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VOLUME 42 / NUMBER 51
DECEMBER 19, 2013

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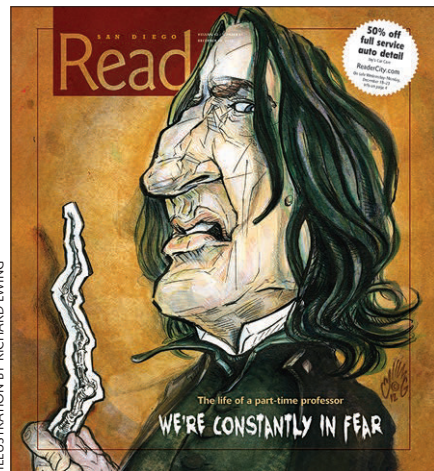
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December 19, 2013



Academia's dirty little secret — page 18



Don't kid yourself — page 79

Three's a Charm WIN \$100

Find somewhere in our features (articles, listings, or classifieds) three instances of the same phrase. This week's clue: "space station latrine?" (4 words)



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Don't hit on the plumber

Young worker claims unwanted sexual advances and he wasn't paid

Encinitas — During a court hearing on December 11, Michael Welch claimed that a houseguest, Bryan Paul Jeffries, 30, threatened and punched him and demanded money in December of 2012.



PHOTOGRAPH BY EVA KNOTT

Defense attorney Laura Copsey and her client Bryan Paul Jeffries, who pleaded not guilty to two felonies.

Welch, 62, claimed that he had invited Jeffries to his home because he believed that Welch "had a hard time finding work" and "he seemed like a nice person."

Defense attorney Laura Copsey said Jeffries suggested that Welch sexually assaulted him and did not pay his worker. Welch denied any sexual assault and stated that he intended to pay Jeffries later, after he "sobered up."

Copsey suggested that Welch has been previously accused of sexually assaulting young men who had worked for him; she named Mark Armando as one accuser whom she alleged has filed a suit against Welch.

Jeffries pleaded not guilty to two felonies. He is currently in jail, in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

Eva Knott

"If that's water, take a sip"

Desert polluter gets light sentence

Imperial Valley — Las Vegas resident Eric Russell received a six-month jail sentence and was ordered to pay \$21,240 in restitution last week by a San Diego court for dumping between 1500 and 2000 gallons of raw sewage on federal property in the Imperial Valley east of San Diego.

In January of 2012, federal Bureau of Land Management authorities found Russell and his Havasu, Arizona-based All-in-One Environmental Services truck stuck off Red Cloud Road, where they "smelled a strong stench of sewage." Russell insisted "that the truck contained nothing but water, but he declined to take a sip of the 'water' himself," according to Courthouse News Service.

Russell had been in custody since June, and his sentence equates to time served plus the fine, and he has since been released. His stepfather, Dennis Johnson, who had allegedly ordered Russell to dump the waste,

also pleaded guilty to illegal dumping and agreed to probation and an undisclosed fine.

Dave Rice

Navy men wrestle burglars

Crime spree ends with prison

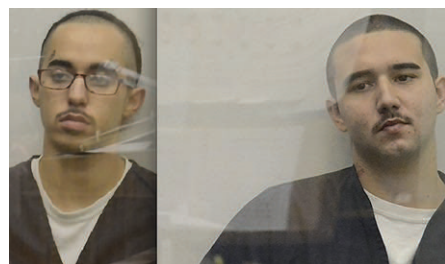
Escondido — On December 5, Antonio Gabriel Amador, 18, and Brandon Douglas Martinez, 20, were both sentenced to seven years in state prison for burglary and robbery.

Amador and Martinez were accused of a crime spree in Escondido on the night of August 21, 2013.

A little after midnight, a woman on Kenora Place awoke to find two men with baseball bats in her home. When she called for her husband, the men fled.

Soon after, a person a few blocks away was robbed of his bicycle.

Next, a woman observed two strangers in her neighborhood trying doors. She yelled at them to leave when they approached her home, but one of them bashed in the windshield of her parked car with a baseball bat. Escondido police said the descriptions of those perpetrators and their getaway car



PHOTOGRAPH BY BOB WEATHERSTON

Intruders Amador and Martinez left behind incriminating evidence, including a baseball cap, shoes, and blood.

matched Amador and Martinez.

Their crime spree was halted at about 2:30 a.m., after a woman named Ashley was awakened in her home by her dog. She discovered two men in her home — one armed with a baseball bat and another with a crowbar. Ashley called for her two male roommates; one man is in the Navy and one recently retired from the Navy.

The Navy men used their fists and chairs and a candle-holder against the armed intruders, according to investigators. Ashley said she wrestled with the man who had the crowbar; the intruder left it behind when both burglars retreated via the living-room window, through which they had entered the home.

The burglars left behind their baseball cap, shoes, blood, and other evidence, according to reports.

Amador and Martinez were apprehended when they went to Palomar Medical Center for treatment of head wounds.

Eva Knott

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Despite community and planning-department support for Uptown building-height restrictions, the Code Monitoring Team voted against such an ordinance.

The City's Code Monitoring Team: foxes guard the henhouse

By Dorian Hargrove

It reads like a page out of a comic book: an underground team of developers and building-industry professionals whose sole

mission is to change land-use policies, in some cases easing development regulations.

But this isn't a work of fiction; it occurs once a month at City Hall when a group of developers, lobbyists, and architects meet to reshape San Diego's land-development code. Their suggestions appear on the front page of staff reports to council committees and planning-commission dockets.

The Code Monitoring Team, established in 1998, is an 18-person team responsible for finding holes in San Diego's code and offering ideas on how to fill them.

But over the years, the team has become policy-driven, concerned more with crafting ordinances than drafting fixes to the current code.

Some residents are beginning to voice concerns about

what they feel is an autonomous and largely unregulated group.

Unlike any other city committees, subcommittees, or even community-planning groups, the Code Monitoring Team is not required to follow even the most basic provisions from the Brown Act or other public meeting laws, such as posting agendas or documenting votes at meetings. Members are not required to file economic interest disclosures, as is the case with volunteer planners and city officials.

A spokesperson for interim mayor Todd Gloria confirms the group's autonomy and justifies its composition and lack of bylaws by pointing out that it's "a legislative body and was not created by a legislative body" and therefore is not subject to any of the state's open meeting laws.

The freedom has allowed

Neal Obermeyer



"Most of the public is not even aware there exists such a group," says former city deputy planner Dave Potter.

the group to become a quasi-lobbying body, which weighs in on a variety of crucial planning issues, such as food-truck regulations and height limits for San Diego's oldest and most established communities.

"Most of the public is not even aware there exists such a group," says former deputy planning director for the City of San Diego and current environmental and planning consultant, Dave Potter.

"Based on my knowledge of the origin, composition, and operating procedures of the Code Monitoring Team, the team should not be involved in making recommendations on policy issues."

When formed, the team was meant to represent a variety of community interests, from knowledgeable building-industry professionals to historical resource experts to community planners and environmental advocacy groups.

However, the current roster is anything but diverse. Of the 18 designated positions on the board, 3 are vacant. Developers, architects, and even land-use lobbyists whose job is to persuade city officials to adopt a more lax permitting process, dominate the roster.

There is only one community planner.

And while locating agendas for meetings proves to be a difficult task, their recommendations on important community issues are not hard to find. That was evident on August 14 when only eight team members showed to provide recommendations on whether to adopt a permanent height ordinance for Uptown communities of Hillcrest, Mission Hills, and Bankers Hill.

The push for height limitations in Uptown is no small issue. The fight to keep building heights down began in 2007, shortly after

65 feet in selected areas.

Four years later, residents are still lobbying the council to adopt a permanent ordinance. Dave Potter is one of those outspoken advocates. He was encouraged to find that a new ordinance was in the works with city staff fully behind the effort. But Potter soon learned that not everyone was on board.

At their sparsely attended August 14 meeting, the Code Monitoring Team voted against the permanent ordinance. Those present included John Ziebarth from the American Institute of Architecture, John Leppert; from the American Society



Joe LaCava, community planning committee member, worries about the lack of oversight of the Code Monitoring Team.

the city's planning department received a proposal for two residential towers, one a 19-story and the other a 17-story, to be built at the corner of University and Third Avenue in the heart of Hillcrest.

Despite being victorious in defeating the project, residents were unable to convince the city council to pass a permanent height ordinance. The best they could do was get a temporary moratorium on buildings above

of Civil Engineers, Steve Silverman; Council of Design Professionals, Sean Cardenas; former city planner and current project manager for Tierra Environmental Services, attorney Rebecca Michael; Molly Kirkland, director of public affairs for the San Diego County Apartment Association; Marcela Escobar-Eck, former director of San Diego's Development Services Department; current land-use lobbyist Joan

continued on page 36

UNDER THE RADAR

Charity and VD begin at Del Mar

It's time to tally up the annual take of Del Mar's so-called charity race days, representing the net proceeds required by law to be turned over for worthy causes during certain designated days of each meet. This year the swanky operation came up with an underwhelming total of \$152,665. "Staff notes that 100% of the charity distribution is [to] Equine Related Charities," according to a recent report



Del Mar's legally required charity donations totaled \$152,665. It all went to racing-related charities.

to the California Horse Racing Board. The largest contribution, \$30,600, went to the Permanently Disabled Jockeys Fund for those unfortunate enough to crack up during a race. "It is a public charity that currently provides financial assistance to approximately 60 former jockeys who have suffered catastrophic on-track injuries." Coming in a close second with \$25,500 was the California Retirement Management Account, which handles steeds and fillies lucky enough to survive the rigors of Del Mar long enough to be put out to pasture. "It is dedicated to the goal of providing funding for their rehabilitation, retraining and/or retirement." On the rail in third place with \$25,000 was the California Center for Equine Health and Performance. Located at UC Davis, the center "serves as the West Coast's quarantine and treatment station for the potentially devastating venereal disease contagious equine metritis." On a higher note, the faith-based lives of Del Mar's backstretch workers placed fourth, with a somewhat meager \$14,000 going to the Racing Track Chaplaincy, which "ministers to the spiritual, emotional, physical and social/educational needs of horse racing's workers."

Off a cliff Out of a job is Cliff Albert, the KOGO chief-tain who ruled the airwaves and a sizable chunk of local San Diego political life in the

glory days of fallen San Diego GOP mayor **Roger Hedgecock**. With the demise of the so-called fairness doctrine and equal time rules in the 1980s, Albert was widely noted for his role at the Clear Channel station's political juggernaut, infamous in some quarters for its ideological take on the news. Talker Hedgecock, forced to resign as mayor in a money-laundering scandal, landed himself a lucrative KOGO spot, using it to bash his political crit-

ics, who were frequently denied the opportunity to answer back, they asserted. Those who didn't toe Hedgecock's line and couldn't muster enough cash for advertising time were out of luck and off the air, detractors said.

Today, largely due to the rise of the internet, that era is over. Even broadcast fixture Albert took to the new medium to acknowledge the bad news. "Just wanted to say I have been overwhelmed by all the messages of encouragement about my departure from

KOGO as program director," says a message on his Facebook page. "Thanks to all my FB pals for your posts and to other friends who have called or emailed. And a very special public thank you to my wife and family who are amazing and through whom God reveals his love to me every day. I am confident and excited about the future." Hedgecock now works for La Jolla real estate developer Douglas Manchester's *U-T San Diego* cable channel. Albert still does a 200-word daily commentary for KOGO, last Friday bashing a proposed Christmas-tree tax.

From Canada, with cash Qualcomm, which has been lobbying hard this year for more visas for foreign workers, isn't the only local concern that has been spending heavily in a bid to get more people from abroad into the country. Federal disclosure records show that SeaWorld Parks &

Entertainment, Inc., spent \$160,000 during this year's third quarter on JOLT, the Jobs Originated through Launching Travel Act of 2013, which remains sitting in a House committee awaiting action. According to the Congressional Research Service description, the measure would "establish a pilot fee-based premium processing service to expedite visa interview appointments." It would

also "admit into the United States a qualifying Canadian citizen over 50 years old and spouse for a period not to exceed 240 days if the person maintains a Canadian residence and owns a U.S. residence or has rented a U.S. accommodation for the duration of such stay." On a more controversial note, the marine park also lobbied regarding provisions in Senate Bill 744 "relating to the State Departments Student

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The fat days are over for former KOGO broadcasters Hedgecock and Albert.

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LETTERS

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Stick to Canvas

I'm calling about the cover of last week's Reader, "There's No Feeling Equal to Tagging" (December 12). Even though the headline is a quotation, I feel it was irresponsible of you to put that on the cover, as it kind of glamorizes it. The article was a whole lot better than the title.

As stated, this is over a million-dollar problem in San Diego. A lot of people work really hard to eradicate it. I really sympathize with the people who are in the story (not the taggers). If they consider themselves artists they can stick to canvas and murals. This malicious destruction of property just makes San Diego look like every other ghetto.

Chris Cott
La Jolla

Plain Vandalism

Regarding the cover article, "There's No Feeling Equal to Tagging" (December 12).

Spray painting on public property or others' private property is vandalism, plain and simple. Although your

article is somewhat balanced, the human interest aspect suggesting that vandalism can save a life is absurd.

The existence of the Writerz Blok is a good thing, I suppose, but they have to graffiti on trees? Wow.

Chris Bowd
Ocean Beach

Collaboration Request

Re: "There's No Feeling Equal to Tagging" (December 12 cover story).

Armor is a hottie! Give him my name so we can "collab."

Allison Rees
Ocean Beach

Dangerous Tools

Regarding S.P.'s rant about guns in the December 12 letters. Benjamin Franklin said, "Those who would give up essential liberty, to purchase a little temporary safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety."

There are plenty of laws. Enforcement is difficult. Guns are tools. Cars are tools. Power saws are tools. These are all dangerous and all require safety training, which is lacking and needed for all dangerous tools.

I'm a crippled old lady and currently unarmed so please do not publish anything but my initials.

D. T.
via voicemail

Don't Mind the Gap

While Matthew Lickona's holiday list was informative ("70+ Great Ways to Celebrate the Holidays,"

continued on page 39

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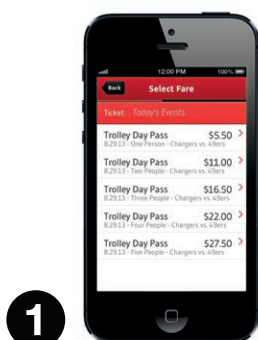
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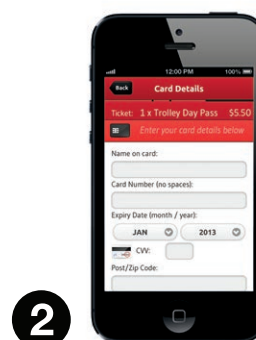
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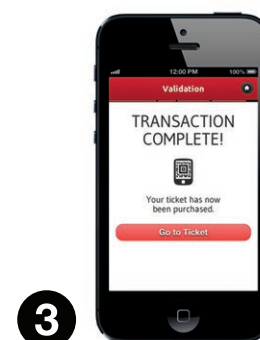
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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

TIJUANA

Pit bull kills newborn

Lunged at baby in mother's arms

A 37-day-old baby girl died on Wednesday, December 11, shortly after she was bitten on the head by a pit bull at her grandmother's house in Tijuana, according to newspaper accounts.



PHOTO: EL MEXICANO

Pit bull that killed infant was scheduled to be put to sleep last weekend.

Authorities told *El Sol de Tijuana* that the child's 20-year-old mother, Lucero Celeste Lara López, gave the following account of the tragedy: She arrived at her mother-in-law's home at about 11:45 a.m. so the newborn could visit her paternal grandma, Miriam Leonor Estrada Armendáriz, 41. The older woman let the pit bull loose so it could go outside to the patio, but, instead of heading to the patio, the dog lunged at and bit the child, who was in her mother's arms when the attack occurred.

The two-year-old, 66-pound pit bull was to be euthanized last weekend by lethal injection, the newspaper reported in its December 13 edition.

According to *El Sol*, Wednesday's deadly attack was the 71st reported dog bite in Tijuana

so far this year; three of them were fatal.

The baby's grandmother, who owns two other pit bulls, was taken into custody for questioning by investigators, *El Mexicano* reported.

The child's mother, according to *El Mexicano*, told investigators that her baby's death was an accident, that she forgave her mother-in-law and preferred that no charges be filed against her. She also said she did not want any monetary damages.

BOB MCPHAIL

CHULA VISTA

Court day for corrupt school officials

Administrators make pleas

On December 6, readiness conferences began in the South Bay courthouse. All of the Sweetwater Union High School District and Southwestern College defendants appeared in court with the exception of Jeff Flores, former program manager for Southwestern's Proposition R.

Judge Ana España issued a \$25,000 bench warrant for Flores.



Judge Ana España issued a \$25,000 bench warrant for the absentee Jeff Flores.

In those brief hours — as attorneys scurried between the judge's chambers and the clients in the courthouse hallways — deals were hammered out for Southwestern College's remaining defendants.

Former Southwestern trustee Yolanda Salcido pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor on count 48, perjury in relation to her 700 form. Sentencing was set for April 22, 2014, and Salcido faces a fine of up to \$5000.

Former Southwestern vice president Nicholas Alioto pleaded guilty to one felony count, penal code 32. Alioto admitted to aiding



Lake Murray joins the catch and cash-in fish-stocking program.

former Proposition R program manager Henry Amigable to commit a felony by accepting a thing of value and failing to report it on his 700 form. Alioto will be sentenced on January 7.

The former facilities manager at Southwestern, John Wilson, also pleaded guilty to one felony, penal code 32, and will also be sentenced on January 7.

Both Alioto and Wilson face the possibility of a \$10,000 fine and three years in a state prison. However, in pleading guilty, the court will consider alternatives to custody.

SUSAN LUZZARO

Comments

Of course, it would be dandy if all the accused were convicted of all counts of felonies they face and do jail time. The reality is that ONE felony conviction is enough to remove the elected officials from office, and I think that is a remarkably wonderful goal, which will be an important first step to seating a new board that is responsible and respects the public it is supposed to serve.

OSKIDOLL

LA MESA

Fishing for money...literally

"One that got away" stories not accepted

On December 5, Lake Murray was stocked with a load of 1/2- to 1-pound trout. The day before, Lake Murray management gave trout fishermen a new incentive to fish at the park: orange-tagged trout that fishermen can catch for money — catch and cash-in. The signs state that the returned tags will help estimate

the catch rates to evaluate the hatchery-trout stocking program. Head in the stars.

Karen, a Lake Miramar park worker, said that the tagged-trout-for-reward program was introduced to Miramar a year ago. This year the program was introduced to Lake Murray, but with more valuable rewards.

According to Roth, the lake bait shop-keeper, after only a few days, three people had caught trout with reward tags worth \$5, \$10, and \$30.

GLORIA CIPRIAN

LA MESA

City considers panhandling ban

Better stop your "aggressive staring"

The City of La Mesa may ask Democratic assemblywoman Shirley Weber for help with a bill to ban panhandling on medians. Seeking a state solution was discussed at the December 10 La Mesa City Council meeting in response to mayor Art Madrid's proposal to explore changes to the city's panhandling ordinance.

Madrid said, "I don't want to do anything to cause a lawsuit," but people are "running from one lane to another with moving traffic."

La Mesa police chief Ed Aceves said he was also following the legislation in other cities. He said Santee's aggressive panhandling ordinance could be difficult to enforce due to issues such as whether holding "a sign with certain words" or "someone staring" was aggressive.

LIZ SWAIN

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I. Hate. Mimes.

Ooh, I know!" Terri's face lit up so suddenly and brightly, I pictured a little cartoon bulb over her head. "What about mimes? I even have the perfect outfit to wear."

"No mimes," David said with an edge in his voice.

"What? Think about it, beh-beh," I said. "It would be hilarious to watch Terri try to be animated. She's usually so...not."

"I said no. No mimes, and that's final," David said more curtly.

"Seriously, I don't think you see the potential for hilarity here, and, you know, miming is one of the first things actors have to learn —"

"Do you not hear what I'm saying? We're not doing mimes," David snapped in a tone reminiscent

of my mother when she'd finally had it "up to here" with her four daughters pestering her to add more impulse items to the shopping cart. "I. Hate. Mimes. There will not be mimes on our show. Ever. So don't bring it up again."

Terri and I simultaneously pulled back our heads and widened our eyes at each other, which is the universal body language for *What is that guy's deal?*

We'd been brainstorming subjects for our friend and creative cohort to feature in her "Terri Tries It" segment that appears on the art-centric TV show that I produce

and David directs. So far, Terri had tried everything from ballet to glass-blowing. David was often skeptical at first — he required convincing and thought-out planning before he'd even begin to consider a subject. But he had never before displayed this much contempt for any one idea.

"I don't like mimes, you know," I said. "I don't find them funny at all, but I don't hate them. What is it about them that you hate so much?"

"Hate's a strong word. It would probably be more accurate to say that —"

"Fine, forget about hate, that's not the point." I fought off an *argh*, took a deep breath, and continued, "Why do you strongly dislike mimes? Is it because they're like clowns? I mean, I hate clowns. Like, I really hate them. They freak me out." I imagined David must have had some terrifying childhood mime encounter.

My coulrophobia (fear of clowns, it's a thing) began when, at a young age, I saw the movie

Poltergeist, in which a clown doll tries to kill a boy. As if the nightmares featuring that creepy killing toy clown weren't traumatizing enough, I also watched Stephen King's miniseries *It*, in which Tim Curry plays an evil monster clown with sharpened teeth. *Killer Clowns from Outer Space* sealed the deal.

I never understood why anyone would actually like clowns, but I knew better than to assume that everyone hated them as much as I did. My sister Heather was as freaked out by the scary, murder-y clown in *Poltergeist* as the rest of the family. But, unlike her three sisters, Heather managed to compartmentalize clowns into one of two categories: horrifying or beautiful. The ones that looked like Bozo — with their red noses and painted smiles and puffy hair — were horrifying. But sad clowns — with their white faces, dainty painted lips, and a single tear on one cheek — were beautiful.

Heather collected sad-clown dolls; they had porcelain heads and plush, silken-clothed bodies. They ranged from five to ten inches tall and were costumed with either a conical cloth hat or Elizabethan ruffle around their necks. Heather's room was small, so she came up with an ingenious way to display her entire collection: she used thumbtacks to pin the dolls to the ceiling by their hats or ruffles. Whoever entered the room was greeted by 20 cold, unblinking porcelain faces staring down at them.

One night, while Heather was at

a slumber party, I went to sleep in her room. Until then, I'd always slept on a plain old mattress with a polyester blanket, but my older sister had a waterbed with a white satin comforter. As I lay on the waterbed, making the occasional adjustment to get comfortable, the movable mattress beneath me would sway. On the ceiling above me the sad clowns seemed to swing from unseen nooses around their necks. Lit sideways from the streetlamps outside, they cast long, undulating shadows on the ceiling, and their faces, forever fixed, seemed to be simultaneously pleading for release and threatening revenge. That was the last time I tried to sleep in Heather's room.

David seemed stumped to explain his reaction to mimes, so I asked Terri, "Okay, while he thinks about that one, what is it you like about mimes?"

"They pretend to be trapped in things, and that's fun," Terri said. "Also, they don't talk too much. Oh! And they wear cool outfits."

"It's not that I hate them so much as I'm just really, really annoyed by them," David said. "I get it — you think you're trapped in a box. And why are their faces always painted white?"

"They're French," I said. "I thought you liked French things."

"They're overly enthusiastic and cheerful unless they're terribly, terribly sad," David argued. "It's like pure physical comedy but without the comedy. They always wear the same

continued on page 40

"It's like pure physical comedy but without the comedy. They always wear the same black-and-white-striped shirt. What's with that? And what they do is unoriginal."

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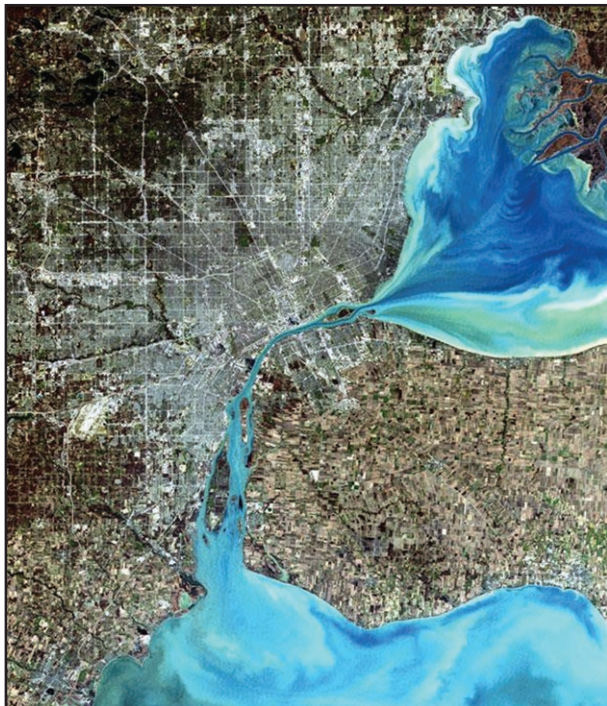
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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

Water Wise

In landmark deal, bankrupt Detroit agrees to pipe water to thirsty San Diego



But will it be cleaner than toilet to tap? I mean, have you been to Detroit?

Interim Mayor Gloria:

"Detroit has not one, but two major freshwater lakes in its backyard. And thanks to our city's efforts at pension reform, San Diego has a budget surplus. Really, it just made sense for both cities. Now they can keep that art collection of theirs!"

As of press time, Detroit citizens were being urged to collect their tears. "As of right now," said Gloria, "that's probably their most reliable water source."

On strength of single week's traffic reports, San Diego selected as test city for California DOT anti-texting campaign: **"Keep Your Hands on the Wheel."**



Cal-DOT's billboard mock-up, featuring, clockwise from upper left: Sheriff's deputy car runs into woman crossing street in wheelchair, December 6, Encanto; BMW station wagon crashes into taco shop, North Park, December 6; Car floating in surf, Oceanside, December 4; truck crashes into condo, Banker's Hill, December 6; pickup truck smashes into multiple parked cars, Chula Vista, December 2; car smashes into multiple cars before bursting into flames, Pacific Beach, December 3.

DOT head Don Dent: "We've already contracted with the estate of Paul Evans, whose 1959 hit 'Seven Little Girls (Sitting in the Back Seat)' contains the immortal chorus: 'Keep your mind on your driving/Keep your hands on the wheel/Keep your snoopy eyes on the road ahead.' We're not gonna change a thing."



Conservatives in our midst!

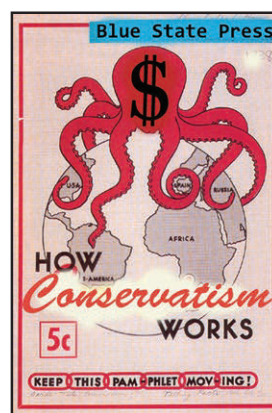
Red (State) Scare

Guest editorial: CityBeat editor comments on his paper's landmark cover story

our tireless reporting had resulted in Kreep's removal from the bench or at least some kind of forced reprogramming for his paleolithic political views. Unfortunately, the Fair Practices Political Commission let him off with a warning that if he doesn't shape up, he'll have to pay a small fine. A triumph, to be sure, but we knew we couldn't really make a story out of that.

But then we realized that Kreep wasn't the real problem. The real problem was the seething mass of vote-casting vipers who made him a judge. Kreep wasn't just a lone hate-monger, spewing his vile poison across the landscape through pamphlets and robocalls. He was clearly a member of an underground movement that had quietly grown so powerful that it could actually elect one of its own to office.

Listen up, America: Judge Kreep is an agent of Conservatism! He's the kind of dirty Connie who wants to infiltrate America and bring it down from within! These Red (State) monsters are anti-American to the core: they're even trying to bring down the Constitutional separation of church and state! They've infiltrated the news media, sometimes taking over entire newspapers and TV networks. They're at work in Hollywood, churning out vile, corrupting trash like *Atlas Shrugged*. Nothing is sacred to a Red (Stater); in their perversity, they want to destroy the institution of gay marriage. Some of them even want to take their children out of the



Want to learn more? Read this!

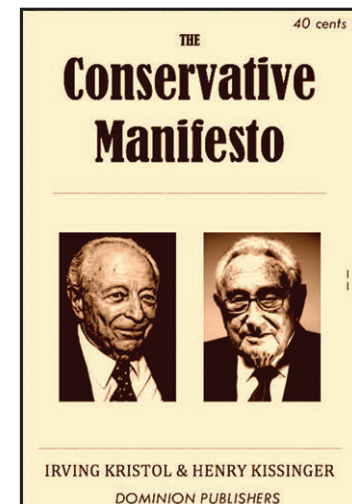
public schools and teach them at home, the better to brainwash them against America.

Conservatism, we have found, is the creation of intellectual Jews: Irving Kristol, Norman Podhoretz, etc. It found early political implementers in Jews like Henry Kissinger and James Schlesinger. These

men, strangers to the American principles of community and charity, conspired to take control of the world by any means necessary: economic or military. They toppled governments in Central America and Asia in the name of their nightmare political philosophy, asserting the good of the individual over all.

We have been doing research, and we have compiled a list of names, a list of over 200 members of San Diego

government with ties to the Conservative Party. The time has come to act, San Diego. We must root out these filthy Connies before they destroy everything we hold dear. Judge Kreep is only the beginning. Let these godly evildoers beware!



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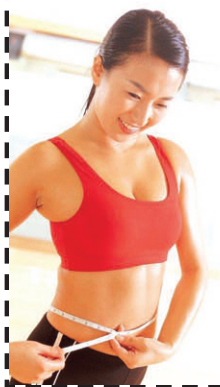
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BLOG

DIEGO

TITLE: **Heart on Sleeve** | ADDRESS: www.withheartonsleeve.tumblr.com

AUTHOR: **Casey McCarthy** | FROM: **La Jolla** | BLOGGING SINCE: **2008**

About: Hi. I'm Casey and among other things I'm a writer, feminist, activist, media & communications advisor, mother, wife, nomad, hopeless idealist and development junkie.

POST TITLE: **none**

POST DATE: **October 11, 2013**

Apologies for the lack of creativity on this blog of late, but I've been busy raising this beautiful little girl. A post on first-time parenting is on its way... watch this space. x



My child is amazing. Truly. And I'm glad I know so many parents who are equally enthralled with their children.

POST TITLE: **On Becoming a Parent**

POST DATE: **November 27, 2013**

Parenting is nothing like I expected it to be. It's harder than I ever imagined. And it's better than I ever imagined. I had ideas about the sort of parent I would be. And, more importantly, I had ideas about the sort of parent I would not be. Almost everything I thought before was wrong, if not completely stupid.

Before you have children you have all sorts of opinions about what being a parent is all about: Yes, we'll definitely be "routine" people. A child needs structure! No! We will NOT co-sleep with the baby! Co-sleeping is dangerous and our child will learn independence early on.

Completely stupid opinions. Because, the truth is, you won't know what sort of parent you will be until you meet your child and learn what they need and what it will take for you to manage those needs.

You know those parents who seem to talk endlessly about their children? And how annoying and boring you found it as a childless person? I did. And now, ironically — and unashamedly — I am one of those parents. Because my child is amazing. Truly. And I'm glad I know so many parents who are equally enthralled with their children. Because, as I find myself contemplating a lot these days, there are many children in the world who are not lucky enough to have such loving parents.

I am struck every day by just how vulnerable my child — every child — is. And just how great the responsibility of a parent. Having worked in child protection and international development, perhaps the desperate reality

for many children is all too vivid in my mind. In the moments I find myself over-tired and frustrated (feelings a parent is all too familiar with) my heart breaks for the children whose parents don't have the capacity to control those emotions and provide the unconditional love and nurturing they deserve.

Being a parent really is the most difficult job I've ever had — and absolutely the best and most rewarding. There is nothing I love more than hearing my baby giggle. I love that she's all smiles when she wakes up in bed with us every morning. I love her squeals and chatter. I love the way that she, from the

very first day, looked at her daddy like he has all the answers. I love her little monkey feet. And the way she splashes in the bath. I love feeling her little hand reach up my chest and gently brush against my skin as she's nursing.

But it hasn't all been long nights of sleep and giggles. Those first few weeks? They were some of the longest and hardest weeks of my life. I'm sure my mother's friends had warned me, but I had no idea what to expect. The physical recovery from the delivery, the pure agony of breastfeeding (a feeling that is, I expect, akin to having shards of glass pierce your nipples every hour or two when your child nurses), surviving with very little sleep, and not being sure how to soothe a newborn who cries and cries and cries.

Some of those days were the darkest of my life. Mastitis didn't help. You all of a sudden realize just how wonderfully selfish life was before. Life before was so easy — sleep was uninterrupted and deep; days and evenings could be spent doing whatever your schedule allowed, including spontaneously arranged fun activities such as margaritas with the girls. Not anymore.

Now days are spent predominantly dealing with vomit and feces, negotiating nap time, nursing, and attending to mountainous piles of laundry. Every day brings something new — a new challenge, a new sort of joy. Every day I'm learning. Learning about my capacity to be tested. And learning about the endless depth of this new love. And I wouldn't change it for the world.

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Street Style

BY SIOBHAN BRAUN

Accessories that count in La Jolla

The greatest advice my fashion-savvy mother ever gave me in regards to style was to make your accessories count. Accessories should be the ingredients around which to base your outfit. If you are going to splurge, do it on a great handbag, a killer pair of shoes, or a statement necklace.



JORDAN CAREY



ENZO ANGIOLINI BOOTS

When I ran into Jordan Carey in La Jolla last week, I noticed she had that idea down to an art form. The 24-year-old

paired less-expensive items with a Badgley Mischka quilted, taupe purse featuring a delicate, gold chain strap (retails for around

\$300), a vintage gold ring (her favorite wardrobe item that was gifted to her by her style-conscious grandmother) and a pair of red-rimmed Versace sunglasses (which retail for \$210).

"My style changes too much for me to spend a ton on clothes. I spend more on accessories," she told me. Carey's go-to shopping spot is Nordstrom.

She also wore a pair of Enzo Angiolini black, buckle-accented boots (they are exclusive to Nordstrom and retail for \$158.95). Her simple black dress and tights were also purchased at Nordstrom. Her vivid red jacket is from the Gap.

The fashion trend Carey would like to see die is military-print clothing. I'm with her on that one. ■

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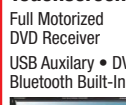
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WE'RE CONSTANTLY IN FEAR

Several weeks ago, I approached my friend Jenny (not her real name) for information on how to get hooked up with a teaching position at one of the local community colleges. Jenny currently works at five different schools — three community colleges, one private university, and one online university. My guess was that if anyone could point me in the right direction, it would be her.

I always figured I'd end up in academia. While in graduate school, I taught a semester of undergraduate creative writing, but then after a few years in elementary-school classrooms, I gave up on the idea of teaching. Still, I keep it in my back pocket as a go-to if I absolutely have to do it again.

I approached Jenny not because things have gotten dire, but that the scramble from one freelance writing job to another is beginning to take its toll. I figure why not take it easy for a while, supplement my income with a consistent, guaranteed paycheck and balance out the uncertainty of the freelance life. And, yes, after years of living hand-to-mouth, I have lofty dreams of tweed, sabbaticals, retirement plans, and picking up the check while drinking beer with graduate students.

But, halfway through our conversation, after we've covered whom to contact, what to do with my résumé, and which schools not to bother with, Jenny knocks my professorial fantasy on its ass.

"It's really political," she says. "There's an atmosphere where we don't feel safe to talk [publicly] because we're afraid our opinions and our thoughts can work against us. We're constantly in this fear that this could hurt me from getting classes assigned next semester or my comments could hurt me when I'm trying to apply for a position."

Apparently, this is the point when I become way too interested and change my posture from that of friend to reporter, because she stops speaking briefly to request anonymity.

"You can share that I'm not coming across as a rebel or a troublemaker,"

she says, "but this is just how I see things and how I've experienced things so far."

She goes on to explain that it's not just the department chairs or hiring committees she's afraid of upsetting; it's also her fellow faculty members. Adjunct (or part-time, or "contingent") faculty, she says, can be separated into two basic groups: the brown-nosers/optimists and cynics/activists. Most of them want the same thing, a tenured or full-time position. But those positions are hard to come by, and the two groups are often at odds.

"I also don't want to seem like I'm against my fellow colleagues who are in the struggle with me," she says, "just because I see the positive."

"We didn't get the job because there is no job."

One thing that came up in my conversation with Jenny was a website started by some



of her colleagues. The site is called *Adjunct-Crisis.com*, and though at the time I began my research it was not yet live, when I Googled the term “adjunct crisis,” I got 4,700,000 hits. Most of those links connected to articles and references written in the past two years.

When *AdjunctCrisis.com* does go live, the first post is by John Rall, an instructor who writes about how he was barred from advising a student group at Mesa College.

“Through my dean I learned that the administration does not want adjunct faculty to be advisors because they do not want to have to compensate them for the time they serve the students,” he writes. “Adjunct instructors cannot have more than a 67% load, and adding

time as an advisor is not permitted. I also learned through my dean that the school has had cases where an adjunct gained over 67% and it led to the full time hiring of that adjunct on technical contract grounds. The administration learned their lesson and closed the loophole that allowed adjunct faculty to gain full-time employment.... I offered to be an advisor as a volunteer, but the school is highly skeptical of such altruism and does not want to take a chance.”

A week after my first conversation with Jenny, Professor Rall shows me around the adjunct office in the Mesa College English Department. The office consists of five tight cubicles, officially shared by the department’s 85 adjunct faculty members,

though not all of them use it, and the attached 36-square-foot “conference room,” where we settle in at a small circular table. The 73% of part-time faculty members in this department is just above the 70% average for community colleges, according to the American Federation of Teachers.

When Rall began teaching here in 2004, he envisioned himself no more than a couple of years away from an esteemed professorship with an office and parking spot. With three degrees under his belt (bachelors’ in philosophy and anthropology, and a master’s in comparative literature), and a combined 13 years of teaching at the high school and college levels, he considered himself a prime candidate for a

tenured position.

“I got here thinking I was going to eventually move right into a full-time position after a couple of years,” he says. “Now I’m mostly just trying to swallow the tough pill that I’ll probably be in my 70s still in a part-time position with a poor retirement plan because I’m an adjunct,” he says.

To clarify, “adjunct” officially means “part-time,” an appropriate definition, given that California’s education code currently caps adjunct course loads at 67 percent of full-time (per school). In my mind, however, the term “freelance” paints a more accurate picture, as many “part-time” professors, like Rall and Jenny, create full-time schedules across multiple campuses, often

equaling more hours than tenured (or full-time) professors.

This semester, Rall is teaching five classes: three at Mesa, and two at Cuyamaca. Although less than what he was doing before, it’s still full-time work.

See interview with Professor Rall at sdreader.com/videos

“On a week when I don’t have essays, I’m probably doing six-hour days, four to five days a week,” he says. “As soon as the essays come in, I’m probably doing nine-hour days and weekends. I’m adding probably about 20 hours a week during those weeks, and it comes every other week throughout the semester.”

Five classes per semester

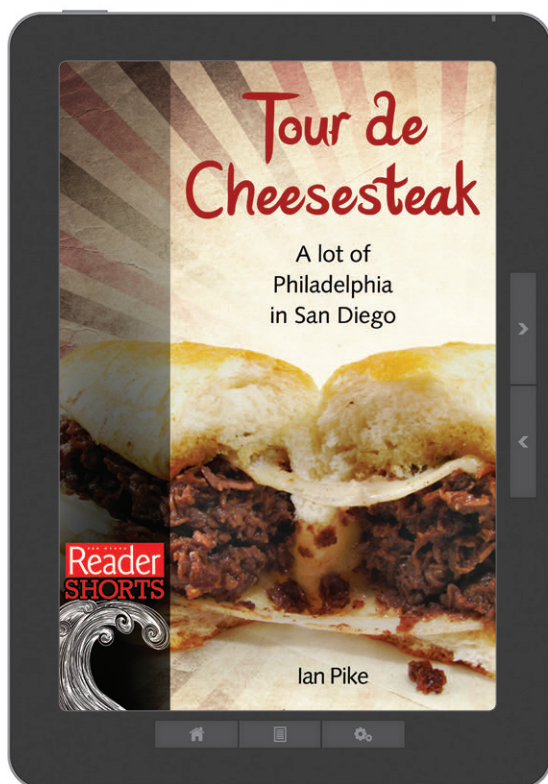
is considered a full load for full-time faculty, but the difference in pay is significant.

“I work five classes, and I’m making barely \$40,000, probably more like \$35,000. A full-timer teaches five classes and they’re making \$65,000 a year,” he says. “We have the same responsibilities except for whatever work their committees are doing, which isn’t that much more. We have the same credentials. We have the same obligations in terms of what we do with our students.”

Another perk for full-time faculty members is that they have the option of getting paid through the summer. Adjunct professors do not. And because of the minimal number of summer courses available, many, like Rall, must find work

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elsewhere or apply for unemployment to get through the summer months as well as the winter breaks.

"Technically, I've been here ten years and they've laid me off 20 times," Rall says. "They call it something else, but the State of California recognizes it as being laid off."

Fortunately for Rall, who provides the sole income for his family (he has three children and his wife stays home to school them), adjunct professors at Mesa College who carry a 50 percent load for three consecutive semesters are eligible for health insurance, which they can keep through their stints on unemployment.

"We're, like, the envy of California because we have health insurance," he admits. "Because of

our union."

This is the first year Rall has taught so few classes. For the past four, he taught seven per semester: three at Mesa, two at Grossmont, and two online for the University of Phoenix. He took on the load not only for the money, he explains, but to prove his worth and his willingness in the hopes it would help him secure a full-time position. This, while applying for jobs "in every English department up and down the California state" and volunteering approximately five hours a week (outside of teaching) to develop and coordinate a writing-outreach project for high school and college students across the county.

"My health was suffering," he says, "and I'm, like, *What am I doing to*

myself? Is it worth all this to believe that there's some position for me, when in all actuality it's a lottery? If you look at my record and what I was doing, I should be standing out."

To prove his point, he leans back in his chair and tells me about the Adjunct Appreciation ceremony Mesa College administration held at the beginning of the 2013 fall semester. The event, held in the gym, consisted of presenting contingent faculty members with certificates of appreciation.

"There was one guy



PHOTOGRAPH BY HOWIE ROSEN

Professor John Rall says he's "trying to swallow the tough pill that I'll probably be in my 70s still in a part-time position."

national survey done by Hart Research Associations on behalf of the American Federation of Teachers in 2009, more than 40 percent of part-time/adjunct faculty (not including graduate employees) have been on their campuses eleven years or more; 32 percent have been on the job six to ten years; and only one in four has been on the job five years or under.

Although he uses a different terminology, Rall agrees with Jenny that adjunct faculty can be divided into two camps:

who had been here for, like, 40 years, and all he got was a paper certificate," Rall says, appalled. "You couldn't get him a frame? You couldn't buy him a lunch? It was kind of a morale breaker for adjunct because most

everybody wants a position, but they kept calling out people who had been here for 10 years, 20 years, and the new people were, like, 'I don't want to be here for 30 years as a part-timer.'"

According to a

the gung-ho (as he was until about three years ago) and those that want to change the system (as he does now).

The gung ho, he says, tend to be newer, believe that if they work hard, step up, and prove them-

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selves worthy, they'll get that elusive full-time position. And then there are those like him who work hard for years to no avail and finally decide something has to change. "[The newbies] think that all of us who are not gung ho are not good adjunct, like we're not good teachers because we didn't get the job. And it's, like, no, we're good teachers. We just didn't get the job because there is no job."

"You're never going to win."

Based on my next conversation with Jenny, I'd say she fits the bill for what Rall considers "gung-ho." And she also falls in with the one in four who have been teaching five years or under.

"I really, really love my job, and there are some unfair aspects of it, but for me, I still feel really lucky that I have classes," she says. "I just try to focus on the positive and focus on my students and the great job that I have. I don't have to lift heavy boxes at Starbucks. I get to go to a class and talk to wonderful students about writing and reading and critical thinking."

Besides her positive attitude, Jenny claims she's the first to jump on any volunteer opportunity, go to all professional developments, and get involved in the department in any way she can. But she also admits that she's motivated somewhat by fear.

"Honestly, I have so many classes that I don't know what to do with. But I'm scared to turn them down because I feel like this semester if I turn down a class, next semester they won't give

it to me. For that reason, I take whatever I can. I never say 'no,'" she says. "I just pray and I work my butt off to eventually one day get a full-time faculty position. I have a whatever-it-takes attitude until I [do]."

At the same time, she attends union meetings and shows up to make phone calls or march in the streets when the union requests it. She knows there are problems of unfairness in her work. And she knows

that in teaching eight classes, she's making what a full-time faculty member makes teaching four or five. It's not naiveté that keeps her from being a hard-core political activist adjunct.

"I try to get involved

as much as I can, but sometimes the negativity — I just can't take it anymore, and I try to detach myself from the group," she says. "Every day [some of] my colleagues are talking about the shitty job

conditions that we have as adjuncts. And these things can range from assignment of classes to pay and health insurance to office space and how we don't have water coolers."

Many of the issues

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are valid, she says. For instance, recently, Mesa College had an issue with pay warrants (or paychecks), which can be issued in four or five warrants per semester, depending on when the semester begins. For the past couple of years, they'd issued ten pay warrants per year, the first coming on the tenth of the month following the beginning of the fall semester. But in the spring of 2013, adjunct faculty members had to wait an unexpected

48 days for their paychecks, which Jenny says resulted in late bills and overdrawn accounts for many of her colleagues. The explanation was given that the late start of the semester threw off the payroll schedule. Full-time teachers, however, received their pay as expected. It was a big deal, and Jenny readily admits it. But as far as she's concerned, despite the "shitty job conditions," she is tired of listening to the complaints.

"It's not just in the break room. When I open up my email, I'm constantly bombarded with articles or just really immature back-and-forth personal attacks from colleague to one another, fighting over what we feel is our right to teach and benefits that we deserve to have," she says.

Out in the World Wide Web, one can find several highly political analogies in which the national "adjunct crisis," is compared to slavery,

sweatshops, apartheid, indentured servitude, and the civil rights and farmworkers movements. In the slavery analogy, the comparison is not adjuncts to slaves, but rather refers to the split between adjuncts and full-time faculty similar to that of house slave versus field slave.

"I think the reason why I have this positive attitude is that I don't really see light at the end of the tunnel," she says. "I feel for my colleagues who constantly fight, but I feel as though they're

fighting a losing battle."

She launches into a monologue about the "deplorable" and

rates, and other evils of academia.

"I look at these colleagues who are constantly advocating and fighting," she concludes, "and I think, *You're never going to win.*"

And yet, she's still hopeful that she'll land one of those prized full-time, tenured positions. It's too early to tell if her go-get-'em attitude

will pay off. Five or six months ago she applied for two open positions, but she hasn't yet received a response. At

The office consists of five tight cubicles, officially shared by the department's 85 adjunct faculty members.

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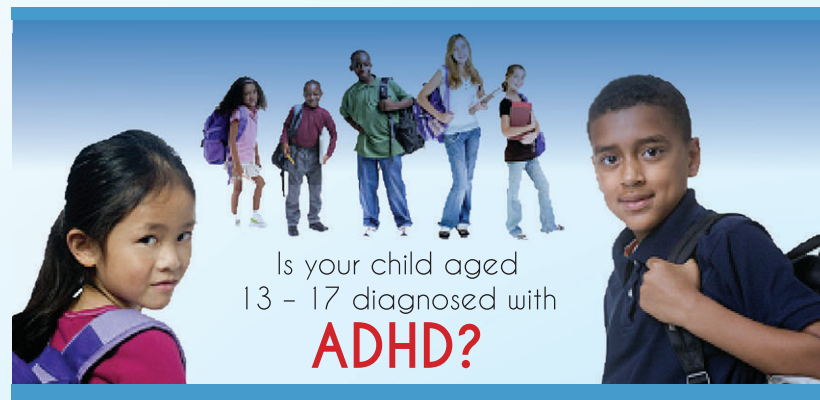
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the very least, she says, "I think [my attitude] has made me a likeable person."

At this she laughs. When I ask if she thinks it's gotten her any other perks, such as plum class assignments, she says, "Probably not," and that with only four years of teaching, she's "still at the bottom of the chain."

There is no chain.

Once word gets out that I am sniffing around adjunct offices,

someone forwards my contact information through the adjunct email channels, and I receive a meeting request from professor Corina Soto, a full-time faculty member at Southwestern College. We agree to meet in room 435, a classroom with stained gray carpet at the south end of campus.

It's mid-afternoon when I arrive, but the overheads are off and a bright white projection screen is the only

light in the darkened room. Professor Soto introduces herself. She's relaxed and casual, in a simple black shift dress and flip-flops. Her reddish "messy bun" hairdo and coppery freckles create a nice harmony against her brown skin. After we shake hands, another woman steps out of the darkness and greets me with a request for anonymity.

"I'm sorry. I hope that's okay," she says.

She'll apologize again before the day is over,

and then later by an email that reads, "It is sad that I must ask for anonymity, as I have already become a target of retaliation for my district for my activism."

We'll call her Professor M. She wears her long dark hair pulled back tightly at the nape of her neck. Her sharp suit jacket and shiny black shoes give her an air of severity.

The two women have come to this meeting prepared with a stack of handouts containing everything from newspaper articles

to internet chat-room postings; from printed emails to a statement of ethics by the Association

site of the New Faculty Majority — A Coalition for Adjunct and Contingent Equity.

"We can't help it. We're college professors," Professor M says, laughing, when I express surprise that the stack of printouts is for me.

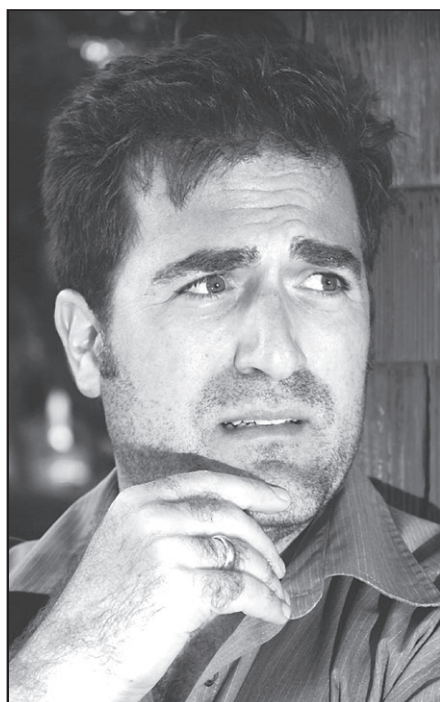
After a brief moment of chitchat, we sit in a semi-circle of three student desks, and the two women

battle it out for who will be heard first. Professor M wins.

"The situation of being a part-time faculty mem-

"I've heard it called 'Academia's dirty little secret,' the fact that part-time professors are used and abused to this extent."

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ber is a hand-to-mouth existence,” Professor M says, leaning forward to hand me a printout of a comment she posted to an article on the *Chronicle of Higher Education Journal* website.

“The use of the term ‘throwaway humans’ is apt,” it states, “and part-time activists often make parallels to the civil rights movement. I even heard a professor call part-time faculty the ‘farm workers’ of academia.”

The article to which

she’d commented, “An Adjunct’s Death Becomes a Rallying Cry for Many in Academe,” referred to the death of an 83-year-old adjunct professor who had been teaching French at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh for 25 years.

According to the original article noting the heartbreaking circumstances around Margaret Mary’s death (“Death of an Adjunct,” *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, September 18, 2013), the French professor had

been recently let go from her position, but that “Even during the best of times, when she was teaching three classes a semester and two during the summer, she was not even clearing \$25,000 a year, and she received absolutely no health care benefits. Compare this with the salary of Duquesne’s president, who makes more than \$700,000 with full benefits.”

The article goes on to explain that in the past year prior to her death,

her class load had been diminished to one per semester, that she was working at an Eat-n-Park at night, had no electricity in her home, and a stack of medical bills resulting from cancer treatments.

“Still, despite her cancer and her poverty,” the article reads, “she never missed a day of class.”

Professor M’s and Professor Soto’s voices rise in pitch and velocity as they relay Margaret Mary’s story to me. “This is a hot topic right

now,” says Soto.

“I’ve heard it called ‘Academia’s dirty little secret,’ the fact that part-time professors are used and abused to this extent and nobody knows it,” Professor M says. “A professor is not supposed to live in poverty. A professor drives a late-model car and has a faculty parking space, and has an office with awards on the wall, et cetera.”

Professor M speaks of contingent faculty all over the country as her

“colleagues” and relates to me her admiration for one of those colleagues who refers to other adjuncts as “brothers and sisters.”

Soto, though full-time, is the former president of the faculty union, Southwestern College Education Association, and claims her current interest in matters of part-timers revolves around the implementation of seniority or rehire rights, what they call “vesting.” One of the handouts she has

RESEARCH STUDIES



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NEW YEAR, NEW YOU? WANT TO QUIT 2014

brought is a copy of the Southwestern District vesting policy.

"She is the one who implemented the rehire right language for part-time faculty [in August 2007]," Professor M says of Soto. "So she's in our court."

Soto jumps back in, speaking a mile a minute and punctuating the air every couple of seconds with a zebra-striped pen. "The position of the union is supposed to be to support rehire rights for part-timers. My contention is they're not fighting as hard for it as I think they should," she says. "In my opinion, the district is engaging in regressive bargaining because they're trying to do away with the right that was already negotiated."

Professor M opens her mouth to add something. Professor Soto keeps going. "They agreed they were going to nip the cronyism and the nepotism and the appearance of evil from the way they were doing business here," Soto says. "And now they're reneging on their word."

When she takes a pause, Professor M takes advantage. "If I can just interject here," she says. "The rehire language went into the contract in August of 2007. At that time, with the new rehire language, I thought, *Okay, I've been teaching here since 2002, I'm a senior part time faculty member, I get rehiring.* In other words, I should have the same number of classes, I should have first pick of the classes or what-have-you. And, lo and behold, I had a class taken away."

She goes on to explain that prior to every semester, a list of available classes goes

out to adjunct faculty, who then respond with their faculty assignment requests. Between 2002 and 2007, she usually received her top choices and always taught at the 67% allowed for

part-time professors. At Southwestern, the max means three three-unit courses. (This can be exceeded if there is an administrative reason, as happened once when Professor M received a

member must have taught a minimum of 2.4 lecture-hour equivalents each semester for six sequential semesters (not including summer); that priority assignment is

call at 10 p.m. on a Sunday requesting that she teach a fourth class — beginning Tuesday — because a new hire had, at the last minute, dropped out.)

At this point, Professor Soto hands me two sheets of paper stapled together and labeled at the top "Article XV: Part-Time Faculty." It's from the union contract. It defines vesting rehire rights and right of assignment. It states that to be eligible for rehire rights, the part-time faculty mem-

acquired once vested status is achieved; and that vested part-time faculty will have a "reasonable expectation" of maintaining their consistent assignments.

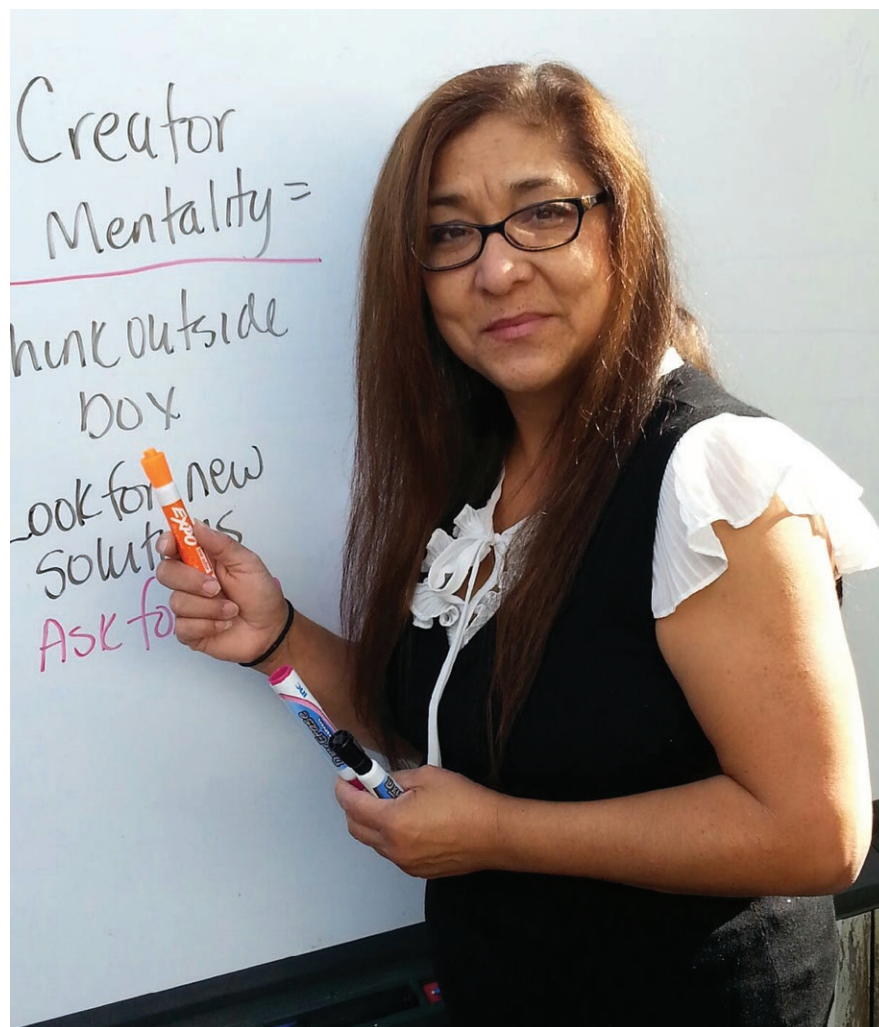
In the fall of 2007, when the new language was implemented, Professor M submitted her class request as she did every semester but was assigned only two classes.

"I went to Phil Lopez, who was the union grievance officer at the time," she says, "and I said, 'Aren't I supposed to get another class?'"

Lopez went to administrators, was told that everyone teaching was vested, discovered this was not true, and eventually was able to get Professor M her third class.

In the years since, Professor M claims she has had to fight every semester for her three classes, or "consistency of assignment."

"Changing a college professor's schedule is a well-acknowledged fear tactic. It's a retaliation tactic," she says. "A full-time professor likes



Though a full-time professor at Southwestern, Corina Soto advocates for adjunct professors.

RESEARCH STUDIES

BIPOLAR DISORDER CLINICAL TRIAL

Researchers at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital are enrolling men and women for a clinical trial. Individuals who have been diagnosed with bipolar disorder and are currently experiencing a manic episode may qualify.

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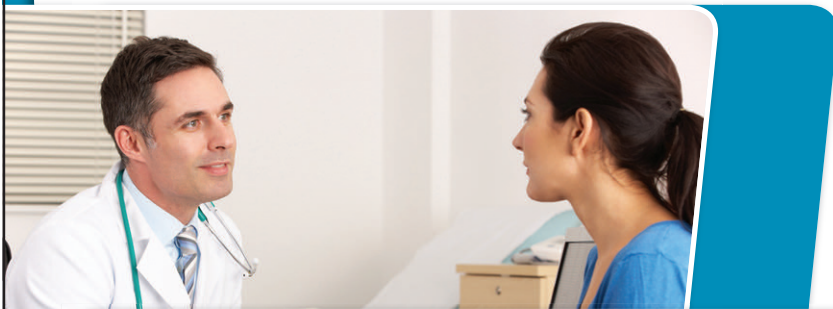
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New clinical trial seeking people with type 2 diabetes

It is important for patients and doctors to expand their knowledge of diabetes treatments and explore ways of improving future treatment options for people with type 2 diabetes.

Therefore, Novo Nordisk is seeking people with type 2 diabetes to take part in a clinical trial. The trial explores an investigational medication which may be more convenient than current treatments.

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To join the trial you must:

- 1) Be over the age of 18
- 2) Have a BMI (Body Mass Index) between 25 and 40
- 3) Have type 2 diabetes
- 4) For the last 90 days not have been treated with other diabetes medication than metformin
- 5) Have an HbA_{1c} level of 7.0-9.5%

Please contact the staff for an evaluation of your ability to join this trial and refer to the trial identification number NN9924-3790



1-877-500-3788

his classes a certain way, maybe doesn't want to teach Friday, teaches Monday. Likewise, a part-time faculty member has a set schedule because you teach at other campuses. If you teach afternoons here and you teach mornings at Mesa and nights at City College, an administrator can say, 'I know you teach mornings for the last five years, but I'm going to offer you a night session.'"

Professor Soto, who has been marking up and making notes for me on the handouts, adds, "It's not just that you like it, but you plan your life around it. Childcare and elder care, and all that kind of stuff, so it's important to have a set schedule so you can make and keep other commitments."

And what's hard for the part-timers is being treated like a yo-yo. They roll you in, roll you out, roll you every which way."

"The district is getting more aggressive in ignoring the language at all," Professor M says. "In other words, 'consistency of assignment' means 'consistent with our needs, and that can be anything we choose.'"

Professor M continues her story. In 2011, she explains, she was offered a night class for the first time. For nine years, she had been teaching mornings and afternoons. Furthermore, she

submitted her course preferences as she always did and was offered the night class even before the deadline for faculty assignment requests,

caught a night class since my hire in 2002, I arranged with family members [that I would] be with my mother at night."

Her department chair and dean were aware, she says, that her mother was dying, and yet, at a meeting in which Professor M went to grieve the class assignment, she was told they would not consider a schedule change. And when Professor M was unable

to accept the night class, they considered it a refusal of their offer and whittled her schedule down to two classes per semester.

"The thing that's harsh about all of this," Professor Soto says, "is that not only did they deny her the opportunity to manage this life crisis, but also, there's a resultant loss in pay."

I ask her to speculate about how the same situation would have played out with her, as full-time faculty member, and she concludes that it

never would have been an issue. "I have priority over all the part-timers in terms of any classes that get assigned," she says. "I have the ability to plan my life because I know what my schedule is going to be. It's probably not going to change for the next ten years unless I want it to. If I want a nighttime class, I'm going to get it."

Love might not be enough.

The Executive Summary of the American Federation of Teachers survey, as published in the March 2010 issue of *American Academic*, reads, "Most part-time/adjunct faculty members are motivated to work primarily by their desire to teach and have been at their institutions a considerable amount of time. About 57 percent of those surveyed say they are in their jobs primarily because they like teaching, not primarily for the money. This reflects their commitment and passion for the profession but not a high level of satisfaction with their working conditions, which a significant

majority believes are inadequate."

Jenny, Rall, and Professor M all relay their love of teaching to me, and each confirms that, without it, working under these conditions wouldn't be an option. For Rall, however, love may not be enough. He's considering (but not yet committed to) a host of other options.

"I've been thinking about getting my contracting license," he says. "I build organic gardens. I would like to go to school and get a credential in horticulture. That's one idea. I also make surfboards, I've been making surfboards since I was a kid, I thought maybe I'd turn to hand craft. Writing is another thing. There are lots of things I feel like I could do that would give me security and the pay that I need to raise a family. It's hard to go look and to be retrained because I don't have time for that."

In the meantime, although he does fear retaliation, he says, "I made a promise to myself to speak up at every opportunity." ■

— Elizabeth Salaam

"Changing a college professor's schedule is a well-acknowledged fear tactic. It's a retaliation tactic."

which means not all classes had yet been parceled out. "My mother was dying," she says. "She was in my home under hospice care, and because I had never

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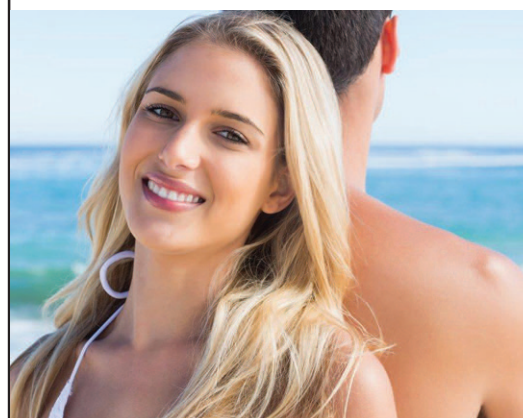
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San Diego Clinical Trials

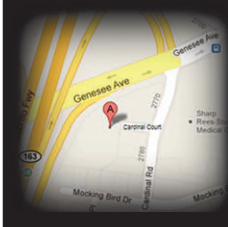
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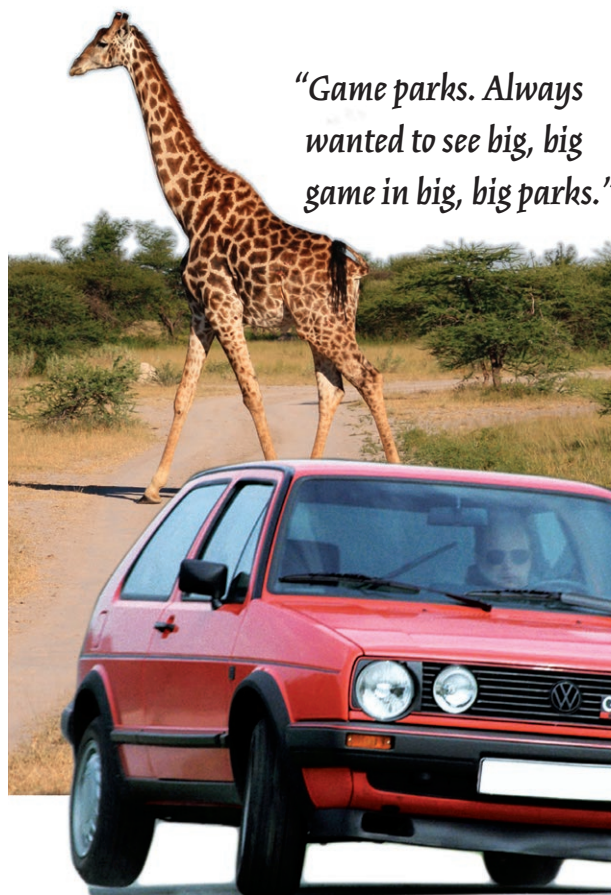
Holiday in South Africa

MAY 8, 1986. I am the only passenger on the 30-minute shuttle from Jans Smuts International Airport to Johannesburg's city center. Joburg's population is three million plus and its downtown bears an uncanny resemblance to Atlanta, Georgia: a skyline of new, vacuous-looking 40-story buildings, television towers, and, at 9 p.m., deserted streets. It's 26 hours since California.

The downtown bus terminal is closed. Clutching a stuffed backpack, I walk into the Johannesburg railway station, Africa's largest, which is modeled after Mussolini's Termini — 80-foot ceilings, marble floors, epic Italian Fascist. Here, there, footsteps echo against concourse walls. I begin informational

panhandling, "Where are the cheap hotels?"

In this manner I find myself, on a chilly fall night, trudging Elloff Street accompanied by two white men from Cape Town. They're in search of a quick beer between trains. We agree to a round at the Springbok Hotel. Over Castle draft, my companions begin what I will come to know as the standard white South African line: How conditions in South Africa are changing so fast, "In five years we'll be just like the States." How no outsider can understand their problems. How whites receive no credit for all the changes, how apartheid is almost gone, how blacks are too ignorant to run a country, "Look at the rest of Africa." The speaker turns to me, his face torqued with anger, "Five years ago there would never have been that tawdry



"Game parks. Always wanted to see big, big game in big, big parks."

those tacky little facts that so often clutter life's really interesting moves. South Africa doesn't hand out many journalist visas these days; in fact, they don't hand out any, so I said the hell with it, materialized at RSA's Beverly Hills consulate, spoke through a triple-paned, bulletproof-glass window, and applied for a tourist visa.

"And why do you want to visit South Africa, Mr. Daugherty?"

"Game parks. Always wanted to see big, big game in big, big parks."

Township duty

Morning, 5 a.m. Can't sleep. Get up, get out, wander about, find Joburg's commuter train station, watch thousands of blacks hustle into work. The station is segregated. Blacks arrive by train at 6:30 a.m. An hour later, whites arrive in new cars, filling up city center. It's as if blacks

scene in the lobby."

I'm baffled. *What tawdry scene?* Hours later it comes to me, a black

man and a black woman were sitting in the lobby.

I'm here illegally, and subject to arrest, one of

come in early to tidy up.

I spend this day in the public library reviewing the Republic of South Africa's mainstream newspapers. Other

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than the excellent, tiny, 12,000-circulation *Weekly Mail* (a descendant of now-defunct *Rand Daily Mail*), the South African press is debased. You read, "THREE MEN DIED LAST NIGHT," and that's it. Only rarely does an article evaluate or analyze the domestic war. Worse, the press does not tell its white readers about blacks. Rudimentary stuff like who their leaders are, what they believe, what they want. Eighty percent of South Africa is ignored.

Cruising downtown Johannesburg, I'm struck both by how rich it is and, even more, by the staggering amount of personal service. It's an aspect of life long gone in the United States. Wages for blacks are so low, (rent a truck, and, for another \$1.25, rent a black) that all the shops have stand-around guys. A fast-food place may have six people working, then another three hanging out in case there's something to do. When I check into a hotel, two blacks appear to carry my one backpack. In the morning, two more tap

on my door with coffee and sweets. Three attendants per car are standard at gas stations. There are a little more than one million white households in South Africa. There are over 800,000 black maids.

South Africa is particularly cheap for Americans. The rand has fallen from \$1.79 against the dollar to 46 cents. This marks the welcome return of the nine-dollar hotel room, two-dollar-and-50-cent dinner, 53-cent beer served in a First-World-plush cocktail lounge. It is so cheap that I actually rent an automobile, a brand new Volkswagen Golf, which I inaugurate by driving into the corner of a warehouse dock, creating a four-foot gash along the Golf's left flank. South Africans drive on the British side of the road. I'll say it now, this is an evil, made-in-hell way to steer an automobile.

The wounding of the Golf turns out to be a fortunate event. When dealing with sudden stress, I usually get a cup of black coffee. Across the street is a fast-food joint. I place my order, which, in a nation with a passion for

coffee served with cream and sugar, must be made in the following manner, "Black coffee, please. That's coffee black with no cream or sugar, just black coffee, no cream, no sugar, black coffee only, without the cream, without the sugar."

A minute later, from the kitchen, "Tell the gentleman with the speech impediment his coffee is ready." The voice belongs to Ramona, store manager. She's 32, tall, blonde, agreeable. We chat over coffee, arrange a date for tonight.

Ramona has an apartment in Hillbrow, a ten-block area of what passes in Joburg for International Yuppie. There are cafés, restaurants, movies, street people selling crafts, and rarest of South African scenes, an integrated crowd strolling after dark. Ramona lives on the ninth floor, shares a flat with an Afrikaner roommate. Monthly rent is \$175.

I arrive at 8 p.m., ask to be shown the town. One block beyond Hillbrow, I ram a curb, bounce off the base of a street lamp, which cre-

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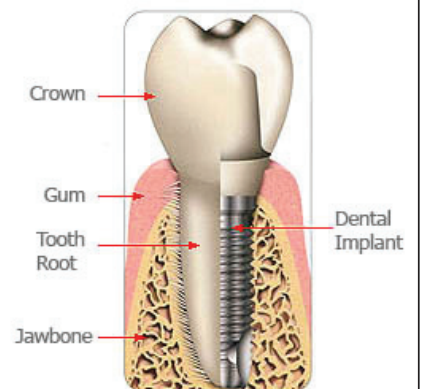
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ates another, deeper laceration on the Golf's passenger door. It's getting ugly out there.

We arrive at Smugglers, a local hot spot in the suburbs, where we meet Ramona's Afrikaner friend, Kristine, and her boyfriend from Rhodesia. Smugglers is jammed, takes 20 minutes to get past the front door and belly up to a hardwood bar. Eight soldiers are here, in uniform, working on several pitchers of beer.

I order drinks. The soldier on my right leans toward me, says, "You an American?"

I'm talking to an army captain doing town-ship duty. He's of English descent, mid 30s, nice guy. (All South African males are conscripted into the army for two years, then put on reserve

for ten more.) He's doing two months' active duty this year. For the first time, he's serving town-ship patrol, "to back up the police."

"I thought town-ship duty was all regular army."

"They ran out of people."

I ask, "How bad is it?"

"Some of the things I've seen in the last two weeks I don't want to talk about."

"Like what?"

"Young blacks playing [soccer] with human heads. School basements filled with explosives. Little kids throwing petrol bombs. Don't get me wrong — mostly it's boring. Most of the time we sit."

"Come on, there's been too many reports of the army tear-gassing

and shooting into activists' houses."

"There's some of that. Afrikaners are hard. Eighty percent of army officers are Afrikaner. I have seen squads tear gas neighborhoods. Not much you can do if your commanding officers approve." He goes on to say that the only people who give them trouble are kids between the ages of 12 and 25.

I say, "In ten years it'll be 22 to 35." The captain swallows. I wonder if he's ever thought of that before.

He mentions his young son. He's worried for him. "I might leave the country," he says, then returns to the standard South African line: "No one understands; blacks are ignorant; look at the rest of Africa."

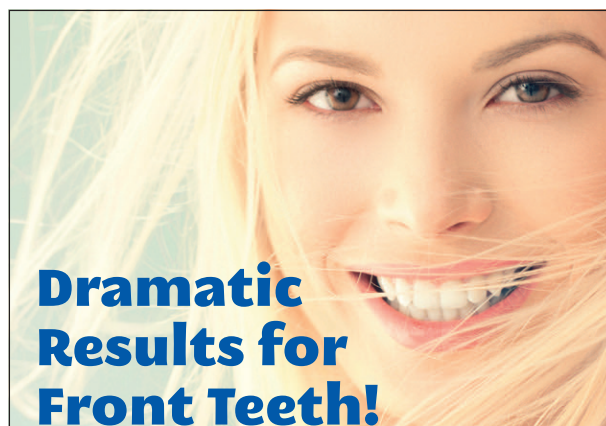
And yet I like him.

One question I ask every white South African is, "What do you think is going to happen over the next 20 years?" This is always a show-stopper. The question is treated in the same way as, say, exposing yourself at a family Thanksgiving dinner. The act is so gross, so embarrassing, that people respond as if it's not there, as if it's not happening. That's the near-universal white South African response to questions about the future. When pressed, that response turns to anger. Press more, and most everyone admits that South Africa will be a black state, never failing to add that chaos and poverty will follow. ■

— Patrick Daugherty

In memory of Nelson Mandela. Part one of four.

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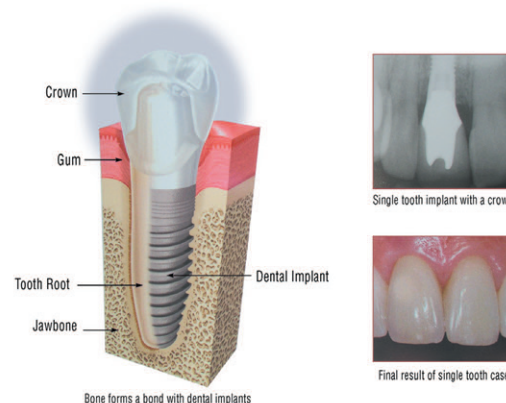
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CITY LIGHTS

Code monitoring

continued from page 3

Dahlin from the League of Women Voters; and Guy Preuss, the sole community planner on the team.

According to notes from that meeting, seven of the eight members present went against staff's recommendations and suggested a different tact; to do away with any height limitations and allow council or planning commissioners to decide if the project, regardless of height, should be built. Only one person voted against the motion — Guy Preuss, the sole community planner.

Their recommendation appeared on the front page of a staff report to the Land Use and Housing Committee, directly underneath the staff's recommendation, above the recommendation from Uptown's planning group.

Frustrated with the process, Potter requested that the mayor's office reevaluate the Code Monitoring Team's responsibilities and the appointment process and adopt a strict set of bylaws detailing their mission. "Transparency is seriously lacking for this group," Potter complained.

(@DorianHargrove)

CITY LIGHTS

He is not alone.

Joe LaCava, chair of the Community Planning Committee, a land-use consultant, and an expert on the local planning process, also has concerns about the autonomy of the Code Monitoring Team and agrees that the city should hold the team to the same standards and requirements as any other committee.

"Without having bylaws and a set time for reconfirmation by the council and mayor, the team may drift from their mission. And, instead of the group focusing on monitoring the code, it has sometimes veered off into judging policy issues."

La Cava continues, "The mayor and council should work together to compose the group of the right members. And, the city attorney should draft bylaws and ensure Brown Act compliance. Over the past several years, most of the city's advisory committees have been brought up to today's expectations of how they should operate. It is time to relook at the Code Monitoring Team. They provide a valuable service, let's get the right process documented to inspire confidence by the public and the decision-makers." ■

CITY LIGHTS

Under the radar

continued from page 3

Summer Work Travel Program." S.B. 744, the so-called immigration reform measure, officially titled the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, passed the Senate June 27, but remains stalled in the House.

— 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.

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 2

**If we can't have it,
then no one can**
Wheelchair users want
Torrey Pines Gliderport
shut down

Torrey Pines — It's a bumpy ride for disabled persons hoping to catch a glimpse of the hang gliders and paragliders at the Torrey Pines Gliderport — at least that's the claim made by two men in a federal lawsuit they filed on December 12.

Scott Schutza and John Karczewski say the cliffs overlooking Black's Beach are far from safe and inac-

continued on page 38

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Model

NEWS TICKER

continued from page 36

cessible to those in wheelchairs, as is the case for both men. During a visit in March of this year, Schutza and Karczewski arrived at the park and were unable to find a designated disabled parking space, nor were they able to gain access to the restrooms or the concession area via the dirt parking lots.

But improvements on the land aren't easy to accomplish, says owner and flight director Robin Marien. He says the permitting process is arduous and he isn't sure what can be done on city park land, contiguous to Torrey Pines State Preserve.

The complaint says that until those improvements are

made the Gliderport should be shut down. In addition, the two men are asking they be awarded general, compensatory, and statutory damages.

Dorian Hargrove

Watch your car

Prison realignment program tied to higher crime rates

San Diego County — Crime is up across the state in the wake of Supreme Court-mandated prison realignment that sent many state inmates back to local jails or set them free early, a December 9 report from the Public Policy Institute of California says. But while some connections can be made between the prisoner release and rising crime, the

study's authors warn that those ties only link early release to a handful of types of crime.

Overall, San Diego County saw an 8.8 percent increase in violent crimes reported and a 7.4 percent increase in property crimes between 2011 and 2012. The increase in violent crimes was more than double the statewide average; however, property-crime reporting was on par with the state's.

Auto theft, up 14 percent, was named as being most significantly affected by realignment. Researchers say that an additional 65 car thefts per 100,000 residents were likely to occur each year due to the effects of reducing overcrowding in

the state-prison system.

So far, about 27,000 state-prison inmates have been moved out of the system, with 9000 landing in local jails and another 18,000 released on probation. California still has to reduce its prison population by another 8000 to bring facilities down to their legally mandated maximum capacity of 110,000.

Dave Rice

Innocent couple gets \$450K

Were illegally detained, pepper-sprayed

City Heights — A San Diego couple falsely detained, pepper-sprayed, and stung with a taser gun will receive \$450,000 in exchange for dropping their case against the city and police officers who errantly flagged their Pontiac Sunfire as stolen after punching in the wrong tag number.

According to court documents, officers Ariel Savage and Daniel McClain spotted the maroon Sunfire and ran the plates to check if it was stolen. One of the officers accidentally typed in the wrong plate number and the car came back as a Honda, not a Pontiac. They turned on their lights and pulled the couple over.

Before exiting the car, the officers realized their mistake. After typing in the correct numbers, the car came back clean. Yet, despite the new information, Savage and McClain contin-

ued with an investigation, asking the pair for identification and vehicle registration.

Shortly after, as reported by 10News in June of this year, the woman called 911. While on the phone, the officers grabbed at her, eventually pepper-spraying the pair after they refused to exit the vehicle. They tased her fiancé multiple times as well.

Dorian Hargrove

So much for nepotism

Paul Jacobs out, Steve Mollenkopf in as Qualcomm's new CEO

San Diego — Steve Mollenkopf, who was considered a dark horse to run Microsoft, will be chief executive of Qualcomm. The surprise announcement was made on December 13.

Mollenkopf is currently chief operating officer of Qualcomm. The appointment becomes effective March 4.

Mollenkopf has been with Qualcomm since 1994 and recently headed its wireless chip-set business.

Paul Jacobs, 51, is son of the company's cofounder, Irwin Jacobs. He will remain executive chairman of the company.

Don Bauder

Comments

Jacobs said Qualcomm had been planning the management change "for a fairly long period of time," then accelerated the plan, Paul Jacobs told Bloomberg News. The business press is speculat-

ing that Qualcomm made Mollenkopf chief executive to keep him from being plucked as CEO by Microsoft. Jacobs hinted at that by saying, "Our executives are very talented, very sought after. By doing this, it ensures the continuity of the management team."

Don Bauder

Double-dipping
Lucky Sally gets two incomes

San Diego — In June, when last we checked on Sally Roush, the scandal-plagued vice president of business and financial affairs at San Diego State University was retiring from her position after 30 years of university service. Her total pay in 2012, according to a database of state salaries posted online by the *Sacramento Bee*, was \$301,957.

Last month, California State University trustees voted without discussion to hire Roush for an annual salary of \$270,000 as the system's interim vice chancellor for business and finance.

She will serve until a permanent replacement is found for Benjamin F. Quillian, who is retiring as executive vice chancellor and chief financial officer. No time frame was estimated to obtain a new recruit.

Additional financial sweeteners of Roush's tenure, including a handsome hourly pay rate through the end of this year, were described in the board package.

"The proposed salary is appropriate to Sally's experience and the level of trust we are placing in her," White, who touted Roush's long fundraising experience in San Diego, told the trustees before the vote.

Reached by phone today, a CSU spokesman said Roush is not barred by the terms of her new job from collecting her SDSU pension but said he didn't know how much it was.

Matt Potter

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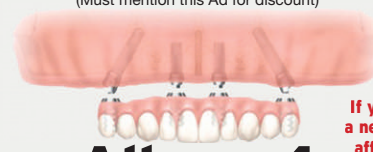
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LETTERS

continued from page 4

December 5 cover story), he missed one free and wonderfully appropriate way to celebrate the holidays — a traditional Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service celebrating the birth of the Christ Child at the church of one's choice.

It wouldn't even have been a big stretch to suggest that the celebration could include one of the churches in your advertising section. (No, I don't have an ad in this section).

Merry Christmas, Matthew. Even with the gap, it was a wonderful list.

Patsy Gredvig
Linda Vista

Shot in the Side

Regarding News Ticker: "Former DA May Be Witness in Murder Case," December 5.

Eva Knott wrote, "[Julie Harper] allegedly shot [Jason Harper] in the back..." Dr. Othon Mena, a San Diego County Medical Examiner, testified at the preliminary hearing in this case on December 11, 2012: "So I lifted up his shirt, and I noted a defect on his left side, a little towards the back, and the defect looked like a gunshot wound." (Page 144, lines 11-13 of the preliminary hearing transcript.)

Stating Mr. Harper was shot in the back is a misstatement of fact that should be corrected and not repeated. He was shot in the side.

Name Withheld
Normal Heights

Nowhere but Up

Hey, Reader, why don't you do the environment a favor and just stop publishing the Reader and save some newspaper and some trees. Or just fire your entire staff. Because, frankly, they're giving you a bunch of bullcrap, and you're paying them for it.

In the November 14 issue you reported about the F Street bookstore chain going out of business (Neighbor-

hood News: "Up for Grabs: F Street Property"). You reported that "F Street still has stores in Miramar, Kearny Mesa, Chula Vista, and the Gaslamp District." Those locations haven't been open in some time. You're paying out money for inaccurate facts.

Now you're doing this thing where you're reporting on restaurants along the trolley line on C Street that have gone out of business. Really? After the fact doesn't do us a damn bit of good. Why are you reporting on restaurants that are no longer around?

Maybe Fat Cat *would* still be around if you would write about it when it actually still *was* around ("Farewell, Bulgogi," November 28, Feast!). The only thing accurate that you did print in that story was the fact that there's a whole bunch of restaurants that go in that same location and don't make it. You'd think potential restaurateurs would look at that and go, *Maybe I shouldn't open a restaurant in that location either*. But that's something you guys can't prevent.

Anyway, we want articles about restaurants we can go to!

Lastly, how many stories can you say continue on page 42 when they don't, and the stories are actually continued on entirely different pages? Maybe you had a really big client this particular issue and wanted everybody to go to page 42 to see their ad?

You guys have really gone downhill. It sucks that you're no longer continuing the Matthew Alice series. And I don't know who decides on your comics, but a lot of them really suck. That, or you've got kindergartners taking too many St. Joseph's Chewable Valium for Children and writing your pages. Like Mild Abandon — what the hell is that? That comic really sucks.

In conclusion: Bring back Matthew Alice. And bring back News of the Weird. I don't know where it went

continued on page 40



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Model and
Actual Patient

LETTERS

continued from page 39

but it wasn't in the last issue. Make sure the pages the stories are continued on really are the pages the stories are continued on. Or just print everything on one page and don't make us jump around. Finally, make sure you check your facts.

I'm waiting to see if you guys go further downhill or if you can actually recover from here. The old saying is that you can't go anywhere but up.

Name Withheld
via voicemail

Blind to Dates

I wanted to inform you of two corrections.

I'm pissed because you keep advertising the Spike and Mike Festival and it was over two months ago! I took somebody from out of town to go see it at the Museum of Contemporary Art in La Jolla, but it is not happening anymore. It's been over for two months.

Also, you have an incorrect date in your Best Buys column from the November 14 issue. You're advertising a holiday entertaining class at Venissimo Cheese. 90 minutes, \$50, November 25. I called to make arrangements to go the class and

they said that it was a misprint. They told me that the class was actually scheduled for November 29.

Get your act together and get somebody in there to fix the typos. Let's get some correct dates.

Claire Newick
via voicemail

Bile in Every Word

Reading Mr. Marks' reviews has become painful. This guy thinks he is funny and witty. What he is is a bore.

Gone are the days, at least at your paper, when a movie review provided insight, perspective, and clear direction into what a movie was trying to say. See Siskel, Ebert, A. O. Scott, Roper, Kael, and hundreds more.

Your guy is a buffoon. He does nothing but hate everything and everyone, save "Marty." Scott Marks is shaming your paper! His review of the Golden Globes was not informative or funny. For those of us who love movies his words were insulting and juvenile.

Do yourselves a favor and run over to some junior college journalism class and get somebody who can write without bile in every word. Your readers will be all the better for it.

Joseph Genoese
Downtown

DIARY OF A DIVA

continued from page 8

black-and-white-striped shirt. What's with that? And what they do is unoriginal. And they seem smug. Too smug for a person wearing the same outfit and doing the same routine that's been done thousands of times by thousands of other mimes. The little 'stories' they tell are trite and simplistic — *Ooh, I'm trapped in a box. The box is getting smaller, the walls are closing in. I know, I'll pull on this rope to escape.* Puh-leeze. Maybe the real question you should be asking is

why don't you guys hate mimes?"

It was kind of hilarious to see David get so worked up over something — usually I'm the one running the Histrionics Department of the household.

"Okay, okay, I get it. No mimes. At least, not yet," I said.

"No. There is no 'yet.' No mimes. Not now. Not ever."

It was hard not to laugh in the face of such severity. Instead, I shrugged at Terri and said, "Sorry. We tried." ■ (@barbarellaf)

Find more stories by Barbarella at
SDReader.com/barbarella

Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 19

NACA TAMALES OF NICARAGUA

The tamales of Nicaragua are more of a meal than just masa. Inside each banana-leaf-wrapped tamale you'll find tender chunks of pork, potatoes, rice, onions, olives, and prunes. Typically served from Christmas Eve through New Year's Day. To learn how to prepare this traditional dish, wear closed-toe shoes and bring an apron, chef's knife, and a bag to carry your tamales home. \$65.

WHEN: 6 to 9 p.m.

WHERE: Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Drive, San Marcos. 760-233-2433; alchemyofthehearth.com



Saturday | 21

DR. SKETCHY'S ANTI-ART SCHOOL SAN DIEGO

Bring your sketchpads and art supplies to draw burlesque beauties Lady Borgia and Remele Sparks from Keyhole

Cabaret. Enjoy drawing, drinks, and a carefully chosen music playlist and compete in silly

contests (including an ugly-holiday-sweater contest). \$10.

WHEN: 3 to 6 p.m.

WHERE: The Merrow, 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest. 858-405-9453; drsketchysandiego.com

Friday | 20

GUITARS AT THE FLEET

The Reuben H. Fleet Science Center is cranking science up to 11 this winter with the West Coast premiere of "Guitar: The Instrument That Rocked the World!" Experience the guitar through 60 instruments, 100 artifacts, and 15 interactive exhibits. \$11–\$13.

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, Balboa Park. 619-238-1233; rhfleet.org/exhibitions/guitar



Sunday | 22

WINTER-GREEN WORLD

Delve into amazing sage and chaparral wildlands with your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide for facts about plants and animals that sustained Native Americans and delight modern observers.

WHEN: 9:30 to 11 a.m.

WHERE: Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra

Trail, San Carlos. 619-688-3281; mtrp.org



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25: JUNGLE BELLS

Monday | 23

FLICKS BY THE FIRE

W San Diego offers a "Flicks by the Fire" movie night on their rooftop bar throughout the month of December. Warm up with homemade popcorn, s'mores, butterscotch coffee, pumpkin martinis, blueberry hot toddies, and brown-bag wine-bottle specials. This week: *Bad Santa*.

WHEN: 8 to 11 p.m.

WHERE: W San Diego, 421 W. B Street, downtown. 619-398-3100; thewsandiegohotel.com

for a five-course holiday feast with a historical twist — a three-hour evening with 27 performers, featuring music, dance, story, and song.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m.

WHERE: Lamb's Players Theater, Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue, Coronado. 619-435-6611; lambplayers.org/show

Wednesday | 25

JUNGLE BELLS AT THE SAN DIEGO ZOO

Festivities include an intimate Jungle Bells tour in a "one-horse" VIP cart (\$69), a 5 p.m. tree-lighting, and handbell choirs at 5, 6, and 7 p.m. Santa mans his workshop from 4 to 8 p.m. Singers, zoo characters, and animals roam about as you munch, shop, and take in the animated light displays. \$46 adults, \$36 kids 3–11.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

WHERE: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, 619-231-1515; zoo.sandiegoozoo.org

Tuesday | 24

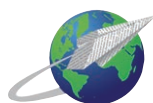
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The Toledo Harbor Lighthouse, built in 1904, stands where Lake Erie and Maumee Bay meet.

Ohio's best-kept secret

By Karin Leperi

Last summer, I stayed with a friend for almost three months in a small city named Stowe, Ohio.

Not once during my travels of the Buckeye State did I ever hear a mention of the Ohio state park lodges. Not even from my friend. It's probably due to the fact that these hidden gems are not well known to many.

What's even more amazing is that the state lodges are not just about camping and roughing it in the outdoors; they offer slices of sophistication for a working-class budget so as to

enjoy nature and the outdoors. As one of my travel buddies noted, "The Ohio state lodges are equally on par with the best of the national park lodges."

Not a surprising statement when I found out that Xanterra manages the day-to-day operations. They're the same eco-conscious outfit that does such a superb job in running many of the national park hotels and lodges, from Grand Canyon and Yellowstone national parks to Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Death Valley National Park. (Other locations include Crater Lake, Zion and Rocky Mountain national parks, as well as the Grand Canyon Railway Hotel). Xanterra is all about striving for sustainability while minimizing environmental footprints.

I was more than a little surprised by both the mountain culture at Salt Fork State Lodge and the shore and resort life at Maumee Bay in Ohio this year. I had fond experiences at both places — each was unique with its own character.

Salt Fork State Lodge is located in the heart of Guernsey County, a region of forested hills and verdant meadows. It's Ohio's largest state park, situated

closest to Pittsburgh, with a driving time of about 1 hour and 50 minutes; Columbus is about 92 miles away.

Open year-round, except for the 18-hole golf course clubhouse (which is closed from January through mid-March), the lodge offers 148 cabin-style guestrooms with a minimalist but functional decor. The swimming pool is the activity hub during the summer, supplemented with fishing, boating from two marinas, paintball, golf, tennis, and the latest trend: geocaching. Close by is the historic town of Cambridge, home of the rare Cambridge glass and site for the Hopalong Cassidy Festival.

The Wilds is a "must see" off-property activity, home to rare and endangered species from around the world. Located about 90 minutes east of Columbus, this is a private, nonprofit safari park and conservation center



The Ohio state park lodges, including the Salt Fork Lodge, are on a par with the national park lodges.

that offers "up close and personal" encounters.

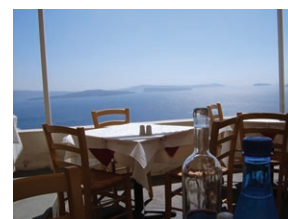
Splurge on the two-and-a-half-hour Wildside Tour for \$125: you'll see mammals in their open-range habitat, such as the endangered Przewalski's wild horse and two-humped Bactrian camel, and the near-threatened two-horned Southern White rhino. Chances

continued on page 44

Other Adventures



mwilliamsinsd: Beautiful architecture along Boston's Back Bay



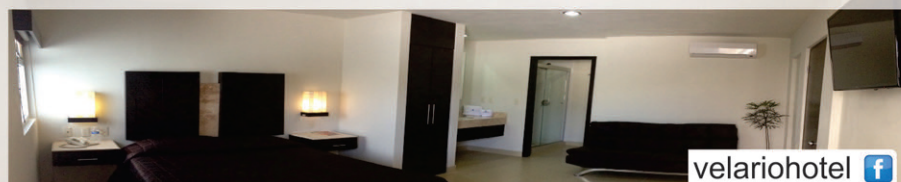
papasutra: Lunch with a view in Santorini



steveosw: Colonia, Uruguay

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Hike through a narrow desert canyon with lush vegetation.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 115 miles. Allow 2 hours driving time. Take CA-163 N and merge onto I-8 east. After almost 89 miles, exit at Ocotillo and turn north on SR-2 (Imperial Hwy). Drive 27 miles north on SR-2 to the entrance of Agua Caliente County Park. If you are planning to camp here you will need advance reservations on busy winter weekends. (Go to: <http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/parks/online.html> for information on fees and availability, including a campground map.) There is a day-use parking area directly across from the registration booth at the park entrance. **Hiking length:** 1.5 miles round trip (or 1.75 miles if you include the walk through the campground to the day-use parking area). Includes an option of out-and-back that is less difficult. Allow 1 hour. **Difficulty:** Easy, along well-marked sandy paths. Elevation gain/loss 350 feet. Requires some boulder-hopping and scrambling over short, dry falls that can be avoided by turning back as it becomes more difficult.



Note the white granite rocks for which the Tierra Blanca Mountains and Moonlight Canyon were named.

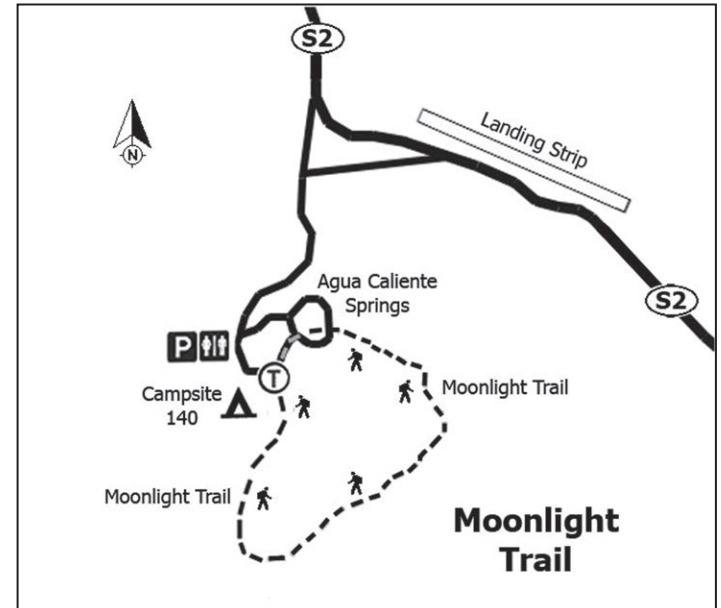
This is one of the most popular hiking trails in the Anza-Borrego Desert. Where else can you camp in comfort with full facilities, including hot showers, and soak in pools of geothermally heated mineral wa-

ter after a vigorous hike through a beautiful canyon? Agua Caliente is a small county park tucked into the much larger Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. It is located on a spur of the very active Elsinore Fault that causes heated water to percolate to the surface in springs that dot this portion of the Tierra Blanca Mountains.

The hike described here reverses the normal designated Moonlight Trail loop that begins across from the shuffleboard courts and next to campsite #140. The reverse loop avoids the boulder-hopping and scrambling over short, dry falls in places that are found at the beginning of the designated trail. The reverse loop allows everyone to experience Moonlight Canyon while giving the option of turning back at the more challenging section.

From the signed "Moonlight

Trail End," near the caravan area and campsite #63, head in a southeasterly direction across the flat, sandy desert, through tall ocotillo, burrobrush, agave, creosote bush, cholla, and possibly masses of wildflowers if the timing of your visit is right. The trail turns south as it enters Moonlight Canyon. The canyon becomes progressively narrower as you proceed. After you have hiked about half a mile you come to "the Narrows," where the canyon walls are only a few feet apart. As you go through the Narrows, note the white granite rocks for which the Tierra Blanca Mountains and Moonlight Canyon were named. This is also a wet area where year-around water permits lush vegetation to grow. Plants here include mesquite, catclaw, willows, apricot mallow, chuparosa, and desert lavender. While some of these are rather prickly, you can enjoy the scent of the desert lavender and the colorful chuparosa almost year around. In less than 0.2 mile, the canyon widens somewhat and you resume hiking over soft sand. Turn back here if you want to avoid the more challenging section of the



trail.

The trail leaves Moonlight Canyon 0.85 mile from the start and proceeds up a smaller tributary canyon. If you are still in Moonlight Canyon beyond this point you will come to a large red sign that reads, "DO NOT ENTER." If you find yourself there, you missed the turn. Back up a bit and look for the trail nearer the west side of the canyon. The trail rises more steeply in the next quarter of a mile until it reaches the top of a saddle. As you

are climbing, note the numerous large barrel cactus and abundant agave. It is downhill from this point to the campground, but take care getting down the dry falls.

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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Blue titles indicate sponsored events. To place a sponsored listing, call 619-235-8200.

CHRISTMAS & HOLIDAY EVENTS

Breakfast with Santa Little ones will have the chance to visit with Santa about their wish list and receive a special gift while the whole family enjoys a warm meal overlooking Mission Bay. Head to the Island Market afterwards for festive holiday crafts and activities. Saturday, December 21, 9am; Barefoot Bar and Grill, 1404 Vacation Road. (MISSION BEACH)

Christmas Extraordinaire The life of Jesus Christ, presented by the Rock Church JC Living Hope Puppets Ministry. Saturday, December 7, 1-2pm & 2-3pm. Saturday, December 21, 2-4pm; **free**. Rock Church, 2277 Rosecrans Street. (POINT LOMA)

Christmas Lights and Block Party Eighty-five-plus homes will be lit up through January 1. Park along Shoal Creek Drive. Fairway Village, Carmel Mountain Ranch, along the west side of Stony Gate Place

Christmas Teas Relax to the melodious sounds of a harp while indulging in an array of teas, holiday beverages, and *petits fours* as

well as house-made canapes. Friday, December 20, 2:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 2:30pm; \$30-\$45. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Fire & Ice Experience snow in San Diego on the rooftop bar of the W. Cozy up next to the bonfire, sip on hot toddies, and enjoy some s'mores. Thursdays, 6pm; Saturdays, 6pm; through Thursday, December 26, **free**. W San Diego, 421 W. B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Jungle Bells at the San Diego Zoo A 5pm tree lighting, handbell choirs at 5pm, 6pm, and 7pm, and Santa mans his workshop from 4pm- 8pm. Singers, zoo characters, and animals roam about as you munch, shop, and take in the animated lights displays. Zoo admission: \$46 adults, \$36 kids 3-11. Through Sunday, January 5. San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive. (BALBOA PARK)

Live Nativity Scene In Julian, the Cider Mill, located at 2103 Main St., has a live Nativity staged by Calvary Chapel. Church members and musicians tell the story of Christ's birth. The event takes place every Saturday at 5pm until Christmas. For more info contact the Calvary Chapel at 760-765-0446. Saturdays, 5pm; through Saturday, December 21, **free**. Julian Cider Mill, 2103 Main Street. (JULIAN)

Living Nativity in Escondido A live performance celebrating the birth of Christ, including live animals and Christmas music, followed by free refreshments. Friday, December 20, 7pm; Saturday, December 21, 6pm and 7pm; **free**. Grace Lutheran Church Escondido, 643 West 13th Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

North Pole Limited Santa Train The annual journey to the North Pole aboard the festive North Pole Limited, a real old-time train, features hot chocolate, cookies, Christmas carols, and a visit with Santa and his elves. Reservations at psrm.org. Fridays, 7pm; Saturdays, 5pm and 7pm; through Saturday, December 21, \$20-\$50. Pacific Southwest Railway Museum, State Highway 94 and Forrest Gate Road. (CAMPO)

Teddy Bear Teas Experience a magical afternoon tea with fresh house-made canapes and paninis, assorted pastries, tarlets, brownies and scones. After tea time, participants will be escorted to the hotel's Grand Lobby to spend time playing with Santa's magician and his elf. Then, Santa Claus will narrate an all-time Christmas classic, and guests will have the opportunity to spend a personal moment with Santa. Thursday, December 19, 2:30pm; Friday, December 20, 2:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm; \$30-\$45. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Ugly Sweater Party Guests can show off their sweater and mix and mingle in the snow with icy cocktails. Friday, December 20, 5pm; **free**. 21 and up. W San Diego, 421 W. B Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Bring Your Dog to Yoga This 75-minute class taught by Debra Hodgen begins with warm-up stretches that participants can do

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Snoop Dogg
aka Snoop Lion



Win Tickets to see Snoop Dogg

Enter to win a pair of tickets to see Snoop Dogg. Enter by Monday, December 23rd at 1PM.

Big Night San Diego
New Year's Eve Gala
2013



Win VIP Tickets

Enter to win 2 VIP tickets to Big Night San Diego New Year's Eve Gala. Enter by Monday, December 30th at 1PM.



Win Dinner for 4

Enter to win dinner for 4, including appetizers, entrees, desserts and drinks, at Magnolia Tap & Kitchen. Enter by Thursday, January 2nd at 1PM.

Ohio continued from page 42

are you may have an opportunity to feed the more common giraffe. Ziplining, horseback riding, and fishing are also offered.

For me, the best kept secret in Ohio is Maumee Bay State Park Lodge and Conference Center. This is the newest of the Ohio state lodges and offers a contemporary resort experience along the shores of Lake Erie unparalleled for the price. Set in the midst of a 1850-acre state park, Maumee Bay offers 120 modern guestrooms all with private balcony/patio. Plus, there are 24 cottages with fireplaces to accommodate large families.

An Arthur Hills-designed golf course makes you feel more like you're playing on championship links in Scotland. And the Trautman Nature Center is just a stone's throw from the lodge entrance. Pool, shuffleboard, volleyball, and horseshoes are all available on the property, as is a fitness

facility and racquetball courts.

Birding and fishing are also big here. Lake Erie's considered the "Walleye Capital of the World," so this is obviously a great place to catch the delectable freshwater fish. And Maumee Bay might be the best place in the U.S. to see and hear the sweet melody of migrating warblers in the spring — probably why it's called the "Warbler Capital of the World." In fact, the lodge was host to the 2013 Biggest Week in American Birding.

Though there are other activities, such as biking, geocaching, paddleboating, canoeing, and jet-skiing, I enjoyed taking a private tour boat out to the Toledo Harbor Lighthouse. The 1904 structure stands where Lake Erie and Maumee Bay meet, and it is completely surrounded by water. The original Fresnel lens, now on display in the lobby of the lodge, was a weighted clockwork mechanism that allowed the light to rotate and be seen for many miles.

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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

with their dogs unleashed. Then the class moves into gentle flow and standing poses, and the dogs will get a chance to run and play with the pack. The practice ends on the floor with pups nearby while humans strengthen, stretch, and relax. Some weeks, dogs will be introduced to a new skill or trick. Saturdays, 1pm; through Saturday, December 28, \$15. Whole Dog Sports Center, 6241 Yarrow Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Cork Wreath Class We supply the materials, but feel free to bring your own corks, ribbon, decorations, or glue gun. Thursday, December 19, 5:30pm; \$25-\$30. San Pasqual Winery Tasting Room and Gallery, 8364 La Mesa Boulevard. (LA MESA)

Drawing in the Galleries: Chiaroscuro Drawing This informal drawing workshop gives adults and teens the opportunity to draw from objects in the collection while being guided by an instructor. Meet in the rotunda. Series package: \$32 for four classes. Friday, December 20, 2pm; \$10-\$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Family Science Saturdays: Power Power can be imagined as the amount of work done in a given time. How much power can you generate, and how will it be expressed? From the many apparatuses in the tHinking studio, we invite our patrons to demonstrate their abilities in power generation. Activities included with admission. Saturday, December 21, 1pm; \$11-\$13. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Meditation Class Free meditation class by guide with over 20 years experience. Wear comfortable clothing. Sundays, 11am, free. 18 and up. Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3301 Adams Avenue. (NORMAL HEIGHTS)

La Jolla Pen to Paper A drop-in writing group. Bring a notebook and participate in an hour of free-writing fun and writerly camaraderie. Prompts supplied. No critique. No registration required. Hosted by Diane Malloy. Thursdays, 12pm; through Thursday, December 19, \$5. La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

La Jolla Swing Dance Classes 6:30pm: Swing-era basica (jitterbug, lindy, charleston). 7:30pm: Beginner lindy hop. 8:30pm: Rhythms of swing. Sunday, December 22; \$10-\$30. 18 and up. La Jolla YMCA, 8355 Cliffridge Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Learn to Meditate with Your Dog People and their pets mirror each other. The calmer and happier we are, the calmer and happier our companion animals will be. With this in mind, holistic pet care counselor and certified meditation teacher Sindi Somers presents Doggie Meditation sessions. Saturday, December 21, 10am and 12pm; \$10. 18 and up. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

COMEDY

Comedy Night A weekly Clean Comedy Night (PG-13). Fridays, 8pm; through Friday, December 27, free. Spacebar Internet Cafe, 7454 University Ave., Suite A. (LA MESA)

Sean McBride Live DVD Taping Sean McBride (*NFL Network*, *National Lampoon*) headlines. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; \$10-\$20. 18 and up. Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

Taylor Williamson The youngest person to perform on *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*. Thursday, December 19, 8pm; Friday, December 20, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm and 9:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 8pm; \$22. 21 and up. Ameri-

Rhyme & Verse

Leaving Home Without It

A poem by Rae Rose

Wanda Sykes made a joke about leaving her vagina at home so she could go out safely at night.

Think of it.

Taking away their greatest weapon, hiding it in a jewelry box lined with velvet or behind a metal safe.

Think of it.

Walking at night — in a skirt, even, in heels, even, without the fear of being ripped into, being ripped open.

Women in colorful dresses, filling city streets.

Women taking shortcuts through alleyways, talking to strangers, walking through parks and noticing, for the first time, the way moonlight lights the dew.

A woman climbs a ladder, sits on a rooftop with a takeout order of Chinese food. Her head in the stars, she chews slowly, watching traffic below without flinching at the noise. She marvels at shadows, and studies other women, their hips swaying sweetly under street lamps, alone with their thoughts.



Rae Rose is a California poet and essayist whose work has been published in *Cicada Magazine*, *Lilith Magazine*, and *The Paterson Review*, among other literary journals. Her recent book, *Bipolar Disorder for Beginners*, is a stunningly powerful account, in both poetry and prose, of her struggles with that disease.

Marge Piercy has characterized the book as “readable, powerful and emotionally charged.” It was published by Garden Oak Press in 2013 and is available on Amazon. Her blog can be found at trulyraeose.tumblr.com

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

can Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

DANCE

Argentine Tango with Colette Take a first free class Monday, December 23 at 7pm or Wednesday, December 25 at 7pm (or any Monday or Wednesday at 7pm thereafter) at Dance Place San Diego. No need for a partner. We will introduce you to the passion and magic of Tango. Visit tangowithcolette.com and call today: 514-726-5567. Dance Place San Diego, 2650 Truxtun Road, Studio 106. (POINT LOMA)

California Ballet: The Nutcracker With John Stubbs conducting. Patrons can meet the cast at Sugar Plum Parties immediately following the 1:00pm, 2:30pm, and

5:30pm performances. This year's production will feature guest artists ABT principal Cory Stearns and freelance artist Sergey Kheylik. Thursday, December 19, 7pm; Friday, December 20, 7pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm and 7pm; Sunday, December 22, 1pm and 5:30pm; \$40-\$90. San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

City Ballet's The Nutcracker The perennial production offers eleven public performances with accompaniment by the City Ballet Orchestra conducted by John Nettle. Also available is the Lunch with the Sugar Plum Fairy and Friends prior to each Saturday matinee performance. 858-272-8663. Thursday, December 19, 7pm; Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, December 22, 1pm and 5pm; \$29-\$69. Spreckels

Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Move As One Dance Instruction Fun, friendly, affordable social dance classes. Singles class Wednesday, December 25 at 8pm. Couples Class Thursday, December 26 at 8pm. Escondido Social class/mixer Tuesday, December 24 at 7pm. Private lessons also available Tuesday, December 24 at 7pm. sandiegodanceinstructor.com, 858-248-0593. Art Studio 4, 340 N. Escondido Blvd (Escondido) or Champion Ballroom, 3580 Fifth Ave. (HILLCREST)

The Nutcracker Music: Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Costumes designed by David Heuvel. Choreography: Elizabeth Wistrich. Sunday, December 22, 1pm and 5pm; \$29-\$59. Spreckels Theatre, 121 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Particular Proposition: Liminal in Performance A dance series curated by Katie Lorge of the contemporary dance company Odd and Even. This series brings new and experimental dance experiences to the venue. Performers TBA. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; \$5-\$10. Space 4 Art, 325 15th Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

San Diego Ballet Presents the Nutcracker In its 24th year, this ballet fantasy features a cast of over 100 beautifully costumed dancers, reveling in Tchaikovsky's beloved score. Starring an international cast from Russia, China, Japan, Hungary, and Mexico as well as San Diego School of Ballet children from all over San Diego County. Directed a choreographed by Robin Sherertz-Morgan and Javier Velasco. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm; Saturday, December 21, 2:30pm and 7:30pm; Sunday,

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December 22, 2:30pm; \$25-\$50. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

West Coast Ballet Theatre's The Nutcracker A cast of nearly 200 performers plus artists from CW's hit series *Breaking Pointe*. Saturday, December 21, 2pm; Sunday, December 22, 2pm; \$22-\$42. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (ESCONDIDO)

FOOD & DRINK

Cuban Noche Buena Executive chef Arleen Lloyd leads an evening celebrating the traditions of her husband's Cuban family. Learn the secrets of creating Cuban style roast pork, black beans and rice, yuca, maduros, and flan, the traditional Christmas Eve feast. Friday, December 20, 6pm; \$65. Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Dr., Suite L. (SAN MARCOS)

Holiday Pops & Prints Make your own edible treat to gift this holiday. Learn a simple muffin-pop recipe and wrap it with a custom printed card for a friend or family member. Workshop times vary between 10:00am-4:00pm. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; through Sunday, December 22, New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Italian Black Truffles Dinner Executive chef Accursio is designing a menu to complement a shipment of fresh Italian Tartufo Pre-

giato Black Truffles. Four-course Black Truffle Feast. Contact us for details; seating limited. 619-270-9670. Solare Ristorante Lounge, 2820 Roosevelt Road. (LIBERTY STATION)

Monday Night Football With Anchor XMAS On tap: Falcons vs. 49ers and Anchor Xmas Ale. Glass keeper/refill special. Monday, December 23. Hamilton's Tavern, 1521 30th Street. (SOUTH PARK)

Naca Tamales of Nicaragua Join executive chef Arleen Lloyd for an evening of tamale fun. If you've never had a naca tamale you're in for a treat. The tamales of Nicaragua are more of a meal than just masa. Inside each banana leaf wrapped tamale you'll find tender chunks of pork, potatoes, rice,

onions, olive, and prunes. Typically served from Christmas Eve through New Years Day, a naca tamale is a wonder to behold. Wear closed toe shoes, bring an apron, chef's knife, and a bag to carry your tamales home. Thursday, December 19, 6pm; \$65. 18 and up. Alchemy of the Hearth, 960 Rancheros Dr., Suite L. (SAN MARCOS)

Raw Holiday Desserts Using only the organic ingredients and farm-fresh local produce, chef Fuji will showcase each recipe with tips, tricks, and techniques. Friday, December 20, 5pm; \$25-\$30. Center for a Healthy Lifestyle, 533 Lomas Santa Fe Drive (behind Boys & Girls Club). (SOLANA BEACH)



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4:30 PM Children's Pageant ★ CHILDREN'S CHOIRS ★ FAMILIES
7 & 9 PM Lessons and Carols ★ ADULT CHOIRS
11 PM "Midnight" Communion ★ CAROLS ★ CHRISTMAS STORY

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SHEEP and GOATS

“Rowena, Playing in the Sun”

God, who stirred the void
and in Motion’s birth
Revealed yourself;
the warm limbs wake
Along the dark
stairways, the far eyes life
to take
The fixed commotion
of the stars, their dim furi-

ous speed
Predictive in the
blood; the cupped hands
hold for the spinning sun
Till all this reaching
tips the rim of heaven to
the earth,
Spilling the primal
colors from the splitting
of a seed,
Wavering the tall

green like a great sea
waking,
And in the golden
light, tiny hands lifting,
falling,
Turning in god’s own
orbit, my golden one. —
by Edith L. Tiempo

Edith L. Tiempo (1919–2011) was a Filipina poet

and fiction-writer who wrote
in the English language. In
her poems, Tiempo attempted
to present a verbal embodi-
ment of significant personal
experiences. Together with
her late husband Edilberto
K. Tiempo, Edith Tiempo
founded and directed the
Silliman National Writers
Workshop in Dumaguete

City, which has discovered
some of the Philippines’
newest and brightest writers.
Tiempo received one of the
Philippines’ most prestigious
literary awards, the National
Artist Award for Literature,
in 1999.

Find more excerpts online at
SDReader.com/worship



FOR KIDS

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: SEA Days Get up close to real whale baleen and learn why these mega marine mammals swim more than 10,000 miles each year. Join Scripps Oceanography scientists as they share stories of their current research. Included with admission. Saturday, December 21, 11am; **free**-\$17. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Preschool Story Time a Craft Preschoolers are invited to a story time, followed by a fun craft. Thursdays, 10:30am; through Thursday, December 26, **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Story Time at the New Children's Museum Bring your little one for a fun holiday story time.

Friday, December 20, 10:30am; New Children’s Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Toddler Story Time A story time designed for toddlers, featuring songs, rhymes, and finger plays. Fridays, 10:30am; through Friday, December 27, **free**. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

LECTURES

Public Nights at the Planetarium Two shows every Friday. “The Sky Tonight” (7pm to 8pm): A live narrated show highlighting the current night skies from San Diego. The moon, planets, and constellations are described and audiences are taken on virtual journeys into space. “Stars, Powerhouses of the Universe” (8:15pm to 9pm): A full-

dome feature that will take you on a journey that explores the nature of stars in our galaxy. From stars that are forming to stars that are exploding in death, these powerhouses are the beacons of the galaxy. Narrated by Mark Hamill. Fridays, 7pm, \$4-\$6. Palomar College, 1140 West Mission Road. (SAN MARCOS)

Remarkable Re-Visions Dr. Matthew T. Herbst of UCSD discusses the evolution of Istanbul (formerly Constantinople) from an ancient Greek city to a Roman/ Byzantine imperial center to an Ottoman capital to today’s thriving Turkish metropolis. This lecture offers a big picture consideration of the site and focuses particularly on the city’s role as a center of wealth, power, and diversity in the classical age of the Ottoman Empire (i.e., the 15th-17th centuries). Includes a docent-led tour. 619-232-7931. Friday, December 20, 10am; \$8-\$15.

San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

OUTDOORS

Audubon Christmas Bird Count Join the Buena Vista Audubon Society for the Christmas Bird Count, continuing a tradition that started in 1946, BVAS’s goal is to tally more than 40,000 birds representing close to 200 different species. Lunch and refreshments provided. Saturday, December 21, 8am; **free**. Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center, 2202 S. Coast Hwy. (CARLSBAD)

Bird Winter Waters Join Mission Trails Regional Park birding-guide Jeanne Raimond in a search for resident/migratory water and land-lubbers of sage and chaparral. Seek the tri-colored blackbird found year

round only in California. Recommended: binoculars and bird book. Meet at parking lot off Kiowa Drive (east side). Saturday, December 21, 8am; **free**. Lake Murray Reservoir, 5540 Kiowa Drive. (LA MESA)

Interpretive Nature Walk Docent, writer, and artist Donna Walker leads a nature walk among the watershed community’s native plants and wildlife. Learn about the history and culture of the indigenous people who lived in this area during prehistoric times. Sunday, December 22, 10am; **free**. Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve, 8833 Harmony Grove Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Scavenger Hunt Adventure Turn San Diego into a giant game board with this fun scavenger hunt adventure, combining the excitement of *The Amazing Race* with a three-hour city tour. Guided from any smart phone, teams make their way among well-known and over-

looked gems of the city, solving clues and completing challenges while learning local history. Start when you want to and play at your pace. Save 20%: \$39.20 for a team of 2-5 people with promotion code SDREADER. \$9-\$20. (OLD TOWN)

Skating by the Sea Enjoy outdoor ice-skating on a rink overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Sessions are two hours and cost \$23 per adult, \$18 per child (ages 10 and under). Skate rental is included in the price (\$5 discount if you wear your own ice skates). \$5 discount with military ID for immediate family. \$13-\$23. Hotel del Coronado, 1500 Orange Avenue. (CORONADO)

Winter Solstice Hike Bundle up for a predawn walk up Cowles Mountain with your MTRP trail guide and visit a Kumeyaay spiritual site to observe the phenomenon of rising sun rays visually

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UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH
Christmas Services at UCUC



December 21 at 6 pm: Service of the Longest Night- a quiet service of prayer as a comfort for those experiencing grief or sadness this holiday season. Christmas Eve: services at 6 and 7:30 pm. 5:11 Gathering December 28 at 5:11 pm: A look at the childhood of Jesus. Call (858) 453-3444 or visit our website at UCUC.ORG for details. UNIVERSITY CITY 2877 Governor Drive (858) 453-3444

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OF LA MESA
A Night of Song to Warm the Heart

This candle-lit Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols will feature , “Come, All Ye Faithful” through “Angels We Have Heard on High” and “Silent Night” with the music of the season filling the halls. Readings from Genesis, Isaiah, Luke and John will complement the music, telling again the story of the Child of Bethlehem and the fulfillment of God's promise to the world. December 24, 7- 8 p.m. LA MESA 5940 Kelton Avenue (619) 464-1519

ST. LUKE’S LUTHERAN CHURCH
St Luke’s Lutheran Church
Celebrate Christmas with us. Worship: 9am. weihachtsgottesdienst - German Carol Service: Sun, Dec. 15 at 7pm. Advent Alleluia- Combined Choirs and Orchestra: Sun, Dec. 22, 9 am. Christmas Eve Candle lighting: services, Tues, Dec. 24 at 6 and 8pm. www.st-lukes-la-mesa.org LA MESA 5150 Wilson Street (619) 463-6633

Novena to Saint Jude

The Patron Saint of Desperate or Hopeless Causes. May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Saint Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Saint Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us. (State your special intention, followed by the Our Father, Glory Be, and Hail Mary prayers.) Say the above novena sincerely nine times a day for eight consecutive days, and promise to publish it or otherwise distribute it to others. It has never been known to fail. Thank you, Saint Jude, for help with a miracle received.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH ESCONDIDO
Living Nativity in Escondido
A live performance celebrating the birth of Christ, including live animals and Christmas music, followed by free refreshments. December 20, 7 p.m. , December 21, 6 and 7 p.m. ESCONDIDO 643 West 13th Avenue (760) 745-0831

ROCK CHURCH
Christmas Extraordinaire

The life of Jesus Christ, presented by the Rock Church JC Living Hope Puppets Ministry. Saturday, December 21, 2-4pm. POINT LOMA 2277 Rosecrans Street (619) 226-7625

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in Point Loma. E-mail: church@westminsted.org www.westminstersd.org (619) 223-3193. POINT LOMA 3598 Talbot Street (619) 223-3193

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH
Prince of Peace Lutheran
Advent Services: 18 at 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. Christmas Day service Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. New Year’s Eve service Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. Pastor Paul Willweber www.princeofpeacesd.net. ALLIED GARDENS 6801 Easton Court (619) 583-1436

ST. JAMES BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Praetorius In Dulci Jubilo
Michael Praetorius was the most influential, diverse, and prolific composer of his generation. During the early seventeenth-century his musical productivity became the basic repertoire for the Lutheran church in northern Germany. Friday, December 20, 7:30pm. LA JOLLA 743 Prospect Street (858) 459-3421

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Annual Living Nativity
A visual depiction of why the church celebrates Christmas. Friday and Saturday December 20 and 21, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This two night event features carolers on Friday and on a children's pageant on Saturday. SAN MARCOS 1020 Rose Ranch Road (760) 744-7667

RANCHO BERNARDO COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sacra/ Profana: I Hear America Singing
Sacra/Profana presents the San Diego premiere of Andrea Clearfield's "Dream Variations" for chorus, harp, flute, violin, and organ. Clearfield's multi-movement masterpiece incorporates poems by Langston Hughes to provide a stirring reflection on the American dream. Also on the program is "Expecting The Main Things From You," a three-movement work for chorus, percussion, string quartet, and organ, by New York's Nico Muhly, and set to texts by Walt Whitman. Sunday, February 16, 4pm. RANCHO BERNARDO 17010 Pomerado Road (858) 487-0811

ST. JOHN BOSCO MISSION SSPX
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St. John Bosco Mission SSPX. Fr. Thomas Hufford Sunday Mass: 4pm, Confessions: 3:30pm. (858) 433-0353 (call for proper attire) stjohnbosco-mission@hotmail.com, www.sspx.org. Instaurare Omnia in Christo. To the greater glory of God! POINT LOMA 2881 Roosevelt Road

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split in half by the distant Lyon's Peak boulders. Meet at staging area. Friday, December 20, 6am; Sunday, December 22, 6am; **free**. Cowles Mountain, Navajo Road and Golfcrest Drive. (SAN CARLOS)

Winter-Green World Delve into amazing sage and chaparral wildlands with your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide for fun facts about plants and animals that sustained Native Americans and delight modern observers. Saturday, December 21, 9:30am; Sunday, December 22, 9:30am; **free**. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Jun'pero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Blue Whale Cruises Each winter, pods of California Gray Whales pass by San Diego on their annual migration south to the warm lagoons of Baja. During the spring,

they return to their summer home of Alaska and the Bering Sea, passing through Southern California's waters again. See these majestic mammals live and up close on this tour off the coast of San Diego. The trip includes a narrative about whales and their migration. The boats are equipped with indoor and outdoor seating and a galley lounge with hot food and beverage service. Thursday, December 19, 10am; Friday, December 20, 10am; Saturday, December 21, 10am; Sunday, December 22, 10am; \$45. H&M Landing, 2803 Emerson Street. (POINT LOMA)

Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School Bring your sketchpads and art supplies to draw burlesque beauties Lady Borgia and Remele Sparks from Keyhole Cabaret. Enjoy drawing, drinks, and a carefully crafted music playlist and compete in silly contests (including an ugly holiday sweater contest). Saturday, December 21, 3pm; \$10. 21 and up. Merrow, 1271 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

FMX-Mas Big Whip Invitational Motocross Supercross racing with Ricky Carmichael and Carey Hart. Saturday, December 21, 2pm; **free**. 18 and up. Sycuan Casino, 5469 Casino Way. (EL CAJON)

Garden of Lights After the sun goes down, the San Diego Botanic Garden is transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland with over 100,000 sparkling lights. Live music nightly from 6-8pm, campfire for roasting marshmallows, wagon rides, crafts, and snow (weather permitting). Bring your own disc or sled (no metal runners please). A team of Belgian draft horses will provide wagon rides through the lower area of the Garden December 14, 15, 18-23, and 27-30. **Free**-\$14. San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

Guitar: The Instrument That Rocked the World Opening day of a rockin' exhibition that explores all facets of the world's favorite musical instrument, from its history as an instrument of

popular culture to the science of creating sound with wood and steel. Museum guests will experience the science, sound, history, and cultural impact of the guitar in an exhibition that contains more than 60 instruments ranging from the rare and antique to the wildly popular and innovative along with engaging, entertaining, and educational displays specific to the guitar, including historical artifacts, models, posters, video screens, interactives, and kiosks. Friday, December 20, 10am; Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Jingle Shells Bay Sail Take in the holiday light-lined shores during a 45-minute scenic cruise around Mission Bay complete with warm beverages, snug blankets, holiday music, and more. Ticket price includes hot cocoa for little ones, and beer or wine for those who wish to imbibe. Reservations: paradisesurf@destinationhotels.com. Saturday, December 21, 3:45pm; \$20-\$25. Paradise Point Resort and Spa, 1404 Vacation Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Traveling Stories Book Drive Every Saturday in December, local nonprofit Traveling Stories hosts a holiday story time in their tent at the City Heights Farmers' Market (4326 Wightman St., 760-688-6251). The organization seeks volunteers to help decorate the Story Tent, listen as the children read, and read holiday tales aloud. In an effort to encourage reading at home, they will also host a book giveaway on December 21, for which they seek book donations (appropriate for kindergarten through second-grade levels). City Heights Farmers' Market (4326 Wightman Street). (CITY HEIGHTS)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Night Flight Every Saturday, catch pro flowboarders mid-air while enjoying drink specials and adrenaline-fueled entertainment. Saturdays, 6pm; through Saturday,

January 4, **free**. Wave House, 3125 Ocean Front Walk. (MISSION BEACH)

Tai Chi Class This class is designed for adults 55+ and will teach students strategies for implementing physical exercise and relaxation techniques in addition to Tai Chi. Thursdays, 2pm; through Thursday, December 26, **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Yoga at Kate Sessions Park Vinyasa with a view! Outdoor yoga class at the top of the park. 858-380-7507. Saturdays, 10am; through Saturday, December 28, **free**. Kate Sessions Park, 5115 Soledad Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Zumba Gold Zumba Gold is a lower impact version of the Zumba Basic class. The moves have been designed to be easy to follow by participants of any size or age. Fridays, 1:30pm; through Friday, December 27, **free**. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

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Street jam

Most street photography reminds us that we never know when we're being watched.

We've become so accustomed to our post-Vietnam, secularized, unsentimental styles of war endorsement ("Support Our Troops") that the his-

trionic posters in the first room of the San Diego Museum of Art's *Women, War, and Industry* are shocking in their plaintiveness. A 1918 appeal to buy liberty bonds shows a mother and baby cowering from a trollish German soldier under the caption "Hun or Home?" Another from the Great War depicts a sanctified-militarist version of the feminine: a glamorous, shapely armored Joan of Arc raises her broadsword to heaven, appealing to the women of America to buy war savings stamps. A World War II nurse recruitment image shows an officer conferring a nurse's cap on a woman as if it were a wimple ordaining her for religious service. A very different tone, and one I'm partial to, is struck in Howard Chandler Christy's naval recruitment poster of a sassy girl in a loose-fitting, off-the-shoulder sailor's outfit. Who could resist?

This baggy, hit-and-miss exhibition of posters, paintings, photos, and installations, drawn mostly from the museum's permanent collection, illustrates the connections, sometimes pretty loose, between women, wartime, and industrial civilization from the early 20th Century to last month. Some images are standard-issue heart-squeezers, like Alfred Eisenstadt's 1940s photographs of farewells at Penn Station. Others are stark images of technical power. Esther Bubley, a photographer who should be better known and whose work has been heavily collected by the museum, in 1965 photographed mechanics servicing an engine-propeller assembly in Af-

ghanistan: the engine guts are sharply defined; the fuzzy mountainous landscape in the distance hosts, I imagine, a tribal culture not much different from contemporary Afghani culture.

The exhibition might have been called *Technologies*. It covers everything from chemistry labs to rubber production to lobster fishing to silk manufacture. Bubley was especially gifted at portraying work-place attentiveness. Her photos of engineers and scientists, some of them leaning into the magical light of glass beakers radiant with fluids, are little essays on intellectual intensity. But she could also open wide and photograph a huge iron mine whose expansiveness illustrates how deeply set is industrial civilization's assumption that natural resources are inexhaustible. Another great, well-represented woman photographer, Margaret Bourke-White, was one of the first archivists of modern aviation. Her 1951 airborne shot of a SAC B-29 tanker refueling in flight a B-50 bomber is a technological variation on the mother-child imagery of the World War I posters that open the exhibition.

The scope of *Women, War, and Industry* is broad enough to accommodate many topics. Catherine Opie, an L.A. photographer (born 1961), has made photo-essays on surfers, LGBT populations, and high school football players. Her 2006 photo of an immigration march in L.A. is a street jam of commerce, civic righteousness, religious enthusiasm, sexual flirtation, communal hilarity, and new-style carnival-esque patriotism. It has the crude, spilled-forth energy of a crowd in process of defining itself and its aspirations. Another kind of antic, comic-abrasive

ART

W.S. DI PIERO



Catherine Opie, *Untitled #2 (Immigration March, Los Angeles, CA), 2006* (courtesy of the artist and Regen Projects, Los Angeles)

Women, War, and Industry is on view at the San Diego Museum of Art until February 18, 2014.

1450 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-232-7931, sdmart.org

Staking Claim: A California Invitational is on view at the Museum of Photographic Arts until January 26, 2014.

1649 El Prado, Balboa Park, 619-238-7559, mopa.org

spirit seems to be examining us in two pictures by Frohawk Two Feathers (born Umar Rashid) from a pictorial narrative about a fictitious war between empires called Frengland and Fenoscandia. FTF's work connects hip-hop and tattoos to classical myth and historical costuming. Each picture features two females set in a double-tombstone frame. The women in one picture are twin, deadpan-menacing assassins armed with a flintlock and sword; in another, they're daughters of the Greek Titan Prometheus and speak Barallete, a now-defunct Galician dialect spoken by knife-sharpeners — appropriately, the Titan's gals brandish a machete and hedge-clippers.

* * *

The Museum of Photographic Arts is hosting the second installment of their triennial invitational exhibition. From the dozens of artists whose work was submitted, the curators chose 16, all

based in California and represented by work produced in the past five years. *Staking Claim: A California Invitational* is a compelling update on how image-makers keep banging away at the definitions of photographic practice — they're making their own cameras (Susan Burnstine creates oneiric cityscapes with devices she makes from vintage camera parts, household items, and hobby plastic), or avoiding Photoshop but manipulating finished prints (Matthew Brandt dunks prints of lake views in the same lake water that's the subject of the pictures), or borrowing pre-existent imagery (Paul Schiek turns 1950s mug shots from a Georgia prison into fresh, ambiguous life portraits). And they're all chasing obsessions. I wrote recently about the camera obscura imagery of the Cuban-born American photographer Abelardo Morell, who photographs scenes projected into a room from outside. The four-color pictures by John Chiara in *Staking*

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Claim, created by huge cameras he himself builds, aren't records of projections, they're primary photographs: landscape imagery from outside the box enters through a lens and "burns" oversized, irregularly cut photographic paper. Chiara controls the burn by shuffling and positioning his hands to occlude and baffle the exposure. The pictures are like very specific yet still vague memory traces of forms and light, not landscapes as they exist *out there* but as they're converted — or "conducted" — into incandescent, boreal emanations.

Photography is an art of the fugitive, the here-and-gone. Nearly every image-maker in this exhibition is making inquiries into evanescence. Klea McKenna's installation, *Paper Airplanes*, is made up of 57 color photographs, folded into paper airplanes, of West Coast light over a period of 12 hours. They're meant to remember the 12-hour shifts, dawn till sundown, of soldiers serving as anti-aircraft lookouts along the coast during World War II. The images are shockingly refractive and brilliant, and they memorialize not just those anonymous soldiers but the transient, infinitely toned atmospherics of the diurnal turn.

Photographers more than ever chase what's fugitive by making "originals" of appropriated photographic imagery. This isn't a new thing. Some of the weirdest *vanitas* imagery of photography's early days was created by X-ray technology. In 1898 Czar Nicholas invited a radiologist to St. Petersburg to X-ray his and his wife's hands. We see royal rings and bracelets wrapped around ghostly bones: they're like images of posthumous selves. (And since the harmful effects of radiography weren't known, the czar was already working on the posthumous part.) Another artist in MOPA's exhibition, David Maisel, has been working on a project, *History's Shadow*, which came



William Haskell Coffin, *Joan of Arc Saved France, Women of America Save Your Country*, 1918 (lithograph poster, anonymous gift, 1924)

out of a recent residency at the Getty Center. He photographs X-rays of art objects, usually from classical antiquity, to make a kind of eerie double-negative picture. His photos peer into the historical images we've made of ourselves and our world. One shows from behind two full-length human figures, as if strolling in a nebular vastness of some otherworld. His picture of a horse is all tremulous eddy-ing vapors.

Google Street View is in its own way just as ghostly and elusive. Doug Rickard's series *A New American Picture* has stirred a lot of critical conversation since he started it a few years ago. Rickard viewed an unconscionable number of Google images on his computer, narrowed them down to 10,000 possibles, then reduced those to 79. It's the latest, counter-intuitive wrinkle in street photography: immediacy of event isn't important, and the photographer's intensely subjective point of view is beside the point. What immediacy Google View images

possess isn't intimate at all; it's intrusive, indifferent, more scoping than peering. The locales in the MOPA selection are urban wastelands in the Bronx and Detroit. Teenage males amble aimlessly across streets lined with shuttered and graffiti-ed storefronts. Rickard's project is to select, not create, the newest form of photographic impassivity and intrusiveness. It's a fixed view, because of Google View's eye-in-the-(low)-sky vantage. Most street photography reminds us that we never know when we're being watched. Rickard's series reminds us that we can always count on being watched by who knows who. There's no privacy, but then who would pretend these street desolations are privacies?

Todd Hido is a more artful and disturbing intruder. He has made an unsettling art of photographic eavesdropping, and his cool subjectivity gives no release or escape. In the series *Excerpts from Silver Meadows*, Hido eavesdrops, with a drift, intensely subjective intimacy, on places famil-

iar from his childhood on the outskirts of Kent, Ohio, in the 1960s. Shots of a motel strung with oozy green and red lights, a farmhouse in the snow, and a creek, alternate with huggy close-ups of a torchy young woman in period cashmere and pearls, a telephone off its hook, and a street sign ("Shirley Rae"). We need the facile truism about certain art being unforgettable; it's a way of saying something gets under our skin and never really works itself out. It dissolves into the bloodstream and in some indeterminable way readjusts how we look at the world. That's what Hido's work does to me. *Staking Claim* offers the smallest sampling of Hido's insinuating vision, but you'll get the idea. ■

ART

Art & Poetry Exhibit The poetry of 3 San Diego students will be among that of 47 California students on exhibit. The students are the winners of the 2013 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest

for kindergarten through 12th grade students, sponsored by the California Coastal Commission. This exhibit at Birch Aquarium at Scripps is the final stop for the 2013 California Coastal Art & Poetry Contest and is included in the price of admission. Through January 19, **free**-\$17. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Artful Visions Coastal Artists' new show. 858-755-1224. Sundays, 11am; through Sunday, December 29, **free**. Vida del Mar, 850 Del Mar Downs Road. (DEL MAR)

Holiday Artisan Market Carmelita Jimenez hand-makes quilts inspired by her Mexican heritage, Udo Wahn M.D. will have his Cabo and Coral series of books

inspiring children to live the Aloha spirit and live in harmony with the environment, and Linda Deremo will offer Native American inspired jewelry. Saturday, December 21, 10am; **free**. Coast Hwy Traders, 530 South Coast Hwy 101. (ENCINITAS)

Voices of Barrio Logan A multimedia exhibition featuring audio slideshows. "The residents of Barrio Logan never felt like they had a voice. Everything they have wanted for their community, they have had to stand up and demand it." Logan Heights Family Health Center. Info: tjabour@hightech-high.org. Thursday, December 19, 5:30pm; **free**-\$1. La Bodega Studios and Gallery. (BARRIO LOGAN)

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Sidewalk Sicilian

“What did Italians do before Mexico gave them the tomato?” I ask.

Perfect night for sitting out. If you have a heater. And that makes it a perfect night to be in El Cajon.

Because, by my reckoning, the City of the Valley has the best sidewalk restaurants in this county, bar none. And that’s because the city fathers here made *space* for cafés. They didn’t make the cafés fit into their spaces.

Compare this with Little Italy, where the city allowed developers to build out to nearly the edge of India Street, so there’s only cramped space to walk and no space for nice, broad *terrazzas*. Just so developers can claim more square footage inside.

In a city with our weather? This should be a capital crime.

El Cajon, on the other hand — you can play on their Main Street. Concerts every week in summer, car shows, and places such as Por Favor and Downtown Cafe that can sprawl all over a big, wide sidewalk, like this was the Champs Élysées itself.

I’m thinking this this evening as I hike up past these eateries. I almost stop for something at Mezzah, right by Prescott Promenade Park, but they’re closing. It’s about 8:00.

Then I catch a glimpse of a kinda cozy sidewalk café just beyond the park entrance. Oh, yeah. Italian?

“Nicolosi’s Italian Restaurant,” it reads. “Family-owned since 1952.”

That’s funny. Didn’t it used to be Mangia Bene?

Now I’ve got to go in. Especially seeing they still look open. People are scattered about the big terrace under awnings and strings of lights. Andrea Bocelli is singing “Volare.” Big fountain just inside the door has two trumpeting angels sending streams of water into a lion’s head.

Inside, the tables have that polished mahogany look. At the back, in a room that’s crowded with a family birthday party, a big mural shows

a Nicolosi’s trattoria as it would look in Venice, Italy, right beside a canal.

So, this gal Ady sets me down at a table and hands me a menu. Hmm... Appetizers such as soups, “Sicilian Starters” (a combo of provolone, pepperoni, and pepperoncini), or a “pizzarino” with pepperoni, mozzarella, and sauce on Italian bread, all go at the great price of \$4 each.

But pastas are around \$12. And it’s, like, \$16.50 for a full order of spaghetti with pesto sauce; although you can get a half-order for \$13.50. And mains? “Nicolosi’s specialties” are up there. Chicken masala (with ‘shrooms, Italian red potatoes, and spaghetti) comes to \$18. Fettucine Alfredo with chicken is \$18; with shrimp it’s \$22.

So, we’re not talking cheap here. But under “Hot Sandwiches” they have a better deal: house-made meatballs and marinara, \$7.50 for half, \$9.50 for a whole.

And right next to that is the antipasto salad. It’s got plenty of non-salad items in there, too, including “assorted fine Italian meats, mozzarella cheese, tomatoes, garbanzo beans, pepperoncini, olives, and optional anchovies.” Ooh. Anchovies. Love the salty little devils. Except, it’s \$13.50; \$11.50 for a small.

But before I can stop myself, I’ve ordered the small one, and also a half meatballs-and-marinara sandwich. To go. Something for poor, starving Carla. I know she loves Italian. Man, I’d love to have a li’l glass of vino, too. But tonight gonna be working late. So, I ask for a coffee (\$2.75) instead, and a glass of water.

The antipasto salad is not just delicious with the chunks of mozzarella, but they have three kinds of meat hidden below the lettuce leaves: a capicola spiced ham, a Genoa “hard imported” salami, and pepperoni.

I have to ask for bread, but when Ady brings it, it’s free. Baguette. Uh, a little soft. Is that Italian? Not that crispy crunch of, say, a



Even without the anchovies, Ed enjoyed the antipasto salad.

Bread and Cie loaf.

But, quibbling here. Whole thing is delish. Love the garbanzo beans, the dressing’s good and tangy-sweet, and — oh, daggone it — I forgot to ask for the anchovies.

So, this place has been here over 60 years, since 1952? Ady says that a Nicolosi’s has been in the family for all that time. Salvatore “Sam” Nicolosi came to Massachusetts from Nicolosi, Sicily, in 1906. Forty-six years later he came west and opened a restaurant in Mission Hills. Many restaurants and three generations later, they expanded to this location. That was just six months ago, when they took over from Mangia Bene.

“We’re busy,” Ady says. “Especially in the summer, on the Wednesday vintage-car nights and Fridays when they have concerts in the park here.”

Even though the prices are sometimes up there, I like this place. It’s got a bustly warmth about it.

As I leave, they’re playing “Take My Hand, I’m a Stranger in Paradise.”

Back at the ranch, Carla unwraps the meatball sandwich, shoves it in the microwave, pulls it out, and slices it in half. Oh, man, it’s oozing marinara sauce everywhere.

“What did Italians do before Mexico gave



One wall is a Kinkade-esque mural depicting Nicolosi's as it might appear in Venice.



Ed loves a spacious sidewalk terraza and will ride the bus to El Cajon to find one.

them the tomato?” I ask. She can’t speak for a moment. Mouth’s so full.

“These meatballs are huge,” she mumbles. “Uh, the tomato? Oh, yeah. Our gift to the world. Don’t know. Have to admit, they sure made good use of it.”

“Next time,” I say, “we’ll do this there, on their sidewalk terrace. You’ll feel like you’re in Rome, you won’t wanna leave. I guarantee it.”

“Long as they’ve got those heaters out there,” she says.

She has a point there. ■

(@SDReader_EdBed)

The Place: Nicolosi’s Italian Restaurant, 221 East Main, El Cajon, 619-444-0303 (also at 7005 Navajo Road, 619-461-5757)

Prices: Sicilian Starters (provolone, pepperoni, and pepperoncini), \$4; soups, \$4; or a “pizzarino” (pepperoni, mozzarella, sauce on Italian bread), \$4; meatballs and marinara hot sandwich, \$9.50 whole, \$7.50 half; antipasto salad (3 Italian meats, mozzarella cheese, anchovies), \$13.50 (large), \$11.50 (small); spaghetti with pesto sauce, 16.50 (full order), \$13.50 (half-order); chicken marsala (with mushrooms, Italian red potatoes, spaghetti), \$18. Fettucine Alfredo with chicken, \$18, with shrimp, \$22

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Fishy sweetness

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Bar set high for rustic, Italian simplicity

It was so easy to bear Pizzeria Mozza (789 W. Harbor Dr.) all the ill will in the world. For starters, people go bonkers over the one in Los Angeles, and, as any true San Diegan knows, nothing good comes out of LaLaLand. Then, there was the buzz surrounding the place, complete with the heavily Photoshop-filtered snaps of the dining room. Sorry, but hyping something up like that sets up disappointment 95 percent of the time.

And then there's the other 5 percent; those rare occasions when something lives up to the hype and then some. Mozza, by the power of food alone, met the challenge of its own reputation.

Nothing's perfect, and the cramped dining room at Pizzeria Mozza, done with overzealous love for all things red, might as well be tacked onto a Midwestern Holiday Inn. The designers jammed too many tables into the narrow space, which would have all the charm of

a Papa John's if not for the nice linen napkins and well-dressed servers classing the place up.

But end the grouching there, because as soon as the food hits the table, it's time to slip into a cocoon of gastro-bliss and forget that the next table is mere inches away.

Fried goat cheese atop a bed of lentils sets the bar high for rustic, Italian simplicity. How does one extract such flavor from mere lentils? By loading them up with veal (?) stock and cured pork, of course! The legumes swim in a succulent gravy of their own design, cut by the tang of goat cheese.

Toast piled high with chicken-liver pâté sets off alarms. Surely, such a mass of liver will be overkill, but Mozza's pâté transcends its ingredients. Fragrant chunks of garlic, salty guanciale, the green tang of parsley, and subtle hints of caper all work together in perfect harmony to form an intricate and exceptional dish that could be eaten with a fork, out of a jar, like candy. It's almost disgusting how good the stuff is.

FEAST!

And then there's the pizza. The sauce could be tomato jam, reduced with loving affection to incredible, pungent flavor. The crust, flavorful and obviously loaded with olive oil, might as well be laced with heroin for all the difficulty in not overdosing on it and dying beswooned at your table.

A simple concoction — white anchovies, Fresno chilies, and red sauce — gets the fishy sweetness in perfect concert with a lemony tang and mild spiciness. It's near-perfect balance at work.



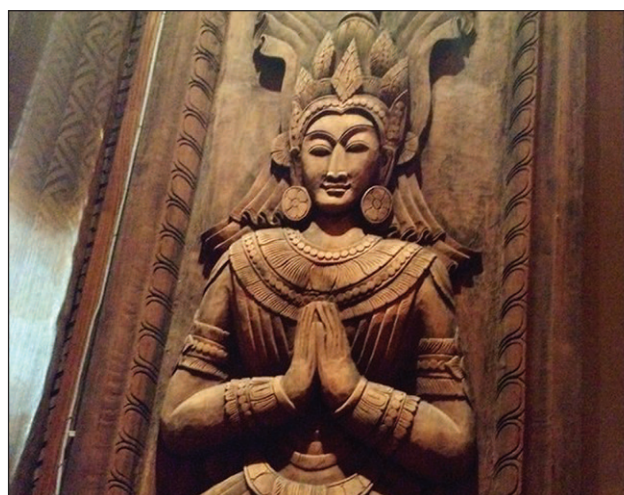
Pizzeria Mozza's chicken-liver pâté could be eaten out of a jar, like candy.

"Breakfast" pizza with bacon, potatoes, and an egg puts simplicity forward. The slices of potato may have been soaked in a buttery ocean for all the fatty, salty flavor that they pack in. The egg, cracked atop the little 'za and finished in the oven, spreads perfectly around the pizza. The

bacon is, naturally, of the finest sort.

If there's one complaint about the food, it's that every dish seduces the palate by way of fatty, salty goodness. Sometimes, the vast quantities of olive oil drizzled on everything come off as just a bit much. It's a small bit, however, and words like "great" and "awesome" come to mind. That's "great" in the sense of *Peter the...*, and "awesome" in the sense of *literally inspiring awe in the beholder*.

The food is that good, and it manages with neither pomp nor posturing. Elegance happens



"I veered into this sophisticated room with lots of Buddhas, goddesses, and a huge ancient wagon wheel..."

because each dish takes a few elements and puts them in meticulous balance. That, right there, is the essence of Italian cooking at its very best.

by Ian Pike

Where's the Thai?

"Uncle Jerry was from Baton Rouge," says David. He's at the next stool, sipping his ruby-red Zen of Zin (\$5). "He'd make his own seasoning and, for the holidays, send it out to our family in Texas. We used it like salt. His secret recipe, but it had cayenne, onion, garlic...we loved it. But here in 'trail mix' California, you know, there's the whole health thing, and people are maybe not so much into the heat thing. Or the salt thing. Which is good, so I've created my own."

He brings out this pot. "Seven Seasonings," it says.

"I've cut the salt, used less cayenne, but otherwise it's pretty much like Uncle Jerry's."

This is one of those chance meetings. I was hauling down Market, headed for the Gaslamp. Noticed Lotus Thai on the corner of Ninth. Saw a Happy Hour sign outside. For me, "Thai" and "Happy Hour" is a potent combination. So I veered into this sophisticated room with lots of Buddhas, goddesses, and a huge ancient wagon wheel between the bar and the kitchen.

I sat up to the bar and ordered an Elephant.

Okay, a Chang, which means "elephant" in Thai. Beer. Five bucks. I could have had any of their draft beers for \$3. Including (I see too late) Arrogant Bastard. Aargh!

Looked at the list of happy-hour food, and whu...? Most of it seems Chinese, not Thai. Like, steamed vegetable dumplings, steamed shrimp dumplings, steamed chicken dumplings, gyoza pot sticker (Japanese?), spring roll.

What's the deal? These are more Thai than I know? Fusion. Or just playing on confusion? What about the curries, the tom kha or tom yum soups, the lamb-style salads?

Okay. It's just happy hour. I get the taro rolls, four fried rolls of silver noodles, taro, cabbage, and ground pork. All fried and nothing especially Thai that I can see. But, like all the dishes, they're five bucks, so can't complain.

It's about the time that I start chomping that we get to talking.

Pretty soon — and I love this kind of serendipity you get from the simple act of sitting up to a bar — this guy David's actually singing a song. It's one he has composed himself. "Through the Blue." Beautiful, actually. He represents a Texas environmental remediation company in California, but making up songs is his Walter Mitty life.

Meanwhile, I'm chomping away. Not sure, but I think I can taste the slightly sweet nuttiness of the taro, and definitely the pork and cabbage. The sweet dipping sauce is fine, and it's nice to add some of the shredded carrot. Good finger-food for munching and chatting.

But the company? Good. And I'm learning a lot. Example: David's brought out his little pot of "Seven Seasons" seasoning that he mixed, up in L.A. He's talking about reducing the amount of not just the salt, but also the cayenne in it for the California market.

So, how come I don't see any mention of "cayenne" on the label? Only paprika.

Turns out cayenne and paprika are the same, pretty much. Both are made from peppers of

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the *Capsicum annuum* species. Only, in the 1920s, a guy in Hungary developed a kinder, gentler pepper. Also sweeter. They use fewer of the hot seeds, too. And that's what most folks call "paprika" ("little pepper"). Guess that's David's California version.

"So, has Uncle Jerry tried your mix?" I ask.

"Not yet," says David. "Guess it's because I know the first thing he'd say is, 'Needs more salt.'"

So, yes, I will be back. But only for the delicious regular dishes I see coming out from the kitchen. Especially the tom kha soup I saw steaming by. But, happy hour? I'll come for the elephant.

by Ed Bedford

Adventures in All Things BBQ: Lightnin' Jack's

Lightnin' Jack's (4705 Clairemont Drive) has some things going for it, not the least of which is the movie deal: 10 percent off if you show a same-day movie ticket from the Regal across the way. The restaurant's front window proclaims the fact loudly, via a big banner. As spaces go, Lightnin' Jack's is curious. It's in a huge, towering building, but the actual restaurant is small and cozy, with red gingham tables and seating for maybe 30.

The other advantage is one of generosity. Less than 20 bucks gets you a "meat sampler," a veritable mountain

of roasted and grilled meats, towering high atop a styrofoam plate. It's enough food for two hearty eaters, three with a couple sides added, and includes brisket, chicken, pork ribs, beef ribs and half a hot link split lengthwise. Oh, and there's a piece of corn on the cob, too.

Seldom has a plate of food so fiercely imposed itself. A meat monolith, or a sacrifice to some pagan carnivore god.

Jack's cornbread, surprisingly, is good enough to warrant a special callout. Tender, sweet, and cakey, the cornbread comes out of the kitchen piping hot with a generous portion of sweetened butter on the side. Hungry moviegoers could make a killing out of a few sides of cornbread and a cheap-o basket of "rib tips," the little chunklets removed from the ends of spareribs.

The downside is that "roasted" is much more accurate than "smoked" to describe Jack's meats. The unimpressive smoker in the kitchen doesn't do a good job of infusing the meat with the rich, smoky flavor that epitomizes good 'cue at a place like the Wrangler. Jack's also doesn't quite get the tender slow-cooker style of a BBQ House, and the meat comes out too tough and chewy, demanding undue mastication. Rather than "the meat falling from the bone" (the tried and true barbecue adage), it's more like peeling meat from a bone, which satisfies some primal urges, but gets old fast.

This...This right here... This is what happens when you try to put the rush on some 'cue!

by Ian Pike

Adventures in Adobada: Diego-MXN

Before we head south to navigate the late-night street carts and hole-in-the-wall *taqueros* of Tijuana, let's check in at one of our most widespread (with at least 14 locations county-wide) Diego-Mex institutions: MXN.

There are a lot of things to like about MXN. Nevertheless, those of us who know and love her predecessor, Santana's, remember when, about four years ago, many of their locations underwent a rebranding that included dining rooms renovated to look like a combination Rubio's/Starbucks, some baffling menu updates (I'm looking at you, Caesar fish burrito), and — for shame! — visibly smaller 'rito portions.

But MXN's merits far outshine her shortcomings, and for the price point, it's hard to go wrong. For starters (and this is a big one), they are open 24/7 and often on holidays. Every location I've been to has a rippin' jukebox and no less than 5 varieties at the salsa bar. It's cheap, it's quick, and — in prototypically Diego-Mex fashion — it approaches its zenith with hybrid, stonerly embellishments on traditional Baja fare.

I'm talking about 1-pound California burritos, carne asada fries, and, for our purposes, heaping adobada nachos at \$5.49 for a half order or \$7.69 for the whole stack.

In the absence of a shawarma-style trompo, MXN takes coarsely chopped pork and marinates it in a sweeter-

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than-spicy adobo, which saturates the meat via a greater surface area (compared to the thin, wide cuts of pork used on the trompo spit).

The pork is then cooked to order on the plancha, soaking up flavor like steak in a skillet. As such, the resulting texture is more akin to a chewy carne asada than the crisp, glazed shavings of traditional adobada, which has the benefit of days of spinning before an open flame.

Regardless, the stuff is delicious, and serves as an all-hours metric for the Diego-Mexification of adobada.

The swine truly shines in nacho form (and doubly so after bar-close), when it accompanies globs of crema (not sour cream), refried beans, a thin guacamole sauce, shredded cheddar, pico de gallo, and fine shavings of cotija cheese. Don't forget that lime!

The adobadass in all of us will delight to know that the menu also offers achiote shrimp and chicken, which brings us to...

The bonus: the achiote chicken taco (\$2.49) finds tender chunks of chicken stained red with ground annatto seeds and a handful of seasonings that impart a mild bite and hints of Christmas-y sweetness. Of course, the texture is just as much a part of the experience as the flavors.

So, imagine: the moment

you crunch through the hard shell, your teeth sink into juicy cubes of bird and half-melted cheese. Maybe your mouthful is greedy enough to encompass some shaved lettuce, which, if you're doing things properly, releases a bittersweet dew of lime over your taco's succulent contents.

This is Diego-Mex at its most naked. It is a white T-shirt's worst enemy and a hangover's best friend.

Now grab your passports and pocket phrasebooks, fellow pork dorks, and join me on our next Adventure in Adobada to the downtown streets of magical Tijuana.

by Chad Deal

All Things BBQ: Phil's

Any survey of San Diego's barbecue scene would be woefully incomplete without considering the juggernaut of local 'cue: Phil's BBQ (3750 Sports Arena Boulevard).

Phil's needs little introduction. The restaurant's website runs a webcam so that would-be customers can gauge the often-ridiculous wait times. It's popular enough that the empire has expanded to five restaurants, even opening a branch of Phil's inside the air-

port, of all the ridiculous spots to sling ribs. At this point, Phil Pace (the restaurant's founder) could dress in a black cloak and a breathing machine for Halloween, grilling ribs by lightsaber and nobody would bat an eye.

San Diego Magazine readers saw fit to dub Phil's the "best" barbecue restau for 2013. They got that one wrong. (Not as wrong as the "critic's pick" of Yakitori Yakudori, an admittedly excellent Japanese restaurant — there's just no world in which charcoal grilled chicken parts, tiny fishes, quail eggs, and other skewered bits of animal constitute barbecue.) At least the readers picked something that's almost legitimate BBQ. Phil's took the "slow cook and grill" method to new heights, streamlining and homogenizing the process to a spectacular degree in order to satisfy the overwhelming demand. In all fairness, the food there tastes okay, but not as good as the lines and accolades suggest.

If anything, Phil's food has *too much* flavor. The taste of liquid smoke (from the super-duper secret Phil's methodology that circumvents big smoky barbecue pits) is *way* stronger than the smoke flavor that an actual fire could

ever accomplish. Phil's sauce, which falls into no camp in particular, is somehow sweeter, stickier, more acidic, and saltier than it should be. It overwhelms the senses.

While those things aren't strictly bad, Phil's BBQ has all the subtlety and nuance of a hard left hand from Johny Hendricks.

What the restaurant ultimately achieves, without using any of traditional barbecue's methodologies, is an exaggerated expression of barbecue. Imagine trying to describe the taste of good barbecue to someone completely unfamiliar with the cuisine. Reduce barbecue to its basic elements of smoky-salty-sweetness, magnify them tenfold, and you might end up with something like Phil's. That effect is probably a big part of the restaurant's popularity. Everybody loves a good caricature. It's the reason we laugh at Ron Burgundy, but would anyone *really* want to go around saying *Anchorman* is the best movie?

by Ian Pike



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Wreckers' haul wrecks Wrex the Halls. Is it a fair way to enforce property rights or just another big scam in the concert business?

On Sunday, December 8, the Valley View Casino Center/ Sports Arena hosted the sold-out Wrex the Halls show

lot across the street and that it would cost \$300 each to get those cars out of impound.

An insider with knowledge of the towing situation around the arena says that even more cars were towed during Thursday's Macklemore show.

"It's egregious," says Ernie

Hahn says Valley View Casino Center made its own signs to post along Sports Arena Boulevard and on the center's property to alert concert attendees that if they park across the street they may get towed.

Hahn says he is particularly miffed that Western Towing has rows of tow trucks parked behind the retail strip (on Midway and other streets) that pounce on concertgoers' cars as soon as the show starts.

Susan Bylund, who works for the Douglas Allred property management company and oversees that particular property, did not respond by press time to a request for comment.

Sgt. Todd Sluss, who oversees towing activities for the SDDP, says his department spells out that city-ordered towing is \$260 and that companies like Western Towing, which has the contract for private towing in that lot, charges \$300 per tow. He says that rate is the "reasonable rate" spelled out by the vehicle code.

Sluss says as long as there is signage warning of the tows on those lots, those tows are legal.

Tim Beaty, a manager for Western Towing, said he would only respond to questions about his \$300 tows in writing, which would then be reviewed and answered by his legal department. Mr. Beaty did state, however, that his company is "providing a service in compliance with the California Vehicle Code."

Hahn, whose Arena Group 2000 oversees the operation of Valley View Casino Center. While he was not aware of the exact number of cars towed, Hahn says this has been an

the inside track blurt

presented by 91X.

The arena's parking lot was packed with cars by fans paying up to \$20 each for parking. Some concertgoers opted to park across the street at the



The Center's Ernie Hahn finds the tow policy at area lots "egregious."

retail strip that includes Home Depot, Ralphs, and Target.

Not a good idea.

A 91X DJ went onstage at about 11:00 p.m. to alert the crowd that 66 cars had already been towed from the retail

ongoing problem for most of the 22 years he's been with the arena.

"I've tried to speak with the property management company," says Hahn. "They blew me off, so I gave up."

World, a touring exhibit that will be at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Theater in Balboa Park from December 20 to April 6.

The guitar is one of 75



Guitar exhibit curator H.P. Newquist says the Flying V is playable, but "it's not a pretty sight."

stringed instruments dating back to 1806 that are on display.

However, Newquist admits that guitar geeks hoping to hear how "Stairway to Heaven" or "Smells Like Teen Spirit" sounds when strummed on 28-foot-long steel cables may be in for a disappointment.

"It's not a pretty sight. It's very much hit-or-miss," he laughs. "It's certainly playable... it generates sound, but because you've got strings 28 feet long, they're subsonic. We actually run them through a processor that ups the octaves so we can hear it."

"It has this interesting sci-fi sound to it. You can fret it and get some sounds out of it, but if you've got one hand on one string, you're just pulling and hoping for the best."

Besides the oversized Flying V, other guitars on display include a Rickenbacker "frying pan" guitar from 1934, the first commercially available electric

guitar; and, made in San Diego by Star Labs, a "Ztar," which allows the musician to program every fret.

"You can tune each button to a different note and a different sound," says Newquist, a former editor of *Guitar* magazine. "There's an endless array of possibilities. It almost takes you to the realm of science fiction."

Although guitar lovers will see some of the most classic guitars of all time, the gargantuan guitar is the only one allowed to be played by the general public.

"The other ones have certain values, and we don't have the staff or insurance to allow them to be played," says Newquist.

San Diego is the seventh of

(continued on page 60)

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18 cities to host the exhibit and Newquist hopes one of them will become the permanent home of the Guitar Museum.

— David Moye

Dear Santa... For centuries, naughty and nice kids have cobbled together wish lists of their most desired gifts from Santa Claus. The *Reader* asked



Brendan B takes Santa on his knee and asks for his cherished California burrito.

San Diego area musicians — the biggest kids of all — what was on their lists.

The more traditional desires included David Martin's (Weight of the Sun) wish for a Mojave Audio MA-200 microphone and Black Hondo guitarist Jason Noble's request for "some hot pickups for my sea-foam-green Cort Strato-caster knock-off."

Not so traditional Ian

Trumbull (El Monte Slim) will be checking his stocking Christmas morning for "the entire *Hee-Haw* collection on DVD," and local rapper Brendan B hopes to receive "a California burrito from Nico's in Ocean Beach" and "a \$3.25 mini-pitcher of PBR from Open Bar."

Chi Club members Roland Gabriel and Rain Rainman requested "a new Sector 9 long board" and "a Harley Davidson and a tractor," respectively.

Their bandmate Dave Lowenstein is getting a little trickier with St. Nick's head. "I hope to not be nominated for a San Diego Music award... reverse psychology at its finest," Lowenstein said.

Another self-gratifying request is Pete Bayard's (Super Buffet) hope to be granted "more brilliant ideas for Super Buffet material" and "for more people to witness the fulfillment of brilliant

Super Buffet ideas."

Along with a Home Depot gift certificate, "So I can repair all my junk instruments," Alfred Howard (the Midnight Pine, Heavy Guilt) also hopes Santa will allow "Dave Grohl to put out music that I enjoy. He seems like a good dude and I wanna get behind him (please refrain from adding innuendo to the previous statement), but I just hate

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everything since that first Foo Fighters record."

Mark Wiskowski (Dirty Sirens) would like a four-week Tahitian vacation so that he can "unplug from the digital world."

Along with selling a boatload of his visual artwork, drummer Neal Bociek (Polish Mexicans) also hopes for "five or six Italian cypress trees in my landscape to block the view of my neighbor's house."

Aaron Poehler, who plays in a rock duo with his buddy Ryan Tully-Doyle, asked Santa for what everyone seems to be asking Santa for this year: "That all bands with fashion beards, wacky mustaches, and old-timey outfits would wake up, realize it's the contemporary version of '80s hair-metal spandex, teased hair, and lipstick, then disband and kill themselves in shame. Also a pony."

— Dryw Keltz

Record-release roundup.

Blues-rockers Laurel Sorenson will debut her *See What You Got* EP with a free all-ages concert on December 20 at Seaweed and Gravel, an Encinitas

White, will appear at the Casbah on December 22 with El Vez.

New this month is a tour documentary from pop-punkers Pierce the Veil, *This is a Wasteland*, featuring concert



Rocket launches a series of cover singles this holiday season.

motorcycle/vintage clothing/surf shop. Attendees are asked to bring a new, unwrapped toy for the Community Resource Center Holiday Baskets.

Famous former neighbor Rosie Flores, who can be heard on a new tribute album, *Rockin' Legends Pay Tribute to Jack*

footage shot this year on tour and scenes filmed in their San Diego practice studio.

There's a new full-length from D.P.I., headed up by former Wastrels frontman Joshy Wastrel.

Rocket From the Crypt fans are can snag several new

limited-edition vinyl singles that were released on each night of their recent UK/Ireland tour, covering tracks by bands from each city. Each night, one single-sided seven-inch disc was made available at their merchandise stall, many featuring San Diego guest players such as Ben Moore and Joe Guevara.

Though most of the singles have surfaced online as MP3s, collectors are already paying up to 50 bucks apiece for vinyl editions such as "My Blues Away" (Boomtown Rats), "Shy Fly" (Status Quo), "Baker Street" (Gerry Rafferty), "Love Is Lies" (Buzzcocks), "In League with Satan" (Venom), and Red Lorry Yellow Lorry's "Spinning Round."

— Jay Allen Sanford

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Leighton, Bart Mendoza, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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

Thursday, December 19
BLUE LARGO

Friday, December 20
WILD\$IDE

Saturday, December 21
**FULL STRENGTH
FUNK BAND**

UPCOMING: 12/26: Charles Burton Blues Band
12/27: Joey Harris
12/28: Salsa Extravaganza

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BRICK BY BRICK

Wednesday, December 18
**ORGY • SQUIRRELLY ARTS
REDMOND • BRICKLAYER BOSH**

Thursday, December 19
**THE BLOOD • STORTA
NERVE CONTROL**

Friday, December 20
TOYS FOR TOTS "12 YEARS OF CHRISTMAS CHAOS"
**GODHAMMERED • ONE INCH PUNCH
EMPIRE STATE • SNAIL FIGHT**

Saturday, December 21
Slabatory Presents
**GOOD RIDDANCE • PULLEY
BATTALION OF SAINTS
SKIPJACK • MANIACAL LAUGH**

Sunday, December 22
**THE ANIMAL IN ME
YOUNG ELECTRIC • FREQUENCY**

Friday, December 27
**DAYTONA & THE BLUE SIDE ROCKERS
BIRDS OF PARADISE • CORY WAY**

Saturday, December 28
"MEMORIAL FOR JESSE KINCADE"
**NOX & THE JERK OFFS
SERENITY SICOSIS**

Sunday, December 29
WRONG BEACH (Das Klown, Adolescents)
BEATMISTRESS
(Linda od Deathride 69 & TKK)
w/Duchess De Sale & Devin Carson
STALIN OF SOUND • FOCKE WOLVES
DJ's Heather Hard core • Aly C Draikette

Friday, January 3
**POISON IDEA • DISSENSION
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT
OUT OF TUNE • D.E.A.**

Friday, January 10
**MURDER JUNKIES
TIM RALDO & THE FILTHY FUKS
SYSTEMATIC ABUSE**

Saturday, January 11
ALL STAR JAM
Happy Birthday Trent

Saturday, January 18
**BEFORE THE MOURNING
BACK FROM ASHES • MALAKI
NOTHING HAUNTS ME • CIRCLE 7**

Sunday, January 19
CALLOW

Tuesday, January 21
**THE ARISTOCRATS
TRAVIS LARSON BAND • POINTS NORTH**

Wednesday, January 22
FRED BARCHETTA

Sunday, January 26
**THE GROUND BENEATH
BLUE SUNS • SUICIDE CHORDS**

Saturday, February 1
**GUTTER MOUTH
PIÑATA PROTEST
OCEANSIDE SOUNDSYSTEM**

Saturday, February 8
**MY ELYSIAN
VATTICA**

Saturday, February 15
**BLACK SABBITCH
BLACK TO BLACK**

2/22 Dio Disciples 3/14 Zepparella 3/20 Mike Tramp (White Lion)
4/24 Mike Peters presents The Alarm 4/28 Loudness 5/23 Peter & The Test Tube Babies

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This Week In Music

Thursday 19

Devised in Cleveland, home of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, "avant-garage" act **Pere Ubu** warps, distorts, and addles traditional time without rhyme or rock-and-roll reason. I often imagine Father Ubu David Thomas strolling by the Hall with a sidelong glance and a sneer at the trophied traditionalists. It's been 35 years since Ubu's essential mission statement, *The Modern Dance*, hit discerning record racks, including Robert Christgau's, who claimed the band tapped "too much Radio Ethiopia and not enough Redondo Beach," couching this criticism in an "A-" grade. For this year's *Lady from Shanghai*, Thomas and company compiled the collection in a sort-of Chinese whisper technique — record sumpthin and pass it along. Knowing that and hearing earworms such as "Free White," "Another One (Oh Maybel-line)," and "Lampshade Man" gives me shivers. Check out Andrew Hamlin's recent interview with David Thomas (sandiegoreader.com/news/musician-interviews/) and then meet me down at the Casbah for a nog, or six. Our own oddfellow rock-rollers **Octa#Grape** open the show, making this the gig to get to Thursday night.... Best of the rest finds SanFran skate-punk band **NOFX** at House of Blues for the downtown club's 20th anny...this year's "out-of-nowhere" (Syracuse) art-punk act **Perfect Pussy** plays Soda Bar after **Natives** and **Empire Pleasure**...and the Disconnected dudes spill the **Blood**, the 30-year-strong London punks led by Cardinal Jesus Hate and J.J. Bedsore, onto Brick by Brick's stage after South Bay hardcore crews **Störta** and **Nerve Control**.



PERE UBU AT CASBAH

Friday 20

Two Cow Garage frontman **Micah Schnabel** left the Two Cows in his Columbus, Ohio, garage



MICAH SCHNABEL AT TIL-TWO

for this winter's tour behind *The Death of the Self Preservation Society*, easily the band's best set yet, infusing their heartland rock rumble with some

'Mats "ne'er-do-well garage-country strut." Schnabel promises a 50/50 set of solo stuff/Two Cows. He'll be at Til-Two Friday night after local "party forever" folkies **Sledding with Tigers** and acousti-punk duo **SwingChimney**.... Up in Mira Mesa, party-rock personality **Andrew W.K.** visits the kids at the

Epicentre. I'm not sure how that whole Steev Mike-versus-Andrew W.K., Inc. played out — assertions that the performer is a corporate construct of an anonymous group of studio geeks that call themselves "Steev Mike" — but I do think it makes the guy way more interesting than his music. That and the motivational speaking gigs. I mean, wtf?... Soda Bar sets up Stockholm's answer to Joy Division, **Holograms**. The emotive quartet has thickened its schtick on this year's Captured Tracks set *Forever*, reaching for — and often attaining — arena heights. They could blow the cap off the Soda after **TV Ghost** and our own **Tropical Popsicle**. Dave Good gave you the goods on TV Ghost in this week's Of Note if you want to flip or click there for more on them.... Else: long-time local scenester **Gary Shuffler** (Honey Glaze/Ziggy Shuffledust/etc. etc.) celebrates the big Five-Oh at Casbah with tribute crews **Queenly** and **Highway to Hell Cajon**... and that tatty Stray Cat **Brian Setzer** crams his Grammy-winning big-band into Belly Up on their tenth anniversary Christmas Rocks! tour for your RDA of greazy beats and holiday treats. Shine up your skids, kids, this one's a dancer.



ANDREW W.K. AT EPICENTRE

Saturday 21

"Master of Disaster" Duane Peters and his O.C. street-punk stalwarts the **U.S. Bombs** will go off at Soda Bar Saturday night after like-minded

locals **Rat City Riot**, **Sculpins**, and **Oddball**. The Bombs are touring in support of this year's *Generation Kennedy No More*, which, fyi, completists, is a tour-only record release, so make sure to hit up the merch guy first....



U.S. BOMBS AT SODA BAR

San Diego retro-rockers the **Loons** and **Sidewalk Scene** split a "99th Elevator" night of garage, psych & soul bill at Tower Bar. The Loons features garage-rock devotional *Ugly Things* magazine's Mike Stax, while local legend Ray Brandes (Tell Tale Hearts, Riot Act, the Shambles) fronts Sidewalk Scene. Just so ya know you're in good hands with these bands.... Utter mentionables: SoCal hardcore hits **Good Riddance**, **Battalion of Saints**, and **Pulley** fill a bill at Brick by Brick for Slabratory's second annual Slabby Holiday mosh-a-thon...Casbah's got SDMA winners the **Schitzos**, with **Touchies** and **Nformals** for a tasty little locals-only barroom-rock bill o' fare...the spell-check-challenged hip-hop krew **Vokab Kompany** hits House of Blues... while the jazz-funky **Greyboy** is up at Belly Up for their annual holiday shebop, Winter Solstice.

Sunday 22

For the first time ever again, human jukebox **El Vez** and rockabilly filly **Rosie Flores** join forces at Casbah for the annual Mexmas show — *jChristmas con queso!* According to the Casbah's billing, "Perhaps the original Latino Donnie and Marie! She's a little bit country, and he's a little bit rock and roll...both wishing you a ¡Feliz Navidad! in a new Latino Christmas tale created especially for you." With the one-man rhythm section known as the Hobo Marquis in the role of Bad Santa, this'll be some freaky fun festivities!... Nosomush? Hip-hop 'n' soul-

pop originals **Bone**, **Thugs-N-Harmony** visit House of Blues...Reno punk trio and Fat Wreck recording artists **Cobra Skulls** take the stage at Soda Bar after **Bompops** go off... and surf-guitar guru **Dick Dale** does his holiday thing at Belly Up after our own blues-rock outlaws the **Tilt**.

Monday 23

San Diego indie-rock veterans reassemble for "a very **Kut U Up** holiday event" at Belly Up Monday

night. After ten years, the band bounced back in '013 with the "sneering...melodic...svelte little EP" *Worse Than Wolves*. *New Noise* magazine says, "Picture Green Day meets the Stooges and you've got a recipe for six upbeat, emotionally unHINGED numbers that should easily put Kut U Up back on the map." (Hopefully not the same map used by pop-punk vehicle *Riding in Vans with Boys*.)

Second Generation and **Loose Snakes** slither in first.... Otherwise: borderland post-rock band **Deck B** plays a freebie at Soda Bar with **Requiem for the Rockets** and **Mascara Monsters**... Griffin stages some mellow Monday indie muzak, featuring **St. Cloud Sleepers**, **Black Sands**, and a solo set by **Jeans Wilder**...and Tin Can Ale House's Tin Can Country Club "ruins Christmas" with a little help from that strings 'n' things big band the **Bible Brothers**.

Tuesday 24

Casbah's annual **Exile on Kettner** Christmas Eve will continue the club's year-end tradition of covering Stones classics as well as deep cuts, by a group that includes so many local longtimers and hangers-on that I can't even begin to list 'em. Go say hey to old friends and who knows, you may even end up onstage singing "Down Home Girl" while they're intro-ing "Brown Sugar" and getting a pointy-toed black boot in the arse. Not that that's ever happened to me or anything...



EL VEZ & ROSIE FLORES AT CASBAH

Wednesday 25

Happy merry this week and then on to the business of 2014 next. PEACE!

— Barnaby Monk

Find Club Crawler online at SDReader.com/club-crawler

THU 12/19 PERFECT PUSSY THE NATIVES EMPIRE PLEASURE	FRI 12/20 HOLOGRAMS TV GHOST • TROPICAL POPSICLE DJ ART VANDELAY	SAT 12/21 US BOMBS RAT CITY RIOT SCULPINS ODDBALL	SUN 12/22 COBRA SKULLS THE BOMPPOPS WESTERN SETTINGS • TALK RADIO
MON 12/23 DECK B REQUIEM FOR THE ROCKETS MASCARA MONSTERS	TUE 12/24 MRS. MAGICIAN (FAREWELL SHOW) CENSUS • THE ROSALYNS SEVENS	WED 12/25 CUCKOO CHAOS (FAREWELL SHOW) SNUFFALUFFAGUS THE MOST HI	THU 12/26 PLASTIC CITY PARIAS NORTHAMERICAS MOONSHINE • A NEW ENDING
FRI 12/27 PLANE WITHOUT A PILOT THE NEW ADDICTION 16 SPARROWS	SAT 12/28 SCARLET SYMPHONY ZODIAC DEATH VALLEY HILLS LIKE ELEPHANTS		

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THE VENICE CHRISTMAS SHOW
W/ CHARLIE VAUGHN AND THE DAILY ROUTINE
THURSDAY 12/19 • 8 PM

BRIAN SETZER ORCHESTRA
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FRIDAY 12/20 • 9 PM

THE GREYBOY ALLSTARS
WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION
W/ THE HEAVY GUILT
SATURDAY 12/21 • 9 PM

DICK DALE HOLIDAY SHOW
W/ THE TILT
SUNDAY 12/22 • 8 PM

KUT U UP KRISTMAS
W/ SECOND GENERATION, LOOSE SNAKES
MONDAY 12/23 • 8 PM

THE GROWLERS
W/ THE ABIGAILS, MYSTIC BRAVES
THURSDAY 12/26 • 9 PM

CASH'D OUT CHRISTMAS
W/ SEAN WHEELER, ZANDER SCHLOSS, SCOTTIE BLINN OF BLACK MARKET III
FRIDAY 12/27 • 9 PM

DONAVON FRANKENREITER
2 NIGHTS!
W/ TROUBLE IN THE WIND (SAT) THE MATTSOON 2, LUKE WILLIAMS (MON)
SAT 12/28, 9PM • MON 12/30 8PM

CRACKER & CAMPER VAN BEETHOVEN
SUNDAY 12/29 • 8 PM

CANDY KANE NYE HAPPY HOUR
TUESDAY 12/31 • 5:30-8 PM

THE EXPENDABLES
W/ SEEDLESS
TUESDAY 12/31 • DOORS 9PM

Just Added:
2/1 Lukas Nelson and the Promise of the Real
2/26 Robert Randolph and the Family Band • 3/4 Wild Feathers
3/23 Rhys Darby • 4/2 VNV Nation - on sale Friday!

Upcoming Shows:

1/2 Matthew Sweet	1/18 The Wayward Sons	2/19 Ziggy Marley - SOLD OUT!!!
1/3 Pato Banton	1/19 Charley Hoffman Foundation with Kelley James	2/20-2/22 Sunset Sessions - Pres. by KPRI
1/4 Tower of Power	1/22 Randy Rogers Band	2/27 Lord Huron
1/5 The PettyBreakers performing Damn The Torpedos	1/23 The White Buffalo	2/28 Elvin Bishop
1/7 James Durbin and Kelley James	1/24 & 25 Ozomatli	3/2 The Wailers - 30th Anniversary of Legend Tour
1/8 Snoop Dogg - 2 Shows! - SOLD OUT!!!	1/26 An Evening w/ Hot Tuna	3/15 Tommy Castro & The Painkillers
1/10 Jonny Lang - SOLD OUT!!!	1/29 North Mississippi Allstars	3/16 Lake Street Drive
1/11 The 4th Annual Beat Farmers Hootenanny feat. The Farmers, Joey Harris and the Mentals, Rolle Love, The Rugburns and John Doe	1/30 The Wood Brothers	3/19 Galactic
	1/31 DJ Z-Trip featuring Lyrics Born with Goldenchyld	3/21 & 22 The English Beat
1/12 David Lindley - seated show	2/4 & 5 Pepper	3/30 An Evening with Leftover Salmon
1/14 On Point Promotions presents The Devastators	2/6 Marc Broussard	4/1 An Evening with The Mavericks
1/15 Martha Davis and the Motels	2/8 Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo	4/3 & 4 Big Head Todd and the Monsters
1/16 Vonda Shepard	2/9 The Highwayman	4/11 & 12 Super Diamond
1/17 Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad	2/11 Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks	5/9 Johnny Clegg
	2/13 Los Lobos	5/14 Stephen Marley
	2/14 Dead Man's Party - V-Day Ball!	6/22 The Milk Carton Kids
	2/16 Steve Poltz's 5th Annual 50th Birthday Party	

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12/27 & 1/3 Atomic Groove

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64 San Diego Reader December 19, 2013

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FRIDAY • DECEMBER 20 • 5PM ROCK **Y3K**
9PM R&B **LEN RAINEY**

SATURDAY • DECEMBER 21 • 5PM ROCK **REVOLT AGE**
9PM CARLOS SANTANA TRIBUTE **VIVA SANTANA**

SUNDAY • DECEMBER 22 • 7PM BLUES **SHELLE BLUE**

MONDAY • DECEMBER 23 • 7PM BLUES **CHRISTIAN HASTINGS BAND**

TUESDAY • DECEMBER 24 • 7PM CHRISTMAS EVE PARTY WITH **DJ JOHN PHILLIPS**

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NEW SHOW!

SATURDAY | DECEMBER 21 | ROCK

**GARY HOEY - HO HO HOEY'S
ROCKIN' HOLIDAY SHOW**

RDG • TAZ TAYLOR • SACRED COW

SATURDAY | JANUARY 11 | ROCK

MICHAEL SCHENKER

TAZ TAYLOR

FRIDAY | JANUARY 24 | BLUES

**CAROLYN
WONDERLAND**

SATURDAY | JANUARY 25 | BLUES

**KIM SIMMONDS
AND SAVOY BROWN**

SUNDAY | JANUARY 26 | ROCK

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LUNA NEGRA**

FRIDAY | FEBRUARY 28 | ROCK

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SATURDAY | MARCH 8 | BLUES & JAZZ

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SATURDAY | MARCH 15 | METAL

METAL CHURCH

SATURDAY | MARCH 22 | COMEDY

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FRI | APRIL 4: **JOE LOUIS WALKER**

FRI | APRIL 11: **KEIKO MATSUI**

FRI | APRIL 18: **KATAKLYSM**

FRI | APRIL 25: **JIMMY THACKERY**



**JOHNNY
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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

710 Beach Club:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Gnarly's Angels and the Tarr Steps.
Friday, 8:30pm — Johnny Richter, Timothy H, DJ Matty Mac.
Saturday, 8:30pm — DJ Chuckie V, Comfort in Chaos, Wet.
Tuesday, 9pm — 710 Bass Club: Underground EDM.

98 Bottles:
Thursday, 8pm — Steph Johnson.
Friday, 7:30pm & 9:30pm — Fred Benedetti plays Stones & Eagles.
Saturday, 7:30pm — The Soulful Sounds of the Season. \$12-\$15.

ArtLab:
Thursday, 8pm — Gramophone Gregory. **Free.**
Saturday, 7:30pm — Lisa Sanders and Brown Sugar.

Balboa Theatre:
Saturday, 8pm — A Peter White Christmas 2013.

Bar Dynamite:
Friday, 9pm — 24K Gold.

Bar Pink:
Thursday, 8pm — The Beautiful View.
Friday, 9pm — The Styletones.
Saturday, 9pm — Neon Beat.

Beaumont's:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Trent Hancock.
Saturday, 9pm — Random Radio. **Free.**
Sunday, 11:30am — Kayla Hope. **Free.**

Belly Up:
Thursday, 8pm — The Venice Christmas Show.
Friday, 8pm — Brian Setzer's Orchestra.
Saturday, 9:30pm — The Greyboy Allstars. \$25-\$46.
Sunday, 7:30pm — Dick Dale Holiday Show.
Monday, 7pm — Kut U Up Kristmas Show.

Black Cat Bar:
Sunday, 7:30pm — Hobotorch, the Pheasants, Cutaways.

Boar Cross'n:
Friday, 8pm — Club Musae.
Saturday, 9pm — Chill Clinton and Shoreline Rootz.

Brick by Brick:
Thursday, 8:30pm — The Blood.
Friday, 8pm — Awaiting Samsara.
Saturday, 6pm — Good Riddance, Pulley, Battalion of Saints. \$15-\$20.
Sunday, 8pm — The Animal in Me, the Young Electric. \$8-\$10.

Casbah:
Thursday, 9pm — Pere Ubu. \$15.
Friday, 8pm — Queeny and Highway to Hell Cajon.
Sunday, 8pm — Rosie Flores and El Vez.
Monday, 8pm — Sonidero Travesura and Cumbia Machin.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — Exile on Kettner Boulevard XX.

Chico Club:
Thursday & Friday, 8pm — DJ

Harvest.
Saturday, 8pm — Vinyl Pirates.
Sunday, 8pm — DJ Harvest.

Che Cafe:
Saturday, 8pm — American Haiku, Flowers Taped to Pens. \$7.

Club Rio:
Friday, 9pm — Jamrock Reggae Fridayz. \$5-\$10.

Copley Symphony Hall:
Friday, 8pm, *Saturday*, 2pm & 8pm, *Sunday*, 2pm & 7:30pm— Holiday Pops: Americana Christmas. \$20-\$85.

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 8pm — Too Rude For Sunday.
Friday, 6pm — Mor Sol.
Saturday, 6pm — B.I.G.
Sunday, 5pm — Billy Watson.

Crush:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Jeff Moore.
Friday, 9pm — Battista.
Saturday, 8:30pm — DJ Brandon Noel.

Dance for 2:
Friday, 8:30pm — Holiday Dance with the Fremonts. \$13-\$22.

Digiplex Mission Valley:
Thursday, 7pm — Best of Keane: Live From Berlin. \$10-\$12.

Dirk's Niteclub:
Friday, 7pm — TNT.
Saturday, 8:30pm — The Farmers.

Dizzy's:
Friday, 7:30pm — Brian Lynch Quintet. \$20.
Saturday, 8:30pm — The Gonzalo Bergara Quartet.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge:
Thursday, 9pm — Dark Side.
Friday, 9pm — Hickies & Dryhumps.

Epicentre:
Friday, 7:30pm — Andrew W.K.

Gallagher's Pub & Grill:
Thursday, 8pm — JAM Kwest.
Friday, 9pm — Noise Makerz.
Saturday, 9pm — The Drinking Cowboy Band. **Free.**

Golden Acorn Casino:
Saturday, 7pm — Brown Sugar Band. **Free.**

Griffin:
Saturday, 9pm — Deadly Birds and Neighbors to the North.
Monday, 9pm — St Cloud Sleepers, Black Sands, Jeans Wilder.

Hard Rock Hotel:
Thursday, 10pm — Third Thursdays: MNDR, Little Hurricane. \$5-\$10.

Harrah's Rincon:
Friday, 9pm — Clay Colton Band. **Free.**

House of Blues:
Thursday, 8pm — NOFX, Masked Intruder, the Implants. \$26-\$40.
Saturday, 8pm — Vokab Kompany and Minnesota. \$15-\$20.
Sunday, 8pm — Bone Thugs-N-Harmony. \$25-\$75.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
Thursday, 7pm — West of 5. \$5.
Friday, 5pm — Y3K. **Free.**

Infinity at Pala Casino:
Saturday, 8pm — Fan Halen. **Free.**

Jimmy Love's:
Friday, 8pm — Get Groovin'.



BY DAVE GOOD

Here's another late-breaking young-band-on-the-rise alert: TV Ghost. I can say this even though they started in 2006 because each of their albums has sounded a little different. They grew up as musicians in the garage-punk tradition in Indiana, and that is precisely how their first CD sounded: post-punk, disorganized, noisy. Over the next couple of releases, the band began to inhabit their chosen name, which is said to have been taken from the phenomenon of old-school television frequency disturbances. A true TV ghost is in effect a problem, a double-image on the screen that borders on the annoying.

But it turns out that the name of the first television series ever was *The Television Ghost*,

a 1930s series in which the ghosts of murder victims (actually, all of them were played by one actor) described their grisly ends to the viewing audience. Alarming, just like the psych-punk music TV Ghost is making at present. Their current sound ripples with tension and fear and a sense of imminent dread, as if hearing a friendly pop hit like "We Got the Beat" twisted out of focus and afloat suddenly on the same wicked chord changes as Led Zeppelin's "Kashmir."

Scary stuff, this is, that lodges itself in a listener's cranium like elements of a bad dream. But this is not said to dissuade a ticket buyer. And, it has been done before, the sound of the apocalypse, from Nine Inch Nails to Sonic Youth, only this time in an extravagant noise crush that TV Ghost warps into their own weird music. Underneath this haunted exploration is a band with good bones. Jimmy Frezza, Tim Gick, Brahne Hoeft, Tristan Ivas, and Jackson Van Horn are unyielding musicians on a mission to



TV GHOST

realize something that is original and singular and make it their own thing. And someday, name recognition would be nice.

Holograms and Tropical Popsicle also perform.

TV GHOST: Soda Bar, Friday, December 20, 8:30 p.m. 619-255-7224. \$10.

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

Julian Town Hall:
Sunday, noon & 3pm — Rick Diaz.

Kensington Club:
Saturday, 8pm — A New Ending.

Kona Kai Resort & Marina:
Thursday, 7pm — Honeyrock. **Free.**
Friday, 7pm — Lindsey Harper. **Free.**
Saturday, 7pm — Arnie Vilches & Friends.
Sunday, 11am — Sunday Brunch with Gayle Skidmore. **Free.**
Sunday, 7pm — Reggie Smith. **Free.**

Lestat's Coffee House:
Saturday, 9:30pm — Samantha Aiken Band. \$6.

MaGee's Tavern:
Saturday, 8:30pm — Lexington Field. **Free.**

Mediterranean Cafe:
Friday, 7pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. **Free.**

Molly Malone's:
Friday, 9pm — Stone the Giant. **Free.**

Office:
Monday, 8pm — Dub Dynamite.

Padre Gold:
Saturday, 8pm — Saturday Night '80s Party. \$5-\$10.

Parkway Bar:
Friday, 8pm — Chris Jones.

Prohibition:
Thursday, 8pm — Piano Joe & the Wheelers.
Friday, 8pm — Jon Ji & the Moonshiners.
Saturday, 8pm — Lady Dottie.

Queen Bee's Art & Cultural Center:
Friday, 6:30pm — Troubadour Holiday Open House.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Saturday, 8:30pm — Gary Hoey and Taz Taylor Band.

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center:
Monday, 10am — Rock & Roll Winter Camp.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Saturday, 8pm — Bedbreakers.

Salty Frog:
Friday, 9pm — Jack City Blues Band. **Free.**

San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina:
Friday, 8pm — The Clay Davis Trio. **Free.**

San Pasqual Winery Tasting Room and Gallery:
Saturday, 7pm — Sock Monkeys. **Free.**

Seaside Center for Spiritual Living:
Friday, 7pm — Winter Solstice Drumming Celebration. **Free.**

Seaweed and Gravel:
Friday, 6:30pm — Laurel Sorenson EP release. **Free.**

Seven Grand:
Friday, 8pm — Cherries Jubilee Holiday Show.

Shakedown Bar:
Friday, 9pm — Nihilist.
Saturday, 9pm — Kingsland.

Soda Bar:
Thursday, 9pm — Perfect Pussy.
Friday, 9pm — TV Ghost and Holograms.
Saturday, 8pm — U.S. Bombs.
Sunday — Cobra Skulls, Bombpops, Western Settings.
Monday, 8:30pm — Vampire, Violent Vickie, Mascara Monsters.

Soma:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Cut Your Losses, Scarlett Ave., Short Stories.

Spin Nightclub:
Saturday, 10pm — ELEV8 Extra Terrestrial LP Release Party. \$10.

Stage Rock Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Bass Tribe.
Friday, 8pm — IsleSide and Disco Pimps.
Saturday, 8pm — Hott Mess and DJ Miss Dust.
Monday — '80s Gothic Night.
Wednesday, 8:30pm — '90s Dance Night.

Sycamore Den:
Sunday, 5pm — Nola Sunday: Sue Palmer.

Tower Bar:
Saturday, 8pm — 99th Floor Yuletide with the Loons.

Trinity United Methodist Church:
Friday, 7:30pm — Contradancing. \$10.

U-31:
Friday, 9:30pm — Faded Fridays: BeatKnockers. **Free.**
Saturday, 9pm — Dance!Dance! with DJ Qenoe. **Free.**

United Church of Christ of La Mesa:
Tuesday, 7pm — A Night of Song to Warm the Heart. **Free.**

Vision Center for Spiritual Living:
Thursday, 7pm — Christmas with Berkley Hart.
Tuesday, 7pm — High Vision Choir: Christmas Celebration. **Free.**

Whistle Stop Bar:
Thursday, 8pm — Kill Quanti, Astro Jump, Swambi.

Wine Steals:
Thursday, 7pm — Robin Henkel. **Free.**

Winstons:
Sunday, 10pm — Jose Sinatra hosts OB-oke.

WorldBeat Cultural Center:
Saturday, 8pm — Empire Christmas with Pete Moss.

Zel's Del Mar:
Saturday, 8pm — Robin Henkel. **Free.**

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Praetorius In Dulci Jubilo Michael Praetorius was the most influential, diverse, and prolific composer of his generation. During the early 17th Century his musical productivity became the basic repertoire for the Lutheran church in northern Germany. *Friday*, December 20, 7:30pm. St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 743 Prospect Street.

S.D. Pro Arte Voices: Behold the Star The San Diego Pro

Arte Voices presents a winter concert titled "Videntes Stellam: Behold the Star." Twenty singers, led by Patrick Walders and John Russell, will perform carols and motets. The Pro Arte Voices will sing the Poulenc Four Motets for Christmas. *Saturday*, December 21, 7:30pm; **free.** St. Andrew's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 1050 Thomas Avenue.

San Diego Children's Choir Happy Holidays The San Diego Children's Choir happy holidays concert and community sing-along. *Sunday*, December 22, 2:30pm; **free.** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard.

San Diego Symphony Quartet This ensemble of members of the San Diego Symphony, led by Hernan Constantino (music director, Mainly Mozart Youth Orchestra) will present an interactive concert, introducing the joys of classical music to the children and families of the New Children's Museum. *Thursday*, December 19, 2pm; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue.

UPCOMING SHOWS

3rd Space: 4610 Park Bl., University Heights, 619-255-3609.

January 7 — Jazz Jam Session.

710 Beach Club: 710 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-483-7844.

December 26 — The Clamjammers.

December 28 — Thrive, Veragroove, Aloha Radio.

December 31 — The Devastators.

98 Bottles: 2400 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-255-7885.

December 27 — Whitney Shay & Robin Henkel.

January 3 — Tony Suraci as the Highwayman.

January 4 — Allison Adams Tucker and friends.

January 11 — Joe Garrison & Night People, G. Castellanos.

January 17 — Fred Benedetti and

Holiday Sale



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Crush: 437 South Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-481-2787.
December 26 — Steve Orr.
December 28 — Tiffany Jane & the Kicks.

Digiplex Mission Valley: 7510 Hazard Center Dr., Mission Valley, 619-685-2841.
January 16 — Best of Keane: Live From Berlin.

Dirk's Niteclub: 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.

December 27, 28 — Serious Guise.

January 3 — FX5.

January 4 — Sneaker Kings.

Dizzy's: 4275 Mission Bay Drive (in the showroom at San Diego Jet Ski Rentals), Pacific Beach, 858-270-7467.

December 27 — Chase Morrin Quartet.

December 28 — Jazz Avenue.

December 29 — Brian Levy with Gilbert Castellanos.

January 3 — Mikan Zlatkovich and Brian Levy.

January 17 — Lin, Shakelford, McDaniel & Tafarella.

Eastbound Bar & Grill: 10053 Maine Ave., Lakeside, 619-334-2566.

January 4 — Samantha Aiken Band.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: 1030 Broadway, East Village, 619-237-0550.

December 26 — Twang Gang with Crash & Burn.

December 27 — Soulflexin'.

December 28 — Good & Plenty.

Encinitas Library: 540 Cornish Dr., Encinitas, 760-753-7376.
January 5 — Jimmy Patton & Enrique Platas.

Felix's BBQ With Soul: 342 Euclid St., Logan Heights, 800-801-7210.

December 28 — DeNeille Thompson.

Four Points by Sheraton: 8110 Aero Dr., Kearny Mesa, 858-277-8888.
January 17 — Steam Powered Giraffe album release.

Gallagher's Pub & Grill: 5046 Newport Ave., Ocean Beach, 619-222-5300.

December 26 — Maka Roots and I Sight Band.

December 27 — Temple of the Dad.

December 28 — Sandollar.

December 31 — Deadly Birds and Saint Diego.

The Go Lounge: 7123 El Cajon Bl., La Mesa, 619-644-2317.
December 31 — Pharmacy and Revolut-chix.

Golden Acorn Casino: 1800 Golden Acorn Way, Campo, 866-794-6244.

December 27 — Brown Sugar Band.

The Griffin: 1310 Morena Bl., Linda Vista, 619-684-1816.
December 30 — St Cloud Sleepers and Grizzly Business.
January 13 — Cody Canada & Departed, Am. Aquarium.
January 17 — Johnette Napolitano.

Hard Rock Hotel: 207 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 866-751-7625.

December 31 — NYE with Sidney Samson, Eva Simmons.

Hilton San Diego Bayfront: 1 Park Bl., Downtown San Diego, 619-564-3333.
December 31 — Big Night Out San Diego.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-299-2583.

December 27, 28 — The Green & J Boog.

December 31 — The Great Gatsby NYE.

January 3 — D.P.I. (Drunkin' Punkin' Idiots).

January 3 — Groove International.

January 4 — Reel Big Fish,

Pietasters, Maxies.

January 13 — Janelle Monae and Roman GianArthur.

January 17 — Gungor.

January 18 — Led Zepagain and Bonfire.

January 19 — Volcano Choir and the Cloak Ox.

January 21 — 3 Doors Down (acoustic).

January 23 — Sound Tribe

Sector 9.

January 25 — Skinny Puppy.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Shelter Island, 619-224-3577.

December 26 — Clay Colton Band.

Infinity at Pala Casino: 11154 Highway 76, Pala, 877-946-7252.

December 28 — Rumors: Fleetwood Mac tribute.

January 11 — Mick Adams & the Stones.

The Irenic: 3090 Polk Ave., North Park, 619-624-9335.

January 24 — Max Bemis, Matt Pryor, Perma, Merriment.

The Kensington Club: 4079 Adams Ave., Kensington, 619-284-2848.

January 3 — Therapy: Darks of Heaven & Prayers.

Kona Kai Resort & Marina: 1551 Shelter Island, Shelter Island, 619-221-8000.

December 27 — Ugly Sweater Party: Charles Burton.

December 28 — Arnie Vilches & Friends.

December 29 — Sunday Brunch with Whitney Shay.

December 29 — Jerome Dawson.

December 31 — Fish & the Seaweeds.

The Kraken: 2531 South Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-436-6483.

December 26 — Cage, Detonated, EXmortus.

La Valencia Hotel: 1132 Prospect St., La Jolla, 858-454-

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December 31 — New Year's:
Chris Cerna Trio, Paper Moon.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343
Adams Ave., Normal Heights,
619-282-0437.
December 26 — Donna Larsen
and Brenden Bourgeois.
December 27 — New Rich,
Donna Larsen, Mary Grasso.
January 3 — The Lovebirds.

Luce Loft: 1037 J St., East
Village.
January 9 — SeaWolf (solo).

MaGee's Tavern: 125 South
Main St., Fallbrook, 760-731-
6478.
January 10 — The Shakedown
Daddies.

McP's Irish Pub and Grill:
1107 Orange Ave., Coronado,
619-435-5280.
December 28, 31 — Trunk
Monkey.

Molly Malone's: 1270 Main
St., Ramona, 760-789-9050.
December 27 — Nemesis.

Monterey Bay Cannery: 1325
North Harbor Dr., Oceanside,
760-722-3474.
December 27 — Clay Colton
Band.

Mother's Saloon: 2228 Bacon
St., Ocean Beach, 619-221-8100.
January 17 — Chill Clinton.

**The New Children's
Museum:** 200 W. Island Ave.,
East Village, 619-233-8792.
January 10 — Sound Kitchen
Sing-a-long.

**O'Sullivan's Irish Pub of
Carlsbad:** 640 Grand Ave.,
Carlsbad, 760-729-4072.

December 28 — Clay Colton
Band.

The Office: 3936 30th St., North
Park, 619-450-6632.
December 30 — Dub Dynamite.

Padre Gold: 7245 Linda Vista
Rd., Linda Vista, 858-277-8681.
December 28 — Calico Ridge.
December 31 — BBW/BHM New
Year's: Dress in White.

Pala Casino: 35008 Pala
Temecula Rd., Pala, 877-946-
7252.
December 31 — Clay Colton
Band.

Pala Events Center: 11154
Highway 76, Pala, 877-946-7252.
January 17 — The Shakedown
Daddies, Black Scabs.

Pier View Pub: 301 Pier View
Way, Oceanside, 760-757-2827.
January 17 — The Shakedown
Daddies, Black Scabs.

Point Loma Assembly: 3035
Talbot St., Point Loma, 619-225-
0044.

January 11 — Adam del Monte,
flamenco guitarist.

**Poway Center for the
Performing Arts:** 15498 Espola
Rd., Poway, 858-748-0505.
January 18 — 2014 International
Music & Art Festival.
January 24 — Celtic Nights: The
Emigrants Bridge.

Prohibition: 548 Fifth Ave.,
Downtown San Diego.
December 26 — Piano Joe & the
Wheelers.
December 27 — Jon Ji & the
Moonshiners.
December 28 — Lady Dottie.

Quality Social: 789 Sixth Ave.,
Downtown San Diego, 619-501-
7675.

December 31 — Tullamore Dew:
Happy Dew Year.

**Ramona Mainstage
Nightclub:** 626 Main St.,
Ramona, 760-789-7008.
January 4 — Mark Hummel
Blues Harmonica Blowout.
January 11 — Michael Schenker
and Taz Taylor Band.
January 24 — Carolyn
Wonderland.
January 25 — Kim Simmonds &
Savoy Brown.

**Reuben H. Fleet Science
Center:** 1875 El Prado, Balboa
Park, 619-238-1233.
December 27 — Rock & Roll
Winter Camp.

**Salk Institute for Biological
Studies:** 10010 North Torrey
Pines Rd., La Jolla, 858-453-4100.
January 26 — Science and Music
Series: Yoonie Han.

**San Pasqual Winery Tasting
Room and Gallery:** 8364 La
Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-1797.
December 28 — People of Earth.

Searsucker: 611 Fifth Ave.,
Downtown San Diego, 619-233-
7327.
December 27 — These Siamese
and Julian Tydelski.

Seven Grand: 3054 University
Ave., North Park, 619-269-3819.
December 28 — Small Disaster
plays Radiohed, Bjork.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl.,
City Heights, 619-255-7224.
December 27 — Mrs. Magician
and the Rosalyns.
December 28 — Cuckoo Chaos.

December 29 — Plastic City
Pariah and Northamericas.
December 30 — Plane Without a
Pilot and Elephant King.
December 31 — Scarlet
Symphony, Zodiac Death Valley.
January 1 — Butler, Nothingful,
100 Onces, Junior Bob.
January 3 — Danny & the Tramp
and Spero.
January 4 — Roxy Jones,
Gloomday, Stalins of Sound.
January 5 — Califone.
January 6 — Corrections House,
Author & Punisher.
January 7 — The Lonely Wild
and Cory Stier.
January 8 — Netherfriends.
January 10 — Bros. Weiss,
Strange Vine, Buddy Banter.
January 11 — Dickies, Creepy
Creeps, Homeless Sexuals.
January 12 — Tennis.
January 14 — The Lonely Wild
and Cory Stier.
January 15 — Bright Light Social
Hour.
January 16 — Crooks on Tape.
January 17 — Dread Crew of
Oddwood, Unicorn Death.
January 18 — Maria Taylor.
January 21 — The Lonely Wild
and Cory Stier.
January 22 — Dent May.
January 23 — Kisses.
January 24 — Pure Bathing
Culture and La Luz.
January 25 — Wooden Shjips
and Carlton Melton.
January 26 — Mutual Benefit.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl.,
Midway District, 619-226-7662.
December 28 — Innovade,
T-Walk, Digital Jammer.
January 3 — Moonshine,
Africats, Act Natural.

January 16 — Falling In Reverse
and Escape the Fate.

South Bay Lounge: 1463 Palm
Ave., Nestor, 619-429-1291.
January 11 — Jack City Blues
Band.

Southpaw: 815 J St., East
Village.
December 31 — New Year's with
Kenny Eng, Rob Deez.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill:
762 Fifth Ave., Downtown San
Diego, 619-696-9436.
December 26 — Bass Tribe.
December 27 — Vinyl Exam and
Disco Pimps.
December 28 — De Novo Blvd
and Hott Mess.
December 30 — '80s Gothic
Night.
January 3 — Jester's Fate and
Disco Pimps.
January 4 — Hott Mess and DJ
Miss Dust.

Stingaree: 454 Sixth Ave.,
Downtown San Diego, 619-544-
0867.
December 31 — New Year's Eve:
Sex Panther.

Swedenborg Hall: 1531 Tyler
Ave., University Heights.
January 11 — Tom Brosseau and
Gregory Page.
January 12 — Wayne Riker:
Beatles A Through Z.

Sycuan Casino: 5469 Casino
Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002.
January 11 — Pure Prairie
League and Poco.

Tango Del Rey: 3567 Del Rey
St., Pacific Beach, 858-794-9044.
December 31 — Cirque Del Rey
Masquerade Ball.

Til-Two: 4746 El Cajon Bl., City
Heights, 619-516-4746.

December 28 — Sleepwalking.
January 4 — Terry Malts,
Tiltwheel, Boats, Roxy Jones.

**Trinity United Methodist
Church:** 3030 Thorn St., North
Park, 619-238-8550.
December 28 — Contradancing.

U-31: 3112 University Ave.,
North Park, 619-584-4188.
January 8 — West Coast
Wednesdays.
January 18 — Dance!Dance! with
DJ Qenoe.

Valley View Casino Center:
3500 Sports Arena Bl., Midway
District, 619-224-4171.
December 31 — Boys Noize.

Victory Theater: 2558 Imperial
Ave., Grant Hill, 619-236-1971.
December 31 — Technomania
Circus Dance Mansion
Masquerade.

Wine Steals: 1953 San Elijo
Ave., Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-
230-2657.
January 11 — Robin Henkel.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St.,
Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
December 27, 28 — Hot Buttered
Rum.
December 29 — Jose Sinatra hosts
OB-oke.
January 24 — Masters of
Ceremony: Zion I and SOL.

Wong's Dragon Room: 7126
University Ave., La Mesa, 619-
464-9772.
January 17 — Homeless Sexuals.



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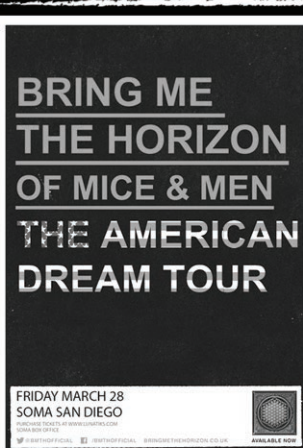
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SAT DEC 28

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SUN DEC 29

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SECONDS AGO

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FRI JAN 24

THE FRIGHTS

SUN FEB 9

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YOUNG
THE GIANT

TUE FEB 25

LIVE NATION PRESENTS

PENTATONIX

SAT MARCH 1

CASBAH PRESENTS

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G-EAZY

THURS MARCH 6

WE BUTTERBREAD
WITH BUTTER

SAT MARCH 8

AER

SAT MARCH 15

WE ARE THE IN
CROWD

WILLIAM BECKETT
SET IT OFF
STATE CHAMPS
CANDY HEARTS

SUN MARCH 30

BRING ME
THE HORIZON
OF MICE & MEN
LET LIVE
ISSUES

STANDUP WITH

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

BALBOA PARK

The Prado Restaurant: *Tuesday-Thursday*, 4-6pm, 8-10pm: \$4.50 wells, wine, draft ale, margaritas, selected appetizers. *Friday-Saturday*, 4-6pm, 8-11pm: \$4.50 wells, wine, draft ale, margaritas, selected appetizers.

BANKERS HILL

Avenue 5: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$3 select beers, \$2 off select wines by the glass, specialty cocktails, \$2 off "bar stuff" menu.

Bertrand at Mister A's: *Monday-Friday*, 2:30-6pm: \$5 wells, \$6 wine, \$10 specialty drinks, \$4 local brews. \$7 select menu items. Bar or patio only.

BAY PARK

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 street tacos, TJ hot dogs, carne asada fries, buffalo chicken tacos & more.

BONITA

Casa Bella: *Monday-Wednesday*, 4-10pm: Half-off bottles of wine with purchase of two entrées.

CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA

Beach House: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2.95 draft/domestic beer, \$3.45 wells, \$3.95 bloody mary & house wine, \$4.95 well

martini, \$5.95 cosmopolitan, mojito, margarita, bloody mai tai.

CARLSBAD

The Alley: *Daily*, 11am-7pm: \$2.75 wells, domestics.

On the Tracks Brewery and Tasting Room: *Thursday*, 5-7pm: Ladies, \$3 pints.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Conway's Irish Pub: *Daily*, 10am-8pm: \$2.75 domestic drafts and bottles; \$2.75 and \$3.75 wells.

CARMEL VALLEY

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 street tacos, TJ hot dogs, carne asada fries, buffalo chicken tacos & more.

CHULA VISTA

Achiote Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 beer, \$3.99 margaritas.

Spin City Lounge: *Monday-Thursday*, *Sunday*, 7-10pm: \$2 wells, \$3 margaritas.

CITY HEIGHTS

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

Til-Two: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells and imported drafts.

The Tower Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 wells and import drafts.

The Void: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off pints. *Sunday*, All night: \$3 drafts.

CLAIREMONT

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$.50 off all drinks.

COLLEGE AREA

Bridges Bar & Grill: *Monday-Saturday*, Open-7pm: \$3 Bud Light, domestic pints, well cocktails, house wines; \$4 craft pints, import pints; \$5 premium craft pints; \$2 off specialty cocktails. *Sunday*, Open-close: \$3 Bud Light, domestic pints, well cocktails, house wines; \$4 craft pints, import pints; \$5 premium craft pints; \$2 off specialty cocktails.

CORONADO

Leroy's Kitchen + Lounge: *Monday-Tuesday, Sunday*, 4-6pm: \$4 craft drafts, \$2 off craft cocktails, \$5 wells

& glasses of select wine. *Wednesday-Saturday*, 4-6pm & 10pm-midnight: \$4 craft drafts, \$2 off craft cocktails, \$5 wells & glasses of select wine.

Yummy Sushi: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: 40% off all food(dine-in only, excludes sashimi).

DEL MAR

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

Zel's Del Mar: *Daily*, 4-6:30pm: \$1 off all drafts, \$2 off premium drinks, \$2 off all wines by the glass, \$4 wells. \$5 ceviche, \$8 ahi poke, crispy mahi tacos.

DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO

Anthony's Fish Grotto: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 draft, Anthony's white wine; \$4 wells, \$5 calls. \$2.75 fish tacos, \$3 lettuce wraps, \$4.50 tostado.

Blue Point: *Monday-Friday*, 5-6:30pm: 1/2-off specialty cocktails; \$4 draft, \$5 featured wine by the glass. \$1 oysters & jumbo shrimp, \$6 calamari.

Currant: *Daily*, 4-7pm, 9-close: \$3 domestic & \$4 imported beer, \$5 wells, red/white wine, specialty cocktails. 1/2-off select menu items.

La Gran Tapa: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$3 craft beers, \$4 cash wines & sangrias. \$3 & \$4 tapas, free tapitas at the bar.

House of Blues: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$3 wines, \$3 wells, \$4 martinis. Killer happy hour menu.

Magnolia Tap & Kitchen: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$4 Local Drafts, \$4 Wells, \$6 Wine + Specialty Cocktails.

Patrick's Gaslamp Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 10am-8pm; 11pm-close: \$3.25 domestic drafts, \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3.50 well drinks. *Saturday-Sunday*, 10am-8pm: \$3.25 domestic drafts, \$2.75 domestic bottles, \$3.50 well drinks.

Sevilla: *Daily*, Open-7pm: \$4 well drinks, domestic and draft beer, house red and white wine. Tapas, flatbread and platter specials.

The Shout House: *Tuesday*, 7pm-close: \$3 Karl Strauss bottle, \$5 Smirnoff drinks, \$3 fish tacos. No cover. *Wednesday*, 7pm-close: \$3 domestic bottled beer, \$3 fish tacos. No cover. *Thursday*, 7pm-close: \$3 Miller Lite draft, \$5 Red Bull bomb shot, \$12 Miller High Life bucket. No cover with

college ID or current military ID. *Friday*, 5-7pm: 1/2-off all Appetizers, 1/2-off all Drinks. *Saturday*, 6pm-close: \$15 Hurricanes/\$12 refills, \$8 big-ass beer/\$6 refills. *Sunday*, 7pm-close: \$3 Bud drafts, \$3 shot special, \$4 wells. \$1 off appetizers(except fries).

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

Time Out Sports Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Discounted Appetizers, \$3 Domestic Beer, \$4.50 Craft Beer, \$4 Wells, \$3.50 House Wine, \$2 Jello Shots. *Saturday-Sunday*, 3-7pm: Discounted Appetizers, \$3 Domestic Beer, \$4.50 Craft Beer, \$4 Wells, \$3.50 House Wine, \$2 Jello Shots. 8:30-10:30pm: \$3.50 House Wine, \$4 Wells, \$5 Shots, \$8 Jumbo Pretzel + Beer, \$3 Carne Asada Tacos (w/ \$10 purchase).

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. *Friday*, 5-9pm: \$5 menu cocktails.

Monkey Paw: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local draughts and drinks.

EASTLAKE

Chili's: *Monday-Thursday, Sunday*, 3pm-close: \$1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos, fried cheese. *Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off drafts, discounted margaritas. Discounted nachos, fried cheese.

EL CAJON

Blarney Stone Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$1-\$2 off liquor.

Flinn Springs Inn: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.25 domestic bottles, \$3 wells.

Main Tap Tavern: *Tuesday*, 3-6pm: Taco Tuesday, \$2.50 Fish Tacos. *Wednesday*, 3-6pm: Sliding scale casks; \$3 at 3pm, \$4 at 4pm, etc... *Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 shots all day.

ENCINITAS

Bullpen Pub & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off pitcher, \$2 off wine.

El Callejon Restaurant: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$2.50 16-oz. domestic drafts,

\$3 imported; \$3.75 house margaritas, wells. \$2.95 fish taco, \$3.75 quesadilla, \$4.75 flautas.

ESCONDIDO

Brigantine: *Monday*, 11:30am-close: Happy Hour all night, drink specials. *Tuesday*, 3:30-7pm: Drink specials. \$1 off all featured tacos. *Wednesday*, 3:30-7pm: Drink specials. 1/2-off wine bottles. *Thursday*, 3:30-7pm: \$2 off specialty drinks. *Friday, Sunday*, 3:30-7pm: Drink specials. *Saturday*, 11:30am-7pm: Drink specials.

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*, noon-4pm: \$1 off beer/wine/spirits. \$5 burger, chicken sandwich, hot links + chips.

GRANTVILLE

Tio Leo's: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 domestic & Mexican pints; \$4 house margaritas, wells; \$5 street tacos, TJ hot dogs, carne asada fries, buffalo chicken tacos & more.

HARBOR ISLAND

C-Level: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-5:30pm: \$4 brews, \$5 specialty drinks, \$5 appetizers.

HILLCREST

Busalacchi's A Modo Mio: *Monday*, 4-6:30pm. 1/2 off bottles of wine. *Tuesday, Friday-Sunday*, 4-6:30pm: Drink specials. *Wednesday*, 4-6:30pm. All martinis 1/2 off. *Thursday*, 4-6:30pm: Drink specials. Live music.

Martinis Above Fourth: *Monday-Thursday*, 4-6pm. Everything discounted! \$6 Svedka Martinis, \$2 off any food/drink item \$10 or less \$3 off any food/drink item over \$10.

IMPERIAL BEACH

The Salty Frog: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$3.50 wells, imported bottles.

JAMUL

Brody's Burgers & Beer: *Monday-Friday*, *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm, \$2 off drafts, \$1 off potato sides.

KEARNY MESA

Elbow Room: *Monday-Friday*, 3pm-7pm: \$1-off all drinks, drafts, bottles, Chico's Fish Taco \$1.75, Garlic Cheese Bread \$1.95, Loaded Tater Tots \$4.95, Jalapeno Poppers \$4.95, TJ Street Taco Pork \$1.50, Mac & Cheese \$4.95, Elbowroom Kettle Chips \$2.95, Sweet & Spicy Meatballs \$4.95, Onion Rings \$4.95, Nachos \$4.95, Potato Skins \$4.95, Cheeseburger & Fries \$4.95. *Saturday*, 10am-6pm: Well Drinks \$2.50, Any Draft Beer \$2.50, Happy Hour menu. *Sunday*, 9am-6pm: Well Drinks \$2.50, Any Draft Beer \$2.50, Happy Hour menu.

Proud Mary's Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: *Daily*, 4pm to 7pm- \$3 draft pint, \$4.25 premium well, \$3.00 Famous Bourbon Slushies. Happy Hour specials all for \$5.00 each: Chicken & Waffles, Frito Pie, Shakin Bacon Tater Tots, Jambalaya & Red Beans, Spicy Shrimp, Proud Mary's Southern, Mac & Cheese, Chicken a Fried Asparagus, Fried Pickles, Shrimp & Crab Bon-Bons, Fried Pickles, & Chili

KENSINGTON

Clem's Tap House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off all beer and wine flights.

The Kensington Club: *Daily*, 10am-6pm: \$2.50 wells, drafts, domestic bottles.

LA JOLLA

Barbarella: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$4 drafts (Stella Artois, Hefeweizen, Trumer Pils), bottles (Corona, Newcastle, Moretti), wells, select wines by the glass, \$7 Barbarella martinis. 1/2-off appetizers.

Beaumont's: *Daily*, 3-6:30pm: \$5 micro-craft drafts, \$3 Pacifico, \$5 mules, mojitos, margaritas; \$3 off specialty cocktails, \$5 house wine, \$4 wells. Food specials.

Café Japengo: *Monday-Friday*, 4:30-7pm: \$5 cocktails. Roll specials, \$5 chicken potstickers, \$6 beef yakitori, \$7 calamari. *Saturday-Sunday*, 4:30-close: \$5 cocktails. Roll specials, \$5 chicken potstickers, \$6 beef yakitori, \$7 calamari.

Crab Catcher: *Daily*, 3-9pm: \$3 margaritas, domestic beer, premium wine by the glass, champagne. 1/2-off selected menu items.

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HAPPY HOUR

Eddie V's: *Daily*, 4-7pm: All libations \$2 off.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, flights, house wine, and well drinks. \$5 wings, hummus, calamari, chili lime sweet potato fries and spinach dip.

Su Casa: *Monday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3.25 mug or Bud Lite draft, \$3.50 house wine glass, \$4.50 margarita, single well drinks. 1/2-off select appetizers.

Whisknadle: *Daily*, 3-7pm: \$8 cocktails, \$25 pitchers of sangria, 25% off all bottles of wine. \$4 tapas(bar/lounge only).

LA MESA

Mr. G's Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, Noon-7pm: \$3.25 wells, \$3 Domestic Pints, \$3 Premium Pints.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room: *Monday-Wednesday*, 4-6pm & 9pm-close: \$4 Russian Standard, Moscow Mules; \$6 Fighting Cock, Art Snob. 1/2-off Turquoise Room Bites. *Thursday, Sunday*, 9pm-close: \$4 Russian Standard, Moscow Mules; \$6 Fighting Cock, Art Snob. 1/2-off Turquoise Room Bites.

LAKESIDE

Coo Coo Club: *Monday-Friday*, 6-8pm: \$2.75 wells, domestic bottles, drafts.

LEMON GROVE

Dirk's Niteclub: *Monday-Saturday*, 4-7pm: \$.50 off all drinks \$4.50 or less. *Sunday*, 6am-2pm: \$1 off bloody marys.

LINDA VISTA

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

LITTLE ITALY

El Camino: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday*, 5-7pm: \$3 margaritas, sangria, Corona, Corona Light; 1/2-off quesadillas and nacho plates. *Tuesday*, 5pm-1am: \$3 margaritas, sangria, Corona, Corona Light. 5-7pm: 1/2-off quesadillas and nacho plates. 5-11pm: 1/2-off taco plates. *Sunday*, 10am-4pm: \$1 mimosas.

Puerto la Boca: *Monday-Saturday*, 4:30-7:30pm: \$3 house wine, \$3.50 drafts, wells, \$6 house martini. 30% off appetizers. *Sunday*, All Day: \$3 house wine, \$3.50 drafts, wells, \$6 house martini. 30% off appetizers.

BEER NEWS

BY BRANDON HERNÁNDEZ

Acoustic opens Mission Hills tasting room

The beers of **Acoustic Ales Brewing Experiment** (1718 Hancock Street, Mission Hills) have been available at local bars and restaurants for much of the past year, but it took the company a long time to open the doors to its tasting room at Mission Brewery Plaza.

Of the many new breweries throughout San Diego County, few offer as many brews as the dozen-plus I had to choose from on my recent visit. Many of those were fresh hop offerings, beers brewed with just-picked hops from the Pacific Northwest during the annual autumn harvest. I was impressed at the com-

pany's ability to lock up hop contracts at a time when thousands of breweries are competing for the fruits from those vines. I selected a flight of four as well as a flight of four other beers.

While the fresh hop beers, as expected, were powerful on the olfactory front, the beers themselves didn't quite do right by all those hop flowers. It was clear they'd been decently dosed, but the base beers were flabby.

I've had a number of Acoustic Ales beers ranging from slightly subpar to quite enjoyable. Readers may remember my praise for the company's White IPA. I hoped to find an array of brews that were in line with that former Beer of the Week's quality, but sadly, my taster flight was an extension of the inconsistency that has so far been Acoustic Ales' calling card for me.

Saint Archer's new offerings

Few, if any, breweries have been as polarizing among local beer fans and industry members as **Saint Archer Brewery** (9550 Distribution Avenue, Miramar). Some see the business — partially owned by, and marketed by, action-sports stars — as one that may introduce craft beer to individuals who might not otherwise try it. Others perceive it as an operation headed by

businessmen more interested in turning a profit than the craft of creating exceptional beer.

Truth is, the majority of people who stumble upon Saint Archer's wares will have zero back story



Saint Archer's new Double IPA could be a game-changer for the heretofore inconsistent brewery.

or reason to care about it. The only thing that will matter to them is how good — or bad — the beer is. Early on, it was a mixed bag. While Saint Archer Blonde Ale, a refreshing kölsch, was good enough to earn Beer of the Week status, the company's Pale Ale and IPA were plain at best, and subpar by San Diego standards.

New brews have been introduced by new brewmaster Yiga Miyashiro, formerly of **Pizza Port**, over the past few months. The current list of newcomers includes a double India pale ale, Scottish export ale, American-style stout, and new pale ale made from experimental hops procured through Hopunion.

The 8.3% ABV Double IPA bursts with citrus and tropical fruit, bringing on everything those familiar with Miyashiro's work at Port Brewing would hope for. It's a real game-changer for Saint Archer. Ditto the American Stout, 6.8% ABV with a deep roasted coffee character but such exemplary balance, every sip feels like the first. The Scottish export was tasty, but a bit too dry and devoid of this style's usual mild sweetness. The experimental pale ale tasted like it needed some fine tuning. ■

For more breaking craft beer news, follow San Diego Beer News on Twitter (@SDBeerNews) or keep up on Facebook.

La Villa: *Daily*, 3:30-5pm: \$2 off cocktails; half off bottled beers.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Desi N Friends: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm: \$1 off everything.

MIRA MESA

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

MIRAMAR

Brewski's Bar: *Monday*, 4-10pm: Buy One Get One 1/2 Off Drinks *Tuesday*, 4-10pm: \$1 Tacos, \$4 Corona & Dos XX, \$5 Patron Shots *Wednesday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Vodka Rockstars *Thursday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Jack & Coke *Friday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Fireball *Saturday*, 4-10pm: \$4 Jager Bombs *Sunday*, 4-10pm: \$1 Off All Beers Draft, Bottles & Tall Cans Starts at 10am During Football Season

The Filling Station: *Monday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$4 margaritas, \$4 Mexican beers. *Tuesday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$3 kamikazes, \$3 domestic drafts. *Wednesday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$5 stilletos, \$4 pink lemon drops, \$3 cosmos. *Thursday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$2.75 wells, domestic beers. *Friday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$4 bartender shots. *Saturday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$4 white Russians. *Sunday*, 11:30am-7pm: \$3 bloody marys.

MISSION BEACH

Barefoot Bar and Grill: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$5 cocktails and \$4 beers on tap for SD locals only. All

draft beers are San Diego and California craft brews.

MISSION HILLS

Shakespeare Pub & Grille: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off bottled beers, house wines, \$4.95 20oz Imperial pints, \$3.75 wells. *Friday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-1am: \$1 off bottled beers, house wines, \$4.95 20oz Imperial pints, \$3.75 wells.

Starlite: *Monday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$4 drafts, wells, \$1 off other drinks. Snack specials.

MISSION VALLEY

Dave & Buster's: *Monday-Thursday*, 4:30-7pm, 10pm-close: 1/2 price cocktails, beer specials, 1/2 off selected appetizers. *Friday*, 4:30-7pm: 1/2 price cocktails, beer specials, 1/2 off selected appetizers. *Sunday*, 10pm-close: 1/2 price cocktails, beer specials, 1/2 off selected appetizers.

Randy Jones All American Sports Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4.50 well drinks, \$1.50 off pints of beer, \$1.50 off wine by the glass, \$2.50 off appetizers.

NATIONAL CITY

Pier 32 Waterfront Grill: *Friday*, 3pm-sunset: \$2 domestic beer, \$3 import and local beer, \$5 house wine, mimosas, bloody marys.

NESTOR

Baja Oyster Bar: *Monday-Thursday*, All day: \$.99 fish tacos. 3-6pm: Two-for-one domestic bottle, discounted special roll.

NORMAL HEIGHTS

The Ould Sod: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.75 wells, \$4 20oz imports. *Sunday*, All day: \$4 20oz imports.

Proprietor's Reserve Wine Pub: *Saturday-Sunday*, Noon-4pm: Half-off all open wines.

Rosie O'Grady's: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic beers. \$3.50 Jager shots.

NORTH PARK

Bar Pink: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: \$1 off drafts and calls. \$1 off Heineken.

Imig's Kitchen and Bar: *Monday-Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday-Sunday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 off wine, \$4 beers, \$4 well cocktails. *Wednesday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2 off wine, \$4 beers, \$4 well cocktails. 1/2-price wine bottles. *Friday*, All Night: \$2 off wine, \$4 beers, \$4 well cocktails.

Lips Restaurant: *Sunday*, all night: Industry Night, \$3.50 wells, \$5.50 calls, 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

Sabuku Sushi: *Daily*, 4-6pm; \$5 Shiso Crazee, \$5 Buku Bites, \$5 Buku Nachos, \$7 Twice Baked Mussels, \$8 Seared Ahi Tacos. \$5 Large 20+oz Asahi or Sapporo, \$5 Rock Sake's, \$7 All cocktails & wines (by the glass).

OCEAN BEACH

Mother's Saloon: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off craft drafts, \$2 domestic drafts, \$2.75 well drinks. 1/2-off appetizers. *Sunday*, 4-8pm(during live music): \$1 chicken tenders, \$2 pork sliders, \$5 tater tots.

Ocean Beach Kabob: *Daily*, 2pm-6pm. 50% off all beers. \$2 Dos Equis all day!

OCEANSIDE

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

Tremont Street Bar & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-5pm: 1/2 price well drinks, beers, wine, and appetizers. \$1 tacos & cheesy garlic bread.

OLD TOWN

Acapulco Mexican Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-8pm: 50% off select appetizers, \$3.99 select drinks.

Old Town Mexican Café: *Monday, Wednesday-Friday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: 1/2-off well drinks & selected appetizers. *Tuesday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: 1/2-off well drinks & selected appetizers. Taco Tuesday all day!

PACIFIC BEACH

Sinbad Café: *Daily*, 11am-8pm: \$1.50 domestic drafts, \$2.50 craft drafts, \$4.50 appetizers, \$12 hookahs/\$10 hookah refills.

Tony Roma's: *Monday*, 4-6pm: \$3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, \$4 premium draft beer pints, \$3 well drinks & well wines, \$3 house margaritas & Long Island ice teas. 1/2-off all appetizers. (happy hour at bar only) *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, \$4 premium draft beer pints, \$3 well drinks & well wines, \$3 house margaritas & Long Island ice teas. 1/2-off all appetizers. (happy hour at bar only) *Saturday-Sunday*, 1-4pm: \$3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, \$4 premium draft beer pints, \$3 well drinks & well wines, \$3 house margaritas & Long Island ice teas. 1/2-off all appetizers. (happy hour at bar only)

The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa: *Daily*, 4-7pm & after 10pm: \$3 artisan draft beers, \$4 wines & sangria. \$3 & \$4 tapas.

POINT LOMA

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

Solare Ristorante Lounge: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 3-6:30pm: \$5 tapas, \$3 beer, \$5 select wine, \$6 select cocktails and wells. (bar & side lounge only) *Sunday*, 4:30-7pm: \$5 tapas, \$3 beer, \$5 select wine, \$6 select cocktails and wells. (bar & side lounge only)

POWAY

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

RAMONA

Cheers: *Monday*, 2-5pm: \$1 off drinks. \$10 steak. *Tuesday*, 2-5pm: \$1 off drinks. \$1 tacos. *Wednesday*, 2-5pm: \$1 off drinks. \$.50 wings. *Thursday*, 2-5pm: \$1 off drinks.

RANCHO BERNARDO

Bernard'O Restaurant: *Monday-Saturday*, 4:30-7pm: \$4 wells, \$2.75 domestic, \$3.50 imported/specialty, \$4.75 house margarita, \$5 house wine.

RANCHO PENASQUITOS

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

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Press Box Sports Lounge: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm, 10pm-close: 1/2-off appetizers, \$1 off drafts, house wine, and wells.

RANCHO SANTA FE

Delicias: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$4 draft beers and well drinks. \$5 red and white house wine. \$8 margaritas. Food specials.

ROLANDO

Effin's Pub & Grill: *Monday*, noon-10pm: \$4 Jack Daniel's, Southern Comfort, Tuaca, Finlandia. *Tuesday*, noon-11pm: 1/2-off cocktails, beer. *Wednesday*, noon-close: \$1 off whiskey. *Thursday*, 5:30-11pm: \$5 Patrón, Jäger. *Friday*, noon-close: \$10 Long Island pitcher. *Saturday*, 5pm-11pm: \$3 Bud, Bud Light, Absolut, Malibu. *Sunday*, 10am-2pm: \$9 Bud and Bud Light pitchers, \$10 mimosa pitcher.

SAN MARCOS

ROYAL DIVES

Thursday, Dec. 19 • 9 pm
DJ Special Cutz & Will Spliff

Friday, Dec. 20 • 9 pm
Green Jello
Chia King • Nite Crawlers • Hot Gin

Saturday, Dec. 21 • 9 pm
Christmas for Cameron
featuring Rock n Roll Survivors
(members of Sarcastics, Project-X
Jimi Jon & Avengers, Sung Mojo)
The Coastal Eddies

Trainwreck Wednesday Open mic...9 pm

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Dischordia

Tuesday, Jan. 14
The Mentors

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AJ's Cave: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, \$3.50 bottled beer, \$5 22oz, \$5 polish beer, \$4 house wines, \$2 off cocktails.

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California Comfort: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm & 10pm-close: \$1 off drinks & half-price appetizers. Saturday-Sunday, 10pm-close: \$1 off drinks & half-price appetizers.

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JP's Pub: Monday-Friday, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

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

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Apollonia Greek Bistro: Daily, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.50 bottled beers, \$3.50 wine by the glass, \$3.50 Ouzo Aperitif.

Donovan's Steak and Chop House: Monday-Saturday, 4-6pm: \$8 martinis and signature cocktails, \$7 wine by the glass, complimentary steak sandwiches.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Bourbon Street: Tuesday-Wednesday, 7-8pm: \$4 wells, \$5 Svedka drinks, \$2-off drafts, \$5 specialty cocktails. Food specials. Thursday-Sunday, 5-8pm: \$4 wells, \$5 Svedka drinks, \$2-off drafts, \$5 specialty cocktails. Food specials.

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Sticks and stones

"I can yell at the food court...because I don't know anyone here!"

Neil LaBute's *reasons to be pretty* begins, before it starts, with a single word. Asked to compare Steph, his girlfriend of four years, to the new "hottie" at the warehouse, Greg said Steph has a "regular" face. He meant it as a compliment: he loves her inner beauty.

Word gets back to Steph. The play opens with her reaction, an all-points blast from the furnace. She didn't hear "regular." She heard "ugly." And she bombards every atom of Greg's being.

"Don't try to Lance Armstrong your way out of this!" she blurts in the midst of enough four letter words "for an Eddie Murphy concert."

Greg didn't know. He spends the rest of the play asking people what they really mean and pays careful attention to the answers. In the process, he learns that in the shoot-from-the-hip, Age of Social Media, words can mean very different things to different people. He also learns that while sticks and stones can crack your bones, words can be far more lethal.

Even LaBute's title tailspins. Throughout his brisk, dialogue-rich, savagely funny drama, he deconstructs a culture based on an ideal of beauty: how advertising, TV and film, and every

showroom window in every mall propagandize an unattainable standard. In this blunt, beauty vs. ugly culture, to take a more open look at another human being is like spitting on the flag.

Kent, Greg's friend of ten years, defines that culture. A self-absorbed priapic, Kent says beauty is all (at one point he adds: "She's 23, so only starting to fade a bit"). Since the ideal is unattainable, he substitutes a part for the whole. If a woman has an arresting feature (he's a "leg and ass man," he boasts), he'll make do until the next arresting feature lures his eye — away from, in this instance, wife Carly.

Back in the '80s, relationship plays were in vogue. People argued why a bond had broken. *reasons to be pretty*'s a 21st-century update. LaBute strands his characters in an ongoing, vicious game of dodgeball: they fight and fend all slights to their image. The culture's so oppressive, so on-the-surface, even "privacy issues" are a sin. Everything's public, as if the world were one big cell-phone call. For proof, the playwright has Steph blare: "I can yell at the food court...because I don't know anyone here!"

Ion Theatre's been on a roll for some time.

THEATER

JEFF SMITH



Reasons to be pretty is a series of verbal wrestling matches, with no canvas cushion.

Reasons to be pretty, by Neil LaBute

Ion Theatre, 3704 Sixth Avenue, Hillcrest

Directed by Claudio Raygoza; cast: Steve Forehlich, Jorge Rodriguez, Lynnia Shanley, Rachael VanWormer; scenic design, Raygoza; costumes, Mary Summerday; lighting, Karin Filijan; sound, Melanie Chen

Playing through December 28; Thursday through Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Matinee Saturday at 4:00 p.m. 619-600-5020

How can they follow the expressive silences of *Shining City* or the WWE physicality of *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Diety*? Easy: combine both. *Reasons to be pretty* is a series of verbal wrestling matches, with no canvas

cushion and chokeholds in every word. Director Claudio Raygoza artfully creates an atmosphere where people have become so desensitized that they need linguistic overkill to get their point across: power tactics by powerless people.

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THE OLD GLOBE (619) 23-GLOBE! (234-5623) www.TheOldGlobe.org

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Jorge Rodriguez gives a break-out performance as Kent, the Alpha Predator. He's direct from any local sports bar governed by a "hit 'em and hit the door" mentality. And he talks with near-absolute confidence in his worldview (babe-view?). Rodriguez is so assured, so above the law — and this is a compliment — you wonder if he were typecast.

As written, LaBute's women receive more than he lets them give. The play pins down Kent's wife Carly on all sides: beneath her bluff and veneer of control lie acres of unknowing. Lynnia Shanley does a nice job of rounding out a character on a collision course with life-altering news.

Rachael VanWormer gives a special performance as terrorized Steph, whose hurt, even when seemingly repaired, may be bottomless. VanWormer reveals the depth of Steph's love in the wall-to-wall vehemence of her tirade. (In the play's best scene, at the top of Act Two, Greg and Steph meet after having broken up; she's found someone new, but Greg says he'll hurt her: "He's a guy. It's a done deal." The touching difference: Greg says it to help, not hurt, Steph.)

Greg's a tricky role, in part because he may be LaBute's first positive character — i.e., the first to step outside the playwright's boxes (suggested by Ion's brick-walled set?). As such, he's often passive, reading Poe or Jonathan Swift, and minding P's and Q's. As played by newcomer Steve Froelich, Greg makes a painful break from the status quo.

The pairing probably isn't unique. I've just never seen them before in this context. *Reasons to be pretty* has two break-up scenes: one between lovers, the other, friends. The play opens with Steph lacerating Greg over a single, misinterpreted word. In Act Two, Greg and Kent break up a ten-year relationship as well. Greg finally sees through Kent's macho façade and they tear into each other, with fists instead of words.

All the while, Kent, Mr. Visual, worries what the fra-

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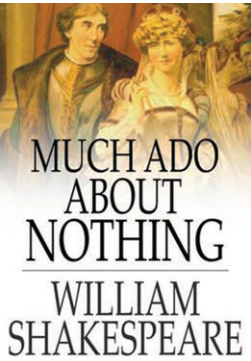
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FEB. 21, FEB. 28
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

INTO THE WOODS
DEC. 19 2:30PM, DEC. 20 7PM,
DEC. 21 2PM, DEC. 21 7PM
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING



JAN. 16 2:30PM, JAN. 17 2PM, JAN. 17 7PM, JAN. 17 7PM, JAN. 23 2:30PM, JAN. 24 7PM, JAN. 25 2PM, JAN. 25 7PM
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

THE ASH GIRL
JAN. 10 7PM, JAN. 11 7PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY

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cas will "look" like to others. But he comes to see that the sticks and the stones will do far less damage than the words used afterward to recount the fracas. ■

THEATER LISTINGS

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate according to material given us, but it is always wise to phone the theater for any last-minute changes and to inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.

An American Christmas
Lamb's Players stages its popular Christmas show in the ballroom of the Hotel del Coronado, 100 year ago. The Marshall family hosts an evening of music, songs, stories, dancing, and a five-course meal-all taking place in 1913 Coronado. Robert and Deborah Gilmour Smyth co-directed.
HOTEL DEL CORONADO, 1500 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-435-6611. 6:30PM DAILY, THROUGH DECEMBER 24.

A Christmas Carol
Cygnet Theatre presents its popular yuletide show. It's 1944, WCYG radio tells the story of Scrooge live. Sean Murray directs.
CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TWIGGS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-1525. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 24.

Bearded
It's Nick's first day on the job as a

"mall Santa." Instead of training he's plunked onto the chair, fat-suited with a scratchy white beard, and told to keep the kids occupied till their picture's taken. It's the actor's nightmare, ho-ho-ho version. Katherine Harroff and Circle Circle dot dot have earned an impressive reputation for grounding their works in local references. For this piece, now in its world premiere, the group interviewed San Diegans who have played Santa. *Bearded* runs the gamut of their experiences, from hilarious to heartbreaking. Director Patrick Kelly moves the show at a brisk clip and, with the cast, has invented funny, *Saturday Night Live*-like stage business. And what's it like to sit in judgement of a child's entire year, summing up the bad's and the good's for the Yuletide trick or treat? And what's it like to hear their stories and be helpless? Michael Nieto's Nick has an eerie innocence. Possibly because new to the job — but maybe not — his Santa pays individual attention. Nieto never forces the compassion. But it's always there, enough to suggest that maybe the real St. Nick just wandered into Westwild's Morton Plaza needing a job. *Worth a try.*
TENTH AVENUE ARTS THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-237-4510. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 21.

The Break Room
Dream Productions presents Donna Gordon and Lolly Boroff's dark comedy which takes place directly after World War II and is a nostalgic look back at another Christmas. A short holiday improv. precedes the play. Christine McCoy directs.
TENTH AVENUE ARTS THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-237-4510. 7PM THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY.

Christmas Is Comin' Uptown!
Common Ground Theatre presents its annual holiday production, a

musical loosely based on Dickens's *Christmas Carol* in which Scrooge is a Harlem slumlord about to foreclose on a house and a church.
EDUCATIONAL CULTURAL COMPLEX, 4343 OCEAN VIEW BL., MOUNTAIN VIEW. 619-527-5256. 7PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

The Dinner Detective
Performers are dressed just like everyone else, leaving all of the guests to suspect who is a part of the show and who is not. At the end of the night, prizes are awarded to the top sleuth who solves the crime. Each ticket typically includes an interrogation reception, a four course meal, the interactive murder mystery show, music, prizes, and more.
COURTYARD SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN, 530 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-446-3000. 6:15PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 28.

Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!
In the Old Globe's annual holiday show, Steve Blanchard's Grinch does the near impossible: he wins over the audience twice: first as maybe the world's most entertaining Green Meanie (when he sings "One of a Kind"); second, when Cindy-Lou Who sings "Santa for a Day," and he de-Scrooge's before our eyes. This is the Globe's 16th version, originally conceived and directed by Jack O'Brien. Since 2003, director James Vasquez has kept it as fresh as the original. One of the best parts of the tradition: local actors get a paying gig, and make the most of it. Steve Gunderson heads the supporting cast as Old Max, the Grinch's

loyal (and abused) mutt. As Max recalls his youth, Gunderson makes a touching, understated transformation. *Worth a try.*
OLD GLOBE THEATRE, 1363 OLD GLOBE WAY, BALBOA PARK. 619-234-5623. 8PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS, 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 28.

The Eight: Reindeer Monologues
For its holiday show, Different Stages presents Jeff Goode's "dark, dark comedy," in which "the reindeer finally speak up" and don't hold back. Jerry Pilato directs.
SWEDENBORG HALL, 1531 TYLER AVE., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 21.

Forever Plaid: Plaid Tidings
New Village Arts reprises its holiday show, in which the four Plaids get to do the yuletide "concert of their dreams." Head in the stars. Jason Heil directs.
NEW VILLAGE ARTS THEATRE, 2787 B STATE ST., CARLSBAD. 760-433-3245. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 3PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 31.

The Humbug Holiday Spectacular
When it is good, Phil Johnson and Omri Schein's spoof of life-affirming Christmas shows is very good. But when it is bad, which is far too often, the writing flags, the comedy's forced (or non-existent) and the four person cast can't salvage leaden scenes. Christmas Spirit (Johnson) needs to raise the level of happiness in the world. So he orders Horatio Humbug (Schein) to devise

a holiday spectacular - or he'll eat Horatio's larvae. The 85-minute, intermissionless piece is a series of skits, each failing to created the spectacle and raise the "Joy-o-Meter" to a decent level. Schein and James Olmstead's music and lyrics are pretty good imitations of Broadway show tunes. Johnson, as expected, has brilliant moments. And young Sarah Errington shines throughout as savvy Pixie. But the skits that don't work die early and linger on. And on.
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE, 987-D LOMAS SANTA FE DR., SOLANA BEACH. 858-481-1055. 8PM THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 28.

Irving Berlin's White Christmas
San Diego Musical Theatre returns its popular holiday show, featuring seventeen songs by Irving Berlin played by a 22-piece orchestra.
BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVE., NORTH PARK. 619-239-8836. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

La Pastorela del Cielo
Teatro Mascara Magica presents its hugely popular holiday show, in its 23rd rendition. If Luicfer has his way, shepherds journeying to Bethlehem will never make it. But then again, angels watch over the humble pilgrims, in a script revised anew each time and creates a Year In Review as well. William Virchis directs.
LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM

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Calendar THEATER

& 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

Lamb's Festival of Christmas: Catch A Falling Star

Lamb's Players presents the world premiere of Kerry Meads' script. Ella Eden wants to film a musical Christmas card on location: a remote miner's cabin in the Sierra Nevada.

LAMB'S PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 ORANGE AVE., CORONADO. 619-437-0600. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 29.

Mr. Scrooge & Mr. Dickens

The play is a faithful adaptation of Charles Dickens' beloved holiday classic *A Christmas Carol*, with a new embellishment: Dickens himself appears onstage to read sections from the work — primarily passages describing the people and places of Victorian England, an aspect generally lost in adaptations of *A Christmas Carol*. The production is further enhanced by carolers, dancers, computer-controlled lighting, music, and powerful sound effects. There will also be a surprise visit by Santa at the end of the show. *Mr. Scrooge & Mr. Dickens* has been performed annually to sell-out audiences throughout Southern California. 100% of this year's ticket sales (not just proceeds) benefit the Historical Society. \$10 adults; \$5 children under 12.

SAN MARCOS HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1952 SYCAMORE DR., SAN MARCOS. 760-744-9025. 7PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY, 2PM SUNDAY.

The 1940s Radio Hour

Premiere Productions stages Walt Jones' period show that takes place on December 22, 1941. With music, dancing, and old time sound effects, the Mutual Manhattan Variety Cavalcade performs its final holiday broadcast (including a five-minute version of *A Christmas Carol*).

AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN ST., VISTA. 760-724-2110. 8PM FRIDAY, 2PM SATURDAY.

reasons to be pretty

Reviewed 12/18. **Critic's pick.**

ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 28.

A Red Door Christmas

Christian Youth Theatre San Diego presents a show that "takes the commercial racket out of the holidays and brings it back to the basics. Like Charlie Brown without the right tree, like Ralphie without his Red Ryder BB gun" or "the Who's without their presents."

RED DOOR PLAYHOUSE, 1545 PIONEER WAY, EL CAJON 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 6PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

Scrooge in Rouge

Diversiary reprises its hit show. Seventeen of the Music Hall Variety Players came down with food poisoning. So Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* must go on with the remaining three playing 23 roles.

DIVERSIARY THEATRE, 4545 PARK BL., UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS. 619-220-0097. 8PM THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS,

AUDITIONS

Cabaret

HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE AT PALOMAR COLLEGE



1140 W. Mission Rd., Palomar College

January 15: Vocal. Bring sheet music; accompanist will be provided (no a cappella); prepare a verse and a chorus. January 16: Dance. Dress for movement. January 17: Callbacks. Cold readings from script. Performances: March 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16. Pat Larmer, director; Sue Gilson, choreography; Ken Bell, music director. Info: plarmer@gmail.com. Auditions: JAN. 15, 16, 17 7PM

James and the Giant Peach

SAN DIEGO JUNIOR THEATRE
1650 El Prado, Suite 208, Balboa Park

Auditions by appointment only. Please prepare a one-minute comedic monologue. Bring a completed audition form with a photo. Callbacks: Monday, January 13 from 4-7pm. Applicants must be between 8-18 and enrolled in the winter session to audition. There is a \$60 production fee. Call the main office at 619-239-1311 for a time slot. Applicant must have a completed audition form (please be honest about time conflicts). Performances: February 28, 2014 and March 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 2014. Auditions: JAN. 9, 10 4PM

Peter Pan

SAN MARCOS COMMUNITY CENTER
3 Civic Center Dr., San Marcos

Ages 7 to 17 invited. Sing a one-minute excerpt from a song of your choice; bring an instrumental CD if desired. Also bring a school photo and a short list of past experiences you have had speaking, singing, or dancing in front of a group. Beginners welcome. Performances at the San Marcos Community Center on February 21, 22, 23. 760-744-9000. Auditions: JAN. 20 5PM

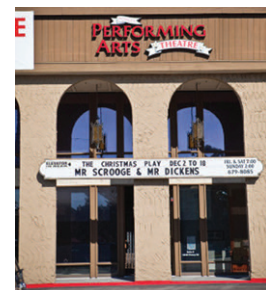
Youth: Once Upon A Mat-tress

CARLTON OAKS SCHOOL

9353 Wethersfield Road
This is an all-youth production for students 8 to 18 years old. Participation in our productions is always free. Callbacks: Wednesday, January 8. Auditions by appointment only. Producer Kyle Young: auditions@pickwickplayers.net. Bring sheet music or CD with background track and be prepared to sing one minute of a musical-theater song; an accompanist will be provided. Full audition announcement, including roles available: pickwickplayers.net/auditions. Auditions: JAN. 6, 7 6:30PM

Becky's New Car

POWPAC



13250 Poway Rd., Poway

Open auditions at PowPAC, Poway's Community Theatre, upstairs in the Lively Center. Call backs (if necessary): 7pm, Wednesday, January 22. Performance dates: Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm, March 14 through April 13, at PowPAC. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Copies of the script are available by email from the director, Jay Mower, at jaymower4@gmail.com. Auditions: JAN. 20, 21 7PM

Jade Heart

MOXIE THEATRE

6663 El Cajon Bl., Suite N, Rolando Submissions due by December 31. Rehearsals in June. Familiarity with Mandarin crucial for Chinese characters. Performances: July 11 through August 10, 2014. Auditions: DEC. 31 9AM

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 29.

A Very Merry Unauthorized Children's Scientology Pageant

OnStage Playhouse presents Kyle Jarro's comedy, in which "a jubilant cast of children celebrate the controversial religion in pageantry and song." James M. McCulloch directs.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVE., CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.

A Welk Family Christmas

The Welk Theatre revives its popular yuletide show, featuring stars of *The Lawrence Welk Show* in a "traditional Welk style family Christmas."

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM & 8PM THURSDAYS, SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS, TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 29.

A Year with Frog & Toad

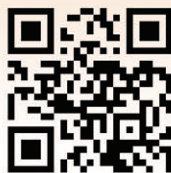
Sunshine Brooks Theatre presents Robert and Willie Reale's Tony-nominated musical, based on Arnold Lobel's popular characters: a cheerful, popular Frog and a rather grumpy Toad. Dana Carr directs. SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 N. COAST HWY., OCEANSIDE. 760-433-8900. 7:30PM FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, THROUGH DECEMBER 22.



As far as the Street Team is concerned, the best place to spend the holidays is at Gallagher's in O.B. They throw one hell of a party. Girls in small outfits, crazy Santas taking shots off elves, excellent music from the Disco Pimps, all in the welcoming environment of O.B. This week we're partying like rockstars at Science on the Rocks at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center. Hit the code to find out more. Spoiler alert: drinking + science



SCIENCE ON THE ROCKS



Wise to the play

I'm not sure *American Hustle* is the best picture of the year. I'm not even sure if it's my favorite picture of the year. But I'm pretty sure it brought me more oh-hell-yes pleasure than anything else I saw in 2013, starting with the opening scene.

We open with grim reality: the swollen gut of a middle-aged man (Irving Rosenfeld, slouchily portrayed by Christian Bale) who has indulged himself beyond his body's capacity to retain its original shape. Just desserts, perhaps, but the camera doesn't let us tut-tut our way out of the situation. Instead, it pans up to reveal blind nature's remorseless ravage: an advanced case of male pattern baldness, made all the more painful by the luxurious swaths of hair that surround it. Life is cruel. What are you going to do about it?

Here's what you're going to do about it: you're going to painstakingly apply a thatch of ersatz hair to your scalp and secure it with spirit gum. Then you're going to coax those side swaths up and over, shaping, sculpt-

ing, and finally sealing your handiwork into place with industrial-grade hairspray. Then you're going to button your shirt and your vest, put on your jacket and ascot, and head out to work in the world — only to have some overzealous government functionary with more ambition than brains and a better handle on what's legal than on what's right come along and louse

it up. It's all there, right in the opening scene. The rest of the movie is simply a delightful

expansion on the theme.

If you're Irving Rosenfeld, your work is conning folks. I mean, just by leaving his room, he's already doing it: "I am a man with a full head of hair." In this, he asserts, he is no different from anyone else: we are all working the con, often against ourselves. Rosenfeld thrives because he is smart enough to focus his energies outward. He's smart in other ways, too — smart enough to realize when he's found something real amid the fakes: fellow conner Sydney (Amy Adams in the role of a lifetime). The trouble is, he's already married,



American Hustle: All the other decades can sit down, because the '70s just won.

and to a girl he just can't quit (Jennifer Lawrence, half smart and all blonde). Sometimes, being wise to the play isn't enough to beat it.

So, yes, there's an appropriately twisty plot, based on the FBI's real-life late-'70s Abscam operation into congressional corruption. But the plot is not the point. The people are the point. Jeremy Renner as the sincerely populist mayor of Camden, New Jer-

sey. Bradley Cooper as a desperately hungry FBI agent who doesn't know enough to shut up and listen to his boss's fishing story. And Robert De Niro, scary again after all these years.

Given this wealth of material, it's not surprising that director David O. Russell gets a bit self-indulgent. The running time could stand a good trimming, and the voiceover stinks of its own sort of ambitious overreach. But

the movie's hustle is good enough that you're still likely to leave smiling.

— Matthew Lickona

INTERVIEW WITH ANCHORMAN 2 ACTOR DAVID KOECHNER

David Koechner is probably best known for playing San Diego sportscaster Champ Kind in *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy* and Michael Scott's obnoxious friend Todd Packer



SAN DIEGO WEEKLY
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47 RONIN has been rated PG-13 (Parents Strongly Cautioned - Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13) for intense sequences of violence and action, some disturbing images, and thematic elements.

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IN THEATERS CHRISTMAS DAY

Calendar MOVIES

on *The Office*. Personally, I'm fond of his portrayal of gun lobbyist (and member of the Merchants of Death) Bobby Jay Bliss in *Thank You for Smoking*. Bliss is the kind of scum-sucker who will shrug and tell you that it's all scum, so you may as well learn to smile while you suck. That Koechner manages to make him weirdly likable is a genuine achievement. He even manages to invest Champ Kind with a hint of recognizable humanity in the schtickfest that is *Anchorman*.

Matthew Lickona: How does Champ Kind feel about Ron Burgundy as we open the sequel?

David Koechner: Well, we all know that Champ has a huge crush on Ron. But is it a sexual affection or just a deep friendship that Champ is desperate to have?

ML: In *Wake Up, Ron Burgundy* [a made-from-outtakes feature included with the DVD] it gets pretty sexual.

DK: There you go — you saw that one. But if you're asking if that relationship comes to fruition, I will say that it's hinted at.

ML: How did sports guy Champ feel when Ron Burgundy got to audition for ESPN?

DK: I think he was happy for him, because wherever Ron goes, he usually takes his crew.

ML: Moving on to other important roles: when I came out of *Piranha 3DD*, I had in my notes, "David Koechner gave more to the film than the film asked of him." *Piranha 3DD* was not a piece of high art. Could you talk about

what happens when you get a film like that? How you prepare for it, how you treat it?

DK: I keep employed. The reality is, I have five kids. Sometimes, economics makes choices for you. But here's the thing I love: I do all kinds of stuff, and I embrace it. I wasn't stuck with four more films like *Piranha 3DD*. I went and did *Anchorman 2*. I did three episodes of *Hannah Montana*. I did a voice on *Phineas and Ferb*. I went to Canada and shot a film with Brent Butt. I went to Vermont and did a short film that made me cry because it was about a woman who grew up in a family where her two oldest brothers had Duchenne muscular dystrophy, and they knew they were going to die. I did a dark thriller called *Cheap Thrills* that has some comedic elements.

ML: So, when a casting director says, "Get me a David Koechner type," what does she mean?

DK: I don't know if she does say that. I've been blessed with many opportunities. Some turn out great; some, people might turn their noses up at; and some make me say, "Fuck yeah, I did this thing!" My job is to play for a living, and if I get to play in a lot of different arenas, so be it.

ML: If you had to do just one arena, which one would you pick?

DK: If I could pick just one thing, do it in town, and make a solid income out of it? Standup. There's nothing better than that immediacy — you having that communal experience with an audience.

ML: I noticed the five kids in your bio.

DK: Yeah, I notice them every day.

ML: I have a bunch myself, and it

made me wonder: do your kids think you're funny?

DK: I think they do. Sometimes, when they want to punish me, they'll say, "You're not funny, Dad!" But I delight in them, and I try to let them know that I think they're funny. So it's more like a family model. We're a funny family.

ML: There's a point in my kids' lives where they start trying to make jokes. They'll be looking at me, trying to see if they're getting it right. "Is this a joke? Is this how it works?"

DK: My son, who is seven, came home last week and said, "Dad, have you heard of this book, *Yellow River*? Guess who wrote it: I.P. Freely." And this week, he did Seymour Butts. So I was delighted. He and I sat down for about half an hour and scrolled through jokes on the internet. We were both just howling.

ML: Do you have comedians you try to make sure they know about? I made sure my kids heard Bill Cosby early on.

DK: My oldest boy, he's 14. We introduced him to *Airplane* a couple of years ago, and he and I have watched *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, things like that.

ML: Do you ever get frustrated because they don't think something's funny that you've revered all your life? When I showed my older boys *Holy Grail*, they were, like, "Oh, okay." And I was, like, "You don't understand!"

DK: Right! Like, "This is important! This is one of the most important movies in history!" He kind of enjoyed it, but not to the passionate degree that I had hoped. But I showed it to him when he was 10. I should have waited

until he was 13.

ML: Final question: if you had to tell people the best way to tell you apart from Rob Corddry, what would it be?

DK: One of us is bald. It's the strangest thing — even if I'm wearing a hat, people will think I'm Rob Corddry. People will watch me do an hour of standup and then come up to me and say, "We love you in *Anchorman*, and we love you in *Children's Hospital*." And I'll say, "Well, I'm in one of them." He gets it just as much as I do. It's really weird. I don't know if we have the same style or delivery. I assume it's just the bald thing. ■

— Matthew Lickona

MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

12 Years a Slave — Hollywood continues to pay reparations for *Gone with the Wind* with this elegiac adaptation of Solomon Northrup's autobiographical saga of a free black man forced into bondage for a dozen years. They might just as well have named it *The Passion of the Slave*. Chiwetel Ejiofor suffers well under the immutable tongue and whip-lashings of Paul Giamatti, Paul Dano, and Michael Fassbender, all playing scenery-consuming variations on animalistic crackers we've come to despise in much better surroundings. (Say what you will, your money would be better spent renting *Mandingo* and *Beloved*.) In its own saintly manner, it's as exploitative as anything critics accused *Django Unchained* of being, minus Tarantino's eye for idiosyncrasy and sense of humor. After correctly likening the film's torture porn quotient to that of a *Saw* sequel, a colleague asked, "Who would want to see this movie?" Answer: Every voting member

of the Academy. Steve McQueen (*Shame*) directed. 2013. — S.M. ★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

47 Ronin — Because sometimes, seven samurai just aren't enough. Keanu Reeves stars as the outcast the titular ronin pick up on their way to avenge their murdered master. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

All Is Lost — Viewers of a certain age may remember Robert Redford as one of the great handsome men of cinema. The sun-kissed skin, the wind-tousled hair, the little-boy smile that let you know he couldn't lose. Like the title says, all is lost. Disaster rouses an solo yachtsman from comfortable sleep: a drifting shipping container has punched a hole in his boat. Skillful efforts at repair and recovery eventually give way to a grueling struggle to simply survive. The sun blisters, the wind ravages, the face twists and sags. The metaphor — we're all on a journey, people — is kept mostly in the background, but the lack of dialogue and singular focus make it impossible to miss. (Just about the only time writer-director J.C. Chandor takes the camera off Redford is to give us gradually deepening shots from below the life raft: first minnows, then a school of fish, then predators, and finally, sharks.) 2013. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

American Hustle — Reviewed this issue. 2013. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues — Like all minor celebrities who think they might have a shot at the big time, Ron Burgundy is getting the hell out of San Diego. And he's taking his team of crack reporters with him. And by crack reporters, we mean they smoke crack and report on it. Review forthcoming. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Best Man Holiday — An agreeable R-rated rom-com turns into a high-handed sentimental tear-jerker before piously wasting away. It's time we sue Universal for false advertising. The breezy trailer for Malcolm Lee's follow-up to his 1999 hit, *The Best Man*, promises "All the sex, all the secrets, all the surprises," and none of the sickness. The cancer that's hinted at in reel two begins to metastasize at the 60-minute mark; the audience I saw it with was visibly shaken. Shoulders convulsed as dozens wept, their waves of boo-hoos occasionally drowning out patches of dialogue. Why would anyone willingly submit to this type of abuse? Didn't we suffer enough with *12 Years a Slave*? Effortless performances by Taye Diggs and Terrence Howard buoy the first hour (and provide several big laughs), but as soon as the coughed-up blood hits the handkerchief, you had best hit the exit door. With Morris Chestnut, Nia Long, and Monica Calhoun. 2013. — S.M. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Book Thief — Filmed version of the popular Young Adult novel about a pretty blonde orphan girl (a cherubic Sophie Nelisse) who gets taken in by poor, decent German folk just as World War II gets underway. Papa (a hunched Geoffrey Rush) hides a Jew in the basement because the Jew's father once saved his life; Mama (a haggard Emily Watson) scowls but does what's right. There's a lesson here somewhere about the importance of words and stories, but it's overshadowed by the shadow of death. Or rather, the smooth, snarky, British-accented voice of Death, who drops in to inform us that "Of course, no one could serve the Fuhrer as loyally as I," among other grammar-school profundities. In a YA novel, Death may have sounded like a sophisticated narrator. Here, he mostly ruins otherwise serviceable scenes by telling

FILM FESTIVALS

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Friday Talking Pictures: The

Taqwacores Yusef, a first-generation Pakistani engineering student, moves off his university campus with a group of Muslim punks who introduce him to Taqwacore — a hardcore, Muslim punk rock scene. Guest-speaker Professor Rebecca Romani will lead the post-film discussion. **Friday, December 20, 6:30pm**



Film Forum: Bringing Up Bobby Meet Olive: mother, breadwinner, felon. Famke Janssen's debut is a compassionate, relentlessly wacky road show starring Milla Jovovich as a nomadic European con-artist trying to escape

her murky past and build a better future for her ten-year-old son. They charm their way from one adventure to another, but Olive's criminal past is behind her in danger of catching up. **Monday, December 23, 6:30pm**

Friday Talking Pictures: Sabah One day, when Sabah least expects it, she falls in love with the wrong man. She's Muslim, he's not. Unbeknownst to her family, she goes on a whirlwind affair before both culture and love collide. Guest-speaker Professor Rebecca Romani will lead the post-film discussion. **Friday, December 27, 6:30pm**

Film Forum: Black Pond Wicked, deadpan dissection of twisted domestic banality. With it's razor-sharp dialogue and clever construction, the film follows a British family whose mundane existence is spun into disarray when they are accused of murder after a guest dies at their dinner table. A heaping helping of oddball lunacy. **Monday, December 30, 6:30pm**

DIGIPLEX MISSION VALLEY

7510 Hazard Center Dr., Mission Valley
619-685-2841

Best of Keane: Live From Berlin Music-Screen invites you to join with the live audience in Berlin at the iconic Goya when Keane bring down the house with a special performance. **Thursday, December 19, 7:00pm**

THE PEARL

1410 Rosecrans St., Point Loma
619-226-6100

Dive-In Theatre A weekly "cinema social" combining eclectic film choices, along with food and drink. Steeped in mid-century design, the Dive-In takes place at the poolside lounge and outdoor theater. Films are projected onto a 10' x 13' foot projection screen with full sound, overlooking the hotel's vintage, oyster-shaped swimming pool. **Wednesday, December 25, 8:00pm, Wednesday, January 1, 8:00pm, Wednesday, January 8, 8:00pm**

SAN DIEGO MUSEUM OF ART

1450 El Prado, Balboa Park
619-232-7931

First Friday Films: So Proudly We Hail

In the midst of World War II, Hollywood cranked out a number of films meant to depict the events overseas and stir up patriotism at home. Director Mark Sandrich's *So Proudly We Hail* focus on the experience of women in the war effort of the Pacific theater. Featuring Paulette Goddard, Veronica Lake, Claudette Colbert, Sonny Tufts, and George Reeves, this film serves as an example of the ways in which women were portrayed during the war. Before the film, producer and director Gregory Cooke will lecture on his documentary, currently in production: *Invisible Warriors: African Ameri-*



can Women in WW II. Mr. Cooke's project examines the contributions of African American women to the wartime, home-front industries and their struggle for equality in the process. **Friday, January 3, 7:00pm**

W SAN DIEGO

421 W. B St., Downtown San Diego
619-398-3100

Flicks by the Fire W San Diego offers a "Flicks by the Fire" movie night on their rooftop bar throughout the month of December. Warm up with homemade popcorn, s'mores, butterscotch coffee, pumpkin martinis, blueberry hot toddies, and brown-bag wine bottle specials. This week: *Bad Santa*. **Monday, December 23, 8:00pm**

us what we're already seeing, and gives the lie to a story about survival and endurance. 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Captain Phillips — If you can get past the bombastic score and the wavering, seasick camera and what is perhaps the hackiest, laziest opening-scene conversation of the year, you might find something remarkable in Captain Phillips: a quietly scathing critique of American exceptionalism, wrapped in a story of American survival. Captain Richard Phillips (beloved everyman Tom Hanks), whose cargo ship is boarded by Somali pirates bent on obtaining a ransom, is the victim throughout. But consider those bad guys. One of them winds up with broken glass in his foot because (a) the crew proves resourceful in their efforts to slow him down and (b) *he has no shoes*. Eventually, the lovely long shots of massive Navy gunships trailing behind a tiny lifeboat that is trying to reach the shore start to sink in. On the one hand, we're fighting to preserve civilization and the rule of law. On the other, they're fighting for survival. 2013. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Counselor — "I've seen it all, counselor," intones worldly-wise dealmaker Brad Pitt. "It's all shit." This is very close to the point of *The Counselor*. Pretty shit, pricey shit, exciting shit, lovable shit, even enduring shit - but still shit. The counterargument, to the extent that one is offered, is so brief and blunt that it barely registers. Novelist Cormac McCarthy (*No Country for Old Men*) takes his first shot at screenwriting, hanging meditations on his preoccupations - sex, death, violence, and maybe God - on the story hook of a bad-boy lawyer who tries to take the easy way out of his financial troubles by facilitating a drug deal. Whereupon he discovers that he's more boy than bad, and that there is not, in fact, any such thing as the easy way out. People tend to speak in pronouncements - "You don't know someone until you know what he wants" - and the story sometimes feels like its serving the dialogue. But it's pretty fine dialogue. (How do you make an audience listen to a poetic monologue on grief and death? Deliver said monologue to a desperate protagonist who wants so very badly to hear something else, the something he hopes will come after the monologue.) Cameron Diaz gets the role of a lifetime as a well-preserved specimen bent on self-preservation. With Michael Fassbender, Javier Bardem, Penelope Cruz. Directed by Ridley Scott. 2013. ★★ (ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA)

Dallas Buyers Club — Matthew McConaughey plays a bag-of-bones, good ol' boy piece of sex-addled trailer trash who has the misfortune to bang the wrong (female) intravenous drug-user (HIV+) in the wrong way (sans condom) in the wrong place (darkest Texas) at the wrong time (the panicked, unmedicated '80s). Suddenly, he's cast out among those he hates, and overdosing on the only medicine out there (AZT), which nearly kills him. (The bastards at Big Pharma and the FDA, eager to cash in on the AIDS panic, are running human trials.) Eventually, he heads south of the border to visit a disgraced doctor who knows what's good for him. And what's good for Ron is good for his fellow sufferers, including Rayon, a junkie trans woman played with mesmerizing commitment by Jared Leto. So our hero starts peddling meds and making bank, and learns to love along the way. Naturally, the authorities object. With Jennifer Garner. 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Delivery Man — Ken Scott's Canadian comedy *Starbuck* made enough money stateside to earn him a seat in the director's chair for this subtitle-free rehash. Who

better than beefy Vince Vaughn to star as a professional sperm donor who falls victim to a class action lawsuit brought against him by hundreds of the children he anonymously fathered? Scott's idea of playing to an American audience is hydroponic jokes and simplified see-saw compositions - one character screen left, one character screen right, and all that space. I cannot tell a lie; 20 minutes in, I used my 'Get out of Multiplex Jail Free' card and bailed. I'm all for remaking bad films; just don't compound the awfulness in the process. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Desert Runners — Sit right down and watch a film about some people who are pushing themselves to their physical limits by traversing various extreme terrains. Maybe while you're sitting there, you can push yourself to *your* physical limits by consuming an entire kitchen trash bag full of smuggled-in popcorn. As the trailer notes, it's important to have a passion for something. (DIGITAL GYM CINEMA)

Ender's Game — Brilliant young tactician Ender Wiggin is called upon to defend earth from nasty foreign invaders — and you know what they say about what makes the the best defense. Not for nothing does space commander Harrison Ford say that "What we need is a Julius Caesar, a Napoleon." But while Asa Butterfield conveys Wiggin's complicated, chilly interior with a brave disdain for mere likability, Ford stumbles as his equally complicated and possibly chillier mentor/advocate/father-figure. All growls and glares and gravel, he's more general than god. Still, the film makes a fine transition from the classroom to the battlefield — interestingly, it's the classroom that involves actual bodies in motion, while the battlefield is all holodecks and drones. And except for a sloppy climactic confrontation, it manages to manifest its concerns with clarity and force. Director Gavin Hood has an eye for a battle scene, and keeps the action clean and clear no matter what the scale of the conflict. With Hailee Steinfeld, Abigail Breslin. 2013. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Escape Plan — Sylvester Stallone back in stir, this time as a professional jailbreaker hired by penal institutions to go undercover and test the impregnability of maximum security prisons. The implausibility of the opening escape is made clear in a flashback. Sly is assigned a different institution to crack, and the moment fellow con Arnold Schwarzenegger walks out the cell door, logic goes innuendo. Stallone at least tries to play it straight. Arnold's dick jokes and other goofy asides are simply trying. A second act geographical reveal comes as a genuinely pleasant shock. After that, it's smooth sailing towards a predictably dopey resolution. At no point were theatre exit doors checked for an evacuation route. A pair of cosmetically embroidered slabs of aged Hollywood prime waging battle beats a CG toy show any day. Mikael Häfström (*The Rite*) directs. With Jim Caviezel, Vincent D'Onofrio, and Curtis '50 Cent' Jackson kicking in a couple bucks worth of unintentional laughs. 2013. — S.M. ★ (ULTRASTAR CHULA VISTA)

Frozen — Like the Broadway-bound Ice Capades holding its first out-of-town tryout that it's destined to become, *Frozen* is a glacially stiff, perpetually unamusing animated musical with a talk-singing score that will leave one pining for the lifeless soundtrack to *The Princess and the Frog*. Chris Buck (*Tarzan*) and *Wreck-It Ralph* co-author Jennifer Lee shared the directing duties. Come for the feature, leave after the five-star featurette. Lauren MacMullan's *Get A Horse*, the new vintage Mickey Mouse short that opens the show, is a whirlwind animated history lesson that

pays loving tribute to everything from '20s 'rubber hose' cartooning to contemporary 3D CGI. In six minutes, Ms. MacMullan, the first woman ever to direct a Disney picture, presents a virtuoso study in depth and motion: you'll want to duck from all the flying debris once the merry-go-round breaks down. It's easily the best short to come out of Burbank since Uncle Walt left us. 2013. — S.M. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug — Peter Jackson continues his mad quest to transform a ripping children's book into an all-encompassing epic. The result is a road movie with entirely too much baggage, a slog through the mires of exposition and special effects. With all the dwarves, wizards, hobbits, orcs, wargs, elves, spiders, dragons, man-bears, enchanted forests, magic keyholes, prophecies, rings, arrows, gems, political themes, love stories, comic relief, fight scenes, and general spectacle Jackson has managed to cram in, he can hardly be blamed if there's not much room for character or felt life. Getting all the pieces in place, that's the main thing; motive and personality can be adjusted as the occasion warrants, and acting is often optional. But if you look closely, you might notice Martin Freeman doing his best with the titular role. And even if you close your eyes, you won't be able to help noticing Benedict Cumberbatch's booming, growling, rasping take on the dragon Smaug. 2013. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Homefront — In the middle of a holiday moviegoing season fraught with yarns of slavery, childhood mortality, cancer, senility, and an AIDS panacea as a cash cow, it's amazing how refreshing a cheesy exploitation film can sound. Taking sole screenwriting credit, Sylvester Stallone lumps together shreds of his past glories to form a formulaic (if effective) revenge thrill ride. Jason Statham stars as Rambo with a daughter, a passive-until-pushed ex-NYC cop living in backwoods Louisiana with a price placed on his head by an imprisoned mobster. Playing what could be an older cousin of his *Spring Breakers*' character Alien, James Franco amuses the crowd as a ferocious meth chef, with a down-and-dirty Kate Bosworth perfect in the role of analeptic-addled sister and Academy Award-winning Winona Ryder as his crack whore galpal. This time around, the otherwise inefficacious Gary Fleder (*Kiss*

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"A glimpse into the mindset of ultra-athletes" — *Athletics Weekly*

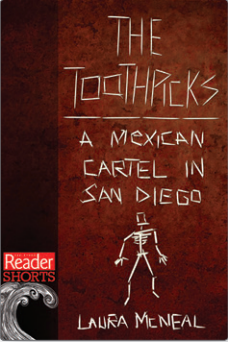
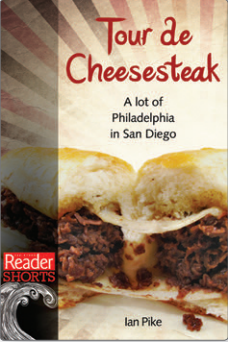
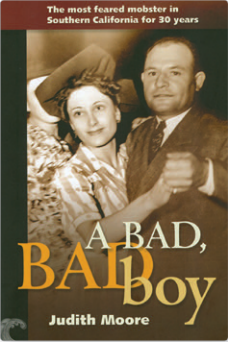
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The Film Reviews of Duncan Shepherd

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For 38 years, Duncan Shepherd served as the film critic for The San Diego Reader. Instead of simply describing a film's attributes, he took hold of it like Jacob wrestling the angel, and sought to see it face to face. The Five-Star Reviews collects those relatively few films that merited his highest indicator of priority, from 1924's *The Last Laugh* to 2009's *A Serious Man*.

A BAD, BAD, boy

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The little known Southern California underworld of the mid-Twentieth Century comes to life in this unique, never before told story of San Diego Mafia hit man Frank Bompensiero. Born in Milwaukee to Sicilian parents, the Bomp, as he came to be known, was one of the most fearsome Caporegimes of the Los Angeles crime family.

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There is no place like San Diego when it comes to craft beer — nearly 80 operating brewhouses and roughly 40 in the planning stages. Whether you're looking for a brewery restaurant, lush beer garden, brewpub, or tasting room, all of San Diego's options are here.

Tour de Cheesesteak

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Ian Pike, restaurant critic at the San Diego Reader, travels the length and breadth of San Diego county in search of Philly cheesesteaks. Over the course of several weeks, Pike devoured ten distinct cheesesteak subs from the county's best (and worst) steak sandwich shops. His travels, recounted in detail, prove that there's a lot of Philadelphia style in San Diego.

The Toothpicks

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This is the chilling story of a kidnapping and ransom drop that led to the arrest of two Mexican cartel leaders currently on trial for a string of brutal murders in San Diego. It started when Eddy Tostado gave the architect who was remodeling his patio the gate code. The architect shared the code with another member of Los Palillos—the Toothpicks—and the gang decided Eddy should be their next San Diego target.

eBooks available on:



sdreader.com/books

Calendar

MOVIES

the Girls, Runaway Jury) earned his director's check. With Clancy Brown and Frank Grillo. 2013. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Hunger Games: Catching Fire — Katniss Everdeen won her murder tournament in *The Hunger Games*. Now she has to deal with the aftermath. Once again, the best reason for seeing a Hunger Games movie is star Jennifer Lawrence, whose protean, Old Hollywood visage brings to mind the line about how They Had Faces Then. And once again, the second best reason is the just-committed-enough supporting cast: Stanley Tucci as the game show host from hell, Elizabeth Banks as Lawrence's style-is-life handler, Donald Sutherland as the quietly wicked President Snow, and now, Philip Seymour Hoffman as the strategy-happy head gamemaker. (Woody Harrelson is fun to watch, but not nearly dissipated enough as the alcohol-soaked mentor.) The worst reasons? The soggy romantic entanglements, followed closely by the CGI-ridden Games themselves. Director Francis Lawrence (*Water for Elephants*) brings a steadier hand to the proceedings than his predecessor, and there's some fun political playmaking, but the series still stumbles over its brutal, bloody centerpiece. 2013. — M.L. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Inside Llewyn Davis — The Coen brothers, as successful a pair as any in show business today, consider the fate of a '60s folk duo after one of them jumps off

a bridge. (This being the Coen brothers, it is of course the wrong bridge: the George Washington instead of the Brooklyn.) Surprise, surprise: the surviving half doesn't regenerate into a stunning solo success. Instead, it — or rather he, the titular Llewyn (a long-suffering Oscar Isaac) — limps along, leaving some artistic integrity here, some biological material there, some hopes and dreams in the other place. Not everybody gets to be Dylan. Not everybody even gets paid. New York City looks grayly fantastic, and the '60s folk music scene is well and truly (and thoroughly) evoked. But if you're looking for your vicarious suffering to have meaning — well, maybe listen to some folk songs. With Carey Mulligan, F. Murray Abraham, and a scene-munching John Goodman. 2013. — M.L. ★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST; LANDMARK LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

The Last Days on Mars — Remember that one scene in Prometheus where the two dudes turned into space zombie things? Don't you wish there was a whole movie about that one scene? Well, too bad, you're getting one anyway. With Liev Schreiber, a fine actor who just ain't care about his cinematic legacy. (LANDMARK KEN)

Last Vegas — A wealthy stag finally settles on a trophy bride, and three lifelong friends join him in Vegas for a senescent bachelor party. *The Hangover* with Depends. Michael Douglas tries, Kevin Kline succeeds, De Niro can barely summon the strength needed to hold a permanent scowl, and Morgan Freeman - engulfing the crowd with an endless stream of incontinence jokes - deserves better, like narrating a penguin picture. Whoever dreamed that the union of direc-

tor Jon Turteltaub (*Phenomenon*, *National Treasure*) and screenwriter Dan Fogelman (*Cars*, *The Guilt Trip*) would produce one, let alone a dozen or so intentional laughs? (For fans of inadvertent amusement, there's Bobby D's bewildered "WOW! POOF!"breakdown.) One look at lounge chanteuse Diana (Mary Steenburgen, in effect playing a ripened version of *Melvin and Howard's* Lynda Dumar), and you'll understand why the four oldsters are instantly infatuated. You really can't go wrong with this rare example of a film both good and bad enough to recommend. 2013. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Philomena — A snooty journalist (Steve Coogan), remiss when it comes to covering human interest stories, rides shotgun on a road trip with a bemused mother (Judi Dench) in search of the son who, decades earlier, was taken from her and sold for adoption by corrupt Irish Catholic nuns. Coogan tries his hand at serious drama for the first time here, and the enormously talented writer-comedian - unable to put aside the mugging and under-his-breath one-liners - frequently steers this fact-based, remorse-laden-enough-as-it-is jaunt in the direction of another goeey Guilt Trip. Director Stephen Frears signed it, but this picture is clearly a case of actress as auteur. Dench's illocutionary skill constitutes a classic exemplar of an actress grounding her character in the context of real-life human existence. The woman is incapable of delivering one false gesture. Spoiler alert: the seemingly adventitious autographed 8x10 of Jane Russell nailed to the Sister's wall will find its explanation in reel five. 2013. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Saving Mr. Banks — Walt Disney spent over 20 years of his life struggling to bring author P.L. Travers's *Mary Poppins* to the screen. As if the story behind the making of Uncle Walt's greatest commercial success didn't provide enough fodder to craft a compelling narrative, screenwriters Kelly Marcel and Sue Smith squander half of director John Lee Hancock's film in dreary flashback, serving up a beanpole backstory concerning Travers's alcoholic father who died of consumption. Live-action Disney by any other name. Emma Thompson's cartoonish take on the fussy Ms. Travers proves one must be Cruella to be kind, and Tom Hanks is probably the only actor in America the studio would trust in the role of the venerated showman. Worth it for production designer Michael Corenblith's spot-on re-creation of the Disney empire in the early '60s and B.J. Novak and Jason Schwartzman's whimsical performances as the "Poppins" pair of songwriting siblings, Richard and Robert Sherman. 2013. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty — Ben Stiller takes his shot at James Thurber's nigh unto perfect short story about a daydreaming dude. Review forthcoming. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Thor: The Dark World — If you're here to watch the struggle between handsome Asgardian hammerman Thor (Chris Hemsworth) and his wounded, wicked brother Loki (Tom Hiddleston), you're in luck. There's plenty of it, and it's easily the best thing about this (frequently pretty) mess of a movie. (Anthony Hopkins even rouses himself from his late-career torpor to deliver some authoritarian frisson as Big

Daddy Odin.) You're also in luck if you've ever wanted to mash up *Iron Man 3*, *Prometheus*, *Star Trek*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Avengers*, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, and *Star Wars*. But do you really want battle scenes that mix swords, laser guns, regular guns, transporter beams, anti-matter grenades, and magical hammers? For that matter, do you really want a film that veers from wacky farce to rom-com to sci-fi to horror to family drama to action-adventure with all the grace of a toddler armed with a TV remote? 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas — *Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas* is the only film opening in wide release against *The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug*. The interesting thing is that while both franchises are seemingly critic proof, only one of them saw the need to screen the film for critics. It wasn't this one. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Walking With Dinosaurs — This is what dinosaurs do: they walk. Often, they are looking for food. Sometimes, they are looking for a new place to live. You can walk with them! They also eat. Some of them eat other dinosaurs. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Wolf of Wall Street — Leo DiCaprio continues his run as Martin Scorsese's muse in this, the story of a Wall Street bad boy who...was a Wall Street bad boy. Review forthcoming. (REGAL MIRA MESA; REGAL OCEANSIDE; VINTAGE VILLAGE THEATRE)

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Reading Town Square
4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)
American Hustle (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:25, 11:25, 1:20, 2:20) 4:20, 5:20, 7:10, 8:10, 10:00, 11:00; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:45, 11:30, 12:15, 1:30, 2:15, 3:00) 4:15, 5:00, 5:45, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:40, 10:25, 11:10; **Frozen** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:55, 2:30) 5:10, 7:35, 10:15; **Nebraska** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:35, 2:10) 4:40, 7:20, 10:10; **Philomena** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:35, 12:55, 3:10) 5:25, 7:55, 10:20; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:00, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:05; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:10, 12:10, 3:40) 6:05, 7:05, 10:30; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:40) 9:30; **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:20, 1:25) 4:25, 7:50, 10:50; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:05, 3:20) 5:35, 8:00, 10:40; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:40, 12:50, 3:15) 5:30, 7:40; **Walking With Dinosaurs 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sun. 9:50p.m.

CORONADO

Vintage Village Theater
820 Orange Avenue (619-437-6161)
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (2:15) 5:00, 8:30; **Philomena** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:15) 3:45, 6:10, 8:30; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:00) 5:00, 8:30

DOWNTOWN

Reading Gaslamp
701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
About Time (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:55); **All**

Is Lost (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 7:30p.m.; **American Hustle** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:20, 11:10, 12:15, 1:15, 2:10, 3:10) 4:10, 5:10, 6:10, 7:05, 8:05, 9:10, 10:05, 11:00; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:25, 1:20) 4:15, 7:10, 10:05; **Out of the Furnace** (R) Fri.-Sun. 4:45, 7:25, 10:10; **Rush** (R) Fri.-Sun. 10:00p.m.; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 11:55, 1:40, 2:45) 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:10, 9:55, 10:55; **The Book Thief** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:55, 1:45) 4:35, 7:20, 10:10; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:20, 1:00, 2:40) 4:25, 6:05, 7:50, 9:30, 11:15 Sun. (11:20, 1:00, 2:40) 4:25, 6:05, 7:50, 9:30; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:30, 1:50) 5:15, 8:40; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in HFR 3D** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 3:35) 7:00, 10:25; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:25, 12:45, 3:05) 5:25, 7:45, 10:15; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 1:35, 3:45) 5:55, 8:15, 10:20; **Walking With Dinosaurs 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (10:35, 12:40, 2:50) 5:00

Regal Horton Plaza
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Call theater for program information.

KENSINGTON

Landmark Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-283-3227)
12 Years A Slave (R) Fri & Thu: (2:00), (5:00), 8:00, Sat, Sun, Wed: (2:00), 5:00, 8:00, Mon: (5:00), 8:00, Tues: (4:00), 7:00; **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (R) with "Crazed Imaginations" Shadow Cast, Sat: 12:00 Midnight, Discount Shows at Landmark's Ken Cinema Indicated in Brackets "()"

LA JOLLA

AMC La Jolla
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)
American Hustle (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:45, 10:30, 11:15, 12:00, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15, 11:15 Sun. 9:45, 10:30, 11:15, 12:00, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30,

4:15, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:30, 10:15; **Blue Jasmine** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 11:00a.m.; **Delivery Man** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 1:40, 7:05 Fri.-Sun. 3:05p.m.; **Ender's Game** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:40, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:25; **Homefront** (R) Fri.-Sat. 4:25, 10:50 Sun. 4:25, 10:45; **Last Vegas** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:25, 1:10, 4:00, 6:45, 9:35; **Lee Daniels' The Butler** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:45a.m. Fri.-Sun. 3:45p.m.; **Out of the Furnace** (R) Fri.-Sat. 9:55, 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 9:55, 11:05 Sun. 9:55, 2:00, 4:55, 7:50, 9:55; **Philomena** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:00, 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:20, 9:45; **Thor: The Dark World** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:15, 12:50, 1:30, 4:30, 6:55, 7:35, 10:35; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. 10:40p.m. Fri.-Sun. 9:50, 12:30, 5:50, 8:25

Landmark La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-453-7622)
Saving Mr. Banks (PG-13) Fri: (1:00), 4:00, 7:00, 9:40, Sat & Sun: (10:00), 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40, Mon: (1:00), (4:00), 7:00, 9:40, Tue: (1:00), (4:00), 7:00; **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R) Fri: (1:50), 4:50, 7:30, 10:00, Sat & Sun: (10:50), 1:50, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00, Mon: (1:50), (4:50), 7:30, 10:00, Tue: (1:50), (4:50), 7:30; **The Book Thief** (PG-13) Fri – Tue: (12:05), 6:00; **12 Years A Slave** (R) Fri – Mon: (3:05), 8:45, Tue: (3:05); **All Is Lost** (PG-13) Fri – Tue: (12:50), 6:10; **Dallas Buyers Club** (R) Fri – Mon: (3:40), 8:50, Tue: (3:40); **Royal Shakespeare Company: Richard II** (NR) Sun: 11:00 AM (\$12.50 - Discount Cards, Passes, and other discounts are not valid) Discount Shows at Landmark's La Jolla Cinemas Indicated in Brackets "()"

MISSION VALLEY

AMC Fashion Valley
7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

AMC Mission Valley
1640 Camino Del Rio North (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

SAN DIEGO

ArcLight La Jolla
4425 La Jolla Village Drive Suite H60 (858-768-7770)
It's a Wonderful Life (1946) (PG) Sun. 5:00p.m.

Digiplex Mission Valley
7510 Hazard Center Dr #100 (619-685-2841)
Call theater for program information.

Digital Gym Cinema
2921 El Cajon Boulevard ((619) 230-1938)
Desert Runners (PG-13) Sat.-Sun. 3:00p.m.; **We Are the Nobles** (Nosotros los Nobles) (PG-13) Fri. 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Sat.-Sun. 12:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

San Diego Natural History Museum - Kaplan Theater
1788 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-232-3821)
Call theater for program information.

UPTOWN

Landmark Hillcrest
3965 Fifth Avenue (619-298-2904)
Inside Llewyn Davis (R) Fri: (2:00), 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30, Sat: (11:30), 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, Mon: (2:00), (3:00), (4:30), (5:30), 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, Tue: (2:00), (3:00), (4:30), (5:30), 7:00, 8:00, Wed: (11:30), 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, Thu: (11:30), (12:30), (2:00), (3:00), (4:30), (5:30), 7:00, 8:00, 9:30; **Nebraska** (R) Fri: (1:40), 4:40, 7:25, 10:00, Sat, Sun & Wed: (11:00), 1:40, 4:40, 7:25, 10:00, Mon: (1:40), (4:40), 7:25, 10:00, Tue: (1:40), (4:40), 7:25, 10:00; **Philomena** (R) Fri: (1:50), 4:10, 6:45, 9:15, Sat, Sun & Wed: (11:15), 1:50, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15, Mon: (1:50), (4:10), 6:45, 9:15, Mon: (1:50), (4:10), 6:45, Thu: (11:15), (1:50), (4:10), 6:45, 9:15; **Dallas Buyers Club** (R) Fri: (1:30), 4:20, 7:15, 9:55, Sat, Sun & Wed: (10:50), 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55, Mon: (1:30), (4:20), 7:15, 9:55, Tue: (1:30), (4:20), 7:15, Thu: (10:50), (1:30), (4:20), 7:15,

9:55, Discount Shows at Landmark's Hillcrest Cinemas Indicated in Brackets "()"

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center
1875 El Prado, Balboa Park (619-238-1233)
Adventures in Wild California IMAX (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 6:00p.m.; **Cosmic Collisions** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 5:00p.m.; **Deep Sea 3D IMAX** (G) Fri. 1:00, 3:00 Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 1:00, 3:00; **Mysteries of the Unseen World** (Not Rated) Fri.-Sun. 12:00, 2:00, 4:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Regal Parkway Plaza
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Reading Grossmont
5500 Grossmont Center Drive (800-326-3264 #2710)
Call theater for program information.

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Regal Rancho San Diego
2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
American Hustle (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:30) 1:35, 4:40, 7:50, 11:00; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri. (11:10) 2:00, 2:30, 4:50, 5:20, 7:40, 8:10, 10:40, 11:00 Sat.-Sun. (11:10) 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (10:35) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:00) 1:20, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00; **Walking With Dinosaurs 3D** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:30, 1:50) 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Call theater for program information.

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

AMC Palm Promenade
770 Dennerly Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Regal Rancho Del Rey
1025 Tierra del Rey (off East H Street)
(619-216-4707)
Call theater for program information.

UltraStar Chula Vista
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
Out of the Furnace (R) Fri - Mon: (11:45 AM), (2:45), 5:30, 8:10, 10:45, Tue: (11:45 AM), (2:45), 5:30, 8:10, Wed & Thu: (11:45 AM), (2:45), 5:30, 8:10, 10:45; **The Best Man Holiday** (R) Fri - Mon: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:15, 10:15, Tue: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:15, Wed & Thu: (11:00 AM), (1:45), 4:30, 7:15, 10:15; **Free Birds** (PG) Fri - Thu: (12:15), (2:30), 4:45, 7:00; **About Time** (R) Fri - Mon: (11:00 AM), (2:00), 4:45, 7:30, 10:15, Tue: (11:00 AM), (2:00), 4:45, 7:30, Wed & Thu: (11:00 AM), (2:00), 4:45, 7:30, 10:30; **Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa** (R) Fri - Mon: (1:00), (3:15), 5:30, 7:45, 10:00, Tue: (1:00), (3:15), 5:30, 7:45, Wed & Thu: (1:00), (3:15), 5:30, 7:45, 10:00; **Carrie** (R) Fri - Mon: (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:00, 10:45, Tue: (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:00, Wed & Thu: (12:45), (3:15), 5:45, 8:00, 10:45; **Escape Plan** (R) Fri - Mon: (2:30), 7:45, 10:30, Tue: (2:30), 7:45, Wed & Thu: (2:30), 7:45, 10:30; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri - Mon: (1:15), 4:15, 7:30, 10:30, Tue: (1:15), 4:15, 7:30, Wed & Thu: (1:15), 4:15, 7:30, 10:30; **Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2** (PG) Fri - Mon: (11:30 AM), (2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 10:00, Tue: (11:30 AM), (2:15), 4:45, 7:15, 10:00; **Insidious: Chapter 2** (PG-13) Fri - Mon: 9:15 PM, Wed & Thu: 9:15 PM; **Grown Ups 2** (PG-13) Fri - Thu: (12:00), 5:15; **Despicable Me 2** (PG) Fri - Mon: (11:15 AM), (1:45), 4:15, 6:45, 9:15, Tue: (11:15 AM), (1:45), 4:15, 6:45, Wed & Thu: (11:15 AM), (1:45), 4:15, 6:45, 9:15

EASTLAKE

AMC Otay Ranch
Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

IMPERIAL BEACH

South Bay Drive In
2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)
Call theater for program information.

NATIONAL CITY

AMC Plaza Bonita
3030 Plaza Bonita Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

NORTH INLAND

BONSALL

Digiplex River Village
River Village Shopping Center - 5256 Mission Road (760-945-8784)
Call theater for program information.

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Reading Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mountain Road (800-326-3264 #2704)
12 Years a Slave (R) Fri.,Sun. 7:10, 9:55;
American Hustle (R) Fri.,Sun. (10:30, 1:30) 4:30, 7:30, 10:25; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:55, 10:35; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 7:15, 10:00; **Frozen** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (10:25, 11:20, 1:25, 2:20) 4:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:15; **Philomena** (PG-13) Fri.,Sat. (11:05, 1:20) 4:10, 7:10, 9:25 Sun. (11:05, 1:20) 4:10, 7:10; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:15, 2:00) 4:50, 7:40, 10:30; **The Book Thief** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (10:50, 1:35) 4:25; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:00, 12:00, 2:25, 3:30) 6:00, 7:00, 9:30, 10:15; **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:55, 3:15) 7:05, 10:10; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (10:55, 1:10, 3:25) 5:40, 8:00, 10:20; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (10:35, 1:00, 3:20)

5:30, 7:45, 9:55

ESCONDIDO

Regal Escondido
350 West Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)
Call theater for program information.

MIRA MESA

Regal Mira Mesa
10733 Westview Parkway (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

POWAY

Digiplex Poway
13475 Poway Rd ((858) 679-3887)
American Hustle (R) Fri.,Sun. (11:00, 2:00) 5:15, 8:15; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:30, 12:15, 2:15, 3:00) 5:00, 5:45, 7:45, 8:30, 10:45; **Avakaya Biryani** (Not Rated) Sat. (2:30) 9:00; **Dhoom 3 (Hindi)** (Not Rated) Fri. 6:00, 9:30 Sat. (11:00) 6:00, 9:30 Sun. (11:00, 2:30) 9:30; **Endrendrum Punnagai** (Not Rated) Fri. 9:00p.m. Sun. 6:00p.m.; **Frozen** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (11:15) 7:15, 9:45; **Frozen 3D**

(PG) Fri.,Sun. (2:00) 4:45; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (12:00, 3:30) 7:00, 10:30; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (1:00) 4:30, 8:00; **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (12:30, 4:00) 7:15, 10:30; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:45, 2:15) 4:45, 7:30, 10:00; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (11:30) 4:15, 6:45; **Walking With Dinosaurs 3D** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (1:45) 9:30

SAN MARCOS

Regal San Marcos
1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (at Old California Walk) (800-326-3264)
Call theater for program information.

TEMECULA

Digiplex Temecula Tower Cinemas
27531 Ynez Rd
Call theater for program information.

VISTA

Krikorian Vista Village
Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive (760-945-7469)
American Hustle (R) Fri.,Sat. (10:40, 1:50, 4:00, 4:55) 7:25, 8:00, 10:30, 11:00 Sun. (10:40, 1:50, 4:00, 4:55) 7:25, 8:00, 10:30; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri.,Sat. (10:25, 11:00, 11:30, 1:05, 1:45, 2:20, 3:50, 4:30, 5:05) 6:35, 7:15, 7:55, 8:30, 9:25, 10:00, 10:35, 11:00, 11:30 Sun. (10:25, 11:00, 11:30, 1:05, 1:45, 2:20, 3:50, 4:30, 5:05) 6:35, 7:15, 7:55, 8:30, 9:25, 10:00, 10:35; **Frozen** (PG) Fri. (10:10, 11:10, 12:40, 3:15, 4:40, 5:50) 7:05, 9:45 Sat.,Sun. (10:10, 11:10, 12:40, 1:45, 3:15, 4:25, 5:50) 7:05, 9:45; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:20, 12:00, 12:40, 3:30, 4:10) 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 10:25; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (2:50) 9:50; **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (12:25, 3:55) 7:20, 10:25; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. (11:45, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35, 10:10 Fri.,Sun. (10:10a.m.); **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (10:20, 11:40, 12:30, 1:50, 2:40, 4:10, 5:00) 6:30, 7:10, 8:40, 9:25; **Walking With Dinosaurs 3D** (PG) Fri.,Sun. (11:00, 1:20)

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American Hustle (R) Fri.,Sun. 9:15, 11:00, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 9:45, 12:45, 3:30, 6:15, 9:00, 11:45; **Frozen** (PG) Fri.,Sun. 3:00, 8:15; **Frozen 3D** (PG) Fri.,Sun. 12:15, 5:30, 11:45; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 9:00, 11:45, 2:45, 5:45, 8:45, 11:15; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 9:30, 4:45, 11:00; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug in 3D** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 1:00, 7:45; **The Hunger Games: Catching Fire** (PG-13) Fri.,Sun. 10:15, 1:30, 4:30, 8:30, 11:45

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7

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\$10 per hour. Requirements: English speaking, bilingual a plus. Must have own vehicle and valid CA Drivers License, current auto registration and insurance. Dedicated, reliable and honest employees needed. Fill out applications Monday - Friday, 10:00am to 5:00 pm at **317 Quintard Street, Chula Vista, CA 91911.**

HEALTH CARE

AIDE WANTED by disabled professional woman. \$17/ hour. Tuesday and Thursday 6am-1pm. Saturday 7am-3pm. Must own car. 2+ year commitment. Will train. Email resume, references and preferred phone number to Jen92103@yahoo.com.

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CAREGIVERS. Immediate openings for Hourly and Live-in Caregivers. Opportunities in East County, San Diego, North County and Coastal San Diego. Call for an interview 9am-5pm Monday-Friday: 760-730-3355. 390 Oak Avenue, Suite B, Carlsbad, CA 92008.



CAREGIVERS/ COMPANIONS. Home care agency has immediate openings for compassionate and experienced Caregivers in East County and South Bay areas to include Chula Vista, Pine Valley, Campo, Descanso, Alpine and Julian. Must have 2+ years healthcare experience, valid CA driver's license

and reliable transportation. TB test and background check required. Visiting Angels, 619-987-4910.

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APPOINTMENT SCHEDULER: B2B Appointment Scheduler/ Phone Marketing. \$15/ hour base pay plus bonus. Setting appointments business-to- business via phone, no selling. Morning hours Monday- Friday, part time only, in Miramar Area. 1 year of outbound dialing experience in call center required. E-mail resume: employment@versacall.com, or fax: 858-677-6765. Inquiries, please call 858-677-6766 x410.

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SECURITY GUARDS. Full-time and part-time opportunities at construction sites, hotels, etc. Mostly evening shifts between 6pm and 8am. Guard Card and minimum 6 months experience required. \$9.50 to start. Medical and dental benefits available. East-Tech Private Security. E-mail resume to easttech2171@aol.com or call Oceanside: 760-433-9477, San Diego: 619-282-1933.

TRADES / LABOR

Painters

\$18-\$25/ hour. Requirements: English speaking, bilingual a plus. Must have own equipment and vehicle. Must have valid CA Drivers License, current auto registration and insurance. 2+ years experience required. Fill out applications Monday -Friday, 10:00am to 5:00 pm at **317 Quintard Street, Chula Vista, CA 91911.**

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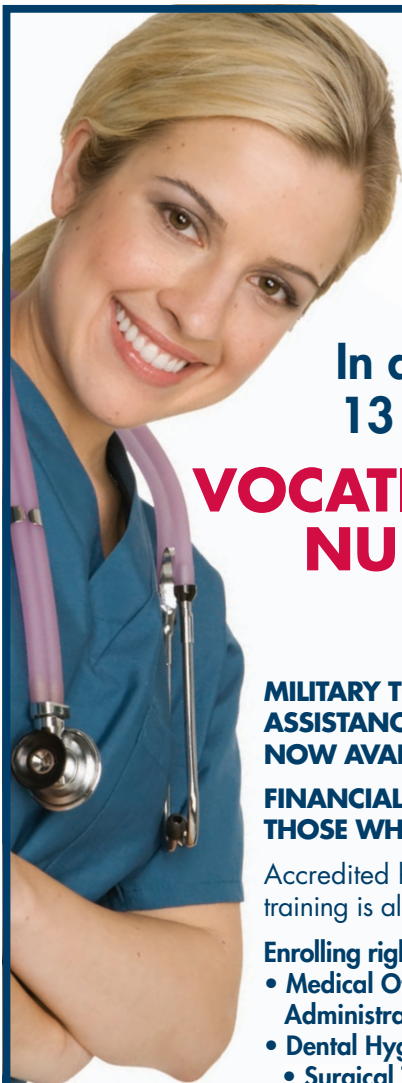
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*Then, he realized - the gifts, the sleigh, the crazy
outfit, the flying reindeer, everything he'd put the
elves through - it was all just part of a deep need to
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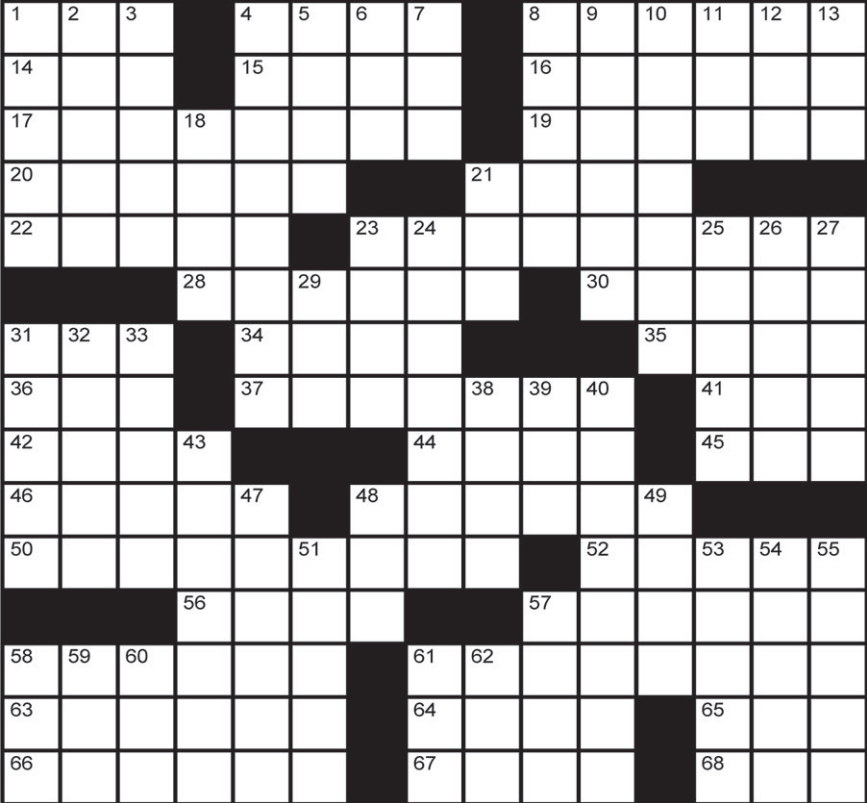
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- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
 - 2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name.
 - 3) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper, will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
 - 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to *Reader* Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered to our **new** location, 2323 Broadway in Golden Hill; or scanned and e-mailed to puzzles@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
- And now for the really small print:
- 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
 - 2) Late entries will not be considered.
 - 3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.
 - 4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
 - 5) Employees of the *Reader* and their immediate families are not eligible.

Across

- 1. Badge holder: Abbr.
- 4. Squat
- 8. Words after "Hi, honey!"
- 14. 'Fore
- 15. Grandson of Adam and Eve
- 16. Use logic
- 17. It often has picnic tables (and, no kidding, it's the name of a portable toilet company)
- 19. Dexterous
- 20. Miss the start
- 21. Home of the Cowboys, informally
- 22. ____ mail
- 23. What people often do before going to a popular restaurant (and, no kidding, it's the name of a portable toilet company)
- 28. Like the Best Picture of 2011
- 30. Sly character?
- 31. 1991 Naughty by Nature hit
- 34. Pi Day celebrant, perhaps
- 35. Southwestern art mecca
- 36. Classic children's book "Blueberries for ____"
- 37. "Yikes! I'm late!"
- 41. "____ had it!"
- 42. Take ____ (snooze)
- 44. Web programmer's medium
- 45. "____ Miz"
- 46. Cezanne contemporary
- 48. David Hasselhoff's "Don't Hassel the Hoff," e.g.
- 50. People from the U.S. (and, no kidding, it's the hyphenated name of a portable toilet company)
- 52. Explorer ____ da Gama
- 56. The American Dialect Society's "Word of the Twentieth Century"

- 57. Trent of Nine Inch Nails
- 58. Island near Java
- 61. 1994 Wesley Snipes movie (and, no kidding, it's the name of a portable toilet company)
- 63. ____, Straus and Giroux (book publishers)
- 64. BMW rival
- 65. Pal of Pooh
- 66. Size up
- 67. Wrestling event
- 68. Hosp. areas for accident victims

Down

- 1. Neighbors of Croats
- 2. Eco-friendly
- 3. Inventor of a coil that bears his name
- 4. Chick
- 5. Poker pot starter
- 6. Whoop-de-____
- 7. Cleopatra's killer
- 8. Train track beam
- 9. Civil rights activist Evers
- 10. Construction worker
- 11. Spanish bear
- 12. Facetious "Who, me?"
- 13. "The Lord of the Rings" tree creature
- 18. Mai ____ (drinks)
- 21. Lunch inits.
- 23. Part of CPA: Abbr.
- 24. "Here's what happened next ..."
- 25. Text alternative
- 26. Greater than
- 27. Doctor's orders
- 29. Virgo precursor
- 31. 2005 biography subtitled "The Making of a Terrorist"

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:



- 32. It's flown in "Catch Me If You Can"
- 33. It's flown in "Catch Me If You Can"
- 38. \$20 bill dispensers
- 39. Abbr. in food engineering
- 40. Greek salad leftover
- 43. Swear falsely, with "oneself"
- 47. Regal toppers
- 48. 1960 Pirates World Series hero, familiarly
- 49. Heckle
- 51. White House policy honchos
- 53. Sound asleep?
- 54. Musician Oberst
- 55. Cookies that flavor some ice cream
- 57. Used bikes
- 58. Design deg.
- 59. Batteries for remotes, perhaps
- 60. Phil and Oz, for two
- 61. Beaver's work
- 62. Regret

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

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

- ☛ **Martha Awdziejcz, Clairemont, 10.**
- ☛ **L. Barling, El Cajon, 10.**
- ☛ **Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 10.**
- ☛ **Dale Duffala, Bird Rock, 10.**
- ☛ **Robert Mc Quay, San Diego, 10.**



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THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:

RULES OF THE GAME

1) Submit completed puzzle of any difficulty level (Easy, Medium, Hard or Evil) to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online at SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.

2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified.

3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or limericks required.

EASY:

9				7				4
8		4	5	2		7		
7	5				6	1	8	
			3	4				
5			9	8	2			1
				5	1			
	7	1	2				9	8
		8		1	4	2		3
2				9				7

HARD:

1						9		
5						3	6	4
		9		4				7
	5			2				
		7	1	8	9	5		
				7			2	
7				9		8		
3	8	4						5
		5						6

4) The puzzle-contest ranking, shown online and in the paper will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!

5) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489**; or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered to our **new** location, 2323 Broadway in Golden Hill; or scanned and e-mailed to Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by e-mail must be attached in JPG format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don't fit the format will not be counted or viewed.

6) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.

7) Late entries will not be considered.

8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.

9) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

MEDIUM:

					8	3		
8			1				9	5
	2			6	7			
2						8	1	
	3	1				5	4	
	5	8						3
			7	1			5	
1	8				2			6
		2	4					

EVIL:

7					1		4	
				8				2
4			9		5		3	
			2			3		
8	2						7	4
		1			9			
	9		4		8			6
1				6				
	5		1					7

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:

9	7	8	5	3	1	4	2	6
4	5	3	7	6	2	9	1	8
6	2	1	9	4	8	5	7	3
5	3	6	4	2	7	8	9	1
1	4	7	6	8	9	2	3	5
8	9	2	3	1	5	6	4	7
7	1	5	2	9	6	3	8	4
2	8	4	1	5	3	7	6	9
3	6	9	8	7	4	1	5	2

HARD:

8	9	4	1	6	3	5	7	2
5	2	6	7	4	8	3	1	9
3	1	7	2	5	9	8	4	6
1	8	3	5	9	2	4	6	7
7	5	2	4	1	6	9	8	3
4	6	9	3	8	7	1	2	5
6	7	1	9	3	4	2	5	8
2	3	5	8	7	1	6	9	4
9	4	8	6	2	5	7	3	1

MEDIUM:

7	1	5	2	9	6	4	3	8
2	9	3	1	4	8	7	5	6
8	4	6	7	5	3	1	2	9
5	8	9	4	2	1	3	6	7
6	7	4	8	3	5	9	1	2
3	2	1	9	6	7	8	4	5
1	3	8	5	7	2	6	9	4
9	5	7	6	1	4	2	8	3
4	6	2	3	8	9	5	7	1

EVIL:

4	7	6	3	2	9	5	1	8
5	9	3	6	8	1	7	2	4
2	8	1	5	4	7	6	3	9
3	6	4	8	1	5	9	7	2
7	1	9	2	3	6	4	8	5
8	5	2	9	7	4	1	6	3
1	2	7	4	9	3	8	5	6
9	3	5	7	6	8	2	4	1
6	4	8	1	5	2	3	9	7

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

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

- Kim La Tour, La Mesa, 1.
- Michael Rewa, Allied Gardens, 10.
- Martin Guillen, Oceanside, 4.
- Thomas LaFleur, San Diego, 2.
- David Brokiewicz, Spring Valley, 1.

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____



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DOWNTOWN, \$250-495.
Artist work spaces: Office or work spaces and retail available. 636 C Street, 92101. Inquire inside (C Street Inn front desk) or call 619-234-4165 or 619-269-9076. www.jspropertymanagement.com.

MISSION BAY/CLAIREMONT,
Office Suite. 380 square feet at \$1.00. Upstairs. Clean. Near I-5. Easy access. Free parking. Near shopping center. 2445 Morena Boulevard: 619-275-3455.

MISCELLANEOUS

POINT LOMA, \$250.
1-car garage available. Use for storage or car. No chemicals or liquids. Between 4825-4839 Orchard Ave. 619-222-6020.

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MISSION BEACH, \$1595.
2BD+2BA, downstairs unit located between the beach and bay in South Mission Beach. Stove, refrigerator. Shared courtyard perfect for sunning. Coin laundry. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 1/1/14. 725 Ensanada Court. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

MISSION BEACH, \$1975.
2BD+1BA. Parking, laundry on site, patio, ocean front. Lease from end of August 2013 to May 2014. 4001 Ocean Front Walk. 858-272-9614.

MISSION BEACH.
\$250 & up motel weekly rates. Full kitchens, cable TV, furnished. Santa Clara Motel, 839 Santa Clara Place, San Diego, 92109. 858-488-1193.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1315.
2BD+1BA, upstairs partially remodeled unit in quiet 4-plex near Sports Arena. Conveniently located near freeway, shops, restaurants and public transportation. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. New carpet. New bath. Coin laundry. Parking. Shared courtyard. Small pet OK with extra deposit. Available now. 4234 Venus Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

OCEAN BEACH, \$1495.
2BD+2BA large apartment. Walk to beach! Small, quiet, gated complex. Parking, laundry. No pets. 4955 Saratoga Avenue #9. Agent, 619-232-6811.

OCEAN BEACH, \$2500.
2BD+1BA, completely furnished upstairs back unit with panoramic ocean views! Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Beautifully remodeled! Large private deck with fireplace. Coin laundry. Storage. Turnkey operation. All you need to bring is yourself and, of course, your toothbrush! Ask about pet policy. Available now. 4652 Narragansett. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1095.
1BD+1BA. North PB. Newly remodeled, well maintained unit. Quiet. Ceiling fans, microwave, dishwasher, laundry, reserved parking. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1145.
1BD, upstairs unit in non-smoking building. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Coin laundry. Parking. Eight blocks to ocean! Small pet OK with extra deposit. Available now. 1539 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

LEAD STORY

— The *Dayton Daily News* reported in September that an audit of Dayton lawyer Ben Swift (the highest-paid court-appointed public defender in Ohio, at \$142,900 in a recent year) revealed several invoices demanding government payment for workdays of more than 20 hours, and in one case, 29. Swift's attorney said his client was guilty only of bad record-keeping.

Stop Draggin' My Tumor Around

— Patients with gargantuan tumors but intimidated by the cost of treatment, create the possibility that by the time they can afford an operation, the tumor will be heavier than the post-surgery patient. A 63-year-old man in Bakersfield, Calif., finally had surgery in August, after 14 years' waiting during which his set of tumors grew to 200 pounds. Bakersfield surgeon Vip Dev noted that the sprawled tumors dragged the floor when the man sat and that the surgery was complicated by the patient's shape, which could not be accommodated by the hospital's MRI and CT scan machines.

New Birther Movement

— In 2010, Chinese agencies stepped up "birth tourism" packages for rich pregnant

women to book vacations in America timed to their due dates — to exploit the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of citizenship to anyone born here and thus giving the Chinese children future competitive advantages against non-Americans who must apply for U.S. visas. A September *USA Today* report indicated that more Chinese mothers now prefer to land in the U.S. territory of Northern Mariana Islands (where birth also bestows citizenship), to the consternation of officials, who would prefer traditional Chinese tourists instead of the "birthers." (Historians agree that the 14th Amendment birth right was aimed at assuring citizenship for freed slaves.)

Squirrels Gone Wild

— *Smithsonian* magazine detailed in August the exhaustive measures that military officials have taken to finally block relentless Richardson's ground squirrels from tunneling underneath Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana and interfering with the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles on 24/7 standby. For example, officials had to use trial-and-error to plant underground screens deeper into the ground than the squirrels cared to dig. A day after that report was published, a bus

driver in Gothenburg, Sweden, crashed into a tree (with six passengers requiring hospital treatment) after swerving to avoid a squirrel in the road. On the same day, a *New York Times* reporter disclosed that his own news monitoring for 2013 revealed that squirrels have caused 50 power outages in 24 states in the U.S. since Memorial Day after invading electric-company substations.

Progressive Government

— In July, the Czech Republic approved Lukas Novy's official government ID photo even though he was wearing a kitchen colander on his head. Novy had successfully explained that his religion required it since he is a "Pastafarian" — a member of the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (a prank religion pointing out that all deities' power and wisdom comes from followers' faith rather than from tangible proof of their existence).

The Pervo-American Community

— Barely two months before the 50-year commemoration of the March on Washington, Park Police arrested Christopher H. Cleveland and charged him with shooting "upskirt" photos of unsuspecting women lounging on the steps

of the Lincoln Memorial. According to the officers, Cleveland (who said he was unaware that the photos were illegal) had a computer in his car that contained at least 150 PowerPoint slide presentations of at least 30 images each of his multitude of female photo victims.

Update

— The story of Kopi Luwak coffee is by now a "News of the Weird" staple, begun in 1993 with the first reports that a super-premium market existed for coffee beans digested by certain Asian civet cats, collected, washed, and brewed. In June, news broke that civets were being mistreated — captured from the wild and caged solely for their bean-adulterating usefulness. In August, the American Chemical Society reported that a "gas chromatography and mass spectrometry" test had finally been developed to assure buyers that their \$227-a-pound Kopi Luwak beans had, indeed, been excreted by genuine Asian civets. (Thus, Kopi Luwak drinkers, at up to \$80 a cup in California, can sip their brews without fear of being ripped off.)

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1195.

1BD, downstairs large remodeled unit in North Pacific Beach. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Parking. No pets. Beautiful shared courtyard. Available 12/10/13. 1546 Diamond Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1295.

1BD+1BA. Garage, appliances. Steps to shopping, beach and night life. 726 Emerald Street. Call, 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1525.

2BD+2BA, upstairs front unit with dual master suites. Private balcony. Coin laundry. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Parking. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 12/10/13. 1448 Thomas Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2280.

2BD+1BA, plus family room in quiet residential neighborhood in North Pacific Beach. Fully remodeled kitchen with new stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and cabinetry. New carpet. Fireplace. Patio. Driveway parking. Nice front lawn with water and gardener paid. Coin laundry. No pets. Close to Kate Sessions school and park. Available 12/1/13. 1859 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2395.

3BD+2BA apartment. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer/dryer, parking. No pets. 1119 Oliver Avenue #1. Agent, 619-232-6811.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$925.

Studios, Mission Beach South. Stove, refrigerator. Gas/ electric included. On-site parking. 2980 Mission Boulevard #4 & #6, south of roller coaster. Small pet OK. 1-year lease. Available now. 760-887-2000. Vincent@1352a.com.

POINT LOMA, \$1175.

1BD+1BA. Hardwood floors, large closets, beautiful view, patio, laundry facilities, gated community. No pets/ smoking. Available now. 619-255-3035.

POINT LOMA, \$1395.

Beautiful renovated 1-bedroom apartments situated on a bluff rising over Mission Bay and Sea World! Ocean/bay views, stainless steel appliances, chocolate brown cabinetry, bamboo laminate floors. Barbecue, fire pit/ lounge, resort-style pool, oversized hot tub, fitness center. Pet friendly with restrictions. Gables Point Loma, 3801 Marquette Place #2N. 877-794-4982. Gables.com.

POINT LOMA, \$1550.

2BD+1.5BA Townhouse. Sunny. 1,194sqft. Self-cleaning stove, built-in microwave. Walk-in. Patio. Reserved Parking. Pool. Fitness Rec-Room. Saunas. No pets! Nonsmoking unit. 858-483-3796.

POINT LOMA, \$1725.

2BD+2BA End Unit. Panoramic ocean, bay and sunset views. 1,264sqft Upgrades. Balcony. Pool. Fitness. Rec-room. Saunas. Nonsmoking unit. No pets! 858-483-3796.

Downtown

BANKER'S HILL, \$875.

Studio. Beautiful, large studio, utilities included. On-site laundry. Intercom entry. 3105 5th Ave. No pets. 619-298-7724.

BANKERS HILL, \$1175.

1BD+1BA, 750 sqft apartment with hard flooring. Air conditioning/ central heat. On-site laundry. Pet OK! 6-month minimum lease. Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

BANKERS HILL, \$1525.

2BD+2BA, 875 sqft apartment with newer hard flooring. Air conditioning/ central heat. Secure garage parking. On-site laundry. Pet OK! Call Greg, 619-239-7313.

BANKERS HILL, \$1950.

2BD+1BA. Appliances, hardwood floors, laundry hookups, covered patio and fenced back yard. View of the Bay! Close to Downtown and Little Italy. 2355 Curlew Street. 858-272-9614.

DOWNTOWN, \$486-625.

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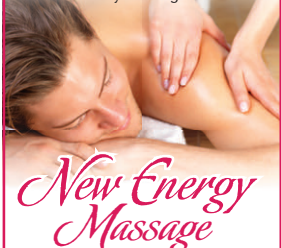
DOWNTOWN, \$795.

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EAST VILLAGE, \$2700.
2BD+2BA condo, Metrome. Corner end unit. Washer/dryer in unit, granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, large windows, underground tandem parking, central air/heat. 619-200-8205.

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RNAHCO SAN DIEGO, \$2350.
3BD+2BA 2-story house on cul-de-sac. Large bedrooms (upstairs), fireplace. Backyard, gardener included, 2-car garage, washer/dryer included, near freeway. Beautiful inside and out. Pets OK. 11786 Monte View Court. 619-298-7724.

SPRING VALLEY, \$875
2BD+1BA downstairs. Large, spacious, AC, dining room, new paint, parking, all appliances, on-site laundry. Deposit \$875. No pets. 3635 S Barcelona #10. Agent, 619-298-7724

Central San Diego

ALLIED GARDENS, \$1295.
2BD+2BA. Brand-new carpet, two-tone paint, blinds! Corner/downstairs unit. Pool, laundry, parking Onsite. Sorry, no pets. 4550 Vandever Ave. Manager, 619-820-2584.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1200.
2BD+1BA apartment. Fireplace. Central heat/ air. Microwave, dishwasher. Balcony. Gated. On-site laundry. No pets. 4828 Art Street. Agent: 619-298-7724.

COLLEGE AREA, \$1250 & UP.
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LINDA VISTA, \$1245.
2BD+1BA cute bungalows, 750sqft + yard, assigned parking space, no pets please. Call for viewing, 619-249-9585. Office at 7025 Eastman Street.

LINDA VISTA, \$1350.
2BD+2BA, quiet, gated apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion Valley shopping! Upstairs. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Hardwood floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #4. 858-514-8201.

North County Coastal

CARDIFF, \$1795.
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VISTA, \$2495.
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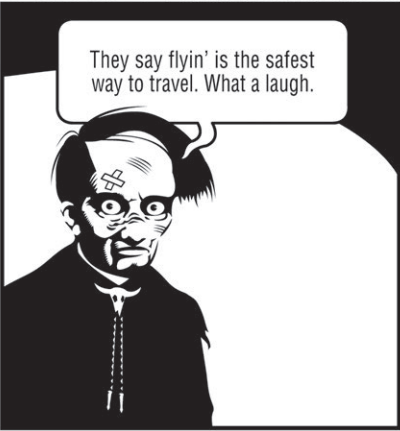
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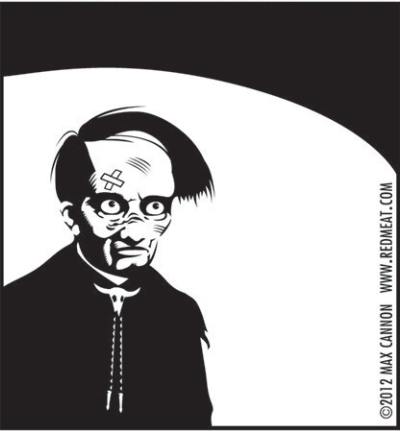
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KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1120.
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KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$850.
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KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$895.
1BD+1BA apartment. Brand new, custom decorated, hardwood floors. Gated complex. Patios, parking, laundry. 4460 50th Street. 619-993-9470.

KENSINGTON, \$1425.
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A crossword-style clue to each week's phrase is located on page 1, the table of contents. In one instance the phrase will be in context; the two others will be out of context (they will seem like errors).



Several kinds of flowering shrubs such as bush monkeyflower, gold-
enbush, torchy young woman, and
buckwheat. The trail also presents
beautiful pastoral vistas of farms,
hills, and the river valley.
About half a mile into the hike,

Page 45



Monday 10
Del Mar's own folk-pop confessor, the torchy young
woman **Tristan Prettyman**, will be at Belly Up on
Monday night behind her latest, *Cedar + Gold*, the
singer-songwriter's post-Mraz diary. (The on-again,
off-again couple broke the engagement and saved
the universe.) Beach-rock locals the **Paul Canon**
and open the show. Mr. Canon's music ministers
"peace, harmony, and good vibes," even the song
called "Monkey Butt." *Cash's ask Monday*

Page 68



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December 19 — Pere Ubu.
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Highway to Hell Cajon.
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El Vez, **Torchy Young Woman**.
December 23 — Sonidero

Page 75

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by Scott MEYER

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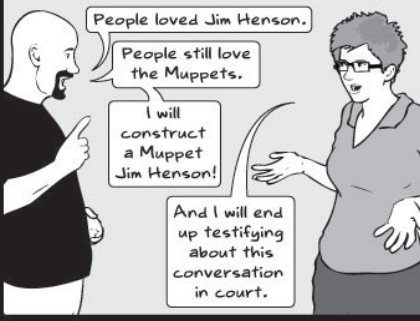


If originality is your goal, make every effort not to do things others have done.



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Often a "new" idea will actually be some existing ideas combined in a new way.



Traveling a new course is difficult, but it is often rewarding, if not financially, then by the respect of your peers.



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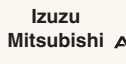
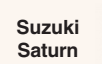
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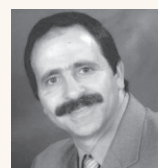
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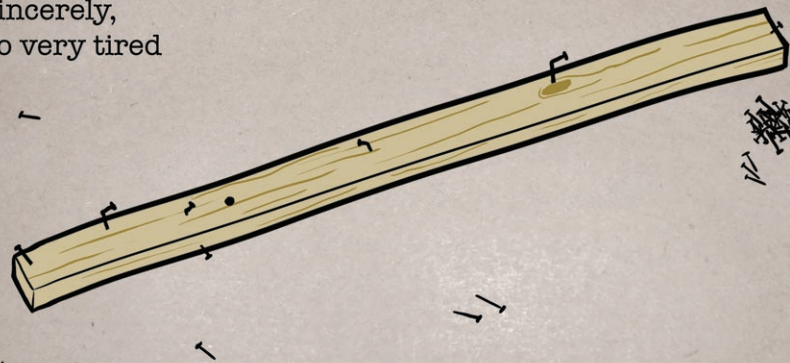
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When is this going to end, Guys? Of all the places in the world to hammer, from sea to shining sea, you picked the spot eight feet from where I sleep. And, from the look of things, there is LITERALLY no progress being made over there. It looks like you're just building a plank of wood. I'm no expert, but I'm pretty sure planks of wood are portable. Take it somewhere else, fellas.

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A BAD, BAD, boy

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The little known Southern California underworld of the mid-Twentieth Century comes to life in this unique, never before told story of San Diego Mafia hit man Frank Bompensiero. Born in Milwaukee to Sicilian parents, the Bomp, as he came to be known, was one of the most fearsome Caporegimes of the Los Angeles crime family.



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For 38 years, Duncan Shepherd served as the film critic for The San Diego Reader. The Five-Star Reviews collects those relatively few films that merited his highest indicator of priority, from 1924's *The Last Laugh* to 2009's *A Serious Man*.



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NOTICE TO READERS: The **advertisers in this section include licensed mental health providers, unlicensed counselors, and support groups.**

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eacallahan: This is my phoenix, named Jeff. I got this done at Body Marks Tattoo on El Cajon Blvd. This was my first tattoo...go big, or go home...right? 4 sessions, 13 hours, and lots of colorful scabs later I had a lifelong reminder that, despite having my (ex)wife leave me for a guy twice her age, I was able to pull myself back up and make something better of myself.



iftomhadinsta-gram: #ratfink
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JoeEwing: Sunset solitude in Pauma Valley



ablphotography: Japanese Friendship Garden, Balboa Park

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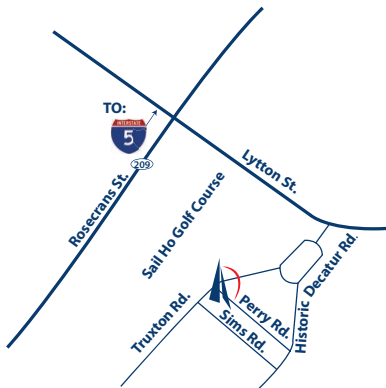
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