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Info on page 4

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NEWS & FEATURES

City Lights
Now read this if headed for malted barley along SR-78; and News Ticker.................................................................2
Under the Radar.............................................................................3
Letters.........................................................................................4
Neighborhood News......................................................................6
SD on the QT
Almost factual news........................................................................12
Sporting Box
Marijuana is a gateway drug — to sports betting!.......................14
Ask a Hipster
A smug of hipsters, like a murder of crows..................................11
Unreal Estate
Might need a ridable vacuum cleaner for this one......................8
These Birds Do Not Need You
Raptors choose to do what they do. By Barbarella....................16
Crossword....................................................................................80
Sudoku .......................................................................................82
News of the Weird.........................................................................89

CALENDAR

Events
Art, Book-signings, Classes & Workshops, Comedy, Dance, Discussion Groups, Food & Drink, For Kids, Lectures, Outdoors, Special Events, Spoken Word, Sports & Fitness ..................43
Travel & Getaways
A place for stingray affiliation and tax evasion..........................44
The last remnant of the Mission Bay wetlands............................44
Water Front
At Tourmaline, longboarders cut shortboarders some slack........50
Poetry
“I, Being Born a Woman and Distressed,”
by Edna St. Vincent Millay................................................................46
Religion
After a week of being beaten up by the world,
listen to Pastor Henderson..............................................................48
Restaurants
Ed gets stuffed on Meze-Greek’s fusion foods............................53
Feasters’ delights (and disappointments).......................................54
Café tour along the Roast Highway ...........................................56
Music
Blurt.......................................................................................58
Agreed, Kung Fu Monkeys, punk and ska will never die.............62
Everyone’s a Critic.........................................................................68
Happy Hour...................................................................................69
San Diego Beer News
Honest fish on the way to South Park..........................................70
Theater.........................................................................................71
Movies.........................................................................................73
Das Blazing Saddles....................................................................75

ADVERTISING

Classified Ads
Display Ads
Automotive .............................................................................86
Career Training .......................................................................79
Health and Beauty.....................................................................30
Help Wanted.............................................................................77
Legal Solutions..........................................................................10
Music..........................................................................................58
Rental..........................................................................................83
Research Studies........................................................................19
Services.....................................................................................85
Travel & Getaways.....................................................................46

PHOTOGRAPH BY JENNIFER DAVIDSON

Ever been parahawking? — page 16
Cuisine of the ancients — page 53
Grey makes green — page 73
**News Ticker**

By Reader Staff Writers

**Edison screws employees, too**

Tech press and politicians complain of H-1B abuses

Politicians in both houses of Congress, along with technology publications and academics, are strongly criticizing Southern California Edison for abusing the H-1B program, in which mainly mid-level foreign technologists come to the United States each year to take tech jobs. The plurality of these jobs go to workers from India.

According to Patrick Thibodeau, senior editor of Computerworld, Edison is cutting 500 information technology workers, 100 of them through voluntary departures and others through layoffs that have been taking place in phases since August.

San Diego County congressman Darrell Issa, who co-sponsored the so-called “Skills Act” that increased the number of foreign workers who can come in to take American jobs, put out a statement on February 6:

“Reports that Southern California Edison used the H-1B visa program to replace part of the company’s current [information technology] workforce are deeply disturbing. Based on the information currently available, this appears to be an example of precisely what the H-1B visa is NOT intended to be: a program to simply replace American workers en masse with cheap labor from overseas. Indeed, current law requires that an employer certify that the hiring of an H-1B applicant will not adversely affect the working conditions of workers similarly employed.”

Don Bauder

**Cops and hops**

Will police target beer aficionados along Highway 78?

By Moss Gropen

“I don’t like we’re going to camp out in the parking lot of an establishment.” Lt. Eric Skaja, spokesman for the Escondido Police Department, maintains that the "Avoid the Eight on the 78" campaign isn’t targeting beer connoisseurs who frequent the "Hops Highway." But 78 corridor brewers aren’t so sure.

In late November, representatives from eight San Diego area law-enforcement agencies held a press conference trumpeting the campaign, styled as a cooperative venture aimed at busting the cops’ perpetual bogeyman, the drunk driver. Presided over by Escondido Police chief Craig Carter, the rollout was an archetypal dog-and-pony show featuring a weepy testimonial from a woman whose besotted son and brother died after running their car (displayed before the news corps in twisted glory, drivers’ ed style) off Bear Valley Road in October.

Bear Valley Road isn’t Highway 78. And the victims hadn’t been tasting pale ales prior to their demise. Nonetheless, when Carter vowed to track down the source of booze linked to (alleged) DUI incidents, it sounded an alarm among some corridor brewmasters. Over at the Oceanside office of the California Highway Patrol, officer Jim Bettencourt downplays the role that local breweries might have in spurring the campaign.

"I don’t think there’s an issue with those businesses; we’re just making sure we get the information out to the public... Drinking and driving is a personal decision, sometimes a choice good people make. But you’ll never hear law-enforcement officers say, ‘Don’t drive drunk’ rather than ‘Don’t drink and drive.’"

**Holy Ram nation, Mr. Spanos**

Chargers’ L.A. option may vanish if Ingleside council okays Kroenke stadium

According to two stories (February 9 and February 12) in the Los Angeles Times, the Ingleside City Council could vote as early as February 24 on developer Stan Kroenke’s plan to build a $1.5 billion football stadium with a retractable roof at the former Hollywood Park racetrack. The developers have cooked up ways to bypass environmental reviews. There are more than enough signatures to put the matter on the June ballot, but it’s likely the council will approve the plan for the 80,000-seat stadium outright. The stadium seems to have overwhelming public backing.

Kroenke owns the St. Louis Rams, and commentators think he will try to move the team to Los Angeles.

**Neal Obermeyer**

**Shut up! Shut up!**

Edison admits secret huddle with Michael Peevey on San Onofre

On February 9, Southern California Edison belatedly filed a document with the California Public Utilities Commission, admitting that the company met secretly with former commission president Michael Peevey.

At the secret meeting, Peevey suggested the framework for the San Onofre settlement that will cost ratepayers $5 billion as a result of the closing of the San Onofre nuclear power plant.

Edison said it “respectfully submits this late-filed Notice of Ex Parte Communications.” How late? The secret meeting was on March 26, 2013, at the Bristol Hotel in Warsaw, Poland. Peevey met with Edison’s executive vice president of external relations, Stephen Pickett.

Many months after the secret concclave, San Diego attorney Mike Aguirre asked Peevey at a public meeting if he had played any role in the decision-reaching process over San Onofre. Peevey blew up, denied that he had, and told Aguirre to “Shut up! Shut up!” Peevey growled that he didn’t have to “answer your goddamned questions!”

It is important that, as president of the CPUC, Peevey has been caught telling a falsehood about his role in the deal that — unless it is reversed — will pinch ratepayers for mistakes that were made by Edison’s management. Aguirre and others argue that shareholdes, not ratepayers, should pay for management mistakes.

Former California Public Utilities Commission president Peevey put the $5 billion San Onofre bill on ratepayers.

** Neal Bauder**

**Police see breweries along the 78, “Hops Highway,” as allies in deterring drunk drivers, not targets. So, why the increased numbers there from eight area agencies?**

**How could anyone possibly be staying there?**

**Wait — I don’t understand — the city is going after Airbnb hosts for taxes?**

**But these apartment owners don’t have a multi-million dollar publicly funded marketing money pot...**

continued on page 38
Bettencourt believes that driving “under the influence” is no more prevalent on the 78 than it is anywhere else. As far as tracking down the source of the offending ethanol, he says, “I can’t speak for other agencies. We try to get a totality of info. Where were you drinking?” is one of 20-plus standard questions.”

I query, “Is there any reason to believe that Highway 78 breweries are linked to traffic accidents?”

“I don’t think that there are any statistics kept, and if someone is over 21, he won’t be interviewed any further unless there’s a fatality.” In that event, he adds, “Irrespective of alcohol, we conduct a complete 24-hour profile to learn what the driver did during the last day.”

“The breweries aren’t in the business of killing people; they provide a service, and I’m sure that they want everyone to get home safely. They’re our best partners. We don’t do the kind of thing you see on TV where officers park outside a bar waiting for patrons to leave and get in their cars; there has to be a vehicle-code violation to stop someone. I don’t see that happening; we’re not going to sit in the hospital parking lot across from Stone Brewing.”

Eric Skaja echoes this assurance. “Sure, if someone calls us and says, ‘There’s a drunk guy driving away here,’ we’ll send someone over. But it’s not necessary or effective to station a unit in front of a brewery. We have a great working relationship with Stone.”

For their part, most of the suds sellers on the 78 are taciturn when it comes to their reactions to the prospect of increased heat.

When asked for comment, Stone is nearly as silent as Pliny the Elder. “We don’t have any perspectives so we will decline to participate,” demurs spokesperson Sabrina Lopiccolo.

Adam Martinez of Port Brewing is fractionally more voluble. “As a business along the 78, we’re very cognizant of this aspect along the freeway. Anything that can ensure a safer ride for our patrons and employees is something we’ll stand behind.”

The gendarmes can’t legally force an Allegedly impaired driver to divulge where he procured their liquor, concedes Skaja. “We use a pre-printed form, and we take down information from statements by the suspect or witnesses. It’s all rather perfunctory. ‘If we see a pattern, and we haven’t so far — let’s say there are six DUI arrests where the motorist obtained alcohol from a certain establishment — we’d forward that to the ABC [California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control] who’d conduct their own investigation and impose sanctions.’

Is the campaign just old wine in a new bottle, or does it pose an imminent threat to North County beer quaffers? The Escondido Police Department states that — breezy “Avoid the Eight” moniker aside — the multi-agency effort is no more than the traditional weekend/holiday “saturation” patrol, 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. But will drivers toasting along the 78, whether or not headed for malted barley, notice the increased police presence? “Oh yeah, definitely,” says Skaja.

Sgt. Mark Foster of the San Diego Sheriff’s Department predicts that Highway 78 motorists might say, “Wow, I see a lot of Carlsbad PD officers in Escondido,’ or, ‘I see a lot of sheriffs in Oceanside.” The sheriff’s department, contracted to provide service to Carlsbad, San Marcos, and Vista, admits to a more aggressive stance. Foster states, “We always try to find out where people are drinking. We’ll send an officer there to talk to the owner in a semi-formal contact, tell them to monitor their bartenders. If it becomes a problem, units will work the area near a bar. If there’s an establishment that serves till closing, we’ll patrol the area if we have the opportunity. Let’s say you get multiple reports of people getting intoxicated at a certain establishment; you can get city code enforcement involved or notify the ABC.”

Anonymously, other brewery proprietors tell a different story than the “no comment” or corporate-speak voiced in public by some of their peers. One brewery owner frets, “I’m afraid that if I use my name, the cops will be all over us.”

He believes that the DUI laws are draconian. “My concern is that people are under the misimpression that a DUI is .08, but the blood alcohol limit is really [a de facto] .04. I know someone who went to court here in North County, and the judge threw the book at him. He said, ‘If you blow .04 with any sort of traffic infraction, I’m giving you a DUI.’ And that’s only two beers. I actually have a Breathalyzer in...
LETTERS

We welcome letters pertaining to the contents of the Reader. Phone them in at 619-235-3000, x960; address them to Letters, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or submit them through our website at SDReader.com/letters. Include your name, address, and phone number. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Pun-upping
Re: Diary of a Diva, “Ground-Frog Day,” February 12
Shouldn’t it have been: “that she croakcheted the night before”? ;-)  
W. Kang  
Austin, Texas

Stop for a Cold One
Re: Gather No Moss: “Off the Beaten Path in Leuven, Belgium,” February 12
Kudos to Els Heckenberg for highlighting the delights of the town of Leuven in Flemish-speaking Belgium (also known as Lovain in French). Stunning architecture, easily walkable, and only a 30-minute train ride directly from the Brussels airport. When visiting Belgium, of course don’t miss Brussels, Ghent, and Bruges, but for a twist add Leuven to your itinerary.

For those into the beer culture, though, there was one tiny oversight in the article. While craft beers are fine and all that, it would be sinful for anyone to visit Leuven without stopping in at the Stella Artois flagship brewery. You can smell the aroma from a kilometer away, so you might as well tour the facility and drink a cold one. Bottoms up!

Karl Lawson  
Oxnard, CA

Give Us Back Our Movie Times
I’m calling to support the guy from La Mesa who wrote about you guys no longer publishing movie times (Letters, February 5). I don’t know why you guys did that. Not everyone wants to do everything online these days. We pick up your magazine because we want to read articles on paper. We also want to see movie times!

Are you guys trying to make room for more advertisements or something? I tell you what: I’m not going to go online to your site for movie times. If I’m looking to see what’s going on in San Diego, whether it’s food, or culture, or art, or music, movies — what was it, like half a page? Put the movie times back in, for Christ’s sake! It really doesn’t make any sense. I’m not going to go online for showtimes; I want to read it in the paper. I wonder how many other people support being able to look at movie times on paper somewhere.

Considering that you put all this other stuff going on in San Diego on paper, give us back our movie times! It’s the least you can do. It’s half a page — come on!

Otherwise, in your paper, I think you guys could use more syndicated columns like Savage Love and Free Will Astrology — things like that, instead of all the breast augmentation and plastic surgery ads. If you could maybe devote a page to syndicated columns and the movie times, that would

continued on page 40
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T. McClean

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**NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

**GRANTVILLE**

*Who crashed up the multi-thousand-dollar sign?*

**Investigation of December 15 hit-and-run incident continues**

During the first week of February, more details emerged from the San Diego Police Department about the December 15 hit-and-run incident involving a driver who struck and demolished the cobblestone-and-mortar Grantville/Mission Valley community sign and abandoned a 1999 red Dodge station wagon at the scene.

Replacing the sign could cost “anywhere from $20,000 to $30,000, depending on the design and permits,” according to Liz Said-kharian, a staffer in councilman Scott Sherman’s office.

Officer Ashkan Roshanzaer said in an Off the record, the male beggar wandered off the median and was struck by a woman driver.

Police stayed at the scene, talked to witnesses, and examined the car involved for about two hours. There was a straw hat and some clothes left in the middle of the intersection on the west side of the median. A woman was crying and another woman said we should pray for the man who was hit. The ambulance immediately took him away.

**HILLCREST**

*He said, they said*

**Nonprofit Desert AIDS Project thrift shop in Hillcrest shuttering**

Revivals, the nonprofit thrift store in Hillcrest, will close down on February 28. It was part of a news release sent out by Dayton later in the day, quoting Mike Scarff, Desert AIDS Project’s director of retail who manages operations for Revivals stores:

“We’ve loved working with the great group of employees and volunteers at the Hillcrest store, but sadly we’ve lost our lease on the property.”

However, according to Burnett, “Revivals decided not to extend their lease. We offered to reduce their rent in half to help them out so they could stay,” he said, “but they chose to move out. Their board decided to close up shop.”

Burnett stressed, “We are very supportive of them and their organization.”

**LA MESA**

*Begging’s a bloody business*

**Panhandler struck stepping off median**

On February 11 at about 2:45 p.m., a car hit a panhandler at the Jackson Avenue and Fletcher Parkway intersection in La Mesa. The La Mesa Police Department responded with three motorcycle cops, a police van, and a Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol car.

A man or woman holding a begging sign usually occupies this intersection (as they do at almost every major intersection in La Mesa). According to police, the male beggar wandered off the median and was struck by a woman driver.

Police stayed at the scene, talked to witnesses, and examined the car involved for about two hours. There was a straw hat and some clothes left in the middle of the intersection on the west side of the median. A woman was crying and another woman said we should pray for the man who was hit. The ambulance immediately took him away.

**San Diego Reader**

February 19, 2015

**NEWS**

**NEIGHBORHOOD**

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Complete Guide to San Diego Breweries
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Guide to 70-plus operating brewhouses and brewery-owned tasting facilities as well as 30-plus upcoming brewery projects.

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Ian Pike, restaurant critic at the San Diego Reader, travels the length and breadth of San Diego county in search of the county’s best (and worst) steak sandwich shops.

The Last Meeting of the Dove Club
$2.99

News reports about the murder trial of San Diego’s Ed Fletcher III called him a scion of the Fletcher dynasty.

San Diego’s Worst Floods
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San Diego has a world famous climate: mild winters, temperate summers. It also averages only nine inches of rainfall a year. In the past, when the skies poured, the city had been unprepared for the deluges.

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When a stranger kills a child, we punish him and fortify the walls around our children. But when the killer is the child’s mother, we’re less inclined to call it a pattern, and hard put to fortify the walls.
“No event is too large for this grand residence built to impress,” promising listing materials for Casa del Sol, a six-building “master-planned compound hidden among eight botanical-quality acres” at 15651 Puerta Del Sol in the exclusive Covenant section of Rancho Santa Fe.

The property includes a 9000-square-foot main residence as well as a guest home with another 2500 square feet of living space. There’s a third dwelling built as servants’ quarters, a complete “Roman spa,” and “two pavilions housing a fitness center and loggia,” for a total of 16,500 square feet of living space.

The main home has six bedrooms and seven baths, along with a kitchen that opens to a courtyard-view breakfast room, several living/entertaining areas, a 13-seat private movie theater, and a stage for live performances. The master suite features raised ceilings and French doors that lead to a private patio, along with an expanded bath with a sitting area and Jacuzzi tub.

A detached subterranean game room is reached by a “private winding path with Israeli stone walls, candlelit sconces,” and an “entryway paved with flagstone brought from Yorkshire, England.” Once inside, you’ll find a space equipped with a “French Parfeuille brick ceiling” and two-lane bowling alley with computer scoring.

The 2500-square-foot spa building and steam room features “lavish mosaic tile walls, his-and-hers baths of limestone, marble, and travertine, [a] detailed mosaic ceiling, hand-shaped basket weave limestone throughout,” and an “Italian stone fountain, statues, [and] columns.”

The outdoor living pavilion is adjacent to the property’s “resort-style pool and spa” and features a cabana area, built-in barbecue, outdoor fire pit, and a “Buddha bar and lounge” with fire and water features, along with an outdoor dining area.

The eight-acre property is fully landscaped with walking trails throughout, mature fruit trees, a “lagoon garden, rainforest water lily pads, koi pond, [and] custom-made stone bridge.” There’s a private tennis court and a large lawn surrounded by rose gardens that can accommodate a garden party for up to 500 guests.

Additional amenities include a ten-car garage, two 1000-foot driveways for additional guest parking, a 1000-square-foot fitness facility with an extra bath and bedroom, and a

continued on page 13
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Dear Hipster:

My sister and I went to Luigi’s Pizza on a recent Friday night. And as you can imagine, the place was packed with hipsters galore and their hipster tots in tow. We ordered, ate, bused our tray, and left. Later that evening, as my sister was boarding the bus, she realized her wallet was missing. The last place she remembers having it was at the packed pizzeria. Her mind raced: Could the wallet still be there? The place was packed. Could the hipsters be trusted with an unaccompanied wallet full of cash? Fear not, the wallet was found and happily returned to her; cash and all. Are all hipsters trustworthy folk?

— GRATEFUL IN GOLDEN HILL

Hello Hipster,

I think your personal honesty. It’s not a pity that our cinematic hero can’t be nominated for every category. If it were up to us, there wouldn’t be a nomination process for years with a Wes Anderson movie. Just hand the man all the awards and be done with it.

— ANNE

Good news, Annie. You may actually fall on the upside of cool for this one. The niche market for retro mobile phones has grown steadily in recent years, fueled in part by hipsters looking to resurrect the look and feel of cutting-edge 1990s technology. People cite the same advantages as you do, as well as the legendary durability of older phones. French company Vintage Mobile gets over $1300 for super rare phones, like the Nokia 8800 Arte editions, which used ringtones composed by Brian Eno. They also sell the Nokia 3310 — widely regarded as the Incredible Hulk of cell phones — for about $40, depending on the strength of the Euro on any given day.

Even so, there’s just no way retro mobile phones will replace smartphones. Barring an apocalypse, people will opt for the convenience of Google Maps over vintage Nokias, no matter how fun the snake game is.

— DJ Stevens
San Diego unveils new tourism campaign for 2015

Yesterday, Mayor Faulconer addressed the leaders of the city’s Hospitality Union and gave them a sneak peak at his plan for attracting visitors to America’s Finest City in the upcoming year. The campaign, he said, was built to both attract and repel fans of San Diego’s many virtues.

“San Diego has a lot of things that a lot of other cities would love to have,” said Faulconer. “The beaches, the zoo, the theme parks, the beaches… But what we don’t have is affordable housing. Interest.com just names us the second least-affordable housing market in the country, after San Francisco. The last thing we need is a bunch of tourists to just show up and stick around. You know how it is: you go on vacation, everything is great, the weather’s nice, there’s no stress, and you look around and think, I could live here. Life is just better here. Next thing you know, you’ve just made it there, your tarparp shack in Kentucky is on the market, and you’re buying flip-flops and learning to eat sushi. And without even even meaning to, you’ve just made it that much harder to buy a home in San Diego — not only for yourself, but for the people who were here before you. So we needed to make it clear: we love your tourist dollars, but we don’t need your property tax dollars.”

Faulconer said that the city’s initial idea was a Wizard of Oz–based campaign built around the slogan, “There’s no place like home.” Explained the mayor, “Dorothy wanted to go home to Kansas, to the place for you!”

Mayor Faulconer did admit that the new campaign contained an element of risk. “It’s a little edgy, I know. Some people might even find it aggressive. Personally, I think modern people today will appreciate the honesty. But just in case, we did come up with a backup idea: ‘Happiness is Calling.’ We even made a bunch of videos, which we’ll run as commercials and push out across the internet. I don’t want to give too much away, but let’s just say they play to our strengths.”

“Yessir,” concluded Faulconer, “the message is clear: whether you’re a pretty white girl in a bathing suit, or you enjoy looking at a pretty white girl in a bathing suit, or you just wish you looked like a pretty white girl in a bathing suit, San Diego is the place for you!”

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

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Most people getting whooping cough these days HAVE been vaccinated. The really effective vaccine caused seizures. Drat.

We still don’t have anything close to an ebola vaccine, so keep praying we don’t need one.

But measles we think we have a handle on. So get that shot! Or go away! Whichever!

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION
UNREAL ESTATE
continued from page 8

dog-grooming station. Tax records show the estate’s owner is B. Edward Ewing, chairman and chief executive of Key Automotive Group, a Michigan-based automotive-parts manufacturer and a former managing director of the Carlyle Group, a massive private equity firm. Records list a Dallas, Texas, mailing address for the property.

Casa del Sol was last sold in 1998, and though no price is listed, the estate is currently valued on tax rolls at just under $2.9 million (local multiple-listing-service data suggests the sale price was $650,000 for a then-unimproved lot). It’s been offered for sale numerous times since, with listings for $36.5 million attracting no offers in 2006 and 2007, listings in 2007 and 2008 expired with a $29.9 million list price. Listings between 2009 and 2013 dropped as low as $22.5 million without attracting a buyer.

The home is currently slated for auction on February 26, advertised with a $10,000 minimum bid, no reserve, and with the original asking price of $36.5 million touted as a potential value.

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Going legit

You can feel the tipping point. It happened with gay marriage in June 2013, when the Supreme Court struck down the law banning federal benefits for married same-sex couples. From that point on, state-sanctioned same-sex marriage was inevitable. You can feel it coming with legalized marijuana. Penalties for simple possession have gone from life imprisonment — in California and 17 other states — to a parking ticket, to outright legal in four states with many more to come. And now you can see the tipping point coming with sports betting.

Last November, NBA commissioner Adam Silver wrote an op-ed in the New York Times, the heart of which was, “...the laws on sports betting should be changed. Congress should adopt a federal framework that allows states to authorize betting on professional sports, subject to strict regulatory requirements and technological safeguards.”

Earlier in the piece, Silver dropped the reason for this change of heart, “...some estimate that nearly $400 billion is illegally wagered on sports each year.” Whatever the true figure, it’s too much money to ignore.

Still, it was just one rookie commissioner calling for legalized sports betting and it was a commissioner of the NBA, which is regarded as junior to the NFL and baseball’s major leagues. But, it’s another thing entirely when baseball commissioner Rob Manfred comes alongside, if not onboard. Manfred, interviewed on Outside the Lines, said, “Gambling in terms of our society has changed its presence on legalization. I think it’s important for there to be a conversation between me and the owners about what our institutional position will be.” Okay, that was a wandering, mealy-mouthed statement, but for a baseball commissioner, whose job was created as a result of a gambling scandal, this is a huge step.

We have already come a long way. Only six months ago the NFL, Major League Baseball, NBA, NHL, and NCAA, the United Front of Big-Time Sports, sued the governor of New Jersey, demanding he stop attempting to institute legal sports betting. Christie had issued a directive declaring sports betting in casinos and race tracks no longer illegal. The United Front said the notice was “astounding,” “specious,” and a “blatant violation” of a previous court order.

Six months pass and the NBA endorses sports betting, the baseball league wants to talk about it. The United Front doesn’t seem so united anymore.

Where we are now: the controlling statute is the Professional and Amateur Sports Protection Act of 1992, which prohibits states from regulating sports betting unless they already have sports betting. Nevada was grandfathered in with full sportsbooks. Oregon, Montana, and Delaware were allowed to keep limited sports betting.

Silver, and to a lesser extent Manfred, have begun to turn the argument from “No way!” to “How?” Once that argument is turned, it’s only a matter of time.

It took the slow, incremental creep of society to get here. Like Prohibition and marijuana, people stopped obeying the law (see if it takes more than two minutes to establish an account with Bovada, BetOnline, toplivebet, CarbonSports, or SportsBetting.ag). Then, authorities quit applying the law (when was the last time you heard of a citizen being arrested for placing a bet with a bookie?), and finally, bringing up the rear, new laws are passed legalizing sports betting in one form or another.

The big dog in the room is the NFL who remains adamantly opposed to sports betting, even though the NFL is already associated with gambling vice. NFL teams have had licensing deals with state-sponsored lotteries since 2009. According to a 2014 Sporting News report, “Two years ago, the NFL approved limited casino advertising for teams. That’s right, although the league’s official list of prohibited advertising categories includes ‘gambling-related advertising,’ the league allowed individual clubs to accept casino ads in game programs, on limited signs at stadiums, and on local radio stations.” and, “Meanwhile, the league continues to charge Vegas casinos to carry the live feed of games in their sports books.”

The NFL/Goodell party line is that the league must produce honest games that are seen to be honest by the public. Let in gamblers and the whole damn thing falls apart.

Which is funny, since the NFL would love to put a team in London and has been playing regular season games there since 2007. According to Campaign for Fairer Gambling, a non-profit campaigning against Fixed Odds Betting Terminals — think roulette, bingo, horseracing, greyhound racing — there are 1836 betting shops in Greater London. That city is a cesspool of gambling vice.

Vegas.com lists 63 sportsbooks in Greater Las Vegas. Commissioner Goodell should reflect upon the integrity of the shield, forget London, and place the next NFL franchise in a town with American values.

Find more Sporting Box columns online at SDReader.com/box

BestBuys

My hair is on strike. It’s done working for me. I don’t know if it’s the weather or if I’m doing something wrong, but the more I mess with my mane, the more frizzy and unmanageable it gets. I knew it was bad when my hubby Patrick said, “Would you please give your hair a little love? My fingers miss your luxurious curls.”

“I miss them, too,” I replied, “but I can’t seem to get them back. I’ve spent more of your money on the effort than I care to admit. Now I think maybe the chemicals in these products are killing my hair. Maybe I’ll try some natural solutions.”

With only a vague notion of natural hair remedies, I called on some friends who have beautiful locks.

Janice suggested coconut oil. “Coconut oil is great for dry scalp,” she offered (Trader Joe’s Organic Virgin Coconut Oil, $5.99 for 16 ounces). “When your scalp is moisturized, it helps the hair follicle stay healthy and strong. Another great product is extra virgin olive oil. Depending on how dry and damaged your hair is, drench your hair and scalp with the oil, leave it on for three to four hours, preferably with a hair-cap, and then wash it out. In two to three weeks your hair will be growing healthy. It’s great for shine, frizz, and damage.”

“If I have an itchy scalp,” said Deirdre, “I massage apple cider vinegar onto it and let it sit for ten minutes, then I wash it out as usual. I have on several occasions worked olive oil into my hair then put on a shower cap and let it sit in my hair overnight as I slept. I washed it out the next day. Never has my hair felt softer.”

“The Mehandi shampoo is the best natural shampoo I’ve used,” quoted Cherie (Ancient Sunrise Lavender Liquid Shampoo, 8 ounces for $12.50 at mehandi.com). “I have tried their shampoo bars, though, and I didn’t care for them [Ancient Sunrise Shampoo Bar, $12.50 for 4 ounces].”

“Original Sprout,” said Kelly, “their products are great. My hair is so much nicer using them. They are not heavy. You can even leave in the conditioner and it is not greasy, just nourishing [Original Sprout Natural Shampoo, $19.50 for 12 ounces at Sprouts].”

Margaret offered a few different oils for hair treatment. “Argan oil, coconut oil, or kukui nut oil — just a few drops and leave it in for a few minutes.” She added, “The natural oils the scalp produces are best. Use a natural boar bristle brush to distribute them and try not to wash your hair every day if you can avoid it [Argan Oil Certified Organic Aura Cacia, $11.54 for one ounce at Walmart.com; Organic Kukui Nut Oil Cold Pressed 100% Pure, $11.99 for 4 ounces on Amazon.com].”

“I love Healthy Times Pansy Flower Baby Shampoo,” offered Erica. “Love it for its lovely, unique scent and it makes the hair feel so soft. It’s expensive, but you just need a little for each wash. I use it for the body as well [on Amazon, $10.57 for 8 ounces].”

“We also use Jason Kids Only Extra Gentle Shampoo,” she added ($6.87 for 17.5 ounces on Amazon). “It’s tear-free with no parabens or phthalates, and I like the light fruity scent.”

“Beer and milk,” suggested Ma’May. “Not together at the same time. Beer makes your hair shiny and milk moisturizes it. With the beer, you use it as a rinse after you shampoo and condition your hair. If you don’t want your hair to smell like beer you can rinse it out after you make sure you get your hair completely saturated. Milk you leave in for a few minutes and then wash it out with cold water.”

“Egg!” smiled Nancy. “Work a whole egg into clean damp hair and leave it there for about 15 minutes and then wash it out with cool water. The egg yolk will moisturize dry hair. Honey also works well to help hair with moisture. Work it into damp hair and let it sit for 15 minutes and then rinse it out.”

“Add lemon to get your poutnails and for highlights in your hair,” said Mariana.
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sail offered tight shots of the hawk in action. After seeing this marvel of human/bird collaboration, I took notice of a red-tailed hawk I’d seen drifting around my neighborhood. My living-room window is eye-level with the tops of a few trees and telephone poles upon which the bird likes to perch. One day, I paused from my work to watch a nature show-like scene play out — two crows harassed and dive-bombed the hawk until it flew away. Curious about this behavior, I returned to the internet for answers — the term falconry kept cropping up.

Falconry, or “taking wild quarry in its natural state with a trained raptor,” is an ancient practice. Evidence of using trained birds of prey to hunt can be found dating back 5000 years in China and (according to a few historians) up to 12,000 years in what is now the Middle East. But the prestige of the practice peaked in the Middle Ages, when laws surrounding which stations of the nobility could own certain birds led to its being referred to as “the sport of kings.”

Despite an abundance of native North American raptors, Native Americans did not practice any sort of falconry. Colonizing Europeans in the New World did very little. But the sport has quietly grown in popularity over the past century, and San Diego is one of its hot spots.

It was during one of my forays down the YouTube rabbit hole that I happened upon a “parahawking” video. In the two-minute clip, a hawk soars alongside a man as he paraglides over the oceanfront cliffs of Torrey Pines. The bird lands on the man’s outstretched, gloved arm, then takes off again to ride the same thermals as the parasail. I watched with fascination as the wild bird repeatedly landed on the moving perch — several cameras affixed to the parasail offered tight shots of the hawk in action.

After seeing this marvel of human/bird collaboration, I took notice of a red-tailed hawk I’d seen drifting around my neighborhood. My living-room window is eye-level with the tops of a few trees and telephone poles upon which the bird likes to perch. One day, I paused from my work to watch a nature show-like scene play out — two crows harassed and dive-bombed the hawk until it flew away. Curious about this behavior, I returned to the internet for answers — the term falconry kept cropping up.

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One of four falconry

PHOTO BY KIRK SELLINGER OF HABIBI THE LANNER FALCON. COVER PHOTO BY JENNIFER DAVIDSON.
schools in the United States, San Diego’s Sky Falconry was founded by Kirk Sellinger and Denise Disharoon in May 2013 as a satellite school of West Coast Falconry near Sacramento. Sellinger was the man I’d seen in the parahawking video. Prior to creating the video (which is now approaching 6.5 million views), Sellinger had been a videographer for National Geographic. After growing up in Seattle, where the urban-dwelling birds are wary of humans, he went to work filming in the Galapagos, where indigenous creatures are not instinctually averse to people, or as he puts it, “are right in your face.” Sellinger estimates his total Galapagos filming time to be around two years spread over many visits. In that time he developed a fascination with birds. It was after he saw a video of a man parahawking in Nepal that he decided to take up falconry.

On the way to Sky Falconry’s remote setting, I swerved around house-sized rocks and chasm-like rifts in the steep and winding dirt road, and then breathed a sigh of relief when, after nearly two miles, we finally reached the flat parking area.

“Probably not the best idea to have gotten the car washed yesterday,” I quipped to my husband, David. We shrugged at the layer of dust obscuring my Mini’s red paint and walked around a rocky hill to join the growing crowd of people in a nearby clearing.

It was a cool and breezy morning, but plenty warm in the sun, which wasn’t hard to find on this hillside in Alpine, where low-lying chaparral reigns. Approximately a dozen people had converged here to see a hawk up close.

Sellinger and Disharoon were easy to pick out from the small crowd of falconry fledglings, both because of their lithe and fit, 1-chase-after-birds-for-a-living physiques, and their falconry-appropriate attire (brimmed hats, sunglasses, and multi-pocketed vests). It was 9:45 a.m., and they were wrapping up the early morning Hawk Walk ($140 per participant, $70 per observer), which is a more in-depth version of the Basic Falconry Lesson ($70 per participant, $35 per observer) that was set to begin at 10 a.m.

As we waited for our class to begin, a handful of us killed time by repeatedly commenting on the pastoral view. “Yes, it is breathtaking.” I agreed more than once. At least four newbie falconers were cashing in on gifts. For two 20-something brothers, this was a “random, unexpected” gift from their parents. From their demeanor, I surmised the brothers shared an ironic amusement at their parents’ idiotysyncratic present, but their girlfriends appeared excited to be there. One man, who had attended before, was returning with his 12-year-old grandson. Then there was Gary, for whom this class was a birthday gift.

Gary — a stocky man with a snowy white goatee and shiny bald head — wore a U.S. Navy warship ball cap, orange Harley-Davidson shirt, khaki shorts, and white sneakers. Gary’s wife, Nancy, explained how her husband had been reluctant to come.

“I found out about the class online and thought it would be a cool gift,” she said. Because he was “iffy” about attending, Nancy had offered Gary’s ticket to their 18-year-old granddaughter. But in the end, Gary ended up wanting it back. “The more I thought about it, the cooler it got,” he said, and then went on to reminisce about his close encounter with an eagle during a recent cruise to Anchorage, Alaska.

“He loves eagles,” Nancy said, which came as no surprise: loving eagles was as American as everything else about this charming couple, down to the collection of “God and Country” bumper stickers coating the back of their truck, which I’d followed up the twisty road.

Disharoon, a willowy woman with shoulder-length blond hair, greeted everyone and determined who was there to participate and who was there to observe. While she checked off names and collected payments, Sellinger — a sporty outdoorsman type whose prominent nose is reminiscent of his feathered friends — retrieved two birds from their “giant pockets.”

We finally reached the flat parking area.

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“He loves eagles,” Nancy said, which came as no surprise: loving eagles was as American as everything else about this charming couple, down to the collection of “God and Country” bumper stickers coating the back of their truck, which I’d followed up the twisty road.

Disharoon, a willowy woman with shoulder-length blond hair, greeted everyone and determined who was there to participate and who was there to observe. While she checked off names and collected payments, Sellinger — a sporty outdoorsman type whose prominent nose is reminiscent of his feathered friends — retrieved two birds from their “giant pockets.”

We finally reached the flat parking area.

“As we waited for our class to begin, a handful of us killed time by repeatedly commenting on the pastoral view. “Yes, it is breathtaking.” I agreed more than once. At least four newbie falconers were cashing in on gifts. For two 20-something brothers, this was a “random, unexpected” gift from their parents. From their demeanor, I surmised the brothers shared an ironic amusement at their parents’ idiosyncratic present, but their girlfriends appeared excited to be there. One man, who had attended before, was returning with his 12-year-old grandson. Then there was Gary, for whom this class was a birthday gift.

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We finally reached the flat parking area.
them evocative of peace, love, and energy.

I wondered if all falconers had significant and worldly names for their birds, but Sellinger says this isn’t the case. “I know one guy who names every bird Fred. We [chose these names] because we have fun with it, and these birds are extremely meaningful to us; they need to have meaningful names.”

By trade, Disharoon is an artist and metalsmith whose custom-designed jewelry can be found in around 80 boutique stores around the country. Her latest collection, inspired by her “deep passion for feathered creatures and falconry,” is called Take Flight. But it wasn’t until she met Sellinger that she adopted falconry.

“I went with my girlfriend to share a glass of wine and watch the sunset, and Kirk was there, flying with Shanti,” Disharoon remembers. “And of course, I’m a yoga teacher and yoga practitioner, so when he called out, ‘Om, Shanti!’ and this hawk came soaring out and lands on his glove, I’m, like, ‘Oh, who’s that guy?’” Shortly after they met, Disharoon accompanied Sellinger on a hunting excursion. That was the day Shanti caught her first rabbit and the day Sellinger graduated to become a general falconer. It takes at least seven years to become a master falconer, which is the top tier of falconry’s three ranks. Sellinger is still a general, and Disharoon is an apprentice.

Falconry is the most highly regulated hunting sport in the United States, and all native raptors are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. By law, all falconry apprentices must work with a sponsor, or someone who is willing to teach the art of falconry, free of charge, for two years.

“It can be hard to find somebody that will sponsor you,” says master falconer Kim Caldwell. “Many falconers have little time to do what they do, and for some people, that’s their time alone.” Caldwell — an athletic, fresh-faced blonde with the sort of perma-tan one can only get from years spent outdoors — has been an animal training supervisor at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park since 2002. Before that, she trained and managed the free-flight bird show at SeaWorld. As a young girl, she volunteered at a pet store near her Northern California home. “If I cleaned the cages, they let me play with the puppies,” she remembers. “By the time I was nine, I was helping to run the store.”

Caldwell’s father, who worked for IBM at the time, recognized his daughter’s dedication to animals and helped her obtain a volunteer gig at a bird show. “I wasn’t into birds of prey, per se,” she says. “I was just into anything animal.”
Do you have TYPE 1 or TYPE 2 DIABETES?

We are looking for people between 18 and 65 years of age with Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes to take part in a new clinical research study.

The INSTRIDE Studies are looking to see how well an investigational insulin works to control blood sugar levels. The investigational insulin has been designed to be as similar as possible to insulin glargine (Lantus®), which has helped many people with diabetes worldwide. However, the investigational insulin may provide a more affordable treatment option that could benefit many more people.

For patients with Type 1 Diabetes, the study will last for 66 weeks with 22 study visits (six of these may be conducted by telephone rather than at the study center).

For patients with Type 2 Diabetes, the study will last for 32 weeks with 14 study visits (five of these may be conducted by telephone rather than at the study center).

All study medications and study-related healthcare will be provided at no cost to you.

You may be able to take part if you have been taking Lantus® for at least 3 months (patients with Type 2 Diabetes may also be able to take part if they have never taken insulin before).

DEPRESSED? Current Medication Not Helping?

Have you been treated for depression for more than 6 weeks and not getting the response you want?

If you are between 21 and 70 years of age, you may be interested in this clinical research study. Local doctors are conducting a clinical trial to measure the safety and effectiveness of an investigational formulation of a naturally occurring molecule when added to your current antidepressant medication. Study medication will be provided at no cost. You do not need health insurance to participate.

Are you ONE OF THE PROUD who has served or is currently serving your country or community?

Have you also experienced A TRAUMATIC EVENT that has caused lingering effects like anxiety, insomnia, or nightmares?

If so, you may want to volunteer for our clinical research study of an investigational new drug.

Our research study is for those who have served or are currently serving in the ARMED FORCES, LAW ENFORCEMENT, or as a MILITARY CONTRACTOR.

Study participant information is confidential. Study drug and study-related medical care are provided at no cost. Other compensation may also be available.

Have you been diagnosed with SCHIZOPHRENIA? Do you have problems thinking?

Symptoms of schizophrenia can make it difficult for you to concentrate and perform activities of daily living, such as:
- remembering an appointment
- planning your day at work or with family
- concentrating on a conversation

A clinical study of an investigational drug to treat the cognitive symptoms of schizophrenia is currently being conducted. Study participation will last approximately 20 weeks. If you are between the ages of 18 and 55 years, and have been diagnosed with schizophrenia, you may qualify.

Compensation and transportation may be available for those who qualify. Health Insurance not needed.

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remember the first day I walked in and looked at the turkey vulture and golden eagle. It was not what I was expecting and I just fell in love with raptors.” It was then, at 12 years of age, that Caldwell first learned about falconry.

“To see these animals hunt and do what they do — the physical nature of it — is just beautiful,” she says. “To see a peregrine falcon chase and catch a duck, it’s amazing; and to see it up close, it’s like extreme bird-watching.”

There are 32 pages of federal regulations specific to falconry. Among them are stipulations regarding educational programs. The laws serve to protect the birds and prevent unethical practices. When changes are made, it is usually after rounds of consulting with practicing falconers.

Caldwell says it’s because of amendments to the act in 2008 that schools such as Sky Falconry can exist, and mentions a similar new program at the park, called Birds of Prey. “It includes a Harris’s hawk, a milky eagle owl, a Lan-}

Falconers can make money with their sport, within a strict set of rule. “We can’t just do picture time; we have to have a minimum of 30 to 35 minutes of educational program,” Sellinger explains. Without rules, he adds, “A lot of people would be, ‘Hey, I’ll charge five dollars for a picture.’”

To prevent such enterprisers from using the animals for entertainment or easy profit, the law requires instructors to address conservation and include information.
**Do you have CHEST PAIN?**

Do you suffer from **ANGINA**?

We are seeking volunteers for a clinical study for individuals with chronic stable angina.

**Key points of the Study:**

- Subjects Between 20 and 80 years of age
- Study Length: 6 visits over 8 weeks
- Exams involved: EGGs, physical exam, Labs, and walking on a treadmill
- Qualified participants will receive all study-related care and study medication at no cost

For more information about the benefits and risks of the study, please contact:

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**Do you have symptoms that may be caused by the flu?**

If the answer is yes, would you be interested in taking part in a clinical research study?

The purpose of Study VX14-787-103 is to assess the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medication in patients with the flu. The study is divided into two parts, A and B. Your study doctor will let you know whether you will be participating in Part A or Part B of the study.

You may be able to take part in Study VX14-787-103 if you:

- are between 18 and 64 years of age
- have symptoms of the flu (fever, cough, blocked nose, body aches, or fatigue)
- have flu that is confirmed by the study doctor
- do not have any other serious medical conditions
- have had these symptoms for less than 2 days (Part B only).

The study will last for up to 14 days and will include up to six visits to the study center. Study-related medical examinations and medical care will be provided free of charge. If you or someone you know has the flu this winter and is interested in learning more about Study VX14-787-103, please discuss with the study center staff as soon as possible.

---

**Morton’s Neuroma?**

**SHARP pain in your foot?**

**Numbness in your toes?**

A research study is testing a new investigational treatment for foot pain from Morton’s Neuroma. All study procedures are provided at no cost. Participants will be compensated.

---

**Do you have Type 2 Diabetes?**

If you are at least 18 years of age, have uncontrolled Type 2 Diabetes, and are taking Metformin, you may qualify to participate in a research study of an investigational medication.

If eligible you will receive:

- Study-related medical exams and investigational medication
- Compensation for time and travel may be provided

For more information, please call:

---

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**888-582-9626**

**www.triwestresearch.com • patients@triwestresearch.com**
about the birds’ biology and ecological roles.

One little-known but valuable service provided by some falconers is abatement. Falconry-based bird abatement is an eco-friendly way to rid farms, landfills, and airports of nuisance bird species, such as pigeons or seagulls. The Hotel del Coronado has been known to use falconers to keep pesky birds away from guests. At the zoo’s Safari Park, bothersome birds include crows, ravens, herons, and egrets. “They come into our restaurant areas, but it’s a pretty low-level issue; we can mitigate it by encouraging guests not to feed them,” Caldwell says. She’s just happy she no longer has to deal with seagulls, as she did when she managed the bird show at SeaWorld. “SeaWorld doesn’t sell hot dogs specifically because the seagulls were so aggressive, they’d pull them right out of people’s mouths.”

The presence of a raptor is enough to keep most other birds away. But with gulls, falconers need to work harder. “Seagulls are really smart — they can tell time,” Caldwell says. “They would figure out that the falconer comes at 9 a.m., is there for an hour or so, and then doesn’t come back all day.”

In the wild, raptors fly an average of 20 minutes a day (and up to four hours during mating season). “You may be able to have your bird flying for half an hour, but you’re not going to be out there for eight hours flying your bird,” Caldwell says. “To do [bird abatement] right is quite an investment — you need

She leaned back and screeched to a halt in mid-air, with wings widespread, her talons up in front of her body, and snatched the flesh.
COULD MENOPAUSE BE DIFFERENT

...WITHOUT THOSE HOT FLASHES!!!

A clinical research study is underway for menopausal women who are suffering from hot flashes and night sweats. If you suffer from the embarrassment of hot flashes and the nightly interruption of sleep by night sweats, this study may interest you. The 12-month study uses an investigational oral hormone medication for hot flashes and night sweats.

TO POSSIBLY QUALIFY:
1) women, 40–65 years of age, who are menopausal for at least 1 year
2) must have a uterus
3) having daily hot flashes and night sweats
4) smokers; less than 15 cigarettes per day

PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIE AT NO COST ALL STUDY-RELATED:
1) exam and consultation with a board-certified physician
2) labs, ekg, and all study-related drugs at no cost or need for insurance
3) compensation for time and travel

GOT FIBROIDS... GOT HEAVY, HEAVY PERIODS...

A 12-week clinical research study is underway to evaluate an investigational oral medication for women with fibroid tumors of the uterus with heavy periods.

TO POSSIBLY QUALIFY FOR THE STUDY:
1) Women, 18-50 years of age
2) Must have a history of fibroid tumors of the uterus
3) Periods must be heavy

PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIVE AT NO COST:
1) Exam Study-related exam and consultation with a board-certified OB-GYN
2) Study-related labs, pap smear, ultrasound, and study medication
3) Compensation up to $700.00 for time and travel

!!DIARRHEA!!

......AGAIN AND AGAIN?
......BLOATED, PAINFUL, AND UNCOMFORTABLE?

Loose stools with bloating, pain and discomfort, become a way of life for you? You may be having symptoms of Irritable bowel (ibs). A 52-week research study is underway to evaluate an investigational medication for Diarrhea-predominant ibs. This study is for females only, over 18 years of age. If you are tired of the embarrassment of running to the restroom bloated and uncomfortable you may want to look into this study.

TO POSSIBLY PARTICIPATE IN THIS STUDY:
1) healthy females, 18 years or older
2) 3-Months or more, history of loose or watery stool, abdominal pain or bloating (ibs-diarhoea)
3) Patients over 50 years of age have colonoscopy or sigmoidoscopy in the last 5 years

PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIVE AT NO COST ALL STUDY-RELATED:
1) Exam and consultation with a board-certified physician
2) Study medication, labs, ekg
3) Compensation to $1100.00, For time and travel

MIGRAINE HEADACHE

...Tired Of Talking About Treatment ...Time To Talk Possible Prevention

You folks having a couple of migraines per week.....Tired of suffering the nausea, the pain, and bright lights? Is what you take barely helping? Perhaps you might want to consider this clinical research study for chronic migraine sufferers.

TO POSSIBLY PARTICIPATE:
1) men and women, 18-55 years of age, have a history of migraine headaches for at least 1 year
2) must be having at least 1-2 migraines per week

PARTICIPANTS WILL POSSIBLY RECEIVE AT NO COST:
1) Study related exam and consultation by a board-certified MD
2) Study related labs, EKG and study medication at no cost or insurance
3) Compensation for time and travel

Compensation and Transportation may be available for those who qualify.

619-521-2841
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a team of sometimes up to 20 raptors, and rotate the birds all day long.” Daunting as it may seem, she adds, “It’s a great thing for a falconer to be able to do — to make a living flying his birds.”

But, as I witnessed from my living room, raptors aren’t the only aggressors in the air. Crows and hawks dislike each other a great deal. This is especially true during mating season, when there are nests to protect.

Sellinger remembers one summer when he was parahawking with Shanti near Torrey Pines. “She got chased, no joke, by 100 crows and gulls; they chased her back to UCSD, and I had to land to go back and get her,” he says. “Even when I had her on the glove, 50 crows escorted us off campus. They went from rooftop to rooftop, it was very Hitchcock — pretty crazy.”

Sellinger was able to locate Shanti thanks to the transmitter around her leg (some transmitters have a range of up to 40 miles). For those times when Shanti is nearby, she can also be located by the sound of a bell she wears attached to her other leg by a strip of leather.

The first half of Sky Falconry’s class was a lecture, during which Sellinger and Disharoon shared falconry history, biology and behavior, and raptor facts. They took turns speaking, switching back and forth with the ease of longtime collaborators.

As a word-lover, I was most interested to learn that William Shakespeare was a falconer and that we have him to thank for appropriating what were previously only falconry-specific words, such as “taming, haggard, bated,” and “gentleman.” Sellinger explains, “Gentleman means a man that can handle a female falcon. Why? Because these birds do not need you. They know how to fly, they know how to hunt; if you do not have a good working relationship with them, it’s hasta luego, buddy.”

“Fed up” is another expression derived from the sport. “Once a hawk’s ‘fed up,’” meaning she’s had enough to eat, “she doesn’t want to have anything to do with you.”

After, we learned about the major differences between falcons and hawks. Falcons fly higher, and instead of a brow ridge to shield the sun, they have dark feathers beneath their eyes that help deflect the light. Habibi was then put back in his box, leaving Shanti the hawk to star in the interactive portion of the class.

All of the birds at Sky Falconry were captive-bred. “Most sponsors require you to trap a bird in the wild,” Sellinger says. “That bird can be released back into the wild at any time. When we harvest a bird from the wild, it does not have a negative impact on the population.”

As with every aspect of falconry, the number of birds that can be trapped is regulated. Because all her time is spent with birds in captivity at the Safari Park, Caldwell keeps no birds of her own, but she is...
Do you have General Anxiety Disorder (GAD)?
Is your medication giving you relief from your symptoms?

Many people experience the constant burden of anxiety to the point where their excessive worrying can negatively impact the quality of their lives. If your medication isn’t supplying relief from the symptoms of GAD, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of GAD.

The purpose of this clinical research study is to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medication, in subjects 18 years or older.

In order to participate in this study you must meet all study entry criteria, including the following:

- You are between 18 and 65 years old
- You have been taking a stable dose of an FDA-approved 3AQ antidepressant for at least 12 weeks
- You are willing and able to complete all scheduled medical visits, a study treatment and related study assessments.

For more information about this study, please contact CNRI-San Diego at (619) 481-5252.
familiar with the process of trapping. “You don’t go get a baby,” she explains. “You get a bird in the fall that has been raised by its parents, taught how to hunt, and has successfully hunted for at least a couple of weeks. If a red-tailed hawk or kestrel is alive in the trapping season, you know it’s fledged from its parents.” In the wild, only around 25 percent of raptors survive their first year. “What we’re doing by saying you can trap these two species is ensuring that these birds getting trapped are going to actually survive.”

Apprentices must possess a bird prior to applying for a falconry permit. A sponsor almost always assists if an apprentice plans to trap one. “Sponsors tend to know where the nests are,” Caldwell says. “Say it’s at Lake Hodges — a sponsor might say, I’ve been watching that nest all year, and there were four offspring, and now there are only two left. If you trap one, you’ll likely find it covered in mites and parasites and feather lice. Then you take it to the vet — I don’t know a single falconer who would throw that bird back into the wild and try to get a better one. They’d spend a week feeding the bird, cleaning it, using mite spray.” Worst-case scenario, she continues, is that the bird flies off during training and ends up back in the wild, but much healthier.

Sellinger and Disharoon live together in a house that is just a short walk from the outdoor instructional arena they fashioned. The birdhouses, or mews, are located outside near the back entrance. U.S. Fish and Wildlife regulates the kind of falconry equipment each bird handler must have. Items such as perches, leashes, bells, hoods, gloves, jesses, lures, telemetry, and housing must meet certain size and quality requirements. Sellinger estimates the initial investment per bird to be around $2000, but some falconers spend up to $9000 to set up each bird.

When I first saw the mews, I made a comment about the “bird cages,” which seemed to ruffle some feathers. “People say, ‘Oh, they’re tethered, that’s mean,’” Sellinger tells me. “A lot of people think that we starve our birds to motivate them to hunt. No, we treat them like athletes.”

Sellinger and Disharoon weigh their birds every morning. “We want them to be on top of their game,” he says. “So that they’re not too fat to fly and not too hungry where they don’t have the energy reserves to go out to fly.”

Disharoon says they catch some flak when flying Shanti at Torrey Pines. People will say something like, “Oh, that’s so mean, you have a raptor tethered.” I really think the biggest misconception is that people
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If so, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study. Please call Artemis Institute for Clinical Research at 1-855-DoStudies to see if you qualify today!
may interpret it as cruelty to keep a live bird in captivity, but what they don’t understand is that for us as falconers, and how falconry is practiced, it’s your bird’s choice to continue the relationship. If they want to leave you, they’re going to.”

When it was time for Shanti to fly for us, Disharoon handed a glove to each participant. The thick leather coverings were more like gauntlets, as their primary function was to protect the hand and arm from a raptor’s sharp and strong talons (hawks have up to 500 pounds per square inch gripping power). “Not muscle power,” Sellinger clarifies. “These are ratcheting tendons, operating like zip-ties — when they land on their prey, they ratchet into them, and this will suffocate their prey as well.

Sometimes the prey just simply dies out of shock.”

As with anyone who works with wild animals (or even domestic ones), all falconers suffer scratches or worse. Caldwell says injuries are rarely a direct aggressive move on the bird’s part. “If a bird is off balance, if they slip and start to fall off the glove, I might take my bare hand to help them back up again, like a reflex.” Once, a golden eagle landed on the back of her pants, where she’d tucked her glove. “At times,” she jokes, “I was like a cartoon where if I drank some water you’d see it coming out of my arm.”

Caldwell’s “funniest” injury story had to do with a peregrine falcon. She begins by telling me that scientists claim most animals can’t comprehend two-dimensional imagery. “I find that to be incorrect,” she says. “Some don’t fall for it, but plenty of animals react to pictures.” Her proof seems indisputable. One day, while flying a golden eagle, Caldwell happened to be wearing a T-shirt sporting a photo of a peregrine falcon. “[The eagle] looked at my chest, and his hackles went up and he footed the peregrine picture — he grabbed my chest right on the face of the falcon.” Fortunately, it wasn’t a very serious grab. “It was sort of a, ‘What’s that stupid bird doing on your T-shirt?’” Caldwell remembers. “He clearly looked at it and reacted to it reflexively. I have scars in interesting places.”

Caldwell blames her most horrific injury on her novice carelessness. While working at the British School of Falconry in the early ‘90s, she and her fellow staff were preparing to have their pictures taken. Rushing to get to the photo shoot on time, Caldwell scrambled to help put away birds. “I had my hair down, I wanted to look all pretty for the picture,” she recalls. When she went to tie up a golden eagle, her hair fell down over her shoulders. “The next thing I knew, he grabbed my face.” As with the bird that had grabbed at the peregrine photo, Caldwell believes this one was reacting reflexively. “All he saw was blond hair — he’d never...
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See that before, maybe it looked like a rabbit — and he footed me in the face. I had a talon in one cheek — he grabbed me like you’d grab a rabbit and held on. At that point, he was just stuck on my face.”

Caldwell says she remained calm throughout the ordeal. “I called for my friend Stuart and he came around the corner.”

When hunting with birds, falconers train them to step off their kill, such as a jackrabbit, by offering something more appealing and easier to eat, such as a mouse, in exchange. Otherwise, the birds would never give up their prey without a fight. Stuart performed a replacement for Caldwell’s face, and the eagle released its grip. “It was my most serious injury. That back talon was as long as a [human] pinky, and it was all the way in my cheek. I looked like I got punched in the face by Mike Tyson.”

With our gloves down by our sides, participants formed a large circle. Disharoon and Sellinger took positions at opposite sides and worked their way around the ring so that one of them would always be beside the glove the hawk was leaving from or arriving to. The person whose turn it was had to call out, “Om, Shanti!” As Shanti flew from one glove to another across the circle, gliding low to the ground with nary a flap, I was reminded of playing catch as a child.

The hawk was hesitant at times. She’d remain on a glove, bobbing her head, looking everywhere except toward the person who was calling her. If at first the bird ignored, Disharoon would make the call herself. If that didn’t work, she’d whistle and say, “Om, Shanti! Right here, love.” And if that failed, Sellinger would walk across the circle to the target glove, make a clicking noise, and say, “Om, Shanti, come on,” and Shanti would glide once again across the center of the circle and onto the next glove. It was clear that Shanti responds to only one human.

Shanti may be Sellinger’s ladyhawk, but Disharoon has recently begun to train a young red-tailed hawk she’s named Anandamaya, which in yoga philosophy means the “center sheath of spiritual bliss.”

At one point, Shanti took off skyward and landed atop a nearby telephone pole. When this happened, Disharoon said, “You can’t make a bird do anything; it’s their choice.” She then referred to Sky Falconry’s terms and conditions, which state, “Birds are not machines. Like humans, they have their ‘off’ days. While every effort is made to have the birds fit and ready to fly, we cannot guarantee the quality of flights as all birds fly and hunt as they would do in the wild.”

Shanti hung out on the pole for a minute or so, and then, when Sellinger called her down to the next glove, she made her longest, most impressive jaunt of the day. I heard ooohs and aaahs all around when, with wings spread wide, the hawk slowly drifted down toward us from so high and far away.

When it was my turn to make the call, I lifted my glove high. Disharoon would make the
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roon placed a bit of raw chicken on the topside of the fist she’d instructed me to make. When given the go-ahead, I shouted, “Om, Shanti,” and, as with a handful of others before me, waited awkwardly as the hawk remained on the previous glove. Again, Disharoon whistled and made the call herself. “Om, Shanti, right here, love,” she said, in the tone of a doting dog-owner. Shanti fluttered her wings as if she were considering using them but then settled back down. Sellinger crossed the circle to us. Once he reached my side, he said, “Om, Shanti, come on,” and the hawk immediately took flight.

Shanti swooped low, gliding close to the ground across the circle, the bell on her leg ringing louder as she approached, and then she rose up and landed on my glove. It was five seconds from glove to glove. Sellinger asked me to swing my arm sideways so the bird would feel more comfortable facing into the wind. “It’s always easier to take off and land into the wind,” he said. I had been downwind from the previous participant, which was the primary reason for the hawk’s extended hesitation. But now this enormous bird was barely an arm’s length from my face.

For a glorious minute before Sellinger called her away, I stood there and stared at the hawk — all two and a quarter pounds of her, comprising giant eyes, curved beak, tri-colored feathers, and yellow reptile-like feet with long, sharp talons I could barely feel through the glove.

And then she was off again, back to the perch Sellinger held, which looked like an upside-down push broom.

Next, six volunteers (one person from each group) were chosen to take part in a game called “Upsies,” which involved tossing food into the air for Shanti to catch. I kept my hand down; this was an activity I was more comfortable watching than participating in, for two reasons: one, it involved handling raw meat; and, two, it required throwing said raw meat high into the air, and knowing my throwing abilities, it would probably end up landing on my face.

The meat being used for Upsies was day-old chick. “They exterminate the male chicks in the egg industry,” Sellinger explains. “We’re recycling them.”

Disharoon was a vegetarian for 20 years; she began eating meat again after going through a nutritional program prior to her interest in falconry. “I grew up in a household of hunters and fishermen, so it’s not like I’m not accustomed to being around that,” she says. “For me, it’s just a little tough to kill the bunny, to peel the skin off — personally, I have a lot more respect for people who hunt their food instead of going and buying it at a grocery store.”

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Smiling up at his hawk, he said, “Any day you get your bird back in falconry is a good day.”

— Barbarella
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Cops and hops
continued from page 3

my office that I’m going to try out. Now, we certainly don’t want patrons drinking and driving, getting in harm’s way; if one of our bartenders thinks you’ve had too much, he’ll offer to call a cab and we’ll pay for it. We’re also putting up Uber posters.”

But he echoes the widespread sentiment that drunken driving “crack-downs” where cops bootstrap trivial infractions into costly DUI cases, are no more than shake downs designed to raise revenue. “We’re in a commercial area and the cops are looking for expired registrations, equipment violations like burned-out tail lights, speeders when there are no other cars around. In the news, I saw a story in which a local real estate broker was hit with a DUI after two glasses of wine and a California stop. Instead of these harsh new enforcement campaigns, why not devote the funds to public transportation?”

Under the radar
continued from page 3

Patient Rights, a political committee backed by the local medical marijuana industry, had a solid 2014, according to its February 9 disclosure filing with the county. The group came up with $58,088 in contributions from a variety of pot advocates, including the $22,000 from the United Patients Alliance of National City, $9750 from San Diego Cannabis Education Project, and $6000 from Highland Medical Packing of Vista. Despite its money, the two causes backed by the committee, La Mesa Measure J and Encinitas’s Measure F, went down to defeat. Each would have repealed bans on the sale of medical marijuana. The treasurer of the group is listed as James Schnachtenberger, whose LinkedIn page says he is about to release a new movie, The Science of Weed, which will be “the most authoritative documentary ever made on medicinal marijuana use, with a gross-budget of over $1 million dollars.”

— Matt Potter
(@sdmattpotter)

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

NEWS TICKER
continued from page 2

The Chargers’ management claims the team gets 30 percent of its revenue from the Orange County and Los Angeles areas. Thus, if the estimate is true, the existence of one or two teams in L.A. would almost force the Chargers to move.

Don Bauder

Sucker puncher

Paramedics haven’t been sleeping since incident with parking cop

Two emergency medical technicians are suing the City of San Diego for negligently hiring parking-enforcement officer Anibal Solis, who on April 13, 2014, entered a Golden Hill convenience store and punched the paramedics with no provocation.

The complaint, filed by Derek Shubin and Steven Cogle, says the paramedics parked outside of the 7-Eleven store on 25th and Broadway while on duty, in uniform, for some cold refreshments. While standing at the coolers, Officer Solis, according to the complaint, approached Shubin.

“I will f*** you up,” said the officer to Shubin.

Solis then punched Shubin on the right side of his face with his left hand.

Now, the paramedics are seeking punitive damages from the city and from Officer Solis.

The complaint says the paramedics have since suffered “severe mental anguish, and emotional distress, pain and suffering, physical injuries, sleeplessness, anxiety, migraine headaches, flashbacks, nightmares, post-traumatic stress syndrome, fear of uniformed officers...” among other issues.

Dorian Hargrove

Jet ski entrance

Tank of meth intercepted, four people apprehended

A Lemon Grove man was caught on February 8 attempting to cross the border into the U.S. with a gas tank full of liquid methamphetamine, Border Patrol officials are reporting.

The unnamed 39-year-old was stopped for questioning at the Calexico port of entry, southeast of El Centro. Upon noticing “anomalies with the undercarriage of the vehicle,” the man was referred to secondary, where his vehicle was searched using a narcotics-sniffing dog and a digital imaging system.

The search turned up a hidden 15-gallon compartment inside the gas tank of the Ford F-250 pickup, which held an estimated $750,000 worth of narcotics.

Also, on February 8, agents in San Diego intercepted three women and one male juvenile attempting to enter the country illegally via jet ski.

Border Patrol agents observed two jet skis traveling from Mexican waters into the U.S. shortly after 10 p.m., and tracked them to Coronado’s Silver Strand beach. A Coast Guard cutter attempted to pursue the
jet ski operators, who fled back to Mexico after dropping their four passengers on the beach.

Dave Rice

**South Korea is investigating Qualcomm**

Antitrust the topic, as it was in China

The publication android-headlines.com is reporting that, according to an unnamed source in South Korea’s Trade Commission, Qualcomm is under investigation by that country. This was first reported by Maeil Business Newspaper of South Korea. The investigation is reportedly about Qualcomm’s potential abuse of its dominant position as the top mobile chip maker.

On February 10, Qualcomm agreed to pay China $975 million, the largest fine in China’s history, over antitrust issues related to China’s 2008 anti-monopoly law. The fine ended a 14-month-long investigation, and Qualcomm’s stock rose as the uncertainty evaporated. The agreement also required Qualcomm to lower its royalty rates on patents used in China, according to Reuters.

One of the risks of settling an antitrust matter with one country is that another country will follow suit.

Don Bauder

**This park is your park**

City to repo a parcel of Bankers Hill parkland

A parcel of land on Olive Street in Bankers Hill will be made into a city park just as a local family intended it to be when they granted the land to the City of San Diego in 1909.

On February 10, the city notified the public that certain non-permitted uses will be removed from the 80-by-120-feet piece of terrain overlooking Maple Canyon.

The non-permitted uses have been at the center of controversy since 1963, when the city granted an adjacent property owner, Dr. Milan Brandon, use of the property in exchange for a promise to maintain the small plot. In the decades that followed, the doctor’s office expanded and what was meant to be a park soon became a parking lot.

In 2004, members of the Uptown Planners began to notice trees were being cut down on the canyon slope. Soon after, a group of citizens — including descendants of one of the three families who gave the city the land — began to lobby the city and city council members. Among them was then-councilmember, current mayor Kevin Faulconer.

In a 2008 statement to the Reader, Faulconer supported the effort to turn the land into a small community park as the owners of the land had intended.

Despite the support at city hall, the plot of land remained a parking lot for the medical office building. In 2013, Dr. Brandon and his family sued the city in hopes of keeping rights to use the land for ingress and egress. In November 2014, a judge denied the Brandons’ complaint. The case is now being appealed.

Dorian Hargrove

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The Johnny Knoxville of the Vegan Community

I'm writing to express my sincere thanks for your Blog Diego article titled “Vegan in the Steakhouse” (January 29). Man, what a conversation starter! My friends and I have been obsessing over a full week over this piece.

This author is quite a find for your publication. I mean, who on earth goes into a great steak house like Donovan's armed with gift cards, homemade tofu sour cream, and fake butter, and orders steamed vegetables? They're a complete kook! The Johnny Knoxville of the vegan community.

She initially earned my attention from her repeated use of the word servant in reference to her wait staff. (Suggestion for an article: Does the SD social hierarchy resemble the food chain?)

In the end we all agreed on one thing. There is one quote that proved to us all beyond a shadow of a doubt that the author is, in fact, a complete douche nozzle. “I was impressed that a fat girl sitting behind me had ordered the same exact lunch.” What a disgusting and disgraceful thing to say!

This author may be a horrible person but she's a highly amusing author. We give her an A+.

Unrepentant Carnivore and Former Servant, Chris Comorat

Encinitas

The Nouveau Rich

Regarding the January 8 cover story, “Thank You, Matthew McConaughey,” about that character who made the sunglasses and became a multimillionaire, and all those goodies.

Not to take away from him, or his efforts, or his success, but now that he has become a success, he doesn't want to talk to the smaller people who have suggestions, or may have the next multimillionaire suggestion for his company. There are people I know whom are very versatile, very eloquent, and very smart in what they do. They don't have ulterior motives other than to get a few dollars for themselves for the sale.

I feel that these knockaround people — Adam Moyer, in particular — have gotten to a place where their heads are big and their egos are bigger, and now they would much rather sit around acting like the nouveau rich — the new guys on the block sitting around with their dark glasses on.
drop calls. And of course, we always seemed to have problems between San Clemente and O’side, more so at night for some reason. And driving from SoCal over to Arizona to visit family? Forget about it. And now? Where don’t you have coverage. The same people who seemingly can’t live without their smart phones, some of whom seem to have traded brain function for apps, complain about having cell towers on public land, taking up approx a 15’ x 15’ space with a 30-50 foot tower disguised as something else, bringing in 3-4K per month to which every public entity owns the space AND providing more capacity/coverage. Some things just make you want to shake your head and go WTF!!

By danfogel, February 4 @ 9:16 a.m.

Under the Radar
“Last of the Red Hat Ladies” Published February 5
Fox was serving on quite a number of boards of directors while she was also the chancellor of UCSD. Many questioned her ability to meet the demands of her “day job” on campus while she was heading off to many meetings in far-off cities. Can we say “avarice” boys and girls?

By Visduh, February 5 @ 9:01 a.m.

There are very few university leaders that have any experience in business. Yet that is exactly what a university is. UCSD has a different mission than does Apple but none-the-less has a budget, a payroll, and there is a constant weighing of demands for funding. Academia selects university presidents (chancellors) from the ranks of faculty most of whom have no training or experience in running a day-to-day business. Indeed, the very nature of a not-for-profit university is that there is no bottom line. As a result, universities tend to spend, resulting in the huge increase in university budgets over time. Fox learned how to manage a very large operation from service on corporate boards. In her eight years as chancellor of UCSD, all of her time on corporate boards came from vacation time. Enough said, Ladies and Gentlemen?

By jkw, February 5 @ 4:47 p.m.

I worked with Fox for several years and she is a brilliant selfless leader. Leaders who work to earn “accolades and awards” are not typically very effective leaders. The lack of accolades and awards speaks volumes about her quiet competence.

By Machinerecorder, February 5 @ 6:04 p.m.

Utah’s WKRB News reported that Fox sold 8,000 shares in late January for $530,000. It says she still “owns 33,126 shares in the company, valued at approximately $2,194,928.76.” So why did she resign (or was she fired?)? The “spending more time with the family” statement is obvious BS put out by PR people. It’s bogus.

By dwbat, February 5 @ 6:09 p.m.

Sporing Box
“MLB: How They Got There”
Posted February 4
There is a valid reason that Joan Kroc couldn’t “gift” the Padres to the City (citizens, if you will) of San Diego. Unlike the NFL, MLB is a “for profit”. At one time, they were a not-for-profit (501 c 6), but the owners decided to go in the other direction because it enabled them to not have to report how much money they made and paid out privacy to public scrutiny. While this happened several years after Kroc offered up the Padres to the City of San Diego, MLB knew which direction they were going to go years prior. There was a lot of behind-the-scenes lawyering and attempts at negotiating going on for two decades, but the writing was on the wall and MLB felt it would be in THEIR best interest (the owners, obviously) to protect their business interests. Otherwise, it’s open for public scrutiny, sort of like online pictures of Kim Kardashian’s rear end. Embarrassing, to say the least. The community of Green Bay owns the NFL Packers, but that wouldn’t likely have happened if the NFL wasn’t a not-for-profit. And the NFL, like Kim Kardashian, is often shameless.

By David Dodd, February 5 @ 5:08 p.m.

There is a valid reason that the NFL, the least. The community of Green Bay owns the NFL Packers, but that wouldn’t likely have happened if the NFL wasn’t a not-for-profit. And the NFL, like Kim Kardashian’s rear end, is open for public scrutiny, sort of like online pictures of Kim Kardashian’s rear end. Embarrassing, to say the least. The community of Green Bay owns the NFL Packers, but that wouldn’t likely have happened if the NFL wasn’t a not-for-profit. And the NFL, like Kim Kardashian, is often shameless.

By David Dodd, February 5 @ 9:47 a.m.

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The Vista Hi-Noon Rotary Club recently broke ground to build a memorial wall that pays homage to all branches of the military.

Mary Ann Pinamonti is spearheading the building of another memorial, Ernie’s Place, in honor of her 19-year-old brother, Ernie Pinamonti, who died in 1969 while serving as a soldier in Vietnam.

“The Rotary Veterans’ Memorial Wall is on a pathway near Vista Village Drive,” said Andrea McCullough, a spokesperson for the City of Vista.

“The Vietnam Memorial, known as Ernie’s Place, is located within Paseo Pointe, on South Santa Fe Avenue.”

Why have the two military memorials developed at the same time, within one block of each other, both in downtown Vista?

The Vietnam Memorial had been languishing in the planning stages for over 20 years. John Meyer, Vista’s director of redevelopment and housing, recently suggested a compromise location to the delight of the collaborative efforts of the Pinamonti family.

A new Vista housing project needed open-air green space. The original land that the elder Pinamontis had donated for their son’s memorial was swapped for the public parkland incorporated into the housing project.

“We are excited to see our dream finally come to fruition,” stated Mary Ann Pinamonti, representing her deceased parents and her surviving siblings. “There is no competition between the complementary projects, by the way. There can never be too many parks or places of beauty in our community.”

**HEATHER SIGEL**

**ENCINITAS**

**California gnatcatchers should be worried**

Removal of birds from endangered list to be seriously considered soon

The California gnatcatcher, the little blue-gray songbird that sounds like a kitten, may come off the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service’s list of threatened and endangered species — a result of a series of DNA tests found that American birds have the same DNA as the abundant Baja California gnatcatcher.

The Pacific Legal Foundation, which represents two groups of property owners, submitted a petition last June to delist the birds to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

“Tens of thousands of acres of land have been designated as critical habitat in California,” said legal foundation attorney Tony Francois. “The [federal] service itself estimates that by 2025 steps taken to protect the bird will have cost Californians $1 billion in land-use decisions.”

At the heart of the decision is the question: what defines a subspecies? The arguments will focus on some combination of genetics, how the birds appear (morphology), and the geographic separateness of the various gnatcatchers.

Francois says the petitioners are guardedly optimistic they will be able to bump the bird off its costly perch.

Meanwhile, the Audubon Society (a non-profit dedicated to bird conservation) says that the science can’t be trusted, since it was purchased with building-industry money.

**MARTY GRAHAM**

**Baja California gnatcatcher’s genes not so rare, says U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service study**

Baja California gnatcatcher’s genes not so rare, says U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service study

For the first time, scientists have proved that Baja California gnatcatchers’ genes are not so rare, which may have implications for all gnatcatchers.

Francois says the petitioners are guardedly optimistic they will be able to bump the bird off its costly perch.

Meanwhile, the Audubon Society (a non-profit dedicated to bird conservation) says that the science can’t be trusted, since it was purchased with building-industry money.

**SHEILA PELL**
Thursday | 19

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION
The event includes a lion dance, lamp offerings, first incense offering for the new year, homage to thousand Buddhas service, and you can make a wish for the new year.

WHERE: San Diego Buddhist Association, 4536 Park Boulevard, University Heights. 619-298-2800; lsfingtemple.org

Sunday | 22

COOKING ANCIENT GRAINS
Have you heard of quinoa, amaranth, or fava beans? Join us in the nursery kitchen to learn new uses of ancient grains and beans. Recipes include using these ingredients in salads, baked goods, and breakfast meals. Vegan and gluten-free recipes included. $10.

WHERE: City Farmers Nursery, 4832 Home Avenue, City Heights. 619-284-6358; cityfarmersnursery.com

Monday | 23

PUBLIC ART AT THE LIBRARY
The new Central Library is recognized as a civic center for art. Join Kara West, library arts and culture exhibitions manager, as she shares collection highlights and discusses the importance of public art at your library. Hosted by the San Diego Museum of Art. $5.

WHERE: St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 334 14th Street, Del Mar. 619-232-7931; bit.ly/1IPgrbj

Wednesday | 25

CIRQUE DU SOLEIL: VAREKAI
Varekai has been seen by over eight million people since it premiered in Montreal in 2002. The production has since visited more than 72 cities around the world. The show features a cast of 50 performers and musicians from 18 countries.

WHERE: Valley View Casino Center, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Midway District. 619-224-4171; cirquedusoleil.com

Tuesday | 24

BLIND BURRO TACO FIGHT
Each week, six chefs are required to use an ingredient voted on by the public. Attendees can try each of the chefs’ prepared tacos ($9 for both) and cast a vote for whose taco is best. Round 3: Mikel Anthony (Ronin) vs. Christine Rivera (Galaxy Tacos). Final round next Tuesday.
Cayman Islands: stingrays and tax shelters
By Karin Leperi

Coral outcrops surrounded by coral reefs, the Cayman Islands are three tiny islands (Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac, Little Cayman) comprising the British Overseas Territory of the Cayman Islands in the western Caribbean. Just south of Cuba and northwest of Jamaica, the islands attract divers from around the world.

With swimming suit and suntan lotion packed, I hopped on a plane to immerse myself in island time. Though most visitors come to dive, snorkel, or simply swim in the sparkling turquoise waters, I found opportunities that were singularly Cayman experiences.

Here are a few that shouldn’t be missed in my book: Stingray City is considered to be one of the best shallow dives and snorkeling spots in the world. Since I don’t dive, I was relieved to find that the three feet of water suited non-swimmers as well. As many organized tours ferry their passengers the short distance to the stretch of sandy seafloor at the North Sound, be prepared to have plenty of human company in addition to the dozens of southern stingrays that will be gliding freely around you.

These docile creatures are quite graceful underwater, and seem to move effortlessly with their wing-like fins. The gray skin on top is very rough with a texture of sandpaper, so I was surprised to discover that their underbelly is as smooth as a baby’s bottom.

Years ago, Grand Cayman’s popular North Sound had a cut in the reef which was a popular route for fishermen to enter and then sit in calm water while cleaning the day’s catch. As they threw the bones and guts overboard, rays would come and feed on the discarded fish parts. These days, the fishermen have long been gone but the stingrays remain, flashing their brilliant white undersides as they soar across the reef.

Be sure to bring a waterproof camera to capture this unique event. Also, if you decide to join the stingrays for a swim, remember, they have long, whip-like tails with razor-sharp serrated barbs, so you should never swim directly over a stingray — which is how Steven Irwin was fatally injured.

And if you’re diving or snorkeling on your own, avoid close encounters with the rays.

The Botanic Park is home to blooming orchids, squawking parrots, songbirds, and nature trails that give you a sense of the flora and fauna in the Caymans. It’s here you’ll also find the famous blue iguana — the only place in the world where the blue dragon, a relic of the dinosaur age, lives in the wild. It was less than ten years ago that there were only 10 to 25 blue iguanas remaining. Once a critically endangered species, breeding efforts have managed to raise the population to about 750, resulting in the International Union for continued on page 49

Other Adventures

Win $25 for your travel tips or a Reader T-Shirt or hat for the best travel photo of the week. Go to SDReader.com/travel for more information.
**ART**

**Artist Market** The San Diego Artist Market is an outdoor event hosted by Border X Brewing, Sunday, February 22, 12pm; hosted by Border X Brewing. Artist Market is an outdoor event of Art, 1450 El Prado. Messages from India of Art, 1450 El Prado.

**Deron Cohen: Art Universe** Deron Cohen makes stories about love, war, peace, spirit, nature, Earth, life, death, mind, and the Universe. Cohen is well known artist from San Diego who has exhibited throughout the United States. Saturday, February 21, 7pm; Dolph and Hawk Fine Art Gallery, 7742 M Herschel Avenue, (LA JOLLA)

**Drawing in the Galleries: Developing a Personal Form** This informal drawing workshop gives adults and teens the opportunity to draw from objects in the collection while guided by instructor Damon Hitchcock. Meet in the rotunda. Gallery visit: European Art Before 1600. Friday, February 20, 2pm; $12-$15. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Messages from India** Artist Payson R. Stevens’ 2013 trip to the spectacular Ajanta and Ellora caves in Maharashtra, India, catalyzed a new body of work called Video Tone Poems/VTPs. These VTPs focus on spiritual (Indian spiritual and cultural sites), natural (the environment), and affected messages (the human condition). In this program, Stevens will show some of the VTPs of both ancient and modern India. He will share his experiences in India and discuss the enormous changes that globalization has brought, especially in the remote Himalayan Valley where he lives and works. Sponsored by the Committee for the Arts of the Indian Subcontinent. Saturday, February 21, 3pm; free-$20. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**BEER**

**Beer for Breakfast with Firestone Walker** Join us for for some special goodie such as Sucaba Barrel Aged Barley Wine and Velvet Mocha Merlin on tap along with Union Jack IPA, Pale 31 Extra Pale Ale, and Privo Pilser. Get a Firestone Walker glass to take home, and pair your Mocha Merlin with a smoked cocoa and chili rubbed pork loin Benedict accompanied by an apple and bleu cheese hash. Saturday, February 21, 10am; Small Bar, 4628 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Fall Brewing Co. Green Hat IPA** Fall’s newest IPA featuring Simcoe, Citra, Centennial, and Crystal hops served from the beer engine for the ultimate fresh beer sensation. Thursday, February 19, 12pm; Small Bar, 4628 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**BOOK SIGNINGS**

**Juliana Maio** Author Juliana Maio will speak about her new book City of the Sun: a Novel in the Astor Judacina Library. City of the Sun is set in Cairo, Egypt 1941. Espionage, love, and power play upon the shifting sands of wartime Cairo. As the second world war wages, the city known as “Paris on the Nile” plays host to an international set who seem more interested in polo matches and swanky nightclubs than the Germans’ unrelenting advance across North Africa. RSVP: 858-362-1150 or susanh@ ljcc.org. Thursday, February 19, 7pm; $8-$10. (LA JOLLA)

**Marjorie Cohn: Drones and Targeted Killing** Marjorie Cohn of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law will discuss the book Drones and Targeted Killing: Legal, Moral, and Geopolitical Issues. Cohn teaches criminal law and procedure, evidence, and international human rights law and lectures throughout the world on human rights and U.S. foreign policy. Info: 619-263-9301. Sunday, February 22, 3pm; free. San Diego Friends Center, 3850 Westgate Place. (OAK PARK)

**CLASSES & WORKSHOPS**

**Art Night: Full Moon Over Tahiti** Sip on margaritas while learning how to paint “Full Moon Over Tahiti” in acrylic. Great for beginners. All materials and instruction provided. Sunday, February 22, 3pm; $35. Fred’s Mexican Cafe Old Town, 2470 San Diego Avenue. (OLD TOWN)

**New Moon Circle Workshop** Partially spiritual, partially expressive arts, and partially therapeutic. All materials provided. Saturday, February 21, 1pm; $35. 21 and up. Inspire SD Studio, 7132 University Avenue. (LA MESA)

**Photo 101 Workshop** In this intensive one-day workshop, professional photographer Daniel Solomon will teach you the ins and outs of your DSLR camera. Venture off of “Program” mode and into the wild and wonderful world of manual settings to have full control of your photography and get the most out of your camera. Saturday, February 21, 10am; $39. NTC at Liberty Station, Barracks 15, Studio 103, 2750 Historic Decatur Road. (LIBERTY STATION)
San Diego Improv Festival
Some of the best improvisational comedy talent from Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, and more. Second annual event, with shows, workshops, and parties. Thursday, February 19, 8pm; Friday, February 20, 8pm; Saturday, February 21, 8pm; Sunday, February 22, 8pm; $15-$30. California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (Escondido)

Shen Yun
5000 Years in One Night! Shen Yun returns with all new program on Chinese New Year. Journey through ancient dynasties, myths, and legends. Two shows added by popular demand, now February 14 - 24. Thursday, February 19, 2pm and 7:30pm; Friday, February 20, 7:30pm; Saturday, February 21, 2pm and 7:30pm; Sunday, February 22, 1:30pm; California Center for the Arts, Escondido, 340 N. Escondido Boulevard. (Escondido)

FOR KIDS

Chinese New Year Afternoon
Join us for a fun, cultural afternoon of activities starting with “Dragon Tales” presented by the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum (interactive storytelling) followed by a Sheep Cupcake craft for kids and almond cookies for adults. Thursday, February 19, 4pm, free. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAREMONT)

Family Day on the Bay
Enjoy a day with your family exploring our ships and staying for free craft activities. Kids’ craft activity from 11am to 3pm aboard the ships — kids free all day (two free children ages 3-12 per paying adult). For an additional $5 per person, families can sign up for a Historic Bay Cruise on San Diego Bay aboard the museum’s historic 1914 harbor pilot boat Pilot. Sunday, February 22, 9am; free-$16. San Diego Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO)

Family Discovery Walk
Connect your little ones to nature and discover its wonder, joy, and beauty as a family experience. Our interactive outing focuses on childhood enrichment and fun. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Sunday, February 22, 3pm; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junípero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Family Drop-In Day: Exploring Texture
Offered every Sunday. Family Drop-In days feature family friendly, docent-led tours, gallery games, and art projects for families to complete together. Activities are suitable for all ages and skill levels and center around a specific theme. Art projects change weekly and themes change monthly. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Free with museum admission. Sunday, February 22, 1pm; free-$12. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

Hopscotch Storytime
Join us for a fun storytime that includes music and movement and children’s art. Appropriate for ages three and up. February’s theme is Bugs. Kids will use a microscope and magnifying glasses to look at insect slides. Saturdays, 1pm; through Saturday, February 28, free. Clairemont Library, 2920 Burgener Boulevard. (CLAREMONT)

Old-Time Train Ride
See San Diego’s rugged backcountry from the comfort of an old-time train. The 85-year-old coach departs the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum’s 40-acre Living History & Train Operation Center each Saturday & Sunday at 11am and 2:30pm for a 12-mile, one-hour journey. Gift shop, free parking, modern restrooms, wheelchair friendly. For a special treat, ride in the locomotive with the engineer. Saturdays, 11am; Sundays, 11am through Sunday, June 14, Pacific Southwest Railway Museum, 750 Depot Street. (CAMPO)

Preschool Story Time
An interactive storytime including books, songs, rhymes, movement, and bubble time. For ages three and up. Fridays, 10:30am; through Friday, March 27, free. North Clairemont Library, 4616 Clairemont Drive. (CLAREMONT)

Preschool Story Time & Craft
Preschoolers are invited to a story time, then a fun craft afterwards. Thursdays, 10:30am; through Thursday, June 25, free. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

POETRY

Edna St. Vincent Millay
Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892–1950) was born in Rockland, Maine, attended Vassar College, and upon graduation moved to Greenwich Village. Millay later characterized her life in New York as “very, very poor and very, very merry.” A playwright as well as a poet, she worked with the Provincetown Players on MacDougall Street in the Village and in 1924 was one of the founders of the important Cherry Lane Theater. In 1917, she published her first collection, Renaissance and Other Poems, and in 1923, when Millay was just 31 years old, she published The Harp Weaver and Other Poems, in which this poem first appeared, a collection for which Millay won the Pulitzer Prize. A master of rhymed, metrical forms and a superb sonneteer, Millay wrote a poetry that was at once witty, perceptive, passionate, provocatively unconventional in sentiment, and more often than not exquisitely wrought. Her brilliant achievements in strict form place her in the first ranks of 20th American poets, and today Millay’s poetry remains widely read and admired.

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The Foundation for Wellness Professionals, a Non-Profit Organization Wellness Consultant: Dr. Richard A. Engel, DC

Rhyme & Verse
I, Being Born a Woman and Distressed
A poem by Edna St. Vincent Millay

I, being born a woman and distressed
By all the needs and notions of my mind.
Am urged by your propinquity to find
Your person fair, and feel a certain zest
To bear your body’s weight upon my breast:
So subtly is the fume of life designed,
To clarify the pulse and cloud the mind,
And leave me once again undone, possessed.
Think not for this, however, the poor treason
Of my stout blood against my staggering brain,
I shall remember you with love, or season
My scorn with pity,— let me make it plain:
I find this frenzy insufficient reason
For conversation when we meet again.

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For conversation when we meet again.
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with friendly singers led

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I ANSWERED THE CALL

San Diego Reader: What is your favorite sermon on which to preach?
Pastor Brian Henderson: Justification. God's
declaration of righteousness over the sinner that's received
simply because he says so by
faith and it comes through his
son Jesus Christ in no other
way. That's what we need
to hear after a week of being
beaten up by the world, by our
bad choices, I need to hear that
God still loves me and hasn't
given up on me.

SDF: Why Lutheran?
PB: When my grandfather
died, I was ten years old. He
was friends with the local
Lutheran pastor in Pewau-
kee. My father told my grandmother, and we didn't
know this until we were older,
that he did ever, wanted
her to take the family and join the Lutheran church up
the street. My grandmother
asked him why we couldn't
stay Baptist. He told her that
while he loved the Baptist
Church, the Lutherans have
the best doctrine and best
teaching. I didn't know of
this until I was in my 20s,
when my grandmother
told me. That always stuck with
me. I have great memories of
my Baptist background — so
I would never speak badly
of them. But that's what
my grandfather said and it's
what brought me to the Lutheran
Church from a very young
age, and, honestly, it's why I
stayed Lutheran because of
the theology and the doctrine. It
keeps Christ central and the
cross is everything.

SDF: What is the mission of your church?
PB: To equip the saints to reach
the lost through Jesus Christ.
Mine is first a teaching min-
istry — and equipping min-
istry. So the Church together
reaches our community; and
I think we do an excellent job
at that with all our ministries.
We have a food pantry we
support through our church
and other area churches which
believe in what we do. Once
a month we give the poor a
week's worth of groceries and
we gave out seven tons of
food last year for free. Then
we have a senior breakfast we
have Monday through Friday.
And that's free, too. We have a
Bible study every Wednesday
and the Jesus Jazz Café every
other Friday evening, where
we have open mic and musi-
cians get together. We even
have a professional recording
studio on campus — and
many people know that. Any-
one who wants to record, the
studio is primarily for Chris-
tian groups — although we
also welcome non-Christian
groups as long as it's a whole-
some message in the music.
No profanity or violence toward
or talking down of women.

Brian Henderson: “The cross is
everything”

World Information Archi-
tecture Day A global one day
event that focuses on improving
how digital technologies intersect
with everyday life. NewS
will join the network of more than 24
countries that entend the brightest
and most forward-thinking lead-
ers in information architecture,
user experience, UX design
and research, and interaction and
visual design to resolve a real-life
digital challenge in the respective
host city. WIAD 2015 includes a series of
design-driven, cross-disciplinary short
lectures followed by open dis-
cussions that explore the subject
of “Architecting Happiness” from
diverse perspectives: urban spaces,
social structures, products and ser-
vice experiences, and digital media
that’s shaping our lives. Saturday,
February 21, 9:30am; free. New-
school of Architecture and Design,
1249 F Street. (EAST VILLAGE)

NEWSPAPER SALES
Outdoors
Batiquitos Lagoon Trail Main-
tenance Wear closed shoes, long
pants, a hat, sunblock, sunglasses, and
bring water. Help to maintain
trails, restore habitat, water plants,
clear debris, and perform other

SDF: Where do you go when you die?
PB: I go to be with the Lord….
Jesus is the way, the truth
and the life. But God doesn't
wish that we should perish,
but all should have eternal-
life, that we should all be
in heaven. But he also tells
us that the way through his
son, Jesus Christ, is the nar-
row way, I believe there is a
place that sinners desire to
be all alone. Scripture said
there is only one unforgive-
able sin — blasphemy of the
Holy Spirit, the constant and
continual rejection of God’s
love through Christ.
— Joseph O’Brien

Find more Sheep and Goats columns at SDRreader.com/worship/
Chinese New Year Celebration
The event includes a lion dance, lamp offerings, first incense offering for the new year, homage to the Jade Emperor, and you can make a wish for the new year. Thursday, February 19, 6am; free. San Diego Buddhist Association, 4536 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

Kale Festival 2015 Kale festival is a yearly event with hands-on workshops including bee-keeping, composting, and orchard care. There will be a kale recipe contest with prizes, free lunch, live entertainment, children’s activities, cooking demos, and vendors. Learn about food awareness and sustainability and get new kale recipes. Sponsored by Wild Willow Farms and San Diego Peace Gardens. Info: gabriellestratton@rogers.com. Saturday, February 21, 10am; free. San Diego Friends Center, 3850 Westgate Place. (OAK PARK)

Walk and Talk: Harbor Seals of La Jolla The Seal Conservancy of San Diego offers a weekly walk and talk about the harbor seal pupping season each Saturday during February and March to see them at Casa Beach. Meet at the Magnolia Images of Nature Gallery. Saturday, February 21, 2pm; $10. Magnolia Images of Nature Gallery, 7196 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

Strengthening and flexibility, enhances mental clarity, and changes animal sightings while exploring Mission Gorge’s canyon floor with your Mission Trails Regional Park trail guide. Meet inside the Visitor Center. Saturday, February 21, 9:30am; Sunday, February 22, 9:30am; free. Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

Garden Tours Tour the lush, colorful gardens at Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve with a knowledgeable docent to hear what makes our garden special. Be inspired to create a water-wise garden with a knowledgeable docent to hear what makes our garden special. Be inspired to create a water-wise garden with a knowledgeable docent to hear what makes our garden special.

Batiquitos Lagoon Nature Center, 950 Hotel Circle North. (MENLO PARK)

Black History Month: Poetry Showcase Poetry Showcase by the Black Student Union and the Performance Writers Club. In the Little Theater, Room 3601. This will be a night of powerful poetry. Featured poets will be “Ant Black” (a.k.a. Anthony Blacksher), “The Professor” (a.k.a. Dr. Bruce Hoskins), and many more. Thursday, February 19, 6pm; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

Long Story Short: Just Lust Even though our brains are capable of incredible feats, we sometimes let...other organs make our decisions for us. Has this ever gotten you into trouble? Come tell and hear stories of lust gone wrong at our improv story event.” Saturday, February 21, 7pm; free-$5. 18 and up. Evolution Fast Food, 2956 Fifth Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Sacred Flame Fire Circle A community event with a sacred intent blending drumming, dance, songs, chants, and Earth-based ceremony. Vegetarian potluck dinner 6:30pm-7:30pm. Saturday, February 21, 7pm; free. The Mission Gorge Racquet Club, 16161 Highland Valley Road. (ESCONDIDO)

Tea for Two: Sikes Adobe Historical Farmstead Enjoy a steaming cup of hot tea and a plate of sweets and sandwiches, and take a tour of the farmhouse. Info: annee@sdrp.org. Saturday, February 21, 1pm and 3pm; $12. Sikes Adobe Farmhouse, 12655 Sunset Drive. (SAN MARCOS)

Simply the Best Singles This upscale socialization for singles looking for relationships, marriage, and more presents a Dance The Night Away event with live band Kicks, an icebreaker, prizes, psychic, photos, and more. Parking $4; dance price $15 prepay/$20 door. 818-577-6877; simplythebe-stingles.com. Saturday, February 21, 7:30pm-11:30pm; $5. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church, 14130 Hauser Boulevard. (CITY HEIGHTS)

 Diseases for us. Has this ever gotten you into trouble? Come tell and hear stories of lust gone wrong at our improv story event.” Saturday, February 21, 7pm; free-$5. 18 and up. Evolution Fast Food, 2956 Fifth Avenue. (NORTH PARK)

Outdoor Canoeing Open House Try the sport of six-man outrigger canoeing. Everyone is welcome at this weekly Saturday open house organized by the San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club. We’ll show you the basics, and then we’ll head out for a paddle across Mission Bay. Paddles supplied. Meet at our canoes on the beach at the Marina in Campand on the Bay. Our club also offers aloha spirit and the opportunity to participate in ocean-going races. Saturdays, 9am; through Saturday, March 7, free. 18 and up. Camp-and on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

Seven Chakra Healing Bowls Meditation Janice Maria Theresa for an experience of sacred, vibrational space with chakra-toned quartz crystal bowls playing while you meditate. $20. Sunday, February 22, 6:30pm; free. Universal Spirit Center, 3858 Front Street. (HILLCREST)

Tai Chi This class is designed for adults 55+ and will teach students strategies for implementing physical exercise and relaxation techniques in addition to Tai Chi forms. Thursdays, 2pm; through Thursday, June 25, free. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)

Zumba Gold Zumba Gold is a lower-impact version of our Zumba Basic class on Mondays, but just as fun. The moves have been carefully designed to be easy to follow by participants of any size or age. Fridays, 1:30pm; through Friday, June 26. 18 and up. Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. (MISSION VALLEY)
SUPCore Yoga: Providing a stable platform that requires only a modicum of balance, the stand-up paddleboard has become a popular tool used for yoga instruction. The Mission Bay Aquatic Center is offering ‘SUPCore’ yoga classes each Saturday and Tuesday. The instructors guide students through a series of poses, emphasizing balance and core strength in the 1.5-hour session. The classes end with a meditation and short paddle back to shore. Never been on a SUP? No worries, the Aquatic Center also has beginning SUP package to familiarize students with proper use and safety.

Escondido Senior Anglers’ meet the second Friday of each month with guest speakers on fishing and camping trip plans. The club focuses primarily on fresh water fishing and week-long camping trips. Open to all anglers aged 50+.

Family Day on the Bay: Enjoy a day with your family exploring our ships and stay for updates, and charter trip plan discussion.

Oceanside Senior Anglers hold a monthly meeting with industry speakers, conservation updates, and charter trip plan discussion. The largest senior fishing club in Southern California is open to anglers aged 50+, Tuesday, March 3, 9am; free. Country Club Senior Center, 435 Country Club Drive. (OCEANIDE)

At Tourmaline Surfing Park, long- and shortboarders are welcome.

SUPCore Yoga: Providing a stable platform that requires only a modicum of balance, the stand-up paddleboard has become a popular tool used for yoga instruction. The Mission Bay Aquatic Center is offering ‘SUPCore’ yoga classes each Saturday and Tuesday. The instructors guide students through a series of poses, emphasizing balance and core strength in the 1.5-hour session. The classes end with a meditation and short paddle back to shore. Never been on a SUP? No worries, the Aquatic Center also has beginning SUP package to familiarize students with proper use and safety.

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Family Day on the Bay: Enjoy a day with your family exploring our ships and stay for updates, and charter trip plan discussion.

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Outrigger Canoeing Open House: Try the sport of six-man outrigger canoeing. Everyone is welcome at this weekly Saturday morning open house organized by the San Diego Outrigger Canoe Club. We’ll show you the basics, and then we’ll head out for a paddle across Mission Bay. Paddles supplied. Meet at our canoes on the beach in Campland on the Bay. Our club also offers aloha spirit and the opportunity to participate in ocean-going races. Saturdays, 9am, 9am and 9am; through Saturday, March 7, 9am and 9am. Campland on the Bay, 2211 Pacific Beach Drive. (PACIFIC BEACH)

FREE ADS
To place your Free Ad on these Waterfront pages, go to sandiegoreader.com/waterfront
or email to Waterfront, San Diego Reader, 2323 Broadway, San Diego, CA 92102.
There was the gaff, floating 30 feet behind the boat.

The Melville has reached retirement age.

There is a 1'-2' light swell into this weekend, but with the heavy tide swings divers need to mind the rips. Deeper will have better visibility as the tide works the shallows. With lobster season now open, boaters should keep an extra eye out for divers near the reefs and channel edges and divers always mark yourselves and area appropriately.

Visibility based on existing conditions and NOAA predicted swell and weather conditions at press time. Check up-to-date daily visibility/conditions at the San Diego County Lifeguard info line: 619.221.8824

There it was, the gaff, floating about 30 feet behind the boat. That was the only gaff on the boat.

I had no other choice. I stuck my rod in a rod holder with my fish still on, took my T-shirt off, took my sunglasses off, and jumped in the water. I swam to the gaff, swam back and handed it to my buddy whose fish was by then on the surface. He threw live bait. As the baits hit the water around and we boated all four tuna. Four for four — plus a swim.

— Tony Pauker

Importance of the gaff

Three friends and I were fishing on a friend’s boat on a perfect day for tuna at the Hidden Bank. Nice seas, little wind, and saw some boils. We slid up on the fish and threw live bait. As the baits hit the water we were one — one, two, three, four. All of us hanging on a nice fish.

At the first call of “gut deep color — get the gaff,” we all looked around as the first fish came to the surface. We couldn’t see the gaff. While fighting my fish, I looked off the transom and there it was — floating about 30 feet behind the boat. That was the only gaff on the boat.

I had no other choice. I stuck my rod in a rod holder with my fish still on, took my T-shirt off, took my sunglasses off, and jumped in the water. I swam to the gaff, swam back and handed it to my buddy whose fish was by then on the surface. He did a solo one-handed gaff and I jumped back in. Somehow my fish was still hooked. I kept fighting it as the gaff was passed around and we boated all four tuna. Four for four — plus a swim.

— Russell Goltz

water before it completely breaks or they will be pushed onto the rocks. A shortboarder can surf closer to the shore and they have it much easier when a big wave breaks directly on top of them. A shortboarder can easily dive under the wave (duck dive), whereas longboarders have to flip over (turtle roll) and that does not always work.

Most of the locals know that Tourmaline is primarily a longboard surfing spot, with the longest boards getting the most waves. Surfers on shortboards do not get nearly as many rides as longboarders.

— Russell Goltz

Used for King Kong and other important things

Originally built and delivered to the Navy on August 1, 1969, for Military Sea Transportation Service, the USNS Melville was eventually chartered to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography for research operations. With a crew of 23 to keep the ship operational, the Melville can accommodate up to 38 scientists for scientific expeditions.

The Melville’s sister ship is the research vessel Knorr, best known as the ship that located the wreck of the Titanic in 1985. The Melville was used in the 1976 movie King Kong, starring Jessica Lange. It was used specifically because of its hypod propulsion drive, which allowed it to move sideways. This type of drive is used to remain stationary over drilling and coring sites.

Now the Melville is retiring, and the public is invited to a farewell open-house. Scripps research ships are rarely accessible to the public due to safety concerns and intricate instruments onboard.

When: Saturday, February 21, 9 a.m. to noon.

Where: 1140 North Harbor Drive, San Diego.

— Daniel Powell

Water Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SURFACE TEMPERATURE:</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>60°F</td>
<td>64°F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

VISIBILITY

5’-20’

VISIBILITY based on existing conditions and NOAA predicted swell and weather conditions at press time. Check up-to-date daily visibility/conditions at the San Diego County Lifeguard info line: 619.221.8824

Wave Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
<th>THUR 19</th>
<th>SAT 21</th>
<th>MON 23</th>
<th>WED 25</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SUNRISE</td>
<td>6:28</td>
<td>6:26</td>
<td>6:24</td>
<td>6:21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNSET</td>
<td>17:38</td>
<td>17:39</td>
<td>17:41</td>
<td>17:43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LENGTH OF DAY</td>
<td>11H 10M</td>
<td>11H 13M</td>
<td>11H 17M</td>
<td>11H 22M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pigs - $1 Heavy iron Jig (New) - $5 Rock Cod Sinkers (1 lb. to 8 lbs.) - $1 per pound. Call 858-484-2803.

2 Antique bamboo cane fishing poles - $50/poles are made of bamboo and hand-wrapped. Believed to be at least 100 years old. 10 to 14 feet long. Great marine antiques for display and decoration. Text 760-337-7216.

Quick Fishing reel decoration. Text 760-533-7216.

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Fish Report

½ Day - ¾ Day: The local ½ day boats are still either picking at the edge for Rockfish, Sculpin and Bass or looking for the Yellowtail still holding in 160’ of water off the canyon edge. ¾ day rides are focusing on the strong Yellowtail and Lingcod bite at the Coronado Islands.

1 Day to 2.5 Day: 2014’s great fishing has carried over into this year as if winter never happened. The Yellowtail, Rockfish and Lingcod are biting well from north of San Diego south to Colonet. Bluefin Tuna and good numbers of Yellowtail are still holding in the Cortez Bank area.

Long-Range - Baja: The Excel and Red Rooster III have been getting good numbers on the big 200 lb-plus Yellowfin Tuna at the Hurricane Bank. Wahoo are still the main catch at Alijos with sweet 9'6" canvas Sea Urchins bag and seats. 330-501-4489

Freshwater: The Trout bite has been an off and on endeavor and lake to lake the results vary weekly. Seems about five days after stock they start turning on a little. Holding up their end of the bargain, the Largemouth Bass are starting to get active in Otay, Murray and Jennings.

Whale Report: The grey whales continue to pass close to San Diego as usual during calving season in the Baja lagoons. Due to the warm conditions this year, some cows have already calved and are heading back up the line towards Alaska, giving whale-watchers double odds on sightings.

Trout plants: 02/18/15 Poway (2000), 02/20/15 Santee Lakes (1000) 02/25/15 Dixon (1500). Wolfsford (1500)
Cavemen ate these

“If she catches you looking at her, you turn to stone.”

I almost don’t go in. I’m thinking, Great, another sports bar with big hollow spaces and screens and racks of bottles you need ladders to reach. And 25 screens. And not even Gaslamp. We’re on Sixth, downtown, a block away from the action.

Two things change my mind. One, it’s 11 o’clock at night, and these guys keep their kitchen open till midnight. Tuesday night! And second reason? They have Greek-type tacos. That’s what it says. I’m thinking lamb in a grape leaf? Whatever, two bucks apiece says stop worrying. Oh, yes. It’s Taco Tuesday.

So I walk in past the flaming tower heaters at their sidewalk patio and into a warehouse space with a mezzanine floor like a theater gallery behind.

I pass under a massive hooped lantern chandelier, select one of the red-and-black bar stools.

Corey the barkeep hands me a Taco Tuesday menu. And they weren’t kidding about it. We’re doing the same thing with corn, turning them into tacos, also back around 10,000 BC. Cavemen ate these very things on my plate here. Roman legionnaires ate them. Pharaohs ate them, Incas, Moctezuma, Napoleon, on and on.

And here on Sixth we’re bringing these two mega-ancient breads together and loading them with Greece’s today foods. Dunno...I just feel kind of awestruck.

“Don’t look at her! That’s Medusa.”

I notice a list on the wall: “Ten Reasons Greeks Are Better at Life.”

Reason #1 on their list: “Two words: Fried cheese.”

Who knew? Fried cheese is the Greek national dish?

Reason #7 rings my bell, too: “We’ve perfected the art of lingering over a meal.”

Love to linger but gotta go. I look up at a photo of a goddess with snakes in her hair.

“Don’t look at her!” says Corey. “That’s Medusa. If she catches you looking at her, you turn to stone.”

The Place: Meze Greek Fusion, 345 Sixth Avenue, downtown, 619-550-1600

Prices: Avgolémono soup, $7; Greek salad (romaine, onion, olives, feta), $7; shrimp and ouzo Saganaki pan-seared cheese flambée, $16; Greek meze with feta, $6; chicken souvlaki ($18), lamb chops ($14 for meze-size, $34 for full plate) have that Greek lemon–olive oil mix.


I could have had the filet mignon taco for $3, which comes with feta cheese and spicy tzatziki. Or a falafel gyro, with romaine, pico de Greco, and that yummy tahini.

In the end, can’t resist the Greek sausage taco ($3). Joshua says it’s like Italian sausage but without the fennel. No licorice fumes sneaking up your nose.

While I’m waiting, I order a brewhski. ‘Course that blows the budget right there. Seven bucks for an Alesmith Nut Brown.

On the other hand, Corey slides a glass filled with a bunch of seasoned pita chips. Crispy but gutsy, too, and perfect with my Nut Brown. And on the house.

I sip away while stuff happens around me. “Where’s the goddam drink?” says this tall guy coming up to the bar. “H2O! H2O!”

Then a waiter comes out with a flaming plate. Honest, three-feet-high lickers. Turns out it’s the saganaki cheese plate. “Shrimp and Ouzo Saganaki,” menu says, “pan-seared kasseri cheese, flambéed in Metaxa brandy tableside.”

Sixteen bucks or not, I swear that’s what I’m buying next time.

I notice two huge ancient metal coins, rotating above the back of the bar. One has grapes, and the word “Naxion” hammered around its edge. “A San Diego guy, Gary Harper, came and made these,” says Corey.

He has my plate. Two steaming tacos, propping each other up. Nice crispy corn tortillas, each loaded with onions, red and green peppers, golden roasted cheddar, tomato chunks, that zesty tzatziki sauce. Then gyro meat in the one, and Greek sausage in the other. Man, both are totally squishy, rich, and tender, I want to go on. And on. Guess the Greek sausage has the edge.

But, thinking about this Greek food, sitting here on Mexican tortillas, the tortillas could just as easily be pita bread. Suddenly hits me: This, right here, is the uniting of maybe the two most ancient pieces of cooked food on planet Earth. People around Greece, the Mediterranean were baking flatbreads as long as 12,000 years ago. That’s the Stone Age! And in Central America, the Mayans’ ancestors were doing the same thing with corn, turning it into tortillas, also back around 10,000 BC. Cavemen ate these very things on my plate here. Roman legionnaires ate them. Pharaohs ate them, Incas, Moctezuma, Napoleon, on and on.

So, yes, Greek take on everything. Even the lamb chops ($14 for meze-size, $34 for full plate) have that Greek lemon–olive oil mix.

I turn to stone.”

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My gringo palate

For the latest reviews from Reader writers and a complete searchable list of 2000 restaurants, please visit SDReader.com/feast

In the shadow of the multiplex
9379 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa. My continuing exploration of Korean restaurants in San Diego has finally taken me out of my comfort zone. No, I didn’t eat anything outside the reach of my gringo palate. I did, however, pick a restaurant that wasn’t on or near Convoy Street in Kearny Mesa. To find Tofu Ka, I had to dig deeper, further north, into a different mesa: Mira.

Sometimes you’ve just gotta go see an after-dinner IMAX at the Edwards multiplex, and when you do that, where’re you going to eat, Panera Bread? Only if your date’s a picky eater. Mine this night was feeling adventurous, so I talked her into checking out an independently owned restaurant just a couple blocks from the theater. Tofu Ka is the recent replacement of another Korean restaurant on this site, Fuze, which was actually (as the name implies) more of a fusion spot and prone to things such as Korean tacos and quesadillas.

Tofu Ka’s definitely not like that. The bibimbap (rice, sautéed vegetables, and meat in a bowl), tofu stew, and chae (sweet-potato noodles stir-fried with vegetables) menu reads authentic through and through, and while the banchan (small-portion side dishes) selection featured jalapeño a little more than I’m accustomed to, the restaurant’s overall vibe is that of a homey, family restaurant. Too

On a lobster roll
765 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas. It was only a handful of months after he’d finished his lobster crawl across the island of Martha’s Vineyard (ingesting nine lobster rolls in 11 days) that David discovered Lobster West in Encinitas. We were at an event where two members of the family-owned business, a brother and sister, were serving up samples of lobster bisque. David and I both enjoyed the taste (chunks of fresh, sweet lobster, a delicate application of cream, and an aftertaste of sherry), so we decided to take a drive up the coast and see what other lobster delicacies these people had to offer.

Though we love most everything about our hometown of San Diego, when it comes to seafood both my man and I tend to prefer the taste of creatures from colder waters, namely those near Alaska and New England. All lobster procured by Lobster West was Marine Stewardship Council-certified Maine Lobster, which basically means “it’s bona fide sustainable and eco-friendly and all that jazz. But David wasn’t very concerned about that; he just wanted to make sure the sea-roaches (that’s what I call them) were the giant, sweeter kind mostly found off the coast of Maine.

The space itself is reminiscent of the seafood shacks back East, where people queue up for lobster rolls or fried fish and shrimp. The main difference being that this menu offers no fried items. It’s simple, short, and seemingly health-conscious, featuring lobster, crab, shrimp, soup (the lobster bisque and New England–style clam chowder), and salads.

I’ve never liked lobster rolls, but that’s because I’d only seen them served with mayonnaise, and I have a serious aversion to that stuff. While along for the ride on David’s quest for the greatest lobster roll, I learned that some lobster rolls are made with drawn butter instead of mayo. These were the few that I agreed to taste. Here at Lobster West, we were assured that the kitchen uses only the tiniest bit of mayo, so that it should be fairly imperceptible. David ordered the Maine Style roll, with a recipe of chilled lobster, “a touch of mayo,” a “brush of lemon butter,” and some house seasoning ($12.95 ).

He loved the flavor, and the bun (from a local baker) was prepared in his favorite classic style, with the outside griddled. His only complaint was the lobster-to-bread ratio; he would have preferred more lobster meat. The average price of a lobster roll on the East Coast is closer to $20, and David said he would have happily paid more than $13 to improve the ratio. It wasn’t until after he finished his roll that he noticed the “more meat” option on the menu for an additional $6.

I ordered the Lobster Grilled Cheese Combo ($14.95), which comes with coleslaw and a bag of Cape Cod chips. When one thinks of grilled cheese, what usually comes to mind is a vision of bread with stringy, melted gooey cheese. This was not that. My “lobster cheese, sliced tomato” sandwich was mostly bread. Delicious bread, I should add, and rich filling in its own way. But the bread was the best thing about this odd concoction. Havarti cheese and tarragon were strange choices to throw into the mix with lobster and tomato. Instead of melding together for an overall yum, the flavors seemed to grimeach at other mouth.

While the menu may have fuzzled for me, David now claims Lobster West as home to the best lobster roll in San Diego, so long as you remember to order “more meat.” When we return (and we will, because my man loves this roll), I will probably spend more time exploring the “award-winning, hand-crafted” beer from Maine or the selection of California wines. Or both.

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Lunch and Dinner Available
Gift Certificates Available • Party Trays Available

10% Off Total Bill
Early Bird Dinner
Mon.-Thurs. Before 6 pm ‘2 off
Per person. Max 5 people.

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Lunch or dinner.
Minimum $15 purchase.

$3 Off Buffet
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Minimum $30 purchase.

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Lobster Sunday
with Buffet

10% Off Total Bill
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3860 Convoy Street, Suite #121 858-715-1608

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Cannot be combined with any other offers or bill splitting. Valid for up to 4 adults. Not valid on any holidays. Limit 1 transaction per party, per table. Applies to dine-in buffet only. Expires 3/5/2015.

$2 Off Dinner Buffet
Cannot be combined with any other offers or bill splitting. Valid for up to 4 adults. Not valid on any holidays. Limit 1 transaction per party, per table. Applies to dine-in buffet only. Expires 3/5/2015.
Baja brunch on a budget
Calle Brasil 8930, Tijuana.
Brunch in Tijuana may not be the middle-class ritual de lo habitual (to borrow a phrase from Janis’s Addiction) that it is in urban America, but the Sunday fare is certainly worth wading up for and goes for a fraction of what it’d cost up north.

Located on the uptown Braulio drag of La Cachos (Tijuana’s North Park?), Alma Verde gives breakfast a Baja edge with a heavy emphasis on fresh ingredients and healthy fare. The modern-natural deli offers both indoor and covered patio seating with table service or orders to go from the counter.

The juice bar, which accounts for about a quarter of the menu, touts a host of cold-pressed juices, smoothies, shots, superfood additions, and natural infusions named with indications such as Happy Tummy, Anti-Inflammatory, and Immunity. While they do offer plenty of meat dishes, the focus here is on veggies, and they are presented in a number of intriguing ways. For starters, the Portobello Maízanosero sees a large mushroom room cup stuffed with spinach, parmesan, and quinoa, topped with a sunny-side-up egg and accompanied by sweet-potato hash brown.

The yolk oozes into the mushroom with the first bite and, a dash of salt and a splash of house salsa later, makes for a refreshing first meal of the day that won’t send you crawling back into bed.

It’s hard to go wrong with breakfast nachos, but Alma Verde’s chilaquiles are some of the best I’ve had. Crisp, flavorful, topped with avocado and served with an egg, these babies alone are worth a morning or afternoon drive south any day of the week. Wanna make it special? The off-menu Chilaquiles de Cacao are covered in a house mole and served with “golden milk” — a foamy almond milk with turmeric and cinnamon.

The tastiest part? Every dish goes for around $5 and breakfast is served until 9 p.m.

More than a late-night munchies spot
947 E Street, downtown San Diego.
I’d never been to Pokéz, though I’ve heard about it repeatedly over the years.

Everybody I know who went to college in this town seems to have fond memories of the “vegetarian Mexican eatery.” Maybe I always got hung up on that word, vegetarian, and the fact that I in no way need to venture downtown to find good Mexican.

While the latter holds true, now that I’ve had a chance to sit down and enjoy Pokéz, I realize it’s not wholly vegetarian. It just skews that way by being lard-free. Which actually suits my frame of mind these days. I also really dig the interior — a cheap but (mostly) tasteful wood nailed to dry-wall construction decorated by skateboard art and a few more adventurous pieces, including the bizarre little plywood Aztec caricature that greets you within a door framed by hundreds of band, skate, and clothing label stickers.

So, yeah, some kind of collegiate welcome, backed up by a lengthy, varied, and budget-friendly menu. I get why my State alum friends see it as hallowed ground. But I haven’t aged out — I still love to pore over a healthy Mexican menu bolstered by a little friendly table service and complimentary basket of chips with salsa. I crunched away on those chips while it dawned on me there were plenty of beef, chicken, and chorizo options to be had. But I wanted to cherish the place as a veggie destination, so I decided to start by trying one of Pokéz’s “unusual usuals.” The green taco ($4.25) is described as “slices of avocado and cucumber wrapped in a lettuce leaf.” Pretty apt description, except they served mine with cabbage, which I actually considered an upgrade.

While I was得多 something to eat, I decided to try the fish taco. Even for mahi mahi, I thought five bucks seemed like a sort of spendy taco for a place so otherwise affordable. But I was judging against little four-inch tortilla street tacos. This soft corn tortilla measured more like seven or eight, packed thick with grilled fish, pico, and cabbage. The mahi was moist, well-cooked, somewhere between flaky and chewy, and super tasty. This was the clincher that would’ve kept barely-legal fan coming back here and will probably still keep old-man fan revisiting downtown in years to come. The place may be an institution of San Diego youth, but locals of any size may enjoy this ride.

by Ian Anderson

Caffeine Crawl attendees received complimentary beans from Ironsmith Coffee Roasters.

January 23, with a North County edition, touring several roasters situated on the Coast Highway. Beer lovers have their Hops Highway — it might be time to start referring to this stretch from Encinitas to Leucadia as Roast Highway.

Ironsmith Coffee Roasters opened their doors to the public for the first time, becoming the fourth roaster to do so within just a 1.5 mile stretch. This excellent pocket of coastal coffee roasting includes Lofty Coffee, Revolution Roasters, and the venerable Pannikin Coffee, which has been producing beans since 1967. Ironsmith co-founder Matt Delaroza delivered a fascinating presentation about the science involved in producing the ideal cup of coffee, right down to the mineral composition of the water Ironsmith uses to brew.

Up the highway a couple blocks, Lofty’s head roaster, Matt Prior, served hot and cold renderings of the shop’s first direct-trade effort, from Finca del Dios in Guatemala. At the roasting counter inside Leucadia’s Coffee Crawl, Revolution chief Dan Scheibe discussed his roasting approach while beans cooked in the Probat roaster behind him.

Pannikin owner Shawn Holder entreated guests to taste a brew of beans from Ethiopia’s Kaffa region — the source of the word coffee itself. When I asked whether having so many new roasters in the area after so many years had hurt Pannikin’s business, he said it’s actually the opposite: “This region of California, the past three years and we’ve never been busier.”

Coffee devotees were treated with artful presentations and special drink selections, but the greatest local impact of the sold-out crawl may have been pushing a couple of new shops to open to the public for the first time. During the January 24th crawl, the West Bean officially launched their long-awaited storefront across from Horton Plaza on Broadway. James Rauh and Andrew Karr have been roasting since 2009, but this is their first physical retail space, and crawlers got its first pour.

Dark Horse also greeted crawlers at its new North Park shop, just as a preview ahead of its official opening. Likewise, Ladies & Gentlemen Beer Crawl co-founder did not officially unveil its counter inside Leucadia’s Coffee Crawl. Revolo-
**FOOD & DRINK EVENTS**

**Boulevard Market Food-For-All** Calling all foodies! The Boulevard Food Market is a food fest of freshly prepared, reasonably priced dishes prepared by some of San Diego’s most creative, up-and-coming chefs and culinary purveyors. Stroll the feel-good outdoor eatery every third Friday at the corner of El Cajon Boulevard and Utah Street. Friday, February 20, 4pm; free. The Heart & Trotter Butchery, 2855 El Cajon Boulevard Suite #1. (NORTH PARK)

**Cooking Ancient Grains** Have you heard of quinoa, amaranth, or fava beans? Join us in the nursery kitchen to learn some new uses of ancient grains and beans. Recipes include using these ingredients in salads, baked goods, and breakfast meals. Vegan and gluten-free recipes included. Sunday, February 22, 1:30pm; $10. City Farmers Nursery, 4832 Home Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

**Introduction to Home Winemaking** A home winemaking seminar in association with San Diego Amateur Winemakers’ Society. With Lum Eisenman, who will share his expertise on winemaking techniques and issues. Limited to 20 people. Saturday, February 21, 1pm; free. Curds and Wine, 7194 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard. (KEARNY MESA)

**Michele Chiario Wine Dinner** Known for their superior Barberas and Barolos, Italian winery Michele Chiario is a perfect match for chef Amy DiBaise’s Mediterranean-influenced cuisine. A five-course pairing dinner and guided tasting of some of Chiario’s best, including the 2010 Cerqueo Barolo. The evening will start with a casual reception and family-style appetizers on Tidal’s bayfront deck at 6:30 pm; guided tasting dinner begins at 7 pm. Thursday, February 19, 6:30pm; $100. 21 and up. Tidal, 1404 Vacation Road. (PACIFIC BEACH)

**Tablas Creek Wine Dinner** Join us for a five-course dinner featuring the world-class wines of Tablas Creek from Paso Robles. Thursday, February 19, 6:30pm; $95. 21 and up. Perfect Pairings, 300 Carlsbad Village Drive #120. (CARLSBAD)

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Valid through February 26, 2015 only. One coupon per customer per booth.
Why? Because the RPM (Record Production Month) Challenge is on during the month of February. Now in its tenth year, the challenge of the Challenge is to write and record ten songs (or 35 minutes) of new and original material in 28 days. It up to the rest of the world. We had people signing up from all seven continents. Even Antarctica. Someone on base there sent us an entry.” Heavy metal, she recalls. “The idea is to make this a fun place for creativity that’s not a contest or a battle of the bands. It’s free for musicians to participate.” Marzloff says that RPM itself is funded through sponsorships and donations. The RPM Challenge is like a contest, she explains, albeit one with no winners or prizes. The rules are strict: writing and recording can only be done in the month of February. No prerecorded songs are allowed, and all material must be previously unreleased. Have any of the entrants taken their completed albums on to greater success? “We try hard not to prioritize that,” Marzloff says, “but, I know of an off-Broadway show that came out of an entry,” and she says that more than one band has been formed post Challenge. Van Dyck, 33, hopes to make his ten songs the touring foundation of his new prog-metal band. Kilpatrick, 29, claims to have finished an album a year for each of the eight years he’s entered. “It’s a great motivation to actually work on something new.”
— Dave Good

Bro deal. Thanks to Tijuana’s Jorge Fonseca, it’s no big deal for a band to fly in from Europe and play two different countries in one weekend. Fonseca’s day job is with the Mexican electric company (CFE). But he loves music and he’s been a part-time show promoter in Baja for ten years. Fonseca was at the Cashbah in 2013 when he first saw Capsula, a garage/glam trio from Bilbao, Spain, that has toured North and South America and Europe and draws comparisons to the Cramps and the Who. A blown-away Fonseca asked them if they would consider playing for him in TJ the next time they came to town. Fonseca got band phone numbers. Last year when Capsula was in town opening for X, Fonseca talked them into playing the 800-seat Black Box in TJ as an add-on date to their tour. Invoking that same casual, bro-deal relationship, Fonseca is bringing Capsula back again to Tijuana’s Mod Bar and Venue this Saturday, February 21, following their Friday-night Brick by Brick show. The TJ date does not show up on Capsula’s official itinerary. That’s because the show was not booked through the bands U.S. agent. “A deal with a band is more accessible money-wise without the agent,” Fonseca tells the Reader. In other words, it’s cheaper when it’s just the promoter and the band cutting the deal. Bands usually sign exclusivity arrangements with agents that say all U.S. shows must go through that agent. A Baja show falls through the cracks. Capsula guitarist/singer Martin Guevara had just arrived in New York on February 9 when he told the Reader he loves playing the back-to-back San Diego/Tijuana dates, despite some trouble last time. “When we came back across to the U.S., they made us [go into secondary inspection]. They said, ‘What are you doing with all this makeup?’ We told them it is very clear we are in a rock band.” I asked Guevara how they were able to get Tony Visconti (Bowie, T-Rex) to produce their 2013 Solar Secrets album. “It was a dream come true. Someone just said they knew him and they could get him to help us. I said, ‘Sure, and while you’re at it, get Jimi Hendrix to play lead for us.’ But our manager contacted him and it was easy. We sent him five really raw demos [and he] reserved two weeks at this studio in Lexington, Kentucky, called Saint Claire... That year he made two records. One was with us and the other was with Bowie.” — Ken Leighton

Hello (and goodbye). Several new local acts and team-ups are prepping debut releases and performances. British invader Dave Humphries has been collaborating with Bass Clef Experiment Trio, with their next joint performance set for February 21 at Radio impresario Gary Ráchac is working on Duncan Faure of the Bay City Rollers on new songs planned for Rachac’s next release. “I will also be helping Duncan with the booking of his solo project and personal appearances,” Rachac tells the Reader. Wolves of Eden features guitarist Jason Rain, a Berklee (continued on page 60)
HUMPHREYS BACKSTAGE
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Feb 19, 2015 7:00 PM • R&B WALTER GENTRY
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Feb 20, 2015 5:00 PM • Blues SARAH PETITE
9:00 PM • Dance POP VINYL
Feb 21, 2015 5:00 PM • Rock LOTUS THE BAND
9:00 PM • Dance DETROIT UNDERGROUND
Feb 22, 2015 8:00 PM • R&B GAIL JOHNSON & 3 PIECE
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The Drive-By Trucker accoustic 4/22 • on sale Fri! • Mariachi El Bronx 5/5 • on sale Fri!
Pinback 5/22 • Leo Kottke 6/24 • John Mayall 7/2

FRI, FEB 20
POP VINYL

SAT, FEB 21
DETROIT UNDERGROUND

Upcoming Shows:
2/20 Atomic Groove Happy Hour
2/21 The Brokers Happy Hour
3/5 Galactic
3/6-7 Super Diamond
3/7 Nukko and Medicine for the People w/ Observatory North Park
3/8 Billy Joe Shaver
3/9 Craig Wayne Boyd from "The Voice"
3/10 Joshua Redin w/ Rachel Flanagan
3/11 Hurray for the Riff Raff
3/12 Martin Sexton
3/13 Twin Shadow
3/14 Jenny Castillo and the Rattlesnakes
3/14 Jackie Greene
3/15 Observatory North Park
3/15 Goodtime
3/17 J Boog
3/18 Juliana Hatfield Three performing Becoming What You Are
3/19 Trampled by Turtles @ Observatory North Park
3/20-21 Railroad Earth
3/22 John Dee & Eocene (of X) w/ Robyn Hitchcock
3/22 John Smaltzwater • SOLD OUT!!!
3/24 Gang of Four
3/25 Elephant Revival
3/26 John Smaltzwater • SOLD OUT!!!
3/27 Jonny Lang
3/28 Eddy, Dusty, and Lewis
4/1 Ed Kowalczyk’s Throwing Copper Unplugged
4/1 The Punch Brothers @ Observatory North Park
4/2 The TV on the Radio w/ Observatory North Park • SOLD OUT!!!
4/3-4 Karl Denson’s Tiny Universe RUN-DMC
4/4-5 Robert Earl Keen w/ NoEnsemble
4/5-6 George Ezra • SOLD OUT!!!
4/10-11 The English Beat
4/14 George Ezra • SOLD OUT!!!
4/14 Father John Misty @ Observatory North Park
4/15 George Ezra • SOLD OUT!!!
4/16 J Boog
4/16 Clean Bandit @ Observatory North Park
4/17 Belle & Sebastian @ Observatory North Park • SOLD OUT!!!
4/18 Reddick Kelly
4/18 Marina & the Diamonds • Observatory North Park • SOLD OUT!!!
4/19 Morgan Heritage
4/20 The Cat Empire
4/20 The Dead Milkmen
4/25 Rufus Wainwright
4/30 They Might Be Giants
5/2/3 Herb Alpert & Lani Hall
5/10 The Sonics w/ Darrence Wifield & the Savages
5/14 Kim Carnes w/ Observatory North Park
5/18 Shakey Graves • SOLD OUT!!!
6/23 Abbey Road’s Beatles vs. Stones
6/27-28 Xavier Rudd & the United Nations
6/28 Neutral Milk Hotel • Observatory North Park • SOLD OUT!!!
6/29 Damien Jurado
6/30 The Weepies
7/11 Marc Cohn

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Wolves of Eden’s Rain reigns with “epic rock riffs and bluesy, grooving guitar.”

Reader February 19, 2015

...continued from page 58


Marcelo Rudalovich is developing new material for live performances as Son of Radul, which he describes as “a cool, fat blend of electronics, guitar, and voice, [with] lots of beats and slow, ultra moody spaces.” The project debuts March 22 at the Merrow. The Hiroshima Mockingbirds features two members of the New Kinetics: guitarist Brian Reilly and drummer Jon Bonser (also known from Soft Lions).

Spirit Club — with Nathan Williams (Wavves), Joel Williams (D-Waves, TV Girl), and Andrew Caddick (Jeans Wilder) — will soon drop their debut full-length via the Ghost Ramp label, promoted by a video for “Still Life” directed by Jacob Turnbloom (Mrs. Magician and First Wave Hello).

Casino Royale, a new acoustic trio featuring two Shambles (Reader contributor Bart Mendoza and David Fleminger) alongside Normandie Wilson, appears April 10 at Java Joe’s.

We must also bid a fond farewell: “hardcore strike force” Kodiac’s final show happens February 27 at Soda Bar on a bill that includes Deep Sea Thunder Beat and Griefier (which will debut their new record).

— Jay Allen Sanford

Jazz Vespers. “This was Big Jerr’s idea,” Archie Thompson tells the Reader. The working title is Music from Jazz Vespers: Archie Thompson & the Archtones All-Stars (Volumes One, Two, and Three). “I hope to record 30 songs. So far,” he says, “I have nine in the can.” Guest artists on the sessions will include a host of local jazz and blues artists, including Holly Hofmann, Whitney Shay, Derek Cannon, Alex Ciavarella, Bob Boss, Kevin Esposito, Nathan James, and more.

Big Jerr is pastor Jerry Andrews, 62, a Chicago transplant. Jazz, he says, is a way to appeal to residents of the city and get them through the doors of his church, a rambling brick affair that occupies an entire city block on the lip of downtown. He says the music is turning things around. Jazz is an urban sound, he explains, perfect for the old church’s urban setting. “We know how to do music here. [San Diego Symphony conductor] Jahja Ling is a member.”

First Presbyterian downtown opens each service with a jazz jam. Classical music, yes. But jazz in a cathedral? Music historians tell us that jazz was born in the brothels of New Orleans. “One of the other starting places,” Andrews quickly counters, “was the church.” He cites Thomas Dorsey’s “Take My Hand, Precious Lord,” by way of example. Andrews says they’ve been hosting Jazz Vespers for three and a half years. The evening service draws an average of 40 visitors. Tonight, there is a mix of families and homeless. Most seem hip to the music and jazz etiquette. They applaud the solos.

Thompson is a piano-and-sax-playing jazz and R&B singer based in San Carlos. “I love playing in worship services,” he says. “First of all, unlike some nightclubs or restaurants, the audience is paying attention.” He likes the acoustics in the chapel, a narrow hall with a vaulted ceiling that was added on to the main cathedral in 1950, and he likes the piano, a vintage Mason and Hamlin. “Plus, there is an emotional level playing in church that is unmatched. God is present,” Thompson says. “He is our audience.”

— Dave Good

Find Blurt online at SDReader.com/blurt

CONTRIBUTORS

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

OVERHEARD IN SAN DIEGO: V.V. CASINO CNTR. JAY ALLEN SANFORD

— Dave Good

THE CASBAH

THURSDAY • MARCH 19
HOLLY RAIN
THE BLANK TAPES

WEDNESDAY • MARCH 11
A PLACE TO BURY STRANGERS

THURSDAY • MARCH 12
GEOGRAPHER

SATURDAY • MARCH 14
DENGUE FEVER

SUNDAY • MARCH 15
BURGER/LOLIPOP
SKYW CARAVAN
GAP DREAM

SARAH BETHE NELSON
BLOOD SISTER

WEDNESDAY • MARCH 18
JOE PUG

THURSDAY • MARCH 19
THIS WILL DESTROY YOU

FRI MAR 20
TIM BARRY

THE CASBAH

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 19
SCOTT H. BIRAM
JESSE DAYTON
YPSITUCKY

FRIDAY • FEBRUARY 20
SURFER BLOOD
TALK IN TONGUES
BARBARIAN

SATURDAY • FEBRUARY 21
WILD CHILD
DESSERT NOISES
GOODNIGHT • TEXAS

MONDAY • FEBRUARY 23
BODY LANGUAGE • SEGO

TUESDAY • FEBRUARY 24
DJ ARTISTIC’S HIP HOP BATTLE BOT

WEDNESDAY • FEBRUARY 25
ANOTHER ZEKE PRODUCTION
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THE MAJOR MINUS
CULT VEGAS
PLASTIC DEER

THURSDAY • FEBRUARY 26
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JMSN
ROCHELLE JORDAN

FRIDAY • MARCH 6
THE CRAWDADDYS
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the casbah.com
Border waits are down and interest in Tijuana’s brewery and restaurant scene is up. That’s why guitarist Tarek Limas is betting that TJ’s music scene is about to take off.

Limas is one of three original members of Los Kung Fu Monkeys, a seven-man Tijuana ska-punk band that has released three albums and toured Europe, the U.S., and Mexico.

Last month Limas opened a live-music bar inspired by the look and sound of ‘60s soul, mod, and pop called the Mods Bar and Venue.

Since opening last month, Limas has booked bands from Portland, Denver, Michigan, Canada, and Spain. Now he wants to get fellow musicians and their friends from greater San Diego to start coming back to TJ.

WHAT DID MODS BAR AND VENUE USE TO BE?

It was called La Prision and it was supposed to look like a prison inside. It was dark and it had these tributes to Billy the Kid, Al Capone, and Charles Manson. It focused on metal bands. It wasn’t doing that well and was about to close down. I wanted to open a bar, so I told the owner [rock-guitarist Cruz Abrego] that instead of me opening a bar on my own, let’s join forces. I told him I would pay for the sound system, the lights, and the remodeling.... It’s a 15-minute walk from the border at Plaza Fiesta, near Zona Rio.

SO, MODS BAR AND VENUE IS BASICALLY LIKE [BRITISH TV DANCE SHOW] READY STEADY GO FROM 1965, BUT IN TJ?

We have a lot of mod imagery. I also have a rockabilly corner. I would like for it to be thought of as a little Casbah or, better yet, a little CBGBs.

BUT IT WON’T ALL JUST BE THE SOUNDTRACK TO QUADROPHENIA...

We want to mix it up. We want to have music that you won’t normally find in Tijuana. My friends from Mustard Plug played the Casbah the next day, so we said, “Sure, come on down.” We had P.R.O.B.L.E.M.S. from Portland play with a TJ punk band called DFMK. We’ll still do metal shows. On Friday [February 20] we have Sean Foster [folk] from Montreal and on Saturday [February 21] we have this psychedelic garage band called Capsula from Spain.

The Baja Bugs from San Diego just played for us. We recently hooked up with the Oceanside Sound System. We want to share shows with them. We want to get this gap between San Diego and Tijuana closed.

On nights we don’t have bands we have DJs. We just had a mods-versus-rockers night. We had an all-Bowie night. There is a group of DJs called Tijuana-a-Go-Go who play all vinyl.


Five years ago here in Tijuana and all of Mexico was in a cartel drug war. Order has been restored. As long as you use common sense and don’t walk down a dark alley, you’ll be fine. TJ has grown culturally. There is a big local brewery scene, fashion designers, and theater. Like they may have said in the ‘60s, TJ is happening now.

I UNDERSTAND THE MAJOR CONCERN WITH U.S. BANDS COMING INTO MEXICO IS THAT THEY GET SHAKEN DOWN BY FEDERALES EXPECTING A PAYOFF.

Anybody can come down with their guitar. Where it might get weird is if you bring your P.A. or drum set. That’s why we tell bands that you don’t have to worry about that if you play here. We have all backline and a drum set already here...but never leave your van with equipment parked unattended in the street. That goes for anywhere.

LOS KUNG FU MONKEYS IS 18 YEARS OLD, YET YOUR CASBAH SHOW TWO WEEKS AGO WAS YOUR FIRST.

Over the years we never really played San Diego. We were always invited to play L.A. places like the Roxy, the Whiskey, and the Knitting Factory. San Diego was a weird scene for us. It’s very laid back. When we played San Diego it was opening for bands from out of town like the Toasters or Voodoo Glow Skulls who invited us to open.

YOU’VE PLAYED SKA NONSTOP FOR 18 YEARS...

The big years were 1999 through 2002. There was a huge ska outbreak in TJ. We were pulling, like, 300 to 500 people for each show. Then emo came along and we were outdated for a while. But we will always play what we play. It looks like ska is coming back. The Specials and Selecter are touring again. Punk and ska will never die. ■
You can submit a listing, download mp3s, watch videos, subscribe to event alerts, get directions, and find more information about these shows online at SDReader.com/music. Blue headlines indicate sponsored listings.

**THIS WEEK’S SHOWS**

**207 Nightclub:**
- Friday, 9pm — SKAM Fridays

**710 Beach Club:**
- Thursday, 8pm — Live Band Karaoke
- Friday, 8pm — Gunner Gunner and Authentic Sellout
- Saturday, 9pm — Dazed & Confused
- Sunday, 8pm — Sunday Funday Karaoke

**Bar Dynamite:**
- Thursday, 9pm — The Takeover
- Friday, 9pm — 24K Gold
- Saturday, 9pm — Bar Dynamite

**Bar Pink:**
- Friday, 9pm — Turn It Loose
- Saturday, 9pm — Neon Beat
- Sunday, 8pm — Jim Adkins
- Monday, 9pm — Soultry Mondays
- Tuesday, 9pm — Tiki Tuesday
- Wednesday, 8pm — Midweek Boogie with DJ L

**Barleymash:**
- Thursday, 8pm — DJ Mike Czech
- Friday, 9pm — DJ Demon
- Monday, 9pm — DJ Slowhand

**Beaumont’s:**
- Friday, 8pm — Rob Bondurant
- Saturday, 8pm — Stone Horse

**Belly Up:**
- Thursday, 8pm — The Taj Mahal Trio
- Friday, 8pm — Paul Thorn and Nancarrow
- Saturday, 8pm — Wild Child and Desert Noises
- Sunday, 8pm — Surfer Blood and Talk In Tongues

**Bocktacular:**
- Thursday, 6pm — Mixx Concert Series: Tango Popularé
- Friday, 8pm — Paul Thorn and Nancarrow
- Saturday, 8pm — Steve Poltz, Rugburns, Shook Twins
- Sunday, 8pm — Zap Mama & Antibalas

**Balboa Theatre:**
- Sunday, 2pm — A Salute to American Jazz Greats

**Bancroft:**
- Saturday, 8:30pm — Ravens Moreland and They Feed At Night

**Barleymash:**
- Thursday, 9pm — DJ Mike Czech
- Friday, 9pm — DJ Demon
- Monday, 9pm — DJ Slowhand

**Brass Rail:**
- Thursday, 8pm — Boyz Club
- Saturday, 8pm — Sabado en Fuego
- Sunday, 8pm — Neon Beat

**Boar Cross’n:**
- Friday, 9pm — Club Musae
- Tuesday, 8pm — Video DJ

**Boar Cross’n:**
- Thursday, 9pm — Club Musae
- Tuesday, 8pm — Video DJ

**Bread & Salt:**
- Thursday, 6pm — Mixx Concert Series: Tango Popularé
- Friday, 8pm — 10 Years
- Otherwise, Luminoth
- Friday, 8pm — Capsula and Wild Honey
- Saturday, 7pm — Gilby Clarke and Rammoth
- Monday, 6pm — Metal Mondays

**Cafe Panini:**
- Friday, 6pm — Silver Spurs
- Saturday, 6pm — Free Fall
- Sunday, 2pm — Harmony Grove

**Casbah:**
- Thursday, 8pm — Scott H. Biram and Jesse Dayton
- Friday, 8pm — Surf Blood and Talk In Tongues
- Saturday, 8pm — Wild Child and Desert Noises
- Sunday, 8pm — Cursive, Beach Slang, Twolinks
- Monday, 8pm — Body Language and Sego
- Tuesday, 8pm — Hip-Hop Beat Battle with DJ Artistic

**Club Musae:**
- Friday, 9pm — Club Musae
- Tuesday, 8pm — Video DJ

**Karma Relaxation Spa in Carlsbad**
- $35 for “Director” Massage Package
  - Includes massage, reflexology, body detox & paraffin foot mask
  - Karma Relaxation Spa in Carlsbad
  - Purchase this deal at ReaderCity.com
- $50 off BYOB Painting Class
  - $25 for one person or $45 for two people
  - Purchase this deal at ReaderCity.com

**Featuring**

**Dean Delray**
- Friday & Saturday
- February 20 and 21, 7 & 9:30 PM

**Mary Lynn Rajskub**
- Friday & Saturday
- February 20 and 21, 7 & 9:30 PM

**La Jolla Comedy Store**
- 4 Free Admissions Good Wed., Thurs. & Sun
- Excludes Special Events, Subject to availability, Reservations REQUIRED
- Purchase this deal at ReaderCity.com
THE BURNING OF ROME
BLACKOUT PARTY

Nervous Wreckords

Flaggo

Shady Francos
Includes 10 beer tastings
Tickets Starting at $15

Friday, March 6th 8PM
The Observatory North Park (21+ only) • Tickets available at: ReaderOnTap.com
Eastbound Bar & Grill: Friday, 8pm — DJ Party

El Dorado Cocktail Lounge: Thursday, 8pm — Alfred Howard Friday, 8pm — Groove Grease Sunday, 8pm — DJ Adam Salt Monday, 8pm — Shane Hall

Epiphen: Friday, 7pm — Anton Jon, Corey & the Tribe, Ribollavin

Felix Niteclub: Friday, 8pm — DJ Alesk Exact Saturday, 8pm — DJ Kaos Sunday, 9pm — Magnum Sundays

Gallagher’s Pub & Grill: Thursday, 8pm — Shamrocks & Dreddlocks Saturday, 8pm — DJ CheLu Monday, 8pm — Hip-Hop Monday

Hard Rock Hotel: Saturday, 8pm — D-Miles

Hideout: Thursday, 8pm — Cobalt Cranes and Soft Lions Friday, 8pm — Colour Vision and Louis the Child Saturday, 8pm — Mac Sabbath Sunday, 8:30pm — Pants Karaoke Monday, 8pm — One Year Anniversary Party Wednesday, 8pm — Charts and Kids in Heat

Hooleys Irish Pub & Grill: Rancho San Diego: Friday, 9pm — The Stoney B Blues Band Saturday, 8pm — Random Radio

House of Blues: Thursday, 8pm — Reel Big Fish and Less Than Jake

Friday, 5pm — Groove International (Voodoo Room) Friday, 8pm — Back In Black Friday, 7:30pm — Groove International Rise N Grind (Dela Room) Friday, 8pm — Penny & Sparrow (Voodoo Room) Saturday, 8pm — August Burns Red, Miss May I, Northlane Sunday, 7:30pm — Ramon Ayala and Eliseo Robles Monday, 7:30pm — In Flames Wednesday, 6:30pm — Bleakthrone Entertainment Presents

Humphreys Backstage Music Club: Thursday, 8pm — Walter Gentry Friday, 8pm — Sara Petite Saturday, 8pm — Lotus the Band Sunday, 8pm — Gail Johnson Monday, 8pm — Chet Cannon Tuesday, 8pm — Michelle

Lunday Wednesday, 7pm — Major Interval

Irene: Sunday, 8pm — Gregory Alan Isakov and Shook Twins

Java Joe’s: Friday, 8pm — Dead Rock West and David J. Carpenter Saturday, 7:30pm — Bass Clef Experiment and Dave Humphries Sunday, 6:30pm — Open Mic Night Tuesday, 7pm — Open Mic hosted by Gabriela Aparicio

Jumping Turtle: Saturday, 8pm — Symbolic

Kava Lounge: Thursday, 8pm — Acid Varsity Friday, 9pm — Toombao Saturday, 8pm — TripFych Tuesday, 8pm — High Tech Tuesdays

Kensington Cafe: Saturday, 7pm — Nina Francis

Lestat’s Coffee House: Thursday, 8pm — Anne McCue Friday, 8pm — The Gregory Page Show Saturday, 6pm — Allison Lonsdale and Eben Brooks Saturday, 9pm — Aaron Bowen, Ollie Joe, Sub-Niche Monday, 7pm — Open Mic Night

Loft: Thursday, 7:30pm — Local Showcase: Ki Saturday, 7:30pm — Kawehi

M-Theory Music: Friday, 6pm — Groms

Martinis Above Fourth: Thursday, 8pm — Sherry Williams: Just Us Two Wednesday, 8pm — Miss Coco Peru: Have You Heard? Mediterranean Cafe: Friday, 7pm — Adrienne Nims & Spirit Wind

Merrow: Friday, 8pm — Con Brio and Taurus Authority Saturday, 9pm — SD Union: AKI1200 Monday, 8pm — DynaMic Open Mic Nights Tuesday, 8pm — No Kings and Brewahas Wednesday, 8pm — The Moves

Molly Malone’s: Friday, 9pm — Mark Connors Saturday, 8pm — Country Night

Moonshine Flats: Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Jackson Michelson

Who better to pay tribute to the lot of them than Mac Sabbath? Right out of the box, the buzz surrounding Mac Sabbath spread around the planet via rock and metal bloggers who dug the act. This is an L.A. band that started up last summer and performed a handful of area shows and street fests costumed head-to-toe in dazzling full-color McDonald’s fast-food character costumes. Ronald McDonald, for example, plays Oz, and it works as well I wonder why the real Ozzy didn’t come up with it first. Fans would have loved it. None of the members of Mac Sabbath, by the way, have stepped out from behind the anonymity of those costumes, but as a cover band, they are right on the biscuits. Tributes used to dominate the classic-rock scene, with most looking nothing like their counterparts. In this case, who would know? And while Sabbath’s hits are played true to form, the lyrics and titles are not. “Sweet Leaf,” for example, becomes “Sweet Beef” and “Paranoid” is re-cast as “Pair-of-Buns.” Fries not included. Black Flag also performs.

MAC SABBATH: The Hideout, Saturday, February 21, 9 p.m. 619-501-6540, $12

Find more OnOut columns online at SDR.com/OnOut

MAC SABBATH
Mr. Peabody’s Bar & Grill:  
Monday, 9pm — Open Mic

Nate’s Garden Grill:  
Saturday, noon — Robin Henkel

Observatory North Park:  
Saturday, 7:30pm — Lucinda Williams
Tuesday, 7:30pm — Brett Dennen: Solo Acoustic
Wednesday, 7pm — Cold War Kids and Elliot Moss

Office:  
Thursday, 9pm — No Limits with DJ Myson King
Sunday, 8pm — Uptown Top Ranking
Tuesday, 8pm — Trapped in the Office with DJ Ramsey

Parkway Bar:  
Thursday, 7pm — Open Mic and Acoustic Showcase

Patricks Gaslamp Pub:  
Thursday, 8pm — Bill Magee Blues Band
Friday, 8pm — WG & the G-Men
Saturday, 8pm — Mystique
Element of Soul
Sunday, 9pm — Fuzzy Rankins Blues Band
Monday, 8pm — Groove Squad
Tuesday, 8pm — Paddy’s Chicken Jam
Wednesday, 8pm — Upshots

Porter’s Pub at UCSD:  
Friday, 8pm — Kina Grannis and Imaginary Future

Poway’s Irish Pub:  
Friday, 9pm — West of 5 and Shotgun House R&B Band

Prospect Bar & Lounge:  
Sunday, 4pm — Joe Cardillo

Proud Mary’s Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada:  
Thursday, 8pm — Tomcat Courtney
Friday, 7pm — Robin Henkel and Whitney Shay
Saturday, 8pm — Nathan James & the Rhythm Scratchers
Tuesday, 8pm — Weekly Blues Jam

Quarteryard:  
Saturday, 6pm — Kris Orlowski

Ramona Mainstage Nightclub:  
Friday, 7pm — Aesthetic and Rainbowdragoneyes

Red Door Restaurant & Wine Bar:  
Sunday, 11am — Jon Garner & Paul Tillery

Reuben H. Fleet Science Center:  
Friday, 7:30pm — Rock in the Park

Riviera Supper Club & Turquoise Room:  
Thursday, 8pm — Second Cousins
Friday, 9pm — Homesick Hitlers
Saturday, 9pm — Little Kings
Tuesday, 8pm — Karaoke
Wednesday, 9pm — Westside Indiction

Rock Bar:  
Thursday, 7pm — Karaoke
Friday, 9pm — Charlie Arbelaez Jazz Jam

Rosie O’Grady’s:  
Saturday, 8pm — Jackson Price

Salty Frog:  
Thursday, 9pm — Thursday Night Karaoke
Friday, 9pm — Joe Cardillo & Kenny Eng

Sandbar Sports Grill:  
Saturday, 8:30pm — DJ Demon

Ship in the Woods:  
Saturday, 6pm — HTRK and Mystery Cave

Soda Bar:  
Thursday, 8pm — Grizzly Business and Inspired & the Sleep
Friday, 8pm — Guttermouth, Counterpunch, Caskitt, Castoff
Saturday, 8pm — The Parlor Mob, Gods, Spero
Sunday, 8pm — Mary Onettes, V`Umpire, Sundrop Electric
Monday, 8pm — Sales and Island Boy
Tuesday, 8pm — Cold Blue Mountain and Bhorelorde
Wednesday, 8pm — Tijuana Panthers, Teenage Burritos, Sooka

Soma:  
Friday, 7:30pm — Steve Aoki, Head Hunterz, Caked Up
Saturday, 5:30pm — Smarter Than Robots and Its All Starts Here

Space 4 Art:  
Saturday, 3pm — Slow Death: A Noise Music Festival

Spreckels Organ Pavilion:  
Sunday, 2pm — Outdoor Organ Concert

Stage Rock Bar & Grill:  
Thursday, 8pm — Bass Tribe
Friday, 8pm — DJ Shynkee and Disco Pimps
Saturday, 8pm — Hott Mess and DJ Miss Dust
Monday, 8pm — Almost Famous Karaoke

Wednesday, 8pm — ‘90s Hip-Hop

Stronghold:  
Tuesday, 3pm — No Friends Mini Fest
Friday, 8pm — Hybrid Core: The Kurt Cobain Fest. With Van Brando, Slot Dixon, and friends. Celebrate the b-day of a legend with hip-hop, rap, metal, reggae, and hybrid core.

Sycamore Den:  
Thursday, 8pm — Jon Runion
Sunday, 8pm — Ashley Pond

Sycaun Casino Showcase Theatre:  
Friday, 8pm, Saturday, 8pm — Air Supply

Tango Del Rey:  
Thursday, 8pm — Bellydance Showcase

Thrusters Lounge:  
Friday, 10pm — DJ Who

Til-Two:  
Thursday, 8pm — Chris Murray, Leciens, Mechilor All Stars
Friday, 8pm — The Moan and JQ

COMING UP IN THE VOODOO ROOM

GROOVE INTERNATIONAL: RISE N GRIND  
FEBRUARY 20 | 21+

PENNY & SPARROW  
FEBRUARY 21 | 21+

GROOVE INTERNATIONAL: THE PIRATE’S BOOTY BALL  
FEBRUARY 28 | 21+

THE TRAGIC THRILLS  
MARCH 8 | ALL AGES

RYAN CABRERA STORYTELLER’S SET  
MARCH 10 | ALL AGES

LOLA DEMPERS BURLESQUE & VARIETY SHOW  
MARCH 14 | 18+

FALLUJAH  
MARCH 15 | 18+18
Everyone’s A Critic

Heaven & Earth
Yes
By Andrew Hamlin

“Wimp’s,” Robert Christgau sneered, comparing them to Talking Heads — who were wimps, he proclaimed, without “vagueness or cheap romanticism.” But that was ’77; the Heads (whom I love) left us; and four Englishmen, fronted now by one renegade Seat- tilite, now answer the call. They stand in the context of modern Western society, which just took a few blacker-water churns. They have to make sense relative to this undertaking.

Vagueness? Yes lyrics have always been riddles, but never riddles you couldn’t figure out. Cheap romanticism? I submit that romanticism runs in short supply right here, right now (’77 was maybe different times), and a commodity in short supply becomes more precious.

So when our quintet pours on peace and love, more specifically “lift your heart above the fight,” and “take me from where I am,” they acknowledge how much heavy lifting that takes at the best of times. They wrote and recorded pre-Ferguson, pre-Staten Island, but that’s how little the news that stays news changes. And you can’t call this the best of times — one important change.

Many guitar and/or synth lines sound off like calls to attention, although Geoff Downes swirls in piano and organ, respecting tradition. “Subway Walls,” which just might hold the “meaning,” that’s about as gitty as they’ll get. They want us to get to the stars, but we have to stop looking at subways, machines as the enemy. We have to stop looking at the enemy as the enemy. Hard work. Hence: “Transcend.”

Brian Setzer blasts through Temecula
By Mark Carpowich

Though he has made music for decades, Brian Setzer’s own influences extend to the early 20th Century. Which is why it only makes sense that one of his guitars now hangs in the Smithsonian Museum of American History.

Setzer casually mentioned the recent honor during the sold-out Temecula show, a rare understated moment during a two-hour show overflowing with bombast, larger-than-life stage decor, and even a blizzard of fake snow during the finale. Loaded with holiday standards, the concert introduced new arrangements of familiar favorites performed by the guitarist and his 17-piece backing orchestra.

For fans of Setzer’s non-Christmas-related work, however, the guitarist left plenty of room for material from his back catalog, including 1990s Setzer Orchestra hits like “Jump Jive an’ Wail.” The evening even included a mid-show segment that saw the orchestra retire while Setzer played a handful of rockabilly songs with only a double bassist and standing drummer, just like the trio he led during the 1980s, the Stray Cats.

Concert: Brian Setzer Orchestra
Venue: Pechanga Casino
Date: December 19
Seats: Upper level

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

Classical Music

A Salute to American Jazz Greats

SAVE THE DATE

March 11, 2015

San Diego Reader Awards Ceremony
The 2015 San Diego Reader’s Choice Awards.

The Reader’s Choice Awards are voted on by you.

Readers submit nominations for the categories of our Reader’s Choice Awards, and then, in a separate survey, they pick their top picks in each category. The winners are announced at our annual Reader’s Choice Awards Ceremony.

The 2015 survey is now available. Go here to submit nominations.

Readers can still submit nominations until March 11, 2015, and can vote for their favorite categories online from March 7 until April 7, 2015.

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http://www.sandiegoreader.com

H10
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Bingo & Burgers Thursdays, 7pm
Trivia & Tacos Wednesdays, 7pm • Hideout Beer Club Fridays, 6pm
Karaoke Sundays, 9pm

Wednesday, 2/18, 9:30pm
Industry Night with Sky Fly
Pro K • Kilmor • Michael Lepiere

Thursday, 2/19, 9pm
Cobalt Cranes
Soft Land • Casanova Frankenstein

Friday, 2/20, 9pm
Color Vision & Louis the Child
The Lawn Lovers

Saturday, 2/21, 9pm
Mac Sabbath • Black Peg

Sunday, 2/22, 9pm
Pants Karaoke
Free Pizza from Pizzeria Luigi!

Monday, 2/23, 7:30pm
Mondays: Cards against Humanity Jam
Tuesday, 2/24, 9pm
Dj Ikah Love

Wednesday, 2/25, 9pm
Charts: The Who Meet the Swift Beats
HAPPY HOUR

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

BAY PARK
The Prado Restaurant: Tuesday - Thursday, 4:30pm - 6:30pm: $3 domestic & $4 import pints, $4 house margaritas, wells; $5 street tacos, TJ hot dogs, carne asada fries, buffalo chicken tacos & more.

La Gran Tapas: Daily, 4-7pm: $3 domestic drafts, $3 domestic bottles, $3.75 well drinks & all drinks, $3.75 tall boys. Friday - Saturday, 10am-6pm: $4 domestic drafts, $3 domestic bottles, $3.75 well drinks & all drinks, $3.75 tall boys. Sunday, 10am-8pm: 11pm-close: $4 domestic drafts, $3 domestic bottles, $3.75 well drinks & all drinks, $3.75 tall boys.

Bull Bomb Shots: $3.75 tall boys. Saturday, 4pm-close: $3 bottled beer, $3.75 well drinks $5 call drinks, $3.75 tall boys. Monday-Friday, Sun-Thursday, 3-7pm: $3 fries, $5 man candy, $5 sweet pea tacos, $6 three-cheese mac, $6 chiptole meatball sliders, $7 crab cakes. Tuesday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3.75 tall boys. Monday-Friday, Sun-Thursday, 3-7pm: $3.75 well drinks $5 call drinks, $3.75 tall boys.

HARBOR ISLAND
C-Level: Monday-Friday, 3-5-9:30pm: $4 beers, $5 specialty drinks, $5 appetizers.

MILLCrest
Bussalachi’s A Modo Mio: Monday-Wednesday, Thursday-Friday-Saturday, 4-6:30pm: $3 beers, $4 select house red and white. Half-off appetizers. Thursday-Sunday, All day: $3 beers, $4 select house red and white. Half-off appetizers.

Martins Above Fourth: Monday, 4pm-6pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 house wine & wells, $5 Stella drafts, $6 Svedka martinis, classic vodka and dry martinis, drops, cosmo. 4-10pm: $3 fries, $5 man candy, $5 sweet pea tacos, $6 three-cheese mac, $6 chiptole meatball sliders, $7 crab cakes. Monday-Friday, 4-7pm: $3 bottled beer, $4 house wine & wells, $5 Stella drafts, $6 Svedka martinis, classic vodka and dry martinis, drops, cosmo. $3 fries, $5 man candy, $5 sweet pea tacos, $6 three-cheese mac, $6 chiptole meatball sliders, $7 crab cakes.

The Merrow: Monday-Friday, 5-8pm: $5 flight of craft beers, $3 wells, $1 off craft beer drafts.

KEARNEY MEsA
Elbow Room: Monday, 3pm-7pm: $1 off all drinks, drafts, bottles, wine. $1 off all food. 5-8pm: $2.50 basket of wings. Tuesday-Friday, 5pm-7pm: $1 off all drinks, drafts, bottles, wine. $1 off all food. Saturday-Sunday, Open-7pm: $2.75, $3 all draft beer, $1 off all food.

Proud Mary’s Southern Bar & Grill at the Ramada: Daily, 4-6pm: $4 select drafts, $4 house/strawberry margaritas, drops, $3 fries, $5 man candy, $5 sweet pea tacos, $6 three-cheese mac, $6 chiptole meatball sliders, $7 crab cakes.
HAPPY HOUR

BEER NEWS
BY BRANDON HERNANDEZ

HAPPY HOUR EVERYDAY 11AM-7PM

24 CRAFT BEERS ON TAP
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LIBERTY STATION
Solara Ristorante Lounge: Tuesday-Saturday, 6:30pm-9:30pm: $5 tapas, wines & beer. $2 off craft cocktails & beers. Sunday, 4:30-6:30pm: $5 tapas, wines & beer. $2 off craft cocktails & beers.

LITTLE ITALY
Puerto la Boca: Monday-Saturday, 4:30-7:30pm: $3 house wine, $3.50 wells, $6 house martini. 30% off appetizers. Bar only. Sunday: All day: $3 house wine, $3.50 wells, $6 house martini. 30% off appetizers. Bar.
**The Addams Family: A New Musical Comedy**
The La Jolla Playhouse presents a musical version of the TV show that asks: Can Gomez keep a secret from his adored Morticia? Who is this boy Wednesday has fallen for? And guess Who’s coming to dinner? Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice, music by Andrew Lippa, Book by Alan Menken.

**The Darrell Hammond Project**
The La Jolla Playhouse presents Darrell Hammond and Elizabeth Stein’s piece about the life of the comedian, based in part on his memoir, *God If You’re Not Up There, I’m F*cked*. Tides Stand Up, Saturday Night Live, and Other Mind-Altering Mayhem, which “tries to unravel the mystery of how a man repeatedly climbed out from the depths of despair to become a world-class comedian.”

**La Jolla Playhouse DNA New Work Series: Kiss**
As part of its series of staged readings of new plays, the La Jolla Playhouse presents Guillermo Calderón’s drama that “breaks open cultural barriers as a group of Western actors interpreting a Syrian play.”

**Bridge to Terabithia**
The Theatre of Youth presents a musical adaptation of the beloved novel about a boy and a girl who create their own kingdom in the woods

**The Music Man Jr.**
The La Jolla Playhouse presents the musical that launched the careers of many colorful coats who changed the course of history. Robert Smyth directs.

**Chicago**
The La Jolla Playhouse DNA New Work Series: *Krik? Krak*, of the Last Tiger in Haiti

**Mulan Jr.**
The San Diego Musical Theatre presents the musical that launched the careers of many colorful coats who changed the course of history. Robert Smyth directs.

**SCHOOL PLAYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>PLAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRANCIS PARKER MIDDLE-UPPER SCHOOL</td>
<td>Footloose</td>
<td>Mar. 17</td>
<td>2PM</td>
<td>MATER DEI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH COAST REPETORY THEATRE</td>
<td>Legally Blonde Jr.</td>
<td>Apr. 19</td>
<td>8PM</td>
<td>SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL</td>
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<tr>
<td>TUESDAYS &amp; THURSDAYS, 8PM</td>
<td>Technicolor Dreamcoat</td>
<td>Feb. 19</td>
<td>8PM</td>
<td>SAN MARCOS COMMUNITY CENTER</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAYS, 7:30PM</td>
<td>South Pacific</td>
<td>Feb. 5</td>
<td>8PM</td>
<td>MARTINIS ABOVE FOURTH, 3940 FOURTH ST., OAK PARK</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAYS, THROUGH APRIL 5.</td>
<td>The Music Man</td>
<td>4500</td>
<td>8PM</td>
<td>WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE VILLAGE DR., SAN DIEGO</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAYS, 8PM &amp; SATURDAYS, 7:30PM</td>
<td>Something Wonderful, and “Shall We Dance?”</td>
<td>4500</td>
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Love, Loss, and What I Wore Playhouse Productions stages Nora and Delia Ephron’s “dramedy” that uses clothing and accessories and the memories they trigger to tell stories “mostly comic but often sad or sentimental that all women can relate to.” John Anderson directs.

LAMBERTS PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR- ange Ave., SAN DIEGO. 619-437-0000. APRIL 10 THROUGH MAY 17.

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LAMBERTS PLAYERS THEATRE, 1142 OR- ange Ave., SAN DIEGO. 619-437-0000. APRIL 10 THROUGH MAY 17.


CYGNET THEATRE, 4040 TAYGERS ST., OLD TOWN. 619-337-3255. MARCH 26 THROUGH APRIL 20.

Oedipus El Rey The San Diego Repertory Theatre stages Luis Alfaro’s contemporary adaptation of the Oedipus story, reset in the barrio of South Central Los Angeles. Oedipus is imprisoned for “ripping off Costco;” Iocasta (his mother) “spashes on Jean Nate while glued to All My Children.” The piece asks the question: “Is your homeboy doomed to suffer the eldorado? The word on the street is not good.” Sam Woodhouse directs.

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-434-4444. MARCH 1 THROUGH APRIL 29.

The Whale Cygnet Theatre stages Samuel D. Hunter’s “fierce comedy about a 600 pound recluse, eating himself to death, who wants to reconnect with his daughter, a viciously sharp-tongued and wildly unhappy teen, for one last shot at redemption.” Shana Wride directs.


Uncanny Valley As part of the National New Play Network Willow World Premiere, where an original script premieres at the same time at several Regional Repertory Theatres. The San Diego Repertory Theatre presents Thomas Gibbons’ drama about “download your thoughts and memories into your body and your computer” and the “uncanny vel- lume” of discomfort people experience “when seeing electronic recreations of human things that are not quite believable.”

SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE, 79 HORTON PLAZA, DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO. 619-434-4444. APRIL 18 THROUGH MAY 10.
A pair of mismatched, strikingly bland Hollywood ingénues (Dakota Johnson and Ryan Seacrest) mumble through a crash course on alternative lifestyles. The title Fifty Shades of Grey refers to the color your hair will turn while struggling to get through this endless, thinly spread dollop of homogenized saltpeter. Everything you've feared is true: here's a soft-core (and soft-pedalled) porn variation on Little Red Riding Hood conceived in frustration by a Twihard and aimed at breaking down kinky sex for delicate yentas. Director Sam Taylor-Johnson favors the Wes Anderson see-saw/set-frame approach to anamorphic framing, rendering it as visually flat as it is erotically insolvent; the robotic sex scenes might just as well have been generated. What better way to spend Valentine's Day (and the weeks that follow) than watching a virgin tied to a bed and bound to a nondisclosure agreement by an egocentric billionnaire bully who gets off on beating the romantic out of her?

— Scott Marks

Oscars 2015: Who's gonna win?

Losing the ability to live-blog his angst during last year's Academy Awards ceremony made it hell on this reporter. Forced to sit and watch the damn thing in real time — the horror. Matthew Lickona never did take to the spongy gimpoecky of Boyhood and Clint's latest war pic. Had I seen American Sniper before making out my ten best directors list, it would have no doubt have topped the list. If the Academy pegs it their best picture, it will be the first time in 28 years — The Last Emperor to be exact — that we'll have seen eye-to-eye. Expect a few more good months at the box office to be tackled onto Boyhood's 12-year lifespan when it takes home the Best Picture Oscar.

Lickona: Okay, let's get this out of the way at the outset: I didn't see Boyhood. I know this makes me a terrible critic and a completely irrelevant voice in the conversation. Especially when that conversation threatens to happen before its release: the casting news, the teaser, the trailer, etc. But once the pre-release buzz is done and opening weekend is over, people go back to talking about Game of Thrones and waiting for the Next Big Release. American Sniper managed to beat that. Just because a film gets people talking doesn't mean it's a great film, of course — hello, Fifty Shades of Grey — but as movies seem to matter less and less, it does feel significant to have a well-made picture earn a place in the national conversation. Especially when that conversation threatens to break free of the red and blue echo chambers. (I think it's one of those rare films that acknowledges its hero's virtues to be the flip side of his vices, but maybe that's just me.)

What will win: Boyhood. It's an All-American achievement, from all accounts. Puts on sackcloth, writes "I am a bad film critic" 500 times.

Director

Nominees: Alejandro G. Inárritu (Birdman), Richard Linklater (Boyhood), Bennett Miller (Foxcatcher), Wes Anderson (The Grand Budapest Hotel), and Morten Tyldum (The Imitation Game).

Marks: When asked who should win, the other four nominees all took one step backwards leaving Richard Linklater to write his acceptance speech.

Lickona: What should win: Bennett Miller, Foxcatcher. Pretty sure I'm going to be all alone on this one, but I thought this was a masterfully controlled meditation on family and fandom. Sports are such a huge force in American life, but very few sports movies pay any attention to that. This one does, giving us a man for whom wrestling becomes a way to free himself of his familial fetters, a weapon against his enemies, a cause he can champion, and a path to personal triumph. (Or, at least, that's his hope.) I see a lot of images thrown up on the screen over the course of a year. The shot of Steve Carell as John DuPont,
releasing his mother’s horses from their stables after her death and driving them out into the gray morning mist, was, for me, the most memorable of 2014. But then, I didn’t see Boyhood. Sensing a theme?

**Actor**

Nominees: Steve Carell (Foxcatcher), Bradley Cooper (American Sniper), Benedict Cumberbatch (The Imitation Game), Michael Keaton (Birdman), Eddie Redmayne (The Theory of Everything).

Marks: The baffling absence of Jake Gyllenhaal’s Nightcrawler makes this an easy one to call. Benedict Cumberbatch’s non-stop show-offishness failed to draw me in, ditto Eddie Redmayne’s wall-building impersonation of Stephen Hawking. Michael Keaton’s performance wasn’t %100 but he suffered well under all the unnecessary camera movement, while a zombified Steve Carell let the hair and makeup do the heavy lifting. Bradley Cooper’s was the only nominated performance that best served its subject, but something tells me the Academy is going to go full–Rich Little and give it to Redmayne.

Lickona: Speaking of baffling absences, did they nominate Carrell or his fake schnozz? (Or rather, the fact that said schnozz combined with his odd posture and speech to produce an effect so different from the usual Carrell character?) I ask because that prominent proboscis seems to have obscured Channing Tatum, who, like Cooper (and Affleck in Gone Girl), managed to give an inner life to a thick slab of manbeef. I think the award will go to either Redmayne or Cumberbatch for their portrayals of English suffering, but my heart is with Keaton for tackling a dramatic version of himself, the way Gloria Swanson did in Sunset Boulevard. It’s a tricky business, and Keaton nails every maneuver.

**Actress**

Nominees: Marion Cotillard (Two Days, One Night), Felicity Jones (The Theory of Everything), Julianne Moore (Still Alice), Rosamund Pike (Gone Girl), and Reese Witherspoon (Wild).

Marks: We’ll begin by checking off perky Felicity Jones, this year’s most puzzling nominee. Rosamund Pike’s glacial sneezeball is a tad gamy for Oscar voters and Marion Cotillard’s talking–at-the-bottom-of-the-screen way of speaking is impossible to follow. As much as they love Reese Witherspoon (and actresses who shy away from makeup in general), they’re going to vote the patios ticket and hand Julianne Moore another statuette.

I say Viva la Cotillard!

Lickona: Ditto.

**Supporting Actor**

Nominees: Robert Duvall (The Judge), Ethan Hawke (Boyhood), Edward Norton (Birdman), Mark Ruffalo (Foxcatcher), and J. K. Simmons (Whiplash).

Marks: Ethan Hawke will be overshadowed, Robert Duvall’s solemn slice of hambone flat–out doesn’t deserve it (never thought that would come out of me), and J.K. Simmons’ treadmill running got old fast. The battle is between a bombastic Edward Norton and sly and slow Mark Ruffalo. To the former go the spoils while the latter earns my personal pick for victory.

Lickona: This is maybe my toughest call. I take Scott’s point about the exhausting character of Simmons’ verbal assaults, but I was never not gripped by his ferocity. I actually think the Academy might give it to him; the performance is just showy enough (in a believable context) to catch their fancy. Ruffalo gets my heart for his disarming portrayal of genuine decency and brotherly love. Norton gets my head for his thrilling parody of The Actor.

**Supporting Actress**

Nominees: Patricia Arquette (Boyhood), Laura Dern (Wild), Keira Knightley (The Imitation Game), Emma Stone (Birdman), and Meryl Streep (Into the Woods).

Marks: The least interest–generating category of the bunch. Does Keira Knightley really belong in this company? The rallying cry “Enough Meryl Streep!” can be heard echoing across the Hollywood Hills. Only on rare occasions will Oscar favor youth. “She’s young with plenty of time ahead for her to win,” will be the voter’s excuse for not singling out Emma Stone. The odds-on favorite is Patricia Arquette’s monotone mammy, but she should give it to Laura Dern for Blue Velvet, Smooth Talk, Rambling Rose, and for being the only live wire in the otherwise tame Wild.

Lickona: Gotta be Arquette, and I didn’t even see Boyhood! Simple process of elimination. Dern was the best thing in Wild, but served mainly to define the edges of Witherspoon’s unhappiness. Stone was hugely fun to watch, and I loved her big speech on the horrible insignificance of the artist, but she wasn’t much more than that. Streep actually faltered in Into the Woods; that they didn’t nominate Emily Blunt is a gigantic oversight. She was the heart and soul of that picture. Knightley barely registered and was forced to say this line: “Sometimes it’s the people no one imagines anything of who do the things that no one can imagine.” Oof. I don’t know if anyone could have acted their way out of that one.

**Cinematography**

Nominees: Emmanuel Lubezki (Birdman), Robert Yeoman (The Grand Budapest Hotel), Lukasz Zal and Ryszard Lenczewski (Ida), Dick Pope (Mr. Turner), and Roger Deakins (Unbroken).

Marks: Inasmuch as cinematography and direction should go hand in hand, I ask, can a bad film truly be beautifully photographed? Robert Elswit was twice robbed for his contributions to Inherent Vice and Nightcrawler leaving Lukasz Zal and Ryszard Lenczewski’s Ida the only good’un in the pack, a film that artfully tells its story in pictures and words. I’d venture that at least half of the voting body catnapped their way through Mr. Turner and what they saw was impressive enough to reward Dick Poop… uh, Pope.

Lickona: I won’t argue overmuch, because I loved Nightcrawler (Thom Andersen might want to consider updating Los Angeles Plays Itself) and I managed to miss Ida as well. (Marks get all the fancy award movies, it seems.) Though I will put in a world for The Grand Budapest Hotel. I agree that it was oddly insubstantial, but I loved looking at it while it played. Particularly the contrast between the hotel’s pinkly ornamental glory days and its garishly orange post-communist present. Maybe it’s really the set design that I’m admiring, but I don’t think so.

**Adapted Screenplay**

Nominees: Paul Thomas Anderson (Inherent Vice), Damien Chazelle (Whiplash), Jason Hall (American Sniper), Anthony McCarten (The Theory of Everything), and Graham Moore (The Imitation Game).

Marks: It is beyond indisputable to say that Paul Thomas Anderson’s Inherent Vice is the only deserving nominee, so it’s certain the sentiment–al chumps will bestow their golden doorstep on Anthony McCarten’s The Theory of Everything.

Lickona: Give it to Chazelle, who had to come up with 4000 ways for Simmons to say “You suck!” to Miles Teller. And just for the sake of disagreement, I say the Academy will go for Moore and that godawful line of Knightley’s. It’s this year’s “I’m the king of the world!” and it shows up three times to make it extra–memorable.

Original Screenplay

Birdman (Alejandro G. Inarritu, Alexander Dinelaris, Jr., Nicolas Giacobone, Carsten Spindler), Foxcatcher (Boyd Richards Linklater), Foxcatcher (Dan Futterman and Max Frye), The Grand Budapest Hotel (Wes Anderson), and Nightcrawler (Dan Gilroy).

Marks: At long last Nightcrawler. Enough said.

Lickona: Oh, fine— but only because I hate the commodification of everything, and Gyllenhaal is sort of the apotheosis of a guy who sees other people solely in terms of the value they can offer him. The Academy won’t have it, too. Too nasty. If it’s not Boyhood, I say it’s Birdman. It’s about a play, but it’s really about movies, and the Academy loves a story about itself.

**MOVIE LISTINGS**

All reviews are by Scott Marks, Matthew Lickona, and Duncan Shepherd. Priorities are indicated by one to five stars and antipathies by the black spot. Unrated movies are for now unreviewed. Thousands of past reviews are available online at SDReader.com/movies.

2015 Oscar Nominated Animation Shorts — A lightweight slate: nine films, hardly two that marry really engaging story and visuals with narrative heft. Those two are Me and My Moulton, a middle sister’s mem’ry of her family life in sixties Norway, and The Dam Keeper, a gorgeous fable about an orphaned pig who has to navigate the cruelties of his world (mostly mean–spirited classmates) while constantly shielding said world from catastrophe. Honorable mention to the clever (and properly brief) A Single Life and the dizzyingly inventive The Big Raggedy Stone, No. 18 (AMC, Fashion Valley, Landmark Ken).
American Sniper — Director Clint Eastwood continues his quiet critique of the moviemaker’s deep delight in cinematic violence. In this case, that means great swathes of gripping, based-on-a-true-story action. It centers on Chris Kyle (Bradley Cooper in full strong-silent-Texan mode), a good ol’ boy who becomes a great sniper for the Navy SEALs. (He’s so good, in fact, that he becomes his target: as he hunts, so he is hunted.) But while Kyle adopts the unsophisticated practice of keeping both eyes open as he peers into his scope, he soon notices that something much beyond the scope of the mission. Of if he does notice, he doesn’t let himself get distracted. When his fellow soldiers start to crack under the strain of war, when his wife starts to crack under the strain of his absence, even when his lethal celebrity endangers the lives of his friends — none of it is enough to give him pause. And Eastwood is always quick to take us back to the battlefield, where all those nagging questions become moot. Eventually, of course, the soldier must come home and face the struggles of peace-time living in the aftermath of wartime devastation. But that’s the balmy, gripping battle to portray, and may result in a less glorious conclusion. 2014. — M.L. ★★★ (IN-WIDE RELEASE)

Birdman — Michael Keaton plays Riggs, a guy who used to be a box-office superstar, in part because he played Birdman in three films. (Art improving on life!) Now Riggs (like Keaton) is starring in much arrier fare. Sadly, everything is going wrong, and he is routinely haunted by his fearsome, famed alter-ego: rumbling about past glories and present humiliations, urging him to become the superhero he once was and maybe could be again. The film covers the preview performances running up to the show’s premiere, and its devotion to showbiz types and cliches is positively wondrous. Director Alejandro González Iñárritu (who also co-wrote) is having great fun as he winds his camera through the labyrinthine bowels of the theater, and he wants you to have fun, too. But would you rather see the film than read about it? 2014. — M.L. ★★★ (IN-WIDE RELEASE)

Boy Meets Girl — A transgenic virgin with girl friends (Michelle Hendley) falls for a girl virgin (Alexandra Turschen) engaged to a homophobic marine (Michael Galante). A good portion of writer-director Eric Schaeffer’s time is spent hammering out well-worn dialogue exchanges aimed at shedding light upon transsexuality to save-dwelling Red States. But probably wouldn’t go near a film such as this in the first place. If one is to knock the simple-minded, propagandistic tone Fox Faith and Freestyle Releasing bring to their canned sermons, it would be disingenuous not to do the same for this earnestly coddlesend ing approach to gender identity. (Pillow Talk exchanges between Hendley and Turschen come the closest to ringing true.) The cast — particularly newcomer Hendley, who knows how to work her Pamela Tiffin bangs — plays it with such surface force and grounded conviction that one is almost willing to overlook the sentimentality and platitudeous plotting. A scene in which Michael Welch as the designated BFF and Randall Newsome as Hendley’s mightily supportive father. 2014. — S.M. ★★ (READING GASLAMP)

The DUFF — DUFF stands for Designated Ugly Fat Friend. Not to say that there actually is such a creature in this film. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2015. (IN-WIDE RELEASE)

The Duke of Burgundy — Despite the 70s arthouse softcore vibe, there’s little in the way of sex and nudity in this deeply felt BSIOM romance. Instead, writer-director Peter Strickland makes the viewer squirm in the presence of naked emotional intimacy. Cynthia is a gently aging etomologist. Evelyn is her young and willing slave. Or at least, she plays one during their routine fantasy scenario (emphasis on routine). The film wastes no time in revealing the complicated power dynamics at work (or should that be “in play?”) in their relationship, and a botted birthday present — Evelyn wanted a bed with a storage compartment, but wound up with a basic boxsack instead — begins a chain of tiny but telling events that test the nature of the couple’s bond. Unfortunately, the film’s chief crisis comes at the cost of believability, hinging as it does on a bondage furniture saleswoman’s willingness to casually disclose the identity of her other clients. Still, its an impressive achievement: the rendering of a private and extremely particular world in terms that any lover will understand. The great question: are they together for each other’s sake, or for their own? 2014. — M.L. ★★★ (LANDMARK HILLCREST)

Fifty Shades of Grey — Review this issue 2015. — S.M. ★ (IN-WIDE RELEASE)

Foxcatcher — The goal is an Olympic gold medal in wrestling, but the real grapple goes on between two families: the Schultzes (brothers Dave and Mark) and the DuPonts (mother Jean and son John). Yes, those DuPonts. Poor John (Steve Carell in a fake schnoz) is a crazily wealthy nothing of a man — slight emphasis on “crazily.” Patriarch is portrayed here as the last refuge of the personally pathetic.) He’s determined to make his mark by mentoring Mark to triumph; all the better that it will be in a sport his mother considers “low.” For his part, Mark (a brooding, dominating Channing Tatum) is glad for the attention he’s been getting from his older brother. And Dave (Mark Ruffalo)? Dave is just love — and you know what he goes. After his success with Moneyball, director Bennett Miller makes good use of another sports-related story “based on actual events.” He keeps the signposts clear and the mood restrained, even as events spiral into madness. But the cost of sacrificing a quiet, satisfying ending for something with a little more pop, perhaps under the rubric of “hey, it really happened” 2014. — M.L. ★★★ (AMC LA JOLLA; LANDMARK HILLCREST)

A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night — A cliche-juggling feminist vampire tale by any other country of origin would still hit a dry socket. We never learn where our beautiful protagonist (Aranusha Nadini) must pick up enough spare cash to acquire a cherry Ford T-Bird or the amount of vigo surroundings that’s owed Bad City’s local pimp. Iranian-American writer-director Ana Lily Amirpour is more consumed by style than substance; all that matters is Marjane is young, beautiful (she’s billed as “the Iranian James Dean”), and, together with our titular love-starved garlic-avoider (Shaeda Vandi), knows how to pose before a camera. Worth seeing for those young to remember how how beautiful black-and-white ‘Scope looks when spread across a theater screen. Close up in the spirit of the gaily amateurish plotting of The Lost Boys than in the Lynch-Leone hybrid Amirpour was aiming for, this comes closest to putting an end to my longstanding claim of never having seen a boy, and a Iranian movie, particularly one filmed in the San Joaquin Valley. 2014. — S.M. ★★ (READING GASLAMP)

Hot Tub Time Machine 2 — Appropriately, the hot tub time machine from the first move was real, and John Cusack used it to go back in time and remove his contractual obligation for the sequel. Review forthcoming at sandiegoreader.com. 2015. (IN-WIDE RELEASE)

The imitation Game — Or, If it Hadn’t Been for Schoolboy Bullying, We Might Have Lost the Second World War. Alan Turing famously invented something like the world’s first computer as part of the British effort to crack the code employed by Germany’s Enigma machine. And this is the story of that, told with gorgeous, tweedy Englishness by director Morten Tyldum and starring the effortlessly superior Benedict Cumberbatch. (At least, he makes superiority seem effortless.) Yes, young Turing was an outsider from the get-go, ostracized for his oddity as a boy, and later, removed from the standard operations of society by his (then illegal) homosexualit y. So-called “normal” life operates by a code he must somehow crack if he is to get along, and it proves to be ideal training for his eventual ascent into the heedy realms of British spycraft. Of course, there’s room for pleasurable Filipinos with charming barrooms and heroism along the way, especially since his straight colleagues are either cads, sops, traitors, or lovely, sympathetic women. Consider this angle baked, translated, and laid out for all to see: different is special is good, and ordinary morality is a sham, anyone can be a hero. Get to the film beneath the message, you might wonder: did we really need to be told in such blunt, artless fashion? 2014. — M.L. ★ (IN-WIDE RELEASE)
begun cannibalizing their own work. Way because the Wachowskis have officially thing so busy be so boring? Maybe it's Jupiter Ascending
Chris Pine as Prince Charming — is fine. subversion, the songs are catchy, and the are watching family fare out of a cautionary tale for par-
all.) The fairy tale endings start to unravel, (Don't fret when Johnny Depp's leering characters into the realm of change, uncer-
(Trickster, and the endless wisps and ripples of half, as the story weaves together a passel of complication, compromise, and carnality that
all ticks along conventionally enough, with new recruit (a well-cast Taron Egerton). It chasing and gunfights, awkward romance delicious and decadent, a futuristic Roman —
triumph and her failure. Lord knows the
who bump up against the hard fact of his up your completely conventional story of lover Jeremy Jordan's character is hard to
who dress nattily and imbibe impeccably,
while, Anna Kendrick's music and lyrics are inventive and clever, but after an hour or so, they also feel relent-
but they work for themselves, not the
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InsideSales
National Provider Compliance Corporation is expanding and has immediate opportunities for experienced Telephone Sales Reps. Business-to-business calls only.

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Unlimited commission/bonus potential with a guaranteed hourly rate

For consideration, email your resume to: employment@providercompliance.com
For more information, call: (800) 669-3328

SALES / MARKETING
SALES RECIENT OR Immediate opening with rapidly growing company in Kearny Mesa. Screen resumes, conduct phone interviews and send qualified sales professionals to our sales trainings Nationwide. Base hourly wage plus performance related bonus. E-mail cover letter, resumes and salary requirements: KarenR@Appstar.net

SALES, Part-time work, full-time pay! Barden Circulation is hiring Sales Reps, Sales Managers and Account Directors. Earn $100-$200 a day! Sales experience helpful, but not necessary, just a professional appearance and a “can-do” attitude. Second income seekers welcome! We provide a solid income opportunity, complete training, rapid advancement, flexible scheduling, a fun work environment, weekly pay. Contact Mr. Simonton, 619-295-2501, or apply online: www.bardencirculation.com

TECH SALES REPRESENTATIVE San Diego. Drive sales through customer interaction. Perform product demos, merchandising & marketing. Requires Bachelor’s in Marketing, 5 years experience in job or as Marketing Officer or Analyst. Will accept 2 years additional experience in lieu of degree. Will accept any suitable combination of education, training and/or experience. Resume to Apon Industries Corp., 10005 Marconi Dr. Suite B, San Diego CA 92154.

TELEPHONE SALES: National Provider Compliance Corporation is expanding and has immediate opportunities for experienced Telephone Sales Representatives. Business-to-business calls only.

- Paid training • Healthcare benefits • Mon-Fri 7am-3pm

Unlimited commission/bonus potential with a guaranteed hourly rate

For consideration, email your resume to: employment@providercompliance.com
For more information, call: (800) 669-3328

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San Diego Reader February 19, 2015
78
TRADES / LABOR

LABOR: SEAFOOD PROCESSORS.
Summer jobs in Alaska! From July 1-September 1. Be one of a crew of 600 and have a great adventure! Great opportunity to beat the heat and make that extra money! Up to $500 travel reimbursement. Check out our information at www.hookedonfish.com, then you can apply online. Call toll-free: Petersburg Fisheries Seafood Processing, 1-877-772-4294 (February-July).

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Seafood Processors needed July 1-September 1. Be one of a crew of 600 and have a great adventure! Great opportunity to beat the heat and make that extra money! Up to $500 travel reimbursement. Check out our information at www.hookedonfish.com, then you can apply online. Call toll-free: Petersburg Fisheries Seafood Processing, 1-877-772-4294 (February-July).

COMPUTER/TechNICAL

SR. SOFTWARE ENGINEER (Req# IIC1070) Design, develop & maintain of an advanced sys of sfwr tools & databases used to analyze & store a variety of biological info. Bachelor’s+4 yrs rltd exp. Mail resumes to Alice DeGroff, Illumina, Inc, 5200 Illumina Way, San Diego, CA 92122. Must ref title & req#.

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NOTICE TO READERS: This category is for individuals seeking employment, so employers can contact them with available job openings.

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San Diego, CA
For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the programs, and other important information, please visit our website at www.concorde.edu/disclosures.
4) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified. Answers must be verified and counted or viewed. Complete the journey four times a year!

2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. Answers must be received no later than 7:00 a.m. Monday. We notify you of your status immediately, and this puzzle's theme appears in print to the following Thursday. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday.

1) Submit your completed puzzle to the Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered to our location, 2323 Broadway in Golden Hill; or submitted at our website www.SDReader.com/puzzle. To use the “comments” feature, you must be a registered site member. To be a registered member, visit our website and fill out the form. To use the “comments” feature, you must register as a member.

Diego, CA 92186-5803; or delivered to our

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: _____________________________ State:_________ Zip Code: _______

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Name: _____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: _____________________________ State:_________ Zip Code: _______

We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: _____________________________
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THE READER SUDOKU PUZZLES:
RULES OF THE GAME
1) Submit completed puzzle of any difficulty level (Easy, Medium, Hard or Evil) to the Reader each week for our ongoing contest! We keep track of each puzzle you successfully complete, and the results and ranking are posted online at SDReader.com/puzzle. But your submission will only be counted when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by 7:00 a.m. Monday.
2) Submit the correct answers to the puzzle along with your name. Clearly mark the puzzle that you want to enter this week by crossing off the other completed puzzles. All puzzles that are cut into pieces will be disqualified.
3) We will draw 10 names from weekly puzzle winners; no clever tricks. Yourself and your immediate family are not eligible.
4) The puzzle-contest ranking shown online and in the paper will begin anew every three months. Complete the journey four times a year!
5) Entries must be faxed to 619-231-0489, or mailed to Reader, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered to our new location, 2323 Broadway in Golden Hill, or scanned and e-mailed to Sudoku@sdreader.com. Submissions by email must be attached in Adobe Acrobat format, maximum file size of 1MB. Submissions that don’t fit the format will not be counted or viewed.
6) Answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.
7) Late entries will not be considered.
8) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.
9) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

EASY:
MEDIUM:

HARD:
EVIL:

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK’S SUDOKU PUZZLES:
EASY: MEDIUM: HARD: EVIL:

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK
www.WobblyWords.com

SEE YOUR RANKING ONLINE!
Now you can go online to check your ranking and communicate with each other! Simply visit www.SDReader.com/puzzle. The new ranking is posted each Wednesday. To use the “comments” feature, you must be a registered site member.

THIS WEEK’S WINNERS:
Prizes will be available for pickup at the Reader offices from desk from the Thursday your name appears in print to the following Thursday at 5 p.m.

1) Joe Arbusto, Rancho Penasquitos, 11.
2) Bliss Beedle, Encinitas, 11.
3) Gregory Chaucery, San Diego, 11.
4) Clyde Christie, Coronado, 11.
5) Butch Hays, La Mesa, 11.

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Name:
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MISSION VALLEY, $235,000 1BD+1BA for sale. 664 square feat. Great location! Close to all. Granite countertops, wood floors and much more. 6780 Friars Rd Ste 1417. Call Jeff 619-713-1044. BRE # 0089799

MISCELLANEOUS
MISCELLANEOUS

ROOMMATES
East County

South Bay

BEACHES
LA JOLLA, $1100 1BD+1BA charming upstairs unit in the Bird Rock area. stove, refrigerator, microwave, washer/dryer, coin laundry; parking; close to public transportation; cat OK with extra deposit; available 2/5/15.

LA JOLLA, $1295 1BD+1BA; downstairs unit in quiet building in North PB just 2 blocks to Torumaline Surf Park; stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, private patio; coin laundry; parking; close to public transportation; no pets; available 3/10/15 3050 Sapphire Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delso.com. 619-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, $1250. 1BD+1BA, downstairs unit in quiet building in North PB; studio apartment with cable, internet, and utilities. $200/month. No deposit. Disalyzed welcome. 619-448-7606.

PACIFIC BEACH, $1425. 2BD+1BA; downstairs parking, fridge, stove, dishwasher. No pets. No smoking. Available now. Call 619-273-8023.


PACIFIC BEACH, $950-1300. 1BD+1BA with den; houses in North Pacific Beach; quiet residential area; completely remodeled with kitchen fit for a chef; parking; coin laundry; patio; water and gardener paid; no pets; available 3/1/15 1969 Chealsey Street. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delso.com. 619-270-2071.

PACIFIC BEACH, $2100. 2BD+1BA with den; houses in North Pacific Beach; quiet residential area; completely remodeled with kitchen fit for a chef; parking; coin laundry; patio; water and gardener paid; no pets; available 3/1/15 1936 Reed Avenue. Del Sol Property Management, broker. www.delso.com. 858-270-2071.


POINT LOMA, $1350. 1BD+1BA. New carpet and paint. Onsite laundry. Great location, close to it all. 2123 Wabaska Court. BRE # 0089789. Call Rachael at 619-713-1044.


**Downtown**


**NOTICE TO READERS:** California law requires that anyone performing construction work on jobs that total $500 or more and labor materials must be licensed by the Contractors State License Board.
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Have you been accused of a felony or misdemeanor? Call Mark G. Spencer at 619-488-7472.

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NOTICES

Lauram3: This is my most recent tattoo and definitely my favorite. It is in memory of my father who passed away last month. I am 33 and a UPS driver and I live in Chula Vista. My tattoo artist is Rob @ Sailer Greens on 4th in Hillcrest.

Tattoo You

Send us a photo of your tattoo and win $25!
Describe why you got the tat, what it means to you, plus where you got it, where you live, your age, and job. Visit sdreader.com/tattooyou for details.

Seaside Young Flower

SeaSide Young Flower

Young Flower

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Deep Tissue Shiatsu

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Enjoy Every Minute

Walk-ins Welcome

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(2nd Floor) La Jolla.
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BullDogStuff

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SeaSide Young Flower

SeaSide Young Flower

Young Flower

Oriental Massage

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Walk-ins Welcome

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Describe why you got the tat, what it means to you, plus where you got it, where you live, your age, and job. Visit sdreader.com/tattooyou for details.
**PICTURES OF A TOWN**

**$25 WINNER**

mhzphoto: The El Cid statue in Balboa Park

mhzphoto: The original Point Loma Lighthouse at the mouth of San Diego Bay

mhzphoto: Balboa Park

Win $25 for the best San Diego neighborhood photo of the week. Go to SDReader.com/pix for more information.

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**ATTACHMENTS**

**DATE**

February 19, 2015

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Smog Test or **STAR Certified**
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**AUSTIN HEALY, TRIUMPH’S, MG’S, ETC.**

**VINTAGE MOTORCYCLES/SCOOTERS**

I will gladly accept cars in “As Is” Condition, Restored, Barn Finds, Projects.

All interesting classic/sports cars considered!

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LEAD STORY

— In October, another premier world sports event reached its climax, with one team left standing, rewarded for months of grueling practices, to the cheers of adoring, frenzied fans. (See “sports” series) professional teams, computer games were settled on a stage in a packed, 40,000-seat stadium in Seoul before three gigantic TV screens and an internet audience of millions. The powerhouse Samsung White team out-mused and -keyboarded the Chinese champions at “League of Legends” (which 27 million gamers worldwide play every day), using its fantasy characters to destroy opponents’ bases. The winning team took home $1 million of corporate money, but future earnings should escalate when idolized world-class heroes and villains start swinging endorsement deals.

Can’t Be True

— Carnell Alexander at one point owed about $60,000 in child support for a kid he did not father (due to DNA test) and knew nothing about, but despite “successfully” challenging the claim 20 years ago, he still owes about $30,000. The mother who accused him long ago admitted lying in that naming a “father” was necessary to get welfare benefits, a judge thus wiped out Alexander’s debt to her, the State of Michigan nonetheless still demands that Alexander repay benefits it paid to the mother.

— America’s largest pornography website, Pornhub.com, has recently erected a public billboard prominently encouraging the use of its service, first selecting as its location the New York City neighborhood formerly the smut epicenter of the city, Times Square. However, that area is now tourist-friendly, and the billboard had to be relocated — to Los Angeles’ West Hollywood. The company boasts of professional-level quarters of PornHub’s parent, MindGeek. The sign features a person’s two thumbs and fingers forming a rough version of a heart, the message (inspired by a Beatles song), “All You Need Is Hand.”

Brits BEING Britishly Bad

— Literature professor Thomas Docherty was back at work in October following his nine-month suspension from the University of Warwick for “inappropriate sighing” during meetings with a senior colleague, along with “making ironic comments” and “negative body language.”

— In October, Andrew Davies, 51, was ordered by magistrates in High Wycombe, England, not to lie down in public places anymore (unless genuinely struck by emergency). Previously, he had a habit of making bogus “999” (911) calls to get attention, and when police confiscated his phone, he began compensating by lying in roads until Compassion passesby called for ambulances.

The New Math

— More than 6 million students have downloaded the new iPhone app PhotoMath to solve Algebra I and Algebra II problems by pointing the phone’s camera at a printed equation. The answer, and the explanation, quickly appear on a screen, as a teaching tool — or for students to show “their” work if PhotoMath is used on exam questions. The Croca-based developer told the Quartz website in October that it is working on upgrades for higher-level math equations (though no relief is in sight for those chronically pesky “word problems”). Meanwhile, the debate has been triggered over whether PhotoMath is a dynamic technological advancement in education — or a cheating-enabler.

Bright Ideas

— Neighbors in the Mandarin neighborhood of Jacksonville, Florida, complained to the city recently about a resident who scattered hundreds of mothballs — over 400 now, at least — around her front yard, even driving over them in her car to crush them open and extend their noxious odor. The National Pesticide Information Center warned that the mothballs were hazards to plants, wildlife, water, and air, and the female resident said she was forced into the tactic in order to prevent neighborhood dogs from defecating in her yard.

— In September in Hamburg, Germany, Charles Manson: Summer of Hate — The Musical, opened at the Thalia Theater, covering the influences and failed musical career of the man convicted in the notorious 1969 Sharon Tate murders. And I Am Stephon Marbury, a musical featuring the former star NBA basketball player, ran for 11 nights in September in Beijing, where the popular Marbury has led the Beijing Ducks to national basketball championships the past two seasons. Marbury has a role onstage in what is described as a parable about pursuing one’s dreams.

— The most challenging toy this holiday season might be the series of funny human inners from the U.S. firm I Heart Guts — not just the soft and cuddly pancreas, brain, and prostate, but especially the rectum. Each part is packaged with a cheekily written educational description explaining its importance (the rectum being “the butt of many jokes” yet with “a serious role” in waste disposal as the “ecal loading dock”), and each sells for about $20.

The District of Calamity

— The Washington DC school system last year declared Avery Gagliano, 13, a habitual truant whose parents somehow require special training to ensure her attendance. The eighth-grader was a straight-A student at Alice Deal Middle School, but also a piano prodigy selected for prestigious world exhibitions — which caused her to exceed the maximum 10 “unexcused” absences that trigger the assignment of a truancy officer and a series of relentless threats against the parents (which ultimately provoked them to withdraw Avery and this season to homeschool her). In October, following a Washington Post account, DC’s governing council honored Avery in a public ceremony, and the DC schools chancellor overnight began begging the Gaglianos to bring Avery and her suddenly “excused” absences back to school.

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