

T O M H A N K S

PAGE 4

A RON HOWARD FILM
ANGELS & DEMONS
FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE DAVINCI CODE

EAST COUNTY
GAZETTE

CLASS

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

SECTION B TO THE EAST COUNTY GAZETTE VOL. 9, NO. 50, MAY 21, 2009

Out and about in the County

Through May: The Dr. William C. Herrick Community Health Care Library in La Mesa, a public library specializing in health research information, has announced it is hosting a display of 20 charcoal drawings drawn by persons who have developmental disabilities from Sophie's Art Gallery, an art program provided by St. Madeleine Sophie's Center, a non-profit based in El Cajon. The free exhibit of artwork runs through the end of May, and can be viewed during regular library hours, which are from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays through Fridays, and from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. For more information, phone (619) 825-5010, or visit www.herricklibrary.org. The Herrick Library, located at 9001 Wakarusa St. in La Mesa, is operated by the Grossmont Healthcare District, a public agency that supports health-related community programs and services in San Diego's East County. St. Madeleine Sophie's Center provides educational programs and vocational training to persons with disabilities, including Down syndrome, autism, epilepsy and cerebral palsy.

May 22 - Sept. 4: The 14th Annual Concerts on the Green, the free weekly summer concert series featuring live music for all ages opens Friday, May 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. on the Prescott Promenade in Downtown El Cajon. Opening night will feature the Rock'n Roll sounds of The Cat-illacs. In addition, the original, entertaining and highly popular Ed Waymire returns as Master of Ceremonies.

Free to the public, Concerts on the Green is offered every Friday evening through September 4 from 6 to 8 p.m.. Sponsored by Sycuan Resort and Casino and presented by the El Cajon Community Development Corporation, the family-oriented. For more information, call the El Cajon CDC at (619) 401-8858, or visit on-line at www.downtownelcajon.com

2009 Concerts on the Green Schedule

May 22: The Cat-illacs (Rock & Roll)

May 29: The Stiletos (Rockabilly)

June 5: The Corvettes (Oldies)

June 12: Smokestaxx (Soul, Jazz, and Rock & Roll)

June 26: Theo and the Zydeco Patrol (New Orleans)

July 3: Java (Dance)

July 10: Diamond is Forever (Neil Diamond Tribute)

July 17: Scott Martin Latin Soul (Latin Soul)

July 24: The Farmers (Americana)

July 31: Bill Magee (Blues)

Aug. 7: The Heroes (Dance)

Aug. 14: The Variations (Big Band)

Aug. 21: Eve Selis (Americana)

Aug. 28: The Coolrays (Beach Boys Tribute)

Sept. 4: FX5 (Dance)

ON THE COVER: Tom Hanks stars in 'Angels and Demons.' See review on page 4.

May 13 - September 30: The Cajon Classic Cruise, Southern California's largest weekly classic car show will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Main Street in the heart of historic Downtown El Cajon. Admission is free. More than 500 classic, custom and hot rod cars valued at more than \$10 million will be showcased in a street festival setting every Wednesday evening through September 30. In addition, two special post-season car shows will be held, including a Halloween Show on October 28, and a Holiday Car Show on December 9. For more information, contact the El Cajon Community Development Corporation at (619) 401-8858, or visit www.downtownelcajon.com.

May 30: In celebration of La Mesa's Flag Day Parade on Saturday, May 30, premier oil painter Jack Jordan will be doing a painting demonstration in the Village. Jack will be creating an original work beginning at 9 a.m. at O'Dunn Fine Art, 8342 La Mesa Boulevard. Come visit, and see one of southern California's most venerated painters work his magic throughout the day.

May 30: 9 a.m., downtown La Mesa will dress up in red, white and blue for the Annual Flag Day Parade, "A Salute to Old Glory!" Two pre-parade concerts will begin the festivities from 9 - 10 a.m.: La Mesa Middle School performs at Palm and La Mesa Blvd., and Granger Junior High School at Date and La Mesa Blvd. At 10 a.m. the parade will march through downtown La Mesa Village.

Spectators will enjoy over 75 entries, including 6 marching bands led by the Marine Corps ensemble, floats, military vehicles, active and retired war heroes, equestrian units, service clubs and youth groups, along with a 20-foot wide 'living flag' carried by community volunteers.

Seventy-plus La Mesa businesses and residents contributed over \$10,000 to fund the parade this year after the city council was forced by budget constraints to withdraw municipal support.

Spectators are encouraged to dress in patriotic attire and cheer on the participants in this annual parade. La Mesa welcomes all San Diegans and their families to share in this free and fun event!

May 29 - 31: The 29th Annual Ramona Rodeo at the Fred Grand Arena at the Ramona Outdoor Community Center. Fridays performance begins at 7:30 p.m., gates open at 5:30 p.m. Saturday will have a 7:30 performance and Sunday a 1:30 p.m. performance.

Tickets are available at the following locations:

Ramona Chamber of Commerce 960 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065 Tel (760) 789-1311. Tickets can be purchased over the phone at the Chamber of Commerce using a credit card and the tickets can either be mailed or placed at will-call.

Elston Hay and Grain 2220 Main Street, Ramona, (760) 789-5020

Albertsons 1459 Main Street, Ramona, (760) 789-0023

The Livery 2537 Main Street, Ramona, (760) 789-5582

Diamond D Feed Store 444 D Street, Ramona, (760) 789-1240

Kahoots 947 Main Street, Ramona, (760) 788-7785

The Branding Iron 733 Main Street, # A, Ramona, (760) 789-5050

Catt Farms 629 Main Street, Ramona, (760) 789-2280

Boot Barn 853 Arnele, El Cajon, CA 92054 (Tel) 619) 441-8111

June 5 - 7: Air Group One, the San Diego wing of the Commemorative Air Force will present their annual Wings Over Gillespie Air Show at Gillespie Field in El Cajon. The Commemorative Air Force has the largest airworthy collection of former military aircraft in the world. It has over 150 flyable combat aircraft, making it the world's seventh largest air force! The CAF's members number over 10,000 worldwide, composing 80 wings in 30 states and 4 countries. The CAF's purpose is to acquire, maintain and operate vintage military aircraft, ground vehicles and associated artifacts for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Friday, June 5 will be a day for students and children from across San Diego county to come and learn about aviation and aviation history. Experts will be on hand to talk to students about the aircraft on static display, and the roles they played. (The actual flying part of the airshow will occur on Saturday, May 6 and Sunday the 7.)

The air show runs Saturday June 6th through Sunday, June 7. The gates are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission, \$12 for adults (12+); kids 6-11 and military with I.D. \$6; under 6 are free.

June 6-7: 7th Annual Wieghorst Western Heritage Days. This is a celebration and exhibition of our Western heritage, primarily from 1700 through early 1900, geographically west of the Mississippi River, pioneered and settled by Native American Indians, trappers and mountain men, cowboys and vaqueros, prospectors and miners, cattle and sheep ranchers, railroaders, and the individuals who, along with their families, built and settled in the towns and cities along the Westward Trek. If anyone has artwork or handicrafts that reflect the era of Westward expansion and settlement, or have products to sell or exhibits that depict the lives and experiences of the people who took part, or would like to help educate children and adults about that period in American history, we welcome applications. We'll have space for a variety of booths and exhibits, products and programs, sights and sounds.

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CLASS ACT

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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— DINING OUT —

Take a scenic drive to Golden Acorn for dining



Diners enjoy an evening at Golden Acorn Casino & Travel Center. Photo courtesy of Golden Acorn

by Diana Saenger

A typical Friday evening seemed like a great time to take a short trip east, enjoy the view and head to the

Golden Acorn Casino & Travel Center for dinner. My husband Lou, friend Kathy and I only had time for several conversations before we magically arrived at our destination.

The large casino rests on top of a mesa just a short jaunt off Highway I-8. A couple of quick turns glided us right into their spacious parking lot adjacent to San Diego County's only Truck Stop Casino. It's open 24/7 to provide fuel, food, and fun.

A step inside and the glamour and excitement of the casino is paramount. More than 750 Vegas-style slots machines line the rows left and

right offering enticing games of chance, blackjack tables and the player's club booth.

Off to the right is the Golden Grill Restaurant. The large inviting room has plenty of tables and booths with a nice decor of cheerful paintings. Specials are available, and the Breakfast special, served from 7 - 11 a.m., is a yummy Country Fried Steak and Eggs for only \$7.99. The menu serves diners an assortment

of options whether dining for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Lunch items include sandwiches hot or cold, soups, hamburgers, salads (Cobb, Garden, Caesar) and entrées. Dinner entrees include everything from Prime Rib, steaks, chicken entrees and pastas. And of course, there is always room for dessert and there are plenty of options.

Our party tried three different entrees. The Chicken Alfredo pasta was exceptional, zesty, lots of sauce and very plentiful, served with crispy garlic bread. The Chicken Fried Steak dinner with mashed potatoes and veggies was just as it appeared on the menu. The steak was tender, and the potatoes were fresh made. The Cheeseburger came just as ordered with extra goodies to pile on top, and the French Fries were crisp and fresh. Our server was attentive and pleasant and our food arrived in a reasonable time. We were all pleased.

For those who just want a quick break in the action, the Del Oro Deli sets near the full service cocktail bar and is open daily from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Anyone whose winnings are burning a whole in his pocket will find lots of useful and interesting items for sale in the Gift Shop/Store near the Truck Stop entrance.

'The Power of Nightfire' premieres this Friday

The Power of Nightfire premieres Friday, May 21 and will continue with performances nightly at 9 p.m., Thursday through Sunday, until Labor Day. The performance is one-of-a-kind and intrigues the audience with water fountains, lasers, pyrotechnics, special effects and brilliant choreography. The show tells the story of an ancient Kumeyaay Indian who saved his people from the evil "water spirit" and brings the valuable water back to his village. The show

is free and open to the public, suitable for all ages and is the perfect way to complete a long summer day.

The interactive fountain will be open to the public weekends only from May 22 to June 13. After June 13, it will be open daily through Labor Day and will also feature intermittent nightly "wet shows" and Splashtracks, which brings the fountain to life as streams of water dance to music and lights.

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— AT THE MOVIES —

'Angels and Demons' — Never lets up its pace

Review by Michael Black

Robert Langdon (Tom Hanks) is at it again, caught between two powerful organizations trying to destroy each other. Instead

of the Opus Dei vs. Priory of Sion in the *The Da Vinci Code*, it's now the Vatican vs. the Illuminati.

When the Pope unexpectedly dies, the papal conclave

must convene to elect the new pontiff. While that is happening, the ancient sect of the Illuminati surfaces again and steals a dangerous time bomb from a supercollider experiment. The group has also kidnapped

the *preferiti*, the four Cardinals under consideration to replace the Pope, with expressed intent to murder them publicly before they detonate the antimatter.

Harvard symbolologist Lang-



Tom Hanks and Ayelet Zurer star in *Angels and Demons*. Photo credit: Sony Pictures Entertainment / Zade Rosenthal

don is summoned once again by the Swiss Guard, a specialized police force that protects the Pope in Vatican City. They need his help before the bomb destroys Vatican City along with thousands of onlookers waiting to see who the new pontiff is and ultimately proves to the Catholic church that science is more powerful than faith.

Langdon meets Vittoria Vetrera (Ayelet Zurer), a physicist who worked on the antimatter and who hopes to secure it before it explodes. Langdon is aided by Camerlengo Patrick McKenna (Ewan McGregor). He is the only one who certifies the death of the Pope by destroying the Pope's ring with his official seal, and who also becomes the acting head of state of Vatican City. Camerlengo allows Langdon access to the archives that he's been refused to look at for years to complete his studies. Camerlengo realizes only a symbolologist can research the "Path of Illumination," and track down the Illuminati to find the location of the bomb and stop the murders of the cardinals.

Hanks brings his precise acting skills to the film but is limited by his character's boring persona that isn't any different than in *The Da Vinci Code*. Although he had a lot of screen time, it was a little difficult for me personally to distinguish McGregor from his previous roles. Stellan Skarsgård credibly plays bullish Commander Richter, head of the Swiss Guard. Veteran actor Armin Mueller-Stahl, plays the dignified Cardinal Strauss, Camerlengo's challenger within the church.

The basic plot is another chapter of *The Da Vinci Code*, but Ron Howard's direction is more even in this sequel — of which the book was written as a prequel. Novel fans may be surprised to discover the book's ending has been omitted; maybe as not to offend the Catholic Church.

Angels and Demons is a fast-paced thriller and a lavish production that bills intrigue about the Vatican City and Rome. It is somewhat violent and also complicated — not as much as *The Da Vinci Code* — so adults should leave younger children at home.

REEL FACTS

Angels and Demons
Studio: Sony Pictures

Gazette Grade: C+
MPAA: "PG-13" for sequences of violence, disturbing images and thematic material.

Who Should Go: The *Da Vinci Code* movie fans

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— ON STAGE —

'Summer Hours' is pensive and poignant



Edith Scob and Juliette Binoche star in *Summer Hours*. Photo credit: IFC Films

Review by Diana Saenger

Anyone who has lost a parent will find a lot of *deja vu* in the French family drama *Summer Hours*, written and directed by Olivier Assayas. As matriarch Hélène ages, she loves it when her children and grandchildren come to their summer home where the youngsters run wild, the wine flows freely, and conversations range from current job opportunities to memories of the past.

This summer Hélène (Edith Scob) is excited because her children have again returned to their home near Paris, this time to celebrate her 75th birthday.

Now living their collective lives around the world, it was not easy for them. Adrienne (Juliette Binoche, *Dan In Real Life*) is a designer based in New York. Her baby brother, Jérémie (Jérémie Renier), works for Puma shoes and has recently been transferred to China. Frédéric (Charles Berling) is an economist and university professor in Paris.

While the kids seem more intent on enjoying a celebration and family reunion, Hélène has another agenda for this get-together. She wants to talk about her death and what will happen to the family heirlooms which include several she inherited from her uncle's well-known and very valuable 19th century art collection.

Drawing Frédéric into the study, Hélène informs him what she plans to give to the museums, what he's in charge of, and what he should keep for himself. Frédéric's fidgeting clearly shows he's not ready for this conversation, but he obliges his mother by listening and nodding his head. He is most concerned about two paintings by Camille Corot, which he feels should always

make Chris McCandless' life journey appear both vibrant and harrowing at the same time. He repeats that same magic in *Summer Hours*. One example is when Hélène is among her children and her eyes reflect admiration and pride of a job well done – yet when alone, her face becomes the bleak, emotionless mask of time run out.

The children finally depart, leaving Hélène to commiserate with her beloved Éloïse (Isabelle Sadoyan), who cooks and tidies up for her and probably knows her employer better than Hélène's own children. Within a year Hélène dies, and the children make their mournful journey home.

The siblings now face serious dilemmas. Adrienne and Jérémie don't see their families returning to Paris on a regular basis and want to sell the house. For Frédéric, it is like an heirloom, and he wishes to keep it for the family to reunite.

"My characters have no choice but to become adults,"



Assayas said. "The previous generation has gone. They are not shielded from time or maturity anymore. In fact they're right in the firing line. They are no longer happy to just be in the present or to inventory the past. They ask themselves a new question: what they will leave behind."

In the midst of their decisions, each character uncovers family secrets that either derail or accelerate their wishes. For those who have not yet experienced these situations in their own life, it's most likely a time that will come in the future, and the film serves as a food-for-thought precursor to those occasions.

While I found the ending terribly cliché and guilty of breaking the sentimental mood of the film, the great cast makes *Summer Hours* realistically pensive yet poignant.

Summer Hours is in French with English subtitles, and is playing at the San Diego Landmark Village Theater in La Jolla.

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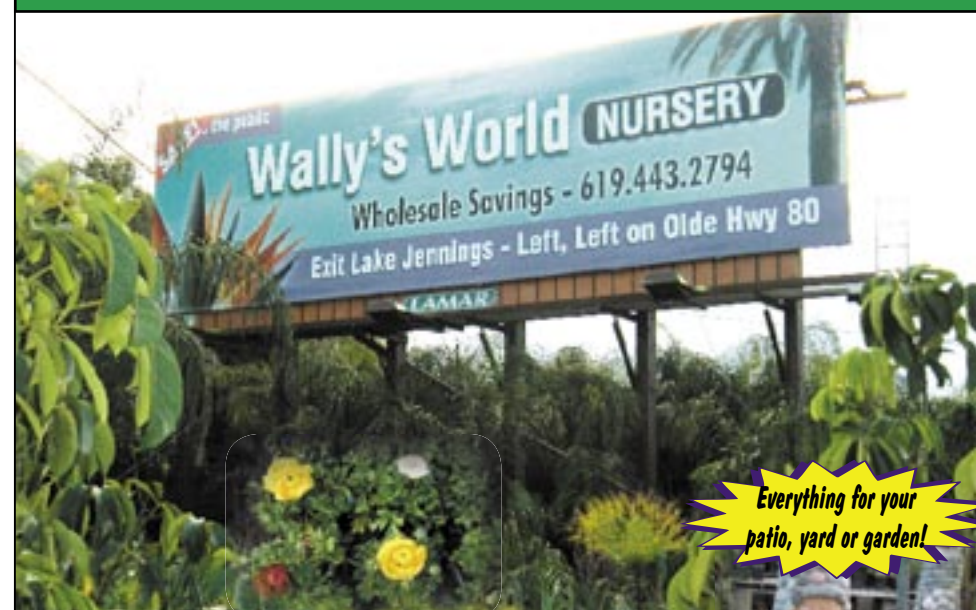
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— ON STAGE —

'Lost Boys of Sudan' to share stories from war-torn homeland

It was 1988 and young James Ariath was running for his life. Civil war had reached southern Sudan, where the Arab militia was systematically invading villages, slaughtering the Christian and non-Muslim population.

James was among the estimated 27,000 boys who were displaced and orphaned during the Second Sudanese Civil War, which started in the mid-'80s and continued until 2005, when a peace accord was reached between the Islamic leadership and the Sudan People's Liberation Army, the former rebel force which had opposed the fundamentalist Sudanese government.

Young boys like James sur-

vived by banding together on epic, perilous journeys across the border to international relief camps in Ethiopia and Kenya. Few girls made it to the settlements; those whose lives were spared were often raped and taken away as slaves or servants in northern Sudan.

"I ran and ran on my own to save my life and I found other boys who were also running," James wrote in an essay, part of a collection of writings produced by the Cuyamaca College Sudanese Cultural Club, formed in 2007 by a handful of "Lost Boys" whose English instructor, Marvelyn Bucky, is the group's adviser.

Five members of the club are putting on a presentation

from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, May 22, in Rooms I-207 and 208 inside the Cuyamaca College Student Center. The event, "An Afternoon with the Lost Boys of Sudan: Stories of Survival and Hope," is free and open to the public.

"We started walking over 1,000 miles, looking for a safe place to stay," James continues in his essay. "I was 10 years old and was considered an elder and put in charge of 250 boys, younger than me. I had them hold hands as we walked in a long line through tall grass,

forests and darkness, so they would not get lost. It was a nightmare. As we walked, we often heard gunfire, and daily, boys would die from dehydration, starvation, and disease."

In 2000 and 2001, about 4,000 of the Lost Boys arrived in the U.S. as refugees, settling in various cities with the help of humanitarian groups, relief agencies and churches. James arrived from a refugee camp in Kakuma, Kenya, where he had lived for eight years.



"I was fortunate to be sent to San Diego by the Alliance for African Assistance," James wrote. "Now there are 98 of us living in San Diego and we are all working full-time while we try to advance our level of education."

Dr. Cristina Chiriboga, college president, said the individual stories of the Lost Boys of Sudan are heart-wrenching, but the overall message the students seek to convey is one of hope and humanity.

"These remarkable young people are living proof of the strength of the human spirit, the will to survive," she said. "That they not only survived, but remain so positive about their futures is truly inspirational and uplifting. We are very proud that they have chosen Cuyamaca College as their path toward personal achievement. This is also a wonderful opportunity to share a cultural experience and to recognize the diversity of our student population."

These days, in addition to attending classes, James works as a slot technician at Barona Casino, and volunteers as a healthcare interpreter for the Alliance for African Assistance. A person of faith, James believes that it was because of God that he survived the treacherous escape from his homeland.

"Since faithful people have

helped me, God has made me feel that I must help others," he wrote.

Stories like James' compelled Bucky, despite her busy schedule, to help her current and former English students form the Sudanese Cultural Club and to assist with scholarship fund-raisers and events such as Friday's lecture.

"The mission of the club is to educate people about Sudanese culture and traditions, as well as provide a support group for the 'Lost Boys,'" Bucky said. "Many of them are alone in this country with no family; yet, they manage to be self-supporting and have this incredible spirit and hope to better their lives and to help others who are struggling."

Cuyamaca College is at 900 Rancho San Diego Parkway in Rancho San Diego. The student center is at the north end of the campus nearest the Cuyamaca College Drive West entrance off Jamacha Road. For driving and campus maps, go to www.cuyamaca.edu

Registration is currently available for summer-session classes beginning June 8 at Cuyamaca College and June 15 at Grossmont College. Online registration and college applications are available through the college Web sites, www.cuyamaca.edu and www.grossmont.edu

Summer Concerts at Viejas — fun and affordable

DreamCatcher at Viejas & Concert in the Park concert schedule:

May 29: 8 p.m., Shooter Jennings w/Special Guest Carney


Waylon Albright "Shooter" Jennings is an American country music singer. The only child of country singers Waylon Jennings and Jessi Colter, Jennings signed to his first recording contract, with Universal South Records, in 2005, releasing his debut album Put the "O" Back in Country that year. This album produced his only entry on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts in its lead-off single "Fourth of July", which peaked at #26. Jennings has since followed Put the "O" Back in Country with three more albums: Electric Rodeo, Live at Irving Plaza, 4.18.06

May 30: 6:30 p.m., Wargods V - Vernon "Tiger" White vs Lew Polley

June 5: 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., Jay Mohr

Check out Viejas' full entertainment schedule at: <http://www.viejasentertainment.com/calendarList.php> and for tickets or information call (619) 659-1996 or (619) 220-TIXS.

Note: Ticket prices range from \$5 and up and some concerts are free



Mother Goose

2nd Annual Royal Tea & Fashion Show


sponsored by the
El Cajon Elks Lodge #1812
and Rita's Catering

This is your opportunity to display your best tea set at our Royal Tea brunch. Bring your friends and family to enjoy a spectacular event of fashion and a chance to win a prize and opportunity drawings.

WHEN:	Saturday, May 30, 2009
WHERE:	El Cajon Elks Lodge #1812 - 1400 East Washington Avenue
TABLE SETUP:	9:00 am -10:30 am Doors open at 10:30 am
Tea & Fashion Show:	11:00 am to 2:00 pm
COST: Table seats 4-8	\$250.00 per table
Individual(s)	\$25.00 per seating

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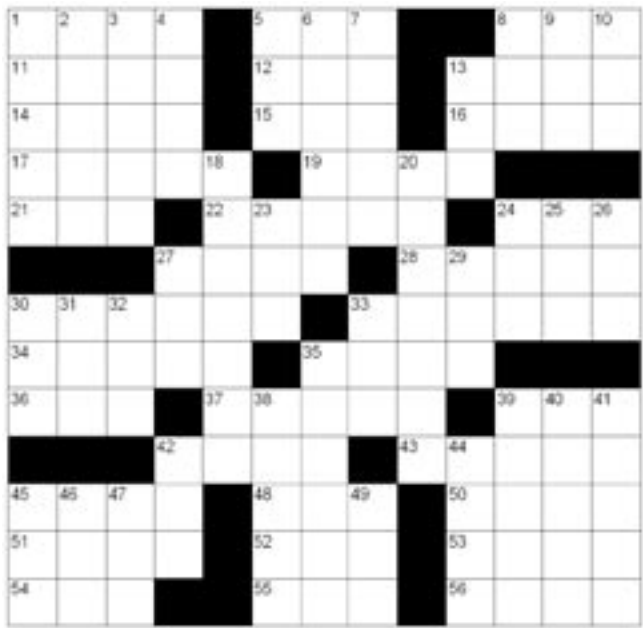
Prize for the best dressed tea table.

EVERYONE LOVES A PARADE . The Mother Goose Royal Tea & Fashion Show is a fundraiser for this year's 63rd Annual Mother Goose Parade. Please RSVP Table(s) by May 22, 2009. For table reservations, information and sponsorships please call (619) 444-8712.

RULES: TABLE DISPLAYS - displayers will be responsible for supplying their tea set, dishware & silverware. The Mother Goose Parade Association will not be responsible for any damages or missing items.

— PUZZLES —

Crossword Puzzle



- Across
- 1 __ around

5 Feign

8 Mutilate

11 Fats

12 Thai

13 Assistant

14 Applaud

15 Moray

16 Pig food

17 Ketchup maker

19 Remove from office

21 Sum

22 Japanese city

24 Adam's wife

27 Danish physicist

28 Poison

30 Soil

33 Grooved

34 Japanese city

35 Successor

36 "To the right!"

37 Mediterranean language

39 Liberal (abbr.)

42 Colored

43 1997 Madonna movie

45 Central Thai

48 Good grief!

50 Pros

51 Notify of danger

52 Body of water

53 Silent actor

54 Poem

55 Time zone

56 Posttraumatic stress disorder
- 6 Roman emperor

7 A Hindu's red dot

8 MI

9 Hoopla

10 Representative

13 Question

18 Biology of animals

20 Swift and graceful

23 Her

24 Extension (abbr.)

25 Rival

26 Discontinue

27 Whit

29 Possessive pronoun

30 10 grams (abbr. for dekagram)

31 Hurricane center

32 Rival

33 Fixed charge

35 Evades

38 Use again

39 Legal

40 Objects

41 Supported

42 Sound

44 Upper part of shoe

45 Dual

46 Held

- Down
- 1 Coffee

2 Lubricated

3 Tartan

4 Sports channel

5 Dined



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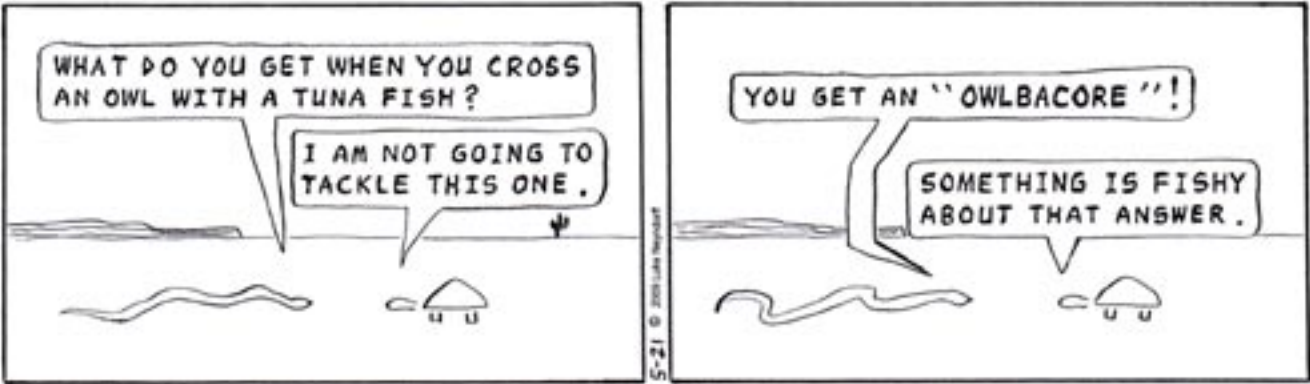
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