



SUMMER 2010

There is always something new and exciting in California. As your resource for statewide news, the California Travel and Tourism Commission (CTTC) is pleased to present this release describing new developments taking place in the various regions of the Golden State. Please note that dates listed are subject to change. Confirm with appropriate media contacts.

Consumers can receive free California travel planning information by visiting CTTC's Web site at visitcalifornia.com or by writing to the address below. Residents of the United States and Canada can also receive travel planning information by calling 1-800-862-2543. International travelers need to dial +1-916-444-4429.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Dale E. Bonner, Secretary
California Business, Transportation
and Housing Agency, Chair, CTTC

CTTC

Caroline Beteta, Chief Executive Officer

Kathryn Burnside
Public Relations Director
916-319-5421 | kburnside@visitcalifornia.com

Amanda Moreland
Public Relations Manager
916-319-5424 | amoreland@visitcalifornia.com

Lauren Meyer
Media Relations Coordinator
What's New in California Editor
916-319-5427 | lmeyer@visitcalifornia.com

California Travel and Tourism Commission
980 9th Street, Suite 480
Sacramento, CA 95814
Tel: 916-444-4429
Fax: 916-444-0410
E-mail: info@visitcalifornia.com
visitcalifornia.com

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CA STATEWIDE

California Tourism's New Road Trips Guide is Available in May

The California Travel & Tourism Commission's 2010 Road Trips Guide is a comprehensive guidebook that encourages visitors to explore the wonders of the Golden State, while helping them plan their next California getaway. The annual publication with driving itineraries, distributed free to visitors around the world, highlights the varied and unique experiences that one can have throughout the state over a period of a few days or a longer vacation.

MEDIA CONTACT: KAT BURNSIDE,
CALIFORNIA TRAVEL AND TOURISM COMMISSION,
(916) 319-5421, KBURNSIDE@VISITCALIFORNIA.COM,
WWW.VISITCALIFORNIA.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CALIFORNIA TRAVEL AND
TOURISM COMMISSION, (916) 444-4429,
INFO@VISITCALIFORNIA.COM,
WWW.VISITCALIFORNIA.COM.

Air Canada Launches Two New Services to California

Air Canada recently announced new services for a handful of North American cities, including daily, year-round service to Orange County (Santa Ana) that started April 6, and San Diego starting June 17—all of which fortify its Toronto hub and strengthen its position as the leading transborder carrier with the most daily flights between Canada and the U.S. of any airline.

MEDIA CONTACT: KAT BURNSIDE,
CALIFORNIA TRAVEL AND TOURISM COMMISSION,
(916) 319-5421, KBURNSIDE@VISITCALIFORNIA.COM,
WWW.VISITCALIFORNIA.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CALIFORNIA TRAVEL AND
TOURISM COMMISSION, (916) 444-4429,
INFO@VISITCALIFORNIA.COM,
WWW.VISITCALIFORNIA.COM.

SC SHASTA CASCADE

Clearwater Lodge at the Pit River Joins Orvis Program

Clearwater Lodge at the Pit River, a historic, full-service fly fishing lodge, has been selected to join the Orvis Endorsed Lodge Program, making it the only lodge with this stamp of approval in California. For more than two decades, Orvis, a respected leader in outdoor goods and services, has selected the best fly fishing operations and destinations in North America to include in its program. The lodge is known as a top fly fishing destination with access to five of California's great wild trout rivers and spring-fed stillwaters. With its home waters encompassing 100 miles between Mount Lassen and Mount Shasta, the lodge offers a variety of fly fishing experiences. The lodge has the most extensive fly fishing school in the West, offering multi-day fly fishing schools for all ability levels and guided fly fishing trips with knowledgeable guides. Guests can sign up for everything from an introduction to fly fishing, to nymphing, dry fly fishing, advanced sinking

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line, master fly fishing and guiding. The school also has basic fly fishing classes tailored specifically for women, taught by women.

MEDIA CONTACT: KATE RAPSON,
GRAHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC., (415) 986-7212,
CLEARWATERLODGE@GRAHAM-ASSOCIATES.COM,
WWW.CLEARWATERLODGE.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: RESERVATIONS DESK,
CLEARWATER LODGE AT THE PIT RIVER,
1-888-600-5451, INFO@CLEARWATERLODGE.COM,
WWW.CLEARWATERLODGE.COM.

Marriott Opens in Redding

A new Marriott Fairfield Inn has opened in Redding. This new upscale hotel offers comfortable guest rooms, suites and garden tub rooms at a superior value for both business and leisure travelers. Visitors enjoy a luxury hotel close to downtown Redding, the Sundial Bridge, Turtle Bay, Sacramento River and Shasta Lake. Lodging even includes a free hot breakfast.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAREN WHITAKER,
SHASTA CASCADE WONDERLAND ASSOCIATION,
(530) 365-7500, PR@SHASTACASCADE.ORG,
WWW.SHASTACASCADE.COM.

Go Wine Tasting Via Helicopter

Air Shasta now offers wine tasting at Anselmo Vineyards via helicopter. The helicopter ride is roundtrip, taking about 30 minutes to complete. In addition, guests get to spend an hour out at the vineyard tasting some of their delicious local wines. On weekends, Anselmo Vineyards also offers full meals made with a number of locally grown and produced products. The price for two people is \$295.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAREN WHITAKER,
SHASTA CASCADE WONDERLAND ASSOCIATION,
(530) 365-7500, PR@SHASTACASCADE.ORG,
WWW.SHASTACASCADE.COM.

Get Up to Speed at Graeagle's Newest Bike Shop

A new bike shop has opened up in Graeagle. In addition to their expertise on mountain biking, Lost Sierra Adventures also rents out cross-country ski equipment. However, perhaps the most remarkable thing about this particular bike shop is that they are also doing a stewardship trail development in the area. These trails include the Mowhawk trail system that will span the areas surrounding Graeagle,

Quincy and Portola and includes the Mills Peak Trail, Mowhawk Rim Trail and Graeagle Pathway.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAREN WHITAKER,
SHASTA CASCADE WONDERLAND ASSOCIATION,
(530) 365-7500, PR@SHASTACASCADE.ORG,
WWW.SHASTACASCADE.COM.

Paul Bunyan's Forest Camp Offers New Water Feature, GPS Adventures Opened May 1

Paul Bunyan's Forest Camp at Turtle Bay Exploration Park sports a brand new water feature thanks to months of hard work from Turtle Bay's exhibits team and generous donor support for the project. The water feature brings the story of the Sacramento River and California's "liquid gold" to life for Turtle Bay visitors. The cool, wet, hands-on experience attracts the young and young-at-heart in droves, especially during Redding's hot summer days. Visitors can also join the many excited GPS and geocaching enthusiasts with the opening of the new GPS Adventure exhibition.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAREN WHITAKER,
SHASTA CASCADE WONDERLAND ASSOCIATION,
(530) 365-7500, PR@SHASTACASCADE.ORG,
WWW.SHASTACASCADE.COM.

Completion of Siskiyou Arboretum Demonstration Garden & Interpretive Trail

The Siskiyou Arboretum is celebrating the completion of a demonstration garden and interpretive trail at Greenhorn Park in Yreka. The garden is designed to showcase the use of decorative native plants in a water-conserving landscape, while the trail will identify larger shrubs and trees along the reservoir's walking path. Greenhorn Park is in the midst of some of the most diverse conifer forests in the world, and the park contains a variety of natural habitats. The Arboretum seeks to highlight the wealth and diversity of Yreka's natural heritage and to create a place of beauty for residents and visitors to enjoy.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAREN WHITAKER,
SHASTA CASCADE WONDERLAND ASSOCIATION,
(530) 365-7500, PR@SHASTACASCADE.ORG,
WWW.SHASTACASCADE.COM.

Dinner Cruises Available on the Titan Houseboat

Due to popular demand, and for the first time ever, houseboats.com will make its colossal 65-foot Titan houseboat available for evening dinner cruises. Their experienced crew will escort groups on beautiful Shasta Lake for a scenic excursion while relaxing and dining in luxury and style. The triple-decked Titan accommodates up to 25 people and features a spacious top deck entertainment arena and open-air hot tub. The focal point of the elegant main salon is a widescreen television home theater system, full wet bar and fireplace. This is a unique setting and concept for special events and celebrations of any kind. Catering is available, or parties may bring their own refreshments. Cruises will run by reservation between April and October. Rate is \$675 for a five-hour cruise; catering is additional.

MEDIA CONTACT: CHRISTINA HAN,
HOUSEBOATS.COM, (530) 275-7957,
CHRIS@HOUSEBOATS.COM., WWW.HOUSEBOATS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CENTRAL RESERVATIONS,
1-800-223-7950, RESERVATIONS@HOUSEBOATS.COM,
WWW.HOUSEBOATS.COM.



Children's Redwood Forest to Reopen

Following a major fire in 2003, the children's forest in Humboldt Redwoods State Park will reopen this summer season. The forest trail is a beautiful, and mostly flat, three-quarter loop with wide open space underneath the old growth canopy. To access, drive 1 mile north from Myers Flat on the Avenue of the Giants to Williams Grove. From there, cross the summer seasonal bridge over the South Fork of the Eel River to the trailhead. Check in at the park visitor center for weekly guided walks on the trail.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: RICHARD STENGER,
HUMBOLDT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS
BUREAU, (707) 444-6634, RICHARD@REDWOODS.INFO,
WWW.REDWOODS.INFO.

New Arrivals at Safari West

Safari West welcomes two new species of animals to the 400-acre preserve. Patas monkeys, also known as the red or hussar monkey, are one of the most remarkable of

all the African primates. Found in the African savannas, these monkeys have a russet-red coat, gray chin whiskers, a striking white, attention-grabbing mustache and curious, but timid personalities to match. They resemble a baboon with a body of a greyhound—especially their very long legs—and are probably the most curious and fastest primate on earth. Also new are African civets, with their short legs. They have a very elongated head with a pointed muzzle and cute, small rounded ears. Native to Southern Africa, this cat-like critter is nocturnal and mostly active at early evening or just before daybreak. They have long, bushy tails with broad black bands and a black tip. All of these new animals will be on display starting in June at Safari West, and can be seen by reservation of a Safari Adventure.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: APHRODITE CASERTA, SAFARI WEST, (707) 566-3620, ACASERTA@SAFARIWEST.COM, WWW.SAFARIWEST.COM.

New Skate Park in Eureka

Located in the Cooper Gulch recreation area, the 12,000-square-foot skate park contains something for new and experienced skaters alike, including bowls and street features. The largest bowl includes a 10-foot overt pocket with two more 8-foot pockets and 6-foot hips. All of the larger bowls have pool coping. The park is located near downtown Eureka in Cooper Gulch, which also includes a scenic disc golf course.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: RICHARD STENGER, HUMBOLDT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, (707) 444-6634, RICHARD@REDWOODS.INFO, WWW.REDWOODS.INFO.

Clarke's Collectibles and Lunchbox Museum Opens

A colorful collection of childhood memories awaits visitors to Lake County at the brightly painted and newly opened Clarke's Collectibles and Lunchbox Museum in Nice. Collector Deb Clarke and husband Duane transformed a former firehouse into a shop and museum that invites guests to stroll down memory lane. More than 100,000 collectible items are for sale in the gift shop, including games, Star Wars memorabilia, dolls, toys, vintage and retro collectibles—as well as an incredible display of more than 700 lunchboxes. Lining nearly every wall in the museum, visitors

are likely to see the lunchbox they carried to school as a child. Also included in the museum is an extensive collection of Ponytail boxes, in which little girls used to store their dolls. To top off the festive museum, Clarke also has several working animatronic pieces from the old Playland by the Sea in San Francisco, including a Laughing Sally. The museum is open Thursday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., or private tours can be scheduled.

MEDIA CONTACT: TERRE LOGSDON, LAKE COUNTY MARKETING PROGRAM, (707) 263-2580, MEDIA@LAKECOUNTY.COM, WWW.LAKECOUNTY.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: DEB CLARKE, CLARKE'S COLLECTIBLES AND LUNCHBOX MUSEUM, (707) 274-9175, INFO@LAKECOUNTY.COM, WWW.RETRODEB.COM.

New Hampton Inn on the Redwood Coast

Hampton Inns and Suites, one of the nation's leading chains of quality, value-priced hotels, recently opened a new property in Northern California. The 82-room inn is located in the town of Arcata off Highway 101 and Giuntoli Lane near the Pacific Ocean, Humboldt Bay and the world's largest redwood parks. The property offers complimentary hot breakfast and high-speed Internet access. The convenient location is just minutes from the Arcata-Eureka Airport, Humboldt State University, Beau Pre Golf Course and the Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary.

MEDIA CONTACT: RICHARD STENGER, HUMBOLDT COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, (707) 444-6634, PRESS@REDWOODS.INFO, WWW.REDWOODS.INFO.

PUBLIC CONTACT: BOB TRICE, HAMPTON INN & SUITES, (707) 822-5896, BOB.TRICE@HILTON.COM, WWW.ARCATASUITES.HAMPTONINN.COM.

Skunk Train "Mobile Memento" Project

Late last year, the Skunk Train and the Arts Council of Mendocino County released a Call to Artists for a very special project, and from among the many entries, two very talented Northern California artists were chosen. Their task was to transform the exterior and the interior of one designated Skunk Train rail car into a mobile work of art. The remarkable result was unveiled in April. The new rail car will be used for special events as well as for regular trips at a premium ticket price. Riders of this exclusive rail car will enjoy the best

that Mendocino has to offer: spectacular views, Mendocino County wine and beer tastings, and soon, intriguing and inspiring artwork.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: ROBERT J. PINOLI, (866) 457-5865, WWW.SKUNKTRAIN.COM.

New Tasting Room & Art Gallery: John Hanes Gallery and Londer Vineyards

There's a brand new art gallery right in the heart of Boonville, and housed within it is a brand new tasting room! The John Hanes Gallery showcases unique and beautiful local art. Londer Vineyards, a small family winery that focuses on producing award-winning Pinot Noirs, Chardonnays and Gewurztraminers, has teamed up with the gallery to pour their wines within.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: JOHN HANES, (707) 489-0981, JOHNHANESGALLERY@GMAIL.COM.



Oakland Museum of California Unveils Reinvention

In May, the Oakland Museum of California (OMCA) unveils the most exciting reinvention in its 40-year history. Building on its tradition as the "museum of the people," OMCA is celebrating the many people, places, inspirations and aspirations that shape the California identity and experience. In addition to enhancing the physical spaces of the museum—making it lighter, brighter, more welcoming and more comfortable—the museum is also changing the whole relationship it has with visitors. The OMCA brings together collections of art, history and natural sciences under one roof to tell the extraordinary stories of California and its people. OMCA connects collections and programs across disciplines, advancing an integrated, multilayered understanding of this ever-evolving state.

MEDIA CONTACT: ELIZABETH WHIPPLE, OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA, (510) 238-4740, EWHIPPLE@MUSEUMCA.ORG, WWW.MUSEUMCA.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: VISITOR INFORMATION, OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA, (510) 238-2200, INFO@MUSEUMCA.ORG, WWW.MUSEUMCA.ORG.

New Boutique Hotel in Downtown Oakland

Travelers coming to Oakland for business or pleasure now have even more options for staying downtown. The newly opened Clarion Hotel Oakland on 13th Street and Franklin offers easy access to BART, the Fox Oakland and Paramount Theatres, the Oakland Museum of California, Old Oakland Chinatown and the many fine restaurants in the area. The 64 rooms include six king suites, 57 full-size bedrooms and six accessible guestrooms. All rooms include high-speed Internet access, 32-inch flat-screen television with cable, in-room coffee maker, in-room voicemail, iron and ironing board, hair dryer and radio/alarm clock. Other amenities include a conference room, banquet room with 1,000-square feet of event space, fitness center, business center and complimentary local calls.

MEDIA CONTACT: MANETTE BELLIVEAU, OAKLAND CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, (510) 208-0526, MANETTE@OAKLANDCVB.COM, WWW.OAKLANDCVB.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: GUEST INFORMATION CLARION HOTEL, (877) 873-1444, INFO@OAKLANDCVB.COM, WWW.CLARIONHOTEL.COM.

San Francisco Bay Area Cultural Initiative Celebrates Ties to Shanghai

Programs celebrating the San Francisco Bay Area's long-standing ties to Shanghai will be held in San Francisco, Berkeley and San Jose throughout 2010. More than 30 cultural institutions and civic groups are participating in a cultural initiative that corresponds with the World Expo in Shanghai, May 1 to October 31. Exhibitions, performances, film series, lectures, a symposium and more have been announced. The cornerstone of the celebration in San Francisco is "Shanghai," a major exhibition at the Asian Art Museum, now through September 5. Spanning a time period of 160 years, the exhibition includes 130 artworks, such as trade oil paintings, Shanghai deco furniture and rugs, revolutionary poster art, fashion, movie clips and contemporary art installations. Since 1979, Shanghai, one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world, has been a Sister City of San Francisco.

MEDIA CONTACT: TANYA HOUSEMAN, SFCVB, (415) 227-2651, THOUSEMAN@SANFRANCISCO.TRAVEL, WWW.ONLYINSANFRANCISCO.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER, SFCVB, (415) 391-2000, VIC1@SANFRANCISCO.TRAVEL, WWW.ONLYINSANFRANCISCO.COM.

The de Young to Host Exhibitions

Two consecutive special exhibitions, "Birth of Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay and Van Gogh, Gauguin, Cézanne" and "Beyond: Post-Impressionist Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay" will be on view at the de Young Museum for a combined eight months beginning in May and ending in January 2011. Each exhibition will include approximately 100 paintings from the Musée d'Orsay's permanent collection, and highlight the work of nearly 40 artists, including Cézanne, Degas, Gauguin, Manet, Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Rousseau, Seurat, Sisley, Toulouse-Lautrec, Van Gogh and Vuillard. The Musée d'Orsay will loan the exhibitions while it undergoes a partial closure for refurbishment and reinstallation in anticipation of the Musée's 25th anniversary in 2011. The de Young will be the only museum in the world to host both exhibitions.

MEDIA CONTACT: TANYA HOUSEMAN, SFCVB, (415) 227-2651, THOUSEMAN@SANFRANCISCO.TRAVEL, WWW.ONLYINSANFRANCISCO.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER, SFCVB, (415) 391-2000, VIC1@SANFRANCISCO.TRAVEL, WWW.ONLYINSANFRANCISCO.COM.

Cruz Carz in Santa Cruz County

For visitors wanting to soak in the beauty of a scenic drive, Santa Cruz County now has a way to see the sights and be eco-friendly, too. Cruz Carz are GPS-enabled scooter cars available for rent that offer a fun way to explore Santa Cruz's beaches, beauty and history. These 100cc-powered two-seat scooters get more than 60 miles per gallon on average. Each vehicle is equipped with a built-in GPS tour and narrating points of interest. Tour options include one-hour coastal journeys to the West Cliff area and on to the Seymour Marine Discovery Center, or a historic tour through downtown Santa Cruz past the Mission. This two-hour tour takes visitors to Capitola along the beach routes and back.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: CHRISTINA GLYNN, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS COUNCIL, (831) 429-7281, CGLYNN@SANTACRUZ.ORG, WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.TRAVEL.

Museum of Art and History (MAH) Hosts Surf Exhibition

"Surf City Santa Cruz: A Wave of Inspiration" opened March 27 and continues through July 25. The exhibit illustrates the many ways local surf culture has impacted not only Santa Cruz, but also the international surf community. The MAH's Solari Gallery will house artworks from more than 10 of the best artists who surf in Santa Cruz County, many represented by national galleries. "Surf City Santa Cruz" will also include a dynamic display of surfboard designs and cutting-edge technology, Jack and Robert O'Neill's "it's always summer on the inside" wetsuit technology, graphic design and commercial art, photography and other artwork utilizing a variety of media, including ceramic, mosaic, installation, painting and sculpture.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: CHRISTINA GLYNN, SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONFERENCE & VISITORS COUNCIL, (831) 429-7281, CGLYNN@SANTACRUZ.ORG, WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.TRAVEL.

Half Moon Bay Golf Links Gets Links Enhancements

Half Moon Bay Golf Links, the world-class, 36-hole golf resort set against the dramatic cliffs of the Pacific Ocean just minutes from San Francisco and San Jose, recently announced the "Links Enhancement" of its Arthur Hills-designed Ocean Course. Coming off one of the most-watched and memorable British Open Championships in recent history, the Links Enhancement positions the Ocean Course as one of the premier links golf experience in the U.S. via a series of agronomic upgrades creating a firmer, faster playing surface with an emphasis on short values.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: SHANE SHARP, BUFFALO COMMUNICATION, (704) 519-8381, SSHARP@BILLYCASPERGOLF.COM, WWW.BUFFALOCOMMUNICATIONS.COM.

Bay Area Discovery Museum Hosts "Living in Space" Exhibit

The Bay Area Discovery Museum presents a special traveling exhibit, "Living in Space," May 29 to August 15. This exciting, hands-on, interactive exhibit is included with museum admission. "Living in Space" is inspired by the International Space Station (ISS)—the single

largest international aerospace project ever undertaken by humankind. “Living in Space” allows visitors to become ISS crewmembers for a day as they engage in a multitude of astronaut activities. For example, they plan their day in space; perform work activities, such as a simulated science experiment; and engage in daily living activities, such as mealtime or choose play/free-time activities. This unique environment is the basis for a fascinating immersion experience—a window into a day in the life of an ISS crewmember. Stories and videos from real ISS crewmembers are also presented. The new exhibit resembles the look and feel of the actual ISS. “Living in Space” was created by the Memphis Children’s Museum, with technical assistance provided by NASA.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNIFER CALESHU,
BAY AREA DISCOVERY MUSEUM, (415) 339-3942,
JCALESHU@BADM.ORG, WWW.BAYKIDSMUSEUM.ORG.
PUBLIC CONTACT: BAY AREA DISCOVERY MUSEUM,
(415) 339-3900, CONTACT@BADM.ORG,
WWW.BAYKIDSMUSEUM.ORG.

The Retro Dome Is Silicon Valley’s Newest Performing Arts Center

With a new name, a vintage vibe and a stylish interior, The Retro Dome is home to live professional musical theater, retro films, live music and comedy. For those seeking first-rate entertainment with a twist, The Retro Dome hosts year-round programming in The Blue Room, the live theater venue at The Retro Dome. With a complete series of live professional musical theater for adults, as well as a three-production series for young audiences, the 275-seat theater also serves as home to live music shows and stand-up comedy. The Red Room hosts weekend after weekend of retro movies. Designed for film events and home to live music and stand up comedy, the 350-seat theater features stadium seating, comfortable, refurbished chairs, a brand new screen, projection system and sound system.

MEDIA CONTACT: EMILY SIDLEY,
THREE GIRLS MEDIA & MARKETING INC.,
(408) 871-0377,
EMILYSIDLEY@THREEGIRLSMEDIA.COM,
WWW.ULTIMATEPRESSPICKS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SCOTT AND SHANNON
GUGGENHEIM, GUGGENHEIM ENTERTAINMENT,
LLC, (408) 404-7711, CONTACTUS@GUGGYENT.COM,
WWW.THERETRODOME.COM.

“Extreme Mammals” Take Over Academy of Sciences

“Extreme Mammals: The Biggest, Smallest and Most Amazing Mammals of All Time” is a new exhibit at the California Academy of Sciences running through September 12. This exhibit features some of our most intriguing relatives, from the speedy to the sloth-like, the towering to the tiny, even the venomous and the armor-clad. Featuring spectacular fossils and reconstructions alongside recent specimens and live animals, the exhibit explores the surprising and often extraordinary world of extinct and living mammals. “Extreme Mammals” allows visitors to meet this colorful cast of characters, discover their place in the family tree, and learn why humans are perhaps the most extreme mammals of all.

MEDIA CONTACT: STEPHANIE STONE,
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,
(415) 379-5121, SSTONE@CALACADEMY.ORG,
WWW.CALACADEMY.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: ACADEMY INFORMATION,
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, (415) 379-8000,
INFO@CALACADEMY.ORG, WWW.CALACADEMY.ORG.

Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk Unveils New Ride

A new Haunted Castle ride, scheduled to open Memorial Day weekend, will utilize nearly 10,000 square feet of new basement space at the boardwalk. In a unique design twist, riders will load at boardwalk level, then spiral down backwards into the basement. Riders glide through dimly lit rooms filled with spooky special effects. The location of the new Haunted Castle has been home to a number of haunted rides over the years, starting with “Dante’s Inferno” in 1935. Bucking economic forecasts and amusement industry trends, the boardwalk’s nearly \$9 million Haunted Castle project includes new basement space, new game and retail space at the boardwalk level, and additional administrative office space on the second story.

MEDIA CONTACT: BRIGID FULLER,
SANTA CRUZ BEACH BOARDWALK,
(831) 460-3349, PUBLICITY@SCSEASIDE.COM,
WWW.BEACHBOARDWALK.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: GUEST SERVICES,
SANTA CRUZ BEACH BOARDWALK,
(831) 423-5590, GUEST.SERVICES@SCSEASIDE.COM,
WWW.BEACHBOARDWALK.COM.

Historic Hotel Shattuck Plaza Completes Multi-Million Dollar Renovation

After two years of extensive renovation, the historic Hotel Shattuck Plaza has officially reopened its doors to rave reviews and enthusiastic feedback from guests. With the completion of its stunning ballroom, inviting guestrooms and nearly 8,000 square feet of meeting space, Hotel Shattuck Plaza is sure to become a cornerstone of the Berkeley community as it returns to the neighborhood. The Hotel Shattuck Plaza has six floors and a total of 199 gorgeously redesigned guest rooms, including 17 suites. The rooms combine the classic charm of the hotel’s turn-of-the-century roots with modern and luxurious amenities, such as flat-screen televisions and iPod docks. A number of rooms have stunning views of the San Francisco Bay and Golden Gate Bridge.

MEDIA CONTACT: MICHAEL NI,
ANDREW FREEMAN & CO, (415) 781-5700,
MICHAEL@AFANDCO.COM, WWW.AFANDCO.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: HOTEL SHATTUCK PLAZA,
(510) 845-7300, INFO@HOTELSHATTUCKPLAZA.COM,
WWW.HOTELSHATTUCKPLAZA.COM.

Cavallo Point—the Lodge at the Golden Gate Achieves LEED Gold Standard

Cavallo Point—the Lodge at the Golden Gate has been certified by the U.S. Green Building Council for achieving a LEED Gold standard for environmentally sustainable design and construction. It is the first national park lodge to receive LEED Certification. In addition, the project, developed and opened in 2008 on the site of Fort Baker, which is a turn-of-the century military outpost now part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, is the first hotel on the National Register of Historic Places to be certified. The project involved careful rehabilitation of the original historic buildings and interior features, along with a minimal amount of new construction. The lodge site is a multi-building campus, comprising 34 buildings on 45 acres.

MEDIA CONTACT: KATE RAPSON,
GRAHAM & ASSOCIATES, INC., (415) 986-7212,
CAVALLOPOINT@GRAHAM-ASSOCIATES.COM,
WWW.CAVALLOPOINT.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: RESERVATIONS DESK,
CAVALLO POINT—THE LODGE AT THE GOLDEN GATE,
1-888-651-2003, INFO@CAVALLOPOINT.COM,
WWW.CAVALLOPOINT.COM.

Sea & Sand Oceanfront Inn Gets a Major Remodel

One of the best-kept secrets in Santa Cruz could be the newly renovated Sea & Sand Inn on famous West Cliff Drive. The oceanfront inn has always been popular with savvy out-of-towners, but a recently completed \$1.8-million renovation added a whole new “wow” factor. Three new luxury king spa rooms with oceanview balconies were added to the second floor of the property, and two spacious family cottages with private hot tubs and three other spa rooms were also upgraded. New landscaping put the finishing touches on the glamorous makeover. It’s hard to go wrong when all 22 rooms have oceanfront views of the scenic Santa Cruz Wharf and sparkling Monterey Bay, all within walking distance of the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk and world-class surf spots along scenic West Cliff Drive.

MEDIA CONTACT: BRIGID FULLER,
SANTA CRUZ BEACH BOARDWALK,
(831) 460-3349, PUBLICITY@BEACHBOARDWALK.COM,
WWW.BEACHBOARDWALK.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SEA & SAND INN, (831) 427-3400,
WWW.SANTACRUZMOTELS.COM/SEA_AND_SAND.

New Look for Point Reyes Lodging Web Site

An updated and improved Web site makes it easier to plan a Point Reyes visit. The site, www.ptreyes.com, features a new look with fewer pages and consolidated information presented in a user-friendly manner. The site provides descriptions, images and information about available amenities for each of the 15 member bed and breakfast inns and cottages near Point Reyes National Seashore. Online visitors can also check availability and make reservations. To enable visitors to plan a complete Point Reyes experience, the Web site also provides comprehensive destination information. Highlights include Point Reyes National Seashore; activities (hiking, biking, kayaking, horseback riding, golf, beaches, wildflowers); wildlife viewing (whales, Tule elk, deer, elephant seals, birds); and expanded listings for food and wine (wine tasting, cheese tasting, oyster farms, dining), organic farms, shopping, entertainment, visitor map, current weather conditions and various handy links.

MEDIA CONTACT: FRED SATER,
FRED SATER COMMUNICATIONS, (916) 972-1650,
FRED@FREDSATERCOMMUNICATIONS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: POINT REYES LODGING,
1-800-539-1872, INFO@PTREYES.COM,
WWW.PTREYES.COM.

Alcatraz Cruises Awarded International Award for Sustainability Efforts

Alcatraz Cruises, the National Park Service concessioner of ferry service to Alcatraz Island, has been awarded the Virgin Holidays Responsible Tourism Award in the category of Best Low Carbon Transport and Technology. Award winners were announced last November at the World Travel Market trade show in London. Alcatraz Cruises built and operates the first hybrid ferry in the United States, the Hornblower Hybrid. The vessel provides ferry service to Alcatraz and Angel Island.

MEDIA CONTACT: TEGAN FIRTH,
HORNBLOWER CRUISES & EVENTS,
(415) 983-8208, TFIRTH@HORNBLOWER.COM,
WWW.HORNBLOWER.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: INFO@ALCATRAZCRUISES.COM
OR (415) 981-7625 (FOR TICKETS).

Berkeley Revs Up Travel Power Tools

Visit Berkeley Convention & Visitors Bureau has launched a brand new Web site, www.visitberkeley.com, with powerful travel tools to help Berkeley visitors build and optimize their experience. Advanced maps and travel guides, hotel and restaurant reservations, “locals-only” destination tips, and tour suggestions help travelers hit the ground running. The new site is a great resource for leisure and business travelers, groups, locals and regional visitors alike. Dedicated sections offer tailored content for media, meeting planners and the travel trade. Berkeley is a compact, cosmopolitan destination that may surprise those who still see it as the counter-culture center of the sixties. The Free Speech Movement and flower power are in the destination’s DNA, but Berkeley has evolved into a culinary and cultural travel destination with a green soul. Chances are that you’ll still see more tie-dye per capita in Berkeley, but a deeper look reveals a small yet dynamic city that is consummately Californian in setting, international in cultural outlook, and filled with superb theaters, restaurants, shops and cafes.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: DAN MARENGO,
VISIT BERKELEY, (510) 549-7040,
DMARENGO@VISITBERKELEY.COM,
WWW.VISITBERKELEY.COM.



New Hampton Inn & Suites Opens in Manteca

Hampton Inn & Suites has opened in Manteca in the Lifestyle Mall next to the new Bass Pro Shop and in the new Outlet Center. The Hampton Inn & Suites has 101 rooms, including 38 suites.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: TERRY PIERCE,
HAMPTON INN & SUITES MANTECA,
(209) 823-1926, TERREMCE.PIERCE@HILTON.COM,
WWW.HAMPTON.COM.

New Library in the Works for Tulare

This new, multi-million dollar facility is located on the corner of Cross Avenue and M Street near downtown Tulare, and has its grand opening scheduled for July. The new library will have LEED Green Building Certification, four quiet study rooms, 35 public access computers, designated children and teen areas, learning center, Sequoia Genealogical Society and a reading lounge with wireless Internet access. The library will also have a cafe offering fresh-baked pastries, coffee, drinks, homemade soups and sandwiches.

MEDIA CONTACT: KARY MANCEBO-INGRAM,
TULARE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
(559) 686-1547, KINGRAM@TULARECHAMBER.ORG,
WWW.TULARECHAMBER.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: MICHAEL STOWELL,
LIBRARY DIRECTOR, (559) 685-2341,
MICHAEL.STOWELL@SJVLS.ORG,
WWW.TULAREPUBLICLIBRARY.ORG.

Yolo County Visitors Bureau Releases Winery Guide

The YoloCVB is excited to announce the release of its new Winery Guide & Map. The guide features vineyards, wineries and tasting rooms throughout Yolo County. Travelers can visit www.yolocvb.org to download the map.

MEDIA CONTACT: TIFFANY DOZIER, YOLO CVB,
(530) 297-1900, TIFFANY@YOLOCVB.ORG,
WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: YOLO COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU,
YOLO CVB, (530) 297-1900, INFO@YOLOCVB.ORG,
WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

Tulare County Museum of Farm Labor & Agriculture Opens

The Tulare County Museum of Farm Labor and Agriculture has recently opened. The 17,000-square-foot museum looks like a huge red barn and is filled with cutting-edge multimedia technology and 200 years worth of artifacts and narratives celebrating the diversity of Tulare County agriculture. The "Armenian Experience" in Tulare County display also opened with the museum and continues through June. The exhibit focuses on when, why and from where the Armenians came, and their experiences and contributions to agriculture. The "African American Experience" opened in February, while the "Dust Bowl Era" exhibit opens in July. The history of farm labor and agriculture of many ethnic groups will continue to be told by artifacts, narratives and photos.

MEDIA CONTACT: KATHY MCGOWAN,
TULARE COUNTY MUSEUM OF FARM LABOR &
AGRICULTURE, (559) 733-6616,
MMCGOWAN@CO.TULARE.CA.US.

PUBLIC CONTACT: DELORA BUCKMAN,
TACHI PALACE HOTEL AND CASINO, (559) 410-5851,
DBUCKMAN@SBCGLOBAL.NET.

California Impressionism Exhibit at the Haggin Museum

The Haggin Museum in Stockton will host a selection of California Impressionism art from the Irvine Museum. Artists capture the vivid colors and intense sunshine of California's majestic landscape in a distinctive style that has come to be called California Impressionism. The exhibit runs May 20 through August 15. The museum is open from 1:30 to 5 p.m., Wednesday to Sunday and from 1:30 to 9 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays. Free admission days are held the first Saturday of each month.

MEDIA CONTACT: WES RHEA,
STOCKTON CVB, (209) 337-2721,
WES@VISITSTOCKTON.ORG,
WWW.VISITSTOCKTON.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: EDDIE HARGREAVES,
HAGGIN MUSEUM, (209) 940-6300,
INFO@HAGGINMUSEUM.ORG,
WWW.HAGGINMUSEUM.ORG.

Stockton's New Downtown Marina

Located in downtown Stockton, the new Stockton Marina now offers boaters a fresh stop on the California Delta. The Stockton Marina features nearly 1,400 linear feet of guest dock space on the north and south shores of the downtown Stockton waterfront, with easy access to the Historic Waterfront Warehouse, Stockton Arena, Stockton Ballpark, Weber Point Events Center and Lexington Hotel. The Downtown Cinemplex, Bob Hope Theatre and restaurants are just a short walk from the marina. For extended berthing, the marina features 48 50-foot covered slips, as well as an additional 12 60-foot slips and six 80-foot slips. The refurbished Morelli Boat Launch is just a block away from the new marina. In addition to the new Stockton Marina, the Joan Darrah Promenade provides a landscaped walkway on both the north and south side of the waterfront, featuring public art and plaques highlighting downtown Stockton's rich waterfront history.

MEDIA CONTACT: WES RHEA,
STOCKTON CONFERENCE & VISITORS BUREAU,
(209) 337-2721, WES@VISITSTOCKTON.ORG,
WWW.VISITSTOCKTON.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SHERRI KEYS,
WESTREC MARINA MANAGEMENT,
(209) 462-4200, SAKFISH@AOL.COM,
WWW.WESTREC.COM.

New Wine & Cheese Tasting Room in Winters

Turkovich Family Wines recently celebrated the grand opening of their new Winery and Tasting room in historic downtown Winters, located at 304 Railroad Ave. The tasting room is open Thursday through Sunday for sampling the current releases. Also housed in the same tasting room as the Turkovich Family Winery is the Winters Cheese Co., which focuses on making quality artisan cheeses following time-honored practices as well as combining traditional cheeses with flavors and products from the land.

MEDIA CONTACT: TIFFANY DOZIER,
YOLO CVB, (530) 297-1900,
TIFFANY@YOLOCVB.ORG, WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: YOLO COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU,
(530) 297-1900, INFO@YOLOCVB.ORG,
WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

Hyatt Place Hotel Opens on UC Davis Campus

Located in the heart of Central Valley, Hyatt Place UC Davis is conveniently situated on the beautiful University of California, Davis college campus. Guests can enjoy specialty Starbucks coffee drinks and friendly conversation at the intimate Bakery Café and the 24-hour Guest Kitchen, which offers cafe-quality, made-to-order meals and snacks along with a daily complimentary continental breakfast. Other amenities include complimentary hotel-wide Wi-Fi, self-service check-in/check-out kiosks, complimentary parking, 24-hour Stay Fit fitness center with Life Fitness cardio equipment and outdoor pool.

MEDIA CONTACT: STEPHANIE EICH,
CAMPUS UNIONS, (530) 752-4486,
SMEICH@UCDAVIS.EDU,
HTTP://CAMPUSUNIONS.UCDAVIS.EDU.

PUBLIC CONTACT: YOLO CVB, (530) 297-1900,
INFO@YOLOCVB.ORG, WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

U.S. Bike Hall of Fame Now Open in Davis

The U.S. Bike Hall of Fame is now open in Davis. The museum features historical photographs, trophies, medals, newspaper clippings, video, memorabilia and more from the greatest cyclists in the United States. The U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame made the exciting announcement earlier this year that they are relocating the museum from New Jersey to the City of Davis. Davis, located in Northern California, has long been known as the most bicycle-friendly city in the country, and the community is excited to welcome this new attraction. The U.S. Bicycling Hall of Fame is located at 303 B Street in Central Park. Davis will also proudly host the Stage 2 Start of the Amgen Tour of California bike race May 17.

MEDIA CONTACT: TIFFANY DOZIER,
YOLO CVB, (530) 297-1900,
TIFFANY@YOLOCVB.ORG, WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: YOLO CVB, (530) 297-1900,
INFO@YOLOCVB.ORG, WWW.YOLOCVB.ORG.



Enhanced Camping Guide Offered

No longer limiting itself to its affiliated campgrounds, the California Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds is now promoting state, federal and locally-run parks as well as privately owned campgrounds, RV parks and resorts in the Camp-California! Guide. This camper's guide to California has tripled its database with the addition of both government-run campgrounds and private campgrounds that are not affiliated with the statewide campground association. The additions, completed earlier this month, increased Camp-California's database from 350 parks to more than 1,000 campgrounds, with a digital version of the guide available now at www.Camp-California.com. Approximately 250,000 copies of the four-color print edition are being distributed free of charge at visitor's centers, California Welcome Centers and RV shows throughout the state. Consumers can also request their own free copy by sending an e-mail to info@camp-california.com.

MEDIA CONTACT: DEBBIE SIPE,
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF RV PARKS
& CAMPGROUNDS, (530) 885-1624,
DEBBIE@CALARVC.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: DEBBIE SIPE,
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF RV PARKS
& CAMPGROUNDS, (530) 885-1624,
INFO@CAMP-CALIFORNIA.COM,
WWW.CAMP-CALIFORNIA.COM.

Crocker Art Museum Hosts Art Auction and Preview Party

The Crocker Art Museum will bring together regional artists and art collectors to raise funds for education programs during two Art Auction events. The Art Auction will be held the evening of June 5. The event includes silent and live auctions, an elegant outdoor dinner buffet, and heated competition as attendees bid on their favorite artworks by 200 of the region's top artists, including Pat Mahony, Mark Bowles, Robert Brady and more. The Art Auction works will be on display in the museum May 22 through June 5. The Art Auction Preview Party, scheduled for May 27, is a casual evening reception where guests can

mingle with artists and preview the works to be sold at the 2010 Art Auction. A highlight of the evening is the acclaimed Big Names, Small Art Silent Auction, where original artworks start at just \$25.

MEDIA CONTACT: KATHLEEN RICHARDS,
CROCKER ART MUSEUM, (916) 808-5157,
KCONATY@CITYOFSACRAMENTO.ORG,
WWW.CROCKERARTMUSEUM.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CROCKER ART MUSEUM,
(916) 808-7000, CAM@CITYOFSACRAMENTO.ORG,
WWW.CROCKERARTMUSEUM.ORG.

"This Means War!: California's Role in the Spanish American War" at the California State Capitol Museum

When the U. S. battleship Maine exploded in a Cuban harbor February 15, 1898, William Randolph Hearst declared "This Means War!" in his newspapers. Two months later, the Spanish-American War commenced and swiftly developed into a two-front war. California was the first state to meet its quota of volunteers, and San Francisco served as the western mobilization point for the Pacific front and for the Philippine-American War. More than 80,000 troops from all over the country passed through the Presidio on their way to the Philippines. California's women and other citizens activated and organized assistance to arriving soldiers. This exhibit, running June 14 to May 31, 2011, features Spanish-American War flags from the California State Capitol collection, an authentic Rough Rider's Uniform and weapons used during the war. The Spanish-American War represented a turning point in American foreign policy.

MEDIA CONTACT: TRACI ROCKEFELLER CUSACK,
CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM,
(916) 213-4373, TRACI@TROCCKCOMMUNICATIONS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (916) 324-0333,
WWW.CAPITOLMUSEUM.CA.GOV.

"Rails and Reels: Hollywood, Trains and the Making of Motion Pictures" Exhibit

Learn how Hollywood and America's railroads have had a love affair since the very beginning of motion picture history, and how that attraction has continued through Westerns and into modern times as part of sci-fi and dramatic action-packed thrillers. Running July 2 through May 31, 2011, see original scripts, sheet music, movie posters, lobby

cards and movie and television-related artifacts from the collections of the California State Railroad Museum and Railtown 1897 State Historic Park in Jamestown. And, learn how famous Sierra Railway "Movie Star" steam locomotive No. 3—which has starred in dozens of motion pictures and television shows—is returning to the rails at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park after a million-dollar makeover, ready for more starring roles once again.

MEDIA CONTACT: TRACI ROCKEFELLER CUSACK,
CALIFORNIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM,
(916) 213-4373, TRACI@TROCCKCOMMUNICATIONS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (916) 445-6645, WWW.CSRMF.ORG.

"Drive Fast, Take Chances: Birth of the Hot Rod" Exhibit

On exhibit through July 5, "Drive Fast, Take Chances," sponsored by So-Cal Speed Shop, Sacramento, explores the emergence of American hot rod culture during and after WWII. From dry lake beds of California to drag strips and back roads, burger drive-ins and street cruises, this era created a culture that has been celebrated in movies, songs and popular culture across the country and around the world for a half-century. Cars on exhibit include a legendary "belly tank" owned by Bobby Green, "highboys," and '32 Ford "Deuce Coupes." For enthusiasts interested in an up-close and detailed "how to" look at hot rod construction, the exhibit also includes a partially disassembled '34 Ford to show off the modifications that are more than skin deep.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: KAELA NELSON,
CALIFORNIA AUTOMOBILE MUSEUM,
(916) 442-6802, PR@CALAUTOMUSEUM.ORG,
WWW.CALAUTOMUSEUM.ORG.



Summer Air Service to Mammoth Mountain

Building upon the success of its winter air service to Mammoth Lakes, Horizon Air has announced that it will offer non-stop summer flights from Los Angeles to Mammoth now through September 30. The new summer flights will give travelers easy access to one of the country's premier recreational destinations, featuring an extensive mountain biking and

trail system, golf, spectacular scenery and world-class shopping, dining and lodging, plus the nearby Yosemite National Park. The 70-minute flight will depart from LAX and arrive at the Mammoth. Yosemite Airport, just 15 minutes from the Mammoth resort area. The flight will substantially reduce travel time for the thousands of Southern Californians who have driven the five or more hours to arrive at the popular resort area. In addition, it will bring to Mammoth a new group of travelers who may have never considered visiting the area due to the long drive, as well as provide more convenient access to the nearby Yosemite National Park and Devils Postpile National Monument.

MEDIA CONTACT: NATASHA BOURLIN, LYMAN PR. (775) 240-8749, NATASHA@LYMANPR.COM, WWW.MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: DAN HANSEN, MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN. (760) 934-0645, DHANSEN@MAMMOTH-MTN.COM, WWW.MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM.

Introductory Fly Fishing in Mono County

A chance to catch a 15-pound rainbow trout on your first day fly fishing is the rare, new opportunity being offered by legendary guide Tom Loe and the Sierra Drifters guides, as part of an introductory fly fishing course for first-time fly fishers. This one or two-day session consists of four-hour classes on fundamentals, such as knot tying, leader make-up, how to rig for dry and wet fly presentations, and basic casting. The first day is spent on beautiful private water at the Sierra Drifters headquarters on McGee Creek, overlooking Crowley Lake. On the second day, head out to the Hot Creek fishery or blue-ribbon waters of the Upper Owens River with detailed instruction on fishing techniques, presentations, local entomology and how to read water and holding areas. Class size is limited to five persons per guide or instructor. The cost is \$100 per person per session, 25% less than the previous fee.

MEDIA CONTACT: JOHN POIMIROO, MONO COUNTY TOURISM COMMISSION, (916) 933-8860, JOHN@POIMIROO.COM, WWW.MONOCOUNTY.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: TOM LOE, SIERRA DRIFTERS GUIDE SERVICE, (760) 935-4250, BE-THE-FLY@SIERRADRIFTERS.COM, WWW.SIERRADRIFTERS.COM.

Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite Plans to Open Spa, Expanded Conference Space

Tenaya Lodge at Yosemite National Park plans to open the 10,000-square-foot Ascent Spa and a 15,000-square foot enhanced comprehensive conference facility at Tenaya Lodge this summer. The new spa will increase the AAA four-diamond resort's wellness offerings with new treatment rooms, dry saunas, steam rooms and health classes for guests to enjoy. Ascent Spa will also draw upon the natural splendor that is Yosemite National Park to help guests relax and rejuvenate. The entire spa will feature the award-winning and environmentally friendly Eminence Organic Spa products. Guests will also be able to exercise in an enhanced fitness facility that includes free weights, Nautilus machines and cardio equipment. Tenaya Lodge is also expanding its conference facilities and plans to unveil the new 15,000-square-foot meeting facility around the same time. The new conference space will include a 10,000-square-foot grand ballroom, smaller meeting spaces and an outdoor pavilion designed for special events, group dining and team-building events. Tenaya Lodge's award-winning culinary team will continue to cater all events held at the resort.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: ALISON SCHWARTZ, ASTONE. (916) 552-7971, ASCHWARTZ@ASTONE.COM.

Renovations at Aston Lakeland Village in Lake Tahoe

Last fall, Aston at Lakeland Village completed the first phase of renovations to the Lakeshore Pavilion, which included remodeled meeting rooms and restrooms. The second phase is now under way and is expected to be completed in early May. Among the renovations will be an expanded second floor deck, which will also be renovated with new stairs and side floorings; a new larger tent with clear sides that will allow for panoramic views of Lake Tahoe and the surrounding Sierra Nevada mountains; new decking around the pools; and an enlarged indoor/outdoor hot tub. Also planned for the remodel is the creation of a ground floor pre-function area located outside the Lakeshore Room. An inspiring location for meetings, retreats, seminars, wedding receptions or family reunions, Lakeland Village presents the perfect site for group retreats or celebrations.

There are two meeting rooms plus the Pavilion Deck available for groups of up to 150 people.

MEDIA CONTACT: ELIZABETH FITZGERALD, THE LIMTIACO COMPANY, (239) 304-8608, ELIZABETH@THELIMTIACOCOMPANY.COM, WWW.THELIMTIACOCOMPANY.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: ASTON LAKELAND VILLAGE, (530) 544-1685, STAY@LAKELAND-VILLAGE.COM, WWW.ASTONHOTELS.COM.

What's New in Lake Tahoe South Shore

It's no wonder USA Today named Lake Tahoe the top U.S. destination to exercise one's sense of adventure. To add to Lake Tahoe South Shore's plethora of summer events, there are several new events this year, including Hot August Nights, July 30 to August 1; as well as Run into Thin Air, August 12 to August 15, and the Alfac IronGirl Triathlon, September 19. The Hot August Nights Lake Tahoe South Shore Experience features daily Show-n-Shines with cash and trophy awards, Poker Walks and awards, a Cool Car Showroom, a Classic Car Auction, automotive exhibits, special nighttime cruising at South Lake Tahoe, vendors, a full-blown swap meet, a sock hop/prom and free 50s and 60s-style live entertainment daily on all of the outdoor stages. Lake Tahoe also has a new 38,000-square-foot, off-leash dog park in the Bijou Community Park.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNIFER BOYD, WEIDINGER PUBLIC RELATIONS, (775) 588-2412, JENNIFER@WEIDINGERPR.COM, WWW.TAHOESOUTH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CAROL CHAPLIN, LAKE TAHOE VISITORS AUTHORITY, (775) 588-5900, CAROL@LTVA.ORG, WWW.TAHOESOUTH.COM.

Truckee River Winery Opens New Tasting Room

Truckee River Winery, which claims to be the "highest and coldest" winery in the nation, recently opened an inviting tasting room housed in a cozy red cottage where visitors can sample winemaker Russ Jones' handcrafted, limited edition wines. The Truckee River Winery produces limited quantities of fine wines each year in a quaint red barn, located a short distance away from the newly opened tasting room. The winery's current production includes Pinot Gris, Zinfandel, Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc. The tasting room offers complimentary tastings between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. every day, except Tuesday. When the weather is balmy, visitors can venture out to the lawn (wine glasses in hand!) and take in

the views of the Carson Range while lounging on picnic tables or partaking in a game of bocce ball. The winery offers delicious varietals to sample and ship, along with deli items provided by local bakery Earthly Delights. The tasting room is located at 11467 Brockway Road.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNY FRANKLIN,
SWITCHBACK PR + MARKETING, (530) 550-2252,
JENNY@SWITCHBACKPR.COM,
WWW.SWITCHBACKPR.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: LYNN SAUNDERS,
TRUCKEE DONNER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
(530) 587-2439, LYNN@TRUCKEE.COM,
WWW.TRUCKEE.COM.

Artisan's Marketplace Opens in Truckee

An Artisan's Marketplace gallery has opened in Brickelton in downtown Truckee. More than a dozen local artists and artisans from the Tahoe-Truckee region are displaying their works in this locale that opened March 10. Visitors can stop in to admire or purchase local art, including hand-painted wood furnishings, ceramic sculpture and pottery, paint-on silk, jewelry, photography and more. The address of the Artisan's Marketplace is 10382 Donner Pass Rd.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNY FRANKLIN,
SWITCHBACK PR + MARKETING, (530) 550-2252,
JENNY@SWITCHBACKPR.COM,
WWW.SWITCHBACKPR.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: HOLLY BEATIE,
HIGH SIERRA BOTANICALS, (530) 550-0885,
HOLLY.HSB@HIGHOCTAVEHEALING.COM,
WWW.HIGHSIERRABOTANICALS.COM.

Truckee Community Recreation Center Opens

The newly built Truckee Community Recreation Center has opened. This beautiful \$18 million, 40,000-square-foot facility boasts a state-of-the-art gymnasium floor that provides much needed space for basketball and indoor-soccer leagues. Visitors will be struck by the indoor and outdoor waterfalls and local artwork that graces the building's expansive hallways. With an elevated indoor running track, exercise equipment, two climbing walls, classrooms, kitchens, dance studios, fireplaces and an outdoor picnic area and playground, the Truckee Community Recreation Center is providing a new place for locals and visitors to gather. Located just off Truckee's newest roundabout, north of Interstate 80 on Donner Pass Road, this welcome addition to Truckee

has a capacity to hold 1,000 people. Day passes for out-of-town residents are available.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNY FRANKLIN,
SWITCHBACK PR + MARKETING, (530) 550-2252,
JENNY@SWITCHBACKPR.COM,
WWW.SWITCHBACKPR.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: LYNN SAUNDERS,
TRUCKEE DONNER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
(530) 587-2757, LYNN@TRUCKEE.COM,
WWW.TRUCKEE.COM.

North Lake Tahoe Offers Free Live Music This Summer

North Lake Tahoe offers free concerts every day of the week, except Mondays, throughout the summer. Sundays rock out at Tahoe City's Commons Beach. It's Blues Tuesdays at the Village at Squaw Valley, and live music every Wednesday at the Truckee Regional Park. The Village at Northstar has earmarked Thursdays as the day for its live performances, while Kings Beach hits it home lakeside on Fridays, then back to Tahoe City on Saturdays for Heritage Plaza's Unplugged.

MEDIA CONTACT: PETTIT GILWEE,
PETTIT GILWEE PUBLIC RELATIONS,
(530) 583-2138, PETTIT@GILWEEPR.COM,
WWW.GILWEEPR.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: NORTH LAKE TAHOE VISITOR
BUREAUS, 1-888-434-1262,
INFO@GOTAHOENORTH.COM,
WWW.GOTAHOENORTH.COM.



Expanded Santa Maria-Style Barbecue Booklet Available

The Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor & Convention Bureau now offers an expanded version of its popular Santa Maria-style barbecue booklet. The booklet is complimentary upon request by visiting the Chamber of Commerce at 614 South Broadway in Santa Maria or calling (800) 331-3779. It can also be downloaded in PDF form at http://santamariavisitor.com/cm/santa_maria_barbecue/barbecue.html. In addition to showcasing the rich history of Santa Maria-style barbecue, the 14-page booklet features an updated list of restaurants, caterers and purveyors who specialize in this regional culinary tradition. The booklet also contains recipes for Santa Maria-Style Piquito Beans and Santa Maria-Style Barbecue Salsa, as well as pairing suggestions from 12 local wineries. The booklet also complements the official Santa Maria-Style Barbecue Blog at

www.santamariavalleybbq.com, which the chamber launched in early 2009. The origins of Santa Maria Style Barbecue date back to the mid-1800s.

MEDIA CONTACT: CHRISTOPHER WEIR,
MOONCATCHER, (805) 239-0020,
CW@MOONCATCHER.COM, WWW.MOONCATCHER.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SANTA MARIA VALLEY
VISITOR & CONVENTION BUREAU, 1-800-331-3779,
INFO@SANTAMARIA.COM, WWW.SANTAMARIA.COM.

Mirror Maze and Lazer Challenge Opens on Cannery Row

Cannery Row in Monterey now features a new high-tech attraction ideal for kids of all ages. The 1,500-square-foot mirror maze at Monterey Mirror Maze & Lazer Challenge gives visitors an escape into a secretive world under the piers of Cannery Row. Participants can also compete for prizes in the "Break the Vault" Lazer Challenge obstacle course. Owners April and Robert Montgomery have been providing families, couples and groups high-tech attractions for almost 20 years. The Monterey Mirror Maze & Lazer Challenge has packages available for birthday parties and team-building exercises, as well as group rates and local discounts. Admission is \$9.75 per person. For more information, visit www.montereymirrormaze.com.

MEDIA CONTACT: SHELLEY GESICKI,
ARMANASCO PUBLIC RELATIONS, INC.,
(831) 372-2259, SGESICKI@ARMANASCO.COM,
WWW.ARMANASCO.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: DIANE MANDEVILLE,
CANNERY ROW COMPANY, (831) 649-6690,
DMANDEVILLE@CANNERYROW.COM,
WWW.CANNERYROW.COM.

Adelaide Inn Partners with Cloud Climbers Jeep Wine Tours

The Adelaide Inn has partnered with Cloud Climbers Jeep Wine Tours as a new way to go wine tasting in the Paso Robles wine region, with its more than 200 tasting rooms. The Adelaide Inn is an independent family-owned and operated hotel for more than 45 years. Cloud Climbers Jeep Wine Tours trained guides and small-sized groups blend together to ensure the best possible Paso Robles wine tasting tour experience. Visitors climb aboard comfortable, safe, custom six and seven-passenger Jeep "Wranglers" or classic Jeep "Scramblers" to experience the beautiful countryside and vineyards of the Paso Robles

area. Along the way, Cloud Climbers driver/guides provide narration and information about the history of the wineries and the finer points of grape growing and wine tasting.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: DEBBIE NAGLE, ADELAIDE INN, (805) 238-2770, DEBBIE@ADELAIDEINN.COM, WWW.ADELAIDEINN.COM.

Oxnard Launches Wine, Chocolate & Cheese Tours

There is nothing more decadent than chocolate and cheese, and when the two are paired with wine, it's pure indulgence. The Oxnard Convention & Visitors Bureau invites visitors to indulge in delicious wines, delectable chocolates and tasty cheeses with its Wine, Chocolate & Cheese Tours. As part of the Ventura County Wine Trail, the new tours are offered every weekend. Visitors can come for the day or stay the weekend, as many hotels are also offering Wine Tour Hotel Packages. The tours take place every Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and depart via Roadrunner Shuttle from the California Welcome Center (CWC) in Oxnard. Tours include stops at Oxnard's newest wineries, several of its restaurants and two of Camarillo's wineries. The cost is \$75 per person, and advanced reservations are required.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: JANET SEDERQUIST, OXNARD CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, (805) 385-7545, INFO@VISITOXNARD.COM, WWW.VISITOXNARD.COM.

Blue Dolphin Inn Completes Renovation

The new Blue Dolphin Inn made its debut after an extensive \$1.2 million-dollar renovation. Situated on Moonstone Beach in Cambria, the Blue Dolphin Inn offers 20 newly designed guestrooms, including six specialty hotel rooms inspired by locales from all over the world that are home to dolphins. The intimate and casual atmosphere combined with unparalleled ocean views offers guests an authentic oceanside experience while they are enjoying an exciting myriad of activities in Cambria. Located just 5 miles from historic Hearst Castle, the boutique hotel features a beach-and-ocean-inspired décor by designer Lisa Marlow, an interior designer based in Paso Robles. The design captures the seaside ambience and picturesque qualities of Cambria, drawing inspiration from the ocean and in particular paying homage to the dolphin locations from around the world. Each of the

six specialty rooms is named for a body of water from different locations in the world where dolphins are known to be prevalent and features design elements that are appropriate to that area.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: TANO TAITANO, BLUE DOLPHIN INN, (805) 927-5600, TANO@CAMBRIAINNS.COM, CAMBRIAINNS.COM.

"Hot Pink Flamingos" at the Monterey Bay Aquarium

The Monterey Bay Aquarium's newest special exhibition, "Hot Pink Flamingos: Stories of Hope in a Changing Sea," gives visitors a new perspective on global climate change by viewing its potential impact on tropical wading birds, green sea turtles, colorful coral reef creatures, hypnotic jellies, playful Magellanic penguins and other ocean animals. Travelers can journey through seven galleries that weave together stories about the many ways that climate change is affecting ocean animals—and tales of hope involving people and communities that are fighting climate change and making a difference. Everywhere, visitors are invited to explore how they can join with the aquarium and people around the world in taking small but significant steps to slow the climate crisis and protect ocean wildlife. Galleries in the 7,000-square-foot exhibition introduce visitors to living animals from around the world, and incorporate video and hands-on activities to address how our energy use creates carbon pollution.

MEDIA CONTACT: ANGELA HAINS, MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM, (831) 647-6804, AHAINS@MBAYAQ.ORG, WWW.MONTEREYBAYAQUARIUM.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: GUEST EXPERIENCE MONTEREY BAY AQUARIUM, (831) 648-4888, EQUARIST@MBAYAQ.ORG, WWW.MONTEREYBAYAQUARIUM.ORG.

New San Luis Obispo Tourism Resource

San Luis Obispo Vacations announces a new Web site for those planning travel to San Luis Obispo—www.sanluisobisповacations.com. The site links to all 37 hotels located in the city of San Luis Obispo, allowing prospective visitors to find accommodations that meet their specific needs, from unique bed and breakfast establishments and inns to business-friendly chain hotels to lodging for the budget-minded. The comprehensive site provides an authentic portrait of everything San Luis Obispo has to offer, including an abundance

of details for visitors to the area. With information pertaining to outdoor activities, wine tasting, cultural events and more, the site highlights something for everyone.

MEDIA CONTACT: JAMIE RELTH, ON THE HORIZON COMMUNICATIONS, (805) 773-1000, JAMIE@THEPRESSROOM.COM, WWW.THEPRESSROOM.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: RYAN ALLSHOUSE, (805) 782-4691, RALLSHOUSE@LEVEL-STUDIOS.COM, WWW.SANLUIOBISPOVACATIONS.COM.

A New Way to Experience Hearst Castle

California State Parks recently announced a new way to see Hearst Castle, one of America's most popular historic house museums. Visitors to Hearst Castle can now take a self-guided Gardens and Vistas Tour of the famous estate's gardens and the Neptune Pool, and enjoy the Castle walkways and grounds at their own self-directed pace. The tour times will start after the regular guided tours have ended for the day, and will last until sunset. The castle's high-quality, professional guide staff are available to answer visitors' questions and interpret the sculptures, gardens and landscape, but in a new format. Guided tours of Hearst Castle will continue to be offered as they have been for the past 50 years. The Gardens and Vistas tour is available through September on selected dates.

MEDIA CONTACT: DAN ELLER, HEARST CASTLE, (805) 927-2074, DELLER@HEARSTCASTLE.COM, HEARSTCASTLE.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: TOUR RESERVATIONS/RESERVEAMERICA, 1-800-444-4445, VISITORINFO@HEARSTCASTLE.COM, WWW.HEARSTCASTLE.COM.

Monterey Museum of Art Hosts "Roland Petersen: 50 Years of Painting"

One of the most prominent living California artists, Roland Petersen (b. 1926) played an instrumental role in the evolution of two San Francisco artistic schools—abstract expressionism and the Bay Area Figurative Movement. The Monterey Museum of Art's exhibition comprises the first museum retrospective of the artist's career. An extended brochure, a curator's lecture and family programs will accompany the exhibition. "Roland Petersen: 50 Years of Painting" runs now through June 20.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: SARA BETH NEWELL, (831) 372-5477, SBNEWELL@MONTEREYART.ORG, WWW.MONTEREYART.ORG.

Celebrate a Century of Cinema on the American Riviera

Santa Barbara offers film lovers, star-gazers and history buffs a cinematic feast this year. 2010 marks the 100th year of filmmaking in Santa Barbara, where California's film industry originally planted roots before migrating south to Hollywood. Whether scouting sites dating back to Cecil B. DeMille's *The Ten Commandments* (1923) or sipping pinot noir on the Sideways (2004) wine trail, visitors will discover that Santa Barbara looks as good in real life as it does on the big screen. *It's Complicated*, the new film from writer/director/producer Nancy Meyers, beautifully showcases Santa Barbara's enduring aesthetic appeal. Much of the story is set in Santa Barbara, where the central character Jane (played by Meryl Streep) resides. From actual filming locations to intricate production design details, Santa Barbara's style and lifestyle are omnipresent. Ten new *It's Complicated*-inspired hotel packages invite fans of the film to experience a taste of Jane's enviable Santa Barbara lifestyle through May 28. Visit santabarbaraca.com/filmtour for suggested movie tour itineraries and *It's Complicated* hotel packages.

MEDIA CONTACT: SHANNON BROOKS,
SANTA BARBARA CONFERENCE & VISITORS BUREAU,
(805) 966-9222, SBROOKS@SANTABARBARACA.COM,
WWW.SANTABARBARACA.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SANTA BARBARA
CONFERENCE & VISITORS BUREAU, (805) 966-9222,
TOURISM@SANTABARBARACA.COM,
WWW.SANTABARBARACA.COM/FILMTOUR.



Renovations at the Legendary Hyatt LA Completed

Renovations to the Hyatt Regency Century's Plaza debuted in April. The more than \$1-million-dollar upgrade brings a totally new look and image to the widely popular series of junior ballrooms, including the Westside Room, where actors Sonny and Cher launched their variety act together. Adding to the hotel's expansive portfolio of elegant event space, the Plaza Level's distinct design provides more than 12,000 square feet of

meeting space. Groups ranging from 150 to 500 will enter the space and be surrounded by plush wall-to-wall carpeting in warm tones. Included in the Plaza Level re-design is a new 24-hour business center with high-speed Internet computer stations, printer, fax and business supplies. Renovation of the Hyatt's Executive Conference Center (formerly the South Mezzanine) is now complete as well, successfully wrapping the second phase of the landmark property's public area upgrades. Situated on the hotel's mezzanine level, the redone space is devoted solely to accommodate small group size meetings of up to 100 people.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: ERIKA GARCIA-LAVYNE,
HYATT REGENCY CENTURY PLAZA, (310) 551-3299,
ERIKA.LAVYNE@HYATT.COM,
WWW.CENTURYPLAZA.HYATT.COM.

Catalina Island's New Activities and Updates

Santa Catalina Island is undergoing an \$11 million revitalization, adding an array of activities and amenities to the historic destination. Major changes include a complete renovation of the beachside, 71-room, two-story Pavilion Hotel, now offering private lanais for many rooms; two luxury suites with breathtaking views; a wine & cheese bar; indoor and ocean-view lounges and an internet café. Descanso Beach Club will offer private cabanas and chair rentals, plus serve as the new activity and Discovery Tour headquarters. The waterfront Avalon Grille will offer new American cuisine and world-class microbrews, wines and cocktails in an al fresco atmosphere. A new Zip Line Eco Tour will begin almost 600 feet above Avalon, reach speeds of up to 45 miles per hour, and run nearly 4,000-feet down to the seashore. Innovative diving helmets and guides will allow guests to tour the sea floor's kelp forests and abundant marine life while on the new Sea Trek Undersea Adventure. With the new GPS Ranger Walking Tour, visitors can experience Avalon's landmarks and historical points of interest at their own pace, using a high-tech guide.

MEDIA CONTACT: NATASHA BOURLIN,
LYMAN PR, (775) 240-8749, NATASHA@LYMANPR.COM,
WWW.VISITCATALINAISLAND.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: BRAD WILSON,
SANTA CATALINA ISLAND COMPANY,
(310) 510-2000, SALES@SCICO.COM,
WWW.VISITCATALINAISLAND.COM.

JW Marriott Hotel Los Angeles and The Ritz-Carlton, Los Angeles Are Open

The recently opened JW Marriott Hotel Los Angeles at L.A. LIVE is the long-awaited hotel headquarters supporting the Los Angeles Convention Center, as well as other adjacent destinations, including the STAPLES Center and NOKIA Theatre L.A. LIVE. Featuring 878 guest rooms, including 52 suites, the JW Marriott at L.A. LIVE provides a deluxe level of comfort and personal service. The Ritz-Carlton, Los Angeles, which opened March 15, atop the JW Marriott Hotel features 123 guestrooms, including 14 suites. The hotel's 3,400-square-foot signature Ritz-Carlton Club Lounge boasts spectacular views of downtown and beyond from the 23rd floor. In addition, guests can enjoy the city sights from the 26th floor as they relax by the exclusive, private rooftop pool and bar. Guests of both properties can use the Ritz-Carlton Spa, which provides a luxurious, 8,000-square-foot sanctuary. The properties share 100,000 square feet of meeting space, known as the Gallery Collection.

MEDIA CONTACT: VIK SESHADRI,
MURPHY O'BRIEN PUBLIC RELATIONS,
(310) 586-7119, VSESHADRI@MURPHYOBRIEN.COM.
PUBLIC CONTACT: JW MARRIOTT HOTEL LOS ANGELES
AT L.A. LIVE, (213) 742-6855, WWW.MARRIOTT.COM.

Aquarium of the Pacific Announces New Expansion

The Aquarium of the Pacific's newest permanent expansion, the \$5.5-million Molina Animal Care Center, will enable visitors to see daily animal care shows with education staff, watch the aquarium's veterinarian conduct medical exams and learn more about the world of aquatic medicine. The new 14,000-square-foot Molina Center will accommodate mammals, birds and fish, and provide enhanced healthcare as well as opportunities for aquarium visitors to see veterinary medicine in action. The Aquarium of the Pacific will be one of the few aquariums that provides an opportunity for guests to observe while its doctor is examining an animal patient.

MEDIA CONTACT: MEGAN RODRIGUEZ,
LONG BEACH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(562) 495-8326, MEGANR@LONGBEACHCVB.ORG,
WWW.VISITLONGBEACH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (562) 590-3100,
WWW.AQUARIUMOFPACIFIC.ORG

Luxe City Center Hotel

The Holiday Inn Los Angeles City Center, located adjacent to L.A. LIVE in Downtown Los Angeles, will undergo a multi-million-dollar renovation and will be renamed the Luxe City Center Hotel, part of an upscale, Los Angeles-based hotel chain, mid-summer. The newly branded Luxe property will be a four-star, design-driven boutique hotel that will offer 183 rooms and suites. Facilities at the new hotel will include meeting space, a restaurant, fitness center, outdoor pool and business center.

MEDIA CONTACT: JANE COLOCCIA,
JC COMMUNICATIONS, LLC, (609) 737-2587,
JANECOLOCCIA@GMAIL.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: HOLIDAY INN LOS ANGELES CITY
CENTER, (213) 748-1291, JOHN@EMERIKPROP.COM,
WWW.LUXECITYCENTER.COM.

Mr. Six's DanceCoaster Debuts at Six Flags Magic Mountain

Six Flags Magic Mountain announced the name, logo and theme for their newest coaster, set to debut in early summer. Mr. Six's DanceCoaster, named after the company's fun-loving, iconic dancing mascot, will be the theme park's 17th coaster. Located near last season's newest innovative thrill ride, Terminator® Salvation™: The Ride, Mr. Six's DanceCoaster is designed for the entire family. The steel coaster is 679 feet long with a 28-foot lift hill, reaching speeds up to 21 miles per hour. A single train, built to look like Mr. Six's dance shoes, features eight cars that riders will sit two across in a single row for a total of 16 riders for the just under one minute ride duration. Colors for the new coaster are in keeping with Mr. Six's formal attire of black, white and red.

MEDIA CONTACT: PUBLIC RELATIONS,
SIX FLAGS MAGIC MOUNTAIN, (661) 255-4819,
SMCARPEN@SFTP.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: GUEST RELATIONS,
SIX FLAGS MAGIC MOUNTAIN, (661) 255-4111,
WWW.SIXFLAGS.COM/MAGICMOUNTAIN.

World of Ecology at California Science Center

The new World of Ecology is considered the most ambitious component of a 25-year master plan to expand the California Science Center in downtown Los Angeles. The Phase II project will fuse the live-habitat concept of zoos, aquariums and botanical gardens

with the interactive learning focus found in leading science centers and museums. When completed, the California Science Center will be nearly double in size, with an additional 170,000-square feet. Construction for the World of Ecology was completed in June, with the exhibits opening to the public this spring.

MEDIA CONTACT: SHELL AMEGA,
(213) 744-7496, SAMEGA@CSCMAIL.ORG,
WWW.CALIFORNIASCIENCECENTER.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER,
(323) 724-3623, 4INFO@CSCMAIL.ORG,
WWW.CALIFORNIASCIENCECENTER.ORG.

Pacific Park's New Seaside Pavilion

This 3,400-square-foot event facility is one of the world's only corporate and party venues situated over the ocean, with sweeping views from Malibu to the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Providing a cool respite from all of the hot action at Pacific Park, the Seaside Pavilion is the perfect location for corporate events, wrap parties, movie premieres, company meetings, sales incentives and more. Custom event packages and catering is available, including specialty menus, traditional theme park fare and bar packages all topped off by an experienced culinary team. Pacific Park's new covered Seaside Pavilion can host groups from 25 to 300 guests.

MEDIA CONTACT: CAMERON ANDREWS,
PIER COMMUNICATIONS, (562) 432-5300,
CAMERON@PIERCOMM.COM, WWW.PACPARK.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: JEFF KLOCKE,
PACIFIC PARK ON THE SANTA MONICA PIER,
(310) 260-8744, JKLOCKE@PACPARK.COM,
WWW.PACPARK.COM.

Pacific Park Presents Two New Family-Share Rides

It's two new rides for tots—and their families—at Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier. The 2-acre amusement park is adding Inkie's Pirate Ship and Inkie's Wave Jumper to its roster of family-share rides, which will open early June. Inkie's Pirate Ship is a swashbuckling-themed picaroon ride that lifts guests to-and-fro in a clockwise and counter clockwise motion for an all-out, sea-like adventure on this grand pirate ship. Inkie's Wave Jumper is a pier-top surf ride that rotates in a clockwise motion while riders "jump" up and down and bounce around, just like riding a wave.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: CAMERON ANDREWS,
PIER COMMUNICATIONS, (562) 432-5300,
CAMERON@PIERCOMM.COM.

Museum of Latin American Art Announces Upcoming Exhibition

In 2010, Mexico will celebrate the 200th anniversary of its independence and the 100th anniversary of its revolution. In honor of those historical milestones, MOLAA will present an exhibition focusing on a pivotal figure in Mexican art. A solo survey exhibition of Mexico's celebrated conceptual artist Felipe Ehrenberg, "Manchuria: Visión Periférica—Felipe Ehrenberg Retrospective," will be on view May 23 to August 15. Ehrenberg was a proponent of the 1970s Fluxus movement, whose innovative and critical approach included experimentation with performance art, installation and media art.

MEDIA CONTACT: MEGAN RODRIGUEZ,
LONG BEACH CVB, (562) 495-8326,
MEGANR@LONGBEACHCVB.ORG,
WWW.VISITLONGBEACH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (562) 437-1689,
WWW.MOLAA.ORG.

Madame Tussauds Hollywood Is Celebrating its First Summer in LA

Madame Tussauds Hollywood is one of the biggest, newest attractions in Los Angeles. Interact with your favorite celebrities as you step onto movie sets, play sports with athletes and take as many pictures as you want with the stars of Hollywood. Guests are greeted by the President, then step onto the red carpet and make their way into the A-List Party room. Spread over three floors and 13 themed zones, there are plenty of surprises, phenomena and some truly breathtaking experiences. This is visitors' chance to experience the real glamour and elegance of Hollywood.

MEDIA CONTACT: AMANDA BAKER,
MADAME TUSSAUDS HOLLYWOOD, (323) 798-1680,
AMANDA.BAKER@MADAMETUSSAUDSHW.COM,
WWW.MADAMETUSSAUDS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: MADAME TUSSAUDS HOLLYWOOD,
(323) 798-1670, INFO@MADAMETUSSAUDSHW.COM,
WWW.MADAMETUSSAUDS.COM.

King Kong 360 3D at Universal Studios Hollywood

King Kong 360 3D, a new attraction, based on the Oscar®-winning 2005 Peter Jackson film, is set to become Universal Studios Hollywood's new signature attraction this summer. Riders on the Studio Tour tram will be transported,

via a darkened soundstage, back to King Kong's home—Skull Island. The action, which takes place before King Kong ever makes his way to the modern world, culminates in a ferocious battle between the world's most famous ape and a 35-foot dinosaur. Visitors will be thrust in the middle of the action—through the magic of the world's largest Surround Digital 3D projection system—and will feel the tram jolt and reverberate as the 3D battle unfolds around them.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: CAROL MARTINEZ, LA INC., (213) 236-2357, CMARTINEZ@LAINC.US, WWW.DISCOVERLOSANGELES.COM.

California Science Center Offers “Ecosystems”

The much-anticipated “Ecosystems” exhibit at the California Science Center, which opened March 25, allows visitors to experience an unprecedented blend of live plants and animals, and hands-on science exhibits in 11 immersive environments—unique among science centers in the United States. From walking through a living kelp forest to experimenting on a polar ice wall, explorers investigate some of the Earth's most fascinating ecosystems. Highlights include a 188,000-gallon kelp tank populated with more than 1,500 live fish, kelp and other marine life; a desert flash flood; and a special gallery dedicated to the urban ecology of Los Angeles. Ecosystems occupies 45,000 square feet and contains more than 250 species of plants and animals. This new experience is the centerpiece of Phase II of the Science Center's Master Plan. In addition to the new Ecosystems exhibits, Phase II also expands the World of Life exhibition hall, and provides new administrative offices and animal care facilities, making the California Science Center one of the largest science centers in the country.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: CAROL MARTINEZ, LA INC., (213) 236-2357, CMARTINEZ@LAINC.US, WWW.DISCOVERLOSANGELES.COM



Anaheim MUZEO Presents Two New Exhibits

The MUZEO presents “Frogs: A Chorus of Colors.” This exhibition introduces visitors to a colorful assortment of over 100 live frogs from all over the world. Come eyeball to eyeball with delicate tree frogs, fat bullfrogs, strange horned frogs, giant African toads—even the elegant-looking poison dart frog. It is a hands-on, minds-on adventure that explores all aspects of the spectacular world of frogs. In addition, a special behind the scenes “Feed-A-Frog” program with the zoo keeper is available on Tuesday and Saturday mornings. The MUZEO also presents “State of the Blues: The Living Legend of the Delta” through August 15. This MUZEO exhibit pays homage to legends of the Mississippi Delta blues in a series of intimate portraits. Through the evocative imagery of L.A.-based photographer Jeff Dunas, the exhibition is a stirring collection honoring the people and juke joints that have made this quintessentially American musical genre so powerful. B.B. King, Bo Diddley, John Lee Hooker, Charlie Musselwhite and Clarence “Gatemouth” Brown are just a few of the blues luminaries showcased.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: TIM O'DAY, MUZEO, (714) 783-7415, TIM.ODAY@ODAYANDASSOCIATES.COM.

Laguna Eco Inn Renovated

This Mediterranean-style boutique hotel combines green hospitality with affordability, and it's only steps away from the beach. Accommodations include charming guest rooms, spacious oceanview suites or private oceanview rooms with balconies. Sustainability practices include minimized use of harmful chemicals and use of non-toxic cleaning products; using low-VOC (volatile organic compound) paints, adhesives, carpeting and air fresheners; providing dispensers for shampoo and conditioner in guest rooms; engaging in recycling programs and providing recycling bins throughout the rooms; paperless check-out; donating linens and equipment to local charitable organizations; purchasing reusable

and disposable products as well as products that are recyclable, biodegradable, organic and grown/made locally; and purchasing organic, fair trade and cruelty-free amenity products when possible.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: JUDY BIJLANI, LAGUNA BEACH VISITORS & CONFERENCE CENTER, (949) 376-0511, JUDYB@LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM, WWW.LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM.

Disneyland Resort Debuts “World of Color” and “Silly Symphony Swings”

The much-anticipated, nighttime “World of Color” is set to debut on June 11 as the first major milestone in the expansion of Disney's California Adventure park. “World of Color” will bring Disney animation to life with powerful fountains that become stars of the show as they create the world's largest projected water screen by combining hundreds of magnificent fountains, dazzling colors and an all-new kaleidoscope of audio and visual effects. The production will be a must-see imaginative journey into the colorful worlds of animated Disney classics such as The Lion King and Pocahontas, along with Disney®Pixar films Toy Story, WALL-E and many more. An all new viewing area offers prime waterside viewing of the show. Also opening on June 11 is “Silly Symphony Swings,” which replaces the original Orange Stinger.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: PAUL GARCIA, DISNEYLAND, (714) 284-6386, PAUL.M.GARCIA@DISNEY.COM, WWW.DISNEYLAND.COM.

Casa del Camino's Newly Designed Surf-Inspired Suites

La Casa del Camino takes hotel renovations to the next level with the launch of its newly designed suites. Water, extreme sports and the cool California laid-back style come together in these intriguing new additions to make for a truly unique experience. Each room is themed to re-create the feel of some of Southern California's favorite fun-in-the-sun sports, such as surfing, swimming and skateboarding. La Casa del Camino teamed up with some of the most influential designers in the area to create the Casa Surf Project. Each room belongs to, and is representative of, one local designer.

Billabong Men's and Billabong Women's, Rip Curl, Etnies, Roxy, Glaceau, L* Space, Lost International and Riviera Magazine took part in this exciting venture. In an effort to give back, each designer chose a charity of choice that will receive proceeds from the room's sales for the first year.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: JUDY BIJLANI,
LAGUNA BEACH VISITORS & CONFERENCE CENTER,
(949) 376-0511, JUDYB@LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM,
WWW.LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM.

New Air Service for OC's John Wayne Airport

New Continental Airlines service into John Wayne Airport began March 7. Continental Airlines began the only service from Orange County to the Islands of Hawaii. There are four weekly flights from John Wayne Airport (SNA) to Maui (OGG) and daily flights between SNA and Honolulu (HNL). The OC's only international flights began April 8. Air Canada will fly non-stop between Orange County's John Wayne Airport (SNA) and Toronto, Canada's Pearson International Airport (YYZ). The daily flight will depart John Wayne Airport at 8 a.m. and arrives at Pearson International Airport in Toronto at 3:41 p.m. local time. Flight time will be 4 hours and 41 minutes.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNY WEDGE,
JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT, (949) 252-5182,
JWEDGE@OCAIR.COM, WWW.OCAIR.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: JOHN WAYNE AIRPORT,
(949) 252-5200, WWW.OCAIR.COM.

Laguna Art Museum Presents "OsCene 2010"

"OsCene 2010: Contemporary Art and Culture in OC" runs now through May 16. OsCene 2010 celebrates the latest in contemporary art and culture in the O.C. Highlighting local Orange County and Long Beach artists, "OsCene 2010" features painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, multi-media installations, video, architecture, performance and design—some of the most provocative art that Orange County has to offer.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: JUDY BIJLANI,
LAGUNA BEACH VISITORS & CONFERENCE CENTER,
(949) 376-0511, JUDYB@LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM,
WWW.LAGUNABEACHINFO.COM.

Newport Beach Hotel Renovation Completed

Following months of renovating and redecorating, the Newport Beach Hotel is ready to show off its new look to spring and summer visitors. Since joining the Four Sisters Inns collection last year, the historic 15-room inn has had a sprucing up that includes a completely redecorated lobby with white wicker furnishings, updated bathrooms in the Oceanfront rooms, fresh white bedding with nautical blue striped accents, new window treatments, light fixtures, plants, and updated plumbing and electrical systems. One thing that hasn't changed is the 1904 hotel's enviable setting. Located on the Boardwalk at Oceanfront Boulevard between 23rd and 24th streets, the Newport Beach Hotel is still the closest hotel to the beach. That means guests step out the front door to face Newport's 5-mile stretch of soft sand, the Newport Pier and the Boardwalk's popular biking, skating and walking trail.

MEDIA CONTACT: SHARON ROONEY,
FOUR SISTERS INNS, (707) 838-1637,
SHARON@FOURSISTERS.COM,
WWW.FOURSISTERS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: MANAGER INNKEEPER,
NEWPORT BEACH HOTEL, 1-800-571-8749,
INFO@NEWPORTBEACHWALKHOTEL.COM,
WWW.NEWPORTBEACHWALKHOTEL.COM.

New Dockside Tour Aboard John Wayne's Former Yacht

One of the most famous and historical yachts in Newport Beach, the Wild Goose was once owned by the Oscar-winning western star John Wayne and is now featured in a new, exclusive narrated dockside tour. The Wild Goose first sailed in 1943, as the United States Navy Minesweeper YMS 328 during World War II. Of the 481 minesweepers manufactured, only four—including the Wild Goose—remain today. When John Wayne bought the minesweeper a decade later, he set about creating a private retreat for family and friends. The Wild Goose Tour includes a one-hour dockside visit spotlighting the boat's storied past. Cost for the excursion is \$25 per person. Reservations are needed to book these tours, and a 10-person group minimum is required.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: DANIEL GUERRERO,
VISIT NEWPORT BEACH INC., (949) 554-9766,
DANIEL@VISITNEWPORTBEACH.COM,
WWW.VISITNEWPORTBEACH.COM.

Hyatt Regency Orange County Undergoes \$25-Million Renovation

The Hyatt Regency Orange County is undergoing a \$25 million property improvement project, set to be complete in April. The renovation includes all guestrooms and suites, meeting space, lobby, front desk, restaurant, lounge, recreation deck and fitness center. The hotel will remain open and fully operational during the renovation. All North Tower suite renovations are currently complete, and include new carpet, wall-coverings, furniture, case goods, flat-screen televisions and more. The same improvements are currently being made to the South Tower guestrooms, set to be finished mid-April. Also newly renovated and expanded StayFit Fitness Center is now open 24 hours per day. The 10,000-square-foot Royal Ballroom has been completed, and is now one of the most advanced ballrooms in the Anaheim area. The room received an attractive new ceiling, and features fiber optic cabling, VGA outlets, wireless Internet and a state-of-the-art Lutron lighting system. The entire 65,000 square feet of meeting space will be updated to include new carpet and wall coverings. Meeting space renovations are scheduled for completion by mid-May. The restaurant has transformed into TusCA, featuring dishes inspired by the hearty cuisine of Italy's Tuscan region and its emphasis on abundance and seasonality.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: NICOLE GRAVELLE,
HYATT REGENCY ORANGE COUNTY,
(714) 740-6032, NICOLE.GRAVELLE@HYATT.COM,
WWW.ORANGECOUNTY.HYATT.COM.

Costa Mesa's Boutique Hotel Is Now The Hotel Hanford

The 230-room Holiday Inn Costa Mesa near South Coast Plaza has been remade into Orange County's latest independent boutique hotel. Newport Beach-based Hanford Hotels Inc., which owns the property, dropped the Holiday Inn name and it became The Hotel Hanford. Along with the new name, a \$7 million renovation of the inside and outside of the hotel is well under way. It is a big change for a hotel that has been a Holiday Inn since 1973.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: DAN PITTMAN,
PITTMAN PR, (714) 282-9994, DAN@PITTMANPR.COM,
WWW.THEHOTELHANFORD.COM.

D

DESERTS

Death Valley Adds Bike Rentals and Tours

The Furnace Creek Resort in Death Valley National Park has introduced bicycle rentals at the Ranch at Furnace Creek and guided bicycle tours featuring van transfers to and from the start and finish locations and light snacks and beverages. Rates for rentals only are \$34 for a half day and \$49 for a full day. An introductory rate of 20% off is being offered. For a limited time, guests of the resort also qualify for a complimentary one-hour ride. Rates for the guided tours are \$99 for the Hell's Gate Downhill Ride and \$79 for the Artist's Drive Ride. The Hell's Gate Downhill Ride begins 22 miles from Furnace Creek, with guides providing a thorough orientation to the bicycle and associated safety equipment. The ride is 10 miles long and incorporates significant elevation changes. The Artist's Drive tour begins approximately 10 miles from Furnace Creek. This ride is for the experienced rider and requires moderate cycling skill and physical endurance. While much of the ride is downhill, there are steep and winding ascents and descents along the route. After an orientation, participants will tour 9 miles through canyons with vertical walls on each side and will take a break at Artist's Palette, followed by 7 miles of riding with the tour ending at Badwater Road. The bikes and rider will then be transported back to Furnace Creek Resort.

MEDIA CONTACT: MONA MESEREAU,
(720) 842-5271, MONA_MESEREAU@MSN.COM,
WWW.FURNACECREEKRESORT.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: FURNACE CREEK RESORT,
(760) 786-2345, WWW.FURNACECREEKRESORT.COM.

Two Palms Springs Hotels Complete Renovations

Two Palm Springs hotels have completed multi-million-dollar renovations. The Hyatt Regency Suites Palm Springs wrapped up a \$15-million transformation in October, with a \$20-million conversion of the Wyndham Palm Springs into the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel last December. The Hyatt Regency Suites Palm Springs embraces a bold and modern design, including a new pool

deck with luxury cabanas, restaurant and bar, a Hyatt "Get Fit" fitness center, renovated guest suites, and an additional 3,000 square feet of meeting space. The transformation of the Wyndham into a Renaissance will significantly boost large conventions and meetings, especially with the adjacent Palm Springs Convention Center. New property features include 67,000 square feet of remodeled meeting space, a makeover of its 410 guestrooms, new restaurant and lounge, poolside cabanas and fitness center.

MEDIA CONTACT: HILLARY ANGEL,
PALM SPRINGS BUREAU OF TOURISM,
(760) 778-8415, HANGEL@VISITPALMSPRINGS.COM,
WWW.VISITPALMSPRINGS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: PALM SPRINGS VISITORS
INFORMATION, PALM SPRINGS VISITOR BUREAU,
(760) 778-8418, INFO@PALM-SPRINGS.ORG,
WWW.VISITPALMSPRINGS.COM.

IE

INLAND EMPIRE

Ontario Convention & Visitors Bureau Opens The MarketPlace

The Ontario Convention and Visitors Bureau invites visitors and residents alike to enjoy the addition of its new 7-acre open space located adjacent to the Ontario Convention Center. Recently acquired and renovated, The MarketPlace offers the ideal destination for music festivals, farmer's markets and other outdoor events. With nearly 3,000 square feet of adjacent building space, visitors can utilize both the indoor and outdoor venues. The MarketPlace summer season kicks off with the Orange Grove Festival, celebrating Father's Day June 18- 20 with food and activities for the whole family. The Big Train Expo rolls into town June 2-7, featuring hundreds of operating model railroads, shows on railroad history, a huge Lego display sponsored by the Southern California Lego Association and a drawing contest for kids. Coin and jewelry collectors should mark their calendars for an opportunity to buy, sell and trade their collectibles at the SoCal Coins & Jewelry Show June 24-26.

MEDIA CONTACT: REBECCA KNAPP,
THUNDERWHEEL COMMUNICATIONS, (951) 801-8177,
REBECCA@THUNDERWHEELCOMM.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: ONTARIO CONVENTION
AND VISITORS BUREAU, 1-800-455-5755,
INFO@ONTARIOCVB.COM, WWW.ONTARIOCC.COM.

The Collective Opens in Old Town Temecula

The Collective, a unique tasting lounge that features one-of-a-kind, handmade boutique wines, celebrates its grand opening. The Collective tasting room, serving wines created by owners of four micro-wineries, is located in a two-story, 2,800-square-foot building in historic Old Town Temecula. The main lounge, which is open five days a week to the public, features a spectacular up-lit onyx wine bar and cozy bench seating for patrons. Wine lovers can sample six different wines for \$12 as part of a balanced tasting of red and white wines that changes each week. Glasses and bottles of wine for less than \$30 are also available, as are small plates of gourmet food from the neighboring Edge restaurant. The Collective's intimate bookcase-lined Library Lounge is available for meetings and special events. The Club Lounge, with its second floor balcony, is available to Wine Club members from its participating wineries.

MEDIA CONTACT: CAROLYN FITTIPALDI,
TEMECULA VALLEY CONVENTION AND
VISITORS BUREAU, (951) 491-6085,
CAROLYN@TEMECULACVB.COM,
WWW.TEMECCULACVB.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: PATRICK BARTLETT,
TEMECULA VALLEY WINERY MANAGEMENT,
(951) 699-8896, WWW.TVWINECOLLECTIVE.COM,
PATRICK@TVWINERYMANAGEMENT.COM.

New Tasting Room Opens in Old Town Temecula

Lorimar Winery announced the grand opening of its tasting room in Old Town Temecula next to the Old Town Temecula Community Theater. It offers a relaxing atmosphere with premium wines and a friendly well-trained staff. A couple of years ago, brothers-in-law Lawrie Lipton and Mark Manfield began realizing a long-time dream—to own a winery. The two always shared an appreciation for wine, and in the early days traveled to wineries and vineyards in California, where they visited tasting rooms, learned about grapes and sampled wines. They settled on Temecula Valley as their choice to fulfill their dream. While their Tuscan-style winery is being built a few miles away in Temecula Valley Wine Country, the tasting room is open and bursting with activity in a charming brick building located in the center of Old Town Temecula at Front & Main Street. Complementing the Lorimar tasting room experience are numerous

nearby boutique shops, antique galleries, live theater and world-class restaurants. The handcrafted wines are approachable with a fruit-forward style that showcases clean crisp fruit.

MEDIA CONTACT: CAROLYN FITTIPALDI,
TEMECULA VALLEY CONVENTION AND VISITORS
BUREAU, (951) 491-6085,
CAROLYN@TEMECULACVB.COM,
WWW.VISITTEMECULA.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: LAWRIE LIPTON,
LORIMAR VINEYARD & WINERY,
(951) 240-5177, LAWRIE@LORIMARWINERY.COM,
WWW.LORIMARWINERY.COM.

Temecula Valley Winery Opens its Doors

Temecula Valley's newest winery, Monte De Oro, recently opened its doors. Monte De Oro Winery will be Temecula Valley's first natural gravity flow winery, offering a 180-degree panoramic view of the Palomar, San Jacinto and San Bernardino mountains. Monte De Oro's parent organization is OGB Partners, a consortium of investor-members from throughout the United States, England and South Africa who share a passion for developing premier vineyards, growing and harvesting high quality grapes and producing consistent, premium wines in Temecula Valley. Designed to be a state-of-the-art facility, the winery houses a 9,000-square-foot underground barrel room and an 8,500-square-foot hospitality facility, featuring a 32-foot-high main tasting room, two special event/VIP tasting rooms, an upscale wine gift shop and a gourmet kitchen.

MEDIA CONTACT: CAROLYN FITTIPALDI,
TEMECULA VALLEY CONVENTION AND VISITORS
BUREAU, (951) 491-4085,
CAROLYN@TEMECULACVB.COM,
WWW.VISITTEMECULA.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: KEN ZIGNORSKI,
MONTE DE ORO WINERY, (951) 491-6551,
INFO@MONTEDEORO.COM, WWW.MONTEDEORO.COM.



New Exhibition Opens at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center

This summer, visitors come face-to-face with erupting geysers, crumbling mountains and wind-driven waves at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center's new exhibition, "Earth Exposed." Nature is a work in progress, and

this collection of more than 30 interactive exhibits allows visitors to get up-close and hands-on with many of the fundamental forces that continually shape and re-shape planet Earth. Guests will not want to miss this opportunity to visit the Fleet Science Center to encounter swirling sandstorms, ripping waves and rumbling quakes at the new year-long exhibition. The exhibition opens June 19.

MEDIA CONTACT: ERIN BURNS,
REUBEN H. FLEET SCIENCE CENTER, (619) 685-5743,
EBURNS@RHFFLEET.ORG, WWW.RHFFLEET.ORG.

PUBLIC CONTACT: ERIN BURNS, REUBEN H. FLEET
SCIENCE CENTER, (619) 238-1233, NEWS@RHFFLEET.
ORG, WWW.RHFFLEET.ORG.

LEGOLAND California Adds New Water Park and 4D Movie

In June 2010, the world's first LEGO-themed water park will open at LEGOLAND California. The water park will be a separate admission attraction located at the north end of LEGOLAND behind Fun Town. The 5.5-acre water park will feature several new additions, including a Build-A-Raft river where visitors can custom-build their own LEGO raft, several water slides, a 45-foot-tall tower playground and two sandy beach wading areas. LEGOLAND's new Clutch Powers 4D Adventure, which debuted in March, combines elements of wind and rain with 3D effects in a 10-minute action-packed film featuring LEGO hero, Clutch Powers.

MEDIA CONTACT: AMBER CONNOR,
SAN DIEGO NORTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(760) 745-4748, ACONNOR@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SAN DIEGO NORTH
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU, (760) 745-4741,
INFO@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

San Diego Natural History Museum Presents New Exhibit

The San Diego Natural History Museum in Balboa Park presents "Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries" now through September 5. Based on recent dinosaur finds, the exhibit takes visitors on a journey into the world of modern paleontology, including how advanced technology allows scientists to understand fossils in fresh new ways. Complementing the exhibit, the museum will present "Dinosaurs Alive!," a 3D film

experience that takes the audience on a global adventure, guided by dinosaur hunters, as they uncover information about the earliest creatures of the Triassic period to the monsters of the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: STEPHENIE MEDINA,
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(619) 557-2838, SMEDINA@SDCVB.ORG,
WWW.SANDIEGO.ORG.

New "Blue Horizons" Show at SeaWorld Opens May 29

SeaWorld's "Blue Horizons" show will replace one of the park's longest running shows, "Dolphin Discovery." The show will feature bottlenose dolphins, colorful exotic birds and pilot whales in addition to divers and aerial acrobatics performances. Especially for the new show, the Dolphin Stadium is being completely renovated to include a new set design: trusses, diving boards and bungee swings for the aerialists and divers; a new sound system; high-tech water features; and an additional 700 seats for guests.

MEDIA CONTACT: AMBER CONNOR,
SAN DIEGO NORTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(760) 745-4748, ACONNOR@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SAN DIEGO NORTH CONVENTION
& VISITORS BUREAU, (760) 745-4741,
INFO@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

Handlery Hotel and Resort Announces Renovation

The Handlery Hotel and Resort in San Diego announces a multi-million-dollar renovation to the entire hotel, spending nearly \$4 million that will bring the property to the levels of comfort and guest service seen in a four-star hotel while maintaining their strong three-star rating. The improvements made to the property include a complete renovation of all 217 guest rooms, public space and event space. The pool deck and spa have been resurfaced, and the property underwent a complete landscape redesign, as well as general improvements to some of the hotel's infrastructure.

MEDIA CONTACT: JENNIFER ROCHE,
J PUBLIC RELATIONS, (619) 255-7069,
JENNIFER@JPUBLICRELATIONS.COM,
WWW.JPUBLICRELATIONS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: JEFF HUGGER,
HANDLERY HOTEL AND RESORT, (619) 298-0511,
JHUGGER@HANDLERY.COM, WWW.HANDLERY.COM.

The Old Globe Presents “The Whipping Man” and Other Premieres

The Old Globe will present the West Coast premiere of “The Whipping Man,” May 8 through June 13. Then the Old Globe will kick-off its 75th anniversary season with its annual Shakespeare Festival, June 12 through September 23, and performances of “King Lear,” “The Taming of the Shrew” and “The Madness of George III.” Continuing the summer season is the world premiere of “Robin Hood and the 7 Hoods,” July 14 through August 22. This Broadway-bound comedic musical takes the Robin Hood legend and gives it an early sixties spin where Nicky Robino, a suave, fast-rising entrepreneur in Chicago’s sophisticated nightclub scene, finds himself wanted by both sides of the law. Later in the year, the Old Globe will present the West Coast premiere of “The Last Romance,” July 30 through September 5. This heart-warming comedy about the power of love follows a widower name Ralph as he embarks on a path of love to regain a happiness that seemed all but lost.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: STEPHENIE MEDINA,
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(619) 557-2838, SMEDINA@SDCVB.ORG,
WWW.SANDIEGO.ORG.

Porto Vista Hotel’s Announces Grand Opening of Vespa Boutique

Porto Vista Hotel has announced the grand opening of its new highline Vespa boutique, Porto Vespa, located in the historic Little Italy neighborhood of downtown San Diego. As the hotel reflects a vibrant 1960s Mediterranean chic, Porto Vespa now offers locals and guests alike an opportunity to play a part in their own Southern California-style Roman Holiday. The boutique also sells Vespa parts and accessories, as well as Vespa-themed novelty items, including hats, shirts and beach towels.

MEDIA CONTACT: AUDREY DOHERTY/
STEPHANIE HELIKER, MIXITUP@PRCHEMISTRY.COM,
WWW.PRCHEMISTRY.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: GREG KEEBLER,
PORTO VISTA HOTEL & SUITES, (619) 544-0164,
MIXITUP@PRCHEMISTRY.COM,
WWW.PORTOVISTASD.COM.

Four Points by Sheraton Offers Renovated Meeting and Guestrooms

Four Points by Sheraton San Diego has remodeled 13,000 square feet of meeting space. The renovated Palm Conference Center features a 3,300-square-foot ballroom, divisible into four sections. Four convenient breakout rooms comfortably accommodate sessions of 10 to 60 people. The remodeled Grand Pavilion, adjacent to the Conference Center, offers seating for up to 600 people for meals and is ideal for social events in a tranquil park setting. Also remodeled are the property’s 225 guest rooms, including seven suites with marble bathrooms, microwave, refrigerator and 42-inch flat-screen television.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: NEYLA ABOUFADEL,
FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON SAN DIEGO,
(858) 277-8888, NEYLA@FOURPOINTSSANDIEGO.COM,
WWW.FOURPOINTS.COM/SANDIEGO.

Paradise Point Resort & Spa Is Remodeled

This summer, Paradise Point Resort & Spa along Mission Bay will be open with a fresh new look to its 462 bungalow-style guestrooms and expansive bayfront meeting facilities following an extensive \$20-million renovation, completed in February. Featuring an exotic South Pacific motif, guestrooms were transformed into airy and sophisticated retreats with sleek hardwoods, handcrafted Batik-style bed throws, expansive windows and contemporary artworks and furnishings. In addition, each room features chic marble or granite bathrooms, flat-screen plasma televisions, wireless Internet access and private patios. The meeting space renovation includes upgrades to more than 35,000 square feet of space, encompassing the same design detail of the South Pacific in the resort’s 29 meeting and banquet rooms and three ballrooms.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: STEPHENIE MEDINA,
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(619) 557-2838, SMEDINA@SDCVB.ORG,
WWW.SANDIEGO.ORG.

Green Award for the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina

The Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina (SSDHM) has earned the “Two Palm Leadership Level” in California’s Green Lodging Program, the highest level attainable. It is now the most sustainable convention hotel in San Diego, and the largest property in Southern California to have earned the ranking. To achieve the Two Palm Leadership Level, the SSDHM had to meet and maintain seven criteria, including waste minimization and management, reuse and recycling, energy efficiency, hazardous materials management, conservation and management, freshwater resource management and environmentally and socially sensitive purchasing policies. As a result of the SSDHM sustainability efforts, 2009 has reduced its consumption of water by 15%, electricity by 6% and gas by 6% over the prior year.

MEDIA CONTACT: KELSEY TYREE,
J PUBLIC RELATIONS, (619) 255-7069,
KELSEY@JPUBLICRELATIONS.COM,
WWW.JPUBLICRELATIONS.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (619) 291-2900,
WWW.SHERATONSANDIEGOHOTEL.COM.

New Features at the Carlsbad Flower Fields

In addition to the new 4,000-square-foot barn visitor’s area, designed to provide a much more ranch-like setting and contain special designs and projects, the Flower Fields have a new orchid display and a variety of special programs for visitors. The new Poinsettia Greenhouse connects the past, present and future of poinsettia plants through displays of the first commercially available poinsettias to current mainstream varieties, in addition to a sneak peak of new varieties and colors that visitors can’t see anywhere else. Children can visit the Lego Flower Field, containing flowers made from Legos; the Children’s Santa’s Play Area, featuring playhouses and giant mushrooms; the Carlsbad Mining Company, which allows kids to pan for semiprecious stones; and the Sweet Pea Maze, where they can walk through walls of fragrant blooming sweet peas.

MEDIA CONTACT: AMBER CONNOR,
SAN DIEGO NORTH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(760) 745-4748, ACONNOR@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: SAN DIEGO NORTH CONVENTION
& VISITORS BUREAU, (760) 745-4741,
INFO@SANDIEGONORTH.COM,
WWW.SANDIEGONORTH.COM.

San Diego Museum Presents New Exhibit

The San Diego Museum of Art presents “Toulouse-Lautrec’s Paris: Selections from the Baldwin M. Baldwin Collection” July 11 through December 12. Comprised of nearly 100 works by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, the Baldwin M. Baldwin collection pays tribute to an extraordinary modern artist, and one of the Museum’s foremost patrons. Shown together in San Diego for the first time in 20 years, “Toulouse-Lautrec’s Paris” provides a last-look at this first-class collection of paintings, drawings, prints, and posters before the museum begins a campaign to conserve and digitize these important works.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: STEPHENIE MEDINA,
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(619) 557-2838, SMEDINA@SDCVB.ORG,
WWW.SANDIEGO.ORG.

Cosmopolitan Hotel Opens in June

In June, The Cosmopolitan Hotel will open in San Diego’s Old Town State Historic Park in a historic building dating back to 1827. The property’s multi-million-dollar restoration will create 10 guestrooms, an indoor and outdoor restaurant, and several meeting rooms for special occasions. Recognized as one of the most historically significant buildings in California, many aspects of the original building structure will remain intact, including a balcony that wraps around the building and once served as the perfect place to watch local bullfights; adobe brick walls dating back to the 1820s; and its wood exterior, dating back to 1869.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: STEPHANIE MEDINA,
SAN DIEGO CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(619) 557-2838, SMEDINA@SDCVB.ORG,
WWW.SANDIEGO.ORG.

Berlin Multi-Dimensional Painter to Live, Work at San Diego Museum

From June 5 to June 26, Berlin-based painter Sati Zech will be living and working on-site at Lux Art Institute, as the museum’s final resident artist in the 2009/2010 Season. In front of fascinated visitors, Zech will be creating several new multi-dimensional abstract paintings, some large-scale—from start to finish—for her “Bollenarbeit” series,

named after Germany’s natural landscape. Visitors can “see art happen” while she is in-studio and view her exhibit, featuring numerous vivid canvases through July 31. Lux Art Institute, located in Encinitas, is redefining the museum experience with the region’s only artist-in-residence program that invites artists to live and work on-site, while producing a commissioned work of art.

MEDIA CONTACT: SANDY YOUNG,
JWALCHER COMMUNICATIONS,
(619) 295-7140, SANDY@JWALCHER.COM,
WWW.LUXARTINSTITUTE.ORG.
PUBLIC CONTACT: LUX ART INSTITUTE,
(760) 436-6611, INFO@LUXARTINSTITUTE.ORG,
WWW.LUXARTINSTITUTE.ORG.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

San Luis Obispo Announces First GranFondo

The inaugural SLO GranFondo, October 23, will be challenging since it offers some of the world’s most beautiful terrain along the rugged coast of northern San Luis Obispo County. The ride offers three fully-supported routes throughout San Luis Obispo County to suit the occasional rider or the seasoned competitor. Riders will ride along the professionals and amateurs at the SLO GranFondo.

MEDIA CONTACT: LINDSEY MILLER,
SLO CHAMBER, (805) 786-2763,
LINDSEY@SLOCHAMBER.ORG, WWW.VISITSLO.COM.
PUBLIC CONTACT: VISITOR CENTER,
SLO CHAMBER, (805) 781-2777,
SLOCHAMBER@SLOCHAMBER.ORG,
WWW.VISITSLO.COM.

Groundbreaking of the Wallis Annenberg Center

Construction for a new cultural landmark in Beverly Hills, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, is well under way this summer. The historic 1934 Beverly Hills Post Office will be transformed into a performing arts venue just steps away from the famed Golden Triangle of Beverly Hills. The original post office structure will be preserved and adapted, and it will house a 150-seat flexible studio space, three classrooms, a donor lounge, production support services and administrative offices. Eight rare WPA-era fresco murals crown the marble-clad walls of the Grand Hall and capture a powerful period of history,

portraying the country’s labor force and postal service. A 500-seat state-of-the-art theater will be constructed adjacent to the registered landmark building and audiences will access the new contemporary Goldsmith Theater through an elegant promenade that begins in the Grand Hall, leads to the studio theater and connects via a staircase to the Goldsmith. The site will be rich with lush greenery and will feature a serene sculpture garden. With an estimated completion scheduled for late 2012, the center will become home to the finest theater, music, dance and professional children’s theater.

MEDIA AND PUBLIC CONTACT: AMY PHILLIPS WALLIS,
ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS,
(310) 246-3800, AMY@BHCULTURALCENTER.COM,
WWW.ANNENBERGBEVERLYHILLS.COM.

The Queen Mary to Complete Major Makeover

With new management Delaware North Company at the helm, the legendary Queen Mary is receiving significant upgrades throughout the ship. The company has begun refurbishing the ship’s 314 staterooms with original portholes and bathtubs (including knobs for hot and cold saltwater), carpet, bedding, drapery and lighting. Newly added to the rooms are flat-screen televisions, hair dryers and iPod docking stations. All three of the ship’s restaurants received makeovers, including the signature dining room, Sir Winston’s, with updated silverware and glassware, drapes, carpets and walls. The menu has been enhanced with healthier portions and sustainable seafood choices. For those looking to “take the plunge” aboard the ship, the Wedding Chapel refreshed its carpet, drapery and lighting while refinishing the wood for the pews.

MEDIA CONTACT: MEGAN RODRIGUEZ,
LONG BEACH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU,
(562) 495-8326, MEGANR@LONGBEACHCVB.ORG,
WWW.VISITLONGBEACH.COM.

PUBLIC CONTACT: (877) 342-0738,
WWW.QUEENMARY.COM.



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