

SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

DOWNTOWN'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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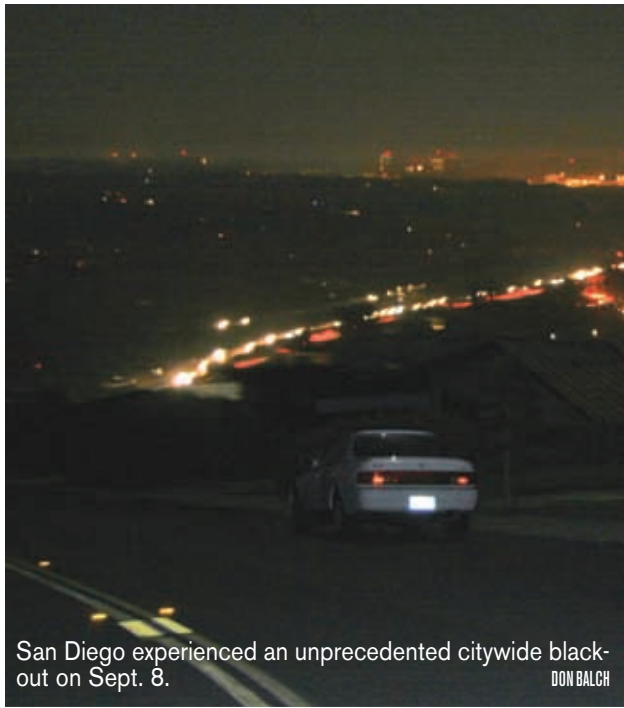
JANUARY 2012

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San Diego experienced an unprecedented citywide black-out on Sept. 8.

DON BALCH



Occupy San Diego protesters have made their presence known in Civic Center Plaza since the beginning of October.

PAUL HANSEN



America's Cup returned to San Diego in November after a nine-year hiatus.

PAUL HANSEN

Farewell to 2011; Hello to 2012

Will Irwin Jacobs move ahead with the Plaza de Panama plan or will park preservationists stand in the way? PAUL HANSEN



Will an overhauled Convention Center really bring the promised economic growth to downtown? COURTESY



Will San Diego finally have an iconic structure to call its own with the "Wings of Freedom" installation? COURTESY



New state laws grow teeth

Changes abound for smokers, gun fans, workers, bullies and motorists

By PATRICIA WALSH | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Fasten your seats belts (properly) and leave those unloaded handguns at home. A slew of new state laws that took effect Jan. 1 are sure to make life's ride a little more interesting in 2012.

What's in: recycling for renters and revised standards for use of car seats for children.

What's out: smoking for renters, open carry of unloaded handguns and self-service check out of alcohol at retail stores.

In the realm of technology, out-of-state online businesses will be subject to a California use tax, and digital readers won't have to worry about Big Brother watching.

California will also become more equal for all with a gay-bullying law

and a gay history law — the first state law of its kind in the nation.

Animals are also the source of greater protection, with laws shielding sharks and cracking down on abusive pet owners.

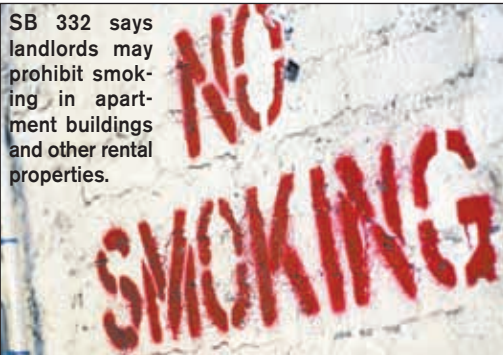
Every employer and employee will want to read the fine print of a compendium of new workplace-related laws that will help the world's eighth-largest economy going for another year.

Here's a look at just some of the new laws for 2012 that took hold Jan. 1.

CAR SAFETY

• California has a new booster-seat law that requires children younger than

SB 332 says landlords may prohibit smoking in apartment buildings and other rental properties.



8 — or who are not yet 4 feet, 9 inches tall — to use a booster seat securely fastened in the back seat of the car.

The revised California Child Restraint Law, twice vetoed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, was signed by Gov. Jerry Brown in October. It replaces the old law that required children who were 6 years old or younger — or who weighed at least 60 pounds — to be

SEE LAWS, Page 6

Business owner, nonprofit founder helps nourish a healthy San Diego

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

When Scott Lutwak, owner of Fit San Diego, launched his business in February 2008, he wanted to create much more than just a gym. He wanted to create a new generation of health-minded fitness enthusiasts, and he chose the East Village for his blank canvas, expanding his health-club concept from its beginnings in Houston, Texas.

"I took my family on vacation here and fell in love with this city," said the Chicago native. "I knew when it came time to expand Fit Houston, I would relocate to San Diego. San Diego is considered one of the healthiest cities in America, and I wanted to establish the Fit brand here."

Today, the San Diego location provides members with the opportunity to relax by the pool, take advantage of nutrition-



Scott Lutwak brought his successful business model from Houston to downtown's East Village when he opened Fit San Diego in 2008.

Courtesy photo

SEE LUTWAK, Page 8



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MERIDIAN

\$510,000

Spacious 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath enjoys Eastern exposure with an abundance of morning sunshine and dazzling night light views. Neutral décor, beautiful mirroring and urban ambiance will allow you to lounge, dine, or entertain in this ample space!



POINT LOMA

\$1,800,000

Come and see iconic San Diego views from the perfect perch on the high side of the street in La Playa. Known as the Charles Small artist house and pavilion, this single level, 2 bedroom, 2 bath has charms all on its own with room to add a second level. This is an opportunity not to be missed.



PARK ROW

\$385,000

This Marina District South facing, top floor corner unit is filled with light and views of Pantoja Park. Vaulted ceilings creates an open feel to this 1 bedroom, 1 bath home with an optional room loft upstairs that overlooks the living room. Do not miss out on this great unit!



HARBOR CLUB

\$4,295,000

This contemporary residence with captivating views accentuates its surroundings. With 3 bedrooms, 3 and a half baths, an additional optional bedroom, extensive storage built-ins and a private entry, you will have plenty of room to enjoy this dream home.



CITYFRONT TERRACE

\$399,000

Classic "Brownstone" offers charm and sophistication as a walk-up style townhome unique to San Diego. This 1 bedroom, 1 and a half bath boasts vaulted ceilings, expansive windows, and unprecedented amenities. A perfect metropolitan unit with a bungalow feel.



PARK PLACE

\$825,000

Experience the radiance of this established high rise community. Stainless appliances, granite counters, and unprecedented amenities compliment the spectacular westerly views. Don't miss out on this beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, home in the sky!



PINNACLE

\$1,199,000

Come be a part of a prestigious community in the "Pinnacle" of Southern California living. With 2 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, and additional den, this highly upgraded unit takes advantage of its location and incorporates chic contemporary living.



BAYSIDE

\$769,000

Don't miss out on this exceptionally upgraded home offering 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus den. In addition enjoy 2 large balconies, perfect for year round outdoor entertaining as well as essential site features like 2 side by side parking and storage unit..

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Changing the way we look at climate change

Local institute researches ways for countries to work together toward a 'quality of life for everyone in a sustainable way'

By MARSHA KAY SEFF | DOWNTOWN NEWS

While there are still some skeptics out there who remain unconvinced, a downtown energy nonprofit continues to warn about climate change and what must be done to slow it down.

If the world doesn't change its energy-consumption habits, Lindbergh Field and Mission Boulevard will be flooded during high tides in less than four decades, predicts Peter Meisen, president of the Global Energy Network Institute (GENI). At the same time, he warns, San Diego's average temperatures will climb by as much as six degrees during the summer, sparking an increase in local wildfires.

Although the United States, Europe and China have plenty of energy now, "80 percent of it comes from some polluting source," Meisen said.

The engineer started GENI 25 years ago to investigate a renewable-energy strategy for the world. The institute's aim is a global "quality of life for everyone in a sustainable way."

Meisen believes this can be accomplished with interconnected electrical networks between countries, with an emphasis on tapping renewable energy resources.

Besides decreased pollution from fossil and nuclear fuels, he predicts, the networks will produce such lofty benefits as improved healthcare, prosperity and even world peace. By working together and encouraging trade between neighbors, he contends, countries will be less likely to go to war.

Meisen said 98 percent of the scientific community continues to believe "addiction" to fossil fuel is changing our climate.

As for the inevitability of cyclical change, he said, "We have gone beyond a threshold of history in the last 60 years." From 1960 until today, he said, the concentration of carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere — a primary cause of climate change — has increased 30 percent.

Meisen asks those who deny that human activity is a major contributor to global climate change: How many 100-year floods or massive droughts or rising sea levels do people have to experience before they start believing?

Currently, five staffers and 38 interns are conducting research and education programs for GENI and its World Center Resources Simulation project. While GENI focuses on electricity and renewable energy resources, Meisen said, WRSC can address and "visualize" dozens of interconnected complex issues, including regional water issues, ocean pollution and the impacts of population.

Five months ago, the group moved to a 4,000-square-foot "immersive visualization facility" at Third Avenue and C Street. The researchers sit in one cavernous room



Peter Meisen in the lab of the Global Energy Network Institute, or GENI. The lab, or "immersive visualization facility," located at Third Avenue and C Street, consists of one large room encircled by 84-by-84-inch wall-mounted computer screens. Photos by MARSHA SEFF | Downtown News



filled with computers and surrounded by a dozen wall-mounted, 84-by-84-inch computer screens — the stuff of science-fiction movies.

Support for the nonprofit comes from "angel investors" and proceeds from renting its space out to businesses and other organizations for strategic planning and training, Meisen said. The group also gets income from a limited partnership with the MSCI Global Climate Index fund, which tracks 100 leading companies working to reduce carbon in their products and services.

Meisen likens the current global situation to the Titanic.

"The unsinkable Titanic hits the iceberg and two-thirds of the ship's passengers and crew were lost," he said. "What if the captain had ample warning of the danger that lay ahead? The history of that fateful event would be altered forever."

Today, he said, the ship is much bigger and we are all crewmembers, not just passengers.

"Do we have the capacity to mobilize before hitting the proverbial iceberg?" he asked.

The International Energy Agency has set the countdown clock to five years. Before then, Meisen said, "We need to turn the corner on carbon dioxide emissions or suffer dire consequences."

Meisen, meanwhile, lives by what he preaches. His family powers their South Bay home with renewable energy, which they switched over to 10 years ago when it was still available; he and his wife drive hybrid cars; they fill their recycle bin higher than their garbage can and they have replaced their backyard lawn with a wild "meadow."

In response to skeptics of climate change, Meisen has to ask: What if the smartest local scientists at Scripps Research Institute, UCSD and San Diego State are right about climate change?

"Certainly the risk is there," he said. "Why take the chance?"

Car2go signs on for downtown office space

Car2go, San Diego's only all-electric car-sharing service, has signed a five-year lease for a downtown retail lounge and office headquarters at 633 Ninth Ave.

Car2go began making its "smart fortwo" electric vehicles available for public use on Nov. 18. For a limited time, membership is being offered with no registration fee. The vehicles can be accessed at various locations throughout the city 24 hours a day and can be used for an unlimited amount of time. Parking, recharging, insurance and maintenance of the vehicles is included in the cost. The service is designed to promote an environmentally friendly, walkable lifestyle to complement San Diego's existing public transit system.

For more information, visit sandiego.car2go.com.

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In Escrow

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Think you know the Harbor Club? Think again. A custom remodel added a second bath and an elegant gourmet kitchen to this one of a kind residence. Picturesque views of the harbor, park, lush pool terrace and sweeping skyline will delight. \$649,000



Think Again



Short Sale Opportunity! Wow, a gorgeous harbor view from the 24 floor of the landmark Harbor Club towers at this price! A savvy buyer with a good eye and a little patience may score big on this one! \$575,000 subject to lender approval.

You missed this two bedroom "bubble" layout at Harbor Club. The Harbor and Ocean views it captured were exceptional. If you long for a view that is the best of the best, call us. We may know of the perfect property for you. \$849,000



In Escrow



Huge Reduction

High above the Marriott towers with sweeping views of the harbor and ocean this 32nd floor "Bubble" layout is fully furnished and fabulous at Harbor Club. Offered turnkey, there's nothing to do here but move in and enjoy. \$1,199,000

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Port District sees Convention Center expansion as economically beneficial

By **JOHNNY McDONALD** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The San Diego Unified Port District has given conditional approval to help fund the \$550 million cost for the proposed San Diego Convention Center expansion.

Based on action taken by the Board of Port Commissioners at a special meeting on Nov. 29, it may contribute up to \$3 million a year for up to 20 years.

The commissioners directed staff members to begin negotiations with the city on the terms and conditions of support agreements. The staff also was directed to "develop alternatives to address balancing the needs and benefits" in the Port District's five member cities of San Diego, National City, Chula Vista, Coronado and Imperial Beach.

Details on when the port will begin

making financial contributions will be worked out in future negotiations between the port and city.

"There is a lot of work left to do," said Scott Peters, chairman of the Board of Port Commissioners. "We do some things to make money and we do some things for the community. This should provide a return on investment to the port."

The action is in response to a request that Mayor Jerry Sanders made before the Port District's board on Nov. 8, when he suggested the contribution of \$3 million a year, or \$60 million over a 20-year period.

"The Port District will share in the \$698 million in economic benefit to the region," Sanders said.

The port's staff had analyzed the revenue expected to be generated from the

proposed expansion and a proposed 500-room expansion of the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel.

It was concluded that the positive economic impact to the region was reason enough to support the development of 500 new hotel rooms to support the expanded Convention Center and that it would be a good investment.

Studies by consultants indicate the Port District could derive revenues ranging from a low of \$3.5 million a year to a high of \$6.2 million a year, depending on whether the Convention Center expansion and the Hilton addition are developed at the same time.

Port commissioner Dan Malcolm, who represents Imperial Beach, expressed concerns about two financial reports that forecast the revenue. He asked that addi-

tional studies be conducted to include a worst-case scenario, which other commissioners agreed to.

Commissioners also expressed reluctance to dip into any Port District reserve funds to help fund the proposed expansion.

In addition, the Port District officials have said several potential issues may need to be addressed to ensure that any commitment does not compromise its ability to implement other important regional projects in its five member cities. The issues include the return on investment, the timing of payments, the city's contribution and the impact on the Port District's credit.

Aside from the district's proposed contribution, the city suggests funding sources for the expansion that include

\$33 million a year in tax revenues from a proposed Convention Center Facilities District. The facilities district would levy taxes on hotels in the city and produce revenue that would cover up to 75 percent of the expansion cost, according to the city.

The expansion project is currently in the environmental review phase. The environmental impact report is scheduled for completion in February. Construction is anticipated to begin one year later. The city expects the expanded Convention Center to be completed in early 2016.

The Mayor's Citizen Task Force projects the expansion is expected to generate \$698 million of economic activity annually in addition to the \$1.3 billion a year the Convention Center already generates.

How to Sell Your House Without an Agent

SAN DIEGO, If you've tried to sell your home yourself, you know that the minute you put the "For Sale by Owner" sign up, the phone will start to ring off the hook. Unfortunately, most calls aren't from prospective buyers, but rather from every real estate agent in town who will start to hound you for your listing.

After all, with the proper information, selling a home isn't easy. Perhaps, you've had your home on the market for several months with no offers from qualified buyers. This can be a very frustrating time, and many homeowners have given up their dreams of selling their homes themselves. But don't give up until you've read a new report entitled "Sell Your Own Home" which has

been prepared especially for home sellers like you. You'll find that selling your home by yourself is entirely possible once you understand the process.

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Old Globe looks to future with new producer, summer series

By **JOHNNY McDONALD** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The signature touch of departing executive producer Lou Spisto will be on stage with the Old Globe's standout summer productions.

The three theaters will feature shows like "Divine Rivalry," "Inherit The Wind" and "God Carnage," plus two Shakespearean standards.

Spisto, who has been with the Globe for nine seasons, stepped down in December to become an independent stage producer.

"I am delighted that the final summer season I have put together for The Old

Globe brings back three of my favorite directors — Adrian Noble, Michael Wilson and our very own Richard Seer — and introduces San Diego audiences to the incredible talent of Lindsay Posner," said Spisto. "Adrian's leadership of the Shakespeare Festival has been stellar, and next year will no doubt build upon the phenomenal success of the festival, one of the nation's premier theatrical events."

"I am also particularly excited for our audiences to see 'Divine Rivalry.' I was attracted to this work in part because The Old Globe is a theater set among great museums, and a play about the

rivalry between Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci is especially appropriate for us. I'm delighted to launch its future life by presenting the West Coast premiere by special arrangement with The Shubert Organization."

The West Coast premiere of "Divine Rivalry" (running July 7 through Aug. 1 on the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage) is by Michael Kramer with D. S. Moynihan and directed by Wilson. The San Diego premiere of Yasmina Reza's Tony Award-winning play "God of Carnage" (July 27 through Sept. 2 in the Sheryl

SEE **GLOBE**, Page 13



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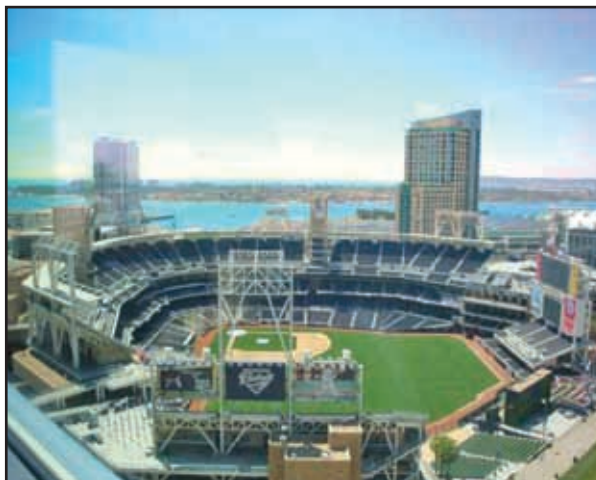


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The Pinnacle is one of downtown's most prestigious buildings and is renowned for high end finishes and amenities. This 1 BR view property is the perfect entree' into luxury living in a building with recent sales up to \$3.3 million. \$352,000



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SPORT ENTHUSIASTS WANTED

New on the market and rarely available, this 2BD/2BA hip East Village pad boasts direct Southwest views of ocean/bay, Coronado bridge and sparkling city lights. Enjoy watching any event at Petco Park from your living room and/or balcony! Offered at \$739,000



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The Legend is one of downtown San Diego's favorite buildings. This 2BR/2BA condo is almost 1,100 sqft and has a split bedroom, "dual master" layout. Offered fully furnished. Inventory is low downtown and this 2 BR won't last. Call now to schedule a showing!



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This single level, 3BD adobe home has undergone a \$1.5M remodel with no stone left unturned! The Spanish influences have been well preserved and enhanced with modern day appointments. This is a unique opportunity to own a stunning Weir Brothers home in the RSF Covenant. \$3,099,000



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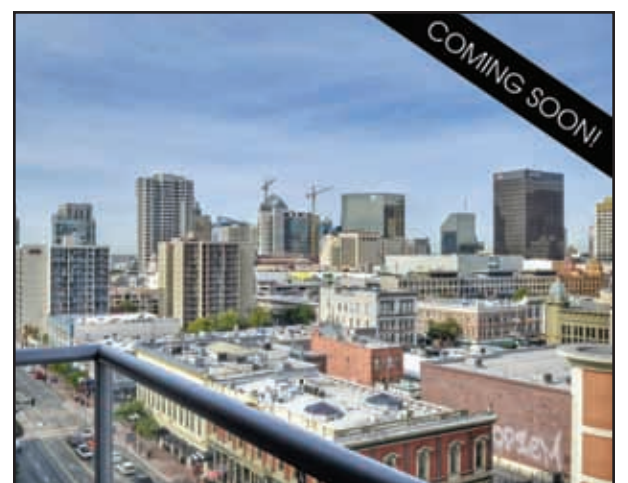


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Rare opportunity to own an single story Penthouse at Pinnacle in the Marina District. The residential plan is 1 of only 2 in the building. Enjoy 300 degree views encompassing the mountains, bay & Coronado Bridge. 3BR plus den/2.5BA/2 large patios. Offered between \$2,650,000-\$2,950,000



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IN THE HEART OF IT ALL!

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DEAL OF THE MONTH



LAWS

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

secured in an appropriate child safety seat or booster seat.

The fine for violating the new law (California Vehicle Code section 27360) is \$100, plus penalty assessments, which could add up to more than \$400.

A first offense may be reduced or waived if economic disadvantage is demonstrated. If the fine is reduced, the court will require the violator to attend an education program. The fine for a second or subsequent offense is \$250, plus penalties.

According the California Highway Patrol, thousands of children are injured or killed every year by safety seats that are improperly fastened by parents or caretakers. The CHP cautions parents that most collisions occur within a mile of the home.

- There is also a change to the standard seat belt law, which defines proper use of seat belts. CVC section 27315 states a driver must be properly clicked in as well. The lap portion of a seat belt must cross the hips and upper thighs of an adult and the shoulder section of a seat belt must cross the chest in front of the occupant. The shoulder portion of the seat belt can't be tucked under an arm or behind a back.

Somewhere consumer crusader Ralph Nader must be celebrating. It's been a long road since he single-handedly got federal legislation passed in 1966 that required seat belts as a standard feature in cars.

CHECKPOINT AND IMPOUNDMENT

AB 353 now prohibits police from immediately impounding a car during sobriety checkpoints solely because the driver is unlicensed. Unlicensed drivers now have time to contact a vehicle's legal driver to avoid impound.

OPEN CARRY OF HANDGUNS

Assembly Bill (AB) 144 now makes the open carry of unloaded handguns illegal in most of California. The law, signed by Brown and supported by law enforcement officials, does not affect unloaded open carry for long guns — as in rifles and shotguns — except where banned. Locations include schools, school zones, state and national parks, post offices and federal buildings. Among those exempt from the law are law enforcement, individuals authorized to carry loaded weapons in public and people selling unloaded weapons at guns shows. The penalty for violating the law includes up to \$1,000 in fines and up to six months in jail.

ALCOHOL AND SELF-SERVICE

This was a marriage that wasn't meant to last. AB 183 bans the sale of alcoholic beverages at self-service check-out stands in California's retail stores. Also known as the Fresh & Easy law because it stemmed from the chain's self-service format, the legislation requires retailers to sell adult beverages at full-service checkouts. There must be a face-to-face transaction between customers and store employees. Supporters of the law included religious leaders throughout the state and many organizations, including Mothers Against Drunk Drivers, Consumer Federation of California, California Council on Alcohol Problems (CalCap), Lutheran Office of Public Policy of California, California Police Chiefs, Alcohol Justice, California Narcotic Officers Association, Metro United Methodist Urban Ministry, California's Police Officers (PORAC) and California Professional Firefighters.

BEER AND CAFFEINE

SB 39 bans the importation, production and sale of caffeinated beer beverages at retail locations throughout California.

INTERNET SALES TAX

AB 28 requires some online retailers located in states outside California to collect tax and pay it to the state beginning this summer. Online giant Amazon, which kicked and screamed about the legislation and even threatened to pull its business out of California, quieted down when it figured out how to make its own profit on the new law. It is offering to calculate and collect any local and state sales taxes for its third party vendors for 2.9 percent of the taxes collected. The California Board of Equalization has estimated that the state loses more than \$1.1 billion each year in

unpaid use-tax revenue.

READER PRIVACY ACT

Go ahead and get that new digital reader you've been wanting — or download a copy of "Catch 22" from the Internet. Senate Bill (SB) 602 stops the government and third parties from snooping into previously easy-to-tap private reading records. We can now remember Joseph Heller for something other than his famous quote: "Just because you're paranoid doesn't mean they aren't after you."

RENTERS' RIGHT TO RECYCLE

Owners of multi-family housing with five or more units must now provide paper, plastic, bottle and can recycling services for California tenants beginning in 2012.

NO SMOKING HERE, THERE, ANYWHERE

California has gotten even tougher on smoking with SB 332. The law means landlords may prohibit smoking in apartment buildings and other rental properties. The purpose of the bill is to ensure apartment dwellers aren't exposed to second-hand smoke from other residents who live above or below them. According to Sen. Alex Padilla (D-Pacoima) who authored the bill, more than 30 percent of California housing is made up of multi-family residences.

GAY HISTORY

California is the first state in the nation to require lessons about gays and lesbians in public schools. SB 48 requires that school textbooks and social studies include the historic accomplishments of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals and groups, beginning July 1. A coalition of pro-family groups, which was unsuccessful in stopping the legislation before it was signed by Brown in 2011, vows to reverse the law. The group says it will collect signatures for its initiative early in the year.

GAY-BULLYING

AB 9, or Seth's Law, is set to take effect on July 1. The law combats bullying of gay and lesbian students in public schools by requiring school districts to have a uniform process for dealing with gay-bullying complaints. It also mandates that school personnel intervene if they witness gay bullying. The law is named for Seth Walsh who, in 2010 at age 13, hanged himself in his backyard. Walsh reportedly suffered relentless bullying at school after he came out as openly gay in the sixth grade.

LGBT EQUALITY, EQUAL ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

State universities and colleges and community colleges must create and enforce campus policies protecting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals from harassment and appoint employee contact persons to address on-campus LGBT matters.



Landlords must now make sure their renters can recycle.

LGBT EQUAL BENEFITS

Requires an employer with a state contract worth more than \$100,000 to have non-discrimination policies in place for LGBT workers and their partners.

MEDICAL RADIATION SAFETY

Radiologists in California will be required to add radiation dose levels to their printed and digital reports under SB 1237. Signed by Schwarzenegger in 2010, the law goes into effect on July 1.

HUMAN TRAFFIC/SLAVERY

Companies doing business in California that have annual gross global receipts in excess of \$100 million will be required to publicly disclose efforts to ensure their supply chains do not support human trafficking or slavery. SB 657 was signed into law by Schwarzenegger in 2010.

NO MORE SHARK SOUP

AB 376 bans the sale, trade and possession of shark fins in California.

PET PROTECTION

Anyone with a misdemeanor or felony animal-abuse conviction is prohibited from possessing animals for five to 10 years after the crime under AB 1117.

EMPLOYMENT

If you're lucky enough to have work in this economy — or if you are being considered for a job — you could be

affected by a slew of new employment laws in 2012. Here's a snapshot from the California Chamber of Commerce on new rules that have taken effect:

- **Credit reports:** Employers and prospective employers won't be able to obtain and use consumer credit reports to review job applications beginning this year. AB 22 does not apply to some financial institutions or managerial employees. California is now in a club with Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Oregon and Maryland — the states that have already restricted credit checks by most employers from employment decisions.

- **Pregnancy disability leave:** SB 299 requires all employers with five or more employees to continue to maintain and pay for health coverage under a group health plan for an eligible female employee who takes pregnancy disability leave (PDL) up to a maximum of four months in a 12-month period. The benefits are at the same level and under the same conditions as if the employee had continued working during the leave period.

- **"Gender expression:"** AB 887 amends the Fair Employment and Housing Act to further define "gender" to include both actual gender and "gender expression," as defined by the new law, and to make clear that discrimination on either basis is prohibited.

- **Genetic information:** SB 559 amends the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to state that employers are prohibited from discriminating against employees on the basis of genetic information.

- **Insurance non-discrimination:** SB 757 prevents employers that operate in multiple states from discriminating against same-sex couples by not providing the same insurance coverage for domestic partners as they do for spouses.

- **Independent contractors:** The "willful misclassification" of independent contractors by employers carries penalties ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 under SB 459.

For a complete list of the new California employment laws, visit www.calchamber.com.



No more mixing of uppers and downers: SB 39 bans the sale of caffeinated beer beverages.

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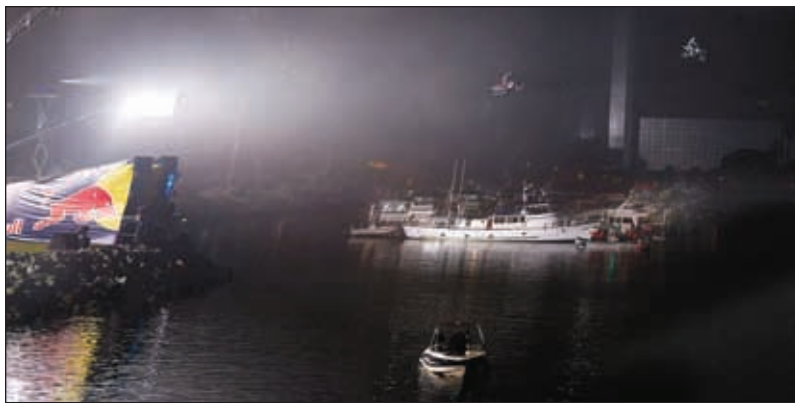
Announcements, photos and story ideas are welcomed. We ask that content be sent at least one week prior to publication and include valid contact information.

OPINIONS

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Levi LaVallee and Robbie Maddison appear as two tiny, flying specks in the upper right corner of a photo taken of them during their record-breaking jump over water at the Embarcadero Marina Park on New Year's Eve. Courtesy photo

'Red Bull: New Year. No Limits.' returns to San Diego for extreme double feature

By **MARIKO LAMB** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Whether on television or in person, San Diegans might have noticed two high-flying vehicles zooming across the San Diego skyline on New Year's Eve.

Snowmobiler Levi LaVallee and motocross daredevil Robbie Maddison piloted their machines concurrently in a jump over 300 feet of water at the Embarcadero Marina Park downtown, smashing two records in one fell swoop.

LaVallee broke his own 361-foot record by launching his snowmobile 412 feet. Maddison broke his existing certified world record of 351 feet by more than 30 feet, landing 378 feet from his take-off ramp. Maddison also unofficially eclipsed the current motorcycle jump world record of 391 feet at a practice for the Dec. 31 event.

Last year, LaVallee, a seven-time Winter X Games medalist and champion Snocross racer, was injured during a trial run of the jump, postponing his attempt at the record during the 2010 "Red Bull: New Year. No Limits." challenge.

"I am so pumped to be able to come back to 'Red Bull: New Year. No Limits.,'" LaVallee said before the jump. "Last year obviously didn't go the way I was hoping, and I am excited to have another chance at this amazing opportunity."

Maddison, an accomplished freestyle motocross rider with an X Games silver medal in Moto X Best Trick and two wins on the Red Bull X-Fighters World Tour, iterated his excitement for the challenge as well.

"Jumping long distances is a passion of mine, and I'm excited to come back for New Year's Eve and sail over San Diego Harbor," he said. "It's not all about getting the world record to me. It's more about understanding this feat and the commitment ahead to achieving what most would consider an impossible jump."

After the record-breaking event, LaVallee expressed exhilaration at his success — and relief that he landed in one piece.

"I'm as excited as I think a person can be," said LaVallee. "I just landed an over 400-foot jump. I'm not sure how the sled's doing, but I'm OK, so it was good. It's an amazing feeling. You have no idea how pumped I am."

Maddison, too, was happy with the result.

"It's a cool feeling to do what I do and have the backing I do," said Maddison. "I was confident we were going to go a long way tonight and we're going to come back and go even further."

NEWSbriefs

City gives Christmas trees new life

San Diego's Environmental Services Department will host the 38th annual Christmas Tree Recycling Program beginning through Jan. 23.

Sixteen drop-off locations are available to residents, as well as curbside pickup for those customers with curbside yard waste collection.

Only "clean trees" are accepted at city recycling locations. Before depositing trees, residents must remove all tree stands, lights, ornaments, tinsel and non-recyclable materials.

Downtown residents can drop trees off at 2600 Golf Course Drive in Golden Hill. For a full list of dropoff locations, visit www.recyclingworks.com.

East Village businesses get wild on Wednesdays

Got post-holiday blues? Head over to the East Village for Wild Wednesdays for the cure. Every Wednesday beginning on Jan. 11, several East Village Association member businesses will take 20 percent off the bill for locals. Simply by mentioning they are residents of San Diego County, locals can receive the discount at the following locations:

- **Bootlegger**, 804 Market St.
- **Bub's at the Ballpark**, 715 J St.

- **Dragon's Den**, 315 10th Ave.
- **East Village Tavern + Bowl**, 930 Market
- **El Vitral**, 815 J St.
- **The Fleetwood**, 639 J St.
- **The Kitchery**, 777 J St.
- **Knotty Barrel**, 844 Market St.
- **Mission Brewery**, 1441 L St.
- **SaladStyle**, 807 F St.
- **Salon Identity**, 418 10th Ave.
- **San Diego Restaurant Supply**, 1202 Market St.
- **Table 509 in Hotel Indigo**, 509 9th Ave.
- **The Slippy**, shop.theslippy.info
- **TheVillage@631 Coffee & Wine Bar**, 631 Ninth Ave.
- **Toast Enoteca & Cucina**, 927 J St. Certain restrictions apply.

Organization aims to make community AWARE

Nonprofit organization AWARE, which opened downtown's first recycling collection center in October, announced plans to initiate its "Communities for Communities" charitable recycling program over the coming year.

Funds generated through neighborhood recycling will be pumped directly back into the community to fund their immediate needs, like providing free daily breakfasts and dinners for neighborhood kids; creating and maintaining community gardens; and organizing free dental and medical clinics.

For more information, visit www.awarerecycling.com.

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Introducing San Diego's new mixed-use village — a place that blends urban vibe and village charm in equal measure. With plans for five neighborhood districts, a central park, shopping, dining and entertainment, Civita promises to become a walk-everywhere hub. Be the first to discover this cool new address in the heart of town, minutes from everywhere you want to be. Come tour the models at Origen, our first for-sale neighborhood by Shea Homes.

For more information, visit us on Civita Blvd., 2 blocks north of Friars Rd., off Mission Center Rd., in Mission Valley.



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LUTWAK

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

al meals at the club's cafe, or socialize with friends in the lounge.

The upscale \$10 million facility hosts top-of-the-line amenities, with a lounge complete with computers and wireless Internet, technologically advanced exercise equipment with plasma TVs and iPod docks, steam rooms, dry saunas and even a Japanese meditation garden. The facility boasts 5,000 members and counting — despite launching the business at a most inopportune economic environment.

"When the recession hit and people began looking at how they were spending their money, our members saw the value in all Fit had to offer them," he said. "We stayed true to our game plan — we continued providing our members a unique experience every time they walked in the door."

Part of that unique experience includes a Food at Fit program to ensure that members reach their goals to look and feel better by eating healthy. Meals can be purchased at the café or can be ordered online.

In addition to nourishing members of his club, Lutwak extends a helping hand to the homeless population in San Diego.

"Ever since I've moved here, I have been extremely disturbed and affected by San Diego's homeless population. Myself and some close friends recently formed a nonprofit called Urban Angels

with the sole purpose of nourishing those in need," he said. "The food comes from our production kitchen, which produces all of the nutritional meals for Fit Natural Foods and the Food at Fit program we have in our club."

Another unique opportunity offered by Lutwak is the Perx program — a cross-marketing opportunity for local businesses to gain exposure with the club's members. Businesses, Lutwak said, can offer members special discounts, and in return, Fit hosts events the business, invites them to participate in the monthly Member Appreciation Days and lists them on the Perx website at www.fit-perx.com.

Ever the entrepreneur, Lutwak took another chance on a business start-up with Brooklyn Bagel and Bialy, located just down the street from Fit on Island Avenue. Food and health, he said, rarely make for bad business decisions — especially when done right.

"I knew the concept would work because although people need to cut out frivolous expenses, they always have to eat, and we all know breakfast is the most important meal of the day," he said. "The authentic way that we boil our bagels is something that Einstein's does not do. Everything is homemade. Everything always changes based upon the requests of our customers. We are a mom-and-pop shop, and we try to keep it that way."

For more information, visit www.fit-athletic.com or call (619) 764-5348.

"I knew the concept would work because although people need to cut out frivolous expenses, they always have to eat, and we all know breakfast is the most important meal of the day."

SCOTT LUTWAK
Owner, Fit San Diego

Downtown attorney recognized for her work for women, minorities

By JOHNNY McDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Attorney Janice Brown has long dedicated herself to helping those who need it, and her hard work is starting to pay off.

Brown, founder and CEO of Brown Law Group in San Diego, has participated actively with the National Association of Minority and Women-Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF) for a few years by integrating the group's mission into her legal practice and advocacy for woman in the field of law. Now, she has been elected to a three-year term as a board member for the organization.

A national network of more than 600 distinguished attorneys as vital resources in building strategic alliances among firm members, NAMWOLF supports growth and success, fostering the formation of minority and women-owned law firms and encouraging women and minorities to pursue careers in the legal profession.

"My commitment to NAMWOLF started three years ago," said Brown, "and my connection to the organization and its mission has grown as I have become increasingly familiar with its goals and objectives for women or people of color from throughout the country.

"It was one way as an encouragement to overcome the myth that corporations do not want to do business with them," she said. "That's not true and there are a number of corporations that are interested."

She has served the organization as editor of the NAMWOLF newsletter for two years, written articles and interviewed corporate partners and financial contributors.

Brown assisted the organization with

recruiting Sempra Energy as a corporate partner and has encouraged Liberty Mutual, CBS, Corporate Counsel Women of Color, Wells Fargo and Fox to join NAMWOLF.

"Prejudice is difficult, period," she said. "It's everywhere, but things are getting better. At least there is a perception that education and economic success is a way to overcome prejudice.

"It's really interesting and different in San Diego. I have been well-received here and in the state. I do think there are certain elements that have received women particularly well. We have had women district attorneys, chief judges of the federal and superior courts and one or two in the council."

Brown's specialization in preventative employment law is uniquely defined by the fact she is also an accomplished trial lawyer.

"We try to help companies understand what the risks are and to avoid a trial," she said. These suits might include disability termination, racial discrimination and harassment issues.

Brown cited Anita Hill's 1991 charges against Clarence Thomas as a major factor in the rash of sex harassment lawsuits.

"Claims went up the roof from there," she said. "Most of those, in my view, don't result in a victory. Few go to trial and only a few make big dollars."

She's also an exceptional public speaker and has openly voiced her experiences



Attorney Janice Brown was recently elected to a three-year term as a board member for the National Association of Minority and Women-Owned Law Firms. Courtesy photo

with racial and sexual discrimination throughout her career as an African-American woman.

In 1987, Brown was named trial lawyer of the year at the U.S. Department of Justice and has been selected as a San Diego Super Lawyer each year from 2007 through 2011.

Her involvement in the community has been extensive and has included the San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, past president of the Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association and as vice president of the San Diego County Bar Association.



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3rd Annual 'Blessing of the Animals Returns January

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is hosting the third annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, Jan. 15, from noon to 3 p.m. The blessing is led by Monsignor Mark Campbell, but all faiths and convictions are welcome to celebrate the animals that make our lives so special. The blessings will take place between 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.

There will be a pet expo with treats for pets and owners as well as activities for kids. Sky Hunters will be bringing exotic birds to the event and various rescue groups such as Emergency Animal Rescue and Wee Companions will educate the public about rescuing, rehabilitating and supporting wild and domesticated animals.

There will also be animals available for adoption and a special appearance by Chopper the Biker Dog. Chopper is a one-year-old Boston terrier who is known all around the county for riding his own Harley Davidson motorcycle and his distinctive biker goggles.

The event features animal-themed entertainment such as pet psychic readings by Sindi Somers from Wild and Tame. Other groups participating include Love My Pet, Santee Bunny Shelter, and Chihuahua Rescue of San Diego.

Historically, this event has been happening for more than 300 years — dating back to the 1700s. In San Diego the annual Benediction of the Beasts celebrates St. Anthony of the Desert, the Patron Saint of Animals. Activities for both animals and

families make this celebration both unique and very moving to all who participate.

Admission to this event is free. This event is sponsored by j.simms agency, Fiesta de Reyes and Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. For more information, visit: <http://www.facebook.com/fiestadereyes> or call event producers, j.simms agency at 858-689-9909.



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College preparedness program put to the test at City College

By **MARIKO LAMB** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

According to the San Diego Community College District, many high school students who enter their first year of college are not prepared to meet the demands and expectations of the rigorous college-level coursework.

In response to that alarming assertion, San Diego City College (SDCC), San Diego high schools and other stakeholders including the Foundation for California Community Colleges, Jobs for the Future and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation are teaming up to provide students with the tools necessary to succeed in their first year of college through an Early College High School Collaboration (ECHS) program.

The ECHS program focuses on developing college readiness and reducing remediation by partnering high school and college faculty, aligning curriculums to focus on college readiness skills, offering summer programs for 10th and 11th graders to reinforce key cognitive strategies and offering accelerated math, English and business courses for high school students.

In the spring of 2009, SDCC professors Gavin Brown and Chris Baron

launched the program, offering 37 area high school students the opportunity to earn one college credit through an English 12 course. The self-paced course focuses on reading, writing and critical thinking skills designed to raise students' proficiency and college readiness skills, and help them achieve higher test scores in the required California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) and standardized college entrance tests like the SAT.

The professors use Pearson MySkillsLab, a user-friendly online learning platform, as the core curriculum for the course. Students enrolled in English 12 begin the course by taking a series of pre-diagnostic tests to determine areas of skill strengths and weaknesses, work through an individualized study plan customized exclusively to improve their skill weaknesses then end the course by taking a series of post-diagnostic tests to determine the students' levels of retention.

Baron said one of the clearest benefits of the program is the initial diagnostic that provides an immediate and clear understanding of students' individual knowledge base and needs.

"MySkillsLab enables us to target our teaching from Day One of the term,

delivering exactly the help that each student requires," he said. "MySkillsLab has helped some basic-skills students to re-enter a regular course of study, and we are seeing high school students who were at risk of failure able to pass the CAHSEE."

San Diego High School's School of LEADS enrolled all 10th-grade English students in the English 12 course for two years. The students would spend one class period per week at City College and half of one class period in their regular English class using the MySkillsLab to practice writing skills, said LEADS English teacher Fane Wazny, who works with Baron on the joint curriculum.

"We saw the potential of the classes as preparing students for the writing conventions and writing applications parts of the CAHSEE," she said. "The class was used as a supplement to and reinforcement of the California language arts standards and reading

and writing strategies taught in our 10th grade curriculum."

Her students have made improvements in test scores since using the program. She said of 99 students who took the CAHSEE, 78 percent of them passed the language-arts portion and 48 percent of them scored either proficient or advanced — quite an improvement over two years ago when the teachers used other teaching methods.

In addition to quantifiable results, Wazny has noted other ways her students have benefited from the course.

"By coming on City's campus, they feel like college students. Most of the students take the course very seriously, and their behavior tends to be very mature and cooperative," she said. "The coursework is rigorous, and the students begin to understand the challenges of a college-level course. However, most rise to the

occasion and are very proud of their accomplishments."

MySkillsLab is also used in courses by San Diego City College students themselves to reduce the need for remediation of colleges courses, support English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) students in their courses, or prepare non-English majors for other certifications or tests.

Results from individual pre- and post-diagnostic tests have proven to be a success with 100 percent retention by the first 37 students enrolled in 2009 and a 92 percent retention rate by the second wave of 281 students who were enrolled in 2010.

The first wave of high school students who first utilized the program two years ago in San Diego have only begun entering colleges this year, testing the advantage of the ECHS program in preparing high school students for their first year of college.

Windermere Signature Properties is going 'Green'

In this world of paper, especially in the Real Estate business where there are about 200 sheets for a closing file, it's important to go paperless! Since embracing this ideal using a customized system for their transaction management, the Windermere Signature Properties' downtown office is more productive and green.

Advantages include the ability to access important documents from computers, laptops, and mobile devices. Title reports, escrow instructions, termite and home inspection reports are delivered instantly via e-mail to all parties in the transaction. Additionally, the office provides a complete transaction backup for Clients on a CD-Rom and archives data online and on the transaction management system for 5 years. Even their Broker file review uses digital approval.

For those companies that insist on providing documents in paper, the office uses a local recycle service which picks up the paper in an electric car and shreds the documents

for security purposes. The office kitchen uses silverware, plates and glassware that can be washed, thus eliminating huge amounts of plastic ware.

Finally, the Windermere Signature Properties embraces the local shared car system, Car2go. Perfect for "driving around downtown" for short distances, Smart cars placed throughout the metro area in handy locations. Their size makes the electric vehicles easy to park and don't require parking meter money.

"These steps are only part of a whole process that continually needs to be addressed as we all look at ways to "simple down" so that future generations can live here with a quality of life that San Diego has to offer," states Broker Jeffrey Douglass.

Windermere Signature Properties is located in the Marina District, 560 First Avenue (between Market and Island) 619-481-6300.

Tile and Grout Cleaning Specialists Have Floors Sparkling and Homeowners Smiling

As many homeowners know, keeping a clean and beautiful home can be a full-time job. After picking up, doing the dishes, vacuuming the floors, folding the laundry, and gardening, most homeowners don't have the time or energy to tackle their grout and tile floors. Cleaning your floors by hand can be a lengthy and frustrating process, and sometimes no matter how hard you scrub your grout it still doesn't look clean. Perhaps it is time to turn to the professionals.

Professional tile and grout cleaners can come to your home and apply a certified green cleaning agent to your floors. Then they use a commercial scrubber to remove dirt and debris, followed by a steam extraction of your soiled grout lines. Once your floors are sparkling clean, a solvent-based sealer is applied to your grout lines to ensure easier cleaning for years to come.



For more information on tile, grout, and upholstery cleaning, you can contact Frank Blake Tile & Cleaning, a company with 15 years experience serving San Diego, at (619) 264-7676.

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—Paul Needelman, Principal

All of the independent professional housekeepers we refer have years of housekeeping experience. We pre-screen and register them by requiring complete background checks through an independent reporting agency. We also contact their references to confirm

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Downtown in January

JAN. 6 **Sizzlin' Hot adult comedy hypnosis show**, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$20



Twelfth Night/Three Kings dinner and concert with Courtly Noyse, San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, (619) 232-6203, www.sandiegohistory.org, \$20-\$25

10 **"Cats" opening night performance**, 7 p.m., Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Ave., runs through Jan. 15, (619) 570-1100, www.broadwaysd.com, \$17.50-\$77.50



Community conversation: "WHALES," 7 p.m., Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, (619) 533-7000, www.sdopera.com, \$6

14 **"Hush, Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name" with the Black Storytellers of San Diego**, San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, (619) 232-6203, www.sandiegohistory.org, free

Modern Day Mummy lecture series, 11 a.m., San Diego Museum of Man, 1350 El Prado, (619) 239-2001, www.museum-ofman.org, \$5-\$12.50



An Evening with Naturalist John Muir, 5:30 p.m., Balboa Park Recital Hall, 2145 Park Blvd., (858) 244-1177, www.energycenter.org/forestry, free

Honeyfest San Diego, various times and places, support for small-scale beekeepers, (760) 936-7756 www.honey-festsd.com



18 **San Diego SAVVY**, 6 to 8:30 p.m., AIRE Urban Fitness, 1014 Fifth Ave., Ste. 120, women-only event powered by Chic CEO, www.sd6degrees.com, \$20 nonmembers at the door, \$15 nonmembers pre-registration, \$5 members

EDM with Above and Beyond, 9 p.m., FLUX Nightclub, 500 Fourth Ave., (619) 232-8100, www.fluxsd.com, \$40

Images of Salome: Eroticism, Horror and Religion, 7 p.m., San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, (619) 232-7931, www.sdmart.org, free



22 **San Diego Museum of Art open house**, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., James S. Copley Auditorium, 1450 El Prado, RSVP, (619) 696-1941, membership@sdmart.org, free for museum members

23 **Speak of Good Things: Nian-hua and Chinese folk tradition**, San Diego Chinese Historical Museum, 404 Third Ave., (619) 338-9888, www.sdchm.com, \$4 general admission, members and children free



26 **Refried Thursdays**, 8 p.m., Mad House Comedy Club, 502 Horton Plaza, (619) 702-6666, www.madhousecomedyclub.com, \$15



30 **Inside the Costume Closet**, 3 p.m., San Diego History Center, 1649 El Prado, RSVP required, (619) 232-6203 x129, gslak@sandiegohistory.org, \$25 general admission, \$20 SDHC and costume council members



31 **Meditation**, 1 p.m., Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Rd., (619) 232-2721, www.niwa.org, free with admission



7 **Jerry Seinfeld live**, 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Ave., (619) 570-1100, www.broadwaysd.com, \$48-\$128



11 **"A Hammer, a Bell, and a Song to Sing,"** 7 p.m., (619) 544-1000, www.sdrep.org, \$32-\$37



8 **"Sycuan's Fantasy on Ice,"** 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Horton Square, 225 Broadway Ave., (619) 234-1031, www.sdice.com/horton, \$12 children, \$14 adults



12 **Brahms and Schuman: "A Love in Common,"** 7:30 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$20

Mosaic in the Garden, 9:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, 1800 El Prado, Room 104, second day of two-part workshop (starts Jan. 5), (619) 232-5762, www.sdfloal.org, \$25-\$35 for both days



15 **David Garrett in concert**, 7 p.m., Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Ave., (619) 570-1100, www.sandiegowriters.org, \$30-\$50

Wine and cheese open house, 2 p.m., San Diego Woman's Club, 2557 Third Ave., (619) 297-5597, free



16 **"Introduction to Fiction,"** 7 p.m., The Inkspace, 710 13th St., Ste. 210, www.sandiegowriters.org, \$180 nonmembers, \$150 members



9 **Full moon dinner cruise**, 6:30 p.m., Hornblower Cruises, 1800 North Harbor Drive, 1 (888) 467-6256, www.hornblower.com, \$69.95 per adult



"Transitions and Associations," 7 p.m., The Inkspace, 710 13th St., Ste. 210, the craft of story writing, open to all levels of writers, www.sandiegowriters.org, \$36 nonmembers, \$30 members



13 **"The Complete History of America (abridged),"** 7 p.m., Casa del Prado Theatre, 1600 Village Place, (619) 239-8355, www.juniorthatre.com, adults \$11-\$14, children and seniors \$8-\$11

Jacobs Masterworks: Lortie Plays Schumann, 8 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., runs through Jan. 15, (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$20-\$96



17 **ArtStop: Gabriele Munter**, noon, San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, 15-minute staff-led tour, (619) 232-7931, www.sdmart.org, free with museum admission

Share your Volkswagen story, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza, runs through Jan. 29, (619) 231-2886, www.sdautomuseum.org, \$4-\$8



21 **Jackyl**, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$25-\$35



Pat Travers, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$20 general admission standing, \$30 reserved seating



Winter Pops: Ballroom with a Twist, 8 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$20



24 **"Dividing the Estate,"** 7 p.m., Conrad Prebys Theatre Center, 1363 Old Globe Way, (619) 234-5623, www.theoldglobe.org, \$29-\$81



25 **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra**, 7:30 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$30-\$100

"Cook, Melville, Gauguin: Three Voyages to Paradise," 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, Maritime Museum, 1492 North Harbor Drive, (619) 234-9153, www.sdmartime.org, \$8-\$14



29 **"Mozart Masterworks,"** 2 p.m., Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Ave., (619) 570-1100, www.sandiegotheatres.org, \$15 general admission, \$20 Red Ribbon Orchestra seating in the first 15 rows and a special post-concert ice cream "Sunday"



Nada Surf, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$20 general admission standing, \$30 reserved seating

Annual rummage sale, 9 a.m., San Diego Woman's Club, 2557 Third Ave., www.sandiegowomansclub.org



FEB. 1 **"The Recommendation,"** 7 p.m., Conrad Prebys Theatre Center, 1363 Old Globe Way, runs Jan. 14-Feb. 19, (619) 234-5623, www.oldglobe.org, \$29-\$61



2 **Taste of Opera: "Moby Dick,"** 6 p.m., The University Club, 750 B St., (619) 533-7000, www.sdopera.com, \$55

"Sea Rex 3D," "Sharks 3D," "Ocean Oasis," various hours daily, San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, (619) 232-3821, www.sdnhm.com, \$11-\$17



3 **Mutemath**, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$31 general admission standing, \$41 reserved seating



Whale-watching season offers chance to see San Diego in a whole new way

By KENDRA HARTMANN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Every year, San Diego plays host to an event that provides tourists with another reason to envy locals. In addition to beaches and parks and the weather that (sort of) cooperates enough to enjoy them year-round, San Diegans get to take advantage of living in an area boasting incredible biological diversity.

One of the most impressive environments in which to see mother nature at her best is that property-value-increasing expanse of blue to the west, and this time of year, it is home to a truly fascinating natural phenomenon. The gray whale migration is once again upon us.

To provide a first-hand account of what one can expect when becoming an amateur whale watcher for an afternoon, *The Downtown News* took to the high seas aboard the Hornblower Adventure to observe the California gray whale as the species makes its annual 5,000-mile journey from the frigid waters of the Arctic to the sunny lagoons of Baja California.

The most obvious thing one expects to see on a whale-watching cruise is a whale. This, however, may not happen, and most local companies — Hornblower included — prepare for this with a guarantee: see a whale or get passes for another cruise.

Upon boarding the boat, most passengers anxiously anticipate the sight they've been promised, hoping they haven't just paid for one of the few cruises for which the whales choose not to make an appearance. What most don't expect, however, is what also happens while on board: they have fun, whale or no whale (some might even find themselves hoping they don't see a whale so they have a free chance to come on board again).

As it turns out, our oceans are chock full of life, and passengers would be hard pressed not to find themselves marveling at all the myriad components of our aquatic ecosystems, however large or small. At one point during our cruise, a pod of bottlenose dolphins decided to join us, riding our bow wave — jumping out of the water, turning in circles and spiraling alongside us for a couple of miles. And while, yes, "whale watching" was printed on our tickets, we were pretty satisfied with this display, whether or not it was the cetacean we had paid for.

Another pleasant surprise: even for locals, puttering around San Diego Bay and out into the open ocean just off our coast provided an unexpected opportunity to view the city in a way we don't



Passengers aboard a Hornblower cruise watch as a whale shows off its fluke, or tail. During the first half of the migration season, gray whales use a migration corridor closer to the coast, so cruises only go out about five miles. During the latter half, whales migrate back up to the Arctic further out and cruises may venture up to 12 miles off the coast to view them. Courtesy photo

normally see it.

As for our cruise, we did get the opportunity to see a whale. Not long after we passed through the last buoy marking the bay, the captain spotted a spout a few miles out. We followed it, and were able to find and stay with one gray whale (or possibly two — they look remarkably alike to the layperson), which twice granted us full view of its fluke (or tail) as it headed down for deep dives. We learned, both from the captain and from the on-board volunteer naturalists — trained by the San Diego Museum of Natural History — that gray whales breed every other year, and with a gestation of 12 months, the pregnant females heading down to Mexico at this time of year are likely the same ones we saw last year heading down to breed. They'll come back this way in the spring with their newborns. We also learned the gray whale gets its namesake not from a naturally occurring color. In fact, the whales are born almost black, but eventually, barnacles that attach themselves to the whales scar the skin as they fall off, leaving behind a mottled, whitish-gray coloration.

Whales also have dominant sides of their body, just like humans. Whales that favor their right side tend to have more scarring on that side of their body, and just like humans, "left-handed" whales are in the minority: roughly 15 percent of whales favor their left side.

There's also the possibility, while out on a whale-watching cruise, that passengers might observe some man-made "whales." Our ship happened upon a helicopter carrier and a Navy submarine — complete with a visibly happy, homeward-bound topside crew — cruising into the bay.

The views will change for each indi-

vidual cruise. Some may see one whale, some may see 20 whales and others may see none at all. Some might encounter pods of playful dolphins while others might happen upon frisky sea lions. But one thing is guaranteed: the experience gives locals one more reason to love calling San Diego home.



WHALE-WATCHING OPTIONS

BY BOAT

• **Birch Aquarium with Harbor Excursions:** departing at 9:45 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., 1050 North Harbor Drive, Dec. 26 to April 15, (619) 234-4111, www.sdhe.com, \$35 weekdays and \$40 weekends (discounts for children, seniors and military)

• **Hornblower Cruises:** departs 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., 1066 North Harbor Drive, Dec. 10 to April 15, (619) 686-8715, www.hornblower.com, \$35 weekdays and \$40 weekends for adults (discounts for children, seniors and military)

• **Seaforth Sportfishing with San Diego Whale Watch:** 10 a.m. Mondays through Fridays, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, December through April, (619) 224-3383, www.seaforthland-ing.com, \$38 adults, \$30 children/seniors/military

• **H&M Landing:** Daily departures at 10 a.m. from mid-December through March; 6-hour cruises to Coronado Islands departing at 10 a.m., (619) 222-1144, www.hmlanding.com, \$25 adults, \$20 juniors and \$17.50 children (\$80 for 6-hour cruises)

BY AIR

• **Barnstorming Adventures:** biplane, air combat and warbird flights, including whale watching; cost varies, (760) 930-0903

BY KAYAK

• **Hike Bike Kayak Sports:** departs 9 a.m. and noon from December through March, 2246 Avenida de la Playa, (866) 425-2925, www.hikebikekayak.com, single-person kayak \$70, tandem kayaks \$60 per head

BAJA TOURS

• **Birch Aquarium:** excursions of four, five or six days following the whales down to their birthing grounds in the lagoons of Baja California, (800) 661-1325, www.andiamo-travel.com, \$590-\$1,095

• **H&M Landing:** trips of nine or 11 days, (619) 226-1729 or (619) 226-8224, cost varies

Pudgy Pet Dangers

Dr. Raffy Dorian



Whether you have a pudgy pooch or a flabby tabby you need to get the pounds off to add years to your pet's life. It is estimated that least 40% of all dogs and cats are overweight. Being overweight is not just a cosmetic issue. Recently, a ground breaking study revealed that pets fed fewer calories actually lived on average 2 years longer!

Just like us, obese pets are more likely to have health problems than their leaner counterparts. Obesity can lead to heart disease, diabetes, joint disease, respiratory disease, cancers and many other serious diseases.

Many of us are guilty of giving our pets table scraps and extra food. Excess caloric intake is the most common cause of obesity in pets. Lack of exercise and certain diseases such as hypothyroidism can also lead to obesity.

Fortunately, there are steps you can take to help your pet lose weight. See your veterinarian for an examination and possible blood tests to rule out underlying

diseases. During the examination your veterinarian will use a body condition score to determine whether your pet is overweight. A quick test to check your pet for obesity is to try to feel your pet's ribs on both sides of their chest. There should only be a small amount of fat over the ribs. If you cannot feel the ribs then your pet is most likely overweight!

Ask your veterinarian about the appropriate amount and type of diet and treats to feed your pet. Avoid table scraps and excessive treats. Exercise your pet at least twice a day to help your pet shed those extra pounds. Keeping your pet lean will help your furry friend live a longer, happier, healthier life.



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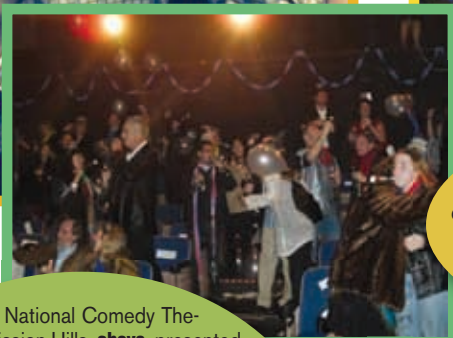
San Diego rings in the new year with style

A sampling of celebrations welcoming 2012 around downtown

By KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS



Vin de Syrah held a New Year's Eve masquerade ball, **left**, providing each guest a mask to embrace the theme. A DJ and burlesque-style singing trio delivered entertainment, while guests enjoyed tastes of some of the wine bar's top champagnes served with food pairings. Meanwhile, Big Night San Diego at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, **right**, offered 12 themed party areas, 10 bands and DJs, six dance floors, a free buffet and several massive balloon drops throughout the night. Themes ranged from Mardi Gras and Las Vegas casino to retro and electronica. Organizers aimed to provide an all-inclusive night, offering unlimited drinks and food. Courtesy photos



The National Comedy Theatre in Mission Hills, **above**, presented a special improvisational comedy performance and party with cast members. With laughs, champagne and food provided, this party sold out weeks before New Year's. Andaz San Diego, **left**, hosted "Euphoria NYE 2012," spanning four venues of their expansive property: Ivy Nightclub, Ivy Rooftop, Ivy Winebar and Andaz Ballroom. DJs got the crowd moving while dancers added a visual fascination. The Gaslamp hotel's aim was to provide a perfect state of euphoria as attendees entered the new year.



San Diego Marriott Gaslamp Quarter played host to "Bottoms Up NYE 2012." Kicking things off in the hotel's restaurant, Soleil @k, and street-level bar, Latitude Lounge, the party expanded upstairs to the rooftop bar, Altitude Sky Lounge, **above**, for views of the city's skyline. Whether guests were on the first or 22nd floor, a DJ and champagne toast brought them into the new year. The Inspiration Hornblower chartered 1,000 guests around the bay during the sixth annual New Year's Eve Yacht Party, **below**. Guests could choose from 12 bars across three climate-controlled decks with pulsing music from a different genre on each, including 1980s, dance club and easy listening. Tickets included unlimited top-shelf drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and a scenic view of the San Diego Harbor.



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SanDiegoRestaurantWeek.com



Take a bite out of the new year with restaurant deals across the county

San Diegans might want to put that New Years resolution diet on hold for another week or two, as San Diego Restaurant Week will ring in the new year with great deals on two-course prix-fixe lunch options for \$10, \$15 or \$20 and three-course prix-fixe dinner deals for \$20, \$30 or \$40 from Jan. 15 to 20 at participating restaurants across the county.

The biannual weeklong event offers discounted prices on cuisine options from around the world without having to leave the comfort of your own backyard — whether that be the beach communities or downtown, North County or South County — San Diego Restaurant Week offers culinary delights to cater to any palate.

Here's a taste of some of the options around the downtown core:



- **Analog**, 801 Fifth Ave., (619) 233-1183, www.analogbar.com, \$20 dinner
- **Athens Market Taverna**, (619) 234-1955, www.athensmarkettaverna.com
- **BICE Ristorante**, 425 Island Ave., (619) 239-2423, www.bicesandiego.com, \$40 dinner

- **Blue Point Coastal Cuisine**, 565 Fifth Ave., (619) 233-6623, www.cohnrestaurants.com, \$30 dinner
- **Buster's Beach House & Longboard Bar**, (619) 233-4300, www.busters-beachhouse.com, \$20 dinner
- **Crab Hut**, 1007 Fifth Ave., Ste. 101, (619) 234-0628, www.crabhutsd.com, \$10 lunch, \$40 dinner
- **CUCINA urbana**, 505 Laurel St., (619) 239-2222, www.cucinaurbana.com, \$10 lunch, \$30 dinner
- **FOX Sports Grill**, 1 Park Blvd., #101, (619) 231-9000, www.foxsportsgrill.com, \$15 lunch, \$20 dinner
- **Gaslamp Strip Club**, 340 Fifth Ave., (619) 231-3140, www.cohnrestaurants.com, \$30 dinner
- **Hornblower Cruises & Events**, 1800 N. Harbor Drive, (619) 686-8715, www.hornblower.com, \$40 dinner
- **Indigo Grill**, 1536 India St., (619) 234-6802, www.cohnrestaurants.com, \$30 dinner
- **The Melting Pot**, 901 Fifth Ave., (619) 234-5554, www.meltingpot.com, \$30 dinner
- **The Prado**, 1549 El Prado, Ste. 12, (619) 557-9441, www.cohnrestaurants.com, \$15 lunch, \$30 dinner
- **Westgate Room**, 1055 Second Ave., (619) 238-1818, www.westgatehotel.com/dining, \$20 lunch, \$40 dinner

No tickets or passes are required to take advantage of the deals. Simply show up at a participating restaurant location or call ahead to make a reservation.

For a complete list of participating restaurants, visit www.sandiegorestaurantweek.com.

— Mariko Lamb

GLOBE

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

and Harvey White Theatre) will be directed by Seer.

Noble will return for his third season as the artistic director of the Globe's Summer Shakespeare Festival and will direct Shakespeare's "As You Like It" and the Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee classic "Inherit the Wind."

Presented in repertory in the outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, the festival will also include "Richard III" directed by Lindsay Posner, former associate director at London's Royal Court Theatre. All three shows will run June 17 through Sept. 25.

Completing the winter schedule will be "Dividing the Estate," which runs from Jan. 14 through Feb. 12, "The Recommendation" (Jan. 21 through Feb. 26), "A Room with a View" (March 2

through April 8) and "Anna Christie" (March 10 through April 15).

The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 productions of classic, contemporary and new works on its three Balboa Park stages: the 600-seat Old Globe Theatre and the 250-seat Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre, which are both part of The Old Globe's Conrad Prebys Theatre Center and the 605-seat outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre.

More than 250,000 people attend Globe productions annually and participate in the theater's education and community programs.

Tickets to the Globe's 2012 summer season are currently available by subscription only, and prices range from \$66 to \$387. Subscription packages may be purchased online at www.TheOldGlobe.org, by phone at (619) 23-GLOBE or by visiting the box office.



Playwrights Robert E. Lee and Jerome Lawrence. Lawrence and Lee's "Inherit the Wind," directed by Adrian Noble, will run June 17 through Sept. 2 as part of The Old Globe's 2012 Summer Shakespeare Festival.

Photo courtesy of The Old Globe

Popular Ocean Beach Newbreak Cafe Opens Downtown

Established in 1993, Newbreak has remained a well-known brand in Ocean Beach. With two thriving locations in the heart of Ocean Beach, Newbreak serves a delicious full flavor fare paired with amicable customer service and enthusiasm. For years, Newbreak has been the local cafe for Obecians, tourists, and other San Diegans. Its family orientated and homey feel gives customers a reason to continually patronize Newbreak.

It serves delicious breakfasts, bagels and homemade spreads, healthy options, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies, espresso drinks and much more!

For breakfast, enjoy hearty menu items such as the well-known favorite, the Sunrise Sandwich, which is compiled of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage and cheddar cheese on a bagel. The breakfast burrito is another delectable item, which includes eggs, bacon, onions, roasted chilies, and potatoes, served in a wheat or flour tortilla with homemade salsa and/or sour cream on the side. Birchirmuesli our yogurt and fresh fruit recipe has been named as one of the "25 things you must have before you die" by the Union Tribune.

Savory lunch selections include the Pesto Melt, which is a vegetarian's delight. Recommended on a Ciabatta, it includes pesto tapenade, vine ripe tomato slices, cucumbers, onions marinated in balsamic vinegar, with melted mozzarella cheese and sprouts. The Rockin' Turkey Wrap aims to please any hungry person! A flavorful wrap is filled with roasted turkey, bacon, avocado, red onion, tomato, swiss or pepper jack cheese and lettuce. The Waldrof Wrap is another tasty homemade sensation made up of diced chicken, granny smith apples, red grapes, walnuts in a light curried dressing served with shredded lettuce.

Newbreak continues to pride itself in serving only the freshest products along with smiles and friendly service. Newbreak has many regulars who frequent the cafe daily, but always welcomes to any new additions that come into town. With all of these delicious menu offerings, rich coffee, and premier espresso to serve the coffee

connoisseur quite the flavorful latte, mocha, or macchiato, Newbreak maintains its mission...

"is to provide our guest the experience of a full flavor of quality service, rich in the aroma of smile and wrapped in a robusto blend of enthusiasm."

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Downtown Drink Shrink

Adam Stemmler

With the end of 2011, the new year brings us an opportunity to set new goals and resolutions for a brighter 2012. Whether it is going to the gym more, spending more time with your loved ones, or drinking less coffee and more water, Jan. 1 can be an amazing catalyst for self improvement. On behalf of bartenders around the country, I am encouraging your list of resolutions to include better social etiquette when attending restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

Although the common man may simply see his local bar as the place to let go of all inhibitions in the process of deflating stress created by the work week, it is important to realize that a bar is a business just like any other. Just because alcohol is being served does not give you a hall pass on decency, nor does it mean you've just entered a modern-day Wild West that is void of any codes of personal conduct. Believe or not, following this guideline while likely improve the quality of your experience as a consumer as well.

Here is your 2012 guide to better bar etiquette.

You are very important but not special

This may be contrary to everything your mother told you as a child, but is a fundamental concept that must be understood when attending social functions in private businesses. The most important variable in any profitable business model is the customer — without them, the

This New Year's, resolve to refine your bar-going etiquette

Tips from a pro on how to get in good with your bartenders

business serves no primary function. When you walk into an establishment and spend your hard-earned money, you are essentially putting fuel into the engine that powers business. This makes you very important, but not any more important than everyone else in the building who are also spending their money. Buying two rounds of drinks does not entitle you to be the detriment of other guest's experience, nor does it give you the right to speak to staff as if they are your personal servants. If you truly want to be seen as "special" at a given venue, I recommend becoming a regular, being polite and patient, and treating the people serving you the way you would want to be treated. This said, I hear that being an illiterate drunken train wreck from New Jersey with a bad spray tan and willing to air your lack of moral integrity on MTV makes you special in the eyes of certain venues.

Be aware of your surroundings and act accordingly

As simple as this may sound, more than a decade of experience has shown me certain bar patrons have little or no understanding of this concept. Just as your wardrobe choices change with your plans, so should your personal conduct. Behavior that is well suited for an Over the Line Tournament or a NASCAR rally could likely be scoffed at the Academy Awards show or Wimbledon, and the same is true with bars. You should not get snobby when your local sports bar doesn't have an extensive collection of single-malt scotches, nor should you be surprised when the classy upscale lounge doesn't serve your

favorite drinks from college like 100-proof mouthwash or the cinnamon-flavored garbage you may know as Fireball. If you find yourself in a bar with intimate ambiance, be cognizant of your volume. If you are at a busy nightclub, don't monopolize a bartender's time or take up space at the bar top if you are not ordering drinks. The bottom line is that a little self-awareness goes a long way.

Tip every time you order

That's right, I said it. TIP EVERY TIME YOU ORDER. No exceptions. It is your patriotic responsibility to tip the hard-working people who are serving you. Regardless of what your personal feelings are about the subject, it is customary to tip for service in this country, and having a Hello Kitty credit card or being from a country that doesn't advocate the use of deodorant does not make you exempt from this customary action. So customary is it, in fact, that the IRS assumes tips are part of our incomes and taxes us

accordingly. Many venues make their employees claim at least 10 to 12 percent of their tips as income for tax-liability purposes. That means when you stiff a bartender or server out of your own ignorance, you are forcing that young man or woman to claim taxes on income they did not make. To add insult to injury, minimum wage for tipped employees in certain states is less than \$3 per hour. Furthermore, there is an entire delicate ecosystem of people that are inherently affected by your decision come gratuity time. Just because you didn't like your bartender or server doesn't mean that the busser, bar back, back waiter, glass runner, security guard and sometimes even kitchen employee should suffer as well. If you have bad service or any issue regarding your experience, ask to speak with a manager before drawing a line through the tip portion of your receipt. In short, if you don't have money for a tip, drink at home. It's way more cost effective anyway.

Never engage in any of the following behavior for any reason

- **Bang on the bar top** or snap your fingers to get someone's attention. This is simply classless and unacceptable in any bar
 - **Wave money** in the face of someone serving you. Although this tactic is very effective at your local strip club, it is in fact very insulting to wave money in the face of the person serving you
 - **String order** (the process of ordering one drink at a time as opposed to giving your full order to the bartender at once). This monopolizes your server's time and keeps them from serving other guests in a timely fashion
 - **Ask for a strong drink** or insist on a "hook up." Pouring more alcohol than allotted or giving away something for free is the same as theft. When was the last time someone walked into your cubicle at Enterprise Rent-a-Car and insisted that you "Hook it up, bro!" You look cheap at best and classless at worst
 - **Expect to get something for free** because it's your birthday. Your birthday entitles you to dessert on the house at certain restaurants, which is more than any other industry does, so be thankful for that
 - **Complain about the price.** Chances are your bartender didn't decide the pricing structure, so pulling an attitude with them is no different than killing the messenger
 - **Order the same round** from more than one bartender. Unless you plan on paying twice, don't order twice
- Follow these rules, and you should never again have to worry if someone spit in your drink.



It's all Happening!

Marc & Darlynn Menkin

With a brand new year underway, it's a perfect time to mix things up and try something different. Take, for example, Downtown's exciting Sunday brunch scene. Instead of sticking to the typical breakfast haunts, why not get a little crazy and give your taste buds a real thrill? Here are some happening spots worth checking out.

Searsucker, 611 Fifth Ave.: Celebrity chef Brian Malarkey has done it again. From the time you walk in and sit down at your table, it's obvious this is where the cool kids hang out. It's a great place to kick off your Sunday, as the vibe is lively and upbeat — perfect for social gatherings. The brunch menu is unique and includes enticing choices like green eggs and ham, biscuits and gravy and "bennysadick" with crab and avocado. For those with a sweet tooth,

there's the bourbon brown butter toast — a new twist on the all-time favorite French toast. If you're really feeling daring, we suggest going for a side dish called "One Foot in the Grave," which involves hash browns filled with lots of creamy butter, bacon, cheddar cheese, sour cream and crispy shoestring onions. Our tip? Don't eat and run. Make sure you soak up the ambience and try to get a seat that's facing Fifth Avenue so you can watch the colorful parade of people walk by. Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Grant Grill, 326 Broadway: Located in the historic US Grant Hotel, this is a wonderful hidden treasure. The atmosphere is tranquil so it's ideal for couples. Everything on the menu is a standout but our favorites include the poached eggs on ciabatta with grilled ham, steamed asparagus and citrus hollandaise, as well as the citrus brioche

French toast with orange blossom honey and pure Vermont maple syrup. Another unique offering is the signature cocktail miniatures. The breakfast collection features a maple Manhattan on the rocks and a passion fruit screwdriver. Both are served in small glasses so it's not overwhelming and it compliments the food nicely. Saturdays and Sundays, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Café Sevilla, 353 Fifth Ave.: Foodies who haven't been to this new location are in for a double treat. Café Sevilla's new home is warm and inviting and its recently unveiled brunch menu is equally amazing. There are several food stations and the layout is not only pleasing to the eye, it's easy to get around. The omelet station is manned by a chef who can create almost anything you want, but not to be overlooked are the paela and carving stations, where guests have a choice of baked ham with apple brandy

sauce or roasted rib eye. Other hot food items include braised short ribs, chicken romesco, grilled tuna with mango salsa and baked salmon. An extensive dessert station is not to be missed, and features chocolate cake, apple tarts, bread pudding, mini flans, French cream and fruit. Need we say more? Sundays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

We want to hear from you

Downtown San Diego has a quirky new addition: the Social Cycle, a 16-person bicycle that's getting lots of attention. Take a creative picture with the bicycle featuring you, a friend and the Social Cycle captain with the Gaslamp Quarter Arch in the background. The most creative picture will win two tickets to a Saturday public Scavenger Hunt with WYWTB Tours and two tickets to a Discover Coronado Biking Adventure. Email your photo to tours@wheretours.com



Searsucker's green eggs and ham delights foodies and Dr. Seuss fans alike. Courtesy photo

— Marc & Darlynn Menkin are the co-owners of Where You Want To Be Tours. Many of their tours and teambuilding scavenger hunts feature secret Downtown areas, www.wheretours.com

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San Diego history:

Coliseum Athletic Club tells a story of a bygone era of fight clubs

By JOHNNY McDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The impressions of old ticket windows can be seen along the wall at 15th and E streets, once the home of San Diego's Friday night fights. Boxing's future elite performed in the smoke-filled Coliseum Athletic Club.

It was a gathering place for San Diego's leading citizens, gamblers and occasional visits by Hollywood celebrities, stopping off en route to a weekend of horse racing at Agua Caliente.

They didn't seem to mind that the old metal and wood flip-down chairs were in constant need of repair. As long as two men were willing to pound away for four to 10 rounds of boxing, they were satisfied.

The symmetrically shaped 3,521-seat arena sprang up in 1924 when professional boxing and wrestling were legalized in California. Around part of the perimeter were "cheap seat" bleachers, called the gallery.

The Coliseum became one of Southland's three major boxing marquees, along with the Hollywood Legion Stadium and South Los Angeles' Olympic Auditorium.

The scene inside the old clubs was like nothing that can be found today. The raucous atmosphere where fighters exited a cramped dressing room and walked down an isle to the ring is missing from today's matches staged in nightclubs, hotels or casinos.

Inside, mystic sounds might echo the flourishing days of the 1920s and 1930s.

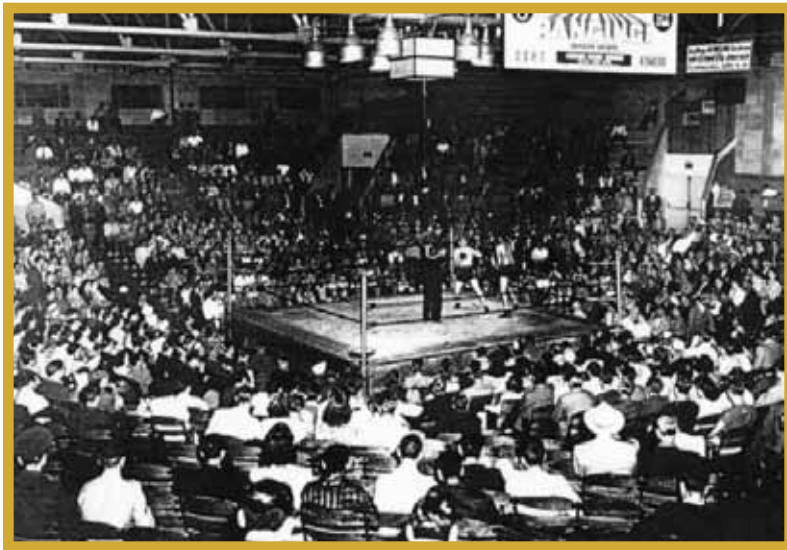
The tiny dressing room became the headquarters and a springboard for future world champions Jimmy McLarnin, Tommy Loughran, Henry Armstrong, Ceferino Garcia and Jimmy Braddock. In later years, there would be Archie Moore and Ken Norton.

Fans would congregate around a concession stand outside the arena before the fights and during intermission. The management finally caved, removing some bleachers and building a concession stand inside, which almost became the club's undoing when an unattended stove was responsible for a fire in 1938 that destroyed the interior. Fortunately, the solid walls held firm.

The 22-year-old Moore arrived from St. Louis the next day, scheduled to fight in the following week's main event. Locals found him lodging and a watchman's job until the club's interior was rebuilt. The ageless wonder, who fought until he was 49, had a Coliseum record of 22 victories (15 knockouts), four losses and two draws, made San Diego his



The Coliseum Athletic Club was located at 15th and E streets. The once-popular club saw everyone from locals to big-name gamblers to Hollywood celebrities, who often came to catch a fight on their way to the horse races at Agua Caliente. Courtesy photos



home until he died in 1998.

The place struggled in the 1950s and 1960s when crowds dropped off. Finally, unable to recover from the losses, its doors closed on Aug. 1, 1974. While 1974 nationally had been a good year for boxing, the club was not so lucky: financial losses reached \$50,000.

The original owners, Frank Higgins and Tom Landis, operated the place until promoter Linn Platner took over from 1925 until 1943. The trio of Hugh Nichols — a Hollywood wrestler — Grady Skelton and Travis Hatfield made the most of it through the war years.

"We ran around 50 shows a year and probably had between 10 to 12 sellouts when we had to turn people away," Platner once said. "And we had some great

fighters. They were looking for work, we were looking for talent."

The glamour long gone, the Coliseum today is just another bland section of a huge warehouse, the interior gutted of chairs, boxing ring and dressing room. Nothing but the outside impressions of the ticket windows — remnants of a forgotten era — remain.

In its heyday, however, the Coliseum saw no shortage of big names, both in the ring and in the bleachers. Curley Morgan, the ring announcer from 1927 until the 1950s, startled a few ringsiders one night.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he opened. "I'd like to introduce you to Al Capone." The gangster stood up and took a bow. Yes, everyone came to the Coliseum.

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Shopping for new and vintage can be a challenge because there are mostly new furniture stores or vintage stores and very rarely both. Searching for just the right items can be a challenge however AT HOM has a perfect blend of vintage and new that make achieving that special look easy.

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Spotlight on Seaport

A sweet spot brings flavor to Seaport Village

By **MARIKO LAMB** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Frosted Robin Cupcakes owner Sheree Harrison's job function drastically changed course when she went from being the global director of marketing for an international law firm in the Cayman Islands to becoming the owner of a charming cupcake café in Seaport Village.

Instead of requirements to meet hard-hitting deadlines, she was now required to employ her softer side by baking moist-centered cupcakes to perfection and finessing the aesthetics and flavor factor of the delectable desserts.

"Preparing for my move to San Diego from the Cayman Islands with my husband and two children in July 2010, I decided to take a new path and start my own business," Harrison said. "We had previously visited San Diego and fell in love with Seaport Village. Recognizing the continuing market demand for cupcake cafes and the fact that there wasn't such an offering at Seaport Village, opening Frosted Robin Cupcakes there was a perfect match."

She said the quaint, family-focused atmosphere of Seaport Village provides a perfect setting for a nostalgic treat like cupcakes.

"I think that cupcakes are so popular because we associate them with celebrations and special family gatherings in our childhood," she said.

The homey atmosphere of the café is

reminiscent of a French country kitchen and often transports customers back in time to a treasured memory of time spent with family or friends in the kitchen.

On the café's website, Harrison cites fond childhood memories of gathering in the kitchen while her mother cooked as the inspiration for the feel and atmosphere of Frosted Robin Cupcakes.

"The concept for our café's design was born from the fact that my family's favorite gathering spot was always our kitchen," the website states. "My mom would cook and my brother, three sisters and I would sit on the floor or on the counters and talk about anything and everything. Some of the best times of my life happened in that little kitchen."

The best compliment Harrison received about her store came from a child telling her friend who was about to walk into the café, "You can't go in there, that's someone's house!"

Though the shop itself is a treat, it's what's inside that activates the salivary glands.

"Our more than 40 flavors of gourmet cupcakes are the crown jewel," she said. "At Frosted Robin Cupcakes we've taken things up a notch by transforming a simple cupcake into a gourmet delight that is as much a visual treat as it is a delicious dessert."

Best-selling flavors include red velvet, German chocolate and chocolate fudge, but flavors change each month to reflect the season, so there are always new favorites for customers to discover.

Harrison even adds her own Caribbean flair to the menu with flavors such as Cayman spice, Caribbean carrot and mango.

Other popular treats include the cupcakery's famed "Robin Egg," an egg-shaped chocolate with a cake and frosting filling, and the bakery's new exotic, gourmet spice, flower, coffee and tea-infused chocolates — perfect bites to satisfy any sweet tooth.

Sheree Harrison, **top**, tried to create a homey atmosphere in her Seaport Village cupcake shop, **left**. She knew she had succeeded when she heard a child exclaim to her friend, "You can't go in there, that's someone's house!" **At right**, Harrison's mango cupcake. *Courtesy photos*



And what would a sweet dessert be without a nice hot drink to accompany it?

Harrison, to get a leg up on the competition, also serves more than 20 flavors of artisan loose-leaf teas and certified organic coffees. Supplied by California-based companies, all of the shop's coffees and most of its teas are organic and fair trade products.

"We pride ourselves in being much more than just another cupcake shop," she said.

Harrison said she and her husband, Guy, are excited to launch the cupcake café as a franchise, allowing entrepreneurs to open Frosted Robin Cupcake Cafes across the country and possibly across the world.

For more information or to set up a tea party or special event, visit www.frostedrobincupcakes.com or call (619) 702-7188.



Brian's 24 saw a need — food at all times of the day and night — and went for it.

PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

Hungry? Come in anytime

Brian's 24 caters to round-the-clock diners

By **LORALEE OLEJNIK** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Serving whatever you want, whenever you want. That's the guiding principle at Brian's 24 Restaurant Bar & Grill in the Gaslamp, San Diego's source for on-demand comfort food.

"Most big cities have one iconic all-night restaurant," said Brian Epstein, who took over the restaurant with his parents three years ago. "And San Diego never had that. We thought, 'What if we went 24/7?'"

Serving breakfast and diner fare 24-hours a day, Brian's 24 sees everyone — from early morning business persons and tourists to afternoon shoppers and ravenous late-night partiers looking for a place to eat after the clubs close — walk through its doors every day.

Located in the historic St. James Hotel, one of San Diego's first luxury high-rise accommodations, the 11-story red building with its trademark lighted roof sign jutting out of the Gaslamp is now a renovated Ramada Inn & Suites. Originally built in 1913 to serve guests of the Panama-California Exposition/World's Fair held at Balboa Park in 1915, Brian's 24 now provides room service for the hotel, one of the only 24-hour room services in town. The hotel and restaurant also team up to put on special events including weddings and parties on the rooftop terrace and in their meeting suites, which boast top views of downtown.

The large mahogany bar in the restaurant was purchased from the estate of actress Joan Crawford and legend has it you can still see the divots from her high-heel shoes as she danced on top of it during parties. The ceiling and chandeliers are original and help maintain the character of the World War I-era construction. Even the kitchen is small compared to today's standards for a restaurant its size, harkening back to the days when living and working spaces generally tended to be more compact.

Brian's 24 was purchased from the owners of Brian's American Eatery in Hillcrest, (whose two owners, incidentally, were both named Brian), though the establishments are not affiliated anymore. The previous owners stayed open

all night over the weekends to take advantage of the bustling Gaslamp party scene, and the Epsteins decided to extend this and stay open throughout the week.

Born and raised in San Diego, Epstein grew up working in various family businesses and spent time living in other parts of the country before being called back to embark on the venture with his parents. When they opened, his father worked the day shifts, he worked nights and his mother did the books. Two of his four sisters are also now involved in running the restaurant — one coming on full time since the loss of their father and the other helping out when in town visiting. Epstein lives close by the restaurant in the Gaslamp, but tries to make sure that he and the family have their days off — a challenge while launching a business that never closes.

Brian's 24's menu is extensive, with breakfast served 24 hours a day, as well as a lunch and dinner menu and a somewhat abbreviated late-night menu. Selections include pancakes and waffles, the Gaslamp Power Breakfast (three eggs any style, three strips of bacon, a sausage patty, an 8-ounce ham steak and two large biscuits topped with country gravy), early bird breakfast specials, and all of the requisite diner fare from chicken and waffles to meatloaf and from burgers and milkshakes to country-fried steak.

The restaurant also serves as a late-night meeting spot for the off-duty servers and bartender crowd. The lower traffic time, Epstein said, is dinner, even though the restaurant offers a full dinner menu with steak, seafood, pizza and pasta and a full bar.

The restaurant also prides itself on generous portion sizes, with most dishes containing more than a pound of food. Epstein said an eating challenge is in the works, though he hasn't yet divulged what diners would be required to consume to vie for a spot on the Brian's 24 wall of fame.

Brian's 24 is located at 828 Sixth Ave. For full menu, more information, or to make reservations, visit www.brians-24.com.

Social Cycle provides a new way to see downtown

Downtown residents and regulars are used to seeing pedicabs carting passengers around. They may be surprised to learn, however, that there's a new bike in town. Launched in the fall, Social Cycle is downtown's newest activity to satisfy the drinking cyclist in all of us.



The 16-passenger touring bicycle is powered by its pedaling riders and steered by a professional Social Cycle driver. Tours include East Village, the Gaslamp Quarter, Marina/Seaport Village and Little Italy, with plans to expand to Hillcrest, University Heights, North Park and South Park; as well as Orange County, Long Beach and the Los Angeles area.

Owner/operator Laura Rovick was inspired by Pedal Pub, started by two men in her hometown of Minneapolis, Minn., who brought the idea back from a trip to Amsterdam.

"I thought that if this can be a hugely successful company in Minnesota (when they only get a max of six months of weather when they can run the bikes) that it definitely needed to come to San Diego," Rovick said. "It's a fun, social, group activity to do. I am a very social person, love meeting new people and

having new experiences, so I thought this would be a great way to mix business with pleasure and bring a whole new experience to San Diegans and tourists alike."

Rovick said Social Cycle caters to both residents and visitors, serving as a platform for socializing with friends, family and colleagues while exploring local sights and light exercise. Tours, she said, can be tailored to cruising the city, bar-hopping, corporate events, team-building, bachelor and bachelorette parties, mixers, reunions, tailgating, picnics, progressive dinners and wine tastings — and stopping points along each tour can be customized.

"One great thing that people get out of the experience is that it's a fun way for them to get some exercise and it's a great way to meet new people, have a cool experience for a few hours, etc.," she said.



"Every time we take the bikes out, the passengers feel like celebrities, because people on the streets are taking pictures like paparazzi would."

The Social Cycle can be rented by the hour and requires a two-hour minimum. Regular price per hour for group tours is \$200 (or \$12.50 per person filling each of 16 seats), Fridays through Sundays

and \$185 Mondays through Thursdays. The price includes a captain who handles the steering, signals and brakes, while passengers pedal. Passengers must be at least 21 years old to ride.

For more information, visit socialcyclesd.com.

— Kendra Hartmann



Laughs are a dime a dozen at downtown's newest comedy club

Horton Plaza becomes host to a madhouse of comedians

By **MARIKO LAMB** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

For those in San Diego seeking a fun-filled night out on the town — but aren't exactly looking for a bump 'n' grind club or an expensive evening dinner — the Gaslamp Quarter's new Madhouse Comedy Club has hit the scene to cater to a night filled with side-splitting laughter and fun.

"This is the first 'A' club to hit San Diego in many years and is unlike any comedy club San Diego has ever experienced," said Shelley Griffin, Madhouse Comedy Club's talent coordinator.

Being labeled an "A" club, she said, involves certain elements, like being a standalone comedy club with full-service restaurant and bar, housing at least 200 seats, providing ample parking and featuring nationally-known headliners each week.

"One unique element that the Madhouse has which no other 'A' club in the country has, is there is no two-item minimum ever," she said.

Other enticing features include a full "five star" dinner menu at three-star prices, an outdoor bar and patio area to mingle with the talent, and free four-hour parking — an unheard of contribution from a restaurant and entertainment venue in the Gaslamp.

Comedy club owners Robert and Mike Lariviere chose the Gaslamp as its new location because, they said, San Diego was in dire need of a few laughs.

"Since there has not been an 'A' comedy club in San Diego for at least 15 years, it was purely a natural fit when

"The Madhouse Comedy Club is run only by comedians and comedy industry professionals with a total of 24 years and two weeks experience."

SHELLEY GRIFFIN
Talent coordinator, Madhouse Comedy Club

re-introducing this caliber of club to San Diego," Griffin said. "The Gaslamp is known for its entertainment significance and value and represents San Diego nightlife. There is an abundance of life in the Gaslamp with tourists and locals alike looking for a fun evening."

Madhouse Comedy Club held its grand opening in November with national headliner Gene Pompa from Conan O'Brien, Comedy Central and the Latino Laugh Festival. Griffin assures there are many more celebrity comedian appearances at the club in the year ahead.

"Expect to see some big names in the coming year that you would normally have to pay a high-dollar ticket price to see at a large theater or casino," she said. "We are excited to be able to let San Diego get up close and personal with our comedians."

Many of the comedians will even meet audience members after the show in a "meet-and-greet" where they will sign autographs and sell merchandise or DVDs — something larger venues rarely offer without an additional VIP charge.

"The Madhouse Comedy Club is run only by comedians and comedy industry professionals with a total of 24 years and two weeks experience," she said. "Our combined experience has allowed us to cultivate relationships with the comedians and agents over the years and to get feedback from our audiences."

Some familiar faces set to take the stage in the coming year include Loni Love from "Chelsea Lately," Comedy Central and "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno" and Carlos Alazraqui from "Reno 911," "Family Guy," "CSI," "Happy Feet (1 and 2)" and "Toy Story 3" on Jan. 25.

Madhouse Comedy Club is located at 502 Horton Plaza, on the top level of the mall across from Nordstrom and is open seven days per week for lunch, dinner, drinks and shows.

The club features national headliners on Friday and Saturday nights at 8 and 10:30 p.m. and the best of San Diego comedic talent nightly during the week at 8 p.m.

For tickets and information, visit www.mad-housecomedyclub.com or call (619) 702-6666.



The Madhouse Comedy Club opened its doors on top of Horton Plaza in November. The "A" club will see comedians like Carlos Alazraqui, **top right**, Loni Love, **center**, and Craig Shoemaker, **bottom**.

Courtesy photos

Anthology House Band a unique San Diego sound



Bassist Anthony Muhammad, left, and trumpeter Derek Cannon tune up for a session at Anthology.
Courtesy photo

By **BART MENDOZA** | DOWNTOWN NEWS

San Diego has many fine music venues, but only one, Anthology, has its own built-in music group, the Anthology House Band. The seven-piece combo has been a part of the venue's weekly schedule since its opening in 2007, specializing in a wide range of jazz, from Jobim sambas to Rufus and Chaka Khan's soul groover, "Sweet Thing."

The key to the band's success is that mix of versatility and musicianship, with a potential set list of 500 songs to choose from and a stellar group of players.

Helmed by musical director and bassist Tony Muhammad, the Anthology House Band includes singer Rebecca Jade, trumpeter Derek Cannon, guitarist Jeff Moore, drummer Russell Bizzet, tenor saxophonist John Rekevics, as well as pianists Kamau Kenyatta and alternate Kevin Flournoy.

According to Anthology's director of music operations, Michael Pritchard, the plan to feature such a group was part of

the venue's concept from the beginning.

"We wanted to demonstrate that we were involved in the local music scene also," he said. "The way that we thought we could do that was to enlist some of the finest jazz musicians in the area and have them in our room on a weekly basis."

The band performs most Tuesdays, with special Motown, Ladies of Jazz and Holiday-themed shows also in the mix.

"It's a nice night to come in and enjoy some great music," he said. "With a \$5 cover, it's easily accessible."

Bassist Muhammad said a set list for a show like this has to be structured differently than typical club night.

"A themed show would be a little different, but on a normal Tuesday, we may play some bossa nova or samba, some quiet music for dinner for the first set, and then slowly pick it up for the second set," he said. "We finish out with some nice dance or groove music."

The attention to detail has brought the band its own following.

"It's a good crowd," Muhammad said.

SEE **ANTHOLOGY**, Page 18

Car show displays industry's best

With showroom auto sales increasing by 15 percent, San Diego's International Auto Show (SDIAS) customers appeared to be a little more than a bunch of look-loos.

The four-day run in the Convention Center, which ended New Year's Day, played to potential car buyers who mingled around sparkling new 2012 models. They even had a chance to ride and drive.

The New Car Dealers Association reported 73,000 new vehicles were purchased in the first nine months of 2011 in San Diego, compared to 56,300 in 2010.

That figure might be recharged with an electrical spark in travel, particularly with the new globally produced, all-electric CODA cars.

The show featured a wide variety of new vehicles under one roof, showing 2012-model vehicles that featured the newest technologies and enhanced driving experiences, packaged in luxurious interiors and wrapped in cutting-edge designs.

The SDIAS was as "green" as ever with the return of the Think Blue Eco-Center, featuring the latest in fuel saving and environmentally friendly technologies.

All the showrooms were gathered in a single, carpeted location.

"We strive each year to deliver the finest, most economical auto show possible," said show director Kevin Leap. "Our primary goal is



A bumper car-turned-street-legal vehicle was shown at the San Diego International Auto Show.
Courtesy photo

to offer the biggest selection of new cars for attendees to evaluate in a non-selling environment, but who says we can't have a little fun along the way?"

An unusual display was that of street-legal bumper cars, usually restricted to carnival situations or entertainment centers.

Using original bumper car bodies, the vehicles have been completely restored, but rather than drawing power from a mast in contact with an electric grid, they have had a four-cylinder, water-cooled motorcycle engine installed.

They meet the requirements of custom-built vehicles and can be registered for street use (though they were part of a private collection and not for sale).

For more information, visit www.sd-autoshow.com.

— Johnny McDonald



MUSICCALENDAR

Jazz, an old Canadian classic and boogie-woogie blues

By BART MENDOZA | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Jazz nightspot Dizzy's now has a second location in the downtown area, with shows now also taking place at 98 Bottles. On Jan. 14, the venue hosts a performance from pianist Paul Keeling, who will be performing music from his debut album, *The Farthest Reach*. Keeling is currently based in Vancouver but is a Del Mar native, best known to local jazz fans as part of Gilbert Castellanos' ensemble during the mid-1990s. While definitely jazz in the tradition of Keith Jarrett or Pat Metheny, even non-genre music fans will find much to enjoy, including unique reinterpretations of such rock classics as Aerosmith's "Dream On."

Paul Keeling: Saturday, Jan. 14 at **Anthology**, 2400 Kettner Blvd. 7 p.m. 21 and up. \$15. www.98bottlessd.com

It's been more than three decades since Canadian blues rock guitarist Pat Travers hit big with such FM radio staples as "Boom Boom (Out Go The Lights)," but he continues to tour and record at a pace

that would fell a lesser musician. His discography now includes more than 40 albums, with his guitar work just as inspired as ever. The formula remains much the same, with Travers mixing in originals like "Snorting Whiskey," with covers of tunes both obvious, like evergreen "Born Under a Bad Sign" and more inspired, like his take on Bob Marley's "Is This Love?" His most recent album is 2010's "Fidelis," but expect the biggest response to be for anything from his 1976-1981 heyday.

Pat Travers: Friday, Jan. 20 at **4th & B**, 345 B St. 8 p.m. 21 and up. \$20-\$30. www.4thandbevents.com

Best known for her various collaborations with blues singer Candye Kane, Sue Palmer is one of the best piano players in the Southland today. Her album, "After Hour," won a 2010 SDMA for Best Blues Album, though it's her boogie woogie stylings that have gotten her the biggest notice. In fact, she's adept at everything from torch songs to tracks that border on rock 'n' roll, making her performances

both varied and a lot of fun. Whether you're a longtime listener or a novice to her sounds, her shows and albums are always well worth experiencing.

Sue Palmer: Wednesday, Jan. 25 at **Croce's Jazz Bar**, 802 Fifth Ave. 7:30 p.m. 21 and up. www.croces.com

Having started up in the early 1990s, indie rock trio The Muffs never quite made it to mainstream success, but there are few bands from the era that still command such a fervent following. Their last album of new music, "Really, Really Happy," was released in 2004, but all five discs to date hit a high-water mark for songs blending punk, pop, volume and attitude. Opening the show will be reunited rock group Uncle Joe's Big Ol' Driver, one of the best groups to emerge from the 1990s-era San Diego music scene. The pairing of the two bands makes this show the next best thing to a time machine trip back to 1996.

The Muffs: Saturday, Jan. 28 at **The Casbah**, 2501 Kettner Blvd. 9 p.m. 21 and up. \$12. www.casbahmusic.com

You don't have to be a classical music aficionado to enjoy the music of Los Romeros, who perform at Anthology on Jan. 28 (7:30 and 9:30 p.m.). Known as the "Royal Family of the Guitar," The Romeros have been residents of San Diego since the late 1950s, though their world tours keep them from performing locally very often. The group's collective virtuosity is breathtaking and wonderful to hear on any of its releases. But seeing the group live is a whole different thing. If you are in any way interested in the artistry of guitar playing, this rare performance from some of the best musicians to ever hold the instrument is an absolute must to attend.

Los Romero's: Saturday, Jan. 28 at



Paul Keeling performs at Anthology at 7 p.m. on Jan. 14.

Anthology, 1337 India St. 7:30 & 9:30 p.m. 21 and up. \$13 - \$69. www.anthologysd.com

ANTHOLOGY

CONTINUED FROM Page 17

"If we get a week or two off for whatever reason, when we come back, they're there. You see some of the same people out there."

While the band performs all covers, the fact that these are all seasoned musicians means some original music has emerged from their jams.

"We've got a couple of pieces that we do, that we're all familiar with, but we haven't recorded any of them yet," he said. "We do a lot of playing, communicating off each other and there are a few things that have come up, where we're thinking, 'We

should record that.'"

Originally based in Baltimore, Muhammad has been playing bass since the early 1970s.

"I knew I wanted to play an instrument, so I went out one night and I looked at this band and did a process of elimination. Drums? Too loud, too many pieces. Horns? I used to have asthma, and so on. Eventually it left bass," he said.

He arrived in San Diego in 1999 and still considers the move to have been a good one, preferring the local music community to the East Coast.

"It's 100 percent better," he said. "It's healthy."

After four years of performing at Anthology, Muhammad is clear on his

favorite thing about the gig: his band mates. With Jade and Cannon out front and himself in the back, he said there exists a "communication triangle. No words needed. We can look at each other and it just happens."

He's particularly effusive about Cannon and Rekevics, both of whom have impressive discographies of their own.

"They can do anything. They can read anything, play anything and as good as musicians as they are, they're even better people," he said. "It's so easy when you've got guys like that on your team."

The Anthology House Band plays Tuesdays, Jan. 10 and Jan. 17 at **Anthology**, 1337 India St. 7:30 p.m. 21 and up. \$5. www.anthologysd.com

MUSTHEAR

It can be tough to get out mid-week sometimes, but The Casbah's bill on Jan. 12, 9 p.m., featuring R&B titans Lady Dottie & The Diamonds, plus The Beautiful View, Sundrop Electric and Strange Vine should be enough to convince any area music fan to forego Seinfeld reruns. While Lady Dottie and her crew never fail to impress, the night belongs to Chula Vista-based modern rock band The Beautiful View, which will be celebrating the release of its new album, "Life is Beautiful." The quartet excels at radio-friendly tunes, with a hint of 1980s indie rock in the mix and an inspired sense of song arrangement. It all comes together in great songs like album opener "The Horseman," full of



THE BEAUTIFUL VIEW

fun riffs and anthemic, shout-a-long lyrics – definitely a band to keep an eye on.

The Beautiful View: Thursday, Jan. 12 at **The Casbah**, 2501 Kettner Blvd. 9 p.m. 21 and up. \$10. www.casbahmusic.com

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

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LORTIE PLAYS SCHUMANN
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Sunday, January 15, 2pm
Jahja Ling, conductor, Louis Lortie, piano
WAGNER: Overture to *The Flying Dutchman*
SCHUMANN: Piano Concerto
BRAHMS: Symphony No. 3

"Lortie delivered steely-fingered clarity, toccata-like brilliance and elegance of line." – *Birmingham Post*

Dialogue with Jahja Ling
Sunday, January 15 only! Stay after the concert for an exclusive onstage dialogue with Jahja Ling and Louis Lortie hosted by Nuvi Mehta. Free with your ticket!

CLASSICAL SPECIAL
ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Wednesday, January 25, 7:30pm
Charles Dutoit, principal conductor; Jean-Yves Thibaudet, piano
BERLIOZ: Overture to *Le Corsaire*
SAINT-SAËNS: Piano Concerto No. 5, *Egyptian*
TCHAIKOVSKY: Symphony No. 5

"...Something quite special was happening out front, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra was excellent." – *The Evening Standard*

WINTER SPECIAL
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Saturday, January 28, 8pm

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THE LIVELY ARTS

Charlene Baldrige

Put away the tree, the toys and the tinsel and fulfill that resolution to see more live musical and theatrical performances in the new year. January has plenty to offer.

Civic Theatre, 1200 Third Ave.

• Jan. 10 through 15, Broadway San Diego presents Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's immortal 1982 musical hit "Cats," based on T.S. Eliot's book, "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats." Tickets start at \$20. www.broadwaysd.com, (619) 570-1100.

• Jan. 28, 31, Feb. 3 and 5, San Diego Opera opens its season with four performances of Richard Strauss's incendiary "Salome." Salome, the self-centered daughter of King Herod, has a crush on John the Baptist and when spurned, performs the "Dance of the Seven Veils" in exchange for his head on a silver platter. \$50-\$210. www.sdogera.com or (619) 533-7000.

Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St.

• Jan. 13 through 15, internationally acclaimed pianist **Louis Lortie** joins San Diego Symphony to play music of Johannes Brahms (Symphony No. 3) and Robert Schumann (Concerto in A minor), \$20-\$96. www.sandiegosymphony.org or (619) 235-0804.

• Jan. 25, San Diego Symphony presents the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** in a special classical concert conducted by the renowned Charles Dutoit and featuring Jean-Yves Thibaudet in Saint-Saens' Piano Concerto No. 5 ("Egyptian") and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5.

The Old Globe, 1363 Old Globe Way



"Dividing the Estate" plays at The Old Globe Jan. 14 through Feb. 12. Photo courtesy of The Old Globe

• Jan. 14 through Feb. 12, The Old Globe presents Horton Foote's comedy, "Dividing the Estate," in which the children of a Texas matriarch debate whether to divide their mother's estate in advance of her death.

• Jan. 21 through Feb. 26, The Old Globe presents the world premiere of Jonathan Caren's "The Recommendation," in which the friendship of two young men is severely tested. Plays Tuesdays through Sundays in the Sheryl & Harvey White Theatre, suggested for mature audiences.

Old Globe Theatre and Sheryl & Harvey White Theatre, Conrad Prebys Center for the Performing Arts, www.theoldglobe.org or (619) 23-GLOBE.

Lyceum Theatre, 79 Horton Plaza

Jan. 10 through 29, San Diego Repertory Theatre presents the world premiere workshop of "A Hammer, A Bell, and A Song to Sing" written and directed by Todd Salovey. Inspired by Pete Seeger, it features "the music that shaped a nation." \$32-\$51. www.sdrop.org or (619) 544-1000.

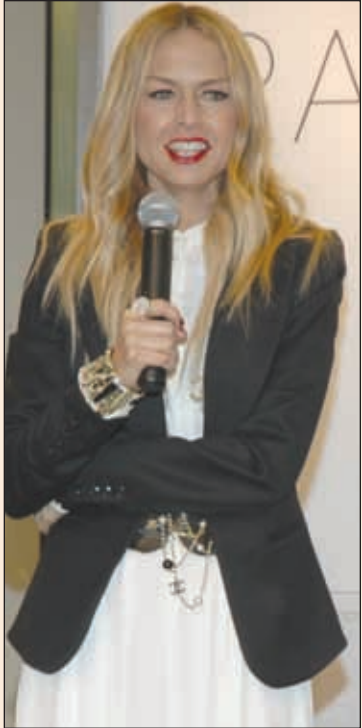


"Cats" plays at the Civic Theatre Jan. 10 through 15. Photo by Joan Marcus



Fashion Files

Diana Cavagnaro



Zoe brings easy glamour

Reality star, designer and stylist Rachel Zoe became a household name when her show, "The Rachel Zoe Project," became an instant hit on Bravo. Zoe, who works with celebrities on the red carpet and is known for matching vintage-inspired wardrobe pieces to create the unexpected, came to Nordstrom Fashion Valley on Dec. 15.

Fans awaited her much-anticipated appearance and Resort Spring 2012 collection, the show for which she narrated herself.

San Diego fashion meets reality stars and celebrities

The creations — which could be described as easily wearable — included maxi skirts paired with tailored jackets or leather blazers. Some favorites were the animal prints — especially a cobalt-blue halter-top and maxi skirt.

"I like to use elements from every decade," she said, when asked if she pulled inspiration from the 1940s.

Zoe's latest news is the launch of the Zoe Media Group, which will add the newsletters Zoe Beautiful and Access-ZOEries to the already-successful Zoe Report. Asked what she loved most about what she does, Zoe said, "I love everything I do and won't do it unless I am passionate about it. The reward is making people feel good about themselves and hearing them say they never felt so pretty."

Wonderland collection

Grace Slick, known for her icy-cool voice in Jefferson Airplane and Jefferson Starship, came to Alexander Salazar Fine Art on Dec. 3. Given a chance to chat about her style throughout 25 years of performing on the stage, she said, "We didn't have a stylist back then but did our own hair, make-up and wardrobe and sometimes we would even come on stage with what we were wearing."

Reminiscing about some of her favorite styles, Slick said she often wore clothes from India. Another fashion memory came in the form of a blouse with pirate sleeves and a vest with an ultra-short shirt.

The costume for Woodstock was white bell-bottoms and a lace-up vest with 16-inch fringe.

Slick was in town for an exhibit of her newest series of paintings (The 420 Collection) and to support medical marijuana.

"If people were to wake up, we could actually cure California's monetary problems," she said of one of her reasons for supporting the cause.

In addition to The 420 Collection, the exhibit showed some of her most recent surrealist paintings, along with some of her best-known works from her own collection, many of which share Alice in Wonderland themes. Visit Alexander Salazar Fine Art at 640 Broadway or visit www.alexandersalazarfineart.com for more information.

The Siren, The Muse and The Goddess

M.Dot Design Studio presented a holiday fashion show on Dec. 2 at the



Singer, composer and artist Grace Slick made an appearance at Alexander Salazar Fine Art on Dec. 2 to show an exhibit of her paintings titled "The 420 Collection."

DIANA CAVAGNARO | Downtown News

W Hotel San Diego. Guests arrived early for a social hour and shopped at an art and trunk show. The pop-up boutique included M.Dot Studio, Leoluca Handbags, Barbara Wheeler from Lush Jewelry.com, Elisa Gonsalves from Elisagon-salves.com and artwork by Janelle Carter.

The fashion show got under way with 28 stunning looks created by Michelle Aquino and was themed The Siren, The Muse and The Goddess. Models showed off the holiday collection with a variety of casual chic styles and evening-wear, accessorized with Leoluca handbags, which boast high-quality, U.S.-made workmanship.

Aquino announced she is the new fashion insider for the W Hotel San Diego, which means she will be the go-to girl for anything fashion, art, music and food related. M. Dot Studio makes cut-and-sew garments, limited editions and custom orders. The studio is located downtown at 941 E St. To make an appointment, call (619) 255-3305.

Upcoming events

• **Jan. 29 – Winter Bridal Bazaar and fashion show** presented by Gretchen Productions at the San Diego Convention Center (three shows presented throughout the day). For more information, contact Bridal Bazaar at (760) 334-5500.

• **Jan. 30 – Burl Stiff Tribute and Inside Our Costume Closet** from 3 to 6 p.m. at the San Diego



Maxi skirts and halter tops were the top trends at the Rachel Zoe fashion show at Nordstrom Fashion Valley on Dec. 15. Zoe, far left, narrated the show.

Photos by DIANA CAVAGNARO | Downtown News

History Center in Balboa Park. Tickets are \$20 for SDHD and Costume Council members or \$25 general. Reservations are required at (619) 232-6203 ext. 129 or gse-lak@sandiegohistory.org.

• **Feb. 23 – Nordstrom Designer Preview** at the Port Pavilion on Broadway Pier. Cocktail reception and boutique shopping will be at 6 p.m. and fashion show at 7 p.m. For ticket information, call (858) 427-1112.

— Diana Cavagnaro is a nationally recognized hat designer and milliner. She has been operating a fashion business for 30 years, the last 20 years in Downtown's Gaslamp Quarter. She has been teaching in the fashion department at San Diego Mesa College for 20 years and is an active member of the Gaslamp Quarter Association, The American Sewing Guild, the San Diego Costume Council and the Fashion Group International.



Models showed off M.Dot Studio fashion and Leoluca handbags at the M.Dot Design Studio fashion show on Dec. 2. Guests could also shop at the event during art and trunk show prior to watching the catwalking models.

Photos by DIANA CAVAGNARO | Downtown News

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Curves in Little Italy

By WILL BOWEN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

The tantalizing aroma of Italian food fills your nose as you walk up the wooden stairs to Grant Pecoff's art gallery, located at 1825 India St., in the heart of the Little Italy restaurant district.

The second-floor gallery space is filled with Pecoff's colorful, abstract landscape paintings, many of places you will recognize, like San Francisco's Bay Bridge or our own downtown. These paintings are not made with photographic realism in mind, but are curvy, childlike and animated, with swaying buildings and sparkling waters.

Pecoff said he is not interested in precise realistic representation, but rather in capturing the essence, energy or spirit of an object. He is after the moment and the flow, the spiritual vibrancy, or feeling of his subject.

"Everything around us is alive," he said. "My paintings are spiritual and point to the flow of life. Each painting has a vibe. They aim at bringing the viewer into the present moment of awareness and appreciation."

"As for the curvy, swaying lines you see in my paintings, they arise from the question I have been pondering, which is: How do you express the "chi" (Chinese for energy) of life in a line? I find it is best expressed with a curved line."

Pecoff is not a painter who paints out of discipline. Rather, he needs the inspiration to create something.

"I look for places and things that inspire you on the spot," he said. "To make a painting I need to feel it. I paint places and things that I feel in my body."

He wants his viewers to feel, also, he said, and he wants to draw them into his painting on an emotional level.

Born in Olivenhain, on the outskirts of Encinitas, Pecoff grew up in a geodesic dome house on a dirt road. His father,

whom he describes as a "mad scientist," was a fan of Buckminster Fuller and worked as a horticulturist, specializing in drought-tolerant species, traveling the world and bringing back strange plants, untold numbers of photographs, costumes and garb from exotic cultures, which he shared enthusiastically with his family — including his son.

As a child, Pecoff, enjoyed drawing and martial arts. From age eight, he practiced various forms of martial arts, eventually earning a black belt in American Kempo. Martial arts, he said, taught him "patience, respect and discipline," and he was so taken by the various disciplines that he almost chose to become a martial arts instructor instead of an artist.

Pecoff received training in art at Palomar College and The American Institute of Art in San Francisco, but he never finished a degree program because, as he said, "I have always wanted to do what I wanted to do when I wanted to do it."

In addition to his paintings, Pecoff has illustrated three children's books — "Live Your Dream," "Open your Heart" and "I Thought: A Story of Awakening" — authored by his attorney-turned-writer wife, Layne, who he met in a Del Mar gallery where his work was being shown.

For him, Pecoff said, painting is a mindfulness activity. As he paints, he watches the dialogue and conversations going on in his head, which, he said, can be like a form of meditation.

"I really enjoy my paintings," he said. "I get a good feeling from them, especially when they are grouped together as part of a show or project."

As for his critics, their opinions do not matter

much, he said.

He simply asks himself, "Am I enjoying what I am doing?"

Regarding his future plans, Pecoff said, "I never thought that I would be making a living at art — even though it has always been my goal. Now that I am there, I am not sure of what future direction I will take."

He can, however, offer advice to budding artists.

"Rather than seeking success or fame, do what you love," he said. "It is our own limitations that constrain us from reaching our desires."

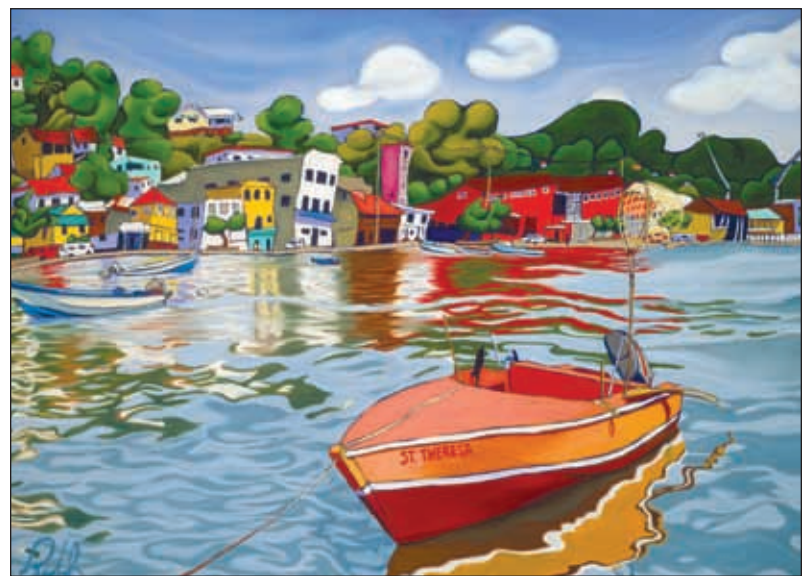
Pecoff paints in his upstairs gallery on Fridays and Saturdays from 12:30 to 5 p.m. Spectators are welcome to come in and talk to him and watch him paint.

For further information, visit www.pecoff.com, call (619) 231-1991 or email gallery@pecoff.com.



Grant Pecoff, below left, paints animated pieces with curvy, swaying lines, often depicting twisting buildings and sparkling waters. Pecoff paints in his studio at 1825 India St. and invites the public to come watch him work.

Photos by WILL BOWEN | Downtown News



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It's time to come clean

FIT SAVVY

By Connie Cook | Guest Columnist

2011 is outta here! It's time to clean up your act and clean out your system. You've been a happy passenger on the highway of holiday binges for quite some time and now you probably feel like you're headed straight to Slugville. It's time to hit the brakes on this toxic road trip and get back on a better path to cleaner living.

Welcome to Detox City. As you enter the new year, you get another chance to see the light and get it right. Like it or not, the leftover sludge from last year's sins may still be hanging out in your internal engine. The food you ordered from a window instead of a table is probably one of the culprits (remember the KFC half-spicy crispy chicken meal with macaroni and cheese, potato wedges and biscuit you thought was a good idea on that late night run?). Then, of course, there's the hotdogs and beer at the sports games, nachos and drinks containing "artificial flavors," and on and on. All these "sins" may still be hanging out in your gut, slowing you down, making you feel crappy and keeping you from experiencing the best YOU you can be. Let's do away with the sluggish and gnarly digestive tract you may have acquired over the year and instead of systematically flushing your resolutions down the drain, let's flush your system resolutely.

Most holistic health professionals say digestion is the key to maintaining health and longevity. A strong digestion system means a strong body while weak digestion can result in the accumulation of toxins. Some signs of poor digestion and toxins are fatigue, lack of mental clarity, weight gain and recurrent infections.

If you want to improve your digestion, you need to get rid of processed junk food. For some that won't be easy, so take it one step at a time. No soda, no fast food and no cleverly packaged items pretending to be food (Cheetos are not food). And let's cut out the alcohol for at least a few weeks, really. The celebrations are over, anyway. The next thing you have to celebrate will be a clean intestine. YEAH!

Many experts, like those at the Harvard School of Public health, advocate eating raw foods like vegetables and fruit as part of a balanced diet to keep your digestive tract running smoothly and performing optimally. One way to consume a healthy amount of fruits and vegetables is juicing.

Cheryl Cason, owner of the new Detox Lounge in East Village, swears by the three- to five-day Renaissance Juice plan she offers her customers.

"Each day of juices are packed full with 15-20 pounds of organic, raw

fruits and vegetables, providing more nutrition, minerals and enzymes than the average American consumes in a year's time," she said. "To add even more power to your juice punch, all of our juices are freshly pressed, producing 70 percent more nutrients than the common cylindrical method of juicing, and are digested easier and faster."

The juice cleanse consists of six 12-ounce bottles of juice, consumed every two hours throughout the day. Each juice is formulated to release the toxins of a different organ at certain times of the day. The six juices contain varieties of fruits and vegetables, which guarantee optimal nutritional value and a sense of well-being.

"A healthy juice cleanse can give your digestive system a much-needed break and by eliminating added sugar, saturated fats and alcohol," Cason said. "It also rids your diet of things that can worsen health issues."

Another detoxifying process is sweating. Sweating removes harmful chemicals through your skin and is a great way to detox naturally. The skin is often referred to as the third kidney, because it is believed to be responsible for eliminat-

Feeling the heat in a sauna can be a good way to cleanse the body of toxins that can accumulate after a prolonged period — like the holidays — of consuming less-than-healthy food and drink.



ing 30 percent of the body's waste. You can start sweating simply by exercising more often. Focus on aerobics-based exercise, like running and cycling. These activities encourage blood circulation rather than building muscle mass and are great sweat producers.

Saunas and spas are another popular way to sweat. The Detox Lounge offers infrared saunas for your sweating pleasure. Infrared heat has some distinct advantages over traditional steam heat saunas as they warm the body in the same manner as natural sunlight. Traditional steam saunas raise the temperature of the air to a very high level within the chamber to warm the body. Infrared saunas work differently. Instead of heating the air within the enclosure, they heat the body directly. The result is deeper tissue penetration. One 30-minute session can burn as many calories as running 2 to 3 miles.

Oprah is a big fan of the infrared sauna and it was the topic of one of her shows with medical expert Dr. Mehmet Oz. He and Oprah actually sat in the infrared sauna while he talked very specifically about the unique health benefits infrared saunas provide. Oprah said she was starting to feel the heat and Dr. Oz responded that the high temperature helps lower blood pressure and increases blood circulation.

"It gets your heart to beat faster and it burns calories," he said. "It raises your metabolism a little bit, and also when you sweat, you sweat out toxins through the skin."

If you're considering a detox plan, then that's one step in the right direction to a more efficient digestive system and a revitalized and energized you. Be sure to get the OK from your doctor before you start any cleansing program. Enjoy the new year and enjoy your health.



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Downtown • “Watermark”

This top-floor penthouse beauty enjoys a sunny interior, a gleaming remodeled granite and stainless kitchen, lovely urban views, and almost 1800 square feet! How about 3 full bedrooms, all with walk-in closets (2 in the master!) and two and a-half baths?
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5329



Downtown • “The Mark”

It doesn't get much better than this! With sweeping views into Petco Park and to the Bay and Bridge beyond, this stunningly-upgraded residence at one of Downtown's most desirable addresses will knock your socks off! Dual parking + storage!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5159



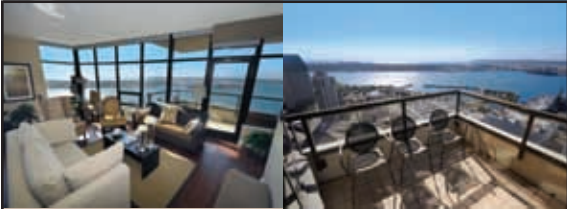
Downtown • “Harbor Club”

This spectacular 'bubble unit' on the 33rd floor of the Marina District's premier, resort-style residential high-rise boasts a completely remodeled interior with the finest of finishes and phenomenal, 180-degree water views!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5289



Downtown • “Pinnacle”

This incredible 20th-floor residence with panoramic water views has been remodeled from top-to-bottom in a warm Moroccan-style theme. Super special with dual terraces and parking, plus pitted Venetian textured walls, gesso-finish doors, and Byzantine lighting!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5269



Downtown • “Electra”

Situated near the top of San Diego's tallest residential high-rise, this expansive 1850 square-foot beauty on the 41st floor will knock your socks off! The touch of a button operates the window shades and lights & the interior is upgraded beyond belief!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5369



Downtown • “Watermark”

Elegant and spacious, this premium Northwest corner residence in the Marina District's landmark residential community boasts an expansive terrace, stunning views directly into Pantoja Park, 2 bedrooms PLUS a full-size den/office, and 2.5 baths! Two secured parking, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5419



Downtown • “CityFront Terrace”

There is nothing comparable! Situated in the Marina District's only brick community, this street-level town home is reminiscent of a European chateau! Totally remodeled and re-crafted, it enjoys top-quality everything + dual terraces and dual parking.
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5719



Downtown • “City Walk”

You'll love life in this pristine town home in popular mid-rise community in the heart of the Marina District! Enjoy relaxing or entertaining on one of your two private terraces and descend only a few stairs to the street level-no elevator necessary to walk the dog! Low HOA fees, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5639



Downtown • “Harbor Club”

Featuring over 2000 square feet of over-the-top remodel, this stunning residence with high 38th-floor water & Coronado Bridge views is one-of-a-kind and will knock your socks off! Amazingly re-crafted, the discerning buyer can't help but be impressed!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5339



Downtown • “Park Place”

New on the market, this sunny residence in sought-after Marina District community boasts warming, dual-sided fireplace, rich Brazilian cherry hardwood floors throughout, dual outdoor areas, and so much more!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5379



Downtown • “Electra”

Life is good at Downtown's tallest luxury highrise at this split bedroom, west-facing residence with oversize terrace! Electra features it's own little bit of history, built around the historic SDG&E Station B!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5099



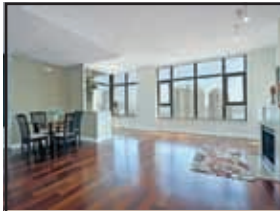
Downtown • “Park Row”

New on the market, this freshly painted and re-carpeted lower level residence features an expansive private terrace and in-unit laundry! In a beautifully manicured, low-density community in the heart of the Marina District!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5409



Downtown • “Union Square”

Call to see this rare, 3-BR/ 2-BA in impeccable condition complete with granite kitchen and bath countertops, a private terrace, and dual parking spaces. Located in an FHA/VA approved community!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5449



Downtown • “Electra”

One of the preferred floor plans at downtown's one-of-a-kind luxury community, this 22nd-floor, south-facing beauty enjoys gleaming wood floors and a den area in addition to approximately 1550 square feet, dual bedrooms and baths, and sweeping views!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5629



Downtown • “The Grande”

Stop here for the ideal first-time buyer or second home opportunity in one of Downtown's most desirable residential communities! Across from the Waterfront, this beautifully presented one-bedroom has it all for a bargain price!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5589



Downtown • “Electra”

Take advantage of this super short-sale at one of Downtown's most unique and desirable luxury communities! Active city views, a split master suite design, and a spacious private terrace complete this pretty picture!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5429



Downtown • “Palermo”

Short-sale priced to sell, this West-facing 1-bedroom enjoys banks of sunny windows, granite countertops in the kitchen and bath, & a large walk-in closet! Walk to numerous restaurants and shops in the Village of Little Italy!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5229



Downtown • “Pacific Terrace”

This fabulous new listing is a great opportunity to own a 2-BR residence in the heart of the Marina District with low HOA fee, dual side-by-side parking spaces, and upgrades that include stone & hardwood flooring! Priced to sell!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5139



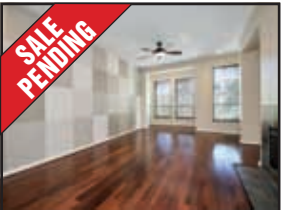
Downtown • “The Grande North”

The lowest price for this floor plan in the community, you'll want to see this 2-BR/ 2-BA beauty with lovely city and bay views, an ambient fireplace, and oversized private view terrace! Sweet!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5149



Downtown • “Columbia Place”

Don't delay on this super, upgraded 2-bedroom in landmark Marina District community! You'll love the split master design with dual walk-in closets, upgraded Caeserstone-style countertops with floating glass breakfast bar and stainless appliances in the kitchen, and side-by-side washer/dryer! Sweet!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5469



Downtown • “CityMark”

Priced to sell, this fabulous 2-bedroom row home is unlike no other! It features an oversize patio, 2-car parking with direct access, a warming fireplace, & gleaming granite kitchen. Hardwood floors, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5559



Downtown • “Watermark”

Sold for \$525,000. This well-priced residence in recently renovated community enjoys a west-facing orientation, a private terrace looking toward the Old Police Quarters, and dual parking spaces!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5299



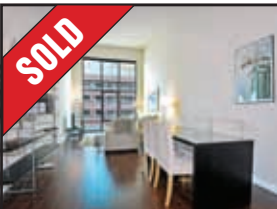
Downtown • “Gaslamp City Square”

Sold for \$225,000. You'll be loving life in the vibrant Gaslamp Quarter in this quiet, sunny, one-bedroom overlooking the pool and courtyard! Short-sale priced to sell quickly!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5069



Downtown • “ParkLoft”

Sold for \$422,000. You will love this classic, street level loft complete with approximately 1500 square feet, high ceilings, sunny corner location, recently remodeled baths & exposed ductwork and cement ceilings!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5129



Downtown • “Acqua Vista”

Sold for \$187,000. Absolutely pristine, this adorable 1-BR in the heart of Little Italy features a massive wall of windows looking onto the city streets, a resort-style community.
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5709



Downtown • “Discovery”

Welcome to this well-priced two-bedroom in the sunny Northwest corner of the community! Super clean, it features a slate gas fireplace, a private terrace, and secured parking and storage!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5029



Downtown • “Palermo”

Facing the lush and quiet interior courtyard, this 1-bedroom is priced way below market for a quick sale! It includes a private balcony overlooking the courtyard and granite countertops in the kitchen!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5259



Downtown • “Palermo”

Don't delay on this corner unit residence with lots of sunny windows and dual parking, short-sale priced to sell! Dual bedrooms and baths, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5279

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