DOWNTOWN'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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## Apollo crew: NASA has a problem

Ex-astronauts chide space agency at Balboa Park museum parley



By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

Retired Navy Capt. James Arthur "Jim" Lovell, the central figure in one of the nation's most harrowing space-program dramas to date, has a spot of trouble counting to 10. He hits 5 without missing a beat; then the call of duty intervenes. A sound tech's voice-check request is thus satisfied, just not quite in the way he expected.

"5-4-3-2-1. I'm an old astronaut," Lovell deadpanned.

What can he say, y'know?

Come to think of it, Lovell, 80, doesn't have to say anything ever again, at least certainly not in his own defense. He's an American hero dozens of times over, with a list of accomplishments that stretches to — well — the moon and back. As chief of the fateful Apollo 13 mission in 1972, he and crewmembers Jack Swigert and Fred Haise drifted between here and eternity, frantically trading their crippled command module for a clunky lunar vessel never



This country has become so tangled in its own underwear that it can't do anything.

WILLIAM ANDERS
APOLLO 8
CO-PILOT

99

designed as a rescue craft. His plaintive "Houston, we have a problem" signaled a four-day, seat-of-the-pants trek home and an avalanche of fervent prayer from a spellbound Earth.

In fact, if it weren't for the crew's heroism, last Dec. 11 may well have been a very different day in

SEE **APOLLO**, Page 3



PHOTOS COURTESY NATIONAL AFRONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Apollo 8 astronauts Frank Borman, William Anders and James Lovell (inset, from left) were the first men to orbit the moon and to observe an earthrise (Anders took this iconic photo, although Borman had previously snapped a less heralded version in black and white). The men expressed their disillusionment over the state of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration during a news conference last month at the San Diego Air & Space

## New school could help to fund Downtown library, Sanders says

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The project is a long way from completion, and the city faces crushing financial burdens in the meantime. Nonetheless, San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders has reaffirmed the city's commitment to a new Downtown library. He cautioned, however, that private fundraising for the venue now appears to fall short of closing the gap in the total bill, adding that the city has spearheaded talks with a potential tenant as a means of compensation.

In a Dec. 19 letter to state librarian Susan Hildreth, Sanders stated that "[The city has] begun talks with the San Diego Unified School District to include a 300-student high school in the new Main Library." The letter notes that two floors of the new facility, assumed to be leaseable space, would be "well-suited" for a new school. The school district has set aside \$20 million from Proposition S, passed in November, for development of a school "that could be used to partner with the City to build the library."

San Diego High School, located on Downtown's eastern edge, is the only public secondary institution in the immediate area. The oldest of the 31 district schools, it has an enrollment of about 3,000.

The library project, set for completion in month.

2013, is estimated to cost \$185 million, with close to \$50 million in private funding already in the bank. Support from Centre City Development Corporation and a phase-two fundraising effort would help round out the remaining \$135 million. A state grant, which expired in December, was also to weigh in the balance. The city has obtained pledges to cover operating cost increases for the first five years.

The cleared and graded site is at the corner of Park Boulevard and 11th Avenue.

The letter states that "While the City and School District may have much of the funding in place to construct the current project, funding has not been identified to cover any major redesigns which may be caused by the inclusion of the school in the project or increases in the cost of construction due to time."

The letter says that smaller, so-called "niche" high schools such as the one under consideration address high dropout rates. Moreover, it notes, "[J]oint use with a high-tech modern library is an excellent way to encourage information literacy in a new generation of Californians."

The school board is scheduled to consider the matter at its next meeting, on Jan. 13. City Council will look at the proposal later this month.

# Padres sale will fuel the angst

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The implications are great and the implications are small, but at least they're implications. Finally, there's movement in the San Diego Padres' camp. And while it won't be known for months, the upshot may just augur well for the future of the team.

An agreement "in principle" has been reached to sell the team to a group of investors led by Jeff Moorad, former chief executive officer of the Arizona Diamondbacks. Moorad, one of the most recognized figures in sports commerce, owns a Hall of Fame NASCAR racing team and helped broker the deal that brought Manny Ramirez to the Boston Red Sox.

The good news is that Moorad's expertise is in sports. The bad news (at least for the impatient among us) is that his deliberateness will prolong questions about the team's on-field future. The club panicked in the final weeks last season, filling positions haphazardly; and acclaimed pitcher Jake Peavy's future is still in doubt even as baseball's winter meetings are a memory. Moorad ha smuch to arbitrate.

The franchise's sale price hasn't been divulged, but Fortune magazine placed worth at \$385 million.

## Charge!



PHOTO BY DON BALCH | DOWNTOWN NEWS
Philip Rivers waves to the crowd after
the Bolts cruise to a playoff win over
Indianapolis. See more on page 16.



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## Apollo CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Balboa Park. That's when the San Diego Air & Space Museum welcomed Lovell, retired Air Force Col. Frank Borman and retired Air Force Maj. Gen. William Anders for a special memorial in its own right. The Apollo 8 mission, on which the three became the first to orbit the moon and to witness an earthrise, would commence 40 years ago last Dec. 21 — and even as man would walk on the lunar surface seven months later, this program would set the stage for that event.

The decades have sealed the men's deep personal bond and. when it comes to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), fueled their disillusionment. But make no mistake: 17, and featured a docking with a and cleaned it out and I'm sure These guys are among our bravest, brightest and best, their humility and good humor coloring their place in history (just don't force a Borman-Anders debate about whose earthrise picture has the more lasting impact, or things could get mighty ugly). Time magazine may have named them its Men of the Year in 1968, but the public mind did the mag one bet-

"You saved 1968!" read a telegram to Borman from somebody he's never met.

And maybe, just maybe, they

"[Apollo 8]," Lovell said at a museum press conference, "accomplished something that gave an upbeat sense to the country after a rather tumultuous year of assassinations and riots. The Vietnam War was going on. We were able to help honor President Kennedy's commitment to getting a man on the moon before the end of the decade. I think those were the things that were the most significant about the flight of Apollo 8."

"Agreed," Borman, 80, added. "In that order, too."

Anders, 75, had a different take on the mission's significance. Vietnam had spawned lots of creative means to avoid the draft — and for him, Apollo 8 was maybe the most innovative of all.

"One of my lines," the Grossmont High School grad quipped, "is [President] Clinton only went to Canada. We went all the way to

Truth is, Bill was going to school in Great Britain at the time and opted for student deferments. He'd return to the US in 1970, not long after Apollo 12's Charles "Pete" Conrad Jr. became the first man to hit a golf ball and dance on the moon. The Apollo program would end with its 18th mission in July of



From left, Frank Borman, William Anders and James Lovell today, with a San Diego Air & Space Museum model re-entry module in the background.

craft carrying two Soviet cosmo-

Budget constraints would spawn various reshufflings and flight cancellations along the way. And while NASA has triumphed in many respects since then and touts a 2009 budget of \$17.6 billion, the men are quick to point out the agency's colossal shortcomings and the reasons behind them.

"This country," Anders grunted,

Now, you can't even build over here in Ramona without putting radio collars on rats! It's nuts!

**FRANK BORMAN** 



"has become so tangled in its own underwear that it can't do anything. It can't even fight in Iraq without a bunch of lawyers getting [involved]. And the risk-tolerance level at NASA has gone way down, mainly because they're not really

accomplishing much."

"It's true," Lovell added. "The [international] space station right now only has enough people to maintain it, without doing anything positive as far as education or experimentation or anything like that. It can support three people, whose job it is to maintain it."

"You couldn't even build a Kennedy [Space] Center today anyway," Borman said, "because of the environmental impact. [The 1975, when NASA was a child of contractors] went down to Florida

killed alligators, and they got it done. Now, you can't even build over here in Ramona without putting radio collars on rats! It's

Today's NASA, Anders said, faces the biggest impediment of all - a diminished level of public endorsement.

"Forty years ago," he explained, "the farmer in Iowa was willing to put his tax money into beatin' those dirty Commies. He didn't really care that much about the money and the science. Now, even if the tax expenditure were adjusted for inflation, we couldn't go to the moon again because of the congressional view on the budget and the lack of political support."

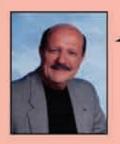
But in 2004, the Bush administration hawked the idea of a return to the moon, with George himself advocating a lunar landing by 2015.

"In my view," Anders said, "President Bush doesn't really know what he's talking about. Somebody's got him to use the moon as a steppingstone to go on to Mars, if that's even possible. And he's not funding it, so to me, it's a hollow promise.

"What we ought to be doing is quietly going back to the moon... not because we're trying to beat the Chinese or the Indians. We want to go back as human beings, not as Americans, to use whatever the moon can be used for, for radiotelescopes and that kind of thing — not to go back to find helium-3 and a bunch of rocks and all that other stuff.'

'The reason we stopped [the moon launches] at [Apollo] 17," Lovell added, "was people thought the risk was too great. But I think that by going back to the moon, we can reduce the risk as we improve our hardware to get there. We can

SEE APOLLO, Page 12



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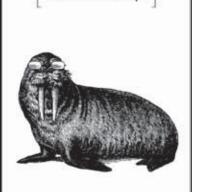
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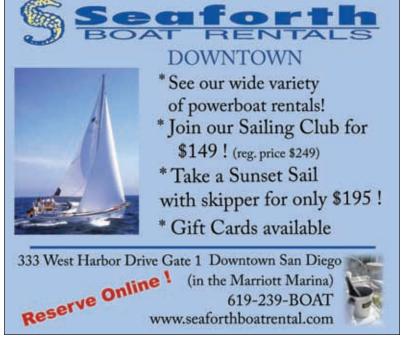
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## Trail, DNA evidence lead to arrest, charge in 1971 murder

By NEAL PUTNAM | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Gerald Dean Metcalf must have wondered when — or if - San Diego Police would knock on his door to ask him about killing a Pacific Beach man he met at Horton Plaza almost four decades ago.

It took 37 years, and thanks to DNA evidence and modern fingerprint technology, police say the 1971 murder of Gerald Jackson, 27, is solved.

death when Metcalf was 24 years old. The knock on his door by San Diego Police Detective John Tefft occurred in August 2008, where Metcalf was living in a house with his wife in the 21000 block of Easy Street in Chandler, Tex., a town of 2,000.

Metcalf was extradited to California and now resides in the Downtown central jail on \$1 million bail. He has pleaded not guilty and his preliminary hearing is set for Jan. 15 in San Diego Superior Court.

The suspect in Jackson's murder was named after a paid intern with the police department, Gabrielle Wimer, 24, was looking at the cold-case file and discovered that investigators had fingerprints from the murder scene. The prints were run through the FBI's database and matched Met-

According to court records, during a visit to Metcalf's home in Texas, the suspect told Tefft, a homicide detective with the department's cold case team, that he was picked up by Jackson in Horton Plaza on Dec. 29, 1971, and taken to Jackson's apartment in Pacific Beach. Jackson's nude body was later found in a bedroom of his Hornblend Street apartment. He had been stabbed 55 times.

Tefft learned that Metcalf was arrested in 1984 in Texas

for murder but that a jury had acquitted him. Metcalf's palmprints were taken in that 1984 arrest, and they matched the palmprint found on Jackson's recovered stereo

Authorities wanted to match the fingerprints and palmprints with Metcalf again, and Tefft obtained a warrant from a Texas judge to take the prints of the suspect. On Aug. 27, Tefft and two Texas officials knocked on his door.

Metcalf agreed to accompany authorities to a Texas sher-Metcalf, now 61, is charged with stabbing Jackson to iff's station, where his prints were taken again, but he wasn't told initially that this was for a 1971 murder investigation. Metcalf was not under arrest, but he was asked if he knew Gerald Jackson or had an explanation why his fingerprints would be in Jackson's car or apartment.

> Initially, Metcalf said he had memory problems and could not recall anything that happened in 1971 in San Diego. He

told Tefft he wanted to terminate the interview and go home, which he was allowed

The San Diego Police Department recently extradited Gerald Metcalf, 61, from Chandler, Tex., and charged him with the 1971 murder of Gerald Jackson, Jackson was stabbed 55 times inside his Hornblend Street apartment before his assailant stole his car, wallet and stereo.

to do. Tefft asked him if he could phone him the next day, and Metcalf said yes.

The next day, Metcalf's wife answered the phone call from Tefft, and Tefft wrote that "she informed me the two of them talked throughout the evening" after he returned home. Tefft added, however, that she was given no details.

When Metcalf talked with Tefft, he was quoted as saying, "I never told anyone about what happened in San Diego. I never told my wife." Metcalf agreed to be interviewed in person again.

Metcalf then confessed to the slaying in a tape-recorded interview conducted by Tefft outside his home. Metcalf said he remembered being picked up by a man and taken to his apartment. Metcalf said he went with the man because he was "cold, tired and hungry." He said he didn't remember the man's name.

Metcalf said Jackson asked him to sleep in the same bed with him, and he agreed, telling the detective he took off his clothes and got in the bed with Jackson.

Metcalf said Jackson tried to initiate sex with him, which he refused. Metcalf told the detective Jackson grabbed a knife and ordered him to perform oral sex. Metcalf claimed he was in "the fight of [his] life" and "blacked out" the details.

Metcalf said he fled the apartment and took Jackson's car keys. He spent the night in the vehicle and remembers leaving it somewhere with the keys in it.

When asked about pawning the victim's stereo and taking his wallet, Metcalf said he did not remember. The detective showed Metcalf a copy of the handwriting on the pawn

SEE ARREST, Page 9

## New state laws crack down on texting drivers & copper thieves

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Unless you've been driving on the freeway with your head down thumbing through your cell phone, then you should have

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seen the electronic freeway signs telling drivers that using your cell phone to send text messages is a no-no as of Thursday Jan. 1, 2009. That's just one of several new laws that came into effect

If you're caught text messaging while driving, it carries a minimum cost of \$20 to \$50 apart from local court costs and other fees, according to a statement on the California Department of Motor Vehicles website.

The law is an extension to the "hands free" law that started July 1, 2008. The law mandates motorists to use a hands-free device to talk and drive, said California Highway Patrol Public

Back when copper was over \$3 a pound ... people were stealing everything.

**ROBIN FAULKNER** 

Information Officer Eric New-

With the new rules in place, police are looking for people fid-

while on the on the road. GPS mapping systems with big screens obstructing a driver's view are also prohibited, he said.

> "Slowly but surely [legislators] are realizing that anything that takes your attention off the road is potentially dangerous," Newbury said.

He said it opens "Pandora's box" for possible legislation addressing eating and putting on make-up while behind the wheel.

Also, tougher punishments for repeat drunk drivers aim to make life miserable for those caught driving under the influence, he said. Police can write a citation or impound a vehicle if they catch somebody on probation for a previous drunk driving charge with any amount of alcohol in their system, he said. It can result in an automatically suspended driver's license.

Other laws that took effect this year include tougher regulations sellers have to show identifica- www.gov.ca/issue. tion, give a thumbprint and

dling repeatedly with their phone receive payment by check after three days, Robin Faulkner, owner of Pacific Beach Recycling

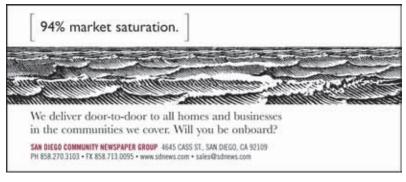
> The new rule applies to those selling material such as copper, according to the text of the bill.

Although certified by the State of California, Faulkner said she doesn't deal in scrap metal and so doesn't have a license filed with the city to sell scrap. The new regulation is intended to prevent copper and scrap metal thieves from selling stolen recyclables, she said.

Last year, the city saw a rash of copper and scrap metal thefts hit schools and construction sites around the city.

"Back when copper was over \$3 a pound...people were stealing everything. A lot of people lost their [business] licenses," she

Every year California legislators pass hundreds of laws. A full list of all the bills signed or for those trying to sell recyclable vetoed by Governor Arnold materials. Recyclable material Schwarzenegger can be found at





Road:

## **CCDC** may lend hand in city Petco payments

Centre City Development Corp. (CCDC), the city's downtown redevelopment agency, may help the city with its indebtedness on Petco Park.

Under the plan, CCDC would cover the city's bond payments on the park, which total \$153 million, through 2013. It then would begin repaying its own loans, which total \$116.3 million, back to the city in increments of \$10 million every

The city's loans to CCDC, which helped get it started, date to about 1978 and at that time totaled \$42.5 million. CCDC's 2009 budget totals \$236 million.

CCDC was to consider the proposal, which has been advanced by the city before, at its Wednesday meeting.

## **Photo device mounted** at downtown intersection

A Downtown intersection has been newly outfitted with red-light photo safety (RLPS) devices designed to create a safer environment for San Diego motorists.

the corner of 10th Avenue and F Street, operates via cameras mounted on poles and sensors buried in the pavement near the intersection. Once the signal turns red, the system is activated and will recognize a vehicle that trips the sensors and travels into the intersection.

A motorist caught in the intersection while the light is yellow will not be photographed. The citations carry a minimum \$401 penalty.

Selections of the intersections are made by the police department and the traffic division. They're

# **Streetsweeps**

Notes from the heart of America's Finest City

edited by Martin Jones Westlin

The RLPS system, mounted at based on traffic history and vol-tion, has planted its 4 millionth ume, collision type and input form

residents.

Three intersections in other parts of the city have been similarly outfitted.

operation at 10th Avenue and A Street.

## **Annual ArtWalk festival** takes its sponsor's name

It's a common practice at sports stadiums and bowl games nationwide – and now, a fabled San Diego arts festival has taken up the cause.

ArtWalk, the city's yearly celebration of the visual and performing arts, is now known officially as Mission Federal ArtWalk, in recognition of the event's anchor corporate sponsor. Mission Federal Credit Union, with nearly 130,000 members and assets of \$1.8 billion, will spearhead funding that keeps the event free and open to the public.

It also will play a large part in support of children's education, a major item in the event's agenda.

The 2009 Mission Federal Art-Walk will take place April 25 and 26 across 16 blocks of Downtown's Little Italy neighborhood.

About 100,000 regularly attend the event.

## Floresta hits a mark in anti-deforestation effort

Floresta, a San Diego-based international charity that works to end poverty by fighting deforesta-

tree worldwide.

Floresta, which has been planting trees since 1984, has recently noted a growth in the scope of its work, due chiefly to the role of the An RLPS system is currently in environment in poverty-stricken countries. Trees, the organization explains, are a source of nourishment and sustainability to the hundreds of millions who live in chronic poverty.

Nearly 75 percent of the trees planted are in the Dominican Republic. Floresta has also helped with reforestation efforts in Mexico, Haiti, Tanzania and Thailand.

Floresta has established an endowment fund in support of its work. It hopes to raise \$50 million by 2020 toward its efforts in reforestation, farming and animal husbandry.

## Skate parks untended amid city budget woes

Body: The city's five skate parks will remain unsupervised indefinitely because of city budget cuts, according to a statement from the office of Mayor Jerry Sanders.

It costs the city about \$282,571 a year to pay staff to supervise the parks. The city has also stopped charging park entry fees, which previously helped cover some of the cost of staff.

The city faces an estimated \$53 million 2009 budget shortfall.

Aside from the facility at Robb Field Recreation Center, other skate parks eliminating supervisor positions include:

- Robb Field Recreation Center, 2525 Bacon St.;
- Bill and Maxine Wilson Skate Park, 702 S. 30th St.;
- Rancho Peñasquitos Skate Park, 10111 Carmel Mountain
- Charles L. Lewis III Memorial Skate Park, 6610 Potomac St.; and
- Carmel Valley Skate Park, which just opened in November.

The skate parks are open from about 10 a.m. to dusk.

## San Diego publisher hired by 944 Media

Lee Ann Hoshaw, a media sales veteran whose experience includes work for several major national and international firms, has been named publisher of the San Diego edition of 944, a monthly lifestyle magazine featuring articles on fashion, music, entertainment and

Hoshaw has 20 years' experience in national and international media sales with firms including Microsoft Corporation, America Online, Time-Warner and the American Automobile Association. As publisher, Hoshaw will focus on increased marketing of San Diego's travel industry. Visitors spent \$555 million in San Diego in October of 2008, the latest monthly figure available from the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Parent company 944 Media, based in Scottsdale, Ariz., also publishes in San Francisco, Las Vegas, Phoenix, Orange County and Los Angeles.



PHOTO BY RODNEY REGALA | DOWNTOWN NEWS

**GIVING BACK: Students from Grant Elementary School and The Museum School** donated \$1,500 to San Diego's Make-A-Wish Foundation over the holidays. The students won the funds in a gingerbread-house contest coordinated by chefs at the Manchester Grand Hyatt Downtown. Students, along with Santa and his wife, Grant Principal Bruce McGirr (left), Hyatt general manager Ted Kanatas (right) and program creator Kelly Commerford (third from left) presented the check.





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## PINION

## **GUEST EDITORIAL**

## The Grand Jury — where democracy is at its best

By WALTER D. HOFFMAN

Thanks to the grand jury system in California, democracy is alive and well in San Diego.

There are two types of Grand Juries. Most commonly, people think of a Criminal Grand Jury, which is impaneled by the district attorney to evaluate a particular case. These members are picked from the regular jury pool that we all get called up on from time to time. The "Civil" Grand Jury is quite different. To be on a "Civil" Grand Jury you need to get an application — be interviewed by a Superior Court Judge — and then 19 are picked by lottery to serve a one-year term.

This is quite a commitment. I did it for a year. From 2004 through 2005. Every day. At least six hours each day. Yep! For a whole year! From July 1 until June 30. A valuable, eye-opening experience.

By state law we were required to visit every jail in the county and to report on conditions we found there. And make suggestions of any changes or improvements we felt were advisable and appropriate; actually, recommendations in the form of a "report" that is filed all throughout the year. And then at the end of the year in the form of a book, which also gets put on to a web site: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/grandjury (go to "reports").

Any citizen can file a "complaint" with this Grand Jury of something they believe should be investigated. "Whistle-blowing" at its best! Each of these requests is carefully evaluated for merit and value, and handled in a careful and serious way. Each of the 19 jurors has an equal voice and vote. No "boss" to look over your shoulder or "veto" your hard work. Long, thorough, intensive investigation is done through the work of various committees that they set up for themselves to deal with all possible areas of concern. Then deliberation is undertaken. Sometimes heated. But always with the intent of reaching a fair, reasonable, equitable recommendation.

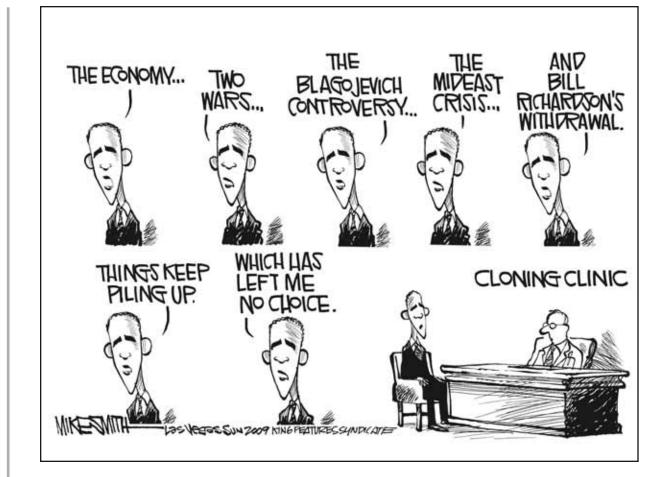
Oh, yes. Some reports are not spectacular. Some are very ordinary. (I admit, some were not all that sensible!) But, there were many that made significant changes for the betterment of our community. How about getting your county tax refund or rebate in 30 days instead of nine months? How about the Probation Department sending school reports in a timely manner to the new school? How about improving the staffing of the health inspections of your local restaurant? A few details: You get \$25 for each day you serve. You get free parking in the Hall of Justice. If you prefer to use public transportation, you get tickets or passes on buses or Metrolink. You go on many trips, tours, outings, visits. Not just the jails, but to the D.A.'s Office. The Sheriff's Department takes you on a helicopter ride.

After one year you will be proud of you contribution to your community. You will know one heck of a lot more about your city and county. For me, it did get a bit boring at times. You have to tolerate listening to some folks who enjoy their soapbox, their day of fame as they grandstand their trivia. But this will be overshadowed by an almost inspirational feeling that you were involved with "democracy at its best."

Here's how to volunteer for this valuable service:

- 1. Get an application from: www.sdcounty.ca.gov/grandjury. Then go to "forms," then to "application form.'
- 2. Fill it out and send in to the address given on the "instructions. 3. Wait till you get a phone call for an appointment for an
- interview with a judge.
  - Do the Interview as instructed.
- Wait to be notified by the Office of the Superior Court Presiding Judge for the "drawing of the names" (drawn by lottery in June so that each Supervisorial District is equally rep-
- 6. If your name gets drawn, look forward to an exciting "democratic" experience.

- La Jollan Walter D. Hofmann, M.D., is past president, San Diego Grand Jurors Association.



## **COMMENTARY**

## It's a brand-new year - so relax, already

#### By NATASHA JOSEFOWWITZ

No, it's not going to get any better — those of us who live on a semester basis were hoping that "next semester" it would be easier. Those of us who make New Year's resolutions say that "next year" we won't be as frantic. Some of us say we will have time to relax more after we get caught up.

But the reality is that "overload" is a major issue, and it's only going to get worse. There are several reasons for this: Each of us knows far more people than our parents did or that we knew even 10 years ago. These people have expectations that we will spend some time

So, even what used to be leisure time, having fun with friends, has become a burden — something we must do if we want to keep up all these friendships.

I have come to realize that when someone calls to ask if we could get together three weeks from Wednesday, and I happen to have a blank space in my calendar, I will automatically say "yes" and put his name down.

only blank in my calendar without macy of the request. a thought as to whether I really want to see that person in three weeks. In other words, I give control of my calendar to whoever the next caller is. And then we have to reciprocate.

is so much information available now that not keeping up with it puts us behind. Expectations from bosses as to performance mean working evenings and weekends.

Expectations from colleagues for a helping hand, a chat or a drink after work mean time away from families, who also have expectations of their own — for most of us are spouses, parents or children of aging parents.

I believe that the cause of much of the stress we feel is not meeting others' and our own expectations of what we should do or how we

The best way to monitor overload would be to not accept anything new, no matter how enticing, unless you can take off an equal amount of hours from some other project.

We tend to add on but not to reduce. Learning to postpone, delegate or refuse is something at which most of us need to get better. The skill to say "no" or "not me" or "not now" is difficult to acquire because it feels like if we reject the other's request, we are either Thus, I've probably filled the rejecting the person or the legiti-

> Saying "no" to someone means other things have a higher priority, and we don't like telling people that their needs have less importance. In other words, we're too nice, afraid we won't be liked if we

At work it isn't any easier. There refuse — or too insecure, afraid that there won't be another opportunity.

Well, we may be right, but is the price worth it?

We have theater and concert subscriptions that we attend because we have paid for the tickets even though we'd rather stay home that night.

On the other hand, we live in a community that requires some obligations. The result of all this: a feeling of always catching up but never being caught up, running from emergency to crisis, the panic when facing any unscheduled event, feeling we're depriving all those around us by not meeting their legitimate expectations of time together.

And, of course, we have totally lost sight of our own needs. We do not exercise enough, we eat fast foods, take work with us on holidays and fall into bed at night so exhausted that we fall asleep watching the TV.

Being overbooked and feeling overloaded is becoming the national complaint. We need to support one other by being less demanding, lowering our expectations of others and ourselves.

And I have a foolproof New Year's resolution: "I will not improve this year." ■

Josefowitz is a regular contributor to La Jolla Village News.

DOWNTOWN NEWS



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## Mills Act tax relief changes: Everybody wins

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Who knew having an older home could save you money? Historically designated homes recognized by the city can save owners thousands in taxes.

The statewide Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program, which creates government contracts to grant tax abatements to property owners, started in the 1970s. The city of San Diego adopted a Mills Act program in 1995, but it recently came under the mayor's budget microscope.

As a result, the City Council recently needed to look for ways to pay for the program while keeping checks on the estimated \$1.1 million in tax breaks being given to homeowners so as to not to create a revenue drain.

"So our goal was to recover the actual staff costs," said Cathy Winterrowd, a senior planner with the city. "We didn't have a number in mind that we wanted to generate a certain amount of revenue; it was just to recover staff costs.

Fee hikes totaling about \$3,000 per home were among the changes adopted by the City Council in recent weeks. To be fair to those waiting in line, the council also decided that homes awaiting historic site designation would pay about \$500 instead of \$1,185. The designation is a prerequisite for a Mills Act deal with the city.

Historic districts along Downtown's Gaslamp Quarter continue to drive tourism, according to city officials. Balboa Park has a nationally recognized historic designation, according the San Diego Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO)

Gaslamp historical landmarks

## Sharp care unit to close in April

Local residents seeking posttreatment care at the Sharp Cabrillo Skilled Nursing Facility in Point Loma will have to look beyond their own backyard soon. The 76-bed facility will close when its lease expires April 3.

"Operations have been at a significant loss," said John Cihomsky, vice president of public relations for Sharp Cabrillo.

Cihomsky said many factors forced the decision to close the facility, including the age and maintenance costs of the building, low insurance reimbursement rates for treatment, high utility costs, increased medical supply costs and lease expenses.

In addition, Cihomsky said the skilled nursing center lost about \$7 million last year.

There are 82 other skilled nursing facilities in the county, 45 of which are within a 15-mile radius of Sharp Memorial Hospital in Kearny Mesa.

And of the patients discharged from Sharp Memorial who required additional care, 35 percent were sent to Sharp Cabrillo Skilled Nursing Facility - the other 65 percent were sent to the 82 non-Sharp facilities.

Currently, Sharp Cabrillo has about 70 patients, with an average patient stay of 23 days.

The patients already admitted into the facility will not be affected by the closing, said hospital

The building used to be called Doctor's Hospital and was purchased and renamed by Sharp in

House, one of the first downtown residences and supposedly downtown's oldest remaining structure. Davis, a prominent San Franciscan, erected his saltbox-style home on the East Coast, had it shipped around Cape Horn and built its foundation on Market Street in 1850. It's presently located at 410 Island Ave. and houses The Gaslamp Quarter Historical Foundation.

The George White & Anna Gunn Marston House, located at 3525 Seventh Ave. just inside Balboa Park's northwest boundary, is an Arts & Crafts-designed historic home built for civic leader George W. Marston in 1905.

The city now requires that new applicants for a Mills Act agreement present a 10-year plan to reinvest savings back into the program. The City Council's recently adopted changes also cap any tax losses to the city at about \$200,000 per year for the program.

The city loses a little under \$100,000 in tax revenue every year because of new contracts, according to city reports.

Though the preservation community and the city butted heads

Veggies

Compost

include the William Heath Davis over the proposed changes, at least one homegrown home historian said a formula involving more fees for better regulation works to keep the historic ambiance of some 885 homes in the city's Mills Act program.

'The fees would probably reduce some of the demand for the program, but the tradeoff is [that] we get better control over the properties in the program," said Bruce Coons, SOHO executive director.

University of San Diego economics and real estate professors concluded in a report issued this summer that a historical designation can raise the value of a home as much as 16 percent. "Some economists call it an externality, or the 'halo effect,' but the idea is simple. Having those [historical] houses in the neighborhood increases the values of all the houses in the neighborhood," Coons said.

This is on top of the boon to local craftsmen and historic-home specialists like Ron May, an archeologist and president of historic preservation company Legacy 106, compiles reports on historic homes looking for an official designation.

"It's truly foolish to penalize this

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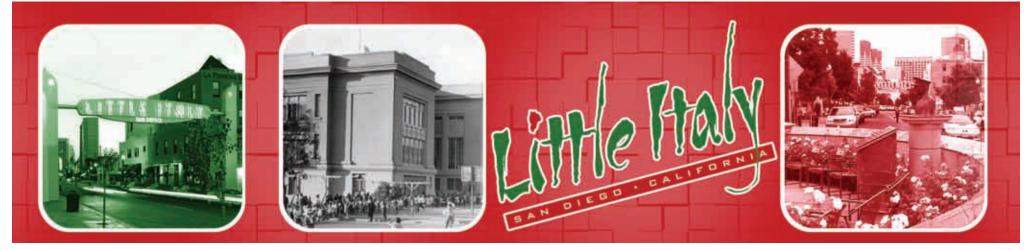
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## Little Italy's Calendar of Events

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING REMINDER!**

FYI! The Little Italy Association Board of Directors voted in its December 2007 meeting to go back to monthly meetings. On the even months (February, April, June,

Board will conduct its Business Meetings for general business and on the odd months (January, March, May, July, September and November) the Board will conduct its Informational Meetings for informational presentations and left

over general business. If you would 1/09, Fri. - Kettner Nights like to be added to the email reminder list, please email your request to Chris@LittleItalySD.com

Held from 6:00 to 9:00PM. In downtown San Diego's Little Italy, the art has as much flavor as the espresso and pasta. The art and design district, modeled after New York City's trendy SoHo and Chelsea districts, offers art-lovers

**Anniversary Sale** 

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and design patrons diverse resources. Come explore this evergrowing distinctive neighborhood with an art walk through the businesses and studios on Kettner Boulevard and beyond. For more information, please call Perry Meyer Fine Art at 619-358-9512.

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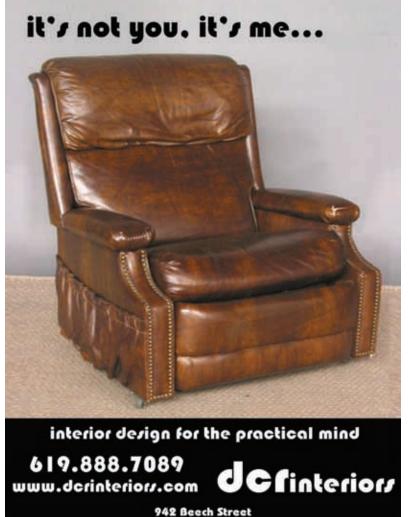
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## **Metcalf**

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

shop receipt, and even Metcalf said it looked like his handwriting.

"They got the right guy. The issue is why did it happen," said Metcalf's attorney, Gary Gibson, to a reporter.

"The guy tried to rape him. He was in shock. The issue isn't who killed Mr. Jackson. It's not a whodunit from 1971. It's a 'Why did it happen?" Gibson said.

Gibson said Metcalf was homeless in 1971 when he met Jackson and went home with him for that reason. Metcalf is not gay, Gibson said, and he says he acted in self-defense.

Metcalf is now "an old, sick man," the attorney said, adding, "He is on a liver transplant list."

Gibson said "a lot of the material witnesses are dead," including many of Jackson's friends but also police department officials who investigated the case.

"I was amazed at the quality of the investigation (in 1971)," Gibson said. "It is the oldest case I've ever handled. It takes you back to a different time, different place."

Tefft asked Metcalf about the 1984 murder case brought against him in Texas that involved the death of friend fatally struck with a baseball bat. Metcalf said the jury acquitted him because he acted in self-defense.

Pacific Beach resident Gerald Jackson had finished his late-night shift as a bartender before heading

# Tech advances and an intern's curiosity mark Jackson murder trail

over to cruise Horton Plaza at 2:30 a.m. on chilly winter evening at the end of December 1971.

Downtown then was a lot different from today's Gaslamp District that draws millions of people amid

boutique shopping and upscale dining. Within walking distance from City Hall, where Pete Wilson was sworn in as the city's 27th mayor a few weeks earlier, were all-night adult movie houses, such as the Pussycat Theater, and rundown flophouses. Sailors flocked to the area, some renting lockers so they could change into civilian clothing.

That night, Jackson met a former sailor who was down on his luck, cold, hungry and tired. The man agree to go with Jackson to his Pacific Beach apartment in the 1500 block of Hornblend

Jackson offered the man scotch, fed him, and told him he could spend the night.

44

I was amazd at the quality of the investigation... It is the oldest case I've ever handled. It takes you back to a different time...

GARY GIBSON



When Jackson failed to show up at his post office job several days later, two friends of his showed up at his apartment on Jan. 2, 1972. They apparently forced their way inside and discovered Jackson's nude body in his bedroom. He had been stabbed at least 55 times, court records say.

Police investigators and technicians looked for clues in the apartment and took numerous fingerprints and blood samples found at the crime scene. The investigation was so thorough that officers even saved a cigarette butt as evidence, a decade or more before crime labs began using DNA to link suspects to crimes.

Police discovered that Jackson's car was missing. It was a 1971 Ford Torino, a model that is no longer manufactured. Police put out a Teletype notification to all law enforcement agencies after they determined the Torino was stolen.

Also taken from the apartment was an AM/FM stereo receiver, a Nivico model with a serial number.

The car was found in Calexico on Jan. 6, 1972, and police there notified San Diego police. Pawn shops in Calexico were checked, and amazingly, Jackson's stereo receiver was found. On it, in dried blood, was a palmprint. The fingerprints and palmprints were preserved.

The person who pawned the stereo used Jackson's stolen identification. Because of that, police issued a warrant for the arrest of anyone using the identification of Gerald Jackson.

Police detectives interviewed Jackson's friends, acquaintances and checked at gay bars and bathhouses, but no real lead was found. A list of military men on unauthorized leave was requested, along with their fingerprints, but this produced no suspects.

The fingerprints of Jackson's

The fingerprints of Jackson's friends and acquaintances were taken, and they were eliminated as suspects in the crime since they didn't match the fingerprints found at the scene and on the stereo.

At the time, computer fingerprint analysis did not exist in 1972. Eventually, the police department inactivated the case.

It took 37 years for technology to catch up to the investigation, when, on Jan. 20, 2008, Gabrielle Wimer, an intern assigned to the San Diego Police Department homicide cold case team, requested the department re-examine the evidence collected from Jackson's apartment.

Investigators submitted the fingerprints to the FBI's database, and on April 30, the FBI notified the cold case team they had a match



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## "San Diego Doctor 'Spills the Beans' and Reveals How to... Live Life Without Neck Pain, Back Pain, or Headaches"

## Dear friend,

Suffering from back or neck pain can be one of the worst things that any person can go through. Believe me, I know.

Thirteen years ago, I suffered from extreme back pain. In fact, the pain was so strong that I would get muscle spasms for days at a time. I even remember one instance where I just couldn't stand the agony any longer, and I broke down and cried.

It was at this point that one of my friends recommended that 1 go and see a chiropractor. To be honest with you, I had no idea how a chiropractor could help me. I always thought that the only solution was to take an over-the-counter medication, like aspirin, Motrin or Tylenol.

But since these medications weren't helping any, I decided to give the chiropractor a try. After the first adjustment, I didn't know whether to thank my friend for recommending me to the chiropractor, or scolding him for not telling me sooner!

was worried that the chiropractic adjustment would hurt, or that it wouldn't work. Well, I was wrong on both counts. Not only did the adjustment not hurt, in actually made me feel a lot better. And as for my fear that the chiropractic adjustment wouldn't be effective, well it worked so well that I decided to become a chiropractor myself!

This was then, now I help people live life free from back and neck pain, just like I was helped. I also help people who suffer from headaches, carpal tunnel, numbness in the shoulders and legs, and people who have been involved in sports injuries and car accidents.

In fact, here is what a few of my patients had to say about me...

## \* UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL \*

"I was having so much back pain, neck pain and terrible headaches that affected my job. I was misdiagnosed so many times but now, I live pain free since I've been seeing Dr. Wong. My husband and kids used to call me 'grumpy' but not anymore! Thank you Dr. Wong!"

Ligaya A, RN, San Diego, CA.



Dr. Wong (right) takes some time from his busy schedule to talk with Registered Nurse and former migraine headache sufferer, Ligaya She is one of many patients who's life has changed since she has been seeing Dr. Wong.
(STAFF PHOTO)

And just like I helped those people described, I also want to help you. So if you suffer from neck or back pain, headaches, carpal tunnel, numbness, or have been involved in a sports injury or car accident, give our office a call at (619) 222-8885.



When I first came to Dr. Wong, I was in constant pain and could barely walk up the steps to his office. Now, after being under his care, exercise to strengthen my back and body, I can honestly say that I am pain free! I am no longer taking any pain medication. My bowling game is better and I am now walking about 3 miles a day. I am back to enjoying life as I did before my back problems.

Larry D, San Diego, CA

In fact, if you call our office by January 31st 2009 , I will provide you with a full exam for only \$47. And when I say complete, I mean complete! I'll see what's wrong with you, take any x-rays that might be needed, go through your exam with you, and provide you with a detailed report on what is the cause of the problem, and what is the Other chiropractors charge as much as \$270 for the same exact exam that I am offering you for only \$47.

And don't worry, you won't be obligated for any further care. The only thing that I'll do is find out what is causing your problem, and what you can do about it. If you decide to stick with me with further care, I'll let you know about how long it will take to correct the problem, and how much it will end up costing.

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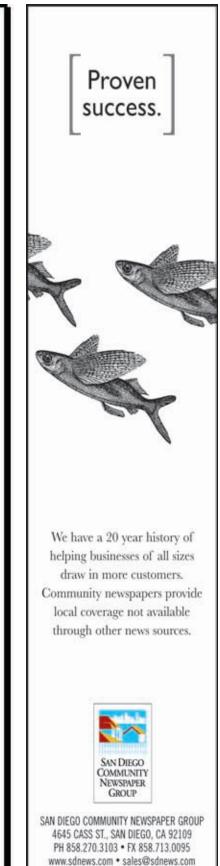
So right now, pick up the phone and call me at (619) 222-8885. I'll set up an appointment for you to come in and see me. Sooner than you think, you can be enjoying life without pain and being able to do what you love to do.

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Dr. Henry Wong, DC

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## **Winter Skin Care**

By: Melanie Vassuer

inter is without a doubt the hardest season on the skin. The dry winter air, along with wind and an extreme drop in temperature, all rob our skin of moisture, often contributing to intense dryness, flakiness and roughness. This is mainly caused by a decline in blood circulation as well as lowered sebum secretions. Because the skin's natural barrier is often insufficient against these conditions, the skin is often left feeling dry and dehydrated. This condition is further compounded by interior central heating, which aggravates the dehydrated skin even more by depriving it of further moisture. You will have to take special care of your skin during the winter months to keep your healthy, hydrated and looking beau-

The most important thing to do is to make sure you are properly hydrating your skin. Make sure you drink at least 64 oz. of water every day and limit your caffeine and alcohol intake which act as diuretics releasing fluid from the body. Also remember to take your vitamins they not only help keep your body healthy but your skin as well. You can also help increase hydration by taking Flax. It is known to significantly hydrate skin and while decreasing roughness and dryness in the skin.

You may also need to change your moisturizer from what you use in the summer to a more hydrating formula. Some of you with oilier skin may shy away from the idea of a heavier moisturizer however there are for- vsskin.com mulations out there that contain non- 619-236-9095

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comedogenic ingredients that can boost up your hydration level without leaving your skin feeling like an oil slick or causing a breakout. Look for something with a hyaluronic acid which is a humectant that helps your skin to retain moisture.

Exfoliation an important part of your home care regimen to keep up on in the winter. Applying moisturizer to unexfoliated, dead, skin can create a barrier blocking your moisturizer from really penetrating through to the new skin underneath. Proper removal of that dead, dry skin will allow your moisturizer to hydrate better and penetrate deeper. Exfoliation doesn't need to be and should not be done every day, just twice a week with a gentle exfoliant is enough to keep your skin softer and more hydrated.

Showering can also act at a moisture thief. A lot of people don't realize that while long hot showers may feel nice, they rob our bodies of moisture so try taking shorter showers with warm water. Pat skin dry and apply a moisturizer to your skin while it is still damp to help lock in the moisture.

Getting a good night sleep allows the mind and body to recuperate. If you don't your oxygen levels drop which means your cells will not renew as quickly leading to degeneration in the skin and aging. Try to get about eight hours of sleep a night and receive the painless benefits a rested body has to offer.

Vasseur Day Spa

## **Tighten Your** Behind in 2009!

C Squared - Stayin' Fit in EV

f your definition of "getting booty" over the holidays equated to a 10 pound weight gain on your backside, then it's time to reverse those rear-end blues and tighten your behind in 2009!

Getting back into "bootylicious" shape is going to take some effort - much more effort than you put into smacking down those delectable holiday cocktail snacks and libations. Fitness clubs are used to it. We get deserted in December and bombarded in January. As you make your way back into the gym this New Year, just remember: we know where you've been, we know what you've been up to and we know how to help!

The 10 pounds or so that you think mysteriously leaped onto your body during the past month actually got there by way of mouth; and you are going to get rid of them by way of blood, sweat and tears (well, tears only if you are a little wus — but it is going to take some work!).

There are two basic scenarios for gym goers in January. You are either getting back into your groove or trying to get into a groove. Either way, the first step has been taken. You are in the club. Good for you. Now let's move on.

So what do you do? My first piece of advice to everyone is to get with a personal trainer. If you are getting back into your groove a trainer can create a whole new workout program for you and reignite your enthusiasm. If you are trying to get into a groove, then you should hold yourself accountable to another person who agrees the size of your bum is too big and knows what to do about it. Time spent with a personal trainer can quickly move you toward your fitness goals with a plan, a program and a positive outcome.

If working out with others sounds more fun to you (I like to call it "peer pressure" workouts), then get into a cool cycling or group fitness class. Many clubs offer all kinds of booty-kicking classes from kickboxing and ballet bar to weight training workouts and boot camps. There are also booty-shaking classes like hiphop and salsa, cardio strip and capoiera (which is really not a dance class, but it is Brazilian, and they shake everything!). The opportunities are endless. There are classes for everyone, so there are no excuses!

Once you get into your workout groove, it's time to back away from the table and start all over with a clean plate. You will never look, feel or be any better than the food you choose to put into your body. Period. It's that simple. Get with a registered dietitian who can guide vou to the right food choices for your individual needs and workouts. Dietitians are the real deal. They have educational and professional requirements they have to meet and can create eating plans based on your health history and future goals. Don't guess or take to heart other's opinions. I'm always amazed how many people still rely on fad diets and quick fixes. Ugh! Do it all right the first time and you won't have to lose this weight again in a few months down the road.

Remember "Baby's got Back," Sir Mix A Lot's anthem to nice rear ends? Well 'Booty" may be in the eye of the beholder; but "booty-full" ends up in everyone's eyes! Your official 2009 "booty call" is officially here! Get up, get in the gym, get with a trainer, get in a class, get good food and get it in gear!



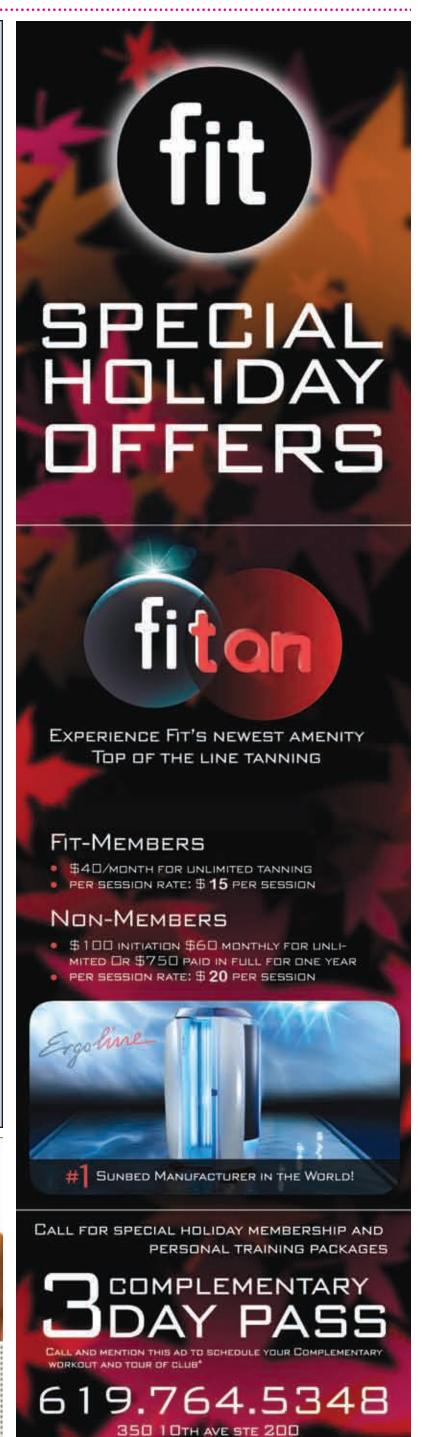
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## **Apollo** CONTINUED FROM Page 3

make it not something that's momentous but something we expect to do over a period of time."

The Challenger and Columbia disasters. A Martian orbiter that managed to disappear. The messy Lisa Nowak love-triangle case. Last year's 3.2 percent budget cut by Congress. A massively overexpensive shuttle program. NASA is feeling some real-world effects unheard of a generation ago. And Michael Griffin, its administrator, has responded accordingly. In a Dec. 11 letter Anders furnished to Downtown News, he lauded NASA's Apollo-era brass for its independence in its project decisions, expressing doubt that today's political climate would inspire the same commitment level.

"I really don't think," Griffin wrote, "that NASA's current leaders, people who in my judgment are every bit as capable as those of the Apollo era, would be allowed by our various [congressional] overseers to make...equivalent decision[s] today. And until and unless we as a nation can again understand why it is necessary that great enterprises be executed in this fashion, I fear for our nation in this tough and com-

Sobering talk from the agency that put men on the moon, undermined Venus' persistent cloud cover, put two cantankerous little rovers on Mars and in effect charted man's path to interstellar travel. But Jim Lovell, Frank Borman and Bill Anders are part of

history in spite of it all. The world stopped in its tracks amid their Christmas eve readings from The Book of Genesis during lunar orbit; it covets the breathtaking earthrise photos that are forever a part of popular

And it chuckles at Borman and Anders' little flap about the pics' places in our consciousness. Borman took the first photo, in black and white, with the Earth peeking over the lunar horizon; Anders followed with a color shot of a much more prominent home planet.

"That picture I took," Borman trumpeted, "is one of the most famous in memory." "Little dark," Anders quietly shot back. "Little unsteady. You'll notice mine captures a lot more light and color and vastness, the sheer vastness of space. A lot."

And they're off.

"Wasn't [Nowak] a Navy astronaut?" Borman quipped, prompting Navy man Lovell to pull an imaginary trigger in Borman's direction.

"I don't believe in UFOs, and I never saw one in space; that's a buncha crap," he churred, again squelching the rumor that he'd run across one during a Gemini flight in 1965.

Frank had to go to marriage counseling before [8]," Anders deadpanned. "I call him Frank, but he can call me 'sir.'"

"Go ahead and call him 'dipshit," Borman snorted, waving dismissively in Anders' direction. "That's what

"Would you record that, please?" Lovell chimed in. Anders just smiled.

## BPC urges nonprofit to assist in Balboa Park management

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

DOWNTOWN NEWS

The Balboa Park Committee (BPC) has submitted a report to city officials containing something everybody kind of figured all along: It's likely the city will never find the resources to fill Balboa Park's growing needs and to take care of the current \$238 million deficit in deferred maintenance projects. The last part is particularly irksome because the figure repreamount it would take to set crumbling infrastructure and attractions right, with nothing left over for new construction.

And according to the report, the city (which in effect owns the park) probably won't see substantial improvement in its capacity to fund the venue through 2014.

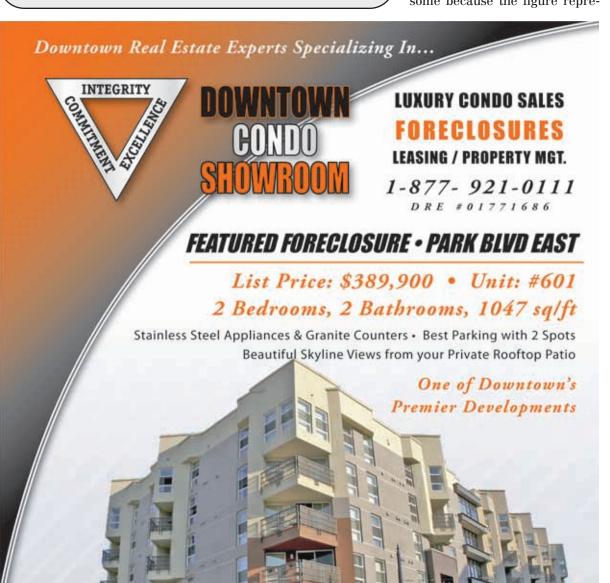
But "The Future of Balboa Park: Funding, Management & Governance," issued last month, doesn't leave it at that. In fact, at 30 pages, it's a pretty thorough follow-up to 2006's privately funded "The Soul of San Diego: Keeping Balboa Park Magnificent in Its Second Century," which included breakdowns on who exactly uses the park and for what. As such, it recommends the formation of a nonprofit agency to assist the city in management and fundraising.

On paper, the city's Department of Park and Recreation is the park's operator – but "The Soul of making its way to City Council.

sents only a repair bill - the San Diego" noted that the park administration is essentially rudderless, with numerous public and private agencies involved in its day-to-day affairs.

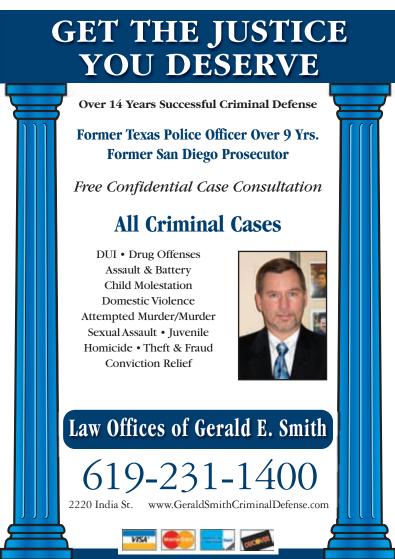
The BPC, a citizens advisory committee appointed by the mayor, has rejected privatization as the answer to the park's problems. The committee report cites St. Louis' Forest Park as a successful operations model. Forest operates under a private partnership with the City of St. Louis' parks department and since 1986 has raised millions toward the park's maintenance.

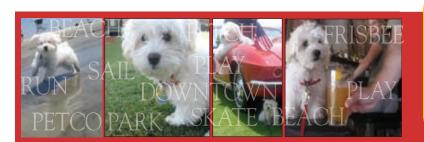
The city, the new report recommends, should retain ultimate authority over park policies so as to limit potential losses of public control under the conservancy scenario. A discussion meeting on the new report was held Dec. 18. The study will go to the Park and Rec board later this month, eventually



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## AKC Survey finds Dog Owners willing to kick Caffeine Addiction For Canine Affection

A survey conducted this month by the American Kennel Club® shows that despite a tough economy, pet owners are willing to sacrifice many daily luxuries to provide for the needs of their canine companions.

The survey of over 1,000 people on akc.org found that more than 96% of respondents with a taste for gourmet coffee would give up their latte habit to save money for their dog's expenses. Ninety-seven percent also said they would forgo massages or spa treatments in order to afford a vet bill, and nearly 79% would cancel a teeth whitening appointment so that Fido could have his annual teeth cleaning.

The only item that seems to compete with people's love for their pooches is Internet access, with more than 70% of respondents indicating that they would not be able to abstain from their web addiction. One respondent

would give up "pretty much anything. I need the gym and I need the Internet, everything else is fair game."

"In general people are more dedicated to their dogs than ever before. No doubt dogs bring comfort and stress relief to many people during this difficult time," said AKC spokesperson, Lisa Peterson. "This is reminiscent of what we saw during hurricane Katrina. With people facing great hardship, many remained so loyal to their pets that they were willing to risk their lives. Our survey demonstrates that they are also willing to forgo some of life's luxuries for the welfare of their pets."

The survey also found that with the holidays coming up, most dogs can still be assured that they will find a bone under the tree. More than 69% of respondents would cut back on gifts for their friends or extended family

before they would skimp on holiday gifts for their dog. Nearly 9% would even scale back on gifts for their spouse before cutting back on presents for their dog.

Healthcare is another area that dedicated pet owners seem to be consistent about. PetPartners, Inc., provider of the AKC Pet Healthcare Plan, says that sales rates are holding up and owners are renewing their policies in consistently high numbers. This shows that pet owners view pet insurance as a way to manage their pet's health care costs. Some dog owners have even opted to purchase health plans for their dogs over themselves. One survey respondent admitted, "My Cavaliers have health insurance, however, I do not."

#### **Holiday Gifts**

81% of respondents purchase gifts for their pups during the holidays. 69% spend up to \$50; 24% spend \$50-100; only 3% spend more than \$150.59% expect to spend the same amount on gifts for their dog as they did last year.

#### Giving up Like for Like

67% would cancel their travel plans if they could not afford to pay to board their dog. 65% would regularly eat Ramen noodles before they would skimp on their dogs high quality food. 59% would perm or color their own hair in the kitchen sink in order to keep Fido's appointments at the groomers.

#### **Cutbacks Owners Are Willing to** Make For Their Dog

Eat more meals at home. (97%) Cancel gym membership. (72%) Cancel Television service. (50%) Curb spending on new clothes. (94%)

Push back plans for home remodeling. (89%)

Forgo buying new car or buy a less expensive model. (88%)

#### **Money Saving Techniques**

52% look for sales and/or clipping coupons before shopping for pet products.

48% are purchasing fewer toys/treats and other non-essential dog supplies.

34% have begun buying dog food in bulk.

#### **Explanatory Notes:**

The survey was conducted on the American Kennel Club Web site during a one-week period in Nov-Dec 2008. A total of 1,088 surveyors responded voluntarily. Self-selecting methods were used in recruitment for this study. AKC does not guarantee that these statistics are scalable to the overall population. This data is for anecdotal purposes only.

#### PHOTO THE MONTH



## **Cold weather safety for pets** (When a real fur coat just isn't enough!)

Even their real fur coats may not be enough to keep San Diego area pets warm during the cold winter storm this week. The animal experts at Helen Woodward Animal Center say that, with a few precautions, you can keep your pets cozy, comfy, and safe.

HWAC spokesman John Van Zante says, "Too many people think that their pets are meant to be outdoors. They may have been true many years ago, but we've domesticated them and they rely on us for food, shelter, and warmth."

Helen Woodward Animal Center believes that pets are part of the family. "We wouldn't dream of making any other family member sleep outdoors when the temperature dips. The best way to keep your critters warm is to make sure they're indoors

For pets that do sleep outside, make sure that they have legally required shelter and also blankets that they can snuggle in. A safe heat source can also help to keep your pet warm.

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Even indoor pets can have a hard time when it gets cold. Van Zante says, "If your pet is in the living room and it's shivering from the cold, it needs your help. Most animal supply stores offer beds, blankets, sweaters, and wraps for pets.'

Some Northern breeds with thicker coats will handle the cold weather better than pets with shorter coats. But, like us, they've all become accustomed to the weather in America's Finest City and will appreciate some protection from the cold.

"Many families will take their pets along when they visit the

snow in the higher elevations. While your dog may be running and having fun with you, it may be ignoring its cold paws. Remember this and give it breaks to warm up, or just leave it home."

For more information about pet safety during the cold weather or to adopt a pet of your own during the 10th annual Iams Home 4 the Holidays pet adoption drive:

Visit Helen Woodward Animal Center at 6461 El Apajo Road in Rancho Santa Fe, call 858-756-4117, or log on to animalcen-





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## Third sewage treatment waiver appears to have the green light

By SEBASTIAN RUIZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

With local experts and politicos claiming the city imports too much water, treating and reusing sewer water for irrigation — or even drinking — takes on a new meaning.

Meanwhile, the Federal Environmental Protection Agency is verging on granting the city another five-year pass in upgrading its sewage treatment processes to the next level of cleanliness, called secondary treatment.

At least one local environmental group has met with the mayor and city staff in an effort to tackle the problem of rethinking the city's water and wastewater infrastructure.

"We're trying to reach an agreement [with the city] over



There are options that do not involve spending \$1.5 billion that have to be raised ...

**BILL HARRIS** 

the next month or so ... to really lay the groundwork for

long-term planning for our sewage and water infrastructure in San Diego," San Diego Coastkeeper executive direc-

The city applies for a permit every five years, allowing the

city to empty treated sewage about four miles off the Point

Loma coast. San Diego is one of the last big cities to keep

applying for the waiver, Reznick said. This is the third waiv-

A public comment process for the waiver will continue

over the next several months, requiring approvals from

agencies such as the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and the California Coastal Commission. The

first public hearing takes place Wednesday, Jan. 21 at the

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board offices,

Environmental groups such as Coastkeeper have tradi-



tionally opposed the city's application for the waiver.

They sued the city in 2000 because of it, Reznick said. The suit partly resulted in a water recycling report to the city, released in 2005.

Though another lawsuit is "not off the table," Reznick said, now is the time to work with the city "hand in hand" to plan for future water recycling. Environmental groups have advocated for an upgrade to cleaner treatment processes at the Point Loma wastewater treatment facility for environmental reasons. However, mayoral spokesman Bill Harris said upgrading to secondary treatment processes would cost too much and does too little for the environment.

"There are options that do not involve spending \$1.5 billion that have to be raised in fees to cram a facility into Point Loma in order to achieve very little additional benefit. It's excruciatingly costly, almost physically impossible to construct and provides very little additional benefit to what

The city has applied for another five-year waiver to delay upgrading sewage treatment at the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant. we're currently doing," Harris said.

PHOTO BY PAUL HANSEN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Mayor Jerry Sanders announced his decision to apply for the waiver in 2007 after he gathered a team of UCSD scientists to study the impacts of the treated wastewater on the ocean. While the report stated that more data are needed to fully understand the environmental impact, the Point Loma sewage outfall presents no impact to the ocean environment.

Reznick said the dearth of accurate assessments of environmental impacts is part of the problem.

"I don't think we have that data," Reznick said, "but there is a lot of information that is required for [determining] overall ocean health."

The public comment period for the waiver closes Jan. 28. The Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant treats about 175 million gallons a day of the city's sewage, according to the city's Web site. ■

tor Bruce Reznick said.

er the city has applied for since 1995.

9174 Sky Park Court, at 9 a.m.

## SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY







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Moonlight Sonata; Archduke Trio Jahja Ling, piano / Jeff Thayer, violin Jisun Yang, violin / Yao Zhao, cello Anne-Marie McDermott, piano

## JANUARY 16, 17 & 18

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APRIL 23 (7:30PM) Jahja Ling, conductor ELGAR: Symphony No. 1

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## Bowling 'em over

PHOTOS BY PAUL GALLEGOS | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The 31st Pacific Life Holiday Bowl, the main attraction at Qualcomm Stadium Dec. 30, was as high-scoring as these things usually get (the Oregon Ducks defeated the Oklahoma State Cowboys 41-32). The game was hard-fought, too, as you can see from the photo at left. Even better, the Oregon Duck (below) has braggin' rights through almost all of 2009, and he's posing accordingly. Qualcomm added its own finesse to the evening, with an eye-popping fireworks display (lower left). Oddly enough, Oklahoma State scored the highest point total in Holiday Bowl history in 1988, when it beat hapless Wyoming 62-14. That was the year Heisman Trophy winner Barry Sanders ran for 222 yards and scored five touchdowns. The lowest score total occurred with the first bowl in 1978, when Navy beat BYU 23-16.



# Make Your Home a "Green" House

## Recycling and Waste Reduction Tips!

How to Recycle at Home.

Make recycling an easy part of your daily routine with these simple guidelines.

Select storage locations – Collect recyclables where they're generated by conveniently placing bins in the kitchen, home office, and garage.

**Select storage containers** – Make sure that your recycling and trash containers

look different from each other. Stackable plastic bins, crates, boxes and grocery bags make good indoor containers. When full, empty them into your Cityissued blue bin.

How to prepare items – Remove lids. Flatten cardboard. Although rinsing containers out is not required, it may deter bugs.

## What to do with...?

There are some items not accepted in the blue bin that can still be recycled: Donate clothes and household items – If in good condition, these items can be donated to local thrift stores and nonprofit groups to be repaired and reused.

Recycle paper and plastic shopping bags – Most grocery stores in California have bins for recycling plastic bags, and paper bags can be recycled in your blue bin. Avoid single-use shopping bags altogether by using durable bags, and prevent tons of unnecessary paper and plastic bags from being produced and dis-

#### Reuse Styrofoam Packing Products – Try reusing Styrofoam for packing at

home. If you can't use the peanuts, many shipping stores will reuse them. Some do not accept molded Styrofoam.

#### Recycling Household Hazardous Waste and Universal Waste

It is against the law to dispose of household hazardous waste (HHW) or universal waste in any refuse container.

HHW includes: used motor oil, antifreeze,

oil filters, and latex paint.

Universal Waste includes: consumer batteries, electronic devices, fluorescent bulbs, and items containing mercury.

## Proper disposal and recycling options vary. For More Information

Help is Close By – For help on starting a recycling program, disposal options for hazardous wasteand universal waste, or more waste reduction tips, call Environmental Services at 858-694-7000 or visit www.sdrecyclingworks.com



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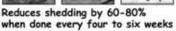
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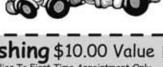












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## **SPORTS**

## Surging Bolts electrify SD; Steelers next

By DAVE THOMAS | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Darren Sproles may not get the notoriety of other backs in the NFL, but he doesn't seem too concerned about that.

Your business is here

Sproles rushed for 105 yards

on the evening, while scoring the Card Playoff at Qualcomm Stadigame-winning touchdown (22yard run) some six minutes into overtime, as the San Diego Chargers scored a 23-17 win over the Indianapolis Colts last Saturday evening in the AFC Wild

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um. The win sends San Diego (9-8) to Pittsburgh for this Sunday's AFC Divisional Playoff at 1:30 p.m. PST. Pittsburgh defeated San Diego 11-10 earlier this season at Heinz Field.

Trailing 17-14 late in the game, with the Colts only a first down away from running out the clock, the Chargers made their move.

San Diego's Tim Dobbins sacked QB Peyton Manning back to the Colts 1-yard line for an eight-yard loss on third down to set up a fourth-down punt, which Sproles returned into Indianapolis territory.

San Diego QB Philip Rivers moved the Chargers down into scoring territory, where Nate Kaeding delivered a 26-yard field goal to tie it at 17-17 with under a minute left. The Colts were unable to move the ball in the final seconds, setting up Sproles for his heroics.

After winning the coin toss, the Chargers were the beneficiaries of some defensive foul calls against the Colts, giving San Diego several first downs, and allowing the home team to move farther into Indianapolis territory.

Sproles, who along with kickoff and punt returns saw more time raced 22 yards into the end zone,

Charger Darren Sproles rushes ahead of Jeromey Clary for a first down during the Jan. 3 Wild Card game vs. the Colts.

on this evening as a result of a sending Indianapolis home again groin injury to running back LaDainian Tomlinson, then capped off the comeback. The former Kansas State star emerged from the pack and

courtesy of the Chargers for the second straight January.

While Sproles got the most notable play of the night, it was also the efforts of punter Mike Scifres that kept San Diego, a 23-20 loser to Indianapolis (12-5) in the regular season, in the game. Scifres landed six punts inside the 20-yard line on the evening, including a 67-yard boomer, to force Manning and Co. to go long on drives.

One drive where the Colts went long was when San Diego's defense appeared to fall asleep. With nearly eight minutes remaining in the third quarter, Manning caught the Chargers in a defensive switch, leaving defensive back Antonio Cromartie in the dust. Manning hit wide receiver Reggie Wayne for a 72yard strike, giving the Colts their final lead of the night,17-14.

San Diego's defense, however, bottled up the Colts for the most part the remainder of the night to set up the Sproles heroics.

"When I got the hand-off, I saw the end slant in," Sproles said. "Once I saw the end slant in, I saw the green grass outside and I just went for the score."

The score set off a wave of celebrations at the Q, and sends San Diego off to battle the Steelers.

"The Chargers made the plays when it counted. Give them credit," said Manning (25-of-42 for 310 yards, 1 TD).

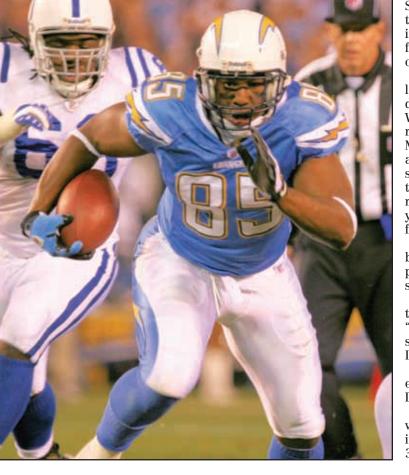
The question is: Can the Chargers do it two weeks in a row? ■



Call for more information: (858) 270-3103

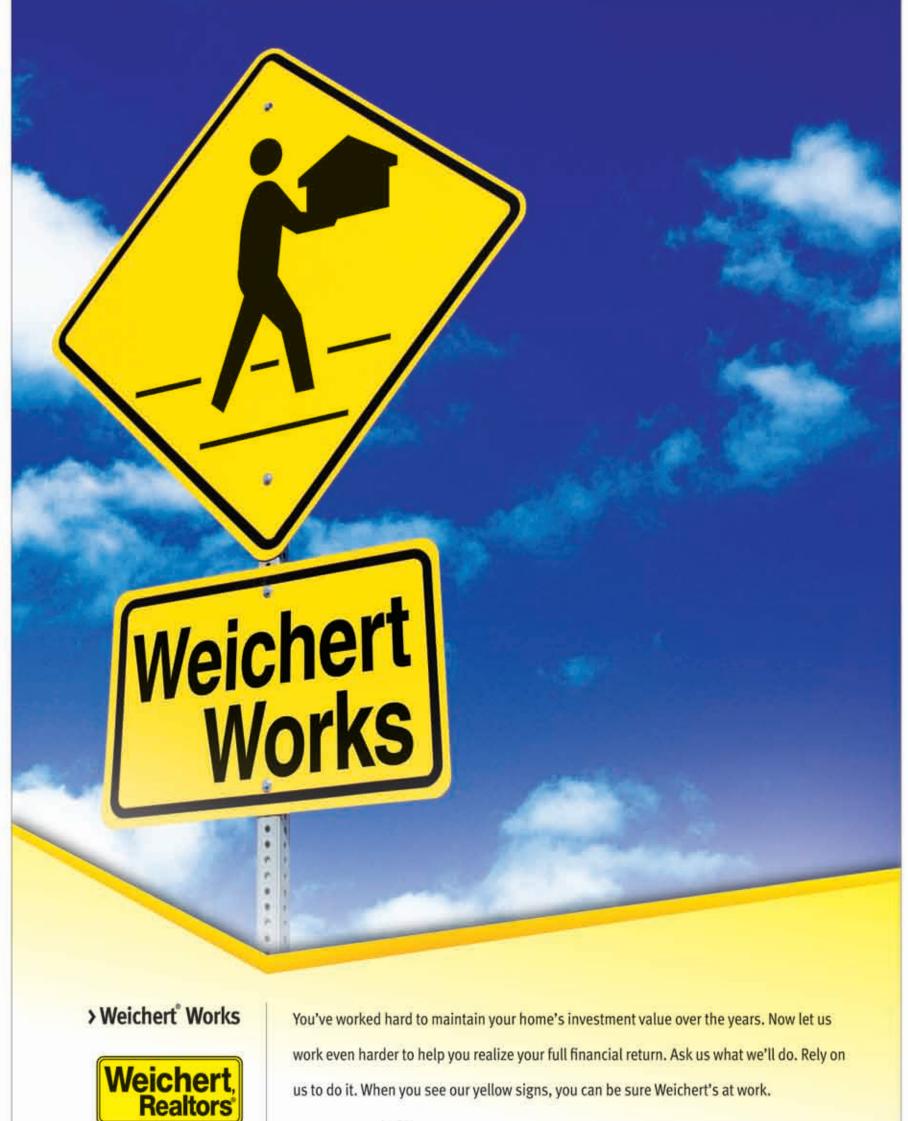
Jason Gregory x 116





Tight end Antonio Gates racks up some of his 87 yards Jan. 3 vs. the Colts. He overcame a high ankle sprain and made eight big catches. DOWNTOWN NEWS | DON BALCH





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## REAL ESTATE

## 100% Two-Year Financing – The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

By John Olbrich, **President of American Security Mortgage** 

of my clients, approached me and, after exchanging pleasantries, asked, "We have found home?"

619.595.7801

we want to try to buy. We have dreamed and prayed of own-During the early part of ing our own home, but we just 2001, a married couple, who have never been able to afford was given my name from one a down payment. Is there any way you can help us to obtain a loan for us to buy this

If you had seen this couple, one knows that they may be for the last 20 years because I your heart, like mine, would have been touched. You could not help but be moved by this dream; a dream that millions had...the American Dream, "owning your own home."

There are many advantages for our society to help people own their own home. Many first-time homebuyers find that once they have bought a home, many other aspects of their life seem to fall in place. The security and piece of mind that come with home ownership is a great accomplishment in many people's lives. Once they achieve this accomplishment. many find that other goals they had set out to achieve become much easier to attain. Home ownership can provide a great feeling of pride that can carry over into every other area of a person's life, helping them develop a greater sense of belonging to the community, a greater sense of stability with their family, a greater desire to be involved in local events, a greater sense of commitment, a greater sense of freedom, a greater sense of value, and, if they have children, they may find that their children feel more secure when coming home to a house that is not owned by someone else. There are no worries that the children will be suddenly forced to change schools and reestablish their lives at the decision of someone else. They can also get to know their neighbors, and if their neighbors have children, lifelong friendships can be formed because every-

around each other for years have always viewed every and years. Overall, our society can be greatly benefited by the stabilizing affect that home Americans have also ownership can bring to people.

In some sense then, any prudent lending policy that helps people, especially first-time buyers, purchase their own home is a good policy for our society. Such was the case with the creation of the 100% twoyear fixed rate interest-only mortgages. This lending option enabled me to create a financing package that allowed this wonderful couple to have an opportunity that they would not have otherwise have had. This financing package was the perfect loan for the young prospective homeowner that had not yet saved a large down payment, but saw income growth. This financing package enabled them to participate in the American Dream.

This was the good. As my clients that know me well will attest, I do not advocate lending unless I believe it is in the client's best interest. However, the good lending policy that enabled people to purchase their first home was easily turned into a bad lending policy in certain situations. I would ultimately be doing a disservice to my clients if I encouraged anyone to acquire property if the lending package to them was too risky, even if that lending package enabled them to buy their first home. You don't last long in business by only focusing on the shortterm. I have been offering home financing in San Diego

client as a long-term relationship.

The 100% two-year fixed rate interest only mortgages is a perfect example of a good lending policy that was ultimately used, in many cases, in bad situations, creating what became an ugly nightmare for our society. At the time when price increases initially hit double digits at the beginning of this decade, most of us believed the housing appreciation to be real, due to pent-up demand, low interest rates and a healthy economy. In the early stages of those increases, I, like almost every other broker and lender, began offering the very popular 100% two-year fixed rate interest-only loans. These loans enabled so many more people to buy homes and realize their dreams of owning a home. However, as real estate prices continued to skyrocket, I, unlike almost every other broker and lender, stopped offering these loans. At the beginning those loans made sense, but as prices continued to increase unabated, those loans became very risky. In fact, I stopped offering those loans over 3 ½ years ago. The reason I stopped was because I felt that the market was over leveraged. I became concerned that if prices dropped, borrowers would not be able to refinance to a fixed rate before their payments on such loans would increase. Although I lost a lot of business and many of my clients moved to other brokers to obtain the riskier loans, I held firm to my conviction that those loans were too risky for my clients. However, other brokers and lenders failed to recognize the risky market conditions and continued to offer those loans. That was the

Unfortunately, for the real estate market, soaring real estate prices combined, along with a number of other factors, with the continued practice of providing 100% two-year fixed rate interest-only mortgages created the "perfect storm." Starting in July 2007, lenders realized that prices were dropping and lowered the maximum loan to value on Stated Income Loans to 90%, then to 80%, then later to 70%, and now have all but eliminated them. The lending industry literally imploded, as homeowners could no longer refinance their loans at the 2-year mark; having their payments, in many cases, double. The homeowners were stuck without the proverbial chair in the game of musical chairs that they were playing with their home loans. Foreclosures became common-place, families were up-rooted with ruined credit, many investors lost everything, and many lenders collapsed. This situation became the ugly.

Thankfully, I am in business today because of my convictions that good lending practices should not be used in bad situations. When you are seeking a loan for a purchase, make sure you get the right advice. The best loan for you will depend on all of the circumstances at the time. Good advice can help you avoid the

bad and the ugly.

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## REAL ESTATE



## **Loan modifications new trend**

about loan modifications and most have questions about what everywhere. Lawyers, negotiaexactly they are. First off, a modification is not a refinance, it is a renegotiation directly with the lender. Typical outcomes include rate reductions, lowered payments, balance reductions, and forebarence agreements. Anyone can go directly to there The catch is that the average borrower has no idea of what the criteria is for an investor when okaying a loan modifica-

Many people are hearing tion. This is why Loss Mitigation cialist, they attempt for the low-Specialists are popping up est possible payment available tors, and former bank employees are using there "inside" knowledge to package loan modification files to fit each lender's criteria perfectly. A loan modification specialist will make sure that the modification that is offered is the best possilender and attempt to get the ble outcome. When a bank does modification done themselves. a modification for you directly, there ideal modification is to get you a payment that is the maximum that you can still afford don't hesitate to give a call to and keep the home. With a spe-888-656-8666.

and insure that the borrower does not accidentally 'shoot themselves in the foot' by giving too much or too little information. The key is to find someone that you trust and have them do the work for you. Some companies even offer 100% money back guarantees if they can not achieve a modification. If you have any questions or would like a list of approved Loan Modification companies please





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As your area specialist, I spend a good deal of my time keeping an eye on what is happening in the Downtown community. This allows me greater efficiency when it comes to keeping you informed, as well as helping you with all our real estate needs. In addition, I own rental properties in the area myself so I can identify with the concerns of other owners. It pays to work with someone who is familiar dealing with management companies, homeowners associations, CC&R's, condo bylaws, and other particulars related to condominiums.



## **REO Properties, In Demand**

everyone is looking towards first quarter real estate sales for signs of a market change. After Fannie Mae's announcement, November 11th to support a streamlined modification program where by suspending foreclosure sales on occupied single-family residents &placing a halt any scheduled evictions from November 26th 2008 to January 9th 2009 there has yet to be a decline in active foreclosure listing during the end of the year. However what most people are unaware of with the foreclosure listings process is the amount of time it takes to get the listings active on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS). Due to the legal eviction proceedings, the "Cash for Keys" program & the rehab that has to be done on certain property, the average time it takes to get a listing from Pre-MLS to active MLS is around 35 days (this number will also vary depending on the Bank Client). That being said we cannot focus on the active listing from November, December or even January. The direct results will not show themselves in the active MLS inventory most likely until February. We spoke with Weichert, Realtors-Elite's foreclosure division to see if they have experienced any

As the year comes to a close listing reductions internally. Erik up as direct effect of the modifica-Weichelt president of Weichert, Realtors-Elite took time to share if his company has seen a direct reduction in inventory, "our company handles over 150 bank clients across the country so when Fannie Mae dedicates time towards a streamlined modification program you can bet we will see slow down in inventory. In September and October we would get anywhere from 40-60 new foreclosure listings per month. This inventory is still coming through the pipeline to MLS and I am sure the same is true with other real estate offices. We did see that in November and December our bank assignment where cut 50%, now we are receiving between 20-30 pre-MLS assignment per month.'

It has been said that Fannie Mae's loan servicers are prepared to work with borrowers until January 9th even if they had previously been unsuccessful with the other modification programs. Fannie Mae's "Second Look" program will help delinquent borrowers by scrutinizing all options. This leaves me asking, will this streamlined modification program be the answer to keeping people in their homes & will we see signs of a normal real estate market if foreclosures dry

tion program? Things are not likely to change so quickly due to the fact that very few delinquent borrowers that will even qualify for the modification program. Qualifications include but not limited to borrowers who are at least 3 months behind on their payments, have not filed for bankruptcy & owner-occupy their residents. Borrowers who meet the modification requirements will have three steps to reduce overall payment per Brian Montgomery, the Federal **Housing Commissioner:** 

- 1) Terms will be extended (Ex: 30 year to 40 year)
- 2) If extending the term isn't enough to meet the 38% threshold, the interest rate could be reduced. (Ex: 6.5% or 3%)
- 3) Finally, if those two steps don't get the payments down enough, part of the principal will be deferred, "with the balance added to the back of the loan," Montgomery said.

Now that the Holiday's have passed are borrowers willing to take any of the above options even if they qualify to stay in their homes? That is the lingering ques-



tion that borrowers will have to fication programs for our sales evaluate based on what they have invested into their homes. Weichelt of Weichert, Realtors-Elite feels that, "if these borrowers bought in the height of the market with little or no money down it is very unlikely that steps 1 & 2 will work. Step 3 which is the principal deferment is really the only option if the bank and the borrower are willing to work together. We hope that this modification program will help borrowers looking to stay in their homes. In fact we have been having classes on the modi- faucet in not even half open.

associates because we know that we need to offer our clients all the options available.'

Representatives for Weichert, Realtors-Elite confided that although they saw an initial inventory reduction in November & December, they are expecting that the first quart of 2009 will not show the same slow down in foreclosure inventory regardless of the current streamline modification program. In fact they hinted that the

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SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

## First Scripps Mercy fashion fete was also the Nth



By DIANA CAVAGNARO

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SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

hosted by Scripps Mercy Hospital Auxiliary at the U.S. Grant Hotel on Nov. 21. This first fashion show and awards presentation began with boutique shopping, a silent action and a VIP Champagne reception. Linda Masters chaired

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co-chair and Sally B. Thornton was honorary chair.

Leonard Simpson, the "Style Guy," presented his selections for the Best-Dressed List of 2008. The listees included Valerie Cooper. Daran Grimm, Mary Beth Kellee, Michala Lawrence, Ferne McCuen, Esther Jane Paul, Sally B. Thornton, Natalie Daryl Walter, Feben Yohannes, Barbara ZoBell, Michael Bixler, Harry Cooper, Todd Figi, Bertrand Hug, Scott Johnston, Jessie Knight Jr., Rueben Poon, David Reick, Jonathan Shiff and Dean Spanos. Simpson announced his winners at a press party held Nov. 5th at Mr. A's.

Simpson, founder of Fashion Forward, produced this show. The runway highlighted fall and winter fashions and left the audience wanting more. Proceeds support minimally invasive robotic surgery programs at Scripps Mercy. For more information on this program, call 686-3530.

Brief subhead: Adorn Gallery launched

Body: Adorn Gallery held a premiere launch event on Nov. 21. This high-end gallery is located in the San Diego Diamond Building, 801 Sixth Ave. Adorn specializes in custom designs, rare gems, pearls and advanced property appraisal. Alexandra Hart, Mirjam Butz-Brown and Vickie Riggs were on hand to greet the guests and showcase their award-winning designs. Sabine & Julius Walters catered the event.

Butz-Brown launched her new line of Adoring Attachments. This line allows the customer to make and design her own earrings. The attachments can be changed each show in San Diego.

"Dressed to the Nth Degree" was the event. Merle Lotherington was day for a different style and a different look. What an innovative way to wear earrings! Butz-Brown also put together a new website for the business: adorngallery.com.

Riggs spearheads Riggs Appraisal & Gemological Services. She has moved this service into Adorn Gallery, and customers can come in to update assets and insurance. Riggs designed the Lariat series of interchangeable jewelry. Hart has developed a new expanding line for the gallery.

This event was a wonderful opportunity to see these incredible works of art and gems up close. If you're wondering what to do in these fluctuating markets, this jewelry would make a perfect investment. For a truly remarkable experience, let Adorn capture the essence of you. Call for an appointment at 238-1053 or e-mail info@adorngallery.com.

## Missoni hits San Diego

Missoni, the iconic fashion house, brought the 2009 Missoni Summer Collection to San Diego for two days. The first included a private event on Wednesday Dec. 10, chaired by Joan Waitt and underwritten by Nordstrom. The evening began with an elegant cocktail party at Waitt's home. An on-site boutique was set up with shopping for all the guests. The tent was filled with a sea of vivid colors and designs, as many of the shoppers were decked out in Missoni. The evening culminated in a well-orchestrated runway show, identical to that in Milan, including the same music and lighting. It was a thrill having such a high-caliber

Proceeds went to the Center for Community Solutions. This nonprofit agency offers a range of sexual assault and domestic violence prevention and intervention services. For more information, visit www.ccssd.org.

On Thursday, Dec. 11, Nordstrom department store in Fashion Valley held a trunk show with the Missoni 2009 Summer Collection. Ambassadors Vittorio and Margherita Missoni were on hand to greet the shoppers. Vittorio, son of Rosita and Tai Missoni, is in charge of institutional affairs. You may have seen Margherita's face in the ads for Missoni Acqua Fragrance perfume. Many celebrities have been sighted sporting Missoni, such as Madonna, Jennifer Lopez and Cameron Diaz. Most recently, Nicole Kidman was pictured in an Italian newspaper wearing Missoni. If you missed any of these events, stop by Nordstrom and take a peek at Missoni's innovative designs.

## For your information...

Saturday Jan. 17: Winter Bridal Bazaar and fashion show, presented by Gretchen Productions at the San Diego Convention Center. Four shows presented throughout the day. For info, call (760) 334-

Thursday, Jan. 22 and Friday, Jan. 23, 2 p.m.: ASR's runway show, featuring the hottest trends, at the San Diego Convention Center. For info, visit www.asrbiz.com.

Diana Cavagnaro is a nationally recognized hat designer and milliner. She has been operating a fashion business for 27 years, the last 17 in San Diego's Gaslamp Quarter. She has been teaching in the Fashion Department at Mesa College for 17 years. Diana is an active member of the Gaslamp Quarter Association, The American Sewing Guild, the San Diego Costume Council and the Fashion Group International. www.ahead productions.com.

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The Nth Degree fashion show was a hit to the nth degree.

## LIFE IN THE CITY

## Going green is an easy, vital step



**SANDRA SIMMONS** 

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

-Thomas A. Edison In this time of hope and despair, the new year certainly ushers in change. The nation will inaugurate a new president and many members of his Cabinet. Pundits unanimously predict the next administration will hit the ground running, giving immediate attention to the many economic and security chal-

lenges facing our nation.

With visions of an economic recovery package that includes the largest infrastructure-construction program since the 1950s, the idea is to stimulate growth by offering a new type of work to the middleclass sector. This package includes rebuilding highways and bridges and investing in the future — green technology and manufactur-

Thomas Edison came from humble beginnings; his early life was filled with a variety of work that led him to revolutionize the way we see the world. As a prolific inventor, he gave us electricity, phonographs and motion pictures with sound. Now is the time to pull on the overalls and adopt the same

attitude toward work, revolutionizing the world for the next generation.

With deficits looming at state and city levels, politicians are approaching the federal government for their share of the stimulus package. Will these funds be used to create change from the ground up? For the opportunity to reinvent? Or, with gas prices fluctuating at a low point, will we go back to business as usual?

I submit: Is going green too much work?

The Metrome condo development is taking cost-saving measures. By eliminating 50 percent of the fluorescent tubes in the common areas and replacing the remaining tubes with LED lighting, the same amount of light is owners association, I have shed for less cost, according to Ana Gramling. Bill Abel explains: "Not only are we reducing our electricity bill by 65 percent, we are saving on maintenance costs and reducing our carbon footprint."

Upon retiring, Carol Gilbertson (600 Front) purchased a transit pass and travels by bus or trolley when running errands. She also enjoys walking and is doing her part in making the neighborhood clean by depositing trash a recep-

Dana Redden (El Roberto) believes that "2009 is the breakout year for green efforts." She recentlv learned that most appliances draw energy even when on standby. She uses a surge protector with a remote control to stop the vampire electronics from sucking ener-

As the treasurer of my home-

watched our water-sewer bill increase by 35 percent in the past few months. Therefore, my New Year's resolution is to use less water. As I quietly sing "Happy Birthday" while lathering my hands with soap, I resolve to turn off the faucet. When giving my cats Allee and Callee their morning water, I resolve to discard the stale water in my indoor plants.

What steps will you take this year to go green? E-mail me at Sandra@viva-city.info. And check out the new City Life Go Green page on www.viva-city.info for tips provided by your neighbors.

Viva-city fosters a vibrant, welcoming community, where residents greet neighbors as friends! Visit www.viva-city.info.



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call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5069



New on the market, you'll want to see this warm and inviting loft in the historic Soap Factory, which features rough-hewn timbers, brick walls, high ceilings, hardwood floors, and a one-of-a-kind comm —Downtown's only brick development with an East Coast flair! Dual pools and common amenities par excellence!

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5399



You'll want to see this fabulous residence with sweeping southw corner views to the Bay and ocean! Features include gleaming there were to the bay and ocean: readures include gleaning hardwood floors, banks of sunny windows bringing in lots of natural light, a private corner terrace, and gleaming granite and stainless-steel

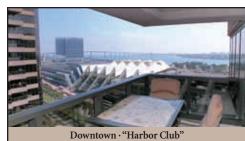
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For full details in a recorded message,



Newly listed and priced under all others in the community with this desirable, 1,944-square-foot floor plan, this elegant, 2-bedroom + den, 2-bath beauty boasts stunning views from its southwest corner locale! You'll love the rich walnut hardwood flooring throughout, upgraded kitchen granite with full backsplash, dual balconies and parking spaces, and upgraded lighting!
For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5099



You'll love this perfect pied a terre in the Marina District's premier resort-style, luxury high-rise community! The residence boasts panoramic southeast corner views to the Coronado Bridge, Bay, and Petco Park. An elegant granite kitchen & an oversize view terrace.

call 800-709-1995, Ext. 5269



One of the Marina District's originals, this popular mid-rise community boasts dual pools, a staffed lobby, and lovely, mature landscaping. This expansive 2-bedroom, 2-bath residence in a quiet location includes granite kitchen and a real, working fireplace! Dual secured parking spaces and a multitude of guest parking, too! For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5029



Virtually brand new, this lightly-used second-home features an amazing, 180-degree northwest corner locale with sweeping views from its 18th-floor location! The interior is highly upgraded and offered FULLY FURNISHED at a price below builder's prices! Dual parking and a private view terrace, too! For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5359



This super listing in one of the Marina District's landmark, luxury communities presents an opportunity to live in a classy, results an opportunity to live in a classy, newly-renovated building just steps to Pantoja Park and a short walk to Seaport Village! Enjoy a private terrace, gleaming hardwood floors, and elegant crown molding! For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5329



The lowest-price two-bedroom in the development, this pristine residence overlooking the scenic pool features gleaming marble and granite surfaces, lustrous Snaidero kitchen cabinetry, dual parking + storage, and an oversize private terrace! Enjoy the highest quality on amenities, which ensure a lifestyle to be envied!

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5409



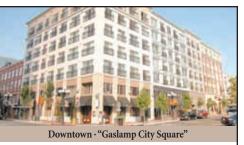
Enjoy almost 1,500 square feet of upgrades in the area's landmark luxury high-rise hear Balboa Park! Featuring dual parking spaces and Plantation shutters throughout, this pristine residence also includes a full-size laundry room, lovely views from its northeast corner location For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5149



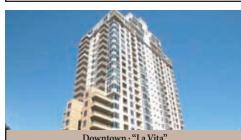
You'll want to see this virtually-new loft in the vibrant Gaslamp Quarter, complete with a custom staircase leading to the loft area 14+-foot ceilings, a private terrace taking in the urban sights, and a convenient location on the amenity level, steps to the pool, fitness center, and community room! For full details in a recorded message.

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5309



This spacious studio loft on the terrace level features one of the few private patios in the development, a shiny granite kitchen, and a price below market as part of a lender SHORT SALE! Walk to everything downtown from this prime Gaslamp Quarter locale! For full details in a recorded message

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5379



This stunning northeast corner residence boasts amazing urban views, an upgraded and pristine interior, and a prime location steps to the view terrace and dual parking spaces?

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5389



Reminiscent of an East Coast brownstone, this upgraded, two-story street-level town home boasts two expansive master suites, an office or optional third bedroom, approximately 1,900 square feet, custom closet systems, dual terraces, and common area amenities of the highest quality!
For full details in a recorded message

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5039



Enjoy the hip urban lifestyle at this popular loft community near Petco Park, complete with a flexible interior to furnish and/or modify to meet your personal needs! You'll enjoy high ceilings, distressed hardwood floors, a private balcony overlooking the scenic urban canyon, and a granite/ stainless kitchen! For full details in a recorded message,

call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5339



Choose from one of two, 2-bedroom, 2-bath residences on the 12th and 13th floors of Little Italy's most desirable luxury highrise! The bay and ocean views from the prime southwest corner location can't be beat! La Vita's amenities include a scenic courtyard with cascading waterwall, a party room with pool table, a fitness center, and pool! Did we mention the dual parking spaces and fireplaces in both? For full details in a recorded message,

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Originally constructed as a single-family home and modified into four income-producing units. Conveniently located to downtown one of the units spans the entire top-floor of the property, and includes 3 bedrooms, an updated kitchen and bath, and lovely views of the downtown skyline and Coronado Bay Bridge-perfect for an r-occupant! Truly special! For full details in a recorded message

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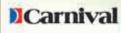














## 2009 San Diego Boat Show comes in blue and green

By LAURIE SMITH | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Avast ye, mateys! The 21st annual San Diego Boat Show sails into town today, Jan. 8, through Jan. 11 at the San Diego Convention Center. Show manager Jeff Hancock declared that the event is for everybody and anybody — "people who own boats, people who want to own boats and people who just want to look at boats.

And this year, like no other, it's also for the eco-minded.

Hancock added that the show, largest of its kind on the West Coast, features hundreds of vendors and local dealers, showcasing the latest in boats, gear and accessories — at the best deals from kayaks to mega-yachts and everything that goes with them.

"Think of the show like a supermarket," said Hancock. "If you went to all these dealers individually, it would take a month of Sundays to see everything [offered in the show]. It would be impossible."

The show takes place at the convention center and behind it at the Marriott Marina, featuring outdoor events, including free sailboat rides and the Big Bay Kids Area (sponsored by the Port of San Diego). This area features interactive boating safety puppet shows, boat painting and a chance to meet Skipper, the show's dolphin

Among the new features is the sure-to-be-popular Wakeboard Stunt Show, from Florida.

"It's a spectacular show of

professional wakeboarders and wakeskaters doing tricks on an impressive indoor set-up featuring a pool, rails and ramps," Hancock

He added that "they perform jumps, flips, nose-presses. And



there's something called the Kicker, a jump that launches riders 20 feet and propelling them up to 40 feet across the pool."

The Green Boating Zone, another first for the show, promises to help water enthusiasts discover eco-friendly boating. Featured are the latest eco-friendly boats and engines to hit the market; West Marine's "Go Green" display, outlining the best eco-friendly practices; and the Green Accessory Center, previewing the newest green boating accessories.

Former mega-yacht captain Russ Grandinetti — in his new role as Knight & Carver Yacht Center's  $\begin{tabular}{ll} "eco-detective" — will hold a seminar entitled "Trends Toward \\ \end{tabular}$ Greener Boating.

The seminar will address what's new in green marine products and highlight the most effective procedures that make boating more environmentally friendly.

Knight & Carver, based in National City, invited Grandinetti to shift careers and help form a new division of the company called Eco Solutions — the first green division in the shipyard industry.

"I used to bring yachts in there all the time," Grandinetti said. "When they asked me to come

Left, it looks like Skipper, the San Diego Boat Show's dolphin mascot, has found a first mate. The show's Big Bay Kids Area features puppet shows on boating safety and a lesson or two in boat painting.



Wakeboarding is an exceptionally cool thing. You can find out more about it at this year's San Diego Boat Show, through Jan. 11 at the convention center.

work for them, they asked what I can be costly, but Grandinetti would like to do — what I was explained that every little bit helps. passionate about.

"I went to school for marine science and oceanography, but I kind of got away from the research part, and I said that I'd be interested in bringing awareness to people about the environment."

As a captain, Grandinetti was all too familiar with the toxic materials and practices used by boaters. His own concern prompted him to test products and integrate the things that work, slowly changing out toxic products and systems.

"Often when you take the toxic ingredients out of products to make them green, a lot of times they don't work as well," Grandinetti explained. "So I test them to see how well they work, and if they do, I put them on my recommendation list.

Grandinetti offers his advice in a column for the blueskynews.com, an online newsletter geared toward boating enthusiasts at San Diego County marinas.

Making major changes to a boat

Take a look at systems on a yacht: wastewater management, bottom paint, cleaning products, how you dispose of things, exhaust emissions," he listed. "You switch those out — and there's plenty of technology to replace these things – then you're working in that environment as best you can. It's a practical approach.

The best and perhaps easiest issue to deal with in a more environmentally friendly manner is wastewater.

"This is the most important thing, because that can be the most toxic," Grandinetti emphasized.

"If everyone pumped out at the dock, it would not be an issue."

He added that the law currently requires boaters to go out three miles to dump into the ocean; in 2010 that distance will increase to 12 miles out. Grandinetti's concern is that people will have to go further and use more fuel ... if they bother to follow the law at all.

"To take care of the smells on board, chemicals are used that contain formaldehyde, so you're not only dumping raw sewage into the ocean, you're dumping the chemicals.

"If people get tuned in to using different, more eco-friendly chemicals and different systems — or, better yet, pump out at the dock that's really a great way to start,' he stated. "Another important issue is bottom paint. Copper-free paint is becoming more affordable."

Grandinetti will be available throughout the show at the Green Zone display as well as at the Knight & Carver booth. For more, check out the boat show website, or Eco Solutions, knightandcarver .com/ecosolutions.

Also premiering at this year's San Diego show is the new Affordability Pavilion, highlight pricing options and showcasing boats that can be financed for \$250 or less.

The Discover Boating Center & Information Seminars resource center features seminars for the experienced boater or the new enthusiast looking to learn more about the sport and lifestyle. Topics include  $\hat{\mathbf{c}} \mathbf{r} \mathbf{u} \mathbf{i} \mathbf{s} \mathbf{i} \mathbf{n} \mathbf{d}$  and Mexican waters), sail handling, fishing and navigation.

The show takes place at the San Diego Convention Center and Marriott Marina, 111 West Harbor Drive, Thursday through Sunday. It's open Thursday and Friday from noon to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Each night, the marina portion of the show closes at 6 p.m.

Adults (16 and above) are admitted for \$10; youth (13-15) for \$5; and children (12 and under) for free.

Tickets can be purchased online at SanDiegoBoatShow.com. For more information, visit the website or call (858) 274-9924.

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Restaurant Week: January 11 - 16, 2009. 5 to 10 p.m.

Three-course menu. \$30 per person.

Happy Hour: Monday to Friday. 4 to 6 p.m. Featuring a Five for \$5 cocktail and appetizer menu.

Pre-Theatre Menu: Nightly. 5 to 7 p.m. Three-course menu. \$ 24 per person.

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## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT JANUARY 2009 SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

## Casbah doesn't look a day older



By **BART MENDOZA** 

Ask former Beat Farmer Joey Harris if The Casbah — Downtown San Diego's iconic repository of all things rock 'n' roll — has its romantic side.

Go ahead. Ask him.

"The thing I'll always remember fondly about The Casbah," he'll say, "is the zig-zag corridor that leads from the front room to the back bar. Miss Vicki and I used to stop off along the way from the the hallway. Those are special memories for me."

Him and the jillions who've passed through The Casbah's doors at both its Kettner Boulevard locations since 1989. The venue has been at the center of San Diego's music scene, helping promote local music and put the city on the map among touring bands. The club moved to its current location at 2501 Kettner in 1994 and has never looked back.

its 20th anniversary with several special concerts and events, including headlining sets from local major label artists and reunion shows from many top area artists.

The reunion shows include '80s pop legends The Nashville Ramblers (they performed on Jan. 2). who have recently seen their classic song "The Trains" reissued by Rhino Records and alternative rockers Three Mile Pilot (Jan. 18). Formerly on Geffen Records, the band has already sold out their Jan. 19-20 dates.

Other key dates include late '70s punk-powerpop favorites The Penetrators (Jan. 24), Mexican Elvis impersonator El Vez (Jan. 16) and XIV (Jan. 21-22). But no matter where you look on the datebook, the club has a more exciting schedule than usual.

One of the most anticipated shows will be mounted by The Dragons, who will perform on Jan.

"From the days of the old Casbah, when I first saw the singer of Night Soil Man performing with a gas mask on, I knew this place was cool, and I wanted to be a part of it," said frontman Mario Escovedo. He first played the bar during the mid-'90s with his band the M-80s. "It was a place that already had a high standard, what with bands like Nirvana travelling through and incredible local bands front to the back and make out in as well, but it was also a place where you could experiment and grow," he said.

FM94.9 DJ Tim Pyles hosts several regular nights at the club and also helps book local bands. He credits the Casbah as the foundation of today's music scene.

"Without this venue, we wouldn't be were we are today," he summed up. "Legends are hard to come by, and this place is most definitely one."

In addition to music, an exhibit This month, the club celebrates of photographs by Sean McMullen will be on display, with images taken between 2002 and 2008. The exhibit will include 25 largeformat images, located inside the club and on its patio. An artist reception is planned for Jan. 10.

He sums up the appeal of the club in one word.

"Intimacy," he said. "There are things I can do at the Casbah that I can't really do, or get away with, anywhere else." Flash comes to mind immediately. "95 percent of venues won't allow it, let alone when I shoot music festivals, where it will get you kicked out of the aisle if you use a flash."

McMullen credits a show by Stiff Little Fingers as his catalyst for Atlantic Records signings Louis shooting regularly at The Casbah.

"It was a sold-out show, a few days after 9-11, and the energy was very intense, with a palpable feeling of camaraderie in the place. I started doing so shortly after

McMullen considers the close musician-audience proximity a major plus for his work.

"I am literally shooting at the bands' feet and sometimes able to work from the outer areas of the stage," he stated. "As a photographer and artist, it's a much more powerful asset than simply being close to the music.'

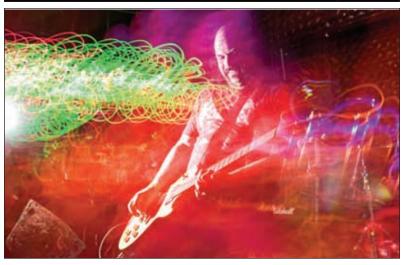
He sees his familiarity with the venue as another major advantage. "I don't have to use more than two lenses to get the shots I'm after. Really, it's like shooting in my house. I know all of the sweet spots."

Many bands have formed among the patrons of the club, but perhaps more important are the relationships that have emerged. More than one couple has met and fallen in love at The Casbah.

"Aside from all the great shows I've seen there and the musical connections and friendships I've made, I will always remember The Casbah because I met my wife there, having a drink with a mutual friend," recalled local producer Jason Hee

Harris just smiled.

"The Casbah is been an indispensable venue and phenomenon in the San Diego music scene," remarked McMullen. "When the Casbah was opened 20 years ago, it was a revelation for all of us local music types. I'd put the Casbah up against the best of the best in New York, Chicago, San Francisco and L.A. There is a sense of cama-



PHOTOS BY SEAN McMULLEN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Spoon (above) and Charley Horse are but two of the hundreds of acts to pass through The Casbah over the last two decades. The club, at 2501 Kettner Blvd., is celebrating its 20th anniversary this month with several concerts and events. including a Sean McMullen photo exhibit of acts captured over the last six years.

enced there that is hard to compare to anything else."

Escovedo concurred.

"It's a wonderful place, and we're making new memories every week. I'm going to always remem-

raderie and joy that I have experiber those times when there's an amazing band on stage and your friends are around you. You just know that it's cool to be there at The Casbah and that you are experiencing something

HYATT

## **Double agenda**

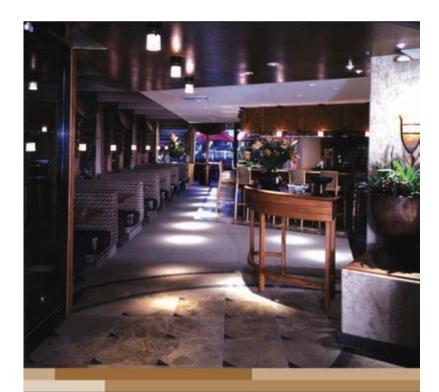


These guys may look like your average identical twins ('sep for the hair), but they're also blazing a trail behind the scenes. They're Nels and Alex Cline, and at 8 p.m. next Tuesday, Jan. 13, they'll regale you with their guitars and percussion in the Fresh Sound Series at Sushi, A Center for the Urban Arts. Until it retained its own space in the East Village, Sushi was basically limited to dance and uncertain of its next venue -- now, it's taking its turn at full-fledged music/performance entries, hence this series. It runs every second Tuesday, focusing on cutting-edge experimental, electronic, improvised and contemporary classical music. The musicians are highly respected in their fields, technically and creatively. Sushi is located at 390 11th Ave. at the corner of J Street. Pay what you can afford. For more information, call (619) 235-8466 or visit www.sushiart.org.



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## SAN DIEGO RESTAURANT WEEK



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# Roppongi Restaurant & Sushi Bar

Conveniently located on Prospect Street, it's obvious why Roppongi is Zagat-rated "One of the Top Five Most Popular Restaurants in San Diego" and is a recipient of Wine Spectator Magazine's "Award of Excellence." Executive Chef Stephen Window continually finesses the extensive menu of tapas, salads, sushi and seafood, delighting guests with fresh, exotic fare prepared with traditional European gourmet cooking techniques.

Visit Roppongi during Restaurant Week and try its inventive prix fixe menu, which includes selections such as Pan Roasted Salmon with Curried Cauliflower Puree, Cilantro Pesto and Candied Cashews, and Meyers Natural Flat Iron Steak with Sake Braised Shitake Mushrooms and Chinese Broccoli

Roppongi is open daily for lunch and dinner with an ever-popular happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m. Spend an evening dining around the firepit, cozy up around the indoor fireplace and aquarium, include at the stunning sushi bar or just have fun watching the scene from the covered/heated patio.



## U-31

Located at the corner of University and 31st Street, and open Monday to Sunday, U-31 is an active ingredient in the growing North Park social scene. Happy Hour is served seven nights a week from 5 to 9 p.m. and there's something to hear, see, or do each and every night. Lady Dottie & the Diamonds, local favorite and 2008 San Diego Music Award winner, calls Monday night home, while Tuesdays welcome a mechanical bull in lieu of the pool table and just the right amount of western scandal. Live music is performed every Wednesday, and Thursdays are now owned by '80s and '90s mash-ups and an attractive but unpretentious crowd. Locals in the know are definitely no strangers to DJ Gabe Vega's Feel the Noise, set to continue Fridays in '09. And anyone with an ear for reggae should make it a point to check out Tribe of Kings, Reggae Vibes on Sundays. U-31 is at 3112 University Avenue.



## restaurant week 2009



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## Modus Supper Club

Modus Supper Club is touting its French dip as the best in the city. Conclusion: Agreed. It starts out with slow-roasted, thinly sliced New York steak and Oaxaca cheese; it's then stuffed it in a La Brea baguette and topped with spiced fried leeks. The jus is a veal stock reduction with a hint of truffle. When owner Scotty Johnson set out to create San Diego's best, he didn't cut any corners. But don't take our word for it, head over to Bankers Hill and give it a try.

While you're at it, don't forget to try this season's newest libations: The Revolucion just made its return along with the Sour Flower, both making great use of winter's blood oranges. The Revolucion transforms themargarita, replacing sweet and sour with blood orange juice and a float of pear liqueur. The Sour Flower reinvents the classic Pimm's Cup with Pimm's No. 1, kumquats, blood orange juice and soda. The best days to stretch the dollar are Happy Hour Wednesdays and 2 for 1 Sundays.

## Taste & Thirst

2009 is here and with it a new breed of bar and grill comes to the Gaslamp. When you go out downtown you expect some things, great service, great product and high prices. Taste & Thirst on fourth brings you these things minus the negative of the high price plus a commitment to a higher standard of excellence in service. When you go to T&T expect a happy hour like no other, every day from 3 to 8 p.m. 2-for-1 drink prices. Speaking of great deals T-bone Tuesday comes to mind every Tuesday you can get a T-bone steak dinner, each dinner comes with homemade mashed potatoes, veggies and your choice of a draft beer or beverage, all for \$9.99. If that is not enough T&T has the best breakfast in San Diego Friday through Sunday 7 a.m. until 3 pm. No matter how late you get up come start your day the right way at Taste & Thirst on Fourth.



## SAN DIEGO RESTAURANT WEEK



## The Palm Restaurant

For over 80 years, The Palm has been renowned for its aged USDA prime steaks, jumbo Nova Scotia lobsters, Italian entrees, warm smiles, outstanding service and an atmosphere like no other. The Palm is the oldest family-owned steakhouse in the United States (since 1926). General Manager Danny Cosenzi and Chef Miguel Martinez invite you to experience the ongoing celebration of timeless tradition, lively spirits and legendary taste. Experience The Palm Restaurant...The Classic American Steak House.



## Rainwater's on Kettner Introduces Executive Chef Simon Lynn

by Angie Harman

Rainwater's on Kettner invites you to meet its new Executive Chef, Simon Lynn. A native of England, Lynn has a rich history of experience in some of San Diego's finest restaurants. Focusing on the highest quality ingredients and a passion for the culinary arts, Lynn has added even more excitement and flair to Rainwater's menu. Now you can mingle with Executive Chef, Simon Lynn each Friday night at Rainwater's "Meet the Chef" event in the bar

Experience new light appetizers and entrees that are both affordable and delicious. Rainwater's on Kettner, a classic in downtown San Diego for over 20 years, is where everyone is coming for special occasions or an after-work get-together. Whether you're celebrating, sharing a romantic dinner for two or just hanging out with friends over drinks and great food, Rainwater's is the ideal choice.

Visit Rainwater's during San Diego Restaurant Week, Jan. 11 through 16, for special menu items like Mini Crab Cakes with California Citrus Salsa, Pan-Sautéed Midwestern Pork Chops and Short Ribs of Beef Osso Bucco Style. And don't miss one of Rainwater's specialty desserts, the Chocolate Lasagna with thin layers of white and dark Wine Spectator Magazine, Rainwa-



chocolate, peanut butter and ter's has one of San Diego's most chocolate ice cream. If you can't extensive wine collections, both by make it to Restaurant Week, stop in the bottle and the glass. for the "Fighting the Recession" prix fixe menu currently offered everyday and featuring a choice of appetizers, Downtown. (619) 233-5757. rainentrees like the Filet Mignon with Béarnaise or Bacon-Wrapped Scallops, and a choice of delectable desserts. Honored with the "Best of Award of Excellence" since 1988 by

Make every day a special occasion at Rainwater's at 1202 Kettner Blvd., waters.com.





## Rainwater's on Kettner welcomes "You" to Restaurant Week

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"choice of"

Pan Roasted Salmon
With a Meyer Lemon Vinaigrette, Crushed Fingerling Potatoes and Fresh Herbs.
Pan Sauteed Midwestern Pork Chops
With Black Eyed Peas and a Caramelized Apple Demi-Glaze
Short Ribs of Beef Osso Bucco
Simmered for hours, served in a Rich Sauce with a Saffron Risotto Cake

For an additional \$10.00 charge you may choose..... Filet Mignon
Midwestern, Cornfed, Aged Beef with a Red Wine Mushroom Sauce
Au Gratin Potatoes

> "choice of" Chocolate Pot-au-crème and Fresh Berries. Pear and Cranberry Crumble with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream

Chocolate Lasagna Thin Layers of White and Dark Chocolate alternating with layers of Peanut Butter and Chocolate Ice Cream. Topped with a Belgian Chocolate Sauce





## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

# Jimmy Carter isn't president anymore, but Bonfire hasn't seemed to take notice

And here you thought 2009 was under way. Well, you're right. It is. That's until you hit Downtown later this month. After that, you basically won't know what hit you. When Bonfire takes the stage, you'll insist it's 1979, when Jimmy Carter was president, Axl Rose was only 17 and AC/DC was on its rocky road to stardom. Bonfire, in fact, is an AC/DC tribute band, and, from all accounts, "Highway to Hell" and "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" have nothing on these guys. Leave it to the legendary House of Blues to stage the event — and leave your calendar open on Jan. 10 so you can see it. The House of Blues is located at 1055 Fifth Ave. For further information, call (619) 299-2583 or see www.hob.com/venues/clubvenues/sandiego.

Jazz guy Danny Weller's a family man. Not only did he join San Diego's iconic Weller Family Band after picking up the bass guitar in his teens; his 2006 album "Tree of Thorns" features his parents, pianist Bob and saxophonist Ellen. Amid that kind of unity, you knew they had to grace us as a family sometime — and soon enough, that's just what they'll do at Dizzy's, where, it's said, the music matters most. Danny, late of the New England Conservatory, will join his parents as well as Berklee College of Music freshman Charlie Weller on drums in a rare collaboration on some of the finest jazz to grace the area. The Weller Family Band performs Jan. 16 at Dizzy's, corner of Second Avenue and J Street. Further information is available at (858) 270-7467 or www.dizzyssandiego.com.

French sculptor Bernar Venet doesn't care what you think. He's going to take any ol' material he chooses, configure it into a mass of straight lines and arcs, and put it out there for all to see. The Port of San Diego was so impressed that it thought it would be cool to dot our urban landscape with some of Venet's work. This exhibition features 13 sculptures, including Venet's arcs, straight and indeterminate lines and random combinations. They can be viewed at Harbor Island, Embarcadero Marina Parks, San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina, Laurel Street and Harbor Drive, the San Diego Museum of Art, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego, the Omni Hotel, Liberty Station and the San Diego International Airport. The installment runs through October. For further stuff, call (619) 686-7246 or visit www.portofsandiego.org.

## 'Doubt' is mounting at The Lyceum space

Four Tonys, a Pulitzer, the Drama Desk, an Obie: Since its Broadway opening in 2005, "Doubt" has been called the most celebrated American play of the 21st century – and even though the 21st century isn't that far along, the script holds itself out as an arbiter of moral certainty in an age where nobody knows what that is. Sister Aloysius, the fierce, regal principal of a Catholic school, battles for her children against an upstart priest who wants to bring a revolutionary gust of fresh air to teaching. The stand-off will end the way Sister would prefer — or will it? "Doubt," a San Diego Repertory Theatre production, opens in previews Jan. 10 at The Lyceum space, 79 Horton Plaza. For further information, call (619) 544-1000 or see www.sdrep.org.

"Man is the only animal that blushes," Mark Twain once said, "or needs to." That's a very adult notion — the kind of thing that fuels serious thought about those adults' more innocent days. For that reason, the grown-ups will probably like San Diego Junior Theatre's "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" as much as the kids who accompany them. Twain's story about pre-Civil War life along the Mississippi features such iconic characters as Tom, Huck Finn and Becky Thatcher and indelibly charts their coming of age. The show runs through Jan. 18 at Balboa Park's Casa del Prado Theatre, 1800 El Prado. details are available at (619) 239-8355 or www.juniortheatre.com.

Pluto was demoted to non-planet status in 2006, so that means we have eight such bodies left in our solar system. You probably don't think about the fact that four of those are colossally larger than Earth — and that's where the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center comes in. its "Giant Worlds" exhibit explores the extraordinary planets orbiting our sun and illustrates what they tell us about the formation of our planetary system and the conditions necessary for life. Twenty interactive displays illustrate the role gravity plays in how planets behave. The exhibit opens Jan. 31 and runs through May 3 at the Fleet, 1875 El Prado in Balboa Park. For more info, call (619) 238-1233 or see www.rhfleet.org.

— from staff reports



A planet is born as the universe works its will on the gas and matter that make up life as we know it. The picture is only one illustration from the Fleet Science Center's "Great Worlds," an exploration of the solar system's outer bodies. It opens Jan. 31 and runs through May 3.



COURTESY PHO

"Doubt" has won so many awards that all the awards people in the world have now run out of trophies. The San Diego Repertory Theatre is taking on the John Patrick Shanley landmark beginning Jan. 10, when the show opens in previews at The Lyceum space, 79 Horton Plaza.

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## The Local: Food, Beer, Heart & Soul

## **AROUND THE KEG**

By Tony Clarke

The Local Eatery & Drinking Hole represents the quintessential San Diego laid-back beachfront bar... right in the middle of downtown. Owned and operated by Mina Desiderio, The Local may lull you into the notion that you are steps away from the sand and surf, complete with your fish tacos and Mexican beers. Do not be fooled. "Most people don't realize that we aren't just a bar," says Mina, "We put our heart and soul into our food."

Food isn't The Local's only passion. True to its namesake, it also celebrates premium local craft beer. Sean McNeil, Bar Manager, has assembled a fine list of locally made beers from Green Flash and Alpine to Airdale and Ballast Point. Paired together, the food and beer create a culinary experience that screams of "heart and soul."

Probably one of the venue's signature dishes is the Lobster Tacos, a generous portion of lightly seasoned and breaded lobster tail covered in pico de gallo, shredded cabbage, cheddar and jalapeno lime sauce on a flour tortilla. The spice and citrus flavors of the white sauce are the first thing to hit your palate followed by the cool crunch of the cabbage. The texture of the cabbage contrasts

nicely with the warm lobster meat, seasoned perfectly. This dish begs for something cool to refresh, but can still complement the many flavors present here. How about Lost Abbey's Devotion Ale? One sip of this beer and you know you made the right choice. Pouring a deep golden copper, you get the smell of Belgian candi sugar and spicy hops as you raise the glass. Flavors of peach and malt dominate, helping to bring you back to earth after the big bold flavors of the lobster taco. The spicy hops flavors pair perfectly with the hint of jalapeno in the taco sauce. Truly a perfect pairing if there ever was such a thing.

Another signature item on the menu would have to be the Coconut Calamari. Created by Mina herself, the calamari is light and flaky, not oily to the touch or taste, and possess a hint of coconut sweetness. The calamari strips are large compared with most and the meat is very tender, not chewy. Served with honey mustard and cocktail sauce, you get a sensation of dining in the Caribbean with every bite. Moist and flavorful, the coconut provides a smooth hint of exotic sweetness. This dish paired well with Alpine's Mandarin Nectar. Served right off the tap, this beer has a deep sweet orange aroma that melds well with the residual sweetness from the coconut. The flavors of sweet orange and coriander

dominate, but don't go overboard. Mandarin Nectar is a honey beer, and the honey is definitely a positive when paired with the calamari. You finish craving more of each.

Food paired with the right beer can be a divine experience, but what about food made with the right beer? Just as exceptional. Great craft beer lends itself to cooking as the flavors of sweet malt, bitter hops, and over a thousand different esters and phenols are ideal kitchen tools.

Take something as simple as cheese. The Local has turned this kitchen staple into a decadent treat worthy of praise. Made with Stone Brewing's Smoked Porter, gouda and cheddar are melded with some heart and soul creating a smoky, smooth cheese dip that complements any savory dish with its mouth-coating flavors. Served a number of different ways, with soft pretzels, on a cheese steak, for breakfast on a Steak & Cheese Benedict, you can't go wrong with the flavors here. Most any beers go with cheese, as beer and cheese are a natural pairing in every way, so I decided to go with Coronado Brewing's Winter Brew. This mediumbodied beer is full of sweet malts and winter spicing. Earthy overtones also come forward as the spice and hops mingle. A clean taste of vanilla, fruit and sweet sugars work well with the earthiness of the beer cheese. Also, a high level of carbonation helps



to cleanse the palate after the mouth-coating cheese. Beer paired with beer, what could be better!

With all this great food, one would think that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Then again, it's that kind of thinking that keeps you in a box, afraid to try new dishes. The Local has been working on a new menu and will be adding some crafty new additions to the table soon. How about a tender Filet Tip Sandwich made with only the best cuts of filet mignon, caramelized onions, fresh-roasted jalapeños, passilla peppers, sauces from local producer Sauce Goddess, shredded jack cheese, all served on a warm ciabatta roll. This is just one of many new creations coming soon. Can't wait that long? the crew at The Local are always experimenting with new and exciting culinary creations. Daily specials are put out on the Grub List that can only be had if

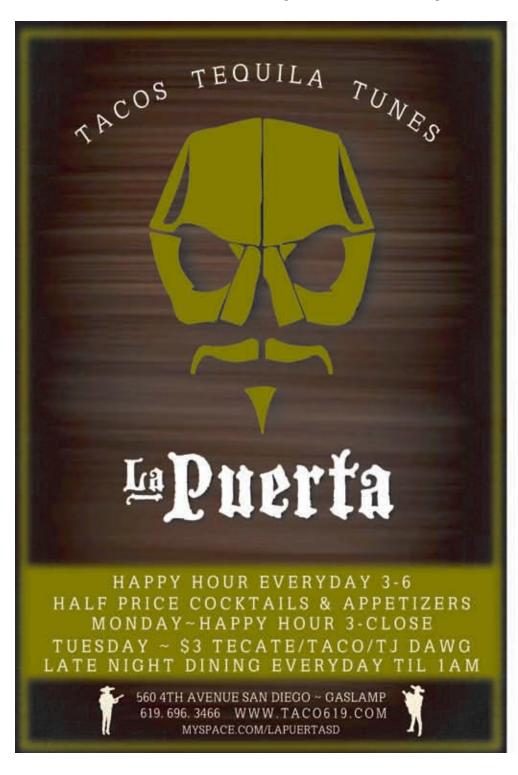
you sign up and are in the know.

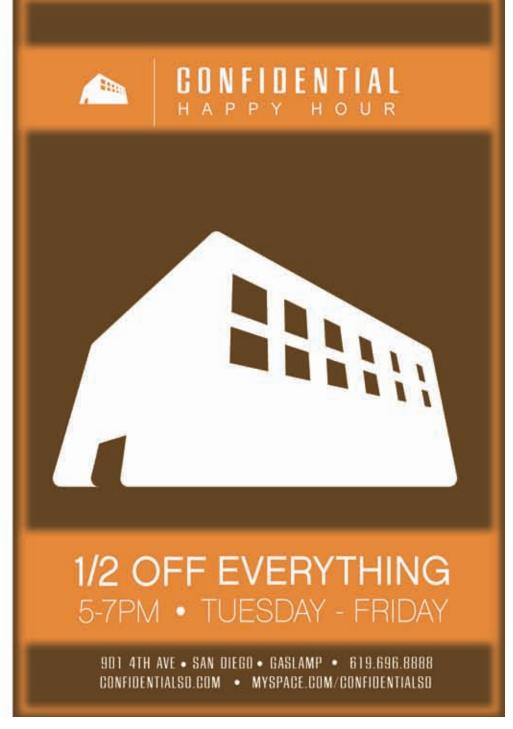
Great beer and great food go hand in hand, just like the heart and soul that it takes to make it all happen. Such a culinary combination wrapped the truly San Diego locale makes The Local a can't miss for anyone who is looking for that local gem. Cheers!

The Local is located at 1065 Fourth Ave., San Diego, CA 92101 thelocalsandiego.com.



Tony Clarke and his wife Liz own Airdale Brewing Company, located in San Diego. airdalebrewing.com





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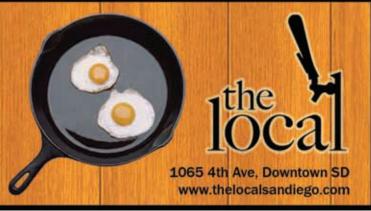
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## CHARGERS 08A

## # 45 <u>NARREN SPROLES</u>

By Michael Chavez Booth

You wore number 43 at Kansas State and received the number when you were drafted by the Chargers. Is there any significance to the number?

"My dad wore 43 in high school so I've always worn it since I started playing football. I chose it because of my dad."

## Your teammates sometimes call you "Tank" or "Scooter." Do you have a nickname that you prefer?

"My family and friends from back home always call me 'Tank.'
That's been my nickname my whole life. My teammates started calling me 'Scooter' because I am a shifty runner.
I like them both."

## You've accomplished so much on the football field. Is there one thing in football or away from the game that you are most proud of?

"I'm proud of making it to the NFL, but earning my degree is the thing I'm most proud of. That's why I didn't leave school early. I wanted to finish my degree and I did. I'm real proud of that."

## Who is the funniest player in the Chargers' locker room?

"Antonio Gates. He's always messing with somebody and making people laugh."

## What is one movie you could watch over and over again?

"Don't Be a Menace."

## If you could have dinner with any celebrity, who would it be?

"Probably Muhammad Ali. I'd like to hear him talk about everything he accomplished."

## Who was your favorite team and player when you were growing up?

"My favorite team was the Chiefs because I grew up outside of Kansas City and watched them all the time. My favorite player was Barry Sanders."

## What's your favorite meal?

"I love the holiday meals like Thanksgiving and Christmas; turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy and all of that stuff."

## What's one TV show that you never miss? "I watch the wire on HBO."



## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

## Budget is king as San Diego Restaurant Week returns



LORALEE OLEJNIK

Diners can enjoy fine food and stay within their budget as San Diego Restaurant Week, the popular semi-annual culinary event, returns Jan. 11 through 16.

About 150 restaurants across the county are participating in this year's event. Each will feature a special three-course menu for \$20, \$30 or \$40 depending on location (tax, beverage and gratuity not included, wine and spirit pairings available at some locations for an additional fee).

year and is offered by restaurants

such as Mr. Tiki in the Gaslamp

"Our hope is to inspire guests to walk through our doors and into the South Pacific," said Christopher Penta, general manager of the island-inspired eatery. "Enjoy a swank slice of paradise at a price that can't be beat."

Mr. Tiki will feature pan-seared Barramundi, rum-glazed pork tenderloin and wasabi-crusted filet medallions as its main course selections.

Last year, about 250,000 persons participated in restaurant week activities, designed to promote the local dining industry.

Many use the opportunity to try new restaurants that normally would be too pricey. From Chula Vista to North County, restaurants The \$20 menu is an addition this of all varieties participate in this

"While they are getting a threecourse meal for just \$40 per person, they can expect the exact same quality, preparation style and service they would expect on any other night dining," said Leslie Araiza-Lorenzo from Nine-Ten restaurant in La Jolla.

Araiza-Lorenzo also said Nine-Ten will offer \$2 valet parking during restaurant week.

Sam Kim at Rice, in the W Hotel, said the eatery will be hosting celebrity guest chef Kevin Harry from New York and will showcase a special menu specifically for Restaurant Week.

Other local restaurants participating this year include Phil's BBQ and The Brigantine in Point Loma, The French Gourmet in Pacific Beach, the Marine Room in La Jolla and the Gaslamp's Nobu at the Hard Rock Hotel.

There are nearly 7,200 restau- Restaurant Week is sponsored by rants in San Diego County, with \$4.2 billion in annual taxable food and beverage sales, according to figures on the California Restaurant Association website.

Many of these are feeling the pinch in the current economy as San Diegans struggle with rising unemployment rates and home foreclosures. Many potential patrons have put their fine dining habits on ice as of late.

A special partner of this year's restaurant week is the Girl Scouts of America, which will promote its trademark cookie sales campaign that begins at the end of January. Several restaurants will feature special dessert recipes integrating Girl Scout Cookie favorites like Thin Mints and Samoas.

Now in its fifth year, San Diego

the California Restaurant Association San Diego Chapter, the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau and San Diego magazine. Not only does it serve to highlight America's Finest City's finest restaurants; in the past, it's been very good for business, packing out eateries during normally slower weeknights (events run Sundays through Fridays) in a slower time of the year.

No special tickets or passes are required for Restaurant Week. However, reservations are recommended.

The website for the event, www.sandiegorestaurantweek.co m, lists all participating restaurants by price and region.

A fall restaurant week is scheduled for Sept. 13 to 18.

## 'Take Out' scores amid immigration issue

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Your underwear is the most important part of your wardrobe, because it says so much about you. If you eat too many carrots, the whites of your eyes will turn orange. And above all, always remember and never forget: Elevators can be really dangerous places, especially if you're outnumbered 2 to 1 in a bad neighborhood and one of the other guys has a gun to your head.

Such wisdom may have a place in urban lore, but the people who live it work in the real world, which can often be pretty unforgiving. Nonetheless, "Take Out," an independent film from New York's Cavu Productions, is all about the color that shapes that real world and, ultimately, the solidarity that keeps it eminently livable. It's also an excellent look at the lives of

## **SD Black Film Festival to fete Gossett**

The sixth annual San Diego Black Film Festival, featuring more than 100 African-American-based movies, is slated for Jan. 29 through Feb. 1 at the Regal United Artists Theatre in Horton Plaza.

On Saturday, Jan. 31, famed actor Louis Gossett Jr. will be given the festival's Award of Merit for lifetime achievement. One-hundred tickets are allotted for general admission to this event are available only

The event is an annual fundraiser for the Black Historical Society. Further information is available at www.sdbff.com or from the historical society at (619)

illegal Chinese immigrants and the idea that they sometimes don't get what they bargained for.

The film, which recently had a short run at the Gaslamp 15 Pacific Theatres, explores a day in the life of Ming Ding (Charles Jang), a deliveryman at a Manhattan Chinese fast-food restaurant. He's \$1,000 short on the money he owes his smugglers -- he'll borrow most of it from friends, but he needs to rack up the deliveries by the end of the day to make up the difference, lest his smugglers take it out of his hide.

Directors/writers Shih-Ching Tsou and Sean Baker take care to preserve the real-time intimacy to the course of Ding's day -- this thing is plastered with cinema verite techniques like close-ups, quick cuts and a grainy backdrop that render the camera as much a part of the cast as the actors (the bit and cameo parts couldn't be better cast). Jang reacts in kind, sporting a letter-perfect hangdog expression and an insistent hunch at the shoulders -- and look out for the scene in which co-worker Young (Jeng-Hua Yu) tries to coax a smile from Ding, exhorting the happy face in the interest of bigger tips. The contrast between the men is high comic relief in an otherwise dark, brooding piece about the American Dream and the nightmare it often spawns.

But this isn't a film about immigration so much as about the people who commence it -- people whose lives are as disparate and messy as those of the natives with whom they seek to share the national bond. It's highly worth a look once it's available on DVD. If the excellent performances don't stick with you, the backhanded take on your own desperation to belong surely will.



The Girl Scouts are partners in Restaurant Week. Above, Grant Grill executive chef Mark Kropczynski shows Brownie Briaja Payton some trade secrets.

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COURTESY PHOTO

Illegal immigrant Ming Ding (Charles Jang) takes his life in his hands every day as a New York deliveryman in "Take Out," an independent film that recently played at the Gaslamp 15 cinemas Downtown. Ming, an illegal Chinese immigrant, is under the gun (literally) to come up with the money he owes his smugglers. The Cavu Productions film, made for \$3,000, is an excellent depiction of life among the working displaced.



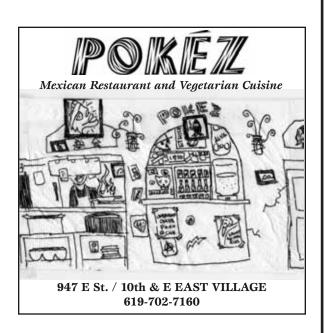
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## FOOD & DRINK

Go to: www.SDDiningScene.com for more dining information









## **BONDI**

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Relaxed by day and bustling at night, Bondi Australian beer and food brings the contemporary flavors, sights and sounds of Australia to the historic Gaslamp Quarter. Bondi is all about top-quality Australian products and people. It's also about the relaxed and casual Aussie attitude to life. Named after Sydney's famed Bondi Beach, Bondi brings you ice-cold Aussie beer on tap, along with a large range of Australian and international bottled beer and the longest and strongest Australian wine list in the US. The food menu is fresh and contemporary, relaxed enough to snack on but substantial enough for a long dining experience, and served with the friendly casualness that makes the Australian lifestyle famous the world over. Live DJ's every Friday and Saturday night. No cover charge and no dress code.

Winner - Lamplighter Award for Best New Gaslamp Restaurant 2007. CitySearch Editor's Choice - Best Bar in San Diego

## Richard Walker's Pancake House

Richard Walker's Pancake House, an upscale fusion of traditional and gourmet breakfast favorites, is now open in the Marina District in downtown San Diego. Serving classic-style griddlecakes, crepes, omelets and other specialties, this pancake house is certain to become the "premier" breakfast destination for San Diego's residents, employees and the tourist community! Open 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 7 days a week, and if you are unable to stay and enjoy the atmosphere, take Richard Walker's with you as we prepare orders to go.

## POKEZ Mexican & Vegetarian

Welcome to Pokez! We make our food with love. We cook with vegetable oil (no lard). We use the finest ingredients including organic produce when possible. Our beans and rice are 100% vegetarian, low in fat and sodium (no artificial coloring, no MSG).

## Royal India

Experience the finest Indian cuisine in the Gaslamp Quarter. Royal India offers impeccable service, a friendly wait staff and some of the most authentic North Indian cuisine in the city. Offering a full bar and a selection of wines and beers, Royal India makes for a perfect place to relax over cocktails. In fact, the restaurant boasts the largest outdoor patio in the Gaslamp Quarter. Royal India's extensive menu includes tempting appetizers, warm decadent breads, baked fresh in the tandoor, and a tasty selection of vegetarian, chicken, lamb and seafood curries. The ambience of the restaurant alludes to grand Indian palaces, with its large open spaces, mosaic tiled arches, a custom carved wood bar, and 10 foot calming waterfall. Voted "Best Indian Cuisine" by San Diego Downtown Readers Choice Awards in 2008. Royal India serves a gourmet buffet with over twenty items to choose from (Monday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and on Monday evenings).

## Hot New Winebar: Wet Stone

Chef Christian Gomez has opened an exciting new contemporary wine bar in Bankers Hill! Located in a Historic 1896 Building at 1927 4th Avenue (between Grape and Fir), Chef Gomez is serving his POWER LUNCH daily from 11a-2p Tues-Fri and his SMALL BITES & BIG GLASSES menu from 5p-10p Weds-Sun. Try some of his favorites such as Macadamia-crusted Ahi with mango and habanero salsa, or his farmers market greens with fuyu persimmons, pomegranate seeds, Danish Bleu cheese, carmelized walnuts and a toasted coriander seed vinaigrette. Having trouble finding parking? Not at The Wet Stone. After 7pm there is AMPLE FREE parking directly across the street in the parking lot.

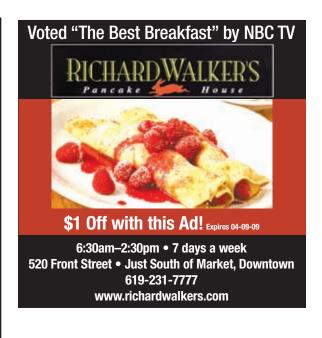
## Beach City Market

(See our coupon)

Beach city Market is your locally owned and operated neighborhood market. We offer weekend table service for breakfast 7:00 am- 1:00 pm. We are located in Horton Plaza across from 24 hour fitness. We feature a New York style deli, gourmet salads, a salad bar, sushi, smoothies, coffee, and dessert. All of our sandwiches are made with Boars Head deli meats and cheeses. We also offer a large selection of prepared meals for dining in or take out. If you are looking for an effortless holiday season pleas see our catering menu and holiday menu online at beachcitymarket.com or call us at 619-232-2491. Thanks to the readers of the Downtown News for voting us one of the Best Deli's in San Diego.

## Valentine's Mexican Restaurant

Valentine's Mexican Restaurant is family owned and operated and conveniently located at 844 Market Street in the East Village. Valentine's offers downtown San Diegans quality traditional Mexican breakfast, lunch and dinner (also OPEN LATE for the bar crowds). In addition to the excellent burritos, tortas, tacos, and homemade salsa at the salsa bar, you can also choose from a selection of Mexican beers and fine wine when you visit Valentines. Call ahead to pick up your orders "to go"! 619-234-8256.









## Location, location, location: Art is where the heart is



CHARLENE BALDRIDGE

Art produced in places not created for art is common in today's world. Art has an illustrious history of cropping up wherever it happens to bloom — anywhere, in fact, that provides a platform, including parks and street corners.

Over recent decades, San Diego audiences have seen theater and dance in storefronts, at trolley stops, at the beach, in hotel banquet rooms and in converted spaces of all kinds, including the decks of ships in San Diego harbors. Art manages to survive even in places with bad acoustics, bad pianos and execrable sight lines. Because The Old Globe Theatre converted The San Diego Museum of Art's (SDMA) Copley Auditorium into theater space for its use during the razing and reconstruction of its smallest venue, programs and are as homeless as gypsy theater

companies.

Jazz in the city was set back decades by the shuttering of SDMA's monthly Jazz in the Park series, booked by the extraordinary Holly Hofmann. In fulfillment of an odd, cosmically aligned allemande left, Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater — longtime producer of a yearly series titled "Cabaret Dances" at SDMA — has moved this season's installment to Anthology, one of San Diego's newest commercial supper clubs, where it continues Sundays at 5 throughout January.

The supper club would seem an ideal venue for dance, with its super-slick art deco ambience, excellent sound system, in-tune piano, platform made for musical groups and a dance floor — usually covered with tables — just waiting for Isaacs' appealing troupe over many seasons of "Cabaret Dances," much appreciated for its humor, elasticity and emotive movement. Alas, the dance floor is long and narrow, and with the eye spread so far, nuance of personality is lost despite excellent videogartists normally booked into Copley raphy that allows sight of what cannot be seen.



PHOTOS BY MANNY ROTENBERG | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Above, Annie Boyer, John Diaz and Veronica Martin Lamm, members of the Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater, are lost in a playful moment. Below left, Dance Theater's Liv Isaacs-Nollet illustrates the true performer's sense of abandon. Art, after all, is art no matter where it's performed or with how many.

Smaller pieces were performed prised Isaacs' 2005 "Sippie," set on the stage at the end of the room, which also held hardworking vocalist Rachel Drexler (more applied "style" than substance or musicality) and talented arranger/ pianist and singer Steve Baker.

Two world premiere sections were presented — "The Eyes of Love" and "Canned Goods," so named because it is accompanied by recorded music.

Dramatically most affecting among these were set on Diamanda Galas' "Time," danced and choreographed by John Diaz, and Damien Rice's "Sleep, Don't Weep," choreographed by Isaacs and performed by a dynamite duo, lanky and luscious Liv Isaacs-Nollet and her diminutive and voluptuous foil, Veronica Martin Lamm.

The concluding section com-

on the music of Sippie Wallace. Perhaps because this work was seen before, the piece seemed a better showcase of the humor and personality one has come to love and expect from San Diego Dance Theater.

The internationally renowned Isaacs taught technique, choreography and improvisation at University of California, San Diego for

'Cabaret Dances" is seen at 5 p.m. (doors open at 3:30 p.m. for cocktails and dining before or during the show) Sundays Jan. 11, 18 and 25 at Little Italy's Anthology, 1337 India St. (between A and Ash). Tickets are \$15 to \$35.

For further information, see www.sandiegodancetheater.org or call (619) 225-1803.

## San Diego Symphony mounts Beethoven fete

The San Diego Symphony is staging two Beethoven concerts at Symphony Hall and breaking the routine with a Qualcomm Hall entry in the middle.

The first event, Jan. 9 to 11, will feature Beethoven's Symphony No. 1 in C Major, with pianist Jessie Chiang. From there, the orchestra moves to Qualcomm Hall Jan. 14 for the composer's Moonlight Sonata, relocating to Symphony Hall the weekend of the 16th for a program featuring his Symphony No. 4.

Symphony Hall is located at 1245 7th Ave.

Further information is available at (619) 235-0804; you may also visit www.sandiegosymphony.com.



## 12th Patté Awards set for Gaslamp Westin

The Patté Awards for Theater Excellence, the annual tribute to San Diego's theater community and those within it, is set for Monday, Jan.19 at the Westin Gaslamp Quarter Downtown.

The gala, created in 1997 by host and longtime theater critic Pat Launer, is one of the theater community's most highly anticipated events. Attendees include a range of local theatermakers, theatergoers, board members, business leaders and the social elite.

The awards will also be broadcast on San Diego's Channel 4, airing Feb. 6 at 8 p.m.

The second annual Patté Scholarship will be presented in honor of the late Dr. Floyd Gaffney, who spearheaded African-American theater in San Diego. Newly named the Dea and Osborn Hurston Scholarship for a Promising Young Theatermaker, the award will be presented by the Hurstons and a member of

the Gaffney family.

Launer has reviewed and supported San Diego theater for nearly 25 years. In addition to her weekly reviews on KSDS-FM and her monthly appearances on KUSI-TV, Launer is a weekly online theater critic at sdtheatrescene.com.

The celebration begins with a pâté and Champagne welcome at 6 p.m., followed by dinner, the awards show/presentation and a dessert reception. Tickets for the event are \$75; VIP tickets, which include preferential seating and valet parking, are \$150. Special \$55 tickets for theater artists are available; tables go for \$750, \$1,250 and \$1,500.

Tickets can be purchased at www.thepattefoundation.org. The Westin is located at 910 Broadway Circle, adjacent to Horton Plaza.

— from staff reports







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#### Calendar/Events

SHARE YOUR WARMTH DAY Yes, it is that time of the year again. I have been organizing this Clothing Drive for about 10 years Please announce the information below prior to January 10. Do you need to make room in your closet for the new clothes you received this holiday season? Don't discard your barely used warm clothes. Donate them instead to the Share Your Warmth Day Clothing Drive to benefit those in need. Clean blankets, sweters, jackets, socks and other warm articles can be dropped off at the Veterans Village of San Diego, 4141 Pacific Highway, (619) 497-0142: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 334 14th St., Del Mar, (858) 205-4905, or at Brother Beno's, 3260 Production Avenue, Oceanside, (760) 439- or at on Saturday, January 10, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call Sally Cravens event organizer, at (760) 612-1425

#### **Public Notice**

CITY OF SAN Diego Park & Rec. Dept. Campus Pt, Eastgate, & La Jolla Village Dr. Maintenance Assessment Districts Annual Budget Meeting on Wed., Jan 21 @1:00PM. To be held at North University Branch Library.8820 Judicial Dr.

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www.focas-sandiego.org or call 619.685.3536

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have questions or need information go to our website at www.cslb.ca.gov.

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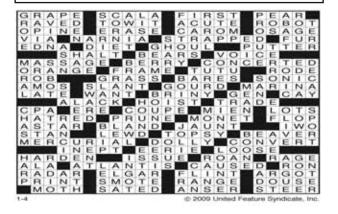


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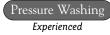
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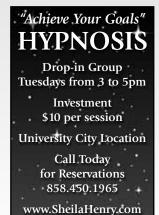
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- 1 Jelly fruit 6 Milan's La 11 Initial - opera house

- 16 Bartlett
  20 Talked wildly
  21 Namely (2 wds.)
  22 Sharp
  23 Mechanical man
  25 Think

- 26 Rub out 27 Ricochet 28 Western Indian

- 28 Western Indian
  29 By way of
  30 "The Chronicles of —
  32 Needing money
  34 Pelage
  35 Best or Ferber
  37 Weight-loss regimen
  38 Demon
  39 Golf club
  41 "Thou not..."
  43 Withstands
  44 Express

- 43 Withstands
  44 Express
  46 Rubdown
  49 Small juicy fruit
  50 Performed together
  54 Spectrum color
  55 Chassis
  56 Dance skirt
  57 Trayeled on
- Traveled on
- 57 58

- Overcharge
  Pasturage
  Exposes
  Kind of boom
  OT book 59 60 61 62 64 65
- 64 Incline 65 Fruit with a hard rind 66 Dock
- 67 Tardy 68 Be without 69 Like seawater 70 Mil. rank
- 71 Coral reef 72 Word of woe 74 Raise up 75 Commerce 77 Books expert
- Books expert (abbr.)
- 80 Before 81 Sporty car 82 Bearing 83 Quite a bit 87 Odium
- 87 Odium 89 Do a gardening job 90 French painter 91 Dud 92 "—— is Born"
- 93 Insipid 94 Pleasure trip 95 Jima 96 Getz or Musial
- 95 Jima 96 Getz or Musial 97 Obscene 98 -turvy 99 Amphibious rodent 102 Changeable 105 Mover's wheeled platform 106 Change 107 Like a bungler 108 Strange 109 Bangy
- 109 Baggy 110 Calcify Publish Horse of a certain color
- 115 Fury 119 Winglike part 120 The lost continent 123 Brought about 125 Howard or Perlman
- Speed-trap device British composer Stone that sparks
- 130 Lingo 132 Write a certain way

- 132 Write a certain 133 Struck 134 Extent 135 Extinguish 136 Wool eater 137 Glutted 138 Goose genus 139 Direct

## **DOWN**

- JWN

  1 Woodlet
  2 Swift
  3 Pertaining to birds
  4 Animal enclosure
  5 Paradise
  6 Antiseptic
  7 Wind instrument
  8 Be in store for

- 8 Be in store for

- 8 Be in store for 9 Mona —
  10 Dined
  11 Plant
  12 Son of Daedalus
  13 Part of RFD
  14 Halt!
  15 Non-permanent worker
  16 Generate
- 16 Generate17 Goddess
- 16 Generate
  17 Goddess of the dawn
  18 Toward the stern
  19 Scoundrel
  24 Region (abbr.)
  31 Saying
  32 Use with another
  33 Grand story
  36 Org.
  38 Microbes
  40 Great fear
  42 Crone
  43 Beauty and the —
  44 Cast a ballot
  45 Burden

- 45 Burden 46 Ethical

- 102 119 20 126 130 128 132 133 134 135 138 139 137
- 47 Pleasant smell 48 Wooden shoe 49 Small goose

- 63 Ocean
- Nasty look

- 76 Sprite 77 Gorge 78 Adhesive mixture 79 Essential oil

- 88
- Stale Fold in a skirt Hardwood tree

- 106 Amusement park ride 108 Landed property 109 Waiting room 110 Angelic instrument

- 117 Mother 118 Stage direction 121 Minus 122 mater 123 Sect 124 Pops 127 Insect 129 Monk's title 129 Monk's title 131 Nonsense!

- 50 Pungent spice 51 Gin and 52 Town in Minnesota
- 55 Rot 55 Forthright 56 Make fun of 59 Candied, said of fruits 60 Idaho city 61 Kind of trap
- Grassy area Complaint Intended
- Meet and offer words of welcome
- Dog Lacking resonance

- Timid
  Source of cooking oil
  Pisa attraction
  Athletics
- 93 Radar-screen image
- Actress Angelina Ring shape Pioneer of note 98 Ring shi 99 Pioneer 100 Letters
- 100 Letters 101 State positively 103 Bring to light 104 Torn 105 Wanted
- 111 Frighten
  112 Wireless communication
  113 Metal mass
  114 Drizzles
- 116 Contend 117 Mother -

exactly what you need for a little extra companionship.

Aries, hunker down and focus all of your attention on work this week There will be time for partying later when all of your responsibilities have been met

#### Nervous energy has you looking for a new project, Taurus. It could be just what the doctor ordered to get your mind off of other things. Ask Scorpio to help out.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21 Gemini, if you're thinking about a new relationship, consider adopting a pet. This could be

#### Cancer, there is such a thing as too much of a good thing. Whatever you've been doing in excess, you need to slow it down. Ask for friends to provide some other stimulation.

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23 With so much going on in the financial realm, it pays to take inventory of your spending and

saving, Leo. Now is the time to get your finances in check so you'll be prepared.

everyone involved. A new pet can bring trouble into the household.

away. You have to stick it out and find the silver lining to this cloud.

## Virgo, there's been a lot of turmoil in your life the last few months. But this week something will

occur that will take away a lot of the stress. Peace of mind is on the horizon Explore deeper relationships with family members and it can be a win-win situation for you and

#### SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22 Is money ruling the day, Scorpio? It could be time to take a better look at your priorities. You

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21 Sagittarius, you're reaching new heights at work. The trouble is, you're not feeling so great about all of the success. Maybe you need to reevaluate your career path.

may find some answers to your problems if you shift the focus off of your finances

#### CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, family concerns leave you feeling nervous. The way around them is to talk things over with friends. Sometimes just talking can make you feel better.

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18 There's a lot of drama going on at home, Aquarius. But avoiding the situation won't make it go

Surround yourself with lots of friends, Pisces. This will put and keep a smile on your face this week. Sagittarius wants to join the fun.



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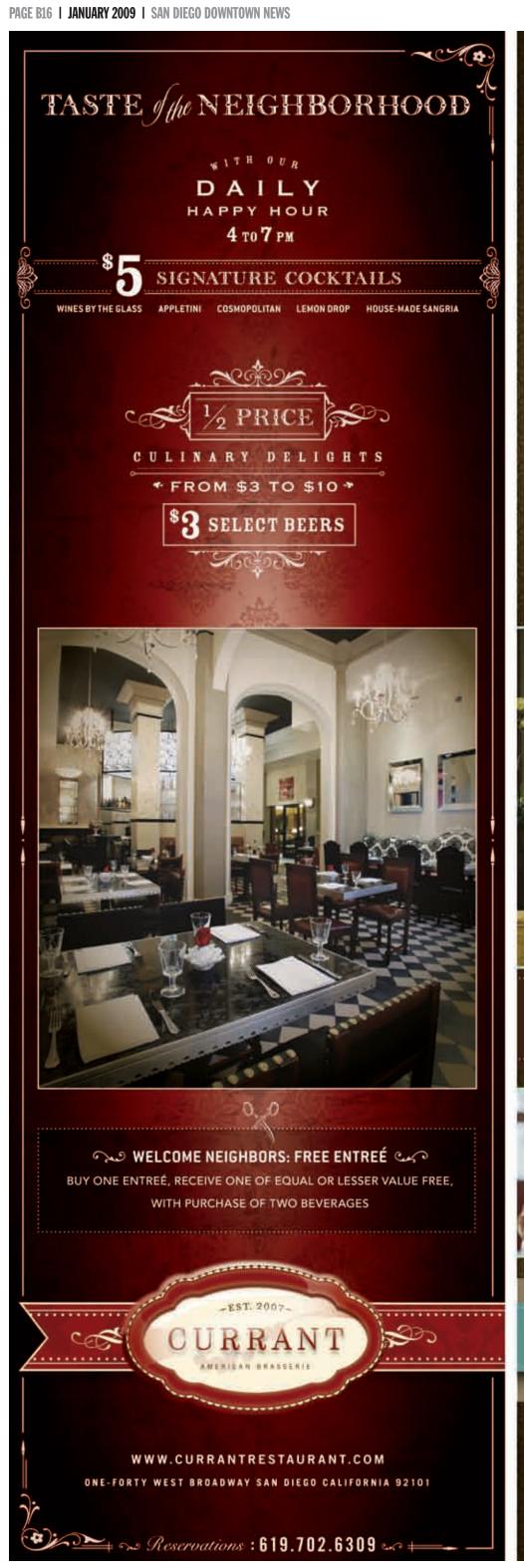
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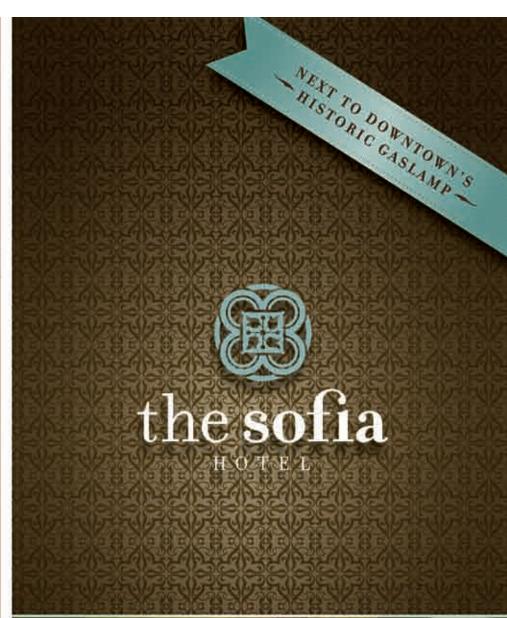
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