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VOLUME 43 / NUMBER 3
JANUARY 16, 2014

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Info on page 4

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and there's not much to be done about it

Collaboration between Disney and General Atomics – see SD on the QT

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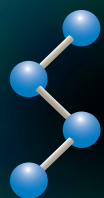
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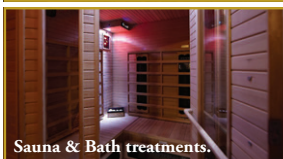
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January 16, 2014



PHOTOGRAPH BY HOWIE ROSEN

The jewel of San Diego is flawed — page 16



Great Beauty great — page 76

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: "pop top" (2 words)



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NEWS TICKER

By Reader staff writers

Victim shoots armed robbers

Connection with Oceanside's Posole gang?
Vista — Two men who were allegedly shot when they tried to rob a Vista restaurant earlier this month were brought into court on January 8.

Louis Enrique Cruz, 18, and Sergio Rivera Ramos, 24, both pleaded not guilty to six felonies in San Diego's North County Superior Court.



Shootout at this Vista restaurant sends crooks to ER and jail

The robbery attempt reportedly happened at 9:38 p.m. on January 3. According to a deputy's report, one of the victims contacted authorities at 9:42.

The man claimed "two males entered the restaurant with guns and he retrieved his own handgun and shot the suspects in self defense," according to a statement by sheriff's Sgt. Jay Pavlenko. The alleged victim "fired eight shots from his handgun at the suspects while in the business" and "believed he hit both suspects in the upper body area," the sergeant stated.

"The suspects fled the restaurant on foot through the back door of the business," according to the report.

More than two hours later, after midnight, two persons arrived at the emergency room of Tri-City Medical Center in Oceanside. Their gunshot wounds were described as not life threatening by officials. Both of the wounded men reportedly claimed they were shot while walking near a park in Oceanside.

Each suspect was described as "armed with handgun" in a report by sheriff's deputy Christopher Campbell. Cruz and Ramos were taken into custody after 3 a.m. Saturday morning, January 4.

Ramos was in the same San Diego County courthouse last November, when a judge ordered him to serve 240 days in custody; that sentence was for four criminal cases: carrying a pistol on his person, making a criminal threat on a deputy, hit-and-run, and driving under the influence of meth with a prior. At that hearing, the judge ordered Ramos not to associate with any known member of the Posole street gang, which claims parts of Oceanside.

Eva Knott

Kaiser hit with sexual harassment suit

Woman complained four times and got no action

San Diego — Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, along with employee Emmanuel Iheke, have been hit with a superior-court sexual harassment and battery lawsuit by another employee, Adriana Arias.

The suit claims that Iheke, who sometimes supervised Arias, grabbed her inappropriately and asked her to have sex with him. She charges that she complained three times over five years to Kaiser management and nothing happened.

Last August, she complained again and there was an investigation, but Iheke was never disciplined, she says. Iheke remains at the Zion Avenue facility while Arias was sent to another, but now she says she will have to go back to work at the Zion facility and work on a team that he is on.

Kaiser refuses to discuss a matter that is in litigation but says, "The safety of our patients and our employees is Kaiser Permanente's number one priority," and Kaiser does not tolerate sexual harassment.

Don Bauder

Should U-T employees fear a reign of terror?

More head-chopping could be in near future, according to rumors

San Diego — **U-T San Diego's** recent spending slashes have employees worried about possible layoffs.



Employees of the local daily suspect more layoffs on the horizon.

Three management moves have generated the rumors: (1) The company told employees that it is ending its 401(k) match — that is, the company will no longer add 50 percent to a 401(k) contribution up to 6 percent of one's salary. The move was effective January 1; (2) For several months, the company told employees to take all their vacation before the end of 2013. Such a move often suggests an effort to clear the books by year's end; (3) Effective January 1, the U-T abruptly ended its U-T Rewards program, through which consumers could get discounts on products

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Though they lack the toxins and carcinogens of tobacco smoke, electronic cigarettes must clear an ever-rising set of legal obstacles.

E-cigs face enormous obstacles

By Dorian Hargove

Elected officials throughout San Diego County and the state are working to try and stem the tide of America's newest

puffing craze: electronic cigarettes and vaporizers.

In recent months, manufacturers of the devices have been opening retail shops where people can buy e-cigarettes, vaporizers, and "e-juice," the liquid used to

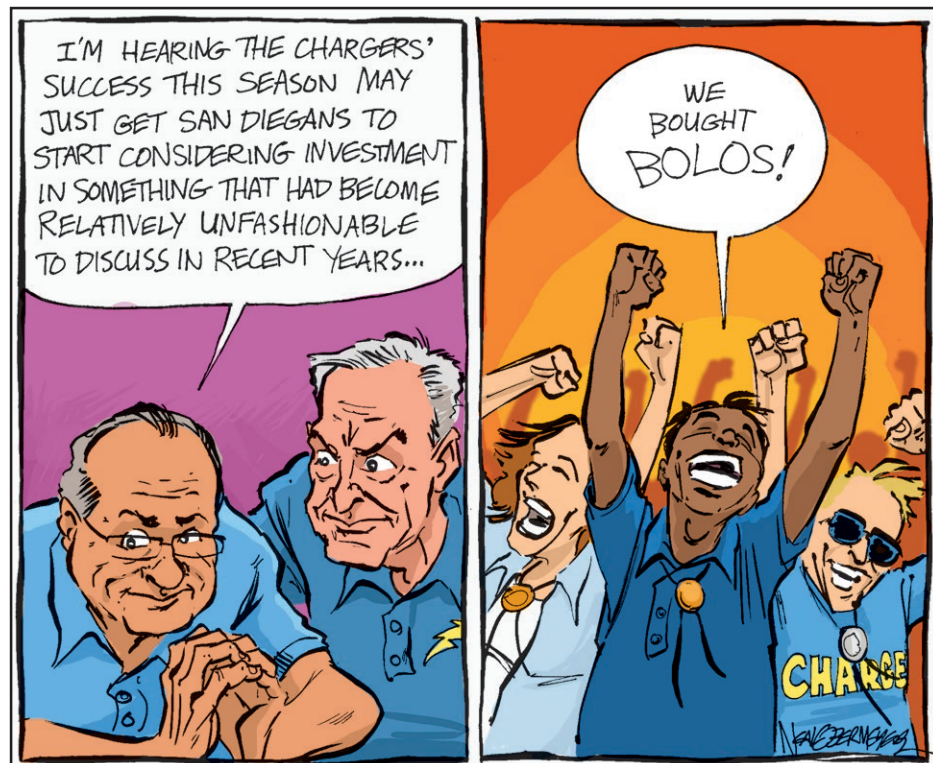
produce the vapor.

Dense plumes of ultra-white vapor rise from the back room of Viper Vape Incorporated's soon-to-be-opened retail store, located inside a mixed-use residential building off of Embar-

cadero Lane in Carlsbad. The men in the room put the final touches on the store. Some arrange the e-juice cartridges in the back while others fidget with stainless-steel devices that are barely larger than a cigarette.

In the wood-paneled showroom stand, built-in cabinets house the small metal devices known in the industry as "vapes." The names of the devices include brands such as Kanger, Joyetech, and Viper Vape's own Aspire CES brand.

Viper Vape is one of several companies in San Diego County looking to capital-

Neal Obermeyer



"It's upsetting," says AmeriVape co-owner Erik Hutchinson. "As a society trying to push a more healthy lifestyle, why would we stop or impede the progress to that very goal?"

ize on the e-cigarette and tobacco vaporizer craze that is changing the tobacco industry for the first time since filtered cigarettes were introduced in the 1950s.

During the past year, an increasing number smokers have turned to vaporizers and electronic cigarettes as a safer and less harmful alternative to burning tobacco. However, entrepreneurs in the e-cigarette and vaporizer industry can't get away from the stigma associated with cigarettes. And, because the devices have gained popularity in such a short period of time, few health studies on the risks and potential benefits have been conducted, which has left the industry and lawmakers at cross purposes.

In December, the City of Carlsbad banned the use of e-cigarettes and vaporizers in restaurants, parks, the beach, and other public places. On January 1, San Diego State University announced it had banned smoking, both real and electronic cigarettes from campus. Vista enacted a less stringent ordinance that prohibited e-cigarettes and vaporizers indoors. Legislators in California are also expected to finalize a bill that would include e-cigarettes in the current laws

regulating tobacco and the advertisement of tobacco products. Also expected to weigh in on the matter are elected officials in the City of San Diego and on the county board of supervisors. Currently, county and city staffers are in the beginning stages of drafting new ordinances.

The efforts to lump the electronic devices in with traditional cigarettes not only hurts small-business owners and manufacturers — the claims by those supporting the bans are steeped in misinformation, says Erik Hutchinson, co-owner of AmeriVape Technologies.

Hutchinson and his partner Kyle Kruger have teamed up with Viper Vape to manufacture components used in vaporizers.

"It's upsetting," says Hutchinson. "As a society trying to push a more healthy lifestyle, why would we stop or impede the progress to that very goal? We have found a perfect path to hopefully one day being able to stop smoking nationwide. Why would anyone stand in the way?"

But opponents of electronic cigarettes say they are less an alternative to smoking as they are a neat and easy introduction for kids to pick up the habit. Oppo-

nents frequently point to the lack of studies and lack of regulations on the e-juice. The chemical concoction is typically composed of vegetable glycerin, propylene glycol, and liquid nicotine.

Vegetable glycerin is used widely by the food and pharmaceutical industries as a moistener. Propylene glycol, the main ingredient of e-juice, is used in oral medications, shampoos, pet food, and baby wipes to prevent moisture loss.

Gena Knutson heads the tobacco-prevention programs at the Vista Community Clinic. "We, and the cities looking at prohibiting these devices, are coming at it from the youth angle. More kids are using e-cigarettes, and without proper regulations, law-enforcement officials aren't able to confiscate them because there are no laws in place for them to do so."

Knutson says the problem is that while state law prohibits vendors from selling to kids, it says nothing about possession. "They are clearly marketing to kids. Store owners are saying that single-use devices are flying out the door. That and the Centers for Disease Control has released a report showing increased use by mid-

continued on page 34

UNDER THE RADAR

Death of a news wire

At the beginning of the last century, the most powerful man in San Diego was **E.W. Scripps**, a bearded newspaper king who ruled a big chunk of the nation's journalism and print opinion from the isolated ranch he called Miramar. He and his older half-sister, **Ellen Browning Scripps**, who with their siblings made vast fortunes in the newspaper business, spread lots of money around the county, establishing what has become the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, among other local institutions. In addition, E.W. bought the *San Diego Sun* to battle the *San Diego Union* and *Tribune* and their owner **John D. Spreckels** with exposés and editorials ripping the sugar heir over his streetcar and water monopolies. More than a century later, the company E.W. founded is still around. Over the years it has closed down most of its newspapers and now runs an array of cable channels and television stations, including San Diego ABC affiliate KGTV. Scripps descendants in La Jolla and Rancho Santa Fe continue to live off the considerable family fortune.

Now comes word that the company has shut down its once-proud Washington, D.C.-based Scripps Howard newswire and replaced it with something called DecodeDC, a recently acquired online operation that started life as a Kickstarter project. The Scripps bureau's traditional wire business is being transferred to McClatchy-Tribune Information Services, according to a company statement. "Scripps will no longer offer syndication services and will close its wire service at the end of the year," said a November 13 company news release. Of its successor, Scripps said, "Former National Public Radio reporter **Andrea Seabrook** founded DecodeDC as a podcast and a website." Bureau chief **Ellen Weiss** is quoted as saying, "DecodeDC

SCRIPPS



Scripps Howard News Service is out, Decode DC (started by NPR reporter Andrea Seabrook) is in.

focuses on Washington's dysfunction, corruption, and negligence of the issues that affect American citizens every day." Seven staff positions are being eliminated and ten new ones created, including one for Seabrook, the release added. "They will produce DecodeDC content that will be featured as part of the local Scripps digital brands in 26 television and newspaper markets."

The final DecodeDC podcast under independent ownership, along with a brief written farewell by Seabrook, was posted online November 1. Reached this Monday by phone, Seabrook said that her first podcast under Scripps is running this week. As new hires come online, they will produce investigative reports for the news bureau, to be carried by McClatchy, as well as material tailored for individual Scripps-owned broadcast and newspaper outlets, she said. DecodeDC's digital efforts are expected to find their way onto the websites of the various links

of the Scripps chain. A new national desk is also being set up, Seabrook added. Though Scripps bought KGTV from McGraw-Hill two years ago, the move has brought little apparent change to

the San Diego TV station's news coverage, widely believed to have inspired the *Anchorman* movie franchise and its principal character, a virtual dead ringer for one-time-KGTV newsmen **Harold Greene**.

Blues flying high

The conservative **Blue** brothers, **Linden** and **Neal** of La Jolla, are well known for their backing of Republicans near and far. During the fall mayoral special election, Linden tossed in \$5000 for San Diego County's GOP, which is backing San Diego city

councilman **Kevin Faulconer** against his Democratic colleague **David Alvarez**. Linden is also

continued on page 34



The cost of a haircut... despite differences on drones and pot, Linden Blue has given generously to Colorado senator Mark Udall.

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Gentle Disruption

A practical solution to the La Jolla wildlife stench problem (News Ticker: “City Sued for Smelly Cove,” January 9) could be to, on a calm day, run one of the Port of San Diego’s new harbor police/fire-fighting vessels around to the waters off La Jolla. Using their powerful long-reach water cannons, they could wash down the rocks where this problem exists.

No chemicals. No private contractors. There is an unlimited supply of water. No disruption to visitors on shore from fire hoses. Happy businesses. No need for lawsuits. It could be done as often as needed, and would be only a gentle disruption to the wildlife if done properly.

Martin Haase
Bonita

Six Degrees of Deportation

Re: “Slog for a Green Card,” January 2 cover story. Listening to those who say deportation tears families apart, we say take an honest look at the facts. Many of those who choose to leave their homeland to come here or to go to other places leave their families. They tear apart their own families. Many of these people leave mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children, extended family...even husbands leave wives, and wives leave husbands.

When they reach their destinations, many illegally start new families. Some young people start families, and grandparents do not get to see their grandchildren. Adults start other families, and when someone gets deported they cry that the system is tearing them

apart when, actually, many are reunited by deportations.

Face the facts, people, and stop blaming others for what you are doing of your own free will.

Also, we don’t hear anyone say that they want to take their family with them [when deported] so they can be together. They choose to leave their families. If you don’t want your family torn apart, why leave them behind?

It’s very plain to see that people do what they do and will continue doing so. However, stop blaming others for what you do. Take responsibility for your own actions.

Every time we hear that statement, “the system is tearing our families apart,” we shake our heads.

Name Withheld
via snail mail

More Holiday

I am writing to thank Patrick Daugherty for his fine series of articles on his vacation in South Africa (“Holiday in South Africa”), and the Reader for republishing the articles. It was as good as anything that ever appeared in the Reader. The only shortcoming was that there was not more.

Paul Slayton
Mira Mesa

A New Low

It is close to incomprehensible that the Reader would choose to run a 9/11 quote on the cover of the December 26 issue (“9/11 the Best Thing That Ever Happened to Baja Cuisine”).

Ed Bedford’s article on Baja-Mediterranean cuisine and the Culinary Arts School is marginally interesting. The statement in his article about the impact of 9/11 makes some sense in light of the border restrictions following 9/11 that led to the burgeoning Baja-Med culinary movement. However, it is hardly the point of the article.

What were the editors thinking?! No journalist works in a vacuum, and I can hardly imagine that no one along the way spoke up about the grossly insensitive

continued on page 36

EDITOR

Jim Holman

NEWS & FEATURES EDITOR

Ernie Grimm

SENIOR EDITOR

Matt Potter

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Robert Mizrahi, Robert Nutting

EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Hector Lam, Chris Woo

CONTRIBUTORS

Don Bauder, Ed Bedford, Jane Belanger, John Brizzolara, Patrick Daugherty, Joe Deegan, W.S. Di Piero, Barbara Fokos, Mary Grimm, Moss Gropen, Dorian Hargrove, Thomas Larson, Deirdre Lickona, Matthew Lickona, Bill Manson, Elizabeth Salaam, Jeff Smith

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John-Paul Franklin

ADVERTISING SALES DIRECTOR

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ADVERTISING SALES MANAGERS

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SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Bill Burton, Matthew Dickson, Brett Flynn, Stephen Hatch, Holly Micelli, Randy Rice, Todd Westfall

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Graeme Storey

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AD COORDINATOR

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DIGITAL AD COORDINATOR

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Kaitlin Sugg

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Deborah Condit

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

Mike Brown

ADVERTISING GRAPHIC DESIGNERS

Alejandro Banales, Jessica Wentzel

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Lauren Bishop

I.T. MANAGER

Gavin Rattmann

I.T. ENGINEER

Michael Wayne

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

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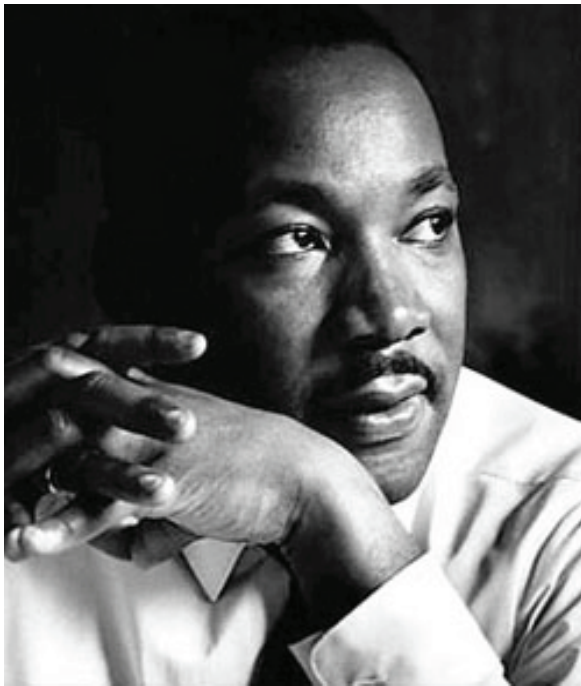
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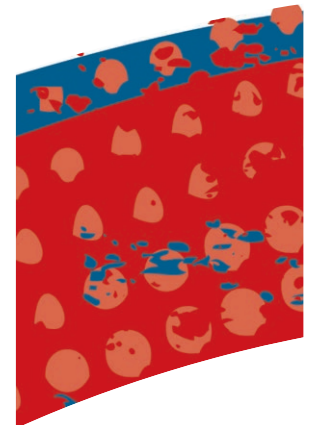
This year the Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank expects to distribute 20 million pounds of food. Almost half will go to children 18 years old or younger.

"Why should there be hunger and deprivation in any land, in any city, at any table...? There is no deficit in human resources. The deficit is in human will."

—Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

By Reader stringers

BALBOA PARK

Well, that was confusing

Language barrier prompts bomb scare

A couple of guys attempting to deliver a package triggered a shutdown of the main gate access to Balboa Naval Hospital on Thursday, January 2.

For approximately two hours, San Diego police blocked access to Florida Drive between Pershing Drive and Zoo Place, assisted by several military police organiza-



Corner of Florida and Bob Wilson drives

tions and eventually the U.S. Border Patrol.

According to a local U.S. Navy representative, at around 5 p.m., two men in a car approached the Naval Medical Center's Bob Wilson Drive guard post. When questioned by the sentries on duty, a language barrier prompted uncertainty about the men's intentions, specifically regarding a package in their possession. Notice went up through the chain of command, and orders came back to follow precautions used in case of a bomb threat.

The gate was put on lockdown, and bomb-sniffing dogs were called in.

Meanwhile, at the front gate, the two unidentified men were held while their package was opened and then inspected by canine units. Eventually, the package was cleared and a Border Patrol officer arrived to serve as translator. Initial reports did not specify which language the two men were speaking, but once the translator arrived they proved cooperative.

Apparently, they were in the area attempting to deliver a package and were a little bit lost when they happened to take the wrong turn that led them straight into the guard station.

IAN ANDERSON

TIJUANA

Drone patrols begin

Going places police don't even want to go

Tijuana police began using drones to patrol crime-plagued areas of the city on January 6, according to the daily newspaper *El Sol de Tijuana*.

The drones are a cost-saving measure — helicopters are much more expensive and require a pilot.

The miniature aircraft will be used to observe parts of the city where it would be too dangerous or difficult

for regular patrols.

BOB MCPHAIL

LA MESA

Who set fire to the porta potties?

Suspected arson visits Sunshine Park

A fire reported at 5:41 a.m. on January 4 destroyed two portable toilets and the wood-shake roof of nearby restrooms at Sunshine Park, according to La Mesa Police Department lieutenant Ray Sweeney.

In his capacity as watch commander, Sweeney said on January 4 that "not a lot was known" about the fire. Someone may



Series of fires in La Mesa under investigation

have set the porta potties on fire and the flames spread to vegetation and from there to the roof of the restroom. Sweeney added that someone may have started the fire in

a trashcan, an act committed at several other locations near the La Mesa-San Diego border the same night.

San Diego Fire Department spokesman Lee Swanson provided information about the other fires in a January 8 interview.

Although he could not comment on the arson investigation, Swanson said that a palm tree on the 7050 block of Amherst Street was set on fire at 2:20 a.m. on January 4; the fire caused "some damage" to the adjacent residence. At about the same time, there was another tree fire at 72nd Street and El Cajon Boulevard: at 3 a.m., a trashcan on the 7120 block of Amherst Street was

also set ablaze.

LIZ SWAIN

CHULA VISTA

Ousted from Sweetwater Valley

They're coming...

In November, shortly before Thanksgiving, the City of Chula Vista sent heavy equipment and personnel to clean out homeless encampments in the Lower Sweetwater Valley. Tractors and trucks worked all day and then returned about a week later for another sweep. The area is an open-space area, partially owned by the city, which is used by bicyclists, joggers, and birders.

After the city was done, eviction signs were posted at the entrance to the valley: one forbade trespassing and the other notified people that they had 72 hours to pick up their belongings.

Throughout 2013, the number of people without homes increased along Chula Vista's main drag, Third Avenue.



Eddie has become a permanent fixture on Third Avenue.

One man, Eddie, has become almost a permanent fixture on Third Avenue. Everyone who passes by greets him by name. He said he's originally from Los Angeles, but the Navy brought him to San Diego.

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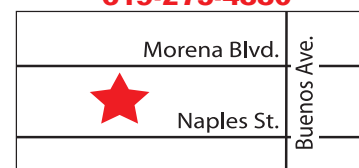
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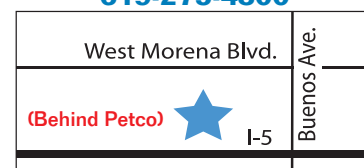
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Freaking Frauds

I sifted through the messy pile of papers on my desk, growing more agitated by the moment. “I know I wrote down the confirmation number,” I said to David, who was standing beside me, waiting. “Why the fuck don’t we have, like, one place where we keep all of our important information?” I growled as I reached the bottom without finding what I was looking for.

“That payment should have covered both of us,” David said. “But they keep emailing me that I’m going to miss my due date, and I can’t even log on to the website because they don’t recognize me as a subscriber.”

“Yeah, I know.” I shoved the stack of papers in frustration and didn’t bother to pick up the pages that fell to the floor. “You know what? Forget this. I paid with a card — I can use that for reference. But, ugh, I don’t know which one I used.

Guess I’ll have to check all my statements.”

The whole business of changing our medical insurance hadn’t been remotely complicated. After comparing plans on Covered California’s easy-to-navigate website, we filled out a simple form online and sent a payment. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act (aka ObamaCare), David and I were about to start paying half as much for a substantially better plan. The problem was that the deadline for coverage had arrived and we had yet to receive any kind of confirmation from Blue Shield that they’d processed our payment.

We set up our laptops and papers on the dining table. I went online to check my bank account because it was most likely that I’d used my debit card. “What the...” One of my pending transactions was for an astronomical transaction in the amount of \$1848.73. “Did you just use my card for a major purchase?” I asked David.

“What? No, of course not,” he said.

“Right, that’s what I thought,” I said. “Also, looks like the purchase was made at *Bestbuy.com*. We’ve never ordered from that site.”

For a moment, I considered the possibility that I had forgotten buying something expensive in the past two days. But then I remembered whenever I spend more than \$500, I always put it on a credit card, never my bank card. I use the cash flow for paying bills, not for buying stuff. That could mean only one thing. “I can’t believe this. I’m starting to freak out, Beh-Beh. My card is right here. Someone must have gotten the number and is

now draining my freaking bank account.”

I held my breath as I scanned the rest of my transactions, fearing how many fraudulent ones I might find. But I only detected one more, made a few weeks before. “They ordered Domino’s in Desert Hot Springs the day after Christmas,” I reported to David. “And they ordered a lot — \$66.54. Who does that? Aren’t they worried about getting caught? Won’t there be an address on record? Like, where they delivered the pizza, where they delivered whatever the hell they bought at Best Buy? Argh. Now I guess I have to deal with this before I call Blue Shield.”

I don’t trust people as it is. So, when stuff like this happens, it shakes to the core what little confidence I have in humanity. While I waited on hold to speak to a representative at my bank, I thought of all the possible suspects. Was it that shifty-eyed receptionist who’d processed my payment at the spa? Someone running the bill at one of the restaurants I’d dined at when I visited Palm Springs back in October? Why did they wait ten days between ordering pizza and going balls out with a huge purchase? *Probably to test me*, I thought. To see how closely I monitored my account. So if I didn’t catch a pizza order in another city over the holidays, then chances are I wouldn’t notice a few thousand dollars gone missing? It killed me that I couldn’t make sense of it all.

“Wouldn’t they need my billing address to order something online?” I asked David. Before he had a chance to answer, I added, “And those three numbers

on the back of my card?” Suddenly, I was aware of how often and easily I share my card number in everyday life, never expecting that someone else might use it, even though that’s apparently a super easy thing to do. This was the second time this had happened to me.

A few years ago, two days after hiring movers to help us into our new apartment, a credit-card fraud-detection bot notified me of several small, out-of-character purchases, most of them at pet stores. Because the only other people to have access to that particular card number in months were the movers, I could only surmise that one of them was the culprit. And that he had a pet.

“Now that I think about it, it’s amazing that this doesn’t happen more often,” I said. “Can’t anybody just use any old card number to buy things online?”

I worked at a call center years ago, where we processed catalog sales for dozens of companies. I remembered how one guy had been fired after it was discovered he was copying card numbers that were given to him over the phone. It had gone on for a long time before they caught him, but once they knew to look, he made it easy enough — he’d been sending the things he bought with stolen card numbers to his home address.

I spoke with my bank, made a claim, got my card canceled, and was told another one would be sent to me. When I ended the call, I said, “How can we ever hand our card to someone in a restaurant again? Or

continued on page 36

“I can’t believe this. I’m starting to freak out. Beh-Beh. My card is right here. Someone must have gotten the number and is now draining my freaking bank account.”

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SD ON THE QT

Almost factual news

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Latest Leaked Snowden Documents Reveal Collaboration Between Government, Disney, and Local Dronemaker

Disney exec to General Atomics COO: "If we could make people sympathize with an ecosystem's top predator (LION KING), we can make them sympathize with a robot death plane."



The film's prequel, *Planes*, eventually earned over four times its production budget, but experts warn that *Drones* might lack appeal in some international markets.

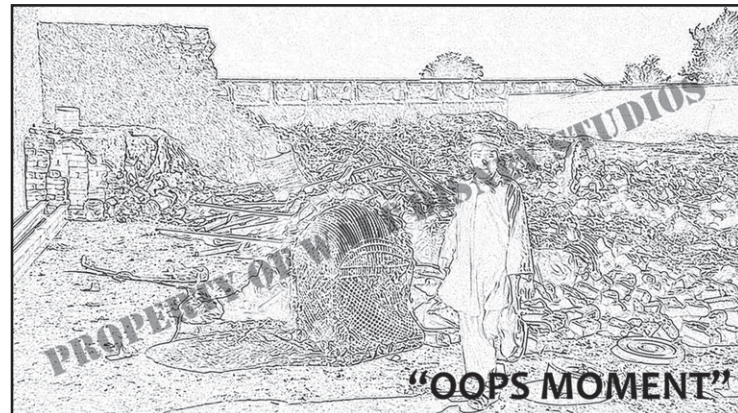
TRYING REALLY HARD TO FEEL SHOCKED AND CHAGRINED, BURBANK — Apparently, NSA data-collection methods weren't the only thing that Edward Snowden felt obliged to share with the

American public. Yesterday, the former government contractor contacted *SD on the QT* and shared "just a few" of the documents in his possession pertaining to *Drones*, a proposed feature-film collaboration between the United

States government, Walt Disney Studios, and General Atomics, maker of the Reaper and Predator drones.

"As our recent report to the British Defence Select Committee indicates," reads one email between General Atomics and Disney executives, "the word 'drone' has taken on pejorative connotations. It seems unlikely that the more accurate 'Remotely Piloted Aircraft' will take hold in the public imagination. Therefore, a full rehabilitation of the 'drone' terminology must be implemented. Our research indicates that we will realize the most success in this effort with a 'bottom-up' approach: if young children believe strongly that drones are okay, their exhausted parents are likely to modify their own views, if only to keep peace in the home. And no one is better at telling kids what is and isn't okay than Disney. Pleasure Island, LLC — once the mainstay of General Atomics' unskilled labor force — shut down virtually overnight after the release of *Pinocchio*. It's time we put Disney's storytelling power to work for Project American Freedom."

"Even our opponents admit that the situation is improving," continues the email. "Drone-related deaths were down nearly 50% in 2013 compared to 2012. We're bombing smarter, not harder. Lots of Disney characters make mistakes early on. Well, so have we. We need to turn our past failures into future victories, and making them into plot points in a \$100 million dollar animated



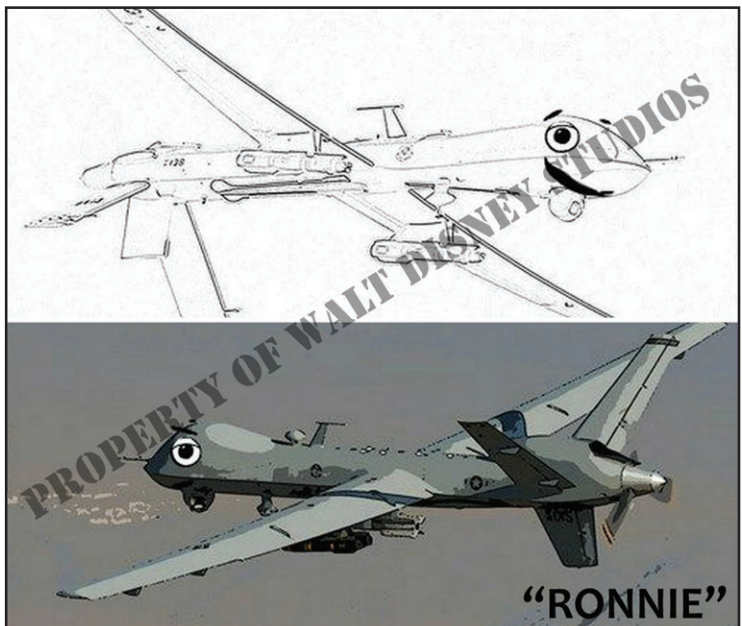
"OOPS MOMENT"

Asid, whose parents are killed when Ronnie's first tactical strike goes awry. At first, he is filled with hate for Ronnie, but eventually he learns that the terrorist threat posed by the film's villains is even more dangerous than a stray missile. Asid's tearful duet with Ronnie, "Bomb in the Wrong House, Heart in the Right Place" is intended to serve as the film's most emotionally explosive moment.



"BLACK AND WHITE"

The film's primary antagonists, Black and White, a pair of terrorist brothers who see the world in terms of moral absolutes. "It's that sort of extremist, nuance-free mentality that regards drones as essentially immoral," says Disney. "Ronnie is gray for a reason."



"RONNIE"

Ronnie, the hero of *Drones*, was named after "the great President Ronald Reagan." Ronnie is a skilled but inexperienced young drone whose misgivings about his role in the War on Terror make him so anxious that he botches his first mission, killing several innocent civilians in the process. After that, he must overcome angry protesters at home, irate foreign governments abroad, and his own interior demons in order to defeat the evil plot set in motion by the film's militant villains.

musical is a great way to do that."

"Disney has worked with the United States government before," noted CIA liaison Brian Wash in an early overture to the storied film studio. "From anti-Nazi propaganda like *Der Fuhrer's Face* to educational films such as the classic anti-malaria short *The Winged Scourge*, Disney has always stood ready to support American interests overseas. Once again, we are calling on you to help us win the hearts and minds of the very people we are defending."

In a reply, Disney spokesman Viola Teduth wrote, "The Walt Disney company has always understood the unique difficulties that come with having power and authority. It's why

we tell so many stories about royalty. So, yes, it will be a challenge to make Ronnie relatable, seeing as how he is the deadly emissary of American might in a war-torn, desperate part of the world. But, 'uneasy lies the head that wears a crown,' as someone once said. There's the drama: Ronnie isn't sure he wants to be what he's supposed to be — and ultimately, what the world needs him to be. It's Simba all over again. We can do this."

As of press time, no official comment was forthcoming from any of the three organizations. No mention of *Drones* appears in any of Disney's press materials regarding its 2014 feature-film slate.



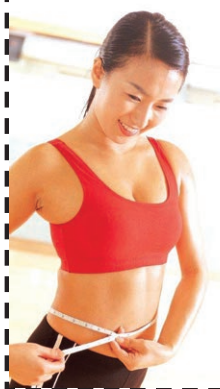
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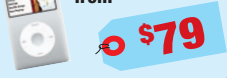
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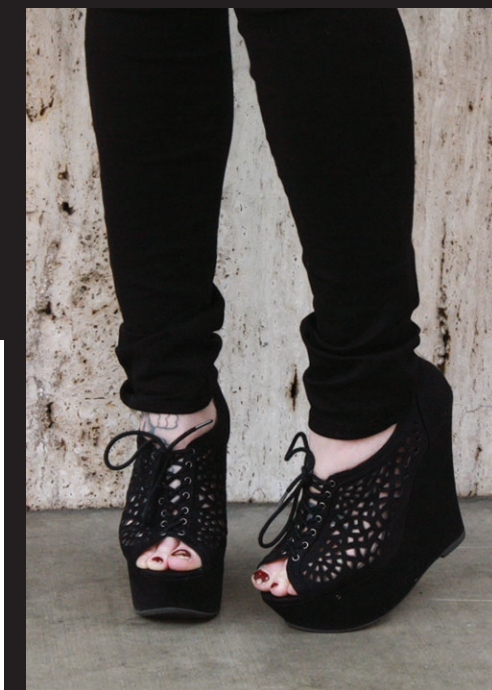
Street Style

BY SIOBHAN BRAUN

Gothic in the Gaslamp

You can't go wrong with black. It's slimming. It's simple. It's sleek. It's the shade that Audrey Hepburn is remembered most for wearing in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Her little black dress is a look that millions of women have copied for generations.

Black on black is almost always chic; however, there is a danger in looking like you are an Edgar Allan Poe fanatic or, worse, boring, when wearing this particular monochromatic look.



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In the Gaslamp, 25-year-old Aishlin

Reilly looked every bit chic in black pants, a billowy black top and bandeau, and a boho-style hat. The pattern on her peek-toe platforms paired with her platinum-blond hair took her monochromatic look from yawn-inducing to hip.

Alyssa Anduja paired her black look with a pair of knee-high lace-up boots and leather-accented leggings for a modern twist. She wore a Michael Kors watch and an H&M top.

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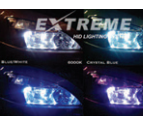
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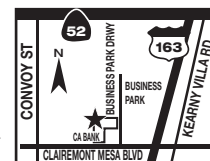
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La Jolla Cove is becoming a sea lion cesspool

**and there's not much
to be done about it**

About a year ago at the La Jolla Cove, longtime marathon swimmer Claudia Rose was making her way toward La Jolla Shores with a friend when a group of sea lions charged at them. Startled into a fight-or-flight reaction, the swimmers veered to the south, toward the caves, to get away from the pinnipeds. Rose's friend panicked, cramped up, and couldn't swim very well, but his wetsuit kept him buoyant until he could recover.

Rose was shaken by the confrontation but was even more unnerved a couple of months later, when a sea lion attacked her injured, bandaged hand.

"I had tape on my finger. He ripped off the tape and he broke or sprained my finger really badly," said Rose, 49, a systems engineer who has been swimming

at the Cove for nearly two decades. "We haven't had that kind of touching behavior before."

Reflecting a population explosion of sea lions along the California coast, the colony "hauling out" on the rocks and swimming around the waters of the Cove has grown logarithmically in the past decade.

The small number of sea lions that swimmers used to enjoy watching frolic some years ago has turned into a colony of as many as 300, ranging in size from 100-pound females to 900-pound bulls, which have been mount-



ing, biting, charging, and baring their teeth at swimmers and beachgoers.

“The baring the teeth thing — they’re very aggressive, so again, people have to remember they are wild animals,” said Monica DeAngelis, a marine mammal biologist with the National Marine Fishery Service’s West Coast regional office, which is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. “It’s hard to predict or know what they might be thinking.”

Lately, the increasingly territorial animals have started blocking swim-

mers from getting into the water, forcing people to walk back and forth on the beach until they can find a safe opening to enter the ocean. One even went so far as to bite a swimmer wearing a wetsuit at the water’s edge.

“It could be that they have their area and they may be trying to stay within that area,” DeAngelis said. “During August, it could be the tail end of breeding, that

dominant behavior. The following [of swimmers]...could be a confused male; it could potentially be thinking it’s another male. They are probably looking for food, too.”

She said people are exacerbating the problem by tossing fish, potato chips, and leftover food off the cliffs and over the sides of boats.

“People need to quit feeding them,” she said.

“People have to remember they are wild animals.”

The animals are also making their larger presence known by excreting big bubble clouds of brown waste and streams of urine into the water and onto the rocks, and keeping residents awake with loud barking.

“It’s dirty, it stinks, and it’s like swimming in a toilet that hasn’t been flushed,” said Anne Cleveland, 57, a yoga instructor and former La Jolla Town Council president.

Once thought to be caused by the avian guano on the rocks, the foul odor that has tourists covering their faces with their T-shirts or scarves, exclaim-



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ing, "Oh, my God, this is awful," has recently been determined to be caused by vast quantities of sea lion poop.

The odor is a problem unto itself — driving locals and tourists away from area restaurants and hotels — but it is also an indicator of an even broader set of problems, including water-quality issues and the increasingly troublesome pinniped vs. people interactions playing out on the sand and in the water.

The lifeguard log provides a chronicle of such incidents in 2013. On April 16 at 5:04 p.m., "seal nuzzles and mounts woman off beach, [lifeguard Mark] Feighan in on board to assist and chase seal away." Lifeguard chief Rick Wurts said the lifeguard grabbed a rescue board after the swimmer either signaled for help or the lifeguard somehow realized she was in distress. He "became concerned for her safety, and went in to assist her."

On July 26 at 5:50 p.m, lifeguards used the public address system to warn "citizen of very aggressive sea lion in Cove."

The next day, lifeguards used the public address system three times to warn beachgoers: once at 9:50 a.m., about an "aggressive sea lion on beach"; at 6 p.m., when "a sea lion bull charged beach," and again half an hour later, when lifeguards had to warn a crowd of 30 "citizens to keep back" and away from the animal.



Drew Downs (left) and Richard Walker swim daily at dawn in La Jolla Cove. They were recently blocked by a large and aggressive sea lion who bared his teeth whenever they tried to enter the water.

On August 6 at 12:30 p.m., "sea lion comes onto beach and nips at waders."

There's room for more sea lions

The city hired Merkel & Associates to help the city resolve the odor problem. Keith Merkel, a biological consultant, said he wasn't surprised to hear about such incidents because he'd anticipated them happening.

"The upshot of it is having that many people and the sea lions both thinking that the Cove is theirs is going to generate those territorial interactions," Merkel said. "I think people are more curious. The thing about people is they're willing to pet anything until they get bit."

Although Merkel said the animals may just be playing and don't intend any harm in some cases, even some of the most hardcore ocean swimmers are reporting that the animals are scaring them or making them so uncomfortable that they have started swimming elsewhere.

"Fear" has become

part of a vocabulary that these athletes don't like to admit and don't want as part of their recreational lexicon, so they have chosen to avoid it, even some who have been training at the Cove for 30 years.

Rose, who used to come from Pacific Beach to the Cove to swim anywhere from one to ten miles in a day, is now swimming at La Jolla Shores.

And so is Cleveland, who has made it across the English Channel four times with no wetsuit and without stopping — including a two-way trip, from England to France and back, nine years ago. Once a channel swimming coach, she used to swim six times a week at the Cove, for four or five hours at a time.

A year or so ago, Cleveland saw a sea lion at the Cove "literally lunge at this guy and actually tore through his wetsuit" while he was trying to enter the water. He wasn't taunting the animal, "he just wanted to get in and go for a swim."

"Definitely the sea lion was the aggressor," she said, and "after he was bitten he left."

"I don't like to live my life in fear," said Cleveland, who stopped swimming at the Cove in 2012 because of the sea lions as well as persistent ear infections that she said subsided soon after she stopped going in the water there. Although she can't prove it, she attributes the ear infections to the sea lion poop.

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a sea lion — you know they shoot right in front of you — [with] a big giant poo stream shooting out the back,” Cleveland said. “When that happened to me, it just really ruined it for me.”

Also fear-producing are the escalating recent sightings of Great White sharks, which feed on seals and sea lions, one of which washed up on La Jolla Shores in June with a shark bite. Rose and other swimmers say it’s just a matter of time before a shark mistakes a swimmer wearing a black wetsuit for a sea lion.

“It’s not if, but when,” said Richard Walker, 73, a La Jolla business owner who swims at the Cove most mornings with a group, including his wife, often to the Shores and sometimes making the three miles to the Scripps pier and back.

But for the city officials who are juggling competing human interests as well as legal restrictions and marine mammal protections, alleviating the situation is not as simple as finding somewhere else to swim.

Despite microbial solution having been sprayed on the cliffs of the Cove in June and September 2013, the same public health and welfare concerns that prompted former mayor Bob Filner to declare an emergency there this summer still exist.

“The same sort of declaration could be made today,” Merkel said.



Keith Merkel, a biological consultant hired by the city, says, “The thing about people is they’re willing to pet anything until they get bit.”

“The concern becomes what would you do if you had it...because the approach we took before would not be the most reasonable, efficient, or prudent. Right now the key is formulating an approach that makes more sense. Making the findings doesn’t seem to be the biggest problem.”

Meanwhile, as the sea lion population continues to grow, the animals are

becoming more comfortable and more established at the Cove, which means that the related problems may increase as well.

“There’s plenty of rock out there,” Merkel said. “It’s certainly not at capacity. There are certainly more animals that could show up there that haven’t.”

Merkel likened the colony of sea lions to a pack of dogs off their

leashes that feel as though the Cove has become their own yard in which to play.

“It’s just a matter of the comfort zone. Once they become accustomed to that being their rock and that area, they will become

more protective and more territorial.”

That awful smell

So far, the city has paid Merkel & Associates \$50,000 under an initial contract. In mid-November, Merkel said additional services would require newly authorized funds.

The city paid \$50,000 to Blue Eagle to spray the cliffs for about a month,

starting in late May, and again for about five days, starting in late September.

Although the microbial bacteria solution of bacillus was billed as all-natural, Rose said she threw up in the water while swimming along the cliffs on two separate occasions — not knowing that they had just been sprayed until afterward.

“I didn’t know they did a second treatment,” she said. “I was throwing up all day. The next day I saw the signs.... That’s not supposed to be bothering us.”

Merkel agreed, saying the spray should not have caused anyone to get sick, particularly because there was no runoff from the cliffs into the water.

“We actually prevented all runoff,” he said, explaining that they weren’t allowed to spray the steep area on

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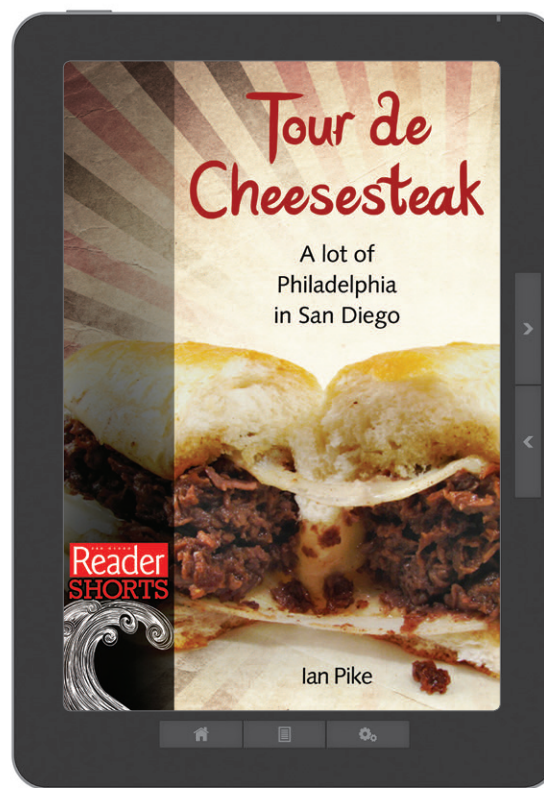
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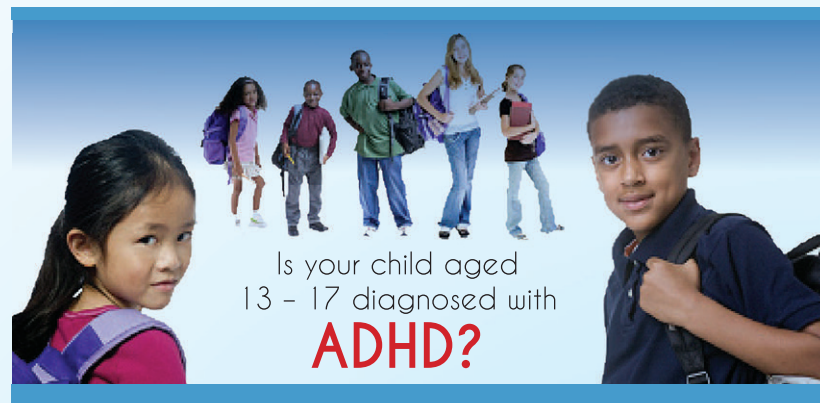
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the cliff faces or during high winds.

“There is an awful lot of waste in the water — sea lion waste — so I wouldn’t be surprised” if someone could have gotten sick from that, Merkel said.

The intent was to spray the solution only on the waste and not where the slope breaks on the water. As planned, the bacteria went to work eating the bird guano, multiplied and died off, taking the waste and related odor with it.

Only a short time after the spraying treatment, however, an equally nauseating odor emerged, which likely had been there all along and only became more



Mark Dibella,
managing director
of La Valencia

evident once the nose-burning ammonia from the bird poop had been eliminated.

Once Merkel, city officials, and the merchants realized that sea lion poop was then the primary cause of the odor problem, pleas for action from the business com-

munity started up again.

Although Merkel considers the first two phases of spraying to have been “very successful” and said the city could continue to treat the lingering and persistent smell with further sprays, he also said it wouldn’t be an efficient or permanent fix because the odor would be renewed every time the sea lions had a good feeding on greasy sardines and anchovies.

“It was not sustainable in the current condition because, again, like I said, it would take days, weeks, months to generate the kind of waste that a sea lion can do overnight,” he said. “As



This sign posted at the new gate to the previously fenced-off bluffs above the Cove that sea lions frequent. Many swimmers hope that the presence of people on the bluffs will reduce the sea lion population.

a result, that kind of treatment works well with an accumulated waste.”

So, it was back to the

drawing board as Merkel and city officials tried to find a more comprehensive, long-term solution.

“I don’t think people are intentionally being obtuse about their responses,” he said. “I think it’s honestly a more complicated issue than the smell, [which] is really a symptom of a bigger problem.”

“It’s making people sick.”

Water-quality issues make up one component of that larger problem. On October 17, swimmers and divers at the Cove saw the first cautionary posting by the county Department of Environmental Health since 2009. Including the one in 2009, there were seven previous postings since 2002.

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According to Mark McPherson, the department's chief of land and water quality, the one-day posting near the Cove shoreline in October warned of a higher than acceptable level — measuring 164 points, or 60 above the state standard of 104 — of the bacteria enterococcus, found in human and animal feces. Enterococcus can cause ear, urinary tract, pelvic and other types of infections, and it's an indicator of more dangerous but undetectable pathogens.

"It tends to last longer in the environment," he explained. "It's indicative of fecal matter from a warm-blooded animal that can make you sick and can cause a health issue."

Bill Harris, the city's Transportation and Stormwater Department

spokesman, called the sea lion waste "a pervasive problem" at the Cove, noting that it was particularly potent in the first 20 feet of water, where the brown stuff floating there "is not kelp, it's doody. It's a slurry of digested anchovies."

The water-quality postings, which are made within 24 hours of the water sampling, are simply "swim at your own risk" warnings, he said.

In fact, when one of the lifeguards on duty was asked about the October posting a couple of weeks later, he said he knew nothing of it.

McPherson downplayed the recent test result. "It's above state standards, and we would post for that. But it could be much, much higher," he said. "If it were sewage, it would be in the

thousands."

Even though swimmers swim at the Cove year-round, the county doesn't test there during the winter months because of budget constraints, he said. And from April 1 through October 31, the tests are only conducted once a week in the middle of the beach in knee-deep water, where the swimmers get in and many children play.

Asked if the recent posting and burgeoning public-health concerns at the Cove might prompt further and more frequent year-round testing there, McPherson answered in an email that, "We will evaluate whether we will add the Cove to our winter monitoring [sites]."

"We haven't seen an issue at La Jolla Cove

based on the weekly sample we've been doing," he said. "That's not to say there's never bacteria there.... We have not seen a chronic issue there."

This is in contrast to the Children's Pool, he said, "where, if the seals are present and we sample, the bacterial results are very high and that's why we've posted a chronic posting there."

Based on Cleveland's experience with the sea lions' fecal clouds, she said the county's results sounded fishy, and she wonders if testing closer to the rocks, where the sea lions haul out, would produce different results.

"I don't care what the county says about the water quality. It's making people sick," she said, adding that her fellow swimmers are sharing stories of getting intestinal bugs and upper respiratory and ear infections, after swimming there.

"It's the same thing surfers were getting before Donna Frye was a councilwoman. This was a long time ago. Now the same thing is happening at the Cove."

That said, Cleveland acknowledges that some are not as concerned as she is. "Most of them have buried their head in the sand," she said. "They like it. They're going to swim there anyway."

Richard Walker is one of them, even after a recent encounter with a large floating cloud of sea lion feces, about six feet wide and several feet deep. He said he rolled over onto his back until he got through it. He acknowledged being "slightly" concerned about the potential hazards, but "not so much that I'll quit swimming there until it does have an impact on my health."

RESEARCH STUDIES

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"I'm probably still in a majority in that regard, but perhaps a decreasing majority. I know more and more people who aren't swimming at the Cove anymore or who aren't coming into La Jolla anymore because of that," he said. "My thinking on this is, until it gets so bad that it starts making you sick, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger. It's my flu shot, if you will. It's an immune-response builder."

Jim Poirier, a 67-year-old retired La

Jolla High chemistry teacher, remains determined to continue his morning regimen of 30 years at the Cove or at the Children's Pool.

A member of a swimming group dubbed the Dawn Patrol, Poirier said he doesn't mind the sea lions. Although he agreed that they have become more aggressive, he just tries to ignore them.

"They would come up to you and kind of nose you. Some people are very afraid of that. I'm not afraid of it, no,

no. We go down at 6:30 in the morning. There are four or five of them kind of making a barrier — it's like they don't want you to swim out in the water. We just swim through them."

The next Children's Pool

Though he won't stop swimming the Cove, Poirier is concerned by the sea lions' growing numbers. "They're fine, but I should be able to walk on the beach and swim in it. I mean, excuse me, people are more

important than sea lions."

What worries him, Cleveland, and other swimmers is that public access to the Cove will ultimately be shut down by the same animal protesters who have spent years fighting to protect the harbor seals' access to Casa Beach, an area known as the Children's Pool just around the corner, where Poirier said elderly female protesters have harassed him and cursed at him as he tried to take a relaxing swim.

"The seal-huggers

will come over and protect the sea lions, not that they need it," Cleveland predicted. "It's another nightmare, and the city with its non-attentiveness to the issue at hand will cause another avalanche of problems, just like at Children's Pool."

Dr. Jane Reldan, spokeswoman for La Jolla Friends of the Seals, said she is only involved with the harbor seals at Casa Beach. She didn't know of anyone leading any activist efforts to protect sea lions at the Cove. Yet,

anyway.

"There are only seals there, and there is no smell," she said of the Children's Pool. "I am not involved with the sea lions at La Jolla Cove.... The only pinnipeds at La Jolla Cove are sea lions."

Some Cove swimmers disagree with this point. They say they're still seeing seals swimming under them, noting that the smaller creatures may be too small to haul out on the rocks with the much larger sea lions.

A group called

RESEARCH STUDIES



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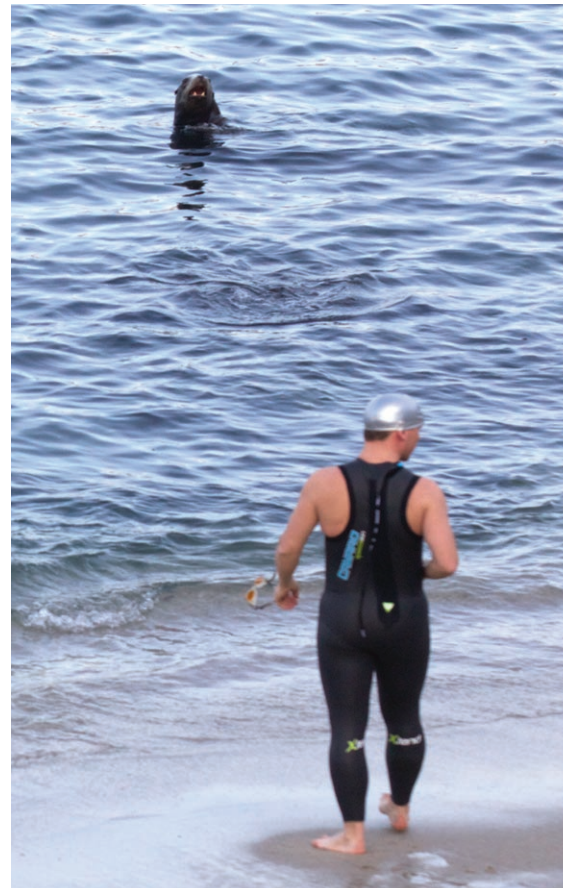
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the Marine Mammal Policy Institute seems to have taken an interest in the Cove, posting this note on interim mayor Todd Gloria's Facebook page in September, before the city council took up the issue of whether to close the Children's Pool for pupping season: "Beach closures in San Diego for pinniped needs will have to follow closure of the Children's Pool in La Jolla for Pacific harbor seal pupping season.... Other pinnipeds use beaches for pupping in San Diego such as California sea lions at the La Jolla Cove. California sea lion pupping season is all year so beaches like the La Jolla Cove will have to be closed year round. This is only fair."

(Although a few female sea lions have given birth at the Cove, marine-mammal biologist DeAngelis said, the majority are still pupping at the Channel Islands rookery.)

But if the prolonged acrimonious and divisive debate over people's vs. pinnipeds' access to the beach and the water at the Children's Pool is any indication, this recent turn of events at the Cove could be the start of a new battleground on this issue.

A complicated, smelly, dangerous morass Either way, it's clear that the sea lion population explosion has evolved



Sea lions sometimes try to discourage swimmers from entering the Cove waters.

into a complicated, smelly, dangerous, and costly morass for which city officials contend they are "working hard" to find a comprehensive solution.

But the merchants, swimmers, and other locals say the city's progress is creeping along at the routine bureaucratic pace. Now on the third mayoral administration that has pledged to fix the odor problem, which has made national news and has dampened business profits, proprietors of the high-end hotels, restaurants, and shops within sniffing distance of the Cove are growing more restless.

"Our frustration is each one says, 'We'll address it.' We just keep picking up the pieces of the previous one," said Mark Dibella, managing director of the La Valencia hotel, referring to the La Jolla Merchant Association committee that has been trying to work

with the city to find a solution. "No one has solved it."

Dibella said Todd Gloria and La Jolla's councilwoman, Sherri Lightner, were invited to tour the area, have lunch, and experience the odor, but they never came.

Asked to address the public health and safety concerns and criticisms about his alleged inattention, Gloria issued this written statement on November 20: "We're

working diligently to solve a problem that's clearly impacting businesses in La Jolla as well as the overall quality of life. We're seeking a solution that balances environmental concerns with the rights of La Jolla citizens to be able to walk outside without holding their noses."

During an interview on KUSI the night of the special mayoral election, Gloria mentioned "the smell in La Jolla" as one of the primary issues facing him as interim mayor.

Dibella said merchants are also annoyed that Lightner, who is the council president pro tem, hasn't been more responsive to their concerns.

"Our biggest frustration with the players, the one constant of this administration, is Councilwoman Lightner," Dibella said. "I have yet to see her come out swinging, saying, 'I am here to help La Jolla, I am work-



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ing on solutions.' We just don't see her. We don't see her representation; we don't see her interest in it."

Sheila Fortune, executive director of the local merchants' association, agreed. "It's gotten people really upset because they don't feel like [Lightner] is engaged and cares about the community and she lives in La Jolla.... The only time we saw her here was in June, when Mayor Filner called the press conference [about the public health emergency].... I think her absence has really angered a lot of people. I've, quite frankly, sent emails to her assistant, 'I'm trying to hold people off, this is becoming a major media blitz,' and she still wouldn't come."

Lightner did not respond to several

requests for a phone interview for this story. Her spokeswoman, Jill Esterbrooks, said the councilwoman also did not want to respond to these specific constituent criticisms.

"As you know, Sherri is a long-time La Jolla resident who has been actively involved in the community for dozens of years," she wrote in an email. "She understands the urgency of the current Cove situation and the impact the odor is having on the quality of life for residents as well as La Jolla's reputation as a world-class tourist destination. She's a strong supporter for the protection of public views and physical access to our beaches and coastline, and will continue to work with the Mayor and City Staff to address the odor

problems and coastal access issues."

Esterbrooks also contended that the recent media attention to which Fortune referred is actually being generated by the merchants themselves.

For the past couple of years, the merchants say they've been trying to work behind the scenes to resolve this issue — without going to the media. "It is a double-edged sword to even speak about this because part of our group's effort is to work with the city directly," Dibella said. "We didn't want to publicize — because we're in the hospitality business — that it stinks in La Jolla."

But, he added, they have run out of patience.

(This story was in no way generated by any business owner. Its

genesis was the October 17 water-quality posting. As a Cove swimmer since junior high school at Muirlands in La Jolla, I have personally witnessed the recent proliferation of sea lions, have experienced some of the same fears as the swimmers quoted in this story, and have had at least two meals at George's at the Cove ruined by the smell. Even though it's one of my favorite restaurants, I'm sorry to say I won't be going back until the smell is gone or at least mitigated.)

As awkward as their meeting was this past summer with Filner, Dibella said, at least he met with them personally and something positive came out of it — an executive order and declaration of a health emergency that deemed

the avian guano "more than just a nuisance; it is a public health hazard" and finally got the cliffs sprayed this summer. Sea lion waste was not cited specifically because, at the time, experts viewed bird guano as the primary culprit causing the odor.

After Filner was forced to resign in August over sexual harassment charges and the smell problem had still not dissipated, Dibella posted a plea on Gloria's Facebook page September 11, complaining about the problem and Lightner in particular: "We are trying to pick up the pieces with Sherri (she is less than committed) and the contractor."

Dibella was pleased to receive this immediate response: "Mark, City staff are working on this problem. We anticipate additional clean up measures to be performed as soon as nesting season is over, which I'm told should be very soon. I'm always happy to meet with constituents. Please call my office to schedule an appointment."

A second round of spraying ensued in late September, and then came the sad realization that sea lion poop was really to blame.

After some scheduling delays, Dibella and a committee from the La Jolla Merchants Association were invited to the mayor's office on October 30 to what they thought would be a meeting with the mayor and, perhaps, Lightner as well. They were disappointed to walk into a room with more than 20 people, mostly city staffers, but neither elected official was there. Just like congressman Scott Peters, Gloria and Lightner sent representatives.

"That just really told

us again, 'You're not very important here,'" Fortune said.

Asked if Lightner is tired of dealing with emotional folks on either side of the pinniped issue after years of debate over the Children's Pool, Esterbrooks said there's really no way for an elected official to win at such meetings.

"Whenever you get all the parties in the room, there is no compromise," she said.

Rather than coming to La Jolla himself, Gloria sent his aides Alex Roth and Lena Lewis, who "physically went there and explored the whole area and smelled the smells," Roth said. He said he and Lewis attended the October 30 meeting as well as a La Jolla merchants' meeting.

"The idea that we're sitting on our hands doing nothing is just not accurate," Roth said. "We've also made clear to them: We understand how serious this issue is and we're aggressively trying to find an answer.... You have to search for these solutions one step at a time."

The merchants' suggested solution was for the city to allow people to walk around the cliff areas above the Cove — "sharing the bluffs" — as they did before a white wooden fence was erected along the sidewalk about a decade ago, when there was no smell. After the fence went up, huge numbers of birds began to roost there, allowing avian guano to accumulate, and sea lions began to haul out on the rocks.

After doing some research, the city came back with a memo stating that it was, in fact, legal for people to walk around those areas, despite the fence and the signs that

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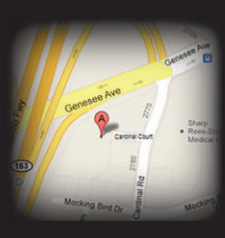
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**Michael Tachuk, M.D.,
AACS, CACS, A4M**



read, "Unstable cliffs, danger, stay back."

So, for now, Plan A consists of waiting to see whether this renewed public access to those bluffs — which is only possible by climbing over the fence — will ultimately help motivate the sea lions and birds to relocate. In mid-November, the city attorney was asked to investigate whether it was legal to put a hole or gate in the fence so people wouldn't have to climb over it, and on December 31, the city installed that gate.

"If plan A doesn't work, it's on to plan B," Roth said. "If plan B doesn't work it's on to plan C, and so forth."

"Every possible solution is on the table," Roth said. Asked to elaborate, he declined to discuss any other specifics the city is considering.

Although people are allowed to roam around on the bluffs, city officials warn that it is illegal to harass, harm, or "flush" the birds or sea lions, which means to purposely cause them to fly away or jump into the water.

"Flush" is a pretty active word," said Harris, the stormwater spokesman who has been involved with the Children's Pool issue for years. "There's a big difference between ambling down to look at the view and running down the hill, arms akimbo."

If lifeguards see behavior they believe violates the law, Wurts, the lifeguard chief, said they are trained to give verbal warnings first.

"Lifeguards in a situation like this, we're going to almost always gain compliance through public education first, by trying to tell people ahead of time what they can do and what they shouldn't

do," Wurts said. If lifeguards see "a specific act of violence," he added, that could result in a citation or even an arrest by police.

Such citations would fall under the section of the municipal code titled "mistreatment of animals," which states that it is "unlawful to take, kill, wound, disturb, or maltreat any bird or animal, either wild or domesticated, unless the same shall have been declared noxious by the City Manager and a permit issued for the killing of such noxious animals." Such a violation would be a misdemeanor, although it could be reduced to an infraction at the discretion of the City Attorney's Office, Wurts said.

Asked about the potential for conflict and confusion posed by the city's new public-access position, Wurts said, "There's no effort to send a mixed message. There are a variety of scenarios that present themselves. What would be unfair is to create [an impression that], there are always hundreds of seals there all the time.... There may be other times when there are no seals, and...it may be by having people there, that maybe the seals would select a different place to haul out on."

There does seem to be some confusion already, however, as evidenced by recent events. Case in point: After attending the October 30 meeting, George Hauer, the owner of George's at the Cove, described by Dibella as "a bit of a maverick," decided to test the city's new position by jumping the fence on November 1.

Hauer promptly called Dibella on his cell phone and told him that after only five minutes,

all the birds had flown away and the sea lions had jumped back into the water. Someone was watching and videotaping his jaunt, because it later ended up on the TV news.

Five days later, Hauer jumped the fence again, only this time, as he wrote in an email to Dibella to forward to city officials, "the reaction was significantly different. Within minutes the [life]guard on duty called me off the bluffs. He and three other lifeguards politely asked me not to do this again, as it turns out, for good reason. Within seconds of my going over into the bluffs the 911 calls began to deluge the station, creating an emergency atmosphere at the Cove. Then three police officers arrived to explain to me what happens when an incursion takes place."

Hauer noted that all city staff he encountered "were enormously respectful and well informed," but "as a logical person, it seems odd to me that I commanded the attention of seven of San Diego's finest because I walked on the bluffs."

Since then, other people have been seen walking within the fenced area without incident.

Esterbrooks, Lightner's spokeswoman, said the councilwoman supports removing part of the fence or installing a gate to ease public access to the cliffs.

Esterbrooks tried to downplay the odorous situation and the business losses the merchants are claiming. She acknowledged that although she hasn't eaten a meal recently along the Cove area, she has driven by Brockton Villa, a restaurant on Coast Boulevard, right above the area where the sea lions

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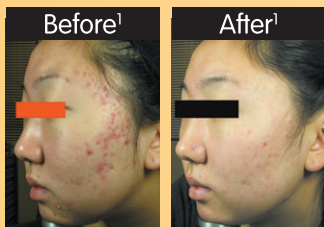
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haul out, which Dibella called “ground zero” for the smell. She said she saw people inside, and “no one was throwing up their meal.”

The restaurant owner, Megan Heine, did not respond to a request for comment, but a woman answering the phone there said it did not smell inside.

Tripadvisor.com reviews for La Valencia and George’s at the Cove, both of which sit on Prospect Street overlooking the Cove, reflect complaints about the stench, which back up the merchants’ claim.

A two-star (out of a possible five) review for George’s, posted on November 4, states, “I love it here, been here and have recommended it many times. Sadly, this was my last time here and in La Jolla restau-

rants near the cove until the smell from the cove is gone. It’s unimaginable that the restaurant association alone does not force the city for faster action with this problem. I’d burn piñon pots or mesquite on the patios to cover the smell, but you have to find a way to disguise this ugliness. Get creative and restore this great treasure.”

A recent three-star review for La Valencia states, “During our stay, there was a horrible, fishy smell from the ocean, not a clue came from the hotel, or perhaps a glass of wine to take away the smell. Great location, beautiful view. Second room was lovely, but too many negatives in order to enjoy the stay.”

In both cases, the establishments apparently told patrons that

the smell was seasonal or that it was just rotting kelp.

To quantify the financial problem, Dibella said that on one particular day and from one particular guest, the smell cost La Valencia, an 87-year-old historic hotel that has recently spent millions on renovations, about \$6000 in room revenue. On this particular day, he said, boxer Floyd Mayweather booked two villas and six rooms. Mayweather checked in and, 15 minutes later, checked out all his guests.

“We’ll have guests leave a day early,” Dibella said. “We’ll have guests get off the terrace and just not dine on our oceanfront deck because of the smell. We’ve had potential wedding bride and grooms tell us they aren’t going to book at the hotel because of the smell.”

Dibella said that this isn’t only an economic problem for La Valencia and its 220 employees, or even just the merchants in the village of La Jolla, but for the region as a whole.

“When you market San Diego, let’s face it, La Jolla is the Beverly Hills of San Diego in terms of its hospitality image,” he said.

Smelly... and loud

In addition to calls about the smell, the biggest complaint DeAngelis (the federal marine biologist) receives from La Jolla residents calling her Long Beach office is about the sea lions barking.

“The residents in the high-rises — the noise carries really far up,” she said. “It travels through the streets, basically, so when it gets going, it gets quite loud. There’s really nothing you can do. That’s sea lions being sea lions.”

Under the federal Marine Mammals Protection Act, adopted in 1972 after a period when the populations of seals and sea lions were decimated because of “sealing” (hunting), the pinnipeds are still protected animals.

Last year, DeAngelis said, they saw an unusually high mortality rate of sea lion pups dying off and showing up sick and malnourished in rehab facilities. Researchers are baffled and don’t know why.

Nonetheless, she said, the population of sea lions is increasing at a rate higher in California than anywhere else in the United States. Where there were only about 10,000 of them here in the 1970s, there are now

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DeAngelis said city officials do have some options available under the law, which she believes would be preferable to letting people roam around an unstable cliff area and which she would be happy to help walk the city through.

Under the "Protection of health and welfare of the public" section of the law, 109HB, she said, "They could non-lethally deter or have those animals removed from that area and that would be a safer alternative than, say, have a bunch of tourists or local folks running up and down those rocks." She noted that the city wouldn't need to get a permit for this alternative.

Although the presence of people on the bluffs and rocks could temporarily move some of the animals during the daytime, she said, they might still come back at night "and make a mess."

You would have to "convince the animals it's not a good place to haul out anymore. And you're going to have some animals that will keep trying," she said. "I'd imagine that some of those animals are well established."

Rose, the marathon swimmer who also works as an architect, said she, too, would be willing to help. She volunteered to build a model to help the city figure out a more comprehensive approach to dealing with the sea lions than the less-than-successful attempts to keep the peace at the Children's Pool, where she said "we had a whole lot of unintended consequences."

"We do need to do something about it. We really need to look at the entire environment," she

said. "Before we mess with the sea lions we'd better understand [the systems]."

"Swimmers want to know what they can do to get the city to take some action," she said.

Post script

On December 19, a group called Citizens for Odor Abatement, headed by Hauer, filed a lawsuit against the city, state and Gloria, deeming the odor a public nuisance and

asking the court to force action to deal with it. The group wants the fence — which the group believes was erected illegally — to be removed entirely.

"Just telling people privately that they are

allowed to climb the fence if they want to is just silly," attorney Bryan Pease wrote in an email. "Nobody is going to do that. The city needs to tear down the illegal fence."

The mayor's office had no comment on the lawsuit other than to note that the decision to erect the gate was made independently, two days before the suit was filed. ■

— Caitlin Rother

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MODEL

E-cigs face obstacles

continued from page 3

dle-school and high-school students.”

“Overall, there’s just a lack of direction,” adds Knutson. “The [Food and Drug Administration] hasn’t been involved; however, we anticipate them to place the same marketing and packaging restrictions as given to cigarettes.”

Knutson admits that the use of e-cigarettes is “not nearly as dangerous as smoking or inhaling second-hand smoke.”

Hutchinson dismisses any claims that say e-juice poses health risks or that he or any others in the industry are marketing the devices to kids.

“They think that this will be a gateway to the younger generation,” says Hutchinson. “Right now, the FDA is

trying to figure out how to label this. The carcinogens emitted from smoking traditional cigarettes just aren’t there. By vaping, you are cutting out over 4000 toxins that are there when smoking. There are absolutely no impacts to anyone standing near you, no such thing as second-hand smoke. It’s water vapor.”

As for nicotine, Hutchinson says, “Not all e-juice has nicotine. It is up to the individual. That said, bans on e-juice with nicotine raises several questions. Are we banning nicotine patches or nicotine gum? Will asthma inhalers be banned in public? Potatoes? Icing for cakes? Gum? Asthma inhalers? All of those things, to some extent, have compounds found in e-juice.... Truth of the matter is, we need to encourage quitting smoking by alternatives and education, not by force and

hatred.”

Hutchinson dismisses claims that manufacturers and those in the industry are targeting kids.

“Marketing for e-cigs is almost non-existent due to the existing regulations on tobacco products and e-cigs already being treated as tobacco. The flavors are being made to everyone’s taste.

“Yes, kids will mimic their elders and try what they should not be trying. Kids smoke regular cigarettes that taste horrible and, quite frankly, it’s easier for kids to get cigarettes. To what extent are we going to keep giving money to Big Tobacco and closing any real way for people to make the break from tobacco products? No, instead we are using children to fight for Big Tobacco. Awesome.” ■

(@DorianHargrove)

Under the radar

continued from page 3

a major foe of marijuana and its legalization, penning an op-ed piece calling for testing of high-school students’ hair samples for cannabis traces. By a stroke of fate, the brothers’ home state of Colorado was one of the nation’s first to legalize weed. And the state’s senior U.S. senator, Democrat **Mark Udall**, is a big pot backer himself, having served a night in jail and anteed up a \$300 fine after being busted for smoking a joint in 1972. But that hasn’t kept the political action committee of the Blue brothers-owned drone-maker General Atomics from giving “Udall for Colorado” \$2750 last year. Skeptics note that Udall has introduced a bill to limit U.S. domestic drones that is still working its way through Congress with many details remaining to be resolved.

Bankable Papa A long legal battle between a disgruntled vendor and a proto-bank sponsored by real-estate guru and *U-T* publisher **Douglas Manchester** is about to have another round in court, this time in Houston, Texas. The extended tale began back in January 2008 when the La Jolla Republican and some friends set out to establish the Manchester Financial Bank. The plan was dropped after that year’s stock market crash, but not before the would-be financial operation contracted for work by 21st Century Financial Services. The unformed bank claimed it didn’t have to pay the bill, but in 2010 an arbitrator sided with 21st Century, awarding it \$477,070.39, plus interest until paid in full. The Manchester partners sued, but last spring U.S. judge **Lee Yeakel** ruled in favor of the vendor. Manchester’s appeal of that adverse judgment has been set for February 6.

— 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

from certain advertisers. In its announcement, the *U-T* stated, “Any outstanding rewards that you have will no longer be eligible for redemption.”

Newsroom employees believe the layoffs could be concentrated in advertising and U-T TV, which they estimate is losing \$400,000 to \$500,000 a month. They note that the 401(k) memo from chief executive John Lynch stated, with unusual candor, “The media business continues to face the challenges of a difficult economic recovery.” Lynch blamed the move partly on the expenses of Obamacare.

In short, the happy face management formerly flashed when it claimed it was profitable seems no longer in evidence.

Don Bauder

Gift cards beget saucy MILFs

Naughty America will trade you for your stocking stuffer *San Diego* — Those holiday gift cards gathering dust in your drawer are now good for something other than a day at the movies, an elaborate latte, dad’s head, and a few plates of lackluster potato skins.

Adult website Naughty America, based out of downtown San Diego, recently announced that they are accepting cards from nearly 90 popular brands in exchange for access to over 5000 videos.

“Nothing says America like the freedom of choice,” said Naughty America founder Andreas Hronopoulos in a release sent out on the first of the year, adding in a *Huffington Post* dispatch: “Instead of using a gift card for a \$5 coffee, you’re getting a porn subscription.”

Chad Deal

The ruse wasn’t worth it

Real estate scammers off to prison

Ramona — Real estate agent

Teresa Rose is headed to prison over her involvement in a multimillion-dollar loan scam, Courthouse News Service is reporting.

Rose was among three people facing federal indictment last May, though the number of people charged eventually grew to six.

The group’s ruse involved Rose advertising “investment” properties that could be purchased by straw buyers without a down payment, with alleged rental proceeds covering the mortgage payments. Those buyers, including Justin Mensen, who helped recruit others and launder funds, received a payout of \$10,000 at the close of escrow from the group.

All six scammers entered guilty pleas, admitting to acquiring more than \$100 million worth of fraudulent loans, skimming millions in fake construction costs as well as real estate and loan commissions on each deal. The loss to lenders and their institutional backers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac is estimated at between \$7 million and \$20 million.

Dave Rice

Smile, it’s the 5-0

Pistol-whipping cousins don’t forget their Newports *Escondido* — Police found evidence connecting two men with at least four armed robberies that occurred recently in Escondido.

On October 22, a 7-Eleven on Midway Drive was robbed. The man brandished a black, semi-automatic handgun and said, “Give me all your money,” before he reached into the register and grabbed a handful of cash, the clerk reported.

“The clerk described the suspect as a black male,” according to detective John O’Donnell, “about 18 to 25 years old, six feet tall, and weighing about 145 or 150 pounds.”

The following month, two other 7-Elevens, one on West Valley Parkway and one on South Escondido Boulevard, were also robbed by a person

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CITY LIGHTS

of the same description.

On November 19, a black male adult entered the Chevron gasoline station on East Via Rancho Parkway after 10 p.m. He reportedly demanded, "Give me all the money" before pistol-whipping the clerk in the head with a black handgun. Police said the robber took an undisclosed amount of cash and three packs of Newport cigarettes. The getaway car was described as white with black wheels.

Two days later, on November 21, a clerk at the same Chevron station contacted police about a suspicious man loitering there after 7 p.m. She said the man ran away as soon as Escondido police arrived.

Officer Havens stated that he noticed a white car with black wheels parked behind the gas station with its lights off. When he approached, the car's

CITY LIGHTS

engine started and it began to leave, with the lights still off. The officer shined his flashlight into the car and "the black male driver turned and smiled at officer Havens as he drove by." Police found the car a short distance away "collided with a light pole next to the roadway."

The white Buick Lacrosse was registered to Samantha Magante of Escondido; police were told that she is the girlfriend of a man named Jamel Garner.

Officers looked in the abandoned car and found a black baseball cap with a white "C" on the front and "Deep Valley Crip" embroidered on the back. Probation paperwork for London Williams was found in the trunk, according to police.

Jamel Garner, 25, and London Williams, 21, said to be cousins, are currently in custody.

Eva Knott

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cover quotation.

I doubt that this choice was Bedford's. It's hard to imagine whose choice it was, or who signed off on it. Since when was "9/11 the best thing that ever happened" to anyone? This cover is a new low for the *Reader*.

Jessamy Barnes
Encinitas

Jazz Blues

You used to have a music writer named Robert Bush who would write jazz reviews, and I haven't seen those lately. Just calling to say I miss those reviews.

Barbara Wise
via voicemail

Like, You Know

If Professor Rall ("We're Constantly in Fear," December 19 cover story) wants to secure a full-time faculty position, he should probably stop

spiking his sentences with "like." "Like" and "you know" in one's speech suggests an inferior education (California public schooling?).

On the other hand, there is that dude who was a high school teacher in North County and couldn't read. Although, I don't think he made the confession until after he retired. So, maybe, like, you, know, Rall has a chance.

Sheila Daniels
Imperial Beach

San Diego, Meet Diversity

There has never been a person of color as mayor of San Diego. For the first time that I can remember, that could change.

Diversity has slowly introduced itself to San Diego County — the City of

San Diego being the most prominent, next to Chula Vista. Diversity in politics, however, requires discipline and maturity.

This election should not be about race or color, unless we include the color green, and what it represents: Kryptonite. Kryptonite, the substance that makes Superman sick and weak, is showing up as diversity in the mayor's runoff election.

I know we all didn't come over on the same ship, but we are all on the same boat.

Cesar Lopez
Chula Vista

Not Some Treehugger

I was looking at the *Reader*, and it's really nice that the Chargers are back in the playoffs and are going to lose anyway, or that there

are Mexican chefs down in Tijuana. That's awesome. But how about an article about Fukushima?

How about some real news? You guys come out every week, but I'm not reading any real news — news that affects all of us, millions and millions of people. This is a mess. The radiation is through the roof. Wildlife is dying. It's all over the internet.

I'm not some tree hugger, I'm just telling you that this needs to be covered and no one is really doing it. You reach hundreds of thousands of people every week, and we need someone to do something. It's just a blackout in the press.

I'm trying desperately to get somebody to pay attention. Just go to YouTube or something and plug in Fukushima. The radiation is running hundreds of times what it ought to be, and wildlife is dying everywhere.

Mark Bradshaw
via voicemail

Comments from Reader website

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

Cover story

"Produce Is a Vehicle for Our Souls"

Published January 9

To S.D. Reader, Candice Reed:

Your cover story, January 9, 2014, is important * and very appreciated. It is really helpful to learn the difference between "natural" (???) and Organic. I especially liked the reference to Blue Heron Farms strawberries, which my family loves and which we purchase at Seaside Market, in Cardiff. We also love and purchase Blue Heron Farms lettuce and whatever of their products are available at Seaside Market. You can taste the difference of their produce from any other. I am really pleased to know that they sell their products to Farmer's Mar-

kets and I shall look for them there, also.

We all need to understand the importance of eating foods without chemical pesticides for our health! If it is possible to grow healthy produce we must support all efforts to do so.

Thank you.

By Readerreg, January 9 @ 7:26 am

Under the Radar

"Failed Pension Prosecutor Turns Obama Judge Wannabe"

Published January 9

I'm starting to notice a trend — San Diego legal eagles get demoted up! Case in point: Paige Hazard, made famous for trampling 1st amendment rights while fighting the sidewalk chalk skurge, was cut loose for embarrassing Jan Goldsmith but landed up a tier in the office of Kamala Harris. What does it take to leave a legal career in tatters around here?

By Jeff_O, January 11 @ 8:14am

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DIARY OF A DIVA

continued from page 8

at the spa? Or give it over the phone?"

David looked up from his laptop. "The vast majority of people are decent, honest, hard-

working folks," he said. "Honest to the point that they are more likely to return your wallet if they were to find it on the ground than joy ride with your money. So, you either place your bet on the inherent goodness of your fellow citizens or you start hoarding guns and build-

ing your survival shelter. The choice is yours."

I stared at him blankly for a moment and then, with a smirk on my face, said, "How much are guns these days?" ■
(@barbarellaf)

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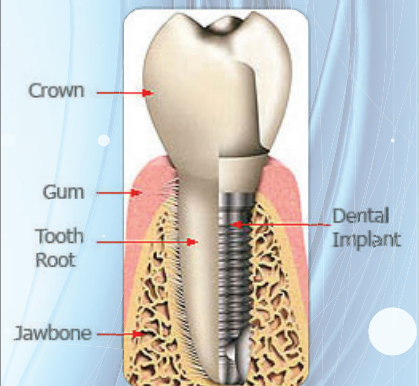
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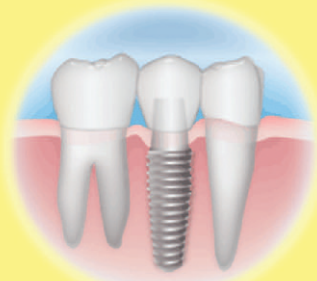
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Your Week

AND WELCOME TO IT

Thursday | 16

BEEROLOGY: ANCIENT ALES

Ancient cultures from around the world brewed many types of beer, and modern breweries have re-created those classics. Dogfish Head will be pouring tastings of brews from their Ancient Ales series. \$20-\$30.

WHEN: 6 to 8 p.m.

WHERE: San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado, Balboa Park. 619-239-2001; museumofman.org



Saturday | 18

2014 INTERNATIONAL MUSIC & ART FESTIVAL

Featuring the Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra, opera singer Scott Gregory, harpist Tasha Smith Godinez, and the crowd-pleasing Super Galactic Beat Manipulators. \$20-\$25.

WHEN: 7 p.m.

WHERE: Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road, Poway. 858-748-0505; powayarts.org



Friday | 17

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WHEN: Noon to 6 p.m. Also on Saturday and Sunday

WHERE: Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard, Del Mar. 858-755-1161; gemfaire.com

Sunday | 19

TRI-CITY MEDICAL CENTER CARLSBAD MARATHON

The course will wind through Carlsbad Village, along Pacific Coast Highway, and past sandy beaches and picturesque lagoons. Support stations and live bands every mile. 760-692-2900. \$135.

WHEN: 7:45 a.m.

WHERE: Westfield Plaza Camino Real, 2525 El Camino Real, Carlsbad. 760-692-2900; carlsbadmarathon.com



SUNDAY, JANUARY 19: TRI-CITY MEDICAL CENTER CARLSBAD MARATHON

Monday | 20

INTERFAITH SERVICE: MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

Help beautify a local treasure, Balboa Park, during a morning of hands-on community service. The group will work outdoors, clearing and hauling brush, plus mulching and planting.

WHEN: 9 a.m. to noon

WHERE: Morley Field (at Texas and Upas), Balboa Park. 619-297-4366; fumcsd.org/mlkday

WHERE: North Coast Repertory Theatre, 987-D Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach. 858-481-1055; writeoutloudsd.com

Wednesday | 22

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"Doug Stanhope is vulgar, opinionated...and shockingly uninhibited." Cringe comedy at its finest. \$25.

WHEN: 8 p.m.

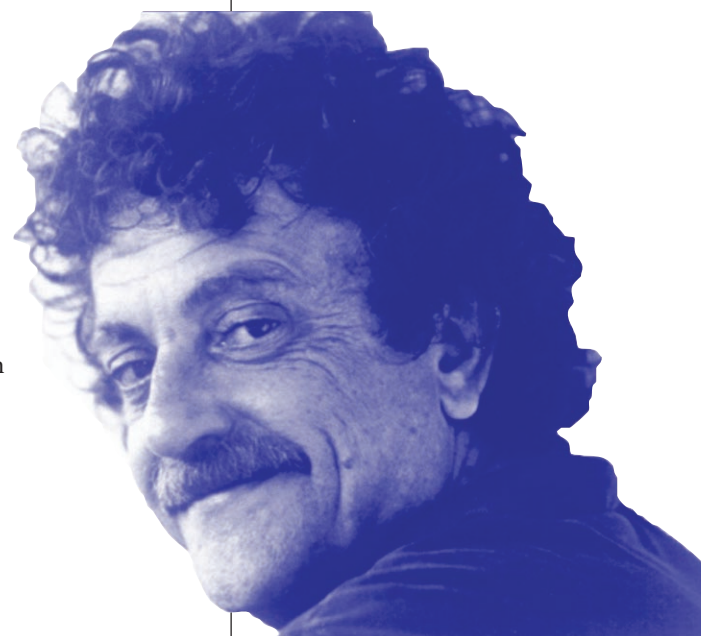
WHERE: The American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue, Downtown. 619-795-3858; americancomedyco.com

Tuesday | 21

PLANET VONNEGUT

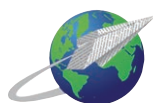
Write Out Loud presents the writings of Kurt Vonnegut, in concert with the North Coast Repertory Theatre's production of *Who Am I This Time*, also based on Vonnegut's work. \$17-\$20.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.



Travel & Getaways

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Vista from El Yunque National Forest, the only tropical rainforest in the U.S. National Forest System

Better than Hawaii?

By Bill Brophy

Puerto Rico offers a better travel experience than Hawaii — it is more accessible to visitors, more wildly beautiful, friendlier, less expensive, and has a rhythmic undercurrent that is infectious, lively, and delicious.

San Juan's airport looks like a World War II airbase, but inside, the facility is sleek, modernized, well appointed. The Atlantic Beach Hotel is not fancy, but it's clean. It's on the beach with an ocean view, including a beach restaurant/bar. We wandered along Avenida Ashford, sitting at large windows on the beach as we ate our tasty meals. Our drive to Arecibo on the

north coast ended with a BBQ lunch, then we headed south to Utuado.

Casa Grande is a collection of about 20 cabins/cottages sporting balconies, porches, and hammocks. Situated between two lakes winding through mountain valleys, it is surrounded by lush, bright green forest — a hodgepodge of trees, vines, flowers, ground cover, and ferns. Large fruit trees, laden with tropical fruit, are all over the property. There's also a yoga center, an indoor/outdoor *comedor* for meals, and massage rooms.

Heavy showers struck in the afternoon, and afterward rainbows spanned half the horizon. Layers of mist floated along the mountainsides, settling into indentations to cloak the scene in more mystery. At night, some houselights along the roads come on to give an indication of where the roads are. It's not as hot here, but the humidity caused sweat to ooze from my forehead. If you want to get even wetter, jump into the beautiful pool surrounded by flowers.

The birds, coquis, and roosters serenaded us. And the food — chef Pedro Rivera Rosa serves organic, fascinating breakfast, lunch, and dinner buffets. Examples: local greens with

ginger and sesame seeds, Japanese salad, poke salmon, maspostiao black beans with plantains, chicken banana curry, churrasco steak with tamarind, mahi with passion fruit.

In Ponce we stayed at a stylish, comfortable Holiday Inn and enjoyed delicious seafood dinners by the ocean's edge. We explored the mountainous panorama north of Ponce, complete with forests, lakes, waterfalls, and spectacular views of the coast and Cordillera Central.

After lunch at Lola's, we left Ponce with our temporary pet and headed toward the Yunque — a cool, mountainous, subtropical rainforest with an extensive network of hiking trails, picnic facilities, paved trails, and tour-bus parking.

About 85 miles and two heavy rainfalls later, we found the Rio Sabana area, near the top of a mountain, and Nelson's



Brightly painted houses climb up the hillsides in Fajardo, Puerto Rico.

Country Home. For \$65, we had a two-bedroom house to ourselves, and the view from the wraparound balcony is 20–30 miles of rainforest.

On our way to Fajardo, in Naguabo, a seaport with brightly colored houses climbing up the hillsides, we found El Makito Restaurante. Inside seating is air-

continued on page 42

Other Adventures



wadelupo: Sunrise at Squaw Lake. Lower Colorado River, California



zedagive: at rest in Antigua, Guatemala



MicheleSantee: Red Rock Canyon Las Vegas Nevada

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San Diego Outdoors with the Museum Canyoneers

MIDDLE PEAK

Hikers have wide open views of the peak in the aftermath of the Cedar Fire.

Distance from downtown San Diego: 53 miles. Allow 60 minutes driving time (Cuyamaca Rancho State Park). From SR-163N, exit onto I-8 E. Take SR-79N/Japatul Valley Rd. (Descanso), turning left, toward Julian, at the end of the ramp. After just under 3 miles, turn left to follow SR-79N for approximately 10.5 miles. Park off road at Trout Pond across from Milk Ranch Road, just before SR-79N turns right. No facilities.

Hiking length: Approximately 8 miles with an option of 6 miles. **Difficulty:** Moderately strenuous with 1100-foot elevation loss/gain. The trail is mostly narrow and rocky once leaving the fire road(s). Bikes allowed on Milk Ranch Road and Middle Peak Loop Fire Road. Snow is a possibility during the winter months.



Until the Cedar Fire, some of the biggest trees in the Cuyamacas grew around Middle Peak.

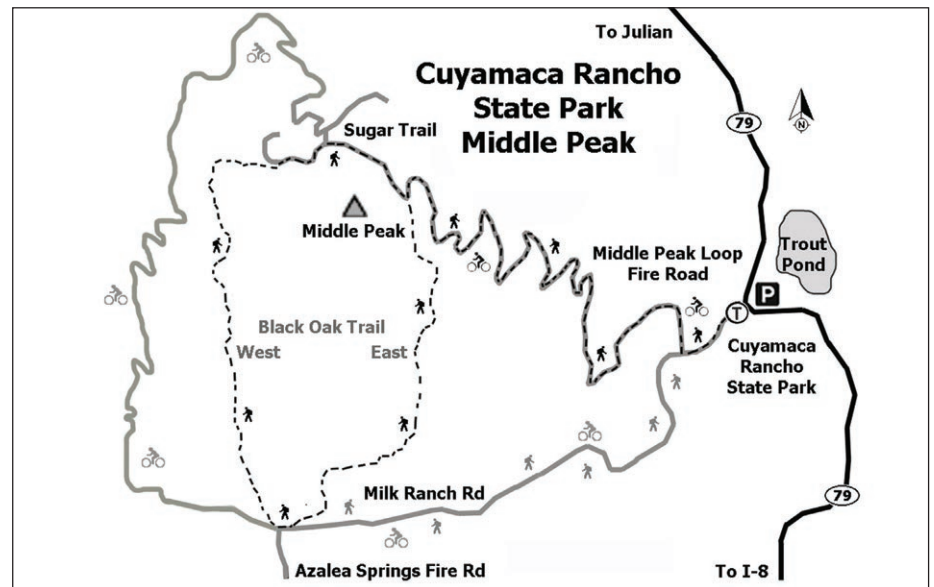
In 1907, General Land Office (GLO) survey records note "Mid Peak" as the peak between North and Cuyamaca peaks. It was not until 1970 that "Middle" Peak ap-

peared on forest maps. Middle Peak used to feature Cuyamaca's "big trees" until the Cedar Fire. It is slowly recovering. The attraction now is the open view.

To begin the hike, cross SR-79N onto Milk Ranch Road, passing the return to SR-79N, then keep to the right, taking the walk through at the gate. The left road goes to the burned remainder of camp

from 1940 to 1998 as a camp, the area burned in 2003 Cedar Fire. The fire burned 90 percent of Cuyamaca Rancho State Park with some areas so hot that tree roots burned. The Cedar Fire covered over 273,000 acres, burning desert and mountain areas and extending west of SR-163 with spot burns as far as I-805.

Once past the gate and approximately 0.3 mile from the parking area, turn right onto Middle Peak Loop Fire Road, which gains elevation via multiple switchbacks. Catch your breath by looking back with clear views of Paso Picacho Campground, Lake Cuyamaca, plus Stonewall and Cuyamaca peaks. Turn left onto the east section of



Black Oak Trail after 2.2 miles, descending through burned trunks of pines and oaks to return to Milk Ranch Road.

Turn right for a short distance of 0.1 mile to the log-blocked crossroads of Azalea Spring Fire Road/Milk Ranch Road/Black Oak Trail (west). A rest against the raised log makes for a good break. Ascend back to the Middle Peak Loop Fire Road by crossing Milk Ranch Road onto the west section of the Black Oak Trail. On a clear day, the view to the west includes Mount Woodson, with its multiple antennas, and Viejas and El Cajon mountains. A section of the trail is bordered

by a ten-year growth of ceanothus and a tree trunk at waist height. Your choice whether to pass under or over the trunk. Among the Jeffrey pine skeletons are a couple of examples of the tall, wide trunks with a crown snaggle of branches of what was a remnant population of mature sugar pines.

The trail ends at the Middle Peak Loop Fire Road. Turn right, then pass the Sugar Pine Trail on the left, then the east Black Oak Trail on the right to return to Trout Pond off-road parking.

An alternative shorter hiking

route is to stay on Milk Ranch Road and then ascend the west Black Oak Trail before returning to Trout Pond either by Middle Peak Loop Fire Road; or descend on east Black Oak Trail, turning left on Milk Ranch Road.

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

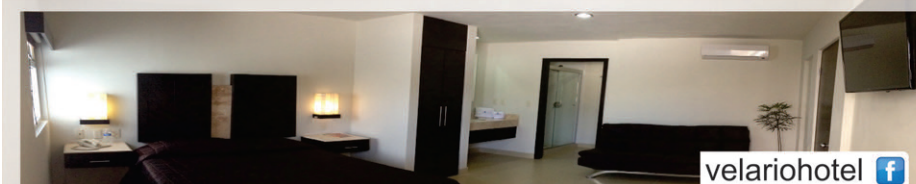
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BOOK SIGNINGS

Author Visit: Kurt Koontz Book discussion and meet-and-greet with Kurt Koontz, author of *A Million Steps*. Koontz walked the 500-mile El Camino de Santiago journey, the Spanish pilgrimage route dating from medieval times. Those million steps compelled him to write about that life-changing adventure when he returned home. Saturday, January 18, 10am; Del Mar Library, 1309 Camino del Mar. Also 2pm; Bonita-Sunnyside Library, 4375 Bonita Road. **Free.** (BONITA, DEL MAR)

Culinary Historians of San Diego Culinary Historians of San Diego presents "A Taste of the Kasbah," featuring noted Moroccan chef, teacher, and author Kitty Morse. Born in Casablanca, Morse emigrated to the U.S. at 17 and began catering *diffas* (banquets) and lecturing on Moroccan culture and cuisine. She is the author of a memoir and nine cookbooks, most recently *Mint Tea and Minarets*.

On the ninth-floor special-events suite. Info: 858-349-8211. Saturday, January 18, 10:30am; **free.** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

The Chopra Center Yoga Retreat Join educators Claire Diab, Danielle Mika Nagel, and others. Classes for every level and body type, with meditation and Ayurvedic cuisine. Four-day course, through January 19. Thursday, January 16, 10am; \$1575-\$1875. La Costa Resort and Spa, 2100 Costa del Mar Road. (CARLSBAD)

Comprehensive Chiaroscuro Drawing Draw from objects in the collection while being guided by an instructor. Meet in the rotunda. Friday, January 17, 2pm; \$8-\$32. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Hatmaking Class Jill Courtemanche has made hats for celebrities including Yoko Ono, Donatella Versace, and Princess Mary of Denmark, and now she is sharing the tips and tricks of her trade in a hands-on workshop. Make your own fabulous fascinator or charming cocktail hat, learning basic millinery techniques and the art of hand-stitching to craft a hat using felt, feathers, netting, ribbon, and more. No sewing experience is necessary. The class is offered

in conjunction with Bravo School of Art. Reservations required. Saturday, January 18, 1pm; \$85. Jill Courtemanche Millinery, 410 S. Cedros Avenue. (SOLANA BEACH)

The Nuts and Bolts of Acting Learn theatre terminology, how to analyze scripts, build a character, and work effectively with a professional stage director. Students will rehearse and perform staged readings. This introduction to practical theatre is designed for adults 55 and older, however, anyone 18 and older is encouraged to attend. 619-388-1873. Thursdays, 2pm; **free.** 18 and up. San Diego Continuing Education West City Campus, 3249 Fordham Street. (MIDWAY DISTRICT)

Painting & Vino: Japanese Maple Recreate *Japanese Maple* while sipping wine or cocktails. Supplies (canvas, paints, brushes, apron) included. No experience necessary. Registration required. Sunday, January 19, 1pm; \$45. 21 and up. 98 Bottles, 2400 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

San Pasqual Winery: Paired with Paint Artist Sara Weaver instructs a painting class geared toward the beginner artist. A glass of wine or cider, cheese and crackers, all materials, and step-by-step instruction included. Sunday, January 19, 1pm; \$25-\$35. San Pasqual Winery, 5151 Santa Fe St., Suite H. (BAY PARK)

Three Stages of Excellence Workshop Join human performance and self-hypnosis coach Juan Acosta for an experiential

workshop that will teach you how to take action when you feel stuck and build your awareness of your motivations. Saturday, January 18, 10:30am; **free.** 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

You Are Your Story: Writing Workshop The El Cajon Library and So Say We All are providing an hour-long memoir and non-fiction writing workshop. The class will involve topical discussion on what makes a good memoir. Thursdays, 6:30pm; **free.** El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

COMEDY

Intimate Illusions Set in a luxurious European Venetian theater (limited to 200 guests), "you will find yourself immediately entranced in the world of an elite illusionist." With magic, storytelling, audience participation, and live music by Celine Dion's concert cellist. Saturday, January 18, 4pm, 7pm and 9:30pm; \$75-\$100. Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

John Caparulo Comedian John Caparulo's sharp wit, unique delivery, and brilliant affinity for cuss words made him a crowd favorite right off the bat. Now, after support from comedy greats such as Jay Leno, Chelsea Handler, and Vince Vaughn, John's getting a shot at becoming a true household name. Thursday, January 16, 8pm. Friday, January 17, 7:30 pm & 9:30pm. Saturday, January 18, 7:30 pm & 9:30pm. American Comedy

Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Tuscany Comedy Series: Bobby Tessel One of the few comedians to appear on both *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* and *The Late Show with David Letterman*. Also appearing: Mark Christopher Lawrence (NBC's *Chuck*) and Marc Takemiya. Hosted by James Uloth. Saturday, January 18, 8pm; \$25-\$30. 18 and up. Tuscany, 6981 El Camino Real. (CARLSBAD)

DANCE

Argentine Tango with Colette Take a first free class Monday, January 20 at 7pm or Wednesday, January 22 at 7pm (or any Monday or Wednesday thereafter). 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)

Move As One Dance Instruction Fun, friendly, affordable social-dance classes. Singles class Wednesday, January 22 at 8pm; couples class Thursday, January 23 at 8pm. Escondido Social class/mixer Tuesday, January 21 at 7pm. 858-248-0593; sandiegodanceinstructor.com. Art Studio 4, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard or Champion Ballroom, 3580 Fifth Avenue. (ESCONDIDO, HILLCREST)

Renaissance Faire Dancing Class The Playford Plodders meet every Thursday to learn and practice English Country Dance from the 17th Century. No part-

ners required. Held in Room 203. Thursdays, 7pm; **free.** Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Zumba Gold This high-energy dance combines a cardiovascular workout with pulsating Latin music into a fun, calorie-burning experience. Dad's head. Fridays, 4pm; **free.** Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)

DISCUSSION GROUPS

Escondido City Politics The Escondido Citizens Coalition (ECC) group meets weekly in a small room at Kettle Coffee every Friday from 1pm to 3pm. The meetings are open to the public and we especially welcome anyone who shares our goal of increasing the voter registration rates in Escondido. Fridays, 1pm; **free.** Kettle Coffee & Tea, 119 E. Grand Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

FOOD & DRINK

Ancient Ales Beer Tasting Explore the museum's BEERology exhibit, while sampling some of the ancient beers. Ancient cultures from around the world brewed many types of beer, and today modern breweries recreate those classics. Dogfish Head Craft Brewery will be on-hand for this event featuring craft beer samples and food tastings. Thursday, January 16, 6pm; \$20-\$30. San Diego



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Puerto Rico continued from page 40

conditioned, but outside balcony seating faces the ocean, with a refreshing breeze. The garlic criollo seafood platter includes a grouper fillet, large pieces of lobster, conch, octopus — it was enough to fill both of us.

The El Conquistador Resort, a Waldorf Astoria Resort, is huge, including a golf course, restaurants, shops, over 1000 rooms, a water park, boat docks, and its own island. Speedy motorboats take guests to/from the island every 30 minutes.

Conquistador's Palomino Island has light-almond sandy beaches, shade provided by numerous coconut palms. But beware of falling coconuts — a coconut fell and narrowly missed Halina's head. The water is clear, warm, and salty. Kimodo dragons wander around the beach.

We left El Conquistador at noon and traveled to the Hacienda Siesta Alegre in Rio Grande, a husband-and-wife-owned bed-and-breakfast. The

pictures bring to mind a Disney-like creation of old Spanish architecture, fake-y but near perfect. When we arrived, Marta showed us our room. The air-conditioning unit, lights, bidet, and Jacuzzi bath tub contrasted with the antique mosquito-netted bed, desk, armoire, and other furnishings.

Marta showed us the main house where we had breakfast. Imagine a building with palm trees growing through the roof, supported by massive square wooden columns. The wall-less building includes a fireplace, kitchen, bar, and pool table. Surrounding patios with overhead trellises are covered with bougainvillea. The owners are building a large fish pool to raise fish that will feed their guests.

The breakfast included Puerto Rican coffee, passion-fruit juice, fresh strawberries, blueberries, starfruit, raspberries, grapes, scrambled eggs (from their chickens), a pile of bacon, savory ground beef with plantains, and French rolls. After breakfast, we headed to the airport with a ton of delicious memories.

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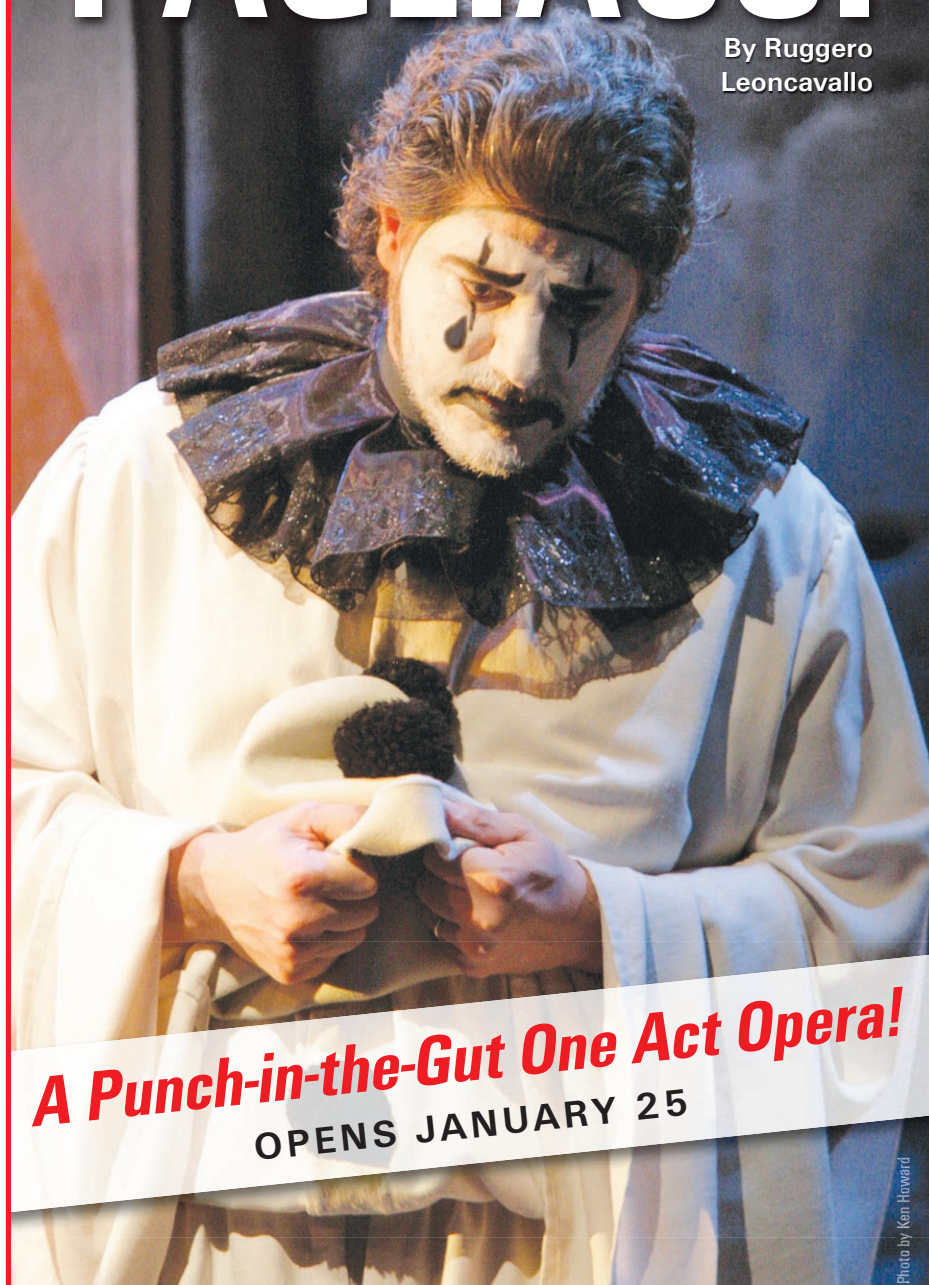
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Calendar

LOCAL EVENTS

Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado.
(BALBOA PARK)

An Evening with Pinot Noir Bob Gelman from Grape Connections in Point Loma will be teaming up with Solare Ristorante in Liberty Station for a fun evening of pairings of Pinot Noir and Italian cuisine. The event starts at 6:45. For reservations or more information call Solare at 619-270-9670. Thursday, January 16, 6:45pm; Solare Ristorante Lounge, 2820 Roosevelt Rd., NTC Promenade. (POINT LOMA)

Cask Thursday w/ Coffee Sweet Georgia Brown Our flagship Brow Ale, sweet Georgia Brown, will be conditioned with a quarter pound of local coffee beans and a touch of vanilla. This classic pairing is not to be missed. It will be on at noon, as always, so come down and have a liquid lunch with a caffeine punch. Thursday, January 16, 12pm; Monkey Paw, 805 16th Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

Get to Know Cheese A complete Cheese 101 course. History, how it's made, what to pair, ways to serve,

how to store. Taste samples of all styles of cheese, sip complementary wine, and ask questions in a fun and intimate setting. Thursday, January 16, 6pm; \$50. 21 and up. Venissimo at Headquarters, 789 W. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Menchie's Frozen Yogurt Opening Day Week Celebrations/promotions everyday for a week: free frozen yogurt, Menchie plushie dolls, dodge balls, more. Saturday, January 18, 11am; free. Menchie's Frozen Yogurt, 349 W. Felicita Avenue. (ESCONDIDO)

One-Year Anniversary at The Blind Burro ¡Feliz cumpleaños! Carnitas plates, tequila specials, and live music from Quel Borden. Thursday, January 16, 8pm; Blind Burro, 639 J Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

San Diego Restaurant Week Foodies can eat their way through over 180 participating restaurants offering three-course prix-fixe dinner menus for \$25, \$35, or \$45 per person and/or two-course prix-fixe lunch menus for \$10, \$15, or \$20 per person. Tickets and passes aren't necessary; show up at any participating location or call ahead to make a reservation. Sunday, January 19 through Friday, January 24. Sunday, January 19, 8am; \$10-\$45.

Rhyme & Verse

A Toast

A poem by Ilya Kaminsky

To your voice, a mysterious virtue,
to the 53 bones of one foot, the four dimensions of breathing

to pine, redwood, sworn-fern, peppermint,
to hyacinth and bluebell lily.

to the train conductor's donkey on a rope,
to smells of lemons, a boy pissing splendidly against the trees.

Bless each thing on earth until it sickens,
until each ungovernable heart admits: "I confused myself

and yet I loved — and what I loved
I forgot, what I forgot brought glory to my travels,

to you I traveled as close as I dared, Lord.



Ilya Kaminsky was born in Odessa, Ukraine, and came to the United States in 1993 when his family was granted asylum by the U.S. government. He is the author of *Dancing in Odessa* (Tupelo Press), which has been translated into several languages and which won the American Academy of Arts and Letters Metcalf Award, a Whiting Writers Award, a Lannan Foundation Grant, and other honors. With Susan Harris, Kaminsky co-edited *The Ecco Anthology of International Poetry*, an anthology of world poetry, published by Ecco Books in 2010. "A Toast" is taken from *Weddings Before the War*, published by Fivehundred Places (*fivehundredplaces.com*) in 2012. The poem is part of a book-length sequence of poems, "Deaf Republic," which Kaminsky is currently completing. He teaches in the MFA program for writers at San Diego State University. The poem is published with permission.

Find more poetry online at SDreader.com/poetry

Restaurants throughout San Diego County. (SAN DIEGO)

Wellness Fair Join a community of local wellness practitioners and healthy lifestyle enthusiasts to help you kick off the New Year on a healthy foot. A mix of hands-on workshops, campfire discussions, movement-based health activities, and field walks. Local health and wellness businesses will be on-site throughout the day to promote their services and products. Satur-

day, January 18, 10am; free. Grove at Suzie's at Sunset, 2570 Sunset Avenue. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

FOR KIDS

Birch Aquarium at Scripps Whale Watching Twice-daily cruises to locate gray whales on their round-trip migration from their Alaska feeding grounds to Baja California. Search for seals,

sea lions, dolphins, and migrating birds. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; \$18-\$42. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Birch Aquarium at Scripps: SEA Days Underwater Parks day. Meet animals that live at the La Jolla Ecological Reserve, learn about the importance of underwater treasures, and explore the best ways to enjoy the underwater parks. Included with admission. Saturday, January 18, 11am; free-\$17. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Cooking Up Stories: For Preschoolers Preschoolers will read some food-themed stories and learn how to cook recipes inspired on the whimsical storybook world. All recipes will focus on fresh, seasonal produce and healthy ingredients and cooking methods. Taught by Fernanda Larson, director of the Cook for Thought Project. Contact: fernanda@cookin?gtothebeat.com. Thursdays, 10:30am; \$15-\$96. Center for a Healthy Lifestyle, 533

Lomas Santa Fe Drive (behind Boys & Girls Club). (SOLANA BEACH)

DIY Food Trucks Design and build your own food truck like Feast artist Jason Torchinsky. Use wood, tape, and markers to construct a miniature vehicle, and then drive it around to move or sell food in our mini country and city landscape. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 12pm; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

DIY Valentines Use repurposed paper and fabric scraps to create a one-of-a-kind note. Thursdays, 10am; Fridays, 10am; Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 10am; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Kids Marathon Mile The one-mile, age-staged races will start at 8am and loop through the family theme park. Although Legoland is geared for children ages 12 and younger, the non-competitive event is open to people of all ages. Every registered child ages 3 to 12 will receive a shiny finisher's medal, colorful T-shirt, and a one-day Sea

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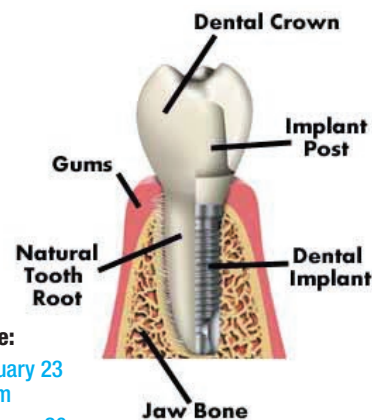
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Life Hopper ticket which includes admission to Legoland, California and Sea Life Aquarium and other goodies. Event-day registration starts at 7am 760-692-2900. Saturday, January 18, 8am; \$20-\$25. Legoland and Sea Life Aquarium, One Legoland Drive. (CARLSBAD)

Monster Truck Jam San Diego

Sixteen massive trucks will be part of the dirt-flying, car-crushin' action, including World Finals champion powerhouses Grave Digger, El Toro Loco, Madusa, Captain's Curse, plus the San Diego debut of Mohawk Warrior and the all-new 2014 truck Police NEA. Die-hard fans can come to the stadium early on Saturday to enjoy the Party in the Pits pre-show experience. Saturday, January 18, 3pm; \$15-\$90. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

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 a lively, interactive concert, introducing the joys and thrills of classical music to the children and families of The New Children's Museum. Sunday, January 19, 2pm; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

Science, Exploration, and Adventure

Celebrate the fourth-annual Underwater Parks Day. Meet animals that live in our local La Jolla Ecological Reserve, learn about the importance of our underwater treasures, and explore the best ways to enjoy our Underwater Parks. Included with admission. Saturday, January 18, 11am; free-\$14. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

LECTURES

Computer Genealogy Society

"Free Smart Phone Apps," presented by Lynn A. (Butch) Hibben, certified legacy advisor. Learn some of the free apps for cell phones that can help genealogists be more effective. Info: cgssdemail@gmail.com. Saturday, January 18, 9am; free. Robinson Auditorium complex at UCSD, off Pangea Drive. (LA JOLLA)

ElderHelp San Diego Seminar

ElderHelp is a local not-for-profit organization celebrating 40 years of helping older adults age in place in San Diego. Learn about their programs and services, as well as volunteer opportunities. This seminar is for those who want assistance with aging in place at home safely and independently, for families or friends looking for a way to help a loved one, and those looking for fulfilling volunteer work. Saturday, January 18, 1pm; free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Industrious Women Focusing on American photographers Esther Bubley and Ruth Robertson, Amy Galpin, Ph.D., associate curator for Art of the Americas, will discuss their commissioned work in Latin America and the exhibition "Women, War, and Industry." Free with museum admission. Satur-

day, January 18, 10:30am; free-\$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Jeffrey Siegel: Keyboard Conversations

Jeffrey Siegel will offer insights about the great composers, while playing their masterpieces. Sunday, January 19, 4pm; Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church, 17010 Pomerado Road. (RANCHO BERNARDO)

Living with Alzheimer's

The Center for Compassionate Care of The Elizabeth Hospice is hosting a series of workshops designed for those who are caring for a family member or friend. Saturday, January 18; free. 18 and up. Center for Compassionate Care, 930 Canterbury Place. (ESCONDIDO)

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)

Roger Showley: History of Balboa Park

Roger Showley is a staff writer for the U-T since 1974 and

has written three books on the history of San Diego. This will be the first of five lectures in a series FSDA to celebrate the upcoming Panama-Canal Exposition Centennial in 2015: Inviting the World to San Diego: The Birth of the Panama-California Exposition. Come early for coffee and treats. A donation of \$5 is suggested; students are free. Saturday, January 18, 9:30am; free-\$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

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SHEEP and GOATS

Al Ghazali

Love for God is the furthest reaches of all stations, the sum of the highest degrees, and there is no station after that of love, except its fruit and its consequences...nor is there any station before love which is not a prelude to it, such

as penitence, long suffering, and asceticism. Yet some...deny the possibility of love for God, and say that it means nothing more than persevering in obedience to God, be He exalted, while true love of God is impossible except metaphorically or in very

unusual circumstances. And since they deny the possibility of loving God, they also deny any intimacy with Him, or passionate longing for Him, or the delight of confiding in Him, and the other consequences of love. — Al Ghazali

Al Ghazali (c. 1058–1111) is also known in Islam as Abu Hammid Muhammad ibn Muhammad al-Ghazali, was a Muslim theologian often considered the most influential Muslim after Muhammad himself. He is simultaneously known for bringing the philosophical investigation

of Islam through the Greek philosophers, especially Aristotle and Plato, to an effective end while also unifying many elements of the fundamentalist orthodox and mystical Sufi elements of Islam, thus strengthening the faith's unity.

Find more excerpts online at SDRReader.com/worship



architects and historians on the romantic Spanish architecture styles, decorative arts, and iron-work popular in homes built in the 1920s and 1930s. Questions and answers to follow. With tabletop displays. Saturday, January 18, 1pm; \$10-\$15. Francis Parker Lower School, 4201 Randolph Street. (MISSION HILLS)

Toddler Programming: Healthy Food Hear about healthful food choices for your toddler from certified nutritionists with Child Development Associates. Friday, January 17, 10:30am; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue. (EAST VILLAGE)

When Time Does Not Heal Vincent Felitti, MD, is the co-principal investigator of the major research study that links current adult health status to childhood experiences decades earlier. Dr. Felitti will describe the effects of early traumatic events on adolescent and adult medical and psychiatric disease, sexual behavior, healthcare costs, and life expectancy. The lecture is sponsored by the San Diego Independent Scholars. Room 111A, Chancellor's

Complex on the UCSD campus. Saturday, January 18, 1:30pm; **free.** University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

OUTDOORS

Batiquitos Lagoon Trail Maintenance Event Batiquitos Lagoon is an all-volunteer organization and welcomes the public every first and third Saturday to maintain the North-shore trail, removing non-native plants and trimming plants that overhang the trail. All ages are welcome, but young children need to be accompanied. Tools provided and instruction and supervision provided by Batiquitos Lagoon board members. Meet at the Nature Center at 9 am and work until noon, weather permitting. Saturday, January 18, 9am; **free.** Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 7380 Gabbiano Lane. (CARLSBAD)

Easy New Year Resolution: Trail Walk Keep your exercise pledge and recreate with a trail guide-led nature walk. Appreciate scenic wonder as you learn facts

about indigenous animal and plant life. Meet inside Visitor Center. Saturday, January 18, 9:30am; Sunday, January 19, 9:30am; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Jun'pero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Gaslamp Ghosts Tour Take a scary stroll through the Gaslamp with historian Sandee Wilhoit, who will recount ghostly happenings of the past and present. Visit hotels, saloons, brothels, a long-ago funeral parlor, and end your tour inside the Gaslamp's most-haunted edifice: the William Heath Davis House. Info: 619-233-4692. Fridays, 5:30pm; \$15. Gaslamp Museum at the William Heath Davis House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Gaslamp Historical Walking Tour Includes architecturally significant structures from Old City Hall (1874) to the Romanesque style Keating Building (1890) to the Baroque Revival Louis Bank of Commerce (1888), along with stories of the people and characters that shaped the destiny of San Diego. 90 minute tour, includes the Davis House Museum. Children under 12 free. Saturdays, 11am; \$12-\$15. Gaslamp Museum at the

William Heath Davis House, 410 Island Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Spring Canyon: Birds and Grasslands Join Mission Trails Regional Park brder Jeanne Raimond on an adventure through sweeping grasslands and the chiseled Spring Canyon to identify birds that thrive in two different habitats. Binoculars and bird book recommended. Saturday, January 18, 8am; **free.** Mission Trails Regional Park equestrian staging area, Mast Boulevard at SR-52. (SANTEE)

Tijuana Estuary: Winter Shorebirds Demystified An introduction to shorebird waders commonly seen on the beaches and mudflats of San Diego. Come learn what birds you'd expect to see at this time of year and tips for distinguishing them. Guest speaker Winand Hess. Saturday, January 18, 10am; **free.** Tijuana River Estuary, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

UC San Diego Visitor Tours Public tours of UC San Diego highlight campus history, art, and architecture. Tours offered weekly

on Sundays and are free to the public. Please note: these are not tours for prospective students. Advance registration is required. 858-534-4414; visitorsprogram@ucsd.edu. Sundays, 2pm; **free.** University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Whale Watching Tours With Sail San Diego. 619-297-7426. Fridays, 1:30pm; Saturdays, 1:30pm; Sundays, 1:30pm; through Monday, April 28, \$75-\$85. Shelter Island Marina, 2051 Shelter Island Drive. (SHELTER ISLAND)

Who Dunnit? Gaslamp Quarter Murder Mystery Adventure During this two-hour murder-mystery adventure tour, participants will visit several Gaslamp Quarter destinations to solve a murder mystery. The journey begins with receipt of a mission. Participants will then pursue a killer throughout the Gaslamp, collecting clues and evidence, cracking codes, deciphering riddles, and participating in challenges to complete the mission. Info: 619-781-8013. Fridays, 7:30pm; Saturdays, 7:30pm; Sundays, 4:30pm; \$25-\$35. Dick's

Last Resort, 345 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

SPECIAL EVENTS

\$3 Per Bag Book Sale Fill a paper grocery bag from a large selection of books for \$3 or purchase individual books for 25 cents each. Saturday, January 18, 10am; \$0-\$3. Cardiff-by-the-Sea Library, 2081 Newcastle Avenue. (CARDIFF-BY-THE-SEA)

Arvel Bird An international award-winning Celtic Fusion Artist will visit Unity San Diego to bless us with his music at the 9am and 11am services. Then he will present a concert at 1:00pm for a suggested donation of \$20. Arvel has been a presenter at the annual Unity People's Convention and visited many Unity Churches. Think of Braveheart meets Last of the Mohicans... at Woodstock. He performs with his flutes and violin. For more information contact Meredith Tabor at 619-280-2501 ext 109. Sunday, January 26.

\$15

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RANCHO BERNARDO COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Worship and Prayer with Valeri Wilson

Valeri Wilson, local worship leader/songwriter, will be playing and singing her original music accompanied by Marnie Hazeleer, a classically trained violinist. This event is free and open to the public, with childcare provided at request, without cost. Friday, February 7, 6-7:30 pm. To register, contact Rachel Gleed via rbis@san.rr.com. RANCHO BERNARDO 17010 Pomerado Road (858) 487-0811

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, 4 pm. RANCHO BERNARDO 17010 Pomerado Road (858) 487-0811

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Sacra/ Profana: Vocal Vanguard part 2

In the second part of the Vocal Vanguard series (part 1 took place January 12 at the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library), Sacra/Profana celebrates the modern generation, exploring an eclectic array of compositional styles and highlighting past winners of the Annual Composition Contest. Sunday, March 23, 4 pm. LA JOLLA 7715 Draper Avenue (858) 454-0713

Christ Church Unity, 3770 Altadena Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

Collegiate A Cappella Quarter-final The Varsity Vocals International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella quarterfinals showcase the art of student a cappella singing. Each year the tournament takes place from January through April in regions across the United States and Europe. The winner of each semifinal is invited to participate in finals, held in New York City. Saturday, January 18, 7pm; \$12-\$20. Mandeville Auditorium at UCSD, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

Crossroads Doll & Teddy Bear Show Featuring antique to modern dolls and bears, miniatures, clothing, accessories, parts, and supplies. Adults \$8, children under 12 \$4 (under five free). Info: 775-348-7713; info@crossroadsshow.com Saturday, January 18, 10am; **free**-\$8. Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road. (KEARNY MESA)

Del Mar Gem Faire Fine jewelry, precious and semi-precious gemstones, millions of beads, crystals, silver, rocks, minerals, and more. Over 70 exhibitors from around the world. Jewelry repair and cleaning while you shop. Classes and demonstrations. Free hourly door prizes. Friday, January 17, 12pm; Saturday, January 18, 10am; Sunday, January 19, 10am; \$7. Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

Electronics Waste Collections & Recycling Donate unwanted electronics and old but usable pairs of shoes. Saturday, January 18, 9am; Sunday, January 19, 9am; **free**. Teachers Annex Building, 4100 Normal Street. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

International Music & Art Festival 2014 The San Diego Chinese Art and Cultural Society presents the International Music and Art Festival, featuring the Greater San Diego Chamber Orchestra conducted by Dr. Angela Yeung, opera singer Scott Gregory, harpist Tasha Smith Godinez, and the Super Galactic Beat Manipulators. The festival will also feature painting exhibits by both children and adults. Info: Wendy Meng at 619-421-5964 or mengwendy889@gmail.com. Saturday, January 18, 7pm; \$20-\$25. Poway Center for the Performing Arts, 15498 Espola Road. (POWAY)

"New Year Romance" Dance Mixer Ages 40-60ish. Simply The Best Singles, an organization for upscale singles looking for relationships, marriage, and more, offers a dance/mixer with DJ Party Pam playing old and new music, icebreakers, a photographer, a psychic, prizes, and more. Dress is upscale classy (no jeans/no shorts) and parking is \$3. Dance price is \$15 prepay, \$20 door. Sign up at SimplyTheBestSingles.com or call 818-577-6877. Saturday, January 18, 7:30pm; \$15-\$20. Handlery Hotel and Resort, 950 Hotel Circle North. (MISSION VALLEY)

Not Just Trivia Test your brains and your luck with an alternative to boring quiz nights. Featuring comedy and mini-games such as "Let's Make A Deal" and "Show and Tell," along with a final showdown in the Categories round. 619-230-1968. Thursdays, 8:30pm; **free**. 21 and up. Jolt'n Joe's, 379 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Panel on Home Healthcare The Hemlock Society of San Diego will present a panel of speakers on home healthcare ranging from small to large home healthcare providers and service agencies to help you better understand what is available, how to evaluate and choose, and about a new law that governs them. Info: 619-233-4418. Sunday, January 19, 1:30pm; **free**. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

Robert Burns Supper: Scottish Party "The best Scottish party of the year!" Sword dancing, Burns's

poetry, piping in the haggis, single malt whisky, Scottish country dancing, and swirling kilts. This year's theme: A Battle of the Sexes. Ticket includes full-course dinner (haggis optional, but it's tasty). Funds support St. Marks Episcopal Church, Ministry in Action. Reservations: 619-283-6242; stmarksoffice@prodigy.net. Saturday, January 18, 6pm; \$30. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 4227 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

San Diego Record Show Saturday, January 18, 9am; \$5. San Diego LGBT Community Center, 3909 Centre Street. (HILLCREST)

Sunday Assembly San Diego Following the success of Sunday Assembly in London, a group of San Diego freethinkers is organizing a godless community in San Diego. Taking part in an international launch, this event will feature writer and journalist Dan Arel. Info: jeffolson503@me.com. (BALBOA PARK)

SPORTS & FITNESS

Carlsbad Marathon The Tri-City Medical Center Carlsbad Marathon features a tour through Carlsbad Village, along Pacific Coast Hwy., and past sandy beaches and picturesque lagoons. Half-marathon sold out. Support stations and live bands every mile. Info: 760-692-2900. Sunday, January 19, 6:15am; \$135. 18 and up. Westfield Plaza Camino Real, 2525 El Camino Real. (CARLSBAD)



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KEARNY MESA



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KEARNY MESA

The San Diego International Auto Show is one of our favorite events of the year! Reader Andy has a bit of a keenness for cars, so seeing all the new models is especially exciting. Better still, Kearny Mesa Fiat sponsored our trip! The 500 Abarth is the coolest small hatch you can buy. The exhaust pops and spits on the overrun and the dash-mounted shifter makes you feel like you're in a touring car! The base 500 starts under \$17K and they have a couple new 2013s in the \$13K range! Seriously, give them a ring @858-492-9200 or just visit kmfiat.com. Next week we're at Science on the Rocks! We've done these before—it's Booze + RHFleet after hours. The theme is The Science of Rock and they currently have a sweet guitar exhibit and they're throwing in some geology. Get it? Science of Rock? Rocks? Never mind.

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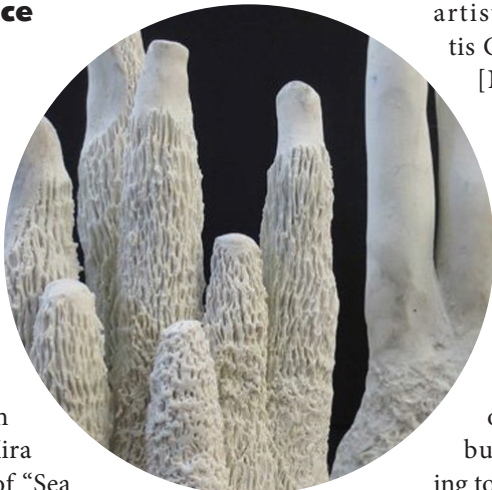


ART

SUBJECT/OBJECT

Art and science combine to regenerate coral

"I know that when you combine statistics and art, you have a way of reaching people that's much deeper, because you're reaching them through the heart," says Kira Corser, director of "Sea Changes: Act." The project is part of *DNA of Creativity*, which seeks to unite San Diego's arts and sciences communities and promote cross-disciplinary



Clay models for glass substrate

projects to effect positive social change.

"Our project addresses three issues that critically endanger the ocean. One is plastic pollution. One is climate change, especially acidification of the ocean

and its effect on coral reefs and hard-shelled creatures like crabs. The third is

overfishing. In our lifetime, we may end up seeing the end of [commercial] fishing as we know it.

"By pairing scientists and artists together through *DNA of Creativity*, our goal was to create possible solutions. [Local artist] Michelle Kurtis Cole, working with [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration fisheries official] Dale Sweetnam, designed the experiment at the Birch Aquarium."

The project in question is only part of "Sea Changes," but it's finally coming to fruition after more than a year. The project at the aquarium involves creating artificial substrates that provide a base from which coral reefs can regrow. The substrates,

which are works of art in their own right, are made by Cole in her Cardiff studio.

Cole describes the process, saying, "I make a mold, in this case a coral-like sculpture, and then I make a mold for it that will withstand great heat. Instead of pouring molten glass in, I place solid pieces of glass into the mold, and then I fire it.

I have a six-by-nine-foot kiln and I fire the glass at about 1600 degrees fahrenheit. It's pretty exciting, because I go inside the kiln a few times to check the process. I'm wearing an aluminum suit and a face shield, so I look

like a spaceperson. When it's finished, the sculpture takes days to cool down in an annealing process that



Michelle Kurtis Cole with one of her non-coral sculptures

takes the stresses out of the glass. I carve, polish, and engrave it in whatever way

I want. It's a lot of fun and a lot of work."

The project's scientists monitor the experiment, recording which forms and textures of glass are most conducive to coral growth. After five months in the aquarium's coral-regeneration tank, polyps have begun to attach themselves to the artificial substrates with no interference from the team.

"We didn't seed our glass corals [by attaching already living coral to the substrate in order to promote new growth]. We just created the base and gave it time," says Cole, who refers to coral reefs as "the rainforests

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San Diego Reader

of the ocean,” citing their vital importance in marine ecology.

Cole was partly drawn to the project because of her long history as a diver.

“I’ve been diving for over 30 years,” she says. “I’ve had opportunities to dive all over the world, fall in love with the ocean, and fall in love with coral. About 20 years after I started diving, I went back to a reef — the very first reef I ever dove — and found it dead. The coral was dead and bleached, everything was dead. It really just broke my heart.” ■

Find more Art Seen at
SDReader.com/art

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. Thursdays, 9am; Fridays, 9am; Saturdays, 9am; Sundays, 9am; **free**-\$17. Birch Aquarium at Scripps, 2300 Expedition Way. (LA JOLLA)

Art on the Green Carlsbad-Oceanside Art League gallery-member artists display their artwork at

Art-on-the-Green every Sunday. Sunday, January 19, 9am; **free**. Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort, 3075 Carlsbad Boulevard. (CARLSBAD)

Free Third Thursday On the third Thursday of every month, visitors receive free admission to the museum, plus free themed Gallery Guide-led tours beginning at 5 and 6pm Thursday, January 16, 5pm; **free**. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Mike Berg: Recent Textiles American artist Mike Berg works with master artisans in Istanbul, Turkey — where he now lives — to create large textiles graced by abstract forms, infused with the spirit of both abstract expressionist oil paintings and traditional central Asian textile art. Thursdays, 11am; Fridays, 11am; Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am; **free**-\$10. Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown, 1100 and 1001 Kettner Boulevard. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)



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<p>Save \$5 when you buy any 3 items at \$5 each at Little Italy, North Park and Pacific Beach Weekly Valid through January 23, 2014 only. One coupon per customer per booth.</p> <p>Baba Foods</p>	<p>\$1 OFF any 2 Paninis At Little Italy Valid through January 23, 2014 only. One coupon per customer per booth.</p> <p>Seb's Paninis</p>	<p>Maldonado Flowers \$1 off Spring Gerberas! at Little Italy, North Park and Pacific Beach weekly</p>	<p>Green Fix Smoothie \$1.00 off any quart-Limit 1 per customer www.GreenFixSmoothie.com (619) 241-2414 Mention this ad for a</p>
<p>California raised grass-fed beef, free range chicken and natural pork.</p> <p>Sonrise Ranch Little Italy at Date and India.</p>	<p>Basiltops® From Seed to Sauce We make Pesto for everyone! Our famous Pesto Perfectto, made with lactose free Pecorino Romano Vegan, Dairy Free and Nut Free Pesto All Gluten Free. Buy 3 get \$1 Off of each.</p>	<p>FREE Polito Farms market bag with \$10 purchase Valid through January 23, 2014 only. One coupon per customer per booth.</p> <p>Polito Family Farms Little Italy at the SW corner of Date & Columbia</p>	<p>FREE salt with \$10 purchase. www.salt-farm.com Valid through January 23, 2014 only. One coupon per customer per booth.</p>
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Trust me. I'm a chef.

"Hi there!" "Hello. Care to see..." I notice they target the man every time. Good strategy.

Hey-hey! Gaslamp in the early afternoon. It feels fresh and dowdy at the same time. You kinda feel that every second

person is suffering some kind of hangover from the night before.

I ain't feeling hung over so much as still waking up. Worked till the wee hours last night. Got up late. Carla got vertical before I did.

"Don't worry, I'll find something downtown," I mumbled. "Gotta go to the Gaslamp anyway."

"Breakfast? Gaslamp? Good luck on that one," she said.

So, I got off the Green Line trolley in the Gaslamp and started up the Golden Mile. Fifth Avenue. Lord. People had food, but nobody had breakfast. By the time I'm up at G street I'm getting a little desperate.

It's early, but the hostesses are starting to take their posts. Some even lock eyes and go, "Hello. We have early specials..."

Just coming up to my two favorite veranda patios, Osteria Panevino and Asti. Both Italian, each with kinda cozy patios. This *osteria* happens to be in the same 1887 building as a real hostel, the USA Hostel.

But what really stops me at Panevino ("bread and wine") is — at last! — the B word. "Now open for Breakfast!" says the green banner. Of course, the main menu...forget it. We're talking anywhere from \$15 to \$40 for a dish. Happy hour, they do have \$7 plates, but happy hour is hours away.

But, breakfast?

"We have it until 3 p.m.," says the hostess, Jessica. "The frittata is very good."

Hmm... "Vegetarian frittata, zucchini, tomato, mushroom, bell peppers, avocado, \$9.95."

So, not the cheapest, but I see pretty much everything on the breakfast menu starts at about \$10. Their Eggs Benedict (with ham, poached eggs, hollandaise sauce on an English muffin) is \$10.99, and, for three bucks more, they have

a Filet Mignon Benedict. They have crêpes (Nutella or *frutti*) and waffles for a ten-spot and ten-buck, half-pound breakfast burgers.

But what catches my eye is a "Breakfast Pizza." Say what? The picture shows four eggs over-easy on top of a pizza with red, green, yellow strips of bell pepper, onions, lots of pale cheese, and chorizo or regular sausage.

It's \$11.95. And I see that

regular antipasti like Bruschetta con Pomodoro (diced tomato, grated parmesan cheese, olive oil on baked bread) at only \$4.95.

But what the heck. I can take lots home.

Jessica leads me to a patio table. I don't even think of going inside, although they've got a really classy mural in there, what looks like medieval Florence. Huh. That old church with the dome looks just like our new Central Library.

Pretty classy out here, too. Wicker and polished wood chairs, fancy folded brown linen napkins. Tall waiter comes up. Steve. Do I want anything to drink? Dang right I do. Coffee. Just to push along the waking process after that late night.

And the coffee turns out to be the best bargain of all. For two bucks I get a silver pot of coffee to pour myself. And coffee's a dream. Smooth but with body.

"Would you like your pizza with sausage or chorizo?" says Steve.

No contest. "As long as the chorizo has plenty of flavor," I say.

"Trust me," Steve says. "I'm a chef. I know good flavor. And the eggs over medium?"

"That means the eggs will be oozy but not runny?"

He nods. "Trust me," he says. "This is the oldest Italian restaurant in the Gaslamp. Twenty-two years. These cooks know how to cook eggs."

After he's gone, I look down the gallery of street-side patios. You can see through from one patio to the next. Upturned wine glasses glint all along. The hostesses at their lecterns glance



Jessica lured Ed Bedford in for breakfast delights.



Il Duomo in this mural of Florence reminded Bedford of the new Downtown Library.

up and down the street. "Hi there!" "Hello. Care to see..." I notice they target the man every time. Good strategy.

I'm just thinking how I could get used to this when Steve brings my pizza, all steamy on a big, round, well-worn wooden platter.

And there are the eggs, four of them, covering most of the peppers and onions and chorizo blobs. But it sure makes a pretty picture, white and golds and greens and reds. And if the sushi ideal of pleasing your eyes first counts, then this scores big.

On the other hand, what the heck am I doing? I have a tough enough time getting through pizzas with all their dough at the end of the day. This pizza ain't no way a bowl of Wheaties.

"Is this something your Sicilian owners would eat back home?" I ask Steve.

"No way. This is something for the American palate," Steve says. "Everything Italian in America is slathered in cheese and sauce like they'd never do back there."

Now I'm starting to feel a little protective. Of their breakfast-pizza idea and American-Italian food. Because it does look good. And the oozy eggs and the chorizo

and the crispy pie do go great together. Especially with some Cholula hot sauce splotted on top and a big slug of coffee with every chomp. And it's a pleasure cutting off chunks with my knife on that soft but firm wood base. No ugly clacking.

By the time I leave, totally stuffed, the street is in full happy-hour flood. Jessica and the girls next door at Asti, and further up at Pizza Lounge, are out there trying to turn passersby into customers in ten words or less.

"Hi guys! Three-dollar beers, seven dollar plates..." Sure, I paid more, but I think I got the better deal. ■



(@SDReader_EdBed)

Authentic? No. But Bedford found Osteria Panevino's breakfast pizza to be a tasty bargain.

The Place: Osteria Panevino, 722 Fifth Avenue, in the Gaslamp, downtown, 619-595-7959

Prices: American breakfast (3 eggs, bacon, sausage or ham, hash browns or roasted potatoes, toast) \$10.99; vegetarian frittata, \$9.95; steak and eggs, \$14.95; Panevino chorizo burrito, \$13.99; filet mignon Benedict, \$13.99; breakfast pizza (chorizo or sausage, with 4 eggs over easy or scrambled), \$11.95; chicken panini, \$10.95; happy-hour small plates (e.g., stuffed eggplant) \$7; main items much more expensive (e.g., Ossobuco Milanese, \$37.95)

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Poway pollo spot proves local beats Loco

13338 Poway Road — In theory, any of the thousands of strip malls paving their way across Southern California could house delicious locally owned restaurants worthy of repeat business. In reality, they don't. Most strip malls offer a scourge of franchised stationery shops, auto-parts dealers, and fast-food joints. And while just about every one features a small mom-and-pop restaurant, most of these turn out to be forgettable, serving a few immediate neighbors and employees of adjacent businesses — if they're lucky.

Don Pollo would appear to be one of these. Though centrally located by Poway standards, it's tucked away at the back of a strip mall so unremarkable that a couple of family dentists have moved in. Less than a block away, chains including Chipotle, Rubio's, and Five Guys can hardly keep up with the lines of Poway residents and nearby business-park lunch-breakers. Meanwhile, Don Pollo's cleverly distinctive fork-and-spoon chicken sign can't even be seen by cars driving past on Poway Road. If it weren't for Yelp or the word-of-mouth of local teenagers, the place might already be just another dead listing on the web, never even having earned a proper label on Google Maps.

Or, maybe it'd be forced to move closer to my corner of town, which would be just fine. Though a Mexican restaurant in most ways (I don't know whether offering a side of mashed

potatoes and gravy disqualifies it as such), Don Pollo doesn't offer a typical Cali-Mex menu. It's really a grilled-chicken spot that offers a small list of tacos, enchiladas, and tortas for variety's sake, and the cheesy, fajita-like dish Alambres for those willing to dig deep into culinary traditions. A sign in the window even claims the place offers the best chicken soup in town, though while the hearty rice-and-chunky-vegetable potage may be the best in Poway, I've tried a few *pozoles* uptown that might have it beat.

It's the grilled chicken I really want to talk about. For five dollars you get a two-piece plate with a side of rice and refried beans, plus grilled onion, jalapeño, and warm tortillas. It's a tremendous deal, but when you factor in the crispy skin and moist, flavorful meat, there's little choice but to pass it over...in favor of a three- or four-piece plate.

It's the rare strip-mall find that's doing something right. For many of us, Don Pollo's offerings may most closely resemble those of a certain "loco" nationwide chicken chain. Now, I'm not here to bash on that or any other fast-food joint, but I will say this: at Don Pollo, you will be served by people with an interest in seeing you enjoy your meal, a

hope you'll tell your friends about it, and pride in knowing they're serving something tasty to people who appreciate it.

by Ian Anderson

All Things BBQ: Barnes BBQ

7820 Broadway, Lemon Grove — Lots of people (including the *Reader's* late restaurant critic, Naomi Wise) have asked, is barbecue solely the province of



Photos of black families from early San Diego hang on the wall at Barnes BBQ in Lemon Grove.

black America? From the standpoint of pure heredity, barbecue's roots lie in the black communities of the rural South, and some people still say that African-American pit-masters retain true mastery of smoke, dry rub, and sauce. That question is fully unanswerable, since it relies on matters of taste, but there's no doubt that barbecue has black roots.

Barnes BBQ (7820 Broadway, Lemon Grove) is a great jumping-off point to look at that undeniable relationship. Posters of famous figures from black history line the walls on one side of the dining room, interspersed with historic photographs of early black families from San Diego's past.

The restaurant claims Texarkana, Arkansas, origins, which puts it outside the traditional brackets of barbecue styles. Geographically, we're talking a hop, skip, and a jump to Texas, which shows in the food.

Barnes' sauce, in which the restaurant takes great pride, is sweet and sticky, though not overly thick. It doesn't have a distinct style, though "excessive" is a *kind* of a style, and the cooks at Barnes like to slather it all over the pork ribs. If anything, "sweetness" is the dominant flavor at Barnes, often to its detriment. Even the peach cobbler suffers from too much sugar, despite the excellent pie crust.

Of note: Barnes gets it right in that *cobbler* should be topped with pie crust, whereas *crumble* uses a crumb topping.

Despite the restau's humble look, Barnes smokes up a decent rib. They're not Wrangler-good, but the ribs have a smoky taste, tender meat, and sufficient

cooking that the little cartilaginous bones in the ends can be crunched up and eaten rather than spit out. Asking for the super-sweet sauce on the side might be a good idea.

More promising, at least on the surface, is Barnes' chopped pork shoulder. To read the menu, it's as if the lucky diner were about to step straight into the Carolinas and sample cue at its most archaic.

Meager portions of insufficiently smoky meat, coarsely chopped

and doused in sauce (which is really just "OK"), won't do it. Promises broken.

Even more than the barbecue, Barnes' claim to fame is the "99-cent soul food" menu of fried chicken, black-eyed peas, braised greens, cornbread, and smothered pork (chopped pork shoulder and gravy over rice), among other staple dishes of soul-food cooking.

If barbecue's heritage is in question, soul food's certainly isn't. The African-American community owns soul food, part and parcel. While barbecue has spread beyond the metaphorical boundaries of black America, soul food has not been co-opted by white people to nearly the same extent. The two styles are intertwined to the point that many barbecue restaurants put soul-food side dishes on the menu. Barbecue remains smoked pork and beef, despite the variety of styles. Fried chicken and collard greens may be delicious; but *cue*, they are not.

Still, the earliest pit-masters would have been black men and women in the deep South, without whom there would be no *cue* at all!

by Ian Pike

Fancy feast

5200 Grand Del Mar Way, Del Mar — Though my man and I dine out frequently, we tend to save the super-high-end foodie adventures for special occasions, such as David's birthday. Last year, we splurged for what ultimately turned out to

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be a rather homely experience at A.R. Valentien. This year, I was willing to go the extra mile to ensure an incredible, memorable gourmand adventure. So, I booked us a table at Addison Del Mar. I'm embarrassed to admit that I had not only never been to, but had also never heard of the Grand Del Mar, which, if its long, extravagant, tree-lined driveway entrance is any indication, is a tad pricier than a room you might find in Mission Valley. But I had, of course, heard of Addison. I knew of chef William Bradley and had seen photos of his artistic, Japanese- and French-inspired creations, food intended to be as beautiful to look at as to taste, and I was just as excited as the birthday boy to experience it firsthand.

As with last year, our good friends Mia and Kerry joined us for David's fancy birthday feast. Two days before the big meal, someone at Addison called to inform us of the dress code, which she described as "smart/casual." Basically, men can't wear jeans or open-toed shoes — jackets and ties are preferred, but not required. Fortunately for the ladies, the code is not as specific. Between the audible lines, I heard, "use your best judgment, but don't raise any brows." Fair enough.

We were seated at a round table that could have comfortably sat eight. Our server greeted us and explained our options: the regular menu, chef's tasting menus of six or eight courses, or "Le Menu Gourmand," a ten-course chef's selection for "culinary enthusiasts." When he walked away to let us discuss our options, we didn't take long to reach a unanimous decision. You don't drive all the way to Disneyland just to go on one ride.

"Le Menu Gourmand," I proclaimed upon our server's return to the table. "With wine pairings." Then, after he left, with an excited smile on his friendly face, I added, "Balls to the wall, people. We're in this for the long haul." It felt particularly wrong and exhilarating to speak crassly in such fancy surroundings. The first item to arrive was the amuse-bouche — holiday-spiced puréed pear, with a dollop of crème fraîche. The intense combination of sugar, spice, and salt was soothed by the silky cream.

Our next bite was a gougère, a traditional French cheese puff, but this was not like any cheese puff I'd had before. "Normally,

we would not instruct you how to eat something," our server said, "But for this, we strongly recommend you pop the whole thing in your mouth and eat it as one bite." Unlike most gougères, including the ones David makes at home, instead of a pocket of air, this one contained a surprise. When I popped it in my mouth and bit down, the liquid cheese center was released. When we finished our gougères, smiles were exchanged all around — an auspicious beginning.

Before long, two silver dishes with fresh grissini (Italian breadsticks) were placed on either side of the table. Sea salt and lemon zest tickled our tongues when we bit into them. After the breadsticks, the final type of bread, a roll I failed to photograph, was served, alongside churned butter. As tasty as it was, we were quick to reject the offerings of more bread, as we were yet to have our first official course.

No one at the table had any allergies, but prior to receiving the first course, which I knew would contain oysters, I'd hinted at my aversion to the slippery bivalves. "I can just give mine to the table, I'm sure they'd be very happy," I

said, but our server insisted they would be able to substitute this one course for me, and after a moment of resistance (it's uncool to expect or request substitutes after you enter into a "trust the chef" tasting), I accepted the kind offer. So it was that my meal officially began with white sturgeon confit with puréed spinach, caviar, and vermouth. It was a little on the fishy side for me — I'm not a fan of caviar — so I ended up sharing it with the table, each of whom were grateful for the generous scoop of caviar atop the fine piece of fish.

As for their own dishes, the Kumamoto oysters were pure decadence. Atop the oysters was a horseradish mousseline, fine black caviar, lemon, and, as if to punctuate its opulence, gold.

Next came the caramelized codfish with charred scallions and toasted kale. This was placed before us in an elegant, clear glass bowl, into which delicious dashi was then poured at the table. Dashi is a classic, Japanese, bonito-based fish stock, and this one was among the most delectable I've tasted — warm, well-rounded umami flavor. We each made good use of the spoons provided.

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often with a distinct fishy flavor, salmon and I haven't been close friends. The only one I've ever liked was labeled Copper River. But this one, a wild Alaskan King salmon, served with beets, a slice of green apple, and salmon roe, was clean and lightly sweet, minus the low-tide twinge that usually makes me turn away from this particular fish. After the delight of this lovely bite, should I again come across "wild Alaskan salmon" on a menu, I now feel embold-

ened to give it a try.

The next course was earthy and rich. As with oysters and salmon, truffle is something I usually try to sidestep. Comically, it seemed that our entire meal was destined to be crafted from the few foods to which I have an aversion. Thinly shaved black truffles topped a tower comprising a parmesan cake, coddled farm egg, and pressed pork. It seems that in recent years truffles have become the industry standard for "fancy," making it the ubiquitous, unwanted addition to all my classic favorites. But here, used intentionally to complement its earthy companion flavors, I finally got what all the truffle fuss has been about. And like the salmon before, this dish elicited moans from around the table.

Continuing with the earth theme that followed the wave of ocean flavors, the fifth course was veal with broccoli, caramelized garlic and parmesan, topped with a slice of cabbage. As with the spinach beneath my sturgeon, the broccoli here was a fine, velvety purée.

By course six, we couldn't

believe there was more food to come. This is the course where I began to slow down. Coffee-roasted canard was served with a side of koshikari rice (a Japanese short grain), which contained duck confit and candied peanuts. The duck had the texture and flavor of filet mignon, and the coffee and sweet peanut did not mask but rather enhanced the taste of the meat.

A course of artisanal cheeses served as a transition from savories to sweets. Five cheeses were carved tableside, accompanied by house-made crackers.

Our sherbet, more than a palate cleanser, was cranberry and orange.

The meringue atop the Meyer lemon petite tartlet had been singed, giving this delectable bite a tart, sweet, and rich lemony toasted-marshmallow quality.

This is when I hit a wall. No more sipping, no more biting, I was done. But my culinary comrades soldiered on to enjoy the opera gâteau with caramelized white chocolate (deceptively light, as David

described it).

And though that was ten, there was still one more bite to come — the final gift to the table was a macaron each. As with the opera cake, I had mine wrapped. To our poodle bags (this place was too upscale for me to call them doggy), the restaurant added a handful of individually wrapped shortbread cookies (really, really good shortbread, David would later remark).

The only disappointment of the meal was at the very end, when David asked if they could pull a solid espresso, and the \$8 cup turned out to be just as regrettable as most. More a small cup of strong coffee than a true espresso, and all this after David had stressed, "Really, if you guys don't do it classic Italian style, very short, viscous like motor oil, with a thick crema, then it's cool, I'll pass." They insisted they could, and they failed. David didn't want to make a fuss, but when pressed to offer feedback, he couldn't lie. And though David had tried to be as diplomatic as possible, our server insisted on making a new cup. Unfortunately, their second attempt was not much different than the first.

We'd expected this meal to be pricey — the courses, the deluxe ingredients, the wine pairings and the fact that at no point did the waiter proffer any numbers along with our options. But no matter how much we'd thought we'd prepared ourselves for an exorbitant bill, when we saw the final tab (which was exactly double our guesstimate), the air was sucked from our lungs.

"Can you cover the rent this month?" I asked my love.

"Should we look at the itemized receipt?" Kerry queried. We didn't mind paying top dollar for a rare experience, but we wanted to make sure we weren't being swindled. The website quoted the ten-course menu at \$10 less per person than what we'd been charged, but I insisted we forgive the discrepancy because when we'd entered into what had turned out to be a four-hour food ride, I'd said, "Give us all you got," and never asked for the cost.

"You know what?" I looked around the table, at my husband, at the faces of two of our dearest friends. "Even if I'd known this number going in, I'd happily pay it again to spend four hours with you guys, who we rarely see, and

to experience all the crazy, expertly executed dishes we just tasted. This wasn't just a meal. It was one of those peak experiences we'll remember all our lives."

by Barbarella Fokos

Rebranding a sunset view, yet again

5083 Santa Monica Avenue — You'd think it was hard to muck up a restaurant holding down one of the best spaces on the West Coast — an oceanfront location so prime, surfers can see into it from the line-up. Yet, here we have Wonderland, taking over the Ocean Beach real estate formerly known as Quigg's, and before that Nick's. Both now closed, and I'm sure they have their reasons.

Wonderland gets its name from O.B.'s almost-mythical seaside amusement park that washed away in high surf a century ago, and its walls share memorable images and bits of trivia about its namesake. But who's going to notice something like that when the entirety of current-day Ocean Beach basks, pier to jetty, before the dining room's panoramic second-floor windows?

Drinkers, diners, and, yes, even waitstaff, can get lost in that view, especially when the waves are breaking and you can practically make eye contact with those surfers out front. This is a take-it-easy kind of place, wasted on anyone unprepared to get cozy with the local brews on tap and linger.

Most of the prime seating faces the same direction — toward the beach. You'll have to sacrifice some view if you want a looking-across-the-table kind of conversation. It's not a place you need to eat, but when you're hungry, a pretty intriguing menu won't stop you

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Ed Bedford's totally vegan salad — eek!

from trying. There's not any real thrust one direction or the other — Wonderland seems just as comfortable serving Asian-styled dishes as it does Hawaiian and Southwestern, and of course it serves fish tacos.

So, apparently O.B. has developed its own style of fish taco. It's basically a take on the South Beach recipe that melts cheddar cheese on flour tortilla. Wonderland does it just as well, with fancy flourishes like cilantro cream sauce and diced jalapeño mixed into the pico de gallo. You can, and probably should, opt for a corn tortilla with any taco you order. I can't seem to say this enough.

The slow-cooked pork in the Chile Verde Stew delivers some savory tomatillo with a nice dash of kick, though it doesn't quite feel like a balanced meal, despite the side of quesadilla. A sesame-crusted ahi wrap tastes pretty great but could use more tuna to justify all the rice, carrots, and cabbage. Wonderland might be a decent dining choice when any members of your party want to eat light or if everyone just wants to snack on oysters and ceviche. Otherwise, stick with heavier fare, like the short-rib burger or "Woco Moco," which differs from loco moco in that it has kale. I think we can all safely skip the Spam Mac 'n' Cheese.

Nevertheless, I wouldn't mind Wonderland sticking around for awhile. If not purely O.B., it manages a slightly distilled take on the signature O.B. vibe, with some mermaid imagery and local history to replace the saltiness still going strong at street level. While you might wish the food were cheaper or the staff a little less relaxed, it's not going to be enough to make you want to leave. Unless maybe you own the joint.

by Ian Anderson

Eek! — salad

807 F Street, East Village — So much gunk. This whole holiday season I went ape on burgers, spuds, chocolate cakes, Cool Whip, donuts, burritos, donuts, grog, beers, vino...

Time to pull back. Take the higher road. Eat better. Eat less. Because Carla and I each stood on the scale this morning. She weighed...uh-oh. She just mumbled that if I mention that, death would be a sweet release after she's done slamming me against the wall. Okay, but me? I'll come right out: 208 pounds. That's like walking around with a ten-pound cat in your fanny-pack.

And, here at F and Ninth, my destiny stares me in the mug: Salad Style, it says. Oh, yeah. That's the salad place that's been hiding out here downtown for the past eight years. But it still looks fresh and has lots of people inside. Guess we're all thinking the same post-holiday thoughts.

So, I take a deep breath and head in. The manager guy Juan is flying around, handling about four orders at once.

Looks like every worker from all the law offices and jewelry wholesalers around, plus some condoistas from East Village, are here.

"The salmon is awesome," says this gal on one of the log stools at the counter. She's drinking a \$5 beer while she waits for her order. Huh. So, wine-and-beer license. That makes it a bit more tempting.

Fact is, most of the salads have some kind of protein mixed in with them. Like the grilled salmon (\$9, or \$12 for the large plate), the chicken meatball, or the chicken Caesar (\$8/\$11), or the ahi tuna and tomato (\$9/\$12).

But I'm into pure sacrifice

here. Nuts and twigs. *No más*. Rabbit food. Still, most have some flavor to help a new vegan out. The house salad (\$6/\$8) has organic greens, Cotija cheese, tomatoes, carrots, cucumber, yellow corn, red onion, and a vinaigrette. Ooh, and Morning Glory (\$6) is basically low-fat yogurt, strawberry, blueberry, pineapple, pear, granola honey, and mint. Could go for that, no prob.

Also the Moroccan couscous salad, (\$7/\$10) which has feta, asparagus, black currants, toasted almonds, and other stuff added to make it interesting. Ditto the spinach and pear salad with goat cheese (\$7/\$10).

But, no. Purity is everything. I grit my teeth and ask for the Totally Vegan (\$7/10 — I get the \$7). It's organic greens, paprika-spiced quinoa (that seed from the Andes), tofu, tomatoes, carrots, chickpeas, organic sprouts, plus a miso vinaigrette. No sign of animal flesh nowhere. But one of the customers waiting tells me that I don't need animal protein if I've got quinoa. "2013 was the UN's International Year of Quinoa," she says. "Because quinoa is the perfect food. True! It's like a grain, but it isn't. It's more like beetroot or spinach. It deserves more respect."

Wow. Quite a sermon. Whatever, makes me happier about going Totally Vegan.

Except I hesitate when a soba-noodle salad passes by. It has the green-tea soba noodles, plus grilled chicken, peanuts, scallions, ginger-sesame dressing. Looks totally delish. Juan says it and the spinach and pear and the salmon might be the three most popular salads.

But, what the heck. Stay pure! I stick with the Totally Vegan... Until the gal on the stool says I should combine it with the spicy chicken Picadillo soup they have going today. "They're just such a

combination," she says.

Sigh. I order one (\$5). Now the floodgates of discipline have burst. I also can't resist getting a little flask of white wine they have going. Looks like it'd just suit the salad. Only thing: I discover it's eight buckeroos. So, what started as a \$7 meal, for the vegan salad, has gone up to \$12 with the soup, and now — erk! — \$20 with the vino.

But, sitting at a table outside under the trees eating all those nuts and twigs, chewing on the paprika-flavored super-protein from Bolivia (the nutty quinoa), taking a chewy, spicy chickeny slurp from the hot soup and a sip from the cool vino, I'm a happy camper.

Actually, the flavors of the different leaves (lettuce, arugula) are kind of interesting. And with the chunks of tofu and the quinoa adding their crumbliness, I could get interested in this salad thing with a little help from soups and wines.

I'm totally full. Maybe we're all headed back to the world of plants. Me, I realize how little attention I've given them, every time I go eat somewhere.

Think I'm going to have to change that.

by Ed Bedford




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Brick runs dry. “No, I don’t think it’s important at all,” local concert promoter Josh Barnes says when asked about the recent shutdown of liquor sales at Brick by Brick in Linda Vista.

“The barbecue place is connected to it,” he says with

year period at the Brick.

Max Paul is listed as the sole owner of the venue. Records indicate the disciplinary action was made at the behest of the State Board of Equalization. Otherwise, the state Department of Alcohol-ic Beverage Control license

he emailed, “and that the suspension will be lifted once a financial agreement has been reached.”

Brick by Brick may be the eldest of rock halls in San Diego under continuous operation. In its first life, it was called the Spirit of 76 (later shortened to the Spirit) club, founded by Jerry and Madeline Herrera. Herrera shepherded San Diego’s first original rock scene while staging more lucrative acts such as R.E.M., the Blasters, and Los Lobos. Paul bought the operation over 15 years ago and stayed the course.

The short list of touring acts that have appeared there under his tenure includes Godsmack, Blue Öyster Cult, Agent Orange, Ronnie James Dio, and System of a Down.

But profits from bar sales are a venue’s main source of income, and without that revenue stream the future looks grim for a nightclub in a climate of diminishing returns.

Last year saw two powerhouses shutter — Anthology and 4th&B — and the Void on El Cajon Boulevard in Normal Heights is currently dark and undergoing reorganization. Barnes says he even suggested that the Brick reinvent itself as an all-ages venue and leave the beer sales to the barbecue joint next door.

“Those guys, they’ve put everything they’ve got into that place. I talked to Max,

and he said he’s getting the license back. He says it’s just a matter of time. And I believe him.”

— Dave Good

Earth’s fastest violinist.

Classically trained violinist David Garrett sends his hellos to San Diego: “I played Balboa Theatre back in January 2012, so I’m very much looking forward to visiting again.”

He won’t elaborate on the latest bells and whistles in his stage show for the Balboa again on January 26, saying only, “I don’t want to give too much away, but there is some new material as well as more familiar tracks, with some great twists...a little something for everyone!”

Judging from several YouTube clips, though, a David Garrett concert includes plenty of rock and pop (“Kashmir” to “Smooth Criminal” to “Smells Like Teen Spirit”), a lot of lights, a lot of ladies craned ecstatically upward at the German-American blue-jeaned blond hunk (he took his mother’s last name for professional use, citing “Bongartz” as a mouthful), and enough stomping to reasonably evoke *Riverdance*.

Garrett left the Royal College of Music in London after one semester, having admitted breaking into the facility to do extra practice (an episode he conveniently forgot to address for the *Reader*).

He graduated from NYC’s Juilliard and did modeling on the side for pin money. He’s in the *Guinness Book of World Record* as the Earth’s Fastest

lived there.”

Taylor’s band — which launched in 2004 — has included A-list singers, such as Graham Bonnet (Rain-



Juilliard-trained David Garrett modeled for pin money.

Violinist, topping out at 13 notes per second.

— Andrew Hamlin

Deja voodoo. “I really didn’t get my act together until I relocated to San Diego,” says Taz Taylor, who arrived from the U.K. in 1997 and has lived in I.B. since 2000. “Though we’ve sold far more CDs in Europe and elsewhere, San Diego has always been [the Taz Taylor Band’s] home base.... There are so many great players here, and everyone takes what they do seriously and throws themselves into it with commitment. Nothing seems out of reach or unattainable.”

Taylor says his 2007/2008 U.K. and European tours were “a little surreal for me, as I never imagined that as a possibility when I actually

bow, Yngwie Malmsteen) and Keith Slack (Michael Schenker Group), and Deep Purple keyboardist Don Airey guested on their 2009 album *Straight Up*. They’ve landed local opening slots for Dokken, Skid Row, Great White, UFO, Molly Hatchet, Pat Travers, and two former Scorpions guitarists, Uli Jon Roth and Michael Schenker.

“Schenker is undoubtedly my guitar hero...it would be fair to say that our sound is based on that of the Michael Schenker Group. The fact that we’ve recorded and toured with two ex-MSG vocalists [Bonnet and Slack] and one ex-MSG keyboardist [Airey] is something I’m very proud of.”

Taylor notes, “It’s certainly true that we’ve had some

(continued on page 58)

the inside track blurt

noticeable exasperation. “Unless you’re a raging alcoholic and you need a freakin’ IV or something, I have no problem going next door.”

By next door, Barnes is

query system shows no other active disciplinary action in place at this time, nor is there any history of same.

Jaret Jahn is Brick by Brick’s general manager. He



With Bull’s serving right next door, Brick says the shows go on.

talking about Bull’s Smokin’ BBQ, an eatery that sells beer and wine that adjoins Brick by Brick. According to public records, on December 13 sales of alcoholic beverages were suspended for a one-

says the venue’s attorney has advised both he and Paul not to talk about the situation until it is resolved. “I can say that there are no blemishes on our license that caused the temporary suspension,”

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high-caliber singers, which might make it more interesting to some now that we're an instrumental band!" The group's new album *Deja*



Taz Taylor's heavy-metal act goes all instrumental on this year's *Deja Voodoo*.

Voodoo, dropping next month, is their first full-length minus any vocals. "We recorded at Blitz Recording Studio in Mission Hills. I've known Richard Blitz longer than anyone else currently in my life, excluding my wife and my mom.... Everything was tracked together in just a handful of takes, the only overdubs being the guitar solos and keyboards."

The *Deja Voodoo* release party happens February 15 at Brick by Brick in Linda Vista.

— Jay Allen Sanford

Donuts only. Four years ago, Andrew Savage made the leap from Denton, Texas, to New York City. Landing in Brooklyn, he went from a city of 113,000 to a borough of 2.5 million. He didn't plan the move around forming a band, but he figured he would probably

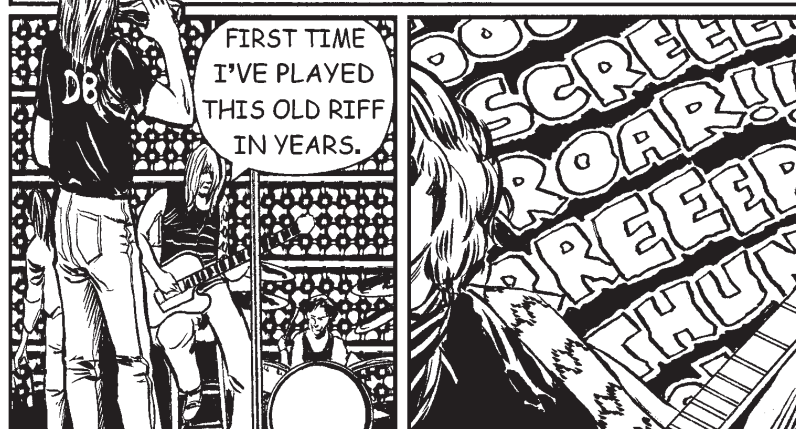
throw one together at some point. Parquet Courts came together quicker than expected.

"The band started in New York in 2010," says Savage. "It was me, obviously, Austin Brown [vocals/guitar], who I met in college, my brother [drummer Max Savage], who I actually met the day he was born, and my friend Sean [Yeaton on bass], who I met

when his band played my house in Texas. He's from Massachusetts. I met him while his band was on tour."

The band held a meeting early on, and their low expectations included playing a show in New York, releasing some sort of hard-copy "thing," and going on tour. Parquet Courts' debut album, *Light Up Gold*, was originally released on Savage's Dull Tools label in 2012, but, soon after, What's Your Rupture? reissued the album to critical acclaim. All the meager goals had been

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accomplished, and the show schedule was about to go into overdrive.

"There's no way I could have predicted it," Savage said. "It happened so quickly that I just kind of got used to it from the onset. Opportunities just started coming in. 'Oh, we got offered to play a show here...and a show here...' If you had asked me a year ago if I thought I would have been doing that, I'm sure I would have said no."

It's tough to pin down why a band that sounds like an early '90s lo-fi act on a donut binge would sound so fresh in 2014. The group has a playful edge that seems lacking in much of the serious world of punk and indie-rock these days, initially evident in their song titles — "Yr No Stoner" and "Donuts Only." Savage feels the band's sense of humor is only part of their overall

persona, though.

"It's good to not take yourself too seriously. I don't think that Parquet Courts is a silly band. I mean, we're funny guys, but the band isn't a joke to us or anything.



Parquet Courts intends to dial down the tokes — er, jokes in 2014.

I think what matters really is that you're putting your heart into it. Sometimes you can tell when bands aren't doing that. Parquet Courts definitely has our serious moments. On *Light Up Gold* there is a lot of serious subject matter talked about on

there. But it's a good balance. I don't think it overwhelms you. I think the next record will be slightly more serious."

Parquet Courts' slightly higher expectations for 2014 include touring Australia

think is good enough to play, and we practice it enough, we start playing it. We've been playing songs that are gonna be on our next record since the summer of 2012. Since right around the time *Light Up Gold* actually came out. I'm excited about giving people that liked *Light Up Gold* something new. I'm looking forward to defining the band a bit more. As you keep making new songs, your world starts to shape."

Hear the new material before the record drops when Parquet Courts play Ché Café on Saturday, January 18, or meet them up at Pappy & Harriet's in Pioneertown, where they'll play this Sunday.

— Dryw Keltz

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CONTRIBUTORS

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

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ROCK N ROLL TO BENEFIT CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS
MONDAY 1/28 • 6 PM

NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS
W/ LIGHTNIN MALCOLM
WEDNESDAY 1/29 • 8 PM

Just Added: 2/10 Seasick Steve • 2/24 - Lucinda Williams (with band) • 3/8 Greensky Bluegrass - on sale Friday!
3/12 Paul Cannon Band • 3/13 El Ten Eleven • 3/14 Cultura Profética
3/20 The Toadies Rubberneck 20th Anniversary Tour • 3/25 Delta Rae • 3/27 Lettuce
4/24 Sarah Jarosz - seated show • 5/11 Steel Pulse - on sale Friday! • 8/5 Third World

Upcoming Shows:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1/30 The Wood Brothers | 2/16 Steve Poltz's 5th Annual 50th Birthday Party | 3/16 Lake Street Dive |
| 1/31 DJ Z-Trip featuring Lyrics Born with Goldenchild | 2/19 Ziggy Marley - SOLD OUT!!! | 3/19 Galactic |
| 2/1 Lukas Nelson and the Promise of the Real | 2/20-2/22 Sunset Sessions Presented by KPRI | 3/21 & 22 The English Beat |
| 2/4 & 5 Pepper | 2/26 Robert Randolph and the Family Band | 3/23 Rhys Darby of Flight of the Conchords - Seated Show |
| 2/6 Marc Broussard | 2/27 Lord Huron | 3/30 Leftover Salmon |
| 2/7 Morgan Heritage | 2/28 Elvin Bishop | 4/1 The Mavericks |
| 2/8 Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo - SOLD OUT!!! | 3/1 Cash'd Out Johnny Cash Birthday Bash | 4/2 VNV Nation |
| 2/9 The Highwayman | 3/2 The Wailers - 30th Anniversary of Legend Tour | 4/3 Big Head Todd and the Monsters |
| 2/11 Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks | 3/4 The Wild Feathers Presented by KPRI | 4/4 Big Head Todd and the Monsters - SOLD OUT!!! |
| 2/12 Project Raw Fundraiser w/ Terraplane Sun | 3/5 Gary Numan | 4/5 The Black Lips |
| 2/13 Los Lobos | 3/7 Karl Denson's Tiny Universe | 4/11 & 12 Super Diamond |
| 2/14 Dead Man's Party - V-Day Ball! | 3/15 Tommy Castro & The Painkillers w/ Paul Thorn | 5/4 MarchFourth Marching Band |
| 2/15 BoomBox | | 5/9 Johnny Clegg |
| | | 5/14 Stephen Marley |
| | | 5/22 The Marshall Tucker Band |
| | | 6/22 The Milk Carton Kids |

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This Week In Music

Thursday 16

"Part art project, part band," according to **Crooks on Tape's** (ex-Enon, -Braniac) one sheet. The L.A.-based improv-pop trio will take the stage at Soda Bar behind their Misra debut *Fingerprints*, a psych-pop set that was boiled down from hundreds of hours of material into "tiny snapshots of an altered crime scene." Fans of Enon and, I'm thinking, Carey Mercer's Frog Eyes should dig right in. And as to snippets of noir, yuh, key word: "Lynchian." Just says "guests" to open the show, but no matter, Crooks're worth the price of admission.... Casbah's monthlong 25th anniversary dealio welcomes punk-rock stalwarts **X** and **Gary Heffern's Blood on Fire**. Ex-Penetrator Heff says this is likely to be his last stateside stint, so go say your hellos and goodbyes Thursday night, or on Friday, when the **Penetrators** headline sets by the **Loons** and **Sidewalk Scene**. Friday's is a sold-out show, btw.... Alt-rocking throwbacks **Privatized Air** will take down the Shakedown after **Deadend Paradox** and **Hocus**. For notes on PA's latest, *Refill*, out now via Raunchola Records, hit up Dave Good's "Go Ahead. I'm Listening" blog.



CROOKS ON TAPE AT SODA BAR

All I need is \$214,460 — wait, can you live in it?.... "Like Beach House, shaken out," Portlandia electro-pop five-piece **Wild Ones** is out to tout their make-or-break disk *Keep It Safe*. Wild? Hardly. Safe? Sort of, but under the fuzzy warmth of the genre's daydream acoustics, Danielle Sul-

livan's longing vocals and country-inflected timbre ring like a bell. This show was originally scheduled for the Void, but with the outing of that brief candle it has been moved to South Park mainstay Whistle Stop, a good room for the not-so-wild Wild Ones. (If you're keeping score, it seems the blighted address that was the Void née Eleven née Zombie Lounge is now — *smacks forehead* — the Hideout. Turn it

into a late-night *empanaderia*, already, and give the folks at Soda Bar something to eat!).... Bar Pink books the Chilean-born/L.A.-based singer-songer **Maria del Pilar**. The ex-Los Abandoned front-woman has reinvented herself since the breakup of that influential underground outfit as "a sort of Latin Bjork." Bend an ear to last year's *Songs + Canciones I* for the proof in the pudding. Yummy.... Best of the rest: "heavy mahogany" pirate-rock originals the **Dread Crew of Oddwood** drift into Soda Bar after **Wilderun** and **Unicorn Death**... borderland bands **Travesura** (featuring Leo Romero of Cuates) and **Northern Tigers** will play Til-Two with L.A. indie-rock act **Fine Minds**...and pianoman **Danny Green's Quartet** fills the Loft at UCSD with his salty south-of-the-border jazz.

Friday 17

Concrete Blonde singer/bassist-cum-Joshua Tree gallery curator and horse whisperer **Johnette Napolitano** will visit the Griffin Friday night. Never seen her solo show, but Ms. Napolitano has a handful of non-Blonde records that are pretty non-Blonde. Like 2007's *Scarred*, an electro-folk brooder that pairs Napolitano's capital-N Natural singing voice with electronic subtexts — equally curious and catching. The songsmithing's okay, but the voice is the thing, and she does some deep-cut covers, I understand — Velvets, Coldplay (!). I just read in a Dustin Lothspeich report via *NBC7.com* that the Griffin is for sale for \$215,000. (Monk, stroking chin, thinks,



JOHNETTE NAPOLITANO AT THE GRIFFIN

Saturday 18

"Stoned and Starving" Brooklyn band (via, *clap-clap-clap, deep in the heart of Texas!*) **Parquet Courts** play Ché Café Saturday night and Pappy & Harriet's up in Pioneertown on Sunday. Dryw Keltz had a chat with the indie-punk band's Andrew Savage for this week's *Blurt*, so flip or click there for the low-down on them. Dryw says Descendents; my gf says Pavement; I say Descendments. Huh? See what I did there? **Destruction Unit**, **Grand Tarantula**, and **Shiva Trash** open the Ché show, making it the hands-down gig to get to Saturday night.... Miss the door in La Jolla, **Blood Dancer**, **Boy King**, and **Bella Novella** fill an eclectic alt-rock bill in Bankers Hill at Tin Can Ale House...the **School of Rock** pupes explore the Best of San

Diego at the Irenic, playing songs by "local heroes" like Beehive, Creeps, Night Marchers, and the Locust. Ambitious kids...**Back 2 Black**, **Smack This**, and **Rattz**, fill a tribute bill at the Griffin...and Drum Wars invade Ramona Mainstage as brothers **Carmine** (Vanilla Fudge) and **Vinnie Appice** (Dio, Sabbath) beat it out once and for all.

Sunday 19

Goofy Canada band **Jelly Boyz** will play the Ché Café campus collective on Sunday. The blink-y quartet's just out of high school with eight ears dialed deftly (and deafly, given the volume) into '90s pop-punk. **Open Letters** and **Nimzo Indians** up first.... Closer to town, and twenty-fourteen, O.C. punk trio **City Mouse** scurries into Bar Pink after **Hunky Newcomers** and **Rebels & Traitors** (Dan Padilla).... SanDiego's silly carny rockers **Silent Comedy** set up at Casbah for two nights. On Sunday **Heavy Guilt** and **Deadly Birds** warm the room, while on Monday it'll be **Family Wagon** and blues-rock Angelenos **Robert Jon & the Wreck**. There's some anguish on the web about a music video Silent Comedy made. I just don't care enough to follow the vine and swallow the wine. I'm a beer drinker, and I prefer my rock free of contrivance.

Monday 20

From Wilmington, North Carolina (the port city made famous by Cape Fear), smoke-doom trio **Weedeater** mows down Soda Bar Monday night after Bay Area doom duo and Southern Lord labelmates **Black Cobra**. Loud-ass locals **Archons** and **Eukaryst** also in on this cavity rattler.... On the other side of the Heights, Til-Two revives **Flatliners**. The 11-year Ontario band is touring in support of their latest, *Dead Language*, a Fat Wreck set that finds the hardcore quartet mining more melodic terrain. Nonja worry, though, these guys still light up the burners à la *Cavalcade* onstage. Like-minded locals **Sic Waiting** set it up.... San Diego's favorite lo-fi 'Zonie (though I hear now he's in Olympia?) **Stephen Steinbrink's** at the Ché Café on Monday. Dude's last two discs, *Drew a Picture* and *Arranged Waves*, describe a guy submerged in mono and working in stereo. Though not very



WEEDEATER AT SODA BAR

Tuesday 21

I'm out of room and it's only Tuesday. A'ight, real quik: technical supergroup the **Aristocrats** (featuring Guthrie Govan, Marco Minnemann, and Bryan Beller — look 'em up) plug in at Brick by Brick after SanFran band **Points North** for your recommended daily allowance of proggy rock and roll... while **D.P.I.**, the **Touchies**, and **Sculpins** fill a fun punk bill at Casbah.

Wednesday 22

"The universe is like a pinball machine and **Mr. Tube** is the music." The man and his dubby back-alley cats the **Flying Objects** land at Casbah after **Ilya** and **Bartender's Bible** for your best humpnright bet.... Else: Rush tribute **Fred Barchetta** rolls into Brick by Brick... synth-pop solo roller **Dent May's** at Soda Bar with our own **Jeans Wilder**... psychobilly trio **Hard Fall Hearts** hit Til-Two with **Sewer Rats** and the **Black Jackits**... while Ché Café stages loopy bassist/composer **CJ Boyd**. **Nothingful**, **Secret Fun Club**, and **Big Bad Buffalo** roam in first.



MR. TUBE & THE FLYING OBJECTS AT CASBAH

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SAT	1/18	MARIA TAYLOR PJ BOND MARIEL	SUN	1/23	KISSES JEFFREY JERUSALEM WESTERN SCENE
SUN	1/19	AUSTIN JENCKES CODY BEEBE & THE CROOKS JESSE LAMONACA	MON	1/24	PURE BATHING CULTURE LA LUZ
MON	1/20	WEEDEATER BLACK COBRA ARCHONS • EUKARYST	TUE	1/25	WOODEN SHJIPS CARLTON MELTON TAR HALQS
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- 1/25 :: SKINNY PUPPY
- 1/26 :: KIRK FRANKLIN PRESENTS GOSPEL BRUNCH
- 1/30 :: MAYER HAWTHORNE
- 1/31 :: PARKWAY DRIVE WITH UPON A BURNING BODY AND BETRAYAL
- 2/5 :: CHIPPENDALES--35TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

- 2/7 & 8 :: RAMON AYALA
- 2/8 :: NORTHLANE (5TH AVE SIDE STAGE)
- 2/9 :: DWEEZIL ZAPPA GUITAR MASTERCLASS - DWEEZILLA ON THE ROAD
- 2/9 :: ZAPPA PLAYS ZAPPA ROXY & ELSEWHERE 40TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR
- 2/11 :: BRANDON BOYD & SONS OF THE SEA
- 2/12 :: EVENTVIBE & AMPLIFIED ACCESS PRESENTS EXCISION
- 2/15 :: THE DEVIL MAKES THREE
- 2/16 :: AMON AMARTH WITH SKELETONWITCH
- 2/17 :: NEW POLITICS WITH MAGIC MAN & SLEEPER AGENT
- 2/22 :: LIVE NATION & CHANNEL 93.3 PRESENTS KARMIN
- 2/23 :: JOHN BUTLER TRIO
- 3/5 :: ONES TO WATCH & KPRI 102.1 PRESENTS WALK OFF THE EARTH
- 3/6 :: RAILROAD EARTH
- 3/7 :: THE ATARIS WITH AUTHORITY ZERO, DRAG THE RIVER AND VERSUS THE WORLD

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What happened to this place?

“Jimmy Page had two guitars stolen after the first show and the FBI ended up getting his guitars back.”

Ratt's frontman Stephen Pearcy, lately of Los Angeles but sometimes of San Diego, published his memoir *Sex, Drugs, Ratt & Roll*, in 2013. Gearing up to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Ratt's multiplatinum *Out of the Cellar*, he took some questions over the telephone.

IMPRESSIONS OF SAN DIEGO AS A KID?

“I came from Los Angeles and I really didn't have anything to do with music. I was actually working with a race-car team and we were on the road. We went to Indianapolis and my mom had remarried. She said, ‘When you get back, we're gonna be living in San Diego, here's the address.’ And after I came back, I was just plopped down in this place called Bay Park. It was an amazing place at that time...it's changed so much, but back then it was all peace and love, peace and love, you know...”

SEE ANY SHOWS AT THE SPORTS ARENA?

“You could literally see the Sports Arena from our house. We lived on this big ol' hill... Alice Cooper, [when] he was using the snakes and the guillotine and the hanging, it was just amazing, that kind of act. And then another night there would be Aerosmith, with Foghat or Bad Company or whoever opening up. And Aerosmith was very powerful. Black Sabbath, another amazing show.

“And then the most memorable was Led



As a budding musician growing up in Bay Park, Ratt's Stephen Pearcy pointed at the Sports Arena and said, “I'm gonna play there one day.” And he did.

WHAT YEARS DID YOU LIVE IN SAN DIEGO?

“1971 to 1980.”

AND YOU RETURNED?

“I actually did. I'd see my Mom, my stepdad. I bought this huge castle house in La Costa and I decided, *This is gonna be great, it'll be copacetic and quiet*. I was never there! I was always on the road. I ended up buying another place in L.A. and I ping-ponged back and forth. But I lived there in 1998. It's ironic because the lead guitar player in my solo band, Erik Ferentinos, lived across the street from the La Costa house. So there's a reason for everything.”

Zeppelin, I saw them twice. I kinda knew these girls, and I didn't know that they were groupies, per se, but I knew they'd always wait in the back area. I had that *Almost Famous* experience. A girl says, ‘Well, I'll get you in.’ I didn't get in, but they did!

“Led Zeppelin was just mind-altering. Three and a half hours of in-your-face. It was a Monday night and a Thursday night. Jimmy Page had two guitars stolen after the first show and the FBI ended up getting his guitars back. The first night was so loud, people were walking out of there spinning around, so they turned it down. It was general admission, so you'd just plant yourself somewhere, and without even knowing it your body would be pushed around the arena, several times. You'd end up in the back, in the front, in the back again. And [tickets] were \$3.50, you know?”

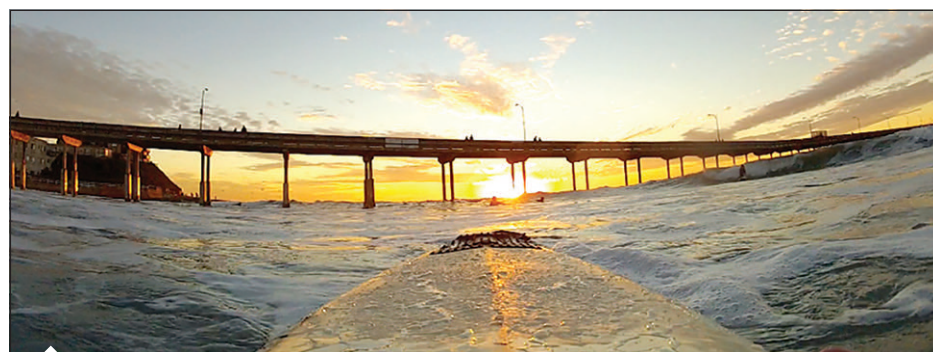
“When I started getting into music, I would be at the house, point at the Sports Arena, and say, ‘I'm gonna play there one day.’ And, lo and behold, our first time playing there was opening up for Ozzy, and the second time we headlined, Lita Ford opening. New Year's Eve.

“[At the Sports Arena] you're out in front of all these people, where you're used to being in front of 1000, or 800. And here we were in front of 15,000. And it never stopped after that.”

HOW DID SAN DIEGO CHANGE FOR YOU, OVER THE YEARS?

“It was [more] crowded, number one. Everything seemed smaller, since we were traveling the world. And I just wanted peace of mind. I'd have people following me, so I'd have to do the James Bond thing. Fly into the garage and shut the door. It just got crowded, you know? The whole sense, smell, taste. It was opening up, becoming a bigger and bigger city. The canyons were being closed down and they were building Sports Chalets and workout places, cutting the trees down. We used to have keg parties in the canyons...there was none of that. Houses were just ping-ponging all over. And if you go there now, it's even more complicated and crowded. I look out of my parents' window now and it's just, ‘What happened to this place?’

“But it's a beautiful town, a beautiful city. I visit Robbin's [Crosby] parents in La Jolla. And I go to my parents' place, stop by there. They've recently both passed. My stepdad finally went down. It's the end of an era. When I first started playing music, we used to rehearse in every room in that house. The living room, the bedroom, the den, and we'd have these parties in the back. Anything, just to play. It's like closing another chapter.” ■



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THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

98 Bottles:
Thursday, 5pm — Jaime Valle Latin Jazz Quartet. \$5.
Friday, 8pm — Fred Benedetti and George Svoboda. \$8-\$11.
Saturday, 8pm — Darryl F. Walker. \$12-\$15.
Sunday, noon — Sunday Funday: Steph Johnson. **Free**.

Alchemy:
Tuesday, 8pm — Songwriter Showcase with Astra Kelly.

Amaya:
Thursday, 7pm — Fuzzy Rankins Blues Band.
Friday, 7pm — Lance Dieckmann Blues Band.

ArtLab:
Thursday, 7:30pm — Anna’s Way Concert with Bridging Gaps.
Friday, 7:30pm — Mosaic Quartet.
Saturday, 8pm — Jennie Buss.
Wednesday, 7pm — Robin Henkel.

Beaumont’s:
Thursday, 7:30pm — The Aquile Band. **Free**.
Friday, 9pm — Scratch. **Free**.
Saturday, 9pm — BR Funk. **Free**.
Sunday, 11:30am, *Wednesday*, 7:30pm — Kayla Hope. **Free**.

Belly Up:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Vonda Shepard.
Friday, 8pm — Giant Panda Guerilla Dub Squad.
Saturday, 8pm — The Wayward Sons and Way Cool Jr. \$13-\$23.
Sunday, 6pm — Charley Hoffman Foundation, Kelley James.
Wednesday, 9pm — Randy Rogers Band.

Brick by Brick:
Saturday, 8pm — Before the Mourning, Back From Ashes.

\$10.
Tuesday, 8pm — The Aristocrats, Points North, Travis Larson. \$22.

Café Ipé:
Saturday, 1pm — Scott Samuels.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido:
Saturday, 7:30pm — The Harvard Glee Club. **Free**.

Casbah:
Thursday, 8pm — X and Gary Heffern’s Blood On Fire.
Friday, 8pm — Penetrators, Loons, Sidewalk Scene. \$20.
Saturday, 8pm — Buck-O-Nine, Heavyweight Champions. \$12.
Sunday, 8pm — The Silent Comedy and the Heavy Guilt.
Monday, 8pm — The Silent Comedy and Family Wagon.

Chico Club:
Thursday, Friday, Sunday, 8pm — DJ Harvest.

Che Cafe:
Saturday, 8pm — Parquet Courts and Destruction Unit.

Copley Symphony Hall:
Friday, Saturday, 8pm — Ballroom with a Twist. \$20-\$85.

Coyote Bar & Grill:
Thursday, 8pm — Too Rude For Sunday.
Friday, 6pm — Mystique Element of Soul.
Saturday, 6pm — Master Splinter & the Shredders.
Sunday, 5pm — Jerome Dawson.
Wednesday, 5pm — Mirage. **Free**.

Dance for 2:
Friday, 8:30pm — Whitney Shay Jam Masquerade swing ball. \$12-\$20.

Dick’s Last Resort:
Thursday, 7pm — Private Domain Unplugged Thursdays. **Free**.

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

Dirk’s Niteclub:
Friday, Saturday, 8:30pm — FX5.

Dizzy’s:
Friday, 7:30pm — Lin, Shakelford, McDaniel & Tafarella.

!

NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

Less screamo, more hardcore — at least since 2008. That was the year Las Vegas quintet Escape the Fate made a course correction and swapped singers with the announcement that Craig Mabbitt would replace founding vocalist Ronnie Radke as frontman. Too bad, in my opinion. While Mabbitt is to Escape the Fate who Arnel Pineda is to Journey, Radke was far more original and only a neck tattoo away from a string of truly flippant rock-and-roll singers such as Sebastian Bach or durable old Bret Michaels or even Alice Cooper back when he was new. Radke’s problem was jail time, a fate he could not escape, given his sweet tooth for drugs and a tendency toward chaos in his personal affairs.

After Mabbitt joined, Escape the Fate grew up. Surely Geffen’s label expectations and Linkin Park producer Don Gilmore enforced adulthood on a metalcore-ish pop group with murder, suicide, and battery in their past. This is not a band that anyone would ever accuse of being stable.

How they got here: the original Escape the Fate line-up won a contest in 2005. The prize was they got to open a My Chemical Romance show, and that was good enough for Epitaph Records. The label signed the bad boys and released *No Sympathy for the Dead* a year later. But who cares about history? The lineup has changed so many times that each release sounds less like a chronology than a new band. The glue that binds the ETF experience is the live show and the songwriting, which is generally without fault. At least that part of the Escape the Fate train runs on time. But if the lesson of the rise and fall of Guns N’ Roses’ Axl Rose has taught



ESCAPE THE FATE

us anything, it is that there is almost nothing more interesting in hard rock than power chords, drama, and a narcissistic front man. Falling in Reverse, Chelsea Grin, and Survive This also perform.

ESCAPE THE FATE: SOMA, Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m. 619-226-7662. \$20

Find more Of Note columns online at SDReader.com/note

Encinitas Library:
Saturday, 7pm — Daniel Jackson, MinderBinder & Boaz Roberts. \$10-\$13.

Eureka! Gourmet Burgers and Craft Beer:
Thursday, 7pm — Steven Ybarra.

Four Points by Sheraton:
Friday, 8pm — Steam Powered Giraffe album release.

Griffin:
Friday, 8pm — Johnette Napolitano.

House of Blues:
Friday, 8pm — Gungor. \$20-\$60.
Saturday, 7pm — Led Zepagain and Bonfire. \$15-\$45.
Sunday, 10am — Kirk Franklin Gospel Brunch. \$21-\$42.
Sunday, 8pm — Volcano Choir and the Cloak Ox. \$25.
Tuesday, 8:30pm — 3 Doors Down (acoustic). \$47-\$100.
Tuesday, 9pm — The Shakedown Daddies.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club:

Thursday, 7pm — Ruby & the Red Hots. \$5.
Friday, 7pm — Rockola. \$12.
Saturday, 7pm — Alan Iglasias.
Sunday, 7pm — Marcus Johnson.
Monday, 7pm — Chet Cannon.
Tuesday, 7pm — Jesse Davis. **Free**.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Breez’n.

Infinity at Pala Casino:
Saturday, 8pm — David Brighton.

Joe and Vi Jacobs Center:
Wednesday, 7pm — Mint Condition. \$45-\$100.

Jumping Turtle:
Saturday, 8pm — T-Nutty and David Daygo.
Wednesday, 8pm — Mobile Deathcamp, Theosis, Dark Measure.

Kava Lounge:
Thursday, 8:30pm — Nightshift.
Friday, 8pm — Jungle Fridays.
Saturday, 9pm — Dragon Lounge 16th Anniversary: MiHKAL. \$10.
Tuesday, 8pm — High Tech Tuesdays.
Wednesday, 8pm — Future Wednesdays.

Kensington Club:
Saturday, 8pm — Sculptins, Bat Lords, Nuclear Tomorrow.

SONIC CLOUDS

thurs jan 23 @ 8pm

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Elektrik tank

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with DJs Demond & Klean. \$5.
Tuesday, 7pm — Tuesday Dance with KatieCat & Cain. \$10.

Pala Events Center:
Saturday, 7:30pm — Arrival From Sweden: Music of ABBA. \$30-\$60.

Pier View Pub:
Friday, 9pm — The Shakedown Daddies, Black Scabs.

Prohibition:
Thursday, 8pm — Piano Joe & the Wheelers.
Friday, 8pm — Jon Ji & the Moonshiners.
Saturday, 8pm — Lady Dottie.

Queen Bee’s Art & Cultural Center:
Sunday, 8pm — Open Salsa Dance with DJ.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:
Saturday, 8:30pm — Vinny Appice and Carmine Appice.

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center:
Friday, 7pm — Rock in the Park: Common Sense.

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:
Thursday, 9pm — Chickenbone Slim.
Friday, 9pm — Midnight Pine.
Saturday, 9pm — Bedbreakers.

San Pasqual Winery Tasting Room and Gallery:
Saturday, 7pm — Stage IV Jazz. **Free**.

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Thursday, January 16 BLACK WITCH PUDDING SURF FARMER	Saturday, January 25 BL'AST! • FINAL CONFLICT SYSTEMATIC ABUSE	Saturday, February 15 LYNCH MOB TAZ TAYLOR (Cd Release Party) BLACK SABBITCH
Friday, January 17 SHAUGHNESSY JASON LEE & FRIENDS	Sunday, January 26 THE GROUND BENEATH BLUE SUNS • SUICIDE CHORDS	Saturday, February 22 DIO DISCIPLES RAMMOTH ALCHEMY • THE NITE CRAWLERS
Saturday, January 18 BACK FROM ASHES • MALAKI NOTHING HAUNTS ME CIRCLE 7	Tuesday, January 28 JAYKE ORVIS & THE BROKEN BAND JAMES HUNNICUTT WICKLOW ATWATER & THE FALLEN FLAME	Saturday, March 1 RUGBY RUCK N ROLL
Sunday, January 19 CALLOW • THE GIFT MACHINE KARL BLUE	Thursday, January 30TH COSMIC WOLF	Friday, March 14 ZEPPARELLA • SOL SACRIFICE
Tuesday, January 21 THE ARISTOCRATS TRAVIS LARSON BAND • POINTS NORTH	Saturday, February 1 GUTTERMOUTH • PIÑATA PROTEST OCEANSIDE SOUND SYSTEM • D.P.I.	Thursday, March 20 MIKE TRAMP (White Lion)
Wednesday, January 22 FRED BARCHETTA (A Points North Tribute to Rush)	Saturday, February 8 MY ELYSIAN • MAD TRAFFIC VATTICA • CIRCLE 7 • SINFLOOD	Saturday, March 22 LONGFELLOW SILENT AUCTION

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Sunday, 2:30pm — The Sophistacados. Free.

Seaport Village:

Sunday, noon — Steven Ybarra.

Seven Grand:

Thursday, 8pm — Stevie Harris and Tolan Shaw.

Shakedown Bar:

Thursday, 8pm — Hocus.

Friday, 8pm — Hocus, Raja Lyon, Dead End Paradox.

Saturday, 8pm — Squirrelly Arts, Ashen Earth, Ruines ov Abaddon.

Soda Bar:

Thursday, 9pm — Crooks on Tape.

Friday, 8pm — Dread Crew of Oddwood, Unicorn Death.

Saturday, 8pm — Maria Taylor.

Sunday, 8:30pm — Austin Jenckes and Cody Beebe.

Monday, 8:30pm — Weedeater and Black Cobra.

Tuesday, 8pm — Lonely Wild, Soda Pants, Nena Anderson.

Wednesday, 9pm — Dent May.

Solterra Winery & Kitchen:

Saturday, 7pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind. Free.

Soma:

Thursday, 7:30pm — Falling in Reverse and Escape the Fate.

Saturday, 6:30pm — Brave Coast and Days Of Struggle.

Stage Rock Bar & Grill:

Friday, 7:30pm — Teaser and Disco Pimps.

Saturday, 8pm — Hott Mess and DJ Miss Dust.

Sunday, 8pm — Funhouse/Seismic.

Monday, 8pm — '80s Gothic Night.

Wednesday, 8pm — Mark Fisher & Gaslamp Guitars.

Star Theatre:

Sunday, 7pm — Michael "Leroy" Bram and Raining Jane. \$40.

Swedenborg Hall:

Sunday, 7:30pm — Songwriters Acoustic Nights.

Sycuan Casino:

Friday, 9pm — Cameo.

Til-Two:

Wednesday, 8pm — Hard Fall Hearts, Sewer Rats, Blackjackjacks.

Tin Can Ale House:

Thursday, 8pm — Roger!, Youngsville, Defero. \$5.

Friday, 8pm — Haymarket Squares and Desolators. \$5.

Saturday, 8pm — Blood Dancer, Bella Novella, Boy King. \$5.

Monday, 8pm — Country Club featuring Gary Hankins.

Tuesday, 8pm — Sinflood and Sensory Station. \$5.

Wednesday, 8pm — Paul Wolfe, Hieronymous Bogs, Laura Gravelle. \$5.

Tio Leo's:

Thursday, 8:30pm — The Fremonts.

Saturday, 8pm — The Hollywood Stones.

Tuesday, 9pm — Bayou Brothers.

Tower 13:

Friday, 5:30pm — Coda. Free.

Friday, 9pm — The Tommy Mitchell Show. Free.

Tower Bar:

Friday, 8pm — Grape Apes, Void Boys, Western Setting.

Sunday, 8pm — DEA, Idols Plague, Nerve Control.

Trinity United Methodist Church:

Friday, 7:30pm — Contradancing. \$8.

Turquoise Café-Bar Europa:

Thursday, 4pm — Talia. Singer/songwriter Talia will perform with indie-music guest stars.

Thursday, 7pm — The Jade Visions Jazz Trio. Traditional jazz standards.

Friday, 5pm — Tomcat Courtney. Down-home blues.

Friday, 9pm — Fish Out of Water. Original acoustic, funk, and reggae.

Saturday, 6:30pm — Tomcat Courtney. Down-home blues.

Saturday, 9pm — Tony LaVoz & Cold Duck Trio. R&B, jazz, and Latin.

Sunday, 4pm — Sounds Like Four. Smooth jazz.

Sunday, 7pm — Big Boss Bubalé. Rock and euro-jazz.

Monday, 4pm — David Hermesen Guitar Duo. David Hermesen will perform as part of a guitar duo with vocals.

Monday, 7pm — Jazz Jam with Amanda Portela. The Jazz Jam is open for musicians to sit in.

Tuesday, 4pm — Stefanie Schmitz & Friends. Brazilian, jazz, and world.

Tuesday, 7pm — Grupo Globo. Jazz and world.

Wednesday, 4pm — Kevin and Eduardo. Latin guitar and vocals.

Wednesday, 7pm — Tomcat Courtney. Down-home blues.

U-31:

Saturday, 9pm — Dance!Dance! with DJ Qenoe. Free.

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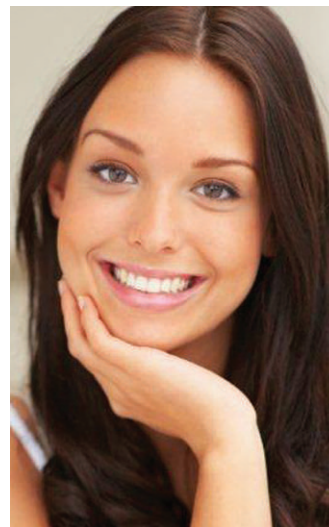
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Whistle Stop Bar:
Thursday, 8pm — AstroJump with Kill Quanti.
Friday, 8pm — F#cking in the Bushes: British rock.
Saturday, 8pm — '80s vs '90s.
Tuesday, 8pm — Brandon's Crocodiles Party, Mario Orduno.

Winstons:
Thursday, 8pm — Atlantis Rizing, Sighphur One, Alowe, Unspoken. **Free.**
Friday, 8pm — V Elements Yoga Pants Dance Kick-Off Party.
Saturday, 8pm — Turkuaz. \$7-\$10.
Sunday, 10pm — Jose Sinatra hosts OB-oke. \$1.
Monday, 8pm — Electric Waste Band. \$5.
Tuesday, 8pm — Dishwalla. \$15-\$18.
Wednesday, 8pm — Revival and DJ Carlos Clutire. **Free.**

Wong's Dragon Room:
Friday, 8pm — Homeless Sexuels.
Saturday, 9pm — West Of 5. **Free.**

Wynola Pizza Express:
Friday, 6pm — Robin Henkel. **Free.**

Zel's Del Mar:
Saturday, 8pm — Robin Henkel. **Free.**

CLASSICAL MUSIC

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 a lively, interactive concert, introducing the joys and thrills of classical music to the children and families of The New Children's Museum. Sunday, January 19, 2pm; New Children's Museum, 200 W. Island Avenue.

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EVERYONE'S A CRITIC

Snow Globe Erasure

By Andrew Hamlin

"Loving Man," with its ecstatic gender-blurring one minute ("I'm a boy/I'm a girl/Who has everything"), bipolar furor at rejection the next, and frustrating refusal to climax musically, sounds dragged in from another project, matching the yuletide sentiment only insofar as it nods to love and devotion. Other tunes suggest prickliness on those subjects, the leadoff track frank on "I don't believe in your religion" and a whole

lot of other bad stuff — but hitched to hope, hitched to the bells. Blocking out an agenda and an argument. A conversation many folks have to have with their families this time of year.

But, willing to compromise. Willing to seek beauty in the old standbys. "Gaudete" and "In the Bleak Midwinter" may be less familiar to Yank ears, but the duo marks both sold solid. The former pulls out synthetic church bell presets circa keyboardist Vince Clarke's '80s work with Yaz, and if a little Auto-Tune helps singer Andy Bell summon his caroling-midst-the-drift bit, well, these two were disco back when disco still had a bad name, and disco loves voice tricks.

"Bleak Midwinter" predates "The Little Drummer Boy" thematically (tune by Holst, lyrics by Christina Rossetti). What can I give to the divine (child), I who have nothing? "Give him my heart."



Willing to seek beauty in the old standbys

Music Reviews from Our Readers

Timberlake takes back the night

By Jennifer R. Calderón

Justin Timberlake and the Tennessee Kids brought "crowd surfing" to a new level.

Multicolored laser beams gleamed throughout the arena as Timberlake and his crew opened the show with "Pusher Love Girl" and danced across the stage to popular tracks, such as "Summer Love," "Rock Your Body," and "My Love."

After the show's

ten-minute intermission, the stage rose and swiftly surfed above the dazzled crowd as the pop star performed his latest dance tracks "Let the Groove Get In" and "Take Back the Night" from his *20/20 Experience* album.

The show's two-and-a-half-hour set ended with his triple-platinum chart-topper "Mirrors."

From the warped, surrealist video montages to the shifting stage and acoustic and piano solos, Timberlake's show was an "out-of-this-world" experience.

Concert: Justin Timberlake

Seats: 8th row (and center) from the stage (row h, seats 3 and 4)

Date: November 30

Venue: MGM Grand Garden Arena, Las Vegas



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UPCOMING SHOWS

98 Bottles: 2400 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-255-7885.
January 23 — Timothy Lin Quintet.
January 24 — Black Mambo.
January 25 — Tribute to Jimmy Smith & Lou Donaldson.

Alchemy: 1503 30th St., South Park, 619-255-0616.
January 28, February 4 — Songwriter Showcase with Astra Kelly.

ArtLab: 3536 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-283-1151.
January 25 — American Guitar Masters.
February 5 — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay.

Balboa Theatre: 868 Fourth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-570-1100.
January 24 — The Irish Rovers.
January 25 — Tommy

Bar Pink: 3829 30th St., North Park, 619-564-7194.
January 25 — Gone Baby Gone, Shake Before Us, Baja Bugs.
January 31 — Legacy Pack album release.

Baumont's: 5662 La Jolla Bl., La Jolla, 858-459-0474.
January 23 — Doug Benson.
January 24 — Stratos.
January 25 — Gonzology.

Belly Up: 143 South Cedros Ave., Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.
January 23 — White Buffalo.
January 24, 25 — Ozomatli.

Birch North Park Theatre: 2891 University Ave., North Park, 619-239-8836.
January 23 — 25 Years of the Casbah with Tim Mays.

Boar Cross'n: 390 Grand Ave., Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.
January 23 — The Shakedown Daddies.

Brick by Brick: 1130 Buenos Ave., Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.
January 25 — Bl'ast, Final Conflict, Systematic Abuse.

Broke Girls Coffee Bar: 3562 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-204-1693.
January 25 — Jara, Todd Allen, A New Ending.

Cafe Panini: 505 Oak Ave. #C, Carlsbad, California 92008, Carlsbad, 760-730-9183.
January 25 — Alaina Blair.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: 340 N. Escondido Bl., Escondido, 760-839-4138.
January 25 — San Diego Youth Symphony.
January 30, 31 — 1st Marine Division Band free concert.
February 5 — The Sweethearts of Swing.

Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort: 3075 Carlsbad Bl., Carlsbad, 760-434-7020.

February 4 — Carlsbad Music Festival Benefit: Wu Man.

The Casbah: 2501 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-232-4355.
January 23 — Sprung Monkey and the Gods of Science.
January 24 — Creedle, Fluf, Chune.
January 25 — Smile and Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver.

Cheers Too: 9995 Carmel Mountain Rd., Rancho Penasquitos, 858-484-4215.
January 25 — West Of 5.

Chico Club: 7366 El Cajon Bl., La Mesa, 619-465-4190.
January 23, 24, 26 — DJ Harvest.

Che Cafe: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-2311.
January 24 — Silver Snakes, Griever, Children of God.
January 30 — The Menzingers, Off With Their Heads.

Club M: 5200 Grand Del Mar Way, Del Mar, 858-314-1950.
January 31 — 2014 Chinese New Year Red Ball.

Conrad Prebys Music Center at UCSD: Russell Lane at Gilman Dr., La Jolla, 858-534-2230.
February 1 — Nathan East & Cecil Lytle.

The Coyote Bar & Grill: 300 Carlsbad Village Dr., Carlsbad, 760-729-4695.
January 23 — Cuddlefish.
January 24 — Bill Magee.

Daley Double Saloon: 546 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Encinitas, 760-753-1366.
January 29 — Pray For Surf and Sister Jaunita.

Dick's Last Resort: 345 Fourth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-231-9100.
January 23, 30 — Private Domain Unplugged Thursdays.

Dizzy's: 4275 Mission Bay Drive (in the showroom at San Diego Jet Ski Rentals), Pacific Beach, 858-270-7467.
January 31 — Tokeli & Friends.

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: 1030 Broadway, East Village, 619-237-0550.
January 25 — Sammy Bananas Flexin' Tour.

Epicentre: 8450 Mira Mesa Bl., Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.
January 31 — Firestarter, Old Again, Scarlett Avenue.

First Church of the Brethren: 3850 Westgate Pl., Oak Park, 619-262-1988.
January 25 — George Mann: Guthrie & Seeger tribute.

Golden Acorn Casino: 1800 Golden Acorn Way, Campo, 866-794-6244.
January 25, February 8 — Brown Sugar Band Dance Party.

The Griffin: 1310 Morena Bl., Linda Vista, 619-684-1816.
January 29 — Robert DeLong and Mystery Skulls.

Harrah's Rincon: 777 Harrah's Rincon Way, Valley Center, 760-751-3100.
January 31 — Foreigner.

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: 2955 Jamacha Rd., Rancho San Diego, 619-670-7468.
January 25 — Lafayette Blues Band.

House of Blues: 1055 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-299-2583.
January 23 — Sound Tribe Sector 9.
January 25 — Skinny Puppy.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: 2241 Shelter Island Dr., Shelter Island, 619-224-3577.
January 23 — Backwater Blues Band.
January 24 — Clay Colton Band.

Infinity at Pala Casino: 11154 Highway 76, Pala, 877-946-7252.
January 25 — Green Today.

The Irenic: 3090 Polk Ave., North Park, 619-624-9335.
January 24 — Max Bemis, Matt Pryor, Perma, Merriment.

The Kava Lounge: 2812 Kettner Bl., Little Italy, 619-543-0933.

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May 2

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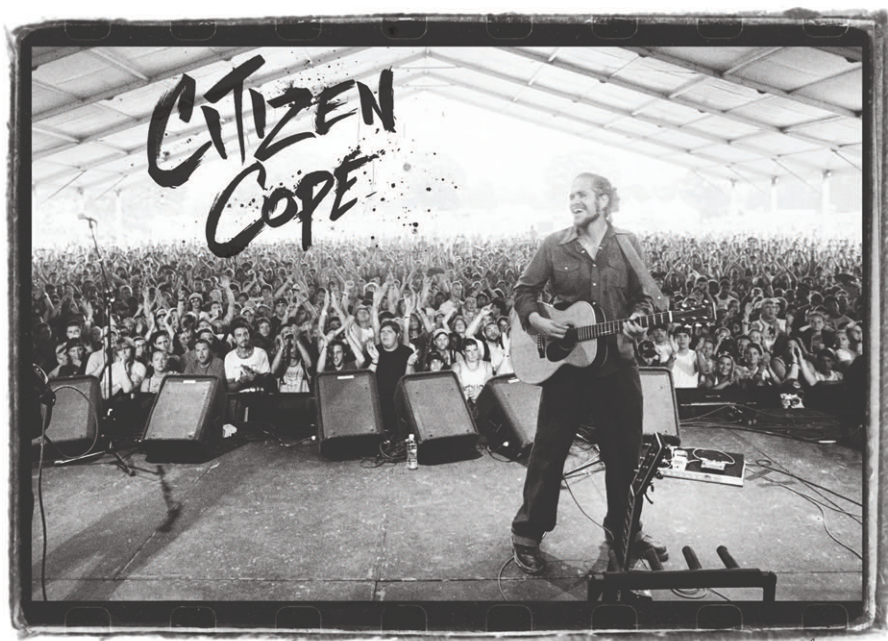
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January 24 — Toombao.

Ki's Restaurant: 2591 S. Coast Highway 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-436-5544.

January 24 — Robin Henkel and Whitney Shay.
February 7 — Robin Henkel, Whitney Shay, Billy Watson.

Last Call: 4977 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-287-9505.
January 24 — Wookie Garcia.

Lestat's Coffee House: 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.

January 26 — Robin Henkel Band with Whitney Shay.
January 27 — Open Mic with Chad Taggart.
January 31 — Brenda Xu.

The Loft: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-534-8497.
January 29 — ASCE Mixtape Exchange.
January 30 — Wild Cub.

Manhattan Cocktail Lounge: 400 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-422-6641.
February 7, 8 — Windy City.

Martinis Above Fourth: 3940 Fourth Avenue #200, Hillcrest, 619-400-4500.
January 23 — Jonathan Karrant: Cole Porter & Me.

The Merrow: 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest, 619-299-7372.
January 23 — Sierra West, Lovebirds, Donna Larsen.
January 24 — Big Lewinsky, Smack This, the Grind.
February 1 — Mink.

Mr. Peabody's: 136 Encinitas Bl., Encinitas, 760-753-7192.
January 31 — The Shakedown Daddies, Black Scabs.

Pal Joey's: 5147 Waring Rd., Allied Gardens, 619-582-6699.
February 15 — West Of 5.

Pala Events Center: 11154 Highway 76, Pala, 877-946-7252.
January 31 — Wilson Phillips.

The Par Lounge at San Vicente Resort: 24157 San Vicente Rd., Ramona, 760-789-8290.
January 24 — Ristband.

Parkway Bar: 9188 Fletcher Parkway, La Mesa, 619-463-8757.
January 25 — Homegrown Hour.

Pechanga Resort & Casino: 45000 Pechanga Parkway, Temecula, 951-693-1819.
January 25 — Styx.

February 14, 15 — Englebert Humperdinck.

Porter's Pub at UCSD: 9500 Gilman Dr., UCSD, 858-587-4828.
January 23 — Boondock

Pounders: 125 W. Grand Ave., Escondido, 760-739-1288.
February 21, 22 — Stone Wolf.

Poway Center for the Performing Arts: 15498 Espola Rd., Poway, 858-748-0505.
January 24 — Celtic Nights: The Emigrants Bridge.

Prohibition: 548 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego.
January 23 — Piano Joe & the Wheelers.
January 24 — Jon Ji & the Moonshiners.

Quality Social: 789 Sixth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-501-7675.

January 23 — Okapi Sun, Jesika Von Rabbit, Illuminatus.

RT's Longboard Grill: 1466 Garnet Ave., Pacific Beach, 858-270-4030.
January 24 — Safety Orange.

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub: 626 Main St., Ramona, 760-789-7008.
January 24 — Carolyn Wonderland.

Salk Institute for Biological Studies: 10010 North Torrey Pines Rd., La Jolla, 858-453-4100.
January 26 — Science and Music Series: Yoonie Han.
February 23 — Science and Music Series: Locke & Keezer.

San Pasqual Winery Tasting Room and Gallery: 8364 La Mesa Bl., La Mesa, 619-462-1797.
January 25 — People of Earth.
February 1 — Sam Diego Jazz Trio.
February 8 — The Waits.
February 15 — Sock Monkeys.
February 22 — People of Earth.

Schulman Auditorium at Carlsbad City Library: 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad.
January 28 — International Guitar Night 2014.

Seaport Village: 849 W. Harbor Dr., Downtown San Diego, 619-235-4014.
February 9 — Windy City.

Second Wind (San Carlos): 8515 Navajo Rd., San Carlos, 619-465-1730.
January 30 — Travis Luce, Cult Vegas, Lucky Lucifer.

The Shakedown Bar: 3048 Midway Dr., Midway District, 619-487-0373.
January 25 — Great Electric Quest, Spades & Blades.

Smith Recital Hall at SDSU: 5500 Campanile Dr., SDSU, 619-594-5200.
January 24 — Billy McLaughlin.

Soda Bar: 3615 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-255-7224.
January 23 — Kisses.

Soma: 3350 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-226-7662.
January 24 — The Frights, Pilgrims, Buddha Trixie.

The Stage Rock Bar & Grill: 762 Fifth Ave., Downtown San Diego, 619-696-9436.
January 24 — Miles Ahead and Disco Pimps.

Sycuan Casino: 5469 Casino Way, El Cajon, 619-445-6002.
January 24 — Average White Band.
January 25 — Bronco.
January 26 — Christopher Cross.
January 31 — Blue Oyster Cult.

Til-Two: 4746 El Cajon Bl., City Heights, 619-516-4746.
January 23 — Red City Radio and Elway.
January 24 — Ultra Bride.

Tin Can Ale House: 1863 Fifth Ave., Bankers Hill, 619-955-8525.
January 23 — Marqay, Light Thieves, Landis.
January 24 — Privet, Split Screens, Second Cousins.

Tio Leo's: 5302 Napa St., Bay Park, 619-542-1462.
January 23 — Bill Magee.
January 24 — Burton Lundeen and Bayou Brothers.

Tower 13: 2633 S. Coast Hwy. 101, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-635-1200.
January 23 — Ben Powell.
January 24 — Semisi & FulaBula Live.

The Tower Bar: 4757 University Ave., City Heights, 619-284-0158.
January 23 — Heartless Breakers.
January 24 — Gloomday, Pheasants, Chess Wars.

Trinity United Methodist Church: 3030 Thorn St., North Park, 619-238-8550.
February 8 — Contradancing: Tectonic Shakedown.
February 14 — Contradancing: Frannie & Sassafras Stomp.
February 22 — Contradancing: Martha Wild & Crooked.

The Turquoise Café-Bar Europa: 873 Turquoise St., Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200.
January 23 — Talia, The Jade Visions Jazz Trio.
January 26 — Al Baile: Lakshmi Basile.

Valley View Casino Center: 3500 Sports Arena Bl., Midway District, 619-224-4171.
January 31 — George Strait and Miranda Lambert.
February 15 — Imagine Dragons, the Naked & Famous.

Whistle Stop Bar: 2236 Fern St., South Park, 619-284-6784.
January 25 — Booty Bassment.

Wine Steals: 1953 San Elijo Ave., Cardiff-by-the-Sea, 760-230-2657.
January 23 — Robin Henkel.

Winstons: 1921 Bacon St., Ocean Beach, 619-222-6822.
January 23 — Alley Cat Street (Jerry Garcia tribute).
January 24 — Masters of Ceremony: Zion I and SOL.

WorldBeat Cultural Center: 2100 Park Bl., Balboa Park, 619-230-1190.
February 22 — Ugandan Orphans Choir.

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HAPPY HOUR

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

ALLIED GARDENS

San Diego Brewing Company: Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: \$3 select house & domestic beers, house wine, well drinks. 1/2-off appetizers.

ALPINE

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

BALBOA PARK

The Prado 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.

Tin Can Ale House: Daily, 4-8pm: \$1 off drinks.

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.

Board & Brew: Daily, 4-7pm: Two-for-one beers. \$1 street tacos.

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.

Twenty/20 Grill & Wine Bar: Daily, 3-6pm: \$2 off specialty cocktails, \$4 well drinks, draft beers, \$6 sangria, 1/2 off tapas.

CHULA VISTA

Achiote Restaurant: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$1 beer, \$3.99 margaritas.

Los Arcos: Monday-Friday, Monday-Friday, 3-7pm, \$5 margaritas and martinis, beers, fish tacos, clam chow-

der, \$2.50 ceviche tostada. Saturday, Saturday, All Day, \$2.50 Margaritas on the rocks.

CITY HEIGHTS

The Hideout: Monday-Saturday, 5-8pm: \$1 off pints. Sunday, All night: \$3 drafts.

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.

CLAIREMONT

Blarney Stone Pub: Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: \$.50 off all drinks.

Fat Tony's Pizza: Monday-Thursday, 4-8pm: \$2 glass/\$8 pitcher of beer. \$5 cheese pizza, cheese calzone, wings, salad.

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

Brigantine: Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: \$4 Brig brew, Dos Equis. \$4.75 margarita, \$5.50 chardonnay, \$6 merlots, \$1 off featured wine. Discounted tacos, shrimp, oysters.

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.

DEL MAR

Del Mar Rendezvous: Monday-Saturday, 4-5:30pm: 88 cents for your second round with purchase of regularly priced beer, glass of wine or sake. All wines, beers, and sakes 1/2 price for take-home with your meal or take-out order.

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

Altitude Sky Lounge: Monday, 5-7pm: \$5 domestic drafts, \$6 premium wells. 1/2 off artisan flat breads. Tuesday-Friday, 5-7pm: \$4 drafts, \$5 premium wells. 1/2-off artisan flat breads. Sunday, All Day: \$5 domestic drafts, \$6 premium wells. 1/2 off artisan flat breads.

Block 16 Union & Spirits: Friday, All night: \$3 glasses of Champagne until 11pm, \$5 the rest of the night.

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

Downtown Johnny Brown's: Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: \$1 off wine; 40% off bar menu.

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

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

The Hopping Pig: Daily, Open-7pm: \$4-\$5 wells, wines, craft beers & select cocktails. \$3 nibbles.

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.

Paco's Way: Daily, 4-7pm: \$3 craft beers, \$4 cask wines & sangrias. \$3 & \$4 tapas, free tapitas at the bar.

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.

Stout Public House: Monday-Friday, 4-8pm: \$3 bottled beer; \$4 premium draft pints, wells; \$5 margaritas, \$1 off wine. 1/2-price select appetizers, \$2 sliders. Saturday-Sunday, 10am-11pm: \$3 bottled beer; \$4 bloody marys, screwdrivers, premium draft

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Happy Hour Everyday!

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Taco Tuesday- All tacos \$2 and \$3 All Day

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HAPPY HOUR

pints, wells; \$5 mimosas. 1/2-off wings and tenders.

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

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.

Double D's on Broadway: *Daily*, 10am-noon, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestics, \$.50 off mixed drinks, \$1 off shots.

El Cajon Grand: *Monday-Friday*, 6-10am, 4-7pm: \$2.50 domestic beer, \$3 wells.

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

BEER NEWS

BY BRANDON HERNÁNDEZ

Ballast Point's new spirit room

The times, they are a-changin'... for the better, if you're a fan of spirits. With the new year comes a change in state policy allowing local distilleries to offer samples of their products to customers, and none of San Diego's spirit conjurers are more excited to show off their wares than the award-winning artisans of **Ballast Point Brewing & Spirits** (10051 Old Grove Road, Scripps Ranch), who will officially open their new spirits tasting room tomorrow, January 7.

Much in the way that its distillery and brewery cannot overlap, Ballast Point's spirits-tasting square footage must be

separate from its brewery and within its distilled-spirits plant. So, visitors looking for a taste of the company's rotating assortment of clear and dark spirits may sign up for a tour at the merchandise area east of the beer-tasting bar, then wait to be escorted down a hardwood hallway, past a window with a view of a grand copper still (imported from Kentucky), to an intimate, dimly lit, speakeasy-style tasting room.

To make room for the facility, Ballast Point's chief financial officer and brewers gave up their offices, but the company made sure that sacrifice wasn't in vain. Down to the many minor details, the place is stunning and thematically complete. A heavy wood, marble-topped bar and stamped-tin ceiling tiles combine with vintage wallpaper, matching marble rail, and belly bars to form the basis of an interior motif the company describes as "apothecary-slash-old-timey drugstore" — think North Park's mixology darling Polite Provisions (4696 30th Street, North Park) but a little more mood-lit and a lot less hipster.

Head distiller Yuseff Cherney scavenged many an antique store for items, such as an old-school register, ancient books, a scale, and a mortar and pestle. Even the iPod-affixed radio and the fire extinguisher are fauxed up to look as though



Ballast Point VP Earl Kight serves one up at the company's new spirits tasting room at its Scripps Ranch facility

they've been pulled from the Prohibition era. The only overly out-of-place piece of modern technology spliced into the space is a flat-screen TV, made forgivable by its content — a visual walk-through of the distilling process. Given the newness of the spirit-tasting experience in

San Diego, explaining how that firewater comes into being is crucial. ■

For more breaking craft beer news, follow San Diego Beer News on Twitter (@SDBeerNews) or keep up on Facebook.

Blue Fin Sushi Bar: *Tuesday-Thursday*, 5-6pm: 1/2-off select drinks, appetizers, sushi rolls.

Bullpen Pub & Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: \$1 off draft beer, \$3 off pitcher, \$2 off wine.

ESCONDIDO

Escondido Sports Pub: *Daily*, 6am-8pm: \$2.50 domestic bottles/drafts, wells; \$3 well pints; \$4.50 tall domestic drafts.

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.

The Snooty Asian: *Tuesday-Sunday*, 5-7pm: \$2 off wells, drafts, shot specials and appetizers.

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

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

Rayo Grill: *Daily*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$5 wells, drafts beers & house wine.

KENSINGTON

Clem's Tap House: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$2 off all beer and wine flights.

LA JOLLA

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.

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

Anthony's Fish Grotto: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 draft, Antho-

ny's white; \$4 wells, \$5 calls. \$2.75 fish tacos, \$3 lettuce wraps, \$4.50 tostado.

Casa de Pico: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: Discounted margaritas, beer, cocktails. Complimentary appetizer buffet.

Mr. G's Tavern: *Monday-Friday*, Noon-7pm: \$3.25 wells, \$3 Domestic Pints, \$3 Premium Pints.

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

Bull's Smokin' BBQ: *Daily*, 2-6pm: \$3 pints; \$9 Bud & Coors Light pitchers; \$2.50 bottled beer, \$2 PBR, \$12 select pitchers. \$2 pulled pork or beef brisket sliders, \$4.95 1/2-sandwich & side, \$3.95 pulled pork fries.

LITTLE ITALY

98 Bottles: *Tuesday-Saturday*, 5-7pm: \$5 off all bottles of wine, \$4 selected craft drafts, \$4 house wine by the glass, \$1 off wine and sake by the glass. \$1 off flatbreads and rice bowls.

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.

MIDWAY DISTRICT

Desi N Friends: *Monday-Friday*, 2-7pm: \$1 off everything.

Wine Steals: *Tuesday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$5 for any cask wine, \$4 draft beers. \$2 off all 30 wines by the glass. Discounted food items. *Saturday-Sunday*, 11am-4pm: \$5 mimosa pints.

MIRA MESA

Callahan's Pub & Brewery: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$3 select house beer, select domestic drafts, well drinks, house wine. \$1 off appetizers.

Mira Mesa Lanes: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2 domestic pints, \$7 pitchers.

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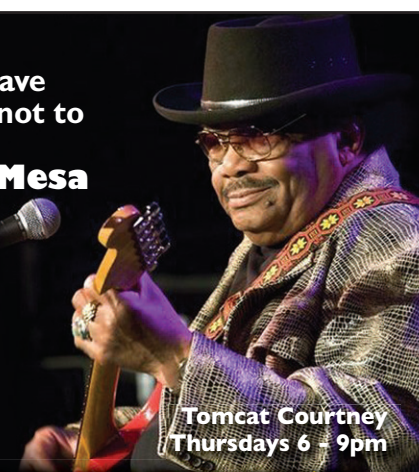


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COYOTE UGLY GIRL SEARCH



SATURDAY JAN 25TH - SUNDAY JAN 26TH

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COYOTE UGLY SALOON

HAPPY HOUR

\$3 import pints, \$10 pitchers. \$2.50 wells. \$3.50 chicken strips, chicken wings.

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

The Aero Club: *Daily*, 2-7pm: 50¢ off beer, wells, and calls.

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.

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

Rosie O'Grady's: *Daily*, 4-7pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic beers. \$3.50 Jager shots.

NORTH PARK

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

Breakwater Brewing Company: *Tuesday*, 5-8pm: \$1 off all single guest IPAs. *Wednesday*, 5-8pm: SD beer night \$3.50 select guest pints. *Thursday*, All Day: half off wings. *Sunday*, All Day: Bloody Mary's and french toast, football specials.

OLD TOWN

Alamo Mexican Cafe: *Monday-Friday*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$3 margaritas, \$2.25 domestic draft, \$3 XX, Amber, lager, Tecate, Pacifico, Sam Adams; \$4 Victoria, Fat Tire.

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

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

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: panocrusted calamari, tempura avocado, veggies and hummus, more.

Phileas Fogg's Bar & Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off beers on tap, \$1 off appetizers.

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.

Kelly's Public House: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2.50 domestic pints, \$8 pitchers, \$4 premium pints, \$5 margaritas & long island ice teas.

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-7pm: 2-for-1 cheesesteaks, 1/2-off pitchers, \$3 shot specials, \$3 Bud, Bud Light & Shocktop pints. Industry night 40% off for hospitality industry. *Tuesday*, Noon-7pm: Taco specials all day & night, \$10 margarita personal pitchers, \$3 Mexican drafts, \$5 margaritas. *Wednesday*, Noon-7pm: 50¢ boneless or regular wings with over 20 sauces, \$3 select drafts. *Thursday*, Noon-7pm: \$1 sliders, \$5 personal pitchers on select drafts, AMF's & Long Islands. \$1 Bud & Bud Light, \$2 Shocktop pints from 5-9pm. *Friday*, Noon-7pm: \$5 burger & beer combo, \$5 crafty cocktails, \$5 Jamesons all day.

SAN MARCOS

Back Alley Grill: *Tuesday*, All Day: \$1 Taco Tuesday. *Wednesday*, All Day: 50¢ Wings *Wednesday, Thursday*, All Day: \$1 off pitchers Thirsty Thursday.

Cowshed Bar and Grill: *Monday, Wednesday-Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$3 domestic. \$3.50-\$4 wells. *Tuesday*, 4pm-2am: \$3 domestic. \$3.50-\$4 wells.

SANTA YSABEL

Santa Ysabel Resort & Casino: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts, bottle beers. \$1.50 food specials (bar only). *Saturday-Sunday*, 4-7pm: \$1 off drafts, bottle beers.

SCRIPPS RANCH

La Bastide: *Monday-Friday*, 4-6pm: \$6 drink specials, \$7 appetizer specials.

SERRA MESA

Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill: *Monday-Friday*, 4-7pm: \$2.75 domestic beers, \$3.25 well drinks.

Thai Pepper Cuisine: *Monday-Friday*, 3-5pm: Free Thai Iced-tea or Thai iced-coffee with every purchase.

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Blue Wave Bar & Grill: *Daily*, 4-6pm: \$1 off drinks; 1/2 off appetizers.

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

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

SOLANA BEACH

Chief's Burgers and Brew: *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$2.50 domestic, \$3.50 microbrew. 1/2-off appetizers.

The Saddle Bar: *Monday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$1 off drinks and drafts.

SORRENTO VALLEY

AJ's Cave: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, \$3.50 bottled beer, \$5 22oz, \$5 polish beer, \$4 house wines, \$2 off cocktails.

Karl Strauss Brewing Company: *Monday-Thursday*, 3-6pm: \$4 pints, flights, house wine, and well drinks. \$5 wings, hummus, calamari, chili lime sweet potato fries and spinach dip.

SOUTH PARK

Hamilton's Tavern: *Daily*, 5-8pm: \$1 off local drafts.

South Park Abbey: *Monday*, All Day: \$3 wells and pints. \$1.50 8oz. *Tuesday-Friday*, 3-7pm: \$3 wells and pints. \$1.50 8oz.

Whistle Stop Bar: *Daily*, 4-8pm: \$1 off all cocktails, drafts.

SPRING VALLEY

California Comfort: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm & 10pm-close: \$1 off drinks & half-price appetizers. *Saturday-Sunday*, 10pm-close: \$1 off drinks & half-price appetizers.

TIERRASANTA

JP's Pub: *Monday-Friday*, 4:30-6:30pm: \$2.50 wells, domestic drafts, \$3.25 house wine.

UCSD

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

UNIVERSITY CITY

Apollonia Greek Bistro: *Daily*, 3:30-6:30pm: \$2.50 bottled beers, \$3.50 wine by the glass, \$3.50 Ouzo Aperitif.

Michael's Lounge in the Hyatt Regency: *Daily*, 5-7pm: \$4 drafts and well cocktails.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Cheers: *Monday-Friday*, 11am-7pm: \$5 tall wells all day. Drink specials all night. *Sunday*, 11am-7pm: \$1 mimosas, \$2 bloody mary's.

The Lancers Cocktails: *Daily*, 10am-2am: \$2.50 wells, \$3 domestics, \$4-\$6 premium & top shelf. 50¢ pool.

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

VALLEY CENTER

Casa Reveles Mexican & Seafood Restaurant: *Monday-Friday*, 2-6pm: \$2 domestic. \$3 imports, wells. Discounted appetizers.

VISTA

Chili Coast Burgers: *Monday-Friday*, 3-6pm: \$.50-.75 off tap beer.

Vista Entertainment Center: *Monday-Wednesday, Friday*, 11am-6pm: \$2 pints, house shots; \$2.50 domestic bottles; \$3.50 wells; \$9 pitchers. *Thursday*, 11am-6pm, 9pm-close: \$2 pints, house shots; \$2.50 domestic bottles; \$3.50 wells; \$9 pitchers.

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No cupcake

“People told me, ‘You will love playing a post-menopausal, bald-headed woman’ — and they were right!”

In person, if you didn't know her, Deborah Gilmour Smyth wouldn't strike you as a performer. Soft-spoken and humble, she calls little attention to herself. But onstage, Smyth blooms into someone else, literally and figuratively, and the offstage person disappears.

She doesn't like to talk about her acting. She's done it for four decades and has learned that, like Toto pulling back the Wizard's curtain, “talking can diminish the experience.” She'd much rather “you come and we partake in the story together.”

That's why I was glad she agreed to talk about her outstanding performance as Vivian Bearing in Lamb's Players' *Wit*.

In 1999, Deborah and husband Robert Smyth, artistic director of Lamb's, went to New York to see some shows. The day they arrived, Margaret Edson's *Wit* won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama. They had planned to see it but didn't have tickets. So, Deborah said, “Why not?” She called the off-Broadway theater, somehow managed two seats for the hottest show in town, and they went that night.

In 90 compressed minutes, *Wit* gives a frank portrayal of a woman dying of ovarian cancer. Vivian Bearing, renowned scholar of John

Donne's poetry, has lived the life of an intellectual. “I am, in short, a force,” she tells us. As her time slips away, she faces the life and death questions Donne raises in his poems and sermons.

“The play kind of washed over us. Vivian's so smart, almost pragmatically so, and always speaks her mind. In the end she discovers kindness. She didn't know she needed it. All the things she thought she should hold onto no longer mattered.

“At the time, I didn't see it as a role I had to play. I was much younger, and young women don't often think of playing older women. Also, when an off-Broadway show becomes a hit, there's no way Lamb's will get it for a few years.

“I knew I wanted to do that role someday. It was one of those ‘someday’ things.”

When Lamb's got the rights and she got the role, it was “hard to get inside that mind at first.” Vivian hasn't an ounce of sentimentality or outward need for approval. In many

THEATER INTERVIEW

JEFF SMITH



Deborah Gilmour Smyth: “I knew I wanted to do that role someday. It was one of those ‘someday’ things.”

ways she's a self-made fortress. “Though I admire intelligence a great deal, I relate to things emotionally.”

To become Vivian, Deborah read the text with the concentration, and eye for nuance, one gives a love letter. Every word, every comma, mattered.

“I love imagining what the character is going through, and I love the work of the learning.”

“The text is the key to understanding the core of her person. Vivian, as the play says, is no cupcake. She's a brilliant, uncompromising scholar at the top of her field. She's fearlessly direct. *Wit* flows freely from her tongue, and

2 “CRITIC'S CHOICE” PRODUCTIONS BOTH SHOWS NOMINATED A “BEST” OF 2013

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The 39 Steps

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Calendar THEATER

her language is wonderfully rich and dense.

“That was my challenge. I wanted the words to fly, to have the essence of reality: fast, clean, and clear. There is a point in memorization when the text becomes a part of you, a magic place. That was my goal....

“It wasn’t about me doing her. It was about me doing my homework to bring her to the mind and the heart of the audience.”

Part of that process involved having to shave her head. Her father, Deane, who died when she was 27, was bald (“He hasn’t seen most of what I’ve done”). At the barber shop, after the razor pared away the shaving cream, she looked in a mirror and saw “my dad’s head! What a great connection that made! That and to see your own head for the first time.”

Another connection. Three of the most significant women in her life passed away before her eyes. One was her mother, Martha, which was “such a privilege — you brought me into this world, now I watch you depart.

“I don’t want to be glib about it, but people told me, ‘You will love playing a post-menopausal, bald-headed woman’ — and they were right!”

Walking onstage without hair or make-up, and only interlocking hospital gowns for a costume, brought a surprise. “Such a lack of pretension. There’s this great freedom. It’s just, here she is. And that was my aim: let her be herself, and stay out of the way....

“I didn’t have to think about myself at all,” in part because Vivian’s so busy. “She throws up, loses it several times, gets angry — what a very male play to do!

“Also, she fights an impossible opponent, despairs, and is met with kindness. It’s a complete human journey, beginning to end — to beginning. Every performance, I reveled in meeting this brilliant, broken woman.”

During the run, Lamb’s had matinee and evening shows on Saturday. They fed the actors during the break. The talk was never mundane: “Serious things: what one wants to do in one’s life; what matters, what doesn’t. Dying and death came up often.” The play inspired the questions one asks from a sleeping bag on a summer night, gazing at the heavens.

Actors warm up differently. Each night after she shaved her head, she ran through lines vocally. At ten minutes to curtain she speed-ran some speeches for five minutes.

“I needed to make sure that my body, lips, tongue, and

mind felt sharp and ready for her words, her thoughts, her surprises.”

She used the last five minutes to “go empty: clean out, pace and move — no brain.”

At every performance, Smyth stopped just before she went on. She looked up and said, “Thank you. Thank you that I get to do this.” Then she “walked into the ride.” ■

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.

Anything Goes

Welk Resort Theatre presents the music of Cole Porter in a tale about an evangelist, a gangster and his moll, a high society family, and love finding a way. Dan Mojica directs.

WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DR., ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. 1PM THURSDAYS, 8PM THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS, 1PM SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 23.

The Balcony

Chronos Theatre Group presents a staged reading of Jean Genet’s hall of mirrors drama about life — and sexual fantasies — inside Madame Irma’s House of Illusions, while a revolution rages outside.

TENTH AVENUE ARTS THEATRE, 930 TENTH AVE., EAST VILLAGE. 619-237-4510. 8PM MONDAY.

Bug

Ion Theatre presents Tracy Letts’s “paranoid fantasy” about

a drug-addled woman laying low in a motel. Her husband just got released from prison. What might he think of her new relationship with a younger man? Claudio Raygoza directs.

ION THEATRE, 3704 SIXTH AVE., HILLCREST. 619-600-5020. 4PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 8.

The Dinner Detective

In this murder mystery comedy, which includes a four-course meal, everyone in the audience is a suspect, “even you, and the killer might be at your table!”

COURTYARD SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN, 530 BROADWAY, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-446-3000. 6:15PM SATURDAYS.

Don’t Dress for Dinner

PowPAC stages Marc Camoletti’s farce about Bernard’s rendezvous with his mistress that goes woefully astray when his alibi shows up that day. Sherrie Colbourn directs. POWPAC, 13250 POWAY RD., POWAY. 858-679-8085. 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 16.

Fiddler on the Roof

Lamb’s Players is reprising one of the best shows they’ve ever done. Ever! Robert Smyth and Deborah Gilmour Smyth have co-directed this feast for the eyes and ears, including non-traditional elements (Mike Buckley’s set could be a painting by Marc Chagall; the back-up band plays klezmer instruments, and the fiddler’s live: Ernest Saucedo weaves through the story and enchants throughout). Sam Zeller leads a strong cast as Teyve, an impish Job who watches his family, and his world (a Jewish shtetl on the cusp of change), collapse around him. From individual voices to choral effects, the production’s a treat. And when the script calls for an over-the-roof image, as in Teyve’s dream, the show delivers. **Critic’s Pick.**

LYCEUM THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 2.

Five Course Love

SCHOOL PLAYS

ACTING AND MUSICAL THEATER SHOWCASE

JAN. 30 2:30PM, JAN. 31 7PM
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

THE ASH GIRL

JAN. 16, 17, 18 7PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER

CABARET NIGHT

FEB. 22 6:30PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER

CAUGHT IN THE ACT

FEB. 6, 7, 8 7PM
WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE

JAN. 31 & FEB. 1 7PM, FEB. 2 2PM, FEB. 7 & 8 7PM
CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL

GUYS AND DOLLS

MAR. 27, 28, 29
RANCHO BERNARDO HIGH SCHOOL

HOT MIKADO



FEB. 20 2:30PM, FEB. 21 7PM, FEB. 22 2PM & 7PM, FEB. 27 2:30PM, FEB. 28 7PM, MAR. 1 2PM & 7PM, MAR. 6 2:30PM, MAR. 7 7PM, MAR. 8 2PM & 7PM
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

LITTLE WOMEN

FEB. 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 7PM
POWAY HIGH SCHOOL

MACBETH

FEB. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14
BISHOP’S SCHOOL

SENIOR DANCE PRODUCTION



MAR. 20, 21, 22 7PM
MOXIE THEATRE

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

JAN. 16 2:30PM, JAN. 17 2PM, JAN. 17 7PM, JAN. 18 2PM & 7PM, JAN. 23 2:30PM, JAN. 24 7PM, JAN. 25 2PM & 7PM
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

ONE ACT FESTIVAL

JAN. 22 7PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER

PLAY THE HAND THAT’S DEALT

JAN. 16 & 17 7PM
SCRIPPS RANCH HIGH SCHOOL

ROMEO AND JULIET

JAN. 29, 30, 31 7PM FEB. 1 2PM & 7PM, FEB. 2 2PM
LA COSTA CANYON HIGH SCHOOL

STEEL MAGNOLIAS

MAR. 6, 7, 8 7PM
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER

To list a school play, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select School Plays as the category.



La Jolla Neighborhood Guide

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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.



Complete Guide to San Diego Breweries

\$6.99

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.



The Film Reviews of Duncan Shepherd

\$2.99

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*.

eBooks available on:



sdreader.com/books

Scripps Ranch Theatre continues its 35th season with the chamber musical, by Greg Coffin, that’s a “sample platter of styles” presented in a “date-night” format of five short plays. Joey Landwehr directs.

SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO RD., SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 23.

In the Time of the Butterflies

The San Diego Rep stages Caridad Svich’s drama based on the Mirabel sisters (aka “the butterflies”) who led resistance against Generalissimo Trujillo in the Dominican Republic. Todd Salovey and Herbert Siguenza direct.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1000. 8PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 8PM SATURDAYS, 2PM & 7PM SUNDAYS, 7PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH JANUARY 26.

Nunsense

Moonlight Stage Productions opens its winter season with the “habit-forming musical comedy” about the five remaining Sisters of Hoboken who must stage a variety show to bury the other 45, who died of food poisoning. Carlos Mendoza directs and choreographs.

AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN ST., VISTA. 760-724-2110. 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM & 7:30PM SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 9.

Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash

The Laguna Playhouse presents a tribute of over 30 songs by the legendary “Man in Black,” including “I’ve Been Everywhere,” “I Walk the Line,” and the title song. Steve Steiner directs.

LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE, 606 LAGUNA CANYON RD., LAGUNA BEACH 7:30PM THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS, 2PM SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS, 7:30PM TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 2.

The 39 Steps

Due to popular demand, Lamb’s Players Theatre has moved its production to the Horton Grand. In the classic Hitchcock movie, Richard Hannay’s caught in a web of international intrigue and becomes wanted on three continents. In Patrick Barlow’s parody, Hannay goes through a warped looking glass and enters the Actor’s Nightmare: He has a clue about a vital secret but narry a clue what to do next. The Lamb’s Players show, brisk and beautifully timed, is goofy fun. David S. Humphrey, Kelsey Venter, Jesse Abeel, and Robert Smyth sprint through blink-of-an-eye scenes and costume changes. Some of the funniest parts come when a bit doesn’t work, by design. These supposed mishaps skewer the campy stuff the way the script skewers the movie. They also underline the dexterity of the cast and Deborah Gilmour-Smyth’s spot-on direction. Worth a try.

HORTON GRAND THEATRE, 444 FOURTH AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-234-9583. 7:30PM THURSDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 2PM SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, THROUGH FEBRUARY 23.

AUDITIONS

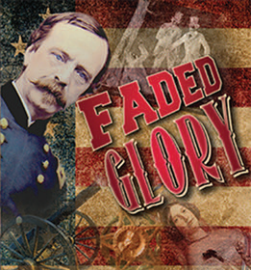
Becky’s New Car
POWPAC
13250 Poway Rd., Poway
Open auditions at PowPAC, Poway’s Community Theatre, upstairs in the Lively Center. Call backs (if necessary): 7pm, Wednesday, January 22. Performance dates: Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 2pm, March 14 through April 13, at PowPAC. Auditions 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

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

Cabaret Night
SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAYTON E. LIGGETT THEATER
800 Santa Fe Dr., Encinitas
Performed by students in musical theatre production. Auditions: FEB. 22 6:30PM

Dancers for SeaWorld’s Splash Dance
3520 KURTZ ST., SAN DIEGO, CA 92110
Apply at seaworldsandiegoauditions.com. Auditions: JAN. 18 10AM

Faded Glory
NORTH COAST REPERTORY THEATRE
987-D Lomas Santa Fe Dr., Solana Beach



Seeking AEA and local non-equity submissions. Email headshot and resume to casting@northcoastrep.org. Deadline: Saturday, February 1, 5pm Directed by David Ellenstein. First rehearsal: April 29. Tech weekend: May 24 and 25. Previews: May 28 to 30. Runs May 31 to June 22, possible extension June 25 to 29. Auditions: FEB. 23, 24

Legally Blonde
CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL
650 D Ave., Coronado
A ditty and naive sorority girl uses her beauty and brains at Harvard Law School. Auditions for the Spring musical. Meet in the music studio. Performances April 25, 26, 27, May 2, 3. Auditions: FEB. 3 2:30PM

Madagascar Live! Opera-tion: Vacation
HUBBS SEAWORLD RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2595 Ingraham St., Mission Beach
Seeking male and female rock/pop vocalists for high-energy production. Must be at least 18 and able to memorize show music. Movement and dance skills preferred. Please prepare musical selections to sing with a full band. Sheet music will be provided before audition date. Female vocalist: “Suddenly I See” by KT Tunstall. Male vocalist: “Separate Ways” by Journey. Both: “Here I Go Again” from *Rock of Ages*. Must apply prior to audition: seaworldsandiegoauditions.com. Auditions: JAN. 20 1PM

Performers and Show Hosts at SeaWorld
HUBBS SEAWORLD RESEARCH INSTITUTE
2595 Ingraham St., Pacific Beach
Seeking outgoing hosts and character actors with strong improvisation and communication skills. Apply at seaworldsandiegoauditions.com. Auditions: JAN. 19 10AM

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

San Diego Follies
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY THEATER
1545 Pioneer Way, El Cajon
Christian Community Theater’s 7th-annual *San Diego Follies Goes Hollywood*, a musical/dance review of Hollywood blockbusters. Features seniors ages 55+ performing dance numbers, solos, duets, instrumentals, and comedy routines. Friday, February 7, 6:30 to 8:30pm: Vocalists, solos, and groups. Saturday, February 8, 10 to 11am: Dance, kick-line, and showgirls; 11am to 1pm: Specialty acts, solos, and ensembles. Auditions limited to one minute. Bring a CD or sheet music. Must be 55 or older. Appointment: 619-588-0206. Auditions: FEB. 7 6:30PM, FEB. 8 10AM

San Diego Musical Theatre: Cats
SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE
4652 Mercury St., Clairemont
Singer call is 3pm to 5pm; dance call 6pm. Dancers will sing following dance call. Email jill@sdmt.org for appointment. Audition will be jazz and a small tap combo (not all roles require tap). Bring tap and jazz shoes and wear clothes that you can move in and not hide your body. Dancers prepare 16 bars of a musical theater song (may sing from show); singers prepare one minute of song showing range and character. Bring sheet music in your key and two headshots and resumes. Callbacks: Saturday, January 18. Performances: March 21 to April 6. Auditions: JAN. 15, 16 3PM

To add your audition to our listings, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select Auditions as the category.

What would you risk to get your life back?

Jennifer Ferrin. Photo by Jim Cox.

BETHANY

Tickets start at \$29 Starts January 25

By Laura Marks Directed by Gaye Taylor Upchurch

Contains strong language and a brief scene of staged violence that may not be suitable for all audiences.

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SAN DIEGO

Reader

Eat your roots

Not unlike the Japanese tourist who kicks off Paolo Sorrentino's latest cinematic feast by collapsing under the scenic force of his search for the great beauty of Rome, I find myself more than a bit overwhelmed.

The Great Beauty is just that; an imposing tribute paid to a city, an age, a mindset, and a certain tendency in Italian cinema. It's also the greatest echo of Fellini since *Mean Streets*.

Disillusionment kicks into high gear in the days following the 65th-birthday blowout for celebrated journalist Jep Gambardella. Played with a mournful comic pall by Tony Servillo, Jep Gambardella is Sorrentino's answer to *La Dolce Vita*'s Marcello Rubini, and damn if Servillo's idler doesn't rival that of Mastroianni. A self-described "transparent person, without a doubt," Jep, who has been living a life of moral decline for going on 40 years, suddenly finds himself surrounded by dead things.

Jep never did pen a follow-up to his well-received first novel because his search for the great beauty proved to be more enjoyable than honest work. He discovered early on that topping the invite list was but a drop of the draught needed to quench his thirst for dominance. The power to destroy in print

those parties he found displeasing became the motivating factor needed for this wastrel to wake up every afternoon and get out of bed.

Fellini's characters were prisoners of their own decay. Sorrentino's glamour mob takes great pride in flaunting wealth. When asked what she does for a living, one of the plastic beauties quickly replies, "I'm rich." Jaded Jep took the phrase "ruins my view" to heart when shopping for apartments. He is the only person in film history to have a penthouse that overlooks the Coliseum.

Jep lives life with a calm ferocity, always ready and eager to reduce a fatuous interview subject to tears on a whim. Seated at a dining-room table, comforting the husband of a deceased lover, Jep ignores the colorful terrycloth towels and napkins at his side and removes a black silk handkerchief from his back pocket for the man to blot his tears. It could be the most tasteful and genuinely sympathetic act of humanity in the entire production.

Comic relief arrives in the form of a mummified 104-year-old mother superior whose sole tip for longevity is "eat your roots," something these cannibalistic roysterers have been doing for decades. Made up with just the right touch of Westmore latex, her third-act appearance opens the floodgates for a torrent of hilarious jabs at the Catholic Church.

There is enough electricity in Ser-

FILM FESTIVALS

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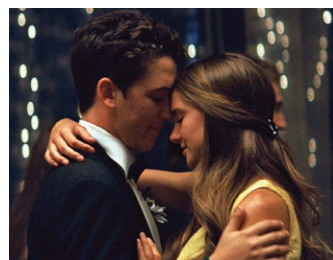
7510 Hazard Center Dr., Mission Valley
619-685-2841

Best of Keane: Live From Berlin

MusicScreen 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, January 16, 7:00pm**

MISSION VALLEY LIBRARY

2123 Fenton Parkway, Mission Valley
858-573-5007



Film Forum: The Spectacular Now

Tom Sharp's lauded novel is the basis for this peppy, restless, bittersweet ode to the fleeting nature of youth. A charming high school senior (Miles Teller), with little ambition but a large capacity for alcohol, bobs along aimlessly until he befriends the class wallflower (Shailene Woodley). Special Jury Award at the Sundance Film Festival. 2013. 95 minutes. Rated R. **Wednesday, January 22, 6:00pm**

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, January 22, 8:00pm, Wednesday, January 29, 8:00pm, Wednesday, February 5, 8:00pm

POINT LOMA LIBRARY

3701 Voltaire St., Point Loma
619-531-1539

Film Forum: Twenty Feet from Stardom

Backup singers live in a world that lies just beyond the spotlight. This documentary shines a light on the unsung voices behind the greatest musical legends of pop music. Starring Darlene Love, Mary Clayton, Lisa Fischer, Mick Jagger, Bruce Springsteen, Stevie Wonder, and David Bowie. 2013. 89 minutes. PG-13. **Tuesday, January 21, 6:00pm**

Film Forum: A.C.O.D. Observes the unraveling of a befuddled restaurateur (Adam Scott) who has spent his life trying to broker a peace treaty between his antagonistic parents (Richard Jenkins, Catherine O'Hara). An acerbic jab at modern monogamy and romantic commitment. 2013. 88 minutes. Rated R. **Tuesday, January 28, 6:00pm**



The Great Beauty: The world is too much with us, but what else is there?

villo's performance and Sorrentino's elastic camerawork and boomerang editing patterns to power three features. Still, *Beauty* occasionally falls victim to its own excess. The fact that these insatiable partygoers won't vamoose until after it's "all gone" is made clear from the outset. The numerous scenes of pogo-dancing revelers that follow the initial bash are redundant.

— Scott Marks

ROBERT DOWNEY, JR.: A CONSIDERATION

Deeper and deeper we go into the cinematic void that is January. The stygian emptiness is so encompassing by now that we must ask ourselves pointless, unanswerable questions just to keep going. So: will 2014 be the year that movieland's love affair with Robert Downey, Jr. sputters out like Jarvis after Tony Stark spills his mimosa all over the hard drive? Signs point to yes!

Sign number one: his presentation speech for Best Actress at the 2014 Golden Globes on Sunday. It started well enough: "No matter whose name is called when I open this envelope," he began, "tonight, I'm leaving here a winner." Ha ha! What a wisecracking egotist — just like his renditions of Stark and Sherlock Holmes! His first two gags after that got chuckles, but then: "Should it be Miss [Julie] Delpy [for *Before Midnight*], it reaffirms the artistic integrity of sequels." Silence.

And then the desperation set in: "If it goes Greta Gerwig's way [for *Frances Ha*], I shall finally stop associating her surname with a film about an angry inch." Wow — a tortured reference to a

minor film that came out 13 years ago, just because "Hedwig" sounds a little like "Gerwig." *The laughs are getting nervous now. Can this be happening?* And to finish: a gag about how Meryl Streep has won a lot of awards — enough to fill a shipping container(!). His Streep joke got topped by Tina Fey's line about strong roles for Meryl Streeps over 60! It's as if even Robert Downey, Jr. is getting tired of Robert Downey, Jr.'s schtick.

Sign number two: look, we all know it's about the money, and by that measure, RDJ really is king for a day, thanks to his \$50 million payday for *The Avengers*. He called himself a "strategic cost" — the studio knows it has to have him, much more than it has to have, say, Christian Bale to play Batman. But there are other measures of power as well. Back in November, Downey's *Iron Man* co-star Terrence Howard claimed that he was pushed out of the franchise because Downey demanded so much money that the studio decided to cut Howard's salary from \$8 million to \$1 million. Getting your co-star replaced so you can get paid? That's some serious influence.

But according to *Radar Online*, he was unable to get even a minor role — as the president — for his friend Mel Gibson in *Iron Man 3*. I mean, what does it say about you when you can't get a Hollywood studio head to cast your pal, himself a former A-lister? I mean, it's not like Gibson...oh, wait, he did? Oh.

Mel Gibson fascinates me a little — I even wrote a book about him — and so here we get to the real point of this January meandering: my deep curiosity about whether the most beloved man in Hollywood will be able to rehabilitate the

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Manohla Dargis, THE NEW YORK TIMES

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most reviled. Between the drunken rant at his arrest and his leaked phone calls, Gibson has offended Jews, women, and blacks. But Robert Downey, Jr. wants you to forgive him. Here he is, accepting the American Cinematheque award in 2011:

“Actually, I asked Mel to present this award to me for a reason. Because when I couldn’t get sober, he told me not to give up hope. And he urged me to find my faith. Didn’t have to be his or anyone else’s, as long as it was rooted in forgiveness. And I couldn’t get hired, so he cast me in the lead of a movie that was actually developed for him. And he kept a roof over my head and he kept food on the table. And most importantly, he said that if I accepted responsibility for my wrongdoings and if I embraced that part of my soul that was ugly — hugging the cactus, he calls it — he said that if I hugged the cactus long enough, I’d become a man of some humility, and that my life would take on a new meaning.

“And I did, and it worked. All he asked in return was that someday I help the next guy in some small way. It’s reasonable to assume that at the time, he didn’t imagine the next guy would be him, or that someday was tonight.... I humbly ask that you join me, unless you are completely without sin — in which case, you picked the wrong fucking industry — in forgiving my friend his trespasses, offering him the same clean slate you have me, and allowing him to continue his great and ongoing contribution to our collective art without shame. He’s hugged the cactus long enough.”

Since then, Mel Gibson has starred in *Get the Gringo*, a not-terrible film that never saw a theatrical release, and *Machete Kills*, a terrible film that never should have seen a theatrical release. He did get a gig in *The Expendables 3*, so who knows? Maybe Downey got through. Maybe he’s just that beloved.

Another test of that love: this is the first year since RDJ put on the tin suit in which he will appear as neither Iron Man nor Sherlock Holmes, two already-famous characters he managed to successfully embody. Does anybody remember his other films, post-2008? *The Soloist*? *Due Date*? *Chef* is due in May, *The Judge* in October. Will they succeed? We’ll see.

— 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.

47 Ronin — Because sometimes, seven samurai just aren’t enough. Keanu Reeves

SEEN ON DVD



Prince of Darkness

JOHN LIAS
Organizer, Doctor Who and Other Cool Shows and Movies Meetup
<http://www.meetup.com/Madman-With-a-Box/>

To me, *Prince of Darkness* is one of John Carpenter’s scariest films. Not so much having to do with blood and gore but rather because of the psychological suspense and taking a controversial topic and turning it on its head. You will never look at a mirror or toilet the same way again.

The 25th-anniversary DVD of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *The Phantom of the Opera* at the Royal Albert Hall is an amazing performance with all the pomp and circumstance of an Andrew Lloyd Webber production. The best moment occurs after the performance is over and Sarah Brightman sings alongside five past and present phantoms.

PRINCE OF DARKNESS (USA) 1987, Shout! Factory
List price: \$29.93
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER’S THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL (England) 2012, Universal
List price: \$29.98

stars as the mysterious outcast the titular ronin pick up on their way to avenge their murdered master. 2013. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

American Hustle — A heaping helping of period pleasure from director David O. Russell. Irving Rosenfeld (a gutty Christian



Auntie Mame

APRIL TAIE
Queen of the Nerds, Girl Friday
<http://www.meetup.com/Geek-Girls-of-San-Diego/>

“Life is a banquet and most poor suckers are starving to death.” Rosalind Russell is the larger-than-life Mame, a quirky socialite who becomes the guardian of her young nephew at the outset of the Depression. Based on a memoir, Mame shows us how to embrace what makes us most ourselves. The sets are gorgeous, and Mame’s ridiculous costumes are stunning and inspirational. It’s no understatement to say she’s a role model of mine.

Heist is a noir-inspired caper flick from the master of modern dialogue, David Mamet. Everyone in this film is so tight, and if you think Danny DeVito can only do comedy, think again. While the story itself is languidly paced, it’s still a thrill because it’s focused on the characters, their interactions, and motivations. The typical measured Mamet style always plays well to seedy underbellies, and it’s no different here.

AUNTIE MAME (USA) 1958, Warner Home Video
List price: \$14.96
HEIST (USA) 2001, Warner Home Video
List price: \$9.99

Bale, resplendent in combover and ascot) is a ‘70s Jay Gatsby without the class anxiety, a man comfortable with the notion that everybody is, like him, working the con — getting along by lying about themselves (and often, to themselves). And of course, he’s got a Daisy Buchanan in Sydney Prosser (Amy Adams, acting her heart out), his



The League of Gentlemen

GARY DEXTER
Software professional and founder of the California Association of Pop-culture Enthusiasts (CAPE) <http://www.meetup.com/California-Association-of-Pop-culture-Enthusiasts-CAPE/>

Little known in the U.S. and not to be confused with *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, *The League of Gentlemen* is a jet-black, surreal, BBC comedy — sort of Monty Python meets the Addams Family by way of Grand Guignol. Set in the fictional northern English village of Royston Vasey where nobody’s quite what they seem and they don’t like non-locals. The darkly comic writing is supported by remarkable acting: three principals portray 60 assorted characters.

Fanboys is *Office Space* for nerds, specifically *Star Wars* fanboys and fangirls, with a surprisingly touching core. In 1998, four friends plan a road trip to break into Skywalker Ranch, enabling their terminally ill friend to see the Phantom Menace early, before he passes away. This indie film is full of nerd in-jokes, broad humor, great performances from its leads, and more famous cameos than you can shake a Gaffi stick at.

THE LEAGUE OF GENTLEMEN (England) 1999, BBC
List price: \$79.98 (six discs)
FANBOYS (USA) 2009, Weinstein Company
List price: \$6.95

Find more Seen on DVD reviews at SDReader.com/dvd

half as dumb as she looks. There’s a suitably twisty plot, but the point here is the people. It’s a bit overlong and overmuch, but it’s still a helluva party. 2013. — M.L. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues — Having romped around the harmlessly insane world of local television news in the original, well-coiffed anchorman Ron Burgundy & Co. (Will Ferrell, Steve Carell, David Koechner, and Paul Rudd) enter a world that is much more serious and in much more need of lampooning: the nightmare of infotainment, pandering, and propaganda that is cable television news. It’s the sort of embiggening that a sequel demands, but the film isn’t much interested in the challenge. (If anything, it makes fun of the challenge: Carell’s weatherman, once merely simple, goes full nutjob in this one.) This isn’t satire, or even spoof — it’s farce. If you expect more than that, *fart noise*. The great majority of the proceedings are devoted to Ron’s ridiculous personal life, ‘80s callbacks, and an endless barrage of gags. It’s very likely that you’ll laugh at some of them. Possibly in spite of yourself. With Christina Applegate. 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

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. ★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Devil’s Due — Pregnancy can be hell — hey-o! You know what would have made *Rosemary’s Baby* so much more awesome? Found footage and more special effects. Yeah. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Girl, Boy, Bakla, Tomboy — Vice Ganda plays quads — a straight boy, a straight girl, a gay boy, and a gay girl — who get separated at birth: the straights with the rich dad, the gays with the poor mom. Eventually, they find each other at the mall. Hijinx ensue. (DIGIPLEX MISSION MARKETPLACE; DIGIPLEX TEMECULA TOWER CINEMAS; REGAL HORTON PLAZA)

Gravity 3D — An illustrated existential crisis. Or, a survival story in which nearly every exterior event carries interior significance. Either way, it’s gripping. The story is simple: an astronaut (a smooth-faced Sandra Bullock), cut loose from her spiritual moorings by a freak accident, is cut loose from her physical moorings by another freak accident. Now, just a hair’s breadth from the cold embrace of the Big Nothing, she must struggle to find her way back to life. Also, earth. Director Alfonso Cuarón isn’t shy about deploying Christian tropes — her journey back to life begins only after fellow astronaut George Clooney lays down his life for her and tells her how to be saved — to the point where it’s fair to ask whether they’re tropes at all. The camera does an enormous amount of the work here — now watching Bullock as she

Calendar

MOVIES

spins helplessly through space, now holding steady on her while the universe turns with her at its center, now slipping inside her helmet to watch the whirling maelstrom from her untethered point of view. 2013. — M.L. ★★ (ARCLIGHT LA JOLLA; CINÉPOLIS DEL MAR; CINÉPOLIS LA COSTA)

Grudge Match — A match between Rocky Balboa and the Raging Bull would have set box offices ablaze were it 1983, but back then, Robert “The Greatest Actor of His Generation” De Niro was too big to spar with a cauliflower-eared Rambone-head like Sylvester Stallone. With three decades and countless flops under their tarnished championship belts, there’s no time like the present to cash in on nostalgia. Surprisingly, Stallone and De Niro have a field day spreading their self-deprecating cheer, with the intentional yucks far outweighing the accidental snickers. In the Burgess Meredith role of Stallone’s trainer, supreme being Alan Arkin is given plenty of stuff to strut, this time from the comfort of a personal mobility vehicle. It’s laughter, guaranteed, every time he opens his mouth. Two major setbacks: the profanity-inhibiting PG-13 rating (O for a “fuck”) and the kid who plays De Niro’s vexatious grandson, who deserves a fate worse than Clubber Lang. 2013. — S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Her — Spike Jonze (*Where the Wild Things Are*) continues his intrepid exploration of your inner man-child, this time with a barely futuristic story about Theodore, a lonely guy (played by an opaque but

vulnerable Joaquin Phoenix) who falls in love with his smart new operating system. “If you love your tech so much, why don’t you marry it?” is no longer a (bad) joke, especially when your tech has the voice of Scarlett Johansson. Surprise, surprise, it turns out that matter matters in a relationship, and not just because it gives a guy a place to input his dangle. As usual, the sci-fi fireworks are there to illuminate the shadowy landscape of present-day humanity: the alienation in the midst of connectivity, the uncertainty about what qualifies as being In Real Life, and oh yes, the little-boy self-absorption that makes dealing with other people so very hard. With Amy Adams. 2013. ★★ (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)

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. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit — Because every government agent needs an origin story. Chris Pine picks up the Tom Clancy-created role that Alec Baldwin started and Harrison Ford finished. Review forthcoming. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Legend of Hercules — Renny Harlin (remember *The Long Kiss Good-night*?) spills his director’s paintbox all over a perfectly serviceable B movie, leaving almost no scene unstained. Wash it out, saturate it, amp it up, slow it down, and above all, have something drifting through the air — ashes, rose petals, dandelion seeds, whatever. Just make it drift, so that the rubes have something to gawk at in the 3D version. The gimmickry is both ludicrous and ugly. It’s a shame, really; Harlin still knows his way around a fight scene, and the story is a spot-on riff on a certain brand of muscular Christianity — a blending of Samson and Jesus, a son of god who just needs to grow up and acknowledge his father in order to unlock his limitless potential. Star Kellan Lutz is suitably hunky and heartthrobby, the acting is suitably overbaked, and the script is suitably hokey. But oh that slo-mo. 2014. — M.L. ● (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Lone Survivor — *The Passion of the SEAL*. Peter Berg, having humiliated the American military by involving it in the ludicrous nonsense of *Battleship*, attempts to make up for it by telling the (based-on-a-true) story of a four-man mission

gone very bad in Afghanistan. The desired response to the action onscreen seems to be awe rather than gratitude — from the outset, it’s made clear that these men are a breed apart, warriors by nature. They suffer and fight because they want to suffer and fight, not because of cause or country. And when the bad guys start to close in, it’s not the soldiers’ sacrifice that plays as heroic, it’s their endurance in the face of horrific injuries and insane odds. Berg’s hand is sure and careful; he handles the operation’s buildup and detail with low-key aplomb, and makes the case for war as hell, an inhuman darkness that serves to highlight brief flashes of humanity. With Mark Wahlberg. 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Past (Le passe) — A simple story, complexly told. After a four-year absence, a man returns to face the wife and daughter he skipped out and to rub eyeballs with his dreaded replacement. By the time director Asghar Farhadi (*A Separation*) and co-writer Massoumeh Lahidji (*Certified Copy*) get around to revealing the real reason why Ahmad (Ali Mosaffa) never received confirmation emails from his soon-to-be ex (Bérénice Bejo), their tightly constructed web of emotional deceit has become so tangled that it’s likely audiences will have forgotten what in less talented hands would have played out like a formulaic foreshadowing device. *The Past* is an emotional murder mystery that utilizes achingly authentic dialog and readily identifiable emotional violence to adroitly dust off classic themes of miscommunication and mistaken identity. If you are banking on an august, sagacious, and genuinely understated family-in-crisis melodrama, count on this masterly antidote to Oscar bait. 2013. — S.M. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Bargain showtimes are in parentheses.

CENTRAL

CLAIREMONT

Reading Town Square
4665 Clairemont Drive (800-326-3264 #2722)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sun (10:25, 1:15) 4:15, 7:10, 10:05; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri. (10:50, 1:35) 4:25, 7:35, 10:10 Sat (10:50) 7:35, 10:10 Sun (10:50) 8:10, 10:50; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun (11:15, 2:05) 5:00, 7:45, 10:40; **Bolshoi Ballet: Le Corsaire** (NR) Sat,-Sun; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 5:25pm; **Devil’s Due** (R) Fri-Sun (10:55, 1:10, 3:20) 5:30, 7:50, 10:00; **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:55) 4:40, 7:25; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun (10:45, 1:25) 4:20, 7:15, 9:55; **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R) Fri-Sun (10:20, 12:35) 5:25, 10:30; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00) 4:45, 7:20, 8:20, 9:45, 10:45; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun (11:00, 1:45) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:35, 12:55, 3:15) 5:35, 7:55, 10:45; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (2:50) 7:40, 10:40; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:30, 1:00, 3:25) 5:50, 8:15, 10:35; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:40, 2:50) 7:05, 9:15; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (12:45) 4:55; **The Royal Opera House: Parsifal** (NR) Sun (2:00pm); **The Sleeping Beauty - Bolshoi Ballet** (NR) Fri-Sat; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun (11:35, 3:10) 7:00, 10:30

CORONADO

Vintage Village Theater
820 Orange Avenue (619-437-6161)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sun (2:15) 5:30, 8:30; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun (2:15) 5:30, 8:30; **Lone**

Survivor (R) Fri-Sun (2:15) 5:30, 8:30

DOWNTOWN

Reading Gaslamp
701 Fifth Avenue (800-326-3264 #2709)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sun (10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30) 4:30, 5:30, 7:30, 8:30, 10:30; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun (10:55, 11:55, 1:40, 2:40) 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:40; **Bolshoi Ballet: Le Corsaire** (NR) Sat,-Sun (2:00pm); **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:40, 1:35) 4:45, 7:45, 10:45; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun (11:00, 12:00, 1:50, 2:50) 4:35, 5:45, 7:35, 8:25, 10:15, 11:00; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun (11:20, 12:20, 2:00, 3:00) 4:40, 5:40, 7:20, 8:20, 9:55, 10:55; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:50, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:55, 3:20) 6:45, 10:05 Sun (10:40) 6:45, 10:05; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri. (1:00, 3:05) 5:15, 7:40, 9:50 Sat,-Sun (12:35, 2:55) 5:15, 7:40, 9:50; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:05, 3:10) 7:25; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:10) 5:15, 9:35; **The Sleeping Beauty - Bolshoi Ballet** (NR) Fri-Sat; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun (10:50, 11:45, 2:25, 3:25) 6:05, 7:05, 9:45, 10:45

Regal Horton Plaza
Horton Plaza (619-444-FILM)
Call theater for program information.

KENSINGTON

Landmark Ken
4061 Adams Avenue (619-283-3227)
The Great Beauty (La Grande Bellezza) (NR) Golden Globe Winner, Fri: (2:00), (5:00), 8:00, Sat - Mon: (2:00), 5:00, 8:00, Tue - Thu: (5:00), 8:00; **The Rocky Horror Picture Show** (R) Dolby – with “Crazed Imaginations” Shadow Cast, Sat: 12:00 Midnight, Discount Shows at Landmark’s Ken Cinema Indicated in Brackets “()”, **Caught**

In The Web (NR) Opens Friday, January 24

LA JOLLA

AMC La Jolla
8657 Villa La Jolla Drive (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Landmark La Jolla Village
8879 Villa La Jolla Drive (858-453-7622)
August: Osage County (R) Fri: (1:40), 4:20, 7:00, 9:35, Sat - Mon: (11:00), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35, Tue - Thu: (1:40), (4:20), 7:00, 9:35; **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R) Fri: (2:10), 4:50, 7:20, 9:45, Sat - Mon: (11:30), 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45, Tue - Thu: (2:10), (4:50), 7:20, 9:45; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri: (1:50), 4:30, 7:10, 9:40, Sat - Mon: (11:10), 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40, Mon - Thu: (1:50), (4:30), 7:10, 9:40; **The Wolf Of Wall Street** (R) Fri - Mon: (1:00), 4:40, 8:30, Tue - Thu: (1:00), (4:40), 8:30, Discount Shows at Landmark’s La Jolla Cinemas Indicated in Brackets “()”; **The Invisible Woman** (R) Opens Friday, January 24

MISSION VALLEY

AMC Fashion Valley
7037 Friars Road (888-262-4386)
Devil’s Due (R) Fri-Sun 10:00, 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; **Fast Times at Ridgemont High** (R) Sun 2:00pm; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri. 11:00, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10 Sat 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sun 11:00, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 1:30, 7:00; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri. 10:15, 12:35, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 Sat,-Sun 10:15, 12:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun 3:00pm

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 (858-768-7770)

Digiplex Mission Valley
7510 Hazard Center Dr #100 (619-685-2841)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sat (11:10, 2:00) 5:00, 7:50, 10:45 Sun (11:45) 2:45, 5:45, 8:40; **Devil’s Due** (R) Fri-Sat (11:40, 1:50) 4:10, 6:20, 8:30, 10:40 Sun (11:40, 1:50) 4:10, 6:20, 8:30; **Her** (R) Fri-Sat (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30, 10:15 Sun (11:15, 2:00) 4:45, 7:30; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:30, 2:00) 5:00, 7:40, 10:20 Sun (11:30, 2:00) 5:00, 7:40; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sat (11:20, 2:10) 4:50, 7:45, 10:30 Sun (11:20, 2:10) 4:50, 7:45; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:00, 3:30) 8:00; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sat (1:15) 5:45, 10:10 Sun (1:15) 5:45; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun (12:00, 4:00) 8:20

Digital Gym Cinema
2921 El Cajon Boulevard ((619) 230-1938)
An Afghan Love Story (Wajma) (NR) Fri. 3:30, 5:15, 7:00, 8:45 Sat 1:45, 5:15, 7:00, 8:45 Sun 1:45, 5:15, 7:00; **Valentino’s Ghost** (NR) Sat,-Sun 3:30pm

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: (2:10), 4:45, 7:25, 9:50, Sat - Mon: (11:30), 2:10, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50, Tue - Thu: (2:10), (4:45), 7:25, 9:50; **Dallas Buyers Club** (R) Golden Globe Winner, Fri: (1:30), 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, Sat - Mon: (10:50), 1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, Tue - Thu: (1:30), (4:20), 7:00, 9:40; **Nebraska** (R) Fri: (1:40), 4:30, 7:10, 9:45, Sat - Mon: (11:00), 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45, Tue - Thu: (1:40), (4:30), 7:10, 9:45; **Philomena** (R) Fri: (1:50), 4:10, 6:45, 9:15,

Sat - Mon: (1:20), 1:50, 4:10, 6:45, 9:15, Tue - Thu: (1:50), (4:10), 6:45, 9:15; **The Past** (PG-13) Fri: (2:00), 5:00, 8:00, Sat - Mon: (11:10), 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, Tue - Thu: (2:00), (5:00), 8:00, 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 (NR) Fri. 2:00, 4:00 Sat 11:00, 2:00, 4:00 Sun 11:00, 2:00; **Coral Reef Adventure** (NR) Fri-Sun 12:00pm; **Cosmic Collisions** (NR) Fri-Sun 5:00pm; **Country Music: Spirit of America** (NR) Sat,-Sun 6:00pm; **Forces of Nature** (PG-13) Sun 4:00pm; **Mysteries of the Unseen World** (NR) Fri-Sun 1:00, 3:00

EAST COUNTY

EL CAJON

Regal Parkway Plaza
405 Parkway Plaza (619-401-3456)
Call theater for program information.

LA MESA

Reading Grossmont
5500 Grossmont Ctr Dr (800-326-3264 #2710)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sun (10:45, 1:40) 4:35, 7:30, 10:25; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun (11:35, 2:15) 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; **Devil’s Due** (R) Fri-Sun (11:30, 1:35, 3:40) 5:45, 7:50, 9:55; **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:40, 2:05) 4:30, 7:00; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun (11:45, 2:30) 5:15, 8:00, 10:40; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:50, 1:10, 3:30) 5:55, 8:20, 10:45; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun (11:20, 2:00) 4:40, 7:20, 10:00; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:10, 1:30, 3:50) 6:10, 8:30, 10:50; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 9:30pm; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:05, 3:35) 10:30; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (1:20) 5:50, 8:10; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (10:55, 3:05)

Ride Along — See, most people think Kevin Hart broke through with his sleeper hit stand-up film *Let Me Explain*. But the truth is, he'd already won the Teen Choice Award for Choice Hissy Fit in 2012's *Think Like A Man*. Now he's paired up with Ice Cube as a hissy-fit sort of dude who has to figure out how to impress his girl's tough cop brother. Review forthcoming. (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 venerated showman. Worth it for production designer Michael Corenblith's spot-on recreation 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 Great Beauty — Reviewed this issue. — S.M. ★★★★★ (LANDMARK KEN)

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty — James Thurber's nigh-unto-perfect short story about a little man with big daydreams gets the therapy-culture treatment from director and star Ben Stiller. No more flights of magnificent fancy as a means of coping with mundanity. No, now it's time to break the shackles and make all your dreams come true. Daydreaming has gone from the panacea to the problem — the thing that keeps us from Really Living. Stiller plays the negative asset manager (admittedly, a hilarious job title) at *Life* magazine as it prepares for its final print edition. (In a high point, Stuart Dryburgh's cinematography makes *Life*'s offices look like the greatest place you'll never work. Everything else looks pretty good, too.) When the negative for the cover photo turns up missing, it's up to Stiller to spring

into action, transforming from schlub to stud in the process. How happy do you like your endings? With Kristen Wiig, Sean Penn. 2013. — M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Nut Job — A battle over a nut cart finds a fiercely independent, self-serving squirrel named Surly exiled from his local park. With *rat-de-camp* Buddy at his side, Surly is forced to venture out into the big city to gather that summer's provisions. We are mercifully spared a spate of easy testicular double-entendres, but in their place stand some of the laziest, most unimaginative fart jokes on record. I'm all for realism, but a squirrel cracking a rat during his morning stretch ain't exactly clever. That said, the breezy narrative, pliable character design and movement, fast-paced avalanche of gags, palatable color palette, and naturalistic use of 3D more than compensate for the film's one major downfall, namely: it's not funny. Laugh quotient notwithstanding, I took more delight in watching this than anything Dreamworks or Sony Animation has dropped. Peter Lepeniotis directed. Featuring the voices of Will Arnett, Katherine Heigl, Brendan Fraser, and Jeff Dunham as a mole who does a knockout imperson-

ation of Mike Tyson. — S.M. ★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

The Truth About Emanuel — A troubled teen (the infinitely engaging Kaya Scodelario) shoulders the blame for her mother's death in childbirth. New neighbor Jessica Biel not only bears more than a passing resemblance to Kaya's mom, the poor delusional soul wants a child so badly that she's convinced herself the Cabbage Patch Kid in her arms is made of flesh and blood. Needless to say, this pair of surreal soul mates are a match made in allegorical heaven. Gatekeeper Scodelario, taking extreme measures to prevent her stepmother from eyeballing the stunt tot, provides much-needed laughter. Given the surreal nature of the piece, it could have stood to gift us with a few more sardonic snickers. As absurd as it all sounds, I never once found myself questioning the ground rules established in director Francesca Gregorini's (debuting here as a solo act) stylized clash of the mother figures. With Alfred Molina and Jimmi Simpson. 2013. — S.M. ★★★ (READING GASLAMP)

The Wolf of Wall Street — Martin Scorsese's latest, most outrageous essay on common denominators living the

life of upscale, drug-enhanced, and power-infested businessmen to the man-ner born. Set to the tune of the Master's metronome camera moves, protagonist and unrepentant jerk Jordan Belfort's (Leonardo DiCaprio) first day on the job in a strip-mall penny-stock shithole finds him delivering a master class on how to “sell garbage to garbage men.” The energy level in this scene and in Belfort's hilarious third-act, time-released Qualude crawl suggests the work of a director in his early 30s, not that of a man who just turned 71. Belfort is Scorsese's ultimate surrogate auteur, an evangelical trafficker in power, preaching moxie to his ductile minions. But film remains a collaborative medium, and it would have been nice if screenwriter Terrence Winter hadn't written any scenes whose only purpose was to suck up to the director. Actor-wise, it's Leo's show, and the script calls for the actor to dominate every scene, leaving the supporting cast little to do but bounce off him. It's the weakest entry in Scorsese's cocaine trilogy — which began with *Goodfellas* and *Casino* — but running third in that company is no mean feat. 2013. — S.M. ★★★★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

MOVIE SHOWTIMES

7:10; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:00) 5:05, 9:20

RANCHO SAN DIEGO

Regal Rancho San Diego
2951 Jamacha Road (800-326-3264)
Devil's Due (R) Fri-Sun (11:55) 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:40) 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:30) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:50) 4:50, 7:20; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (2:30) 9:40

SANTEE

Santee Drive In
10990 Woodside Avenue (619-448-7447)
Call theater for program information.

SOUTH BAY

CHULA VISTA

AMC Palm Promenade
770 Dennery Road (888-262-4386)
Call theater for program information.

Regal Rancho Del Rey
1025 Tierra del Rey (619-216-4707)
Devil's Due (R) Fri. (11:55) 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri. (11:40) 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45) 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:00; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri. (11:45) 7:00, 9:20; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri. (2:10) 4:30

UltraStar Chula Vista
Broadway between H and I (619-338-4214)
47 Ronin (PG-13) Fri - Sun: (12:45), (3:45), 6:45, 9:45, Mon: (12:45), (3:45), 6:45; **Walking With Dinosaurs** (PG) Fri - Sun: (11:45 AM), (2:00), 4:30, 7:00, 9:15, Mon: (11:45 AM), (2:00), 4:30, 7:00; **Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas** (PG-13) Fri - Sun: (11:45 AM), (2:25), 5:00, 7:45, 10:20, Mon: (11:45 AM), (2:25), 5:00, 7:45; **The Book Thief** (PG-13) Fri - Sun: 4:15, 7:30, 10:30, Mon: 4:15, 7:30; **Ender's Game** (PG-13) Fri - Sun: (11:15 AM), (2:15), 5:00, 7:50, 10:45, Mon: (11:15 AM), (2:15), 5:00, 7:50; **Free Birds** (PG) Fri - Mon: (12:15), (2:30), 4:45, 7:15; **Last Vegas** (PG-13) Fri - Sun: (12:15), (2:50), 5:30, 8:00, 10:30, Mon: (12:15), (2:50), 5:30, 8:00; **Jack-ass Presents: Bad Grandpa** (R) Fri - Sun: (1:00), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15, 10:45, Mon: (1:00), (3:15), 5:45, 8:15; **Carrie** (R) Fri - Sun: 9:30 PM; **Escape Plan** (R) Fri - Sun: 9:45 PM; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri - Sun: (12:30), (3:45), 6:50, 10:00, Mon: (12:30), (3:45), 6:50; **Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs 2**

(PG) Fri - Mon: (11:30 AM), (2:00), 4:45, 7:15; **Despicable Me 2** (PG) Fri - Mon: (11:15 AM), (1:45)

EASTLAKE

AMC Otay Ranch
Eastlake Parkway (at Olympic) (888-262-4386)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sun 9:55, 1:05, 4:10, 7:20, 10:25; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 10:10, 1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun 9:55, 12:55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55; **Devil's Due** (R) Fri-Sun 10:30, 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30; **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun 11:00, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:10; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun 10:05, 1:10, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:30, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun 10:00, 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 10:00; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:20, 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 12:50, 3:15, 8:05; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 5:40, 10:35; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun 10:15, 11:45, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun 2:20pm; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun 10:20, 2:10, 6:00, 9:50

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
5256 Mission Road (760-945-8784)
12 Years a Slave (R) Fri-Sat 7:00, 10:15 Sun 7:00pm; **Devil's Due** (R) Fri-Sat (12:00) 2:30, 5:30, 8:15, 11:00 Sun (12:00) 2:30, 5:30, 8:15; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:00) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 Sun (11:00) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sat (11:30) 2:15, 5:00, 8:00, 10:45 Sun (11:30) 2:15, 5:00, 8:00; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:00) 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30 Sun (11:00) 2:00, 4:45, 7:45; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:45) 3:15; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:15) 4:15, 7:30; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sat (1:30) 9:45 Sun (1:30pm)

CARMEL MOUNTAIN

Reading Carmel Mountain
11620 Carmel Mntn Rd (800-326-3264 #2704)
12 Years a Slave (R) Fri-Sat 7:20, 10:15 Sun 10:15pm; **American Hustle** (R) Fri-Sun (10:30, 1:35) 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (1:00) 9:45; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun (10:50, 1:25) 4:00, 7:10, 9:40; **Bolshoi Ballet: Le Corsaire** (NR) Sat (2:00pm) Sun; **Captain Phillips** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 7:00, 10:00; **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:10, 1:50) 4:25, 7:05; **Gravity** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:45, 3:30) 5:40, 8:00, 10:05; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun (11:05, 1:45) 4:30, 7:15, 10:10; **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R) Fri-Sun (10:35, 1:05, 3:25) 5:45, 8:05, 10:35; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:45, 10:30; **Nebraska** (R) Fri-Sun (11:20, 1:55) 4:40, 7:30, 10:15; **Philomena** (PG-13) Fri. (11:15, 1:40, 3:50) Sat,-Sun (11:15a.m.); **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:35, 2:30) 5:05, 7:50, 10:25; **The Book Thief** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (10:40, 1:30) 4:10; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:00, 12:55, 3:15) 5:25, 7:25, 9:30; **The Royal Opera House: Parsifal** (NR) Sun (2:00pm); **The Sleeping Beauty - Bolshoi Ballet** (NR) Fri-Sat

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)
Devil's Due (R) Fri. (11:55) 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20; **Fast Times at Ridgemont High** (R) Sun 2:00pm; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri. (11:45) 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit in IMAX** (NR) Fri. 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri. (11:30) 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri. (11:50) 7:25, 9:55; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri. 2:20, 4:55

POWAY

Digiplex Poway
13475 Poway Rd ((858) 679-3887)
1- Nenokkadine (NR) Sat (3:00pm) Sun 5:30pm; **American Hustle** (R) Fri-Sun (11:00, 2:00) 5:15, 8:15; **Dedh Ishqiya** (NR) Fri. (11:30, 2:30) Sun 8:30pm; **Devil's Due** (R) Fri-Sat (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45, 10:30 Sun (1:00, 3:15) 5:30, 7:45; **Drishyam** (NR) Sat 6:30pm Sun (2:15pm); **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun (12:00, 3:00); **Frozen 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun 6:00pm; **Inside Llewyn Davis** (R) Fri-Sun 8:30pm; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit**

(PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:30, 10:15 Sun (11:30, 2:15) 5:00, 7:30; **Jilla (Tamil)** (NR) Sat (11:30) 9:45; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sat (11:45, 2:30) 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Sun (11:45, 2:30) 5:15, 8:00; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:15, 1:45) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 Sun (11:15, 1:45) 4:15, 7:00; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (11:00) 4:30, 7:15; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (1:30) 10:00 Sun (1:30pm); **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sat (11:15) 6:45, 9:30 Sun (11:15) 6:45; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri-Sun (1:30, 4:00); **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun (12:30) 4:15, 8:00; **Veeram** (NR) Fri. 7:00pm; **Yevadu** (NR) Fri. 10:00pm Sun (11:45a.m.)

SAN MARCOS

Regal San Marcos
1180 W. San Marcos Boulevard (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 Dr (760-945-7469)
Call theater for program information.

NORTH COASTAL

CARLSBAD

Cinépolis La Costa
6941 El Camino Real (760-603-8638)
12 Years a Slave (R) Fri-Sun 11:00, 5:45, 11:15; **American Hustle** (R) Fri-Sun 11:30, 3:00, 5:15, 8:30, 11:30; **Gravity 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 3:15, 8:45; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 12:15, 2:30, 6:15, 9:00, 11:45; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun 11:45, 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:00, 4:45, 10:30; **The Secret Life of Walter Mitty** (PG) Fri-Sun 2:00, 7:45; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun 11:15, 2:45, 6:45, 10:45

Moviemax Plaza Camino Real
2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)
Call theater for program information.

DEL MAR

Cinépolis Del Mar
12905 El Camino Real (858-794-4045)
12 Years a Slave (R) Fri-Sun 4:00, 9:45 Fri-Sun 11:30a.m.; **American Hustle** (R) Fri-Sun 11:30, 2:15, 5:30, 7:45, 11:00; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sun 11:00, 2:00, 5:00,

8:00, 11:00; **Gravity 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:15a.m. Fri-Sun 6:00, 11:45; **Her** (R) Fri-Sun 11:45, 2:45, 5:45, 8:45, 11:30; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 11:45, 1:30, 5:15, 8:30, 10:45; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sun 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; **Saving Mr. Banks** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 2:35, 7:00; **The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug** (PG-13) Fri-Sun 2:30, 8:15; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sun 11:15, 3:00, 6:45, 10:30

ENCINITAS

La Paloma
471 South Coast Highway 101 (760-436-7469)
The Hunger Games: Catching Fire (PG-13) Fri-Sun 8:30pm; **The Secret Life of Walter Mitty** (PG) Fri. 6:00pm Sat,-Sun (3:30) 6:00

OCEANSIDE

Digiplex Mission Marketplace
431 College Boulevard ((760) 806-1790)
American Hustle (R) Fri-Sat (12:00, 3:20) 6:50, 10:10 Sun (12:00, 3:20) 6:50; **Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues** (PG-13) Fri-Sat 10:25pm; **August: Osage County** (R) Fri-Sat (11:00, 1:50) 4:40, 7:30, 10:20 Sun (11:00, 1:50) 4:40, 7:30; **Devil's Due** (R) Fri-Sat (11:20, 1:35, 3:50) 6:05, 8:20, 10:40 Sun (11:20, 1:35, 3:50) 6:05, 8:20; **Frozen** (PG) Fri-Sun (11:35, 2:15) 5:05, 7:45; **Girl, Boy, Bakla, Tomboy** (NR) Fri-Sat (11:25, 2:10) 4:55, 7:25, 10:00 Sun (11:25, 2:10) 4:55, 7:25; **Her** (R) Fri-Sat (11:05, 1:55) 4:50, 7:40, 10:35 Sun (11:05, 1:55) 4:50, 7:40; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:15, 2:00) 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 Sun (11:15, 2:00) 4:30, 7:00; **Lone Survivor** (R) Fri-Sat (11:00, 1:45) 4:35, 7:20, 10:20 Sun (11:00, 1:45) 4:35, 7:20; **Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones** (R) Fri-Sat (11:50, 2:00) 4:10, 8:30, 10:45 Sun (11:50, 2:00) 4:10, 8:30; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (12:15, 2:45) 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 Sun (12:15, 2:45) 5:10, 7:50; **The Legend of Hercules** (PG-13) Fri-Sun (2:20) 7:35; **The Legend of Hercules 3D** (PG-13) Fri-Sat (11:40) 5:00, 10:05 Sun (11:40) 5:00; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri-Sat (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:10, 10:20 Sun (11:15, 1:30, 3:45) 6:00, 8:10; **The Wolf of Wall Street** (R) Fri-Sat (11:10, 2:40) 6:15, 9:50 Sun (11:10, 2:40) 6:15

Regal Oceanside
401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)
Devil's Due (R) Fri. 1:15, 4:40, 7:20, 10:15; **Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit** (PG-13) Fri. 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:05; **Ride Along** (PG-13) Fri. 1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45; **The Nut Job** (PG) Fri. 1:50, 7:00; **The Nut Job in 3D** (PG) Fri. (4:10) 9:30

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CAREGIVERS. Needed from all areas. 1 year experience. Hourly and live in. Assertive Care at Home Inc., 3774 Grove Street, #L-1, Lemon Grove. 619-466-6890.

CAREGIVERS. 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.

CAREGIVERS/CNAS. Hourly and live-in. Immediate openings. Flexible schedules. Assist seniors with light to moderate care. All areas. Cheerful personalities. Dependable Caregivers, 619-421-1022.

CAREGIVERS/CNAS/HHAS. Immediate openings. Hourly, Live-in, Nights. Cheerful Caregivers needed to assist seniors in-home. Minimum 1 year's experience. Premium pay/bonuses/benefits, 24-hour office support. Age Advantage, 760-720-7272.

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BOUNCERS. Part-time opportunities. Guard Card and minimum 6 months experience required. \$10 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.

SECURITY GUARDS. Full-time and part-time opportunities at construction sites, hotels, etc. Mostly evening shifts between 6pm and 5am. Guard Card and minimum 6 months experience required. \$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.

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\$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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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Continued from page 6

Eddie said he's had a string of hard luck. He's been on the streets since June, when he and his girlfriend lost their apartment. He said, as far as services go, he gets food stamps and that two churches in Chula Vista (St. Rose of Lima and another one on Fifth and E) give food to the homeless several days a week.

"But New Year's Eve was cold, down around 35 [degrees]. I crawled in my mummy bag and usually I get warmed up, but not that night.... I was afraid I was going to get hypothermia.... There's some buildings here," Eddie said, gesturing to Third Avenue, "that don't have any occupants. Chula Vista could open one of them up for the homeless to stay in....

"There's definitely been an increase of homeless in Chula Vista," Eddie said. His observance corresponds with the annual count done by the San Diego Homeless Project. The count is done only one night a year. In 2012, the number of homeless counted in shelters, vehicles, or hand-built shelters in Chula Vista was 426; in 2013, the number rose to 495.

SUSAN LUZZARO

SAN YSIDRO

No uptick in border-business sales...yet

Tax increase could be a good thing

Though it is just after the buying season, San Diego border businesses are expecting an increase in traffic from the Mexican sales tax hike of 2014.

"As of right now, it's pretty slow. We're not seeing a lot of traffic," said Luis Romero, a supervisor at the Ralph Lauren Factory Store in San Ysidro. Contacted during the first week after the holiday season, Romero said that the store is bringing in about \$300 an hour lately, when last year it could take in as much as \$3000 per hour.

"There's not a big increase," Romero said. "Right now we have Mexican shoppers, but not as much money as expected."

The Mexican tax increase that took effect January 1 raised the sales tax from 11 to 16 percent and is expected to boost the number of shoppers who cross into the United States to do their shopping. Passed by the Mexican congress last October, it was contentious legislation that drew criticism in Mexico from the international border area.

Mexican congressman Jaime Bonilla is worried about the impact of the tax on Mexico.

"I was against it because I know it will hurt businesses along the border," Bonilla said in

press accounts. "People aren't going to pay the 16 percent. They're just going to buy their items elsewhere."

Bonilla considered the tax increase to be a bad idea while the economy is recovering from the conflicts between drug gangs and the police.

Romero, of course, is looking forward to changes. "It is going to impact the store. The majority of our customers are Mexican."

VINCENT FARNSWORTH

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS

Who cares about community boundaries?

They do!

While it may not matter to those who don't live there, one group is fighting another over the boundaries of University Heights. The University Heights Community Development Corporation is battling with the University Heights Community Association over this touchy issue.

According to the Community Development Corporation's petition-signing website, if the Community Association "wins their battle to exclude everyone on the east side of Texas Street," those residents/businesses will be "kicked out" of University Heights.

UHCDC's petition posits that exclusion from University Heights would result in

"reduced property values for resale and for refinancing (appraisals)." It also explained the area would have "no access to neighborhood grants and funds offered by the City or County for community improvements" and "less of a voice when other policy issues arise."

DAVID BATTERSON

LA MESA

Furries descend on Lake Murray

Just here to "have fun"

On January 4, LMFAO ("Lake Murray Furry Anthro Outing") arrived at Lake Murray to have their monthly meeting, which they hold on the first Saturday of every month.

The several members greeted each other and onlookers with over-the-top friendliness and glee.

Everyone was hugging, laughing, riding motorcycles, and playing tag. The atmosphere was joyful and playful. Some bystanders were wondering how they could become a member. They were told that anyone who shows up on the first Saturday of every month could become part of the group.

"What is the real purpose?" was the question on most people's minds. When asked, one member responded that LMFAO's sole mission was to have fun.

GLORIA CIPRIAN



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*The amount of increased earnings varies by field and degree. Source: U.S. Census Bureau <https://www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/p70-129.pdf> (See Table 8)



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LEAD STORY

— The notorious white separatist Craig Cobb is currently soliciting like-skinned people to move to his tiny town of Leith, N.D. (pop. 16), to create a deluxe Caucasian enclave, but at the urging of a black TV host submitted to a DNA test in November to “prove” his lineage — and turned up 14 percent black (“Sub-Saharan African”). He has vowed to try other DNA tests before confirming those results. Bobby Harper, previously Leith’s only black resident, was gleeful: “I knew there was one other black person in town.” (In mid-November, Cobb was charged, along with an associate, with seven counts of terrorism for walking menacingly through Leith wielding a long gun.)

Government in Action

— The Environmental Protection Agency, already revealed in June to have allowed a contractor to maintain taxpayer-funded “man caves” (TVs, appliances, couches, videos, etc.) hidden away in a Washington, D.C.-area warehouse, made the news again during the government shutdown in October when soup with a 1997 expiration date was found during the shutdown in an EPA employees’ refrigerator. Furthermore, in September, former high-level EPA executive

John Beale pleaded guilty to defrauding the agency of \$900,000 in salary, expenses, and bonuses dating back to the 1990s by claiming work orders (including secret projects for the CIA) that no one at the EPA appears to have tried to verify.

— In October, Venezuelan president Nicolas Maduro created a “Vice Ministry of Supreme Social Happiness” to coordinate the welfare programs begun by the late president Hugo Chavez. Critics charged, however, that there is much to be unhappy about, given the country’s annual rate of inflation (near 50 percent), and an Associated Press dispatch quoted a critic who said she would be happy enough if only stores were not constantly out of milk and toilet paper. (Another skeptic said he looked forward to maybe a Vice Ministry of Beer).

— Though many people might agree with blind musician Stevie Wonder that it is “crazy” to let people like him carry guns, federal and state laws seem ambiguous, according to a lengthy analysis of Iowa’s supplied by the *Des Moines Register* in September. Some Iowa sheriffs believe that federal anti-discrimination law limits their discretion (though they can deny permits for lack of physical or mental ability to handle the gun). The National Federation of the Blind generally trusts its

members never to use guns recklessly, a spokesman said, and blind Iowa activist Michael Barber emphasized his right. “[Y]ou take it out and point and shoot,” he said, “and I don’t necessarily think eyesight is necessary.... For me, the inspiration is just to see if I run into any difficulties.”

Great Art!

— Leandro Granato, 27, said that he discovered, as a kid in Argentina, that liquids sucked up through his nose could then be squirted out of his eye — and an art career was born. News sites reported in October that Granato’s “eye paintings” of ink colors, splattered out as tears on canvas in various motifs (from up to 1 1/2 pints of ink each), are offered for sale for about \$2400 each. (*Huffington Post*’s story also reminded readers that Chilean artist Carina Ubeda is another who uses her body functions as a medium — specifically, her menstrual blood, which she employed in the form of 90 used sanitary napkins arranged in a hoop featuring an apple, symbolizing ovulation. Her June show ran in Quilota, Chile.)

Police Report

— Rachel Gossett blew a .216 alcohol reading in Loganville, Ga., in November, but that was prob-

ably a formality after an officer witnessed her attempt to put a cheeseburger from a Waffle Shop onto her foot as if it were a shoe. And Rashad Williams, 38, was charged with DUI in Atlanta in October after he crashed through the front of a Walgreens drugstore and then, according to a witness, calmly exited his vehicle (which was sticking halfway into the building) and resumed drinking next door at the Anchor Bar.

— Sheriff’s deputy Darrell Mathis of Newton County, Ga. (30 miles east of Atlanta), a five-year veteran, was arrested in September and charged with selling marijuana locally — from his squad car, in uniform, and apparently without inhibition. A confidential informant, unnerved by Mathis’s alleged brazenness, convinced FBI agents in April 2013 to do a by-the-book sting (with which Mathis, of course, naively cooperated, according to bureau affidavits). (In their final meeting before the arrest, for example, Mathis took pains to assure the agents: “Don’t worry. I’m on your side.” He was reportedly enthusiastic about the sting’s plan to run marijuana and cocaine from Alabama to North Carolina.)

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Diego Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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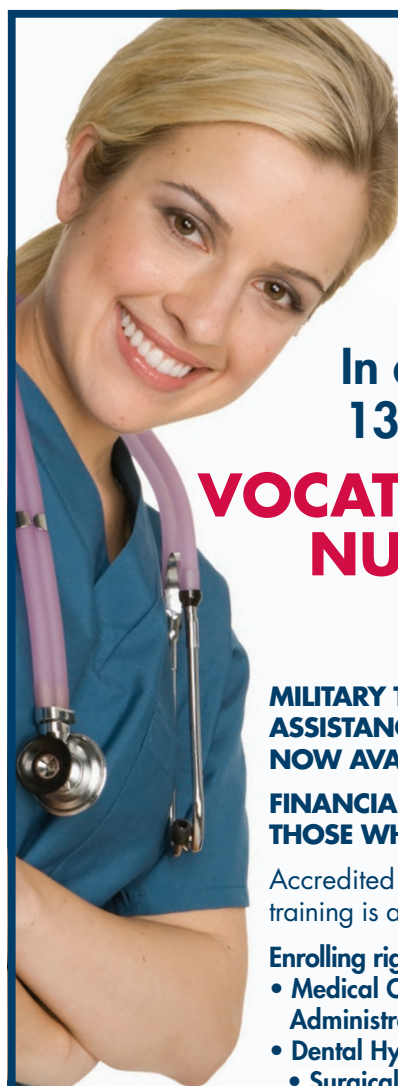


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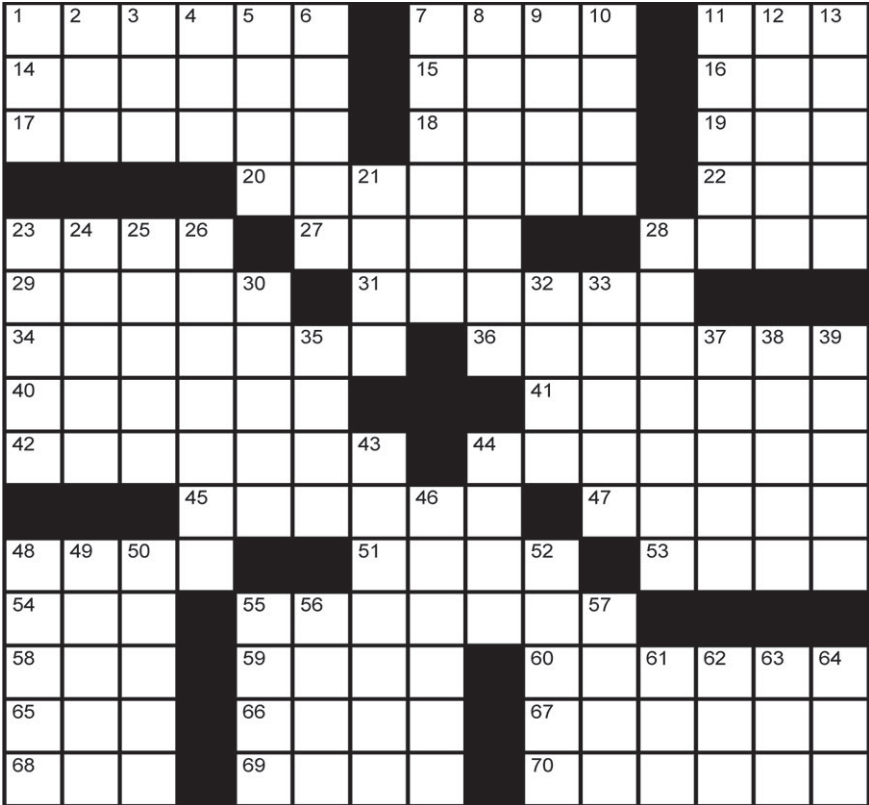
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- 1) Submit your completed puzzle to the *Reader* each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online each week to SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only 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. They might be inflated
- 7. Nasty habit
- 11. Steamrolled stuff
- 14. Amusement park vehicle
- 15. "Star Wars" creature whose name can be made using letters from "Wookiee"
- 16. "So that's it!"
- 17. Title girl in a 2001 French comedy
- 18. Limping, say
- 19. Seoul soldier
- 20. Sang like Sinatra
- 22. Mrs., abroad
- 23. Hotel entrance lineup
- 27. Ship-related: Abbr.
- 28. "The Chosen ____" (slogan of the beverage brand He'Brew)
- 29. Senator Hatch
- 31. Shake
- 34. Bert and Ernie, e.g.
- 36. Afternoon movie
- 40. More sluggish
- 41. Less than every
- 42. Schnoz
- 44. Cattle drive participant
- 45. Hard Italian cheese
- 47. All-female group's policy
- 48. Opposite of sans
- 51. "99 Luftballons" singer
- 53. Leaning Tower site
- 54. Ariz. neighbor
- 55. Revolts
- 58. Sea goddess who saved Odysseus
- 59. In a frenzy
- 60. Engaged in swordplay

- 65. 2009 Kesha hit "Tik ____"
- 66. Tag, e.g.
- 67. Highlighted, as text
- 68. ____ Zion Church
- 69. Golden State campus inits.
- 70. "I'm fine with that" (or an instance that occurs seven times in this puzzle's grid)

Down

- 1. Augusta National org.
- 2. Neighbor of Ukr.
- 3. Mike and ____ (candy)
- 4. Berkeley campus nickname
- 5. "South Park" boy
- 6. Severe
- 7. Tracksuit fabric
- 8. "Gimme those!"
- 9. Arrive
- 10. Barely managed, with "out"
- 11. Singer known as "The Velvet Fog"
- 12. "Oh, give me ____ ..."
- 13. Host of the Weather Channel's "Wake Up With Al"
- 21. Cheerios are made with them
- 23. Peace ____
- 24. Forster's "____ With a View"
- 25. Flat condition?
- 26. Gerber rival
- 28. Genre for the Spice Girls and Oasis
- 30. Nobelist Bohr
- 32. Hernando's hand
- 33. Boy band with the hit "Liquid Dreams"
- 35. "A special laurel ____ go": Whitman

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:



- 37. Supermodel Campbell
- 38. Hollywood's Sommer et al.
- 39. Kagan whose high school yearbook page quotes Justice Felix Frankfurter
- 43. Payments for releases
- 44. Takes for a ride
- 46. Talked excitedly about the latest iPhone, say, with "out"
- 48. Soulful Baker
- 49. Poison
- 50. Call forth
- 52. Part of A/V
- 55. Classico competitor
- 56. Apple computer
- 57. No-goodnik
- 61. Backward flow
- 62. Myrna of film
- 63. Tree in many street names
- 64. RMN served under him

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- **Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 2.**
- **Bill Pischke, Ramona, 2.**
- **Martin Soblick, Del Mar, 2.**
- **Paula Tschauner, Chula Vista, 1.**

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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	8				3	1	5
1		2	5	8		4		
	5		9					
				5	8	2	4	
8				9				1
	2	5	7	1				
					9		5	
		1		3	2	8		7
9	6	7				1	3	

HARD:								
								2
		6					7	
1		8		6	4			
4			2		1	7	9	
	6			5			3	
	9	2	6		3			8
			4	3		8		5
	8					3		
3								

- 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:								
		2	6	3	7		5	
	6				5		3	9
		3					6	
6				9			7	
7				1				4
	2			4				1
	3					9		
1	5		9				8	
	9		3	7	1	2		

EVIL:								
8			1				5	
5	1						2	
4					3	8		
9				8		6		
			4		1			
		4		6				8
		1	6					7
	6						4	3
	8				7			2

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S SUDOKU PUZZLES:

EASY:								
7	6	4	8	5	3	2	9	1
8	2	9	7	1	6	4	5	3
3	5	1	4	2	9	8	7	6
2	9	5	1	3	4	6	8	7
4	3	6	5	7	8	1	2	9
1	7	8	9	6	2	3	4	5
5	8	7	6	4	1	9	3	2
9	1	3	2	8	7	5	6	4
6	4	2	3	9	5	7	1	8

HARD:								
3	7	9	1	2	8	5	6	4
6	2	4	7	3	5	9	8	1
8	1	5	6	9	4	7	3	2
7	6	1	8	4	3	2	5	9
4	5	3	2	6	9	1	7	8
2	9	8	5	7	1	6	4	3
5	4	7	9	8	2	3	1	6
9	8	6	3	1	7	4	2	5
1	3	2	4	5	6	8	9	7

MEDIUM:								
1	9	8	6	5	7	2	3	4
5	7	4	2	3	9	6	1	8
6	2	3	8	4	1	7	9	5
4	5	2	1	6	3	9	8	7
8	6	7	5	9	4	1	2	3
3	1	9	7	2	8	5	4	6
2	8	1	3	7	5	4	6	9
9	3	5	4	1	6	8	7	2
7	4	6	9	8	2	3	5	1

EVIL:								
5	6	4	8	3	1	7	9	2
8	2	7	6	4	9	5	1	3
9	1	3	7	5	2	4	8	6
7	4	8	2	1	5	6	3	9
2	5	6	3	9	8	1	7	4
1	3	9	4	7	6	8	2	5
4	7	2	1	6	3	9	5	8
3	9	1	5	8	4	2	6	7
6	8	5	9	2	7	3	4	1

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!

Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit: www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the "comments" feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:

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

- ➡ **Isabella Busch-Sorensen, San Diego, 1.**
- ➡ **Rei Tang, San Diego, 1.**
- ➡ **Tkaehuk Serafima, San Diego, 2.**
- ➡ **Susan Williams, North Park, 2.**
- ➡ **Hossein Azar, San Diego, 1.**



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MISCELLANEOUS

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Beaches

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POINT LOMA, \$750. Room for rent with panoramic ocean view. Fully furnished, utilities included. Private parking, perfect for single person. Available now. Call 619-665-9810.

Central San Diego

BAY PARK, \$555. Mission Bay Park near Clairemont Dr. \$495 deposit, share utilities. Safe off-street (RV/boat) parking. Laundry. No smoking, drinking, drugs. Male only. 619-417-2409.

CLAIREMONT, \$595. Clairemont family. Beautifully remodeled. Utilities included: cable/ internet, washer/dryer. Peaceful female, student okay. No drugs/overnight guest. Clean, quiet, private parking, security lights. 858-500-6138.

CLAIREMONT, \$650 Master bedroom with bathroom. Washer/ dryer. Parking available. Nonsmoking. No pets. Contact Ed 858-737-4093.

CLAIREMONT, \$700. Large room in 4000 sq. ft home. Inc. washer/dryer, cable, internet, kitchen privileges. Back door parking. Near freeways. \$500 deposit. Male. No pets. 858-270-4243.

COLLEGE AREA, \$500. Furnished bedroom and bath. Female only. Washer/dryer, cable, Internet ready, kitchen privileges. Includes utilities. 3 blocks to SDSU. \$350 deposit. Available now. Dave, 619-335-0649, grobman.david@earthlink.net.

COLLEGE AREA, \$650.

Share 3BD+2BA house, 3 blocks to SDSU. Have Wi-Fi. Utilities included. Cat lovers preferred. Available now. 619-286-9256.

East County

Santee, \$500.

Furnished room. New paint/carpet. \$200 deposit. Share utilities. Near shopping/ bus. Available now. Male preferred. No drugs/alcohol/pets. 619-995-9659.

Spring Valley, \$500.

Separate bedroom. Share utilities. Kitchen privileges. Laundry. No smoking. \$200 deposit. 619-829-1504.

North County Coastal

Encinitas, \$900.

Furnished room with bath in lovely Encinitas home. Kitchen and laundry privileges. Quiet neighborhood, close to shopping, freeway access, restaurants. Leasing Unlimited, Lic#00976056, 760-436-7273.

Leucadia, \$950.

Room with bath available. Includes utilities. Off- street parking. Beach 6 blocks. Large backyard. Sunsets from balcony. Must see! Available February 1st. 952-857-9743.

South Bay

Bonita/Chula Vista Room For Rent

Beautiful, huge, quiet, 5 bedroom house, 1/4 acre property. Walk in closet, desk. \$600 plus deposit. 1/4 utilities. Storage/garage. Easy freeway access. Pets ok. Must see! Call 323-788-1216.

Chula Vista, \$500.

Room for rent. Close to the bus stop. \$200 deposit. Share utilities. Nonsmoking. Women preferred. 619-829-1504.

Chula Vista, \$500.

Eastlake. 4BD+4BA townhome. Bedroom/ bath. Washer/ dryer. Utilities included. No pets/ drugs. \$500. \$400 deposit. 760-554-0971.

Chula Vista, \$600.

Furnished room. Single occupancy. Includes utilities, cable/ Internet access. Quiet neighborhood. No drugs, smoking, alcohol, pets. East of I-805. 619-840-7299, 619-482-9478.

RENTALS REGION MAP

BEACHES

La Jolla • Mission Beach • Ocean Beach
Pacific Beach • Point Loma

DOWNTOWN

Balboa Park • Banker's Hill • Downtown
East Village • Golden Hill • Little Italy
Logan Heights • Sherman Heights
South Park • Stockton

EAST COUNTY

Alpine • Borrego Springs • Boulevard
Campo • El Cajon • Imperial Valley • Jamul
Julian • La Mesa • Lakeside • Lemon Grove
Mount Laguna • Potrero • Ramona
Rancho San Diego • Santee
Spring Valley • Warner Springs

CENTRAL SAN DIEGO

Allied Gardens • Bay Park • Clairemont
College Area • Del Cerro • Grantville
Kearny Mesa • Linda Vista • Mira Mesa
Miramar • Mission Valley • San Carlos
Serra Mesa • Sorrento Valley • Tierrasanta • UTC

NC COASTAL

Cardiff • Carlsbad • Carmel Valley • Del Mar
Encinitas • Leucadia • Oceanside • Solana Beach

OLD TOWN & UPTOWN

City Heights • Hillcrest • Kensington-Talmadge
Mission Hills • Normal Heights • North Park
Old Town • University Heights

NC INLAND

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Fallbrook • Poway • Rancho Bernardo
Rancho Peñasquitos • Rancho Santa Fe
San Marcos • Scripps Ranch • Temecula
Valley Center • Vista



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Bonita • Chula Vista • Coronado
Imperial Beach • National City • Otay Mesa
Paradise Hills • San Ysidro

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RENTALS

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Beaches

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MISSION BEACH, \$1225.

1BD upstairs end unit in South Mission Beach. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Close to ocean and bay! Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 2/16/14. 729-1/2 Ensanada Court. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

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OCEAN BEACH, \$1175.

1BD+1BA large downstairs unit with stove, refrigerator. Parking. Coin laundry. Close to cliffs. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 1/15/14. 4853 Orchard Avenue. 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, \$2395.

2BD+1BA, upstairs back unit with panoramic ocean views from interior. Large private deck with fire pit. Wood floors. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Beautifully remodeled! Coin laundry. Storage. Ask about pet. Available 1/15/14. 4652 Narragansett. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1100.

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, \$1200.

1BD upstairs West facing large unit in North Pacific Beach with private balcony. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Parking. 2-1/2 blocks to ocean. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 2/13/14. 945 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.



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PACIFIC BEACH, \$1250.
2BD+1BA. Quiet, gated entrance. Ceiling fans, laundry, off-street parking, pool. Building well maintained. No pets. Available now. 619-279-0031, akarnazes@yahoo.com.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1295.
1BD+1BA. Garage, appliances. Steps to shopping, beach and night life. 726 Emerald Street. Call, 858-272-9547.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1395.
2BD+1BA upstairs unit in East Pacific Beach; stove, refrigerator; garage; Easy freeway access. Cat OK with extra deposit. Available 2/3/14. 4554 Bond Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$1645.
2BD+2BA, large upstairs remodeled front unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Private balcony. New carpet. Garage plus parking space! Lush shared courtyard. Coin laundry. Five blocks to ocean. Available 1/17/14. 1190 Grand Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2150.
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. Patio. Driveway parking. Nice front lawn with water and gardener paid. Coin laundry. No pets. Close to Kate Sessions school and park. Available now. 1859 Chalcedony Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2200.
2BD+2.5BA, townhome in 4-plex in North Pacific Beach. One block to ocean! Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Laundry hookups. Large fenced private patio. Fireplace. One year lease required. No pets. Available 2/19/14. 831 Chalcedony. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, \$2500.
3BD+3BA townhouse with 3- car garage. Fireplace, washer/ dryer, patio, deck. Clean, fresh paint. No pets. 1853 Grand Avenue. CDunphyPacwest@san.rr.com or 858-270-4492 x203.

POINT LOMA, \$1550.
2BD+1.5BA Sunny Townhouse. Updated carpeting, appliances, fixtures, 12" ceramic tile. Walk-in. Private Patio. Pool, Fitness, Rec-Room, Saunas. No pets! Non-smoking unit. 619-226-8158.

POINT LOMA, \$1555.
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, \$1750.
2BD+2BA Huge unit & balcony with panoramic ocean, bay, sunset views. Pool. Fitness, Rec-Room. Saunas. Non-smoking unit. No pets! Available mid-March. 619-226-8158.

Downtown

BANKERS HILL, \$1475.
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 Culew Street. 858-272-9614.

DOWNTOWN, \$486-625.
Clean rooms, very comfortable, convenient location. Historic building near C Street Trolley. Choice of common or private bathrooms. Utilities included. Free cable TV, on-site laundry, vending machines, modern elevator. Southern Hotel, 1159 6th Avenue at B. 619-239-3808.

DOWNTOWN.
Starting at \$175 weekly. Furnished rooms. Beautiful building, new. Refrigerator, microwave, TV, cable. 920 Beech Street. Call 619-234-1952.

DOWNTOWN.
From \$125 weekly. Las Flores Hotel. Small, quiet. Four- week minimum. Color TV with basic cable. Refrigerator in most rooms. Secure. 619-235-6820.

DOWNTOWN.
Studio. Fully furnished studios with utilities included. Rates start at \$165/week. Free wireless Internet and exercise room. Baltic Inn: 521 6th Avenue. 619-237-0687. www.affordablehousingdsd.com.

DOWNTOWN.
From \$199 weekly. Studio. Premier location. Furnished, full baths. Award-winning buildings. 24- hour staff, gyms, laundry rooms, sundecks. Free wireless Internet. Island Inn: 202 Island Avenue (Second/ Island), 619-232-4138. J Street Inn: 222 J Street, 619-696-6922. www.affordablehousingdsd.com.

SOUTH PARK, \$1950.
2BD+2BA Craftsman house. Large private deck, new paint, new stove, dishwasher. Washer/ dryer, off- street parking. Select pets OK. Available now. 2910 B Street. 858-688-3046.

Downtown, \$560+. Furnished Studios!

Studio+1BA, clean and furnished with Free Utilities! Pay* by the week or month (from \$150/ \$560 at Trolley or from \$175/ \$660 Peachtree). Phone, micro/ fridge, TV/cable, housekeeping, parking, laundry, patio, WiFi, gated entry, "on approved credit/minimum 1-month. CALL for move in specials! Trolley at 940 Park: **888-506-9053**. Peachtree at 901 F Street: **888-506-9052**.

East County

EL CAJON, \$1000.
2BD+1BA apartments, 1 and 2 stories. Amenities. Pool, park- like grounds with lots of open space, laundry on premises, parking. Near town, shops, bus. 743 South Magnolia Avenue. 619-579-0174 or 619-464-1818.

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Three's a Charm

— WIN \$100 —

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

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).

Contestants have from Wednesday until Sunday to log on to our contest page (SDREADER.com/charm) and punch in the three page numbers on which the phrase can be found. One winner per week. Contestants eligible to win once every four months. Any week there is no winner, the \$100 gets rolled over into a jackpot the following week.

LAST WEEK'S WINNER
Vicki Blabon, \$100

LAST WEEK'S CLUE
"metal choir?" (2 words)

LAST WEEK'S HIDDEN PHRASE
singing robots



those that change as the neighborhood does. One of the most popular ruin pubs in Budapest is Szimpla Kert, or Szimpla, and its open-air courtyard with a maze of decorated rooms. Singing robots. More cars modeled after Szimpla popped up in the narrow alleys of the Jewish quarter. I

Page 44



Park's resident star gazer George Varga as he scopes the Pleiades (Seven Sisters), Double Cluster in Perseus, Andromeda Galaxy (M31), singing robots, and the Orion Nebula. Meet at the far end of the Kumevaav Campground Day

Page 47



"We're a musical pantomime troupe," says Christopher "Bunny" Bennett of Steam Powered Giraffe. "Most known as 'those singing robots.' We're trained in movement

Page 57

EL CAJON, \$1125.

2BD+2BA apartment. Central heat and A/C, dishwasher, on-site laundry, outside storage. Pool, Jacuzzi. Gated community. Water, sewer, trash included. Call 619-444-5799. www.sdaprbrokers.com.

EL CAJON, \$1495.

3BD+2BA Upstairs Apt home! Completely remodeled. New granite counters, cabinets, carpet, two-tone paint, blinds, tubs! Central Air! All new stainless steel appliances including dishwasher! Laundry hookup in unit! No pets. 653 Chamberlain. Aqt. 619-279-2183 Move-in special with immediate move in!

EL CAJON, \$520-850.

Trailers. Gated community park. Each unit has a little yard. Conveniently located, close to trolley, bus, shopping. No pets. 619-933-5189.

EL CAJON, \$900.

2BD+1BA with small backyard. New Carpet, new paint, washer/dryer hookups. Available now! 625 Lemon Ave. www.stevenleproperties.com, (619)295-5525.

EL CAJON, \$925.

1BD+1BD. Spacious apartment. Dishwasher, central heat and A/C. Pool and spa. Off-street parking. On-site laundry. Water, sewer, trash paid. Call 619-447-7386. www.sdaprbrokers.com.

LA MESA, \$1529

3BD+2BA and 2BD+1BA (\$1299) apartments. Bienvenido a la privada Mt. Helix! Espaciosos. Cocina nueva. Electrodomesticos de acero inoxidable, Casa club. WiFi. Aire acondicionado. Lavanderia. Garage. Balcones. Picina. Mascotas OK. Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$1529.

3BD+2BA and 2BD+1BA (\$1299) apartments. Welcome to Mt. Helix Gated Community! New kitchen. Stainless steel appliances. Spacious. Clubhouse. WiFi. Air conditioning. Laundry. Garages. Balconies. Pool. Hablo Espanol. 619-646-8670.

LA MESA, \$750

Studio. New carpet and paint. On site laundry. Great location. If you can find one better...rent it! 7908 La Mesa Blvd. Call Rachael at 619-804-1044.

LA MESA.

2BD+2BA. Very spacious 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Central heating/air, park-like setting, pool, views. Near 94, 125, 8 Freeways. Pets welcome. 619-204-0610. palmspringapartments.com

LEMON GROVE, \$500.

Trailer space for rent in newly renovated, gated trailer park. Very convenient location near freeway, trolley and grocery store. Improved shower facility and coin laundry on site. Safe, clean, quiet environment. Must have own trailer less than 28ft. On-site Manager Suzy, 619-408-2986.

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.

CLAIREMONT \$1475.

2BD+1BA. Cozy duplex. Stove, refrigerator, w/d hookups. Private fenced yard, minimal care, with covered patio and garage. 619-276-6745.

CLAIREMONT, \$1950.

3BD+2BA. \$500 deposit. Pet OK. Gardener, fenced yard. Recently renovated. No smoking, air conditioning, 2- car garage. 858-278-2774.

CLAIREMONT, \$950.

Studio+1BA. 1- year/ 6- month lease. Basic rates: \$950/ month for queen bed, \$1050* for 2 double beds. Expanded rates: \$1195/ month for queen bed or \$1295* for 2 double beds that also includes: weekly cleaning service, daily continental breakfast, all utilities, cable (HBO), heated pool/ spa, on-site laundry. High-speed Internet available for additional charge. (*Rates subject to change/ tax.) California Suites Hotel, 5415 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. 1-888-264-4729. www.californiasuiteshotel.com.

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COLLEGE AREA, \$850-950.

1BD+1BA \$850 and 2BD+1BA \$950. Near bus, shops, SDSU. Laundry room. No pets. \$150 security deposit. 6769 El Cajon Boulevard. Apartments in rear courtyard. 619-464-0901.

COLLEGE AREA, \$975.

2BD+1BA. Great location. Close to all. Clean, quiet, secure. On-site laundry. Large, open floor plan. Ready now. If you can find one better... RENT IT! 7240 El Cajon Boulevard. Call Lynette, 619-602-0959, or Rachael, 619-804-1044.

COLLEGE AREA, \$995.

2BD+1BA apartment. Stove, refrigerator, laundry room. No pets. 5275 Monroe Avenue #17. Agent, 619-232-6811.

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FASHION VALLEY, \$1895

2BD+2BA condo. Gated parking, washer/dryer in unit. New paint and carpet. If you can find one better...rent it! 5765 Friars Rd. Call Rachael at 619-804-1044 or Jeff at 619-713-1044.

FASHION VALLEY, \$2050

2BD+2BA condo. Onsite pool, washer/ dryer, in unit tandem 2 car garage. If you can find one better...rent it! 7087 Camino Degrazia. Call Rachael at 619-804-1044 or Jeff at 619-713-1044.

LINDA VISTA, \$1245.

2BD+1BA, \$1245 + utilities. Charming bungalows and townhomes with private yard. Assigned parking, hardwood floors, central location. No pets please. Office at 7025 Eastman Street. 619-249-9585.

LINDA VISTA, \$1450.

2BD+2BA, quiet, gated apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion Valley shopping! Upstairs with a balcony. Fireplace. Dishwasher. Hardwood floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #5. 858-514-8201.

MIRA MESA, \$1155-1425.

1BD+1BA and 2BD+1BA. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments. Pool, short distance from 15 freeway, schools, shops, Hourglass Park and Miramar College. Section 8 welcome. Come meet Dulce for our move-in special! 858-271-0191.

North County Coastal

DEL MAR, \$1795-2795.

1BD+1BA \$1795+, 2BD+2BA \$1925-\$2495 (some ocean views). 3BD+2BA \$2795. Washer/dryer. Heated pool, spa. Nonsmoking complex. 201 Fourth Street. Los Arboles, 858-481-9585; mikeeatla@aol.com. www.summerpacific.com.

OCEANSIDE, \$1295.

2BD+1BA downstairs unit. New carpet. New paint. All appliances included. Water, trash, sewage paid. Great location near the beach. Small pets negotiable. 520 N. Nevada Street #D. 619-804-3325.

North County Inland

VISTA, \$2495.

3BD+3.5BA, 2600sqft house full of amenities and appliances. Remodeled kitchen! Garage, laundry room. Central AC/ Heat. Fenced backyard, hot tub. Pets OK! 619-326-9721.

Old Town & Uptown

HILLCREST, \$1125.

1BD, downstairs remodeled unit. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, microwave. Coin laundry. Great location in the Heart of Hillcrest near many medical facilities, shops and restaurants. Small pet OK with extra deposit. 3730 First Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delsolpm.com. 858-270-2071.

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OFF THE CUFF

BY
ANDY BOYD

What was your favorite new song of 2013?

f/SDReader
Question of the day!



Elisa Urmston

"Sexy Socialite," Chromeo. So badass retro '80s, it's the most fun song of the year.



Ziva Gottesman

I'm usually a '50s-through-'80s girl, so it's really hard for me to add any new music to what I like and some think it isn't new, but I have to admit, I like "Blurred Lines." I also heard it on two great vacations, so I like it extra because it's connected to some wonderful memories.



Marty Joyce

Everyone should check out the Winery Dogs. Best band of 2013 w/ Richie Kotzen, Billy Sheehan, & Mike Portnoy. Unbelievable talent.



Shelley Bosinski-Steele

Kind've embarrassed to admit that it is "Wrecking Ball," by Miley Cyrus. It's kind've catchy!

HILLCREST, \$1250.
2BD+2BA extremely large apartment. Dishwasher, self-cleaning oven, courtyard, parking, laundry. Near all. 1037 Essex Street. No pets, no smoking. 619-692-0364.

HILLCREST, \$810.
Studio. Lovely garden courtyard with fountain. Walk to Uptown Village. Hardwood floors, blinds, on-site laundry. No pets. 619-299-8746.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1000.
2BD+1BA. Coin-op laundry. Available now. 4541 Contour Blvd #5. www.cethron.com. (619) 295-1100.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1125.
1BD+1BA 800 sqft duplex house. Wood floors, washer/ dryer, stove, refrigerator, 2 spaces assigned in carport, storage shed. Nonsmoking. Gated. Block to village. Available February 1st! 4617 Kensington Drive, #1. 619-280-1800; after 5pm call 619-283-6463.

KENSINGTON-TALMADGE, \$1150.
2BD+2BA large, remodeled apartment. Walk-in closet, huge bathroom, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, shared patio, parking, on-site laundry. Near bus and shops. No pets. 4546 52nd Street. 619-287-1996.

MISSION HILLS, \$825 & UP.
Studio+1BA and kitchen. Low \$150 deposit. Fully furnished studios,

alcoves, in excellent hillside location. Free basic cable. 1616 Guy Street. 619-298-6242.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1200.
2BD+1BA. Upper unit, coin-op laundry, single car garage. Available 1/7/13. 4669 Cherokee Ave #G. www.stevenleproperties.com. (619) 295-5525.

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$1250.
2BD+1BA, north of Adams! Completely remodeled! Everything new! Parking and laundry onsite. Small quiet gated 4-plex. No pets! Available now! 4769 32nd. Agent, 619-279-2183

NORMAL HEIGHTS, \$895.
1BD+1BA, water/sewer/trash included, on-site laundry. No pets allowed. 4542 Cherokee Avenue #2. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400, peoplehelpingothers.com.

NORTH PARK, \$1150.
2BD+1BA in heart of North Park. All amenities, parking, laundry on site, controlled entry, A/C. Walk to all. No pets. 4557 Utah Street. 619-715-8243.

NORTH PARK, \$1195-1695.
Studio plus 1BD+1BA. Fully remodeled, hardwood floors, two tone custom paint, crown molding, faux wood blinds, new light fixtures. Great location. Pets negotiable. 4051-4057 Park Blvd. 619-804-3325.

NORTH PARK, \$1250.
2BD+2BA. Assigned parking. Laundry on-site. Gated building. Available now. 3967 Illinois St #7. www.stevenleproperties.com. (619) 295-5525

NORTH PARK, \$750-775.
1BD+1BA. Secured building with elevator. Coin-Operated Laundry. Parking. Seniors 62yrs+. Sec 8 OK. Sfrmet.fortunecity.com. 3835 Swift Avenue #206 & #314. Cethron.com, 619-295-1100.

OLD TOWN, \$1050.
1BD+1BA cottage with lots of storage underneath unit! Wood floors. New paint. New blinds. Great central area. Will consider small pet under 20 pounds. 2051-57 San Diego Ave. 619-820-2584.

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS, \$1095.
1BD+1BA apartment. Available 2/15/14. 4360 Campus Ave #10. www.AMGSD.com. 619-295-1165.

South Bay

CHULA VISTA, \$1700.
3BD+2.5BA townhouse with double/ two-car garage, balconies and storage. Remodeled kitchen. Laundry room in unit with washer/dryer. Gated complex. No pets. Available now! \$500 Move in Discount with 6-month lease! 582 Arizona Street. Section 8 accepted. Amalia, 619-370-8921; Norma, 619-425-6511.

CHULA VISTA, \$825.
1BD+1BA fully furnished or unfurnished apartment. Low \$150 deposit. 2 blocks from Chula Vista Center and trolley. Off-street parking. Laundry room. 521 Park Way. Office open daily (near Fifth and G). Call 619-420-5084.

NATIONAL CITY, \$1050.
2BD+1BA apartments. Water/ trash paid. Parking space. Close to freeway/ schools/ shopping. Quiet neighborhood. 116 Palm Ave. 619-474-4441.

SAN DIEGO, \$1100.
2BD+1BA townhome with patio. Section 8 welcome. 2381 Grove Ave., 92154. Call Selene for deposit special: 619-578-7435.

Southeast San Diego

LOGAN HEIGHTS, \$1800.
2BD+2BH. Newly renovated, carpeting/ wood floors, W/D hookups, some appliances. Huge backyard with sun deck. House is set back from street with spiral driveway. 619-681-2291

VALENCIA PARK, \$1510
2BD+1.5BA. Large house, 1230sqft, near Paradise Valley Hospital, large yard, new carpet, paint, vinyl tile, possible 1 outside cat. Available now. A&P Realty 619-425-4555.

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VOCALIST WANTED! Auditions now for very groovy jazz vocal ensemble. Must be able to sight-read. Bass and Tenor voices needed. Gig all year. 858-558-2139.

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from **\$39⁹⁵**

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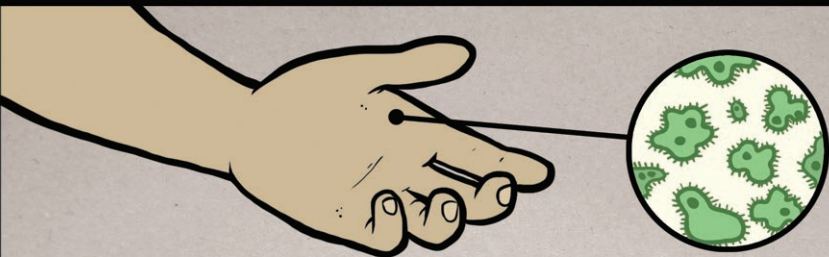
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Sincerely,
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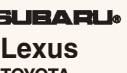


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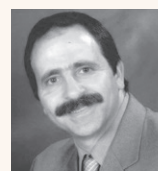
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chargersteve: I'm Charger Steve and as a kid couldn't wait for the next *Star Wars* movie to premiere. So, like many other 45-year-olds, anything *Star Wars* brings back fond memories! So... Didn't take much for Carlos Rojas to convince me to get some SW ink! His work is great! He works out of Black Anchor in Hesperia, and while it's a drive for me, living in Ramona.... It's worth it! May the force be with you!



LeeSmith53: Got this in honor of the classic TV show, and because I own a 1969 replica General Lee Charger!



Denise: Clockwise from upper left: pro cover-up of homemade tattoo; son's middle-school illustration; "taming your dragon" tattoo prior to starting chemo; reminder of visit to Hawaii. All done at Avalon Tattoo in Pacific Beach. Denise, 52, Lakeside. Full accounts at sandiegoreader.com.

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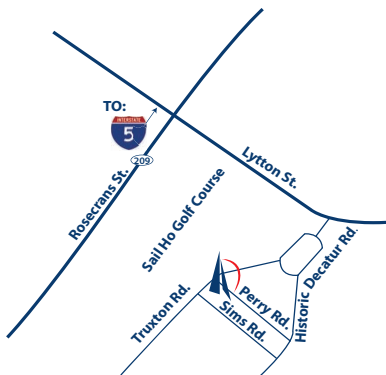
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