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SHARKS GUIDE

INSIDE:

2008 MOUNTAIN BIKES

SPECIALIZED & SANTA CRUZ [32]

AROMACHOLOGY

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF SMELL [38]

HIGH-RISE JEANS

THE LATEST IN DENIM [48]

INTERVIEWS:

INTERPOL [106] **SEAN PENN** [26]

JEREMY ROENICK THAT GUY RIGHT THERE →

PLUS:

WALL DECALS [52]

DIY INTERIOR LIGHTING [56]

THE PERFECT CHANDELIER [24]

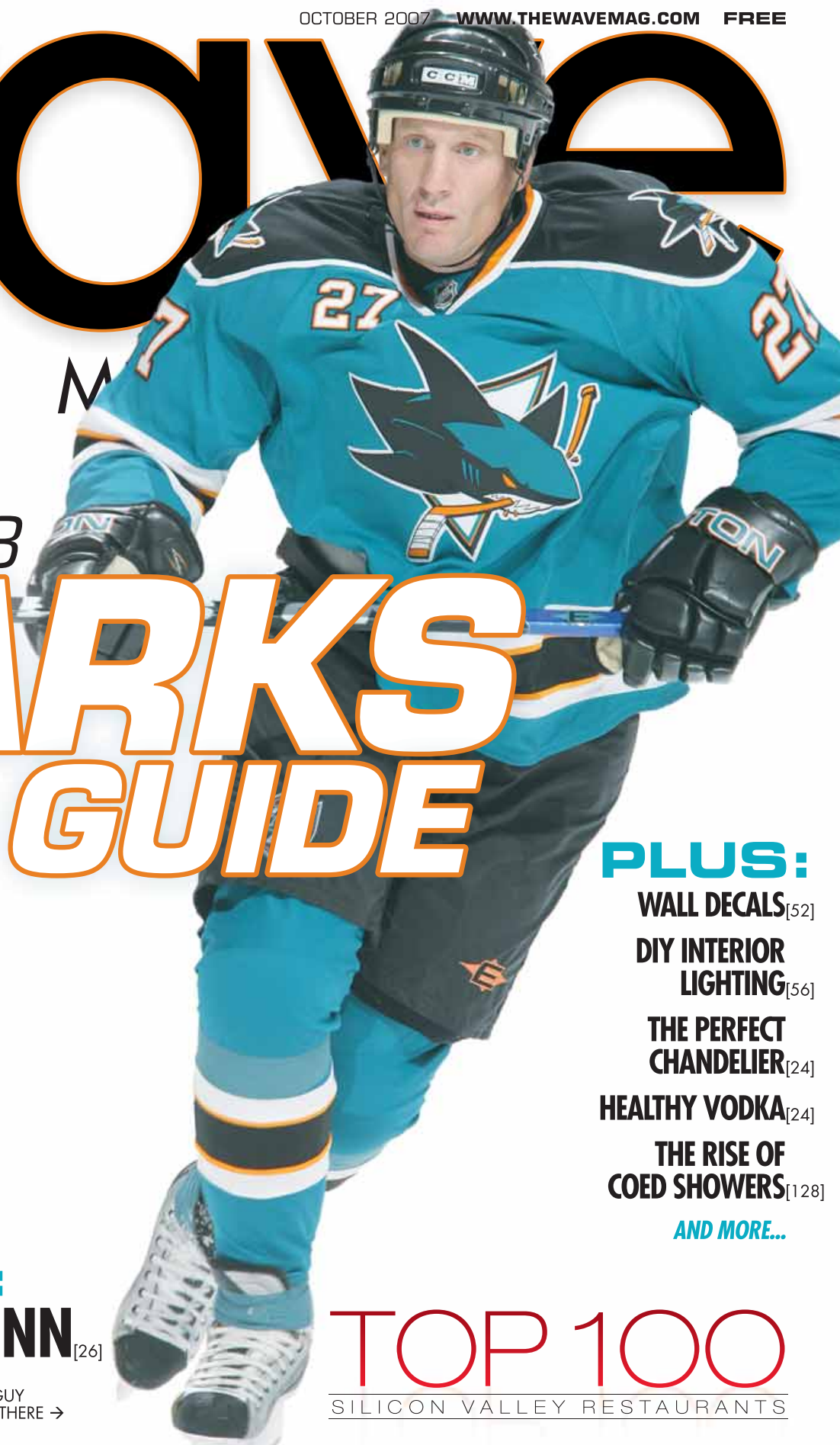
HEALTHY VODKA [24]

THE RISE OF COED SHOWERS [128]

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CONTENTS

FEATURE



28 2007-2008 SHARKS GUIDE
Find out what's making Sharks fans hopeful of a Stanley cup this season.

63 TOP 100 SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS
The finest dining establishments around – as voted by you.

INTERVIEWS

26 SEAN PENN
Even when behind the camera, he's still fighting.

106 INTERPOL'S DANIEL KESSLER
Muses about movies, museums, songwriting and more.

DEPARTMENTS

UPFRONT

- 12** EDITOR'S NOTE {we talk}
- 18** SPOTLIGHT {local news}
- 24** HIT LIST {editors' picks}

LIFESTYLE

- 32** SPORTS & ADVENTURE
Feature: Locally made mountain bikes.
- 38** HEALTH & BEAUTY
Feature: Aromachology: discovering the science of scent with Dr. Rachel S. Herz.
- 48** STYLE & SHOPPING
Feature: This season, totally stylish means totally waisted.
- 52** HOME & DESIGN
Feature: Vinyl wall decals put a new spin on home décor.

30 DAYS

- 104** 50 WAYS TO LEAVE YOUR SOFA {top events}
- 108** NIGHTLIFE & MUSIC
- 118** MOVIES
Feature: *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*, *Lars and the Real Girl*, *Gone Baby Gone* and more...

- 122** ARTS
Feature: Stanford's arts scene has never looked livelier.
- 128** FAMILY & COMMUNITY
Feature: Coed showers – just add boys and booze.

COLUMNS

- 16** DREGULATOR {media watchdog}
- 56** HOME WORK {from house to home}
- 125** HOT TICKET {art alert}
- 140** THE FINAL LAST WORD {local opinion}

FEATURED BUSINESS

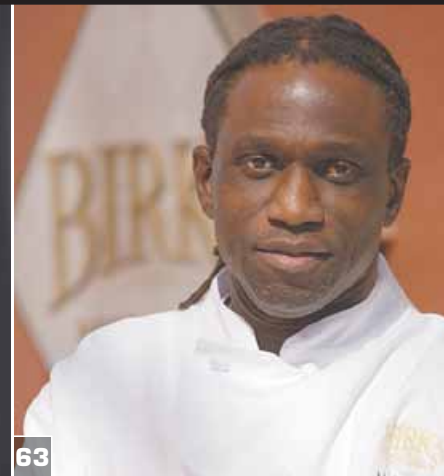
- 123** CITY HEIGHTS

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTIONS

- 108** WINE TASTING
- 114** SPORTS BARS
- 134** WEDDING PLANNING



106



63



104



24



48



52



63



32



26

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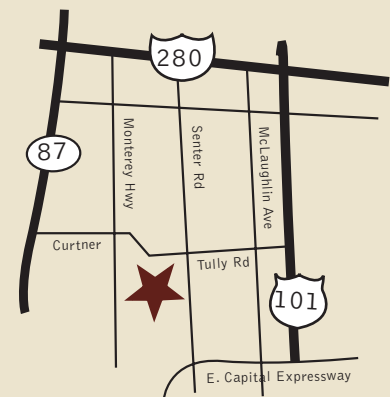


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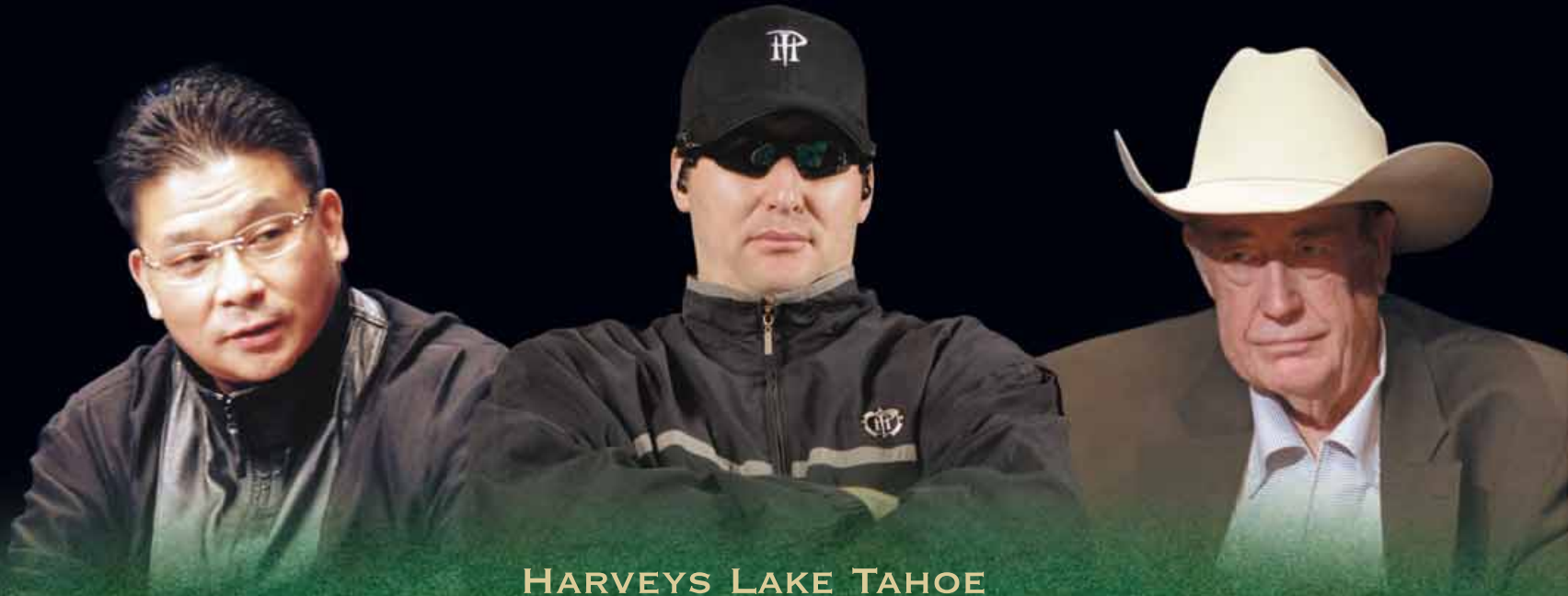
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11/13/07	6	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$550
11/13/07	7	H.O.R.S.E. (4pm)	\$550
11/14/07	8	No-Limit Hold 'Em	\$1,060
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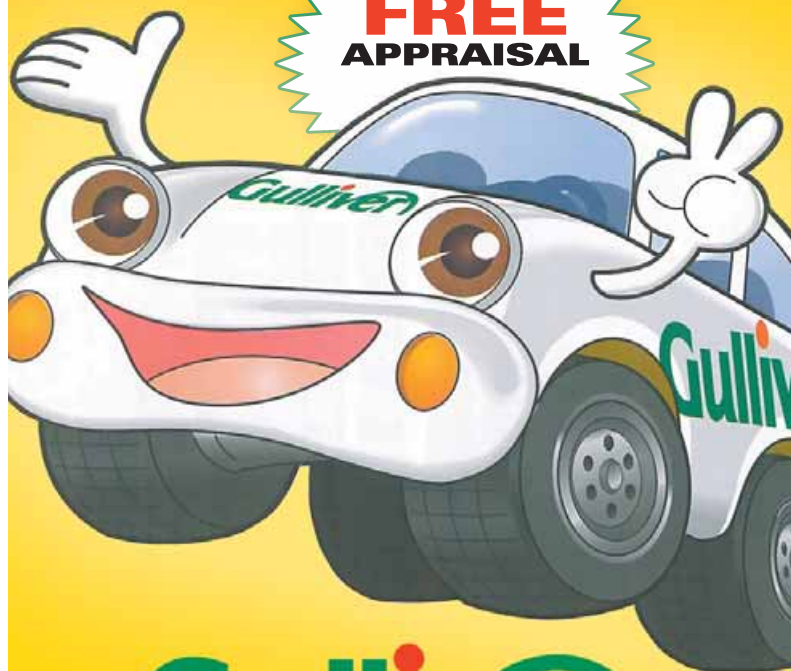
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EDITOR'S NOTE

JOHN@THEWAVEMAG.COM

I think everyone should be fired at least once in their life. Not because you can't fully appreciate having a job until you've lost it or anything that lame, but because the words "You're fired" can be as liberating as they are humbling.

The first time I was fired was from a five-star Michelin-rated restaurant in Los Angeles. It was my first job out of college. If human resources had checked my fake resume, I would've started my career as a server at age 12. But I managed to bluff my way past the maitre d', the restaurant manager and the director of food and beverages. The chef and I did not get along and locked horns pretty much every time a guest tried to order off the menu. He was fond of calling me "the worst server to ever drop a plate."

On the night I was very publicly fired, a particularly toxic guest wanted a cheeseburger. But cheeseburgers weren't even on the kids menu. I don't think there even was a kids menu, but I wasn't about to go into the kitchen and ask the chef, who personified the angry, pompous French screamer, to make a cheeseburger – not after already requesting tartar sauce earlier, which nearly got me stabbed.

So I casually recommended In-N-Out Burger to this guy. Evidently that was the wrong thing to do. He complained and the chef fired me on the spot, right in front of everyone.

For years I assumed all chefs were egotistical, knife-wielding maniacs that ruled their kitchens by fear, like that Gordon Ramsay tool on *Hell's Kitchen*. It wasn't until I started meeting Silicon Valley chefs that I gained an entirely new appreciation for the craft. More so here than anywhere else – and I truly believe this – chefs are more interesting, down-to-earth and genuinely passionate about food.



I've personally witnessed Josiah Slone, owner and chef of Sent Sovi, pontificate about how beautifully some foods pair with wine for more than two hours straight. It's amazing. And I've seen the sincere disappointment on the faces of other chefs when they suspect their guests aren't absolutely satisfied with their meals.

Further evidence starts on page 63, where we had celebrated food writer Joanna Currier interview the top 10 chefs from the top 100 Silicon Valley restaurants. The interviews are fantastic and I hope you read them all. And by the way, this list came from our recent Readers' Choice "Best Overall" category in the Dining section.

When I recently returned to that restaurant from where I was first fired, I'd hoped to learn the chef who canned me in cold blood had since been fired, too. That would have been too perfect. I did get him to make me a cheeseburger, though.

Enjoy the issue,
John Newlin
Editor-in-Chief

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Just wanted to thank you for your Second Annual Silicon Valley Small Theatre Awards – they are much appreciated by those of us in the know with local theatre, and have come to be anticipated. And of course, it feels great to be one of the award winners!



We can argue that if you did not grow up around it, you're not likely to find the inspiration or the mentorship from the masters. However, as your article continues to say, if you reach out to these masters of the industry with respect, you will find many of them are very cool people.

May I ask, though, if you made an error on the online page with the awards, in the Male Actors to Watch For section? It looks as though those are the same actors named last year... And I've heard that there's a different list in the print magazine...

Just wanted to send some love for the article, and let you know that the computer generation is very much a part of Hot Rodding.

Thanks for double-checking.
Jeanie Forte
Pear Avenue Theatre
MountainView, CA

All the Best,
Joe Iacono
aka: Pixel Hot Rod

[Nope, that's a new list for this year. –ED]

I'm not sure exactly who I should email in regards to this your "Ultimate 30-Minute Workout" story [Volume 7, Issue 2].

Just wanted to thank you for ruining my favorite place to relax. For years, I've been going to La Bodeguita del Medio's cigar lounge to unwind after work, smoke a cigar and have a Chimay. I have two screaming kids and one screaming wife and going to La Bodeguita every Thursday night was the highlight of my week. Then you had to go and put them in your Editors' Picks [Volume 7 Issue 9]. What was once the perfect place to hide out and unwind is now full of annoyed, stressed-out, over-worked people just like me. I did try one of the Chris Combo sandwiches you recommended. Wow. I'm still pissed at you about the La Bodeguita thing though. That's unforgivable.

Thanks in advance!
Wil Stevens

Jerry Raskin
Palo Alto

[Go to www.thewavemag.com and find the February 2007 issue. There's a blue PDF button on the middle of the page. All the pictures will be there. –ED]

I was reading the online editorial by Joanna Currier about the lost art of pin-striping.

Looks like you either got really lucky or know your local sports heroes extremely well. Putting Trent Edwards as the "Best NFL Newcomer" in your Editors' Picks was pretty well-timed, either way. For reasons I'm sure would bore you to tears, I'm a huge Bills fan and was also excited when a local boy was drafted to my team. Who knew he'd do so well in pre-season games and then have the opportunity of a lifetime now that Losman is out with a knee injury? I just hope the pressure isn't too much for Edwards and he can rise to the occasion. Who knows, maybe he'll be the new starting quarterback?

I really loved it, as well as your website! I only have one beef about the comment from Jon Hart (director of the Blackhawk Museum) who said, "We lost a generation to computers."

As part of the "new generation" of artists and designers, I don't feel growing up with computers pushed me away from the culture. If anything, it made it stronger for me. Computers have provided me the tools to illustrate ideas much faster.

Alexa Zhang

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Well, fellow broads, it's official:

You thought the **Supreme Court** was the most immediate threat to your reproductive rights. But it seems that klepto-telecomopoly **Verizon** – acting in a stern paternal role ordinarily filled by our fathers, husbands, presidents and **Pope** – has now granted itself the moral authority to deny women the right to receive the pro-choice text message alerts that they signed up for.

Well, *thank God* our phone company is stepping in where our families, government and churches have failed. It is up to right-thinking corporate monopolies to impose ethical guidelines for bed-hopping American skanks who are too selfish, high, or blonde to take into account the property values, occupancy rights issues and other controlling public interests vested in their own uteri.

Frankly, given Verizon's inconsistent service issues, I had no idea their infrastructure ran so deep... but perhaps this explains why so many of my calls get dropped whenever I'm having an abortion. (You should SO get credit for those.)

Apropos of dead babies... If a magical Aladdin genie gave you a magic crystal **Barry Bonds** baseball, and unlike Bonds, it told nothing but the truth, which big question would you ask to yield the most money in media exclusives?

A. Where is hapless toddler **Madeline McCann**?

B. Who will be **Hilary's** vice president?

Let us know.

In the meantime, the tabloids are begging – *begging* – for a new dead blonde, preferably **Britney**. They really, really need a new one, and they've been trying *so* hard to make Britney dead. "WILL BRITNEY DIE LIKE ANNA NICOLE?" a blaring headline in the *Globe* asks hopefully. If Britney would only hurry up and expire, she could be like Anna Nicole, **JonBenet**, **Marilyn Monroe** and **Princess Diana** all rolled up into one big tragic **Louis Vuitton** body bag, and oily black gushers of inexhaustible money would blast out of supermarket lines everywhere, falling upon us all like a dirty mist.

Sorry, **Owen Wilson**, you just don't have the breasts for this gig.

(Hint, hint: Britney needs a new body-



guard, since they always walk out and write a book after being asked to change her diapers one too many times. How about one of the unemployed **Blackwater** guys? I mean, I'm not suggesting anything as immoral as an abortion. It's not like Blackwater doesn't understand that a few eggs have to be broken in order to make profits, right? Hey, a little strategic **CLASSIFIED** always allegedly worked for the **Kennedys**. For that matter, the **Royal Family** was no slouch, either.)

But at least there was one other "Brit" in history who was almost as popular a target as Ms. Spears: *The WEEK* claimed that it was a "... good week for Orwellian paranoia after the admission by **Britain's MI5** security service that author **George Orwell** was under constant surveillance for at least a decade. Orwell, one agent noted, 'dresses in bohemian fashion both at his office and in his leisure hours.'

You know Orwell *had* to be being dressed by Hollywood stylist **Rachel Zoe**. I'm not saying she's not actually 36, like she claims. I'm just saying nobody else has ever gotten "boho chic" noticed by so many cops.

Anyway: The war drums are beating! The sabers are rattling! The rattlers are warbling! And the French are as bitchy as ever.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad botched his *American Idol* audition at **Columbia University**.

"We have to prepare for the worst, and the worst is war," said French foreign minister **Bernard Kouchner**, who took considerable points off Ahmadinejad's performance for choosing the wrong jingo.

Osama bin Laden, however, according to *The WEEK*, was sounding "pseudo-Marxist," "...telling Americans that we must liberate ourselves from 'the shackles' of capitalism, 'warmongering corporations,' 'insane taxes,' and burdensome credit card debt and mortgages."

Evil! Evil! Evil!

But bin Laden is still alive, we must presume, because he's totally necessary to us. Hey, he's the best villain we've had since the **Soviet Union**, or **Hitler**, or **Dracula**, or even **Don Imus**.

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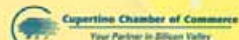
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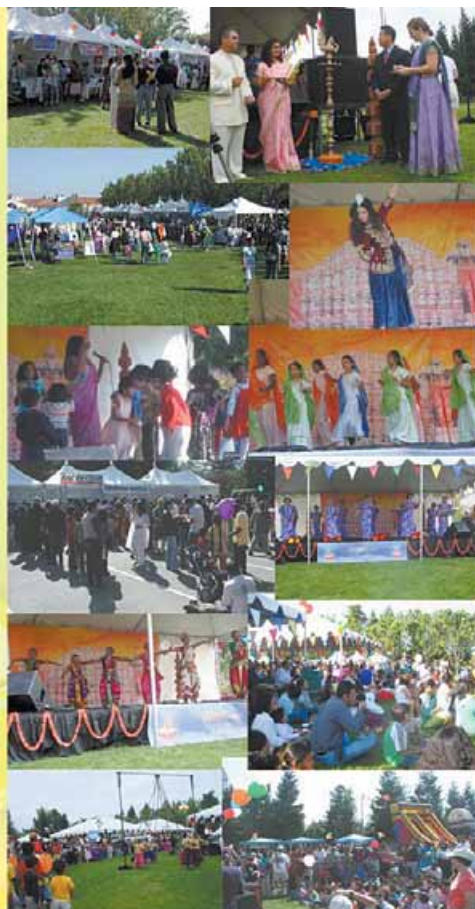
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Kiehl's Roars into Valley Fair

Gleaming faces and gleaming motorcycles.

Skincare and vintage motorcycles would seem to have as much in common as chalk and cheese. But in the Kiehl's universe, they go together more like wine and cheese.

Kiehl's was originally an apothecary founded in New York's East Village back in 1851. In the century and a half since, it has evolved into an international skincare line, with stores and stockists across the country and the globe.

Kiehl's president Chris Salgado explains the company's unlikely link with classic bikes. "In the early 1950s, Aaron Morse [one of the Kiehl's founding family members] started his love affair with motorcycles," Salgado says. "As an avid collector of motorcycles, Mr. Morse was the first person in the cosmetics industry to truly recognize the importance of marketing to men. He displayed his collections of motorcycles alongside Kiehl's products for the enjoyment of his male patrons. This tradition has remained, and the motorcycle has become one of the enduring symbols of Kiehl's."

The bikes have proven to be quite the dangling carrot, luring many a reluctant male inside a Kiehl's store,



The 1947 Indian Chief motorcycle at Kiehl's Atlanta, Ga. store.

who soon finds himself purchasing some shaving cream and other male grooming essentials.

The pharmaceutical-style packaging and atmosphere (the staff wears white lab coats) have always made Kiehl's one of the more approachable skincare stores. "Everybody feels comfortable walking into a Kiehl's store – from women, to men to children – and we want to keep our environment as welcoming and friendly as Mr. Morse would have wanted it," says Salgado. "This is the reason we will continue to add cycles to our stores as we evolve."

Kiehl's first arrived in Silicon Valley in 2005 with a small store in Palo Alto's Stanford Shopping Center. Next month the South Bay will welcome a new Kiehl's store at Valley Fair, complete with a fully restored 1928 Indian Scout 45 motorcycle on display.

The new Valley Fair outpost will be the company's 25th free-standing store in the country, as well as the first US store with a testing hub complete with running water. "The fully functional sink allows customers to lather, scrub, and apply Kiehl's products at their leisure," explains Salgado. "And offers a convenient place to rinse off."

And that shiny Indian Scout 45 in the corner will surely provide a convenient distraction for the lads while all this lathering takes place.

*Kiehl's Valley Fair opens Oct. 15. (408) 554-7080
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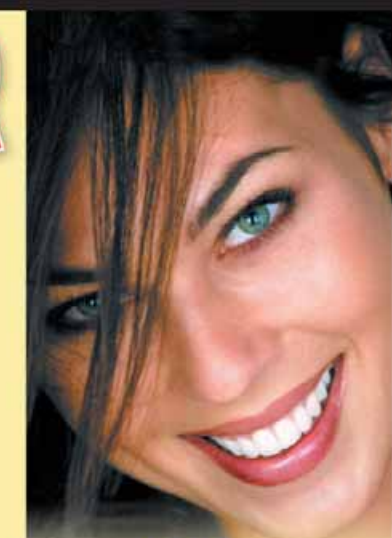
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SPOTLIGHT NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Bring It On, Beckham

MLS hopes Posh's squeeze can stir up interest in American soccer.

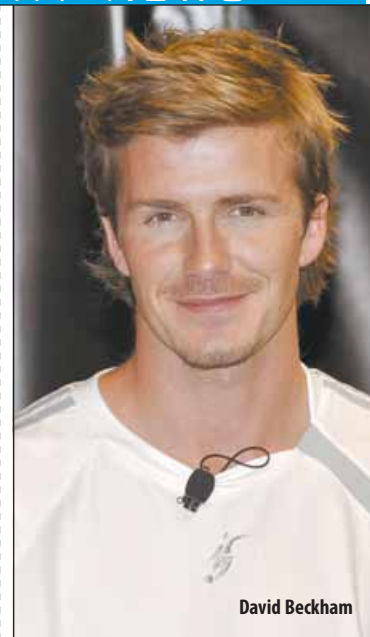
Could international soccer's golden boy, David Beckham, be the catalyst for an American pro soccer revival? While Beckham has had an injury-prone season so far, tickets sales are reportedly on the rise, due in no small part to the tabloid-fueled fame of the star and his ex-Spice Girl wife, Victoria.

Locally, soccer seems primed for a comeback in 2008. Silicon Valley soccer fans were thrilled when Major League Soccer (MLS) commissioner Don Garber announced on Jul. 17 that the league had accepted Lew Wolff's proposal to have the San Jose Earthquakes play in the league's 2008 season. Wolff, who along with John Fisher owns the Oakland A's, has again partnered with Fisher in co-ownership of the Earthquakes.

Since acquiring the team (or more accurately, the rights to put the team together), Wolff has been heavily involved in negotiations to build a 20,000-seat soccer-specific stadium on Coleman Avenue, adjacent to Mineta San Jose International Airport. In fact, prior to shelling out the reported \$15 million cost of an MLS franchise, Wolff indicated he would obtain the team only on the condition that it have a purpose-built soccer stadium to call home.

The proposal to use the 75-acre plot of city-owned Coleman Avenue land for such a stadium has its critics, as use of the land would require the contentious rezoning of another parcel of land in Edenvale. The San Jose City Council will meet again later this year to continue discussion of the proposal.

Soccer Silicon Valley vice president Jay Hipps hopes the Coleman Avenue stadium will get the green light. "I think it's a great location, for a lot of reasons. One, it's at a nice



David Beckham

little transit hub, there's a Caltrain stop there, and I guess in the future theoretically there will be a BART station somewhere around there.

"It's also land that the city owns," Hipps adds. "It's not like the land could be used for housing - it's a little too close to the airport. But it's perfect for a stadium, which is going to be a loud, fun environment anyway."

Whether or not the stadium goes ahead, not to mention how long it will take to build, remains to be seen. But there's one thing Hipps is sure of: Beckham's presence in the league will attract more fans to pro soccer. "It's obvious that he's bringing out huge numbers of people, and some of that is going to be people who are interested in celebrity, or people who want to see his latest hairstyle.

"I think overall, though, it's still a good thing," Hipps continues. "Because there are some people who are going to come out and discover that MLS is entertaining, and it can give you a unique sports experience."

So the Beckham effect could just mean Silicon Valley soccer fans old and new will be able to enjoy games in a shiny new 20,000-seat stadium. Stay tuned to *The Wave Magazine* for further developments. But if you're more interested in Beckham's latest hairstyle or Posh's latest ensemble, you might need to renew your *US Weekly* subscription.

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The latest addition to the Los Gatos boutique scene is Salt, a store with some cutting-edge labels that you would have previously been hard pressed to find outside LA. Owner Jennifer Benjamin is bringing hot new labels like LA's Rich & Skinny jeans to the South Bay, plus Alice & Trixie, Kate and Kass, Mint, Park Vogel and many other high-end designers. Benjamin says the store is geared towards mothers and daughters shopping together, and with the wide range of designers, whether it's jeans or special occasion outfits, you're sure to find something on the cutting edge of current fashion.

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BLU - RELOCATION

475 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 322-2510

There's been a lot of movement in the Cielo-Blu boutique family in recent times. In June 2006, Cielo moved from its longtime Stanford Shopping Center locale to the University Avenue home of its sister store, Blu. Emerson Street became the new home of Blu, but now it's back on the avenue, moving in right next door to big-sister Cielo, at 475 University Avenue, a space recently vacated by a jewelry store. The new remodel is stunning, as is the fashion. Expect the same selection of cutting-edge European designers, including favorites Vanessa Bruno and Marithé et François Girbaud, plus Belgian designer Sofie D'Hoore and edgy emerging Italian line D-CLN.

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KIEHL'S

Valley Fair Shopping Mall, Steven's Creek Blvd., Santa Clara (408) 554-7080 www.kiehls.com

This much-loved apothecary makes its second foray into Silicon Valley. After opening their first area store at Stanford Shopping Center in 2005, Kiehl's will open in Valley Fair on Oct. 15. The 560-square foot store will feature the signature Kiehl's aesthetic, including reclaimed American chestnut flooring, Carrera marble tables and a modern blown glass chandelier.

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Just opened in Santa Clara, this bakery and café has already become a popular lunch spot. The Bowers Avenue location - the company's latest and largest - offers home-style, healthy food made fresh on the premises every day. In the morning, choose from the bakery's huge selection of muffins, pastries and breads, and when lunch hour rolls around, menu offerings include homemade soups, organic spinach and other fresh salads, and signature sandwiches with their own fresh-roasted meats and breads all made from organic flours. Office-park folk, tell the person who handles the company's order-in fare to check out Specialty's sophisticated corporate catering menu, packed with fast and healthy options.

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Stranded on the Bolivian salt flats



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It was a bag of the humble candies that saved the Higham family from near starvation when they were stranded in the middle of the Bolivian salt flats. That's how they came to call the colorful candies "Armageddon Pills" (which also happens to be the name of their forthcoming book).

So just what was a Mountain View family of four - September Higham, her husband, John, and their two children, Jordan (then eight) and Katrina (then 11) - doing on the Bolivian salt flats? The intrepid family decided to pack up their life in June 2005 and travel the world for a year. It was no flight of fancy, but something September and John, both avid travelers, had planned since before they had children. "The kids had known about this since they were little. Before they could talk, we had already planned this trip," she recalls.

Having been home for a year, the family is now sharing their story to let people know this kind of travel is a lot more affordable than people might think. "The main message we like to get across to people is 'It's doable for normal families,'" September says. "People immediately think that we must be rich, to be able to just not work for a year and travel around the world. But we just had this mindset for

many, many years that we were saving for this trip.

"People will spend \$50,000 to landscape the backyard, or \$25,000 on a minivan. It only cost us \$120,000 to be on the road for a year. The money is available to middle class families, especially in this area, if they choose to allocate their money that way."

As for taking their kids out of school, September thinks the world makes an excellent classroom. "Your kids are going to be fine if you pull them out of school. In some sense they got a little bit better education being gone," she notes. "My daughter read 111 books when she was gone. When she came home she went straight into seventh grade, and that whole year she read four books outside of the classroom."

Having survived their adventures in Bolivia, the family visited 28 countries during their 52-week global tour. But, September notes, they have yet to visit Russia, India and Australia. "We definitely have some serious traveling we still need to do." **TW**

The Higham family will give a multimedia presentation about their yearlong adventure on Oct. 30 at 7pm, at REI Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Rd., Mountain View (650) 969-1938 www.rei.com. Bring your own M&Ms. To read more about them, go to www.armageddonpills.com.

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The standard ear buds that come with your iPod aren't all that great. They never stay on and are prone to blowing under intense rocking conditions. These custom-fitted earphones from Ultimate Ears offer a sound level and price range for everyone. You'll have great audio pouring into your ears with the Super.fi 3 (\$100). For an even more intense experience, try the Super.fi 5 Pro (\$250), or go all out with the "studio in your head" Triple.fi 10 Pro (\$400). Each level of earphone comes with a fit kit, so you can adapt it to your ear shape, virtually cutting out all outside noise. With over 30 musical powerhouses as clients (including Kelly Clarkson, The Rolling Stones and Fall Out Boy), you can be sure your audio experience has been tested by the professionals.



De Soto Sports T1 First Wave Triathlon Wetsuit

www.desotosport.com

Triathletes know that every little advantage helps. They also know that the swim leg of a race can set the tone for the next two stages. We've found San Diego-based De Soto Sports' T1 First Wave wetsuits to be in a class of their own.

The revolutionary design of the "Bibjohn" (or bottom half of the suit) removes the workload from the shoulders and allows for more upper-body mobility, while the "pullover" rotates your shoulders forward for a more efficient stroke. The Nylon and Lycra lining in both are for added comfort. Most importantly, you actually swim faster in the De Soto T1 First Wave wetsuit. \$250 Bibjohn, Pullover, \$210



Michael McHale Designs

www.michaelmchaledesigns.com

Blending the discarded with the divine, these illuminated works of art by the famed entertainment lawyer turned designer lend a wabi-sabi aesthetic to the typical chandelier. The contrast of the distressed brass pipes and fittings with the prestige-swatched splendor of the finest Swarovski crystals, not to mention the humble refrigerator lightbulbs that glow from within, is not only poetic, but living proof of the hidden beauty often found in ordinary things. Besides using reclaimed, distressed pipes from building sites in New York (where he lives), McHale also sources materials from areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. Who knew a chandelier could be so enlightening? \$2,600.

Expresso Bike

www.expressofitness.com

More and more videogames are debunking the perception of being physically inactive. Now, once you're done swinging your arms around like a maniac with your Nintendo Wii, you can hop on an Expresso Fitness S2 bike at your local gym (or even at home) and experience a truly interactive workout. The S2 employs some of the latest virtual reality technology to



immerse you in a cycling regimen. An "in your face" 17-inch monitor displays one of over 30 virtual environments ranging from coastlines, forests, Mayan ruins, and outer space, all littered with roads and trails to explore. The resistance the bike provides directly relates to where you ride in the virtual world, so if you see a hill coming up, you're in for some resistance. There are many tours to choose from, with levels ranging from beginner to expert. Feeling competitive? The S2 also lets you race against virtual opponents, or even other people at the gym. From \$5,000.



Lotus Vodka

www.lotusvodka.com

In ancient times, the lotus flower was viewed as a symbol of purity and rebirth. Now, with Lotus Vodka, you can skip that impure Red Bull and vodka and make your nightlife feel born again. Created by ex-Yahoo exec Rob Bailey, Lotus is a thrice-distilled vodka, infused with all the B vitamins you'll find in canned energy drinks, minus the sugar and fruity flavors. With only subtle hints of citrus and orange, Lotus has a surprisingly smooth, clean finish. Available in the San Francisco area, it's currently working its way down to the South Bay. Approx. \$30 **EW**

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Bull Penn

Sean Penn expresses his rage artistically.

BY FRED TOPEL

MOVIE: *Into The Wild*

DIRECTED BY: Sean Penn

STARRING: Emile Hirsch, Marcia Gay Harden, William Hurt, Vince Vaughn

STUDIO: Paramount Vantage

Usually, keeping Sean Penn away from the press is for journalists' own protection. The original bad boy was known for beating up a photographer in the '80s, but when he directs a movie, even Sean Penn is on his best behavior to sell it. *Into The Wild* is the story of Chris McCandless, a college grad who gave away his savings and decided to live in the wilderness. It worked, too, until he died in an abandoned bus in the Alaskan wilderness.

The Wave: Chris McCandless doesn't seem to have a well thought-out exit strategy to leave Alaska. Do you see any parallels between that and America's current foreign policy?

Sean Penn: I don't see a parallel in that way because Chris wasn't putting babies at risk like that, for one. I think intention counts for a lot, and I don't think it competes in the level of purity. But also, I don't know if I entirely agree. There is no exit strategy from Mother Nature if she doesn't want you to have one.

You can go to any lengths. The degree to which he wanted to challenge himself is the degree to which he made a stripped-down trip.

TW: Have you ever felt a call to the wild?

SP: I can say yes, but I also feel that one of the things that made me so interested in this story, and I've been wrong about these perceptions before, is that it's true of everybody. This is a very universal thing, this wanderlust.

TW: How objective are you about Chris' story? He seems heroic in the film, but people like park rangers have pointed out mistakes he made that aren't in the film.

SP: I don't know how objective a person who wears a brown shirt and a patch on their shoulder and follows instructions all day is, either. I'm not all that interested in what the park rangers have to say. This is a guy that wanted to challenge himself in a way that for us to judge would just be ridiculous. I accept that there's an automatic instinct to judge those you envy and who have more courage than you do. I think while [the ranger] rides around in his four-wheeler on a CB radio and getting fat, Chris McCandless has spent 113 days f-cking alone in the most unforgiving wilderness that God created.

TW: To play devil's advocate, isn't Chris at least responsible for the people who might have to rescue him?

SP: The guy said he wasn't in any hazardous condition. What's the big deal of driving his four-wheeler out and rescuing him then? He didn't bring anybody into hazard with what he was doing. We don't live our lives to avoid bureaucratic mandates. Put it on your-

self. Do you have children? You never corrupted them or f-cked them up in any way with any of your sh-t? There's no such thing as that. All right, so who's a bigger f-ckup, Chris McCandless for hurting himself or you for hurting your kids? We've all got our sh-t. And me, too, by the way. I'm not attacking you. I'm saying the point of this thing is the heroism of this will and courage that this young man had. All the rest of it is somebody else's folly for me.

TW: What do you really want to say about this boy's story?

SP: I could answer the question in boring length, but the movie should answer it for me. This is what I intended to make. This is the movie. It would be very fair for somebody to criticize something they don't like in the movie or that they felt more intelligent than, or heartfelt than, or whatever they felt about it. It would be factually wrong for them to say that I hadn't told the story as I intended. I feel complete in that it answers it for me.

TW: Okay, then what would you like the audience to take away with them?

SP: Whatever they want to, good or bad.

TW: You're pretty outspoken. Do you want to articulate your world views in your work, or keep those things separate?

SP: I don't mean to be too hyperbolic about it, but work is articulating something or expressing something. It's like the question before about my objectivity on the thing. Objectivity and subjectivity are, to me, a ball and chain potentially, to get hung up on this thing. The bottom line is that this thing that I was tracking, in response to the question, was neither objective nor subjective. It was just the wrong paradigm for me. The idea was, it's a hunger from deep inside, this will that I talk about, and you can apply it to everything that's happening in the world. Let's forget about getting into global politics. Just the movies, I'm so dissatisfied. [Whether] it's a good movie, bad movie, I almost don't care. I just want to feel that the person who made it [cared]. That'll tell me enough. I'll get exhilarated about life better from seeing that movie on that basis alone.

TW: How does the McCandless family feel about the film?

SP: It's one of the trickiest things involved in making a movie like this, the double-edged sword of making speculations about someone you didn't know and about being trusted in the hands of his parents on such a triumphant but difficult story. In my time with them, which was a different time in their life, a different stage, these are people I consider friends of mine and I have a great respect for, a very intelligent, very caring people. I did have their help throughout.

TW: You also had Jon Krakauer's book on the story. Did you stay faithful to that?

SP: This is what I thought Jon Krakauer wrote and I used his prose writing sometimes, his dialogue. I'm always frustrated when somebody makes a movie out of a book and they leave the book behind, or the heart of it. **TW**

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2007/2008 SHARKS GUIDE



Something old, something new, and a fresh shade of blue for the Sharks this season.

Sharks fanatics, there are many reasons to bare your pearly whites this season, four of them being the return of Bryan Marchment, Mike Ricci, Drew Remenda, and “The Hey Song.” The new season also sees the arrival of the Tank’s booming new sound system, plus a gigantic new HD jumbotron screen that makes even the cheap seats spectacular. The Sharks even have a spanking new logo, as well as new high-tech jerseys. People, it’s time to drop the puck.



BRYAN MARCHMENT

Best remembered by San Jose fans for an open-ice hit on then-Philadelphia Flyers goon Donald Brashears, Bryan Marchment routinely made video hit highlights at the Tank and on various sports shows. Known to some as “Mush,” he will be based in the Toronto area as a Sharks scout and advisor to hockey operations.

MIKE RICCI

Known as much for his flowing locks and gummy grin as for his relentless, never-give-up-the-puck style of play, Mike Ricci returns to the Sharks as an advisor to hockey operations after two seasons with the Phoenix Coyotes, a good portion of which he spent on the injured list. Long considered the heart and soul of the team, Ricci will assist in player development, as well as serve various roles within the organization, including marketing, promotions and community relations.

DREW REMENDA

It's not that fans didn't like Marty McSorley as the Sharks' television color analyst last season; it's just that Drew Remenda was so damn loveable. Much to our delight, Remenda is back after leaving at the end of the 2005-06 season. Saying he needed to be closer to his family in Canada, Remenda landed a gig with the CBC's *Hockey Night in Canada* while hosting his own radio show. But he never lost that soft spot for San Jose, and for that we're glad. The feeling is mutual.



NEW SOUND SYSTEM & JUMBOTRON SCREEN

Go ahead and keep those high-priced, lower-level, up-close-and-personal seats. Those of us in the upper tiers can see the game just fine now, thanks to the high-definition screen looming large over center ice. At approximately 18 feet by 24 feet, it's bigger than the old, blurry 9-by-12 screen. The old screen sent some in search of their spectacles, but the new HD screen is so sharp and clear you can barely take your eyes off it. If you're sitting up high enough in the stands, the players actually appear larger on the screen than they do on the ice.

On the other hand, the lower portion of the screen is devoted to the new scoreboard, and they might want to go back to the drawing board on this section. The font is reminiscent of a 1970s *Pong* videogame, and clearly not as exciting as the HD action above it. It's functional, but a bit on the bland side and, oddly, some of the smaller characters lose clarity.

The sound system also got an overhaul both in appearance and quality. Now situated in the center of the arena, the speakers are white like the ceiling, making them less noticeable. Audibly, Sharks fanatics will hear announcements more clearly, and when the Sharks score a goal, “The Hey Song” won't sound like it's being played in a tin can.

“THE HEY SONG”

Rhythmically challenged fans will be pleased to learn that the old goal song — “Rock and Roll, Part 2,” nicknamed “The Hey Song” — is back by popular demand. (Last season's song, “Holiday” by Green Day, has a good beat that you can really dance to, but it took all season for fans to figure out on which beat to pump their fists in the air to celebrate a goal. Some fans never quite caught on and simply stood there and clapped.) Major league and college sports teams dumped “The Hey Song” in 2006 when the man who first made it famous, Gary Glitter, was convicted of child molestation charges in Vietnam. It's worth noting that the version played at the Tank is an organ version of the song and not the original, and that Glitter receives no royalties when the song is played. So hey — your demands were heard and heeded.



NEW SWEATERS/JERSEYS

They're called sweaters because of tradition, and hockey is steeped in tradition. But the fabric covering the shoulders and backs of this season's Sharks, and all NHL players, is anything but traditional. It's so high-tech, one would assume it had been developed right here in Silicon Valley, but the fabric came from many miles away. A combined research and development team at Reebok, along with experts at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Central Michigan University, spent more than two years of extensive research on the Rbk Edge Uniform System. Soft and stretchy to the touch, the new uniforms have four-way give, which allows players greater freedom of movement. It's cold on the ice, but players heat up quickly with hard body checks and corner battles for the puck, so Reebok's Playdry technology wicks away moisture from the inside out. For moisture that comes from the outside in – be it ice sprays, falls to the ice, or sweat – Reebok's

Bead Away technology repels water and helps keep players dry during the game.

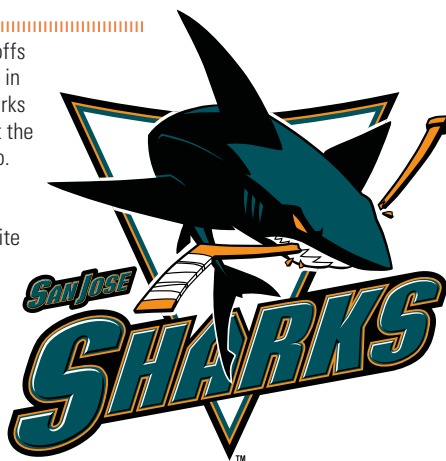
Cut in a more fitted style, the new jerseys also reduce wind resistance. And theoretically speaking, because there is less fabric, players who poke a stick blade up an opponent's sweater will have a harder time doing so. It also implies that holders and grabbers will have a more difficult time finding a place to clutch.

SWEATER AUCTION

The holiday sweater auctions feature limited-edition sweaters with a holiday theme and festive colors. Last season's Halloween-themed sweater was a cheery orange and white with a pumpkin on the back in which the player numbers were carved. The sweaters are worn during morning practice skates, then later autographed and sold in silent auctions that start when the doors open on game days and end at the conclusion of the second-period intermission.*

NEW LOGO

After an early departure in the playoffs the last couple seasons, word in hockey circles was that the Sharks needed to get tougher. It seems they felt the logo needed some toughening up, too. (Actually, they just took advantage of the timing of the league-wide jersey re-design.) Now there's more chomp in the bite of the Sharks' updated logo. And there's more teal in the image – Deep Pacific Teal to be exact. As for Sharkie, he's more angular and ferocious looking, his eyes slant more and they're orange – a menacing burnt orange. Overall, the new look is a hit. It's modernized, but not a total departure from the original logo.



With a new logo comes new merchandise, and the Sharks store has plenty: a new line of T-shirts, sweatshirts, socks, toys, hats, and more. A jersey with that new, mean-looking Shark will set you back \$135, but some old logo jerseys are still available for \$85. For \$20 a blithe fan can buy a stylin' elastic-banded cap that is topped with a stuffed plush 15-inch Shark. There are also lots of updated fashion items for women, while parents can buy their children a teddy bear wearing a Sharks logo for \$6.

FAMILY PACKS

For tickets, go to www.sjsharks.com

Grab this bargain while you can. There are four games where with a special coupon (or by purchasing online at www.sjsharks.com), families can get four tickets, four hot dogs, four bags of chips, and four Pepsis, starting at \$68. With the new jumbotron screen, there's not a bad seat in the house, and at those prices there might be some change left over to buy a new logo T-shirt.

FAMILY PACK DATES:

Game	Opponent	Coupon Available	On Sale
SAT 11/24	Los Angeles Kings	10/29-11/23	Sat 11/3
SAT 1/5	Columbus Blue Jackets	12/3-1/4	Sat 12/8
FRI 2/8	Columbus Blue Jackets	1/14-2/7	Sat 1/19
SUN 3/16	Edmonton Oilers	2/23-3/15	Sat 2/23

MYSTERY PUCKS

For those who love a surprise, arrive at a game early to buy a Mystery Puck. For \$20 you can buy a gift-wrapped puck that is guaranteed to be signed by one of the Sharks players. The surprise comes when you open the package and see who signed it. If the autograph is in gold ink, more surprises are in store. And since they're already wrapped, Mystery Pucks make great gifts. They're sold in limited numbers and go fast.



2007-08 KEY DATES

OCTOBER 13	Commonwealth Central Credit Union Magnet Schedule Night & Opening Night Mystery Puck Sales
NOVEMBER 2	Southwest Airlines Screensaver Night
NOVEMBER 12 & 17	Second Harvest Food Drives
NOVEMBER 17 & 24	Thanksgiving Mystery Puck Sales
NOVEMBER 28 & 30	Thanksgiving Sweater Auction
DECEMBER 8	Special In-Game Holiday Auction
DECEMBER 13 & 15	Toys for Tots Toy Drive & Holiday Sweater Auction
DECEMBER 18 & 20	Holiday Mystery Puck Sales
JANUARY 17 & 19	Fremont Bank "Reading Is Cool" Book Drive
JANUARY 19	Stanford Blood Center Blood Drive
FEBRUARY 12 & 14	Valentine's Day Mystery Puck Sales
MARCH 14 & 16	St. Patrick's Day Mystery Puck Sales & St. Patrick's Day Sweater Auction
MARCH 30	Game-Used Sweater Auction
APRIL 1	HP Fan Appreciation Night & Game-Used Sweater Auction

*Silent auctions benefiting The Sharks Foundation are held during each Sharks home game on the Concourse Level outside Section 124.

Scoring with Styles

Getting to know the newest Shark, Jeremy Roenick.

BY ANNE WARD ERNST

A nine-time NHL All Star, a two-time Olympian with a silver medal, Jeremy Roenick is just five goals shy of 500, something only two other US-born players have achieved in the NHL. He was ready to walk away from it all, but when Sharks general manager Doug Wilson called and offered him a spot on the roster, he decided retirement could wait. After two seasons with underperforming teams, Roenick, 37, was thrilled to join a team that is loaded with skill, talent, and a real chance of winning the Stanley Cup, an achievement that's eluded the 18-year veteran.

From controversial outbursts (some of which he says were taken out of context) to winning the 1993-94 Chicago Sports Profiles Humanitarian of the Year Award, Roenick's career on and off the ice has been eventful. After his 1988 entry draft, he played for the Chicago Blackhawks, boasting back-to-back seasons with 50 or more goals. After Chicago, he played twice for Phoenix, then Philadelphia and Los Angeles. Now he's donning the teal for San Jose.

TW: Fans in San Jose may not know you as well as other parts of the country. What would you like to say to them to help them know you better?

Jeremy Roenick: They can't believe what they read, that's one thing. I have a lot of people who misunderstand me, misunderstand the things that I say and the person that I am. I think a lot of people see a figure on TV, and what you see on TV is not always what you see in person.

TW: You know you're welcome here in San Jose.

JR: It's exciting for me. At my age, as long as I've been around, it's nice to come to a team that has a chance to win every night. You know you're surrounded by good players.

TW: How do you think you are perceived in San Jose?

JR: I've gotten just an amazing amount of support since I've been here. People in the streets have recognized me and welcomed me. It's good, because I can come in here without any pressure. I can come in here loose and excited to play hockey, and to be a spokesman, not to be a ticket seller.

TW: Okay, enough hockey. Let's move on to something people might not already know about you. What's your favorite cartoon or comic book character?

JR: My favorite cartoon growing up was Scooby-Doo. I was a huge Scooby-Doo fan. Comic book character would probably be Spider-Man.

TW: What's your favorite sports movie?

JR: Wow, that's tough. Probably *The Natural*, that's one of my favorite ones.

TW: You've been in some movies and TV shows. Do you like that kind of thing?

JR: I do like it. I enjoy it. You get to bring out a different creative side in you. A lot of times, I feel like I can come out of myself and be somebody else. I've actually turned down more things than I've done — which is a good thing, I guess.

TW: If you had stayed retired, would you have pursued that?

JR: I think I probably would have done a few things. I have a bunch of friends in the business that are producers and directors.

TW: You should be in a Spider-Man movie.

JR: [Laughs] I'd make a great villain, I think. I really would.

TW: You don't want to be a good guy?

JR: Uh, no. I don't think people would accept it.

TW: What's it going to take for you to score as many goals at your age?

JR: A lot of open nets, that's for sure. No, I mean, I'm playing with a lot of good players here. I have to set my mind on scoring goals. I'm more of a play-maker by nature. I love to set up my teammates more than scoring a goal myself. But sometimes you have to be a little selfish, and sometimes selfishness in scoring goals helps the team, too.

TW: Describe your on-ice personality:

JR: Very brash. Very arrogant. Very cocky. Gritty, but enthusiastic. I like to have fun.

TW: How is that different from your off-ice personality?

JR: I'm not arrogant or brash at all off the ice. I like my quiet time.

TW: What do you like to do in your off time?

JR: I love to play golf. I'm a big golfer. Especially with my son [Brett, who is 10]. He already shot a 102. He can really play.

TW: Are you changing your workout regimen?

JR: It's a lot more, yeah. As you get older, you have to do more things to stay in shape. You have to ride the bike more often, even if it's 20 minutes or 15 minutes. You know what? I hate to say it, but you have to get more rest. You have to go to bed earlier. It's true. Accepting getting older is not fun, but sometimes you have to surrender to the elements.

TW: How did you get the nickname Styles?

JR: Keith Tkachuk actually gave me that nickname, just because of the way I dress. I'm not afraid to surprise people with a little crazy dressing.

TW: So, you and Kyle McLaren are going to have a battle?

JR: Now it's more stylish. I got a lot of [flak] for the shoes I was wearing the other day. I wore a pair of Versace shoes and that didn't go over too well with some of my guys.

TW: What's the question you hate most?

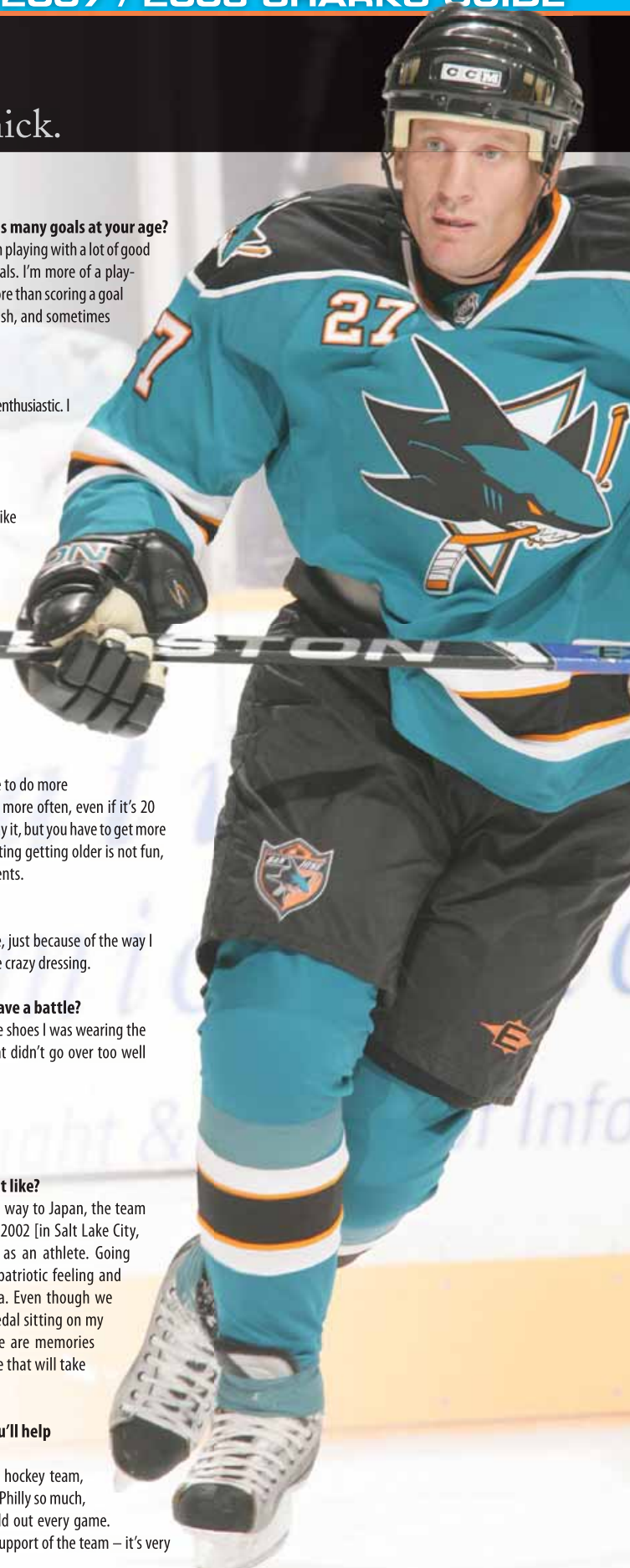
JR: Right now? "Why haven't you retired?"

TW: You were in two Olympics, what was that like?

JR: The first one was anticlimactic. Going all the way to Japan, the team didn't do well. [There was] a lot of controversy. 2002 [in Salt Lake City, Utah] was probably my most storied moment as an athlete. Going to the Olympics, playing at home, having that patriotic feeling and getting in the gold medal game against Canada. Even though we lost, it was a dream match-up. I have a silver medal sitting on my counter. That's stuff you can't take away, those are memories that last forever. I haven't won a Cup yet, I'm sure that will take over it if that ever happens.

TW: Speaking of the Cup, fans are hoping you'll help take the Sharks to that level.

JR: This town is unbelievably supportive of their hockey team, which is such a treat. That's why I loved playing in Philly so much, because going there was an experience. They sold out every game. The energy, the excitement, the knowledge, the support of the team — it's very much the same here. It's been great so far. **TW**



Spokes Models

Ride hard, fast and light with these locally made mountain bikes

BY DAMON ORION

Mountain bikes have always been the alpha dogs of the bicycle world, but some of today's models approach Vin Diesel levels of badass-itude. "We're at the point now where we can offer a four-to-six inch travel trail bike that you can run down a mountain and crash into a wall," says Mike Ferrentino, marketing project manager for Santa Cruz Bicycles (SCB). "Yet it weighs about the same as a completely rigid mountain bike did in 1989."

Nick Sims, PR man for Specialized Bicycle Components (SBC), says that carbon fiber, with its combination of lightness and strength, has made for a sturdier, burlier breed of bike. "You can make a carbon bike really stiff for a sprinter bike," he notes. "It would be too stiff for you or me or the average person on the street – it would shake their fillings loose, or whatever! But these guys who are accelerating to 40, 45 miles per hour, they want no give in that frame. Carbon allows you to do that."

Here's a look at some of the top 2008 mountain bike models from these two companies.

WHERE TO BUY:

Santa Cruz Bicycles, 104 Bronson St., Ste. 22, Santa Cruz (831) 459-7560 www.santacruzmtb.com

Specialized Bicycle Components, 15130 Concord Cir., Morgan Hill (408) 779-6229 www.specialized.com

Blur LT Santa Cruz Bicycles

Featuring a virtual pivot point design and just over five inches of rear wheel travel, the Blur LT is an all-purpose bike that glides smoothly over rough terrain, while also boasting plenty of resistance to bottoming out off big drop-offs and jumps. The complete version of the Blur runs about \$3,800; frame versions start at \$1,700.

Superlight Santa Cruz Bicycles

The simple, efficient Superlight is the mainstay around which SCB was built. Ideal for cross-country racing, it was recently revamped to allow for more lateral stiffness. The ready-to-go Superlight RXC retails at \$2,200, while the frame-only version of the Superlight goes for around \$1,200.

Nomad Santa Cruz Bicycles

For trips to big mountains and more serious terrain, there's the Nomad, which Ferrentino calls SCB's "media darling". Sporting a curvaceous hydro-formed top tube and an indestructibility that defies its weight, this model starts at around \$1,800 for frame and rear shock—or, for the big spender, there's the \$4,500 Nomad X9 AM, which Ferrentino describes as "gravity-friendly" (read: capable of surviving ridiculous levels of punishment).



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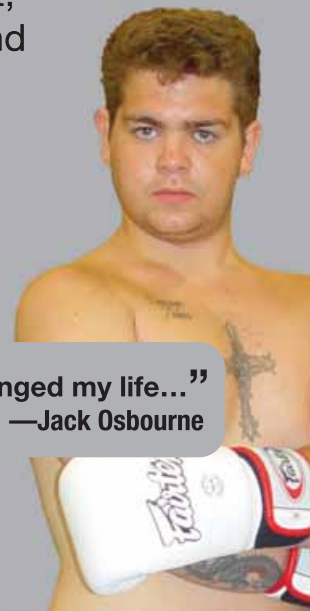
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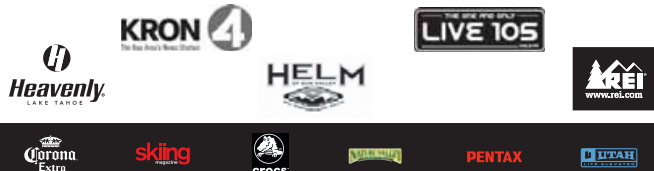
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32 Epic

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Stanford Cardinal, Stanford Stadium, Galvez St. & Nelson
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San Jose www.sjsuhockey.net

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Saturday, 10/27: vs. New Mexico, 7pm

Sunday, 10/28: vs. Long Beach State, 1:30pm

Friday, 11/2: vs. University of Utah, 7:45pm

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The Science of Fragrance

Leading expert takes a pragmatic approach to scent.

BY JO ABBIE

There's no denying that scent is an intense force – and smell, one of the most powerful senses. We all know how smell can transport us back in time. Just one whiff of a fresh-baked oatmeal cookie can make us think of grandma's kitchen. Or a nose full of freshly mown grass and you're back in high school, feeling nervous about the big track meet.

As romantic as these notions of fragrance-fueled time travel sound, they're also based in science. Our sense of smell stirs up intense emotions due to the interaction of the olfactory system and the limbic system – the part of the brain that deals with memory and emotion. In fact, the areas of the brain that process emotion literally grew out of the tissue devoted to processing smell. Nifty, eh?

Scent's intrinsic link with our emotions gives it clear potential for therapeutic use. This has long been

explored through aromatherapy, which uses the oils and fragrances of plants for their reported therapeutic effects. But aromatherapy is purely anecdotal in its effects. There's no science behind the claims that rose oil alleviates depression, for example – at least, not yet.

Scientists are increasingly interested in examining, and proving, the effects certain aromas can have on human behavior. This more scientific approach has been dubbed aromachology, which is essentially the psychological science of fragrance.

Dr. Rachel Herz is a renowned neuroscientist, as well as the world's leading expert on the psychology of smell. Think white lab-coated neuroscientist, not neroli-scented earth mother. She discusses the difference between aromatherapy and aromachology in her new book, *The Scent of Desire*. "Aromatherapy is basically a folkloric tradition, within which aroma

from the essential oils of plants have a variety of therapeutic properties, from physical to psychological," she explains. "Any given essential oil, let's say juniper oil, is often claimed to do a myriad of physical and psychological things. Juniper oil in particular is claimed to be both an aphrodisiac and a sedative, so you can see that some of these things are completely contradictory. So aromatherapy is essentially a folk version of herbal medicine.

"Aromachology [in contrast] is a term developed by the Sense of Smell Institute in 1982, specifically so that people could distinguish between aromatherapy and actual science-based demonstrations of specific effects of odors on mood and behavior," Herz continues. "It does not take into account anything physical, particularly; it's the psychological side of [the equation]. So aromachology is scientifically verifiable and empirically established – that is, following the guidelines of real empirical science – to demonstrate that a particular fragrance can produce X effect."

This pragmatic approach to scent hasn't produced fashion-branded perfumes or designer-scented candles.

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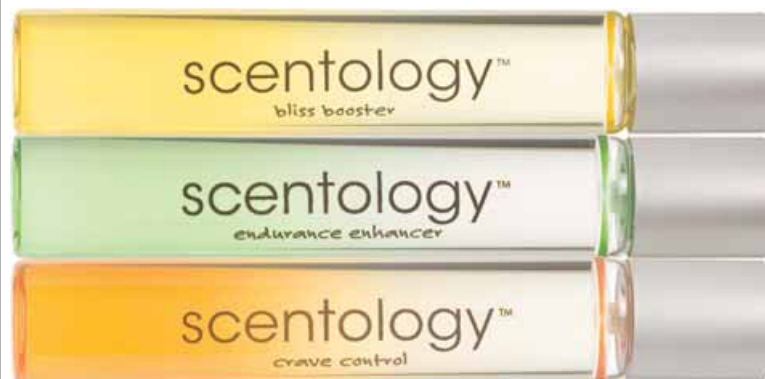


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HEALTH&BEAUTY FEATURE



← 38

Instead, Herz has recently given her support to a brand of spray-on perfume products dubbed Scentology. The range includes the citrus-based mood enhancer Bliss Booster, peppermint-powered Endurance Enhancer and vanilla-scented Crave Control. All three products use specific scents for their scientifically verified effects.

A quick look at Scentology.com confirms the science behind these products. There's none of the pseudo-scientific, trademarked terms often used by beauty multinationals. Instead, it cites an array of scientific studies and journal articles noting how, say, citrus scents can increase feelings of well-being, while peppermint increases energy and alertness. The website also quotes studies showing that vanilla can actually curb cravings for sweet things – though there's no data as yet on any corresponding scent that can quash hankerings for salty snacks.

For Herz, her involvement with the Scentology product line was contingent on it sticking to the science of aromachology, as opposed to the anecdotal nature of aromatherapy. "That was one of the stipulations at the start: that this was going to have to stay at a very high level of scientific verifiability. I'm not going to just go 'Oh, we're running out of things to do, let's just pick juniper oil,'" she laughs. "I don't want to be in front of my peers and not be taken seriously because I'm doing something which is just marketing.

"What this actually means is that there are very few fragrances which could get into the Scentology line, because of the fact that there hasn't

been very much research done that has really demonstrated anything from a true scientific perspective. Like I said, we can't just pop up juniper oil because we feel like it, because there is currently no scientific data on it."

Scent has already been used in here in the US to help calm patients experiencing anxiety in MRI machines (vanilla fragrance had a 65 percent reduction in stress), and in Japan, on production lines to help workers improve performance (the use of peppermint scent reduced accidents and increased productivity) as well as in banks to help tellers stay alert (lemon was the scent stimulant of choice). But how far are we from this science of scent being used more extensively to improve our well-being? While the Scentology packaging notes that it's not time to throw away the Zoloft just yet, Herz is hopeful of aromachology legitimizing the use of scent for its positive effects.

"I think that with respect to fragrance, the more that it can become legitimized and the more that there is science behind it and not just fly-by-night aromatherapy products, then the credibility of aromachology products to be used in conjunction with other forms of medicine will be valued. I think we'll be seeing more and more of it.

"I think we're a little bit on the cusp right now, between the public view of it being a little bit hokey, and then people beginning to understand that there's a difference between the hokey stuff and the science stuff. And the science can really be beneficial." **TV**

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Services: Massages (hot stone, Swedish, deep tissue, reflexology, integrated, aromatherapy, prenatal, spa hand and foot), facials (European deep pore cleansing, dermalift non-surgical facial lift, glycolic acid, acne, back, men's), body treatments (salt glow body polishing with hydrotherapy bath, cellulite,

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www.primrosespa.com

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LOS ALTOS**CIANA DAY SPA & CIANA SALON \$\$**111 Main St. (Salon); 107 Main St. (Spa), (650) 941-1285
www.cianasalonspa.com

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Special Features: If you want the pampering to continue at home, throw a microdermabrasion party, where a certified esthetician from Ciana visits you.

YELKA DAY SPA \$\$\$2049 Grant Rd. (650) 969-1117
www.yelkadayspa.com

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www.thespalosgatos.com

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Highly Waisted

High-rise, so haute right now.

BY JO ABBIE

Some style mavens, the trend gatekeepers if you will, were reluctant to accept the return of the high-rise jean. After its initial emergence, the fashion blogosphere was awash with unflattering images of celebrity style arbiters who'd early adopted the look. The online fashion cognoscenti promptly dubbed such soaring-waisted styles "Mom jeans" and attempted to move on.

But the high-rise trend could not be quashed. Not when skinny-jean queen Kate Moss attended the TopShop London Fashion Week show earlier this year sporting a pair of wide-leg Chloe jeans with a decidedly high waistline, with her tee proudly, almost defiantly, tucked inside the waistband. With Moss' seal of approval, it became clear that the higher waist was set to stay.

"We noticed right away," recalls Jennifer Benjamin, owner of Los Gatos boutique Salt, of her fall buying trip. "Every line out there has high-waisted jeans right now. And the more edgy lines have high, high-waisted – right up – inches above your belly button."

While the ultrahigh look is not for everyone – save the brave, fashion-forward few who have either the figure or the fashion nous to pull it off – not all styles are so extreme. High-rise has already begun to go mainstream, with many familiar names in the designer denim field featuring rising waists in their fall collections. Hot emerging labels like LA's Rich & Skinny, established lines Citizens of Humanity and Joe's Jeans, and even denim pioneer Levi's, are all adopting the trend to varying degrees.

"We bought a variety of rises," says Benjamin. "We didn't buy anything that was really, really high, but we did get some that are as high as your belly button, which is pretty high. We were very conscientious about being high enough."

Many of these new high-rise jeans are a wide-legged trouser style, offering a truly sophisticated

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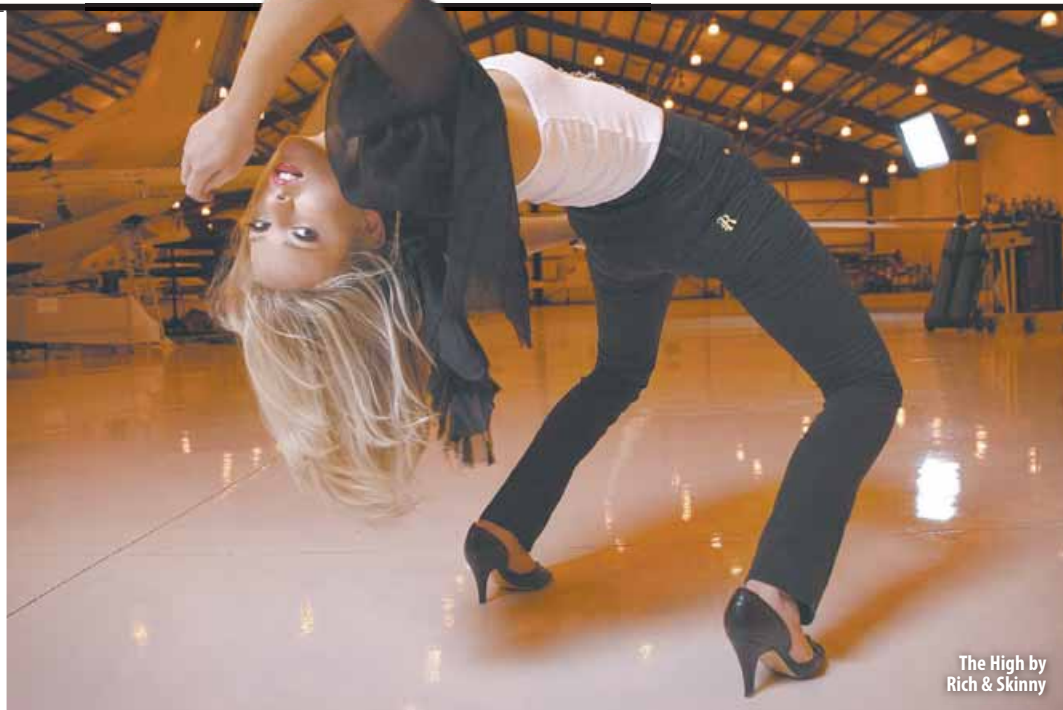
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48

ed silhouette – think old Hollywood glamour, the elegance of Marlene Dietrich or Katharine Hepburn. Others are more '70s with flared legs, a la Ali MacGraw in *Love Story*. Some retain the super-skinny shape that has become ubiquitous – which is ideal for wearing with winter boots, but without the worry wearers have come to associate with low-slung styles.

“Even the regular designer jeans, most of them are coming up a bit,” notes Benjamin. “The rise is just getting a little bit higher. That super low, low-waisted jean is not as popular as it once was, thank God.”

Despite the initial critiques of some fashion pundits, the high-rise style can be very flattering. The elevated waistband offers all shapes a longer, leaner line, while wider-legged styles offer curvier figures a more balanced look, the broader hems balancing

out any width in the hip and thigh region. The high waist also means wearers avoid the unflattering “muffin top” effect so endemic to ultra low-rise jeans. They even offer a practical fall bonus: the added inches of fabric are great for the cooler months, when even the trimmest waistlines don't want to be exposed to the elements.

Those who remain reluctant to embrace this new, higher style should cast their minds back to when Moss and company first began wearing jeans so tight they were virtually denim leggings, and low-rise underwear became an all-too visible accessory. The naysayers didn't think they'd catch on.

“People weren't sure how much skinny jeans were going to stick,” recalls Benjamin. “Because people initially said, ‘I'm not going to wear those.’ So it will be interesting to see if the high-waisted jean sticks like the skinny jean stuck.” **TW**

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LADIES & WENCHES!

Decal Décor

Think outside the frame when it comes to your walls.

BY JO ABBIE

When you graduated from college you were probably happy to leave those dog-eared Klimt and Monet posters behind along with your shabby dorm room. And while you may have outgrown the freshman Art 101-style décor, you may not quite be ready to start investing time and money in the acquisition of contemporary art for your adult abode.

But that doesn't mean your walls need to be blank, or worse, bland. Leave those black-and-white Ansel Adams prints in the dentist's office where they belong. Think outside the frame and accent your living space with the unique art of stick-on wall decals. From a flock of birds migrating majestically across your kitchen wall to mod-dots lining that empty space above the couch, these removable vinyl wall stickers present an infinite array of "casual art" options. Designs are often large in scale or made up of many parts, which means they are more than just artwork – they can add dimension and vitality to any room.

Scott Flora, co-founder of LA-born blik graphics, recalls how he devised the concept. "We didn't care for any of the standard methods of wall décor – wallpaper was too repetitive, time consuming to install and permanent; stencils were a messy and expensive process," he explains. "Eventually, our frustration, coupled with our love for great design, led us to the idea of self-adhesive wall graphics. Nobody else was doing it at the time and after two years of experimentation, blik was born in 2002."

Since then, the market has exploded, with an increasing number of companies designing, manufacturing and selling wall decals, both in stores and via the large online design-store community. San Francisco-based Christiana Coop and her business partner Aimee Lagos liked the products of Danish design company Ferm Living so much, they became their US distributor. "Ferm means 'clever' in Danish, and we think that our wall stickers are just that, a unique

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← 52

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and interesting way to add personality and atmosphere to any room," Coop says. "They are also a quick and affordable way to transform any flat surface into a work of art, and can be removed easily when people feel like a change."

The designs from Ferm Living focus heavily on nature, featuring blooms, blackberry brambles and birds perched atop branches. From industry pioneers like, there are products for design aficionados of all kinds and eras. Their collection includes patterns from legendary mid-century modern designers Charles and Ray Eames, while urban art lovers will enjoy the colorful designs by graphic artist Undoboy.

Other decals come preloaded with whimsy, such as the 2-D versions of household items like chandeliers or coat racks. Many rid contemporary homes of the modernist malaise of a sterile atmosphere, bringing a touch of nature indoors in the form of flowers, trees and or perhaps even a wise old owl. Brightly colored decals featuring robots, space invaders, cheeky

monkeys or other cute critters are fast becoming a popular way to brighten up kids' rooms, their easy application and removal making catering to those ever-changing childish whims hassle-free.

Also delightfully hassle-free is the application of these decals. For renters worried about the return of their deposit, or owners thinking of future repairs, the stickers peel easily from the walls, causing little or no damage to the paint work. So when it's time to move on, sell up, or just change the scenery, they are simple and inexpensive to remove or replace. Some companies even make reusable decals that can be reapplied at your next place.

And these embellishments aren't just for bedrooms or living spaces. Decals can add fun to the walls of a boring bathroom or an otherwise mundane workspace. Off the wall placements are another possibility. "You can use them on any smooth surface," notes Flora. "Furniture, floors, ceilings, windows, mirrors – the possibilities are only as limited as your imagination." **TW**

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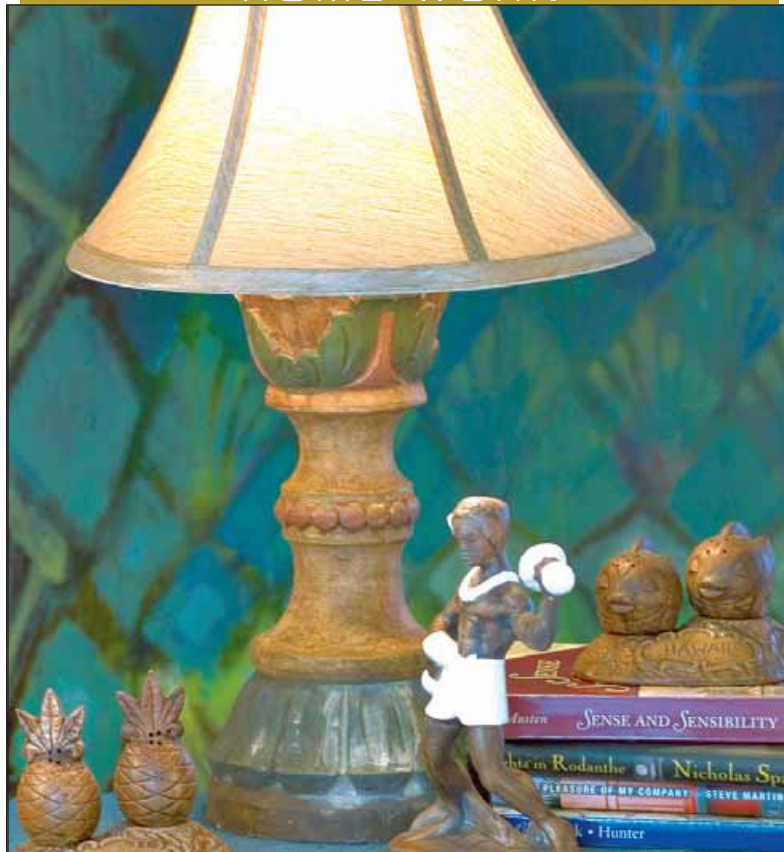
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HOME WORK



Everything Is Illuminated

Light up your life with your own unique fixture.

BY JENNIFER AND KITTY O'NEIL

If lackluster lamps are keeping your decor in the dark, try making your own from a fabulous flea market find. Imagine paying your bills by the light of a duck decoy, or sipping a cup of joe next to a classic plaid thermos reborn as a reading light. All you need is a lamp kit (also called a bottle adapter kit), a lampshade, and a unique showpiece. But before you bring home that garden gnome, follow these guidelines to find the light of your life.



Tip #1: Check for a hole.

Not every eye-catching object would make a great lamp. In order to use the bottle adapter kit, look for some-

thing that has a hole in the top, like a moonshine jug. If it doesn't have an existing hole, look for something you can easily drill through, such as a wooden birdhouse.

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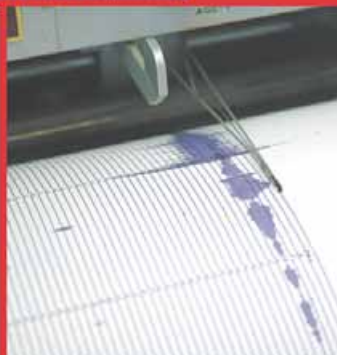
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← 56

Tip #2: Check for stability.

A bowling pin would make a striking lamp, but the base isn't really wide enough to support the adapter, lightbulb, shade, and cord. And even though a bowling ball already has a hole in it, its penchant for rolling makes it an unstable lamp! Save yourself a lot of trouble and find something with a wide, flat base.

This Lamp is a Champ

When it comes to lamp potential, this hand-carved wooden candle-holder has it all. We can easily drill a hole for the bottle adapter, it has a wide and stable base, and the size is perfect for an end table. Plus, its architectural style makes it look like a designer showpiece. A brilliant find for only \$10!

Tip #3: Check for scale.

An old apothecary bottle may have a useable hole and be stable, but it's too small visually to handle a lampshade. Likewise, a cigar store Indian would make an outstanding lamp, but where would you find a shade big enough? To ensure your item won't look silly as a lamp, take a shade with you to the flea market and try it on for size.



60 →

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HOME&DESIGN HOME WORK



← 58

Lamp Making 101

1. Assemble the bottle adapter lamp kit according to the directions on the package.

2. Insert the assembled lamp fixture into the hole of your future lamp. If your item doesn't already have a hole, drill one to fit the rubber adapter.

3. Screw in a lightbulb, put on the lampshade, and plug it in. Then flip the switch for a conversation piece that'll literally light up the room.

Tips

• To keep it simple, look for a lampshade that attaches directly to the bulb and requires no harp.

• Unless you can drill a hole all the way through your item, the lamp's cord will come out from just beneath the bulb. To disguise it, try a dab of hot glue to secure the cord to the back of the lamp.

• To run a cord all the way through your future lamp, you'll need to buy a long threaded metal tube called a "nipple." It not only provides a channel for the cord, it lends stability to objects like a stack of cigar boxes. **TM**



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INTERVIEWS BY
JOANNA CURRIER

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
CHRIS SCHMAUCH

The finest dining in town, from A to Z.

Each year when we go through the results of our Readers' Choice, one thing becomes abundantly clear — we're pretty spoiled. Our fertile soil produces a bounty of crisp, succulent produce, our proximity to the water keeps the catch of the day fresh, and as a result Silicon Valley is home to some of the finest restaurants, chefs and menus in the country. We're just glad we didn't have to pick the top 100 ourselves, as there are so many great establishments here it would be almost impossible to narrow it down. But luckily for our waistlines and wallets, you (the reader) did the research and reporting when you cast your votes in the "Best Overall" dining category in this year's Readers' Choice. Think of this as the people's choice awards of cuisine. Whether your tastes lean to contemporary Californian, Asian fusion, modern Italian, Japanese, classic French or a simple burger and fries, it's here. And it's all good. So don't feel bad about spoiling your appetite.



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TOP 100

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INDEX BY CUISINE

AMERICAN

Alexander's Steakhouse	68
A.P. Stump's	86
The Basin	88
Capers Bar & Grill	88
Duck Club	89
Gordon Biersch Brewery	89
The Grill on the Alley	82
James Randall Restaurant	90
Lion & Compass Restaurant	91
Los Gatos Brewing Company	91
MacArthur Park	92
Oak City Bar & Grill	92
Rosie McCann's Irish Pub	94
Sonoma Chicken Coop	96
Spencer's for Steaks and Chops	96
Sundance The Steakhouse	96
Tanglewood	98
Tied House Café & Brewery	100

ASIAN FUSION

19 Market	86
Anise Café	86
Bleu Ginger	88
Blowfish Sushi	88
E & O Trading Company	89
Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge	89
Straits Restaurant	96
Tamarine Restaurant	98
Tapestry A California Bistro	98
Three Seasons	100
Trader Vic's	100

CAJUN

Nola's Restaurant & Bar	92
-------------------------	----

CALIFORNIA

180 Restaurant & Lounge	86
19 Market	86
California Café Bar & Grill	88
Mantra Restaurant	78
The Plumed Horse	94
Quattro Restaurant & Bar	94

CHINESE

Chef Chu's	88
Ming's of Palo Alto	92
Sino Restaurant & Lounge	96

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN

Amber India	86
Junnoon	90
Mantra Restaurant	78

CONTINENTAL

James Randall Restaurant	90
Manresa Restaurant	70
Marche Restaurant	92
Quattro Restaurant & Bar	94

CUBAN

Habana Cuba	90
-------------	----

FONDUE

La Fondue	91
The Melting Pot	92

FRENCH

Chez TJ	76
Emile's Restaurant	89
La Foret	91
Le Mere Michele	91
Left Bank	91
Le Papillon	72
Marche Restaurant	92
The Plumed Horse	94
Sent Sovi	96
Three Degrees	98
Teske's Germania Restaurant	98

GREEK

Dio Deka	89
Evria	89
Thea Mediterranean Cuisine	98

INDIAN

Amber India	86
Shiva's Indian Restaurant	96

IRISH

Rosie McCann's Irish Pub	94
--------------------------	----

ITALIAN

Aldo's Ristorante & Bar	86
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	86
Bella Mia Restaurant	88
Diciccio's Italian Restaurant	89
Fontana's Italian	89
Il Fornaio	90
Il Postale	90
La Pastaia Restaurant	91
Lavanda Restaurant & Wine Bar	91
Maggiano's Little Italy	92
Nicolino's Garden Café	92
Paolo's Restaurant	94
Quattro Restaurant & Bar	94
Spiedo Ristorante	96
Vin Santo Restaurant	100

JAPANESE

Blowfish Sushi	88
Kaygetsu	80
Kyoto Palace	91

MEDITERRANEAN

Faz Restaurant & Bar	89
Il Fornaio	90
Lavanda Restaurant & Wine Bar	91
Thea Mediterranean Cuisine	98
Zucca	100

MEXICAN

Aqui Cal-Mex Grill	88
--------------------	----

MODERN AMERICAN

180 Restaurant & Lounge	86
Alexander's Steakhouse	68
Arcadia Restaurant	88
Bella Mia Restaurant	88
Birk's Restaurant	84
Crimson Restaurant	88
Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge	89
Le Papillon	72

Loft Bar & Bistro	91
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood	92
The Melting Pot	92
Paragon Restaurant & Bar	94
Parcel 104	66
Park Place	94
Scott's Seafood Bar & Grill	96
Seven Restaurant & Lounge	96
Spiedo Ristorante	96
Steamer's Grillhouse	96
Tapestry A California Bistro	98
Tarragon	98
Three Degrees	98
Trader Vic's	100
Trevese Restaurant & Lounge	100
Viva Primavera	100
Wine Cellar	100

MOROCCAN

Menara Moroccan Restaurant	92
----------------------------	----

PAN-LATIN

Cascal Restaurant	88
-------------------	----

PIZZA

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	86
Faz Restaurant & Bar	89
Willow Street Pizza	100
Zucca	100

SEAFOOD

The Cantankerous Fish	88
The Fish Market	89
Hawg's Seafood Bar	90
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood	92
Scott's Seafood Bar & Grill	96
Tapestry A California Bistro	98

SOUTHWESTERN

Aqui Cal-Mex Grill	88
--------------------	----

SUSHI

Blowfish Sushi	88
Kaygetsu	80

STEAKHOUSE

Alexander's Steakhouse	68
A.P. Stump's	86
Birk's Restaurant	84
Forbes Mill Steakhouse	74
Morton's The Steakhouse	92
Spencer's for Steaks and Chops	96
Sundance The Steakhouse	96
The Grill on the Alley	82

TAPAS

Tapestry A California Bistro	98
------------------------------	----

VIETNAMESE

19 Market	86
Anise Café	86

TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

INDEX BY LOCATION

CAMPBELL

Aqui Cal-Mex Grill	88
Capers Bar & Grill	88
Diciccio's Italian Restaurant	89
Kyoto Palace	91
Sonoma Chicken Coop	96

CUPERTINO

Alexander's Steakhouse	68
Fontana's Italian	89
Park Place	94

LOS ALTOS

Chef Chu's	88
------------	----

LOS GATOS

180 Restaurant & Lounge	86
Aldo's Ristorante & Bar	86
California Café Bar & Grill	88
Crimson Restaurant	88
Dio Deka	89
Forbes Mill Steakhouse	74
James Randall Restaurant	90
Los Gatos Brewing Company	91
Manresa	70
Steamer's Grillhouse	96
Three Degrees	100
Trevese Restaurant & Lounge	100
Viva Primavera	100
Willow Street Pizza	100
Wine Cellar	100

MENLO PARK

Duck Club	89
Kaygetsu	80
Left Bank	91
Marche Restaurant	92
Oak City Bar & Grill	92

MILPITAS

Bleu Ginger	88
-------------	----

MOUNTAIN VIEW

Amber India	86
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	86
The Cantankerous Fish	88
Cascal Restaurant	88
Chez TJ	76

Shiva's Indian Restaurant	96
Tied House Café & Brewery	100
Zucca	100

PALO ALTO

Ewvia	89
The Fish Market	89
Gordon Biersch Brewery	89
Hawg's Seafood Bar	90
Il Fornaio	90
Junnoon	90
Lavanda Restaurant & Wine Bar	91
Mantra	78
MacArthur Park	92
Ming's of Palo Alto	92
Nola's Restaurant & Bar	92
Quattro Restaurant & Bar	94
Scott's Seafood Bar & Grill	96
Sundance The Steakhouse	96
Tamarine Restaurant	98
Three Seasons	100
Trader Vic's	100
Zucca	100

REDWOOD CITY

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	86
The Fish Market	89

SAN JOSE

19 Market	86
Amber India	86
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	86
Anise Café	86
A.P. Stump's	86
Aqui Cal-Mex Grill	88
Arcadia Restaurant	88
Bella Mia Restaurant	88
Blowfish Sushi	88
E & O Trading Company	89
Emile's Restaurant	89
Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge	89
The Fish Market	89
Gordon Biersch Brewery	89
The Grill On The Alley	82
Habana Cuba	90
Hawg's Seafood Bar	90

Il Fornaio	90
La Foret	91
La Pastaia Restaurant	91
Le Papillon	72
Loft Bar & Bistro	91
Maggiano's Little Italy	92
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood	92
The Melting Pot	92
Menara Moroccan Restaurant	92
Morton's The Steakhouse	92
Paolo's Restaurant	94
Paragon Restaurant & Bar	94
Rosie McCann's Irish Pub	94
Scott's Seafood Bar & Grill	96
Seven Restaurant & Lounge	96
Sino Restaurant & Lounge	96
Sonoma Chicken Coop	96
Spencer's for Steaks and Chops	96
Spiedo Ristorante	96
Straits Restaurant	96
Tanglewood	98
Tapestry Bistro	98
Teske's Germania Restaurant	98
Thea Mediterranean Cuisine	98
Tied House Café & Brewery	100
Vin Santo Restaurant	100
Willow Street Pizza	100

SANTA CLARA

Birk's Restaurant	84
The Fish Market	89
Parcel 104	66

SARATOGA

The Basin	88
La Fondue	91
Le Mere Michele	91
The Plumed Horse	94
Sent Sovi	96

SUNNYVALE

Faz Restaurant & Bar	89
Il Postale	90
Lion & Compass Restaurant	91
Nicolino's Garden Café	92
Tarragon	98



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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#1

Triple seared bison filet.

PARCEL 104

2700 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara

(408) 970-6104

www.parcel104.com

VITALS:

Chef Sapirman trained at Johnson and Wales Culinary Institute, and went on to cook at the Cheeca Lodge and Flying Fish Café in Florida, Molive at Chicago's boutique Whitehall Hotel, Fathom at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach, then spent two years under Bradley Ogden at Parcel 104, and was made executive chef at Michael Mina's Arcadia restaurant in San Jose. He returned to Parcel 104 as executive chef this April. His farm-fresh cuisine at Parcel 104 has earned the restaurant top accolades from many national and local publications, including this one.

Q & A:

Where were you born?
Rockaway, N.J.

What do you do to relax?

I go camping. I get out into the wilderness, where there's no cell phones, computers or distractions. That's how I unplug.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I would be a radio DJ. I love music almost as much as I love food, and I certainly love to talk.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

I do a triple-seared bison filet. It's seasoned, encrusted, then seared, then wrapped in caul fat and seared again, then wrapped in fatback and seared a third time. We serve it with artisan cheese pudding. It's very healthy [Laughs].

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

The menu changes with the seasons. Nothing really stays, everything is always evolving. The Evolving Dish – that's what will always be on my menu.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

Ice cream. I can eat buckets of it at a clip. Anything with a lot of junk in it – you know, cookies, dough, nuts, the kitchen sink, whatever.



Robert Sapirman, Executive Chef

What did you have for breakfast?

Today I actually went to brunch. Eggs Benedict is always one of my favorites.

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

Neal Peart [the drummer from Rush]. I've been a huge fan since I was a kid.

What would you eat for your last meal?

Anything cooked at the hands of Charlie Trotter.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

I would describe them for the most part as foodies, and also as people who respect where the food comes from. They are open to new ideas, generally speaking, and are really conscious about where food is from and how it affects the environment, which is really wonderful.

How do you define "fine dining"?

To me, it's about everything being there when you need it, everything you could possibly want. It's also about small portions and a long experience.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Licorice root. I did a dish with lamb in a licorice barbecue sauce a while ago, and people went nuts over it, but they had no idea what they were eating. I think your palate remembers the flavor from when you were a kid – everyone ate licorice, whether they loved it or hated it – and as an adult, that flavor makes an even stronger impression. It could quite possibly be the next big thing.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

I like smaller restaurants with that human factor, that personal touch. I think it's one of the most crucial factors in dining. It's about putting soul into food, and in ethnic or smaller restaurants I think you find that a lot more.

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#2



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ALEXANDER'S STEAKHOUSE

10330 N. Wolfe Rd., Cupertino

(408) 446-2222

www.alexanderssteakhouse.com

VITALS:

Stout left college for cooking school, and worked his way up through many Bay Area kitchens, including Domain Chandon under Philippe Jean-ty, the former Gatehouse (then Spago) in Palo Alto, and The California Café and Blackhawk Grille. He and owner JC Chen opened Alexander's Steakhouse in 2005.

Q & A:

Where were you born?
Bethesda, MD.

What do you do to relax?

Sometimes I cook. Cooking at home can be very relaxing – it's easier, less formal, and for a whole different audience. Your palate changes to match your spouse's tastes.

Other than that, I enjoy spending time with my wife, and traveling with my business partner [JC Chen]. We go to Las Vegas two to three times a year to check out the restaurants there. We don't gamble, not even on the penny slots – instead we spend our money on dining.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

Probably a graphic designer or an architect. I enjoy working on Adobe Suite on my computer, working with shapes and lines. With cooking it's a similar approach – plating is three-dimensional, contrasting lines, shapes, flavors and textures. Contrasts excite me.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

I'm doing a little surf and turf appetizer right now with steamed clams and mussels with melon and shiso – that's the surf part. The turf is pork belly that's been cured for 48 hours and then cooked for 48 hours at 140 degrees. You end up with something that doesn't cost very much, but gains this luxurious flavor and texture. But, really, my favorite dish is always the one that's newest – as soon as we come up with the next dish, that's the new, pretty girlfriend.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

Hamachi shots – hamachi sashimi combined with avocado, truffled ponzu, and other ingredients served in a thick shot glass.



Jeffrey Stout, Executive Chef

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

Two tacos for 99 cents from Jack in the Box, —seems to be a hell of a value nowadays. And they have a crunchy, greasy texture that makes me smile.

What did you have for breakfast?

This morning I had a bowl of udon with a little leftover braised Kobe

beef from the restaurant.

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

The whole group from *Iron Chef America* – including Alton Brown.

What would you eat for your last meal?

Let's go back to those two tacos for 99 cents from Jack in the Box.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

My diners are kind of unique. I have people who come in and say, "Cook for us, we don't care what it costs," and they certainly have the money to do that. We have a lot of unusual things on the menu. People look to us as a big city restaurant outside of the big city.

How do you define "fine dining"?

The overall, complete package. The second-best meal of my life [at Cyrus, in Healdsburg] was just that because of the service, décor and food. Food was almost third; it was the salesmanship, the show, that made the experience. Dining is entertainment. You go out there for the song, the dog and pony show.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Kosher salt.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Effort – the appreciation that we've chosen to spend our money and time here. Sincerity is also extremely important. And creativity.

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SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS



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#3

MANRESA

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www.manresarestaurant.com



David Kinch, Executive Chef

What did you have for breakfast?
Coffee and a two-egg omelet.

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

Alain Chapel [a founding father of nouvelle cuisine. Kinch ate at his restaurant in 1984 and it transformed the way he thought about food.

Chapel has since passed away.]. He was inspirational to me. I would cook for him as a thank you.

VITALS:

Chef Kinch cooked in some of the world's finest restaurants before becoming executive chef of Sent Sovi in Saratoga for seven years. His restaurant Manresa has received four stars from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *San Jose Mercury News*, and is one of *Gourmet's* top 50 restaurants in America – all testament to Kinch's cerebral, personal and conceptual approach to food.

Q & A: **Where were you born?**
Philadelphia, PA.

What do you do to relax?
I tend to spend time outdoors. I like going to the beach [Kinch is an avid surfer], and I like traveling. I also do a lot of cooking at home. A lot of my relaxation centers around food – it's not just a job.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I've always been fascinated by the business of books. I'd like to be involved as a writer or publisher.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

"In the Vegetable Garden..." Every day it represents what the garden has given us on that day – flowers, stems, roots, shoots, seeds, vegetables and herbs, seamlessly composed on a foundation of edible dirt [made of parsnip and chicory]. It's not a dish, it's a concept.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

The same dish ("In the Vegetable Garden..."). That dish represents about two years of collaboration among our cooks and myself. Once the edible dirt became the culinary landscape, we took the pledge and turned it into "In the Vegetable Garden..." (dot dot dot). Those dots, what follows, is how people interpret the dish.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

I like the classic In-N-Out burger, and I like tacos, but from taco trucks and little taquerias.

What would you eat for your last meal?

A perfect roast chicken, and a really, really good bottle of Burgundy – preferably something I could pick myself.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

More and more adventurous and willing to try new things, and supportive of their restaurants. There are a lot of people here who are also incredibly wine savvy, which makes for a great customer base. When we opened Sent Sovi in 1995, we had difficulty selling certain things on the menu – squab, sweetbreads. That has since changed dramatically, and that benefits everyone.

How do you define "fine dining"?

I think it's not just about the trappings – the quality of the plateware, crystal or flatware on the table – but a conscious decision to be about quality above all else. A lot of fine dining has an intellectual element to it – it makes people think about food in a different way.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Salt – not only as a seasoning, but as an elemental part of a dish. It adds texture and flavor. The body needs salt.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Quality of ingredients. People who make a special effort to buy something special and prepare it with respect. When I eat at restaurants, I don't say, "Wow, how did they do that." I say, "Where did they get that?"

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#4



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LE PAPILLON

410 Saratoga Ave., San Jose

(408) 296-3730

www.lepapillon.com

VITALS:

Born into a restaurant family, Cooper worked his way up from dishwasher to cook and, finally, executive chef at Le Papillon, with an eight-year segue in the kitchen of sister restaurant La Foret. Though his food has won many accolades, including Zagat's highest rating, Cooper maintains a wry and warm sense of humor.

Q & A:

Where were you born?

Santa Maria, Calif., on the Central Coast.

What do you do to relax?

I like mountain biking. I'm not sure that golf actually relaxes me — it can be frustrating. [Laughs] I guess sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I would love to be an anthropologist — I'm into history.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

The turbot — we're doing a pan-roasted turbot with a bouillabaise broth and crisp chorizo.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

Our Grand Marnier soufflé. It's been on the menu for 30 years. It pre-dates me, and will always be part of Le Papillon.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

In-N-Out Burger animal style — with extra onions.

What did you have for breakfast?

Today I had a piece of wholewheat toast with peanut



Scott Cooper, Executive Chef

butter while I was getting the kids' breakfasts ready. [Cooper has two girls, ages 8 and 10.]

If you could have any celebrity — alive or dead — to your restaurant, who would it be?

Neil Young — I'm a huge fan.

What would you eat for your last meal?

Something long and

drawn-out, a never-ending tasting menu.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

It's hard because we have such a mix of different cultures and backgrounds, but I would say...discerning. And often in a hurry — particularly at lunch.

How do you define "fine dining"?

It's about care. There is some style involved, but it's about feeling cared for and attended to, about knowing that the produce is well cared for and prepared with respect, that the seafood is well purchased, and so on. It could be French, Japanese, Italian or any kind of cuisine, but it's about care all the way down the line.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

The easy answer is good quality salt. It's not a luxury item — it's such a basic ingredient that people sometimes don't think about it.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Well-prepared food is the No. 1 thing I appreciate, along with thought, creativity and being surprised. I want to be surprised with good food, not food I don't like.

CONTINUED →



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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#5



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FORBES MILL STEAKHOUSE

206 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos

(408) 395-6434

200 Sycamore Valley Rd., W. Danville

(925) 552-0505

www.forbesmillsteakhouse.com

VITALS:

British-born Weselby learnt to cook on his family's farm in Devon, England, and trained at

Plymouth Catering College. He has served as corporate chef of all six Tavistock Restaurant concept properties, including the Blackhawk Grille and The California Café, and was executive chef at the Lion and Compass in Sunnyvale, Biers Brasserie in San Jose and Le Mouton Noir in Saratoga. He now serves as executive chef for both Forbes Mill Steakhouse properties.

Q & A:

Where were you born?

Plymouth in Devon, England.

What do you do to relax?

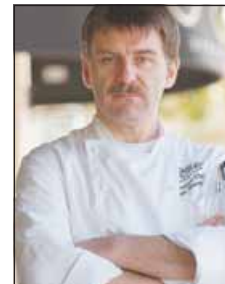
I garden, or I take the dog for a walk – Buster, an Australian shepherd and lab mix. I live in the Santa Cruz Mountains – it's beautiful up there.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I'd be a gardener. I love growing vegetables – and flowers, too, believe it or not. I was raised on a farm with a one-acre garden. Half the acre we'd use to grow potatoes – everyone in England eats potatoes – and the other half we'd use to grow everything from beets to gooseberries and red and black currants.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

I have two – sweetbreads and monkfish. The sweetbreads we poach and then sauté until they're crispy, and serve them with a truffle and Madeira sauce with a little celery root puree. The monkfish I serve with lobster – after all, it's the poor man's lobster. I wrap it in veal bacon,



Brian Weselby, Executive Chef

roast it, and serve it with half a lobster in lobster sauce.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?
Kobe beef.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?
Macaroni and cheese. I love it!

What did you have for breakfast?

I always have fruit, cereal and tea with milk.

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

That would have to be Cameron Diaz.

What would you eat for your last meal?

Fish and chips. With tartar sauce.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

To me, they're very adventurous – I think New York is much more conservative and French. Here people are always looking for interesting food combinations, not just your regular pork chop and mashed potatoes.

How do you define "fine dining"?

White tablecloths, waiters in suits, tasting menus, amuses-bouche, a five-course meal.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Smoked paprika from Spain. A little used in sauces or coulis adds a spicy smokiness that really enhances a dish.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

I always like to see if a chef is pushing the envelope, not just catering to the mainstream.

CONTINUED →

Top 100 Restaurants - WAVE Magazine

Sami's
BAR-B-QUE



2007 Awards



2006 Awards

Reader's Choice:
The Wave Magazine
Best "BBQ"
City Search

2005 Awards

Reader's Choice:
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Metro Newspaper
L.G. Daily News

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City Search

Best "BBQ Sauce"
Home Magazine

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#6



CHEZ TJ

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(650) 964-7466

www.chez tj.com

VITALS:

Bold, outspoken, and intrepid on the plate, chef Kostow trained under Trey Foshe at Georges at the Cove in La Jolla, Calif., before decamping for top Michelin-rated restaurants in Paris, Montpellier, and the Riviera in France. He was sous chef under chef Daniel Humm at Campton Place when that restaurant received four stars from the *San Francisco Chronicle*. His modern cuisine at the venerable Chez TJ has earned the young chef – now only 31 – a Michelin star.

Q & A:

Where were you born?

Highland Park, Ill., outside of Chicago.

What do you do to relax?

I exercise (running) or spend time with friends.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I'd probably be a vagabond. I'd travel the world with an alms bowl.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

I would say our Japanese pike mackerel. It really – hopefully – achieves the desired intent of having a variety of flavors, textures and temperatures, all while remaining composed and sophisticated.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

There is no dish that will always be on my menu. Always is a long time. I like to think a year from now whatever I'm doing will be different or better than what I did a year ago. Why stay stagnant?

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

Chicken wings. I mean the real deal: done simply and well, without any unnecessary flavorings like chipotle or peanut sauce. A wing, unbreaded, in the fryer, with a beer. I take my inspiration from Buffalo Joe's in Evanston, Ill.

What did you have for breakfast?

A yogurt and an apple. I drink coffee at night, before service, but I try not to drink it the rest of the day.



If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

Abraham Lincoln. I just finished reading Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals*.

What would you eat for your last meal?

A really good entrecôte with a really good sauce, maybe a béarnaise, with fries and a huge red.

But ask me an hour from now and I'll probably tell you something different.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

Timid. I would say diners from this area are very afraid of being told what to eat. People want California cuisine. I'm very young, and there are very few avenues here for the food that I want to do. If you read the press, it's all geared towards rustic, straightforward cooking, and if a chef sticks his head out and tries to push the envelope, it's like whack-a-mole: they go under. There are very few smaller, chef-driven, cutting-edge restaurants in this area. I can think of two [Manresa, under David Kinch, and Daniel Patterson's Coi in San Francisco].

How do you define "fine dining"?

Places that put a greater emphasis on the cadre, the ambience, the small details. Ideally, flawless service, a beautiful dining room, and all the little garnishes that make up a theatrical style experience.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Time. Taking the moment to go the extra step to perfect or make a dish that's much more refined. It's a luxury that a lot of chefs unfortunately don't have.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Same answer. Whether it's fine dining or a bowl of menu-duo, I want to feel that whoever cooked cared about what they were doing.



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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#7



Achari tuna, Indian pickle marinated, with hazelnuts, sambhar tartar sauce and marinated mozzarella.

M A N T R A

632 Emerson St., Palo Alto

(650) 322-3500

www.mantrapaloalto.com

VITALS:

Chef Chopra began his training in India at the Hotel Management and Catering Institute at

Pusa, and then here at the Culinary Institute of America. He has worked at Daniel in Manhattan and his own Indian restaurant, also in New York, and spent three years here in the kitchens of Amber India before taking the helm at Mantra. Under Chopra, the restaurant has become one of the *San Francisco Chronicle's* Top 100 restaurants in the Bay Area.

Q & A:

Where were you born?
Delhi, India.

What do you do to relax?

I watch TV. I'm actually quite enamored with *Top Chef* this year. I'm a fairly lazy person when it comes to relaxing.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

I would probably be in fashion. I have a passion for clothes – I would be involved in retailing, or some kind of high-end food and clothing store.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

Right now we're doing a fancy take on lamb shank – it's a classic French dish, but we're introducing a lot of Coca-Cola and brown sugar. It's braised and gamey, then contrasted with ginger and cranberry chutney.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

Some form of sea bass. Our Kashmiri sea bass often sells at the rate of one fish per day – that's 30 pounds of fish.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

Burgers, medium rare, especially if it's sirloin or tenderloin. It's so hard to find a true, medium-rare burger around here – you ask for medium-rare or rare and you never get it. I need the juices flowing. I'm a huge carnivore.

What did you have for breakfast?

Three cups of coffee and toasted Sara Lee bagel bread with salmon cream cheese spread. [Chopra was drink-



Sachin Chopra, Executive Chef

ing yet another cup of coffee during the interview.]

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

I would like to meet Angelina Jolie. That would be quite nice. Quite nice... Oh, and also Ferran Adria, the culinary god.

What would you eat for your last meal?

A pound of foie gras. I would like to dive into that.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

I would say that they have very educated palates and a willingness to try new things. What we do is a far cry from Indian food, but people have been very supportive, and I would like to thank them very much.

How do you define "fine dining"?

Fine dining should always encompass really good food and atmosphere. It could be a shack on the road as long as the two elements are there and your sensory perceptions are activated. You should be literally glowing from the food you've eaten. It should make you really happy.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Onions. Our influence is from Indian cuisine and onions are the basic ingredient, like flour in baking. Chefs like to feature fresh fruits and vegetables that are in season, but onions are available year round and you never really see them highlighted in a dish. They're always the base of stocks, served with meats, in salads – and onions are good for the body. They make you perspire, which cools you down.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Creativity. That's the driving force I look for when I'm actually able to get out and eat.

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#8



Grilled duck with miso walnut sauce, apple, potato and carrot, served on magnolia leaf.

KAYGETSU

325 Sharon Park Dr., Menlo Park

(650) 234-1084 www.kaygetsu.com

VITALS:

Kaygetsu has three chefs: Toshi Sakuma, co-owner with his wife Keiko, is the sushi chef.

Katsuhiro Yamasaki and Shinichi Aoki are behind the restaurant's famous kaiseki cuisine.

Kaygetsu has received top accolades – including a 28 rating in Zagat's – for its sushi and authentic *kaiseki* cuisine: two-hour Japanese tasting menus of beautifully balanced, seasonal flavors and textures. Chef and co-owner Sakuma is from Tokyo, Japan. Chefs Yamasaki and Aoki both trained in *kaiseki* in Kyoto, Japan.

Kaiseki chef Aoki is interviewed below, with translation help from his wife, Midori Shigeki.

Q & A:

Where were you born?
Kyoto, Japan.

What do you do to relax?

I read books, or I play with my son, who is seven years old.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

Musician. I would like to play the guitar [Aoki plays acoustic and electric].

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

Tara saikyo miso – zuke black cod marinated with a special miso from Kyoto.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

The same dish.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

In-N-Out Burger – I like the cheeseburgers and French fries.

What did you have for breakfast?

We went to the American diner Peninsula Creamery in Palo Alto. I had two eggs sunny-side up, with white bread toast and a croissant.



Katsuhiro Yamasaki, Chef

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?
John Lennon.

What would you eat for your last meal?
My wife, Midori, makes a miso soup...that would be my last meal.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

I think they are nice people. No one is afraid to try our menus and new dishes.

How do you define "fine dining"?

I think a clean bathroom is very important. If the bathroom is clean, that means the service is nice and the food is nice. [Ed. note: This is the best answer to this question so far. He's totally right.]



Shinichi Aoki, Chef

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Fish guts and fish heads. In Japan, we eat these and they are very delicious. At American fish markets, they throw the heads and guts away in the garbage. I cook snapper heads with soy sauce and sugar, or use fish liver to make a paste in the French style.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

When people are nice to kids. This is very important for me and my son.

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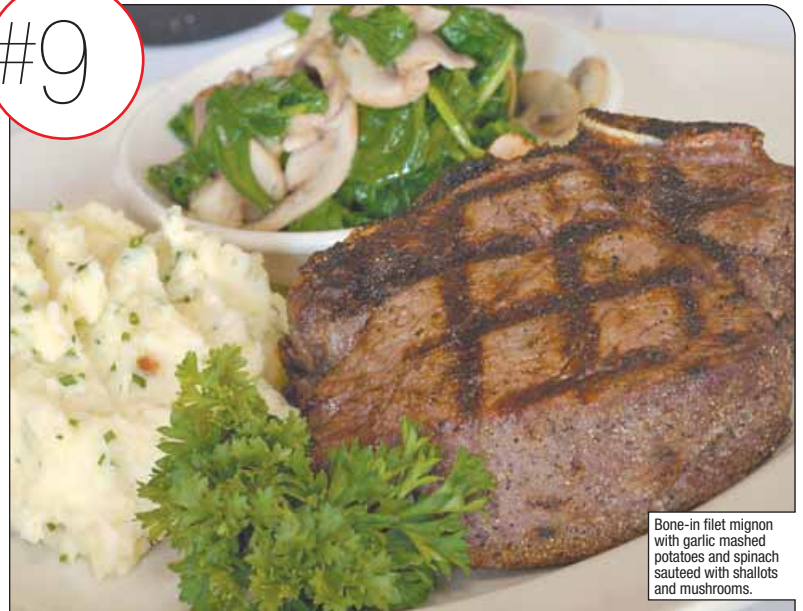
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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#9



Bone-in filet mignon with garlic mashed potatoes and spinach sautéed with shallots and mushrooms.

THE GRILL ON THE ALLEY

172 S. Market St. (in the Fairmont Hotel)
 San Jose (408) 294-2244
www.thegrill.com

VITALS:

The Grill has locations in Dallas, Chicago and three in California, including the original Beverly Hills restaurant established in 1984. Matthew LeGentry heads up the San Jose kitchen where he began as a line cook in 2000, turning out steaks, chops and other favorite old-school fare.

Q & A:

Where were you born?
 Blytheville, Ark.

What do you do to relax?

I go road biking up through the hills around Los Gatos. Cycling is my form of meditation and escape from the world, plus I get to see some pretty spectacular views.

If you could do any other work, what would it be?
 I've always dreamt of owning a bike shop and building custom road bikes for enthusiasts and competition riders. It's a laid-back job, unlike a kitchen. But it still involves passion, much like a kitchen.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

The bone-in filet. It's a winner every time. Most people order it with garlic mashed potatoes and sautéed spinach. It's one of the best cuts of meat we have here.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

Chicken pot pie. It's one of our flagship dishes that's been around for 20 years. It's enormous. It's three times the size of any pot pie you've ever had. When it arrives at the table, you're blown away by how enormous it is.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

Falafel's Drive-In. I don't eat much fast food, but when I do, it's gotta be a falafel from Falafel's Drive-In.

What did you have for breakfast?

A power bar and a Red Bull.



Matthew LeGentry, Executive Chef

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

Lance Armstrong. I would ask him to sign my bike [Joking].

What would you eat for your last meal?
 Pizza. Cheese pizza. Simple and delicious.

How would you describe Silicon

Valley diners?

Particular and sophisticated. They know their wines and their cuts of meat. Some of our guests are here from out of town, some are here for a special occasion; they all want it to be special. They appreciate good food and good service.

How do you define "fine dining"?

Exceptional service and delicious food. Fine dining is providing seamless service to each and every guest; from the time they enter the restaurant until the time they leave. A fine dining restaurant should offer friendly and knowledgeable service, a nice wine list, and excellent food in an intimate ambience.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

Shallots. They can be used to enhance the flavors of any dish, from meats to sauces.

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Good service. I have a young son, so speed is key, and when they take care of my son's needs – if they're quick with the bread or notice the child is fussy and help out where they can. Food is very important, but if the service is bad, you walk away talking about the service and not the food.

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SJSP0010

TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

#10



Black pepper crusted ahi tuna.

BIRK'S RESTAURANT

3955 Freedom Cir., Santa Clara

(408) 980-6400

www.birksrestaurant.com

VITALS:

South American-born Maurice Dissels came to San Jose by way of Chicago, where he began as a food server and moved into line cooking. From there he cooked in restaurants in Colorado, Pasta Cuisine in Orinda, the Historical Pleasanton Hotel and 840 North First in San Jose. He has been executive chef at Birk's Restaurant for four years.

Q & A:

Where were you born?

Georgetown, Guyana [formerly British Guiana].

What do you do to relax?

I garden. That is my one true relaxation, along with spending time with my family. I have a seasonal garden that I cultivate in the spring and late summer when I reap its bounties – tomatoes, zucchini, squash, melons, a variety of chilies, fresh herbs (I have an extensive herb garden).

If you could do any other work, what would it be?

At this point in my culinary career, I have lusted after getting into the wine making side of things. It seems like a natural progression.

What's your current favorite dish in your repertoire?

This is hard – our cooking is so seasonally driven – but if I must pick something that I really, truly enjoy, then I would say sauces. I love coming up with different sauces, creating them from start to finish.

What's a dish that will always be on your menu?

Two come to mind: The pepper filet, which is one of our signature dishes. We currently use between 700 and 800 pounds of filet mignon a week for that dish. The second is our fried calamari.

What's your favorite fast food indulgence?

You know, perhaps once a month I go down to the local burger joint – specifically Bob's Giant Burger – and indulge in a double garden cheeseburger.

What did you have for breakfast?

Today I had a bowl of Wheaties with some peaches, bananas and soymilk, along with a vitamin B tablet and a multivitamin.



Maurice Dissels, Executive Chef

If you could have any celebrity – alive or dead – to your restaurant, who would it be?

I would probably invite Luciano Pavarotti. I think there is almost a spiritual connection among opera, red wine and good food and ambience.

What would you eat for your last meal?

It would be the quintessential vegetarian entrée: A cluster of broccolini, baby carrots, asparagus, hearts of palm, some red potatoes perhaps. I might top it with a small portion of a perfectly cooked wild salmon, and then a wonderful heirloom tomato coulis.

How would you describe Silicon Valley diners?

They are a very educated group of diners. I would say they are very particular about what they eat – the quality, the consistency, and the good, hearty, overall center plate. By center plate, I mean food that is well thought out, well prepared and presented.

How do you define "fine dining"?

Fine dining to me means the entire package: obviously, friendly service, the highest quality produce that your purveyors have to offer you, and your approach to preparing those products. There should be a very high attention to detail and guest satisfaction, along with presentation, cleanliness, and a great wine list that complements the cuisine.

What is an underrated ingredient used in your kitchen?

I would say curry. It's kind of a weird one. There is so much you can do with that particular spice – not as the dominant spice, but as an infusion, subtly, to make someone ask, "What is that?"

When you go out to eat, what are some things you appreciate about other restaurants?

Ingenuity with respect to presentation and fabrication – cooking in ways that people have not seen before. **TW**

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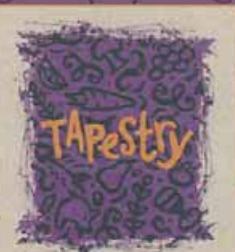
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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS



Anise Cafe, San Jose

A

180 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

[California, Modern American] 151/2 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos (408) 399-1804

Chef Nick Difu brings an urban-slash-Mediterranean sensibility to his restaurant – and it's 180 degrees from the town's usual pastoral dining offerings. A clubby interior with low lights and sofas sets a moody, mod stage for a well-appointed seasonal menu that might include blackened Ahi tuna or sea scallops with a macadamia nut crust. From Wednesday to Friday receive one third off all bar appetizers and drinks from 4:30 to 6:30pm in the lounge area.

19 MARKET [California, Asian Fusion]

19 N. Market St., San Jose (408) 280-6111
www.19market.com

Unlike the bare-bones, eat-and-run feel of so many Vietnamese restaurants, 19 Market shines with Zen-inspired earth-tone interiors and an equally agreeable menu. This bar and bistro not only dishes out familiar favorites like beef noodle soup (pho) and imperial rolls, but adds a Singaporean, Chinese, and California twist to Vietnamese fare. Try the Shaking Beef, or Chilean sea bass, simmered with caramel sauce in a clay pot, and save room for their \$7-a-plate desserts.

A.P. STUMPS [American, Steakhouse]

163 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose (408) 292-9928
www.apstumps.com

The restaurant's richly paneled interior complements the food's classic feel. Executive chef Jim Stump's menu features updated classics such as double-cut lamb chops and oven-roasted salmon; speciality meat items like sea bass wrapped with Dungeness crab; and a wide selection of fish. Equally impressive is the 200-label wine list. The historic Paul Masson champagne cellars, once a gathering place for the city's politicians and financial heavy-hitters, have been turned into large private dining rooms – perfect for your next executive luncheon.

ALDO'S RISTORANTE & BAR [Italian]

14109 Winchester Blvd., Los Gatos (408) 374-1808
www.aldos-ristorante.com

One glance at the menu and you'll quickly realize there's so much more to Aldo's than a cozy setting. Start with a dry martini or glass of Chianti from their impressive wine and cocktail list, then enjoy dishes such as the popular

Sophia Special, a unique blend of sautéed sausage and chicken with portobello mushrooms in a mustard cream sauce. While you're there, don't forget to try the specialty in-house beers from their Pompeii Brewing Company, and sample something from the dolci menu and extensive list of dessert wines. We like the traditional zabaglione made with Marsala wine and fresh strawberries, paired with a glass of McLaren Vale Maduro blend port, from Australia's renowned Barossa Valley.

AMBER INDIA [Indian] 2290 El Camino Real, Ste. 9, Mountain View (650) 968-7511; 377 Santana Row, Ste. 1140, San Jose (408) 248-5400
www.amber-india.com

Whether it's the upscale Santana Row destination or the original Mountain View restaurant, you can expect the unexpected at Amber India. The menus feature an eclectic mix of authentic and reinvented North Indian dishes, ranging from the venerable Tandoori rack of lamb to the upstart halibut with tamarind, chili, and coconut sauce. And don't miss Amber India's savory signature butter chicken. Cocktails are popular at the Santana Row location – try the "Indian Rain," a luminous pale-blue cocktail of pineapple rum and lime, spiked with tropical HPNOTIQ liqueur.

AMICI'S EAST COAST PIZZERIA [Italian, Pizza]

Multiple locations www.amicis.com

Bay Area pizza lovers are clearly big fans of the New York-style slices on offer at Amici's. The hand-tossed thin-crust pizzas are topped with fresh ingredients – from traditional offerings like pepperoni and meatballs to mouth-watering items like pancetta (Italian bacon) or fried eggplant. You'll see garlic listed as a pizza topping on the menu. For an extra dollar, they'll slow-roast the garlic first. Trust us, it's worth every penny.

ANISE CAFÉ [Vietnamese, Asian Fusion]

1663 W. San Carlos St., San Jose (408) 298-8178
www.anisecafe.com

Small plates make a big impact with fresh local produce and seafood laced with tangy French-Vietnamese sauces. Try the escargot and a slow-cooked stew for continental flair, and top it all off with some California wine. Anise Café's tawny walls, lush greenery and earthy brown accents will have you believe you're dining in tropical luxury. "Small plates" is a nice way of saying "small portions," so plan to order three-to-four for two people.

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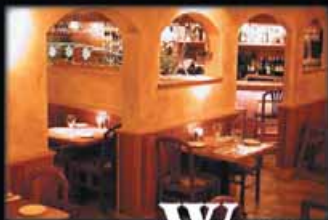
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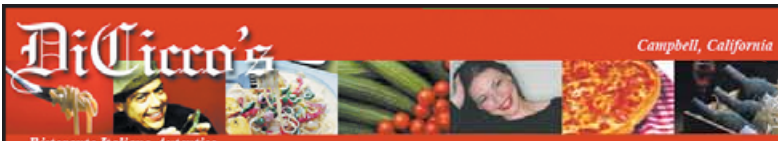
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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

C

AQUI CAL-MEX GRILL [Mexican, Southwestern]
1145 Lincoln Ave., San Jose (408) 995-0381
5679 Snell Ave., San Jose (408) 362-3456
201 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell (408) 995-0381
www.aquicalmex.com

A muy bueno fusion is going on at Aqui Cal-Mex Grill, as it heats up the bland American approach to Mexican cuisine. Part of the Lincoln Avenue Aqui's charm is its multi roomed dining space, where you can find a table in the bar, sit outside next to a bubbling fountain, grab a quick perch in its main seating room or hang by the salsa bar. You'll often find staff members from *The Wave* gulping blended margaritas at Aqui. At both the Willow Glen outpost and the recently opened Campbell location, the cafeteria-style service means you always get good food fast.

ARCADIA RESTAURANT [Modern American]
100 W. San Carlos St., San Jose (408) 278-4555
www.sanjosemarriott.com/dining.html

This vast, 130-seat dining space in the San Jose Marriott welcomes a motley crew of VIPs, theatre freaks and conventioners with gracious and impeccable service, and the food – presented from an open kitchen – is sinfully lavish. Michael Mina's rich interpretations of near-white-trash American classics include cute, bite-sized lobster "corn dogs" made with lobster mousse and sweet cornmeal. Try one of the many steak dishes, or lap up some perfect oysters with a glass of wine at the raw bar. Valet parking is available for lunch and dinner.

B

THE BASIN [American] 14572 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (408) 867-1906 www.thebasin.com

Regulars call The Basin the place "where everybody knows your name" – just with much better grub. The fare is American by way of Spain and Italy, including the wild mushroom rigatoni. With cozy wood tables and red drapes, The Basin caters to large groups and has a private room that can hold 30. Ask the bartender to shake you up a Caipirinha. The unofficial national drink of Brazil, the Caipirinha is distilled from sugar cane rum and is oh-so-good.

BELLA MIA RESTAURANT [Italian, Modern American] 58 S. First St., San Jose (408) 280-1993 www.bellamia.com

Come for the old-world charm; stay for amazing pasta dishes. Bella Mia's dark mahogany wood and beautiful chandeliers make the place dreamily cozy, and the house-made pastas are always pleasing. For the carb-conscious, the restaurant carries a variety of starter and main-course salads; other splurgers might prefer the seafood saffron risotto or the grilled pork chops.

BLEU GINGER [Asian Fusion] 90 S. Abel St., Milpitas (408) 719-9998 www.bleu ginger.com

Opened in February 2006, this culinary gem infuses Vietnamese favorites (like Bo Loc Lac) with American classics (like Niman Ranch steaks), but all with a light freshness. Try the lemon grass salad and Bleu Ginger wraps as appetizers, then move on to the five-spice chicken or sea bass.

BLOWFISH SUSHI [Japanese, Sushi, Asian Fusion] 355 Santana Row, Ste. 1010, San Jose (408) 345-3848 www.blowfishsushi.com

If you like your sushi trendy-sophisticated, with a little DJ music and anime thrown in, you'll be hooked. A menu of Sakizuke (Japanese fusion appetizers) mixes up sea bass and miso, salmon roe, and quail egg. Try special sushi rolls like the Special Dragon or the Super Dynamite Roll, and fill up on their extensive list of imported, hard-to-find sakes. Try the Peach Nympho, the Mango Mojito or the Kiwi Appletini.

CALIFORNIA CAFÉ BAR & GRILL [California]
50 University Ave., Los Gatos (408) 354-8118; 700 Welch Rd., Palo Alto (650) 325-2233
www.californiacafe.com

The menu has personality at this relaxed Old Town restaurant. Small plates are divided into "savory" (soups, cheese), "leafy" (salads), "sassy" (fish and seafood) and "lively" (finger foods). Main dinner plates are divided up by the elements of water (fish and seafood), fire (house-made) and earth and air (meat and poultry). Liquid therapy, as they call it here, includes refreshing mojitos, sangrias and margaritas, plus the California caipirinha.

THE CANTANKEROUS FISH [Seafood]
420 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 966-8124
www.thecantankerousfish.com

A relaxed atmosphere meets a refined menu of seafood entrees in one of the Peninsula's most popular destinations for business lunches and romantic dinners alike. Favorites include the Cantankerous Sea Bass and the Crab Encrusted Salmon.

CAPERS BAR & GRILL [American] 1710 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell (408) 374-5777 www.caperseatanddrink.com

Capers – which could mean either the delicious Mediterranean condiment or a playful escapade – seems a particularly appropriate name for this popular spot. You'll find more than just perfect pasta and juicy steaks here. Fire-roasted marinated artichokes, flash-fried calamari with jalapeños, a killer chicken marsala, and a meatloaf entrée with a wholesome reputation are just some of the enticing menu items. Main-course salads are also popular, particularly for lunching customers – the Chinese Chicken Salad being No. 1 on the lunch charts for some time now. Capers offers a selection of more than 30 wines by the glass from the full bar.

CASCAL RESTAURANT [Pan-Latin]
400 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 940-9500
www.cascalrestaurant.com

Vibrant interior colors create a lively setting for Cascal's huge, Latin-influenced tapas (small plates) menu. If you don't feel like sharing, feel free to fall back on the full menu, which has a trio of ceviche dishes, plus several varieties of seafood paella. Weekdays from 3:30-6:30pm, you can enjoy your tapas with half-price mojitos, sangria or Caipirinhas.

CHEF CHU'S [Chinese] 1067 N. San Antonio Rd., Los Altos (650) 948-2696 www.chefchu.com

Considered by many to be the best Chinese food in the entire Bay Area, Chef Chu's was opened in 1970 by – you guessed it – a guy named Chef Chu. When the master chef isn't working his magic in the kitchen, he's making the rounds in the dining room, greeting old friends and making new ones. This is classic Chinese at its finest, and with most entrees under \$15, Chef Chu's might be an even better investment than local real estate. Call a day in advance to ask about the specials, some of which require 24 hours' notice to prepare.

CRIMSON RESTAURANT [Modern American]
15466 Los Gatos Blvd., Los Gatos (408) 358-0175
www.crimsonrestaurant.com

Tucked away in the Los Gatos Village Square strip mall, Crimson is small and romantic. Near the entrance, the scent of jasmine mingles with blissful smells from the kitchen. Crimson uses organic produce from local farmers, steroid-free meats, and ocean-fresh Hawaiian fish. Appetizers and small plates are particularly enticing: Try

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

the truffled cheese fondue for two, or the Stilton-and-sage-stuffed Portabella cap with grilled polenta, marsala cream, and pine nuts. Entrées weave together beef, pork, and chicken dishes alongside island-influenced seafood.

D

DICICCO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT [Italian]
2509 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell (408) 377-5850
www.diciccogreatfood.com

A charming family-run Italian restaurant that will satisfy even the most abundant appetites, with house specialties that include Fettuccini alla Tequila and Polpetta o Salsiccia Peperonata — meatballs or sausages with bell peppers covered with sauce and topped with mozzarella cheese. Enjoy authentic Italian cuisine with their \$5.95 weekday lunch special (the family behind DiCicco's has been serving Italian food since 1956).

DIO DEKA [Greek] 210 E. Main St., Los Gatos
(408) 354-7700 www.diodeka.com

Run by former Ewia staff, the upscale spot offers a warm Mediterranean ambience with tea-colored walls, a fireplace, and an outdoor courtyard, as well as deftly-prepared Greek standards with fresh seasonal produce and a contemporary spin. Standouts such as the mesquite grilled lamb chops and Souvlaki, coriander-crusting grilled pork kebabs, make Dio Deka a go-to place for top-notch Hellenic eats. An extensive list of 1,500 wines ensures there's something for every pocketbook and palate.

DUCK CLUB [American] 100 El Camino Real,
Menlo Park (650) 330-2790
www.stanfordparkhotel.com/hotel-dining.html

From duck sculptures and duck paintings to duck entrees, The Duck Club elegantly celebrates all things duck. Not feeling ducky? The pork porterhouse chop will please meat lovers, while the seashell seafood pasta in a lobster cream sauce is the stuff that pasta dreams are made of. The menu's anchor dish is the Stanford Park roast duck; you'll swear the meat actually melts on your tongue.

E

E & O TRADING COMPANY [Asian Fusion]
96 S. First St., San Jose (408) 938-4100
www.eotrading.com

Southeast Asian grill food, innovative cocktails in a wild but pleasant layout (suspended bamboo structures, exposed brick walls, and images of dragons) make diners feel they're meeting Indiana Jones for a pre-adventure dinner. Reworked small plates from East India to Bali include shitake mushroom and pork lettuce cups and Indonesian corn fritters; for the big plates, the hardwood-grilled ahi tuna is recommended. E&O will validate parking from any Downtown parking lot marked with a big "PV" (parking validation) logo.

EMILE'S RESTAURANT [French]
545 S. Second St., San Jose (408) 289-1960
www.emilesrestaurant.com

A textbook location to take a date — small and personal, with elegant décor, fresh flowers, and local paintings and sculpture throughout. The Grand Marnier soufflé is a mean-worthy nibbler, and the filet of beef en brochette could make even the tone-deaf yodel. Chefs can customize special-occasion tasting menus if you call a week or so ahead.

EVVIA [Greek] 420 Emerson St., Palo Alto
(650) 326-0983 www.evia.net

A menu strong on seafood (Monterey squid stuffed with mint, dill, and aged feta) and lamb (Anderson Ranch lamb ribs with lemon and oregano) draws ravenous regulars. Top off the evening with the tasty phyllo-wrapped custard and pistachio ice cream dessert and a nightcap of cognac, grappa, port or premium ouzo. Since lunch is

only a couple of bucks less than the dinner menu, why not make an evening of it.

F

FAHRENHEIT ULTRA LOUNGE [Modern
American, Asian Fusion] 99 E. San Fernando St.,
San Jose (408) 998-9998
www.fultralounge.com

Nestled in its own urban corner in Downtown, Fahrenheit's exotic small plates have gotten so much attention, they've expanded their menu to include equally exceptional entrees. For starters, try the Mandalay beef with roti bread, or ginger-poached chicken salad, and cruise to gratifying large plates such as the grilled cabernet skirt steak or pan seared wild Alaskan salmon. Cocktails get as every bit as much attention here; it's the only South Bay joint where bottle-flipping bartenders add a shot of energetic flair to their service. Fahrenheit offers dancing Thursdays thru Saturdays.

FAZ RESTAURANT & BAR [Mediterranean,
Pizza] 1108 N. Mathilda Ave., Sunnyvale
(408) 752-8000 www.fazrestaurants.com

The first thing you'll notice is the view: floor-to-ceiling cherry windows give way to a tree-shaded redwood deck and garden. The menu gives you plenty to gape at, too. Choose from Faz's rotisserie menagerie: Lamb, turkey, chicken, or rabbit are just some of the popular choices. Or play it safe with the chef's special seafood brick-oven-baked pizzas or house-made pastas. Faz features live piano music Mondays thru Fridays from 5-9pm.

THE FISH MARKET [Seafood]

3150 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (650) 493-9188
3775 El Camino Real, Santa Clara (408) 246-3474
1007 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose (408) 269-3474
www.thefishmarket.com

Every Fish Market location (the first opened in 1976) houses a retail market, oyster bar, and restaurant. The menu changes daily, but no matter what day it is, there's a dish for nearly every hankering: seafood cocktails, raw oysters and clams, baked shellfish, steamed shellfish, smoked fish, sashimi and sushi, oyster bar specialties, and a deep list of mesquite charbroiled entrees. Ask for the cheesy bread with crabmeat, and if in doubt, always choose the au gratin as one of your sides. Trust us.

FONTANA'S ITALIAN [Italian] 20840 Stevens
Creek Blvd., Cupertino (408) 725-0188
www.fontanasitalian.com

After taking in the beautiful Mediterranean décor, diners here can sit down and send their tastebuds on vacation. Fontana's menu offers plenty of flavor destinations. Start with fluffy, fresh-baked sourdough bread, then head seaside with dishes like saffron risotto with shrimp, scallops, fresh and sun-dried tomatoes and green onion, or angel hair pasta with lobster and mushrooms tossed in a light cream sauce. Those not in a seafaring mood, try the rack of lamb with a mint glaze, roasted red potatoes and sautéed spinach, or the premium Black Angus beef with cabernet sauce. Fontana's also provides room for banquets up to 30 people, and the managers will help you to create a party that everyone will remember.

G

GORDON BIRSCH BREWERY [American] 640
Emerson St., Palo Alto (650) 323-7723; 33 East
San Fernando St., San Jose
(408) 294-6785 www.gordonbirsch.com

Family restaurant by day and upscale pub by night, Gordon Birsch (GB to its friends) attracts residents and busi-



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La Foret, San Jose



ness types alike. The American menu has a heavy Asian influence, yielding potstickers, and a sweet-and-saucy cashew chicken stir-fry. Burgers, pizza, and meatloaf are also popular. No meal is complete without their famous garlic fries or fresh beer, and look out for their seasonal beer selections.

H

HABANA CUBA [Cuban] 238 Race St., San Jose (408) 998-2822 www.998cuba.com

A vivid dining experience, with jewel-tone rooms, and, of course, a menu rich with traditional Cuban favorites. Each dinner entree — roasted pork, sea bass — comes with soup or salad, white rice, and your choice of platanos maduros, frijoles negros or yucca con ajo. Portions are Latin-style generous. For lunch, a must-order is the Cuban sandwich: baked-fresh daily, pressed Cuban bread stuffed with slow-roasted pork, Swiss cheese, ham, and pickles. The fresh mojitos and sangrias, along with the flavorful tropical seasonings, will transport you to Old Havana instantly.

HAWG'S SEAFOOD BAR [Seafood]

150 S. Second St., San Jose (408) 287-9955
1700 W. Campbell Ave., Campbell (408) 379-9555
www.havgsseafoodbar.com

Hawgs is the perfect refuge for seafood fanatics who hate dealing with the sand, crowds, seagulls and hair-style-savaging salty winds of beachside establishments. Deliciously devoid of any California cuisine pandering, Hawgs has dishes that'll appease any salty dog: clam linguine, salmon with nothing but a splash of lemon, or breaded prawns. Landlubbers can nosh on favorites such as New York steak and Australian lamb.

I

IL FORNAIO [Italian, Mediterranean] 520 Cowper St., Palo Alto (650) 853-3888; 302 S. Market St., San Jose (408) 271-3366 www.ilfornaio.com

Regulars return for the fresh-baked bread ("il fornaio" literally means "the baker"), house-label wine and olive oil — or just for a nice lazy afternoon meal. The traditional Italian trattoria food made with gourmet-fresh ingredients is always consistent at these charming establishments. Fresh, simple, and extremely flavorful dishes include fare such as rotisserie chicken smothered in a rosemary and white wine reduction (Pollo Toscana), or homemade ravioli stuffed with sweet sausage, ricotta, parmesan and fennel (Ravioli alla Lucana).

IL POSTALE [Italian] 127 W. Washington Ave., Sunnyvale (408) 733-9600 www.ilpostale.com

Going postal at Il Postale means going Italian. Authentic, saucy, toothsome pastas share white tablecloth space with seafood risotto, braised lamb shank, grilled filet mignon, and Chicken Saltimbocca (chicken with prosciutto, mozzarella, olive tapenade, and a white wine sauce). Exposed brick and vaulted ceilings add a touch of class to a low-key décor. A first-rate list of wines-by-the-glass, tasty desserts, and an outdoor patio draw a loyal weekend crowd.

J

JAMES RANDALL RESTAURANT [American, Continental] 303 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-4441 www.restaurantjamesrandall.com

Offering traditional American cuisine with Southern and European influences, executive chef Ross Hanson conjures up a tantalizing new menu each week, drawing on techniques from his background, education and secret family recipes. From pan-seared halibut with couscous, tomato sauce, grapes, basil and pine nuts to grilled flank steak with buttery green beans, smashed Yukon gold potatoes, spicy chimichurri sauce and chipotle sour cream, to vegetable enchiladas with red rice and beans, sour cream and heirloom salsa, it's comfort food at its best. Check the restaurant's website for details on their Winemaker Dinners the last Tuesday of the month: four to five courses each with matching wine (October features DryCreek Vineyards).

JUNNOON [Contemporary Indian] 150 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 329-9644 www.junnoon.com

Throw away any preconceptions you might have had of Indian food being heavy, rich and outrageously spicy. The dishes here are fresh, perfectly balanced and contemporary in composition and flavor. No wonder *Esquire* named them one of the best new restaurants in the nation last year. Now they have a coveted spot in *The Wave Magazine's* Top 100. To see why they're getting all this attention, try the tamarind glazed muscovy duck, or the chef's award-winning Alaskan halibut with coconut ginger sauce and curry leaf semolina. Their power lunch, a.k.a. the Junnoon Tiffin, offers a great deal — a sampling of complementary dishes with a green salad, entrée, side and even a chutney or raita and bread or rice, all for only \$18.

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

K

KYOTO PALACE [Japanese] 1875 S. Bascom Ave., Ste. 2500, Campbell (408) 377-6456 www.kyotopalace.com

This is the type of place you take out-of-towners when you want to impress them. Diners are grouped into parties of eight, and seated around a hot, steel teppan grill. A master chef also serves as master of ceremonies, slicing, dicing and flipping lobster, scallops, filet mignon, shrimp, and all sorts of other fresh ingredients into the air and eventually onto the plates of applauding foodies. A large bar area with big screen television is a perfect place to drop sake bombs while you wait for your table.

L

LA FONDUE [Fondue] 14550 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (408) 867-3332 www.lafondue.com

This fondue hotspot promises to get even hotter following its recent relocation. Now just 50 yards down the street, the new La Fondue is bigger, better and prettier, thanks to a world-class design. The roomy new venue offers luxury dining at its best, with the addition of a full bar, valet parking, a wide selection of Santa Cruz Mountain wines and even a dog-friendly patio area. La Fondue's new menu retains the much-loved selection of cheese and chocolate fondues, not to mention their array of meats — from sea scallops, tiger prawns and yellow fin tuna to more exotic items like alligator, wild boar and ostrich — all cooked in your method of choice. We like the Black Angus filet mignon cooked Grill style, with a glass of the Page Mill cabernet sauvignon. Those looking for the ultimate indulgence, try the Decadent One fondue for dessert — milk and bittersweet chocolate mixed with espresso beans, Kahlua, cream and cinnamon.

LA FORET [French] 21747 Bertram Rd., San Jose (408) 997-3458 www.laforetrestaurant.com

Housed in an historic building dating back to the Gold Rush, this charming restaurant offers fine French cuisine in a quaint setting in the foothills of New Almaden. La Foret offers tasting menus and a variety of entrées a la carte, from sea scallops, ahi tuna, rack of lamb, and Kobe beef to their salmon, prawns and highly rated game menu. Picture windows surround the entire dining area, so you can fully enjoy the old-country ambience while enjoying dinner, Sunday brunch or any special occasion. La Foret is the perfect spot for Christmas parties, wedding receptions or large group gatherings. A daily lunch menu is also available only in December.

LA PASTAIA RESTAURANT [Italian] 233 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose (408) 286-8686 www.lapastaia.com

Cadmium-red walls and slate-covered archways give La Pastaia a look as rich as its contemporary, rustic Italian menu. Try osso buco D'Agnello (braised lamb shank with roasted tomato, rosemary and mint) over soft polenta, or fusilli con melanzane, featuring grilled eggplant, sun-dried tomatoes, roasted garlic and smoked mozzarella. They also serve crisp pizzas from the wood-burning oven and have a brilliant selection of wines imported from Italian vintners.

LAVANDA RESTAURANT & WINE BAR [Italian, Mediterranean] 185 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 321-3514 www.lavandarestaurant.com

Warm, earthy walls and plenty of windows set the soothing mood at Lavanda, where chef Clyde Griesbach oversees a menu full of surprising combinations. Gourmands will love the ricotta gnocchi and the roasted mahi with artichokes. Lavanda is especially friendly to wine lovers, with an extensive list.

LE MERE MICHELE [French] 14467 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (650) 321-3514 www.lameremichelle.com

The chairs are from Italy, the beads of the magnificent chandelier hail from the Czech Republic, and the larger-than-life painting in the main dining room is a tribute to the owner and his family. This storied setting is what draws patrons to one of Saratoga's oldest French restaurants. Well, that and the food. Sit down for a helping of Maine lobster tails and fresh scallops, or the filet mignon stuffed with Roquefort cheese, and stay for dessert, or until closing time.

LEFT BANK [French] 377 Santana Row, Ste. 1100, San Jose (408) 984-3500; 635 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park (650) 324-9092 www.leftbank.com

In a chic, Parisian bistro style setting, diners enjoy unpretentious French cuisine. Salad Nicoise with ahi tuna and Blue Lake haricots verts, tart Lyonnaise (with goat cheese, onion, leek and bacon) and the rarest of rare — steak tartare — are some of their sterling starters. There's also a solid selection of fresh seafood, tasty desserts, and nourishing fare like steak frites and duck à l'orange with Camargue rice. The vibe is energetic and upscale, with a stylish bar scene where you'll be well paired. With wine or beer, that is.

LION & COMPASS RESTAURANT [American] 1023 N. Fair Oaks Ave., Sunnyvale (408) 745-1260 www.lionandcompass.com

Some of the Valley's prime business deals are made here over macadamia-crusted sea bass, venison stir-fry with wild mushroom and pearl onions, or perhaps a dish of crispy-skin salmon. Started more than two decades ago by mogul Nolan Bushnell, the creator of Atari, Lion & Compass continues to be a hot spot for high-tech corporate execs and their minions. The restaurant has a number of themed rooms, plus a private library and a conference space.

LOFT BAR & BISTRO [Modern American] 90 S. Second St., San Jose (408) 291-0677 www.loftbarandbistro.com

Capers Eat and Drink impresario Kam Razavi has a Downtown hit with Loft. An historic stone-and-marble exterior belies the airy urban-chic warehouse interior, complete with upstairs loft and a second-story patio. The menu features gourmet turns on classic comfort foods, as exemplified by Razavi's meatloaf, made with smoked ham and smothered in a wild mushroom sauce that migrates to the garlic mashed potatoes. The full bar on the second floor is a popular gathering spot on weekend nights.

LOS GATOS BREWING COMPANY [American] 130 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-9929 www.lgbrewingco.com

Though known for its beer, this Los Gatos eatery has delighted patrons with its upscale California cuisine since 1991. Their stylish décor, roomy booths and relaxed atmosphere make it a great place for a meal, whether the occasion is a casual lunch, elegant dinner or festive weekend brunch. Lunch and dinner menus include the spit-roasted chicken with garlic mashed potatoes, the grilled filet mignon and portabello mushrooms, the double cut boneless pork chop grilled over almond wood, or the St. Louis-style pork back ribs. Or choose from their designer pizzas or mouth-watering burgers and sandwiches. Be sure to save room for dessert: their homemade German chocolate cake is irresistible.

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SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

M

MACARTHUR PARK [American] 27 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 321-9990 www.macpark.com

Known for fine American cuisine dining and its unique "outdoors indoors" dining experience, MacArthur Park is the place to go for award-winning barbecue. Their Oak-wood-smoked baby back ribs are sure to delight, as will their selection of grilled fish and chicken, juicy New York steaks, seasonal salads, and menu of California wines. Their signature barbecue sauce is also available to take home. Located in the historic Hostess House just outside Stanford, MacArthur Park's five dining rooms are perfect for parties, receptions, business meetings, weddings and other special occasions. Open for lunch weekdays and dinner nightly; reservations are recommended.

MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY [Italian]

3055 Olin Ave., Ste. 1000, San Jose (408) 423-8973 www.maggianos.com

This Italian restaurant chain satisfies with huge portions of Southern Italian fare served family-style. Dark wood, vintage photos and high-back chairs create a gracious and festive environment reminiscent of Sinatra-era Little Italy. Dishes you can't refuse: Rigatoni D, with marsala cream sauce, button mushrooms and chicken, and the lasagna, made with pork and ground beef, and glowing with cheese. An easy choice for big groups and office parties.

MARCHE RESTAURANT [French, Continental]

898 Santa Cruz Ave., Menlo Park (650) 324-9092 www.restaurantmarche.com

Chef Howard Bulka's seasonal-inspired cooking is French with fusion influences (everything from American East Coast to Asian). A low-lit, clean-lined, chic-tailored dining room offers a romantic setting. If you really want to impress a date, order the ahi tuna spring rolls or the Endive Salad as starters. Check out the rare Nathan Oliveira painting titled "Santa Fe Wing." The internationally famed painter and Stanford University artist emeritus is a huge Marche fan.

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S SEAFOOD

[Seafood, Modern American] 170 S. Market St., Ste. 101, San Jose (408) 283-7200 www.mccormickandschmicks.com

Affordable, upscale seafood in a beautiful, business-friendly atmosphere. Menus change daily. In keeping with the McCormick local-food style, most of the chef's non-fishy ingredients come from either the Central or Napa Valleys. The drink menu ranges from wine to single-malt Scotch to tap beers, and bartenders practice "traditional mixology" — fresh-squeezed juices and hand-mixed cocktails. This is the place to take that important, big-shouldered business associate.

THE MELTING POT [Modern American, Fondue]

72 S. First St., San Jose (408) 293-6020 www.meltingpot.com

This popular franchise takes the Swiss-born craze of dipping stuff in hot pots way beyond standard-issue "cheese with bread," and San Jose's handsome location in a historic building is sophisticated, warm, and simple. The four-course menu features varied entrees cooked in one of four styles, with an assortment of savory breads, vegetables, and choice of salad. The regular menu includes dishes like lobster, chicken, pork tenderloin, shrimp, and Florentine ravioli — and, of course, chocolate fondue dessert.

MING'S OF PALO ALTO [Chinese]

1700 Embarcadero Rd., Palo Alto (650) 856-7700 www.mings.com

During Ming's daily dim sum rush, the floor teems with friendly staff wheeling around carts packed with dumplings, steamed vegetables, turnip cakes, rice noodle rolls, and other divine offerings. But don't ignore the restaurant's dizzying menu of more than 100 seafood, vegetarian, spa cuisine (steamed, yet delicious fare), vegan, noodles, rice, and traditional Cantonese barbecued and poached meats entrees. Like spicy food? Bring home a bottle of Ming's spicy chili bean sauce for just \$5.

MENARA MOROCCAN RESTAURANT

[Moroccan] 41 E. Gish Rd., San Jose (408) 453-1983 www.menara41.com

Recline on a pillowed couch with a Moroccan Magic cocktail in hand. Six different five-course prix fixe dinners include Casablanca delectables like lamb with honey, hare with paprika, and orange roughy with shermoula sauce. Meals are finished with mint tea. Moroccan arches, gilt accents, low-to-the-ground dining tables, and belly dancers might catch you hoping Master won't rub the lamp just yet.

MORTON'S THE STEAKHOUSE [Steakhouse]

177 Park Ave., San Jose (408) 947-7000 www.mortons.com

A haven for lovers of all things beef, Morton's, The Steakhouse is reputed for their superior cuts of meat. Expect fine dining at its best in this smart casual restaurant and bar. Paired with a glass of premium wine from their extensive wine list, you can't go wrong with the Double Cut Filet Mignon topped with classic French Béarnaise sauce. Top off the experience with a soufflé for two.

N

NICOLINO'S GARDEN CAFÉ [Italian]

1228 Reamwood Ave., Sunnyvale (408) 734-5323 www.nicolinosgardencafe.com

Arched doorways and old-world light fixtures set the mood at this family-oriented Sunnyvale favorite, where the waiters wear tuxes and the food speaks Italian. Try veal scaloppini, fettuccine carbonara, or the famous "New York Style" sausage burger (the sausage is homemade). Try the extravagant flambé menu (lit up tableside) for a memorable dining experience.

NOLA'S RESTAURANT & BAR [Cajun]

535 Ramona St., Palo Alto (650) 328-2722 www.nolas.com

A little taste of Nawlins. Chances are, you'll have so much fun at Nola's — where every day is Mardi Gras — you'll plow right through the wonderfully spicy Cajun specialties and into dessert: vanilla bean crème brûlée, beignets or classic Southern pecan pie. Share a 60-ounce "moron bowl" — that's Nola's famous hurricane, with five types of rum, fresh fruit juice and vanilla bean.

O

OAK CITY BAR & GRILL [American]

1029 El Camino Real, Menlo Park (650) 321-6882 www.oakcitybarandgrill.com

What restaurant chains like T.G.I. Fridays and Fuddrucker's aspire to be. Oak City, in all of its understated visual modishness, is where you go to get your hands on authentic, meticulously prepared steaks, fresh seafood, and salads. The ahi tuna tartare is a must-eat treat. Served a spicy cucumber and radish salad and crispy wontons, you could order a couple of these starters and just call it a night.

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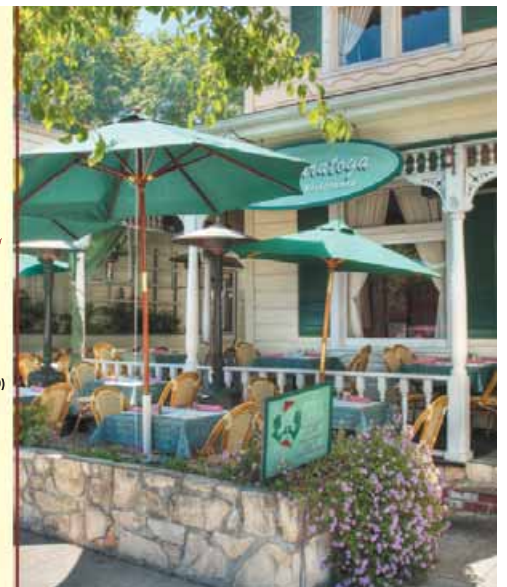
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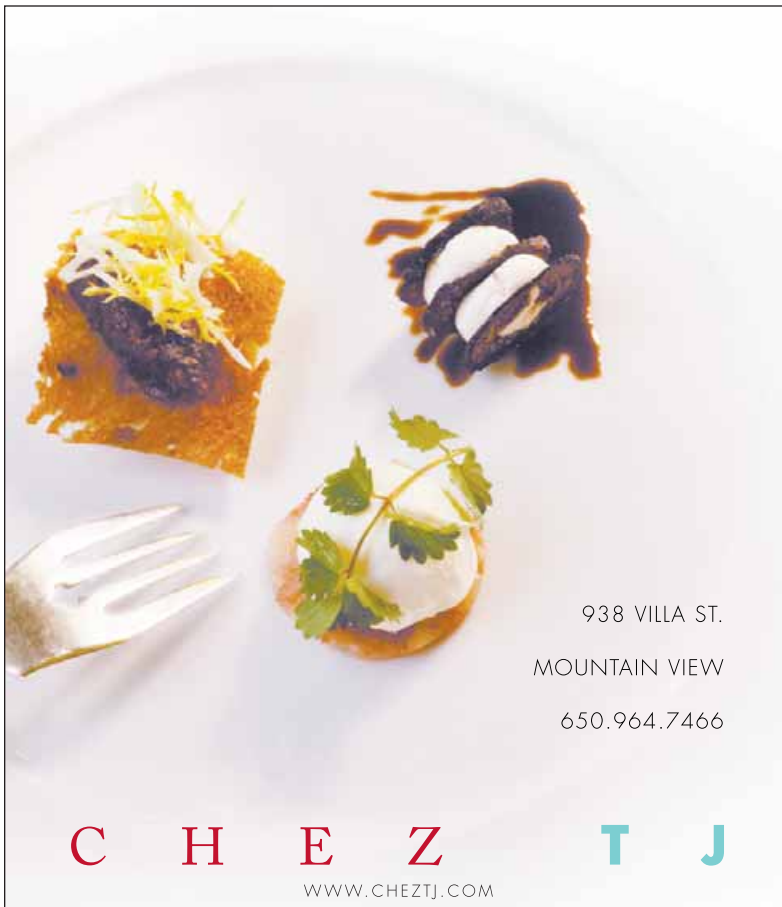
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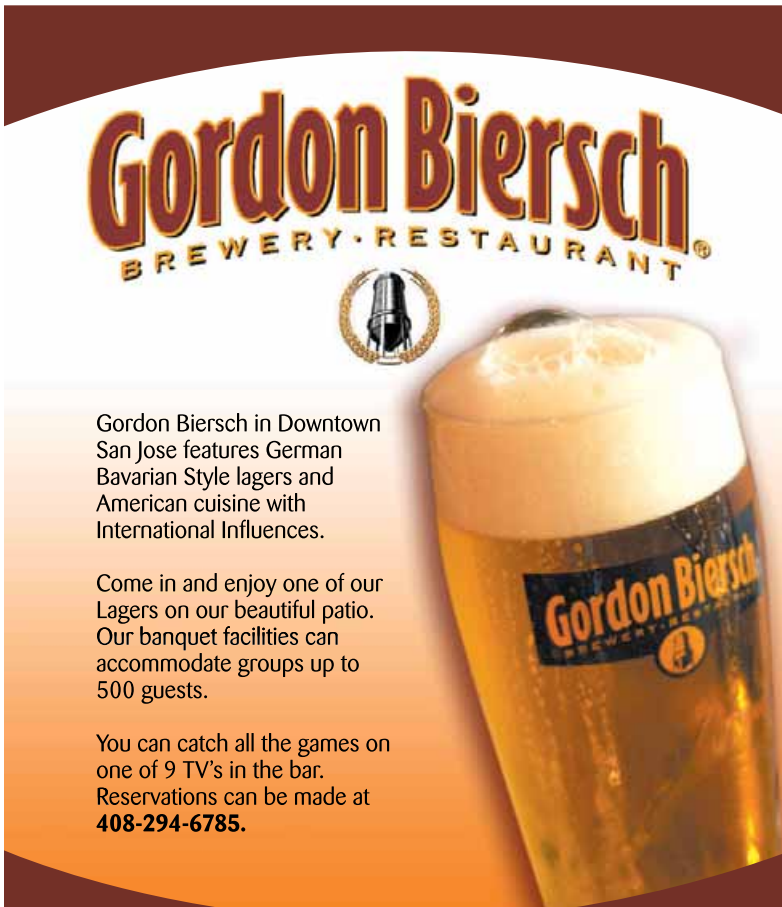
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P

PAOLO'S RESTAURANT [Italian]

333 W. San Carlos St., Ste. 150, San Jose
(408) 294-2558 www.paolos.com

This is Italian cuisine with a definite California edge. The braised lamb shank gives housemade egg pasta a mellow Norcal attitude, and roasted Culver duck breast is tender but worldly with the addition of Pincholine olives, Medjool dates, a Malvasia reduction, and braised local greens. Consult the sommelier for wine pairings that have earned repeat commendations from *Wine Spectator*. Paolo's serves bargain "CPA Special" buffets before and after matinees and early-evening performances at San Jose's Center for the Performing Arts.

PARAGON RESTAURANT & BAR

[Modern American] 211 S. First St., San Jose
(408) 282-8888 www.paragonrestaurant.com

This chic lounge and restaurant are the paragon of art-deco-gone-high-tech décor, with cube lighting, polished-stone surfaces, and low booths that appear ready for takeoff. The roasted chicken with gourmet mac-n-cheese is a staple, but there are a few surprises, too, that change seasonally. Tables on the heated outdoor patio are highly coveted on warm nights, so make reservations; same goes for Friday and Saturday nights, when there's live jazz.

PARK PLACE [Modern American]

10030 S. De Anza Blvd., Cupertino (408) 873-1000
www.parkplacecupertino.com

Kobe beef tri-tip steak, English tea ravioli, sautéed Idaho rainbow trout. These are three very good reasons to head to Park Place, a restaurant located right outside Cupertino's Cypress Hotel. Another is the Dungeness Crab and Corn Chowder. Park Place also features a cocktail lounge where you can enjoy stylized versions of classic cocktails and sample something from the bar menu. The Park Place Martini is a stunning combination of Level vodka and bleu-cheese-stuffed olives.

THE PLUMED HORSE [California, French]

14555 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (408) 867-4711
www.plumedhorse.com

Having recently undergone one of the most extensive refurbishments in Silicon Valley dining history, The Plumed Horse now features some of the most luxurious fare and furnishings around. Executive chef Peter Armellino brings his Michelin-star garnering talents to the restaurant, resulting in a menu brimming with lavish dishes that blend

French techniques with California flavors and local, sustainable sensibilities. A glance at the menu reveals a fine selection of caviar, blue foot chicken soup, seared foie gras, hamachi crudo, 21 day dry-aged New York strip – the list goes on, making the chef's seven course tasting menu a great option.

Q

QUATTRO RESTAURANT & BAR

[Italian, Modern American]

2050 University Ave., at University Cir., Palo Alto
(650) 566-1200 www.quattrorestaurant.com

Executive chef Alessandro Cartumini's contemporary menu with Northern Italian roots not only presents playful yet sophisticated cuisine, it showcases the rich agricultural harvest of this region. Expect dishes that are bold, yet balanced and fresh and seasonal, and always with unexpected flair and flourish. Think grilled Sonoma lamb duo of rack and riblets with English pea puree, grilled eggplant and Goji berry orange marmellata, or the fettuccine with buffalo ragout and savory porcini trifolati. The wine list features over 300 labels, emphasizing selections from California and Italy, but wines from regions far and wide also gather here, including those from Oregon, Washington, Australia, New Zealand, France, Spain and Austria. Try dining al fresco – the restaurant's outdoor dining area seats up to 75 and a blazing glass-walled fire-pit keeps diners warm, even when the temperature dips on those cool Peninsula evenings.

R

ROSIE MCCANN'S IRISH PUB [Irish, American]

355 Santana Row, Ste. 1060, San Jose
(408) 247-1706 www.rosiemccanns.com

Rosie McCann's reinvents traditional pub fare. Quaff a pint or two at the elegant curved bar, and you, too, will be singing praises to Rosie's Irish Nachos, a mountain of guacamole, salsa, and all the fixings atop (of course) potatoes. The Irish sausage bangers with garlic mashed potatoes and Guinness gravy, and Alaskan cod fish 'n' chips are delectable. Try the filet mignon medallion appetizer and order a couple of items from the kid's menu. It's cheaper, and you still get tons of food.

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

S

SCOTT'S SEAFOOD BAR & GRILL

[Seafood, Modern American] 185 Park Ave., San Jose (408) 971-1700 www.scottsseafoods.com
855 El Camino Real, Town & Country Village, Palo Alto (650) 323-1555 www.scottsseafood.com

This is where Silicon Valley honchos wine and dine hotshot engineers and venture capitalists, thanks to its elegant-but-not-preentious atmosphere and seafood-focused menu. The Dungeness crab cioppino and seared ahi tuna never fail to impress, and the petrale sole dore or the Australian lobster tail will please any palate. Scott's extensive wine and beer list completes the meal. If you plan to visit Scott's on a weekend, reservations are recommended.

SENT SOVI [French] 14583 Big Basin Way, Saratoga (408) 867-3110 www.sentsovi.com

Drop in to try out Sent Sovi's seasonally changing menu and walk out engaged. This appears to be the running theme at Sent Sovi, where dozens of lovesick gents get down on bended knee each year. With its copper-and-wood-paneled walls and crisply set dining tables, it's not hard to see why folks go gaga here. Sent Sovi regularly hosts wine-maker dinners which include a five- or six-course meal and a chance to mingle with local grape growers.

SEVEN RESTAURANT & LOUNGE

[Modern American] 754 The Alameda, San Jose (408) 280-1644 www.restaurant.com

Twin brothers Curtis and Russel Valdez have crafted a clever and appetizing menu at their downtown San Jose establishment, resulting in food that is both edgy and approachable. Lunch offerings include their take on the classic American cheeseburger, or lighter fare such as roasted trout and spinach salad with caramelized onions, and golden raisin brown butter. When night falls, you can expect dishes like black pepper crusted ahi tuna or pan-seared rib-eye with potato puree, roasted garlic and more. On Mondays, the restaurant showcases dishes from various different international regions - Oct. 8 will feature Cuban favorites of braised pork, black beans and plantains.

SHIVA'S INDIAN RESTAURANT [Indian] 800 California St., Ste. 100, Mountain View (650) 960-3802 www.shivasrestaurant.com

Shiva's luxurious dining room, with traditional artwork on blush-peach walls, is complemented by a winning menu of tangy, succulent tandoori meats cooked in a clay oven, aromatic curries (lamb, chicken and vegetarian) and eight varieties of fluffy oven-fresh flatbreads. Items labeled chef's signature on the menu, such as seafood curry and shahi paneer (cottage cheese cubes in a creamy tomato sauce), make ordering a breeze, but a good way to sample Shiva's best is to go for the incredibly generous daily lunch buffet (at least a dozen dishes with appetizers, salad, and desserts).

SINO RESTAURANT & LOUNGE [Chinese] 377 Santana Row, Ste. 1000, San Jose (408) 247-8880 www.sinorestaurant.com

Ultra-modern Asian chic ambience sets the stage for this upscale Chinese/dim sum hot spot. Owner Chris Yeo (of Straits fame) packs the menu with everything from General Yeo free-range chicken to char siu smoked sea bass, and packs SINO's five large rooms full of Santana Row's genetically privileged diners. Try the Peking barbecued baby back ribs. Delicious.

SONOMA CHICKEN COOP [American] 200 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell (408) 376-3516
31 N. Market St., San Jose (408) 287-4098
www.sonomachickencoop.com

With two levels and the capacity to house 450 people, the Campbell outpost of this popular local restaurant is

a place to go large, with a full-service brewery producing Coop's tasty beers on-site. The casual, self-serve branch in Downtown San Jose's San Pedro Square is also always bustling. Both venues' non liquid menus offer the Coop's signature rotisserie chicken, spit-roasted and served with your choice of sauce. For those who aren't a fan of fowl, the inventive vegetarian salads, pizzas, and focaccia sandwiches are just some of the tasty options, or try a spicy surf-and-turf pizza or smokehouse barbecue ribs.

SPENCER'S FOR STEAKS AND CHOPS

[American, Steakhouse] 2050 Gateway Pl., San Jose (408) 437-2170

www.spencersforsteaksandchops.com

This is a steakhouse-away-from-home for grilling fanatics, located in the San Jose DoubleTree Hotel. George Foreman wannabes will appreciate the variety of premium grade cuts on the menu and envy the state-of-the-art infrared broiler that sears each one to an unholly 1,700 degrees. Any of the full-bodied reds on the menu will help wash down those eight- to-12-ounces of grilled-to-order meat, and the 16- to-18-ounce prime rib calls for a shot of serious single malt Scotch.

SPIEDO RISTORANTE

[Italian, Modern American] 151 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose (408) 971-6096 www.spiedo.com

Silicon Valley's fine-dining alternative to Prozac is Spiedo's: hearty fare served in a welcoming, effortlessly chic dining room with large windows and soothing lighting. This Cal-Italian restaurant is known for its nine mesquite-rotisserie-grilled entrees, served in generous portions with sides of creamy polenta or golden mashed potatoes. The homemade gnocchi and stuffed pasta are like love on a platter when paired with selections from the impressive list of local California and Italian wines.

STEAMER'S GRILLHOUSE

[Modern American] 31 University Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-2722
www.steamers-restaurant.com

A nightly hot spot, Steamer's has an upbeat social environment and great food to boot. Belly up to the bar for cosmos, lemon drops, and top-shelf margaritas with fresh-squeezed lime juice. Fresh fish, quality steaks and sauces made from scratch fill out the restaurant menu. Chefs also like to lend their artistic sensibilities to specialty plates. Case in point: the seared ahi with purple potatoes. By advance request, they'll order fresh lobster, just for you!

STRAITS RESTAURANT

[Asian Fusion] 333 Santana Row, Ste. 1100, San Jose (408) 246-6320 www.straitsrestaurants.com

Pan-oceanic Singaporean small plates and noodle dishes are like romance on the high seas: unexpected, spicy, and utterly seductive once you begin to roll with it. A meal at Straits will take your tastebuds on a whirlwind tour of Asia, starting with the buttery Indian-style roti prata flatbread and the Fuji apple and prawn salad in a mint vinaigrette, all the way to the Origami sea bass with ginger, shiitake mushrooms, and rice wine baked in parchment.

SUNDANCE THE STEAKHOUSE

[American] 1921 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (650) 321-6798
www.sundancethesteakhouse.com

With mahogany paneling and low lighting, Sundance takes its setting as seriously as it does its steak, creating an intimate atmosphere for events with friends or co-workers alike. Start your meal with an order of sautéed sea scallops, enjoy a crisp tomato and mozzarella salad, and end with some of the best prime rib you've ever tasted. If you're looking for the ideal atmosphere

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS



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TAMARINE RESTAURANT [Asian Fusion] 546 University Ave., Palo Alto (650) 325-8500 www.tamarinerestaurant.com

This spacious, low-lit dining room accentuated with dark wood is the perfect setting for a romantic dinner of lively Vietnamese cuisine. Tamarine offers a full menu, but we especially love the small-plate entrees. Don't miss the hoisin lamb chops, the coriander snapper and Tamarine prawns. Tamarine showcases the work of six Vietnamese artists. If you see something you like, attend the annual auction at the restaurant and the art you love could be yours.

T

TANGLEWOOD [American] 334 Santana Row, Ste. 1000, San Jose (408) 244-0464 www.tanglewood.com

Tanglewood celebrates the changing seasons with classic American cuisine featuring the day's freshest local ingredients. Count on chef Quentin Topping, who visits farmers markets regularly for first pick of the season's best, to churn out tantalizing plates such as the signature marinated steak. The menu may change thrice daily (lunch, mid-day meal, and dinner), but proprietor Ed Levine assures us that all dishes are "American classics with an innovative twist."

TAPESTRY BISTRO [Seafood, Asian Fusion, Tapas, Modern American] 11 College Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-2808 www.tapestrybistro.com

Just steps away from downtown Los Gatos, Tapestry turns east to the sea for its inspiration, catching lobster "chow mein," grilled mahi mahi, lemon dill linguini with crab, sauteed sea scallops, seared rare ahi, oven-roasted halibut, and teriyaki salmon. Small plates on the tapas menu encourage sharing. Don't want to? Order a large plate and savor every morsel yourself. Tapestry's servers will happily pair wines to each dish.

TARRAGON [Modern American] 140 S. Murphy Ave., Sunnyvale (408) 737-8003 www. dinetarragon.com

This Sunnyvale restaurant has recently revamped its menu, due to the arrival of new executive chef Jess LaDesma. Formerly of the Ritz-Carlton and the Forbes Mill Steakhouse, LaDesma is a steak specialist, so expect some succulent and perfectly prepared steak dishes. The restaurant's full bar is ideal for appetizers and drinks with colleagues after work, while the upscale dining room provides an impressive backdrop for corporate dinners and lunches. An Italian-tiled entryway, walnut bar, and patio complete the ambience at this chic, spacious restaurant.

TESKE'S GERMANIA RESTAURANT [German] 255 N. First St., San Jose (408) 292-0291 www.teskes-germania.com

When all the Silicon Valley office parks and malls begin to look the same, seek sanctuary in the cozy old-world charm of this family-run German restaurant. Proprietors Hans and Catherine Bauman serve up all the bratwurst and beer your inner Bavarian could possibly desire, plus rib-sticking schnitzel, house-made spätzle and schnaps galore. With Spaten on tap, the walled beer garden is surely the best place in Downtown San Jose to play hooky from work on a scorching summer's day.

THEA MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE [Greek, Mediterranean] 3090 Olsen Dr., San Jose (408) 260-1444 www.thearestaurant.com

Thea's elegant décor, punctuated by an olive tree in the center, is matched by executive chef Alex Padilla's menu of captivating Mediterranean cuisine with a Greek and Turkish bent. Appetizers include melitzanes (grilled eggplant slices with mint and olive oil) and spanakopita (a flaky phyllo pie stuffed with spinach, feta, leeks and onions), but leave room for the entrees. The tavuk sarma (wood-roasted half chicken with Turkish pilaf rice and sauteed vegetables) and Psari Skodarto (herb-seasoned striped seabass with roasted potatoes and vegetables) are superb. Belly-dancing performances are every Saturday evening.

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TOP 100

SILICON VALLEY RESTAURANTS

V

VIN SANTO RISTORANTE [Italian, Modern American] 1346 Lincoln Ave., San Jose (408) 920-2508 www.vin-santo.com

This intimate space has a graceful, understated formality typical of Northern Italian style, but the nightly experience is more like a warm gathering of neighborhood friends and repeat customers. Expect Northern Italian cuisine invigorated with California freshness. His brodetto, a fish stew brimming with Chilean sea bass, calamari, prawns and diver scallops in a white wine and marinara sauce is a hearty, savory delight.

VIVA PRIMAVERA [Modern American] 15970 Los Gatos Blvd., Los Gatos (408) 356-4902 www.vivalosgatos.com

Illuminated by dangling paper stars, Viva! has a perpetually festive atmosphere. Warm conversation buzzes throughout the restaurant while people dine at the many tables or socialize over glasses of wine in the bar area. Appetizers range from steamed mussels to crispy calamari to beef carpaccio. Comforting pasta, pizza, and a variety of beef, chicken, and seafood entrees serve as the main dishes. Breakfast is served on Saturdays and Sundays only, so be sure to pop in for some weekend brunching.

W

WILLOW STREET PIZZA [Italian, Pizza] 1072 Willow St., San Jose (408) 971-7080
20 S. Santa Cruz Ave. Ste. 218, Los Gatos (408) 354-5566; 1554 Saratoga Ave., Ste. P401, San Jose (408) 871-0400 www.willowstreet.com

Willow Street uses all-organic produce and meat, and its bread is made piping hot in-house daily. In addition to gourmet wood-fired pizzas like the Thin Crust Mediterranean (tomato sauce, mozzarella, roasted red peppers, kalamata olives, caramelized onions, fresh thyme, and goat cheese), the menu features sandwiches, grilled meats, and a number of savory pasta dishes. The fettuccini chicken tequila pasta is particularly popular. Their friendly service and convivial, neighborhood atmosphere have made Willow Street Pizza a long-time local favorite.

WINE CELLAR [Modern American] 50 University Ave., Ste. 180, Los Gatos (408) 354-4808 www.winecellarosgatos.com

On some nights, live music from nearby Borders Books lends a pleasant sense of occasion to dining on the Wine Cellar's casual upstairs patio. Descend down the curving stone staircase, though, and be transported into an elegant restaurant removed from the street noise. Try one of the unusual appetizers, such as the honey-apricot barbecued glazed ribs or sauteed abalone, to start. Entrees include duck confit and pan-seared breast, grilled Australian lamb chops, soy-glazed wild Alaskan king salmon, and last, but not least, filet mignon.

Z

ZUCCA [Pizza, Mediterranean] Zucca Ristorante - 186 Castro St. (650) 864-9940; Zucca European - 541 Bryant St., Palo Alto (650) 327-0132 www.zuccaristorante.com

Zucca Ristorante in Mountain View and its newer outpost, Zucca European in Palo Alto, are known for their thin-crust pizzas. Many a first-time diner has been converted to regular with such delectable pizza offerings as the three-cheese pizza Bianca with heirloom tomatoes, basil pesto and a balsamic glaze. Grazers go for their tapas-style small plates, which boasts flavors from Greek, Spanish and Turkish cuisine. We love the spicy, Spanish-style prawns in butter sauce. Heartier fare includes braised Sonoma rabbit with truffled wild mushroom risotto or steak au poivre. **EW**

THREE DEGREES [Modern American, French] 140 S. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos (408) 884-1054 www.tollhousehotel.com/dining

Chef John Jackson (formerly of Village pub in Woodside) has revamped the menu with a heavy French twist. Everything is made in-house using traditional French techniques, and all menu items are accompanied by sides that custom-tailored to match the main entrée. The signature Crispy Duck features a delicious butter-whipped potatoes, haricot vert and Medjool dates. Don't miss the Champagne Sunday Brunch from 10am to 2pm as well as live jazz on Thursdays.

THREE SEASONS [Asian Fusion] 518 Bryant St., Palo Alto (650) 838-0353 www.threeseasonsrestaurant.com

Sure, there are 10 varieties of spring rolls, but the ever-popular crispy scallop wontons are also a great starter. And don't miss the tiger prawns with garlic noodles. Portions are perfect for those looking for a light meal that is as tasty as it is filling. Diners watching their figures will want to try the green papaya salad with shrimp and the tropical fruit salad.

TIED HOUSE CAFÉ & BREWERY [American upscale pub food] 65 N. San Pedro St., San Jose (408) 295-2739; 954 Villa St., Mountain View (650) 965-2739 www.tiedhouse.com

At the Downtown San Jose location, it's not uncommon to see ravenous Sharks fans devouring platters of smoked trout, smoked salmon, ribs, and sausages with a pint of Ironwood Dark, an English-style brown ale. When it comes to bar snacks, it's hard to beat the pesto-parmesan calamari or the Harvest Quesadilla, roasted butternut squash, and red peppers with pepper jack cheese in a flour tortilla drizzled with lime-chipotle sour cream. At the Mountain View outpost, regulars are as familiar with the microbrewery's selection of homemade ale and ambers as they are with the menu of oversized burgers, deep-fried appetizers, and hearty salads.

TRADER VIC'S [Modern American, Asian Fusion] 4269 El Camino Real, Palo Alto (650) 849-9800 www.tradervicspaloalto.com

Have you ever gone out with friends and found it next to impossible to choose a restaurant? Next time, head for Trader Vic's, a restaurant with a fun, exotic atmosphere and a menu to match - from barbecued chicken pizza to macadamia-crust mahi mahi to Sonoma chicken Calcutta curry (you read right). Legend has it that the Mai Tai was invented at the original Oakland Trader Vic's. No visit to Trader Vic's is complete without one of these rum masterpieces.

TREVESE RESTAURANT & LOUNGE [Modern American] 115 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos (408) 354-5551 www.trevese.com

Chef Michael Miller presents two enticing options - his tasting menu or a selection of a la carte dishes. Both are designed to highlight the finest, freshest ingredients available. Tasting menu highlights include the veal medallion served with celeriac puree, blue cheese and candy stripe fig. Optional wine pairings make the tasting menu extra-tempting - particularly when the goat's milk cheesecake and peach-saffron sorbet is partnered with a 10-year-old Madeira from Cossart-Gordon. A la carte dishes include slow-roasted pork loin on the bone with ratatouille Napoleon, salt roasted beets, and herb mustard jus. What more do you need, except directions?

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» EVENT LISTINGS 104

NIGHTLIFE & MUSIC

» FEATURE 106

» EVENT LISTINGS 108

» WINE TASTING & MORE 108

» HEADLINERS 109

» CD RELEASES 109

» SPORTS BARS 112

MOVIES & TV

» NEW REVIEWS & PREVIEWS 118

» DVD RELEASES 120

» CINEMA DIRECTORY 120

ARTS

» FEATURE 122

» EVENT LISTINGS 124

» COLUMN: HOT TICKET 125

FAMILY & COMMUNITY

» FEATURE 128

» EVENT LISTINGS 130

» FARMERS MARKETS 130

» WEDDING PLANNING 134

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41

10/1 MONDAY

1. GREAT GLASS PUMPKIN PATCH

Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd., Palo Alto (408) 993-2244 www.hagi.org

October 2 – 7: Fall has officially arrived, and you know what that means... the Great Glass Pumpkin rises from Palo Alto Art Center's pumpkin patch, where thousands of hand-blown gourds are available for purchase. Proceeds benefit children's art education and outreach programs. 10am – 5pm

2. THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

San Jose Stage Theatre, 490 S. First St., San Jose www.sjstage.com

Thru October 14: The tragic true tale of a young girl and her family hiding in an attic from the Nazis during WWII.

3. DA VINCI: AN EXHIBITION OF GENIUS

Metreon, 101 Fourth St., San Francisco www.davincithegenius.com/sanfran.html

Thru December 31: The Metreon invites the whole family to enjoy this wonderful exhibition, which delves inside the mind of Da Vinci. It includes more than 150 items, including life size machines, sketches, interactive displays and 3-D presentations.

4. THE TRIUMPH OF LOVE

San Jose Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose (408) 367-7255 www.sjrep.com

Thru October 21: You'll have a laughable evening with Marivaux's romantic comedy packed full of deception, gender confusion, and of course... love.

10/3 WEDNESDAY

5. GOLDA'S BALCONY

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 903-6000 www.theatreworks.org

October 3 – 28: Follow the amazing story of Golda Meir – from a poor Russian schoolgirl to prime minister of Israel.

6. ANXIOUS OBJECTS: WILLIE COLE'S FAVORITE BRANDS

Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University (650) 723-4177 www.stanford.edu/dept/cvca/

October 3 – January 6: An exhibit from Willie Cole featuring "found works," including assemblages made from shoes, bicycle parts, appliances, irons and ironing boards and anything else you can find on the side of the road.

10/4 THURSDAY

7. FLEET WEEK 2007

Fisherman's Wharf & the Embarcadero, San Francisco www.fleetweek.us/fleetweek

October 4 – 9: This annual event celebrates our military might with a parade of cool Navy ships, public tours of docked vessels and ear-drum-shattering flybys by The Blue Angels.

10/5 FRIDAY

8. PIRATES OF EMERSON

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, 400 Beach St., Santa Cruz www.piratesofemerson.com; 45031 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont

October 5 – 7, 12 – 14, 18 – 21, 25 – 31: Be prepared to be scared out of your wits with devilish pirates, witches and the living DEAD!

9. SILICON 2007

San Jose DoubleTree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Pl., San Jose (408) 453-4000 www.siliconventions.com/silicon

October 5 – 7: Check out the latest goings on in the comic, sci-fi, fantasy, anime and horror worlds, with exhibitors, art for sale, speakers, films, fashion show, masquerade ball, and more!

10/6 SATURDAY

10. DOGTOBERFEST

Santana Row, 400 S. Winchester Blvd., San Jose (408) 551-4611 www.santanarow.com/events

October 6: This is every dog's dream. Why, you ask? Because Rover will have the chance to sample doggy beers and other treats, and when he gets a good "doggy buzz" on, he can

enter the singing dog contest to win a fabulous prize!

11. 17TH ANNUAL SAN CARLOS ART & WINE FAIRE

Downtown San Carlos, Laurel St. & St. Carlos Ave. (650) 593-1068 www.sancarloschamber.org

October 6 – 7: Take in some of the finest art as the San Carlos Art & Wine Festival welcomes more than 275 artisans, along with live entertainment on three stages, gourmet food, Italian street painting, children's fun zone, and tables of fine wines and brews.

12. NORTH AMERICAN SEA GLASS FESTIVAL

Cocoanut Grove, Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, 400 Beach St., Santa Cruz www.seaglassassociation.com

October 6 – 7: Beachcombers from across America will be gathering in Santa Cruz to display their beautiful collections of sea glass, along with art, jewelry, workshops, and let's not forget the "Shard of the Year Contest," where the rarest and most desirable piece of sea glass will bag \$1,000! 11am – 5pm

13. LOS ALTOS FALL FESTIVAL

Downtown Los Altos, S. Parking Plaza (650) 948-1455 www.losaltoschamber.org

October 6 – 7: If you're an art lover, you don't want to miss this year's Los Altos Fall Festival, featuring more than 160 artists, live music, fabulous food, car show, children's games & activities, wine, beer, and a pumpkin pie-eating contest.

14. DOWNLOAD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Shoreline Amphitheatre, One Amphitheatre Pkwy., Mountain View www.livenation.com

October 6: Enjoy a full day of music from The Cure, A.E.I., Kings of Leon, Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, She Wants Revenge, Metric, The Black Angels, 65daysofstatic, Vau de Vire Society, to name but a few.

15. 10TH ANNUAL HOT RODS AT THE BEACH CAR SHOW

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk, 400 Beach St., Santa Cruz www.hotrodsatthebeach.com

October 6 – 7: Attention, hot rodders! Get your hot rod to the Boardwalk for two days of car fun with a car show, pancake breakfast, raffles, and a police dog demonstration. Funds raised benefit the Santa Cruz City Police Officers Association: 8am – 4pm

16. FIFTH ANNUAL ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS CHAMPIONSHIP

Flamingo Hotel, 2777 Fourth St., Santa Rosa www.rosahambowinery.com

October 6: This is it, go time, the big show, the moment you've been training for your whole life, it's time to put on your game faces, and prepare your minds for the psychological battle of the millennia, the Fifth Annual Rock, Paper, Scissors Championship! Noon – 6pm

17. RADICAL REELS: 31ST ANNUAL BANFF MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL

UCSC Media Theatre, 1156 High St., Santa Cruz www.banffmountainfestivals.ca

October 6: A collection of inspiring environmental and adventure mountain films, featuring breathtaking landscapes and up-close-and-personal views of the exciting world of mountain sports: 7pm

18. CUPERTINO'S ANNUAL CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE

Throughout Cupertino (408) 777-3241 www.cupertino.org

October 6 – 7: The garage sale of garage sales, as the citizens of Cupertino fill their garages and yards full of everything, and we mean everything, you want! Maps can be obtained at the Cupertino Senior Center.

19. XUEFEI YANG

Le Petit Trianon Theatre, 72 N. Fifth St., San Jose (408) 292-0704 www.sjbs.org

October 6: Join the Beijing classical guitarist for an amazing, and we do mean amazing, evening of heavenly music: 8pm

10/7 SUNDAY

20. 10TH ANNUAL ARTS & OLIVE FESTIVAL

Canada Community College, 4200 Farm Hill Blvd., Redwood City www.olivefest.org

October 7: Two things couldn't go better together than art and olives. That's why you'll find the whole Wave gang at this year's Annual Arts & Olive Festival enjoying art and everything olive: 10am – 5pm

21. GAMBLE GARDEN DAY

Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverley St., Palo Alto (650) 329-1356 www.gamblegarden.org

October 7: A full day of family and

garden fun with vintage tractor rides and demonstrations. Make leaf prints, learn about butterflies and join the famous hunt for the longest earthworm contest! 11am

10/8 MONDAY

22. CELEBRITY FORUM: AL GORE

Flint Center for the Performing Arts, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino (650) 949-7176 www.celebrityforum.net

October 8 – 9, 11: Join Al Gore for a fun and engaging evening as he discusses how we'll all soon perish from floodwaters from the melting of arctic glaciers.

23. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PUMPKIN WEIGH-OFF

I.D.E.S. Grounds, 735 Main Street, Half Moon Bay (650) 726-9652

October 8: Ever seen a 1,200-pound pumpkin? Didn't think so. Here's your chance: This year's Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off: 7:30am

10/9 TUESDAY

24. GUYS AND DOLLS

San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd. San Jose (888) 455-7469 www.amtsj.org

October 9 – 21: You'll enter the world of gambling, gangsters, showgirls, and coppers, and if that wasn't enough to get your attention, the tale is all told through song and dance. That's right, it's a musical!



03

10/11

THURSDAY

25. PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL QUILT FESTIVAL XVI

Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara www.quiltfest.com
October 11 - 14: If you're a fan of the quilt, you need to make your way to the Pacific International Quilt Festival, where they'll have more than 700 quilts and garments on display, along with 150 booths offering services and goods for all your quilting needs.

26. OKTOBERFEST BY THE BAY

Fort Mason Center, Buchanan at Marina, San Francisco www.oktoberfestbythebay.com
October 11 - 14: The western U.S.'s largest Oktoberfest! Celebrate with gigantic steins of cold beer, super delicious food and non-stop music.

10/13

SATURDAY

27. SPACE TIME REFLECTIONS

Rose Shenson Community Art Gallery at Triton Museum of Art, 1505 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara www.scvms.org
October 13 - November 9: If you're into the watercolor scene you won't want to miss this year's Annual Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society's Member show featuring the work of more than 100 Watercolor Society members.

28. GRAND NATIONAL BIKE SHOW

The Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave., Daly City www.horsepowerpromotions.com
October 13 - 14: Two days of motorcycle fun with demos, motorcycle giveaways, and hundreds of the baddest motorcycles in the country on display!

29. SAN JOSE SHARKS vs. BOSTON BRUINS

Shark Tank (HP Pavilion), 525 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose www.sjsharks.com
October 13: Don't miss the Sharks' home opener as they welcome the Boston Bruins to the Shark Tank for a good ole butt whoopin': 7:30pm

30. HALF MOON BAY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL

Main St. between Miramontes and Spruce Sts., Half Moon Bay www.miramarevents.com/pumpkinfest/
October 13: A full day of celebrating everyone's favorite gourd, the pumpkin! Bring the family and hawk at world-class pumpkin carvers, specialty foods, live entertainment, a pumpkin parade and a haunted house, plus pie eating and costume contests: 9am - 6pm

31. SLEEP WITH THE SHARKS SLEEPOVER AT AQUARIUM OF THE BAY

Aquarium of the Bay, PIER 39, The Embarcadero and Beach Street, San Francisco (415) 623-



19

5300 www.aquariumofthebay.com
October 13: Ever spend an evening sleeping with live sharks? Didn't think so, but here's your chance. Bring the whole family and spend the night sleeping in a 300 ft. crystal clear tunnels filled with 50 sharks and more than 20,000 aquatic animals - you'll even be served breakfast!

32. PINK FLOYD LASER LIGHT SHOW

De Anza College Planetarium, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino www.planetarium.deanza.edu
October 13: You heard right, my friend: Laser. Light. Show. And what show wouldn't be complete with Pink Floyd's "Dark Side of the Moon": 9:30 and 10:30pm

10/14

SUNDAY

33. FIFTH ANNUAL NORTH BERKELEY SPICE OF LIFE FESTIVAL

Downtown Berkeley, N. Shattuck Ave. between Virginia & Rose Sts. www.spiceoflifefestival.com
October 14: Listen to live music on three stages, including jazz, bluegrass, old time favorites, and world music, along with dance performances, book signings, acupressure and yoga demonstrations, organic farmers market, food sampling, and wine and beer tasting: 10am - 6pm

34. ROCK 'N' ROLL HALF MARATHON

Downtown San Jose, beginning at HP Pavilion, ending at Plaza de Cesar Chavez www.rnrj.com
October 14: Who needs an iPod to run with when you have 14 stages of live music lining the streets (one stage at each mile marker) as you run just a tad over 13 miles.

10/19

FRIDAY

35. MONTEREY SPORTS CAR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Laguna Seca, 1021 Monterey-Salinas Hwy 68, Salinas www.laguna-seca.com
October 19 - 21: Some of the world's fastest BMWs, Porsches, Vipers, Audis and Corvettes will be going head-to-head around the fabled 11-turn course.

10/20

SATURDAY

36. MINI LE MANS OF SAN JOSE

Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Market & San Carlos Sts., San Jose www.laguna-seca.com
October 20: Drivers from the American Le Mans Series and SPEED World Challenge will race around Plaza de Cesar Chavez in a simulated race. You'll also have the opportunity to meet drivers, check out high-tech Le Mans Prototype and GT racecars, and win Le Mans prize packs: 10am - 4pm

37. EROCIA TRIO

Flint Center for the Performing Arts, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino www.penninsulasymphony.org
October 20: The Flint Center would like to welcome the Grammy nominated Erocia Trio, for a special musical performance featuring Felix Mendelssohn's *The Hebrides, Op. 26* (Fingal's Cave), Ludwig van Beethoven's *Concerto, Op. 56, in C Major* and Cesar Franck's *Symphony, in D Minor*: 8pm

38. CAMPBELL OKTOBERFEST

Historic downtown Campbell, Campbell Ave. www.campbellbamber.com
October 20 - 21: Got to love October. Why? Because it's stock full of Oktoberfests and this one is a doozy, with German music, food, craft vendors, great beer and activities for the kids.

10/21

SUNDAY

39. FROM FEATHERS TO FEAST

Hidden Villa Ranch, 26870 Moody Rd., Los Altos Hills (650) 949-8650 www.hiddenvilla.org
October 21: You'll learn how chickens are raised on an organic farm, how to care for them, even how to butcher them, but the best part is at the end of the program when you'll get you're very own ready-to-cook chicken to take home!: 2:30pm

10/23

TUESDAY

40. FIRST ANNUAL WHISKEYFEST SAN FRANCISCO

Hyatt Regency San Francisco (800) 610-6258 www.maltadvocate.com/whiskeyfest-sf.asp
October 23: Attention whiskey lovers, head to the very first Whiskeyfest, featuring more than 200 of the world's finest and rarest whiskeys: 6 - 10pm

10/25

THURSDAY

41. WYNTON MARSALIS QUINTET

Zellerbach Hall, Berkeley www.calperfs.berkeley.edu
October 25: Don't pass up a chance to see one of the greatest jazz musicians that has walked planet earth, yes, we're talking about the great and powerful Wynton Marsalis: 8pm

42. CAMACHO CIGAR TASTING EVENT

West Coast Cigars, 1650 Almaden Rd., San Jose (408) 283-9323
October 25: Enjoy a special evening of fine cigar tasting, featuring stogies from Camacho Cigars, along with raffles and special discounts: 6 - 9pm

10/26

FRIDAY

43. DISNEY'S HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL, THE ICE TOUR

HP Pavilion, 525 W. Santa Clara St., San Jose www.disney.go.com/disneylive/highschoolmusical/
October 26 - 27: The whole family will love this performance of *High School Musical*, but this isn't like any other performance - this will be performed on ICE!

44. SIXTH ANNUAL HOWLING HALLOWEEN

Old Town Los Gatos, 50 University Ave., Los Gatos (408) 671-3417 www.societydog.com
October 26: Show off your costumed four-legged friend, and enjoy a full evening of activities including a parade, costume



30



37

and cutest puppy contests, raffles, even a twist contest: 5:30 - 9:30pm

45. BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way, Oakland www.coliseum.com
October 26: It's been a long time comin', but the Boss and the E. Street Band are back on tour!: 7:30pm

10/27

SATURDAY

46. 28TH ANNUAL EXOTIC EROTIC BALL

Cow Palace, 2600 Geneva Ave., Daly City www.exoticeroticball.com
October 27: This massive party is a combination Halloween Ball, burlesque show, fashion show and rock concert... with everyone nude, of course: 8pm - 2am

10/28

SUNDAY

47. 11TH ANNUAL HAUNT THE HOLLOW

History Park, Senter Rd., San Jose (408) 277-4193 www.hbpz.org
October 28: The whole family is invited to Happy Halloween Zoo for a full day of trick-or-treating, puppet shows, trolley rides, and don't forget all the wonderful animals to view.

10/30

TUESDAY

48. MOMMY & ME ON THE ROW: HALLOWEEN FEST

Santana Row, Winchester & Stevens Creek Blvds., San Jose (408) 551-4611 www.santanarow.com
October 30: A full day of activity for mom and kids, with pumpkin decorating, face painting, trick-or-treating, and fun!: 10am - 5pm

49. GOLDEN STATE WARRIORS vs. UTAH JAZZ

Oracle Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way Oakland www.warriors.com
October 30: Come out and support your mighty Warriors for what without a doubt, will be another exciting year of NBA action: 7:30pm

50. FROM THE ALPS TO THE AMAZON: 52 WEEKS, 5 CONTINENTS, 28 COUNTRIES, ONE FAMILY

REI-Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Rd., Mountain View (650) 969-1938
October 30: Ever seen the movie *National Lampoon's Vacation*? Well, this is a lot like that minus Marty Moose, and instead of a cross country trip with the family, this is an AROUND THE WORLD trip with the family: 7pm **TV**



Daniel Kessler, second from left.

Crossing Genres

Interpol's Daniel Kessler finds inspiration in movies and museums.

BY TOM LANHAM

One thing you have to say for New York art-rock outfit Interpol: they don't do anything half-assed. The band didn't just layer guitars and keyboards onto their latest opus, *Our Love To Admire* (Capitol) – they buttressed them into virtual fortresses of cascading sound, sketching panoramic landscapes like “Mammoth” and “Pioneer to The Falls” in the process. And their concepts didn't stop there. Almost every page of their elaborate CD booklet features an artfully snapped animal portrait from the New York Museum of Natural History, specifically intended to immediately capture the viewer's interest. “I just really love the fact that it takes a few minutes to look at the shots and figure out, ‘What is this? Is it alive? Is it dead?’” explains erudite guitarist Daniel Kessler, who also hired cult film director E. Elias Merhige to direct the set's first video for “The Heinrich Maneuver.” “And also for us, it makes a lot of sense, because we're an albums band, so having people spend a little more time with the album itself is great. And it also gives people another side to the band, which is what we've felt from day one: every opportunity to make another record is another chance to show people more than what they knew.” And Interpol has quite a few cards hidden up its quasi-Goth sleeve, as Kessler reveals.

The Wave: Last time we spoke, you said you had a unique method for songwriting: you got up every morning and watched a movie, guitar in hand. You still have the same process?

Daniel Kessler: I do. It's a little hard sometimes on the road, 'cause you have to make your home out of a

hotel room each day. So there's a bit of the unnatural, the artificial in trying to create ambience like that. But I do try to watch a film every single day, like a ritual. And sometimes you need to kinda lay off, to give yourself a few days' break from the routine. But ultimately, I start every day that way. And this whole record? All the songs started by watching films.

TW: How did you first get into this?

DK: I dunno, honestly. It just kinda started working for me a long time ago. And it's something I think I started noticing, that it kinda put me in a place where I wasn't too conscious of what I was doing, although I was probably being stimulated by what I was seeing on screen. And therefore – not always, but once in a while – something would come out that was interesting. And my attention would then divert from the film to what I was writing on the guitar, and I'd have a basic idea that I would start developing from there.

TW: You also said coffee was an integral part of your mornings.

DK: Oh, yeah! The wrong cup of coffee, and everything goes wrong. I need to start with brewed coffee in the morning. I love espresso, but only in the afternoon – and if I don't have a really, really strong cup of coffee in the morning, I'm not running on all my faculties.

TW: What have you been watching lately?

DK: A lot of Buñuel films. And I watched *Days of Heaven* again – it's just great, one of my favorite films. There's another really great film I watched again, too, called *Visions of Light*. It's about the great cinematographers of Hollywood and beyond, and it really shows how the directors get a lot of credit, but it's really the cinematographers and DPs who have a gigantic contribution into what you love, coming away from a film. So it's really interesting, how involved they are in the process.

TW: What's the strangest movie that wound up influencing you?

DK: Well, it's weird, because I actually don't keep a catalog of what I see. I kinda more... use cinema, use a film to get into that ritual, as a means to get into the

creative mind frame and not be so conscious about it. Like, sitting down and playing a guitar to write a song just doesn't work for me. So I don't know which songs came from what films, and I couldn't even tell ya what I was watching at the time. I should keep a catalog, but I don't. But to me, a catalog is almost like a violation. I'm just in the moment, that moment ends, something happens, then a song idea actually becomes a possibility.

TW: Is there one film you're embarrassed about liking?

DK: A guilty pleasure, eh? No. Not really. I loved *Doctor Zhivago*, though. And sometimes I just love a big Hollywood blockbuster; they really entertain me. Although a lot of times, they have the opposite effect, and you leave the theater thinking, “Argh! I'm dumber than when I went in.” But I'm looking forward to seeing *Eastern Promises* – I might go see it today.

TW: Well, you seem to have figured the big mystery that eludes many bands: All art is equally important, and inspiration can often be found in genres that are not your own.

DK: I totally, wholeheartedly agree. That's why talking about this band and that band doesn't always relate to me. Music is a constant in my life, and being around it, I really feel something – it keeps me addicted to that feeling of feeling something, music. But beyond that, it's not so direct an influence. Besides watching films to get myself in the mood, I love walking through museums and galleries and so forth when I need it. There are days when I'll go to the Met, because I know it's a really good thing for the mind. You can dive right in and just make your way at your own pace. And even hanging out with friends who have that creative spark that drives them, when they really like what they're doing – it's never a form of competition when I'm around them, it's always a form of stimulation.

TW: And there is such a thing as a cinematic song, like the waterfall-ish, *Last of the Mohicans* textures you achieve in “Pioneer to The Falls.”

DK: To me, how that song evolved is a really good example of us working together as a band. With a lot of songs, I might write full progressions and so forth before taking it to the band, like “The Heinrich Maneuver.” But “Pioneer” just had that little guitar motif, and then the song itself didn't take very long to put together – it happened very quickly, where all these different ideas were just flowing in the right direction, everyone had their contribution, and it just happened very naturally, and it fit like a glove. And songs like that, that sound so conceptual, can be very ambitious-sounding, and they don't really sound natural. But to be able to make it sound natural? That's kinda us, I think, in a lot of ways. So a song like that is very cinematic, but it's not cinematic where we wanted to make it cinematic – it just became that. There was a cinematic quality to my guitar motif, but we extricated it and expanded it as a quartet. **TW**

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Thursdays: Underground Hip-Hop
Fridays: DJs Brotha Reese and Rated "R"
Saturdays: Frank Morales (Stylish house, hip-hop) and Jay Reese (Old school, '70s, disco)
Sundays: Planet Reggae (No cover) with DJ Nappy & Jimmy K
Wednesday 10/31: Halloween Bash Party

ALBERTO'S

736 W. Dana St.
Mountain View (650) 968-3007
www.albertos.com
Mondays: Taste of blues dancing dance lessons with MIHAI
Tuesdays: College salsa dance lessons with Pantea, dancing with DJ El Duque
Wednesdays: Cha-cha-cha, merengue, bachata lessons with Pantea
Thursdays: Salsa lessons with Pantea
Saturdays: Rock'n Spanish: Live music with Ruido Azul (DJ dancing)

A.P. STUMPS'

163 W. Santa Clara St.
San Jose (408) 292-9928
www.apstumps.com
Wednesdays: Jazz, featuring Laurent Fourgo & His Ensemble

AVALON

777 Lawrence Expwy.
Santa Clara (408) 241-0777
www.nightclubavalon.com
Friday 10/5: Monte Vista High School Reunion
Saturday 10/6: Great White in concert with Long Bon
Saturday 10/13: Novoe Radio
Saturday 10/27: Club Bollywood Halloween Bash

AZUCAR

71 E. San Fernando St.
San Jose (408) 293-1121
www.azucarsi.com
Thursdays thru Saturdays: Live Latin music

B412

412 Emerson St.
Palo Alto (650) 326-7183
www.b412wef.com
Thursdays: Europa Thursdays (Int'l House music)
Fridays & Saturdays: DJ dancing
Saturday 10/6: Glamorous (Live DJ music)

BACH DANCING AND DYNAMITE SOCIETY

307 Mirada Rd.
Half Moon Bay (650) 726-4143
www.bachdso.com
Sunday 10/7: Dave Valentin Quintet

BAMBOO LOUNGE AT THE ISLAND GRILL

1355 N. Fourth St.
San Jose (408) 392-2468
www.theislandgrill.com/03_bamboo.html
Wednesdays & Thursdays: R&B, funk, jazz
Fridays & Saturdays: DJs or live entertainment

BLANK CLUB

44 S. Almaden Ave.
San Jose (408) 292-5265
www.theblankclub.com
Tuesdays: Whatever Tuesdays with DJ RS2
Monday 10/1: Live 105 & Miller Genuine Draft present Jimmy Eat World
Tuesday 10/2: Whatever Tuesday, Special Performance by Clay Wheels, art by Nine15
Friday 10/5: The Odd Numbers, The Forgotten, plus special guests
Saturday 10/6: Cure afterparty, Club Satori with DJ's Vitus and Kevin, The Cured (Cure tribute band)
Tuesday 10/9: Whatever Tuesday, art by Jimbo Phillips
Saturday 10/13: Bombshell's Birthday Party featuring Arsen Roulette, The Drugstore Romeros, plus special guests
Tuesday 10/16: Whatever Tuesday, art by Sophorn Sin
Friday 10/19: T.S.O.L., Mercy Killers, plus special guests
Tuesday 10/23: Whatever Tuesday, art by MIMO
Friday 10/26: San Jose Tatoo Convention afterparty featuring Audio Fallout, No Broadcast, plus special guests
Tuesday 10/30: Whatever Tuesday, Special Performance by RS2 Solid Sound, art by Michael Buscemi

BLEU GINGER RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

90 S. Abel Rd.
Milpitas (408) 719-9998
www.bleuinger.com
Fridays & Saturdays: Live jazz
Friday 10/5: John Worley and Worlview 3.0
Friday 10/12: Primary Colors with Nate Pruitt
Friday 10/19: The Jessica Johnson Group
Friday 10/26: Primary Colors with Nate Pruitt

BLUE CHALK CAFE

630 Ramona St.
Palo Alto (650) 326-1020
www.bluechalkcafe.com
Thursday 10/4: Dr. Mojo
Saturday 10/6: Aftermath
Thursday 10/11: Blues Cadillac
Thursday 10/18: The Jump Kings
Thursday 10/25: Rodeo Clowns
Friday 10/26: Aftermath

BLUE PHEASANT

22100 Stevens Creek Blvd.
Cupertino (408) 255-3300
www.bluepheasant.com
Tuesdays & Wednesdays: Steve "Tigger" Tieger
Thursdays & Saturdays: Steve & Gene Holiday
Fridays & Saturdays: Dave Majur

BRANHAM LOUNGE

1116 Branham Ln.
San Jose (408) 265-5525
Mondays & Thursdays: Karaoke

BRITANNIA ARMS

173 W. Santa Clara St.
San Jose (408) 278-1400
www.britanniaarms.com
Mondays: Monday Night Football, half off all appetizers
Tuesdays: Poetry Slam
Wednesdays: DJ Radio Raheem ('80s, '90s & today)
Saturdays: DJ Asis (Hip-hop)
Sundays: DJ Fujii

BRITANNIA ARMS

1087 De Anza Blvd.
Cupertino (408) 252-7262
www.britanniaarms.com
Mondays: Karaoke, pool tournament
Tuesdays: Free Pool Night, karaoke, trivia contest
Wednesdays: Irish dancing, British Soccer Night, reggae
2nd & 4th Thursdays: Celtic Night
Sundays: Jazz Jam with Dennis White, karaoke
Saturday 10/13: Barb Rocks presents live bands
Friday 10/19: Man Down Productions featuring Exodus
Saturday 10/20: Barb Rocks presents live bands
Friday 10/26: Buzz Kill (classic rock)
Saturday 10/27: Come meet the Miller Girls

BRITANNIA ARMS

5027 Almaden Expwy.
San Jose (408) 266-0550
www.britanniaarms.com
Mondays: Live sports shown all day
Tuesdays: Live music with The Peelers
Wednesdays & Sundays: Karaoke with Davy K
Thursdays: D-FUZE

BRITISH BANKERS CLUB

1090 El Camino Real
Menlo Park (650) 327-8769
www.britisbankersclub.com
Wednesdays: DJ dancing
Thursdays: Karaoke
Fridays & Saturdays: Live music

C&J'S SPORTS BAR

1550 Lafayette St.
Santa Clara (408) 423-9013
www.candjssportsbar.com
Wednesdays: DJ Vex One (College Night)
Thursdays: Ladies Night

CAFÉ FINO

544 Emerson St.
Palo Alto (650) 326-6082
www.maddalenasrestaurant.com
Monday thru Sunday: Live jazz
Tuesdays: Jazzkwest
Wednesdays: Margie Barker, Trio Delux
Thursdays: Pasquale Esposito
Fridays & Saturdays: Nancy Gilliland, Trio Delux

CAMPBELL BELLARDS

1777 S. Bascom Ave.
Campbell (408) 377-9886
Saturdays: Afternoon Drop-in Pool

CAMPBELL HERITAGE THEATRE

One W. Campbell Ave.
Campbell (408) 866-2700
www.heritage theatre.org
Friday 10/5: The New Christy Minstrels

CARDIFF LOUNGE

260 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell (408) 374-7477
www.cardiffloounge.com
Sundays: Industry Night
Wednesdays: Urban Soup (Soul, funk, '80s, underground, hip-hop)
Thursdays: Foxy (Deep soulful house)
Fridays: Lowdown (DJs playing soulful house)
Saturdays: Cardiff sessions, rotating DJs

CLUB SAVOY

3546 Flora Vista Ave.
Santa Clara (408) 244-6909
www.clubsavoy.com
Wednesdays: Karaoke
Fridays: DJ Danny G.
Saturdays: DJ Claudia

DAN BROWN'S LOUNGE & SPORTS

4141 El Camino Real
Palo Alto (650) 493-9020
www.danbrown.com
Thursdays: Karaoke
Fridays: Reggae Night
Saturdays: Fellowship Sound System (House, '80s music) and College Ball
Sundays: Bloody Sunday - Industry Appreciation Night

DI CICCIO'S RISTORANTE ITALIANO

2509 S. Bascom Ave.
Campbell (408) 377-5850
www.dicciogreatfood.com
Fridays: Mandolinist David Winters
Saturdays: Accordionist Michael Zampiceni
Saturday 10/20: Tribute to Dean Martin

DIVE BAR

78 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose (408) 288-5252
www.sjdivebar.com
Mondays: Happy Monday (Happy hour all day)
Wednesdays: Karaoke
Thursdays: J3 Thursdays with DJ Robert ('80s music)
Fridays: Cosmo Fridays with DJ Dave or DJ Robert

Saturdays: Absolut Saturdays with DJ Dave or DJ Robert
Sundays: Bottomless pints PBR & Free pool
Friday 10/12: Dive Bar's Third Anniversary Party

EL JARDIN TEQUILA BAR

368 Santana Row
San Jose (408) 246-1744
www.jardintequilabar.com
Thursdays & Fridays: Tequila tasting (RSVP)
Wednesdays thru Sundays: Live music
Sundays: Mariachi
Saturdays: Gypsy Tribe

FAHRENHEIT ULTRA LOUNGE

99 E. San Fernando St.
San Jose (408) 998-9998
www.fullralounge.com
Tuesdays: Fashion Lounge
Thursdays: House DJs
1st Friday: Glamorous with host Sebastian, DJ Fabian (Clothing & cosmetic giveaways)
4th Friday: Blend
1st Saturdays: Sinful with Brian Bass ('80s, house, hip-hop)
2nd Saturday: Bliss with DJ Adam Cova
4th Saturday: Euphoria

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SAN JOSE

49 N. Fourth St.
San Jose (408) 297-7212
www.fpcsj.org
Saturday 10/20: Jazz Concert featuring I've Never Been to Brisbane

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

625 Hamilton Ave.
Palo Alto (650) 323-6167
www.firstpaloalto.com/index.shtml
Saturday 10/13: Pat Ryan's Celtic Junket

FLAMES COFFEE SHOP

1812 Hillsdale Ave.
San Jose (408) 723-8393
www.flamescoffeeshop.com
Thursdays thru Saturdays: Karaoke

FOX THEATRE

2215 Broadway
Redwood City (650) 369-4119
www.foxdram.com
Saturday 10/20: Downtown Live and KFOG present, Luca, plus Cary Brothers

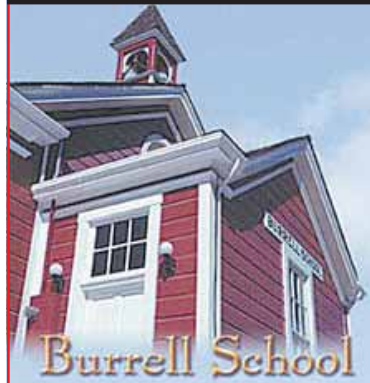
GORDON BIERSCH

33 E. San Fernando St.
San Jose (408) 294-6785
www.gordonbiersch.com
Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays: Live music

HALF MOON BAY BREWING CO.

390 Capistrano Rd.
Half Moon Bay (650) 728-2739
www.hmbbrewingco.com
Thursday 10/4: Michael J Ahearn, Graham Nash
Friday 10/5: DS

SVGUIDE: WINE TASTING & MORE



Burrell School Vineyards & Winery, 24060 Summit Rd., Los Gatos (408) 353-6290
www.burrellschool.com
Burrell School Vineyards & Winery produces "Wines at the Head of Their Class": wines of unmistakable mountain character. Estate grown cabernet franc, chardonnay, merlot, pinot noir, cabernet sauvignon, and syrah. Open Thurs. - Sun., 11am - 5pm; Fri. - Sat., 11am - 6pm.

WINERIES

Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards, 22645 Garrod Rd., Saratoga (408) 867-7116
www.cgv.com
Wine Tasting: Mon. - Fri., Noon-5pm; Sat. - Sun., 11am - 5pm.

Fortino Winery, 4525 Hecker Pass Hwy., Gilroy (650) 842-3305
www.fortinowinery.com
Wine Tasting: Tue-Sat., 10am - 5pm; Sun, 11am - 5pm. The redwood pavilion can accommodate up to 350 guests for your special event.

Hahn Estates, Smith & Hook Winery, 37700 Foothill Rd., Soledad (831) 678-2132
www.hahnestates.com
Wine Tasting: Mon. - Fri., 11am - 4pm; Sat. - Sun., 11am - 5pm.

Pedrizetti Winery, 1645 San Pedro Ave., Morgan Hill (408) 779-7389
www.pedrizettiwinery.com

Open Tues. - Sun., 10am - 5pm (closed most holidays). The Pedrizetti Winery can accommodate up to 160 guests outdoors, and up to 40 guests indoors for your next event.

Rabbit's Foot Meadery, 1246 Birchwood Dr., Sunnyvale (408) 261-1603
www.rabbitsfootmeadery.com
Their famous cider is available at Whole Foods Markets and Olivers Markets.

Roudon-Smith Winery, 2364 Bean Creek Rd., Scotts Valley (831) 438-1244
www.roudonsmith.com
Enjoy picnic facilities in a tranquil and beautiful setting of redwood trees and vines, just minutes from Hwy. 17. They can host your next small event, accommodating up to 50 guests. Wine Tasting: Sat., Noon - 4:30pm.

Thomas Fogarty Vineyards, 19501 Skyline Blvd., Woodside (650) 851-6777
www.fogartywinery.com
Wine Tasting: Thurs. - Sun., 11am-5pm.

WINE SHOPS

Savvy Cellar Wines, 2048 Broadway St., Redwood City (650) 363-8737
www.savvycellar.com
Features wines that are rated 90+ points and retail for \$39/bottle or less, combined with a unique "try before you buy" concept. Check out regular tasting specials, food complements, wine education classes, weekly live jazz, and private events. Call for wine tasting times.

Vino Locale, 431 Kipling St., Palo Alto (650) 328-0450
www.vinolocale.com
Vino Locale is the perfect place to host a business or social event in an elegant and private setting. Open Tues. - Sat., 11am - 9pm; Sun, Noon - 5pm.

Vintage Wine Merchant, 377 Santana Row #1135, San Jose (408) 260-1115
www.vintagewinemERCHANT.com
Open Mon. - Wed., 10am - 9pm; Thur.-Sat., 10am - 10am; Sun., Noon-8pm.

FOR MORE INFORMATION LOG ON TO WWW.THEWAVEMAG.COM

NIGHTLIFE&MUSIC HEADLINERS

PERRY FARRELL'S SATELLITE PARTY
October 1, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

JIMMY EAT WORLD
October 2, The Catalyst Club, Santa Cruz www.catalystclub.com

DARK STAR ORCHESTRA
October 4-6, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

TWELVE GIRLS BAND
October 4, San Jose Civic Auditorium, San Jose www.apecconcerts.com

NELLIE MCKAY
October 4, The Independent, San Francisco www.theindependentsf.com

THE BLACK CROWES
October 5, Paramount Theatre, Oakland www.paramounttheatre.com

ROBERT EARL KEEN
October 5, The Catalyst Club, Santa Cruz www.catalystclub.com

DADDY YANKEE
October 5, Shoreline Amphitheatre, Mountain View www.shorelineamp.com

THE GO-GO'S
October 5, The Independent, San Francisco www.theindependentsf.com

BRYAN ADAMS / GEORGE THOROGOOD & THE DESTROYERS
October 6, Greek Theatre - U/C Berkeley www.ticketmaster.com

DOWNLOAD FESTIVAL FEATURING THE CURE
October 6, Shoreline Amphitheatre, Mountain View www.shorelineamp.com

TURBONEGRO
October 8, Slim's, San Francisco www.slims-sf.com

SOCIAL DISTORTION
October 9-11, The Catalyst Club, Santa Cruz www.catalystclub.com



BB King

Q-TIP
October 10, The Independent, San Francisco www.theindependentsf.com

TRAGICALLY HIP
October 10, The Warfield, San Francisco www.livenation.com

THE RADIATORS
October 12-13, The Independent, San Francisco www.theindependentsf.com

MACHINE HEAD
October 12, The Warfield, San Francisco www.livenation.com

JIMMY EAT WORLD
October 14, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

B.B. KING
October 15, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

ELECTRIC SIX
October 16, The Independent, San Francisco www.theindependentsf.com

JENNIFER LOPEZ / MARC ANTHONY
October 17, HP Pavilion, San Jose www.hppsj.com

DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL
October 19, The Warfield, San Francisco www.livenation.com

INTERPOL
October 20, Bill Graham Civic Auditorium San Francisco www.ticketmaster.com

THE POGUES
October 21-23, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

BLONDE REDHEAD
October 24, The Warfield, San Francisco www.livenation.com

THE JESUS AND MARY CHAIN
October 26-27, The Fillmore, San Francisco www.thefillmore.com

THURSTON MOORE
October 29, The Great American Music Hall, San Francisco www.gamb.com

21ST ANNUAL BRIDGE SCHOOL BENEFIT
October 27-28, Shoreline Amphitheatre, Mountain View www.shorelineamp.com

VOODOO GLOW SKULLS
October 30, The Bottom of the Hill, San Francisco www.bottomofthehill.com

COMING SOON

Kris Kristofferson, Tiger Army, Hanson, Suzanne Vega, The Waterboys, Redd Cross, Gov't Mule, Feist, Tori Amos, Diana Ross, Kelly Clarkson, New Found Glory, Silverchair, Rush, Dropkick Murphys, Pink Martini, Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals, Shoen Knife, Amon Amarth, George Michael, Maroon 5, The Hives, and more...

CD RELEASES

OCTOBER 1

Annie Lennox, *Songs of Mass Destruction*
Bruce Springsteen, *Magic*
Faith Hill, *The Hits*
John Fogerty, *Revival*
Matchbox Twenty, *Exile on Mainstream*
PJ Harvey, *White Chalk*

OCTOBER 9

Eric Clapton, *Complete Clapton*
Kid Rock, *Rock N Roll Jesus*
LeAnn Rimes, *Family*
Marc Cohn, *Join the Parade*
Pet Shop Boys, *Disco 4*
Puddle of Mudd, *Famous*

OCTOBER 16

Eve, *Here I Am*
Jimmy Eat World, *Chase This Light*
Neil Young, *Chrome Dreams II*
R.E.M., *Live*

OCTOBER 23

Carla Bruni, *No Promises*
Carrie Underwood, *Carnival Ride*
Mia, *Liberation*
Robert Plant & Alison Krauss, *Raising Sand*
Rob Zombie, *Live*

OCTOBER 30

David Gilmore, *Remember That Night: Live At The Royal Albert Hall*
Dead or Alive, *Sophisticated Boom Boom*
Seal, *System*



Live Music EVERY DAY NO COVER Sun. - Thurs

SHOWS @ 7PM & 9PM

10/01 MON: Dog House Riley, OLIVER AND FRIENDS

10/02 TUE: Blue J, DENNIS AND STUART

10/03 WED: ACOUSTIC BLUES JAM, King Arthur and the Round Table Rockers

10/04 THU: tbd, BROTHERS GOLDMAN

10/07 SUN: JC Smith Blues Revelations, ALVIN DRAPER BAND

10/08 MON: Dog House Riley, DENNIS DOVE

10/09 TUE: Blue J, DOC AND CHUCK

10/10 WED: tbd, MIKE ROSSI

10/11 THU: tbd, MADALYN ROSE

ALL CAPS = 9PM SHOW / LOWER CASE = 7PM SHOW

10/14 SUN: LD & Blues Redemption, ALVIN DRAPER BAND

10/15 MON: Dog House Riley, DENNIS DOVE

10/16 TUE: Blue J, DOC and CHUCK, Cover \$5

10/17 WED: Gene Washington, LARA PRICE and LAURA CHAVEZ "unplugged"

10/21 SUN: LD and Blues Redemption, ALVIN DRAPER BAND

10/22 MON: Dog House Riley, DENNIS DOVE

10/23 TUE: Blue J, THE MARBLETONES, Cover \$10

10/24 WED: John Boutell Group, GIL DeLEON and the JUMPKINGS

10/25 THU: Steel Blues, LANE COKER and BIG DELTA

10/28 SUN: Nuthin' But Trouble, ALVIN DRAPER BAND

10/29 MON: Dog House Riley, OLIVER AND FRIENDS

10/30 TUE: Blue J, DENNIS DOVE

10/31 WED: Dennis Johnson, STOMPIN' GROUND

10/5 \$12 Gil DeLeon and the JumpKings, OMAR SHARRIFF & THE SULTANS OF SOUND

10/6 \$12 tbd, DAVID M'ORE AND THE BLUES DRIVERS

10/12 \$12 Chris Burkhardt, KARA MAGUIRE

10/13 \$12 Lil' Pea and the 3rd Degree, STEVE FREUND

10/19 \$12 Exit 85, SAMMY VARELA

10/20 \$12 tbd, MIC GILLETTE AND JON SMITH PROJECT

10/26 \$15 Wicked Sons, TERRY EVANS

10/27 \$12 TurnAround Blues, NEW REGIME FEAT. RAY STARR & GARY KIRVAN

WWW.JJSBLUES.NET 408.243.6441

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WAVE 07

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SANTA CLARA: 2735 Scott Blvd. **SAN FRANCISCO:** 255 West Portal Ave.

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Motif, Downtown
San Jose

← 108

Saturday 10/6: Ron Thompson and the Resistors **Sunday 10/7:** Andy Santana **Tuesday 10/9:** Bob Parker **Thursday 10/11:** Sonja Jason **Friday 10/12:** Mark Hummel **Saturday 10/13:** South City Blues Band **Sunday 10/14:** Terry Hanck **Thursday 10/18:** Phil and the Dirty Cats **Friday 10/19** thru **Sunday 10/21:** Americana Hayride and Music **Friday 10/19:** California Cowboys, **Saturday 10/20:** The Cowlicks **Sunday 10/21:** Lords of Tone **Tuesday 10/23:** Stephan Pasero and the Red Ginger Trio **Thursday 10/25:** Mighty Mike Schermer Unplugged **Friday 10/26:** Brother Buzz **Saturday 10/27:** The Montegos **Sunday 10/28:** Mitch Woods and the Rocket 88s **Tuesday 10/30:** Brandon Robinson **Wednesday 10/31:** Halloween Party with Mama Pacho

HEDLEY CLUB

Hotel De Anza
233 W. Santa Clara St.
San Jose (408) 286-1000
www.hoteldeanza.com
Friday 10/5: The Eric Bolvin Trio **Saturday 10/6:** The Jazz Mechanics **Friday 10/12:** The Jennifer Lee Trio **Saturday 10/13:** J.R. and the Rhythm Chasers **Friday 10/19:** Primary Colors **Saturday 10/20:** The Board of Directors

HOTEL VALENCIA COURTYARD

355 Santana Row
San Jose (408) 551-0010
www.hotelvalencia.com

Wednesday 10/17: Oktoberfest with German music and accordion, \$20 entry includes a beer, souvenir stein, and bratwurst

HP PAVILION

525 W. Santa Clara
San Jose (408) 287-9200
www.hppsj.com

Tuesday 10/9: Genesis **Wednesday 10/17:** Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony **Friday 10/19:** RBD **Sunday 10/21:** Joan Sebastian, Pepe Aguilar, Jenni Rivera

HUKILAU

640 Ramona St.
Palo Alto (650) 329-9533
www.dabukilau.com

Friday 10/5: Kapalakiko **Saturday 10/6:** Kapena Unplugged **Friday 10/12:** Hiram Bell **Saturday 10/13:** Island Touch **Friday 10/19:** Hiram Bell **Saturday 10/20:** Kona Gold **Friday 10/26:** Na Leo Pumehana **Saturday 10/27:** Island Touch

HUKILAU

230 Jackson St.
San Jose (408) 279-4888
www.dabukilau.com

Friday 10/5: Ka Ehu Kai **Saturday 10/6:** Na Kaloho Kane **Friday 10/12:** Kapalakiko **Saturday 10/13:** E

Ono Kane **Friday 10/19:** Kona Gold **Saturday 10/20:** Island Touch **Friday 10/26:** E Ono Kane **Saturday 10/27:** Kona Gold

JJ'S BLUES

3439 Stevens Creek Blvd.
San Jose (408) 243-6441
www.jjsblues.net

Sundays thru Tuesdays: Pro Jam **Sundays:** Alvin Draper Band **Mondays:** Dog House Riley **Tuesdays:** Amateur Jam, Blue J **Monday 10/1:** Oliver and Friends **Tuesday 10/2:** Dennis and Stuart **Wednesday 10/3:** Acoustic Blues Jam, King Arthur and the Roundtable Rockers **Thursday 10/4:** Brothers Goldman **Friday 10/5:** Gil DeLeon and the JumpKings, Omar Sharriff and the Sultans of Sound **Saturday 10/6:** David M'ore and the Blues Drivers **Friday 10/7:** JC Smith Blues Revelations **Monday 10/8:** Dennis Dove **Tuesday 10/9:** Doc and Chuck **Wednesday 10/10:** Mike Rossi **Thursday 10/11:** Madalyn Rose **Friday 10/12:** Chris Burkhart, Kara Maguire **Saturday 10/13:** Lil' Pea and the Third Degree, Steve Freund **Sunday 10/14:** LD and Blues Redemption **Monday 10/15:** Dennis Dove **Tuesday 10/16:** Doc and Chuck **Wednesday 10/17:** Gene Washington, Lara Price and Laura Chavez **Thursday 10/18:** Jake Mackey and the Muddy Suns

Friday 10/19: Exit 85, Sammy Varela **Saturday 10/20:** Mic Jillette and Jon Smith Project **Sunday 10/21:** LD and Blues Redemption **Monday 10/22:** Dennis Dove **Tuesday 10/23:** Live recording with Dan Healy, The Marbletones **Wednesday 10/24:** John Boutell Group, Gil DeLeon and the JumpKings **Thursday 10/25:** Steel Blues, Lane Coker and Big Delta **Friday 10/26:** Wicked Sons, Terry Evans **Saturday 10/27:** TurnAround Blues, New Regime featuring Ray Starr and Gary Kirvan **Sunday 10/28:** Nuthin' but Trouble **Monday 10/29:** Oliver and Friends **Tuesday 10/30:** Dennis Dove **Wednesday 10/31:** Dennis Johnson, Stompin' Ground

JOHNNY V'S

31 E. Santa Clara St.
San Jose (408) 947-8470
Mondays: DJs **Wednesdays:** Industry Night, underground hip-hop **Thursdays:** Clandestine **Fridays** thru **Sundays:** Live music **Sundays:** Metal Showcase **Wednesday 10/31:** The Cypher, hosted by Audio Dru, featuring Lucky Lucianni and Druhnkin Ninjah

KATIE BLOOM'S

369 E. Campbell Ave.
Campbell (408) 379-9687
www.katieblooms.com
Sundays: Karaoke **Wednesdays:** Brainstormer Pub Quiz **Thursdays:** Live DJ **1st & 3rd Saturdays:** Live DJ

KING'S HEAD PUB AND RESTAURANT

201 Orchard City Dr.
Campbell (408) 371-2499
www.thekingshead.us

Sundays: Open Mic Night **Mondays:** Karaoke with DJ Curtis **Thursday 10/4:** Patty Kistner Band **Friday 10/5:** TinMan **Saturday 10/6:** The Bell Brothers **Friday 10/12:** The Spazmatics **Saturday 10/13:** The Houserockers **Friday 10/19:** SeDeuce **Saturday 10/20:** Midlife Vices **Friday 10/26:** The Cocktail Monkeys **Saturday 10/27:** The Sun Kings

KYOTO PALACE

1875 S. Bascom Ave., Suite 2500,
Campbell (408) 377-6456
www.kyotopalace.com
Wednesdays: Karaoke with Paul and Gina Jones

LITTLE FOX THEATRE

2209 Broadway St.
Redwood City (650) FOX-4119
www.foodream.com

Wednesdays: Redwood City Blues Jam **Friday 10/5:** California Cowboys **Thursday 10/11:** Tom Russell **Friday 10/12:** Masterpiece plus Mark Kaye Band **Saturday 10/13:** Motown Mania Tribute Show "Best Intentions," Dynamic Tributes to the Temptations, The Four Tops, Smokey Robinson & The Miracles and Gladys Knight & The Pips featuring Samantha Alexes **Sunday 10/14:**

Ramana Vieira **Thursday 10/18:** CD Release Party, Five AM plus Michael Vincent **Friday 10/19:** Mitch Woods and the Rocket 88s, plus Volker Striffer Band **Saturday 10/20:** Mr. Meanor, Louisville Collection Agency, Full Throttle **Sunday 10/21:** Patois Showcase featuring Wayne Wallace, Kat Parra, and Alexa Weber Morales **Friday 10/26:** Pride & Joy **Saturday 10/27:** Halloween Show with costume contest and prizes, featuring Powerage, Rat Bastard, and Graveyard Tan, with special guest Scotty Bon Osbourne from Black Sabbath Tribute, Speak of the Devil **Sunday 10/28:** Squeaky Wheel Tour: Lisa Montes Band, Katie Garibaldi Band and Friends Raising Awareness for Missing People

THE LOFT BAR AND BISTRO

90 S. Second St.
San Jose (408) 291-0677
www.loftbarandbistro.com

Tuesdays: Trivia Night **Thursdays:** Live Jazz **Fridays & Saturdays:** DJ dancing

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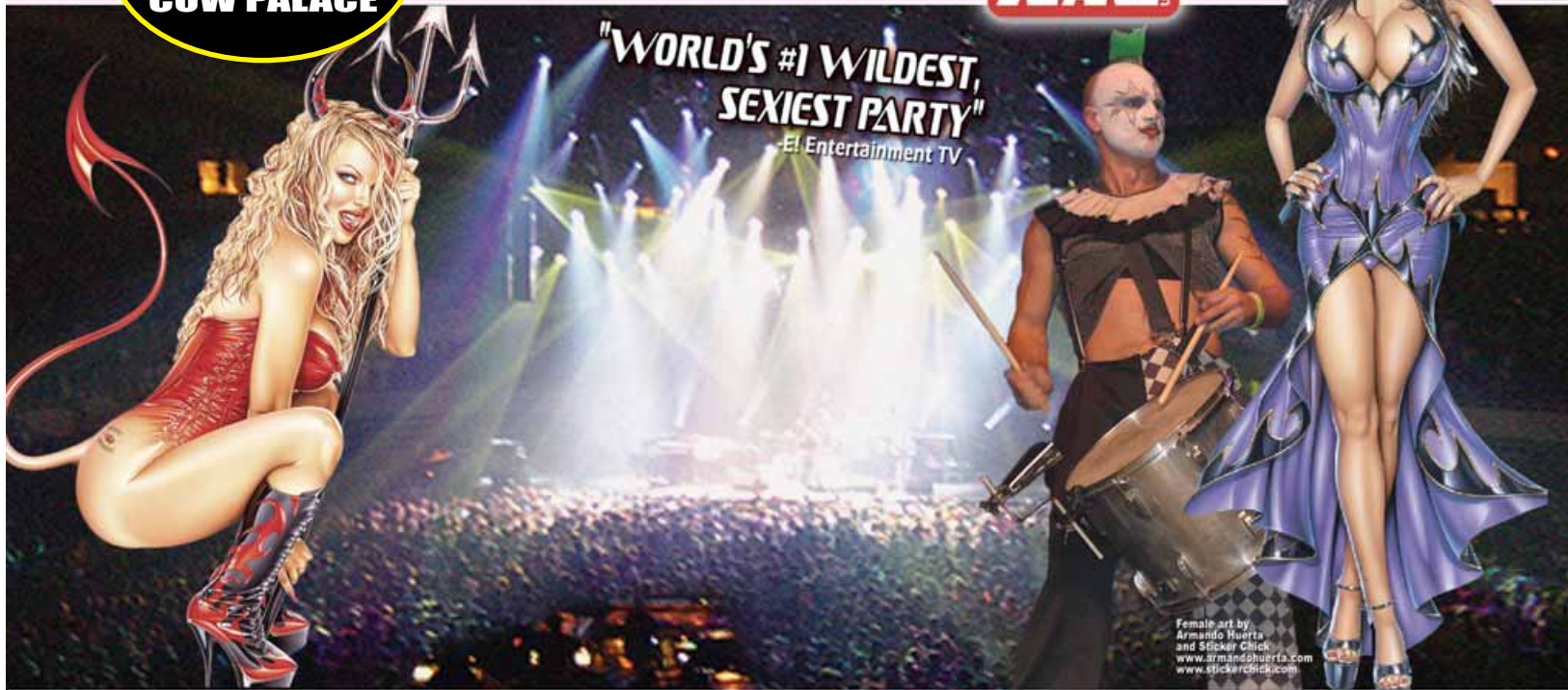


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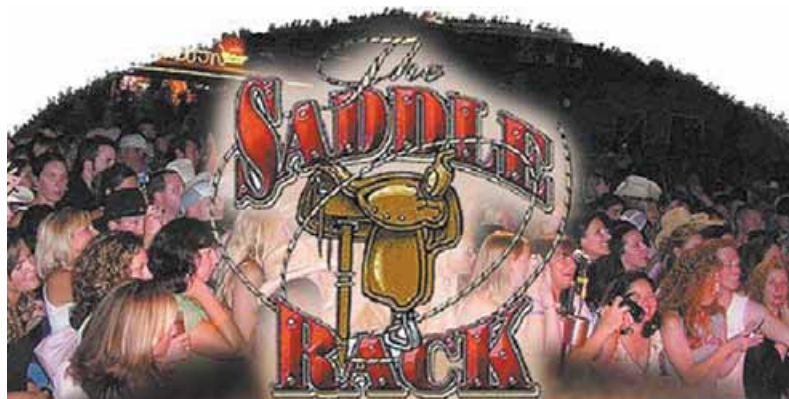
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Wed. Nov. 21st

(Italian Rock-Pop-Blues Superstar)
KANSAS - Fri. Oct. 17th

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368 Santana Row
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www.smoketiki.com
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65 Post St., San Jose
(408) 993-0861
www.splashsf.com
Tuesdays: Karaoke **Wednesdays:** Pink Wednesdays (For girls with girls in common) with a video DJ **Thursdays:** Legendary (Boys college night out with DJ Vinyl) **Fridays:** Club Furia (Hot Latin beats by DJ Eclipse) **Saturdays:** Top 2 Bottom (House music, hip-hop)

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www.tasteultralounge.com
Tuesdays: Tasty Tuesdays **Thursdays:** Lux Party **1st Fridays:** Velvet Shop **2nd Fridays:** Ladies Night **3rd Fridays:** Recess **4th Fridays:** Red Light District **1st Saturdays:** Pillow Talk **2nd Saturdays:** Wonderland **3rd Saturdays:** Saturday School **4th Saturdays:** Risque

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www.vaultultralounge.com
Thursdays thru Saturdays: DJ dancing **Saturday 10/6:** Jay J Live and Direct **Friday 10/12:** Top Notch Two-Year Anniversary, with Herick Hell **Saturday 10/13:** Andy Caldwell Live & Direct **Saturday 10/20:** Stacy Kidd Live and Direct **Friday 10/26:** Barcelona, Big Pimpin, Halloween Costume Ball

Saturday 10/27: Brian Salazar, Remedy, Halloween Costume Party

VOODOO LOUNGE

14 S. Second St.
San Jose (408) 286-8636
www.voodooounge.com
1st Friday: Crème de le Crème feat DJs Aspect and As Is **3rd Friday:** Soulstar **4th Friday:** Kill the Radio **1st Saturday:** Music Machine **2nd & 4th Saturdays:** Slo Glo and Entourage **Sunday 10/28:** The Monster Ball, hosted by Kung Fu Vampire, featuring Kelda Music, Druhnkin Ninja, Beatmites, Silence, Lady Ivory, and Boogiemani

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www.indianhealthcenter.org
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www.improv.com
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www.national-comedy.com
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- 10/19 - Blue Sierra, 9:30pm
- 10/20 - Kinetic Chain, 9pm
- 10/26 - 6:AM, Mystic Rage, and more, 9pm
- 10/27 - The Refugees (Tom Petty Tribute Band), 9pm

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Elizabeth: The Golden Age



REVIEWS & PREVIEWS BY FRED TOPEL

REVIEWS

O C T O B E R 5

FINISHING THE GAME

★★★★☆

DIRECTED BY: JUSTIN LIN
STARRING: ROGER FAN, SUNG KANG, DUSTIN NGUYEN

Bruce Lee's final movie, *Game of Death*, features only 12 minutes of Lee. He died before he could finish it. The rest of the film was shot with a double just to squeeze one last dollar out of the martial arts legend. This mockumentary makes fun of wannabes auditioning to be Lee's body double, and unfortunately it's as funny as it is factual. The real *Game of Death* is ridiculous and transparent. *Finishing the Game* fails to take advantage of that, it merely does an imitation of the Christopher Guest troupe, only with Asians in the '70s. The joke of oblivious bad actors gets old really fast.

O C T O B E R 1 2

ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE

★★★★☆
DIRECTED BY: SHEKHAR KAPUR
STARRING: CATE BLANCHETT, CLIVE OWEN, GEOFFREY RUSH

Oscar-nominated historical epics do not usually get sequels. Here, Blanchett returns to the throne for the second phase of Elizabeth I's reign. Sir Walter Raleigh (Owen) begs for money and ends up leading England's naval fleet against Spain. Elizabeth thwarts Mary Queen of Scots' assassination attempts. Romantically, she's less in charge, grudgingly remaining the virgin queen. Blanchett continues a subtle, clear and intense performance. Owen steals the show with his charm. The film keeps history relatable by putting it in the context of universal themes and demonstrative visuals, so it never gets bogged down in old-time language, corsets and frilly dresses.

LARS AND THE REAL GIRL

★★★★☆

DIRECTED BY: CRAIG GILLESPIE
STARRING: RYAN GOSLING, EMILY MORTIMER, KELLI GARNER

Don't feel bad, guys. Dating is hard for everyone. Even fabulous movie star Ryan Gosling has to buy a sex doll. Of course, this is just a movie. Lars (Gosling) is lonely and sad, so he orders a realistic sex doll. That's all fine, but introducing it to his family and bringing it to church is a problem. The film handles Lars's delusion with sensitivity and Gosling is brilliant. The humor comes from friends and family actually trying to ease Lars through his mental coping mechanism, not "Hey, look at the sex doll!" It may not be medically sound, but it is a touching story.

SLEUTH ★★

DIRECTED BY: KENNETH BRANAGH
STARRING: MICHAEL CAINE, JUDE LAW

In the original *Sleuth*, Michael Caine played the young guy. Now he plays the old guy. In the third remake, he'll just play both parts. *Sleuth* was a cool little two-hander about smart Brits playing devious and deadly pranks on each other. The modern update is edgier and flashier, but loses the subtle thrills. In the director's chair, Kenneth Branagh makes way too much of the camerawork and staging. It is just a distraction. Jude Law totally hams up acts two and three. It is still a good story and a valiant effort, but a straight reshoot of the old script would probably have worked better.

O C T O B E R 1 9

GONE BABY GONE ★★★★★

DIRECTED BY: BEN AFFLECK
STARRING: CASEY AFFLECK, MICHELLE MONAGHAN, ED HARRIS

In *Gone Baby Gone*, Ben Affleck tells the story of what happened to his career. Sorry, too easy. His directorial debut actually may be his masterpiece. Author Dennis Lehane's story of a kidnapping and police corruption is both a thrilling whodunit and a morality play that can inspire conversations on the ride home from the movie theater. Nepotism pays off with Casey Affleck's most mature performance. Ben Affleck never shows off with distracting style,

he just gives the story its due. The seedy Boston underbelly and the story's twists and turns are plenty compelling, so the filmmaker can just sit there and capture everything.

O C T O B E R 2 6

DAN IN REAL LIFE ★★★★★

DIRECTED BY: PETER HEDGES
STARRING: STEVE CARELL, JULIETTE BINOCHE, DANE COOK

Dan in Real Life is a wonderful movie that does not get considered for awards because it's too funny and probably won't do well at the box office because it's not funny enough. Carell plays a widower who meets a lovely lady (Binoche) in a bookstore and gets her number. Shortly, he finds out that she is his brother's (Cook) new girlfriend and has to spend the weekend of a family reunion pining for her in secret. Carell is restrained and heartbreaking. The situations are painful, but not broad. It is bitterly funny, if not laugh out loud slapstick.

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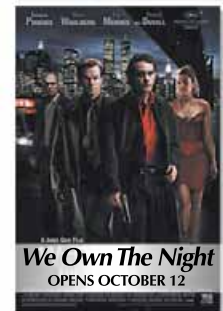
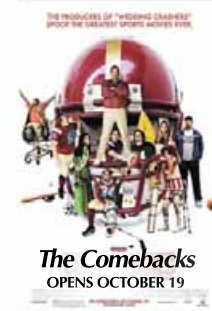
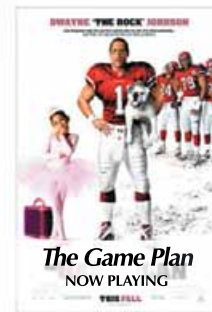
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PREVIEWS

O C T O B E R 5

THE HEARTBREAK KID

DIRECTED BY: THE FARRELLY BROTHERS**STARRING:** BEN STILLER, MICHELLE MONAGHAN, MALIN AKERMAN

Ben Stiller reunites with the directors who made his funniest movie, *There's Something About Mary*. Actually, none of them have been all that good ever since. This remake just looks like another opportunity for Stiller to get injured and complain about it. They don't really need to rework a Neil Simon classic to do that. Plus, it's the age-old dilemma of a guy who meets the girl of his dreams after he got engaged to the perfect woman. In real life, those are called high class problems.

THE SEEKER: THE DARK IS RISING

DIRECTED BY: DAVID L. CUNNINGHAM**STARRING:** ALEXANDER LUDWIG, IAN MCSHANE, GREGORY SMITH

Who knew there were so many children's fantasy books? Here's another one about a kid who discovers he has magical powers that he needs to use to fight evil creatures. The boy travels back and forth through time, learning secrets that will help him defeat the forces of dark when they finally rise. The special effects look comparable to *The Chronicles of Narnia*, though not to *Harry Potter* or *Lord of the Rings*. Since nobody really understands the mythologies of these things, they'd better have a lot of pretty pictures to keep the kids in their seats.

O C T O B E R 1 2

WE OWN THE NIGHT

DIRECTED BY: JAMES GRAY**STARRING:** JOAQUIN PHOENIX, MARK WAHLBERG, ROBERT DUVAL

If anyone thinks they can purchase a time of day, then there's a bridge they might be interested in also. If that joke sounds familiar, so does the plot of this movie. Wahlberg and Phoenix are two brothers, the former a cop and the latter a night

club owner with criminal ties. Can they preserve the family ties while each doing their jobs? With dad (Duvall) also on the side of the law, it seems Phoenix is outnumbered. This is a top-notch cast of actors, so they should bring some heat to the crime drama. Gray has not made a film since *The Yards*, also with Wahlberg and Phoenix. Maybe this is their second chance to get it right.

MICHAEL CLAYTON

DIRECTED BY: TONY GILROY**STARRING:** GEORGE CLOONEY, TOM WILKINSON, TILDA SWINTON

Gilroy wrote the *Bourne* films and makes his directorial debut with a legal thriller. Clayton (Clooney) is a corporate lawyer for Kener, Bach & Leeden, fixing their dirtiest problems behind the scenes. When the firm's own lawyer (Wilkinson) sabotages their big case out of guilt, it is Clayton's job to save the case and the firm from opposing counsel (Swinton). Courtroom drama comes free on TV, but not with powerhouse actors like Clooney. As long as Gilroy does not use the *Bourne* shake-cam style in deposition scenes, *Michael Clayton* could be the intellectual thrill ride of the year.

O C T O B E R 1 9

30 DAYS OF NIGHT

DIRECTED BY: DAVID SLADE**STARRING:** JOSH HARTNETT, DANNY HUSTON, BEN FOSTER

Sam Raimi produced this horror movie, adapted from a graphic novel, but don't get too excited. He also produced *Boogie Man* and *The Messengers*. This sounds cool, though. A gang of vampires raids an Alaska town where night lasts a whole month. Imagine the possibilities if people couldn't just wait Dracula out until morning. Even Buffy would get tired of slaying after a while. Slade's previous movie, *Hard Candy*, was a ballsy psychological thriller, so if he can bring that to familiar genres like horror, vampires and comic book adaptations, this could actually live up to the Sam Raimi name.

RENDITION

DIRECTED BY: GAVIN HOOD**STARRING:** REESE WITHERSPOON, JAKE GYLLENHAAL, MERYL STREEP

Isabella El-Ibrahimi (Witherspoon) wishes she were in some fluffy romantic comedy right about now. Her husband is nabbed on a flight home to the states from South Africa. It turns out to be a government-sanctioned process called rendition to help weed out suspected terrorists. A CIA analyst (Gyllenhaal) finds out about all of this himself for the first time as he witnesses Mr. El-Ibrahimi's interrogation. It's an issue movie, but Hood made *Tsotsi* a character story despite its African agenda. Witherspoon and Gyllenhaal will act their hearts out and the political pundits will condemn the mere insinuations made by this movie.

RESERVATION ROAD

DIRECTED BY: TERRY GEORGE**STARRING:** JOAQUIN PHOENIX, JENNIFER CONNELLY, MARK RUFFALO

Wait a week before seeing *We Own the Night* and do a Joaquin Phoenix double feature. This drama casts him as a grieving father who saw a hit-and-run driver (Ruffalo) speed away from the accident that took his child. The film follows both men as the deal with the accident, with Connelly as Phoenix's wife. Hey, it's awards season, so it's time for all the dead children/political kidnapping/deathbed movies to hit theaters. George did make *Hotel Rwanda* feel hopeful, and if there's anyone who can cry over tragedy, it's Connelly.

THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE

DIRECTED BY: SUSAN BIER**STARRING:** HALLE BERRY, BENICIO DEL TORO, DAVID DUCHOVNY

Again, happy, feel-good Oscar time. A woman (Berry) loses her husband (Duchovny) when he dies heroically trying to save a battered wife. For support, the widow moves her husband's alcoholic best friend (Del Toro) in with her family. As they cope with loss together, he fills the void left by her husband and she helps him get sober. Should they kiss, or would that be weird? Oh, they are just too darn sexy to stay platonic. It would seem the fire should be metaphorical, but there actually is a literal fire referred to by one character in the film.

O C T O B E R 2 6

SAW IV

DIRECTED BY: DARREN LYNN BOUSMAN**STARRING:** TOBIN BELL, SCOTT PATERSON, BETSY RUSSELL

The lead character dying has never stopped horror sequels before, although usually the unstoppable killer doesn't die of cancer. The *Saw* producers sure don't make it easy to preview their films since they're such big mysteries, but they have promised that they didn't cop out and bring Jigsaw (Bell) back to life. Whatever game he has left for the new characters will play by the rules, as all of his previous shockers have. It would be easy to make fun of these one-a-year sequels if they didn't keep being so good. As long as they still have good ideas for stories, they can keep making *Saws* forever.

CINEMA DIRECTORY

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Los Gatos Cinema, 41 N. Santa Cruz Ave. (408) 395-0203

GILROY

Platinum Theatres, 6851 Monterey St. (408) 84-MOVIE

HOLLISTER

Premiere Cinemas 5, 581A McCray St. (831) 638-1800

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OCTOBER DVD RELEASES

MOVIES

Fantastic Four - Rise of the Silver Surfer - Power Cosmic Edition, Two Disc Set**Funny Face** - 50th Anniversary Edition**28 Weeks Later** - Widescreen Edition**Evan Almighty** - Widescreen Edition**Reign Over Me** - Widescreen Edition**Surf's Up** - Widescreen Special Edition**Transformers** - Two-Disc Special Edition and HD DVD**Hostel - Part II** - Unrated Widescreen Edition**2001 - A Space Odyssey** - HD DVD**Spider-Man** - The High Definition Trilogy

TV

Entourage - Season Three, Part Two**How I Met Your Mother** - Season Two**The Sarah Silverman Program** - Season One**Star Trek: The Next Generation**

- The Complete Series

Little People Big World - Season One**Family Ties** - The Second Season**Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip** - The Complete Series**The Sopranos** - Season Six, Part Two**The L Word** - The Complete Fourth Season**Veronica Mars** - The Complete Third Season

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MOVIES & TV



Leonard Cohen & Philip Glass

Livelier Still

A new artistic director brings an alluring lineup to the Stanford Lively Arts season.

BY MICHAEL J. VAUGHN

It shouldn't surprise anyone that Jennifer Bilfield's first season as artistic director at Stanford Lively Arts features some top-flight modern composers, including Philip Glass and John Adams. In her previous job, as president of New York music publisher Boosey & Hawkes, Bilfield dealt with the luminaries of the new music world. Her husband, Joel Phillip Friedman, is a composer. She began her own composing career at age 12.

So why isn't she a composer now? Apparently, because she's too friendly. "When I really came to terms with the solitary nature of the work [soon after college]," she says, "I found I was much more suited to bringing parties together, to producing and promoting."

Bilfield's impressive social network is responsible for bringing in a splashy season-opener with Glass,

which coincides with two milestones: the composer's 70th birthday, and the Oct. 5 world premiere of his Civil War opera, *Appomattox*, at the San Francisco Opera. When Bilfield asked him if he'd like a side project a mere 50 miles south of the opera house, Glass had just the thing.

"He had wanted to set Leonard Cohen's poetry for years, and the rights had just cleared," she says. "I've worked with Philip for years, and felt if this was something he wanted to do, it would be really exciting to start the season with a premiere, and a multimedia event."

The result is *Book of Longing*, which will be performed Oct. 9 at Stanford's Memorial Auditorium. The ensemble will feature Glass on keyboard and staging by MacArthur Fellow choreographer Susan Marshall. Accompanying the event is a display of more than 20 of Cohen's graphic works.

With an appearance on *South Park* and his own knock-knock joke ("Philip Glass. Philip Glass who? Knock-knock. Who's there? Philip Glass. Philip

Glass who? Knock-knock." And repeat. And repeat.), Glass has an exceptional mainstream presence for an art music composer. For lesser stars, says Bilfield, "in terms of funding, it will always be a challenge," but she does see some bright spots. Namely, a new generation of artists who prefer to promote their music by forming their own ensembles, and a 21st century freedom to stop reinventing the wheel and make use of "the different modes of expression that are available." A handy example is her husband, who is seeking to use musical theatre ideas to free opera from its traditional bel canto framework. "The primary question now is, 'How does the composition support the plot?'" she says.

After an impressive start to the season, SLA will next present the world premiere of John Adams' *Son of Chamber Symphony* on Nov. 30, with the 20-member ensemble Alarm Will Sound, and will also be expanding its jazz offerings (Bilfield is a lifelong jazz devotee, thanks to the listening habits of her "musical omnivore" parents). Even more exciting is the prospect of Stanford's new Performing Arts Center, a project that is currently in the site location and design phase and should be only two years away.

"In addition to piquing our audience's curiosity," she says, "we're modeling the kind of work that we want going into the Performing Arts Center. This season is a first glimpse of what we can do."

All of which seems a solid fit for an over-social composer. "Blown away" by the generosity of Stanford's community and alumni, by the "sense of liveliness and curiosity" among the students, Bilfield has her hands in a lot of tasty pies, and seems to find special delight in the by-products: a group of 500 students attending a dress rehearsal of *Appomattox* at the War Memorial Opera House,

and the recent discovery that someone is scalping a ticket on eBay for the Oct. 8 *Book of Longing* discussion by Glass— despite the fact that it's a free event.

"It's a really exciting opportunity to make this work — a conversation worth having," she says. "And I'm working with some of the great minds of the universe." **TW**

Philip Glass, Book of Longing, 8 p.m. Oct. 9, Stanford Memorial Auditorium, \$19-\$70. www.livelyarts.stanford.edu, (650) 725-ARTS.

Glass' graphic art, Sept. 18 - Nov. 18, Thomas Welton Stanford Art Gallery, (650) 723-3404.



Jennifer Bilfield



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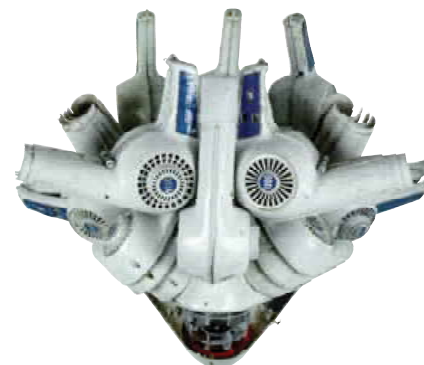
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City Lights Theatre, 529 S. Second St., San Jose (408) 295-4200
www.cltc.org

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A musical set in the Wild West about sharpshooter Annie Oakley and her romance with fellow shooter Frank Butler: Thru10/7.

San Mateo Performing Arts Center,
600 N. Delaware Ave., San Mateo
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www.broadwaybythebay.org

ARSENIC AND OLD LACE

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Morgan Hill Community Playhouse,
17090 Monterey St., Morgan Hill (408) 842-7469
www.svct.org

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

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Saratoga Civic Theatre,
13777 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga
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www.saratogadramagroup.com

CHEKHOV IN YALTA

Award-winning biographical account about four days in the life of renowned Russian playwright Anton Chekhov: Thru10/14.

Dragon Theatre, 535 Alma St., Palo Alto (650) 493-2006
www.dragonproductions.net

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The Broadway hit that won nine Tony Awards and celebrated over 6,000 performances on Broadway comes to Los Altos: Thru10/6.

Bus Barn Theatre, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos (650) 941-0551
www.busbarn.org

THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK

The tragic true tale of a young girl hiding in an attic from the Nazis, as adapted for the stage: Thru10/14.

San Jose Stage Theatre, 490 S. First St., San Jose (408) 283-7146
www.sjstage.com

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San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd., San Jose www.amtsj.org

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Follow the amazing story of Golda Meir – from a poor Russian schoolgirl to prime minister of Israel: 10/3 – 28.
Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View (650) 903-6000
www.theatreworks.org

GREEK SHADOW PUPPET THEATRE

A magical performance featuring centuries-old slapstick character Karaghiozis, whose humor provides healing through laughter and hope: 10/21.

Community School of Music & Arts, 230 San Antonio Cir., Mountain View www.arts4all.org

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San Jose Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd., San Jose (888) 455-7469
www.amtsj.org

MALAN FLOWER

Adapted from a traditional Chinese fairy tale praising love, sincerity and diligence as a means to happiness: 10/13 – 14.

California Theatre, 345 S. First St., San Jose www.malanflower.org

MALCOLM & TERESA

San Jose playwright C. Gallagher wrote about BBCTV celebrity Malcolm Muggerridge and Mother Teresa, whom he both interviewed and which changed his life: 10/18 – 11/7.

Hoover Theatre, 1635 Park Ave., San Jose (408) 252-3530
www.quovadisheater.org

MISERY

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Broadway West Theatre, 4000-B Bay St., Fremont (510) 683-9218
www.broadwaywest.org

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Sunnyvale Community Center Theatre, 550 E. Remington Ave., Sunnyvale (408) 733-6611
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ARTS

HOT TICKET

Stage Presence

Director Jose Maria Condemi brings "Cav and Pag" to West Bay Opera.

BY MICHAEL J. VAUGHN

An opera stage director generally goes unnoticed until the final bows, when someone inevitably asks the question, "Who's that guy up there with the conductor?" That's too bad, because these days, as opera puts even more emphasis on the acting and visual aspects of the form, the stage director is a pivotal player.

Opera fans have a chance to see one of the best this month, when Argentine director Jose Maria Condemi, whose list of upcoming assignments include the San Francisco, Seattle and Chicago Lyric Operas, comes to West Bay Opera for the traditional one-act verismo ("realism") tandem performance of Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*.

"The average audience member usually has no idea that a stage director is even needed to put on an... opera," says Condemi. "I am often asked the question, 'What *exactly* is it that you do?' My usual answer is, when you go to see a play or an opera, everything that you see is directly or indirectly under my supervision, be it the sets, the costumes, the movement of the performers onstage, or the interpretation. Of course, there is a team of people working with me and for me (designers, stage managers, etc.), but the ultimate responsibility of what is *seen* onstage is the director's."

The West Bay production offers Condemi a luxury he usually doesn't have: an intimate performing space. It's an intriguing factor for "Cav and Pag" (as opera buffs call it), both of them violent stories of spurned lovers set in Italian villages.

"I am approaching the double bill as a very detailed, specific and nuanced study of human interactions," he says. "Every gesture, every eye movement, every dynamic is prominent, due to the close proximity of the audience. At the same time, this presents a challenge because these



TICKET INFO

West Bay Opera, *Cavalleria rusticana* and *Pagliacci*, Oct. 12-21, Lucie Stern Theater, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. In Italian with English surtitles. \$20-\$50. (650) 424-9999 www.wbopera.org

two pieces, as the best exponents of verismo, are all about big, dramatic gestures, uncontrolled passions and high drama. So we have been working hard at 'restraining' the material while keeping it vibrant and exciting to watch."

It's quite a contrast to Condemi's most recent assignment, as assistant stage director of San Francisco Opera's *Samson and Delilah*. The production included, among other tricks, a five-minute changeover from an enormous dungeon set to a Philistine temple that looked like it belonged in an *Indiana Jones* movie. "Sometimes I would like to be able to show the audience what happens backstage during a quick-change," he says. "It is fascinating."

The one trick that Condemi will *not* be performing is singing. "I wish I could sing!" he says. "I am musical, and can sing if I need to, but I have too much respect for those who do it well." **TW**

THURSDAY

18

OCT. 2007

OCTOBER						
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University Art

www.universityart.com

Anxious Objects: Willie Cole's Favorite Brands,
Cantor Arts Center



10/4 – 28.
Olinda Theatre, 848 E. William St., San Jose (408) 288-7820
www.northsidetheatre.com

THREE TALL WOMEN
A woman reflects on her life in a three-way mirror, from youth, middle age, to old age, ending with her accepting the life that she has lived: 10/26 – 11/18.
The Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., Mountain View (650) 254-1148
www.thepear.org

TRIUMPH OF LOVE
From French playwright Pierre Marivaux comes the story of the princess Leonide and her attempts to conquer love. A delightful romantic comedy from the 18th century: Thru 10/21.
San Jose Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose (408) 367-7266
www.sjrep.com

CLASSICAL MUSIC & OPERA

12 GIRLS BAND
Playing traditional Chinese instruments, the 12 Girls Band invites you to an enjoyable evening of Chinese and Western music: 10/4.
San Jose Civic Auditorium, 135 W. San Carlos St., San Jose
www.apconcerts.com

BIJAN MORTAZAVI, VIOLINIST
An evening of amazing music from composer and violinist Bijan Mortazavi: 10/6.
California Theatre, 345 S. First St., San Jose (888) 442-4526

CAVALLERIA RUSTICANA & PAGLIACCI
An opera in one act by Pietro Mascagni, adapted from a short story by Giovanni Verga about a jealous husband in a commedia dell'Arte troupe: 10/12 – 21.
Lucie Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto
www.cobopera.org

EROCIA TRIO
Performance featuring Mendelssohn's *The Hebrides, Op. 26 (Fingal's Cave)*, Beethoven's *Concerto, Op. 56, in C Major and Franck's Symphony, in D Minor*: 10/20.
Flint Center for the Performing Arts, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino
www.peninsulasymphony.org

HANS BOEPPLE, PIANIST
Program includes Bach's *Tocatta in C Minor, BWV 911*, Schumann's *Fantasy in C Major, Op. 17*, Scriabin's *Prelude for the Left Hand, Op. 9, No. 1*, *Sonata No. 9, Op. 68*, and Chopin's *Ballade in F Minor, Op. 52*: 10/6 – 7.
Santa Clara University – Recital Hall, Franklin & Lafayette St., Santa Clara scu.edu/music/

MADEMOISELLE MODISTE
Follow Fifi, a salesgirl in a hat shop, who is in love with a young aristocrat whose uncle opposes their marriage. A chance encounter opens the door to Fifi recognizing her dream of becoming an opera singer and ultimately winning the man she loves: 10/13 – 21.
Montgomery Theatre, 291 S. Market St., San Carlos St. San Jose
www.lyrictheatre.org

MELODY OF CHINA
A full evening of Chinese music featuring the premieres of *Quartet X2* by Gang Situ performed by Melody of China members and the San Francisco Guitar Quartet as well as *Wondering in the Journey* by Yuanlin Chen: 10/4.
Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. Fifth St., San Jose (415) 681-8599

MIRO STRING QUARTET
The program features Mozart's *Quartet in D Major, K. 499*, and Beethoven's *Quartet in F Major, Op. 59, No. 1*: 10/13.
Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. Fifth St., San Jose (408) 286-5111

MUSIC AS ART
Quinteto Latino partners with award-winning composer José Luis Hurtado for an evening of wonderful Latin-influenced classical music: 10/24.
San Jose State University, One Washington Square, San Jose

OHLONE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
The program includes works from Mozart, Beethoven, Strauss and Brahms: 10/14.
Smith Center at Ohlone College, 43600 Mission Blvd., Fremont (510) 659-6031
www.smithcenterpresents.com

PALO ALTO PHILHARMONIC 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA CONCERT
Featuring Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* and the premiere performance of *The Celebration Overture* by Lee Actor: 10/20.
Spangenberg Theatre, 780 Arastradero Rd., Palo Alto
www.paphil.org

SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
A free outdoor concert highlighting the work from American composers including Aaron Copland, John Adams, and George Gershwin: 10/5.
Plaza Cesar Chavez, Market & San Carlos Sts., San Jose (415) 503-5474

XUEFEI YANG
Join the Beijing classical guitarist for an amazing, and we do mean amazing, evening of heavenly music: 10/6.
Le Petit Trianon, 72 N. Fifth St., San Jose (408) 292-0704
www.sbs.org

DANCE

NOCHE FLAMENCA
Memorial Auditorium, 551 Serra Mall, Stanford (650) 725-2787
A captivating evening of flamenco dance, song and music from Madrid's Noche Flamenca: 10/17.

THE BEST OF SJDANCE
Come and celebrate sJDance's fifth anniversary with a full evening of beautiful dancing: 10/26 – 27.
San Jose Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San Jose (408) 313-8089
www.sjdanceco.org

MUSEUMS

CANTOR ARTS CENTER
Palm Dr. at Museum Way, Stanford University (650) 723-4177
www.museum.stanford.edu
Anxious Objects: Willie Cole's Favorite Brands: An exhibit from Willie Cole featuring "found works," including assemblages made from shoes, bicycle parts, appliances, irons and ironing boards: 10/3 – 1/6. *A New 19th Century:* The Mondavi Family Gallery is reinstated with newly acquired works by Monet, Renoir, Sargent, and more: Ongoing. *Auguste Rodin Collection:* The largest collection of Rodin bronzes outside Paris: Ongoing. *African Art in Context:* Photography, dress, and other artifacts: Ongoing. *Papua New Guinea Sculpture Garden:* Wood and stone carvings of people, animals, and mythical beings: Ongoing. *Living Traditions: Arts of the Americas:* A collection of work from diverse Native American peoples and times: Ongoing. *Yosemite's Structures and Textiles:* Photographs taken by Eadweard Muybridge, Carleton Watkins and Ansel Adams that show the amazing geography of Yosemite National Park: Thru 10/28. *Mutual Admiration:* A collection of works from Eugene Carriere and his circle of friends, including Odilon Redon, Auguste Rodin, Félix Braquemond and others: Thru 12/2.

CHILDREN'S DISCOVERY MUSEUM
180 Woz Way, San Jose (408) 298-5437
www.cdm.org
Exciting interactive displays, galleries and activities for the whole family to enjoy: Ongoing.

INTEL MUSEUM
2200 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara (408) 765-0503
www.intel.com/museum
More than 30 interactive exhibits throughout the museum describe the technology and history of the chip-making industry. Take a video peek inside a real "fab" where chips are made, or try on a bunny suit worn by chip factory employees: Ongoing.

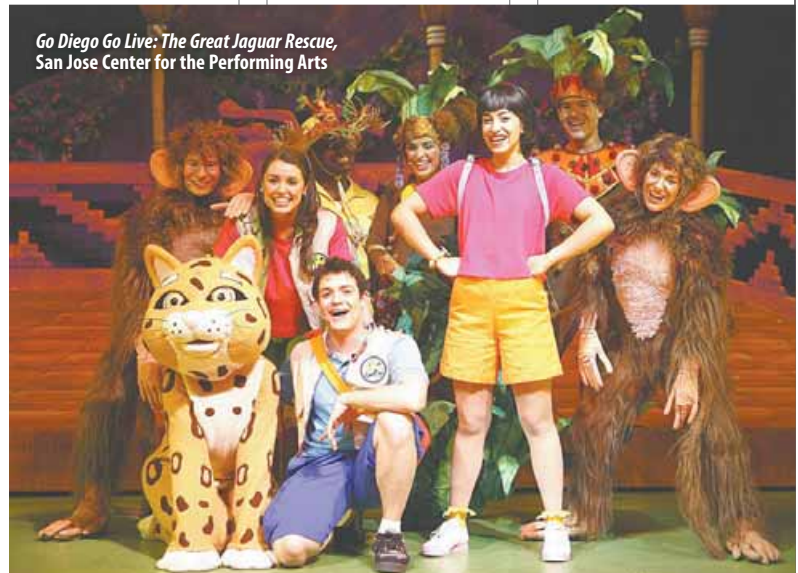
JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SAN JOSE
535 N. Fifth St., San Jose (408) 294-3138
www.jamsj.org
1942: Luggage from Home to Camp: In collaboration with artist Flo Oy Wong, this exhibition displays the lives of World War II internees through mixed media: Ongoing. *Jack Matsuoka's Cartoons: Making the Best of Poston:* Insightful cartoons that aim to make the best of the tragic incarceration of Japanese-Americans: Ongoing. *Pioneers of San Jose Japantown:* Photo exhibit of San Jose's Japantown from 1900: Ongoing. *Asahi/Zebra Baseball:* An exhibit featuring photos of Japanese Americans playing baseball at relocation camps during WWII: Ongoing.

LOS GATOS MUSEUM OF ART
Four Tait Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-7375
www.museumsoflosgatos.org
Peter Hobbs Digrazia: Asleep in America, Photographic Reflections and Ursula O'Farrell: Redefining Figurative Abstraction: Photographic essay by Digrazia and exhibit by O'Farrell: Thru 10/13.

MARTHA HEASLEY COX CENTER FOR STEINBECK STUDIES
Martin Luther King Library 150 E. San Fernando St. San Jose (408) 924-4588
The largest Steinbeck archive in the world includes manuscripts, letters, photographs, and paintings: Ongoing.

ROSIUCRUCIAN EGYPTIAN MUSEUM
1660 Park Ave., San Jose (408) 947-3636
www.egyptianmuseum.org
Vibrations: Exhibit of digital art with giclée print by Maria Butina: Thru 12/30. *History of the Rosiucrucian*

Go Diego Go Live: The Great Jaguar Rescue,
San Jose Center for the Performing Arts



Golda's Balcony,
Mountain View Center
for the Performing Arts



Egyptian Museum Exhibit: This exhibit shows the museum's transformation from one artifact in an office to a museum with more than 4,000 artifacts: Ongoing.

SARATOGA HISTORICAL MUSEUM
20450 Saratoga-Los Gatos Rd., Saratoga (408) 867-9229
www.saratogahistory.com

Explore the history of Saratoga with local Muwekma Ohlone Indian artifacts from the Saratoga archeological dig site. Photos, paintings, and information on the Saratoga archeological dig site. Photos, paintings, and information on the family of American abolitionist John Brown (his widow and family lived in Saratoga): Ongoing.

SAN JOSE INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART

560 S. First St., San Jose (408) 283-8155 www.sjica.org
On the Periphery: Figurative paintings from local painter Ursula O'Farrell: Thru 10/27.

SAN JOSE MUSEUM OF ART

110 S. Market St., San Jose (408) 271-6840
www.sjmusart.org
The Holy Bible and the End: Contemporary graphic art from the '60s - '80s featuring prints, album covers, punk rock posters as well as collaborative work from Ed Ruscha and Raymond Pettibon: Thru 10/21.
12 Views for Caroline Tatyanna: Prints by Brice Marden offering 12 different perspectives of Greek columns and the effect of light upon them: Thru 10/14.

TECH MUSEUM OF INNOVATION

201 S. Market St., San Jose (408) 294-TECH
www.thetech.org
IDEA House: An interactive program space encourages you to formulate and synthesize like never before: Ongoing.
Green by Design: Designs with a green approach towards preventing environmental problems and improving lives: Ongoing.
View from Space: Science made visible in an exhibit that displays weather, aircraft, and daily patterns from space: Ongoing.
Body Worlds 2 & The Three Pound Gem: Gunther von Hagen's anatomical exhibit of real human bodies preserved through the process of plastination: Thru 1/26/08.

GALLERIES

AICON GALLERY

535 Bryant St., Palo Alto
www.aicongallery.com
John Tun Sein: Expressionist paintings by John Tun Sein: 10/13 - 11/1.

ANNO DOMINI

366 S. First St., San Jose (408) 271-5155 www.galleryad.com
Hope Leaves: Paintings by Michael Page: Thru 10/13.

AEGIS GALLERY OF FINE ART

14531 Big Basin Way, Ste. 2, Saratoga (408) 867-0171
www.aegisgallery.com
Yoju: Watercolor paintings by Japanese artist Yoju: Thru 10/21.

ART OBJECT GALLERY

592 N. Fifth St., San Jose (408) 288-9305
www.artobjectgallery.com
Featuring the work of Jaap Bongers, Terry Keiter, Victoria May, Herbert Nouwens, Darrell Phelps, Joe Saxe, Reid Winfrey, Margaret Michel and Duncan McCandless: Ongoing.

ELIZABETH NORTON GALLERY

668 Ramona St., Palo Alto (650) 321-3891
A photographic retrospective of black and white silver gelatin photographs by Fred Roessler and hand-colored silver gelatin photographs by Donnasue Jacob: 10/5 - 31.

GALLERY HOUSE - PALO ALTO

320 California Ave., Palo Alto (650) 326-1668
www.galleryhouse2.com
Wendy Fitzgerald and Roy Harrington: Cubist-inspired paintings from Fitzgerald and photography by Harrington: Thru 10/13.

HEARTWORKS GALLERY

311 E. Campbell Ave., Campbell (408) 370-7278
www.heartworksgallery.com
Paintings, sculptures, and glassware by Debbie Arambula: Ongoing.

LEONARD AND DAVID MCKAY GALLERY

1650 Senter Rd., San Jose (408) 287-2290
www.historysanjose.org
The Birth of California Car Culture: An exhibition of photographs from early California culture: Thru 1/27/08.

LOJART ART GALLERY

35 E. First St., Morgan Hill (408) 779-8907
www.lojart.com
Architectural photography by Dean J. Birinyi: 10/12.

MAIN GALLERY

1018 Main St., Redwood City (650) 701-1018
www.themaingallery.org
Bits and Pieces: Photo exhibition by Saelon Renkes and sculptures by Karen Truesdell: Thru 10/14.
A Mekhaye: What A Joy: Works from Nina Koepcke, Elizabeth Noerdlinger, Jeannine Redon, Judith Serebrin and Susan Wolf depicting the importance of Jewish history, rituals and family: 10/17 - 11/18.

ROSE SHENSON COMMUNITY ART GALLERY

Triton Museum of Art, 1505 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara
www.scvas.org
Space-Time Reflections: This year's Annual Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society's Member show features the work of more than 100 Watercolor Society members: 10/13 - 11/9.

SONYA PAZ FINE ART GALLERY

1793 Lafayette St., Ste. 110, Santa Clara (408) 294-7900
www.sonyapaz.com
The works of Sonya Paz, including framed pieces, watches, pillows, and more: Ongoing.

STANFORD ART SPACES

420 Via Palou, Stanford (650) 725-3622
<http://cis.stanford.edu/~marigros>
Paintings and prints by Arturos Bolanos, photomontages by Patricia McClung, and mixed media paintings by Claire Iris Schenke: Thru 9/13.
Textiles and mixed media by Marion Coleman, paintings by Mary K. Connelly and mixed media by Kamal Al Mansour: Thru 11/29. **LVV**

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Bottles, Bows and Boys

Bridal and baby showers go coed.

BY TRACI VOGEL

Let's face facts: The only people who really enjoy bridal, engagement, or baby showers are the ones getting the gifts. In fact, the whole idea behind showers comes straight out of the dowry tradition. If a bride's family couldn't put together the money for her to snag a mate, the woman's friends would scrape together the goods, and "shower" her with their generosity. The sentiment has carried over to babies.

Gift-giving is all well and good, but somewhere along the line, shower parties also picked up a wacky game tradition. Baby shower guests are often forced to sniff mysterious brown substances in diapers (unpleasant even when you know it's mashed-up M&M's!), or taste-test baby food. At bridal shower gatherings, guests are required to make dresses for their friends using toilet paper. For generations, women have suffered in silence, attending these parties only because they knew someday the gift-laden tables would turn.

Happily, the pain is now being shared with men.



Coed wedding and baby showers are becoming more popular. The couples-oriented bridal showers are often called Jack and Jill parties, not to be confused with Stag and Drag parties, which are thrown specifically to raise money for a wedding or honeymoon and often include a bar. Bridal and baby showers tend to be more sedate affairs – and guys in general are not happy about having to attend them.

"A couple years ago, one of my best friends got married and asked me and three or four other male friends – insisted, really – to attend her bridal shower," says Ben. (Note: Some names were changed or last names omitted for this article.) "It was definitely a girl thing;

while I was willing to be there for my friend, it wasn't the best gender mix."

Maggie agrees, and pretty bluntly: "Can you imagine how boring it would be for a guy to be surrounded by squealing hens who are excited over toilet paper gowns and fancy wrapping paper? I'm a woman and I can barely stand [showers]."

Craig of Los Altos enjoyed the coed baby shower a friend threw for him and his wife. "I was okay with it," he says. "I saw it more as an opportunity to hang out with my friends and have some fun. Some guys didn't show up, citing an uneven man-to-woman ratio. Frankly, part of the reason it wasn't as torturous as the classic perception suggests is we were allowed to be men, have some beers, eat some food, and relax. There wasn't any pressure to dress in 'proper attire' or 'behave.'"

But Craig admits, "I did have some guys openly mock the idea. One quote that sticks in my mind is, 'I'm going to kill the guy who started this trend.'"

Jim, who lives in San Jose, also got a "little resistance" from his guy friends when he and his wife threw a coed baby shower. "Some voiced a little bitterness," he says. "They called it 'chick bullsh-t.'"

Jim and Craig both agreed that the first step to keeping guys comfortable at showers is to cut down on the games. "The girls who organized our shower were acutely aware that guys aren't fired up about stuff like that," says Jim, "so they made a point of not doing a lot of it. We did have one contest that involved seeing which of the guys could suck down half a baby bottle of beer the fastest. It was a lot harder than you would think. But at least beer was involved."

Booze appears to be the second necessity for male shower attendance. "If there's one thing that's going to get guys to your shower, it's beer," says Jim.

Stacy Caudill of San Jose has put together quite a few coed showers. "I think with the right atmosphere, men are okay with going, although a little reluctantly!" she says. "I think once they get there and see it's just like any other party, they are cool with it. I tried not to make the decorations too girly or overwhelming, and I made sure the games were a little male friendly. The prizes were different, too. At all-girl showers there are usually candles or bath stuff, but I just gave out gift cards to Starbucks, Jamba Juice, Panera, stuff like that."

Francine of San Francisco went to a baby shower where guests were asked to bring a gift for the infant and a tasteful joke gift for the dad. "Dad received some pretty cool things," Francine says. "One thing I remember being the best was someone had given him a T-shirt with teething rings, bibs, pacifier, burp cloth, etc. attached to it. Some people can come up with some very original ideas."

Maybe the desegregation of showers will be good for both sexes in the end: less games, free-flowing drinks, and better prizes. Men, start practicing your gift-wrapping skills. **EW**

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Silicon Valley**

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Register now WalkForAIDS.org or call 408-451-WALK



Sixth Annual Howling Halloween, Los Gatos, Oct. 26

Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off: 7:30am

HALF MOON BAY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL: 10/13 - 14

Main St., between Miramontes & Spruce Sts. www.miramarevents.com
Celebrate everyone's favorite gourd, the pumpkin! Bring the family and gawk at world-class pumpkin carvers, specialty foods, live entertainment, a pumpkin parade and a haunted house, plus pie eating and costume contests: 9am - 6pm

HOLLISTER

SPECIAL FAMILY DAY AT SWANK FARMS: 10/7

Swank Farms, 2600 San Felipe Rd. (831) 637-4704 www.swankfarms.com
Families with autistic children are invited to Swank Farms Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch for a day dedicated just to them and having fun: 10am - 6pm

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE: SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS THRU 10/14

Casa de Fruta, 10031 Pacheco Pass Hwy. (408) 847-FAIR www.norcalrenfaire.com
Load up the family and head to Casa de Fruta for some family Renaissance fun, with 150 craft booths, hearty ale and food, hundreds of costumed performers, food, games, and knights battling to the death.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CORN MAZE & PUMPKIN PATCH THRU 10/31

Swank Farms, 2600 San Felipe Rd. (831) 637-4704 www.swankfarms.com
Load up the family and head to Swank Farms for some serious fun, with a seven-circuit labyrinth, cow train and bounce houses. Fridays - Sundays, the maze is "haunted," so you've been WARNED!

LOS ALTOS

CANNING AND PICKLING: 10/6

Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Rd. www.biddenvilla.org
Learn how to preserve summer's bounty and eat your own produce throughout the year: 12:30 - 4:30pm

LOS ALTOS FALL FESTIVAL: 10/6 - 7

Downtown Los Altos, S. Parking Plaza (650) 948-1455 www.losaltoschamber.org

CELEBRITY FORUM: AL GORE: 10/8 - 9, 11

Flint Center for the Performing Arts, 21250 Stevens Creek Blvd. (650) 949-7176 www.celebrityforum.net
Join Al Gore for a fun and engaging evening as he discusses how we'll all soon perish from floodwaters from the melting of arctic glaciers.

HALF MOON BAY

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PUMPKIN WEIGH-OFF: 10/8

I.D.E.S. Grounds, 735 Main St. (650) 726-9652 www.miramarevents.com
Ever seen a 1,200-pound pumpkin? Didn't think so. Here's your chance: This year's Safeway World

If you're an art lover, you don't want to miss this year's Los Altos Fall Festival, featuring more than 160 artists, live music, fabulous food, a car show, children's games & activities, wine, beer, and a pumpkin pie eating contest.

FALL NATIVE PLANT SALE: 10/13

Hidden Villa Ranch - CNPS Nursery, 26870 Moody Rd. (650) 941-1068 www.cnps.scv.org
You'll find hundreds of hard to find plants, seeds, and bulbs, along with books, posters and much more: 10am - 3pm

SIXTH ANNUAL BOOK ARTS JAM: 10/20

Footbill College, 12345 El Monte Rd. www.bookartsjam.org
Enter the wonderful world of art books, limited editions, handmade paper, calligraphy and fine art prints, along with demonstrations of bookbinding, paper decorating and leather working, plus handmade books for sale: 10am - 4pm

FROM FEATHERS TO FEAST: 10/21

Hidden Villa Ranch, 26870 Moody Rd. (650) 949-8650 www.biddenvilla.org
You'll learn how chickens are raised on an organic farm, how to care for them, even how to butcher them - but the best part is, at the end of the program you'll get your very own ready-to-cook chicken to take home! 2:30pm

OHLONE DAY: 10/20

Deer Hollow Farm, Rancho San Antonio County Park www.fodbf.org/ohlone_flyer_2007.pdf

A family event that includes a tour of a replicated Ohlone Village, hands-on activities like a hoop & spear game, face painting, and rope making, along with storytelling, music and great food: 1 - 4pm

FARM & NATURE GUIDES NEEDED

Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Rd. (650) 949-9704 www.biddenvilla.org
Guides are needed to teach children about farm animals, explore the vegetable garden, and hike in the wilderness.

LOS GATOS

ACCELERATED NETWORKING DINNER: 10/3

Los Gatos Lodge, 50 Los Gatos-Saratoga Rd. (408) 288-8484

events.ecwomennetwork.com
Join Erika Taylor from Three Girls Media & Marketing to find out the best way to market your business: 5pm

ST. MARY'S COUNTRY FAIR: 10/12 - 14

219 Bean Ave. www.stmarys.org/fair/
Three days of family fun that include food, raffles, a talent show, craft booths and amusement rides!

SIXTH ANNUAL HOWLING HALLOWEEN: 10/26

Old Town Los Gatos, 50 University Ave., Los Gatos (408) 671-3417 www.societydog.com
Show off your costumed four-legged friend and enjoy a full evening of activities, including a parade, costume and cutest puppy contests, raffles, and even a twist contest: 5:30 - 9:30pm

MENLO PARK

FIFTH ANNUAL FUNDRAISING GALA: 10/13

TheatreWorks' Menlo Park Scene Shop, 1110 Hamilton Ct. (650) 463-7125 www.theatreworks.org
A full evening of fun, with dinner, live entertainment, auctions, but the best part is you get to try on and wear costumes from past productions: 6pm - Midnight

MILPITAS

INTERNET WEALTH GROUP NETWORKING SOCIAL: 10/18

Renaissance Business Center, 1851 McCarthy Blvd. (408) 454-6543 www.internetwealthgroup.org
A social event where entrepreneurs can brainstorm, strategize and share ideas on how to make the big bucks on the internet: 7 - 9pm

FUNDRAISER GOLF TOURNAMENT & BANQUET: 10/20

Summitpointe Golf Course, 1500 Country Club Dr. www.cwbl.net
You'll enjoy a wonderful day of golfing, eating, winning prizes and helping raise needed cash for the California Women's Baseball League: 12:30pm

IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A LISTING, OR KNOW OF SOMETHING HAPPENING THAT YOU'RE AFRAID WE'LL OVERLOOK, PLEASE EMAIL YOUR COMMUNITY EVENT TO EVENTS@THEWAVEMAG.COM.

CAMPBELL

CAMPBELL OKTOBERFEST: 10/20 - 21

Historic downtown Campbell, Campbell Ave. www.campbellchamber.com
Got to love October. Why? Because it's chock full of Oktoberfests and this one is a doozy, with German music, food, craft vendors, great beer and activities for the kids.

HARVEST MOON GALA: 10/18

Villa Ragusa, 35 S. Second St. www.projectbired.org
Enjoy an evening of dining and silent auctions, with proceeds benefiting Project Hired, a nonprofit dedicated to assisting individuals with disabilities gain employment: 6pm

DOWNTOWN CAMPBELL THIRD FRIDAYS ARTWALK

Stroll along downtown Campbell and visit 10 galleries and studios: 6pm

CUPERTINO

CUPERTINO'S ANNUAL CITYWIDE GARAGE SALE: 10/6 - 7

Throughout Cupertino (408) 777-3241 www.cupertino.org
The garage sale of garage sales, as the citizens of Cupertino fill their garages and yards full of everything, and we mean everything, you want! Maps can be obtained at the Cupertino Senior Center.

FARMERS MARKETS

Campbell: Sunday 9am - 1pm (year round) Campbell Ave. at Central & First Sts. (510) 745-7100

Cupertino: Friday 9am - 1pm (year round) Valco Fashion Park Parking Lot, 10123 Wolfe Rd. (800) 949-FARM

Los Gatos: Sunday 8am - 12:30pm (year round) Montebello Way & Broadway Extension (408) 353-5355

Mountain View: Sunday 9am - 1pm (year round) Hope & Evelyn (800) 806-FARM

Palo Alto: Sunday 9am - 1pm (year round) California Ave. & El Camino Real (800) 806-FARM

San Jose: Sunday 10am - 3pm (year round) Stevens Creek & Winchester (800) 949-FARM

San Jose: Friday 10am - 2pm (year round) Kaiser Santa Teresa Parking Lot (800) 949-FARM

San Jose: Sunday 8:30am - Noon (year round) Japantown, Jackson between Sixth & Seventh Sts. (408) 298-4303

San Jose: Sunday 10am - 2pm (year round) Princeton Plaza, Kooser & Meridian (800) 806-FARM

Santa Clara: Thursday 10am - 2pm (year round) Santa Clara Kaiser Parking Lot (800) 949-FARM

Santa Clara: Saturday 9am - 1pm (year round) Jackson St. between Homestead & Benton (510) 745-7100

Saratoga: Saturday 9am - 1pm (year round) Saratoga West Valley College Fruitvale & Allendale Aves. (800) 806-FARM

Sunnyvale: Saturday 9am - 1pm (year round) S. Murphy Ave. at Washington and Evelyn (510) 745-7100

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www.FieldOfScreamsMorganHill.com



PUMPKIN PETE'S Enchanted Hayride

Pumpkin Pete's Enchanted Hayride

Take a charming 15 minute journey through our pumpkin patch, the Sunflower Gallery and our magnificent Marigoldland. A delightful experience for all ages.

PUMPKINVILLE RAILROAD

Take A Tour!



The Cow Train

Children of all ages never stop giggling while riding the Cow Train. This may be the silliest fun you have all year!

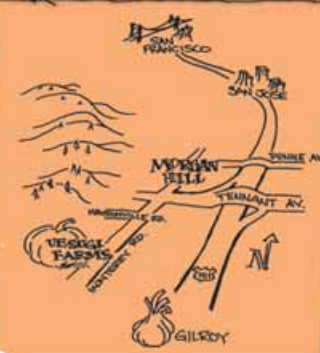
- **PumpkinPalooza Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off**
Oct. 13th, 1pm
- **Joe Sharino Band** - Oct. 21st, 2-4pm
- **Carrousel Opens** Oct. 18th

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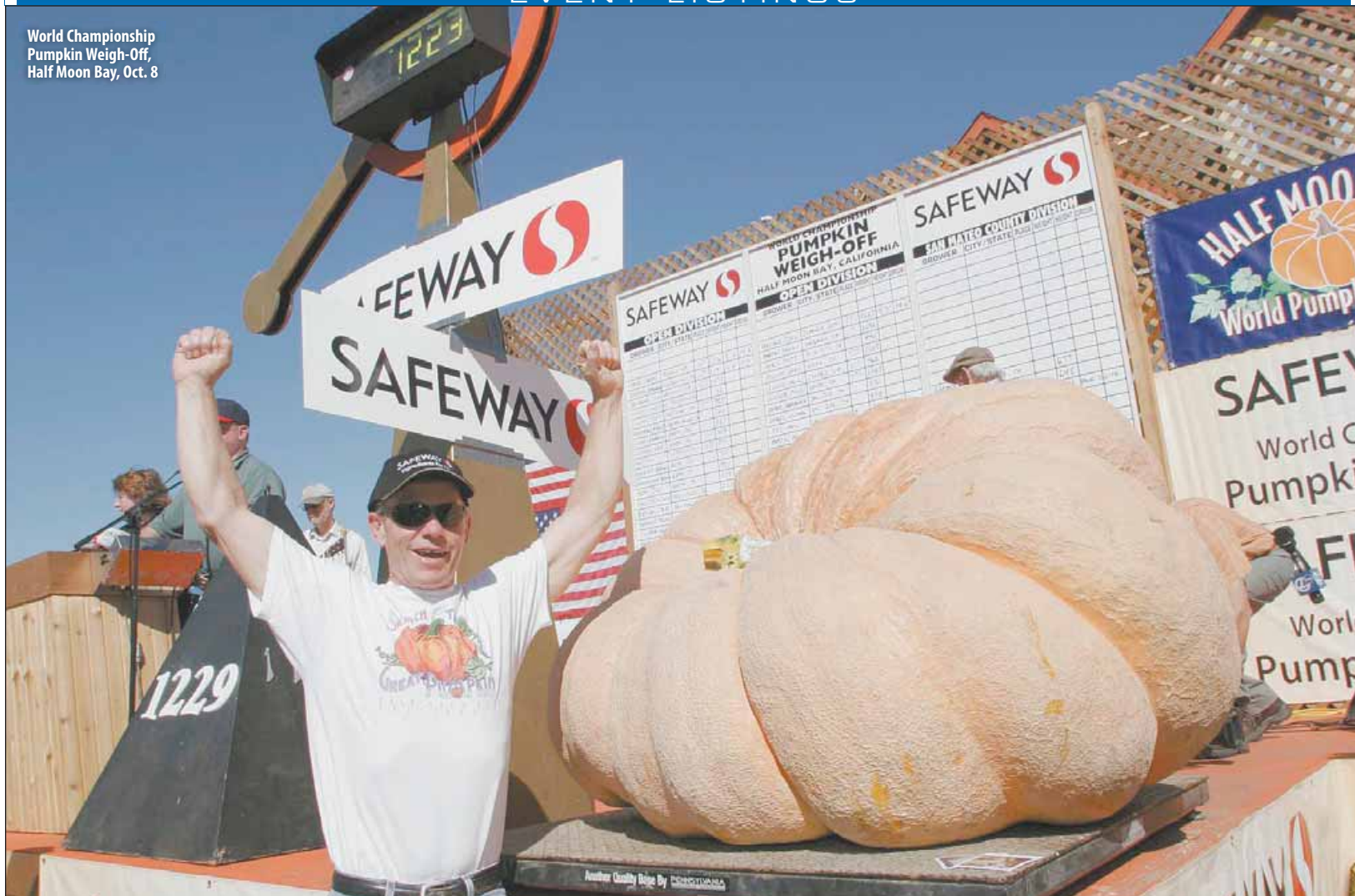
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SEPTEMBER '07						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 PP 9a-7p						29 PP 9a-7p
OCTOBER '07						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 PP 9a-7p	2 PP 9a-7p	3 PP 9a-7p	4 PP 9a-7p	5 PP 9a-7p	6 PP 9a-7p	7 PP 9a-7p
8 PP 9a-7p	9 PP 9a-7p	10 PP 9a-7p	11 PP 9a-7p	12 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	13 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	14 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p
15 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	16 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	17 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	18 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	19 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	20 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	21 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p
22 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	23 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	24 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	25 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	26 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	27 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	28 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p
29 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	30 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p	31 PP 9a-11p FOS 7-11p				

World Championship
Pumpkin Weigh-Off,
Half Moon Bay, Oct. 8



← 130

MOUNTAIN VIEW

FROM THE ALPS TO THE AMAZON: 52 WEEKS, 5 CONTINENTS, 28 COUNTRIES, ONE FAMILY: 10/30
REI-Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Rd. (650) 969-1938
Ever seen the movie *National Lampoon's Vacation*? Well, this is a lot like that, minus Marty Moose, and instead of a cross-country trip with the family, this is an AROUND THE WORLD trip with the family! 7pm

MORGAN HILL

PASSIONATELY PINK ROAD RIDE: 10/20
Concept Cyclery Parking Lot, 1295 E. Dunne Ave.
www.conceptcyclery.com
Celebrate Concept Cyclery's grand opening along with raising funds for cancer. All skills levels welcome: 9am

PALO ALTO

GREAT GLASS PUMPKIN PATCH: 10/2 - 7
Palo Alto Art Center, 1313 Newell Rd. (408) 993-2244
www.bagi.org
Peruse thousands of beautiful hand-blown gourds and purchase them! Proceeds benefit children's art education and outreach programs. 10am - 5pm

DOUBLE DIGGING AND BED PREPARATION: 10/6
Common Ground Educational Center, 559 College Ave.
(650) 493-6072 www.commongroundinpaloalto.org
Join Margo Royer-Miller for an informative demonstration on how to make your garden more productive: 10:30am - 12:30pm

GAMBLE GARDEN DAY: 10/7
Gamble Garden, 1431 Waverly St. (650) 329-1356
www.gamblegarden.org
A full day of family and garden fun, with vintage tractor rides, demonstrations, and the famous Hunt for the Longest Earthworm contest! Plus you can make leaf prints, learn about butterflies, and more: 11am

STANFORD QUADS SQUARE DANCE CLASS: 10/21, 28

Covenant Church, 670 E. Meadow (408) 774-1570
www.mixed-up.com/quads
Free introduction to modern square dancing, and the best part is you don't need a partner or experience: 7 - 9pm

SAN JOSE

MARTINIS & MANICURES: 10/2
Vbar, 355 Santana Row
(408) 423-5405
www.hotelvalencia.com
Enjoy fine martinis while getting a manicure: 5 - 7pm

WINE TASTING & FUND RAISING: 10/5

Belle Mia Restaurant, 58 S. First St. (408) 280-1993
An evening of wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres and, of course, fundraising benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation: 6 - 8pm

SILICON 2007: 10/5 - 7

San Jose DoubleTree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Pl. (408) 453-4000
www.siliconventions.com/silicon
Embrace your inner sci-fi geek and check out the latest goings-on in the comic, sci-fi, fantasy, anime and horror worlds, with exhibitors, art for sale, speakers, films, a fashion show, a masquerade ball, and more!

SAN JOSE LAWN BOWLS CLUB OPEN HOUSE: 10/6

Bramball Park (408) 499-5423
Learn to lawn bowl... for FREE!
RSVP and wear flat-soled shoes: 9am - Noon

SPIRIT OF JAPANTOWN FESTIVAL: 10/6

Japantown, Jackson St. between Third & Seventh Sts.
www.spiritofjapantownfestival.com
Bring the whole family for a day of live entertainment from San Jose Taiko, samurai sword and martial arts demonstrations, a car show, anime and, of course, great food: 9am - 5pm

ROSICRUCIAN SALON: MARTINISM: 10/9

Rosicrucian Park, 1342 Naglee Ave. (408) 947-3695



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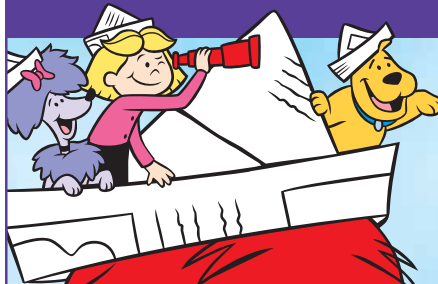
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Research Center
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San Jose CA 95117
www.asthmaresearch.com



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OCT. 13-28

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FAMILY & COMMUNITY EVENT LISTINGS

←132

A discussion on Martinism, a form of mystical Christianity that began as an informal practice in late 18th century France: 7:30pm

SCARECROW MAKING WORKSHOP: 10/6

Guadalupe River Park & Garden Visitor Center, 438 Coleman Ave. (408) 298-7657 www.grpg.org
Spend the morning with friends and family making an ultracool scarecrow. Once completed, your scarecrow will be invited to participate in the Scarecrow Contest on Oct. 13! 9am - Noon

HUNTING SEASON II: 10/13

Alum Rock Youth Center, 137 N. White Rd. (408) 251-5757 www.myspace.com/miaavie
It's a 2 vs. 2 Bboy and Bgirl break dancing smack down, with the winner pocketing a cool GRAND. Funds raised benefit the Alum Rock Youth Center: 4 - 10pm

PUMPKINS IN THE PARK: 10/13

Guadalupe River Park Visitors Center, 438 Coleman Ave. www.grpg.org
Fun for the whole family with a giant pumpkin patch, food, scarecrow row, apple tasting, entertainment for the kids, and a scarecrow making contest: 10am - 4pm

ROCK 'N' ROLL HALF MARATHON: 10/14

Downtown San Jose, beginning at HP Pavilion, ending at Plaza de Cesar Chavez www.rnrj.com
Who needs an iPod to run with when you have 14 stages of live music lining the streets (one stage at each mile marker) as you run just a tad over 13 miles.

OKTOBERFEST AT HOTEL VALENCIA: 10/19

355 Santana Row (408) 551-0010 www.hotelvalencia.com
Celebrate Oktoberfest with an evening of German beer, food and accordion music. You'll even receive a souvenir stein: 6 - 9pm

SAN JOSE ROCKS SECOND ANNUAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION: 10/19

San Jose's History Park, 1650 Senter Rd. www.sanjoserocks.org
This year's inductees and performers include Papa Doo Run Run, The Greg Kihn Band and People: 5:30pm

SAN JOSE VESPA FIESTA & OPEN HOUSE: 10/23 - 27

San Jose Vespa, 1886 W. San Carlos St., San Jose (408) 295-0205 www.sjvespa.com
Putt on over to SJ Vespa and enjoy free refreshments, product demos, fashion show, you can even win a Tom Tom GPS unit!

ROBO DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE & EXPO: 10/25 - 26

San Jose McEnery Convention Center, 408 Almaden Blvd. www.robo4development.com
A unique technical event focused on the tools, technologies and techniques for developing the next generation of personal service and mobile robots:

11TH ANNUAL HAUNT THE HOLLOW: 10/28

Happy Hollow Zoo & History Park, 1300 Senter Rd. (408) 277-4193 www.bhpbz.org
The whole family is invited to Happy Hollow Zoo for a full day of trick-or-treating, puppet shows, trolley rides, and don't forget all the wonderful animals to view.

MOMMY & ME ON THE ROW: HALLOWEEN FEST: 10/30

Santana Row, Winchester & Stevens Creek Blvds. (408) 551-4611 www.santanarow.com
A full day of activity for mom and kids, with pumpkin decorating, face painting, trick-or-treating, and fun! 10am - 5pm

SAN JOSE REPTILE SHOW: 11/3 - 4

South Hill - San Jose Convention Center, 435 S. Market St. www.upscalereptiles.com/html/events.html
A reptile show and sale that

136→

SVGUIDE: WEDDING PLANNING



REHEARSAL DINING: Di Cicco's Ristorante Italian, 2509 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell (408) 377-5850 www.diccosgreatfood.com

We offer a semi-private or private room for your rehearsal dinner for up to 60 guests. Our food is classic old-fashioned, homemade Italian. Join us and experience a dinner your guests will remember forever!

ACCOMMODATIONS: Hotel Los Gatos & Spa, 210 E. Main St., Los Gatos (408) 335-1700 www.hotelosgatos.com

Mediterranean-styled villas providing luxurious guest rooms and suites. Nestled at the base of the Santa Cruz Mountains and walking distance to the many shops, restaurants and galleries. Home to Preston Wynne Spa & Dio Deka Restaurant.

BACHELORETTE PARTIES: Jewelsexpression, 1445 Foxworthy Ave., San Jose www.jewelsexpression.com
Jewelsexpression offers exotic dancing classes with a softer touch. Designed for women of all shapes, sizes and ages you'll learn the art of the "walk," floor performing, and faux pole and chair dancing. Great for bridal showers and bachelorette parties.

CATERING: Catered Too, 12 S. First St., Ste. 229, San Jose (408) 295-1563 www.catered2.com
Specializing in full-service catering and event planning for parties of 100 or more in the Silicon Valley and surrounding areas.

DENTISTRY: Bay Dental, 1180 Blossom Hill Rd., San Jose (408) 978-2500 www.baydent.com

Offering everything in dentistry, from Zoom™ teeth whitening to extractions, fillings, implants, gum surgery, root canals, orthodontics, Invisalign, tooth bonding, and veneers. Bride and groom Zoom™ teeth whitening package for \$375.

RECEPTIONS: Hotel Los Gatos & Spa, 210 E. Main St., Los Gatos (408) 335-1700 www.hotelosgatos.com
Mediterranean ambience provides luxurious banquet facilities for events to accommodate up to 130 guests at various locations, including our Indoor Monte Sereno Ballroom, Outdoor Courtyard & Pool Terrace.

SPA: Ayoma LifeSpa, Hotel Valencia Santana Row, Fifth Floor, San Jose (408) 423-5424 www.ayoma.com
Voted best alternative spa in Silicon Valley.

TANNING: Exotica Airbrush Tanning, 15466 Los Gatos Blvd., Ste. 207, Los Gatos (408) 358-4380 www.exoticaairbrushtanning.com

Specializing in wedding parties. Customized bronze blends for your skin type for a perfect natural glow for your day. Check website for info.

TRAVEL: Joan's Travel Adventures, 5156 El Rose Ave., San Jose (408) 448-1525
Create the perfect honeymoon with the Honeymoon Bridal Registry. Guests use it the same as any registry and help send you on your dream getaway.

WEDDING RESOURCES: aWeddingShop.com, (408) 733-8844 www.aweddingshop.com
Finally, a wedding website created specifically to help Bay Area brides and grooms find the best local resources and information.

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF WEDDING VENDORS LOG ON TO
WWW.SILICONVALLEYWEDDINGS.COM

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- Learn to care for your reptile pet - expanded educational section

Don't miss the opportunity to see and pet a live alligator!

See the Wild Things Animal Sanctuary presentation with a hands-on opportunity to see and pet a live alligator from noon to 1pm each day.

For one weekend only, tons of reptiles and supplies at wholesale prices!



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Faire, Hollister, Thru Oct. 14

←134

includes education about reptiles,
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Ewwwееееее... 10am - 4pm

**SANTA
CLARA**

**JANE GOODALL
SPEAKING
ENGAGEMENT: 10/8**
*Santa Clara University - Mayer
Theatre, 500 El Camino Real
(408) 554-4400
www.scu.edu/speakerseries*
Join renowned primatologist Jane
Goodall, who opens the annual
President's Speaker Series with a
talk on a "Reason for Hope": 7:30pm

**SAN
MATEO**

**CONTACT CARES
VOLUNTEER
ORIENTATION:
10/11 - 11/1**

*Bill Wilson Center, 3490 The
Alameda (408) 850-6138*
Find out what it takes to become a
crisis line counselor: 6 - 9pm

**BETTS CARTWRIGHT
MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP
FUNDRAISER: 10/28**
*Bay Meadows, 2600 Delaware
St. (408) 288-2828 x240*
Play the ponies, eat and be merry,
all while helping raise scholarship
funds for the San Jose Ballet School.

STANFORD

**THETA BREAKERS RUN
FOR THE CHILDREN
2007: 10/14**

*Pac-10 Plaza, Corner of Galvez
St. & Nelson Rd., Stanford
University [www.stanford.edu/
group/theta/philanthropy.shtml](http://www.stanford.edu/group/theta/philanthropy.shtml)*
Join Stanford sorority Kappa Alpha
Theta for a 5k run/walk and 10k run
benefiting Child Advocates of Silicon
Valley: 9 - 11am

**SUNNY-
VALE**

**COOKING WITH KIDS:
10/19**

*Young Chefs Academy,
1336 S. Mary Ave.
(408) 738-2433
[www.youngchefsacademy.com/
sunnyvale](http://www.youngchefsacademy.com/sunnyvale)*
The whole family is invited for an
evening of cooking and eating as
you explore the world of Greece.
You'll learn to cook pita bread,
tyrokafteri (spicy cheese dip), chicken
doulakaki (Greek chicken salad)
and kourabiedes (Greek wedding
cookies): 5:30 - 8:30pm **TW**

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County of Santa Clara and the California Arts Council, and from the Farrington Historical Foundation.



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Third Thursday of Each Month

11 AM – 1:30 PM — Accelerated Networking Lunch Event
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Price: \$53

Upcoming Events on: **Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 13**

First Wednesday of Each Month

5:30 PM - 8:15 PM — Accelerated Networking Dinner Event
Los Gatos Lodge. 50 Los Gatos Saratoga Rd., Los Gatos, 95032

Price: \$53

Upcoming Events on: **Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5**

Register at www.eWomenNetwork.com or Contact:
Kristy Rogers Regional Executive Director
kristyrogers@eWomenNetwork.com
 408-288-8484



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WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
THUR 10/4	BUSINESS/NETWORKING MIXER	Jillians's at Metreon (SAN FRANCISCO)
WED 10/17	ACCESS TO CAPITAL SMALL BUSINESS FINANCIAL FORUM	CET-Anthony Soto Theatre (SAN JOSE)
THUR 11/1	BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY NETWORKING MIXER	Plug & Play Technology Center (SUNNYVALE)

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Emile Hirsch / Courtesy of Paramount Vantage, 28, Sharks Intro / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, 29, Pavilion After / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Bryan Marchment / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Mike Ricci / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Drew Remenda / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, 30, Sharks Road Jersey / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Sharks Hom Jersey / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Mystery Puck Sale / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, Sharks Logo / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, 31, Jeremy Roenick / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, 32, Blur LT / Courtesy of Santa Cruz Bicycles, Nomad / Courtesy of Santa Cruz Bicycles, Superlight / Courtesy of Santa Cruz Bicycles, 34, Epic / Courtesy of Specialized Bicycle Components, Stuntjumper / Courtesy of Specialized Bicycle Components, 38, Scientist with Bottles / Courtesy of iStock, 40, Scentology Endurance Enhancer / Courtesy of Scentology, 48, Hutton High Rise / Courtesy of Citizens of Humanity, Kate Moss / Courtesy of Wireimage, Malik Jeans / Courtesy of Jbrand, Super Hi Skinny / Courtesy of Levis, The High in black / Courtesy of Rich and Skinny, The Lanky jean / Courtesy of Rich and Skinny, 52, Blik Chandelier / Courtesy of bilk, Circle Pattern Chair / Courtesy of dVider, Lovebirds / Courtesy of Ferm Living US, Monkey / Courtesy of Vinyl Wall Art, Owltree / Courtesy of Vinyl Wall Art, Undoboy Icons / Courtesy of bilk, 54, Blackberry / Courtesy of Ferm Living US, 56, Lamp (After) / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, Tip 1 Check for Hole / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, 58, Lamp (Before) / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, Tip 2 Check for Stability / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, Tip 3 Check for Scale / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, 60, Conch Lamp / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, Cord Detail / Courtesy of Jennifer & Kitty O'Neil, 66, Cheese Dinner / Courtesy of Parcel 104, Robert Sapirman / By Chris Schmauch, 68, Alexander's Steakhouse / By Chris Schmauch, Jeffrey Stout / By Chris Schmauch, 70, David Kinch / By Chris Schmauch, Manresa Food / By Chris Schmauch, 72, Le Papillon Salad / By Chris Schmauch, Scott Cooper / By Chris Schmauch, 74, Brian Weselby / By Chris Schmauch, Forbes Mill Blackened Ribeye / By Chris Schmauch, 76, Chez TJ food / By Chris Schmauch, Christopher Kostow / By Chris Schmauch, 78, Mantra Ahi Tuna / By Chris Schmauch, Sachin Chopra / By Chris Schmauch, 80, Katsuhiko Yamasaki / By Chris Schmauch, Kaygetsu food / By Chris Schmauch, 80, Shinichi Aoki / By Chris Schmauch, 82, Matthew LeGentry / By Chris Schmauch, The Grill on the Alley food / By Chris Schmauch, 84, Birk's Restaurant / By Chris Schmauch, Maurice Dissels / By Chris Schmauch, 86, Anise Café / By Chris Schmauch, 90, La Foret / By Chris Schmauch, 94, Paragon / By Chris Schmauch, 98, Tanglewood / By Chris Schmauch, 103, Tegan and Sara / Courtesy of Dustin Rabin, Patrick Marleau / Courtesy of San Jose Sharks, 104, High School Musical / Courtesy of Feld Entertainment, Wynton Marsalis / Courtesy of Stanford Lively Arts, 105, Eroica Trio / Courtesy of Eroica Trio, Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Fest / Courtesy of Miramar Events, 105, Xuefei Yang / Courtesy of Xuefei Yang, Interpol / By Jelle Wagenaar, 108, Burrell School / Courtesy of Burrell School, 109, BB King / Courtesy of Santa Cruz Blues Festival, 112, Motif / Courtesy of Motif, 114, Characters / By Chris Schmauch, 118, Elizabeth: The Golden Age / By Laurie Sparham, Courtesy of Universal, 122, Jennie Bilfield / By Steve Castillo, Phillip Glass / By Lorca Cohen, 124, Reflections on Turning 65 / Courtesy of Myrna Wacknow, 126, Anxious Objects / Courtesy of Cantor Arts Center, Go Diego Go / Courtesy of Carol Rosegg, 127, Goldas Balcony / Courtesy of David Allen, 128, Confused Man / Courtesy of iStock, Girls / Courtesy of iStock, 130, Howling Halloween / Courtesy of iStock, 132, First Annual Great Glass Pumpkin Patch / Courtesy of Palo Alto Art Center, Safeway World Championship Pumpkin Weigh-Off / Courtesy of Miramar Events, 134, DiCiccio / By Paul Ferradas, 136, Northern California Renaissance Fair / Courtesy of Northern California Renaissance Fair, 140, Seanbaby / By Chris Schmauch

ADVERTISER INDEX

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1240 Salon & Spa	46	Debbie Lyn's Costumes	23	Olive Bar, The	100
19 Market	97	Dee's Appliance Repair	58	Palo Alto Hardware	60
23 Skidoo	50	DiCiccio	88	Paolo's Restaurant	95
2fabulous Salon & Spa	45	Dio Deka	143	Paragon Restaurant	90
3TA Restaurant & Bar	77	Dive Bar	115	Parcel 104	79
4-Wheel Parts Performance Center	35	Dr. Justina Azcueta D.D.S.	42	Passware, Inc.	16
A-1 Self Storage	15	Dr. Robert Ferguson	39	Perfect Search, The	35
AA Laser	44	Dr. Tony H. Pham, M.D.	42	Pierre Silber LLC	110
Academy for Salon Professionals	18	Dr. Youbert Karaliam	47	Planet Sushi	97
Adena Designs	49	Duck Club, The	62	Pleasures From The Heart	50
Aida M. Galan, DMD	35	E & O Trading, CO	74	Quarter Note	117
Aids Coalition of Silicon Valley	129	Easy Tan Salon	46	Rabbits Foot Meadery	117
Alexander's Steakhouse	65	Embassy Suites Lake Tahoe	25	Red Lotus	87
All Cities Limousine	25	Emerge Medspa	39	Rejuve Medical	19
Allegiance Real Estate & Development	55	Eternal Beauty Medical Clinic	21	Renaissance Faire	123
Allegiance Real Estate & Development	57	eWomen	137	Rocco's Cigar Lounge	116
Allergy and Asthma Associates	20	Excel Communications	18	Rock Guitar/Cary Motter	136
Allergy and Asthma Associates	133	Exotic Erotic Ball	113	Roem Corporation	6
All Temp Engineering	58	Fahrenheit/Eight Group, Inc.	107	Rokko	64
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria	83	Fairtex Muay Thai Fitness	33	Rolie McCann's	87
Amidi Dental	21	Famous Motor Grupe	25	Rosie's Rack	115
Angel Salon	47	Faultline Brewing Co.	78	Salt	51
Angels	117	Faz Restaurant & Catering	80	Sam's BBQ	74
Anise Cafe	85	Featured Business - City Heights	123	Sandra Markes	47
A Perfect Finish	117	Firehouse Grill & Brewery	95	San Jose BMW Motorcycles	17
Aqui Cal-Mex	75	Fish Market Restaurant, The	71	San Jose Box Office	127
Arcadia Restaurant	73	Five Branches Institute	42	San Jose Museum of Art	13
Arthur's Restaurant	86	Gambardella's Restaurant	76	San Jose Reptile Show	135
Artspolis	121	Gavilan College	135	San Jose Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon	102
At Home Cleaning	56	Genesis Dentistry	15	San Jose Sharks	142
A Tool Shed Equipment Rentals	56	G Force Staffing	23	Scandalous Salon	43
Attuned Dental Care	43	Gilroy Visitors Bureau	140	Scruffy Murphy's	116
AVA Spa	15	Ginger Cafe	66	SeaWolf Trading Company	51
Azucar	101	Goosetown Lounge	114	Sent Sovi	93
Bai Tong	93	Gordon Biersch	94	Siam Thai	96
Bangkok Taste Restaurant	83	Grand Century Dental	23	Silpada Designs	49
Bank, The	92	Great America	133	SINO	68
Bare Yoga	47	GreeneMotors	23	Smoke Tiki Lounge	109
Bay Area Ski & Snowboard Show	27	Grill on the Alley,The	85	Specialized Bicycle Components	36
Bay Dental	19	Gulliver USA	12	Spencer's	90
Bella Mia	100	Hairchitects Salon	49	Spice	91
Bella Saratoga	93	Half Moon Bay Pumpkin Festival	137	Stevens Creek Family Dentistry	45
Beverly Heritage Hotel	79	Harrah's Lake Tahoe	7	Straits Restaurant	85
Birk's Restaurant	66	Il Postale	95	Sushi Mamoru	81
Blacy's	51	Image Beauty Salon	46	Swank Farms	135
Bleu Gentry Restaurant	97	infobayarea.com	137	Swank Farms	136
Bliss Parties	41	Institute of Medical Education	16	Swank Farms	10
Blowfish Sushi	69	Intel Museum	123	Taiwan Restaurant	101
Blue Mango	89	Island Grill	96	Tangerine Hair Studio	44
Blue Pheasant Lounge	68	Itapas	70	Tapestry	85
Bob's Golf & Tennis	35	Jane Aesthetic Medicine & Surgery	8	The Basin	99
Bold Knight Bistro	88	Japantown	136	The Melting Pot	99
Booster Juice	84	Jersey's Tavern	78	Thoi's Arts & Crafts	51
Boulevard Tavern	117	Jimyko Home	54	Tickle Pink Inn	141
Braces For Pretty Faces	139	JJ's Blues	109	Tied House	64
Buddha Lounge	115	Julie Acosta, Hairstylist	47	Trader Vic's at Dinah's Garden	80
Cajun Crab House	87	Koji Sake	117	Trailblloggers Outdoor Discovery Gear	51
California Mortgage Group	138	Kosmo Terra	44	Treasure Chest Aquarium & Pets	50
Galmar Bicycles	34	Kyoto Palace	72	Tunguska Blast	41
Genema Cinemas	119	La Fondue	3	Uesugi Farms	131
Cantankerous Fish (Mt. View)	89	La Mere Michelle	92	Uncorked!	93
Cantor Arts Center, Stanford	123	Laser & Cosmetic Center, The	37	University Art	125
Capers Eat & Drink	82	Learning Plus Tutoring	137	Up and Running	36
Cardiff Lounge	116	Lemans Karting	37	ValleSol	87
Cascal Restaurant	81	Loft Bar and Bistro	82	WAMU	58
Center for Cosmetic Surgery	9	Los Gatos Tire & Automotive	21	Warren Miller Entertainment	34
Centex Homes	144	Lupretta's Delicatessen	92	Wave - Coffee Table	61
Central Computers	22	Luu New Tung Kee Noodle	87	Wave - Contest (Dinner & Show)	127
Century Graphics	135	Lynn Kelley	47	Wave - Pre-Theatre Dining Guide	98
Chardonnay II Santa Cruz	35	Lyric Theatre	136	Wave - San Jose Dining	101
Chef Chus	84	Magical Moments	49	Wave - Subscribe	45
Chez TJ Restaurant	94	Mai Dental Specialists	41	Wave - Subscribe	100
Children's Discovery Museum	133	Mai Dental Specialists	2	Wave - Subscribe	121
Chrysalis Aesthetic & Reconstructive Surgery, Inc.	13	Mangosteen	47	We Own The Night (Terry Hines & Assoc.)	121
Cielito Lindo Restaurant	76	Mantra Palo Alto	83	West Coast Cigars	115
CineLux Theatres	119	Maxim's	91	Westpark Dental	13
Cinnabar Winery	93	Mazda Laguna Seca	11	Willow Glen Kitchen, Bath, Home Furnishings	54
City Heights	53	Menara Moroccan Restaurant	96	Willow Street Pizza	95
Clay Morganparks	43	Ming's	70	Wine Cellar	88
Club Avalon	114	Minh Le, M.D.	43	Wine Shop At Home	21
Club One	4	Mio Vicino	101	Yamaagami's Nursery	60
Combined Medical Services, Inc.	46	Mix 106.5	14	Zucca Ristorante	91
Counter, The	83	Montecito Vista	59		
Cuetopia	136	Motif Restaurant and Club	67		
Cupertino Chamber of Commerce	17	Nicolino's Italian Restaurant	87		
Cyberwize	134	Nirvana	45		
		Nuderma	40		
		Nuderma	47		

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THE FINAL LAST WORD

BY SEANBABY - SEANBABY@THEWAVEMAG.COM

Making TV Personal

I take TV very personally. I understand I'm only one of millions of viewers on the receiving end of the show, but when my TiVo picks half the shows for me, and market researchers watch me consume them with space cameras, I don't think it's self-important to think that all of television was made for me specifically. Most days, it makes for a very pleasant time with all of my personality traits calculatedly attended to.

My TV pays better attention to me than I do. It knew I'd want to see *Bloodsport* in French, and I don't even know what French is. That doesn't explain why oftentimes my TV mocks and betrays me. For example, if it knows so much about me, why does *America's Next Top Model* show up? Do I sleepwalk gay? And with so many TV robots working in unison to get advertising targeted to me, why will I see an ad for erectile dysfunction and herpes in the same commercial break? How many things does the Dog Whisperer think I have wrong with my lap?

With the fall season starting, my television is working overtime to insult me. Just look at some of the shows that it thinks I want to see.

The Big Bang Theory (CBS)

Logline: Nerds talk about nerdy things, hoping you're average enough for that concept to be absurd.

Now that nerds are the world's largest minority (behind fatties), more shows are being created for and about them. From what my TV tells me about this show, this is a celebration of nerd stereotypes by non-nerds. It makes me feel like a black person watching a minstrel show, or as close to that as I'm racially allowed to feel, of course. And: Do I apologize now, or do you think black people will know I was trying to be on their side?

Chuck (NBC)

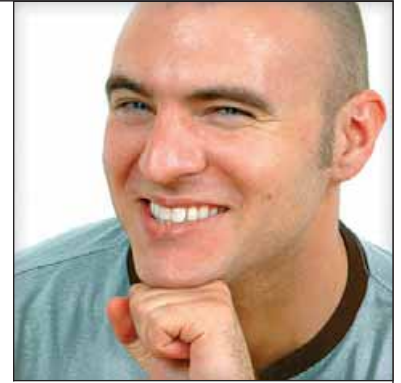
Logline: Nerdy everyman suddenly becomes a super spy.

Nice pandering, NBC. Did somebody not pitch a series about a guy watching a bad show whose TV transforms into a money fountain and then sex happens?

Cavemen (ABC)

Logline: Those cavemen from the car insurance commercials have a show.

I thought Max Headroom taught us that we will voluntarily watch commercials and characters from commercials absolutely never. Or did that show teach me how to prepare for a dystopian future of Pepsi crime? Shows like *Cavemen* make me so confused. For example, when



you're watching a show based on commercials, do you just TiVo through the entire damn thing?

Crowned (CW)

Logline: Mother/daughter teams compete in a beauty pageant reality show.

The first advice I give mothers is that if you ever have a chance for a panel of expert judges to declare you and your daughter the prettiest of all, take it... if the final prize is 80 trained but starving attack dogs. I'll admit, there's something intriguing about telling teams of insecure women they're not as pretty as others so they can bicker amongst themselves over who the ugly one must have been. Wait, my TV was right on this show recommendation. There is something wrong with me.

Farmer Wants a Wife (CW)

Logline: 10 urban ladies compete to win a farmer.

If I've already seen Flavor Flav and the Littlest Groom find love from a group of attention whores, why would I bother to watch something as mundane as a farmer? Is he going to milk them? Is one of them a robot woman that detonates if you say a secret word? There's a fine line between interesting and ridiculous, but this premise isn't even in the airplane flying towards that line.

Back to You (FOX)

Logline: Kelsey Grammer in a show about TV news.

What is this, the third show where Kelsey Grammer played a Frasier? The idea of a sitcom in a news studio is so generic, I think my brain would have trouble separating this from previous TV shows it might have seen. At least *The Leprechaun* had the sense to dramatically change settings in his third project. Although I can't remember if the third movie was in the 'hood or outer space... and you know, in a column about my TV insulting me, the least I can do is not insult the internet by looking that up. **TW**

Email your programming recommendations to seanbaby@thewavemag.com.

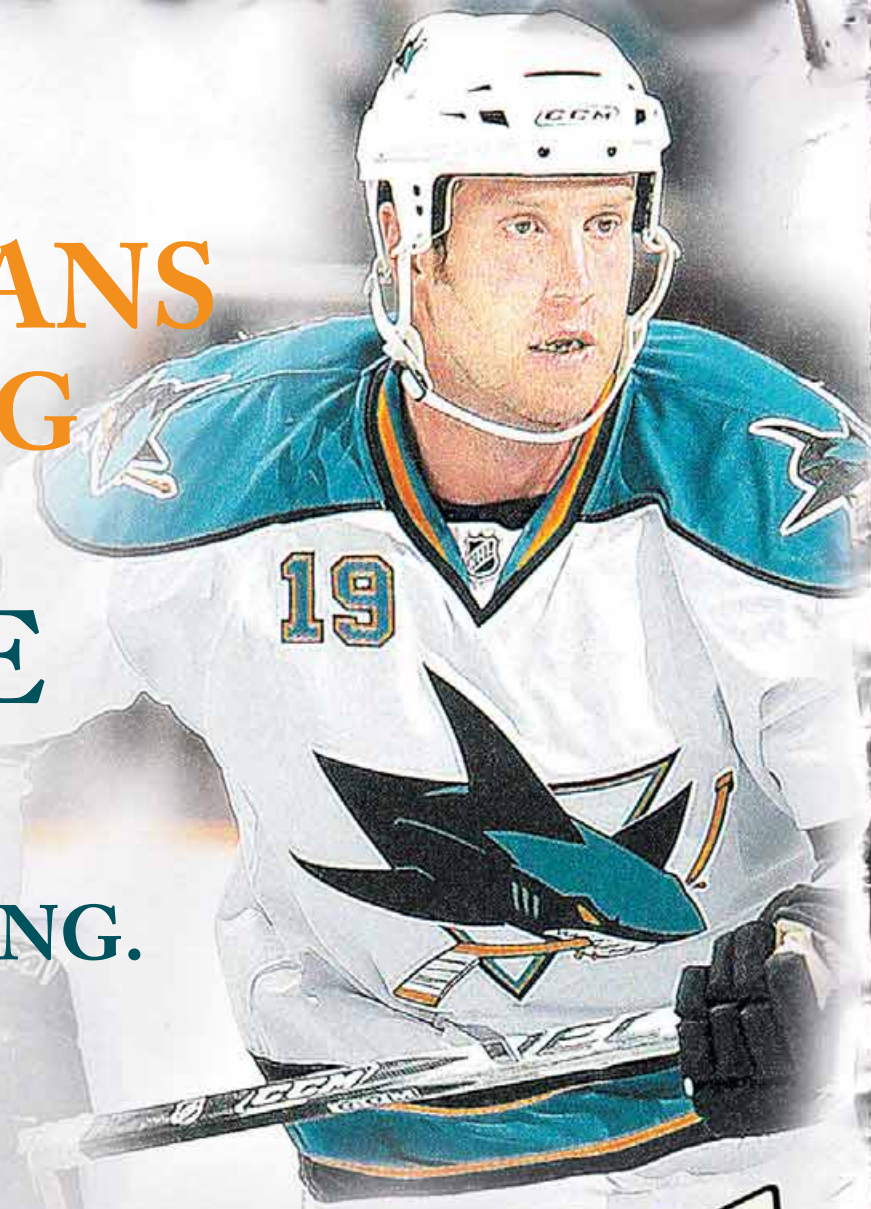


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