDSU, where DJs rule.

daily blogs

Mahesh Balasooriya, Gilbert Castellanos, Marshall Hawkins

By Robert Bush — Nov. 17, 4:13 p.m.

Strange Stage Stories from San Diego Musicians: Skid Roper, CC (Little Hurricane), Stevie Harris (The Styletones), and more...

By Bart Mendoza — Nov. 17, 3:45 p.m.

Waiting to inhale

By Garrett Harris — Nov. 16, 1:38 p.m.

All My Friends afterparty: Bruno Dario, San Pedro el Cortez, Tron...

By Chad Deal — Nov. 16, 12:32 p.m.

Secret Sci-Fi-Surrealist-Soul

By Bobby Bray — Nov. 15, 4:05 p.m.

No beheadings this year

By Dave Good — Nov. 15, 8:28 a.m.

Festival Norte Sonoro: international DJs remix Tijuana

By Chad Deal — Nov. 14, 2:51 a.m.

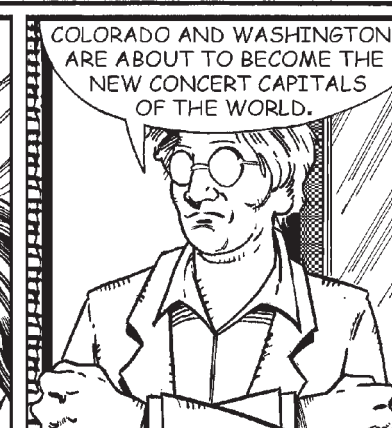
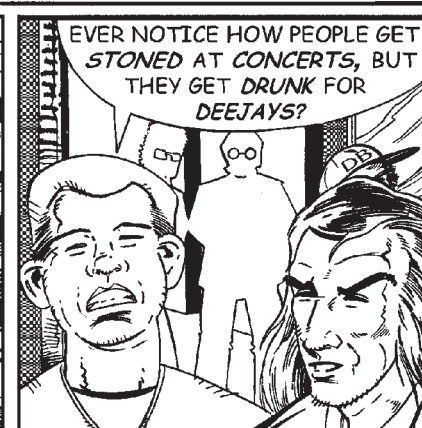
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even get a callback?

"We get phone calls multiple times a day of people who want to play here," says Kopeleva. "It's hard to accommodate everybody. Give them my email."

David Moye attended SDSU in the late '80s/early '90s. He played in local bands and was arts editor for SDSU's *Daily Aztec*. "SDSU students care more about who has the keg. It's kind of a hard place to break original rock and roll. San Diego State just isn't set up to help aspiring musicians. The school is better set up to help Hugh Hefner find future playmates."

The Pleasure Fix, which also includes guitarist Rudy Marquez, appears November 29 at Tin Can Alehouse.

— Ken Leighton

Record-release round-up.

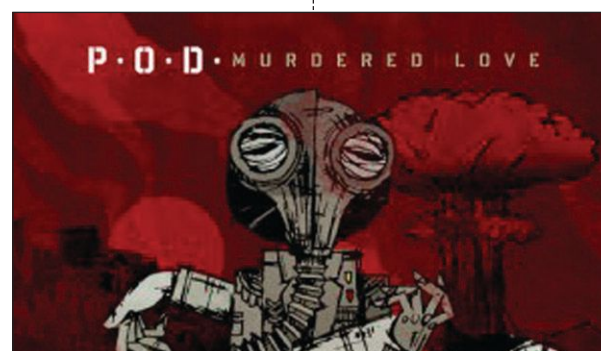
A limited-edition vinyl pressing of P.O.D.'s new full-length, *Murdered Love*, drops this week. It's available in two

colors: transparent red and clear with red splatter.

On November 30, the Tin Can Alehouse will host the release party for SDMA "Best Acoustic" winner Colin Clyne's digital EP *Doon Tae*

guitarist Scot Ryder debuts on Saturday, December 1, at Rebecca's Coffeehouse in South Park.

On the same night, a release party for the new CD by songstress Megan Combs, *Home Is*



P.O.D.'s *Murdered Love* comes clear with red splatter. Suh-weeet!

the Wid (Scottish for "down to the wood"). "I'll be playing a set with my percussionist," says Clyne, "and we're pressing a limited batch of CDs for this party, probably only a hundred copies."

A Christmas CD from Enchanted Realms' fingerstyle

Where the Heart Is (recorded with local reggae artist Tommy Dubs), happens at Lestat's. "My set will include songs from the album, a new song, and maybe a Nicki Minaj cover, all played acoustically with Rhodes piano, stand-up bass, and percussion," says Combs.

On Saturday, December 8, comedic rock duo Pony Death Ride will host a listening party at Bar Pink for their debut full-length, *Not a Foal, Not Yet a Horse*. "It'll be our first San Diego show in over a year," says singer/bassist Jaye MacAskill, "and we hope to have some of the other musicians who played on the release. One thing's for sure — there will be cake!"

The second album from garage rockers the Morlocks, the semi-live *Submerged Alive* (1986), is being re-released by Area Pirata Records with new liner notes by singer Leighton Koizumi. In addition, Koizumi says his '80s garage ensemble Gravedigger V is recording their first new music in over two decades.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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This Week In Music

Thursday 22

Clozz-zz-zzed for Thanksgiving. Tryptophantastic, I'm tired.

Friday 23

Need to get your groove on and work off a couple extra holiday ell bees? Well, shine up your skids, kids, because funky soul brother **Karl Denson** and his **Tiny Universe** crash into Belly Up for two nights of jazz-funk dance jams. Denson is a major player in the acid labs of jazzy crossbreeding, honing his horning and vocal chops with San Diego staples the Greyboy Allstars and touring and recording with the likes of rockers Lenny Kravitz



KARL DENSON AT BELLY UP

and Steve Winwood, bass-slapping rapper Meshell Ndegeocello, and, most recently, top-shelf jazz-funk trio Soulive on the v. recommendable Melvin Sparks tribute *Spark!* Denson's most recent outing with Tiny Universe, 2009's *Brother's Keeper*, should be a reliable preview

of the weekend's proceedings, bringing Motown to yo town for two nights of *holla!*.... Else: House of Blues stages Poway pop-punk four-piece **Unwritten Law**, touring in support of last year's crit-hit comebacker *Swan*. **Versus the World** and **F.O.A.** will open the show...right 'round the bend, Southern hip-hop hit **Gucci Mane**'s at 4th&B behind his latest, *The Return of Mr. Zone 6*, which reached #18 on *Billboard*'s top 200, yo...from Kingston in Jamaica, Bob Marley's big band, the **Original Wailers**, visits the Griffin after our own **Zig Zag Jones**...alt-rock acts **Mayday Parade** and the **Maine** will be over at Soma...and that Russian-flavored rockabilly riot the **Red Elvises** hit Hillcrest hideaway Ruby Room after a surf-rock set by **Secret Samurai**.

Saturday 24

Wouldn't be Thanksgiving weekend without a visit from L.A.'s best-known barroom rockers the **Blasters**. Phil Alvin and his four-piece have a new dilly out in *Fun on Saturday Night*, a blues-rock collec-



THE BLASTERS AT CASBAH

tion that dabbles in "country, bluegrass, and even mariachi." Hit up the interweb for Alvin's duet with Exene Cervenka on the Johnny and June classic "Jackson." The Blasters go off at Casbah Saturday night, and with **Bill Cardinal and the Canyon Band** as appetizer, you are sure to get your rock-o-mended daily allowance of greazy beats.... Best of the rest has Los Angeleno "rockabilly power trio" the **Rocketz** hitting up the Shakedown with our own **Hard Fall Hearts**...Portland psych-rockers **Black Pussy** turning up at Eleven...and from SacTown, "horrocore hip-hopper" **Brotha Lynch Hung** will take the mic at Porter's Pub at UCSD. Didn't even know horrocore hip-hop was a thing.

Sunday 25

Soda Bar stages Akron/Family percussion cat **Dana Buoy**. Buoy (née Janssen) is out to tout this summer's summery *Summer Bodies*, a collection of Caribbean riddims, tropicalia, and bass-heavy reggaeton, according to *Consequence of Sound*, which graded the disc a respectable three out of five hot-pink stars. Speaking of hot-pink stars, **Delicate Steve** headlines these sets. For more on him



DANA BUOY AT SODA BAR

and his, hit up Will Crain's Of Note. Lo-fi locals **Idyll Wild** are also on the bill.... British hard-rock band **UFO** lands at Bay Park bar Brick by Brick. The foursome, fronted by 1969 originals Phil Mogg and Andy Parker,

with American shredder Vinnie Moore on guitar and keyboardist Paul Raymond (Savoy Brown), this year released their 20th studio set, *Seven Deadly*, about which Rebecca Miller of *Metal Temple* writes, "Not contented to sit back on their laurels,

the band continues to produce high-quality rock albums." There it is. **Taz Taylor** up first.... A little farther up the 5, jazz guitarists **Mundell Lowe** and **Jack Petersen** will front **Rob Thorsen** on bass and **Jim Plank** at the traps in Dizzy's new digs at P.B. Jet Ski on Mission Bay Drive. I pulled off and took a peek inside the other day. Great-looking space.

Monday 26

Eric Howarth and his Daydream Nation Presents are back in town, after a brief stint in Silver Lake, and will deliver

Three Mile Pilot to the Griffin before the indie-rock innovators head off to Europe and points beyond behind their recent reunion records *The Inevitable Past Is the Future Forgotten* (2010) and *Maps* (2012). **Vampires** open the show....

Belly Up hosts a KPBS/SDSU taping of their new show, *Live at the Belly Up!* The flyer I'm looking at says that you should be prepared to "show off your dance moves on TV to the tunes of the **B-Side Players**, the **Devastators**, and **Maren Parusel**."



THREE MILE PILOT AT GRIFFIN

Tuesday 27

From Minneapolis, Minnesota, punk-rawk three-piece **Off with Their Heads** will take down the Shakedown Tuesday night. The trio recently signed to Epitaph for the release of the road warriors' first mid-major *In Desolation*, which the label lauds for its "fist-pumping singalongs...in the vein of the Bronx and Against Me." A'ight. **French Exit** and **Dan Padilla** up first.... **SISU** (pronounced "see-soo") is a lo-fi electro-pop five-piece featuring Sandra Vu, who also plays drums in Dum Dum Girls. The L.A. up-and-comers will play Casbah with protopunk tourmates **Gothic Tropic** and our own goth-pop **Tropical Popsicle**. The tropics are in this year.... West Coast rapper **Dom Kennedy** has the mic at House of Blues behind his latest, *Yellow Album*. I'm unfamiliar, but I found this in *XXLMag* (they

know rap): "*Yellow* showcases Kennedy's laid back yet engaging flow. Though not his strongest work to date, the release reminds that Kennedy has what it takes to make him an ambassador for the New West." An ambassador!

Wednesday 28

Humpnight in a nutshell: Canada band **Whitehorse** rides into Soda Bar after **Nena Anderson** and her **Mules**. Whitehorse is a husband-and-wife duo that deals in adventurous indie-folk on its s/t debut. Dave Good Of Noted Ms. Anderson, if you

want to flip or click to that for the low-down on the lady's eclectic tendencies.... San Diego's sassiest soul sister **Lady Dottie** dons her **Diamonds** out at Gallagher's in O.B...."local facemelters" **Wha?** rattle cavities at Casbah after **Bugs** and **Octa-grape**...and rock 'n' soul SDMA winners **Robin Henkel Band** will bring some hootin' and hollerin' to ArtLab in Norml Heights. (Shaddup, Typo Patrol, it's intentionl.)

— Barnaby Monk



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Brendan B & The Breaks

11/25 **Delicate Steve**
Dana Buoy (of Akron/Family)
Idyll Wild

11/26 Free Show!
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11/27 **Zozo Fiasco**
Lemon Lips
Rah Rah
Hello Penelope

11/28 **White Horse**
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Adult Oriented

“Every time I broke something and said it was an accident, my mom would say, ‘So were you.’”

We perform musical comedy inspired by burlesque, vaudeville, and punk rock,” says Jaye MacAskill, who cofounded Pony Death Ride with her husband Joe in 2009. “As a multi-instrumental duo, our songs reference a variety of music genres, from classic American songbook-style to pop, country, electro, metal, and even children’s lullabies. Though our lyrics touch on various inappropriate adult-oriented themes.”

Jaye (formerly of the Daffodils and Nautical Disaster) cites a few of their inspirations. “I’m from Canada, so most of my influences are funny underground Canadian bands from the 1980s, like the Dick Van Dykes, Deja Voodoo, the Gruesomes, and the Flunkees, a sleazy punk Monkees cover band from Vancouver. I like the subversive stuff, so the more commercial novelty-type artists like Weird Al have never done much for me. Plus, I could never get over Weird Al’s hair. I just don’t like it.”

As for Joe (ex-Trophy Wife and Skunk Drunk), “I’ve been friends with Steve Poltz and a fan of Mojo Nixon for a long time, [and] my last two bands had the same mindset as those two musicians. I used to listen to KGB’s *Homegrown* albums, and one song called ‘Chula Vista,’ which is where I’m from, got me interested in this type of comedy-

driven music. ‘King Tut,’ by Steve Martin, was also one of the first funny songs that I liked as a kid.”

Pony Death Ride’s debut full-length (*Not a Foe, Not Yet a Horse*) is slated for release on December 11. The CD-release party is at Bar Pink on Tuesday, January 15.

MUSIC

JAY ALLEN SANFORD

WHAT’S IN YOUR MUSIC

PLAYER?

Jaye:

1. Garfunkel and Oates, *All Over Your Face*. “Playing the song ‘This Party Took a Turn for the Douche’ over and over while I’m driving makes me feel like a badass.”
2. The Wet Spots, *Hello Kinky*. “Every time I worry we’re crossing the line with our humor, I think of the Wet Spots and how dirty their lyrics are, and I feel prudish by comparison.”
3. Amanda Palmer, *Who Killed Amanda Palmer*. “An amazingly talented and diverse songwriter and musician who explores a lot of really dark themes with humor.”

Joe:

1. Careful, *Because I Am Always Talking*. “A refreshing electronic folk mix that makes me want to make films, just so I can use their music as the soundtrack.”
2. Art Brut, *Bang Bang Rock & Roll*. “A witty band

with self-deprecating lyrics.”

3. M. Ward, *A Wasteland Companion*. “It’s hard to just play and sing and be original these days, but somehow M. Ward manages to do it.”

IF YOU COULD READ MINDS?

Jaye: “I’d have a long conversation with our cats.”

Joe: “Find out why everyone hates me.”

BRUSH WITH FAME?

Jaye: “When I was working at a store in Canada, I served the former wife of Canada’s most beloved past prime minister. Margaret Trudeau was a 1970s Canadian version of Jackie Kennedy, except she liked to party and ran away to hang out with the Rolling Stones. She’s legendary.”

Joe: “I recently saw Rob Halford of Judas Priest at Ralphs. Growing up a metal kid, that’s a big deal.”

BIGGEST REGRET?

Jaye: “Not buying the giant framed needlepoint rendition of *The Blue Boy* that I saw at a thrift store.”

Joe: “Having heavy metal hair in high school.”

USELESS TRIVIA STUCK IN YOUR BRAIN?

Jaye: “My favorite trivial fact du jour is that the child actress Charlotte Henry, who played Alice in the first movie adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland* in 1933, ended up moving to San Diego in the 1940s and joining the cast of the Hollywood Burlesque Theatre.”

Joe: “I can name all the pro baseball teams in alphabetical order in ten seconds.”

PSYCHICS — REAL OR FAKE?

Jaye: “All the ones I’ve been to have definitely been fake, but I’m not a complete disbeliever.”

WHY SAN DIEGO?

Jaye: “I moved here from Brooklyn in 2003 to get my master’s degree in public history at USD and



Canada meets Chula Vista in the husband-and-wife musical comedy duo Pony Death Ride.

to live closer to my grandparents.”

Joe: “I was born here, but I’m sure one day I’ll move on.”

MOST VISITED WEBSITES?

Jaye: “Google Maps is a great way to walk around a neighborhood or look in someone’s backyard without physically having to go there.”

Joe: “*Setlist.com*. I’m hooked on seeing the setlists of bands I like so that, when they come to town, I don’t have to go see them.”

FIRST JOKE YOU REMEMBER?

Jaye: “What’s red and green and goes 175 miles per hour? A frog in a blender.”

Joe: “When I was a kid, every time I broke something and said it was an accident, my mom would say, ‘So were you.’”

SOMETHING ABOUT YOU FEW WOULD GUESS?

Jaye: “When I was 11 years old, I got my mom to buy me a pair of fake black leather pants.”

Joe: “When I was 40, I got Jaye’s mom to buy me a pair of fake black leather pants.” ■

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12/22 :: BRITISH INVASION
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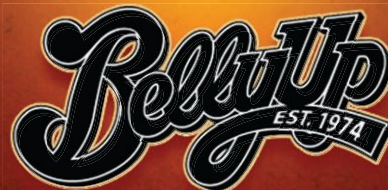
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SEATED SHOW!
TUESDAY 12/4 • 8 PM

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12/18 Head North Benefit w/ Godspeed McQueen
1/27 An Evening with Jorma Kaukonen of Hot Tuna - seated show!
2/1 and 2/2 Tristan Prettyman • 2/9 The Wailers - on sale Friday!
3/22 Bob Schneider

Upcoming Shows:		
12/5 & 6	Chris Robinson	12/23 A Cash'd Out Christmas w/ Total Distortion (Social D Tribute)
12/7	The Ultimate Stones	12/27 Cracker and Camper van Beethoven
12/8 & 9	An Evening with Chris Isaak	12/28 The Aggrolites and B-Side Players
12/10	Kinky Friedman's Bi-Polar Tour w/ Mojo Nixon	12/29 Vokab Kompany
12/11	Snoop Dogg - SOLD OUT!	12/31 New Year's Happy Hour w/ Candye Kane
12/12	Justin Townes Earle	12/31 The Reverend Horton Heat - New Year's Eve show!
12/14	Jonny Lang	1/4 Pato Banton
12/16	Los Lobos	1/5 3rd Annual Beat Farmers Hootenanny feat. The Farmers, The Mentals, Nancarrow
12/19	Bootsy Collins	1/9 Lucinda Williams
12/20	Venice Christmas Show	1/11 & 12 The English Beat
12/21	Dead Feather Moon	1/13 Steve Earle
12/22	Dennis Quaid and the Sharks	
12/23	The Mar Dels Christmas Matinee 2pm - Benefit for Cancer for College	
1/17	Femi Kuti and The Positive Force	
1/18	Dead Man's Party	
1/19	Tower of Power	
1/24	Nicki Bluhm and the Gramblers	
1/25 & 26	Ozomatli	
1/31	The Wood Brothers	
2/8	Tommy Castro & The Painkillers and Paul Thorn	
2/15	Ra Ra Riot	
2/22	An evening with Leftover Salmon	
3/2	Super Diamond	
3/3	David Lindley w/ Carrie Rodriguez	
3/21	Kenny Rogers	
4/5	An evening with Big Head Todd & the Monsters	

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

4th&B:
Friday — Gucci Mane.
Saturday, 9pm — Jboog and Hot Rain. \$30-\$50. 21 and up.

AMSDconcerts:
Friday, 7:30pm — Téada. Irish traditional music.

Anthology:
Friday, 7:30pm — Hotel California. Eagles tribute band. \$10-\$25.
Friday, 9pm — Slapbak. R&B, soul. \$10-\$12.
Saturday, 7:30pm, *Saturday*, 9:30pm — Zapp Band. R&B, funk. \$12-\$29. 21 and up.
Sunday, 7pm — Jonathan Coulton. Singer-songwriter. \$10-\$21. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Michael “Big Mike” Lynche. The season nine *American Idol* finalist performs R&B and pop. \$10-\$27.

ArtLab:
Wednesday, 8pm — Robin Henkel Band. With Whitney Shay and Billy Watson. **Free.**

Bar Pink:
Friday, 9pm — Bonkers! EDM dance party.
Sunday, 9pm — DJ Joemama and DJ Tramlife. Happy Endings night.
Monday, 9pm — The Fire Eaters. Soul-jazz jam.
Tuesday, 9pm — Craig Prior. Tiki Tuesday. **Free.** 21 and up.
Wednesday, 9pm — H.A.M. Featuring DJ L.

Belly Up:
Friday, 9pm, *Saturday*, 9pm — Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe. \$25. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8pm — Abbey Road. Beatles tribute. \$12-\$14. 21 and up.
Monday, 8pm — The B-Side Players, The Devastators, Maren Parusel. \$5. 21 and up.
Tuesday, 8pm — Huckle and Grant Farm. Roots rock for

Farmageddon Tour 2012. Bring two non-perishable food items, get a free CD. \$13-\$15. 21 and up.
Wednesday, 9pm — Anuhea. With Stranger. Singer-songwriter, surf. \$16-\$18. 21 and up.

Brick by Brick:
Sunday, 7pm — UFO, Taz Taylor Band, Symbolic. With Points North. \$20-\$25.

Casbah:
Friday, 8:30pm — Inspired Flight, In Motion Trio, The Fire Eaters. With Pruitt Igoe. \$10. 21 and up.
Saturday, 8:30pm — The Blasters. Roots rock. \$18-\$20. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8:30pm — Wild Belle, Deep Sea Diver, Strange Vine. \$12-\$14. 21 and up.
Tuesday, 8pm — Sisu and Tropical Popsicle.
Wednesday — Wha? With the Bugs and Octagrape. \$5. 21 and up.

Eleven:
Saturday, 9pm — Black Pussy. With guests. \$5.
Monday, 9pm — Electronic Night, Main Frame, Mystery Cave. With Ryan Haynes, Rebar and Plums, guest. \$3.
Tuesday, 9pm — NoRey. \$5.

Felix’s BBQ With Soul:
Saturday, 7pm — Steven Ybarra. Proceeds from Ybarra’s CD sales during concert and donations benefit Hurricane Sandy victims via the American Red Cross.

Flame:
Saturday, 9pm — Deeply Rooted. DJ Tone Capone (aka Anthony Orlando) and DJ Henry Diaz, Jackie G on L.E.D. and fire rings, percussionists Richie B and Senor Clave. Featuring artists David Gane Feucht, Davis Reyes, Abbazzabaa Coltrane, Adam Kyron Murillo, more. \$5. 21 and up.

Gallagher’s Pub & Grill:
Friday — Legacy Pack.
Saturday — Brothers Gow. With DJ Chelu.

Griffin:
Friday — The Original Wailers.
Saturday — The Bosses Luau.

! NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

Delicate Steve’s song “Redeemer,” from the new *Positive Force*, is an original, but it sounds like an oddball cover version of the instrumental theme song from some forgotten 1980s TV drama (I’m thinking *Hill Street Blues* or *L.A. Law*) with the central melody played on a nasally sounding guitar.

Yes, a nasally sounding guitar. I didn’t know such a thing was possible until I heard it. Steve Marion plays his guitar like it is the vocalist in his band. (He does have a good band on tour, but he reportedly played almost all the parts on *Positive Force* himself.) Actual human voices show up only occasionally, and always in the role of backup. At the same

time, almost every song has something like a recognizable verse and chorus, and they are always “sung” by the guitar. According to his friend, famous rock writer Michael Azerrad, Delicate Steve’s guitar on “Tallest Heights” is doing an imitation of Michael Jackson’s singing style. On another track, he’s imitating Miles Davis’s horn.

Oh, and another thing about famous friends: Delicate Steve has a lot of them, apparently. He’s connected somehow with many notable figures in New York’s indie-rock avant-garde, from Sonic Youth’s Lee Renaldo to Dirty Projectors.

In some ways, *Positive Force* is very much of a piece with other music coming out of the capitals of hipsterdom these days: it has vaguely African-sounding rhythms (Dirty Projectors, Vampire Weekend), a retro kind of guitar heroism (Fang Island), and an unironic fondness



DELICATE STEVE

for early ’80s lite-rock (Phoenix and whoever is on the soundtrack to the movie *Drive*). But Delicate Steve has an upbeat vibe and oddball aesthetic that are all his own.

DELICATE STEVE: Soda Bar, Sunday, November 25, 8:30 p.m. 619-255-7224. \$8 advance/\$10 door.

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

Monday, 8pm — Three Mile Pilot. \$20. 21 and up.
Tuesday — Social Club, H.A. Perkins, Young London.
Wednesday — This Time With Feeling and The Peripherals.

Hard Rock Café:
Sunday — Luciana. She calls it “dirty electro.”

House of Blues:
Friday, 8pm — Unwritten Law. With Versus the World. \$18-\$30.
Saturday, 8pm — Holiday Hangover Party. With the Cured, Strangelove, Joshua Tree, Murmur. 21 and up.
Sunday, 9pm — Figure. \$22. 18 and up.
Tuesday, 8pm — Dom Kennedy. Yellow album world tour. \$20-\$25.
Wednesday, 8pm — Kitten With a Whip, RDG, Saucy Monkey. KPRI’s Local Brews, Local Grooves night, with Jesse Nova. **Free.** 21 and up.

Java Joe’s:
Saturday, 9pm — Tim Flannery with Berkley Hart. Send your name and phone number for

advance tickets: javajoes91@gmail.com. \$20.

Jimmy Love’s:
Wednesday, 7pm — Gino and the Lone Gunmen. Live rockabilly, swing, blues and vintage rock and roll. **Free.** 21 and up.

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice,
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Tamir Hendelman Jazz Trio. 619-260-4545. \$5-\$15.

Lestat’s Coffee House:
Sunday, 8pm — “Mona Lisas and Mad Hatters.” Chris Carpenter presents Elton John tribute show. \$10.

Mediterranean Cafe:
Saturday, 7pm — Adrienne Nims and Spirit Wind. **Free.**

Onyx/Thin:
Friday, 9pm — Rumba Lounge. Muzik Junkies, Martin Kache, Tony V play salsa, merengue, Latin experience. DJ Seize, Yogui, Eddie One. 21 and up.

Porter’s Pub at UCSD:
Saturday, 8pm — Brotha Lynch Hung. \$20-\$50.

R. O’Sullivan’s:
Saturday, 9pm — David Lally. with Patric Petrie tearing it up on fiddle! 21 and up.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Friday, 7pm — Attika 7. \$25.

Renegade Inn:
Friday, 9pm, *Saturday*, 9pm — The Drinking Cowboy Band. **Free.** 21 and up.

Ruby Room:
Friday — The Red Elvises, The Secret Samurai, Gino and the Lone Gunmen. \$12.
Saturday — Mimi Zulu and the Revenge, Hussy, My Elysian. With the Jew Cocks. \$7.
Wednesday — Amigo, Undead Garden, The Focke-Wolves. With Kitty Plague. \$5.

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Straight No Chaser. A cappella.

Shakedown Bar:
Friday — The Debonaires. With 2000 Tons of TNT and Low Life Sound System.
Saturday — Hey! Ho! Let’s Go! Ramones tribute. With Hocus.
Tuesday — Off With Their Heads and The French Exit.

Soda Bar:
Friday, 8:30pm — Coda Reactor, The Gore Horsemen, Hit Dog Hollar. With the Last Years. \$5.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Blueprint (aka Printmatic). With Mad Dukez and Fresh Kils, Brendan B and the Breaks. \$10. 21 and up.
Sunday, 8:30pm — Delicate Steve. Delicate Steve has an upbeat vibe and oddball aesthetic that are all his own. With Dana Buoy. \$8-\$10.
Monday, 8:30pm — Satellite Run, Mexican Hexagon, Arrive Alive. With Hot Mustard. **Free.** 21 and up.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Zozo Fiasco, Lemonlips, Rah Rah. With Hello Penelope. \$5.
Wednesday, 8pm — Whitehorse. With Nena Anderson. \$8-\$10. 21 and up.

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Friday, December 14
**METALACHI
MEX-ZEPPELIN
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JIMMY & ENRIQUE**

12/29 Rammoth 1/5 The Cured 1/24 Love/Hate 1/25 Ultravox 1/26 Back to Black • Hellbent 1/27 Uli Jon Roth 1/28 Frank Hannon (Tesla) 1/29 The Aristocrats 2/9 Hell on Heels Burlesque Revue’s Valentines Show 2/17 Cockney Rejects • Youth Brigade 2/23 Ruck ‘N’ Roll 3/1 Dada 3/23 LongFellow Benefit

Saturday, December 15
**CONCORDE
(Featuring Kelle Rhoads)
DEATHRIDERS
(featuring Neil Turbin of Anthrax)
ULTIMATE SIN • PLANET SHRED**

Sunday, December 16
**DON DOKKEN • BULLET BOYS
JESTER FATE • ANONYMOUS**

Wednesday, December 19
**HIGH ON FIRE
CORROSION OF CONFORMITY
GOATWHORE • LO PAN**

Thursday, December 20
MIDNIGHT STARR & JT’S EDM

Friday, December 21
**“END OF THE WORLD PARTY”
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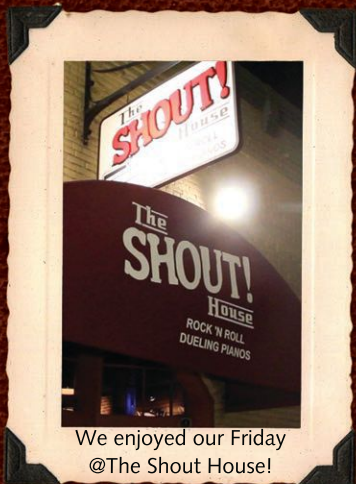


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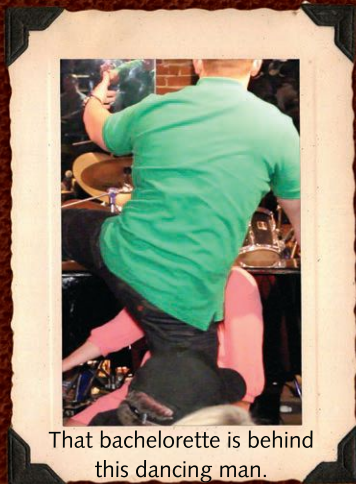
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- Dvořák's Sixth
- Olga Kern Plays Rachmaninoff

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- Broadway's Brian Stokes Mitchell
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- Dance Brazil

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WEDNESDAY, 11.28 AURAL GRAVY RECORDS PRESENT THIS TIME WITH FEELING THE PERIPHERALS	THURSDAY, 11.29 BUDDY BANTER REQUIEM FOR THE ROCKETS, COLOR, WITNESS 9	FRIDAY, 11.30 THE MEDITATIONS ISHMAEL & THE PEACEMAKERS, TRIBE OF KINGS SOUND SYSTEM
SATURDAY, 12.1 MATTSON 2 MARSHMALLOW MEN, PRIVET, GOLDEN BEACHES	THURSDAY, 12.6 GRIPIN HARGO, TWENTY7	SATURDAY, 12.8 BLACK MARKET III
THURSDAY, 12.13 OLIVER TROLLEY WE ARE SIRENS, DR. SEAHORSE, CLAUDED	SATURDAY, 12.15 DIEGO'S UMBRELLA SO LONG DAVEY	SATURDAY, 12.22 OCEANSIDE SOUND SYSTEM LOOSE NUTTS, NEVEREADY
WEDNESDAY, 12.26 BLK OWL CHERUB	EST. 2011 THE GRIFFIN	MONDAY, 12.31 NEW YEARS EVE DIRTY SWEET GRAND TARANTULA, DEADLY BIRDS

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 Must be 21 - All shows 2-drink minimum

NOV. 23 • ATTIKA 7

LIVE W/ BIKE SHOW

NOV. 30 • JOHN CORABI

FMR SINGER OF MOTLEY CRUE AND RATT

DEC. 14
SPRUNG MONKEY

DEC. 15
TOM MCCAIN
 COMEDY SHOW

DEC. 16
TOMMY CASTRO BAND

FEAT. DAYTONA AND THE BLUESIDE ROCKERS AND BLUES SPECTERS

DEC. 21
END OF THE WORLD PARTY

JAN. 18
PAUL DI'ANNO
AXIL DIANNO
 THE LEGENDARY VOICE OF IRON MAIDEN

JAN. 19
MICHAEL SWEET
 OF STRYPER UNPLUGGED SOLO TOUR

JAN. 25
 COMEDY TO BENEFIT HEARTS & HANDS ANIMAL RESCUE

FEB. 1
GUITAR SHORTY

FEB. 2 • STU HAMM
 FMR BASSIST OF JOE SATRIANI & STEVE VAI

FEB. 7 • THE TUBES
 THE TUBES


FEB. 8
BOBBY ROCK'S PURPLE PLANET

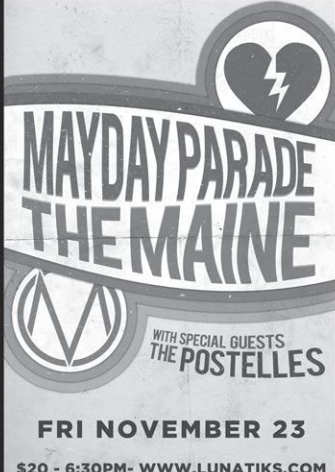
FEB. 14
 VALENTINES DAY
EDDIE MONEY

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\$20 - 6:30PM- WWW.LUNATIKS.COM



THURS NOVEMBER 29
\$17- 7PM- WWW.LUNATIKS.COM



DECEMBER 7 - \$16 ADV- 6PM
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SAT. NOV 24

THE CATARACTS
ROLL
THE PICE
Tour
DJ CARNAGE
WITH SPECIAL GUEST STARTING 6

SUN. NOV. 25

C
HODOS
HEARTIST
THE EMPIRE WITHIN
KILLING THE MESSENGER
SHINING THROUGH

FRI. NOV. 30

DRAIND
LIKE TYRANTS
TERRA FIRMA
FALL TO RUIN
FIVE BODY BLADE
WHEN WHALES COLLIDE

SAT. DEC. 8

WOODO SLOW SKULLS
LEFT ALONE

FRI. DEC 14

BLOOD ON THE DANCEFLOOR
JEFFREE STAR
NEW YEARS DAY
DAVEY SUICIDE

FRI. DEC 15

UNDEAD GARDEN
SOUNDBORED
A TRUTH BETRAYED
FAKE EXPRESSION
AIM TO KILL
CUT YOUR LOSSES

SAT. DEC. 21

CARNIFEX
NOZENTIA
OH, GUARDIAN • LION I AM
MORTIFY YOUR ENEMIES
KILLING THE MESSENGER
THE EMPIRE WITHIN

SAT. JAN 5

OCEANS

FRI. JAN 11

DIGITAL JAMMER
2B • JOSH THE BEAR
DISARRAY • DJ TURBO
GORILLA DISKO

THURS. JAN 24

ACTION ITEM
MAX SCHNEIDER
BEFORE YOU EXIT
HELLO HIGHWAY

SUN. FEB 10

The Woasters
MRS. SKANNOTTO

December 8 — Black Market III.
December 13 — We Are Sirens
and Dr. Seahorse.
December 15 — Diego's
Umbrella.
December 26 — Cherub.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill:
5500 Grossmont Center Dr., La
Mesa, 619-713-6900.
December 7 — West of 5.

Hope United Methodist Church: 16550 Bernardo
Heights Parkway, Rancho
Bernardo, 858-485-5840.
December 7, December 8,
December 9 — "O Tannenbaum
— A Celebration of Christmas
Symbols."

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth
Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-
299-2583.

November 29 — Edith Márquez.
November 29 — Hitfactory,
Southern Collaboration, Hush
Da Loudmouth.
November 30 — Which One's
Pink?
December 2 — Gospel Brunch.
December 2 — Yellowcard.
December 3 — Paul Banks.
December 4 — Streetlight
Manifesto, Hostage Calm,
Lionize.
December 7 — Adventure Club.
December 8 — Metric.
December 9 — MercyMe.
December 11 — Gloria Trevi.
December 13 — Gary Hoey.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr.,
Shelter Island, 619-224-3577.
December 20 — West of 5.

The Irenic: 3090 Polk Ave.,
North Park, 619-624-9335.
December 10 — The Mountain
Goats.

Jimmy Love's: 672 Fifth Ave.,
Downtown San Diego, 619-595-
0123.
November 29 — Stoney B. Blues
Band.

Jois Yoga: 575 S. Coast Hwy.
101, Encinitas, 760-704-0595.
December 9 — Two Masters
Yuletide Concert.

La Jolla High School: 800
Nautilus St., La Jolla.
November 30 — "U-Benefit
Uganda."

La Jolla United Methodist Church: 6063 La Jolla Bl., La
Jolla, 858-454-7108.
December 16 — A Celebration
of Carols.

Lafayette Hotel & Suites:
2223 El Cajon Bl., University
Heights, 619-296-2101.
December 15, December 22 —
The Tinseltones.

**Lakeside Community
Presbyterian Church:** 9908

Channel Rd., Lakeside, 619-443-
1021.
December 7 — Christmas
Concert.

**Lutheran Church of the
Incarnation:** 16889 Espola Rd.,
Poway, 858-487-2225.
November 30 — Learn Handel's
"Messiah" Choruses.
December 7 — Learn Handel's
"Messiah" Choruses.

**Mandeville Auditorium at
UCSD:** 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD.
December 8, December 9 —
"Dark/Bright."

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge:
400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-
422-6641.
November 30, December 1 —
Stone Wolf.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main
St., Ramona, 760-789-9050.
November 30 — Outta Line.
December 7 — Nemesis.
December 7 — Nemesis.
December 14 — Stone the Giant.
December 14 — Stone the Giant.
December 21 — Outta Line.
December 28 — Safety Orange.

Museum of Making Music:
5790 Armada Dr., Carlsbad, 760-
438-5996.
December 7 — Local Flavor: Mad
Traffic.

New Village Arts Theatre:
2787 B State St., Carlsbad, 760-
433-3245.
November 30 — Brooke White.

Oceanside Museum of Art:
704 Pier View Way, Oceanside,
760-435-3720.
December 6 — Allison Tucker.

**Palomar College O2
Performance Space:** 1140
West Mission Rd., San Marcos,
760-744-1150.

November 30, December 1 —
"The Masque: An Evening of
Baroque Entertainments."
December 2 — "Palomar Jazz!
The Creative Spirit."
December 14 — "Ring Out, Wild
Bells!"

**Palomar College
Performance Lab (room
D-10):** 1140 W. Mission Rd.,
San Marcos, 760-744-1150.
November 29 — Palomar
Electronic Music Ensemble.
November 29 — Sonic Sampler.
December 6 — Music Student
Honors Recital.

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
45000 Pechanga Parkway,
Temecula, 951-693-1819.
December 7 — Cheap Trick.
December 13, December 14 —
Celtic Woman — A Christmas
Celebration.
December 29 — Air Supply.

Porter's Pub at UCSD: 9500
Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-587-

4828.
December 8 — Watsky and Blue
Scholars.
December 15 — Zion I and
Minnesota.
December 16 — Kreyshaw'n.
December 17 — How the Grouch
Stole Christmas.

Pounders: 125 W. Grand Ave.,
Escondido, 760-739-1288.
December 14, December 15 —
Stone Wolf.

R. O'Sullivan's: 118 East Grand
Ave., Escondido, 760-737-0954.
November 30 — David Lally.

**Ramona Mainstage
Nightclub:** 626 Main St.,
Ramona, 760-789-7008.
November 30 — John Corabi.
December 8 — Alcatrazz.
December 14 — Sprung Monkey.
December 16 — Tommy Castro
and the Painkillers.

**Riviera Supper Club &
Turquoise Room:** 7777
University Ave., La Mesa, 619-
713-6777.
November 30 — Kitten With a
Whip.

Ruby Room: 1271 University
Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
December 2 — Wookie Garcia.

**Schulman Auditorium at
Carlsbad City Library:** 1775
Dove Lane, Carlsbad.
December 9 — The Bayou
Brothers.
December 16 — "Christmas
Around the World."

Scottish Rite Center: 1895
Camino del Rio South, Mission
Valley, 619-297-0397.
December 1 — Hawaiian
Christmas Concert.

**Seacoast Community
Church:** 1050 Regal Rd.,
Encinitas.
December 16, December 18 —
"Holiday Sparkler."

The Shakedown Bar: 3048
Midway Dr., Midway District,
619-487-0373.
November 30 — The Chop Tops.
December 1 — Black Fag and
Girl-Ilia Biscuits.
December 8 — Neon Kross and
The Very.
December 15 — Last 2 Know and
Convalescents.
December 19 — The Blood,
Evacuate, Rat City Riot.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl.,
City Heights, 619-255-7224.
November 29 — Wovenhand.
November 30 — Takahashi,
Gloomspan, Hot Cannons.
December 9 — Turbo Fruits.

**Solana Beach Presbyterian
Church:** 120 Stevens Ave.,
Solana Beach.
December 8 — CANCELLED
Masterpiece Messiah.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl.,
Midway District, 619-226-7662.
November 29 — Falling in
Reverse, Enter Shikari, I See
Stars.
December 7 — Motionless in
White.
December 8 — Voodoo Glow
Skulls and Left Alone.
December 14 — Blood on the
Dancefloor, Jeffree Star, Davey
Suicide.

Space 4 Art: 325 15th St., East
Village, 619-269-7230.
November 30 — Fresh Sound
Music: Crossovers.

St. Elizabeth Seton Church:
6628 Santa Isabel St., Carlsbad.
December 16 — "Messiah" Sing.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church:
3725 30th St., North Park, 619-
298-2130.
December 1 — Martin Luther
King, Jr. Community Choir.

Star Theatre: 402 N. Coast
Hwy., Oceanside, 760-721-9983.
December 1 — Holiday
Spectacular.

**Summit Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship:** 8778
Cottonwood Ave., Santee, 619-
562-0833.
December 7 — Trails and Rails.

**Sycuan Casino Showcase
Theatre:** 5469 Casino Way, El
Cajon, 619-445-6002.
November 30 — War.
December 5, December 6 — Bret
Michaels.
December 7 — Ed Kowalczyk and
Ed Roland.
December 14 — The Temptations
Review.

**Templar's Hall at Old Poway
Park:** 14134 Midland Rd.,
Poway.
December 1 — Blackwaterside.

**The Auditorium at The
Scripps Research Institute:**
10640 John Jay Hopkins Dr., La
Jolla, 858-626-2000.
December 11 — Brass and Winds.

Tiki House: 1152 Garnet Ave.,
Pacific Beach, 858-273-9734.
December 15 — Jonathan Warren
& The Billy Goats.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863 Fifth
Ave., Bankers Hill, 619-955-8525.
November 29 — Pleasure Fix,
Former Friends of Young
Americans, Vaginals.
November 30 — Colin Clyne,
Carl Durant, Pat Hull.

University of San Diego: 5998
Alcalá Park, USD, 619-260-4600.
December 14, December 15 —
"Messiah" Sing-Along and Play-
Along.

**United Church of Christ of
La Mesa:** 5940 Kelton Ave., La
Mesa, 619-464-1519.
December 16 — "I Believe."

**University Community
Library :** 4155 Governor Dr.,
University City, 858-552-1655.
December 5 — Villa Music
Signers.
December 19 — Barbershop
Quartet Holiday Concert.

Valley View Casino Center:
3500 Sports Arena Bl., Midway
District, 619-224-4171.
November 30 — Trans-Siberian
Orchestra.

Viejas Arena: 5500 Canyon
Crest Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
December 2 — The MMG Tour.
December 7 — 91X Wrex the
Halls.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St.,
Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
November 29 — The Clumsy
Lovers.
November 30 — Hi Roots.
December 1 — Dazed and
Confused.
December 3 — The Electric
Waste Band.
December 6 — Head for the Hills.
December 10 — The Electric
Waste Band.

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HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at SDReader.com/drinks

ALLIED GARDENS

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

ALPINE

Donato's Italian Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 glass Bud Light, \$6 pitcher; \$3.50 house wine.

BALBOA PARK

The Prado: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$4.50 wells, wine, draft ale, margaritas, mixed drinks.

BANKERS HILL

Bertrand at Mister A's: *Monday-Friday*, 2:30-6pm: \$5 wells, \$6 wine, \$13.50 cocktails, \$6 nonalcoholic drinks, \$7 appetizers. Bar or patio only. No Happy Hour in December.

Tin Can Ale House: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$1 off drinks.

Wet Stone Wine Bar and Cafe: *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$5 glass of wine or sangria, \$20 carafe of sangria. \$3 bottles of craft beer. \$6 salads and starters.

BAY PARK

The High Dive: *Monday-Wednesday, Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off Local San Diego Craft Beers. \$1 off House Wine by the Glass. *Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off Local San Diego Craft Beers. \$1 off House Wine by the Glass..

BONITA

Villa Capri: *Wednesday*, 4-7pm: Half-off bottles of wine.

CARDIFF

Chart House: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6:30pm: \$4 wells, drafts. \$5 cocktails, wine. \$6 martinis. \$4 spinach & artichoke dip, \$5 firecracker shrimp, \$6 wood-fired pizzas.

CARLSBAD

Argyle Steakhouse/Golf Club-house: *Tuesday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$5 well cocktails and draft/domestic beer, \$6 select wine and Argyle bites.

Bellefleur: *Monday, Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-price martinis. *Tuesday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all bar-menu food items. Includes salads, pizza, seafood. *Thursday*, 5-7pm: \$3 well margaritas and wine. *Saturday*, all day: \$4 shoppertinis. *Sunday*, 5-7pm: \$3 domestic beer, happy hour wine, well highballs.

Mr. Peabody's: *Monday-Friday*, 10am-6pm: \$2.50 domestic beer, wine, spooli shots, wells + juice. \$3.50 margaritas. Free taco bar 3pm to 6pm with drink purchase.

On the Tracks Brewery and Tasting Room: *Thursday*, 5-7pm: Ladies, \$3 pints.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Conway's Irish Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm: \$2.75 domestic drafts and bottles; \$2.75 and \$3.75 wells.

CARMEL VALLEY

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

CHULA VISTA

Achiote Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 beer, \$3.99 margaritas.

Veni Vidi Vici: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$1 off all draft and well liquors. 1/2-price appetizers.

CITY HEIGHTS

Eleven: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local draughts and drinks.

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

CLAIREMONT

Fat Tony's Pizza: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-8pm: \$2 glass/\$8 pitcher Yellowtail, Blue Moon, Big Eye, Coors Light. \$5 pizza, wings, salad.

COLLEGE AREA

Pal Joey's: *Monday*, 4:30 to 6:30pm: Karaoke 9m. *Tuesday*, 4:30 to 6:30pm: \$2 Tuesdays. *Wednesday*, 4:30 to 6:30pm: \$3.50 personal pitchers. Karaoke 9m. *Thursday-Friday*, 4:30 to 6:30pm: \$3.50 personal pitchers. *Saturday*, Karaoke 9m. *Sunday*, \$7 domestic pitchers.

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

CORONADO

Bistro d'Asia: *Daily*, 3-6pm: \$3 beer, \$3.50 Gekkeikan sake, \$4 wells, wine, \$5 sake-tini. Sushi specials. \$5 chicken sliders, vegetable spring rolls, wings.

Brigantine: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$4 Brig brew, Dos Equis. \$4.75 margarita, \$5.50 chardonnay, \$6 mer-

lots, \$1 off featured wine. Discounted tacos, shrimp, oysters.

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

DEL MAR

Brigantine: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$4 Brig brew, \$4.75 margarita, \$5.50 chardonnay, \$1 off featured wine. Discounted fish tacos.

Pacifica del Mar: *Wednesday*, 4-6:30pm: \$6 vodkas and gins. Oyster night: oysters on the 1/2 shell and oyster shooters. *Thursday*, 4-6:30pm: 1/2-price on all bottles of wine.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Bice: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$5 house wine, wells. \$5 lobster pizza, tuna tartare.

Dublin Square: *Daily*, 2-5pm: \$2 off drafts, bottled beer, house wine, wells, Irish whiskey. 1/2-off sliders, fish tacos, meat pies.

Dussini Loft Bar: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 9-10pm: \$1 off wells, drafts. 1/2-off sliders, onion rings, calamari. *Friday-Saturday*, 10-11pm: \$1 off wells, drafts. 1/2-off sliders, onion rings, calamari.

Funky Garcia's Mexican Restaurant: *Monday, Wednesday*, All day: \$3.50 drafts, bottles; \$4 wells; \$5 Patrón & Don Julio shots. *Friday-Sunday*, 9-11pm: \$3.50 drafts, bottles; \$4 wells; \$5 Patrón & Don Julio shots.

House of Blues: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 wines, \$3 wells, \$4 martinis. Killer happy hour menu.

The Local: *Tuesday*, 4pm-close: \$3 Mexican beers, margaritas; \$2.50 tacos. *Wednesday*, 4-10pm: \$10 pitchers; \$1 sliders. *Thursday*, 4pm-close: \$3 wells, select drafts/bottles; \$3 fish tacos. *Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 wells, \$1 off local drafts; \$2 off nachos, quesadillas. *Saturday*, noon-9pm: \$6 Dos Equis draft & whiskey or tequila shot.

Patrick's Gaslamp Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm; 11pm-close: domestics from \$2.50, wells from \$3.25.

Sevilla: *Daily*, 5-7pm: tapas starting at \$3; half-off select menu items; \$4 glasses of sangria; \$14 sangria pitchers.

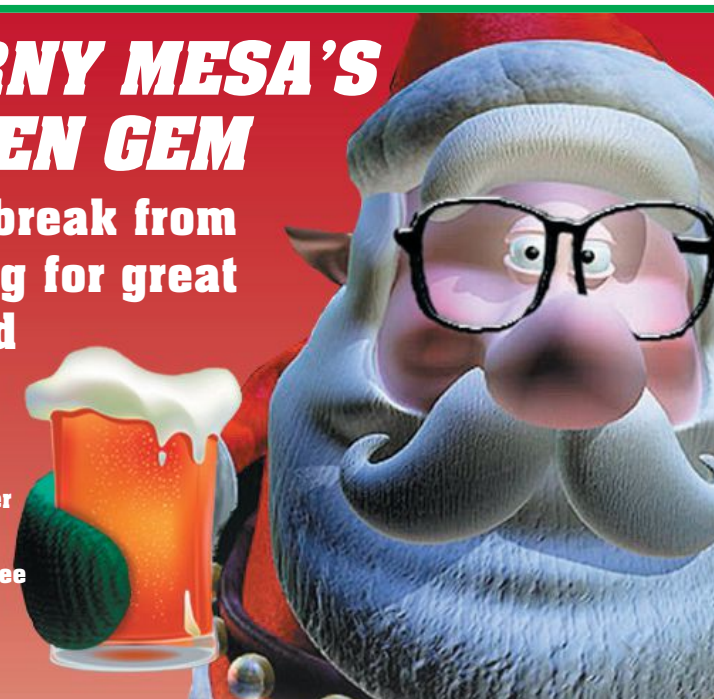
The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: *Daily*, 5-8pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.

Stout Public House: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$3 bottled beer; \$4 drafts, wells; \$5

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Appetizers



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DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

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Yard House



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Legendary DJ, Jammin Z

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FRIDAY Disco Pimps @11pm

SATURDAY DJ Miss Dust

SUNDAY Trance DJs

MONDAY Live "Reggae Party"

TUESDAY Best Local Showcase in SD

WEDNESDAY FingerBang 10pm-1am
HAIR ROCK COVER BAND

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Corner of 5th & F
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stagebarandgrill.com

the HERE'S DEAL

Press Box Sports Lounge, pressboxsportslounge.com

I know what you're thinking, and, yes, I really am recommending a suburban strip-mall sports bar. But let's be fair about this. After all, what is Rancho San Diego if not one contiguous shopping center interspersed with tract housing, equestrian crosswalks, and golf courses?

While it may lack the uptown flair of 30th Street's craft-brew monuments, **Press Box** is a viable alternative for denizens east of Lemon Grove and — offering over 100 beers, including 30+ on rotating taps from local breweries such as Manzanita, Coronado, Ballast Point, Alesmith, and Stone — it easily outshines any sports bar for at least ten miles in any direction.

Of course, you'll also get all the headache that comes with an entire unincorporated community modeling itself after a Spanish Colonial consumer purgatory — things like ever-full parking lots, apathetic servers (bartender Kelly is awesome, however), and a clientele made up of a painfully accurate cross-section of the locals. Which is to say, loud-mouthed young Republican Fox Racing bros, sulky

suburban brats with decoy cleavage, and bourgeois tennis dorks — though, on the bright side, you're also likely to have an impromptu chuckle with the dapper Chaldean businessmen smoking on the patio and Cuyamaca College kids who stopped in for a quickie and never quite made it back to class.

Perhaps the best way to get a feel for the place is on second Thursdays, when \$25 buys a flight of beer and unlimited eats from the kitchen, which is overseen by veteran chef Jesus Frias. If you're lucky, the cask tap may even be firing, though lately it's been restricted to sporadic Saturdays.

If grapes are more your flavor, stop by every last Thursday for a \$10 tasting from Press Box's 65+ wines (including selections from J Pilar Winery down Highway 94 in Jamul) with cheese pairings and live jazz.

The bar also offers a full



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WOO

Press Box outshines any sports bar within a ten-mile radius.

range of liquor, with rather generic "specialty" cocktails running \$8–10 and martinis at \$10.

If you're in it for cheap grub, go for \$1 street tacos every Tuesday from 3 to 9 p.m. The tacos are small but cooked fresh on the patio and

remarkably authentic. A few \$3 wells later, you may even forget that you're hanging out in the diamond studded anus of the New World.

— Chad Deal

Find more Here's the Deal columns at sandiegoreader.com

Hours: MONDAY–THURSDAY, 11 A.M.–11 P.M.; FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, 11 A.M.–MIDNIGHT; SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.–11 P.M.

Happy: MONDAY–FRIDAY, 4 TO 7 P.M., HALF-OFF APPETIZERS, \$1 OFF DRAFTS, HOUSE WINE, AND WELLS

Cards: YES

Cask Night at Coaster Saloon

Friday December 7th @ 6:30pm
Featuring Coronado Brewing Company
\$4 per Serving

\$2 off Craft Beers from 5-7pm M-F
Serving 52 taps daily
Full kitchen serving great food
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21+



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4pm-6pm (Starting November 4th)

\$1 Small Bites
\$2 Off Wine
\$3 Draft Beers

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Come in and taste authentic Indonesian and Thai Cuisine

FULL BAR | 24 BEERS ON TAP | LIVE MUSIC WEEKENDS | NO COVER

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50¢ Chicken Wings (5 minimum)

\$1 Chicken Tenders | \$2 Pork Sliders

\$5 Tater Tots

HAPPY HOUR 3-7 pm Monday-Friday

1/2 price appetizers | \$1 off drafts | \$2⁷⁵ wells

REVERSE HAPPY HOUR

\$1 off drafts | \$2⁷⁵ wells | 11 pm - close (Sunday - Wednesday)



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cosmopolitans, margaritas. 1/2-price wings, calamari, chicken tenders.

Yard House: *Monday-Wednesday*, 3-6pm & 10pm-close: \$3.50 domestic pints; \$6.25 martinis. 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more. *Thursday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$3.50 domestic pints; \$6.25 martinis. 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more. *Sunday*, 10pm-close: \$3.50 domestic pints; \$6.25 martinis. 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more.

EAST VILLAGE

Hive Sushi Lounge: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$2 domestic, \$4 micro, \$2.50 sake, \$3.50 well, \$4 house wine. Miso, edamame, \$9.9.

Monkey Paw: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local draughts and drinks.

EASTLAKE

Chili's: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 3pm-close: \$1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos, fried cheese.

EL CAJON

Main Tap Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off 16-oz. pints, \$2 off pitchers, \$3.50 wells.

ENCINITAS

Bullpen Pub & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off pitcher, \$2 off wine.

Cap'n Kenos: *Daily*, 6am-midnight: \$2.50 wells, pints of beer. (Monday-Friday, free chicken 4-5pm.)

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: *Monday*, 11:30am-close: \$6 vodka cosmo, merlot, chardonnay. *Saturday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$6 vodka cosmo, merlot, chardonnay. *Sunday*,

3:30-7pm: \$6 vodka cosmo, merlot, chardonnay.

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$3 domestic, \$9 pitcher; \$4 imported, \$12 pitcher; 1/2-off sushi rolls (no sushi on Monday).

GOLDEN HILL

Turf Supper Club: *Friday-Sunday*, noon-4pm: \$1 off beer/wine/spirits. \$5 burger, chicken sandwich, hot links + chips.

GRANTVILLE

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

HARBOR ISLAND

C-Level: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-5:30pm: \$4 brews, \$5 specialty drinks.

HILLCREST

Busalacchi's A Modo Mio: *Monday*, 4pm-6:30pm. 1/2 off Wine Bottles. *Tuesday*, 4pm-6:30pm. *Wednesday*, 4pm-6:30pm. All martinis 1/2 off. Live Music. *Thursday-Friday*, 4pm-6:30pm. Live Music. *Saturday*, Brunch 9am-2pm; \$2 Mimosas. Live Music. 4pm-6:30pm. *Sunday*, Brunch 9am-2pm; \$2 Mimosas. 4pm-6:30pm.

IMPERIAL BEACH

The Salty Frog: *Tuesday*, 6-10pm: "Toss it Tuesday" — each drink has 50/50 chance of costing a quarter. *Thursday-Saturday*, 9pm-close: \$5 Jäger bombs and Fireball shots. *Sunday*, 1-9pm: \$4 bloody mary bar; \$3 Smirnoff flavors.

KEARNY MESA

94th Aero Squadron: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.75 glass wine, draft beer; \$3.25 most domestic bottled beer; \$3.50 margaritas. Free buffet: pizza, quesadillas, veggies.

Tajima Sushi & Japanese Tapas: *Monday-Thursday*, 5:30-7pm: 1/2-off sake, drafts. \$1 edamame, \$2 garlic edamame. *Saturday-Sunday*, 11:30am-4pm: 1/2-off sake, drafts. \$1 edamame, \$2 garlic edamame.

KENSINGTON

Clem's Tap House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off all beer and wine flights.

Til-Two: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells and imported drafts.

LA JOLLA

Aloha Sushi Hawaiian Grille: *Daily*, 4-6:30pm: \$2.50 small sake, \$4 large sake, \$1.95 select hand rolls, \$3 cucumber roll, \$3.50 California, spicy tuna, veggie roll.

Bull and Bear Bar and Grill: *Daily*, 10pm-2am: \$1 off all beer, \$2 off all wine; \$5 wells.

La Jolla Brew House: *Friday-Saturday*, 10pm-1am: \$2 Off Pints; \$3 Wells & Wines; Buy Any Pizza Get One Free.

Rock Bottom Brewery, La Jolla: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight: \$3.50 beer, house wine, well drinks.

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off wells and appetizers (excludes seafood & guacamole).

Sushi on the Rock: *Daily*, 5-6:30pm: \$2 sake, Coors Light; \$3 sake; \$4 Soju spritz; \$5 house wine. \$1.75 vegetarian roll, \$2.75 spicy tuna roll, \$4 potstickers.

LA MESA

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HAPPY HOUR

Anthony's Fish Grotto: *Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm:* \$3 draft, Anthony's white; \$4 wells, \$5 calls. \$2.75 fish tacos, \$3 lettuce wraps, \$4.50 tostado.

Tarroz Sports Bar: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 2-7pm:* \$2.50 domestic beer, tequila shots, \$3 imported beer, \$4 premium drafts.

LAKESIDE

Coach Stop: *Monday-Friday, 9am-noon, 4-7pm:* \$2.50 large drafts, domestic bottles. 7-11pm: \$1.50 12-oz. drafts, \$6.50 60-oz. pitchers.

Coo Coo Club: *Monday-Friday, 6-8pm:* \$2.75 wells, domestic bottles, drafts.

LEMON GROVE

Dirk's Niteclub: *Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm:* \$.50 off all drinks \$4.50 or less.

Sunday, 6am-2pm: \$1 off bloody marys.

LEUCADIA

Bar Leucadian: *Monday-Wednesday, Friday, 4:30-6:30pm:* \$2.75 wells, \$2.50 beer of the month. *Thursday, 4:30-6:30pm:* \$2.75 wells, \$2.50 beer of the month, Ladies U-Call-it \$2.75.

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

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm:* \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

LITTLE ITALY

El Camino: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 5-7pm:* \$3 margaritas, sangria, Corona, Corona Light; 1/2-off quesadillas and nacho plates. *Tuesday, 5pm-1am:* \$3 margaritas, sangria, Corona, Corona Light. 5-7pm: 1/2-off quesadillas and nacho plates. 5-11pm: 1/2-off taco plates. *Sunday, 10am-4pm:* \$1 mimosas.

Puerto la Boca: *Daily, 4:30-7:30pm:* \$3 house wine, \$3.50 drafts, wells, \$6 house martini. 30% off appetizers.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

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

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

MIRA MESA

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

\$2.95 gyoza, \$4.95 lumpia, \$5.50 tempura crab roll.

MIRAMAR

The Filling Station: *Monday, 7pm-close:* \$4 margaritas. *Tuesday, 7pm-close:* \$2 kamikazes. *Wednesday, 7pm-close:* \$3.50 premium drafts. *Thursday, 7pm-close:* \$2.50 wells, domestic beers; \$7.50 domestic pitchers. *Saturday, noon-7pm:* \$3 mimosas. *Sunday, noon-7pm:* \$3 bloody marys.

MISSION BEACH

Guava Beach Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4pm-close:* 1/2-off beer, shots, cocktails. 25% off pot stickers, jumbo coco shrimp, nachos.

MISSION HILLS

The Aero Club: *Daily, 2pm-2am:* \$.50 off beer and wells.

Starlite: *Monday-Saturday, 5-7pm:* \$3 drafts, wells, \$1 off other. *Sunday, all night:* \$5 mules. \$15 off wine bottles.

MISSION VALLEY

Bully's East: *Monday-Friday, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-12:15am:* \$2.50 domestic, draft; \$3.50 wells, \$5 wine. Garlic bread, fish taco, coconut shrimp.

NATIONAL CITY

Pier 32 Waterfront Grill: *Friday, 3pm-sunset:* \$2 domestic beer, \$3 import and local beer, \$5 house wine, mimosas, bloody marys.

NESTOR

Baja Oyster Bar: *Monday-Thursday, All day:* \$.99 fish tacos. 3-6pm: Two-for-one domestic bottle, discounted special roll.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

The Air Conditioned Lounge: *Monday-Friday, 4-8pm:* \$3 draft, bloody marys; \$5 you-call-it; \$6 Jayne's Gastropub fare.

NORTH PARK

Bar Pink: *Monday-Friday, 4-8pm:* \$1 off drafts and calls.

Lips Restaurant: *Sunday, all night:* Industry Night, \$3.50 wells, \$5.50 calls, 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

OCEAN BEACH

Blue Parrot: *Monday-Friday, 2-6pm:* All drinks and appetizers 1/2-price (all day Monday).

Mother's Saloon: *Monday, 3-7pm:* \$1 off drafts; 1/2-off appetizers. 7pm-close: \$3 Jägermeister shots. 11pm-close: \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts. *Tuesday, 3-7pm:* \$1 off drafts; 1/2-off appetizers. 7pm-close: \$3 Fireball shots; \$1.50 tacos. 11pm-close: \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts. *Wednesday, 7pm-close:* \$5 Rolling Rock and shot; \$1.50 TJ dogs. 11pm-close: \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts. *Thursday, 9pm-close:* \$3 you-call-its; \$1.50 sliders. 11pm-close: \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts. *Friday, 3-7pm:* \$1 off drafts; 1/2-off appetizers; \$2.75 well. 11pm-close: \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts. *Saturday-Sunday, 11pm-close:* \$2.75 well; \$1 off drafts.

OCEANSIDE

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm:* \$4 wells, house wine. \$1 off all beer.

OLD TOWN

Acapulco Mexican Restaurant: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm:* 1/2-price appetizers, \$1 soft taco, \$3 draft beer, \$3.50 well, house wine, \$3.95 house margarita.

Old Town Mexican Café: *Monday-Friday, 3-7pm, 11pm-close:* Drink & beer specials. \$2 Taco Tuesday (chicken, beef, fish, carnitas); \$2.50 margaritas, Tecate, tequila.

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: *Daily, 4-7:10pm:* 1/2-off food & booze.

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

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

POINT LOMA

Jimmy's Famous American Tavern: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* 1/2-off all appetizers, drafts, wells, and select house wine.

POWAY

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

RAMONA

Cheers: *Monday, 2-5pm:* \$1 off drinks. \$10 steak. *Tuesday, 2-5pm:* \$1 off drinks. \$1 tacos. *Wednesday, 2-5pm:* \$1 off drinks. \$.50 wings. *Thursday, 2-5pm:* \$1 off drinks.

RANCHO BERNARDO

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

RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS

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

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Press Box Sports Lounge: *Monday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight:* \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$4 martinis. *Tuesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight:* \$1 off wells, all drafts. \$3 you-call-its. *Wednesday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight:* \$1 off wells, all drafts. 1/2-off wine bottles. *Thursday-Friday, 4-7pm, 10pm-midnight:* \$1 off wells, all drafts. *Saturday, all day:* \$3 mimosas & bloody marys.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Delicias: *Daily, 4-6pm:* \$5 draft beers, house wines, wells.

SAN MARCOS

Cowshed Bar and Grill: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday, 4-7pm:* \$3 domestic. \$3.50-\$4 wells. *Tuesday, 4pm-2am:* \$3 domestic. \$3.50-\$4 wells.

SANTA YSABEL

Santa Ysabel Resort & Casino: *Monday, Mojito Monday:* \$4 Irish Mojito. *Tuesday, Tropical Tuesday:* \$4 Tropical Dream. *Wednesday, Wicked Wednesday:* \$5.50 Speedy Gonzalez.

Thursday, Thirsty Thursday: \$2 bottled domestics. *Friday, Fiesta Friday:* \$4 classic margarita. *Saturday, Sweet Saturday:* \$5 pineapple-Midori martini. *Sunday, Sunset Sunday:* \$4 Amaretto Sunset.

SANTEE

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, 7-9pm:* \$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.*

SHELTER ISLAND

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: *Daily, 5-7pm:* 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

SOLANA BEACH

The Saddle Bar: *Monday-Friday, 4-7pm:* \$1 off drinks and drafts.

SORRENTO VALLEY

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm:* \$4 beers, wells, wines, flights. \$5 boneless wings, fries, spicy hummus.

SOUTH PARK

Hamilton's Tavern: *Daily, 5-8pm:* \$1 off local drafts.

SPRING VALLEY

Fannie's Nightclub: *Daily, 4-6pm:* \$.50 off all drinks.

TIERRASANTA

JP's Pub: *Monday-Friday, 4:30-6:30pm:* \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

UCSD

Porter's Pub at UCSD: *Daily, 11am-7pm* \$3 Menu; 4pm-7pm \$1 off all beer.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Michael's Lounge in the Hyatt Regency: *Daily, 5-7pm:* \$4 drafts and well cocktails.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Babbo's Bar and Grille: *Daily, 4:30-6:30pm:* \$3.95 wells, drafts, wine.

Cheers: *Monday-Friday, 11am-7pm:* \$2.50 domestic bottles. \$3 single wells. \$3.50 domestic drafts.

Imig's Kitchen and Bar: *Monday, 5-9pm:* \$4 wells, \$2 off beer and wine by the glass; \$10 burger and a beer. *Tuesday, 5-9pm:* \$4 wells, \$2 off beer and wine by the glass; half-off bottles of wine. *Wednesday-Friday, 5-9pm:* \$4 wells, \$2 off beer and wine by the glass. *Sunday, 7am-2pm:* \$15 bottomless mimosa; \$22 bottomless mimosa with brunch item.

Small Bar: *Daily, 5-8pm:* \$1 off local draughts and drinks.

VALLEY CENTER

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant: *Monday-Friday, 2-6pm:* \$2 domestic. \$3 imports, wells. Discounted appetizers.

VISTA

Chili Coast Burgers: *Monday-Friday, 3-6pm:* \$.50-\$.75 off tap beer.



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Teeter-Totter

"The comic and tragic parts equally border on the hateful."

A friend of mine, a novelist, told me he wants to create a character like Humpty Dumpty, with so many sides and contradictions you can't glue him back together. Or, in doing so, you'd have to finesse nagging details that don't jibe.

"Oh," I replied, "you mean like Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*?"

Over the years, critics have disagreed so vehemently about this "comedy," it would be easier to reassemble Humpty Dumpty than find common ground. Samuel Taylor Coleridge said, "The comic and tragic parts equally border on the hateful." A.W. Schlegel, another biggie, appreciated "the triumph of mercy over strict justice." In our day, Harold Bloom calls it "authentically outrageous," since it pushes comedy "beyond all possible limits...almost past irony at its most savage."

The Duke has ruled Vienna 19 years. Actually, "ruled" is a misnomer. He favored license over law. Brothels and diseases abound, and children are born out of wedlock. "T" was my fault to give the people scope," he confesses. But to make a sudden change would be "tyranny." So, to rebalance things, he goes on hiatus. He asks young Angelo, who admits he isn't ready, to be his proxy. If the Duke favored frolic, Angelo would flourish at the

Inquisition. He's supposedly a saint, "whose blood is very snow-broth," and "when he makes water, his urine is congealed ice."

Were the Duke to continue, the population of Vienna would double in no time. Were Angelo to have his way, fornication would cease: he "will unpeople the province with continency." Angelo's first act is to demolish all houses of ill-repute in the suburbs (which was happen-

ing in London when Shakespeare wrote the play around 1603-'04). His second: enforce a musty old law against lechery. Young Claudio must die for impregnating Juliet, even though they are betrothed (and legal lovers). And, since Angelo wants to set an abrupt example of his stern new policy, Claudio must die soon.

But does the penalty fit the crime? Does it offer a straight across, measure for measure? The play unfolds like tilting scales of justice, or a teeter-totter, where one side's always higher than the other. And at the puzzling conclusion, which scatters most critics like autumn leaves in a Santa Ana, the teeter still totters.

When we first see Isabella, Claudio's sister, she wants to become a nun. But she's worried that the order she chose might not be strict enough. When we last see Isabella, she's run a gauntlet through

THEATER

JEFF SMITH



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY WEISER

You'd think, after all Isabella has seen, she'd hie herself hence to the strictest Carmelite order.

Measure for Measure, by William Shakespeare

The Old Globe/University of San Diego Graduate Theatre Program, Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, Balboa Park

Directed by Ray Chambers; cast: Christopher Salazar, Whitney Wakimoto, Danielle O'Farrell, Adam Gerber, Erin Elizabeth Adams, Matthew Bellows, Meaghan Boeing, Jeremy Fisher, Kushtrim Hoxha, Stephen Hu, Allison Layman, Robbie Simpson, Stephanie Roetzel; scenic design, Sean Fanning; costumes, Elisa Benzoni; lighting, Chris Rynne; sound and original music, Kevin Anthenil. Run concluded.

the smarmy, sex-crazed world she rejected at the beginning: a "saint" (named "Angel" no less) tried to seduce her to save her brother; her brother urged her to have sex with Angelo ("What sin you do

to save a brother's life, nature dispenses with the deed so far that it becomes a virtue"); and a Duke disguised as a friar, manipulated lives and deaths, ordered three hopelessly mismatched marriages,

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Calendar THEATER

and now wants to marry her? You'd think, after all Isabella has seen, she'd hie herself hence to the strictest Carmelite order in Vienna.

In the text, Isabella doesn't reply. That gap is the theatrical equivalent of the Mona Lisa's unfathomable smile. What is Isabella thinking?

In the Old Globe's *Measure for Measure* a few summers back, as he exited the stage, the Duke turned and held out his hand. Isabella paused, spread "Oh, gosh, gee, what the heck" across her face, and skipped after him. In his mighty staging at the Globe (1988), John Hirsch set the play in Sigmund Freud's Vienna, a dark, steamy locale rife with spiderwebby subtexts and psychological malignancy (over which, in Ralph Funicello's brilliant set, a giant cross gazed down). By play's end, Hirsch's Isabella was ready either for a nunnery — the religious kind — or a nuthouse.

For the USD/Old Globe Theatre's production, which closed last Sunday, director Ray Chambers smartly left Isabella onstage at the end, stuffed with confusion. As lights dimmed, you could almost see *Measure for Measure* spin like a Rolodex in Whitney Wakimoto's eyes. She was split, as Isabella says earlier, "twixt will and will not."

Up to this point, the production favored "will." Led by Jeremy Fisher's goofy Lucio, in

a candy-stripe coat, the comic spirit held sway. Actors performed in a straightforward, post-Freudian style (which made Matthew Bellows's Angelo too bland, and his coming-out scene with Isabella — the sudden thaw of his repressed sexuality — a letdown). Christopher Salazar's Duke was a well-intended gent. If he erred, or seemed over-controlling, he meant well (and was well-spoken). Two actors gave the piece deeper tones. Adam Gerber's imprisoned Claudio had an eloquent grief, and Danielle O'Farrell's Escalus a pointed ferocity.

So many of the play's characters feel at least two-sided, and flit from the one to the other. To complicate Escalus, costume designer Elisa Benzoni decked her in a mid-17th-century dress with battleship-sized panniers. No matter what O'Farrell said, trying to move about in a costume as wide below the waist as she is tall, was comical.

From the start, Sean Fanning's set suggested darker matters. A marble, checkerboard floor and low walls had edges so sharp you feared for the actors' shins. Chris Rynne's moody lighting draped various hues across the stone.

Were one to have polled the audience at intermission, a majority would have said they were watching another *Twelfth Night* or *As You Like It*. All problems looked surmountable. At the end, however, Isabella's perplexity turned the entire play upside-down. And all the

Duke's horses and all of his men, well... ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

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A Christmas Cactus
PowPAC stages Eliot Byerrum's film noir-style comedy, in which private investigator Cactus O'Riley ("a white-hot redhead with the holiday blues") solves mysteries and takes a second chance on love. Missy Hendrick directed. POWPAC, POWAY'S COMMUNITY THEATER, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

A Hammer, A Bell, and a Song to Sing
The San Diego Rep has "expanded and enhanced" an earlier draft of this tribute to music advocating change. The idea grabs, but most of the new material gets in the way of the songs, which protest injustices from the American revolution to the Occupy movement. This new version does as much explaining as singing. It's got strong moments, as

when Jim Mooney talks and sings of Vietnam and the draft, and when Lisa Payton finally gets to sing up to her abilities. The overall style feels toned down (and at times too cartoony), as if it's an old-time hootenany, a folk songfest, than to-the-barricades protest piece. The result: the songs play like museum pieces without urgency or import. SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 2.

Christmas Belles
Talent to aMuse Theatre Company presents the comedy — by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, and James Wooten — about the harried Futrelle sisters: one is two weeks' overdue with her second set of twins; another, jilted, burned down half the town. WESTMINSTER THEATER, 3598 TALBOT ST., POINT LOMA. 619-224-6263. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM MONDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 2.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas
The Old Globe Theatre stages its traditional holiday show, in which a green meanie threatens festivities in Whoville. Originally conceived and directed by Jack O'Brien. OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 7PM THURSDAYS, 7PM FRIDAYS, 11AM SATURDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 5PM SATURDAYS, 11AM SUNDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 5PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 29.

Drinkin', Singin', Swingin'
Welk Resort Theatre presents "a Rat Pack style Christmas show: the weather outside is frightful... but Frank, Sammy, & Dino make it more delightful." WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 8PM THURSDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS, 6:30PM SUNDAYS, 1PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

Hickorydickory
Moxie Theatre stages Marisa Wegrzn's "realistic fantasy" about mortal clocks and the "unfortunate few born with one in their brain... instead of their heart." Jennifer Eve Thorn directed. MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, COLLEGE AREA. 858-598-7620. 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 16.

Holiday Spirits
Scripps Ranch Theatre presents the world premiere of Jim Caputo's

semi-farcalic comedy, loosely based on Dickens's *A Christmas Carol*. CAPUTO directed. SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO RD., SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 9.

In the Red and Brown Water
UCSD Theatre presents Tarell Alvin McCraney's drama about Oya's dilemma: go to college on a track scholarship or nurse her dying mother? Gregory Wallace directed. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD. 858-534-2230. 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 1.

John Doe, the Ultimate Midlife Crisis
John Doe Productions and A Culture of Peace stage the new musical comedy, by Robert Moutal, about a middle-aged man found unconscious on a park bench. He must wake up and find his identity before the hospital disconnects him. LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH NOVEMBER 25.

Measure for Measure
The Old Globe/USD Graduate Theatre Program stages Shakespeare's examination of innocence, rigid laws, and hypocrisy. Ray Chambers directed. SHERYL AND HARVEY WHITE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 2PM SUNDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

miXtape
Jon Lorenz and Colleen Kollar Smith, creators of this revue of 1980s music, say that favorite songs "mark your memories." *miXtape* is performed with rampant energy and polish by an eight-person cast. Memory-triggers zip past: Pet Rocks, Pac-Man, Nelson Mandela, AIDS. Most of the songs are actually song-bites. But backed by Andy Ingersoll's versatile band and under Kerry Meads's feisty direction, *miXtape* is always entertaining — and memory-provoking. (Note: Lamb's Players has extended the run several times.) 619-437-0600. Worth a try. HORTON GRAND HOTEL, 311 ISLAND AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 800-542-1886. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 15.

National Comedy Theatre
The National Comedy Theatre presents a 100-minute improv comedy show based completely on audience suggestions. The show is "appropriate for all audiences." NATIONAL COMEDY THEATRE, 3717 INDIA ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4999. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 9:45PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 9:45PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Night Stage to Big Shaft
Peggy Sue Productions presents a dinner-theater show set in 1853. "When a new mine and a dead lawyer are discovered, everyone becomes a suspect." MIKKI'S CAFE, 1639 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, OPEN-ENDED RUN.

Peter Pan & Wendy
This SDSU production explores, "with a nod to modern California and a bit of fairy dust," the adventures Wendy and Peter Pan. SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY, 5500 CAMPANILE DR., SDSU. 619-594-5200. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 2.

Plaid Tidings
New Village Arts presents Stuart Ross's sequel to *Forever Plaid*, in which the Plaids perform a yuletide show. Jason Heil directed. NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 24.

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas
Coronado Playhouse stages the "risqué musical," based on the legendary LaGrange, Texas, brothel, the Chicken Ranch. CORONADO PLAYHOUSE, 1835 STRAND WAY, CORONADO. 619-435-4856. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

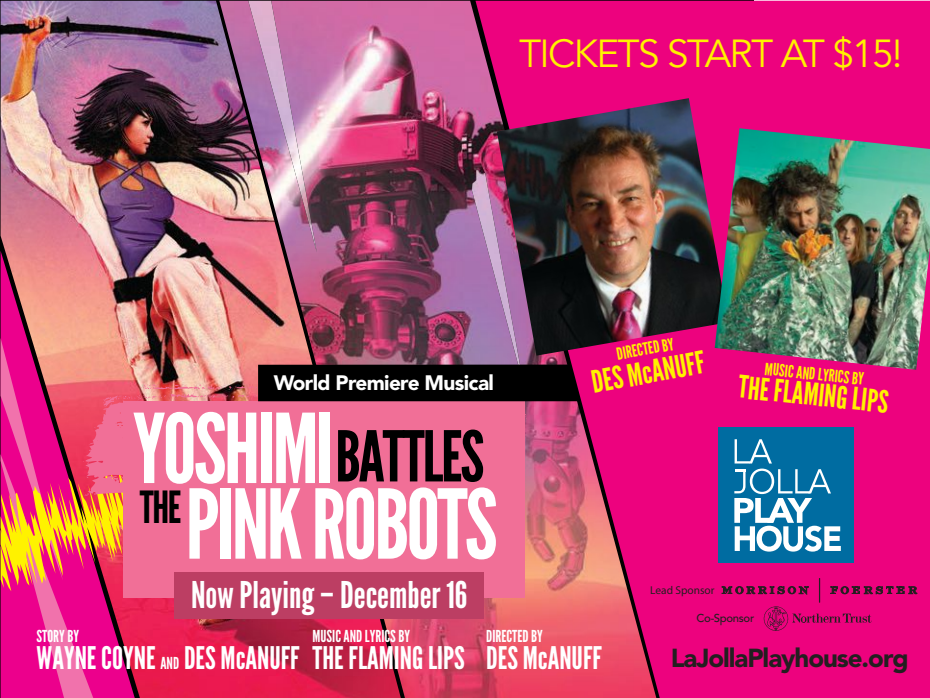
The Little Flower of East Orange
Ion Theatre stages Stephen Aldy Gurgis' drama about how a mysterious accident reveals "a powerful secret." Glenn Paris directed. ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 4PM FRIDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 4PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 8.

The Messiah
The Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library presents a preview of Community Actors Theatre's annual Christmas production that tells the story of the birth of Christ. MALCOLM X LIBRARY, 5148 MARKET ST., VALENCIA PARK. 619-527-3405. 6:30PM WEDNESDAY.

Vampire Lesbians of Sodom
Different Stages presents Charles Busch's series of satirical vignettes about two immortal vampires "locked in an eternal, if comic, antagonism." Jerry Pilato directed. SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 7:30PM SATURDAY, 9:30PM SATURDAY.

When Last We Flew
After stealing his local library's only (and unread) copy of Angels in America, misfit teenager Paul locks himself in the bathroom and begins reading the landmark play. He soon finds that his life and the lives of those around him in his small Kansas suburb are about to take flight. DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 8PM MONDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 9.

Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots
La Jolla Playhouse presents the world premiere musical, book by Des McAnuff and Wayne Coyne, music by the Flaming Lips, in which Yoshimi battles for her life alone in a fantastical robot-world. McAnuff directed. LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 16.



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Exalting the Irrational

If Ang Lee's *Life of Pi*, based on a novel by Yann Martel, had been nothing more than the story of a teenaged boy who survives a shipwreck only to find he must share his lifeboat with a Bengal tiger, it could have been a very fine, often astonishing adventure film. All the oceangoing drama of *Titanic* with none of the sentimentality; all the visual wonder of *Avatar* with none of the windbagery about creating a world from scratch. When it comes to thrilling hearts and inspiring awe, one boy in a boat and this premade world of ours will do just fine, thank you. (That whale from the trailer? Totally worth the 3-D.)

Unfortunately, *Life of Pi* aspires to be much more than that. See, the adventure isn't the point. This isn't a film about a boy lost at sea; this is a film about the importance and significance of storytelling. And more than that — it's a film about religion, about God him/her/itself.

That is why the struggling novelist

comes to our hero (all grown up now) at the outset. He's heard about a story that will make him believe in God. That is why we must wade through the outrageously talky opening segment, a segment so uncertain of its power to communicate that it tells us a story about Krishna and then shows us the same story in comic-book form. That

is why we must endure an interminable counterstory at the end,

straight narration so blandly filmed that we don't care if it's the truth, we just want it to be over. These clumsy, clunky bookends were apparently deemed necessary, because otherwise, how would we know what the adventure means?

Well, I suppose Lee could have hoped that his viewer would simply pay attention to what happens. A boy is trapped on a vast and empty ocean with a deadly force of nature. Why, you could even think of the tiger as death itself, the immutable and inescapable fact that nature imposes

MOVIES



Life of Pi, a visually stunning film that dares you to root for a Canadian.

on every person! Our hero struggles against it. He tries to trick it. Eventually, he realizes he must make peace with it. And somewhere along the line, he realizes that the certainty of death helps him cling to life. Storytelling! Significance!

Or how about this? Our hero prays. Things happen. He rails at God. Other things happen. He despairs. Still other things happen. Are these things answers to his prayers, the motions of Divine Providence, or simply things

that happen? That could be left as a matter of interpretation, of keeping alert and reading the signs.

But *Life of Pi* isn't interested in interpretation or in leaving the viewer to figure things out. You are going to be told what's at stake. Yes, there is a choice at the end. But it's not about anything as exalted as the existence of God. It's more about where we find consolation during our own adventure in the lifeboat.

— Matthew Lickona

Bob Hope's Palm Springs digs up for sale

Legendary was Toluca Lake where Bob Hope decreed his stately joke vault.

Today, almost as legendary is Hope's high desert Xanadu, world's largest private pleasure ground, complete with a restricted 200-holer. Here, in the sweltering heart of Palm Springs, a private retreat was commissioned and successfully built in 1979. Unlike the pharaohs, Hope Spring's

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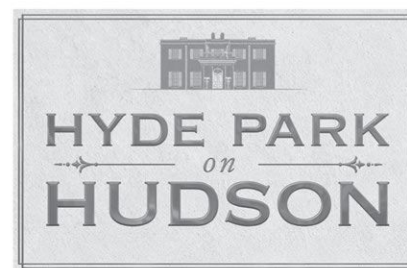
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IN THEATERS DECEMBER 14, 2012

Calendar MOVIES

landlord leaves many canned laughs to mark his grave.

One hundred thousand cue cards, 20,000 tons of makeup, and the lives of countless American servicemen and VC insurgents form the brick and mortar of Hope's testament to himself. Contents of Bob and Dolores's palace: awards and commendations, portraits, stacks of unread scripts, discarded Metamucil packets, and furnishings from the particle-board foundation of many an IKEA — and a collection of jokes so big it can never be cataloged (let alone comprehended), enough material for 10,000 network specials and supermarket openings — the loot of the world.

Hope went to his reward in 2003 at age 100. Mrs. Hope was 102 when she died last year. Dolores spent her remaining days alone in their 22,000-square-foot, six-bedroom Palm Springs pleasure palace, aloof, seldom visited, never photographed, the empress of new strength continued to direct her husband's once mighty empire.

Then, last week, as it must happen to all mansions of dead, rich celebrities, Hope's oasis was put on the market. Cost: no man knows who —

in a failing housing market — would have the temerity to put a \$45 million asking price on even this behemoth.

Real estate agent David Mossler told *mydesert.com*, "The estate on Southridge Drive is listed through Partners Trust of Beverly Hills for a 'rumored \$45 million.'"

From what I hear, they don't take cats and the water pressure sucks. Besides, other than a very old, not so funny, violently insane comedian and his trusty wife, who would want to live on the sun's anvil? I'm waiting for the Toluca Lake pad to open up so I can buy it, invade it, secede from the union, and start my own country.

— Scott Marks

Today, November 17, is Scorsese's birthday!

I first see Him on the screen of the open sewer that was the Howard Theatre on Howard Street, underneath the el. With all due respect, Marty, my 17-year-old butt is there based solely on the *Boxcar Bertha* spread in *Playboy* magazine. Instead, you appear like an angel out of this filthy 1625-seat mass.

I came for the tits and stayed for Marty. It was you. It's never been anyone but you. You got that?

Do whatcha gotta do today, everybody, but at some time take a moment

to honor Him by watching one of his pictures. Even if something as brief as the *Life Lessons* segment of *New York Stories* (which the pigs at Disney finally saw fit to put out in a letterbox edition), set aside an hour or two to praise His name.

I don't know if this makes sense, but you're my hallelujah. Personally, I plan on spending the weekend re-watching all of his films, this time in alphabetical order.

Happy 70th, ya bastard!

— Scott Marks

Free movies of the week: Hitchcock's earliest surviving film unearthed

A 30-minute segment of *The White Shadow*, the earliest surviving film that Alfred Hitchcock worked on, will air starting today on the National Film Preservation Foundation website.

The film is signed by Graham Cutts, a film exhibitor who became a director in 1922 and later cofounded London's prestigious Gainsborough Films studios. Hitchcock, who adapted the screenplay from Michael Morton's novel *Children of Chance*, also receives credit as the film's editor, production designer, art director, set decorator, and assistant director.

Michael M. Mortilla composed the score, and film notes will be provided by David Sterritt. The film, made available from source material provided by the New Zealand Film Archive, will be streamed for two months.

— Scott Marks

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by David Elliott, Matthew Lickona, John Rubio, Scott Marks, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release, and by rating are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

Alex Cross — Alex Cross is a detective whose powers of deduction border on the clairvoyant; he can look at your shirt and tell you what you're having for dinner tomorrow night. But the third big-screen outing for novelist James Patterson's celebrated Washington D.C. come solver will probably be best remembered as a routine cops-and-psycho drama that features Tyler Perry's first job as an actor-for-hire. Matthew Fox plays an industrious serial killer who shows up as a "walk-in" at an unauthorized church boxing match. The point of entering the pugilistic display is to attract the attention of his next victim (Stephanie Jacobsen), who is sitting ringside. So taken is she by his powers that the young vixen can't help but invite Fox back to her home for some kinky sex. Torture and murder ensue. The killer later leaves a clue in the form of a sketch that only someone well versed in the art of the Mad Magazine fold-in could divine. This type of intricate narrative may well serve Patterson's loyal readers, but it tends to set eyeballs a-rolling among multiplex wags. Rachel Nichols, Edward Burns, Giancarlo Esposito, John McGinley, Jean Reno, and Cicely Tyson (sporting the sparkliest damn wig I ever did see) round out the cast. 2012. — S.M.

★

Anna Karenina — Admittedly, yours truly is not the most informed critical voice to heed when it comes to assessing stodgy British costume dramas. (I tend to side with Francois Truffaut, who once referred to "British cinema" as an oxymoron.) Still, soon after the bits of choreographed slapstick at the film's opening, it became clear that when it comes to literary adaptations, Joe Wright should have stopped with *Pride and Prejudice*. Wright and screenwriter Tom Stoppard attempt to set the drama entirely on stage (though the conceit is all but dropped halfway through), and their use of theatrical gimmickry dwarfs the story's epic sweep, reducing it to an even bigger soap opera than the one Tolstoy imagined. The decorative bridging sequences are infinitely more

engaging than the standard close-up, reverse angle coverage Wright employs in the stunted dialogue scenes. With Keira Knightly, Jude Law, Kelly Macdonald, and the insufferable Aaron Taylor-Johnson, whose posturing and vacant beauty perfectly suits this arid adaptation. 2012. — S.M.

★

Chasing Mavericks — The inspirational true-life story of 15-year-old Jay Moriarity (newcomer Jonny Weston), whose dream it was to surf Mavericks, the biggest and most hazardous waves in Northern California. Gerald Butler plays Frosty Hesson, a seasoned pro whose initial reluctance to mentor the lad ("Untrained boys don't step in the ring with Mike Tyson") gradually gives way under gentle pressure from his thoughtful wife, Brenda (Abigail Spencer). With two veteran directors behind the camera, one would expect something more than just *Gidget Goes Walden Media*, but this appears to be an example of the studio as auteur. Michael Apted (*7 to 56 Up*, *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*) stepped in to complete the last 15 days of principal shooting after Curtis Hanson (*L.A. Confidential*, *8 Mile*) withdrew from the project citing health complications from a recent heart surgery. Both men have had success working with younger actors, but even their combined talents can't find a crest to ride in Kario Salem's by-the-numbers script. Still, short of Frankie and Annette's beach pictures, has there ever been a badly photographed surf movie? Happily, *Chasing Mavericks* is no exception, thanks to cinematographers Oliver Euclid and Bill Pope, who bring you a surfside seat for all the wave crashing action, in addition to imbuing the landlocked scenes with a soft, burnished look. An okay family picture if you're in the mood for a children's primer on surf movies. Better yet, wait until the kid is old enough and s/he can watch *Big Wednesday*. Elisabeth Shue, co-starring as Jay's alcoholic mom, appears never to have left Las Vegas. 2012.— S.M.

★

Cloud Atlas — The Wachowski Manifesto, or maybe just their apology. Together with co-director Tom Tykwer, the W siblings have taken David Mitchell's multi-story, multi-genre novel and made it into one (very) long and earnest plea for individual freedom and dignity in the face of oppression, whether it's gays oppressed by polite society, fabricated people oppressed by their fabricators, slaves oppressed by masters, sons oppressed by fathers, brothers oppressed by brothers, crusading journalists oppressed by corporate conspirators, or a backwoods tribesman oppressed by cannibals and personal devils.

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(You know, for starters.) There's a point to all the cutting from one time and place to another: the idea that boundaries of any kind are ultimately meaningless (an idea that, like most of the ideas at work here, is made perfectly explicit). Also, the notion that everything is connected and even recurring, which is why we get the same stable of actors (most prominently, Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Hugo Weaving, and Jim Broadbent) playing different roles (and races, and sexes). Some of the segments work better than others — the true-true is that nobody really needs to hear Tom and Halle slip in and out of pidgin English, some of the racebending makeup is deeply distracting, and Hugo Weaving as Nurse Ratched never plays as anything more than a joke. But seeing as how a critic suffers a violent death onscreen, it's probably best to accentuate the positive: the grand-scale visuals are a pleasure to behold, the various threads are woven as artfully as can be expected, and even at its goofiest, the film manages to feel like an old-fashioned epic. (And at its most serious, it can be read as a formal rejection of the Wachowskis' childhood Catholicism.) 2012. — M.L.

★★

Flight — What is *Flight*? Is it a tough-minded look into the dangers of making heroes out of men who do amazing things? (Denzel Washington, an airline pilot who pulls off a miracle landing in a malfunctioning plane, but oh dear, it turns out he was drunk and high while he did it.) Or is it a searing attack on the inhuman world of corporate legal maneuvering, where certain lives count less than others and the main thing is to pass the buck? (Don Cheadle almost steals the show from the paunchy Washington as the oily Chicago lawyer hired to defend him during the ensuing investigation.) Or is it a raised-stakes addiction movie? (Washington has a shattered family, drinks like a fish, and hooks up with a recovery-minded heroin addict.) Surprise, it's none of the above! This here is a religious picture; you get your first tip when Washington's co-pilot cries out to God in a moment of panic, and Denzel coolly replies, "He can't help you here." God is a little like Chekhov's gun that way — you can't introduce Him at the outset, and then have Him not show up by the end. Director Robert Zemeckis does his best

to hide the providential machinery, though — making sure that Cheadle's attempt to get "act of God" added to the list of accident causes is a thoroughly cynical move, that a prophet who proclaims God's hand in everything is a cancer patient suffering from "chemo-head," and that a husband who does the same is backed by a wife bleating out "Bless Jesus!" like a madwoman. Alas, Zemeckis can't keep himself from playing the Rolling Stones' "Sympathy for the Devil" when vice-peddler John Goodman comes on the scene. And that sort of indulgence plagues the picture, or rather, bloats it. 2012. — M.L.

★

Fun Size — Instead of going to a hot boy's Halloween party, Wren (Victoria Justice) is ordered to take her 8-year-old, bonbon-eating bon vivant brother, Albert (Jackson Nicoll) trick or treating. When first we meet the brawny tyke, he is parked naked on the bowl dropping a deuce while sis finishes up her shower. All that's missing is a stogie and can of Blatz! Their dad is dead and Albert hasn't verbally communicated with anyone in over a year. He turns a page in his comic book before holding up one finger as if to say, "I'll be off as soon as I finish this chapter." As much as we all deplore plebeian fart humor, the added 'ker-plunk' is a touch of aural splendor. Dressed as Spider-Man with a bloody stump, Albert is the type of kid for whom Benadryl Baby will definitely act as a stepping stone to harder drugs. Albert escapes, and virginal Wren enlists the aid of her slightly-sluttier BFF April (Jane Levy) and a pair of class nerds with wheels (Thomas Mann and Osric Chau) to join in her hunt for Albert. What am I forgetting? Chelsea Handler's career — she plays Wren and Albert's mother — has officially jumped the shark. Other kid-friendly infractions include a CG cat that's allergic to the NAIR on April's backside, a pair of obese, scantily clad Samoans, an adorable African-American child saying, "You're not my mommy, bitch," a giant chicken humping a Volvo, mammogram jokes, and a can of slow-motion soda that's timed to hit the floor with an ejaculatory splash the minute the nerd's feelings for Wren are made known. 2012. — S.M.

★

Holy Motors — In 2008, French director Leos Carax directed "Merde," the centerpiece segment of the film *Tokyo!* The story featured a trollish redhead in an ill-fitting green suit who popped out of the sewers at odd moments to nastily harass the general populace. Apparently, Carax wasn't finished with this charming creation (played with crazy-eyed abandon by Denis Levant), because he shows up again in *Holy Motors*. He still lives in the sewers, but now he pops up onto the streets of Paris, eating the bouquets left at graves and staging an assault on a fashion shoot. Oh, and he's also a character played by Monsieur Oscar, who rides around the city in a white limousine, taking on various roles assigned to him by... someone. Over the course of a single day, Oscar plays a bent beggar, a mo-cap actor, a dying uncle, a scolding father, a murderous thug — you get the point. No? You don't get the point? Maybe it will become clearer when Oscar apparently assassinates himself. Twice. There's a lot of potential in the notion of a man slipping into stories for a single scene, and Levant gives his all to the performance(s), but the film's willful refusal to adopt anything resembling a frame of reference can prove exhausting. There's a reason why Oscar's fellow "actor" is surprised he's still in the business after all these years, and why he keeps drinking without stopping for dinner. 2012. — M.L.

★

A Late Quartet — On the threshold of its 25th anniversary concert, the renowned Fugue String Quartet finds itself on the verge of dissolution, as its members begin to bow under the tension between personal goods and the good of the group (namely, the music that it makes). If the script is occasionally indulgent in its neat comparisons between music and life (the titular quartet may refer to the Fugue, or to the work they're performing, Beethoven's Opus 131), and if the performances are sometimes surprisingly muted for such a dynamite cast (Christopher Walken, Catherine Keener, Philip Seymour Hoffman), the story is fine enough to carry things along, comfortable with its dense array of crises, complications, and possible interpretations. Mark Ivanir, perhaps the least celebrated of the actors involved, shines as the chilly perfectionist in the first violin chair. Nearly everything he says can

be taken as either the dictates of an egoist or the professions of a disciple. Directed and co-written by Yaron Zilberman. 2012. — M.L.

★★

Life of Pi — Reviewed this issue. 2012. — M.L.

★★

Life of Pi 3D — Yeah, this one is probably worth the extra money and the overall dimming that 3D can bring. 2012 — M.L.

★★

Lincoln — Four score and 150 minutes ago, Steven Spielberg shifted into his John Ford mode with this giant, myth-bolstering Golden Book of a movie. As the Civil War rages on, we open with a moment lifted from *Saving Private Ryan*: a shorter, but equally anonymous massacre. Inasmuch as it fails to properly set the mood and tone of this otherwise setbound gabfest, the scene is as spectacularly executed as it is worthless. (As my friend Jim Hemphill said once the initial bloodbath was over, "The closest thing to an action sequence is Tommy Lee Jones taking off his hairpiece.") Moving on, we find Lincoln's ear being bent by a returning black soldier while The Great Emancipator is seated at a railway station. The soldier, after spelling out the future of African-American relations for both the audience and Honest Abe, is conveniently bounced from the proceedings. In his place, comic relief appears in the form of James Spader, Tim Blake Nelson, and John Hawkes.

Their schtick feels like a reprise of Sneak, Snoop, and Snitch from Fleischer's animated version of *Gulliver's Travels*. And what of the rest of the cast, you ask? For the first time in his career, Daniel Day-Lewis lets the costume and the adenoidal voice do much of the acting for him; he needed a little more Bill the Butcher here, and a little less *Left Foot*. Sally Field performs as if she *really* wants the Academy to like her again. The good news is that scenarist Tony Kushner's authentic-sounding period dialog flows in abundance, helping to make this the closest I've come to not wanting to walk out on an Amblin production since *Catch Me if You Can*. You'll want to cheer when, as Number 16 is getting set to spit out yet another platitude, Bruce McGill turns on him with, "No! Not another speech." If the real Lincoln was this dull, can you really blame the South for seceding from the Union? Ultimately, it's Spielberg, with his lumbering pace and "Hall of Presidents" anamorphic tableaux, who assassinates this *Lincoln*. 2012. — S.M.

★

Looper — A nifty idea botched by writer, director Rian Johnson's (*Brick*) unnecessarily dense plotting. (A calculatedly confusing storyline does not a good movie make.) Tickets should come with a road map (or a comic book adaptation) wrapped around them to help guide audiences through this. In a dystopian universe that resembles any number of cramped, squalid depictions of a Hollywoodized future, the mob

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Calendar MOVIES

blindfolds finks and sends them 30 years into the past to be whacked by hitmen known as “loopers.” There’s a catch: when a hired gun displeases the boss and it comes time to “close the loop,” the baddies are stuck in the wayback machine and sent on a suicidal blast to the past. But wouldn’t it have been simpler to direct Joseph Gordon-Levitt to brush up on reruns of *Moonlighting* to help find his character, rather than saddling him with a distracting makeup job aimed at passing him off as a dead-ringer for a young Bruce Willis? It officially lost me when Willis and Levitt met for a Tarantino-style diner scene topped by a dumb-dumb “old man”/“boy” exchange and a spray of bullets. Everything after that was an incomprehensible blur. With Emily Blunt, Piper Perabo, and Qing Xu. 2012. — S.M.

★

The Man with the Iron Fists — A kung-fu picture with heart — and guts. Wu-Tang Clan member RZA co-wrote, directed, and stars in the story of a simple blacksmith, biding his time in a violent village, making weapons for anyone with the money to buy them and saving up for the day when he can purchase his beloved’s freedom from the brothel where she lives and

works. Is the dialogue clunky? Is the acting so uneven that you find yourself grateful for Russell Crowe’s shouty hysterics as a dirty-minded Englishman with a knife, just because he knows how to put a line across? Does the final battle devolve into a frenetic orgy of destruction laced with cliché? Ask yourself: why are you surprised by any of this? If you can’t get past all that to delight in the down-to-earth storyline about multiple parties pursuing a shipment of government gold, the riotous excess of the Pink Blossom brothel’s interior decor, and the thoughtful mix of CG effects and old-fashioned arterial spray — well, you’ve come to the wrong place. With Rick Yune, Lucy Liu. 2012.

★★

Red Dawn — *Red Dawn* — the enjoyable 1984 kiddie Cold War thriller from John Milius that forms the basis for this rancid, unnecessary reboot — opens with the memorable (and chilling) image of a group of helpless high school students looking on as invading paratroopers gently touch down outside their classroom window. While the planes, parachutes, and paranoia remain, this time, the crowded CG sky looks like something out of George Lucas’s *Red Tails* and it’s the North Koreans, not the Russkies, poised to turn American kids into junior Rambos. Large portions of the narrative make no sense. (The remake sat on the shelf for three years.) Clocking in at a little over an hour and a half, *Dawn* appears to have had at least 15 minutes shorn from its original running time.

(It only *feels* like three hours.) First-time director Dan Bradley’s imperceptible swish-pans and microsecond cuts are imitations of everything else that currently passes for action filmmaking. There can only be two reasons why FilmDistrict decided this fascist video game needed to see the arc light of day instead of going with a direct-to-video release. Either the distributor wanted to cash in on Chris Hemsworth’s (*The Avengers*, *Snow White and the Huntsman*) sudden rise in popularity, or, in anticipation of a Romney victory, felt that a recruitment film was in order. With Josh Peck, Adrianne Palicki, Josh Hutcherson, and a brave Jeffrey Dean Morgan trying his best. 2012. — S.M.

●

Rise of the Guardians — Review forthcoming. In the meantime, you can begin musing on what other unlikely superhero team-ups the movie people will come up with in the wake of *The Avengers*. We’re holding out for the sugary cereal mascots. Big Tony: “My guys aren’t just good. They’re great!”

A Royal Affair (En kongelig affære) — It ain’t easy out there for an Enlightenment physician in medieval-minded 18th-century Denmark. You have the people — so in need of your tender regard for the masses, yet so easily led astray by monsters who play on their fear and superstition! You have the king — such a trusting and influential ally, yet so simple-

minded and erratic! And you most definitely have the queen — such a deliciously progressive soul mate, yet so unfortunately married! And then, to top it off, the story goes and makes *her* the central figure! Why, it’s almost as if she possesses some secret, hidden power that makes her more important than all of your beautiful ideas. But what could it be? Mads Mikkelsen stars as the physician who struggles to operate on the body politic while the court struggles to put him into exile, or worse. *A Royal Affair* is a hand-some, stately film that isn’t afraid to go hard to its liberal message even as it marches toward its inevitable conclusion (high-minded love affairs, like all other love affairs, can get messy). It is not, however, without some dashes of warm humanity and wit — the queen’s giddiness over an approving note from Voltaire is a hoot, as if she had nabbed a Twitter shout-out from her favorite Disney heartthrob. With Alicia Vikander. 2012. — M.L.

★★

The Sessions — Did you hear the one about the 38-year-old virgin in the iron lung who hired a sex surrogate to take the cherry off the sundae? The trailer unspooled like a checklist of everything culpable in American cinema: a cute, fact-based, feel-good “disease of the week” romcom equipped with an endless supply of close-ups, plus William H. Macy as a cuddly Father Flanagan type. But instead of the handful of mean-spirited snickers (or an early exit) the

trailer promises, *The Sessions* rewards its viewers with an extraordinarily moving emotional experience. (I admit it: I cried. The last time I cried during a movie was when I glanced at my watch and realized there were still two hours left to go in *Schindler’s List*.) Instead of resigning himself to playing a talking head, John Hawkes shatters the built-in limitations of his character, pulling off what could amount to the most challenging role of his career. And those who want to see more of Helen Hunt — she plays the therapist with the can opener to Hawkes’s heart — will have their chance. This is the first time in eons where onscreen nudity is not only justified, it’s essential to the script. What helps to elevate the story above your average Lifetime Channel presentation is writer-director Ben Lewin’s (*Paperback Romance*) sensitive attention to detail. This isn’t a one-character/one-trait affair; Lewin endows even the most seemingly insignificant role with depth and dignity. A love story with an iron lung at its core is a definite hard sell, but Lewin proves that there’s no such thing as a bad story, only bad storytellers. Don’t let the subject matter keep you away from this remarkable movie. With Moon Bloodgood, Adam Arkin, Ming Lo, and Rhea Perlman. 2012. — S.M.

★★★★

Silver Linings Playbook — David O. Russell needs to leave Philadelphia almost as much as John Woo needs to stay in Hong Kong. For his follow-up to *The Fighter*, Russell once again

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

Museum of Photographic Arts
Combat Girls (Kriegerin) (Not Rated) Sat 6:30p.m.; **Cracks In The Shell (Die Unsichtbare)** (Not Rated) Sun 7:00p.m.; **German Film Festival:** (Not Rated) Sun 1:30p.m.; **Home for the Weekend (Was bleibt)** (Not Rated) Sun 4:00p.m.

San Diego Natural History Museum
Flying Monsters 3D (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00; **Ocean Oasis** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 12:00p.m.; **The Last Reef 3D: Cities Beneath the Sea** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 1:00, 3:00

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CORONADO

Vintage Village Theatre
820 Orange Avenue (619-437-6161)
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DOWNTOWN

Reading Gaslamp
701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
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KENSINGTON

Landmark Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Holy Motors (NR) Fri: (2:00), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30, Sat & Sun: (2:00), 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, Mon - Thu: (4:30), 7:00, 9:30, Discount Shows at Landmark’s Ken Cinema Indicated in Brackets “()”; **Chasing Ice** (PG-13, 75m) Opens Friday, November 30

LA JOLLA

AMC La Jolla
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Landmark La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (619-819-0236)
A Royal Affair (R) Fri: (11:00), (2:00), (5:00), 8:00, Sat & Sun: (11:00), 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, Mon - Thu: (2:00), (5:00), 8:00; **A Late Quartet** (R) Fri: (11:10), (2:10), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30, Sat & Sun: (11:10), 2:10, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, Mon - Thu: (2:10), (4:30), 7:00, 9:30; **The Sessions** (R) Fri: (11:30), (2:30), (4:50), 7:20, 9:40, Sat & Sun: (11:30), 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40, Mon - Thu: (2:30), (4:50), 7:20, 9:40; **The Perks Of Being A Wallflower** (PG-13) Fri: (11:20), (2:20), (4:40), 7:10, 9:35, Sat & Sun: (11:20), 2:20, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35, Mon - Thu: (2:20), (4:40), 7:10, 9:35, Discount Shows at Landmark’s La Jolla Cinemas Indicated in Brackets “()”

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Life of Pi (PG) Thu: (10:00 AM); **Life of Pi** (PG) Fri - Thu: 5:00, 8:00; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG) Fri & Sat: (10:15 AM), (1:15), 4:15, 7:15, 10:15, Sun - Thu: (10:15 AM), (1:15), 4:15, 7:15; **Rise of the Guardians** (PG) Fri - Thu: (10:45 AM), (1:30); **Rise of the Guardians 3D** (PG) Fri & Sat: (10:00 AM), (12:30), (3:00), 5:30, 7:45, 10:00, Sun - Thu: (10:00 AM), (12:30), (3:00), 5:30, 7:45; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri - Wed: (10:30 AM), (2:00), 5:15, 8:30, Thu: (2:00), 5:15, 8:30; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:30, 10:30, Sun - Thu: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:30; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: (10:00 AM), (1:00), (4:00), 7:00, 10:00, Sun - Thu: (10:00 AM), (1:00), (4:00), 7:00; **Kidtoons: Welcome to LazyTown** (NR) Sat & Sun: (10:30 AM); **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri: (10:15 AM), (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sat: (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun:

(12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15, Mon - Wed: (10:15 AM), (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15, Thu: (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15

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Anna Karenina (R) Fri: (12:15), (3:45), 6:45, 9:35, Sat & Sun: 12:15, 3:45, 6:45, 9:35, Mon - Thu: (3:45), 6:45, 9:35; **The Perks Of Being A Wallflower** (PG-13) Fri: (11:30), (2:10), (4:40), 7:15*, 9:45, Sat & Sun: (11:30), 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45, *No 7:15 PM Show Thursday, 11/29/12, Mon - Thu: (2:10), (4:40), 7:15, 9:45; **The Sessions** (R) Fri: (11:40), (2:20), (5:00), 7:30, 9:50, Sat & Sun: (11:40), 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50, Mon - Thu: (2:20), (5:00), 7:30, 9:50; **Anna Karenina** (R) Fri: (11:10), (2:00), (4:50), 7:45, Sat & Sun: (11:10), 2:00, 4:50, 7:45, Mon - Thu: (2:00), (4:50), 7:45; **The Other Son** (PG-13) Fri: (11:20), (1:50), (4:25), 7:00, 9:30, Sat & Sun: (11:20), 1:50, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30, Mon - Thu: (1:50), (4:25), 7:00, 9:30, Discount Shows at Landmark’s Hillcrest Cinemas Indicated in Brackets “()”; **Hitchcock** (PG-13) Opens Friday, November 30

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Flight of the Butterflies (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00; **Grand Canyon Adventure: River at Risk** (Not Rated) Fri. 8:00p.m.; **Let It Snow** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 11:00, 5:00; **Lewis and Clark: Great Journey West** (Not Rated) Fri. 7:00p.m.; **Rock the Dome** (Not Rated) Sat. 7:00, 8:00; **Tales of the Maya Skies** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 3:00p.m.; **To The Arctic IMAX** (G) Fri.-Sun. 1:00p.m.

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Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 2:10, 3:40) 6:40, 9:50, 10:35;
Lincoln (PG-13) Fri. (10:10, 12:40, 1:40, 4:20),
7:10, 8:05, 10:50 Sat.-Sun. (10:10, 12:40, 1:40)
4:20, 7:10, 8:05, 10:50; **Pitch Perfect** (PG-13)
Fri.-Sun. (11:10) 9:45; **Red Dawn** (PG-13)
Fri. (10:15, 1:20, 4:10) 7:25, 7:50, 10:10, 10:40
Sat.-Sun. (10:15, 1:20) 4:10, 7:25, 7:50, 10:10,
10:40; **Rise of the Guardians** (PG) Fri.
(10:30, 11:00, 1:10, 1:30, 4:00, 4:25) 7:00, 9:30
Sat.-Sun. (10:30, 11:00, 1:10, 1:30) 4:00, 4:25,
7:00, 9:30; **Rise of the Guardians 3D** (PG)
Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:55, 3:30) 6:30, 10:00; **Sky-
fall** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:40, 11:20, 2:05) 3:50,
7:15, 7:45, 10:30, 11:00; **The Twilight Saga:
Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri.
(10:20, 11:00, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00) 7:30, 8:00,
10:30, 11:00 Sat.-Sun. (10:20, 11:00, 1:30, 2:00)
4:30, 5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00; **Wreck-It
Ralph** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:00, 12:50, 3:35) 6:50,
9:40; **Wreck-It Ralph in 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sun.
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UltraStar River Village
 5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)
Life of Pi (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:30 AM, 1:30, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45, Sun: 10:30 AM, 1:30, 4:45, 7:45, Mon - Thu: 1:30, 4:45, 7:45; **Red Dawn** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:45 AM, 1:00, 3:30, 7:15, 10:00, Sun: 10:45 AM, 1:00, 3:30, 7:15, Mon - Thu: 1:00, 3:30, 7:15; **Rise of the Guardians** (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:15 AM, 12:45, 3:15, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00, Sun: 10:15 AM, 12:45, 3:15, 5:30, 8:15, Mon - Thu: 3:15, 5:30, 8:15; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 11:00 AM, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:45, Sun: 11:00 AM, 1:45, 5:00, 8:00, Mon - Thu: 1:45, 5:00, 8:00; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM, 1:15, 4:15, 7:30, 10:30, Sun: 10:00 AM, 1:15, 4:15, 7:30, Mon - Thu: 1:15, 4:15, 7:30; **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri & Sat: 11:15 AM, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 10:15, Sun: 11:15 AM, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, Mon - Thu: 2:00, 4:30, 7:00

UltraStar Poway
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
Life of Pi (PG) Wed: 10:00 AM; Life of Pi
(PG) Fri & Sat: 10:15 AM, 4:00, 10:15, Sun -

Thu: 10:15 AM, 4:00; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG)
Fri - Thu: 1:15, 7:15; **Red Dawn** (PG-13) Fri
& Sat: 10:00 AM, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00,
Sun - Thu: 10:00 AM, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:45;
Rise of the Guardians (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:15
AM, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Sun - Thu:
10:15 AM, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15; **Rise of the
Guardians 3D** (PG) Fri & Sat: 11:15 AM,
1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45, Sun - Thu: 11:15 AM, 1:45,
4:15, 7:00; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 11:15
AM, 3:00, 7:15, 10:30, Sun - Thu: 11:15 AM,
3:00, 7:15; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking
Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM,
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00, Sun - Thu: 10:00 AM,

1:00, 4:00, 7:00: **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00, Sun - Thur: 10:00 AM, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:05 AM, 10:45 AM, 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 5:30, 7:15, 8:40, 10:20, Sun - Thur: 10:05 AM, 10:45 AM, 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 5:30, 7:15, 8:40; **Kidtoons: Welcome to LazyTown** (NR) Sat & Sun: 10:30 AM; **Flight** (R) Fri & Sat: 10:20 AM, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:30, Sun - Thur: 10:20 AM, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20; **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri: 10:10 AM, 12:50, 3:20, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50, Sat: 12:50, 3:20, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50, Sun: 12:50, 3:20, 5:45, 8:20, Mon & Tue: 10:10 AM, 12:50, 3:20, 5:45,

Regal San Marcos
1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old
California Walk) (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

Ultrastar Temecula Tower Cinemas
27531 Ynez Road (951-699-2205)

Life of Pi (PG) Wed: 10:00 AM; **Life of Pi** (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:20 AM, 10:45, Sun - Thu: 10:20 AM; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG) Fri - Thu: 1:45, 5:00, 8:00; **Red Dawn** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:45 AM, 1:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10:00, Sun - Thu: 10:45 AM, 1:15, 4:45, 7:15; **Rise of the Guardians** (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:30 AM, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:55, Sun - Thu: 10:30 AM, 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30; **Rise of the Guardians 3D** (PG) Fri & Sat: 11:00 AM, 2:00, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30, Sun - Thu: 11:00 AM, 2:00, 4:30, 7:30; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri - Thu: 10:15 AM, 1:45, 5:00, 8:15; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:30, 8:00, 10:15, 10:45, Sun - Thu: 10:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 1:30, 2:00, 4:30, 5:00, 7:30, 8:00; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM, 1:00, 4:15, 7:45, 10:45, Sun - Thu: 10:00 AM, 1:00, 4:15, 7:45; **Kidtoons: Welcome to LazyTown** (NR) Sat & Sun: 10:30 AM; **Flight** (R) Fri: 10:15 AM, 1:30, 5:00, 8:15, Sat & Sun: 1:30, 5:00, 8:15, Mon & Tue: 10:15 AM, 1:30, 5:00, 8:15, Wed: 1:30, 5:00, 8:15, Thu: 10:15 AM, 1:30, 5:00, 8:15; **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri & Sat: 10:00 AM, 12:30, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00, Sun - Thu: 10:00 AM, 12:30, 4:00, 7:00

Krikorian Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive
 (760-945-7469)
 Call theater for program information.

Moviemax Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Call theater for program information.

Cinépolis Del Mar
12905 El Camino Real (858-794-4045)
Call theater for program information.

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
Call theater for program information.

Regal Oceanside
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Call theater for program information.

Marketplace
College Boulevard and Mission Avenue
(760-806-1790)

Light (R) Fri. (10:15, 1:30) 4:45, 8:00 Sat.-Sun. (1:30) 4:45, 8:00; **Kidtoons: Welcome to LazyTown** (Not Rated) Sat.-Sun. (10:30a.m.); **Life of Pi** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:30) 4:30, 10:30 Sun. (10:30) 4:30; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (1:30) 7:30; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:20, 1:40) 5:00, 8:15, 10:10 Sun. (10:20, 1:40) 5:00, 8:15; **Red Dawn** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:45, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15, 10:45 Sun. (10:45, 1:15, 3:30) 6:00, 8:15; **Rise of the Guardians** Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00) 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 12:00, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00) 6:00, 7:00; **Rise of the Guardians 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 10:30 Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:15, 12:00, 1:15, 3:00) 4:15, 6:00, 7:15, 9:00, 10:15 Sun. (10:15, 12:00, 1:15, 3:00) 4:15, 6:00, 7:15; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 12:45, 3:30) 6:15, 9:00 Fri.-Sat. (10:00, 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:30) 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8:10, 9:00, 10:00 Sun. (10:00, 11:00, 12:45, 1:45, 3:30) 4:30, 6:15, 7:15, 8:10 Sun. (10:00, 12:45, 3:30) 6:15; **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (10:10, 11:30, 12:40, 2:15, 3:10) 4:50, 5:40, 7:20, 10:50 Sun. (10:10, 11:30, 12:40, 2:15, 3:10) 4:50, 5:40, 7:20



Calendar MOVIES

takes the low road in search of truth and beauty amidst a group of boorish louts with personalities akin to the cast of *Here Comes Honey Boo Boo*. A former schoolteacher (Bradley Cooper) — undiagnosed bipolar, borderline delusional, violent, and fresh out of the state mental institution — decides to move back home with his parents (Jacki Weaver and Robert DeNiro, both phoning it in). Not since *Do the Right Thing* have so many characters in one movie spoken with the same identical voice. Close your eyes during one of the film's numerous screaming matches and you won't be able to distinguish between Cooper and Jennifer Lawrence. To add injury to the insults, Russell's camera covers the action either in constricted close-up, as a "walk and talk" (traveling shots of characters delivering dialog as they stroll), or both. Even a musical number is photographed from the waist up. The third-act combination of *Dancing with the Stars* and repugnant behavior on the part of violent football fans should make this a bit hit with Monday night TV viewers. Apart from Ms. Lawrence's electrifying turn as the tough-talking dame who plans on mending Cooper's heart by putting him back in touch with his ex, this couldn't have ended soon enough for me. With incessant jabbering from Chris Tucker, a welcome, albeit brief appearance by Julia Styles, and brilliant background work by Paul Herman. 2012. — S.M.

★

Sister — Switzerland's official entry to the 85th Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film looks all dressed up, but co-author (three other screenwriters receive credit) and director Ursula Meier has nowhere new to go. Simon (Kacey Mottet Klein) shares a flat in the Swiss Alps with his older sister, Louise (Léa Seydoux). Louise can't seem to keep a job or find a man who's willing to keep her; the parade of obstreperous strays she tramps through the apartment force her resourceful 12-year-old brother to use cigarette filters as earplugs. The kid could sell tap shoes to a double-leg amputee, but instead supports his family by peddling expensive ski equipment he appropriates from wealthy tourists. A confirmation of the obvious arrives at around the 60-minute mark; sadly, the filmmakers foolishly choose to play it as a big reveal. It's worth seeing for cinematographer Agnès Godard's stylishly lit frames and sultry Seydoux (*La Belle Personne, Inglourious Basterds*), whose performances continue to impress. With Gillian Armstrong as the mother figure Simon meets on the slopes and Martin Compston as comic relief. 2012. — S.M.

★

Skyfall — James Bond lumbers back to his roots. A Bond film is supposed to deliver mayhem and eye candy in exotic locales; *Skyfall* offers memorable set pieces in Shanghai, Scotland, and an abandoned island factory compound. A Bond film needs gadgets; *Skyfall*

knowingly gives us a personalized Walther and a radio transmitter. (Honoring the brand, but not indulging it.) A Bond film should feature a menacing villain who's also just a touch daffy; Javier Bardem has more fun than anybody else onscreen as a rogue agent with a mommy complex and a come-hither leer. But most of all, a Bond film needs a proper Englishman who can do his bit for crown and country while dazzling the ladies and wearing a tuxedo like it's a second skin. Here and there, Daniel Craig manages the trick, but too often, he comes off like a canny street tough, a musclebound Steve McQueen with a posh accent. Along the way, his boss M notes that "orphans always make the best agents," but that shouldn't mean they get to skip out on charm school. (Craig's delivery on the trademark Bond banter labors harder than the seams on his trousers, which is saying something.) But it's not all his fault: he's not the one who blends Mother and the Mother Country in a story that takes much too long to say much too little beyond, "Spies — like the one in this old-timey franchise — are still relevant!" With Judi Dench, Ralph Fiennes. 2012. — M.L.

★★

Taken 2 — Taken to the cleaners is what you'll be if you waste time on this Olivier Megaton bomb co-scripted by Luc Besson, deep in his Xerography mode. Fans with short attention spans will applaud Megaton's inability to hold an image on screen for more than 10 seconds, but devotees of the original will wonder where the thrills went in this sub-standard remake in sequel's clothing. Instead of victimizing Maggie Grace, the father of the man Liam Neeson killed in part one seeks revenge by kidnapping her parents. Talk about a gang that can't shoot straight: the inept baddies don't bother to frisk the chained Neeson to find a phone concealed in his sock. He then proceeds to make a call (on speakerphone, no less) while a presumably deaf guard is seated within earshot. The laughably bad parental dialog exchanges — the retired CIA operative has been turned into a comical Papa Focker-type bent on warding off his daughter's potential suitors — appear to have been lifted from *Father Knows Best* reruns. One inventive torture scene where they slice a character's neck and hang her upside down for the blood to slowly drain, does not a successful thriller make. With Famke Janssen. 2012. — S.M.

●

This Must Be the Place — For his first narrative feature since the unforgettable *Il Divo*, director Paolo Sorrentino once again turns out an epic account of a passive subject. This tack worked when used to illustrate the life of a nondescript, hunchbacked dwarf who quietly ran roughshod over Italian politics for almost 50 years. The same can't be said when it's applied to a zonked-out American rock legend sequestered in Dublin who decides to return to New York, bent on killing the Nazi war criminal responsible for the humiliation his recently deceased father endured during the war. As the wealthy former hair-band frontman Cheyenne, Sean Penn looks like a cross between Howard Stern and my aunt Helene. It's his idea

Picture Show



Rise of the Guardians: an exercise in misleading poster headlines? Jack Frost is okay, but the Easter Bunny? A fable? Oof.

of Dustin Hoffman in *Rain Man*, recast as a reclusive rocker with a faltering falsetto. I was, however, never bored: with *Il Divo* cinematographer Luca Bigazzi and editor Cristiano Travaglioli back on board, there's always something to look at. And of the four Holocaust-themed films I've endured in November of 2012, this was the easiest to take. It's just that *Il Divo* was my favorite film of 2008, and after a four-year wait, *This Must Be the Place* didn't make my list. With Frances McDormand, Judd Hirsch, Joyce

Van Patten, and, in his third film of the year, a triumphantly resuscitated Harry Dean Stanton! 2012. 2012. — S.M.

★★

Wreck-It Ralph — What a concept: children's playthings with human neuroses. Oh, wait, this isn't *Toy Story*? Nope, just a Disney rehash of same, substituting video game characters for action figures. You know — it's what the kids are into these days, even if there is a hefty dose

of Gen-X nostalgia to rope in the grownups. (Our heroes populate an arcade where kids go to dump quarters into the sort of 8-bit retro jobs you can play online for free.) And like an arcade game, it's laced with cheat codes. Professional bad guy Wreck-It Ralph knows that being a bad guy is just his job, the sort of thing he can leave behind at the end of the day. But the corresponding good guys aren't in on the secret, and treat him like he's actually bad — making him live in the dump, not inviting him to parties, etc. Alas, he can't point out this bit of flawed storytelling, so instead, he sets off to get a medal from some other game, just to prove his worth. Out in the wider gaming world, the arbitrary discrepancies persist: one heroine can't help being hard-hearted; she was programmed with a tragic backstory. Another...well, suffice it to say that Disney seems eager to take a break from princess culture, and remains comfortable with breaking the rules of its own universe. But quibbles aside, the whole thing is bright and slick and full of clever nods to the video game universe, and there are jokes and thrills aplenty to keep the kiddies entertained while their parents get misty-eyed over Q*bert. With the voices of John C. Reilly, Jack McBrayer, Sarah Silverman, and Jane Lynch, among others. 2012. — M.L.

★

FILM FESTIVALS

COPLEY SYMPHONY HALL

750 B St., Downtown San Diego
619-235-0804

Big Business Russ Peck accompanies silent films on organ. *Big Business* (1929) stars Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy as door-to-door Christmas tree salesmen. Also screening: two of Chaplin's most famous slapstick comedies, *The Rink* and *The Pawn Shop*. **Sunday, December 2, 2:00pm**

KONA KAI RESORT & MARINA

1551 Shelter Island, Shelter Island
619-221-8000

Get to Work View screening of the premiere episode of this original Sundance Channel documentary series featuring Second Chance, a San Diego-based nonprofit organization. Wel-

come delivered by San Diego Police Chief Bill Lansdowne; guest appearances by "the heroes" of the episode. Appetizers and beverages, along with a cash bar. Donations accepted. Required advance reservations: mpolimadei@secondchanceprogram.org or 619-839-0953. **Wednesday, December 5, 6:00pm**

MIRACOSTA COLLEGE SAN ELIJO CAMPUS

3333 Manchester Ave., Cardiff
760-944-4449

Pancho Gonzalez — Warrior of the Court Richard Alonzo "Pancho" Gonzalez was a Mexican-American from the public courts with no formal tennis training who fought to pursue his dreams; he ultimately played "one of the longest Wimbledon matches in history." Latino Film Series continues in Student Center

Conference Room with his story, and appearance by film's producer and director, Danny Haro. lmontes@miracosta.edu or 760-944-4449 x6396. **Friday, November 30, 5:30pm**

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

820 E St., East Village
619-236-5800

Prairie Love From the North Dakota tundra comes this 2011 tale of three lost souls desperate for love. Film Forum screening. 619-236-5800. **Monday, November 26, 6:30pm**

PEARL HOTEL

1410 Rosecrans St., Point Loma
877-732-7573

The Royal Tenenbaums Dive-In Theatre screening of the 2001 film directed by Wes Anderson, co-written with Owen Wilson. Stellar



cast includes Gene Hackman, Anjelica Huston, Danny Glover, Bill Murray, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ben Stiller, Luke Wilson, Owen Wilson. During the "cinema social" at hotel's poolside lounge and outdoor theater, swimming pool is open to hotel guests for free and all others with drink purchase. 619-226-6100. **Wednesday, November 28, 8:00pm**

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Each print ad comes with an online ad.

TO PLACE AN AD: Call 619-235-8200 8:30am to 5pm Monday through Friday.
WALK-IN: 1703 India Street (at Date), Little Italy, 92101

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SEXIEST MAIDS. Earn \$30/hour with flexible hours. Light-housekeeping services with a twist. We entertain upscale clientele, while cleaning homes. Don't provide escort service, Illegal companionship. Must wear costume. SexiestMaids@yahoo.com or 760-331-8819.

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DRIVERS. Drivers, Dispatchers and Assistant Managers needed. We will train you. Cash daily! Medical benefits! Full time/ part time. Openings San Diego, LA, New York. 619-819-0269/ 858-605-9307/ 212-465-2572/ 818-459-2736.

DRIVERS/COURIERS. Cargo Vans & Mini Vans needed. Full- and part-time shifts. \$16-\$18 per hour which includes mileage pay. Call 858-444-2350.

EDUCATION

PRESCHOOL TEACHER. Fully qualified full-time Preschool Teacher needed in Pacific Beach area. 12 ECE units

required. Preschool Teacher's Aide needed part time or full time. Please call 858-270-5995.

HEALTH CARE

BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONIST. AIM, Inc., is offering a North County San Diego Behavioral Interventionist position. Provide one- on- one behavioral therapy to children with autism, in their homes. Must have experience with young children; preferably in ABA. Email resumes: aimincsd@gmail.com. Evening availability is preferred. Must have reliable transportation.

CAREGIVERS AND CNAS. CNAS, HHAs, Companions and Homemakers. Hourly, 12-hour and Live-in positions available. Weekly pay, flexible hours. Apply online at www.rahencinitasapponne.com. Be sure to answer all questions, provide at least two references and sign the application.

CAREGIVERS WANTED. FT and PT Caregiver positions available. Must enjoy working with the elderly. Benefits available. Will train. Apply online at www.sunriseseniorliving.com or in person at Sunrise Senior Living At La Costa (license #374601134), 7020 Manzanita Street, Carlsbad, CA 92011. 760-930-0060.

CAREGIVERS: Live-in, nights, weekends, hourly, 5 days per week minimum plus live-in shifts. Must be flexible to work weekends, hourly and live-in. Top pay, 401(k). Rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance/registration,

one year of paid elder caregiving experience a must, eligibility to work in the United States. We have shifts available for people with a heart. Comfort Keepers, 619-795-6036. <http://www.comfortkeepers.com/office-195>. No recruiters, please.

CAREGIVERS. Immediate openings for Live-in Caregivers with driver's license. Hourly positions also available. Opportunities in East County, San Diego, North County and Coastal San Diego. Call for an interview 9am-5pm Monday-Friday: 760-730-3955. 390 Oak Avenue, Suite B, Carlsbad, CA 92008.

CAREGIVERS. Needed from all areas. 1 year experience. Hourly and live in. Assertive Care at Home Inc., 3774 Grove Street, #L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.



CAREGIVERS/ COMPANIONS. Home care agency has immediate openings for compassionate and experienced Caregivers in the El Cajon, Lakeside, Granite Hills, Bostonia, Rancho San Diego, Alpine and Julian areas. Must have 2+ years healthcare experience, valid CA driver's license and reliable transportation. Background check required. Visiting Angels, 619-987-4910.

CAREGIVERS/CNAS Day programs in Oceanside, Lakeside and Chula Vista for adults with developmental disabilities. Full time. Excellent benefits. \$10-10.50/ hour. Call Oceanside 760-643-9394, Lakeside 619-562-6330, or Chula Vista, 619-691-6346.

CAREGIVERS/CNAS/HHAS. Immediate openings. Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful Caregivers needed to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1 year's experience. Premium pay/bonuses/ benefits, 24-hour office support. Age Advantage, 760-720-7272.

HAVE A SPARE BEDROOM? Earn a stipend starting at \$1,100/ month and up! Make a difference in the life of a person with a developmental disability, by caring for one in your home. [www. MentorsWanted.com](http://www.MentorsWanted.com). 619-293-0214.

Live-In Caregivers

Must have driver's license. Immediate openings. Flexible schedules. Assist seniors with light to moderate care. All areas. Cheerful personalities. Call Dependable Caregivers, 619-421-1022.

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current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. [www. octapharmaplasma.com](http://www.octapharmaplasma.com).

EARN MONEY EVERY WEEK for qualified plasma donations. Requirements: 18-64 years old, good health, proof of Social Security number, proof of current residence—postmarked within the last 30 days, current photo ID. Bring in this ad and receive a \$5 bonus after your first donation! OctaPharma Plasma, 3232 Duke Street, San Diego (off Midway), 619-758-9278. [www. octapharmaplasma.com](http://www.octapharmaplasma.com).

HELP WANTED. Earn extra income assembling CD cases from home! No experience necessary! Call our live operators now! 1-800-405-7619 x2450. [www. easywork-greatpay.com](http://www.easywork-greatpay.com). (AAN CAN)

MODELS. Female amateur models needed for photo, video. Ages 18-60. All types. No experience necessary. Cash paid. Professional setting. Call Char, 619-379-4964.

SALVATION ARMY. Holiday bell ringers needed. Pick up application: 4170 Balboa Ave, 92117, between 9am and 4pm. Or call 858-483-1831 for more information. God Bless!

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BUSINESS OPERATIONS MANAGER. CHAM Education, Inc. in Chula Vista seeks Business Operations Manager to research & improve business operating system. BA in Bus Admin or Rtd plus 5 yrs exp req'd. Email resumes: chameduc@yahoo.com

OFFICE ASSISTANT. Web design, Mac, Ad Words, Quickbooks, Networking, 2+ years experience preferred, part time, salary plus negotiable. Call Mike, 619-971-5688.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

Funding for new public art, estimated at around \$4 million, is not included. The public artwork plan specifies large-scale electronic artwork, performance artwork, large-scale suspended artwork, and large-scale wall-mounted art. Necessary fundraising will require grants, donations, and sponsorships, it stated.

BY DAVID BATTERSON, NOVEMBER 13

OCEAN BEACH

Another late-night attack Victim accosted on sidewalk, cops don't find suspect

On November 9, around midnight, a 26-year-old Ocean Beach woman was attacked on the 1900 block of Ebers Street.

She said she noticed a man walking near her and told him not to walk so close. He apologized and said, in a soft voice, that he wasn't trying to scare her.

As the victim approached Ebers Street, she heard him run up behind her. He grabbed her hair and pulled her backward onto the sidewalk. He got on top of her and pinned her neck with one hand and covered her mouth

with the other hand. The victim punched the attacker in the face repeatedly as she screamed. She was able to kick him in the groin and then he ran off.

A couple living in one of the houses heard her scream and, while dialing 911, came out to ask her if she was okay. The police arrived in less than two minutes and took a report.

The victim noticed blood on her hand from a cut but was sure she had made contact with the attacker's eye several times when punching him. She told police that he most likely would have a black eye and possibly a cut on his face, as she was wearing several rings.

The police asked her if she was sexually attacked, and she said she wasn't sure at that point because she was fighting back so hard. Police told her the assault would be reported as a misdemeanor if there wasn't anything sexual in nature done or spoken about during the attack.

Police drove their car down the street and an alley looking for the suspect but came back empty-handed.

The victim described the attacker as a Caucasian male, approximately 5'11", in his late 20s to early 30s, close-shaved head with light brown or blond hair, either a pock-

marked or freckled face, bad teeth, and wearing a dark blue jacket with possibly a plaid pattern.

BY MERCY BARON, NOVEMBER 13

MIDWAY

Blazed

Fire breaks out in Sports Arena area, building's roof collapses

A fire was reported at 5 p.m. on November 11 at a two-story commercial building on the 3500 block of Hancock Street in the Point Loma/Sports Arena area. The conflagration soon drew over 60 firefighters to the scene.

Traffic was rerouted to an area behind the Valley View Casino Center as the fire raged and first responders made their way to the scene. The crowd of observers was told to clear the area, as the building that was engulfed in flames contained acetylene gas. The roof collapsed. No injuries were reported.

Among the many adjacent buildings, one of the businesses firefighters broke into contained a potentially illegal marijuana-growing operation. This morning, November 12, 10News reported that half a million dollars in damage had occurred.

BY MERCY BARON, NOVEMBER 12

KENSINGTON

Making an entrance Car rolls into block party

On November 10, during a neighborhood block party on Bedford Drive in Kensington, a man driving a red Honda sedan slowly but deliberately drove through three barriers that blocked off the party area.

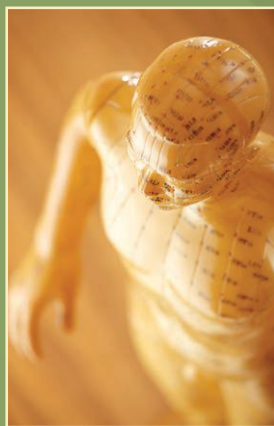
The man appeared to be in his 20s, high, and was either a fan of goth or perhaps still thought it was Halloween, as he had large black circles painted with makeup under his eyes, and he was wearing fangs.

After driving through one of the barriers, he briefly stopped his car, rolled down his window, and muttered an apology to a shocked woman standing nearby.

Children who had been playing in the street were herded to the safety of the sidewalk by an attendee. Another partygoer threw an electric coffee pot at the man's car; another threw a bottle of (empty) Glenfiddich scotch, cracking the car's windshield.

Phone calls to the police were made, but the police did not show up. Instead, police returned a call to one of the main organizers of the block party, telling him that the suspect was caught several blocks away after crashing into someone's yard.

BY KAREN GUARNOTTA, NOVEMBER 11



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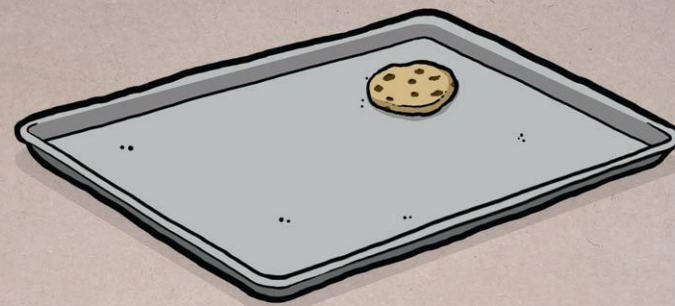


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LEAD STORY

— Among the students featured in *Popular Science*'s September list of young inventors was Fabian Fernandez-Han, 14, of Conroe, Texas, who invented a bicycle that, when pedaled, also desalinates seawater (via reverse osmosis) from replaceable 15-gallon canisters. One hour of pedaling produces 20 gallons of drinkable water. Jack Andraka, 15, from Maryland, created a test for pancreatic cancer that is demonstrably much faster and more accurate than current diagnostics (using carbon nanotubes that can be specially activated by applications of the signature pancreatic-cancer protein, Mesothelin).

Can't Possibly Be True

— School officials in Grand Island, Neb., told Hunter Spanjer that the way he signs his name violates the schools' anti-weapons policy and that he'll have to abandon it. Hunter is 3 1/2 years old, deaf, fluent in the language Signing Exact English, and uses a hand flourish as his unique signature (registered with SEE), except that officials say the flourish looks like Hunter is threatening with a weapon. At press time, Hunter's parents were still negotiating with officials. — An unidentified mother of twins was photographed at the Thanksgiving Point Deli in Lehi,

Utah, in September apparently toilet-training her toddlers at a table. Another patron witnessed the mother's bringing in what at first glance looked like booster seats, but then the mom undid the kids' jumpsuits and placed them on the potties. A spokesperson for the deli (located ten miles south of Salt Lake City) said the incident was over by the time it was reported to her, but the witness put a photo on the internet (picked up by TV stations) so that millions of people could disapprove of the mother's parenting.

— Police in Seneca Falls, N.Y., arrested Dawn Planty in August and charged her with statutory rape. Planty came to officers' attention when she called 911 to ask if the dispatcher knew the age of consent in the state because she had had sex with a 15-year-old boy recently and wanted to clear her conscience.

Perspective

— Many Americans are still outraged that no major banking officials were punished for the malpractices that produced the 2008 financial collapse. However, in July, Richard Eggers, age 68 and with an otherwise-unblemished record, was fired by Wells Fargo — only because of a 49-year-old conviction for attempting to rig a laundromat machine by making a "dime" out

of cardboard. Wells Fargo said its hands were tied by a new federal law requiring dismissal of anyone with past convictions for "transactional crimes" (aimed at identity theft and money-laundering).

Cuddly Geopolitics

— The *Washington Post*, reporting in August the existence of a newly declassified communication between a cooperating Guantanamo Bay detainee and his lawyer, revealed that the "high-value" prisoner had, without explanation, been rewarded with a pet kitty cat.

— On July 4, two peace activists who own a small advertising agency in Malmo, Sweden, pulled off their most audacious stunt yet by hiring a small plane to drop 800 teddy bears emblazoned with democracy-promoting messages over the capital of Belarus. The country's strongman president, Aleksandr Lukashenko, later fired two generals for their inability to prevent the breach of the country's airspace.

The District of Calamity II

— Overtaking Washington, D.C., in Dysfunction: Ever since Detroit prosecutor Kym Worthy found 11,000 "rape kits" lying idle on police shelves in 2009, she has been seeking funding to

test them. In a progress report in August 2012, of the 400 kits deemed most likely to yield results, 21 "serial rapists" were identified. (Manpower to find the men is unavailable, and yet to be learned is whether any have committed additional rapes since 2009.)

— Two hours after an early morning multiple-shooting in Detroit on Sept. 1, a 36-year-old man reported to a fire station to turn himself in. However, firefighters were unable to persuade police to come arrest him, and eventually, reported WXYZ-TV, the firefighters put the man in a taxi and sent him to a police station.

Unclear on the Concept

— A 30-year-old man told Providence, R.I., told police in August that he was the victim of a sexual assault, and police are investigating. The man said he had gone to the North Main Street Spa for a professional massage and was unable to avoid a sex act administered by his "masseuse," "Yo Yo." (The *Providence Journal* did not publish his name because he claims to be the victim of a sex crime.)

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com



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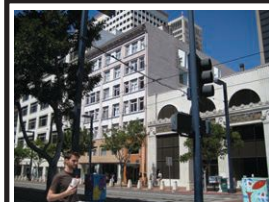
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4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
5) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

- 1. Looks bad, comparatively
- 6. Vamoose
- 10. Org. whose website has a flood insurance rate map
- 14. Smells
- 15. Hypochondriac's imaginings
- 16. "Project Runway Canada" host
- 17. Encyclopedia volume whose entries include "Denver," "divorce" and "Dostoyevsky"?
- 19. Expansive
- 20. Revivalism?
- 21. Cross
- 22. Nascar Hall of Fame architect
- 23. Suffix with decor or fabric
- 25. Encyclopedia volume whose entries include "Pasteur," "pecan" and "piranha"?
- 30. Deck treatments

- 32. Hypochondriac's imagining
- 33. " ____ For" (1995 Nicole Kidman movie)
- 34. Make watertight
- 36. Many a Little League coach
- 37. Encyclopedia volume whose entries include "sodium," "Solomon" and "sparrow"?
- 40. And so forth: Abbr.
- 43. Lax
- 44. Rear- ____
- 48. Yakov Smirnoff's home country
- 50. "No idea"
- 51. Encyclopedia volume whose entries include "rooster," "roulette" and "Rubicon"?
- 54. Tex-Mex fare
- 55. Mumbled assent
- 56. Miguel Cabrera led the American League in batting avg, HRs and these in 2012
- 58. Fugitive's flight
- 59. Genre of the 2012 hit "Gangnam Style"
- 61. Encyclopedia volume whose entries include "tambourine," "Tanzania" and "tarragon"?
- 64. Moolah
- 65. Field of knowledge
- 66. Yellow-and-black character on "Romper Room"
- 67. They give women a lift
- 68. They're in I-N
- 69. Full of attitude

Down

- 1. iTunes download, perhaps
- 2. Get comfortable with
- 3. Less honorable path
- 4. Directional ending
- 5. Concorde, for short
- 6. Libya's Gulf of ____
- 7. Crossword editor, at times
- 8. Green and Gore
- 9. Bit of chiding
- 10. Time to quit?
- 11. Sent with a click
- 12. More, to Manuel
- 13. Subject of the E.O. Wilson quote "Karl Marx was right. Socialism works. It is just that he had the wrong species"
- 18. "My bad!"
- 22. Danced to an accordion, perhaps

- 24. Muckraker Jacob
- 26. Hosiery hue
- 27. Mah-jongg piece
- 28. Ortiz of "Ugly Betty"
- 29. Until now, in a CPA's report
- 31. Stone Age implement
- 34. Pigeon or dove
- 35. Barnyard brayer
- 38. Up ____ good
- 39. Polar bear who became a sensation after he was born at the Berlin Zoo in 2006
- 40. The Iron Curtain divided it: Abbr.
- 41. Bout ender, in brief
- 42. Colorful brand name?
- 45. Forensic facilities
- 46. Protects in glass, say
- 47. Offering from the front desk
- 49. Experts
- 50. "What's ____ for me?"
- 52. TV character whose catchphrase was "Did I do that?"
- 53. Letter-shaped construction piece
- 57. Repairs, as a golf green
- 59. Vladimir Putin's former org.
- 60. According to
- 61. ____ Mahal
- 62. Title object of 1981's top-grossing movie
- 63. Ode title starter

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

F	R	O	S		N	E	C	K		J	C	R	E	W
L	O	V	E		I	V	A	N		E	R	I	C	A
A	L	E	X		M	I	N	E		T	E	C	H	S
N	O	R	S	E	B	L	E	E	D	S	E	A	T	
			E	A	U	S			O	O	P			
M	C	D	L	T	S		P	U	G	N	O	I	S	E
R	O	I	L	S		D	O	R	M	S		G	I	L
C	R	T	S		W	A	N	N	A		G	O	R	Y
U	N	K		F	O	N	T	S		O	A	T	E	S
B	Y	A	N	O	O	S	E		I	M	D	O	N	E
			A	X	L			Y	N	E	Z			
	S	T	U	F	F	E	D	U	P	N	O	S	E	S
S	O	A	S	I		M	A	G	I		O	C	T	A
P	I	N	E	R		I	R	O	N		K	O	R	N
A	L	G	A	E		T	A	S	K		S	W	E	D

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

- Leslie Chase, Campo, 2.

There once was a lady from Campo
Where weather is cold and dampo
To get up and go
Through dark and through snow
She drank coffee and carried a lampo.
- Tommy Conroy, La Mesa, 2.

Now there's cool days after all that heat
Voting's over, the bad guys got beat
I was 'bout to lose my mind
Turkey day comes just in time
Let's say a prayer, sit down, and eat!
- Dale Duffala, Bird Rock, 2.

Thanksgiving is here once again
A good time with family and friends
But I'd like it more
With Mom and Dad at the door
But they both met their own peaceful ends.
- Mark Moskowitz, Universty Heights, 2.

Mitt Romney's A self-righteous dolt
Some say he belongs to a cult
He says that he's miffed
says that healthcare's a gift
While bemoaning the election result
- Jay Sato, Carmel Valley, 2.

Thanksgiving is the time to get fat,
Turkey, stuffing, gravy, and all that,
Finishing with pie à la mode,
I don't care if I explode,
My stomach wasn't meant to be flat!

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bright, and updated studio in the heart of La Jolla Shores. Close to all! Private balcony and parking. 8049 Calle de la Plata. TPPM, 858-699-3851, www.torreypinespm.com.

LA JOLLA, \$1995.

2BD+2BA. \$500-off 1st Month's Rent! Open house Saturday, 11/24, 10:00-11:00. Beautiful garden community located in the Village. Washer/dryer, fireplace and 2 parking spaces. 7601 Eads Ave #9. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

LA JOLLA, \$6800.

Incredible ocean views from every room. 4BD+3-1/2BA house. 4 levels of decks. In the Village of La Jolla. Blocks from beach. Newly remodeled. Brokers welcome. 858-220-9544.

LA JOLLA, \$995.

Studio+1BA. 1/2 off 1st month! Extra large studio on the 2nd floor, with new wood floors, new paint, faux wood

blinds, on-site laundry, off-street parking. 1129 Torrey Pines Rd. #10. 619-804-3325.

MISSION BEACH.

\$250 & up motel weekly rates. Full kitchens, cable TV, furnished. Santa Clara Motel, 839 Santa Clara Place, San Diego, 92109. 858-488-1193.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1075.

1BD+1BA, apartment. All amenities included! One block to beach! Dishwasher, refrigerator and stove. Pool, laundry, fireplace, parking. 4825 Del Mar Avenue. 619-298-0859.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1095.

1BD large downstairs unit close to cliffs. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/1/12. 4853 Orchard Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1250.

1BD+1BA 1/2 off 1st month! Beautiful, extra large unit, vaulted ceilings, dining room, ceiling fans, wall-to-wall closets in extra large bedroom, tons of cabinets in kitchen, electric stove top and wall oven, refrigerator, on-site laundry. Small pets negotiable. 4835 Saratoga Avenue #7. 619-804-3325.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1295.

2BD apartment. Block to beach! Extra room. Ceiling fans. Laundry. Shared 35 deck. Parking. 2221 Abbott Street. Shore Management 858-274-3500.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1375

2BD+1BA condominium. near Point Loma. Large. Pacific Isle. Top floor. Updated unit. Gated community. Pool, full gym. Laundry. Secured 2 parking spaces. 3050 Rue D'Orleans. 858-354-6597.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1395.

2BD+1BA large apartment, Sunset Cliffs. One block to beach! Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, laundry. Small, quiet, gated complex. No pets. 4736 Point Loma Avenue #1. Agent, 619-232-6811.

OCEAN BEACH, \$2900.

3BD+3BA house. Clean, fresh paint. 1-car garage plus 1 private parking space. Roof deck. 3 blocks to ocean. Washer/ dryer. Dogs OK with additional deposit. 4653 Bermuda Ave, front house. 858-270-4492 x203, CDunphyPacwest@san.rr.com

OCEAN BEACH, \$985.

1BD+1BA apartment. \$700 deposit OAC. No application fee. Blocks to the beach! Clean. Parking. Laundry. No pets. Includes water and trash. Seacoast Apartments, 5030 Lotus. Call Doris, 619-204-1651, 619-224-0759.

OCEAN BEACH, \$995.

1BD upper. Bright, clean. Block to beach! Skylight. Peek ocean view. 35' shared deck. Laundry. Parking. No pets/smoking. Shore Management 858-274-3500.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1050.

1BD+1BA. North PB. Newly remodeled, upper, well maintained unit. Quiet. Ceiling fans, microwave, dishwasher, laundry, reserved parking. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1080-1380.

1BD+1BA. Block to ocean. Remodeled bath/ kitchen, custom tile, Berber carpet and garden window. No dogs. 851 Diamond Street. Rebate \$600. 760-201-3818.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1095.

Upstairs 1BD+1BA. Appliances, laundry on site. Close to shopping on Garnet. 2053 Garnet Ave #2

Typo Patrol Results

Issue of November 15, 2012

News Ticker

p.44 Sheriff's *should be* Sheriff's

p.49 boosts *should be* boasts

Feast!

p.66 help *should be* helped

p.68 Wiconsin *should be* Wisconsin

p.70 Crescent *should be* Circle

Music listings

p.85 December 7 *listing duplicated*

p.85 December 14 *listing duplicated*

Wendy Chmielnik (Poway) \$70

Roam-O-Rama

p.55 Vale *should be* Vail

Paul Kingston (La Jolla) \$10

Events listings

p.58 Bernardo)) *should be* Bernardo)

p.58 sandiegowritrs.org *should be* sandiegowriters.org

Art review

p.62 toil: *should be* toil;

Breanne Petre (City Heights) \$30

Neighborhood News

p.6 Many *should be* "Many

p.6 outside. *should be* outside."

Herb Spark (Del Mar Heights) \$20

You must send in a copy of the printed error — either the actual page or a copy (including page number).

Exceptions: direct quotations, slang, colloquialisms, house/writer style idiosyncrasies. Exempt: ads, blogs, user

reviews, movie showtimes, puzzle results, and letters to the editor. Submissions accepted until Monday at

7 a.m. after the issue in question. First identification of error wins \$10 or a Reader baseball cap (indicate prefer-

ence). Winnings limited to \$300/year per household. Mail to: Typo Patrol, SD Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA

92186; or fax to 619-231-0489; or deliver to 1703 India Street in Little Italy (we have an after-hours mail slot).

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1095.

1BD+1BA. *Open house Saturday, 11/24, 1:00-2:00.* Beautiful quiet apartment community in Crown Point. Lush landscape, recent upgrades, convenient location. Must see! 2150 Thomas Avenue #3. TTPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1095.

1BD+1BA apartment. Updated unit available 12/15. Convenient central location across from Henrys Market and Garnet shopping. Short walk to beach. No pets. 1236 Felspar Street. TTPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1195-1595.

1BD&2BD. Unique townhouse- style apartment in very nice property with pool in Crown Point. One block to Sail Bay and beach. Parking and laundry. Ask about our move-in special! 3773 Haines Street. TTPM, 858-333-1318, casariviera3777@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1195.

1BD+1BA, downstairs completely remodeled unit in the Crown Point area. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, coin laundry. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 11/16/12. 2156 Reed Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1195.

1BD+1BA, large downstairs remodeled unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave, pool. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Available 1/1/13. 1433 Oliver Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1275 & UP.

1BD+1BA, 700 sqft apartment. Up to 1/2 off 1st month's rent (OAC, select units.) Heated pool, 2 Jacuzzis, 2 basketball courts, 5 lighted tennis courts, clubhouse, barbecue area, business center, on-site laundry facilities, heat, A/C. Cats/ dogs welcome. Close to freeways and more! Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham. 888-451-8713. [baypointe@progressmanagement.net](http://baypointeapartmenthomes.com); www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1295.

2BD+1BA. Private laundry, all appliances. Small storage. Covered parking. Easy freeway access. Available in December. 208-682-2962.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1300.

2BD+1BA, cottage with private yard. Close to all. Walk to bay. Laundry, parking. No pets. Eight month lease. 4107 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1350.

2BD+1BA. Crown Point. Newly remodeled. Laundry, off-street parking, dishwasher, ceiling fans, patio. 1941 Thomas. No pets. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1395.

2BD+2BA. *\$500-off 1st Month's Rent!* Open house Saturday, 11/24, 11:30-1:30. Queen Victoria Apts. One applicant must be 55+. Spacious unit in controlled access building. New carpet, paint. All appliances plus washer/ dryer, fireplace, covered parking. 1-year lease. 1625 Chalcedony Street. TTPM, 619-806-5760. queenvictoriagermy@gmail.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.

2BD+1BA. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, laundry room, patio. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #1. Agent, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.

2BD+1BA. *Open house Saturday, 11/24, 4-5pm.* Top floor, corner unit with flexible lease terms located in central location with great courtyard. Parking. No pets. 1461 Missouri Street #4. TTPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1525.

2BD+2BA upstairs unit in triplex behind 1228. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace, parking, balcony. Cat OK with extra deposit. New carpet. Available 11/20/12. 1230 Thomas Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1550.

2BD+1-1/2BA. Great location, near PB Plaza and restaurants. Private patio, garden area. Two-story upstairs has bay view, small balcony. 2 off-street parking spots. tslifeline@aol.com. 858 483-8784.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1650 & UP.

2BD+2BA, 1000 sqft apartment. Up to 1/2 off 1st month's rent (OAC, select units.) Heated pool, 2 Jacuzzis, 2 basketball courts, 5 lighted tennis courts, clubhouse, barbecue area, business center, on-site laundry facilities, heat, A/C. Cats/ dogs welcome. Close to freeways and more! Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham. 888-451-8713. [baypointe@progressmanagement.net](http://baypointeapartmenthomes.com); www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1695.

2BD+2BA, upstairs condo. Wood floors and carpet. Vaulted ceiling with skylight. Tile and granite. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Washer/ dryer. Two private balconies. Large tandem garage with opener. Will consider dog with extra deposit. Easy freeway access. Available 12/1/12. 4615 Pico Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2375.

3BD+2BA apartment. *\$500-off 1st Month's Rent!* Open house Saturday, 11/24, 2:30-3:30. Great location. Close to the beach, shopping, and restaurants. 1016 Hornblend Street #3. TTPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2400.

3BD+1-1/2BA house in North PB, 3 blocks to ocean. Completely remodeled with new kitchen and new bath. Granite countertops. New carpet. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, laundry hookups inside unit. Driveway parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 11/15/12. 979 Loring Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2895.

4BD+2BA. \$500 off 1st month! Beautiful, extra large house, 2-car garage, hardwood floors, large fireplace, separate laundry room, all appliances included, dishwasher, stove, refrigerator, fenced-in back patio, large driveway. Water paid. Pets OK. 2148 Oliver Avenue. 619-804-3325.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$750-1250.

STUDIO+1BA, 1BD+1BA and 2BD+1BA. Quiet, gated entrance. Ceiling fans, laundry, off-street parking, pool. Building well maintained. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031, akarnazes@yahoo.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$895.

STUDIO with full kitchen and all utilities paid! Large downstairs unit in North Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator, coin laundry. Three blocks to ocean. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/24/12. 5049 Cass Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$995 & UP.

Studio+1BA. 700 sqft apartment. Up to 1/2 off 1st month's rent (OAC, select units.) Heated pool, 2 Jacuzzis, 2 basketball courts, 5 lighted tennis courts, clubhouse, barbecue area, business center, on-site laundry facilities, heat, A/C. Cats/ dogs welcome. Close to freeways and more! Bay Pointe Apartments, 3866 Ingraham. 888-451-8713. baypointe@progressmanagement.net; www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

POINT LOMA, \$1250.

2BD+1BA, garden apartment with new carpet, paint and appliances! Includes off street parking. Pets OK. Private patio and dog yard in sunny garden surroundings. 619-222-2849.

POINT LOMA, \$1295.

Beautiful apartment homes starting at \$1295! *\$0 deposit, OAC.* City/ bay views, stainless steel gourmet appliances, custom cabinetry, bamboo laminate floors. Barbecue, fire pit/lounge, resort-style pool, oversized hot tub, brand-new fitness center. Pet friendly. Gables Point Loma, 3811 Marquette Place #2N. 619-223-6577. Gables.com.

POINT LOMA, \$895.

1BD+1BA \$800 deposit OAC, parking, laundry, pool, no pets, at 2625 Camulos Street #11. Agent, 619-523-1453, www.mpmcorp.net.

Downtown

BANKER'S HILL, \$1599.

2BD+1BA Tree Top Penthouse 800 sqft. Skylights, newly updated, laundry on-site. Dog friendly. 2642 5th Ave. Maplehausa. 858-568-5081.

BANKERS HILL, \$1095.

2BD+1BA apartment. Stove, refrigerator. Water and trash paid. Near Balboa Park. No pets. 433 Juniper Street. Agent, 619-232-6811.

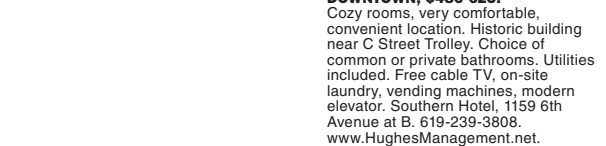
BANKERS HILL, \$1395.

1BD+1BA, 700 sqft (estimated) townhouse. Bordering Downtown. Very private. Spacious. Hardwood floors. Laundry. Patio. Free parking. Pets OK. Available now. Steve, 619-696-7500.



DOWNTOWN, \$400 & UP.

Rooms \$400/ up. Clean and quiet. Includes utilities and free cable, on-site laundry, elevator, Wi-Fi. Excellent location, convenient to all. No pets. Centre City Manor, 1450 4th Avenue and Beech Street. 619-255-5631. www.HughesManagement.net.



RENTALS

Pacific Beach Luxury from \$995



- Heated pool, 2 Jacuzzis
- 2 basketball courts
- 5 lighted tennis courts
- Clubhouse and BBQ area
- Business Center
- On-site laundry facilities
- Heat & A/C
- Cats and dogs welcome
- Close to freeways and much, much more!!!

**Up to ½ Off
1st Month's Rent**
(OAC, on select units)

**Studios starting at \$995
1 bedrooms starting at \$1275
2 bedrooms/2 baths starting at \$1650**
Select units, OAC.

Bay Pointe Apartments

3866 Ingraham Street in Pacific Beach
888-451-8713 • baypointe@progressmanagement.net
baypointeapartmenthomes.com

Affordable Central Location!



**2 bedrooms
starting at \$1,100**

Bright, airy units with ceiling fans, carports with storage and remodeled laundry room on-site. Minutes from everything!

Patio Village Apartments

Call Robin for availability:

888-424-4741

8501 Glenhaven St. • San Diego



Need an apartment short term? As low as \$300 / week plus tax



**\$300/week + tax-
1 queen bed**

**\$350/week + tax-
2 Double beds**

*Month to Month lease starting at \$1,295
6 Month lease as low as \$950/month*



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(just west of the 805) San Diego, CA 92117
888-264-4729



Puzzles and limericks!

THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

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 SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
- 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name and a clean limerick.

EASY:

9			3			8	7	4
			8		9			
		6		7	1		5	
3				5	2			
1		5	6	8	3	7		9
			1	9				5
	4		9	1		6		
			7		4			
2	9	1			6			7

MEDIUM:

		1		9			3	
	9	8		3				
5	7					9		
	1	6		7	4			
			1	6	3			
			2	8		6	4	
		4					8	7
				5		2	1	
	5			2		3		

HARD:

				2				
		4	9			3	7	
1		6	7			9		
6		5			7			
	1						9	
				5			6	8
		1			5	3		4
9	7				4	8		
			3					

EVIL:

4							1	
			6				2	7
		9	2	4			8	
9			5	3				
1								8
				4	6			3
		5			3	7	9	
6		4			9			
	7							1

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Limerick: _____

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

1	6	3	9	4	8	5	7	2
2	8	9	5	7	3	1	6	4
4	7	5	6	1	2	3	8	9
5	9	8	1	2	4	7	3	6
7	1	6	8	3	9	2	4	5
3	4	2	7	6	5	9	1	8
8	2	1	3	9	6	4	5	7
6	3	4	2	5	7	8	9	1
9	5	7	4	8	1	6	2	3

MEDIUM:

4	7	8	3	2	6	1	5	9
3	5	1	9	7	8	2	4	6
2	6	9	5	4	1	3	8	7
5	2	3	4	9	7	6	1	8
8	4	7	6	1	2	9	3	5
1	9	6	8	5	3	7	2	4
7	3	5	1	6	4	8	9	2
9	8	2	7	3	5	4	6	1
6	1	4	2	8	9	5	7	3

HARD:

2	5	7	3	8	9	4	6	1
3	6	8	4	1	7	2	9	5
4	1	9	6	5	2	3	8	7
9	8	6	5	7	3	1	4	2
1	3	5	8	2	4	9	7	6
7	2	4	9	6	1	8	5	3
5	9	2	7	3	8	6	1	4
8	7	1	2	4	6	5	3	9
6	4	3	1	9	5	7	2	8

EVIL:

2	1	3	8	9	6	7	4	5
5	9	8	4	2	7	3	1	6
6	7	4	5	3	1	2	8	9
7	8	1	6	5	9	4	2	3
3	5	9	2	4	8	6	7	1
4	2	6	1	7	3	9	5	8
1	6	7	3	8	4	5	9	2
9	3	5	7	1	2	8	6	4
8	4	2	9	6	5	1	3	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.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

(All winning entries will be screened for plagiarism.) Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

👉 Ginger Hipp, San Diego, 1.

*Planning dinner next week is a beast.
Feeding 22 family members at least.
But table seating's gonna be a zip
Coz everyone's last name is Hipp
So grab a seat and get ready to feast!*

👉 Martha Awdziewicz, Clairemont, 2.

*One Turkey this year has good luck
We decided to roast a fresh duck
"Oh no," said one kid
and he ran off and hid
"I wont eat that greasy bird, Yuck"*

👉 Ralph Levy, La Jolla, 2.

*After the umpteenth limerick
we try to improve on our previous schtick
What went before
should go out the door
but it's hard not to mimic.*

👉 Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 2.

*I stare out past my curtains (they're brown)
Trying hard to come up with the right noun
To describe in a poem
The view from my home
of the sunrise reflecting on Downtown.*

👉 Ric Witt, Clairemont, 2.

*I went by my pub Friday for a drink,
And I found myself surrounded by pink.
The fine ladies took a pause
From walking for their cause;
Let's all play the cure's sooner than we think!!*



DOWNTOWN, \$500 & UP.
Studio+1BA. Rooms \$500/ up. Studios \$650/ up. Clean and quiet. Includes utilities and free cable, on-site laundry, elevator. Excellent location, convenient to all. No pets. Arlington Apartments, 701 7th Ave. and G St. 619-231-2385. www.HughesManagement.net.



DOWNTOWN, \$500-600.
Large, furnished rooms with high ceilings, tall windows. Includes utilities and cable. On-site laundry and kitchen. No pets. Excellent location across from Horton Plaza. Windsor Hotel, 843 4th Avenue. 619-231-2385. www.HughesMangement.net.



DOWNTOWN, \$550-800.
Price meets function. Spacious studios and rooms with private bathroom. Utilities included, on-site laundry. Some parking available. Near City College and trolley. Mitchell Apts., 901 10th Avenue at E Street. 619-235-6068. www.HughesManagement.net.



DOWNTOWN, \$650 & UP.
Best deal in East Village! Spacious units in small complex with gated courtyard. Utilities included. No lease. No pets. Tenth Avenue Apts. 743 10th Avenue. 619-239-1639 x2. www.HughesManagement.net.



DOWNTOWN, \$700-900.
The best of Downtown at your doorstep! Updated studios and one bedrooms by Petco Park. Gaslamp and Horton Plaza. Air conditioned units include utilities and free cable. On-site laundry. Arthur Hotel at 728 Market Street. 619-239-1639 x2. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN, \$775.
Studio+1BA. Downstairs, all utilities included! Laundry, street parking. No pets. Near Balboa Park. 1758 6th Avenue. Available now! Agent, 619-298-7724.

DOWNTOWN, \$800 & UP.
Little Italy efficiency apartments with laundry. Private bath, cable TV, microwave, refrigerator. Utilities included. Secure, quiet, charming. Near trolley/ bus lines, blocks from harbor. On-site manager. Villa Caterina, 1654 Columbia Street. 619-232-3400.

DOWNTOWN, \$850.
Studio+1BA. 1/2 off 1st month! All utilities paid! Beautiful, extra large studio located in gated building, gorgeous wood floors, walk-in closet, built-in dresser in powder room, large eat-in kitchen with built-in table and bench, tons of cupboards, on-site laundry. 1747 5th Avenue #2. Deborah, 619-702-4887.

DOWNTOWN.
From \$125 weekly. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. Four- week minimum. Color TV with basic cable, Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN.
From \$199 weekly. Studio. Premier location. Furnished, full baths. Award-winning buildings. 24- hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sundecks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second/ Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingds.com.

DOWNTOWN.
Studio. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at \$165/week. Free wireless Internet and exercise room. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingds.com.

DOWNTOWN.
From \$140/ week. Brand- new rooms near City College. Singles with kitchenettes. Deposit (long-term). Includes utilities/ cable. Quiet, secure. Shared bath/ laundry. Hotel Mediterranean. 619-231-8656. www.hotelmediterraneansandiego.com.

DOWNTOWN.
Starting at \$175 weekly. Furnished rooms. Beautiful building, new. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS, \$850.
1BD+1BA plus bonus room. Remodeled cozy apartment. New windows, doors, tiled floors, paint. Kitchen has new cabinets, granite countertops, range and built-in microwave. On-site laundry. 858-349-9006.

SHERMAN HEIGHTS, \$875.
1BD+1BA apartment. Minutes to Downtown. Completely renovated Historic Building. New plumbing, electrical, fixtures, cabinets with granite countertops, some with city views, parking. 858-459-9358.

Downtown, \$150. Furnished Studios!

Studio+1BA, clean and furnished with Free Utilities! Pay by the week or month (from \$150/ \$560 at Trolley or from \$175/ \$660 Peachtree). Phone, microwave/ fridge, television/ HBO, housekeeping, parking, laundry, patio, WiFi lobby, gated entry. Move in from \$300/ \$375 (subject to credit approval), Trolley at 940 Park: **888-506-9053**, Peachtree at 901 F Street: **888-506-9052**.

East County

ALPINE \$775-1100
2BD+2BA condo. 1/2 off 1st month! Move-in-Special OAC! Spacious townhouse. Heat and air conditioning. Pool, small pet welcome. Call 619-445-0805. www.sadaptbrokers.com.

EL CAJON, \$1295.
2BD+2BA apartment. 1/2 off 1st month! Lower unit, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, crown molding, laminate flooring in kitchen, recessed track lighting, central A/C and heater, washer and dryer, ceiling fans, covered parking. No pets. Section 8 OK! 1028 Leslie Road #3. 619-804-3325.

EL CAJON, \$1650.
3BD+2.5BA spacious townhouse. 1300sqft. Very well maintained. 1185 Persimmon Ave., #8. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

EL CAJON, \$1650.
3BD+2.5BA townhouse , water/ sewer/ trash included, 2- car garage, washer/ dryer hookups, A/C, ceiling fans, new carpet. 1185 Persimmon Avenue #8. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, peoplehelpingothers.com.

EL CAJON, \$480-850.
Trailers. Gated community park. Each unit has a little yard. Conveniently located, close to trolley, bus, shopping. No pets. 619-933-5189.

EL CAJON, \$775.
1BD+1BA apartment. New carpet, vinyl, air conditioning, dishwasher, patio with storage. Pool, Jacuzzi. Gated community. Water, sewer, trash included. Call 619-444-5799. www.sadaptbrokers.com.

EL CAJON, \$795.
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LEAD STORY

— Scientists from the Primate Research Institute at Japan’s Kyoto University reported in an August journal article that they had given helium gas to apes (gibbons), which, predictably, made their voices goofily high-pitched. However, it was not a fraternity prank or lab assistant’s initiation, but a way for the scientists to determine whether the famously sonorous gibbons could yell just as loudly at a higher-than-natural pitch. The gibbons succeeded, showing a rare talent similar to that of the world’s greatest human sopranos, who maintain their booming amplitude by altering the shape of their vocal tract, including their mouth and tongue.

Cultural Diversity

— The seaside city of Qingdao, China, is “not a vacation community for superheroes” (as described in August by NPR) even though many beachcombers wear masks while lounging and sunbathing. The garments are “face-kinis,” or light cloth coverings that protect against the “terror of tanning.” While Western cultures celebrate skin-darkening, many Chinese associate it with lower-status, outdoor occupations, and a pale skin suggests having lived a pampered life. — Italy’s highest court ruled in July that one

man’s telling another, in front of others, that he has “no balls” can be criminal conduct that warrants payment of damages. Said Judge Maurizio Fumo, such a comment places at issue male virility as well as competence and character. — In August, after an eight-day trial, a court in Hamburg, Germany, awarded money damages to a man who called another an “asshole” (*arschloch*) in a parking-space dispute and fixed the payment at the equivalent of about \$75,000. (Courts in Germany can base the amount of damages on the transgressor’s income.) — A Saudi Arabian agency is raising the equivalent of about \$130 million to break ground in 2013 on an entire city to be managed and staffed by female employees, with three more such cities being contemplated. Raising women’s employment rate is a goal of the kingdom, where until last year, nearly all jobs were held by foreigners and Saudi males, including jobs as sales clerks in women’s lingerie shops.

Latest Religious Messages

— Prayer failed for Leslie Burton, 26, and Terrell Williams, 22, in St. Paul, Minn., in July. As they sat in the back seat of a police car while officers searched their own car, the pair, touching hands (according to the cruiser’s video

camera), quietly begged divine intervention that the guns in their car not be found. However, not only were the guns spotted, but a subsequent strip search revealed a baggie of suspected ecstasy pills in Williams’s rectum. — In August, an abbot at the Wat Phra Dhammakaya Buddhist temple in Bangkok, Thailand, reported that Steve Jobs is doing well now as a “mid-level angel.” He was reincarnated as “a half-Witthayathorn, half-Yak,” which the *Bangkok Post* took to mean that Jobs continues to be a “giant” and a seeker of scientific knowledge. **Questionable Judgments** — The mayor of Triberg, Germany, touted his town’s new public parking area in July by noting that 12 of the spaces were wider and well-lit, compared to the others, and would be reserved for female drivers. The harder-to-access “men’s spaces” required maneuvering at an angle around concrete pillars. “[M]en are, as a rule, a little better at such challenges,” the mayor said, predicting that the men’s spots would become a visitors’ “attraction” for the town.

Least Competent People

— Lowell Turpin, 40, was arrested in Anderson County, Tenn., in July after he became jeal-

ously enraged at a stranger’s photo on his live-in girlfriend’s Facebook page and, demanding to know who the man was, allegedly punched her in the face and smashed her computer. According to the police report, it was a campaign photo of Mitt Romney. **Armed and Clumsy (all-new!)** — Men Who Accidentally Shot Themselves Recently: A man in Wawa, Ontario, in July, clubbing a mouse with the butt end of a rifle. The 56-year-old man in Sparks, Nev., who brought his handgun with him to *The Bourne Legacy* after the Colorado massacre and was shot in the buttocks when it fell to the floor. Two men who shot themselves in the genitals (a 45-year-old in Birmingham, Mich., in June and 36-year-old Tavares Colbert in Oklahoma City in July). Two people didn’t even need a gun to shoot themselves: a Modesto, Calif., weightlifter whose dumbbell slipped to the floor in April and landed on a bullet, and a 56-year-old woman in Montoursville, Pa., who apparently carries bullets in her purse, and somehow had one explode, wounding her.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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LA MESA, \$995 & UP.
1BD+1BA, \$995; 2BD+2BA, \$1250 & up. Apartments/ townhouses. Remodels available. Yards/ decks. Deposit \$500, OAC. Move- In Specials. No pets. Gym. Quiet garden community. 5810 Amaya Drive, vistaamaya@gmail.com. 619-697-3285.

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LAKESIDE, \$1375.
2BD+2BA condo in gated community. Upper unit with balcony and all kitchen appliances. 9728 Marilla Dr #811. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

LAKESIDE, \$897-1097.
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2BD+1BA, updated luxury condo across from Santee Towncenter and Trolley. New stainless steel appliances, central AC/ heat, hardwood floors, double pane windows, jacuzzi tub. Pool, laundry, parking. Available now! 9861 Mission Greens Court #1. 619-857-2110.

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Central San Diego

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North County Coastal

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by Scott MEYER

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You can be the protagonist of your story, but you shouldn't be the hero. A story about your awesomeness is just bragging.

A story should end with the point, like a joke ends with the punchline. Not knowing the point makes this impossible.

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Music Reviews from Our Readers

Blak and Blu

Gary Clark Jr.
By Alfred Howard

Blak and Blu, the debut full-length from Gary Clark Jr., has an aggravated hive of buzz about it. With premier slots at music festivals and a well-received EP, Clark has the weight on his shoulders of a guitar hero who is the potential salvation for the blues.

When the album hits, it hits hard. Tracks such as "Numb" and "Bright Lights" are monsters of sludgy psych that call to mind Hen-

drix's Band of Gypsys and Ten Years After.

Monster riffs coupled with Clark's sly howl are the mark of his best efforts. But the collection is mired by misadventures in production; what could be viewed as eclecticism comes across as unbalanced. Tracks "Blak and Blu" and "The Life" sound like '90s R&B slow jams, interrupting the best aspects of this record.

The album excels when it wields dirty guitar tones, soul instead of flash, and the confident stride of rock bravado. At times, Clark wears the Hendrix appreciation too apparently on his sleeves, but on a debut record, it is forgivable. The potential of his albums to come is immense if Clark manages to find his own voice and shout it.



Salvation for the blues?

Divine Fits fit our Monday night way of life

By Dryw Keltz

As part of an on-going concert series sponsored by *Filter* magazine, Divine Fits rolled into San Diego for the first time with a free set for anyone willing to brave a late Monday night.

Though the band's '80s synth-pop tendencies are apparent on their self-titled debut, performing live, the band let their rocking side guide the proceedings. The results were effective

as songs such as "What Gets You Alone" and "Would That Not Be Nice" sprung to life with a little injection of guitar overdrive. "The Salton Sea" was another highlight, with its eerie, hypnotic appeal stretched to even greater success in the live setting. "Like Ice Cream" followed suit, delivering a groove that the crowd demanded to sway their hips to.

America's Finest City apparently can't get enough of bleary-eyed, ear-ringing Tuesday mornings.

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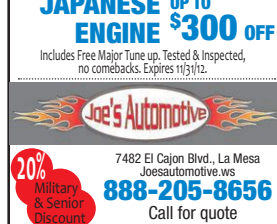
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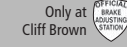
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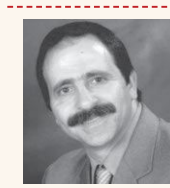
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