

HERD

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their teeth when I say I want Obama to fail. Because I have violated political correctness. ... You can't wish the first black president would fail. ... The dirty little secret is that every Republican in this country wants Obama to fail, but none of them have the guts to say so; I am willing to say it. We want him to fail because we want to preserve our country as we found it. We do not want to see a successful attack on capitalism." He's so brave, Limbaugh, hiding behind

a microphone with a mute button thrashing straw men he invented. Exactly who said Obama can't be criticized because he's black? Nobody. What I hear is Democrats like White House chief-of-staff Rahm Emanuel saying how glad they are to see Limbaugh taking center stage.

Attack on capitalism? Most Americans understand that should Obama's efforts to save the banking system and kick-start the economy fail, we're in a world of hurt. Not Huckabee, however, a pragmatic moderate as Arkansas' governor, but a fire-and-brim-

stone shouter at CPAC. He claims that Obama's creating a new "Union of American Socialist Republics," adding that "Lenin and Stalin would love this stuff."

Lenin? Stalin? Why not Hitler, too?

Evidently P.T. Barnum never actually said, "There's a sucker born every minute." He'd nevertheless have recognized a carnival act when he saw one.

Arkansas Democrat-Gazette columnist Gene Lyons is a National Magazine Award winner and co-author of "The Hunting of the President" (St. Martin's Press, 2000). You can e-mail Lyons at eugenelyons2@yahoo.com.

SCENE & HEARD

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included composing music for television and movies, and later forming The Acoustic Warriors (who in 1996 released a CD called Shootin' Straight) until 2000, when he released his first studio album since 1978 titled "Beatin' the Heat," on Surfdog Records. "Beatin' the Heat" marked the revival of the Hot Licks moniker as well as the traditional Licks format complete with his female backups. The album was met with rave reviews and considered an extremely successful comeback album that pulled out all the stops with featured guest performances by Elvis Costello, Bette

Midler, Brian Setzer and Tom Waits among others. Elvis Costello has said of Hicks, "Dan is an American treasure. 'I Scare Myself' and 'It's Not My Time to Go' ... I think they're two of the best songs ever written."

And now, the music world waits in anticipation as the highly colorful and humorous songwriter prepares the release of his latest album "Tangled Tales," set to hit stores March 24. Tangled Tales embodies the singer's outlaw attitude, counter-culture mystique, subtle melancholy and dry wit that have surrounded him throughout his career and of which he's built an empire on.

Now, Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks will be performing

a once in a lifetime show at the Belly Up in Solana Beach on March 25, just a day after "Tangled Tales" is released. Tom Waits once hailed Dan Hicks as "fly, sly, wily and dry!" and Bette Midler called him "lightening in a bottle!" Don't miss your chance to catch this counter-culture American songwriter play in one of the most intimate venues in all of North County. Tickets for this personal show are on sale now at www.bellyup.com.

"Scene & Heard" is a biweekly music column that focuses on the North County scene. Please send local band information and upcoming show details to Lacy Ottenson at lottenson@coastnewsgroup.com.

MUSICIANS

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impressive resume that includes the 2007 Young Jazz Composer Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. Combined, the five musicians estimate they have performed with about

100 bands. Despite all their experience, they are still a bit nervous about next month's show in Monterey.

"It's nerve-wracking because everybody up there's a musician, and everybody up there is a pretty good musician," Chris said.

"Hopefully people like what we do," Daniel said.

To raise funds for the

trip, Latin Connection is performing from 7 to 9 p.m. March 25 at Dizzy's on Second and J streets in San Diego. Tickets are \$10. The show is open to all ages.

For information on other upcoming performances or the band, visit www.chasemorrin.com or Google any of the band members by name.

CALENDAR

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more.

MAKING MUSIC The Museum of Making Music will hold a special fundraising concert by Richard Glazier featuring the music of Judy Garland and her contemporaries at 6 p.m. March 21, 5790 Armada Drive, Carlsbad. This concert is dedicated to the memory of Ray Lipson. Visit museumofmakingmusic.org for details.

MUSICAL JOURNEY The North Coast Symphony Orchestra will present "Orchestral Journey Back In Time," at 7:30 p.m. March 21 and at 2 p.m. March 22, MiraCosta College Theatre, 1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside. The concert will highlight one masterpiece from each of four main musical periods: Baroque, Classical, Romantic and the 20th Century. For tickets, visit www.miracosta.edu/events or call (760) 795-6815.

SHORE BIRDS The Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation will hold a nature walk with a focus on shore birds from 2 to 3:30 p.m. March 21. Meet at the Ponto Beach parking lot near the intersection of La Costa and Coast Highway 101, by the public restrooms. Call (760) 931-0800 or visit www.batiquitosfoundation.org for details.

SOMETHINGS AFOOT New Vision Theatre Company will

be auditioning for the musical comedy "Something's Afoot" at 10 a.m. March 21, Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Highway 101. The play is a spoof of detective stories, mainly Agathie Christie's work and especially "And Then There Were None." For details, contact John at (714) 401-0362.

TAKE A HIKE Preserve Calavera will hold hikes beginning at 8:30 a.m. and varying in length March 21 through the Carlsbad Oaks North Habitat Conservation area. Meet at the southeast corner of the reservation. Hikers should bring a lunch and plenty of water along, as well as a full brimmed hat, sunscreen, and sturdy hiking boots with ankle support. Reservations are required. Contact Patrick McConnell at pmcconnell@cnlm.org for details.

MARCH 22

CHANT CONCERT The Sacred Chant Concert with Snam Kaur, GuruGanesha Singh and Bhava Ram will take place from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. March 22, Seaside Church, 1613 Lake Drive, Encinitas. Angelic voices, uplifting beats and peaceful melodies are on the order. The musicians will weave traditional Indian instruments and ecstatic chants into a blend of musical tapestries. Visit <http://www.deepyoga.com/> or call (760) 753-2345.

HIKERS UNITE The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy will hold a guided hike through the Santa Fe Valley trail from 1 to 2:30 p.m. March 22. This hike is 2.5 miles round trip, although it can be optionally extended another 2 miles for the more enthusiastic. Reservations are required. Contact hikes@sdrvc.org or (858) 674-2275, ext.12 for directions and to reserve a space.

SPRING POETRY The Solana Beach Art Association will present the premier Spring Renewal Poetry Party and Reading from 4 to 5:30 p.m. March 22, The Book Works, Flower Hill Shopping Center, 2670 Via de la Valle, Del Mar. This will be a coming together of community poets of all ages. There will be an open mic for anyone who wishes to share their springtime themed original work of poetry.

MARCH 23

JEWISH MEDITATION The RSF Jewish Womens Circle invites local Jewish women to a morning of sensory exploration with South African artist Neria Cohen at 11 a.m. March 23, Fairbanks Ranch Clubhouse. The meditation and painting Workshop is a unique workshop based on the teachings of Jewish mysticism. E-mail devorah@jewishrsf.com or call (858) 213 4818 to RSVP.

LAGOON

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businesses that donate \$100 or more each year to the Buena Vista Audubon Society to help support its environmental education programs.

The society's top priority is to "keep the doors open" at its Nature Center, 2202 S. Coast Highway 101 in Oceanside.

Fueled almost entirely by volunteer power and with the generous support of its Ruddy Duck Club members, the center has provided nature education field trips for thousands of local school children each year since its opening in 1988.

SUNSHINE

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to the public constitutes a Brown Act violation. Currently all Closed Sessions are being noticed as a "Special Meeting," which means the city is only required to give 24 hours notice versus the 72 hours notice normally required for regular agendas. Result: It doesn't give the public

DOORMAN

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variety of simple tasks that even our parents would do without thinking twice. Instead of walking, we take a bicycle. Or even worse, we hop in our car to drive two blocks.

Instead of having to track down our food in the plains or the jungles, we head to the dull linoleum aisles of Albertsons or Costco. Or we take the most egregious of lazy culinary roads and pay extra to have it dropped off at our front door so that we don't have to venture out into that appalling Southern California weather.

Reading, writing or

The Nature Center also provides free basic birding classes as it conducts its monthly bird count on the Buena Vista lagoon.

The group has been counting birds on the lagoon since 1951. New Ruddy Duck Club members will receive a framed certificate of appreciation from the Buena Vista Audubon board of directors along with their hummingbird feeder from Wild Birds Unlimited.

The Ruddy Duck is the mascot of the Buena Vista Audubon Society. It is a feisty, small to medium-sized diving duck that is a year-round resident on the Buena Vista lagoon. In

adequate notification should they want to speak to any issue listed. It shows yet another attempt to circumvent the public process.

Marco Gonzales, co-founder of the Coast Law Group and an Encinitas resident, spoke before the council at the March 11 meeting: "The integrity of your entire government structure is called into question — not just the

scouring the library to finish a paper or edify yourself is no longer a necessary task. Now we just sit in front of our God Box and beg Google to give us all the answers.

Kind of like I'm doing right now.

Actually reading the material and absorbing its contents has been pushed aside for search boxes and the ever popular "For Dummies" series of books aimed at those that want to educate themselves on a subject, but want to exert the least amount of effort as possible to achieve it.

I'm sure we're only about 25 years away from the robots taking over the planet and putting us to work as batter-

spring, the bill of the male becomes a powder blue color to help attract a mate.

The males can become very aggressive as they protect and defend their breeding areas.

Audubon president Dennis Huckabay said he is very grateful for the partnership offered by Wild Birds Unlimited for the Spring Ruddy Duck Club Campaign.

All donations to Buena Vista Audubon are tax deductible. For more information on how to become a Ruddy Duck Club member, call the Nature Center at (760) 439-BIRD, or visit bvaudubon.org.

underhandedness, it is about avoiding process and not having process. We have a systemic problem here in the city with regards to governance. It has led to a lack of confidence of your constituency. It is not hard to govern well, just set the rules and follow them."

Sheila S. Cameron is an Encinitas resident and former mayor of Encinitas.

ies like in "The Matrix." Technology is there to help our lives, not run them. It's quickly becoming a crutch, and we're beginning to require it just to walk upright. Which begs the question "Just how far are we from de-evolution?"

So just try to take a second each day to look around, stop being a lethargic layabout and do something constructive so that we can hold off the Robot Tyranny for a few more years.

See, told you. It's always comes down to the robots.

"Doorman Diaries" is a biweekly column. Contact Cory Waterhouse via e-mail at doorman@coastnewsgroup.com, or read his blog at doorman-diaries.blogspot.com.

MARCH 24

ADOPTION TALK "Adoption Records" will be the topic of the North San Diego County Genealogical Society meeting at 10 a.m. March 24, Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. Stephanie Weiner, a genealogy librarian, speaker, researcher, and instructor, will lecture. For details, call (858) 592-6049

NATURAL SOLUTIONS Joe Voss will host a workshop called "Natural Solutions to Your Health Problems" from 7 to 8 p.m. March 24, Oceanside Public Library, King/Garden Community Rooms, 330 N. Coast Highway 101, Oceanside. This workshop is geared towards anyone interested in learning how to take care of themselves using remedies that balance mind, body and spirit. Call Joe Voss at (760) 420-3111 to learn more.

REPUBLICAN WOMEN Carlsbad Republican Women will meet at 11 a.m. March 24, Hilton Gardens Inn, 6450 Carlsbad Blvd., Carlsbad. The guest speaker will be Barbara Stone, Professor Emeritus, Cal State Fullerton. Call (760) 434-6478 to make reservations.

MARCH 25

DROUGHT TOLERANT The San Dieguito Garden Club will host a designer from La Costa

Nursery at 9:30 a.m. March 25, Ecke Building at Quail Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. The designer will demonstrate how to make drought-tolerant container gardens.

MARCH 26

NICE ROCK California photographer Tom Reed will present "The Granite Avatars of Patagonia" at 7 p.m. March 26, R.E.I. Encinitas, 590 Leucadia Blvd., Leucadia. Reed will present projected photos and voice recordings from behind the scenes of the making of his new book of the same title, which features over forty black and white photos of granite spires in southern Argentina. Call (760) 944-9020 to learn more.

ONGOING

HEALING ART Dozens of photographs by members of the PhotoArts Group will be displayed in an exhibit titled "Healing Art" through June 5, Chiropractic Rehabilitation Wellness Center, 115 Main St., Vista. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday. A reception will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Feb. 28. Visit www.photoartsgroup.org to learn more.

HONK! The Encore Youth theatre will present "HONK!" March 27 through April 5, Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday 2 p.m., Avo

Playhouse 303 Main St., Vista. "HONK!" follows the story of "Ugly" the duckling on his rollicking journey to discover his own true beauty, love and acceptance in all forms. Tickets are available through VISTIX at (760) 724-2110. Visit encoreyouththeatre.com to learn more.

PARENT PROJECT Carlsbad Police Department will offer a 10-week parenting skills program for parents with strong-willed, non-compliant or out-of-control children ages 11 to 18 evenings beginning March 24. Classes will be held for 10 consecutive Tuesday nights starting March 24 at the Carlsbad Senior Center, 799 Pine Ave, Carlsbad. To register, call (760) 931-2167.

LATIN ART "Cardinal Points/Puntos Cardinales: A Survey of Contemporary Latino and Latin American Art" from the Sprint Nextel Art Collection will be held through May 8, William D. Cannon Art Gallery, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad. The most dominant themes and creative approaches in art produced over the last two decades by artists in Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, South America, and the United States will be presented. Call the gallery at (760) 602-2021 or visit www.carlsbad-ca.gov/arts to learn more.