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Find somewhere in our features (articles, listings, or classifieds) three instances of the same phrase.

This week’s clue: pork plug (4 words)

123

Last week’s contest results — page 92

NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights
- Is Del Mar missing the food-truck trend?; and News Ticker ........................................ 2
- Under the Radar .............................................................................................................. 3

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

Neighborhood News ........................................................................................................ 6

Diary of a Diva
- From spa sparkle to kid crazy ...................................................................................... 8

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

Straight From the Hip
- Lifeguard’s chair near Del Cerro, Mission Valley’s fiberglass go-go girl, rough treatment for a charliehorse .................................................. 14

Street Style
- Stonewash and a Bill Cosby–inspired sweater. Seriously ........................................... 16

Blog Diego
- Dessert binge leads to diet including steak and lobster ................................................. 18

Sporting Box
- West coast college basketball is a bust ........................................................................... 19

San Diego State’s Growing Contempt...
- The money is in research, not teaching. By Joe Deegan ............................................ 20

Unforgettable
- The Pork Chop Express was no pleasure cruise. By Jeff Smith .................................. 34

Puzzle
- Wordsmiths play here ................................................................................................... 88

Sudoku
- Pick a puzzle from easy to evil ..................................................................................... 90

News of the Weird ........................................................................................................... 97

CALENDAR

Events
- Outdoors, Special Events, Dance, Food & Drink, For Kids, Galleries, Spoken Word, Comedy, Book Signings, Lectures, Sports, Art Museums, Classical Music ........................................... 43

Travel & Getaways
- Hawkers, scammers, and the cultural experience of a lifetime in Delhi, India ............ 44
- Tecolote Canyon: hike where there could have been garbage .................................... 45

Reading
- The pull of J.R.R. Tolkien ............................................................................................. 48

Restaurants
- Ed meets the humble gumbo man behind Sixth Avenue Bistro ..................................... 53
- Feasters’ delights (and disappointments) ....................................................................... 54

Music
- Blurt ................................................................................................................................. 61
- Club Crawler .................................................................................................................. 64
- Everyone’s a Critic .......................................................................................................... 68
- Happy Hour .................................................................................................................... 71

Theater .............................................................................................................................. 75

Movies ............................................................................................................................... 76
You're straight? You're fired
San Diegan claims he was terminated because of sexual orientation
City Heights — John de Miranda, former CEO of Stepping Stone San Diego, an organization founded in 1976 and based in City Heights that provides drug and alcohol rehabilitation services to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community, says in a recently filed lawsuit that he was fired because of his heterosexuality.

“Stepping Stone and the board of directors terminated his employment because he is not gay and because of the board’s belief that having a president and chief executive who is not gay decreases Stepping Stone’s fund-raising opportunities,” reads a portion of de Miranda’s complaint, according to Courthouse News Service.

De Miranda claims that his employment agreement allowed the organization to terminate him “for cause at any time if the other party materially breaches the agreement,” though he argues he had served in his position without complaint from May 1, 2008 until his firing last October “without cause and without notice.”

In his termination letter, Stepping Stone allegedly said it would only disclose the cause for his release if he “becomes adverse to Stepping Stone and/or the board of directors.”

Dave Rice, March 22

Three times as costly as replacement power
Watchdog wants Edison to justify hundreds of millions being passed to taxpayers
San Onofre — Southern California Edison’s plan to restart one of the two shuttered nuclear reactors at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station could be as much as three times as costly as keeping the plant inactive and purchasing power from elsewhere.

San Francisco consultant M. Cubed reports that ratepayers were billed $640 million for operation costs at San Onofre last year, though the plant was fully functional for less than a month, while an additional $175 million was paid to purchase replacement power during the outage. Under Edison’s plans to run a single reactor under partial power for five months, the firm scales the cost of operation to $214 million, versus $66 million to source power elsewhere.

Meanwhile, conflicting reports have surfaced concerning whether enough power will be available to meet the region’s demand in the hotter summer months if San Onofre remains offline.

Dave Rice, March 22

Unions vs. developers
Big labor spends $75K for Democrat in fourth district council race
San Diego — With the special election for city council in San Diego’s fourth district council district already shaping up as a classic money battle between labor unions and the city’s well-heeled real estate and development interests, San Diego Works!, an independent expenditure campaign committee run by the San Diego–Imperial Counties Labor Council, has already invested $75,700 on behalf of Democratic candidate Myrtle Cole, according to a March 19 filing posted online by the San Diego city clerk.

Cole — a former lieutenant with the San Diego Community College District Police Department, according to her campaign bio — is currently employed by the United Domestics Workers, a home healthcare workers union.

Recent donors to San Diego Works!, according to the disclosure report, have included United Auto Workers Region 5 of Pico Rivera ($250); California Federation of Teachers ($1500); and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees ($2000).

In addition, a group calling itself San Diego–Los Angeles–based food-truck booking service. He also owns Crepes Bonaparte, Brats Berlin, and Calbi food trucks. In October 2012, Curbside Bites organized a short-lived weekly event in Del Mar’s Seagrove Park parking lot off of Coast Boulevard.

Weeks later, on November 19, after receiving complaints from residents and local businesses, the Del Mar City Council placed a 45-day moratorium on issuing new food-truck licenses. They cited their reasoning as an attempt to hammer out new regulations. The city has since renewed the moratorium two more times. At a February 19 meeting, the city council extended the moratorium, this time for 10 months and 15 days. Currently there are only nine food trucks licensed to operate in Del Mar. On March 12, the Del Mar planning commission presented a draft of the new food-truck ordinance to the city council.

Matt Bator, a member of Del Mar’s Community Planning Commission, says, “Our time line is to present the permanent ordinance on April 1st. If it is accepted, with no major changes, we will meet again for a second reading on April 15th. At that point, there will be a 30-day period before it goes into effect. The ordinance should be adopted by mid-May. New food-truck licenses will be issued at that time....

Neal Obermeyer

THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION REASSURES ITS CRITICS

We are aware of the fact that many of you are troubled by our decision to hold private, invite-only, secret-guest-list, media-excluded meetings about issues that affect all of us—but fear not!

We assure you—we are taking every step necessary to exploit each possible loophole to ensure we aren’t in violation of state open-meeting laws!
"We are trying to help the food trucks out by getting this done in time for their busy season. Summer is our goal," Bator says.

Technically, Murcia could still hold his event at the beach in Del Mar but says it’s more of a spring and summer gathering. Also, he points out that he doesn’t have many trucks to work with.

"With only nine trucks licensed, it’s tough to find a But still, city officials are leery of the trucks. Del Mar mayor Terry Sinnott says the trucks were a new occurrence in Del Mar that took the city by surprise. "We received some compliments and concerns," he explains, "because it’s a new type of business. The food trucks started operating and no one knew what the guidelines were for that kind of mobile business. It raised red flags. That’s why the new regulations will require food-truck operators to obtain an operations license along with their business license. The city council is also looking into regulating other mobile vendors, including retail, video game, ice cream, and lunch trucks, along with push-carts."

Under the California Vehicle Code, cities are allowed to regulate food trucks in the interest of public safety. But Murcia views Del Mar’s actions as a ban on food trucks and not an attempt, as the city claims, to address public safety issues. "They are grasping at straws," he says, "[The City of Del Mar] can regulate food trucks, not ban them. So, right now they are saying the smell poses a hazard. When people walk past food trucks they comment on how good it smells, not the opposite. No study has been done to say [food trucks] are hurting businesses."

Mayor Sinnott says, "The major concern is that it’s a brand-new way of doing business, at least from our perspective. [Del Mar] has never experienced food trucks. While we encourage them and want them to prosper, like any other business, we need to have a little breathing room to make sure that they are operating safely and in a way that is variety. I am used to picking from 25 different trucks for these events."

The gathering’s location, in the Seagrove Park parking lot, is a commercially zoned site. Under a lease agreement with Seagrove Parking, LLC, the City of Del Mar received a percentage of the operating revenue from the weekly food-truck event, along with business-license fees and sales tax. the city said, ‘Okay let’s take a little time and properly put business permit rules together. So, that’s what we are doing.'"

"The new ordinance will address pedestrian safety concerns, moderate the days and hours of operation, along with noise, lighting, parking availability, trash, recycling, and restroom access at food-truck gatherings."

Cousins, trash, and influence
Anyone who doubts the politically incestuous nature of San Diego’s old money — still playing a big role at city hall these days — has only to review the family connections of the Evans clan, owners of the Bahia hotel, Catamaran hotel, and the Lodge at Torrey Pines, all benefiting from leases of public land. Republican Bill Evans — treasurer of the hotel district trying to force Democratic mayor Bob Filner to sign a contract negotiated by GOP ex-mayor Jerry Sanders, a key beneficiary of Evans’s family largesse — is the son of the late William D. Evans, who obtained lucrative rights from the city council to build the Bahia way back in 1952, more than 60 years ago.

The elder Evans died after a heart attack on Easter weekend in 1984, leaving the family business to his wife Anne, daughter Lucille and Roy M. Ledford, a wealthy Republican physician. The Ledfords lived in one of Point Loma’s most elegantly appointed mansions, where the couple held major political fundraisers, including a particularly memorable one in the 1970s for ex—movie actor and GOP U.S. senator George Murphy. Besides oversized campaign events, the sprawling residence was the scene of an annual Easter-egg roll, featuring as many as 500 children, according to Lucille’s April 1970 obituary in the San Diego Union.

Their son, Roy M. Ledford, Jr., known as Merl, became a doctor and went into practice with his father. He had five children, one of whom is Richard Ledford, today one of the most wired influence peddlers at city hall. A former top aide to Republican mayor Susan Golding, Ledford now plies the lobbying trade on behalf of a host of clients, including, according to a March 19 disclosure filing, the San Diego Symphony, of whom his grandparents were particularly fond. Ledford’s task is to “Secure a long term use of the Marina Park South” on San Diego’s port-controlled bayfront “for utilization by the Symphony Summer Pops Series.” There is no mention about the potential terms of that deal.

On a less cultural front, Ledford is also at work for giant trash-hauler Republic Services, Inc., “to secure the award of contracts for recycling and waste disposal at the San Diego Convention Center Corporation and the San Diego Regional Airport Authority.” In addition, Ledford’s influence is being deployed on behalf of San Francisco’s High Flying Foods and Procurement Concepts, Inc., both for “fulfilling concession contracts awarded by the San Diego Airport Authority Board of Directors.” As it happens, the chairman of the airport authority’s board, appointed by Jerry Sanders, is Robert H. Gleason, chief financial officer of Evans Hotels, which is run by Bill Evans, Richard Ledford’s first cousin.

Parasailing with the Evans family? Fresh from a big controversy over who gets to run kays at La Jolla Shores, the City of San Diego is now preparing to award an exclusive deal for parasailing operations on Mission Bay. But hopefuls who haven’t already worked out a deal with bayfront hotel owners need not apply.

"The operation must be based out of a hotel or marina in Mission Bay Park and will operate as a sublease to an approved master lease," according to the city’s solicitation for bids. "Proposers will need to identify the property and provide a letter of intent from the master lessee agreeing to the proposed sublease." Among other requirements: "Only parasailing systems which operate by means of a winch system from an approved vessel will be considered. Concessions may only conduct parasailing activities from an approved vessel and never from the beach, a dock, or any other platform."

Applicants will also need a good accountant to figure out how much of the proceeds they’ll be turning over the city, though the minimum hasn’t actually yet been set: "Consideration paid to the CITY by each of the selected Proposer(s) shall be the greater of either 1): at least Ten Percent (10%) of the Proposer(s)’ gross income from operating the Concessions (% of Fee); or 2: a guaranteed minimum annual fee ("Minimum Fee"). The Minimum Fee will be established by the CITY based on historical use (if any) and proposals from each of the selected Proposer(s). Proposers are welcome to offer a higher Percentage Fee." -- Matt Potter

The Reader offers $25 for news tips published in this column. Call our voicemail at 619-235-3000, ext. 440, or fax your tip to 619-231-0489.
Let’s get those percentages up!

Forget about what you’ve done; now it’s do more of it — and if you can’t, maybe you should find another line of work. The attitude from chain retailers today is that you are extremely replaceable with all the young and naive people out there who can fill positions with no minimum wage and loads of B.S.

Richard Lewis via snailmail

Loved Carpooling

I loved the article, “Carpool? With my Wife?” by Grant Madden (February 28 cover story). I thought it was well-written and humorous. I can’t say that about all the articles, but I thoroughly enjoyed this one.

TJ via snailmail

Restaurant 411

I’m just questioning the restaurant blog reviews and why some of them don’t have addresses for the restaurant they’re covering. It makes it really hard to go there and try the food.

Randy M. National City

No S.F. in S.R.

On page 81 of happy hours (March 21), under the Scripps Ranch heading, you list Stone Flats. This restaurant closed about six months ago; they moved to Encinitas. See stoneflats.com for evidence.

Name Withheld via email

Comments from Reader website

Comments are not edited for spelling, punctuation, or grammar.

continued on page 42
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CARLSBAD

**Village’s Euro-trip**

Restaurants get permit to extend “curb cafés” into street

Almost a dozen restaurants in the Carlsbad Village area now have permission to extend their dining areas into the street as part of the city’s newly adopted three-year program to introduce “curb cafés.”

The parking lot dining areas will be on temporary decks and take up one or two parking spaces.

“When you’re sitting there, you won’t feel like you’re sitting on the street,” said Kristina Ray, the city’s media contact. Village visitors can park on either side of the curb cafés, she said, but decorations lining the decks, such as plants or awnings, will act as visual barriers.

García’s Mexican Restaurant, on State Street, was the first eatery to submit a curb café design to the city. “It will remind every-one of the cafés in Europe,” says García’s owner Belynn Gonzales.

The architecture designs will go through an approval process with the city’s planning department, says Stephen Gibson, president of Urban Place Consulting. The City of Carlsbad chose his company to spearhead the project. According to Gibson, about five restaurant owners have shown interest so far.

**SHELLI DEROBERTIS, MARCH 23**

IMPERIAL BEACH

**Sewage!**

Wastewater spill closes I.B. beaches, traced to Playas de Tijuana

On Monday, March 18, with currents and wind pushing north, the San Diego County Department of Environmental Health closed all beaches in Imperial Beach due to a suspected sewage spill from the Tijuana River mouth.

On Tuesday, under pressure from the binational environmental group Wildcoast, which had conducted its own investigation, Mexican officials confirmed that two broken sewage pipes in the Las Playas neighborhood of Tijuana had dumped at least 50,000 gallons of raw sewage into the ocean.

“The county Department of Environmental Health’s sole beach-water-quality testing expert came in Monday and shut the beaches and began the countdown to when they could be tested to be reopened. In the meantime, Wildcoast began trying to track where the spill came from. Wildcoast estimated the flow at about 32 gallons a minute. There’s no word on when the pipes will be repaired.

Fortunately, Imperial Beach lifeguard captain Robert Stabenow said, the weather is cool and the water is cold.

“The wind and the swell are from the northwest, and that’s going to help us,” he said. “And it’s cold enough that the beach isn’t packed with people celebrating spring break and wanting to go in the water.”

Aguirre said that word of the spill didn’t make it to Tijuana beaches Monday, which was a holiday in Mexico (the observance of Benito Juarez’s birthday — March 21, 1806). “There were hundreds of kids in the water at Las Playas, and none of them had any warning of what they were swimming in,” Aguirre said.

**LUCY D. BARKER, MARCH 21**

TALMADGE

**Stop signs snarl streets**

Additions intended to discourage Aldine Drive commuters

On Monday morning, March 18, hundreds — if not thousands — of Talmadge and City Heights commuters found themselves trapped in long lines of traffic trying to access Aldine Drive through Talmadge.

With horns honking and fists shaking, unhappy drivers may have forgotten that notification had been posted along Fairmount Avenue and Aldine Drive warning that two new stop signs would be installed along this busy, accident-prone corridor. The stop signs were installed along Aldine at 47th Street on Friday, March 15.

Morning commuters quickly discovered that their routine drive is no longer convenient or efficient to access Fairmount Avenue and I-8 — the traffic snarl stretched four or more blocks on the three major streets leading to Aldine Drive.

Since the 1990s, this section of Aldine Drive has been identified as a failing roadway, with its average daily traffic count now nearing 17,000 cars (6000 is capacity). The street wasn’t built to accommodate this level of traffic, but as density in Talmadge and City Heights increased, it became a preferred outlet.

City traffic engineers and the Kensington/Talmadge Planning Group agreed to install these stop signs so commuters would be discouraged and seek other streets. Commuters should now return to the major thoroughfare designed for such heavy traffic — El Cajon Boulevard leading to Fairmount Avenue. Future traffic counts will determine if the new signs have been a successful remedy.

**JOAN FITZSIMONS, MARCH 20**

**JAMUL**

**A visit to Backpack Ridge**

Border crossers’ ground zero for discarding excess gear

No doubt I’m trespassing. An hour ago, I stretched a length of barbed wire, passing under a fence line and into this realm of green hills and rocky outcrops. Boats twinkle below on lower Otay Lake, a Twin Otter airplane spits out parachutes to the south, and Border Patrol outnumber civilian vehicles on Otay Lakes Road at this early hour.

I can see agents through binoculars...can they see me? Pushing toward the summit...continued on page 84
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Installation charges not included:
My sister and I clinked glasses filled with chilled wine (hers a straw-colored chardonnay, mine a blushing rose) and then leaned back in our chairs with stoned smiles. My eyes wandered the expanse of Jane’s mane — a frizzy, puffed-out version of her long, dark, natural ringlets. “Is my hair as messed up as yours?” I asked. Jane nodded slowly, her lazy smile turning up slightly at the corners to reveal her amusement. “Whatever,” I said and took a sip. “I don’t care — no spa visit is complete without a good scalp massage.”

Jane had just ascended another rung of the Big Pharma ladder, and I had just taken on another project in my bid to take over the world. Neither of us could remember the last time we’d taken a day off. As has been our custom, we used Jane’s birthday as an excuse to take a break and indulge in a bit of pampering. First, we received skin treatments (facial and massage) at Indigo Salon in Hillcrest, and then we walked through Balboa Park and landed at the Prado. On the way, my usually frenetic and distracted sister was so relaxed and in the moment, she stopped to smell a flower.

“Hey, think about it — we’re grown-up sisters, going shopping with your young daughters. Big sisters, little sisters. Isn’t that crazy?”

While waiting for the check to arrive, the reality of all of the work that awaited me at home was more sobering than espresso. I often tell people that when you work from home, you can never go home from work. These days, I recognize that having too much work is a good problem to have, but my awareness and gratitude doesn’t always serve to make my seven-day workweeks any less tiring.

When my sparkling spa glow began to fade into a dull shade of worry, Jane offered, “How ‘bout, instead of dropping you off at home, you come with me? I’ve got run to a few errands with the girls — fun stuff — I need to get things for Olivia’s birthday party this weekend.”

“That could be cool,” I said, happy to have a reason to take an entire day and not just a half-day away from my obligations. “Hey, think about it — we’re grown-up sisters, going shopping with your young daughters. Big sisters, little sisters. Isn’t that crazy?” I could tell by her face that she wasn’t as “whoa, dude” about it as I was, but Jane agreed with me anyway.

Hair pigment is the only discernible difference between my sister and the twin miniature versions of her — Jane’s thick tresses are sable, whereas her girls’ long locks are corn silk. Olivia, 6, and Bella, 9, had adorned themselves with accessories that matched their tiny manes and tails, earning the Good Diva Seal of Approval.

The girls were on their best behavior when we arrived at the giant 99-cent market in La Mesa. Olivia had chosen “butterflies” as her party theme. As we walked through the store, she examined balloons and plates with the discernment of Gordon Ramsay inspecting dishes on the line. “They get along so well,” I said to Jane as my nieces discussed the party possibilities for butterfly garden ornaments. “I can’t remember all of us getting along that well at that age.”

“This is a rare moment. It won’t last,” Jane said. Still in my relaxed haze, I smiled, shrugged, and went off with Bella in search of party favors while Jane escorted Olivia to the “potty.”

I never wanted kids — still don’t — but I admit I don’t mind it when I’m alone with a niephling and old ladies pause to make sure I see their approving, understanding smiles. I play along and smile back, as if to say, “I know, child-rearing, amirite?” It’s my grown-up version of playing “house.”

When Jane and Olivia rejoined us, we all headed over to the candy aisle, where things began to get a little less relaxed. As Jane looked for piñata stuffers, small hands reached up to wave item after item in front of her face. “Can I have this?” “Mom, Mom, Mom... Can I have this?” Jane’s simple “No” was light and firm, as plain and unquestionable as the sunrise.

It wasn’t long after that the bickering began. I listened in as Bella suggested an idea for an “older kids lounge” that Olivia shot down, right before reminding her sister who the birthday girl was. “I get to choose, Bay-la,” Olivia announced.

“Mom,” Bella hissed, “Olivia is being a diva.” She stole a glance in my direction and then pulled on Jane’s arm and said, “And not the good kind.”

I laughed with Jane, all adults-y and knowing, as we led the girls to the checkout. Our next stop was Party City, where Olivia chose a white unicorn piñata with a rainbow mane and tail, earning the Good Diva Seal of Approval.

By the third store (Michael’s, for googly eyes and pipe cleaners to make the candy butterflies), Jane and I were beginning to wear down. Bored with the task at hand, I turned to my phone for entertainment. “What are you doing?” Jane said in exasperation. “I need help finding the googly eyes.” I stopped and asked an employee, who directed us to the correct aisle, and then, once there, I returned my attention to my phone.

“Barb, I need your help,” Jane said.


“I’m trying to get this coupon, and I need you to look it up and get one, too. It’s 50 percent off — oh, shit. Shit, shit.” Jane tapped at her phone in distress and I snapped to attention.

Jane had found what looked like a 50-percent-off coupon, but the moment she selected it and entered her phone number, she began to receive texts from her carrier, alerting her to the fact that she’d just been billed $9.99.

I remembered how relaxed Jane had been just hours before, how she’d looked smelling that flower. And now she looked to be on the verge of tears. “You know what? continued on page 42
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Manchester Releases Statement on Plan to Repurpose U-T's Mission Valley Headquarters

“Our headquarters is in cyberspace, man!”

TAKING THE WORLD IN A LOVE EMBRACE, MISSION VALLEY — “Here’s the main thing,” says Papa Doug Manchester, real-estate developer and owner of the U-T San Diego newspaper as he opens a discussion of his proposal to turn the paper’s Mission Valley headquarters into a mixed-use development for residence and retail. “This is not about real-estate development. Real-estate development is just what happens afterward, because nature abhors a vacuum. It’s filling in the space that gets left behind. The main thing is that news wants to be free. It wants to move. And we’ve been keeping it cooped up inside four walls for way, way too long.

“The old brick-and-mortar business model for news is dead dead dead, Daddy-o,” continues Papa Doug as he turns slowly in a circle, arms outstretched. “And our old offices are literally brick and mortar. I visited once, and it was like walking into a crypt. I couldn’t breathe, you know? I mean, it’s no wonder we were producing such stale, moribund content. We were writing in our own graves!”

The solution, says Manchester, is “to dive into the digital age from a digital platform. To build a virtual newsroom that is at the same time everywhere and nowhere. No more reporters chained to desks. All you need to do news is a smartphone and a business card. Your desk is wherever you happen to be at the moment. Your conference room is Skype. Your break room is Starbucks. Freedom, baby. Freedom to find the news that’s out there.”

“So, yeah, we’ll put something where the old HQ used to be,” he concludes. “I mean, as long as we own the land. Waste not, want not, you know?”

Crossroads of the West Del Mar Gun Show Reports Hugely Successful Gun Buyback Event

Over 4000 guns bought back, no questions asked, and then re-sold to new customers, no questions asked

“Let’s face it,” says Crossroads of the West Gun Show director Max Luger, “in this day and age, you have to think twice before buying a gun. For one thing, guns have gotten some bad PR lately. But more importantly, guns aren’t cheap. A lot of families are having to ask that most difficult of questions, ‘Guns or butter?’ It’s a choice, frankly, that no American should have to make, but there it is. Over the past few years, we’ve started to hear stories of people ‘making do’ with their old guns, struggling to preserve their worn-out relics through home repair or reduced usage.”

That scenario, says Luger, is problematic on at least two counts. “First, it’s bad for the gun industry, and anything that’s bad for the gun industry is bad for the economy as a whole. I can show you study after study that links America’s economic health with robust spending on defense — whether it’s defense of the home or defense of the nation or defense of amorphous American interests overseas — and economic health. On the flip side, defense cuts are always always linked to periods of economic recession. And there’s no denying the importance of companies like Smith & Wesson to United States manufacturing. Sure, there are imports that get the job done cheaper, but the same could be said of General Motors, and even Obama knew better than to let them go under. Put simply, guns are too big to fail.”

Second, he continued, “it’s simply not safe. A worn-out gun is an accident waiting to happen. And for better or for worse, most guns today are simply too sophisticated for the passionate amateur to work on in the confines of his garage. We recommend replacing your gun every five years — and that’s if you’re a moderate shooter. And safety is absolutely a priority — it’s why guns exist in the first place.”

The solution, says Luger, is the buyback program. “At Crossroads of the West, we’re able to take these guns off the street, bring them back up to like-new condition, and sell them back to the public at extremely reasonable prices. It’s our way of giving back to the community.”

Critic Asks: Is Manchester’s U-T Just a Prop for Holman’s Reader?

Connection between two papers suggested in wake of weekly’s sale of its Little Italy headquarters

“I first got the notion when I was reading the U-T’s piece on the Reader’s decision to sell its little piece of Little Italy and move to Golden Hill,” explains former CityBeat rumor-monger Scotte Butt, who now consults with digital news outlets on disaster preparedness. “In the story, [Reader owner] Jim Holman said, ‘I’m not that much of a hip person. But the Reader has that kind of cache...’ Clearly, Holman actually said, ‘a hip person’ and ‘cachet.’ But apparently, neither the writer nor the editor nor the copyeditor at the U-T could be bothered to get the quote right. I thought, The U-T is a major metropolitan daily newspaper. How is this possible?”

Then I thought, Wait a minute. Is the U-T a major metropolitan daily newspaper?”

But says the piece fell into place with disturbing ease. “It’s simple. You can’t be an alternative weekly newspaper unless there’s a mainstream daily. The Reader needs the U-T in order to exist. But that’s not to say it needs the U-T to be a real newspaper — you know, with professional standards and whatnot. All it needs is something in print. Actually, the dumber and shoddier it is, the better.”

“Then I started thinking: who owns the U-T? Papa Doug Manchester, a Catholic who has backed conservative political causes like Prop 8. Who owns the Reader? Jim Holman, a Catholic who has backed conservative political causes like parental notification on abortion. Is there really any chance that these two guys don’t know each other? Isn’t it in fact much more likely that they would be partners on a media venture, as opposed to rivals?”

As of press time, Butt has been unable to establish any hard proof of a business association between Manchester and Holman. “But every time [Reader political writer] Don Bauder takes a shot at the U-T’s laughable coverage of this or that city issue, my certainty grows: Jim Holman is the real owner of U-T San Diego. And Manchester is the real force behind the weekly’s real-estate maneuvers.”
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Matt:

Going east along the I-8 before the College turn-off to SDSU, if you look left you will see a giant highchair on the hill below Del Cerro. Or a ladder. Or something. It’s out there on the side of the hill! Any idea what it is?
— Alan

Sent a battalion of elves in snake boots out there to take a peek and they’ve come back with the oddest news. It’s a lifeguard chair, separated from the sea by many miles and perched on the hillside south of Del Cerro Boulevard. How it got there is a mystery. Is it part of some SDSU snake study? A private citizen’s observatory perch? A frat-house prank? There doesn’t seem to be anything significant about the turf, except for the fact that it’s about a 45-degree slope and getting the chair out there and leveling it would have been a mighty chore. Technically, I’ve answered your question, but I’m compelled to find out the rest of the story. I’ll share the details if they surface.

Heymatt:

Back in the ’50s, ’70s, there was a big statue of a go-go girl on a sign in Mission Valley/Granville that was visible from the 8. I seem to remember that she was all dressed up (or not!) to suit the season and that it was a hoot to see. What happened to her? Where’s she dancing now?
— LoriChick, via email

Nothing lasts forever, and that’s particularly true for fiberglass and nightclubs. The go-go girl who danced atop a sign pole at the Box Office nightclub in Mission Valley (from about 1965 onward) came down years ago after a long and storied tenure. She’s either destroyed or lost in storage somewhere, but in her day she was famous for her changing outfits, which she ended up wearing a muumuu, the first of her many costumes over the 20-odd years that she danced above Mission Valley.

The whole affair turned out pretty well for everybody. The future Dr. Feeney got to enjoy a taste of fame, the Box Office got some serious PR, and the go-go girl’s legend grew and grew. There’s a little irony in the fact that the statue’s face, the ugliness of which initially offended the future Dr. Feeney, got to enjoy themselves and their fame enormously, cover her up?” The teens, by that point enjoying themselves and their fame enormously, acquiesced to that request and the go-go girl ended up wearing a muumuu, the first of her many costumes over the 20-odd years that she danced above Mission Valley.

At the 11th hour, someone from the Box Office proposed a compromise. “What if we cover her up?” The teens, by that point enjoying themselves and their fame enormously, acquiesced to that request and the go-go girl ended up wearing a muumuu, the first of her many costumes over the 20-odd years that she danced above Mission Valley.

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Heymatt:

Once or twice a year, I will wake to a charlie-horse. In my leg. I always instinctively pound the offending muscle group with my fist. I’d like to know if this is a universal instinct, and if so, why? Honestly, it doesn’t ever seem to accomplish much besides causing me to hurt in a different manner.

— Laurens

Leg cramps are a major bummer and, as far as I know, just about everyone goes straight to some kind of a massage to try and get relief. Whether that’s instinctive (because people have evolved with leg cramps) or culturally conditioned (because massage and musculoskeletal discomfort go hand-in-hand in popular consciousness) is anybody’s guess. Folkty home remedies for leg cramps abound, but my favorite is, without a doubt, putting a bar of soap underneath the sheets when you go to sleep at night. Apparently, it works for a lot of people!

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SDSU embraces the '80s

Stonewash, the one style trend I hoped would never make a comeback, has reared its ugly head on the SDSU campus. While at SDSU, I spotted a mix-match of trends pulled from both the 1980s and '90s.

Alyssa Cabal purchased her stonewash jacket from SHOPLUNAB. She wore Ray-Ban aviators paired with the ever-so-trendy fish-tail braid that can be seen in just about every other fashion campaign during the past six months.

When asked what her least favorite trend is, Cabal said, “Anything from Forever 21. Everything there is tacky.”

Cabal’s favorite wardrobe item is her oversized Michael Kors gold watch. Nordstrom sells the watch for $275.

SDSU student Anani Franklin wore a Forever 21 Bill Cosby–inspired sweater. She sported stonewashed jeans from resale shop Buffalo Exchange.

Everything Franklin wore was so '80s that she could’ve passed for a time-traveler from a John Hughes flick.

The 17-year-old is a civil-engineering major. Franklin listed her least favorite style trends as Uggs, off-the-shoulder sweaters, and knee socks.

Nineteen-year-old Megan Corletto wore black knee-socks from Flashbacks. In her clunky glasses, patent-leather oxfords, and button-down top (both B.P, from Nordstrom) she resembled a young Sarah Jessica Parker in *Square Pegs*. Corletto purchased her high-waisted, velvet, circle-skirt from Urban Outfitters.

Corletto’s least favorite trend is highwaisted short-shorts.

“They look like denim underwear,” she said of the trend.

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Clockwise from upper left: apricot tart, apple tart, Madeleines made at Sur La Table, caramel apple tart made at Sur La Table

POST TITLE: My Medifast Diet Experience and French Tarts
POST DATE: March 11, 2013

It all started with my quest to perfect French baking, back in November of 2012. I had a burning desire to get some special, exquisite desserts mastered in my home kitchen. Especially French tarts.

I believe the passion began when my mom passed away on November 6. She had been sick for a while, although we had no idea how sick she was, and when she went to the hospital, things went downhill fast. Two weeks later she was gone.

This experience brought feelings of overwhelming sadness, but also a desire to hold on to all things about her that I treasured. This is why I started baking. Many years back, she gave me her copy of The Joy of Cooking. She said that because my Dad had bought her a new one, it was time to pass this one on. So after she died, out came The Joy of Cooking, along with some flour, sugar, and butter, and the test kitchen was open.

What followed was a lot of fun — especially for my coworkers, friends, and family, who were the benefactors of my experiments. I also took a class in French desserts at Sur La Table in Carlsbad. Along the way, I managed to eat in France, and walked the dog along with some flour, sugar, and butter, and the test kitchen was open.

Two weeks and three times. That’s it. I’ll make another post soon, showing a full day’s worth of meals, what I will have when I am off the diet and 20 pounds lighter, but in moderation. Two weeks and two days into the plan, I have lost eight pounds. I haven’t worked out much — twice I did the Precor machines at 24 Hour Fitness for 15 minutes. I did yoga once and walked the dog three times.

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Sportswriter fires team

Wounding the humiliation. There’s 4:49 left with the score, Florida Gulf Coast 70, San Diego 52. You can see the wheels falling off the Aztecs’ bandwagon from here. SDSU came into the tournament regarded as a pretty good team in a pretty good conference. Now, on the court, that rep is in meltdown. SDSU players know they’re beaten, know they’re going to lose to a 15th seed. And that’s what this team will be remembered for. You get no love when you lose to Cinderella. Nobody will say, “Great game, you showed a lot of pride out there.” No, they won’t say anything, they’ll keep their eyes on their shoes and walk away.

I believe Big Sports Media, headquartered on the East Coast, underreports West Coast basketball and football. I’m telling you this so you’ll know how much it hurts to say West Coast college basketball is far below adequate, and those East Coast corporate sports hacks had it figured all along.

This is brought to mind afresh by way of an email received this morning. An old sportswriter says farewell:

Okay, for the record, here is the West Coast body count, 2013 edition. I should put in here that, for me, the West Coast is defined by a line drawn from the Canadian border down the east side of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. Everything west of that line is West Coast.

St. Mary’s (WCC) beat Middle Tennessee in a play-in game, then lost in the round of 64 to Memphis. Colorado State (Mountain West) lost to Louisville in the round of 32. New Mexico State (WAC) was beaten by Saint Louis in the round of 64. Gonzaga (WCC) lost in the round of 32 to Wichita State. New Mexico (Mountain West) lost to Harvard. To Harvard, I tell you. It was Harvard’s first tournament victory since the Big Bang. UNLV bounced out in the round of 64. Montana lost to Syracuse, by 47 points, in the round of 64. Colorado lost to Illinois in the same round. Pacific lost, by 29 points, to Miami (FL) in the round of 64. UCLA (Pac-12) lost to Minnesota, by 20 points, in the round of 64. UNLV (Mountain West) lost to California in the round of 64; California lost to Syracuse next time up. Boise State lost in the play-in round. Of 15 West Coast teams invited to the tournament, only two, Arizona and Oregon, remain standing.

You can see why Dennis Latta couldn’t take it. Latta is an editor at Loboland.com, an outpost of Rivals.com, featuring all things University of New Mexico athletics. Latta has covered New Mexico men’s basketball for 33 years.

After Harvard — a 14 seed and a college that awards zero basketball scholarships — beat the No. 3 seed, in this case New Mexico, Latta quit his job, posting the following on Loboland.com, under the headline “Longtime sportswriter says farewell”:

I really thought that the University of New Mexico finally had a men’s basketball team that earned the loyalty of their fans.

I was wrong. I’ve been around Lobo basketball for 33 seasons. For 32 of those seasons, I knew that UNM had a team that could fold and lose to anyone at any time. I never got my expectations too high because a collapse was possible anytime they walked out on that floor.

I thought this team was different. I was convinced that this Lobo team was for real. It had experience, a good front line and a good backcourt and good chemistry and was smart. I was wrong.

But I won’t be wrong again. It was a lot easier to take when expectations were lower. Losing was acceptable because UNM had almost always lost when it really counted. You don’t have visions of greatness only to have them dashed. After the pitiful performance UNM put up against a team that doesn’t even offer scholarships, I’ve given up. Having all five starters back next season means nothing on a team that can just disappear like that. I’d be back to wondering when it would collapse, have a terrible game, and lose to an inferior team again.

No, I’ve had it. I’ve been to my last Lobo basketball game after covering the team for much of the last 33 years.

Good bye, Lobo basketball.
San Diego State’s growing contempt for undergrads

“The joke is we would like to swap students with Arizona,” says Jim Gerber, a professor of economics at San Diego State University. “All our students will go to Arizona and pay out-of-state tuition, and all their students will come here and pay out-of-state.”

Gerber’s dig at the SDSU administration is part of a wider critique of the direction the university has been taking. That direction may be summed up in a statement the school’s president, Elliot Hirshman, made to the U-T San Diego last August. “I think it is clear,” Hirshman said, “we are on a trajectory that has been set for the last quarter-century to continue our development as a leading public research university.”

Grumbling about how loud that drumbeat has become is alive and well among faculty on campus to a significant, yet unknown, extent. “There’s never been a poll of the faculty on the issue that I know of,” Gerber says.

In December 2011, Gerber and SDSU colleague Doreen Mattingly, of the women’s studies department, chanced separately to hear a National Public Radio interview with Benjamin Ginsberg, author of a recent book called The Fall of the Faculty. Afterward, Mattingly contacted Ginsberg at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, where he teaches political science, and invited him to San Diego. Ginsberg visited SDSU several months later and met with a group of faculty. He also gave a lecture based on the book. The lecture, by all accounts, was sparsely attended. It did
generate a small coterie of professors who were taken by Ginsberg’s critique of contemporary higher education. To give an idea of their interest in Ginsberg’s book, consider its subtitle: The Rise of the All-Administrative University and Why It Matters.

In the book, Ginsberg writes: “From the faculty’s perspective, teaching and research are the main purposes of the university. The institution exists to promote these ends. From the perspective of many university administrators, however, teaching and research are merely instrumental endeavors. They are undertaken in order to draw customers (aka students) and research funds to the university.” All the while, Ginsberg writes, the ranks of administrators grow disproportionately to faculty, administrative pay goes up and up, and, to pay for the vast bureaucracy, university presidents engage in extensive “image polishing” and fundraising.

I have come to Jim Gerber’s office on the fourth floor of the Adams Humanities building, near the south edge of campus, to inquire how far the Ginsberg critique applies at SDSU. Outside Gerber’s window can be glimpsed a corner of beams and girders; these support the new Aztec Student Center, now under construction.

SDSU’s unique characteristics make for a loose fit with The Fall of the Faculty. Most of the universities Ginsberg studied are on the East Coast or in the Midwest. He told me by email that he did not study the California State University system.

Starting in 1960, with its “Master Plan for Higher Education,” the California legislature has viewed the state university system as sandwiched between the community colleges and the University of California. Community colleges would offer the first two years of college education and focus largely on vocational education. University of California would pursue research, which the legislature would support both financially and in the administrative structure set up for the system’s various universities. The California State Universities were chartered with being teaching institutions par excellence; they would produce the bulk of bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and provide teacher and professional education. Faculty would contribute research and scholarship commensurate with its teaching role. Later, the CSU was allowed to offer PhD degrees in a variety of subjects, but only as joint programs with partner universities, often one of the UCs, but sometimes a private school.

Much of the critique of higher education that Ginsberg delivers in The Fall of the Faculty is that universities today behave more like private businesses. New for-profit colleges have taken this shift to its logical conclusion. Traditional schools, both public and private, don’t have outside investors who seek a return on investment. Instead, they have excessive numbers of administrators inside the institution who command increasingly higher pay and benefits.

SDSU president Hirshman told his university senate in December that efficiency was something the school “already was achieving.” But the school’s financial initiatives go beyond that. Currently, they include a major fundraising effort called “Campaign for SDSU.” As of this writing, the campaign has raised $380 million. Other “revenue streams” come from auxiliary organizations, such as the university’s Research Foundation, and from Aztec Shops, which runs the campus bookstore and food services.

Then there is that out-of-state tuition. A university budget presentation from April 2012 projected an increase in nonresident tuition from $2,297,055 in 2007/08 to $15,009,200 in 2012/13, for an increase of $2,062,145.

It’s hard to blame public universities for pursuing entrepreneurial strategies when they face shrinking support from state legislatures. That is certainly the case at SDSU, which has lost $118 million in support from the California legislature since 2008.

But one wonders whether SDSU has done enough to cut into what Ginsberg calls “administrative bloat.” Recently, governor Jerry Brown demanded that both the CSU and UC systems cut down on administrative costs. According to the Los Angeles Times in January, the governor cited a “study by a faculty group” indicating that in the two systems, “senior administrators had increased by 125 percent since 1997, while the number of students increased 33 percent.” The Sacramento Bee’s 2011 list of the salaries of California state employees brings the point closer to home. At SDSU, 35 administrators earned over $150,000 per year, and 11 earned over $200,000. Today, there are 263 administrators in all.

According to a series of budget and enrollment fact sheets, the university lost only 97 staff (that figure includes administrators) from 2004/05 to the present, while the loss of faculty (including adjuncts) in the same period was 465. Today, full-time faculty number about 700.

Gerber is critical of the business model of running the university. “There’s this notion we get from administration all the time, how we need to be more efficient — we get it from the public, too — that we need to operate more according to business principles. Not to say we shouldn’t be concerned about waste, but we don’t have a clear bottom line in the same way that a business does.”

* * *

Gerber tells me about working as a wild-land firefighter for the U.S. Forest Service before starting his academic career. The demobilization of the Vietnam War was then underway.

“Suddenly,” he says, “a lot of surplus military helicopters were available at a low price. In the Forest Service, each forest is divided into districts, and in each district, there is a chief fire-suppression officer. It’s a GS 8 or 9 position responsible for crews. If you could get a helicopter, you bumped up your government service rank and got more pay. So, with all these surplus helicopters, the Forest Service is now up
to its ears in helicopters. Everybody wants a helicopter in their district. Now, did we all need helicopters? No.

“So, what’s the helicopter in higher education? It’s PhD programs, and more research.”

According to the budget and enrollment fact sheets, the number of joint PhD programs has been increasing rapidly at SDSU. In 2004/05, there were 414 doctoral students. By 2012/13, that figure had increased to 655, more than a 58 percent increase. The university graduated 13 PhDs in 2004/05, while in 2012/13, it projects that 201 will graduate. That translates to a whopping increase of more than 438 percent.

“I came to SDSU in 1985,” says Gerber, “and the process was already well underway. An administrator once said to me, ‘We don’t want to be just another CSU,’ and, later, ‘We would be like the other CSUs if we didn’t have all these PhD programs.’ So, he was contemptuous of the CSU and of its teaching, especially its undergraduate mission, which is an extremely important public function. I feel it’s what the legislature has charged us to do; namely, to teach people at the undergraduate level primarily.

“We have pulled resources out of undergraduate education in order to build expensive, elite PhD programs that cater to very few students proportionately. If you step back and ask, ‘Does this contribute as much to the public good?’, I’m not convinced…. The results of research are mixed.”

As director of the Latin American Studies program on campus, Gerber managed a $500,000 U.S. Department of Education grant between 2002 and 2009.

“But the public benefits more overall,” he says, “if we focus on taking somewhat marginally prepared students and turn them into college graduates. I think that’s a big bang for the buck, socially.

“Today, there’s more inequality and less social mobility. And so, what are we doing at San Diego State? We have a student population that has holes in their K–12 education. I’m talking about the regional students. But they meet the CSU’s minimum requirements [and] we are not providing services to enough of them. We are reinforcing those trends in American society which increase inequality, and which reduce social and economic mobility. This is harmful to San Diego and the U.S.

“But you are not rewarded in the university or in your career or in your field for being an excellent teacher. You are rewarded for original research. The incentives are stacked against teaching.

“If you’re an administrator, the way you gain recognition is not because your university is excellent at teaching. It’s because your university is generating more recognized research, and you have more people who are publishing in the best journals and are getting grants. The system is designed in a way that is counter the interests of a large share of the population of San Diego.”

Perhaps the thing that has bothered Gerber most at SDSU is “a persistent marketing of the university using measures that are bogus.”

Today, SDSU markets itself as a top-tier research university, but Gerber is mainly thinking of a campaign of several years ago that’s since been dropped. This campaign called the school “the best small research university.”

“That was bogus,” he says. “And it angered faculty.

“We are a university with 30,000 students. So, in what sense are we a ‘small’ research university? Well, the idea seems to have been based on a category of 15 PhD programs or fewer. This is designed to pump up the academic credentials of SDSU. This is how administrators gain stature, and perhaps better job offers, how you move up in the hierarchy of higher education. ‘I took this university from nowhere to somewhere, and this is the data to prove it.’

Gerber’s view has its detractors. Some say faculty who want to do only the minimum amount of research for gaining and holding tenure are lazy. Others point to a common distinction between graduate education in the United States and that in Europe. ‘Today, SDSU markets itself as a top-tier research university, but Gerber is mainly thinking of a campaign of several years ago that’s since been dropped. This campaign called the school “the best small research university.”

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a college and a university. Colleges, it is said, are for teaching. They become universities when they add major research efforts to their teaching mission.

“That’s splitting hairs over terms,” Gerber tells me. The real issue, he thinks, is “what SDSU is supposed to be,” according to state legislative mandate, and what California taxpayers should be getting from their universities.

“What should San Diego expect from us as a regional institution? I don’t hear that dialogue on campus,” Gerber says. “We are a resource to the region. The region and its citizens are our primary constituents. But they don’t have a voice here. This gives freedom of action to administrators and others who want to take the university in a direction which may not be in the best interest of the region.

“I’m reluctant to criticize my colleagues, but it’s a self-criticism as well. We have not exercised our function as guardians of this community asset. We have turned it over to administrators, who have a different perspective on what makes a good university. Many faculty refuse to voice their concerns, out of fear and a sense that

Sussman tells me he had a research-oriented position in the medical school at Cincinnati, but he and his wife wanted to return to their home state. He interviewed at UCLA and UC Irvine but chose San Diego State. He says he knew he’d be successful at SDSU if he could “capitalize on the different strength of the place.”

Sussman describes that strength as a “flexibility that comes from the lack of [the] bureaucratic juggernaut” that supports research at places like the University of California campuses.

“There’s this notion we get from administration all the time, how we need to be more efficient... to operate more according to business principles.”

In 2003, professor of biology Mark Sussman left the University of Cincinnati for SDSU. “My friends said, ‘Why are you going to a teaching school? Your research is going to die. You’ll end up sitting around drinking foo-foo drinks with little umbrellas in them.’”

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“IN HARD TIMES, though,” he says, “that lack can be a handicap. Because that’s when you need an established structure to support you. But I figured that, if I create my own infrastructure by building what I need within my own walls, and not depend on the school to build it for me, I can make a run at this. I’m usually best when I’m left alone, anyway.”

Right away, Sussman began buying equipment, some of it on eBay. Then he talked the SDSU administration into transforming a couple of classrooms in the Life Sciences building into a laboratory.

On a tour of the lab, I see slides with slices of heart tissue taken from mice that will be examined under a microscope. There is imaging equipment that allows the beating hearts of live animals to be seen. There are also many odd-looking machines I have little time to comprehend. In the lab, the molecular structure of animal heart tissue is being used to help study the human heart. Undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral scholars all work as part of Sussman’s research group. The lab has evolved into the Molecular Biology Laboratory of the Heart Institute at SDSU.

“The university will say to me,” Sussman continues, “‘Mark, based on the amount of overhead you earned this year, we’re going to release to you a certain amount to fix up your laboratory and keep it running. And you can put on there things that you can’t put on there. But this university does something rare, and it’s the main reason why research succeeds here. It diverts a relatively small amount of the overhead funds it receives [from grants] to individuals. [Here, that diverted] money is called Research Support Funds.”

Overhead funds are typically intended to cover the costs of research done on cam-

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Have you been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis (RA)?

Do you still have tender and swollen joints despite current treatment? If so, then consider the RADIUS-10 clinical research study.

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“So, what’s the helicopter in higher education? It’s PhD programs and more research.”

The research, then, has driven an expansion of the infrastructure and the administration necessary for oversight.

“When a grant is awarded, they don’t just hand me a check for $200,000 and say, ‘Spend it on whatever you want.’ The school, through its Research Foundation, makes sure I spend it in compliance with federal guidelines, monitors progress-report deadlines, and makes sure I spend the monies only for the purposes for which they were awarded.”

The SDSU Research Foundation is an “auxiliary organization” and not strictly a part of the university. But Sussman argues that the university and the foundation are “like Siamese twins. They may have two hearts, but they share a blood supply.”

The foundation has its own CEO, while SDSU’s president is the head of its board of directors. The foundation’s purpose is largely to manage the money the university accumulates in research funding.

Researchers at SDSU have always been told, says Sussman, “that research must be a self-funded enterprise on this campus. We need to be as autonomous as possible. But this university does something rare, and it’s the main reason why research succeeds here. It was never done for the research university. That is, they were going to be a funding, knowing that bureaucracy to deal with the mechanisms and the research funding. ‘Mark, based on the amount of overhead you earned this year, we’re going to release to you a certain amount to fix up your laboratory and keep it running. And you can put on there things that you can’t put on there. But this university does something rare, and it’s the main reason why research succeeds here. It diverts a relatively small amount of the overhead funds it receives [from grants] to individuals. [Here, that diverted] money is called Research Support Funds.”

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For the first time in their lives. We're just teaching in the lab, as opposed to teaching in a classroom, and we would like the school to recognize that by underwriting some of the costs.

"But SDSU is not essentially a research university. It's a community-based San Diego regional campus that has global impact.... That impact is not because of the classes we teach. It's because of the research we do. Go to the SDSU website and see the kinds of research that is happening in terms of global warming, cardiovascular disease, education, and health-disparities research."

As we talk in Sussman's office, he pulls a copy of Ginsberg's *The Fall of the Faculty* off a shelf. I ask how he first became aware of the book, and he says that during a “disconnect” with the university administration over funding for his lab, a colleague recommended he read the book to put the problem in context.

In 2010, in the minds of some researchers (also known as "primary investigators") on campus, the door seemed to be slamming on Research Support Funds. Tom Scott, then SDSU’s vice president of research, wanted university," sees what happened differently. It started in 2008, he tells me by phone, when, concurrently with his campus jobs (including dean of graduate studies), he worked as the temporary CEO of the Research Foundation. The board of directors had ordered a review of the Research Support Funds, which, Scott explains, are 12 percent of overhead funds at SDSU. That’s six times higher at SDSU than the national average. "I noted that fact in a report to the board, but I also defended the funds for the same reasons that Mark was saying they're important. I felt that it was a balanced response.

"The incentives are stacked against teaching." says that a "disconnect" with the university administration over funding for his lab, a colleague recommended he read the book to put the problem in context. But Scott, who says his tenure "helped transform SDSU from a teaching to a research..." to divert the funds to other causes," Sussman says. "He championed this as something that was best for the school."

"But SDSU is not essentially a research university. It's a community-based San Diego regional campus that has global impact. That impact is not because of the classes we teach. It's because of the research we do. Go to the SDSU website and see the kinds of research that is happening in terms of global warming, cardiovascular disease, education, and health-disparities research."

The board accepted this but said they would like the situation revisited in two years."

As the second review approached, says Scott, investigators assumed that "I wanted to reduce their Research Support Fund again, which I never wanted to do in the first place."

Sussman and a number of other researchers on campus organized themselves into an advocacy group and put up a website, which they used to express their opinions about what was going on. Emails back and forth between Scott and the investigators were saved for viewing on the website.

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“Other than Tom, the researchers didn’t have a voice in the administration,” Sussman says. “And they believed [Tom] wasn’t helping...the people doing the heavy lifting, in terms of generating funding. He had a different agenda.”

I ask Sussman if he can relate all this to Ginsberg’s The Fall of the Faculty.

“Ginsberg,” he says, “posits that, over the course of decades, faculty have ceded control of the business aspects of the university to the administration. The idea used to be that administrators were going to be responsive to the needs of the faculty. The problem comes when there’s a fundamental disconnect between what the faculty perceive as their needs and what the administrators implement.

“Every time the administration says, ‘Maybe we should give you guys less money,’ we say, ‘The reason we’re here, in part, is that money, and you’re going to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs. You may get a little bit in return, but in the end you’ll be done, because we won’t be here anymore.’”

So, the researchers got their way.

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WRINKLE TREATMENTS

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Botox®

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IPL Photofacial

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Deep Cleansing Facial

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Glycolic Facial

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In the Crosshairs of History, Part Two

YP-289 Goes to War

Who knew what they were in for? By May 1942, the government had conscripted over 50 tuna clippers — most from San Diego — as a supply fleet for the war effort. Painted battleship gray and saddled with obsolete weaponry, they transported food, fuel, munitions, and soldiers to islands and atolls in the Pacific. Told they’d deliver “beans, bacon, and mail,” said Ed Madruga, captain of the Paramount (YP-289), they found themselves in the “crosshairs of history.” Twenty-one did not return. It’s a wonder the others did.

For its first mission, YP-289 sailed 2300 miles from Pearl Harbor to Tutuila, the main island of American Samoa, where the 7th Defense Battalion built a marine staging area. As the boat neared an outer reef, Ed did what came naturally: he sent out jig lines and trawled for tuna.

The boat had eight Navy men onboard, and whatever they thought about their civilian shipmates at first, an admiration grew. For starters, YP-289 was as immaculate as any Navy craft. While some YPs developed reputations for grime (William Manchester described them as “smelly speedboats which emitted deafening chugs and clouds of sparks”), Ed Madruga insisted on spotlessness. And his crew, including brother Joe, who served as first mate, were master seamen.

A big fish hit. Joe steered such an unexpectedly tight turn, the maneuver impressed the sailors. The tuna were Pacific bluefin so large they required two bamboo poles, one line, and a large hook to bring them in. The Navy men watched with dropped jaws as the civilians slung 40- to 50-pound fish out of the soup and onto the deck in precise, two-pole harmony.

As YP-289 entered Pago Pago (pronounced “pong-go pong-go”) Harbor, an odd sight approached from the point where the blue water and dense, emerald-green backdrop joined: wooden canoes, paddled by dozens of natives.

“We’re new to the South Pacific,” Ed said years later. And “these are great big guys handling this at least 30-feet-long, one piece of wood — and [the men in the canoes] look like bruisers.” The natives climbed onboard. Instead of inspecting the two .50-caliber machine guns astern, they stared in awe at 25 giant

Q U O T A T I O N S

1. Lucile Madruga: “Pork Chop Express?” I’d never heard that name before.”
3. Daniel Shapiro: “The Navy, impressed with the performance of the ships and the yippies’ crews, continued to add more tuna clippers into service to replace those that had been lost.”

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the American Samoa became a lumber-hauling steamer, “sacred” and Varely), the Azorena, “reasons sound like a harbor. The brothers didn’t reach the railing to vomit. The Madrugas didn’t make out specks on the horizon: a leaping yellowfin, “Errand Boys of the Pacific.” Chop Express” and the tuna fleet the “Pork and browning on the skil-let-hot deck.

“They didn’t talk English,” said Ed, “but I knew what they wanted…I said, ‘Sure.’” One pulled out a long knife and slit the throat of a bluefin. Then all blessed

ed and drank the blood a bluefin. Then all blessed

bad hops and close games. Often, when YP-289 returned, the game would resume without the opposing pitcher or the flashy third baseman — shot from the sky. The Madrugas couldn’t believe that a man who’d made a diving catch the day before was suddenly gone.

Two of their proudest moments came when YP-289 rescued downed pilots. Prior to World War II, Joe had a reputation for sharp “fisherman’s eyes,” among the best in the San Diego tuna fleet. He could make out specks on the horizon: a leaping yellowfin, excited birds, even ripples signaling schools of fish.

During the war, his binoculars sought life jackets and rafts bobbing up and down in the blue swells. “Thank God we saved their lives,” Ed recalled with pride. “Nobody ever would have found them, I don’t think.”

When far out at sea, YP-289 got a radio call: “Pilot down, search at these coordinates.”

On the way, Joe spotted a metallic glisten — a life jacket? — a mile off. Ed radioed: they might have found the pilot. Wrong coordinates, said the voice on the radio, continue to target area.

“If Joe says he sees something,” Ed shot back, “he sees something!”

And he did. The speck was the lost pilot. They often functioned as a shuttle service. Ed’s wife Lucile recalls: “Anyone wanting to go to a different island, Ed would take them — even a leprechaun.”

Their least favorite duty: “Avgas” — 55-gallon drums of aviation fuel fastened to vital that a destroyer would signal the school of fish.

Two of their proudest moments came when YP-289 rescued downed pilots. Prior to World War II, Joe had a reputation for sharp “fisherman’s eyes,” among the best in the San Diego tuna fleet. He could make out specks on the horizon: a leaping yellowfin, excited birds, even ripples signaling schools of fish.

During the war, his binoculars sought life jackets and rafts bobbing up and down in the blue swells. “Thank God we saved their lives,” Ed recalled with pride. “Nobody ever would have found them, I don’t think.”

When far out at sea, YP-289 got a radio call: “Pilot down, search at these coordinates.”

On the way, Joe spotted a metallic glisten — a life jacket? — a mile off. Ed radioed: they might have found the pilot. Wrong coordinates, said the voice on the radio, continue to target area.

“If Joe says he sees something,” Ed shot back, “he sees something!”

And he did. The speck was the lost pilot. They often functioned as a shuttle service. Ed’s wife Lucile recalls: “Anyone wanting to go to a different island, Ed would take them — even a leprechaun.”

Their least favorite duty: “Avgas” — 55-gallon drums of aviation fuel fastened to the deck. They weren’t only dicey to transport, the crew also had to cover their faces with handkerchiefs to block the nauseating fumes.

By November 1942, around-the-clock “island hopping” had become so routine that, when Ed received an order to pick up cargo at Efate Island in the New Hebrides, he assumed it was “another trip to some isolated base with gasoline and bombs.”

On August 7, 1942, the First Marines stormed Red Beach, a slat of bright brown sand on Guadalcanal Island. This was the initial land invasion by U.S. ground troops in the Pacific theater. By early November, fighting had become so intense (it would continue so until February 8, 1943) that the Japanese renamed Guadalcanal “The Island of Death”; Americans called it “the Green Hell”.

At Efate Island, YP-289 and YP-290 (the 128-foot Picaro, commanded by Victor Rosa) had orders to transport 160 tons of cargo to Guadalcanal. Ed had no idea what his crew was stacking in the slipper’s deep holds — many boxes, when shaken, clinked like cans of B-ration — only that the contents were so vital that a destroyer would be escorting them.

During the war, the passage between Guadalcanal and Tulagi Island, 20 miles northeast, was called “The Slot,” a deadly gauntlet patrolled by destroyers and subs from both sides. At war’s end, it became “Iron Bottom Sound,” since the remains of 65 ships lay strewn across the bottom. The clippers sailed down...
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Food truck fight
continued from page 3

good for the public.”

Murcia was not surprised by Del Mar’s moratorium. Other cities have taken a similar stance on food trucks. He says that most Southern California cities that have banned food trucks have later changed their minds after realizing the benefits they present to communities. He points out that Long Beach, after banning the trucks, later rewrote their law to allow them back into their community. Recently, Murcia sent the Del Mar City Council a nationwide study on the benefits reaped by communities that host food-truck events.

“The consumers want the food trucks there,” he says. “It’s a shame [Del Mar’s city council] haven’t done their homework enough to know that it will help them. We have tried to explain to the city our benefits. They say [food trucks] will hurt [existing] businesses. That’s just not true. It’s not like we’re across the street from take-out restaurants. The closest restaurant is fine dining. We are attracting a different kind of client.”

Del Mar officials seem to be coming around to Murcia’s way of thinking. Says Mayor Sinnott, “We are hoping we can get this ordinance done rapidly and put in place so that [food-truck] owners can get back in Del Mar. Summer seems like a reasonable time to me. It shouldn’t take much longer than that.”

Murcia isn’t as optimistic. “It’s a small city. We can take our business elsewhere. I think there are potential benefits to the City of Del Mar to allow food trucks but it’s not worth it for us to fight such a small community. We are going to go where the business is. [Del Mar] is just going to miss out.”

Quail Brush, Pio Pico turned down, but...
Door could be open for SDG&E to try again for new plants
San Diego County — The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), meeting today (March 21), turned down Quail Brush and Pio Pico power plants that San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) has been pushing for. San Diegans have expressed strong opposition to both plants and showed up in the hundreds for today’s session. A third new plant for Escondido was approved, but it has not generated as much controversy.

However, Bill Powers of Powers Engineering warns that the CPUC on Friday slipped in a provision that “seems to open an avenue for a fast-track reconsideration,” he says. Thus, he is concerned that SDG&E will quietly push for these plants again. (Generally, the CPUC and the utilities that dominate its actions will try to dodge public arousal but then quietly sneak something in while the public is celebrating its victory.)

Powers points out that commissioners tried to reassure San Diegans that today’s denial gives the community two or three years before the question comes up again.

Don Bauder, March 21

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*Some weight restrictions apply. Garment and lab additional.
close their doors while others lost hundreds of thousands of dollars in revenues.

“One of our biggest complaints is the manner in which SDG&E handled construction,” wrote Blain in a March 20 email.

“When Powerlink construction was in the works for Alpine, business owners were told that SDG&E would do everything necessary to mitigate the impact of construction. They pitched a construction plan that had it proceeding methodically down Alpine Boulevard and limiting construction to discrete areas of the street. This plan was jettisoned almost as soon as construction started. Construction occurred all over the boulevard at once, often limiting the street to a single lane of traffic, creating a gauntlet of construction obstacles that many Alpine patrons couldn’t take.”

Blain says that SDG&E was aware of the impacts and at one point created a claims unit to look into the impact to businesses. The settlement offers “were typically low, generally something in the range of $3000 for a binding release of all claims.”

Representatives from San Diego Gas and Electric declined to comment for this story.

Dorian Hargrove, March 20

Fluoride debate resurfaces

Outside funding is running dry, City must decide what to do about water supply

“San Diego — After two years, the debate over adding fluoride to the City’s water supply is back.

State law requires large water suppliers to fluoridate its drinking water in hopes of preventing dental disease and improving oral health in children. At the same time, the State gives a pass to any public agency if no outside funding is available. So, for more than ten years, the City of San Diego held off just for that reason.

By 2008, according to some county officials, the City of San Diego was the largest municipality in the country without fluoridated water.

That same year came an offer from the First 5 Commission, a county-sponsored child healthcare program paid for with Proposition 10 tax revenues, to give the City $3.9 million to fluoridate its water at three water treatment plants. The money also paid for two years of operation and maintenance. And, in February 2011, the City began adding fluoride to its drinking water.

The decision wasn’t without controversy then and isn’t to this day. Now the money has nearly run dry and the debate has resurfaced.

“Fluoride is a toxic poison perpetrated on the people by the ADA and government officials,” reads a Facebook page entitled “Stop Fluoridation in San Diego’s Public Water Supply.”

“Fluoride is a potent poison and industrial waste product, used in rat and cockroach poison and the military sarin nerve gas.”

And conversely, lobbyists are once again roaming City Hall in search of support for fluoridation. A recent lobbying disclosure shows the California Dental Association has once again turned to Richard Ledford, a former aide to Mayor Susan Golding, to lobby city officials in support of fluoridation.

Dorian Hargrove, March 20

Developer lobbyist amends filing after Reader story

Law firm in anti-Filner case revises campaign contributions statement

Downtown — Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton, a city hall lobbying mainstay for members of San Diego’s hotel development industry and a host of other major corporate and industrial clients, has amended its third quarter 2012 lobbying filing to show that members of the law firm gave more money to the mayoral campaign of Republican city councilman Carl DeMaio than it previously had disclosed.

The new filing may confirm the view of some critics that the city’s deep and convoluted web of political giving and behind-the-scenes influence peddling is so difficult to track that even a major player such as Sheppard Mullin — with a national legal reputation and millions of dollars of corporate business to protect — hasn’t been able to adequately account for the extensive fundraising activities of its employees, a lapse that could subject violators to city and state legal sanctions.

The filing comes on the heels of Friday’s Reader story, which reported that Sheppard Mullin lawyers donated heavily to DeMaio and two other GOP candidates, District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis and Assemblyman Nathan Fletcher (who subsequently left the party), while giving just $250 to the ultimate victor, Democrat Bob Filner.

According to the document, Sheppard Mullin failed to disclose contributions to DeMaio made by several of its partners, including Christopher Neils, the lawyer who has handled extensive legal work for Douglas F. Manchester, the hotel developer and U-T San Diego publisher now engaged in an editorial war with Filner over whether the mayor should sign a funding contract negotiated by GOP ex-mayor Jerry Sanders, a major beneficiary of hotel industry political largesse.

Manchester’s fellow hotel magnates, C. Terry Brown, William Evans, and Richard Bartell, are the principal movers behind a now-pending lawsuit to force Filner to ratify a city funding deal with the so-called San Diego Tourism Marketing District. The case is to be heard by Superior Court Judge Timothy B. Taylor, a 20-year veteran of Sheppard Mullin.

Matt Potter, March 20
San Diego March 28, 2013

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Thank you so much for calling attention not only to what great pets buns are but also to the plight that so many of them face because people don't think before getting a rabbit. Rabbits are such underrated pets. They are loving, sweet, smart and spunky! I love my dogs, cats, and horses but there will always be a very special place in my heart for my rescue bunny Fidget!

By KatieS Mar. 20, 2013 @ 6:23 p.m.

The Mouse: that's her new name. It kind of fits, being that she is all of two pounds.

By Dave Good Mar. 21, 2013 @ 9:38 a.m.

I moved into my current place about a year ago. With it came a presumably dumped bunny. He lives between my open backyard (shared with other tenants) and a few other houses on my block. With a dog and cat already in my studio, bringing him indoors is not an option but we do our best to feed him and keep him from being harassed. He let me pet him for the first time last week and it kills me a little when he disappears for a day or two, but capturing him and turning him over to a shelter doesn't feel right either. Not sure what the right thing to do is except letting him live as he currently knows it.

By sddialedin Mar. 21, 2013 @ 3:22 a.m.

I knew it was a cult! I'm a proud member then! Great article.

By AmandaJes Mar. 21, 2013 @ 4:23 p.m.

I absolutely adored this article Dave! what a fantastic way to bring awareness to a topic that does not receive enough education! I am so glad that you kept this Rabbit as your own and that you took it upon yourself to do what you knew what right! Thank you for recognizing House Rabbit Society as well because they never get the full amount of credit they deserve for everything that they do! What a wonderful thing to discuss right before Easter! Thank You Again!! I felt like I went on a journey with you! As a proud owner of 2 rabbits I would not know what I would do with...

This ain't no thing,” I said. “I can cancel the subscription in the car, and then, I know it's a bitch, but you'll have to call AT&T to remove the first charge from your bill.” Jane took a deep breath and handed her phone to me.

“Do you know what I think?” I said as we carried the last of the goods to the car, “I think we need another spa day.”

(©barbarella)

Find more stories by Barbarella at SDReader.com/barbarella

City Lights: “Will Hedgecock Pivot?”
Published March 7

“Hedgecock makes a big slug of money from a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization in Arlington,” Seems like that's one of his topics he has to complain about others doing.

By MURPHYJUNK Mar. 6, 2013 @ 8:02 a.m.

Murphyjunk: What you say is possible, and not surprising. The only times I have heard Hedgecock's show is when I was on it, and that was possibly twice. I did hear a few minutes of his show pinch-hitting for Limbaugh because it was on the radio in a shoe store I was browsing in. I did hear him a few times when we were on KUSI together in the early 1990s, in different time slots. But I do know his views, of course. I could not determine whether the contract with the nonprofit has been renewed, since 2012 data are not out, and the station wouldn't talk with me. Other sources didn't know. It appears from promotional material that Radio America is reasonably happy with him. Best, Don Bauder

By Don Bauder Mar. 6, 2013 @ 8:45 a.m.
**Thursday | 28**

**JAPANESE BEER GARDEN**
For one week, Shimbashi Izakaya’s terrace is transformed into a Japanese beer garden decorated with paper lanterns, a beer dispenser, and a Robata (a traditional Japanese Binchotan charcoal) grill.
Featuring Asahi beer and a special Robata menu of beef, chicken, seafood, and vegetable skewers grilled on the patio. 21+.

**WHEN:** 4:00 to 10:00 p.m.
**WHERE:** Shimbashi Izakaya, 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar. 858-523-0479; shimbashiizakaya.com

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**Saturday | 30**

**OVADIALAND HALF AND HALF SHOW**

**WHEN:** 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.
**WHERE:** The Spot, 1835 Main Street, Barrio Logan. 619-847-8910; thespotbarriologan.com

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**Sunday | 31**

**EASTER AT THE BISTRO**
Sunday brunch and an Easter-egg hunt in the gardens. Featuring a brunch menu until 3 p.m. and a made-to-order omelet station until 2 p.m. Easter-egg hunts held throughout the morning and grouped by age. Ages 1 to 3, 9:15 and 10:15 a.m.; ages 4 to 6, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m.; ages 7 to 10, 9:45 and 10:45 a.m.

**WHEN:** 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
**WHERE:** Stone Brewing World Bistro and Gardens, 1999 Citracado Parkway, Escondido. 760-294-7866; stone-worldbistro.com

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**Wednesday | 3**

**ACCOMPLICE: SAN DIEGO**
As part of its site-specific “Without Walls” series, the La Jolla Playhouse presents this “immersive theater experience.” Patrons walk Little Italy looking for clues and murderers. The theater phones participants the night before to tell them where to start. Performances are every half hour. $45.

**WHEN:** 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.
**WHERE:** Venissimo Cheese Del Mar, 2650 Via de la Valle, #C140, Del Mar. 858-847-9616; venissimo.com
I arrived in Delhi in the middle of the night, worked my way through the bustling crowd, and managed to find my driver holding up a sign with “Derek Ray” written in block letters. I had arranged for a driver in advance to avoid the local scam I’d read about in which taxi drivers try to divert the just-arrived visitor to a different hotel than the one requested, claiming their reserved hotel is closed. This allows the scammer to collect a commission.

When I arrived at my hotel, the Ajanta, it appeared quite different than the photos on their website — a bit more, well, shabby. The discrepancy was not of the Exotic Marigold Hotel extreme (there were no birds in the room), but it was notable. I managed, nevertheless, to push this out of my mind and fall into a deep sleep.

Early the next morning, I was woken by the beeping of cars in the street below. Drivers in Delhi honk their horns to alert you of their presence, but there’s seemingly little road rage. I came to feel a strange affection for the cacophony. Even today, when I hear a guy leaning on his horn it brings me back to my days in Delhi.

Walking Delhi’s streets, I was unprepared for the amount and intensity of attention I would receive. I was approached by aggressive hawkers, mothers with small children pleading for a few rupees, and kids all about watching for an opportunity from a sympathetic visitor. A group of boys came up and repeated the one word in English they seemed to know best: “Money.” I took their picture and showed it to them, to their amusement and delight.

Despite these annoyances, walking is also the best way to get to know the locals. I became engaged in small conversations with random people on the street fascinated to meet an American. A few Indian kids even invited me to join their cricket game. I was also invited for a cup of chai and offered a rickshaw ride to an “excellent place.”

Between all the pleas for money and various offers, spontaneous decisions can be exhausting unless you just say no to everything. But in my book, that’s no way to learn anything new. I decided to say yes to the cup of chai. After I became comfortable with my chai partner, I said yes to a rickshaw ride. Call me crazy, but life’s an adventure.

The rickshaw ride was a harrowing but exhilarating experience; my driver either skillfully or recklessly maneuvered through the swirl of traffic encircling Connaught Place in the heart of Delhi.

I was brought by my new friend to his favorite restaurant and then to a tea shop. As I exited the tea shop, my attention was immediately captured by a snake charmer manipulating a cobra along the curbside. I paused to take a picture. He immediately put the snake back in the basket and approached me. “You pay,” he demanded. I dropped a few rupees in his palms and headed on my way, deciding it would be in my best interest to appease a rather serious-looking fellow in possession of a deadly reptile.

The average income in Delhi is far less than someone who makes minimum wage in the U.S., which contributes to the temptation to target Westerners for money. Scam artists at the train station will tell you additional fees are “necessary,” even once your ticket is in hand.

I was unprepared for the amount and intensity of attention I would receive while walking the streets of Delhi.

**Other Adventures**

- **arg_velazco**: Popocatepetl volcano from the city of Puebla
- **Michelle_St**: A clown smoking in front of his studio apartment in Busan
- **edrampell**: A statue of St. George slays a dragon on the wall of the Münster, Basel’s nearly 1000 year old church.

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The geology of the park consists primarily of marine and non-marine sedimentary rocks of the Scripps and Friars Formations of the Eocene Age (45-50 mya). These rocks make up the canyon walls, with Quaternary (1.8 mya) sedimentary rocks capping the mesas. The exception is at the canyon mouth where the northern wall into Bay Park consists of sediments of the Bay Point Formation of the Quaternary Age (200,000 years). The Tecolote Recreation Center sits on marine sandstone of the San Diego Formation of Pliocene Age (2-3 mya). The canyon floor consists of Holocene (recent) alluvium and slope wash. Four faults have been mapped in the park, all located near the mouth. Behind the fence at center field of the upper baseball field, the Rose Canyon Fault can be seen where the margins show 50 mya Eocene conglomerate of only a half-million years. The Rose Canyon Fault parallels the San Andreas Fault, extending north through La Jolla shores.

Once past the baseball fields and nature center, follow the access road or trails that parallel first the water channel, then in the direction of the power lines to the end of the golf course, and then east to Genesee Ave. and back. The 4-mile walk turns around point is at the peak of the hill under the power lines that overlooks the golf course. The longer hike follows the trail closest to the golf course. At the end of the course, turn east to Genesee Ave., and then head back.

Along the trail, look for evidence of owls that the canyon is named for or other birds that include California thrashers, house wrens, hawks, towhees, and ravens. The walk along the trails and/or access road is a combination of good examples of coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and riparian habitats mixed with erosion power lines.

Tecolote Creek, north of the golf course, can run to a depth of 6–8 feet during the rainy season. In the summertime, the creek is normally dry, except for runoff from the course greens. The creek empties into Mission Bay at the Pacific Passage side of Fiesta Island. The creek also contributes to the groundwater table in the lower end of the canyon.

In 1957, the city government planned to use Tecolote Canyon as a sanitary landfill; cattle had grazed there until 1953. This and other development plans were abandoned due to protests from residents of Linda Vista and Clairemont, which led to the Park Procedural Ordinance adopted by the San Diego City Council in 1969. The Tecolote Canyon Park District was initiated by the council in January 1971, then adopted in July 1974, both by a unanimous vote. After the land acquisition was completed, the dedication ceremony was held on April 1, 1978.

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.
India continued from page 44

The hassle of getting around the city is probably lessened if you book a tour. Or you can just take a rickshaw taxi to the sites you want to visit. I visited the Red Fort, India Gate, Humayun’s Tomb, the National Museum, Gandhi Museum, and the Lotus Temple, a huge Bahai temple shaped like a lotus flower. It’s best to arrange for a local guide if you want an in-depth explanation about the monument or site you’re visiting.

My visit to the Gandhi Museum was one of the highlights of my visit. I also enjoyed seeing the amazing National Museum, covering 5000 years of Indian art. You can easily spend a day here.

There was quite a crowd at the Lotus Temple on Christmas day. A young boy came up to me to tell me that it was his dream to visit America one day. I assured him that he would.

Having spoken about potential challenges you might encounter in India, I don’t want to dissuade anyone from visiting. The majority of Indians are welcoming and friendly. You may even be invited into the home of an Indian family, which is likely to be a wonderful experience.

Once you are prepared for what you will face in Delhi, you’re ready for the cultural experience of a lifetime.

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

“I’ve been pondering over military history books — those big coffee-table reference books you see in the bargain section of Barnes & Noble. I have a huge one on tanks, one on military uniforms, one on planes. I’m really into that.”

What do you like about them?

“It’s just facts. I like facts. If I’m looking for fiction, I like stuff like The Lord of the Rings, by J.R.R. Tolkien, though I haven’t read that series in a while. I’ve been reading A Song of Fire and Ice, by George R.R. Martin. It’s kind of like Lord of the Rings in that it’s got a sort of medieval setting with sword-fighting, but it’s more modern. Well, not modern, but... it’s a multiparty series. It just keeps going on. It’s about kingdoms vying for power.”

Who is your favorite character?

“There are so many characters, and you can’t get too attached to any of them. I remember the first book follows the leader of one of the northern cities — Ned Stark. He’s forced to fight because the whole kingdom is dissolving. But (spoiler!) he actually dies at the end of the book.”

Anything else?

“If I want to talk about books I’ve read for school, probably the best book I’ve read this year is Bless Me, Ultima, by Rudolfo Anaya. It’s set in post-World War II New Mexico, and it’s about a boy growing up in that era. It’s got a lot of spiritual stuff. He’s trying to find his path in life, and the book is dealing with the conflict between traditional spirituality — nature and animal spirits — and the Catholic Church’s point of view.”

What book has been most life-changing for you?

“My favorite that I’ve read recently was Scott Pilgrim vs. the World, by Bryan Lee O’Malley. It’s about

This 20-something loser — well, not a loser, but sort of a guy who doesn’t have the best life. It’s about him trying to win a girl, but it’s also a commentary on this generation. It probably encompasses this generation better than any comic I’ve ever seen.”

Do you have a favorite author?

“It would have to be J.R.R. Tolkien. Just the way he pulls me into his books. The worlds he creates are so different from reality, and yet they’re so believable.”

Tell me one scene that has stayed with you.

“It would have to be the siege of Minas Tirith, the main city.”

What’s That You’re Reading?

NAME: NOAH YATSKO | AGE: 18 | OCCUPATION: STUDENT/LIBRARY VOLUNTEER
NEIGHBORHOOD: SPRING VALLEY | WHERE INTERVIEWED: ROLANDO/COLLEGE AREA LIBRARY

“Do you read any magazines or newspapers?”

“It’s a good reading circle at school. We do it on our own, but it’s usually about the books we’re reading for class. If it’s the right type of book, the discussion will probably turn to theology or the other white meat. I don’t know why. A lot of times it’ll be about what a certain symbol means or why an author uses a certain kind of imagery.”

Find more Reading columns online at SDReader.com/reading

— BY SONIA ELIOT

<!-- End of Reading Column -->

<!-- Women with Curves Ads -->

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<!-- Start of Screenwriting Workshop Ads -->

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<!-- Start of Comedy Ads -->

<!-- End of Comedy Ads -->

<!-- Start of Dance Ads -->

<!-- End of Dance Ads -->

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End Your Neuropathy Pain Without Drugs or Surgery!

**DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**Bilingual Book Discussion**
Rincón Literario meets to discuss *La carretera / The Road* by Cormac McCarthy. Discussions led by literary guide, Miriam Ruvinskis, are held the last Saturday of the month. Held in the boardroom. 760-839-4814. Saturday, March 30, 1:30pm; through Thursday, March 28, 9:30-9:15. 18 and up. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxton Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

**Voyagers Toastmasters**
Improve business communications and speaking skills. Club meets every Thursday. Contact: Mark Shapiro, mshapiro@srs-techpr.com. Thursdays, 7:30am; through Thursday, March 29, free. 18 and up. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxton Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

**FOOD & DRINK**


**Intro/Beginner Modern I**
Instructor Stephanie Harvey introduces students to the fundamentals of dance in order to provide an outlet for creative expression. The class is designed to increase strength, flexibility, coordination, and body awareness. No experience necessary. Thursdays, 7pm; through Thursday, March 28, $9-$15. 18 and up. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxton Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

**Tango Dinner Show**
Tango dinner show with live dancers. Recommended reservations: pampasgrill@gmail.com or 858-278-5971. Fridays, 6:30pm and 8:30pm; free. Pampas Argentine Grill, 1690 Aero Drive. (NEARFRONT MESA)

**Easter Bunny**
Join us on Easter Sunday for our Easter Brunch! Enjoy a buffet, $15 bottomless mimosas, Easter egg hunt every top of the hour, & pictures with The Easter Bunny! Brunch Price: Adults $37, & Kids (4-12) $17 (Children under 3 are free) Happy Easter! Sunday, March 31, 10am; Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 3270-9670. Sunday, March 31, 10am; Lafayette Hotel, Swim Club & Bungalows, 3270-9670. (LIBERTY STATION)

**Intro to Aerial Silks**
Students will learn to use special fabric to wrap, suspend, fall, swing, and spiral their bodies into and out of various positions. Aerial silks may be used to suspend in the air, striking poses and figures while flying. Limited to six students per session. Instructor Laura Dasi. Thursdays, 5pm; through Thursday, March 28, $175. 18 and up. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxton Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

**Beer and Bacon Sunday Brunch**
A farm-to-table brunch, including four slices of hickory smoked bacon from Iowa Meat Farms, rosemary fingerling potatoes from Weiser Farms, a cheesy scramble made with smoked cheddar and locally sourced eggs, French toast crostini with pomegranate-sangria syrup, and a flight of four craft beers. Sundays, 10am; $20. Amplified Aleworks (at California Kebab and Beer Garden), 4150 Mission Boulevard #208. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Scenic views of the ocean, downtown, the mountains, and more!**

**Riding Lessons**
619-356-8033
www.RideWithLinda.com
Introductory offer! First lesson only $30.

**Firkin Friday**

**30th on 30th**
On the 30th of each month, bars and restaurants on and near 30th Street offer tapas-style specials. Saturday, March 30, 5pm; Restaurants on or near 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

**5:30**
Beers & Burgers, 7535 Paseo De La Fuente Rd. April 1st through the 30th of each month. Each month a different beer on tap. 18 and up. Free workshop with Ryan. (LIBERTY STATION)

**Easter Dinner**
Join us at the Cancer Centers of America. Easter Dinner! April 19th, 2013. At 7pm & 9pm. Must be 18 years of age and weigh less than 230 pounds. 888-391-0251 SkydiveSanDiego.com

**Skydive San Diego**
San Diego’s oldest, largest operation!

**Free Workshops**
Thurs. April 4 • 3pm to 5pm
At Mission Valley Library
2123 Fenton Pkwy. • San Diego, CA 92108
Limited Space - Call Today! 619 275 3683

**San Diego Reader**
March 29, 2013

**Spring Break Guide**
For creative expression. The class is designed to increase strength, flexibility, coordination, and body awareness. No experience necessary. Thursdays, 7pm; through Thursday, March 28, $9-$15. 18 and up. Malashock Dance, 2650 Truxton Rd., Suite 202. (POINT LOMA)

**Introducing:**
San Diego Reader March 29, 2013

**FIRKIN FRIDAY**
Firkin Friday with Figueroa Brewing. On Cask: Black Cone IPA. On Draught: Stagecoach Mountain Pale, Danish Red Lager, Hoppy Poppy IPA, Paradise Road Pilsner, Black Cone. hamiltonstavern.com. Friday, March 29. Hamilton’s Tavern, 1521 30th Street. (SOUTH PARK)

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**San Diego Reader**
March 29, 2013
Benjamin Franklin Butler
He is truly happy, whatever may be his temporal condition, who can call God His father in the full assurance of faith and hope. And amid all his trials, conflicts, and doubts, the feeblest Christian is still comparatively happy; because cheered by hope…that the hour is approaching when he shall be delivered from “this body of sin and death” and in the vision of his Redeemer… and felicity of angels.

Not only does the Bible inculcate, with sanctions of the highest import, a system of the purest morality, but in the person and character of our Blessed Savior it exhibits a tangible illustration of that system. In Him we have set before us — what, till the publication of the Gospel, the world had never seen — a model of feeling and action, adapted to all times, places and circumstances; and combining so much of wisdom, benevolence, and holiness, that none can fathom its sublimity; and yet, presented in a form so simple, that even a child may be made to understand and taught to love it — by an address from U.S. Attorney General Benjamin Franklin Butler in Alexandria, Virginia, 1834

Benjamin Franklin Butler (1795–1858) was Attorney General of the United States from 1833 to 1838. Appointed by president Andrew Jackson, Butler served with distinction in his office; he is also known for founding New York University in 1831. He was an early member of the Albany Regency, one of the first political machines in U.S. history, serving as district attorney of Albany County from 1821–1824. Butler was famous for his skill at cross-examination, and it was his legal prowess that attracted New York and federal government leaders to invite him to serve as their attorney.

Fairy Tales: A Curious Collection of Fractured Fables
Talk tall tales and children’s fables from simpler times, told all through acts of the circus. Featuring performances by Bete Noir, Kyle Clark, Madame Raine, Sarah Cranberry, Danzen Jenn, and the Wanderlust Circus.

All ages welcome. Info: badger@otherworld.com or 619-888-4751. Saturday, March 30, 2pm and 6pm; $12-$17. Sunset Temple Theater, 3911 Kansas Street. (North Park)

Grunion Run
Observe hundreds of small silver fish called grunion ride the waves onto La Jolla beaches to spawn. Before hitting the beach, see grunion hatch before your eyes during a special presentation about this mysterious fish. Prepare for cool, wet conditions and bring a flashlight. Ages 6-13 must attend.
with a paid adult. Pre-purchase required: 858-534-7336. Friday, March 29, 11am; $12-$14. 6 and up. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Spring Eggstravaganza Featuring hands on activities that highlight the wonder of reproduction in the ocean. Meet egg-laying marine animals and their eggs, including squids, fishes, and sharks. Create a shark egg craft, listen to story times, and participate in an underwater egg hunt. No baskets needed. Included with admission. Saturday, March 30, 11am; Sunday, March 31, 11am; free-$14. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Spring Party with Bunny Children ages 2 to 6 are invited to meet the Garden’s gentle bunny and make colorful spring crafts. Also featuring a parade through the garden, a bunny hunt, and a rabbit picnic. Pre-registration required - online or in person only. Saturday, March 30, 10am; $12-$15. 2 and up. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Evolution, God, and the Second Law of Thermodynamics Physics professor Dr. David Schafffma dissects the arguments of anti-evolutionists. Creationists welcome. Saturday, March 30, 10am; free. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Growing up at Alcatraz Dick Miller offers a presentation about his unusual childhood on “The Rock” — his father was a correctional officer there. Saturday, March 30, 1pm; free. Bonita Springs Library, 4757 Bonita Road. (BONITA)

MiraCosta College Lectures Michele Scott James presents “A Brief Examination of Yang Guifei: Her Role in Chinese History,” and Aubrey Xuan-Roderick discusses “Chinese Culinary Culture.” Event held in the administration building #1000. Free parking pass at campus police building #1100. 760-721-8124. Friday, March 29, 1pm; free. 18 and up. MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

OUTDOORS

Birding Basics Learn to identify birds at a glance. Birder Guide Winona Sollock’s class explains the five simple ways and gives tips on field guide use. Bring your bird book if you wish. Inside Visitor Center. Saturday, March 30, 1pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Early Spring Walk New foliage, exotic wildflowers, active critters, birds, and spring in the air. Saturday, March 30, 9:30am; Sunday, March 31, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Gaslamp Quarter Historical Walking Tour Tour includes architecturally significant structures of the period from Old City Hall (1874) to the Romanesque style 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. Saturday, 11am; through Saturday, January 4. $12-$15. William Heath Davis House Museum, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Juldevine, by David Budbill Brian Rickel’s adaptation is a parade of life, love, loss, and the beauty of it all. Playing 14 characters, Rickel brings to life Juldevine and its inhabitants. Directed by Kari Hayter. Tickets and information: www. brianrickel.com/juldevine-solo. April 13 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm. April 14 at 2:00pm and 5:00pm. The Vine Theatre at the Bernardo Winery, 13330 Paseo Del Verano Norte (846 CHD BERNARDO)

Good Friday/Easter Sunday Service! Join us as we experience worship and reflect on the meaning of the cross. Good Friday service in the gym at Aviara Oaks Middle School on Friday, March 29 at 7:00pm. Dress warmly for Easter Sunday Service, and come prepared for great music, the good news of our God’s love, and close fellowship. After the service, be our guest as we serve a free breakfast, and stay to enjoy the beauty of the Flower Fields! Sunday, March 31, 2013, 6:30-8:00am. Questions: easter@ thefieldschurch.org; thefields.org. (CARLSBAD)

Singles Spring Fling! Ages 40-60ish, Simply the Best Singles, an upscale singles organization for singles looking for relationships, marriage, and more, offers this exciting dance with the high-quality live band, Custard Pie! Join us for a rockin’ night of dance with Led Zeppelin plus more music! Arrive early at 7:30 for a free swing dance lesson with Richard Spassoff. $15 prepay/$20 door. SimplyTheBestSingles.com. 818-577-6877. Saturday, April 6, 7:30pm. The Handlery Hotel and Resort (Crystal Ballroom), 950 Hotel Circle North, (MISSION VALLEY)

Magic Amazing Fun And Entertaining Shows Fri. & Sat. 8pm
619-865-2973
redspadeitherest.com

Easter Sunrise Service
Sunday, March 31
6:00am
The Fields Church
corner of Pacifica Airport Road & Passo Del Norte
Free breakfast provided for the first 500 people

SimplyTheBestSingles.com

SimplyTheBestSingles.com

SimplyTheBestSingles.com
A Taste of Vegan  Free admission! Food tasting, speakers (1pm “Whole Foods for Weight Loss and Health”), cooking demos, “Vegucated” film (7pm), kids’ activities, ½ price vegan shoes, accessories, Ts, free Info! Schedule at atasteofvegan.org. Park underground. Saturday, March 30, 11am to 7pm. Joyce Beers Uptown Community Center, 3900 Vermont Street. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

YPO Soloist Ensemble  registering at workshops, unbelievable competition! Join us for the Skunk Band, the CA Feetwarmers, to the amazing sounds of the Red Uptown Community Center, 3900 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

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Join us for the Balboa Rendezvous Swing dance in the historic Balboa Pavilion and Portuguese Hall to the amazing sounds of the Red Skunk Band, the CA Feetwarmers, and the Icy Hot Club. Join us for workshops, unbelievable competitions and fantastic memories by registering at www balloorendezvous.com. April 4–6, 2013. Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal. (POINT LOMA)

YPO Soloist Ensemble  Under the direction of Alyze Dreiling, presents guest soloist soprano Alire Roznya, in a program featuring works by Hailstork, Villa-Lobos, Mozart, and Mendelssohn among others. Also featured will be orchestra members Ethan Hsu, Christine Han, Adam Davis, and Jacob Celniker. Friday, April 5, 7pm. Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church, 17610 Pomerado Road. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Circus Vargas Presenting, “Magikaria, A Fantastical Magical Experience!” feat Featuring illusionist Patrick Gable, and more. Thursday, March 28, 7:30pm; Friday, March 29, 7:30pm; Saturday, March 30, 1:30pm, 4:30pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, March 31, 1pm, 4pm and 7pm. $25–$65. Vista Village, Vista Village Drive at Highway 78. (VISTA)

Easter Egg Hunt Easter-egg hunt features over 10,000 eggs, prizes and giveaways, and photos with the Easter Bunny. Saturday, March 30, 11am; free, Mission Bay High School, 2475 Grand Avenue. (MISSION BEACH)

Ghost Tour San Diego Ghost Hunters offer a paranormal investigation tour of the Davis House. Reservations suggested. Cameras, smart-phones, hand-held video recorders, and digital sound recorders allowed. No professional media equipment. Saturday, March 30, 10pm; $35. 18 and up. William Heath Davis House Museum, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

ParamURAL Investigation Four paranormal research teams have made contact with several house spirits at the Davis House. They have recorded voices, and taken photos and video to document their findings. Join the San Diego Ghost Hunters on another tour and investigation. Reservations suggested. Cameras, smart-phones, hand-held video recorders, and digital sound recorders allowed. No professional media equipment. Saturday, March 30, 10pm; $35. 18 and up. William Heath Davis House Museum, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Seany’s Showdown Charity Poker Tournament and Casino Night The evening includes poker, craps, roulette, and blackjack. Guests will also enjoy music by DJ PJ, cocktails by Bartini, light appetizers courtesy of Tilted Kilt San Diego, and a chance to win raffle prizes. The grand prize poker winner will receive a two-night stay at the Wynn Hotel Las Vegas and two tickets to see Cirque du Soleil’s Le Rêve. Saturday, March 30, 10pm & 8pm. $395. 21 and up. Co-Merge, 330 A Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Workshop to Restore your Youthful Carriage, Poise, and Energy Levels World-class athletes and A-list movie stars practice the Alexander Technique. You will be introduced to powerful tools to restore your body’s natural poise, to recover competitive enthusiasm and to increase your performance. Free. Reservation required. 858-246-6106, www.Alexandertechniquelajolla.com. Saturday, March 30, 2-3:30pm. 5771 La Jolla Boulevard suite B2. (LA JOLLA)

Champagne Classic Women’s Rugby Tournament The West Coast’s premier women’s rugby tournament, hosted by the San Diego Surfers Women’s Rugby Club. Watch the breakaway runs and hard hits as the Surfers square off against teams from Colorado, Washington, Utah, and Northern California. Saturday, March 30, 8am; Sunday, March 31, 8am; free Bobbi Field, 2525 Bacon Street. (OCÉAN BEACH)

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. (POMARIE)

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, 86–88. 18 and up. Japanese Friendship Garden, Pan American Road. (BALBOA PARK)

Race for Autism Features 5K timed run or walk, 1-mile family fun walk, educational resource fair, children’s activities, awards, prizes, free refreshments, and more. Saturday, March 30, 7am; $20–$40. Grassy Area at corner of Sixth Avenue and Laurel Street. (BALBOA PARK)

Zumba Dance for Seniors in the Library 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. Friday, March 29, 1pm; free. 18 and up. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

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Gumbo bona fides
“Get that right, and you've got the essence of everything Louisiana.”

Jack Gambrell? He could have been president of the United States and without ramming it down your throat. Wouldn't even mention it. He's just that kind of guy.

Luckily, Dale Hansen’s here at the next stool to speak for him. “Jack? He's one of the great cooks. From New Orleans. Knows Cajun, Creole, you name it. He’s won Best Cajun/Creole restaurant in the county four years in a row on the 10 News/A-List rankings.”

Dale leans across the counter, looks up at a rangy guy with a big mustache and a maroon golf shirt with the place’s logo stitched into it. “Jack, you should put that up somewhere, make it more prominent.” Then he says, “D’aagh, what’s the use? He’s just not that kinda guy.”

“I have the personality of a shovel,” says Jack.

We’re sitting at the bar in Jack’s Sixth Avenue Bistro. He’s been running it since 1999; before that, from 1984 on, he had a place right across Sixth Avenue. That’s 39 years in all.

But Cajun? Champion Louisiana chef? From the outside, this bistro looks more like one of those financial-district lunchtime sandwich places. It sits on the corner of B Street, a brown-and-cream eatery in the old Southern Hotel — the residential hotel.


Actually, I came in the other day, my first time here, and didn’t spot anything of Jack’s New Orleans roots. I was just curious, and it was happy hour. Got a plate of carne asada nachos for $5. Huge. (Other happy-hour $5 deals: two tacos, sweet-potato fries, wings, carne asada, and a chicken quesadilla.)

That was a Friday night. The place was crowded. Audience from a San Diego Symphony concert came across the road for a snack at a chicken quesadilla. (tacos, sweet-potato fries, wings, carne asada, or carne asada nachos, $5 during happy hour; also two tacos, sweet-potato fries, wings, carne asada, or chicken quesadilla, $5 during happy hour; sausage-and-shrimp gumbo, andouille sausage, shrimp, and filé, $12.95; half portion, $7.95; jambalaya with chicken and andouille sausage, $8.50; half portion, $6.95; red beans and rice with sausage, $8.95; plenty of non-Cajun food (e.g., Old Fashioned Meatloaf with salad, $10.95)

Hours: Monday–Friday, 7:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Saturday–Sunday, 8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Happy hour: Monday–Friday, 3:00–7:00 p.m.

Buses: all downtown

Nearest Bus Stop: Broadway at Sixth Avenue

Trolleys: Blue Line, Orange Line

Nearest trolley stop: Fifth Avenue

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Candied celery

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Brilliant

Where once stood Caffe Carpe Diem (an ill-fated coffee shop that closed several outlets across town at once), now we have Swoon Dessert Bar (3139 University Avenue, 619-528-0875). The space has been extensively, maybe excessively, remodeled and it looks great. Spacious and minimalist, the wide-open interior looks out through huge bay windows on the eastern end of the North Park scene. It’s open late, until 11 every night (save Monday), so it’s in a position to delight a lot of people.

The simple concept calls for plated desserts, coffee, and tea service. There are a few savory options, though even those are presented like dessert; a salmon cèlair or pastrami-and-cheese gougeres. The desserts reign supreme, however, and there’s a marvelous level of talent on display, all of which is available for $7-$8.

I tried Swoon’s rendition of “ants on a log,” the childhood snack-food favorite. The clever pastry cooks surrounded a quenelle of peanut butter ice cream with pale celeriac ganache, emerald-green celery granite, “peanut butter powder,” raisins soaked in rum, and a few transparent sheets of candied celery. That kind of thing is hard to pull off, but they did it to perfection. The texture of the ganache and ice cream was beautiful, and the potent raisins underscored everything with a boozy kick. The service was confusing at first, with the ganache smeared at the outside of the bowl and studded with the raisins, but the intelligence behind the portioning assured that there was enough of each element to form a complete, peanut-buttery, celery-infused bite. I was stunned. And that’s not to mention the selection of Chinese pu-erh and oolong teas, which only improve with second and third steepings, and the specialty coffees from all the local roasting titans (Bird Rock, CT Collective, etc.).

Swoon is not perfect. The complimentary French macaroons served alongside my tea didn’t achieve the melt-in-the-mouth texture that makes these simple cookies famous. The bar doesn’t have a proper website yet, which seems preposterous in light of the six-month building process. And I can’t get 100 percent behind the name. It makes me think of Victorian ladies and sets the bar impossibly high. I may have nearly wept with delight, but I was far from fainting.

At this point, I’m quibbling and I realize it. Let me just say that Swoon is brilliant.

by Ian Pike

Mad Lab feeling perfectly at home

It wasn’t a year ago that Mike McFarland was a homebrewer. Now, the founder, owner, and brewer behind Mad Lab Craft Brewing (6120 Business Center Court, Building F, Suite 700, Otay Mesa) is adding a new component to his business to appeal to homies. That added faction is the Perfect Pint Home Brew Shop. Scheduled to go live in April, it will be under the management of McFarland’s wife, Daphne.

The Perfect Pint will start out small. Unlike larger San Diego shops such as Home Brew Mart, the McFarlands will not sell any equipment; just试剂 ingredients. Even that stock of base materials will be limited to those utilized by all-grain brewers. That means no extracts — just three of beer’s four basic ingredients: hops, grains, and yeast.

Opened eight months ago, Mad Lab is the county’s southernmost brewing company. A nano-brewery by production classification, its beers are currently produced on a 55-gallon system, but in-progress upgrades should allow Mad Lab to double its output per batch by summer.

McFarland is a retired U.S. Navy chief who worked as an operations specialist for SEAL Team One and completed several tours of duty in Iraq before making the transition to civilian life. Before opening Mad Lab, he worked for a year at Home Brew Mart, and that experience figures to come in useful with the Perfect Pint.

by Brandon Hernández

More bang

It seems David and I only get to Wine Vault Bistro when our friends Hannah and Allard invite us, even though they live all the way across town in Kensington; and David and I are close enough to walk there. It’s not because the food isn’t good (it is), or the price isn’t right ($20 for three courses in a Restaurant Week sort of deal, and Wine Vault offers it year-round). We did make it there a few times without our friends, but for the most part, I rely on Hannah and Allard to parse what I find to be a confusing schedule: some nights there’s a five-course tasting menu, some (my favorite) there’s the three-course prix fixe, yet other nights there are wine-tasting events with only one or two seatings, sometimes the place is closed, and other times they take patrons on wine-and-food excursions out of town. The best I’ve been able to retain after a full year of trying to “get it” is that chances are that on a Thursdays or Friday, I’ll be able to order from the weekly-changing but always-delicious items offered on the $20 prix fixe menu. Hannah has it down, so I’m pretty sure my confusion and inability to grasp the format has to do with some mental block on my end.

Anyhoo, Hannah made reservations, and we found ourselves (happily) at Wine Vault again just last week. Because we’re pros (and I’m alush), we began with a cocktail, knowing we were still going to choose the wine pairing for dinner (three glasses for an extra $15, also a great deal). I went for a Manhattan, because I’m a classy lady.

Allard ordered something called “Blade 209.” I’m not usually a gin drinker (I prefer bourbon-based cocktails), but after taking a sip of the smooth, lightly floral drink, I needed to know how the flavor was achieved. The recipe was devised by owner Chris Gluck, who described the process to me: “We take a 50/50 mixture of dry vermouth and olive brine and mix it with ice in the martini glass, so it chills the glass with the vermouth and olive brine. While the glass is chilling, we take a shot of 209 and a shot of Blade, two really opposite gins — 209 is very masculine and Blade is more feminine and floral, but the combination is absolutely spectacular — we take the martini glass, turn it upside down and swirl it, and this creates a faint film of olive brine-slash-dry vermouth.

I ordered a classic Manhattan from a student bartender, John. He seemed a bit nervous, but he knew his stuff and it made for a perfectly balanced drink. We were not disappointed with the meal. In particular, the crispy poached egg appetizer, “I would have no complaints.”

Had I not been expecting a crunch,” says Barbarella, regarding Wine Vault’s crispy poached egg appetizer, “I would have no complaints.”

by Brandon Hernández

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David got a salad with Asian pear, avocado, pistachio, and stone crab in a green apple dressing. I noticed other citrus bits on there, and the foam dressing was a nice touch. He liked it, but I wasn’t interested in changing gears from the richness before me, so I declined the bite he offered.

Though the sea bass looked tempting (and was indeed delectable — Hannah ended up ordering it and giving me a bite), I opted for the vegetarian entrée, mostly because its description baffled me. “Kombu braised artichoke barigoule” with “gigante beans, roasted mushrooms” and a brown-butter potato purée. I was not a fan of the food-smear method of plating (it was a task to scrape the sides of the deep square dish to include that flavor-texture element of the dish with others on my fork). But once I dug in, I stopped squinting my eyes at the messy-looking receptacle and enjoyed what was inside. It tasted like a lavish, meatless stew and missed none of the deep umami notes. I would usually crave in a stew with meat. Allard, who ordered the same thing, ended up asking for more bread so he could sop up every drop after his fork and spoon had done their jobs.

David ordered the “11-hour sous vide tri-tip,” which was served with charred cauliflower, sun-dried tomatoes, and parsley root in the red wine jus. With each other dish, this was a sophisticated dish, and it tasted as good as it looked.

For dessert, the table was split. Two of us (including me) got the cheese with buttermilk biscuit, honeycomb, quince, and cashew butter; the other two ordered the pecan cake with parsnip ice cream, cereal milk, and maple. Both desserts were equally mouth-watering, but I was happy that I’d opted for the cheese, as it had the perfect blend of sweet to savory for me to enjoy.

I was shocked when we received the bill, as I’d expected it to come out much higher. We all left sated, but not overstuffed, and vowed to go back soon.

And the chilaquiles ($6.99) were marvelous as well. The eggs had been cooked a little vigorously, but the fried tortilla bits soaked in red salsa were excellent. They retained just the right amount of crispiness. Not enough to lacerate the roof of my mouth as I greedily scooped up huge portions, but still sufficient texture to make them wonderful even with the imperfect eggs. For a Mexican breakfast on the run, “Best Barbeque” San Diego Magazine Critic’s Choice

But I’m not been expecting a “crunch, ” I’d have no complaints. I enjoyed the flavor so much, I was stinging with the forkfuls my dining companions requested.

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"As our concept and menu continue to evolve, we didn’t want to be hindered by trying to maintain a consistent image between two very different locations."

The 3400-square-foot restaurant is located on the second floor of the Pacific Beach Promenade complex and features ocean views from its patio and in-house brewery Amplified Ale Works.

“The brewing operation is a significant step towards fulfilling our vision of the restaurant being a community hub,” says Hill.

“It brings together people that are passionate about the art of brewing as well as fresh food. With the focus on both crafts — food and beer under one roof — we are able to create a more elevated experience for everyone.”

California Kebab Beer Garden is open 7 days a week from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Wednesday, and until midnight Thursday through Saturday.

by Chad Deal

Huevos de toro

Aah... Flamenco guitar. Guy’s playing it just inside the door of the Gran Tapa. This time I don’t just hang around listening. I go in.

Because it’s five o’clock somewhere and that’s here. Happy hour!

Actually the place’s full name is Café Bar Europa – La Gran Tapa (611 B Street, downtown, 619-234-8272).

Two things I remember about last time I was here six months ago; the live guitarrista and the tortilla Española, $4 during HH. This is more like a quiche, basically a thick omelet of eggs and spuds cooked in olive oil. Known as the poor man’s belly-filler.

Trouble is, today, as I sit up to the bar (only place HH happens), after I get a glass of Chianti (for $4!), the little menu mentions “huevos de toro” Also four bucks. Basically meatballs.

Who can resist?

 Comes with a giant chunk of sawn-up French bread and four, five golfball-size meatballs in a thick, tomatoey, garlicky lake. Great for slopping your bread in.

I swear, this place is one of the best for a HH around. Why? It’s not the swankiest. Not in this part of town. And some people get bumped because they include the tip in your bill (I like it. Takes a load off your mind, and they have a good complaint policy if the service sucks). But, it’s cheap, and yet feels a little bit exotic, like you’re in a tapas joint in downtown Madrid.

And these huevos are big and filling. Man, I’d love to stay and chat, ‘cause chatting’s easy here, with the shape of the bar and the atmos the bartenders set up. But this little meal makes it easy to chomp and run. I spend 20 minutes, pay my bill ($10.15, including tax and tip), then blast back out through the doors as the guitarist picks away at Malagueñas. Beautiful. Dramatic.

Now I’m sitting on the trolley humming the danged thing. I know it’s gonna stay with me for hours. And those meatballs will keep me going all night long.

by Ed Bedford

Ignoring family ties at Monello

When an eatery is a sister operation to another restaurant, it’s hard not to associate it with its sibling. That’s particularly true in the case of Monello (750 West Fir Street, Suite 102-B, Little Italy), a new-ish spot specializing in Italian bar and street snacks, and everyday standards. Not only is it in the same neighborhood, it’s right next-door to owners Guido Nistri and Valentina Di Pietro’s first restaurant, Bencontro. I’m a big fan of that spot and believe few Italian restaurants so simply yet elegantly represent that region’s style of cooking while delivering a refined yet unpretentious experience. Given that, it’s tough not to hold Monello to my high Bencontro standards, but after multiple visits to the former, I’ve been able to sort out my opinions on Guido and Valentina’s youngest child.

Monello, by design, is more casual. This works in the servers’ favor as they are just as friendly as the waiters and waitresses next door, but in an environment where that openly sociable style feels perfectly suited. They’re also fast. On each occasion, my party’s food was delivered only a few minutes after being ordered. Dito, cocktails.

Despite the fact the servers are so expedient, you can take your time if you so desire and linger over a second (or third) drink like the citric Scotch drink below. This time I try it (it cooled and congealed temperature was an issue when I first tried it), and I can tell you that Queen’s fortified wine is a cut above and tastes almost like a negroni all on its own. No matter what you order, you will not be hindered by trying to maintain a consistent image between two very different locations. It’s not the swankiest. Not in this part of town. And some people get bumped because they include the tip in your bill (I like it. Takes a load off your mind, and they have a good complaint policy if the service sucks). But, it’s cheap, and yet feels a little bit exotic, like you’re in a tapas joint in downtown Madrid.

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by Ed Bedford
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plenty of garlic and a similarly generous amount of Fresno pepper, it’s unapologetically spicy and absolutely fantastic. The addition of toasted breadcrumbs gives it texture and added substance, taking it to new heights.

Another item they’re bullish on at Monello is panzerotti, mini calzones that are popular bar snacks in Italy. Over there, they are given as free rewards to those purchasing drinks and barstool real estate. In Little Italy, a trio will cost you eight dollars U.S. One dining companion of mine said they speak to the little fat kid in all of us. Having been that little fat kid and remembering how incredible the thought of Totino’s pizza rolls sounded, I had to agree. Essentially, that’s what these are, but with a much better crust cooked to golden brown perfection. Warm, stretchy mozzarella awaits inside along with tomato sauce that, in my opinion, is doled out a bit too skimpy, but tastes great all the same.

My chubby inner young’un also fell for a paper cone filled with sheets of young Ligurian cheese so thin you can nearly see through them. They make for a nice thing to nibble on while waiting for larger dishes, as do bright golden lupini beans. Served in a bowl and popped from a fibrous shell like edamame, they are salty, earthy and one of the best freebies in town. Not in the mood for pasta, pizza bites or a cone of forna-ggio? Order the coppa arrosto. A Thanksgiving-like plate of roasted pork neck, it embraces the palate like a warm hug from an Italian nonna. Several substantial slices half-covered in a tangy, meaty gravy sit atop a large mound of mashed potatoes. Combine the pork and starch, then add on a sweet-and-sour balsamic vinegar glazed Cipollino onion for the perfect bite. Less stunning on the other white meat front is a piadine (think of a wrap-style sandwich or party app) stuffed with bland porchetta and far too much arugula. One can always add salt to wake the pork up, but there’s no getting rid of the olive oil glugged on during plating. Those with lighter appetites or less carnivorous tastes will appreciate the polipo alla griglia, a salad of celery, shaved fennel, and grilled baby octopus tentacles. I liked better cephalopod of late, but despite an inability to nab best-of status, this is a nice dish that provides far more octopus than most similar offerings in town.

Monello is charming and fun, but it’s no Bencotto. Then again, it’s not supposed to be. If choosing between the two, I’d still hit up the elder sister most nights, but Monello wasn’t made to compete with its predecessor. It was created to provide a different dining experience guided by the same principles. It does so, and it does so very nicely, giving visitors more laid back environs and a menu that’s simultaneously true to its boot nation roots and a less traditional addition to our Little Italia.

by Brandon Hernández

Pizza is a wrap unrolled

“How’s your dad?”

I’m asking Khaled Waleh. Last year his dad Zia decided to return to his farm in Afghanistan to live. He missed it too much. His family here was worried. But he was happy. It’s a beautiful country where he passed an idyllic youth before the troubles. I’m hearing this in Zia Gourmet Pizza (311 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-4320), which Khaled has named in honor of his dad.

I’d come here a year ago and discovered Khaled’s arty Afghan takes on pizza, where, as he said, the sight is almost as important as the taste. That’s why he changed from wraps to pizza. “Pizza is a wrap uncurled. So all the beautiful filling is exposed to the eater. With a wrap the most beautiful part has been hidden away from sight. Crazy!”

So I was passing and suddenly remembered Khaled (who’s a UCSD graduate in visual arts and an artist himself) and his view of pizzas as art. Popped in, and there was Zawzaw, Khaled’s Burmese-American chef, just taking out the troubles. Last year his dad Zia decided to return to his farm in Afghanistan to live. He missed it too much. His family here was worried. But he was happy. To return to his farm in Afghanistan. "It’s got sweet spice, and a salty yogurt sauce, like tzatziki. Right now we don’t have one. But come see others."

I head for the counter to look. From what I can work out, the Afghan influences you see in Khaled’s pizzas are the raita — salty yogurt — and then sweet influences like currants, pears, chutneys.

I end up taking a $3 slice of “Papay” pizza (a play on “Pop-eye”, for sure, because it comes with baked spinach, plus mozzarella, garlic, capers and yogurt sauce). It’s a thin crust and is loaded with a ton of peppery flavor. What you taste most is the spinach and capers and garlic. The yogurt’s a kind of light relief. Oh, man. Would go so well with some dry white wine.

Then I go for a slice with caramelized Bosque pears, scallions, red sauce, and mozzarella on whole wheat. Deelish. Almost like a dessert. It has that peppery edge again and the tzatziki twang from the yogurt, but those pears make it sweet and seductive.

I notice the place has been covered in snazzy murals. Next project: the lounge behind, which Khaled is creating with his own hands. That’ll be a full-service kind of cool hangout with beer, wine, food, music, late nite, the whole nine yards, according to Khaled. He says it will be open in April.

“So, I say again as I come up for air. “How’s your dad?”

“Oh. He’s back here in San Diego,” says Khaled. “But I think he’s just waiting for summer. He’s enjoying himself too much over there. His farm, his friends, his horse.... His heart’s in Afghanistan.”

by Ed Bedford
Nonprofit nonprofit
Hector Malvido and Luis Lopez, two of the cofounders behind Project Donate, started the “nonprofit for nonprofits” with the mission of supporting local charities by curating local bands and DJs for fundraiser events.

“nonprofit nonprofit
need to increase the awareness of the music scene here.”

The venture was initiated three years ago by Malvido, his good friend Andrea Hernández, and her brother Eduardo, when they organized a toy drive at the Ché Café and took donations of stuffed animals for the kids at Alcanzando la Visión orphanage in Tijuana. For their second annual event, a benefit at Queen Bee’s in North Park, 190 of Lopez’s AVID students made custom-care packages for the orphans, an ongoing tradition “to help empower students in their ability to impact positive social change,” says Lopez, who hopped onboard as executive director after the Queen Bee’s fundraiser and began booking their alma mater team blown away by success, “but we’re holding on.”

Project Donate team blown away by success, “but we’re holding on.”

“Since we started Project Donate, we’ve seen a lot of growth in the local music scene...”

The group has also worked on showering love to local nonprofits. In addition to donating proceeds from local events, they’ve built a room addition for the Visión orphanage in Tijuana. For their second annual event, the band members of Lopez’s AVID students made custom-care packages for the orphans, an ongoing tradition “to help empower students in their ability to impact positive social change,” says Lopez, who hopped onboard as executive director after the Queen Bee’s fundraiser and began booking their alma mater team blown away by success, “but we’re holding on.”

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“We want to give people an incentive to go to charity events and also an incentive to see bands,” says Malvido, an Eastlake High School alumnus who now works alongside Lopez at their alma mater as an AVID college prep tutor. “They’re going to have a great time and help a good cause, and I think that’s really important for the San Diego community. We need to increase the awareness of the music scene here.”

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Dependent Origination live at the Taoist Sanctuary
Retox, Secret Fun Club, Anthrot, and Innerds at the Che Cafe
Danielle LoPresti battling stage III non-Hodgkins lymphoma cancer.
Hills Like Elephants celebrate release of Feral Flocks at Bar Pink
Prince is coming to downtown’s Hard Rock Hotel?!
Rez Abbasi Trio: March 31

Local pop artist Hyde doesn’t want “to be the next anyone.”

By Jay Allen Sanford — March 18, 2:39 p.m.

Repeatedly in his songs, Hyde, 16, first showed up on pop music’s radar while living in Santee. Crissy Field Records signed him in December of 2011. By May of last year, he had a starring role in a San Diego–based web TV show called Amazed.

By Ken Leighton — March 25, 9:21 a.m.

He seemed that Hyde’s local handlers were trying to position him to follow in the steps of a much larger pop sensation. But he says it’s clone-of-Justin-Bieber-time no more, and that he’s writing his own songs in with his new producers. “I don’t really want to be the next anyone,” he says, “except myself.” — Dave Good

Record-release roundup
The release party for Hills Like Elephants’ new album, Feral Flocks, on the local Requiemme Records label and distributed by BMG/Chrysalis, happens March 29 at Bar Pink. Featuring a dance-centric sound that frontman Sean Davenport calls “Mottown with drum machines,” a video for the single “Ninjavirus,” shot in North Park and directed by Eric Casas of the Visualists, is playable on their Reader page.

The Heavy Guilt’s third CD, Everything I Want to Say, is a self-titled effort set to drop April 6 at the Irenic in North Park. “There will be a record show, all vinyl, an art show, and great bands,” says Alfred Howard of the bill that includes Dead Feather Moon, the Steelwells, and Trouble in the Wind.

“Expect a full set from the Band,” says frontwoman Colleen Mestyanek, who says they’ll do all the songs from their new album. "Take credit. But if you want to be the next anyone, you can take credit. But I don’t really want to be the next anyone."

The Material will debut Everything I Want to Say on April 12 at the Soda Bar in City Heights. “Although it shows a much more raw and personal side of the Material,” says frontwoman Colleen D’Agostino, “my hope is that it will be relatable to anyone who has ever experienced the love, loss, inspiration, and desperation described in my lyrics... In my mind, it’s more real rock take on anything we have ever done.”

New Mexico (formerly Apes of Wrath) premieres their Malpais full-length on April 23. "We tracked everything through an old-school Otari 16-track, one-inch tape machine," says singer/bassist Rob Kent. “With tape, you get one shot at it, no digital tricks in post[-]production, splicing together two versions of a performance. Our newly added synthesizer sounds came from ‘80s classics; the Roland Juno 106 and the Korg MS2000, the voices of our childhood.” — Jay Allen Sanford

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EVERY WEDNESDAY 6:45PM ZYDECO WEDNESDAYS EVERY SUNDAY • SALSA SUNDAYS 7:30PM CLASS BY SALSA.COM

Thursday, March 28
CHARLES BURTON BLUES BAND
5302 Napa Street • 619-542-1462
CARMEL VALLEY • NAPA • MISSION GORGE

DANIELLE LOPRESTI BATTING STAGE III NON-HODGKIN’S LYMPHOMA CANCER

by Robert Bush — March 25, 4:39 p.m.

Musician murdered in guitar shop robbery
By Ken Leighton — March 25, 9:21 a.m.

Prince is coming to downtown’s Hard Rock Hotel?!?
By Jay Allen Sanford — March 22, 7:00 p.m.

Hills Like Elephants celebrate release of Feral Flocks at Bar Pink
By Chad Deal — March 22, 4:27 p.m.

Danielle LoPresti battling stage III non-Hodgkins lymphoma cancer.
By Jay Allen Sanford — March 21, 9:36 p.m.

Retox, Secret Fun Club, Anthrot, and Innerds at the Che Cafe
By Chad Deal — March 20, 4:23 a.m.

Dependent Origination live at the Taoist Sanctuary
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OVERTIME IN SAN DIEGO:

IT'S A LOT SAFER NOW.

YOU DON'T SEE OPEN DRUG DEALS NOW.

HORSES WORK FROM HOME.

THANKS TO THE INTERNET!

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HAPPY HOUR MON.-FRI. 3-7 PM

PRE-SPRING HARP FEST

UPCOMING: 4/4 - Rockin’ Aces
4/5 - Leon’s old school Karaoke
4/6 - Serious Gruze

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omedical marijuana is here to stay. And with it, the need for more knowledgeable and experienced medical marijuana doctors. That’s why we’ve developed a network of doctors who specialize in medical marijuana. We call them our “MDs.”

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$3 Pints • $4 House Margaritas • $5 Apps
Surf and Turf Buffet
Slow Roasted Prime Rib and Snow Crab Legs

Real Friendly. Real Close!
Thursday 28

From the “Z Area” of the distant planet Peelerland (aka New York City, New York), “Japanese action comic punks” Peelerlander-Z invade Soda Bar with their seventh studio set Space Vacation, a record that trades Ramones-bop riffage for Devtronics and more of a new-wave vibe than their usual m.o. Which is all kind of beside the point when you’re a comically costumed five-piece. Their Power Rangers outfits and silly stage antics (spontaneous wrestling, slide-boarding — yes, the head is the ball) are the sum and total of a P-Z show. Good family fun.

The Touchies and Marco Polo (ex-the Very) set the pins..... Down for some filthy organ-grindin’? The soul of Soulive, Alan Evans, and his Trio will visit the Griffin Thursday night. The producer, engineer, guitarist, vocalist, writer, is first and foremost, a beast of a drummer, a player’s player in the current jazz, funk, and soul scene. Fans of the Hammond brand would do well to get their hands on the band’s debut, Drop Hop (2012), for a plat full of raw-funk ‘n’ groove. AE3 is out to tout their seventh studio set. Their latest, I’m Just Kidding, is a Mediterranean concoction of two of my favorite ‘Black’ bands — Sabbath and Lipes. “Two of my favorite ‘Black’ bands too. I’m in...”

Saturday 30

LA indie artists Airborne Toxic Event will bring Such Hot Blood to House of Blues this weekend. The five-piece from hip ‘hood Los Feliz is known for tempering grunge-proof all-rocket with laces of stadium-bating orchestration, totally emo-ing up the place. Not my cup, but lots of y’all dig it, as the Toxic Event’s booked for two nights at the downtown venue. How do you spell “quarantine”? I’m just f-ing kidding. Just up the Fifth Ave hill, at Tin Can Ale House, you spell “quarantine?” I’m just f-ing kidding.

Sunday 31

If your not too stuffed on Peeps and jelly beans, punky, Acid Baby Jesus and Hellshovel will play Easter sets at Tower Bar after the appropriately paired openers Paint Fumes and Slipping Into Darkness. From Athens in Greece, fuzzed-out punks Acid Baby Jesus’ Sloveny Records one sheet goes, “a Mediterranean confection of two of our favorite ‘Black’ bands — Sabbath and Lipes. “Two of my favorite ‘Black’ bands too. I’m in...”

Monday 1

Northwest metalhead-turned-apocalypse-porn-folks T.J. Cowgill, aka King Dude, is out to tout his blackest platter, Burning Daylight, at Casbah. KD’s acoustic ditties are parched by crooked vocals and scorched-earth tales of good v. evil. But there’s religio appeal to his “messages” and a lost-county-pop vibe that sounds like one rock writer “like an undead Chris Isaak,” That’s funny and good enough. Other April Fools include Jersey’s working-class rock-rollers Hudson Falcons at Tower Bar with our own Rat City Riot...
FRI | JUN 21: ROD PIAZZA & THE MIGHTY FLYERS
SAT | JUN 15: DEAD MAN’S PARTY: OINGO BOINGO TRIBUTE
FRI | JUN 14: DAVID LINDLEY
SAT | JUN 8: FRI | JUN 7: CANDYE KANE
SAT | OCT 12: SAT | JUL 13:
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“THE BREAK UP SONG”
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San Diego Reader listings. Blue headlines indicate sponsored events.

**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**

**710 Beach Club:**
- **Thursday,** 9:30pm — Club 710 Neon DJ Dance Party.
- **Friday,** 9pm — Core and the Big League.
- **Saturday,** 10:30pm — Dazed & Confused.
- **Sunday,** 9pm — Chocolate Revolution.

**Monday,** 9pm — San Diego Music TV Showcase. **Free.**

**Wednesday,** 9:30pm — Open Mic. **Open Jam.**

**98 Bottles:**
- **Thursday,** 8pm — 22 Kings. **$5-$7.**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Danny Green Trio with Lori Bell.
- **Saturday,** 8pm — Cathouse.
- **Sunday,** 8pm — Grandmasta Rats.

**ArtsLab:**
- **Saturday,** 8pm — Black Market III.
- **Wednesday,** 8pm — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay. **Free.**

**Bar Pink:**
- **Tuesday,** 9pm — The Calcutta Kid.
- **Friday,** 9pm — Hills Like Elephants, Barbarian, Keith Sweaty.
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Fam Royal.
- **Sunday,** 9pm — Happy Endings with DJs.
- **Monday,** 9pm — Monday Night Mass.
- **Tuesday,** 9pm — Tiki Tuesday.
- **Wednesday,** 9pm — DJ Grandmasta Rats.

**Belly Up:**
- **Thursday,** 9pm — Polish Ambassador & Papadosio. **$15-$27.**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Living Colour. **$35-$42.**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Who’s Bad. **$18-$32.**

**Boar Cross’n:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — The Calcutta.
- **Saturday,** 6pm — Club Musae.

**Brick by Brick:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — Adrenaline Mob, Points North, Nothingmore. **$15-$20.**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Club Musae. **$18-$28.**
- **Saturday,** 8pm — Safety Orange.

**Camera:**
- **Tuesday,** 8pm — Embalmers.

**Ché Café:**
- **Thursday,** 6:30pm — Of Feather and Bone.

**Carmel Valley Library:**
- **Sunday,** 12:30pm — California Institute of Music Musicians. **Free.**

**Casbah:**
- **Thursday,** 9pm — Daedelus, Two Fresh, Ryan Hemsworth. **$14-$16.**
- **Friday,** 7pm — Caveman and Pure Bathing Culture. **$10-$12.**
- **Saturday,** 6pm — The Amalgamated, Queen P. **$15-$20.**

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido:**
- **Wednesday,** 7pm, 7:00pm — David de Alva. **Free.**

**Carmel Valley Library:**
- **Saturday,** 6:30pm — California Institute of Music Musicians. **Free.**

**Club:**
- **Thursday,** 8pm — Errol Dunkley, Nothingmore. **$15-$20.**

**Dave Buck’s Dollar Show presents**: 
- **Saturday,** 6pm — Golden Grrrls.

**Dirk’s Niteclub:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Marcin Sek. **$12-$15.**

**Dizzy’s:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Martin Luther King, Jr., Community Choir. **$10-$15.**
- **Saturday,** 8pm — Chiharu Yamanaka Trio. **$20.**

**El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — Family Wagon and Crash & the Burns.
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Embarcadero Marina:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — Charlie Brown’s Famous Flames. Part of such classic bands as James Brown’s Famous Flames. **Part of the Big Mavee experience are the apocryphal tales he spins about gigs with royalty:** BB King, Muddy, Jimi Hendrix, and so on. **But his own guitar chops cannot be disputed.** Magee says he practices for hours a day. “I watch football. That game’s gonna last four hours. I have my guitar in my hand the whole time. I can watch television and practice at the same time.”

**El Cortez:**
- **Friday,** 7pm — Who’s Bad. **$8-$10.**

**Embalmers:**
- **Saturday,** 7pm — Kerli.

**Escondido MainStage:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Tech N9ne, Tiger Army. **$7-$10.**

**Exchange:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — The Airborne Toxic Event.

**Flamenco Dance Show:**
- **Live show features singer-dancer Oscar Valero, guitarist Juan Moro, rotating guest artists including Erika Lopez, Carlos Villatoro, Patricia Letufu, Malika Winograd, and the dancers of the Academia del Baile Espanol. $10.**

**Flamenco:**
- **Saturday,** 5:30pm —-tech N9ne, Brotha Lynch Hung, Krizz Kalio.

**Food Hill:**
- **Thursday,** 5pm — Family Wagon and Crash & the Burns.
- **Friday,** 5pm — Re-Definition.

**Grandmasta Rats:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Guitar & Friends:**
- **Flamenco, bossa, and gypsy jazz.**

**Hard Rock Hotel:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Kerli.

**Harvey’s Lake Shore:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — The Airborne Toxic Event.

**Humphreys:**
- **3/30** — 14th Street.

**Humphreys Backstage Club:**
- **3/30** — The Airborne Toxic Event.

**Humphreys Backstage Music Club:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — The Bill Magee Blues Band. **Free.**

**International House:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Soul Ablaze and the Legacy Pack. **$7.**

**Juice:**
- **Monday,** 7pm — Soul Ablaze and the Legacy Pack. **$7.**

**Kemper Science Journalism:**
- **Sunday,** 10am — 4/1.

**Kesh:**
- **Friday,** 6:30pm — Danny Langdon. **$8-$10.**

**Kemper Science Journalism:**
- **Saturday,** 6pm — Mystique EOS.

**Little Silver House:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — The Calcutta.

**Lora Hill:**
- **Friday,** 10pm — The Calcutta.

**Magic Garden:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Maison:**
- **Monday,** 7pm — Adele.

**Marina Bean:**
- **Friday,** 10pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Matador:**
- **Friday,** 10pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**M GUARDIAN:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Morgan Hill:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Newhouse:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Ole:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Pepperdine University:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Peppermill:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Plaza Railroad:**
- **Friday,** 6pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Plaza Railroad:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Polar Bear:**
- **Friday,** 6pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Poseidon:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Prince:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Purple Church:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Dream State.

**Radio:**
- **Thursday,** 7pm — Tiki Tuesday.

**Ray’s:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Red Robin:**
- **Friday,** 7pm — Re-Definition.

**Red River:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Redwood:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — The Calcutta.

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- **Saturday,** 8pm — The Calcutta.

**Rialto Theatre:**
- **Friday,** 7pm — Tiki Tuesday.

**Rialto Theatre:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Tiki Tuesday.

**Ritz:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Sacramento Music Hall:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**San Diego State University:**
- **Friday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Sunset:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Sunday’s:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Sunrise Bar & Grill:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Toast:**
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Re-Definition.

**Tower:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Re-Definition.

**Turf Supper Club:**
- **Thursday,** 5pm — Dusty Brough.

**Up & Down:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Washingto:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.

**Windy Hills:**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Postmodern Jukebox.
Jimmy Love’s:
Thursday, 8pm — Big Papa & the TCB.

Lestat’s Coffee House:
Thursday, 9pm — Lucretio, Mike Bowman, Raelee Nikole. $5.
Friday — Gregory Page.
Saturday — Alaina Blair and Jesse Barrera.

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Ruby Room:
Thursday, 8pm — The Tah Tahs, Love Mason, Lillian LeFranc. $4.
Thursday, 9pm — Superunloader, Bandits, Lord Howler.
Friday, 9pm — Hindsight Rehearsal Studios CD release.

San Diego Civic Theatre:
Thursday, 7pm, Tuesday, 7pm — Murder in the Cathedral. $35-$210.

Shakedown Bar:
Thursday — Outlaw Country Fest With Bob Wayne and T. Junior.
Friday — Bad Daddies, News From the Front, Castello.
Wednesday — The Leafy Greens.

Smokey’s Lake Wohlford Cafe:
Saturday, 8pm — Dwight Lightning and Red Shepherd.

Soda Bar:
Thursday — Peelander-Z.
Friday, 9pm — Homeless Sexuals, Rebel Rebel, Murugun the Mystic.
Saturday, 8pm — Foxygen and Sam Flax.

Space 4 Art:
Sunday, 8pm — Rez Abbasi Trio. $10-$15.

Spin Nightclub:
Friday, 10pm — Loadstar, MK Ultra, Bass Tribe. $10-$25.
Saturday, 9pm — Breakbot.

Velvet Underground Cafe:
Friday, 9pm — Tomcat Courtney. Sit awhile with 84-year-old Tomcat Courtney as he performs down-home blues;
9pm — Afro Jazziacs. Latin and AfroCuban jazz trio.
Saturday, 6pm — Tomcat Courtney. Sit awhile with 84-year-old Tomcat Courtney as he performs down-home blues;
9pm — Todo Mundo. Flamenco, Samba, Salsa Dance Music.
Sunday, 4pm — Sounds Like Four. Performing at 4pm every Sunday, Sounds Like Four will provide a refreshing and unique end to the week; 7pm, Smooth Jazz Inspirations.

Tio Leo’s:
Friday, 8pm — Cadillac Wreckers.

Tin Can Ale House:
Thursday — The Last Years, the Natives, Electric Healing Sound. $5.
Friday — Grampadrew, Decker, C. Gibbs, Sudden Lovelys. $5.
Saturday — Shaking Pyramid, Owl, Hash Toke. $5.

Tower Bar:
Sunday — Los Vigilantes.

Turf Alive:
Thursday — Outlaw Country Fest With Bob Wayne and T. Junior.
Friday, 9pm — Dancing Strangers, Comet Calendar.

Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:
Thursday, 6pm — Pan Am. Bossa Nova, jazz.
Friday, 6pm — Tomcat Courtney. Sit awhile with 84-year-old Tomcat Courtney as he performs down-home blues;
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84-year-old Tomcat Courtney as 90 minutes. Saturday, March 30, and Ravel. The program will last Kreisler, J S Bach, Vieuxtemps, Harold Reeves, Annelle Gregory, violinists Nathan Gendler, of California Institute of Music library’s community room. It will The Friends of the Carmel Valley music program sponsored by Community Choir Martin Luther King, Jr.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

California Institute of Music Musicians This free family music program sponsored by the Friends of the Carmel Valley Library will be presented in the library’s community room. It will feature several talented students of California Institute of Music (CIM) with Professors Michael and Irina Tsetlin. They include violinists Nathan Gendler, Harold Reeves, Annelle Gregory, Jasmine Wang, Calvin Hibi, Hailey Schricker, and Shirley Wu, cellists Paul Maxwell and Megan Wu, and pianists Stephen Ai and Adrian Liu. They will play music by Tchaikovsky, Wieniawski, Shostakovich, Kreisler, J S Bach, Vieuxtemps, and Ravel. The program will last 90 minutes. Saturday, March 30, 12:30pm; free. Carmel Valley Library, 3919 Townsgate Drive. (CARME VALLEY)

GROUP BOHEMIO Romantic light opera, Sunday, March 31, 5pm; Gran Tapa, 611 B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Choir Friday, March 29, 8pm; $10-$15. Duzzy’s, 4275 Mission Bay Drive (in the showroom at San Diego Jet Ski Rentals). (PACIFIC BEACH)

Moonlight Orchestra Folkly chamber and early music. Thursday, March 28, 12pm; Friday, March 29, 12pm; Tuesday, April 2, 12pm; Wednesday, April 3, 12pm. Gran Tapa, 611 B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

UPCOMING SHOWS


Reality TV stars shine at Soda Bar By Andrew Vinas

Former American Idol winner Kris Allen made his first West Coast tour stop at the Soda Bar. The Arkansas native embarked on his “Out Alive Tour” early this year to promote his second record, Thank You Camellia. With the help of Jillette Johnson, a former contestant on The Voice, the two reality-TV stars seduced the San Diego club with their soulful, bluesy voices. Johnson began the night with originals from her debut EP Whiskey & Frosting and a cover of Radiohead’s “Creep.” With Florence Welch-like voice, Johnson found new fans with her raw, fiery tone. Allen opened his set with “Out Alive.” From the Jack Johnson-esque song “Better with You” to the radio hit, “Live Like You Were Dying,” Allen and his three-man band played an acoustic set from both his albums. Along with his originals, Allen also performed covers of “California Dreamin” and Tom Petty’s “Breakdown.” But Allen’s mash-up of George Michael’s “Faith” and Furr’s “We Are Young" was the perfect blend of old and new.

Concert: Kris Allen and Jillette Johnson Venue: Soda Bar Date: February 2 Seats: General

Perfect blend of old and new

Up to $100 for your concert review, $25 for your CD review. Submit at SDReader.com/critic

We Are the 21st Century Ambassadors of Peace & Magic Foxygen By Allison Mayoral

Sam France’s voice has a hint of femininity to it as he introduces us to “In the Darkness,” the gateway track to Foxygen’s second album. The L.A. indie-pop duo could have gone the campy route after that, but once the second track, “No Destruction,” chimes in, with its convincing ’70s folk rock, you know no silly costumes are needed. One gets the feeling that each song was a clash of disparate ideas expertly mashed together by the pair. “On Blue Mountain” is a sunny-pop piece dissected to reveal bits of a blues-rock jam — and it works. And then there is “San Francisco.” It is a cut of sweet ’60s mod pop (think: early Stones) that has just enough melody to get stuck in your head without driving you crazy. What will get to you is “Shuggie,” not because it’s necessarily infectious pop but because it is challenging pop. I still don’t know if I should be happy or sad while listening to it or what vibe they were going for, but I’ll keep listening till I do.

The best thing about Foxygen is that they aren’t trying to be the Next Big Thing; they are just two guys having fun with music. Not appearing to take themselves as seriously as their art. Definitely keeping it real.

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Encinitas Library: 540 Cornish Dr., Encinitas, 760-753-7376. April 7 — Chris Montgomery Quartet.


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Pueblo Estrella Music Presents:

BARB WIRE DOLLS

with

The Deadly Birds

Cleopeto

Saturday March 30

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(3 blocks south of Genesee, 1 mile north of USD)
**Set ’Em Up, Joe!**

BY JOSEPH O’BRIEN

“It’s a little bit sweeter with a creamy vanilla hint to it,” he says, “but then with the lemon juice and Jameson’s gives it a bit of a bite.”

In the old babhdóir (Irish matchmaker) tradition, the St. Germain and Jameson also serve as an opportunity for striking up a grand match, McCullough says. “Because it is a sweeter drink, it’s more typical of what women are going to like,” he says, “but it also has a bite to it with the Jameson, so we hope it will go over well with both parties.”

Among the other Irish whiskies on the market, Jameson’s robust flavor allows it hold its own as a base liquor for cocktails, McCullough notes. There’s a different choice of flavors out there among Irish whiskies as far as everyone likes their own thing, but the Jameson is definitely a solid Irish whisky that everyone tends to love,” he says. “Other Irish whiskies can either be too harsh or too light.”

**KITCHEN PROOF:** The Jameson and St. Germain make such a fine match — it’s to be doubted that a babhdóir at the top of his game could do a better job with a buddy and bachelor.

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**Stout Public House**

1125 6th Avenue

San Diego, CA 92101

619-702-7933

stoutsd.com

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**THE STOUT’S BRASSER**

Into a cocktail shaker filled with ice, pour:

- ½ oz. St. Germain liqueur
- ½ oz. lemon juice
- ½ oz. vanilla syrup
- 1 ½ oz. Jameson Irish Whiskey
- 1 dash of green food dye

Shake, pour into rocks glasses filled with ice, garnish with basil leaf and cucumber slice, and tipple the way to Tipperary!
San Diego Reader March 28, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Specials</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Del Mar</td>
<td>Zel’s Del Mar: Daily, 4-6:30pm: $1 off drafts, $4 premium drinks, $2 off wines by glass, $3.50 wells. $4 fried calamari, $5 fish tacos, $10 burger &amp; beer.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>Tequila 100: Daily, 3-7pm: $3 drafts, $5 margaritas, mojitos, tequila shots. $5 rolled tacos, $5 quesadilla, $6 ceviche.</td>
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<td>The Stage Rock Bar &amp; Grill: Daily, 5-8pm: 1/2-off all wells, beer, wine.</td>
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<td>Stout Public House: Daily, 4-8pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 drafts, wells; $5 cosmopolitans, margaritas. 1/2-price wings, calamari, chicken tenders.</td>
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<td>East Village Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4 keg beers, $5 liquor, house wine. Free pizza samples.</td>
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<td>East Village Tavern and Bowl: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 wells, domestic drafts; $4 import/micro drafts; $5 house margarita, wine; $5 quesadilla, potato skins, nachos.</td>
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<td>El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Monday-Thurday, Saturday-Sunday, 7-9pm: $5 menu cocktails.</td>
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<td>Monkey Paw: Daily, 5-8pm: $1 off local draughts and drinks.</td>
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<td>Toast Enoteca &amp; Cucina: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: Half-price appetizers; $3 drafts; $5 wine. Sunday, All day: Half-price appetizers; $3 drafts; $5 wine.</td>
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<td>Downtown Johnny Brown’s: Monday-Friday, 5pm: $1 off wine; 40% off bar menu.</td>
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<td>La Gran Tapas: Daily, 4-7pm: $3 craft beers, $4 cask wines; $3 &amp; $4 taps, free tapitas at the bar.</td>
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<td>House of Blues: Daily, 4-7pm: $2 domestic drafts, $3 wines, $3 wells, $4 martinis. Killer happy hour menu.</td>
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<td>Patricks Gaslamp Pub: Daily, 10am-8pm; 11pm-close: domestics from $2.50, wells from $3.25.</td>
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<td>Rock Bottom Brewery: Daily, 4-7pm, 10pm-close: $1 off mixed drinks, $2 off 6 oz &amp; larger, $6 specialty cocktails. $5 egg rolls, $7 shredded ahí, pizza.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucky there’s lots of booze at these things</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**HAPPY HOUR**

Asahi or Sapporo, $5 Rock Sake’s, $7 All cocktails & wines (by the glass)

**OCEAN BEACH**

**Mother’s Saloon:** Monday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts, 1/2-off appetizers. 7pm-close: $3 Lagermeister shots. 11pm-close: $2.75 well, $1 off drafts. Tuesday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts, 1/2-off appetizers. Thursday, 3-7pm: $3 Fireball shots, $1.50 tacos. 11pm-close: $2.75 well, $1 off drafts. Wednesday, 7pm-close: $5 Rolling Rock and shot; $1.50 well; $1 off drafts.

**Sushi Tadokoro:** Monday-Thursday, 5-6:30pm: half-off Asahi Tarumana (imported from Japan), Sapporo, Kirin draft beers; $5 spicy tuna roll, gyoza, edamame.

**PACIFIC BEACH**

**Cass Street Bar & Grill:** Monday-Friday, 3pm-9pm: $2.25 domestic bottles, $2.75 micro-brew pints, $7.50 pitcher, $3 house wine.

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

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

**The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:** Daily, 4-7pm: $3 craft beers, $4 cask wines. $3 & $4 tapas, free tapitas at the bar.

**POINT LOMA**

**Humphreys Backstage Music Club:** Daily, 5-7pm: $1 off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

**Jimmy’s Famous American Tavern:** Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: 1/2-off all appetizers, drafts, wells, and select house wine.

**Solare Ristorante Lounge:** Tuesday-Saturday, 5-6:30pm: $5 Tapas, $3 Beers, $5 Select Wine, $6 Select Cocktails.

**RANCHO BERNARDO**

**Bernard’s Restaurant:** Monday-Saturday, 4-7pm: $4 wells, $2.75 domestic and $3 premium drafts; $3.50 microbrew. 1/2-off appetizers.

**SANTA YSABEL**


**SANTEE**

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

**Scripps Ranch**

**La Bastida:** Monday, all night: $2 small bites menu. Tuesday, Friday, 4-6pm: $2 off small bites menu. Wednesday, Thursday, 4-8pm: 1/2-off appetizers and domestic and $3 premium drafts. $1 off house wine and Spinner Night. $2.50 mind erasers, kamikaze, martini.

**WineSellar and Brasserie:** Tuesday-Thursday, 4-6pm: $4 small plates. $7 domestic, $2.50 micro-brew and $5 house wine and $3 house wine. Wednesday, 4-6pm: $7 domestic, $2.50 house wine and $5 house wine.

**SERRA MESA**

**Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill:** Sunday, 1:00-6:00pm: $2 Corona or Miller Light or $3.50 mimosas and bloody marys.

**SHELTER ISLAND**

**Blue Wave Bar & Grill:** Daily, 4-7pm: $1 off drinks. $3.50 appetizers, including jumbo shrimp cocktail and crispy fried calamari.

**Fiddler’s Green Restaurant:** Daily, 5-7pm: $4 house wine and house beer. $5 well drinks and margaritas.

**Humphreys Backstage Music Club:** Daily, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

**SOLANA BEACH**

**Chief’s Burgers and Brew:** Tuesday-Sunday, 4pm-7pm: $3.50 microbrew. 1/2-off appetizers.

**The Fish Market:** Monday-Friday, 3:30-6:30pm: $3.50 wells, $3.95 drafts, domestic bottles, house wine, $9.50 oysters. $4.25 smoked trout quesadillas. $4.95 mahi mahi sliders. Saturday-Sunday, 11am-4pm: $3.50 wells, $3.95 drafts, domestic bottles, house wine. $9.50 oysters. $4.25 smoked trout quesadillas. $4.95 mahi mahi sliders.

**The Saddle Bar:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: 1/2-off drinks and drafts.

**Sorrento Valley**

**Ali Baba’s Cave:** Daily, 3-7pm: 2 oz. beer (excluding tax). $12 hookahs, $5 referrals.

**Karl Strauss Brewing Company:** Monday-Saturday, 4-9pm: $2.25 Coors Light draft, $3.25 Dos Equis draft; discounted appetizers. Sunday, All Day: $2.25 Coors Light draft, $3.25 Dos Equis draft; discounted appetizers.

**Donovan’s Steak and Chop House:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4 martinis (complimentary steak sandwiches and burritos 4-6pm).

**Michael’s Lounge in the Hyatt Regency:** Daily, 5-$4 drafts and well cocktails.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS**

**Babbo’s Bar and Grille:** Daily, 3-6pm: $3.50 microbrews, wine, and $3 Alpine drafts, wine, $3.50 domestic.

**Bistro University:** Daily, 5-8pm: $4 martinis. $3.50 domestic wines, $3.50 premium drafts.

**Small Bar:** Daily, 5-8pm: $1 off local draughts and drinks.

**VALLEY CENTER**

**Casa Revese Mexican & Seafood Restaurant:** Monday-Friday, 2-6pm: $2 domestic, $1 imported, wells. Discounted appetizers.

**VISTA**

**Jumping Bean Café & Mexi-call Grill:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $2 domestic, imports, $2.75 margaritas, $3 wells, microbrews, $4 Leaping Horse tapas. 3-7: $1.50 chicken or carnitas street tacos.

**Vista Entertainment Center:** Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm: $2 domestic and $3 premium drafts. $3 wells.

**SPRING VALLEY**

**California Comfort:** Monday-Friday, 4:30pm-6:30pm: $1 off all liquor/wine/any half domestic draft. 50% off all starters. Saturday-Sunday, 11am-6pm: 1/2-off all liquor/wine/any half domestic draft. 50% off all starters.

**Fannie’s Nightclub:** Daily, 4-6pm: $3.50 off all drinks.

**TIERRASANTA**

**JP’s Pub:** Monday-Friday, 4-30pm: $2.50 wells, domestic drafts, $3.25 house wine.

**UCSD**

**Porter’s Pub at UCSD:** Daily, 11am-7pm $3 Menu; 4pm-7pm $1 off all beer.

**UNIVERSITY CITY**

**Apolonia Greek Bistro:** Daily, 3-30-60pm: $3 ouzo, $2 bottled beers, $3 wine by the glass.

**Cozy’s Mexican Grill:** Monday-Saturday, 4pm-close: $2.25 Coors Light draft, $3.25 Dos Equis draft; discounted appetizers. Sunday, All Day: $2.25 Coors Light draft, $3.25 Dos Equis draft; discounted appetizers.

**Donovan’s Steak and Chop House:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4 martinis, complimentary steak sandwiches and burritos 4-6pm.

**Michael’s Lounge in the Hyatt Regency:** Daily, 5-$4 drafts and well cocktails.

**UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS**

**Babbo’s Bar and Grille:** Daily, 4-30-60pm: $3.50 wells, drafts, wine, $3.50 domestic.

**Bistro University:** Daily, 5-8pm: $4 martinis. $3.50 domestic wines, $3.50 premium drafts.

**Small Bar:** Daily, 5-8pm: $1 off local draughts and drinks.

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**Vista Entertainment Center:** Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm: $2 domestic and $3 premium drafts. $3 wells.

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The Tempest
PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVE., ESCONDIDO. 619-746-6699. 7PM FRIDAY, 7PM SATURDAY.

A Doll’s House
The Old Globe Theatre stages Henrik Ibsen’s drama about a young wife’s illegal risk to save her husband’s life. Kirsten Brandt directs.

SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 14.

Born Yesterday
Moonlight Stage Productions concludes its winter season with Garson Kanin’s romantic comedy (and political satire) about the education of Bill Dwyer, directed by Jon Lorenz. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN ST., VISTA. 704-724-2110. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 7.

Chicago
Welk Resort Theatre stages Kander and Ebb’s musical vaudeville set at the end of the Roaring Twenties. Ray Limon directed and choreographed.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8866 LAURENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM THURSDAYS, 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH JUNE 2.

Doubt, A Parable
PowPac’s staging John Patrick Shanley’s drama about ingrained bias and the pain it can inflict. Raylene J. Wall directs.

POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS. THROUGH APRIL 14.

Fairy Tales: A Curious Collection of Fractured Fables
Tall tales and children’s fables from simpler times, all told through acts of the circus. Featuring performances by Bete Noir, Kyle Clark, Sarah Cranberry, Danzen Jenn, and the Wanderlust Circus. All ages welcome.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL "04/05/13".

National Comedy Theatre
The National Comedy Theatre, now in its 14th season, presents a 100-minute improv comedy show based completely on audience suggestions. The show is “appropriate for all audiences.”

NATIONAL COMEDY THEATRE, 311 ISLAND AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 855-544-1000. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS. THROUGH APRIL 14.

Night Stage to Big Shaft
Peggy Sue Productions presents a dinner-theater show set in 1853. “When a new mine and a dead lawyer are discovered, everyone becomes a suspect.”

MIKKI’S CAFE, 1639 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 7:30PM FRIDAYS. 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 9:45PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SUNDAYS. THROUGH APRIL 6.

The Mountaintop
An acquired taste. Katori Hall’s comedic-drama set in room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, in Memphis, on the last night of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s life. But instead of tragic solemnity, it’s a fable, often whimsical, about letting go.

A DOLL’S HOUSE
Current information, tickets and reservations: 619-234-5623. 4PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 21.

New Village Arts Theatre in Carlsbad stages “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest” through April 21.

One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest
New Village Arts presents the theatrical adaptation of Ken Kesey’s novel. Randle P. McMurphy reigns insanity to avoid prison. Claudio Bayogna directs.

NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-453-3245. 7PM THURSDAYS, 7PM SATURDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 21.

The Further Adventures of Hedda Gabler
DiversiVary Theatre stages Jeff Whitty’s comedy. After her nightly haunts, Hedda Gabler searches for a more fulfilling ending.

HEDDA GABLER. 619-696-4377. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS. THROUGH MARCH 11.

The Tempest
Patio Playhouse, 217 EAST GRAND AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 11.

The Psychic

SCHNITZER HALL, 1551 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 6.

To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday
OnStage Playhouse presents Michael Brady’s drama about David. His wife died almost two years ago. He has yet to recover. Charles Peters directs.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 13.
How do you say Neil Simon in French? A professional sperm donor, going by the name Starbuck (Patrick Huard), anonymously fathers what amounts to his own chapter of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Canada. Eventually, he falls victim to a class action lawsuit brought against him by 142 of his 533 "children." To make matters worse (and to pad the running time with an unnecessary subplot), our hero is also in debt to the mob for $80,000. After a trio of enforcers pay him a bathroom visit that almost results in a permanent bath, Starbuck realizes that action is called for. But instead of taking it on the lam, he gets ahead of the list of complainers and begins stalking them one by one. His goal: to see whether or not his balls went to waste. Conveniently, he enters their lives at crucial moments: cheering one son, a world-class soccer player, on to victory, while saving a drug-addicted daughter from suicide.

Huard, an affable Frank Stallone type, has charm to spare, but writer-director Ken Scott and co-scenarist Martin Petit can’t resist squeezing every ounce of sap out of their otherwise inventive premise. One of Starbuck’s offspring is mentally challenged — how the boy became party to the suit is never explained — and confined to a nursing facility. Relying on the kid to elicit sentiment (backed by composer David Lafleche’s syrupy tones) is bad enough, but there’s more. Following one of his kids, the king of conception accidentally stumbles upon a meeting of his clan. The vegetative boy becomes a convenient plot device when Starbuck masquerades as his father in order to gain admittance. Starbuck is a crowd-pleaser that should hit it big with those who despise being challenged. With Julie LeBreton playing his estranged gal pal, and plump Antoine Bertrand overpowering each scene as Starbuck’s cuddly best friend, lawyer, and insufferable comic foil.

— Scott Marks

MARLON BRANDO: REFLECTIONS IN A GOLDEN STYLE

Many artists are instantly called to mind by the mere mention of a word or catchphrase. Jerry Lewis screams "LAAAAAAAAAAAAA-DY!" Marty Allen greets the world with, "Hello, dere!" Everyone was Tallulah Bankhead’s "Daaahhling." What would Bobby Bittman be without his "How are ya?"

Marlon Brando’s box-office bravura afforded him the unique ability to retool the work of quality (or not) screenwriters. Years before he morphed into one, Brando foresaw his literal and figurative transformation into America’s biggest actor through his self-reflexive insistence on working “pig” dialog into his repartee. After an exhaustive (and exhausting) Brando marathon, I am at last prepared to publish my initial findings in the form of a cheap Top Ten list.

I started at the bottom: the ancient, sticky-at-the-sides Image Entertainment Laserdisc copy of Michael Winner’s The Nightcomers stressed the reconditioned laser player almost as much as it did me. But strik-
ing “pig” pay dirt on side two inspired me to move forward, defiantly!

Stops on the pilgrimage to the eye of Brando’s swine hurricane yielded several pig-less, but nonetheless, pig-gish performances.

The third cue mark in Guys and Dolls found me wanting to extricate a few teeth with a pair of pliers by way of distraction. In the interest of cinema, science, and self preservation, I began substituting “doll” with “pig.” Once the transition, and a bale of Goodfellas kush, took hold, I was able to plow through the other seven reels of Joe Mankiewicz’s monumental- ly arid, under-conceived, and over-stylized clotheshlining of a great Broadway show.

The trail of “pig” talk led me to a rigorous examination of Eddie Dmytryk’s all-star Third Reich romp The Young Lions (1958). While the word never crosses Marlon’s lips, it was the thought that counted when a two-bit Parisian stabber, never to be heard from again, spat it in his face.

A pair of “pigs” await in the Technicolor production, Mutiny on the Bounty, directed by Lewis Milestone, Carol Reed, John Huston, Billy Wilder, David Lean (rumored), George Seaton, Fred Zinnemann, and whoever else happened to be on the MGM lot that week looking to pick up a paycheck.

After days of sniffing without so much as one truffle, I sought refuge by scanning through the poetic “pig” prose of such familiar childhood favorites as Last Tango in Paris, Apocalypse Now, and One-Eyed Jacks. Tango, a porciné paradise, has more “pigs” than there are Bacons under the opening credits.

After days of debilitat- ing research, I am proud to share with you, in preferential order, my findings.

1. The Young Lions (1958)

At a Parisian café, handsome Hun Marlon shares a glass of wine with fellow goose-stepper, Mayberry regular, and the man who trained Fuller’s White Dog, Parley Baer, blonde bimbo Dora Doll, and her resistance worker gal pal, Liliane Montevecchi. When Ms. Montevecchi asks how many Frenchmen he killed for the cause, the peroxided Brando says, “If I have to sacrifice a few lives for peace, I vill do it.” Before spilling her glass of vino, Ms. Montevecchi stands, locks gazes with Brando and declares, “Now I have seen a pig up close.”

2. Apocalypse Now (1979)

During one of his brilliant improvised monologues as Colonel Kurtz, Brando muses, “We must kill them. We must incinerate them. Pig after pig. Cow after cow. Village after vil-

lage. Army after army.”

3. Streetcar Named Desire (1951)

The first great squeal. In Streetcar, at the dinner table, as Stanley declares, “I have eyes like those of a dead pig.”

Maria Schneider: You’re a pig-f@ker! You goddamn, f#@king pig-f@ker! You pig-f@ker, pig-f@king liar. — Scott Marks

4. Last Tango in Paris (1973) #1

Addressing his dead wife: “You’re worse than the dirtiest street pig anybody could find, and you know why? You know why? Because you lied.”

5. The Nightcomers (1972)

Brando wins a picker! In a pathetic attempt to keep their S&M relationship alive, a pervy Marlon asks school teacher Stephanie Beacham to live with him. Matching him pig for pig she grunts, “To live with you in your pigsty?” After a beat, and in his best Moe Howard he grunts, “I’ll give you a pigsty,” before proceeding to pimpslap her silly.

4. Last Tango in Paris (1973) #2

From a dialog scene between Marlon and the always-up-for-everything Maria Schneider:

Brando: And worse! Schneider: And worse! Brando: But I want you to smell the dying farts of the pig. Are you gonna do all of that for me?

Cher: And worse! Brando: And worse! Schneider: And worse! Brando: I want you to swallow the vomit. Whatever pig God you pray to that you haven’t quite turned me into a murderer.

1. Last Tango in Paris (1973) #3

Brando brings home the bacon as he leans in to his wife’s corpse and improvises the essence of his soul: “You pi-g-f@ker! You goddamn, f@king pig, pig-f@king liar!” — Scott Marks

OPREY AND SPIELBUG WHOumph “SCORCESE” ON FORBES LIST OF 2013’S “MOST INFLUENTIAL” CELEBS

According to Forbes Magazine, the two most influential celebrities of 2013 are Ope and the dope, with Marty running a distant third.

Oprah and Stevie more influential than the man who added the foun- tain pen tracheyotom and Johnny Roastbeef to the cinematic lexicon? I’m disgusted with the two of you’se!

Money can’t buy brains. “Martin Scorcese??!!” Really, Forbes? Look how they make Him look. Like the monkey minus the organ grinder.

You’ve all seen Marty’s first fea- ture, Who’s That Knocking at My Door?, right? (If you haven’t, log off The Big Screen and do not return until after committing His entire oeuvre to memory!) You want to talk about command of the medium? His first time out of the gate and there’s not a
match cut in the entire picture, unlike 1941 and Hook where nothing cuts together.

According to Chicago's WLS-TV, Oprah topped the list based on "major interviews with the likes of controversial athlete Lance Armstrong in the wake of his doping scandal and the late Whitney Houston's family." Just say "yes" to cashing in on drug-related interviews — not only does it translate to ratings gold, there's a spot waiting for you atop Forbes' list of 2014's most influential celebrities!

Apart from boosting toy sales, turning movies into theme park rides for the slow-witted, and bringing about the multiplexing of America all in the name of staggered showtimes, what exactly have Spielberg and George Lucas (he came in at #5) influenced? Lucas recently wowed out big time by turning his Star Wars franchise over to Disney in exchange for $4 billion. Shouldn't Disney honcho Bob Iger assume George's spot? Ron Howard (#4) is a different story. Now there's an influential cat. Were it not for Opie Taylor — the main reason children were initially drawn to The Andy Griffith Show — I would never have learned how to whistle.

Now that things have soured between Oprah and Dr. Phil, Dr. Oz (#6) has become Harpo Studio's resident court jester. To date, Dr. Oz's biggest contribution to our culture has been legitimizing the use of latex pop as props on daytime TV. A clear path to colo-rectal cleansing is indeed beneficial to modern living, but aside from tapping a few impacted colons, what impact has this man made?

Barbara Walters (is she still working?!), Bono (I thought he died skiing), and infomercial yente Suze Orman grabbed the #7, 8, and 9 slots. Based on his captivating performance at last year's RNC, the #10 position went to Clint Eastwood.

— Scott Marks

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Matthew lickona, Scott Marks, and Duncan Shepherd. Ratings are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for review purposes only. Review policy was last revised 4/16/13. Details of past reviews sorted alphabetically, by year of release, and by rating are available online at SDRhead.com/movies.

**Admission** — A snooty admissions officer puts her career on the line when trying to get the son she secretly gave up for adoption accepted into Princeton. This 17 1/2 minutes of prefabicated shit for people who are constipated. The performances are weak, the dialogue is very nearly vacuous, but not for the cast. No, Tina Fey and Paul Rudd attempt to build character. Their idea of acting is Rudd messing up his hair and Fey delivering her patented shrilled: a move that's best suited for 5 minute comedic skits, if that. There's not a likeable character in the movie, yet it's all played for cheap pathos and easy laughs. As Fey's gun-toting, sausage-grinding feminist mom, Lily Tomlin hasn't embarrassed herself this much since playing John Travolta's 'lady in Moment in the. The talented Phillip Seymour Hoffman (As You Like It) is featured in a riveting (Mr. Anonymous) Assistant, Little Fockers) directs. With Michael Sheen and Wallace Shawn. 2013. 3.5 Star. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Call** — Academy Award-winning comedian and Hallie Berry attempt to accept the misery of the day. Only if your heart is set on a tearjerker. But if you're looking for entertainment, this is for you.

Barbara — Germany's entry for the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards (it didn't make the cut) is an unyielding Cold War drama set in East Germany, 1980. Barbara (Nina Hoss), a capable young doctor, is sentenced to a small town clinic after an application for an exit visa results in her being booted from Berlin. No one except her West German lover (Mark Waschke) — a developer involved in the fight against being too trusted, not even a seemingly sincere co-worker (Ronald Zehrfeld), who could be compiling a list of names for the Stasi. Barbara is no longer a filmly constructed propagandistic docudrama; director Christian Petzold (Jersey) expertly sustains dramatic tension while smuggling in his political agenda. Hoss's performance as the petit-ude medic is a stunning exercise in self-control, and the clinker packs an electrifying wallop. Well worth your time. 2013. 4 Star. (HILLCREST/

**FILM FESTIVALS**

**CINEMA UNDER THE STARS** 4040 Goldfish St., Mission Hills 619-295-2421 This is 4:20 — Look at the lives of Pete (Paul Rheubin), Dennis (Debbie Lee Mann) after the events of Knocked Up. Written and directed by Jud Apatow. 619-295-4222. Friday, March 29, 8:00pm, Saturday, March 30, 8:00pm

**DIGIPLEX RIVER VILLAGE** 5256 Mission Rd., Bonsall 760-945-8784 Fallbrook International Film Festival Now entering its fourth season, the festival features cinematic art from features to shorts to documentaries. The number one, two and three scorers come together in storytelling, technical execution, and meaningful purpose. Friday, April 5, 11:00am, Saturday, April 6, 10:00am, Sunday, April 7, 11:00am, Monday, April 8, 3:30pm, Tuesday, April 9, 3:30pm, Wednesday, April 10, 3:30pm, Thursday, April 11, 3:30pm

**JOYCE BEUPS UPTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER** 3900 Vermont St., Hillcrest A Taste of Vegan Free admission! Food tasting, speakers, cooking demos, tastings, speakers, cooking demos, 3900 Vermont St., Hillcrest A Look at the lives of Pete (Paul Rheubin), Dennis (Debbie Lee Mann) after the events of Knocked Up. Written and directed by Jud Apatow. 619-295-4222. Friday, March 29, 8:00pm, Saturday, March 30, 8:00pm

**LESTAS' COFFEE HOUSE** 3353 Adams Ave., Cardiff 619-298-0437

**MIRACOSTA COLLEGE SAN ELIO CAMPUS** 3353 E. Marguerite Ave., Cardiff 619-944-4444

**OCEAN BEACH PLAYHOUSE** 2401 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach 619-222-0386

**VESTIGATED** Part sociological experiment and part adventure comedy, this film follows three meat- and cheese-loving New Yorkers who decide to adopt a vegan diet for six weeks. Lured by tales of weight loss and health regained, they begin to uncover the hidden sides of animal agriculture that make them wonder whether solutions offered in films like Food, Inc. go far enough. Saturday, March 30, 5:15pm

**THE BARON** When Egyptians woke up on January 25, 2011, they discovered the long-dormant flame of revolution had been rekindled. In the wake of their revolution, the world paid attention. Now, with the one-year anniversary of the revolution approaching, the film will examine the year that followed. But alas, “admirable” is not the same as “compelling.” It’s not fair to say that the film doesn’t know what it wants to be a political drama, a detective story, or a love story; it wants to be all three. But while the stories build on one another, they also tend to get in each other’s way. 2012. 3 Star. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

Wednesday, April 3, 5:00pm

**The Call** — Academy Award-winning comedian and Hallie Berry attempt to accept the misery of the day. Only if your heart is set on a tearjerker. But if you're looking for entertainment, this is for you.

Barbara — Germany's entry for the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar at the 85th Academy Awards (it didn't make the cut) is an unyielding Cold War drama set in East Germany, 1980. Barbara (Nina Hoss), a capable young doctor, is sentenced to a small town clinic after an application for an exit visa results in her being booted from Berlin. No one except her West German lover (Mark Waschke) — a developer involved in the fight against being too trusted, not even a seemingly sincere co-worker (Ronald Zehrfeld), who could be compiling a list of names for the Stasi. Barbara is no longer a filmly constructed propagandistic docudrama; director Christian Petzold (Jersey) expertly sustains dramatic tension while smuggling in his political agenda. Hoss's performance as the petit-ude medic is a stunning exercise in self-control, and the clinker packs an electrifying wallop. Well worth your time. 2013. 4 Star. (HILLCREST/
stand in line, conservatives will shun it, and cinephiles, looking for a challenging piece of filmmaking to drop ten dollars on, will wish they had waited it to play public television. — S.M. ★

**The Host** — Twilight creator Stephanie Meyer’s first foray into the parasitic aliens. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**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 and trades in the true vintage transvestite Melissa McCarthy into this generation’s John Candy. Playing an alcoholic sociopath in a Bonzo fright wig, she uses the money she eventually pilfers from middle-class schmucks to buy strangers rounds of drinks in hope of winning a friend. One of her victims is Jason Bateman (soon to be a known quantity) — Ewan McGregor, Stanley Tucci, Eddie Marsan, (who should have known better) — as Number 16 is getting set to spit out yet another platitude, Bruce McGill turns on his hairpiece. (“Move along left. Arkin’s reaction is priceless, an inspiration combined of “Yeah, yeah, get on with it” eye and head roll that once again underlines his comedic indispensability. In a film where Carell and Jim Carrey do much of the acting for him; he needed a lets the costume and the adenoidal voice to express just how big an impression Holm’s authentic-sounding period dialog raises the floor, we find Lincoln’s ear being bent by a African-American relations for both the Emancipator is seated at a railway station. There’s a moment where the title character, played by Steve Carell, arrives in this child, hood idol and inspiration, Rance Holloway (Alan Arkin), in a nursing home. Carrell can barely contain himself when he begins to express just how big an impression Hol- loway left. Arkin’s reaction is priceless, an inspired combination of “Yeah, yeah, get on with it” eye and head roll that once again underlines his comedic indispensability. In a film where Carell and Jim Carrey do their best to out-mug each other, the real magic is Arkin’s (and Steve Buscemi’s) exalted underplaying. Ditto for Olivia Wilde who, with Butter and Burt Wonderstone, is blossoming into an accomplished light comedienne right before our eyes. TV veteran Don Scardino directs. With James Gandolfini and Brad Garrett. 2013. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Incredible Burt Wonderstone** — Funny enough satire about that tragic juncture in American history when one of the gits of “big room” Vegas illusionists was eclipsed by common street magicians. There’s a moment where the title character, played by Ben Stiller, is the Number 16. He can’t quite accept in his child, hood idol and inspiration, Rance Holloway (Alan Arkin), in a nursing home. Carrell can barely contain himself when he begins to express just how big an impression Hol- loway left. Arkin’s reaction is priceless, an inspired combination of “Yeah, yeah, get on with it” eye and head roll that once again underlines his comedic indispensability. In a film where Carell and Jim Carrey do their best to out-mug each other, the real magic is Arkin’s (and Steve Buscemi’s) exalted underplaying. Ditto for Olivia Wilde who, with Butter and Burt Wonderstone, is blossoming into an accomplished light comedienne right before our eyes. TV veteran Don Scardino directs. With James Gandolfini and Brad Garrett. 2013. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**Jack the Giant Slayer** — A bag containing cholesterol-free, nutrient-dense seeds that have the power to change the world falls into the wrong hands. Fee-fi-ho-hum! All of the costumes, elaborate sets, lush cin- ematography (thank you, Newton Thomas Sigel!), and naturalistic use of depth don’t amount to a hill of beans in this giant time-sayer. Talk about a colossal comedown: this is brought to you by Bryan Singer and Christopher McQuarrie, the team behind The Wolverine. This was co-written by Darren Lemke which might explain why all the CG behemoth looks like something out of Street 3D). Nicholas Hoult should have stuck with warm (as opposed to cyclopean) bodies, while the rest of the lettered cast (who should have known better) — Ewan McGregor, Stanley Tucci, Eddie Marsan, Ian McShane, and Bill Nighy — are along for the paycheck. 2013. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE)

**The Last Exorcism Part II** — Things were going so well for Nell (Ashley Bell) in the group home where she was deposited after a bizarre giggling that went down in the first Last Exorcism. But the demon Abalam refuses to allow Nell to move on. For 75 minutes, Ed Gas-Donnelly’s film chugs along with the requisite amount of shriek- ing violin strings, schlock-shocks, and radio transmissions that only her oracle can hear. Then suddenly, the proceedings veer in the direction of nutty. Neither priest nor fundamentalist was invited to the casting-out process (at this point it’s Calder (David Jensen), a corporate suit, who performs the cleansing. SPOILER ALERT! I’ve seen just about every filmed exorcism there is, and to the best of my knowledge, this is the first time the exorcist takes the “kill or cure” approach. But while the ending didn’t entirely satisfy me, it was exciting enough that I didn’t leave the theater angry. 2013. — S.M. ★ (AMC PALM PROMENADE; REGAL PARKWAY PLAZA; ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA)

**Lincoln** — Four score and 150 minutes later, Spielberg shifted into his John Ford mode with this giant, myth-bolstering Golden Book of a movie. As the Civil War rages on, we open with a moment lifted from Saving Private Ryan: a shorter, but equally anonymous massacre. Inasmuch as it fails to properly set the mood and tone of this otherwise absorbing gabfest, the scene is as spectacularly executed as it is worthless. (As my friend Jim Hemphill said once the initial bloodbath was over, “The closest thing to an action sequence is Tommy Lee Jones holding up his hairpiece.”) Moving on, we find Lincoln’s ear being bent by a returning black soldier while The Great Emancipator is seated at a railway station. The soldier, after spilling out the future of African-American relations for both the audience and Honest Abe, is conveniently bowed out of the proceedings. In his place, comic relief appears in the form of James Spader, Tim Blake Nelson, and John Hawkes. Their schtick feels like a reprise of Snee, Snoop, and Stitch from Fleischer’s animated version of Gutierrez. Travels. And what of the rest of the cast, you ask? For the first time in his career, Daniel Day Lewis is the clone and the audience voice do much of the acting for him; he needed a little more Bill the Butcher here, and a little less Left Foot. Sally Field performs as if nothing happened. She electronically pilfers from middle-class citizens ($500,000) for the paycheck. 2013. — M.L. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Lore** — A loser’s history of World War II. Fifteen-year-old Lore and her three younger siblings have spent their lives in a happy dream of German supremacy. Now the dream is ending: fires must be burned, valuables gathered, the family dog put down. Mama and Papa must go to prison. The kids must make their way across country to find refuge. What follows is an exploration of unmade civilization. Food, shelter, and hygiene become uncertain goods, and a boat ride across the river may carry a nasty cost. And bedrock convictions about what it means to be German and good (or Jewish and bad) are broken by blunt experience. Director Cate Shortland plays against the ugliness of events by giving us a Germany saturated in color and full of nature in soft focus. Here and there, the practice feels indulgent, even sentimental. But Shortland’s pacing is sure, and her story is satisfying. 2012. — M.L. ★★★ (LANDMARK LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Mama** — Boy kills girl and self, thus forcing their young daughters, Victoria (Megan Charpentier) and Lilly (Isabelle Nélisse), to spend five years in a deserted cabin being raised by mom’s ghost. The feral siblings are eventually captured and placed in the home of their father’s twin brother (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) and his girlfriend, a brunette, bobbed, and raccoon-eyed Jessi Chastain. Unless your nerves can’t stand the shrieking violins that accompany every popping head, there is not a legitimate jolt in the entire picture. Logic never enters into it: noontime sun pours through the windows as Chastain chases the girls for being up past their bedtime. When a Mama-induced fall places Coster-Waldau (“is it Scott Speedman?”) in a comatose state, a nonplussed Chastain goes about her life as if nothing happened. The lift from Marnie, Rear Window, and Un Chien Andalou show that director and co-screenwriter Andrés Muschietti did his homework. But the manner in which he struggles in the homages proves that he learned nothing from his teachers. With only two expressions in her acting kit — smug and more pained — Chastain is rapidly becoming her generation’s answer to Harrison Ford. The biggest stiff in this spook show is Daniel Kahn, who barely reg- isters in the perfunctory role of an earnest sawbones bent on rescuing the girls. Throw Mama from the multiplex. ★★★★★ (ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA)

**Mental** — An Australian politician/abSEN- tee father (Anthony Hopkins) said that news of his wife’s nervous breakdown leak- ing out will ruin his chances for re-election, throws the minions in a “looney bin” and hires an earthy, in-the-ozone hitchhiker (Toni Colette) and her attack dog to babysit his hypochondriacal daughters. Finally, Uncle Buck (Anne Heche) right. All it needed was writer-director P.J. Hogan to mine his life story as source material for rich autobiog- raphical fodder. A wild ride of a movie that paves its path to redemption with ingenuity and intoxicating Technicolor cobblestones. Once again, all eyes are on the fabulous Ms. Colette, who fell in love with the character while being regaled by Hogan’s stories of her during the making of “Muriel’s Wedding.” With Muriel, My Best Friend’s Wedding, and now Mental, director currently at work has done more to elevate chick flicks to an art form than P.J.
The existing footage by shooting the entire ward, choosing to conform his narrative to young voters, the country's two undeclared biological clock kicks in. 2012. — M.L.

**Olympus Has Fallen** — Why can’t we just let that year-old image on hold long enough to sit back and enjoy the damn movie? The question comes up — particularly in the summer months — with Salt in the frame. Olympus Has Fallen is the answer to discerning action fans’ prayers: an arstlessly squirming, seat-shifting blockbuster that will get your eyes off the White House hostage, and get you to Gerber Butler, a disgraced former secret agent who plans on mending Cooper’s heart by putting him back in touch with his ex, who plans on mending Cooper’s heart by putting him back in touch with his ex. Pauline Collins’ one noble purpose, narrates the voiceover. Their one noble purpose, narrates the voiceover. (Dude’s a teenage dancer, and uncertain parents of the second, the people and their wracked interiors: the first 110 minute mark left me gasping for air. Why?) The film is an overexposed snap shot as they stroll), or both. Even a musical number is rehashed, and unnecessary (and persistent) employment of hand-held cinematography. If you can afford The Rock’s salary, surely a tripod can’t be that big an expense. The supporting cast — including Susan Sarandon, Barry Pepper, and Benjamin Bratt — is unfortunately understated. 2013. — M.L.★★★★★

**Rise of the Guardians** — Caring the great and powerful Oz (James Franco, making quick reparations for his colorless work on The Wiz prequel) as a gimnastic wrestler, the role generally reserved for a pale Asian man who just wants to connect. Julie (Teresa Palmer) is a spunky blonde from the other side of the tracks. Her father built to keep corpses like it away from decent people like her daughter. Dad just hates corpses - one of ate his wife. Scoot McNairy’s just another wheel of the American government’s (if you shoot us, don’t do it). Those expecting two hours of non-stop punches and explosions are in for a rude awakening. Former stuntman-turned-writer/director, Ric Roman Waugh, racks Dwayne Johnson’s world with a fast and furious genre storyline that doubles as a dead-on assault against the war on drugs. Under federal laws known as mandatory minimums, Johnson’s son is sentenced to 10 years unless he ruts other drug traffickers. The kid is small person, but he doesn’t know it. High profile kingspin government is the affair, so dad enters the drug world in search of a bigger bust to help lessen his boy’s jail time. The film’s only drawback is its unrelenting non-stop punches and explosions are in for a rude awakening. Former stuntman turned-writer/director, Ric Roman Waugh, racks Dwayne Johnson’s world with a fast and furious genre storyline that doubles as a dead-on assault against the war on drugs. Under federal laws known as mandatory minimums, Johnson’s son is sentenced to 10 years unless he ruts other drug traffickers. The kid is small person, but he doesn’t know it. High profile kingspin government is the affair, so dad enters the drug world in search of a bigger bust to help lessen his boy’s jail time. The film’s only drawback is its unrelenting non-stop punches and explosions are in for a rude awakening. 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Spring is close. A beautiful snake, the first of the season. I touch its scaly surface, there is movement. A rosy boa, still cool. Most are empty and torn up. Adidas, Roxy, most brands I don’t recognize. backpacks: North Face, Jansport, Hello Kitty, zero for shedding gear and pants. Fourteen (area codes 310 and 559), a Mexican coin. scraps with L.A. and Fresno phone numbers. The empty parking lot is fenced and gated to keep out trespassers, but homeless individuals regularly sleep near the entrance and on the side of the building. Taggers have defaced the building and mailbox multiple times and tagged for-sale signs erected by CB Richard Ellis. The half-square-block property is not considered “abandoned” under the city’s ordinance passed last October, but under the “vacant properties program” instituted in 1996, it could be considered a “blight and eyesore to the community.” And it might “pose serious threats to the public’s health, safety and welfare of surrounding residents and adjacent properties.” Scott E. Grant lives on Arizona Street across from the building. In an interview, Grant said that police have responded to his complaints in the past about “loudly arguing” homeless trespassers, but, he said, “AT&T is ultimately responsible” for dealing with conditions there. continued on page 86
San Diego Reader March 28, 2013

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**ENCINITAS**

**Del Taco out, In-N-Out in**

An end to fast-food rumors

The privately owned, five-state In-N-Out Burger chain has secured property just east of the I-5 at Encinitas Blvd — currently the site of a Del Taco. Meetings with city planners will take place this week.

The rumor has been floating around for years, with vice president of the chain’s operations, Carl Van Fleet, stating in an article published here in April of 2009 that In-N-Out was aware of Encinitas and wanted to have a location there. He indicated finding a freeway-close site with enough space was the challenge.

John, pulling away from the Del Taco drive-thru with his order in is lap, said he will miss Del Taco. But, as he gobbled down his Del Taco crinkle-cut french fries (noted by connoisseurs as the chain having the third best fries — McDonald’s and In-N-Out, respectively, lead the pack in consumer polls), John stated he will like In-N-Out, too.

**KEN HARRISON, MARCH 18**

**IMPERIAL BEACH**

**Imperial sand a threat to estuary**

Spreading south of original dumping site, sand could block marsh outlet

San Diego National Wildlife Refuge biologists are monitoring the movement of the 450,000 cubic yards of sand dumped on Imperial Beach shores last fall, worried that southbound sand will block the river mouth as it did in 2010.

“If enough of this comes down here and settled or gets flushed into the river mouth, we’ve got a serious problem,” U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Brian Collins said. “The estuary’s ability to flush out with the tides is vital to the health of the estuary and all the threatened and endangered species that live here.”

The sand sneaking into the estuary is the latest mess arising from the San Diego Association of Governments–financed “beach replenishment” project that dumped 450,000 cubic yards of sand on the beach near the pier in September and October. By December, the uneven dumping of sand left ponds next to buildings on Seacoast Drive, and residents found garages full of water trapped by the sand bars; those conditions left them worried about the buildings’ elevator shafts and foundations.

Repeated rearrangement of the sand and trench-digging — bulldozers on the beach — have not solved the problems, residents say. The estuary’s coast front starts south of the affected buildings.

So far, tides and swells have carried the sand 3800 feet — about 3/4 of a mile — south of the original dumping site, creeping toward the mouth of the largest and last undivided wetlands in Southern California. The estuary flushes twice a day with saltwater as the tide rises and drops, creating a unique salt marsh where a half dozen endangered or threatened species of birds make their homes. If the river mouth is blocked, the salt marsh begins to die.

Collins and other estuary staff check the beach north of the river regularly and say the difference between native sand and imported sand is pretty clear.

“The new sand is very coarse and absorbs water,” Collins said. “It poses a special hazard to the estuary.”

**LUCY D. BARKER, MARCH 19**
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1. Who wrote "Nothing Compares 2 U"?
2. In which country are the "99 Luftballons" singer’s roots?
3. Who directed "Swan Lake"?
4. What is the British ref. for wordsmiths?
5. What is the "35/40" in the title of Jim Davis’ cartoon dog?

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

1. A. In the real small print
2. All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
3. Late entries will not be considered.
4. We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or gimmicks required.
5. Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

12. Movie released in 2010 Apple product
13. Blues guitarist....Mahal
14. Org. that trademarked "Pony Express"
15. Shepherd of "The View"
16. First woman to go into space
17. One of the 48 states
18. Texas city named after a Ukraine city
19. Piano sonata
20. "Hold your horses!"
21. "Thru the Looking Glass"
22. "Island of the Blue Dolphins"
23. "Sky's the limit"
24. "Time Capsule"
25. "9 to 5"
26. "Nosferatu"
27. "Dancing With the Stars"
28. "A Scanner Darkly"
29. "Leatherface"
30. Describe today’s weather
31. "Swan Lake" move
32. "I Dream of Jeannie"
33. "So I Could Be Near Him"
34. "99 Luftballons"
35. "The Tortoise and the Hare"
36. "Cardiac"
37. "American Beauty"
38. "Back to the Future"
39. "Back to the Future"
40. "The Godfather"

Down

1. "Swan Lake"
2. "The Ten Commandments"
3. "One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest"
4. "The Incredibles"
5. "A Christmas Carol"
6. "The Myth of Sisyphus"
7. "Sex and the City"
8. "Enter the Dragon"
9. "The Man Who Fell to Earth"
10. "The Wizard of Oz"
11. "The Exorcist"
12. "The Great Gatsby"
13. "Wild at Heart"
14. "La La Land"
15. "The Big Lebowski"
16. "The Social Network"
17. "The Hurt Locker"
18. "The Shawshank Redemption"
20. "The Lord of the Rings"
21. "The Godfather Part II"
22. "The Godfather Part II"
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36. "The Godfather Part II"
37. "The Godfather Part II"
38. "The Godfather Part II"
39. "The Godfather Part II"
40. "The Godfather Part II"
To the Guy With the Overly Firm Handshake,

Ouch, guy. Big time ouch. What are you trying to prove, exactly? Your superiority as a man? You could’ve just asked. I’d be the first to admit that you’re much tougher than me. I’d tell everyone! In fact, I’d put it in writing … if you hadn’t just turned my hand into mush.

Sincerely,

Pained

OPEN LETTERS
BY JORY JOHN & AVERY MONSEN

March 28, 2013

CHECK OUT OUR NEW BOOK, ALL MY FRIENDS ARE STILL DEAD: WWW.NO_MORE_FRIENDS.NET


Win a 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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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:

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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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.

MEDIUM:

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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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.

HARD:

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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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.

EVIL:

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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

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 SDRreader.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 puzzles 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.

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit www.OReader.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:

Faxes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print through the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

David Burkwhite, San Diego, 8.
John Shumate, San Diego, 7.
Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 8.
Jeanito Gerardo, San Diego, 7.
George Eliam, Vista, 6.


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San Diego, $950. Studio+B+1BA. 600sqft. Fully furnished. Great location! Close to all. Will not last if you can find one better. Call 619-777-8206 or 858-817-7627 for more information.

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LEAD STORY
California activist Jonathan Friedman finally got his day in court in January, but a Marin County judge quickly rejected his argument that he is entitled to use the state's carpool lanes accompanied only by a sheath of corporate papers in the passenger seat. During the 2012 Republican primaries, Mitt Romney famously asserted a corporation's general right under the law to be treated as a "person." The judge denied that the state legislative real estate law was intended only to reduce traffic clutter and that driving with no passenger except corporate papers was unrelated to that goal. Friedman told reporters that he had been carrying the papers around for years, hoping to be challenged.

Questionable Judgments
Neighborhood observers reported in December that the asbestos-removal "crew" working at the former YWCA in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, consisted merely of volunteers. Younger teenagers who are students at the local religious Buckeye Education School. State regulations require that asbestos (known to cause deadly respiratory illnesses) be handled only by certified contractors using hazardous-materials gear.

BUCKEYE and other officials, while emphasizing that the students were volunteers, declined to say who authorized them to work.

In November, Tokyo's Kenichi Ito, 29, bested his own Guinness World Record by a full second (down to 17.47 seconds) in the 100-meter dash — on all fours. It runs like a Patas monkey, which he has long admired, and which (along with his self-described monkey-like face) inspired him nine years ago to take up "four-legged" running. He reported no trouble only once when he was running mountains and was hit by a hunter who mistook him for a wild boar.

Cultural Diversity
The U.S. Congress may suffer dismal popularity ratings (less savory than head lace, according to one survey), but it is scanty compared to India's legislatures, which contain six accused rapists at the state level and two in the national parliament. Thirty-six state officials, as well as those who have been charged with sexual assault (according to India's Association for Democratic Reforms). In fact, the association reported in December that 162 of the lower house of Parliament's 552 members currently face criminal charges. The problem is compounded by India's notoriously paralyzed justice system, which practically ensures that the charges will be unremedied for years, if not decades.

— Many Japanese seem to reject smart- phones in favor of a low-tech 2002 Fujitsu cell phone, according to a January Wall Street Journal dispatch — because it can help philanderers keep their affairs from lovers' prying eyes. The phones lack sophisticated tracking features — plus, a "buried" privacy mode gives off only stealthy Dials while others are looking.

The executive for Fujitsu said, "If Tiger Woods had [this phone], he wouldn't have gotten in trouble."

— China nation's legislature passed a law in December to establish that people have a duty to visit their aged parents periodically. China's rapid urbanization has not developed nursing homes and similar facilities to keep pace with the population, and sponsors of the law said it would give the parents a legal right to sue their children for failing to obey them.

Latest Religious Messages
Senior pastor Claude Gilliland III was forced to admit his flocked to the New Heart Church in Cleburne, Texas, in January that he is a convicted sex offender and that he and his ex-wife had worked in the pornography industry. Gilliland, 54, served four years in prison in the 1990s for sexually assaulting his ex-wife, but in January was nonetheless defended by his congregation. "If we believe in the redemptive work of Christ," said one parishioner, "then this man is a miracle." (Gilliland believes he needs no redemption for the assault, for he was innocent of that — but that he had done other bad things during that time that did require redemption.)

— Prophet Cindy Jacobs said in a January internet broadcast that God has revealed himself to her by mysteriously removing critical shortings in her life, such as her car's well-worn tires that just kept rolling. "I remember one time that I had a pair of shoes that I wore and wore and wore and gave it just — for years, these shoes did not wear out."

— Dublin, Ireland, inventor David Bonney recently decided to change the marketing of his new shoes to "Atheist Shoes." Two years earlier, he had started the business with the idea of selling "Christian" shoes that contained water in the soles so that wearers could walk on water.

news of the Web
by Chuck Shepherd
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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