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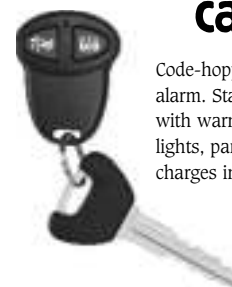
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Heather Goodwillie

#### EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS

Scott Ellis, Frank Glaser, Hector Lam, Russ Lewis, Robert Mizrachi, Robert Nutting, Chris Woo

#### CONTRIBUTORS

Don Bauder, Ed Bedford, Jane Belanger, Alexis Bernal, Geoff Bouvier, John Brizzolara, Josh Board, Patrick Daugherty, Joe Deegan, W.S. Di Piero, Stephen Dobyns, Barbara Fokos, Ernie Grimm, Mary Grimm, Dorian Hargrove, Rosa Jurjevics, Ken Kuhlken, Thomas Larson, Deirdre Lickona, Matthew Lickona, Thomas Lux, Bill Manson, Linda Nevin, Anthony Olivieri, Jerry Schad, Duncan Shepherd, Jeff Smith, Leslie Venolia, Naomi Wise

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#### SALES DEVELOPMENT

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#### ADVERTISING ART DIRECTORS

Kenneth Koll, Ronaldo Saluta, Jr.

#### CLASSIFIEDS MANAGERS

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#### CLASSIFIEDS STAFF

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#### PRODUCTION MANAGERS

Deborah Condit, Sandy Matthews

#### PRODUCTION ARTISTS

Frank Andrews, James Banerian, Mike Brown, Jeremiah Dean, Paul Johnson, Leslie Manes, Chris Millard, Douglas P. More, José Ramirez, Jr., Jessica Wentzel

#### ACCOUNTING STAFF

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Linda Johnson, Margaret Stann

#### PERSONNEL MANAGER

Evelyn Mones

#### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Gavin Rattmann, Michael Wayne

#### PROJECT MANAGER

Barbara Christensen

#### OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Howard Rosen

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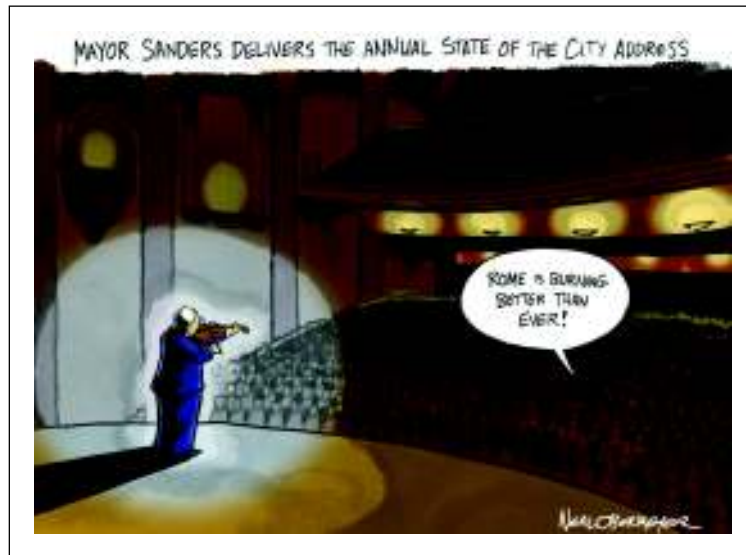
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SAN DIEGO WEEKLY  
**Reader**

## BREAKING NEWS

**Winners and losers** Some San Diegans came out on top in this year's electoral derby. Some didn't. Among the biggest winners was La Jolla's **Christine Forester**, the widow of noted architect and artist **Russell Forester**. On August 22 she was listed by *U.S. News and World Report* as the second-largest "bundler" of contributions to the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate **Barack Obama**, having collected more than \$500,000 from a variety of friends and associates.



Christine Forester

As reported by the *New York Times* the same month, a full one-third of Obama's record-breaking fund-raising total of \$112 million to that date had come from contributors giving \$1000 or more, the bulk of it raised by a phalanx of well-connected individuals whose efforts were the key to his decision to forsake public financing and its federally imposed spending ceiling. The *Times* reported that two-thirds of the bundling corps had occupations in law, securities and investments, real estate, and entertainment fields. The paper said the bundlers were "meticulously organized," with Obama headquarters sending them quarterly "reminders" of whether they were meeting their fund-raising goals.

An ex-architect herself, the Geneva, Switzerland-born Forester now runs Christine Forester Catalyst, a marketing consulting operation known for connecting would-be entrepreneurs with hedge-fund money. In an interview with the *San Fernando Valley Business Journal* last summer, Forester listed San Diego multimillionaire **Sol Price** as her mentor, calling him "a curmudgeon with a vision, a remarkable clarity of mind, and a big heart."

In June of last year, almost a full year before it became obvious that Obama would beat front-runner **Hillary Clinton** for the Democratic presidential nomination, Forester hosted a fund-raiser featuring **Michelle Obama** at the Salvation Army's Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center, minimum price of admission: \$1000. Another early Obama backer was *San Diego Magazine* editor **Tom Blair**, who gave \$250 in March 2007. High-concept architect **Rob Quigley** gave \$500. ... Next to politically hapless Democratic city attorney **Mike Aguirre** — who, despite the Obama sweep, surrendered his seat to Republican **Jan Goldsmith**, a second-string judge and ex-Poway mayor — the biggest loser this political season was San Diego mayor **Jerry Sanders**. Though Sanders wasn't on the ballot and his top nemesis Aguirre was ousted by a tidal wave of cash from GOP fat cats, the mayor lost big when Proposition 8, the anti-gay-marriage measure, eked out a sizable victory.

Republican Sanders originally opposed gay marriage but flip-flopped at a teary-eyed press conference in September of last year, talking for the first time in public about his les-

bian daughter. Internal emails later showed that mayoral press aide **Fred Sainz**, himself gay, put the kibosh on any further declarations by the mayor about his conversion, but local Christian evangelicals got the message loud and clear. Backed by Skyline Wesleyan Church pastor **Jim Garlow**, the previously floundering effort by anti-gay-marriage forces to gather enough signatures to put Prop 8 on the ballot was galvanized by the Sanders move. Last week's Prop 8 win leaves Sanders, who insiders say pines for higher office, out of the money with a key GOP constituency and not particularly beloved by local gays, who saw his opposition to the measure as lukewarm at best.



Jim Garlow

**Lights out** Utility giant Sempra Energy continued to pour money into local Republican Party coffers right up until the verge of the election, according to state campaign disclosure records. Sempra's final preelection contribution, \$10,000, was on Election Eve, November 3. The party used the money it received on such undertakings as its successful effort to oust City Attorney **Mike Aguirre** and failed attempts to elect **April Boling** and



April Boling

**Phil Thalheimer** to San Diego City Council seats. Another November 3 donation to the San Diego GOP: \$5000 from oil giant Chevron/Texaco Corp. A few days earlier, on October 31, La Jolla-based defense contractor SAIC kicked in \$5000; Mission Valley Auto Corporation gave \$10,000; and the Vulcan Materials Co. PAC, which runs a Mission Valley quarry where a big condo project is proposed, gave \$2500. ... While the City of San Diego ponders slashing libraries and fire rings, among other budget cuts, it continues to spend \$50,000 per quarter on the high-powered Washington lobbying firm of Patton Boggs. According to a registration statement filed October 20, the City wants more taxpayer cash out of Congress for a long list of uses, including roadwork, border-congestion relief, and water projects. In a related development, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce's Mexico Business Center has retained the firm of RR&G, LLC, a Washington lobbying firm, in an attempt to "reduce wait times at ports of entry to San Diego County," according to a registration statement filed October 16.



Phil Thalheimer

— Matt Potter

**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.**

## Putrid, Bloated Carcasses

By Don Bauder

**Y**ou're exhilarated when the stock market zooms 10 percent in a day, right? Think again. Of the ten one-day miracles

in investment history, when stocks have soared 9 to 15 percent, seven of those days were in 1929 or the 1930s. Two of them were in October of this year. Similarly, of the 15 best weeks in market history, 13 occurred during the 1929 crash or the following Great Depression. One of the rowdiest up weeks ended October 31 of this year. The 15 worst months? Twelve were in 1929 or the subsequent depression, and one was October of this year.

Conclusion: financial panics — up or down — tend to occur in grim times. Since the stock market these days is amazingly volatile (panicky, really), should we be expecting another depression? After all, stocks, bonds, commodities, and residential real estate are all deflating amid the

volatility.

Local economists agree that the nation will *not* stumble into a depression, but they disagree on just how bad the

BIGGEST ONE-DAY GAINS	
Largest one-day percentage gains of Dow Jones Industrial Average	
DATE	PERCENTAGE INCREASE
March 15, 1933	15.34
Oct. 6, 1931	14.87
Oct. 30, 1929	12.34
Sept. 21, 1932	11.36
<b>Oct. 13, 2008</b>	<b>11.08</b>
<b>Oct. 28, 2008</b>	<b>10.88</b>
Oct. 21, 1987	10.15
Aug. 3, 1932	9.52
Feb. 11, 1932	9.47
Nov. 14, 1929	9.36

Source: Wall Street Journal, Market Data Group

economy will get. Importantly, they unanimously agree that the devilishly and deliberately complex financial derivatives are a root cause of the current downturn worldwide because nobody knows if the banks holding these exotic instruments are solvent. The government should make sure they are regulated and transparent, but the \$700 billion

Ross Starr of the University of California, San Diego says we are in for a "very severe" recession. "I expect double-digit [10 percent or more] unemployment," he says. "This is no joke. There is no way out of it. It will last through the third quarter of '09." He says this downturn will be similar in severity to the very difficult

continued on page 8

## Neal Obermeyer



## The Border Wait, and Wait, and Wait

By Dorian Hargrove

**W**hen it comes to crossing the border, Carlos Hermosillo plays it by ear. As he gets close to the San Ysidro crossing,

he calls 700-7000 on his cell phone, and a recording gives him the approximate wait time. On Thursday, July 3, at 1:00 p.m., the recording said there were 300 cars lined up at the port of entry; the wait was over two hours. Hermosillo went to plan B. He parked his car in Tijuana at a \$5 all-day parking lot and walked across to the trolley.

"It still took me one-half hour to get across," says Hermosillo in slightly accented English.

Cal State Fullerton student Genaro Rincón crosses into the United States at least once a week. Before he leaves his house in Tijuana, he tunes in to Radio Latina 104.5 to hear updates on the wait at the pedestrian checkpoint. Occa-

once was. More than 64.9 million people crossed the border at San Ysidro during fiscal year 2003. In just four years, says U.S. Customs and Border Protection, that number has dropped by nearly 10.8 million.

Since 9/11, the wait has become so bad for Hector Lam that he's cut back on trips into the United States. He used to come three times a week to see family and run errands. "I cross in my car," he says. "It used to be that after the morning chaos, between 9:00 and noon, an average wait of 15 minutes to cross was normal, and I would cross sometimes even more. Now I cross only once a week, to see my kids and do all the things that I used to do in several trips." Lam says that on good days, with few cars



San Ysidro Port of Entry to the United States

Playas de Tijuana, used to work in National City. But he had to leave his house three hours before he was expected to clock in. That gave him just enough time to drive to the border, park his car, get through Customs, and ride the trolley to work. Most days it would take him over 40 minutes to

United States since 1995, says Vince Bond, public relations officer for U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Harlan Pebley went through the background check and private interview with Customs officers and paid the \$122 to get a SENTRI pass. He drives from San Diego to

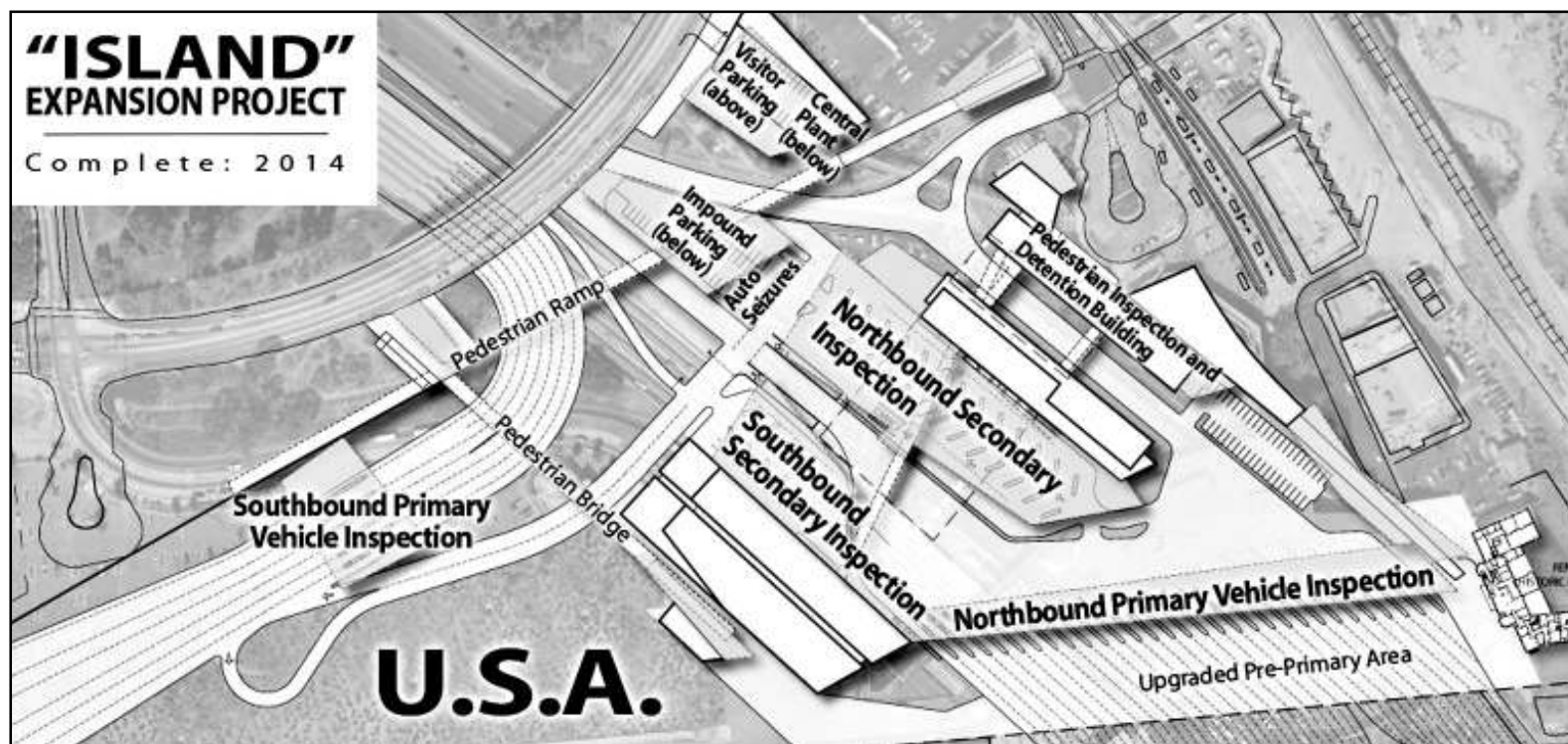
little over 20 minutes, but all that changed since they started with the heightened security. It used to be that the border guys wouldn't even get off of their stool. They would just ask what you bought in Mexico and wave you through. Now, even with the SENTRI pass, it takes anywhere from

bus drops off passengers at Customs, allowing them to bypass the pedestrian line. But Jorge González, administrative director for Mexicoach, says that while it usually takes 25 to 30 minutes for buses to get to the border, sometimes it takes two hours. "We're supposed to have a lane just for the buses, but it doesn't work that way," he says. "There's a lot of traffic that gets in the way and holds everything up, and there's nothing we can do."

Unfortunately, there are few signs of immediate improvement. Congressman Bob Filner, of the 51st Congressional District, feels the federal government hasn't wanted to improve. "Since 9/11, the executive department doesn't want an efficient border," he says. "They have decided that long lines and arbitrary waits of one, two, three hours is good security. I think that's ridiculous; an efficient border is a more secure border."

Filner believes that some of the issues can be addressed with more manpower and updated technology. "Almost 99 percent of the people that cross the border cross regularly. Giving those people background checks and smart cards and concentrating on the 1

*continued on page 10*



Conceptual diagram of San Ysidro Port of Entry reconfiguration and expansion project

sionally, even with the heads-up, he's had to wait for more than an hour.

For Hermosillo and Rincón, long waits are just part of crossing into the United States, but for others, they have become so much of a hassle that the hemisphere's busiest border crossing is not as busy as it

in line, it still takes him nearly an hour to cross.

According to Mark Baza at Caltrans, border delays for people and freight shipments cost San Diego County and Baja California an estimated \$4.2 billion and over 42,000 jobs in 2007.

Erik Salazar, a resident of

get through the pedestrian checkpoint. The long waits and early mornings prompted a career change for Salazar. Now he works in Mexico.

Even people who have SENTRI cards, designed to speed up crossings, are experiencing lengthy delays. Over 100,000 cards have been issued in the

his second home in Campo López, near the K-55 marker in Baja California, three times a month. Pebley's been making the trek for the past 40 years and has seen a lot of changes. "You know, 15 to 20 years ago, you could get through in about 5 to 10 minutes. The entire trip would take me a

30 to 45 minutes just at the border. The other lanes are usually backed up to the bridge."

Some other alternatives do exist for border crossers. For \$5 they can take a bus, operated by Mexicoach, from downtown Tijuana to the port of entry at San Ysidro. The

An archive of City Lights stories can now be searched on the Internet at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com)

## Bloated carcasses

continued from page 6

period in the early 1980s, when the central bank was raising interest rates to squeeze inflation out of the system. There was a mini-recession in 1980 and then a steep recession in 1981-82. Today, the difficulties in housing and the credit crisis will be "two big causes," says Starr.

But on the same campus, economist Jim Hamilton is not so gloomy. He says the fourth quarter of this year will shrink more intensely than the third quarter did (0.3 percent). "I don't see consumption picking back up; I don't see housing picking up; there is pressure on state governments," says Hamilton. "This is looking like a global recession. It will take a bite out of exports." But after the contraction in the second half of this year, the economy may or may not continue declining through 2009, partly because the Federal Reserve and U.S. government have acted so aggressively to add liquidity to markets, says

Hamilton. "I don't know how long this will last."

Across town at San Diego State University, Raford Boddy, emeritus economics professor, says, "This [recession] will be deeper. It may not be as deep as 1973-75, but it will be deeper than 1990-91 and 2000-01. Consumers are scared. Home remodeling and things related to remodeling, like new stoves and refrigerators, are in trouble, and autos are in trouble. Credit-card problems are hitting. The construction industry is really in trouble; the overbuilding of the last four years will take away from what would have been done now." One possi-

ble bright spot: companies may spend more on machinery and electronic equipment to enhance productivity.

But William Carter of the investment firm QInsight Group and a lecturer in business cycles at San Diego State is far less bearish. "We will have slow growth in the U.S., but it will be nowhere near as slow as most of the forecasts you're reading," says Carter. "We may have two or three quarters of near-zero growth, and it will be closer to two than three. It's true that con-

sumers are overleveraged [too deep in debt] and have low savings, but American consumers change their habits only when they believe their changes in income and wealth are permanent. They have to believe that not only will they be unemployed but be unemployed for a long time," says Carter. It will be a close call whether the current downturn is officially called a recession, he says.


All four academic economists agree on one thing: the quadrillion dollars of deriva-

tives floating around the world are a critical contributor to the global meltdown. Derivatives are miasmically complex securities that are derived from assets such as bonds, stocks, or currencies. Derivatives are not assets, or even investments. They are out-and-out gambling vehicles, and they have come to dominate the financial world. When commentators talk about "exotic instruments of unknown value," they are talking about derivatives.

Banks won't loan to other

banks because "they are so frightened of these derivatives and balance sheets of [other] banks," says Carter. The credit

continued on page 10



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# Bloated carcasses

continued from page 8

markets are frozen because of this uncertainty about their fellow institutions. Carter would like to see a national exchange on which the complex derivatives are traded, thus providing price transparency.

"We need a centralized clearinghouse" to keep track of these financial exotica, says Hamilton. "We need a single agency to look at them from the perspective of financial stability. The SEC [Securities and Exchange Commission] looks at fraud, and the CFTC [Commodity Futures Trading Commission] looks at manipulation. Stability is more important."

Starr points out that derivatives "are immensely leveraged. You never know where the next bankruptcy is going to fall. We need accounting

rules that require liabilities to be fully stated, requiring transparency. Let's know where the bodies are buried."

Boddy has suggested ways by which banks could begin to lend to each other once the value of the toxic derivatives is determined in the marketplace. The government's \$700 billion bailout package won't accomplish that, he says. The schemes to buy stock in banks, thus pumping capital into them, and to buy derivatives directly, will not work, he says. "For God's sake, don't buy those toxic things," says Boddy, who calls some of them "putrid, bloated carcasses." If the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) buys such malodorous junk, "It will just get some of the worst assets off the balance sheets of the banks." He proposes a plan by which TARP will buy a small percentage of the smelly assets and then take bids for them. "The goal is price discovery, not capital

injection. Through price discovery, TARP will discover what the assets are worth. Then they can be repackaged and sold on the open market. Without confidence in the values of the remaining assets on the balance sheets, the banks will be uncertain whether they are dealing with insolvent banks."

He says, "Comprehensive price discovery will tell which banks are solvent and which are not, so banks can get back to lending. Banks will not extend credit to other banks so long as they fear that the counterparties might be bankrupt."

And if banks don't lend, we could see the ugly deflation we fear. ■

# The border wait

continued from page 7

percent we don't know would make more sense, but they don't want that. They don't want an efficient border. They could do it easily by supplying more funding for staffing

to open up all of the gates around the clock or by investing in new technology, like retinal scans."

Vincent Bond of Customs says there are mandates in place for specific security checks that Customs officers need to perform. "We are very, very aware of the economic impact and the feelings of the community," he says, "but there is an ever-present threat from narcotics smugglers and the ever-present threat of smuggling people in trunks and under blankets—it happens all of the time. There is a tightrope that our officers walk, having to facilitate the entry of traffic but at the same time denying entrance to dangerous people and dangerous things."

Long-range improvements are planned, including expansion of the port at San Ysidro and construction of a new port two miles east of the port at Otay Mesa.

The projects seem to be gaining ground. Ramon Riesgo, project director for the U.S. General Services Adminis-

tration, is working on the \$577 million project at San Ysidro. He hopes to begin construction next year.

Riesgo says the San Ysidro project's first two phases will alleviate most of the current wait times. Phase one will add more booths in the primary inspection area, implementing a "two-tier" system wherein two inspection booths in each of the 24 lanes will be operational at the same time. During the first two phases, the old facility will be demolished in stages and a new facility built, including primary and secondary inspection areas, a pedestrian inspection area and bridge, an employee parking structure, and an administration building.

The third and final phase, and the most ambitious, will reroute southbound traffic. Beginning in 2012, I-5 south will be realigned west to Virginia Avenue, where Mexico plans to replace El Chaparral, its now-defunct truck checkpoint facility, with a new port of entry and a new road for the traffic to meet up. The Mex-

ican government has pledged its cooperation, though Riesgo says that a project of this size and cost should always have some flexibility.

Otay Mesa East Port of Entry, or Otay 2, is also in the works. The State of California will build the new port, as well as a 2.7-mile toll road leading to it. State Route 11 will originate at the SR 125/905 interchange. On the other side of the border, the road will turn into the proposed Tijuana 2000 Bypass Highway in Baja California and will link up to the Tijuana-Tecate and Tijuana-Ensenada toll roads.

On September 30, Governor Schwarzenegger signed a bill, sponsored by Senator Denise Moreno Ducheny, authorizing SANDAG to collect tolls on the new road. "The fees would be used to pay for environmental studies, project design and construction of the East Otay Mesa Port and SR 11," wrote Moreno Ducheny in an email.

The completion date for each project is still at least six years out. ■


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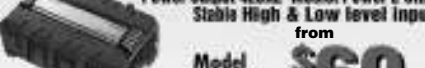
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## Missing Smear

As you are aware, you published an article by Don Bauder on October 30, 2008, in volume 37, number

44 of your publication, the *Reader*. The article was entitled "Smear Machine," and it accused me of publishing a newsletter that "drips" with "naïveté and seething hatred."

The article was devoid of any specific act of hating or smearing. The facts apparently don't matter. While it is true that I have communicated to my friends and acquaintances that I believed that Mr. Aguirre's conduct of client abandonment (which is currently under investigation by the state bar) was "seditious," that comment, while perhaps a bit of hyperbole, is not an expression of hate.

Mr. Bauder took great liberty in misinterpreting my views on a variety of subjects concerning Mr. Aguirre's misconduct in office. Contrary to Mr. Bauder's opinion, even the federal district court is having issues with many of Mr. Aguirre's allegations. For example, see the following article in today's *Union-Tribune*. [http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20081108/news\\_1m8sec.html](http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20081108/news_1m8sec.html). In addition, both U.S. District Court Judge Benitez and the California Supreme Court have also expressed serious doubts about certain allegations Mr. Bauder takes as proven.

Mr. Bauder was also in-

formed by me that I never received MP1 benefits because I left the City in November of 1996 and that John W. Witt recused the entire office of the city attorney from advising the mayor and council or SDCERS [San Diego City Employees' Retirement System] from this issue and retained Jones Day for that purpose. Yet he persisted in trying to put me in a false light, a tactic first developed by Mr. Aguirre when I endorsed Mayor Sanders over Donna Frye.

It appears that since moving to Colorado, Mr. Bauder has come to believe in "sentence first, verdict afterwards" instead of in-

nocent until proven guilty.

Mr. Bauder also falsely presumed that he had all the names of the "Wolverine Network," but he had only just over half. He has unwittingly insulted more people than he knows. The entire list includes judges, attorneys, doctors, teachers, military personnel, and members of the clergy, who all, according to Mr. Bauder, belong to the "smear machine." Well, it looks like they reflect the views of 60 percent of the electorate, who also disagree with Mr. Aguirre's continued abuses of power. Perhaps if Mr. Bauder wants to do an investigation on "smear machines" he ought to report on Mr. Aguirre's treatment of Tom Story and Tracy Means.

I believe that the article was defamatory per se, but have no fear, I have no intention of suing. As the publication of the existence of the Network did nothing but enhance my reputation for truth and honesty, a lawsuit is unnecessary. If anything, the article shows that Mr. Bauder is out of town, out of the county, out of the state, and out of touch. After all, it was not I who was sanctioned by the Ethics Commission twice, reprimanded by several su-

perior court judges and the Fourth District Court of Appeal, and severely criticized by both the district attorney and the California attorney general. In addition, the state bar's investigation into Mr. Aguirre's conduct is still ongoing.

Mr. Bauder's article was nothing more than an in-kind political contribution to Mr. Aguirre's failing political campaign. It served no purpose, as the people of this fine city easily saw through the charade and have sent Mr. Aguirre packing.

I have taken this opportunity to send copies of this email to all those who have been subject to this pernicious and nefarious attack on a group of responsible citizens.

John M. Kaheny  
aka "Wolverine 6"

*Don Bauder responds: The column never mentions whether or not Kaheny received MP1 benefits. The first paragraph capsulizes his dispute with Aguirre and gives both sides, Kaheny's and Aguirre's, but any benefits Kaheny received or did not receive are not mentioned.*

*The Union-Tribune article to which Mr. Kaheny*

*continued on page 58*



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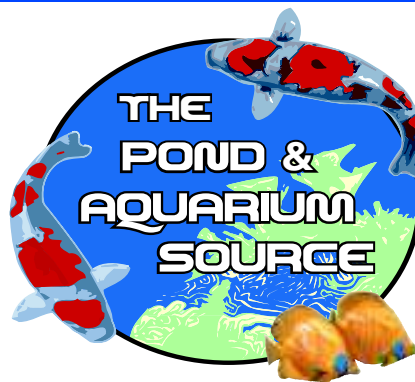
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# STRAIGHT FROM THE HIP

BY MATTHEW ALICE

Illustration by Rick Geary



Hey, Matt:

I was using one of those hand sanitizers the other day and noticed on the bottle: "kills 99.9% of all germs." What about the .1% that they don't kill? Let's say there are roughly 100,000 different germs out there. If the hand sanitizer kills 99.9% of them, it would mean there's at least 1000 germs that could wreak havoc on my otherwise sanitary hands. Should I lose a little bit of sleep over this or get some therapy?

— SLH, via email

Hey, Matt:

Okay, we have a hygiene debate going on. Young girls saying they don't "wash their bottoms" because it's creepy to put their hands there, versus Mom's insisting they must do a soapy hand scrub of their "privates/fannies"; shower water alone doesn't cut it.

— Nameless, via snail mail

Communications from opposite corners of germworld. We've put Nameless's letter out on the patio so it won't contaminate anything, so I guess we're set to go.

Every time you stare at your cube and wonder how you ended up in such a tedious place, consider some researchers at the University of Georgia who decided it would be a really good idea to figure out how many bacteria there are on Earth. Counting bacteria has to beat anything you're up against. But, hey, they survived it and came up with a number: 5 followed by 30 zeroes. That's five nonillion. Lucky for us, most of these are deep in the soil and under water. Some even live 40 miles out in the atmosphere. Bacteria in and on humans and animals make up only 1% of the total. But in that 1% are some true nasties.

I don't know whether this will send SLH to bed or to the shrink, but I think we have to clarify what the hand-sanitizer people mean when they say it "kills 99.99% of germs." They mean that in their product tests, their sanitizer killed 99.99% of the germs that happened to be on the test subject's hands, not 99.99% of all possible germs in the world.

If you want to try this at home, first get your hands germly. One scientifically acceptable method of doing this is to scrabble your hands around in your hair for a while. (I'm not kidding.) Then you get two petri dishes that you should be storing in the kitchen for just such an opportunity and stick your fingers down on the first one. Then you squirt a little sanitizer on your hands and squish that around for 15 seconds. Then stick those same fingers down on the second petri dish. Hold the dishes at just the proper temp for a day or so, then look at the results. Dish one should be loaded with finger-shaped piles of bacteria and viruses. Dish two might have a tiny bit of growth. That's how you get the 99.99%. In dish one, odds are you'll be cultivating a heap o' staph. And E. coli. Can't forget our friend E. coli.

To help SLH towel off and relax a little, here are some infobits on hand sanitizers. Most of them work just fine, as long as they have enough ethanol or isopropanol in them. The CDC says you need to find a sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol. These will kill germs on contact, but they don't continue to kill germs one or two hours out.

One oddity that was found in the testing of sanitizers is that they worked great on gastrointestinal bugs but not on things like rhinovirus and other respiratory-related germs and viruses. Since the alcohol should have killed these, scientists figure the problem was with the test subjects. A person is much more likely to use a sanitizer after dealing with some toilet-related event than after a sneeze. Ergo, sneeze bugs remained on their hands. Sanitizers don't clean off any kind of dirt or nose goop that you get on your hands. You need to use soap and water to remove the grody stuff, then use the sanitizer. And BTW, testing has also found that antibacterial soaps are no better than regular soaps. They don't do much sanitizing at all.

To round this all up, scientists consider our hands the biggest spreaders of bacteria. (A handshake should be followed immediately by a thorough hand-washing.) Some researchers at the University of Virginia poked around people's houses and found the nastiest places to be the TV remote, refrigerator-door handle, doorknobs, light switches, phones, salt and pepper shakers, and kids' toys. It's a minefield out there.

The Virginians might have included Nameless's young girls in their sample. They must be magical bacterial gardens by now. My suggestion to Mom is that she buy each girl her own washcloth. Maybe this terry-cloth barrier will encourage young girls to wash the icky places. (Have young girls noticed their friends backing away from them lately? Keeping a healthy distance between themselves and young girls? Moving to another desk in math class? Can young girls take a hint? Perhaps they stink.)

A searchable archive of past columns is available at SanDiegoReader.com

Got a question you need answered? Send an email to [heymatt@cts.com](mailto:heymatt@cts.com) or fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Matthew Alice, c/o the Reader, Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186.

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## SportingBox

By Patrick Daugherty

# The \$1500 Crank

**W**hat kind of repairs do you do? Tune-ups? Rebuilds? I'm talking to Kris Wells, 37, store manager at the UCSD Bike Shop.

"All that," Wells says. "The big things are the headset [bearing assembly that connects the fork to the frame] and the bottom bracket [bearing system that cranks and pedals rotate around]. They need special tools."

Wells is a Grossmont High and UCSD graduate, finished with a biology degree and a desire not to work in a lab. Since he raced bikes throughout school, he got a job in a bike shop. "Within a couple years I was managing the old Adams Avenue bike store."

The store closed in 2000. Thereupon, Wells sold motorcycles, worked in the stock market, and traveled. "A friend of mine told me about a UCSD bike-shop job and I thought, *Well, I can do that.* I've been here eight years."

All right, he's a pro. I wonder, "Every job has a pain-in-the-ass part to it. Which part is it for a bike mechanic?"

"Wal-Mart-type bikes," Wells says. "People think they can bring one in for a tune-up and it's going to become a quality bike. We can do a little bit to it, but the brakes don't work, and they're never going to work. It's never going to shift well."

I ask, "What's the difference between a good-quality cheap bike versus a poor-quality cheap bike?"

"Aluminum cranks and a good bottom bracket," Wells says. "What you see on Wal-Mart-type bikes are one-piece steel cranks and bad bearings in the bottom bracket. You see welded frames that are stamped and pinned together. The frame is poorly manufactured. Brakes are steel, which makes them bendy and flexy. The nicer bikes have aluminum ones that are a bit stiffer and lighter. More responsive. Things feel better, stop better."

I've been wanting to ask this: "What is the deal with bike shops? There is an attitude of preciousness. Annoyingly self-important. You're treated as if it's a favor for a sales clerk to talk to you. That's what it's like from the customer end. What's it like from your end, looking out?"

"That's a good question." Wells actually stops talking and thinks. I am impressed. He says, "Without trying to sound like a snobby, elitist bike-mechanic guy, I don't think people understand what goes into it. There is an

expectation that a bike shouldn't cost much to repair.

"People don't want to pay for the work that it takes. Auto repairs, you expect the parts to be expensive. You expect the mechanic to take a long time on it. But, cars are very modular and it's not as involved, maybe, as repairing some things on a bike. On a car, you unbolt something, slap on a new one. Whereas, making an old bike work is more of an art. I don't think that's appreciated. You don't get a lot of respect from customers."

"What do you mean, 'It's a work of art?'"

"The bike industry has gone modular, disposable, things are becoming more system-engineered," Wells says. "So, when the system fails, you chuck it and get a new one. Older bikes are different."

"Here's an example: the bottom bracket bearings on a bike. Twenty years ago you could replace individual bearings in the bottom bracket — you could replace the spindle. Little parts, totally replaceable, totally inexpensive. About 15 years ago they introduced this cartridge bottom bracket. Totally compatible with the cranks that you had, but the bottom bracket was a one-piece assembly. So, the spindles, the bearings, everything is one piece, and instead of being a \$10 spindle, it's a \$35 bottom bracket."

"One thing goes out, you have to toss everything?"

"Yeah," Wells says. "So, that was fine for five years. Then they decided they were going to change the interface between the crank and the bottom bracket. Now, you had to replace the crank and the bottom bracket together. What we lost as consumers was the ability to replace and repair it cheaply by ourselves."

"The latest thing is the crank and the bottom bracket are integrated; it's one piece. Now, instead of a crank set for \$75, a bottom bracket for \$50, you have a \$250 set."

"Now, the wheel is designed as a unit so if a spoke fails, you have to replace the whole wheel versus replacing a spoke or a rim that didn't cost much. Now, you have a \$700 wheel set you've got to replace."

"The next step you'll see is the crank, bottom bracket, and headset will be integrated into the frame. So, if your bearings fail on your crank or your bottom bracket, you're not just replacing your crank or your bottom bracket, you're replacing the *whole* bike."

## The Vegas Line

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NEW ENGLAND	3	<b>Thursday</b>	41	N.Y. Jets
		<b>Sunday</b>		
ATLANTA	5 ½		51	Denver
MIAMI	10 ½		38 ½	Oakland
N.Y. GIANTS	6 ½		42	Baltimore
INDIANAPOLIS	8 ½		49 ½	Houston
Tennessee	3		39 ½	JACKSONVILLE
GREEN BAY	5		NL	Chicago
Philadelphia	9		42 ½	CINCINNATI
New Orleans	4 ½		48	KANSAS CITY
CAROLINA	14		39 ½	Detroit
TAMPA BAY	3 ½		39 ½	Minnesota
SAN FRANCISCO	6		44 ½	St. Louis
Arizona	3		49	SEATTLE
PITTSBURGH	4		43	San Diego
Dallas	1 ½		45	WASHINGTON
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BUFFALO	5 ½		42	Cleveland

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**Poway vs. Carlsbad**

Posted November 8, 2008, 2:58 a.m.

League unbeaten Poway and Carlsbad met Friday night at La Costa Canyon High School. A missed extra point was the difference as the Titans held off the Lancers for a 27-26 win.

"That was a total team effort," said Poway senior Brett Thomas. "Shout out goes to the defense. We stood them up tonight." With the win, Poway (6-3, 4-0 Palomar) clinched at least a share of the Palomar League title.

Friday night's game wasn't settled until Thomas knocked down a Carlsbad Hail Mary attempt in the end zone as time expired. Thomas took no chances, batting the ball directly to the ground.

"I just tried to get up as high as I could and just hit it down as hard as I could," Thomas said. "I did and we got the 'W.'"

The first half was back and forth, and Carlsbad looked like it would go into the break with a lead. But Poway's defense stopped Carlsbad receiver Ashston Barbour at the one-yard line as time ran off the clock, keeping the game tied at 13 at the half.



Carlsbad senior Ashston Barbour

**Serra — kings of the comeback**

Posted November 7, 2008, 12:51 a.m.

Some advice for those planning on attending a Serra game: don't leave early if the Conquistadors fall behind. Serra has picked up three of their six wins this season with improbable comebacks.

"It's all about heart, really," said Conquistadors head coach Brian Basteys.

In their last two games, the Conquistadors have overcome fourth-quarter deficits to beat La Jolla and Point Loma. Against La Jolla on Oct. 24, Serra tight end Colton Bradley caught a 25-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Arthur Stewart with 35 seconds left to lift the Conquistadors to a 21-17 win in which they trailed 17-7 in the final quarter.

The following week, the Conquistadors trailed Point Loma by four before embarking on a fourth-quarter scoring drive that required four fourth-down conversions. Serra's defense then forced a Pointers fumble out of the end zone to seal the 34-31 win.

Quarterback Stewart: "We practice these situations. We do two-minute drills every Tuesday so we just know we are going to get the job done."



Serra head coach Brian Basteys

**Getting recruited in Web 2.0 world**

Posted November 4, 2008, 10:54 a.m.

Here are a couple Internet-age marketing tactics that will help differentiate a player and get him noticed by college coaches...

1) Upload your highlight videos and game film clips to video sharing sites like YouTube, Google Video, AOL Video, Yahoo Video, and *MetaCafe.com*. Make sure to list your name, contact info, school, coach, height, weight, 40 time, gpa, and player stats in the video description area. Include your name, highschool,

and position in the "title" area.

2) Join the new high school athlete social networks that are popping up daily. Some of the more popular networks are: *Tackle.com*, *TruPreps.com*, and *HighSchoolPlayBook.com*.

3) Comment on high school football message boards and forums, promoting your name and player information. Some of these popular message boards can be found at *Scout.com*, *CaliforniaPreps.com*, and *MaxPreps.com*.

4) Create your own player website that markets your videos, photos, profile, athletic and academic information directly to college coaches and the world. You can even track which coaches opened your email! Players also don't need to worry that they're getting overlooked because a coach misplaces their game tape in a hectic recruiting office (where there are 1000s of player DVDs and tapes).

By ryanmettee26

**Comments**

1. Thanks for mentioning Tackle! Send us a note at feedback at *tackle.com* for more info.

By Tackle 7:28 a.m., Nov 5, 2008

2. *beRecruited.com* is the largest online recruiting network in the country, with more than 12,000 college coaches who are registered with the site.

By beRecruited 4:31 a.m., Nov 10, 2008

3. The annual meeting between the Cathedral Catholic DONS and the St. Augustine Saints is a San Diego Prep football tradition. Overcoming a 21-7 deficit at the end of the first quarter, the Cathedral DONS tied the game (21-21) by halftime and then roared back in the second half scoring 35 more points while containing the Saints passing offense and giving up a measly nine points. Final score 56-30.

By JustWondering 11:23 p.m., Nov 7, 2008

4. Fallbrook played mistake-prone football and La Costa Canyon capitalized on it. See a muffed double-screen pass intercepted for a touchdown by La Costa Canyon's Paul Quessenberry here: *RawHideNation.com*.

By ryanmettee26 11:35 p.m., Nov 9, 2008



Carlsbad quarterback Michael Leonard receives treatment for cramps

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Neighborhood: University Heights  
Age: 25  
Occupation: Food Server



2nd place: "Giselle, Guatay, the Airstream, and the Chief"  
Author: Patricia Alfano  
Neighborhood: Guatay  
Age: Over 40  
Occupation: Administrative Coordinator



3rd place: "There She Goes"  
Author: Adam Rusch  
Neighborhood: North Park  
Age: 30  
Occupation: Bored computer worker/musician

Winners from July 2008

Write about your favorite neighborhood character, the ugliest house or street, local politics, crosstown rivalries, town bullies, etc.

Entries must be submitted through and will be published on the Neighborhood pages of the [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com) website.

If space allows, we will publish entries in the printed version of the *Reader*.

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Photos and YouTube links to videos are welcome but not necessary to win.

Go to [SDReader.com/neighborhoods](http://SDReader.com/neighborhoods), find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.

**Deadline for this month is midnight, November 30.**

## SHEEP AND GOATS

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**Staff size:** 7  
**Sunday school enrollment:** 10-15  
**Annual budget:** NA  
**Weekly giving:** NA  
**Singles program:** no  
**Dress:** mostly formal  
**Diversity:** mostly African-American, some Hispanic  
**Sunday worship:** 10 a.m.  
**Length of reviewed service:** 2 hours, 15 minutes  
**Website:** [christiancompassioncenter.org](http://christiancompassioncenter.org)

"It's a family thing we got going," said the man in the long, gray plaid jacket, the silver of his rings matching that of the religious medallion hanging outside his vest. "We're concerned about each other."

"Fear not, for I have redeemed thee," read a man to the five souls present at service's opening. (That number would swell considerably over the next hour.) "You got what you got because you are precious in His sight."

The funksome music was recorded, but Edwinall Ballard stepped forward to the mic and sang along, sometimes taking the part of the soloist, sometimes that of the choir. "He's given me a second chance/ Come on let's praise Him in advance." "It takes faith to praise Him when everything ain't looking your way," she proclaimed, her voice getting raw from pitch and emotion. "You start praising Him, and the enemy is looking at you, dumb-founded.... All we have to do is put all our trust and faith in God, not in anyone else. I don't care who it is. I don't care what's going on in our nation; put your faith and trust in God because that's where our help comes from.... You have to believe it to receive it!"

Ballard prayed over the golden bucket containing the tithes: "Honor the Lord with your possessions, and with the first fruits of all your increase, so your barns will be filled with plenty and your vats overflow with new wine.... Father, we thank You for translating us from the kingdom of darkness...into a kingdom of peace and a kingdom of abundance."

And she prayed over Pastor Byrd and his wife before they made their entrance. "Dear God, we just ask You to touch our man of God and our woman of God as they prepare to come forth.... We thank You for the anointing on them that will destroy every yoke."

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable unto You," prayed Byrd. "I'm going to stick to the Word — no politics this morning, praise God." But the news of anti-Prop 8 protests outside Saddleback Church led him to slip in a comment at the outset: "This was a Christian

nation. It's *still* a Christian nation. The Constitution is so hard for ungodly people to interpret because it was written by men inspired of God."

He led the congregation in a Bible Anthem, phrase by phrase: "This is my Bible. It's spelled B-i-b-l-e. It stands for Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.... Today I will be taught the word of God.... I will never be the same. No, never, never, never. I will never be the same, in Jesus' name, Amen."

His sermon was a rambling meditation on Paul's discovery of the law of sin in his members, warring against the (higher) law in his mind. Encouraged by the congregation, Byrd rambled right along with his thoughts, back and forth across the stage and through personal anecdotes, Scripture passages, and even the occasional line from a song. "I don't blame the world for what it's doing," he thundered at the conclusion. "I blame us for not taking our rightful authority and getting the word in their

hearts. Sinners are going to do what sinners are supposed to do because that's all they know, and that's to please their members. Because they are under the law of sin and death. And guess what, born-again believers? If you don't exercise the right and power and authority that God has given you, *you're* under the law of sin and death, and you will receive the same reward the sinner will receive. You don't go to heaven because you go to church. You go to heaven because you get your life right through the Word of God!"

After the altar call for the unsaved, Byrd made another for those needing healing, and a man stepped forward. "What do you need, sir? New pancreas..." Byrd bent his head close to the man's midsection. "Father...we seek total restoration of his pancreas, in the name of Jesus." Then to the man: "Your faith in God

has made you whole."

Before the dismissal, Byrd made a final announcement. "I thank you for going above and beyond by \$600 last Sunday; it helped us catch up on some things. At present, we're under budget by \$1200, and we need at least \$500 to answer this week's obligations. I'm not going to have another offering or anything like that, I'm just going to ask you to be obedient to God. We believe it, we receive it, it's done. Praise God."

What happens when we die?

"Well, it depends on whether or not you're a born-again believer," said Byrd. "If you are, you're supposed to go to heaven until we enter into the millennium. If you're a sinner, you go to hell. It's as simple as that."

— Matthew Lickona

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BONIS E. BYRD, JR.

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★★

#### Sermon

content.....★★  
delivery.....★★★

Liturgy.....★★½  
Music

congregational.....★★  
band.....★★

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# Best Buys

—EVE KELLY

My love Patrick is a man of many talents: handyman, gardener, chef, athlete, and baker. Goodness, he even sings opera. Last week he added another skill to his list of accomplishments: hairstylist.

The economy's squeezing the Kelly budget a bit, so I thought I'd let Patrick have a go with my hair. "I've only cut men's hair," he warned, "and that was in college for beer money." But two glasses of pinot grigio had me feeling adventurous. I ended up with a fantastic haircut. I told my friends I went to "Patrizio's Salon."

The sewing scissors Patrizio used on me were a bit clumsy. If my man is to realize his potential to become the next Vidal Sassoon, then he's going to need a decent pair of haircutting shears. But I wouldn't know a decent pair of shears if they jumped up and cut my earlobe off.

"I like Hikari scissors [\$300–\$700 at hair shows]," said Erin Hall-Olivier, stylist at Tops in Mission Hills. "They are hand-made, really delicate. For someone buying scissors for home use, I would recommend a shorter blade; a longer one, you run more of a risk of chopping your hand. And don't buy scissors with plastic handles because usually they aren't aligned right. Go to a beauty-supply shop to buy your scissors."

"The brand that I've used the most over the past few years is called Matsuzaki," said Rhys, co-owner of Jet Rhys Hair Salon in Hillcrest. Rhys has been cutting hair for 30 years. "They are manufactured in Japan, and they're probably the best scissor-makers in the world. The art of making blades in Japan goes back a couple of thousand years, so they are skilled at making really great edges.

"The scissors that I use run in the \$400 range, but they make things out of titanium and cobalt that go for up to \$1000 a pair. [The price of scissors] is governed by several things, such as the grade of steel — most would certainly be an alloy. They'd always be tempered or ice-tempered.

The other part is the way that they are sharpened. When Japanese scissors or better scissors are manufactured, they are always finished by hand. They hollow ground the blades, which really can only effectively be done by hand, and it gives you the finest edge that you can possibly get."

Rhys added, "If you really want to go into the stratosphere of scissors, you can go to Japan, and they can measure your hand; they will videotape your movement, and make scissors for you."

"You don't want to buy a pair of scissors through the mail. You want to feel those pair of scissors in your hand. What I find great might not work in someone else's hand."

With regard to handle shape, "There are full offset, semi-offset, and standard. And off-

*I wouldn't know a decent pair of shears if they jumped up and cut my earlobe off.*

set is where the handle that your thumb goes into is actually set a little shorter than the handle where your third finger goes into. The idea is if you open and close a pair of scissors, your thumb actually ends a little shorter, so by having a standard fit, you are forcing your thumb into an unnatural position."

With regard to blades, "Most hairdressers will use somewhere between a 4.5- and a 5.5-inch blade. Over the years, I found that the 5-inch blade works really well. For me, a longer blade is great if you are doing something that is a very long sort of blunt line, that you need lots of reach with. But if you are doing something more intricate and layered closer to the head, using a long blade is difficult.

"They say good scissors should last around 700 to 800 haircuts [before sharpening]. For me, I can go a year before I sharpen them. But

I never quite like the next edge, it's never quite as great as the first one. If you think about a

piece of metal being sharpened down, and it comes to an edge, as you take that edge down, that metal is getting thicker, and you start to feel some of that. The first sharpening is great, even maybe the second, but after a while, instead of hollow grinding, you are almost beveling your edges to

get to that sharpness, and a beveled edge doesn't work as well. So I am one of those people that tends to buy a new pair of scissors rather than sharpen."

If you do take your scissors to be sharpened, "Your \$300 pair of scissors can be ruined in an instant if it is incorrectly sharpened. They must not be machine sharpened; they must be done on flat, wet stones by someone who has been trained at sharpening."

For cleaning, "Always clean out the little hairs because hair gets trapped where the blades come together. I only use my fingers to do that; there is always a little natural oil on your fingers. I don't wipe them with water. I have a little leather piece of cloth that I use to wipe them over."

For home use, Rhys says Cricket, Eclipse, or Fromm are decent brands and can be found at Sally's Beauty Supply. "I would never use a serrated edge, but it's good for a person that doesn't cut hair; it has a little bit more grip. It will hold that hair as you are trimming into your bangs a little bit better." The six-inch Cricket Gold Series Shear Collection at [SallyBeauty.com](http://SallyBeauty.com) runs \$129.99. The site offers the 5.25-inch Fromm Swing shears for \$39.99. The 5.5-inch Eclipse Cushion Grip Silver Series shears run \$27.99.

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1. Rhys

2. Matsuzaki scissors



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by Barbarella

*Just because everything is different doesn't mean anything has changed.*

— Irene Peter

I'm not the type to mount a soapbox and demand credit for my accomplishments, but in this case, it never could have happened without me; for better or worse, I accept full responsibility. As with most life-altering occasions, this one began with an exchange of information, and I was the one doing the exchanging.

"Jen's looking for a new place," I said, interjecting the nugget as a non sequitur amidst the conversation my friend Ollie and I had been having about the improbable abundance of lint in his belly button.

"No shit, huh?" Ollie has always been adept at following the sudden lane changes on my subject-congested talkways. "I wouldn't mind moving into a bigger place and splitting the rent," he said. Until that moment,

I hadn't considered the possibility of my two bestest friends living under the same roof, but once aware of it, I realized no other living situation would do.

The next day, while walking with Jen back to my place after a jaunt through the zoo, I extolled the features of Hillcrest. Since I've known her, Jen has lived between 20 and 50

minutes away. It would be much more convenient to do those things we love to do together — catch horror flicks, go hiking, and visit the zoo — if she lived closer. As we passed one manicured apartment complex after another, I told my friend how great it is to have so many unique restaurants, coffee shops, stores, and clubs within walking distance and waxed rhapsodic about how pleasant it is to visit Balboa Park regularly without having to deal with parking.

Once I felt the prep work was complete, I commenced phase two of my plan. "You know, Ollie told me he's looking to move out of Meth-ville," I said. "He said he's thinking about getting a place around here, maybe going in on a place with someone." Ollie had actually suggested a handful of hoods he'd be willing to move to,

but I saw no harm in a little self-serving embellishment.

"Huh," said Jen. When she'd finished processing my words, she said, "I bet Ollie would be a good roommate."

"I know he would," I said, jumping on the opportunity to position Ollie as the thoughtful and considerate, quiet and mindful chap I knew him to be. Jen took this in with another "Huh," and by the inflection of this one, I knew she had begun to take the idea seriously. The seeds were planted. Now nature would take its course, and all I had to do was sit back and wait for the harvest. I smiled inwardly and changed the subject, so as not to overplay my investment in my friends' future residence.

For a few weeks, they kept me in the loop. Jen told me she emailed Ollie to confirm his interest, and Ollie told me he and Jen had agreed a roommate situation would be mutually beneficial. One Saturday, after they'd spent the morning looking at apartments, they met up with David and me for lunch. When we parted ways — David and I back home, Ollie and Jen back to hunting — I was left with a nagging feeling that something wasn't quite right, but I couldn't pinpoint what it was.

I went about my business, oblivious to the subsequent Saturdays during which my friends narrowed their search for a new apartment. The day before I left for Spain, I was chatting with Ollie on the phone when our conversation turned to movies we wanted to see. "This *How to Lose Friends and*

*Alienate People* one looks interesting," I said.

"That's what I thought, but it was crap," said Ollie.

"You've seen it?" I said, allowing more astonishment to slip into my tone than I'd intended. Despite my cognizance of my friend's...let's call it "autonomy," I tend to consider him as belonging to me, in a way I like to think of as more loving than dysfunctional; I've always assumed a sense of ownership over my friends. I am reluctant to use the word "possessive," but when Ollie responded that he had caught the flick with Jen, that nagging feeling returned. My two BFFs — two people who had previously only spent time together when I'd invited them both to the same event — had gone to a movie. *Without me*. Finally I had a name for that nagging feeling — it was foreboding. The new dynamic I'd created was going rogue.

Once on the plane, I suppressed my consternation. While David and I toiled around Spain and Portugal for two and a half weeks, I liked to imagine my friends sitting in their respective homes, doing absolutely nothing that was remotely fun, waiting for me to return so that their lives could continue. But such was not the case. By the time I got back, Ollie and Jen had not only agreed on a place, they'd already moved into it.

My disappointment dissolved the moment Jen explained to me that her new apartment was only three blocks away from mine. This was what I wanted — my

**I did it with a wink-wink, nudge-nudge tone of voice, but Ollie smelled the blood in the water.**

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favorite buddies within walking distance. Taking advantage of this new convenience, Ollie and Jen walked over to my place one night to hang out and watch a movie; after a few drinks and much commentary on how unsatisfactory was *The Golden Compass*, the two walked back to their new place.

The following morning, again capitalizing on her proximity to me and to Balboa Park, Jen suggested we explore some of the newly marked hiking trails. We were sliding down a dirt path above Pershing Drive when Jen started to giggle.

"What?" I said.

"Oh, nothing, I just remembered something that happened last night," she answered.

"Tell me," I said.

"Well, it probably won't seem as funny to you, but for whatever reason, Ollie and I were in

stitches over it." Jen went on to explain what was, indeed, an unfunny story about her walk home with Ollie. They had stopped off at a dive bar called Pecs for a pitcher of beer; while walking the remaining block back to their new home, Jen warned Ollie not to step in a pile of noodles, which reminded them of the dog poo Jen had stepped in the day they'd filled out the application for their place, and from there, it was all cackles and gasps. "We just couldn't stop laughing," she concluded.

"Yeah, you were right," I said. "That's one of those 'had to be there' sorts of things." *Now they're establishing their own inside jokes*, I thought, and increased my pace for a heartier workout.

I knew it was silly of me to feel so uncomfortable about two of my friends developing their

own friendship with one another. What was I afraid of? It was as though I had regressed to eighth grade — it was in that school year that my group of friends had a secret meeting and decided to oust me for no other reason than (as I later discovered) one of them wanted to test the strength of her influence. Certain insecurities — especially those that are reinforced in adolescence — are hard to shake.

"Do you think that Jen and Ollie are going to become best friends and then not want to hang out with me anymore?" I tried to sound cavalier, but David was able to read the sincerity in my question.

"No," he said.

"Yeah, yeah, I know. I'm just kidding anyway," I said.

I made the mistake of bringing it up with Ollie over the phone. "You guys aren't going to be exclud-

ing me from stuff, right?" I did it with a wink-wink, nudge-nudge tone of voice, but Ollie smelled the blood in the water.

"We already have," he said. My heart sank. I knew it, said the little girl in me. But then he continued, "We went to Disneyland and saw the fairies. We rode unicorns and talked to mermaids, all kinds of stuff. We've been scheming to push you out of the trio. Actually, right now I've got to head out; I think Jen and I are going to go pet really fluffy baby animals. Not sure where; she said she met someone this week who had a farm or worked in the zoo or something."

"You're such a dick," I said through a smile.

"Yup. Oh, and we're going to get a pedicure by a duck pond too," said Ollie, relishing his new torture device.

"Now that's just cruel," I said.

In a show of mercy, Ollie said, "Actually, we're watching *Freaks* right now, but we're about to pop in *Female Trouble*; Jen's making me eat pepperoni pizza with hot sauce and strawberry jam on it. Why don't you come over?"

Excited at the prospect of weird pizza

accompanied by an even weirder movie with my friends, I hopped to my feet and said, "I'll be right there." ■

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Lisa Purdum



Jessica Sobel



Sara French



CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

# Hi, Connie. We're ready for you.

## Human Lab Rats

She could get me out, but she doesn't want to. The brain-imaging machine costs her boss \$1500 per hour, and she has just a few more tests to run on me, research volunteer number 39, in a study called "How do sleeping pills affect pain in the brain?" The breezy confidence of her tone is undermined by a plea. She only recently graduated from UCSD, and this is her first full-time job.

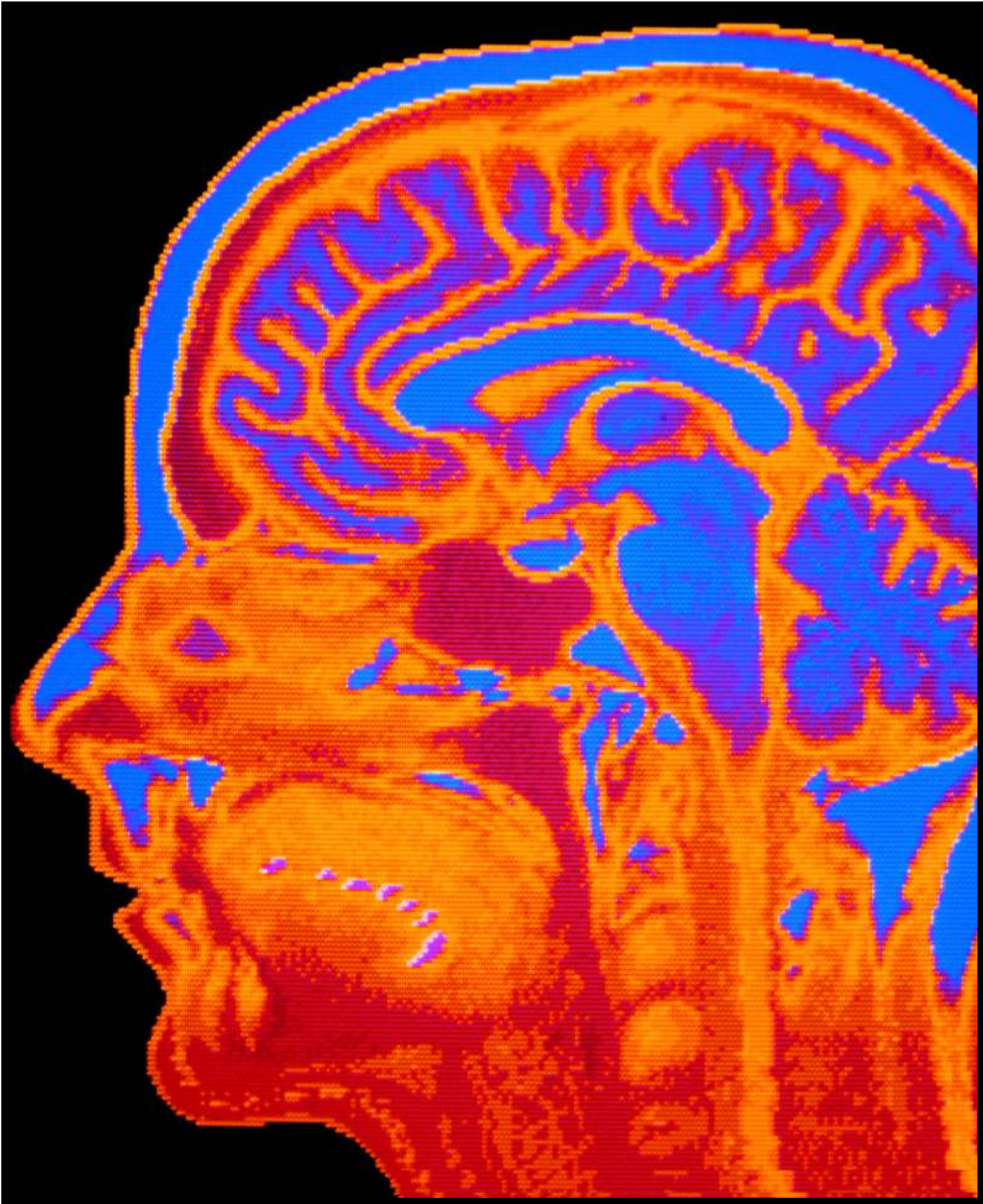
"Sure," I say.

But I am not sure. I cannot turn my

head. The walls are getting way too close. My only diversion is the screen of the offending laptop, visible through angled mirrors. Screen savers flash onto the screen each time Kosheleva reboots: island sunsets, Alpine skiers, then "fatal error." Palm trees. Skiers. Crash. Again and again. Sweat trickles from behind my ear down the back of my neck. I try deep breathing, but there does not seem to be enough room for my lungs to expand fully.

**"This drug could make  
a huge difference to a lot of women."**





My journey to the lab began with the want ads for medical research volunteers in the *Reader*. Here, you learn that the same condition that makes you suffer also makes you valuable: Worry too much? Are you...tired of dealing with dry eyes, allergic to milk, afraid to show your feet, self-conscious, constipated, shy? Are you smoking too much pot, a heavy drinker who wants to stop, a heavy drinker who does

not want to stop? In some cases, you don't even have to have a disease. All they want is your 18-to-45-year-old healthy body to test the safety of a drug or other therapy that, until now, has been tested only in animals.

If national Harris Poll figures are any indication, 10 percent of the people aged 18 to 65, or about 90,000 San Diegans, have participated in or will participate in a clinical trial, experiments that test new treatments for a dis-

ease. That means 90 percent haven't. They either do not qualify or are happy to let someone else do it.

So who are these people who make up the 10 percent? How desperate do they have to be? How far are they willing to go for the chance of treatment or compensation or the chance to help in the "development of new medical advancement for those who need it most," as one advertisement read? And can we trust them?

These questions first occurred to me during my years in pharmaceutical marketing. In those days, one of my jobs was to turn study findings into value propositions. The job was made easier because the data came in the form of comforting, faceless numbers, as in "less than 0.2 percent of people" taking a particular drug experienced arrhythmia, dry mouth, or death, or "85 percent of people experienced significant improvement in their symptoms."

It wasn't until I moved to San Diego and was confronted by the weekly catalog of clinical research ads that it dawned on me how close to home these people could be. Curiosity took hold. What would it take to be one of them?

Turns out insomnia and back pain would do just fine. I had both in the wake of an accident a year ago. My doctor did what he could, but I

still hurt and I was still tired. The ads began to speak directly to me. "Not sleeping?" "Lower back pain?" Maybe there was something new I could try. I combed the *Reader*, then craigslist, and then clinical trial websites for studies that addressed at least one of my problems

jects, were in the process of recruiting, or had just closed in San Diego, according to a count on *clinicaltrials.gov*, a clearinghouse for trials conducted nationally. This represents about 25 percent of trials in California and virtually equals the number listed for the entire state

## Elena tells me I am patient 39 of the 40 she must recruit.

without much risk and without a lot of inconvenience. Before long, I was auditioning for my first job as a human guinea pig.

Human guinea pigs are essential to the livelihoods of thousands of people right here in San Diego. As of June, 2454 clinical trials were preparing to recruit sub-

jects, were in the process of recruiting, or had just closed in San Diego, according to a count on *clinicaltrials.gov*, a clearinghouse for trials conducted nationally. This represents about 25 percent of trials in California and virtually equals the number listed for the entire state

of Connecticut. It does not even reflect all the opportunities in San Diego because not all sponsors list studies with *clinicaltrials.gov*. All the players are here: more than 500 biotech companies (many of them partners with the large pharmaceutical firms that fund most drug studies), doctors, hos-

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pitals, academic institutions, nurses, recruiters, study coordinators, middlemen. All, however, are ultimately dependent on those willing to volunteer their bodies, minds, and time.

\* \* \*

My role in the San Diego research economy is not top of mind when Kosheleva interviews me during the telephone "prescreen." I just want her to pick me. I'd already been rejected from my first study choice. It had seemed perfect: a treatment for insomnia that did not involve drugs or anything invasive, and I could bring home up to \$350 for my trouble. All I had to do was meet the criteria, one of which was to fall between the ages of 18 and 50. I lied. What difference would a few months make? And it was all fine, we had made our first appointment, and then the recruiter said, "Just bring an ID with you." I later learned that not all recruiters card volunteers. But I confessed, and we canceled the appointment.

So I tell the truth to Kosheleva. She asks me about my sleeping patterns, whether I am using antidepressants or anti-anxiety medications, how much alcohol I consume, and whether or not I can handle the confinement of an MRI machine or, more specifically, a functional MRI machine, one that can take moving images of the brain, videos, while the brain is involved in specific functions.

The idea behind this study is that pain and sleep problems often go hand in hand. Addressing one problem may help the other. But it will also help UCSD researchers in a quest to understand how the machine itself can be used as a tool to match patients with the right treatment for anxiety, depression or, in this case, pain.

The first brain scan will shoot a video of the blood flow to the amygdala and the insula, parts of my brain that are involved in processing emotions, anxiety, and pain perception. The second scan will take images of the same areas after one week of taking an insomnia drug, eszopiclone, better known as Lunesta.

I might receive a placebo, a sugar pill, as some call imposter drugs used for comparison in clinical research.

But I have an equal chance of receiving Lunesta, an FDA-approved drug, to see if it helps me sleep. Either way, the study will be relatively quick and easy: only three visits of about three hours each, a couple of brain scans, and a week of taking pills.

The brain scans do not

loom large as a problem. Over the past year I have had two MRIs. They weren't fun, but they were over quickly. The pay, \$275, is not bad — about \$30 per hour if I get through all three sessions. I will also receive a picture of my brain.

But I am not yet in. The

final judge will be the lead investigator, Dr. Martin Paulus, professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry and the Laboratory of Biological Dynamics and Theoretical Medicine at UCSD. Kosheleva tells me she will email me shortly to let me know if I have made

it to the next round, the assessment.

\* \* \*

Google "human guinea pig" and you'll find plenty of reasons to have second thoughts about this line of work. Over the past few years, a steady stream of articles and columns

has raised old and new ethical questions triggered by the increasing concentration of trials in the hands of industry and has assailed the lack of independent oversight.

The primary focus remains on the pharmaceutical industry, which, in 2006, spent a reported \$55 million

A GG thanksgiving...  
pass the scandal, please.

# GOSSIP GIRL

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on research and development. About two-thirds of research-and-development funds are spent on clinical trials, making them the most expensive element of the R&D process, particularly when you consider that only one in five drugs that goes into these trials is actually approved by the FDA.

As recently as the early 1990s, academic institutions conducted over 80 percent of the clinical research for new pharmaceutical products.

Today, more than 70 percent of trials are conducted in company-owned clinics or subcontracted to clinical research organizations, physicians, or hospitals. Academic institutions typically use their own internal review boards to oversee the rights and safety of human volunteers. For studies conducted in the private sector, this responsibility is assumed by companies called central internal review boards. These are paid directly or indirectly

by the pharmaceutical companies sponsoring the research.

Among the lowlights: controversy over Eli Lilly's

the country's largest clinical research organizations, was charged with extensive violations of research volunteer rights, including paying

who in 2006 suffered multiple organ failure and lapsed into comas after being injected with a drug intended to treat leukemia and autoimmune

nosed with cancer, and new safety guidelines for testing high-risk drugs are in place in Europe.

In the summer of 2005, controversy hit closer to home when Matt Potter raised questions on these pages regarding the testing in San Diego of PolyHeme, a blood substitute intended for use in trauma victims. Study sponsors did not appear to follow guidelines intended to inform the public and ensure that the risk was spread over

reliance on homeless alcoholics to test its products in the 1990s. In 2006, SFBC International, then one of

undocumented workers to participate in clinical trials. Then there are the six volunteers at a British research site

diseases. Until that time, the drug had been tested only in animals. One man has reportedly since been diag-

## "I'm looking for that one pill that will work."

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### RESEARCH STUDIES

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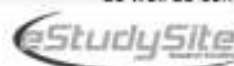
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To qualify, you must:

- Have iron deficiency anemia
- Be 18 or older
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GABLES.  
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a representative group, not just the poorest. These guidelines were established because guinea pigs in this study could not give permission; they were unconscious. Results of the nationwide trial, announced in late 2007, show a significantly higher death rate among people who had received PolyHeme than those who had received blood.

The fact remains that clinical trials represent the only way for millions to receive new drugs and procedures that can help them. Those willing to go first do not fall into convenient, easy-to-peg niches. Surveys of research volunteers identify a mix of factors that go into the decision to sign on for studies, including money, referrals from trusted doctors or friends, access to free or cutting-edge treatment, and the desire to help others while helping themselves.

The relative importance of each factor is not always clear. One 2005 survey conducted by Harris Interactive reports that 72 percent of adults would be "very likely" to consider a trial if they had a terminal illness. However, only about 5 percent of cancer patients in the United States, terminal or not, participate in clinical trials.

Money will have more impact on the decision of an unemployed or uninsured person than it might on someone like Lisa, a 37-year-old mother of two and one of several local lab rats willing to share their insights.

"My husband thought I was crazy. He thinks trials are a really risky thing to do," she says.

This might be something any husband would say, but it has particular resonance coming from a man who works for a local drug-discovery company. His livelihood is tied to the successful outcomes of human trials involving drugs his company develops. So is Lisa's, for that matter. At her company, she tests new drug formulations on animals, but the winners among them go on to be tested in humans.

We chat while blood flows from her forearm into one of four vials. Nearby, her study coordinator takes notes. The vials will go to a lab, and in a week or so she will find out if she makes it into her second clinical trial. This is Lisa's assessment, and she wants in.

"It worked last time. It made a huge difference." The test drug, a synthetic hormone, has been available since the '70s and is used to treat endometriosis, a condition in which tissue similar to the lining of the uterus

grows outside the womb, causing intense pain.

"I was going to the emergency room once a month for pain meds. There was nothing I could do. I couldn't walk. I couldn't eat. My husband would have to take care

of me. I would have to take time off from work."

She came across the first study when she was researching her surgical options. In that study, the hormone was delivered via a vaginal ring. The idea behind both stud-

ies is that if the drug is delivered locally, instead of in its current pill form, the side effects would be less severe. These side effects include hair loss or growth in undesirable areas, weight gain, voice changes, loss of libido,

and a host of others.

For the four months of the first study, Lisa had little or no pain. She still feels better than she used to. This time, the company wants to test the drug in a vaginal suppository. The potential down-

## RESEARCH STUDIES

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side of participating in the trial? She might get the placebo while other study participants get the real drug. But Lisa is philosophical about that.

"If you have a good local delivery system, this drug could make a huge difference to a lot of women. If I can be part of it, I want to be. I will be as happy about this product getting to market as any of the products I work on at my company."

### Questions More Invasive Than Needles

I arrive for my own assessment with the kind of rejection anxiety usually triggered by job interviews. But I relax

when Kosheleva meets me on the walkway outside the maze of UCSD research offices off Villa La Jolla Drive. An armload of papers jig-

suddenly stacked on the table in front of me, an imposing four inches. Hurdle number one.

On the plus side, two

## The big money is in the higher-risk drug trials

gles as she shakes my hand, and a few tendrils of brown hair slip out of her ponytail.

On the way to her office, Kosheleva tells me I am patient 39 of the 40 she must recruit. I represent the last lap before the finish line. But before either of us can get too excited, there are some hurdles to clear.

She leads me through a door into a cubbyhole crowded with desks, computers, and chairs full of slumping students staring intently at monitors. Through another door, we enter a room the size of a closet, and the pile of papers and folders in Kosheleva's hands are

vouchers worth a total of \$75 lie next to the stack, and these will be mine as soon as I fill out the papers and submit to the physical scheduled for later on. Even if I am found unsuitable for the study, I get to keep this money.

Later, I learn that one way would-be guinea pigs scam the system is to say whatever it takes in the pre-screen so they can make the assessment. They get a free physical and the first installment of their money, knowing from the outset that they will not make the cut.

But I am still an innocent, so I smile at the vouchers and get ready to dig into



RESEARCH STUDIES



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### and sometimes you don't make it??

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To possibly qualify:

- 1) Male or female, 18 years or older
- 2) Eight or more trips to the bathroom and at least one episode of an urgent need to use the bathroom

Participants may receive at no cost:

- 1) Study-related examinations and consultation by a board-certified physician
- 2) Labs, EKG and all study medications
- 3) Compensation for your time and travel

Interested in more information, call:

**Medical Center for Clinical Research**  
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Have your migraines become more difficult to treat? A clinical research study is underway to evaluate an **inhaled migraine therapy** in men and women with at least a 1-year history of migraine (with or without aura). All participants will undergo pulmonary function testing and echocardiogram, both included with other study-related procedures and study medication, at no cost to the participant.

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- Male or female, 18-65 years of age
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**To qualify for participation in this research study, you must:**

- Be at least 18 years old
- Have trouble staying asleep through the night
- Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

If you qualify and choose to participate in this study, you will receive an initial consultation, study-related examinations and laboratory evaluations, all follow-up visits, and you may receive study medication at no charge to you. Compensation for time and travel provided.



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# Profil

Institute for Clinical Research

the pile of questionnaires in front of me. My answers, Kosheleva explains, will assess my mental health. I later learn that Lunesta is not recommended for use in people with depression or dependencies on drugs or alcohol.

"Look at these first, and let me know if you have any questions," Kosheleva instructs, tapping the top of the pile. "These" turn out to be informed consent documents. My signature means I know what I am getting into. This is when I realize that there are actually two studies, the main one, "How sleeping pills affect pain in the brain," and something called "Genetic polymorphism and human behavior," which

involves an extra blood draw and one questionnaire.

The first document gets my attention with the word "pain." This study will involve pain applied via a "small ceramic plate, about the size of a credit card," as part of the experiment. It won't be enough to damage my skin. I am looking for a little more reassurance than this, and I find it when I read the part that says I can stop the experiment at any time. A final warning tells me I may feel some restlessness or fatigue when filling out questionnaires.

I glance at the stack in front of me as it dawns on me just how long it might take to get through it. But I

am not going to back out now. I sign this form and then, barely reading, the other one too. What is one more vial of blood, one more questionnaire?

Two hours later, I've given blood, passed a Breathalyzer, and submitted to an EKG and a full physical conducted by Dr. Paulus, an intense but considerate man who seems to wear his long title casually. He is unhurried and patient. I like this man, and I like Kosheleva.

However, I have only reduced the stack of questionnaires by half. It isn't just the size of the stack, it is the questions themselves, all multiple choice or rating scales and all designed to make a

## RESEARCH STUDIES

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## Attn: Heavy Drinkers

Researchers at The Scripps Research Institute are working to develop new treatments for people with alcohol problems.

Is your current alcohol use causing problems with your family, your work, your life? If you want to stop drinking, The Pearson Center for Alcoholism and Addiction Research is conducting a clinical trial to help you reach that goal.

Qualified participants receive lab tests, medication or placebo, individual counseling and compensation for travel. All information is confidential.

Call: 858-784-7867 (STOP)  
Or visit: [www.pearsoncenter.org](http://www.pearsoncenter.org)





# Healthy Volunteers

are needed for a vaccine research study. Call us to find out the details & to see if you qualify.



Participants receive up to \$650

Please call for more information  
**291-2321**

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South Bay Treatment Center

## Addiction Research

has investigational medications with related outpatient drug counseling available in a research setting for...

# Methamphetamine or Crystal Meth Users

For more information, call: 1-888-318-2412  
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Sometimes people with type 2 diabetes still have uncontrolled blood sugar levels even with the help of a healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication. If this sounds like you, then you may be eligible to participate in EMERGE — an international clinical research study exploring an investigational medication for type 2 diabetes.

To participate in the study, you should:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a diagnosis of type 2 diabetes
- Have uncontrolled blood sugar levels even with the help of a healthy diet and exercise, with or without medication
- Have not taken insulin for longer than 1 week during the past 6 months

If you are eligible for the study, you will receive study-related care and medication at no cost to you.



To learn more about the EMERGE study, call:  
**AMCR INSTITUTE INC.**  
 Toll-free: 1-888-318-2411  
 info@amcrinstitute.com



Will you be one of them?

**Now Enrolling:**  
 Global Clinical Research  
 Study for Adults With  
**Type 2 Diabetes**

To be eligible, you must be:

- Between 18 and 77 years of age
- Taking metformin (GlucoPhage®)

Participants may receive, at no cost, study-related medical care, study medication or placebo, laboratory work, and evaluations.

*Medical insurance is not necessary to participate.*

*Study participants will be asked to stay overnight at a study site for blood sugar assessments.*



**Please call  
 for information:**

**AMCR Institute, Inc.**  
**1-888-639-9703**

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CL-DD5138 06/08

# Do you suffer from Severe reflux or Heartburn?

We are looking for volunteers to take part in a clinical trial of a new study drug.

You will be medically supervised.

If you are interested in receiving further information, please call

Medical Associates Research Group, Inc.



www.MARGINC.com

**858-277-7177**

This project has been approved by the Medical Associates Research Group ethics committee.

# Are You Trying to Take Better Care of Your Type 2 Diabetes?



All the healthy things you do add up, but sometimes they're still not enough to keep your blood sugar under control. A clinical research study is evaluating how an investigational medication may give you better control of your type 2 diabetes.

**To qualify, you must:**

- Be between 18 and 80 years of age
- Be taking the oral drug, metformin, to treat your type 2 diabetes for three months or longer
- Not have taken any other medication(s) for diabetes within the past three months

Qualified participants will receive all study-related care and study medication at no cost, and may be compensated for time and travel.



Call Toll Free: 1-888-537-0051

AMCR Institute, Inc.

www.newdiabetesstudy.com



**If you're having trouble controlling your diabetes with metformin, you could help researchers evaluate an investigational drug that may allow your body to respond better to its own insulin.**

Doctors and their study teams are now enrolling participants in a clinical research study evaluating an investigational type 2 diabetes drug taken with metformin. The combination of these drugs may help diabetics better maintain their blood sugar levels.

**To qualify for this study, you must be:**

- 18-75 years of age,
- diagnosed with type 2 diabetes mellitus,
- taking metformin to treat your diabetes, and
- having difficulty controlling your blood sugar levels.

Study drug as well as study-related medical evaluations and tests are provided at no cost. In addition, reimbursement for time and travel may be provided.



To learn more, please contact:

**AMCR Institute**

**1-888-871-9587**

# Are YOU Postmenopausal?



If so, you may qualify for a medical research study at Covance.

Covance San Diego is looking for women who are:

- Healthy, age 40-65 & postmenopausal for at least 12 months
- Non-smoking for at least 3 months
- Able to complete a 6-day/5-night stay, plus 11 outpatient visits

Participants will receive all study-related exams and investigational medication at no cost and may receive up to \$5000 for time and participation.



Think you can help? Great! Then call 866-818-3253 or visit TestWithTheBest.com today.

Please reference study 6135-292

**COVANCE.**  
THE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMPANY  
9665 Chesapeake Dr., Ste. 200  
San Diego, CA 92123

happy, well-adjusted person reassess every aspect of her life and personality. "Do you enjoy social situations?" "Do people find you cold?" "Are you confident?" "Were you afraid of the dark as a child?" "Did you have a favorite blanket or stuffed toy?" Other questions probe for emotional, physical, or sexual abuse.

To top it all off, Koshelova asks many of the same questions in person. She does this with the help of a student. He reads along while Koshelova asks me about the events that most transformed my life and what I felt then.

This strikes me as being more invasive than the needle in my vein or the prob-

ing of Dr. Paulus's fingers around my ears, neck, and abdomen. I look at the young, preoccupied faces staring at me over the stacks of paper, pens in the air waiting for my response, and although I have answered everything with slow, searching honesty up to this point, I can go no further. I mumble something about weddings and graduations, and soon after, I'm on my way, \$75 richer. Koshelova promises to contact me to let me know if I have made it to the next round.

**"If the compensation is not enough, it's not worth it to me."**

My assessment was a breeze, as these things go. Some

require days, even weeks, to complete. During this period, the guinea pig may give up blood, urine, and bits of flesh and answer questions or be monitored over time to see if her sleep patterns/hot flashes/behavior or other chronic problems meet the criteria for the study. It is the first time a guinea pig really considers just how far she will go in this process. To a large degree, the answer hinges on what is motivating the guinea pig to enroll in the first place.

"I check the money first. Sad but true," says Alice, a 22-year-old San Diego State graduate who is finishing up course work and looking for a job. "If the compensation

## RESEARCH STUDIES

### Type 2 Diabetes Taking Lantus® (insulin glargine)?

You may be eligible to participate in a research study and will receive treatment with an investigational medication to evaluate blood sugar control.

#### Participants must be:

- Taking Lantus® (insulin glargine) with or without Actos® (pioglitazone) and/or Glucophage® (metformin)
- Not be on other diabetes medicines or other insulin

#### Qualified participants will receive:

- Study-related medical exams and lab work
- Glucose monitor and supplies
- Compensation for travel

For more information, please call:

**Diabetes and Endocrine Associates**  
**619-466-4899**

# Healthy?

Generations of women have helped test investigational medications by participating in clinical research studies. You could help too.

To qualify for research study 6108-602 involving an investigational medication you must be:

- A woman age 18 to 45
- Healthy
- A non-smoker
- Taking oral contraceptives for at least three months
- Able to make overnight stays

Participants will receive all study-related exams at no cost and compensation up to \$4,645 for time and participation.



Think you can help? Then call 866-818-3253 or visit

TestWithTheBest.com today.

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## Crystal, Meth, Tina...



Whatever you call it, Methamphetamine Addiction is very difficult to kick. North County Clinical Research is conducting a 28-week study of an investigational medication for the treatment of methamphetamine addiction.

If you are age 18 or older and have methamphetamine dependency challenges, we urge you to call now. Participation in this study may just change your life. You will receive study-related procedures and study medication at no cost.

Start making your change right now and call us for more information at: **760-639-4378**

Compensation for your time and travel is provided. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

# Do You Have Trouble Sleeping at Night?

Insomnia is a condition where you might:

- Wake up frequently during the night
- Awaken during the night but usually fall back to sleep
- Wake up too early and not be able to fall back to sleep
- Be impacted in your daily life by your sleep problems

If you are 18 years or older you may qualify to participate in this insomnia research study evaluating whether an investigational medication improves quality of sleep.

Qualified participants will receive all study-related physical and laboratory exams, and study medications at no charge to you. Compensation for time and travel are provided.

Type II Diabetics suffering from insomnia are also encouraged to call.

For more information, please call:

**1-888-486-9150**



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

Do you or someone you know suffer from

## Schizophrenia

and are currently stable on any of the following:

### Olanzapine, Risperidone, or Paliperidone

If you are 18-65 years of age you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research trial for an investigational medication.

Participants will receive at no cost:

- Study-related exams
- Investigational drug
- Compensation for time and travel

For more information call:

**1-888-486-9150**



SYNERGY CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTERS

# Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes? Are You Taking Insulin?

*Profil Institute for Clinical Research is conducting a research study of an investigational medication for Type 2 Diabetes.*

**To qualify, you must be:**

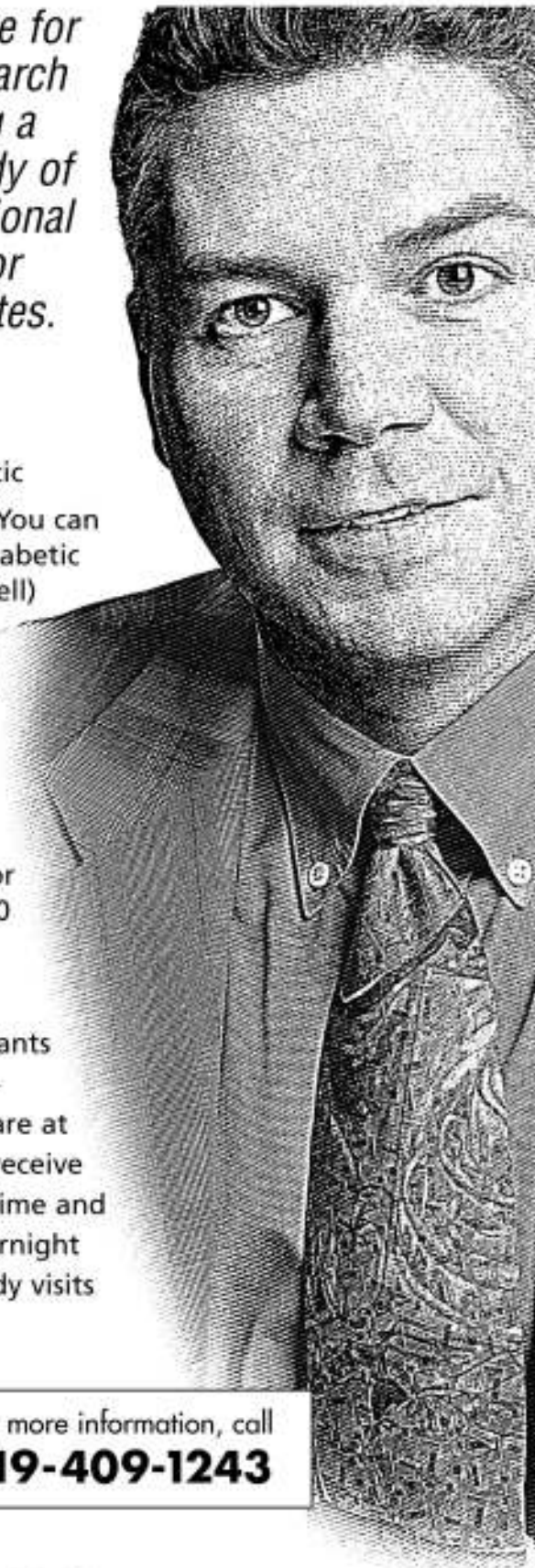
- ❖ A Type 2 Diabetic
- ❖ Taking insulin (You can be on oral anti-diabetic medications, as well)
- ❖ 18-65 years old
- ❖ Male or female (if female must be practicing an effective method of birth control)
- ❖ A non-smoker or smoke less than 10 cigarettes a day

Qualified participants will receive study-related medical care at no cost and may receive up to \$4,050 for time and travel. Eleven overnight stays and five study visits are required.

For more information, call  
**619-409-1243**

## Profil

Institute for Clinical Research



# Do You Have Type 2 Diabetes?

We are conducting a clinical research study using an investigational medication for Type 2 Diabetes.

If you have Type 2 Diabetes, please consider joining our research study.

## You may be eligible if you:

- are at least 18 years old
- are diagnosed with Type 2 Diabetes
- have been taking Avandia or Actos, with or without Metformin

All study-related medications, laboratory exams, and clinic visits are provided at no cost.

To learn more, please contact:  
**Diabetes and Endocrine Associates**  
**619-466-4899**  
**or: dmendo1@pacbell.net**

is not enough for the hours I have to devote, then it is not worth it to me." She just completed an outpatient study that earned her \$1000 for taking an oral contraceptive over seven months. Her career earnings: \$1475.

"I'm looking for that one pill that will work," says Alan, 55, an insomniac who lives at the opposite end of the economic spectrum. He is an executive for a multinational company whose family's combined annual income exceeds \$250,000, not including the money he earns from clinical trials, which can range from as little as \$300 to ten times that, depending on the study.

"I don't even keep the

money. It goes straight into my kids' savings accounts. They like it when I do studies."

He is in the middle of his 18th clinical trial and, like Lisa, is motivated first by medical need but says that doing clinical trials helps him in other ways.

"My mother told me when I was young that I should always give blood, that it is something God gives us. There's kind of a spiritual aspect to all of this, and I like that part of it."

For Connie, 55, a retired government employee and avid knitter, guinea pigging represents potential treatment and hobby.

"I've gotten kind of hooked on them now because

I'm learning about myself and different health issues."

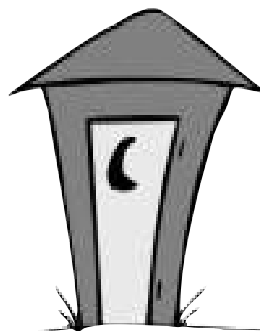
So far, Connie has participated in three trials, two of which dealt with menopause, and is in the process of setting up her next one.

For Laura, the motivation is entirely personal. "I don't have a lot to lose. If I keep getting sicker, then my body will not do what I ask of it."

Her 23-year-old body has served notice to her more than once. For most of her life she has suffered from lupus, a disease in which her own immune system attacks her kidneys, lungs, stomach, skin, and other vital organs. The 13 medications she takes

## RESEARCH STUDIES

# overactive bladder have you on the run?



Are you often running to the bathroom and missing life's important moments? San Diego Clinical Trials is conducting a clinical drug research study for overactive bladder. If you have at least three months of uncontrolled urges and/or wetting accidents and are a male or female 18 or older, we here at San Diego Clinical Trials would like to talk to you. As a qualified participant, you will receive all study-related care at no charge, including doctor visits, laboratory services and investigational study medication. You will also be compensated for your time and travel.



**don't let this research opportunity pass you by ...**

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**the first step is your call!**

# Heavy drinkers not seeking treatment

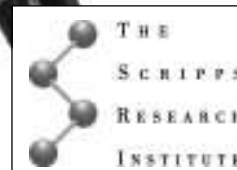


Investigators at The Scripps Research Institute are currently seeking volunteers who consider themselves to be heavy drinkers and do not have any desire to stop drinking.

The purpose of the research is to learn the most effective way of studying predictors of relapse or a return to drinking.

Earn compensation for completing 4 study visits that take place over 3 weeks.

This study does involve taking a medication or placebo for one week.



To find out if you qualify for study participation, please call Marni at 858-784-7867 or visit our website at: [www.pearsoncenter.org](http://www.pearsoncenter.org) for more information.



# Are you 65 or older and have high blood pressure?

Have you been diagnosed with, or think that you may have, high blood pressure?

**If you are 65 years of age or older**, you may qualify for a research study of investigational medications to treat high blood pressure.

If you qualify, you will receive, **at no cost**, study-related:

- ♥ Physical exams
- ♥ Laboratory tests
- ♥ Investigational study medications and
- ♥ Compensation for time and travel

For more information, please contact:

**San Diego Sports Medicine & Family Health Center**  
**619-229-3909**



# Too Shy?

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 Speaking to authority figures?  
 Always worried about what other people think of you?**

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**CENTER FOR UNDERSTANDING AND TREATING ANXIETY**  
 6386 Alvarado Court, Suite 301, San Diego



# Do you have plaque psoriasis?

Therapeutics Clinical Research, a center of excellence in dermatological care, is conducting a clinical research trial of an investigational medication for people with plaque psoriasis.

#### **We need participants:**

- 18-75 years of age
- With chronic plaque psoriasis

#### **Qualified participants will receive:**

- Study-related examinations by a Board Certified Dermatologist and investigational study medication at no cost
- Compensation for time and travel

NO INSURANCE REQUIRED

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or e-mail us at: [psoriasis@therapeuticsresearch.com](mailto:psoriasis@therapeuticsresearch.com)

View our website at: [www.therapeuticsresearch.com](http://www.therapeuticsresearch.com)



## Prostate Problems

.....can't go without **STRAINING!!!**

A research study is underway for men with **significant difficulty urinating** or who **have a weak stream** caused by benign prostatic hypertrophy, or BPH. Qualified participants will receive investigational intramuscular injection medication.

Qualified participants must be:

- 1) Males over the age of 50 years
- 2) Have significant difficulty initiating urine stream
- 3) No history of heart disease or stroke
- 4) No history of prostate surgery or prostate cancer

Participants may receive all study-related:

- 1) Exams and consultation with a board-certified physician
- 2) Medication, laboratory studies, and EKG
- 3) Compensation for your time and travel

Interested, please call:

**619-521-2841**

**Medical Center for Clinical Research**

help some symptoms but come with side effects of their own. Good days are when she is able to function even when she feels sick. Bad days might require hospitalization.

In this trial, Laura is testing Orenzia, a drug that treats rheumatoid arthritis, to see if it can help lupus patients as well. There is no placebo. Either it will work or it won't.

"I talked it over with my doctor when we talked about increasing my medications this past winter," Laura says. "I've been down most of the treatment roads but not this one."

Laura selected this trial over another one because the side effects of the other test drug concerned her. In this, she is like most volunteers—her tolerance for risk and discomfort guides how far she will go. But some-

times the limits of a lab rat are not intuitive. Connie, for example, participated in two studies that required blood draws, physicals, painful insertions of tubes into her uterus, and the removal of tissue from her cervix for examination, but she nixed the trial that wanted her to wear a bracelet for a month. It looked like a hospital wristband with a device that measured her "tossings and turnings" at night.

"It was ugly. You know those bands they give you at the hospital with that floppy flap? Well, it looked like that with a watch on it. It was goofy."

Alan, the executive, will take experimental sleep drugs; he will spend nights in labs where study coordinators attach wires to his chin, scalp, chest, legs, and other parts of

his body; and he (and his wife) will put up with any temporary loss of sex drive that may occur with a sleep drug. He won't, however, do anything that interferes with his job.

"If I was to take a lot of time out of my day, I lose money."

With the exception of Alice, the San Diego State student, no one in this group professes to care much about the money they get for guinea pigging. But Alice is not alone.

"I was in the waiting area of the clinic for the study I'm doing now," says Alan. "There were a couple of people there. I moved away because of the body odor and dirty ashtray smell, but I heard their conversation. One guy said, 'I have to get \$500 a month from this.'"

# Health & Beauty Guide

Free 24-hour hotline for frequently asked questions: **619-233-9797**

Call anytime and enter a four-digit extension, or visit our website: [SDReader.com/health](http://SDReader.com/health)

#### **Extension 7070**

### **Botox**

- 1 What is Botox?
- 2 Botox & wrinkles
- 3 Effects of Botox
- 4 How much does it cost?



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Suite 105, Point Loma  
619-758-9875  
[venusmedical.com](http://venusmedical.com)

#### **Extension 7040**

### **Breast Surgery/ Augmentation**

- 1 Breast augmentation
- 2 What type is right for you?
- 3 Breast lift
- 4 Breast reduction
- 5 Male breast surgery



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888-261-1658  
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#### **Extension 7100**

### **Cosmetic Dentistry**

- 1 About our office
- 2 Implants, dentures & partials
- 3 Invisalign, the clear straightener
- 4 Veneers & teeth whitening
- 5 Crowns, bridges & surgeries



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#### **Extension 7080**

### **Laser Eye Surgery**

- 1 About LASIK
- 2 Who is a candidate?
- 3 Your eye exam
- 4 Surgery
- 5 After surgery



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#### **Extension 7030**

### **Laser Hair Removal**

- 1 What is it?
- 2 How does it work?
- 3 How is it performed?
- 4 What does it feel like?
- 5 Best candidates?



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#### **Extension 7050**

### **Weight Loss**

- 1 What should I eat?
- 2 How much can I lose?
- 3 Body Mass Index (BMI)
- 4 Is the Atkins Diet safe?
- 5 Exercise: How much?



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[vivawellness.com](http://vivawellness.com)

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## Big-Money Trials

The big money, of course, is in the higher-risk drug trials, the ones that test experimental drugs in humans for the first time. These studies, called phase I trials, require small numbers of volunteers to establish safety, identify side effects, and determine dosage. Phase I volunteers must be “healthy subjects” so underlying disease won’t impact results. Phases II and III involve increasingly larger numbers of research volunteers and test the efficacy and safety of the drugs in people with the disease they are supposed to treat.

Studies like the one I’m in are called phase IV studies. They are conducted on drugs that are already on the market to gather more information about them. This information can be used in any number of ways, from exploring new uses to providing material for journal articles that keep the company’s name and products in front of the physicians who prescribe them.

Studies in phases II through IV offer at least a

shot at medical benefit for the volunteer. Not so with phase I.

“The only reason to be in a phase I study is the money,” says David Forster, vice president of compliance for the Seattle-based Western Institutional Review Board, one of the firms hired to monitor human-subject safety and rights for several studies going on in San Diego. His job is to make sure that lab rats are not overcompensated.

“What you don’t want is a huge amount of money for something that is really risky, where people make choices that are not in their best interest.” Compensation for a typical phase I study with a two-week stay at a clinic comes out to “about \$10 an hour.”

“It beats working at Burger King,” says Bob Helms, retired guinea pig and editor of Guinea Pig Zero ([guineapigzero.com](http://guineapigzero.com)), a jobzine for human-study volunteers and an anthology of lab-rat stories. A Philadelphia native, he started volunteering in 1995, when he was on unem-

ployment, and for the next eight years averaged \$10,000 to \$15,000 annually, earning his living as a healthy human subject and, in the process, gaining a national reputation as a professional guinea pig.

Helms’s site was the forerunner of [jalr.org](http://jalr.org) (Just Another Lab Rat), [gpgp.net](http://gpgp.net) (Guinea Pigs Get Paid), and [biotrax.com](http://biotrax.com). All are resources for serious lab rats, many of whom report similar stories—a job loss, the need to earn more money, and the discovery that their bodies can earn the most serious of them upwards of \$25,000 each year. The sites not only provide study listings and basic translations of medical and lab speak, some offer critiques and ratings of research labs all over the country, including, in at least one case, a San Diego study site.

The phase I experience can be intense. Volunteers may be “confined” in a clinic or other study site for anywhere from two weeks to more than a month. They are continually examined, dosed, and measured. They

HEALTH AND BEAUTY

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may be sleep deprived, their diets may be controlled, they may have tubes inserted into any number of orifices, depending upon what the drug is supposed to do or what side effects it may cause. Volunteers may undergo biopsies, procedures in which tissue samples are extracted and examined. They will suffer intermittent discomfort, and they will almost certainly be bored.

They are supposed to know all this before they start, and they do, if they've read their informed-consent agreement before signing it.

#### Who Pays If I Get Sick?

When I get home from the assessment, I take a closer look at my informed consent documents. I'm seeing things I missed before. For one thing, I'm not sure I understand who pays if I get sick as a result of anything associated with the trial. For another, my genes (thanks to the second consent form) can be used for commercial purposes if the opportunity arises. It is embarrassing, and unsettling, to realize I didn't get all my questions answered before I signed. It doesn't make me feel better when I find out I'm not unique.

"I've known guys that were more interested in *The Jerry Springer Show* than what was going on in their bodies," says Helms.

"I'm looking at the forms differently now," says Connie. "Before, I was kind of gullible and relying on what they were saying. I just went in there and said, 'Lucky me, I'm going to get help with my hot flashes.'"

Informed consent is what separates the modern-day guinea pig from the 399 unknowing participants in the infamous United States Public Health Service's study of untreated syphilis in African-American men. Although informed consent may be waived, as it was in the Poly-Heme trial, or for the military if the president approves it, the vast majority of U.S. participants must sign off.

The form lists everything that will be done to you and reminds you that you can quit at any time for any reason. You also learn who takes care of you if something goes wrong with the study.

"There have been two occasions when I've seen a document with an arbitra-

tion clause, and that was a red flag," says Alan, the executive. He did not want to get sick during a trial and have to negotiate who pays for what. He did not sign.

"This is kind of a gray area. The boundaries are not

always well defined," says Dr. William Koltun, an obstetrician and gynecologist who operates the Medical Center for Clinical Research on Friars Road. He derives virtually all of his income from conducting clinical trials for

pharmaceutical firms.

"In the past, investigators were always indemnified by the pharmaceutical company," Koltun says. "Today, companies are much more concerned that [research] sites have insurance

of their own. I still think in the end, if the [experimental] product is responsible for the injury or the problem, then the pharmaceutical company is going to pay for the care. If the care of the patient or administration of the drug

were found to be the issue, then the doctor would be responsible."

This is more or less the case for me, as Dr. Paulus explains when I contact him. I rest easier, but I still feel dumb.

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The assessment turns up no knock-out factors, and a couple of weeks later, on a mild Monday afternoon, I am once again sitting across from Kosheleva. This time we are outside the functional MRI lab, playing a game a little like chicken. Kosheleva places the hot ceramic square described in the consent form to my forearm and lets it heat up until I cannot stand it another second or the

machine hits a preset threshold between discomfort and potential injury. The point is to establish my personal pain scale, so when she does the same thing in the lab, the pain will be within the range I can tolerate. Each time I feel the square heat up, I press one of four buttons on a small black plastic square wired to her laptop. Button number one is for warm but not painful, button number four is extremely painful. The middle buttons capture

everything in between. My confidence in myself is restored; there is nothing here I can't stand.

We move on to another game. In this one, sets of three black ovals or three human faces displaying happiness, anger, or sadness flash on the computer screen. I am to press a button to show which face or oval is not like the others. A similar one follows, using X's and O's. Then it is time to go into the lab and play the games for real.

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Blasts of cold air swirl around the tech and Kosheleva as they secure me to the tray that will slide into the cavity of the functional MRI machine. The tech straps a head coil around my head so it cannot move and clips a monitor to my left index finger and another to my chest. Kosheleva fits the black box with the buttons under my right fingers; then she places a black rubber bulb next to it.

"If you need to get out, just squeeze this. We'll come get you."

Earplugs come next, then earphones.

"Ready?"

The upper half of my body slides into the machine. All I can move are my fingers and my legs, which remain outside. Above me, the view in the angled mirrors is blank. I sense the departure of Kosheleva and the tech who will be operating the controls from somewhere outside the walls of the lab. I am alone.

For the next 20 minutes the machine pings, pounds, chirrups, and knocks like a giant squirrel trying to break into my skull. At intervals, Kosheleva or the tech give a quick instruction or explanation. The squirrel goes crazy while the little plate heats up on my arm during the pain test, but I can push the buttons and do my job. No big deal.

"Now we'll just set up for the next tests, like the ones I showed you before."

That's when the computer crashes. As each minute passes, I realize that I am not okay with confinement after all. The two regular MRIs I'd had were either much shorter or they were flukes.

"While we're waiting we'll take the picture of your brain. This one will be yours," says the tech. She means well, but I feel like a fretful two-year-old, and no amount of candy, or brain photography, is going to placate me.

When we resume, I no longer care which faces or symbols match. I only care that the buttons on the black box are sticking. It takes every ounce of patience that I have to press them correctly. I tell Kosheleva about the buttons.

"Just do the best you can. It will be fine." Then she introduces a new wrinkle. Instructions will appear at intervals, and I am to obey them. It is no longer

enough to match X's and O's, I must do it before a buzzer sounds or after it sounds. It doesn't matter what the instructions say because the buzzer never goes off when they say it will, and I never know how long I will have to press the

correct button, which sticks.

Afterward, Kosheleva swears that the sticky buttons and the computer crash are not part of the study. The only frustrating part is supposed to be the buzzer. I get no points for lasting as long as I did, only a grateful and

sympathetic smile from Kosheleva, another \$100 voucher, and a bottle of seven little white pills, one for each night. I also receive a seven-page "sleep diary" for recording my sleep patterns until I return for my next scan on the following Monday.

**Post-Trial Wrap-Up**

Sometimes guinea pigs wonder if they are going to make it through the study. Side effects are one issue, as Lisa found after she started her first trial.

"In the first month of the trial, I thought of aban-

doning ship," she says. "I was agitated, depressed. There was a definite disinterest in intercourse." Her voice lightens. "I didn't lose my hair, though, and then it mellowed out."

Laura, the young woman with lupus, has had five infu-

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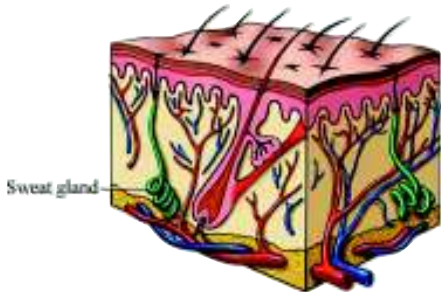
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sions of Orenzia and "is not doing very well at all." She is experiencing new lupus symptoms.

"Trying to tell whether it's just the natural progression of my illness or whether it's actually the Orenzia that's making me worse is almost impossible. If it seems like it's the drug that's making me sicker, then we'll have to stop it."

Other times, the problems are related not to the drug. For one thing, there are all those other guinea pigs, like the two smelly guys who talked money in the waiting room of Alan's current study site.

"I think it discourages educated types and stay-at-home spouses who could help. They are scared off by some of the clientele. I've seen many times when people have appointments for assessments. They come in, see street people, and they leave," Alan says.

Alice, the San Diego State student, and Connie, the woman who is "hooked" on doing trials, each participated in different studies

conducted by the same investigator.

"I was at ease there," says Connie. "I liked the doctor—he gave me a good history about the whole menopause area and how this research fits in." Best of all, "They always knew it was me. They came out and said, 'Hi, Connie, we're ready for you.'"

To Alice, involved in an oral-contraceptive trial with a large number of volunteers, the same staff seemed rushed and impersonal.

"Every time I went in, the nurses and coordinators were hustling and bustling in the hallways. I could tell they were multitasking in the extreme."

She also felt that answers to her questions were not necessarily complete.

"I felt they answered just to appease me." She preferred the two studies she'd done in academic settings where "there was more one-on-one" attention.

Guinea pigs should not expect their experience as research subjects to be the same as it is when they are patients in their own doctor's

office, says Forster, of the Western Institutional Review Board. "The main goal of research is to produce information that is valuable to future patients...not to provide the volunteers with medical care. The research does not have a primary goal of benefiting them."

### My Heart Races and My Muscles Feel Heavy

It happens 15 minutes after I take the first of the little white pills on Monday night. A tingling starts in my cheeks and forehead. My lips feel as though they've been shot with Novocain. My heart races, but my muscles feel heavy, inert. I lie in the dark next to my husband Ed, trying to be quiet and trying not to be scared. When I fall asleep an hour later, it is like stumbling into a bottomless hole. I know nothing until the next morning, when I wake to a bleary and exhausted mate whose ears still reverberate from a snoring marathon on my side of the bed.

"You should have woken me up," I tell him. He peers

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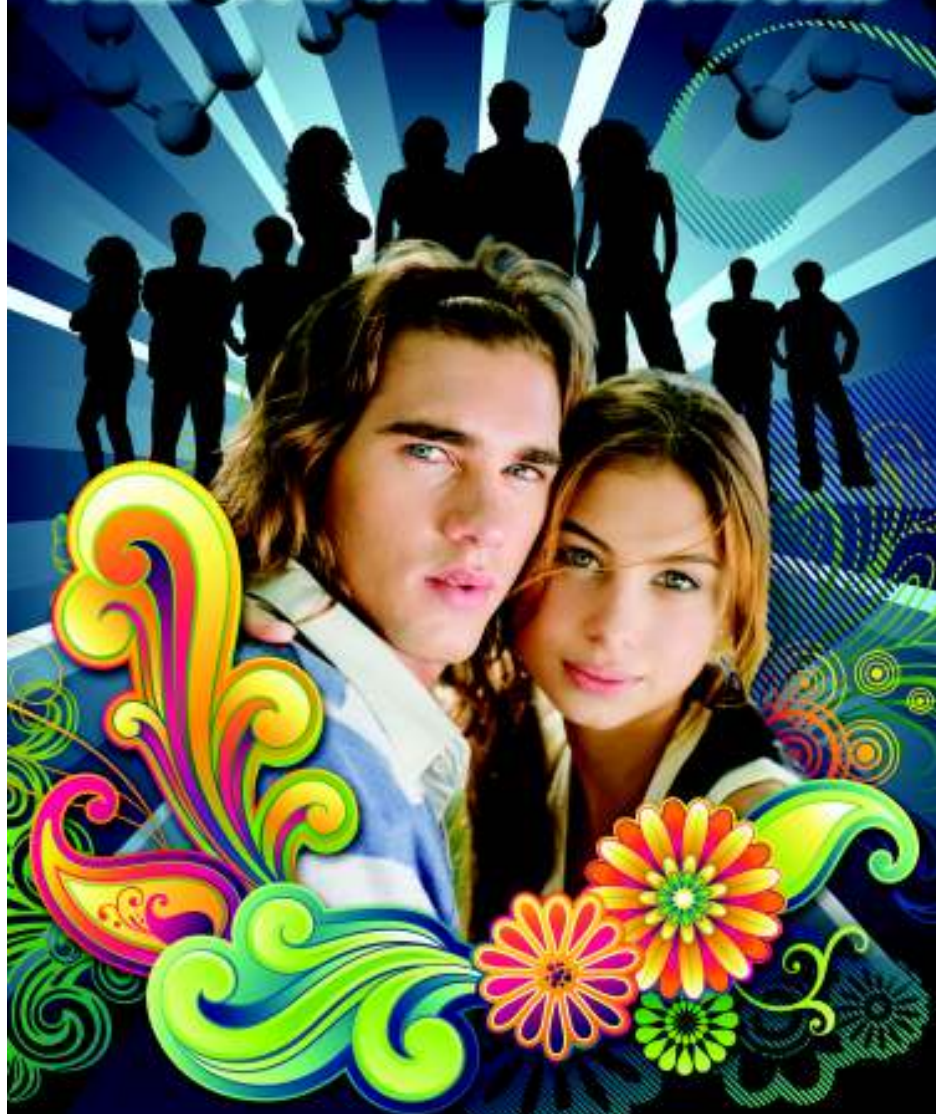
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at me through bloodshot eyes.

"I tried."

This is bad, but not as bad as the next 11 hours. It is more than a hangover. I cannot open my eyes all the way. I weep or nearly weep whenever Ed asks for a decision or even simple information. Do I want pancakes or cereal for breakfast? Will I be going out later? It all seems overwhelming. Focus is impossible. I crawl through the day, canceling commitments and avoiding my office while my husband, gulping down caffeine to keep him going, does the taxes.

The routine on Tuesday night is the same. First the pill, then my face goes numb, and the next morning I can barely get myself out of bed.

"Something is wrong with you," Ed says. He's worried now, and so am I. I skip the pill on Wednesday night, and the next morning, I feel better. By that night, the world has come back into balance.

The surprise is that I

also feel crushed. I have failed in my first attempt at guinea pigging.

"You could always just say you took it," says my husband. His voice is neutral, but the subtext is clear. He does not want me to take any more pills and will say anything he thinks will make me feel okay about it.

The thought weasels its way into my brain and begins to chew on my conscience. The instructions are clear: seven nights of pills, then the next brain scan. If I don't take all the pills, then the data from my brain scan will be based on false assumptions. With such a small sample of participants, false readings from one of us could significantly skew the results.

#### Lying Guinea Pigs and Study Shoppers

Guinea pigs, recruiters, and researchers know that lying or gaming the system can happen. Most have either heard about or considered the possibility that a guinea pig has entered two studies at once, thrown pills away,

or fudged her answers on prescreens in order to take advantage of the quick cash and medical exams that are part of the assessment. Kellie Harden, a study manager who recruited Lisa for the hormone study, says about 5 percent of the study participants she recruits each year fall into this last category. Dr. Koltun, the gynecologist-turned-research investigator, keeps a database of these "study shoppers."

Others may cheat to get through the assessment and into the study itself.

"When I was going in to give a urine sample once, I saw a guy had brought in a container of urine with him," says Alan, the executive. "He could have been hiding [illegal] drug use, but it is just as likely he could be hiding that he was in two studies at the same time."

Another man in a study going on simultaneously at the clinic where Alan was sleeping one night seemed to be faking insomnia in order to qualify. During the assessment phase, the guinea

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Includes: Deep pore cleansing facial, 1-hour full-body therapeutic massage, spa manicure and pedicure. 2 1/2 hours.

### Escape A Day Away Package

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pigs were put to bed in separate rooms, wired, and monitored.

"One of the criteria for being in that study was waking up for at least 45 minutes three times a night," says Alan. "Well, I could hear something buzzing in the next room. The guy in there set his cell phone on vibrator to wake him up for the 45 minutes. He did it again later in the night."

Of particular concern are those who participate in more than one study at a time. In a Johns Hopkins survey published in 2007, 10 percent of research volunteers admitted to participating in more than one study at a time. The double-dipping guinea pig faces increased personal risk and may produce misleading results caused by the interaction of two experimental drugs. But those conducting the research can do little to verify whether or not a volunteer is double-dipping.

"It's a privacy issue," says Koltun, referring to federal requirements for keep-

ing volunteer identities confidential.

As for not taking pills and saying that you did, this would be easier to get away with in some studies than others. In some, blood tests will indicate whether or not the drug is in a person's system. In others, like mine, they won't.

\* \* \*

I skip the pill again on Thursday night, and several hours of spotty but uneventful sleep bring me to my senses. I've already lost money if I factor in all the lost work time that resulted from my two worthless days. And if I really feel allegiance to Dr. Paulus and Kosheleva, it follows that I should help them preserve the integrity of their data.

I dial the number I was given to call if I had any questions or concerns.

"You did the right thing," the voice of a new doctor, Scott Matthews, assures me over the phone. He is working with Dr. Paulus on the study, and the number listed in my documents

is his. He spends the next ten minutes extracting every detail of my experience and then, to my surprise, asks me to come in on the day I was scheduled for the final brain scan.

For the third time, I am alone with Kosheleva, while we wait for Dr. Matthews to arrive. It turns out he just wants to see me to make sure I am all right. Because I did not finish the pills, there is no point in doing the final brain scan. All the information I've provided so far, all the images from the first MRI session, will be discarded.

Then Kosheleva hands me an envelope with the final \$100 check. It seems unfair to get the money when I did not finish the job, but she tells me not to worry about it.

"I'll find someone else."

"I'm sorry," I tell her.

Kosheleva shrugs and smiles.

"Don't worry. There will be others. I've got someone else in the pipeline I'm working on right now." ■

—Elizabeth Marro

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# I feel my liver donor's presence



**"I kept having the feeling that I was in some kind of after-death experience."**

"I had a feeling that something was wrong for a long time." Fifty-six-year-old David Clark says as he lies recovering at a friend's home from a liver transplant he received on June 13, 2008. He pauses for a long moment during which he is time-traveling back to 1971. "The best explanation was the injections I had gotten in the Army, even before I got to Vietnam. I was with a group of returning second-tour NCOs, and we had all gotten injections using jet-injectors, which are no longer used. They had no protective measures to prevent flashback [indication of blood in the syringe]. They really didn't understand viruses at that point. We walked in a line down a hallway, and various medics shot us in the arm with these air guns, and they splashed blood back on us. Everybody had a bleeding arm."

Seeing Clark on July 3, little more than two weeks after surgery, the normally robust, mustached man in the California wine industry looked pale, shaven, gaunt, and weak. He smiled and his eyes seemed clear. His demeanor was one of optimism.

"While I was in the Central Highlands several months later, I had an episode, an unexplained illness. They first thought it was malaria. Medical records show 'unexplained virus or viral-like symptoms.' I had general weakness, loss of appetite. I really felt bad, but they couldn't nail it down. I was with the 101st Airborne, just transferred. Actually, the 101st had just stripped down and took their colors back to Fort Campbell, Kentucky. I was transferred from this company in Cam Rahn Bay and then shipped up to the Central Highlands at Plei Ku [or Pleiku]. I was a foot soldier, 11th Bravo. MOS code. Our assignment was

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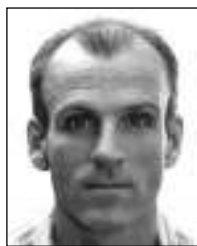
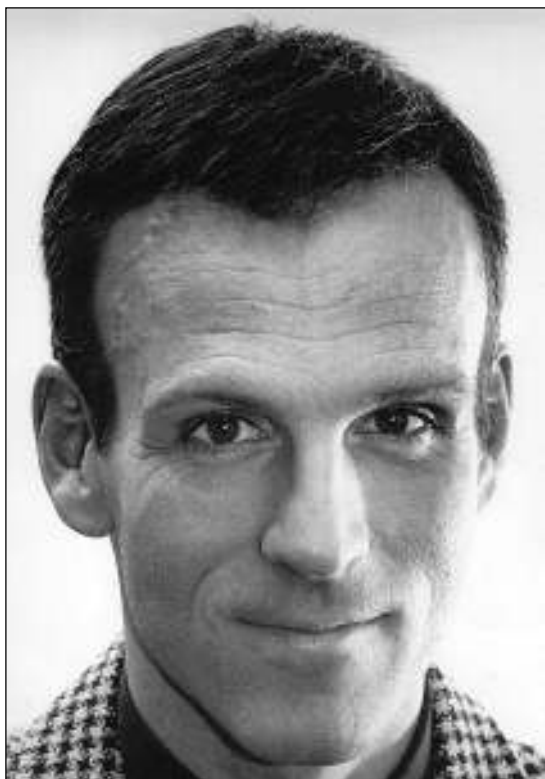


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guarding the outskirts of this attack helicopter base at Camp Holloway. We did this by patrolling during the day and then setting up ambushes nightly in the open areas, the kilometers surrounding the camp. Booby traps, things like that.

"It was several years after that that I again experienced symptoms of hepatitis: weakness, but not jaundice. At the time they called it non-A and non-B hepatitis, which to me meant nothing. Being a cynical Vietnam vet, I didn't really believe anybody about anything. I didn't trust authority, and the war had done a job on my attitude. When I heard 'non-A' or whatever, I heard 'We don't know.' It turns out they were on the threshold of understanding viruses at that point. Then about three and a half years ago, I had some blood numbers done. They came back and I was told, 'We really don't like these numbers.' They did more tests and confirmed a diagnosis of hepatitis C.

"Over the years, it had caused cirrhosis. I went

through various medical protocols, such as interferon, and was monitored pretty closely. I had cleared the virus pretty much, but it came back. It was resident in my liver. My circulation wasn't good, and I hadn't eliminated the viral infection completely. The doctor said, 'Well, that's it. Check out the Internet, maybe, and see what kinds of treatment are available.' I wasn't real happy with the endgame part of the carrot on that particular episode. I had been MRI'ed, CAT-scanned, sonogrammed a million times. My wife Diane was really my advocate here. She went toe-to-toe with the insurance company and finally got me a one-time consultation with Dr. Rose. He's nationally recognized, a top guy in liver transplants. He looked at my images, and there were two tumors in my liver, one really small, the other large, and they were extremely diffuse. He pointed us in the right direction. I went to the UCSD Liver Transplant Clinic, and they've been handling it ever

since.

"With the presence of those tumors, three surgical procedures were indicated, including one almost like a laparoscopic kind of insertion guided by imaging. They generate a microwave field around the tumors and, in effect, cut them out. After two operations, they had to go back in and make sure they had everything. Thanks to Dr. Rose's good care, that cleared the decks for me. All this time I was on the waiting list for a liver transplant, but because of the tumors they had to be sure this wasn't something spreading through my body. If that were the case, it would, like, have been all over, basically.

"I got through that period okay. It was a matter of waiting. I did go through another course of interferon for about nine months, which was a weekly thing, injections and taking pills several times a day. It was a very demanding treatment, and that again reduced my immunity. During this time, I was going through various sup-

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port groups for people with hepatitis and who were pre-transplant. I also decided I should go to counseling, and so I did at the veterans' Center in Vista, where I live. I discovered I had all the key symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder.

"My experience with the waiting list was that this is usually a matter of a few years and is, was, enormously frustrating trying to keep my spirits up and stay positive. It was a challenge because it went on so long. A few months ago, I was told by doctors that they would probably do this transplant in the fall [2008], so I would have some advance warning. But you could get a

phone call at any time during the day or night, and you'd have to rush down to the hospital and be available to receive a transplant. [These are] what they call 'standby people,' a number-two or -three person on the list. You have to be there, in case something goes wrong with the primary person, who might not be able to arrive on time or [in case there are] other problems, so that they cannot receive the donated organ. It can happen at any time, without warning, and every transplant patient understands this. But in my case, having been led to believe this wasn't likely until fall, I decided to go on a short

vacation, a long weekend, to Seattle to see one of my oldest and best friends [science fiction author Greg Bear], and they said, that's fine. Then one night, right about midnight, [while I was] getting ready to fall asleep, my friend's daughter was saying something about a phone call and something about a liver. I was instantly in a state of shock. I couldn't believe it. Sure enough, it was UCSD clinic and a Dr. Barry, my surgeon, calling me to ask — could I be in San Diego in the morning? Six in the morning.

"They had a liver that was a perfect tissue match! But there were other factors as well, and he had to exam-

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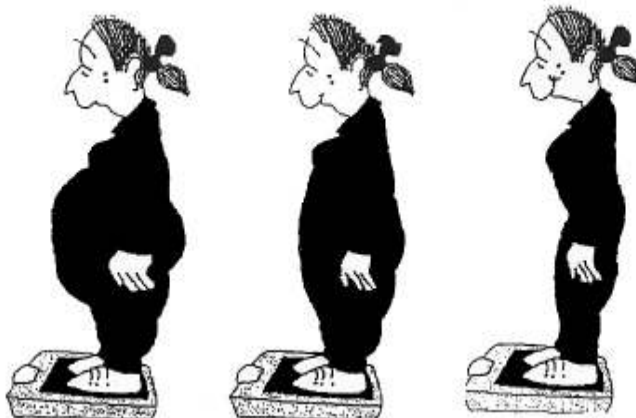
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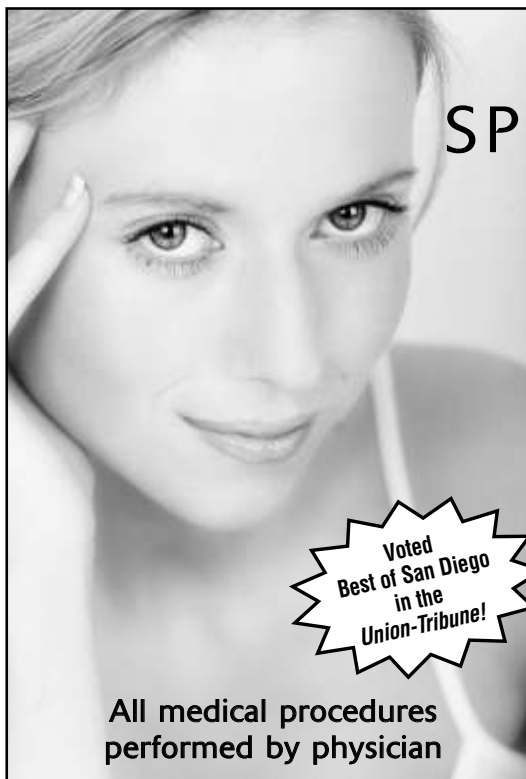


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ine me. I had never met Dr. Barry before in my life. So, taking the word of someone I had never met, I had to attempt to get from Seattle to San Diego to get this transplant. It was a lot to have dropped in my lap in the middle of the night, and we had to make snap decisions.

"They had a couple of commuter flights leaving early in the morning, so I said, yeah, I'll be there. We had to shower, repack our

bags, and my friend's daughter drove us to the airport. We caught a little tailwind, and so we were all right. I had told them that I probably could not be there exactly at 6:00 or 6:30 and then asked what time they really, absolutely had to have me there. They said, if we can have you on the operating table by 9:30, then we're good to go.

"Arriving just a little before 9:00 in San Diego, I rushed out in front and

grabbed the first cab in line and said, 'Take me to UCSD hospital in Hillcrest.'

"The strange thing about this cab, though, was that when I got in I saw that the driver was maybe an east African or Middle Eastern guy, and on top of the fare box was this beautiful museum-quality statue of the Egyptian god Anubis. Black-lacquered and gold-painted trim atop of the meter box, and I was nonplussed because Anubis is

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the carrier of the soul on its journey through the underworld after death. And by the way, this was happening on Friday, June 13. It took me aback, and I asked the guy what the deal was, and he just shrugged. It was probably another guy's cab he was driving, but anyway, there was Anubis. An omen, if you will.

"So I got to UCSD, reported to the prep area, then I was taken to a large room with a number of beds and given a hospital gown to change into. Diane was still making arrangements for the car. After this costume change, I was just sitting there on the bed and I reached this very calm space, said a brief prayer, and just put myself in the hands of God. I had to surrender all and any control. Diane showed up shortly thereafter. They wheeled me out on the bed and prepared me for surgery. The chief anesthesiologist wanted to be involved in this, and he was on another operation so there was a bit of delay. About that time, I could no longer recall anything because of the medication they give you which knocks you out. It induces amnesia as well, so it gets kind of hazy.

"I was unconscious for the better part of two days. The next thing I remembered was somebody asking me to blink my eye twice, so it wouldn't be accidental. I was asked to move my toes, and I remember being very pleased that I could do so. I was in the intensive care facility. They had me in restraints, with an oxygen tube down my throat so I couldn't talk. I remember one nurse there, a woman, short, Hispanic, and her name was Elena, I think. She had incredible patience. I also remember a tallish Vietnamese woman, and several others, like a circle of angels around me.

"Diane had a pad of paper for me to communicate with, and I remember my handwriting was...it looked like those scripts they find from an Arctic explorer with the handwriting going off the edge of the page, you know, 'Arrgghh...' But someone asked me how I was doing, and I remember answering, 'With all these lovely women around, how could anything go wrong?'  
"During all of this,

breathing became the central focus of activity. Somehow I had lost the connection with breathing. All I could think about was drawing air in and out. I couldn't do it without thinking about it. I wrote down,

'Fifty-six years of age and I still haven't mastered the art of breathing.' It was much labored.

"At some point there was a crisis with another patient nearby, and so they were distracted away from

me. At that time, I became aware that though the nurses would have been standing on the right side of my bed, there was a presence to my left. I could never see a face, but there was a vivid impression of another person,

another presence coaxing me to breathe the entire time I was awake. I was awake for two days after I came out of the anesthetic. That presence never left my side."

At this point I asked Clark if any problems had

presented themselves for the surgeon, Dr. Barry.

"Yeah, after my transplant had been done — which took about five hours, and that's normal — they discovered I had a blood clot in my liver, so they had to go

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After



Actual patient – Before



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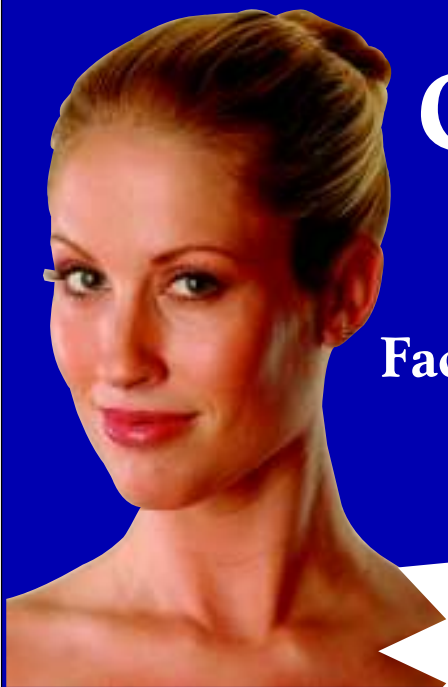
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–Carmen P.,  
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Actual Patient/Model

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back in. This was very late at night, and Diane was down in the cafeteria. The [nurse] went running down there, found her, and said, 'Come with me right now!' She went with them back up to the ICU and had to sign papers for the second operation. That went on well into the morning, so I was actually operated on twice."

Clark's predominant impressions of the experience involved imagery of a mythological underworld. He elaborates: "I was taken, at various points, down into hospital corridors in the basement. I began to notice that all the terminology in medicine is Greek based, like the names of characters out of Greek mythology. My mind would pick up on cues very easily and then run with them. I was very amused by it. I kept having the feeling that I was in some kind of after-death experience that, had you gone digging in some old hieroglyphic papyri, you would find the details of it. That feeling persisted for rather a while. I remember thinking afterward, in terms of advice for others: it's good to fill your mind with interesting stuff, read the classics, because you never know when you might find yourself flat on your back on a gurney with a lot of events flowing by you. I felt well served by it."

"What I hadn't been aware of, or maybe prepared for, was that there was this whole other experiential, spiritual aspect to this transplant thing that accompanied it, triggered it. I really had never talked to anyone who had discussed this aspect of it. It's a very powerful experience, still going on here more than a month later, still manifest. It is, in fact, a journey to the underworld. The liver, to the Greeks, was the seat of the soul, not the heart, like we talk about today as a kind of metaphor of our being. Now we know it's just kind of a pump. But to the Greeks, it was the liver. I seem to remember that Prometheus, who stole fire from the gods and gave it to mankind in Greco-Roman mythology, was punished by being chained to a rock, and every day vultures would tear out his liver. Then it would grow back, and he would experience this tremendous pain every day.

"So, I thought I was not

prepared for this experience, but I had been really preparing for it my whole life. Being wheeled around on gurneys in the underground of this hospital had such mythological associations. I was just flooded by religious

imagery. It was the crescendo of epiphany."

During this time, Clark wrote poetry, including one "very Japanese or Zen-inspired poem of blank verse. I had been reading a lot of Japanese and Chinese poets,

and they were an influence on what I was doing. Having a transplant is like diving off of a high board: you're either in or you're out. Once you jump off the end of the board, you're in, there are no second thoughts. I have

learned to trust in God, or whatever name you care to put to it. I call Him God. It really helped me, and I can say that there was no fear involved. I knew that the donor was 24 years old, though the circumstances

of his death are unknown, and I feel his presence, along with a sense of responsibility to do something good with the rest of my life. To do something with it in a positive way." ■

— John Brizzolara

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While I was waiting for the receipt I looked around and saw "the collectors." Mostly men, the ones we hear rooting through the bins the night before collection day. There were maybe six or seven men and one woman chatting among themselves, commenting on how well each had done, comparing hun-

dreds of empty beverage cans in huge clear plastic bags. I overheard one man say, "Glad to see you back on the job — just stay clear of my alley." "Not to worry" was the reply. "I have my own now."

I recognize two of the men from my alley. These homeless people, making their money in a respectable way, faces grizzled in beard and craggy lines from too much of the elements, too little of much else. People missing teeth with matted hair under greasy-looking baseball caps, several layers of clothing on spare frames, having a business meeting of sorts.

The laughter was not the sound that a belly laugh brings but a sharp, loud sound ringed with fear, maybe madness, from living life in a canyon, thanking stars above that everyone is drinking plastic containers of water, cans of soft drinks, and bottles of tea so that maybe tonight — cold, under a tarp, sheltered from the rain — a pint of liquor will get them through. Drink to drink. A new life cycle. ■



Author: **Susie Harris**  
 Neighborhood: **University Heights**  
 Age: **63**  
 Occupation: **Retired**

Editor's note: This is the winner of the \$500 first-place prize for October's neighborhood-essay contest.

Deadline for the next essay contest is November 30, 12 midnight.

Post your entry by going to [SDReader.com/neighborhoods](http://SDReader.com/neighborhoods), find your neighborhood or campus, and follow the instructions to create a blog.



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## LETTERS

*continued from page 12*  
 refers reports on the Securities and Exchange Commission's case against five pension officials; Aguirre's name does not appear in the story.

### Two Blue Pencils

Regarding Robert Lowth's letter to the editor (November 6) concerning Josh Board the party crasher, as poor and uninteresting a writer as Bored [sic] is, Lowth is worse. Please censor them both.

Chris Bowd  
 via email

### No Cows In The River

Your excellent article "There Is No San Diego River" (Cover Story, October 23) stirred some old memories for me.

When I moved my family to San Diego in 1969, most of the San Diego River was a golf course, from Highway 395 to Highway 15. It flooded every once in a while, as did all of San Diego's streams. This allowed them to cleanse themselves of natural and man-made debris.

There were a few businesses along Highway 8, but those were in danger at flood

times. Even the dairy farmers had enough sense to not build anything in a stream-bed! How the City and County of San Diego could approve the construction of huge shopping centers and living areas along those streams is beyond me. But money talks, and bureaucrats hear it.

Sadly, the San Diego River is only one of many fatalities among our streams and steep canyons. I live on what was once the San Luis Rey River. When I bought this property in 1974, the river ran most of the time, clear and clean.

In the 1980s, many deep wells and water-diversion projects began removing the water faster than it accumulated. Now the San Luis Rey is a streak of sand and rock extending from the ocean to Lake Henshaw. Four-wheelers race on it!

Pala's casino was built where a magnificent oak grove once stood, in the floodplain. Other atrocities exist or are being considered from the ocean to Henshaw. That's enough memories for me!

Name Withheld  
 Pala

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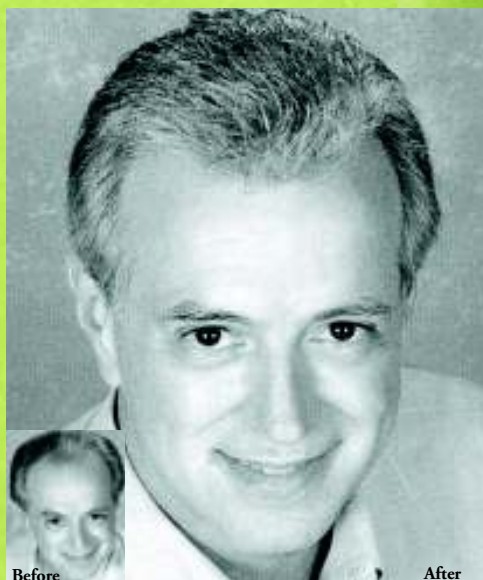
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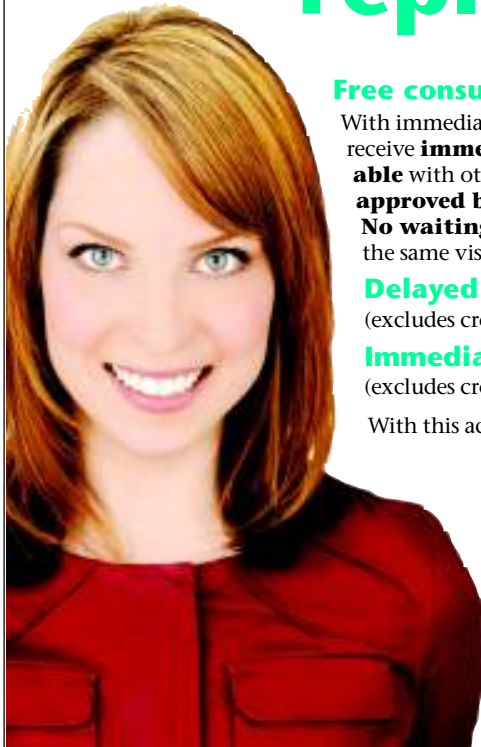
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Before

After

## Worthless Paper

Don Bauder ("Bailsman," "City Lights," October 16) gives charity to the current financial mess. The gigantic bailouts will saturate the world with Federal Reserve scrip (debt note) dollars in the forthcoming paperstorm. German prime minister Merkel said after the current financial debacle (manipulated collapse), a new global financial system will emerge, meaning the current crisis is under central bank control.

Did you notice the Bank of England's private U.S. Federal Reserve subsidiary, Delaware incorporated, producer of our near-worthless unbacked paper dollars, was "not" nationalized with the other troubled banks?

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*Communist Manifesto* — here, the "abolition of private property." It has no reserves except the paper it prints at will with zeros added on and transferred to its computer coffers.

The Congress should abolish the Fed's charter, resume its constitutional duty, and direct the proper limited amount of nondebt currency, gold and silver backed, to control any over-expansion, providing the stability it once knew.

The present unbacked currency proliferation accounts for our international meddling, wars, and home-grown unconstitutional bureaucracy expansion.

Smart investors saw the dollar's demise and invested heavily in gold and silver, creating shortages beginning last March for the first time.

Thomas Jefferson said, "If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issuance of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that grow

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up around them will deprive the people of all property until their children wake up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.”

The central bankers supported the environmental and more recent eminent domain concepts to bring about the same result.

Ray Bently  
Escondido

### Sunshine and Mediocrity

Ho hum. I had hoped for some rational constructive criticism to my previous letter, my mild criticism of this city (Letters, October 2). However, three responses were angry, irrational, condescending, sarcastic, and full of personal invective. The one letter in my defense was from a lady who had lived in the Bay Area, naturally. The scale of discourse there tends towards the rational and the intelligence level much higher. I thank this lady for her insight and gentility. As for the recent letter from Mr. P.B., you need to know that sarcasm is the last refuge of the witless. I also do not understand why you think I want to move to L.A. I was thinking more of a great city 500 miles or so north, the real “finest city.”

The three nasty letters typify for me the provincialism of this place. Are you gentlemen incapable of rebutting my view of San Diego in a logical, constructive fashion instead of merely tearing it down with personal invective? How boring! I was hoping to get a good conversation going, maybe to learn something from a positive dialogue. Instead I get the tired old “love it or leave it” tirade, trite and facile.

I’m from San Diego, but I was fortunate to have had the opportunity to live in other places. However, I remember when this was a small, pleasant town. Then it became a large, unpleasant town without bothering to become a city. That is all I am saying. Can you refute this without resorting to personal invective?

Your letters have further convinced me that we all live in an intellectual wasteland. Significantly, the most intelligent letter came from an ex-San Franciscan. She won’t be staying here long. This lady realizes that sun-

shine and mediocrity are not enough to make a great city. You will too, one of these days.

Rico Gardiner  
Mission Hills

### Clip Ollie

Most weeks I go through the *Reader*. I find some good articles and some not so good, okay. I’ve been reading the “Remote Control King” thinking it was humor. In several months now it has

not raised as much as a smile. I’ve come to the conclusion that it’s just a filler. Clip art would be cheaper and more entertaining.

Dean Rither  
via email

### Comments from Reader Website

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

### Restaurant Review Published November 5

Posted by catty1 on

November 6, 3:12 p.m.

You forgot to mention that there is a Harvest Ranch in El Cajon, too-on Jamacha, near Washington. But then, it is east of the 5, so it doesn’t count, right?

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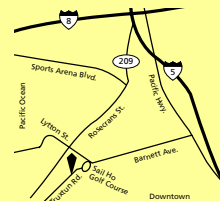
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# Life Drawing

## If You Live a Very Odd Life

**T**he vice squad contacted the Bluefoot Bar for our very first session because they saw an ad for it and were, like, “We’re going to be watching you,” says Lily Jackson, emcee for Dr. Sketchy’s Anti-Art School San Diego. “In normal life-drawing [sessions], the models often get nude or partially nude.”

On Saturday, November 15, Dr. Sketchy’s will host a “drunken life-drawing event” at its new location, the Ruby Room (formerly the San Diego Sports Club). Since Molly Crabapple founded the first Dr. Sketchy’s Anti-Art School in Brooklyn, New

York, in 2005, over 60 branches have been established.

### LOCAL EVENTS

“Molly was a burlesque dancer who does illustrations, so that was her whole thing — screw the traditional thing, let’s get together, let’s have some cocktails and contests like best left-handed drawing or incorporating Smurfette into your picture,” says Doni Conner, an illustrator who regularly attends sessions in San Diego.

Jackson says at least half of the artists who attend the monthly group drawing sessions are female. “If you look at burlesque girls, they’re like real girls,” says Jackson. “They’re not stripper girls with fake boobs, not anorexic fashion-model girls.” Lady Borgia, a burlesque performer who models for Dr. Sketchy’s, explains that cabaret-licensing laws determine that where alcohol is sold, performers must have “a three-quarter coverage of the gluteal area, or the butt cheeks.” The nipples and underside of the breast must also be covered. “For a private event,” she

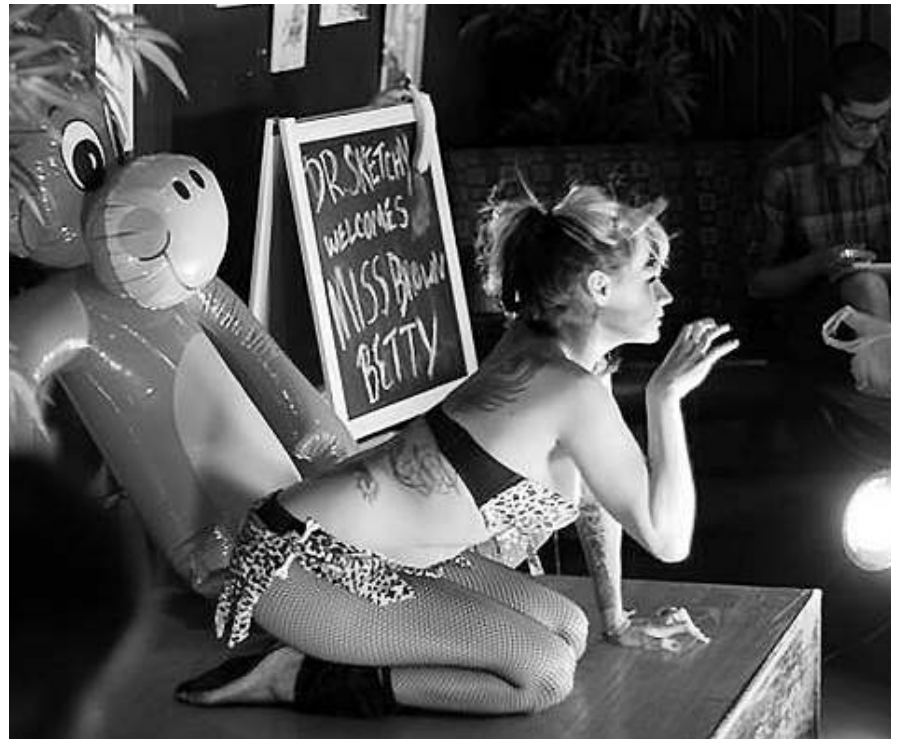
says, “I was able to go to pasties and able to go nude or just have cloth coverage. In the bars we have to have a full bra and full bottom or boy-shorts kind of bottom.”

Most drinks are consumed during breaks between poses. “A lot of artists are pretty shy,” says Jackson. “As the evening progresses, I definitely notice people talking to each other more. [Drinking] kind of lubricates the proceedings, for sure.”

Conner says the drinking aspect doesn’t hinder or enhance her work but agrees that alcohol can facilitate interaction between artists during breaks. In a three-hour session, she might consume three beers. “Most artists and illustrators are sort of socially inept,” she says. “With a couple of drinks, you loosen up.”

One of the reasons Conner prefers Dr. Sketchy’s to more traditional life-drawing sessions she’s attended in Little Italy is that the models are costumed. “In a regular drawing session the model’s always nude, and there’s nothing more to that than maybe different sizes, shapes, and colors.” She prefers it when models bring props. “Once, two models posed on Twister, which was pretty hard [for them], but it was great.”

Modeling for artists is an art unto itself, says Lady Borgia, who used to do live nude modeling for a college art class. “It was nice to be able to figure out poses that accentuated the muscle structure,” she explains. “If you were to kick your heel up and lean onto that leg, that is going to accentuate the calf and quad; if you bend a bit more to the side and lift your arm up, you’re going to get more of the ripple of muscles down the back. The more I get to see what the artists are drawing and what they’re seeing, that’s



Model at Dr. Sketchy’s “Welcome to the Jungle” session, May 2008

inspiration for poses.”

Conner says she likes it when models make exaggerated poses, such as curving their backs. Of some burlesque models she says, “Because they’re not traditional models, their poses aren’t spectacular.” Conner attributes this to the fact that most burlesque performers aren’t accustomed to standing still for a long period of time. “They’re usually on stage, doing their acts and stripteases,” she says. When they do pose, too often “They’re laying down on the stage with their feet up on the wall or just sitting. A traditional figure model would know how to hold those exaggerated poses longer.”

According to Conner, even the boring poses of a live model are better than drawing from a photograph. “A photograph is two-dimensional,” she explains. “You don’t get to see the whole shape and form of a person. Let’s say you’re sitting at a table, and you’re at an angle where you don’t get to see the roundness of the shoulder — all you have to do is move a little bit, and then you can see how to draw the line. Also, a lot of fashion-photography lighting doesn’t allow for you to

look at form as well as if you have a live person in front of you.”

Conner believes Dr. Sketchy’s attracts more illustrators, comic book, and graffiti artists than it does fine artists. “It’s a fun atmosphere versus a more serious one,” she says. At one session, burlesque performers Mynx D’Meanor and Indiana Jake created a series of poses in which they reenacted a Jack the Ripper scene. “From the beginning to the end of the kill,” Conner remembers. “Her being the hooker on the street and him meeting her, him giving her grapes, then taking her clothes off, to cutting her throat and having her on the ground. They even used red yarn as fake blood.”

— Barbarella

**Dr. Sketchy’s Anti-Art School**  
**Saturday, November 15**  
**3 p.m. to 6 p.m.**  
**Ruby Room**  
**1271 University Avenue**  
**Hillcrest**  
**Cost: \$10**  
**Info: [drsketchysandiego.com](http://drsketchysandiego.com)**

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**"Light"** It's time for family science day with hands-on activities. Included in regular admission. 619-238-1233. Saturday, November 15, noon; \$6-\$8. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**The Tale of Despereaux** Discuss Kate DiCamillo's book and complete a craft related to the book when "Grades 4-6 Book Club" meets. 858-538-8159. Wednesday, November 19, 5:30 p.m.; Rancho Peñasquitos Library, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Celebrate National Gaming Day** Watch episodes from third season of *Yu-Gi-Oh*, play Wii games, Dungeons and Dragons, Magic: The Gathering, "and help set the record for the most number of people playing a board game at the same time." Snacks provided. 858-538-8159. Saturday, November 15, noon; Rancho Peñasquitos Library, 13350 Salmon River Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Culture Day** The United Nations Association of San Diego has started a club for kids (4-12). Enjoy Filipino dancing, Japanese origami, and Indonesian Batik printing. 619-233-3970. Sunday, November 16, 1:30 p.m.; ages 4 and up. United Nations Building, 2171 Pan American Plaza. (BALBOA PARK)

**Songwriting for Teens** Singer-songwriter Mary Dolan presents program for those 12-19 years old, covering some of the basics of songwriting. Show up with your sense of adventure, leave with a new song. 619-445-5279. Thurs-

day, November 13, 6 p.m.; ages 12 and up. Descanso Library, 9545 River Drive. (DESCANSO)

**True Love and an Evil Spell** Millie Patterson's Weavers Tales present *Sleeping Beauty*, November 12-16 and November 19-23. Curtain rises at 10 and 11:30 a.m. Wednesday-Friday; and at 11 a.m., 1, and 2:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 619-544-9203. Thursday, November 13; Friday, November 14; Saturday, November 15; Sunday, November 16; Wednesday, November 19; \$3-\$5. Marie Hitchcock Puppet Theatre, 2130 Pan American Road West. (BALBOA PARK)

**Volcom Blowfish Surf Series** Small regional surfing event for local kids at south harbor jetty. No entry fee. 949-646-2175 x6302. Saturday, November 15, 7:30 a.m.; Oceanside Harbor, 1540 Harbor Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

### IN PERSON

**"Chocolate Wednesdays Comedy Show"** Midsouth Entertainment presents show starring Corey Holcomb, hosted by Nate Jackson, with music by DJ Alonzo. 619-708-7975. Wednesday, November 19, 8 p.m.; \$10-\$15. Ages 21 and up. Club Rio, 1299 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

**"De Gracia y Pasión"** Spanish dance and guitar on tap when guitarists Randy Pile and Scott Wolf are joined by singer-dancers Alexandra Roza and Micaela Castellanos in performance of Spanish classical and flamenco music, dance, song. Program includes works by Manuel de Falla, Enrique Granados, and Joaquín Rodrigo. 858-459-3459. Sunday, November 16, 7 p.m.; \$20. Lila

## OUT & ABOUT

**THE SONG AND DANCE ENSEMBLE OF WEST AFRICA**, Balboa Theatre, Monday, November 17.

(SEE IN PERSON)



Jolla Studios, 1002 Prospect Street. (LA JOLLA)

**"DimeStories Live"** Expect "compelling three-minute stories told by great writers." This event is in collaboration with new NPR show (debuting in fall). UCSD students: pay what you can. 858-534-TIXS. Tuesday, November 18, 7 p.m.; \$5. The Loft, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**"The World of David Brin"** Scientist, speaker, technical consultant, author David Brin speaks on his diverse background and projects, present and future. His novels have won multiple Hugo, Nebula, and other awards. Brin's latest book, *Sky Horizon*, is his first in a new series for young adults. 760-753-7376. Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**"Tribal Voice"** John Trudell is a poet, recording artist, actor, activist. Trudell (Santee Sioux) plans lecture and musical performance in Arts Building room 111 focusing on contemporary issues facing Native Americans. 760-750-4366. Tuesday, November 18, 7 p.m.; CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

**A Piece of My Heart** Drama chronicling experiences of six women who served in Vietnam, written by Shirley Lauro, is first production of regular season for school's actors. 619-475-8556. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.; Saturday, November 15, 7 p.m.; Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; \$6-\$7. School of Creative and Performing Arts, 2425 Dusk Drive. (PARADISE HILLS)

**Tales from the Tijuana Jails** Sam Warren reads from, signs his book chronicling "some of the frightful, harrowing, and strange stories of some of the inmates he encountered" during his years in jail. (A "dedicated group of friends finally secured the author's freedom.") 619-236-5800. Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**Comedic Hypnosis** Master hypnotist and magician Michael DeSchalit entertains. 760-720-2460. Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; \$8-\$10. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

**Cropper Writers Series** Jericho Brown, USD creative writing professor, reads from his newly published book of poetry, *Please*. 619-260-4783. Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

searching the work. Admission: \$10, or pay \$25 for lecture and book. 619-232-6203 x129. Thursday, November 13, 6 p.m.; \$10-\$25. Museum of San Diego History, 1649 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**How Romantic** Romance writers HelenKay Dimon (*Hot as Hell*), Christie Ridgway (*Unravel Me*), Chris Marie Green (*Break of Dawn*), and Lori Foster (*Caught!*) discuss and sign their work. 858-684-3166. Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.; Barnes and Noble Bookstore Mira Mesa, 10775 Westview Parkway. (MIRA MESA)

**Literary Reading** World Literary Series hosts reading by fiction writer Kevin Moffett (*Permanent Visitors*), and poet Daniel Gutstein, author of *nonfiction*, in Markstein Hall 125. 760-750-8077. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; CSU San Marcos, 333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road. (SAN MARCOS)

**Meet The Bold and the Beautiful Author** Actress, author Eileen Davidson signs *Death in Daytime*, in which a "soap opera actress takes matters into her own hands when she is suspected of

**Harrowing and Funny?** Lee Polevoi plans book launch party and reading of *The Moon in Deep Winter*. 858-755-3735. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; Book Works, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

**Hinges Improv Comedy Show** Enjoy long-form skits when group gets "pretty darn silly, crazy, and naughty." Completely different every time. Not "for kids or prudes." 619-414-7723. Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; \$8-\$10. Ages 18 and up. Sews and Shows Community Theatre, 7860 Golden Avenue. (LEMON GROVE)

**Historical Mystery Time!** Jeri Westerson signs *Veil of Lies*, a "debut medieval noir mystery," joined by Larry Karp signing *The King of Ragtime*. 858-268-4747. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**How Romantic** Romance writers HelenKay Dimon (*Hot as Hell*), Christie Ridgway (*Unravel Me*), Chris Marie Green (*Break of Dawn*), and Lori Foster (*Caught!*) discuss and sign their work. 858-684-3166. Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.; Barnes and Noble Bookstore Mira Mesa, 10775 Westview Parkway. (MIRA MESA)

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## Give Yourself A Holiday Gift, Shop In Rosarito This Year



Don't let fighting mobs in malls and playing bumper car in crowded parking lots stress you out this holiday season.

In Rosarito Beach, a scenic drive just 18 miles south of the border, you'll find a myriad of holiday gifts in unique shops and boutiques, all in a beautiful seaside setting.

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piece just completed by one of our local craftsmen in his small shop.

Visit galleries and studios along Popotla Boulevard for works by more than 300 fine artists working in the city's renaissance. You might find a painting for the cost of a frame in the U.S.

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That way you can get in a little relaxation time for yourself. Stay in one of our fine hotels at budget prices. Luxuriate in one of our world-class spas then indulge in a fresh lobster dinner.

You might even decide that a gift certificate would be a perfect gift. (If you don't mind your friends finding out that you actually had fun shopping for them this year.)

We could tell you much more, but seeing is believing. Visit [www.rosarito.org](http://www.rosarito.org) or better yet just come down. (We do suggest you make a reservation at that perfect hotel first.)

Happy holidays and happy shopping in Rosarito!

## New VIP Distinguished Visitor Card Offered By City Of Rosarito Beach

The seaside community of Rosarito Beach, just 18 miles south of the border from San Diego, is rolling out the red carpet for its approximately one-million-plus annual visitors.

Mayor Hugo Torres in his on-going campaign to improve the community and make it more desirable for tourists, along with the Rosarito Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau, have implemented a new program: the city's first Distinguished Visitor Card.

The VIP card will identify cardholders and entitle them to special discounts on everything from hotels and dining to shopping at local galleries, craft, leather, pottery, perfume and other merchants in the area who have chosen to participate.

"We wanted to provide visitors who frequent Rosarito Beach something to let them know how special they are to us and how much we appreciate them coming here," said Mayor Torres.

"It is designed to provide our visitors with a whole new world of special bargains on almost everything in Rosarito Beach, from all of the great shopping to soothing spa treatments and lobster dinners in Puerto Nuevo," he said. In addition to providing discounts, the card also contains helpful information such as phone numbers and web links for Tourist Assistance plus other useful information when visiting Rosarito Beach.

The Distinguished Visitor Card is free and can be easily obtained at the Rosarito Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau, at participating merchants or by going to the website <http://www.rosarito.org/vip> and filling out a form.

The card will be mailed to the applicant's home or place of business.

The website contains a list of all of the participating merchants and will be updated as more merchants are added to the program. The card is honored wherever the city of Rosarito Beach logo is displayed.

This program is all part of the "new Rosarito" that Mayor Torres promised. "It is simply an extension of our Mexican culture, the 'Mi casa, su casa' mentality that promotes Old World hospitality and charm and makes Baja and especially Rosarito Beach a very special place to vacation and visit," said Mayor Torres.

Now, in addition to the spectacular sunsets, surfing, fishing, dining, and shopping, couples and families alike can save money with their Distinguished Visitor Card and enjoy an even more memorable experience.



killing one of her show's writers." 858-268-4747. Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

**Mission Improbable** Troupe presents all-improvised comedy show based on audience suggestions, inviting you "to think as well as laugh... upbeat, clean fun, suitable for families." 858-581-0050. Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; \$10. Swedenborg Hall, 1531 Tyler Avenue. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**National Lip-Sync Talent Search** Revival of TV series *Puttin' on the Hits* means local contestants may participate in lip-synching competitions, using "words by a popular recording artist or group" to create "the illusion they are that artist performing in concert." 619-204-9468. Thursdays, 7 p.m.; through Thursday, November 20, \$7. Channel Twelve 25, 172 East Main Street. (EL CAJON)

**North Park Vaudeville Show** Nine acts of family friendly variety entertainment in "old-fashioned vaudeville tradition"; enjoy singers, dancers, comedy, drama. 619-220-8663. Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m.; \$14. North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe, 2031 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

**Ocean Beach Comedy** Stand-up comedian Doug Stanhope returns to Ocean Beach. Open-mike comedy show (6-7 p.m.) precedes show. 619-222-6822. Friday, November 14, 6 p.m.; \$25. Winstons, 1921 Bacon Street. (OCEAN BEACH)

**Play Time** See the Unravelled troupe "improvise a complete play." 619-220-8663. Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; \$5. North Park Vaudeville and Candy Shoppe, 2031 El Cajon Boulevard. (NORTH PARK)

**Psychic at Pala?** Psychic medium-author Sylvia C. Browne entertains. Browne channels "information through hypnosis and trance sessions." 877-946-7252. Saturday, November 15, 7:30 p.m.; \$45-\$100. Pala Casino, 35008 Pala Temecula Road. (PALA)

**Sly Superstar** Author Jeff Kaliss discusses his new book *I Want to Take You Higher: The Life and Times of Sly and the Family Stone*. "Kaliss scored the first face-to-face interview with the reclusive superstar in over 20 years." 858-456-1800. Saturday, November 15, 7 p.m.; D.G. Wills Books, 7461 Girard Avenue. (LA JOLLA)

**Squeaky-Clean Comedy!** Family-friendly shows for all ages. 858-433-1457. Saturdays, 7 p.m.; \$5. Naveed's Comedy Club at Bella Roma Pizza and Restaurant, 6830 La Jolla Boulevard #103. (LA JOLLA)

**The Return of the West Coast Funnies!** Comedy variety show with headliner Jimmy Dore, Ryan Niemiller, host Kurt Swann. Show combines sketch comedy with stand-up comedy presented in talk-show format; think *Saturday Night Live* meets *The Daily Show* meets *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson. Show is geared towards an adult audience, contains profanity. 619-997-3033. Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; \$15-\$20. Carlsbad Village Theatre, 2808 State Street. (CARLSBAD)

**The Song and Dance Ensemble of West Africa** Enjoy traditional sounds and rhythms, dancing, and colorful costumes. Ensemble is inspired by traditional music from its native Mali. 619-570-1100. Monday, November 17, 7:30 p.m.; \$25-\$50. Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

**What's Cooking?** Chez Panisse head chef David Tanis talks about his new cookbook *A Platter of Figs*, described as "a richly illustrated collection of seasonal and intuitive menus celebrating the communal aspect of cooking for friends." Signing follows. 858-755-3735. Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m.; Book Works, 2670 Via de la Valle. (DEL MAR)

**Where Is Mithgar?** Fantasy author Dennis McKiernan signs *City of Jade*, with "a group of adven-

turers" on quest for mythic lost city of title. 858-268-4747. Saturday, November 15, 2 p.m.; Mysterious Galaxy Books, 7051 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, suite 302. (CLAIREMONT)

## LECTURES

**"Learn How to Garden — Water Smart"** California-friendly gardening for water-wise gardeners. Reservations: 619-570-1999. Satur-

day, November 15, 10 a.m.; City Heights Performance Annex, 3791 Fairmount Avenue. (CITY HEIGHTS)

**"A Revolutionary Reception with Napoleon"** This art of wine tasting/lecture series continues when Barbara Baxter focuses on Napoleon, who "famously preferred Burgundy's Gevrey-Chambertin, typically bottled with an embossed 'N' on the label five or six years after vintage." Burgundy wines will be sampled. 858-454-5872. Wednesday, November 19,

7:30 p.m.; \$25-\$30. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

**"Are the Ice Sheets Melting? Antarctica and Greenland's Response to Climate Change"** Explorers Club of San Diego meets for dinner, lecture on climate change by Helen Amanda Fricker of Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Social hour 6 p.m., dinner 6:45 p.m., presentation 7:45. RSVP: 619-298-1098. Tuesday, November 18, 6 p.m.; \$30. Marine

Corps Air Station Miramar, Miramar Way. (MIRA MESA)

**"Climate Change and Sustainability"** Lisa Shaffer, executive director of UCSD's Environment and Sustainability Initiative, presents latest findings in climate-change research and its implications, as well as information on broader challenges of sustainability. What can individuals, businesses, governments, other organizations do to reduce "environmental footprints"? Donation. 760-274-6041. Saturday,

Look out. There's a family tree falling.

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ALL NEW EPISODE TUES 8pm

San Diego 6 THE CW

November 15, 7 p.m.; \$5-\$10. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Dieguito, 1036 Solana Drive. (SOLANA BEACH)

**"Conflicts of Religion with Science and Democracy"** Lou Perry plans talk based on his UCSD course when Humanist Fellowship of San Diego gathers. 619-670-4159, 619-544-0640. Sunday, November

16, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Counter Hues" Art Talk** Artists' lectures by artists from San Diego Mesa College museum studies class "who use dramatic color and an intense palette to express increasing concern over current social issues" in their exhibit. 619-388-2829. Saturday, November 15, 2 p.m.; Counter Hues, 830 25th Street. (GOLDEN HILL)

**"Emigration from England and Immigration to the U.S."** June Hanson speaks for England/Wales Interest Class sponsored by British Isles Genealogical Research Associ-

ation. Nonmembers welcome. 619-583-8352. Wednesday, November 19, 10:30 a.m.; LDS Family History Center, 4195 Camino del Rio South. (MISSION VALLEY)

**"Floral Design With David Root"** Root demonstrates design process using unusual plant material and containers, then create your own autumn-themed floral arrangement to take home. Bring a floral knife, clippers, wire cutters, scissors; all other materials provided. Required advance registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m.; \$55-\$60. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**"How to Propagate Rare Fruit Trees"** California Rare Fruit Growers host final talk in "Rare Fruit Introductory Class" series in room 104. Class offers opportunity to learn to grow fruit varieties including jujube, capulin cherry, raisin tree, pitahaya, longan, jaboticaba, tropical guava, passion fruit, wax jambu, ice cream bean. 619-261-3610. Wednesday, November 19, 6 p.m.; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Imagine Six Impossible Things Before Breakfast"** Sarah Graham, principal AGPS Architecture, speaks for "Fission Sites" lecture series. 619-235-2900. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; Woodbury University, 2212 Main Street. (LOGAN HEIGHTS)

**"Implants, Abductions, and Shoot 'em Down"** MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) San Diego presents a UFO forum with "McBride, Cunard, and Podell" conducting an interactive forum, responding to audience questions. 760-753-2456. Sunday, November 16, 6 p.m.; Sizzler, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

## OUT & ABOUT

### BOLD AND BEAUTIFUL AUTHOR!

Eileen Davidson,  
Mysterious Galaxy  
Books, Sunday,  
November 16.

(SEE IN PERSON)



**"Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota"** Author Hollis Goodall, curator of Japanese art at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, discusses San Diego Museum of Art's exhibition of nature-inspired kimono, followed by a performance by the Asayake Taiko drumming group. Part of Evening Encounters Series. 619-232-7931. Monday, November 17, 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.; \$25-\$30. San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Learning from the Gray Wolf: Keystone Species and Ecosystem Conservation"** The San Diego Tracking Team Speaker Series hosts presentation by California Wolf Center. Learn importance of North American gray wolves and why their conservation is critical to health of ecosystems they inhabit. Donation. Registration: 760-715-4102. Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.; \$5. Mission Trails

Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

**"Native Plant Uses by the Santa Ysabel Kumeyaay"** Author, ethnobotanist Ken Hedges has studied this history in Santa Isabel and (with Christina Beresford) wrote a book in 1986 highlighting some of most important uses of native plants in Kumeyaay culture. Hedges plans talk on native plant uses for food, medicine, basketry when California Native Plant Society meets in Casa del Prado room 101 or 104. Mystery plants identified. 619-282-3645. Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m.; Casa del Prado, El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Putting It All Together: The Art of Producing"** Michael Gross — producer of comedies *Ghostbusters*, *Ghostbusters II*, *Twins*, *Dave*, *Beethoven*, and others — addresses SoCal Moviemakers. Also on tap: premiere of *The Candidate*, a short comedy shot during last meeting. 760-753-6897. Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**"Raise Hope for Congo"** Student Anti-Genocide Coalition

(STAND) at USD presents lecture, panel discussion with activist John Prendergast and other guests. 619-260-7919. Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m.; Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park. (LINDA VISTA)

**"Recycle With Earthworms"** Shelley Grossman discusses vermicomposting when MiraCosta Horticulture Club meets in room 7001. Refreshments, plant raffle follow. Visitors welcome. 760-729-8172. Saturday, November 15, 12:45 p.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

**"San Diego's Growing Pains: Preservation and Sustainable Development"** Friends of San Diego Architecture host panel discussion moderated by architect Michael Stepler, joined by Bruce Coons of Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO), SDSU professor of city planning Lawrence A. Herzog, and Dr. Tracy Delaney, public health nutrition manager, County of San Diego, Health and Human Services. Donation. 619-224-8584. Saturday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.; \$5. NewSchool of Architecture and Design, 1249 F Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Spanish Missions in California and Manila: Restoration and Preservation in Modern Cities"** "Avid art collector" Jaime Laya of the Philippines discusses the building of missions, their significance in modern society, using examples from his involvement in restoration of an 18th-century church in Manila. 858-822-6756. Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Sticking With It: One Novel's 30-Year Journey to Success"** Author Selden Edwards (*The Little Book*) leads writing workshop hosted by Warwick's and San Diego Writers, Ink. Selden will discuss his experiences in writing and researching his novel, what went

# Great Escapes

619-235-8200 TO PLACE AN AD



## Rosarito Beach Hotel Mexico's Legendary Resort From \$69 A Night

With the August 2 Grand Opening of our 271-suite, 17-story Pacifico Tower, the Rosarito Beach Hotel became Baja's largest and most historic resort. Weekday room rates start at \$69. For reservation, call toll free 1-800-343-8582. RosaritoBeachHotel.com. Valid Sun.-Thurs., through 12/18/08.



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Fairytale castle near Harrah's Casino. Jacuzzis, balconies, TVs, bathrobes, breakfast, snacks. Voted most romantic getaway. Near wineries, wedding facility. Cupid's Castle B&B. CupidsCastleBandB.com. 760-742-3306.

## Reduce Your Stress!

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## Romantic Mountain Getaway In-room Jacuzzis Sunday-Friday, \$129

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## Big Bear Cool Cabins

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## KIMONO AS ART

*The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota*



Through January 4, 2009

Experience the dramatic expression of color and light when oversized silk kimono take the place of canvas. *Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota* features 40 kimono embroidered and dyed to illustrate shimmering, exquisite landscapes, on view in a special joint presentation at the San Diego Museum of Art and the Timken Museum of Art.

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1500 EL PRADO, BALBOA PARK · 619 239 5548 · TIMKENMUSEUM.ORG

Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota is made possible by the generosity of the Timken Foundation of Canton and is a collaboration between the Canton Museum of Art, the Itchiku Kubota Art Museum, the San Diego Museum of Art, and the Timken Museum of Art.

Local presentation of this exhibition is supported in part by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture and the County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program.

IMAGÉ: Itchiku Kubota, *Ohn/Fuji and Burning Clouds* (detail), tie-dyeing and ink painting on silk crepe with gold wefts, 1991. Courtesy of the Itchiku Kubota Art Museum.

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into his 34 years of writing and rewriting. Registration fee includes workshop materials, signed copy of Edwards's novel. 858-454-0347. Monday, November 17, 7 p.m.; \$35. The Ink Spot, 710 13th Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Succulent Wreath Class"** Learn to make a succulent wreath. Bring clippers, water, snack. Fee includes instruction, materials, wreath form. Required registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Thursday, November 13, 9 a.m.; \$55-\$65. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**"The Art of Budgeting"** San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union divulges financial expertise about creating a budget, including best tips for paying down debt, increasing savings. Learn methods of building good credit, raising credit scores. 619-278-5724. Wednesday, November 19, 11:30 a.m.; San Diego Metropolitan Credit Union, 9212 Balboa Avenue. (KEARNY MESA)

**"The Five Pillars of Islamic Art: Middle Eastern Art and Artists Past"** Middle Eastern or Islamic art has five sources or "pillars," whose significance help build a unique culture from southern Spain to Indonesia. Doris Bittar focuses on these pillars speaks for Decorative Arts Lecture Series. Bittar has interviewed master calligraphers, contemporary artists, historians to reveal process of cultural fusions and its hybrid results. Continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m.; lecture at 10 a.m. Reservations: 858-454-5872. Monday, November 17, 9:30 a.m.; \$17-\$27. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, 1008 Wall Street. (LA JOLLA)

**"Thinking Like a Watershed"** Brock Dolman, Water Institute director, speaks for "Sustainable Planet: Water" series. Book signing follows. Required advance registration: 619-232-3821. Tuesday, November 18, 6:30 p.m.; San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Three Decades of Injustice: Health and Human Rights in Iraq"** Dr. Wael al-Dulaimy, associate professor at UCSD School of Medicine, has worked as a physician in his native Iraq. He will discuss the abuse of human rights and health care in Iraq. Lecture planned in Center Hall Room 119. 858-822-5297. Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**"Tibetan Mustang and the Last Forbidden Kingdom"** "High atop the Tibetan Plateau lies the extremely remote and mythic kingdom of Mustang, Tibetan Buddhism's sacred birthplace." Ken Parker plans lecture in conjunction with opening of his "Tibet: Imagery by Kenneth Parker" exhibition. 619-232-3821. Saturday, November 15, 9 a.m.; \$10-\$12. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Time to 'Get Real'"** League of Women Voters of San Diego hosts "Lunch With League" program addressing "the economy, greed, taxes, military spending, private contractors, and more." Panelists: economist Marnie Cox of SANDAG, columnist and author James Goldsborough, Citizens' Oversight Projects founder Ray Lutz. RSVP: 619-223-8074. Tuesday, November 18, 11:30 a.m.; \$25-\$30. Tom Ham's Lighthouse, 2150 Harbor Island Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Turning Up the Heat: Global Climate Change and San Diego"** Tijuana Estuary Speaker Series continues when Phillip Pryde, emeritus professor of geography at SDSU, board member of San

Diego Audubon Society, examines possible effects of global climate change on the San Diego. What are implications for our county's natural environment, regional economy? Book signing of *San Diego: An Introduction to the Region* follows. 619-575-3613. Saturday, November 15, 11 a.m.; Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center, 301 Caspian Way. (IMPERIAL BEACH)

**"Writing Through the Pitfalls, or How to Stay on Track for Success"** *New York Times* best-selling author

Lori Foster — who "has six to ten releases a year" — addresses Romance Writers of America. Afternoon promises author panel with Lori Foster, Christie Ridgeway, Chris Marie/Crystal Green, and Judy Duarte focusing on "The Fine Art of Juggling — Genres, Publishers, and Editors." 858-486-5280. Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; \$35-\$40. Trinity Episcopal Church, 845 Chestnut Street. (ESCONDIDO)

**Art Talks** Environmental artist Robert Bateman and American

wildlife art author David Wagner plan lectures in conjunction with opening of "The Art of Robert Bateman" exhibition. Wagner will project, discuss "masterpieces by the most illustrious wildlife artists in American history." Book signings follow. 619-232-3821. Monday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.; \$12-\$16. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Art in the Evening** "Blossoms at Crossing: Itchiku Kubota and Tsujigahana Textile" is topic when

artist, curator, textile researcher Yoshiko Iwamoto Wada speaks in conjunction with "Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota" exhibition. 619-239-5548. Thursday, November 13, 5:30 p.m.; \$45-\$55. Timken Museum of Art, 1500 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Artist Talk: Gabriel Lester** Dutch artist Gabriel Lester makes installations, film works examining relationship between narration and image to explore way that images, sound, signs contribute to

creation of illusion. Talk offered in Ledden Auditorium room 2250 in Humanities and Social Science Building. 858-534-2107. Friday, November 14, 6 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Backyard Compost Workshop** Learn art and science of composting from Solana Center master composters. Compost bins, worm bins for sale afterward. Registration: 760-436-7986 x216. Saturday, November 15, 11 a.m.; Quail

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A GUIDE TO UNEXPECTED SAN DIEGO AND BEYOND | BY JERRY SCHAD

**W**orthwhile primarily for the view, which can be wide-ranging and spectacular on the clearest late fall or winter days, the Rim Trail in Mission Trails Regional Park rambles along a sparsely vegetated ridgeline overlooking much of metropolitan San Diego to the south and west. To the east, Fortuna Mountain rises like a scruffy hog's back, and below, at its foot, lies the pristine, oak-lined valley of Suycott Wash.



Yucca near Rim Trail

To get to the trailhead, exit Interstate 15 at Tierrasanta Boulevard. Drive two miles east (nearly to Tierrasanta Boulevard's dead-end), and turn left on Colina Dorada. Drive 1.0 mile north to the intersection of Colina Dorada and Calle de Vida, where parking is available.

From the trailhead, start hiking (or biking) northeast along the wide, nearly flat trail. At 0.5 mile you pass a deep road cut (accompanied by a trail) on the right where a proposed Clairemont Mesa Boulevard extension would have connected with a proposed extension of Jackson Drive. This road connection is not likely to happen at any time soon, if ever.

Continue straight (northeast) along the west side of a hill to a wide intersection of trails on a 730-foot-elevation saddle at 0.8 mile. The "Twin Towers" cylindrical structures on the hill are part of the second San Diego Aqueduct, which supplies water to our region from sources far to the north.

At the 730-foot saddle, veer left on the signed Rim Trail. Some 2.4 miles later you will return to this saddle after looping counterclockwise on a route that is popular with mountain bikers as well as hikers. There are many intersections along the way with directional signs that are easier to spot if you follow the route counterclockwise. Keep in mind that the Rim Trail is just that — it stays high on the ridges and does not descend very far into ravines. When you get back to the 730-foot saddle, return to the trailhead the way you came.

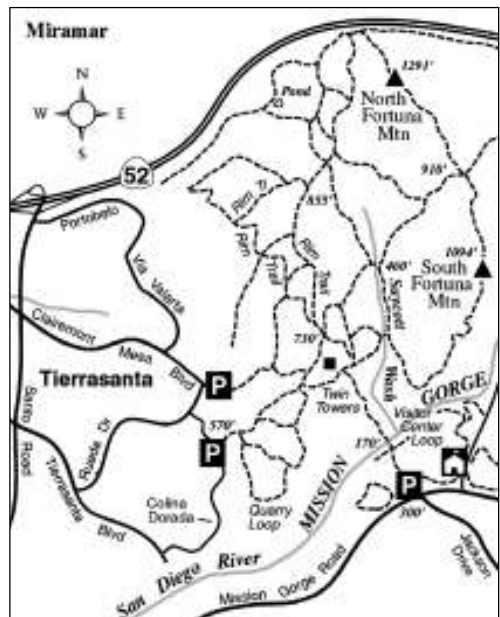
This article contains information about a publicly owned recreation or wilderness area. Trails and pathways are not necessarily marked. Conditions can change rapidly. Hikers should be properly equipped and have safety and naviga-

tional skills. The *Reader* and Jerry Schad assume no responsibility for any adverse experience.

**RIM TRAIL**

On foot or by mountain bike, travel panoramic trails on the west rim of Mission Trails Regional Park.

**Distance from downtown San Diego:** 12 miles  
**Biking length:** 4 miles  
**Difficulty:** Moderate



Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**Creative Writing Class** Author Lisa Shapiro helps writers improve creative writing, including fiction, family history, personal memoirs, and creative nonfiction. 619-588-3718. Monday, November 17, 2 p.m.; ages 16 and up. El Cajon Library, 201 East Douglas Avenue. (EL CAJON)

**How to Live Happily Ever After with Your Cat** Training secrets, cat behavior, nutrition, preventing destructive behaviors, socialization with people and other animals, how to communicate with cat. Required reservations: 619-299-7012 x2247. For humans only. Tuesday, November 18, 6 p.m.; \$35. San Diego Humane Society and SPCA, 5500 Gaines Street. (LINDA VISTA)

**Interested in Self Publishing?** Author Janis Whitaker, editor Barbara Hendrickson, designer Beverly Haney, printer Mary Matson share experiences, insights, when SD/PEN meets. 858-451-3266. Wednesday, November 19, 6:30 p.m.; Clairemont Community Room, 4731 Clairemont Drive. (CLAIREMONT)

**Jewish-Muslim Relations** Khaleel Mohammed, SDSU associate professor of religious studies, speaks for community roundtable. Mohammed is a graduate of McGill University specializing in Islam, Islamic law, comparative religion. 858-268-3674. Friday, November 14, 7 p.m.; Congregation Dor Hadash, 4858 Ronson Court. (KEARNY MESA)

**The Play's the Thing?** Arthur Wagner, professor emeritus UCSD, illuminates "The Development of UCSD's Theatre Department and the Re-emergence of the La Jolla Playhouse" when San Diego Independent Scholars gather in room 111A of UCSD Chancellor's Complex. 760-751-3094 or 619-296-4055. Saturday,

November 15, 1:30 p.m.; University of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**Truffles and Bark!** Learn to make gourmet truffles, chocolate bark, other edible chocolate treats when Amanda Ehrlich of Sinful Creations leads class. Recipes, tastings offered for each item made. Registration: 760-436-3036 x206. Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; \$45-\$50. Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**Want to Write a Novel, Screenplay, or Short Story?**

Writing workshop with Judy Reeves, who will demonstrate "how and why writing practice works and how you can become a regular practitioner." Bring your notebooks. 760-753-7376. Saturday, November 15, 11 a.m.; Encinitas Library, 540 Cornish Drive. (ENCINITAS)

**What's Teneriffe?** Carol Lang teaches new technique for starting pine-needle baskets. Get the skinny on "Teneriffe Starts for Pine-Needle Baskets and Gourd Embellishments." Students "weave" a small design within a small metal ring, add pine needles to build their basket during class for all levels. Materials provided. Materials fee: \$12. Registration: 760-721-2787. Sun-

day, November 16, noon; \$55-\$80. Oceanside Museum of Art School of Art, 219 North Coast Highway. (OCEANSIDE)

habitat hosted by Friends of Famosa Slough starts at first bench on Famosa Boulevard. 619-224-4591. Saturday, November 15, 1 p.m.; Famosa Slough, West Point Loma Boulevard and Famosa Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

**OUTDOORS**

**"Beat the Heat Mystery Walk"** Naturalist Kathleen Flanagan leads early-morning, fast-paced, strenuous walk of about seven miles. Expect "a lot of map reading." Bring a minimum of two liters of water, layer your clothing. 760-839-4680. Friday, November 14, 7:30 a.m.; Daley Ranch, 3024 La Honda Drive. (ESCONDIDO)

**Bird Walk** Easy walk with variety of birds and views of salt marsh

**Gaze Through a Telescope** Search for a shooting star or Saturn and Jupiter during stargazing parties planned (weather permitting) in MiraCosta College's baseball field. Call to confirm: 760-757-2121 x6201. Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; MiraCosta College, One Barnard Drive. (OCEANSIDE)

**Invasive Species Removal** Help Friends of Buchanan Canyon dig up, cut down, remove invasive plant

*Arundo donax* from the canyon. Arundo is a big, bamboolike reed that pushes out native plants in the canyon. Wear good shoes, long pants. Bring work gloves, water. 619-297-2957. Saturday, November 15, 9 a.m.; Johnson Avenue, Johnson Avenue at Lincoln. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Miner's Loop Trail Hike** Naturalist Arne Johanson leads walk up Black Mountain with moderate elevation gain. Learn about historic arsenic mine. Wear hiking boots, bring water. 858-342-8856. Saturday, November 15, 8 a.m.; Carmel Valley staging area, 14850 Carmel Valley Road. (RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS)

**Tree Time** Offshoot Tours offers hour-long guided tour highlighting various Balboa Park trees. 619-235-1122. Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; Balboa Park Visitors' Center, 1549 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Turkey or Shawii?** Find out during guided walks what Kumeyaay peoples circa 1620 consumed. 619-668-3281. Saturday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.; Wednesday, November 19, 9:30 a.m.; Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail. (SAN CARLOS)

**Where Was Wyatt Earp's Favorite Oyster Bar?** Find out when San Diego Architectural Foundation hosts tours of historic Gaslamp Quarter. Learn about area's architectural evolution from 1880s dirt streets and saloons to current restorations and adaptive reuse projects. Tours begin at Arts Tix kiosk. 619-232-1385. Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Ages 10 and up. Horton Square, 225 Broadway. (DOWNTOWN)

**Work Party in Silverwood Sanctuary** Help remove invasive, nonnative plants during work event. 619-682-7200. Saturday, November 15, 8:30 a.m.; Silverwood Sanctuary, 13003 Wildcat Canyon Road. (LAKESIDE)

**SOUTH OF THE BORDER**

**"Agustin Lara: 100 Years of His Music and Songs"** Pianist Mario Lamadrid and invited soloists perform works by the legendary Mexican musician-poet in Sala Ernesto Muñoz Acosta. 011-52-646-173-4307 or 011-52-646-

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173-4308. Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; \$5. Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Costero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJA)

**"El Año del Pensamiento Magico"** Enjoy "magical thoughts" by actress Susana Alexander. 011-52-664-687-9636. Wednesday, November 19, 8:30 p.m.; \$30-\$35. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

**"Hombre Ballena (Whale Man)"** Ensenada artist Alfonso Arámbula unveils his new 13-foot-tall sculpture constructed from whale bones, rock, and steel during opening event. Sculpture remains on display through Friday, January 30. 011-52-646-173-4307 or 011-52-646-173-4308. Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Costero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJA)

**"The Young Scene" Concert Series** Piano students from Pro Música Ensenada Academy perform under the direction of Maestro Evgeny Korolkov in Sala Ernesto Muñoz Acosta. 011-52-646-173-4307 or 011-52-646-173-4308. Wednesday, November 19, 7:30 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Costero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJA)

**"Video Fest 2K8"** Showings of original short films from the Binal Internacional de Video y Cine Contemporáneo sponsored by the Instituto de Cultura de Baja California. 011-52-646-173-4307 or 011-52-646-173-4308. Thursday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.; Friday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.; Centro Estatal de las Artes, Boulevard Costero and Avenida Club Rotario. (BAJA)

**Peter Pan** Ballet performed by Grupo Bailando en Compañía. 011-52-664-688-1080. Sunday, November 16, 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.; Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

**Alberto Cortez** The Argentine singer and songwriter in concert. 011-52-646-152-1800. Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; \$50-\$60. Riviera Hotel, Miramar Street. (BAJA)

**Chess Championship** Tournament play runs Sunday, November 16, through Wednesday, November 19. 011-52-664-104-7021. Sunday, November 16,

noon; Grand Hotel Tijuana, Boulevard Agua Caliente 4500. (BAJA)

**Hispanoamerican Guitar Festival, Week II** Jaranero (México) performs in "El Toro Zacamandú" on Thursday, November 13 (\$15). The Katona Twins of Hungary take stage on Friday, November 14 (\$15). Festival concludes with Rafael Andujar (Spain) in "Gala Flamenca" (\$20). 011-52-664-687-9636. Thursday, November 13, 8 p.m.; Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; Saturday, November 15, 8 p.m.; \$15. Centro Cultural Tijuana, Paseo de los Héroes and Mina Street. (BAJA)

**Intocable (Untouchable)** Enjoy concert by this Grammy Award-winning tejano/norteno musical group from Zapata, Texas. 619-734-2333. Saturday, November 15, 7 p.m.; \$35-\$50. Estadio Caliente, on Boulevard Agua Caliente. (BAJA)

**Los Fabulosos Cadillacs** This Latin-rock band from Buenos Aires, Argentina, has 15 albums to its credit. 619-734-2333. Friday, November 14, 8 p.m.; \$50. Estadio Caliente, on Boulevard Agua Caliente. (BAJA)

**Miguel Bosé** Concert by Latin Grammy-winning Spanish musician and actor. 011-52-664-680-1808. Tuesday, November 18, 9 p.m.; \$25-\$100. Monumental Bullring by the Sea. (BAJA)

## SPECIAL

**UnScene Photography Tour** The UnScene Photography Tour and W San Diego search "for San Diego's hottest emerging talent behind the lens and 'unscene' images of the city" during contest.

W San Diego hosts showcase of the five local finalists' best shots, live music on Thursday, November 20, 6 p.m. 619-398-3100. Ages 21 and up. W Hotel, 421 West B Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Celebrate Baja"** Culture, cuisine, art of Baja California celebrated during "Early Evening at Mingei." Guests will enjoy Guadalupe Valley wines, food prepared by Baja chefs while listening to musicians from Orchestra of Baja California. View work by painter Juan Angel Castillo, pho-

tographer Julio Rodríguez Ramos. 619-239-0003 x106. Friday, November 14, 6 p.m.; \$10. Mingei International Museum, 1439 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Complete It, Connect It"** After February 17, 2009, all full-powered television stations will broadcast only in digital. Plan to keep your analog TV set using rabbit ears or rooftop antenna? If so, you will need a converter box, available through federal government. Learn about this transition, how to prepare; apply for \$40 coupons to use with purchase of one converter box. 801-891-5046. Thursday, November 13, 6 p.m.; Arc of San Diego, 3035 G Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Have a Beaujolais Nouveau Day"** Fête arrival of this year's Beaujolais Nouveau; classic country French fare paired with Georges du Boeuf Beaujolais Nouveau. Reservations: 619-557-3655. Thursday, November 13, 6 p.m.; \$52. The Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

**"Kimono as Art"** Family festival hosted by San Diego Museum of Art, Timken Museum, Mingei International Museum, and Japanese Friendship Garden in conjunction with "Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota" exhibition.

Art activities and performances based on artistic and cultural traditions of Japan. Docent-led tours in English and Spanish, viewing of Japanese folk fashion exhibition at Mingei. Learn art of wearing and folding kimono or watch a Japanese tea ceremony. Also on tap: *bunraku* puppet-inspired performance of *The Crane Daughter* by Mark Robertson and Rosemary Tyrrell at Mingei, storytelling by Steven Gregory and musician Reiko Obata at Timken. Participants may help create a giant kimono for closing event. 619-232-7931. Sunday, November 16, noon; San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Marston House: An Arts and Crafts Icon"** Led by San Diego Historical Society's trained docents, collections curators, and architectural preservationists, take in exploration of the Arts and Crafts era in San Diego, focusing on the architectural details, as well as decorative arts, furniture, preserva-



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BETWEEN ASH & A

# Calendar

## LOCAL EVENTS

tion, and restoration of this historic home. 619-232-6203 x129. Thursday, November 13, 10 a.m.; \$65. Ages 15 and up. Marston House Museum, 3525 Seventh Avenue. (HILLCREST)

**"ReImagine — Children's Art Auction"** On offer: artwork created with recycled, found objects by children at Pat D'Arrigo ARTS Center, along with hors d'oeuvres "prepared live" by Giuseppe Ciuffa, libations, performance by Delsoniq. Reservations: 619-297-2787. Thursday, November 13, 6 p.m.; \$20-\$30. Mixture, 2210 Kettner Boulevard. (LITTLE ITALY)

**"The Archaeology of Nate Harrison"** Exhibition subtitled "Legacies and Legends of an African-American Pioneer in San Diego County" continues through Thursday, January 15, in Donor Hall at Love Library. Harrison was this region's first African-American homesteader; a former slave, he lived during the late 19th and early 20th centuries atop Palomar Mountain. Exhibit focuses on archaeology of legend and everyday life, with artifacts, historical pictures, and primary documents. 619-594-6791. Thursdays, 7 a.m.; Fridays, 7 a.m.; Saturdays, 7 a.m.; Sundays, 7 a.m.; Mondays, 7 a.m.; Tuesdays, 7 a.m.; Wednesdays, 7 a.m.; through Thursday, January 15, Malcolm A. Love Library at SDSU, 5500 Campanile Drive. (COLLEGE AREA)

**"Walk in our Sisters' Footprints"** In recognition of November as National American Indian Heritage Month, enjoy afternoon of cultural sharing in the traditions of local Kumeyaay. On tap: food, music, storytelling, basket-weaving and gourd-making demonstrations. 619-233-7963. Saturday, November 15, noon; Women's

History Museum, 2323 Broadway, suite 107. (GOLDEN HILL)

**The Playboy of the Western World** Discuss John M. Synge's work with San Diego Great Books group. Newcomers welcome. 619-440-5625. Saturday, November 15, 2 p.m.; San Diego Public Library, 820 E Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**Adapta vs. Sezio, Round Two** The Adapta Project, a Tijuana-based curatorial collective, takes on Sezio.org, an online site dedicated to covering local art and music, in a three-round "art-off." Art shows feature one Tijuana artist and one San Diego artist. Round two pits Justin Skeesuck against Fernanda Uski. Musical guests: Karli Fairbanks and Triceratron. Final show is December 11. Donations accepted. 619-717-2877. Thursday, November 13, 6 p.m.; Cream, 4496 Park Boulevard. (UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS)

**Ask the Designer** Professional landscape designer Connie Beck offers personalized, 45-minute landscape design consultation. Bring a photograph of your area, ideas from magazines, project dimensions for practical advice, suggestions for creating a low-water landscape. Required reservations: 619-660-0614 x10. Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; \$40-\$50. Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West. (CUYAMACA COLLEGE)

**Big Ray's Classic Car and Cycle Show** San Diego Auto Swap features classics, hot rods, cycles, high-performance vehicles on display (in conjunction with Kobey's Swap Meet). Vehicles on display and for sale, along with "acres of parts and accessories." 858-484-9342. Sunday, November 16, 7 a.m.; San Diego Sports Arena, 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard. (POINT LOMA)

**Breakfast with K-9** The San Diego Police Department Canine Unit is known for outstanding training and results; daily obedience is key to training, based on idea that "work is fun." Learn about innova-

## OUT & ABOUT

### PLEASE YOUR PALATE

San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival, November 13-16, San Diego Wine and Culinary Center.

(SEE SPECIAL)



tive training techniques, work of police service dogs. Call for space availability: 858-453-5060. Thursday, November 13, 8 a.m.; ages 14 and up. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

**Doggie Lovers' Day** Celebrate "all things great, goofy, and yes — gross about dogs." Watch dog tricks, agility demonstrations, canine couture at dog fashion show, chat with trainers. Also on tap: puppet shows, yoga lessons by Fido and Company Canine Country Club, more. Event is for humans only, so leave pooches at home. 619-238-1233. Sunday, November 16, noon; \$8-\$10. Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art Show** Drinkin' and sketchin' featuring Fishnet Follies Burlesque Revue creator Mynx D'Meanor in an homage to the film *Secretary*. Bring your art supplies, "cash for liquid inspiration." Donation. 619-756-7891. Saturday, November 15, 3 p.m.; \$10. Ages 21 and up. Ruby Room, 1271 University Avenue. (HILLCREST)

**Drink Beer for Charity** Green Flash Brewing Company's sixth-anniversary beer festival benefits Fight ALD organization, with beer sampling from county breweries including Stone, Coronado, Bal-

last Point, AleSmith, Port, Lightning, Karl Strauss, La Jolla, Green Flash, others. Tickets include ten four-ounce tasters, lunch token. 760-212-5731. Saturday, November 15, noon; \$30. Ages 21 and up. Green Flash Brewery, 1430 Vantage Court. (VISTA)

**Georges Duboeuf Pajama Party** Unveiling of new 2008 Georges Duboeuf Beaujolais Nouveau in a "Moulin Rouge-inspired pajama party" benefiting Pediatric Cancer at City of Hope. Guests are encouraged to wear pajamas, enjoy music, pajama contests, dancing, live theatrical performances with "classic French circus flair." 858-452-6846. Wednesday, November 19, 9 p.m.; \$69-\$125. Ages 21 and up. Aubergine on 4th, 500 Fourth Avenue. (DOWNTOWN)

**Life Drawing and Painting** Open studio offered; bring art materials to work with model. The first 1.5 hours consist of short poses; final 1.5 hours promise long pose. No formal instruction. 619-231-3900. Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.; Tuesdays, 6 p.m.; \$10. Art Academy of San Diego, 840 G Street. (DOWNTOWN)

**Love Exotic Birds?** Bird Mart and Educational Fair sponsored by North County Aviculturists. Vendors offering bird-related wares, handouts on bird care, educational

speakers. 760-740-2472. Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; Bates Nut Farm, 15954 Woods Valley Road. (VALLEY CENTER)

**Lux Family Day** Meet resident artist Alison Moritsugu and enjoy art projects, studio tours, music, refreshments. "Her ongoing series of log paintings examines contrivances in landscape paintings of the 18th and 19th centuries." View Moritsugu's work through Saturday, January 3. 760-436-6611. Saturday, November 15, 1 p.m.; Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

**Lux at Night** Lux is open late for cocktails, music, festivities, chance to meet artist-in-residence Alison Moritsugu and view her work. 760-436-6611. Wednesday, November 19, 7 p.m.; Lux Art Institute, 1550 South El Camino Real. (ENCINITAS)

**Please Your Palate!** San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival returns with 150 wineries, food from 50 San Diego restaurants, gourmet foods, celebrity chefs, wine dinners, cooking classes, wine-tasting classes, olive oil competition, auctions, November 13-16, at venues around the city. Classes take place at Macy's School of Cooking and San Diego Wine and Culinary Center. The "grand tasting event" on Saturday is held at Embar-

cadero Park North (behind Seaport Village). Details on all events, tickets: 619-342-7337. Thursday, November 13, 1 p.m.; Friday, November 14, 11:30 a.m.; Saturday, November 15, noon; Sunday, November 16, 11 a.m.; \$45-\$450. Ages 21 and up. San Diego Wine and Culinary Center, 200 Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Psychic Fair and Metaphysical Conference** Lectures, tarot, palmistry, numerology, other psychic arts featured. Admission is free; \$20 per reading. 619-298-3422. Saturday, November 15, noon; Sunday, November 16, noon; Alexandra's Bookstore, 3545 Midway Drive, suite G. (POINT LOMA)

**San Diego Hi-Performance Expo** See classics, collectibles, tuners, lowriders, customs, high-performance, and racing vehicles (on display and for sale); "acres of vendors." 858-484-9342. Sunday, November 16, 7 a.m.; \$10. Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

**San Diego Jewish Book Fair** Festival concludes with dialogue between journalist, self-described "anti-theist" Christopher Hitchens (*God Is Not Great: How Religion Poisons Everything*) and Rabbi David Wolpe (*Why Faith Matters: A Personal Faith Journey and a Response to the New Atheists*). 858-362-1348. Thursday, November 13, 7:30 p.m.; \$16-\$20. Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, 4126 Executive Drive. (LA JOLLA)

**SnowJam Ski and Snowboard Expo** Over 100 exhibitors from snow sports industry, product demonstrations, resort representatives, professional riders on giant half-pipe, contests. 858-755-1161. Friday, November 14, 4 p.m.; Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; Sunday, November 16, 10 a.m.; Del Mar Fairgrounds, 2260 Jimmy Durante Boulevard. (DEL MAR)

**The Fleet Sails!** Maritime Museum of San Diego sails all seaworthy vessels to celebrate *Star of India's* 145th birthday. See the

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state's official tall ship the *Californian*, the HMS *Surprise*, the steam yacht *Medea*, and the 1914 *Pilot* boat, along with the tall ship *Privateer Lynx*.

Ships leave dock at Embarcadero at 9:30 a.m., sail under Coronado Bridge (around 10:15 a.m.). Expect a cannon salute to *Midway* (about 10:45 a.m.), salute the *Star of India* (11:00 a.m.). Ships pass Point Loma (4 p.m.) in parade fashion.

Birthday cake included with museum admission (11 a.m.-1 p.m.). Tickets to cruise on *Pilot*: \$20; tickets to sail on *Californian* or *Lynx*: \$125. 619-234-9153. Saturday, November 15, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.; San Diego Maritime Museum, 1306 North Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Time to Remodel?** Home remodeling and design seminar promising "one-on-one time" with designers. Ask questions, learn about new materials and their applications, gain insights into the remodel process. Donations (\$10) benefit Habitat for Humanity. Reservations: 800-675-9548. Thursday, November 13, 5:15 p.m.; Jackson Design and Remodeling, 4797 Mercury Street. (LINDA VISTA)

**Urban Trees 5** Public art exhibit of 31 "urban trees" along North Embarcadero on Harbor Drive (between cruise ship terminal and Hawthorne Street) continues through July, 2009. Artists were supplied with a 12-foot tall pole placed in a concrete planter to serve as tree's base; artists alter the pole by attaching materials to create their sculptures. 619-686-6200. Thursdays; Fridays; Saturdays; Sundays; Mondays; Tuesdays; Wednesdays; through Friday, July 31, Embarcadero, Harbor Drive. (DOWNTOWN)

**Vista Invitational** Vista High School Regimental Band and Pageantry Boosters host 27th annual tournament, with 35 high school bands from throughout Southern California expected to perform during the two shows. 760-310-9468. Saturday, November 15, 8:45 a.m. and 5 p.m.; Vista High School, One Panther Way. (VISTA)

**What Is Emergence Theory?** Find out when P&R Discussion Group meets. 619-370-1027. Thursday, November 13, 7 p.m.; Filter, 4096 30th Street. (NORTH PARK)

## SPORTS

**2008 Super 7 World Series of Paintball** National Professional Paintball League hosts competition. Top 150 paintball teams compete for Commander's Cup on five fields set up outside Qualcomm Stadium. Also promised: "massive paintball trade show." Spectators free; VIP seating available (\$35-\$55). 888-834-4774. Friday, November 14, 7:30 a.m.; Saturday, November 15, 7:30 a.m.; Sunday, November 16, 7:30 a.m.; Qualcomm Stadium, 9449 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

**In Search of the Black Sea Turtle** Paddle silent kayaks over warm, shallow waters of South Bay, pass over eel grass beds to look for backs and heads of turtles rising to breathe during outing hosted by San Diego Natural History Museum. Learn biology of these sea creatures, story of San Diego's turtles. Reservations: 619-255-0203. Saturday, November 15, 9 a.m.; \$20-\$65. Ages 8 and up. San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado. (BALBOA PARK)

**Ride the Fallbrook Hills** Join up with San Diego Bicycle Society riders. The 75-miler starts in upper

parking lot at Third and C. Bring money for deli lunch. 619-561-3846. Sunday, November 16, 8:45 a.m.; Moonlight Beach, 200 B Street. (ENCINITAS)

**Run Club** Locate new routes in the city, "test-drive" latest Nike footwear, run with motivated people. Runners, walkers of all levels meet to run their choice of three-, five-, and seven-mile routes, starting from Nike Fashion Valley. 619-294-9385. Wednesdays, 6 p.m.; Fashion Valley Mall, 7007 Friars Road. (MISSION VALLEY)

**SDAR Ambassadors Foundation 5K Walk Benefit** Benefit for Everyday Heroes program. 619-298-7400. Saturday, November 15, 8 a.m.; NTC Promenade, 2640 Historic Decatur Road. (POINT LOMA)

**Sunday in the Park with Knickerbikers** Join Knickerbikers for a 35-mile bicycle outing following the bay south to Imperial Beach. Picnic in community park just south of Palm Avenue; bring food or buy at nearby Vons. 619-523-5522. Sunday, November 16, 9:30 a.m.; Old Town Transit Center, 4005 Taylor Street. (OLD TOWN)

**The Santaluz Open** Women's professional tennis returns with this \$50,000 pro circuit satellite event sponsored by United States Tennis Association (USTA). Tournament includes some 32 players in both singles and doubles matches, with "main draw action" November 11-16. Tickets: \$5 per day or \$20 for the week. 858-759-3105. Thursday, November 13, 10 a.m.; Friday, November 14, 10 a.m.; Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m.; Sunday, November 16, 10 a.m.; \$5-\$20. The Santaluz Club, 8170 Caminito Santaluz East. (RANCHO SANTA FE)

**The Thrill of the Hill** Introduction to mountain biking offered by REI Outdoor School instructors. Learn

proper techniques of shifting, braking, hill climbing, descent, and navigating minor obstacles on the trail. Designed as an educational ride, not a guided tour. Registration: 858-213-7234. Sunday, November 16, 9 a.m.; \$55-\$75. Ages 14 and up. Lake Hodges, Lake Drive at Via Rancho Parkway. (ESCONDIDO)

**Year-Round Waterskiing** Convar Waterski Club provides ski boats for waterskiing. Group meets at south end of Crown Point Beach. 858-863-4755. Sundays, 8 a.m.; \$8-\$15. Mission Bay. (MISSION BEACH)

## MUSEUMS

**Antique Gas and Steam Engine Museum** The museum locates, collects, documents, and preserves historical gas-, steam-, and horse-powered equipment related to agriculture and the general development of America. The collection is made up of equipment used in lumbering, mining, oil-drilling, and construction industries. Blacksmith and wheelwright shop, country kitchen and parlor, steam-operated saw mill, and 1/3-scale train. 2040 North Santa Fe Avenue, 760-941-1791. (VISTA)

**Bancroft Ranch House Museum** Bancroft Ranch House Museum houses indigenous Indian artifacts and memorabilia of early settlers in the area, run by the Spring Valley Historical Society. The home, built in 1863, was registered as a National Historic Landmark in 1962 and is on a spot where Kumeyaay Indians camped more than 1000 years ago beside the spring that later gave the area its

name. 9050 Memory Lane, 619-469-1480. (SPRING VALLEY)

**Barona Cultural Center and Museum** 1095 Barona Road, 619-443-7003. (LAKESIDE)

**Birch Aquarium at Scripps** Facility is a component of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UCSD. More than 60 tanks contain marine life of Pacific Northwest, California coastline, Mexico's Sea of Cortés, and South Pacific. The La Jolla Kelp Tank is a two-story-high tank with giant kelp plants and nearly 30 species of local marine life. "Feeling the Heat: The Climate Challenge" examines science behind climate change; "Art of Deception" explores undersea camouflage. "Wonders of Water" waterplay area includes three interactive stations. The Lynne and Howard Robbins Shark Reef Exhibit features a 13,000-gallon shark tank with black tip, white tip, bamboo, and wobbling sharks. 2300 Expedition Way, 858-534-FISH. (LA JOLLA)

**California Surf Museum** "From the Brown Mercury to SL8ER — A Glimpse of 100 Years of Surfing Culture in Southern California" celebrates influence of surfing on California lifestyle. Display features collection of unique surfboards, movie posters, record albums, vintage beachwear, assortment of photographs. Significant surfing personalities from each decade are highlighted. 223 North Coast Highway, 760-721-6876. (OCEANSIDE)

**Chula Vista Nature Center** Interactive living museum devoted to the endangered Southern California coastal wetlands, located in Sweetwater Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. Visitors can use a

Bioscanner to view animals macroscopically, use a Wentzscope for views of microscopic organisms found in the "Sweetwater Soup," and interact with computerized videos exploring how tides affect the bay in the "Moons, Tides, and the San Diego Bay" exhibit. Pet sharks and rays in the David A. Wergeland Shark and Ray Experience, see burrowing owls and migratory birds, and enjoy the xerophytic gardens.

Visitors meet a shuttle bus at the Bayfront E Street Trolley Station or at the center's parking lot at the foot of E Street and Bay Boulevard. 1000 Gunpowder Point Drive, 619-409-5903. (CHULA VISTA)

**Coronado Museum of History and Art** "Public Eye: A Focus on Community Art," on display through mid-November, provides look at "the variety of pieces, some commissioned, which have been on display in our community." Exhibit boasts "colorful and imaginative" models, photographs, and sculptured pieces, including a decorative bench from 2003 Benchmark project, information on some of Coronado's 38 pieces of public art, much more.

Ongoing exhibits explore the overall history of Coronado, Navy and Army, Tent City, and the Hotel del Coronado. 1100 Orange Avenue, 619-435-7242. (CORONADO)

**Flying Leatherneck Museum** Museum is dedicated to Marines who provided air support, from the propeller-driven fighters and bombers of the 1940s to the modern jets and helicopters currently in use. Static displays of a variety of aircraft are included, along with equipment, insignia, paintings and photographs, scale models, and a



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San Diego Reader November 13, 2008 73

# Calendar

## LOCAL EVENTS

research library. The museum is located in building T-2002, at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. Miramar Road (Marine Corps Air Station), 858-693-1723. (MIRA MESA)

**Gaslamp Museum of Historic San Diego** Glimpse San Diego's colorful past at the museum, where displays highlight Wyatt Earp's San Diego days, the Peg Leg Gold Legend, the first maps and photographs of Old Town and "New Town," early military history, the naval disaster in 1923 at Point Honda, and more. 413 Market Street, 619-237-1492. (DOWNTOWN)

**Heritage of the Americas Museum** More than 100 Chinese jades of the Late Neolithic (4300-2500 B.C.) through the Ming periods (A.D. 1368-1644) are included in "The Stone of Heaven: The Enduring Art of Jade Age China." From ancient times, jades in China were treasured as talismans, worn on the body either as final adornments in death or as ornaments in life. See a rare and valuable jade burial suit of the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 221), one of only about two dozen that have been excavated in China. The suits were made of more than 2000 square and rectangular plates

of jade sewn together with threads of gold, silver, or bronze (depending upon the status of the wearer). Ongoing.

The museum features art and artifacts from South and North America, concentrating on the utilitarian and decorative artistry of crafts workers from ancient cultures. The museum also features wings dedicated to natural history, archaeology, education, anthropology, and fine art. Find the museum on the Cuyamaca College campus. 12110 Cuyamaca College Drive West, 619-670-5194. (RANCHO SAN DIEGO)

**Japanese Friendship Garden** "Images of Kyoto" by photographer Kevin Sprows may be seen through Saturday, November 29. Photographs offered for sale on Sunday, November 30. Pan American Road, 619-232-2721. (BALBOA PARK)

**John DeWitt Historic Museum and Library** Museum and library, operated by the Alpine Historical Society, is located in the 1897 home/office of Dr. Sophronia Nichols. She was the first doctor in Alpine and the first female doctor in the East County. Indian artifacts from the Kingery family on exhibit. 2116 Tavern Road, 619-659-8740. (ALPINE)

**Junipero Serra Museum** "Commemorating 75 Years: The Serra Museum" is said to "remember the events leading up to the dedication of Presidio Park and the Serra Museum" on July 16, 1929. The ex-

hibit includes a "visit back in time to 1929."

The museum interprets the Native American, Spanish, and Mexican periods of San Diego's history and contains Spanish Colonial furnishings, art, and artifacts. It's located at the site of the West Coast's first European settlement. 2727 Presidio Drive, 619-297-3258. (OLD TOWN)

**La Mesa Depot Museum** Located in a restored 1894 wooden train station, exhibits include original telegraph and telephone equipment, pot-bellied coal stove, period furniture. The adjacent freight train display features 1923 steam locomotive, 1957 refrigerator car, 1941 caboose. La Mesa Boulevard and Spring Street, 619-465-7776. (LA MESA)

**Magee House Museum** Magee House Museum, built in 1887 and surrounded by rose gardens, the site includes "one of the last barns still standing in Carlsbad." Docent and self-guided tours of historic house and gardens. 258 Beech Street, 760-434-9189. (CARLSBAD)

**Museum of Making Music** What is slide? Why is it so hard to play? "The Magic and Mystery of Slide Guitar" — continuing through March — captures "essence and emotion evoked by slide guitar and slide technique." Display includes nearly 70 rare and historic instruments, from early 1920s to present.

## OUT & ABOUT

### "A REVOLUTIONARY RECEPTION WITH NAPOLEON."

Barbara Baxter at Athenaeum Music and Arts Library, Wednesday, November 19.

(SEE LECTURES)



"Gretsch 125th Anniversary" highlights instruments spanning the company's rich history. Through Friday, February 20.

The past 100 years of American music and music making are highlighted at the museum, with over 450 vintage instruments, hundreds of audio and video clips, and an interactive stage. Guided tours every Saturday, 2:30 p.m. 5790 Armada Drive, 760-438-5996. (CARLSBAD)

**National City Depot** San Diego Electric Railway Association operates museum in this historic Santa Fe depot with exhibits, video displays, trolley equipment, restored passenger car from National City and Otay Railroad. 922 West 23rd Street, 619-474-4400. (NATIONAL CITY)

**Olaf Wiegorst Museum** Displays paintings and prints by Olaf Wiegorst and features exhibits of other artists' American West art. Adjacent to museum is courtyard with cactus gardens, 20 x 20-foot reproduction of Wiegorst's painting *Navajos at Castle Creek*, and original restored home Wiegorst lived in for many years starting in 1945. 131 Rea Avenue, 619-590-3431. (EL CAJON)

**Ramona Pioneer Historical Society and Guy B. Woodward Museum** Complex of historical buildings includes the Verlaque House (the only Western adobe home of French provincial design still in existence), wagons, antique exhibits, and artifacts. There is a cowboy bunkhouse, women's clothing and accessories from 1700 to 1800, a ranch blacksmith shop and tack room. The Casey Tibbs Memorial Exhibit is dedicated to Tibbs, a local resident who was a world-champion rodeo rider. The Bancroft Memorial Rose

Garden is on the grounds. Rare documents, historical exhibits, books, photographs, and a research library are also part of the complex. 645 Main Street, 760-789-7644. (RAMONA)

**San Diego Aircraft Carrier Museum** Museum onboard the decommissioned USS *Midway* is open for tours, now berthed at 910 North Harbor Drive. Exhibits include Navy jet simulators, carrier and flight deck touring, captain's sea cabin, pilot house, navigation bridge. Admission fee includes audio guide. 910 North Harbor Drive, 619-544-9600. (DOWNTOWN)

**San Diego County Sheriff's Museum** The 150-year history of the sheriff's department is highlighted at the museum, which is located "just feet away" from the original cobblestone jail site, built in 1850. The museum boasts artifacts, photographs, equipment, uniforms, and vehicles, along with exhibits from each of the departments making up the organization such as crime scene, K-9, court service, detentions, crime lab, bomb squad, and many others. 2384 San Diego Avenue, 619-260-1850. (OLD TOWN)

**San Diego Model Railroad Museum** Museum celebrates American railroads with "the largest permanent operating model railroad and toy train exhibit" in North America. Four scale-model railroads of the Southwest, the "San Diego County Relief Map" exhibit, and an interactive toy train. There is a multimedia presentation on railroading, an operating railroad semaphore signal, and interpretive displays on railroads and model railroading. The museum is downstairs in the Casa de Balboa building. 1649 El Prado, 619-696-0199. (BALBOA PARK)

**San Diego Natural History Museum** "The Art of Robert Bateman" showcases work by "one of the world's premier wildlife artists." Exhibit reflects his commitment to ecology, preservation. Through January.

"Tibet: Imagery by Kenneth Parker" — opening Saturday, November 15 and continuing through Sunday, March 1 — reveals "religious monuments, prayer flags, modest homes, and dramatic mountains of the region." To create his imagery, Parker engages in five-ten day backpacking excursions to remote areas carrying 75-85 pounds of gear.

"Water: H<sub>2</sub>O=Life" explores culture, history, and future of water. Exhibit includes hands-on activities, live animals, "captivating imagery." Through November.

"Aerial Portraits of the American West: Photographs by John Shelton" closes on Sunday, March 1. Shelton is author of *Geology Illustrated*.

Also on view: "Fossil Mysteries," a permanent exhibition. From dinosaurs to mastodons, discover the rich fossil history of our region. Current "giant-screen film" is *Ocean Oasis*. 1788 El Prado, 619-232-3821. (BALBOA PARK)

**Veterans Museum and Memorial Center** Memorial to men and women who served in U.S. Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Wartime Merchant Marine. Located in the former San Diego Naval Hospital Chapel (2115 Park Boulevard), the museum features original service-inspired stained glass, as well as historical murals painted by Richard DeRosset. Main exhibit hall features displays, exhibits of historic artifacts, documents, photographs, memorabilia, artwork honoring men and women who served. Museum is also home to San Diego Vietnam Peace Memorial and Veterans Memorial Garden. 2115 Park Boulevard, 619-239-2100. (BALBOA PARK)

**Wells Fargo History Museum** Museum features a working agents' office staffed by guides in period costumes and contains a working telegraph for visitors to send and receive messages. Short films on California and Wells Fargo history; a gold display, part of the collection assembled by Wells Fargo agent Samuel Dorsey at the end of the 1800s; an exhibit of Concord Coach #251, a restored stagecoach built in 1867; and the Davies watch. The museum is located in the reconstructed Colorado House. 2733 San Diego Avenue, 619-238-3929. (OLD TOWN)

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## CLASSICAL

**"Radical Piano II"** Pianist Christopher Adler plans recital featuring Tom Johnson's minimalist masterpiece "The Chord Catalogue," an experimental performance artwork with video projection in USD's Camino Hall room 153. 619-260-4171. University of San Diego (5998 Alcalá Park), 7:30 p.m., Thursday, November 13. (LINDA VISTA)

**Duo Concert** Clarinetist Jean Kopperud and pianist Steve Gosling in recital. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Thursday, November 13. (LA JOLLA)

**"a little NOISE..."** The NOISE ensemble — with Colin McAllister and Christopher Adler — perform recently composed solo and duo repertoire for guitar, piano, and

voice for Concert Hour Series. 760-744-1150 x2316. Palomar College Performance Lab (room D-10) (1140 West Mission Road), 12:30 p.m., Thursday, November 13. (SAN MARCOS)

**Pipe Organ Concert** St. James by-the-Sea Episcopal Church associate organist Alison Luedeck is first performer for this season's pipe organ concert series. No offering will be taken. 619-442-8201. First Church of Christ, Scientist, La Mesa (8262 Allison Avenue), 7:30 p.m., Friday, November 14. (LA MESA)

**Piano Concert** Pianist Gerald Robbins performs works by Mozart, Beethoven, Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky, and others. Robbins is a winner of the Van Cliburn Competition. 619-522-4050 x5. Coronado School of the Arts (650 D Avenue), 7 p.m., Saturday, November 15. (CORONADO)

**Organ Concert** Civic organist Carol Williams in concert. 619-702-8138. Spreckels Organ Pavilion (2211 Pan American Road), 2 p.m., Sunday, November 16. (BALBOA PARK)

**"Favorite Duets from Opera"** Solana Intimate Ensemble performs for Californiae Foundation for International Global Arts. Program includes selections by Rossini, Monteverdi, Mozart, Puccini, Donizetti, Offenbach, and Bizet. Performers include Cherylyn Larson (soprano), Kathleen O'Brien (mezzo-soprano), Tom Oberjat (tenor), David Marshman (baritone), Janie Prim (piano). Reception at 2:30 p.m., concert at 3:15 p.m. 858-677-0367. Encinitas Library (540 Cornish Drive), 2:30 p.m., Sunday, November 16. (ENCINITAS)

**Piano for Lunch** Pianist Ron Morebello performs for mini-concert. Bring your lunch! 858-454-5872. Lyceum Theatre (79 Horton

Plaza), noon, Monday, November 17. (DOWNTOWN)

**Cello Time** UCSD department of music graduate student Ashley Walters performs on cello. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Monday, November 17. (LA JOLLA)

**"The Three Bs"** Concert by 65-member Poway Community Symphony Orchestra, led by Branden Muresan. Program includes "The Academic Fest Overture" by Brahms, Bach's "Concerto for Two Violins and Orchestra," and "Symphony No. 7" by Beethoven. 858-673-9702. Poway Center for the Performing Arts (15498 Espola Road), 7:30 p.m., Monday, November 17. (POWAY)

**"The Sound of the Desert"** Weiwei Le, a professor at UNLV, offers solo concert with repertoire ranging from baroque period to 20th Century, in Arts Building room 111. Le studies violin with "acclaimed master" Donald Weilerstein of New England Conservatory. 760-750-4366. CSU San Marcos (333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road), noon, Tuesday, November 18. (SAN MARCOS)

**"Piano Concert No. 2 in B-Flat"** Enjoy this Brahms piece, along with "First Suite in E-Flat" by Holst and Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake Ballet Suite," when Tifereth Israel Community Orchestra performs with piano soloist Daniel Wnukowski. 619-697-6001. Tifereth Israel Synagogue (6660 Cowles Mountain Boulevard), 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, November 18. (SAN CARLOS)

**Graduate Forum #2** UCSD music graduate students perform an array of works on various instruments. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500

Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Tuesday, November 18. (LA JOLLA)

**Music on the Point** Brad Schwartz performs on cornetto and recorder, accompanied by Geoff Graham on the baroque pipe organ. Reception follows. Donation. 619-223-6394 x13. All Souls' Episcopal Church (1475 Catalina Boulevard), 4 p.m., Wednesday, November 19. (POINT LOMA)

**Who Is Colin McAllister?** This "highly acclaimed guitarist" performs. 858-534-3229. Mandeville Recital Hall at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 8 p.m., Wednesday, November 19. (LA JOLLA)

## ART LISTINGS

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## GALLERIES

**"A Celebration of Life"** Opening reception for exhibit of works by Dorothy Annette. The pieces — created with Japanese brush on rice paper — may be seen through Sat-

urday, December 6. 619-233-7963. Women's History Museum (2323 Broadway, suite 107), 6 p.m., Friday, November 14. (GOLDEN HILL)

**"Above and Below"** Opening reception for exhibit of new encaustic paintings by San Francisco artist Mark Perlman. Closes Saturday, December 20. 858-459-3917. R.B. Stevenson Gallery (7661 Girard Avenue, suite 201), 4 p.m., Saturday, November 15. (LA JOLLA)

**"Critical Landscapes"** Artist reception for exhibition of installations by Kim Stringfellow. Artist has created two multimedia compositions dealing with the "haunting human history of some desert tracks in Southern California." Through Thursday, December 18. 619-644-7299. Hyde Art Gallery at Grossmont College (8800 Grossmont College Drive), 7 p.m., Tuesday, November 18. (GROSSMONT COLLEGE)

**"Fear Minus One"** Opening reception for exhibition of work by Spencer Finch, Graham Gussin, Gabriel Lester, Takeshi Murata, and Christian Tomaszewski. These artists "use preexisting films as their source, particularly in this selection, movies that have a sense of foreboding or fear as part of their dynamic." The works "transform the gallery into a site for the imagination, where the relationship between narrative and image can be examined and the creation of illusion explored." Closes Sunday, January 11. 858-534-2107. University Art Gallery at UCSD (9500 Gilman Drive), 6 p.m., Thursday, November 13. (LA JOLLA)

**"Monkey Business: The First Five Years of DAC"** Opening reception and fifth-anniversary celebration planned. Exhibit includes

"lots of monkeys" including "tribal monkeys, Dutch colonial monkeys, folk art monkeys"; as well as five-year photographic retrospective. 858-481-8044. David Alan Collection (241 South Cedros Avenue), 6 p.m., Wednesday, November 19. (SOLANA BEACH)

**"Objects: Fall 08"** Reception for exhibition hosted by Objects USA, an online gallery and resource for mid-century art and California design. Show of vintage work from both fine art and craft traditions continues on Saturday and Sunday, November 15 and 16. 858-353-0540. Ronis and Associates (1946 Broadway), 7 p.m., Friday, November 14; 10 a.m., Saturday, November 15; 10 a.m., Sunday, November 16. (GOLDEN HILL)

**"Omikuj: Oracles"** Opening reception for "interactive" exhibition by Peggy Ann Jones containing messages "with environmental concerns." Jones has created a contemporary interpretation of the practice in which paper fortunes are drawn and tied at temples and shrines; viewers spin a bamboo "wheel of fortune" with numbers matching numbers on a chest of drawers containing oracles for the participant to draw. Installation includes handmade structures constructed by R.D. Heath of bamboo grown by the artist, and handmade books. Closes Friday, November 21. 760-757-2121 x6596. Kruglak Gallery at MiraCosta College (One Barnard Drive), noon, Monday, November 17. (OCEANSIDE)

**"Smoking Room"** Opening reception for show of new sculptures by Jay Johnson, along with "Eighth Annual La Jolla Historical Society Secret Gardens Exhibitions" and selections from Athenaeum's Erika and Fred Torri Artists' Books Col-

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lection, "Allen Ruppberg, Books." View exhibitions through Saturday, January 3. 858-454-5872. Athenaeum Music and Arts Library (1008 Wall Street), 6:30 p.m., Friday, November 14. (LA JOLLA)

**"Surface"** Opening reception for photographic series by Jeremy Woodall. View series examining "ideas of time, deterioration, layers, texture, and beauty in collapse" through Sunday, December 7. 619-241-9779. R3 Gallery (2421 India Street), 6 p.m., Friday, November 14. (LITTLE ITALY)

**"World Wave"** Artist's reception for exhibit of paintings by Gabe Leonard, a self-described "high plains drifter of art." Original pieces and giclées in the "nomadic style" on offer. 858-272-7760. Aztec Graphics Gallery (1439 Garnet Avenue), 7 p.m., Saturday, November 15. (PACIFIC BEACH)

### ART MUSEUMS

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido Museum** Five new exhibitions of work by local artists. See "Active Duty" by Owen Mundy; "Contemporary Ruin: A Selection of Prints by the Los Angeles Printmaking Society"; "United & Severed: That Window of Time"; "Shannon McNeill: Little Drawings"; and "Warning

Signs," prints by R.H. Brownfield. Each "touches on issues relevant to contemporary life in America including motherhood, active-duty military life, loss, and more." Through November. 340 North Escondido Boulevard, 760-839-4120. (ESCONDIDO)

**Mingei International Museum** In honor of Mexico's Day of the Dead, museum exhibits a Day of the Dead altar. Traditional offering to the dead is a collaboration between the museum, Mexican Consulate in San Diego, and Mexican Cultural Institute. Through November 30.

"India Adorned" features selections from museum's Stephen Huyler Collection. Exhibit "reveals the colorful diversity of Indian creative expression, presenting an evocative collection of works that are used in the daily routine of a typical Indian family — objects of worship, personal and domestic adornment, utility, and recreation." Closes Sunday, April 19.

"Forms in Wood and Fiber: Southern California New Work" features work of six distinguished San Diego wood artists and many California Fibers members. "Both fresh perspectives on traditional forms and cutting-edge contemporary expressions will be included in works of superior design and craftsmanship." Participating artists include Wendy Maruyama, Russ Filbeck, Patrick Edwards, Del Cover, Brett Hesser, and Gene Blickenstaff. Closes Sunday, January 4. 1439 El Prado, 619-239-0003. (BALBOA PARK)

**Mingei International Museum — North County** "Nomadic

Legacy — Tent & Textiles of Central Asia and Iran" presents aspects of rich artistic heritage of nomadic culture, traditions with origins in antiquity. Highlights include recent gifts to museum such as a Kyrgyz yurt, Persian bag faces, Central Asian hats. The Kyrgyz yurt — a round, domed, trellis-tent dwelling, 22 feet in diameter — won first prize in a national contest celebrating 1000th anniversary of Kyrgyzstan's existence. Also on view: rare Kyrgyz reed screens; Turkoman, Uzbek, and Kazakh costumes and textiles. Exhibit continues through Sunday, March 22. 155 West Grand Avenue, 760-735-3355. (ESCONDIDO)

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, Downtown** "Human/Nature: Artists Respond to a Changing Planet" uses contemporary art to investigate relationships between fragile natural environments and human communities depending upon them. Collaborative multiyear exhibition project sent eight artists to eight UNESCO World Heritage sites around globe to complete mini-residencies, create new work informed and inspired by their experiences in these diverse cultural and natural regions. Exhibit features new commissioned works by Mark Dion, Ann Hamilton, Inigo Mangano-Ovalle, Marcos Ramirez ERRE, Rigo 23, Dario Robleto, Diana Thater, and Xu Bing. Closes Sunday, February 1.

"Memory Is Your Image of Perfection," curated by MCASD assistant curator Lucia Sanromán, presents photography and video works from museum's collection created by women artists of Southern California and Baja California. Exhibition "investigates the sub-

ject of memory through associations, oppositions, and overlaps amongst photographic genres that range from straight documentary photography to manipulated photography." Artists include Eleanor Antin, Uta Barth, Andrea Bowers, Sharon Lockhart, Ana Machado, and Yvonne Venegas. Through November. 1001 Kettner Boulevard, 858-454-3541. (DOWNTOWN)

**Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, La Jolla** "Weighing and Wanting: Selections from the Collection" marks Hugh M. Davies's 25th anniversary as museum's David C. Copley Director. Exhibit offers "a personal, idiosyncratic selection of approximately 130 works acquired between 1983 and the present," including works by John Baldessari, John Currin, Robert Irwin, William Kentridge, Nathan Mabry, Yoshitomo Nara, Martin Puryear, Lorna Simpson, Bill Viola, and Lisa Yuskavage. View this "cross-section of paintings, prints, drawings, video, installation art, and photography" through Sunday, January 4. 700 Prospect Street, 858-454-3541. (LA JOLLA)

**Museum of Photographic Arts** "Picturing the Process: Landscape through Time and Space" — continuing through Sunday, February 1 — includes selections from MoPA's permanent collection, exploring ideas and issues related to landscape.

"Writing with Light" is said to illustrate "the connections between photography and literacy using the photographic arts as inspiration." MoPA's annual youth exhibition offers opportunity to recognize talented students throughout San Diego, linking the medium of photography with writing. Through January.

"Nancy Newhall: A Literacy of Images" continues through Sunday, January 25. Best known for writing text to accompany photographs by Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, Nancy Newhall was also a widely published writer on photography, conservation, American culture. 1649 El Prado, 619-238-7559. (BALBOA PARK)

**Oceanside Museum of Art** Continuing through Sunday, March 1 "Quilt Visions 2008: Contemporary Expressions" boasts 41 quilts selected from 586 entries. Jurors were Judith Content, Mary Anne Jordan, and Don Bacigalupi.

"DAMNGORGEOUS: Millard Sheets and His Southern California Legacy" offers "a comprehensive look at his impressive career from the 1920s to the '80s." Over 40 works of art, including watercolors, oils, etchings, lithographs, and drawings, provide viewers with introduction to Sheets's legacy. In the early 1930s, Sheets helped define a movement known as Southern California Regionalism, depicting rural scenes near his home in Claremont, California. Through Sunday, January 4.

"Revealing the Divine: Selected Works by Levi J. Casias" offers exhibition in which the Oceanside artist investigates "the concept of mysticism in a religious manner." Casias believes mysticism cannot be rationalized by the intellect, but can only be understood by personal experience, bridging a link between art and spirituality. He uses industrial materials, methods to create contemporary art work. Through December. 704 Pier View Way, 760-435-3720. (OCEANSIDE)

**San Diego Museum of Art** "Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of

Itchiku Kubota," closing on Sunday, January 4, features work of Japanese textile artist and kimono designer Itchiku Kubota (1917-2003). Kubota used a variety of traditional techniques, unique personal innovations to create abstract landscapes through complex layering of dyes and inks on monumentally scaled kimono. Exhibition includes Kubota's dramatic series "Symphony of Light," presenting a sweeping landscape across 30 kimonos placed side by side, as well as a selection of Kubota's individual works.

"Emerging Elites: Indo-Muslim Cultures in Transition" examines artistic transitions that took place in Indo-Muslim cultural centers in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Exhibition treats these paintings as creative, ongoing cultural transformations. Closes Sunday, March 15. 1450 El Prado, 619-232-7931. (BALBOA PARK)

**Timken Museum of Art** "Kimono as Art: The Landscapes of Itchiku Kubota," closing on Sunday, January 4, features work of Japanese textile artist and kimono designer Itchiku Kubota (1917-2003). Kubota used a variety of traditional techniques, unique personal innovations to create abstract landscapes through complex layering of dyes and inks on monumentally scaled kimono. Exhibition includes a selection of kimono from Kubota's "Mt. Fuji" series, presented as three views of Japan's most famous mountain at different times of day, as well as a selection of Kubota's individual works.

Permanent collection includes European old master paintings, 18th- and 19th-Century American paintings, and Russian icons. *Saint Bartholomew*, the only Rembrandt painting on public display in San Diego, is featured. 1500 El Prado, 619-239-5548. (BALBOA PARK)

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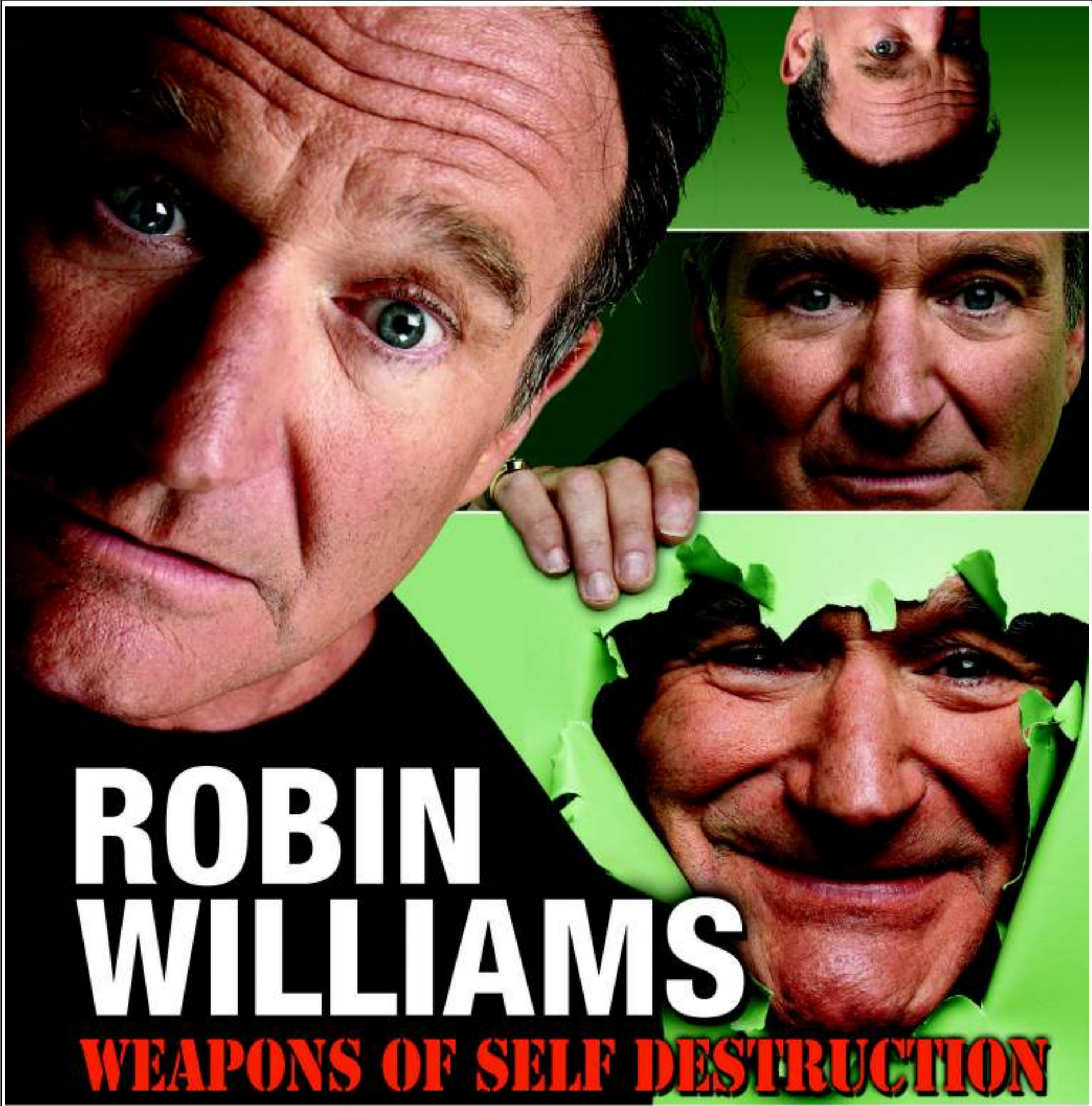


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# Calendar

## MUSIC SCENE

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**X'ed Out** During his 25 years on local radio, deejay Steve West has survived prostate cancer, at least 16 different program directors

Finest City.

Three weeks ago, Finest City general manager Trip Reeb fired Phil Manning, who had been the 91X program director for almost two years. "Budgetary cuts" were cited for Manning's dismissal. Reeb says West's and Knight's terminations were for budgetary reasons.

# blurt

the inside track

and general managers, and a market-wide takeover by the Clear Channel conglomerate. Last week, West was fired from 91X.

Finest City Broadcasting owns 91X, rhythmic oldies station Magic 92.5, and urban/pop Z-90. On the day they fired West, the company let go of three other employees, including Sherry Knight, who had a midday shift on Magic 92.5.

"Instead of paying a salary [to a live deejay], they'll now pay someone \$20 to voice-track those shifts," says a radio insider who does not work for



91X BREAKS UP WITH WEST

All local radio stations are feeling a 10 to 20 percent decrease in revenues compared to last year. Insiders say the three Finest City stations were purchased in 2005 with a \$105 million loan

put up by venture capitalists. That loan plus debt service must be paid in spite of the economic downturn.

Regarding Finest City being in trouble, Reeb said last week, "We had a staff meeting yesterday to reaffirm with everybody that we are in absolutely no problems with us staying in business." He says that necessary arrangements were recently made to "take care of obligations."

Reeb says that *Resurrection Sunday*, which West hosted for ten years, will continue on 91X "for now."

West continues to operate *radionigel.com* from his home. His webcasts feature the '70s and '80s bands that made 91X a success during its first decade of operation — Blondie, the Cure, the Ramones...

— Ken Leighton

### Scorpion Joins Death Cab

Death Cab for Cutie bassist Nick Harmer posts details online about the backstage mishap suffered by singer Ben Gibbard before the band's October 29 show at SDSU's Cox Arena.

"So tonight in San Diego, Ben got stung by a scorpion. Twice. I couldn't make this



GIBBARD FEELS THE STING

stuff up if I tried; file this under 'things that really happen on rock tours.'

"Ben's okay, if not a little shaken, but we were worried for a while because the scorpion was a little guy, and when it comes to the wonderful world of scorpions, the smaller the deadlier. Here's how it went down: As we were getting ready to go onstage to play our set, Ben changed into his show pants that were hanging in our wardrobe case. He put his pants on and felt something stick him twice in his thigh, and when he pulled them off, this guy came running out.

"We all screamed. A scorpion was honestly the last thing we could imagine that would come scurrying out of his pants. Ben said that it felt like a wasp stung him and it

didn't hurt so bad, but it sure rattled all of us. We called the EMTs, and they checked him out, and thankfully he was fine and able to play the show; he said he had scorpion power in his veins."

— Jay Allen Sanford

### From Beyond the Grave

"The ghost of Frank Zappa keeps appearing in my dreams and bugging me to do mass overdubs on stuff from his catalog," says Tony Villodas. As "Tony Mind-controlle," he posts music at *MySpace.com/IsItFrankZappa* that he claims is cocreated with the deceased musician... from beyond the grave.

"When we talk in my dreams," says Villodas, "we don't disagree about tobacco and medical marijuana issues like I thought we would because it doesn't come up. Frank's all business." That business includes a reworked version of Villodas's own musical elegy "Threnody for Frank Zappa," overdubbed with snippets of dozens of early Zappa songs.

"He kept telling me to work in excerpts of his music, from as many of his albums as I could fit in, with me doing the overdubs myself, probably because he wants to promote his early Mothers [of Invention] catalog."

Why would a dead man

want promotion?

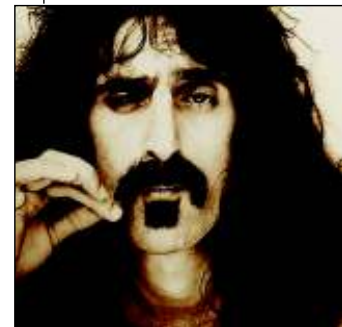
"Zappa's very obsessed with providing for his family," says Villodas, "even after death."

Villodas says he's not a Zappa fanatic.

"I'm not even a collector of Zappa's music. I'm a great admirer of his band and his serious music, but I like Ornette Coleman and Captain Beefheart the most."

As for the legality of using bits of Zappa's music...

"It doesn't serve me financially to promote Frank's catalog. I use incorporated bits of his music dubbed on top of my song, but there are no literal samples, and I don't use more than four measures



WHAT WOULD FRANK CARE?

at a time. I feel like this about it — so sue me for working on an homage to one of this century's finest, most prolific composers. So far, so good; no cease-and-desist letters from Gail and Dweezil Zappa or

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Munchkin Music.”

Villodas appears with Sheri Lopez on Friday, November 14, on the TV show *Yourself Presents*, which airs on Cox public access Channel 23.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**Oh, Doctors** Marc

Intravaia: “Eve Selis and I played a private show back in 1994 or ’95 for about 1000 doctors at the Hotel Del. A doctor dropped dead at the side of the stage of a massive heart attack. They stopped the show for 15 minutes while they attended to him and then wheeled him out. When we asked what to do next, they said keep playing, as they see this almost every day. It seemed like every song after that had some mention of a breaking heart: ‘Heartbreaker,’ ‘Achy Breaky Heart,’ ‘Hanging on a Heart Attack,’ ‘What Becomes of the Broken Hearted’... We all winced our way through to the end while they took no notice and partied as if nothing had happened.”

Jaime Valle: “Years ago, I was playing an underground Tijuana nightclub. It was a hot summer night. The band was jamming and the joint was jumping. Suddenly, someone shoots the bass player. The bullet was aimed at the singer, missed, and hit the poor bassist. All the cats in TJ know who I’m talking about.”

Ron Fountainberry/the SoftLightes: “Last year we were on tour with Wolfmother, and in Austin one particular guy flipped me

off the entire show. I don’t know how he was able to keep his arms up the entire show. There were several times on that tour that I thought we would be murdered for our lack of hard rock.”

Laura Jane/the Tighen Ups: “In the magical summer of 1993, I was dancing and singing in a musical revue/ dinner show in Traverse City, Michigan, and my black high-heeled pump flew off my foot during a high kick. It hit a man eating a steak on his face,



FOOTWEAR-LOOSE, FANCY-FREE LAURA JANE

pretty hard, and then fell into his plate of food. He immediately stood up with his fists up, ready to punch out whoever smacked him in the chops! We bought him a new steak, and he forgave me. I have worn shoes with ankle straps on stage ever since.”

— Bart Mendoza

**Breezy, Heavy** “My two bands are so different; I lead a completely bipolar life,” says local bandleader Gary Zon, who fronts the industrial goth group Dismantled and a breezy pop outfit called Aerodrone.

“I started Dismantled back in 2001, when I was heavily into dark music like Skinny Puppy and Nine Inch Nails,” says Zon. “Our last album in 2006 was called *When I’m Dead*.”

“But, around 2005, I

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realized I had another side of me that was bored with dark, depressing music, so I got into pop and started Aerodrone. Dismantled is kind of my black side, and Aerodrone is the white me....

“People who like Aerodrone tend to be around 15 to 17 years old and into trendy emo scenes and clothes. They make YouTube videos of themselves miming our lyrics, about stuff like Supercuts and Converse shoes, and they write ‘OMG’ on MySpace a lot.



ZON, IN TOUCH WITH HIS DARK SIDE

“Dismantled fans are goth, mysterious, and tend to be moody and write long, meaningful messages. They like our skull logo, tattoos, and they enjoy lyrics like

“When I’m dead, I hope the planet wipes every trace of my existence on this wretched ground.”

He says few listeners are familiar with both bands. “During Aerodrone’s first national tour this past summer, some shows had to be booked with Dismantled as the headliner, since they’re more well known. I played with Aerodrone first, wearing hipster white American Apparel jackets and sunglasses, and then an hour later I was donning body armor, a gas mask, and steel-toed boots for Dismantled....

“Even as a headliner,” says Zon, “Aerodrone usually makes less money than Dismantled.” Aerodrone appears November 21 at UCSD.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**When the Wave Was New**

Twenty-eight years ago today (11/13/80), downtown’s California Theatre hosted a new-wave concert with 20/20 that was shut down by cops.

“I’ve seen more than my fair share of police harassment at the various new-wave clubs and rock concerts around San Diego,” patron Bart Cheever wrote to *Kicks* magazine (12/80), “and this time it looks like they’re out for blood.

“Armed in full riot gear, police systematically harassed and assaulted patrons.... You’re never going to see a cop choking some old lady at the San Diego Symphony. People were being arrested for crossing the street or asking for a refund or unlocking their cars or whatever else the police felt was illegal.... To the over-30 world, you’re just a punk who’s better off in jail. The police intimidate you, then they dehumanize you.”

At the same time, PB’s Roxy Theatre at 4642 Cass Street was closing its doors. Owner Scott Shore had bought the venue in 1977, planning to operate it as a movie theater until distributors refused or were unable to provide first-run films. The 629-seat venue was converted for concerts, booked by local promoter Marc Berman from summer 1978 through August 1979. Berman brought in Lou Reed, Blondie, Iggy Pop, Dire Straits, and a 5/16/79 Police concert broadcast on KGB 101.5 that became one of the band’s most well-regarded bootlegs.

After Berman departed for bigger ventures, the Roxy was leased to Concert Nite

Productions through early 1980, whereupon owner Shore terminated the lease amidst allegations of unpaid rent and incomplete building improvements.

Local concert promoters Fahn and Silva Presents booked the Roxy occasionally



THE ROXY, BEFORE ROCK AND NEW WAVE

from March through August 1980, and then the theater spent months screening the adults-only film *Caligula*, charging \$6 per ticket.

In mid-November 1980, Shore reportedly sold the site for around one million dollars. The building was demolished to make way for a new post office, which opened in 1984.

— Jay Allen Sanford

**CONTRIBUTORS**

William Crain, Dave Good, Larry Harmon, Michael Hemmingson, Ken Leighton, Ryan Loyko, Bart Mendoza, Derek Plank, Eric Rife, Jay Allen Sanford, David Stampone

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November 28

*Wowwee*  
November 29

*“Larry the Cable Guy”*  
December 12

*“Dancing with the Stars”*  
December 17

*Cheetah Girls*  
December 21

**Metallica**  
December 15



**Celine Dion**  
November 25

*“Walking with Dinosaurs”*  
January 1-4

*“Annie”*  
January 9-11

*“Grease”*  
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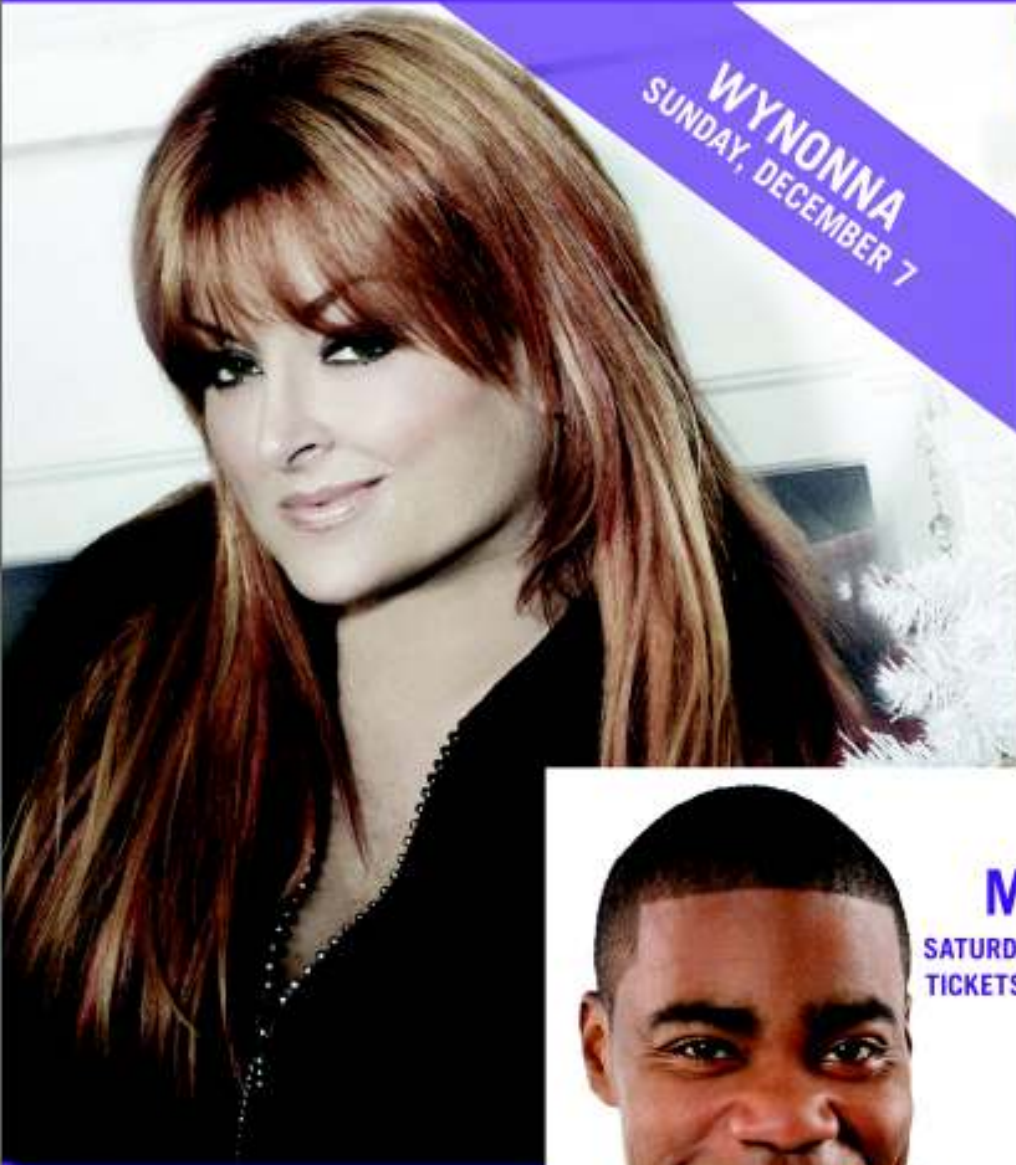
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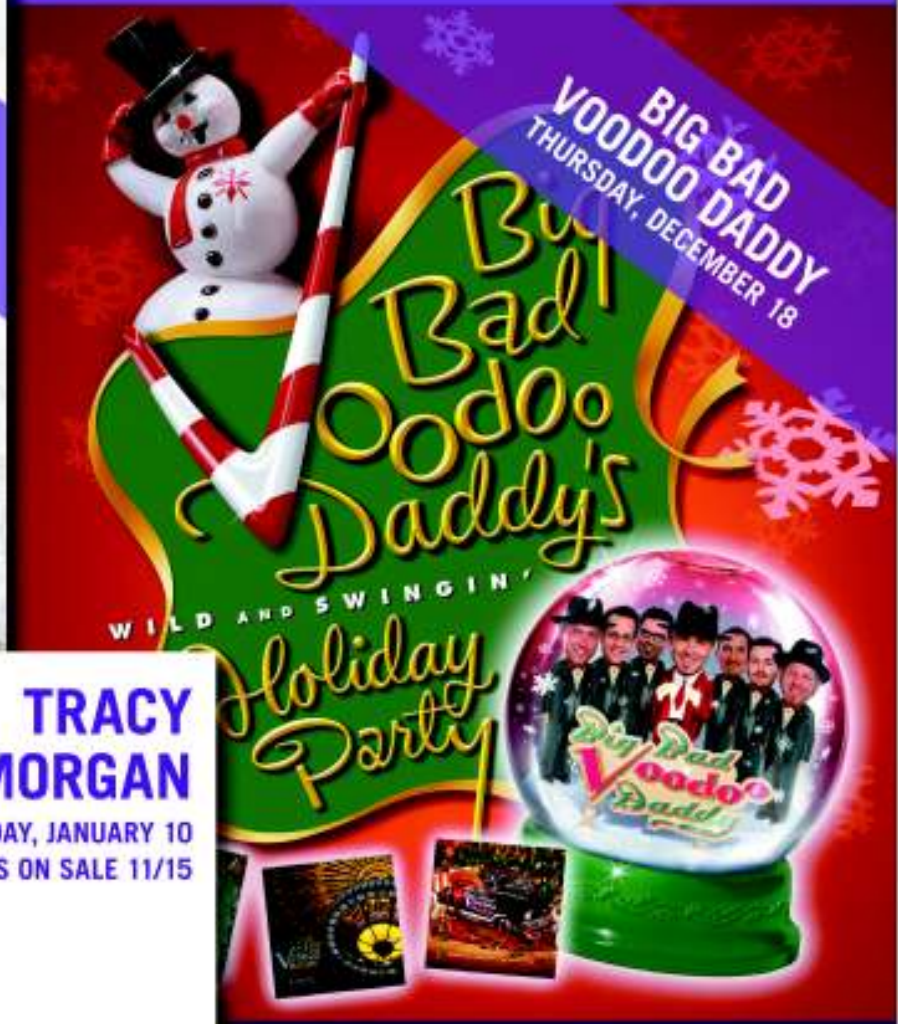


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# club crawler

## This Week In Music

### Thursday 13

As indie as you wanna be. Eric Bachmann's **Crooked Fingers** has now been touring and recording longer than his ballyhooed indie outfit Archers of Loaf, the journalistic Chapel Hill quartet that made math-rock a punk thing. With Fingers, Bachmann's yelp became a croon and his electric staccato riffs an acoustic wash. The band's Merge output ranges from covers collections (the excellent *Reservoir Songs*, 2002) to concept records (bull-fighter's tale *Dignity and Shame*, 2005). For this year's critical question mark, *Forfeit/Fortune*, which tends to trad Euro-folk, the indie stalwart dropped out of the label game and started his own imprint and distribution (Constant Artists/Red Pig); i.e., see the merch man if you want one. With SanFran singalong band **Port O'Brien**, this is tasty Casbah fare.... New Orleans-based big band **Galactic** brings the jazz-funky *From the Corner to the Block to Belly Up*.... *Because I'm Awesome*, Florida pop-punk trio the



CROOKED FINGERS AT CASBAH

**Dollyrots** roll on Bar Pink.... Finnish metal men **Lordi** meet Los Angelino loud of **Lizzy Borden** and **Stolen Babies** to crank amps at House of Blues.... While hip-hop hits the beach at Canes, where **Method Man**, **Redman**, and **Termanology** rock the mike tonight.

### Friday 14

Placencia rap-core collective **Kottonmouth Kings** snakebite House of Blues Friday night. They're out to tout their tenth proper Suburban Noize disc *The Green Album*.... Singer-songsmiths **Jonatha Brooke** of folk duo the Story and **Glen Phillips** of alt-pop act Toad the Wet Sprocket will strum-n-hum at Little Italy supper club Anthology.... Seattle scenesters **Minus the Bear** went acoustic for this year's *Acoustics*. The synth-rockers will join regarded Raleigh sextet the **Annuals** at Soma.... More bears? Local indie kids **Da Bears** play the Ché with



GANG GANG DANCE AT CASBAH

**Psycholizard**, **Scarecrow Tom**, and **Algernon Cadwalladers**.... Hard rock hits town when Miami sonics **Torche** join Bay Area badasses **Black Cobra** and chowdah heads **Clouds** at Casbah.... Notable uptown bills look like locals-only, with **Earthless** at Radio Room...**MC Flow**, **Wild Weekend**, and **Head Like a Kite** at Bar Pink...The **Widows**, the **Pets**, and **Christmas Island** out at the Ken...and **Hotel St. George** and **Tape Deck Mountain** at Whistle Stop. Throw a dart; it's all good.

### Saturday 15

**Mudhoney**, **Japanese Motors**, and the **Heartaches** fill a Saturday-night bill at Casbah. Seattle grungers Mudhoney are out behind this year's SubPop surprise, the reissue of 20-year-old keeper *Superfuzz Bigmuff*, the debut that ranked Mark Arm et al. as "the undisputed kingpins of roaring, surging, fuzzed-out punk music".... Else: Folk-rock troubadours **Mason Jennings** and **Zach Gill** visit House of Blues...Ken Club stages party-pop acts **Apes of Wrath** and **Jamuel Saxon**....Belly Up hosts a 91X Loudspeaker gig, featuring **Stripes and Lines**, **This Holiday Life**, and **Sayvinyl**...**Long Live Logos**, the **Monthlies**, **Sam Sess**, and **Mr. Biggs** pop-rock Beauty Bar...Rockabilles the **Strikers**, **River City Rebels** (VT), the **Lost Captains** cow-punk O'Connells...London club guru **Paul Oakenfold** spins at Club Spin...And Disney boy band the **Jonas Brothers** play Sports Arena.

### Sunday 16

Brooklyn's art-rock dance band **Gang Gang Dance** hits the floor at Casbah. With this year's crit-hit *Saint Dymphna*, the quartet has settled the experimental sides into accessible pop-rock cuts.

Check their Space takes for a taste — like Animal Collective without the tribal turns. With **Rainbow Arabia** and **SQZMYLMNS** in support, this should be a fun one Sunday night.... Bar Pink stages L.A. alt-pop quartet the **Ruse** and Oakland ambients **Fauna Valetta**.... **Hanson's** "Walk Around the World" tour brings the Tulsa Mmmmbop bros. to House of Blues.... Or meet the minimalists, with **Woods**, **Wavves**, and **Christmas Island** at Ché Café...and the **Vaginals**, **Little Teeth**, and **Anasaziz** at Ruby Room.

### Monday 17

Casbah's Anti-Monday team tags a trick triple bill with Swedish pop-punks **Love Is All**, who last week dropped their anticipated latest, *A Hundred Things Keep Me Up at Night*. Local **Humanimals** **Grand Ole Party** play the date, but it's Brooklyn trio the **Vivian Girls** who'll ground this ticket with lo-fi garage-rock stomps. Check the Space takes from the Girls' s/t *In the Red* debut, and we'll see you at the gig.... Jewish hip-hopper **Matisyahu** brings his reggae flava'd raps to House of Blues. Denver underground trip-hop collective **Flobots** set the downtown



VIVIAN GIRLS AT CASBAH

stage.... Uptown, **Diablo Dimes** will busk at Beauty Bar...and upcounty, the hard-rocking **As I Lay Dying** throw down at the Jumping Turtle in San Marcos.

### Tuesday 18

Indie rock with hot sauce. For 2003's *Cuatro Caminos*, Mexico City pop-rock quartet **Café Tacuba** got a Grammy and a Latin Grammy to their cred. The 20-year-old lineup will play 4th&B



behind their latest, last year's *Si No*, which put the band back in the Latin Grammy limelight with six nominations.... Canadian urban legend has it that

CAFÉ TACUBA AT 4TH&B

wolves carry AIDS to house pets, who then give it to the Canucks who fill their bowls. Ya see? **AIDS Wolf**. The Quebecois quartet lays out noise rock at Casbah Tuesday night. Oregon's "James Bond of free improvisation," **Arrington de Dionyso**, opens.

### Wednesday 19

Punk-rock perennials the **Misfits** and **D.I.** will push the pit at House of Blues Wednesday night. Jerry Only, Dez Cadena, and ROBO keep the Misfits name alive as a tour-only trio that harks back to their horror-show heyday. While Fullerton, Cali, punks D.I. got back behind the boards for last year's *On the Western Front*, a full-bore hardcore classic. SanDago's **Authentic Sellout** sets the stage.... And around town, K.C. emcee **Mac Lethal**, hometown hits **Grieves**, and Sioux Falls' **soulcrate music** drop underground hip-hop on Casbah...the **Pasties** and **Pant Hoots** play punk'd folk at Ruby Room...and **Earthless** and **Sleepy Sun** orbit Bar Pink with cosmic rock. Out.

— Barnaby Monk



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Reggae

Friday, 14th:  
Lip Stick and Mother

Saturday, 15th:  
Special Guest

Sunday, 16th:  
Football

Monday, 17th:  
Monday Night Football

Tuesday, 18th:  
The Echelons

Wednesday, 19th:  
Joe Wood

Thursday, 20th:  
The Glossines

Friday, 21st:  
Wild Weekend

Saturday, 22nd:  
Joe Wood

Sunday, 23rd:  
Football

Monday, 24th:  
Monday Night Football

Tuesday, 25th:  
Nate and Olivia

Wednesday, 26th:  
The Drowning Men

Thursday, 27th:  
7-10 pm FREE  
Turkey and Fixings  
(details to come)

Friday, 28th:  
The Bleeding Irish

Saturday, 29th:  
Special Guest

Sunday, 30th:  
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DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT

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**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH**

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# Saturday Nov. 15

# PAUL OAKENFOLD



# Sunday Nov. 16

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11.28	Julius Papp + J-Jay
12.05	Sharam (Deep Dish)
12.12	Blank + Jones
12.19	Hernan Cattaneo

NYE



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# Eclectic Electric

*"I've had a lot of jobs, many strenuous, sometimes dirty. And those were the good ones."*

**M**att Resovich is one of those musicians who keeps busy and often commits to many projects at a time. He's performed with the Black Heart Procession, the Album Leaf, Mung, and Battling Maxo over the past decade, carving a niche with fans of eclectic and electronic music. He's also been keeping busy as a solo act.

Resovich (under the moniker of side-project Roll Film) and his electric violin can be heard on the 2007 independent film *Impaler*, a documentary about Jonathon "the Impaler" Sharkey's candidacy for governor of Minnesota in 2006. His other instrumental act is Toytester, "a computer-and-me" act of experimental sound and dance beats.

For the Album Leaf, Resovich plays guitar, violin, glockenspiel (orchestra bells), and provides vocals. The Album Leaf is Tristeza guitarist Jimmy LaValle's solo project, but the act tours with between three and five musicians.

The Black Heart Procession is the best known of Resovich's projects, formed in 1997. This band records and tours when the members have the time. The year 2006 saw the release of their album *The Spell*. This year the Black Heart Procession will perform three sets in the U.K. at the All Tomorrow's Parties Festival on December 5, 6, and 7.

## WHAT'S IN YOUR MUSIC PLAYER?

"I don't make playlists. I'm much more interested in hearing what other people are listening to and letting my surroundings influence me. Check out my favorites at [myspace.com/rollfilm](http://myspace.com/rollfilm)."

## WHAT SONG IS STUCK IN YOUR HEAD?

"You know that one you hear on the World of Warcraft log-in screen? Yeah, that one...over and over...."

## WORST JOBS?

"I've had a lot of jobs, many strenuous, sometimes dirty. And those were the good ones. I have bulldozed mountains of horse manure, dug through trash — read: recycling — and cleaned toilets. Those are all a walk in the park compared to dealing with the public. A certain percentage of the populace derives some sad self-validation from belittling people in the service industry. It's those jobs — which I won't name and of which there are definitely more than five — that are the worst. Fortunately I don't mind getting dirty, because I'd rather clean a toilet than kiss an ass."

## BEST THINGS DONE WHEN DRUNK?

"Funny question. If I remembered them, how good could it have really been?"

## TOP FIVE SAN DIEGO HANGOUTS?

"Hanging is for tree sloths. I prefer to stand or sit. My top five places to stand or sit are in front of my computer, on stage, my friend's panoramic penthouse patio, far-flung foreign locales, and in a hot tub."

## BEST GIG?

"By playing in the Black Heart Procession and the Album Leaf I've gotten to tour extensively in the U.S.A., Europe, and Asia. These are priceless mem-



Matt Resovich

ories, but a standout would have to be last summer's show at the Hollywood Bowl with the Album Leaf, if only because I grew up attending bowl concerts ever since I can remember. To be on the stage looking out was a unique and awesome feeling."

## WORST GIGS?

"Worst gigs, that's a laugh — no way I'm rattin' my boys out."

## BEST ADVICE?

"I'm gonna go with a classic line from *The Outsiders*: 'Stay gold, Pony Boy.'"

## BEST DEAD CELEB?

"I'd have to say Jerry Garcia, simply because he is dead in so many more ways than other celebs who

just also happen to be dead, you know? And how many of them are grateful?"

## FAVORITE QUOTE?

"I am quite fond of 'never say never' because, though some occurrences are quite dependable, people generally can't be certain of most outcomes."

## LAST BOOK READ?

"Probably an operations manual."

## EARLIEST CHILDHOOD MEMORY?

"My first childhood memory pertains to my current occupation: I told my parents I wanted to be a 'fiddler on the roof' just like the guy in the movie. They must have been stoked on my complete lack of economic sense." ■

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**4th & B**  
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*"The Queen of Steam"*  
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**Shari Puerto & the Rhythm Addicts**  
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**Monday, Nov. 17**  
**Blue Largo**  
**Tuesday, Nov. 18**  
**Bayou Brothers**  
**Wednesday, Nov. 19**  
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# BACKSTAGE

- EVENTS AT -



**Thur Nov 13th**  
8pm - The Flower Thiel / Shamey Jays / Blue Sky Blonde / Violin & January Avalanche

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with  
**"Clubhouse"**  
**@ The Bitter End**  
Every Monday at 9pm  
in the upstairs lounge  
**\$5 Martinis**  
**1/2 off Bottles of wine**

Special Drink Feature:  
"Clubhouse Cocoa"  
Seasonal Snacks  
Smores & More  
by the fire  
*'Tis the Season*

**Tue Nov 18th**  
10pm- Radiostar



**Wed Nov 19th**  
9pm- Ephraim Sommers  
Plow  
Cathryn Beeks Ordeal  
Citizen Band

**Thur Nov 20th**  
5 Dollar Comedy Show  
8pm- Chris Franjola  
Sarah Colonna  
Mal Hall  
Jason Lawhead






**Sun Nov 23th**  
9pm- EMegan Combs  
Allegra / Austin Jennings

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LITTLEJOY

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**DEC 5** The Dead Trees  
Red Cortex

ON SALE NOW!

brian culbertson's  
**A SOULFUL CHRISTMAS**

2 Shows!  
7pm & 10pm

Voce Williams  
Tony Martin  
Mike Pickett

**DEC 18**

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

NEW OWNERS THE  
**LAW**  
TOUR 2008

**PEREK**

The Super Villains

**JAN 2** ALL AGES

the  
**Radiators**  
30th Anniversary Tour

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**JAN 3**

**METZORS**

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**JAN 5**

ALL AGES

**LED ZEPPELIN**  
A TRIBUTE TO LED ZEPPELIN

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**JAN 9**

**Boyz II Men**  
**MOTOWN**

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**JAN 15**

**MAZ JOBRANI**

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**JAN 16**

ALL AGES

**EDWIN MCCAIN**

VOODOO STAGE

**JAN 21**

ON SALE FRIDAY 11/14 @ 10AM!

**Katy Perry**

WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
**NUPPA DATT**

ON SALE SATURDAY 11/15 @ 10AM!

**FEB 5** ALL AGES

ON SALE SATURDAY 11/15 @ 10AM!

**STUN**

**FEB 14**

10 SHOWS CELEBRATING 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 1999 CLASSIC

**JIMMY EAT WORLD**  
CLARITY x 10 TOUR

WITH  
**NOKNIFE**

ON SALE SATURDAY 11/15 @ 10AM!

**MAR 6** ALL AGES

**DEADACHE**

**NOV 13** ALL AGES

**Kottonmouth Kings**

SHORT DANCE SET WITH GORHAM FEAT  
ON BROADWAY - HOME  
THE GREENALBUM OFFICIAL RELEASE PARTY

**NOV 14** ALL AGES

**MELISSA FERRICK**

Dawn Mitschele

**NOV 14** VOOODOO STAGE

**MASON JENNINGS**

**NOV 15** ALL AGES

ZACH GILL

**HANSON**

MATT WEAZE and EVERHOOP ELIE

THE WALK  
AROUND THE WORLD  
TOUR

**NOV 16** ALL AGES

**jay brannan**

VOODOO STAGE

**NOV 17**

**O H G R**  
DEVILS IN MY DETAILS

DTOUR 2008  
WITH AMERICAN MEMORY PROJECT

**NOV 18**

**MISFITS**  
Authentic Sellout

**NOV 19** ALL AGES

**Alejandra Guzman**

**NOV 20**

**face to face**

Youth Brigade  
The Uprising

**NOV 22** ALL AGES

BACK FROM ANTYRICAL  
AGAIN.  
"ELECTILE DYSFUNCTION"  
TOUR 2008

With the Return of  
SLEAZY P. MARTINI!!!

**NOV 23** ALL AGES

**lenc benét**

**NOV 24**

11/17 **MATISYAHU & FLOBOTS** (NOV 17)  
11/21 **RICK ORTIZ PRESENTS NOCHES ROCKERAS**  
11/24 **BEN KENNEY OF INCUBUS** (NOV 24)  
11/25 **WHO'S BAD**  
11/26 **CLUB MASSIVE**  
11/28 **TESLA**  
11/29 **THE SISTERS OF MERCY**  
11/30 **BELL BIV DEVOE**  
12/3 **SECONDHAND SERENADE**  
12/4 **FIVE FINGER DEATH PUNCH**  
12/5 **WU-TANG CLAN**  
12/7 **BAD BRAINS**

12/9 **MESHELL NDGECELLO**  
12/10 **HELMET**  
12/11 **LOS LOBOS**  
12/12 **ANTHONY HAMILTON**  
12/16 **BLOC PARTY**  
12/17 **APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION/BACK IN BLACK UNWRITTEN LAW**  
12/19 **THE VANDALS**  
12/21 **THE CURED**  
12/26 **ON SALE 11/14 AT 10AM!**  
12/27 **CLUB LUCKY**  
12/28 **RATT**

12/30 **THE WAILERS**  
1/1/09 **REEL BIG FISH**  
1/4/09 **BB KING**  
1/25/09 **COUNTRY RAT PACK FEATURING TRACY BYRD WITH TRACY LAWRENCE & RICHIE McDONALD**  
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10 SHOWS CELEBRATING  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF 1999 CLASSIC



# JIMMY EAT WORLD

CLARITY x 10 TOUR



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NOVEMBER 30  
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8:30 PM - 1:30 AM

Saturday  
11/15/2008



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Sunday  
11/16/2008



El Cajon's Football Station  
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Games start @ 10:00 AM

### Mondays

\*Join us for Monday Night Football.  
\*Karaoke following the game.  
\*In-house pool tournament

### Wednesdays

\*Karaoke with David AKA Superman  
\*Karaoke starts at 9:00 PM  
\*Basket of Hot Wings for \$3.50.

### Tuesdays

\*In house crickets dart tournament.  
\*Blind draw.  
\*7:30 PM Signups

### Thursdays

\*Karaoke with David AKA Superman.  
\*Karaoke starts at 9:00 PM.  
\*Basket of Hot Wings for \$3.50

## Calendar MUSIC

Classical listings can be found in the  
Classical Music Guide. Music videos,  
driving directions, maps, event alerts,  
coupons, and more available online  
at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com).

**HOW TO SUBMIT A MUSIC LISTING:** Call 619-235-3000 x405, night or day by 5 pm Friday, the week prior to publication. To send weekly or monthly schedules, fax to 619-231-0489 or mail to Reader Music Scene, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA, 92186. You may also submit information online at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com) by clicking on the music section.

### THIS WEEK'S SHOWS

**The Alley:** 421 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-1173.  
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays — The Love Rangers. Dance music.

**Anthology:** 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300.  
Thursday, 7 p.m. — Brennen Leigh. Acoustic/Americana. \$15.  
Friday, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. — Jonatha Brooke and Glen Phillips. Folk/rock/pop. \$25-\$28.  
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. — Barbara Tobler. Cabaret. \$41.  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. — NovaMenco. Flamenco/jazz/pop. \$20.

**Belly Up Tavern:** 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140.  
Thursday, 9 p.m. — Galactic. With Crown City Rockers. Funk/rock/hip-hop. \$25-\$27.



Minus the Bear, November 14, 2008

Friday, 9 p.m. — Groundation. Reggae. \$18-\$20.

Saturday, 9 p.m. — Stripes & Lines. With This Holiday Life. Alternative/pop/rock. \$10-\$12.  
Sunday, 8 p.m. — Devon Allman's Honeytribe. With Deadline Friday and Lukas Nelson & the Promise of the Real. Rock/blues/jam band. \$8-\$10.

Monday, 8 p.m. — Elisa. With Ari Hest. Pop/alternative rock/soul. \$12-\$14.

Tuesday, 8 p.m. — Jasmine Commerce and Alyssa Jacey. With Sara Haze. Acoustic/pop/rock. \$8.  
Wednesday, 8 p.m. — Rodney Crowell. Acoustic trio. \$25-\$27.

**Birch North Park Theatre:** 2891 University Avenue, North Park, 619-239-8836.

Thursday, 8 p.m. — k.d. lang. Country. \$44-\$64.

**The Bitter End:** 770 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-338-9300.  
Tuesday, 10 p.m. — Radiostar. Eighties new-wave rock.

**Boar Cross'n:** 390 Grand Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-729-2989.  
Thursday — Diamonds of Rome and BiPolar Meltdown. Alternative/rock.


**Brick by Brick:** 1130 Buena Vista Avenue, Linda Vista, 619-275-5483.  
Thursday, 8:30 p.m. — Los Hollywood, Xolmani, Armando Rose. Latin/rock/pop. \$6.  
Friday, 8 p.m. — Black President and the Rooflighters. Punk. \$10-\$12.


Sunday, 7:30 p.m. — Hershel Abram. Soul/hip-hop. \$10.

**Café La Maze:** 1441 Highland Avenue, National City, 619-474-3222.

Fridays and Saturdays, 7 p.m. — The Sandy Chappel Quartet. With Burnett Anderson, Robert Sebastian, and Hank Young. Standards/jazz/blues.  
Sundays, 7:30 p.m. — Burnett's Bliss. With Robert Sebastian and Scott Wallingford. Jazz/standards/blues.

**California Center for the Arts, Escondido:** 340 North Escondido Boulevard, Escondido, 800-988-4253.  
Saturday, 8 p.m. — The Preservation Hall Jazz Band. New





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HAN  
ASIAN VODKA  
\$2 off all cocktails  
*Thursday*  
TRIBE OF KINGS  
*Friday*  
**Deez Riddim**  
Regga Jungle  
*Saturday*  
**Mete**  
Eclectic Funk & Hip Hop

**Oceanside**  
*Wednesday*  
**Deez Riddim**  
Regga Jungle  
*Thursday*  
HAN  
ASIAN VODKA  
\$2 off all cocktails  
*Friday*  
TRIBE OF KINGS  
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Thursday, November 13 ■ 8 pm  
Blues

**The Burnsville Band**

Friday, November 14 ■ 6 pm  
Original Rock

**Veronica May & The To-Do List**

9:30 pm ■ Motown & Dance

**Detroit Underground**



Saturday, November 15 ■ 9:30 pm  
Latin Rock

**Viva Santana**



Sunday, November 16 ■ 8 pm  
Smooth Jazz

**Bradley Leighton & Tom Braxton**



Monday, November 17 ■ 7 pm  
Scorchin' Blues

**Michele Lundeen**

Tuesday, November 18 ■ 7 pm  
Original Rock

**Songwriters Showcase**

Wednesday, November 19 ■ 8 pm  
Blues Guitar

**Anthony Gomes**

Upcoming Shows

Sunday, Nov. 30

**Toni Redd**

Friday, Dec. 12

**NovaMenco**

Friday, Dec. 26

**Javier Batis**

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# The Jumping TURTLE

"North County's True Music House"

THIS WEEK

FRIDAY 11-14  
**CALABRESE**

TUESDAY 11-17  
**AS I LAY DYING  
DESTROY THE RUNNER  
THIEVES & LIARS  
SHE SAID SEVER**

WEDNESDAY 11-19  
**LONG LIVE LOGOS**

SATURDAY 11-15

Birthday Bash for Mike!!  
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UPCOMING SHOWS (See our website for more info):

THURSDAY 11-20  
**SPONGE  
RUBBER SIDE DOWN  
THE BOMBOPS  
REAL BREW**

FRIDAY 11-21  
33rd INF presents  
**GUNE SQUAD**  
Mix Tape Vol. 2 CD release party  
Performances by **SEANDOE,  
LADY KARMA, GHOST,** and guests

SATURDAY 11-22  
No Cover Magazine presents  
live music featuring  
**TBA**

SUNDAY 11-23  
**THE AMERICAN SOUND  
RADIO RACER  
ONE HOT MINUTE  
SHORT CIRCUIT PLOY  
THE DUREE**

MONDAY 11-24  
**GREEN JELLY  
RADIOACTIVE  
CHICKEN HEAD  
ROSEMARY'S  
BILLY GOAT  
MEDIUS**

FRIDAY 11-28  
Rhyme Lab and House of Rep present  
**PSC  
ACEYALONE  
ORKO  
NATURE OF THE BEAST**

SATURDAY 11-29  
**ETCHED  
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# Calendar MUSIC

Orleans jazz. 1-800-988-4253. \$27-\$45.

**Canes:** 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780.  
*Thursday*, 8 p.m. — Method Man & Redman. Hip-hop duo. \$25.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Iration, the B Foundation, Psydecar. With Revival. Reggae/rock/soul. \$10.  
*Saturday*, 9 p.m. — Will Child. A tribute to the Doors. \$15.  
*Wednesday*, 8 p.m. — Mest. Pop punk. \$15-\$18.

**Carvers:** 11940 Bernardo Plaza Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-566-2400.  
*Friday and Saturday*, 8 p.m. — The Hype. Covers blues, pop, and rockabilly.

**The Casbah:** 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355.  
*Thursday*, 8:30 p.m. — Port O'Brien and Crooked Fingers. With Sarah Jaffe and Little White Teeth. Folk/rock. \$10-\$12.  
*Friday*, 8:30 p.m. — Torche, Black Cobra, Clouds. Rock/punk. \$10-\$12.  
*Saturday*, 8:30 p.m. — Mudhoney. With Japanese Motors and the Heartaches. Garage/rock/pop. \$22.  
*Sunday*, 8:30 p.m. — Gang Gang Dance, Growing, Rainbow Arabia. Electro/experimental. \$10-\$12.  
*Monday*, 8:30 p.m. — Grand Ole Party, Love Is All, Vivian Girls. Indie/pop/punk. \$15.  
*Tuesday*, 8:30 p.m. — AIDS Wolf. With Arrington de Dionyso. Experimental/noise/rock. \$8-\$10.  
*Wednesday*, 8:30 p.m. — Mac Lethal and Grieves. With Soulcrate Music. Hip-hop/rap. \$10.

**Cheers:** 2475 Main Street, Ramona, 760-789-0270.  
*Tuesdays*, 5 p.m. — Mike Gardner. Acoustic rock.

**Ché Café:** 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2311.  
*Friday* — Da Bears. Indie/pop/rock.  
*Sunday* — Woods and Wavves. Folk/rock/psychedelic.

**Copley Symphony Hall:** 750 B Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804.  
*Saturday*, 5 p.m. — Viva El Mariachi Festival. Features music and culture that reflect the Mexican community. \$37-\$77.

**Dirk's Niteclub:** 7662 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-469-6344.  
*Friday and Saturday* — Nemesis. Classic rock/metal/grunge.

**Double Deuce:** 528 F Street, Downtown, 619-450-6522.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Moontucky Risin. Bluegrass/rock/psychedelic. \$8.

**Downtown Café:** 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687.  
*Friday*, 7 p.m. — Joey & the Sting Rays. Covers rock and country hits.  
*Wednesday*, 8 p.m. — Acoustic Evenings. With guests.

**Epazote:** 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-259-9966.  
*Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Freefall. Jazz.

**Epicentre:** 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.  
*Friday*, 7 p.m. — The Ninth Gate and the Final Burden. With As They Burn Alive, Murder on the Dancefloor, and Roman Burial. Metal/hardcore. \$7-\$9.  
*Saturday*, 7 p.m. — A Cursive Memory and So Long Dave! With School Boy Humor and Go Crash Audio. Alternative/pop/rock. \$9-\$11.

**Fannie's Nightclub:** 9143 Campo Road, Spring Valley, 619-698-2204.  
*Thursdays* — Fuzz-Huzzi. Alternative/pop/punk.  
*Friday* — Stehm. Classic rock.  
*Saturday* — Out of Line. Hard rock.  
*Wednesday* — The Stop. Hip-hop.

**Georges on Fifth:** 835 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-702-0444.  
*Fridays and Saturdays*, 6:30 p.m. — Peter the Prince of Piano. Piano/pop.

**Hensley's Flying Elephant Pub and Grill:** 850 Tamarack Avenue, Carlsbad, 760-434-2660.  
*Friday* — Lipstick N Leather. Eighties hair-metal.  
*Tuesday* — The Echelons. Alternative/punk/rock.

## ! NOTE

BY DAVE GOOD

The grunge family tree is not complicated. Before there was Nirvana or Soundgarden, Alice in Chains, or even those grand imitators the Stone Temple Pilots, there was a Bellevue, Washington band called Green River. Green River grew into full-fledged bandhood from various adolescent high school collaborations between **Mark Arm** (né McLaughlin) and **Steve Turner**. Green River was a hard-rocking heavy metal-ish band and is important to note because their first record, *Come on Down*, is said by many to be the first grunge recording ever. Kurt Cobain and Chris Cornell would later cite Green River as influences. Two of Green River's members, Jeff Ament and Stone Gossard, went on to form a wildly

successful band called Pearl Jam. Indeed, most of the grunge bands that emerged after *Come on Down* would garner far greater financial success than did Green River or the band they eventually morphed into: **Mudhoney**.

Listen to early Mudhoney gold like "Hate the Police," and you will hear the gleeful sounds of rock and roll dinosaurs — simple power chords, sloppy playing, amps on the loudest settings, adrenaline on high. That grunge owes everything to garage rock is no mystery. I've often wondered: Could there ever have been a grunge movement without garage? For the record, garage is the music that American bands were making in the mid-'60s, although at the time it was not called garage. In a word, garage refers to an actual place (lots of young bands practice in them) as well as a volatile and amateurish sound long on emotions and short on skills.



**MUDHONEY**

Decades later, Green River (and Mudhoney) would inspire a new genre and make flannel shirts cool again by reliving those same fundamentals of garage rock. If not the money or the fame, they should at least get the credit.

**MUDHONEY, Casbah, Saturday, November 15, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$22.**

*Wednesday* — Joe Wood & the Lonely Ones. Blues/rock/soul.

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church:** 2083 Sunset Cliffs Boulevard, Ocean Beach, 619-222-0365.  
*Sunday*, 7:30 p.m. — Gerry O'Beirne. Acoustic. \$18.

**House of Blues:** 1055 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-299-2583.  
*Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Lordi. With Lizzy Borden and Stolen Babies. Metal/rock. \$14.  
*Friday*, 7:30 p.m. — Melissa Ferrick. Folk rock on the Voodoo Stage. \$14.  
*Friday*, 6:30 p.m. — The Kottonmouth Kings. Alternative/rap/heavy metal. \$22-\$42.  
*Saturday*, 7 p.m. — Mason Jennings. With Zach Gill. Folk rock/pop. \$22.  
*Sunday* — Matt Wertz and Everybody Else. Acoustic/pop/rock.  
*Sunday*, 7:30 p.m. — Hanson. Pop/rock. \$29-\$44.  
*Monday* — Jay Brannan. Folk rock/acoustic.

*Monday*, 6:30 p.m. — Matisyahu. With Flobots. Reggae/hip-hop/rock.  
*Tuesday*, 7 p.m. — ohGr. Gothic/industrial/experimental. \$17-\$32.  
*Wednesday*, 7 p.m. — The Misfits. Punk/hardcore. \$22.

**Jack's La Jolla:** 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla, 858-456-8111. Piano Bar. 6 p.m. Every day of the week in the Ocean Room.

**Jimmy Love's:** 672 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-595-0123.  
*Wednesday*, 6:30 p.m. — The Soul Revue. Jazz, dance, and top 40.

**The Jumping Turtle:** 1660 Capalina Road, San Marcos, 760-741-7778.  
*Mondays* — Reggae Infusion Irie Time. Various reggae bands perform.

**The Kensington Club:** 4079 Adams Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-284-2848.  
*Thursday*, 9 p.m. — Echo Revolution, Runway, One Lonely Robot. Alternative/pop/rock. \$5.

**The Kraken:** 2531 South Coast Highway 101, Cardiff, 760-436-6483.  
*Sundays*, 4 p.m. — The Blues Brokers. Blues/soul/rock.

**Lestat's Coffee House:** 3343 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-282-0437.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Ian McFeron. Americana/folk/rock.  
*Sunday*, 8 p.m. — The Robin Henkel Band. Blues/funk/jazz. \$10.

**Main Stage Bar at Valley View Casino:** 16300 Nyemii Pass Road, Valley Center, 866-843-9946.  
*Thursday*, 7 p.m. — Firefly. Classic rock.  
*Friday*, 4 p.m. — Hot Rod Lincoln. Acoustic/roots/rockabilly.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Lady Dottie & the Diamonds. Blues/soul/rock.  
*Saturday*, 4 p.m. — Street Heart. Classic rock.

**Mas Fina Cantina:** 2780 State Street, Carlsbad, 760-434-3497.  
*Wednesdays*, 8 p.m. — Mike Gardner. Acoustic.

**McCabe's Beach Club:** 1145 South Tremont Street, Oceanside, 760-439-6646.  
*Fridays*, 4:30 p.m. — The California Ringers. Country.  
*Saturday*, 7:30 p.m. — Illicit Behavior. Classic rock.

**Mulvaney's Wagon Wheel:** 8861 Magnolia Avenue, Santee, 619-448-8550.  
*Friday*, 8 p.m. — City Limits Band. Country/rock/blues.

**Nancy's Pub:** 4246 University Avenue, City Heights, 619-280-5834.  
*Sundays*, 5:30 p.m. — The Steemin Heep Blues Band. A blend of traditional blues, swing, and rock. Ages 21 and up.

**O'Connells Pub and Nightclub:** 1130 Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista, 619-276-5637.  
*Friday*, 9 p.m. — Pulse Anatomy. With One Inch Punch, Breaker Breaker One Niner, and Anthem. Rock/metal/punk.  
*Friday*, 7 p.m. — Fat Man's Misery.

Late night dining

**CLUB SAPPHIRE**  
Mediterranean Cuisine & Hookah Lounge

TUESDAY  
**Karaoke Night**

WEDNESDAY  
**Dance Hall and Top 40, '80s, '90s DJ C-Nerio**

THURSDAY  
**Dance/Electro DJ Andrew Decade**

FRIDAY  
**Arabian Nights Live Belly Dancers**

SATURDAY  
**Hip-Hop/R&B with DJ KA**

SUNDAY  
**Reggae**

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**KARAOKE**

FRIDAY: NOVEMBER 14  
**FAT MAN'S MISERY (7-9 PM)**

SATURDAY: NOVEMBER 15  
**THE STRIKERS RIVER CITY REBELS (VT) THE LOST CAPTAINS**

SUNDAY: NOVEMBER 16  
TRIVIA WITH A TWIST (6-9 PM)  
**MOXIE MAGDALENE • CAMBRIA**

MONDAY: NOVEMBER 17  
**BLUES JAM** Hosted by  
**MYSTERY TRAIN** 8 PM

TUESDAY: NOVEMBER 18  
**RIP CARSON & THE CARCIN-O-GENICS**

WEDNESDAY: NOVEMBER 19  
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— SATURDAYS —  
**Live rock**  
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— SUNDAYS —  
8 pm **Karaoke**  
\$2.50 pints • Free Pool 4-7 pm  
— MONDAYS —  
**College night with DJ**  
Show college ID • \$4 U-Call-Its  
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**The Final Burden**  
**As They Burn Alive**  
**Murder on the Dancefloor**  
**Roman Burial**

Sat., November 15 • \$9/\$11  
Live Nation presents  
**A Cursive Memory**  
**School Boy Humor**  
**Go Crash Audio**  
**So Long Davey**

Sat., November 22 • \$7/\$9  
**White Apple Tree**  
**War Stories**  
**Flight to Athena**  
**We Are the Arsenal**

Sat., December 13 • \$7/\$9  
**The Material**  
**Misdelpnia**  
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**The Kensington Club**

Thursday, November 13  
**ECHO REVOLUTION RUNWAY ONE LONELY ROBOT**

Friday, November 14  
**THE WIDOWS • THE PETS CHRISTMAS ISLAND MAYYORS**

Saturday, November 15  
**APES OF WRATH JAMUEL SAXON THE FOCUS GROUP**

Thursday, November 20  
**BEDFORD GROVE DROP JOY KYLE VAN BAND**

Friday, November 21  
**SYNDICATE JEZEBEL THE PREDICATES**

Saturday, November 22  
Corey's Birthday Party!  
**BREAKER BREAKER ONE NINER THE ACCOUTREMENTS**

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**WORLD BEAT CENTER** EVENTS CALENDAR  
NOVEMBER 2008

LOCAL  
ROOTS  
REGGAE!

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**STRANGER & HI ROOTS**

\$8 ADV. 8:00 PM DOORS



THURS, NOV 20TH  
**SUGAR MINOTT**

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NEW MEMBERSHIP WEBSITE PARTY!  
\$13 ADV. 7:30 PM DOORS

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ARTIST!

THURS, NOV 27TH

GIVING THANKS  
TRIBUTE TO THE  
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**LUTAN FYAH  
& QUINTO SOL**

DIRECT FROM  
JAMAICA

\$13 ADV. 8:30 PM DOORS



FREE!

NOV 29TH & 30TH  
**AFRIKAN MENTAL  
LIBERATION FILM FESTIVAL**

12 NOON  
TO 9 PM  
DAILY

SAT, DEC 27TH  
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# Calendar MUSIC

Garage/blues.  
**Saturday**, 9 p.m. — The Strikers and the River City Rebels. With the Lost Captains. Rock/punk/metal.  
**Sunday**, 9 p.m. — Moxie, Magdalene, Cambria.  
 Alternative/rock/pop.  
**Monday**, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Pro-invitational blues jam.

**O'Harleys Sports Bar & Grill:** 13437 Community Road, Poway, 858-486-7422.  
**Saturday**, 8:50 p.m. — Mariner. Covers/standards/rock.

**Ocean Beach People's Organic Foods Co-Op Deli:** 4765 Voltaire Street, Ocean Beach, 619-224-1387.  
**Friday**, 5:30 p.m. — Fast Heart Mart. Acoustic/roots.

**Oceanside Museum of Art:** 704 Pier View Way, Oceanside, 760-435-3720.  
**Thursday**, 7 p.m. — Jamie Valle. Latin/jazz. \$10-\$15.

**Osetra Watergrill:** 904 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-239-1800.

**Thursdays**, 8 p.m. — Live Jazz. In the E5 Lounge.  
**Wednesdays**, 8 p.m. — Los Reyes del Ritmo. Flamenco and Latin music in the E5 Lounge.

**Pasquale on Prospect:** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0722.  
**Sundays**, 6 p.m. — Stage 4. Jazz/rhythm and blues.

**Patrick's II:** 428 F Street, Downtown, 619-233-3077.  
**Friday**, 9 p.m. — Michele Lundeen & Blues Streak. Blues/funk/rock.  
**Monday** — Blue Largo. Blues/soul/swing.  
**Tuesday** — The Bayou Brothers. Zydeco/blues/R&B.

**Peter D's:** 5149 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, Clairemont, 858-277-3217.  
**Wednesdays**, 8 p.m. — Mystery Train. Performs and hosts an open blues jam.

**Rancho Bernardo Inn:** 17550 Bernardo Oaks Drive, Rancho Bernardo, 858-675-8500.  
**Fridays**, 5:30 p.m., **Saturdays**, 6 p.m. — Jerry Melnick & Tom Bishop. El Bizcocho Restaurant. Jazz/variety.

# NOTE

BY WILLIAM CRAIN

The Vivian Girls were the heroines of a 15,000-page novel by Henry Darger, a reclusive janitor who died in obscurity, only to posthumously become one of the most famous and influential outsider artists in the world.

Obscurity and inspiration play big roles in the story of the Brooklyn band called the **Vivian Girls**. The all-female trio became an Internet sensation earlier this year when their debut album sold out in just over a week (a reissue came out last month). Mind you, it's not necessarily hard to become an Internet sensation, and the album that sold out was limited to a press run of only 500

copies. Still, the Vivian Girls have the makings of a big deal — at least among the critics and bloggers and Brooklyn scenesters who are the band's natural constituency. They've even started to generate a backlash, which is a sure sign of success in the indie-rock underground. I saw one online post that read, "Recording a Talulah Gosh album does not a great band make."

If you don't know who Talulah Gosh is, don't worry. The Vivian Girls sound more like early Lush or Henry's Dress than a twee or C86 band anyway. The point is that the Vivian Girls call to mind a lot of obscure, mostly British indie pop acts from the '80s and early '90s who wedded sweet vocals to noisy guitars and hazy reverb. If you can recognize the influences, the Vivian Girls will make you feel smart and



**VIVIAN GIRLS**

hip and...well, old. If you can't, you'll like the Vivian Girls because they'll make you feel good.

**Love Is All** and **Grand Ole Party** also perform.

**VIVIAN GIRLS, Casbah, Monday, November 17, 8:30 p.m. 619-232-4355. \$15.**

**Red Fox Steakhouse:** 2228 El Cajon Boulevard, University Heights, 619-297-1313.

**Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays**, 9 p.m. — The Ed Rapacci Duo.

**Mondays and Tuesdays**, 9 p.m. — The Shawline Expression. With Dave Shaw & Paul Gregg.

**Rosie O'Grady's:** 3402 Adams Avenue, Normal Heights, 619-284-7666.

<p>THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 13  <b>CROOKED FINGERS</b>  <b>PORT OBRIEN</b>  <b>SARA JAFFE</b>  <b>LITTLE WHITE TEETH</b>                  IN THE ATARI LOUNGE</p>	<p><b>THE Casbah</b>                  COCKTAILS • LIVE MUSIC • 21 w/ID                  2501 KETTNER BLVD. • 232-4355</p>	<p>SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 22 • 10:30 PM  <b>SHAKE APPEAL</b>                  BY IKAH LOVE                  w/DJs MARK E. QUARK,                  MORGAN YOUNG, JEFF                  GRAVES &amp; SIAVASH</p>
<p>FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 14  <b>TORCHE</b>  <b>BLACK COBRA</b>  <b>CLOUDS</b></p>		<p>TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 18  <b>AIDS WOLF</b>  <b>ARRINGTON DE DIONYSO</b></p>
<p>SATURDAY • NOVEMBER 15  <b>MUDHONEY</b>  <b>JAPANESE MOTORS</b>  <b>THE HEARTACHES</b></p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 19  <b>MAC LETHAL • GRIEVES</b>  <b>SOULCRATE MUSIC</b>  <b>VEGASAIN</b></p>	<p>MONDAY • NOVEMBER 24                  ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS  <b>THE GIFT CURSE</b>  <b>DIS SABOTAGE</b>  <b>THE SUBADONS</b></p>
<p>SUNDAY • NOVEMBER 16  <b>GANG GANG DANCE</b>  <b>RAINBOW ARABIA</b>  <b>SQZMYLMNS</b></p>	<p>THURSDAY • NOVEMBER 20  <b>BILLY MIDNIGHT</b>  <b>DESERT DIAMONDS</b>  <b>TROPHY WIFE</b></p>	<p>TUESDAY • NOVEMBER 25  <b>MY BRIGHTEST</b>  <b>DIAMOND</b>  <b>CLARE &amp;</b>  <b>THE REASONS</b></p>
<p>MONDAY • NOVEMBER 17                  ANTI-MONDAY LEAGUE PRESENTS  <b>GRAND OLE PARTY</b>  <b>LOVE IS ALL</b>  <b>VIVIAN GIRLS</b></p>	<p>FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 21  <b>GRAM RABBIT</b>  <b>MR. TUBE &amp;</b>  <b>THE FLYING OBJECTS</b>  <b>JOHN MEEKS</b>  <b>THE BLACKOUT PARTY</b>                  IN THE ATARI LOUNGE</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY • NOVEMBER 26  <b>JIVE WIRE/ONE NATION</b>  <b>UNDER A GROOVE</b></p>
<p>casbahtickets.com Charge by phone: 888-512-7469</p>		<p>FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 28  <b>DEER HUNTER</b>  <b>TIMES NEW VIKING</b></p>

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Sun. 11/16 REDSKINS vs. COWBOYS  
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Mon. 11/17 6-8 PM:  
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An evening of music from the Grateful Dead



## ELECTRIC WASTE BAND

Tues. 11/18 6-9 PM:  
Think 'N' Drink Trivia

Reggae, Reggae, Reggae  
featuring members of Vegetation

ISHMAEL & THE PEACEMAKER  
JORDAN LOADER

Wed. 11/19 4-8 PM:  
Winston's Art Show

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"I'm in Miami B'tch"  
BUDDY AKAI  
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SATURDAY 11/22 • 9 PM

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1/3 Pepper - On sale Friday @ noon! • 1/9 Elijah Emanuel & the Revelations  
2/20 Super Diamond - On sale Friday @ noon!

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**

12/3 Relentless Seven - SOLD OUT!	12/13 Cash'd Out	12/29 Cracker & Camper Van Beethoven
12/5 Aimee Mann's Christmas Show w/Patton Oswalt, Nellie McKay, Grant-Lee Phillips & Morgan Murphy	12/14 Dave Mason	1/2 Pato Banton w/The Mystic Roots Band
12/10 The Howls, The Northstar Session & The Midwinters	12/15 Missy Higgins	1/10 Dead Man's Party
12/11 Tom Morello: The Nightwatchman	12/18 Venice Christmas Show	1/15 The Knitters
	12/19 Young Dubliners Celtic Christmas	1/16 Marcia Ball
	12/26 Bassnectar	1/17 40 Oz. to Freedom
	12/27 Karl Denson's Tiny Universe & Robert Walter's 20th Congress Reunion	1/30 The Cured
	12/28 Partice	2/15 Susan Tedeschi

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11/14 Buick Wilson Band  
11/21 Atomic Groove \$5

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# Calendar MUSIC

**Tuesdays, 9:30 p.m.** — Bclub's Jazz Jam Session. Modern jazz classics and standards every Tuesday, with Bryan Whelan, Doug Walker, Laurel Grinnell, and friends.

**The Round Table Cocktail Lounge:** 1723 Euclid Avenue, City Heights, 619-264-6000. **Tuesdays, 6 p.m.** — Charlie Blue. Blues.

**San Diego Sports Arena:** 3500 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-224-4171. **Saturday, 7 p.m.** — The Jonas Brothers. Pop/rock. \$39-\$79.

**Scripps Miramar Ranch Library:** 10301 Scripps Lake Drive, Scripps Ranch. **Sunday, 2:30 p.m.** — The Sam Johnson Jazz Group. Jazz for the "Pleasure of Your Company" music series.

**Sevilla:** 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-233-5979. **Mondays, 9 p.m.** — Rock en Español.

**Soma:** 3350 Sports Arena Boulevard, Point Loma, 619-226-7662. **Friday, 7 p.m.** — Minus the Bear and Annuals. Indie rock/experimental/pop. \$18. **Saturday, 6:30 p.m.** — Ludo. With the Higher and Eye Alaska. \$10. **Sunday, 7 p.m.** — Underoath and

Saosin. With the Devil Wears Prada and the Famine. Screamo/metal/rock.

**South Park Bar & Grill:** 1946 Fern Street, South Park, 619-696-0096.

**Thursdays, 9:30 p.m.** — Open jazz jam.

**Fridays, 7 p.m.** — The John Kopecky Trio. Jazz.

**Saturdays, 8:30 p.m.** — Open Blues Jam. With Will Jackson. **Sundays, 6 p.m.** — Original Music Modern Jazz Series. Every Sunday, with Doug Walker, Tim Nunnink, Nick Tocco, and Nathan Hubbard.

**Stage Saloon:** 762 Fifth Avenue, Downtown, 619-992-7862. **Fridays** — Trainwreck.

**Theatrx:** 155 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-735-2491. **Friday, 5:45 p.m.** — The Robin Henkel Band. Blues/funk/jazz.

**Thornton's Irish Pub and Grill:** 1221 Broadway, El Cajon, 619-447-5665.

**Friday, 8 p.m.** — Hugh Gaskins & the G String Daddies. Blues/soul/rockabilly.

**The Turquoise, Café-Bar Europa:** 873 Turquoise Street, Pacific Beach, 858-488-4200. **Saturday, 10 a.m.** — Inigo Figuracion and Ron Greitzer. Acoustic/covers/standards.

**University of California San Diego:** 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2230. **Monday, 6 p.m.** — Angus & Julia



## >most downloaded

BY OLLIE

"Huevos con Queso," by Agave, was the most downloaded MP3 from *SDReader.com* in October. Below is an interview with the band's primary songwriter, Rusty Bishop.

*What is it about Mexico that musicians find so appealing?*

Rusty Bishop: Mexico is and has been the new frontier for centuries. It's truly the wild West, where anything goes. We find that when we visit Mexico, we are always in situations that involve danger, mystique, and excitement. There is always this exotic element of the unknown. This, in turn, translates to a song like "Huevos con Queso," which incorporates a complex blend of humor, danger, sex, and culture not often

found in mainstream music today.

*Do you take trips to Mexico in hopes of finding a new flavor for your music, something normally overlooked by everyone in the U.S.?*

We take trips to Mexico to surf, camp, fish, play music festivals, and to get away from the normal day-to-day grind. But that's not to say that we are doing that in order to find a new flavor for our music. The influence is already there without needing to go to Mexico. In addition, our drummer is from Mexico City, and he naturally brings a Mexican flavor to anything we do.

*What other countries or states influence Agave music?*

If you listen to our album *Radiates Your Head* from start to finish, you'll hear influences from all over the world, not necessarily just Mexico. This is more of a reflection of

the different tastes that each member of the band brings to the table.

*What other countries or states do you plan on traveling to in order to get new sounds?*

Our island tour through the Gulf of Thailand kicks off with a "half-moon" party in Koh Phangan. Hope to see you there. Get the full details on our Facebook page.

**"Huevos con Queso"**

I've been kickin' 'round this place  
Never knowin' when to stop  
Walkin' these dusty streets  
Just tryin' to avoid the cops  
Been here about a week now  
In this one-horse border town  
Not runnin' from anybody  
I'm just lookin' for the sound  
Sounds can be elusive  
On a seven-day drunk  
Stumbled into a beach bar  
And these boys dropped the funk  
Hightailed it outta there  
On the heels of the dawn  
Time for a little siesta  
Still hummin' that salsa song  
[Chorus]



Agave

This one was not like the others  
Hope to get her under the covers  
Later on when I get her back home  
Gonna keep on movin' all night long  
Huevos con queso  
Tortillas to start the day  
Time to find a cerveza  
Maybe a senorita to play  
Stumbled into a beach bar  
Margaritas two for one  
There were two girls with one guy  
Damn that son of a gun  
Damn that son of a gun

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### UPCOMING SHOWS

**4th&B:** 345 B Street, Downtown, 619-231-4343. **November 21** — Bobby Valentino. **December 13** — Norman Brown and Friends.

**AcousticMusicSanDiego:** 4650 Mansfield Street, Normal Heights, 619-303-8176. **November 22** — Vance Gilbert. **November 23** — Doyle Dykes. **November 28** — Tom Russell. **December 5** — Epiphany Project. **December 10** — J.D. Souther. **December 12** — Cris Williamson. **December 13** — Kelly Joe Phelps.

**January 24** — Loudon Wainwright III.

**Anthology:** 1337 India Street, Little Italy, 619-595-0300. **November 20** — The Anthology House Band. **November 21** — Al Stewart. **November 22** — Charles McPherson. **November 23** — Johnny Polanco. **November 25, November 26** — McCoy Tyner. **November 28** — Back to the Garden.

**Balboa Theatre:** 868 Fourth Avenue, Downtown, 619-570-1100. **March 15** — The Irish Rovers. **April 28** — Mariza.

**Beach Grass Café — Encinitas:** 1476 Encinitas Boulevard, Encinitas, 760-942-

2741. **November 20** — Freefall.

**Belly Up Tavern:** 143 South Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, 858-481-8140. **November 20** — The Bacon Brothers. **November 21** — Common Sense. **November 22** — Buddy Akai. **November 23** — Orquesta Primo. **November 24** — Cody Canada and Randy Rogers. **November 26** — Buck-O-Nine. **November 28, November 29** — The English Beat. **November 30** — Jangada. **December 16** — Mike Ness.

**Birch North Park Theatre:** 2891 University Avenue, North Park, 619-239-8836. **December 6** — Makaha Sons. **January 16** — George Winston.

**February 28** — The Lalo Schifrin Trio.

**Canes:** 3105 Ocean Front Walk, Mission Beach, 858-488-1780. **November 20** — Deny the Silents and Groove Theory. **November 21** — Vokab Kompany and the Concrete Project. **November 22** — Tainted Love. **November 26** — The Melvins and Big Business. **November 29** — Cash'd Out. **December 12** — Murs.

**The Casbah:** 2501 Kettner Boulevard, Little Italy, 619-232-4355. **November 20** — Billy Midnight, Desert Diamonds, Trophy Wife. **November 21** — Gram Rabbit and Mr. Tube & the Flying Objects. **November 23** — O'Death and Old Devil.

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Free tapas 6:30-8 pm  
Nov. 18 ~ **Walter II y Orq. Rumbaney** 10 pm  
Nov. 19 ~ **Orq. Primo** 10 pm  
Nov. 20 ~ **Salsa Caliente** 10 pm

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November 25 — My Brightest Diamond and Clare & the Reasons.  
November 28 — Deerhunter and Times New Viking.  
November 29 — Blitzen Trapper and the Parson Redheads.  
November 30 — Subtle and Zach Hill.  
December 1 — Holly Golightly and Delaney Davidson.  
December 5 — Alex Woodard.  
December 6 — The Sea & Cake.

**Ché Café:** 9500 Gilman Drive, UCSD, 858-534-2311.  
November 22 — Lanterns, Weatherbox, Meho Plaza.  
**Copley Symphony Hall:** 750 B Street, Downtown, 619-235-0804.  
November 24 — The Australian Pink Floyd Show.

**Cox Arena:** 550 Campanile Drive, College Area, 619-594-6947.  
November 25 — New Kids on the Block.  
December 15 — Metallica.

**Downtown Café:** 182 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-440-5687.  
November 26 — Acoustic Evenings.  
November 28 — Joey & the Sting Rays.

**Encinitas Library:** 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas.  
November 23 — Chico Pinheiro Tribute.

**Epicentre:** 8450 Mira Mesa Boulevard, Mira Mesa, 858-271-4000.  
November 22 — White Apple Tree

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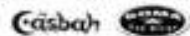
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ANNUALS

SAT. NOV 15

WUDO

THE HIGHER  
EYE ALASKA • THE GRADUATE

THURS. NOV 20

PORTUGAL THE MAN  
EARL GREYHOUND  
Wintersleep

FRI. NOV 21

MURDER ON THE DANCEFLOOR  
TO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL  
LIFE OR DEATH  
DUKES OF THE KUMATAI  
PROCESS OF ENIGMA

SAT. NOV 22

THE FACELESS  
BORN OF OSIRIS  
ABIGAIL WILLIAMS  
SHAI HULUD  
DECREPIT BIRTH  
VEIL OF MAYA  
AFTER THE BURIAL  
BURNING THE MASSES

FRI. NOV 23

The Birthday Massacre  
TUB RUM  
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WED. DEC 3

THE FALL OF TROY  
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SAT. DEC 6

RANCID  
BUCK-O-NINE  
DANNY DIABLO  
8:25 - 9:30 - LIVE NATION

THURS. DEC 11

UNDERNEATH THE GUN  
THE WORD ALIVE  
A SHATTERED HOPE  
SECONDS FROM DISASTER  
AS THEY BURN ALIVE

FRI. DEC 12

3ON13  
INTER PARTY SYSTEM  
CHAIN GANG OF 1974  
PLUS LOCAL DJ

SAT. DEC 13

MY AMERICAN HEART  
DANGER: RADIO  
THE GRADUATE  
ARTIST VS. POET

SUN. DEC 14

MUSTARD PLUG  
CHASE LONG BEACH  
SKANK AGENTS  
ONE DROP / DR. SKARVA

FRI. DEC 19

STICK TO GUNS  
MY CHILDREN MY BRIDE  
GWEN STACY  
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ATTACK ATTACK

SAT. DEC 20

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9522 Miramar Road, Mira Mesa.  
858-578-0757.

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Friday, November 14

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Billy Thompson**

Saturday, November 15

**Uplift**

Sunday, November 16

**Candy Kane**

Monday, November 17

**Cheap Leis**

Tuesday, November 18

**Jack Tempchin  
& Friends**

Wednesday, November 19

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**Classic Rock**



## Serious Guise

Sunday, November 16

**On The Line**

Monday, November 17

**Karaoke**

Tuesday, November 18

**Deadline to Madison**

## Santee

8528 Magnolia Avenue • 619-596-8350  
(Corner of Prospect & Magnolia)

Thursday, November 13

**Aepnia • Silent Lune**

Friday & Saturday, November 14 & 15 • 9 pm

**Classic Rock**



## Monsters of Rock

Sunday, November 16

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**Bedpost Buzzards • Fuzz Huzzi**

Tuesday, November 18

**Damcyan • Animal Corpse**

Wednesday, November 19

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## Calendar MUSIC

DJs and dancing. 7863 Girard Avenue, La Jolla. 858-456-8111.

### Moondoggies Pacific Beach:

*Saturdays*, 9 p.m.: What's Good. DJs Enigma and Cisco. Hip-hop, R&B, and Top 40. 832 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach. 858-483-6550.

### Riley's: Friday: Hip-Hop Night.

2901 Nimitz Boulevard, Point Loma. 619-255-8635.

### Ruby Room: Saturday, 9 p.m.:

Therapy. Industrial Gothic with deejays Bryan Pollard, Xian, and Detonator. *Saturday*, 9 p.m.: Club de Sade. DJ Drew Harlander and guest spin gothic and industrial every third Saturday of the month. \$5. 1271 University Avenue, Hillcrest. 619-299-7372.

### Sevilla: Fridays, 9:30 p.m.:

Blazin' Fridays. Hip-hop and reggaeton with Blazin' 98.9. 555 Fourth Avenue, Downtown. 619-233-5979.

### Spin Nightclub: Friday:

Homegrown Fridays. With local deejays. *Saturday*: Paul Oakenfold. Electronica/alternative. 2028 Hancock Street, Mission Hills. 619-294-9590.

### Whistle Stop Bar: Sundays:

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# Crasher

## MAKE-A-WISH, MAKE-A-COOKIE

by Josh Board

**t**he weekend before Halloween I hit a few parties related to my volunteer work with the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

I usually do office work or airport pickups for them, but Evelynn asked me to help put together a send-off party for a child who was going to Disney World. She said she'd call me about the items I'd need to pick up at the store, but she ended up getting the cake and party favors.

I felt a little guilty when Evelynn presented to the child a calendar she'd made featuring Disney characters. I stood back talking cars and cigars with a couple guys. One of them told me that his friend owns cigar shops in town and that he lets the cigar company take photos for catalogs in his backyard. For letting them shoot there, this guy's given free stogies. I said, "And you get to stand around watching models prance around your yard."

We ate burgers and hot dogs and talked around the fire pit before heading out.

On Saturday, Make-A-Wish hosted a Halloween party for 250 people. Evelynn and I were on



the committee and said we'd be there at 8 a.m. to help set up. I didn't get there until 9 because I was driving up Ruffin Road trying to find the Cox building. I found a gas-station attendant who knew where the building was. He explained that Cox was on "Ruffner, not Ruffin." I still

walls; and a few people filled goodie bags.

One couple was setting up

**"This Invisible Man costume is defective."**

arrived hours before the party started.

Everyone there already had jobs they were doing: two people were filling balloons with helium; others hung decorations on the

tables with costumes. In the past, we'd found the costumes to be a big hit with the kids who didn't come dressed up...and even some that did, who decided they wanted to change into the

Batman.

Suzanne, who works for Make-A-Wish, suggested I put balloons around the venue. I finished that project in about two minutes. Since we were running low on decorations, we decided to make our own out of construction paper. It seemed we were back in elementary school when a couple women and I teased each other about how to cut out the coolest bat, debating whether or not we should cut out little yellow eyes

for them. I was turning the spiders into black widows by cutting them into hourglass shapes.

I asked my girlfriend to work a face-painting booth. My friend Tracy, who is a caricature artist, worked the party, too.

We got Hot Dog on a Stick to send us a few employees in their colorful uniforms. They did demonstrations and then let the kids participate in making lemonade.

As we were putting the finishing touches on things, I heard the deejay playing "I Kissed a Girl." I told Suzanne we should make sure the deejay doesn't play any songs that could be offensive.

When I heard her play "Greased Lightning" later, I figured most people wouldn't even realize that there were risqué lyrics in that song.

I was bringing Tracy a slice of pizza at her station when I heard "Baby Got Back." A 12-year-old girl said to her friend, "Why would they be playing this?"

There was a company there called the Mad Science Group.

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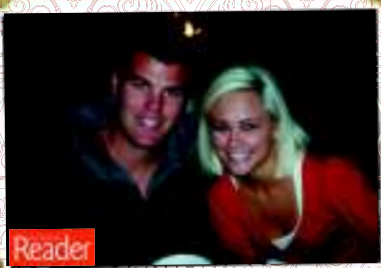
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## Crasher

They offer programs that teach kids about science. Their demonstrations sometimes involve smoke and fire. They had the kids making slime and Silly Putty at the Make-A-Wish event.

The adults walking around seemed to be having as much fun as their kids. One guy had on a T-shirt that read, "This Invisible Man costume is defective."

I was on the committee for putting this party together, but I must've been napping at the meeting when they talked about decorating cookies. Kids had plates of cookies and choices of frostings to decorate with. I took an oatmeal cookie to slather with red frosting. As I was putting the finishing touches on it, I overheard a 14-year-old girl say to her friend, "This is where diabetes starts." I'd submit that the starting point might be the buckets and buckets of candy bars at the entrance, but the adults made more trips back there than the kids.

The deejay played all the usual Halloween songs, such as "Monster Mash" and some numbers from *Rocky Horror*.

My duty for the party was monitoring the Moon Bounce, which was outside. Every time I checked on it, though, nobody was out there. So, I walked around the party eating candy and cookies.

I watched as one kid crushed lemons. His mom encouraged him to put on one of the colorful hats, but

he was at an age where that wouldn't be cool.

Another topic I must have missed at the meeting was the explanation of what the "big animals" were. Turned out they were people in animal costumes who walked around taking photos with the kids and then making buttons with the photos.

On one of my trips out to the Moon Bounce, I stopped to talk with a guy named Brian who has a Volkswagen painted to look like Herbie the Love Bug. I noticed that it was auto-graphed by some of the cast members, including Lindsay Lohan. He bought it after it was used in the demolition-derby scenes in the movie. The studio didn't want to sell it to him because of safety concerns. He fixed it up and now takes it to events for children. He's a former UCSD student living near L.A., but he was willing to drive down for this party.

When I noticed that one of the kids wouldn't get out of the driver's seat while other kids were waiting to get in, I tried talking him into coming with me to the pumpkin-painting table. He was having none of that, though.

I went and started painting a pumpkin to look like Herbie, thinking that would entice him. After painting on the number 53 with the stripes, I told the child's mom the pumpkin was for him. I didn't want her to think that he was leaving with someone else's creation. I was also hinting that maybe she should get her son and walk him

around. Brian stepped in and had him and the other kids tape teeth to the hood of the car to make it look as if Herbie had teeth. There was no getting the little boy away from the car at that point.

I watched as Brian helped a kid poke his head through the sunroof for a photo, and he told me a story about a buddy who owns a replica of the Batmobile. One of the makers of the real Batmobile left a note on the car stating that it wasn't an "official creation" of his.

I had been at the party almost seven hours and was getting tired. The kids were starting to leave, and things were wrapping up. I grabbed some trash off the table to help clean. My girlfriend had packed her stuff, and we were told that they had things covered. I was relieved as I headed out the door and wondered if it was worth getting up so early on a Saturday. I knew I'd be tired the rest of the day, and I had two parties to crash later that night.

Then I saw a child in a wheelchair who had a button in one hand, a brownie in the other, and a huge smile on her face.

Next year, I'll be there at 5:00 a.m. if they need me. ■

*Crash your party? Call 619-235-3000 x421 and leave an invitation for Josh Board.*

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# The Kindest Comforts

The Curse of Samurai Jim struck again — third time in a row. We were heading for a new Caribbean place in the Gaslamp, but when we called for a res, the phones were disconnected. Restaurants are a risky business. Zip, off we headed for the month-old Crescent Heights, still so new I meant to wait another month. But again the Jinx of Jim proved lucky after all. The Caribbean place would have been cheaper, but it couldn't possibly have been better.

Many of the personnel at Crescent Heights are veterans of Wolfgang Puck's Spago Beverly Hills, where chef-owner David McIntyre fell so madly in love with Chino Farms vegetables (according to restaurant manager Mark Wheadon, who stopped by our table to chat) that he determined to relocate to San Diego to be closer to his Mecca. (Actually, David and his wife/restaurant partner just liked our laid-back lifestyle better than L.A., but Mark tells a good story.) Now David lives in the Santaluz area and stops at nearby Chino regularly on his way to work. A few other local farms also contribute, along with a specialty wild-mushroom grower in Washington state.

The spacious, comfortable restaurant features walnut paneling, amber lighting, a "wall of wine" with 1700 gleaming bottles, and plenty of sound baffles on the ceiling to keep the noise to a minimum. Behind a divider wall is the bar and lounge, with large, handsome red sofas and a view of the 1500-square-foot glassed-in kitchen (which will have space for catering in the future). The wall keeps the bar babble down to a quiet background sound in the dining room.

The hospitable touches start immediately with the bread and butter. The bread — onion, sour-dough baguette, and the incomparable olive bread — is from Bread & Cie, and the ramekin of butter is at spreadable room temperature, sprinkled with delicious coarse sea salt. A class act to start your dinner.

We began with a salad of Chino Farms beets and mozzarella, dressed with 25-year-aged balsamic vinegar and pistou (the French version of pesto, sans pine nuts). A wondrous heap of Burrata (mozzarella so young and creamy it's not yet fully solidified) sprawled sensually on the plate like Manet's "Olympia" on her divan, surrounded by delicate, intensely sweet quarters of small golden beets (milder than red ones), cherry tomatoes, roasted peppers, and sheets of silky, salty Prosciutto di



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOE KLEIN

Parma. I found myself humming, "These are a few of my favorite things" — so many great flavors in one dish, including the resinous sweetness of the balsamic.

Prime steak tartare offers top-quality raw beef, chopped as it should be (not ground), mixed with seasonings, including mayonnaise, parsley, shallots, and minced chives. It comes with ramekins of coarse-ground Di-

## REVIEW NAOMI WISE

jon mustard and horseradish-cream sauce, with toasted baguette slices for spreading. This was the favorite of "Yoda," Jim's business mentor and partner, a mellow, silver-haired charmer newly inducted into the eating posse. (Doesn't look a bit like Yoda, Jim only dubbed him that for his computer savvy.)

Bouchet mussels arrived in a heavy black ceramic casserole, *très* South of France. The black Atlantic mussels sat over a rich, reddish sauce (the menu calls it "saffron beurre blanc," but it was more liquid than butter) punctuated with bits of roasted garlic, tomatoes, and chorizo, with more baguette toast on the side for dipping. Dipping was the best part, to catch all the goodies in the sauce. The mussels weren't quite as exquisite as our home-grown Carlsbad mussels (the chef, new to town, didn't know

about them until we talked), and I regret the menu misnomer about the sauce, as it led me to expect a satiny butter bath, rather than this tasty but more conventional treatment of the bivalves.

Another Jim-jinx struck for the third time — we were stood up once more by our friend the chef-turned-realtor. (Had to show a house, he said.) So, reduced to a mere threesome, we had to skip the vegetable and

lentil soup with duck confit and chanterelle mushrooms. Hated to miss a chance at chanterelles. (They're also on the halibut entrée and part of the sautéed mushrooms side dish.) There's also an ahi tuna tartare distinguished by jalapeño-ginger aioli, and "The Crescent Heights Salad," a version of the classic French bistro frisée salad, with poached egg, confit bacon, and fingerling potatoes, plus an autumn squash soup with apples and cranberries, and lots more — it's one of those menus where you really want to try everything.

With some menus, I order by the best-sounding proteins. Here, I ordered according to which vegetable garnishes sounded most enticing. We're now in the harvest season of slow-growing roots, and a good chef can turn these non-glam autumn-

### Crescent Heights Kitchen and Lounge ★★★★★ (Excellent)

655 West Broadway, downtown, 619-450-0450

**HOURS:** Monday–Friday 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.; Monday–Saturday 5:30–10:00 p.m.

**PRICES:** Cheese and charcuterie plates (not house-made), \$6–\$21; appetizers, \$12–\$22; entrées, \$29–\$44; sides, \$6–\$10; desserts about \$10. Lunch prices slightly lower, sandwiches (e.g., Muffalatta, Kobe burger), \$15–\$18.

**CUISINE AND BEVERAGES:** Fresh, simple, seasonal California cuisine featuring Chino Farms vegetables, premium meats, seafood, poultry. Interesting international wine list, plenty by the glass. Full bar with avant-garde cocktails.

**PICK HITS:** Everything, especially beet and Burrata salad, Muscovy duck breast with parsnip purée, striped bass, roasted Kurobuta pork rack, lemon-ricotta tart.

**NEED TO KNOW:** Patio dining available. Parking \$5 in attached garage. Save room for dessert. Dressy-casual. No vegetarian or vegan entrées on menu, but ask and ye shall receive; food allergies and taboos also accommodated by request.

Ratings reflect the reviewer's reaction to food, ambience, and service, with price taken into consideration. Menu listings and prices are subject to change.

Go to [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com) to find hundreds of past reviews.

nal veggies into the kindest of comfort foods. The menu changes frequently with the seasons, to include only the freshest produce and seafood. "We don't even have a walk-in freezer," our skillful waitress Eva told us in her lilting Slovakian accent. (How swell to encounter such cheerful professional service in San Diego, land of spaced-out "I'd rather be surfing" servers. Staff were trained properly at a series of gala "VIP-style" dinners the chefs cooked for them, so they could taste all the dishes — and lots of the wines.)

The newest menu addition is a pan-roasted Muscovy duck breast, its perfectly cooked if somewhat sinewy pink meat plated over an earthy

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vegetable assortment. Under the duck slices is a parsnip purée of startling sweetness, and surrounding them is a mélange of chopped butternut squash, rutabaga, and Hen of the Woods mushrooms. Yes, a good cook can make even rutabaga as sexy as Madonna. Surrounding them all is a sauce of herbed, reduced duck stock that echoes and intensifies the natural flavors rather than disguising them.

Second-newest dish is sautéed wild striped bass, and in an attempt to avoid rhapsodic hyperbole, I'll just say that this is the first time this particular fish has ever thoroughly captured me, thanks to a rigorously crisped skin over very tender flesh. (We left the plate so clean it barely needed washing.) Once again the crowning touch was the vegetable bed — an enchanting Jerusalem artichoke purée, made from a sweet-nutty root (aka girasoles, or "sun-chokes") of a species closely related to sunflowers. (Voice of experience: Bury a few roots, even from a grocery, in a fertile spot in your garden in March, and six months later you'll have 70–80 pounds of roots anchoring seven-foot-tall flowering stalks — and any root-bit you miss at harvest will come back to re-enact this not-always-welcome miracle next year.) Small

Jerusalem artichokes, cipollini onions, and baby carrots in butter completed the array.

When we ordered the roasted Kurobuta pork rack, I specified "rosy, medium-rare, not brown." "That's how the chef cooks it," the waitress answered, with the grin of someone who's just shared a juicy secret with her BFF. "You've got a chef who knows how to cook, then," I said. The pork, sliced off the bone, was rosy-pink, tender, and succulent — pure, great pork flavor. (Kurobuta has a Japanese name, but it's actually an English-American heritage breed, the Berkshire hog. No problem eating it as rare as you like — there's no more trichinosis in commercial hogs, and farms raising slow-growing heritage breeds aren't so stupid as to subject their precious piggies to industrial-farm filth. Here the pork arrives from Snake River Farms in Idaho, also a major purveyor of American Kobe beef.) The accompaniments were dreamy: Parmesan polenta, roasted baby turnips, caramelized apples, horseradish, and natural juice. Frankly, I was so taken with the luxurious meat that I mainly noticed the perfect harmony rather than individual garnishes.

Other choices include organic chicken, Alaskan halibut with chanterelles (carefully cooked until barely done, the chef says), diver scallops, braised lamb shank, and a couple of steaks, including a \$44 "28-day-aged bone-in New York."

Unfortunately, turns out those 28 days are spent swathed in Cryovac, not in a dry-aging meat locker, so the meat will likely be tender but not profound.

Curious, we tried a couple of side dishes. Parmesan french fries weren't that special. Ricotta-herb gnocchi Bolognese were tasty but a bit doughy, and the sauce was nice but ordinary. If you've got a little one in tow, there's no kiddie menu, but mac and cheese is among the available sides.

The bar offers interesting cocktails to start with. Jim's Yuzu Crush (tequila with tart yuzu juice, ginger, lemongrass, and lime juice) was crisp and clean, resembling a serious margarita made without junky simple syrup. My strawberry-basil caipirinha — well, I'll stick with regular caipirinhas, hold the strawbs. Yoda's Spiced Pear (spiced rum, pear, blood orange, and Cointreau) was pleasant and mellow, like Yoda, but the Yuzu Crush outshone it.

During the meal, we drank various wines offered by the glass, in generous pours. (I liked the Côte du Rhône Villages with the Kurobuta pork.) The more thrilling wines, alas, are by the bottle only, and steeper than those by the glass, but there are plenty of affordable bottles if you are middle income by John McCain standards. One positive aspect to ordering wine is the eye-candy sommelier, Joe Weaver, who comes to pour them (and advise you if you want) — with his dark hair and pale skin, he'd be perfectly cast

as Heathcliff, or as a romantic Anne Rice vampire.

We didn't think we had enough appetite left for dessert, but pastry chef Regan Briggs (formerly of the L.A. Four Seasons) offers desserts too smart to resist. We split her lemon-ricotta tart and demolished it. Totally. Don't ask for details, it was all a dream: crisp round shell, tender-tart custard, a loud blast of citrus — then, *whoosh!*, gone to the last crumb. Judging by just one sweet is probably premature, but this pastry chef may even rival Jack Fisher (EOS) and James Foran (Market). The espresso was good, too.

Crescent Heights is not a "budget restaurant." Planned and constructed over two years in a neighborhood of high-priced condos (that are no longer selling well), it has opened at a time so financially drastic that our best higher-end restaurants like Blanca and Marine Room are cutting prices. The bill here is likely to run about \$100 a person for two courses and shared dessert, including tip, tax, and modest beverages. (Once the restaurant gets more established, the chef-owner plans to offer lower-price options, such as a Monday bargain prix-fixe and/or half-price wine nights.) But where I sometimes resent restaurant prices, if the food costs more than it's worth, this time they seem reasonably justified by the quality of ingredients and the care at all levels of the operation. The cooking, service, and atmo-

sphere offer a feel-good evening in fraught times. The food isn't wildly original or venturesome (that's why only four stars) but it is solidly excellent. With the holidays (and kinfolk from the cold states) coming, this could easily become at least a special-occasion favorite, to enjoy American cuisine at its most satisfying. Even Alaska-Wolf Barbie (remember her from before November 4, when she was a Somebody?) would be captivated. And if you work downtown — lucky you! They do lunch!

#### ABOUT THE CHEF

David MacIntyre, from L.A., was majoring in business and psychology at University of Washington when he came home for summer break and snagged a temp kitchen job at Joachim Splichal's famed Patina (his parents were investors in the restaurant) and realized that he wanted to spend his life behind a stove, not a desk. He went back to school and got his degree anyway — "I didn't want to go to culinary school until I was certain this was what I wanted to do," he says. After college he returned to Patina for about a year, then took time off to travel in Europe, knowing by then that his future lay in the kitchen. "Then I started with Spago and have been there almost ever since, until now." He worked his way up to becoming Spago's sous-chef and kitchen manager, responsible for ordering vast quantities of foodstuffs from nu-

merous purveyors — connections he has maintained in obtaining top raw ingredients for Crescent Heights. After that, he helped open Cut, Puck's steakhouse in L.A.

His wife's sister lives in San Diego, and after a skiing accident, he and his wife-partner Mariah crashed with her while he recuperated. They fell in love with the mellower local vibe and decided to move here permanently and open a restaurant of their own. It took two years — lining up investors, designing and building the restaurant — until Crescent Heights Kitchen opened. "I wanted the food to be California Modern, using local and seasonal ingredients. I've never wanted to do something overplayed. I like to do a few ingredients on the plates and have them really shine. I'll roast my artichokes, and I want them to be the best artichokes you've ever eaten. I like simple food. Most of our sauces are pretty much natural. We roast the bones with shallots, garlic, vegetables, and herbs and make a stock, and otherwise, it's pretty much the natural flavor.

"My favorite technique is braising. We're doing a lamb shank now. We're going to do a Kurobuta pork shank and a veal-cheek ragout. I love slow-roasting and infusing the braising liquid with all the spice in there." But on the rare occasions he gets to go out, "My wife and I are huge fans of Chinese and Japanese food." ■



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# East Village Local

*“Used to clear \$225K a year. Now I’m down to \$80K, with a \$7500 monthly mortgage.”*

“I didn’t drive here,” says Dale. “Why would I? I live two blocks away. This is my local. I used to spend \$200–\$300 a month on gas. Now it’s more like \$60. We walk! This is East Village.”

We started talking after I sat on the stool next to her here at Dirty Del’s. Dale’s your typical empty-nester. Abandoned the ‘burbs when the kids flew the coop and came to live downtown in East Village. But she also spends half her week up in La Jolla looking after an 85-year-old photographer who keeps hauling her away to places like Kenya. Days off, this bar’s where Dale ends up for a glass of wine and maybe a sandwich. And company, with folks from her adopted neighborhood.

Me, I just happened to be passing when I heard all this talk echoing out onto the street and saw the cluster of people inside this see-through corner bar. Next moment, I’m yakkin’ with Dale at the black marble bar. And here’s the thing: she sips from a tall, thin-stemmed glass of red wine while I’m sucking from a bottle of two-buck beer. Beauty and beast. Class and crass. Mix and match. That’s what seems to make this place work. And for me, that \$2 happy-hour beer deal sure helps. Pretty unbelievable, so close to the ballpark.

It’s not a big place: half a dozen tables inside and walls dominated by six 40-inch hi-def sports screens. But you can still talk without shouting. When I arrived, it had a sprinkling from all ages, kids, metro-cool 30s and 40s, and people a little older, like Dale.

So now Dale’s talking about what fabulous sandwiches they have, ‘specially the “Diego.” I look at a big chalkboard menu leaning against the wall by the kitchen. Great, except it’s all sand-

wiches. Heck, was feeling like a boiger.

But their logo does say “Sports, Beer, and Sandwiches.”

Diego’s the fourth one down. “Turkey, bacon, avocado, provolone cheese & veggies on ciabatta bread.” Hmm... It’s \$7.99. Others have two prices, small and large. Like the “Del Trio,” which comes with three meats, capicola, mortadella, and Genoa salami, plus mozzarella cheese and veggies. It goes for \$6.99 and \$7.99. These seem to be the prices for most of the sand-

wiches, except for “Old Geezer” (bacon, lettuce, tomato, avocado, and Colby jack cheese on sourdough), which goes for \$5.99, and “Skinny,” which is all veggie, including cucumber, avocado, red onion, bell peppers and sprouts (also \$5.99). While I’m stewing on all this, a guy comes up and plonks himself down on the stool to my left. Name’s Roger.

“Whew. Good to be here. Can’t afford the Gaslamp no more,” he says. “I’m a mortgage specialist. Ha! Used to clear \$225K a year. Now I’m down to \$80K, with a \$7500 monthly mortgage. These are hard times.” Yeah, right. He’s a nice guy, though. Climbed from barman to restaurant manager to real-estate whiz. Bootstraps. Jeez. I’m starting to feel like a total slacker. ‘Specially when this other guy with dreadlocks and a brimless baseball hat turns up.

“I’ve had every sandwich on the menu,” he says. Danny. “My fave’s El Scorcho.” Oh, yeah. Roast beef, nacho cheese, jalapeños, and veggies on a baguette (\$6.99/\$7.99). Turns out — oh, man — Danny’s an executive too. Advertising. Senior account executive, no less. And he seems such a...kid. He was born in Ethiopia. The whole family is made up of overachievers. Doesn’t have time for a social life. “That’s why I absolutely

love this place,” he says. “Big sports bars don’t do it. Brian’s nailed it.”

He says Brian — Brian Delbrino — is the ex-SDSU student who opened this place early this year.

So, decision time. “‘El Scorcho,’” says Danny. “If you can handle the heat.”

“‘The Diego,’” says Roger.

Problem is, I’m also looking at the antipasti salad, only \$5.49 during Happy Hour. It’s lettuce, cauliflower, carrots, cherry tomatoes, and pepperoncinis — plus olives, salami, pepperoni, mortadella, and provolone. Or, I’m kinda tempted by that “Del Trio,” with all those meats, all those cheeses.

Hell, that’s what I go for in the end, the “Del Trio.” And it is a nice, big sourdough sandwich stuffed with plenty of salad as well. I finish the \$2 bottle of stout and ask Lea for a pint of Bud (\$2.50). Oh, man. Now with Honest Bud, my “Del Trio” delivers. All the meats are together on one side of the sandwich, but they’re tasty, and the bread seems minutes out of the oven.

“So, why no burgers?” I ask Brian “Del” Delbrino, when I get to talk to him later.

“I could have had burgers, buffalo wings, pizzas on the menu,” he says. “But that would have cost \$75,000 in extra ventilation. I couldn’t afford that.”

He says he’s dreamed of creating a small bar-bistro since he was 19 years old at San Diego State.

I have to ask him about two items I didn’t get. One was the \$8.99 “Dipshit” special on the chalkboard. “That’s just au jus, slow-cooked shredded



Brian Delbrino

beef, and cheese on a baguette,” he says. And the name? “Well, this is Dirty Del’s, after all.”

And the other is a turkey-ham-bacon-cheese-veggie combo sandwich called “Richard Cranium”...What? Oh, right. I don’t have to ask. ■

**The Place:** Dirty Del’s, 499 Tenth Avenue (at Island), East Village, 619-677-DRTY (3789)

**Type of Food:** American

**Prices:** Ballpark nachos, \$6 (\$3 during happy hour); antipasti salad (lettuce, cauliflower, carrots, cherry tomatoes, pepperoncinis, olives, salami, pepperoni, cheeses), \$6.49 (\$5.49); Diego sandwich (with turkey, bacon, avocado, cheese, veggies), \$7.99; Del Trio sandwich (with capicola, mortadella, salami, cheeses, veggies), \$6.99 (small), \$7.99 (large); Old Geezer (BLT and avocado), \$5.99; Skinny (all-veggie sandwich), \$5.99; Richard Cranium (turkey, ham, bacon, cheddar, veggies), \$6.99 (small), \$7.99 (large)

**Hours:** 4:00 p.m.–midnight (Mondays); 11:00 a.m.–midnight (Tuesday–Saturday); 10:00 a.m.–midnight (Sundays); Happy Hours: 4:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m., and 10:00 p.m. to midnight, daily

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**Mission Beach:** 3795 Mission Boulevard  
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# Calendar RESTAURANTS

## RESTAURANT LISTINGS

The Reader's Guide to Restaurants are recommended listings written by our reviewers (Ed Bedford, Barbara David, Ambrose Martin, Shari McCullough, Max Nash, Eleanor Widmer, Naomi Wise). Each issue contains only a fraction of almost 900 reviews. A complete searchable list is available online at [SanDiegoReader.com](http://SanDiegoReader.com). Price estimates are based on the latest information available for a midrange entrée. **Inexpensive:** below \$10; **moderate:** \$10 to \$19; **expensive:** \$20 to \$29; **very expensive:** more than \$30. Please call restaurants in advance for reservations.

## BEACHES

**Baleen** 1404 Vacation Road, Pacific Beach, 858-490-6364. Take a quick trip to chic Miami at the local branch of Florida's famed new resort restaurant. Whimsical tropical decor features a monkey motif (carved in the chandeliers, peeking from the paintings) and mambos play on the speakers. But the unlisted prices for chilled shellfish may make a monkey of you unless you ask before you buy. The menu features high-quality seafood and land creatures in refined renditions including gorgeous lobster bisque, herbed sea bass, and a hunk of free-range veal. Servers are charmers. The wine list is long and rather steep at the bottom end with better values farther up the range. Reservations. — N.W.

**The Bar-B-Que House** 5025 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-

4311. OB's piling in, and for good reason: the chicken and ribs are smoked on an oakwood fire, then charbroiled. Beef, pork, and ham spend eight to ten hours in the smoker. Of course, they have pork ribs. A good-value combo is the Southern-Style sandwich — beef, pork, ham, or chicken with coleslaw inside, along with a sauce that's just right: sweet, tangy, spicy. Most original idea? A BBQ burrito with meat, baked beans, coleslaw, and sauce wrapped in a flour tortilla. Expanded menu includes gyros. Open seven days, breakfast through dinner; till 10 p.m. weeknights; 11 p.m. Fridays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Brazil by the Bay Restaurant and Sports Bar** 3770 Hancock Street, Point Loma, 619-692-1410. The pleasures of the Brazilian table go beyond the orgies of skewered meats served at *rodízios* (e.g., Rei Do Gado). Here you can eat like a real *carrioca*, sampling typical dishes of Bahia, Rio, and São Paulo. You can happily make a grazing meal of stuffed things — appetizers such as *coxinhas*, *pastéis*, *croquetes*, and *kube* (the Brazilian version of Lebanon's *kibbe*) — and don't miss the luxuriant fried-bananas Milanese. Ask for the house's Brazilian hot sauce, hotter and livelier than the Mexican bottled sauces on the tables. The main-course masterpiece is *moqueca de peixe*, fish in a curry-like coconut milk stew. Other good choices include *prato feito* (beef, fish, or chicken, sprinkled with lemon juice and served over a sea of red beans) or filet mignon with *catupiry*, a stroganoff-like concoction made with a rich Brazilian cheese of the same name. Weekends, there's *feijoada*, the Brazilian national dish, but it's a rather thin and soupy version. Good desserts, including passion-fruit mousse. Beer, wine, sake-based cocktails. Lunch and dinner daily. Reservations accepted but not needed. Moderate. — N.W.

**Brockton Villa** 1235 Coast Boulevard, La Jolla, 858-454-7393. Pretty and romantic, this sprawling cottage perches above La Jolla Cove and offers heated terraces as well as semi-enclosed tables indoors to admire the view. The culinary masterpiece is Coast Toast, served until noon — the French toast of your happiest dreams, puffy and airy with a lovely

orange flavor. (And the coffee is excellent.) Lunchtime features sandwiches on flavorful Bread & Cie breads, while dinner runs to San Diego international-eclectic cookery that can be hit-or-miss. Affordable wines and corkage. Steep stairs to all dining areas. All nearby pay parking is uphill in a garage under Tratoria Acqua or up on Prospect. Unisex restroom. Open three meals Tuesday through Sunday; breakfast/lunch Monday. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

**Burger Lounge — La Jolla** 1101 Wall Street, La Jolla, 858-456-0196. One of a raft of newer, so-called "premium" burger places which claim premium ingredients and charge premium rates. But this local chain delivers on the meat. Their Tallgrass beef is juicy, tastes sweeter, and, more importantly, comes only from grass-fed cattle. That is, cows who spend their lives cavorting in fields and eating fresh grass, not trapped in feedlots being fed corn (unnatural food for cattle) and antibiotics and hormones. With a better Omega-6 to Omega-3 balance, this Kansas meat could actually be good for you. Open daily. Inexpensive, if you avoid extras like fries and onion rings. — E.B.

**California Modern** 1250 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-4244. With a new name and renovated for an even better ocean view, the former George's at the Cove continues to serve Chef Trey Foshee's ambitious, healthful California cuisine based on prime, seasonal ingredients and emphasizing sustainable wild seafood, local produce, naturally raised meats and poultry. The cooking style is a little lighter now, good for carb-counters, with only small amounts of starch on the entrées. The award-winning wine list offers few bottles under \$50, but many by the half-bottle or glass, including serious dessert wines. Full bar, creative "chef cocktails" with fresh fruit. Wheelchair elevator available but hidden (ask valet parkers); disabled can use neighbor Pasquale's mens' room on same floor. Vegetarians and vegans accommodated to order. Reserve well ahead. Dinner nightly. Very expensive. — N.W.

**Clay's La Jolla** 7955 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, 858-551-3620. In this

oddy cozy penthouse with wide windows facing west, the curtains rise at sunset to reveal a panorama stretching to the sea. It's comfortable, attractive, not too formal — casual-chic. Here, chef-owner Clay Bordan cooks up a creative, sophisticated, seasonal California-fusion menu with international flavors seamlessly integrated, featuring organic vegetables, wild fish, naturally raised meats and fowl. With his discerning palate, his fare is unusually delicious. And it's healthful, low-carb enjoyment with interesting veggies, little starch, minimal cream. Wine list includes some high-end French bargains; good choices by the glass. Full bar. Free parking. Elevator-accessible restrooms same floor. Dietary restrictions accommodated. No kiddie menu, but child-size plates half-price from regular menu. Reservations recommended. Live local jazz in lounge most nights after 7 or 8 p.m.; big band Sunday nights. Can be noisy. Three meals daily. Expensive. — N.W.

**C-Level** 880 Harbor Island Drive, Downtown, 619-298-6802. California-Mediterranean comfort food with a Southern Low Country accent from Chef Deborah Scott; same menu lunch and dinner. Alas, the restaurant's name also gives away its grade — the food's okay but not spectacular, although the gorgeous heated patio at the edge of the bay does plenty to sweeten the pot. Your visiting aunt will swoon over the view and enjoy the food. Vast wine list with plenty by the glass, wide range of prices but some steep markups; good beer list. Full bar with creative cocktails. Ample free parking. No reservations except for large parties. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — N.W.

**Cheese Shop** 2165 Avenida de la Playa, La Jolla, 858-459-3921. Used to be the Cheese Shop had 100 varieties of cheese from all over. No more. "The cheese trade is dead," says owner Phil Schutz. They still have all-cheese sandwiches with mixes of provolone, Monterey Jack, Cheddar, Swiss, Muenster, Danish Havarti, or Norwegian Jarlsberg. But today this small, busy café is more famous for its "overstuffed" meat sandwiches. The leg of lamb, top round

beef, and roast pork loin are all spit-roasted right beside you as you walk in, to waken your taste buds. Cheeses like crumbled Greek Mizithra add tang to the taste. If you're into salami and ham, try the foot-long. Other location: 427 Fourth Avenue, Gaslamp, 619-232-2303, open daily breakfast to late lunch, with delivery to downtown addresses. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Cliff Hanger Café** 2800 Torrey Pines Scenic Drive, La Jolla, 858-452-9858. "You should never leave the ground on an empty stomach," says the sign near the cliff, which is where this café hangs. What is it like to be at the Café at the End of the World? You sit, munch, and watch men becoming birdmen, jumping off the cliff beside you. The view of the Pacific Ocean is spectacular. But, hey, grub's good too. Try the Launch (a breakfast burrito with scrambled eggs, bacon, cheese, onions, bell peppers, and salsa). Also great and grilled right there: generous half-pound hamburgers. Open daily for breakfast and lunch. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Come On In** 1030B Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, 858-551-1063. Clunky name, but suave Euro-bistro feel with outside tables under trees. This is your escape to "Paree" anytime you can afford La Jolla. Actually, they keep the price of breakfasts — like two "plain and simple" steamed eggs with fresh fruit and toast, or the Popeye omelet, with spinach, Parmesan cheese, prosciutto ham, and diced tomato, fruit, and toast — down to a small roar. Of course, everybody in this neck of the woods is trying *not* to eat, so expect lots of fruit plates and healthy lunch sandwiches like roasted eggplant with zucchini, bell peppers, tomatoes, and mozzarella. Open daily until 9:30 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate; dinners a little more expensive. — E.B.

**Daily's Restaurant** 888 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-453-1112. The idea is brilliant: Just serve food that's really, really good for your customers. Low fat, low calorie, low sodium. Brainchild of cardiac surgeon Pat O. Daily. So what's the problem? It's the B-word. Bland. Not that they don't fight hero-

ically to make all the dishes interesting, but lots of items have that lentil-y, bean-y feel. Or naked salad-y. Or steam-up-your-nose veggie. Among the more interesting choices is the Cajun chicken with black beans and brown rice with cayenne-paprika in the spices. The most popular lunch order, the buffalo burger, has a little gamy aftertaste — but that just proves it is the legendarily lean prairie beast. Nice outside seating in Restaurant Row, except you've gotta resist the smells from the more wicked eateries that aren't on the same crusade. Inexpensive. Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. — E.B.

**The Fishery** 5040 Cass Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-9985. Pacific Shellfish Seafood Company founder Judd Brown got his start as a commercial fisherman. He doesn't fish anymore, but he does everything else — supplying product to top-tier restaurants, retailing glistening specimens to hungry shoppers and serving patrons who want to dine in amid the icy-blue walls and gorgeous trophy fish. The Fishery's menu is equally extensive, covering So-Cal basics (excellent mahimahi burrito), lunchtime standards (sandwiches, fine malt-dredged fish-and-chips), sushi, and an ambitious lineup of dinnertime entrées, some of them whimsically creative (tortilla-encrusted Mexican black bass). If ambition occasionally outstrips execution, an obsession with freshness helps compensate, and you get the sense that things are getting better all the time. The wine list is relatively inexpensive and carefully selected. Casual atmosphere. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate to expensive. — A.M.

**Isabel's Cantina** 966 Felspar Street, Pacific Beach, 858-272-8400. This cheerful café instantly became a gathering spot for many PB-ites, including the forsaken population of adults. Chef-owner Isabel Cruz, who calls herself "Food Girl," has imported much of her Mission Café menu of Latin-Asian-sorta-health food to the beach. A self-confessed "lazy cook," she focuses on wholesomeness rather than authenticity. Breakfast and lunch are the main meals here and in-



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clude competent eggs, luscious scrambled eggs, huge sandwiches, and weighty slabs of coconut French toast. Competent Latin-style dishes include tamales with airy masa. Devotees of Southeast-Asian cuisines, however, may be disappointed by the simplistic stabs in that direction. If your dish is too mild, house sauces (chili oil, salsa, chipotle sauce, etc.) are available on request. Beer and wine. Small, free front parking lot; pay lot across the street at west end of the block. Three meals daily; closed 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

**Lamont Street Grill** 4445 Lamont Street, Pacific Beach, 858-270-3060. PB's most romantic restaurant serves California comfort food, punctuated by bold and sometimes strange Mexi/Asian/Cajun flavors, in a rambling converted residence with several rooms and levels. Dinners come with soup or salad, and many entrées are served over marvelous house-made fresh pasta. Salmon over fettuccine in a delicate dill cream sauce is especially fine. The huge array of desserts is house-made, too, with something for every palate. The most desirable tables (available first come, first served) are on a lovely fireplace-heated patio. Wheelchair ramp and parking in small lot behind restaurant (call ahead and they'll save you a spot). Homey atmosphere; can get loud. Affordable wine list, full bar. Open daily, dinner only. Moderate. — N.W.

**Marrakesh** 634 Pearl Street, La Jolla, 858-454-2500. The North African fare of Morocco is like no other in the world — influenced by Arab cuisines, but more intense and sheerly hedonistic. At this Moroccan restaurant, the fare is arranged into a nightly five-course prix-fixe feast, with superb lentil soup (*harira*), a salad plate, *bastilla* (a chicken-filled filo pie), an entrée, and finally mint tea poured from on high to accompany almond baklava perfumed with orange-flower water. The setting and service are dramatic — tented ceilings, low banquette seating at carved round tables, belly-dancing interludes, servers in fezzes. (You're the Sheik of Araby.) A short list of entrées (a maximum of two choices per table, to be shared) features fine chicken (or lamb)

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with olives and preserved lemons; moist, fatless duck; lamb with cous-cous; and rather dry fish. You can request the dreamy lamb with honey, an extravaganza that includes fruits, almonds, sesame, and cinnamon. Lunch and dinner daily; reserve for weekends. Moderate. — N.W.

**Roots** 4976 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-9000. This tiny eatery is vegan and organic, with much of its ingredients bought straight from the O.B. farmers' market. Wraps like the Thai Peanut and the Arti (artichoke hearts, feta cheese) are crunchy thrills. Interesting sandwiches include the Portobello mushroom with tomato and provolone on ciabatta or the Avo (avocado, onion, and tomato with "vegannaise"). The veggie burrito (black beans, mock chicken) is filling and doesn't taste too mock-chickeny. Standards like granola bowls with fruit, honey, and yogurt are scrumptious, too. The main thing is the three ladies who run this really seem to try to make this food that's kind to both nature and to our long-suffering guts. Of course, kids'll love Roots' peanut butter-and-jelly sandwiches. 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Sunday 7 p.m. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Roppongi** 875 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-551-5252. The hard part is deciding whether to sit in the drop-dead gorgeous interior or to people-watch on the large, heated street patio.

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# Calendar RESTAURANTS

Then you have to decide what to eat from the long Euro-Asian fusion menu, with its vast choice of tapas and sushi options, as well as entrées. At lunch there are several imaginative sandwiches and appetizers. Reservations highly recommended at dinner. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Some tapas and sushi rolls are inexpensive, but if you enjoy grazing the bill can mount quickly. Entrées are expensive. — N.W.

**Roseville** 1125 Rosecrans Street, Point Loma, 619-450-6800. Point Loma's first first-class restaurant is elegant in a rustic way, like a Big Sur inn. Maître d'/co-owner with wife Wendy, George Riffle (a charmer from birth) used to run the dining room at Laurel, and he's reassembled an "old Laurel" kitchen crew. Chef Amy DiBiase invokes French classics but with fresh twists and local, seasonal produce, e.g. asparagus subbing for frisée in a brilliant bistro salad with pancetta and egg, and a superb duck confit that's France's answer to Peking duck — crisp skin puffing from the surface of moist meat. Desserts are light and elegant. Wine list ranges from affordable to don't-you-wish. Narrow restaurant entrance is between a large drug store and Village Liquors (look for small dining patio). Parking (and actual front entrance) in back. Atmosphere elegant but comfortable; dressy-casual to slightly dressy. Dinner nightly. Expensive. — N.W.

**Sapporo Japanese Restaurant** 5049 Newport Avenue, Ocean Beach, 619-222-6686. It's small, but Sapporo has big deals, particularly the lunch specials that usually give you a miso soup, salad, and a combo such as chicken teriyaki and California rolls and white rice — all presented like a piece of performance art. Other specials include *yaki soba* (stir-fried sautéed chicken, vegetables, and noodles) and *champion* noodle soup (*udon* noodles, scallops,

shrimp, vegetables), and the value-packed chicken bowl — a big plate of sliced chicken, broccoli, other vegetables, and a swag of rice. Dinner daily, lunch daily except Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**The Surfside** 4527 Mission Boulevard, Pacific Beach, 858-273-2979. In the evenings, it's a "scene" here — for good reason. You'll find fresh sushi, sashimi, and California coastal cuisine, i.e., fun and flavorful fusion-y tapas, many of them going for half-price during weeknight happy hours. You can actually reserve for the sushi bar (it'll put you at the head of the line), where the chefs are unusually friendly. They shine on simple, pure Japanese sushi, although they make the usual "party rolls" too. Most seafood is of fine quality (except the *toro*, which seems to have problems). For those preferring a tapas-style sit-down meal, there's a breezy, informal dining room with large windows looking out on the street, plus a small private dining room for parties. At least four Japanese beers and more than a dozen sakes available. Reservations urged for large groups. Parking is tight; just one handicapped slot in front lot. Inexpensive to low moderate. — N.W.

**La Taverna** 927 Silverado Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0100. Reservations are a necessity at this tiny trattoria, especially if you'd prefer the relative quiet of the roofed sidewalk patio to the din of the cute but cramped dining room. Look for Italian cooking styles ranging from Tuscan, which showcases pastas with simple fresh sauces, to meatballs and red sauce. Highlights include chef-owner Mary Ann Vitale's house-made Sicilian-style fennel sausage, and if the feather-light potato gnocchi is on special, just say "yes." Save room for a slice of house-made layer cake. Moderate. — N.W.

**Tender Greens** 2400 Historic Decatur Road, Point Loma, 619-226-6254. The main feature of the locally owned franchise of this new, "healthy food" chain is glorious, local, organic produce served cafeteria-style with or without mesquite-grilled natural beef, free-range chicken, or local albacore tuna in a variety of soups, salads, dead-sim-

ple hot entrées (plain grilled protein with good mashed potatoes), or ciabatta sandwiches on fine bread from nearby Con Pane bakery. The chicken soup is fabulous, as are desserts (baked by the Mom of one of the franchisees); the chicken Cobb salad is fine, too, highlighted by heritage bacon. Limited, inexpensive international wine selection, craft beers and ales, Aguas Frescas, and house-made lemonade. Rather noisy; outdoor patio dining available. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Trattoria Acqua** 1298 Prospect Street, La Jolla, 858-454-0709. This popular restaurant has charming decor, with arched doorways dividing a warren of white-painted, high-ceilinged rooms and terraces arranged around a tiled, heated courtyard. The seasonally changing menu could be called "avant-garde Italian," a style that more than pushes the Italian envelope with assorted international influences. The food can be divine — or dismaying. Given Acqua's "destination restaurant" status, there's a surprising air of bean-counting that manifests itself in oddly lightweight silverware, waiters unclear about proper wine service, and, at times, tired veggies. Desserts, though, are superb. Full bar with extensive, wide-ranging wine list that includes half bottles as well as choices by the glass. Walk-ins accepted but weekend reservations advised. Restaurant is two floors down from Prospect, with validated parking in underground garage on Coast Boulevard. Elevator access from both directions (Acqua's stop is the first floor). Lunch or brunch and dinner seven days. Moderate (pastas) to very expensive. — N.W.

**World Famous** 711 Pacific Beach Drive, Pacific Beach, 858-272-3100. World Famous is as on-the-beach as it gets, right on P.B.'s boardwalk. It has a covered porch, a side-slung patio, and low-slung ceilings, so everything feels intimate. You sit at varnished inlaid wooden tables with lots of diagonal timbering and sexy blue lighting. It's often crowded and noisy. Who's gonna be picky here? You, when you're paying 20-some bucks for a steak. On the other hand, the prime rib, surf-n-turf,

and tournedos will fill you fine. If you want to beat the big prices, try the beach burger or a seared ahi Caesar salad. The view is free. Breakfast and lunch inexpensive; dinners moderate to expensive. Open daily. — E.B.

**Zanzibar Café** 976 Garnet Avenue, Pacific Beach, 858-272-4762. A pricey-looking restaurant with reasonable prices. The decor is new, handsome: shiny parquet floors, lots of solid tables, classy dark wooden chairs, wine bar, and modern art on the walls. Carole Janks is the inspiration. She beat Starbucks to the punch with her first Zanzibar in P.B. in 1991. This place is a palace compared to that. The three-egg breakfast scramble with toast, rosemary potatoes, and fresh fruit is great. So are the avocado fontina cheese omelet and eggs Benedict with non-Canadian bacon. Good lunch sandwiches include hot chicken pesto, Zanzibar BLT, and cold southwestern club. There are also salads, pizzas, paninis, and open-faced sandwiches. One great indulgence: the blueberry butter-milk pancakes with lemon-curd butter topped with fresh berries and a side of maple syrup. Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. (midnight Saturday and Sunday). Inexpensive. — E.B.

## BAJA

From the United States use the prefix 011-52 when calling Mexico.

**La Casa del Mole — Tijuana** Paseo de los Héroes #10501 (between Lázaro Cárdenas and Misión San Diego), Baja, 664-634-6920. Herminia Amador dreamed of bringing the flavors of her native state of Puebla to Tijuana. That meant one thing: mole poblano, Mexico's major sauce statement. Like its other two locations, this flower-filled restaurant features the complex, sweet, dark sauce combination of maybe 20 different spices, chiles, nuts, and chocolate. Sit down here, and your big question is: What's going under your mole? Thigh or breast of chicken? Pork? Perhaps enchiladas? Your call. Prices are so reasonable you

can try several variations. Whichever, when you bite in for the first time, you're dialing direct back to the earliest days of the conquistadors in Aztec, Mexico. Start with mole poblano, learn its wine-like complexities, then move on to other moles, such as *ranchero* and *verde*. Open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**La Costa** Calle Galeana #8131, Baja, 664-685-8494. Even after four decades, fisherman-singer Adrian Pedrin Aramburo's seafood place looks fresh, with its blue-and-white floor tiles, polished brass portholes, and varnish. Some seafood combos can be costly, but most fish and oyster dishes are reasonable. Everybody seems to go for filleted sea bass — the baked Catalina with mushroom-cream sauce or the Olivia, stuffed with octopus and shrimp, are really good. So are Madrazo oysters, with chipotle and bacon. But you can't go wrong with the less-expensive whole fish plates, like the charcoal-broiled Sarandeado (just watch out for the bones). Each entrée comes with soup, hors d'oeuvre, salad, rice, and coffee, plus a Kahlua-based drink-dessert. Bonus: the owner's charming menu inserts. Vegetarian upon request. Open daily, late breakfast through dinner. Moderate to expensive. — E.B.

**Manzanilla** Riveroll 122 (off Lopez Mateo), Baja, 646-175-7073. At this art-filled, very "Euro" bistro, a pair of gifted, classically trained chef-owners are pioneering "new Mexican cuisine," creating sophisticated combinations of superb local products and traditional Mexican flavors. Fresh-caught seafood, locally grown vegetables, and mesquite smoke from the wood-burning grill are featured players on the seasonal menus; a spectacular rib-eye steak, tender and intensely beefy, is also a constant. Little wonder this has become the destination restaurant south of Tijuana. Vegetarian upon request. The menu is in Spanish, but owners Benito Molina and Solange Muris Evans speak fluent English, as do some waitstaff. (The only communication problem will be the exotic music blasting from the sound system.) Reserve for weekends, especially during tourist seasons. Full bar

featuring tequilas, Baja vintners. Wednesday through Saturday, late lunch through dinner, until midnight. Moderate. — N.W.

**Mercado Sobre Ruedas** Colonia Lucio Blanco (from Tijuana, on toll road, take first Rosarito exit; turn left at third), Baja. Don't miss this huge flea market that materializes every Sunday (from morning until midafternoon) a couple of miles north of the tourist part of town. Its dozens of food booths offer a vast variety of local treats, ranging from barbecued mutton (*borrego*) to savory Jalisco-style goat stew (*birria de chivo*), to all manner of tacos, made-to-order hotcakes with syrup, "Mexican hamburgers," and Sno-Kones (don't worry about the ice; by law, it has to be made with purified water). The food is totally authentic, cooked to Mexican tastes, and it's a carnival for the mouth. Many vendors speak some English. Rock-bottom prices; cash only. — N.W.

**El Nido** Boulevard Benito Juárez #67, Baja, 661-612-1430. Head south if you're looking for a great, dry-aged, mesquite-broiled steak at a bargain price — but don't stop there. Try the house specialty, quail with garlic sauce (*codorniz al mojo de ajo*), or venison, especially the savory *machaca de venado* (strips of meat with peppers, onions, and tomatoes). Both are locally raised on the restaurant's own ranches and may be united in a brilliant breakfast of quail eggs with deer *machaca*. Seafood and surf-and-turf variations are tasty, too. Vegetarian upon request. The restaurant's name means "the nest," and the amusing indoor-outdoor decor is a sort of multiroom aviary with birds singing, chirping, and fluttering all over. Full bar. If sensitive to smoke, don't sit next to the mesquite-burning hearth on the roofed patio. Dressy-casual. Bilingual staff and menu. Open daily, early morning to late evening. Mostly moderate; cash only. — N.W.

**Rica Torta** Niños Héroes Avenida #890, Baja, 664-685-8579. This café may have the best *tortas* (call them Mexican-style hamburgers) in Tijuana. Six-inch rashers of marinated carne asada, slices of ham, squares of cheese,

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chopped salad, tomato slices, fresh-scooped avocado...it's a double-wide, double-high burger. The menu has 16 different kinds of *tortas*, from chorizo with eggs to beefsteak ranchero, all served in huge, three-ribbed, crisp-toasted Mexican bread buns. There's other stuff, but to a burger buff, one of these is quite enough. Vegetarian upon request. Open seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

## CENTRAL

**24-Hour Valley Kitchen Family Restaurant** 875 Hotel Circle South, Mission Valley, 619-819-1017. Great when everything else is closed. The place feels like a Midwestern chain eatery: all carpets, dark-wood walls, etched glass. Prices are a little up there, but hot French dip is great and burgers are generous. Best news may be that if you feel like breakfast at midnight, no problem. Ask for the pork chops, two eggs, hash browns, and biscuits and gravy. Chops are crumbed and buried in hash browns. Splish on lots of applesauce, and leave room for the biscuits — their bacon-fat gravy will have you licking the plate. Bonus: You can sit here with a book and a coffee all night long if you like. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Asmara Eritrean Restaurant** 4155 University Avenue, Kensington-Talmadge, 619-677-3999. The fare here is Eritrean (which proves very similar to Ethiopian), and the menu is long and interesting. The three-meat combination platter is a terrific array of chicken, beef, and lamb, each in a distinctive treatment. From the à la carte choices, consider *zizil tibs*, char-grilled

meat in butter, and *kulwa*, a sprightly stir-fry. Luscious vegetables, too. A porous pancake, *injera*, with the texture of a washcloth and a mild flavor, serves as an edible spoon and edible tablecloth — use pieces of it to scoop up morsels. Food is seasoned to your specifications, and “hot” means seriously spicy. Vegetarian friendly. Restrooms not wheelchair accessible. Can be noisy on weekends. Cash only. Lunch and dinner daily. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Brians' American Eatery — Hillcrest** 1451 Washington Street, University Heights, 619-296-8268. Note the apostrophe: Not one but two Brians have taken over what had been Topsy's, a venerable coffeehouse/eatery for 40 years. They've done a good job of cleaning it up without gutting the fifties roadhouse character. It's open all night on weekends, and late night is quite a scene. But for a lot of people, breakfast is the thing. The Brians' eight-ounce charbroiled top sirloin steak with eggs and country potatoes is a great Saturday morning treat. Or the “Hey Ricky!!!,” an omelet with chorizo, avocado, green chiles, onions, and cheeses. Or ask for their off-menu breakfast special — it's always cheaper. Another good thing: coffee comes by the thermos-full. Three meals until 10 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; open 24 hours from early Friday morning until Sunday evening. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Brickyard Coffee and Tea** 675 West G Street, Downtown, 619-696-7220. The problem, if you're rich enough to live in the Marina District, is the lack of café life. That is, until this modest little eatery and café settled in next to the tracks by the Seaport Village trolley stop. You sit under 11 poplar

trees in a brick patio that has one unusual downtown advantage — except for the wind sifting through the poplars (or a trolley pulling in), it's completely silent here. Sipping coffee and reading your paper is the thing here, but you can fill up, too, with items like Texas chili, or grilled cheese and tomato sandwich with a cup of chili, or spinach and mushroom quiche with a small Caesar salad, or *panini*. You can also order half a sandwich — turkey, ham, beef, or tuna — with a cup of soup or Caesar salad. It's the nearest thing to a French country café. Open early morning till 3 p.m. daily. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Brothers Family Restaurant** 5150 Waring Road, Allied Gardens, 619-287-0880. Yes, it looks boring on the outside. Brick, reflective glass. But go in and you're surrounded by brothers: John and Bobby Kennedy, Hugh Grant and his brother Jamie, the Wright Brothers, the Blues Brothers, the Brothers Rico. They're there because this place used to be run by three brothers. Good old-fashioned cholesterol city rules here with no apologies, and the locals appreciate it. It's like a *Cheers* for eating. All the staples are served: country-fried steak and eggs, pork chops with eggs, Grandma Jennie's pancakes with ham, bacon, and sausage — even hefty beef or tuna or turkey sandwiches with soup. Open seven days for breakfast and lunch, with early dinner Wednesday to Friday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Café Bleu** 530 University Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-1717. The walls are red, the lights are blue, and the menu of this edible-oriented wine bar offers French-accented, wine-friendly seasonal cuisine with locally grown produce and numerous grazing options to

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accompany a huge choice of international wines by the half-glass, glass, or bottle. If you can get in your order by 6 p.m., the happy-hour menu offers deep discounts (and whenever you arrive, you can reserve the seductive plush couch or the chaise lounges for lounging). Don't miss the wild mushroom vol-au-vent or short ribs with vanilla sauce. Half-price bottle specials Tuesdays; flight specials Wednesdays. Full bar, but stick with wine. Lunch/brunch and dinner daily. Sunday \$25 prix fixe three-course dinner, otherwise moderate to expensive with deep happy hour appetizer discounts. — N.W.

**Café on Park** 3831 Park Boulevard, Hillcrest, 619-293-7275. Okay, it's trendy, from the rusty spoon-and-fork sign at the door to the PC industrial interior (concrete walls, exposed plumbing). But don't expect PC food. The plates are huge and overflowing with fodder. Breakfast scrambles are popular with add-ons such as smoked salmon, artichoke hearts, or Brie. Health nuts choose the Park Porridge stuffed with apples, raisins, and honey. But the prize may be the dish that Placerville, California, miners ordered when they came down from the mountains with pockets full of gold: the Hangtown Fry — luscious marinated sautéed oysters scrambled in eggs. Three meals daily, with break 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. (Line at door on Sunday.) — E.B.

**Cowboy Star Restaurant and Butcher Shop** 640 Tenth Avenue, Downtown, 619-450-5880. This is the rare theme restaurant where the food is as good as the decor, and the decor is more fun than a rodeo clown. The setting harks back to '50s Westerns (think of *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, where huge steaks played nearly as strong a role as John Wayne), and the fabulous music loop runs to Patsy Cline, early Johnny Cash, and Bob Wills, the King of Western Swing. The carnivorous "green cuisine" emphasizes top-quality beef (USDA Prime or grass-fed and natural) and wild game including buffalo and boar, wild or free-range fowl, and wild-caught seafood — all treated like A-list cowboy stars by chef-partner Victor Jimenez. An in-house butcher shop sells these hard-to-find meats retail, including venison sausage and free-range chicken. Mainly California wines with a wide range of prices and styles. Full bar. Expensive. — N.W.

**La Fachada** 20 25th Street, Logan Heights, 619-236-8566. The thing about La Fachada is: You can have anything anytime. This restaurant near the

trolley's 25th Street stop is Mexican but has Anglo food too — maybe because the cops' Central Division HQ sits across the road. Great not-quite-morning place for breakfast at, say, 3 a.m. They do a pretty good Western omelet breakfast with cheese, bell peppers, onions, and ham, bacon, or sausage. They also have great Caldo Siete Mares and Vuelva a la Vida, tasty soups laden with seafood. But the best fun is in the evening up to 11 p.m., when an outdoor kitchen operates, mostly serving tacos to eat under a big white garden canopy. Open 7 a.m. to 3 a.m. (Friday and Saturday open 24 hours). Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Gathering Bar and Grill** 902 W. Washington Street, Mission Hills, 619-260-0400. "Beloved" is not a word you throw around lightly, but that's just what Gathering has become to Mission Hills regulars. When it reopened after a fire, they flocked back with flowers and hugs. The food is good quality, familiar comfort fare. From plates like the Southwest burger, with avocado, Jack cheese, and salsa, to the Monte Cristo (grilled egg, dipped Texas toast with Swiss, ham, and turkey, powdered sugar, and a side of jam). Last we checked, the owner, Dan, was as deft as ever with his magic cards, for any customer who needs to be bamboozled. Open daily, 8 a.m. till late. Magic sessions around 6 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Hong Kong Restaurant** 3871 Fourth Avenue, Hillcrest, 619-291-9449. Where to get a good Chinese meal after midnight? This restaurant (next to Column One's statues and fountain shop) serves meals till 2:30 a.m. Inside is typical Asian decor, including black-and-white Chinese brush paintings and carved cherrywood chairs. Their huge menu offers traditional Szechwan and Mandarin fare. The fried, pork-filled wontons on raw cabbage are delicious, especially spotted with fiery Chinese mustard. The Singapore-style rice noodles (not often featured in Chinese restaurants) are tanged with curry, and excellent, as is the kung pao chicken. Also look at egg drop soup, pork chow mein, shrimp with lobster sauce, and scallion ginger chicken. Service is super quick. Lunch and dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Huffman's Bar-B-Que** 5039 Imperial Avenue, College Area, 619-264-3115. This café has a huge multigenerational following, some famous — check out their wall photos, in which Jesse Jackson and Muhammad Ali are just two — and some not so famous. The big draw is Huffman's fabulous Southern soul food. Try their gravy-smothered fried chicken served with collard greens, yellow peppers, red beans, rice, and white mopping-up bread, or their Louisiana Creole gumbo, thick with crab, shrimp, links, ham, and chicken. Other fine eats include the catfish sandwich and half-

pound rib tips. Open daily, lunch and dinner, to 11 p.m. weekdays, 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**El Indio Mexican Restaurant** 3695 India Street (at Winder), Mission Hills, 619-299-0333. Eat here and you eat with the ghosts of presidents, politicians, and three generations of San Diegans. Ralph Pesqueira, the guy who started it in 1940 as a simple tortilla factory, invented taquitos ("little tacos") as snacks for his customers. The deep-fried taquitos are still their number-one selling item. But also try Burrito Indio, a wheat tortilla stuffed with marinated zucchini, corn, beans, onions, cheese, and tomato, and the potato burrito, another good vegetarian choice. While you're waiting (and it's usually crowded), grab some of El Indio's huge, scrumptious homemade chips and a pot of their salsa ranchera. Open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Kous Kous Moroccan Bistro** 3940 Fourth Avenue, Suite 110, Hillcrest, 619-295-5560. This could be the ideal neighborhood restaurant — if you love exploring Middle Eastern cuisines. The Moroccan specialties at Kous Kous are delicious, authentic, and healthful, and the witty, entertaining staff treat you like guests at an informal dinner party. Unlike most Moroccan restaurants in the U.S., the menu is à la carte rather than prix fixe, and seating is at normal chairs and tables, not floor cushions, so you can focus on the food and not some *Arabian Nights* fantasy. Start with a lively Chutney Sampler appetizer plate of *mezze*, Moroccan style, and if *b'stila* is on the menu, don't pass up this treat of minced chicken in a cinnamon-dusted filo crust. Entrée highlights include Lamb Tagine (slow-braised, greaseless fall-apart shanks with prunes, almonds, Moroccan seasonings, and a touch of honey) and Chicken Mu'hammer, a tenderly braised half-chicken with quartered green olives and slivers of salty preserved lemons. All entrées come with lively, flawless couscous. Kebabs (filet mignon, shrimp, etc.) also come with a mixed green salad served with refreshing, lemony dressing. For dessert, house-made choices include refreshing fresh berries with orange liqueur and rosewater and a creamy crème brûlée, plus pastries from Bread & Cie. Dinner nightly. Reservations urged for weekends. Restaurant is below street level, elevator is left of the staircase to Martini's. Moderate. — N.W.

**The Living Room Coffeeshouse — College Area** 5900 El Cajon Boulevard, College Area, 619-286-8434. With deep-draft couches, Persian carpets, pictures on the wall, chunky wooden tables, and a tree-shaded patio, this Swiss-owned café is a student hangout with a lively notice board, a rental computer, and good cheap breakfast food in huge quantities. Try The Works omelet, with bacon, ham, onions, tomatoes, pepper, cheese on

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ican stuffing, but it's couscous studded with almonds, fat raisins, thin strips of scrambled egg, and bits of carrot and bell pepper. Whole Foods' vegetarian meals will tempt any meat eater with their delicious originality. La Jolla branch at 8825 Villa La Jolla Drive, 858-642-6700. Inexpensive to moderate. — M.N.

**NORTH INLAND**

**94th Aero Squadron** 8885 Balboa Avenue, Kearny Mesa, 858-560-6771. One of San Diego's hidden jewels: there's classic American fare (stuffed pork tenderloin, farmhouse chicken) in the "Officers' mess." Happy hour is weekdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays, the outside "Runway" grill features chicken kebabs. The biggest attraction is the place itself. Built to mimic a WWI French farmhouse taken over by a bunch of Yankee flying aces, it has a garden full of antique planes and live ducks — and right outside, the real Montgomery airfield. Inexpensive to moderate. — E.B.

**Ashoka the Great** 9474 Black Mountain Road, Mira Mesa, 858-695-9749. Seek out this splendid Indian restaurant. The setting is lovely, the service excellent, and the food first-rate. Don't overlook the tandoori dishes. Numerous selections are available for vegetarians. An all-you-can-eat lunch buffet is served daily. Dinner buffet Monday and Thursday. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Inexpensive. — E.W.

**Bistro 221** 221 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 760-737-7398. This genteel bistro — with comfortable chairs and linen-covered tables inside and a shaded patio on the sidewalk — is especially tasty at lunch, with its sophisticated quesadillas and a classic burger and fries cooked your way. At dinner simple starters shine, including a Florida version of gumbo and Maryland crab cakes with minimal filler. The dinner entrées are also the best. — N.W.

**The Grill** 10920 Roselle Street, Suite #104, Sorrento Valley, 858-587-7940. Sorrento Valley is where you commute to work, not to live, so forget warm neighborhood eateries. At first glance, the Grill is what you'd expect — stan-

dard strip mall, bare-bones furnishings, office-lunch oriented. But the Greek owners give it character with generous but cheap breakfast dishes like the Mediterranean omelet and lunch specials such as the luscious Philly cheese steak. And they're flexible. Want bacon, sausage, and ham in your breakfast pita? They'll do all three, same price as with a single meat. Breakfast and lunch weekdays. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Hill Street Coffee House** 524 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-966-0985. Organic in Oceanside? Really! Look for the sign: "Organic Restaurant and Espresso Bar" in front of a restored yellow-and-white Victorian house from O'side's past. Most of their meats, poultry, fish, and veggies are organic, and the menu is full of healthy dishes: tofu/spinach breakfast scramble, frittata *espinaça* ("Greek eggs"), and *pain perdu* (for us peasants that's French toast) with fresh fruit and syrups. Some vegan items. After 11 a.m., try their Cajun chicken. Open daily, breakfast to dinner. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Oggi's Pizza & Brewing Co. — Del Mar** 12840 Carmel Country Road, Del Mar, 858-481-7883. Oggi's has several branches throughout San Diego. Is it the pizzas, or is it the house-made brewskis (six ales, one lager, one stout) that make Oggi's so popular? Is it the sports-bar ambience (with multiple video screens) or just the ubiquity of branches that has won this chain numerous "best pizza" citations? The pizzas are American-style, with thick, slightly sweet crusts, many with elaborate toppings that sound more adventurous than they taste. (All the cheese alternatives are equally mild.) The menu also offers pub snacks, decent soups and salads, hearty sandwiches, and American-Italian entrées so mall-adapted that no *mamma mia* in Bensonhurst or North Beach would even recognize them. Full bar, lunch and dinner daily at most branches; free local delivery with minimum order. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Pearl Chinese Cuisine** 11666 Avenida Place, Rancho Bernardo, 858-487-3388. At Emerald Restaurant's younger, prettier suburban sister, you'll find modern Hong Kong-style Chinese cuisine, including both familiar and exotic dishes. Daytimes are for dim sum (Chinese tapas), served daily until 3 p.m., plus champagne dim sum brunches on weekends. Along with standard items, the choices here leap to the latest Pacific creations, some rarely found this side of the ocean, including irresistible Shanghai soup

**What the Chef Eats**

**GINGERBREAD HOUSE**

BY MARGUERITE GRIFKA

*The Starlite*

I have always been an avid home cook. I would characterize my food philosophy as using the best, freshest ingredients and highlighting the natural flavors. I try to screw things up as little as possible. As a home cook, I like simple comfort food from big pots of beans and greens to a nice meat loaf.

I used to live in New Orleans, and I managed a coffee shop there. Once, as a favor, I filled in for a chef in a restaurant and loved it. After a few years I went to culinary school and did an apprenticeship/model program where I worked full-time in a restaurant. I moved back to San Diego and have been at the Starlite since it opened a year

ago in June.

At Christmas, my uncle — who's a chef in Wisconsin — always makes gingerbread houses. At this point, he makes entire villages. When I got together with my current partner and her kids three years ago, they were five and ten, and we thought this would be a great way to connect over the holidays. Now the kids are eight and thirteen, but we still do the houses. We usually do all the baking — the kids help and I put the walls up. That's the hardest part and it's done best without tiny hands. We invite friends over to help with the decorating and the kids have free reign with the sugar and candy

decorations. We build gingerbread houses to represent their houses and their friends' homes — we even add in gingerbread pets. If kids have two residences, they can build houses for each — it's a pretty modern gingerbread village.

**INGREDIENTS**

Makes one medium house

3/4 cup butter, chopped

1 egg

3/4 cup sugar

3/4 cup molasses

2 T + 2 tsp ground ginger

2 T + 2 tsp cinnamon

1/4 tsp baking soda

5 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

**TIPS**

Kids will enjoy helping mix this up and roll it out. The template cutting and con-



struction are easier for adult hands.

Plan to make and bake the dough on one day. Construct the house, using royal icing as "mortar" for walls and decorations. It's best to do this in quiet moments, as it is the most difficult part. The house can be constructed several hours to days in advance of decoration. A can of soup or two make handy supports for walls while you are building your house. Don't worry if it's not beautiful, the addition of kids and candy will make it so by the end.

dumplings. Dinners range from folk food to showy "gold cup" dishes. For a taste treat and visual hoot, try the sea bass with pine nuts, sculpted to resemble a dish sponge. International wine list at modest markups complements the cooking. Full bar. Frying done in corn (not peanut) oil. Reservations advised. Lunch and dinner on weekdays; three meals on weekends. Moderate, with some expensive specialties. — N.W.

**Puong Trang Vietnamese Seafood Restaurant** 4170 Convo Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-565-6750. Tired of putting up with the crowds at the popular Convo Street restaurant? Go east, where you'll find the same menu without the hassles. The fare centers on Vietnamese "people's food" emphasizing numerous genres of noodle soups, but there are a handful of more elegant house specialties — including the extraordinary "Special

Sauce" Dungeness crab from the live tank. (The sauce is tangy tamarind.) Call ahead to order steamed or grilled live-tank catfish. Vietnamese beers including 33; just two generic wines. Also bring a pad and write down the numbers of your orders to give the waiter, as staffers speak little English. Open daily. Inexpensive to moderate (higher for live-tank seafood). — N.W.

**Seoul B.B.Q.** 4344 Convo Street, Kearny Mesa, 858-505-8700. This Ko-

rean restaurant means sitting before a sizzling cast-iron grill, sipping hot sake, the smell of grilled beef, grilled onions, and fresh garlic in the air. Try the Korean B.B.Q. marinated short ribs (*tong galbi*) or thick marbled slices of sirloin (beef *gui*). You'll enjoy all the accompanying dishes that make the meal, like crunchy seaweed salads, radishes in garlicky tomato sauce, slow-cooked potatoes with soy sauce and jalapeño pepper. Feeling adventurous? Go for

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# What the Chef Eats

## HOW TO DO IT

Obtain templates for the gingerbread house online or in a book. Photocopy the templates and cut them out so that you have paper templates the size and shape of the walls and roof you want on your gingerbread house.

Set out butter and egg and bring to room temperature. Bring sugar, molasses and spices to boil in a sauce pan — this is very hot, so be careful. Add baking soda, which will cause the mixture to foam up.

Pour sugar mixture over butter in a mixing bowl and mix well. Beat egg and add to sugar-and-butter mixture, mixing thoroughly. Add flour to form a stiff dough. Using your hands, form the dough into a ball and divide in two. Shape the dough into flat rectangles, wrap in plastic wrap, and chill for an hour or two or overnight.

Preheat oven to 325°. Roll dough out to 1/4" thickness. Cut out shapes for the house by laying paper templates on top of

dough. Bake at 325° on nonstick baking sheets for approximately 20 minutes. Let cool before removing from sheet.

## ROYAL ICING

1 lb powdered sugar  
3 egg whites  
1/2 tsp lemon juice

## HOW TO DO IT

Sift sugar if there are lumps. Combine all ingredients in large bowl. Mix on low speed with whisk attachment, gradually increasing speed to high. Mix about 5 minutes or

until the mixture is stiff. Keep icing covered with damp towel until ready to use. You can put some into a plastic bag, cut a small corner off, and use as a pastry bag to easily apply "cement" to hold the walls together. After the house is complete, decorate, using the royal icing to adhere small candies and gumdrops.

To get an online version of this column, go to [sdrreader.com](http://sdrreader.com). You can print it, email it to friends, and get other recipes from different local chefs.

the goat meat hot pot or Korean steak tartare (*yukhwoe*). This is sensual, elemental, hairy-chested food. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Sunday. — M.N.

## NORTH COASTAL

**Azafran** 1001 South Coast Highway 101, Oceanside, 760-435-0005. This place just feels Cuban, with its echoey inside, bongos, washed orange walls, and giant Cuban jazz mural. We're talking Caribbean-style food, not hot by Mexican standards. Most delicious intro: traditional Cuban pressed sandwiches, hot-pressed to mix the juices of, say, smoked ham, roast pork, cheese, mustard, pickles (Cubano #2), or roast pork (*lechón*) with a *mojo* (garlicky-citrus) sauce that makes it juicy. The bread, baked right

here, is news in itself — crunchy and sometimes sweet (ask for *medianoche*). You get a lot, but don't leave without trying a plantain dish or the cheese flan. Or a cup of Cuban coffee. Lunch and dinner six days, closed Monday. Inexpensive. — E.B.

**Blanca** 437 South Coast Highway 101, Solana Beach, 858-792-0072. The opening of sleek, sophisticated Blanca marks the arrival of our first 21st-century restaurant, highlighting perfect seasonal ingredients so radiantly and originally prepared that diners must rouse to rapt attention. Chef Wade Hageman, a protégé of renowned SF/Vegas chef Michael Mina, has imported a similarly complex, labor-intensive style of cooking that appeals as much to the mind as to the senses. He's imported a major Mina stratagem — showcasing an individual ingredient by presenting it in several dif-

ferent incarnations within the same dish, like musical variations on a theme. Blanca's menu lists each item's pedigree and primary garnishes, but those details don't begin to describe the behind-the-scenes enhancements of marinades, brines, rubs, soaks, and infusions that play subtle roles in the multilayered flavors that come to the table. Appetizers are especially adventurous, the wine list is exceptional (if mainly very pricey), and the restaurant's decor is as modern and polished as the food. Dinner only. Reservations required. Very expensive. — N.W.

**Bubby's Gelato** 937 South Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-3563. This tiny storefront does only a few things (sandwiches, gelati, and sorbet) but does them exceedingly well. The "gourmet sandwiches" really do live up to their designation, with intriguing

Mediterranean combinations (artichoke hearts, black olives, grilled eggplant, Gorgonzola are among the choice of ingredients) on soft, round Italian bread. (Or you can just get a tuna melt if that's your flavor.) Gelati are about twice as rich as Häagen-Dazs, and feature an ever-changing array of bold flavors, e.g., vanilla rosewater and chocolate cinnamon. Open daily 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., closes later on Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**La Especial Norte** 604 North Coast Highway 101, Leucadia, 760-942-1040. This big, brightly lit roadhouse sports highly whimsical decor (take a look at the blue ceramic "pond" in the dining room, complete with cayman) and boasts a five-page menu, including a page of a dozen regional soups and another full page for seafood. The soups are superb — the authentic Mexico

City-style chicken soup is laden with avocados, chicken shreds, cilantro, and rice, and the savory eggplant soup includes airy little "croustons" of puffed *relleno* batter. The fresh, interesting seafood entrées outshine the relatively ordinary renditions of the standard stuffed-tortilla variations. No wheelchair access to restrooms. Open daily, breakfast through dinner. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Il Fornaio — Del Mar** 1555 Camino del Mar, Del Mar, 858-755-8876. Il Fornaio's defensive architecture walls it off from the Great Unwashed — the tourists wandering around Coronado's Old Ferry Landing — but it's worth breaching if only to get your teeth into their to-die-for bread. "Il fornaio" means "the baker," after all. Beyond bread, we're talking rustic-feeling, herbal, ultra-fresh salads, and everyday Italian dishes ranging from *sfiatino con bistecchina* (thin grilled steak on a baguette with creamy dijon and salad) to a giant mesquite-grilled 22-ounce *bistecca alla fiorentina*, with lots of vegetarian and pasta dishes in between. A simple penne *alla sorrentina* — pasta tubes with a tomato, mozzarella, and basil sauce — is charming. *Pizza puttanesca* is heaven too, if you're into anchovies. Interesting regional menus from different provinces of Italy pop up during the first two weeks of each month. Most staffers seem mind-blowingly knowledgeable. Moderate. — E.B.

**Pamplemousse Grille** 514 Via de la Valle, Solana Beach, 858-792-9090. The locals' favorite French provincial restaurant offers exquisite, creative cooking. Favorites from an often-changing menu include white fish served any style, mushroom *cappucini* soup, and *tarte Tatin*. Serene atmosphere with excellent service. Dinner reservations urged. Dinner nightly, lunch Friday only. Diners expensive. — N.W.

**Potato Shack Café** 120 West I Street, Encinitas, 760-436-1282. Check out the cute potato-toon mural on the side of the building — a sign for spud-lovers to load up on portions sized for lumberjacks from the Lumberyard across the street. American fries (served "all you can eat"), french fries, potato patties, and baked potatoes with various toppings are the heart of the menu, along with eggs, omelets, biscuits with sausage gravy, and beer-battered onion rings made from sweet reds. If size counts, consider the daunting inch-thick "manhole" pancake that's bigger than the plate. Lunch runs to deli sandwiches (with potatoes), or a hearty bowl of chili con carne. Arrive early week-ends. Open daily, breakfast to late lunch. Inexpensive. — N.W.

**Roxy Natural Foods Restaurant** 517 North Coast Highway 101, Encinitas, 760-436-5001. You don't have to be a Self-Realization Fellowship follower to fit in in Encinitas, but it helps. Roxy was made for the veggie crowd who've grown up around the famous seaside

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### North County

- Calypso **Free appetizer**
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- Mikko Japanese **50% off sushi**
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### South Bay & Coronado

- El Dorado Seafood & Grill **50% off entrée**

### East County & State College

- California Comfort Restaurant **1/2 off breakfast, lunch or dinner**
- Centifonti's Restaurant **25% off entrée**
- Dinner A-Go-Go **Free half-order**
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- Lot 81 Restaurant & Bar **1/2 price dinner**
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- 94th Aero Squadron **Dinner special \$13.99**
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- Khan's Cave **\$2 drafts during Mon. Night Football**
- Lightnin' Jack's BBQ **Free BBQ**
- The Philadelphia Sandwich Co. **Free 6" Philly cheese steak sandwich**
- RB Sushi **50% off sushi and rolls only**
- Sunrise Super Buffet **\$3 off buffet**
- Thai Cafe **\$1 off buffet**
- VIP Oriental Buffet **\$3 off all-you-can-eat buffet**

Restaurants listed without coupon offers have only menus online. Restaurants with \* have multiple locations. See online menu or coupon for all locations.

compound. These days, that includes surfers, vegans, and even visiting Hollywood stars picky about their food. Actually, it is no longer strictly a vegetarian eatery: the owners have added chicken and fish for Encinitas's "new people" — the carnivores buying up property in the hills. But the vegan-vegetarian spirit still rules. Most popular item on the menu is owner Shahram Naimi's own invention: the scrumptious Roxy falafelburger. Its green "meat" is made from garbanzo beans, potatoes, onions, cilantro, and herbs, all bedded down with tomatoes, a thick mat of sprouts, and melted cheese, covered by a whole-wheat bun. For chicken lovers, the garlic chicken pizzas sell big-time. Other healthy treats include the three-egg avocado omelet with toast, the artichoke sandwich (with marinated artichoke hearts), and the squash enchilada dinner (steamed banana squash with corn, bell peppers, and low-fat cream cheese in a flour tortilla). Payoff? You come out feeling good and full, not bad and bloated. Open daily, brunch through dinner. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Sammy's Woodfired Pizza — Del Mar** 12925 El Camino Real, Del Mar, 858-259-6600. It's not Italian or New York pizza, it's...San Diego pizza! The crusts are Californian: thick and slightly sweet. The toppings range from ordinary to exotic. The menu includes many salads and a handful of American-Italian entrées. Continuous service, same menu lunch and dinner. Open daily. Inexpensive. — *N.W.*

## SOUTH BAY

**Bistro D'Asia** 1301 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-437-6677. The relaxing restaurant attached to the hardy "Lizard Lounge" serves gentled-down dishes from all over East Asia. Among the tastiest are delicate lemon shrimps, vegetarian "monk's curry," and ice creams from Mootown Creamery. Peking Duck is accorded the full service, with a waitress garnishing the table's first round of delicate "flower buns" with crackly duck skin, scallions, and hoisin

sauce. Lizard Lounge next door now houses a sushi bar as well as a liquor bar. Reserve for weekend dinners. Street parking. Well-chosen wine list. Lunch and dinner daily. Other branch at 4628 Park Boulevard, University Heights, 619-295-5880. — *N.W.*

**La Costa Azul Mariscos** 1037 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-691-9812. Great family-run hangout for traditional seafood from Sinaloa and Nayarit, Mexico's crackling-hot desert/coastal states. Their ancient Sinaloa dish *aguachile* (shrimp in spicy brine) is simple, mouth-sizzlingly effective, *langostinos* are lush, but maybe most satisfying are whole-fish dishes like *pescado Veracruzano*. Truly traditional offerings come in giant three-legged *molcajetes*. Even their less-traditional signature dish, *Camarones Costa Azul* (crab and cheese-stuffed, bacon-wrapped shrimp) arrives in a burning hot *molcajete*. Also delicious: the sizzle-plate fajitas *mixtas*, with shrimp, beef, chicken. Many customers come around sunset, just to sit with a cool drink under palm fronds on the patio. Even if you're actually on Chula Vista's Broadway, it feels strangely like Cabo. Open daily, lunch and dinner. Moderate. — *E.B.*

**The Family House of Pancakes** 562 Broadway, Chula Vista, 619-425-5133. This is a great place for three things: your family, your kids, and your appetite. The restaurant is famous for its Grandma's buckwheat pancakes, its banana-pecan pancake, and its rolled pancakes, oozing with berries and topped with cream and powdered sugar. Just try and survive their 8-12 egg omelet! Other good bets include a deluxe burger with french fries, tomatoes, and house sauce, and a grilled tuna sandwich with fries. Breakfast/lunch only, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Giant Pizza King** 600 Palm Avenue (at Rainbow), Imperial Beach, 619-423-7601. If pizza size matters to you, try on these nine-inch-wide, foot-long, loaded pizza slices. They can flop, but they can't fail. For alternatives, the fish-and-chips dish is pretty generous, they make a large lasagna with garlic bread and salad, and the half-pound shrimp

combo, fries, and salad is good value. You're near enough here to the beach to get supplies for sunset "green flash" parties — this is a full-on Italian take-out eatery with ham or turkey subs, spaghetti with meatballs, half-pound burgers, and more. Open daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Island Wok** 922 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-6835. This tiny indoor-outdoor-takeaway café is a standby with locals, especially the high school crowd. It serves good Vietnamese-Chinese food and plenty of it. The owner, Xuan, makes scrumptious fresh (not fried) Vietnamese spring rolls wrapped in rice paper with shrimp, pork, or chicken and vegetables in the middle. But most customers go for the steam-table combination plates. You always get chow mein, fried or steamed rice, and a fried spring roll to start off, and then you can add entrées like orange chicken, kung pao chicken, or sweet-and-sour pork. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Mexican Village** 126 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-435-3111. One of the few old restaurants left in Coronado. WestPac Navy flyers who served in Korea and Vietnam would dream of this while on tour. After almost perishing, the Village is back. Old Coronadans say the new (Mexican) owner's "signature" burritos (fillings, e.g., tripititas [tripe], carnitas con papas [pork with potato], chorizo, and eggs) match even their gilded memories. Try the carnitas with cactus. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday; till 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Village Pizzeria** 1206 Orange Avenue, Coronado, 619-522-0449. Mootime Creamery owner David Spatafore decided to set up what he's always wanted: a cheap, back-east Italian, red-and-white-tablecloth, dangling-Chianti-bottle eatery where local families and amateur sports teams can come in and pig out. He wisely didn't destroy what was half of the famous old Mexican Village. Instant atmosphere! Ancient murals of guys with guitars serenading señoritas, arches, illuminated clusters of red grapes. The bad news: you might have to handle pumped-up

kids' sports teams cramming the booths around you. The good news: great calzones and pizza by the slice. (Pizza-by-slice portions stop at 6 p.m.) Open lunch through dinner, seven days. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

## EAST COUNTY

**Ali Baba Restaurant** 421 East Main Street, El Cajon, 619-442-3622. First, the atmosphere: It's a world of wispy drapes, pavilions, and blue velvet hangings. You think, "sheikh's oasis encampment." The lamb shank on bulgar wheat is probably the most popular with local Chaldeans. Lamb, fried fish, and chicken kabobs are staples. But try interesting alternatives like "potato chop," a kind of potato pie, *kobba musilia*, a "crushed wheat pie" stuffed with beef and fried. Remember, everything is filling. Especially with the wonderful bread you get: the size of an elephant's foot, light as a butterfly, baked on the spot. Bring five friends and order the Feast for Three People. It'll be enough. Open 10 a.m. to midnight daily. Inexpensive to moderate. — *E.B.*

**Antonio's Hacienda** 700 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, 619-442-9827. If the decor hasn't been updated from its original 1960s-fabulous Old California Spanish, it's because there's been no need. The enormous dark-wood chandeliers, the padded-leather wooden chairs, the chainsaw-weathered wood beams — all top-shelf and aging well. Families abound, reveling in the guitar trio and the exposed kitchen station — such atmosphere! And the flavors are user-friendly, sweetness muting the spice in the salsa and the ranchero sauce. The Camarones Tequila is a little more exciting, the sweetness of its bacon-wrapped shrimp gets a fine counter from the bitter liqueur in the marinade. Excellent Enchiladas Suizas: pale, mush-tender, shredded chicken wrapped in tortillas and doused with good, tangy green sauce. Lunch and dinner daily. Champagne brunch on Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2

p.m.; all-day buffet Sunday. Inexpensive to low moderate. — *A.M.*

**Charley's Famous Hamburgers and Kebobs** 8312 Broadway, Lemon Grove, 619-460-2690. When you spot an old red-and-white gas station that looks like a café, don't hesitate. That's Charley's. The palm and ficus trees have replaced the gas pumps and a fountain now gurgles where the air hoses used to be. The menu is a long list of hamburgers, as well as hot dogs, sandwiches, and kebobs. Mostly take-out, but you can dine out at their picnic tables under bougainvillea. Open daily, three meals. — *E.B.*

**Fred's Old Fashioned Burgers** 2754 Alpine Boulevard, Alpine, 619-445-1264. Up here, Fred's it and that's that. You really get a bang for your burger buck, from the cheap junior burger to quarter-pounders and half-pounders to Fred's three-quarter-pound "monster burger." Even the innocent-sounding BLT sandwich comes loaded with six slabs of bacon. Maybe the most delicious burger sandwich is a quarter-pound patty slithered between sautéed onions and oozing with cheese under grilled sourdough. Also good: the grilled chicken sandwich and the patty-melt special with fries and

soft drink. Really hungry? Order Fred's Alpine Goliath, a two-pound burger that needs a ten-inch bun to support it. But, as they say, be careful what you wish for. Seven days, 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. Inexpensive. — *E.B.*

**Jasmine Bistro** 315 Parkway Plaza, El Cajon, 619-588-8228. A gleaming little architectural jewel surrounded by the big white boxes of its mall, Jasmine Bistro is a spin-off of the well-known Jasmine Hong Kong Seafood Restaurant on Convoy. By day, the fare centers on fresh, expertly made Chinese dim sum (elaborate finger food) offered both by cart and by menu. At night, with a reservation, a fresh crew of multiethnic chefs step in to cook up a Pan-Asian panoply, so if you're in the mood for Mandarin and your date wants Thai, no problem. Unfortunately, eaters in this suburban milieu won't stand for too much authenticity, so sophisticated diners may find the fare a little dumbed-down. Mainly California wine list suggests wine pairings for the food; numerous Asian beers, fruity drinks. Reserve for weekend dinners. Daily brunch/lunch through early dinner (until 9 p.m.). Mainly moderate (except for some special entrées). — *N.W.*

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## Irredeemable Bond

Anything good to be said about the new direction would or should have already been said.

It sounds more like a sensitive literary little indie, maybe something to do with a Physics teacher passed over for tenure and consoled in the arms of a fatherless grad student, but *Quantum of Solace* is in actuality the name of the twenty-second James Bond film, by official count. That count leaves out not just the first, spoofy *Casino Royale* of 1967 but even *Never Say Never Again*, to which the comeback of Sean Connery lent a legitimacy lacking in all but five other Bond films. The new one is also, to be sure, the second James Blond film, which is to say the second appearance of tow-headed Daniel Craig in the role, following up the second, unspoofy *Casino Royale*.

A true sequel, really the first such in the series, it picks up 007 on the trail of vengeance after the death of his ladylove, Vesper, at the end of the last installment. (Frankly the details of the death — how? who? why? — are a little hazy in my mind, based upon one viewing two years ago, and are not much sharpened during the unfolding of events in the sequel.) This

was a trail closed off to the newly widowed Bond at the end of *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, when Sean Connery was first coaxed back to the role and poor George Lazenby, the only one-timer in the series, got booted out the door as if he never should have happened.

No doubt the vengeance trail is quite hospitable to the new, grim, quip-free, and gadgetless hero, though he does take time off from his grief to bed a token Bond girl who is identified on screen by the simple surname of Fields — the Internet Movie DataBase reveals her unfortunate given name to be Strawberry — and who ends up dead on that bed, her prostrate nude body painted in black gold (a direct copy, but for color choice, from *Goldfinger*), one of the countless casualties littering the trail. It's a trail that leads, by way of Italy, Haiti, Austria, Bolivia, and Russia, to a phony environmental group called Green Planet, a front for a shadowy unknown SPECTRE-like organization with "people everywhere," close enough in fact to take a point-blank shot at Bond's boss, M. (Judi Dench, the lone



Quantum of Solace

holdover from the Pierce Brosnan regime, again occupies the role, drollier and drier than Bond himself: "If you could avoid killing every possible lead, it would be deeply appreciated.") Their current nefarious project, a bit modest by Bondian standards, having an eye only on local water rights rather than on world domination, is the strictly moneymaking scheme of a

Latin American military coup, with a complicit CIA that belongs more to the world of John le Carré than to that of Ian Fleming.

For all that, the film fails to solidify, much less build upon, the promise of the fresh start in *Casino Royale*. Anything good to be said about the new direction would or should have already been said. It of course could

all be said again, but with cooling fervor and fading hope. In the obligatory pre-credits sequence, we are thrown instantly into the midst of an incoherent car chase that soon narrows down to an Aston Martin and an Alfa Romeo (the new director, Marc Forster, boasts few credentials as a man of action, from among his experiences with *The Kite Runner*, *Stranger*

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Than Fiction, Stay, Finding Neverland, and Monster's Ball, and none at all as a man of large-scale action), and the rapid succession thereafter of foot chase, motorbike chase, boat chase, plane chase, punctuated by shattered glass, swinging girder, stitcheries of bullets, blossoms of fire, etc., is held together by the thinnest shreds of connective plot tissue.

The totality perhaps meets the fundamental requirements of action and pace, hurtling forward with only the briefest of pauses and coming in at a tidy hour and three-quarters, the shortest Bond film, if I'm not mistaken, in the entire series. As a likely result of that, it can seldom make time for the preparation that would give the action scenes sense and import. They are little more than turbulence. And the underlying split personality still remains: Why bother to infuse the Bond character with a greater air of reality if he's going to continue to be allowed the acrobatics of a Jackie Chan? Surely our rougher and tougher superspy wouldn't want us snorting in derision, or even chortling in delight, when he's busy exacting payment for the snuffed-out life of his beloved. James Bond appears to be turning little by little into Jason Bourne. It's not a step up.

The world-weary Giancarlo Gianini and the inscrutable Jeffrey Wright, carried over from the previous adventure, are sadly underused. The diminutive French villain, coal-eyed Mathieu Amalric of *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, is unimposing at best, although he's at least, in contrast to that other performance, ambulatory. And the nut-brown Olga Kurylenko, an unbedded Bond girl on a trail of vengeance all her own, looks fully up to the assignment of cover girl on a Get-Even issue of *Cosmo*. As she's named Camille and not Complice, she stood little chance to replace Vesper.

\* \* \*

This month's program in the Cinema en Tu Idioma series, Friday through Thursday at the UltraStar Mission Valley, is not one film but three, two of which are among those I was glad I selected to see at the San Diego Latino Film Festival last March, *El Violin* and *XXY*. The third, *El Baño del Papa*, is new to the area. Showtimes are juggled from day to day, so be sure to check, as they say, your listings.

\* \* \*

And if you can squeeze it in by

Thursday the Thirteenth, Silvio Soldini's *Days and Clouds* at the Ken is truly something to wrap your arms around, a mature marital drama of middle-class, middle-age economic crisis: lost job, lost house, lost prospects, lost self-respect; set in Genoa but general in application; a bit dull in image but intense in empathy and emotion. Antonio Albanese and Margherita Buy, models of restraint, hide their individual suffering behind the four walls of shame, incomprehension, disbelief, dignity. ■

## MOVIE LISTINGS

All reviews are by 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 sorted alphabetically, by year of release and by rating, are available online at [SDReader.com](http://SDReader.com).

**Appaloosa** — Unpretentious, un-epic Western, adapted from a novel by the hard-boiled mystery writer Robert B. Parker. It bears more than a passing resemblance to a pseudonymous variation on the Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday legend, the 1959 *Warlock*, without itself qualifying as a variation on that legend. We have again the two-man team in a peripatetic "peacekeeping business" (Have Gun — Will Travel), the living legend and the overshadowed sidekick. We have also the outsized outlaw gang who hold the titular town in their grip. We have, in conciser form, an identical opening, the elimination of the incumbent peace officer and the appearance of his replacements on a hilltop overlook. We have forthwith the Earpian edict of no guns within city limits. We have the woman who comes between the two peacekeepers. (In *Warlock* it was actually two women.) And we even have a recognizable replay, on a reduced scale, and nowhere near movie's end, of the showdown at the O.K. Corral. But we don't have, among other things, any clear distinction, and thus any palpable tension, between the two peacekeeping partners. (There's nothing inherently wrong with that, but their complete compatibility disqualifies the movie as a variation on Earp-Holliday.) Both are cookie-cutter Strong Silent Types, and well played in that mode by the leathery Ed Harris, who also directed, and a Buffalo Bill-whiskered Viggo Mortensen, weighed down with a bazooka-sized eight-gauge shotgun. The movie, even while it would not compare favorably to its antecedent, can rest comfortably on the tight-jawed interplay between these men, and on its brisk and efficient action scenes, and finally, lingeringly, on the climactic act of friendship of the sidekick for his love-struck partner. That has some real nobility to it, and some subtlety, some irony. With



Let the Right One In

Renée Zellweger, Jeremy Irons, Timothy Spall, Lance Henriksen, Ariadna Gil. 2008. ★★ (GASLAMP 15)

**Body of Lies** — The war on terrorism, or anyway a single battle against terrorism, conducted with slickness and razzmatazz, and time for romance too. Leonardo DiCaprio continues to breathe hard in his efforts to be an action hero; the steel-haired Russell Crowe, in a desk job, plays peekaboo around his glasses frames; both are upstaged by Mark Strong as the suave, ambiguous Jordanian chief of security. With Golshifteh Farahani, Oscar Isaac, and Simon McBurney; directed by Ridley Scott. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA 12; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**The Boy in the Striped Pajamas** — Nazi concentration-camp tale with Asa Butterfield, Vera Farmiga, and David Thewlis, directed by Mark Herman. (HILLCREST CINEMAS, FROM 11/14)

**Burn after Reading** — The Coen brothers revisit their favored stupidity theme: *Raising Arizona*, *Barton Fink*, *Fargo*, *The Big Lebowski* (that one above all), *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, the secondhand *Ladykillers*, at least the Llewellyn Moss protagon-

ist in *No Country for Old Men*. Back to the well once more. The placement of this timeless theme within the Washington, D.C., intelligence community is, however, highly strategic, calculating, revitalizing, resonating, and, well, intelligent. (The memorable line from the original *Manchurian Candidate* swims up from the depths: "Intelligence officer! Stupidity offi-

cer is more like it.") The central theme has been interlarded with secondary themes of deception, discontentment, self-delusion, double lives, so that while the film is unmistakably a comedy, it's a pretty deep one. And regardless how repetitive the theme, there is no slacking off in technique and execution. The fast hour and a half is consistently, unisistently funny, with only a rare

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lapse in taste (a homemade marital aid, a couple of splashes of Scorsese-esque gore) and never really a lapse in tone. And although the regular and reliable Roger Deakins has been replaced with Emmanuel Lubezki (*Children of Men*, most noteworthy), the cinematography doesn't suffer, with its crystal-clear air, its fine-line focus, and its scythe-like camerawork, angling slightly upwards, attacking from all sides, intermittently cutting a path in a spurt of purposeful fluidity. George Clooney, Frances McDormand, Brad Pitt, Tilda Swinton, John Malkovich, Richard Jenkins, David Rasche, J.K. Simmons. 2008. ★★★★★ (HORTON PLAZA 14; LA PALOMA, FROM 11/14)

**Changeling** — Clint Eastwood was due for a dud, and this stacks up as his flattest film, his stumpiest film, since *Blood Work*, bookending his hot streak of *Mystic River*, *Million Dollar Baby*, and the Second World War diptych, *Flags of Our Fathers* and *Letters from Iwo Jima*. Time once again to take it easy. Perhaps a partial explanation (or excuse) might be found in the fact that Eastwood took over the project from Ron Howard (still a co-producer on it), and certainly it possesses a moral simplicity that would seem these days to be beneath his interest. Never beneath Howard's, however. An eighty-year-old nugget unearthed from the annals of the LAPD, fit for a remember-when newspaper story on a round-number anniversary, it tells of the disappearance of a nine-year-old boy on the day his working single mother, a roller-skating switchboard supervisor, was to have taken him to the new Chaplin picture (*The Circus*, presumably), and of the strong-arm attempts of the beleaguered police department, five months later, to palm off on her an imposter — the world's oldest changeling — rounded up at a diner in Illinois. The situation, for all its purported factuality, is too ridiculous to be truly gripping; too much so even to be minimally maddening. Angelina Jolie, with Star Power on her side, in addition to Mother Love, in addition to Truth and Justice, campaigns for sainthood in a cloche hat and a hummock of crimson lipstick, accentuating her most grotesque feature — a pair of novelty-shop plastic lips — and providing the only dash of color in a frigid blue image. Validation, if not official canonization, will come in the form of four rounds of applause in open court. With inferior material, Eastwood's "classical" style and deliberate pace (filling, and overfilling, his accustomed two-and-a-quarter-hour time slot) amount to little more than proficient hackwork. John Malkovich, Jeffrey Donovan, Colm Feore, Jason Butler Harner. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; ESCONDIDO 16; FASH-



Role Models

ION VALLEY 18; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Days and Clouds** — Reviewed this issue. With Margherita Buy, Antonio Albanese, Alba Rohrwacher, and Fabio Troiano; directed by Silvio Soldini.

★★★ (KEN, THROUGH 11/13)

**The Duchess** — Fine costume piece. Well, the costumes anyhow are fine. The piece as a whole is only fairish, a predigested potage of 18th-century sexism, blue-blood cold-bloodedness, paramours, bastards, the mandatory male heir, all of it "based on a true story." Rachel Portman's music, much more than Saul Dibb's direction, creates the frequent illusion of something better than fairish. And Keira Knightley, unshadowingly surrounded by Ralph Fiennes, Dominic Cooper, Hayley Atwell, Simon McBurney, and Charlotte Rampling, commands the screen with force and nuance and bone structure. The camera, as

they say, loves her. 2008.

★★ (FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Eagle Eye** — Political paranoia thriller so utterly preposterous that it has the opposite effect and reassures us we have nothing to worry about. (And so pell-mell in presentation that we can barely follow it.) Shia LaBeouf and Michelle Monaghan, as ordinary citizens under the eye, thumb, and puppet-strings of Big Brother, are ordinarily likable, or in these circumstances, pitiable. With Billy Bob Thornton, Rosario Dawson, and Michael Chiklis; directed by D.J. Caruso. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24; PLAZA BONITA 14)

**Happy-Go-Lucky** — Character portrait of a singular person, a primary-school teacher called Poppy, almost dementedly upbeat, seeing it as her mission in life to spread sunshine and joy wherever she goes. A tipsy giggler, a babbling fount of inanities ("Here we go, gigolo"), a constant commenter ("Never been here before," she announces to no one in particular on her tour of a bookshop; "Don't want to go there," she

reacts upon pulling *The Road to Reality* off the shelf), an avocational clown, a tireless self-amuser, she's the nearest thing to Pee-wee Herman you could ever hope to find in a realistic context. (Is it significant that her bicycle gets stolen right off the bat? Unlike Pee-wee, she sighingly lets it go — "I didn't even get a chance to say goodbye" — and signs up for driving lessons.) The context, however, demands that she once in a while drop the good cheer in order to handle crises with her ranting, racist, rigid driving instructor ("It's not easy being you, ay?"), a violent bully at school, and an addled tramp in the street. She's not a one-note character. She can rise to the occasion, and there is always, even at the best of times, an underpinning of thin ice. Sally Hawkins, who had worked with writer-director Mike Leigh previously in *Vera Drake* and *All or Nothing*, takes total possession of the role, or vice versa, indelibly visualized in a neo- or retro-Flower Child wardrobe, too youthful by a decade, too loud by a hundred decibels, of clashing colors and multiple layers (a last layer, revealed on the chiropractor's table, of pink bra and orange panties beneath black fishnet hose), and a full range of mirth from lopsided grin, pulling to the right, to open-wide glee.

Leigh himself, you might have noticed, especially if you saw either of the samples mentioned above, is not the jolliest sort of fellow, and it would be easy to imagine him making a movie in which the central character were the volcanic driving instructor — the stalwart Eddie Marsan, who also appeared in *Vera Drake* — and in which the bubbly driving student were only one of several supporting characters, a movie, that is to say, more like his *Naked*, a portrait of a negativist. Any viewer less effervescent than Poppy, in any event, will be inclined to look at her as a kind of scientific specimen, to be observed with curiosity and wonder — along with unscientific amusement and a silent prayer of thanks she's not living next door or coming over for dinner — in a somewhat amorphous and arbitrary succession of scenes, situations, circumstances. At all times the movie boasts beautiful bright color, rather as if Leigh's regular cameraman, Dick Pope, had emptied a bottle of Windex on our window on the world. (Ah, we can see!) And please don't propose that this is meant to be expressive of Poppy's *Weltanschauung*. Clear bright colors ought not to be the exclusive privilege of the Pollyanna. 2008.

★★★★ (FLOWER HILL 4, FROM 11/14; HILL-CREST CINEMAS)

### High School Musical 3: Senior Year

— Candy-colored sequel to two Disney Channel television movies with which the viewer is presumed to be conversant. (In what way, you might have to wonder, did Gabriella change East High forever? And what's the deal between Troy and Rocket Man?) Evidently intended as an anti-anxiety pill for growing tweens, it should work almost as well for hoary old nostalgists who mourn the illusory innocence of Mickey Rooney, Judy Garland musicals, and who will only need to grit their teeth for the vocal and dance styles. (The roof-garden waltz is most unobjectionable.) Two boys dashing out of the locker room in nothing but towels, straight through a girls' volleyball game, and into the thick of a stage rehearsal, is about as racy as it gets. The well-scrubbed cast — Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Tisdale, Lucas Gabeel, Corbin Bleu, Monique Coleman — looks unsettlingly like a collection of dolls. It would not be surprising to find them for sale, singly or as a set, at the Disney Store. Directed and co-choreographed by Kenny Ortega. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**I've Loved You So Long** — The first film of French novelist Philippe Claudel, about a genteel parolee who moves in temporarily with her younger sister and in-laws, is leisurely, patient, closely observed, committedly acted (Kristin Scott Thomas, with dark circles around her eyes, and Elsa Zylberstein), drably photographed, and passably absorbing, at least until it dissipates into heart-tugging hokery. 2007.

★ (LA JOLLA VILLAGE)

**Kung Fu Panda** — Plump computer cartoon about a tubby panda (voice of Jack Black, tubby typecasting), an envious aficionado of the martial arts, dissatisfied with his lowborn "place" in the family noodle business. Wanting nothing more than to witness the anointment of the new Dragon Warrior, inheritor of the Secret of Limitless Power, he manages by dumb luck to get himself so anointed, in effect hitting the kung-fu lottery. With that, the filmmakers set about to purvey a dearly and widely held fantasy: the idea that the neophyte in any field, but especially the martial-arts field, can quickly close ground on the masters by means of a remedial crash course. No matter how low your opinion of kung fu or its film genre, you would be justified in finding this insulting, to both the specified martial art and your intelligence. And animation, despite its easy defiance of physical laws, does not much soften the insult. If the

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★ (SANTEE DRIVE IN)

**Let the Right One In** — Bullied blond Swedish schoolboy meets dark and dusky Miss Tween Vampire. Slow, almost ludicrously sensitive, ninety-five-percent realistic and unfantastic. The other five percent houses some mild chills: the girl's monkey-like shimmy up the outside wall of a hospital; the mass cat attack on a new vampire convert; the sweat and tears of blood when the vampire crosses a threshold uninvited. With Kare Hedebrand and Lina Leander-son; directed by Tomas Alfredson. 2008.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

**Loins of Punjab Presents** — Cripplingly cheap comedy with the promising premise of a sort of Hindi Idol talent contest — the competitors singing cover versions of Bollywood hit tunes — sponsored by “the largest suppliers of pork loins on the East Coast,” a/k/a “The Loins King.” It has almost no assets beyond the funny accents. With Shabana Azmi, Ajay Naidu, Ayesha Dharker, Michael Raimondi, and Seema Rahmani; directed by Manish Acharya. 2008.

● (GASLAMP 15)

**Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** — The light-in-the-loafers cartoon lion, a self-proclaimed “protégé of Fosse and Robbins,” accidentally finds his way, along with the zebra, the hippo, and the giraffe, back to his ancestral home, where he proves to be an embarrassment to his kingly father: “Lions don't dance.” The not so subtle pleas for diversity (not just the nonviolent lion, but the forbidden love of giraffe for hippo) do not overwhelm the no less subtle jokes. With the voices of Ben Stiller, Chris Rock, David Schwimmer, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Sacha Baron Cohen; co-directed by Eric Darnell and Tom McGrath. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE)

**Max Payne** — Steroidal cop film (literally, pharmaceutical performance-enhancement to a science-fictional degree) featuring dark shadows, leached color, CG hallucinations, and Mark Wahlberg's frown lines. With Mila Kunis, Beau Bridges, and Ludacris; directed by John Moore. 2008.

● (CHULA VISTA 10; FASHION VALLEY 18; GASLAMP 15; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist** — Tolerably sweet teen romance, uniting two strangers from the same Jersey high school in a night-long search of Manhattan for a rumored concert by their mutual favorite band, Where's Fluffy? Gross-out gags are limited to a single, if ongoing, grossery: a drunken girl fishing her cellphone and a wad of chewing gum out of the public toilet into which she has just upchucked. A gag that truly gags. The leads, however, are charming: Michael Cera, of *Juno* and *Superbad*, as the heartbroken heterosexual in a gay garage band called the Jerk-Offs, tooling around town in a balky yellow Yugo (“I think it might be the only Yugo in the country”); and Kat Dennings, of *Charlie Bartlett* and *The House Bunny*, as the pouty poor little rich girl with abundant brains



*Soul Men*

and no boyfriends. Both of them, especially the latter, show a nice feel for the low-key humor of inarticulateness. In name only do they evoke the badinage of Dashiell Hammett's Nick and Nora Charles. With Alexis Dziena and Ari Graynor; directed by Peter Sollett. 2008.

★ (LA JOLLA 12)

**Pride and Glory** — Fuckin' cop film of fuckin' good cops and fuckin' bad cops, some of both types in the same fuckin' family of New York Irish cops, Edward fuckin' Norton, Colin fuckin' Farrell, Noah fuckin' Emmerich, and Jon fuckin' Voight. With a literally and constantly fuckin' script by Joe Carnahan of fuckin' *Narc* (it fuckin' figures), and direction by fuckin' Gavin O'Connor of fuckin' *Tumbleweeds* and the Disney-produced *Miracle*, of all fuckin' things, it's so fuckin' gritty, it's a virtual fuckin' Sahara, up to your fuckin' ankles every fuckin' step of the way. And it's a long fuckin' way. 2008.

● (FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Quantum of Solace** — Reviewed this issue. With Daniel Craig, Mathieu Amalric, Olga Kurylenko, and Judi Dench; directed by Marc Forster.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA COSTA 6; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA

MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; RIVER VILLAGE 6; SAN MARCOS 18; SANTEE DRIVE IN; TOWN SQUARE 14; VISTA VILLAGE; FROM 11/14)

**Rachel Getting Married** — A sort of Rainbow Coalition wedding weekend: the father of the Jewish bride had remarried a black, the bride too is marrying a black (it might be noted that Sidney Lumet, the father of first-time scriptwriter Jenny Lumet, had remarried a black himself), and the theme of the wedding is inexplicably Indian. Director Jonathan Demme, striving for an improvisational feel, stages the goings-on with an almost Danish dishevelment: a hand-held camera in the grasp of an arm-weary cameraman. Anne Hathaway, as the bride's just-out-of-rehab sister, a constant and tiresome threat of disruption (“She needs a lot of acknowledgment”), proves to be too actressy for the style; but Rosemarie DeWitt makes a fine impression as her well-behaved sister, and the conviviality of the gathering, with heavy representation from the cool cats of the music industry, is by and large believable and admirable. With Mather Zickel, Bill Irwin, Anna Devere Smith, Tunde Ade- bimpe, and Debra Winger. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; SAN MARCOS 18)

**Religulous** — Comedian Bill Maher, the smirking skeptic, travels the globe to goad and taunt, and talk behind the backs of, believers of many stripes (not Far Eastern), all in an effort to galvanize the silent minority

of Americans — 16% by latest count — who profess to be atheists and agnostics. He is content to keep it light and superficial and once in a while funny, though at the end he climbs into his own figurative pulpit, in a moralizing manner not dissimilar to the wrap-ups of Jerry Springer. Directed by Larry Charles. 2008.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS; LA JOLLA VILLAGE; LA PALOMA)

**Rocknrolla** — Tangled intrigues in the London underworld, given the Guy Ritchie treatment, derivative, flashy, shallow, callous, utterly resistible. Depression, setting in early, deepens sharply at the finish: a written pledge of a sequel. With Gerard Butler, Mark Strong, Tom Wilkinson, Thandie Newton, Idris Elba, Karel Roden, Toby Kebbell, and Jeremy Piven. 2008.

● (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FASHION VALLEY 18; HORTON PLAZA 14; MISSION VALLEY 20; PALM PROMENADE 24)

**Role Models** — Court-ordered community service for two full-grown screwups. Overplayed by everybody but sourpuss Paul Rudd (who co-wrote), and yet a couple of prime comic targets retain their ripeness: the rehabilitated rah-rah directress of a mentoring charity called Sturdy Wings, and a nerdy role-playing club of would-be dwellers in Middle Earth. With Seann William Scott, Elizabeth Banks, Jane Lynch, Christopher Mintz-Plassé, and Bobb'e J. Thompson; directed by David Wain. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; CHULA VISTA 10; DEL

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## IMPERIAL BEACH

### South Bay Drive In

2170 Coronado Avenue (619-423-2727)  
Call theater for program information

## NATIONAL CITY

### Plaza Bonita 14

3030 Plaza Bonita Road (858-558-2262)

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (PG); **Changeling** (R); **Eagle Eye** (PG-13); **The Haunting of Molly Hartley** (PG-13); **High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G); **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG); **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13); **Role Models** (R); **Saw V** (R); **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13); **Soul Men** (R); **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R)

## NORTH INLAND

### CARMEL MOUNTAIN

#### Carmel Mountain 14

11620 Carmel Mountain Road (858-674-9770)

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (PG); **Body of Lies** (R); **Changeling** (R); **Eagle Eye** (PG-13); **High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G); **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG); **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13); **Rachel Getting Married** (R); **Rocknrolla** (R); **Role Models** (R); **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13)

## ESCONDIDO

### Escondido 16

350 W. Valley Parkway (760-291-0119)

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (PG) Fri. (12:15, 2:50) 7:25, 10:10 Sat. (12:15, 2:50) 10:10 Sun. (12:15, 2:50) 7:25, 10:10; **Changeling** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 3:35) 6:50, 10:05; **Eagle Eye** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (12:35, 3:25) 6:30, 9:40; **Fireproof** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (12:40, 3:40) 6:45, 9:45; **The Haunting of Molly Hartley** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (1:15) 7:10; **High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri.-Sun. (1:00, 3:45) 6:40, 9:30; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) Fri. (11:00, 1:45, 12:30, 1:35, 2:20, 2:55, 3:55, 4:40, 5:15) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:20, 9:50, 10:20 Sat.-Sun. (11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:35, 2:20, 2:55, 3:55) 4:40, 5:15, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:20, 9:50, 10:20; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri. (10:45, 11:30, 12:05, 1:25, 2:10, 2:45, 4:05, 4:50, 5:25) 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 9:55, 10:25, 10:55 Sat.-Sun. (10:45, 11:30, 12:05, 1:25, 2:10, 2:45) 4:05, 4:50, 5:25, 7:15, 7:45, 8:15, 9:55, 10:25, 10:55; **Rachel Getting Married** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:55, 3:50) 7:40, 10:30; **Role Models** (R) Fri. (12:00, 2:30, 5:00) 7:55, 10:35 Sat.-Sun. (12:00, 2:30) 5:00, 7:55, 10:35; **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13) Fri. (12:50, 4:30) 7:35, 10:15 Sat.-Sun. (12:50) 4:30, 7:35, 10:15; **Soul Men** (R) Fri. (4:20) 9:35 Sat.-Sun. 4:20, 9:35; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:25, 3:15) 7:20, 10:40

## FALLBROOK

### River Village 6

5256 S. Mission Road (760-945-8784)



**Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) (11:45 2:15 4:45 7:15 9:45); **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) (11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Role Models** (R) (11:00 1:30) 4:00 6:15 8:30 10:45; **High School Musical 3** (G) (12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00; **Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) (11:15 1:45) 4:15 7:00 9:15; \*No 7pm Sat. 11/15; **Barbie: A Christmas Carol** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu. No 11 am-3:45 pm shows Mon.-Thu.

## POWAY

### Poway 10

13475 Poway Road (858-646-9423)



**Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; \*Will play at 10 am Wed. 11/19; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Fireproof** (PG) (11:15 2:15) 5:15 8:00 10:45; \*No 8 pm Tues. 11/18; **Soul Men** (R) (2:30) 7:45 10:15; **Role Models** (R) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) (10:15 12:30 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; \*No 7:45 Thu. 11/20; **Changeling** (R) (10:15 1:15) 4:15 7:15 10:30; **High School Musical 3** (G) (11:00 1:45) 4:45 7:30 10:00; **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13)

(12:00) 5:00; **Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:15; \*No 7 pm Sat. 11/15; \*No 7pm & 9:45 Thu. 11/20; **Barbie: A Christmas Carol** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

## SAN MARCOS

### San Marcos 18

1180 West San Marcos Boulevard at Old California Walk (760-471-3711)

Call theater for program information

## VISTA

### Vista Village

Highway 78 at Vista Village Drive

(760-945-7469)

**Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (PG) Fri.-Sun. (11:45, 2:20, 5:00); **Changeling** (R) Fri.-Sun. (10:50, 12:00, 1:45, 3:30, 4:45) 7:10, 7:45, 10:10; **Eagle Eye** (PG-13) Fri.-Sun. (11:15, 2:05, 4:50) 7:30, 10:20; **High School Musical 3: Senior Year** (G) Fri.-Sun. (11:20, 2:00, 4:40) 7:25, 10:00; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) Fri.-Sat. (11:15, 12:10, 12:45, 1:30, 2:30, 3:10, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30) 6:10, 7:05, 7:50, 8:25, 9:25, 10:10, 10:40 Sun. (11:15, 12:10, 12:45, 1:30, 2:30, 3:10, 3:50, 4:45, 5:30) 6:10,

7:05, 7:50, 8:25, 9:25, 10:10; **Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) Fri.-Sat. (11:10, 11:50, 12:30, 1:50, 2:30, 3:10, 4:25, 5:05, 5:45) 7:00, 7:40, 8:15, 9:40, 10:15, 10:50 Sun. (11:10, 11:50, 12:30, 1:50, 2:30, 3:10, 4:25, 5:05, 5:45) 7:00, 7:40, 8:15, 9:40, 10:15; **Role Models** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:00, 12:25, 2:25, 2:50, 4:50, 5:20) 7:15, 7:50, 9:40, 10:15; **Saw V** (R) Fri.-Sun. (11:05, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45) 8:00, 10:20; **Soul Men** (R) Fri.-Sun. 7:20, 9:45; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) Fri.-Sun. (12:10, 2:35, 5:00) 7:25, 9:50

## NORTH COASTAL

### CARLSBAD

#### Plaza Camino Real

2385 Marron Road (760-729-7469)

Call theater for program information

## Del Mar Highlands 8

El Camino Real at Del Mar Heights Road

(858-646-9420)



**Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; \*Will play at 10 am Wed. 11/19; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Soul Men** (R) (10:45 1:30) 7:30; \*No 7:30 Fri. 11/14; **Role Models** (R) (10:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:30 10:45; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) (11:15 2:15) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **High School Musical 3** (G) (11:00 1:45) 4:15 7:15 10:00; **Body of Lies** (R) (4:00) 10:30; **Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) (10:00 12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:15; \*No 7pm Sat. 11/15; **Barbie: A Christmas Carol** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

## Flower Hill 4

2630 Via de la Valle (858-646-9425)



**Happy Go Lucky** (R) (10:00 1:00 4:00 7:00 10:00); **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13) (10:00 12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30); **Changeling** (R) (10:30 1:30) 4:30 7:30 10:30; **Rachel Getting Married** (R) (12:45) 5:45 10:45; **Falling for Grace** (PG-13) (10:15 3:15) 8:15; No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

## ENCINITAS

### La Paloma

471 South Coast Highway 101

(760-436-SHOW)

**Burn after Reading** (R); **Religulous** (R)

## LA COSTA

### La Costa 6

6941 El Camino Real (at Aviara/Alga)

(760-599-8221)



**Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) (10:15 12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; \*Will play at 10 am on Wed. 11/19; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) (10:00 11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) (10:00 12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:30; **Changeling** (R) (10:15 1:15 4:15) 7:15 10:15; **High School Musical 3** (G) (12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00; \*No 10:00 Thu. 11/20; **Barbie: A Christmas Carol** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

## OCEANSIDE

### Mission Marketplace 13

College Boulevard and Mission Avenue

(760-806-1790)

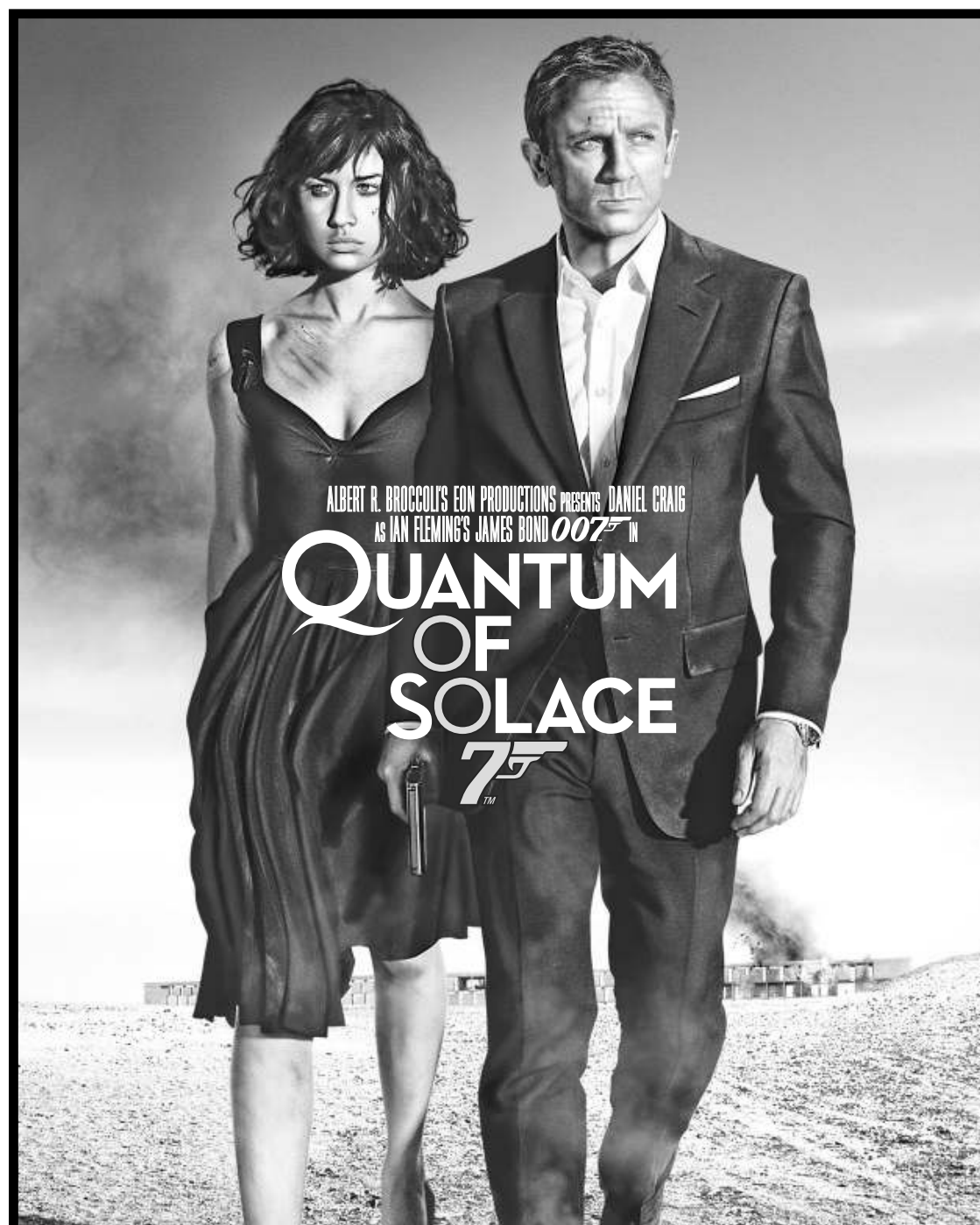


**Quantum of Solace** (PG-13) (11:45 2:15) 4:45 7:15 9:45; \*Will play at 10 am Wed. 11/19; **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (PG) (11:30 12:30 2:00 3:00) 4:30 5:30 7:00 8:00 9:30 10:30; **Soul Men** (R) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:45 10:15; **Role Models** (R) (11:00 1:15 3:45) 6:00 8:15 10:45; **Zack and Miri Make a Porno** (R) (11:45 2:30) 5:00 7:30 10:00; **The Haunting of Molly Hartley** (PG-13) (11:15 1:45 4:00) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **High School Musical 3** (G) (11:30 2:30) 5:00 7:30 9:30; **Saw V** (R) (11:15 1:30 3:45) 6:15 8:30 10:45; **The Secret Life of Bees** (PG-13) (12:45 3:15) 5:45 8:15 10:45; **Body of Lies** (R) (1:00) 7:15; **Max Payne** (PG-13) (12:00 2:45) 5:15 8:00 10:30; \*No 8 pm Mon. 11/17; **Beverly Hills Chihuahua** (G) (11:00 1:45) 4:15 7:00 9:15; **Barbie: A Christmas Carol** (G) 10:30 am Sat.-Sun. only. No 9 pm-10:45 pm shows Sun.-Thu.

## Oceanside 16

401 Mission Avenue (760-439-1733)

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PRODUCTION DESIGNER JONATHAN MORTON WRITTEN BY PAUL HAGGIS AND NEAL PURVIS & ROBERT WADE PRODUCED BY MICHAEL G. WILSON AND BARBARA BROCCOLLI DIRECTED BY MARC FORSTER  
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**The Secret Life of Bees** — The place is South Carolina, the time is 1964, right when LBJ has signed the Civil Rights Act ("Nothin' but a piece of paper"). An abused white teenage runaway and her fugitive black maid find refuge at a honey farm of "cultured" black sisters named after months of the year, August, June, and May (twin of the deceased April). Sticky sentimentality, by way of the Sue Monk Kidd novel, but Queen Latifah brings some real strength to it, and Dakota Fanning (apparently unspoiled in early adolescence) some

real vulnerability. With Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, Sophie Okonedo, and Paul Bettany; written and directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood. 2008.

★ (CARMEL MOUNTAIN; FLOWER HILL 4; GASLAMP 15; GROSSMONT CENTER; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Soul Men** — A former R&B duo, not speaking to one another in over a quarter-century, make an uneasy peace to drive cross-country for a reunion concert at the Apollo. Sort of a soul-music *Sunshine Boys*, without Neil Simon's craftsmanship. With, instead, nothing but crassmanship. Samuel L. Jackson and Bernie Mac, even as rusty old-timers, let down the music, and can't do much to elevate the comedy. The closing credits contain a tribute to Mac (interview, stand-up routine, outtakes), who died before the film's release, and a nod also to Isaac Hayes (in a small role as himself), who did likewise. With Sharon Leal, Affion Crockett, Adam Herschman, and Sean Hayes; directed by Malcolm D. Lee. 2008.  
● (CHULA VISTA 10; DEL MAR HIGHLANDS 8; ESCONDIDO 16; FASHION VALLEY 18; GROSSMONT CENTER; HORTON PLAZA 14; LA JOLLA 12; MIRA

MESA 18; MISSION MARKETPLACE 13; MISSION VALLEY 7; MISSION VALLEY 20; OCEANSIDE 16; OTAY RANCH 12; PALM PROMENADE 24; PARKWAY PLAZA 18; PLAZA BONITA 14; POWAY 10; RANCHO DEL REY 16; RANCHO SAN DIEGO 15; SAN MARCOS 18; TOWN SQUARE 14)

**Stranded: I Have Come from a Plane That Crashed on the Mountains** —

Documentary survival tale of a 1972 forced landing in Andes, directed by Gonzalo Arjón.

(KEN, 11/14 THROUGH 20)

**Synecdoche, New York** — The erudite title, when pronounced correctly, is an obvious play, not to say a meaningful play, on Schenectady, New York, the main setting of the film, where a regional stage director of high pretension and acute hypochondria gets left behind by his wing-spreading painter wife and their young daughter, then gets a MacArthur Fellowship — the "Genius Grant" — freeing him to reconstruct his life in a never-ending work-in-progress inside a cavernous brick warehouse. In short — and it's a challenge to keep it short — this is one of screenwriter Charlie Kaufman's ongoing explorations of the human mind (*Being John Malkovich, Adapta-*

*tion, Confessions of a Dangerous Mind, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*), except that for the first time he is also the director, a recipe for self-indulgence if not megalomania. The early mundanities (perusing the paper at the breakfast table: "Harold Pinter died. No, wait. He won the Nobel Prize") are often amusing, thanks in large part to the infectious dyspepsia of Philip Seymour Hoffman, heading a cast of indie all-stars: Catherine Keener, Hope Davis, Samantha Morton, Michelle Williams, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Dianne Wiest, Emily Watson. But the narrative soon goes irretrievably off the rails, smashing through barriers of time and space, soaring off into fancy and obscurity, and viewers one by one are apt to be dropping by the wayside and waving at the film to go on without them. 2008.

★ (HILLCREST CINEMAS)

**El Violin** — Folklorish Mexican film of timeless, endless oppression and rebellion, wherein a one-handed old peasant violinist tries to trick some relatively decent, human, occupying soldiers, and gets tricked in turn. Shot in high-contrast, neo-neorealist black-and-white, looking quite like another era, post-WWII, let's say. The beautifully framed, discreet torture scene at the outset tenders a promise that will largely be kept. With Angel Tavira, Gerardo Taracena, and Dagoberto Gama; written and directed by Francisco Vargas. 2006.

★★★ (MISSION VALLEY 7, 11/14 THROUGH 20)

## User Reviews — MOVIES

Best user comments from Reader website

### Pride and Glory 2008

Thank you for the f-ing review of *Pride and Glory*. I have one f-ing question. Is there any f-ing cursing in the f-ing movie? Because I have f-ing been down this f-ing road f-ing before. Okay. That's enough. I can keep it up, but I think you, Mr. Sheperd, have done a thorough job. Your review brings to mind *Reservoir Dogs* and *Glengarry Glen Ross*. Both movies used the f-word more than frequently. I know the argument, and it is usually prefaced by, "No, you don't understand." I know what they think I don't understand: this is how these people really talk. Of course I don't understand because people who say things like this to me assume that I live in a curseless bubble. I'm out of the real-world loop. Yeah, I don't know real street talk, or thug talk, or any world where cursing is the best way to articulate yourself. I find liberal and, in my opinion, over use of the f-word in stage, film, or real life, first of all, boring. Then, this overuse takes me out of the story. Basically, I find it lazy writing or speech. Whoa, whoa, whoa, I'm not going to start a campaign for banning any and all use. Why, just yesterday I had two encounters with pro f-word use. One young student uttered the word and I jokingly said, "Hey, this is a curse-free zone." Her response: "I find the word beautiful, but that's just me." Then I heard a teacher, regarding cursing in her classroom state, "Free speech doesn't stop at my classroom door." These two arguments are much stronger than "You don't understand," and I embrace both these people's positions on f-word use. Possibly overlooked, by the writers and directors of the two mentioned films, is that those movies are good stories without the inundation of f's. And maybe better without the f's. (This is where "You don't understand" comes in.) Well, I ejected one of those aforementioned films because I found the "realistic" talk unrealistic. Why did I eject one? Because I saw the other. The trailer for *Pride and Glory* looked interesting. But, again, thank you for the review because I don't want to sit through another f-filled movie.

By **gcubed** 7:27 a.m., Nov. 6, 2008

### W. 2008

Looking for cheap shots at number 43? TV commercials paint *W.* as a comedy with clips such as Bush's infamous remark, "Is are children learning?" But if you're a liberal looking for one last jab at the outgoing commander-in-chief, you might be disappointed with Oliver Stone's touching biopic of the now lame-duck president. The film is sympathetic but not outright endearing toward George W. Bush, a simple-minded Texan with a love for baseball and partying, thrust into politics through his desperate need to please his demanding father. It's a lifelong losing battle young men can identify with, and Josh Brolin, in the title role, effortlessly portrays this pain beyond his dead-on impersonation of the president. Well-made and immensely entertaining, this is more of a portrait/character film than a political film. Stone, however, does delve into Bush's presidency and criticizes the decision to start the Iraq war. (Here, Colin Powell comes out as the sole voice of reason and is ultimately the fall guy for the administration's mistakes.) Though the likeness is slim, James Cromwell is fantastic as Bush Sr., the forever dissatisfied father. Richard Dreyfuss's performance as Cheney is as downright scary as the Imperialist warmonger himself.

By **peijeantsai** 11:04 p.m., Nov. 6, 2008

### Boy in the Striped Pajamas 2008

I saw one of the many local previews of *Boy in the Striped Pajamas*. This film is rated PG-13; it needs to be rated NC-17. Yes, there is no sex or language, and the obvious violence is minimal. The film is horrifying. Deplorable and disgusting. There is nothing uplifting about this story. It was hideous and sick. Yes, it is historical. And vile. The Jewish people say, "Never again." And they are right. And yet the worldwide genocide continues, as it always has. My recommendation is do not give this movie any time in your life. You will leave the theater feeling abused. I have to wonder who is subsidizing this movie, with the many free preview showings. Will it ever be released for paid tickets? My husband commented, "This is why I don't want to go to the movies." It will be a long time before we visit a movie theater again. We felt abused, angry, nauseated, and sick.

By **SKITMOM** 9:46 p.m., Nov. 6, 2008

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# Bread and Games

*“No one was allowed to leave the theater during a recital, however pressing the reason.”*

When the Roman emperor Nero was born in AD 37, an astrologer declared he would have a “naturally cruel heart” and would become a “public danger.” Another warned, Nero “will be king and will kill his mother.”

In his recent *Private Lives of the Roman Emperors*, Anthony Blond disagrees. He calls Nero “the most misunderstood man ever.” Nero didn’t set fire to Rome in AD 64, wasn’t in town at the time, and did not fiddle. Plus, the first five years of Nero’s rule were “a mini golden age.” Nero mollified the masses with *panem et circenses*: bread (also water) and games. Rather than debate key political issues with passion, the masses argued the merits of this gladiator or that charioteer. The modern equivalent: chips, beer, and ESPN.

Of course, Blond concedes, Nero did blame a new religious sect, not yet called Christians, for the holocaust and persecuted them mercilessly. The author, who tends to overstate, also concedes that “the world’s greatest party giver” eventually lost touch with reality. And, after several failed attempts, he had his mother murdered, along with countless others.

Jean Racine’s *Britannicus* (1669) takes place during Nero’s “golden age.” The 22-year-old emperor comes within inches of having it all. The populace adores his generosity — bread and games and his lowered taxes — and his humility. When the senate passed a vote of thanks to him, he

replied, “Wait until I deserve them!”

In the play, Nero can satisfy every whim with a wave of his scepter. Except Junia. He falls for the one woman in Rome who won’t reciprocate. She loves Britannicus, son of Emperor Claudius and legitimate heir to the throne. Nero is 99.9 percent fulfilled. But the one thing he cannot have becomes an expanding aperture through which crawls the horrific Nero of prophecy — and legend.

It’s fashionable to regard Roman history through a modern lens: see it as *The Sopranos* with togas. It was not. Tony and Paulie Walnuts are small spuds compared to the national havoc that power-hungry Romans could generate. Every player on that stage was a conspiracy theorist, of necessity. A more useful TV model would be *Survivor*, since the various Roman factions would create alliances that they could, or most likely could not, trust. Unlike *Survivor*, however, in Rome a well-placed word, or just a mere aside, became a dagger.

Compass Theatre is staging a pared-down version of *Britannicus* (from Racine’s five acts to less than two hours). The production and Howard Rubenstein’s spare translation have a let-’er-rip feel. Racine wrote rhyming, 12-syllable lines that give the play a sense of order, in contrast to the feeding frenzy of motives it unleashes. But script and production are in such a hurry that the reasons for doing something — Nero’s, in particular —

## REVIEW

JEFF SMITH



*Britannicus*

**Britannicus** by Jean Racine, translated by Howard Rubenstein

Compass Theatre, 3704 Fifth Avenue, Hillcrest

Directed by Miriam Cuperman; cast: Glynn Beddington, Neil McDonald, Bayardo de Murguía, Dale Morris, Rich Carrillo, Jenna Selby, Renee Gandola, Anthony Hamm, William Parker Shore; scenic design, Brian Redfern; costumes, Abigail Hewes; lighting, Mitchell Simkovsky

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take a backseat to the doing. Since the two-act play’s so brief, there’s room to slow down, but director Miriam Cuperman has her cast blaze through the text, especially the exposition, as if late for the circus.

At the same time, most of the acting lacks fluidity. The cast declaims, as if reciting Racine’s Alexandrine couplets, rather than speaks. Those who do the latter, Glynn Beddington as Nero’s scheming mother Agrippina and Dale Morris as

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**Calendar  
THEATER**

the crafty advisor Narcissus, illustrate the stiff readings by contrast. Historians say Agrippina, Caligula's sister and Nero's domineering mother, combined megalomania with a flair for the theatrical. Beddington not only illustrates

both effectively, she deserves a battlefield promotion — masks of tragedy and comedy with laurel clusters — for having to perform one of the longest patches of exposition in recent memory.

Racine and revisionist historians omit that, among his other manias, Nero may have lusted after his mother, making him an Oedipus Rex on steroids ("there was no family relationship," writes biogra-

pher Suetonius, "which Nero did not criminally abuse"). As Nero, Rich Carrillo relies too much on attitude, far too little on depth or nuance. Ditto: Bayardo de Murguia's Brittanicus and Jenna Selby's Junia.

Brian Redfern's creamy-white marble set has appeal, as do Abigail Hewes's period silks, tunics, and togas. Though the production leaves much to be desired, the play harkens us back to the fasci-

nating Julio-Claudian emperors who honored every libidinous impulse and were as dysfunctional as the Greek gods.

FIELD NOTES: Just one Nero story, a mild one at that. The emperor prided himself in his musical abilities. "No one was allowed to leave the theater during a recital," writes Suetonius in *The Twelve Caesars*, "however pressing the reason." Women had to give birth in the house seats. Since the gates were locked, spectators lowered themselves down the rear wall, risking broken limbs. Others got so bored they faked "death and were carried away for burial." ■

*inquire about ticket availability. Many theaters offer discounts to students, senior citizens, and the military. Ask at the box office.*

**Backwater Blues**

As part of its Q Play series of gay-and-lesbian-themed plays, Compass Theatre presents a world-premiere musical, lyrics and book by Michael Thomas Tower and David M. Newcomer and music by Tower, which asks, "Why does love make such a mess of things?" Lindsey Duoos Gearhart directed. COMPASS THEATER, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. MONDAYS, 7:30 P.M. TUESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 26.

**Britannicus**

Compass Theatre presents Jean Racine's tragedy about Nero's rise to power in ancient Rome (which went through young Britannicus, son of the Emperor Claudius). Miriam Cuperman directed. COMPASS THEATER, 3704 SIXTH AVENUE, HILLCREST. 619-688-9210. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 23.

**The Daughter of the Regiment**

Lyric Opera presents Gaetano Donizetti's "opera comique." In the early 1800s, in the Swiss Tyrol, young Marie's an orphan who's been raised by a regiment of grenadiers. But who, in the opera that made Pavarotti famous, is she truly? BIRCH NORTH PARK THEATRE, 2891 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, NORTH PARK. 619-239-8836. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 23.

**Defending the Caveman**

The Balboa Theatre hosts Rob Becker's comedy about "the ways men and women relate," or don't, in a prehistoric look at the "battle of the sexes." BALBOA THEATRE, 868 FOURTH AVENUE, DOWNTOWN. 619-570-1100. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 1 AND 6 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 16.

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person for different people. Bernard and wife Jacqueline live in a converted barn outside Paris (one section's "the piggery," another "the cow-shed"). Both are having affairs, and their lovers, Suzanne and Robert, come to spend the weekend unannounced. Add Suzette, a gourmet cook who makes a wicked *sauce veloute*, and ruses run riot. Much of the humor comes from think-fast, positive-spin explanations, as Bernard and Robert must revise their webs of lies anew. The North Coast Rep's production, directed by Rosina Reynolds, is unafraid to perform broadly. Wide faces, dumbfounded, gaping-mouth reactions, and blazing eyeballs punctuate all stage business, along with slamming doors and some expert, flailing about, slapstick. One wouldn't want a steady diet of this hectic stuff (devices that worked earlier just feel like devices in the last quarter of the two-and-a-half-hour show). But along the way Reynolds and a game cast evoke many good-sized laughs as complications pile upon complications inside of complexities. As Bernard and Robert, Phil Johnson and Christopher M. Williams romp all over Marty Burnett's handsome set, one usually chasing the other with a semilethal weapon. Lisel Gorell-Getz provides icy stares as Jacqueline. Amanda Sitton's Suzanne has little to say, so Sitton fills in with style (hilarious modeling poses) and subtexts. Newcomer Jaque Wilke's a real find as Suzette. She's got all the comic goods and, thanks to designer Michelle Hunt Souza, performs an unforgettable costume change.

**Worth a try.**

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**Driving Miss Daisy**

Moonlight Stage Productions opens its winter season with Alfred Uhry's popular comedy-drama about the 25-year relationship between Miss Daisy, a wealthy Jewish Atlanta matron, and Hoke, her African-American driver. AVO PLAYHOUSE, 303 MAIN STREET, VISTA. 760-724-2110. THURSDAYS, 7:30 P.M. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 30.

**Every Painting Tells a Story**

The Vivo at Ciao Bella hosts the world premiere of Jill Costanzo's "comedic drama" about a crazy monk in a prison pit in Verona. Costanzo directed. Special dinner-theater packages are available. 619-337-0238. CIAO BELLA CAFE BAR E RISTORANTE, 5263 BALTIMORE DRIVE, LA MESA. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 16.

**Everything Will Be Different**

Fifteen-year-old Charlotte's mother died so suddenly that neither she nor her father has begun to grieve. He sits before the TV with a near-empty pint of bourbon. She fantasizes about her mother who compares, in Charlotte's mind, to Helen of Troy: so beautiful that men would "die 100 times for her if they could." Charlotte wants to be like Helen, a force able to evoke love to the point of suffering. But she isn't Helen; she's Helen's left-behind daughter, Hermione: uncentered, furious at her fate, stabbing blindly outward with desperate schemes (sex with her guidance counselor, becoming a nun) for love by easy means. The title of Mark Schultz's 105-minute, intermissionless drama may be Charlotte's biggest fantasy of all. The play takes a harrowing look at a splintering psyche. In a choice that works

against itself, Lynx Performance Theatre tries to push the intensities even further. The Al Germani-directed production has fine performances: Michelle Procopio as the mercurial Charlotte, flashing red, yellow, and green at once; first-rate video cameos by Joan Westmoreland and Walter Ritter (though the on-stage acting is uneven and often indicated). But the evening begins with full emotion and has few places to go, and the many mini-scenes tend to blur. This would be less of a problem if the relentless production provided occasional relief, some space — or nuances, like stressing the funny lines more — for the audience to catch its breath before heading back into the fray. LYNX PERFORMANCE THEATRE, 2653 ARIANE DRIVE, CLAIREMONT. 619-889-3190. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 9 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 23.

**Heartland**

MiraCosta College stages local playwrights Anita Simons and Lauren Simon's drama about German internment camps in the United States. MIRACOSTA COLLEGE THEATRE, ONE BARNARD DRIVE, OCEANSIDE. 760-795-6815. FRIDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SATURDAYS, 7:30 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 23.

**Helen**

The Theatre, Inc., remounts its production of Euripides's drama about Helen of Troy (translated by Marianne McDonald and J. Michael Walton). THEATRE, INC., 899 C STREET, DOWNTOWN. 619-216-3016. SUNDAYS, 7 P.M. THROUGH DECEMBER 14.

**The Last Night of Ballyhoo**

Atlanta, December 1939. *Gone With the Wind* is opening downtown and Christmas draws nigh, which means,

for the city's Jewish community, Ballyhoo will soon be here: hayrides, parties, and a dance on the last night designed for eligible women and men not only to "embrace your heritage" but seek prospective mates. Alfred Uhry's comedy-drama takes place in an interim between the Great Depression and World War II, but in the Freitag family there's always drama aplenty. This is a world where a torn dress is a catastrophe, a corsage a shining star. It's also a world where anti-Semitism exists without and within the Jewish community. The script pays tribute (i.e. owes a debt) to Tennessee Williams's *Glass Menagerie*. But instead of sad, imploding Laura, Uhry gives us Lala Levy, who wears her emotions on her sleeve, skirt, and, when she faints to the floor, bloomers. For Scripps Ranch Theatre, DeNae Steele gives Lala an emotional hair-trigger. Her eyes respond to every word, converting each into sky-high joy or doom-shrouded fear. Roller coasters ride more smoothly. Steele's would be a standout performance if the Tim Irving-directed production were of lesser quality. But Irving has assembled a fine cast of savvy veterans (Jill Drexler, Dana Hooley, Danny Campbell) and new faces (Jude Evans, Morgan Trant, and Alex Chernow, each a young actor to watch) and gives the piece a tight ensemble feel, including repartee between the lines and familial subtexts suggesting years of strain just below the surface. They perform on Tim Wallace's detailed set and black walnut furnishings and wearing Mary Larson's 1939 apparel. Another well-done show at Scripps Ranch, which has become the norm of late. **Worth a try.** SCRIPPS RANCH THEATRE, 10455 POMERADO ROAD, SCRIPPS RANCH. 858-578-7728. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH DECEMBER 6.

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# Calendar

## THEATER

**Much Ado About Nothing**  
Palomar College Theatre presents Shakespeare's popular comedy as a wisecracking Fred Astaire-Ginger Rogers movie. Michael Mufson directed.

HOWARD BRUBECK THEATRE AT PALOMAR COLLEGE, 1140 WEST MISSION ROAD, SAN MARCOS. 760-744-1150. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 23.

**1984**  
OnStage Playhouse presents a stage adaptation of George Orwell's novel about life and "freedom" in a totalitarian state. Bob Christiansen directed.

ONSTAGE PLAYHOUSE, 291 THIRD AVENUE, CHULA VISTA. 619-422-7787. THURSDAYS, 8 P.M. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 29.

**Plaid Tidings**  
For its Christmas show, Welk Resorts Theatre presents a yuletide sequel to the popular musical

**Plaid**, in which the Plaids come back to earth "to stage a nostalgic holiday extravaganza for world-weary mortals."  
WELK RESORT THEATRE, 8860 LAWRENCE WELK DRIVE, ESCONDIDO. 888-802-7469. THURSDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. TUESDAYS, 1:45 AND 8 P.M. WEDNESDAYS, 1:45 P.M. THROUGH DECEMBER 28.

**Reckless**  
Patio Playhouse stages Craig Lucas's "offbeat holiday fable" about a husband who takes out a contract on his wife, then changes his mind. Patrick McBride directed.

PATIO PLAYHOUSE, 201 EAST GRAND AVENUE, ESCONDIDO. 760-746-6669. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH DECEMBER 7.

**Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead**  
UCSD Theatre stages Tom Stoppard's behind-the-tragedy farce about two of Prince Hamlet's chums. Adam Arian directed.

MANDELL WEISS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 9500 GILMAN DRIVE, UCSD. 858-534-4574. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 2 AND 8 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 22.

**Wait Until Dark**  
Sunshine Brooks Theatre presents Frederick Knott's mystery thriller about Susy Hendrix, a blind woman targeted by three thugs looking for heroin.  
SUNSHINE BROOKS THEATRE, 217 NORTH COAST HIGHWAY, OCEANSIDE. 760-529-9140. FRIDAYS, 8 P.M. SATURDAYS, 8 P.M. SUNDAYS, 2 P.M. THROUGH NOVEMBER 16.

**Water and Power**  
The title of Richard Montoya's "stage noir" drama sums up Southern California history in three words. "There is no power without water," Ascencion Garcia tells his twin boys, "and no water without power." He raises Gilbert and Gabriel to become East L.A. legends nicknamed "Water" and "Power." Gil goes into politics, Gabe, law enforcement, but they go too far. The public servants put private interests first, and the play becomes a cautionary tale about abuse of power. Montoya's a member of the extremely popular group Culture Clash. The script combines film noir intensity with Clash satire. Sometimes the latter shoots the former in the foot. But the jokes, even when they pull us away from a life-and-death situation, are funny, and individual lines conjure up noir-like ambiguities, as when a character says, "Nothing is concrete in L.A.

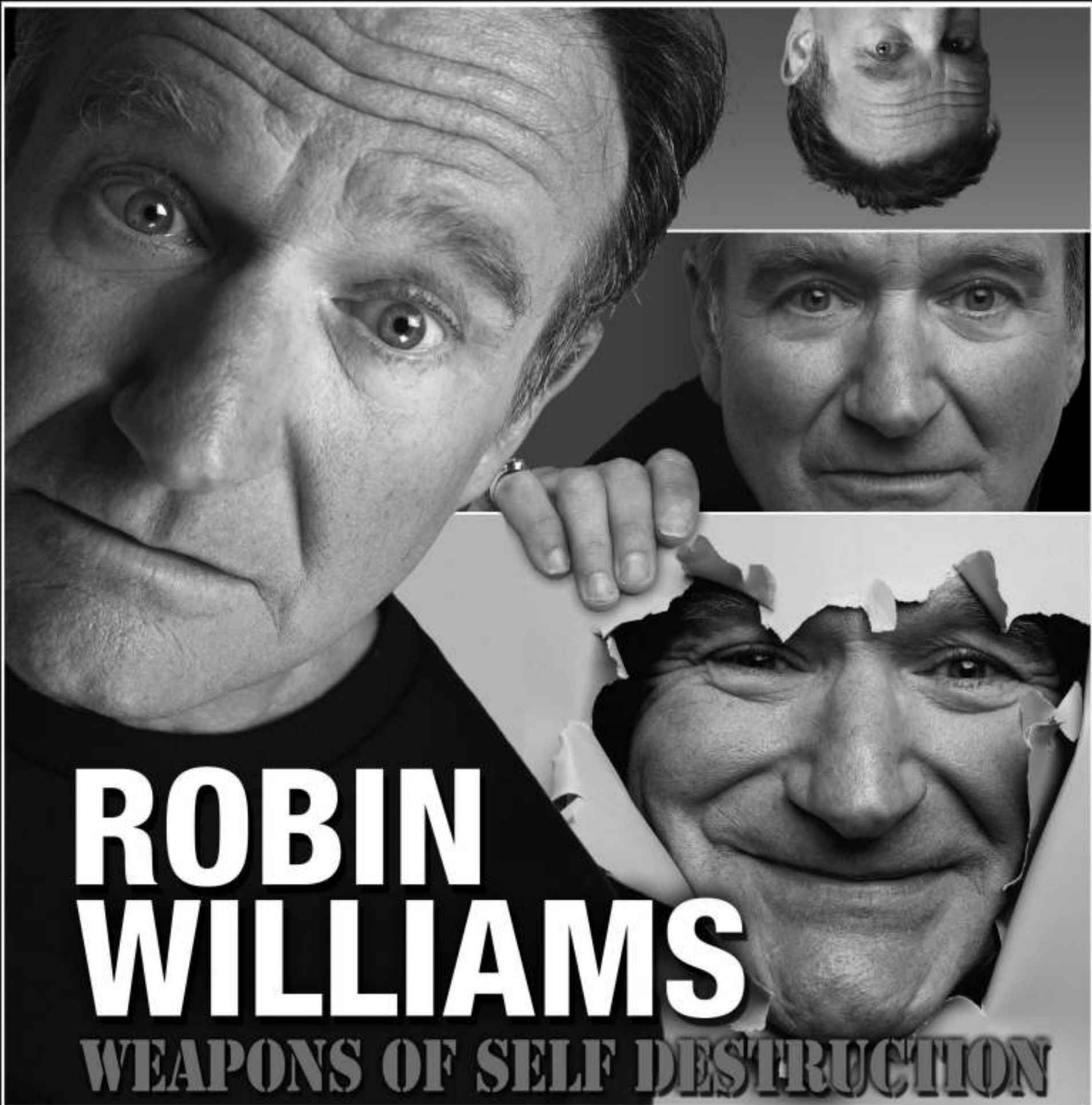
except the river." Director Sam Woodhouse and the San Diego Rep have staged the play in the round, including a four-sided rain effect. Woodhouse has smoothed out many of the play's at times uneven rhythms (though the denouement does run long). He and his cast obviously enjoy the hard-boiled genre of shadowy subtexts. As the brothers, Richard Trujillo (Gilbert) and Herbert Siquenza (Gabe) don't resemble twins. But the pair creates such a strong emotional connection that the physical difference disappears. Outstanding performances by Michael Genovese (as the Fixer, a precise developer-thug) and Bobby Plascencia (as Norte/Sur, a paraplegic poet-shaman with "L.A." tattooed on his shaved head). *Water & Power's* obsessed with opposites. Norte/Sur fills the space between them. In the wrong hands, he could become a yummy Obi Wan. Instead, Plascencia makes him such a self-effacing seer of inclusionary visions, he should become the next California governor. Or, more to the point, our state water commissioner.

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**CAREGIVERS: LIVE-INS,** 2, 3, 4 or 5 days/week, \$120/day including sleep and meal periods. Weekends and hourly: 4-hour, 8-hour and 12-hour shifts, AM/PM. Top pay, flexible shifts 24/7, 401(k), production bonus, rewards for good work. Requires valid driver's license, vehicle/insurance, registration, one year of paid elder caregiving experience, eligibility to work in the United States. \$50 Hiring Bonus after 90 days of employment. Comfort Keepers, 2006 Workplace Excellence Medallion Award SD-SHRM, San Diego: 619-795-6036. San Marcos: 760-598-3400.

**CAREGIVERS** needed immediately. 1 year experience. All shifts available. Hourly and live in. Call Assertive Home-

care Services, 3774 Grove Street, Suite L-1, Lemon Grove, 619-466-6890.

**CARPET CLEANING.** Industry leader seeking Carpet Cleaning Technicians for commercial accounts. Bilingual a plus. No sales, \$10/hour. Overtime available. 858-577-0341.

**CNA/ACUTE CARE.** CNA, CNA/Interpreter, CNA/Nursing Unit Secretary/Interpreter, Nursing Unit Secretary/Interpreter. Apply online: www.pph.org. weekdays: In person 7:30am-4:30pm, Palomar Medical Center, HR: 660 East Grand Avenue, Escondido, 92025; Pomerado Hospital, HR: 15615 Pomerado Road, Poway, 92064; Palomar Continuing Care, 1817 Avenida del Diablo, Escondido, CA 92029.

**CNA/CHHA.** Beginners, experienced. Family Caregivers, Childcare, Home Care Aides, Drivers. Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help for seniors, children, disabled, 12-and 24-hour shifts! Training. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. At Your Home Familycare. E-mail: homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com. Toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

**HELP WANTED**

**MYSTERY SHOPPERS**

Get paid to shop!

Earn up to \$200 per day.

Experience NOT required.

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**LEARN TO EARN \$250K-\$550K PER YEAR!**

**This business IS...**

**LUCRATIVE!** Earn \$1,000 to \$24,000+ per month!

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**PROVEN!** If you are coachable, you will be successful.

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Run this business from anywhere in the world using a phone and a computer. This is a recession-proof business model.

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**Careers in Probation**

**Correctional Deputy Probation Officer I**  
Minimum Qualifications

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
- U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • High school diploma or GED

**Salary:**

New: \$36,275-\$46,300 annually  
Safety Retirement-Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.  
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

**Test date:**

**December 6, 2008 • 8 am**

Montgomery Middle School  
2470 Ulric Street • San Diego, CA 92111

**Note Application Process:**

Prior to taking the written examination, applicants must complete the following: Complete and submit the online application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Applicants will be invited to the written exam by written notice that will be sent either by e-mail or U.S. mail per applicant's request. You must be sure to complete the online application before you appear for the written examination.

For additional information, contact the department's

**Jobline: 858-514-8558**

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation

**A Sales Career at Welk Resorts San Diego**



**SIX FIGURE OPPORTUNITY!**  
**WELK RESORTS IN ESCONDIDO IS**  
**LOOKING FOR "SELF"-ISH PEOPLE!**

*"SELF"-ish people are:*

SELF Motivated, SELF Disciplined, SELF Aware, SELF Reliant, and SELF Directed.

*If "SELF"-ish describes you, then you should join our professional vacation ownership Sales team!*

**In September,**  
**17 Sales Agents made over \$10,000**  
**6 made over \$15,000**  
**1 made over \$20,000**

*These people did NO prospecting, NO advertising, NO traveling, and NO billing. The clients came to the resort and the agents had 4+ weeks of vacation.*

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or fax resume to (760) 749-5084 • www.welkresorts.jobs  
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**619-516-4276**

**rcorrea@pmonarch.com**

**www.monarchjobs.com**



**CNC MACHINIST.** Full time. Do you have 3-5 years on-the-job experience working with CNC Mill and/or related machines? Are you looking for a great job opportunity or a change in your career? If so, we currently have 2nd and 3rd shift openings in North San Diego County (Carlsbad and surrounding communities). Ideal candidate would need one-year certificate from a college or technical school plus 1-4 years related experience and/or training (or equivalent combination of education and experience). Perform consistent and accurate results, demonstrate competency for setting up and running various machine tools (FADAL milling center, Mori Seiki milling center, Mori Seiki turning center, CMS turning center, Mit-

subishi wire EDM, HAAS turning center, HAAS milling center and have working knowledge of mechanical inspection equipment including, but not limited to: calipers, micrometers, height gage, thread gages and inspection pins. EOE. carlsbad@volt.com. 1850 Marron Road, #114, Carlsbad 92008. Fax: 760-720-7341. 760-729-8916.

**CONSTRUCTION.** Immediate long-term and temporary positions. Labor, Carpenters, Drywallers, Maintenance Tech, Plumbers, Painters. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

**COOK NEEDED.** Small family, vegetarian preferred. One night/week in La Mesa.

Must be non-smoker. Your ideas. 619-398-6124.

**CORRECTIONAL DEPUTY PROBATION** Officer I. County of San Diego Probation Department now hiring. Test Date: December 6, 2008, 8am. Montgomery Middle School, 2470 Ulric Street, San Diego 92111. Must be at least 21 years old, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. High school diploma/GED. \$36,275-\$46,300/year. Note Application Process: Prior to taking the written examination, applicants must complete and submit the online application form and provide correct and complete responses to the Supplemental Questions. Applicants will be invited to the written exam by written notice that will either be sent by e-mail or U.S. Mail per applicant's request. You must be sure to complete the online application before

you appear for the written examination! Jobline: 858-514-8558. www.sdcounty.ca.gov/probation.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE.** The perfect gift! The perfect job! Provide Commerce is hiring Seasonal Customer Service Associates to provide our Proflowers and RedEnvelope customers friendly phone service. Located in Sorrento Valley and Mission Valley, flexible hours, \$10/hour. Good communication and Internet skills are a must! Submit resume to work@providecommerce.com. Step into our call centers at www.workatprovidecommerce.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.** \$10/hour base pay. No selling! Earn up to \$20/hour! No experience needed. Just book appointments. Money motivated, reliable people for Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm shift; Fridays 9am-1pm and Saturdays 9am-12noon. Additional hours available. Gateway Marketing, San Diego: 619-697-5800. Escondido: 760-743-0050.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.** Reservation Agents. No sales! Experience a plus. Hourly plus bonuses! Top Agents earn \$1000+/weekly. Fun atmosphere. Near Grantville trolley station. Call today for more information: 619-516-4276. rcorrea@pmonarch.com. www.monarchjobs.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE.** Setup and display. No experience necessary, we will train. College students welcome, scholar-

ships available. Call for interview, 619-448-2294.

**DATA ENTRY PROCESSORS** needed! Earn \$3500-\$5000 weekly working from home. Guaranteed paychecks! No experience necessary. Positions available today! Register online now. www.DataPositions.com. (AAN CAN)

**DATA ENTRY.** Must be fast, accurate, and reliable. Part time to full time in Miramar. Call Vicki today! 800-717-8002.

**DATA ENTRY/CUSTOMER SERVICE** Rep. We will train an enthusiastic, detail-oriented team player with customer service/data entry skills. Must type 55-65 wpm. Fast paced, interesting environment serving the legal community. Full time, \$10-\$11 start. 619-260-0309.

**DEPUTY PROBATION OFFICER.** Now hiring! County of San Diego Probation Department. Test Dates: November 22, 2008 or December 20, 2008. Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the time and location of the test. Applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to exam date. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree with experience. Must be at least 21 years old, good physical condition, no illicit drug usage. U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen. Pass criminal/personal background investigation. No felony convictions. \$52,520-\$63,835/year. Safety Retirement—Sworn Officers 3% at age 50. Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply. Applications can be accessed online from the Job/Current Recruitment section of the County website at: www.sdcounty.ca.gov. Jobline: 858-514-8558.

**DISC JOCKEY, MOBILE.** Weddings, parties, dances. Need van/truck for transportation, great stage personality, music knowledge. Experience preferred. \$25/hour plus bonuses. Bilingual a plus. Call Music As You Like It, 619-223-5732.



**Drain Cleaners/Service Techs**

Drain cleaners need with minimum 5 years experience in the service and repair industry. Rescue Rooter offers excellent pay, vans, tools, uniforms, year-round work and outstanding benefits: Medical/dental, 401(k), paid vacations/overtime, drug-free workplace. To apply, e-mail: lmyking@ars.com or call: 858-457-6506. License #765155, AA/EOE.

**DRIVER, PART-TIME.** Flexible hours. Apply in person anytime: Days Inn & Suites, 3350 Rosecrans, 92110.

**DRIVER/COURIER.** Part-time shifts available. Must have pickup with shell, mini-van or cargo van. Excellent pay, mileage and benefits! Call 858-444-2350.

**DRIVERS WANTED.** Requires valid CA driver's license, current H-6 DMV printout and good, safe driving skills. Must be 25

years or older. Up to \$2000 commission plus tips. Apply in person only: Xpress Shuttle, 1065 Bay Boulevard, Suite B, Chula Vista, CA 91911. No phone calls/faxes, please.

**Route Driver**

Drivers. Auto Trader is seeking Route Drivers to deliver magazines on Fridays only. 58 cents per mile plus commissions. EEOC/Drug testing employer. Call 858-654-3318.

**DRIVERS.** \$1700-\$2400 monthly. Fuel paid. Auto parts delivery with late model pickup truck, car or van. Clean DMV. Local and North County openings. Bonus paid. Independent contractors. 619-233-4374.

**DRIVERS.** Dominion Distribution is seeking part-time Drivers to deliver free publications on Mondays and Fridays. Requires a truck, van or SUV, currently insured. EOE. Drug screening, DMV and criminal background check required. Call Monday-Friday, 8am-12pm, 858-279-3137 x243.

**DRIVERS.** Now hiring Patrol Drivers! Medical and competitive wages. Will train! Call now, 619-294-3200.

**DRIVERS.** Teams earn top dollar plus great benefits. Solo drivers also needed for Western regional. Werner Enterprises, 800-346-2818 x123.

**DRIVERS/DELIVERY.** Immediate long-term and temporary positions. Class A, B and C—local delivery. Full benefits available immediately. Call 858-292-8562, fax 858-292-0230, e-mail help@gostaff.com, apply online www.gostaff.com.

**ELECTRONIC ENGINEER.** North County position. If you qualify for our positions, please come in. We do face-to-face interviews from 8:30am-4pm, Monday-Friday! Apply: Optimal Employment Service LLC, 8316 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #204, San Diego 92111 or call 858-277-5680.

**ENDOMETRIOSIS, 18-49.** Having pain, not on treatment, laparoscopy in last 7 years, questionnaire study only (no medication). For 20 minutes, visits/\$250. Kim at the Medical Center for Clinical Research, 619-521-2841.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES** Marketing. Rapidly expanding financial services marketing company seeks local sales representatives. Ideal candidate will be motivated, honest, outgoing, entrepreneurial, with 4 years of college or equivalent. Call our office and leave message (or fax) 24 hours: 877-286-5339.

**FRONT OFFICE PERSON.** Fencing school needs part-time person to deal with customers, process pro shop sales, do light billing. Nights and Saturdays. 619-584-2478.

**FUNDRAISING** for national charities and the Democratic Party. Over 20 years in business. \$9/hour. Paid training. Performance bonuses. Medical, dental, 401(k). Full and part time. Convenient location. Apply at Gordon & Schwenkmeyer: 9620 Chesapeake Drive, San Diego 92123-1369. Call for interview. 858-496-2100.

**HELP WANTED**

**OMNI SAN DIEGO HOTEL**  
**BUILDING ENGINEER**

3 years experience in Hospitality Industry preferred.

- Respond to guest room repair requests.
- Perform preventative maintenance on laundry and kitchen equipment.
- Troubleshoot and repair plumbing, electrical and mechanical problems.
- Maintain daily shift logs of operation, maintenance, pool, spa and safety activities.

**PAINTER**

Extensive commercial and residential experience required.

- Paint and touch-up work as needed throughout hotel. Staining, finish work, crown molding, baseboards, etc.
- Patch and repair drywall, vinyl wall coverings, and other painted/finished surfaces as required.

Excellent guest service and communication skills required. Candidates must be able to lift/carry up to 50 lbs. and work a flexible schedule including nights, weekends and holidays.

We provide a competitive salary and excellent benefits including medical/dental/life insurance, 401(k), paid time off and discounted associate rates at Omni Hotel and Global Hotel Alliance hotels worldwide.

Applications accepted online or on-site 10 am-1 pm Monday-Wednesday:  
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*Careers in*  
**Probation**

**Deputy Probation Officer**

**Minimum Qualifications**

- 21 years old • Good physical condition • No illicit drug usage
- U.S. citizen or in process of becoming a citizen
- No felony convictions • Bachelor's degree with experience

**Salary – New:** \$52,520-\$63,835 annually  
Safety Retirement—Sworn Officers 3% at age 50.  
Bilingual men/women encouraged to apply.

**Test dates: November 22, 2008 or December 20, 2008**

Qualified applicants will be notified by mail of the date, time and location of the test. All applications must be submitted no later than 15 days prior to the exam date. Applications received after the 15th day will be scheduled for the following exam. Applications can be accessed on-line from the Job/Current Recruitments section of the County website at:

<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov>  
Jobline: 858-514-8558

**\$1500-\$2000 Weekly Marketing**  
**Face-to-Face Going Green**

Busy remodeling company seeking motivated individuals to promote energy-efficient products such as Solar Energy, Magic Windows, Flex-On Coating (approved by Department of Energy). **Get paid what you are worth!** Weekly base pay plus 2 weekly fixed bonuses and commission on appointments and sales. No experience necessary; training is provided.

We are looking for:

- Professional appearance • High energy • “Outside the box” thinking

Visit our website at:

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Please call to schedule an interview:

**858-866-0183**

6861 Nancy Ridge Drive, Suite D, San Diego, CA 92121



**2 Pacific Beach Restaurants Now Hiring!**

Looking for friendly, customer-oriented individuals to add to our team. Requires a strong work ethic and ability to get things accomplished. Experience not necessary.

- \*Full- and part-time
- \*Day and evening shifts
- \*Starting hourly at \$8.50
- \*Free meals
- \*Grease-free environment

**APPLY ANY DAY BETWEEN 9 AM-3 PM:**

**2015 Garnet Ave.**  
**at Morrell**  
**858-270-5450**

**4263 Mission Blvd.**  
**or between Reed and Thomas**  
**858-581-6950**

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Various shifts available

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**Why work at KMS?** Full-time employees enjoy:

- Great benefits including medical, dental, 401(k), pension plan, 11 paid holidays, paid vacation/sick time off, and education reimbursement.
- Competitive pay rates!

**How to apply:**

Please stop by our offices at: **10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego, CA 92131**. We accept applications **Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm**. You can also request an application online or by e-mailing your résumé to: **kchristensen@kochmembrane.com**

For any additional questions please call: **858-635-1042**  
EOE/M/F/D/V. Drug tests are required,  
unless prohibited by state law.

**GENERAL.** Gain skills to succeed. Are you 14 to 21, low income, need high school diploma or GED and work experience? Turning the Hearts Center, 619-691-9643.

**GENERAL: BOAT WASHER.** Wash boats and yachts in local San Diego marinas. Full-time/part-time, \$8.50-\$9.50/start. Reliable vehicle required, will transport equipment. 619-944-0741, [mortonmarine@verizon.net](mailto:mortonmarine@verizon.net).

**GUARDS/SECURITY.** Immediate openings for prestigious Downtown San Diego sites. Must be customer service oriented, computer literate, and have excellent communication skills. All shifts available. Excellent benefits, free uniforms. For fastest response, apply online now! [www.securitasjobs.com](http://www.securitasjobs.com). Or call San Diego: 619-641-0049; San Marcos (North County): 760-591-3733; Temecula: 951-676-3954. EOE/M/F/V/D, drug free. PPO #14827.

**HAIRSTYLIST,** part time, for children's hair salon in Otay Ranch Town Center. Need 10am-6pm Saturday and Sunday or 10am-6pm Sunday. \$10-\$11/hour. Raquel, 619-656-5437.

**HAIRSTYLIST.** High-end hair salon in Mission Hills interviewing for commission and booth positions. Continuing education. Must have talent, desire and experience. Doug, 619-295-1525 or 619-806-1525.

**HAIRSTYLIST/MANICURIST.** Recession-proof your business. Lower your expenses today with inexpensive booth rental rates. Full or part time. Please call, leave message: 858-382-8795.

**HAIRSTYLIST** needed in Coronado. Full time, commission. Minimum 2 years' experience. Career oriented. Contact Domani Salon of Beauty and Wellness, 619-813-5337.

**HAIRSTYLISTS.** Beautiful Italian spa in El Cajon (Blossom Valley) is seeking Hairstylists with clientele to join our professional team. Booth rent. Move-in special: 1 month free! Call 619-993-0867.

**HAIRSTYLISTS.** Benefits, reasonable rent. Upscale European-style Uptown salon now hiring experienced Stylists with own clientele. Can retail own products. Ample parking. Good, natural lighting! Antoine, Salon Antoine, 619-277-7747 or 619-291-7747.

**HAIRSTYLISTS:** 2 booths available. Great time to relocate! Small, peaceful salon atmosphere with laundered towels, beverages for clients, plenty of parking. Great location in Mission Valley. Move-in incentives. 619-574-7500.

**HAIRSTYLISTS!** Come make money with us. Busy walk-in salons. Health, dental and vision offered. Locations in: Carmel Mountain, 4S Ranch, Poway, Scripps Ranch, Vista. Join a growing company with career growth opportunities. Please call: 858-380-5882.

### Belmont Village Job Fair

Healthcare. Belmont Village Job Fair, 10am-4pm Wednesday, 11/19, and Thursday, 11/20, at Double Tree Del Mar, Sorrento Valley Room, 11915 El Camino Real, San Diego, CA 92130. Hiring LVNs, Caregivers, Concierge, Housekeepers, Drivers, Sous Chefs, Dining Room Servers, Dining Room Coordinator, Dishwashers. Equal Opportunity Employer/Drug-free Workplace. We make aging better.

### HEALTHCARE: RNs, LVNs, AIDES.

Join La Jolla Nurses! Looking for Home Health Aides, ongoing assignments. Also per diem work—you pick the days, hours and shifts! Competitive pay rates, excellent work assignments. Employee-owned agency—you receive shares of company stock free! State-licensed home health agency. Medical, dental and vision benefits; 401(k) plan, referral bonus. La Jolla Nurses HomeCare, 858-454-9339.



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Multiple positions available countywide.

Psych Experience a Must.

\$\$ Great \$\$ Compensation

All Shifts/Days Available.

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E-mail: [ekrehbiel@deltatg.com](mailto:ekrehbiel@deltatg.com)

Register online: [www.dtgwork.com](http://www.dtgwork.com)



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- LeAnn, Housewife, CA

"I received \$34,000 cash to my front door in my first 3 weeks!"  
- Joe, Banker, CA



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### Production Workers \$500 Starting Bonus

Production. Several shifts available. Excellent benefits: Medical, Dental, 401K, pension, 11 paid holidays, paid vacation/sick time, education reimbursement, competitive pay. Fill out an application Monday-Friday, 7am-4pm: Koch Membrane Systems, 10054 Old Grove Road, San Diego, 92131. Request application online by e-mailing resume: kchristensen@kochmembrane.com. EOE. M/F/D/V. Drug test required unless prohibited by state law.

### Agents Wanted!

Real Estate Agents! Now's the time to get your Real Estate License. 2.5 week fast-track program with 1-on-1 coaching/free video cram. \$100K+ potential. Prudential Dunn, Susan: 858-245-7880/800-319-1031.

**RECEPTIONISTS, PART-TIME.** For day spa, Point Loma area. 619-523-0130.

**RELOADERS PARADISE.** Most extensive promotional product line. Best commission/bonus structure. Sign-on bonus for established Reloaders. Call Gary today! 619-220-7025.

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Reloaders. Best products, lowest pars! True factory direct company has great opportunity for the right Reloader Closer. Account base. Signing bonus. We're serious about this business; if you are, please call today! 800-717-8002, ask for Brock.

**RESEARCH STUDY.** Research participants are needed for a study of families with Schizophrenia. Has one of your family members been diagnosed with Schizophrenia? UCSD medical researchers are conducting a clinical research study to evaluate whether an investigational medication alters patterns of brain activity in Relatives of individuals with Schizophrenia. The study drug is taken once, compared to the effects of a placebo. Participants must be at least 18 years of age, have a brother, sister, parent or child with Schizophrenia who is available to be interviewed. Certain medical conditions or medications may make you ineligible for this study. Medical and psychological evaluations will be conducted at no cost. Eligible Relatives will receive compensation up to \$1300 for their time. Family members with Schizophrenia will also be compensated for their interview time. For more information, please call UCSD Department of Psychiatry, 619-543-2096.

**RESERVATION AGENTS.** No sales! Experience a plus. Hourly plus bonuses! Top

Agents earn \$1000+/weekly. Fun atmosphere. Near Grantville trolley station. Call today for more information: 619-516-4276. rcorrea@pmonarch.com. www.monarchjobs.com.

**RESPIRE CARE** for children and teens with developmental disabilities. Critical need. Countywide! Great pay! New-hire bonus! Nonmedical, in-home help. Caring heart more important than experience. Training. 12-and 24-hour shifts. Flexible schedules, benefits, retirement, childcare. Visit [homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com](mailto:homecarejobs@atyourhomefamilycare.com). At Your Home Familycare. Call toll free: 1-877-903-JOBS.

**RESTAURANT.** 2 Pacific Beach Subway Restaurants now hiring! Bright, friendly, customer-oriented individuals to add to our team. Strong work ethic and ability to get things accomplished. Experience not necessary. Full and part time, day and evening shifts. Starting hourly \$8.50. Free meals. Apply any day, 9am-3pm: 2015 Garnet Avenue (at Morrell), 858-270-5450 or 4263 Mission Boulevard (between Reed & Thomas), 858-581-6950.

**RESTAURANT/DELI.** Sandwich shop in La Mesa seeks multi-tasking assistant. Minimum one year experience required. Full-time. Long-term benefits. Hourly plus tips. Leave message 619-318-0187.

**RESTAURANT: LINE COOK,** full time, Del Mar Country Club. Minimum 5 years' experience and ability to work flexible hours required. E-mail [ross@delmarcountryclub.com](mailto:ross@delmarcountryclub.com) or fax 858-759-5995.

**RN'S, LVN'S, CNA'S.** Multiple positions available countywide. Psych experience a must. Great compensation. All shifts/days available. Call 619-543-0556; E-mail: [ekrehbiel@deltatg.com](mailto:ekrehbiel@deltatg.com); or register online: [www.delta-tgroup.com](http://www.delta-tgroup.com)

**SALES REP. Inside Sales. Make \$100k a year plus! 401K. Medical and Dental. Paid vacations and holidays. Paid training. Great work environment. Convenient location. If you are disciplined, coachable and looking to join a great team with an easy to sell product that's high integrity. Call us today! Media All-Stars, 8525 Gibbs Drive, 92123. Ask for Leah, 619-225-0249. www.MediaAllStars.com.**

### Seeking Sales Pros

Sales. Executive-level income. No travel required. 800-645-1296.

**SALES.** Bored? No job? Travel, travel, travel! Spend Christmas in Vegas! \$500 sign-on bonus. Guys/gals, join hip-hop, blue jean environment. Skateboarders,

music lovers, welcome! Start today! Diane, 877-PAID-FUN.

**SALES.** eLiveLife.com Inside/Outside Sales: full/part-time, business-to-business, sell salon & spa certificates. eLiveLife.com Account Executive: new business development. American Satellite DirecTV Phone Center, \$300-\$500/day, 1660 Hotel Circle North Suite 101, Mission Valley, 92108. Call 619-398-5050 or e-mail resume to [info@eLiveLife.com](mailto:info@eLiveLife.com) or fax to 1-866-655-9004.

**SALES.** Experienced car sales professionals wanted. Exciting alternative to the car business. Automotive marketing and promotions company seeks Inside Sales Reps. Call Cubic Marketing, 866-462-8242.

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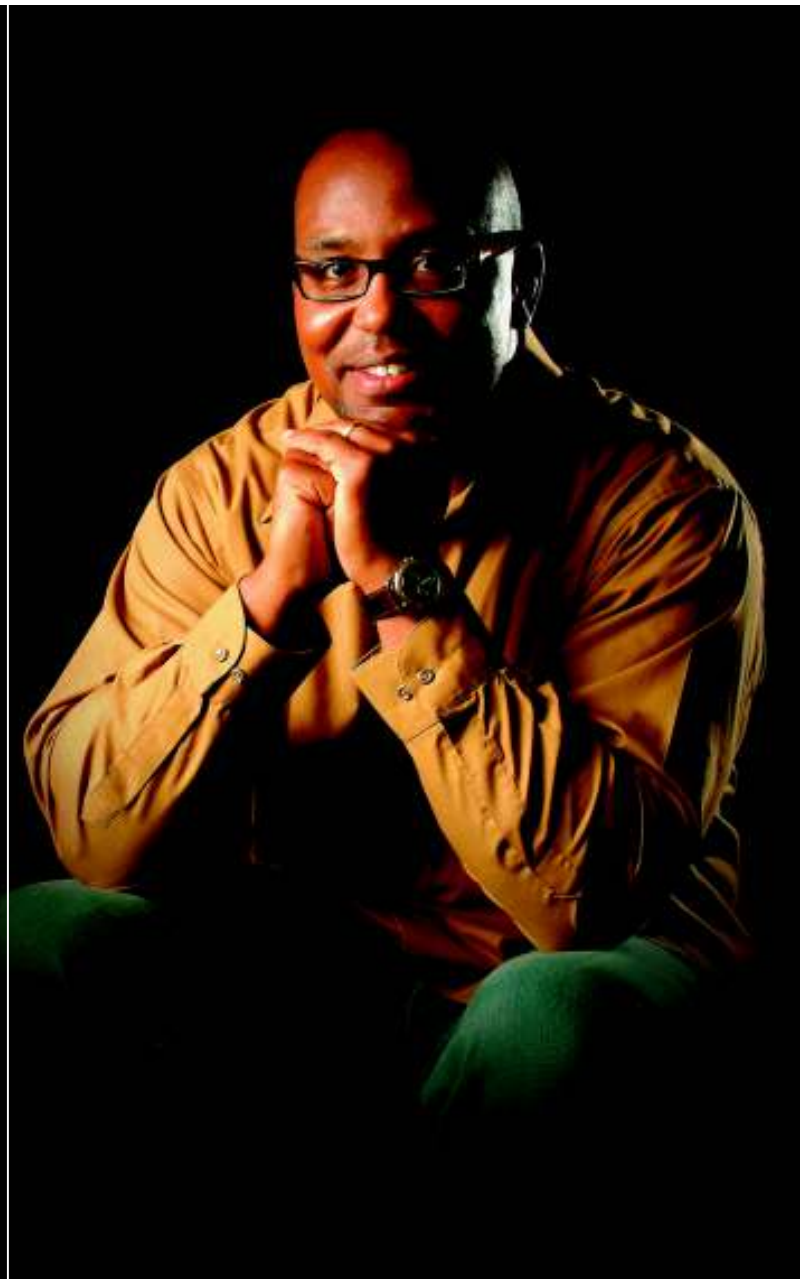
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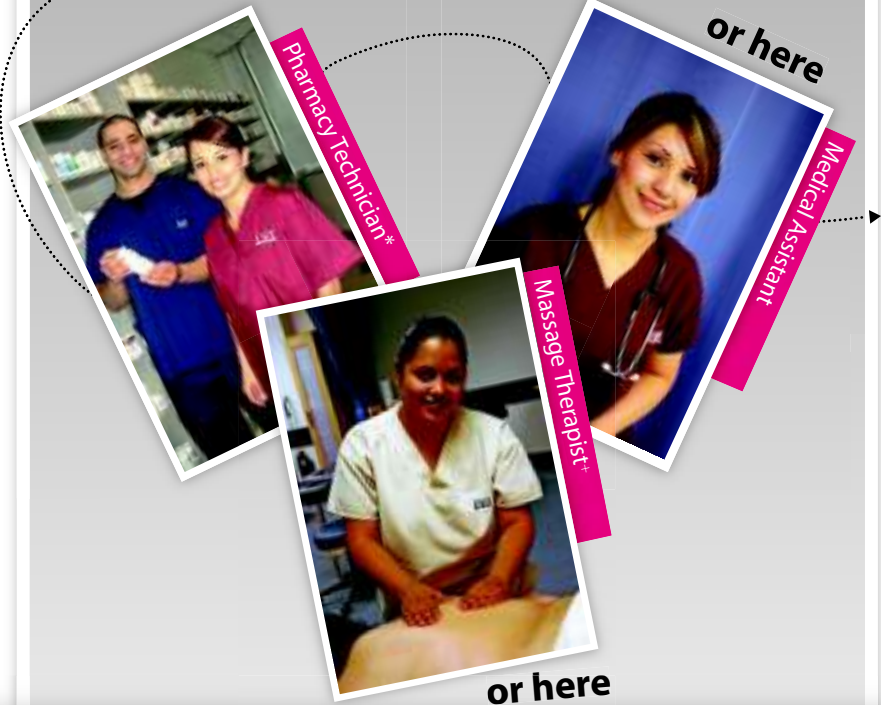
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## THE READER PUZZLE:

### RULES OF THE GAME

1) Each week we're printing a list of EVERYONE who submits the correct answers to the previous week's puzzle. See this week's contenders below.  
 2) When you successfully complete a puzzle, we'll also print a brief (10 words or less) message that you've written. This is optional, but it's a great opportunity for you to give a shout out to your mom, or toot your own horn! Each time you submit a new puzzle, you may submit a new message.  
 3) We're keeping track of how many puzzles you successfully complete. But your information will only be printed when you successfully complete a puzzle AND get it to us by the new puzzle deadline: 7:00 a.m., Monday.  
 4) Entries must be faxed to **619-231-0489** or **619-233-7907** or mailed to Reader Puzzle, P.O. Box 85803, San Diego, CA 92186-5803, or delivered through our mail slot at 1703 India Street in Little Italy.  
 5) Wow! Now we're giving away 15 Reader T-shirts each week to contenders chosen randomly!  
 And now for the really small print:  
 1) All answers must be legible and entered in the spaces provided.  
 2) Entries that arrive after the deadline will not be considered.  
 3) One entry per person per week or you will be disqualified.  
 4) Employees of the Reader and their immediate families are not eligible.

### Across

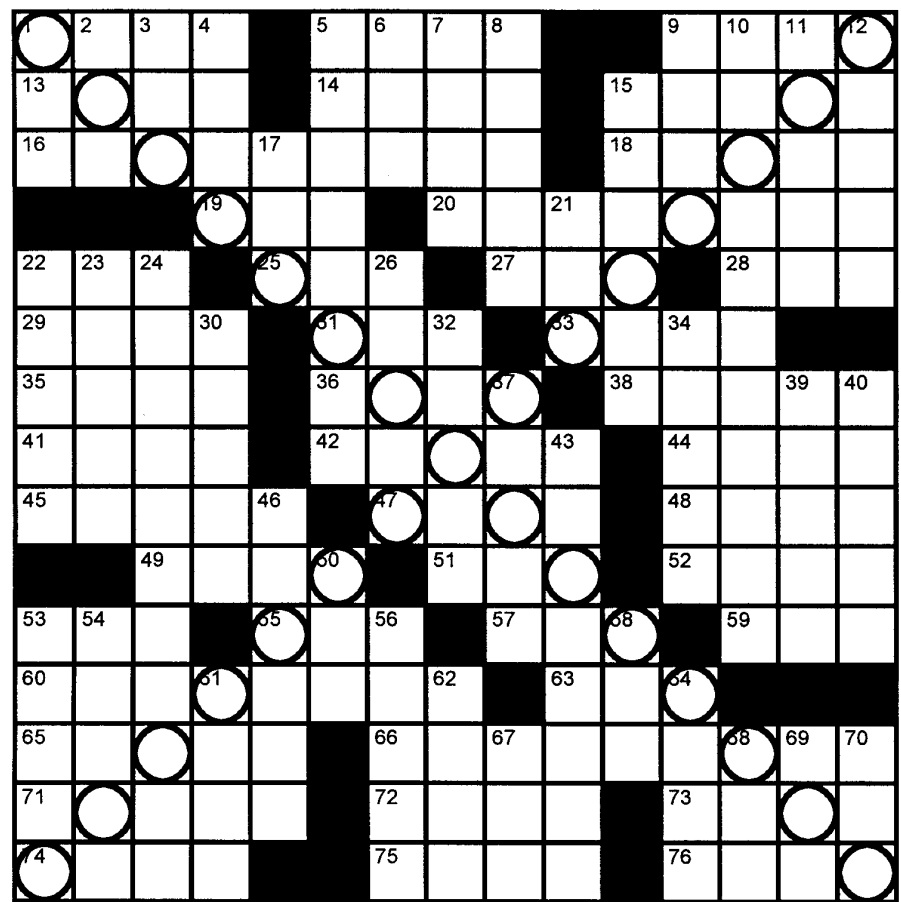
- Word with heat or meat
- Go on too long
- Unpaid TV ads, for short
- Architect Saarinen
- "Must've been something \_\_\_\_\_"
- Lopsided wins
- Word that economists shy from saying these days but is on everyone's mind
- Mire
- Singer Ocasek
- End of the line
- "Come again?"
- Super Bowl XLII MVP Manning
- In a funk

- "Treasure Island" monogram
- Israel's Barak
- Dipl. official
- "The Wayward Wind" singer Grant
- Olympic sport since 1964
- "This \_\_\_\_\_ outrage!"
- Full range
- Before: Abbr.
- Richard who designed the Getty Center
- Wilder in movies
- 1978 Nobel winner Anwar
- Ditty
- "Snap out \_\_\_\_\_!"
- Kazan who directed the film debuts of James Dean and Warren Beatty
- Journey part
- Nick at \_\_\_\_\_
- Half-\_\_\_\_\_ (coffee option)
- Audiophile's purchases
- Observed
- Marks (out)
- Pilot's field
- 2008 Lil' Wayne album "\_\_\_\_\_ Carter III"
- Bead material
- Its rise in 2008 made many people behave more economically
- Willow used in basketry
- Sea that lies north of Siberia
- Even
- "At Last" singer James
- Back talk
- Asia outbreak of 2003

### Down

- Architect Ludwig Mies van \_\_\_\_\_ Rohe
- Wide foot size
- Rainbow, e.g.

- No couch potato
- Deny knowledge of
- Aishwarya of Bollywood
- Short range
- Trivial Pursuit edition
- Apple, to a botanist
- What the economy could thank predatory mortgage lenders for in 2008
- "Tragedy is \_\_\_\_\_ for the living to gain wisdom:" RFK
- Some NCOs
- Clifford of children's books, e.g.
- You: Ger.
- Droop
- Assists
- Crewmate of Spock and Sulu
- It loomed over the economy by the end of 2008
- "No more, thanks"
- Massachusetts governor Patrick
- Gold medal winner Oksana
- Not be able to swallow
- Barcelona babies
- Join
- French heads
- Yachting events
- Joust contestant
- Bee: Prefix
- Lake rental
- "Stop!" at sea
- Wallops
- "\_\_\_\_\_ cares?"
- Zone
- Federal agcy. that monitors the weather
- PM periods
- Future alums: Abbr.
- 1998 Angelina Jolie role
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lingus
- '60s activist org.



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We cannot accept your entry without the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood/City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle T-shirt size: M L XL

Personal Message: \_\_\_\_\_

### SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:



## THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner. Number indicates successful entries.

**Lil Wagner, Clairemont, 22.** "It's gonna be a bumpy ride!"  
**Gary Mocko, Ocean Beach, 21.**  
**Julie Osburn, North Park, 21.** "Did anyone have italicized clues in their crossword?"  
**Ric Witt, Clairemont, 21.** "A big hug to Rachael at the Open Bar and Faith at the Aero Club!"  
**Vince Cuseo, Vista, 20.** "Our Lady of Blessed Acceleration, don't fail me now!"  
**D. Faulkner, University Heights, 20.**  
**Peter Kronfeld, Normal Heights, 20.**  
**Clinton Smith, La Mesa, 20.** "Asyla is plural asylum as spatula is plural spatulum."  
**Pamela Swain, College Area, 20.** "This is my favorite puzzle!"  
☛ **Joseph Ciprian, Little Italy, 19.** "Yes - I'm 50. AARP - I'm so ready for you!"  
**George Jackson, Oceanside, 19.**  
**Anna McCutcheon, Downtown, 19.** "www.paintwithdan.com"

**Chris Peterkin, Scripps Ranch, 19.**  
**Don Reckles, Carmel Valley, 19.** "Congratulations Britney and Russ. Wishing you a lifetime of happiness."  
**Iggie Guerrero, Bay Ho, 18.** "Maria Maria Maria Maria Smith."  
**Jay Newington, Balboa Park, 18.** "I love you Janis - and I'll do whatever it takes!"  
**Jim Odell, Vista, 18.** "Let's hope and pray for the best."  
**Janie Redmond, Cardiff, 18.** "Aquarius rising, pumas 7-1-0. Oy vey, Barack, Jake, our world."  
**Paul Stanton, Canyon Hills, 18.** "Adopt a homeless cat or dog today and spay/neuter."  
**Stephen Wilder, Rancho Bernardo, 18.** "If 16A and 62A weren't italicized is that \$20?"  
**Carolyn Dalton, Escondido, 17.**  
**Jeff Hunt, Hillcrest, 17.** "Welcome home, my love."  
**Frank Kuzniar, Carlsbad, 17.** "Obamanation!"  
**Bob Maxwell, Coronado, 17.** "Survived Grand Cayman hurricane."  
**Thomas McVeagh, Lakeside, 17.** "Howdy from Lakeside!"

**C. J. Muellner, Spring Valley, 17.** "EIK = eat in kitchen. Knew it, still blew it!"  
**Lisa Torresscano, Spring Valley, 17.** "Hi Mom!"  
**Glenn Walker, Pacific Beach, 17.** "Be yourself! Nobody is better qualified."  
**Dan Blair, Linda Vista, 16.** "Absinthe makes the heart grow fonder (Baba Wawa?)"  
**Charlotte Brown, Clairemont, 16.**  
**Betsy Cory, Chula Vista, 16.** "This is a witty and profound remark, Robin."  
**Donna Cresta, Chula Vista, 16.** "I'm movin' on up."  
**Gerard Dermody, Encinitas, 16.** "The gardener's licentious assistant was a hoer."  
**Ben Espe, Mission Valley, 16.** "Quit whining, the election's over!"  
**Ken Hanson, Clairemont, 16.**  
**Richard Hutchings, Santee, 16.**  
**Elaine Marume, Oceanside, 16.**  
**Ron Meyer, Santee, 16.** "Get well, Gemini."  
**Danny Wilson, Mira Mesa, 16.** "Hello Mike Rogers of CCHS and thanks to my poker buddies!"  
**Leslie Chase, Campo, 15.** "Spessartite starlight moonlight every thing's alright."

**Martha Awdziewicz, Clairemont, 15.**  
**Kurt Dornbusch, Mission Valley, 15.** "I did it. I finally got me a T."  
☛ **Barry Newman, Escondido, 15.**  
**Jeff Smith, University City, 15.** "Whatever happened to Johnathan Seville?"  
**Gayle Studer, Mission Valley, 15.** "Hang on Sloopy, hang on."  
☛ **Marie Turock, North Park, 15.**  
**Nedda Viscovich, Cardiff, 15.** "Editor asleep?"  
**Woody Anderson, Carmel Valley, 14.** "If you (plural) suffer from delirium they send you to asyla?"  
**Mary Arana, Encinitas, 14.** "Hooray!"  
**Barney Firks, Ocean Beach, 14.**  
**Bud Fisher, Mira Mesa, 14.** "The Yes on 8 crowd are 100% big-ots!"  
**Jim Koziol, UTC, 14.** "Do your homework Lukie, Jimmy, Timothy!"  
**Michael Lodahl, Mission Valley, 14.** "To Janice Elaine, the love of my life."  
**Michael McGriffin, Bay Park, 14.** "I won a T-shirt last week - thanks very much!"  
**Dave Small, San Carlos, 14.**

**Cindy Pellett, University Heights, 14.** "EIK = Eat in kitchen - think small great room."  
**Adele West, Rancho Bernardo, 14.** "Happy birthday Joe."  
**Don Austin, Laguna Beach, 13.**  
**Sheilah Doyle, Santee, 13.**  
**Nathan Petty, Santee, 13.**  
**Eric Sandquist, Allied Gardens, 13.**  
**Elenore Stephens, Potrero, 13.** "P-town 4 life."  
**Dave Washington, La Jolla, 13.** "What you believe makes a difference."  
**Steve Wilson, Spring Valley, 13.**  
**Ivan Yanev, Santee, 13.**  
**Sheila Agahan-Price, Oceanside, 12.** "Sigh of relief! Not just in the US, but all over the world!"  
**Carl Bennett, Escondido, 12.**  
**Ronan Bloomfield, Santee, 12.**  
**Neal Brown, Santee, 12.**  
**Cody Brull, Carmel Valley, 12.** "Argh! I forgot to fax last week's puzzle!"  
**Margaret Buckner, Santee, 12.**  
**John Bullock, Santee, 12.**  
**Tim Clayton, Los Penasquitos, 12.** "Brew on - 13 and going strong."  
**Marilyn Cooper, Chula Vista, 12.**

**William Cushing, RB, 12.** "Congrats and best wishes to Heather and AJ."  
**Matt Dene, Santee, 12.**  
**Ed Edwards, Santee, 12.**  
**L.D. Hartpence, Santee, 12.**  
**Gary Kuske, Santee, 12.**  
**Rick Marin, Santee, 12.**  
**Kevin McNearney, Santee, 12.**  
**Heber Moore, Santee, 12.**  
**Kevin Moreau, Santee, 12.**  
**Eugene Padua, Santee, 12.**  
**Jim Piburn, Point Loma, 12.** "I wish fall foliage lasted all year."  
**Jean D. Smickle, Santee, 12.**  
**Tom Somich, Clairemont, 12.** "What italicized clues?"  
**Stacy Tool, Santee, 12.**  
**Doretha Albee, Santee, 11.**  
**Bud Anderson, Santee, 11.**  
**Rick Austin, Santee, 11.**  
**Jean Marie Barnes, Grantville, 11.** "I more week till my birthday! Yeah! I love Jr."  
**Derek Besand, Santee, 11.**  
**Olga Betteridge, Ocean Beach, 11.** "My babe loves brownies. I love my babe. Three is a crowd."  
**Rick Braithwaite, Santee, 11.**  
**Dave Capehart, Santee, 11.**  
**David Castillo, Bay Park, 11.**  
**Korey Castillo, Bay Park, 11.** "Hi Ismael, Tina, Dara, Whitney, Stephanie, Chris."

## THIS WEEK'S CONTENDERS CONTINUED:

☛ indicates T-shirt winner

**Wally Chapman, Chula Vista, 11.**  
**Maria Coda, Oceanside, 11.** "Hi All!"  
**Doug Coffin, Santee, 11.**  
**Dan Collins, Santee, 11.**  
**Laura Conshafter, Santee, 11.**  
**Dave Descoteaux, Santee, 11.**  
**Andre Desilets, Downtown, 11.**  
**J. DeWitt, Santee, 11.**  
**Jill Dickens, Santee, 11.**  
**Mike Downey, Santee, 11.**  
**Byron Ellsworth, Santee, 11.**  
**Eduardo Emmet, Santee, 11.**  
**Harry Engel, La Jolla, 11.**  
**Rand Feura, Santee, 11.**  
**Emma Friemuth, Santee, 11.**  
**Tim Glover, Santee, 11.**  
**Mike Gross, Santee, 11.**  
**Hugh Hagues, Santee, 11.**  
**Ward Harrington, Santee, 11.**  
**Sondra Hartpence, Santee, 11.**  
**Jack Hawkins, Encinitas, 11.** "Get yourself enigmatized. Do a Reader crossword puzzle."  
**LeRoy Hemingway, Santee, 11.**  
**Mark Hill, Santee, 11.**  
**Eric Jеспerson, Santee, 11.**  
**M. Jordan, Santee, 11.**  
**Troy Knapp, Santee, 11.**  
**Randy Love, Santee, 11.**  
**Eben Maat, Santee, 11.**  
**Donald Millsberg, Santee, 11.**  
**Ken Milne, Santee, 11.**  
**Ken Najbert, Mira Mesa, 11.** "I'm drinking and bacon my life away."

**Bill Pischke, Ramona, 11.** "Orange rhymes conquer tough times."  
**Derek Rasmussen, Santee, 11.**  
**Richard Rose, Santee, 11.**  
**Nathan Squire, Santee, 11.**  
**Matt Taylor, Santee, 11.**  
**Laurie Teemsma, Santee, 11.**  
**Bob Vollmar, La Jolla, 11.**  
**Woody Weaver, Santee, 11.**  
**Mary Woodbury, Santee, 11.**  
**Roy Bailey, Santee, 10.**  
**Bruce Bell, South Park, 10.** "Does anybody read this stuff?"  
**Tim Betteridge, Hillcrest, 10.** "O - my love for you is unending, just like a ring."  
**Marvin A. Brown, Clairemont, 10.**  
**Mike D'Asaro, Santee, 10.**  
**Steve Fagerwold, Santee, 10.**  
**E.M. Hutchings, Santee, 10.**  
**Steve Jenks, Santee, 10.**  
**Sara Khwaja, Poway, 10.** "Will double digits = my first T-shirt?"  
**David Kuntze, El Cajon, 10.**  
**Barbara Neill, Santee, 10.**  
**Donnie Nelson, Santee, 10.**  
**Charles Overdorf, Santee, 10.**  
**David Papworth, Santee, 10.**  
**J. Schwendinger, Santee, 10.**  
**Ron Shields, Santee, 10.**  
**Randy Sjoblom, Santee, 10.**  
**Jeff Van De Moere, Banker's Hill, 10.** "Pilot?"  
**Sue Worthen, Santee, 10.**  
**Steven Young, Santee, 10.**  
**Mike Adkins, Santee, 9.**  
**Don Albee, Santee, 9.**

**Bruce Barshop, La Jolla, 9.** "What italicized clues?"  
**J. Breckenridge, Santee, 9.**  
**Kathleene Evans, Santee, 9.**  
**Mark Franc, Santee, 9.**  
**Billy Horton, Santee, 9.**  
**Jim Hutchings, Santee, 9.**  
**Dennis Lamboy, Santee, 9.**  
**Tom Laurin, Chula Vista, 9.** "You just never know which Charger team will show up."  
**Wayne Mathieu, Clairemont, 9.** "Thank you vets."  
**Linda Millsberg, Santee, 9.**  
**Don Prince, Serra Mesa, 9.** "Computers and religion are causes for all this world's troubles."  
**Don Romero, Ramona, 9.** "I miss your touch, Mei Ling!"  
**Jeff Smith, Santee, 9.**  
**Andrew Vollmer, Vista, 9.** "Hi to Ann, Carol, L.L., Phyllie."  
**Ray Batenich, North Park, 8.** "If I were from Santee I wouldn't need a comment line!"  
**Jan Dawson, North Harbor, 8.** "Italicize this: Architects have lead in their pencils! Draw on."  
**Howard Donnelly, Mission Valley, 8.**  
**Chicago Bob Gore, Bay Ho, 8.** "I do the puzzle drunk and naked. Is that normal?"  
**Ronald Long, San Diego, 8.** "Go Nittany Lions."  
**Jenny McReynolds, Linda Vista, 8.**  
**Marge Nelson, El Cajon, 8.** "Heartland Lions, We Serve."  
**Diane Hutchings, Santee, 7.**  
**Rumir Miravalles, San Diego, 7.** "Hala Bira. Pwera Pasma!"  
**James C. Nelson, El Cajon, 7.**

**Elizabeth Rainbalt, Mission Valley, 7.**  
**Thelma Strickland-Hicks, Del Mar, 7.** "Carson K's thank Campbells and VWF. Feel better John."  
**Felina Thom, Lemon Grove, 7.**  
**David A. Weim, Chula Vista, 7.** "Hard!"  
**Gerry Austin, Chula Vista, 6.**  
**Alfredo Garcia, San Diego, 6.** "Donna F. luts for me! Always."  
**Ernie Hsu, San Diego, 6.** "Sup-port Prop. FFM!"  
**Aleks Mendive, Normal Heights, 6.** "Thanks for the italicized clues!"  
**John Prince, Serra Mesa, 6.** "Water is for fruits, vegetables, trees, flowers - use it wisely."  
**Denise Rees, Alpine, 6.** "Oh, oh, mama, we got Obama!"  
**Henry Romero, San Diego, 6.** "Hola, mis amigos!"  
**D. Tarantino, Hillcrest, 6.** "On Nov. 4 the unthinkable happened: Rosemary's Baby."  
**Mark Wilde, Spring Valley, 6.** "Any day is a great day for golf."  
**Bob Harper, Lakeside, 5.**  
**Jenny Hughes, Escondido, 5.** "I'm confused."  
**D. Schick, Oceanside, 5.** "Lord almighty, change at last!"  
**Sal Vitale, Pacific Beach, 5.**  
**Dot Waterman, Santee, 5.**  
**Westie, San Diego, 5.**  
**Michael Williams, Downtown, 5.**  
**Hilda Apodaca, Chula Vista, 4.** "Happy birthday Chupa Chupa!"  
**Ron Hootman, Santee, 4.** "Hoot 101 and unspotted."

**Eddie and Andrea Schroder, Carlsbad, 4.** "Why you lvin', unconstant succubus!"  
**Estevan Soto, Chula Vista, 4.** "Are you in tune with your star player - it's pimpin' pimpin'."  
**M. Zimmermann, Vista, 4.** "Hi...Dad, Maris, Ashley, and Mom C."  
**Terry Golden, Clairemont, 3.** "Woo hoo, got it!"  
**Kyle Matzke, Vista, 3.** "Society has it's own right to determine what marriage is!"  
**O. Tenny, El Cajon, 3.**  
**Kelly Whitson, Carlsbad, 3.** "There were no italicized clues!"  
**Flo Abena, Rancho Penasquitos, 2.** "Sara P: 32 Across is not a country."  
**R. Blue, San Diego, 2.**  
**Jeff Carroll, Pacific Beach, 2.** "Dear Angie, don't go to Cabo without me."  
**Gunnar Eklof, Oceanside, 2.**  
**Emily Garson, Downtown, 2.**  
**Gian Ghio, Chula Vista, 2.** "C'mon Aleesh, I know you can do this."  
**C.C. Gomez, Santee, 2.**  
**Katie Jones, San Diego, 2.** "Speed bumps near the Talmadge traffic circle? Worst. Idea. Ever."  
**Gloria Kaufman, El Cajon, 2.** "I work em while watching my favorite tv shows."  
**Barry Kenny, San Diego, 2.** "Chargers!"  
**Joe Maginn, Mission Beach, 2.** "A cup of coffee and two Newport."

**Cindy McMahon, El Cajon, 2.**  
**Larry Van Horn, Carlsbad, 2.**  
**Thomas E. Woolf, La Jolla, 2.** "Hi."  
**Mike Borgasano, Point Loma, 1.** "It's about time! Flash Gordon in 2009!"  
**Charlie Brown, San Diego, 1.** "What italics?"  
**Roger Cleemens, Cardiff, 1.**  
**Craig Curtis, Escondido, 1.** "Imagine that - hi Rosie!"  
**G.L. Del Campo, Escondido, 1.**  
**Larry Hartpence, Santee, 10.**  
**Amer Haslerud, Chula Vista, 1.** "My sauce is leaking everywhere...my wing sauce, not clam sauce."  
**Matthew Junker, San Diego, 1.** "Rahm Emmanuel? So much for change."  
**Randy Kaufman, El Cajon, 1.** "Praise to the Lord Jesus."  
**Nicole Kimmey, El Cajon, 1.** "Oh goh!"  
**Paul Lindgren, Clairemont, 1.** "Hello to Mom, Dad, Peter, Karin, Stef, and Amanda."  
**Taralynn Maginn, La Jolla, 1.** "Joe, I'm crazy for you. Free the Dalai Lama!"  
**Francine McGinnis, San Diego, 1.** "See Kinni and Heather, I'm keeping busy."  
**Ted Scafidi, Hillcrest, 1.** "I have a life."  
**Niccole Schultz, University Heights, 1.** "So this is what a college degree will get you..."  
**Craig Smith, Clairemont, 1.**

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# SurfDIEGO

Name: Steve Reed

Age: 26

Surfing: La Jolla

Lives in: South Park

Pre-surf food: Nachos and beer

Celebrity most like to surf with: Tony Danza

"I love surfing at Mission Beach, but I really hate the alcohol ban," says Steve Reed, a San Diego native who has been surfing off and on for the past ten years. "I used to love having a few beers around the fire with my friends and then catching some waves at night; it's some of the best fun I've ever had. Now, because of some irresponsible jerks, it's been ruined for everyone."

His favorite spots include Mission Beach, Black's Beach, and, lately, Imperial Beach.

"[Imperial Beach] is a really clean break out there, not very crowded, and there are some cute girls. It's a fun place to spend a weekend. You don't see a lot of fights like you do in PB or at Scripps."

Steve surfed competitively for five years.

"The thing is, a lot of the locals aren't even all that good. There is some definite talent out here, but the real surfers don't pay any attention



to how well others are doing; they are in it for themselves and for the experience."

Steve is coming off a two-year break from surfing because of a shoulder injury.

"I had been noticing some tension in my right shoulder, and in August of 2006, it just gave out. I was

padding back in after a four-hour session and it just gave. I was really lucky it didn't happen when I was in deep water. I could have easily drowned."

Steve is back to surfing four or five times a week.

"I can't wrack my shoulder too much, so I'm

just taking it easy and enjoying what the beach has to offer."

To see an online version of this column, go to [sreader.com](http://sreader.com). You can print it, email it to friends, and find archived columns.

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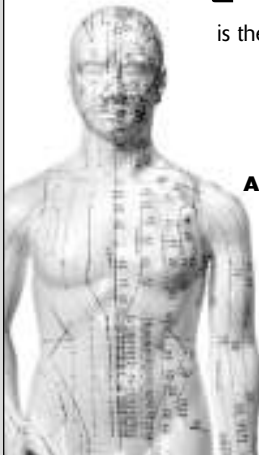


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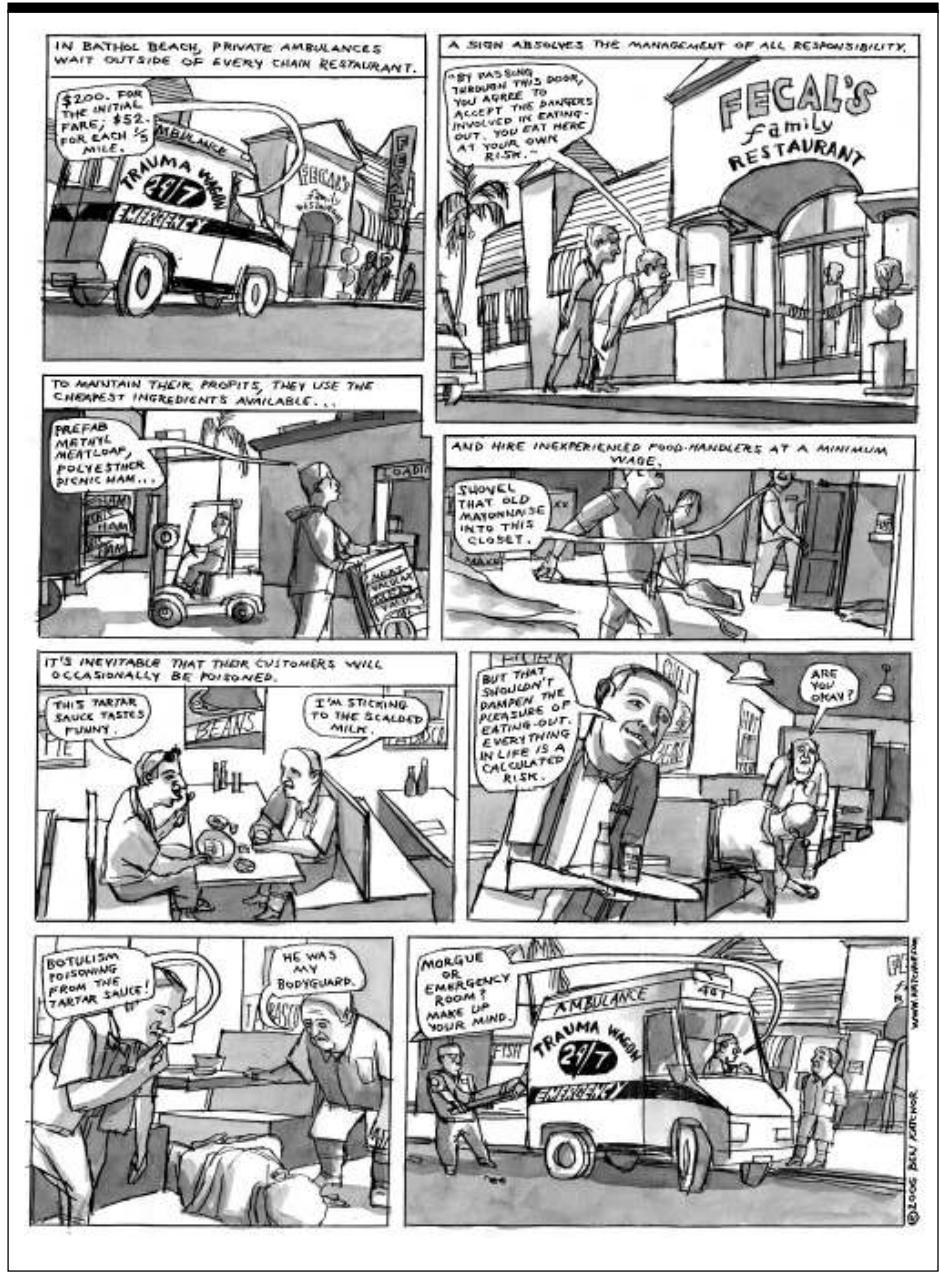
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**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1675. 2 bedroom, 1 bath front house. Yard. Pets considered. No parking. Washer/dryer. Available now. 1947 Missouri Street. Agent, 858-514-8201.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$1775. Move in now! 2 bedroom 1 bath newly remodeled home. Shared yard, granite, stainless kitchen, new tile flooring, parking and onsite laundry. No pets. 2169 Reed Avenue. #B. Call Leigh at 858-483-3534 x12. www.cal-prop.com.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** \$2350. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Complete remodel. Remodeled bathrooms, new fixtures, stone flooring, new carpet, new kitchen. All appliances including washer/dryer. Carport. Cat OK. Available 12/1. 1810 Chalcedony. Do disturb tenants. 619-884-3399.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom house, walk to beach, 2 blocks to bay, on-site washer/

dryer, community area, gazebo. Thomas Avenue. Short-term lease. 858-270-3372.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2 bedroom, 1 bath house, large fenced yard. Quiet street. Laundry hookups, hardwood floors, garage, available December 1. 1351 Missouri. 619-500-1100. Call 858-273-4812.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** 2-story, detached. 2-bedroom, 1-bath back duplex, 2 off-street parking, washer/dryer, patio, close to all. \$1700. 2016 Felspar. 858-735-8593.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath house, assigned parking. Available now. \$1095/month with move-in special! No pets. 1965 Grand Avenue. Call 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

**PARADISE HILLS.** \$1695. Ready 12/01/08. 3-bedroom, 2-bath private home, fenced yard on dead-end street. Section 8 considered with good credit. No pets. 6766 Las Lidas Court. 858-483-3534 x12. www.cal-prop.com.

**POINT LOMA.** \$2550. 2 bedroom home. Great bay views! Recently renovated. Near everything. Landscaper. Washer/dryer. Garage. Cat OK. Available 11/21. 1152 Catalina Boulevard. 619-890-0998.

**RANCHO BERNARDO/4S RANCH.** New 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath house plus loft plus office. Air, fireplace. Excellent location, close to all. No pets. \$2550. 858-722-6851.

**SANTEE.** \$1675. 3 bedroom, 2 bath house. 2-car garage. Large fenced yard. Covered patio. Storage shed. Quiet Park, tennis, basketball. No pets/smoking. 619-667-4256.

**SANTEE.** \$2000. Beautiful. Remodeled. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2-car garage. Large fenced/gated yard. 1800 square feet. Large family/dining. Must see! 619-203-5247. 619-302-1856.

**SORRENTO VALLEY.** 4-bedroom, 3-bath, 2-story home. 3-car garage. Air, refrigerator, stove/oven, dishwasher, washer, dryer, microwave, fireplace, window treatments. \$3200/month. 11105 Whispering Heights. Agent, 619-471-2201.

**SPRING VALLEY.** \$1375 just reduced! 2 bedroom, 1 bath beautiful home, huge yard, panoramic views, small garage, off-street parking, all amenities. Available now. 619-733-8599.

**SPRING VALLEY.** \$2000 reduced! 3 bedroom plus bonus room, 2 bath home, half-acre, ample parking, view. Travertine/wood floors, granite, stainless appliances, beautifully landscaped. 619-733-8599.

**TALMADGE.** \$1350. 2 bedroom, 1 bath house. Fireplace, fenced yard. Washer/dryer. Garage. Pets OK. 4468 Highland. Available 11/15. \$1550 deposit. 1-year lease. 619-840-8228.

**TALMADGE** charmer! \$1400. Totally renovated, Art Deco 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath. Large 2-car garage, hardwood floors, updated kitchen/appliances/plumbing/electrical, washer/dryer, gardener. 858-775-2561.

**CLAIREMONT.** Spacious home for rent. 4 bedroom, 2 bath house with large backyard, enclosed patio and fireplace. 1700 square feet. Gardener included. Pets may be considered. \$1875/month. For pictures and more information, visit www.timcassidy.com or call Stephanie at 619-275-2525 x4.

**CLAIREMONT.** Very Nice duplex, 2 bedroom 1 bath. Near Clairemont Square/freeways. Porcelain tile throughout, yard, patio. Gardener/water included. Washer/dryer. Available 11/15/08-12/01/08, \$1650, 858-395-9463.

**COLLEGE AREA.** \$1800, 1/2 off 1st month's rent! 4 bedroom, 2 bath house, 1728 square feet. 2-car garage, fenced yard, view. 6412 Cleo Street. People Helping Others Property Management, 619-282-5400. www.peoplehelpingothers.com.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Near SDSU. 4452-1/2 Dawson Street. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. 2 story. Very nice house. Available now. Jacuzzi, granite counters, stainless steel appliances. Washer, dryer. \$1450. 619-857-5947.

**DEL MAR.** Private 4 bedroom home, wood floors, newly remodeled kitchen, paint, Velux skylights, large backyard, garage. No smoking/pets. 13625 Mango. \$3100. Tom, 619-606-9111.

**ESCONDIDO.** \$895. Clean, pleasant 2 bedroom duplex. Private fenced yard. Hardwood floors. Washer/dryer hookups. Stove, refrigerator. Walk to Downtown. 760-742-3561.

**GOLDEN HILL.** \$1025. Gated 1940s 1 bedroom cottage. Hardwood floors. Tiled kitchen/bath. Enclosed patio. Laundry on site. Cat OK. 2749 C Street. Agent, 619-234-9553.

**GOLDEN HILL.** \$1695. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Hardwood floors. Renovated secured duplex home. All amenities. Laundry room. Large fenced yard, pet friendly. Available now. 619-238-5528.

**GOLDEN HILL.** Charming 1 bedroom house, \$1195. Hardwood floors, new paint/tile, huge backyard, covered patio, hookups, large closets, view of Downtown. Pets with deposit. 619-231-8723.

**HILLCREST.** \$895. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming cottage. Stove, refrigerator. Coin laundry. Cat OK with additional \$300 deposit. Available 12/10/08. 3933 Centre Street. 858-270-2071. Del Sol Property Management, Broker. www.delsolpm.com.

**LA JOLLA.** 4 bedroom, 3 bath California ranch-style home, 2400sf. Walk to Scripps/La Jolla Shores. Secluded, quiet.

No appliances. \$3300/month. Agent, Michael Bates, 619-886-9565.

**LA JOLLA.** Furnished/unfurnished house, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath. Fantastic ocean, bay, downtown views! Yard, garage. Ap-

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**Edgar Nuñez**  
Club Deejay  
South Park

I just did over the weekend. We were making dinner plans for my birthday. On average, I usually talk to her once a week. She lives here in San Diego. I have to think if you live in the same city as your mom, once a week is probably the norm. I do have a younger brother. He talks to her every day, but that's because he still lives at home.



**Lotus Love**  
Artist  
Mira Mesa

I talked to her today. She called me just to say hi. Usually it's her calling me, but sometimes I'll call her. She lives here. I would guess that I talk to her several times a week. My brother just moved to Brooklyn, and he doesn't talk to her as often because of the long distance. I'm Asian, so we have that family tightness. Family is really important.



**Malisha Pattanik**  
Grad Student  
La Jolla

I talk to her every day, back and forth. She lives in Texas, but when I went to school in Houston, I still talked to her quite often. My mom and I are real close. I'm assuming that with guys, you might find more that don't talk to their mothers on a regular basis.



**Kyle Bray**  
Entrepreneur  
La Mesa

I talked to my mom last Tuesday. I usually talk to her once a week. They live in Maryland. I'm guessing I'd talk to her more if I lived there. There's that whole time-change difference that does it. Well, that's what I tell her if she says she hasn't heard from me in a while.



**Colleen Dowell**  
Office Manager  
San Jose

I talked to her today. She told me she was going to join this silent convent. I told her she'd never make it. She can't shut up. She's actually a bit insane. So, lately, I've only been talking to her once a week. She lives in Capitola, up near Santa Cruz.



**Tony Nguyen**  
Legal Assistant  
College Area

It was today, actually. She was telling me about some crazy herbal remedy or something. She lives here, and I probably talk to her once a week. I know some people that go months without talking to their parents. Each person is different, and I guess it depends what you and your mother talk about.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$925 per month. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Total remodel. Wood and tile floors. All new appliances. Washer and dryer in unit. Best 1 bedroom in town. Small pet OK. Available now. 4449 Cherokee Avenue. Call Theresa, 858-382-3621.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** \$975. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Downstairs unit. Gated complex. Laundry. Available 12/07/08. 4580 39th Street #4584. www.cethron.com. 619-295-1100.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS.** Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. \$1175/month plus deposit. Upstairs, bright, quiet. No pets. Call 619-282-6910.

**NORMAL HEIGHTS/NORTH PARK.** \$995. Charming, clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet. Stove, refrigerator. On-site laundry. Parking. Sorry-no pets! Near bus line. 619-674-8311.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1000. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Wood floors. Street parking. Coin-operated laundry on site. Indoor cat OK. Available now. 4123-1/2 Kansas Street. www.stevenleerproperties.com. 619-295-1161.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1050. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Charming, bright upstairs apartment with large bedrooms. Off-street parking. Coin laundry. No pets. 4113-1/2 Arizona Street. TPPM, 619-296-8802.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1150. 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled apartment. Stainless steel appliances. Air conditioning, garage. 3425-3427 Ray Street. Xilarent.com. 619-683-7638.



**NORTH PARK.** \$1150. Large 2-bedroom, 1-bath downstairs apartment in beautiful gated building with laundry and assigned off-street parking. Move-in special: \$300. 4077 Utah Street, #2. 619-698-6911. www.goldenmanagement.com.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1250. 3 bedroom, 1-1/4 bath, upstairs unit, garage and gated parking, fresh paint, new blinds. 3738

Swift Avenue. 619-741-4378 or 619-540-6526.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1395 rent. \$900 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 1-1/2 bath house. New carpet. Private deck and patio. No pets. At 3818 Pershing Avenue. Agent. 619-299-8515.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1395. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath remodeled unit. Hardwood floors, crown molding, new windows, Berber carpet in bedrooms. Gated community. 619-563-8150. www.sdapbtobrokers.com.

**NORTH PARK.** \$1795. Clean, spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath, washer/dryer, fireplace, tile floors, 2-car parking. 3618 31st Street #1. Available now. Vesna. 619-916-7961.

**NORTH PARK.** \$2200. Remodeled 3 bedroom, 2 bath. 1600 square feet. Washer/dryer. Dishwasher. Range, refrigerator.

Central heat. Wood floors. Available December. 3412 33rd. 619-269-0897.

**NORTH PARK.** \$725 rent. \$700 deposit. OAC. 1 bedroom duplex. Parking. Courtyard units. No pets. At 3035 Monroe Avenue. Agent. 619-299-8515.

**NORTH PARK.** \$775. 1 bedroom upstairs unit. Recently updated! Parking and laundry on site. Central location. 4183 Alabama Street. Agent. 619-820-2584.

**NORTH PARK.** \$825. 1 bedroom. Spacious 2 bedroom, \$1050. Quiet complex. Gated. Parking. Laundry. Easy freeway access. 1 year lease. No pets. 4837-43-1/2 Kansas Street. 619-303-4969.

**NORTH PARK.** \$850. Large 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Gated. Stove. Refrigerator. Shared patio. Laundry. Parking. Cat OK. 4185 Texas, #3. 619-804-3325.

**NORTH PARK.** \$945. Large 2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment. Small, quiet property. Downstairs, newer carpet, coin laundry. No pets. 4127 33rd Street. Agent. 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

**NORTH PARK.** \$975. Nice 1 bedroom condo. Quiet, small complex. Downstairs. Washer/dryer. Refrigerator. Carpet. Spa. No pets. 2044 Robinson Avenue #B. Agent. 619-469-7790. www.westmanproperties.com.

**NORTH PARK.** \$995 rent. \$800 deposit. OAC. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Laundry. Parking space. No pets. At 4222 Alabama Street #18. Agent. 619-299-8515.

**NORTH PARK.** 1 bedroom, \$895/month with move-in special. Quiet. Pool, gated, laundry on site. No pets. 3051 Meade Avenue. Call 858-483-5111 x10. www.melroyproperties.com.

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**SMOG CHECK SPECIAL** \$13.95  
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Most vehicles, 1996 and newer. 1-hour diagnostic.

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No obligation. Most vehicles '96 and newer. '95 and older, call for details.

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**A/C SERVICE** \$19.95  
Inspect A/C operation, hoses and A/C belt. Most 4-cylinder cars. Trucks, vans, SUVs extra. Freon & oil extra.

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Includes parts & labor. Most vehicles.

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# BACK WHEN

## In the Reader

### Thirty Years Ago

**SILHOUETTE**, how about the little park by the ocean in La Jolla Sunday afternoon. Quiet Man.

**PYTHON FANS**: Does anyone know the number of albums that MP has made? If so, how many? Zoot & Dingo.

—CLASSIFIEDS, November 16, 1978

### Twenty-Five Years Ago

[Hedgecock] managed a local band called Marsha and the Esquires and frequently got them bookings at dances through promoter James Pagni, who since 1961 had been San Diego's major concert promoter.... In 1967 Hedgecock teamed up with UCSB classmate Scott Piering to book concerts on campus as the Hedgecock-Piering Company; with Pagni's help, the duo presented such acts as the Jefferson Airplane, Ray Charles, the Doors, Big Brother and the Holding Company, and Peter, Paul and Mary.

In the early spring of 1969 the fledgling company put on their first concert at the gym at San Diego State, featuring Paul Butterfield and the Sons of Champlin.

—CITY LIGHTS: "DOORS OPENED IN PAST FOR MAYOR," Thomas K. Arnold, November 17, 1983

### Twenty Years Ago

Even his supporters agree that congressman Jim Bates can be an irresistible target of ridicule, but *Union* columnist Tom Blair has lifted Bates bashing to new heights. Blair dredged up Bates's sexual-harassment problems eight times in the weeks leading up to the November 8 election, and two days after the Democratic congressman handily defeated challenger Rob Butterfield, Blair was on Bates's case again, this time pushing former Navy fighter pilot Randy "Duke" Cunningham as a potential 1990 Republican opponent.

—THE INSIDE STORY, Paul Krueger, November 17, 1988

### Fifteen Years Ago

My name is Clinton G. Brame. I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on November 14, 1942, at the Federal Building on Market and 12th Street, San Diego. From there I was dispatched to MCRD. Boot camp was the same for any young fella from any time — you hate your DI, you're going to kill him, until you get out, when all of a sudden everybody wants to buy him a present. But I'll say one thing — and I remember things very vividly from time to time — even after Tarawa and Saipan and everything, whenever us guys get together on

some of our little reunions, why, we're there no time at all when talk always reverts to boot camp.

—"TARAWA," as told to Ray Westberg, November 18, 1993

### Ten Years Ago

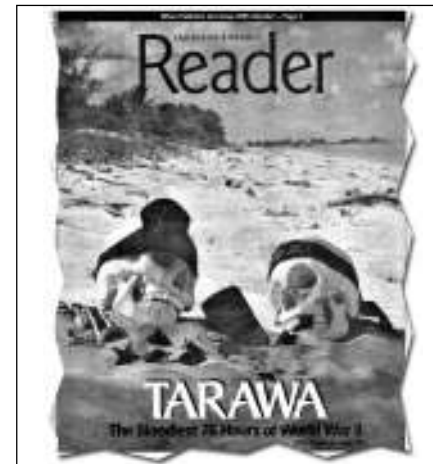
This cannot be a pleasant year for Seau. He'll turn 30 this January and the countdown to his retirement will begin. The Chargers' future is equally unpleasant. General manager Bobby Beathard made his play last spring, when, at great cost, he obtained Leaf and Means. The idea was to cobble a team together that could make the playoffs this season. It was a desperate long shot, motivated by job fear, the kind of gut-shot job fear all football executives feel when coming off a 4-12 season.

—SPORTING BOX: "NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP," Patrick Daugherty, November 19, 1998

### Five Years Ago

I have placed a whole chicken in the oven with quartered onions, sliced garlic, pepper, and olive oil for company. It is the first time I've cooked an entire chicken in years.

My roommate, Travis, and I pick up two acoustic guitars. I play an old Harmony Sover-



San Diego Reader, November 18, 1993

eign and he a Mountain. We do Marvin Gaye, Rolling Stones, and Bob Marley to much vociferous encouragement. A few neighbors instigate a game of hacky-sack, and someone passes around a get-well card for one of the neighbors recovering from multiple gunshot wounds.

I am not only enjoying the company of alcoholics, drug addicts, criminals, and the mentally ill, but I am doing so entirely sober.

—T.G.I.F., John Brizzolara, November 13, 2003

To get an online version of this column, go to [sdreader.com](http://sdreader.com). You can print it, email it to friends, and get other columns and stories by these authors.

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

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## Free Comic Books!

Comics given away all day by Southern California Comics, November 22. Open to all. 8280 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, #124. Call for directions: 858-715-8669.

**MEXICAN POTTERY,** Vintage. 1930s-1950s, rare. Serious collectors only. 760-290-3545.

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## GARAGE SALES

**PLACE ADS IN THE READER** by calling 619-235-8200, 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. Deadline: 5pm Tuesday.

**CARLSBAD.** Community yard sale to take place Sunday, November 16 from 8am-

2pm. 1980 La Costa Avenue. Huge variety of items! Great prices! Great values! 760-943-8891.

**CLAIREMONT.** Huge rummage sale, Saturday November 15, 8am-5pm, Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego, 92111.

**COLLEGE AREA.** Saturday, November 15, 8am-2pm. Christmas, decor, gifts, treadmill, bike, Beanie Babies, keyboard, clothing. For details/directions, or to see anything sooner, call 619-269-6552.

**ESTATE SALE.** Furniture, paintings, and artifacts. For items, location, and contact information go to [www.mikekox.com](http://www.mikekox.com) or call 619-295-5252.

**KEARNY MESA.** Huge rummage sale, Saturday, November 15, 8am-5pm, Al Bahr Shrine Center, 5440 Kearny Mesa Road, San Diego, 92111.

**PACIFIC BEACH.** Moving sale. Saturday, 11/15, 8am-1pm. Furniture, kitchenware, appliances, etc. 1951 Reed Avenue.

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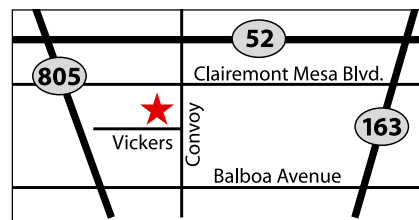
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# T.G.I.F.

Sympathy? Of course I want your sympathy. Who doesn't want someone's?

By John Brizzolara

It would have been two weekends ago, All Souls (morphed along our border into Day of the Dead), a date I have had fun with in the past. It is, if nothing else, an opportunity to run Halloween right into the ground. This avenue had not been presented to me before I moved to San Diego, having been left to observe now-obscure rituals in the Catholic liturgy for All Saints and All Souls (they did give us two in a row), and in my dotage I've pretty much forgotten what they are.

This is the first of what might be called a fine autumn morning here in Southern California. The air is blessedly dry, even crisp, like, say, a Chardonnay (not that I'm thinking of wine, honest), and there has not been a morning like this in memory. I am grateful; actually, as a kind of lifelong ingrate and malcontent, for some reason I have never had a problem with gratitude when it comes to fine fall mornings. The air conditioner has been silent so far, the first time since May. The summer has been a long one for me. You? Ah, well, who cares? I outrank you on this page. Hah! Moving on.

It is mornings like this that remind me of New York. Manhattan, to be specific. (Ah! And I may have left some of you right there. No matter. Bye.) And if this sounds pretentious, too bad, the promise of the infinite. Manhattan may be a poor substitute for the infinite, but in a pinch it will do. And on the heels of that thought come memories of the dead: too many of them, it seems, for a man my age, but there we are. Not to cast a pall on things, but last week I wrote

of my friend Gerry, whose death I learned about only recently, though he passed four years ago. I loved him, and it is appropriate that his memory stings this morning like the first bite of a green apple on a November morning.

And it is not just Gerry, or the dead, but I find on mornings like this an inexplicable sense of affection, unfocused, but I am convinced, not misplaced. I simply don't know what to do with it.

I have taken to writing this column with the television on in the background. The most distracting thing I can find (this morning it is some Dirty Harry movie) to see if my string of sentences can't win out against this implacable foe. It's stupid, yes. I don't remember ever consciously deciding to do this, but at some point I suppose I assumed that if I can win out against, say, *Lawrence of Arabia* or *The Dead Pool*, I may have something interesting. No guarantee, naturally. I may have picked up this trick (or self-hobbling perversity) from a New York SF editor named Roy Torgeson, who did the same thing. Roy is among the dead as well, and I remember him as he sat at his desk injecting himself full of insulin, eating a TV dinner, drinking from a bottle of Bombay gin, and looking up, telling me, "Congratulations! Two of your stories won out over *Ironside*. I can pay you \$300! I really like one of them, by the way. The other one scared me, though. Are you ill, by the way? Care for a drink?"

This was, in many ways, my introduction to the business, such as it is. One could do worse.

It is 11:56 a.m. and I have just turned the air conditioner on, having stuffed an old T-shirt under its condenser. My gratitude, sense of liberation, and promise are giving way to the ineluctable modality of that die-hard "Endless" surf movie in which I have placed myself in order to writhe out of that dour and Slavic reality of Chicago and my less than euphoric childhood. Sympathy? Of course I want your sympathy. Who doesn't want someone's? I expect none, naturally. Another gift from our border area has been a kind of Zen resignation: wanting nothing, rejecting nothing. After a while it actually happens, and I wonder how that would look in a tourist brochure or chamber of commerce literature for the potential homesteader in these parts?

In the mail yesterday was a package from a Roger Barbato, containing photos, war records, articles for the military press, etc., about and by my father, Robert John Brizzolara, a corporal in 1944-45 in the Philippines during WWII. The first thing I removed was a cardboard-framed wedding photo of my parents, Dad looking something like the old film star Robert Taylor, my mother like a corn-fed, Midwestern Elizabeth Taylor (coincidence unintended, but who knows?). I placed it on top of my closet unit. The dead again, overseeing everything. I intend to find Mr. B. and determine where he found this stuff. I am sure it was in a forfeited storage locker among manuscripts, art, journals, and photo albums of my own that I had long ago assumed lost. No doubt they are. Looking at Mom and



Dad, the line from Joyce's short story "The Dead" will not leave me: "Let the dead bury the dead and let the dead marry the dead." He was talking about Dublin — and my parents.

An excerpt from *Victory Is in the Air*. A radio play, Las Vegas Army Air Field, December 19, 1944. Script: Brizzolara.

"MUSIC: 'Adeste Fideles' up and out  
BUCK: Man is a creature of will, freely given and freely exercised.... In the garden of Eden man weighed paradise in one hand — and the apple in the other.... He chose the apple... here began the war between good and evil.... The spirit of man groped in darkness until one night, 1944 years ago, a new light came into the world.... In the cold, windswept hills near a little town called Bethlehem, simple men stood vigil near their sheep, unaware that this was the night that would be commemorated by men to the end of time.  
SOUND: Sneak in wind effect."

Oh, Dad, poor Dad. Has the apple fallen so far from the tree?

Any clue as to the fate of this stuff would be welcome. Any clue of any kind, regarding anything whatsoever would be welcome. And here is your cue to write TGIF: Get a Clue, Brizz @ P.O. Box 85803 San Diego CA 92186-5803.

To get an online version of this column, go to [sdreader.com](http://sdreader.com). You can print it, email it to friends, and get other T.G.I.F. columns or other stories by John Brizzolara.

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**TOYOTA TRUCK WANTED.** Looking to buy Toyota truck, 1980 to 2005. Have cash, ready to buy now. Jimmy, 619-654-0736.

**VOLKSWAGEN WESTFALIA** camper. 1984. Rebuilt engine, transmission, new tires, brakes. Camper top, clutch, 130,000 miles, stove, refrigerator, sink, sleeps 4. Runs like new. \$5950. 858-336-0260.

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