



LIVING

WALK IN TIGER'S SHOES

TEE OFF AT A U.S. OPEN COURSE

TIRED OF SUBPAR GOLF COURSES?

Escape to scenic **TORREY PINES GOLF COURSE**, host of the 2008 U.S. Open. A two-night, three-day midweek trip will cost you a little less than a grand.

Weekend greens fees for the South Course run \$257, but a weekday round is \$40 cheaper. (You can knock the price down to \$133 if you squeeze in a round after 3:30 p.m.) Midweek rates for the North Course run \$147, and the par-3 sixth hole is considered the best hole of both courses.



A round-trip flight from Washington, D.C., to San Diego on Delta Air Lines was recently \$300, and a single room in a two-star hotel a few miles from the course was \$68 per night. You can rent a car from U-Save for \$31 a day.

Figure an additional \$120 for food. You might want to drop in at Pasquale on Prospect, an Italian restaurant in La Jolla frequented by celebrities. **MIKE RITTER**

MONEY

SAMPLE

FINANCIAL PHYSICAL

HIRE A PRO TO SEE IF YOU'RE ON TRACK

BEING THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF YOUR FAMILY IS A huge responsibility. Beyond paying the bills and saving for college and retirement, you worry whether you have enough insurance, your money is invested properly and you're keeping taxes to a minimum. Smart CFOs hire consultants to make sure they're on the right track, and you should consider the same strategy.

For \$1,000, you could buy a thorough review of your financial situation, says **Sheryl Garrett**, head of a network of fee-only financial planners (www.garrettplanningnetwork.com). Most members charge from \$150 to \$240 an hour and spend from four to ten hours reviewing your finances and coming up with recommendations.

All Garrett Planning Network members offer a free "get acquainted" session during which you can discuss your needs and get a fee estimate. You'll also receive a list of information and documents you'll need to supply, such as 401(k) statements and insurance policies, and a timetable for when the work will be completed. **MARY BETH FRANKLIN**

LIVING

COOL STUFF

TECH AND APPLIANCES FOR LESS THAN \$1,000



REFRIGERATOR

Kenmore 6737

You may be sentimentally attached to a 30-year-old, avocado-green Frigidaire. Get over it. New Energy Star-qualified models use 40% less electricity than refrigerators sold just seven years ago. The most efficient one we found for less than a grand is the Kenmore 6737 (\$850 in white; \$1,050 in stainless steel), which Energy Star estimates will cost \$45 a year to run. **PAT MERTZ ESSWEIN**



HIGH-DEF CAMCORDER

Canon Vixia HF100

This camcorder (\$900) delivers great images and ergonomics. Among its impressive features: 1080p resolution, 12x optical zoom and good video quality. Because the HF100 records on a tiny memory card, Canon engineers were able to shrink the camera so it fits in the palm of your hand. And at 15 ounces, it's light enough to shoot the school play without getting a cramp. **JEFF BERTOLUCCI**



DISHWASHER

Bosch 800 Series Evolution

Fire the scullery maid and use the money you save to buy a cutting-edge dishwasher. The most efficient model available for \$1,000 is the Bosch 800 Series Evolution (model SHE68M02UC; list price, \$1,099; \$998 in white at Lowe's). Among its water-saving features: a sensor that adjusts water use depending on how dirty the dishes are. Plus, it boasts a "half-load" option. **PAT MERTZ ESSWEIN**



42-INCH PLASMA TV

Vizio VP422

Upstart Vizio sells flat-panel high-definition TVs for hundreds less than the big boys. The picture on the VP422 is surprisingly bright and sharp, and the set displays dark images well. The 1024-by-768-pixel resolution is good enough for today's high-def TV shows and sports, although it's not 1080p—full HD—but then no 42-inch set could do justice to the splendor of full HD. **JEFF BERTOLUCCI**

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