

Datebook

Ovation: Alan Cumming's cabaret act **F1**

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE AND SFGATE.COM | Thursday, July 8, 2010 | Section E WB

RESTAURANTS



Photos by Jasna Hodzic / The Chronicle

Brewmaster Kirk Hillyard tests recently brewed creations at the Half Moon Bay Brewing Co., top. The restaurant's patio overlooks Pillar Point Harbor and the Pacific, and dishes include linguine with clams, center. Some beers are bottled and sold at stores.

Beer, good cheer

By Stacy Finz

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Christine and Lenny Mendonca wanted to make beer, give back to their community and create a place where people could come, eat, listen to music and let their hair down.

It was sort of a tall order for a couple who had never been professional brewers or restaurateurs.

Nevertheless, in 2000 they purchased an old restaurant in Princeton-by-the-Sea — the well-known Shore Bird — with hopes of turning it into a neighborhood staple.

Ten years later, Half Moon Bay Brewing Co. has weathered 9/11; a mudslide that for months closed Highway 1, the road leading

Inside: The Inside Scoop, plus reviews of Angèle in Napa and Acqua Cotta in San Mateo **E3**

Sunday: A quest for the perfect iced coffee **Food & Wine**

to and from the restaurant; and an abysmal economy. The restaurant has also managed to generate close to \$500,000 in donations for charity and college scholarships.

"They have one whole section of the brewery known as the fund-raising area," says Half Moon Bay

Mayor Marina Fraser. "Christine and Lenny are very giving people, and we're so grateful to have them here on the coast."

Last week, hundreds of locals, friends, family and supporters showed their love by attending a celebration of the restaurant's

Brewing continues on E2

CABARET REVIEW

Raunchy, ribald and in perfect harmony

By David Wiegand

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

The Kinsey Sicks have been "America's Favorite Dragapella Beauty Shop Quartet" for 16 astonishing years — astonishing because you can't help wondering, not to mention hoping, do these guys have day jobs?

But I kid. Really.

The truth is that America's appetite for bad taste knows no bounds, for which the Sicks must get down on their knees every day.

The Kinsey Sicks: 8 p.m. today-Sat., Tues.-July 17; 7 p.m. Sun. and July 18. The Razz Room, Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason St., S.F. \$35-\$40. (866) 468-3399. www.therazzroom.com.

And they're probably thankful, too!

The quartet opened its first gig at the Razz Room on Tuesday night, regaling the packed house with their new 12-song touring revue. The show's title could be written out without offending anyone, because the words are all totally clean, like "hit" and "each." The problem comes when you say the title aloud, so in a family-newspaper curtesy to good taste, we'll omit the show's full title.

Dressed in frocks that look as if they were run up from the upholstery at Tara after Carol Burnett snagged the drapes, the foursome includes Jeff Manabat as Trixie (a dead ringer for Connie Chung — shh, don't tell Maury), Ben Schatz as Rachel, Spencer Brown as the dim-bulb Trampoline and Irwin Keller as Winnie, a master of deadpan — or mistress, depending on how good your eyesight is.

OK, so let's describe what the songs were about, shall we?

Hmm, well, they open with "All Boy Singer," to the tune of Beyoncé's (and Liza's) "Single Ladies," which includes the line "He'll never want to put

Kinsey continues on E2

