She's, like, “It's cycling, running, and swimming stuff.”

“And I'm, like, I don't swim.”

North Park sex-trafficking ring releases hit single – see SD on the QT
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San Diego Reader | January 23, 2014
Chums forever
Jan Goldsmith and U-T San Diego
San Diego — Reporters for the U-T San Diego have a friend in city attorney Jan Goldsmith.
Whether it was the flap over the Tourism Marketing District, the project-labor agreement for the convention center, the pension deficit, Goldsmith’s view on state legislation addressing medical marijuana, or former mayor Bob Filner’s management style, Goldsmith was always available for comment, clarification, or suggestions on what reporters should include in their stories.
As seen in emails turned over in a public records request, Goldsmith was available day or night. During much of 2013, Goldsmith used the paper to wage a public war on reporters, seemingly in exchange for his help for a date, seemingly in exchange for his help

The relationship between the daily’s writers and Goldsmith included the editorial staff as well. William Osborne had a direct link to the city attorney. For example, on November 21 of last year, Osborne contacted Goldsmith for public documents related to the project-labor agreement.

“Hi, Jan,” wrote Osborne. “I would like to formally request that your office provide me with copies of emails and any other communications between staff in the mayor’s office and the contractor for the Convention Center expansion project regarding a project labor agreement for the expansion project.”

Twenty-four minutes later, Goldsmith responded: “Thanks, Bill. I have routed this to our [Public Records Act] lead, Bill Gersten, with a request to expedite.”

Dorian Hargrove

Shaking, crying, and afraid
Third suit against Filner
Downtown — A third lawsuit has been filed against ousted former mayor Bob Filner over charges of sexual harassment made while he was in office.

This time the plaintiffs are Marine veteran Katherine Ragazzino and her nurse, Michelle Tyler. The pair approached Filner attempting to get help in dealing with the Department of Veterans Affairs for Ragazzino, who was suffering from a brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, and spinal cord and nerve damage. She was living in her car at the time.

Filner allegedly asked Ragazzino to leave the meeting regarding her own case and proceeded to come on to Tyler, pressing her for a date, seemingly in exchange for his help (while in Congress, Filner spent years on the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs). After repeated failed attempts to redirect focus on Ragazzino’s issue, Tyler left the meeting “shaking, crying, and afraid,” according to

Socialite Patricia Marsch says her chief dislike is dishonesty, which makes one wonder what she thinks of her husband Nicolas Marsch.

Will Nicolas Marsch be invited to the Jewel Ball?

Patricia Marsch was the 2012–2013 president of Las Patronas, the philanthropic organization that annually puts on the Beautiful People’s biggest social event of the year, the Jewel Ball at the La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club.

On May 30 of last year, the La Jolla Light wrote a rave story about Mrs. Marsch. The publication asked her, “What is it that you dislike most?”

Her response: “Dishonesty and lack of compassion.” (Italics mine.)

Hmmm... Her husband, Nicolas Marsch III, and his company, Briarwood Capital, last month were hit with a $1 billion judgment for smearing a company. A Florida jury awarded the big Florida builder, Lennar Corporation, $802 million in compensatory damages and $200 million in punitive damages for defamation and conspiracy. Lennar does not expect to get the money because Nicolas Marsch and Briarwood are in Chapter 7 (liquidation) bankruptcy.

This story goes back a long way. In the late 1990s, Marsch and Lennar formed a partnership to develop a luxury golf community called the Bridges at Rancho Santa Fe. Marsch and Briarwood later sued Lennar for breach of contract, expecting a fat payment. Marsch wrote Lennar directors threatening to expose “dirty little secrets” if they didn’t cave in to his demands. Marsch hired San Diego con man/born-again minister/fraud sleuth Barry Minkow, who publicly proclaimed that Lennar was run like a Ponzi scheme. Lennar stock plunged. Lennar sued Minkow and Marsch for defamation and extortion. Then a San Diego judge said Marsch owed Lennar $54 million, rather than Lennar owing Marsch from the Bridges deal.

Marsch and Briarwood went into a Chapter 11 bankruptcy that was later converted to Chapter 7. Minkow pleaded guilty

Neal Obermeyer

BEHIND THE SCENES OF KEVIN FAULCONER’S LATEST COMMERCIAL

I like it, but what if instead of flipping over the table, I smiled at him and drank coffee?

So Kevin—when we get to the part of the voiceover about how you stand up to special interests, you’re going to get up and push over the table right in front of chamber of commerce president Jerry Sanders.
to conspiracy, manipulating the stock market and engaging in insider trading, and is now serving a five-year sentence in prison. He readily admitted his guilt, then told Fortune magazine that the real cause of his bad behavior was drugs: 1400 milligrams a day of OxyContin.

Marsch says he has been bullied by Lennar and Florida judges in the company’s pocket. But what of Patricia Marsch’s disdain for dishonesty? José M. Rodríguez, state circuit court judge in Miami, said, “The evidence of the continuous and intentional misconduct perpetrated by Defendant Nicolaus Marsch is overwhelming.” Alleging that, among other things, Marsch concealed evidence, Rodriguez entered a default judgment against Marsch.

Judge Peter W. Bowie of the bankruptcy court in San Diego flayed Marsch’s “dishonest testimony under oath” at a critical meeting. “This Court has lost confidence in Mr. Marsch’s capacity for candor and honesty,” Bowie booted Marsch out of Briarwood and put it under a trustee’s control.

San Diego superior court judge William Nevitt Jr., who presided over Marsch’s suit against Lennar, said Marsch’s explanation of events “did not withstand close scrutiny and cross-examination.” The judge said Marsch to escape paying court-ordered damages, Miami state circuit court judge John W. Thornton said that Marsch destroyed and deleted evidence. “Since this case began over five years ago, Marsch has consistently and unabashedly refused to comply with this Court’s orders,” said Thornton, blasting Marsch’s corruption of the litigation process.

On April 26, 2012 — almost two years after her husband and Briarwood filed for bankruptcy — Patricia Marsch was deposed under oath by a Lennar lawyer. She said she gave her husband $128,333 of jewelry and $70,000 in cashier’s checks. She admitted it was to make the money inaccessible to Lennar, the major creditor in the bankruptcy procedure.

“We can’t comment on any specific case, but concealment of assets in a bankruptcy is obviously prohibited,” says Jane Lipprecht, spokesperson for the Executive Office for United States Trustees in San Diego. “Lennar has undue influence on the courts in Miami,” Nicolas Marsch claims. “Those judges don’t write the orders. Lennar writes them and the judges sign simply where indicated.” (In a deposition, when asked about one judge’s various opinions, he responded, consecutively, “repeatedly gave false testimony on material issues.”)

San Diego superior court judge Lorna Alksne, after hearing a case in which Marsch wanted the court to slap down Lennar’s president, said, “Mr. Marsch’s sworn declaration in support of his petition was false and misleading.”

In a suit that Lennar filed against Marsch, Briarwood, and Minkow, protesting Marsch’s attempt continued on page 40

A Florida judge awarded a billion dollars in damages to builder Lennar Corporation in a defamation suit against Nicolas Marsch III and fraudster-turned-pastor Barry Minkow. Marsch filed bankruptcy, Minkow went back to prison.

Lennar and Marsch partnered to develop the Bridges luxury golf community in the 1990s.

**UNDER THE RADAR**

**Christmas in Jerusalem**

Following the lead of his boss, a staffer for freshman Democratic congressman Juan Vargas has jetted off to Israel, courtesy of the American Israel Education Foundation, a project of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, or AIPAC for short, which styles itself as “America’s pro-Israel lobby.” Vargas and his wife made the journey last summer, from August 4 through 13, getting put up at such five-star hosteries as the King David Hotel in Jerusalem and the Scots Hotel in Tiberias. Along the way, they hooked up with Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Mahmoud Abbas, president of the Palestinian Authority, according to an itinerary filed with the House ethics committee. Total cost to the foundation for the couple’s jaunt: $16,230.

The same outfit funded the two-week trip of Aaron Allen, a foreign affairs legislative assistant to Vargas, who departed Washington December 14 and returned on December 28. According to his disclosure form, Allen paid for the part of his trip between December 24 and December 27. The total tab picked up by the foundation was $5868.61. As justification for the gift, Allen wrote, “This trip will be an opportunity to expand my understanding of the U.S.-Israel relationship.” After checking in to the Tel Aviv Sheraton, Allen’s congressional tour group had a “dinner and discussion with Nadav Perry, Reporter, Channel 10.” The next day it was on to a tour of the Knesset and dinner with Israeli high-tech types. A visit to the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum and a “Palestinian Perspective” session with Issa Kassissieh of the Palestinian Negotiations Support Unit was also on the agenda. Later, it was off to the Gaza Strip and briefings on “Israel’s Missile Defense System,” “Regional Threats Overview,” “Strategic Threats at the Lebanese and Syrian Borders,” and “The Iranian Threat.” Scenic side trips included the National Archeological Park at Masada and “Exploration of the Dead Sea region.”

According to a report last week by the National Journal, Israel is by far the top destination for congressional free junkets of both parties, with a total of $1,940,000 in 142 trips in 2013. Turkey, a big favorite destination of one-time Democratic congressman Bob Filner, was a distant second with $640,000, representing 87 trips. India was behind that at $396,000, with 31 trips.

“Today, a wide network of nonprofits — many with a clear agenda and some with excruciatingly tight ties to Washington’s biggest lobbying operations — are putting together international congressional excursions,” the report observes. Freshmen members and their staffs are particular targets for the Israelis, according to the report, and spouses are encouraged to come along. “South Carolinian Mark Sanford, who returned to the House in 2013 after an extramarital affair led to scandal during his term as governor, received a special ethics waiver to take along his mistress-turned-fiancée.”


**PORTABLE PARTIES**

Officials of the San Diego port authority who remained close to home during the party season still managed to take advantage of many free opportunities to celebrate in style. On November 9, it was the Asian Film Festival Gala 2013, where ten employees and family members from financial services, environmental and land-use management, general services and procurement, and the engineering department all took a turn on the red carpet to the tune of $200 each, thanks to the festival’s sponsor. Justification for the freebies was given as “Representation of the District at an event to sustain or build relationships with tenants.”
LETTERS

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

The Barking, the Biting, and the Smell
Someone is inhabiting the wrong place ("La Jolla Cove Is Becoming a Sea Lion Cesspool," January 16 cover story).

Mr. Merkel referenced the colony of sea lions saying the sea lions “feel as though the cove has become their own yard in which to play.” News flash, Mr. Merkel! It is their yard! The builders built next to the sea and the restaurateurs and residents moved in. I think that the sea lions were there first.

You don’t build your house near the ocean cliffs, as they may erode in the future and your house could fall into the ocean. Who’s at fault there?

It is the people who chose to inhabit an area that always belonged to sea creatures.

So much talk about solving the problem of what to do about the sea lions! It’s pretty easy, really. The people need to move or need to put up with the barking, the biting, and the smell. Is that too obvious? But wait, we have spent so much money to be here and we can make so much money if we stay, so it’s the sea lions that have to go. Right? Not!

Name Withheld
North Park

Not a Cesspool
Here in San Diego County we have over 70 miles of pristine beaches, and an idyllic climate for all of us to enjoy. Your article, “La Jolla Cove Is Becoming a Sea Lion Cesspool,” (City Lights, January 16) focuses on the habitat of the seals that measure the size of a few football fields, out of those 70 miles.

The majority of the other 70 miles have no seals or other marine life to contend with — just sand, people and seagulls. There are plenty of other beach options for people.

continued on page 44

Roger Wilson
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**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

By Reader stringers

**OCEANSIDE**

**They were Boss Hoggin’ us**

Panhandler turf battle at freeway exit

On the eastbound off-ramp of Highway 78 at Jefferson Street, a turf war developed on January 8, causing three California Highway Patrol units to respond.

Ian, from San Diego, and Randall, from Houston, both in their 20s, were standing on the off-ramp with a cardboard sign that read, “Save a Life. Give a Smile. Need $,” reportedly getting ready to make some money to take the bus back to Ian’s home in Ocean Beach. Both had full backpacks; Randall also had a duffle bag, his leashless dog Bubbers, and a surfboard.

Two other men with a homeless appearance were yelling at the duo from the opposite corner. The men were becoming verbally aggressive and gesturing in a frustrated manner with their arms.

Ian said he called 911 because the other two men came up to him and Randall and were “Boss Hoggin’ us,” a reference to TV’s Dukes of Hazzard character Boss Hogg, the town’s powerful mayor, saying they had to leave. “It was their corner,” said Ian.

For about ten minutes, the two angry men would walk several feet in the opposite direction, only to turn and charge back closer to Ian and Randall, threatening the pair. Ian and Randall started to walk south on Jefferson to get away from the men.

When the other men saw me, they charged across the street at me. I identified myself as a reporter. The white man said his name was “Angry Oceansider” and his buddy, a black man, said his name was “Anonymous.” Anonymous said, “We own this intersection.”

As CHP units arrived at around 3:15 p.m., Anonymous said to me, “You better get your fucking story straight and I ain’t talkin’ to you.”

**SAN CARLOS**

Critters trump bikes

Trail-making must cease in Mission Trails

At least 500 mountain-bikers, hikers, and equestrians paraded through Mission Trails Regional Park on Saturday morning, January 11, to protest the closing of popular trails in the northeastern section of the well-used open-space area.

“There’s a long-built-up frustration and you’re seeing it turn into movement,” said Matt Bartelt, who rode the protest with his children. “We have a lot of open space where you see trails continually marked as illegal — they’re shutting down trails and there’s no adequate plan to replace them.”

The San Diego Mountain Biking Association backed — but did not take credit for organizing — the protest after a series of meetings with the city’s Parks & Recreation Department failed to produce a plan to reopen trails, even with the biking association’s offer of help to get the work done.

For four-year-old Gavin, who rode in the parade, the problem is simple: “Our jumps are closed now,” he said. “Closing jumps for kids is sad.”

**TIJUANA**

Never was the Élysées

Sara’s London Shop stops selling perfume after 70 years

Sara’s London Shop, a popular perfume store in downtown Tijuana that once attracted tourists from around the world, has closed its doors after 70 years in business.

The store, at the corner of Avenida Revolución and Calle Tercera, opened for business in 1944 and drew thousands of customers during the heyday of Tijuana tourism. It once sold over 200 brands of fine imported perfumes at duty-free prices.

“This perfume shop has captured the atmosphere and elegance of the Champs Élysées of Paris,” said a description of Sara’s on the website of Ceturmex, a group promoting Tijuana tourism. “It is acclaimed by thousands of Europeans and Americans as the twin of Parisian perfume shops.”

Sara’s managed to survive events that devastated other Avenida Revolución businesses following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the U.S., including a new requirement that visitors returning to the U.S. from Mexico have a passport and traffic jams at the border that have discouraged visits to Tijuana.

But it was increasing costs of doing business, along with new, complicated tax laws imposed by the federal government and an increase in the sales tax to 16 percent, effective January 1, that finally did in the business, according to the daily newspaper El Sol de Tijuana.

**SOUTH PARK**

Did it for tips

Holdup at coffee kiosk

A woman with a gun robbed a coffee-kiosk tip jar in South Park on Tuesday, January 14, at approximately 9:50 a.m.

Armed with what appeared to be a black semiautomatic pistol, a woman driving a two-door sedan waited in line at the Captain Kirk’s drive-thru coffee stand located in the Gala Foods parking lot at the corner of Fern and Grape streets. Two baristas were on shift, and when one approached the car to take an order, the suspect showed her the weapon, told her not to scream, and demanded the contents of the tip jar.

Witnesses described the suspect as a Hispanic woman with medium-length to long dark hair, dark eyes, tattooed on the right side of her neck and on her left arm. They said she had been a regular customer.

continued on page 8
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San Diego Reader | January 23, 2014

**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

Continued from page 6

M I S S I O N BAY

The orca dilemma

Boosting Blackfish boosts SeaWorld

Animal-rights activists staged a demonstration at the entrance to SeaWorld on Saturday afternoon, January 11.

Approximately 50 activists brandished picket signs and formed a line along Sea World Drive on both sides of South Shores Road, the primary point of access to the amusement park’s parking lot. A number of the signs urged passing motorists — including many park attendees — to boycott the park. Several other signs referred to the movie Blackfish, a 2013 documentary examining the death of a trainer working with an orca at SeaWorld Orlando in 2010.

Many of the protesters said the film’s depiction of the so-called killer whales in captivity played a large part in their decisions to picket SeaWorld. They cited ethical concerns with keeping the large open-sea creatures in the relatively close confines of the parks’ seven-million-gallon habitats (adults weigh up to six tons). They also referred to the film’s allegations that orcas in captivity experience significantly shorter lifespans, a contention that SeaWorld has repeatedly refuted.

SeaWorld San Diego is home to 10 orcas, as well as 40 dolphins, 3 pilot whales, and nearly 10,000 other aquatic species. Many of the large mammals are trained to perform in regularly scheduled shows, and the orcas in particular seem to be immensely popular, their images prevalent in SeaWorld marketing campaigns.

The release of Blackfish and its subsequent broadcast on CNN has created a persisting public-relations problem for the SeaWorld brand.

Organizers Marisa Ohanian and Dana Kaiser Henry said they have been advocating for animal rights for several years, and while this demonstration had social-networking support from large animal-rights entities including PETA, the protest included mostly non-affiliated individuals. Ohanian indicated the current publicity brought about by the film impacted the timing of this and other recent demonstrations.

“With Blackfish putting pressure on SeaWorld,” she said, “now is the time to keep the pressure on.”

Most professed their biggest goal was to raise awareness about the documentary, which they felt would turn more people to their cause, putting social and economic pressure on SeaWorld to alter its practices. Whether they were effective remains to be seen.

A number of drivers passing by honked in approval, while few expressed opposing views with derisive shouts or gestures. For the most part, the publicity in the wake of the film does not seem to have put a dent in SeaWorld’s bottom line.

On Monday, January 13, the company issued a press release announcing record profits in 2013, “fueled by record fourth-quarter attendance” in their parks.

I M P E R I A L B E A C H

Poodle mix jaw ripped out, front teeth gone

Ban pit bulls on beach?

A lifelong lover of dogs who says she lives in fear of them now is asking the Imperial Beach City Council to ban pit bulls along the shoreline.

Caesarina Kelley planned to present a petition of some 50 names to the council at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 15. Kelley, her daughter, and a four-year-old poodle mix named Simon that her daughter owns, tussled with a pit bull on the beach on December 22. Both women and Simon required emergency care.

The incident took place around noontime on a stretch of beach near a jetty where the borders blur between the cities of Imperial Beach and Coronado. A naval communications installation nicknamed “the elephant cage” is nearby, as is the YMCA Surf Camp. Especially in the off-season, dogs are often seen running free on this section of beach.

As Kelley recalls, Simon was unleashed, chasing balls of kelp around, when it approached a dachshund and a pit bull, both being held on leashes by a woman on the beach. The pit bull also wore a muzzle. Other unleashed dogs joined the get-together.

As Simon sniffed around, the pit strained at its leash, broke free, somehow shook off the muzzle, and went for the poodle, which wound up between its jaws. Kelley said her daughter forced her knee onto the pit bull’s neck while, with Kelley’s help, she dragged the dog into the water up to its head, where it let go of the poodle. Simon lost several teeth while trying to break free of the dog’s jaws.

Animal-control officers paid visits to the owners of both Simon and the pit bull the next day. Later, authorities ordered the pit owner to write a story for us. Follow the easy steps.

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8. Are blood tests accurate?
9. Marijuana or Drug DUI?
10. Why hire a DUI lawyer now?

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ALLEGED MASTERMINDS BEHIND NORTH PARK-BASED SEX-TRAFFICKING RING RELEASE HIT SINGLE TO RAISE MONEY FOR DEFENSE.

KEEPIN’ IT REAL IN NORTH PARK — On January 8, U.S. attorney Laura Duffy unsealed federal indictments against 24 defendants, alleged members of a sex-trafficking ring based out of San Diego. The alleged crimes took place nationwide, in 46 cities across 23 states, and involved a wide array of abuses against the (frequently underage) women being trafficked. If you want to know exactly what those alleged crimes were, all you have to do is pony up the $5 to purchase “North Park Trappin’,” a rap single released on January 9 by the defendants themselves. All proceeds from the single go to support the defendants’ legal costs. However, SD on the QT has managed to obtain an excerpt from the song’s lyrics, for those who might not wish to contribute to the Black MOB/Skanless Legal Defense Fund.

Grant Minzy, a local blogger who covers San Diego bands, says he understands why some people might find the song objectionable. But he stresses that, ultimately, it’s a work of art and should be judged according to its own merits, regardless of the alleged character flaws of its creators. “I’m not saying I think it’s okay to kidnap underage girls and force them into a life of sex work,” says Minzy. “I’m just saying it’s a really cool song — I love the way they reference the old TV show Rawhide — and it gives an honest depiction of the group’s struggles to make it in today’s world. Mad cred, yo. I mean, I’m a white guy with a college degree — who am I to judge? And besides, this thing is nationwide. Good or bad, San Diego is on the map. Maybe now, we’ll get some respect.”

As of press time, it was unclear whether or not the prosecution would attempt to treat the song as a confession. “They didn’t even change the names,” marveled Duffy. “It’s like they just read the indictment, laid down a beat, and made it rhyme. I just…I don’t even know anymore.”

To date, BMS’s single “North Park Trappin’” has raised over $500,000 for the accused.
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I t was the best of times, it was the worst of times… Super Bowl 48 will be played in the $1.6 billion MetLife Stadium, which is nestled within the romantic confines of East Rutherford, New Jersey. According to the New York/New Jersey Super Bowl Host Committee, the February 2 Super Bowl will be the most expensive ever played. The committee will spend $70 million putting on a 60-minute football game plus miscellaneous activities. Said activities include closing Broadway, literally shutting down the heart of NYC, for 13 blocks. The stretch from Times Square to Herald Square will be closed to traffic from noon until 10 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. The roadway will be renamed Super Bowl Boulevard and a giant pop-up shopping mall will rise from its hallowed asphalt. The mall will provide opportunities to shop for Super Bowl gear, watch NFL propaganda films, stand, hat in hand, before the Vince Lombardi Trophy, and meet “trained tourism professionals who can provide suggestions on everything from restaurants in the area to must-see sights in NYC’s outer boroughs.”

Super Bowl Boulevard, more than any other detail, gives you an idea how big the Super Bowl has become. Can you imagine any other event, from inaugurating a president, to burying a president, to celebrating the end of World War II, that would have the juice to shut down NYC’s outer boroughs?

But why hassle flying to the East Coast? Instead, take an easy freeway drive to Las Vegas, hie thee to the Wynn Encore hotel and its Surrender Nightclub. For $35,000 you get a table that seats up to 20 people. This is only the beginning. With all that liquid magic, who needs food? With all that high will surround MetLife Stadium. There will be ‘welcome pavilions’ containing 130 metal detectors placed just outside those fences. Fans will have their tickets scanned and go through security on game day. During the week leading up to the game, train and bus stations will have more screening, a 300-foot barrier and lock-down zone will be established around the stadium, and every vehicle entering the stadium property will be searched.”

Newspapers are pulling reporters from local city halls because they can’t afford to keep even one lousy journalist onsite. There are more than 5000 credentialed media covering Super Bowl 48. The 5000 number is what got through the maze and received their credential. Twenty thousand people applied for credentials, the FBI ran a background check on every one of them. You know you’re spending your money right when you buy a ticket to the Super Bowl and then watch the game on TV. Regard “Fandeavor, the Gameday Experience Company.” For $17,995 per person, you get “The Green Room Experience.” “The Green Room is the best experience inside the stadium. This ultra-exclusive lounge features an inclusive premium bar, inclusive upscale food, and a private area equipped with multiple flat screens to watch the game....”

But why hassle flying to the East Coast? Instead, take an easy freeway drive to Las Vegas, hie thee to the Wynn Encore hotel and its Surrender Nightclub. For $35,000 you get a table that seats up to 20 people. This is only the beginning. You also get four complimentary bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers. It’s tacky to ask how many table mixers you get or what’s in the four bottles with table mixers.
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<tr>
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<td>Yes</td>
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<td>Will your exam, surgery and follow-up care be provided by the same doctor?</td>
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<td>Do they use the new “Iris Registration Tracking Device” for a safer, more effective procedure?</td>
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Yes, this is our New Year’s resolution,” said my husband Patrick, looking up from his book.

“Let’s hear it,” I answered, half listening as I Instagrammed.

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.”

“It’s from John Muir, and he is spot-on,” Patrick said. “Work your magic, Evie, and find some beautiful walks in San Diego. Some place where nature’s peace will flow into us as sunshine flows into trees.”

“Every morning we walk,” offered Lissa, “and our favorite walk is our Thursday route — through Harry Griffen Park from the Blackstone Avenue entrance, past the dog park, and then down along one of the nature trails. Beautiful lemony smell in the air in the early mornings, hawks wheeling, sometimes a great blue heron standing in the middle of the grass. We meander the trails and then leave the park via the Poppy Street gate.”

“San Clemente Canyon, Marian Bear Memorial Park,” said Katie. “At the intersection of Genesee and the 52 freeway for parking, the walk is a rustic dirt path which goes almost all the way from the 805 to the 5 along the 52. During the winter months, the creek is running. It’s a bit of a mountain-getaway feeling if you ignore the freeway noise.”

“I love driving over the Coronado Bridge,” offered Lissa. “I don’t take nice walks,” said Bernice, “I take deep breaths and drink in the voices.” (Fees for entry to Santee Lake: $3 per vehicle on weekdays; $5 per vehicle on weekends and holidays.)

Cherie walks Carlsbad beach from Harbor Fish Café south to the end of the path. “I also enjoy the walk from San Diego Maritime Museum to Seaport Village. And walking by Lake Hodges or the trails on Black Mountain.”

“Our teens like going over Cowles Mountain from Big Rock Park in Santee to the San Carlos side,” answered Peter. “Something about going up and over a mountain is exhilarating.”

“I love hiking around Miramar Lake,” said Mariana. “It’s a five-mile loop, so the scenery is not repetitive. The road winds and has light hills, so it keeps it interesting as opposed to a boring straight road.”

“I used to think that Balboa Park was only about the architecture and the museums,” added Mariana. “But on the northwest corner of the park, I discovered a map of all the trails around the park. Flat, nice leisurely hiking trails with different hill difficulties. I’ve been doing them for a year, and I have yet to discover all of them!”

“Plus it’s great people-watching as well.” “I don’t take nice walks,” said Bernice, “when I want a real butt workout, and I don’t mean that in a dirty way, then I’m walking the Mount Nebo stairs in La Mesa. I call them the Endless Stairs of Moria. I go up and down twice, and it really gets my heart pumping. Or I head up to the amphitheater on the top of Mount Helix and tread up and down those stairs. There are always nice views and a breeze at the top.”

“Let’s hear it,” I answered, half listening as I Instagrammed.

“Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves.”

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for a party dubbed “El Futuro,” the Tijuana-modern house situated above the Caliente greyhound track felt perfect. The façade’s dominant feature — a series of angled mirror-windows — echoed the outside swath of streetlights and partygoers in warped, otherworldly segments that self-morphed like an ominous mushroom vision.

Accordingly, the all-night electronic exposé saw sets from Tijuana luminaries, such as members of Los Macuanos, Santos, and María y José — all ambassadors of the city’s “ruidosón movement.”

As much an augury of Tijuana’s bleak future as it is a meditation on the broken promises of an industrialized maquiladora-polis, ruidosón is a post narco-war retort to the optimistic anthems of Nortec Collective.

Where Nortec warmed the gut like a shot of electric mezcal, ruidosón is a portentous bellyful of eclectic mescaline. Suspicion and doom lurk beneath every beat.

“Tijuana makes me paranoid, but there’s a pulse beneath the pandemonium.”

Ruidosón is dystopia you can dance to. It’s prophecy. I’m the fucking Machiavelli of ruidosón.”

Even so, Gallardo is quick to admit, “I’m not the greatest producer of ruidosón. Siete Catorce is. He’s a fucking genius. I’m just the prophet.”

By now it’s around 5:30 a.m. and the police want us to turn the sound off. Instead, TJ ambient beat trio Siberium turns it down and we make the best of the pre-dawn disarray.

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“I had to fight for my attention from my family,” he says, “and playing sports is what gave me their attention.”
As Theo Tucker crosses the campus at Morse High School in track pants and a backward-facing ball cap, female students greet him with hugs or quiet stares, and male students offer fist bumps and chin nods.

The 21-year-old responds in kind, returning the hugs and fist bumps as he passes, waving occasionally, and once admonishing a young man to remove the red bandanna he has tied around his head. The kid laughs and takes off the bandanna. Apparently, two years after his own graduation, Tucker still has some pull around here.

Five minutes later, we’re sitting on the bleachers overlooking the football field on this colder-than-expected day. A physical education class of mostly reluctant runners makes its way around the track. Of all the places in San Diego he could have chosen for our conversation, this is where Tucker, a former defensive end/tight end for the Morse Tigers says he feels most at home.

“I have a history of just taking my mind off things at [this] school,” he says of this choice for our meeting location.

He grew up six blocks from here, in the neighborhood of Skyline. Most of the Pop Warner teams he played on as a child held their games here. And although construction of the school’s track and field forced the football team to play all their games away from home during Tucker’s senior year, he spent more time here than anywhere else during the most promising period in his life so far.

At the beginning of the year, September 2010, Tucker had football scholarship offers from a handful of Division 2 schools around the country, mostly on the East Coast, one for a full-ride. He played “both sides of the ball” (offense and defense) as well as special teams and was what he now calls “a primary factor” on the team. That season, he had three sacks in the first three games and a touchdown in the fourth. The fourth of five boys in his family, he was on his way to becoming the first of his siblings to graduate from high school and go to college. His year was looking good. Until...

“I lost every last [scholarship] due to one night,” he says mysteriously.

Rather than explaining further, he folds his arms across his chest and stares out across the field. I sense it’s too early in our conversation to probe, so I ask instead about his family.

“I don’t know if you can tell by the look on my face,” he says, turning briefly to look at me, “but I really don’t want to talk about my family.”

But immediately after this statement, he turns back to the field and launches into a series of stories about his childhood and family life in Skyline, where he, his brothers, and his mother lived with his grandfather.

“My family wasn’t what you call a family. I was always the one that was
pushed to the side. I was the one that was abused. I was the one that was left alone,” he says, punctuating the statement with a laugh.

While the P.E. stragglers make their final lap around the newly renovated track, Tucker paints a sad picture of himself walking home alone, sometimes for hours if his football practice or games were held in other neighborhoods. He tells the story about when his mother left alone, "I was the one that was pushed to the side. I was left alone," he says, "and coaches became my family to me." he says, "especially high-school coaches. I stay in contact with all of them. Even though some of them are not at district schools, I stay in contact with them. I see them as family."

Mom
I meet the kingpin of those teachers and supporters on the day after Thanksgiving. Her name is Heidi Selman, and she’s an academic coach for the football and basketball programs at Morse. When speaking of Selman, Tucker refers to her as his godmother, but when speaking to her, he calls her “Mom.”

“I can’t remember the last time he called me anything else,” Selman says from across the large dining-room table in her Spring Valley home. The room’s sliding-glass door overlooks what Selman calls her “million-dollar view on a Spring Valley budget.”

Although it’s past noon, Tucker sleeps on a sofa in the nearby living room.

Selman met Tucker in his freshman year but had heard of him before that.

“The [football] coach would tell a story about him and another player,” she says. “All eighth-grade year, they wanted to come to practice, they wanted to come to practice, and the coach said, ‘You can’t practice until you graduate.’ So, the day they graduated from eighth grade, they basically left their graduation ceremony and ran to the football field in their suits and everything so they could practice that day.”

Later, during the summer bridge program for incoming freshmen, Tucker brought attention to himself by defying a teacher who wouldn’t let him leave the classroom by jumping out a window in order to make it to football practice.

“I think I first got to really talk to him when we took the freshmen team to Magic Mountain for a day. We were all on the bus,” she says. “One of the last seats was by me, so he got stuck sitting by me. But just talked the whole time about football and Pop Warner, and he didn’t seem to care.”

After practices, Selman and other coaches would drive players home if they needed a ride. Tucker lived on Selman’s way home, so he often rode with her. By the time his grandfather passed away around Christmas of freshman year, they were already close, and he claimed her as his godmother.

“I think he first introduced me as his godmother at his grandfather’s funeral,” she says. “Me and a lot of coaches went to the funeral, and we’ve all kind of taken him under our wings since then.”

Over the next four years, Selman continued getting to know (and bonding with) Tucker, serving often as his confidant and sometimes playing a parental role.

“Please remember we got into a big argument one summer because I told him he needed to do summer school to make up some Ds, and he was just dead-set against it because he wanted a break and wanted to do probably something sports-related instead.”

It was her job to help him succeed academically, but Selman also kept up with what Tucker did on the field. He wasn’t the superstar
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**Participants receive all study related**
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- Medication, labs, and exams at no cost at
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A 9-month clinical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for women with fibroid tumors of the uterus with heavy periods who want an alternative to surgery.

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- Study-related labs, EKG, Ultrasound, DEXA bone scan, and study medication
- Compensation to $900.00 for time and travel

**To possibly qualify for the study:**
- Women, 20 years of age and older
- Must have a history of fibroid tumors of the uterus
- Periods must be heavy and occurring every 24-35 days

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of the team, she says, but he was right up there at the top. “They’d run a mile before practice,” Selman recalls, “and usually you have your wide receivers and your running backs out in front of everybody, and then you’d have your bigger but stronger guys, like your tight ends, safeties, linebackers, and then your linemen, barely walking. Theo should have been somewhere in the middle of the pack, but he would almost lap out ahead of the guys that were running the four-by-four for our track team. He just had that combination of power and speed.”

And then everything changed
Back at the field, Tucker eventually winds his way around to telling me about “the thing that happened.”

It was late at night, in the week prior to the fifth game of the season against traditional power Helix High School. Tucker heard a sound in his family home. When he went to investigate, he noticed that the living-room window was wide open and the blinds were torn off. At first he didn’t see anyone, but he could sense someone was there. And although some part of him knew better, he entered the living room to check it out.

In retelling the story to me, he laughs at himself in retrospect and mimics shouting “Don’t do it” at the movie screen the way we all do when the person on screen is about to do something stupid. “But something told me just go ahead and investigate. I’m, like, Turn around. Investigate. Turn around. Investigate.”

Tucker took two steps in and was body slammed. All he knew was that his attacker wore a hoodie, maybe a mask, because he can’t remember seeing a face. The struggle was intense, and Tucker tried to strangle the intruder. At one point, the man in the hoodie got away and leapt out the open window.

Tucker ran out the front door and “The Match,” as he calls it, went from the living room out to the driveway. And that’s all he remembers. He would later discover that the attacker had stabbed him four times: once on the right side of his face near his jaw bone; once in the back; once in his chest, which punctured and collapsed a lung; and in his left thigh, which severed the femoral artery.

Selman found out about the incident within hours. “I always have the news on when I wake up in the morning, and they were already covering the story of a stabbing on Skyline. It was still probably 5:30 or earlier in the morning,” she says. “I knew the area exactly where they were talking about, and I knew it was right by his house.”

When she received a call from Tucker’s girlfriend just before 6:00 that morning, she knew the news story had something to do with him. “It was really, really, really, bad,” she says. “They basically found him in a pool of blood in his driveway.”

Recovering from Opiate Dependence?
Medical researchers at USCD are currently conducting a study to evaluate how an investigational drug impacts symptoms during short- and long term recovery from opiate dependence. There are up to 4 total study visits. The study drug will be compared to placebo. Eligible participants must be:

- Males age 18 or older
- Free from drugs of abuse for at least two weeks (participants may be currently using Suboxone, Methadone, or other prescribed opiate agonists)

All study procedures will be provided at no cost to the participants. Eligible participants will also receive up to $200 compensation for their time and travel.

For more information please call: (866) 550-UCSD

Do you or someone you know have Schizophrenia?
UCSD medical researcher Dr. David Feigel, MD, PhD is currently conducting a clinical research study to evaluate an investigational drug for the treatment of schizophrenia. Participants will receive either study drug or placebo during the course of this 6 week inpatient study.

Participants who complete the study are eligible for up to 3 months of follow-up medication treatment at no cost while continuing to see the UCSD study doctors.

Study-related medical and psychological evaluations and study drug will be provided at no cost. Eligible participants will also be reimbursed for time travel.

For more information please call: (858) 836-8350

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

Eligible participants will receive all study-related care at no cost, and may be reimbursed for time and travel.

Participation is confidential and trials are safely conducted under the supervision of experienced physicians and research specialists.

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If you’re being treated for bipolar I disorder and still feeling depressed, you may qualify to take part in a clinical research study. If enrolled, you will receive:
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• Compensation may be available for your time and travel
To qualify you must: Be 18–75 years old Take medication for Bipolar I disorder

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• Have a fever of at least 100.4˚F (if over 65 years of age, at least 100.0˚F)
• Be between 18 and 80 years of age

To learn more about the FAVOR study, please visit [www.favorflustudy.com](http://www.favorflustudy.com) or contact: 877-500-3788

Pain Medication Making You Feel Blocked Up?

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To learn more about this study, please visit or call toll free to see if you qualify [1-855-DoStudies](tel:1-855-DoStudies) (1-855-367-8834) www.DoStudies.com

Scottish triathlete Lesley Paterson wondered if “this big guy who’s all muscle-y” would respect her.

Drinking too much? We want to help you stop!

Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop treatments to help you quit drinking. This 12-week program involves medication.

Today, Tucker has almost one year’s worth of college credits under his belt — some from Mesa and some from City College. But when

The only thing he cared about was getting back to playing football,” Selman says. “The whole time he was in the hospital, he was doing stuff before he was supposed to, getting up, walking around, way before they were saying he should.

As much as he wanted to resume his old life, however, Tucker wasn’t the same. He did play in the last four games of that season, but he had a newfound fear of sprinting because of the pain in his lungs and his leg. Aside from the pain, he was also more vulnerable in collisions on the field.

“Tucker lost 60 pounds over the next month. (“You know how hard it is to go on a bland diet as a young high school kid?” he laughs.) But he got back out on the football field as soon as he was able.

The only thing he cared about was getting back to playing football,” Selman says. “The whole time he was in the hospital, he was doing stuff before he was supposed to, getting up, walking around, way before they were saying he should. But he pushes himself like that. He always has. He beat the odds, but we had hoped for more.”

Today, Tucker has almost one year’s worth of college credits under his belt — some from Mesa and some from City College. But when
his family lost the house he grew up in and he was left to make his own way in the world, he ended up dropping out for a semester. For a few months, he and his girlfriend rented a room in a family home in Skyline, but the family moved away right around the time he and his girlfriend broke up, and now he’s on the couch at Selman’s.

He hasn’t been on the football field in two years.

“The thing that happened with his brother in the middle of football season of his senior year kind of put a damper on [his future plans],” Selman says. “I mean, we hoped for more, but with everything he’d been through, [Theo] beat the odds just by graduating and surviving it all.”

These days, even if he were in school, he says he wouldn’t have time for football. He’s working 60–70 hours a week, half doing day-to-night hours at Charlotte Russe in the Chula Vista Mall, and the other half doing the graveyard shift at a downtown McDonald’s. That, plus up to four hours of travel time per day. To get to work from Selman’s, he has to walk a mile to the bus stop where he takes the 856 to the Lemon Grove trolley stop and then rides the trolley to 12th and Imperial. If he’s going to Charlotte Russe, he then hops on the Blue Line to the H Street stop in Chula Vista, from where he can either walk or take the 705 bus to the mall. It’s as much as two hours each way.

“He’s overwhelmed,” Selman says. “He’s on his own. He was working three jobs. He’s working two right now. And he’s just trying to get on his feet for the most part.”

The Scottish bird and the muscle-y guy. In the spring of 2013, Heidi Selman received a call from her longtime friend, Lesley Paterson, the petite but hard-core two-time winner (2011 and 2012) of the XTerra World Championship Triathlon (she came in second in 2013). Selman, once an avid cyclist, has known the now-big-time triathlete since 2003, when Paterson married Selman’s cycling coach, Simon Marshall. The “Scots- tish lassie and f-bomb dropper” (Paterson’s own description) called Selman seeking referrals for disadvantaged young adults who might be interested in participating in her first Braveheart Bootcamp, a weeklong triathlon camp for beginners.

Selman thought immediately of Tucker because he’s “the type who likes to do things that people wouldn’t expect him to do,” and because she knew he’d follow through.

“It was just to give him a new experience, and I knew it would be something positive for him,” she says. “And I
knew that he’d be meeting some quality people and making some connections that could help him.”

What Tucker remembers from the initial conversation he had with Selman about the camp was that it was run by a professional athlete. Besides that, only one other thing stood out. “She’s, like, ‘It’s cycling, running, and swimming stuff,’” he says. “And I’m, like, ‘I don’t swim.’” But he applied anyway.

It was in that application packet that Scotland-born-and-raised Paterson got her first impression of Tucker. “We asked them to send in a picture with their application, and his picture was of him in the gym, holding the camera up in a sort of pose,” she tells me in the living room of her Point Loma condo. “And I thought, This guy’s super cocky and arrogant. This might be interesting. You know, this little white Scottish bird coaching this big guy who’s all muscle-y. I wondered if he would respect me.”

A few weeks later, on July 22nd, he showed up for his first day of camp. “On the very first day we met, he called me ‘Coach’ right off the bat,” she says. “From that point on, it was all about trying to impress me.”

Tucker admits that his first thought on meeting Paterson was, “I will burn her in a foot race.” On that first day, in July 2013, Paterson and her crew (many of whom are her coaching clients through her Braveheart fitness coaching for triathletes) passed out swag bags filled with everything they’d need to start participating in triathlons. Her sponsors helped her provide the campers with bikes, wet suits, running shoes, nutrition bars, waterproof MP3 players, action cameras, sunglasses, running visors, goggles, cycling kits, and, in Tucker’s words, “water bottles out the butt. She was, like, ‘One thing you will become best friends with if you continue this career is water. Water is your life.’”

Tucker was hyped about the $5000 worth of gear Paterson provided, but he was also moved by the personal touches. “One of the funniest things, which was kind
We are conducting a clinical study of an investigational medication to see if it helps reduce weight gain in Schizophrenia.

To pre-qualify for this study, you must be:
• Between 18 and 50 years of age
• Diagnosed with schizophrenia and currently stable

All study-related visits, tests, and medications will be provided to participants at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for study-related travel may be provided.

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Paterson was impressed with Tucker, but it wasn’t his football-player muscles or his speed so much as his willingness to push himself that made him stand out to her.

"[On day two] we were doing these hill repeats, and it’s probably a 21 percent grade climb. It’s brutal. To just get up it, you’re dying,” she says. “He pushed so hard, like I’ve never seen anyone push.”

Paterson’s initial idea for starting the Braveheart Bootcamp was, “Wouldn’t it be cool if I could go out and do a camp for some kids or some young adults that are in those challenging times of their lives that they’re trying to discover themselves, and help them in some way?”

For the final day of the camp, Paterson arranged a mini triathlon at Glorietta Bay. It included approximate distances of a quarter-mile swim, a nine-mile bike ride, and a three-mile run. It was the first time Tucker had ever swum unassisted in open water, and Paterson assigned one of her coaching clients to be his swimming buddy.

"She had to really stay with him," Paterson says. “He had to swim on his back, he had to really take his time, and he kind of got in a bit of a panic during the swim. He’s so unfamiliar with that sense of being out of his depth that

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"She had to really stay with him," Paterson says. “He had to swim on his back, he had to really take his time, and he kind of got in a bit of a panic during the swim. He’s so unfamiliar

of cool and made me see this lady is a family person, she actually put her mom’s shortbread cookies [in the bag],” he says.

The week consisted of basic instruction (how to use a wetsuit and adjust the gears on the bike), training (running drills, an open-water swim, swim-to-bike transition practice) all over San Diego, dinner and lunch, and daily guest speakers discussing nutrition and goal setting. They trained on bikes around Fiesta Island, in the pool at the Coggan Family Aquatic Complex in La Jolla, did hill repeats in East County, and boot-camp strength workouts on the grass at Ventura Cove.

“That one week felt like a year,” Tucker says.

Paterson was impressed with Tucker, but it wasn’t his football-player muscles or his speed so much as his willingness to push himself that made him stand out to her.
Medical research study is underway to evaluate an oral investigational medication for chronic constipation. If you have infrequent bowel movements, straining, and not feeling empty when you do have a bowel movement, you may qualify for this study.

To possibly qualify for the study:
1) Male or female, 18-80 years of age
2) History of infrequent bowel movements, straining, and hard stool
3) Not taking medications which may cause constipation

Participants may receive all study-related:
1) Exam and consultation with a board-certified physician
2) Labs, ekg, colonoscopy (if over 50 and not had one in previous 5 years), and study medication at no cost
3) Compensation up to $450.00, for time and travel

Have you been diagnosed with Peripheral Arterial Disease?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study.

You may be eligible if you are:
1. Age 50 years of age or older
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Qualified participants will be asked to provide information regarding their vaccination history and will be provided compensation for donating blood.

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that. It’s, like, Oh, shit, I’m supposed to be the athlete. Why can I not master this?”

Selman came to watch the mini triathlon and remembers it the same way.

“It was weird seeing him not excel at something, because when it comes to the sports he’s used to, he’s always at the top. It was hard for him,” she says.

The transportation system is shit
A week hardly seems long enough to hope for much more than a finish for beginning triathletes, especially those who start it stating, “I don’t swim.” And when I bring this up to Paterson, she agrees that a week is not ideal. “The goal was really to find out about the lives of the campers and how we can help facilitate you in your growth,” she says.

Early on in the camp, she realized that transportation is a huge obstacle not only for participation in the sport but also participation in out-of-the-way internships and other opportunities.

To that end, she’s now on the hunt for a car or rental-car sponsor so that the next time she holds the camp (she’s planning to do it every 18 months or so), she can offer some of the participants as much as a year’s worth of access to transportation.

Another obstacle Paterson says showed up in some of the participants is their own frustrating patterns of behavior.

“You know, when someone calls you, you call them back,” she says. “And Theo was the best of them, but he still has moments.”

She gives an example of a recent post-camp trip to visit Gordon Ramsay’s Hell’s Kitchen TV show. The camp participants had known about it for weeks, and Tucker knew when and where to be to catch the van up to Los Angeles. But an hour or so before the group was scheduled to leave, Tucker called and asked if someone would come get him.

Paterson found the experience frustrating.

“You’re just, like, ‘Theo, buddy, come on. We gave you all the information. Why didn’t you just follow through?’

Wow. That’s Theo Tucker’s story doesn’t have the kind of big, triumphant Hollywood ending that we all hope for. In October, he participated in the Mission Bay Triathlon, a sprint-distance race that included a ¼K swim (again with a swimming buddy in the water beside him), a 15K bike ride, and a 5K run.

“It was beautiful,” he says. “I mean, it hurt. While I was running, my calves were on fire, and I thought I was done. I just stopped. But out of the blue, six people who didn’t even know who I was and didn’t even know each other were, like, ‘Come on. You got this. Please don’t quit. We’ll jog with you. I’m, like, ‘Wow. Who’s paying you? Where are the cameras?’”

He has also signed up for spring semester classes at City College, working toward a degree in physiotherapy. But he’s still struggling with the idea of how he’ll be able to manage school, bills, two jobs, and a practice schedule should the opportunity to play football arise again.

When I ask if he fears the idea that his glory days are behind him, he hesitates for a moment before he says, “Yes, I do. I like to hear those oohs and those aahhs. I mean, I’m not out there raising my hands and showing off or anything.
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but my thing is, I’m looking at you looking at me.”

He pauses, and for a moment I think he’s going to go on to explain how and why he fears it. But instead, he says, “Everything dies eventually. There’s going to be a time when — who knows? — two years from now, when I can walk up to Morse and everything about my history, everything that I’ve ever done is gone, and no one ever knows.”

Before we part ways, I take a chance and ask Tucker about the crisscross of cuts on his wrist. He tries to pass them off as the result of an incident with a cat. Twice. But then he relents, says, “Yeah, they’re not from a cat” and tells me the story of his newly estranged together-since-freshman-year girlfriend that he just couldn’t seem to make happy.

No, not everything has gone Tucker’s way. But the triathlon camp did give him new ideas to mull over. “I won’t say football is [over] for me, but I can’t play football forever,” he says reluctantly. “But you can kind of be a triathlete forever. There are some people out there that are pretty high in age, but they’re still kicking like they’re my age.”

For now, he keeps up with the biking a couple of times a week, swims at the MLK pool once or twice every two weeks, and runs hard for at least a mile every day. He keeps his eyes downcast as he confesses that it’s not the several hours a day that he needs to stay in on-the-field shape or to participate in another triathlon, and I’m reminded of something Paterson said: “He’s so desperate to find his sporting identity again. It’s such a huge thing that he lost.”

And at the same time, sitting next to him, able to see his scars up close, and to hear his laughter in person, it’s impossible for me not to be swept up in his optimism.

“I’m trying to set new goals,” he says, “and basically perform to make people say, ‘Wow. That’s Theo Tucker.’”

As for happy endings, Selman says, “He’s too strong-willed not to have it happen. We’ll just have to see what it is.”

— Elizabeth Salaam

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CHRIST, NOT NOW. It’s March. I’m at home in San Diego and getting ready to teach my Monday evening class. It’s strange: in the hour prior, I’m hot, sweaty. Constipated. Confused. Breathless, having just lumbered up the stairs to Suzanna’s and my bedroom. The second story — how many times have I done that? I tell myself it’s work, it’s stress, nothing else. I’m out of shape, easily winded. Indeed, for months, I’ve been trudging on the treadmill, a lot slower than usual. But I’m not sick. I’m older. What age? I have to remember. Fifty-six. Driving to class, I’m heating up, rolling down the window for a breeze. At class, I’m no better. I give my flock a writing assignment, which I check, moving from student to student. Ten minutes pass this way. Then I excuse myself — a quick bathroom stint, I think, should dispel this acidic burn in my throat. I lean into the toilet, try to vomit. Nothing. I crap, blow-it-out like bird shit. That’s got it. I rush back to class, wondering what’s happening? I don’t know. I do know I don’t want to suffer in the way I’m suffering right now. How will I make it through the next three hours? I’ve never left in the middle of a class, and only twice in 15 years have I canceled — the day my mother died and the day one of my twin sons left home, leaving a cryptic note that terrified Suzanna and me. I rationalize it — tonight’s lesson needs completing. It’s amateurish to postpone the work. Maybe I can do ten minutes on each essay we’ve read and let them go. From my notes, I outline on the board the writing strategies in each piece. And here it gets strange. The taste of reflux soils my mouth. I feel as though I’ve just plunged off a cliff and halted midair. Afloat, I sense there is no future: however many years are telescoped into these few minutes. Years into minutes. A spiral appears, widens, pinwheels, and sucks me in. I recall how I’ve told students it’s a copout to say, “It felt like an eternity” or “Time dragged on” or “Hours rushed by.” Clichés, I’ve called them. How do you capture trauma, intensity, in words? There’s no other side to this thought. I discuss one essay in two minutes, the next in a minute, the next, in 30 seconds. My words are boggy, slow. Then I hear myself speak — as though I’ve been called on — “I’m afraid I’m not feeling well. I have to leave.” In my bag, I stuff books and papers. My hands sweat. My legs quake. “For next week,” I say — and stop. Everyone is looking at me. “I have to leave.” I’m running. Clothes Off. A nurse takes me to an emergency-room bay. “Symptoms?” she asks. “I think I’m having a heart attack,” I say again. She tells me to get undressed. I’m sitting on the bed, and begin taking my clothes off — peeling, that’s the word. They’ve been stuck on me like a soiled diaper for half an hour. My body is leaking its insides. It’s not the soul coming out, wet and furious. It’s my skin, like packaging, trying to strip itself of the invader. These goddamn clothes nag because they curtain my fat, a lifelong source of shame. For several years I’ve gained weight (again) — in the 1980s, a runner, I was svelte; in the 1990s, I got so sedentary and lazy teaching full-time I put the pounds back on; now, in the 2000s, a full-time writer/
journalist, and I procrastinate getting back in shape, my belly jellying, a midlife bulge pushing me to 220. I hate the weight. I hate unbuttoning the faded pink travel shirt I've worn for years. I hate unclasping the stretchy waistband pants, size 40, all this so pungent, so whiny — I don’t want to see the tumesence over my too-tight underwear: how often I hide behind a T-shirt prior to sex with Suzanna (What sex? It's been months). Why don't I stop worrying? “Stay here,” the nurse says, "I'm coming right back.” As if I'm going anywhere.

Where is the drug to curb or redirect this avalanche?
Where are my saviors?
I put on the gown. To hell with the ties. I get back on the long plastic mat.

An orderly enters, wires me up to the ECG machine, prints out a graph-paper page on which I espy its Himalayan-like peaks and valleys. He hustles out. He returns. With a well-groomed pro, the Doc, in crisply tailored whites, who tells me what I've known now for an hour: “You’re right, Mr. Larson. You’re having a heart attack.”

“I'm Sorry. Is it then that the nurse asks the mandatory questions: my name, my address, my date of birth, my cardiac history (do I say, father, brother, both dead of heart attacks, or the less volatile heart disease?), my symptoms (I'm dizzy, I'm hot, my chest aches.) Have you ever had angina before, a sudden name for the pain that keeps washing through me? Does she lean over next and smirk a tad wickedly and say, “Please try and relax,” and I laugh? Does it happen a minute later that she rifles a medical bag for aspirin and a sublingual nitroglycerin tablet, and asks, almost like an afterthought, who to phone, and I say, Suzanna? While I wait, harried and calmed by the theatrical flurry, the pinging machines, the seismic readouts, you appear, curtain-parting and padding your way up to the bed where I lie and where on your face I see two women, you who are unafraid to approach me, indeed, desire my trouble, and you who are shocked to come any closer.

The nurse asks the mandatory questions: my name, my address, my date of birth, my cardiac history (do I say, father, brother, both dead of heart attacks, or the less volatile heart disease?), my symptoms (I'm dizzy, I'm hot, my chest aches.) Have you ever had angina before, a sudden name for the pain that keeps washing through me? Does she lean over next and smirk a tad wickedly and say, “Please try and relax,” and I laugh? Does it happen a minute later that she rifles a medical bag for aspirin and a sublingual nitroglycerin tablet, and asks, almost like an afterthought, who to phone, and I say, Suzanna? While I wait, harried and calmed by the theatrical flurry, the pinging machines, the seismic readouts, you appear, curtain-parting and padding your way up to the bed where I lie and where on your face I see two women, you who are unafraid to approach me, indeed, desire my trouble, and you who are shocked to come any closer.

To both of you I say, “I’m sorry.”
“Don’t be,” you reply. “But I am.”
“What for?”
Good question. I'm sorry that this dread wants you, as well as me, to bear it.

Don’t Drive Yourself. But I did. My last act of volition. Isn’t that why I’m alive and being helped? I got here lickety-split. For which I think I should receive some credit. Ah, we're dialoguing. I'm out of danger. Indeed, I’m purring and holding onto Suzanna who smiles at the busy, fraught nurse—Suzanna, a psychotherapist, whom I've been with for 17 years (our home offices adjoin), who is

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beside me, which means I will make it. I love her for magically appearing: our eyes (hers, herb-garden hazel; mine, sky blue) lock and promise we’ll work the shock out — and what it means for us — later. She and the nurse are iterating how “right” it was I came in. Though I “could have called an ambulance, you know.” But I was just a mile away, I say. I don’t mention that I knew where the emergency room was because six weeks earlier I had rushed to this hospital, Scripps Green, a half-mile from the beach at La Jolla, when I was half-panicked, a chunk of silicone that I had buried in my ear canal a chunk of silicone that I had buried in my ear canal when I was half-panicked, then that I look up, paused swayed chains — is it aluminum bars like windswayed chains — is it then that I look up, pausing at an electronic door and a passkey pinging it open, and regard again in Suzanna’s frightened look the two women she carries — my tongue, she tells me later, curled out and onto my thin-lipped pucker with some talky intent: in that moment I recognize her double-sourced ache. First, for her grandson born three years ago with a chromosomal defect (lissencephaly) so severe that they fear he will not develop beyond infancy. Second, for her 42, who, just after the boy arrived, with sheathed beaks.” The orphan, abandoned and saved.

The smell of disinfectant and Ajax, the funhouse sound of wheels rubbering the floor, the creaky squeak of the bed’s aluminum bars like windswayed chains — is it then that I look up, pausing at an electronic door and a passkey pinging it open, and regard again in Suzanna’s frightened look the two women she carries — my tongue, she tells me later, curled out and onto my thin-lipped pucker with some talky intent: in that moment I recognize her double-sourced ache. First, for her grandson born three years ago with a chromosomal defect (lissencephaly) so severe that they fear he will not develop beyond infancy. Second, for her son, the boy’s father, now 42, who, just after the boy arrived, was found to have tumors on his throat and spine, little black flags of cancer. On a bookshelf, Suzanna has posted their photos above a candle and incense base. There I have seen her pause — commingling with the heaviness, the helplessness her grief begets.
And now she reaches down to palm my forehead, the heart patient who needs (I’m sorry) son and grandson to move over so he — so I — receive the anxiety and sorrow she renders them.

Unclogged. The cardiologist tells me to watch a monitor as he performs the angioplasty. (His card, which I consult later, reads “interventionist,” a title reminiscent of a medical exorcist or a latter-day shaman.) I’m shaking like I’m freezing. I am freezing and frightened. “Don’t worry,” he says. “We’ve done this a thousand times.” But, I think, not on me. Above my chest he glides the fluoroscope, a Cyclopean eye, projecting real-time images of my arteries. He clicks it on and there, on a screen, is my turbulence, X-rayed within. (All this high-tech jargon, I cobble together weeks after.) He says, “I need you to pay attention. Hold your breath when I say so, okay?” Okay. He tells me he’s puncturing my groin for the catheter. Punct, and for a few hard moments I feel a hose inched in. He says that’s done, and now the dye’s coming. On the screen, my arteries darken and animate. “See them?” Yes, I do. Floating in some gray, groundless landscape, they are pulsing. They jump and jerk. Puppets on sticks. The broad, flat scope above me rotates, tilts, turns, pulls back, repositions, and hastens in close, robotic motion with spasmodic intent. I can’t quite tell whether the image is gyrating, the cath line is wriggling, or the electrical voltage is causing it to shake. (Later, I download a YouTube angioplasty video that shows such quaking is actually the excited beating of a human heart. The flush of rescue.)

“Hold your breath . . . and release.” This is like vivisection: live surgery. I see a squirming strand, like a car being chased, tracked by a night-vision camera, prodding its way through the artery’s narrow passageway. “See the balloon?” Yes. It’s an inflatable little barge, a cowcatcher sweeping away the debris. The balloon unplugs the artery. “Here comes the stent,” he says. “Now hold your breath . . . and . . . and . . . release.” I follow another tunneling in but already I’m feeling something other than breath release itself. Something like the light and the whoosh when a wrecking ball barrels open a building. That’s my artery widened. That’s my blood getting through. That’s me, oxygenating. My body sighs; it need not work so damn hard. “Got it,” the interventionist says. Meaning, he’s placed the stent. (A stent is a pencil-lead-thin expandable wire mesh, made of a chromium alloy 33 millimeters long, 3 millimeters wide. Wedged in there for good.) “Two more to go.” Two more? Holy shit! But it doesn’t matter. He — we’ve — done this a thousand times, and now, include me. I feel revived. I’m back, on track and train. I know I’m back since I turn to see mortality’s depot, its eternity of benches, its ticket-taker asleep. Where I was disembarked. And from which I am yanked back onboard. “Got number two,” he says. And I can hear the train whistle woo-woo, feel the wheels wobble, see the view blur. ■

(This is an excerpt from The Sanctuary of Illness: A Memoir of Heart Disease by longtime San Diego Reader contributor Thomas Larson. The book will be released locally January 26, 2014.)
CITY LIGHTS

Nicolas Marsch
continued from page 3
“absolute bullshit, total bullshit, complete crap.”)

If Florida judges are biased, what about three San Diego judges who didn’t believe him? Marsch criticizes them, too. He says Lennar has spent $100 million “just suing us.” General Motors spent $110 million on its extremely complicated bankruptcy. Lennar’s key lawyer was Daniel Petrocelli of Los Angeles’s O’Melveny & Myers, who handled the wrongful death suit against O.J. Simpson and represented former Enron chief executive Jeffrey Skilling. Petrocelli’s modus operandi is “to wreck our credibility, call you names, put pressure on you in terms of spending.”

Vows Marsch, “This isn’t nearly over. We will appeal the Florida thing.” After a few more words, he hung up on me. I was not able to reach Patricia Marsch.

Responds Petrocelli, “The proof is in the pudding. Every court that has heard Marsch’s story and testimony related to Lennar has concluded that he has been untruthful.” Lennar won’t say how much it has spent on the Marsch, Briarwood, and Minkow cases but admits it has been a bundle because Marsch keeps coming back for more and filing more cases.

Minkow originally went to prison as a young man for pulling a gigantic Ponzi scheme. Then he found religion and was released early and helped government agencies sniff out fraud. In 1997, he was named head pastor of San Diego Community Bible Church, where he was a prodigious fund-raiser and soul-saver. He spent half his time at his Fraud Discovery Institute, which got some fat settlements from companies he exposed — but his errant attack on Lennar was his undoing. Marsch still insists that he and Minkow did not exchange many emails — but courts convincingly say otherwise.

Since 1974, Marsch and his entities have been in courts as plaintiffs or defendants more than 75 times. San Diego attorney Todd Macaluso represented Marsch for three years in the Lennar imbroglio. Marsch suddenly fired him and is now claiming malpractice. Macaluso refuses to comment on the malpractice charge or other aspects of the case.

Contact Don Bauder at 619-546-8529

Under the radar
continued from page 3
businesses, or local, regional, state or federal agencies.” On November 18, port chairwoman Ann Moore of Chula Vista, a partner in the law firm of Norton Moore & Adams, got a $250 admission to the 30th-anniversary bash for the Institute of the Americas. She was joined by fellow commissioner and real estate lawyer Rafael Castellanos, a partner with the firm Solomon Minton Cardinal Doyle & Smith LLP and ex-commissioner Lou Smith.

Conflicted interests
Last year wasn’t the best in the ethics department for the University of California San Diego. The nadir was reached with release of an email by the university after a public records act request. It revealed social science dean Jeff Elman to be discussing the getting of cash from Qualcomm billionaire Irwin Jacobs to pay the professorial salary of ex-Republican assemblyman-turned-Democrat Nathan Fletcher, a one and future candidate for mayor. “Those monies would have to come from development funds (e.g., Friends), or else we’d have to do some laundering,” wrote Elman. “However, my guess is that there are people like Irwin Jacobs and others who have contributed to Fletcher (redacted) and they might be willing to provide these monies — or even more.” Whether or not the disclosure has anything to do with it, UCSD is now looking for a director of conflict of interest. Says a recent job notice: “This position conducts reviews of National Science Foundation and Public Health Service research as well as all privately sponsored research (non-profit, for-profit, etc.) and gifts for early identification and resolution of any issues that could be perceived as a Conflict of Interest.”

— 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
Fewer parolees returning to prison

Excerpt, perhaps, in San Diego
San Diego — New numbers from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on January 15 suggest that fewer prisoners are returning to incarceration after being released.

The state’s 2013 Outcome Evaluation Report looks at the recidivism rate — the proportion of released felons who commit new crimes — over a period of three years. This year’s report, the fourth produced to date, follows ex-cons released in 2008 and 2009.

While the majority of former inmates (61 percent) still find themselves in legal trouble again within three years of being released, that number is down from 63.7 percent last year and 67.5 percent when the study began four years ago.

San Diego County didn’t fare as well as the state overall, reporting that two-thirds of offenders released here wind up back in prison. Of 7148 offenders released in San Diego during the course of the study, 4763...
Fickle
Qualcomm execs lining up for Faulconer

Dave Rice

Downtown — During last fall’s primary election for San Diego mayor, Qualcomm took a lot of heat from the GOP Lincoln Club for backing Republican-turned-Democrat Nathan Fletcher for mayor.

The volley of hit pieces against Qualcomm executive and onetime state assemblyman Fletcher grew so intense that the company’s then-CEO Paul Jacobs felt compelled to fire off a letter to Lincoln Club president Bill Lynch, saying he was “outraged” over accusations made by the club that Fletcher had been given a “no show” sinecure by the cell-phone giant.

Despite the best financial efforts of Jacobs and his father, Qualcomm founder Irwin Jacobs, a multimillion dollar backer of Barack Obama, Fletcher went down to a third-place defeat in November. Steve Mollenkopf has since replaced Paul Jacobs as CEO.

After his defeat, Fletcher vowed to throw his support to Democratic city councilman David Alvarez, who placed second behind GOP councilman Kevin Faulconer, the Lincoln Club’s candidate.

Though Fletcher has since made a personal contribution of $1000 to Alvarez, his backers at Qualcomm have been lining up exclusively behind Faulconer, according to a lobbying disclosure statement filed by the company on January 15.

Covering the final three months of last year, the disclosure reveals that Qualcomm public affairs vice president Christine Trimble and the company’s governmental affairs manager Monique Rodriguez headed up a December 12 fundraising reception for Faulconer that generated $18,975.

According to its lobbying report, the company has a busy agenda at city hall, backing a giant Qualcomm “campus expansion” and “monitoring” the city council’s actions regarding adoption of the so-called linkage fee, a low-income-housing subsidy program that is currently the subject of a referendum drive by Faulconer backers, including the local chamber of commerce led by ex-mayor Sanders.

Matt Potter

Slave sold for $8000
Local couple among defendants in lawsuit

San Diego — An area couple, Rim and Tarik Alahmad, are defendants in a lawsuit brought forth by an Indonesian woman who claimed she was enslaved for 13 years in the United States. The suit was filed January 13 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, federal court.

Members of the Harrisburg family who allegedly enslaved her have already been tried, found guilty, and sentenced by the federal government for transporting and harboring illegal aliens.

The plaintiff in the civil suit is Peddu Pattaiso, who cannot read or write the Indonesian or English languages. She was recruited in Indonesia to come work in the United States under a visa that was not applicable for the work she did, according to the U.S. attorney’s office in Harrisburg.

Pattaiso was sold to several families, who had her doing domestic work, paying far lower than the minimum wage, charges the suit. In early 2010, her Harrisburg captors allegedly sold her services to the Alahmads for $8000. Pattaiso received none of that money, she claims.

At the Alahmad home, Pattaiso says she was confined to a small shed at the rear of the house. For 16 months, she worked as a domestic servant and child caretaker. She was paid
Silberman clan backs Alvarez

At least some rich Dems stay loyal
San Diego — The son and daughter-in-law of Richard Silberman, the fallen San Diego financier who was once a powerful advisor to Democratic governor Jerry Brown, have cast their lot with Brown’s fellow Democrat, city councilman David Alvarez, in the race for San Diego mayor.

Jeffery Silberman and wife Karen each kicked in the maximum $1000 individual contribution allowed by law on January 13, according to a disclosure statement posted online by the city clerk’s office. She is an heir to the Foster family real-estate fortune, the holding company for which, Carleton Management, Inc., is run by her husband.

Her sister, retired superior-court judge Lisa Foster, is married to onetime San Diego city schools chief and teachers’ union foe Alan Bersin, currently assistant secretary of international affairs and chief diplomatic officer in the Obama administration’s Department of Homeland Security.

Matt Potter

Beer is beer

Bloody fight goes to court
San Marcos — “This is a mess,” said judge Harry Elias, commenting on a bloody street fight that happened last October in San Marcos; the matter came before his court January 14.

The alleged victim, Elvis Gonzalez, claimed that he was struck in the head by a man who had tried to open the passenger-side door of his mini-van while it was parked outside his home. (Gonzalez said he has tinted windows on his van.) Gonzalez said he got out of his van to ask, “What are you thinking?” But when he turned his back, Gonzalez said, “I got struck with something.”

The man accused of felony assault, Jesse David Rodriguez, 29, claimed he accidentally approached the wrong vehicle at the curb. When he realized his error, he said he backed up and apologized but was attacked.

Rodriguez came out of a home on the 200 block of Avenida de Suerte after 9 p.m. on October 17, 2013. Rodriguez was looking for a woman who was supposed to pick him up; it would be their first date. But the woman apparently had already come and gone from the residential cul-de-sac, according to testimony. The woman was approached by Gonzalez and found him so “weird” that she drove away, according to a deputy’s report. She never saw Gonzalez.

Gonzalez confirmed that he had been drinking, “I was buzzin’ [but] I wasn’t drunk-drank.” He told the judge he had consumed a 40-ounce bottle of Hurricane Malt Liquor. “Beer is beer, basically.”

Eva Knott

Good-bye, Happy Days

Helen Copley foundation continues downward spiral
Mission Beach — The mystery of who will end up with millions of dollars in cash from the late David Copley’s estate continues, with the latest annual IRS filing of his mother’s foundation shedding no light. According to the document, dated August 30 of last year, the total net assets of the Helen K. and James S. Copley Foundation were down to $5,265,370 at the end of 2012.

Copley, the troubled scion of a declining newspaper family, died in a one-car crash in La Jolla after suffering a heart attack on November 20, 2012, at the age of 60. He had previously sold off the remains of the struggling newspaper empire left to him by his mother Helen, who died in August 2004. Copley unloaded the Union-Tribune in 2009 to Tom Gores, an L.A.-based speculative, who flipped the property to La Jolla real estate mogul Douglas Manchester in 2011.

Once a proud Copley family jewel that showered millions in charitable gifts on popular San Diego causes, the project is moving forward after the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) approved a Transportation Management Plan and issued an Encroachment Permit to allow construction traffic on State Route 94, the primary access road for many of the rural community’s 6300 residents.

“The specifically planned for our hauling operations to travel to the southeast and away from the businesses and neighborhoods in Jamul to minimize any potential impact on the community,” said tribe chairman Raymond Hunter in a release, which goes on to tout a “commitment to working with all public agencies to minimize any off-reservation impacts related to the facility.”

That does little to reassure the Jamul Action Committee, which prominently states the goal of “No casino, not now, not ever!” on its home page. The group has expressed concerns over the size of the development and the impact it would have on the character of the community, noise and light pollution...but the most prominent concern pertains to the expected spike in traffic on SR-94 that the casino would bring.

“SR-94 is rated an ‘F’ in Caltrans classification, the worst. [There are] too many accidents and deaths to be ignored,” Jamul Action Committee member Lisa Darroch said in an interview, though “that is exactly what Caltrans did by approving the Transportation Management Plan and Encroachment Permit.”

Dave Rice

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Dave Rice
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Dr. Michael Tchuck, M.D., AACS, AAMS
Let's enjoy the seals.

We are very fortunate to have a real, non-aquarium view into how the seals live. And we should embrace it for the wonderful natural event that it is, and not label it a "cesspool." These are not rats or vermin, brought to us from a foreign land. These are amazing and beautiful aquatic creatures who have been here in their natural habitat before the Native Americans and the Spanish Explorers arrived.

This area should be designated a Wildlife Reserve, for all of us to enjoy and treasure for generations to come, just as we now enjoy Yosemite, Sequoia, and the Grand Canyon.

Joel Brown
San Carlos

Keep It Wet

Regarding the nasty stuff from the seals ("La Jolla Cove Is Becoming a Sea Lion Cesspool," January 16 cover story), all they need to do is put up a sprinkler system. Draw the water out of the ocean, and put it back into the ocean. Keep the rock wet and it won't stick. It'll just keep going downhill.

And it won't interfere with the seals — it would just be like a rainy day.

Name Withheld via voicemail

Smokeless and Tobaccoless

Re: January 16 City Lights: "E-cigs Face Enormous Obstacles"

Perhaps electronic vaporizers "can't get away from the stigma associated with cigarettes" because you are calling them a tobacco product when there is no tobacco used in most vaporizers. Only a few of the liquids actually have nicotine — nicotine being the only chemical used that is under FDA.

The e-liquid is a glycerine base, the same used in baby food. Some baby food manufacturers are even getting on board with the vapor industry.

Tobacco is not sold in e-liquid, nor is it sold in any of the products from Viper-Vape, the store mentioned in your article.

Carrie Madariaga
Carlsbad

What the Heck's a Bot?

Concerning Barbarella's story in the January 16 Reader, "Freaking Frauds" (Diary of a Diva), I quote, "[A] credit-card fraud-detection bot notified me of several small, out-of-character purchases."

What the devil is a bot? The only thing I can find in several new dictionaries is that it's the larvae of a botfly. I'm sure her bot is some sort of computer jargon, but I have no idea what it is.

It might be useful to know, since I have credit cards too. I check my statements all the time to make sure there's no hanky-panky going on anywhere. Please have Barbarella explain what a bot is.

And by the way, she shouldn't use such nasty language. She can just as well say, "What the heck?" The F-word is not really necessary, and it's not very becoming of her to use language like that. Even if she talks like that in real life, using it in print is not very graceful.

Name Withheld via voicemail

Bot is short for robot. You may have heard of "robo-calls" to describe those automated telemarketing calls. Just as robo is short for robot, bot refers to automated services online, like spambots that blast spam emails.

Regarding the cursing, I don't alter dialogue. If I said it, I write it. I thank my Brooklyn-born and raised parents for blessing me with my colorful, if not very graceful, use of naughty words.

— Barbarella
Thursday | 23

25 YEARS OF THE CASBAH WITH TIM MAYS
An intimate conversation with impresario Mays, who will be joined by friends and musical guests to reflect on the events and music that have earned the club its distinctive place in San Diego history. $15–$30.

WHEN: 8 to 10 p.m.
WHERE: Birch North Park Theatre, 2891 University Avenue, North Park. 619-239-8836; casbah25.com

Friday | 24

DISNEY ON ICE: ROCKIN’ EVER AFTER
Characters from Brave, Tangled, The Little Mermaid, and Beauty and the Beast are featured in a musical showcase. $25–$45.

WHEN: 7 p.m. (also on Thursday and Saturday)
WHERE: Valley View Casino Center, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District. 619-224-4171; disneyonice.com

Saturday | 25

WINGS OVER WETLANDS AT SAN ELIJO LAGOON
Kids will enjoy learning about bird migration and how to recognize common birds. Presentations by the Raptor Institute at 2 p.m., plus bird-themed crafts, face-painting, and guided bird-watching along the loop trail that overlooks the lagoon.

WHEN: 1 to 4 p.m. (also on Sunday)
WHERE: San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve, 2710 Manchester Avenue, Cardiff by the Sea. 760-634-3026; sanelijo.org/family-days

Monday | 27

PATRICK NESS: THE CRANE WIFE
Impossibly, a great white crane has tumbled to Earth, shot through its wing. George helps the bird, and from the moment he watches it fly off, his life is transformed. Award-winning author Patrick Ness will be discussing and signing his book.

WHEN: 7:30 p.m.
WHERE: Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-454-0347; warwicks.indiebound.com

Tuesday | 28

THE KAZOO: MORE THAN ANNOYING
Sort through kazoo literature (scholarly articles and musical scores) and listen to new chamber music for kazoo composed by alumni of UC San Diego. A collection of kazoos from many decades and many countries will be on view and — while supplies last — free kazoos for attendees.

WHEN: Noon
WHERE: UCSD Arts Library, Geisel Library, 9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla. 858-822-5758; libraries.ucsd.edu

Wednesday | 29

CHILI-INFUSED BEER DINNER
The Grill at Torrey Pines is teaming up with five San Diego County breweries to host the event. Ballast Point, Coronado, Green Flash, Monkey Paw, and Stone Brewing Companies will serve limited-edition beers paired with selections from chef Daniel Boling’s special chili-infused menu. $80.

WHEN: 6:30 to 9 p.m.
WHERE: The Lodge at Torrey Pines, 11480 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla. 619-453-4420; lodgetorreypines.com
It was October 27, 2012, and the sun was shining down on North Vietnam. My friends and I had planned a motorbike trip to the national park of Cuc Phuong, some 120 kilometers south. Due to the brilliant weather and my desire for a tan, I headed out in short shorts and a tank top.

It was one of the most spectacular drives I've ever taken. Once down near Ninh Binh, the landscape becomes magical — huge limestone karsts jut up from the otherwise flat rice fields. But one look at the sky and we knew there was something brewing.

Approximately halfway there, the sun disappeared and towns looked boarded up. Just as night was falling, we arrived at the park entrance, where we booked rooms at the first guest house on a lake. My English friend Tom had come along with his Vietnamese girlfriend. She turned on the television as we got settled in our rooms and washed up for dinner.

Breaking news: A Category 3 typhoon named Son-Tinh has ravaged the Philippines and is due to hit Ninh Binh by 13:00 October 28. It was pretty clear to infer what the news was warning us, but thank goodness we had Houng to translate. No wonder the towns seemed desolate! We should have checked the weather report before leaving town.

As we sat down for dinner, the electricity was out, the wind was howling, and it had begun to rain. Not too worried yet, we felt more of an electric excitement. By candlelight, we spent the night on our guest-house porch, watching the storm, throwing back vodka and playing cards.

The vodka had a double purpose. It was getting cold, and most of us were ill-equipped for such weather. I didn’t even pack a jacket or pants. Over breakfast we strategized the safest way home. Poring over a map of the park, we identified what seemed to be a way up through the mountainous park to bypass Ninh Binh on our return home. It was risky, though. The huge mountains, steep roads, heavy wind and rain, and the possibility of landslides and falling debris or trees were a concern.

“Well, at least we would get to see the park instead of turning around and driving down here for nothing!” It was settled.

By 10 a.m., we were packed and on our bikes, headed north through the park. A ranger waved us farewell and good luck. Travel was slow but gorgeous. After about an hour we reached a point where, according to the map, there was a turn-off to a road that exited the park. We were almost there!

Then it turned to a small dirt hiking path blocked off to motor vehicles...there was no way out. We rechecked the map and circled the area for a bit, wondering if we were mistaken.

The ranger that waved us off knew we were looking to exit north to avoid the storm but didn’t bother to inform us that the road we saw on the map was not a road at all! There was no other way.

continued on page 48

Vietnam: a typhoon experience
By Caitlin Forrey

It was October 27, 2012, and the sun was shining down on North Vietnam. My friends and I had planned a motorbike trip to the national park of Cuc Phuong, some 120 kilometers south. Due to the brilliant weather and my desire for a tan, I headed out in short shorts and a tank top.

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continued on page 48

Other Adventures

Moroccortraveler: View of the Sahara Desert, Morocco, taken from my camel named Aziz.
BritJaye: Reflection at Mission Trails.
Lake Poway Recreation Area is a convenient starting point since it provides abundant free parking during much of the year. The lake also provides numerous additional recreational opportunities. The hike to Lake Ramona offers a variety of habitats, including shady oak woodlands and chaparral, a great ocean view; one can see a peak at San Clemente Island if visibility is clear. The trails are all heavily used and well signed, making navigation easy with the view of Lake Ramona dam as well as much of the trail visible from Lake Poway.

Find the Lake Poway Trail entrance on the left side of the landscaping building and head north. The trail completely circles Lake Poway, but you will be on it for less than a mile as it winds up and over a hill northwest of the lake and down the front side of the dam. At 0.87 mile from the parking lot, the trail forks. The circumferential Lake Poway Trail continues to the right. A sign indicates that Lake Ramona is 2 miles ahead, following the trail to the left. This trail, which is actually a dirt road (but with no motorized vehicles allowed), follows an oak-forested canyon and will shortly join the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve Trail, also a dirt road. Before reaching this junction, you will pass what was once the Lake Poway Campground.

Camping is no longer permitted here, but it is an attractive well-maintained area, set in a dense coast live-oak forest, with picnic tables, running water, and toilet facilities.

The hike continues near or through the oak woodland as you go north to the Blue Sky Ecological Reserve trail (labeled on many maps as the Green Valley Truck Trail). Once you reach this trail, go right (east). In addition to the live oaks, the forest blends with a coast live-oak forest, with picnic facilities.

Fishing is no longer permitted here, but there are still good opportunities for fishing from the shore — in season and with a license — but the view to the west is outstanding. San Clemente Island can be seen on the clearest days. After exploring the lake and enjoying the view, return to Lake Poway the way you came.

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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San Diego January 23, 2014

The Sanctuary of Illness Join Thomas Larson for the launch The Sanctuary of Illness: A Memoir of Heart Disease, Hudson Whitman Press. Vegan treats 5pm; multimedia presentation 6pm; book signing ($15) 7pm. Please park behind the sanctuary. Friday, January 24, 7pm; $10-$20. 18 and up. Comedy Palace, 8878 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (HEARNY MESA)

Lindy Workshop Saturday, January 25, 4:45pm; $30-$50. 18 up. Tango Del Rey, 5567 Del Rey Street. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Photography Workshop: DSLR Basics Whether you just received a shiny new DSLR camera for the holidays or have had one collecting dust on a shelf for a while, professional photographer Daniel Solomon will show you some user-friendly tips and tricks to get you snapping away. You’ll spend a little time in the classroom at Outside the Lens’ Media Lab to go over the basics, then Daniel will lead the group on a photo walk around Liberty Station so that you can put your new knowledge to use right away and capture images. Saturday, January 25, 1pm. 4425 Banner Avenue. (CLAIRMONT)

Greg Fitzsimmons mixing an incisive wit with scathing sarcasm, Greg Fitzsimmons has achieved success as a stand-up, Emmy Award winning writer, and host on both radio and TV. A regular with David Letterman, Conan O’Brien, Jimmy Kimmel, and Jay Leno, Greg has made more than 50 visits to The Howard Stern Show. Thursday, January 23, 8pm, Friday, January 24, 7:30 pm & 9:30pm. Saturday, January 25, 7:30 pm & 9:30pm; American Comedy Company, 818 Sixth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Hops for Humanity Join the San Diego Young Philanthropists for a night of trivia and craft beer. Make a team of up to five people and get ready to flex your brain for a chance to win fun prizes. Minimum donation of $3 per person to play. Thorn Street will donate 20% of all sales to help fund SDYP’s upcoming San Diego Habitat for Humanity build. Thursday, January 23, 7:30 pm & 21 up. Thorn Street Brewery, 3176 Thorn Street. (NORTH PARK)

Nickel Beer Co at Monkey Paw Tom Nickel (Nickel Beer Co, O’Briens) will be down at the brewery for the day making a collaboration beer, so we asked him to bring some of his brews down from Julian. We will have Stonewall Stout on nitro, Devil’s Copper on draft, and a cask of Bitter Beer Writer. You usually have to drive an hour and half to try these tasty treats (or drive back) so take advantage and drink them locally while you can. Thursday, January 23, 12pm. Monkey Paw, 805 16th Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

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Winter Staycation Destination

Vietnam continued from page 46

We must turn back. Fate would have us arrive in Ninh Binh along with typhoon Son-Tinh. Already soaked and chilled to the bone, we were back to square one. It was noon, and there was another 120 km to go. As the arduous journey continued, the elements got worse. The rain drops became like needles; the sting was unrelenting. It felt worst on our faces. It became near-impossible to drive. I had to squint my eyes so I wasn’t blinded by the rain, but obviously you can’t see where you’re going just about closed. When I attempted to put on the sunglasses, my breath came up and fogged them. It was an alternating hell of glasses or no glasses. And to top it off, my poncho ripped in the wind. You know when you’re in a car and a big gust of wind comes and you can feel it push your car? Well, imagine typhoon-strength winds pushing tiny 125cc motorbikes across highways!

Busy highways. Being a fairly new motorbike driver, this was the holy grail of tests. We looked like drunks staggering home. A gust would come and send us traveling more sideways than forward. To counteract this, I drove into the wind, but when the wind subsided a bit I swerved back across the other way. After a bit of time I discovered another tactic. Instead of turning the handlebars into the wind, I just leaned into it. For a good amount of time, I was driving at a 75-degree angle. I wanted to give up so many times. You’d think missing a turn home, but obviously you can’t see where you’re going just about closed. When I attempted to put on the sunglasses, my breath came up and fogged them. It was an alternating hell of glasses or no glasses. And to top it off, my poncho ripped in the wind. You know when you’re in a car and a big gust of wind comes and you can feel it push your car? Well, imagine typhoon-strength winds pushing tiny 125cc motorbikes across highways!

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Holy Trinity Parish of Ocean Beach
Contact: 3725 Talbot St., Suite B, San Diego 619-222-0365; holytrinityob.com
Pastor: Father Lawrence Bausch
Age: 65
Born: Cleveland, Ohio.
Formation: San Diego State University; Seabury-Western, Evanston, IL.
Years Ordained: 33
San Diego Reader: What’s your favorite sub- ject on which to preach?
Father Lawrence Bausch: The importance of receiving the perspective that enables us to look at this life and our world from God’s point of view. For example, we’re in the church year where scripture urges us to think about the pass- ing away of this age. There are signs to look for that this age is passing away. I believe that these signs are characteris- tic of every generation. Essentially, the last days were inaugurated after the Ascension of Christ and Pentecost. Therefore, we’re urged to be able to see the temporal in the context of the permanence of God, and the direction in which he is lead- ing us that shows us how to handle what’s going on.
SDR: What is your main concern as a member of the clergy?
FB: The enormous shift in our culture away from religion as a part of everyday life. There is a sort of — I won’t say it’s a science — but a certain quasi-intellectual scientism that assumes anything to do with the spiritual realm or reli- gion is inherently irrelevant and that what one does when one chooses to believe is to close one’s mind. But I am of the conviction — and one of our great witnesses, a woman named Flannery O’Connor, who was a fiction writer for the most part back in the ’50s and ’60s made it clear — that it’s the fullness of the Catholic faith that keeps the mind open to mystery. Anything else that limits our understanding to what we can see and measure through the tools we have it, is that kind of thing which nar- rows the mind because there is so much more going on than meets the eye.
SDR: Why Anglican?
FB: Being a Catholic repre- sents and embodies continuity with the church from the very first centuries, and Anglican- ism expressed its Catholicity by endorsing fundamentals about which everyone was expected to agree, but every- thing after that, we could dis- agree. They centered on the decisions of the church in the first millennium before the first split between East and West. So, what all Christians believed in the first millen- nium — that’s what I mean by Catholicism… I don’t believe Catholicism is limited to Anglicanism by any means. It is certainly embedded in the Roman Catholic and Ortho- dox churches as well.
SDR: Where do you go when you die?
FB: To a certain extent, it’s up to us. We are taught that all truth comes from God and all truth is of God and insofar as we are open to receiving the truth and being informed rather than trying to impose our views on the world, that openness to truth allows us to receive the grace that God will give which ultimately includes salvation. If we resist the truth and harden our hearts suffi- ciently that we have resisted the truth — in the biblical tradition, the adversary of God is sometimes consid- ered the Father of Lies — and if we choose falsehood or lies rather than the truth, then illusion rather than reality is presumably what we will get…. Whatever it is, if we pit our will against God’s will permanently — the Christian writer C.S. Lewis says that for everyone who does not say to God, “Thy will be done,” God will say to them, “Thy will be done.”
— Joseph O’Brien

The Dangerous Truth About Protein: Presentation by Janice Stanger, Ph.D., author of *The Perfect Formula Diet.* “This pre- sentation will transform your understanding of protein with must-know information on what protein is made from, how many kinds of protein there are, and the dangers of consuming too much.” Sunday, January 26, 2pm. free. 18 and up. Joyce Beers Uptown Com- munity Center, 3900 Vermont Street. (HILLCREST)
FUNGI: The Puppet Masters of the World: The San Diego Mycological Society will host a presentation by Brett Bunn- yard, PhD, founder, publisher, and editor-in-chief of the mycology journal FUNGI. Learn about plants and their mushroom partners, the mycorrhizal fungi. Brett’s presen- tation is for general audiences. The discussion will cover the lat- est understanding of how plants grow. In most, if not all, cases, plants enter into obligate partner- ships with mushrooms and other fungi. Put another way, some fungi farm plants for a living. In Room 104. Friday, January 24, 6:30pm; free. Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado. (BALboa PARK)

SHEEP AND GOATS
I ANSWERED THE CALL

Lawrence Bausch

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SSPX
Catholic Traditional Latin Mass

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Co-Mission Celebration God is at work through this people in far too many ways and with a greater kingdom influ- ence than we might normally realize. Our objective for the evening is to give a fresh lens for seeing what God is up to in this world and how many wonderful ways he uses ordinary people like us. We will focus on four path- ways that can inform how we can uniquely steward what God has graciously gifted to join him in loving our city to life. In the setting of a lovely sit-down dinner, we will have the privilege of hearing from Dr. Amy Sherman, author of *Kingdom Calling.* Vocational Stewardship for the Common Good. Amy is a senior fellow at the Sagamore Institute for Policy Research where she directs the Center on Faith in Communities. Catch a vision for how God can use each of us in ways that help love our city to life. Sunday, January 25, 5:30 to 8 pm. $15 — $20 RANCHO BERNARDO 17010 Pomerado Road (619) 487-0811

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Saca/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 reflec- tion 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 Nicole Muhly, and set to texts by Walt Whitman. Sunday, February 16, 4pm. RANCHO BERNARDO 17010 Pomerado Road (619) 487-0811

NORTH PARK UNIFIED CHURCH
The 5:11 Gathering God and Football January 25 at 5:11 pm. This month we will be talk- ing about those inspiring football movies we love and how our faith and our love for football are sometimes intertwined. Join us as we enjoy inspiring music, share our faith and celebrate football and our third year of 5:11. See you there! Call (619) 453-3444 or UCCG. ORG for details. UNIVERSITY CITY UNITED CHURCH

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ST. JOHN BOSCO MISSION
SSPX
Catholic Traditional Latin Mass
OUTDOORS

Birding Basics Learn to identify birds at a glance. Mission Trails Regional Park bird guide Winona Sollock’s class explains five simple ways to do it and gives tips on field-guide use. Bring bird book if you’d like. Meet inside Visitor Center. Saturday, January 25, 1pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Family Discovery Walk An active outdoor experience designed for parents and children exploring the trail to the Kumeyaay grinding-rocks site. Meet inside Visitor Center. Sunday, January 26, 3pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Life in Nature Experience the thrill of chance animal sightings, be amazed by remarkable facts on plant and animal lifestyles, and enjoy a morning in engaging open-space lands on trail guide-led walk. Meet at campground entry station. Saturday, January 25, 8:30am; free. Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Two Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SANTEE)

New Year/New Park Seasonal rains bring new growth and a lush look. Join our trail guide-led walk through sage, chaparral, and river habitats. Saturday, January 25, 9:30am; Sunday, January 26, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Penasquitos Canyon Fall Family Program Join the Friends of Penasquitos Canyon in planting more native plants at the Penasquitos Canyon waterfall. Bring water, sun protection, and gloves if you have them. Meet at the kiosk across from 7107 Park Village Rd., Rancho Penasquitos. 858-484-3219. Saturday, January 25, 9am; free. 7101 Park Village Rd., 92129

 Riders for All Levels

SPORTS & FITNESS

Corey Pavin So Cal Invitational Junior Tour This 54-hole inaugural event will feature 60 boys and 36 girls top-ranked from around the world. Half of the field is from Southern California, with the remainder from China, Australia, Mexico, and the rest of the United States. Info: 951-845-4653. Saturday, January 25, 7am; Sunday, January 26, 7am; free. Maderas Golf Course, 17730 Old Coach Road. (POWAY)

Farmers Insurance Open Annual golf tournament on the PGA Tour is also known as the West Coast Swing and has been held at Torrey Pines Golf Course since 1968. Take in the games of the top PGA professionals such as Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson. Thursday, January 23, 7am; Friday, January 24, 7am; Saturday, January 25, 7am; Sunday, January 26, 7am; $45-$149. Torrey Pines Golf Course, 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road. (LA JOLLA)

FREE APPRAISAL DAY Tuesday, January 28, 1-8:30pm. Bring any kind of collectible, antique, art, valuable, rarity, or vintage item. Licensed estate appraisers will tell you how much it’s worth at auction. Saturday, January 25, 11am; free. Blue Vault San Diego, 5638 Mission Center Road #104. (MISSION VALLEY)

Looking for the Next Don Draper Have what it takes to be the next superstar? The MARCC Academy is staging a VIP conference to attract new talent to their institution. The event will benefit The Honor Foundation. For information and registration: 619-795-4509; themarcacademy.com. Wednesday, May 3, from 1-8:30pm and Thursday, May 4, from 1-6pm. The MARCC Academy, 330 A Street. (NORTH PARK)

EVENING EVENTS

Shakespeare Society presents an “open” reading of Romeo and Juliet at the new Central Library. “Anyone can join in the reading or just come along to listen. Parts are assigned before each scene.” Rupert Essinger directs. Admission is free. Saturday, January 25, 12:30pm; free. Central Library, 330 Park Boulevard. (EAST VILLAGE)
Customized My Little Ponies, as seen on Instagram

“I just thought that doing My Little Pony toys would be different,” says Rizzo Michelle, reflecting on her decision to customize unwanted toys and try to sell them at Comikaze 2013.

“When I went there, people really liked my stuff, and I sold all of my customizations at the show.”

The Oceanside artist takes My Little Pony dolls and augments them with new faces, transforming the children’s toys into the likes of Batman, Jack and Sally from The Nightmare Before Christmas, or Frank the creepy bunny monster from Donnie Darko.

“I’d never really customized any toys before, and I didn’t know I had any talents as a sculptor,” says Michelle. “I use Super Sculpey and sometimes other materials like fabric or metal. I sew outfits for my customizations, and I attach hair to the dolls as well.”

It takes a couple weeks to fully transform an old My Little Pony doll into a horse version of a famous person or character from a movie, comic, or cartoon. The artist shares photo essays of the process on Instagram (@the-pinupchronicles), and it’s been through Instagram that ideas for customizations have come in from interested fans. Michelle says she receives the most interest when she shares pictures of the ponies’ creation, even more than images of the finished products.

It takes about a week to do the sculpting, attach the hair, sew the clothing, et cetera, and another seven-plus hours to paint the diminutive horse dolls’ new faces.

Michelle’s working on four different ponies for potential customers who found her via Instagram: Tim Burton’s Corpse Bride, the Creature from the Black Lagoon, Optimus Prime, Poison Ivy, and the Joker. She considers herself mostly able to “ponify” (her term) anyone or anything. But when “Someone asked for...one of the members of [pop group] One Direction...I didn’t know how to change that person into a pony,” she says.

It turns out that it’s a lot easier to ponify someone, or something, with more recognizable and easily represented features. “You really have to have someone well known or distinctive,” she explains. “Like, when I did Cheech and Chong, one of them had the bandanna and the other had the beanie, and, well, you know, they’re Cheech and Chong!”

She even got the satisfaction of having Tommy Chong himself post pictures of her customized pony on his Instagram page (@heytommychong).

Does Michelle worry about pigeonholing herself as just “the pony girl”? Not at all.
“I’m going to stick to the ponies,” she says. “It’s a challenge because people are giving me requests and I’m, like, ‘I can do that. I can take on that challenge.’ I wouldn’t be offended to be known as ‘the girl who works with the ponies.’ It’s distinctive.”

If she’s going to keep ponifying, Michelle wants to take the show on the road and display her work in conventions (Comic-Con, WonderCon, and others). She sells the completed customizations for $85–$100, so she’s trying to get an Indiegogo campaign off the ground to crowdsource some funds for her conventioneering.

And if it works? “I would love to ponify all the characters from Star Wars,” she says. ■

**Find more Art Seen at SDReader.com/art**

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**Art**

**1:1 Repurposed Art Show:** P(ART)Y, art show, and celebration of community, culture, and conservation — “an excuse to have a good time, show off our work, and promote local art.” 30 local artists invited, each provided a blank, white, reusable tote bag — artists are free to do as they please. Saturday, January 25, 6pm; free. 21 and up. 3rd Space, 4610 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Art Lab:** Cy Kuckenbaker Creative Catalyst Fellow Cy Kuckenbaker edits the next video for his San Diego Studies project, live at the Museum of Photographic Arts. Kuckenbaker will be able to share his process and answer your questions while he works on site. Friday, January 24, 11am; free-$5. Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado. (BALEAIO PARK)

**Art on the Green Carlsbad:** Oceanside Art League gallery-member artists display their art-work at Art-on-the-Green every Sunday. Sunday, January 26, 9am; free. Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort, 3075 Carlsbad Boulevard. (CARLSBAD)


**Color Blind: A Black-and-White Collection** There is something nostalgic about black-and-white art. Photographs, newspapers, and television all provided a way to capture and preserve life without using color. Still, while media continues to progress, color has never completely replaced black-and-white imagery. Nowadays it is used as an artistic choice rather than as the result of technological limitations. Artists choose to draw, paint, photograph, and film in black-and-white because they want to convey a certain message that color cannot provide. Friday, January 24, 6pm; Saturday, January 25, 4pm; Sunday, January 26, 12pm. free. 21 and up. Exclusive Collections Gaslamp Quarter, 437 Market Street. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

**Concetta Antico’s Student Art Show** Concetta Antico, local media-marl-ner tetrachromat and artist extraordinaire, will showcase nearly thirty of her students’ work from her art school during this tenth-annual student art show. Saturday, January 25, 4pm; free. The Salon of Art & Antico Fine Art Gallery, 1920 Fort Stockton Drive. (MISSION HILLS)

**Cruising the Art Scene in Carlsbad** Join the COAL Gallery, Oceanside Art Gallery, Phantom Gallery, Lynn Forbes Sculpture Gallery, and other Carlsbad Village art venues for live music, refreshments, and lots of art. Thursday, January 23, 5:30pm; free. Carlsbad Oceanside Art League’s COAL Gal- lery, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive #101. (CARLSBAD)

**Empowering Women: Artisan Cooperatives That Transform Communities** From Africa to Asia to the Americas, female artisans are forming grassroots cooperatives to reach new markets, raise living standards, and transform lives by creating and selling traditional folk art. “Empowering Women” explores the work of ten such enterprises in ten countries by providing an intimate look at the compelling personal stories of these women and the exquisite traditional art works that they create. Discover how these women work together to create folk art to provide income for their families, preserve their cultural heritage, and improve education. This exhibition has been organized by the Museum of International Folk Art, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Opens January 25, 10am; $5-$12. San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado. (BALEAIO PARK)

**Our Love Affair with Art: Reception** Meet the artists opening day reception with live music, hors d’oeuvre, and a raffle of original framed art, including an original J McNeil Sargent. Oil, acrylic, watercolor, photography, and other media, as well as two- and three-dimensional visual arts. All art can be purchased. Saturday, January 25, 12pm, free. Front Porch Gal- lery, 2903 Carlsbad Boulevard. (CARLSBAD)

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San Diego Reader | January 22, 2014 53
Army & Navy brekky

“Don’t get me wrong. If I didn’t love my place up in the Hollywood Hills, I’d come live down here.”

S
cattle? Attitude problem,” says Mark. Pessimistic outlook. Denver? Filled with conspiracy theorists. San Diego? You’re much more divided into haves and have-nots than we are in L.A., but you have a sunny outlook. It’s a breakfast-counter conversation. Easy to strike up here. Something I like about this eatery at the Y.

Just came in here, up those steep steps at the corner of Broadway and India, past the etched-in-stone sign that reads “Army & Navy YMCA 1924” and into this large dining room with spindle-back wooden chairs, pictures, lots of sky-blue wall, blond wood wainscoting, hooped windows, and — wow — a large fireplace with model trains running along its mantelpiece, and a huge station-type clock above.

Oh, yeah... Must have popped in here a couple of years back. Remember discovering they had an open courtyard you’d never expect, right behind.

Today, though, just a tad chilly. I slip into one of the swivel chairs at the blue counter with “Route 66” embroidered into its worn cloth cushions and wait for someone to bring me some coffee. ‘Cause it’s not even eight in the morning yet. Unheard of to be up and out so early.

This is when Mark turns up. As soon as he does, there’s Desirée, the waitress.

“Omelet with mushrooms and Swiss,” he says like he’s done this many times before.

I see they have a mushroom-and-cheese omelet for $8.95. That’s the price of all omelets.

“I have it every time,” says Mark. “It’s light, it has energy, and it gets me through my day. This is the best value I’ve seen downtown. I’m here every time I’m in San Diego.”

He comes to help folks handle their 401(k)s, financial lives, whatever.

Raymundo arrives with my coffee ($2.25, with endless refills). On the back of his T-shirt is the name of this place. No mention of YMCA. It’s just called Grand Central Café. But it has the Super Chief bursting through the lettering. Super Chief was the famous train that used to haul movie stars in super luxury from Chicago to L.A. Guess this is all because the Santa Fe Depot’s just a block away.

Even though they don’t push it, you can’t help but feel the nostalgia of this place. Let’s think: 1924. What was happening then? MGM was founded. President Woodrow Wilson died and George Bush Sr. was born. So was Jimmy Carter. And this place opened its doors and peeps started eating in this room. Probably on this same counter stool. I guess they called it the Army & Navy because this was pretty much an all-military town back then.

“Hon? Sir?”

Oh, right. Desirée. Old-fashioned place, think we’d better have a good, old-fashioned breakfast. Menu starts off with oatmeal for $3.25, or a single egg, country fries, and toast for $5.50. You can have corned-beef hash and eggs on toast for $8.50. And, top o’ the line, steak and eggs for $12.95.

But my eye stops at the pork chops ($9.95). You get two of them, along with two eggs, toast, and home fries. Not the cheapest, but I’m thinking about those two pork chops.

Okay. I order that with the eggs poached. Mark and I talk L.A. vs. SD. “Don’t get me wrong,” he says. “If I didn’t love my place up in the Hollywood Hills, I’d come live down here.”

Ten minutes later Raymundo puts a big oval plate in front of me. Two poached eggs in a bowl, lots of home fries, and two pieces of pork. Except...not exactly chops as you think of them. Like, no bone.

But they smell grilled and there’s plenty to them. And, boy, tender, nicely burned edges and tasty. I ordered English muffin instead of toast, stuck each half under a poached egg, and stabbed them with my fork so they’d mess all over the muffins.

We’re starting to get us a meal here...

Mark pays his bill and heads off to his first client. Me, I start reading this brochure about the Y. Yes, first thing you think about is that dang song by the Village People. “’Tis fun to stay at the Y...” But, turns out this organization has been going since way before the Village People — like, 1844. That’s almost 170 years. Started off in Britain as low-cost housing for young men and women who were moving from farms to the cities, the moths of the industrial revolution. A modest English draper named George Williams started it, and the idea spread. Within six years — by 1851 — it had spread to Australia, the U.S., Canada, France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, you name it.

But now, 169 years later, does it still work? I look around me. Mostly business people, maybe lawyers. The courts are nearby. Maybe they came here as kids. Probably not.

And they’re calling the accommodation part “500 West.” No mention of YMCA. But they do have dorm beds for around $14 a night if you book online. So, the idea of cheap beds for kids coming to town is still alive.

And, judging from this breakfast, the food’s still good.

Through the doors, too, you can see that really romantic courtyard with tables. Great place for a party!

And another break from the prim, proper past: I see the menu has a section they call the “Caboose.” They actually sell grog here! Like, $3.95 for a glass of vino, $4 for a pint of cerveza ($5 for local brewskis).

Except only till lunchtime? They close at two. Oh, well. Maybe I’ll get Carla to round up some rowdies and come back on a Sunday morning for a hair-of-the-dog brekky.

Couple of drinks and we’ll all be singing “It’s fun to stay at the WHY-MCA. It’s fun to stay at the WHY...”

The Place: YMCA’s Grand Central Café, 500 West Broadway, downtown, 619-234-2233

Prices: Breakfast oatmeal, $3.25; single egg on toast with country fries and toast, $5.50; corned-beef hash and eggs on toast, $8.50, steak and eggs, $12.95; two pork chops, two eggs, toast, home fries, $9.95

Hours:7:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Buses: All downtown

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Trolleys: Blue Line, Orange Line, Green Line

Nearest Trolley Stops: America Plaza (Blue Line, Orange Line), Santa Fe Depot (Green Line)
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January 23, 2014

Beyond the restaurant’s pay grade. The vast majority of the staff left rather than work at the new restaurant, but there’s no reason to expect the new servers will be any less well trained.

The expansive menu incorporates fried, steamed, and baked dim sum staples from mild to wild chicken feet. Simple dishes like Chinese broccoli with oyster sauce justify an $8 price tag by large portions, though most items hover in the $5.50 range. Shrimp and Art Deco touches under the supervision of Hong Kong chef Andrew Kwong, which could be a game-changer for fans of the famous Chinese small-plate meals.

The back patio of Southpaw Social Club, in the East Village, is the Park at the Park at Petco, so the place is probably hopping during the 81 games played there during baseball season.

The other days of the year, it has more of a neighborhood-bar feel, and that’s fine with me. I like to hear myself eat.

Like practically every bar these days, Southpaw strives to have a big beer selection, including plenty of local favorites. To be fair, I always feel like I have to warn my waiter.

“I want to support the local beer scene, but do you have any good beer that doesn’t taste like a hoppy hairball is lodged in my throat?”

The waiter suggests the Coronado Orange Wit, which is smooth and light, but with a fruit-forward flavor that, to me, is unusual for wheat beers. Nice.

My nephew prefers those hairball brews (he also likes loud, heavy rock), so he’s in love with the Dogfish Head 90-Minute Imperial IPA. With 9 percent alcohol content, he’s enjoying his buzz.

The homemade pretzel sticks are a good starter, but the fried jalapeños on the side are a highlight.

My nephew doesn’t eat meat and ordered “The Wild Shroom,” a flatbread with roasted wild mushrooms, prosciutto, mozzarella and reggiano cheeses, peaches, and roasted garlic. He asks for it without the prosciutto. I eat most of them, despite having finished most of the salad, pretzels, and meatloaf sandwich.

Would I go back? Probably, for the meatloaf and the pretzel sticks. I don’t know how busy it gets during baseball season, but I liked the vibe when it just had a few people and an acoustic-guitar trio in the background.

by Patrick Henderson

Finagle the wild

6502 El Cajon Boulevard — In the College Area, Tokyo Sushi Loha is a powerhouse. The place used to do slamming business out of strip mall, but the owners managed to finagle the wild, octagonal building at ECB and Aragon, which was an IHOP or a HoJo, or something equally ridiculous, if memory serves. With the remodel, Loha has gone and moist throughout. The bacon jam, while having a great mouth-feel, has a flavor more like caramelized onion than bacon.

My nephew doesn’t eat meat and ordered “The Wild Shroom,” a flatbread with roasted wild mushrooms, prosciutto, mozzarella and reggiano cheeses, peaches, and roasted garlic. He asks for it without the prosciutto.

Guess what? It comes back with the prosciutto. The waiter is apologetic and brings him fries with onion and jalapeños instead. They are tasty and I eat most of them, despite having finished most of the salad, pretzels, and meatloaf sandwich.

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by Patrick Henderson

The meatloaf sandwich with bacon jam comes highly recommended by the waiter. Especially because of the bacon jam oozing over it and dripping down the sides. Fine with me. Bacon is, at heart, a food of excess.

I tend not to trust meatloaf that is too neatly sliced because I fear it’s been processed. Although the meatloaf does look like it’s been premade and pre-packaged like the fake gyros at low-rent Greek restaurants, it doesn’t taste that way. It’s meaty and moist throughout. The bacon jam, while having a great mouth-feel, has a flavor more like caramelized onion than bacon.

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by Patrick Henderson
**San Diego Reader** January 23, 2014

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**San Diego Reader January 23, 2014**
from seedy to stylish. Glass sculptures, colored lights, and a suit of samurai armor (with cat whiskers!) set the stage for one of SD’s weirdest sushi scenes.

This has to be among the loudest restaurants in town. EDM and hip-hop blast from the PA. Conversation is outright impeded. In just about any other restau, this would constitute a serious faux pas, but Tokyo Sushi Loha manages to rock it out. It’s a “ridiculously loud music sushi place,” and proud of it. It’s also (probably) the only sushi spot that doubles as a legit sports bar. College kids and neighborhood people jam the place during football games. It warrants reservations.

It’s really too bad the sushi isn’t much good. Not that you’d know it from looking at Yelp or other “crowd” sources. Comments like “best sushi in San Diego!” and such are flagrantly undeserved. Restaurant critics don’t like to admit it, but, generally, Yelpers manage to strike the truth, by volume and the law of averages alone. It’s worth pointing out the instances in which they get something totally and completely wrong, as a teachable moment if nothing else. Consider this a lesson in not blindly following your peers.

Tokyo Sushi Loha’s food is very average (though the presentations can be quite lovely), and it would be a bummer for anyone to make the trip expecting sushi that rates only half a star lower than Ota, Tadokoro, or Akinori. Preposterous.

That’s like rating the Olive Garden within half a star of Monello.

At best, Loha’s sushi is acceptable, though the fish is always 30 degrees too cold. They even pile the sashimi on top of shaved ice, which looks kind of cool but makes the fish taste like frosty nothingness. Exacting temperature control is central to good sushi prep!

At worst, some of it is just plain gross. Stuff like baked-scallop nigiri, covered in mayo and tasting of hot seaweed, cannot be made appealing.

The place is bizarre and kind of cool in its way, but not worth the implied special-trip-worthy status of a four-star rating, which should be reserved for something close to exceptional.

by Ian Pike

With a bendy straw
4647 Convoy Street #101A — From the outside, there’s not a lot to distinguish Friend’s House from the many restaurants lining Convoy Street. It sits at the end of a shopping center, touting photos of dinner specials on a poorly printed ad banner while promising superior Korean BBQ. You know, the usual.

But the inside tells a different story. A few sheets of plywood and some corrugated metal roofing frame the restaurant’s interior, giving it a real shanty feel. Which doesn’t sound like much, but it’s actually kind of impressive what they’ve done with a quick trip to Home Depot. Throw in some culture-appropriate tchotchkes, camping lanterns, and a room-length mirror, and you’ve got yourself a unique decorative theme built more on elbow grease than design savvy.

I ordered the dolsot bibimbap — a hot stone bowl of rice, beef and vegetables — but it’s actually kind of good, but it’s actually kind of impressive what they’ve done with a quick trip to Home Depot. The small side plates come gratis, of course, but you’ve got to order something from the menu to get them. This time they consisted of broccolini, potatoes, fish cakes, two kinds of bean sprout and, of course, kimchi. I took to them so quickly, it took a moment to realize I was eating with metal chopsticks. I’ve eaten with wood, plastic, and enamel, but never metal, so I had to gear out for a moment how light and easy
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San Diego Reader January 23, 2014 59
they were to grip.

My bibimbap showed up right on top of the banchan, so I couldn’t linger over every spiced vegetable they way I’d have liked. That stone bowl shows up hot enough to burn rice, and I like to stir mine up before it gets too crunchy at the bottom. Still, before I mixed it all together and poured on the Sriracha, I did notice the egg on top was covered by a green spice blend.

I really don’t have the patience for hot bowls. The spice blend had a novel flavor that I apparently thought I might be able to pick out if I kept shoveling the still-too-hot dish into my mouth. Fortunately, I had ordered an iced Coke, delivered in a thick branded glass with a bendy straw. I guess you could say I was about as satisfied as I might ever be with a burnt tongue.

More so, I felt a long way from the heavily trafficked streets of Kearny Mesa at that moment, and almost looked for that signpost from M*A*S*H that tells you the distance to Burbank, Seoul, and Decatur. Not because the place felt like some made-for-TV version of Korea, but because I’m pretty sure you could make one pretty easily with a couple of tools and a buck’s worth of nails.

by Ian Anderson

Monk’s stone bowl
406 University Avenue — It took forever to remodel Pink Noodle and turn it into East Village Asian Diner, a second location for the successful Encinitas restaurant. Reportedly, permitting troubles plagued the buildout, but the construction crew didn’t exactly skimp on the remodel, either. If Pink Noodle was cute but average, East Village is downright sexy and brand new. It has a kind of “robots and Legos” thing going on, which sounds bizarre, but actually gives the interior a playful solidity that works perfectly for what it is. Kudos to the architecture and design team. Say goodbye to the upstairs seating and just about everything else recognizable from Pink Noodle. Maybe the biggest structural difference is the installation of a draft-beer system, so that the new restaurant can sell brews by the pint or pitcher, and in bottles as well. Pink Noodle’s faux-Martini (which were actually pretty tasty) are a thing of the past.

Hillcrest East Village’s menu mimics the North County location’s California-Korean-Japanese style, right down to the signature “monk’s stone bowl,” a friendly pseudonym for bibimbap, the Korean specialty served in a hot stone bowl. It’s wonderful comfort food, but East Village overdoes it with portion size and underdoes the chili sauce.

Diners get a big bowl of overkill where a modest amount of concentrated flavor would do the trick.

The restaurant also forges daring territory with a Korean take on the burrito, packing brown rice, kimchi, chopped vegetables, and marinated beef slices into a tortilla, and serving it alongside a salad like the ones that come with food-court-lunch-special bento boxes.

Readers may remember the frustrating dismantling of Memelas’ Thai-flavored burrito, and the story of East Village’s attempt at burrito fusion ends similarly. While it’s much better than the chicken satay catastrophe, the Korean burrito refuses to comply with order and decency, thumbing its nose at Mexican and Korean food while paying due homage to neither.

Maybe there’s just no good way to make a fusion burrito?

It’s a pity that East Village doesn’t offer a dish of cold soba noodles. There’s a strong Japanese influence at the restau, and the house soba sauce is fantastic (as is the sweetened Sriracha “monk’s sauce” for squirting over everything with wanton crooked rulers abandon) and would be better served being slurped up with cold noodles than splashed onto just-okay kimchi pancakes, dumplings, and spring rolls.

With French Concession just five minutes away, East Village is certainly the less-exciting remodeled Asian restaurant in Hillcrest to open before the calendar turned. And it’s no contest between East Village and Snoozy Asian (as wild and spotty as Snooty can be), in terms of pure concept. Tough break. Let’s hope they step it up.

by Ian Anderson

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When the House of Blues opened downtown in 2005, some wondered how the independent Belly Up would fare with talent acquisition since House of Blues is part of a national chain with more buying power. The Belly Up has continued to thrive partly to the desirability of the venue and the artists who play there. Chris Goldsmith oversees the programming and marketing for the Belly Up. He says he will make the announcement soon. “We don’t need any more candidates [to apply]. We will pick from the group we have narrowed down.” He says at any given time the venue has 100 dates booked. “The latest show we have on the books is World Party on June 29.”

KPBS-TV will air an hour special on January 24 featuring live Belly Up shows by the Drowning Men and Candy Kane. Goldsmith, a Grammy-winning producer, has also announced the launching of Belly Up’s own record label, Belly Up Live, which will feature live shows recorded at the Belly Up Taverns in Solana Beach and Aspen.

“We will have our own [internet] delivery system,” Goldsmith told the Reader. He said the $5.99 albums available on Belly Up Live will be cheaper than albums purchased on iTunes.

Meanwhile, the Griffin is listed for sale at $215,000. A new buyer will have to assume a monthly rent of $5000-plus. Leasing agent Paul Ahern and Griffin talent-buyer Joe Rinaldi would not disclose any specifics about the sale of the bar. An insider says the Griffin’s value is tied to its alcohol license, a so-called “48” license, which means it can have a full bar and not have to serve food. “It’s what they used to call a cocktail-lounge license, and they just aren’t issuing them anymore,” says the insider. “The police won’t approve them anymore. There are only a handful left. It’s a dinosaur. But that’s why they are so valuable.” — Ken Leighton

Raccoons in the pool. “We have this crazy house with a swimming pool. We’d lived here for eight months before I said, ’Wait a minute...this isn’t a pool. It’s an underwater recording studio.’” Ever since Joseph Waters joined the faculty at San Diego State University a decade or so ago, he’s expressed a yearning to perform music underwater. Seems impossible, but not so odd, considering that Waters turned the 25th Street overpass in Golden Hill into a giant xylophone and once filled his recording studio with live wasps.

The submarine concept was put on the back burner until recently, with the convergence of two seemingly disparate events. One was the purchase of a poolside home on Mt. Helix, near La Mesa. The other was the invention of a fiddle meant to be played underwater. Waters got one, plunged a hydrophone into the blue depths, and began recording in earnest. “Sound travels really well under water. And the pool is like a room with a wall that changes in incredibly different ways. I’m still trying to understand what happens to sound when the surface has disruptions in it, like waves or irregular ripples.”

Waters, 61, is a professor of composition and computer music at San Diego State University. The study of sound underwater is not all that new. “The Navy knows about it because they want to communicate and they want to blow things up. And people have been trying to figure out whale songs forever. But using water for music is relatively new.” A sheepish grin spreads across his features. “Most people don’t use their pools for this sort of thing.”

Waters previews a preliminary mix of his first composition with the submersible violin. “Raccoons in the Pool” is a fanciful piece that shapeshifts, builds on maddening waves of tension, then resolves in a crest of sonorous textures. “It’s user-friendly, but it has depth.” He claims raccoons as his inspiration; Mt. Helix, it turns out, is lousy with them.

Waters’s son Zuriel created a video to accompany the electronic concerto, slated to premiere at this year’s New West Electronic Arts and Music Organization. Waters, who is both founder and artistic director of NWEAMO, arranged for the event to be held at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center.

“Three or four years ago, I was thinking, I sure would like to play with the IMAX [now called the Heikoff Dome] theater.” He made contact with IMAX projectionist John Young. “I told him about my ideas and he said okay, but not until the theater was retrofitted for video.”

Years passed. “Then, I got an email from Young stating that the retrofit had finally taken place. And he said I could come and play with the new system.”

— Dave Good

Restaurant rockers. “A lot of chefs are rebels and punk rockers at heart, and this carries over to music,” says Josh Kopelman, organizer of “Battle of the Chef Bands,” a charity concert taking place January 27 at the Solana Beach and Aspen.

This sparkling bar, the Griffin, is up for sale — again. What gives? AEG sparkling bar conglomerate. Millhouse will now book Club Nokia in Los Angeles and the Fox Theater in Pomona, each of which has a capacity of about 2000. The Belly Up holds 800.

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Belly Up Tavern.
Now in its fourth year, the battle as it stands has evolved since Kopelman first organized it in 2010.

“...first year, no one knew we’d be doing real music,” he says. “After we performed, other chefs and people in the restaurant industry said, ‘Hey, I play music, too.’”

An all-chef battle of the bands might sound off-putting, but Gordon says there’s a lot of synergy between the music industry and the food world.

“There’s a lot of similarities between chefs and musicians. We didn’t want to be lawyers, accountants, or doctors,” he explains. “Plus, for many aspiring musicians, the restaurant business is an easy way to make money while we’re trying to make a break.”

About a dozen restaurant rock groups are expected to perform, including Boulevar Descarga, a Latin-jazz group made up of the members of Romesco, a Mexican-themed bistro in Chula Vista; C.P.I., a punk band whose members work at Hodad’s when not touring; and Godhammered, a death-metal band featuring Kevin Templeton, the head chef at Barleymash in the Gaslamp.

Kopelman, the publisher of San Diego’s Dining Out magazine, is especially excited about Godhammered.

“They’re really good, and the Belly Up never books death-metal, so it should be interesting,” he says.

Ticket prices for this year’s event includes food from many of the participating restaurants.

“There will be more food than you can shake a Strat at,” Kopelman said.

—— Patrick Henderson

Record-release roundup.

Steve Poltz has recorded a new duet version of the hit song he originally wrote with Jewel, “You Were Meant for Me,” with Valencia, Spain-based singer Soledad Vélez. “I Was Going to Be an Astronaut” to close the show.

Kopelman said.

Greg Laswell was going to be an astronaut?

Another single, the Greyboy Allstars track “V Neck Sweater,” from their full-length What Happened to Television? album, appears on the new SCI Fidelity Records 15th Anniversary Compilation Album.

Greg Laswell was going to be an astronaut?

Greg Laswell, former Ike Turner drummer Bill Ray, drops February 1 at Beaumont’s Grill in La Jolla. On February 11, Lesat’s in Normal Heights will host the release party for Greg Laswell’s full-length I Was Going to Be an Astronaut, featuring remixes of ten Laswell songs plus a Sparklehorse cover, “It’s a Wonderful Life.” “I’d been playing alternate versions of some of these songs at my shows over the past few years,” says Laswell, “and every time people would come up afterwards and ask if there was ever going to be any recorded versions of those songs.”

The February 14 release party for Seventrain’s self-titled debut CD at Brick by Brick in Linda Vista will mark the live debut of a new lineup. “It’s Valentine’s Day,” says drummer Joel Maitoza. “Screw the filet mignon and lobster tails and bring your significant other down to a sweaty rock show.”

—— Jay Allen Sanford

CONTRIBUTORS
Chad Deal, Dave Good, Dorian Hargrove, Mary Leary, Ken Longino, Bart Mendosa, Jay Allen Sanford, David Splemente

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Chef Katie Grebow of Cafe Chloe — away from the stove and onto the stage.

“The first year, the musicians just played ‘Rock Band’ onstage,” he says. “Now, it’s mostly real bands and some karaoke bands.”

Matt Gordon, the chef and owner of Urban Solace Restaurant in North Park, Solace and the Moonlight Lounge in Encinitas, and Sea & Smoke in Del Mar, deserves some credit for making it into an event with real musicians and real music.

That first year, Gordon, a guitarist who played in a band in the San Francisco area for a few years before going into the restaurant business, secretly grabbed two restaurant friends who also played to work out a rendition of the Cult’s “Love Removal Machine” to close the show.

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This Week In Music

**Thursday 2/23**

The Casbah crowd will be celebrating the club’s 25-year run as San Diego’s credible showcase of up-and-coming alternative bands and a must-play stage for many underground and international acts. The Birch North Park Theatre will host a panel of the venue’s founders and followers who will speak to the role the Casbah has played in their lives, while sharing images and stories of the Middle-town mainstay’s highlights through the years. The Casbah has certainly had an influence on what I do for a living, and though I don’t make it in as often as I used to, when I do, the rush of personal bests — sharing the big booth with the Black Lips (we spoke with wicked convoking French accents), chatting up David Yow on the smoking patio (“Scratch Acid was the Creedence of punk”) — know, can’t believe I said it either), tackle-hugging a sweat-drenched Dean Wareham after Luna’s final show (cringe moment), and giving Will Oldham very specific and completely wrong directions to his hotel among many others. Many thanks to Tim Mays and crew for the years of inspired and inspiring entertainment. After that, if you’re feeling like a thing and a drink, walk the block to Bar Pink where soul-jazz trio Krass Bros, and sonic experimentalist Hong Kong Fuzz split a heady bill at the NoPark hot spot… or roll over to Soda Bar for some Kisses. The Santa Monica couple’s Kids in LA is a pure pleasure platter of synth-warmed new wave. Taste them sugar-pop lips on “Funny Heartbeat.” Future disco Portlandian Jeffrey Jerusalem opens the show… For you folks in North County, that baritoned bard White Buffalo roams into Solana Beach bar Belly Up. The traveling troubadour’s touring in support of his latest, the country-cooked concept record Shadows, Greys & Evil Ways.

**Friday 2/24**

From Brooklyn-via-Kyoto, garage-punk trio Ultra Bide will play Til-Two Friday night. The group broke ground with an ‘80s no-wave sound that caught the ear of the DK’s Jello Biafra. Ultra Bide signed to Biafra’s Alternative Tentacles label for stateside debut God Is God Puke Is Puke, and the rest is underground history. The bass-drums-duo fuzz-punks are out to tout this year’s DNA vs. DNA-C, which one astute East Coast crit describes thusly: “The trio’s dual bass and drum attack is a monster that pounds you ever so thick and creamy, into a custard donut cooked by Satan.” Dangerous and delicious! With Behind the Wagon, the Steinbacks, and Man Vs. Man, opening the show, you should go… Miss the door in Silly Heights, though, slow-core folkies Pure Bathing Culture (Velver) wash up on the other side of the mesa at Soda Bar. Seattle surf-wop sisters La Luz (Hardly Art) and our own garage-punk trio Flapps set up this sweet sleeper… Tower Bar’s got a fun-filled indie-eclectic bill, featuring Gloomsday, Pheasants, Chess Wars, and Shovel… “a psych-rock band in pop clothing,” L.A.-based Young Creatures and San Diego’s hard-rocking Brothers Weiss (Family Wagon) split a bill at Whistler Stop… post-core quartet Silver Snakes slither into Ché Café to celebrate The Year of the Snake, their latest, out now via Bridge Nine Records. Like-minded locals Griever and Children of God will get the pit spinning… Latin-rock Los Angelenos Ozomatli set up for two nights at Belly Up Friday and Saturday… and any way you want it, that’s the way you need it, DS8 plays the HOB, cranking out all your guilty-pleasure hits, secret Journey fan.

**Saturday 2/25**

I’m hoping to hear where Uncle Joe’s Big Of’ Driver will be playing their warm-up show(s) this week, if anybody knows — anybody? Their annual in-from-the cold (Minneapolis and Seattle) Casbah show Saturday night (with Smile and Well

**Sunday 2/26**

Gary Heffern & Friends will play a matinée (starts at 2p) at the Middletown mainstay with sound calliglist and ex-San Diego Robert Turman. Black Tango, and Social Spill, and I understand they’ll also be screening clips from local rock-roll historian Eric Rife’s Garageland. After that doozie of a day, stick around, because that night at Casbah you get punk-ass bluegrass by Old Man Markley, following pub punk Lexington Field. Up for more classic fare, Belly Up will be serving Hot Tuna — that’s the original lineup playing an all-acoustic show… while up at the Ramona Mainstage, Gary Hoey, Uli Jon Roth, and Kofi Baker are dishing Extreme Cream.

**Monday 2/27**

If you can’t take the heat… There’s going to be a Battle of the Chef Bands at Belly Up Monday night. Reader contributor Patrick Henderson got the lowdown on this gig for you in this week’s Bar. “Restaurant rockers,” if you want to flip or click there for more on that, or if you’re looking for something not-so-aggro, dubby rasta trio Chill Clinton’s at Soda Bar… while Bar Pink stagers Tori Roze & The Hot Mess for their fourth-Monday “Soulful” soul-jazz jams.

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**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**

98 Bottles: Thursday, 8pm — Timothy Lin Quintet. $10-$13.
Friday, 8pm — Black Mambo. $10-$13.
Saturday, 9pm — Tribute to Jimmy Smith & Lou Donaldson. $15-$20.

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

Balboa Theatre: Friday, 7:30pm — The Irish Rovers. $25-$45.
Saturday, 8pm — Tommy Emmanuel and Martin Taylor.
Sunday, 7pm — A Gala Night with David Garrett. $49-$54.
Wednesday, 7:30pm — Pink Martini.

Bar Pink: Saturday, 8pm — Gone Baby Gone, Shake Before Us, Baja Buggs.

Belly Up: Thursday, 8pm — Hot Tuna acoustic.
Friday, Saturday, 8pm — Ozomatli. $30.
Sunday, 8pm — Hot Tuna acoustic.

Chef Bands: Wednesday, 8:30pm — North Mississippi Allstars.

Birch North Park Theatre: Thursday, 8pm — 25 Years of the Last of the Mohicans.

Boar Cross’n: Thursday, 9pm — The Shakedown Daddies.

Brick by Brick: Thursday, 8pm — Sonic Clouds, Shura of Bilz, Val Gainer.
Saturday, 8pm — Bl’ast, Final Conflict, Systematic Abuse. $12-$15.
Sunday, 8pm — Ground Beneath, Suicide Chords, Blue Sun.
Tuesday, 8pm — Jayke Orvis, J. Humnicutt, Wicklow Atwater. $7.

California Center for the Arts, Escondido: Saturday, 7pm — San Diego Youth Symphony. $10-$25.

Casbah: Thursday, 8pm — Sprung Monkey and the Gods of Science.
Friday, 8:30pm — Creedle, Fluf, Chune.
Saturday, 9pm — Smile and Uncle Joe’s Big Ol’ Driver. $12-$14.
Sunday, 2pm — Gary Heffern & Friends, Black Tango.
Sunday, 6pm — Rusty Maple and Old Man Markley.
Wednesday, 9pm — OFF!, Widows, Bumbklatt, Rats Eyes. $20.

Ché Café: Friday, 8pm — Silver Snakes, Grieve, Children of God.

Christ Church Unity: Sunday, 9am, 11am, and 1pm — the band’s inner nervousness and drug abuse. By then, they’d relocated to Malibu. But life in the sunshine only seemed to exacerbate the band’s inner nervousness and drug abuse. The Process is a record that Key and Ogre pretty much invented the genre that made Nine Inch Nails possible. A cult-supported band that never got the recognition they deserved, Skinny Puppy is now ancient in music-industry terms but they are still very much alive, and they are still scary. Very scary.

**SKINNY PUPPY**: House of Blues, Saturday, January 25, 8 pm. 619-299-2583. $26-$40.

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

**By Dave Good**

After listening to a Skinny Puppy record, one feels as if having been yelled at by an angry parent. Dark moods, riddled with an irritation that either leaves you speechless or that you can completely identify with. There is no middle ground with this band. From early on, Skinny Puppy made anxiety-filled records about things such as animal rights, AIDS, and deforestation, all set into a menacing bed of electro beats.

Skinny Puppy began as a side project back in the early 1980s, in the frozen tundra of Vancouver, and was started by Kevin Key (Kevin Crompton) and a singer called Nivek Ogre (Kevin Ogilvie). Call them an acquired taste: their live shows were horror-themed.

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 1pm 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. Info: Meredith Tabor at 619-280-2501, x109.

Dizzy’s: Saturday, 8pm — Daniel Jackson Week celebration concert.

Gallagher’s Pub & Grill: Thursday, 8pm — Mad Traffic.
Saturday, 9pm — Whitney Morgan & the 78s. $8.

Griffin: Wednesday, 9pm — Robert DeLong and Mystery Skulls.

Hooley’s Irish Pub & Grill: Saturday, 9pm — Latayla Blues Band.

House of Blues: Thursday, 8pm — Sound Tribe Sector 9. CANCELED.
Saturday, 8pm — Skinny Puppy. $26-$79.

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: Thursday, 7pm — Backwater Blues Band.
Friday, 7pm — Clay Colton Band. Free.
Saturday, 7pm — BetaMaxx. $12.
Sunday, 8pm — Wildside.
Monday, 7:30pm — Blue Largo.
Tuesday, 7pm — The Groove Starring Stella. $5.
Wednesday, 8pm — The Fabulous Ultratones. $5.

Irenic: Friday, 8pm — Max Bemis, Matt Pryor, Perma, Merriment.
Saturday, 8pm — Of Montreal and Wild Mocassins.

**Key and Ogre were the only constant members in a loose association of random players. The two may have been the first to go commercial with the genre that would ultimately come to be known as electro-industrial. They were among the earliest to mix samples with noise, ambient, and rock, and they put out several albums before they disappeared off the radar in 1996 after the release of The Process. By then, they’d relocated to Malibu. But life in the sunshine only seemed to exacerbate the band’s inner nervousness and drug abuse. Ogre and Key didn’t officially come back until 2003. The next year, they released The Greater Wrong of the Right, which was reissued this year by Metropolis Records on both digital and vinyl. Now touring behind 2013’s Weapon, there is no need to worry that time and sensibility has dulled the message. Their new music sounds a bit dated, but remember that Key and Ogre pretty much invented the genre that made Nine Inch Nails possible. A cult-supported band that never got the recognition they deserved, Skinny Puppy is now ancient in music-industry terms but they are still very much alive, and they are still scary. Very scary.**
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CHRISTMAS SONGS
BAD RELIGION
BY DRYW KELTZ

Though some might think early January is a bit late for holiday tunes, throw on Bad Religion’s new album, Christmas Songs. You read correctly: Bad Religion released a Christmas album. Eight tradition holiday songs, plus the BR classic “American Jesus,” are on there.

Is that Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer in the corner over there? Nope, it’s just a random elk that wandered into the mosh-pit and ended up with a bloody nose. For a band that often questions the merits of religion, it’s amazing how well these traditional songs gel with Bad Religion’s modern-day angst.

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing,” “O Come All Ye Faithful,” and “Angels We Have Heard on High” all turn into light-speed anthems, while “White Christmas” gets a bit of a Ramones spin in its delivery.

The MVP on this short album is easily drummer Brooks Wackerman, whose playing gets pretty mind-blowing on a handful of the songs. Bad Religion may seem an unlikely fit, but their Christmas songs on speed quite often lift the carols to new heights. The Kings of Anger would be proud.

BAD RELIGION
CHRISTMAS SONGS
FRIDAY, 8PM
SODA BAR

The Blood spills at Brick by Brick
BY KENDRA FINN

Coagulating in 1980s London, the Blood is a unique punk band led by “Cardinal Jesus Hate.” This show did not disappoint, even though the crowd at Brick by Brick maxed out at 25 (including the staff and members of the other bands playing that night). Attendance aside, the Cardinal was in full form, wearing his religious vestments and singing to the venue as if it were packed to the rafters.

The sound system at the venue needs work, but the band powered through even as the Cardinal’s mic kept cutting in and out. (It sounded as if the sound guy wanted to call it an early night.)

The Blood ripped through a well-worn set, kicking off with “Stark Raving Normal” as they set foot onstage. They went through their anthems to our small crowd as if we were witness to an intimate practice session. Throughout the show I couldn’t help thinking, This is a good band...where the hell is everybody? Kudos to the Cardinal, though, for knowing that the show must go on.

Concert: The Blood
Date: December 19
Venue: Brick by Brick
Seats: General admission

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7:00 PM
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4/22 The Infamous Stringdusters
5/2 Tokyo Police Club - Casbah presents - on sale Friday

Upcoming Shows:
2/8 Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo SOLD OUT!!
2/9 Zac Brown Band 2/10 Steve Miller Band
2/11 Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks
2/12 Project Raw Fundraiser w/ Terraplane Sun
2/13 Los Lobos
2/14 Dead Man’s Party - V-Day Ball!
2/15 Boombox
2/16 Steve Poltz’s 5th Annual 20th Birthday Party
2/19 Ziggy Marley SOLD OUT!!
2/20 Ziggy Marley, The Hold Steady presented by KPRI
2/21 Augustana, The
2/22 John Butler Trio, Needtobreathe presented by KPRI
2/24 Lucinda Williams (with band)
2/26 Robert Randolph and the Family Band
2/27 Lord Huron
2/28 Elvin Bishop
3/1 Cash’d Out Johnny Cash Birthday Bash
3/2 The Wallers - 30th Anniversary of Legend Tour
3/4 The Wild Feathers
3/5 Gary Numan
3/7 Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe
3/8 Greensky Bluegrass
3/12 Paul Cannon Band
3/13 ETen Eleven
3/14 Cultura Pefecta
3/15 Tommy Castro & The Painkillers w/ Paul Thorn
3/16 Lake Street Dive
3/18 Galactic
3/19 The Toadies Rubberneck
20th Anniversary Tour
3/20 The English Beat
3/21 & 22 Rhys Darby of Flight of the Conchords - Seated Show
3/22 Delta Rae Presented by KPRI
3/27 Lettuce
3/30 Leftover Salmon
4/1 The Mavericks
4/2 VNV Nation
4/3 Big Head Todd and the Monsters
4/4 Big Head Todd and the Monsters - SOLD OUT!!!
4/5 The Black Lips
4/11 & 12 Super Diamond
4/24 Sarah Jarosz - seated show
5/4 MarchFourth
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5/10 Steel Pulse
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Today, you can follow the Google-font sign beneath the Arch into the tobacco-stained time warp that is Bar Nelson. Unlike many downtown drinking holes, this retro dive is a surefire spot for otherwise dull early weekdays. If you’re lucky, you may have a cordial afternoon chat with an off-duty Mexican migrations officer or pass an evening drinking in silence next to stoic mariachis who study the labels on their beers as Phil Collins croons from the jukebox. On weekends, you may overhear fanatical debates between art students who just came from a free film screening at CECUT or find company among the sullen deportees, drunk construction workers, and disgruntled elementary-school teachers who shout like 18th-century poets at nobody in particular.

Indeed, it’s the kind of place where sketchy liaisons might rendezvous at midnight — an aura that likely led to the bar being featured in 2009 narco-assassin film La Linea (though you’ll have to stray a few blocks up to Zona Norte to find the magnificently breasted women depicted in the short scene).

Completing Nelson’s vintage vibe, the juke is partial to classic-rock anthems (nine out of ten times it’s Pink Floyd, though Cream and the Beatles make appearances) along with some Tool and Radiohead rarities.

So here’s el deal: the Especial is a salt-rimmed highball glass loaded with ice, a finger of fresh-squeezed lime, 1.5 ounces of white rum, three fingers of 7-UP, and a splash of Coke. They go for 25 pesos (two bucks) and make a supremely refreshing session cocktail, though you may want to intersperse the occasional caguama (liter) of Tecate to mediate tomorrow’s hangover.

If — as it has been posited — Tijuana is purgatory (it is), then Nelson is the dive bar in the waiting room to heaven.

— Chad Deal (@chaddeal)

Find more Here’s the Deal columns at Sandiegoreader.com

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January 23, 2014

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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

**McGregor's Grill and Ale House:** Daily, 4-7pm & 10pm-close: $1 off domestic and craft beer pints, house wine, well drinks, 1/2 lb burgers, baja fish, carnitas and fish tacos. (Excluding Chargrill home games)

#### 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

**Bertrand at Mister A's:** Monday-Friday, 2:30-4pm: $5 wells, $6 wine, $10 specialty drinks, $4 local brews. $7 select menu items. Bar or patio only.

#### Bay Park

**Bay Park Fish Company:** Daily, 3-6pm: $4 draft, $5 house wine by the glass; $2 oyster shooter, $3 fish taco, $6 basic sushi rolls, $8 ceviche, $8 crispy calamari. Bar only.

**Tio Leo's:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints; $4 house margaritas, $5 street tacos, $7 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 entrees.

#### Cardiff-by-the-Sea

**Chart House:** Monday-Friday, 3-6:30pm: $4 wells, drafts. $5 wine by the glass. $7 martinis. $4, $5 and $6 appetizer menu.

#### Carlsbad

**The Alley:** Daily, 11am-7pm: $2.75 wells, domestics. On the Tracks Brewery and Tasting Room: Thursday, 5-7pm: Ladies, $3 pints.

#### Carmel Mountain

**Conway's Irish Pub:** Daily, 10am-8pm: $2.75 domestic drafts and bottles; $2.75 and $3.75 wells.

**Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co.:** Monday-Thursday, 3-7pm: $1 off house wells & imports. $5 cheese pizza, cheese calzone, wings, salad.

#### Carmel Valley

**Tio Leo's:** Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 domestic & Mexican pints; $4 house margaritas, wells; $5 street tacos, $7 hot dogs, carne asada fries, buffalo chicken tacos & more.

#### Chula Vista

**Achiote Restaurant:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $1 beer, $3.99 margaritas.

#### Corona

**Brigantine:** Monday-Friday, Sunday, 3-6pm: $4 Brig beers, Dog Ears, $4.75 margarita, $5.50 cheddar, $6.50 tacos, $1 off featured wine. Discounted appetizers, $3 domestic beer, $4.50 craft beer.

**Chianti:** Daily, 4-7pm, 9-11pm: $5 martinis, house wines. $6 meatballs, antipasto, $7 calamari.

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

**Downtown Johnny Brown's:** Monday-Friday, 6pm-1am: $1 off pints. $4 jello shots. $5 shots, $5 jumbo pretzel + beer, $3.50 house wine, $2 jello shots. 5pm-7pm, 9pm-1am: $1 off featured wine. Discounted appetizers, $3 domestic beer, $3 imported drafts.

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

#### Eastlake

**Chili's:** Monday-Thursday, Saturday-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

**Double D's on Broadway:** Daily, 10am-noon, 4pm-7pm: $2.50 domestic, $3 off imported, $1 off shots.

**El Cajon Grand:** Monday-Friday, 5-9pm: $2.50 domestic beer, $3 wells.

#### Main Tap Tavern: Tuesday, 3-6pm: Taco Tuesday, $2.50 Fish Tacos. Wednesday, 3-6pm: Shrimp sock cabs. $3 at 3pm, $4 at 4pm, etc... Friday, 3-6pm: $4 shots all day.

#### Encinitas

**Bullpen Pub & Grill:** Monday-Friday, 2-7pm, 10pm-2am: $1 off draft beer, $3 off pitcher, $2 off wine.

**Cap'n Keno's:** Daily, 6am-midnight: $2.50 wells, pints of beer. (Monday-Friday, free chicken 4pm-5pm)

**D Street Bar and Grill:** Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.50 domestic pints, $3 imported pints. $4 beer, $3 off pitcher, $2 off wine.

#### Firenze

**Daily, 4:30-6:30pm: $2 off all wines by the glass, $2 off all cocktails, $1 off all beer.**

#### Happy Hour

**103001004 E03312014**

**4671 Park Blvd. @ Adams Ave. (619) 298-5382**

#### Happy Hour

**11am - 7pm DAILY**

**Hoffner's Cigar Bar**

**24 CRAFT BEERS ON TAP**

**20 WINES • 3 HDTV'S**

**2 HUMIDOR ROOMS**

**CIGAR ACCESSORIES**

**FOOD AVAILABLE**

**OUTDOOR CIGAR PATIO**

#### Happy Hour

**1/2 PRICE COCKTAILS • BEER SPECIALS 1/2 PRICE SELECT APPETIZERS**

**Mon-Fri 4:30pm-7pm • Sun-Thu 10pm-Close**

**$10 FREE Game Play**

with the purchase of $10 of game play

Promotional Expiration: 03/21/2014. This present is valid at front desk to redeem. Limit one coupon per customer. Barcodes valid for one use only. Minor policies vary by location – please check www.gamebusters.com for location details. Not valid with any other offers, including Eat & Play or Eat, Play, Win Combos. Half Price Games Wednesday through Sunday. Half Price Game promotion not valid with Special Events Packages. Coupon must be surrendered at time of redemption and may not be photocopied or duplicated. Not negotiable. Power Card activation fee is $2. ($3 Times Square). NOT FOR RESALE.
SATURDAY JAN 25TH - SUNDAY JAN 26TH

COYOTE UGLY
GIRL SEARCH

SATURDAY JAN 25TH - SUNDAY JAN 26TH
APPLY IN PERSON FROM NOON - 5PM ★820 5TH AVE - SAN DIEGO - GASLAMP DISTRICT

MUST BE 21! COYOTE UGLY IS LOOKING FOR GIRLS THAT CAN MAKE A DRINK, KEEP A BEAT AND LOOK GOOD WHILE DOING IT. EXPERIENCE PREFERRED, BUT WE WILL TRAIN THE RIGHT APPLICANTS. FOR MORE INFO PLEASE VISIT www.COYOTEUGLYSALOON.com

COYOTE UGLY SALOON
Coronado Brewing gains solid footing on the mainland
When Coronado Brewing Company (1205 Knoxville Street, Bay Park) moved its primary production to a much larger facility and brewhouse on the mainland, its brewers went wild, producing more styles at one time than at any previous point in the company's history. They had reasons. The new facility included a large tasting room equipped with 20 taps. So, in addition to mainstays such as Orange Avenue Wit and Idaho IPA, Coronado's brewers crafted over a dozen specialty beers. It made for an appealing beer board with increased variety. Sadly, much of the beer came in below expectations...until recently.

My last progress check of Coronado turned up the best beers I've had since the Knoxiville facility opened its doors. The core beers tasted much as they did back when they were exclusively produced at Coronado's island brewpub. Particularly impressive were lighter specialty beers like a nicely mineralic lager called Helles Awaits and an easy-drinking cream ale called Cream of the Hop. And Island Fever, an American wheat beer brewed with pineapple, was light and refreshing, despite being a departure from traditional styles.

Stupid Stout, Coronado's robust, viscous Russian imperial stout made me extra excited to try out the bourbon-barrel-aged version of that brew, which will be released at the tasting room on January 23 along with bourbon-barrel-aged Old Scallywag Barley Wine.

For more breaking craft beer news, follow San Diego Beer News on Twitter (@SDBeerNews) or keep up on Facebook.

Now you have no excuse not to come to Kearny Mesa
Happy Hour Daily 4 Pm To 7Pm
Reservations Recommended

Coronado Brewing
39th-largest brewpub
in downtown San Diego,
blew him away, leading him to
enter an Australian brewpub called Sail and Anchor in Fremantle, Australia, and drank one of its house beers. The concept of brewing beer onsite blew him away, leading him to return home and establish his own brewhop in downtown San Diego.

Sail and Anchor's main production facility, Gage Roads Brewing Company, which is equipped with a 100-barrel system. Two batches of the Brewe will be brewed with almost all of the beer being served in Australia in early February. However, there is a chance some of those awes will make their way to San Diego for tasting sessions.

Segura is excited about returning to the scene the same year he and his colleagues will celebrate the company's history.

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HAPPY HOUR 01-23.indd   77
1/21/14   8:09 AM

Sabuku Sushi:
- Show employee ID or pay stub.
- 25% off entrées & appetizers. Must
  show employee ID or pay stub.

Industry Night, $3.50 wells, $5.50 calls, $5 Rock Sage’s, $7
All cocktails & wine by the glass.

Ocean Beach:
- Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, $4
draft beer pints, $3 well drinks & well wines, $3 house mar-
garitas & 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 & sam-
gras. $3 & $4 tapas.

Point Loma:
- Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
  Daily, 5-7pm: 1/2-off select drinks & menu items (excludes holi-
day/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, 3-6:30pm: $5 tapas, $3 beer, $5
  select wine, $6 select cocktails and wells. (bar & side lounge only)

POWAY:
- Phileas Fogg’s Bar & Restaurant:
  Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $1 off beers on tap, $1 off appetizers.

Ramona:
- Boll Weevil Restaurant:
  Monday-Friday, 3-5pm: $2 off all pitchers.

Rancho Bernardo:
- Kelly’s Public House:
  Monday-Friday, 3-6pm: $3.50 domestic pints, $8
  pitchers, $4 premium pints, $5 margaritas & long island ice teas.

Rancho Penasquitos:
- Deli Stop Sports Pub:
  Monday-Friday, 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 all beer.

San Diego:
- Weekday Lunch Specials:
  Monday-Friday, 11am-2pm:
  2 for 1 drink specials.

Sandbar Café:
- Daily, 11am-8pm: $1.50 domestic drafts, $2.50 craft
drafts, $4.50 appetizers, $12 hookah/$10 hookah rolls.

Tony Roma’s:
- Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, $4
draft beer pints, $3 well drinks & well wines, $3 house mar-
garitas & 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
draft beer pints, $3 well drinks & well wines, $3 house mar-
garitas & Long Island ice teas. 1/2-off all appetizers. (happy hour at bar only)

Taco Tuesday All Day!
- $3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, $4
  premium draft beer pints, $3 well
  drinks & well wines, $3 house mar-
garitas & Long Island ice teas. 1/2-off
  all appetizers. (happy hour at bar only)
- The Saddle Bar:
  Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $1 off drinks and drafts.

Sorrento Valley:
- 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.

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

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

Vista:
- Chili Coast Burgers:
  Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $.50-.75 off tap beer.

Back Alley Grill:
- Tuesday, All Day:
  $1 Taco Tuesday. Wednesday, All Day:
  $5th Wings Wednesday. Thursday, All
  Day: $1 off pitchers Thursday Thirsty
  Thursday.

Serra Mesa:
- Channel 1 Sports Bar and Grill:
  Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $2.75 domes-
tic beers, $3.25 well drinks.

Shelter Island:
- Humphreys Backstage Music Club:
  Daily, 5-7pm-1/2-off select drinks & menu items (excludes holi-
day/concert nights).

Solana Beach:
- The Saddle Bar:
  Monday-Friday, 3-7pm: $1 off drinks and drafts.

Tremont Street Bar & Grill:
- Equis all day!
- Daily, 11am-2pm:
  1/2-price wine bottles.
- Daily, All Night:
  $1 off craft drafts, $2 domes-
tic drafts, $2.75 well drinks. 1/2-off
  appetizers. Must show employee ID or pay stub.

Tony Roma’s:
- Monday-Friday, 4-6pm: $3 Bud Light & Shock Top pints, $4
draft beer pints, $3 well drinks & well wines, $3 house mar-
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**Theater Listings**

Theater listings and commentary are by Jeff Smith. Information is accurate at the time the 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**
The great Cole Porter musical’s been called a hit. Oddly, but it’s about escape, from restrictions and the manic woes of the Depression. And when you’re in S. A., you’re with Reno Sweeney, Moonface Martin, and Billy Crocker, the score will absorb woes as long as the ship’s afloat, and maybe even longer. The Welk Resort production, ably directed and choreographed by Ray Limon, is a slow starter. But once Natalie Lucci (Reno), Shaun Leslie Sands (Moonface), and Joshua Carr (Billy) sing “Friendship,” they take charge and the ship sails smoothly after that. In particular, Lucci’s renditions of “I Get a Kick Out of You” and “Blow, Gabriel, Blow” are quite particular. Lucci’s rendition of “On a Slow Boat to China” is quite long. The Welk Resort will abolish woes as long as you sail on the S.S. American.

**February 17-23**

SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 2.

**MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., S.DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1200.**

**SUNDAYS, 7:30PM WEDNESDAYS, 8PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS, 7PM, FEB. 24, MAR. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30.**

**CLYDESDALE THEATRE, 9190 CORONADO HILTON PKWY., CORONADO. 619-435-7223.**

**SUN. 7PM, FEB. 24, MAR. 3, 10, 17, APR. 3, 10.**

**CABARET NIGHT**

FEB. 22 6:30PM

SAN DIEGITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**ORIGINAL ONE ACT FESTIVAL**

MAR. 2 7PM

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**CAJON HIGH SCHOOL, 400 CANYON DR., SAN DIEGO. 619-574-4574.**

**TUESDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 2, 7PM, FEB. 26, MAR. 5, 12, 19, APR. 2, MAY 7.**

**CITY COLLEGE, 1430 30TH ST., SAN DIEGO. 619-858-7121.**

**AUDITIONS**

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**MOXIE THEATRE, 6663 EL CAJON BL., S.DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-544-1200.**

**SUNDAYS, THROUGH MARCH 2.**

**CABARET NIGHT**

FEB. 22 6:30PM

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**CAUGHT IN THE ACT**

FEB. 6, 7, 8 PM

WESTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

**THE COMPLETE WORKS OF SHAKESPEARE**

JAN. 31 & FEB. 1 7PM

FEB. 2 & 7 PM, 8 PM, 7:30 PM, 8PM FRI & SATU.

**CORONADO HILTON HIGH SCHOOL**

**HOT MIKADO**

FEB. 20 2:30PM, FEB. 21, FEB. 22 2:30PM & 7PM, FEB. 23 2:30PM, FEB. 27 2:30PM, FEB. 28 2:30PM, MAR. 1 2PM & 7PM, MAR. 6 2:30PM, MAR. 7 7PM, MAR. 8 2PM & 7PM.

**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

**CABARET NIGHT**

FEB. 14, 15, 17 PM, FEB. 16 10:29PM, FEB. 21, 27 PM, FEB. 22 2PM & 7PM, FEB. 23 2PM.

**GREENFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**CABARET NIGHT**

FEB. 22 6:30PM

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**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

**GUYS AND DOLLS**

MAR. 27, 28, 29

RANCHO BERNARDO HIGH SCHOOL

**LITTLE WOMEN**

FEB. 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17 PM

POWAY HIGH SCHOOL

**MACBETH**

FEB. 6, 7, 8, 13

BISHOP’S SCHOOL

**MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING**

JAN. 23 23:00PM, JAN. 24, JAN. 25 2PM & 7PM

**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**

**ORIGINAL ONE ACT FESTIVAL**

MAR. 2 7PM

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**ROMEO AND JULIET**

FEB. 23 6PM

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum**

FEB. 23, 24

**THEATER PLAYERS, 300 CANAL ST., VISTA.**

**Five Course Love**

SCIRPS RANCH THEATRE continues its 33rd 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.

**School of the Arts**

FEB. 23 6PM

SAN DIEGUITO ACADEMY CLAETON E. LIGGETT THEATER

**to list a school play, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select School Plays as the category.**

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FEB. 23 6PM

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**to list a school play, go to sdreader.com/events/submit and select School Plays as the category.**

**Into the Heights**

SAWILLE THEATRE AT SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE

14th and G St., City College

Bring a song and your best moves. Seeking Latin/hiphop — a community of actors/singers/dancers. You do not need to be a student to audition, but you will must enroll in classes if you are cast. Free parking in faculty/staff lot. Director: Jane Richards, jnrichards@ccd.edu.

**Auditions:** FEB. 8 NOON

**The Jungle Book**

THEATRE ARTS SCHOOL OF SAN DIEGO

2650 Tросton Rd., Suite 203, Liberty Station

Kipling’s beloved Indian tale, adapted and directed by TAS+SD founder Courtney Corey, with many roles for both boys and girls. All cast members will have an opportunity to create, explore, and shine on stage. Ages 8 to 18. Rehearsals begin March 20 (Thursdays and Sundays only). Performances June 5 to 7 at The White Box Theatre at FTC. Auditions: FEB. 2, 3

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San Diego Shakespeare Society presents an “open” reading of Romeo and Juliet at the new Central Library. “Anyone can join in the reading or just come along to listen. Parts are assigned before each scene.” Rupert Essinger directs. Admission is free. CENTRAL LIBRARY, 330 PARK BL., EAST VILLAGE. 619-236-5800. 12:30PM SATURDAY.

Opera Previews: Pagliacci
The 14th season of Opera Previews will feature Professor Ron Shaheen looking at the historic background, style, story and setting, fabled performers, and special attributes of each of San Diego Opera’s 2014 productions. With photos, videos and recordings to enhance his explorations, his preview of Ruggero Leoncavallo’s Pagliacci will offer insights for both longtime opera buffs and curious newcomers. SCHULMAN AUDITORIUM AT CARLSBAD CITY LIBRARY, 1775 DOVE LANE, CARLSBAD. 10AM SATURDAY.

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 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.

San Diego Opera: Leoncavallo’s Pagliacci
“Crazed clown murders wife in front of live audience” is what the headlines would have screamed after the jealous Canio stabs his wife Nedda and her lover to death in a jealousy-driven rage while performing a comedy before an audience of shocked Italian villagers. One of the most powerful operas in the repertoire, Pagliacci is gut-wrenching as Tonio, a member of the traveling troupe of players rejected by Nedda, sees her with another man and tells Canio how to get vengeance. In the famous aria “Vesti la giubba”, Canio applies his clown makeup saying that the show must go on, but creates his own tragic ending. Debuting artists Romanian soprano Adina Nitescu, a consummate actress at the Paris Opera, Metropolitan Opera and Florence, and powerful Brazilian baritone Rodolfo Giugliani, join Uruguayan tenor Carlo Ventre, fresh from successes at Covent Garden, Hamburg and the Verona Arena. Yves Abel, following his great success leading The Daughter of the Regiment last season, returns to conduct with Andrew Sinclair directing this extraordinary production.
SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE, 1100 THIRD AVE., DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-570-1100. 7PM SATURDAY & TUESDAY.

Tea with Mrs. Roosevelt
Women’s Empowerment International (WE) presents Sherrie Colbourn’s one-act, two-women performance: Investigative reporter Lorena Hicks, famous for her coverage of the Lindbergh kidnapping, has tea with Eleanor Roosevelt. Colbourn directs.
NORTH COUNTY ASSISTANCE LEAGUE, 2068 EAST VALLEY PARKWAY, ESCONDIDO. 760-746-7532. 2:30PM SATURDAY.

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 Abel, 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, THROUGH FEBRUARY 23.
Blood on the page

A showcase from director-star Ralph Fiennes, he of the fierce visage and pleading eyes. First, it is a visual marvel — the framing is now theatrical, now unobtrusive, but always masterful and appropriate. Second, it is a triumph of characterization. Nobody makes speeches; nobody has to. Fiennes plays Charles Dickens, the James Franco of his time — writer, director, actor, thinker, celebrity, activist, you name it. The sort who could pull in a crowd just to hear him read from his own work. But despite the opinion of this story’s Mrs. Dickens, he was not simply a maker of entertainments; there was blood on the page and passion in his loins. Which brings us to The Invisible Woman’s tertiary virtue: the story of how a Great Man wooed a young mistress against the backdrop of Victorian mores and his own family. Felicity Jones ably portrays the mistress through both the seduction and the haunted aftermath.

— Matthew Lickona

INTERVIEW WITH GIMME SHELTER WRITER-DIRECTOR RON KRAUSS AND SEVERAL SOURCES SHELTER FOUNDER KATHY DIFIORE

In 2009, filmmaker Ron Krauss (Puppies for Sale, Alien Hunter) paid a visit to his brother in New Jersey. While there, he learned about a shelter for young mothers, just a mile away. He decided to stop by, “with no agenda or intention.” But what he saw there eventually led him to make Gimme Shelter, the story of Apple (Vanessa Hudgens), a teenage girl who flees an abusive home only to wind up alone and on the streets. She finds refuge in a shelter much like the one Krauss visited, but even there, she encounters crises both within and without.

Matthew Lickona: Kathy, you’ve said that, in the past, you were hesitant to take part in media coverage of your work. What led you to say yes on this project?

Kathy DiFiore: When Ron came to visit, I opened my door and listened to what he had to say. When he proposed the idea [of a film], I didn’t like it, because I like our privacy — I’m very protective of the girls. I’ve never gone out and given speeches — it’s just the work. Help the work; help the girls. But Ron is a very special guy, very sensitive, very compassionate. I didn’t want to trust him — he’s from Hollywood, and I’m sorry to say it, but the image of Hollywood is that you don’t trust these people.

Ron Krauss: Actually, I’m from New York.

KD: Okay, that’s different. But I kept hearing this buzzer in my head: Trust him. So I put him through the litmus test, which is the mothers. These young women have led hard lives. They’ve been conned by the best. And they really liked him. They told him more about themselves than they told me. That made me realize that God wanted me to work with him. Maybe it was time to change. Maybe it was time to get the message out.

ML: Ron, I was struck by the scene in the hospital where Apple’s mom (Rosario Dawson) is pleading with her to come home. Mom drops her controlling persona and opens up about her own suffering, her own struggles with single motherhood. She makes herself vulnerable to Apple, hoping to gain her sympathy. But Apple won’t hear it. Could you tell me about that scene?

RK: First of all, her mother is a prostitute and a meth addict. We don’t know what Apple has been put through, but when the movie opens, she’s hiding in the bathroom, and we see that her mom beats her. She’s given her mother enough chances. She wants to find a way for herself to have a better life and not be her mother. Her mother tells her, “You are me. There is no better life.” And Apple is saying, “I don’t think so. I can have a better life.”

We actually shot that scene six months after everything else. We tested the movie, and most people were saying, “We really want to know more about the mother-daughter relationship. So I wrote that scene, and Vanessa and Rosario came back and got back into character again. It was challenging, but they did such a good job — Vanessa reacting to the heartbreak of her mother. She was just incredible.

ML: One of the young mothers decides she doesn’t want to stay in the shelter; she feels she’s being exploited for charity. What do you say to that kind of claim?

RK: Some of the girls would actually say that while I was there. And they would just leave. That’s why I put it in the script.

KD: We try to get the girls to understand that by staying, they’ll learn new skills and be a better mother. But some of them just can’t see it. They’re maybe what you would call ‘runners’ — they get on to the next environment, and when they don’t like that, they run again. One of the things that the shelter director says in the film is that I also say is, “Stop dancing with your demons. Throw that garbage out of your life and let us help you.” But for some, they’ve been so abused and manipulated that they just see everybody doing the same thing to them. It’s become part of their DNA.

ML: Anytime you do a film in which a mother chooses to go ahead with a crisis pregnancy and not get an abortion, you’re probably going to have someone saying it’s propaganda. How would you respond to that?

RK: You could take the film Knocked Up and call it a pro-life movie, just because she kept her baby. Anytime that’s part of the tapestry of the story, you’re touching on the subject of a very personal issue. It’s what each moviegoer brings inside of them to a movie. But the movie is not an abortion movie. It’s not about whether she keeps the baby or not. This movie cuts to a deeper level of human compassion, and love, and family. It really touches on, “What is the definition of family today?” and “What is the face of homelessness today?” A film like this is not specifically about the shelters or the girls but about the general message of helping somebody, taking initiative. Our society needs more understanding about helping other people and less about helping ourselves.

KD: This movie is about motherhood and babies and families and the culture that has divided us. It’s not a movie; it’s a movement. [More at sandiegoreader.com]

— Matthew Lickona

STRONG LINEUP AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL

“Would I be if I weren’t strong?” asks one of the characters in director Jeremy Teicher’s Tall as the Baobab Tree. Strength is a quality that reverberates throughout the six films to be screened this weekend as part of the fourth annual Human Rights Watch Film Festival at the Museum of Photographic Arts.

The festival runs from January 23 through 27. Tickets are $8, with discounts available to students, seniors, military, and MoPA members. For more information and a complete list of films, visit mopafilmfest.org.

Why not make Sunday a dinner-and-two-movies escape? Submitted for your approval, a superb late-afternoon double-feature with enough time sandwiched between the films for you to grab a sandwich.

In the Shadow of the Sun — There is a spot on God’s green earth, Ukerewe Island in Tanzania, to be exact, where witch doctors continue to prescribe the severed limbs of albino as good-luck charms to patients looking for eternal protection.

The Invisible Woman — Apparently, Victorian beachwear left a great deal to the imagination.
Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues — Having romped around the harmless, and often inappropriate, antics of the original Anchorman: Ron Burgundy & Co. (Will Ferrell, Steve Carell, David Koechner, and Paul Rudd), the film enter a world that is much more serious and in much more need of lampooning: the nightmare of infomation, 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.)

Wiseau would be better served by his feature debut, The Company Men, but little besides can set him apart. This is a heaping plate of fried green magnolias. The Weston clan and company gather in Tulsa to mourn the suicide of the family patriarch and wind up wishing that their beauty, cancer-riddled mother (Meryl Streep) could trade places with him. John Turturro, who scored big with his debut feature, The Company Men, does little besides can set the emotional wallop. It’s very likely that you’ll laugh at some of them. Possibly in spite of yourself. With Christina Applegate. 2013. ★★★☆☆ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

Caught in the Web — As bold departures go — this is the director Chen Kaige’s second nonperiod picture in over two decades — it’s an exhilarating experience to behold, though not by any stretch of the imagination. Kaige (Farewell My Concubine), a master of austerity, not hilarity, can’t give his film the edgy sophm that made it worthwhile. It’s an exhilarating experience to behold, not because it gives a guy a place to input his experiences, but because it gives him a place to input his experiences. With Salma Hayek, starts at 7:30pm. Outdoor cinema.

Farewell My Concubine — This year’s entry in the dysfunctional family holiday sweepstakes is a heaping plate of fried green magnolias. The Weston clan and company gather in Tulsa to mourn the suicide of the family patriarch and wind up wishing that their beauty, cancer-riddled mother (Meryl Streep) could trade places with him. John Turturro, who scored big with his debut feature, The Company Men, does little besides can set the emotional wallop. It’s very likely that you’ll laugh at some of them. Possibly in spite of yourself. With Christina Applegate. 2013. ★★★☆☆ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

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First in the Air — In 1884 — 19 years before Kitty Hawk — John J. Montgomery made a controlled flight with a glider from a windward mesa near the Mexican border. A relentless, driven experimenter, he devoted the rest of his life to mastering “the science of the bird” — a devotion that cut it short.

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 29, 8:00pm, Wednesday, February 5, 8:00pm, Wednesday, February 12, 8:00pm

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Film Forum: A.C.O.D. Observes the unraveling of a befuddled restaurant (Adam Scott) who has spent his life trying to broker a peace treaty between his antagongistic parents (Richard Jenkins, Catherine O’Hara). At once frantic and mistimed in this rapid-fire, multicharacter drama. On the bus ride home following a routine checkup that brought to light a terminal illness, a young Chinese secretary (Yuanuan Gao) refuses to vacate her seat for a senior, thus becoming the subject of a cell-phone video and its accompanying viral notation. Kaige (Farewell My Concubine), a master of austerity, not hilarity, can’t give his film the edgy sophm that made it worthwhile. It’s an exhilarating experience to behold, not because it gives a guy a place to input his experiences, but because it gives him a place to input his experiences. With Salma Hayek, starts at 7:30pm. Outdoor cinema.

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director's decision to keep his protagonist's prognosis a secret from the other characters.) After 30 minutes he stops trying, as such bad guys are generally replaced by more familiar themes of romantic longing. S.M.

**LANDMARK HILLCREST**

**Gimme Shelter** — Having vacated her polished Disney decency with two exercises in high-concept sleaze (Sucker Punch, Spring Breakers), Vanessa Hudgens gives for earnest drama (complete with frumpy-grungy appearance) as Apple, the abused daughter of a meth whore (a frightening Rosario Dawson). In rapid succession, Apple escapes her home, meets her (rich, conventional) dad, escapes his home, winds up in the hospital, and lands at a shelter for young women in distress. Along the way, a kindly priest (James Earl Jones?) tries to help her find some measure of earthly peace, but she has to fight to get it. The poster lets us know that director Ron Krauss has an inspiring true story on his hands, and while he does his best to smother it with the requisite grime and grit, the film, like Hudgens, brings more earnest than drama to the proceedings. Still, there are some good moments along the way. With Brendan Fraser. 2014. M.L. ★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — CHECK SHOWTIMES)

**I, Frankenstein**

— You know what was missing from the whole Underworld trilogy, with its eternal war between vampires and werewolves? Frankenstein. This should instead of the Brooklyn). Surprise, surprise: the wrong bridge: the George Washington business today, consider the fate of a '60s folk singers. (evil eye) and brujeria hexes. 2014. (IN WIDE RELEASE — CHECK SHOWTIMES)

**The Legend of Hercules** — Renny Harlin (remember The Long Kiss Goodnight?) spoils 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, dashboard 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 enrochest seems to be awe rather than gratitude — from the outset, it's made clear that these men are a breed apart, warriors by nature and suffer and fight because they want to suffer and fight and 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 torture. 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 Nut Job** — A battle over a nut cartel finds a fiercely independent, self-serving squirrel named Nuts (voiced by Will Arnett) double-entendres, but in their place stand some of the last, most unimaginative fart jokes on record. I'm all for realism, but a squirrel cracking a rat during his morning stretch exactly isn't clever. That said, the breezy narrative, phable character design and movement are 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 out loud notwithstanding, I took more delight in watching this than any 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 knockoff impersonation of Mike Tyson. 2014. S.M. ★★ (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)

**Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones** — The last of the franchise, this time a reboot/heads for the barrio to investigate the world of curanderas, Cardinalinkts, mal de ojo (evil eye) and brujeria hexes. 2014. (IN WIDE RELEASE — SEE SHOWTIMES)
Call theater for program information.

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San Diego Reader / January 23, 2014
SOUTH PARK
Shotgun in the closet
U.S. Marshals nab suspect from Beech Street rental

Agents of the U.S. Marshals Service raided a house in South Park on Wednesday, January 15, at 4:30 p.m., arresting at least one occupant and detaining two others while they searched the house.

Ten armed officers, wearing green flak vests over casual attire, served a warrant at 1505 Fern Street, at the corner of Beech. A number of the windows in the building were pattered over inside. Neighborhood residents walked past as the large group of armed men surrounded the property, and few lingered.

The large Craftsman home is split into multiple rental units, and while officers quickly gained entry to dwellings at the front of the house, they encountered some difficulty opening a door on the southeast corner of the house, facing Beech Street. They handcuffed a male and female resident in the house’s yard as they secured the rest of the house and focused on the rear entry.

Officers took note of a security camera mounted over the locked door, while their attempts to communicate with any inhabitants within went disregarded.

The team of marshals proceeded to force entry, weapons drawn, loudly announcing their presence. From within the house, shouts and a scream could be heard. Moments after, the marshals led out a young woman wearing a dark shirt and red shorts, hands cuffed behind her back. Another marshal exited the house carefully carrying a black shotgun.

The woman, who appeared to be in her early 20s, claimed she had been “shocked” repeatedly and was insisting she hadn’t done anything wrong, that she had been taking a shower while they were knocking. In response, one of the marshals asked her why she had been hiding in a closet with the shotgun when they entered. Crooked rulers. She claimed to have been hiding out of fear and said she had no knowledge there was a shotgun in the closet.

MISSION BEACH
Zip-line races by March 1 in Belmont Park

Previous leaseholder in bankruptcy

The California Coastal Commission on January 10 approved another attraction for Mission Beach’s Belmont Park — a 300-foot zip-line.

The zip-line and a laser-tag arena that’s already approved and under construction will be operational on March 1, according to Stacy Warner, director of sales and marketing for Eat Drink Sleep, a Pacific Beach–based hospitality-management company that is working on the project.

Belmont Park was acquired by Pacific Enterprises in November 2012. The investment company partnered with Eat Drink Sleep to run the amusement park. Pacifica isn’t saying how much it paid for the loan it purchased. The property ended up in bankruptcy in 2011 after previous leaseholder Tom Lochtefeld reportedly got into a dispute with the City over the rent.

Lochtefeld took over the seven-acre park in 2000 and, by all accounts, revived it. Last year, the park added a miniature-golf course (at $8.95 a game) and opened a sushi restaurant, Cannonball, where the ‘Canes nightclub used to be. Plans for the site include a new arcade, a new restaurant that will be named “Draft,” and the zip-line.

“There’s actually going to be two of them side-by-side, about 30 feet up, and the riders will race against each other,” Warner said.

The 89-year-old roller-coaster will continue to anchor the amusement park.

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### RULES OF THE GAME

1. Submit your completed puzzle to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and winners are posted online each week. No entry will only be credited when you successfully complete a puzzle AND set it in by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2. Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. If you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday, your submission will only be credited when you successfully complete the puzzle and set it in online.
3. The puzzle contest is run 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 Puzzles, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92138-5803, or delivered to our new location, 2233 Broadway in Golden Hill or scanned and emailed to puzzle@sdreader.com. All entries must be IN the EDición format. (Name/Phone/Address line and phone number must be included as part of the entry.)
5. We cannot accept your entry without the following:
   - Your name
   - A phone number
   - A physical address
   - A valid e-mail address
   - A valid credit card number
6. We reserve the right to publish any entry we wish. And now for the really small print:

   A. We reserve the right to publish any entry we wish. No entry will only be credited when you successfully complete a puzzle AND set it in online.
   B. Late entries will not be considered.
   C. We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever words or phrases required.
   D. We will disqualify any employee of the Reader and their immediate family members. No prizes will be awarded.

### SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S PUZZLE:

#### Crossword

1. 8
2. 6
3. 11
4. 7
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11. 16
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RULES OF THE GAME

1) Solve the puzzle with the numbers 1 through 9. No numbers can be repeated in any row, column, or region.

2) Each puzzle has a unique solution that can be reached without guessing.

3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever cheating allowed.

4) We will award prizes to the winners.

5) Remember to check the rules each week for any changes.

6) If you have any questions, feel free to contact us at Reader.Sudoku.Puzzle@sdreader.com.

7) The puzzle contest runs every thunder Thursday through the following Wednesday.

8) Employees of the Reader offices front desk from the San Diego Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

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10) We cannot accept your entry without the following:

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1BD+1BA $1005 and 2BD+1BA $1200. No pets. 4550 Vandever Ave. Manager, 619-298-7724.

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LA MESA, $1100.
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2BD+2BA, quiet, good apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion valley shopping (Uptown) with balcony. Fireplace, Dishwasher, Hardwood Floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #8. 619-514-8207.

CAYUCOS, $995.
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SOMERSET, $2,000.
2BD+2BA, quiet, good apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion valley shopping (Uptown) with balcony. Fireplace, Dishwasher, Hardwood Floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #5. 619-514-8207.

SOMERSET, $2,000.
2BD+2BA, quiet, good apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion valley shopping (Uptown) with balcony. Fireplace, Dishwasher, Hardwood Floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #5. 619-514-8207.

SOMERSET, $2,000.
2BD+2BA, quiet, good apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion valley shopping (Uptown) with balcony. Fireplace, Dishwasher, Hardwood Floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #5. 619-514-8207.

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2BD+2BA, quiet, good apartment near The University of San Diego and Fashion valley shopping (Uptown) with balcony. Fireplace, Dishwasher, Hardwood Floors. Coin laundry. 5530 Riley Street #5. 619-514-8207.
LEAD STORY

— Is the signature smell of Texas A&M University more “Italian lemon, bergamot, and iced pineapple” (that open into a “body of vivacious, raw, nutmeg and cinnamon”) or more “bat feces” and “chilifest”?

The two contrasts were仲談ated in a November Wall Street Journal report on the introduction of Masik Collegiate Fragrances’ Texas A&M cologne (one of 17 Masik college clients) after 5pm. Call 619-283-6463.

Kensington Drive, #1. 619-280-1800; Kensington-Talmadge, $1125. Kensington-Talmadge, $1000.

— About a week later, on the Norwegian island of Vestyvö, a moose hunter missed his target but hit an obscured cottage in the distance, wounding a man in his 70s as he answered nature’s call. He was airlifted to Ullevaal University Hospital in Oslo.

— In November, barely two weeks after a small plane carrying ten skydivers left the airport when it crashed on the way to an exhibition parachute drop, all thirty people on board were killed. The accident occurred as the plane entered a spin, lost altitude, and crashed into a mountain. The crash site was located near the town of Vos, in the Fjord experienced skydivers did not address how experienced skydivers escaped one plane but not the other.

Animal Sacrifice in America

— In September, Orthodox Jewish communities once again staged traditional kaparot, in which chickens are killed in a prescribed way for the purpose of “transforming” a believer’s latest sins over to the chicken (whose death banishes the sins). (In many such ceremonies, the chickens are designated for food, but protesters in Los Angeles criticized rogue practitioners who simply tossed carcasses to the animals.)

— In November, Miami-Dade County animal services found a severely injured chicken with a fam-ily’s 4-6 photograph protruding from its chest, having haphazardly “implanted” along with a note containing several handwritten names, apparently a casualty of local Santeria services.

Trade This!

— Some Americans still believe that stock market sales are typically made human-to-human, but the vast majority of buyers and sellers now are made automatically by computers, running pattern-detec-ting programs designed to execute millions of trades, in some cases, less than one second before rival computer programs attempt the same trades. In September, a Federal Reserve Board in-duced of market-crucial news typically at exactly 2

They Call It “Dope” for a Reason

— In November, Michael Brown, 19, became the most recent person with poor decision-making skills forced to report to a police station (this, in College Station, Texas) in the middle of the night to ask that officers please remove the handcuffs he had been playing around with. (Following the officers’ mandatory records check, it was learned that Brown had an arrest warrant for criminal mischief, and, following a mandatory search, that he also had two ounces of marijuana in his pocket.)

Send your Weird News to Chuck Shepherd, San Di-e go Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92188 or to WeirdNewsTips@yahoo.com

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## OPEN LETTERS

**By Jory John & Avery Monsen**

To The Couple Standing Way Too Close To Me In This Cafe,

I was sitting here first. You think I wanted a pair of lovebirds to hover over me and grope each other, giggling about some dumb nonsense that only you understand? Is this the only place to read that giant cafe menu? Answer: no. Second answer: gross. Third answer: if you’re not going to let me become a part of your relationship (and I’m certainly willing, don’t get me wrong), then move along, you two. Nobody likes you. Let me brood in peace.

Sincerely,
Very Lonely

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English translations displayed above the stage. All performances at the San Diego Civic Theatre. Photo by Ken Howard.

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