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**NEWS TICKER**

**Dentist and wife stole $260K from patients**

Twenty-two victims named in criminal case — all elderly

*Encinitas* — Dr. Edward J. Bodek, 60, and his wife Mary Rose, 56, admitted this week that they have been stealing from their patients. They ran a dental practice at 317 North El Camino Real in Encinitas for more than 20 years.

Mary Rose worked the front desk at their practice. She was office manager and financial controller; there were no other employees. The couple had an apartment in nearby Carlsbad.

Dr. Bodek was arrested on March 12. Mary Rose was arrested two days later when she disembarked a plane at Lindbergh Field, after arriving from the East Coast. Investigators said they found more than 100 credit cards and store gift cards in her luggage. Mary Rose reportedly told authorities that she had rented 17 storage units in Maryland, where the couple owned a home.

The couple has been held in lieu of $1.5 million bail for over three months. They were charged with 45 felonies each, including conspiracy and theft from elders. There are 22 named victims in a 40-page criminal complaint signed by prosecutor Anna Winn.

All of the alleged victims are elderly, some over 90 years of age. Many were longtime patients of Dr. Bodek “and initially accepted his explanation that the charges were a mistake,” according to Winn.

Patients had been complaining to law enforcement for at least a year that unauthorized charges were appearing on their credit cards, usually after their regular dental appointment with Dr. Bodek, the prosecutor stated in court documents. And the surprise charges were often repeated within days. The amounts were substantial, from $2000 to $10,000 each. Whenever a victim contacted the dental office, the prosecutor alleged, they were told “there must have been a computer error”; but the promised correction never happened.

More than $260,000 in disputed charges were alleged; each Bodek admitted taking more than $65,000.

Investigators searched their California apartment and dental offices. “These locations appeared to be occupied by hoarders with boxes and shopping bags stacked on top of each other,” officials reported. “Only a small pathway was clear through the apartment home.”

Thirty different storage units rented by the Bodeks were inspected. They were full of women’s clothing and expensive handbags and fur coats; many items from Saks Fifth Avenue, Nordstrom, and Neiman Marcus, with price tags still attached, were found according to Winn.

The Bodeks admitted guilt last week, each pleading guilty to three felonies: elder financial abuse and two counts of stealing another’s credit card information to commit fraud. In the deal, 42 other felonies were dismissed.

Eva Knott, June 29

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**Utilities battle the inevitable: rooftop solar**

By Don Bauder

A pitched battle is raging on California rooftops. On one side are the state’s major electric utilities — San Diego Gas & Electric, Southern California Edison, and Pacific Gas & Electric. They have intimate friends on Wall Street and in Washington D.C., armies of lobbyists, and piles of cash to shovel at state politicians. The head of the California Public Utilities Commission is a former executive of Southern California Edison, as is the chairman of the assembly’s Committee on Utilities and Commerce.

On the other side of this war is inevitability — economic and scientific: rooftop solar power (along with other renewable energy sources, such as wind and hydro) will someday triumph.

To protect their profits and business model, and to keep their stock prices rising, utilities “are attempting to hold back a tsunami,” says Bill Powers of San Diego’s Powers Engineering. “Solar is coming. We have to transition from an insecure power supply — nuclear — and also from fossil fuel plants because of climate and greenhouse gas implications.”

Now, utilities depend on centralized facilities — particularly those using fossil fuels, such as coal and gas, or nuclear power. Reformers

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**Widespread rooftop solar installations frighten big utility companies whose business model relies on centralized generating plants.**

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continued on page 30
say these companies must go to a new model of “distributed,” or decentralized, generation — particularly rooftop solar. Because electric power plants account for 40 percent of carbon emissions, the Obama administration intends to tighten regulations on the plants.

“We are at a pivotal crossroads, where utilities have to look at a different business model that focuses more on distributed, small-scale resources, such as rooftop solar,” says Nicole Capretz of National City’s Environmental Health Coalition.

But the old business model is very profitable. Today, utilities make those profits by estimating how much they will have to spend on power plants, transmission lines, and the like; deciding how much they can get away with customers who don’t have solar and have to subsidize those who do. “Utilities claiming they are looking out for ratepayers only are attempting to hold back a tsunami,” says Capretz.

most of what they want. The more infrastructure they build, the fatter their profits. And that infrastructure generally worsens the environment.

Consider San Diego Gas & Electric. In late March, an administrative law judge of the California Public Utilities Commission decided that the utility deserved a fat rate hike — $6.55 a month for the typical electric consumer using 500 kilowatts per month. The commission will make the final decision. Consistently through the years, San Diego Gas has had the highest electric rates in the nation. The stock of its parent, Sempra Energy, has soared at double the rate of the overall market for a decade. But greed trumps the safety of future generations.

Fortunately, controversies about greenhouse gases and staggeringly high utility rates, among many things, have brought rooftop solar to the forefront, particularly in a metro area such as San Diego, which has abundant sunshine.

The utilities keep fighting. A study by the Edison Electric Institute, a trade association for the industry, complained of “disruptive challenges” such as distributed energy resources. Indeed, the institute, as well as utility executives, have wailed that the industry will be in a “death spiral” if rooftop solar takes hold significantly. Death spiral? Solar accounts for 2.5 to 3 percent of California’s electricity usage; California is the number-one solar state, although it’s only sixth on a per capita basis. Los Angeles County leads the state in rooftop generation and San Diego is second.

California has a net metering arrangement. At night, when you are drawing power, your utility bill rises. During the day, if the sun is shining and you have rooftop solar, the meter goes backward as you provide power to the grid. So that energy you provide is deducted from your bill.

Utilities complain that net metering costs them more than $1 billion a year and that it is unfair to customers who don’t have solar and have to subsidize those who do. ”Utilities claiming they are looking out for ratepayers only are attempting to hold back a tsunami,” says Capretz.

_City Lights_ continued on page 30

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**UNDER THE RADAR**

Romney’s neighbors go for broke

Former Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and his wife Ann Romney have been lobbying hard to build a new dream mansion by the sea in La Jolla’s tony Barber Tract, going so far as to dispatch Mrs. Romney to appear before the San Diego City Council to complain about sloppy permit-notice-giving that was gumming up the works. “Notice defects can be problematic for transparent government and public participation,” she told the council. “I urge you to make sure that stronger protections are in place in the future so that permits are processed efficiently and correctly and the public is afforded the proper notice and opportunity to be heard.”

Her plea parted downtown’s bureaucratic waters, efficiently and correctly and the public is afforded strong support, “she told the council. “I urge you to make sure that stronger protections are in place in the future so that permits are processed efficiently and correctly and the public is afforded the proper notice and opportunity to be heard.”

But all is not the drudgery of the day-to-day planning and zoning issues found in a typical oceanfront residential area. Every July 4th, the association puts together a well-appointed parade, featuring antique cars and nattily-dressed, flag-waving vintage residents meandering through the streets of the exclusive residential district, as described by the group’s newsletter, the Barber Tract Times: “We will follow our usual parade route, with patriotic music, through the White Sands of La Jolla’s property, to bring holiday spirit to our lovely retired neighbors. Decorate yourself, your bikes, scooters, skateboards, golf carts and convertibles, we love it all!”

Besides the Romneys, other mega-millionaires ensconced in the tract include the couple’s close friend and fellow Mormon John Miller and his wife and family, owners of the former cliff Robertson estate just next door to Ann and Mitt. Miller, a partner with Romney’s son Taggart Romney in the lucrative private-equity outfit Solamere Capital, has been busy on a lavish remodel of the historic 1.4-acre beachfront estate.

But even with all that cash floating around the neighborhood, the Barber Tract Association faces uncertain times, warns this month’s newsletter. “The year 2013 has brought some disappointing membership news. For over 15 years our neighborhood has maintained an average of 125 active families in our membership. This year our membership drive yielded 75 families. Unfortunately, the decrease of 50 members leaves us with a short fall in our budget of $1,750.00.

“We are not certain why our membership has fallen off so dramatically,” the newsletter goes on to say. “There have been no complaints forwarded to the President of the association. The dues we all pay annually provide us with the printing cost of the newsletter, the website, the insurance that covers our association, and the events we all enjoy such as the July 4th Parade, the Annual Brunch, [and] the Holiday Party.”

Magic hemp awards

Dr. Bronner’s Magic Soaps All-One-God-Faith, Inc., the Escondido hemp oil-mongering outfit — whose president David Bronner was busted last year during a protest in which he locked himself into a cage on the sidewalk in front of the White House with 12 industrial-grade hemp plants — has picked a 2013 candidate for California lieutenant governor. It’s Democratic state senator Mark Leno, who has received the “Legislator of the Year” award from Vote Hemp, “the nation’s leading grassroots organization dedicated to removing barriers to growing industrial hemp.” According to a news release, “Mr. Leno invited hemp business leaders that spend millions of dollars each year importing hemp from Canada, China, and Europe to testify at hearings. The award will be presented at the annual Hemp

_City Lights_ continued on page 30
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**LETTERS**

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

**To Be A Contender**

Regarding Brandon Hernández’s comment on Saint Archer Brewery (Feast: “Beer of the Week,” June 27). I agree that Saint Archer has come in with more of a whimper than a bang. But...they currently have Yiga Miyashiro as head brewer. Yiga won reams of medals (well, that’s an exaggeration) in top U.S. beer competitions as brewer for Ocean Beach Pizza Port.

Because of this, I’m expecting Saint Archer to be a contender for best San Diego brewery in short order. In fact, I’m telling beer joints I frequent to try to secure an account with Saint Archer as soon as possible, for their own good. Enough said.

Chris Bowd
via email

**The Logic of Some**

Regarding SD on the QT: “Yoga = Satanism,” June 6, wherein yoga is proved to be evil because there exists a picture of Satan sitting in a posture similar to a standard yoga posture.

By that logic, Christians are proved to be Nazis because in worship they so often extend their right arms and palms up at a 45-degree angle — just like Hitler’s followers saluted him.

But then, by the logic of some, the id is the intellect!

Myke Smitley
via email

**No Dumping**

Re: Diary of a Diva, “Calm the F Down,” May 23.
Carelessly unloading on others just passes along your stress.

If you’re so busy and important, why don’t you have powdered protein in your cabinet? (Your husband would have been smarter to pick up Greek yogurt.)

In our culture, dumping is a cause of road rage and domestic violence. So, see a therapist, swallow a pill, or take up something athletic.

Or, better yet, learn how to meditate!

Alexis Page Montgomery
via email

**Callous Citizens**

It’s absolutely disgusting that breathing the air is a problem for people in Barrio Logan. (June 27 cover story: “Hard to Breathe in Barrio Logan”)

This is America’s finest city? How can we, as citizens of San Diego, be so callous as to even allow a whole neighborhood to become poisoned by the very air they breathe? Having smog-producing industries next to families who then experience all manner of respiratory disorders is shameful. It shouldn’t take several years for the San Diego City Council to respond to this kind of inhumanity.

Where are the churches? Does not anyone really care about the environmental conditions within our own city?

Thanks to the Reader for alerting us to this tragedy. Let us hope it leads to some kind of positive action.

M. Laurel Gray
El Cajon

**Ghost Medic**

I always pride myself on knowing the goings-on within the EMS world. It honestly is, at times, a very dark and sinister place.

From the outside, the public believes it to be a place where heroes walk, and everyone involved in the program is tantamount to Superman or a Star Wars Jedi knight. However, it’s more like the scene in Julius Caesar, where everyone stabs him with their dagger, including his closest friend, Brutus.

Just to make it all nice and clear, these Goliaths, AMR and Rural/Metro, have manipulated the system of EMS delivery in this region to the point of no return. It
Considering Laser Vision Correction?

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T. McClean

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is your doctor “iLASIK” certified?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Will your exam, surgery and follow-up care be provided by the same doctor?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do they use the new “Iris Registration Tracking Device” for a safer, more effective procedure?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do they offer 4th generation FS Intralase to create a safer, faster, more controlled, bladeless all-laser procedure?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do they have hidden prices or add-on fees?</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will they diagnose your vision needs and recommend the most appropriate refractive surgery (LASIK, CK, PRK, Multifocal Implants/ReSTOR, etc.)?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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My results are fantastic. I can see better now, and I look just great. I am so happy I went to Dr. Katzman.

E. Patterson

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ESCONDIDO
Battle for the greens
Golf-course owners counter anti-development petition with suit
The bankrupt Escondido Country Club property’s new owners, Stuck in the Rough (a West Hollywood–based company), filed a lawsuit against the Escondido Country Club Homeowners Organization (ECCHO) and

ECCHO president Jerry Swadley says, “If [Stuck in the Rough] doesn’t get what it wants, it will fence the property and let it deteriorate...”

the City of Escondido on June 27.

The lawsuit follows a recent announcement by the homeowners’ association that their petition drive to stop development of the golf course was coming to a successful completion. Says the lawsuit:

“Stuck in the Rough states that the initiative is not legal and requests the City of Escondido not certify the signatures or take any action to approve or place the initiative on the ballot.... [Stuck in the Rough] requests that the court declare that if the initiative is adopted, the City of Escondido will owe Stuck in the Rough ‘just compensation for the taking of the property.’

In a statement, Jerry Swadley, president of the homeowners’ association, wrote, “This lawsuit is just the latest in a long string of actions by SITR designed to intimidate ECCHO into submission.

“SITR says it wants a project that is sensitive to the community and that will improve our neighborhood, but the only project it has ever shown us or the City consisted of 450 houses on postage stamp lots... It says it is reasonable, but is has told us and the City that if it doesn’t get what it wants, it will fence the property and let it deteriorate for 10 years.

“It is a shame that SITR is wasting taxpayers’ money by suing the city, but at least the truth will finally come out and the City Council will have a chance to defend Escondido.”

MICHAEL MULLEN, JUNE 28

VISDUH JUNE 29 @ 11:39 A.M.
The comments made by Mr. Swadley are correct. SITR makes noises as if it wants to put a deal together that makes everyone happy, yet it's using a lawsuit to intimidate ECCHO and the city. At least now the owner has pushed the city onto the same side of the fence as the HOA. Mayor “Meaty Mouth” Abed and various members of the council were talking from both sides of their mouths and trying to keep the city out of it. Well, now the city is in it, like it or not.

NORMAL HEIGHTS
“Sewer line project from hell”
Rowdy neighborhood meeting on project issues gets cop duty
On the evening of June 26, about three dozen people from the neighborhood around 33rd Street in Normal Heights finally learned the details of what one resident called “the sewer line project from hell.”

Five San Diego police officers also were there, working on overtime to monitor the peaceful but rowdy meeting.

Project 767, originally awarded in March 2012 at $2.9 million, was supposed to last about 28 weeks. Instead, the price went up to $3.8 million and the project stretched to a year, during which sections of the pipe were torn up again and again — or so it seemed to residents.

The streets were trenched deep, and heavy equipment, steel plates, and enormous pipes blocked driveways and provided continual noise and dust. The water main was broken and cut off at least five times, power lines were crushed (causing a ten-hour-long power outage), and streets (from 1-805 to Felton Street and from El Cajon Boulevard to Meade Avenue) were closed again and again.

“What we really want is an apology, and what we’re getting is a laundry list of what occurred,” a 33rd Street resident named Ted

said at the meeting. “We should have been told while we were living through it.”

Dave Zoumaras from the city’s Department of Public Works explained that when the contractor dug down the 18 to 20 feet to get to the sewer line, well below the water lines at 3 to 5 feet, they found unstable soil conditions, made worse by the “crush weight” of the 6 to 10 feet of heavy, wet clay above it.

“We expect there to be problem areas, but we do not expect every foot of a project to be a challenge,” Zoumaras said. “It was a struggle every foot of the way.”

The dry, loose soil beneath the clay shifted so much that Cass Construction had to fill trenches before they went home because they weren’t stable enough to cover and leave overnight. Zoumaras said. And the water line they were supposed to leave in place and dig around was at least 60 years old and broke repeatedly. Replacing the water line had to be incorporated into the job.

continued on page 34
Eating with Assholes

From now on, the only asshole I’m eating with is myself. Really. The only thing I hate more than shitty service is people who treat the service like shit. Rant started.

Now, blatant negligence is one thing; otherwise, don’t be an ass.

There’s nothing wrong with offering feedback on likes and dislikes; that’s a way to ensure quality or make things better. It’s even okay to be critical, so long as it’s meant to be constructive, not insulting.

So, here are a few things to keep in mind before giving your thoughts on that restaurant, meal, dish, or component that wasn’t quite to your tastes. At least, if you’re planning to offer them to me.

You’re not the only diner in the restaurant

As much as I’m sure the chef would love to provide a custom tasting menu accommodating your 17 different dietary restrictions in the middle of rush on a holiday weekend, it’s always feasible.

The waitress at the neighborhood bistro let your water glass stay empty for an entire table, I end up looking like even more of a jerk. But if I’m at home.

If you’re a customer to the restaurant, you can ask for a menu item left off the menu or ask for something off the menu and pay at cost, then you’re going to have to cook it paying for labor, skill, the setting, and the cost of ingredients. There’s more to a menu price than ingredients.

So don’t act like it. You won’t like everything, even okay to be critical, but don’t be insulting.

As much as I’m sure the chef would love to provide a custom tasting menu accommodating your personal vendetta. End rant.

Check your ego

For all the talk of chefs with big egos, there are diners out there with bigger ones.

I don’t care if you’ve eaten all over the world or had better in L.A., Copenhagen, or Spain, for that matter. That doesn’t make it okay to belittle. If your palate is so refined, mention a few things you like. Not every dish has to be exquisite for it to be enjoyable, and your incessant nit-picking is killing everyone else’s good time.

Treat others like...

You know the rest of this one. If you’re disrespectful to the service team, you’re more than an asshole, you’re missing out on an opportunity to have a really enjoyable experience.

And if you really don’t like it, don’t go back.

There’s a natural cycle to these things; if it’s really bad, then the place won’t last.

You can save yourself the effort of trying to ruin reputations with your personal vendetta. End rant.

Carrot — coffee, yogurt, carrot jam

The tenth course, a point in most tastings when the savory side of sweet, and anything but an average carrot course.

To me, this felt like Chef Foshee’s way of saying, “Yes, vegetables really are a focus here.” Foshee brought out a large clay planting pot where the carrots had been roasted in a pot where the carrots had been roasted in a

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### Snowden Snowball?

**Area Hacker Releases Statement on Operation Peekaloo**

“*It’s simple common sense: we have to balance issues of presidential privacy with issues of Americans’ security.*

POSTING FROM, UM, SOMEWHERE IN THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO — Brandon Marsh, a hacker who works out of his mom’s Rancho Bernardo condominium, has come forward to *SD on the QT* to issue some clarifying remarks on *Operation Peekaloo*, the program by which he listens in on the FBI, the NSA, the CIA, the Justice Department, and even the Executive Branch of the United States government. (He posts information he deems pertinent at his website, OperationPeekaloo.gov.)

“President Obama has stated that his surveillance of the American people is transparent,” said Marsh. “That’s true, if by ‘transparent,’ you mean that it can’t be seen. Personally, I prefer ‘invisible,’ but I’m not here to argue word choice. Frankly, I found his principled welcoming of public debate about a program that was implemented without public debate inspiring. So I’m here to say a few words about why I am conducting Operation Peekaloo.”

“Look,” continued Marsh. “the president has already demonstrated that he is willing to use lethal force against United States citizens whom he deems a credible threat. The FBI has already admitted to domestic drone use. And now we know that the NSA has been gathering intel on us, the American people, for years now. All without our authorization. Clearly, there are some members of the United States government who pose a genuine threat to our well-being. Monitoring their activities is simply the prudent course of action. Of course the government can keep secrets for the sake of national security. But maintaining that security — you know, our security — requires that we keep an eye on them. I mean, it’s not like they’re gonna let us vote on this stuff.”

### Attracting the Wrong Element

**Charlie Carwell, student expelled because of abusive ex-pastor, tells his story**

GOLDEN HILL — A local student expelled from a Catholic school because of the danger his abusive ex-pastor posed to the campus, is taking his story to the national stage Friday on Good Afternoon America.

Charlie Carwell, who attended Holy Crow School in Golden Hill, spoke with *SD on the QT* about his expulsion and how he is paying the price for being a victim of priestly sexual abuse.

Carwell said that Willie Spankum, the principal at Holy Crow, knew about his situation at his last parish and that the pastor there abused him. Even now, Carwell said he fears him.

“I left,” said Carwell. “I told no one. I declined to press charges. I left the problem up to God and that’s what they tell you to do.”

Carwell said he thought he took proper actions in February, when he alerted the school that his former pastor had asked him to go for ice cream. So, when a maintenance worker spotted the cleric hearing confessions around campus, the school went on lockdown.

“Even that day, when Billy Harbiner received that very uncomfortable phone call and I was told I was only going to be out for the Feast of the Holy Innocents, I thought, I’m going to be back,” he said.

But after the incident, he received a letter from the school stating that for the safety of students, the school could not allow him to continue romping around campus in his special, alluring way.

His ex-pastor, Fr. Anton Rapacious, has a 20-plus-year history of questionable relationships with his altar boys.

Carwell has not been back to the school. Parents who spoke with *SD on the QT* off the record said they agreed with the school’s decision to expel Carwell, and some said they threatened to pull their children if the school did not take action against that “tempting little morsel with the tousled blond hair.”

“But there comes a point where you have to do...I don’t know, protect kids from predators,” said Carwell. “I think this is a prime example of why victims of sexual abuse do not come forward with their situation.”

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**Marriage Proposition Is nothing sacred?**

As the nation reacts to the Supreme Court’s refusal to recognize Prop 8, the California ballot initiative that outlawed gay marriage in this state, San Diego Congressman Duncan Hunter has called for another ballot initiative, this one also aimed at protecting marriage.

“On June 22,” said Hunter at a press conference this morning, “Escondido resident Abdul Ibrahim turned him in to police and told them he had stabbed his wife to death. On June 21, La Mesa resident Clyde Jay Hayen allegedly shot his wife of 54 years after she served him with divorce papers. Earlier this year, Alpine resident Justin Meltzer was sentenced to 40 years in prison for shooting his wife, whom he was divorcing. Also, San Diego resident Joseph Gotell was convicted for shooting his estranged wife. There are many threats to the institution of marriage, and all must be vigilantly guarded against. But clearly, the greatest threat facing marriage today is married people.

“Last week,” said city councilwoman Laurie Zapff at a recent council drinking session, “we had a 20-year veteran of the police force who left to take a job in Stockton. Stockton! You know what they have in Stockton? Nothing! Nothing, that is, but 20 percent more salary than we could afford to pay him. Plus lower home prices. But, still, Stockton!”

That is why, said Zapff, she and other concerned councilmembers have called for a task force to come up with ways to make San Diego a more appealing place for cops — short of, you know, paying them more.

The task force, named COPS? (Can Officers Please Stay?), has issued a few test proposals that will be presented in a public hearing at the Mission Valley Hooters on June 28.

The first of these is the so-called Arvelos Initiative, named for the former officer who was convicted of coercing women to let him grope them during traffic stops. “Being an officer is a stressful, sacrificial life,” reads the proposal. “Police keep the women of San Diego safe from rape, murder, mugging, theft, and a host of other crimes. Would it kill them to show a little gratitude? Why not give a piece to those who keep the peace! No harm done.”

Another is the Policeman’s Portable Protocol, which would allow off-duty officers to drink for free in any bar on their beat. “And not just the well crap, either. We’re talking top shelf booze. These men would take a bullet to keep you safe. Pour ‘em a slug of the good stuff.”

Finally, COPS? called upon San Diegans to consider committing fewer crimes on Mondays. “The only reason our officers are over-worked is because there is too much work for them to do. And what is their work? Catching bad guys. If everyone worked a little harder at following the rules, even for just one day a week, then our officers could take a well-deserved nap.”
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It’s in the details

My friend Heather is an accessory junkie. She has a habit of wearing basic maxi dresses with gorgeous jewelry. She always looks polished.

Meanwhile, whenever I wear accessories I feel like I am wearing a costume. Jewelry just isn’t my thing. With the exception of my engagement ring and a few bracelets, I steer clear of adornments.

Recently I ran into two ladies with very different styles that used accessories to complete their outfits.

Twenty-four-year-old Vanessa Farias paired a pair of basic black Zara leggings and a billowy Free People blouse with upscale accessories. She wore a signature Gucci bag ($995), oversized Prada sunglasses, and Henri Bendel jewelry.

Farias’s Bow necklaces range in price from $58 to $78. Her leather wrap bracelet retails for $88 and her chain-link bracelet is $68.

Farias’s ankle boots are from Zara. Vanessa’s favorite accessories are purses. While I was taking her photo, a Gucci employee approached her to clue her into the fact that Gucci was having a summer sale. “I’ll have to call my mom and let her know. She loves Gucci,” Farias told him.

Madewell employee Melissa Balban’s fashion choices were a tad less pricey. Balban wore pants, a denim jacket, and jewelry, all from Madewell, paired with Warby Parker glasses and an Urban Outfitters tee.

Balban’s pink and black bracelets retail for $12 at Madewell. Her nesting rings are $28.

Balban’s favorite wardrobe item are a pair of classic Levi’s cut-offs. Her fashion pet peeve is ironic T-shirts. ■

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OCEAN BEACH HOLLER
Peter & I spent most of Saturday, June 22nd walking and enjoying the streets and the entertainment during the 34th Street Fair. Peter painted one of the tiles from one of the murals that will be displayed on July 4th. He can’t wait to see his masterpiece. Thank you for a wonderful day! Alan DeValle

EL CAJON HOLLER
When the 52 freeway opened in 2012, did nobody look down the road and think “Hey, we might need to change the 67 south interchange to Interstate 8 to accommodate all this additional traffic.”

Get off the freeway, change lanes, underpass, clover leaf, merge, merge again, merge a third time to get back on the freeway.

How many deaths before a flyover is built?

VISTA HOLLER
Born and raised in Vista! If Vista was a woman I would ask her on a third date. The thing I love about Vista is that it’s perfection. Isn’t found in only one category but comes from nearly every aspect of our beautiful hill side town. From our unbeatable 72 degree, partly cloudy average climate to our pizza places, breweries and small Mexican shops, Vista has never failed to satisfy me! (Well maybe it’s law enforcement has, but that’s not the point!) I hope that other people in Vista feel the same way about this place and that if they are complaining about their life, to remember that instead of living in a cold grey place, they live in the best weathered town in our whole wonderful country!

SportingBox
By Patrick Daugherty

Left-handed sports

First thing, forget about polo. Left-handed people — make that left-handed play, was banned from polo in 1975. Nothing personal, apparently they’d had enough. So, too, with field hockey. Left-handed sticks are outlawed during the game.

I’ve never thought about left-handers and sports. I know left-handed pitchers are prized and left-handed boxers are said to have an advantage over right-handers. The theory being that right-handers typically fight other right-handers while lefties typically fight right-handers, too. Advantage lefty.

According to everybody minus one, lefties are, roughly, 10 percent of the population, a proportion that has remained constant, they say, for the past 10,000 years. And so it is with parrots, same 90/10 proportion, except the 90 goes to parrots who use their left foot to pick up stuff, and the 10 goes to parrots who favor their right foot. It’s a wonderful world.

Where does human left-handedness come from? ABC News reports that mothers over 40, fathers of any age is a match made in the bowels of hell. But, that’s only the beginning. A 2007 paper published in the Journal of Traumatic Stress says lefties are more prone to post-traumatic stress disorder than righties. Other ABC News slurs include the charge that lefties are angrier, more inhibited, more likely to be an alcoholic, more likely to be a delinquent or a dyslexic, have Crohn’s disease and ulcerative colitis.

A German Medical Association (GMA) article says left-handers have a higher risk for schizophrenia and ADHD. Not to overlook a higher risk of breast cancer. Not forgetting lefties are more accident-prone than righties and, while we’re at it, lefties might be more prone to fear. This is grim stuff and one wonders how these people survive and, frankly, is it contagious?

But wait! Finally! Some good news. Lefties are better at competitive sports. The GMA article says there are higher rates of left-handedness among elite athletes, particularly in sports that feature one-on-one competition, such as boxing, tennis, and fencing, but not, as you recall, polo or field hockey.

Which brings us to the Lisbon (Maine), Left-Hand Horseshoe League. Here’s a May 16 week-four dispatch from Team Rats leader Andy Capwell.

“It was a cold and rainy night of horseshoes last night at the Lisbon Left-Hand Club. Yes, we play in the rain! The biggest challenges last night during horseshoes were keeping the score sheet dry, keeping your hands dry, and staying warm. Throwing a good shoe just didn’t seem as important last night. Last night we did not play well.” You’ll get ‘em next time, Andy!

August 13 is International Left-Handers Day. This annual celebration began 21 years ago in Britain and spread worldwide as you knew it would. According to the UK’s Left-Handers Club, “There are left-v-right sports matches, a left-handed tea party, pubs using left-handed corkscrews... Right-handers are encouraged to try out everyday left-handed objects to see just how awkward it can feel using the wrong equipment!”

How do you like it now, awkward right-handed slopsucker?

Okay, okay, let’s talk baseball. There’s a Steve Treder article on the Hardball Times website that goes into left-handedness with the kind of detail only people who pluck bird eyebrows for a living can love. I will spare you the agony and detail only people who pluck bird eyebrows for a living can love. I will spare you the agony and detail only people who pluck bird eyebrows for a living can love. I will spare you the agony and detail only people who pluck bird eyebrows for a living can love.

Now comes a 2010 article published in the New York Times. The reporter, Jeff Klein, writes that, according to hockey-stick manufacturers’ sales figures, “a majority of Canadian hockey players shoot left-handed, and a majority of American players shoot right-handed.” Klein talked to Mike Mountain, Easton hockey-stick boss. Mountain said 60 percent of Easton hockey sticks sold to Canada are for left-handed players. In the U.S., the figure is 60 percent for right-handed players.

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While combing through the toy aisle, Olson spotted a blue box of Creatology sidewalk chalk. The back of the box read: “Decorate sidewalks, play hopscotch and other fun games; washes easily from skin and clothes; super easy for little hands to grip.”

A light bulb went on inside his mind. It was perfect, he thought, not as a gift for his nephews but as a way to protest against the big bank next door.

More than one year later, that decision led Olson here, sitting in a black desk chair at the defendants’ table facing superior court judge Jay M. Bloom, who is tasked with deciding whether the case should be dismissed.

Tall and lanky, Olson is perched on the edge of his seat. He stares at the judge as his lawyer, Tom Tosdal, addresses the court and nods his head at a rapid rate, more dedicated student than defendant in a criminal case. His erect posture and nodding head shows he’s either giddy with excitement for fighting the system or terrified by the system he is trying to fight. It is most likely a combination of the two.

He faces 13 counts of vandalism for writing anti-bank slogans with water-soluble chalk on a public sidewalk outside of three Bank of America branches, two in North Park, another in Hillcrest. The act could put him in jail for 13 years and be on the hook for more than $6000 in restitution if San Diego’s City
Attorney’s Office gets its way.

According to the city attorney’s reasoning, the case is much bigger than some scribbles on a sidewalk.

“The People do not fear that this reading of section 594(A) will make criminals of every child using chalk,” reads a document filed in court by deputy city attorney Paige Hazard.

“Chalk festivals may still be permitted. Kids acting without malice may still engage in their art. Circumventing the rules, without permission, under the color of night, and now waiving a banner of the First Amendment, does not negate the fact that defacement occurred, a private business suffered real and substantial monetary damages, and Defendant is responsible.”

During the two-hour preliminary hearing on June 17, Olson’s lawyer argues against the merits of the case. “This is a case about a person’s constitutional rights, the right to free speech and to peaceful political protest,” Tosalal tells the judge.

Deputy city attorney Hazard fires back, “The people do feel chalk is defacement. Mr. Olson did not seek authorization from the Bank of America or the City of San Diego to write messages on the sidewalk. The goal of this case is to address blight. We prosecute cases to protect the quality of life for residents.”

Hazard, a woman in her late 30s, sounds as if she is trying to convince herself of the merits of the case as much as she is the judge. As she speaks, junior attorney William Tanoury scribbles on a yellow legal pad. Another law student working with the City Attorney’s Office sits and watches from the gallery.

As the two lawyers exchange arguments, Olson looks at the judge in an apparent attempt to make eye contact, hoping for some opportunity to show the judge that he is not some reckless vandal or irresponsible Occupier.

Olson was a latecomer to the world of vandalism — or political activism, for that matter. The Portland, Oregon, native was always political but never went further than a heated discussion. It took the bailout and the Occupy Wall Street movement for the agitation to turn to action.

He opposed the billions of dollars given to the big banks as part of the Troubled Asset Relief Program, more commonly called TARP. The banks, according to him, preyed on middle and lower classes. They handed out ill-advised loans, and when the bottom dropped out on the real estate market, responded by asking for billions in handouts from the taxpayers.

Olson focused his attention on one of the largest banking institutions, Bank of America. A branch is located two

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blocks from his North Park home.

At the time, fall of 2011, Occupy Wall Street was all the rage. Mobs of disenchanted citizens pitched tents in public squares across the country. They sang protest songs and banged on bongos to rally against social and economic inequality.

Here in San Diego, Occupiers commandeered the plaza at City Hall. In three months' time, from October 2011 to December 2011, more than 60 protesters were carted off to jail for participating in non-violent sleep-ins.

Olson never protested at a council meeting, pitched a tent, or chanted slogans against the One Percent. Instead, he decided to go where he felt he’d make the most impact — the front doors of the bank.

It’s early June, 17 days until Olson is set to appear before Judge Bloom in a San Diego courtroom. He occupies a small black-leather loveseat inside Santos Coffee Shop in North Park. Olson is tall and thin. He is clean-shaven, his hair neatly combed. He wears a T-shirt that reads, “I am displeased with the entire situation,” in German. His look does not scream “activist!” It doesn’t scream anything at all. He looks like your run-of-the-mill North Park resident in shorts, T-shirt, and sneakers. Olson is unemployed but has been known to take the odd job every now and then, like getting paid to drive a car out to Chicago, for example. So, during the height of the Occupy movement, it’s safe to say he had plenty of time on his hands for politics.

“I didn’t think that going downtown to sleep in a park was a good use of my time,” he says. “I thought it better to try and get these banks to be accountable for their actions. To me, the best way to do that was to inform the public and their customers of their part in the whole mess.”

That’s just what he did. On October 3, 2011, Olson took residence on the sidewalk outside Bank of America’s North Park branch and began a crash course in activism.

He handed out leaflets and held signs urging customers and anyone within earshot to take their business elsewhere. He rallied against a proposal from the bank to charge customers fees to use their debit cards.

On October 11, Olson and his partner of seven years, Stephen Daniels, stood at the corner of University Avenue yelling slogans and sticking up signs informing customers of the bank’s desire to start charging fees for debit cards.

Daniels’s sign read, “$45,000,000,000.00 – Taxpayer Bailout only $300,000,000 paid in fines.”

Olson’s read, “Get you debit card here for only $60.00 a year.”

“The sign was meant as a joke, but at the same time making people aware this huge bank, the third-biggest non-oil company in the world, wanted to add new fees just a few months after the federal government — the taxpayers, really — bailed them out from the brink of insolvency.”

Safe to say bank employees didn’t consider it very funny. Vice president of global corporate security Darrell Freeman, visiting from his office in Laguna Hills, hopped from his spot inside the bank and approached the two protesters.

Freeman accused them of running a racket to collect finder’s fees paid by a local credit union for each new customer. He threatened to call Olson’s credit union and have them close his account.

David Batterson, a contributor to the San Diego Reader, happened to be at the scene to cover the protest.

“Freeman was very hostile,” remembers Batterson. “I’d say he was trying to bully Olson by threatening to call his credit union and demanding his identification. I have to say that at the same time, Freeman was unprofessional for not showing his credentials. I felt like he was there just to scare [Olson]. I’m fairly certain he did just that.”

According to a Costa Mesa gun store’s website, the security executive is a former member of the Costa Mesa SWAT team. He taught sniper courses for Orange County police cadets and currently volunteers as a firearms instructor for the Royal Rangers Scouts, an evangelical mentoring program tasked with the mission to “evangelize, equip, and empower the next generation of Christ-like men and lifelong servant leaders.”

“At first I was scared shitless,” Olson says. “I really thought he could do that. So, after our little confrontation, I called California Coastal...
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Credit Union to see if he could have my account closed. They laughed and basically said it was total nonsense.”

On October 17, five days after the altercation with Freeman, Olson again stationed himself on the corner of 31st and University Avenue. He and his friend JP Conly held signs and handed customers anti-bank leaflets.

Bank employees called 911. Police officers showed up a few minutes later. He posted the incident on YouTube.

He told the officers that he made sure not to yell at bank patrons and promised not to bother anyone using the ATM.

The officers left shortly after without issuing any citations.

While the police officers were willing to forget about the incident, Freeman was not so forgetful. Olson continued protesting at the bank three days a week for a couple hours a day. He took weeks off during the holidays. His homemade signs and leaflets were not having the impact he desired.

Then one day in February 2012, Olson came across the box of sidewalk chalk.

The following day, Olson, an early riser, showed up to the bank just after dawn armed with a box of Creatology chalk and began to write the popular slogans at the time:

“Shame on BofA.”

“Banks got bailed out and we got sold.”

“No thanks, big banks”

On February 21, Olson became more creative with his message. He drew long octopus arms stretching from the walls of the bank. Stuck on its tentacles were wads of cash.

The chalking incidents became less frequent as Olson became more involved with the June elections.

What Olson did not know was activists around the country were using similar tactics. It was a temporary way to get their point across, far better than using spray paint, or for that matter lighting dumpsters on fire and pushing them into banks, like anti-war protesters had done in the ’60s.

On July 23, Los Angeles police officers arrested artist and Occupy activist Alex Schaeffer for writing “crooks” — using the Chase logo and colors — on the sidewalk outside of a branch bank in downtown Los Angeles. Schaeffer recorded
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his arrest and posted the video on YouTube.

“If you’re going to get arrested, why not do it at the scene of the crime, where it all started, that being the banks,” Schaef-fer said during a phone interview.

“I knew the city was going to be all arrest-ily; that’s exactly why I did it. I wanted to show them putting me in jail for writing something in chalk while at the same time these institutions bring the country to its knees and get paid billions of dollars.

“I spent 12 hours in jail that day, got the face and eye scan, the whole deal. It was all a show, to scare me.”

Just two days before Schaeffer’s arrest, Olson was at the Pride festival with his box of chalk. Olson, while focused on writing anti–Carl DeMaio slogans along the parade route, stopped by the Bank of America on University and Eighth Avenue with a stick of chalk.

“I wrote something about the banks and about DeMaio near the bank. It was funny because just after I fin-ished, mayor — or, rather, then–congressman Bob Filner — walked by with then-councilmembers Toni Atkins and Donna Frye. I pointed to the message and he gave me thumbs up,” says Olson.

After the incident at the Hillcrest branch, Olson became more involved in the election. He traveled to see family in Portland.

His protests against Bank of America gradually came to an end.

Unlike the chalk, city attorney Jan Goldsmith’s memory did not fade, and neither did Freeman’s.

On August 28, 2012, Bill Miles from San Diego’s Gang Unit knocked on Olson’s door to his apartment on Landis Street in North Park.

“I thought it was a joke at first. It was the last thing I thought would happen,” Olson says about the visit from the head of the Gang Unit.

“The more I thought, the more I realized that these banks and their executives can throw tons of money at local politi-cians. That’s bound to have some impact.”

Olson’s partner, Ste-phen Daniels, was also home when Miles came for a chat.

“When they have to focus their energies on this type of trite, insig-nificant case, doesn’t that take away from the interest of the people?”

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Daniels asks. “I’d prefer if they focused on the real criminals. Don’t the cops from the gang task force have better things to do?”

On January 7, 2013, Freeman sent an email to officer Bill Miles from the San Diego Police Department’s Gang Unit and Nicole Kukas from the San Diego City Attorney’s Office.

“Any updates on this court filing?” Wrote Freeman in the email.

Freeman didn’t have to wait very long for a response from the City Attorney’s Office. Two minutes later, Kukas replied, “Thank you for checking in on this case. It is still under review. I will give you an update by the end of the week.”

Ten days later, on January 17, Freeman sent another email asking the same question.

Bill Miles from the San Diego Police Department’s Gang Unit responded, “I appreciate your patience. I will forward this to the City Attorney.”

On April 15, Paige Hazard from the City Attorney’s Office gave Freeman the good news: “I wanted to let you know that we will be filing 13 counts of vandalism as a result of the incidents you reported.”

Considering the time and the hours spent on the case, the city attorney must see some significance to the case. Not surprisingly, Mayor Filner is not on the same page with the city’s top lawyer.

On June 12, five days before the hearing to dismiss the case, Filner was asked about the case. The mayor hadn’t heard anything about it at the time.

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Security camera footage shows Olson chalking anti-Bank of America messages on the sidewalk.

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Defend, Filner did, at least in part. Eight days later, on June 20, Filner issued a memo to council president Todd Gloria and City Attorney Goldsmith. It read in part:

“This young man is being persecuted for thirteen counts of vandalism stemming from an expression of political protest that involved washable children’s chalk on a City sidewalk. It is alleged that he has no previous criminal record. If these assertions are correct, I believe this is a misuse and waste of taxpayer money. It could also be characterized as an abuse of power that infringes on First Amendment particularly when it is arbitrarily applied to some, but not all, similar speech.”

Yet, despite opposition from the mayor or public support, the city attorney has moved forward.

“Vandalism is against the law in the state of California,” writes a city attorney spokesperson. “Graffiti is a form of vandalism. Various substances could be used, including chalk, to commit vandalism because defacement does not incorporate an element of permanence. Therefore a marring of the surface is no less a defacement because it is more easily removed. Case law stating that damage does not need to be permanent: In re Nicholas Y (2000) 85 CA 4th 941, 944.”

Does that mean any kid with a piece of chalk wanting to play a game of hopscotch is a vandal?

“As to the question of young children drawing on the sidewalk, it is unlikely that they would possess the requisite criminal intent of acting with malice.

“Though an act might seem harmless on its face, investigation and eradication costs can be substantial. All aspects of a case (e.g. the evidence, the type of charge, damage to a victim) will be considered and also balanced against our need to use resources effectively and efficiently.”

According to the City Attorney’s Office, in the past two years there was only one other case of a mad chalker temporarily tagging property. That case, however, was dismissed for lack of evidence.

Olson assumes there is some political motivation by the city attorney to forge ahead.

“I can’t believe they are actually going through with this,” says Olson outside the courtroom before the June 17 hearing. “It’s no mystery that Goldsmith has ties to big business. How do you think he was able to raise tens of thousands of dollars for his campaign for city attorney? He didn’t even have an opponent.”

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Under the radar
continued from page 3

Industries Association meeting featuring numerous hemp product displays.” On June 3, the Bronner firm gave the Leno 2018 cause $6800, disclosure records show.... Public Policy Strategies, the lobbying shop owned by Bob Filner’s political guru Tom Shepard, has picked up a new client. According to a recently filed disclosure statement, the firm now represents U.S.A. Cab, whose principals are Alfred and Jose Antonio Hueso, brothers of Democratic state Sen. Ben Hueso. The topic of Public Policy’s city-hall influence-peddling is listed as “City regulation of taxi industry....Adoption of regulations.” Democratic state attorney general Kamala Harris has received a total of $13,600 in 2014 reelection campaign cash from Darren Robbins and Kimberly Robbins. He’s with the law partnership of Robbins, Geller, Rudman and Dowd, a successor firm of the one where once-imprisoned La Jolla mega-lawyer Bill Lerach used to work.

— Matt Potter
@sdMattPotter

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

Rooftop solar
continued from page 3

sellers are like Bernie Madoff masquerading as the tooth fairy,” cracks Bryan Miller, vice president of public policy and power markets at San Francisco—based Sunrun Inc., a major residential solar provider. Miller points to a study (admittedly financed by the solar industry) showing that net metering will soon deliver $92 million in annual benefits to all ratepayers. “Utilities don’t like rooftop solar purely because it eats into their profits,” says Miller. “[San Diego Gas & Electric] is only willing when solar they own and profit from it.” By September, the California Public Utilities Commission is expected to come out with its study on the efficacy of the net metering system. Under state regulations, on a hot summer afternoon no more than 5 percent of the electricity need can be met with customer-owned solar systems. Because of a recent encouraging change, the effective cap is now almost double 5 percent, says Powers. It’s not clear how the cap would be enforced, but that is a long way away, he says.

Now that San Onofre has closed, San Diego Gas & Electric claims there is a need for an old-style gas-powered plant in Otay Mesa, which was thumbed down by the commission in March. Balderdash, says Powers. There is power aplenty. “Due to the lack of effective regulatory oversight, giving the utilities everything they wanted for the last decade, we have overbuilt our supply generation and our transmission network,” he says. The utilities just want to boost profits.

Powers believes that in time, homes will go off the grid in large numbers. Indeed, he is in the process of doing that with his own home. He has eight batteries and needs eight more and a generator. Now, it will be slightly more expensive than using the conventional sources, but with utility rates rising and solar costs declining, he can foresee a convergence — with some homeowners also maintaining their electric cars at home.

There are hopeful signs. Last year, San Diego Gas & Electric wanted to charge solar users substantially more for their connection to the distribution grid. The commission nixed the idea. On June 10, commissioner Carla Peterman proposed that the regulator begin a proceeding into whether utilities should adopt energy storage systems. This would enhance rooftop solar.

“The genie is out of the bottle, and it is not getting back in,” says Powers. “Yet utilities myopically forge ahead, insisting on obsole- 

NEWS TICKER
continued from page 2


Encinitas sheriff’s deputies arrested Seibert on June 13. She was charged with 26 felonies, all theft charges. Encinitas sheriff’s detective Aaron Dabbs gathered evidence showing that Selbert embezzled money from the pizzeria and then wrote 13 checks to her previous employer, thereby making partial payments on that civil judgment.

After two weeks in custody, Seibert made a plea deal on June 26. She admitted two felony counts of fraud and forgery and expects to get four years in state prison.

Eva Knott, June 26

Comments
Ian Pike June 27 @ 9:26 a.m.

Considering the razor-thin profit margins that restaurants contend with on a daily basis, I am just AMAZED that Leucadia Pizza managed to survive a $100K/year chunk missing out of the profits. That is one heck of a robust pizza chain. Maybe they can bottle and sell that financial durability.

Student paraglider killed

Man drifts inland during lesson, crashes into rocks Imperial Beach — A 48-year-old Colorado man was killed in a paragliding accident at the south end of Seacoast Drive in Imperial Beach Wednesday, June 26, according to the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department.

At around 4:15 p.m., deputies from the Imperial Beach Sheriff’s Station responded to a 911 call of a man not breathing who had been paragliding with an instructor and classmates. He was airborne, started to drift, and then crashed onto the rocks. His instructor provided CPR until paramedics arrived on scene and took over. Despite their efforts, he could not be revived and his death was pronounced via radio contact with a local hospital.

A witness, who asked that his name not be used, said, “It was gruesome, he not only hit the ground but he was dragged over the cobblestones and into the estuary.”

Peter Salisbury, June 27

Beach report: It’s a mixed bag

Low rankings for South Bay, rest of county fares well

Imperial Beach — The Natural Resources Defense Council, claiming to be “the nation’s most effective environmental action group,” has released its “Testing the Waters 2013” report, a study on water quality at beaches typically considered prime vacation spots. California as a whole doesn’t fare well, ranking 20th of 30 states studied. San Diego, however, generally receives favorable treatment in the report, with the exception of its southernmost beaches, near Imperial Beach and the Tijuana Slough.

Out of 79 sites (of a possible 116) tested for water

continued from page 32

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DeMaio vs. Peters: follow the money

Military, high-tech, SDSU lobbies all factors in race
San Diego — With Carl DeMaio set to kick off his campaign for Congress this evening in the shopping aisles of Coles Carpets, the race for special-interest campaign cash between the Republican former San Diego city councilman and his rival, incumbent Democrat Scott Peters, also a former San Diego council member, has received unusually early public attention.

Says DeMaio in an email to supporters touting tonight’s fundraiser: “If we post a big number by June 30 for our fundraising, we’ll attract more national funding — so this event and any donation this week is key.”

Meanwhile, Peters and his fundraising forces have been busy in Washington, teeming with high-tech and military-industry lobbyists eager to express their support for the self-styled Democratic middle-of-the-road.

According to an invitation posted online by Political-PartyTime.org, the national Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee threw a $1,000-per-PAC “breakfast reception” for Peters on April 16 at Art & Soul, a posh restaurant near the Capitol.

The invite headlined the prized assignments of Peters on the House Science and Technology Committee, and the biggest political cash bonanza of all, the House Armed Services Committee.

As reported here last week, San Diego State University–owned public television operation KPBS ran a lengthy exposé it said it had done in conjunction with a small nonprofit associated with the taxpayer-funded university questioning various aspects of DeMaio’s fundraising from GOP conservatives, including a group linked to the controversial Koch brothers, prior to his declaration of candidacy.

On the other hand, campaign disclosure records show, Peters has received big doses of money from high-tech special interests, including a Microsoft executive and those with links to Qualcomm, the cell-phone-chip giant founded by Irwin Jacobs, a big KPBS financial backer in whose honor SDSU has named the operation’s newsroom and gives top billing to on its nightly TV news program.

Matt Potter, June 26

Another Children’s Pool suit...

Paraplegic sues city over lack of handicapped access
La Jolla — The issue of access at La Jolla Children’s Pool will be floating into federal court. This case, however, is not just about access to the water, but gaining access to the beach itself for those with disabilities.

On June 25, Jack Robertson filed a lawsuit against the City of San Diego for violating the Americans with Disabilities Act for not providing a safe path of travel for those with disabilities.

Robertson, says the lawsuit, is a T-8 paraplegic, avid swimmer, and the president of Action Home Access, a company specializing in retrofitting homes for the disabled. Robertson is also the founder of the advocacy group Success with One’s Abilities Routinely (SOAR) Foundation.

According to Robertson’s bio posted to the Action Home Access website, he “enjoys open water sports, has swam 28.5 miles around Manhattan Island, 17 kilometers across the Strait of Gibraltar, and completed dozens of other swims.”

It’s his affinity for swimming that has sparked his recent lawsuit against the City of San Diego.

“One of the landmarks in La Jolla is the Children’s Pool. Given to the City by private donor Ellen Browning Scripps, it is located on the beautiful La Jolla peninsula. It has a 300-foot concrete break water wall providing a calm swimming area. Persons with disabilities find it a great place to start their ocean swim because they can avoid the large waves they would have to contend with when entering the ocean at other beaches.

“Each time that the plaintiff has swum at the Children’s Pool, he has been bodily carried down the stairs by others. This is scary, frustrating, discomforting, embarrassing and difficult. Additionally, the plaintiff is unable to independently gain access to the beach. The lack of access and the inaccessible paths of travel have precluded the plaintiff from enjoying the Children’s Pool beach on a full and equal basis.”

Robertson is not seeking injunctive relief, but does want adequate parking and paths according to ADA requirements at Children’s Pool, as well as reimbursement for legal fees.

Dorian Hargrove, June 26

Plant closure is your fault

Ratepayers to bear financial burden, says SDG&E
San Onofre — San Diego Gas & Electric is sending out bills to about a quarter of its customers, or 350,000 residents and businesses throughout the county, warning of a pending rate hike set to hit their bills September 1.

The utility blames the rate hikes on “an untimely reduction in our region’s energy resources,” namely the ongoing closure of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station, which was deemed to be permanent in recent weeks.

Meanwhile, the California Public Utilities Commission’s Division of Ratepayer Advocates is recommending the reverse, calling for a rate reduction as a result of San Onofre’s closure.

Only Tier 3 and 4 utility
users are set to be affected by the rate hikes. SDG&E has four tiers of energy rates, with additional electricity costing more once the baseline allowance for each tier has been passed. Mountain and desert area customers have a higher baseline than those along the coast and in the inland valleys.

A chart including tier allowances and rough maps of the rate regions, along with sample calculations of how much various customers can expect their bills to rise, is available on SDG&E’s website.

Dave Rice, June 26

Report rips teacher-training programs

Local universities perform poorly, says advocacy group San Diego — A report released last week by the National Council on Teacher Quality, an advocacy group boasting board membership of veterans from the Reagan, Clinton, and George W. Bush administrations, blasts the quality of education in teacher-training programs at 1,130 universities across the country, including several in San Diego.

Programs with low standards for acceptance — three-quarters of teaching programs studied aren’t limited to students in the top 50 percent of their high school graduating classes — are churning out far too many teachers, the council says. Of 239,000 teachers trained each year, only about 98,000 land jobs in education.

Further, the training these prospective educators receive is substandard. Three in four education programs don’t use the latest available techniques in preparing teachers to help students learn to read, for example.

The report ranks schools on a one- to four-star program, with the weakest receiving no stars and a “Consumer Alert” warning.

Overall, local results were disappointing. CSU San Marcos received one star for its secondary education graduate program, while its elementary program received zero. San Diego State University and the University of San Diego received the same rankings. Point Loma Nazarene University fared slightly better, receiving one star for its elementary program and 1.5 for secondary education.

The standout, and the only local school to make the report’s “honor roll” by earning three or more stars (just 9 percent of all schools studied achieved this rank) was UC San Diego, earning 3.5 stars for its secondary education graduate program.

“A program’s low rating does not suggest that many of its graduates don’t go on to become capable teachers,” cautions the report. “What the low rating does suggest is that the program isn’t adding sufficient value, so that someone who wants to become a teacher would be better off investing time and tuition dollars elsewhere.”

Dave Rice, June 25

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LINDA VISTA
Finding a voice
Multilingual students’ successes displayed in photo gallery
In multilingual Linda Vista, schoolchildren are learning to write in English. It’s not always easy. Fifteen-year-old Jacqueline Garza admitted that only a few months ago she was failing her eighth-grade English class.
But on the evening of June 25, Garza read a second-prize-winning essay before a photo gallery opening in the Student Life Pavilion at the University of San Diego. She said she turned things around by taking a photography class during this spring’s Montgomery Middle School Intercession Academy. The assignment for students was to photograph what they liked in Linda Vista or things they wanted to see become better.
So, photography helps writing? “Yes,” Garza explained, “because we wrote paragraphs about the pictures we took. You can see what you’re writing about. You’re telling people your community is beautiful to visit and meet new people.”

School students joined Garza and Otero in the photography training. They used basic 35-millimeter cameras with adjustable lenses. Autofocus was not allowed.
At the gallery opening, each student displayed a favorite photo. There were familiar images of the Linda Vista landscape, lots of people shots (including one of two homeless men outside McDonald’s), and a number of color-rich flower pictures. The students chatted excitedly in small groups and answered questions about their work for the roughly 30 visitors in attendance.
The photography program has been the brainchild of Bayside Community Center in Linda Vista. However, the gallery was not originally part of the plan; that came about in a burst of brainstorming during the past several weeks. Putting it together with USD was so sudden, said Jennifer Bright, a program coordinator at Bayside, “that I felt like we were doing a pop-up.”

JOE DEEGAN, JUNE 27

TIJUANA
Kindergarten chaos
False reports of gunfire cause panic; trampled child loses eye
Several youngsters were injured — one seriously enough to require hospitalization — when false reports of imminent gunfire outside a Tijuana kindergarten caused parents, teachers, and children to run for cover.
The incident occurred at the Simón Boli- var kindergarten in the neighborhood of the same name at about 9:30 a.m. on June 26 as an end-of-the-school-year ceremony was about to get under way outside, the Tijuana daily El Mexicano reported.
“They’re going to start shooting — get down!” the newspaper reported someone screaming, causing students, parents, and teachers to begin running helter-skelter as they sought safety in classrooms and bath-rooms. Several children were injured — one seriously enough to require hospitalization — when false reports of imminent gunfire outside a Tijuana kindergarten caused parents, teachers, and children to run for cover.

LUCY D. BARKER, JUNE 27

JOE DEEGAN, JUNE 27

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signs were added for the construction and
some said they’d already been rejected.
Resident Robert Garza, who lives on 33rd
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weeks and weeks of pounding, all day every
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All day every day.”

LUCY D. BARKER, JUNE 27

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San Diego Reader, July 4, 2013
San Diego Reader
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Now, I work for one of them, and I’m not so dumb as to think that I can say all of this and walk away unscathed by it all if I didn’t have my anonymity. But I ask you this: When was the last time that you saw a legitimate company win one of these RFPs and be given a real chance to provide services to their hometown? Not since Bob and Juanita Hartson owned their company has it been that way.

FYI, the San Dieguito Ambulance District bid is going on right now. All the bids will be submitted on August 6, I believe. This will be a snapshot of things to come in San Diego.

The only department in the county of San Diego that doesn’t file an annual report is the county division of EMS. And that’s because Rural/Metro didn’t want anyone knowing who was calling them for transports or who they were contracted with, and threatened to sue them if they continued to make it public, stating that the county was revealing trade secrets.

Who will win San Dieguito? Watch and see. Heh, heh, heh....

-Ghost Medic via email

Low-End Reviews
I have read your weekly publication almost from the time of inception. I especially enjoy the restaurant and movie reviews.

However, recently the restaurant reviews have primarily focused on low-end establishments. I also miss the in-depth reviews that were written by Ms. Wise and her predecessor. I also miss David Elliott and his excellent reviews, as I don’t find the current reviews very helpful.

-Name Withheld via email
Thursday | 4
FOURTH OF JULY AT MARINA KITCHEN
The down-home picnic menu features an assortment of holiday favorites by executive chef Aron Schwartz, including cole slaws, Niman Ranch baby back ribs, Jidori fried chicken, and corn on the cob. A dessert station with a selection of housemade mini pies, mini strawberry shortcakes, chocolate chip cookies, and peach crisp will be available as well. After dinner, guests are encouraged to stay for fireworks over San Diego Bay. Early diners can grab a seat on the VIP observation deck located on the Coronado Terrace, where they will receive complimentary dessert — Rocket Pops, ice cream cups, or popsicles. A cash bar for adults will also be available. $12–$36.

WHEN: 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.
WHERE: San Diego Marriott Marquis and Marina, 333 West Harbor Drive, Downtown. 619-699-8222

Friday | 5
HAZZAN MINHAJ
Comedian from Chelsea Lately and MTV’s Failosophy. Ages 21+. $18.

WHEN: 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. (additional dates: July 6 and 7)
WHERE: The American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue, downtown. 619-795-3858; americancomedyco.com

Saturday | 6
INFAMOUS
Six choreographers will present dances based on notorious couples. Choreographers presenting new work include Blythe Barton (Gerturde Stein and Alice B. Toklas), Bradley Lundberg and Nikki Dannan (F. Scott Fitzgerald and Zelda Sayre), Khamla Somphanh (Marc Antony and Cleopatra), and Ericka Aisha Moore (Thelma and Louise). Additionally, Michael Mizerany will restage his critically acclaimed work Far From Eden, a duet inspired by the play Never the Sinner, which explores the twisted relationship between Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb. Production contains mature themes and male nudity. Part of the San Diego Fringe Festival. $10.

WHEN: 12:30 p.m. (additional dates: July 5 and July 7)
WHERE: Tenth Avenue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue, East Village. sdfringe.org

Sunday | 7
TURISTA LIBRE TIJUANA WATERPARK
Waterslides that should probably require helmets but everyone rides face first anyway. Beers rimmed with chili and chamoy. Tambora bands, corn on the cob off the grill, Tecate eagle fake tattoos, a Tarzan rope... Tickets include border transport, park admission, artillery for the en-route water-gun fight, plus complimentary Tecates and Jell-O shots aboard Turista Libre’s fun bus. Ages 18+. $30.

WHEN: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
WHERE: Meet at the San Ysidro Trolley Stop, 700 East San Ysidro Boulevard. turistalibre.com

Monday | 8
STREET PHOTOGRAPHY
Kids in grades 6–8 learn to shoot like a pro, covering photography skills that photojournalists use everyday, taking their cameras to the street to catch the action and freeze moments in time. Class meets July 8–12. $179–$250.

WHEN: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (half-day option ends at noon)
WHERE: La Jolla Historical Society, 7846 Eads Avenue, La Jolla. 858-349-7578; outsidethelense.org

Tuesday | 9
TWILIGHT IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERT
Featuring Real Jazz Big Band. Dine from carts or bring your own picnic dinner.

WHEN: 6:15 to 7:15 p.m
WHERE: Meet at the San Ysidro Trolley Stop, 700 East San Ysidro Boulevard. balboapark.org/calendar

Wednesday | 10
PADRES VS. ROCKIES
The San Diego Padres meet up with the Colorado Rockies. Games broadcast on radio station XX Sports Radio (1090 AM) and XEMO (860 AM) in Spanish. $10–$85.

WHEN: 7:10 p.m.
WHERE: Petco Park, 100 Park Boulevard, East Village. 619-795-5000; sandiego.padres.mlb.com
San Diego
July 4, 2013

Why would a Greek restaurant exist in Baker, California?

The lights of Las Vegas are a distant memory. A blurred landscape of clay-colored dirt and scrub brush drapes a blanket over the desert floor. Mountains flank Highway 15, heading west toward Los Angeles. A car malfunction out here will have the vultures picking at my bones in no time.

Out in the distance, a bright blue sign will help you to feel at home. Why would a Greek restaurant exist out here? I enter, confronted by a bizarre sensation. Patrons fill the bright blue booths, more faux pillars divide the sections, and the walls are covered in Greek phrases, maps, and Socrates quotes. At the side counter, an array of colorful gelato. At the front counter, another large display, this one filled with a variety of baklava.

Approaching the front counter, I’m a bit thrown off by the menu. Yes, I see some typical Greek dishes, but now I see Mexican food and traditional American breakfast.

“What’s the most popular item on the menu?” I ask.

“The gyro,” she replies. Okay, the gyro it is.

The gyro is very good. I wouldn’t say it’s the most amazing culinary delight I’ve ever treated my taste buds to, but it’s good. It’s filled with lamb, beef, tomatoes, and served on a pita. It’s accompanied by a tasty white dill sauce.

I finish my meal, climb back into my car and continue the journey west; a tasty white dill sauce.

In the distance, at the end of the strip is a larger building. Blue-and-white exterior, flags flying, a series of faux pillars and statues. Why would a Greek restaurant exist out here?

The air was cool and exuded a musty, almost earthy odor. The passageway, with ceilings no more than six feet high, was lit by small dim lights, each bright enough to see only a few feet ahead. Small rivulets of water seeped from the walls to make the uneven stone floor slippery. Along both sides were thousands of skulls and bones, stacked in dense chest-high rows.

Each passage led to rooms with walls lined with stacks of human femurs and skulls, arranged with precision. The only greeting along the bone-filled tunnels came from the gaping grins of the long-ago dead.

It is said the bones of six million souls reside here. These are the catacombs that lie under the bustling streets of Paris, France.

Continuously inhabited for over 2500 years, Paris is the definition of an old city. For hundreds of years, the dead were buried in graveyards sprinkled on its outskirts. But as the city expanded, it grew around and engulfed these dozens of cemeteries. By the Middle Ages, Paris was a very dirty place where open-air markets coexisted alongside cemeteries containing the shallow pits of mass graves.

In the late 18th Century, to clean up the city and save it from itself, it was decided to disinter bodies from many of the cemeteries and transfer them to the catacombs. There, the bones and skulls were neatly stacked and marked with placards of the cemeteries from which they came. The newly vacated space was then used for housing the expanding population of the city. The transfer of the residents of about three dozen cemeteries, some 1000 years old, continued intermittently for the next 100 years.

The catacombs are remnants of limestone mines first quarried by the Romans to construct roads, bridges, monuments, and buildings. Over the next millennium, the Roman open-pit mines developed into a series of underground mines but were abandoned by the 13th Century. The labyrinth of limestone tunnels was a perfect place to move the remains of so many millions of people.

Descending 75 feet from street level down a cramped spiral staircase, the walking tour continues under a stone arch chiseled, “ARRÊTE! C’EST ICI L’EMPIRE DE LA MORT.” (“STOP! HERE IS THE EMPIRE OF THE DEAD”). It only gets better from there.
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ROAM-O-RAMA
San Diego Outdoors with the Canyoneers

PALOMAR MOUNTAIN: WEIR-FRENCH VALLEY LOOP

This hike includes trails within an old oak canopy, morereros, open meadows, two creeks, and a small pond with a stone weir.

Distance from downtown San Diego: About 87 miles. Allow 2 hours driving time. From I-15, then SR-76, take slight right on S Grade Rd/CR 56 to Palomar Mountain. Turn left at State Park Rd/CR 57 (just before the store and restaurant to Palomar Mountain State Park. Follow the signs to Doane Pond and park in the lot. Parking is $8. There are no gas stations on Palomar Mountain. Restrooms available. Note: I-15 is 65 miles, per navigation aids.

Hiking length: 3 miles round trip. Difficulty: Easy/moderate with elevation gain/loss of 200 feet. The hike toward lower French Creek has elevation loss with some ups and downs. The trail from the lower Doane Valley parking lot crosses the creek via stepping stones and then has a short steep and narrow section down stone steps.

Palomar Mountain is a gem of an area and one of the few places in San Diego County where you can go for a four-season experience. At over 5000 feet in elevation, it has a Sierra Nevada feel to it with a mixed conifer forest environment and a diversity of plant life, including dogwood, tiger lilies, and very small orchids. Wildlife includes the black-tailed mule deer, bobcat, mountain quail, and Stellar’s jay.

At the parking lot, start on the Doane Valley Nature Trail and veer left on the Lower Doane Trail to the weir. Watch for banana slugs along Doane Creek, where there is an isolated population at its southern-most range. Trout can be spotted in the creeks where many are escapees from Doane Pond. Doane Creek and French Creek merge just above the weir. There is a small pool of water next to the weir where volumetric flow rate was measured when the water flowed over a low barrier in hopes that power could be brought to the area. Turn back after a rest at the pond until a spur crosses Doane Creek and veers left, toward French Creek, then loop back on the French Valley Trail until the Doane Valley Campground, where the Doane Valley Nature Trail returns to the parking lot. Past the kiosk is a restroom behind tree. Cross a small bridge to view the pond.

The loop trail can also be accessed at the Doane Valley Nature Trail/Doane Valley Trail intersects, starting at the corner of the Doane Valley parking lot or by walking from the parking lot to the campground trailhead (just beyond site #25). The trail from the campground peaks in and out of the pines, oaks, firs, and shrubs. If you stay to the right, you will remain on the French Valley Trail. Here, note the ancient oaks, some of which have grown over large granitic boulders for support. There is evidence of acorn woodpecker granaries in enormous pines. However, many pines have succumbed to fire and bark beetle infestation. There is also a large group of deep morteros as you head downstream on the left-hand side of the trail.

After about a mile, the trail loops back to the left and will follow the edge of a meadow before merging with the Lower Doane Trail. A right turn will head you in the direction of Doane Creek. If you turn right again just before Doane Creek, a spur trail will take you out and back to the weir. Use caution when stepping on the rocks surrounding the pool of water in front of the weir, as they are worn with silt and silt, making it easy to take a plunge! After returning on the spur trail, continue across Doane Creek and turn left to head back upvalley toward the Doane parking lot. This portion of trail begins with some exposure and then disappears under tall firs. The trail ends with a short steep section up stone steps and a shallow creek crossing with stepping-stones. Cross the main park road to a short bridge crossing and the trail will emerge into the parking lot.

Canyoneers are San Diego Natural History Museum volunteers trained to lead interpretive nature walks that teach appreciation for the great outdoors. For a schedule of free public hikes, refer to the San Diego Natural History Museum website.

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

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**ART**

**Art-on-the-Green** Carlsbad-Oceanside Art League (COAL) Gallery member artists display their artwork every weekend (good weather permitting) on the resort’s lawn. 760-434-8497. Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; through Sunday, July 28. free. Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort, 3075 Carlsbad Boulevard. [CARLSBAD]

**Color Splash 3** Nine local artists present works in oil, acrylic, watercolor, and more. Participating artists: Donald Pallia, Bob Coletti, Karen Fidel, Rosemary Valente, Rita Shula, Paul Rickter, Kathleen McVey, Mary Burges, and Karen Kroemer-Spiss. Contact: Donald Pallia 760-448-5245 or dpallia@yahoo.com. Saturdays, July 6, 9am; Sundays, July 7, 1pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. [POINT LOMA]

**First Friday Juried Art Show** Juror:Frank Eber. Theme: Creative Independence. 619-876-4556. Friday, July 5, 5pm; free. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. [POINT LOMA]

**Painting and Vino at 98 Bottles on Sunday, July 7**

**Friday Night Liberty** Friday Night Liberty celebrates Summer with an extended hour. Admire the sand and surf on paper at Ballast Point Gallery and M. Fishbeck Studio/Gallery. Try some summer time blends at Point Loma Tea. Dream of escaping to Mexico inspired by artists at La Onda Arte Latino and Casa Valencia Galeria Baja; or see June Rubin’s work inspired by her trip to Mexico. And more. Friday, July 5, 5pm; free. NTC Promenade, 2825 Dewey Road #105. [POINT LOMA]

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**Oil and Glass** Two Art Pulse Mentor Program graduates, artists Daniel Kettlehut and Rob Morrey, show their work side by side in a single show. Kettlehut’s movement-filled paintings and Morrey’s grand glass sculptures mimic the relationship of oil and water with their distinct mix of patterns. 619-995-2515. Friday, July 5, 5pm; free. Pulse Gallery at NTC Promenade, 2825 Dewey Road #103. [POINT LOMA]

**Summer Yoga on the Bay** All levels, beginners welcome, plenty of modifications and motivation offered. No class July 4th. Thursdays, 6pm; through Friday, August 30, 510-812. Mission Bay Park, Vacation Isle, off Ingraham Street. [PACIFIC BEACH]

**Yamaha Clavinova Cafe** Yamaha Clavinova Cafe will help participants learn more about orchestration, multi-track recording, and helpful music apps. The event includes coffee, a snack, and a refresher on how to use the features on your digital piano. Bring a blank USB flash drive, your iPad or laptop, and your questions. Call (858) 586-7000 x120 to reserve a free seat. Saturday, July 6, 10am; free. Greene Music Recital Hall, 7480 Miramar Rd., Suite 101. [MBRAMAR]

**Jade Catta-Preta** Is a young, up and coming comedian and actress who performs all over; she can be seen at the Improv, the Laugh Factory and The World Famous Comedy Store several nights a week. She has appeared in numerous National commercials; McDonalds, Purina, Sims 3, Kenmore and AT&T. Jade was the host of National Lampoon’s

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**SUGGESTED CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

**HOMEBUYING FOR A FAST/ RISING MARKET**

An informative, interactive talk on how physics, the social sciences, and spirituality reveal a moral compass for the cosmos and describe a path to finding unity in the apparent diversity. Diverse groups will present Native American, East Indian, traditional Christian, and jazz-blues-gospel spiritual music. With Prof G Venkataraman, physicist, writer, educator and spiritual seeker, and the International Sathya Sai Baba Organization. Saturday, July 6, 4pm; free. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. [HILLCREST]

**Many Bulbs, One Current: Talk & Concert** An informative, interactive talk on how physics, the social sciences, and spirituality reveal a moral compass for the cosmos and describe a path to finding unity in the apparent diversity. Diverse groups will present Native American, East Indian, traditional Christian, and jazz-blues-gospel spiritual music. With Prof G Venkataraman, physicist, writer, educator and spiritual seeker, and the International Sathya Sai Baba Organization. Saturday, July 6, 4pm; free. First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front Street. [HILLCREST]
San Diego Reader
July 4, 2013
41

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††Kids stay free in same room as adults using existing bedding. Occupancy limits apply.
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Rhyme & Verse
On Visiting the Grave of My Stillborn Little Girl
A poem by Elizabeth Gaskell

Sunday July 4th 1836

I made a vow within my soul, O Child,
When thou wert laid beside my weary heart,
With marks of death on every tender part.
That, if in time a living infant smiled,
In sunshine of such joy, I still would save
A green rest for thy memory, O Dove!

Thou hast not left, my firstborn, thou
Whose eyes ne’er opened to my wistful gaze,
Whose sufferings stamped with pain thy little brow;
I think of thee in these far happier days,
And thou, my child, from thy bright heaven see
How well I keep my faithful vow to thee.

Move as One Dance Instruct.
With Dan Gibbons. Preparing brides and grooms for their first dance for over 20 years. From picking the music to the final bow. Professional Champion Khamla Somphanh (Marc Antony and Cleopatra), and Ericka Aisha Moore (Thelma and Louise). Additionally, Michael Mizerny will restage his critically acclaimed work “Far From Eden,” a duet inspired by the play Never the Sim- mer, which explores the twisted relationship between Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb. Production contains mature themes and male nudity. Part of the San Diego Fringe Festival. Friday, July 5, 6:30pm; Saturday, July 6, 12:30pm; Sunday, July 7, 3:30pm; $10. Tenth Avenue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Argentine Tango
An evening of Argentine tango hosted by instructor/DJ JoTan. Lesson 9-9:30; dance to follow. Thursdays, 9pm; through Thursday, December 19, $10-$15. Dance North County, 535 Encinitas Bl., Suite 100. (ENCINITAS)

Contradancing
No partners needed. no experience neccesary. Calling by JoAnn Koppany. Live music by Flashing Sirens.

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Contradancing
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Teaching from 7:30-8:00. Dance starts at 8:00. Discounts for teens and children, college, and military. Soft soled shoes only, please. Friday, July 5, 7:30pm; $8. Trinity United Methodist Church, 3030 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Country Basics Dance Class Wear your cowboy boots to this class that teaches the basics of Two-Step, Waltz, Swing, and Cowboy Cha Cha. Partners not required. Drop-ins welcome. Contact: Liza, 619-861-6260. Fridays, 6:30pm; through Friday, July 26, $8-$10. North Park Recreation Center, 4044 Idaho Street. (NORTH PARK)

Flamenco Dance Show Live show features singer-dancer Oscar Valero, guitarist Juan Moro. Fri-Sat show features singer-dancer Oscar la’s Dream Flamenco Dance Show at Ohio Center, 4044 Idaho Street. Required. Drop-ins welcome. Classes that teach the basics of flamenco dance, and a dash of Butoh. Part of the Midwest meets a string of performances from the belly of downtown society’ (i.e., in those days, the Gaslamp Quarter). Friday, July 5, 9pm; Saturday, July 6, 9pm; Sunday, July 7, 10pm; Les Girls Theatre, 3790 Riley St. (SAN DIEGO)

SD Fringe Festival: La Femme Tragique: Angela’s Dream Xd Rose Productions presents the third in the La Femme Tragique series. San Diego, 1983: “a deer-in-the-headlights orphan from the Midwest meets a string of dysfunctional characters from the underbelly of downtown society” (i.e., in those days, the Gaslamp Quarter). Friday, July 5, 9pm; Saturday, July 6, 9pm; Sunday, July 7, 10pm; Les Girls Theatre, 3790 Riley St. (SAN DIEGO)

SD Fringe Festival: Lux Boreal Dance Company From Mexico: “I’m from there, indeed, however ‘I don’t like Tomatoes’ is a metaphor for and an expression of our identities, our self-exposure in a One-Way society and our drive to experiment, break, and evolve the perception of the norm.” Friday, July 5, 2pm; Saturday, July 6, 11am; Sunday, July 7, 8pm; Tenth Avenue Theatre, 930 Tenth Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

FOOD & DRINK

First Friday at Liberty Station. Come see all the galleries and studios in Liberty Station and then dine at Solare. Friday, July 5, Solare Ristorante Lounge, 2820 Roosevell Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Firkin Friday with CBC On Cask: Peanut Butter Stout! Friday, July 5. Hamilton’s Tavern, 1521 30th Street. (SOUTH PARK)

4th of July BBQ The BBQ picnic will feature a Stone Brewery pop-up beer garden experience, a drum band, cash food and beverage concessions featuring burgers, hot dogs, salads, and more, as well as an astro jump and special kids area, and a special visit from the local fire department for kids to take photos in the firetruck and with the firefighters. Thursday, July 4, 5pm; free. Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, 1380 Harbor Island Drive. (HARBOR ISLAND)

Fireworks Dinner Cruise A post-red, white, and blue brunch of Barley-mash’s best comfort foods with $4 special on Hamm’s beer. 619-255-7373. Friday, July 5, 10am; Barley-mash, 600 Fifth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Alchemy BBQ Event features a whole pig roast, beef brisket with all the fixings, a Societe Brewing Company special release, Tito’s handmade American Vodka cocktails, and more. Activities include a bicycle decorating contest and parade, an apple pie eating contest, sidewalk chalk drawing, and a craft table for children. 619-255-0616. Thursday, July 4, 11am; Alchemy, 1503 30th Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Beer and Bacon Sunday Brunch A farm-to-table brunch, including a special visit from the Midwest meets a string of Hickory smoked bacon from Iowa Meat Farms, rosemary fingerling potatoes from Weiser Farms, a cheesy strate made with smoked cheddar and locally sourced eggs, French toast crostini with pomegranate-sangria syrup, and a flight of four craft beers. Sundays, 10am. Amplified Ateworks (at California Kebab and Beer Garden), 4150 Mission Boulevard #218. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Craft Brewery Tours Tour stops at Green Flash, Ballast Point, and Karl Strauss (subject to change). Cost includes transportation, dinner, and beer tastings. 619-232-5040. Thursdays, 4pm; Fridays, 4pm; through Wednesday, July 31, $95. 21 and up. Five Star Tours, 1050 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Curbside Bites Dinner A weekly food truck gathering. Thursdays, 5:30pm; through Thursday, December 12, free. 1 Street between 3rd & 4th Avenues. (DOWNTOWN)

Fireworks Dinner Cruise Celebration Watch the Big Bay Boom Fireworks Show from the deck of a Hornblower yacht. Cost includes a three-hour cruise, boarding cocktail in a souvenier glass, buffet dinner, DJ entertainment, dancing, views that change with each course, and wine and cocktails for purchase. Thursday, July 4, 6:30pm; $119. Hornblower Dinner Cruises, 1800 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Fourth of July at Marina Kitchen The down-home picnic menu features an assortment of holiday favorites by executive chef Aron Schwartz, including cole slaw two ways, Niman Ranch BBQ baby back ribs, Jidori fried chicken, and corn on the cob, among others. Dessert station with a selection of house-made mini pies, mini strawberry shortcakes, chocolate chip cookies, and peach crisp will be available as well. After dinner, guests are encouraged to stay for fireworks over the San Diego Bay. Early diners can grab a seat on the VIP
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SHEEP and GOATS

The Saundarya Lahari
In the midst of the Ocean of Nectar, where covered with groves of heavenly wishing trees is the Isle of Gems, in the mansion of wishing jewels with its grove of nipa trees, on a couch composed of Siva and the other gods, your seat a mat

tress which is Supreme Siva — some few lucky ones worship you [Devi, Supreme Female Deity], a flood of consciousness and bliss. . . . With streams of nectar flowing from between your feet sprinkling the universe, recreating through the power of reciting the sacred texts that produce the six circles, again you reach your own abode and into the form of a serpent in three and a half coils you convert yourself and sleep in the kulakunda hollow. — from The Saundarya Lahari (trans. W. Norman Brown).

The Saundarya Lahari or “Waves of Beauty,” is a Hindu literary work considered to be part of the tantric (contemplative) literature of Hinduism. Believed by many to have been written by famous Indian philosopher Adi Shankara (circa 789 A.D.), The Saundarya Lahari contains 103 verses that serve as a psalm to the beauty, grace, and perfection of Devi, or Parvati, the divine goddess and consort of Shiva, a supreme being in Hindu mythology. As a tantra, the work also instructs the faithful about religious customs and devotions.

Find more excerpts online at SDReader.com/worship


Science and Spirituality A talk by Dr. G. Venkataraman, physicist, educator, writer, and spiritual seeker. Dr. Venkataraman will discuss how physics, the social sciences, and spirituality reveal a moral compass for the cosmos and describe a path to finding unity in the apparent diversity. The program will include music.
from diverse spiritual traditions: Native American, Indian, Traditional Christian, and Jazz-Blues-Modern.

Wildlife Tracking Trek! Learn the art of animal tracking, discover and identify tracks, scat, and evidence of critters and their lifestyles. MTRP tracking guide leads you on a two-hour dirt-time adventure. Wear long pants. Meet in front of Visitor Center. Saturday, July 6, 8:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

“Love’s in the Air” Dance/Mixer Ages 40-60ish Simp-ly The Best Singles, an upscale organization for singles looking for relationships, marriage and more, offers a dance/mixer with one-minute speed dating, DJ Ron, Psychic, Photos and More! Classy dress (no jeans/no shorts), $15 prepay, $20 door, free parking. Sign up at www.SimplyTheBestSingles.com or call 818-577-6877. Saturday, July 13, 7:30pm to 11:30pm. Sheraton Carlsbad Resort & Spa, 5480 Grand Pacific Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Win a Fun Date for a Good Cause! A Date Auction, Hosted by the NZE Foundation at Galagher’s Pub in Ocean Beach. Saturday, July 20, 1-5pm. Galagher’s Pub & Grill, 5046 Newport Avenue. (OCEAN BEACH)

4th of July Celebration and Fireworks Live music, food, children’s activities, educational activities, a special performance by the 1st Division Marine Band, and more. For the first time, the Center will open its doors for a gourmet picnic, drinks, and reserved seating for the fireworks spectacular (tickets required). 760-839-4186. Thursday, July 4, 4pm; free. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 North Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

4th of July Fireworks Come for the sunset, stay for the fireworks. Price per car. Letter bomb. All proceeds go to benefit Cabrillo National Monument. Contact: friendsofcabrillo@gmail.com Thursday, July 4, 6:30pm; $35. Cabrillo National Monument, 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive. (POINT LOMA)

Gregorian Chant Mass

Pater noster, qui es in caeli: sanctification of nomen tuum; adveniet regnum Thy kingdom

4 pm on the second Sunday of every month
- Sunday, July 14, 4:00 pm.

Choir and congregational singing of Gregorian Chant, sacred polyphony, and hymns.

Our Lady of the Rosary Church
State and Date Streets (Little Italy), Downtown San Diego
LOCAL EVENTS

Art à la Carte The art and food worlds come together for this monthly, street-festival-inspired event showcasing the work of noted artists, performers, and musicians. Eaters will offer food and drink specials. July 7 showcases the works of art critic, collector, and art dealer Alexander Salazar. Sunday, July 7, 5pm. free. Hyatt Regency La Jolla at Aventine, 3777 La Jolla Village Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Reptile Super Show Over 100 vendors will fill more than 500 tables packed with reptiles, amphibians and all related supplies. Saturday, July 6, 10am; Sunday, July 7, 11am-$9-$14. San Diego Community Concourse, 202 C Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Rooftop Pool Party and Fireworks Viewing The Fortune 421 pool party and fireworks viewing features patrician décor, pool toys, a Grey Goose Cherry Noir Lemonade stand, and a street-style pop-up boutique. Headlining DJs Viceroy and Threm Jeans will deliver disco, house, and indie dance sounds to the main stage while DJ Theron will drop electro house vibes poolside. Additional DJs will include Gaba Vega, Brady Spear, Colourvision, Ayla Simone, Fishionics, Beafam, J-Sin, Will Hernandez, and Wattzup. 619-814-2035; Thursday, July 4, 11am; $40. 21 and up. Andas San Diego, 600 F Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Fringe Festival Artists from across the United States and around the world participate alongside home-grown talent in street performing, cabaret, comedy, circus, dance, film, poetry, spoken word, theatre, puppetry, music, visual art, design, and anything else. Thursday, July 4, 10am; Friday, July 5, 10am; Saturday, July 6, 10am; Sunday, July 7, 10am; free-$10. Seaport Village, 489 West Harbor Drive. (UNIVERSITY CITY)

Who Dunnit? Old Town San Diego During this two-hour murder mystery adventure tour, participants will visit several of Old Town’s most popular destinations while solving a murder mystery. The journey begins with receipt of a mission. Participants will then pursue a killer through the streets of Old Town, virtually collecting clues and evidence, cracking codes, deciphering riddles, and participating in crazy challenges to successfully complete the mission. Contact Rae, 619-781-8013. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 7pm; Sundays, 3pm; through Saturday, August 31, $25. Old Town State Historic Park, 4002 Wallace Street, (OLD TOWN)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Lunch Time Yoga All levels welcome. Bring a mat and water. Instructor: Amanda Lagato. Information: 619-296-1150. Fridays, 12pm; through Wednesday, April 16, $10. Eye of Buddha, 4247 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Night Flight Big Air Show Catch your favorite pro freeboarders mid-air while enjoying drink specials and pure adrenaline fueled entertainment. Thursdays, 8:30pm; through Thursday, September 12, Wave House, 1215 Ocean Front Walk, (MISSION BEACH)

Zumba Dance Fitness for Seniors Fusing Latin rhythms with easy-to-follow moves. The routines feature interval training sessions where fast and slow rhythms and resistance training are combined to tone and sculpt while burning fat. Fridays, 1pm; through Tuesday, July 30, free. 18 and up. Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Green Fix Smoothie $1.00 off any quart-Limit 1 per customer www.GreenFixSmoothie.com (619) 241-2414

Poppa’s Fresh Fish $1 off Live Sea Urchin with this coupon. Find us on Date St, between India and Columbia

Mention this ad for a free Applewood Smoked Salt www.salt-farm.com Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

Fresh Harvest RED and CHANDLER Walnuts Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

Save $5 when you buy any 3 items at $5 each at Little Italy, North Park and Pacific Beach Weekly Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

Baba Foods Save $1! 3 Vegetarian Samosas $5 at Little Italy, North Park and Pacific Beach Weekly Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

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california raised grass-fed beef, free range chicken and natural pork.

Salmon Slinger $1 off per pound Fresh Wild Alaskan Sockeye Salmon caught from our boat Always $5 Live Sea Urchin Reserve on Facebook or call (619) 729-1256

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Fit Body Challenge FREE Polito Farms market bag with $10 purchase Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.

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$1 Off when you buy 3 bunches of broccoli Valid through July 11, 2013 only. One coupon per customer per booth.
Let’s say you can’t afford to fly to France this weekend. You know, to frolic around Versailles and walk in the “village” where Marie Antoinette played milkmaid. Waddaya gonna do?

Answer: Get on down here to the Plaza Bar at Third and Broadway. Honest. It’s the next best thing to a French palace I’ve seen. And tasted.

Came in on a whim after wandering up from the transit center, where I’d gone to get my bus pass renewed for the month. Took Second Avenue, headed for the Civic Center trolley stop, when I found myself walking among those tall cream-painted columns of the Westgate Hotel.

Not even five o’clock and Carla not expecting me for at least another hour. So I thought I’d pop in to see if they have a happy hour.

“Happy hour?” I ask the door guy.

“Certainly, sir. Check with the concierge,” says this gal at reception. “Plaza Bar, first right, first left.”

I head toward the windows, turn right into a gilded passage. At the end, on the left, you look into this little jewel of a room with a bar and a dozen small, white marble tables, some upholstered wooden chairs, another piano (this one’s a baby grand), two great chandeliers, and cream-colored walls loaded with columns and tapestries that look like they’re straight out of, well, Versailles. Just like the ones in the entrance hall, only more intimate. Women and kids frolicking in the countryside.

“It’s 18th Century,” says this butler-type guy who comes in from the foyer to make sure everything’s cool. So, that means these things are maybe 300 years old… and hanging on a bar wall! “When the hotel was completed in 1970,” the guy says, “it cost $14.5 million. It was the most expensive hotel ever built in the United States.”

I sit down at a table up against the wall, and when the barman, Ian, comes over, I ask him, “What’s the deal with happy hour?”

“Seven, seven, seven, sir,” he says. “Seven-dollar cocktails, seven dollars for appetizers, seven days a week.”

He leaves me a thick green book — the drinks and eats menu.

Hmm... they have quite a few of these seven-buck apps. Crispy popcorn shrimp with a citrusy ponzu sauce and smoked ancho chili dip; prawn cocktail; an Alaskan king crab cake with “crab bisque cappuccino, lemon-grass foam, saffron-vermouth sauce, and fennel purée.” Wow.

They also have beef, shrimp, and chicken satayas with peanut sauce, three sirloin sliders, dim sum, a California cheese platter, and a “Spanish platter.”

Normally, each costs $15. Which means that for happy hour things are more than half off. Not bad. For me, it’s between the sliders and the Spanish platter. Leaning toward the platter, "cause it seems to have so much interesting stuff. "Serrano ham, cured pork loin, chorizo sarta, Pamplona morcilla sausage, and salchicha de vic," plus a bowl of picholine olives.

Sounds way more interesting than sliders, though they do come with blue cheese and bacon, avocado, and a couple of cheeses.

“And to drink, sir?” Ian asks.

I order an O’Doul’s ($4.50). Work day. So, that’s $11.50 I’m out. Plus tax. Say another dollar, $12.50.

But, it’s worth it. For starters, Ian brings cutlery, a napkin, and a plateful of bread. Make that breads, all wrapped in a white linen napkin: two long spikes of crackling lavash bread, a rosemary roll, several slices of olive bread and sourdough, and a white bun. Rolled balls of butter sit in a silver dish. A white bowl holds dipping oil with garlic, dried tomatoes, and olives floating around in it.

I’m just starting to crunch into these when Ian brings over a white marble slab loaded with meats. I mean loaded. I do a quick body count. Six rows of different salami-type sausages, each with about ten slices… that’s 60 slices I’ve gotta get through. Plus a big wedge of cheese. All for seven bucks. Incredible.

Ian — he’s from Glasgow, Scotland, so it’s a pleasurable struggle trying to work out what he’s saying — tells me what each row is. “Cured pork loin, Sangojewa, Calabrese, apple bacon, chorizo, and fennel. The big wads at the bottom are Parma ham.”

And the cheese?

“Mancghego. From La Mancha. Same as Don Quijote.”

Turns out, they have musicians here on most nights for no extra charge or cover. None right now ‘cause I’ve come too early. I’m sorry to miss it.

“Monday nights are packed,” Ian says. “We have a jazz pianist, sax, and bass. This little place rocks.”

All the while, he’s opening bottles of Argentinian Malbec wine. “For selling by the glass. This is so they can breathe a little first.”

When I ask if he misses Glasgow, Ian says, “No way. People are so uptight there. I’m Catholic and supported the Celtics football team. People who weren’t Catholic wouldn’t even talk to you. I came from that to living 200 yards from the ocean with friendly, open people, and a chance to make something of myself. No contest! And in this hotel you have the best of both worlds. It’s like working in one of those old chateau hotels in France.”

Except you probably don’t get $7 happy hours over there.

I run out of space — guts space, that is. Hate to have to leave half of the danged sausages untouched, but I can’t bring myself to ask Ian to pack the uneaten ones to go. This being happy hour, and such an elegant, swellegant place and all. Heck. It could’ve kept Carla and me going for a week. ■

(The Place: Plaza Bar at the Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue, downtown San Diego, 619-238-1818
Happy Hour Prices: Everything on the “Signature Appetizers” is $7 during happy hour. These include: crispy popcorn shrimp with a citrusy ponzu sauce and smoked ancho chili dip; prawn cocktail; Alaskan king crab cake with crab bisque cappuccino, lemongrass foam, saffron-vermouth sauce, and fennel purée; beef, shrimp, and chicken satayas with peanut sauce; three sirloin sliders; dim sum; California cheese platter: “Spanish platter”
Happy Hour: 5:00–7:00 p.m., daily
Buses: All downtown
Nearest bus stop: First and Broadway
Trolleys: Orange Line, Blue Line
Nearest trolley stop: Civic Center (Second and C)

(@SDReader_EdBed)
Silly me, thinking there was only one Ethiopian restaurant named “Awash!” Turns out there is another, much farther out El Cajon Boulevard, at number 4997, to be exact, right next to the Last Call bar, where they serve discount shots anytime an ambulance goes by. Awash Ethiopian Restaurant (619-677-3754) is not to be confused with Awash Market. Actually, they’re easily confused, since they have the same name. But let the record show that there is a difference!

Awash Restaurant had the most enthusiastic staff of any stop thus far on the Ethiopian circuit. Like all the other places (other than the tourist-friendly Muzita), I suspect there are very few off-the-hook busy nights. Walking in, I got an effusive greeting and a barrage of questions from the cook/server/owner/hostess. Is it my first time eating Ethiopian food? Do I like my food spicy? How hungry am I? Do I like lamb? Nope. Yes. Very. Yes.

I ordered a combination platter ($18.95), but don’t think I got exactly that. My entrée received a few artistic tweaks to “make it better,” about which I’m not complaining. It was definitely the Mama Tam treatment, but I still had to go with the flow.

And go I did, right into the biggest serving of food I’ve yet received. First, I got a lentil ment, but I still had to go with the flow. I was getting encouragement like an out-of-shape first-timer at the Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon. “Just do it! You can finish!”

Verdict? Lamb tibs were exceptional. Beef and chicken wot were both excellent as well. Rich, fearlessly spiced sauces surrounded succulent bites of meat. The stewed veggies on the side worked their way marvelously into the meat dishes, enriching the rich gravies in just the right way.

After I finished all the food, seemingly on a whim, I got a little plate of roasted barley, which had a few peanuts in there. I’ve never tried this snack food, but it would have been great with a cold beer.

Last weekend, I didn’t even know Awash Restaurant existed. Now, it’s in the running for a strong finish in this impromptu Ethiopian restaurant showdown of mine.

by Ian Pike

Toma Sol reborn as wine bar

Talk about reinventing yourself: Toma Sol Café up and decided to forego the coffee-shop lifestyle and transform into a wine bar! Newly minted “Toma Sol Tavern” (301 W. Washington Street, 619-291-1159) is a substantial change from the old business. It’s different enough that the “Grand Opening” sign out front is warranted, despite the fact that Toma Sol has been on the corner there for, what, 18 months now? Perhaps ownership changed (I didn’t think to ask) or maybe this was the plan all along. It doesn’t really matter, since now Mission Hills has a new wine bar.

The interior got a bit of remodeling. Coffee-shop touches — such as board games, free WiFi, and the espresso press — remain in place, but the addition of a few TVs and a bar thrusts the café toward watering-hole territory. In the end, it feels more like a café-bar than either discrete category.

Beer list looked good, with a dozen taps ($5–$6) and a short selection of bottles, but the wine list was more impressive. Half-bottles of Stag’s Leap, some decent DOC/AOC bottlings, and plenty of affordable stuff. Best of all, everything was available by the glass ($6–$18).

The menu received a facelift, too. For the most part, it’s wine-bar-style snacks (flatbreads, sandwiches, hummus plates, etc.) and little of substance, but I did manage to get a pasta dish for $7.50. The price was reasonable, considering the plate of spaghetti, red sauce, onions, peppers, and Italian sausage filled me up. The pasta had gone soft from overcooking, but it wasn’t bad, just not great.

Similarly, a wee-little Caesar salad didn’t offend my sense of thrift. It may have been no more than a bowl of lettuce spotted with croutons and dusted with shredded cheese, but the lettuce was crisp and cool, so what more could I ask for $3?

There’s nothing the owners can do about the location. It will always be a weakness if for no other reason than that parking is a hassle, but the new incarnation of Toma Sol is an improvement. Coffee shop by day, wine bar with sports on TV by night; she’ll lead her double life well.

by Ian Pike

I got a little plate of roasted barley, which had a few peanuts in there.
and strawberries,” says Mark. They cost $4.

Now this I can handle. I get one. The taste is fab. The apples and grapes and lemongrass flavors definitely come through. And I swear you can feel the energy coursing through your veins.

I do. The little guy’s perfect. I thought of ordering one. It’s the shrimp cocktail, $5.50 at this time, happy hour. Jerome — let’s call him that...he doesn’t want to give his real name — also got a steak quesadilla ($5.50), along with a glass of rum and Coke ($3.50).

This is the Bullseye Bar inside Black Angus Steakhouse (707 E Street, Chula Vista, 619-426-9200).

Fact is, I don’t usually darken the doors of this kind of franchise steakhouse. It’s usually too slick, too chainy. I mean, these guys have 44 locations in six states, from Alaska to Hawaii. It’s a well-oiled machine.

Who comes to eat here?

Check the parking lot. It’s rich with F-150s, 250s, 350s …you’d have to be a high-jumper to get aboard without your pogo stick.

I’m here sniffing round because it’s pretty much across from the Bay Front/E Street trolley station. I’m had half an hour to kill and needed to fill up for the night. Hauled across E Street and into this big wooden barn, then down a slope under the “Bullseye Bar” sign, and right onto the last spare seat along this 30-foot bar.

Next seat along from Jerome. “Five minutes,” said the gal. She slips me the HH menu.

Oh, yeah. Five to seven. HH choices come in three price levels. For $3.50 you get garlic bread or onion rings. Uh, thanks but no thanks. For $4.50, it’s fried zucchini, pretzels, skins, or chicken tenders. Top o’ the line ($5.50) are buffalo wings, steak nachos, steak quesadilla, shrimp cocktail, or fire-grilled artichoke.

So, yeah. Standard fare. All except the artichoke. Love arti-
Calories the spuds have: 1850. Ayee! Double what the artichokes have.

But what happens is Jerome and I pool our packin’s and make one heckuva filling meal out of it. Good thing is you can talk here. All the sports screens aren’t too loud.

So, skies, great, and Jerome’s quesadilla would probably be enough for two on its lonesome. But for me, the star of the evening is those artichokes.

They’ve been roasted on a grill, cut in half and face down. The burning adds a whole lot of flavor. Each leaf pulls off easy, and even though it gets automatic as we talk, the dipping and scraping and each fresh little taste pleasure makes for a good time.

They have two kinds of sauces: lemon aioli and basil pesto mayo. The green-flecked lemon aioli is the killer dip.

I come out fuller than full. Yes, this kinda place basically isn’t my style, but it sure has taken care of business. And only 100 yards to the trolley? Somebody’s thinking of us at last.

by Ed Bedford

Leaping shrimp!

I’m always in search of the Perfect tom yum kung.

Last I had of this spicy-sour, lemony soup was at Bahn Thai up on Park, near Adams. Pretty zippy and hot, that one.

Of course my favorite is the large size that comes in a charcoal-fire-heated chimney bowl with the flame coming up through the middle. As you drink and chew the soup down and the lit fire keeps evaporating away the liquids, the mix gets richer and richer. At the same time, your whole body heats up from the spices till you’re kinda breathing fire yourself.

So this all comes to mind as I hustle past this little Thai place on Seventh Avenue, Thai Island (at 1134 Seventh, between B and C, 619-232-7576) in deepest Oldtown; it’s just past six in the evening.

I know that everything here is tuned for the office lunch crowd, so no surprise that things are a little sleepy around this cluster of eateries here right now.

I’m in a hurry. Gotta access my stretch limo at 6:30. But, hmm... Just might squeeze in a tom yum, if they have soups at the ready.

I like the look of it. They have orange tablecloths with beautiful blue and white plates and creamy linen napkins on top. Just as long as the prices aren’t as classy.

I go up to the counter. Lots of talk coming from the kitchen. I scan the walls. They’re interesting, kinda peach color, with Thai-style roof struts, sitting Buddhas, lying Buddhas, flying Buddhas, photos of food, and a gold-rimmed altar for offerings.

“Can you do a tom yum quick?” I ask the lady when she comes.

“Oh, yes,” she says. “Even tom yum kung?”

“No problem. They’re $6.56.”

I go to the nearest table and settle into one of the wicker chairs and have to wait only five minutes or so. During that time I can’t resist ordering a Singha beer.


It was Germans who set up the brewery back then, created the pilsner-type flavor. Hoppy? Not really, but it like I. Great hot-weather beer. Costs $3.99.

The soup? Comes steaming, not in the fire pot, but in a beautiful blue-and-white bowl and is swimming with shrimp, broccoli, onions, and lots of sliced mushrooms.

I sprinkle ’em in anyway, as classy...

Just as long as the prices aren’t at 7-Eleven in the mornings. It’s so good, in its way. Some people hate the stuff. To them, making coffee taste like vanilla and hazelnuts is an abomination. Others dig on some sweet, flavored java, and they will be happy to know that the San Diego House purveys a wide selection of flavored coffees and an astonishing rainbow of leaf-tea teas.

Again, if you just want your single-origin Ethiopian chemex, stay away. But if you’re excited by coffee and tea flavors you never knew existed, then that’s another story.

Unfortunately, San Diego House is at the most inaccessible part of Old Town, in the center of the “no cars here” part, where the workers dress all-old-timey. You either walk in or ride a bike, so there’s no pulling up on the curb and grabbing a bag of beans on the way home. That’s disadvantageous, but still workable. Since the baristas manage a decent (though not impeccable) shot of espresso, it’s worth moseying in, getting a coffee for there, and perusing the wares.

by Ian Pike

Ten-inch pizza deal

These are desperate times. I’ve promised Carla a meal and it’s heading for nine o’clock at night and I’m still traipsing across the bridges over the open wound they call Chollas Creek. No bus, no eatery in sight. No wound they call Chollas Creek. No bus, no eatery in sight. No wind they call Chollas Creek. No bus, no eatery in sight. No wind they call Chollas Creek.

I asked for. I asked for. I asked for.

I sprinkle ‘em in anyway, as classy...

Just as long as the prices aren’t at 7-Eleven in the mornings. It’s so good, in its way. Some people hate the stuff. To them, making coffee taste like vanilla and hazelnuts is an abomination. Others dig on some sweet, flavored java, and they will be happy to know that the San Diego House purveys a wide selection of flavored coffees and an astonishing rainbow of leaf-tea teas.

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by Ian Pike
Romiro Romero, the manager,
the back. Two guys are there,
I go straight to the counter at
lions and murals of statues.

money into. The place is full of
tain’s the one they threw their
romance in Rome…this foun-

movie, three American girls find
the fountain bless?”) or see that
the song (“ …Which one will

Trevi Fountain? Rome? “Three
patch of wall. Ah, right. The
fountain fills up one whole
neon sign above.

Inside, a mural of that same
fountain fills up one whole
patch of wall. Ah, right. The
fountain fills up one whole
neon sign above.

But no time for an art tour.
I go straight to the counter at
the back. Two guys are there,
Romiro Romero, the manager,

I guess, with clumps of houses
separated by miles of empty hills
and valleys around here.

I haul out of there, swearing
I’ll come back, if for no other rea-
son but to check out the artwork
properly and to have what they
promise in their logo: “A taste of
Northern Italy”.

And, lo and behold, the #13
appears, laboring up that 47th
Street hill I just walked up. Red
light gives me the opportunity
to cross to the bus stop. Climb
aboard with the box, I’m a popu-
lar guy. Everybody has to lean in
to smell the delicious aromas.

And thus it is that instead of
a raging tiger, I come home to a
purring pussycat. Carla even gives
me one of the four slices. Mmm.
Rich, sausagey, and surprisingly
moist, even after being reheated.

Between lunes at the pizza,
she asks me how I found this.

“You don’t wanna know,” I
say. But am I happy I did. Last
time Carla gave up on me she
ordered from Domino’s. Thirty-
five bucks. Ouch!

by Ed Bedford
Bad service
Since I started reviewing restaurants for the Reader, the only thing I’ve received hate mail over has been my tendency to call out bad servers and poor service. I’ve gone so far as to say that the standards for service across the industry in San Diego are inferior, and that truly good service is a treasured rarity.

I’ve gone so far as to say that the standards for service are inferior, and that truly good service is a treasured rarity. Since I started reviewing restaurants for the Reader, the only thing I’ve received hate mail over has been my tendency to call out bad servers and poor service. I’ve gone so far as to say that the standards for service across the industry in San Diego are inferior, and that truly good service is a treasured rarity.

So I started keeping a list. I’ve recorded the most egregious offenses against table service that I’ve encountered, some of which outright appalled me.

At URBN Pizza, I once had the audacity to ask for water glasses. My server launched into a snotty, breathless explanation about why there were none. The correct answer was, “Yes, sir. Let me get you some.” I could do without the sir...but it never hurts. That same night, I waited 90 minutes for a pizza that never came. I expressed my dissatisfaction to that same waiter. He shrugged, and said, “Sorry, bro, it’s busy.”

At the Blind Burro, where I had an okay meal, the busser pilaggered my table, clearing plates from which I was still eating. At Sipz, a waitress disdainfully sighed and huffed about having to serve my larger-sized party. She threw my food down like a grumpy chef from a cartoon. That same night, at DBar, the hostess gave me a “we don’t want you” attitude on arrival. The restaurant was slightly busy and my friend on arrival. The restaurant was slightly busy and my friend on arrival. The restaurant was slightly busy and my friend on arrival. The restaurant was slightly busy and my friend on arrival. The restaurant was slightly busy and my friend on arrival.

Every time I go to Tiger Tiger, I am flabbergasted by how disorganized and inefficient the staff there is. I have always loved the Blind Lady, and I think Tiger Tiger has the potential to be cool, but it seems like the staff is in a perpetual state of hot mess.

I hate to beat on Hubcap any more than I did in my original review, the way that the server “rallied” from her error of forgetting to card the table and not mentioning that some of the beers were out before my party ordered was almost comical. And then she had the gall to categorically ignore us.

The big problem, for me, is that this kind of thing is more of a norm than an exception. I am ignored and slighted on a weekly basis, as are other diners in San Diego. Some days, I feel like Big Blue from the Sesame Street sketch.

And what do we do about this? Nothing. We diners are so accustomed to maltreatment that we don’t demand better service. Making the change is on us, not them. People need to start standing up for themselves. Say something. Leave a scant tip. Tell the manager. Let your dissatisfaction be known. Just don’t go on Yelp and rant. Trust me on this one. Negative Yelp reviews only drive service downward as restaurant staffers carry grudges against anonymous, faceless customers.

Business owners end up trying to control the damage online rather than IRL. Interacting in the real world is a two-way street and we owe it to ourselves to demand better. If we do, we’ll get it.

by Ian Pike

Please come to San Diego, Iron Press.
So, I was in Costa Mesa last weekend and I just happened to notice the Iron Press (3321 Hyland Ave., 714-426-8088). Installed in a bourgeois, OC mall and surrounded by corporate offices on all sides, it’s not like the restaurant picked a scenic locale. Still, the phrase “waffles and beer” drew me in like a moth to the firelight.

How to describe? Think Box’d meets Roscoe’s meets Blind Lady. They have the “waffle sandwich” thing perfectly worked out, but they’re not scared to fill them with fried chicken or smoker with gravy. In addition, 30 taps of tasty brews and a ridiculously friendly bartender to pour them. Maybe they know something up in Orange County that we in SD don’t; something about how being a bartender doesn’t mean you get to scowl at people like the king of the hop-sniffers.

What can I say, it’s nice to feel welcome.

And the sandwiches were mighty fine. I tried one loaded up with fried chicken, cole slaw, and drenched (by me) with jalepeño maple syrup. An amazing mix of sweet, spicy, and salty. The waffle was conventionally American (not the ultra-crispy gaufrette or the yeasty Liege waffle), which made me think of my college dining hall on weekend mornings. That’s not the worst memory to raise.

“No this a franchise or chain?” I asked the girl who served me.

“No. This is,” she said.

“Well, are there plans for expansion? I’m here from San Diego and I’d love to hear that this is moving south!”

“No,” she replied. “We’re opening one in L.A., though.”

Damn. Damn. Orange County invents something awesome and they export it to L.A., where nobody will appreciate it. Why can’t we get a taste of the waffley goodness, OC? I promise we’ll embrace Iron Press with open arms. How about, instead of sending south some overwrought Hash House spin-offs, Orange County shares Iron Press and some of the other cool spots I hear about from time to time through the grapevine? I know there is talent and a few bright ideas up there.

by Ian Pike
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We basically started this company with the idea that we wanted to partner with bands and give back to charity,” Erin Goss, a publicist by trade, and Louis Maigaard, a surfboard shaper and co-founder of Sound Off Apparel, are on the phone to talk about their fledgling enterprise, a startup they call Sound Off Apparel. If all goes according to plan, Sound Off will design an original T-shirt that pairs a different hometown band with a cause. A percentage of the proceeds from sales of the T’s will be given to the charity.

“We talked to the members of Transfer first, and they were onboard,” Goss says. The band members already had a charity in mind. “They wanted to benefit the Center for Community Solutions,” a San Diego–based charity, she says, that provides prevention and intervention services for victims of sexual assault and relationship violence to over 11,000 individuals each year. “We sat down with Transfer and an artist and we came up with a design for their shirts.”

“The guys wanted to do something that looked hopeful,” Maigaard says. So, what did they come up with? “Trees and roots,” symbolic of growth and community, he says. “We got sample T-shirts last week,” Goss says, “and we did our first [promo] photo shoot.”

“We went for the Let It Be look,” Maigaard says in explanation of the four-square look to the design concept. Goss says the plan is to sell the T-shirts on the internet or at events like the upcoming Transfer show at the Casbah on July 13. “Everything’s print-ed to order in limited editions. Each shirt will be available for one month only. Then, we’ll move on to the next band.”

“We brainstormed the idea over dinner one night,” Maigaard explains. He says he and Goss first met at Small Bar in University Heights where Maigaard holds down shifts as a bartender. “We wanted to do something we are both passionate about,” he says.

The shirts will retail for $23 each. And even though Goss says 40 percent of proceeds will be kicked back to the band’s charity, Sound Off Apparel is a for-profit venture. As for the next band and T-shirt project, Goss says “We’re kind of up in the air right now.”

— Dave Good

Creative compound “As a kid, all I did was hang out at surf shops,” says Chris Cote, cofounder/drummer/singer with Kut-U-Up. “It doesn’t seem like there are a lot of places left where people just hang out.”

A reignited Kut-U-Up (they just released Worse Than Wolves, their first studio album in a decade) played an acoustic show last week at the Garage, a new art-and-event space in Encinitas that is starting to present all-ages live shows. Think: Andy Warhol’s Factory for surfers and skaters. The Garage is a space on Coast Highway launched by Tim Swart, a veteran of the action-sports industry.

Seven years ago, Swart opened UNIV, a men’s clothing store that specializes in its own line of made-in-America denim pants. That store hosted many live-music shows over the years. When the building next door to UNIV became available last year, he seized the opportunity and opened the Garage.

The 1500-square-foot space has a surfboard-shaping room that hosts local pro Rob Machado’s surfboard shaping collaboration called Garage Project. Other surfers/shapers such as Ryan Burch, Alex Knost, and Ellis Ericson have hosted events at the Garage that usually involve music and a display of their new boards.

Hawaiian ukulele player Makua Rothman and local artists Tropical Popsicle, Boaz, Mattson 2, and Night Riots have played at the Garage. All of those shows were free.

“We charge whoever is putting on the event,” says Garage/UNIV employee James Addonivio. [Breast-cancer charity] Keep-A-Breast had the chance to present all-ages shows.

“We never broke up,” says drummer Cote. “We’ve been playing here and there for the past ten years.”

— Ken Leighton

Geezer never gets old

“I always said that I’d never do any cover Me Badd acts seriously, since we spend more time making fun of those who do,” says Adam Gimbel, whose many spoof bands include Gezer, a senior citizen–themed Weezer/Beastie Boys tribute. “But Gezer just keeps getting better and never gets old...so to speak.”

The group is preparing for their first appearance at San Francisco’s Great American Music Hall on July 20. “A friend of mine books shows up there and owes us a favor, so he put together a 90s covers night and wanted us to go last, so it looks like we’re big, popular headliners, even though we’ve never played there.”

The ornate 5000-square-foot concert hall opened in 1907 and has hosted thousands of acts, from Count Basie to Chuck Berry, the Grateful Dead, Joni Mitchell, the Ramones, and Arcade Fire. “With our schedule about to ramp up, we have to get used to having substitute Gezerz.”

(continued on page 58)
OPENING WEEKEND
Saturday, July 13

For DJ line-up and directions, visit DiveDayclub.com
Reserve VIP Cabanas at DayclubTickets.com

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from time to time, so I got my friend Nick Laquiniano to fill in on drums. He’s played with Smiths, New Order, Duran Duran, and No Doubt tribute acts in the Bay Area, but we also needed someone to handle the rap duties for when we do Beastie Boys... There’s an L.A. Beastie Boys tribute act called Pollywog Crew and their Mike D, Jeffrey Davis, agreed to do it. So I’m flying him in to do six songs. Unreal, but we wanted to give our Bay Area grandkids the full Geezer experience.”

Formed by Gimbel and his band Rookie Card for a 2005 Casbah show, Geezer once appeared onstage with Weezer at Cox Arena in 2008. “Their singer, Rivers Cuomo, ended up asking me about the cookies I was passing out onstage in front of 10,000 grandkids while everyone was getting set up.”

“A short clip of Zachary Goode’s wife Marrisa from that night ended up in their video for the song Tin Your Daddy.” — Jay Allen Sanford

How supply meets demand
So, how much are tickets for tonight’s Barrington Levy outdoor show at the Wave House in Mission Beach? $10? $15? $25? It depends on when you buy them.

If you were one of the early ticket buyers, it was only $10. But if you wait until the last minute, the price could go as high as $25.

That’s according to an insider who is one of the group assembled to put together a concert lineup for the Wave House this summer.

Barrington Levy will be supported by the B-Side Players, Seedless, Through the Roots, and four local DJs at the Wave House July 4. The insider maintains that the moveable price scale is a reasonable way for supply to meet demand.

The Wave House will host a number of upcoming shows this summer, but the July 4 show is the only one that has been announced so far.

Insiders say that the City of San Diego has indicated to the new owners of the Wave House that the previously successful Sunday-evening electronic dance music series was not a good idea, based on complaints from nearby residents.

Yet the new owners, a company called Eat.Drink.Sleep (which also operates Moon-doggies bar and the Tower 23 hotel), have opted to stage dance music series was not a good idea, based on complaints from nearby residents.

The company has booked the shows themselves versus using promoters such as AEG or Live Nation.

When Barrington Levy tickets first went on sale, they were $15? $25? It depends on when you buy them. Previous Barrington Levy tickets for San Diego shows have been in the $25–$30 range.

The insider would not say who may be booked for upcoming Wave House shows this summer but that they are pursuing “reggae, indie-rock, and rock” artists.

Some are wondering how Eat.Drink.Sleep can make a profit on its first concert venture when the company promised Levy a $10,000 guarantee, the opening acts $2000 each, and the four DJs $500 each. The Wave House has a 1200-person capacity.

The insider would not get into specifics but said there were other night-of-show revenue streams to make sure that Eat.Drink.Sleep meets its bottom line on Independence Day.

— Ken Leighton

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THE KILLERS  KINGS OF LEON

BECK  IMAGINE DRAGONS  PRETTY LIGHTS

EMPIRE OF THE SUN  PASSION PIT  JURASSIC 5

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DANNY BROWN  DAWES  ANDREW MCMHON  EARL SWEATSHORT  THE JOY FORMIDABLE
CHARLI XCX  LIVING COLOUR  ALLEN STONE  CAPITAL CITIES  HAIM
YOUNGBLOOD HAWKE  TWENTY ONE PILOTS  ZZ WARD  POOLSIDE  FAMILY OF THE YEAR
ROBERT DELONG  WALLPAPER.  FIVE KNIVES  CAYUCAS  COSMIC SUCKERPUNCH

KNOCKED UP KIDS  MOONDOG MATINÉE  SHALVEY MUSIC  MOST THIEVES  RUSTY MAPLES  KID MEETS GOUGAR  SAME SEX MARY
BEAU HODGES BAND  DJ38  THE DIRTY HOOKS  AMERICAN CREAM  SABRÉL  CRAZY CHIEF  DJ SUPRA  HALEMANO
A CROWD OF SMALL ADVENTURES  JORDAN KATE MITCHELL  DJ ZO  JOEY PERO AND HIS BAND  ALBI LOVES CHICKEN TENDERS

Food:

BRUCE & ERIC BROMBERG  SCOTT CONANT  JONATHAN WAXMAN  HUBERT KELLER  CAT CORA  MICHAEL MINA  CHRIS COSSENTINO
RICK MOONEN  KIM GANTENBAILA  JET TILA  DONALD LINK  TOM COLICCHIO  MICHAEL SYMON  AARON SANCHEZ
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JOSH GRAVES  JASON TULEY  SEAN KINOSHITA  REBECCA WILCOMB  BEN HAMMOND  GRANT MACPHERSON  MICHAEL KORNICK
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WWW.LIFEISBEAUTIFULFESTIVAL.COM
Thursday 4

San Diego Reader

Upcoming Shows
At Porter’s Pub

Devin the Dude

San Diego Reader

Lindsay Buckingham talking about his inescapable indie-rock outfit Fleetwood Mac, which plays Viejas Arena at SDSU Friday night. Yeah, the Mac is back and just as just-above-average as they ever were, scabs and all. The now-quartet — their fifth, the piano— player Christine McVie (“Don’t Stop,” “Over My Head,” “Say You Love Me”), has finally and forever called it quits with the group — dropped a new EP earlier in the year. Extended Play, to coincide with the 34-city tour. Lead single “Sad Angel,” which Buckingham says is their most “Mac-y” song in a long time, is all over the interwebs if you’re interested. Rumours and Tusk played a pretty poignant role in my musical upbringing, so I can’t not go. I know, out of respect.... Else: Avalon Tattoo sets up a smorgasbord of sound to celebrate 24 years of inking SD, as hard-rocking Marsupials, electro-bluesman Low Volts, and art—punk finishers Ghetto Blaster dish it out at Casbah...up the hill, the fun to say but tough to type fuzz—rockers Schizophonics and

Friday 5

it was kind of like picking the scab off an open wound again and again. That’s part of the legacy of the band.” That’s guitarist/singer/songwriter Devlin Dunlop. The group — dropped a new EP earlier this year. Tenacious locals Outer Minds, electro-bluesman Low Volts, and art—punk finishers Ghetto Blaster dish it out at Casbah...up the hill, the fun to say but tough to type fuzz—rockers Schizophonics and

San Diego Reader

Yevtushenko split a bill at Tin Can Ale House... Shakedown stages Orange County’s biblically bent punk perennial Schattered Confession with one of the o—riginal hardcore quartets False Confession and “hardcore’s festering sore,” the Bad Samaritans...northa town, Che Café dons Dirt Dress, a tasty—sounding VU—infused lo—fi bio from L.A....while across campus, Compton rapper Problem’s, at Porter’s Pub... and northa northa town, Lincoln Park’s hip—hop hit Mitchy Slick takes the mic at O’id’s Royal Dive.

Saturday 6

After a stint of solid releases with his band the Reigning Sound, blue—collar rocker Greg Cartwright reunited his blues—infused garage—punk trio the Oblivians for this year’s on—and—off comebacker Desperation. Early Oblivians (Soul Food, Popular Favorites) had a frantic immediacy that rears back on a couple of Desperation tracks (“Run for Cover” and the Butlerfield cut “Lovin Cup”), but mostly it’s Reigning Sound with the fuzz turned up and the punk turned down. And that, kids, is evolution. With like—minded locals OctaGrape, Shake Before Us, and the Kabbs, these are the sets to get to Saturday night... If you miss the door in Middleton and need that garage—rock sound, I recommend the Purr’s. Ripped this from Spin: “The Purr’s blend the bright fun of righteously sweet vocal hooks with woozy psych—rock and a serious devotion to melancholy moodiness.” Whatever. The Purr’s kill it onstage. The Seattle act will be at Bar Pink with...I don’t know. Will someone please nudge the person who is supposedly update the Bar Pink schedule. It’s still got May’s dates up and nothing for July.... Best of the rest: “Your favorite rapper’s favorite rapper,” Houston’s glass—eyed Mitchy Slick, Devon the Dude, appears at Porter’s Pub in advance of this year’s One for the Ride... barroom rockers MF Ruckus, Midnight Eagle, and Shotguns—N—Gasoline take down the Shakedown... and from Huffman Beach, heavy—metal hair band Leatherwolf brings on their “triple axe attack” at Brick by Brick.

Sunday 7

Seal Beach four—piece RX Bandits hit House of Blues on the ten—year anniversary of their high—water mark, The Resignation, an occasionally awesome collection of proggy ska—punk. (I know, but somehow it works.) New York indie—rock quartet Northern Faces, touring in support of Southern Places, open the show.... Belly Up and San Diego’s blues ambassador Earl Thomas host a Blues Hall of Fame benefit, featuring powerhouse bands of the brand (and beyond). Too many for my limited listing, so click this for the grid: belyup.com calendar.

Monday 8

If you’re up for dragging that long weekend mileage into Monday night, Che Café stages Providence sludge—metal duo the Body. Pocket some ear plugs on your way out the door, because the Body is loud but it’s LOUD. If you’re a fan of the brand, you have to check out their sophomore set All the Waters of the Earth Turn to Blood, which they recorded with the Assembly of Light Choir. Doom + gospel singers = Goosebump City, baby.... Austin’s psych—metal throwbacks Scorpion Child have a playdate at Casbah with the hard—rocking Radio Birdman Deniz Tek.

Tuesday 9

More heavily on Tuesday, as Weedeater, ASC, and Lo Pan line up to melt faces and crush craniums at Soda Bar. The experts over at Encyclopedia Metallum call Cape Fear’s Weedeater “weed metal.” Uh huh.... Must be some kind of renaissance of ’80s New York hardcore going on. Reagan Youth just came through town, and now Urban Waste blows into Tower Bar. UW cut their teeth at CBGB and were active for about three years, releasing one EP. We used to crank it at the Bro Bowl in Tampa. “Copious amounts of shredding for shedding the coping....” one would say in that Gray Poupon manner before closing the cassette door. It never got old. Out of Time, Systematic Abuse, and Nerve Control open the show.... 191 plugs in its Loudspeaker at Bay Park bar the Griffin, where here—via—Brooklyn band the Sinclairs headlines sets by Translation Audio, Real Things Are Good, and Ancient Sea. The Sinclairs had the balls to put this on their FB page: “If Ray Davies and Roger Daltrey had had a child, I’m sure it would be trying hard to get into the Sinclairs — Sean Lennon.” That is stupid on so many levels.

Wednesday 10

Dave Good broke down the Palms gig at Belly Up in this week’s Of Note. Some sort of super group. Bastardization, I say. I’m against that shit, and you should be too!... Go see Devon the Dude. The Name at House of Blues. A wholesome—looking group of boys from Portland that sometimes calls itself Portland. The Man. Crazy kids. Indie poppers. Avi Buffalo roam in first.... Or, just up Fifth at the Tin Can Ale House in Bankers Hill, local experimental—instrumental combo Interrobang clams after Kissing Party (Denver) and Mandarin Dynasty...laid—ass locals Archons. Lord Howler, and Coda Reactor turn up down at Casbah...nu—gras jam band Railroad Earth will play Humphrey’s by the Bay...and it’ll be “Rudies vs. ‘Greasers” at Til—Two, where Steady 45s (i.e., the rudies) split a bill with Jonny B & the Avenues (i.e., the greasers). Out!

— Barnaby Monk

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**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**

_710 Beach Club:_
- **Thursday,** 8pm — Jammin’ 290
- **Throwback Thursday.**
- **Friday,** 8pm — Jet West.
- **Monday,** 9pm — The Sly Digs.

_98 Bottles:_
- **Friday,** 7pm — Ian Patrick Cle.
- **Trio. Free.**
- **Saturday** — Bop Moderno
- **Quintet: Peter Sprague Tribute.**
- **Sunday,** noon — Sunday Funday:
- **Brandon Saller, etc.**

_Beachcomber:_
- **Saturday,** 5pm — West of 5.

_Beach Club Nightclub & Restaurant:_
- **Sunday,** 5pm — West of 5. Free.

_Beachcomber:_
- **Saturday,** 9pm — The Drinking Cowboy Band. Free.

_Beat Cafe:_
- **Friday,** 9pm — 24K Gold.
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Greasy Petes.

_Bar Pink:_
- **Saturday,** 6:20pm — The Purr.

_Bassmnt:_
- **Saturday,** 9pm — Carnegie & 3LAU. Free.

_Casbah:_
- **Friday,** 8pm — Ben Schachter’s Dizzy’s:
- **Together Tour 2013. Free.**
- **Saturday,** 8pm — The Drinking Cowboy Band.

_En Fuego Cantina & Grill:_
- **Wednesday,** 8pm — Club Museae.

_The Groove:_
- **Wednesday,** 8pm — Kayla Hope.
- **Free.**

_Brady’s:_
- **Friday,** 9pm — Ben Schachter’s Occidentria. $10-$15.
- **Saturday,** 8pm — Gilbert Castellanos Night Of The Cookers. $15.

_El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:_
- **Thursday,** 9pm — Djs J.Blow & Unite.
- **Wednesday,** 8pm — The Tighten Up.

_Embarcadero Marina Park South:_
- **Thursday,** 7:30pm, **Friday,** 7:30pm, **Saturday,** 7:30am — Star Spangled Pops with Bill Conti. $20-$79.

_En Fuego Cantina & Grill:_
- **Wednesday,** 8:15pm — Acoustic Wednesdays. Free.

_Fix Niteclub:_
- **Friday,** 9pm — Fogaz Fridayz.

_Golden Acorn Casino:_
- **Saturday,** 7pm — Band Of Gold. Free.

_Gran Tapa:_
- **Thursday,** 6pm — Viva Brazil With Nate Ware. Chilli samba and more.

_Humphreys Backstage Live:_
- **7pm R&B**
- **THE GROOVE FEATURING STELLITA**

_Humpreys Backstage Live:_
- **5-7 PM DAILY**
- **HAPPY HOUR**
- **50% OFF FOOD & DRINKS**
- **(EXCLUDES HOLIDAYS AND CONCERT NIGHTS)**

_Hugh Gunther, Saturday, 9pm — Tomcat & The Man. $20-$32.

_It’s Back! Mixtape80s.com _

_The Greatest Hits of the 80s_
Upcoming Shows:

7/18 & 19 | Boogie & Katchafire featuring special guests
7/20 | Dust N Bones (Straddie Soundz Trib)
7/21 | Rogue Wave
7/22 | BobDrums
7/23 | Johnny Winter
7/24 | Dread Vibes / Thunder Road
7/25 | Quentin’s A Night of House, Techno & Bass
7/26 | Peter Murphy Celebrates 35 Years of Bauhaus
7/27 | 80’s Heat
7/28 | Tainted Love
7/29 | The Cat Empire
7/30 | Midnite
7/31 | Old Man Markley
8/1 | Pat O’Brien
8/2 | The Psychedic Furs
8/3 | Night of the Souljahs
8/4 | The Heavy w/ John400
8/5 | Albert Lee
8/6 | Sound of Thunder
8/7 | The Young Dubliners
8/8 | The Mother Hips
8/9 | Caravan Palace
8/10 | Palms
8/11 | Rusted Root
8/12 | The Marshall Tucker Band
8/13 | The Brian Setzer Orchestra
8/14 | The Black Keys
8/15 | The Mothers of Invention
8/16 | The Claypool Lennon Delirium
8/17 | The Mothers of Invention
8/18 | The Mothers of Invention
8/19 | The Heads
8/20 | The Mothers of Invention
8/21 | The Mothers of Invention
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12/31 | The Mothers of Invention

Just Added:

8/4 | An Evening with Abbey Road - Beatles Tribute
8/18 | Mental Health Systems presents 5th Annual Laugh for Recovery w/ Shayma Tash, hosted by Bob Murphy

Band Line-Up Subject to Change
*Concert Admission $20 After Last Race
For More Info Call (858) 751-1141 or Visit Delmarraces.com
Facebook.com/Delmarraces Twitter.com/Delmarracing

Please Drink Responsibly

Tickets & Info
BellyUp.com • 858-481-8140
For presales, contests and other special offers, follow us on:
Download the Belly Up app!
and sign up for our VIP email list!

San Diego Reader
July 4, 2013
EVENyONE’S A CRITIC

Devotion
Jessie Ware
By Mtume Salaam

Following on the heels of Amy Winehouse and Adele, Jessie Ware is the latest in soul-inflected female pop singers from the U.K. But where the two superstars made vocal drama their trademark — Winehouse with her punk/hip-hop inflections and Adele with bravura Broadway-style runs — Ware is resolutely, relentlessly reserved. Cool, you might say. Distant, even. But there’s a certain something in her long, even tones that inspires you to imagine gobs of passion lurking just beneath the surface of her implacability. It doesn’t hurt that Ware’s hooks and looks are flawless. On video, she dresses like a wealthy ‘50s housewife, gyrates in ultra-slow motion, and lip-syncs perfectly, never, ever losing her cool. On record, she’s the anti-American Idol: “I can sing big,” she told Time a few weeks back, but “a story [is] better when it’s more intimate.” Listening to her whisper, murmur, and croon her way through self-penned hits such as “Running” (her would-be anthem, if she was into that sort of thing), “If You’re Never Gonna Move” (a bizarre but catchy melange of up-tempo computer rhythms and one of the weirdest vocal samples you’ll ever hear), and “Wildest Moments” (a damn-near hypnotic ode to the flaming-out of a platonic love affair), you can hear both the intimacy and the deference. Instead of blasting your eardrums and invading your personal space with everything she’s got, Ware’s almost ceremonious unapproachability keeps you at arm’s length while practically begging for more.

A beautiful Ugly Things weekender
By Robert Duffy

Three days of long nights, and the perpetrator is a fellow ex-pat named Mike Stax. The 30-year anniversary of Stax’s magazine, Ugly Things, was celebrated by players past and present. The Neumans, from Santa Ana, kicked off the event with an organ-driven, road rage at (19)60 mph. A sexy, sassy female band called the Rosalyns played a set of covers, from Suzi Quatro to Black Sabbath, and delivered a letter bomb. Like the 5.6.7.8s turned up to 11. The Loons provided two sets, the second one featuring Glenn Campbell from the Misunderstood on slide guitar. Ebbot Lundberg of Soundtrack of Our Lives played an acoustic set (with a little help from a former Loons guitarist), performing songs from all his guises. Lundberg also sang with Johnny Echols’s trumpet-tastic version of Love.

San Diego’s own Nashville Ramblers provided the musical backdrop for Sunday and sounded like they’d never been away. Stax provided vox for one song. The highlight of the weekend, however, was a set not seen since 1987, as the Unclaimed decided to reclaim their history and show everyone how it’s done. The trip saw the alcohol industry claim another year off my life. Was it worth it? Hell yeah!

Concert: Ugly Things 30th Anniversary
Dates: May 24–26
Venue: Casbah
Seats: wherever


Spin Nightclub:
Thursday, 10pm — Bass Bash
Dieselboy, Splitbreed, more. $15–$20.

Sprechers Organ Pavilion:
Monday, 7:30pm — Richard Hills. Free.
Tuesday, 6:15pm — Real Jazz Big Band. Free.
Wednesday, 6:15pm — Rick Robledo & the Working Cowboy. Free.

Stage Rock Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Van Roth and dubstep DJs.
Friday, 8pm — Disco Pimps.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Fingerbang hair rock tribute.
Monday, 8:30pm — Reggie Party.
Wednesday, 7pm — BL3ndr and Mark Fisher.

Stagecoach Park:
Friday, 6pm — High Street Band.

Thoron Winery:
Saturday, 7pm — Kenny G.

Tower Bar:
Monday, 8pm — Spellcaster, ExMortus, Mortus Terrors.
Tuesday, 8pm — Urban Waste, Out of Tune, Nerve Control. $5.

Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:
Wednesday, 4pm — JJ Carlen. Jazz, blues & flamenco.

Wave House:
Thursday, 3pm — Barrington Levy, B-Side Players, Seedless. $15–$25.

Winstons:
Friday, 9pm — The Devestators. $8.
Saturday, 9pm — Stranger and the Tribe of Kings. $10.
Sunday, 9pm — Jose Sinatra hosts O.B.-o-ke. $1.
Monday, 9pm — Electric Waste Band. $5.
Tuesday, 9pm — Mike Dillon at Casbah.

Dermal Piercings
$40 Each or Two for $70
Most other piercings $20 to $25 including jewelry.

The Rosalyns delivered a letter bomb to Casbah.

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Humphreys by the Bay:
Thursday, 7:30pm — America.
Sunday, 6:30pm — Sugar Ray, Smash Mouth, Gin Blossoms.
Wednesday, 7pm — Railroad Earth, Bruce Hornsby’s Noisemakers.

Lestat’s Coffee House:
Friday, 9pm — Stone the Giant. Free.

Monterey Bay Canners:
Friday, 8pm — West of S. Free.

Old Poway Park:
Thursday, 3pm — Pomerado Community Band 4th of July. Free.

Onyx/Thin:
Friday, 9pm — Rumba Lounge Fridays. Free.

Park Hyatt Aviara Resort:
Saturday, 6pm — Jazz at the Park; Mindi Abair. $25.

Porter’s Pub at UCSD:
Friday, 8pm — Problem.
Saturday, 8pm — Devin the Dude.

Rebecca’s Coffee House:
Saturday, 7pm — Dave Humphries. $5.
Sunday, 10am — Bviolin Acoustic Duo.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Wednesday, 9pm — Jazz with Kicke Simko & friends. Free.

Robbie’s Roadhouse:
Saturday, 6:30pm — Cowboy Jack. Free.

Rook Bar:
Saturday, 8pm — Kalamity Wayne & the City Slickers. Free.

Saville Theatre at San Diego City College:

Saturday, 7pm — Teresa Gunn: Trailer Park Queen. Free.
Second Wind (San Carlos):
Thursday, 8pm — High Tide, Rian Basilo & the Roosters. $5.

Shakedown Bar:
Friday, 8pm — Shattered Faith and False Confession. Saturday — MF Ruckus.
Sunday, noon — Infa Riot and the Generators (matinee).
Sunday — Abolishment Of Flesh, Fields Of Elysium, Despair the Sun.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 8:30pm — July Talk and Grounders.
Friday, 8:30pm — Outer Minds and Love & the Skull. $7.
Saturday, 8:30pm — Tiny Telephones. $8.
Sunday, 8:30pm — Scale the Summit, the Califraction, Castle. $8.
Monday, 8:30pm — Quiet Company and Rainbow Jackson. $7.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Weedeater. $7.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — Ets Feats and American Bear. $5.

Soma:
Friday, 6:30pm — Osedax, Felonies, Quorra, Deadweight. $8.
Wednesday, 6:30pm — Bermuda and Beyond the Shore. $10.

Spin Nightclub:
Thursday, 10pm — Bass Bash. Dieselboy, Splitbreed, more. $15–$20.

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Who says the BUDDY SYSTEM doesn’t work?
Two of you can get a tattoo or piercing and we’ll only charge you for one of them.
JULY
Friday, July 5 • 7:30
America
with special guest Scott West
Saturday, July 6 • 6:30 & 8:30
Jim Gaffigan
(8:30 Show SOLD OUT)
Sunday, July 7 • 6:30
Under The Sun Tour 2013
featuring Sugar Ray, Smash Mouth, Gin Blossoms, Vertical Horizon and Fastball
Wednesday, July 10 • 7:00
Railroad Earth/Bruce Hornsby & The Noisemakers
Thursday, July 11 • 7:30
Harry Lewis & the News
“Sports” 30th Anniversary Tour with special guest Lacy Younger
Sunday, July 14 • 7:30
An Evening with YES
Monday, July 15 • 8:00
Garrison Keillor’s A Prairie Home Companion Radio Romance Tour 2013
Sunday, July 21 • 7:30
Bill Cosby
Tuesday, July 23 • 7:30
Jonny Lang/Robert Randolph & The Family Band
Friday, July 26 • 8:00
The Fab Four - The Ultimate Tribute
Saturday, July 27 • 8:30
Russell Peters Notorious World Tour
(mature content)
Tuesday, July 30 • 7:00
Rock ‘N Blues Fest
featuring Ten Years After, Edgar Winter Band, Canned Heat, Rick Derringer and Pat Travers
Wednesday, July 31 • 8:00
Gipsy Kings
AUGUST
Thursday, August 1 • 8:00
Toad The Wet Sprocket
with special guest Grant Lee Buffalo
Wednesday, August 28 • 6:30
Regeneration Tour 2013
featuring Erasure’s Andy Bell, Howard Jones & Men Without Hats
SEPTEMBER
Saturday, September 8 • 7:30
Melissa Etheridge Live
Friday, September 13 • 7:30
Carly Rae Jepsen
with special guest Hot Chelle Rae
Saturday, September 14 • 7:00
Tower of Power/ Average White Band
Thursday, September 19 • 7:30
Lynyrd Skynyrd
Friday, September 20 • 8:00
Diana Krall -Radio City Music Hall presents
Saturday, September 21 • 8:00
Lila Downs
Friday, September 27 • 7:30
Air Supply
OCTOBER
Wednesday, October 2 • 7:30
Jesse Cook
Friday, October 11 • 7:30
Kari Faux
Thursday, October 30 • 7:30
The Moody Blues
Friday, October 31 • 7:30
Two Door Cinema Club with special guests St. Lucia & Peace
BOX OFFICE HOURS
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
11:00 - 3:00 • 3:30 - 6:30
“The sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever.” At least, that’s according to French oceanographer Jacques Cousteau, whose portrait hangs near the doorway of Fathom Bistro and Tackle alongside fellow underwater explorers Steve Zissou (The Life Aquatic), Mike Nelson (Sea Hunt), and Dennis Borlek Sr.

“This place is pretty much an homage to my dad,” says Dennis Borlek Jr. Wearing a fisherman’s cap, large-rim glasses, and a salt-and-pepper beard, Borlek looks right at home on the Shelter Island pier that has housed his sausage-and-beer bar since February, and it’s no coincidence. He grew up about a mile north, on Talbot Street, until he was five and, during his adolescence, worked as a deckhand on dive boats in the area before starting his own underwater-boat-maintenance business.

“I started diving when I was 12 years old,” Borlek says. “The whole aquatic thing is what I grew up with.”

As such, Cousteau’s “net of wonder” casts itself on Fathom’s deep blue walls in a mash-up of nautical fact and science fiction: vintage diving equipment, 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea posters, a bookcase full of National Geographic back-issues, and, sitting over a window that looks south-west toward the sub base, the ashes of submarine veteran Dennis Sr.

Borlek dedicates about half of his 15 taps to local breweries, including Societe, AleSmith, and Monkey Paw. He sources the rest from friends, like former roommate Vinnie Citurzo of Russian River Brewing Company. He even met with Helm’s Brewing Co. in Kearny Mesa to form the house Pier Beer — a 5 percent dry-hopped session IPA that imparts all the flavor and aroma of an India Pale Ale without the inebriation.

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Musae.

Groovy - Songs of the Sixties.
July 12
Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.

July 25
July 22
Pyyramids.
July 14
July 12
Little Italy, 619-232-4355.

July 18
Fry Katz.
July 14
Raymond DiGiorgio.
July 13
Chains.
July 12
Bands semifinal.
July 11
Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.

Ché Café:
Chico Club:
The Casbah:
Brick by Brick:

July 27
July 26
July 20
July 12
Park, 619-239-8836.
2891 University Ave., North
Birch North Park Theatre:

206 Marina Park Way,
2050 Kettner Blvd.,
August 7
Color Morale.
July 31
July 26
July 20
July 12
La Mesa, 619-465-4190.

Carrion Spring.
August 11
— Misery Signals and yhe
— A.K. Skurgis.
— Pharmacy.
— A.K. Skurgis.
— DJs J.Blow & Unite.
— Rob Thornsen &
— A.K. Skurgis.
— Rob Thornsen &
— Stepn Johnson Trio.
— El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:
1030 Broadway, East Village,
619-237-0550.
July 12 • 8 & 10:30 pm
Must be 21 - All shows 2-drink minimum

July 21 • Rogue Wave and Hey
Marseilles.
July 23 • Henry Kapono and
Sister Speak.

York North Park Theatre:
2891 University Ave., North
Park, 619-239-8836.
July 27, July 28, July 28 — Feelin’
Groovy - Songs of the Sixties.
July 27 — Cali King.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300
Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad,
760-729-4695.
July 11 • Rhythm Method.
July 12 • Slower.
July 13 • Not Katie.
July 14 • Billy Watson.
July 18 • Danny Langdon.

Dizzy’s: 4275 Mission Bay Drive
(in the showroom at San Diego
Jet Ski Rentals), Pacific Beach,
858-270-7467.
July 11 • Joshua White Quartet.
July 13 • John Coltrane/McCoy
Tyner tribute.
July 17 • Jennifer Batten and
Jesse Solomon.

Driscoll’s Wharf: 4918 North
Harbor Dr., Point Loma, 619-
222-4930.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:
1030 Broadway, East Village,
619-237-0550.
July 12 • 8 & 10:30 pm
Must be 21 - All shows 2-drink minimum

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Harbor Dr., Point Loma, 619-
222-4930.
Beer Festival.
— 5th Annual Breakwater 5540.
the Strand, Oceanside, 760-435-2509.
July 26 — The Pine Creek Posse Band.
Jimmy Love’s: 675 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-595-0123.
August 8 — Benefit Concert for Soldiers Angels.
Junior Seau Oceanside Pier Amphitheatre: 200 North of the Strand, Oceanside, 760-435-5540.
July 13 — 5th Annual Breakwater Beer Festival.
July 12 — Tolan Shaw CD release.
July 14 — Chris Carpenter CD release.
July 17 — Sarah Donner, Nina Storey, Sam Vicari.
July 21 — Hey Marseilles.
MaGee’s Tavern: 125 South Main St., Fallbrook, 760-731-6478.
July 13 — The Drinking Cowboy Band, Outta Sync.
July 27 — Outta Sync.
Molly Malone’s: 1270 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-9050.
July 12 — Regulators.
July 26 — Nemo x.
July 27 — Against the World.
August 2 — SoCal Vibes.
Monterey Bay Cannery: 1325 North Harbor Dr., Oceanside, 760-722-9474.
August 9 — West of 5.
July 20 — Gill Sotza & Aaron Evans album release.
July 27 — Gränne Hambly & William Jackson.
North Chapel at NTC: 2881 Roosevelt Dr., Point Loma.
July 17 — Peninsula Pops: Three’s Harmony.
July 31 — Peninsula Pops: Jory Herman.
Open Air Theatre: 5500 Campanile Dr., SDSU, 619-594-6947.
July 21 — The Postal Service, Big Freedia, Baths.
July 10 — Rebellion, Mattaysyau, Zion-I.
Pal Joey’s: 5147 Waring Rd., Del Cerro, 619-582-6699.
July 20 — Outta Sync.
Pala Mesa Resort: 2001 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook.
July 19 — Fleetwood Max.
Park Hyatt Aviara Resort: 7108 Aviara Resort Dr., Carlsbad, 760-448-1234.
July 13 — Jazz at the Park: Peter White.
Porter’s Pub at UCSD: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-587-4828.
July 12 — Anamanaguchi and Kitty Pryde.
July 13 — Lil B.
July 19 — Yukmouth.
Prescott Promenade: 211 1/2 E. Main St., El Cajon.
July 12 — Dinner and a Concert: Hot Rod Lincoln.
July 19 — Dinner and a Concert: Downbeat Big Band.
Qualcomm Hall: 5775 Morehouse Dr., Sorrento Valley, 858-259-5508.
Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 726 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.
July 13 — Josh Blue.
July 19 — Darrell Mansfield.
Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: 7777 University Ave., La Mesa, 619-713-6777.
July 17, July 24, July 31, August 7 — Jazz with Kice Simko & friends.
Robbie’s Roadhouse: 530 N. Coast Hwy. 101, Leucadia, 760-634-2365.
July 23 — Cowboy Jack.
July 18, July 25 — Thursday Night Jazz: Joshua White.
San Luis Rey Bakery: 490 N. El Camino Real, Oceanside, 760-433-7242.
July 21 — Native American Flute Circle.
The Shakedown Bar: 1034 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-487-0573.
July 12 — Raptors.
July 13 — Kit & the Branded Men, the Palominos.
July 14 — Daisaku.
Sleep Train Amphitheatre: 2650 Entertainment Circle, Chula Vista, 619-671-3600.
July 19 — Wiz Khalifa, ASAP Rocky, B.o.B.
July 20 — Slightly Stoopid and Atmosphere.
Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon BL, City Heights, 619-255-7224.
July 11 — Ugly Boogie and Butler.
July 12 — The Heavy Guilt and Trouble in the Wind.
July 13 — Burnt Ones, Cosmonauts, Wild Wild Wets.
July 14 — Heavy Hawaii, Wild Ones, My Body.
July 15 — Sonny Vincent.
July 12 — The Frontmen.
July 15 — Black Flag and Good For You.
July 28 — Casey Veggies and Travis Scott.
July 31 — The Ready Set, We the Kings, T. Mills.
July 14 — 145th Street Band.
July 15 — Daryl Robinson & Annelle K. Gregory.
July 16 — Screamin’ Primas.
July 17 — Breeze’n’.
The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: 762 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-696-9436.
July 11 — Van Roth and dubstep DJs.
July 13 — Fingerbang hair rock tribute.
Til-Two: 4746 El Cajon BL, City Heights, 619-516-4746.
July 11 — Big Black Cloud and Drunk Dad.
July 20 — Vanessa Zamora.
July 17 — We Are/She Is.
The Tower Bar: 4757 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0136.
July 11 — The Ratt’s Revenge with DJ Mikey Ratt.
Valley View Casino Center: 3500 Sports Arena BL, Midway District, 619-224-4171.
July 24 — Matchbox 20 and Goo Goo Dolls.
July 30 — Bruno Mars.
The Void: 3519 El Cajon BL, City Heights.
July 17 — Terminal A.
July 22 — Los Heads and Joe Volume.
August 1 — Marc Baker.
The Westgate Hotel: 1055 Second Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-238-1818.
August 2 — The Gene Perry Latin-Salsa Jazz Quartet.
Winstons: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
July 14 — Jose Sinatra hosts O.B. - o'ke.
July 31 — Fatality and Zombie Holocaust.
HAPPY HOUR

You can submit a listing or find more information about these establishments online at SDReader.com/drinks

ALLIED GARDENS

McGregor’s Grill and Ale House: Daily, 4:7pm & 10pm-2am: $3.16 oz. domestic drafts, $4.50 select craft beers, $4 chardonnay, $5 merlot & cabernet sauvignon, $4.75 quarter-pound burger with fries, $1.95 fish, carnitas, grilled chicken tacos.

ALPINE

Donato’s Italian Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4:7pm: $3 glass Bud Light, $6 pitcher, $3.50 house wine.

BANKERS HILL

The Prado Restaurant: Friday-Sunday, 4-6pm: $3 16-oz. domestic drafts, $4.50 select wines by the glass, $6.75 margaritas, $4.75 craft beers; $4.75 chardonnay; $5.5 merlot.

BAY PARK

Tio Leo’s: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints, $4 house margaritas, wells, $5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

CARLSBAD

Bellefleur: Monday, 5-7pm: 1/2 price martinis. Tuesday, 5-7pm: $3 domestic beer, select wine and well high balls.

CITIES

Bistro d’Asia: Daily, 3-6pm: $3 daiquiri, wells; $6 well drinks; $2 off any wine by the glass, $8 signature cocktails.

THE TOWER BAR:

Tito’s: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints, $4 house margaritas, wells, $5 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

CITY HEIGHTS

Nate’s Garden Grill: Tuesday-Friday, 4-6pm, $1 off all beer & wine.

DEL CERRO

Danny’s Palm Bar: Daily, 3-6pm: $2 Bud pints, Coors Light pints. $3 well cocktails, domestic bottles, house wine, $3 cheese and beer, crab cakes, Sabrett’s street dogs.

Don’t miss the live shows at SDReader.com/drinks

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 5pm

Monty Python’s Holy Ale

Monty Python’s Holy Ale is back! Commemorative pint glasses AND goblets can be filled with the Ale for this special event — stop in and grab yours while supplies last!

THURS, JULY 4 @ 5PM

Karl Strauss Tower 10 IPA ON CASK!

Karl Strauss Tower 10 is a delicious, bright, citrusy monster of an IPA. This cask is dry-hopped with Citra.
Happy Hour

Friday, 4:30 to 6:30pm: $3.50 personal pitchers. Sunday, 5pm 7pm pitches.

Del Mar

Brigantine: Daily, 4-6pm: $4 Brig brew, $4.75 margarita, $5.50 chardonnay, $1 of featured wine. Discounted fish tacos.

Flavor Del Mar: Monday-Saturday, 4-6pm: $3 Coors Light, $6/red/white house wine, $5. Select cocktails. Sunday, 2pm-close: Smirnoff Light, $6/red/white house wine, $5. Select cocktails.

Pacific Del Mar: Wednesday, 4-6:30pm: $6 vodka and gins. Oyster night: oysters on the 1/2 shell and oyster shooters. Thursday, 4-6:30pm: 1/2-price on all bottles of wine.

Zel’s Del Mar: Daily, 4-6:30pm: $1 off drafts & premium drinks, $2 off wines by glass, $3.50 wells, $4 fried calamari, $5 fish tacos, $10 burger & beer.

Downtown San Diego

Anthony’s Fish Grotto: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $3 draft, Anthony’s white wine, $4 wells, $5 calls, $2.75 fish tacos, $3 lettuce wraps, $4.50 tostados.

Bite: Daily, 5-7pm: $5 house wine, $5 lobster pizza, tuna tartare.

Block 16 Union & Spirits: Friday, All night: $3 glasses of Champagne.

The Counter: Monday-Friday, 11am-6pm: $3 draft, $3.50 domestic, $4.50 appetizers, sushi rolls.

Current: Daily, 4-7pm, 9-close: $3 dim sum, $4 imported beer, $5 wells, red/white wine, specialty cocktails, 1/2-off select menu items.

Dobson’s: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 drafts, $4 margaritas, $5 well drinks and house wine.

Downtown Johnny Brown’s: Monday-Friday, 5-6pm: $1 off wine, 40% off bar menu.

Dussini Loft Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-6:30pm: $1 off drafts, house wines and wells. Food specials.

Elephant & Castle Pub and Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4.50 draught beers, Woodbridge wines, well liquor. $1 off all day starters.

La Fiesta: Daily, 11am-6pm: $3 draft & domestic bottles, margaritas; $4 mojitos.

La Gran Tapas: Daily, 4-7:30pm: $3 craft beers, $4 craft wines & sangria. $3 & $4 taps, free tapitas at the bar.

The Hopping Pig: Daily, 11am-6pm: $4.50 local drafts, house wine, wells. $3.50 tacos, $4-pulled-pork sliders.

House of Blues: Daily, 4-7pm: $2 draft domestic wines, $3 wells, $4 margaritas. Killer happy hour menu.

Patrick’s Gaslamp Pub: Daily, 11am-8pm: 1/2-price on all bottles of wine.

Sevilla: Daily, 5-7pm: tapas starting at $3; 1/2-off select menu items; $4 glasses of sangria; $14 sangria pitchers.

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

Year House: Monday-Wednesday, 3-6pm & 10pm-close: $3.50 domestic pints, $6.25 martinis, 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more. Thursday-Friday, 3-6pm: $3.50 domestic pints; $6.25 martinis. 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more. Sunday, 10pm-10:30pm: $3.50 domestic pints, $6.25 martinis, 1/2-off select pizza, appetizers, and more.

East Village

Basic Urban Kitchen and Bar: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: (Except during Padres games or special events) Drink specials. Signature pizza samples.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Monday-Thursday, Saturday-Sunday, 7-9pm: 5 menu cocktails.

El Cajon Grand: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $5 domestic beer; $3 wells.

Flinn Springs Inn: Daily, 4-6pm: 2 domestic drafts, $2 domestic bottles, $3 wells.

Main Tap Tavern: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $1 off 10oz. pints, $2 off pitcher; $3.50 wells.

La Boca: Daily, 5-8pm: $1 off local draughts and drinks.

Eastlake

Chili’s: Monday-Thursday, 3-6pm: $1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos, fried cheese. Friday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos, fried cheese.

Lisa’s Filipino Cuisine: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $2.50 domestic; $3 wells.

Encinitas

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: Monday-Friday, 7-9pm: $5 menu cocktails.

Union Kitchen & Tap: Monday-Friday, 6-9pm: $6 select wine glasses. $9 flatbreads.

Escondido

Escondido Sports Pub: Daily, 4-8pm: $2.50 domestic; $3 wells, $3.75 house margaritas, well’s, $2.95 fish taco, $3.75 quesadilla.

Cap’n Keno’s: Daily, 4pm-2am: $2.50 wells, $3.50 domestic pints. (Monday-Sunday, free chicken 4-7pm.)

D Street Bar and Grill: Monday-Friday, 6-9pm: $2.50 domestic pints, $3 well cocktails, $4 beer of the month, $2 off all appetizers.

Solace & the Moonlight Lounge: Monday-Friday, 6-9pm: $1 off drinks.

Turf Supper Club: Friday-Sunday, 5-7pm: $5 off wines and happy hour specials; burger, chicken sandwich, hot links & chips.

Grantville

Tio Leo’s: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints; $4 house margaritas, wells, $3 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.

HARBOR ISLAND

The Boathouse: Daily, 2-5pm: $2.50 domestic; $3 wells, $3.75 house margaritas, well’s, $2.95 fish taco, $3.75 quesadilla.

Sand Crab Tavern: Monday-Thursday, 5-7pm: $1 off appetizers, $1.00 oyster shooters, Buckets of beer $5 for the price of 4.

FALLBROOK

Aqua Terra: Monday-Tuesday, 4-6pm: happy hour specials. Wednesday-Sunday, 4-6pm: happy hour specials; sushi happy hour: 1/2-off select rolls.

GOLDEN HILL

Turf Supper Club: Friday-Sunday, 5-7pm: $5 off wines and happy hour specials; burger, chicken sandwich, hot links & chips.

GRANTVILLE

Tio Leo’s: Monday-Friday, 5-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints; $4 house margaritas, wells, $3 quesadillas, hot dogs, tacos.
Imig’s Kitchen and Bar: Daily, 11am-7pm: 50¢ off all draft beer (except holiday/concert nights).

Ocean Beach Kabob: Daily, 11am-7pm: 50% off all draft beer (except holiday/concert nights).

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OCEANSIDE

Aryana at Holiday Inn: Daily, 5-7pm: $3 domestics, wells; $4 premium, glass of wine, specialty cocktails from $3.50-$8, 50% off select appetizers.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $4 wells, house wine. $1 off all beer.

OCEAN BEACH

Mother’s Saloon: Monday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts, 1/2-off appetizers. Tuesday, 3-7pm: $1 off drafts; 1/2-off appetizers. 7pm-close: $3 Fireball shots; $1.50 tacos. 11pm-close: $2.75 well; $1 off drafts. Wednesday, 7pm-close: $5 Twice Baked Mussels; $7 Sante Ahi Tacos. $5 Large 20-oz Asahi or Sapporo; $5 Rock Sake’s $7 All cocktails & wines (by the glass)

PACIFIC BEACH

710 Beach Club: Daily, $3 drink specials all day/all night.

Baleen: Thursday, Half-Price Wine. Sunday, B.Y.O.W. Bring your own wine to enjoy with your meal, no corkage charge.

Sinbad Café: Daily, 4-8pm: $1.50 drafts; $2, $5, $2.50 imports. 11am-8pm: $2.75 hookahs.

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

The Turquoise Café-Bar: Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 craft beers, $4 cask wines. $3 & $4 taps, free tapitas at the bar.

POINT LOMA

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

Sand Diego: 5-7pm: $1 off all beer.

OLD TOWN

Acapulco Mexican Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-9pm: 50% off select appetizers, $3.99 select drinks.

Cosmopolitan Hotel and Restaurant: Daily, 3-5pm: $4 House wines, $4.50 wells and margaritas, $4.50 specialty pint draft beers. Food specials.

Old Town Mexican Café: Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: 1/2-off all drinks & menu items (excludes holiday/concert nights).

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Miles Anderson does amazing things as Shylock in the Old Globe's *Merchant of Venice*, but his most understated choice sets the tone of the play.

Bassanio wants to wed Portia, “a lady richly left! And she is fair” (note his cash-first priority). But Bassanio needs money to qualify as a suitor. So, he asks lifelong friend Antonio for a loan. Antonio’s helped him before and probably should know better, since Bassanio squandered the last and lived above his means, “like a willful youth.”

Antonio is the title character in Shakespeare’s play. And Bassanio will always be, let’s say, the title character in Antonio’s heart. Since all his investments are on the high seas, Antonio the Christian must negotiate with Shylock, a Venetian Jew. But Antonio has often berated Shylock in public. Last Wednesday he called Shylock a “misbeliever” and “cutthroat dog,” then spit on him.

And how has Shylock reacted, even when Antonio “did void your rheum upon my beard”? He has turned the other cheek. And bore the vehemence “with a patient shrug.”

When asked for 3000 ducats, most Shylocks seethe. Sure, they fume, centuries of abuse backing their play: take the loot but if you don’t pay back in three months I want a POUND OF YOUR FLESH!!!

Miles Anderson’s Shylock veers in a gentle direction. Up till now he’s been a sprightly roller with the punches, not at ease with his surroundings but able to cope — even, apparently, to forgive. “I want to be friends with you,” he tells Antonio straight-faced, “and have your love.”

As he defines the contract, an idea dawns on Anderson: instead of charging interest, he’ll propose a “merry sport.” He’ll take a pound of Antonio’s flesh. Anderson says it as a whim, the giddy equivalent of an interest-free loan.

Which comes true. When it’s time to extract the pound, Shylock has been so loathed, exploited, and persecuted he can no longer turn the other cheek.

The *Merchant of Venice* contains brutal anti-Semitism. Make no mistake. But what is it pro? If it’s for Christianity, then it has an embedded critique of un-Christian behavior, from Gratiano’s bug-eyed bigotry to Antonio’s saliva-shots, to almost the complete absence of tolerance in Venice or Belmont.

The wealthy women of Belmont don finery from the if-you-must-ask-you-can’t-afford-it rack.

The *Merchant of Venice*, by William Shakespeare
Old Globe Theatre, Lowell Davies Festival Stage, Balboa Park
Directed by Adrian Noble, cast: Miles Anderson, Allison Layman, Lucas Hall, Donald Carrier, Winslow Corbett, John Lavelle, Triney Sandoval, Robbie Simpson, Ryman Sneed, Adam Gerber, Kushtrim Hoxha, Charles Janasz; scenic design, Ralph Funicello; costumes, Deirdre Clancy; lighting, Alan Burrett; sound, Dan Moses Schreier
Playing through September 30. Runs in repertory with Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead and A Midsummer Night’s Dream. 619-234-5623

And when her suitors must choose the correct casket to win her hand — gold, silver, or lead — aren’t the rules a mite extreme? If a suitor makes the wrong choice, he can “never speak to a lady afterward in way of marriage.” There’s even the suggestion of lifelong celibacy.
Portia’s late, “holy” father set the terms, which imply that the losers must never spawn even a pound of flesh.

At court, disguised as a lawyer, Portia asks, “Which is the merchant here? And which the Jew?” Good question. She also adds, a few lines later, “in the course of justice none of us/ Should see salvation.”

In order to resolve the legal dilemma, Portia not only upholds the letter of the law, but also adds, a few lines later, “in the course of justice none of us/ Should see salvation.”

The director added two touches not in the text. He includes a rejection of Shylock first introduced by Henry Irving in 1879 (around the time the Old Globe production is set); a voiceless, eloquent statement of Shylock’s complete alienation. The second, however, is overkill. A cameo near the end, it makes yet another plea for mightily wronged Shylock. But it’s unnecessary because Shylock’s battered spirit already hovers over the scene — and Miles Anderson has already built a profound, artistically earned case for unstrained mercy.

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church their leader Sugar Lee has turned into a day spa, but trouble abounds.

NORTH PARK VAUDVILLE AND CANDY SHOPPE, 2031 EL CAJON BL., NORTH PARK. 619-220-8683. 8PM FRIDAY, 8PM SATURDAY.

John Ball’s In the Heat of the Night
Mal Peltre wrote a stage adaptation of the Academy Award–winning 1967 movie, starring Sidney Poitier as Virgil Tibbs, African-American police detective extraordinare, who solves a first-class murder, much to the dismay of a racist police chief. Peltre’s script unfolds like a movie: short scenes hit like cinematic flickers.

Ión’s initial performance, though capable in many ways, needed to pick up the pace, and internalize the Mississippi accents.

Both are doable, given an all-star cast, talented director Francis Gercke, and high design standards. Best of show: Vinel Sephus (Tibbs) and Tom Stephenson (Chief Gillispie) begin as exact opposites. As the play unfolds and suspects come and go, the two men move toward a sense of common ground.

Worth a try.

ION THEATRE, 3706 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH JULY 13.

The Merchant of Venice
The Old Globe Theatre stages Shakespeare’s tale of “mercy and justice, generosity and greed.” Adrian Noble directs [Note: the play runs in repertory with A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead.].

OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS, 8PM TUESDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29.

MIXTAPE, The Greatest Hits of the ‘80s
Jan Lorenz and Colleen Kollar Smith, creators of this revue of 1980s music, say that favorite songs “mark your memories.” miXtape is performed with rampant energy and polish by an eight-person cast. Memory-triggers zip past: pet rocks, Pac-Man, Nelson Mandela, AIDS. Most of the songs are actually song-bites. But backed by Andy Ingersoll’s versatile band and under Kenny Mead’s feisty direction, miXtape is always entertaining—and memory-provoking. [Note: Lamb’s Players has extended the run several times] 619-437-0600.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DONTONW SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9586. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JULY 28.

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, 3717 INDIA ST., MISSION HILLS. 619-295-4099. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 7:30PM FRIDAYS & 9:45PM SATURDAYS, 7:30PM SUNDAYS.

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.” 760-489-2496.

MIKE’S BBQ & SPORTS BAR, 1356 BRENGLE TERRACE PARK, 1200 VALE TERRACE, VISTA. 760-724-2110. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JULY 13.

Technomachia Circus
Circus and variety acts with a twist. A different show every Saturday night throughout June and July. Some adult language and content.

VICTORY THEATER, 2558 IMPERIAL AVE., GRANT HILL. 619-236-1973. 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH JULY 27.

Tribes
The La Jolla Playhouse stages Nina Raine’s “biting comedy” about Billy, the deaf member of a raucously intellectual family who finds new connections in the deaf community. David Cromer directed.

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE, 2910 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DR., UCSD. 858-550-1010. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JULY 22.

Second Chances for Grace
As part of the San Diego Fringe Festival, Space 4 Art and Asian Story Theatre present Kiki Yeng’s semi-autobiographical story about an immigrant overcoming difficulties and giving herself a second chance. Deanna Driscoll directs.

SPACE 4 ART, 325 15TH ST., EAST VILLAGE. 619-269-7230. 5PM FRIDAY, 2PM SATURDAY, 12:30PM SUNDAY.

South Pacific
Moonlight Stage Productions begins its 33rd summer season with Rodgers and Hammerstein’s tale of love in time of war.

MOONLIGHT AMPHITHEATRE IN BRENGLE TERRACE PARK, 1200 VALE TERRACE, VISTA. 760-724-2110. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SUNDAYS, 8PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JULY 13.
The Long Ranger

The list of things that are terrible about The Lone Ranger is long.
Reading a complete version might take longer than the film itself (a murderous 2 hours and 20 minutes). It might also be more fun. But since I lack director Gore “Hey, it worked with pirates, so why not try Indians?” Verbinski’s money-making track record, I’ll keep things brief.

Hopefully, it’ll be enough to convince you to spend your time and money on something else. We aim to please.

Let’s start at the start: the name of this film should be Tonto. Everything else about the film belongs to Johnny Depp’s wonky Native-without-a-tribe, and yet the white man gets the title. Typical.

The story opens in 1933 San Francisco, a boy dressed as The Lone Ranger visits a Wild West exhibit at a traveling circus and is treated to a Princess Bride–style bit of storytelling by the ancient Indian (Tonto!) who normally spends his time standing stock still and posing as the exhibit’s Noble Savage.

This conceit alone should be enough to keep you away, yes? How about if I tell you that its only real purpose is to provide narrative feints designed to juice the drama and strip away the kiddies’ notion of moral righteousness? This ain’t your daddy’s Lone Ranger, pardner! This is a Lone Ranger who robs banks! Oh, and he refuses to pray on the grounds that Locke’s Two Treatises of Government is his Bible! Yee-haw!

So, Tonto tells the story of how the Lone Ranger came to be. But, really, it’s the story of an Indian (Tonto!) who seeks vengeance against the wicked white folk who slaughtered his village. Tonto gets the narrative arc. The Lone Ranger gets the backstory. Tonto gets the character development (such as it is). Tonto gets the “good” one-liners. Tonto gets the final confrontation. But the Lone Ranger gets the attention, I guess because Native Americans and Johnny Depp fans are not a reliable market base?

So, let’s take a look at this Lone Ranger (Armie Hammer). He’s a lawyer, a believer in court-of-law justice as opposed to the frontier kind. That’s promising. He’s got a tough-but-good brother who followed in Dad’s footsteps and became a Texas Ranger — and who married our hero’s old flame, to boot. That’s even better. And he bumbles and blubbers his way through the film right up until the final set piece. That stinks.

But I’m getting bogged down in the details. The Lone Ranger is boringly overblown, needlessly complicated, and shockingly tone deaf, happy to insert slapstick humor amid scenes of mass slaughter. Johnny Depp plays a sad clown, Armie Hammer plays an educated clown, and William Fitchner plays a cartoon demon. (He’ll cut out a man’s still-beating heart and eat it, but he’ll never get around to raping the pretty lady he kidnaps.) But here’s the biggest problem, and the last item on my list: the film hates itself. It spends great energy mocking the very Indian mysticism and upstanding heroism it ultimately affirms. Hi-yo, Silver, stay away!

— Matthew Lickona

“SAVE THE BULB”
Those three words, spoken in that order, haven’t passed my lips since the winter of ’98. Or was it ’97? Who in hell...
remembers? That was 6000 films ago.

I was managing a five-screen art house for the odious folks at Cineplex Odeon. What chance for success do you think art, independent, and/or foreign films had, tucked inside Schaumburg, Illinois’ Woodfield Mall? During the Christmas rush, I’d stand in the vacant lobby staring out at the atrium, unable to see the store across the way, thanks to the wall-to-wall throng of shoppers. When the Woody Allen doc Wild Man Blues was about to open, I pleaded with the programmer to book it. It drew eight people. Not for the first show, but for its entire one-week run. Needless to say, it wasn’t held over.

In order to cut corners, the company decided to replace their pricey union projectionists with inadequately trained managers and assistant managers who would gradually pass on the art of projection to their snot-nosed concessioneers and ticket-rippers.

I’m not kidding when I say that projection is an art. Back in the day, booth operators had to switch reels every 20 minutes or so, in addition to juggling white-hot carbon rods, the sparked tips of which once provided the source of illumination. Xenon bulbs gradually began replacing carbon arcs in 1963, and in the ‘70s, platter systems — one feature could be mounted onto one flatbed core — appeared on the scene, effectively doing away with the need for two projectors.

A call arrived from corporate early one afternoon, informing me that the lockout had begun. We weren’t supposed to leak news of the pending firing, but the two projectionists working the booth were family men who had earned my respect and friendship. I wasn’t about to sandbag them.

The booth door opened and without saying a word, the projectionist smiled and began gathering his possessions. We shook hands and the last thing he said to me, with a wink of his eye, was, “Save the bulb.”

The few people who did take in a movie at the Woodfield 5-9 normally did so after a full day’s shopping. They didn’t care when the feature started — they were just looking for a cool (or warm) place to rest their arches for a couple of hours. Xenon bulbs are expensive. Whenever there was an empty house, which was often the case, we were instructed to start the movie without turning on the lamp housing, thus saving the bulb. If and when patrons did arrive, we’d scurry up to the booth, flip the light switch, and open the douser.

I’ve been pretty good when it comes to covering films at the Media Arts Center’s Digital Gym and cannot thank them enough for keeping up the dying tradition of press screenings. As both a critic and lifelong lover of movies, places like the Digital Gym have always held a special place in my heart. Two of the finest films I’ve seen this year have been at the Gym, so it’s my privilege and duty to alert people of a new screening venue in town.

Sadly, few of my colleagues feel any urgent need to spread the word about this wonderful new facility. It’s funny how whenever a new comic-book atrocity screens, you’re fortunate if you can find a seat, what with all the so-called critics who turn up out of the woodwork to be the first on their block to see the latest installment of brain-dead thrills. But at the Digital Gym? With the exception of an occasional appearance by Fox 5’s Josh Board and Jean Lowerison from the Review Express, I frequently have the room to myself.

Such was the case this morning when I arrived for their screening of Laurence Anyways, a 167-minute Canadian drama. As much as I love showing up at a public screening only to find myself the sole patron in the auditorium, part of me feels guilty when it happens at a press preview. It’s not as though the Media Arts Center...
WHY NOT VARIABLE PRICING? 

The cost for a ticket to Man of Steel is $12.50. The cost for a ticket to The Bling Ring is $12.50.

This is me, suggesting that if tickets to The Bling Ring cost less than tickets to Man of Steel, the number of people willing to pay, say, $8, would lead to a greater overall profit.

I don’t suppose any theater could even afford to experiment with this. But I’m curious.

— Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by David Elliott, Matthew Lickona, John Rubio, Scott Marks, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for new reviews. Wedds of past reviews are sorted alphabetically, by year of release, and by rating are available online at SanDiegoReader.com.

20 Feet from Stardom — Duran Love is the Jackie Robinson of session groups, a black backup singer who worked furiously to crack the majors by lending her formidable talent (and tonsils) to everyone from Bobby “Boris” Pickett to the Chairman of the Board. Forced to “ghost” for Phil Spector under whatever band name he decided to stick with that week, Love eventually took to cleaning houses to keep afloat. Morgan Neville’s 20 Feet From Stardom introduces us to Love, Merry Clayton (the clarion voice crying “Rape! Murder!” on the Stones’ “Gimme Shelter”), Tata Vega, Claudia Lennear, and many other unsung vocalists whose talent frequently outshines that of the headliners. It’s rare when a feel-good “triumph of the human spirit” picture gets to me. But watching Ms. Love’s climactic induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame left me wet-eyed. With Mick Jagger and a sorely-in-need-of-subtitles Bruce Springsteen.

2013. — M.★★★ (LANDMARK LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Bling Ring — In 2008, a group of bored SoCal teens — some well-off, others less so — started getting their kicks by breaking (actually, walking) into various minor celebrities’ homes and stealing their clothes, their shoes, their jewelry, and even their accessories. This is a filmed re-enactment of that. Director Sofia Copolla seems to believe that empty, boring lives require an empty, boring film. (The kids later say, “I think this is gonna be our life.”) But deep cover work has a way of clouding perspective, especially when the targets are painfully earnest (Ellen Page) and brutally handsome (Alexander Skarsgard). Nothing graphic, no sex, no drugs, no fangin’; Zal Batmanglij, words hard to give us a world where the waters are not only polluted, but also madally — the bad boys don’t set out to do the stealing, and the painful guy is driven as much by revenge as a thirst for justice. The palpable sound is that things are complicated, and only at the very end do things venture into the realm of (organic) propulsion.

2013. — M.★★★ (AMC LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Hannah Arendt — A surprise departure from Margaret von Trotta, Germany’s answer to Ingmar Bergman. This softball biopic, filmed in the manner of a stiff ‘60s melodrama, chronicles a crucial point in the life of the famed German-Jewish philosopher.

The Sculpture Court Café will offer a variety of snacks and beverage options, including a full bar. No alcohol will be allowed into the venue.

Monday, July 12, 7:00pm

SPACE 4 ART

325 13th St., East Village
619-231-7931

Pitch-Fest and Mixer ComicCon Edition Co presented with So Say We All, this Film Critics Association event features screenings of upcoming work, pitchers, mixers, contests, special guests, and more.

Friday, July 19, 6:00pm

Film-Con A film networking event featuring speakers, artists, source, screenwriter of film, comic, and gaming topics. Highlights include: short film screenings, comic book artist exhibition, a storyboard competition, spoken performance, a cosplay contest, and more.

Friday, July 19, 6:00pm

MOVIES

MAN OF STEEL — The international $225 million. It runs — Scott Marks

— SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Bling Ring — You have to won’t lose your own unique cinematic saga. As frustrated teen Joe Boye, newcomer Nick Robinson basically reprises his role as the horror film version of Ed Norton in the Fox Cable TV commercials. The only thing filmmier than the narrative structure of this Walden’s Riddle Pond are the sawdust and spirit gum beads the boys sprout up as a passage of time. This marks the feature’s first appearance for Funny or Die veteran Jordan Vogt-Roberts. With Gabriel Macht, Mena Suvari, and the new reality B treaty, Nick Offerman.

2013. — S.M.★★★★ (LANDMARK LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

Laurence Anyways — It begins like a modern-day vapor movie, eye line closeups of gawking spectators interact with low-angle views — taken from behind so as to obscure the face — of a woman clad in tasteful business attire straddling purposefully amid am nasty cityscapes. It is writer-director Xavier Dolan’s desire to depict a transsexual as a monster. Flaherty once again dons a drag name seldom known as Laurence (Mehl Povpaud) who stands before a classroom lecturing students on examples of projection and extrapolation in classic literature and how to get through to a gay audience. Hopefully, yes, for anything succeeds like excess in Dolan’s world. Shot full frame and in the colors that make it a Universal look achromatic, this almost-three-hour epic melodrama about a budding filmmaker (Suzanne Clément) and her transwoman fiancé try to make the most out of this year’s most moving love story. With Nathalie Baye and Yves Jacobs. 2012. — S.M.★★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

The Lesser Blessed — Another cobblestone in the well-intentioned path to cinema hel. And earnest and gravely routine outcome of age drama telling the story of a taciturn Aboriginal burn victim (Joe Odan), smitten by the prettiest girl in school (Chloé Rose) and taunted with cigarette lighters by the home room bully (Adam Butcher). Things quickly change when sympathetic class friend (Kiwia Gordon) takes her up hero’s cause. Director has stuck closely to the formula put forth in My Bodyguard, until drug, teen pregnancy, and a few darker shades of sensuality blindside the character to give the picture a much-needed jolt.

2012. — S.H.★★★★ (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

THE LESSER BLESSED - 1450 Rialto, Balboa Park 619-231-7931 Films in the Garden: Sunset Boulevard Examine the complex notions of fame and anti- celebrity in Arnold Newman: Masterclass. Compare them to this story about the effects of growing up.

Hollywood fame on Norma Desmond (Gloria Swanson). Billy Wilder’s Sunset Boulevard presents the grand and bizarre tale of an increasingly elusive screen star, her once-husband and now-butler, and the young screen writer who is consumed by her madness. The story has deep pockets of, say, AMC or Edwards and can afford to waste time showing a letter bomb picture to an audience of one.

“Do you have a Blu-ray player?” — the Gym’s PR coordinator, Martha Car- donna, asked. “Save the bulk,” I told her as I took the disc and headed home to hold the San Diego premiere of Laurence Always in my living room.

— Scott Marks

CALENDAR MOVIES
**CENTRAL CARMEL MOUNTAIN**

**Reading Carmel Mountain**
1620 Carmel Mountain Road (800-326-3264)

**Despicable Me 2** (PG) Fri-Sun. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30) 7:00, 9:30
Mon-Thu. (10:00, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30)

**Arctic Tale** (PG-13) Fri-Sun. (11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00)
12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00

**MIRA MESA**
Regal Mira Mesa
4425 La Jolla Village Drive Suite 1660 (858-786-2770)

**World War Z**
7037 Freeway Road (888-262-4368)

**Despicable Me 2** (PG-F) Fri-Sat. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00
Sun. 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00

**The Heat**
Regal Mission Valley
5107 Center Drive (619-685-2841)
Call theater for program information.

**DIGITAL GYM CINEMA**
2981 El Cajon Boulevard (619-203-1983)
Camionetas: The Journey of One American School Bus: Not Rated
Sun. 1:30 p.m.; Lawrence Anayques (Not Rated)
Fri. 12:00, 3:30, 7:00 Sun. 3:30, 7:00

**San Diego Natural History Museum - Kaplan Theater**
900 Encounter Road, Redes Park (619-442-3321)
Call theater for program information.

**UPTOWN**
Landmark Hillcrest
3955 Fifth Avenue (818-819-0286)

**REUBEN H. FLEET SCIENCE CENTER**
4848 Freeway Drive

**SANTEFE DRIVE**
San Diego Zoo Safari Park
1600 Cameron Rd. (858-784-3300)

**CARRIERS**
San Diego Reader, July 10, 2013
**MOVIE SHOWTIMES**

**Movie showtimes are in parentheses.**
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rooms inside the school building. Most of the injured children suffered cuts and scrapes from falling to the ground as parents tried to pull them to safety or from being trampled underfoot during the hysteria. One child required hospitalization after someone stepped on his face and put his eye out.

“They [the adults] ran without taking care, and they caused injuries to several children,” a teacher who asked to remain anonymous told El Mexicano.

The incident began when police were called to investigate an anonymous tip of a stolen car parked behind the school. When officers arrived, a suspected drug addict was allegedly loitering near the car and began to run when he saw the police. Police gave chase, which is what led to the false alarm of an impending shootout.

Police later discovered that the car was not stolen and the man they had been chasing was not a drug addict. The Mexican military dispatched soldiers to the school after hearing the false reports. Armed soldiers aboard pickups discussed the situation with teachers, and after the teachers explained what had happened, they left. 

BOB MCPHAIL, JUNE 26

NORTH PARK
Investing in the ‘hood
Run-down empty storefront bought, will be renovated
Nestled between URBN Coal Fired Pizza and the empty old F.W. Woolworth building in North Park sits a building that last housed the Windmill Thrift Shop. After it closed, the structure, owned by a Los Angeles landlord, sat empty for years.

Directly across the street at 3104 University Avenue is a business called United Structure, owned by a Los Angeles landlord, the empty old F.W. Woolworth building in North Park.

Gleason thinks a restaurant would be ideal for the larger section. Or it could work as “a clothing store, a coffee house, maybe offices,” he said. He said he has no interest in renting to a franchise restaurant or store.

DAVID BATTERSON, JUNE 26

GOLDEN HILL
Missing...or stolen?
Woman claims her dog was abducted by man who lives nearby
Yoshi, a white, three-year-old, female terrier mix, has been missing since September 7 of last year. The owner has contacted a police detective because, as the “missing” poster notes, “The people who found Yoshi are keeping her.”

When I spoke to her on the phone, Yoshi’s owner, Meldi, told me that she hasn’t stopped searching for Yoshi and that she knows who has her.

How does she know this? She said when she started posting flyers in surrounding neighborhoods, she’d return many times and find her posters torn down, yet flyers for other missing animals would remain intact.

When she posted flyers with tear-off phone numbers, she would return and find all the phone numbers torn in half.

Meldi says her posts on Craigslist resulted in sarcastic and insulting emails. Further, she stated that she’s seen a man following her around in a car at least six times while posting the flyers (she has not been able to get his complete license-plate number).

She believes that the captor of Yoshi might be in the vicinity of 26th-27th streets and Broadway or near 25th and Imperial — where all the flyers have been torn down and where she says she has seen the same man watching her from his car.

Meldi has taken advantage of the Reader’s Golden Hill Holler pages to post the flyers and has a Facebook page set up for Yoshi. She is hoping that a neighbor or someone who knows the person who may have Yoshi will contact her.

MERCY BARON, JUNE 25

VISTA
Teen’s joyride ends badly
Thirteen-year-old steals car; chase ends in fiery crash
A 13-year-old boy led deputies on a short vehicle police chase that ended in a crash at about 1:30 a.m. on June 24, according to authorities. No one was seriously hurt, and the boy was hauled off to juvenile hall after he was cleared of any medical concerns, police said.

The vehicle had been reported stolen late Sunday night, and a deputy saw it being driven without its headlights on at North Santa Fe Avenue and Bobier Drive. But the driver refused to pull over.

“It started off as a failure to yield,” said Geoff Weiss, communications supervisor for the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department.

“Then it crashed, it caught fire, and they had to pull the suspect-victim out.”

The nearly block-length pursuit ended at about 1:30 a.m. on June 24, according to authorities. No one was seriously hurt, and the boy was hauled off to juvenile hall after he was cleared of any medical concerns, police said.

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“Then it crashed, it caught fire, and they had to pull the suspect-victim out.”

Meanwhile, Bobby Chocolate watches a couple of tykes skate the rail and quarter pipe they set out in the concourse for skating.

“Little man is skating tight today,” Bobby says. “That’s Will’s there. He’s going to be a star.”

LUCY D. BARKER, JUNE 24

CITY HEIGHTS
New skate park on the way
Mayor helps deliver park funding; local skaters interviewed
Bobby Chocolate pulls up his socks and waits for his friend Jimi to complete his ride down the rail in the skate corridor of the City Heights Community Center walk next to Rosa Parks Field. It is National Go Skate Day, June 21, a Friday afternoon, and the concourse is crowded.

MidCity Community Activist Network is out, kids in blue-and-white T-shirts, celebrating that they won nearly $850,000 in funding and the city’s blessing to build a skate park a few blocks away, which will be part of the City Heights Central Avenue Mini Park.

“I’ll believe it when I see it,” Bobby says. “They talk about this all the time and we’re still skating here….”

But lots of people want it too. Cherokee Point Elementary School principal Godwin Higa has advocated for it, MidCity CAN has pushed, and the Hawk Foundation stayed onboard, selling the project.

In December, mayor Bob Filner came to City Heights and vowed to help raise money for the skate park, and in June, the $846,000 was awarded by the state Department of Housing and Community Development.

“Everyone gave up hope on City Heights, but we never did,” says MidCity CAN youth advocate Terry Stanley II. “It took three years and it will take a couple more to get it built, but we’re going to have one.”

Meanwhile, Bobby Chocolate watches a couple of tykes skate the rail and quarter pipe they set out in the concourse for skating.

“Little man is skating tight today,” Bobby says. “That’s Will’s there. He’s going to be a star.”

LUCY D. BARKER, JUNE 24
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SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

ACROSS
1. Bore that’s part of a “cage”
2. Word with jump or bunny
4. Buddy
5. Jott, jist, Zora ___ Hurston
6. Alternative
7. Starting squad
8. Majority
9. Volestine peak
10. Old stuff
11. Provides funds for
12. Slaggered
13. 1970s honorific weapons
15. Overused expression
16. UDO audience
17. Addis Ababa is its capital: Abbr.
18. “Texter’s ‘Hover’.”
19. Bar mitzvah scroll
20. Part of M.B.S.’s prescription
21. Proclaimed loudly
22. Tracey of sketch comedy
23. Letters in some church names

DOWN
34. Ted
36. “At Last” singer: James
37. Maestro’s gift
38. One of Beethoven’s nine: Abbr.
39. Not so spicy
40. Pupil surrounder
41. “Like King Lear”
42. Modern party aid
43. Concorde, Idaho
44. 1980s Houston Oilers coach Ed
45. Christine of “Chicago Hope”
46. History text unit
47. Farming at the mouth
48. Signed it
49. “Treasure Island” author’s monogram
50. Orig. with a pair of gloves in its logo
51. Witnessed

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THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:
This week’s winners were drawn from the Reader offices front desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Tuesday of that week.

Julia Ellison, Del Mar, 1.
Jon Hutchens, Carlsbad, 1.
Lisa Misakian, San Diego, 1.
Don Ramo, Chula Vista, 1.
Kimberly Workman, Escondido, 1.

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**LAST WEEK’S WINNER**

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“The Raven Bar & Grill?” (3 words)

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Where Poe bartends

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— Young professional Chinese women are of- ten unable to show off their boyfriends to their parents. To deal with this issue, they offer themselves as fake boyfriends for the equivalent of about $50 a day, plus extras, including about $5 an hour to accompany the woman to dinner, $8 for a kiss on the cheek, and $95 to spend the night — on the couch, of course, since “sex” is not part of the concept.

Backward Incentives
— Society continues to suffer from questionable company policies that encourage the wrong behaviors. Bartender Twyla DeVito said she knew that one of her regulars at the American Legion Post in Shelby, Ohio, was too inebriated to drive home and thus telephoned police, alerting them to a potential drunk driver. An officer respond- ed, observed the driver, and arrested him when his blood-alcohol level read twice the limit for presumed impairment. Two days later, DeVito was fired because, as her boss allegedly said to her, “[i]t’s bad for business to have a bartender who will call the cops.”

Fabulous British Government
— Heather Frost, 36, the mother of 11 children, is getting a brand-new, specially designed house through the Tewkesbury (England) Borough Council, which deduced inadequate the duplex that the family had been using at taxpayer ex- pense for five years. Frost has complained that the needed larger quarters because one daughter now owns a horse and needs to stable it.

Three-World Penis-Snatchings
— In Tiringouli (pop. 2000) in the Central African Republic, phantoms are thought often to steal penises or shrink them, but according to a March dispatch in the magazine Pacific Stan- dard, the stories’ origins may reflect distrust of outsiders. Townspeople over-attribute worldly powers to strangers, and when outsiders’ busi- ness deals go sour, men check their genitals. Also, animal-orga- nooooperators operate nearby and arouse suspicion that they may be after human genitals, as well.

Poor Planning
— (1) In San Diego, Calif., in February, two peo- ple broke into a Hooters after closing and stole a jukebox, apparently, said police, mistaking it for an ATM inside the darkened restaurant. (2) José Perales Jr., 24, was charged with breaking into Dr. John’s Lingerie boutique in Downey, Iowa, in February. Surveillance video revealed he was wearing men’s clothing when he entered but left in a dress and blond wig. In fact, while changing clothes, his bare back was visible, revealing “Pe- rape” tattooed on his shoulder.

Updates
— Sherwin Shayegan might be again acting out his obsession of coaxing strangers (usually teen- age boys, especially athletes) to give him piggy- back rides. A Bettendorf, Iowa, police report ob- tained by Deathgrips.com in February showed his arrest on an unrelated charge, but police noted that Shayegan had attended a college basketball game in Moline, Ill., the night before — and such a scenario has been fertile ground in the past for Shayegan’s easing himself into locker rooms to commit offenses.

— News of the Weird mentioned in October that China and Japan are currently engaged in an ownership dispute over two islands in the China Sea and had dispatched ships to the region to accompany their countries’ verbal blustering. (Taiwan also claims the islands.) The Japanese daily Nikkan Spa reported in December that China’s recent take-downs of internet por- nography from Japan was likely caused by the spat. In comments on internet porn sites, some Chinese subscribers patriotically vowed to give up watching Japanese sex videos, even if it meant going without one of their favorites — the Japanese star Aoi Sola.

— News of the Weird has noted the street-wise pointers offered by al-Qaeda’s online magazine Inspire, and the new issue offers yet more tips for causing infidels mayhem. This issue ignores large-scale destructions (such as bringing down airliners) and focuses on smaller chaos, such as torching parked cars, greasing up sharp-angled roadways to force cars to skid, and outfitting pickup trucks with knives affixed to the grill. Inspire also cautions the Jihadists to use care to protect themselves in the process.

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Di- ego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92116 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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