

SAN DIEGO

VOLUME 42 / NUMBER 7
FEBRUARY 14, 2013

Reader



Temporary TV Fame

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OPENS FEBRUARY 16

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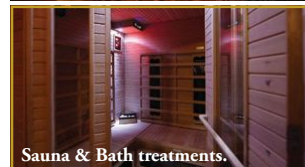
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February 14, 2013



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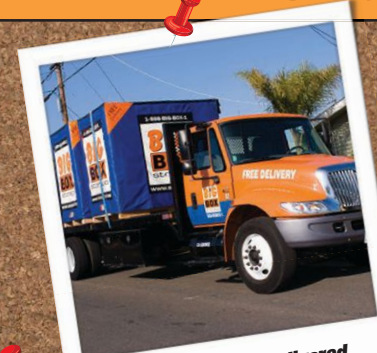
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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Hiking trails for South Bay

Coastal Conservancy and county to fund \$1.98M Tijuana River Valley trail system Imperial Beach/San Ysidro — The California Coastal Conservancy is set to allocate up to \$1.5 million toward trail construction in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park at a meeting scheduled to take place Thursday, February 14, drastically increasing the total



New trails in the Tijuana River Valley to be completed in 2016

investment to date in developing a 22-mile trail system through the park for use by hikers, cyclists, and equestrians.

In 2003, the conservancy authorized a \$1 million grant to San Diego County to begin the process of developing the trails project, which included design costs and environmental studies throughout the 2000-acre park. Last year, the county received \$450,000 from the conservancy to build trails on the eastern portion of the land adjacent to Dairy Mart Road. The new money would go to fund six miles of official trails, in large part improving three existing “unofficial” pathways through the park that range from two to eight feet wide.

When completed, the trails system would allow travel from various starting points all the way to the coast and would connect with Border Field State Park, the California Coastal Trail, and the Bayshore Bikeway.

Construction on the new additions is expected to begin in September, with a targeted completion date of February 2016.

Dave Rice, February 8

Congress demands answers for San Onofre

Representatives Boxer and Markey call for power-plant investigation

San Onofre — Democratic senator Barbara Boxer of California and Democratic representative Ed Markey of Massachusetts today (February 6) wrote the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, urging it to investigate new information indicating that Southern California Edison and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries were aware of problems with the design of the San Onofre nuclear power plant’s steam generators before they were installed.

Edison got permission from the California

Public Utilities Commission in 2005 to install four generators. Mitsubishi manufactured the new ones. But two new ones lasted less than a year and two others lasted less than two years. Boxer and Markey, both of whom head environmental committees in Congress, have been provided new information indicating that Edison and Mitsubishi “were aware of serious problems with the design of the San Onofre nuclear power plant’s replacement steam generators before they were installed,” they said in the letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

States the letter, “All people in our nation, including the 8.7 million people who live within 50 miles of the San Onofre plant, must have confidence in the [commission’s] commitment to put safety before any other concern.”

Don Bauder, February 6

Man walks into sheriff’s station after stabbing wife

Deputies discover body in pickup parked next to station

Imperial Beach — Just before 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, William Barker was driving home from work when several San Diego sheriff’s cars fell in behind him, sirens blaring. Before he could pull over, the patrol cars stopped in front of the sheriff’s Imperial Beach substation on Imperial Beach Boulevard.

“Not sure what’s going on, but whatever it is, it’s big,” he reported.

A woman walking her children home from school saw firefighters and paramedics run from the fire station to the parking



The scene outside the Imperial Beach sheriff’s station

lot between the substation and Imperial Beach City Hall. “They started doing CPR on a woman laying next to the white truck,” she said, pointing to a white Nissan pickup truck parked just feet from the station’s entrance.

Firefighters used a fire truck to block off Imperial Beach Boulevard at Ninth Street while deputies set flares to block traffic at Eighth. A San Diego sheriff’s spokesperson told the media that, shortly before 4:00 p.m., a man walked into the substation and told deputies he had just killed his wife. Depu-

continued on page 46



Even in this concept photo, the proposed convention center expansion looks like a terrible idea.

It stinks

By Don Bauder

Can common sense and the legal system keep a bubble from inflating further? And maybe prevent a traumatic bursting?

San Diego could be the canary in the coal mine on these critical questions.

The subject is convention centers. All around the country, new centers are being built and old ones expanded and refurbished, even though convention attendance has been dropping for years and centers are slashing prices and losing money. It’s a classic bubble, but San Diego’s power players want to build a half-billion-dollar expansion on the existing center.

To do so, the City has concocted a convoluted trick play to evade the laws. City

voters have twice turned down an increase in the hotel tax (called the transient occupancy tax). Under the Constitution, state laws, and the city’s own charter, voters must approve a tax increase. So, fearing a rebuke at the ballot box, the City seeks to unilaterally amend the laws by, in effect, calling the hotel tax an assessment. The city’s hoteliers have supplanted the voters and approved the expansion and taxes to pay

for it. A lawsuit challenging that legal legerdemain goes to superior court late this month. In March, the Coastal Commission is tentatively slated to look at the



Jan Goldsmith



Bob Filner



Heywood Sanders



Mel Shapiro

proposed project.

Heywood Sanders, professor of public administration at the University of Texas at San Antonio and the nation’s reigning expert on convention centers, notes that between 2000 and 2011, convention center exhibit hall space ballooned by 35 percent while attendance fell 1.7 percent. Last year, space didn’t increase that much, but “Cleveland and Nashville have new centers opening this year,” he says.

San Francisco is expanding the Moscone Center, Los Angeles is planning new space tied to a possible football stadium, and Seattle is planning an expansion.

And all three are cutting rents, as is San Diego. In its 2012 annual report, the San Diego Convention Center Corporation admits that its market “is increasingly being targeted by other western regional convention destinations attempting to lure conventions away by

offering free or heavily discounted space and substantially lower hotel rates.” So, San Diego is providing a rent subsidy, too — at the same time it wants to expand into a nationwide glut.

“Almost everybody is discounting and offering free rent,” says Sanders. “Much of the rental incentive hits the bottom line on a center’s operating loss.”

The center in Reno, Nevada, is luring conventions with a huge bowling alley for convention-goers, called “the Taj Mahal of bowling.” Las Vegas has its own — er, uh — convention enticements, along with 4 million square feet of convention space, double the second highest, Orlando. The San Diego center admits that the seduction of Sin City “impacts our ability to compete.”

Despite these realities,

continued on page 44



While turf shoes like this are allowed, the Park and Recreation Department is cracking down on longer-studded cleats at Mission Bay Park.

Mission Bay turf wars

By Dorian Hargrove

On one side of this bayside brawl stand cleat-wearing soccer and frisbee players; on the other, the City of San Diego.

During the past two months, park rangers have patrolled Mission Bay's parks handing out flyers to soccer and frisbee players, warning them against wearing cleats.

The crackdown on cleats is not some power trip from a policy-rabid ranger. The new directive comes straight from the city's Park and Recreation Department, prompted by

complaints from a few individuals, referred to as control line fliers, who fly model airplanes. They say that the athletes' cleats tear up the turf.

On a sunny Saturday morning at 10:15 a.m., two dozen players of "Goaltimate Frisbee" — a game best described as hockey with a frisbee — gather at ski beach. They range from



A few citizens have complained that the cleats worn by these "Goaltimate" players, as well as soccer players, are chewing up the turf at Ski Beach.

lawyers in their early 30s to Goaltimate veterans in their mid-50s. They slide supports onto their ankles and buckle braces onto their legs as they wait for a group of soccer players to finish playing their weekly pick-up game at the park.

The two groups have met at Ski Beach, a 50-yard square

of grass located near the boat ramp off of Ingraham Street, for over 20 years. The patch of Bermuda grass is convenient, never crowded, and offers a fairly decent view of the bay and Fiesta Island.

"This is one of the reasons we live in San Diego," says Don Pugh, who has been playing soccer at Ski Beach for more than 20 years. Pugh, a tall, sturdy 51-year-old native of New Zealand, continues to talk as he removes his shoes and knee brace. "We live here, in San Diego, so that we can play sports in the middle of January in shorts and a tee. We respect the rangers and this field. We've planted seed, removed rubbish after a holiday. We take care of this area for our own benefit and for the benefit of others. And we wear cleats for safety. All we ask is to continue doing as we've done for over 20 years."

The soccer players and frisbee players have it down to a science. The pickup soccer game begins at 8:30 a.m. They pick up their small orange cones demarking the field at 10 a.m. Then the Goaltimate frisbee players set

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UNDER THE RADAR

Secretary of State's friend disbarred

Wade Sanders, the Navy veteran who served with U.S. Senator John Kerry during the Vietnam War and later played a prominent role in Kerry's failed presidential campaign, has finally been disbarred from the practice of law. When Sanders ran for Congress here in 2000, he enjoyed the financial support of prominent La Jolla Democrats, including the late Murray Galinson and C. Hugh Friedman, onetime counsel to



Kerry's Navy and campaign comrade Wade Sanders served his 37 months after a child porn conviction.

C. Arnold Smith and late husband of ex-congresswoman Lynn Schenk. Friedman died this January 29.

Back in May 2009, Sanders was given a 37-month prison term after copping a plea to charges of possessing child pornography. Once a top adviser to Lt. Gov. John Garamendi on veterans affairs and an assistant secretary of the Navy in the Clinton administration, Sanders was released from the pen last March, data posted on the federal prisoner locator website says.

According to the California Bar's website, the Sanders disbarment occurred January 9. A stipulation and "order of inactive enrollment" dated July 27 of last year says the conduct of Sanders "harmed significantly a client, the public or the administration of justice." In citing mitigating circumstances, the document says Sanders "submitted 80 letters of recommendation to the Court, including a letter

from United States Senator John Kerry, attesting to his good character. Respondent was prepared to call at least 60 of these good character witnesses at the trial of this matter."

The stipulation's final conclusion: "Only if the most compelling mitigating circumstances clearly predominate, shall disbarment not be imposed. In the present proceeding, Respondent does not contest that the facts and circumstances surrounding the commission of the offense of which Respondent was convicted involve moral

turpitude because he possessed over 600 visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct.

"Respondent also does not contest that his evidence of mitigating circumstances is not the most compelling mitigation that clearly predominates." In August 2011, when Sanders was still behind bars, Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus stripped the former Swift Boat captain of his Silver Star. Kerry was recently confirmed by the Senate as president Barack Obama's new Secretary of State, succeeding Hillary Clinton.

There was port, and plenty of port

It was no doubt a tough job, but somebody at the Port of San Diego apparently had to do it. In this case, somebody was district board member Lee Burdick, who recently quit the port to sign on with the administration of new Democratic mayor Bob Filner. The assignment: show



Yummy perk — former port board member Lee Burdick enjoyed a \$150 chow down at a food festival.

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Neal Obermeyer



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Red Asphalt in Order

How can you in good conscience print such an incoherent and semiliterate piece (“My Life: Love and car crashes,” February 7 cover story), which all but celebrates reckless driving?

The author (and the text) manages to be both self-obsessed and lacking in self-awareness at the same time. Maybe the author has had a hard life, maybe is suffering, maybe is overcoming and thriving — but we can’t really tell. Any self-respectable periodical would send the article back for revision to make it about something tangible, instead of being a vain, wrecked diary of a divot. More importantly, the author blithely mentions many instances of her dangerously clueless driving, such as hitting an elderly couple while “blaring the latest and greatest Eminem song through my subs, so loud I didn’t even realize I’d hit anybody, until my car wouldn’t reverse.”

Instead of encouraging her with publication, you should have urged the author to [seek] some kind of treatment (like *Red Asphalt* driving lessons). If she continues the way she’s going, she’s going to kill or maim somebody and the SD Reader will bear some responsibility.

Name Withheld
via email

All-Seeing Device

Regarding the photo of the traffic signal array in the “City’s Red-Light Cameras Nixed” article (News Ticker, February 7).

The device mounted atop this traffic signal array is not

a traffic enforcement (or red light) camera. It is an optical sensing device that “sees” traffic at the controlled intersection and controls the timing of the traffic signals. As they are cheaper to install and maintain, these optical sensors are replacing the old style induction loops buried in the pavement.

David M. McClure
via email

Comforted by Breastfeeding

A host of kudos to Jamie Boyd for standing up for her and her child’s rights regarding breastfeeding in public (City Lights: “Breast Milk’s Not on the Menu,” January 24).

As a recently retired pediatrician and neonatologist, I applaud her in all respects. Since retiring from practice, I travel overseas a lot and am comforted seeing moms breastfeeding their children in all places and circumstances. It’s not only the healthiest and physiologic thing to do, but it is known to promote bonding between mother and child. Usually the other children in the family enjoy seeing mom do this too. Anyone objecting to this is living in a bygone era.

To think the owner would suggest a toilet or his office as an alternative is reprehensible. I think the owner needs not only to be familiar with the current law, but to look at the whole picture — the wonderful thing happening between mother and child. I believe that all my colleagues will agree with me.

Larry S. Johnsgard, M.D.
Escondido

Burned Bravo

Regarding the tuna fishermen series (Unforgettable: Long-Ago San Diego).

In the 1970s and ’80s there was a tuna boat called the *Toro Bravo*. I knew the engineer. I was told by one of his close relations that the *Bravo* burned dockside — for a reason this relative did not state.

Julian Reid
via email

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

IMPERIAL BEACH

Will dredging prevent future floods?

Court battles settled, crews to begin dredging Tijuana River Valley

On Monday, February 11, city crews are expected to begin dredging sediment and garbage from the drainage channel that originates at Smuggler's Gulch and runs north, into the heart of the Tijuana River Valley. The inundations often flood Monument Road, about a mile from the end of the city road.



This drain at Smuggler's Gulch contributes to the flood hazard in the Tijuana River Valley.

The river channel at the Hollister Street bridge will also be dredged. The narrow and fragile old bridge traverses the river and is one of two key entry points into the valley. The area flooded in 2008 and 2010, trapping horses and livestock on the ranches located there. Before the 2008 flood was over, the San Diego Fire Department's Swift Water Rescue Team had rescued a half dozen people.

The dredging project comes after the city and lawyer Cory Briggs waged court battles over the permit process. Residents and ranchers pushed hard for the dredging.

"We're just grateful they're going ahead with it, and we hope they get it done before

we have any flooding," said John Gabaldon, president of the Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association and a valley rancher.

Briggs had sued the city over how it issued itself a permit to dredge without what he calls "a properly done environmental review." Briggs said the superior court agreed there were problems with the permit and told the city to start over last fall. But all parties worked out an agreement in October to let the city dredge the two critical spots.

"The [Tijuana River Valley Equestrian Association] people who were there applauded," Briggs said. "And then the city did nothing for three and a half months."

The dredging has to be finished by February 15, when the light-footed clapper rail (a bird) mating season begins.

LUCY D. BARKER, FEB. 9

OCEAN BEACH

No rule-bending (this time), say city planners

Planning board denies variance request for three-story home on West Point Loma Boulevard

In a blow against the gentrification of Ocean Beach, architect Elizabeth Young's plans for a 400-foot variance on a planned three-story residence were shot down by the Ocean Beach Planning Board on February 6.

The home, in the 5000 block of West Point Loma Boulevard, is owned by the Douma family. The single-story house is a few doors down from the entryway to Dogs Beach and shares the block with two three-story homes, one of them nearly completed. The unanimous vote against granting the variance means the Doumas won't be building up anytime soon.

While some community members agreed with the board, at least ten neighbors showed up in support of the Doumas' request and to vouch for them on a personal basis. One neighbor suggested, in a somewhat joking manner, that the city should send a limousine to bring the Doumas to the meeting because of how much they care about O.B.

This would have been the third property

on West Point Loma Boulevard to have been granted a variance by the city, thus bypassing the O.B. Precise Plan, which the community put into place in 1975.

MERCY BARON, FEB. 8

Comments

DAVE RICE FEB. 9@ 10:52 A.M.

As I understand it, the OBPB was against the other variances as well, but a different culture Downtown got them pushed through over the objections of the community...

DOWNTOWN

Public library keepin' it local San Diego Public Library recognizes over 300 local authors at reception

For 47 years, the downtown San Diego Public Library has invited local authors (both traditional and self-published) to submit their work and be recognized in a month-long exhibit that kicks off with an authors' reception.

On Friday, February 1, the library treated authors to appetizers and drinks. The Zzymzzy Quartet played while authors received medals and had their pictures taken.

This year's event was the last one to be held in the library building at 820 E Street. The new library is expected to open in July 2013.

Library deputy director Misty Jones informed guests that this was another record-breaking year, with 332 authors, 112 coauthors, and over 400 titles.

BARBARA ZARAGOZA, FEB. 6

ENCINITAS

Christian Scientists on the move

Construction begins on church's Main Street reading room

On Monday, February 4, a little cottage at 910 S. Coast Highway 101 in Encinitas was fenced off and partial demolition began. The single-story former residential building, probably built in the 1940s, had housed numerous businesses over the decades, most recently Azul Jewelry.

Construction workers on the site said

the building is being partially demolished and will be rebuilt in the same footprint as the old one. It will become the new location for a Christian Science Reading Room — a bookstore and library where folks can learn more about the Christian Science church.

Currently, the church's reading room is several blocks away, at 681 Second Street. But moving to Main Street may not help the church become mainstream: many Christian Science congregations around the country have an aging membership, and churches have needed to be consolidated or closed.

KEN HARRISON, FEB. 5

SDSU

Sidewalk makeover Construction project at College Boulevard and Alvarado Road will ease access for disabled

A sidewalk construction project at the corner of College Boulevard and Alvarado Road near SDSU is making the congested area more user-friendly for the disabled and those in



Leveling curbs for ramps near SDSU will help the wheelchair-bound and visually impaired.

wheelchairs.

Work crews were busy on the morning of February 4, breaking up the old curbing and reinstalling a ramp for wheelchairs so that students parking in the campus overflow lots along Alvarado Road have safe access to cross College Boulevard and get to the campus.

Closest to the roadway, integrated into the concrete, are the yellow panels with inch-in-diameter raised domes; those are to assist the visually impaired as well as help slow the roll of wheelchairs.

JUSTIN POWELL, FEB. 7

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Cry Girls

Jane came rushing in like a gust of wind, disrupting the air in the room with her abrupt appearance. As usual, she managed to not miss any surface as she unloaded her many things — a purse on this sofa, an even bigger purse on that chair, a huge binder on the dining table, Starbucks cup on the coffee table...I'm always amazed by the amount of baggage she can load into those tiny arms of hers.

"You will not believe what just happened to me," Jane said, still huffing from lugging all her stuff up the steep street and then two flights of stairs. She took a draw from her inhaler. "I almost got a ticket this morning."

"Almost?" I raised a brow. "So, you talked yourself out of it?" I collected her things and consolidated them on the couch.

Jane plopped down next to the pile I'd created and let

out a long sigh. She took a sip of her coffee and settled back into the cushions. "So, I was dropping the girls off at school this morning," she began.

"Don't tell me you were speeding around kids," I said.

"No, it wasn't that kind of ticket —"

"Which you almost got, but didn't."

"Right," Jane said. "I had just walked them to their classes and was on my way back to the car. The light was red, but I started walking across the street. I was almost to the median when I noticed the cop and realized that what I was doing was wrong — but then I got stuck on the median, so I just stood

there. As soon as the light changed, he beelined over to me."

"So, you jaywalked? Is that a big deal?"

"I jaywalked in a *school zone*," Jane said with gravity.

"So, anyway, he gets over to me, and I just started apologizing and saying I would never do it again. He said he was going to let me off with a warning."

Just as I reached for my phone to check my Twitter feed during what was turning out to be an anticlimactic story, Jane added, "So I told him, 'If you want to make an example of me in front of all the other parents, you can pretend to give me a ticket and I'll pretend to be really upset — I can cry on demand.' But he was, like, 'No, thanks. That's okay.' And I said, 'No, really, I can cry on demand. Let me help you — pretend to give me a ticket and I'll cry.' But he insisted that it was okay, that he didn't need me to cry, so I thanked him again and went back to my car."

"You're insane," I said.

"He must have been, like, *What is wrong with this chick?* But you know what? I

can cry on demand, too."

David had apparently been listening to us from downstairs because he bounded up the steps to give both Jane and me his *Are you guys for real?* face right before asking, "What do you mean you can both cry on demand?" He sounded the same way he does when he impersonates Vizzini from *The Princess Bride*.

"So can Bella," Jane said with pride in her daughter's abilities. Jane described how happy she was when, after a rehearsal for a show in which her eight-year-old played a milkmaid who spills her milk, Bella's teacher asked Jane if she knew her daughter could cry on demand. The teacher explained — to my delighted sister — that after Bella's convincing cry, the child's face immediately brightened to a smile as she announced, "End scene!"

"You're a family of sociopaths," David said only half-jokingly.

"It's not because we're sociopaths; it's because we're extremely empathetic," Jane argued. "We're already emotional and able to take on the role of being emotional and feeling what other people feel. I could cry right now if you showed me a cotton commercial."

"What in the...huh?" David's face was scrunching further into folds of perplexity.

"You know," Jane sang the jingle, "The fabric of our lives," choking up on the last word. "It's sad."

"Not sad," I said. "You mean it's touching." Jane nodded in agreement. Then, to David, I said, "What? You can't make yourself cry?"

David shook his head in bewilderment. "It's not some genetically inherited talent," he said. "That's a purely emotional learned and practiced behavior. How do you even make yourself cry? Do you think of something sad, or do you just..." David trailed off.

"I used to imagine what it would be like if each of my family members died," I said. "You know, I'd gauge how much I loved them by how hard I felt like crying when I imagined being at their funeral."

This time, David's face went through so many twitches and adjustments I couldn't begin to describe his expression. "That's a whole different kind of weird," he said. "Do you imagine you're all in a lifeboat and if you have to throw one of them out to save all of the others, who it would be?"

"No, that's terrible," I said. "That would be murder. I can't even believe you went there."

David laughed — it was a half guffaw, half choking sound.

"Oh, I forgot," Jane said, cutting through the glare David and I were sharing with each other. "Bella also faked a seizure." David threw up his hands. "She was at cheer practice, which had been going for, like, two hours already, so she faked a seizure. When the coach came to find me and I got over there, Bella admitted that she had faked it because she was tired and wanted to stop." Again, that look of pride washed over my sister's face. "She really is a good actor," she said. "But she can't fool me. It was the same with Mom...remember?" I nodded, and Jane explained for David, "Our mother was the

continued on page 48

"Our mother was the master — you couldn't get anything past her. Maybe that's why we've gotten so good. All those failed attempts to try to get away with stuff at home."

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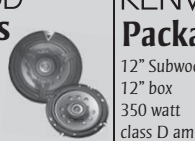
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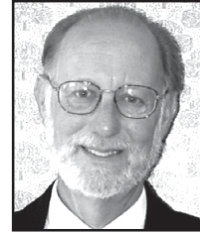
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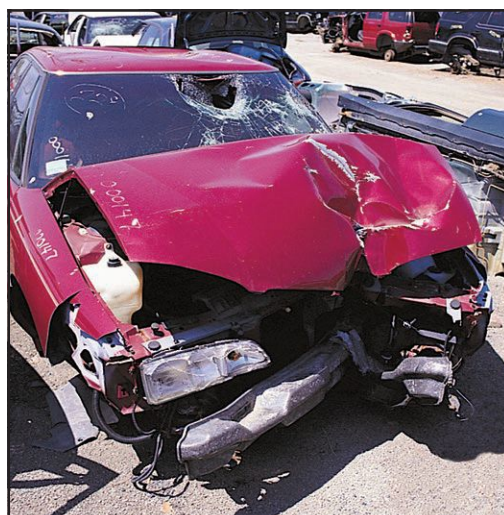
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Walter Mencken's

SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

SCANDAL! TYPO PATROL: CANCELLED!*

WALTER MENCKEN: SUSPENDED!
BOBO THE COPYEDITOR: FIRED!



Bobo, in happier times

Almost Factual News reporter Walter Mencken has been suspended from his duties at the San Diego Reader effective immediately, said the paper's features editor, Ernie "Giggles" Grimm, in a prepared statement this morning. "We have reason to believe that Mr. Mencken was collaborating in an internal conspiracy with Bobo, our paper's copyediting chimpanzee. Apparently, Bobo would get ahold of the Reader's pristine copy every Tuesday afternoon just before we went to print and insert numerous typographical

errors. He would then alert Mr. Mencken as to the precise location of the errors, and Mencken would then submit them to Typo Patrol under various names. Bobo would then receive a portion of the \$10 payouts for each typo. More on this story as it develops. In the meantime, we can only be grateful to HR manager Roy G Biv for uncovering this dastardly scheme, and we apologize to you, the Reader readers, for leading



Roy G Biv

you to believe that we were capable of such silly mistakes in the first place." Reached for comment, Mr. Mencken said that he could not comment on a matter that was still being investigated, but added, "If you had a chance to double your salary, would you take it?"

*No, seriously, Typo Patrol is cancelled.

Entire Boy Scout Troop Comes Out to Each Other

"You mean we're all gay?"
That's kind of anticlimactic."

When the word came down that the Boy Scouts of America was discussing the elimination of its universal ban on homosexuals — instead leaving the question up to local sponsoring organizations — Bankers Hill Boy Scout Jack Johnson knew what he had to do.

"I realized that the time had come to make a stand," he recalls. "It was time to force the issue. It was time to come out as a scout. First, the move would put pressure on the national discussion. Second, if the local ordinance went into effect, it would put pressure on my troop, which is sponsored by Rich's Nightclub, to make the right decision. They wouldn't be able to just consider the matter abstractly. They would know that banning homosexuals from their troop would mean banning me. Right after I had gotten my BMI badge." (The BMI or Body Mass Index badge, is given to scouts who achieve a body fat level of less than 6 percent.)

Johnson resolved to make his announcement at the troop's annual Greek-style wrestling tournament. "I'm a pretty

good wrestler, so I usually win. I figured that the guys would be more receptive to my announcement after I'd just pinned them to the ground in a contest of manly strength and skill. Plus, when I get good and sweaty, I look kinda like Brad Pitt in that one scene from *Fight Club*. Presentation counts when it comes to stuff like this."

What Johnson didn't know — couldn't know, really — was that every single other member of his troop had made the exact same plan. "Rod Johnson, Dick Johnson, Lance Johnson, Peter Johnson, John Thomas Johnson, Willie Johnson — all of 'em.

I stood up there at the podium in my loincloth, dripping oil and sweat, and proclaimed, 'I'm Eagle Scout Jack Johnson, and I'm gay!' And then someone — I think it was John Thomas — said, 'You're gay? I'm gay!' And it just snowballed from there. We were flabbergasted. I mean, it kind of explains a few



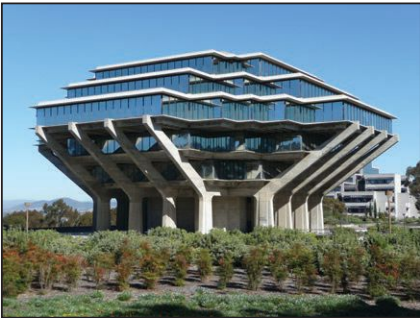
'truth or dare' moments from our camping excursions over the years, especially as some of our fellow Scouts left to pursue girls or sports. But, still — who knew?"

As of press time, Rich's Nightclub had not made a statement about its plans should the local-sponsor policy be implemented.

USCD Responds to Critics of Enormous Administrator Salaries

"Somewhere along the line, you people seem to have confused 'nonprofit' with 'non-wealthy.'"

Statement from university president Morris "Mo" Munni: "The University of California at San Diego has always prided itself as one of the foremost educational institutions in the nation when it comes to research. Specifically, research into effective moneymaking initiatives. We pioneered innovative programs in fee extraction and gradual tuition-hike therapies and combined them with traditional brand-leveraging prestige models to lend perceived value to an increasingly unapplicable undergraduate degree. On Wall Street, that kind of turnaround would be hailed as near-miraculous. But in the field of education, it is met with complaint and cries of 'What about the students?' "Well, what about them? This kind of mon-



eymaking research, even if it turns out to be wildly profitable in the long run, doesn't come cheap. It requires significant start-up capital, capital that must be extracted from gullible students who imagine that the university exists for their sake. It's an absurd notion, akin to imagining that

Facebook exists for the sake of its users — as opposed to its stockholders. Yes, we absolutely need our students here at UCSD, just like a car needs gasoline. But gasoline is not the point of a car. The point of a car is to take university administrators to the airport, so that they may fly to academic conferences in beautiful foreign countries and indulge in luxuries undreamed of by the great kings of old."

Mayor Responds to Impatient Pot Proponents: "Quit Harshing My Mellow"

Filner responds to charges that he lacks motivation on medical marijuana dispensary front

"What a drag," said Sunshine Sparklepony, owner of the Rolled Gold medical marijuana dispensary next to the First Impressions Daycare Center on North Park's Ray Street. "Filner had everybody feeling groovy when he told that square [City Attorney Jan] Goldsmith to stop bringing us down and let us do business with people who just need a little help, you know? But now he's all, 'I will be working very hard in the next 30 days to bring an ordinance to the city council that ensures that the zoning law allows for reasonable regulation of medical marijuana dispensaries in the City of San Diego.' What the hell? It's like something just took away his itch for justice."

Reached for comment, the mayor exhaled and said, "Sparklepony needs to relax. That kind of



"I said I'd get on it. Take it easy, man."

constant nagging gets me feeling all anxious, which is the whole reason I got this...um...treatment prescribed in the first place."



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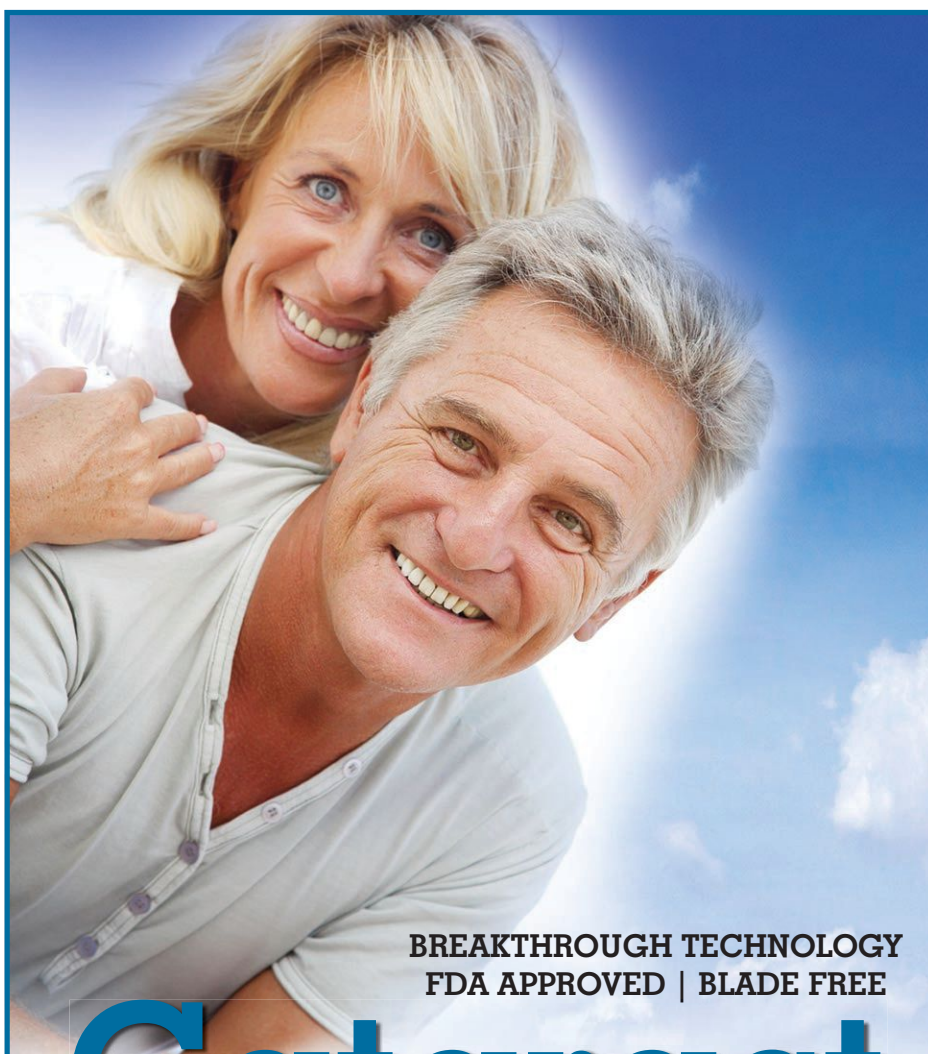
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— Debra H.



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STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP BY MATTHEW ALICE

Mattster:

In my '50s cruising days, after hitting Oscar's Drive In on El Cajon Boulevard, one stop we would always make was at a "magnetic hill" where steel cans appeared to roll uphill. I believe it was called Merlin Drive, but it might have been somewhere near the beach. Am I remembering this right?

— Sleepless in Spring Valley

"Magnetic hills," also called "gravity hills," are a worldwide phenomenon, and San Diego has had its fair share of mystical slopes over the years. I don't know if Merlin Drive (I assume you mean the road in Lemon Grove) ever had the reputation as a gravity hill, but it might have back in the '50s. Nowadays, the best gravity hill in San Diego is actually a free-way off-ramp. If you exit 805 to Sorrento Valley and leave your car in neutral at the bottom of the ramp, you will roll back *up* the ramp while you wait for the light to change. It's creepy.

Folksy origins for gravity hills usually involve some paranormal activity. A popular backstory used for a lot of them is that, 50/60/70 or however many years ago, a school bus full of kids stalled out on the hill and the children all tried to push the bus. Something went tragically wrong and all of the rugrats died horrible deaths beneath the wheels of the bus. Forever after, the ghosts of the children reach out from beyond the grave and push unwitting drivers up the hill. Other popular explanations involve "gravitational anomalies" that somehow negate the attraction between physical bodies; and that's a quantum mechanical attraction, not a Tom Jones kind of attraction, for all you dirty birds out there.

Sadly, there are neither ghosts nor strange attractors at work behind the gravity hill phenomenon. It's just an optical illusion that makes the slope of the hill appear to run in the opposite direction. Usually, the miscue comes from a weird perspective on the horizon caused by a treeline, buildings, or something else that interferes with a normal frame of visual reference. It becomes impossible to determine what's "level" by visual cues alone. In the case of the Sorrento Valley off-ramp, the road actually turns upward just a little bit at the very end of the ramp; but because of the swooping, curving geometry of the freeway system, it's difficult to tell just by looking at it.

There's another freeway segment that seems to defy gravity, but it's not as well known to cars because nobody ever stops in the middle of the freeway to try rolling up a hill. The stretch of I-8 west between Descanso and the Willows

Road exit is open to bicycles and many a rider is familiar with the "hill" that can be climbed at 25 or 30 mph with relative ease. If it's not outright downward, it's at least flat.



Heymatt:

This has been bugging me for YEARS. There is a very mysterious, windowless, signless, addressless building in Clairemont Mesa. It has a high, barbed-wired fence around it and a key-card access gate, but no windows or identifying marks whatsoever. Google Maps gives the address as 5960 Balboa Ave.

Is it a secret CIA interrogation room? A highly secure data center. Are they researching anthrax there? Animal experiments? What's the scoop?

— Ryan

You're right. That is one creepy looking building. It's so anonymous that it could be the shell on top of a vast, underground complex that extends many fathoms below the surface of the earth. Agents of a dark collective bent on world domination might very well toil underground in the sunless depths, creating implements of destruction at the behest of a Lex Luthor-esque evil genius. Right now, Skynet could be massing its forces for the hostile takeover of civilization as we know it.

Fortunately for all of us, the might of the Alice Research Institute rivals any evil organization. I've mobilized all available elf-power and gotten the facts. It turns out that one of your guesses was close. The building in question — technically on Balboa Arms Drive just off Mt. Abernathy Avenue — is the property of AT&T Wireless. They're mighty tight-lipped about the exact usage of this mysterious building, but they did admit that only a small handful of employees work there. To me, that implies it's a data-processing center, which would explain the high-security appearance. These days, data is one of the most precious commodities there is, and enterprising thieves can make good use of pilfered wares, both soft and hard, to defraud the general public. Protecting customer data is priority number one for big telecom companies, since investor faith erodes like the sandy banks of a mighty river in the wake of corporate security breaches.

Rather than being a part of county records, the spooky property is assessed by the State of California and leased to AT&T by them as well. The phone company's business relationship with Sacramento is sufficiently large that it's been deemed beyond county control, which makes info on the mystery building that much harder to come by.

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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Street Style

BY SIOBHAN BRAUN

Ankle boots

Ankle boots are taking San Diego by storm. From wedged, delicately heeled, to lace-ups, the trend is everywhere. In Carlsbad on Thursday afternoon I found three women with very different styles, all wearing ankle booties.

Twenty-five-year-old Hannah Savenye wore cognac Dolce Vita boots from Urban Outfitters that nearly matched her strawberry-blond hair. The boots retail for \$119. She wore patterned BDG jeans from UO and an Anthropologie top and necklace.

Savenye is the merchandiser



HANNAH SAVENYE



SOPHIA METCALF



MEGAN CUKR

at the Carlsbad Anthropologie. She lists Anthropologie, Studio 220, Buffalo Exchange, Madewell, and Zara among her favorite stores.

"The one trend I don't like is Southwestern cowboy prints. We carry it at Anthro-

pologie. It's everywhere. I don't get it."

Sophia Metcalf also wore Dolce Vita boots from Urban Outfitters. Hers are currently on sale for \$34.99. Metcalf paired her boots with dark burgundy skinny jeans and a T-shirt both

from UO. Metcalf's hat is Billabong and her jacket is Levi's. Her glasses are Chloe and her purse is by Lamb.

The 28-year-old is a talent agent for Zuri.

"If I could raid anyone's closet it would be Kate Moss or Kate Bosworth's. They both have great style," Metcalf says.

Twenty-one-year-old Megan Cukr wore Free People from head to toe. She paired her ankle boots with a floral belted tunic.

"I've worked for Free People for two years, so most of my clothes are from here. I like to shop at L&F in La Jolla, too," Cukr says.

Megan's favorite wardrobe item is her vegan leather jacket from Free People. You can find it online at Free People for \$168.

When asked what her least favorite current trend is, Cukr replied, "Studs. It's not that I don't like them, it's just that they are everywhere. They are a little bit too trendy."

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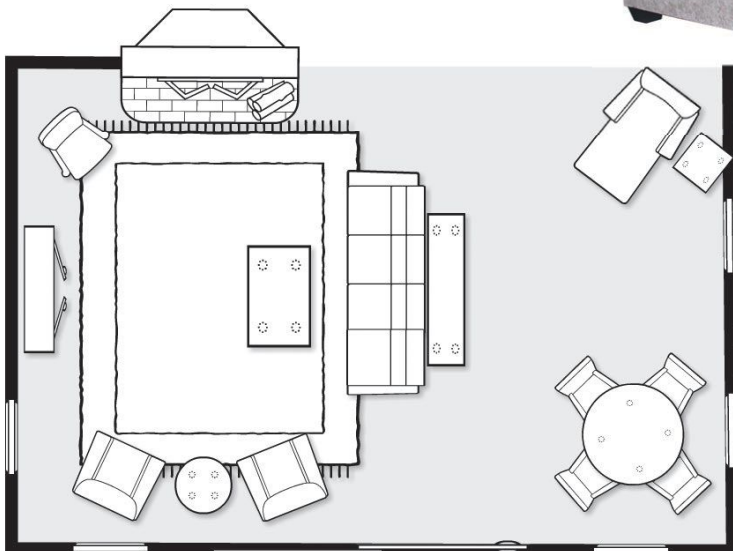
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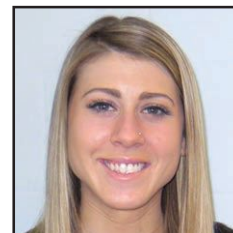
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UNREAL ESTATE

by Dave Rice

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One of the house's entrances is reached by way of a bridge over a lap pool.

dence, built in 2002 on an 8250-square-foot lot.

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"Enter through a

beautiful courtyard featuring a lap pool complete with a bridge to one of the entrances to the home. The curved oceanfront façade

and deck are reflective of the waves beyond. [The home has] breathtaking ocean views from all primary living and sleeping areas."

A "great room" looking out onto an ocean-view terrace houses living and dining areas, and a stone bar opens to the chef's kitchen, complete with dual ovens, cooktop and professional-grade hood, and plenty of polished stainless steel.

From the main living area, one follows the glass-walled hallway looking out onto the entry courtyard back to the wood-paneled family room, featuring a unique fireplace, which has a full bath and could be used as another bedroom suite. Steps to the back lead to two guest rooms, each with a private bath and with one boasting a "full

white water ocean view."

The master suite has its own oceanfront deck as well as an interior "sleeping area" plus adjacent room for a private lounge or "inspired home office."

Other features include "a copper roof, cherry wood trim, teak wood exterior doors and window frames, ceilings that are unique both as to shapes and materials, motorized blinds."

A two-car garage, plus carport space and a parking apron, provide space to store up to seven cars. A motorized lift provides access from the main living area to a basement and storage space.

According to the listing, the lot's 55 feet of beach frontage is "substantially more than a standard Del Mar

continued on page 48

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BLOG

DIEGO

TITLE: **Frankie Photography** | ADDRESS: **blog.frankiefoto.com**
 AUTHOR: **Frank McKenna** | FROM: **La Jolla** | BLOGGING SINCE: **2011**

POST TITLE: **10 Ways Your Camera Can Change Your Life in 2013 (Part Three)**

POST DATE: **January 8, 2013**

1) Take Photo Walks.

A Photo Walk is just what it sounds like — you go on a walk somewhere interesting and take photos of anything that looks amazing or interesting. The trick to a good Photo Walk is to not set expectations too high. The point is to take a walk — first to see the world, and second to take pictures if anything comes along.

2) Open a magazine, see a beautiful picture of somewhere amazing, and then go there.

Last year I bought a *Life* magazine that showed pictures of the 50 most beautiful places in the United States. I wanted to go to some of those places, so I did. I went to find beauty and capture it. The camera can make you an adventurer, an explorer of the world. I took this picture (above) in White Sands, New Mexico.

3) Do something uncomfortable. Push yourself to the edge of your limits.

I was in Page, Arizona, looking down at the iconic "Horse Shoe Bend," where the river makes almost a complete circle. Photographers die here each year when they get too close to the edge and slip off. I am massively afraid of heights, and this was a photo that I felt compelled to get. I was pushing myself to my limit — to test myself, but also to capture something that I found to be beautiful. The camera can give you a purpose to conquer the fear, but also a trophy and a story to tell others.

4) Tell a story with a picture to help someone in need.

It was Christmas. We were in Vietnam and we heard of an orphanage on the outskirts of town in a former prison. We arrived and saw the abysmal conditions, and when we opened the rusty gates to enter, we were greeted by the happy screams of beautiful but forgotten kids and babies inside. Each orphan had a single pair of clothes, and most slept right on the floor in rooms that used to be prison cells. We used the pictures to set up a Facebook page and tell the world the story.

5) Meet a stranger, learn their story.

He was well dressed while others were casual. He seemed to have a sense of purpose. I took a picture of him and he stopped to talk to me. He told me he was an English teacher many years ago, but not anymore. I learned that even though he had not had a teaching job in over 30 years, he awoke each morning, put on his work clothes, and walked outside,

making his way to a job he did not have.

I later learned that, several years ago, his wife was hit and killed by a car while they went jogging at night. His life was empty, but he filled it with hope that things would get better. He thanked me over and over and over again for taking a picture of him

even though he never expected to get a copy of it. He was just happy that someone found him interesting enough to take a picture of him.

6) Make someone feel good with a picture you take.

A picture can make someone feel beautiful, or feel loved, or feel like they have a wonderful life.

7) Start a photography blog.

Starting my photography blog was a huge step in improving my photography. The blog was a personal way for me to put my pictures into a context with a story that would be interesting for others to read.

8) See the sun rise over the world.

The most beautiful light of the day for photographs is either sunrise or sunset. Since the sun is so low in the horizon it gives your pictures color, clarity and contrast that you can never get in the middle of the day.

9) Experience the seasons.

Living in San Diego, our seasons are subtle and most often seem like either spring or summer. Your camera can help you experience each season, helping you see and capture the beauty that each has to offer.

10) Do a 365-day project.

A 365-day project is only a commitment to try to take a single photo each day and post it. It will force you to practice every day and share every day. The best thing about a 365-day project is you have a site that you can go back to for years which chronicles your daily journey though life.



White Sands, New Mexico, is one of Life magazine's 50 most beautiful places in the United States.

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Crime doesn't pay...well



Europol panelists wouldn't name players or teams known to be fixing soccer matches.

Continuing with the soccer theme... Last week, Europol, the European Union's criminal-intelligence agency, held a press conference in the Hague to "announce the results of a Joint Investigation Team on match-fixing in football." This has some interest to the soccer-hating portion of the planet (talking about us, people), since World Cup festivities in Rio are a little more than a year off and NFL fans will probably watch a few of those games.

Sitting behind what appear to be high school cafeteria tables pushed together, underneath giant letters hung on a wall spelling out "EUROPOL," are representatives from Europol, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia, Eurojust, and Interpol.

They are assembled to announce that after a 19-month probe — Operation VETO, to you — investigators have uncovered 680 games that look as if they might have been fixed. More, the games include 150 international matches in South World (Asia, Africa, Latin America) and 380 games in Europe. Games include World Cup matches, European championships, Champions League games, semipro games, the whole deal. We are invited to give thanks for the splendid cooperation between enforcement agencies working together like brothers and sisters.

And then it starts to get a little weird. Panelists deflected questions about how many of the 680 games had already been reported in the press and how many were new. Panelists wouldn't name any of the teams or players involved in fixing games.

Quoting from a *New York Times* story, "Europol described a wide-ranging network of fixing that struck at the sport's core. Nearly \$11 million in profits and nearly \$3 million in bribes were discovered during the investigation, which uncovered match-fixing activity on a scale we have not seen before.... The scope of the investigation

covered games from roughly 2008 to 2011.

"This is a sad day for European football," said Rob Wainwright, director of Europol. "This is now an integrity issue for football." Ralf Mutschke, Director of Security for world soccer's governing body FIFA, said sports bodies and prosecutors needed to work more closely together."

We can stop here for minute. If an international crime syndicate is fixing hundreds of soccer games (by far the most popular sport on the planet) and only pulls down \$3 million a year for themselves, then this must be the most incompetent crime syndicate known to man. If there was ever a reason to go legit, here it is. This crime syndicate needs to be in banking.

Former FIFA security director Chris Eaton believes the real number of fixed matches is around 6800, one hundred times higher than the figure given at the press conference.

As much as we all like a press conference featuring cops congratulating themselves on the job they've done, since the investigation ended in 2011, one wonders why these glad tidings have taken so long to reach us. No worries — those years were not wasted. Europol officials said 50 people have been arrested and another 425 people were under suspicion. If that doesn't cripple a top-notch crime syndicate, I'll eat my hat.

The civilian expert in all this is a Canadian journalist, Declan Hill. Hill earned a Ph.D. in Sociology out of Oxford, worked for the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation) as an investigative journalist, then as anchor of *NewsWorld International*. He's made documentaries from the Philippines, Kosovo, Iraq, Bolivia, and Turkey, covering the Mafia, blood feuds, ethnic cleansing, honor killings...you get the picture. He also wrote the seminal book on soccer gambling, *The Fix*, published in April 2010.

Fixing soccer games and America's baseball steroids scandal share a common underpinning. In both cases, the information was known to the public for years, but the public didn't want to know, so nothing happened. According to authorities — and, more believably, according to Hill, the man behind soccer's crime syndicate is happy Singapore resident Dan Tan. He's happy because Singapore refuses to honor international arrest warrants made out in his name.

Here's Hill being interviewed by James Shaman, a sportscaster on the Score Television Network in Canada. Hill was asked to predict the 2014 World Cup winner.

He declined and then said, "Here's the unfortunate guarantee I can give you. One hundred percent there will be the same Asian match fixers that have gone to the Under 17s, the Under 20, the Women's World Cup, the Olympic soccer tournament, and World Cups for the past 20 years. I guarantee they will be there. I guarantee they will be approaching dozens of players on different teams. They'll be approaching the referees. Will those guys take their money? I don't know. I really hope they do not, but I know that they'll be there and I know that FIFA has done nothing effective to stop them from being there."

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—EVE KELLY

'G.K. Chesterton says, 'It is as healthy to enjoy sentiment as to enjoy jam,'" I announced to my husband Patrick as I spread some jam on my morning toast. "But clearly he wasn't speaking of this jam," I grimaced, after taking a bite of the Cascadian Farm Organics Apricot Fruit Spread, which had the texture of aloe vera (\$3.49 for 10 ounces at Sprouts).

"I feel one of your taste tests coming on," quipped Patrick.

A few days later, a group of us sat down for some tasting, including my dad.

"Gross. Too stiff and too sweet," grimaced pal Gus, tasting the Safeway Kitchens Apricot Preserves (\$2.79 for 18 ounces at Vons).

I agreed, adding, "It's dry and it comes across as marmalade."

Sprouts Apricot Preserves (\$3.99 for 17.5 ounces) tasted like gelatin, "and the fruit bits in it are grainy," added Patrick.

"I like the nice, round clumps of apricot in this Bonne Maman Apricot Preserves," I said, staring at the unstirred jar (\$5.79 for 13 ounces at Vons). "And it flows out of the jar, not just a blob of jelly."

The Serious Food...Silly Prices Organic Apricot Fruit Spread was a winner (\$2.99 for 10 ounces at Sprouts). "Apricot exploding in your mouth, tastes like mashed-up fruit," I remarked.

Trader Joe's Organic Reduced Sugar Apricot Preserves (\$3.29 for 15.2 ounces) was the third hit. "The fresh apricot flavor fills the whole mouth," I noticed.

Trader Joe's Fresh Apricots (\$3.49 for 17.5 ounces) rated lower than its organic brother. "I'm just getting sweet," noticed Patrick. The Knott's Berry Farm Pure Apricot Preserves suffered the same overly sweet dilemma (\$4.69 for 16 ounces at Vons).

"This Organics Apricot Preserves is too stiff for me," I said (\$3.49 for 11 ounces at Vons). "I want my jam to flow a little bit."

"But I do enjoy the fruit chunkiness to it," argued Patrick.

"This one tastes like pie filling," exclaimed Patrick, tasting a spoonful of Santa Cruz Organic Apricot Fruit Spread (\$3.99 for 9.5 ounces at Sprouts).

"And it has the color and sticky texture of caramel," I added.

The Safeway Select Apricot Preserves

"It reminds me of the jam my mom used to make from the apricot tree in our backyard."

(\$2.49 for 11.5 ounces at Vons) carried little fruit flavor, but the Albertsons Apricot Preserves (\$3.99 for 18 ounces) was a surprise keeper. "Strong apricot; you can almost feel the fuzz on the skin of the apricots," said Dad.

Randall Family Preserves Organic Apricot (\$2.99 for 10 ounces at Whole Foods) did not make the cut and was set aside with the

group of nonwinners. "It's always deceiving to me," I admitted, "when I see 'organic,' I assume it will also mean low sugar, but that certainly is not always the case."

"This one hails from Italy," sang Patrick, holding the jar of Capricci Del Bosco Apricot Jam (\$4.99 for 12.35 ounces at Whole Foods). "Ship it back to Italy," responded Dad, taking a lick. "I don't get apricot from it."

The jar of Tropical All Natural Apricot Preserves (\$4.99 for 18 ounces at Albertsons) had a heavy syrupy taste to it, and the Always Apricot Natural Fruit Spread (\$4.99 for 9.5 ounces at Whole Foods) was runny. "This is like a sauce I would put on a dessert," noted Patrick.

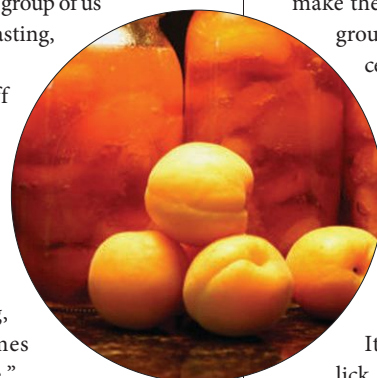
The St. Dalfour Thick Apricot carried a diluted apricot flavor and reminded Patrick of restaurant single-serving jams (\$3.99 for 10 ounces at Whole Foods). But the

Ralphs Apricot Preserves (\$3.29 for 18 ounces) made the keeper pile. "It has pleasant chunks of apricot in it, and it isn't too sweet," I offered.

Patrick raved about the Bionaturae Organic Apricot Fruit Spread (\$4.49 for 9 ounces at People's Organic Food Market).

"This is my favorite," he admitted, "chunks of fruit to chew on, and the apricot lingers with a delightful aftertaste."

The last three were all winners: Smucker's Low Sugar Apricot Preserves (\$4.89 for 15.5 ounces at Vons), Dickinson's Pure Patterson Apricot Preserves (\$5.49 for 10 ounces at Ralphs), and the locally made Jackie's Apricot Jam (\$6.49 for 8 ounces at Whole Foods). "This Jackie's has a hint of ginger in it," noticed Patrick. "It reminds me of the jam my mom used to make from the apricot tree in our backyard."



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Temporary TV Fame



Michael Binkow stands onstage in the event room at Valley View Casino wearing a headset, gray jeans, and a black zip-up jacket. A seven-piece band stands quietly at stage right while Binkow instructs the audience of 200 or so to clap and cheer according to his directions.

"You guys are doing a great job not looking at the cameras," Binkow tells everyone.

He pauses to listen to the voice in his headphones. "You need a small clap?" he asks into the mouthpiece. He listens again, then turns his attention back to the audience.

"Okay, let's do a small laugh, like I told a joke," he says. "I'm going to tell this joke, and if you think it's funny, laugh. If you don't, pretend."

The woman next to me laughs as if this is the joke. But it's not. When Binkow does tell his joke, it's lame. But the audience laughs as if it's

hilarious.

When the fake laughter dies down, Binkow mumbles something about not being good at anything except producing and doing chores around the house, which causes more fake laughter.

Tonight's taping of local reality/talent show *3 Minutes to Stardom* will air a week from tomorrow, and the fake cheering Binkow generates now will help with the editing process.

His next instruction is for us to boo the judges.

"For example," he explains, "if someone you brought [here] sang, and you thought they were great, and the judges gave them, like, a five —

what would you do?"

The three local music dignitaries who serve as the show's judges aren't even in the room yet, but there is an eruption of loud, angry booing.

"No, not that big," Binkow shouts over the sound. "You wouldn't do it that much."

He changes tactics with barely a breath in between.

"Okay, if your birthday is before July, I want you to boo. If it isn't, don't. Okay, three, two..." He points to the audience to indicate that it's now booing time.

My birthday is not before July, and, therefore, I don't get to boo. Instead, I lean over and whisper to my friend

that this whole thing is absurd and bizarre. Inside, I'm secretly hoping that our seats directly behind the judges' table will get us lots of air time, and that a producer will notice the subtleties and nuances of my fake cheering and booing and offer me a guest spot on *Law & Order*, or (at the very least) the chance to sit in another studio audience.

It's not that I've done anything grand or great or contributed much to the world

Picture this: on the lush, tropical island of St. Lucia, a woman in a gold floor-length strapless gown walks toward the man of her dreams. A camera close-up shows her smiling while a voice-over projects her narration into the living rooms of millions of viewers.

"I'm in love, and I'm happy, and I really trust Jake with my heart," says the voice-over as we watch the woman approach the man wearing a blue suit and a crisp white shirt who stands waiting for her. "I really believe that he'll get down on one knee and ask me to marry him."

When she reaches him, they hug.

He tells her she looks beautiful.

She smiles.

Thirty seconds later, after a few unconvincing words about how much he loves her "positivity,"

he says, "I do love you, and I don't know what it is, but something just doesn't feel right."

Ouch.

The idea of such public humiliation sends my inner fame-monger back into hiding. But Encinitas resident Tenley Molzahn,

"Okay, if your birthday is before July, I want you to boo."

the season 14 runner-up on *The Bachelor*, not only lived through the aforementioned embarrassment in front of 15 million viewers, she also went on to compete in another reality show a few months later.

Despite her on-camera good-girl persona, when I first speak with Molzahn on the phone, I expect hard edges and blatant narcissism. This might have something to do with the fact that our conversation has been arranged by a third party,

who informed me that Molzahn is unavailable for in-person interviews.

But Molzahn surprises me with the news that she's in school studying holistic nutrition and plans to become a health counselor. That's about as far from a fame-seeking

career choice as I can imagine, and suddenly I'm curious about how she ended up on reality TV.

At 25, about a year after her 15-month-long marriage ended, she and her sister saw a casting call for *The Bachelor*.

"At first, I was *not* into [the idea of auditioning], and then I thought it was funny. My sister and a friend encouraged me and kind of dragged me there, dropped me off, and said, 'Go.'"

Two weeks after auditioning, she got a callback.

A week later, she was on the show.

"It didn't really give me much time for expectations. I hadn't really gotten to ask myself, *Why am I here? Am I going to fall in love?* It was more like, *Well, these doors have opened, and I'm in transition in my life, and there's nothing wrong with it. Why not?*"

When she got to *The Bachelor* mansion, she realized that many of the other competitors were strategists: either they were going to get the bachelor's attention or the show would help launch their careers.

"I felt naive on *The Bachelor*. I kept scratching my head and thinking, *How many of these girls are paid actresses?* There were probably a good handful of girls on my season who were there because the cards just fell that way. And there was *more* than a handful who were there with [ulterior motives]. I still wonder to this day, *Were they paid [actors]?*"

For the next several

weeks, Molzahn competed with 24 other women for the "love" of 34-year-old pilot Jake Pavelka (and the three-carat diamond ring he would eventually *not* give to her). She went dune-buggy and sand-surfing in Pismo Beach. She ate suckling pig in San Francisco's Chinatown and snorkeled in St. Lucia. She introduced Pavelka to her family and he introduced her to his.

Despite the abundance of full wine glasses and champagne flutes on

every episode, Molzahn drank "not more than a sip of champagne ever on *Bachelor* because I wanted to be fully *there*."

Her sweet-girl persona still reigns. Now, as then, the worst she'll say of Pavelka is, "I think his true ambitions were more into television, rather than finding a genuine, lasting love."

After her publicly televised heartbreak, the self-proclaimed naive, small-town girl (from Newberg, Oregon) with

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a background as a Disney-princess dancer (yes, actually) went on a tour of red carpets and talk shows. She soon landed again in the thick of what she calls “the *Bachelor* franchise.”

The producers offered her a spot on the *Bachelor* spinoff *The Bachelor Pad*, in which former *Bachelor* and *Bachelorette* contestants live together and compete for a \$250,000 cash prize.

“I took some time to think about it because I was, like, *Well, it sounds like an MTV hook-up show, and that’s not really the person I am, so I don’t know that I’d be the best fit for it.*”

But they talked her into

it by reminding her that the show is Disney-owned and on prime-time, and so it wouldn’t be raunchy. Besides, Molzahn’s experience on *The Bachelor* had given her a “thicker skin” and a less-naïve perspective.

“On *Bachelor Pad*, I’ll be honest, I had a different idea of what going on TV is like. I looked at it like this could be a great opportunity, I’d love to win some money, and this’ll be fun. I knew some of the people around me. I trusted them. I didn’t really trust the producers, but I knew how they worked, so I was more laid-back and enjoyed a few glasses of

champagne.”

One of those people she knew going in was Kiptyn Locke, a former contestant on season five of *The Bachelorette* who

“I kept scratching my head and thinking, *How many of these girls are paid actresses?*”

had also been the runner-up. Locke reached out to Molzahn after the Pavelka rejection aired, to console and befriend her. They’d known each other for two months before filming

began for *The Bachelor Pad*.

“Everybody knew that we had known each other, but people outside in TV world didn’t get all of

that. The producers were trying to get us to have conversations about getting to know one another. They’d be, like, ‘Ask so-and-so about this,’ and we were, like, ‘We already

know the answer.”

Once again, for the second time in a year, Molzahn found herself falling in love on national television. Today, two years later, they’re still an item. Locke is the reason she moved from Orange County to Encinitas. Internet searches of the words “Kiptyn and” and “Tenley and” pulls up choices ranging from “Kiptyn and Tenley engaged” to “Tenley and Kiptyn break up” to “Kiptyn and Tenley still together 2012.”

Plug “Tenley Molzahn” into the search box on YouTube, and the list of videos includes everything from Molzahn on

The Bonnie Hunt Show to a bikini-fashion face-off between Molzahn and Britney Spears; most of the videos were posted a year or more ago.

“It’s not that I’ve done anything grand or great or contributed much to the world. It really doesn’t settle well in my stomach when I hear past cast members talk about themselves as such superheroes.”

On the other hand, being a recognizable person has its advantages.

“You can use those 15 minutes. It’s allowed me to share my platform for better health and gluten-free awareness and the other things that I’m

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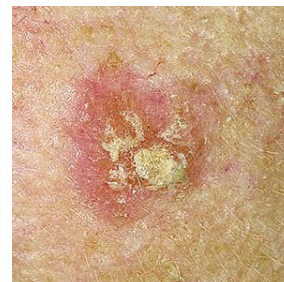
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really passionate about.”

Today, Molzahn’s focus is on school, Locke, stand-up paddle-boarding, and the “structured, simple, everyday life” she’s created for herself in Encinitas. But reality-show world remains just a phone call away.

“There is one network that continues to call us, to see if we’re interested in doing something with them. Never say never, but there are certain things that you just don’t want to invite into your life.”

How about *Dancing with the Stars*?

“It would be a wonderful opportunity, but it’s not something I’m pursuing. And I don’t think my platform is strong enough for them to be, like, ‘Oh, yeah, let’s call that Tenley girl from a few years back.’”

If it’s boring, we’ll cut it out

Prior to tonight’s show, in the back room behind the *3 Minutes to Stardom* stage, Binkow briefed the contestants, reminding them to give their shout-outs. They sat quiet and nervous in the sofas and chairs placed against the walls. One guy, a half-drunk Corona in his hand, bounced an ankle against his other leg’s knee for the entire five-minute speech.

“This is not *American Idol*. It’s not *X-Factor*. It’s *3 Minutes to Stardom*, at Valley View Casino,” Binkow said. “We want to get the story of who you are. But it’s TV. If it’s boring, we’ll cut it out. And if it goes on and on, we’ll cut it out.”

Then, I suppose to keep the mood upbeat, he added, “Give it your all.”

So, basically, *Give us your best you, and do it quickly. And be awesome.*

The result of this speech



Tenley and Kiptyn

is that half the contestants step out onto the stage shouting and wooing, trying to pump up the audience despite evidence that it may not be in their nature to do so. The ankle-bouncer runs out and high-fives the band, the judges, and the host, before jumping into a rendition of Lionel Richie’s “All Night Long.” It’s a bit

comment, we break for a commercial. A make-up lady planted in the audience runs up to Good and powders his bald head.

When they turn the cameras back on, I, too, opt for the more-is-more approach to my performance.

I think I’m being subtle, but when the footage airs the following

“You can use those 15 minutes.”

over the top, but not quite as embarrassing as the poor guy whose arm gets stuck while he attempts a strip-the-jacket-off sexy-move while singing Earth, Wind & Fire’s “Dancing in September.”

Most contestants opt for the more-is-more approach to their singing, as well, prompting great one-liners from the judges.

“Wow, you really motorboated your way through that song,” Dave Good tells a woman after she sings Mary J. Blige’s “Just Fine.”

Moments after this

week, my husband will say, “Oh, Lizzie. What is wrong with you?” And I’ll respond, “I was giving it my all.”

I was trying to be the cuddly bear, not the bitchy bear

Although my newfound knowledge that the best clapping moments are faked on *3 Minutes to Stardom* makes me feel kind of cool and in the know, chef Richard Sweeney has me beat by a long shot. In 2008, he spent two-and-a-half weeks on season five of *Top Chef*. Granted, as the fourth elimination, he



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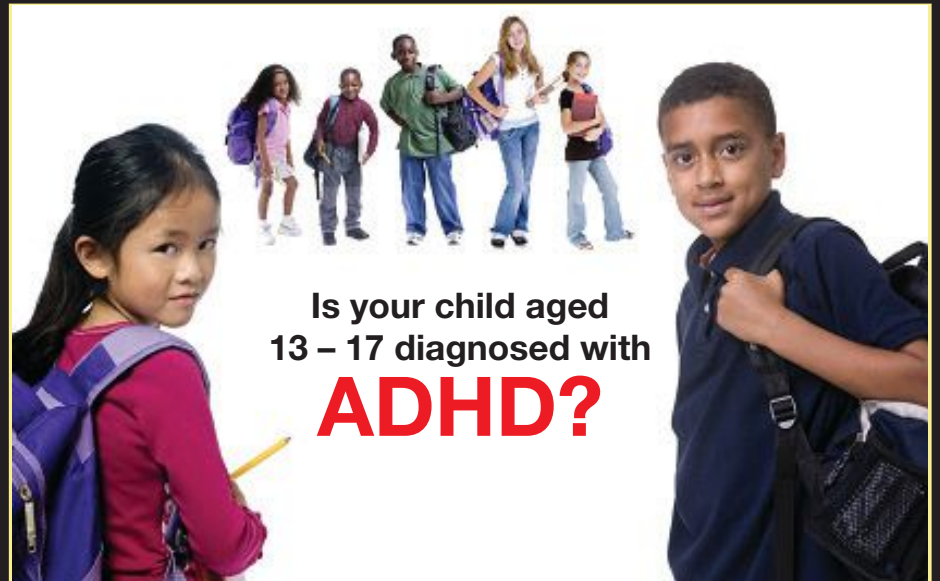


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didn't stay quite as long as mega-restaurateur Brian Malarkey, who made it all the way to the 14th elimination on season three. But my soft spot for tater tots and big, effeminate teddy-bear men takes me to R-Gang Eatery in Hillcrest, where Sweeney reigns.

We sit at a table for two, surrounded by brightly colored pop art, drinking water (me) and ginger beer (him), while he gives me the scoop. Pat Benatar croons "We Belong" from the overhead speakers.

The story begins with Sweeney trying out for *Top Chef* three seasons in a row before he got called back. Each time, he wore the same T-shirt.

"It's an 'I ♥ Hot Moms' T-shirt, which was always meant to be a conversation piece. Inevitably, someone asks, 'What is it you love about hot moms?' And I say it's because they're usually married to hot dads, but I can't find a boy-cut T-shirt like that. So it just kind of became this schtick."

Sweeney speaks with exaggerated and somewhat ladylike gesticulations that add an unexpected dimension to his well-trimmed beard and bearlike body.

Eventually, the Hot Moms T-shirt did get him noticed. But not before Sweeney had worked his way up from recent culinary-school graduate to executive sous chef at the hip, downtown San Diego restaurant, Confidential.

Even after he received a callback following his interview for season five, the casting process included months of random, cryptic phone calls (which always ended with Sweeney still uncertain about whether or not he'd been cast), and a meeting with a psychologist.

"They want to make sure you're just crazy enough for reality TV, but not so crazy you're going to stab someone," he says.

A couple of weeks after the meeting with the psychologist, he received an email with a confirmation number and a set of instructions: plan to be away from work for five or six weeks; pack for warm, humid weather;

capture the first time you meet each other. Everything has to be done on film." He pauses to sip from the squat, brown bottle of ginger beer, then adds, "And it's the most asinine thing in the entire world."

When the van arrived at the hotel, an associate producer accompanied each of the contestants to the front desk for his/

"They want to make sure you're just crazy enough for reality TV, but not so crazy you're going to stab someone."

no recipe books or computers or iPods; and, yes, you can tell your boss, but if it gets out, we'll put you on the next plane home.

In July 2008, Sweeney flew to New York, where his season would be filmed. A man was waiting for him at baggage claim with Sweeney's name on a sign. The man wore an earpiece, and he turned out to be one of the associate producers of the show. Sweeney collected his bags and the producer told him that, once they got out to the van, Sweeney would be allowed to talk only to the driver and himself.

"So, we get in the van, and Jamie Lauren [another contestant] was there already," Sweeney says now, almost breathlessly, reliving the adventure. "I mean, your natural reaction is to introduce yourself, and we were both like..."

He stops and mimics an awkward, silent wave.

"The whole idea behind this is that they want to

her key and then walked them to their rooms, which were spread out across different parts of the hotel, in order to keep distance between them. The producers held on to the room keys.

"They want to have complete control over everything you're doing," Sweeney says.

After leaving him alone for a bit, production-staff members came back to Sweeney's room to go through his things and make sure he had no prohibited items, and no more than the allotted number of knives and tools. They also checked his clothing for brands and logos, covering up what could be covered and confiscating the rest.

Before leaving him alone again, they took his cell phone, wallet, keys, cash, passport, and credit cards.

"They take pretty much every connection you have to the outside world. Everything gets catalogued and put in a

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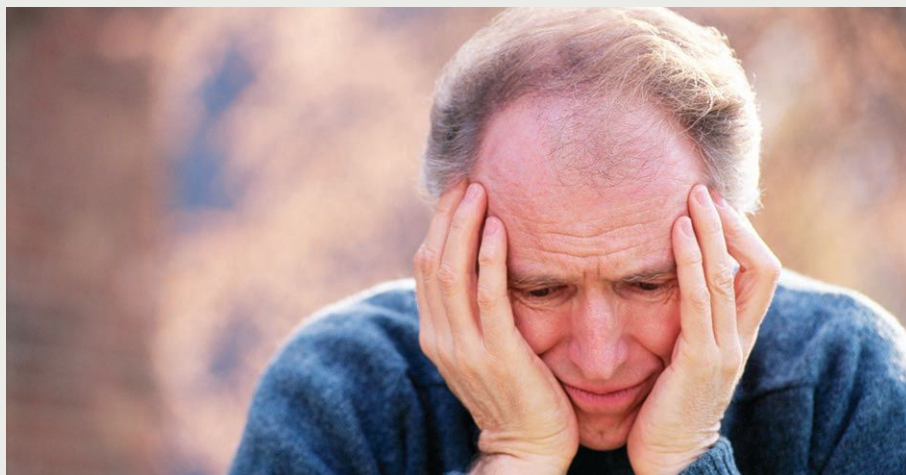
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giant Ziploc baggy. You don't get that back until they put you on an airplane to leave."

The following morning at 6:00, Sweeney and the other 16 "chefestants" met producers in the hotel lobby for bagels, coffee, and juice. There, they were instructed that this was a "TV timeout," during which no talking was allowed, and which would last through the van ride to their first shooting location.

In episode one, Sweeney first showed up on camera at his introductory interview, during which he said, "The inner queen inside me is screaming to know, 'Where is Padma

[Lakshmi, the show's host], and what is she wearing?'"

His next appearance was during the season's first Quickfire challenge, which resulted in him slicing his thumb open as contestants raced to peel 15 apples each, using a knife instead of a peeler.

Sweeney's run on the show lasted through episode three. Though he did get air time in the kitchen, more often the cameras caught him prancing around during off-time, or spouting spicy one-liners during his one-on-one interviews.

"Me and my little lesbian gotta go up against each other, which sucks,"

he said of Jamie Lauren, when they went head-to-head in the first elimination competition.

"I think Tom's really cute. He's got great eyes. He's a cutie," Sweeney said of one of the judges in a voice-over while the camera showed him nervously presenting his dish of lamb sliders and orzo-feta pasta salad. "I'd buy him a drink if I saw him in a bar. Hell, I'd buy him three."

In episode three, the group split into two teams and made competing Thanksgiving dinners for the Foo Fighters. Sweeney was eliminated for an attempt at banana s'mores topped with vanilla cream

and chocolate ganache. One judge called it a "failed concept"; another said it looked "like spit on the plate."

"I legitimately did not think I even had a chance for going home," he tells me. "I thought, *There's three of us on the bottom. These two royally messed up, and I had one bad thing.* I thought, *I'm not going to go home when they have so many more fuck-ups.*"

During the exit interview, the producers reminded Sweeney that he'd said he was sure he wouldn't be going home. They asked how he felt now.

"It's, like, 'If I had the chance, I'd go back and throw everybody under the bus, and back it up and go over them one more time, if it means I'm going to save my own hide.' I was trying to be the cuddly bear, not the bitchy bear. If I knew then what I know now, I would have been calling everybody out on everything they did."

He laughs and then adds with a flamboyant lisp and a wag of his finger, "And your hair looks stupid!"

At this point in his



Rob Smith (upper right, in suit)

story, Sweeney's phone beeps on the table. He pauses to look at it.

"Sorry, one of my kids just texted me about what time they're in today," he says.

Kid, as in staff member. Another Pat Benatar song plays: "Heartbreaker."

"I'm not going to say it was a traumatic experience," he continues, "but if I had known then that there was going to be footage of me crying my eyes out on national television..." He sips from his ginger beer.

"Then what?" I ask.

"Oh, well, then I would have made it more dramatic." He laughs. "I mean, if you're going to do it, go for a moment!"

Today, Sweeney owns and operates R-Gang Eatery, which he opened in 2011. He calls his food "contemporary retro-American," and the menu features a collection of flavored tater tots. Yet, three years after his *Top Chef* experience, even with just those three episodes under his belt, he says he's still transitioning from a reputation as "that *Top Chef* guy" to "the tater tot guy."

He admits that being "that *Top Chef* guy" has advantages, especially as a drawing force for press and people seeking out restaurants owned and/or run by former contestants.

"Anybody can open up

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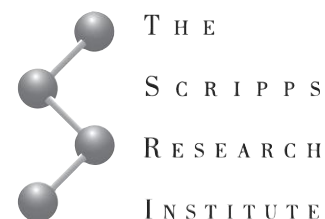
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a restaurant, but when you have only three chefs from San Diego who have been on *Top Chef*, then you can say that a *Top Chef* contestant is opening up their own restaurant. And it's, like, 'Now we want to talk about it.' I definitely used that to my advantage as much as I could."

So, is Chef Sweeney eager to do another reality show?

"I am, but I'm not. I'm not, because I love my daily life, and to do anything that's going to throw you completely away from everybody for a month, at least, isn't something I'm necessarily eager to do. But at the same time, as crazy as it was, it was a lot of fun. I made so many great friends and contacts. On top of that, I didn't win *Top Chef*, so I still feel like I have some-

thing to prove."

Get to work

Along with the reality-show veterans in our midst, San Diego has also been the location for more than a handful of reality shows. *The Real World* (an MTV production featuring young, libido-heavy strangers living together) is likely the best known, *PB Reality Show* (produced by the Hugh Hefner-inspired self-proclaimed "PB Millionaire") is the most creepy and narcissistic, and *Sand Blasters* (which offers exploding sand sculptures and a \$15,000 prize) is the most bizarre.

Then there's *Get to Work*, the eight-episode series the *Huffington Post* says "convinces us that pointing a camera in someone's face 24/7 is actually worthwhile."

(August 12, 2012).

Filmed on Imperial Avenue, in an old unemployment building that now houses Second Chance, a nonprofit

the four-week program, highlighting the successes of some and the failures of others.

"They filmed every day," workforce man-

"These people are worried about, *Where is my next meal coming from? Where am I going to sleep tonight? So, the camera is pretty much irrelevant.*"

focused on employment, the documentary-style series focuses on the organization's Job Readiness Training program. Each episode follows one class of participants through

ager Rob Smith tells me. "At any given time, there would be four to five cameras going, eight hours a day. They did that for four months straight."

We're sitting in the

building's lobby. Smith has given me a tour of what he estimates is 20,000 square feet of offices, conference rooms, computer labs, and two huge walk-in closets filled to bursting with work-appropriate clothes donated by local businesses and individuals.

"You can watch [the show] and get an idea of the feeling," Smith says. "You can make all kinds of assumptions, but you come in on Friday, and you're going to see that the cameras become like furniture. These people are worried about, *Where is my next meal coming from? Where am I going to sleep tonight?* So, the camera is pretty much irrelevant."

Smith's voice is gravelly, and his accent reveals his New York roots. A stocky five-foot-five or -six, the

42-year-old has a strong handshake and a no-nonsense presence, even in casual conversation. It will be at least an hour into our meeting before he cracks his first smile. From the footage of *Get to Work*, my impression is that this demeanor is a requirement of his job.

Although not every Second Chance client comes via parole or probation, Smith estimates that 85 percent are convicted felons. In episode one, Smith tells the camera, "[Our students] know how to walk on a prison yard, but to walk into a job and be professional, that's a new arena for them."

Early in the same episode, Smith and other staffers put the participants through their first test by letting them out for a ten-minute break. Those who are as little as

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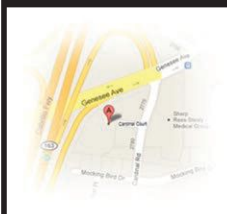
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ten seconds late are made to stand against the wall in the back of the room. One at a time, they are required to pay a fine or give up something of value in order to get their seats back.

One participant gives Smith three dollars. Another gives up his hat. One gives up his class ring. And one offers Smith some trail mix.

"I don't want trail mix," Smith tells him while the whole class watches. He looks the guy up and down. "I like those shoes."

The guy refuses to give up his shoes. He offers the excuse that he's not wearing socks.

Smith, who carries a stick of some kind, uses it to lift the guy's pantleg off the top of his shoe, revealing that he is wearing socks.

"No, high socks, I

meant," the participant says.

Smith sends him packing.

"Fuck you, you little fuckin' short bitch," the participant says over his shoulder as he walks out of the classroom.

Smith seems unfazed. He tells the camera, "You lie to me in the workshop, I'm going to fire your ass."

Smith says these were the kinds of moments that, when they were first approached about the reality show, made upper management nervous to let camera crews in. But Smith tells me he was never fazed by the idea.

"When you think about television and how you look on TV, I've been on the six o'clock news for a shootout, for a kidnapping, for drug possession and sales, so I'm thinking this isn't nearly anything,"

he says, explaining his own criminal past.

Smith is a 2002 graduate of the STRIVE program in New York, on which the job-readiness program is modeled. Fifty percent of Second Chance staffers are graduates.

Although some in upper management were nervous about how the program would look on television, Smith and others convinced them that it was a good idea. At the same time, Smith had no intention of hamming it up for the cameras.

"I told them this upfront. I said, 'Don't ask me to fabricate anything.'"

Every now and again, one of the camera people or producers would try to nudge him during the "on-the-fly interviews," to give a little more excitement to his demeanor and explanations.

"Sometimes, they'd say, 'You said it so passionately in there.' And I'm, like, 'That's because I was with *them*. I ain't excited about debriefing with you. I'm not going to stand there and make an ass of myself in front of a camera just because it gives you good ratings.'"

Although Smith doesn't watch a lot of TV, he is familiar with the formula of most reality shows, and he has no illusions about them being "real."

"We talked a lot with the film crews. And some of the staff — not the directors, not the producers, not the guys who were in charge, but... the guys on the ground that are doing the grunt work — they tell you a lot about reality TV, that it's not real. And for them, they really enjoyed this project because they had no clue, on any day, what was going to happen." ■

— Elizabeth Salaam

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Rodeo people christen bulls with colorful names. Country singer Tom Russell sang about East Texas Red. Chris LeDoux tells about Dust Devil Rage — there was a man killed by that bull in Jasper, Texas. Tim McGraw sings of a bull named Fu Manchu.

The three bulls that I came to know were Square Head, Freckles, and Sugarplum.

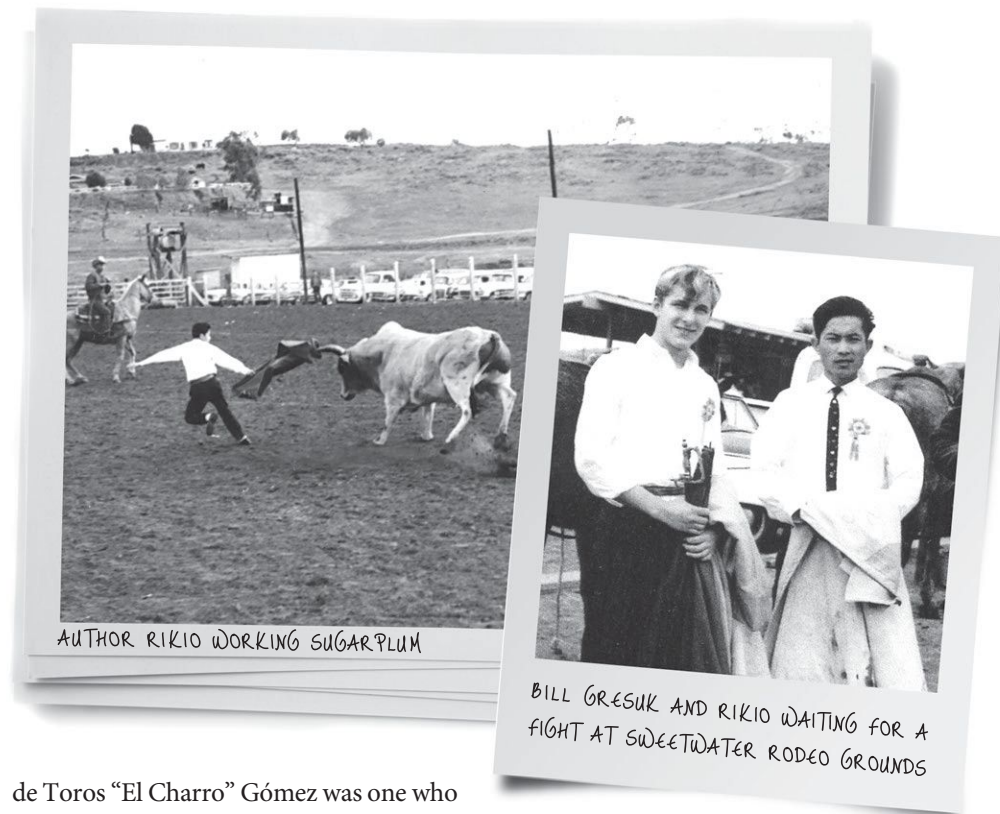
Bill Gresuk was a high school junior when I met him in Encanto in the mid-1960s. Bill had come out west from Pennsylvania to be with his uncle, Jim Lucidi, because he was interested in becoming a bullfighter. The close proximity to Mexico, he thought, would make it easier to break into the bullfighting world.

I was about 30 and had no thoughts of

being a professional — I was merely an aficionado, though keenly interested in learning the passes, the ins and outs of the sport. Bill and I both started training at the same time. Bill later left for the interior of Mexico, to seek his dream of becoming a matador.

In the beginning, though we hardly knew the difference between a cape and a piece of red-flannel underwear, we were eager to fight anything that charged.

We trained with more experienced Americans who had gleaned knowledge from expatriated *novilleros* (bullfighters restricted to fighting bulls less than four years of age) and retired matadors from Mexico. Later, we graduated to lessons from professionals in Mexico. Matador



AUTHOR RIKIO WORKING SUGARPLUM

BILL GRESUK AND RIKIO WAITING FOR A FIGHT AT SWEETWATER RODEO GROUNDS

de Toros “El Charro” Gómez was one who gave us a lot of help.

Living in the suburbs of an American city, we’d had little chance to see any type of bovine, let alone a fighting bull (*toro bravo*), and though our knowledge was meager, we were anxious to test out some of the maneuvers we were taught.

One day, we got fed up with the lack of

an animal to cape. We were bored with dry runs, a practice technique where one person would grab a set of horns and imitate the bull’s charge. We wanted to face the real thing.

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Founder Lauren Grant (back row, center) and The Hungry Heart Team

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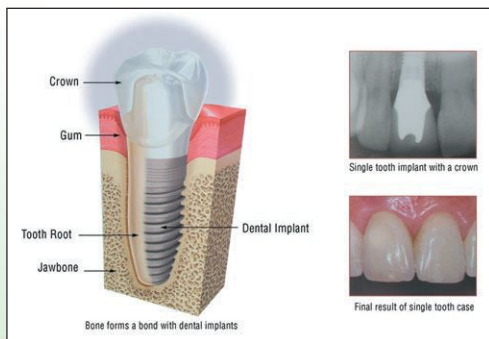
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Triumph TR4 and headed for Bonita, in the foothills of southeastern San Diego, where we knew we would find cattle grazing in the pastures. Down a country road, we spotted a magnificent bull standing on the side of a hill. It was not a fighting-type bull, but this did not deter us. We were so hot to fight, we'd been considering caping cars on the freeway.

We leaped out of the TR4, grabbed the capes, and trudged up the hill. Our plan was to approach the bull from two directions — to corner it. The bull, a Hereford, glared at us as we ascended the steep slope. When we were about 40 yards away, the bull, perhaps startled by our intrusion, fled down the distant slope.

Foiled and panting, we tried cornering a few other bulls with the same results. Bright *toreros* that we were, we eventually came to the conclusion that this plan wasn't going to work. We later found out from the literature, and from other bullfighters, that bulls in the field seldom charge if they feel they're not cornered or trapped. Even bulls of fighting stock will ignore you or flee when confronted in the open. If bulls are in a herd, they most likely will not attack you.

That day, feeling somewhat discouraged and disappointed, we walked back to the car. We intended to call it a day. Driving home, we spotted a sign that read "Sweetwater Rodeo Grounds." Out of curiosity, we turned up the dirt road that led to a group of rustic buildings and corals. This turned out to be a small rodeo set up with stalls for releasing bulls and broncs. We alit from the sports car and took a walk to examine the facilities. There wasn't a soul around, so we felt safe being there, and we ran head-on

to a pen with a large, tawny-colored bull. He was kind of ugly, with strange proportions. He pawed the earth and seemed agitated by our presence. Simultaneously, we both had the same thought: *Let's fight this bull.*

We contacted the rodeo owner and told him we wanted to put on a bullfight. We especially wanted to face that tawny bull, which we learned was named Square Head. To our surprise, the owner didn't think we were

Before we could proceed with the event, Bill and I were called into the office and informed that we would have to sign an agreement with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals that stated that the bulls would not be harmed. How they knew we were trying to put on a bullfight and how they'd managed to find their way to the location, I don't know. Sweetwater Rodeo no longer exists, but at that time,

Living in the suburbs of an American city, we'd had little chance to see any type of bovine, let alone a fighting bull.

completely crazy.

We agreed on a date when the rodeo grounds were available, put out publicity, and prepared ourselves for the big day.

We were such greenhorns that we didn't have the proper garb, so we settled on dark pants and a white shirt. I added a sequined red tie, which I later realized was inappropriate.

When the day arrived, it was beautiful. The sun was shining, and there was hardly a breeze. This was important, because a wind could blow the cape around and make passes unmanageable.

This was in the 1960s, and CDs and cassettes hadn't been invented yet. I had an old Webcor tape deck with huge rolls of tapes onto which I'd recorded pasodobles such as "El Relicario," "España Cani," "Cielo Andaluz," and "La Virgen de la Macarena." The rodeo owner hooked up the music to the public-address system, and the mood was set. It made us feel as we were participating in the real thing.

it was ten miles southeast of downtown San Diego, in a cozy valley overlooking the Sweetwater Reservoir.

The local people from the villages of Spring Valley and Bonita, having heard about the "bullfight," began to fill the stands. There were about 30 spectators present, and they were mostly betting on the bull. "Get them, bully!" was one of the shouts heard.

The moment we were waiting for arrived. Square Head was in the holding pen, ready to be released whenever we gave the signal that we were ready.

I volunteered to be the first to meet him when the gate opened. I have to admit I was petrified with fear. *What am I doing here?* I thought. *This is insane.* I signaled to the cowboy above the gate to open it, and Square Head came rushing out of the chute. He charged at me immediately.

I realized that the smartest thing to do would be to give a wide cape pass (*capotazo*), to test how he would react. To my amazement, he was fooled by this initial pass. Square Head

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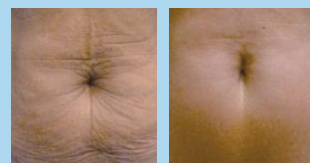
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continued to respond well to the cape, allowing me to make pass after pass. With each successful maneuver, I gained more confidence. After about ten decent passes, I turned it over to Bill Gresuk. He did some very creditable work — I was impressed with his ability and skill.

After a grueling half hour, we figured we had done as much as we could with Square Head. We signaled the cowboy to send the bull back to the corrals.

I breathed a sigh of relief that we'd survived the first onslaught. *It's all over*, I thought. But, no, it wasn't. The cowboys would not let us off the hook. They let out another bull, Sugar Plum. This was no ordinary bull. He appeared to be two stories high, and much meaner than Square Head.

In bullfighting, two types of capes are used. The larger, flamboyant cape is called the *capote*. The smaller and much lighter cape is called the *muleta*. The *muleta* is made from a gabardine-type material and is draped over a stick to give it dimension. The *capote* is usually made of silken fabric, and is used mainly in the first phase of the fight. The *muleta* is used in the last act, when the matador shows off his bravery and artistry working very close to the bull.

When Sugar Plum emerged on the scene, I should not have had the *muleta* in my hand. No way was this giant bull going to be fooled by the smaller cloth. Before I had a chance to switch back to the large cape, he came rushing toward me. It was like being attacked by a T. Rex. There was fire in his eyes, and he was definitely coming in for the kill. I was smart enough to realize I could not fight this terrifying animal as if he were a fighting bull from Spain. I shoved the *muleta* in his face and

began to lure him across the rodeo grounds. Lucky for me, the bull was focused on the *muleta*. After about five minutes of running about, Sugar Plum got tired of the game and suddenly stopped. Somewhat shaken, I turned it over to Bill. After this, the gentle Freckles was anti-climatic.

We made history that day. This may have been the first bullfight ever in San Diego County. Of course, it hardly resembled a true bullfight, but to us novices it was a great experience. Afterward, Bill's uncle, Jim Lucidi, took us to Felipe Zatarain's taco shop in Encanto. I know it sounds ridiculous, but we felt that we were true matadors. Our heads swelled till they were larger than our sense, but it was an afternoon we have never forgotten.

In retrospect, it became clear that rodeo-type bulls do not charge like Spanish fighting bulls. Spanish bulls charge straight and true. The domestic types waded in on you, like a Tony Galento-type boxer. Rodeo bulls have also been handled many times by men on foot, and therefore become wise to distractions like capes — they usually aim right for the body of the man. Bill and I were lucky we came out unscathed, and we were especially lucky Square Head was fooled by the cape.

Some time later, I had an experience in Tijuana fighting a bull that had wised up to what was going on. At a ring where local Mexican cowboys (*charros*) put on festivals, they kept a bull that had been caped dozens of times. It was about three or four years old. They called him El Regional and let him out during the festivals, perhaps to add color to the proceedings. Aspiring matadors were allowed to try their hand at capping him.

Of course, having been

fought so many times, this bull knew that the cape was no longer his enemy. Whenever he came out, there was mayhem, with scattered bodies on the ground. But I was not privy to this when I first went to Tijuana to learn about bullfighting. When I heard they were going to let out a bull for the public to fight, I jumped at the chance.

The arena was a ring pretty much like a bullring, but more rustic and worn. I had been taught that a bull charging along the edge of the ring had a tendency to move toward the center when he encounters a bullfighter. This, I figured, was an advantage. So I planted myself against the boards with my cape in hand, ready for El Regional.

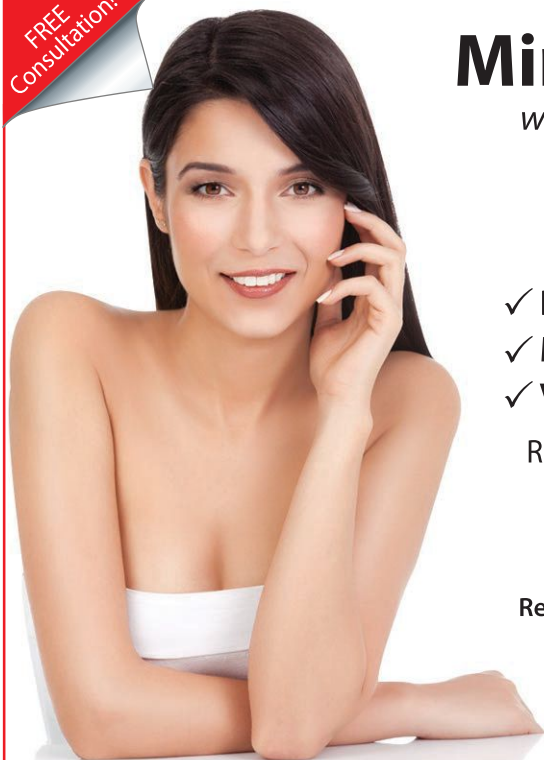
He came shooting out of the gate, running along the fence toward me. Just before he reached me, I moved my cape to distract his charge, but he ignored the cape and caught me in a direct hit. I went flying through the air like Charlie Brown after Lucy removes the football. As I lay crumpled on the ground, one of my Mexican friends asked, "¿Qué pasó, Riki?"

I am perhaps the first Japanese-American who has indulged in bullfighting. Quite a few Americans have been bitten by the bug to fight bulls — John Fulton, Robert Ryan, Sidney Franklin, and David Renk are all men who have achieved the title of Matador de Toros. Raquel Martinez of Imperial Beach is that rare woman who has also reached this prestigious goal. Peter Rombold is perhaps the most successful amateur, having fought and killed over 60 bulls in Mexico and Spain.

You probably can't defend bullfighting from a moral standpoint. But are those animal activists still eating steak? ■

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CITY LIGHTS

It stinks

continued from page 2

the bubble keeps expanding. Heywood Sanders, who says the glut will get worse, puts much of the blame on consulting firms that tell every city that a new or expanded center will boost the local economy. "It's easy enough to build the sucker," says Sanders. "The question is whether you can get any appreciable increase in business. When the best cases I can find are Las Vegas and Orlando doubling the size of their centers and getting a 10 percent to 15 percent increase in attendance, I don't think there will be much boost at all for San Diego." Apparently, says Sanders, "San Diego is building into a perfect storm."

But local center plans go forward. The villain is a political juggernaut: the establishment corporate welfare machine aligned with organized labor. What politician, Republican or Democrat, can resist such pressure?

Initially, organized labor joined activist Mel Shapiro and lawyer Cory Briggs in the lawsuit that shows how the City's maneuver is blatantly illegal. (Technically, the opponents are defendants because the City last year filed a validation lawsuit to permit a judge to rule on the matter.) Even City Attorney Jan Goldsmith has reservations about the City's case. Chuckles Shapiro, "[The City] said, 'Do you want to settle?' and we said, 'The settlement is to go to the ballot.'"

In November, organized labor backed out of the case. In return, the contractor for the proposed expansion granted unions a so-called project labor agreement, guaranteeing workers local hiring and union-level wages and benefits. In a word, the deal stinks. So does politics. Mayor Bob Filner, who had campaigned for a public vote on the convention center, now says he will back it if the court and

CITY LIGHTS

Coastal Commission give it the nod.

Convention centers are "holes in the ground that governments throw money into," says Briggs. He points out several additional problems: "The City should have done the [environmental] analysis, not the Port. It's the City's project," he says. Any environmental analysis should be done before there is an approval. But, "The City approved this taxpayer scam before the [environmental] document was finished. The mayor [former mayor Jerry Sanders] and council were gung ho, singing its praises before the document was released."

The Coastal Commission will consider a number of things. The possibility of a rising sea level resulting from climate change should come up. The project further shuts off views of the bay. And, "You don't need to expand a convention center on the water. It is not water-dependent," says Briggs. The City claims it will put a park on the roof of the center. Briggs has one word for that: "bullshit."

That word applies to the propaganda coming from expansion backers. They cite figures showing how the center propels the San Diego economy — for example, purportedly adding \$21 billion to regional coffers since it opened more than 20 years ago. But in a *Reader* article in December of 2011, Heywood Sanders showed how the convention center falsely inflates those numbers. Last year, city auditor Eduardo Luna confirmed it. But in the discussion about the convention center, the book-cooking barely came up, according to sources who followed the discussions.

Briggs sums it up: San Diego politicians "don't give a damn about false numbers. False numbers, schmaltz numbers." ■

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529

CITY LIGHTS

Mission Bay turf

continued from page 3

up their small cones and peg the seven-foot hoop to the ground for the goal.

On this Saturday in January, less than a week after hard rains pelted the area, the Bermuda grass is green and plentiful. There is no evidence of any wear-and-tear. There are no signs posted stating that cleats are prohibited at city parks. In fact, there is no law that outlaws cleats.

"I've searched city code for laws about cleats at city parks and couldn't find anything," says attorney and regular Goaltimate player Chris Vaughan before lining up for the game. "It's funny, you visit the city's Park and Recreation website and you see these 19 tenets the city posted about the virtue of parks. They include things like 'be happier, feel great, lose weight, reduce stress, create memories, build family unity, build self esteem.' These are all the things that we do here."

Despite the players' good intentions, city rangers have been ordered to clear the field of cleats. Fueling these orders are the complaints trickling in from one or two people.

"Once again, [a control line flier] called me on my cell phone about soccer players wearing cleats at Ski Beach," wrote ranger Steve Waldman to senior park ranger Lori Charett-Gerbac in a November 3 email obtained through a public records request. "He asked if the Mission Bay park rangers ever enforce the rules."

Those rules, however, are not so clear-cut.

On November 19, Charett-Gerbac sent an email to park rangers. "We received a complaint via [San Diego Police Department] regarding soccer players wearing cleats and uniforms. Please contact the groups, ensure they are not wearing cleats, only turf shoes, bibs/aprons

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CITY LIGHTS

Mission Bay turf

continued from page 44

if they must and have small goals, not the huge ones and are respecting others space, etc., and adhering to park [regulations]."

Charett-Gerbac asked the rangers to distribute a city flyer that reads: "Per the San Diego Municipal Code it is illegal to: delineate playing fields, wear cleated footwear, set up goals or nets, compete on established teams wearing a team uniform, employ a referee, schedule to play with an organized league."

Four hours later, the senior park ranger sent another email. "Allow me to clarify...there is a [San Diego Municipal Code] regarding organized sports in parks, there is not a [San Diego Municipal Code] about wearing cleats, having goals, referees, uniforms."

Without a specific law that prohibits cleats, the city's Park and Recreation Department has turned to the vaguer notion of "department standard" to condemn cleats. On December 5, Charett-Gerbac responded to pleas from Pugh and other soccer players. "While we understand your desire to wear cleats to avoid injury, they are not allowed in the park. Mission Bay Park is considered a passive recreation park area. It is a Park and Recreation Department standard to regulate traditional cleated

CITY LIGHTS

footwear in Mission Bay Park and other passive recreation areas due to grass damage, wear and tear and effects on park users."

Then Charett-Gerbac sent another email to rangers. "Please continue to enforce the no-cleats policy, we got another complaint that the turf is torn up and the Frisbee football guys are apparently the culprits at Ski Beach where the control line fliers fly."

The soccer and frisbee players don't feel that one or two people's complaints should result in a more strict interpretation of city law. They resent the accusations that they are destroying Ski Beach. "Look," says Goaltimate player Vaughan, "We are all about stewardship. We are not going to abuse this field. We appreciate access to this park and we want to improve it for everyone. If anything, this whole ordeal has only made us more mindful of the field and what we can do to make it better. I just hope the city feels the same." ■

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

ties then discovered the woman's body inside the parked truck.

Peter Salisbury, February 6

Fatal DUI crash gets ten-year sentence

Debbie Pacheco Sumi read a statement that she is "sorry"

CITY LIGHTS



There were so many people waiting to hear the verdict, Debbie Sumi's sentencing was moved to a larger room in the North County courthouse.

Vista — There were so many people waiting to hear the sentencing that the case was moved to a larger room upstairs in San Diego's North County courthouse yesterday afternoon.

On February 1, more than 40 people crowded into judge Runston Maino's courtroom to hear statements from the family of the victims, supporters of the convicted woman, and Debbie Sumi herself.

A jury had declared Sumi guilty of three counts of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated after a two-week trial in October 2012.

Sumi, then 33, and her boyfriend Larry Alvarez, 34, were in a Jeep that ran into a black Nissan that

CITY LIGHTS

was parked on the side of Highway 78. The boyfriend, who is the father of two of Sumi's four children, did not survive the crash that night in August 2010.

Sumi denied being the driver of the Jeep that night, instead placing the blame on Alvarez.

The other two people who were killed, Susana Orozco and Erica Oliva, both 23, were standing outside the Nissan when it was struck. A survivor testified that they pulled over onto the side of the highway because one of the women felt sick.

Eva Knott, February 2

Jacobs: "I'm out"

Qualcomm billionaire says he's bowing out of traffic and parking makeover Balboa Park — San Diego's richest man, Qualcomm billionaire Irwin Jacobs, says he is pulling out of his controversial Balboa Park traffic and parking plan. The move came a day after a superior-court judge ruled that the city council had acted illegally in approving the proposal.

In making his announcement today over KPBS — the San Diego State University-owned-and-operated public broadcasting operation that named its newsroom after him after he gave it \$2.9 million — Jacobs reportedly

continued on page 48

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NEWS TICKER

continued from page 46

said in a statement: “It is a shame that this action could prevent us from having the pleasure of watching children happily playing in a car-free Plaza de Panama or enjoying a quiet cup of coffee in the Plaza de California.”

But quiet was not something enjoyed by Jacobs and his plan, and that was the way he seemed to like it.

To promote the traffic and parking makeover plan, the combative cellphone magnate and megamillion-dollar political campaign donor pulled out

all the stops with city hall políticos and the San Diego nonprofit media outlets he has funded. *U-T San Diego*, the daily news operation run by GOP mogul Douglas Manchester, also served as a willing stage for the plan, with critics the recipients of editorial dressing-downs and negative cartoons.

As previously reported here, a nonprofit organization Jacobs funded used a Denver design firm to hire MJE, a San Diego lobbying outfit to grease the wheels at the city. Jacobs also was a key fundraiser for past campaigns of GOP mayor Jerry Sanders, who pushed

the Balboa Park plan using his new “strong mayor” powers. Jacobs had backed Prop D, the strong mayor campaign.

Matt Potter, February 5

Comments

Visduh Feb. 5@ 9:11 p.m.

My guess is that Jacobs, wanting to leave a “legacy” to the city, in the form of some memorial to himself, sees that this is not the avenue. So, let’s all await his next move to build some monument. Try on renaming Cowles Mountain for ol’ Irwin, or Mission Bay Park (that one really could use some expensive refurbishing), or Mount Soledad, or some other major geographic feature.

Expect it to happen fast.

At his age, Jacobs is running out of time and needs to move quickly. Perhaps he will learn that buying friends, especially if they are politicians, is very costly and not guaranteed.

Earth Day Fair is a go in Balboa

Mayor Filner announces his support for park location after Plaza de Panama is defeated
Balboa Park — The drama over Earth Day at Balboa Park can finally be put to rest.

One day after superior-court judge Timothy Taylor struck down the controversial Plaza de Panama project, mayor Bob Filner announced the annual Earth Day Fair is back on.

“Initially, the City offered a permit for a different location at Balboa Park for Earth Fair 2013 because of safety concerns of the planned construction project,” read a statement from Mayor Filner’s office. “But in light of the ruling on Plaza de Panama, that is no longer a concern and I am happy to announce Earth Fair 2013 will occur in the heart of the park, once their permit is complete.”

The announcement comes after more than a year of tense negotiations

between Earth Day organizer Carolyn Chase and the city. City officials first denied the permits due to the massive park overhaul proposed by the Irwin Jacobs-led Plaza de Panama Committee. They said the construction would not only create safety hazards but would put a strain on museums and businesses in the park.

Judging by his statement, it appears as if the mayor was relieved to put the issue behind him.

Filner’s media statement included the declaration, “I love the Earth Fair! I am looking forward to celebrating with all San Diegans.”

Dorian Hargrove, February 5

Comments

monaghan Feb. 5@ 6:06 p.m.

Slowly but surely, things are falling into a better place here in San Diego. Earth Fair is back inside Balboa Park. Red-light cameras have been dismantled. La Jolla’s seals are protected for pupping season with a legal and proper length of rope. The Mayor has met the people in the lobby of City Hall on a Saturday morning. Maybe we’ll even be able to divert traffic from Plaza de Panama without destroying the graceful Cabrillo Bridge.

Tattoo artist wakes to shop burglary

Man pistol-whipped by assailants; no suspects found
El Cajon — A tattoo artist who’d fallen asleep in his unlocked shop was pistol-whipped and suffered “moderate” injuries when he awoke to discover a burglary in progress and attempted to confront two thieves.

James Coyle, an employee of Classic Tattoo on the 1000 block of Broadway in El Cajon, was awakened by noise in his shop and found two men attempting to remove his motorcycle, which was parked inside the shop. Both suspects attacked Coyle when he attempted to intervene and he was robbed of cash and merchandise inside the store, though the motorcycle

was not taken.

Afterward, Coyle flagged down a motorist, who called police. El Cajon police, along with San Diego sheriff’s K9 units responded, but a search of the area using police dogs and a helicopter failed to locate either of the suspects.

Dave Rice, February 5

Under the radar

continued from page 3

up at last November’s San Diego Wine & Food Festival, sponsored by World of Wine Events, LLC, which furnished the free tickets, reportedly worth \$150 each, according to a recent disclosure filing.

“The magnitude of culinary talent in San Diego combined with an international showcase of the world’s premier wines and spirits, and the nation’s trendsetting culinary masters, makes attendance at the San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival a mouthwatering feast and precursor to the Thanksgiving holiday,” says the event’s website.

Burdick’s role was to supply “Representation of the District at an event to sustain or build relationships with tenants, businesses, or local, regional, state or federal agencies.” A free pass was also awarded to Kimberly R. Mettler, general counsel for the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. In addition, four tickets were given to the San Diego Armed Services YMCA, the filing says... The City of Coronado has been looking for a new “Director of Police Services.” Just in case anybody might be wondering, the job notice adds, in parentheses, “Police Chief.”

Sempre, always with the political dough

Lobbyists for Sempra Energy were kept busy during the last quarter of 2012, arranging a mass handout of political largesse to San Diego city council and mayoral candidates. Under the city’s ethics ordinance, the maximum amount a single donor is allowed to give a council candi-

date is \$500, so a virtual army of Sempra employees was needed to supply enough cash to make an impression. Among same-day post-election donors, Jessie Knight, Francisco Urtasun, Michelle Mueller, Pamela Fair, Woodrow Smith, Matt Burkhart, and James Avery, all with \$150 each to the GOP’s Scott Sherman on November 14. Robert Schlax and Scott Drury gave \$100 to Sherman the same day. Michael R Niggli, who gave \$250 to Sherman that day, also came up with the same for Republican mayoral candidate Carl DeMaio on October 31. Not to be outdone, Urtasun, a former port district board member, wrote a \$250 check to the campaign fund of Democratic mayor Bob Filner on December 11. He also gave 4th District city-council hopeful Dwayne Crenshaw \$100 on December 31.

— Matt Potter (@sdmattpotter)

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

DIARY OF A DIVA

continued from page 8

master — you couldn’t get anything past her. Maybe that’s why we’ve gotten so good. All those failed attempts to try to get away with stuff at home.”

“It worked for you once,” I said. Jane knew what I was talking about. As a young girl, she’d smacked our sister Heather in the face, and when Heather began to bleed, Jane started bawling. By the time Mom found them both, she went to console Jane, who was the more hysterical child.

“Can’t win ’em all,” Jane said, smirking.

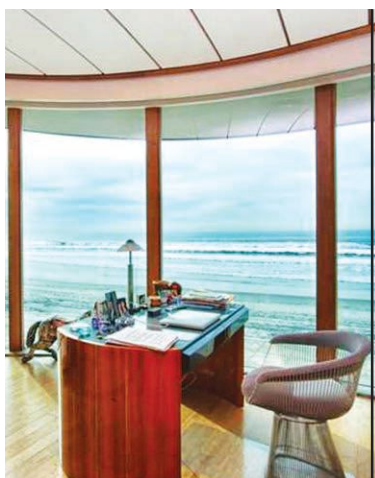
“Nope,” I agreed. David rolled his eyes and slowly backed away. ■

Find more stories by Barbarella at SDReader.com/barbarella

UNREAL ESTATE

continued from page 18

oceanfront lot,” and the custom residence was “designed and built to the maximum height and square foot-



Most areas of the house, including this office space, feature sweeping ocean views.

age allowable for the site.”

Property tax rolls show the home as having last changed hands in 1998 for \$3 million, before the current residence was constructed; though, Sandicor, the region’s multiple-listing service, records the previous sale price at \$6.4 million.

The property’s owner is listed as Shared Ventures, Inc., a corporation with a mailing address in Medina, Minnesota. Several recorded deeds against the property, however, were signed by Texas multimillionaire and former San Diego Padres owner

John Moores and his ex-wife Rebecca Moores. The Rebecca A. Moores Family Trust is also the listed owner of record for a neighboring 5284-square-foot residence at 1934 Ocean Front, which is not and has not

recently been listed for sale.

The property was listed on December 27 for \$22,950,000, which remains the current asking price, putting the home in a tie for the sixth most expensive single-family residence publicly offered for sale in San Diego County. ■

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 14

SWEETHEARTS AND SWING

The evening begins with a swing DJ and dancing. Then, Drop Dead Dames Burlesque Revue performs a Valentine's show at 8:30. Following the show will be more dancing until midnight. VIP seating area includes a reserved seat up front and a meet-and-greet photo op with the girls backstage. 18+. \$15–\$35.

WHEN: 7:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

WHERE: Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio Street, North Park. 619-255-5147; queenbeessd.com

Friday | 15

WINE BLENDING CLASS/PARTY

Seventh annual blending workshop led by Oak Mountain winemaker Steve Andrews. Sample three red-wine varietals and learn what differentiates them from one another. Then, spend the next two hours blending, tasting, and crafting a wine blend. Class followed by a three-course, family-style dinner. Reservations required. 21+. \$90.

WHEN: 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.
WHERE: Oak Mountain Winery, 36522 Via Verde, Temecula. 951-699-9102; oak-mountain-winery.com



Saturday | 16

STAR PARTY MARVELS

Mission Trails Regional Park's star-gazer George Varga scopes in deep-sky objects, including the Orion Nebula, Canis Major's Little Bee Hive (M41), Taurus' Crab Nebula (M1), and numerous open clusters in Auriga. Meet at the far end of the campground's day-use parking lot.

WHEN: 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Father Junípero Serra Trail, Santee. 619-668-3281

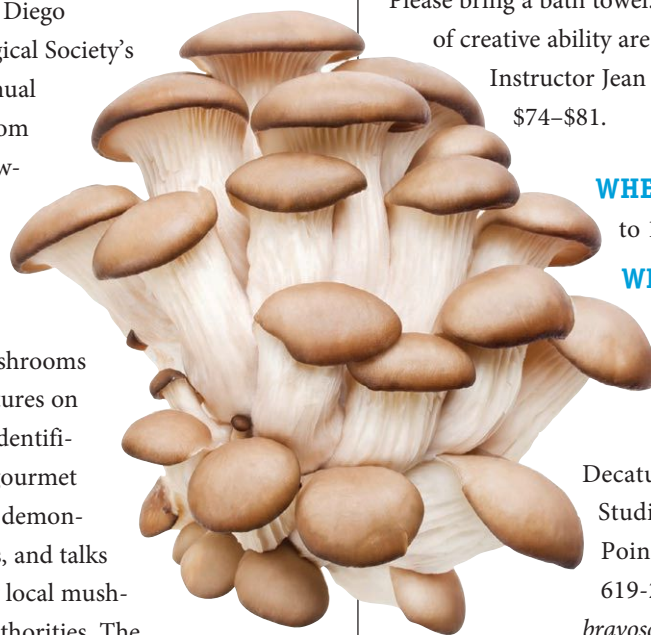
Sunday | 17

FUNGUS FAIR

The San Diego Mycological Society's 15th annual Mushroom Fair showcases wild San Diego-area mushrooms with lectures on proper identification, gourmet cooking demonstrations, and talks given by local mushroom authorities. The event will include vendors with books, identification guides, posters, mushroom-growing kits, T-shirts, and mushroom-themed art. Visitors are encouraged to bring mushrooms for identification by experts. Room 101.

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: Casa Del Prado, 1800 El Prado, Balboa Park. sdmyco.org



Monday | 18

NUNO FELTED SCARF

Combine silk and merino wool to create a scarf. Requires standing and some exertion to mat, condense, and press the roving into a nonwoven cloth. Please bring a bath towel. All levels of creative ability are welcome.

Instructor Jean Degenfelder.
\$74–\$81.

WHEN: 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

WHERE: Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Historic Decatur Road, Studio 206, Point Loma. 619-223-0058; bravoschoolofart.com

Tuesday | 19

BYOB PAINTING CLASS

Find your inner Monet or Picasso. Individualized instruction in a cozy stone cottage to explore the

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14: SWEETHEARTS AND SWING



PHOTOGRAPH BY STEVE EDMUND

arts. Reservations required. No art experience necessary. All art supplies provided. 21+.

WHEN: 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

WHERE: Xpressive Arts Center, 12257 B Old Pomerado Road, Poway. 858-679-2787, xpressivearts.com

Wednesday | 20

DISHCRAWL HILLCREST

A gastronomic adventure to four secret Hillcrest eateries to taste the neighborhood's food specialties. Ticket holders will be notified of the meeting location via email 48 hours prior to the event. Vegetarian options are available, but organizers may not be able to accommodate other dietary restrictions. Event held rain or shine. RSVP contact: kristib@dishcrawl.com. 21+. \$45.

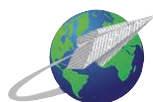
WHEN: 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: Secret locations, Hillcrest



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Boats on the River Zurich, Zurich — though a landlocked nation, lake-rich Switzerland is a great boating nation.

Zurich: Switzerland's Secret to Success

By Ed Rampell

The Economist ranks Switzerland the best country “to be born in 2013.” Zurich, the largest Swiss metropolis (380,000 residents) has been voted the planet’s best city by Mercer Human Resource Consulting, Monocle, and others. Why?

Surrounded by France, Germany, Italy, and Austria, Switzerland is technically landlocked; but considering the mountainous country’s many lakes, it’s arguably a nautical nation. To make a grand entrance into the so-called “Little Big City” at the northwestern end of Lake

Zurich, I board a boat that provides the most picturesque mass transit this side of the Staten Island Ferry. Skipping the trains, I take my time. The ferry crosses Zürichsee, Switzerland’s sixth-largest lake, embraced by the Alps.

As I bask on deck in the summer sunshine, we float past villages hugging the lake, such as Rapperswil, with its 13th-century castle. Nearing the harbor, Zurich’s medieval-and-modern skyline beckons.

Largely spared fires and wars, peaceful Switzerland sports some of Europe’s best surviving medieval architecture. The boat wafts past guild houses — established by trade associations in the Middle Ages, they’re social clubs today — passing Zunft Zum Kämbel, the food dealers and wine merchants’ guild, bearing a plaque with a golden camel and half moon, plus the carpenters’ “House of the Red Eagle,” with its peaked red roof and upstairs fine-dining restaurant Zunfthaus Zur Zimmerleuten.

Old Town’s main cathedrals are also visible: Fraumünster, famed for Marc Chagall’s stained-glass windows; twin-towered Grossmünster, founded in the 12th Century by Charlemagne, whose

enthroned, crowned, sword-wielding image is sculpted into the southern tower and onto a bronze door; and St. Peter, boasting Europe’s largest clock face. As the boat nears Zürichsee we move from the sacred to the profane, as topless women lounge at a ladies’ swim club while swans frolic in the water.

Ambling about Old Town is my favorite thing to do in Zurich, so I stay at the Widder Hotel in Altstadt, near Bahnhofstrasse. Its rooftop offers a 360-degree view of medieval and modern Zurich. A marvel of design, the Widder is composed from nine age-old townhouses built as far back as 1066, artfully unified into a single property by Swiss architect Tilla Theus. Classic meets contemporary: wooden beams, mouth-blown window glass, and 13th-century ornately painted ceilings commingle with Giacomettis, Rauschenbergs, Warhols, Corbusier



A Sign for the Zunfthaus Zur Schmiden (blacksmiths’ guildhall) hangs near Bahnhofstrasse in Zurich’s Old Town.

recliners, Frank Lloyd Wright furniture, a glass-enclosed elevator, and techno-gym.

The five-star offers free mini-bars and espresso machines in each of its 49 units. Its Library of Spirits has 400 whiskeys and a pianist. Morning repasts are served in the airy Breakfast Pavilion, complete with a glass ceiling.

My spacious suite features a multi-

continued on page 52

Other Adventures



kenjackson: Diwali chalk painting. Diu, India



Spanishlaughter: Teatro Juarez, a vibrant cultural center in the heart of Guanajuato, Mexico



DerekRay: A sloth at Manuel Antonio National Park in Costa Rica



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NORTH SHORE – LAKE HODGES DAM

A walk to the Hodges Dam and back through coastal sage scrub habitat

Distance from downtown San Diego: 33 miles. Allow 45 minutes driving time. From I-15, take exit 27 for Via Rancho Pkwy and turn left (west) onto E Via Rancho Pkwy for 3.2 miles, then left (south) again on Lake Dr. for 0.8 mile, just past Ash Lane if starting at Del Dios Community Park for the longer walk or another 1.2 miles to the parking lot across from Hernandez Hideaway, near the junction of Lake and Rancho drives.

Hiking length: approximately 6 miles from Del Dios Community Park or 4 miles from the Rancho/Lake Dr. parking lot to dam and back. Please keep a "passing lane" available for the multipurpose use of hikers, runners, and bicyclists. There is shore fishing, and private boats are allowed as the water level allows. Dogs on a leash permitted. **Difficulty:** Easy, with little elevation gain/loss on both dirt and paved surface of the perimeter road.

The 346 square miles San Dieguito River watershed starts from runoff on the southern slope of Volcan Mountain, with tributaries of Santa Ysabel, Santa Maria, and Temescal creeks through the Ramona Grasslands to the ocean via the San Dieguito Lagoon in Del Mar. The watershed includes five reservoirs that include lakes Sutherland, Poway, and Hodges. Lake Hodges, with its maximum depth of 115 feet and 27 miles of shoreline, is contained within the San Dieguito River Park.

This hike starts either at the Del Dios Community Park on a

1.2-mile-long dirt path that parallels Lake Drive or at the parking lot across from Hernandez Hideaway to continue 1.9 miles to the Rattlesnake viewpoint just below the Lake Hodges Dam and back to your starting point.

Once on the second section, follow the dirt path past an SDG&E switchyard, the Olivenhain Pipeline pump house directly opposite the buoys surrounding the water inlet/



Through this pipe scope atop a rattlesnake-shaped rock wall, one can pinpoint features of Lake Hodges Dam.

outlet, plowed area, and inlet. Keep to the right past a short hairpin turn, then at the intersection of a paved road, turn left to continue on Lake Dr. After a short distance, the pavement ends, becoming a fire road that veers to the right.

Close to where the fire road again becomes a dirt path that parallels Del Dios Highway, a rusting car looks to have missed a turn. Continue on the path to the end of the parking area, where there is a break in the fence. The trail turns left and down to the Rattlesnake overlook.

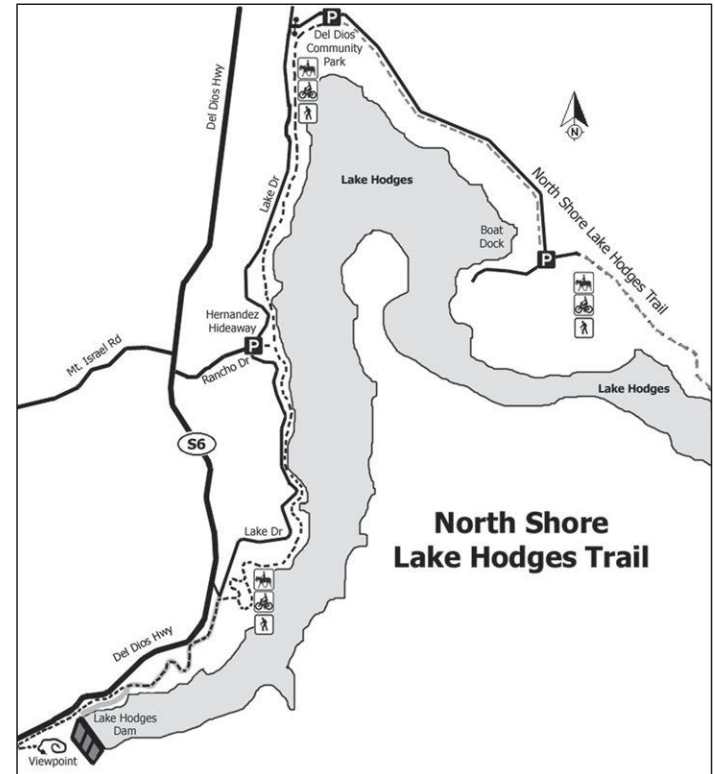
Take a break before returning by looking through the pipe scope to points A and B at the 1918 Hodges multiple-arch dam funded by the Santa Fe Railroad. The reservoir was then purchased by the City of San Diego in 1925; the main customers are the Santa Fe Irrigation and San Dieguito Water districts. Point C is the San Dieguito River continuing its journey to the Pacific Ocean.

Bring your binoculars to enjoy the birding in California's first site formally recognized in 1999 as a Globally Important Bird Area. This was mainly due to the California gnatcatchers found in the equally endangered coastal sage scrub habitat that is found around the lake. Also of interest are the Western and Clark's grebes, hawks, osprey,

and ducks.

Plants along the trails include California sagebrush, cactus, laurel sumac, and lemonade berry. Some people are sensitive to the last two, as they are members of the sumac (or cashew) family — the same family as poison oak.

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.



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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

grill@gmail.com or 858-278-5971. Fridays, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; free. Pampas Argentine Grill, 8690 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

Contra Dancing No partners needed, and no experience necessary. Calling by JoAnn Koppany. Live music by the Flashing Sirens. Teaching from 7:30-8:00, dance starts at 8:00. Discounts for teens and children, college, and military. Soft soled shoes only, please. Friday, February 15, 7:30pm; \$8. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Dancing in the Street Together, Oceanside and San Diego Fred Astaire Dance Studios present this annual dance show with classical moves from the past to present. A portion of proceeds will go to Rady Children's Hospital. Saturday, February 16, 7pm; \$25-\$40. Carlsbad Community Cultural Arts Center, 3557 Monroe Street. (CARLSBAD)

Argentine Tango With Colette Learn to tango now. Take a first Free class this Monday, February 18, at 7pm, or Wednesday, February 20, at 7pm (or any Monday or Wednesday at 7pm thereafter) at Dance Place San Diego. No need for a partner. We will introduce you the passion and magic of Tango. Visit tangowithcolette.com and call today: 514-726-5567. Dance Place

San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Road, Studio #106 (POINT LOMA)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

William Luvaas Reading Luvaas' new book *Ashes Rain Down: A Story Cycle* comes out in early February 2013. These ten stories explore what life might be like after several decades of global warming, extreme weather events, epidemics, and collapse of the world economy and social order. Saturday, February 16, 4:30pm; free-\$5. Ink Spot, 710 13th Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

FOOD & DRINK

Valentine's Day Dinner at Imig's Kitchen and Bar Imig's offers a unique and romantic Valentine's Day Dinner. Guests will be able to choose a three-course dinner with choices of two appetizers, three entrees, two desserts, and a bottle of wine. Three-course meal including wine is \$80 per couple. Dinner starts at 5:00pm until closing. Call 619-780-0358 to make a reservation. Thursday, February 14, 5pm. Imig's Kitchen and Bar, 2223 El Cajon Boulevard, Lafayette Hotel. (NORTH PARK)

Little Italy Spaghetteria Valentine's Day Dinner Show. Novamenco (Flamenco Fusion). Two

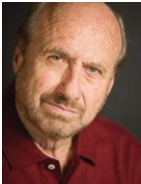
Rhyme & Verse

Elegy for Kenneth Koch

A poem by Fred Moramarco

d. July 6, 2002

It seems too crazy, like one of your mad, funny poems, that you're not with us anymore, not here to point out the *thisness* of things, like mountains, circuses, and fresh air. You were always the court jester of poets, toppling pretension from its granite and marble heights. "Look," you would say, about this or that, "how absolutely strange, marvelous, and ordinary it is, like everything else you will meet on your daily rounds." You noticed the blueness of blue, the curvature of the round, the still beats of silence within seconds. One of my favorites of your lines is "To learn of cunnilingus at fifty argues a wasted life." This from your poem, "Some General Instructions," which pings in my head even today. Ah, Kenneth, the obit said it was leukemia and you were 77. Hard to imagine either. You, a frail old man, eaten by blood cells. I rarely saw you when you weren't laughing, darting here and there. I remember we wrote a sestina in your class, each student writing a line as the poem went around the room. I wrote the last line of that poem, and remember it forty years later because you thought it was the perfect ending: "Who would have guessed at such a meaning for summer?" And I say that again, for this summer, when you're no longer here: *Who would have guessed at such a meaning for summer?*



Fred (Federico) Moramarco, who died on February 13, 2012, is the author and editor of several books, including *Containing Multitudes: Poetry in the U.S. since 1950*; *Men of Our Time*, (an anthology of world poetry); and *Deliciously Italian*, a book about Italian cooking and cuisine. He was a poet, literary critic, professor of literature at SDSU, producer, director, and actor. He was the founding editor of *Poetry International*, coproduced the award-winning *Hannah and Martin* at the Lyceum Theatre in 2006, and performed at the Old Globe, the San Diego Rep, Sledgehammer, Diversionary Theatre, and with other San Diego theater companies. This poem, "Elegy for Kenneth Koch," was awarded a Pushcart Prize in 2012 after it appeared in *Poetry International* #17. It was also published in his 2010 collection *The City of Eden*, published by Laterthanever Productions, and is reprinted here by permission. A much loved member of the Southern California literary and theater community, Moramarco died of cardiac arrest the evening before Valentine's Day. The innovative New York poet Kenneth Koch had been a teacher of Moramarco's back when they were both young men living in New York. The author's photo is by Paul Savage.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

shows. Includes Dinner and Show. To purchase tickets visit VinaliaProductions.com. Cost: \$35. Thursday, February 14, 7pm & 9pm. Little Italy Spaghetteria, 1953 India Street (LITTLE ITALY)

Cheese, Chocolate, and Bubbles Pairing cocoa with effervescent bubbles and fromage to share the secrets of a perfect menage a trois. Thursday, February 14, 6:30pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo Cheese, 871 G Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Sparkling Wine Valentine's Tasting Taste four sparkling wines from The Graham Beck Winery in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Cost includes four three-ounce pours and a chocolate strawberry. Thursday, February 14, 6pm; \$20. 21 and up. Wine Lover, 3968 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Valentine's Day Prix fixe romantic four-course menu, or choose from our special open menu. \$49/person. Live jazz. SolareLounge.com. Starting at 4:30. We take reservations till 10pm.

Thursday, February 14, 4:30pm; \$49. Solare Ristorante Lounge, 2820 Roosevelt Rd., NTC Promenade. (POINT LOMA)

Valentine's Day Menu Four-course menu specially designed by creative Chef Jon Sloan, featuring the bold spices and flavors of the Pacific Rim. Price is determined by entree choice. Thursday, February 14; \$62-\$89. Roy's, Marriott Hotel, 333 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Valentine's Day and Singles Awareness Day If you can possibly resist going to see the new *Die Hard* movie hitting theaters on Valentine's Day, then perhaps you would like to bring your special someone, or your lonely self (you will be among many friends) to Local Habit. In addition to the regular menu, Chef Nick will have some special dishes for the evening available ala carte and we will offer beer and wine pairings for each. Bill Batten from AleSmith Brewing has prepared a very special cask of "My Bloody Valentine." Alex Tweet from Ballast Point Brewing has prepared a cask of Sea Monster Stout with Chocolate and Cherries to get you in the Valentine's

Day spirit. Casks will tap at 12pm and we will be offering \$4 pours of each until 6pm. Thursday, February 14, 12pm; Local Habit, 3827 Fifth Avenue. (HILLCREST)

Firkin Friday Ballast Point battle of the Sculpins! Dueling Casks: Citra Sculpin vs. Mango Sculpin. The tale of two Sculpins. The coveted Citra hops vs. a mango version. This event also marks the return of the weekly hop sausage. Friday, February 15. Hamilton's Tavern, 1521 30th Street (SOUTH PARK)

Souffle Decadence Chef Joy Jameson teaches participants the secrets to making savory and sweet souffles. Pre-registration required. 760-233-2433. Friday, February 15, 6pm; \$65. 18 and up. Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Dr., Suite L. (SAN MARCOS)

A Night with the Opera Singing Chef San Diego's Opera Singing Chef, Elizabeth Podsiadlo, will perform with Pandeli Lazaridi of Small Opera San Diego and tenor Gerardo Gaytan, as well as pianist John Danke, bassist Patrick Anderson, and Soprano Marilyn Anderson. This concert will also contain early American pieces played with traditional instruments, with Bill Putnam on banjo, Elizabeth Podsiadlo on guitar, and Betsy Podsiadlo on violin/fiddle. Chef Elizabeth always feeds her audience, and one of her specialties is soup. She has promised to bring her kale soup and her Tuscan potato, to be served with artisan breads. Also to be served: tequila cranberry chutney over hot melted brie, scones provided by the Carol Tree Tea House, along with assorted teas and wine. There will be food offerings from the other teaching chefs of the La Jolla Community Center. Friday, February 15, 5pm; \$20-\$30. 21 and

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up. La Jolla Community Center, 6811 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Wine-Blending Class Seventh annual blending workshop led by Oak Mountain winemaker Steve Andrews. Sample three different red wine varieties and learn what differentiates them from one another. You'll spend two hours blending and tasting as you craft your very own wine blend. Then unwind with your classmates over a three-course, family-style dinner. Reservations required: 951-699-9102 or vandrews@oakmountainwinery.com. Friday, February 15, 6pm; \$95. 21 and up. Oak Mountain Winery, 36522 Via Verde. (TEMECULA)

Daniel Stratman This edition of Saturday Sounds features Daniel Stratman, an adult contemporary musician. Saturday, February 16, 7pm; Rancho Bernardo Inn, 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Lutefisk Dinner The San Diego Sons of Norway annual dinner

serves lutefisk, lefse, meatballs, and more. Herring, hors d'oeuvres, dessert, and a no-host bar. Reservations: eugenieking@cs.com or 619-670-3089. Saturday, February 16, 3:30pm; \$15-\$18. East San Diego Masonic Temple, 7849 Tommy Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Salumi — How to Cure Meats at Home Chef Stein reveals the secrets to the art of home meat curing. Learn how to transform the humble pig into sausages, salumi, bacon, pâtés, and more. As a special bonus, each student will receive a copy of *Charcuterie: The Craft of Salting, Smoking, and Curing* (W.W. Norton, 2005), by Michael Ruhlman and Brian Polcyn. Pre-registration required. 760-233-2433. Saturday, February 16, 10am; \$125. 18 and up. Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Dr., Suite L. (SAN MARCOS)

The Chef's Table Chef Stein guides participants through the process of planning, creating, and executing a multi-course, fine-

dining dinner matched with wine. Participants learn new culinary techniques, how to match tastes and flavors, and how to create a "French Laundry" style presentation. Pre-registration required. 760-233-2433. Saturday, February 16, 6pm; \$100. Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Dr., Suite L. (SAN MARCOS)

Valentine's Brunch Finish off Valentine's Weekend with a romantic Valentine's brunch event in Le Fontainebleau Room. Sunday, February 17, 10am; \$42. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

FOR KIDS

Young Scientists: "Artology" This hands-on preschool science program explores color, shapes, textures and three-dimensional Art. Preschoolers age 3-5 (and a parent) experiment and investigate. Four 4-week sessions offered. Thursdays,

9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; through Sunday, March 3, \$75-\$85. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Babysitter's Training Course Class gives young teens the skills and confidence to safely and responsibly care for children and infants, through hands-on activities, video presentations, and classroom discussions. Teaches real-world skills such as emergency and first-aid, and helps participants get their babysitting business started through resume building and interview advice. Friday, February 15, 9am; \$85. South Bay Community Center, 311 Del Mar Avenue. (CHULA VISTA)

Banfield Future Vet Program This one-hour interactive presentation provides a unique opportunity for kids and families to experience the world of veterinary medicine. Saturday, February 16, 11am; New Children's Museum, 200 West Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Family Science Saturdays: Motion Visitors play with physics as they build crazy chain reactions or discover patterns in harmonic pendulums in the Tinkering Studio. Activities included with admission. 619-238-1233. Saturday, February 16, 1pm; \$9-\$11. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Make Your Own Rag Doll Without computers or video games, pioneer children had to use their imaginations to stitch their own dolls out of: socks, discarded rags, bottles, flowers, cornhusks, and vegetables. Children are invited to create their own rag doll. 760-632-9711. Saturdays, 12pm; through Sunday, February 24, free. San Dieguito Heritage Museum, 450 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Plankton Party Algae, crabs, and jellies all spend a portion of their lives as plankton. Celebrate these "drifters" and meet Scripps Oceanography researchers at this family-friendly event. Included with

admission. Saturday, February 16, 11am; free-\$14. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Project Art This four-week series of art classes is designed to encourage children's creative side. Each week students will start and finish a different project designed to explore imagination and/or observation. Students will develop basic drawing skills and learn about color using markers, color pencils, colored paper, oil pastels, and watercolor. Ages 6 to 11. Instructor Patricia Hyman. 619-223-0058. Saturdays, 2pm; through Saturday, March 2, \$97-\$109. 6 and up. Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Decatur Rd., Studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

Age of Aquarius Art Workshop Each week of this four-week workshop students will discuss and explore one artist of the 1960s such as Peter Max, Andy Warhol, Alexander Calder, and more. By studying their art and the culture



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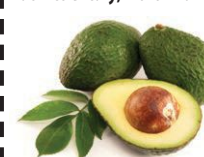


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Now, God be thanked Who has
matched us with His hour,
And caught our youth, and wak-
ened us from sleeping,
With hand made sure, clear eye,
and sharpened power,
To turn, as swimmers into clean-
ness leaping,
Glad from a world grown old and
cold and weary,
Leave the sick hearts that honor
could not move,
And half-men, and their dirty

songs and dreary,
And all the little emptiness of
love!
Oh! we, who have known
shame, we have found release
there,
Where there’s no ill, no grief, but
sleep has mending,
Naught broken save this body,
lost but breath;
Nothing to shake the laughing
heart’s long peace there
But only agony, and that has
ending;

And the worst friend and enemy
is but Death.
— “Peace,” by Rupert Brooke

Rupert Brooke (1887–1915) was an English poet most famous for his war sonnets written during World War I (“If I should die, think only this of me:/That there’s some corner of a foreign field/ That is forever England...” etc.). Strikingly hand-some, Brooke epitomized the youthful English flower mowed down by the

cruelty of the so-called “Great War.” Ironically, although Brooke enlisted in the British Army to fight in the war, he died before seeing action, suc-cumbing to an infected mosquito bite. Brooke was a representative of the Georgian poets and a member of the Bloomsbury group of writers. While some of his poetry is dated, other works have transcended their day — especially those like “Peace,” which appears in his most popular book, 1914 & Other Poems.



Find more excerpts online at
SDReader.com/worship

of America during this time, stu-dents will create exciting pieces of art. Projects will be different each week and the mediums used may include markers, wire hangers, water-based paints on paper, beads, and more. Instructor Shari Roberts. 619-223-0058. Saturdays, 11am; through Saturday, March 2, \$97-\$109. 6 and up. Bravo School of Art at NTC Promenade, 2690 Decatur Rd., Studio 206. (POINT LOMA)

Computer Science the Fun Way Write code. Build circuits. Earn prizes. ThoughtStem presents this fast-paced workshop where students choose from a variety of challenges designed to introduce them to programming and circuit design. Ages 8-18 and all levels of experience in programming wel-come. Sibling discounts and referral

discounts are available. Computer Science Building, Room 1202. *Con-tact@thoughtstem.com*. Sundays, 11am and 2pm; through Sunday, June 9, \$50. 8 and up. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

LECTURES

History of Rock ‘n’ Roll at SDSU Seth Mallios, chairman of SDSU’s anthropology department, will discuss “The Legendary Yet Unknown History of Rock ‘n’ Roll at San Diego State.” Held in Room 108. The talk is part of a larger event to raise funds to restore and relocate the Rock ‘n’ Roll mural to the library. Includes a dessert reception. 619-594-4991. Thursday,

February 14, 7:30pm; **free**. Malcolm A. Love Library, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

Valentine’s Evening with Gar-rison Keillor All-new solo eve-ning monologues and anecdotes by the storyteller and creator of “A Prairie Home Companion” and “Lake Wobegone Days.” Thursday, February 14, 7pm; \$35-\$55. Point Loma Nazarene University, 3900 Lomaland Drive. (POINT LOMA)

Relationships in the Work-place This roundtable will address real-life situations about the prob-lems created by relationships in the workplace, and provide some real-life solutions. Practical policy solutions will also be addressed. Lunch included. Speaker: Emily Fox from Paul Plevin Sullivan and

Connaughton. Friday, February 15, 11:30am; \$35-\$45. San Diego Employers Association 4180 Ruffin Road Suite 295. (KEARNY MESA)

How Gadgets are Chang-ing Genealogy Barbara Renick speaks for the Computer Geneal-ogy Society of San Diego with two presentations. Saturday, February 16, 9am; **free**. Robinson Auditor-ium complex at UCSD, off Pangea Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Linda Thomas-Mobley Friends of San Diego Architecture presents Linda Thomas-Mobley, who will to discuss lessons from the centennial Olympic Games. No reservations necessary. Saturday, February 16, 9:30am; **free**-\$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Mexico Then and Now Profes-sor Eric Van Young will speak on the Mexican Independence move-ment (1810-1821) and the Mexican Revolution (1910-1921) and their continuing effect today. Held in the chancellor’s complex, room 111A. Saturday, February 16, 1:30pm; **free**. University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Past Meets Present — Lunch Lecture Dr. Dave Roberts shares images and stories of the Balboa Park’s transformation over the past 100 years. Saturday, Febru-ary 16, 11am; **free**-\$12. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Slang Expert Grant Barrett Editor of *The Official Dictionary of Unofficial English* and co-host of the radio program “A Way with

Words,” Grant Barrett explains how new slang words become part of the language. Event will be held in the Turrentine Room. 760-839-4839. Saturday, February 16, 2pm; **free**. 18 and up. Escondido Library, 239 South Kalmia Street. (ESCONDIDO)

OUTDOORS

Birding the Grove Jeanne Rai-mond leads a birding adventure on Oak Grove Loop trail. Bring binoculars and a bird book. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. Saturday, February 16, 8am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

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Friday, Feb. 15: Mediumship: 6:30–8:30pm. Sunday Service, Feb. 17: Meditation/Auric Healings: 10:00am. Lecture Service/ Messages: 11:00am. Guest Speaker: Rev. Cyndi Clarke with Workshop Table Tipping 1:15–3:15pm. Tuesday, Feb. 19: Tuesday Evening Healing Circle 7:00–9:00pm. Wednesday, Feb. 20: Reiki Practice Group 7:00–9:00pm. Saturday, Feb. 25: Full Moon Meditation 7:00–9:00pm. CITY HEIGHTS 3777 42nd Street (619) 284-4646

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Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be preaching at First Lutheran Church. Celebrating 125 years of ministry in downtown San Diego. Join us on Sunday, February 17 at our 9:00am or 11:15am service. There will be a free brunch between services. More information call (619) 234-6149 or visit www.firstlutheransd.org. DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO 1420 Third Avenue (619) 234-6149

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LA MESA Lenten Spiritual Practices

Starting with the ancient tradition of walking the labyrinth, embark on a Lenten journey comprised of five spiritual disciplines: February 17 – “Walking the Labyrinth – To the Center and Back”; February 24 – “Centering Through Sounds of the Human Spirit”; March 3 – “Silence, Listening, and the Wisdom Tradition”; March 10 – “Let Your Life Speak”; March 17 – “Resurrection of the Centered Soul”. Each Sunday’s program will start with a simple soup supper in our Friendship Hall with the spiritual prac-tice immediately following. All are welcome. LA MESA 5940 Kelton Avenue (619) 464-1519

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Festivities include games and rides for the kids, ethnic food and spa services for adults. Rides include small Ferris wheel, bungee run, dunk tank, 18-foot slide, pony rides, laser tag, and Velcro wall. Parking available just south of the Temple at Mira Costa College (south campus) with free shuttles to the Temple. CARDIFF 3575 Manchester Avenue (760) 436-0654

HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Quartet Nouveau
This will be Quartet Nouveau’s first concert of a four concert series “The Human Emotion,” which includes concerts explor-ing Love, Loss, Heroism, and Conflict through string quartet music. This Love program includes Borodin String Quartet No. 2, Kreisler Liebesleid & Liebesfreud, and Schumann String Quartet No. 3. RANCHO BERNARDO 16550 Bernardo Heights Parkway (858) 485-5840

Gaslamp Quarter Historical Walking Tour includes architecturally significant structures of the period from Old City Hall (1874) to the Romanesque Keating Building (1890) to the Baroque Revival Louis Bank of Commerce (1888), along with stories of the people that shaped the destiny of San Diego. The tour takes under two hours. 619-233-4692. Saturdays, 11am; through Saturday, January 4, \$12-\$15. William Heath Davis House Museum, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Hawkwatch 2013 Visit Ramona's grasslands, see resident and wintering hawks and eagles during an outing led by a Wildlife Research Institute biologist. Nineteen species of raptors have been recorded at this hotspot. Bring binoculars, wear sturdy shoes. 760-789-3992. Saturday, February 16, 8:30am; **free**. Wildlife Research Institute, 18030 Highland Valley Road. (RAMONA)

Miner's Loop Trail Walk Arne Johanson leads a hike up the north face of Black Mountain Park. Saturday, February 16, 9am; **free**. Black Mountain Open Space Park staging area, 14850 Carmel Valley Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

South Bay Salt Works Guided walks led by San Diego Audubon docents include possible sightings of Brant Geese, eight to ten species of ducks, peregrine falcon, Belding's savannah sparrow, and perhaps 30 other species. Birders will have a choice of walks on flat terrain. One walk is a 2.5-mile out-and-back amble; the other is an approximately 5-mile loop that will go around the perimeter of the levees. Dress in layers. Rain cancels. Coordinator: Brian Moehl, 858-

273-7800 x103. Saturday, February 16, 11am; Salt Works Trailhead, 1470 Bay Boulevard. (CHULA VISTA)

Star Party Marvels George Varga scopes in deep-sky objects, including the Orion Nebula, Canis Major's Little Bee Hive (M41), Taurus' Crab Nebula (M1), and numerous open clusters in Auriga. Meet at the far end of the campground's day use parking lot. Saturday, February 16, 5pm; **free**. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

Explore the Outdoors Learn about local animals, plants, and ecosystems on a guided walk. Gain an understanding of how Native Americans lived in nature. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Saturday, February 16, 9:30am; Sunday, February 17, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

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ebration of mid-century modern and contemporary design, architecture, and lifestyle. Attendance is expected to soar well beyond last year's estimated 35,000. Will feature more than 100 events including, our ever-popular architectural bus, cocktail parties, home tours, lectures, films, and much more. If you haven't yet purchased tickets, it's not too late to plan to be a part of it all in beautiful Palm Springs, and if you have purchased tickets don't forget to check out the recently added events. For all the latest information and updates on ticket sales please visit *modernismweek.com*. February 14-24, 2013. Location: check website for details (PALM SPRINGS)

Grocery Outlet Grand Opening Attendees will enjoy free coffee and treats, free eco-frugal reusable bags for the first 500 customers, games with prize giveaways, face painting, and balloon art. Prizes include an old school fish board, a pair of "His" and "Hers" Beach Cruiser Bikes, a Panasonic Viera 42" 3-D TV, or free groceries for a year. Saturday, February 16, 8am; **free**. Point Loma Grocery Outlet, 3948 Point Loma Blvd., San Diego, CA 92110

One Night Only! Madcap Musical Mime. "An amazing show of melodious music with delightful choreography," -John Collins, *The Wire Review*. Steam Powered Giraffe was the 2012 *Steampunk Chronicle* Reader's Choice winner for Best Album/Best Song. SanDiego A-List voted Best Live Comedy. All ages. Tickets are only \$20/each. Visit *steampoweredgiraffe.com* for more information and to purchase tickets. Saturday, February 16, 7pm; Four Points by Sheraton, 8110 Aero Drive. (KEARNY MESA)

NOH8 Open Photo Shoot Come wearing a plain, white shirt. Upon arrival, participants receive a numbered model release to fill out. Numbers will be called throughout the day, and the corresponding release number will signal the time to line up to have the photo taken. NOH8 co-founder Adam Bouska will photograph five to ten frames for each person that comes through. His final selections will be retouched and made available to participants within eight weeks. Sunday, February 17, 2pm; **free**. Hotel Solamar, 435 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Rally to Protest Keystone XL Pipeline Several local organizations are holding this rally in support of the major national rally to be held the same day in Washington, D.C. Please wear black. Sunday, February 17, 1pm; **free**. Mission Bay Visitors' Center, 2688 East Mission Bay Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Bark-in-the-Park Pets and their owners have the opportunity to parade across the stage while Carol Williams plays the organ. Event benefits the San Diego Humane Society. Sunday, February 17, 2pm; **free**. Spreckels Organ Pavilion. (BALBOA PARK)

Cupids and Canines Dog Adoption Event Local animal shelters and dog rescues bring more

than 75 adoptable dogs of all breeds and sizes to this sixth annual event. Every adopter will take home a goodie bag with treats and food for their new family member. 619-847-8755. Sunday, February 17, 11am; **free**. Midway Towne Center, 3980 W. Pt. Loma Blvd (POINT LOMA)

Fungus Fair The San Diego Mycological Society's 15th annual Mushroom Fair showcases wild San Diego-area mushrooms with lectures on proper identification, gourmet cooking demonstrations, and talks given by local mushroom authorities. The event will feature vendors with books, identification guides, posters, mushroom growing kits, t-shirts, and art-related objects with mushroom themes. Visitors are encouraged to bring mushrooms for identification by experts. Room 101. Sunday, February 17, 10:30am; **free**. Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

SPOKEN WORD

Rhapsody Open Mic Showcase Showcase for a grown and mature audience in a lounge type setting. Catered appetizers and a glass of wine with admission. Free parking and an in-house DJ. Held very first and third Saturday. 619-395-5019. Saturday, February 16, 7:30pm; \$20. 21 and up. Vision Pulse Event Center, 10211 Pacific Mesa Blvd Ste 400, San Diego, CA 92121.

SPORTS & FITNESS

Morning Hatha Yoga Class Students of all levels are welcome. Please bring a mat and water and avoid heavy foods before class. Drop-ins welcome. Thursdays, 9am; through Thursday, December 26, \$6-\$8. 18 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Climb for Challenged Athletes The second annual Challenge Athlete Foundation fundraiser features rock climbing, yoga, activities, food trucks, and raffle prizes. Cost includes a climbing day pass and access to all activities for the evening, as well as automatic entry to win raffle prizes. Mesa Rim will donate \$10 for every Mesa Rim member check-in between 5-9pm. *Alexis@MesaRim.com*. 858.201.4411. Friday, February 15, 5pm; \$20. Mesa Rim Climbing and Fitness Center, 10110 Mesa Rim Road. (MIRA MESA)

Gentle Yoga Instructor is Sheila Shaw. For adults. 619-527-3405. Friday, February 15, 11am; 18 and up. Malcolm X Library, 5148 Market Street. (VALENCIA PARK)

Ridiculous Basketball Skills Harlem Globetrotters bring their thoroughly entertaining antics and highly skillful basketball to center court in competition against the (rarely victorious) Washington Generals. 800-745-3000. Friday, February 15, 7pm;

\$15-\$145. Valley View Casino Center, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

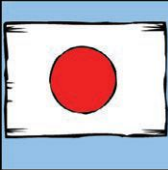
Zumba Dance Fitness for Seniors The Zumba Fitness program fuses Latin rhythms with easy-to-follow moves. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt while burning fat. Fridays, 1pm; through Tuesday, February 26, **free**. 18 and up. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Cribbage League and Pick Up Games Saturday afternoon Cribbage league open to players of all levels. "Pick-up game" period begins after league play. Saturdays, 1pm; through Saturday, March 30, **free**. 18 and up. Phileas Fogg's Bar & Restaurant, Sabre Springs Plaza, 11385 Poway Road #100. (POWAY)

Outrigger Canoeing Open House Learn the basics and then head out for a paddle across Mission Bay. Paddles supplied. Saturdays, 9am; through Saturday, March 9, **free**. 18 and up. Campland on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Extreme Midget Wrestling 760-789-7008. Saturday, February 16, 7pm; \$25. Ramona Mainstage Nightclub, 626 Main Street. (RAMONA)

UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH Missionary from Japan



On February 20 at 7pm we will be welcoming Rev. Jeffrey Mensendiek, a missionary who has worked for 22 years in Sendai, Japan. After the earthquake of March 11, 2011, the Emmaus Center, which he worked to establish, helped to provide relief to tsunami survivors under his leadership. All are invited to hear about this important missionary work in Japan! UCUC.ORG for details. UNIVERSITY CITY 2877 Governor Drive (858) 453-3444

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH A Taste of Silence

Lenten Mission presented by Father Carl Arico of Contemplative Outreach International on Mon.-Wed., Feb. 18, 19, and 20 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and at 7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer is means of opening up to God's communication and is a long, loving look at the real God. EL CAJON 2766 Navajo Rd. (618) 466-0055

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Prayer and Worship Night

Arize in Christ is an experience of worship, through prayer, that is fueled by scripture and music. This event is an all church, all denomination event. DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO 320 Date Street (619) 232-7513

SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELEN GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Retreat with Father Maximos

Christian retreat with Christian scholar and monk, Father Maximos of the Monastery of Simonopetra in Mount Athos, Greece. The retreat will focus on the parable of the Prodigal Son. Recently featured on CBS's 60 Minutes on Mount Athos, Father Maximos holds a doctorate in theology from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Friday, March 1, 5-8pm, Saturday, March 2, 10am-5pm, Sunday, March 3, 8:30am-12pm. Reservations required by Feb. 25. CARDIFF 3459 Manchester Avenue 760-942-0920

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We're talkin' cavemen

"When we humans started farming 10,000 years ago," June says, "we went off the rails."

That song "Up on the Roof" keeps ringing through my head. Because that's where we are — up on the roof of the Whole Foods at Seventh and University in Hillcrest, 7:00 at night.

Me and shadowy figures and three food trucks parked in an L-shape.

I've come for the first one. It's the same color as the Coaster, that light bluey-green. Called "Not So Fast!" They tweeted they'd be here tonight, serving up food that's got me curious. Food that our ancestors ate for two-and-a-half million years. The paleo diet — we're talkin' cavemen.

At least, that's the promise. A notice stuck to a window on the side of the truck reads:

"Not So Fast! is a unique mobile kitchen that specializes in fresh, wholesome, nutritious meals on the go. Utilizing local farms and sustainable sources...we offer truly healthy fare..."

Uh-huh. Here, I'm starting to tune out, because isn't every restaurant in town telling us the same thing? Local, sustainable, nutritious...

But now it gets more interesting. I get in line and continue reading.

"...that is gluten-free, soy-free, sugar-free, grain-free, legume-free, with no preservatives... All our sandwiches are served on lettuce wraps, unless otherwise specified. We do not encourage the use of grains or gluten."

I first discovered these guys at a Third Friday food-truck gathering at 57 Degrees, the wine shop in Middletown. I had an "El Pavo Diablo," a turkey burger, with "grilled jalapeños, roasted red peppers, and spicy garlic aioli,

\$8."

Lots of other things were up on the marker-board menu, like bison burger (\$11) and beef, pork, and mushroom burgers (\$8-\$10), plus wild-cod tacos (\$9). (It's hard to imagine our caveman granddaddies recognizing any of these foods in this form, but the "now" and the "then" have to meet somewhere.) The turkey was meaty,

spicy, and, with the bacon and avocado, tasty. I asked for it in a bun, too, which you could see they didn't want to do.

So: meat, good; bun, bad. What's going on? We're not talking vegan, or even vegetarian, here.

That's why I'm back tonight: I want to know why we'd return to eating what our distant ancestors chowed down on.

Plus, last time, I saw two dishes that I wanted to try — the bison burger (\$11) and the "Bomb-Bomb Hash" (\$5), "sweet-potato hash loaded with avocado and

house-cured bacon."

Now I'm at the front of the line. I do one more check of the board, see a sweet-and-sour spicy pork. "Julian, California, pastured pork sloppy joe with pineapple, scallions, house-cured bacon, and primal sweet-and-sour pepper reduction," \$10.

Sounds delish, but I stick with plan A, the bison burger, "with red wine, caramelized onions," and, wow, "Kerrygold grass-fed cheese." (Grass-fed cheese? Imagining cheeses happily munching out in a field...) I also get the Bomb-Bomb Hash. Not cheap, but we're talking organic prices. The bison's \$12 — extra dollar's for avocado — and it's \$5 for the hash.

**TIN
FORK**
ED BEDFORD



The Not So Fast food truckers fix fare that our hunter-gatherer ancestors would have liked.



Co-owner June reckons she runs the only paleolithic food truck on the west coast.

Seventeen buckeroos. But if it reintroduces me to grandpa and to the right way to eat, it'll be worth it. (Only 400 generations separate us from our pre-agricultural, Stone Age ancestors — I looked it up.)

June takes my order. She and her partner Bob run this truck, and they reckon they're the only Paleolithic food truck on the West Coast.

"When we humans started farming 10,000 years ago," June says, "we went off the rails. My partner Bob, the chef here, was getting sick on all the glutens and excess sugars and salts of the normal diet. Then we heard about the paleo diet, eating what our stomachs had evolved over millions of years to handle — meats, plants — and not what we've thrown at them over just the last 10,000. Grains, sugars, salts, glutens, dairy, processed food. So we switched to eating paleo. And Bob's condition cleared up."

"The gut is our number-one organ," says Bob, as he brings over my two paper plates of food. "You've got to look after it. A month after I switched to this diet, my allergy problems with glutens cleared up. It makes sense."

Whatever. This food makes it easy to adapt. The hash is sweet, interesting with the bacon and avo adds. The lettuce-wrapped "burger" takes getting used to, but the taste is there, and the "house-cured" bacon is thick and flavorful. And, hey, at the bottom they've put some plantain chips, little dried banana-type slices to chew on.

Couple sharing a fish taco ("Grilled true



Tony and Tess shared a "true cod" fish taco with jalapeños and avocados.

cod, with jalapeños, avocado, and primal Sriracha"...not sure about "true," but "primal" means no preservatives or stuff like xanthan gum and sodium bisulphate), Tony and Tess, believe this helps keep them healthy. "I'm a pescatarian," says Tony. "Only eat fish."

Meaning, I guess, that fish is the only "meat" he eats, but not the only food.

The group of gals next to them have a dish called "Wich Came First?" It's "free-range pulled chicken with fried egg, bacon, pico de gallo."

"I've got an auto-immune problem," says Rianne. "I started eating paleo last September. It's working. I'd always have painful rashes. Now I feel less bloated, the rashes have gone down from eight on the pain scale to a three, and I sleep. And how beautiful that is. Every time I bust out and eat gluten, soy, or dairy, I get stomach aches."

Suddenly, it's 7:30. Cinderella time. Vehicles have to be out and off the roof. June lowers the sides of the truck and locks them.

It's a little strange, here in the half-light, a clump of food-truck fanatics up on the roof of a market, chowing and chatting away.

But, kinda wonderful, you have to feel. And maybe these guys are onto something, calling the food industry out on a massive agricultural experiment gone wrong, saying they're not willing to be the lab rats anymore.

Hey, maybe grandma (times 400) did know best. ■

The Place: Not So Fast food truck, 619-924-9244

Prices: El Pavo Diablo turkey burger, \$8; bison burger, \$11; Beefeater beef burger, \$8.50; sweet-and-sour spicy pork, \$10; Shroomie mushroom burger, \$8; wild-caught cod tacos, \$9; Bomb-Bomb Hash (sweet-potato hash), \$5
Hours: For day and evening locations and times, check with website (notsofastfoodtruck.com), Facebook, Twitter

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Snack seeker

For the latest blogs from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of over 1600 restaurants, please visit sandiegoreader.com/weblogs/feast/

East Village's littlest burger?

This is so typical. I'd been watching this corner (Sixth and G) for months, waiting for these guys to open.

Then, when it happened, I blinked, got distracted. It's only the other day, when I'm wandering, lonely as a cloud, that I notice an arresting face at the, well, counter.

Sarah. Says they're open. Have been since October.

It's in a brand-new building, but it's all gray-blue industrial, with roll-up streetside windows and a big U-shaped counter in the middle. Guess I'm going to sit down because now I'm curious.

The idea is like Which Wich sandwich places:

you get a chart on a clipboard and you check off what kind of burger you want, like 1/3 lb? 2/3 lb? Beef? Turkey? Blue? Feta? Baby spinach? Pine-apple? The basic seems to cost around \$9.

Hadn't intended to eat right now, but as they say, a burger in hand's worth two in the bush. And, besides, Sarah has already handed me the menu and — hey! — a happy-hour menu.

Turns out this place is part of a mighty chain. Dozens and dozens. Like, over two-dozen outlets in California, more in half a dozen other states, plus still more in a dozen other countries, including the UK and half the Middle East. Dozen get bigger than that, heh-heh.

They have two in San Diego, at Del Mar (Del Mar Highlands Town Center, 12873 El Camino Real, 858-481-9821), and here (695 Sixth Avenue, downtown, 619-810-1850), and another coming at Lindbergh Field.

So, big chain, but turns out it has the smallest burger I've ever eaten.

I'm here at around five at night and feeling more snack seeker than mastodon hunter. I keep

my eyes on the happy-hour menu, and first thing that pops out: "\$2 mini cheeseburger."

They also have a rack of deals with half-off appetizers (this HH is from 3:00–6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday). So, a bowl of chili would be \$2.50, sweet-potato fries would be less than a buck for a single order, and chili-cheese fries would be \$2.75 — and that's for the larger size.

FEAST!

I go for the mini-burger, just to see how mini it is. Also an iced tea. It costs more than the burger,

\$2.75. (Kick myself on that, because now I see they have draft Arrogant Bastard for \$4, just \$1.25 more. *Sigh.*)

Okay, so when it comes, this little burger is on a little plate, but, well, actually it's not so little. It's thick, nicely grilled, with melted cheddar (looks like) on top, plus chopped red onions and a pot of sweet red relish. Crunchy toasted bun, too.

I thought it was gonna be gone in one gulp.

But, nope. Actually, I stretch it out to quite a few scrumptious chomps. And by the time I'm done, I could leave satisfied. Best two bucks I've spent in ages.

'Course, never could leave well enough alone. The menu's still standing in front of me, and next time Sarah comes by, I order the chili-cheese fries.

And, yes, it's big, the thin fries are crunchy,

and there's plenty of chili. This would've more than done it as a meal on its own. But once I'm back on the street, it's the thought of that beautiful little burger that stays with me, that I'd come back for.

Whole lot cost me \$8.10. If I'd just had water it would've been \$6.35. If I'd stuck with the burger, \$2.16.

Maybe that's why these guys are spreading like kudzu.

by Ed Bedford

Off Days are On Days

I never saw an episode of *Cheers* — the show was before my time — but I get the gist, as I've heard the theme song. It's a place where you can feel at

home, where "everybody knows your name, and they're always glad you came." With this in mind, I consider Starlite San Diego to be my "*Cheers*."

Us Norms and Cliffs know that the best time to "take a break from all our worries" at Starlite is during off-peak hours. It doesn't matter how many people know your name when a place is packed on a Friday or Saturday night — you're not getting a table, and that's the way it should be: first come, first served. I prefer quieter times, when instead of focusing on the scenesters in all their hip and creative regalia, I can concentrate on a well-crafted cocktail and chef Kathleen Wise's ever-changing fresh and locally sourced culinary creations.

Sunday brunch (with my go-to cocktail, the Holly Golightly) is a soothing and satisfying way to slow to a stop at the end of a freeway-frenetic weekend. The best way to start off brunch with a group of friends is coffee and an order or two of the crullers — dense and not-too-sweet donuts created by pastry chef Mandy Hendricks.

On our most recent brunch visit, David and I brought along a few friends from out of town. I'm not a breakfasty-egg person, so my brunch pick is also my late-night-dinner pick, which is the Starlite Burger. Brandt beef, gruyere cheese, and caramelized onions on a brioche bun. The only difference between the burger at brunch and at night is that, instead of fries, this one is served with hot, crispy-on-the-outside, soft-on-the-inside potatoes, which are more "home fries" than shoestring.

David got the Chorizo and Eggs, with house-made chorizo, which he described as "mild but enjoyable." It's served with sour cream, potatoes, and tortillas. One of our friends had the same dish. She described it in one word: "Yum."

Another friend ordered the daily special: fig-stuffed French toast (vanilla-scented French toast stuffed with fig jam and cream cheese, served with real maple syrup and whipped butter), with a side of "Kathleen's housemade sausage." The rest of us didn't get a taste, it was gone so quickly, but my friend exclaimed several times how surprised she was that there could be so many different flavors in the sausage patty. She also pointed out her surprise at how tender and juicy it was, rather than the dry piece of meat she'd usually expect. "I wish I could just order a plate full of these," she said.

When it comes to dinner, our favorite night is Tapas Tuesday. Each week, Chef Kathleen devises a special menu of \$6 small plates (\$15 for three). When most people are settling into their week and



Starlite's Holly Golightly (High West Western Oat Whiskey, Sapling maple liqueur, Angostura bitters, Carpano Antica vermouth)

staying at home, David and I seize the opportunity to grab a seat at the bar, where we can chat with Braden, Jack, or Dmitri; or take a table, so we can catch up with Colleen or José. Either way, we are always visited by another friendly face — Roy the manager, who bustles from bar to table to patio and back again.

On a frigid night during the recent cold snap, David and I made the short drive (we'd usually walk, but I don't do outside below 40 degrees) for Tapas Tuesday. It was Roy who recommended the "Hearty Beef Vegetable Soup," served with sour cream Worcestershire salt. Paired with a smooth and balanced hot toddy that Jack whipped up for me, I went from shivering beneath a scarf and hood to slowly unwrapping myself as I warmed from the inside.

The Moroccan Style Flatbread with spiced carrot purée, charred cauliflower, and sweet pickled raisins was pleasantly crispy and covered in cool textures and flavors.

My favorite bite of the evening was an item on the regular menu. The vegetarian dishes change more frequently than the seasons, so when I see a new one, I don't miss the opportunity to taste it — it is here that Chef Kathleen truly shines, as it is with the seasonal veggies that she gets her most creative (as with the Moroccan flatbread). This dish was a Broccoli Pot Pie, with

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flaky pastry blanketing broccoli in a cheddar beer sauce, served with a walnut beet salad on the side. Though it appeared small when it arrived, the ramekin was packed so tight with rich flavors that, despite my best efforts, I was unable to finish it.

If you ever spot me in this food-and-drink haunt, be sure to raise your glass in my direction and say, "Cheers!"

by Barbarella Fokos

Win cash at Old Mill Cafe

Old Mill Cafe is trying to buy my loyalty. And yours, too. All of our loyalties. With cold, hard cash. Yup, that's right, this family-style restaurant in North Park is, as far as I know, the only restaurant with "Win Cash!" emblazoned on the front wall. The deal is as follows: every meal comes with an entry into a drawing for \$100. No information is given about when or how this drawing goes down, which makes it seem like a Mafia lottery or something, but since the restau has nothing to gain by deception, I have to assume the raffle occurs as it should. I filled out the little ticket that came with my check at the end of the meal and I'm expecting a call in good time.

Bedford likes Old Mill for breakfast and I would second that. I can't really fault a restaurant that posts on its Facebook page a picture of a cat flying through space on a piece of bacon. They even credit the image source. Good Guy Old Mill Cafe.

Funny thing: I wouldn't look to Old Mill for dinner—as I can only abide the classic American meat/potato/vegetable meal combo under special circumstances — but breakfast seems like a no-brainer. It's a great alternative to Perry's, for anyone who hates being on a wait. If you're into old-school cool, ironically or otherwise, you'll like the Old Mill Cafe. It's funny how the best breakfast is often the least innovative, most familiar cuisine imaginable. I guess I don't like to push my boundaries until after lunch. Of course, I only eat big, American breakfasts on days predestined for sliming around the house. There must be something to that.

Anyway, I tried some pancakes and they were spot-on. Big, fluffy pillows of sleep-inducing starchy goodness for \$5-\$6. That's all I want on a day when I've got not much else to do but loaf around the

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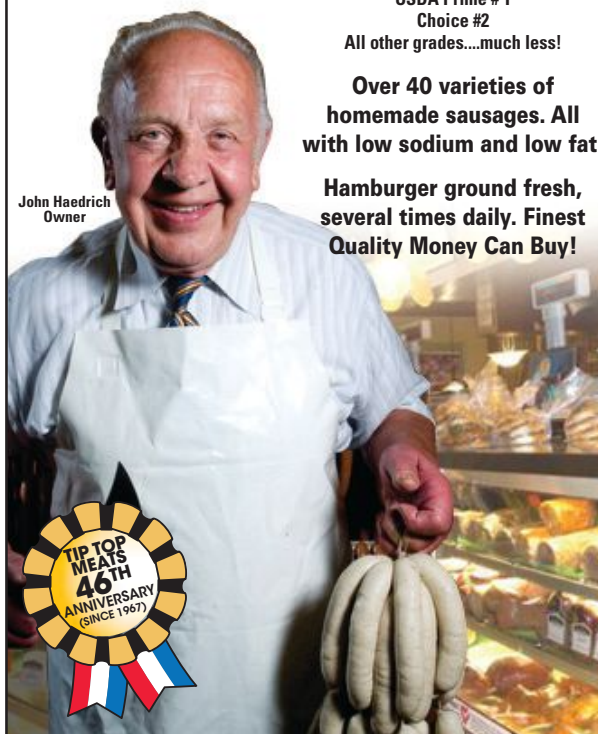
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house after stuffing my face. In particular, I'd recommend the sweet-potato version. A full stack is about all the food anyone could ever need. The "standard" pancakes are great, too. The rest of the menu looked pretty conventional (eggs, omelets, biscuits and gravy) and affordable. Beyond that, it's all about the chance at \$100.

by Ian Pike

Buck-a-shuck for oysters

At last: hope for the corner of Fourth and Broadway.

I was there Friday night around six, and the corner with the dark brick building looked different. You could see people eating. Through the window, at tables, a big island bar, a crowd of yuppie types, and a sign: "Spike Africa's."

Uh, didn't this use to be a Pay-less shoe store?

Whatever, it's refreshing to have a bright welcome to Horton Plaza, even while the big demolitions are going on across the road.

I head inside to the bar sec-

tion. It's buzzing with the end-of-week post-work crowd. Bit worried about costs here. They all look kinda prosperous.

And I see dishes like "Port Townsend Seafood Simmer," which sounds delicious, with scallops, clams, mussels, shrimp, fish all in there, but, uh...\$25.

Then I see the little stand-up menu on the counter. The saving words: "Happy Hour menu." "Spike's favorite hour," it says. Turns out Spike Africa was one of the legendary trading-schooler captains of the Pacific. This fish place kinda memorializes him.

So, drink deals, of course, but also food. "Fresh shucked oysters, \$1 each," it says, right up top.

"A shuck for a buck," says this guy surrounded by lots of women and lots of food. Kevin. Lawyer. Been a fan since this place opened three weeks ago. "Hey, that's good," he says. "Buck a shuck!"

Then the menu says you get half off all appetizers, in the "Under Way" section of the menu.

Now Kristin, behind the counter, is waiting for an order, and other customers are clamoring.

So I order the cheapest beer

(Bud Light, 20 ounces for \$4). Then hit the HH menu. Oh, man. There's a lot in here. I land on one, then two, then, daggone it, can't resist a third.

I go for the a mug of clam chowder (\$3 during happy hour), a "seaside oyster roast," which is a "Rockefeller-style" mess of oysters and lots of other stuff, for \$6 — oh, and that live buck-a-shuck oyster (\$1), too.

Have to say: I've hit pay dirt here.

For starters, that oyster... I have a choice of a Fanny Bay oyster from British Columbia or a Kumai, from Baja. Smaller but tastier, says Kristin. I go for size: Fanny Bay. Big, lush, and with a spritz of lemon and red cocktail sauce, delish.

Then that chowder. Man, it's a meal in itself. "Clams, king crab, scallions, Fanny Bay oysters, celery, onion, croutons, and heavy cream," says Kristin. "No wheat or roux. So it's not gloopy and glutinous like most chowders you get."

Really, it's one of the best I can remember. And filling.

But when the oyster roast turns up...four big shells filled with a mess of stuff that Kristin says includes smoked bacon, spinach, parmesan cheese, those Fanny bay oysters, heavy

cream, and Pernod, that lico-rice-flavored French liqueur... I mean, four of these for six bucks.

Totally scrumbulicious. And, for everything, I'm 15 bucks lighter. Plus, I come outta there bloated. Couldn't even finish my Bud Light.

Luckily, the bus stop's only half a block away.

Bottom line, gotta come again, try other dishes. I'll report back. 'Cause, hey, have we mentioned who Spike Africa was?

by Ed Bedford

Italian Street Food at Monello in Little Italy

Following in the footsteps of their Little Italy predecessors, when Bencotto Italian Kitchen owners (chef Fabrizio Cavallini, Valentina DiPietro, and Guido Nistri) were looking to open a new Italian restaurant, they did so right next door to their successful existing one. So it is that Monello: Italian Street Cuisine shares a wall with Bencotto in the Q building.

I've eaten my way across several regions in Italy (Florence in Tuscany, Rome in Lazio, Trevi and Perugia in Umbria, Venice in Veneto), but I have yet to make it to Milan in Lombardy.

My only experience with Italian street food was found in Venice, in the form of *cicchetti* bars, which are similar to the tapas bars in Spain. You tend to stand instead of sit, and order pre-made items by pointing at what you want behind the bar. In Italy happy hour, or *aperitivo* time, it is a laid-back, often several-hours-long stretch to sip cocktails, socialize, and enjoy shared plates. *Aperitivo* hour begins at around 5 p.m., and dinner is typically at 9 or 10 p.m. Apparently, Milan has been known as "the capital of *aperitivo*" since the early 1900s.

Our friends Mana and David made it to Monello before me and my David and invited us to return with them. I checked out the website in advance and read about the "secret 27-ingredient recipe for homemade vermouth." David (not mine, the other one) ordered a cocktail I'd never heard of, one that is *entirely* vermouth. I always thought of vermouth as nothing more than a mixer. The "rock twist" is sweet vermouth on ice with an orange twist. Though my friends urged me to order it, there was no way I could get anything but the "vecchio stile." It was bourbon based, and I'm on a bourbon kick. But it also

included chinato, a flavor I first sampled at Noble Experiment, in a drink prepared by the masterful cocktail king Anthony Schmidt. Unlike vermouth, which is flavored with wormwood, chinato's taste comes from China bark. I find it to be spicier and less bitter than even the sweetest vermouth.

David ordered the "corpse reviver," a classic cognac cocktail. This one featured slices of apple and sweet vermouth with the cognac.

With our drinks came complimentary seasoned lupini beans. They have a thicker outer casing that you bite to get to the nugget of soft bean inside. Seated at the table beside us was a familiar face — Mari Payton of NBC San Diego. After catching up a bit, I let her return to dinner with her friend, but not before making note of an interesting-looking dish on her table, which we ended up ordering.

The dish was a sliced flatbread wrap, similar to lavash, filled with arugula, parma prosciutto, and burrata. We enjoyed the flavors, but all agreed that even with four people, it's a filler-upper. We would have been happy to have shared half the amount given.

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Our server recommended the “panzerotti,” which are “lightly fried mini calzones.” Our friends agreed — they’d ordered this appetizer on their first visit. Here the portion issue was just the opposite of the wrap. We were four, and they served a plate with three of the little football-shaped goodies. I felt this was a failing on our server’s part, who could have easily requested an extra from the kitchen so that each of us could have one. Especially because they were so delicious, the two at our table who sacrificed a half were disappointed to not have a whole gyoza-sized piece to themselves.

Next to arrive was the polenta. Of white or yellow, we chose the latter, with the porcini mushroom and ricotta topping option (other toppings include sausage, gorgonzola cheese, and spicy tomato pork ribs). The flavor was spot-on — intense, pure porcini and salty breaded baked bits atop the fresh ricotta. The issue here had to do with texture — it wasn’t creamy, it was granular, and the top of the polenta had already formed a skin by the time it was set on the table. If you want an example of polenta done right, see: Cucina Urbana.

My favorite dish was up next: “piccante” pizza. They aren’t kidding when they say it’s spicy. For the first time I can remember, I did not add red pepper flakes (though they were offered, along with salt and oregano, which I did add). Even better than the pleasant burn was the source of the burn — a thinly sliced salami.

The last savory to hit the table was “cacio e pepe.” Unlike the best version of this dish, which we tasted at Lupa in New York, the pepper here was finely ground and barely detectable, as it was dusted on top instead of coarsely ground and spread throughout. It was pleasant enough, but more in a “mac ’n’ cheese” way than the simple but surprisingly exciting cacio e pepe of another time in another city. As for the pasta itself, it was excellent — housemade, not overcooked, and flavorful enough to stand on its own.

My dessert was the only thing I wouldn’t share — the home-made gelato was among the best I’ve tasted. I had a bite of the vanilla-custard-filled roasted pine-nut tart, which was also delectable, but I let the others share that, mostly as an excuse to hoard my pistachio and chocolate scoops.

As there were many items (meats, cheeses, and so much

more) that we didn’t get to sample on our first visit, David and I vowed to return soon for a deeper exploration of the flavors of Milan.

by Barbarella Fokos

Barrio Logan’s new star

They say it has been 21 years coming. But the Mercado apartments are open, its supermarket is open, and now its first restaurant is open. Cocina Doña Tina sits on the corner of the food section of the Northgate Gonzalez supermarket (an L.A.-based chain) at 1950 Main Street.

It opened on a lucky day: 12/12/12. But I’ve just noticed it today. I stop in on my way down to the Barrio Logan trolley stop.

It has a good-looking patio in a plaza with fountains and trees, right under the bridge. Inside, it’s kinda like an eatery you’d find in, say, Kmart until you get close up and personal with the food. Man! It goes on forever — steaming chafing dishes with everything from ceviche to chicharron to pork stews. Just how rich the Mexican food tradition is kinda hits you in the eye. Plus, everything’s in Spanish, everyone’s speaking Spanish. No question: this is by the Barrio for the Barrio.

But Diana helps me out in English when I stutter a little. I ask for an al pastor taco (pork) on a corn tortilla. Costs \$1.99, \$2.15 with tax. Take it to a huge condiment display and lad up with chopped onions, cilantro, couple of salsas, and take it out to eat.

Hey, this terraza is cool. You’d never know it had been an open field beside Chuey’s, the bar-eatery that was a landmark in this area for decades.

And the al pastor taco? Hot, deeply rich in flavor. I have it down in five minutes. Not quicker, because the flavors are so strong, you can’t hurry it. Man, this is good. May be competition for Las Cuatro Milpas, a block away.

And with the whole, like, encyclopedia of Mexican food waiting to be tasted in there, I’m coming back.

by Ed Bedford

High expectations for Gang Kitchen

Gang Kitchen was hyped and hyped, and then hyped a little more in the months leading up to its opening. But, hey, it’s been open for a little while now and my curiosity was up, so I



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stopped by for a weekend dinner to garner some first impressions.

At first glance, it looked fabulous in there. The big, open, warehousey thing has been done to absolute death, but Gang Kitchen's decor is sufficiently warm and smart that it doesn't feel like eating in an airport hangar. True, there's lots of black stone employed, ostensibly in an attempt at edginess, but the end result is that it just looks good in there. It's hip and cool but still a restaurant, not a thinly veiled club.

With an obvious amount of ambition behind the scenes, I infer that Gang Kitchen thinks itself more high concept than it really is. An almost patronizing attempt by the staff to "explain"

the complexity of the menu could have been reduced to, "we serve the entrées family-style." I may look like a ratty, little punk sometimes, but even a dining noob could fumble through Gang's exotic theme.

I give props, however, for including flavors *other* than Japanese in an upscale, Asian-fusion joint.

As things go, the food wasn't as "inspired" as they'd have you believe. Fried spring rolls (\$8) were filled with an indistinguishable mix of peanuts and chicken. Their saving grace was the use of Chinese hot mustard in the sweet and spicy dipping sauce. Feared by cooks and diners alike, hot mustard can be bomb when used correctly.

Spicy tuna (\$9) might have been pilfered from the sushi rolls at ABC Sushi 123, or wherever. The crispy rice cakes had a cool texture, albeit a touch gummy in the middle, and the small allotment of fresh wasabi (the same stuff I've been keeping an eye out for) increased my opinion of the dish slightly. Overall, the verdict was that both apps were somewhat pedestrian, but also tasty.

Main dishes included pad thai (twice!), panang curry, fried whole fish, and what looked like a version of Korean *bibimbap*

with shrimp and mushrooms. If you're getting meat, entrée prices are \$20 and up. C'est la vie. At least they're big. I ordered some roast duck, cooked *siu mei* style, served with some *excellent* scallion pancakes, sake-infused fruit, and a very salty, astoundingly savory vinegar sauce. It was a great dish, maybe a tad salty, but big enough to share (especially with an order of fried rice on the side) and fun to eat. It's hard to say whether Gang's duck is 250 percent better than the same thing from a hole-in-the-wall Chinese BBQ, and that's the rub for Gang Kitchen. Asking me to drop \$100 on dinner and drinks for two is risky business without truly delighting me at least once or twice during the meal. If the cuisine lived up to the ambiance, Gang could be a favorite place.

Gang Kitchen, 345 Sixth Avenue.

by Ian Pike

Shkoffing pizza Chicago style

I will shamelessly admit that every time I go to the Little Italy Mercato, I snag a sample of Berkeley Pizza. They are there every Saturday morning, selling take-and-bake pies and giving

out bites to taste. There's always a line, and they usually sell out fairly quickly.

They also have a dine-in shop on Island Avenue, between Fifth and Sixth, a tiny, cozy place where you can grab a slice and a beer or go whole hog and order a custom pizza. A quick caveat: each whole pizza is made to order, and they are thick, so it takes about an hour to put together and bake. Better to call ahead.

They also have a pretty darn good special — two slices and a drink for \$8, or a beer for \$10, dine-in only.

I like ordering slices of Chicago pizza rather than a whole pie because I think it tastes better that way. Sort of like when a roast chicken sits and rests for awhile, the flavors seem to blend a bit. Also, it's quicker, meaning I burn my mouth less often on screaming hot cheese because I'm too hungry to wait another second.

Today, I went with a pepperoni and a spinach mushroom, their signature pie, while John got sausage and pesto garlic. There's a small but good selection of beer on tap to choose from.

Berkeley's Chicago deep dish gets its thickness from fillings,

sauce, and cheese, rather than a fluffy, breadly crust. It leans a bit in the pastry crust direction instead, crispy and buttery. Sliced mozzarella is layered directly on the crust, then the toppings, more cheese, and finally the sauce and a shower of parmesan. Occasionally the order changes slightly; like most places, they put the pepperoni on top of the sauce so that it crisps and browns. A deviation I'm fully in favor of, because who doesn't love it when the pepperoni is nice and crunchy?

I'd like to pretend that I was dainty and used the knife and fork provided, but I wasn't. I just picked it up and munched away. Great crust, gooey melted mozzarella, fresh, quality toppings, and a bright, tangy-sweet, herby sauce. No leftovers.

Berkeley Pizza also has take-out and delivers to downtown and a few adjacent areas.

Berkeley Pizza, 539 Island Avenue.

by Mary Beth Abate

Nose to the phos at Pho Xpress

The thing about the Vietnamese soup-meal pho is, the more you slurp it down, the better it gets. The more concentrated, the more flavorful.

That's my tragedy tonight. In a rush. Ten minutes before the trolley. Won't have time

to parlay this pho into its full pho-tential...

Of course, that's why I came here. Vietnamese places are always *muy rápido* when it comes to food; plus, these guys have a name to live up to, right?

This is Pho Xpress, 1125 Sixth Avenue, downtown, 619-9333.

It's in the part of town when the biz community has half an hour for lunch and they've gotta be outta here. So I guess they're used to folks like me.

I come in about eight at night.

Still quite a few people in here (they close at nine). All seem to be heads down, nose into phos. I was going to have a banh-mi, the Vietnamese-French sandwich.

But at the last minute I crack and ask the lady for a pho (#18, the house's own Xpress Combination, \$6.75 for the small, which I get; the large is \$7.50) and a #12 sandwich, the pork (\$4), to take home to Carla.

Phong Bach brings my pho out within a couple of minutes, steaming.

Plus the side plate of a branch of real mint leaves (I guess, or is it Thai basil?), lime, and bean sprouts.

So I get some red Sriracha sauce, and then some dark brown, sweet oyster sauce, stir them into the little bowl you get, then rip off the mint leaves.

So, spoon in left hand, chopsticks in right, I have at it. Couple of spoon slurps, the chop-

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stick attack, picking out the beef flank, the brisket, the tripe, the rare and well-done steak slices, and ending the cycle with a heavy lift of the rice noodles.

Thing I like is, here, it's okay to hurry, leaning into your dish is okay, slurping is positively admired.

Turns out Phong is from 30 clicks south of Saigon. Says his name means "white wind." Oh, yeah. Phong, as in "phoon," as in typhoon (mighty wind). Says the dish was originally called "pho bac," soup of the north. But that adding the raw veggies is a southern thing.

I eat, talk, admire the Vietnamese art on the walls.

And then — oops! Time's up. Trolley and Carla call: gotta go. All that soup! Final slurp, pick up sandwich, make private oath to come back and do this properly.

PS: Carla gives in to my drooling back at the ranch. Flavor of her banh mi: nice grilled pork flavor, made more tart by bits of pickled daikon, and sweeter by the carrot sticks, plus cucumber, onion, and cilantro. Love it. Even though it's a mix of east and west, there's something distinctively Vietnamese about the taste.

But really, my heart goes back to that soup-meal that's good for breakfast, lunch, or, in my case, dinner on the run.

by Ed Bedford

search for a guy who sells photo journals, when the unmistakable scent of fresh donuts wafted my way.

Could it be? Yes! It was! Freshly fried, miniature donuts for sale at the market; 15 of them for \$5. That's a bit on the expensive side, but it's not every day that I get a pouch of piping hot donettes covered in cinnamon sugar, perfect for taking down to the seaside and watching the waves roll in.

The coolest part was the machine. The Lil' Orbits donut maker is fully automated and individually shapes, fries, and scoops up the finished donuts by way of a mesh conveyor belt and hot fry oil. How cool is that? It's like a miniature Krispy Kreme assembly line, portable and wonderful and probably dangerous in tippy situations. It reminded me of the Cornballer from *Arrested Development*.

I did a little research on the company and it turns out the donut makers are manufactured here in the states, which is cool. It's not a franchising opportunity or anything like that, although the company does provide bags for selling the donuts in. They're emblazoned with the logo, the phrase "worldwide donuts: over 12 billion served!" and a copyright date from 1994.

I think I'm in love.

by Ian Pike

Whisknadle (1044 Wall Street, La Jolla). He explained it was the name of a New York supper society and how he wanted the same brand of thought-provoking cuisine and inviting foodie atmosphere at his then brand-new eatery. He was so into the supper-club thing that, when I mentioned to him I was cobbling together my own group of experimental gastronomes, he asked if he could join.

My supper club wouldn't become a reality until 2010. By then, Kassel was too busy running — not one, but *two* highly patronized restaurants, so he couldn't participate. Whisknadle, originally greeted by critics and other industry folks with a moniker-inspired question mark, was drawing exclamation points from patrons who made the fast fave successful enough to breed a spin-off, the sort-of casual, dine-in or take-out PrepKitchen.

The PrepKitchen concept has since spread from a tiny nook in the Jewel to larger locations in Del Mar and Little Italy. Over the span of that growth, WNL has remained in the upper echelon among other San Diego eateries. Today, Kassel shares local resto mogul status with the likes of Tafazoli, Stanton, Malarkey, Brennan, Borkum, and Blair. Only the habitually prolific likes of the Cohns look down on him.

Five years, it seems, is a good time to take a step back and appreciate the steady rise from the foot of the mountain. In doing so, Kassel held a special family-style anniversary dinner at Whisknadle on February 8.

by Brandon Hernández

Ocean Beach mini-donuts

I was minding my own business, waltzing through the Ocean Beach Farmers' Market (Wednesdays from 4-7 on Newport Avenue) in a vain

A successful half-decade

It was 2008, but I remember it clearly, sharing a table with young restaurateur Arturo Kassel and discussing the origins of the name for his farm-to-table

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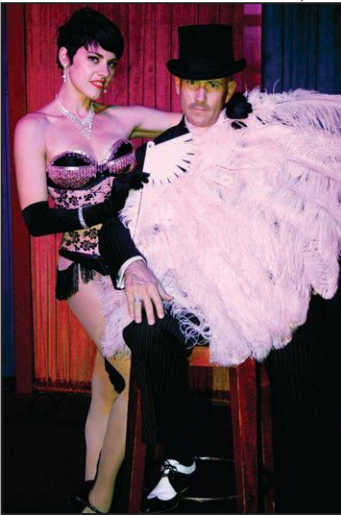
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Underground burlesque. “This is a great way for women to showcase their talents other than just their body. But it’s nice to see their body, too.” David Patrone has been supporting himself as a singer/promoter ever since

vocalist alongside the talented dancers and singers who populate San Diego’s thriving burlesque/cabaret scene. “It can get a little off-color, but no one ever gets fully naked,” says Patrone. Once a month, he and his burlesque den mother, Lola Demure,

the inside track blurt

he left the Marines as a Camp Pendleton-based staff sergeant in 2000. He started as a Frank Sinatra salute



Patrone provides the band, Lola provides the girls

playing for casinos, weddings, and corporate gigs. Now he’s discovering the rewards of singing as a bebop jazz

host a Sunday-night revue at Jimmy Love’s downtown. “In burlesque, the main focal point is striptease,” explains Demure. “With cabaret, it’s more like a Broadway show, where the emphasis is on singing, dancing, and comedy.” The pair use both cabaret and burlesque at Jimmy Love’s. Patrone provides the live band. Lola provides the girls. “Most burlesque performers dance to canned music,” says Patrone. “I want to bring back the essence of burlesque, where you dance to a live band. I want to bring back the authenticity.” Demure, a former ballet dancer, says there is a thriving underground burlesque scene in San Diego. “You have Hell

on Heels and Drop Dead Dames. There’s also Keyhole Cabaret.” Patrone explains the difference: “If they come up onstage and wear a Victorian corset and sing, that’s cabaret. If they take off the corset, then it’s burlesque.”

Though Patrone entertains at the La Valencia Hotel in La Jolla 6–9 p.m. every Friday and at Jimmy Love’s every Sunday from 8 to midnight, he says he moved to Nevada over a year ago.

“I live in Stateline, Nevada, near South Lake Tahoe. I like the Nevada political climate better. I don’t like what’s happening in California.

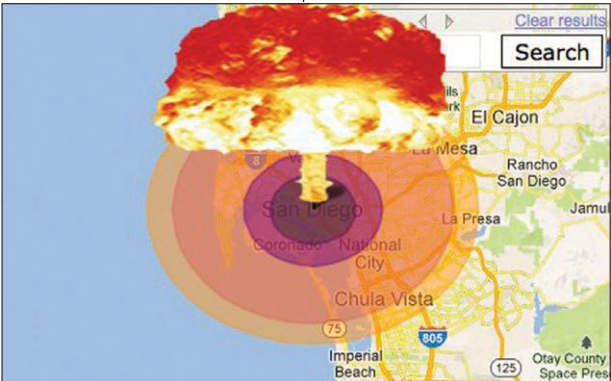
“There are an awful lot of taxes and regulations in California. If you book talent in California, you have to pay for a \$50,000 bond just to get a license...”

Patrone says he still plays his weekend gigs in San Diego because it helps him get wedding and corporate gigs. “But I am considering making a complete move out of San Diego. If it rains or if the temperature falls below 55 degrees, you got crickets. The streets are empty except for the tourists.”

— Ken Leighton

Is San Diego bait? “It is no secret that San Diego is a military target,” writes vox/guitarist Bobby Bray of skronky-math-lounge duo Innerds (members of Sleeping People,

the Locust, Holy Molar). Bray cites a handful of reasons for this, including the headquarters of General Atom-ics (the company behind the



Bobby Bray: “So begins the pre-postapocalyptic genre.”

infamous Predator drone), the largest naval base on the West Coast, the home port of the USS *Karl Vinson* (the ship that discarded Osama Bin Laden’s body into the ocean), and proximity to the border.

“As U.S. drones continually strike Pakistan (a nuclear-armed nation), does the likelihood of something like an atomic bomb going off in a city like San Diego increase? Is San Diego purposeful bait?” Bray asks.

“At this point the American collective consciousness has acclimated to postapocalyptic imagery. It has pretty much come to a point where the term ‘postapocalyptic’ no longer requires a hyphen. So begins the pre-postapocalyptic genre.”

As a social experiment and exploration of pre-postapoc-alypticism, Innerds will be

kicking off their mini-tour at the Greek Sombrero (12891 Campo Road) in Jamul, to be followed by dates in fringe locales such as El Centro, Slab

City, Julian, Ramona, and Idyllwild.

“This show is the first in a series that aims to reexam-ine our physical place in the world. Depending on the strength of a nuclear detona-tion in San Diego, certain areas on the outskirts of the city would survive, such as Jamul. For this reason, the unlikely location of the Greek Sombrero was chosen as the venue for this show — perhaps the only place to see a local show in the future!”

The free show on Satur-day, February 23, features the face-melting polyrhythms and falsetto yawps of Innerds, no-wave post-punk hijinks at the behest of Batwings, and schizophrenic avant-doom jazz passages by California Bleeding.

— Chad Deal

Funeral ganja. “Play-ers Inc. started in Boston, when all the touring musi-cians would get home from their main gigs,” says Slightly Stoopid trumpeter/keyboardist Christofer “C-Money” Welter of his current side band. “It was a chance for the musicians who often back singer-song-writers to open up musi-cally and keep our chops sharp while off the road. The music is open, but with the form of dub, hip-hop, and R&B in a sexy, mature, deep-thinking kind of way.”


C-Money’s main band, O.B. ska-punks Slightly Stoopid, played their first paid gig at Soma in 1994 and were signed to Sublime singer Bradley Nowell’s Skunk Records label the following year, while founders Miles Doughty and Kyle McDonald were still attending Point Loma High School. C-Money was added to the roster in 2006, having met the band near the end of his eight-year run with Boston-based John Brown’s Body and relocating to Ocean Beach, which he still calls home.

“Being in Stoopid took me to a whole other level. We’ve played Australia, Japan, Guam, Amsterdam, Portugal, Denmark, the U.K., Germany, Holland...we even sold out Red Rocks [in Colorado].” Their *Top of the World* album, released last August, took them to number 13 on the *Billboard* Top 200 chart, as well

(continued on page 68)


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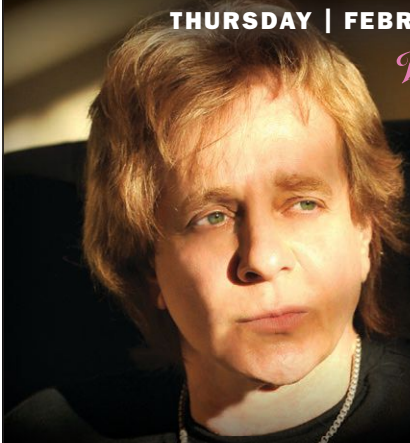
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as earning them an appearance on *Jimmy Kimmel Live*.

Players Inc. appears at Winstons in O.B. on Friday, March 1, while Slightly Stoopid will team up with Cypress Hill to stage "420 Hot Box" on April 20 at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, celebrating Colorado's legalization of marijuana.

It's a topic C-Money feels strongly about. "We need to amend the Constitution of the United States to legalize marijuana, so we can focus on

real problems and generate much-needed money for our economy." In fact, there's only one topic that he'll forbid people to discuss at his funeral. "That ganja smoking is bad!" — Jay Allen Sanford



Not just Slightly Stoopid, horn player has his own thing

returned to afternoons on oldies station Walrus 105.7. Robbin started in 1969 as a nighttime jock on Boss Radio 136 KGB, when everyone listened to music on AM radio.

Brother Walrus.

Rich "Brother" Robbin returned to the airwaves last week, spanning six decades of spinning the hits in San Diego. He

daily blogs

Brazilian Jazz Festival at the new Dizzy's, Feb. 17

By Robert Bush — Feb. 11, 7:55 a.m.

Joshua White & David Borgo live at Villa Musica

By Robert Bush — Feb. 10, 7:16 p.m.

Baja Prog festival returns to Mexicali

By Chad Deal — Feb. 10, 6:13 p.m.

Retox West Coast tour with Tomahawk

By Chad Deal — Feb. 10, 2:45 p.m.

Author & Punisher sets off on U.S. tour

By Chad Deal — Feb. 8, 2:35 p.m.

Talking with an overnight success: Peter Marin

By Dave Good — Feb. 6, 3:30 p.m.

Ruff Draft 2: Art and music inspired by hip hop legend J Dilla

By Chad Deal — Feb. 5, 7:34 p.m.

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Robbin moved to KCBQ in 1971 and became program director there in 1973. He is lauded as San Diego's most successful rock-radio figure — San Diego's current top-rated station, KSON, has a 6.0 rating; Robbin's 1973 KCBQ once ruled local airwaves with a 13.4, dominated by his rapid-fire delivery and upbeat tunes.

Robbin's first radio gig was as a 14-year-old intern in 1958 at WCCO, Minneapolis. "They still had live-music shows and they would play an occasional 78 RPM record." He launched a backyard pirate-radio station in 1960 in high school. His first commercial radio gig was 1963, where he spun Top 40 hits from seven-inch 45 RPM records at a station in Redwing, Minnesota. After an Armed Forces Radio Vietnam war stint in Saigon, where he played the hits (think *Good*

Morning, Vietnam), Robbin returned to the U.S. and climbed the radio food chain to rock station KGB in the summer of '69.

As a programmer, Robbin broke his share of hits: "There was 'Wedding Bell Blues' and 'Proud Mary,' by Ike and Tina Turner. Then there is the one I never talk about: Marie Osmond's 'Paper Roses,' which went on to reach number five on *Billboard's* Top 100."

And at KCBQ, Robbin witnessed music history: "My boss accidentally played the flip side of Rod Stewart's 'Reason to Believe.' It was 'Maggie May.' We played

it every hour for two days straight.... Because of KCBQ, 'Maggie May' went on to become the second biggest single of 1971."

After stints in other cities, Robbin came back to the

local airwaves in 1992, to the now-defunct oldies station KBEST-95. He left the airwaves in 2001 and started voice-tracking his DJ shifts via digital download to other markets.

When he realized that oldies radio was ignoring certain hits from the '50s and '60s, Robbin launched his own internet oldies station, richbroradio.com, from his Ocean Beach home in 2007. "We'll play 60 to 70 Beatles hits and 30 to 40 Beach Boys hits you just won't hear on the

radio.... So, there I was, living the good life in Ocean Beach," Robbin tells the *Reader*, "with the website and my old cars, and along came the Walrus with an offer I couldn't refuse."

Whether Robbin gets to play more Seeds and Standells and less Eagles and Michael Jackson remains to be seen. But he and everyone else in terrestrial radio still must compete with Pandora and SiriusXM.

"Radio adds personality and a level of in-your-face excitement that you just can't get from Pandora. It sure is a hell of a lot more interesting than listening to one song after another on your iPod."

— Ken Leighton

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CONTRIBUTORS

Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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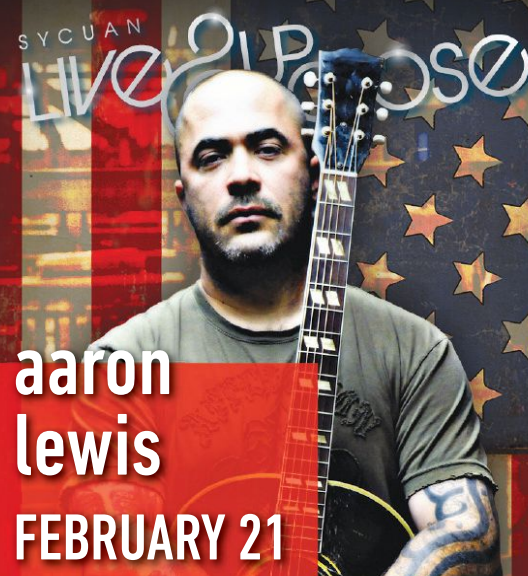
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This Week In Music

Thursday 14

Happy Valentine's Day, Crawler followers, Cupid's got a quiver full of shows tonight, so read real quik and see what sticks: Brooklyn-based "art-rock installation paratroopers" **Japanther**'s at the Soda Bar with like-minded locals (read loud and fast) **Marsupials** and **Kodiak**...nu-metal 'Zonies **Soul-**



JAPANTER AT SODA BAR

fly will crank it at Brick by Brick with **Incite** and **Lody Kong**...Round the bend, L.A.'s orchestral-rock act **Red Paintings** follows blues-bent San Diego band **Stone Horse** into the Griffin...Shake-down stages a St. Valentine's Day Metal Massacre with Hollywood's absolute heaviest, **Desecrate**...Bay Area hip-hop and pop player Ricky Reed, aka **Wallpaper**, hangs at Casbah with kooky ketarist **Con Bro Chill** and our own cats 'n' jammers **Lion Cut**...fuzz-rock faves **Schitzophonics** plug in at Tin Can Ale House after **Aotearoa** and **Badabing**...while northa town, Swedish garage punks the **Hives** have sold out their show at Belly Up...but **Eddie Money**, at Ramona Mainstage, has still got two tickets to...well, you know.

Friday 15

For this year's **Beta Love**, New York indie-rock act **Ra Ra Riot** ditched strings and chamber-pop for more electronic means to move your feet — synths, keys, machine-gun beats. I have not listened to the disc, but consensus seems to be that the band has left *The Rhumb Line* permanent-like, with the departure of founding member/cellist Alexandra Lawn, and is in search of a more upbeat identity. See



RA RA RIOT AT BELLY UP

how it's going when the quintet gets to Belly Up Friday night after L.A. indie-pop act **Pacific Air**.... Dave Good wrote an of notable Of Note on the **Mouse on Mars** show at Soda Bar, so flip or click to that for the electrophat. **Xover**, **9 Theory**, and the **Illuminants** open the show.... Best of the rest: San Diego blues slinger **Nathan James** will bring his homemade washboard guitars and **Trio** to Bar Pink...while indie-rockers **Transfer**, **Nervous Wreckords**, **Palace Ballroom**, and **Boy King** fill a locals-only bill at Casbah.

Saturday 16

Son of ten-time Grammy winner Carlos, **Salvador Santana**, headlines sets by **Reed Street Sessions**, **Soul Water**, and **Todo Mundo** at the Griffin. Salvador's a Bay Area-based pianist/singer with a spoken-word approach and Dad's Latin-jazz ear. For his debut, *Keyboard City*, the 20-year-old enlisted the help of heroes Money Mark (Beasties), GZA (Wu-Tang),



SALVADOR SANTANA AT THE GRIFFIN

well-received *Advaitic Songs*. On their fifth studio record, the SanFran band "reinvents Arabic music as monolithic, drone-heavy rock...emulating the sound of Tibetan chants, with deep, droning bass underlying sparse, repetitive melodies." With Sun City Girls' experimental guitarist **Richard Bishop** and like-minded locals **ANA** setting the stage, these will be heady sets.... Else: NYC scuzz-rock duo **Blues Control** is touring behind their Drag City debut, *Valley Tangents*, and will turn up at the Void (née Eleven) after Chula Vista goth-pop purveyors **Infinity Dots**. **DJ Matt Bahamas** (Heavy Hawaii) spins 'round sets...right down the street at Soda Bar, folk-rock combo **Heavy Guilt** takes the stage after **Young Empress** and **Michael McGraw & the Butchers**. Go wish Guilt percussion player Al

Howard a happy (*shh...35th*) birthday, and get him one while you're at it...and from Hollyweird, Wild Records recording artists the **Rhythm Shakers** will bring their brand of '50s style sock-hop 'n' rock to Til-Two after **SD Avenues**.

Sunday 17

CityBeat scribe Ed Decker will get his "Sordid Tales" podcast off the ground at O.B. rock spot **Winstons** on Sunday, starting at 4:30p. The event includes the bar-poet laureate's musical cohorts **Mojo Nixon** and **Jeff Berkley**, special guests **Steve Poltz** and **Pony Death Ride**, comedy by **Jesse Egan** and **Lauren O'Brien** ("L.O.B." of *The Mikey Show*), and commentary from "the world's only quasireasonable conservative," David Patrone, who, by pure happenstance, is featured in this week's *Blurt*, if you want to flip or click there for more on him. Sounds like an afternoon primed to pull an afterhours.... Otherwise: *Oi!* London punk perennials **Cockney Rejects** take the stage at Brick by Brick after **Youth Brigade**, **Rat City Riot**, and the **Widows** for one hella punk-rawk show at the Bay Park bar...creative jazz saxophonist **Brandon Primus** will be at 98 Bottles in Little Italy...Oakland hardcore hits the **Reivers** play Ché Café with animal bands **Dog Teeth**, **Fed to the Wolves**, and **Pig Life**...while a little farther up the 5, Sactown hip-hop duo **Blackali-cious** rocks the mic at Belly Up behind **Chali 2na** of Jurassic 5.



COCKNEY REJECTS AT BRICK BY BRICK

Monday 18

Keeping Mondays cathartic, Daydream Nation and the Griffin present loud-ass locals **Retox**, **Secret Fun Club**, **Wha?**, and **Ghetto Blaster**. Retox is another joint by spazzcore stalwart Justin Pearson, a "noise-meets-punk four-piece borne from some grand blankety blanking accomplishments," acts such as the Locust, Head Wound City, Holy Molar, All Leather, Some Girls, Swing Kids, Le Butcherettes, and Cattle Decapitation. They got a record out on Ipecac (*Ugly Animals*) that *absolutepunk.net* complained is too short. That's good, right?... Miss the door to that, them psych-rocking Swedes **Graveyard** will bury the Casbah after L.A.'s primitive blasters the **Shrine**. Either way, plug 'em up, peeps. Tinnitus sucks.

Tuesday 19

SD goth groupies Klub Therapy present **Velvet Acid Christ** at Brick by Brick. VAC is electro-industrialist Bryan Erickson, a Denver-based artist who made his name in Europe's underground club scene in the '90s. He's got a new disc due called *Mauvais*, which a clever Wikiographer called "trippy dance sci-fi industrial." **Twilight Garden** and **Squirrelly Arts** up first, and Therapy DJ **Bryan Pollard** mans the decks between sets.... Not so much? San Diego indie-pop band **Oliver Trolley** rolls into the Griffin as this month's Tuesday rez. This week **Short Eyes** sets the stage...while a rockabilly band from Malaga, Spain, the **Beerbellies**, jiggle into Tower Bar after **Poppin' Firecrackers**.

Wednesday 20

Brooklyn-based folk-punk duo **Buke & Gase** plays Casbah with their bastardized instruments, the baritone-uke and guitar-bass. The boy-girl band is signed to Brassland Records, whose one-sheet calls them "post-proto-punk hyper-power minimal prog-folk with no-wave undertones." Gah. The NPR-approved group is out to tout this year's very well received record *General Dome*, which I'm listening to as I type, and I gotta tell ya...club-tronica cat **Birdzilla** lands at Tin Can Ale House after comical rapper **Grammatical B**...and funky soul bruthas **Stevie & the High Stax** will shake tha junk from your trunk at Bar Pink.



BUKE & GASE AT CASBAH

— Barnaby Monk

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Thursday Feb 14, 11:30am • \$10
Bourbon Street Affair
BSA Luncheon

Saturday, March 2, 8pm • \$12
Radical Something

Sunday, March 3, 8pm • \$15
Starfucker Blackbird

Friday, March 8, 8pm • \$15
G-Eazy Must Be Nice Tour

Sunday March 10, 8pm
5 & A Dime

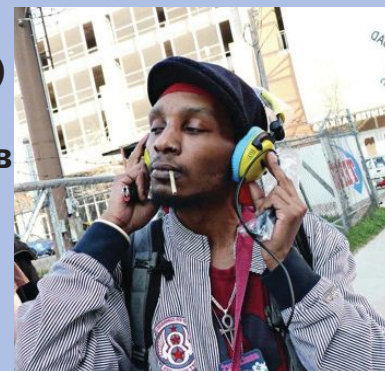
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TRISTAN PRETTYMAN,
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Blackalicious
CHALI 2NA
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W/ JON PEBSWORTH OF BUCK O' NINE
& JEFF AND JESSE OF THE TILT
SATURDAY 2/23 • 9 PM

RECKLESS KELLY
W/ MICKY AND THE MOTORCARS
SUNDAY 2/24 • 8 PM

AN EVENING WITH
THE RESIDENTS
TUESDAY 2/26 • 9 PM

GALACTIC
FEAT. COREY GLOVER OF
LIVING COLOUR
W/ LATYRX FEAT. LYRICS BORN &
LATEEF THE TRUTHSPEAKER
WEDNESDAY 2/27 • 9 PM

THE WHITE BUFFALO
W/ TERRAPLANE SUN
THURSDAY 2/28 • 9 PM

RYAN BINGHAM
W/ HONEYHONEY
FRIDAY 3/1 • 9 PM

Just Added: 3/5 North Shore (formerly The Short Eyes)
4/6 One Drop • 4/12 The Spazmatics
5/12 The Milk Carton Kids - seated show - on sale Friday!
5/22 Twin Shadow

Upcoming Shows:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3/2 Super Diamond | 3/21 An Evening with Kenny Rogers | 4/19 An Evening w/ Queensryche starring Geoff Tate |
| 3/3 David Lindley w/ Carrie Rodriguez - seated show! | 3/22 Bob Schneider | 4/20 40oz to Freedom |
| 3/6 Mickey Hart Band | 3/23 Atomic Punks | 4/21 The Revival Tour feat. Tim McIlrath of Rise Against, Chuck Ragan of Hot Water Music |
| 3/7 Toad the Wet Sprocket | 3/24 An Evening with Gordon Lightfoot | 4/26 Transfer w/ Dead Feather Moon |
| 3/8 Olukai Presents Anuhea Spring Tour 2013 - presented by Polynesian Underground | 3/25 The Mavericks | 4/27 An Acoustic Evening with Medeski, Martin, & Wood |
| 3/9 Common Sense | 3/28 Polish Ambassador and Papadosio | 5/6 Bonobo |
| 3/11 An Evening with Willie K | 3/29 Living Colour | 5/18 Wayward Sons |
| 3/12 Frightened Rabbit | 3/30 Who's Bad | 5/19 The Black Angels |
| 3/13 One More Time - A tribute to Daft Punk | 4/3 Dark Star Orchestra | 5/21 Presidents of the United States of America performing their classic self-titled album - FM 94.9 presents |
| 3/14 Conspirator | 4/4 Soul Asylum | 5/23 & 24 Katchafire |
| 3/15 Stepping Feet - Dave Matthews Experience | 4/5 An Evening with Big Head Todd & the Monsters | 5/25 Cold War Kids - SOLD OUT!!! |
| 3/16 Karl Denson's Tiny Universe | 4/7 Eddie Jobson Four Decades Tour and Master Class w/ Marc Bonilla, Alex Machacek, Billy Sherwood, Virgil Donati | 6/16 They Might Be Giants |
| 3/17 Emancipator | 4/10 Merle Haggard | |
| 3/18 Josh Ritter | 4/13 Wild Child | |
| 3/19 The Joy Formidable | 4/14 Lucero | |
| 3/20 Pimps of Joy Time and Vokab Company | | |

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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

710 Beach Club:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Rock Out Karaoke.
Tuesday, 9pm — PB-OKE Karaoke.
Wednesday, 9pm — Open Mic Open Jam.

98 Bottles:
Thursday, 7pm, Thursday, 9:15pm — Jazz Valentine.
Friday, 8pm — The Peripherals and Julia May & the Penguins.
Free.
Sunday, 7pm — Brandon Primus. \$10-\$15.

AMSDconcerts:
Friday, 7:30pm — Ellis Paul.
Saturday, 7:30pm — John Gorka.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Guy Davis.

Across the Street at Mueller College:
Friday — Carlos Olmeda.

ArtLab:
Wednesday, 8pm — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay & Billy Watson. **Free.**

Bar Pink:
Thursday, 9pm — J. Blow, Daeta, the Fresh Yard, Premiere Fits.
Friday, 9pm — Nathan James Trio.
Saturday, 9pm — Neon Beat.
Sunday, 9pm — Happy Endings.
Monday, 9pm — The Husky Boy

All-Stars.
Tuesday, 9pm — Adrian Demain's Exoticatronica.
Wednesday, 9pm — Stevie & the Hi-Stax.

Bay Hill Tavern:
Friday, 8:30pm — The Drinking Cowboy Band. **Free.**

Belly Up:
Thursday, 8pm — The Hives.
Friday, 9pm — Ra Ra Riot. \$20-\$22.
Saturday, 9pm — Steve Poltz's Annual 50th B-Day Party. \$25-\$27.
Sunday, 9pm — Blackalicious and Chali 2na.
Tuesday, 7pm — Reeform. \$5-\$15.
Wednesday, 9pm — B.B. King. \$99-\$104.

Belo:
Saturday — Tyga.
Sunday, 9pm — Juicy J.

Boar Cross'n:
Thursday, 9pm — Taken By Canadians and Goodnight Ravenswood. \$5.
Friday, 9pm — Club Musae.
Saturday — Hi Roots.

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 8pm — Soulfly, Incite, Lody Kong.
Friday, 8pm — T. Irie Dread, the Amalgamated, Soul Ablaze. \$5.
Saturday, 7pm — Madman and Rattz. \$10-\$12.
Sunday, 8pm — Cockney Rejects and Youth Brigade. \$18-\$20.
Tuesday, 8pm — Velvet Acid Christ, the Twilight Garden, Squirrelly Arts.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — SD Music TV Open Mic. **Free.**

NOTE
BY DAVE GOOD

Does anybody remember Sparks? The brothers Mael launched that band in Los Angeles during the early 1970s, and while I don't think they ever had what could be described as a big following, the memory lingers. They made strange electronica and disco and rock with lyrics that were intelligent, funny, and vaguely disturbing. It was hard to know exactly what to make of Sparks, but by the end of a day, their songs had some dance-floor whump to them.
I'm reminded of Sparks whenever I listen to Mouse on Mars: same comedy, cliché-bashing, and approach to the making of disco-ish songs that feel as if they are sucking a listener down through an aural tube and into a weird new

space. That Mouse on Mars can do that better than their predecessors has got to be due in part to the extraordinary advances in technology made during the 20 years following Sparks. Otherwise, that's pretty much all that separates the bands: two decades and a continent, give or take.
Ron and Russell Mael bear no resemblance to each other but are indeed brothers. Jan St. Werner and Andi Toma, from Germany, are not brothers but claimed once to have been born on the same day in the same hospital. Like Sparks, the Deutsch laptop artists seem to have an eccentric sexual fixation. Russell Sparks dressed glam crossover and literally sang in a woman's falsetto; Mouse on Mars' first disc is titled *Vulvaland* and the video put little mouths in place of women's naughty bits. But Sparks could lock into a rocking groove, and I keep waiting for MOM to do the same. Instead, they come with the cascades of chirps and burps set to a machine beat. Nothing resolves



in this music, which becomes a major part of the setup for their elaborate video comedies. Minus the images, the humor may be lost on the club crowd. We'll see.
Xover opens the show.
MOUSE ON MARS: Soda Bar, Friday, February 15, 8:30 p.m. 619-255-7224. \$16 advance/\$18 door.
Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:
Sunday, 2pm — Side Street Shutters. \$10-\$20.
Casbah:
Thursday — Wallpaper and Con Bro Chill. \$10-\$12.
Friday, 8:30pm — Transfer, Nervous Wreckords, Boy King.
Saturday — Om and Sir Richard Bishop. \$12.
Sunday, 8pm — Old Tiger, Sundrop Electric, Bart Mendoza

& True Stories.
Monday — Graveyard.
Tuesday — Night Beds and John Meeks. \$10.
Wednesday — Ahleuchatistas and Buke & Gase.
Ché Café:
Friday, 7pm — Ed Ghost Tucker, Real Things Are Good. \$4-\$7.
Club M:
Saturday — The Mighty Untouchables.

Copley Symphony Hall:
Friday, 8pm — BBC Concert Orchestra. \$20-\$97.
Dirk's Niteclub:
Friday, 9pm — West of 5. **Free.**
Saturday — The Farmers.
Dizzy's:
Friday, 8pm — Danny Green plays the music of Chick Corea. \$10-\$15.
Saturday, 8pm — Bertram Turetzky. \$10-\$15.

Sunday, 6pm — Brasil Jazz Festa with Allison Adams Tucker. \$20.
E Street Café:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Joseph Angelastro Trio. **Free.**
El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:
Thursday, 9pm — Lonely HeARTs Club.
Friday, 9pm — Hickies & Dryhumps.
Sunday, 9pm — Dag Savage.
Wednesday, 9pm — Sweet Cheeks.

THURSDAY 2.14 THE RED PAINTINGS STONE HORSE, THE FALLING DOVES, HEAVY EMPIRE, JONNY TARR	FRIDAY 2.15 BROADCASTING UNDERGROUND FEAT. BLACKLIQUID, TRISTAN D, ELECTRICHEAD	SATURDAY 2.16 SALVADOR SANTANA TODO MUNDO, REED STREET SESSIONS, SOUL WATER
SUNDAY 2.17 DAYS TO CHANGE GABRIEL VALENTIN, SENSORY STATIONS, HER BED OF THORNS, FOX COLTON	MONDAY 2.18 RETOX SECRET FUN CLUB, WHA?, GHETTO BLASTER	TUESDAY 2.19 OLIVER TROLLEY THE SHORT EYES, MOTHLIGHT, SMALL CITY CALLING
WEDNESDAY 2.20 COBALT CRANES	THURSDAY 2.21 MOSTLYSUNNY PRIVET, DA-J, JULIA STINE	WEDNESDAY 2.27 THE REVIVALISTS
THURSDAY 2.28 JOSH DAMIGO, ROBERT FRANCIS CARLY RITTER	FRIDAY 3.1 PRIMITIVE NOYES BUDDY BANTER, GOLDEN BEACHES, KIDS IN HEAT	SATURDAY 3.2 PAUL BASIC, SUPERVISION
FRIDAY 3.8 POOL PARTY BROWN SHOE, REAL THINGS ARE GOOD	SATURDAY 3.9 THE SOFT WHITE SIXTIES DEADLY BIRDS, HEAVY EMPIRE	SATURDAY 3.16 AUDIO ADDICTION IMPLANTS, CHRISTIAN MARTUCCI, BANKERS HILL
THURSDAY 3.21 SCHEMATIC (DAVID ELKINS OF MAE) ASKER, MAN ON EARTH, GONE BY DAYLIGHT	THURSDAY 3.28 SISTER SPARROW AND THE DIRTY BIRDS THE ALAN EVANS TRIO	SATURDAY 3.30 GAP DREAM KUT U UP, VUM, MINI DEATH
SATURDAY 4.6 AMERICAN AQUARIUM ALEX WOODWARD, NANCARROW	THE GRIFFIN	SUNDAY 4.7 DUMPSTAPHUNK

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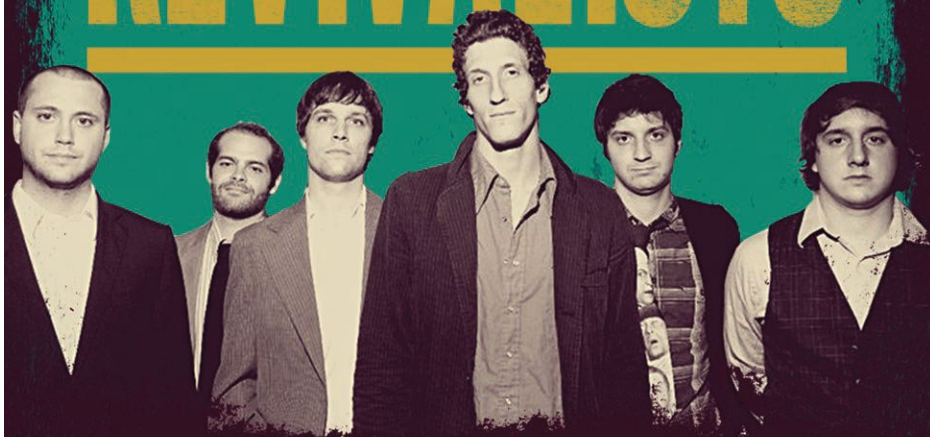
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Thursday, 8pm — Love Stinks.
Friday, 8pm — Paragraphs.
Saturday, 8pm — The Great
Electric Quest.
Tuesday — Open Mic.

Griffin:
Thursday — The Red Paintings.
Friday, 9pm — Blackliquid,
Tristan D, Electrichead. \$10.
Saturday, 8pm — Salvador
Santana, Soul Water, Todo
Mundo. \$10-\$12.
Sunday, 7pm — Days to Change,
Gabriel Valentin, Sensory
Stations. \$7.
Monday, 8pm — Retox, Secret
Fun Club, Ghetto Blaster. \$10-
\$12.
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Oliver
Trolley, the Short Eyes,
Mothlight. \$5.
Wednesday — Cobalt Cranes.

Hard Rock Hotel:
Sunday, 3pm — Wintervention.

Herringbone:
Friday, 7pm — DJ Garth. Free.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill:
Sunday, noon — Open Mic
Sunday.

House of Blues:
Saturday, 7pm — 6ONE9, Dirty
Birdz & the Horn Starz, Hitman
Honey.

Kava Lounge:
Thursday, 9pm — Unvalentines
Day II. Free.

Lestat's Coffee House:
Thursday, 8pm — Eleonor
England. \$10-\$25.
Monday — Open Mic with Chad
Taggart.

Local Habit:
Sunday, 2pm — San Diego
Mixtape Society. Free.

Loft:
Thursday, 9pm — Toubab
Krewe. \$6-\$12.
Wednesday, 8pm — Meklit
Hadero. \$18-\$30.

EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Ex Tropical Lost Animal

By Mary Leary

A synth player who leaves a popular Aussie band, St Helens, to explore the possibilities of himself with his machines? Sounds like a fairly risky setup. But the short-lived indie band's ex-songwriter/singer/guitarist/keyboardist has crafted a sophisticated string of sounds on the album first put out by Sensory Projects — and now released by Hardly Art, which apparently thinks enough of Jarrod Quarrell, aka Lost Animal, to do so without any

bonus material, let alone a suggestion that he change his tongue-twisting birth name.

Ex Tropical deftly transposes and layers acoustic piano with synthetic sounds; weaving a just-gripping-enough tapestry with bass, percussion, and Quarrell's salt-on-the-wound tenor vocals. The cumulative effect is surprisingly transporting. Quarrell delves deep into relationships and situations old and new (including his youthful time in Papua New Guinea), armed with inventive lyrics and passionate outbursts that hit their targets — our psyches — in an atmosphere that initially presents as low-key musings. Quarrell's inherently eccentric expressiveness recalls John Cale, Kevin Ayers, Robert Wyatt, and Nick Drake. The heat? Only Tom Verlaine (and Television's first album), Richard Hell, and Julee Cruise seem to have shared a similar passage. Together, those elements add up to an album that might be reissued in perpetuity.



Hits his target — our psyches

Music Reviews from Our Readers

X mass at Casbah

By Dryw Keltz

The punk-rock masses came out for a pre-Christmas "X mass" at the Casbah. It was a different type of spiritual gathering than your traditional church service, but for those of us that worship at the altar of John Doe, Exene Cervenka, Billy Zoom, and DJ Bonebrake, it felt as natural a Christmas treat as eggnog.

The mix of fans at the show was notable: old bikers, middle-aged punks, and 30-something

office drones sang alongside the traditional, but in this instance outnumbered, 20-something Casbah regulars.

X tore through a greatest-hits set list for the eager crowd. Singer/bassist John Doe spoke about the old rivalry between San Diego and L.A. before the band launched into its classic track "Los Angeles," which propelled the crowd into a frenzy. The frantic "Because I Do," off the band's 1982 album *Under the Big Black Sun*, had a similar effect.

John Doe proclaimed early on that the band would be playing no Christmas songs during this show, but wasn't "Johnny Hit and Run Paulene" a holiday hit in some alternative universe?

Concert: X
Date: December 23
Venue: The Casbah
Seats: Floor



Propelled the crowd into a frenzy

Up to \$100 for your concert review, \$25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader.com/critic

Mingei International Museum:
Sunday, 6pm — Camarada: Tango Nuevo. \$25-\$30.

O'Hungry's:
Sunday, 5:30pm — Jon Ji.

Pala Casino:
Saturday, 7pm — Don Rickles and Debbie Reynolds. \$65-\$90.

Pechanga Resort & Casino:
Thursday, 8pm — Engelbert Humperdinck. \$50-\$75.
Wednesday, 8pm — Styx. \$50-\$75.

Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier:
Saturday, 2pm, *Sunday*, 2pm — Legends on the Bay 2013: Tribute to the Reggae Legends. \$60-\$160.

Prohibition:
Friday — Jonny & the Wiseguys.

Quality Social:
Friday, 9pm — I Love Daft Punk Tribute Night. Free.

RA Sushi:
Wednesday, 8pm — Julian Tydelski. Free.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Thursday, 10pm — Eddie Money.
Sunday, 7pm — Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra. \$35.

Rosie O'Grady's:
Saturday — Brothers Gow.

Ruby Room:
Friday, 10pm — OOH, PRSN, MK Ultra. \$20.
Sunday — Reed Street Sessions, Lemon Lips, the Hula Guns. \$5.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Full Revolution, Haulover Dr., Hero Inside.

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Saturday, 7pm, *Tuesday*, 7pm — *Samson and Delilah*. \$35-\$210.

Searsucker:
Saturday, 7pm — DJ Garth, Chris Renzulli, BWYSE. Free.

Seven Grand:
Thursday, 10pm — Cherries Jubilee Vintage Jazz Cabaret.
Friday, 10pm — Sure Fire Soul Ensemble. Free.
Saturday, 10pm — Burnett's Bliss.

Shakedown Bar:
Thursday — Desecrate.
Friday — Amigo The Devil, Flip Cassidy, Natasha Duchene.
Saturday — the Lonesome Ones, Hard Fall Hearts, Pass the Axe.
Sunday — The Wastrels and the Dirty Panties.

Soda Bar:
Thursday — Japanther, the Marsupials, Kodiak.

Friday, 8:30pm — Mouse On Mars. \$16-\$18.
Saturday, 9pm — The Heavy Guilt.
Sunday — Old English, Vampire, Skrapez.
Monday — Space Town Savior, Mike Bleeds, Hyperwave.
Tuesday — Broadway Calls, My Iron Lung, Beside Myself.
Wednesday, 8pm — Pool Party. \$10.

Soma:
Thursday, 6pm — Memphis Mayfire and Killing the Messenger. \$13.
Saturday, 6:30pm — Run the Course, Just In Case, Civil People. \$8.

Stage Rock Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 10:30pm — Bass Tribe. Free.

Stingaree:
Friday, 9pm — John Martin.

Swedenborg Hall:
Sunday, 7:30pm — Brooke Mackintosh, Chad Tagart, Jenni McElrath. \$7.

Tin Can Ale House:
Thursday, 8pm — Aotearoa, Badabing, the Schitzophonics. \$5.
Saturday — Somebody's Darling and Mrs. Henry.

Today's Pizza & Salad:
Monday, 6pm — Joseph Angelastro Trio. Free.

Tower Bar:
Saturday — Dirty Panties, Wastage, Revenge Club.

Trattoria Tiramisu:
Friday, 8pm — Patrizia the Sultry Lady Of Jazz.

Upstart Crow Bookshop and Coffee House:
Saturday, 7pm — Teagan Taylor Trio. Free.

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Friday, February 15
MATRIX

Saturday, February 16
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Friday, Feb. 15	5pm 9pm	PLATO SOUL (SOUL MUSIC) VIVA SANTANA (LATIN ROCK)	
Saturday, Feb. 16	5pm 9pm	REFLECTORS (CLASSIC ROCK) POPRX (POP)	 PLATO SOUL
Sunday, Feb. 17	6pm	JAZZ FESTIVAL (JAZZ)	
Monday, Feb. 18	7pm	CHET CANNON (BLUES)	 VIVA SANTANA
Tuesday, Feb. 19	7pm	NATAN JAMES (BLUES, ROOTS) & THE RYTHM SCRATCHERS	
Wednesday, Feb. 20	7pm	BILL MAGEE (BLUES)	

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Tuesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel. Free.

Winstons:

Sunday, 4:30pm — Mojo Nixon, Joey Harris, Jeff Berkley, Pony Death Ride. \$6.

UPCOMING SHOWS

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

February 21 — Rock Out Karaoke.

February 26 — PB-OKE Karaoke.

February 27 — Open Mic Open Jam.

February 28 — Rock Out Karaoke.

98 Bottles: 2400 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-255-7885.

February 22 — Fran Hartshorn.

AMSDeconcerts: 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights, 619-303-8176.

February 22, February 23 — Venice.

Analog: 801 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-233-1183.

February 25 — Monday Night Mixer.

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.

February 21 — Hargo and Kiven.

February 22 — Bonkers!

February 23 — Gary Wilson.

February 24 — Happy Endings.

February 26 — Adrian Demain's Exoticatronica.

February 27 — H.A.M.

February 28 — The Soulfires.

Belly Up: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.

February 21 — Harsh Toke.

February 22 — Leftover Salmon.

February 23 — Cash'd Out.

February 24 — Reckless Kelly and Micky & the Motorcars.

February 26 — The Residents.

February 27 — Galactic.

February 28 — The White Buffalo and Terraplane Sun.

Belo: 919 Fourth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-231-9200.

February 23 — Far East Movement, Matthew Koma, Collette Carr.

Bethany Lutheran Church: 2051 Sunset Cliffs Bl., 858-689-2266.

February 22 — Goitse.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Ave., Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.

February 21 — Midas Touch.

February 22 — Club Musae.

February 23 — Bad Neighborz.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.

February 21 — Midnight Starr's EDM.

February 22 — Daemos, Symbolic, Snap Wire, Idol Plague.

February 23 — Ruck 'n' Roll

Rugby Benefit.

February 27 — SD Music TV Open Mic.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.

February 21 — The Orwells,

Pangea, the New Kinetics.

February 23 — Allah-Los,

Barbarian, New Mexico.

February 24 — Night Marchers,

the Intelligence, Mrs. Magician.

February 25 — Sir Sly, Bear

Mountain, Man Without

Country.

February 26 — The Royalty and

Grand Tarantula.

February 27 — Califone.

February 28 — Electric Six and

Gabriel the Marine.

Ché Café: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2311.

February 22 — Tiny Parts Tiny

Lungs and Colossal Wrecks.

February 23 — Bane, Cruel

Hand, Minus.

Copley Symphony Hall: 750 B St., Downtown San Diego, 619-

235-0804.

February 23 — Bonnie Raitt and Maia Sharp.

February 24 — Pipes and Drums of the Black Watch.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662

Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.

February 22, February 23 — Serious Guise.

Dizzy's: 4275 Mission Bay Drive (in the showroom at San Diego Jet Ski Rentals), Pacific Beach, 858-270-7467.

February 22 — Fred Benedetti: Tribute to George Harrison.

February 23 — The Joshua White/Jeff Denson Project.

February 24 — Jaco Pastorius tribute.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: 1030 Broadway, East Village, 619-237-0550.

February 21 — Ghost Beach, Bangladesh, Camron.

February 28 — Two Wolves and Crash Burns.

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

February 24 — Dogcatcher and Picture Atlantic.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.

February 23 — Implants.

Flame: 3780 Park Bl., Hillcrest, 619-546-4642.

February 23 — Deeply Rooted.

Flying Elephant: 850 Tamarack Ave., Carlsbad, 760-434-2660.

February 21 — Hardfall Hearts.

February 22 — Coda Reactor,

Oddballs, the Natives.

February 23 — Total Distortion.

February 27 — Open Mic.

February 28 — Iko Dub.

Gaslamp Quarter: Fifth Ave., between Broadway and Harbor Dr., Downtown San Diego.

March 17 — ShamROCK 2013.

Good Guys Tavern: 7340 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-465-0241.

February 23 — C.I.A., Crosswalk Heroes, Late Night Racket.

The Greek Sombrero Restaurant: 12891 Campo Rd., Spring Valley, 619-669-1979.

February 23 — Batwings, Innerds, California Bleeding.

The Griffin: 1310 Morena Bl., Linda Vista, 619-684-1816.

February 21 — Mostly Sunny, DA+J, Julia Stine.

February 22 — Sounddrug and Chris Hopkins.

February 23 — Mimi Zulu (CD release) and Pink BoomBox

Burlesque.

February 24 — Stix N Stones and Addicts & Liars.

February 26 — Oliver Trolley,

Shining Through, Chasing

Claymores.

February 27 — The Revivalists.

February 28 — Josh Damigo,

Robert Francis, Carly Ritter.

Hard Rock Hotel: 207 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 866-751-7625.

February 21 — Low Volts and Dirty Sirens.

Haritna Mediterranean Restaurant: 7303 El Cajon Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-2722.

February 22 — Sharon DuBois and Nicki Carano.

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This week:



Bernardo, 858-485-5840.
February 24 — Quartet Nouveau.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-299-2583.
February 21 — West of 5.
February 24 — Cowboy Jack.
February 25 — Coheed and Cambria.
February 27 — The Used, We Came as Romans, Mindflow.
February 28 — Willy Moon.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Shelter Island, 619-224-3577.
February 26 — Robin Henkel Band.

The Jumping Turtle: 1660 Capalina Rd., San Marcos, 760-471-7778.
February 22 — Jaybird the Purdy Boi.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Ave., Kensington, 619-284-2848.
February 24 — Social Studies.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.
February 24 — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay.
February 25 — Open Mic with Chad Taggart.
February 28 — Dusty Brough Quartet.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.
February 21 — Meklit Hadero.
February 22 — Sybarite5.

Main Stage Bar at Valley View Casino: 16300 Nyemii Pass Rd., Valley Center, 866-843-9946.
February 22 — The Mighty Untouchables.

Mike's BBQ & Sports Bar: 1356 West Valley Parkway, Escondido, 760-746-4444.
February 23 — The Drinking Cowboy Band.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-9050.
February 22 — Natural Selection.

Mr. Peabody's: 136 Encinitas Bl., Encinitas, 760-753-7192.
February 23 — Dante's Boneyard and Bedpost Buzzards.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Rd., Poway, 858-748-0505.
February 24 — Johnny Cash Birthday Bash with the Walking Phoenixes.

Prohibition: 548 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego.
February 22 — Jonny & the Wiseguys.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.

February 23 — Molly Hatchet and Taz Taylor Band.

Red Crab Lounge: 3825 Plaza Dr., Oceanside.
February 28 — Don P.

Relm Wine Bistro: 2917 State St., Carlsbad, 760-434-9463.
February 24 — Charley & Jesi.

Robbie's Roadhouse: 530 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Leucadia, 760-634-2365.
February 25 — Cowboy Jack.

Roots Factory: 1878 Main St., Barrio Logan, 619-791-4234.
February 23 — Chicano Batman and Black Hondo.

Ruby Room: 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
February 26 — God Des & She.

The Saddle Bar: 123 West Plaza St., Solana Beach, 858-755-5007.
February 28 — Poppi Grande and the Shakedown Daddies.

The Salty Frog: 992 Palm Ave., Imperial Beach, 619-429-1120.
February 22 — Ivory Black.

San Diego Civic Theatre: 1100 Third Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-570-1100.
February 22, February 24 — Samson and Delilah.

San Diego Museum of Art: 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-232-7931.

February 24 — Old Masters of Music & Art.

San Dieguito United Methodist Church: 170 Calle Magdalena, Encinitas.
February 23 — San Diego Youth Symphony: Violins, Voices & More.
February 26 — Sing-a-long with Alice Parker.

Searsucker: 611 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-233-7327.
February 27 — Julian Tydelski.

Seven Grand: 3054 University Ave., North Park, 619-269-3819.
February 21 — Ian Tordella Trio.
February 22 — John Reynolds Band.
February 23 — Soul Organization.

The Shakedown Bar: 3048 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-487-0373.
February 22 — Jason Cruz and the Howl.
February 23 — Duane Peters & the Hunns, Dime Runner, PSO.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-255-7224.
February 21 — Warm Soda, Teenage Burritos, Shiva Trash.
February 22 — Takahashi, the Beautiful View, Shark Blood.
February 23 — The Gore Horsemen, Black Market III.
February 24 — Psychic Ills, Gap

Dream, Riververb.
February 25 — Scott Mathiasen and Jerry Olea & the 805 Drifters.
February 26 — OBN IIIs and Birthday Suits.
February 27 — Jukebox the Ghost, Lighthouse & the Whaler.
February 28 — Cotton Jones, Oh Spirit, Adams & Eves.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: 762 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-696-9436.
February 21, February 28 — Bass Tribe.

Sycuan Casino Showcase Theatre: 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002.
February 22 — Air Supply.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863 Fifth Ave., Bankers Hill, 619-955-8525.
February 27 — Theresa Votolato and Ash Reiter.

The Tower Bar: 4757 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0158.
February 23 — Pretty Boy Thorson.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
February 28 — Brothers Gow.

Zel's Del Mar: 1247 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-0076.
February 23 — Robin Henkel.

CLASSICAL MUSIC


Jared Jacobsen organ concert Sunday, February 17, 4pm; free. La Jolla United Methodist Church, 6063 La Jolla Boulevard. (LA JOLLA)

Music on the Point Craig Cramer, Professor of Organ at the University of Notre Dame, performs on the acclaimed Baroque pipe organ. Reception follows. \$5 requested donation. Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 4:00pm. All Souls' Episcopal Church, 1475 Catalina Blvd. (POINT LOMA)



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FRI 2/15 Mouse On Mars Xover 9 Theory Illuminatus DJs	MON 2/18 Space Town Savior Mike Bleeds • Hyper Wave Wizwars • Dasid Jiffypop23
SAT 2/16 The Heavy Guilt Young Empress Michael McGraw and the Butchers	TUE 2/19 Broadway Calls My Iron Lung Beside Myself
BANDS PLAY AT NIGHT	WED 2/20 Ryat • Rainbow Arabia Church Hustlers Pool Party

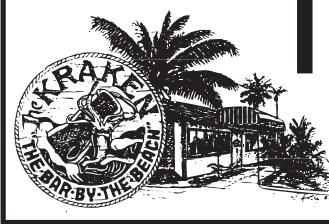


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Wednesday • Feb 13
Ryan Marks of Loudpuck, Dink, Squama, Legit
Future Bass
Thursday • Feb 14
Pink Boombox presents
Post Apocalyptic Romance: A Neo-Burlesque Show
Friday • Feb 15
OOAH (The Glitch Mob, Pantyraid)
PRSN, Mk Ultra
Electronic
Saturday • Feb 16
Black Sun Empire, DJ Yutaka Gum-B, Goldenchild
Ghost MD, Hosted by Ridda and Subliminal
Drum and Bass
Sunday • Feb 17
The Reed Street Sessions, The Lemon Lips, The Hula Guns
The Craiglist Killers
Tuesday • Feb 19
The Hero Inside,
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SUNDAY 17TH 4:30PM SORTED TAILS PODCAST LAUNCH PARTY WITH EWYN DECKER, MOJO NIXON AND SUPER SECRET GUESTS 9:30PM OB-O-KE WITH JOSE SINATRA	MONDAY 18TH THE ELECTRIC WASTE BAND	TUESDAY 19TH BATTLE OF THE BANDS LION PATH JAM KWEST SOULLECTIVE (6-9) THINK N DRINK TRIVIA	UPCOMING 22ND- KRS-ONE 23RD- THE STYLETONES MARCH 2ND - BANYAN

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The Prado: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$4.50 wells, wine, draft ale, margaritas, mixed drinks.

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Bertrand at Mister A's: *Monday-Friday*, 2:30-6pm: \$5 wells, \$6 wine, \$10 cocktails, \$4 local brews. Bar or patio only.

BAY PARK

The High Dive: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off local San Diego craft beers. \$1 off house wine by the glass.

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

CARLSBAD

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6:30pm: \$4 beers, wells, wines, flights. \$5 boneless wings, fries, spicy hummus.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co.: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-2pm: \$3 house microbrews.

CARMEL VALLEY

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

CHULA VISTA

BJ's Brewhouse: *Monday-Thursday*, 3pm-7pm: \$1 off draft and cocktails. 10pm-close: 1/2-price mini pizzas, \$2 off appetizers (snacks and small bites not included). *Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off beer and cocktails.

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

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$.50 off all drinks.

COLLEGE AREA

Pal Joey's: *Tuesday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 Tuesdays. *Wednesday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3.50 personal pitchers. *Thursday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3.50 personal pitchers. *Friday*, 4:30 to 6:30pm: \$3.50 personal pitchers. *Sunday*, \$7 domestic pitchers.

CORONADO

Brigantine: *Monday-Friday, Sunday*, 3-6pm: \$4 Brig brew, Dos Equis. \$4.75 margarita, \$5.50 chardonnay, \$6 merlots, \$1 off featured wine. Discounted tacos, shrimp, oysters.

DEL MAR

Bully's Del Mar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Discounted food, beer, cocktails. *Sunday*, all day: \$3 Bud Light, Coors Light. \$4 bloody marys, margaritas, mimosas.

Zel's Del Mar: *Daily*, 4-6:30pm: \$1 off drafts & premium drinks, \$2 off wines by glass, \$3.50 wells. \$4 fried calamari, \$5 fish tacos, \$10 burger & beer.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Altitude Sky Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 premium wells. 1/2-off artisan flat breads.

House of Blues: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 wines, \$3 wells, \$4 martinis. Killer happy hour menu.

Patricks Gaslamp Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm; 11pm-close: domestics from \$2.50, wells from \$3.25.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: *Daily*, 5-8pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.

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

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 keg beers; \$5 liquor, house wine. Free pizza samples.

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

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1-\$2 off liquor.

Set 'Em Up, Joe!

BY JOSEPH O'BRIEN



MARISA BRUYNEEL

Katsuya
600 F Street
619-814-2000

When it comes to holidays, few lead to such controversy as Valentine's Day.

He thinks the day is only for her — she thinks it's for both of them. Discussion ensues, shifts into a debate, evolves into an argument, feelings are hurt, dates canceled, relationships destroyed.

This year, though, Katsuya bartender Marisa Bruyneel will attempt to diffuse the controversy with an offering for both sides.

"Not to be too gender-specific, but with the Pucker Up, I will be trying to get men out of the box they're in when it comes to Valentine's Day," she tells me.

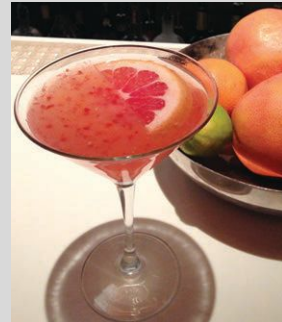
"While the day is seen as a holiday for women, it really is a shared holiday."

On the surface, the Pucker Up seems like yet another "pink drink" — although Bruyneel describes it more accurately as "dark pink to red-dish." But, she hastens to add, it's got something for everyone. And, as its name promises, Bruyneel assures me that the drink does afford some practice time with the lips, as the ingredients set the pucker-factor on "high" with an appealing balance between fresh flavor and alcoholic power.

"The first thing you'll taste will be the fresh lemon juice in the drink, so you get that pucker," she says, "which will be followed by the subtle taste of the raspberry and the peach mixed together. There's also the vodka coming in at this point, too. It's well balanced, so you're going to be left with a fresh, refreshing taste of fruit and pucker."

KITCHEN PROOF: Perfectly prepared panoply of peppy and pleasing, poetic and precocious, provocative and persuasive.

KATSUYA'S PUCKER UP



In a cocktail tin, muddle four raspberries and add:

- 1½ oz. Absolut vodka
- ¾ oz. lemon juice
- ½ oz. Cointreau
- ½ oz. Peach Pucker
- ½ oz. simple syrup

Add ice, shake cocktail tin, strain into a martini glass, garnish with a blood orange wheel.

Main Tap Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off 16-oz. pints, \$2 off pitchers, \$3.50 wells.

ENCINITAS

Union Kitchen & Tap: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 off craft cocktails; \$4 drafts, \$6 select wine glasses. \$9 flatbreads.

ESCONDIDO

Vintana Wine + Dine: *Daily*, 2:30-6:30pm: Seven different apps for \$7 each.

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*, 4-6:30pm. 1/2 off bottles of wine. *Wednesday*, 4-6:30pm. All martinis 1/2 off. *Saturday*, 9am-2pm: \$2 mimosas. *Sunday*, 9am-2pm & 4pm-6:30pm: \$2 mimosas.

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

Bud's Louisiana Café: *Wednesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: 1/2-off glass beer, wine; \$5 cocktails. 15% off cup jambalaya, oyster shooter, cajun chicken taquitos.

KENSINGTON

Til-Two: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells and imported drafts.

LA JOLLA

La Jolla Brew House: *Friday-Saturday*, 10pm-1am: \$2 Off Pints; \$3 Wells & Wines; Buy Any Pizza Get One Free.

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off wells and appetizers (excludes seafood & guacamole).

LA MESA

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.

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.

LINDA VISTA

Bull's Smokin' BBQ: *Daily*, 2-6pm: \$3 pints; \$9 Bud & Coors Light pitchers; \$12 Sierra Nevada, Red Trolley pitchers. \$2 pulled pork or beef brisket sliders, \$4.95 1/2-sandwich & side.

LITTLE ITALY

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.

MIRA MESA

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 select house beer, select domestic drafts, well drinks, house wine. \$1 off Irish nachos, pub chips, herb/garlic/cheese bread.

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

Sandbar Sports Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells, domestic bottles/drafts; \$4 premium & import bottles/drafts. \$3.50 mahi taco, discounted nachos, calamari.

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

The Amigo Spot at Kings Inn: *Daily*, 4-7pm: Margaritas.

NATIONAL CITY

Pier 32 Waterfront Grill: *Friday*, 3pm-sunset: \$2 domestic beer, \$3 import and local beer, \$5 house wine, mimosas, bloody marys.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

Live Wire: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off drafts and cocktails.

NORTH PARK

Bar Pink: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: \$1 off drafts and calls.

Imig's Kitchen and Bar: *Monday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 off wines by the glass; \$4 beers; \$4 well cocktails. 5-9pm: \$5 burger and a draft beer. All day: \$3 12oz can Bud Lite and Tecate, \$3 24oz can Rolling Rock and PBR. *Tuesday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 off wines by the glass; \$4 beers; \$4 well cocktails. 5-9pm: Taco Tuesday \$2 tacos, \$2 Tecate. All day:



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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

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

Aryana at Holiday Inn: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$2 domestics, wells; \$3 premiums, glass of wine. Appetizer specials.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$4 wells, house wine. \$1 off all beer.

OLD TOWN

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

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

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: *Daily*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

Solare Ristorante Lounge: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 3-6:30pm; \$5 Tapas, \$3 Beers, \$5 Select Wine, \$6 Select Cocktails. *Sunday*, 4-7pm; \$5 Tapas, \$3 Beers, \$5 Select Wine, \$6 Select Cocktails.

POWAY

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

RAMONA

Boll Weevil Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 3-5pm: \$2 off all pitchers.

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-Friday*, 4-7pm: Half-off appetizers, \$1 off drafts, house wine, and wells.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Delicias: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$5 draft beers, house wines, wells.

SAN MARCOS

Back Alley Grill: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 11am-9pm: \$2.50 drafts, \$4.50 imports

and house wines. \$1 Taco Tuesday, 50¢-a-Wing Wednesday, \$1 off pitchers Thirsty Thursday.

SHELTER ISLAND

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: *Daily*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

SOUTH PARK

Hamilton's Tavern: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

UCSD

Porter's Pub at UCSD: *Daily*, 11am-7pm \$3 Menu; 4pm-7pm \$1 off all beer.

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: *Daily*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 ouzo apéritif, \$2 bottled beers, \$3 wine by the glass.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Babbo's Bar and Grille: *Daily*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$3.95 wells, drafts, wine.

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Courageous shoes

“What good is freedom if you can’t do nothing with it?”

The *Gem of the Ocean* was a slave ship. It’s also a piece of paper Aunt Ester folds to look like one. The captain was such a “mean man,” such a “selfish man,” when the boat got into trouble, instead of going down with it, he snuck away on a lifeboat. Not only that, he reversed nature: “He took all the water and left the crew to die. But they survived. They followed the law of the sea. Life is above all... so live!”

Only one American playwright could have told this story — August Wilson — and only near the end of his life, when the call for a final summation nags the mind as much as trivial memories. Shakespeare may not have considered *The Tempest* his last play, but his wise observations feel gleaned from a lifetime of experience. Also *Billy Budd*, where Herman Melville puts the letter and spirit of the law on trial. And whoever filled *Ecclesiastes* with sagacity was certainly no pup.

Though he wrote it near the end of his life, *Gem of the Ocean* (2004) is the first play in August Wilson’s “Pittsburgh Cycle.” He wrote one per decade from 1904 to 1997. All take place in Pittsburgh’s Hill District. In the last of the cycle, *Radio Golf* (which Wilson was working on when he died in 2005), the Hill has become “blighted,” and

Harmond Wilks wants to redevelop it. He learns to respect the run-down, “human eyesore” of a house at 1839 Wylie Avenue, where the legendary Aunt Ester held her mystical sway.

The idealistic Harmond is a far cry from his grandfather, Caesar Wilks. As often happens with

Wilson’s characters, the name tells all. To Caesar, a local constable in *Gem*, the laws of the land are black and white, especially for blacks.

He’s such a negative force, so mythically cruel, that if he wanted, like the captain of the boat, he could make water flow overboard.

Caesar’s the opposite of Aunt Ester. She isn’t the Aunt Esther of *Sanford and Son* (though Wilson may be picking up resonances). Aunt Ester’s biography defies scientific laws as much as virgin birth. By her count, she’s 285 years old. She came from Africa on a slave ship in 1619. She lost everything in transit and, through a spiritual transformation, discovered “it.” She reinvented herself and the world around her, even renamed the stars. Along with being the history of African Americans, Ester has a gift for “washing souls” and shepherding people toward their true identity.

Citizen Barlow among them. He came north looking for opportunity. Like so many other African Americans at the turn of the 19th Century, he



Gem of the Ocean is about African Americans searching for identities in 1904 Pittsburgh.

Gem of the Ocean, by August Wilson

Cygnnet Theatre, 4040 Twigg Street, Old Town

Directed by Victor Mack; cast: Mujahid Abdul-Rashid, Laurence Brown, Ron Choularton, Melva Graham, Antonio “TJ” Johnson, Grandison Phelps III, Brenda Phillips; scenic design, Andrew Hull; costumes, Shelly Williams; lighting, Chris Rynne; sound design/original music, Kevin Anthenill

Playing through February 24; Wednesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and Sunday at 2:00 p.m. 619-337-1525

finds that “hard times” are just as abundant on the Mason side of the line. A job at the mill put him in debt even before he started work. Many of Wilson’s characters are so alienated, they can have luck, even love, and not know it. Citizen Barlow feels “unfinished,” not “right with himself,” in search of stable ground.

“It’s hard to be a citizen,” says Solly Two Kings, referring to life for blacks in the north and to young Barlow. “What good is freedom if you can’t do nothing with it?” *Gem* answers this question with a tapestry of possibilities, each harkening back to Aunt Ester’s reinvention on the boat — and discovering the law of the sea.

Cygnnet Theatre’s production honors the play’s epic scope and amazing language but could take the “air” out of the spaces between speeches and pick up the pace. If anything, the cast’s a mite too reverent for Wilson’s irreverent look at official American history.

Andrew Hull’s set — almost ancient wooden stairs and furniture — subtly reinforces one of

Wilson’s themes. Eli (a stately Grandison Phelps III) wants to build a wall around the house to “keep Caesar on the other side.” But he can’t, as the set demonstrates: tall empty gulfs separate the “walls” onstage, making 1839 Wylie Avenue a porous sanctuary.

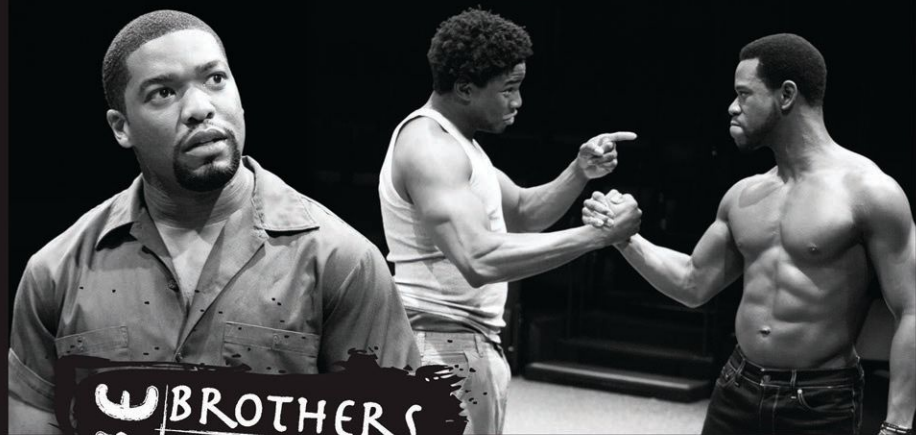
Antonio “TJ” Johnson does full justice to Solly Two Kings, a larger-than-life battler for freedom (and one of Wilson’s most trenchant commentators). On paper, Caesar Wilks is as rigid as the law he enforces. Mujahid Abdul-Rashid accepts the one-note challenge and plays it to the hilt. Ron Choularton, as expected, does first-rate work as Selig, the traveling peddler. Brenda Phillips is capable as Aunt Ester but could probe her mystical depths a bit more.

Gem of the Ocean is about searching for identities, freedom, racism (from without and within), and life for African Americans in 1904 Pittsburgh. It’s also a changing of the guard. From afar, Citizen Barlow and “Black Mary” Wilks are unlikely candidates to fill the courageous shoes of Aunt

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Contains strong language and adult situations.

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THE BROTHERS SIZE
by Tarell Alvin McCraney
Directed by Tea Alagić

(from left) Joshua Elijah Reese, Okieriete Onaodowan and Antwan Hopper. Photo by Henry DiRocco.

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Ester and Solly Two Kings. As played by Laurence Brown and Melva Graham, both begin unmoored: Citizen needing his soul scrubbed clean for a crime he may not have committed; Black Mary (her name suggests “Black Madonna,” apocryphal daughter of Jesus and Mary Magdalene) labors almost like a slave. Brown and Graham make impressive transformations: he from a magical trip to the City of Bones; she from deep within. Each develops, in the words of William Cullen Bryant, an “unfaltering trust,” in themselves and the law of the sea. ■

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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redspadetheater.com

Birds of a Feather

Diversiónary presents the comedy about two bird families raising their brood on a Central Park West roof, based on the banned children's book *And Tango Makes Three*.

DIVERSIONARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 3.

The Brothers Size

If your brother is your keeper, how does it feel to be kept? Tarell Alvin McCraney's drama explores the entire zodiac of brotherhood. Ogun has watched over younger brother Oshoosi. Sly Elegba wants to sever that bond. As in his *Red and Brown Water*, the playwright shows a remarkable gift for language and dramatic intensity. *Brothers* has both flashes of brilliance and lulls, where the complex of myth-, dream-, and human-escapes don't quite jibe. Excellent performances by Joshua Elijah Reese (Ogun), Okieriete Onaodowan (Oshoosi), and Antwan Hopper (Elegba), along with Jonathan Melville Pratt's drums, propel the piece to a stirring conclusion.

Worth a try.

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD
GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-
5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS,
2PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND,
7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM
WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY
24.

The Bluest Eye

Mo'olelo Performing Arts and Moxie Theatre co-present Lydia Diamond's stage adaptation of Toni Morrison's first novel. Pecola, a young black girl, develops an inferiority complex. Delicia Turner Sonnenberg directs. MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., SUITE N, COLLEGE AREA. 858-598-7620. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 3.

Chicago

San Diego Musical Theatre offers Fred Ebb, John Kander, and Bob Fosse's "killer show" about Roxie Hart, a chorine who murders a faithless lover, then dupes her husband to take the rap. Ron Kellum directs.

BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVE., NORTH PARK.
619-239-8836. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 3.

Gem of the Ocean

Reviewed 2/13. **Critic's Pick.**
CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST.,
OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM
THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM
AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM AND 7PM
SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS,
THROUGH FEBRUARY 24.

Hamlet

Intrepid Shakespeare's opening night had problems and glitches but it tells the story clearly. Director Christy Yael keeps the focus where it should be, and the downward flow becomes both inevitable and stark. Sean Cox's Hamlet, and some of the other performances, had a "give him a week" quality. He shot intellectual energy into the early scenes — including a knockout one with Jennifer Eve Thorn's Ophelia — but needed more in later ones. Thorn, Tom Stephenson, Danny Campbell, Jim Chovick, Tom Hall, and Eddie Yaroch do quality work. And Sean Fanning's spare gray marble set (with Hamlet's father's ghost roaming overhead) shows once again why he's such an in demand designer. [Worth a try.](#)

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY, 800 SANTA FE DR., ENCINITAS. 760-752-1121.
7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 3PM AND 7PM SUNDAYS. THROUGH FEBRUARY 17.

The Kitchen Witches

PowPAC stages Caroline Smith's comedy about "mature cable-access cooking show hostesses who have dated each other for 30 years, ever since Larry Biddle dated one and married the other."

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY.
858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17.

The Laramie Project

Trinity Theater Company, San Diego's newest community theater, stages Tectonic Theatre's moving piece about the tragic hate crime against Matthew Shepard. Sean Paul Boyd directs.

SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 7PM FRIDAY, 7PM SATURDAY.



Pete 'n' Keely reunite at Lamb's Players Theatre through March 3.

PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 7:30PM
FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, OPEN-
ENDED RUN.

Once Upon A Wedding

“Once Upon A Wedding” follows Daisy Dudley and Davis Do-Wright as they celebrate their love in front of family and friends on their wedding day. But what should be the happiest day of their lives quickly turns into mayhem.

LAFAYETTE HOTEL & SUITES, 2223 EL CAJON BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS.
619-296-2101. 7PM THURSDAY, 7PM FRIDAY.

Pete 'n' Keely

Okay, they've gone their separate ways since the divorce. But those rumors about his womanizing and her thirst for firewater? Tabloid palaver. Pete Bartel and Keely Stevens, America's Singing Sweethearts, are not only doing just fine, they're reuniting on live TV. The premise is familiar; entertainers seethe behind wide smiles. And James Hindman's two-character musical sticks to the predictable formula. You know where it's headed before it starts. What also becomes predictable at Lamb's Players: Phil Johnson (who must have majored in Lounge as a Second Language) and Eileen Bowman (whose excellent vocals make kitsch resonate) will nail every number and entertain in spite of the creaky vehicle. *Worth a try.*

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142
ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-
0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRI-
DAYS, 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM
SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM
WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 3.

Punk Rock

Ion Theatre Company presents the West Coast premiere of Simon Stephens's drama about "bullying, underage sex, and school violence." Glenn Paris directs.

ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 4PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 9.

Pygmalion

What a treat! Director Nicholas Martin and a stellar cast have given George Bernard Shaw's comic masterpiece vivid, funny, thought-provoking life. Robert Sean Leonard makes Henry Higgins a spoiled-brat genius with romper room energy; as Eliza, Charlotte Parry blooms and grows (beyond Higgins' reach, even). The supporting cast includes Craig Noel favorites: Paxton Whitehead, Kandis Chappell, Don Sparks, Deborah Taylor and they cavort as if to things Shavian born! Although Lerner and Loewe used much of the dialogue, people expecting the ur-*My Fair Lady* will be surprised. The play, especially the ending (with the director nicely complicates) does not conform to the musical. **Critic's Pick.**

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 17.

Sailor's Song

Patio Playhouse stages John Patrick Shanley's romance, an "American seaside story decorated with dance."

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND

AVE., ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669.
8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM
SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 10.

San Diego, I Love You

Circle Circle dot dot presents a “site-specific walking adventure play for the Romantic in us all,” written by Katherine Harroff and Soroya Rowley.

JAKE'S ON 6TH — A WINE BAR, 3755
SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-291-9463.
1PM, 1:30PM, 2PM, 2:30PM, 3PM,
3:30PM SATURDAYS; 1PM, 1:30PM,
2PM, 2:30PM, 3PM, 3:30PM SUNDAYS,
THROUGH FEBRUARY 17.

South Pacific

Randall Dodge gives a standout performance as Emile de Becque, in the Welk's production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical. Others vary in quality. Except for Benjamin Lopez, whose rich tenor does full justice to "Younger Than Springtime," many in the cast sing better than they act. And Hannah M. James disappoints as Nellie Forbush. Her portrayal is so stiff and superficial you wonder what the worldly Emile could see in her. Ray Limon's choreography vitalizes the randy SeaBees. But the technical work's a mix. And when someone sings upstage, they cast shadows on the sketch of Bali Ha'i painted on a drop. Dodge's effort (and the great musical) merits a recommendation. *Worth a try.*

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM THURSDAYS, 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 1PM SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS, 1PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 17.

Titus Andronicus

UCSD Theatre & Dance presents Shakespeare's "most barbarous play," the story of a Roman leader who lost 22 sons in a war and comes home to even more evil news. Joshua Kahan Brody directs.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO, 9500 GILMAN DR., UCSD.
858-534-2230. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 16.

The Trip to Bountiful

New Village Arts presents Horton Foote's drama about "finding your way home," which is what Carrie Watts wants to do before she dies. Kristianne Kurner directs.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245.
8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM AND 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 9.

Write Out Loud: Love Notes

Short stories are mini-dramas, made so by language alone. So, asked the founders of Write Out Loud, why not assemble a troupe and read them in public? That idea has grown into a popular event. These aren't staged readings, with little advance preparation. Local actors rehearse a story as they would a script, emphasizing style and meaning. At the same time, however, all is subordinate to the word. As in the old days of radio, regular attendees often close their eyes and listen. Each reading clusters around a theme. *Love Notes* celebrates Valentine's Day with stories of love and romance. *Worth a try.*

ATHENAEUM MUSIC AND ARTS
LIBRARY, 1008 WALL ST., LA JOLLA.
858-454-5872. 7:30PM THURSDAY.

Shadow world

In the interest of objectivity, I suppose I should start out by saying that it's difficult for me to be objective about *John Dies at the End*. It hits too many buttons for me to just look down and assess from any sort of critical Olympus. But I can, at least, tell you what those buttons are. That should help.

First: the feeling. When Ti West's *The*

House of the Devil came out in 2009, critics praised its throwback quality, the way it evoked the slow-burn scariness of certain '80s horror pics. *John Dies at the End* has a similarly glorious '80s vibe, involving as it does a portal to another dimension, goofy humor grafted onto crawling horror, and lovingly rendered critters that are far scarier than most CGI nasties.

Second, the framework: good old-fashioned Art Bell-style supernatural weirdness. Curiosities, usually no more than shrugged at — magic tricks, odd coincidences — that somehow add up to a shadow world that, as one character puts it, is "like the country-western radio station — out there, even if we don't listen to it." A shadow world that is breaking through and must be contained before it blots out the light.

Third: the plot, which could have been taken from one of the better episodes of *The X-Files*. It turns out there's this drug, a sentient black goo, that will allow you to step outside the normal bounds of time and space and also to see the real horror that most people miss. (Actually, "allows" is the wrong word; "forces" is better.) Now that you know the truth, what are you going to do about it? There's no use pretending it didn't happen — we're all gonna face the mystery at the edge of existence someday.

This is not a perfect film; there's a plot hole at the center of things that's bigger than any interdimensional portal, and the bad-guy monologue near the end is well-nigh interminable. But, it is a delightful film, full of winsome performances (Glynn Turman's "old-school Catholic" police detective plays things just straight enough against lead Chase Williamson's controlled freakout). You know, if you're into that sort of thing.

— Matthew Lickona

INTERVIEW WITH JOHN DIES AT THE END DIRECTOR DON COSCARELLI

Don Coscarelli first terrified audiences in 1976 with a flying sphere in

Phantasm. Since then he has directed only ten films, and four of them have the word "phantasm" in their title.

It's not all horror for the director, as evidenced by his 2002 cult comedy *Bubba Ho-Tep*, a film that posits Elvis and JFK as patients in the same nursing home waging battle against an Egyptian mummy.

Coscarelli's latest satire, *John Dies at the End*, opens this week at Landmark's Hillcrest Cinemas. There's a lot more of the interview on *The Big Screen*, including talk of a *Phantasm 5* in the works.

Scott Marks: Do you remember the first time a movie scared you?

Don Coscarelli: I think I was afraid of *Godzilla*, but not so much. I'll tell you a movie that terrified me when I was in fifth grade. It's a very obscure movie with Hans Conried in it. Have you ever seen *The Twonky*?

SM: About the evil TV set?

DC: Hans Conried was chased and terrorized by a walking television. As a kid it scared the hell out of me, but now that I've revisited it, the effects are pretty cheesy. As an adult [and lapsed Catholic], *The Exorcist* scared me big time.

SM: *John Dies at the End* is based on a novel by Richard Wong. What was it about a sense-heightening drug that chooses its junkies called Soy Sauce that appealed to your sensibilities?

DC: I love the freaky concept that the drug had a mind of its own. Then the fact that it would allow you to see things without necessarily controlling them and to pierce reality by taking the pharmaceuticals. There are a lot of interesting ideas there. In some respects it harkens back to classic literature. I don't know that this movie is that far apart from *Alice in Wonderland*.

SM: Both Chase Williamson and Rob Mayes are relative newcomers to feature films. They are your Bill and Ted or Harold and Kumar. Where did you find them, and what was it about the pair that told you they'd have the comic chemistry needed to pull it off?

DC: It's a constantly evolving process. When I cast them, it was all hope; I had seen glimmers of auditions that showed me that the movie might really work. To get them to give fully featured performances that carried the whole thing...I didn't know. It was a day-by-day thing. Being a director, you can't create performances. You can certainly assist them, but those actors have to have



Hey, is that an iPhone 5, with new iSight technology? Cool!

something. Rob Mayes has this goofy sweetness about him when he delivers his lines that makes you smile and laugh at the same time. I could never as a director create that. The greatest breakthrough in the film and the greatest joy for me as a director was to have them in the film.

— Scott Marks

WHICH 007 WILL BE A NO-SHOW AT THIS YEAR'S OSCAR BOND RALLY?

The six actors who have portrayed James Bond over the years were invited by the Academy to stand together on one stage for the first time in history. One has vowed not to appear.

Here is the Bond Honor Roll (minus Woody Allen): Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan, Daniel Craig.

Let's see...Daniel Craig is the Bond of the hour, so it's hard to imagine him snubbing the franchise.

Who is kicking down Lazenby or Dalton's doors with offers of work? Both will gladly appear in exchange for a hot bowl of soup.

Roger Moore will no doubt show up and do for Oscar what he did for Bond: sleepwalk through the proceedings.

Sean Connery once professed to not knowing the names of the seven Bond flicks he appeared in, yet even he agreed to attend.

It's Pierce Brosnan, a tailor-made 007 if ever there was one. After his fourth appearance as the dapper spy, the producers chose not to re-sign him, making Brosnan the first Bond asked to leave the franchise.

Brosnan has the looks, but not the material. According to IMDB, "Bros-

nan's last three Bond films were the only ones in the series to not make more than five times their cost." *Die Another Day* is as bad a Bond picture as any you're likely to find. Brosnan's finest performance as the private eye is in the greatest unofficial Bond film ever made, John Boorman's *The Tailor of Panama*.

Brosnan has nothing but high praise for his fellow Bonds, with the exception of 007 one-shot George Lazenby, of whom he said, "George is just an angry, old, pissed-off guy. He was never an actor but some pissed-off Aussie who doesn't know how to show his feminine side. I met him, and he's got that kind of brittle edge to him."

— 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.

56 Up — The seventh installment in what could very well be television's first reality show. In 1964, Paul Almond began filming a group of fourteen seven-year-old British schoolkids. The directorial reins were later handed to Michael Apted, who has since gone back at regular seven-year intervals to document the group's growth. Inspired by Truffaut's fictional Antoine Doinel cycle that began in 1959 with *The 400 Blows*, the *Up* series offers viewers an exploration of the power of cinema as a tool to document and record human growth. (The filmmaker's original intention was "to get a glimpse of England in the year 2000.") If you have been with the program from the outset, it makes for highly compulsive viewing. *56 Up* finds our diverse group of 13 participants —

Charles has been missing in action since *21 Up* — well ensconced in middle age. Two of the subjects are actually upset that their participation in the show hasn't led to a recording or publishing contracts. Those new to the series may want to pay a visit to Kensington Video and play a little catch-up. 2012. — S.M.

★★★★

Beautiful Creatures — As the sun fades on the *Twilight* series, Hollywood sets its sights on another stretch of successful teen Harlequin Romances. Gatlin, South Carolina is the type of place people can leave only after they die. A group of "casters" (don't call them witches) transform the town and an otherwise handsomely shot horror film into a snugly rom-com with enough stereotypical rednecks and Christian-bashing to alienate both sides of the argument. You thought the *Twilight* films were dopey? If Jeremy Irons is such an omnipotent warlock, how is it that he can't detect a strange boy in his daughter's bedroom? As the love interests, newcomers Alice Englert (Jane Campion's daughter) and Andy Griffith clone Alden Ehrenreich take turns dispensing expository dialogue. Instead of a one-sheet, theater auditoriums should post orange, diamond-shaped highway signs that read: "WARNING: FRANCHISE UNDER CONSTRUCTION." Richard LaGravenese positioned the actors and hollered "Action!" With Emma Thompson and Viola Davis. 2013 — S.M.

● **Bullet to the Head** — A bullet rips through the heart of two studio logos, announcing the return of Walter Hill to the genre that brought him fame, the action comedy. Sylvester Stallone and Sung Kang perform a nifty reversal on the characters Nick Nolte and Eddie Murphy played in Hill's *48 Hrs.* With a Kevlar toupee and tanned bark that resembles wax burbling in a double-boiler, Sly hasn't had a role this meaty in decades; his "dead inside" narration is one of the film's highlights. Hill's regular DP, Lloyd Ahern, is back onboard and Alessandro Camon's screenplay reads like a greatest hits compilation of the director's preoccupations. It's been a decade since Hill stepped behind a camera and his style — particularly the MTV flash frames — could have withstood some modification. As enjoyable as it is to watch Stallone

kick the crap out of anything that gets in his way, the last half-hour drags on a bit, laying bare the script’s graphic novel origins. Still, you’re not likely to find a more enjoyable action picture this year, and the presence of any Walter Hill film is just cause for a trip to the multiplex. With Sarah Shahi, Jason Momoa (this year’s Channing Tatum), and an abundance of comeuppance for Christian Slater haters. 2013. — S.M.

★★★

Django Unchained — Quentin Tarantino fails to do for slave owners what he did for Nazis in this, his long-awaited western (southern?) follow-up to the epic war comedy *Inglourious Basterds*. Oscar-winner Christoph Waltz returns to the Tarantino fold as Dr. King, a German dentist-cum-bounty hunter hot on the trail of a pair of nefarious outlaws. Once again, the connivingly charismatic Waltz is well mannered to the point of achieving a near-Oliver Hardy sense of nirvana. He also offers a crash course in mentorship to uppity slave Jamie Foxx, eager to save his wife from ruthless plantation lord, Leonardo DiCaprio. For its first third, *Django Unchained* plays like an agreeable cross between *Blazing Saddles* and *Mandingo*. (There is a hilarious bit about proper eyehole placement in KKK cowls.) Once they reach Leo’s Candyland, however, the film becomes talky and set-bound, and the third act is little more than an excuse for bloodletting. Still, politically speaking, there’s more truth told here about money and its ability to buy miscegenation than anything on display in *Lincoln*. Worth seeing, but not a good enough romp to justify its 165-minute running time. With Kerry Washington, Don Johnson, Franco Nero, and Samuel L. Jackson as the spitting image of cotton-haired Woody Strode in Ford’s *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*. — S.M.

★★

Gangster Squad — *Gangster Squad* may lack brains and heart, but it’s got guts. You get to see ‘em right at the outset, when a Chicago crook who dares to cross power-mad Los Angeles gangster Mickey Cohen (a guttural Sean Penn) gets ripped in half by a couple of sedans. (Then again, you get to see brains, too — but that’s not until later on.) So yeah, there’s plenty of violence. And Ryan Gosling is handsome, and Emma Stone is old-fashionedly pretty. And Los Angeles circa 1949 looks great. Beyond that, this tale of a good cop in a crooked town who tries to clean things up by forgetting about the law and treating American gangsters like an enemy army is a casserole made from tired leftovers. Blend up *The Untouchables*, *Dick Tracy*, and *Mulholland Falls*, drain off the moral intrigue, sprinkle with bits of soul-searching, reheate, and serve. With Josh Brolin, Nick Nolte, Robert Patrick. 2013. — M.L.

●

A Good Day to Die Hard — Review forthcoming.

Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters — The only honest one in the cast of this fractured fairy tale is Famke Janssen. When asked why she took the role of the witch, the actress acknowledged that she had a mortgage to pay off. Director Tommy Wirkola, who knew full well how to wrangle Nazi-zombies in *Dead Snow*, can’t muster more than the background atmospherics and practical effects needed to give the stupidity a stage on which to play out. Jeremy Renner and Gemma Arterton star as the fabled Teutonic twins. (He’s 42, she’s 27.) Their impoverished upbringing at the hands of a witch finds them snacking on candy-coated walls,

not lead paint chips. Instead of waging war against diabetes, the pair mature and confront anything that flies on a broomstick. It’s more grim than Grimm; the stench of Comic-Con filled the theater the moment the image hit the screen. D.W. Harper’s plotless script even comes equipped with its own built-in fan boy (Thomas Mann) who follows our heroes around with scrapbook in tow. Will Ferrell produced, which should account for the film’s adventitious comedic touches. (Pictures of missing children are slapped on milk bottles.) *H* sat on the shelf for a year while the studios waited for Renner’s star to rise. The best that can be said of mannequin Arterton’s performance is the costumes fit and she can take a good punch. 2013. — S.M.

●

A Haunted House — Upon moving into the title abode, Damon Wayans purchases a video camera and promises girlfriend Essence Atkins that he’s going to “film everything: Christmas, New Year’s, vagina.” One of the first images Wayans’s camcorder captures is the imprint of Atkins’s rear tire just moments after it ran over his pooch’s head. A most imaginative sight gag soon cleans the air. Wayans reimagines *Paranormal Activity* godhead Orin Peli’s shape-shifting, sheet-fluffing specter as his galpal’s blanket-ballooning nocturnal flutter-blasts. The cast of hedonistic house guests includes a gay psychic, a determined couple of swingers, a “Mandingo party” that puts Tarantino’s to shame, and a surprisingly flat Cedric the Entertainer in the role made famous by Max Von Sydow. Worth seeing for Essence Atkins, who alternates between comic underplaying and demonic flamboyance with the greatest of ease. The Wayans family withdrew from the *Scary Movie* franchise after the second installment. With *SM5* just around the corner, series co-creator Wayans decided to beat the Weinsteins to the draw with a *Paranormal* parody of his own. His scheme paid off. *SM5*, set to open last concurrently, pushed back its release date from January to April. Certainly not for everyone, but I must confess to chuckling at a few of the film’s baser moments. Michael Tiddes directs. 2013. — S.M.

★

Identity Thief — Don’t blame the Apatow connection for this one. Director Seth Gordon (*Four Christmases*, *Horrible Bosses*) steals a few chapters from the John Hughes playbook as he tries in vain to transform Melissa McCarthy into this generation’s John Candy. Playing an alcoholic sociopath in a Bozo fright wig, she uses the money she electronically pilfers from middle-class schmucks to buy strangers rounds of drinks in hope of winning a friend. One of her victims (Jason Bateman) gets wise to the con and — for some reason known only to the screenwriter — must cart “Slobbin’ Hood” cross-country to help prove to his boss that he’s not a crook. The problem is, John Candy was a dandy comedian, not Chris Farley with a vagina. Per usual, the shameless third act pathos (and the obligatory sow’s ear makeover) prove funnier than any of the stuff passing for comedy that precedes it. 2013. — S.M.

●

The Last Stand — Weary screen warrior Arnold Schwarzenegger returns to Hollywood in a film about a cop who got old and left LA for an Arizona border town. But this being Arnold, trouble finds him. And this being Arizona, it’s Mexican trouble (though — *ha-ha* — this time it’s a Mexican who wants to get out, not in). And this being the Wild West, it’s best addressed through superior firepower. It’s hard to say what gets sold harder

here: gun ownership or Chevrolet. (The bad guy drives a very fancy Corvette, and a gun-toting grandma gets a cheerful cameo.) The story works best when it sticks to mayhem, humor, or — particularly in the case of a sadly underused Johnny Knoxville — a mixture of both. The trademark Schwarzenegger quips are traded in for something less jokey and more situational, and director Kim Ji-woon (*I Saw the Devil*; *The Good, the Bad, the Weird*) knows his way around an action sequence. You will not find many surprises, except perhaps Peter Stormare doing his best Robert Duvall. You may find some delights. With Forest Whitaker, Luis Guzman, and an unmussable Jaimie Alexander. 2013. — M.L.

★★

Les Misérables — Sincere story of answered prayers, mostly those of one Jean Valjean (Hugh Jackman), an ex-con who tastes mercy and tries to break free from his criminal past (he stole a loaf of bread). But the reformed man is pursued by Javert (Russell Crowe), a lawman who does not believe reform is possible. Jackman and Crowe are both game, but when almost every line is sung, the voice must do the work, and neither is quite up to the task. Crowe lacks the requisite menace, and Jackman can’t quite manage the controlled vocal acrobatics. So it’s up to Sacha Baron Cohen and Helena Bonham Carter to steal the show as a couple of naughty, bawdy scallywags. (The story is set in France, but the culture it portrays smells English, except there are more nuns about.) They have the show stolen from *them* by Eddie Redmayne’s Marius, a young nobleman with a head full of populist ideals and a heart full of love for Valjean’s adopted daughter. (In general, the kids carry the day here.) Director Tom Hooper (*The King’s Speech*) builds a rich world, full of muck and majesty, but can’t resist prolonged closeups come solo time. And solo time comes often. With Anne Hathaway, Amanda Seyfried. 2012. — M.L.

★

John Dies at the End — Reviewed this issue. — M.L.

★★★

Knife Fight — A winning political strategist (Rob Lowe) is taken by a sudden case of the guilts in this lumpy, predictable comedy. An attractive cast does its best to buoy the political satire, but writer/director Bill Guttentag has other plans. According to Lowe, “To win in politics, you have got to be the person who is willing to bring a gun to a knife fight.” This is Guttentag’s first full-fledged foray into narrative filmmaking, and someone should have told the documentarian never to bring made-for-cable direction to a multiplex. With Jamie Chung, Carrie-Anne Moss, Julie Bowen, Eric McCormack, and Saffron Burrows. 2013.

★



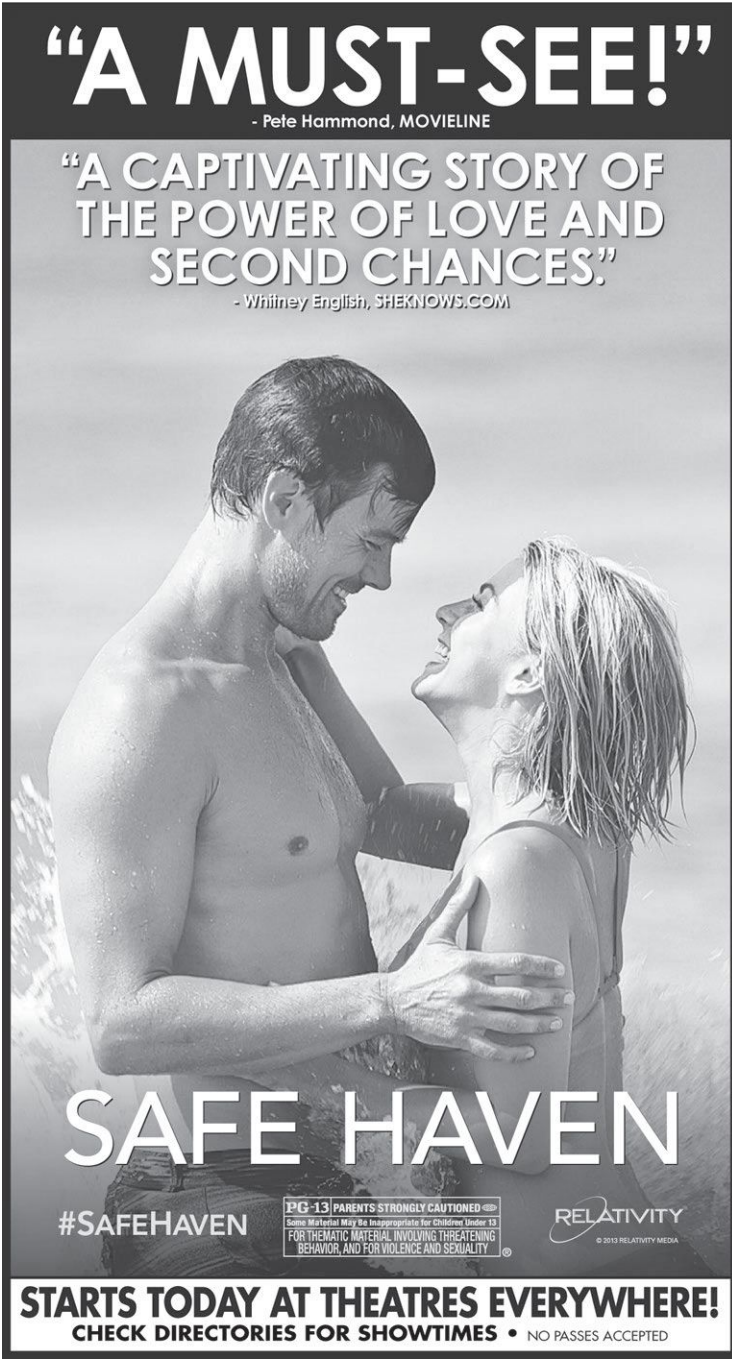
The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Animation — Score one for mass culture: the animating forces behind *The Simpsons* aren’t about to teach you anything new about the possibilities inherent in illustrated storytelling, but “Maggie Simpson in “The Longest Day-care”” dominates this year’s field through old-school craft and wit, and offers a politically topical Ayn Rand hook to boot. (You can’t debate laughter.) Of the remaining entries, only the stop-motion “Head Over Heels” feels like an exercise of imagination as well as technique as it tells the story of an old couple of who have found opposite centers of gravity. “Adam and Dog” (yes, *that* Adam) is beautiful but aimless, while “Fresh Guacamole” and the Bill-Peetish “Paperman” play like warm-up exercises for larger projects. Program hosted by last year’s winners, William Joyce and Branden Oldenburg (“The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore”). 2013. — M.L.

The Oscar Nominated Short Films 2013: Live Action — By turns exhilarating and devastating, the 2013 live-action short-film lineup serves as a reminder of why movies matter, what they can do, and why they needn’t be larded up into three-hour epics that hit all the expected beats. Every entry confronts the

blunt fact of death; every entry provides a vital and honest response to that fact. The French-Canadian entry “Henry,” a smart, gorgeous account of love and loss, is perhaps the most accomplished, and also the saddest. The entries from Somalia (“Asad”) Afghanistan (“Buzkashi Boys”) give us boys for whom coming-of-age means coming-to-grips, while the U.S. (“Curfew”) and France/Belgium (“Death of a Shadow”) give us men for whom love is literally a matter of life and death. Program hosted by last year’s winner, Luke Matheny (“God of Love”). 2013. — M.L.

★★★★

Safe Haven — On the run from the law, big-city gal Julianne Hough finds refuge in the arms of small-town widower Josh Duhamel. For its first hour, a regulation Nicholas Sparks teen romance, until all hell breaks loose in the form of a maniac cop, David Lyons, and unintentional laughter reigns supreme. The Sparks factory appears to have had a work stoppage. Why else would the popular novelist resort to openly lying to his minions in order to advance the clichés? (The audience is led to believe Hough is wanted for murder.) A shabby attempt to tie it all together at around the 110-minute mark left me gasping for air. Director Lasse Hallstrom (*My Life As a Dog*, *What’s Eating Gllbert Grape?*) still remembers



Calendar

MOVIES

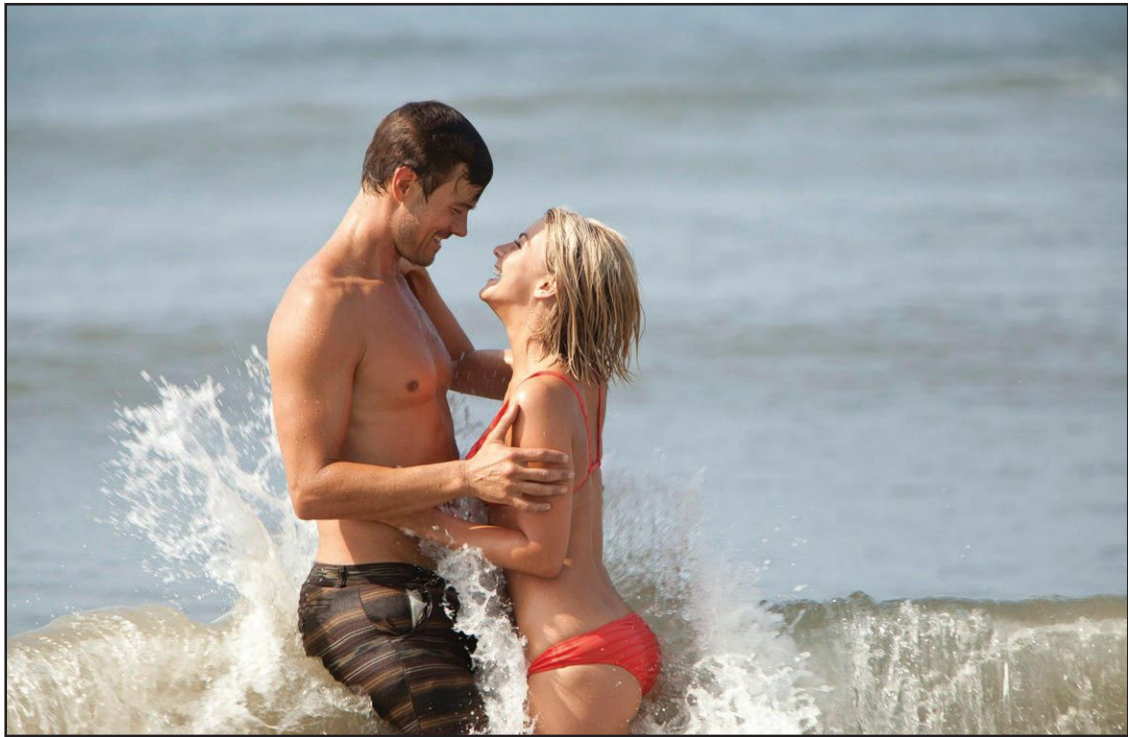
how to compose a frame even though he threw in the towel as far as art goes ages ago. — S.M.

★

Side Effects — Back in 1989, indie film director Steven Soderbergh broke onto the scene with his first film: *Sex, Lies, and Videotape*, a seamy, sticky drama about sex, lies, and videotape. Here in 2013, he is giving us what he says will be his last film: a seamy, sticky drama about sex, lies, and digital images. Also, psych meds, because the modern anxiety over how a pill can or cannot change a persona is ripe for exploitation. Soderbergh does a fine job of intermingling the smooth, clinical world of Dr. Jonathan Banks (Jude Law) with the jagged, messy life of depressed young wife Emily Taylor (Rooney Mara). And for a while, he does an even better job of keeping the viewer uncertain about who, if anybody, should be rooted for. Some dodgy casting decisions — Law never manages real desperation — do little to get in the way of the story’s gleefully nasty mechanics. 2013. — M.L.

★★★

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 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 De Niro, 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 constipated 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



In *Safe Haven*, a mysterious woman with a dark past washes up in North Carolina.

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 Stiles, and brilliant background work by Paul Herman. 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 muscle-bound 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.

★★

Stand Up Guys — For 28 years, two loyal friends serve a concurrent prison sentence: Val (Al Pacino), behind bars for refusing to finger an associate, and Doc (Christopher Walken), on the outside, waiting to perform the hit when his old partner is released. You might think there isn’t much to this gangsters-get-old fable that hasn’t already been depicted in similar outings (*Going in Style*, *Tough Guys*). But then, you’ve never seen it played by Pacino, Walken, and Alan Arkin. As with most films of this type, *Stand Up Guys* is a love story between men, but for a change, it’s not simply a boys’ club. Lucy Punch, Julianna Margulies, Vanessa Ferlito, and newcomer Addison Timlin all add credence and consequence to our trio’s decisions. Director Fisher Stevens’s greatest sin is keeping the camera in too close, but with this trio of wizened, aged-in-elegance mugs, one can’t really fault him. 2012.

★★★

Texas Chainsaw — With six *Chain-saw* films to reflect upon, one would hope that director John Luessenhop (*Takers*), eager to decorate the Leatherface family tree with crisp teen body parts, would have at least unearthed a fresh meat hook or two upon which to hang his sequel. The story picks up where Tobe Hooper’s 1974 original ends: a lynch mob torches the farm leaving Leath’ and his newborn cousin, Heather as the only Sawyers to survive the opening flashback. Ingenuity begins and ends with the jokey premise — Leatherface’s cousin grows up to be a hottie (Alexandra Daddario) — as the screenwriters leave every stone unturned in their dogged effort to inflict more of the same. Whatever images your mind can arouse of Leatherface running roughshod over a packed carnival are bound to be more satisfying (and creative) than what’s splattered across the screen. Luessenhop appears to have given his leading lady one expert piece of direction: keep your nipples covered and belly-button exposed at all times. With the exception of a few screen-piercing lunges, the 3D effects are negligible. With Richard Riehle, *Chainsaw* veteran Bill Moseley, Scott Eastwood, and Tania Raymonde as the designated skank. 2013. — S.M.

●

This Is 40 — This is 134 minutes! Paul Rudd and Leslie Mann star as the now-married couple Judd Apatow first introduced us to in *Knocked Up*. (Katherine Heigl, who told *Vanity Fair* that the original “paints the women as shrews, as humorless and uptight, and it paints the men as lovable, goofy, fun-loving guys” was not invited back for the sequel.) Rudd has a dream of introducing a new generation to Graham Parker, while Mann is desperately clinging to 39. The largely improvised marital skit-com marks Apatow’s fourth jaunt in the director’s chair; at least this time, he has the good sense to feature Albert Brooks in a meaty supporting role as Rudd’s dependent father. There are the usual amount of gross-out jokes one associates with the Apatow factory, along with the usual featherweight observational material — he sneaks cupcakes, she hides cigarettes — sprinkled with topical references. And what would a Viagra opener be without a subsequent stream of penis jokes? As much as I enjoy watching Albert on screen, in this case, his comedic timing would have been put to better use if he’d been hired as an editorial consultant to whittle away a half-hour. With Jason Segal, Robert Smigel, and Megan Fox. 2012. — S.M.

★

Warm Bodies — A date movie for every guy whose girlfriend forced him to watch sparkly vampires fall mopily in love. R (Nicholas Hoult) is a brain-munching zombie who just wants to connect. Julie (Teresa Palmer) is a spunky blonde from the other side of the massive concrete wall her dad built to keep corpses like R away from decent people like his daughter. (Dad just *hates* corpses — one of them ate his wife.) Gosh, what could “R” stand for? Don’t come looking for a consistent zombie aesthetic, and don’t pay too much attention to the cutesy voiceover of R’s interior monologue. (Dude’s a teenage zombie, what do you expect?) Do come for the thoughtful sweetness and the Shakespeare allusions (“If you shoot us, do we not bleed?”). Zombie Best Bro Rob Corddry and John “Bulldog” Malkovich make the most of their supporting roles. 2013. — M.L.

★★

Zero Dark Thirty — Spoiler alert: it ends with the bad guy getting killed. More hurt from Kathryn Bigelow in this docudrama (read: hand-held) account of the hunt for Osama Bin Laden. From its conception to execution, the American government’s “Yippee ki yay!” murder of Bin Laden had Hollywood blockbuster written all over it. For its first 30 minutes, *Zero Dark Thirty* plays like torture porn; Jigsaw waterboards Jihadists in *Saw VIII*. Jessica Chastain stars as Maya, a proto-typical Bigelow heroine, initially reserved but quick to grow an icy set of balls when needed to cut it in a man’s world. She is a “Hawksian” professional of the highest order: the real-life person upon whom the character is based spent 12 years — her entire career with the CIA — doggedly pursuing the mission at hand. The Agency accuses the film of taking “significant artistic license, while portraying itself as being historically accurate” in its depiction of the government-sanctioned waterboarding of a messenger as a means of obtaining the vital clue needed to pinpoint the exact location of Bin Laden. Is Bigelow juggling the facts or exposing truths many hold to be self-evident? When it comes to establishing and maintaining tension, there wasn’t a better American genre picture released this year. Refrain from viewing it as historical record and you won’t leave disappointed. 2012. — S.M.

★★★

FILM FESTIVALS

COPLEY SYMPHONY HALL

750 B St., Downtown San Diego
619-235-0804

The Son of the Sheik Fox Theatre Film Series continues with organist Russ Peck playing for this 1926 film starring Rudolph Valentino and Vilma Banky. “Ahmed, son of Diana and Sheik Ahmed Ben Hassan, falls in love with Yasmin, a dancing girl who fronts her father’s gang of mountebanks. Yasmin and Ahmed begin to meet secretly until one night her father and the gang capture and torture Ahmed.” 619-235-0804. **Saturday, February 16, 8:00pm**

THE LOFT

9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD
858-534-8497

Canela *Canela* (Cinnamon) tells the story of a girl, her grandmother, and their love of cooking. 7pm food; 8pm movie. \$10 movie only; \$34 food + movie. **Wednesday, February 27, 7:00pm**

MIRACOSTA COLLEGE SAN ELIJO CAMPUS

3333 Manchester Ave., Cardiff
760-944-4449



Even the Rain (También la lluvia) “Idealistic filmmaker Sebastian (Gael García Bernal) and his cynical producer Costa (Luis Tosar) arrive in Bolivia to make a revisionist film about Christopher Columbus’ conquest of the Americas” in Icíar Bollain’s 2010 film, screening

in room 204. In Spanish with English subtitles. **Friday, February 22, 1:00pm**

MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park
619-238-7559

Adult Puppet Cabaret Film Festival

Animal Cracker Conspiracy’s first event of 2013 features Heather Henson’s *Handmade Puppet Dreams Vol.4*, a touring festival of independent artist films exploring their handmade craft specifically for the camera. Sam Koji Hale will also present his short film, *Yamasong*. Event also includes puppet making, audience interaction, and adult refreshments. 619-887-1451. **Friday, February 22, 7:00pm**

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

1788 El Prado, Balboa Park
619-232-3821

Chocolat Evening includes a special viewing

of the *Chocolat* exhibition and a screening of the award-winning film, *Chocolat* (2000), which tells the story of a young mother, played by Juliette Binoche, who arrives at the fictional French village of Lansquenot-sous-Tannes with her six-year-old daughter and opens a small chocolaterie. Her chocolate quickly begins to change the lives of the townspeople. Also starring Judi Dench, Alfred Molina, Lena Olin, and Johnny Depp. All exhibitions will be open until 9pm **Thursday, February 14, 5:00pm**

SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

820 E St., East Village
619-236-5800

Film Movement: Corpo Celeste Thirteen year-old Marta has recently moved back to southern Italy with her mother and older sister and struggles to find her place, restlessly testing the boundaries of an unfamiliar city and the catechism of the Catholic church. **Saturday, February 16, 12:00pm**

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

San Diego Natural History Museum Bugs! A Rain Forest Adventure in 3D (Not Rated) Fri-Sun 11:15, 1:45, 3:15; **Ocean Oasis** (Not Rated) Fri-Sun 12:00pm; **The Last Reef 3D: Cities Beneath the Sea** (Not Rated) Fri-Sun 1:00, 2:30, 4:00

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Reading Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (800-326-3264 #2704)
Argo (R) Fri-Sun (11:10, 1:55) 4:25, 7:05, 9:40; **Beasts of the Southern Wild** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 5:30pm; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:30, 12:40, 2:55) 4:55, 7:00, 9:20; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sun (10:35, 12:45, 2:50) 5:10, 7:30, 10:05; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri-Sun (10:55, 1:10, 3:15) 5:25, 7:50, 10:10; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sun (11:15, 2:15) 4:50, 7:25, 9:50; **Parental Guidance** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:40, 1:00, 3:20); **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:30, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sun (11:25, 2:00) 4:35, 7:20, 9:45; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:40) 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; **The Impossible** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 7:40, 10:00; **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:45, 12:55, 3:05) 5:20, 7:35, 9:55; **Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Fri-Sun (11:20, 2:35) 6:00, 9:15

CLAIREMONT

Reading Town Square
4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)
Argo (R) Fri 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:45, 1:30) 4:20, 7:10, 9:55; **Django Unchained** (R) Fri (11:25, 3:05) Sat (11:25a.m.) Sun 10:20pm; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:50, 3:15) 9:45; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:10) 5:30, 7:40; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sun (10:30, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:30) 4:40, 5:50, 7:15, 8:20, 9:35, 10:40; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri 8:05, 10:10 Sun 10:10pm; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sat (11:05, 1:50) 4:30, 7:20, 9:50 Sun (1:50) 4:30, 7:20, 9:50; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (10:50, 2:05); **Quartet** (R) Fri-Sun (10:40, 1:15, 3:35) 5:55, 8:15, 10:35; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:45) 4:25, 7:05, 9:40; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sat (10:35, 12:55, 3:20) 5:45, 8:10, 10:45 Sun 10:45pm; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri (10:55, 1:40) 4:35, 7:30, 10:15 Sat (10:55, 1:40) 10:15 Sun 7:30, 10:15; **Stand Up Guys** (R) Fri 5:15, 7:35, 10:05 Sat (10:25, 12:45, 3:00) Sun 10:05pm; **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:40, 1:05, 3:25) 5:40, 8:00, 10:25

CORONADO

Vintage La Costa
820 Orange Avenue (619-437-6161)
Amour (PG-13) Fri-Sun (1:30) 5:00, 8:30; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sun (1:00) 3:30, 6:00, 8:30; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sun (1:30) 5:00, 8:30

DOWNTOWN

Reading Gaslamp
701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
Argo (R) Fri-Sun (11:05, 11:55, 1:45, 2:45) 4:25, 5:45, 7:05, 8:05, 9:40, 10:40; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:15, 2:00) 5:00, 7:40, 10:30; **The Deer Hunter** (R) Sat 7:00pm; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:15) 5:35, 9:55; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:00, 3:25) 7:45; **Gangster Squad** (R) Fri (10:50, 1:35) 4:10, 7:50, 10:25 Sat (10:50, 1:35) Sun (10:50, 1:35) 4:10, 7:50, 10:25; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sun (11:50, 12:50, 2:20, 3:20) 4:50, 5:50, 7:20, 8:20, 9:50, 10:45; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:55) 4:40, 7:30, 10:10; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:40, 3:50) 7:15, 10:20; **Parker** (R) Fri-Sun (11:25, 2:05) 4:45, 7:25, 10:00; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri (12:10, 1:00, 2:50) 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:10, 9:55, 10:45 Sat-Sun (11:10, 12:10, 1:50, 2:50) 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:10, 9:55, 10:45; **Taste of Money** (Not Rated) Fri-Sat 10:15pm; **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri (10:55, 1:10, 3:30) Sat-Sun (10:55, 1:10, 3:30) 5:40, 7:55, 10:05; **Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Fri-Sat (11:20, 12:20, 2:40, 3:40) 6:05, 7:00, 9:25 Sun (11:20, 12:20, 2:40, 3:40) 6:05, 7:00, 9:25, 10:15

Regal Horton Plaza
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Django Unchained (R) Fri-Sat (11:10, 2:35) 6:00, 9:25 Sun (11:10, 2:35) 6:00, 9:20; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sat (11:15, 12:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:15, 5:15) 6:45, 7:45, 9:15, 10:30 Sun (11:15, 12:15, 1:45, 2:45) 4:15, 5:15, 6:45, 7:45, 9:05, 10:05; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri-Sun (2:15) 9:50; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D** (R) Fri-Sat (11:45, 4:30) 7:15 Sun (11:45) 4:30, 7:15; **Mama** (PG-13) Fri (11:50, 2:25, 5:00) 7:20 Sat (2:25, 5:00) 7:20 Sun (11:50, 2:25) 5:00, 7:20; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:00, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15 Sun (11:00, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30, 10:05; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sat (10:55, 1:30, 4:00) 7:00, 9:45 Sun (10:55, 1:30) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45; **Special 26 (Special Chabbis)** (Not Rated) Fri-Sun (11:30, 3:00) 6:15, 9:30; **Stand Up Guys** (R) Fri-Sun 9:55pm; **The Metropolitan Opera: Rigoletto** (Not Rated) Sat 9:55a.m.

KENSINGTON

Landmark Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-819-0236)
Oscar® Nominated Short Films 2013: Documentary (NR) Fri: (12:00), (4:00), 8:00, Sat - Mon: (12:00), 4:00, 8:00, Tue - Thu: (4:00), 8:00; **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (R) With "Crazed Imaginations" Shadow Cast, Sat: 12:00 Midnight; **Happy People: A Year In The Taiga** (NR) Opens Friday, February 22

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)
Amour (PG-13) Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:20), (4:10), 7:00, 9:45, Sat - Mon: (10:30), 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; **Nominated For 5 Academy Awards®; Quartet** (PG-13) Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:40), (4:40), 7:20, 9:35, Sat - Mon: (10:50), 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:35; **Silver Linings Playbook** (PG-13) **Nominated For 8 Academy Awards®**, Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:30), (4:20), 7:10, 9:50, Sat - Mon: (10:40), 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; **Beasts Of The Southern Wild** (PG-13) **Nominated For 4 Academy Awards®**, Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:50), (4:30), 7:30, 9:40, Sat - Mon: (11:00), 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40

MIRA MESA

Regal Mira Mesa
10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

MISSION VALLEY

AMC Fashion Valley
7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

AMC Mission Valley
1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Ultrastar Mission Valley Hazard Center
7510 Hazard Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Call theater for program information.

UPTOWN

Landmark Hillcrest
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-819-0236)
Oscar® Nominated Short Films 2013: Animated (NR) Fri - Thu: (2:05), 7:20, 9:25; **Oscar® Nominated Short Films 2013: Live Action** (NR) Fri: (11:20), (4:30), 9:40, Sat - Mon: (11:20), (4:30), 9:40, Tue - Thu: (4:30), 9:40; **The Impossible** (PG-13) **Nominated For An Academy Award® For Best Actress (Naomi Watts)**, Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:45), (4:20), 7:00, 9:35*, Sat - Mon: (11:00), 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35, * No 9:35 PM Show Friday, 02/15/13; **Quartet** (PG-13) Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:35), (4:10), 6:45, 9:20, Sat - Mon: (11:10), 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20; **John Dies At The End** (R) Fri, Tue - Thu: (2:15), (4:50), 7:25, 9:45, Sat - Mon: (11:40), 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 9:45; **Beasts Of The Southern Wild** (PG-13) **Nominated For 4 Academy Awards®**, Fri, Tue - Thu: (1:55), (4:40), 7:10, Sat - Mon: (11:30), 1:55, 4:40, 7:10

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Cosmic Collisions (Not Rated) Fri-Sun 3:00, 5:00, 6:00; **Flight of the Butterflies IMAX** (Not Rated) Fri-Sat 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00 Sun 12:00, 2:00, 4:00; **Tales of the Maya Skies**

(Not Rated) Fri-Sat 6:00pm; **To The Arctic IMAX** (G) Fri-Sun 11:00, 1:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Regal Parkway Plaza
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Reading Grossmont
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264 #2710)
Argo (R) Fri-Sun (11:10, 1:40); **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:25, 2:10) 4:55, 7:40, 10:25; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:50, 3:10) 7:30; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:00) 5:20, 9:40; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sun (10:55, 11:55, 1:20, 2:20, 3:40) 4:40, 6:00, 7:00, 8:20, 9:20, 10:35, 11:35; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri-Sun 4:10, 6:10; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sun (11:25, 2:00) 4:35, 7:10, 8:10, 9:45, 10:45; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:50, 2:30) 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sun (10:45, 1:10, 3:35) 6:05, 8:30, 10:50; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:50) 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:15, 3:30) 5:45, 8:00, 10:15

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Regal Rancho San Diego
2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
Argo (R) Fri-Sun (11:20, 2:15) 6:35, 9:50; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:30, 2:35) 7:00, 10:00; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri (1:50, 4:25) 9:30 Sat-Sun (1:50) 4:25, 9:30; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:15) 6:45; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri (11:45, 12:15, 2:20, 2:50, 4:50, 5:20) 7:30, 8:00, 10:15, 10:45 Sat-Sun (11:45, 12:15, 2:20, 2:50) 4:50, 5:20, 7:30, 8:00, 10:15, 10:45; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri-Sun (2:30) 9:45; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D** (R) Fri (12:05, 4:45) 7:15 Sat-Sun (12:05) 4:45, 7:15; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri (11:25, 2:10, 2:40, 5:00) 7:20, 7:50, 9:55, 10:40 Sat-Sun (11:25, 2:10, 2:40) 5:00, 7:20, 7:50, 9:55, 10:40; **Life of Pi 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:55, 2:55) 6:30, 9:40; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:35, 3:00) 6:40, 10:05; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri (11:10, 2:00, 4:50) 7:45, 10:35 Sat-Sun (11:10, 2:00) 4:50, 7:45, 10:35; **Side Effects** (R) Fri (12:00, 2:35, 5:15) 8:05, 10:45 Sat-Sun (12:00, 2:35) 5:15, 8:05, 10:45; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri (12:10, 4:15) 7:10, 10:20 Sat-Sun (12:10) 4:15, 7:10, 10:20; **The Impossible** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:40a.m.); **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri (11:50, 2:25, 4:55) 7:25, 10:10 Sat-Sun (11:50, 2:25) 4:55, 7:25, 10:10; **Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Fri-Sun (11:15, 2:45) 6:50, 10:25

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Call theater for program information.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

AMC Palm Promenade
770 Denmery Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Regal Rancho Del Rey
1025 Tierra del Rey (off East H Street) (619-216-4707)
2013 Regal Oscar Marathon (Not Rated) Fri 12:00pm; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri (11:55, 3:30) 7:15, 10:10; **Django Unchained** (R) Fri (11:30, 3:00) 6:30, 10:00; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri (1:45, 4:15) 9:30; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri (11:25) 7:00; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri (11:25, 12:15, 1:55, 2:45, 4:25, 5:15) 7:05, 8:00, 9:35, 10:30; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri (2:10) 9:45; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters 3D** (R) Fri (11:55, 4:40) 7:10; **A Haunted House** (R) Fri 7:50, 10:10; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri (11:40, 2:15, 4:45) 7:40, 10:25; **Lincoln** (PG-13) Fri (12:45, 4:15); **Mama** (PG-13) Fri (1:55, 4:40) 7:25, 10:10; **Parker** (R) Fri (1:00, 3:50) 6:55, 9:45; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri (11:25, 2:05, 4:50) 7:35, 10:30; **Side Effects** (R) Fri (11:35, 2:20, 4:55) 7:30, 10:25; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri (12:55, 3:55) 6:40, 9:25; **Warm**

Bodies (PG-13) Fri (11:50, 2:35, 5:00) 7:45, 10:15

UltraStar Chula Vista
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
Movie 43 (R) Fri & Sat: (12:15), (3:00), 5:30, 8:15, 10:45, Sun & Mon: (12:15), (3:00), 5:30, 8:15, Tue - Thu: 5:00, 7:45; **The Last Stand** (R) Fri & Sat: (11:45 AM), (2:15), 5:00, 7:45, 10:30, Sun & Mon: (11:45 AM), (2:15), 5:00, 7:45, Tue - Thu: 4:45, 7:15; **Texas Chainsaw** (R) Fri - Mon: (2:30), 8:00, Tue - Thu: 7:45 PM; **Jack Reacher** (PG-13) Fri - Mon: (11:45 AM), (2:45), 5:45, 8:45, Tue - Thu: 5:00, 8:15; **This Is 40** (R) Fri & Sat: (11:15 AM), 4:45, 10:15, Sun & Mon: (11:15 AM), 4:45, Tue - Thu: 4:30 PM; **The Guilt Trip** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: (12:00), 10:45, Sun & Mon: (12:00 PM); **Rise of the Guardians** (PG) Fri & Sat: (11:00 AM), (1:30), (4:00), 6:30, 9:00, Sun & Mon: (11:00 AM), (1:30), (4:00), 6:30, Tue - Thu: 4:15, 6:45; **The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: (11:15 AM), (2:00), 5:00, 7:45, 10:30, Sun & Mon: (11:15 AM), (2:00), 5:00, 7:45, Tue - Thu: 4:30, 7:30; **Skyfall** (PG-13) Fri & Sat: (11:30 AM), (2:45), 6:00, 9:15, Sun & Mon: (11:30 AM), (2:45), 6:00, Tue - Thu: (4:00), 7:15; **Flight** (R) Fri & Sat: 9:15 PM; **Wreck-It Ralph** (PG) Fri & Sat: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, Sun & Mon: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:15, Tue - Thu: 4:15, 6:45; **Here Comes the Boom** (PG) Fri - Mon: (2:30), 5:15, 8:00, Tue & Wed: 4:45, 7:30, Thu: 4:45, 8:05; **Hotel Transylvania** (PG) Fri - Mon: (11:30 AM), (1:45), 4:15, 6:45, Tue - Thu: (4:00), 6:15, 8:30

EASTLAKE

AMC Otay Ranch
Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

AMC Plaza Bonita
3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

NORTH INLAND

BONSALL

Digiplex River Village
River Village Shopping Center - 5256 Mission Road (760-945-8784)
Beautiful Creatures (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00, 11:00 Sun (11:00, 2:00) 5:00, 8:00; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sat (11:45, 2:15) 4:30, 7:00, 9:45 Sun (11:45, 2:15) 4:30, 7:00; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sat (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:15, 10:45 Sun (12:00, 2:45) 5:30, 8:15; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sat (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 Sun (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 Sun (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sat (11:30, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45, 10:30 Sun (11:30, 2:30) 5:15, 7:45

ESCONDIDO

Regal Escondido
350 West Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information.

POWAY

UltraStar Poway
13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)
Call theater for program information.

SAN MARCOS

Regal San Marcos
1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old California Walk) (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

TEMECULA

Ultrastar Temecula Tower Cinemas
27531 Ynez Road (951-699-2205)
Call theater for program information.

VISTA

Krikorian Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
Amour (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:45, 1:35, 4:25) 7:15,

10:10; **Argo** (R) Fri-Sun (2:00) 7:30; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:55, 4:45) 7:40, 10:30; **Escape from Planet Earth** (PG) Fri-Sun (12:00, 2:15, 4:40) 7:00; **Escape from Planet Earth 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:20) 9:20; **A Good Day to Die Hard** (R) Fri-Sun (11:40, 12:30, 2:20, 3:00, 4:50, 5:30) 7:20, 8:00, 9:45, 10:30; **Hansel & Gretel: Witch Hunters** (R) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30) 7:50, 10:05; **Identity Thief** (R) Fri-Sun (11:00, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 5:00) 7:05, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25; **Quartet** (R) Fri-Sun (11:45, 2:10, 4:35) 7:10, 9:35; **Safe Haven** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:15, 2:00, 4:45) 7:30, 10:15; **Side Effects** (R) Fri-Sun (11:35, 2:15, 4:55) 7:35, 10:10; **Silver Linings Playbook** (R) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:55, 4:40) 7:25, 10:20; **Warm Bodies** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:35, 2:05, 4:30, 5:05) 7:20, 9:45, 10:20; **Zero Dark Thirty** (R) Fri-Sun (12:05, 3:35) 7:00, 10:15

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

UltraStar La Costa
6941 El Camino Real (760-603-8638)
Argo (R) Fri-Sun 11:30, 1:45, 4:45, 9:00, 11:45; **Beautiful Creatures** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:15, 1:35, 5:15, 8:45, 11:15; **Django Unchained** (R) Fri-Sun 10:45, 2:00, 4:30, 8:00, 11:

CLASSIFIED ADS

Check out ads at **SDReader.com**
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

HELP WANTED

DRIVERS / DELIVERY

DRIVERS/COURIERS. Cargo Vans & Mini Vans needed. Full- and part-time shifts. \$16-\$18 per hour which includes mileage pay. Call 858-444-2350.

HEALTH CARE

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. 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.

Visiting Angels
LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

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/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.

CHIROPRACTIC ASSISTANT. Busy chiropractic / nutrition office looking for an amazing on- purpose person who wants to make a difference. Part time. Computer savvy, reception and back office duties. Speech Therapy/OT/IM experience a plus, not mandatory. Come join the fun. Please email resume to: service@drlabbe.com.

Caregivers Needed

Great weekly pay, flexible hours. Live-in and hourly caregivers needed for high- profile clients throughout San Diego County. We speak Tagalog! *Home Care Assistance* 7521 Fay Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037. **760-635-3758.**

HAVE A SPARE BEDROOM? Earn a stipend starting at \$1100/ 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.**

HEALTHCARE: RNS, LVNS, AIDES. Join La Jolla Nurses! Seeking RNs, LVNs, Aides and Home Health Aides. Per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts you want to work! State licensed home health agency. Competitive pay rate. Overtime for 12-hour shifts. Ongoing assignments. Referral bonuses. Employment insurance protection. Excellent work assignments in all areas. Dental and vision benefits. Locally owned and operated. Highly reputable agency. In business since 1977. New nursing

grad program offered. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339. www.lajollanurseshomecare.com.

LIVE-IN CAREGIVER. 6- bed Residential Care Facility Elderly (RCFE). Assist with showers, personal care, etc. Room/ board plus salary. Security fingerprint check required. 619-460-2272.

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.

MISCELLANEOUS

DONATE QUALIFIED PLASMA, earn money every week. 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.

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.

HELP WANTED. Earn extra income assembling CD cases from home! No experience necessary! Call our live operators now! 1-800-405-7619 x2450. www.easywork-greatpay.com . (AAN CAN)

INSTRUCTORS/COACHES. Work with adults with developmental disabilities in Oceanside, Lakeside, or Chula Vista. Full time. Excellent benefits. \$10-\$10.50/ hour. Call Oceanside 760-643-9394, Lakeside 619-562-6330 or Chula Vista, 619-691-6346.

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.

OFFICE / ADMINISTRATIVE

OFFICE ASSISTANT. Part-time general office help needed with website knowledge. Requires computer experience with applications and programming. Email tmhabchi@yahoo.com.

RESTAURANT / HOTEL / CLUB

HOTEL FRONT DESK. Full time, experience required. SDSU area. Must be able to work weekends & flexible schedule. Competitive pay! Fax resume 619-582-6873, or apply in person 6474 El Cajon Blvd, San Diego, CA 92115.

SALES / MARKETING

APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER: B2B Appointment Scheduler/ Phone Marketing. \$15/ hour base pay plus bonus. Setting appointments business-to- business via phone, no selling. Morning hours Monday- Friday, part time only, in Miramar Area. 1 year of outbound dialing experience in call center required. E-mail resume: employment@versacall.com, or fax: 858-677-6765. Inquiries, please call 858-677-6766 x410.

JOB DEVELOPER. Highly motivated person to place adults with developmental disabilities in employment settings throughout San Diego County. Santee office. Clean DMV and proof of auto insurance. Salary, incentives plus excellent benefits. Fax resume to Unyeway, Inc. 619-562-8188 or call Kimberly, 619-562-8393.

MARKETING PERSON for home care agency. Fun job. Position requires excellent communication skills. Experience preferred. Must have car. 3774 Grove Street #L1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

SALES EXECUTIVE for Technology Company. Exciting ground-floor opportunity to sell an exclusive new product to Real Estate Agents and Brokers nationwide. Our Lifestyle Property Search Application was a finalist for 2011 Innovator of the Year Award and is quickly becoming the standard for real estate searches online. Additionally, we have recently added Wordpress Websites, SEO and PPC campaign services. Our combined product offering gives our sales reps the opportunity to make \$500+ per sale in commissions. Guaranteed base salary with paid training. Up to 60% commissions and daily cash spiffs. Monthly residual bonuses. Fun working environment. Stock option plan. If you are looking to begin a new career with an awesome company, then Home Junction would love to speak with you. Send resume to Dana@hjmail.com or call Dana for an interview: 858-777-9533 x26.

SALES. Big Game Promotions is now hiring for full-time inside sales. No experience required. Fun working environment. Base plus high commissions. Residual income. Paid training. Exclusive leads. Must be coachable and motivated. Opportunity for fast advancement. Daily spiffs! E-mail resume to jobs@biggamepromotions.com or call 619-618-2002 to schedule interview.

SOLAR APPOINTMENT SETTER Canvasser. Make \$1000-\$3000 working part-time. Outside marketing, excellent pay and high commissions. Easy and fun! Will train. Clay, 619-495-6224.

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SALONS

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SECURITY GUARDS. Full-time and part-time opportunities at construction sites, hotels, etc. Mostly evening shifts between 6pm and 5am. Guard Card and minimum 6 months experience required. East-Tech Private Security. E-mail resume to easttech2171@aol.com or fax 760-433-9339.

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California
MENTOR

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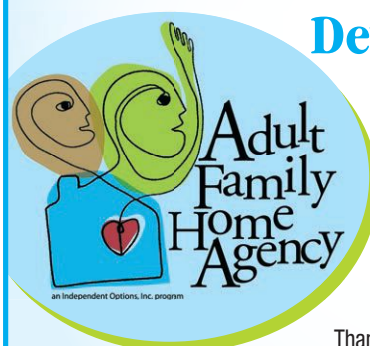
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www.MentorsWanted.com

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MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR, full time, Monday-Friday. Must have a truck and own tools. Good English skills required. Pacific Beach area. Please call 858-270-5995.

SUMMER JOBS IN ALASKA! Seafood Processors needed July 1-September 1. Be one of a crew of 400 and have a great adventure! Great opportunity to beat the heat and make that extra money! Check out our information and fantastic referral program at www.hookedonfish.com, then you can apply online. Call toll-free: Petersburg Fisheries Seafood Processing, 1-877-772-4294 (February-July).

COMPUTER/TECHNICAL

BIOINFORMATICS SCIENTIST (Req# IIC1037) Work in cross-functional group of sfwr dvlpns, bioinformaticians, hdnr engrs & molecular biologists dvlpng next gen state of the art genome analysis sys. Master's + 3 yrs rtd exp or PhD. Mail resumes to Alice DeGroff, Illumina, Inc, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & req#.

PROGRAMMER ANALYSTS. Sysintelli, Inc. has openings for Programmer Analysts and SAS Programmer in San Diego, CA and various anticipated client locations throughout the US. Min BS/MS in comp sci, info sys or eng. No Telecommuting required or permitted. Relocation benefits offered. Email resumes to panny@sysintelli.com.

JOBS WANTED

NOTICE TO READERS: This category is for individuals seeking employment, so employers can contact them with available job openings.

JOB WANTED AS CAREGIVER.

Independent/ certified, live-in, hourly, 15 years' experience, good references, bilingual (English/Spanish), cooking, cleaning, drives. Check/ cash okay. 619-646-9291.

JOB WANTED. More than 25 years of professional cooking and caregiving. Reliable, committed, professional. A proven record of levels of responsibilities. Jackie, 619-263-8304. 619-646-9291.

JOB WANTED. Russian language tutoring. Message phone, 619-405-0087.

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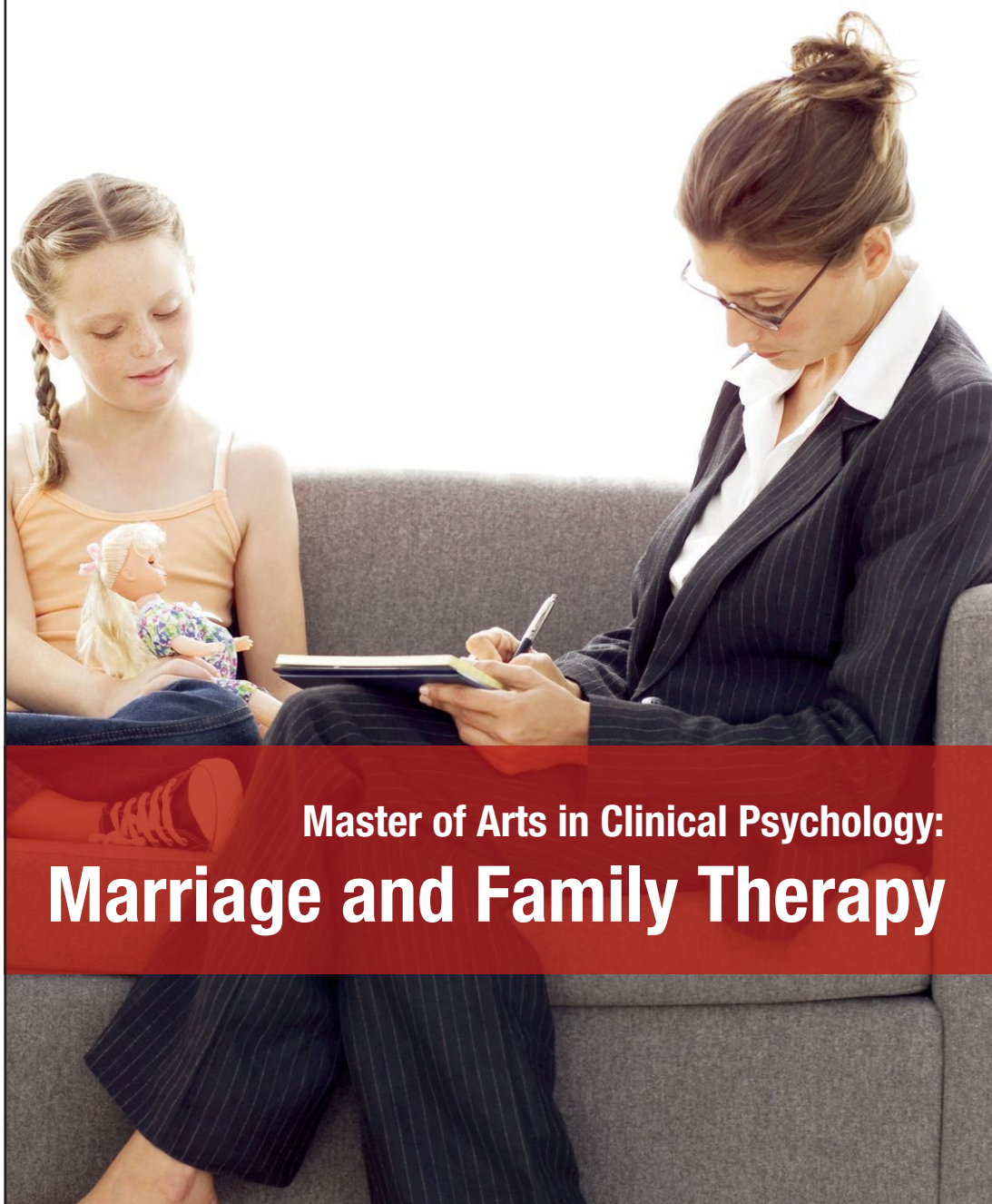
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page X

CHULA VISTA

New CFO, same old story Sweetwater Union hiree has alleged “personnel problems” and an unaccredited degree

In a February 1 phone call, Sweetwater Union High School District spokesperson Manny Rubio acknowledged that the district has hired Dr. Albert Alt as their new CFO. Rubio said Alt was selected after “a couple rounds of interviews.”

Alt comes to Sweetwater from the Yuba Community College District, where he began serving as director of human resources in 2003 and was promoted to vice chancellor of administrative services in 2009. He reportedly had a troubled tenure in both capacities.

According to a May 2012 article on *Appeal-Democrat.com*, Alt’s position was abruptly eliminated. A chancellor for the district, Doug Houston, told the *Appeal-Democrat* that the move was partially due to reorganization but “there were also personnel issues in play” that prevented him from commenting further.

Like too many California school districts, the Yuba district borrowed costly money

under their \$190-million construction measure J. According to a September *Daily Democrat* piece, the district borrowed \$4.6 million as a capital appreciation bond in April 2011. The loan will eventually cost the taxpayers \$54.2 million.

Some of the district’s trustees said they were not fully apprised of the terms of the loan. Trustee Jim Kennedy told the *Daily Democrat* that he “blamed two former district executives, Chancellor Nicki Harrington and ousted Vice Chancellor Al Alt, for not keeping trustees informed on what they were voting for.”

In 2008, while acting as director of human resources, Alt had a problem as a result of taking his doctorate from Madison University — an unaccredited university. Says a 2008 article in *Inside Higher Ed*: “Among Al Alt’s duties at Yuba College is making sure the degrees are legitimate — at the point of hire, or when professors or others at the California community college file the paperwork to qualify for higher pay based on earning a new degree....”

“[I]n a sign of how widespread the problem may be with unaccredited degrees, Alt last year had to tell his bosses to lower his own salary: a doctorate he earned after he started work at Yuba — and for which he was paid extra — apparently came from an unaccredited institution, he said.”



A resident of a halfway house, suspected of being intoxicated, jumped from a second-story window.

An online search shows that Alt has subsequently sought another degree in education from Drexel University.

SUSAN LUZZARO, FEB. 3

ENCINITAS

Man jumps from halfway-house window

Resident suspected of intoxication; neighbors express concern about recent crimes in the area

A man was put in handcuffs after jumping out of a second-story window in Encinitas Ranch on February 1. Many neighbors came out of their homes to watch as several police and sheriff’s deputies pulled into their community on a sunny Friday afternoon.

The shirtless man, who appeared to be in his 20s, seemed to be distressed and crying. The window he jumped from was in a halfway house, according to the man’s substance-abuse counselor, who showed up across the street to talk to the officers. She told authorities that the man had called her and said he was drunk. She yelled the man’s name and told him everything would be okay.

A couple of neighbors said that they knew there was a halfway house on Cypress Hills Drive, where the incident took place. Other neighbors said they had no idea this kind of establishment was right next to their homes and expressed concern about it in relation to recent crimes in the area.

MERCY BARON, FEB. 5

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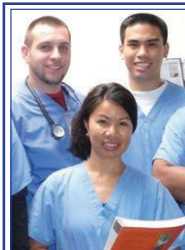


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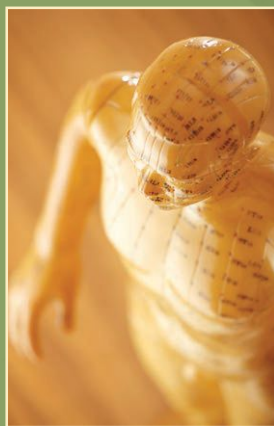
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OCEAN BEACH, \$495. Point Loma. Female roommate wanted to share 3BD+3BA townhouse blocks to the beach. Sauna, jacuzzi. 2-car garage. Utilities included. Nonsmoking. No pets. 619-755-0506.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$750. Female roommate wanted to share 2BD+2BA apartment. Blocks to beach! No smoking or pets. Must fill out application with property management. 858-488-0636.

Downtown

DOWNTOWN, \$425. Guy seeks male roommate to share 2BD+2BA comfortable home. Downtown area. \$300 deposit. 619-262-3463.

DOWNTOWN, \$795. Furnished room in bright sunny urban condo. Share with design professional. Five minutes to City College. Seek neat, clean, mature individual. References required. 435-503-8428.

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CLAIREMONT, \$600. Room. Plus deposit. Quiet house in Northwest Clairemont. No smoking, pets, drugs. Utilities U-Verse, laundry, DishTV included. Kitchen privileges ok. Message, 858-270-1436; 858-218-5081; 619-246-7447.

LINDA VISTA, \$550. Furnished room for rent. Female only. Includes utilities. Kitchen privileges. No smoking. Centrally located. 619-602-2472.

East County

EL CAJON, \$800. Plus deposit required. Magnificent five bedroom estate house. 3 rooms to

rent. View, pool, central A/C, fireplace, washer/dryer. Email, tmhabchi@yahoo.com.

LA MESA, \$550. Room for rent in nice condo. Lake Murray Blvd. No drugs. Male or female. Available immediately. Contact Sam, 619-534-5384.

SPRING VALLEY, \$450. \$200 deposit. Male preferred. Large furnished room. Utilities/ cable included. Private shower. Share kitchen. No smoking, pets, drugs. 619-917-2033.

SPRING VALLEY, \$525. 1BD. Share utilities. Kitchen privileges. Laundry. No smoking. Woman preferred. \$200 deposit. 619-829-1504.

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North County Coastal

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North County Inland

ESCONDIDO, \$550. 2 rooms available. Granny suite, and 1 room with bath. Close to I-15, shopping and bus line. No smoking or drugs. 928-234-4793.

South Bay

CHULA VISTA, \$425. Room for rent. Close to the bus stop. \$200 deposit. Share utilities. Nonsmoking. Women preferred. 619-829-1504.

CHULA VISTA, \$500. Includes utilities. \$200 deposit. Room available in nice Otay Ranch area. Security gate. Male preferred. Available now. Home: 619-216-0117; cell: 619-395-1765.

CHULA VISTA, \$550. Female preferred, Eastlake. Share 3 bedroom condo with 1 person. Lake view, own bath, washer/dryer. Pools. Includes utilities, cable/ Internet. Available. 619-733-1830.

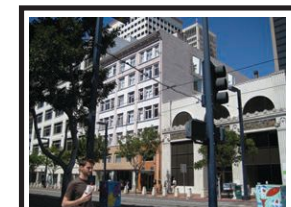
CHULA VISTA, \$600. Roommate wanted for fully furnished room in a spacious condo. All utilities included. Deposit required. No pets/ smoking. 619-200-4069.

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Beaches

LA JOLLA, \$1095.
Studio on Mt. Soledad. Includes Utilities & off street parking. Fridge, Stove, Microwave, Washer/dryer available. New Paint/Tile/Granite Countertop. No Smoking! 619-520-5200.

LA JOLLA, \$1175.
1BD's starting at \$1175. Charming European style. Pool, community laundry, elevator. Walk to the Cove, dining and business district. No pets. 858-459-8254.

LA JOLLA, \$1645.
2BD+1BA upstairs remodeled unit on quiet cul-de-sac near Windandsea. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Large private balcony, garage with opener. Cat ok with extra deposit. Available 3/10/13. 6236 Dowling Drive. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

LA JOLLA, \$4950.
5BD+3BA. Bird Rock executive home. Ocean view. 2-story. 2500sqft. Den, master suite, and office. Wood floors, 2-car detach garage. Jacuzzi, mature landscape. Wood decks, pets ok. 619-548-4755.

MISSION BEACH, \$1895.
2BD+1BA. View of ocean from balcony. All Appliances. Laundry on Site. One Parking space. Just steps to beach. 712 Santa Rita Place #B, 858-272-9547.

MISSION BEACH, \$2100.
2BD+2BA, with two master bedroom/ bathroom! Upstairs unit. Dishwasher. Vaulted ceilings. Parking space. One year lease. Available now! 733 Ensanada Court. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

MISSION BEACH, \$2500.
2BD+2BA ground floor apartment in 4-unit complex. Steps from scenic Mission Bay. Hardwood floors throughout. 2 reserved parkings. Nonsmoking. Available 3/1. 1-year lease. Deposit \$2,000. No pets. Email, breereck@gmail.com.

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, \$1095.
1BD+1BA, downstairs large unit near cliffs. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 2/20/13. 4853 Orchard Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1380.
2BD+1BA upstairs apartment. Appliances, parking, laundry. Dogs OK. 619-424-4215.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1450.
2BD+1BA upstairs apartment. Close to Ocean Beach. Brand-new building. Washer/ dryer in unit, tiled and carpeted floors. New stainless steel appliances. All new amenities. 2731 Camulos. 858-270-4674; 619-224-0306.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1525.
2BD+2BA, apartment. All amenities included! One block to beach! Dishwasher, refrigerator and stove. Pool, laundry, fireplace, parking. 4825 Del Mar Avenue. 858-270-0859.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1645.
2BD Spacious. Garden apartments. 2 blocks to ocean. Large garage. Fireplace. Hardwood floors. Private patio. Laundry. Tile in kitchen/bath. 4863 Niagara Ave. Shore Management. (858) 274-3500.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1950.
2BD+2-1/2BA, plus extra room, townhome. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/ dryer in unit. Private patio. Fireplace. Cat OK with extra deposit. Parking. Available 3/14/13. 4846 Del Monte. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH, \$2695.
3BD home. Modern kitchen with gas stove. 2.5 car garage. Fenced yard with patio. Laundry. Gardener. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

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PACIFIC BEACH, \$1150-\$1750
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PACIFIC BEACH, \$1150.
1BD+1BA. Available now. 1536 Moorland Drive # 6. www.AMGSD.com. 619-295-1165.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1150.
1BD+1BA, appliances, parking, new carpet and flooring. Just three blocks to the beach and fun. 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1180-\$1380.
1BD+1BA. Stand-alone cottage. Block to ocean. Remodeled bath/ kitchen, white tile, mirrored doors, Berber carpet. No dogs. 851.5 Diamond Street. Rebate \$500. 760-201-3818.

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1BD+1BA, large remodeled 3rd (top) floor unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Elevator. Coin laundry. Parking. Pool. No pets. Available 2/12/13. 1433 Oliver. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1195.
1BD+1BA upstairs apartment with private balcony. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Garage. Available 3/10/13. 1539 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1200.
1BD+1BA, downstairs remodeled unit in North Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Shared courtyard. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Close to shops, restaurants and public transportation. Available 2/20/13. 1546 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1200.
1BD+1BA, unit in duplex in North Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Garage. 2.5 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 2/14/13. 943 Missouri. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1225.
2BD+1BA cottage with shared yard. Close to all. Walk to bay. Laundry, parking, patio. No pets. 4117-1/2 Ingraham Street. 858-270-4674.

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PACIFIC BEACH, \$1295.
2BD+1BA, downstairs unit in triplex behind 4548. Remodeled bath. New paint, blinds, carpet, stove and refrigerator. Garage. Small pet OK with extra deposit. EZ access to Freeway and Weinerschnitzel. Available now. 4550 Bond. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1350.
2BD+1BA. Near Garnet shopping. **Open house Saturday, 2/16, 11:30-12:30.** 2073 Emerald Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

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+1BA. **Open house Saturday, 2/16, 4:00-5:00.** Ideal central location, parking, and laundry on-site. Top floor apartment overlooking courtyard. No pets. 1461 Missouri Street #6. Call today! TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1425.
2BD+2BA. North PB. Newly remodeled, well maintained unit. Quiet. Ceiling fans, microwave, dishwasher, laundry, reserved parking. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.
2BD+1BA upstairs apartment. 1/2 off first month of rent. Gated complex, mahogany floors, coin laundry. 4077 Lamont Street. 858-768-4311. www.cal-prop.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.
2BD+1BA. Convenient central location across from Sprouts Market and Garnet shopping. Short walk to beach. No pets. 1236 Felspar Street. TPPM, 858-699-3851. www.torreypinespm.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1495.
2BD+1BA. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, parking, laundry room, patio. No pets. 1735 Reed Avenue #9. Agent, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1525.
2BD+1BA cottage in East PB. Stove, refrigerator, laundry hookups. Garage. Fenced yard. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Rear unit on 3-unit property. Available 2/25/13. 2036 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1550.
2BD+1BA, cottage with fenced yard. Wood floors! Stove, refrigerator. Parking. Seven blocks to ocean. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Available 3/1/13. 1427 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1600.
2BD+1BA upper-level apartment. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off- street parking. On-site laundry. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. Available now. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1650.
2BD+2BA upstairs apartment. Off-street parking. Laundry on site. No pets. Fresh paint, new carpet. Available now! 4451 Haines Street. Chris, 858-270-4492 x203 or CDunphyPacwest@san.rr.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1695 & 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; www.baypointeapartmenthomes.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2000.
3BD+2BA North Pacific Beach apartment. Appliances, laundry on site, garage, 2-1/2 blocks beach. 930-B Wilbur Avenue. 858-459-8789.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2095.
2BD+2.5BA townhome, end unit in triplex. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, fireplace. Twin master suites. Fenced yard/ patio area and two balconies. Garage plus 2 parking spaces. Laundry hookups. Available 3/1/13. 4228 Fanuel Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2400.
3BD+3BA townhouse with 3- car garage. Fireplace, washer/ dryer, patio, deck. Clean, fresh paint. No pets. 1833 Grand Avenue. 858-270-4492x203 or CDunphyPacwest@san.rr.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2650.
3BD+2.5BA townhouse. Clean, airy. 3- car garage. Fireplace. Washer/ dryer, patio, deck. No pets. 1535 Hornblend. Available. 858-270-4492x203 or CDunphyPacwest@san.rr.com.

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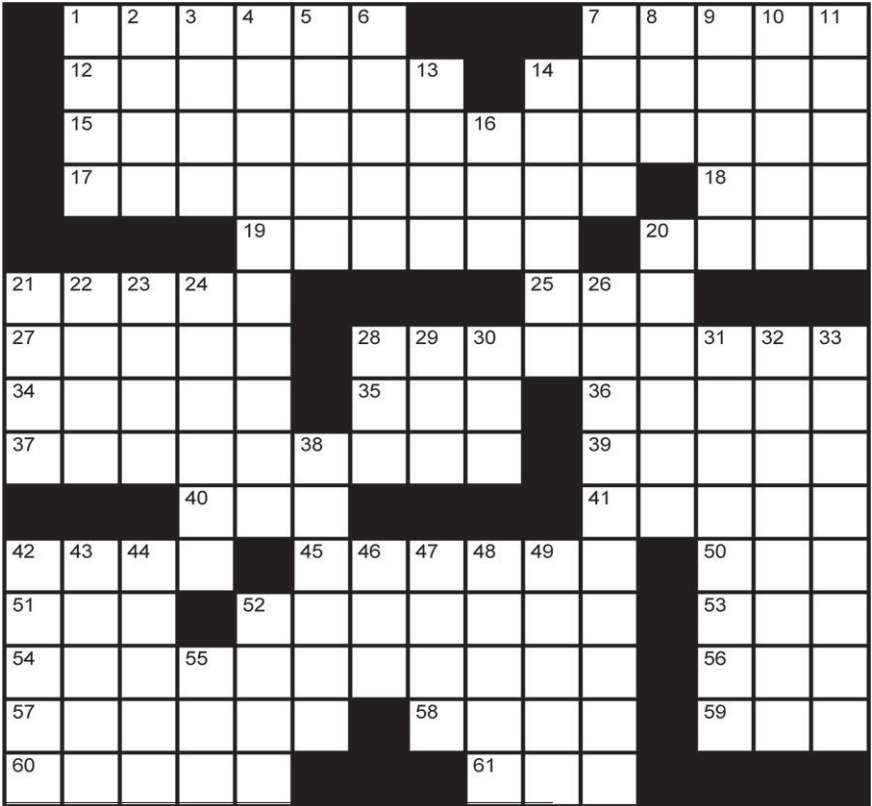
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RULES OF THE GAME

- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online each week to 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.
- 3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
- 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy; or scanned and e-mailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

And now for the really small print:

- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
- 2) Late entries will not be considered.
- 3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.
- 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. Knight's rescuee
- 7. 1990s president of the Philippines
- 12. Without stopping
- 14. Corporal, e.g.
- 15. LOL
- 17. Ingredient on an everything bagel
- 18. Org. trying to clear the air?
- 19. Party animal?
- 20. Orchard fruit
- 21. Annapolis frosh
- 25. Univ., e.g.
- 27. Singer Wainwright
- 28. LOL
- 34. Maine campus town
- 35. "Beverly Hills 90210" actor Ziering
- 36. Aunt overseas
- 37. LOL
- 39. Benjamin
- 40. Toward the back of a boat
- 41. Pulitzer-winning journalist Seymour
- 42. Rock's Kings of _____
- 45. Label founded in 1975 by Clive Davis
- 50. Ship navigation hazard
- 51. List-ending abbr.
- 52. Himalayan guides
- 53. Frat. counterpart
- 54. LOL

- 56. Unlock, poetically
- 57. Slander
- 58. Suffix with smack
- 59. The idiot brother in "Our Idiot Brother"
- 60. Pass, as a law
- 61. Compass heading

Down

- 1. ____ Inn
- 2. Stick ____ in the water
- 3. Art Spiegelman's Pulitzer-winning graphic novel
- 4. Removes, as paint
- 5. Resin used in varnishes
- 6. Compare (to)
- 7. Olympian's no-no, informally
- 8. Taylor of fashion
- 9. "Me and Bobby ____"
- 10. Start of a "Willy Wonka" song
- 11. Mascara problem
- 13. City of some Galileo experiments
- 14. Baseball div.
- 16. Gave permission
- 20. "Wheel of Fortune" category
- 21. Ont. or Que.
- 22. Tackle box item
- 23. Get an ____ effort
- 24. Maker of the Grand Canyon, in myth
- 26. Part of a to-do list when in Vegas, say
- 28. Victory

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:

Z	A	P	P	A	S	P	I	T	S	B	V	D
I	D	I	O	M	T	E	P	E	E	L	E	I
P	A	T	T	I	L	U	P	O	N	E	A	R
			S	T	S		W	A	S	I	T	
	B	E	N	A	Z	I	R	B	H	U	T	T
P	A	R	R	O	T		U	L	Y	S	S	E
A	N	I	M	E		S	M	E	E			
R	O	S	A	L	I	N	D	R	U	S	S	E
			T	A	S	S		T	A	L	I	A
L	E	A	R	N	O	F		F	I	R	I	N
E	M	M	Y	L	O	U	H	A	R	R	I	S
G	O	S	E	E		O	R	A				
A	T	T		A	R	L	O	G	U	T	H	R
C	E	E		S	E	I	K	O		B	R	A
Y	S	L		T	W	I	S	T		A	E	I
												O

- 29. Solo on screen
- 30. Vague quantity
- 31. Completing a sentence, say
- 32. ENT's instrument
- 33. On a leash
- 38. Jazz fan, most likely
- 42. "Here, I'll do that"
- 43. One of filmdom's Coen brothers
- 44. Central Florida city
- 46. First Amendment subj.
- 47. "Dies ____" (Latin hymn)
- 48. Reject
- 49. Include as an extra
- 52. USAF rank
- 55. ____-tac-toe

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:

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.

- Burr Passenheim, Linda Vista, 2.
- Bill Pischke, Ramona, 2.
- Scott Tuley, El Cajon, 2.
- Susan Williams, North Park, 2.
- Henry Romero, San Diego, 1.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$895-1250.
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, \$900.
Studio, lower-level apartment. 3 blocks to beach. Assigned off-street parking. On-site laundry. No pets. 1050 Hornblend. Available March. 858-270-4492 x203.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$950 & 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.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$950.
Studio, approximately 425 sqft in North PB. 1-1/2 blocks to ocean. Full kitchen with stove and refrigerator. Parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 3/14/13. 852 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$995.
1BD upper apartment. 3 blocks to ocean. Fresh paint. Excellent condition. Laundry. Quiet complex. 1058.5 Felspar St. Shore Management, 858-274-3500.

POINT LOMA, \$1325.
Beautiful apartment homes starting at \$1275! 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. 877-794-4982. Gables.com.

POINT LOMA, \$1645-1945.
2BD+2BA and 3BD+2BA: Canyon views at 2BR/2BA or panoramic ocean/bay views at rare 3BD/2BA. Spacious! Many upgrades. Balcony. Pool. Fitness. Rec-room. Saunas. No pets! 619-226-8158.

POINT LOMA, \$1900.
2BD+1BA house by Sunset Cliffs. Garage. Laundry on-site. 4733 Bermuda. 619-222-6020.

Downtown

Trilogy on 5th Banker's Hill



2BR+2BA w/Loft \$2895+ ½ Off Deposit (OAC)
Granite countertops, stainless steel appliances underground parking.
Walk to Balboa Park/Downtown.

3275 5th Ave.
619-550-8069
www.trilogyon5thapts.com
Viewing by appointment only.

BANKER'S HILL, \$1300.
1BD+1BA large bright top floor apartment. Hardwood floors. Dog friendly. 2642 5th Ave. 858-568-5081.

BANKER'S HILL, \$1550.
2BD+2BA apartment. Pool, secured parking. Pets ok. \$1000 deposit. 2244 Second Avenue, #10. 858-922-4205.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

DOWNTOWN, \$400 & UP.
Rooms \$400/ up. Clean and quiet. Includes utilities and free cable, on-site laundry, elevator. Excellent location, convenient to all. No pets. Centre City Manor, 1450 4th Avenue and Beech Street. 619-255-5631. www.HughesManagement.net.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

DOWNTOWN, \$450-595.
Attractive rooms in Victorian- style building. Utilities included. Some parking available. Common kitchen, bathrooms, laundry. Near City College grocery stores and more. Villa Victoria, 719 14th Street. 619-239-1639 x2. www.HughesManagement.net.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

DOWNTOWN, \$450.
Best deal in town, period. 55+ quality senior living. Beautiful furnished rooms with private bathrooms. Includes utilities, cable TV, maid service. On-site laundry and storage. Edge of Bankers Hill at 1814 Fifth Avenue, New Palace Hotel. 619-235-2323. www.HughesManagement.net.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

DOWNTOWN, \$475-550.
Affordable rooms near Petco Park. Utilities included. Common kitchen, bathrooms, laundry, vending machines. Star Hotel, 522 7th Avenue & Island. 619-235-6068. www.HughesManagement.net.

DOWNTOWN, \$486-625.
Cozy rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.



HUGHES MANAGEMENT

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.

RENTALS

Pacific Beach Luxury from \$950



- Heated pool, 2 Jacuzzis
- 2 basketball courts
- 5 lighted tennis courts
- Clubhouse and BBQ area
- Business Center
- On-site laundry facilities
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- Close to freeways and much, much more!!!

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(OAC, on select units)

Studios starting at \$950
1 bedrooms starting at \$1245
2 bedrooms/2 baths starting at \$1695
Select units, OAC.

Bay Pointe Apartments

3866 Ingraham Street in Pacific Beach
888-451-8713 • baypointe@progressmanagement.net
baypointeapartmenthomes.com

DOWNTOWN, \$850 & UP.
Studio+1BA and 1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st month! No application fee. 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, #3, #34, #37, 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, sun decks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second/ Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingdsd.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.affordablehousingdsd.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.

EAST VILLAGE, \$600.
Studio with charm. Laundry facilities. Ceiling fan. Large closets. Quiet building. Easy downtown/ freeway access. Street parking. No pets. Single occupancy. 619-231-7456.

GOLDEN HILL, \$1335.
2BD+1BA apartment. 900 sqft. Classic Golden Hill Apt with amazing views of Coronado and tops of Downtown. Open house Saturday 2:30-3:30pm pm. 2714 Broadway. Call 858-768-4333 or visit www.cal-prop.com.

GOLDEN HILL, \$750.
Studio apartment. Available 02/20/13. 2472 B ST #F. www.AMGSD.com, (619) 295-1165.

GOLDEN HILL, \$795.
1BD+1BA, charming apartment. Hardwood floors. Great neighborhood, on-site laundry, Cats OK! No dogs. Available Now! 2421 E Street. 619-857-3706.

SOUTH PARK, \$600.
STUDIO+1BA. Laundry and parking on site. 619-640-1712.

SOUTH PARK, \$750-925.
Studio+1BA & 1BD+1BA. Wood flooring, coin operated laundry, close to bus lines. Available in Now! 3009 & 3011 30th St. www.stevenleproperties.com, (619)295-5525.

**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.**

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1/2 hour massage

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San Diego, CA 92120
619 284-1266

East County

EL CAJON, \$1300.
2BD's starting at \$1300. Newly remodeled building. Pool, new paint. Custom painting inside units, new stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, washer/ dryer inside the unit. 921 S. Sunshine. Call today! Arol, 619-588-1300.

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, \$755.
1BD+1BA spacious in beautiful property with sparkling pool. Walk to courthouse and Main Street shopping. No pets. 163 Ballantyne Street. TPPM, 619-990-5900. www.tradewindsapts.info.

EL CAJON, \$795.
1BD+1BA. First month free on approved credit! Spacious apartments. \$500 deposit. Large kitchen. Pool, Jacuzzi, barbecue, on-site laundry. Off-street parking. Credit check. Section 8 OK. 619-440-5258.

EL CAJON, \$795.
1BD+1BA Large, nice, upstairs apartment, A/C, dishwasher, new microwave. Onsite laundry, off-street parking. Gated community. No pets. 140 Wells Avenue. 619-444-1851. www.melroyproperties.com

EL CAJON, \$825-845.
1BD+1BA apartments in fabulous pool/ courtyard complex. Super clean. No pets. **\$799 Moves You In!** 314 Wisconsin Street. TPPM, 619-742-7600. www.palmetstates.info.

EL CAJON, \$845.
1BD+1BA apartment. Just remodeled! Beautiful landscape with gated entry. No pets. 1018 E. Lexington Avenue. TPPM, 619-838-8088. www.eastwindsapts.com.

EL CAJON, \$845.
1BD+1BA. Beautifully maintained apartments with sparkling pool. No pets. 234 W. Park Avenue. TPPM, 619-850-9722. www.palmtowers.com.

EL CAJON, \$850-950.
1BD+1BA and 2BD+1BA apartments. Appliances, A/C, on-site laundry, off-street parking, pool, lush landscaping. No pets. 294 Ballantyne. On-site manager: 619-715-8243, 858-703-4932.

EL CAJON, \$865-1070.
1BR from \$865/ month. 2BR from \$1,070/ month. Offers luxurious apartments, gourmet kitchens, close to shopping and dining! Call Sherry, 619-588-2638.

EL CAJON, \$950.
1BD+1BA spacious upstairs condo, 800 sqft. in beautiful gated community. 1280 West Main St. #37. Call 858-768-4333 or visit www.cal-prop.com.

EL CAJON, \$975.
2BD+1BA. New carpet and paint. On-site laundry and parking. Great location. Close to all. If you can find one better... rent it! 890 Ballantyne #C. Call Rachael at 619-804-1044 or Jeff at 619-713-1044.

EL CAJON, \$975.
2BD+1BA. El Cajon's best maintained property with beautiful courtyard and sparkling pool. You will be proud to call Four Winds your home. Great manager, great service, great value. Rent today! No pets. 1072 E. Madison Avenue. TPPM, 619-985-3900. www.fourwindsapts.info.

JAMUL, \$2450.
3BD+2BA on 10 acres in Lawson Valley. Large upstairs bonus room, wood floors, fireplace, decks, ocean to mountain views! 45 minutes to San Diego. 619-368-2806.

LA MESA, \$1,600.
3BD+2.5BA, luxury townhome. Move-in special! Half Off 1st Month's Rent! Two car garage. One year lease with deposit. No application fee. Walk-in closet. Laundry hookups in garage. Balcony. Just minutes to major shopping, restaurants and freeway access. northcuttproperties@gmail.com. **858-505-1300.**

LA MESA, \$1150.
2BD+2BA 1/2 off 1st month! Extra large upper unit, new carpet, paint and vinyl, dining room, wall-to-wall closets in bedroom, gorgeous wood cabinets in kitchen, A/C, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Cats OK. 4969 Mills Street #16. 619-804-3325.

LA MESA, \$1195.
2BD+2BA apartment, 1250 sqft, quiet building with pool! Large unit. Must see! 8600 Lemon Ave #3. Call 858-768-4333 or visit www.cal-prop.com.

LA MESA, \$1350.
1BD+1BA house plus adjacent utility and storage rooms. 1000sqft total. Private, gated yard and driveway. Hardwood floors, dual-paned windows, stove, refrigerator, washer, dryer, ceiling fans. Pets welcome. A pride of ownership property. 619-463-1943.

LA MESA, \$1399.
3BD+2BA apartment. Welcome to Mt. Helix! Spacious. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1399.
3BD+2BA apartment. Espaciosos. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1650.
3BD+2BA charming home. Located on a quiet street near shopping. 7310 Colony Road. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

LA MESA, \$775.
Spacious studio. Air conditioning. Convenient location. Close to shopping, freeways, and public transportation. 4841 Parks Avenue. TPPM, 858-232-2232. www.torreypinespm.com.

LA MESA, \$850.
Jr. 1BR. Clean, quiet complex with pool, spa, community laundry, A/C, parking. No pets. Close to shopping. 4850 Williamsburg Lane. Call 619-303-0596.

LA MESA, \$875.
1BD+1BA. 1/2 off 1st month! No application fee! Extra large apartment, includes appliances, stove, refrigerator, A/C, BBQ area and picnic tables, on-site laundry, off-street parking. Cats and Section 8 OK. 4325 Lowell Street #2. Nancy, 619-460-1074.

LA MESA, \$900-995.
Studio and 1BD+1BA. Award winning community. Pool, spa. Great location. No pets. 5500 Morro Way. TPPM, 619-466-8444 or 619-884-7900. www.villageaptslamesa.com.

**Win Reader hat or t-shirt
10 winners a week!**

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. Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified.

3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.

EASY:

2					3	8	
			6		1		
	3	4	7		5		9
9				1	5		
6	7	1			8	2	4
		3	8				1
3	1		2		7	4	5
		7		6			
	5	2					9

HARD:

8			4				
	9	5					
4	1		9		6	2	
		8		3			9
			2	7	4		
5			9		1		
		1	8	7		3	2
					5	7	
			2				4

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

2	6	8	3	9	1	4	7	5
7	4	1	5	6	8	3	9	2
9	5	3	7	2	4	6	8	1
4	1	7	8	5	3	2	6	9
6	8	9	1	4	2	5	3	7
5	3	2	9	7	6	1	4	8
3	7	4	2	8	5	9	1	6
1	9	5	6	3	7	8	2	4
8	2	6	4	1	9	7	5	3

HARD:

1	8	5	9	6	7	2	4	3
6	4	3	2	8	5	9	7	1
9	2	7	4	1	3	8	6	5
3	7	9	6	5	4	1	8	2
8	5	1	3	7	2	6	9	4
4	6	2	8	9	1	3	5	7
7	1	6	5	2	8	4	3	9
5	9	4	1	3	6	7	2	8
2	3	8	7	4	9	5	1	6

MEDIUM:

4	1	6	8	5	3	2	7	9
3	2	8	4	9	7	1	6	5
7	9	5	6	2	1	4	8	3
8	4	9	1	3	6	5	2	7
1	3	7	5	8	2	6	9	4
5	6	2	7	4	9	3	1	8
2	5	1	3	7	8	9	4	6
6	7	3	9	1	4	8	5	2
9	8	4	2	6	5	7	3	1

EVIL:

9	4	3	8	1	2	6	5	7
5	8	7	3	9	6	2	4	1
1	2	6	7	5	4	9	3	8
8	3	2	4	7	9	1	6	5
6	5	4	1	2	3	7	8	9
7	1	9	6	8	5	4	2	3
2	9	1	5	6	8	3	7	4
4	7	8	2	3	1	5	9	6
3	6	5	9	4	7	8	1	2

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

4) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

5) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy; or scanned and e-mailed to Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, 800 by 800 pixels, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.

7) Late entries will not be considered.

8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.

9) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

MEDIUM:

	8		4					9
7	9							
1				8	6	7	4	
						3	2	4
3			5		4			8
6	4	7						
	1	5	6	2				7
							1	6
4					5		8	

EVIL:

	3	6			1			
		2				6	5	
	9		5					8
7	5		3		4			
			2		7		4	9
3				6			8	
	8	4			9			
			7			4	1	

**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:

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.

- **L. Barling, El Cajon, 2.**
- **David Fitchorn, San Diego, 1.**
- **John Shumate, San Diego, 1.**
- **Patrick Donnelly, San Diego, 1.**
- **Harry Walker, La Jolla, 1.**

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Home

NOTICE TO READERS: California law requires that anyone performing construction work on jobs that total \$500 or more in labor and materials must be licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

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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.

LA MESA.
2BD+2BA. Very spacious 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Central heating/ air, park- like setting, pool, views. Near 94, 125, 8 Freeways. Pets welcome. 619-204-0610. palmspringapartments.com

LEMON GROVE, \$1595.
3BD+1BA quiet house. Hardwood flooring, dishwasher, laundry hookups. Large fenced yard, enclosed patio, private driveway. Pets OK. 7105 Central Ave. 619-302-7227.

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CLAIREMONT, \$1035 AND UP.
1BD+1BA/2BD+1BA/2BD+2BA. Pets welcome. Water/ trash paid/assigned parking spot included/pool/barbecue/ on-site laundry. Garages available for \$75. Bay Ridge Apartments, 3010 Cowley Way, 619-276-3222.

CLAIREMONT, \$1250
2BD+1.5BA. Move-in Special! Large, sunny townhomes. Security gate, parking. No pets. The Gardens, 5544 Balboa Arms Drive. 858-278-5862. www.gardens-apartments.com.

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COLLEGE AREA, \$1100.
Large 2BD+2BA. New carpet, paint and tile throughout. Pets are welcome, 20lbs and under. Near SDSU. Air conditioning. Parking. Laundry. Available March 5th. 4445 Marcellena Road #11. 619-450-6658.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1200.
2BD+2BA large condo in beautiful hills of College Grove. Many kitchen appliances included! 5980 Dandridge Lane. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1200.
2BD+2BA upstairs apartment. Fireplace. Central heat/ air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. On-site laundry. No pets. 4828 Art Street. Agent: 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1295.
2BD+2BA, condo is the best value in College Area! Central air/ heat. Balcony/ patio. All appliances including gas stove. Dishwasher. Washer/ dryer hookups. Gated. 2 miles to SDSU. Near all/ golf course. Pets upon approval. 4210 52nd Street, 92115. Call for details. 619-397-8722.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1450.
3BR+2BA in nice community. Pool, laundry, barbecue. Close to SDSU and all conveniences. No pets. 4333 College Ave. 619-287-8380.

COLLEGE AREA, \$950.
2BD+1BA \$800 deposit OAC. Laundry, parking, no pets, at 6735 El Cajon Boulevard #A-4. Agent, 619-299-8515. www.mpmcorp.net.

COLLEGE AREA, \$975.
2BD+1BA. Large open floor plan. Great location. Close to all. On-site laundry. No pets. If you can find one better... rent it! 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Lynette, 619-602-0959, or Rachael, 619-804-1044.

COLLEGE AREA, \$995.
2BD+1BA apartment. Hardwood floors, stove, refrigerator, laundry room. No pets. 5275 Monroe Avenue #5. Agent, 619-232-6811.

GOLDEN HILL, \$850.
1BD+1BA newly decorated 420 sqft. apartment. Quiet, picturesque building. Beautiful street. Assigned parking, laundry, patio, no pets. 2449 A St. Call 619-549-9542 or 858-278-6135.

LINDA VISTA, \$1145-1345.
2BD+1BA and 3BD+1BA. 2 and 3 bedroom townhouses and single-level units, backyards, assigned parking, no pets please. Office at 7025 Eastman Street. 619-249-9585.

LINDA VISTA, \$1395.
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MIRA MESA, \$1155-1425.
1BD+1BA and 2BD+1BA. 1 and 2 bedroom spacious apartments. Pool, balconies, A/C, walk-in closets. Minutes to MCAS Miramar and Miramar College, near all, on bus line, adjacent to Freeway I-15. Section 8 welcome. No application fee! Sorry, no pets. 10101 Maya Linda Road. Call Ana at 858-271-0191

MIRA MESA, \$1390.
2BD+2BA Large 2 available now. Section 8 welcome. No application fee. Ask about our deposit specials. 8792 Mira Mesa Blvd. Call Mary, 858-793-0951.

MISSION VALLEY, \$1200 & UP.
2BD+1BA, 750 sqft. Huge walk-in closets. Dishwashers. On-site parking. Balcony. No dogs. Other pets considered. 5720 Gaines Street. 619-299-3477.

MISSION VALLEY, \$1500.
2BD+2BA large condo, fireplace, washer/ dryer, A/C, balcony, pool, spa, fitness, gated community, underground parking. No dogs. 858-349-2492.

MISSION VALLEY, \$1600.
2BD+2BA condo. Beautiful first floor elevated unit in The Bluffs! Central location, peaceful community. 6406 Friars Road #124. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

SAN CARLOS, \$1404.
3BD+1.5BA townhome. Section 8 welcome. 7891 Golfcrest Drive. Call Mary, 858-793-0951.

SAN CARLOS, \$1450.
2BD+1.5BA townhouses. 1290sqft. Water included. Gas stove, dishwasher, garage, large patio, pools. \$1000 deposit. Lakewood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive. 619-469-3585.

SAN CARLOS, \$1750.
3BA+1.5BA townhomes. 1397sqft. Water included. Gas stove, dishwasher, garage, large patio, pools. \$1000 deposit. Lakewood Villa Townhomes, 8492 San Carlos Drive. 619-469-3585.

SERRA MESA, \$1100 & UP.
2BD+1BA starting at \$1100. Patio Village Apartments. Bright and airy units with ceiling fans, carport with storage close to unit and remodeled laundry room on site. Centrally located within minutes to the 15, 163 and 805 Freeways. Close to park and shopping. Robin, 888-205-1388.

SERRA MESA, \$1395.
3BD+2BA apartment. Available 02/22/13. 8602 Hurlbut St. www.AMGSD.com. (619) 295-1165.

UNIVERSITY CITY, \$1335.
Large 2BD+1.5BA+Garage. One Parking. No Pets. Upstairs. Carpet/ paint. Appliances, Large balcony. Pool/ Jacuzzi. Laundry facility. Clean. 6186 Agee Street #264. 619-275-3455

North County Coastal

CARMEL VALLEY, \$1600.
1BD+1BA condo with high ceiling throughout and central heat and air! Great community! Pell Place. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

DEL MAR, \$1650.
Gorgeous 1BD in beautiful complex with heated pool, spa, fitness center, outdoor cook center! No pets. 526 Camino Del Mar. 858-755-4721.

DEL MAR, \$1845-1995+.
1BD+1BA with den \$1845. 2BD+2BA,ocean views, \$1995+. Some with washer/dryer. Wood-like floors. Heated pool, spa. Nonsmoking. 201 Fourth Street. Los Arboles, 858-481-9585; mikeatia@aol.com. www.summerpacific.com.

OCEANSIDE, \$1800.
2BD+2.5BA condo. Balcony, garage, central air/ heat. Pool, spa, basketball, clubhouse. Nonsmoking. 765 Harbor Cliff Way. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

North County Inland

VISTA, \$1550.
2BD+1.5BA. Charming apartment with patio and fireplace, Laundry hookups. Small Pet OK. Community pool/1 car garage. Walk to shopping. 730 Breeze Hill Rd. Call Jody, 949-294-2337.

Old Town & Uptown

BALBOA PARK EAST, \$1900
3BD+2BA. Forest-like setting. Fireplace. Hardwood floors, patio. Gas cooking, D/W. Carport. Dryer/Washer. Very quiet. No pets. Near Zoo. 619-347-0003.

CITY HEIGHTS, \$1200.
3BD+1.5BA apartment. Totally remodeled. Garage underground. Section 8 welcome. \$1000 deposit. 619-787-9892.

CITY HEIGHTS, \$725.
Furnished studio alcove apartment. Complete living room, bedroom and kitchen furniture. No SDG&E deposit or hookup fee required. Near 52nd and University. 5101 Towle Court. Close to SDSU. Laundry room. Off- street parking. Low deposit. Call 619-281-9451.

CITY HEIGHTS, \$750.
1BD+1BA 600sqft. apartment. Water/ sewer/ trash included. 1 assigned parking space. No pets. No section 8. 4366 51st Street #3. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. peoplehelpingothers.com.

CITY HEIGHTS, \$800.
1BD+1BA. Large, upper, newly remodeled apartment. Reserved parking. Gated. Ceiling fans. Laundry. Close to freeway, shopping, restaurants. No pets. 4027 34th Street. 619-279-0031.

GOLDEN HILLS, \$850.
1BD+1BA apartment in tasty 4-unit spanish eclectic with huge private patio. Tile floors Off-street parking. Private, classy, gem. Open house Saturday 2:30-3:30pm. 2710 Broadway. 858-768-4333. www.cal-prop.com.

HILLCREST, \$1000
1BD+1BA. Downstairs, laundry on-site, indoor cats only. 3726.5 Park Blvd. Available 2/20/13. www.cethron.com (619) 295-1100.

HILLCREST, \$1000
2BD+1BA. Downstairs, laundry on-site. 3726 1/2 Park Blvd. Available 2/10/13. www.cethron.com (619) 295-1100.

HILLCREST, \$1050.
1BD+1BA apartment. Senior (62+) or disabled. Pets under 25lbs. with deposit. Near shops and transportation. Parking garage and off- street parking. Sundeck with gas grill. On-site laundry. Available soon! Deposit: \$300. For appointment, call Dan at 619-294-4146.

HILLCREST, \$1145.
2BD+1BA, downstairs unit in vintage Spanish style duplex. Stove, refrigerator. Shared lawn area. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Easy freeway access. Close to shops and quaint restaurants and bus line. Available now. 3753 Fourth Ave. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST, \$995- \$1025.
1BD+1BA, downstairs unit in the Heart of Hillcrest. Remodeled unit with stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Coin laundry. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 3730 First Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

HILLCREST, \$995.
1BD+1BA downstairs unit in the Heart of Hillcrest. Appliances. Shared courtyard with gated entry. Coin laundry. Parking available for \$45 extra/ month. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available now. 3502 First Avenue. Manager: Leon, 619-358-9146. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

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KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1000.
2BD+1BA. Available 2/20/13. Upstairs. Laundry on-site 4541 Contour Blvd. www.cethron.com, (619) 295-1100.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1150.
2BD+2BA upstairs sunny apartment. On-site laundry. Pets OK. 4380 Van Dyke Ave. Xilarent.com, 619-683-7638.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1195.
1BD+1BA back cottage, beautiful wood floors in bedroom, large eat-in kitchen with lots of cabinets, refrigerator, gas stove, A/C, ceiling fans, washer and dryer, wraparound deck, additional storage room, shared yard, small pets OK. 4622 Kensington Drive. 619-804-3325.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1450.
2BD+2BA cozy home. Laundry hookups. Fenced-in yard. Pets considered with additional deposit. Centrally located. Call All Points Real Estate Management for appointment, 619-298-7724.

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3BD+2BA 2-story townhome. \$500 off 1st month! Completely remodeled with stainless steel appliances, faux wood blinds and vinyl, two-tone paint, granite countertops in kitchen and bathrooms, washer and dryer hookups, 2 parking spots, private fenced yard. Small pets OK. 4638 Kensington Drive #3. 619-804-3325.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$795.
1BD+1BA upstairs apartment. New paint, carpet, and flooring. Dishwasher, fireplace, on-site laundry, underground gated parking. No pets. 4416 47th St. Call agent, 619-298-7724.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$900.
1BD+1BA large, remodeled apartment. Walk-in closet, huge bathroom, A/C, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, shared patio, parking, on-site laundry. Near bus and shops. No pets. 4546 52nd Street. 619-287-1996.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$900.
1BD+1BA Upstairs, Walk-in closet, dishwasher, A/C. Laundry on site, Gated, Parking Space. Avail 2/15. 4471 48th Street #C. www.cethron.com, (619) 295-1100.

MISSION HILLS, \$750-800.
Studio+1BA. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios, alcoves, in excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

MISSION HILLS, \$875.
Studio+1BA. Move in special! Second floor. Stove, refrigerator, hardwood floors, antique bathtub. Electric included. Secured building. Intercom entry. No pets. Available now! 630 W. Washington. Agent, 619-298-7724.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1045.
2BD+1BA upstairs sunny, corner apartment. Ikea fixtures. Ceiling fans. Parking. 4748.5 Mansfield Street. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1195.
2BD+1.5BA Extra large upper unit, new carpet and vinyl, built-in bookshelves and cabinets,walk-in closet, dining room, electric range and refrigerator, on-site laundry, off- street parking. Small pets and Section 8 OK. 4609 Bancroft Street #6. 619-804-3325.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$725.
1BD+1BA apartment. Available now. 4575 Idaho St. #2. www.AMGSD.com. 619-295-1165.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$925.
1BD+1BA in gated building with off-street parking. New carpet, fireplace, end-unit washer/ dryer. Broker, 619-977-1930.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$925.
1BD+1BA lovely upstairs apartment. Centrally located, minutes away to I-15, I-805, I-8 & other major routes. Available 3/7. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400.

NORTH PARK, \$1100.
2BD+2BA. Available now. \$875 1BR+1BA available now. Laundry on-site. No pets. Accepting section 8. 4177 Illinois Street. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

NORTH PARK, \$1150.
2BD+1BA bright cottage. Laundry on-site. Hardwood floors. Eat-in kitchen. 4143 Texas. 858-568-5081.

NORTH PARK, \$1265.
2BD+1BA upstairs apartment. Vaulted ceilings. Dishwasher. Wall A/C unit. Parking. Xilarent.com, 619-269-1225.

NORTH PARK, \$1325.
2BD+1+1/2BA, townhome. Private balcony and patio. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Coin laundry. Parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Easy freeway access. A/C for those hot summer days. Available 3/10/13. 4152 Utah Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

NORTH PARK, \$1595.
2BD+1BA 1/2 off 1/2 month! Charming Spanish-style 2/1. Gorgeous wood floors, 2-tone paint, faux wood blinds, gas range and refrigerator, lots of closet space, ceiling fans, large fenced backyard, garage, washer/dryer hookups. Small pets OK! 2933 Polk Avenue. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK, \$775.
1BD+1BA middle apartment. Parking. Gas stove. Ceiling fans. 4174 Wabash Avenue. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.

NORTH PARK, \$795.
1BD+1BA, downstairs apartment. Laundry, off- street parking. 4160 36th Street. More Property Management, 858-514-8201.

NORTH PARK, \$875.
1BD+1BA 1/2 off 1st month! Lower unit completely remodeled with new paint, carpet, vinyl and faux wood blinds, built-in bookshelf in living room, on-site laundry, off- street parking. Small pets and Section 8 OK. 4325 Texas Street #7. 619-804-3325.

OLD TOWN, \$690.
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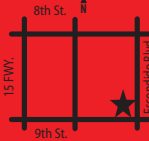
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LEAD STORY

— Update: Gary Medrow, 68, has periodically surfaced in News of the Weird since 1991 for his unique behavior of using a false identity to persuade Milwaukee-area strangers over the phone to lift other strangers off the ground — behavior for which he has occasionally been jailed and ordered to psychiatric care. After a recent period of calm, Medrow slipped in November and was charged with impersonating a photojournalist to convince two Cedarburg (Wis.) High School students to hoist each other on their shoulders (and four similar incidents were under investigation). At an earlier hearing, Medrow said that his “addiction” helps him to relieve tension and anxiety.

Awesome

— Jason Schall, 38, who has retired as a financial planner and now devotes his energy to fishing, had a spectacular week in September when he won a catch-and-release tournament in Charleston, S.C., came within 1½ inches of a world record on another catch, and was notified of recently setting two Nevada state records for largest fish caught. Schall’s coup de grace, he told the *Charleston Post and Courier*, came a few days later when he caught a redfish while sitting on his

living room sofa in Daniel Island, S.C., watching a Clemson football game with a pal. He had run a line with bait through a crack in the door, through his yard, into the lake behind his home.

Oops!

— College student Courtney Malloy, 22, was rescued in November after getting stuck at about 1 a.m. trying to cut between two buildings in Providence, R.I. The space between City Sports and FedEx Kinko’s was 8 to 9 inches, said firefighters, who found Malloy horizontal and about 2 feet off the ground and “unable” to explain how she got there.
— Leslie Newton, 68, was pulled over by Florida Highway Patrol officers near St. Augustine in December while driving erratically. He also had a portion of a traffic sign embedded in his skull after colliding with it.
— Helen Springthorpe, 58, with only three months on the job as the bell-ringer at St. Nicholas Church in Bathampton, England, was knocked unconscious in November when she became entangled in the bells’ ropes and was jerked to-and-fro around the belfry, her head smashing against a wall. Fire and ambulance crews eventually lowered her about 20 feet to the ground.

The Continuing Crisis

— Floyd Johnson pleaded guilty to attempted murder in an odd scene in a New York City courtroom in November. Johnson has only one leg, and had been charged with stabbing a fellow homeless shelter resident who has no legs. Johnson’s public-defender lawyer (who caught the case at random) has only one leg, also. Johnson said he was taking the plea in part because of excruciating leg pain — in the leg he doesn’t have (“phantom leg” syndrome), and Johnson’s lawyer said he suffers from the same thing. (The lawyer subsequently filed to withdraw the guilty plea because the pain had clouded his client’s judgment.)
— Amber Roberts, 30, a resident of the unit for the criminally insane at Eastern State Hospital in Spokane, Wash., informed officials in November that she “[just now] murdered someone, but you’re going to have to find him.” As staff members searched the facility, Roberts offered to help by shouting “hot,” “cold,” “you’re getting warmer,” and so forth. Roberts yelled “Hot!” as they closed in on the room containing the body of a 56-year-old patient that Roberts then admitted strangling. (However, a few days later in court, she pleaded not guilty.)
— Tunisia’s Ministry for Women and Family Af-

fairs demanded in October that the government prosecute the publisher of the children’s magazine *Qaws Quzah* (“Rainbow”), aimed at ages 5 to 15, for an article in the then-current issue on how to construct a gasoline bomb (aka the “Molotov cocktail” in America). The country has been rocked by the same kind of upheaval experienced in other Arab countries, except less so since its longtime president stepped down rather quickly in January 2011.

Suspicious Confirmed

— Researchers from the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston found recently in tests that tenth-grade students who play video games (especially shooting and sports games) regularly score just as high in robotic surgery dexterity as resident doctors. The lead researcher said that surgery simulations (for example, suturing) have built-in unpredictability, for training purposes, but since complex video games are laden with unpredictability, players logging at least two hours a day with the joystick may even slightly outperform the residents.

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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WHAT DO YOU LISTEN TO WHEN YOU DRIVE? I listen to either NPR or 91X.

WHAT IS YOUR DREAM CAR? You know...I don't know. When I was shopping for a car, I was looking for either a Mini [Cooper], because they're cute and fun, or a Nissan Xterra, because it would have had more space. But, unfortunately, they're both a little bit pricier [than a Hyundai].

DO YOU HAVE ANY TICKET STORIES? I once got a ticket in the parking lot of a grocery store in Carlsbad because I put the keys in the ignition to start the air conditioning while we were putting the groceries in the car. But in San Diego, you are technically not allowed to have your keys in the ignition without your seatbelt on. So, it was an \$80 seatbelt ticket while my car was in park, with the e-brake on, in the parking lot of a grocery store because I turned on my A/C without my seatbelt on. I had to go to traffic school and everything. Just be aware, if you have the keys in the ignition, they can technically ticket you for not having your seatbelt on. I don't think they normally would, but at the time, I was driving this really beat-up old truck, and I'd had this guy back up into me on an on-ramp because he decided he did not want to get on the freeway, I guess, and backed up into me. Anyway, I had a brush guard on the front, and it was bent in. It was on my husband's birthday, too, after we'd just started



Corner of Tamarack and Carlsbad Blvd

dating, in 2006. We used to live in a nice neighborhood in Carlsbad, and my dad drove this old beat-up Buick. One time, we were just getting ready to pull into our driveway, and my dad got pulled over. They refused to tell him why. They called for back-up and searched the car and everything. They asked him, "Sir, where do you live?" and he said, "That's my house, right there." They said, "No, sir, you need to be honest. Where do you live?" So my dad showed him his driver's license and everything, and they gave him so much attitude about it. It was pretty bad.

Got a shortcut to share? E-mail shortcuts@sandiegoreader.com

DIVORCE ANONYMOUS. 12-step program. Free. No legal advice is given. Friday's 7pm-8:30pm, 1630 E. Madison, El Cajon, 92119. 619-200-0598 or 619-422-7373.

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NEUROTICOS ANONIMOS. Si usted sufre de ira, ansiedad, preocupacion, depresion, te esperamos en Neuroticos Anonimos, 3632B University Avenue, San Diego, Lunes a Domingo, 6pm-8pm. 619-246-4694; 619-889-2999.

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