

SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

DOWNTOWN'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER GROUP

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The return of sailing's most exciting race



The America's Cup
returns to San Diego after
a 16-year hiatus

Italy leads as New Zealand trails in the Louis Vuitton race series, **left**, in San Diego in 1992. **Below**, the Italian team struggles during the 1992 America's Cup finals, ultimately losing to the U.S. team. This year marks the first time the series has made an appearance in San Diego since 1995.

Photos by PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

By JOHNNY McDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

At 30 knots, it's not NASCAR out there but the America's Cup World Series can be as exciting — depending, that is, on the flow of the San Diego Bay tide.

Crewmembers will hang onto the gunwales for two weekends of competition in San Diego (Nov. 12-13 and Nov. 19-20) when nine boats take to the water in match and fleet activity. Entries will come from France, Sweden, Korea, China, United States, New Zealand and Spain.

Spectator gates for vendors and entertainment at the Broadway Pier will open each day at 10 a.m. and racing starts at 1 p.m. on a short-course version of Dennis Conner's swashbuckling Cup challenges on unpredictable waters off Point Loma a few years ago.

This time, the shorelines along Harbor and North islands and the Embarcadero will be filled with spectators getting a closer look as the boats slip past. The new AC45 wing-sailed catamarans provide a platform that has never been seen in the America's Cup — a boat that is both exceedingly quick and highly maneuverable.

SEE SAIL, Page 6



Occupy San Diego protesters march during a rally on Oct. 9 in downtown San Diego.
PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

Occupy San Diego raid uncovers more than two sides to one issue

By MANNY LOPEZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Nearly three weeks after it began, the Occupy San Diego (OSD) protest against financial corruption and corporate greed was temporarily broken up by San Diego police in the early morning hours of Oct. 28. Rather than putting an end to the local version of a nationwide movement, however, the raid served to stir up reactions on both sides of the issue.

William Gagan, who has been part of a core group of OSD members who have helped organize the protest since its earliest stages, wasn't entirely upset by the raid, during which more than 50 adult demonstrators were taken into custody after defying an order to vacate the San Diego Civic Center Plaza and Children's Park. He was not present during the raid but said in retrospect, the police action was a helpful move.

"Our movement was becoming stagnant, but this action draws light to our voice and we will be heard much further away," Gagan said. "It's a necessary evil that we knew was going to happen at some point and I'm thankful that today we're waking up and still have the chance to change things."

According to police officials, about 130 officers, along with

50 sheriff's deputies, clad in full riot gear, descended upon the two locations at around 2 a.m. as protesters slept.

Following an announcement they were assembling illegally and subject to arrest, law enforcement personnel gave protesters an opportunity to gather their belongings and disperse before moving in. Afterward, cleanup crews entered the area to remove and discard tents, tables, signs, provisions, personal belongings and other items left behind by demonstrators.

"We are not trying to prevent them from exercising their right to free speech," said Boyd Long, assistant police chief, who said no use of batons, rubber bullets, teargas or pepper spray was employed and only hand force was applied when carrying

out arrests. "What we are telling them is that they cannot have tents, occupy public space with their property, sleep in public and say that they're going to stay there indefinitely."

Long said demonstrators were welcome to return to the Civic Center Plaza to continue protesting peacefully, with the full support and protection of the SDPD, but they could not infringe upon the rights of other San Diegans or violate the

"They're killing my business. I'm part of the 99 percent, too. I'm a small business, not a big corporation."

PETER PEREZ
Owner, Brooklyn Dogs hot dog
vendor, Civic Center Plaza

A grand orchid planted in Little Italy

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Craft & Commerce, a new-comer to Little Italy, has garnered rousing support for its architecture, adaptive re-use and interior design, earning the restaurant the esteemed 2011 Grand Orchid from this year's 2011 Orchids and Onions awards ceremony — a fundraising program hosted by the San Diego Architectural Foundation.

This year's biggest nod went to the eatery located at 675 W. Beech St. for a spot that jurors named "idea-driven, yet basic."

Some of the restaurant's

simple, yet imaginative design concepts include written passages from John Steinbeck and David Foster Wallace scribbled across the pub's walls and seats, stacks upon stacks of vintage hardcover novels, oversize glass doors with Ford Model T steering wheels for handles and a unique fusion of materials, including wooden planks on the ceiling, red bricks on the walls and aluminum encompassing the center bar.

Grant Barrett, the awards ceremony's emcee, explained the jurors' decision at the event on Oct. 27.

"During deliberations for the

2011 Grand Orchid, the jury was taken with one particular project, where they were all in agreement that the space had actually transcended the design," he said. "They felt strongly that Craft & Commerce — this accessible, adaptive re-use project in Little Italy — had been carefully designed and masterfully executed to create a truly exceptional experience."

One juror noted there seems to be a hidden personal story that owners Nate Stanton and Arsalun Tafazoli and designer

SEE ORCHID, Page 6



Craft & Commerce, 675 W. Beech St., won the Grand Orchid award during the San Diego Architectural Foundation's annual Orchids and Onions awards.

Photo courtesy Amy K. Fellows



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Ambitious Convention Center plans could reap big rewards – if done right



A rendering shows what a newly revamped Convention Center would look like, complete with a five-acre rooftop park with panoramic views of downtown, Coronado and the bay. Courtesy image

By MANNY LOPEZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

At present, the San Diego Convention Center ranks as one of the most sought-after, mid-size facilities in North America, but its limited capacity hinders the civic building's ability to host many of the biggest annual shows.

Promoters of a proposed \$550 million expansion at the foot of Fifth Avenue, set to increase its size by about one-third, say the project would make the Convention Center much more competitive and create thousands of jobs, grow the local economy and generate millions of dollars in revenue for city services.

On Oct. 11, Mayor Jerry Sanders and the Downtown San Diego Partnership hosted a public presentation at the City Concourse on the proposed Convention Center Phase III expansion. A team of design firms — Fentress Architects, John Portman & Associates and Civitas Inc. — presented conceptual models and cost proposals for the public.

The projected plan, which was developed using public input during the Mayor's Citizens Task Force on the San Diego Convention Center Project, would add 225,000 square feet of contiguous exhibit-hall space, about 101,500 square feet of meeting rooms and an 80,000-square-foot ballroom with a view of the San Diego Bay and balconies that would add exterior spaces to the existing building.

Designers said when completed, San Diego would have the largest contiguous exhibit hall west of the Mississippi

River and the largest ballroom of any conventional facility on the West Coast. The plan also includes a waterfront promenade with walkways, a waterfront transportation center and up to 30,000 square feet of retail space. No additional options for parking were presented.

"The design is absolutely brilliant," said Joe Terzi, president and CEO of the

"Size matters. In order to achieve these economic benefits, we need to incorporate all of the programs."

CHARLES BLACK
Attorney, Convention Center expansion
program manager

San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau. "They were able to get everything accomplished in a sleek and less-impactful plan, which will give us the ability to get larger conventions, host more than one convention at a time and limit the center's overall downtime."

Terzi added that among the most interesting features of the environmentally friendly design is a five-acre rooftop park with panoramic views of downtown, Coronado and San Diego Bay. In addition to outdoor receptions, he said the park could also be used for parties and community events like musical performances and public art displays.

San Diego attorney and real estate executive Charles Black, who led the Petco Park development team and is now serving as the Convention Center expansion program manager, said based on a November 2010 study conducted by AECOM, a technical and management support services company based in Los Angeles, the proposed contiguous expansion would attract 25 new primary events annually to the SDCC.

That, he said, would translate into more than 250,000 visitors, which would produce an additional 657,000 annual room nights at nearby hotels and equate to more than \$121 million in additional annual room sales. Further, he said a positive fiscal impact of \$700 million is expected in addition to the \$1.3 billion a year in economic activity the Convention Center already generates, plus \$15 million in new city revenues and nearly 7,000 permanent jobs.

The plan does come with a qualification, however. All of the economic assumptions hinge upon the project being built in its entirety.

"Size matters," Black said. "In order to achieve these economic benefits, we need to incorporate all of the programs. So, it has been our objective to maintain compliance with the Convention Centers requirements."

On Oct. 10, the San Diego City Council approved a three-tier taxing formula based on proximity to the Convention Center and percentage of room revenue that is expected to raise most of the money needed to pay for the expansion.

SEE CENTER, Page 9



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Protesters still sticking to guns, getting mixed reaction from public

By MANNY LOPEZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

One month after the San Diego offshoot of the Occupy Wall Street protest began against, among other things, corporate greed, income inequality and political corruption, it is still hanging on — if by a thread.

Without a clear list of demands or solutions, protesters determined to affect a social, political and economic shift continue to join the ranks of what has become a vaguely defined global movement with more than 1,500 cities around the world participating in an effort to bridge the gap between what they describe as the majority of the population — the 99 percent — and the richest and most powerful 1 percent.

“This is giving people a voice and a way to start something new,” said Bill Terzin, an American living in Tijuana. “When everybody’s voice is heard, the system of government works. It’s when people don’t have a voice, or they feel they’re not being heard and their votes don’t make a difference, that we get to a point such as this one.”

Planted directly in the shadows of City Hall, the San Diego Civic Center Plaza had become ground zero for Occupy San Diego (OSD) demonstrators — until, that is, San Diego police came in and cleaned house in a pre-dawn raid on Oct. 28.

The demonstrators have vowed to exercise their First Amendment rights indefinitely in creating what Abel Thomas of Ocean Beach described as a “new paradigm shift in human history.” Thomas, a member of the General Assembly — a de facto decision-making



Occupy San Diego protesters pass the time at their new temporary home at Civic Center Plaza with music. The protest that started out peacefully with little trouble from police has taken a turn for the dramatic, with early morning police raids and reports from local business owners that the movement has hurt their bottom line.

PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

body for the occupation, said that nothing is going to make the protesters turn around and go home.

“I would like to think there would be a point at which we can call the movement a success, but I don’t see that anywhere in the near future,” said Thomas, a biomedical engineering graduate who, at 22, has not been able to find a job for more than a year. “Because there are so many things that need changing and reforming, we expect to be here for a while.”

San Diego police Capt. Mark Jones of Central Division said the numerous actions the police have carried out against protesters were necessary to allow the general public to enjoy their freedoms also. After police, with the help

of sheriff’s deputies, cleared out Civic Center Plaza and the Children’s Park, protesters returned that evening to continue their occupation of the plaza.

“Businesses owners’ rights have been trampled on, city property has been destroyed and there are people that won’t go down there because of the way some of the protesters are behaving and because of their poor hygiene,” said Boyd Long, assistant police chief.

Long said the police will continue to do all that they can within the confines of the law to facilitate and protect the demonstrators’ First Amendment rights, but he added that working with a leaderless organization makes it challenging

SEE PROTESTS, Page 15

Village by the big blue sets sights on green

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Businesses at San Diego’s popular bayside shopping, dining and entertainment attraction, Seaport Village, are ramping up efforts to promote energy efficiency and green practices by taking part in the Port of San Diego’s Green Business Challenge — an initiative that promotes business practices to reduce energy consumption, wasteful water usage and pollution.

“I’m proud to say that Seaport Village has been on the ‘green track’ for a few years now,” said Terry Hall, general manager of Seaport Village. “We have a full recycling program in place, and we’ve installed moisture meters for our irrigation. This program gives us an opportunity to have all 70 of our tenants band together as environmental stewards.”

Seaport Village businesses currently make up 16 of the 54 businesses taking part in the Green Business Challenge.

Husband-and-wife team Samantha and Kevin Olenick, owners of Kite Flite, Swings and Things and Wind Song, have always been dedicated to operating a green business, even before it was popular, Samantha Olenick said.

“It just makes common sense. We travel around the world, and globally, there are a lot less throw-away societies,” she said.

The duo has cut down on fuel costs by switching to a direct delivery process, eliminating the need for warehouse distribution. As a result, they were able to swap out their 14 mile-per-gallon diesel delivery truck to a 45 mile-per-gallon Toyota Prius corporate car for the management team.

Olenick said the best thing about



Several businesses in Seaport Village are leaders in green business practices. Courtesy photo

being part of the challenge is they are able to learn from other participants as well as share their own sustainable business practices.

Ben & Jerry’s ice cream shop is also participating in the challenge through its dedication to using fair trade certified ingredients and products, switching to more energy-efficient lighting and using SDG&E’s Direct Install Program — a service that provides a free energy assessment and equipment upgrades for small and medium businesses.

Omar Farah, owner of six eco-friendly businesses in Seaport Village, said he “did not hesitate to sign up” because he sees numerous benefits, like cost-savings — an important factor for a busy owner.

Every penny counts for small businesses, and Seaport Village shops are taking even the smallest of steps, like shutting down computers and fax machines at night, embracing energy-efficient strategies to lower their energy bills and eliminating excessive packaging for their products.

“When we band together like this, we can make a difference,” said Hall. “We are proud to say Seaport Village is being more energy efficient and protecting our environment.”

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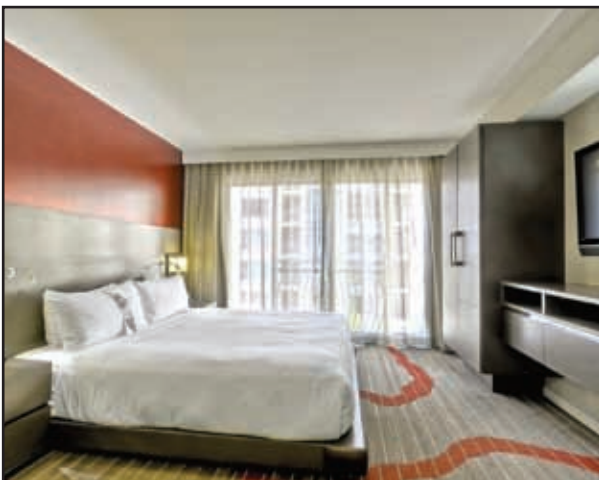


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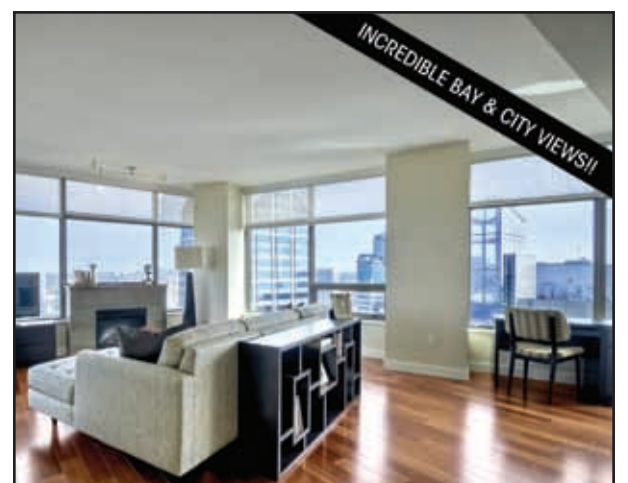


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DEAL of the MONTH



Left, the New Zealand team races its boat, the New Zealand Challenge, while below, Italy holds on during the Louis Vuitton race series on San Diego Bay in 1992.

Photos by PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News



SAIL

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

The series is considered an extreme experience with cutting-edge, wing-sailed catamarans navigating short, sharp, intense races on courses squeezed into the bay to ensure close action to test the abilities of the best sailing teams in the world. Five crewmen and a sixth, called the guest, will man the sails.

"I think the competition in San Diego Bay is going to be fantastic," said Iain Murray, regatta director. "The racing will be very close to shore, which means it will be great for spectators. The short courses will also be very challenging for the sailors, who will need to execute their crew maneuvers flawlessly to be successful."

San Diego marks the third stop on the tour, which awards points for both overall match and fleet racing championships. The 2011-12 series concludes July 1 in Newport, R.I.

"I am really excited to race in San Diego again," said Bertrand Pacé, the skipper of the French Aleph team. "I

sailed in two Louis Vuitton Cups there in the 1990s and I learned an awful lot about the America's Cup. To go back and race AC45s in the bay will be completely different."

The AC45 was designed by Oracle Racing design and engineering teams and is manufactured by Core Builders Composite of New Zealand. It's 44 feet in length, 22.6 feet wide, has a 70-foot mast, 8.8-foot draft and weighs 3,080 pounds. The wing area is 914 square feet.

The two United States Oracle boats had mixed results in the first two events, winning the match racing and placing third in fleet at Portugal and a fifth and first, respectively, in England.

Subsequently, they spent hours practicing on San Francisco's huge bay. Besides running computer tests, the team mixed crew members out of a pool of 20 hand-picked sailors.

"We want a brutal race series where we push each other," said Oracle skipper James Spithill. "Our goal is to have better racing than the challengers get."

He said he thought Emirates Team

New Zealand, however, might have the inside track toward the eventual title.

"The Kiwis have been the most consistent team, although the French teams — Aleph Equipe and Energy Team — have been sound, as has Artemis Racing of Sweden," he said. "The surprise has been Team Korea, which ousted Oracle in match racing in Plymouth."

During the series' event in Plymouth, England, three catamarans capsized in competition and in Portugal's August race, a New Zealand crewmember slipped over the side. It awaits to be seen if San Diego will see such action.

ORCHID

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

Paul Basile seem to unravel about the genesis of the restaurant.

"Having doubled in size since its opening in August of 2010, it has provided the impetus to stimulate a sleepy corner into a stimulating destination," Barrett said on behalf of the jury. "Craft & Commerce demonstrates how the design dialogue opens minds and doors, and blooms. It shines through as a unique and inspirational property and a welcome and daring addition to San Diego's design landscape."

Craft & Commerce is open every day for lunch, dinner and drinks from 11:30 a.m. to 1 a.m.



Craft & Commerce was recognized for its architecture, adaptive re-use and interior design. Judges called the building a "unique and inspirational property and a welcome and daring addition to San Diego's design landscape."

Photo courtesy of Amy K. Fellows.

Other bloomers and stinkers presented at the Orchids and Onions awards ceremony:

- **Thomas Jefferson School of Law**, 1155 Island Ave., Orchids for landscape architecture and programming and planning
- **Banker's Hill Bar and Restaurant**, 2202 Fourth Ave., Orchid for interior transformation
- **Co-Merge**, 330 A St., Orchid for adaptive reuse

- **Snowflake Bakery building**, 701 16 St., Orchid for historic recognition
- **Pacific Highway inactivity**, People's Choice Onion
- **State Street offices**, 2534 State St., Onion for architecture

For a full list of 2011 Orchids and Onions visit www.orchidsandonions.org.

SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

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Jahja Ling

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GLASS: *The American Four Seasons*
GLAZUNOV: *The Seasons: Summer and Autumn*



Robert McDuffie

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Imagine: a blighted warehouse district transformed into IDEAs

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

After carefully vetting a number of qualified applicants, Jerry Navarra, chairman of Jerome's Furniture, chose Lankford & Associates, Portman Holdings and Phelps Development — together forming a new entity dubbed LPP — to be the master developer for a nearly three million-square-foot renovation in San Diego's Upper East Village.

The grand vision involves turning three blocks of a bleak warehouse district into a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use space with new residences, shops, hotels, office buildings and a four-acre open space park.

One of the primary design concepts for the renovation is an Innovation, Design, Education and Arts (IDEA) zone — an artistic vision championed by developers David Malmuth and Pete Garcia that will encompass the area between Market Street and City College and 11th Avenue and the I-5 freeway.

The duo focused on creative concepts for the space, including an artists' alley, East Village Green Park, a pedestrian-oriented stretch of live-work housing units and retail shops, an "education overlay" zone, and an urban alley featuring stone paving, sidewalk cafes, retail shops and market canopies.

"We think that would be a great use of that space there," said David Hazan, president of the East Village Association, who serves with Navarra on the association's board. "We know that it's going to take a while. Unfortunately, it's not going to happen tomorrow, but we're very excited, and we think it'll be a great partnership."

Other parties involved in the extensive redevelopment project include

architect Frank Wolden, principal at Carrier Johnson + Culture; Stacey Pennington, principal of SLP Urban Planning; and Sherm Harmer, president of Urban Housing Partners.

Navarra, who owns and leases out properties across five blocks between F Street and Broadway, has been working on plans to redevelop the area for the past several years.

Harmer, who is advising the Navarra family on development options, said much of the planning, permitting and reports have been completed over the last three years, so when there is a recovery in the real estate market and financing is available, the team will be able to jump right into construction.

He also emphasized that, aside from the open space park, the team will not seek any public redevelopment funds for the estimated \$1 billion project.

"Downtown has eight neighborhoods, and each has its own feel and unique brand," he said. "What we're trying to do is create a neighborhood that is energetic and offers a mixed-use area where people can live, shop, play and learn without the use of a car."

He added the project could ultimately generate 10,000 jobs and \$1.8 billion in new construction.

"Rarely in the history of San Diego has one family had the opportunity to make such a momentous impact on the

future of the city," he said. "This is the first step in realizing the incredible potential of the Upper East Village."

No plans for the project have been finalized and there is no set date to begin construction.



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4

Hornblower singles cruise, Hornblower ticket booth, 1066 N. Harbor Drive, (619) 686-8715, www.hornblower.com, \$25



Jacobs Masterworks: Liszt's Piano Concertos, 8 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$29-\$96

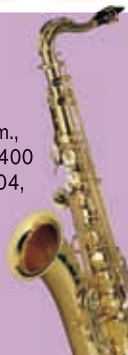


5

Derek Warfield and the Young Wolfe Tones, 9 p.m., Dublin Square Irish Pub, 554 Fourth Ave., (619) 239-5818, www.dublinsquareirishpub.com, \$20

15th annual Ocean Gala, 6 p.m., Westin Gaslamp Quarter, 910 Broadway Circle, (619) 758-7743 x103, meganb@sdcoastkeeper.org, \$100-\$175, VIP \$250

Just Jazz, 6:30 p.m., Meyer Fine Art, 6400 Kettner Blvd., #104, music by Peter Sprague, (619) 231-3702, www.camarada.org, free



6

10th annual interfaith candlelight vigil, 3:15 p.m., San Diego Rescue Mission, 120 Elm St., raise awareness for 10,000 homeless individuals living in San Diego, (619) 819-1722, dkrakauer@sdrescue.org, free



Fall Back Festival, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Gaslamp Quarter, Fifth and Island avenues, children's street fair, (619) 233-5008, www.gaslampquarter.org, free



Daylight Saving Time ends. Don't forget to set your clocks back!



7

Aha Moment Tour, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., President's Way and Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, chance to be featured in 30-second commercial, runs through Nov. 10, www.ahamoment.com/tour/stop/85, free



San Diego Beer Week, runs Nov. 4-13, various locations, www.sdbw.org



8

"Come Fly Away," 7 p.m., San Diego Civic Theatre, 1100 Third Ave., runs until Nov. 13, (619) 564-3000, www.broadwaysd.org, \$26.75-\$84.75



9

Ledisi, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., four-time Grammy nominee R&B performance with Timothy Bloom, (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$35



10

Poetry in three Languages, 6 p.m., Olive PR Solutions, 350 West Ash St, #103, (619) 955-5285, www.oliveprsolutions.com, free

11

Veteran's Day Parade, 11 a.m., Cedar Street and Pacific Highway, www.sdveteranparade.org, free



Micro championship wrestling, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., midget wrestling, (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, general admission \$20, VIP seated \$40



12

Birthday party for Kate Sessions, 11 a.m., Marston House, 3525 Seventh Ave., info@friendsofbalboapark.org, www.friendsofbalboapark.org, free

Star of India sets sail, 9 a.m., Maritime Museum, 1492 North Harbor Drive, (619) 234-9153, www.sdmaritime.org



San Diego Potters' Guild fall sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Spanish Village Studio 29, 1770 Village Place, (619) 239-0507, www.sandiegopottersguild.org, free



13

Ellington's Nutcracker Suite, 2 p.m., Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth

Ave., Tchaikovsky's classic turns as a swinging jazz piece featuring Malaschock Dance, (619) 231-2311, www.classics4kids.com, \$12-\$20



14

Game Night, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., The Topsy Crow, 770 Fifth Ave., Wii, board games, shuffleboard, beer pong tournaments, trivia, bingo, (619) 338-9300, free



Manic Monday, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., The Brass Rail, 3796 Fifth Ave., (619) 298-2233, www.thebrassrailsd.com, \$3 cover before 11 p.m.

15

6 Degrees member reception, 5:30 p.m., Higgs, Fletcher and Mack LLP, 401 West A St., Ste. 2600, (619) 255-4410, www.sd6degrees.com, free

Ends of the Earth: From Polar Bears to Penguins, 10 a.m., San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, (619) 232-3821, www.sdnhm.org, \$11-\$17, members free



16

San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival kickoff, 7 p.m., location TBA, festival runs through Nov. 20 with events every day, www.worldofwineevents.com, \$45 advance, \$60 at the door



San Diego City College fall series "Best of" concert, 7:30 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$5 general admission, free with college ID

17

Dubouef "Nu Beau" wine celebration, 5 p.m. to midnight, Gaslamp Museum Park, 4th and Island avenues, (619) 233-5227, www.gaslamp.org, \$5



18

Reserve and new release tasting, 6:30 p.m., San Diego Air and Space Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza, wine tasting, silent auction and music, (619) 312-1212, www.worldofwineevents.com, \$100

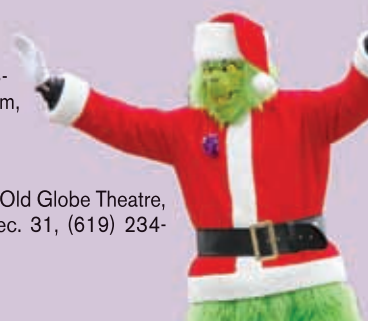
Great White, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., Grammy Award-nominee hard rock concert with Terry Ilous, (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, \$25-\$35



19

Melero Boutique cocktail and fashion show, 6 p.m., Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Ave., (619) 238-1818, www.westgatehotel.com, \$25

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas," 7 p.m., Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way, runs through Dec. 31, (619) 234-5623, www.theoldglobe.org, \$24-\$112



20

Celebrity chef luncheon and big bottle live auction, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., San Diego Marriott Marquis, 333 West Harbor Drive, (619) 312-1212, www.worldofwineevents.com, \$175

The Old Globe Theatre's annual Christmas tree lighting, 6 p.m., Copley Plaza, 1363 Old Globe Way, limited tickets, www.theoldglobe.org, (619) 23-GLOBE, free



21

"Mix It Up Mondays," 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Bar Dynamite, 1808 W. Washington St., featuring DJs Girth and Fortuna, (619) 295-8743, www.bardynamite.com, \$5



"NEO Soul Tuesday," 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Onyx Room, 852 Fifth Ave., (619) 235-6699, www.onyxroom.com, \$10

23

All that Glitters, 10 a.m., San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado, gemstones produced by earth's natural processes, (619) 232-3821, www.sdnhm.org, \$11-\$17, members free



24

THANKSGIVING! What are some of your family's favorite traditions? Post them on www.facebook.com/sandiegodowntownnews

Thanksgiving buffet dinner cruise, 3 p.m., Hornblower, 1066 N. Harbor Drive, (619) 686-8715, www.hornblower.com, \$79.95



25

Chris Tucker, Civic Theatre, 7:30 p.m., 1100 Third Ave., (619) 570-1100, www.sdcivic.org, \$45-\$65

"The Musical Paul Gauguin," 8 p.m., Maritime Museum, 1492 N. Harbor Drive, runs through Nov. 27, (619) 234-9153, www.sdmaritime.org, \$30-\$35



BLACK FRIDAY!

26

Arrival of Surfin' Santa, 1 p.m., Seaport Village, parade and LED holiday light exchange (bring old light strands and current SDG&E bill), www.seaportvillage.com, (619) 235-4014, free

"Some Lovers," 7 p.m., Old Globe Theatre, 868 Fourth Ave., runs through Dec. 31, (619) 234-5623, www.theoldglobe.org, \$35-\$94

Holiday-themed amazing race/scavenger hunt in the Gaslamp Quarter, 3 p.m., clues take you to roof tops, boutique hotels, public art and holiday-themed establishments, tours@wheretours.com

27

Sunday Gospel Brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., House of Blues, 1055 Fifth Ave., (619) 299-2583, www.houseofblues.com, \$40 adults, \$18.50 children ages 6 to 12, children five and under free



Santa vs. the Snowman film, 6 p.m., Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado, www.rhfleet.org, (619) 238-1233, \$9.75-\$11.75, members free

28

"Volkswagen: The People's Car," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza, (619) 231-2886, www.sdautomuseum.org, \$4-\$8



29

"A Fiddler's Tale," 7 p.m., San Diego Museum of Art, 1450 El Prado, (619) 692-2081, www.artofelan.org, \$10-\$25



30

"See/Saw" annual youth exhibition, 10 a.m., Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado, (619) 238-7559, www.mopa.org, \$5-\$8, members free



DEC.

1 Dream Theater, 8 p.m., Balboa Theatre, 868 Fourth Ave., (619) 570-1100, www.sandiegotheatres.org, \$37-\$57.50

Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," 7:30 p.m., Copley Symphony Hall, 750 B St., Robert McDuffie joins on violin, (619) 235-0804, www.sandiegosymphony.com, \$20

photo: Christian Steiner



2

The Springsteen Experience, 8 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., Bruce Springsteen tribute band, (619) 231-4343, www.4thandbevents.com, general admission \$10, VIP seated \$15



"December Nights," 5 to 9 p.m., Balboa Park, 1549 El Prado, (619) 239-0512, www.balboapark.org, free



An ambassador for animals from A to Z

By JOHNNY McDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Amphibians hold the key to the challenges facing wildlife in Southern California, according to Joan Embery, who has left her Zoo goodwill ambassador's duties to become a conservation authority.

We talked one evening after she completed a full day of meetings, appointments and then attended to some of her 100 animals from A to Z, an aardvark to an endangered African zebra at her Lakeside ranch.

"Amphibians are environmental indicators," she said. "They breathe through their skin, are aquatic and sensitive to (habitat) change. So, when you see a large die-off of amphibians, you realize there is something wrong with the environment."

"And we should be concerned," she said. "Sort of like the canary in the coal mine."

Although the concerns are worldwide, the San Diego Zoo has established a research team to study changes in Southern California.

Embery and her husband, Duane Pillsbury, have a 50-acre El Monte Valley ranch just off Wild Canyon Road, close to the banks of the San Diego

River. Because of their constant work in the field, the San Diego Zoo recently awarded them the prestigious conservation medal.

Embery, of course, can be remembered for her appearances on television, particularly the "Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson and Jay Leno. She has been a goodwill ambassador at the zoo for many years.

"Those studio trips were three hours up and back, appearing in a studio with unpredictable animals and unpredictable show hosts," she said. "You never knew what to expect."

Her work at the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park is not as extensive now but she is always on call. She refers to herself as the conservation ambassador.

An article in the zoo's publication *Zoonooz* detailed their continued activity with wildlife habitats in taking an active role with endangered species through breeding programs.

"It's not easy to get people's attention," Joan said. "But we hold the responsibility of sharing information and sparking interest in conservation."

Southern California, she said, is challenging because it has the highest

diversity of wildlife in the nation — as well as the most rapidly growing human population.

"So it ends up to be a real balancing act for natural resources," she said. "[For example], the mountain lion is a balancing act. They'll roam up to 200 square miles and their population is governed by available prey."

"Setting aside a few acres here and there ... is that sufficient? Their prey is primarily deer and deer populations are affected by habitat. Forage is needed to support a deer population."

Southern California's biological diversity, Embery said, is the result of its unique topography — oceans, rivers, mountains and deserts, all within roughly 100 miles of each other. This has prompted close examination by conservationists.

"In recent years a multifaceted team has been focusing on our backyard," she said. "This work includes a study about the endangered horned lizard, kangaroo rats, red diamondback rattlesnakes and cactus wrens. The golden eagle population has plummeted, too."

"Growth is a tipping scale where resources like water, fuel and timber

are being used more rapidly than they can be replaced."

Meanwhile, she said, the zoo's function is to maintain self-sustaining populations.

As for her functions, she fills up her time quite easily.

"I'm working all the time," she said. "I run my own non-profit, a lot of conservation-related work and educational programs."

She also visits children three times a week at a nearby school and is host to environmental groups at the ranch.

As long as people are willing to listen, she has an important message to tell.



Joan Embery, famous for her numerous appearances on the "Tonight Show" with Johnny Carson and later with Jay Leno, shows her comfort level around just two of the animals with which she can regularly be found.

Photo courtesy the San Diego Zoo

CENTER

CONTINUED FROM Page 5

Through a Convention Center Assessment District headed by stakeholders and hospitality industry representatives, hotels in the downtown area would be assessed 3 percent of room revenue, while Mission Bay and Mission Valley would both get 2 percent and all other city locations 1 percent.

The proposal, which was developed by Sanders, civic leader Stephen Cushman, the Convention Center Corporation Board and representatives from the hospitality industry, passed by a 7-0 vote of the City Council, with Marti Emerald absent. According to Sanders, hoteliers are expected to shell out between \$28 million and \$30 million annually toward the debt service on 30-year bonds for the expansion.

Among those attending the presentation was Sherman Harmer, president of Urban Housing Partners, developers of urban mixed-use projects. Harmer said downtown has gone from 5,000 residents 10 years ago to almost 30,000 today and they need public realm and usable spaces. He emphasized the importance of outreach to give citizens a chance to express their feelings about the quality of life in the downtown core.

"Let's not just build space, let's build space we can use with kiosks, retail businesses, restaurants, coffee shops and all of the useful things that activate a space. Let's make it full and enjoyable to keep you there for a while," Harmer said. "A lot of us downtown are grandparents and our grandchildren need space where they can run, be active, have fun and have a normal living environment despite living in a high density area."

Craig Vickers, landscape architect and principal at Civitas asked the audience to view the plan as a series of concepts or ideas.

"We know the forms and shapes of things are going to evolve as we get into the more formalized portions of the design process," said Vickers. "But we think we have the ideas on the right track."

Vickers said approvals for the project's environmental and California Coastal Commission reviews could be completed in 2012. Construction, he said, could begin in 2013 and possibly completed by 2016.

Junior Theatre poised for another stellar season

By JOHNNY McDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

With the creativity of young performers and some aspirations toward promising careers, Balboa Park's Casa del Prado Junior Theatre has opened its 64th season with "Annie."

Performers ages 8 to 18 will embark on an ambitious schedule of seven plays and musicals this season, including a Disney-supported workshop West Coast premier of "Peter Pan" in April 2012.

"Annie" opened on Oct. 28 in the 650-seat theater and will continue through Nov. 13.

"One of the perks of producing quality children's theater for 64 years is that we've built a reputation for excellence and innovation," said Theresa Wulf, who has been serving as interim executive director. She'll return to her community relations position now that Russell M. Maitland has been named executive director.

Maitland most recently served as the executive and artistic director for the South County Center for the Arts in Rhode Island. An accomplished actor, director and choreographer, he has mounted more than 400 professional productions.

"Annie" will be followed by "The Complete History of America" (abridged), "Harold and the Purple Crayon," "Schoolhouse Rock Live," "The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley," "Peter Pan," "Honk" and "Footloose."

"These shows will feature youngsters from all over the county," Wulf said. "What's unique [about the Junior Theatre] is all of our kids are enrolled in classes. They don't just pay a production fee to get on stage. They take a class and then audition for music, dance and improv in winter, spring, summer and fall sessions."

The children, she said, often get the chance to cut their acting teeth in the big leagues.

"Our kids are often participants in the Old Globe's 'Grinch' Christmas production each year," she said. "Those of high school age often serve as ushers and we partnered with them on the



San Diego Junior Theatre actors ham it up for the audience during a performance of "Willy Wonka" last year. Photo courtesy of San Diego Junior Theatre

production of "The Odyssey."

The junior theatre, founded by the late Old Globe director Craig Noel, works with various schools in the county — a move that helps broaden audience interest.

"We share lighting designers with the Old Globe and the La Jolla Playhouse," Wulf said. "We try to bring in high quality people, sometimes to direct."

As for the theatre's productions this season, Wulf is looking forward to setting some new precedents.

"We're excited to announce our partnership with Disney in producing the pilot production of 'Peter Pan,' a new musical based on their beloved film," she said. "It will be a West Coast and JT premiere. They want to workshop and tweak it so the Disney people will be working in concert with our artistic director."

The company draws more than just local audiences, Wulf said, recalling the production of Nancy Drew a couple of years ago.

"There are Nancy Drew Societies and clubs all over," she said. "One club came by bus from Chicago to see the show."

Richard Grossman's Musical Performance

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- Please complete at least 50% of the ballot.
- One ballot per person.
- Ballots must be submitted online, or mailed, by **Dec. 2nd, 2011.**

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- Ophthalmologist
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- Pet store
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- Resale shop
- Shipping / Packaging
- Shoe store
- Tax Prep
- Web Design
- Women's apparel
- Workout Spot
- Yoga



Occupy San Diego protesters march through the streets on Oct. 9, shortly after the protest began earlier that month. Below, they stand in the space they've occupied at Civic Center Plaza since Oct. 7. Police forcefully removed the protesters for illegal lodging on Oct. 28.
Photos by PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

OCCUPY

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

law.

Using social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, protesters were able to regroup quickly. By sunrise on Oct. 28, marches and protests throughout the city had already been planned and assembly begun. Before sunset that evening, an estimated crowd of more than 1,000 people, including demonstrators and supporters, returned to the Civic Center Complex to begin reoccupying the plaza.

"We weren't doing anything wrong. In fact, we were doing a lot right by offering food, medical care and safety to anyone who was with us," said Jason Brock, a local musician who voluntarily left the plaza before arrests were made. "More than half of those among us are homeless and many of them are young graduates unable to find work. This is one of the problems we are protesting against and we should be working together as a country to fix it."

There is another side to the issue, however — that of those who may be adversely affected, but who are not necessarily the target of the protests.

Long said businesses operating in and around the plaza have been affected since demonstrators began occupying the area on Oct. 7. Unruly behavior and unsanitary conditions have driven away customers, he said.

"They're killing my business," said Peter Perez of Brooklyn Dogs, a hot dog vendor who has operated in the plaza for the past eight years. "I'm part of the 99 percent too. I'm a small business, not a big corporation."

Perez expressed frustration at the lack of support from local

elected officials who he said claimed to be powerless in the situation. Rather than address the protesters, Perez said, they have been hiding in their offices. Perez has reportedly closed down his concession indefinitely. He left no word on when, or if, he will return.

A spokesperson for District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer said Faulconer believes freedom of speech is a right fundamental to democracy and he has personally spoken with Occupy demonstrators in front of City Hall and has listened to their public testimony during City Council meetings. Faulconer said he believes the Occupy demonstrators are exercising their right to assemble and the police department is working to enforce the city's laws. He said his top priority is public safety and he expects the police department to make decisions that are in the public's best interests.

For Brock and some of the protesters, the purpose for the raid ran deeper than simply breaking up illegal lodgers. He pointed to a row of more than 20 homeless people sleeping on the floor alongside a parking lot on Second Avenue across from the Sempra Energy building filled with black and white patrol cars, where police had set up their base of operations and were transporting arrested protesters.

"What's the difference if they're sleeping here or in the Civic Center?" Brock asked. "This is the SDPD's way of trying to prove they have the upper hand."



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Downtown Drink Shrink

Jeff Josenhans

Many know me as a spirits and cocktail guy in San Diego, and there is certainly no denying I have a hard time resisting a good single malt or a Manhattan as soon as the weather shifts. But what I actually look forward to the most as we creep toward winter is wine. I am privileged enough to oversee the wine list here at The US Grant, and I have a few favorites I'm leaning toward

this fall.

Red, full-bodied wine in particular is pleasing to the palate at this time of year. For some reason, heavy-hitting reds always seem not only to taste better, but to feel better, too, when the weather turns a little colder outside.

My favorite November grape? Syrah. And with the economy in the state it is, syrah is a great value grape that will pack a lot of punch into your wine purchase this holiday season.

The varietal finds its traditional self in the northern Rhône Valley in Southern France — a mecca for syrah drinkers, if you will.

This is where I learned to appreciate syrah, and anyone who splurges on a \$30 or more bottle of wine should not pass on an opportunity to try a good Cornas, Hermitage, or Côte-Rôtie. These wines tend to be peppery and dark, perfect with braised meats, sausages, and heavier food often associated with the oncoming of winter. For Thanksgiving this year, why not skip the traditional zinfandel and try a Washington syrah?

Washington is producing some of

the best value wines in the nation right now, and syrah from this state is said to most resemble the Rhône outside of France, but with more fruit.

For those prime rib dinners, venture to pair a Santa Barbara syrah or a shiraz from the McLaren Vale in Australia. The math on these wines is really simple in a value-to-quality ratio: you are simply getting twice the wine as you would for your traditional Napa cabernet sauvignon.

My advice this holiday season: skip Napa and head for syrah.

— Jeff Josenhans is a sommelier and director of outlets for the US Grant. He won the Gold Key Award for Best Food and Beverage Hotel Manager.



Tap Hunter: a mobile resource for beer enthusiasts

By KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

With the third annual San Diego Beer Week kicking off Nov. 4, San Diego proves itself once again as a leader in the craft beer scene, boasting about 40 breweries in the county.

Although Beer Week presents a special calendar of more than 300 beer-focused events in various local restaurants, a new business office headquartered in the Gaslamp Quarter provides technology to connect beer drinkers with their beverage of choice every day of the year.

Tap Hunter allows people to search what's on draft at restaurants and bars in their immediate vicinity directly from their computer or mobile device.

Located in the Marston Building at 427 C St., Tap Hunter is a fast-growing startup launched in 2009 by Melani and Jeff Gordon.

"Tap Hunter tells you what's on tap and where in San Diego and across the U.S. at over 100 breweries," said Melani. "Using a web application with GPS, it lets people

explore new beers and different locations."

The Gordons initially established Tap Hunter as a streamlined solution to an inconvenience shared among beer aficionados.

"We're fanatics about craft beer," said Melani, "so when we would get ready to go out, we'd have to check five different websites, look at calendars, read newsletters — just to find out where there was good beer."

Launching this month from Tap Hunter, CraftBeerCareers will connect people working in the craft beer industry so they can discuss career opportunities.

During November, Tap Hunter will be collecting nominations and votes for their second annual Brewery Awards. Fans will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite brewery and submit brewery stories to be judged by the public.



Tap Hunter founders, husband-and-wife team Melani and Jeff Gordon started the venture because they were frustrated by constantly searching for resources on San Diego craft beers. Courtesy photo

Tap Hunter released a holiday gift guide Nov. 1 for the serious beer drinkers, suggesting a new product or craft beer device weekly.

For more information and to begin hunting for favorite brews, visit www.taphunter.com.

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NEWSbriefs

Impact of lengthy Harbor Drive pipe project may be softened by schedule

A city water line that runs underneath the runway at Lindbergh Field must be moved to Harbor Drive next spring to accommodate airport construction plans, but the city says traffic impacts will be lessened because the work will be done at night.

The new pipe will run mostly along the eastbound sides of North Harbor Drive and W. Laurel Street between Terminal 1 and Pacific Highway, said John Harris of RBF Consulting, who addressed members of the North Bay Community Planning Board on Oct. 19.

The project, which should break ground next spring and take up to eight months to complete, will knock out two lanes during work times. However, all lanes should be available between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m., Harris said.

Another part of the project will replace 4.4 miles of pipe beginning on North Harbor Drive west of the boat channel. This part will begin in the spring but will require 18 months to complete, said John Stohr of the city's Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

Besides North Harbor Drive, affected streets will include Nimitz Boulevard, Roscrans Street, Locust Street, Evergreen Street, Avenida de Portugal, Cañon Street, Hugo Street, Catalina Boulevard and Point Loma Avenue.

Both parts of the project will replace five miles of cast-iron pipe and one mile of asbestos-cement pipe at a cost of \$13 million, Stohr said. Over the next 10 years, the city plans to replace roughly 100 miles of cast-iron pipe, which was installed in the 1940s and '50s and is now rapidly deteriorating, causing sinkholes and traffic messes, he said.

In other North Bay planners news, Kenneth Rae is the newest board member, replacing Tony Lombardi, who recently moved to Chula Vista. Rae is the vice president and director of employment services at Veterans Village of San Diego.

—Tony de Garate

Twenty-year Navy proposal stalled

The California Coastal Commission determined that the Navy's downtown redevelopment proposal — which was approved by the commission in 1991 but never started — is no longer valid because conditions downtown have changed drastically over the past two decades, making the project inconsistent with the Coastal Act in terms of public access, safety, view corridors and other criteria.

The 20-year delay was initially caused by an economic downturn and base closures in 1992.

More than a decade later, the Navy entered into an agreement with developer Doug Manchester, who proposed a Pacific Gateway redevelopment plan on a 4-block site south of Broadway between North Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway.

The gateway plan would develop nearly 3 million square feet of mixed-use office, retail and hotel space and replace the Navy's existing regional headquarters at no cost to taxpayers.

At the meeting on Nov. 2, the commission urged the Navy to reconcile the plans to the changed circumstances downtown such as the U.S.S. Midway Museum, Petco Park and proposed expansion of the Convention Center.

Mark Delaplaine, the commission's director of federal consistency issues, said the commission's determination does not alter the timeline for the Pacific Gateway project because there is neither financing nor strong demand for the new development.

—Mariko Lamb

Downtown News reporter wins two journalism awards

San Diego Downtown News reporter Kai Oliver-Kurtin took home two awards from the 38th annual San Diego Press Club Excellence in Journalism Awards,

held in Balboa Park's Hall of Champions on Oct. 25.

Her article "Downtown's design demigods: A selection of the most outstanding design downtown has to offer," which ran in the June 2011 issue of the *Downtown News*, was awarded first place in the non-daily newspapers architec-

ture and design category.

Winning second place in the non-daily newspapers food and restaurant category was Oliver-Kurtin's article, "Gaslamp eateries cater to the locals," from the July 2011 issue.

"It's really gratifying to receive acknowledgement for your hard work,"

she said. "Writing is a labor of love and I truly enjoy all the components that go into crafting the perfect article."



Kai Oliver-Kurtin

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ONFOURTH

Toliver's ill-fated dirigible

San Diego history:

By JOHNNY McDONALD
DOWNTOWN NEWS

Long before anyone envisioned airline travel, enterprising Charles H. Toliver convinced San Diegans that he had an airship that would transport people to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The big "lift off" day would be Nov. 11, 1911.

His whale-like dirigible — 250 feet long and 40 feet in diameter — became the awe of many, including several gullible investors.

It had four 18-horsepower engines driving six propellers, one on each end of the envelope and two on either side. They were mounted so they could be adjusted in any direction and thus eliminate the need for a rudder. Each of the engines had 25 gallons of gasoline and 10 gallons of oil available for the trip.

Nine years of work at a cost of \$60,000 went into the Golden Hill project at 32nd street, between B and C streets, to ensure the Toliver Aerial Navigation Company had the premier mode of transportation on the West Coast. It was to accommodate 40 passengers.

Curious crowds, including a nervous group of stockholders, gathered in anticipation of a great day in aeronautical achievement.

Toliver's wife, Kate, determined to be at her husband's side in the ship's control room, had brought aboard about 20 fried chickens and four crates of sarsaparilla for the crew, hopefully enough to last for a long-distance journey to San Francisco.



Charles Toliver's infamous dirigible sits in a construction pit just days before its ill-fated attempt to fly to San Francisco on Nov. 11, 1911. The airship was constructed in what is today the Golden Hill neighborhood, near 32nd and B streets.

Photo courtesy of the San Diego Air and Space Museum

Toliver believed his moment had arrived. The anchoring lines were cut and the men at the handling lines were at the ready. The engines were started, one at a time. Then, Toliver looked out of an open window and gave the command: "Let her go!"

The men at the handling lines obeyed the order and stepped back. The engines revved, maybe in agony. "Let her go! Let her go!" was the repeat command. Then he ordered all ballast be released.

The gas-powered engines started and the aluminum propellers spun. The *San Diego Union* would report: "It quivered for a few breathless moments, threatening to rise, then settled down again."

The spectators' disappointment was

nothing compared to that of the inventor at that terrible moment when his airship did not respond. His pride and joy was stuck in a pit.

Afterward, he believed he might have been successful had he made the attempt later in the day, when the sun could warm the hydrogen enough for takeoff.

Six days later, newspaper headlines declared the Toliver I a deadly menace to the community.

Toliver was ordered to remove the danger immediately and let all the gas out of the envelope. A city councilman suggested someone make holes in the

SEE HISTORY, Page 19

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An Occupy San Diego march snakes its way through downtown on Oct. 9.

PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

PROTESTS

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

to carry on a good candid dialogue and come up with solutions that will please everybody.

In an interview prior to the Oct. 28 raid, Long said since the first day of the demonstration, depending on the level of activity, between six and eight officers had been patrolling the Civic Center Plaza on a round-the-clock basis along with one sergeant. To do so, he said, the department has been pulling resources from throughout the city to augment staffing at the Civic Center and central patrol, which has minimized the need for paid officer overtime. Long could not confirm any delays in wait times for service calls, but he said extra pressure is being put on other commands to keep up with the added need for officers to protect the public's safety.

While attending a show at the Civic Theatre, Hank Newman of Bonita, a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Navy said he fully supported the demonstrators' right to protest, but doesn't believe it will do any good.

"From my standpoint, none of these politicians or big time CEOs seem to care," Newman said. "I would like to see it make an impact, but if you look around, this demonstration is made up of primarily homeless people that are only here for the free food."

Pat Gracian of Clairemont, a longtime peace and environmental activist said she supports the OSD movement because she feels helpless about the state of the U.S. government, which she believes has been taken over by corporations and the powerful. Although she is not one of the occupiers, Gracian has been participating in the protest since day two.

"The American people have been very trusting and we expected that if we did the right thing, things would be better, but that isn't the case," Gracian said. "I've signed petitions and visited congressmen, but all of that is a waste of time. It doesn't matter which party gets into office, we still get the same results."



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Race for the Cure to race through Balboa Park

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

More than 15,000 participants will take part in the Susan G. Komen's Race for the Cure series — the largest series of 5K runs and fitness walks in the world — to raise funds and awareness to fight against breast cancer, celebrate breast cancer survivorship and honor those who have lost battles with the devastating disease. Breast cancer will affect nearly 50,000 men and women in San Diego this year.

This year's "Racing for our Lives" event will take place in Balboa Park on Nov. 6 at 8 a.m.

This year, Komen San Diego will honor businesswoman, breast cancer awareness advocate and mother Ingrid Qua as the 2011 Honorary Breast Cancer Survivor. Qua will serve as the spokesperson at the event, addressing the audience at the start of the race and leading runners and walkers in a pace car.

"We selected Ingrid because she is such a tremendous example of strength and the will that it takes to survive this disease," said Laura Farmer Sherman, executive director of Komen San Diego. "Even in a time when she is receiving

treatment, she is powering through gracefully. This woman is doing bootcamps while many would never even consider getting out of bed."

Proceeds from the race will provide men and women in San Diego County with services, including free mammograms and diagnostics, medical treatment for qualified breast cancer patients who cannot afford care, support services, education about the warning signs of breast cancer and funding for cutting-edge breast cancer research.

Participants can register as individuals, join an existing team or form a new race team. Those who will be out of town, working or just want to stay in bed that morning can also "Sleep in for the Cure" or simply donate to the cause. Entry fees are \$23 to \$55 per individual.



Participants in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure wave to the camera during a previous event. The race makes its way through Balboa Park on Nov. 6. Courtesy photos

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Living legends come to town, truly in a league of their own

By KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

There was definitely no crying in baseball for the women of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL). Serving as the inspiration for the hit movie "A League of Their Own," these women were pioneers in the male-dominated sport. More than 35 former players visited the USS Midway Museum on Oct. 21, offering autographs, holding a Q&A session and reuniting with fellow players while enjoying their emblematic flick.

The fear of ticket sales falling due to the large number of young male baseball players drafted into military service during World War II was the catalyst for Philip Wrigley of the Chicago Cubs to explore alternative solutions. A committee proposed a women's league to help fill the stadiums that sat empty 50 percent of the time.

AAGPBL players were recruited from across the U.S. and Canada, some praised for their flexible wrists as a result of milking cows on their home farm and others having only ever had the chance to shag balls while their older brothers

"We paved the way for Title IX and women being able to receive scholarships through athletics."

MAYBELLE BLAIR
Former pitcher, All-American Girls
Professional Baseball League



Maybelle Blair was a pitcher for the Peoria Redwings as a member of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League during World War II. More than 35 former players for the league – the inspiration for the hit movie "A League of Their Own" – visited the USS Midway for a Q&A and a screening of the film on Oct. 21.

PAUL HANSEN | Downtown News

practiced the sport.

Rookie players were paid about \$50 per week, with an additional \$3 per day to eat while on the road. Wearing pants in public was strictly prohibited – a skirt or dress was required to get off the tour bus, even in the middle of the night.

Of the more than 600 women to play in the now-defunct league during its heyday in 1943 to 1954, only about 200 are still alive today. Mostly in their 80s and 90s now, the women are an extremely close-knit group of friends that still recount their memories of playing baseball at an unprecedented level, while living a luxurious life of travel and often earning higher salaries than their fathers.

"The most meaningful aspects were

the friendships and the competitive spirit of the sport," said Maybelle Blair, former pitcher for the Peoria Redwings. "The whole point is to win, after all."

Blair is a sprightly 84-year-old who claims she "grew up teething on a baseball." She idolized her older brothers who played the sport, but judging from her freshly-painted magenta nails and snazzy sunglasses, she felt right at home playing the potentially rough game while wearing a dress.

Aboard the Midway, hundreds of fans – many star-struck young girls – waited in long lines to have their baseballs, bats, trading cards and jerseys autographed by the living legends of the

SEE BASEBALL, Page 19

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NOVEMBER 2011 | VOL. 12, No. 11



Food and wine on the bay

By LORALEE OLEJNIK | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Foodies and gourmands alike will delight in the return of one of the top gourmet events in Southern California: The San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival, hitting America's Finest City Nov. 16-20.

The eighth annual festival will offer an array of cooking classes, wine tastings and banquets hosted by top chefs from across the country.

"Our lineup of culinary and wine tasting classes this year is truly exceptional," said Michelle Metter, a partner in Fast Forward Event Productions, organizers of the weeklong celebration of all things food and wine. "The festival brings the wine country into the backyard of San Diego, giving close access to celebrity chefs, legendary winemakers and sommeliers."

Metter said the festival drew more than 10,000 people last year from every state in the U.S. and some visitors from Canada, Europe, Australia and Mexico, highlighting San Diego as a food and wine destination on par with other major cities.

The festival's cooking classes, held during the week downtown and in Mission Valley, provide opportunity to learn from leading food and wine talent from across the country. Classes this year include instruction on Belgian beer tasting and pairing, an Italian Master Class by chef Suzette Gresham of Acquerello in San Francisco, a Super Chef All Stars seafood class featuring former contestants from Bravo's "Top Chef," and a taste of the Mid East by chef Billy Strykowski, executive chef of *Cooking Light Magazine* and a veteran of the festival. Strykowski is an East Coast chef whose cooking classes are as enter-

taining as his food is delicious.

A 1930s/40s vintage jazz-themed reserve wine tasting will be held at the San Diego Air and Space Museum Nov. 18. Also new this year is a day excursion to Rancho La Puerta Resort and Spa in Mexico. The package includes round-trip transportation, use of spa facilities, a culinary class and dinner.

The Grand Tasting, the festival's culminating event, will be held Saturday, Nov. 19 at Embarcadero Park North behind Seaport Village. It will feature 170 wine and spirit purveyors, live entertainment, food from dozens of San Diego's leading restaurants and a "Chef of the Fest" competition, where chefs compete live for \$50,000 worth of cash and prizes, as judged by a panel of celebrity and professional chefs. Last year's winner was chef Robert Ruiz of Harney Sushi.

Following the Grand Tasting event is the All-Star Mixologist after-party to be held at the US Grant Hotel from 8 p.m.-midnight — another new addition this year. Featuring the city's top mixologists from Grant Grill, Prohibition and Nobel Experiment to name a few, the party will benefit the San Diego Bar Guild, a member organization of mixology professionals.



The eighth annual San Diego Bay Wine & Food Festival hits the bayfront from Nov. 16-20. Courtesy photos

the city working at the same bar helping each other out.

It's really an incredible pool of talent and they will all be doing their own style."

The festival concludes on Sunday, Nov. 20 with the Celebrity Chef Luncheon and American Institute of Wine & Food (AIWF) Big Bottle Auction, a six-course luncheon and wine pairing held at the Marriot Marquis. Proceeds from the event, including live and silent auction items, go toward AIWF scholarships. To date, the festival has raised more than \$180,000 to help culinary students in San Diego advance their education.

Tickets for the Grand Tasting event range from \$125-\$175 and can be purchased in advance online. The event sells out so presale is strongly encouraged. Cooking classes range from \$45-\$85 and are held at the San Diego Wine and Culinary Center, 200 Harbor Drive, and the Macy's School of Cooking located in the Macy's Home Store in Mission Valley, 1555 Camino De La Reina. Tickets for the All-Star Mixologist after party at the U.S. Grant will be sold at the door. Weekend getaway package deals are available with several participating hotels downtown and in other areas of San Diego. For more information about the festival lineup or to purchase tickets, visit www.worldwineevents.com.

Bartenders will donate their time and talent for the evening, the proceeds of which go toward "making better bartenders and increasing the standards of the industry in San Diego," said Jeff Josenhans, who directs food and beverage at the US Grant. "It's the only time that you will be able to see the best bartenders in

Grub Sprawl is back — with an Italian flair



Indigo Grill will participate in the Little Italy Grub Sprawl on Nov. 14. Courtesy photo

By MARIKO LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Grub Sprawl is back again this month, hitting up its fifth location in Little Italy on Nov. 14 from 6 to 10 p.m. for one night of hearty \$5 dishes at some of the neighborhood's best eateries.

San Diego-based marketing and communications agency Alternative Strategies will give participants the chance to try new, affordable dishes at 10 participating restaurants in the charming former fishing neighborhood known for some of the city's best Italian cuisine.

"We decided to do the Grub Sprawl in Little Italy this time around because it's one of San Diego's best culinary neighborhoods," said Lauren Kennedy, Alternative Strategies representative. "Last month's Grub Sprawl in La Jolla was a huge success and we're excited to offer great Italian flavors in Little Italy this time around."

The communications company decided to hold the monthly gastronomic grub tour to showcase the growing restaurant scenes in San Diego communities in a fun, affordable way.

"We were representing the 'Taste of' events and thought these are really unique in that you can taste a lot of food choices," said Kennedy. "This is a

bit different in that guests can choose three or four spots from a variety of restaurants, see the menu beforehand, and sit down inside the restaurant for a meal."

Despite the \$5 price tag, restaurants do not skimp on the meals. The Glass Door at the Porto Vista Hotel will offer two satisfying options including bacon bleu mussels atop linguini or a lasagna cupcake with truffled Portobello, ricotta cheese, mozzarella and garlic pesto bread.

Other meal options include St. Tropez's quiche Lorraine with salad and a toasted baguette, Caps Pizza and Bar's 7-inch pizza with three toppings, and Princess Pub & Grille's fish and chips.

The Grub Sprawl tour has already made successful stops in North Park, Coronado, Hillcrest and La Jolla with an increasing number of Grub Sprawl groupies attending each month.

Participants can pick up a complimentary wristband and map at 5:45 p.m. from The Glass Door at the Porto Vista Hotel, located at 1835 Colombia St., for the chance to grub on good eats at some of the Little Italy's best restaurants.

For more information about Grub Sprawl, visit www.grubsprawl.com or call (619) 858-0322.

Thanksgiving — without the mess

Don't feel like slaving away in the kitchen on Thanksgiving, only to be serving turkey leftovers for weeks? Here are a few alternatives to save time and mess in the kitchen that could be better spent with loved ones on Thanksgiving.

- Instead of being stuck in the kitchen all day, pick up professionally prepared signature side dishes by **Deborah Scott, executive chef of Indigo Grill**. On Nov. 22 and 23, Scott will offer savory options, including butternut squash soup, corn pudding and Indian bread pudding that are easy to reheat and ready to supplement any meal. Reheating instructions are included in the order and puddings are packaged in oven-ready containers. Orders must be placed by Nov. 20 and the side dishes will be ready to be picked up on Nov. 22 and 23 between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. To place orders, call Indigo Grill, located at 1536 India St., at (619) 234-6802.

- **The Prado in Balboa Park** is offering a three-course Thanksgiving meal for \$50 for adults and \$13 for children. Starter choices include butternut squash soup, baby beet salad or farmer's mix salad. Main entrees include choices of oven-roasted turkey breast and turkey confit, red-wine braised beef short ribs, oven-roasted whole Idaho trout, roasted pumpkin risotto or a Thai-style yellow curry chicken and red pepper pappardelle.

For dessert, choices include pumpkin flan, a chocolate decadence pyramid



or gingerbread spice cake. To make reservations, call (619) 557-9441. The Prado in Balboa Park is located at 1549 El Prado.

- For a more unconventional approach to Thanksgiving, **Bertrand at Mister A's** is dishing out a modern take on the traditional feast with a three-course prix fixe menu created by chef Stephane Voitzwinkler. Guests can choose between hot and hearty soups, fresh salads or macaroni and cheese with black truffles. Main dish options include an oven roasted Diestel turkey, pan seared white sea bass, slow roasted Brandt Farm prime rib or a 48-hour Creekstone braised short rib. For a divine ending, choose between Tahitian vanilla scented crème brulee, Julian's Apple Tarte Tatin or a traditional profiterole. The three-course dinner menu will be available from 12:30 to 9 p.m. for \$60 per person. Children's menus are also available for just \$25. To make reservations, call (619) 239-1377.

— Mariko Lamb

The Bangles, ukeleles and trumpets, oh my

LIVEMUSIC

By BART MENDOZA | DOWNTOWN NEWS

No one would blame the Bangles if they were to rest on their laurels and trot out greatest-hits-styled shows. However, while most of their 1980s contemporaries have long since faded away, the Bangles continue to release great new music such as their latest disc, “Sweet-heart of the Sun.” The band stops in at the House of Blues on Nov. 10 at 8 p.m. Rest assured, the Bangles will play all their old favorites as well, including “Manic Monday” and “Walk Like An Egyptian,” but this is one show where you won’t mind hearing the new stuff as well.

The Bangles, Thursday, Nov. 10 at **The House of Blues**, 555 Fifth Ave. 8 p.m. 21 and up. \$20-\$40. www.thebangles.com

You might not know his name, but you’ve surely heard the guitar playing of bluesman Johnny Vernazza, who appears at Patricks II on Nov. 12 at 9 p.m. One of the hottest players in California for more than four decades, Vernazza has performed with many top names, but it’s his work with Elvin Bishop in the 1970s that sealed his rep, playing on all the classics, including the evergreen “Fooled Around and Fell in Love.” A chance to catch a player of this caliber at an intimate venue like Patricks II shouldn’t be passed up.

Johnny Vernazza, Saturday, Nov. 12, at **Patrick’s II**, 428 F St. 9 p.m. 21 and

up. www.patricksii.com

Somehow the words virtuoso and ukulele don’t seem to go together, but that perception changes as soon as you hear Jake Shimabukuro, who appears at Anthology on Nov. 19. In his hands, what may be a child’s toy to many, transforms into a concert instrument. Shimabukuro’s astounding fretwork is sure to leave you dazzled with sets that range from Hawaiian classics to amazing covers of such tunes as “Bohemian Rhapsody,” all of which showcase his fluid style. No mere gimmick, Shimabukuro is easily in the same class of fret players as Tommy Emmanuel and Peter Sprague.

Jake Shimabukuro, Saturday, Nov. 19 at **Anthology**, 1337 India St. 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. 21 and up. \$10-\$49. www.anthologysd.com

Trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos is renowned for his tribute shows, and his latest, in honor of keyboardist Herbie Hancock at Dizzy’s on Nov. 19, should thrill local jazz aficionados. Castellanos will be joined by pianist Joshua White, drummer Kevin Kanner and bassist David Robaire for a run-through of Hancock’s classic tunes. Hancock has had a long, illustrious career, but this show will center on his earliest music from the sixties and seventies. While songs like 1980s hit “Rock It” won’t be part of the program, anyone who likes their jazz vintage and cool, will find much to enjoy at this concert.

A Tribute to Herbie Hancock, Saturday, Nov. 19 at **Dizzy’s**, 200 Harbor Drive. 8 p.m. All ages. \$15. www.dizzys-jazz.com

With a sound that takes in elements of



The Bangles, above, will please crowds with old favorites as well as new releases. Below, Jake Shimabukuro creates a big sound with a little ukulele. Courtesy photos

1980s rock, synths and dance rhythms, 321 Stereo has been packing them in at local venues over the last year. The group finally releases its debut album on Nov. 18, with a special performance and party planned at the Stage. The key to 321 Stereo’s success is hook-filled tunes, like “Take Me Up,” with instantly memorable melodies and dance-floor-filling beats. The band has an arsenal of great songs that stand up well alongside its influences like Pat Benatar and Scandal, all with a modern pop edge. It won’t be long before 321 Stereo are playing much bigger rooms than the Stage.

321 Stereo, Friday, Nov. 18 at **The Stage**, 762 Fifth Ave. 7 p.m. 21 and up. www.321stereo.com

Serial tunesmith Mike Viola performs at the Casbah on Nov. 27 at 9 p.m. His songs can be heard everywhere from Many Moore’s latest disc to the recent film comedy “Get Him To the Greek,” though perhaps his most recognizable tune is as a vocalist on the theme song to the film, “That Thing You Do.” Viola sang the actual vocals mimed to by the fictional Wonders. Anyone who enjoys classic songwriting as practiced by the



likes of Phil Seymour, Fountains of Wayne or Marshall Crenshaw will want to hear this gifted artist.

Mike Viola, Sunday, Nov. 27 at **The Casbah**, 2501 Kettner Blvd. 9 p.m. 21 and up. \$20. www.casbahmusic.com

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- Spicy Beef Salad with Cashew, Mint, Lemongrass and Crispy Shallots
- Seared Yellowtail with Mixed Greens, Cucumber, Carrot, Daikon and Ponzu Vinaigrette
- Lobster with Grapefruit, Green Beans, Ginger Dressing and Lemon Verbena Aioli

ENTREES

- Curried Potatoes and Peas with Naan Bread
- Seared Scallops in a Red Curry Sauce
- Sea Bass with Lemongrass and Green Onion
- Spicy Chicken Sautéed with Lemongrass, Basil, Peanuts and Sweet Potato Crisp
- Quail Stuffed with Quinoa, Black Currants, Baby Carrots with Curry Sauce
- Filet Mignon with Potato Gratin, Glazed Shallots, Haricot Verts with Tamarind Sauce

STIR-FRY

- Beef with Lemongrass & Onions
- Tofu & Seasonal Vegetables
- Sweet & Spicy Shrimp with Pineapple and Cashew
- Spicy Chicken Sautéed with Lemongrass, Basil and Peanuts

SIDE

- Steamed Jasmine Rice
- Serenity Fried Rice
- Rice Noodle
- Spicy Lentils
- Naan Bread
- Sautéed Seasonal Vegetables

DESSERTS

- Sorbet Trio (Grapefruit, Mojito, Pineapple)
- Coconut Flan with Banana Carmel Essence
- Pear Tart with Plum Ice Cream
- Kaffir Lime Pie with Graham Cracker & Marshmallow
- White Chocolate Mousse with Carlsbad Strawberry Ice Cream



HISTORY

CONTINUED FROM Page 14

envelope with long wooden poles, explaining that would not cause sparks that could ignite the dangerous gas.

But treacherous storm winds on Dec. 20 reduced the airship to a shredded pile of silk, aluminum frames and miles of piano wire. It released the hydrogen that still may have remained in the hull and had frightened city officials. It looked like a giant had stepped on it.

Toliver, meanwhile, soon faced other issues. Some investors complained their shares of stock were unmarketable. One shareholder filed a lawsuit, alleging problems with Toliver's bookkeeping.

The city Health Department then announced the remaining hydrogen in the airship had become "highly explosive and exceedingly dangerous" to the community. Toliver was ordered to "abate the nuisance" by deflating his airship "forthwith."

Toliver's ambitions, in turn, were deflated as well. As for his investors, they didn't take too kindly to his failed attempt at a foray into the air travel business.

On the evening of May 25, 1912, Herbert G. Lewis, Toliver's former secretary and chauffeur — and, more importantly, a disgruntled stock investor — waited in the shadows as Toliver and his wife returned home from an evening out. As they pulled into their garage, Lewis emerged and shot them both to death. After the police captured him, Lewis admitted his guilt, saying simply, "He ruined my home; if I had not done it, someone else would have had to."

Such is the dramatic end to the tale of Charles Toliver and his ill-fated airship.

Things turn seriously classical — or not

www.sdrep.org or (619) 544-1000.

THE LIVELY
ARTS
Charlene Baldrige

The epitome of classy

It's nearing the end of the centenary observance of Gustav Mahler's death, and San Diego Symphony music director Jahja Ling marks the occasion with the orchestra's first performance of the composer's final completed symphony, the Ninth, at 8 p.m. on Nov. 11 and 12; and 2 p.m. on Nov. 13 at Copley Symphony Hall, Seventh Avenue and B Street, \$20-\$85, www.sandiegosymphony.com or (619) 235-0804.

The other side of classic

San Diego Repertory Theatre artistic director Sam Woodhouse stages "The Great American Trailer Park Musical," a comic fable about the search for love and happiness at Armadillo Acres, a 1980s trailer park. It plays Wednesdays through Sundays at the Lyceum Theatre Nov. 5 to Dec. 4, 79 Horton Plaza, \$29-\$53,

A show about a classic

Broadway/San Diego presents "Come Fly Away," the Broadway musical revue that brings together music made famous by legendary singer Frank Sinatra and the choreography of Twyla Tharp ("Movin' Out"). Performed with a live, 14-piece big band and 15 dancers, Nov. 8-13, San Diego Civic Theatre, 202 C Street, \$20-\$79, www.sandiegotheratres.org, www.ticketmaster.com or (619) 570-1100.

Bacharach's new show

The Old Globe presents the world premiere of Steven Sater ("Spring Awakening") and Burt Bacharach's new musical, "Some Lovers," based on the classic O. Henry novel, "The Gift of the Magi." The Academy and Grammy Award-winning Bacharach creates an original score promising your new favorite tunes. Plays Tuesdays through Sundays, Nov. 26 to Dec. 31 in the Sheryl & Harvey White Theatre, Conrad Prebys Theatre Center, Old Globe, 1363 Old Globe Way, \$29 and up, www.theoldglobe.org or (619) 23-GLOBE.

BASEBALL

CONTINUED FROM Page 16

AAGPBL.

"We paved the way for Title IX and women being able to receive scholarships through athletics," said Blair.

After a panel discussion with a few of the players, audience members watched the feel-good movie with admiration, alongside the real-life celebrities who relished in the splendor of their glory days.

Behind-the-scenes Hollywood secrets

were uncovered during the Q&A discussion, revealing the baseballs used on set were actually tennis balls covered in horsehide to protect the actresses' hands; Geena Davis' famous catch while doing the splits were actually the legs of her male stunt double; and Madonna's grandiose catch in the outfield was actually caught by a man behind her, and subsequently dropped directly into her glove. The women praised Madonna for her toughness while doing take after take of sliding head first into third base and defended coach Jimmie Foxx (on

It's all
Happening!
Marc & Darlynn Menkin

There are several new happening spots in the 92101 ZIP code. Here are two that are worth checking out this holiday season.

The scene in Little Italy is about to get more colorful with the opening of **UnderBelly**. The unusual name is a tribute to traditional Japanese ramen houses, specifically paying homage to the prized porcine underbelly cut, favored by Tokyo's revered gods of ramen.

The happy hours have a great deal for beer lovers. From 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, the local draft beers are buy one, get one free. The creative juices behind this new addition come from Consortium Holdings, best known for bringing us a number of other downtown eclectic spots like Neighborhood, Craft & Commerce, Noble Experiment and El Dorado. Although there are countless varieties of ramen noodles served throughout the world, each is traceable to one of four basic foundations — and as such, three to four regional options (always including a vegan alternative) will be

New adventures
in drinking and
dining

available along with assorted toppings, pork buns, gyoza and light appetizers.

One of the walls at UnderBelly features a 15-foot living version of Andy Warhol's portrait of Mao Zedong, created by Black Lotus using more than 3,200 individually planted succulents. In an era where large plasma TV screens can be found at most bars, the owners of UnderBelly say they're trying to swim upstream. Their philosophy is that a space should inspire conversation and foster charisma, thoughtful dialogue and ideas. We're looking forward to warming up a cool night with this new dining adventure!

At the recently unveiled Hotel Palomar, **Saltbox Dining & Drinking** is an innovative, gastro-lounge located at 1047 Fifth Ave. City dwellers may recognize this address as the former Suite

SEE HAPPENING, Page 25

POKEZ

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Ice Cream Sandwich A huge scoop of chocolate or vanilla ice cream stuffed between two of our fresh-baked cookies. Your choice of peanut butter, chocolate chip or oatmeal raisin. (Pictured Above)

Chocolate Heaven Cake Decadent chocolate cake layered with chocolate mousse and a rich chocolate ganache.

Reese's Pie Dark chocolate and peanut butter mousse loaded with Reese's® Peanut Butter Cups.

Red Velvet Cake Brilliant red velvet cake layers, spread with deep chocolate truffle filling, then filled and frosted with tangy cream cheese icing.

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This Thanksgiving, have your feast — and fitness, too

By *Connie Cook* | Guest Columnist

When Thanksgiving rolls around, most fitness writers will caution you to avoid one day of gluttony and speak to the evils of pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes and second helpings. The truth is, if you're already conscious of what you eat and are in the habit of making good choices, you'll probably do the same on this day as well. Otherwise, your overconsumption might be just like any other day in your life. I'm assuming you will simply eat till your belly hits its limit and enjoy every bite of it. So go ahead and chow down. It's what keeps me in business.

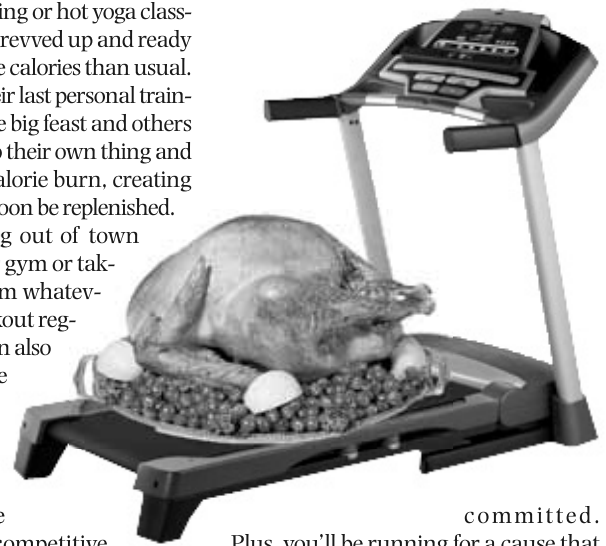
Instead, let's talk about what you'll need to do after the fact; that's where I come in. If your "calories-be-damned" attitude takes control of you like your Angry Birds addiction, then let's take a hard look at what you'll need to do to even it all out. According to the American Council on Exercise, a typical Thanksgiving feast can add up to about 3,000 calories. To put it in perspective, a 160-pound person would have to run at a moderate pace for four hours, swim for five hours or walk 30 miles to burn off a 3,000-calorie Thanksgiving Day meal. Who wants to learn that lesson after the fact? If you plan ahead, you can minimize the effects of your overindulgences.

At Fit, we offer morning workouts on Thanksgiving Day that are high-intensity and fun. Our members participate in

cycling, weight training or hot yoga classes to get their bodies revved up and ready to take on a few more calories than usual. Some come in for their last personal training session before the big feast and others simply show up to do their own thing and get their pre-meal calorie burn, creating a deficit, of sorts, to soon be replenished.

If you're traveling out of town and away from your gym or taking a brief break from whatever your regular workout regimen may be, you can also offset some of those calories by planning activities that engage the family like flag football, golf (without the cart), or even a competitive game of Wii sports. A simple stroll around the neighborhood to explore new territory can burn off about 100 calories in 25 minutes, not to mention provide a little stress relief that is sometimes needed when too many relatives gather in one place.

An event that has gained popularity over the years — and is a great way to get everyone involved in a Thanksgiving workout — is to participate in a Turkey Trot. These 5K events not only get you moving but also raise money for different charity organizations to help those in need. Involving friends and family in the run will make it more fun and keep you



committed. Plus, you'll be running for a cause that is really more important than yourself.

So this Thanksgiving, before you pack on the calories, why not pack on a few miles? You'll feel healthier for doing so and less guilty when you go for that second helping. Most importantly, remember the reason we celebrate Thanksgiving is to express our gratitude — not just for smart phones, daily deals and the Backstreet Boys touring with the New Kids on the Block — but for our country, your family, friends and pets and all the simple things that make life great.



Connie Cook "C2"
Fitness Director
Fit Athletic Club

Newbreak Cafe

Established in 1993, Newbreak has remained a well-known brand in Ocean Beach. With two thriving locations in the heart of Ocean Beach, Newbreak serves a delicious full flavor fare paired with amicable customer service and enthusiasm. For years, Newbreak has been the local cafe for Obecians, tourists, and other San Diegans. Its family orientated and homey feel gives customers a reason to continually patronize Newbreak.

It serves delicious breakfasts, bagels and homemade spreads, healthy options, sandwiches, wraps, smoothies, espresso drinks and much more!

For breakfast, enjoy hearty menu items such as the well-known favorite, the Sunrise Sandwich, which is compiled of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage and cheddar cheese on a bagel. The breakfast burrito is another delectable item, which includes eggs, bacon, onions, roasted chilies, and potatoes, served in a wheat or flour tortilla with homemade salsa and/or sour cream on the side. Birchmuesli our yogurt and fresh fruit recipe has been named as one of the "25 things you must have before you die" by the Union Tribune.

Savory lunch selections include the Pesto Melt, which is a vegetarian's delight. Recommended on a Ciabatta, it includes pesto tapenade, vine ripe tomato slices, cucumbers, onions marinated in balsamic vinegar, with melted mozzarella cheese and sprouts. The Rockin' Turkey Wrap aims to please any hungry person! A flavorful wrap is filled with roasted turkey, bacon, avocado, red onion, tomato, swiss or pepper jack cheese and lettuce. The Waldrof Wrap is another tasty homemade sensation made up of diced chicken, granny smith apples, red grapes, walnuts in a light curried dressing served with shredded lettuce.

Newbreak continues to pride itself in serving only the freshest products along with smiles and friendly service. Newbreak has many regulars who frequent the cafe daily, but always welcomes to any new additions that come into town. With all of these delicious menu offerings, rich coffee, and premier espresso to serve the coffee connoisseur quite the flavorful latte, mocha, or macchiato, Newbreak maintains its mission...

"is to provide our guest the experience of a full flavor of quality service, rich in the aroma of smile and wrapped in a robusto blend of enthusiasm."

Windermere Signature Gives Back to Senior Community

On Friday, October 21, 2011, the agents and staff at Windermere Signature Properties took the day away from the office to participate in a company-wide, annual Community Service Day event at the Gary and Mary West Senior Center at 1525 4th Avenue downtown.

Windermere Signature Properties donated \$1,000 to become the very first



"Family for the Day" program of food from the heart which covered the cost of over 400 meals for the day. In addition, agents Mike Acker and Jeff Nix



gave a presentation on tenant rights to a large group of seniors. Sarah Scott, Pamela Freeze, Chi Luong and Raye Scott treated many of the ladies to manicures. Denny Oh, Kea Bensen and Jeff Douglass helped seniors in the Cyber Café. Jorge Verdugo, Jorge Castellon, Amanda Shelley, Carlos Pastrana and the other agents took turns serving lunch. Cindy Davis and Robert Whalen participated in the delivery service of meals to homebound seniors.

Over 300 Windermere offices chose projects in their communities and donated more than 55,000 hours of service. Windermere's Community Service Day is nationally recognized as a model hands-on volunteer program. Since its inception in 1989, the Windermere Foundation has raised more than \$22 million to support local service programs. Windermere Signature Properties is located in at 560 First Avenue.

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A cultural gathering of the first people

Everyone's welcome to Old Town San Diego State Historic Park for a cultural gathering; Matayum (pronounced: May a tum, "gathering"). Friday, November 11th from 11 AM to 4 PM. Free event.

American Indian Warriors Association (AIWA) Color Guard begins the celebration with the presentation of the Colors, followed by Guest Speaker, California Congressman Bob Filner, and Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Veterans' Affairs; Recognizing the many Native Americans who have served or are currently

serving our country. According to AIWA, "Native Americans have one of the highest records of service per capita, of any ethnic group".

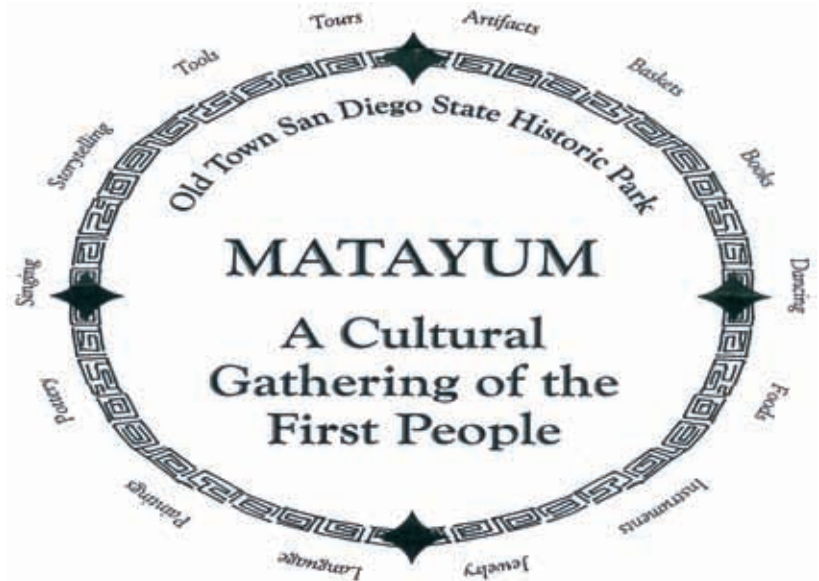
Visitors will experience numerous venues promoting the rich history of Native American culture.

Ever wonder what it was like to be one of the first children in what we know as the U.S.? Step back in time as you gather with the first people through interactive exhibits, storytelling, and demonstrations. Discover the different medicinal uses of California's native plants.

Families will be introduced with

basket weaving, food demonstrations, tours of California's native plants and trees, artifacts, paintings, jewelry, artisans and craftsmen and much more preserving the rich heritage of Native Americans.

The event is sponsored by the Tafoya family, Tafoya & Son Pottery, Tafoya Jewelry, and San Diego House Coffee & Tea. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street, and is conveniently next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, trolley, and MTS bus service. For more information call 619-574-0989.



Friendly Sons of St. Patrick holding third annual "Fiesta de los San Patricios"



Celebrating the historic love affair between Mexico and Ireland, Fiesta de Reyes is hosting the popular "Fiesta de los San Patricios" on Saturday, Nov. 5, with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, America's oldest fraternal organization. The goal of the event is to eat great food, enjoy a drink with friends and raise funds for Operation Caregiver which sends 'comfort kits' to U.S. Marines fighting at some of the most isolated posts in the world.

Featuring traditional Irish music and a blend of Mexican and Irish food, the celebration is a remembrance of "Saint Patrick's Brigade," a legendary artillery unit led by Irish immigrants who became a one of the Mexican Army's most highly decorated brigade during the Mexican-American War.

Members of the Rose-Ritchie Academy of Irish Dance will perform to traditional Irish music on the Fiesta de Reyes stage after the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will serenade the audience. The event features a special menu of \$2 Guinness Stout, corned beef tacos and potato flautas.

Admission to this event is free. The event begins at noon and ends at 2 p.m. Fiesta de Reyes is a plaza of 18 shops and three restaurants within Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Located at Wallace and Calhoun streets, Fiesta de Reyes is a one-block stroll from the Old Town Trolley Station. Free parking is available in the Caltrans parking lot all day on weekends. All shops are open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call (619) 297-3100 or visit www.FiestaDeReyes.com.

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A recluse and prolific artist makes his posthumous mark on Little Italy

By WILL BOWEN | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Clay Walker (1924-2008) might have become an American Picasso, but in the second half of his life when his career was approaching a zenith, he chose to withdraw into the life of a recluse, shunning the company of his contemporaries and turning his back on commercial success to make art for art's sake, and showing it to nobody.

Perry Meyer of Meyer Fine Art, 2400 Kettner Blvd. Suite 104, rediscovered Walker through Walker's widow Muriel, who currently lives in the house Walker built in Vista. In the hopes of bringing Walker back into the limelight, Meyer became the exclusive distributor of Walker's work. Meyer, who does not give evaluations of artists readily, said Walker is "one of the best artists in the country. He was way ahead of his time."

Meyer will be showing Walker's art in two phases, in conjunction with the show "Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980." Spearheaded by the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time (PST), which will take place over the next six months, is a collaboration of more than 60 galleries all across Southern California, who are working together to celebrate, commemorate and archive the formative years of the Los Angeles art scene.

The first phase of Walker's showing at Meyer Fine Art will

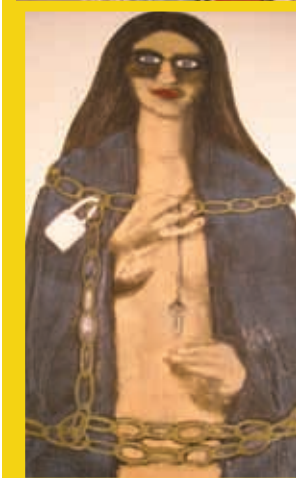
run from Nov. 11 to Dec. 24, and will exclusively showcase Walker's work. The opening of the exhibit will run in conjunction with Little Italy North's Nov. 11 "Kettner Nights" from 6 to 9 p.m.

The second phase of the Walker exhibition will run from Jan. 1 to April 1 and will feature Walker, along with other prominent Southern California artists from the same period, like Barney Reid, Dan Dickey, Belle Baracean, Michael O'Mara and Allan Morrow.

Meyer is joining other San Diego galleries — The Mingie, R.B. Stevenson, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego and Loft99 — all of which are participating simultaneously in PST.

A fascinating abstract artist with a wide range of interests, Walker's work is sometimes defined by symmetrical design and pattern art characterized by rich colors, juxtaposed odd shapes and diverse patterns with clear, clean lines. A Native American influence in the form of north West Coast art can be found in his work, as can a strong tendency to use the landscape of the female body.

Walker often created dark etchings, drawings and paintings featuring women who were somehow socially imprisoned or suffering the ravages



Above, Clay Walker's piece, "Hope: An Experiment," begs questions from the viewer, as does his work, "Lola The Libber," left. Walker lived in San Diego toward the end of his life, after he became a recluse except to teach an art class at Poway High School.

Photos by WILL BOWEN | Downtown News

SEE ART, Page 24



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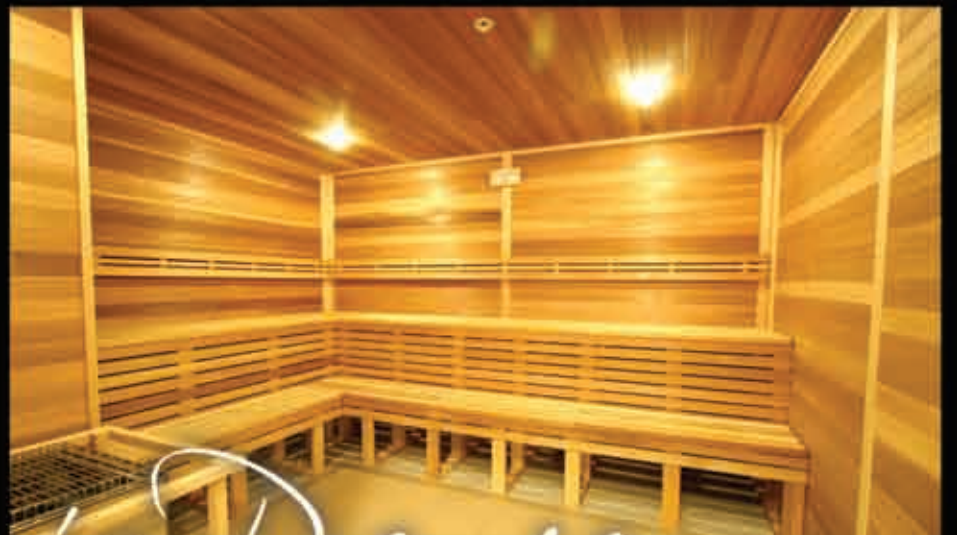


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This holiday, San Diego goes to the dogs

Petco and the Petco Foundation are calling all animal lovers to take part in the second annual National Pet Food Drive to help pet parents in need provide a healthy and plentiful holiday season for four-legged family members. The National Pet Food Drive kicked off Oct. 30, and will last through Sunday, Nov. 13.

During the two-week drive, consumers can pick up extra food or litter during their shopping trip or bring unopened cans or bags from home and drop it into specially marked pet food collection bins located in each of the more than 1,100 Petco and Unleashed by Petco stores nationwide. Throughout the drive, Hill's Science Diet will match, pound for pound, every bag of dog and cat food donated, up to 100,000 pounds.

"We believe no one should have to give up their pet companions due to financial distress, and our associates and customers agree," said Paul Jolly, executive director of the Petco Foundation. "Last year's drive provided more than 90 tons — that's almost 200,000 pounds — of pet food for families in

need, an incredible gift leading into the holiday season and such an easy way for people to help keep pets well-nourished and with the families who love them in tough economic times. We hope to double that this year, so we're asking the communities we serve to give a little extra and help us raise awareness for this important year-round program."

Since the National Pet Food Bank program launched in March 2010, Petco and the Petco Foundation have collected and donated nearly a million pounds of pet food and litter to families in need. Each Petco and Unleashed by Petco store has collection bins available for year-round collection and each store partners with a local food bank or animal welfare group to ensure donations are provided directly to economically stressed pet parents in that store's community.

In addition to the opportunity to donate, Petco has also partnered with VolunteerMatch, the nation's largest network of volunteer opportunities, to give pet enthusiasts around the country an easy way to volunteer in support of

the pet food drive, as well as find other volunteer opportunities in their area. For the second year, Best Friends Animal Society® will support the national food drive by mobilizing its nationwide network of volunteers to register for the event and help drive awareness of the program.

To register as a food drive volunteer, visit www.petco.volunteermatch.org and select "Petco Foundation Pet Food Drive." Volunteer opportunities are open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the pet food drive. Once registered, volunteers can pick a Petco store location and volunteer time slot of their choice, and will be eligible to sign up for other volunteer opportunities in the future.

To learn more about the Petco Foundation and how you can make a difference for animals in your community and across the country, visit www.petcofoundation.org. To learn more about Petco or to find a location near you, visit www.petco.com.

Other opportunities to spend time with your furry friends this holiday season:

• **Buck a Beer:** Head to Rock Bottom

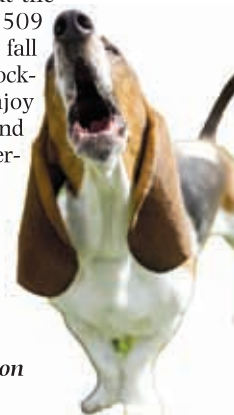
in downtown San Diego for a Winter Wheat Beer Tapping Party. Brew master Jason Stockberger will be in the bar discussing Rock Bottom's latest and greatest beer, Winter Wheat. Enjoy complimentary samples of the beer and food from the winter promotional menu.

Mike Myrdal of Stepping Feet will be providing live music. Rock Bottom San Diego has teamed up with the San Diego Humane Society (SDHS) and will be donating \$1 per Winter Wheat beer sold to the SDHS along with auctioning gift baskets. For information, call (619) 231-7000 or visit www.rockbottom.com/san-diego.

• **Canine Cocktails:** Join friends, both furry and not, at the Indigo Hotel, 509 Ninth Ave., for a fall themed canine cocktails event. Enjoy cocktails, treats and food up on the terrace.

For information, call (619) 727-4000 or visit www.hotel-sandiegodowntown.com.

— *Contribution*



HAPPENING

CONTINUED FROM Page 19

& Tender at the Se San Diego. Led by executive chef Simon Dolinky, this chic restaurant has a fun, approachable feel that's all about sharing.

"Our dishes are meant to be shared and encourage interaction and conversation. The cocktails work in tandem with the food to enhance the overall dining experience," said Dolinky. Foodies will enjoy Dolinky's appreciation for local San Diego purveyors and farm-fresh ingredients. Some of the standout dishes we sampled include the Brussels sprout salad, shrimp ceviche tacos and the short rib grilled cheese featuring manchego cheese and sauce piquante. One of our favorite dishes was the lobster corn dogs — the perfect blend of fresh lobster flavor combined with a sweet and crunchy corn-breaded exterior complemented with a tasty homemade ginger remoulade. After guests wrap up dinner, they can always head downstairs to Saltbox Lounge featuring an impressive cocktail list that runs the gamut from Prohibition-era classics to Saltbox originals.

ART

CONTINUED FROM Page 22

of aging on their physical beauty. Another trend is the abstract landscapes denoted by blobs of color that splash up against each other with energy, movement and ragged edges.

It is easy to wonder what an abstract artist like Walker is trying to say.

"I don't try to figure out what an artist is trying to say, you could never figure it out," Meyer said.

In his notes, however, Walker wrote, "My objective as a painter is to develop a significant means of seeking out, clarifying and interpreting man's inner nature

and the relationship of man to his environment."

Born in Middleboro, Ky., Walker was a descendent of Dr. Thomas Walker of Virginia, an explorer who helped discover the Cumberland Gap. When he was six years old, Walker's family moved to Toledo, Ohio. As a child, he always had a sketchbook in hand and was interested

in education. An infantry man who taught small arms and martial arts, during World War II, he was wounded and recovered in England, where he met his wife.

In 1950, Walker earned a bachelor's in painting from the University of Toledo and later a master's from Kent State, with time spent studying at Oxford University in England and Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris.

In 1963, Walker moved from Texas, where he was the director of The San Antonio Art Institute, to Los Angeles in order to join the art scene. After a stint teaching at Long Beach State and Chouinard School of Art, he moved to San Diego in 1968 and became a recluse — except for teaching part time at Poway High School.

Meyer has a great deal of Walker's work, from his notebooks to his actual etching plates, and allows the art patron to sort through all of this to contemplate what Walker was all about from top to bottom.

For further information, visit www.plmeyerfineart.com, call (619) 358-9512 or email info@plmeyerfineart.com.

We want to hear from you!

Another hidden gem in Little Italy is Kettner Nights, the bi-monthly popular art walk event that takes guests through the businesses and studios on Kettner Boulevard. This month, the event will be held Nov. 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. Take a creative photo with you and one of the artists in a freeze-frame action or dance pose. The best picture wins two tickets to a Downtown Amazing Race/ Scavenger Hunt and a guided hike through the canyons near Bankers Hill and Balboa Park. Email us your photos at tours@wheretours.com

— Marc & Darlynn Menkin are the co-owners of *Where You Want To Be Tours*. Many of their tours and teambuilding scavenger hunts feature secret Downtown areas. www.wheretours.com.



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Dr. Raffy Dorian

Whether you have a pudgy pooch or a flabby tabby you need to get the pounds off to add years to your pet's life. It is estimated that least 40% of all dogs and cats are overweight. Being overweight is not just a cosmetic issue. Recently, a ground breaking study revealed that pets fed fewer calories actually lived on average 2 years longer!

Just like us, obese pets are more likely to have health problems than their leaner counterparts. Obesity can lead to heart disease, diabetes, joint disease, respiratory disease, cancers and many other serious diseases. Many of us are guilty of giving our pets table scraps and extra food. Excess caloric intake is the most common cause of obesity in pets. Lack of exercise and certain diseases such as hypothyroidism can also lead to obesity.

Fortunately, there are steps you can take to help your pet lose weight. See your veterinarian for an examination and possible blood tests to rule out underlying diseases. During the examination your veterinarian will use a body condition score to determine whether your pet is overweight. A quick test to check your pet for obesity is to try to feel your pet's ribs on both sides of their chest. There should only be a small amount of fat over the ribs. If you cannot feel the ribs then your pet is most likely overweight!

Ask your veterinarian about the appropriate amount and type of diet and treats to feed your pet. Avoid table scraps and excessive treats. Exercise your pet at least twice a day to help your pet shed those extra pounds. Keeping your pet lean will help your furry friend live a longer, happier, healthier life.

Threads get Bohemian and dramatic



Fashion Files

Diana Cavagnaro

Thread Show

The Thread Show, held on Oct. 9 at the Horton Plaza Event Center, drew shoppers in droves. Opting not to have a fashion show this year so they could add additional booths, organizers managed to make the venue a fun afternoon with one-of-a-kind, wholesale and bargain items. Clothes, hats and jewelry were just a few of the great things for sale.

Premium tickets, complete with a

gift bag worth \$30, were sold this year so shoppers could start their hunting one hour before everyone else. In conjunction with nonprofit Plant-It 2020, a tree was planted for each ticket sold, giving shoppers some good karma along with their good finds.

A wellness lounge with complimentary massages, free mini manicures and a clothing swap greeted shoppers, and one section of the event featured an art gallery where visitors could witness artists painting all day.

Some favorite standouts of the day were ABBL Swimwear with matching accessories, Micha Design with vintage and one of-a-kind pieces, One/2's eco-friendly or re-purposed items and Camellia's beautiful wedding flowers. Love Tatum designs created incredible jewelry with taking semi-precious stones and 24kt Gold using a technique developed by NASA.

For dates and times of the next shows check out www.threadshow.com.

Boho chic

The Westgate Hotel and Zandra Rhodes presented a luncheon and fashion show on Oct. 20. The theme for the collection was Boho Chic, bringing Rhodes' designs direct from London down the runway. Rhodes' specialty — beautiful, flowing, sophisticated silk textile prints — was accented with jewelry from Adele Marie and Andrew Logan and hats from Designer Millinery. The hair and make-up reinvented the Bohemian look for models and TV Stars such as Angie Lee (Ch.8-CBS), Pat Brown (10 News), Megan Tevri (NBC) and Itica Milanes (10 news).

International food consultant and cookbook author Jeanne Jones created the delicious luncheon, and Larry White performed on the piano while patrons dined. Proceeds from the afternoon benefited The American Friends of the Zandra Rhodes Museum, which features exhibits of British fashion and textile designers. Currently, the museum is showing "Rebel on the Row," by Tommy Nutter.

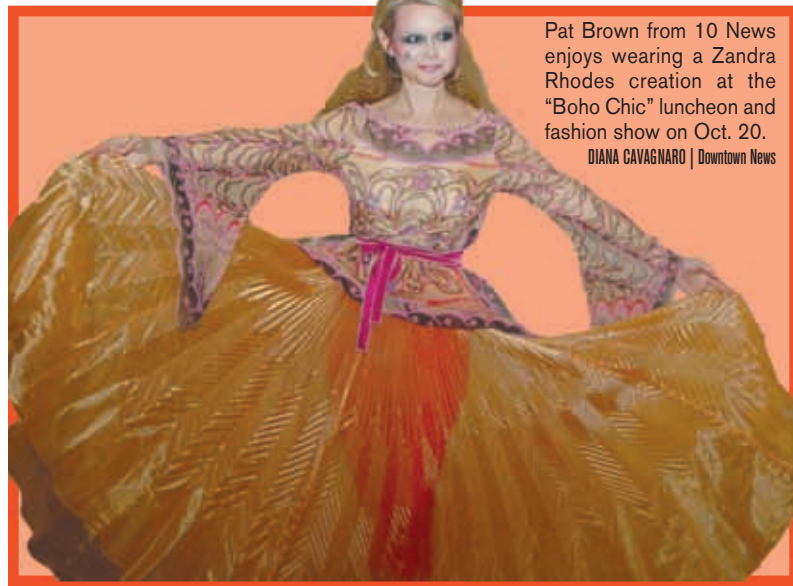
After the show, guests were able to go back stage and try on the fabulous pieces of work. If you missed this terrific fashion show and would like to see these beautiful creations, make an appointment by calling the Zandra Rhodes Studio at (858) 792-1892.

Exhibit Ambush

Exhibit Ambush came to Horton Plaza Event Center on Oct. 22, bringing emerging fashion designers and artists. Executive producer Antoinette Love Ransom created the event for a multi-sensory fashion and art show, which began with a VIP social hour. Guests enjoyed artwork by SoulDriven while watching live painting and performances by a Michael Jackson impersonator and Rock So Fresh.

The main event — a fashion show hosted by Yara Sofia from Ru Paul's Drag Race, whose goal is to design a clothing line with costumes — began with the glamorous gowns of Andre Soriano, inspired by past Hollywood sirens like Jean Harlow and Marlene Dietrich. The chic outfits of Molly B were accented with the must have leather accessories from Jimothy at Chi Stylez.

The finale featured the "Haus of Estrada," featuring the designs of Jesus Estrada from Project Runway and his brother Antonio Estrada. Having just returned from New York Fashion Week showing their Spring/Summer 2012



Pat Brown from 10 News enjoys wearing a Zandra Rhodes creation at the "Boho Chic" luncheon and fashion show on Oct. 20.
DIANA CAVAGNARO | Downtown News

collection, they wowed the audience with their designs and larger-than-life heels. The climax of the collection was the dramatic entrance of Sofia on the runway showing off a mermaid gown that she had modeled in the "Haus of Estrada" collection at New York Fashion Week.

Upcoming events

• **Friday, Nov. 18: Melero Fashion Show and Cocktails.** Ruth Melero's unique fashion sense at the exclusive cocktail and couture event featuring the most glamorous collection of European celebrity designer at the Westgate Grand

Lobby. 6 p.m., \$25 per person, (619) 557-3655.

• **Tuesday, Nov. 22: 32nd annual Charger Blood Drive** presented by the SD Blood Bank at the Town & Country Hotel. Gretchen Productions will present a fashion show at 6:30 p.m. featuring Chargers players and their families on the runway wearing fashions from various local boutiques. (619) 296-6393.

• **Monday, Dec. 5: The fourth annual Best Dressed & Fashion Show** by Leonard Simpson of Fashion Forward at Ramin Porteymours Estate in La Jolla at 7 p.m. By invitation only.



4th Annual Gaslamp Holiday Pet Parade

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gaslamp.org

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Space is limited! Registration & check-in begin at 1pm the day of the event. Visit the Pet Expo from 1pm - 5pm. Parade begins promptly at 3pm.










The Gaslamp Quarter Association is partially funded by The City of San Diego's Small Business Enhancement Program.



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Announcements, photos and story ideas are welcomed. We ask that content be sent at least one week prior to publication and include valid contact information.

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Spotlight on Seaport

Hats off to Village Hat Shop

Village Hat Shop owner Fred Belinsky was one of the first — if not the first — tenant in Seaport Village, opening up shop at the bayside location in 1980 one month prior to the grand opening of the village itself.

The former university instructor moved his wife, golden retriever and three-month-old son across the country from Michigan to bargain on a business venture that he originally knew little about, only that it was wildly successful at the time.

"Hats were selling well nationally in 1979 and 1980," he said. "Specifically, Western hats were hot. The TV show 'Dallas' and the John Travolta movie 'Urban Cowboy' were driving cowboy clothing, hats included."

After only one short year of selling cowboy hats like crazy, "it happened," he said. "It's legendary in the hat industry. One day in April 1981, people stopped buying Western-style hats. It was as if an announcement came down from the heavens, 'Ye shall not buy a cowboy hat.'"

And then, it was over.

Well, just the cowboy hat phase. Belinsky, the son of a merchant, knew that fads fade and he would have to roll with the

tide.

"The good news was that my location, Seaport Village, was a winner," he said. "The bad news was that the décor of the shop, the hand-carved cowboy hat signs, the business cards and letterhead, the fixtures, the inventory — all that I knew about hats — was built around a single style that was no longer selling."

So he became immersed in the hat world, checking out merchandise at the Los Angeles Mart, flying to trade shows across the country and walking the streets in New York City's millinery district finding out everything he possibly could about the accessory he was determined to sell. He and his wife, Tina, even traveled to China, Korea and Ecuador to check out hat manufacturing hubs around the globe.

He changed the Western theme of the store to include a wider variety of styles ranging from sophisticated to silly.

By 1997, he had four stores in California, a couple of warehouses and was testing out a new sales channel via the



Fred Belinsky and his Village Hat Shop were one of the first tenants of Seaport Village in 1980. Courtesy photo

Internet.

Belinsky attributes part of the Village Hat Shop's success to the wide variety of styles offered by his shop — more than 1,000 different styles, not including colors and sizes.

"This breadth of selection, an early core value, is not the only thing that distinguishes us from the pack. One important difference is that we are for real. You know this when you come to our store," he said. "We know our products and we know the fundamentals of being good merchants."

— Mariko Lamb

BUSINESSbriefs

Restaurant gives to those who melt your heart

The Melting Pot Gaslamp is again giving back to the community this holiday season with its eighth annual "Thanks and Giving" campaign — a chance for restaurant patrons to contribute to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with the simple scribble of a pen.

Until Dec. 31, guests will see an extra line on their bill to give a small monetary donation to St. Jude, an internationally renowned child cancer and catastrophic disease treatment and research facility.

Since becoming a partner in 2003, The Melting Pot Restaurants, Inc. has generated more than \$6 million to support St. Jude's medical research and help families pay for treatment not covered by insurance.

The Melting Pot also offers year-round support for the research hospital through the sale of signature chocolate fondue bars. For every \$5 chocolate bar sold, \$1 benefits the hospital.

"Through these collaborative efforts among all of our restaurants, each of our guests have an opportunity to

make a significant impact in helping St. Jude children fight cancer," said Bob Johnston, president and COO of The Melting Pot. "Our family of restaurants and employees are very excited to know that their dedication and hard work touches the lives of so many children."

The Melting Pot Gaslamp is located at 901 E. Fifth Ave. For more information or to make reservations, visit www.meltingpot.com or call (619) 234-5554.

Spare change for change

The Downtown San Diego Partnership, in support of the Ending Homelessness Campaign, has installed Donation Stations — meters that accept spare change and credit cards — in downtown.

Part of the "Movin' Home" program, the money collected from the meters will help pay for move-in kits for the homeless that transition from the streets to supportive housing.

The organization will eventually set up 25 stations around the downtown core.

For more information or for locations of the donation stations, call (619) 234-8900.

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Because water is our most precious resource we are proud to announce we have helped save over 2 million gallons of fresh water to our environment, thank you to all our loyal customers for making this possible! Yes our advanced ECO-CLEAN formula is designed to let

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Electric Bike Center

Stop by Ivan Stewart's Electric Bike Center, San Diego's premier electric bike retailer, where we specialize in electric bicycle sales, rentals and repairs. Our inventory is all handpicked, and we retail only top of the line brands including eZee, Hebb, Sanyo and Juiced Riders. Whether you are looking to rent and cruise through Balboa Park, or desire a green and economic alternative method of transportation to and from work, Ivan Stewart's Electric Bike Center offers all of your biking solutions. Riding an electric bike requires no license,

registration or gasoline, and gives you the option to pedal or electronically cruise through town. The type of biking experience you want is literally at your fingertips. Join us every Saturday at the Little Italy Mercato from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., or cruise by the shop located at 2021 India Street in the heart of Little Italy. We are open Tuesday through Sunday 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions or would like to take a FREE test ride, call us at 619-564-7028, visit us online at www.iselectricbikecenter.com, tweet us at @eBike-SanDiego or visit our Facebook for upcoming deals and specials.

Tokyo, The Square Gallery London, Tensho Gallery Vancouver, Touchstone Gallery Hong Kong and Woodmere Art museum Philadelphia PA.

Representative corporate collections include ABN AMRO Hong Kong, China World Trade Center Beijing China, Four Seasons Riyadh Saudi Arabia, Hyatt Regency Hotel Hong Kong, IBM Chicago IL, Macau Golf & Country Club, Macau, Prudential Insurance Company Chicago IL, Schloss Hotel Austria, UMASS Memorial Medical Center Boston MA, and the Venetian Hotel Macau.

"Des Jardins...has an impressive range of invention."

—The Philadelphia Inquirer

"Des Jadin's works have a palpable energy"

— The Courier Times

"Paula's works are active and powerful."

— Décor & Style

Paula
des jardins

2400 Kettner Blvd. Studio 233, San Diego 92101
858.204.2636 www.pauladesjardins.com
padesjardins@sbcglobal.net

Paula Des Jardins

Paula Des Jardins, a Philadelphia native received her BEA from Rosemont college, and furthered her figurative studies at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Her subsequent move to Asia offered both a new perspective and palate as she continued her passion for painting. Tinges of that exotic environment can be seen in her contemporary abstract pieces. Her work is internationally renowned for her brilliant use of color, texture, light and powerful brushstrokes.

Happily living in San Diego for the past 10 years, Des Jardins is part of the downtown art community with a working studio in Little Italy. As described by Touchstone Gallery Hong Kong, her work is "... Modern art that will endure."

Selected exhibitions include Tokyo museum of Art

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Downtown • “Harbor Club”

If you're seeking a privileged lifestyle in the Marina District's premier, resort-style community with unbeatable, 360-degree views, privately keyed elevator access, over 4000 square feet of gleaming granite and the best of everything, don't delay! 38th-floor penthouse living + 5 secured parking spaces help make this residence super special!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5399



Downtown • “Electra”

One of the preferred floor plans at downtown's one-of-a-kind luxury community, this 22nd-floor, south-facing beauty enjoys gleaming wood floors and a den area in addition to approximately 1550 square feet, dual bedrooms and baths, & sweeping views!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5629



Downtown • “The Grande North”

Boasting sweeping Northwest water views from its 30th-floor perch, this stunning, two-bedroom + den features over 1600 square feet and upgrades galore! Don't miss out!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5349



Downtown • “Harbor Club”

This spectacular 'bubble unit' on the 33rd floor of the Marina District's premier, resort-style residential high-rise boasts a completely remodeled interior with the finest of finishes and phenomenal, 180-degree water views!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5289



Downtown • “Pinnacle”

This incredible 20th-floor residence with panoramic water views has been remodeled from top-to-bottom in a warm Moroccan-style theme. Super special with dual terraces and parking, plus pitted Venetian textured walls, gesso-finish doors, and Byzantine lighting!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5269



Downtown • “Watermark”

Elegant and spacious, this premium Northwest corner residence in the Marina District's landmark residential community boasts an expansive terrace, stunning views directly into Pantoja Park, 2 bedrooms PLUS a full-size den/office, and 2.5 baths! Two secured parking, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5419



Downtown • “Renaissance”

Boasting soaring 20+ foot ceiling in the living/dining area, this elegant town home features 2 or 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, street access + access from the interior of the community, dual parking, and over 2300 square feet of upgrades. Stunning!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5179



Downtown • “Horizons”

Boasts sweeping views to the Bay and city skyline, this lovely 2-BR/2-BA residence features an ambient gas fireplace, private view terrace, and dual parking spaces! Enjoy the lifestyle afforded at this premium Marina District locale!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5679



Downtown • “CityFront Terrace”

There is nothing comparable! Situated in the Marina District's only brick community, this street-level town home is reminiscent of a European chateau! Totally remodeled and re-crafted, it enjoys top-quality everything + dual terraces and dual parking.
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5719



Downtown • “Electra”

Life is good at Downtown's tallest luxury highrise at this split bedroom, west-facing residence with oversize terrace! Electra features it's own little bit of history, built around the historic SD&E Station B!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5099



Downtown • “City Walk”

You'll love life in this pristine town home in popular mid-rise community in the heart of the Marina District! Enjoy relaxing or entertaining on one of your two private terraces and descend only a few stairs to the street level-no elevator necessary-to walk the dog! Low HOA fees, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5639



Downtown • “Watermark”

This well-priced residence in recently renovated community enjoys a west-facing orientation, a private terrace looking toward the Old Police Quarters, and dual parking spaces!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5299



Downtown • “The Grande”

Stop here for the ideal first-time buyer or second home opportunity in one of Downtown's most desirable residential communities! Across from the Waterfront, this beautifully presented one-bedroom has it all for a bargain price!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5589



Downtown • “The Mark”

Ideal for first-time buyers, this unique 1-BR in sought-after community boasts almost 1000 square feet, a corner location and no shared walls, affording added privacy! You'll love the dual terraces, banks of sunny windows & the gleaming granite and stainless kitchen!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5189



Downtown • “Alta”

You've seen nothing like this re-crafted penthouse in one of downtown's most exciting residential high-rises! You'll love the sweeping south-facing views, top-of-the-line finishes, custom appointments & dual parking, for starters!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5319



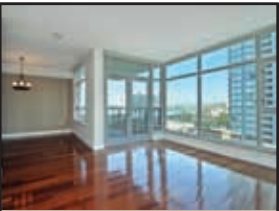
Downtown • “Watermark”

This top-floor penthouse beauty enjoys a sunny interior, a gleaming remodeled granite and stainless kitchen, lovely urban views, and almost 1800 square feet! How about 3 full bedrooms, all with walk-in closets (2 in the master!) and two and a-half baths?
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5329



Downtown • “Union Square”

Call to see this rare, 3-BR/ 2-BA in impeccable condition complete with granite kitchen and bath countertops, a private terrace, and dual parking spaces. Located in an FHA/VA approved community!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5449



Downtown • “The Grande North”

The lowest price for this floor plan in the community, you'll want to see this 2-BR/ 2-BA beauty with lovely city and bay views, an ambient fireplace, and oversize private view terrace! Sweet!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5149



Downtown • “City Front”

New on the market, take advantage of this street-level town home in classic brownstone-style community with access from the street as well as the common areas! Do some upgrading and take advantage of great pricing for over 1500 square feet and dual parking spaces!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5109



Downtown • “ParkLoft”

You will love this classic, street level loft complete with approximately 1500 square feet, high ceilings, sunny corner location, recently remodeled baths & exposed ductwork and cement ceilings! Dual parking + storage, too, with dual entrances, one off the street-ideal for dog-walking!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5129



Downtown • “Union Square”

Don't delay on this well-priced 2-BR with full-size loft and private roof deck! You'll love the soaring 2-story ceiling in living room, granite countertops in kitchen and baths, & dual side-by-side parking spaces!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5059



Downtown • “Pacific Terrace”

This fabulous new listing is a great opportunity to own a 2-BR residence in the heart of the Marina District with low HOA fee, dual side-by-side parking spaces, and upgrades that include stone & hardwood flooring! Priced to sell!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5139



Downtown • “Gaslamp City Square”

Motivated seller has priced this upgraded studio for a quick sale! It features a unique, courtyard-level terrace, new carpet and paint, stone flooring, new stainless appliances, and granite surfaces in kitchen and bath!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5649



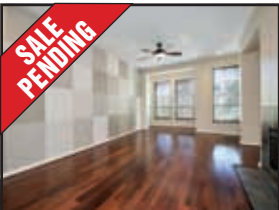
Downtown • “Sam Fox”

Owned by the developer of this historically-significant community, this 'true' loft enjoys windows to the vibrant city, cement floor, and exposed ductwork! Stone surfaces grace the bathroom and kitchen and the versatile floor space offers the buyer the ability to modify per his/her desires!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5609



Downtown • “Park Place”

You'll want to see this amazing 21st-floor residence with spectacular Southwest water views to Coronado and Point Loma! This popular split bedroom/ bath design enjoys a 2-sided fireplace, view terrace, dual parking, & upgrades galore! Furnishings negotiable!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5209



Downtown • “CityMark”

Priced to sell, this fabulous 2-bedroom row home is unlike no other! It features an oversize patio, 2-car parking with direct access, a warming fireplace, & gleaming granite kitchen. Hardwood floors, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5559



Downtown • “ParkLoft”

You'll want to see this authentic loft residence in Downtown's premier, East Village community near Petco Park! It boasts 10-foot, cement ceilings, exposed ductwork, remodeled baths, and approx...39 linear feet of organized storage! Sold for \$415,000!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5309



Downtown • “Park Terrace”

You'll be amazed at the Southwest-facing corner views of the Coronado Bridge and the ballpark from this 2-bedroom/ 2-bath residence, SHORT-SALE priced to sell! A large terrace and dual parking, too! Sold for \$425,000!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5489



Downtown • “Palermo”

Don't delay on this corner unit residence with lots of sunny windows and dual parking, short-sale priced to sell! Dual bedrooms and baths, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5279



Downtown • “Electra”

Take advantage of this super short-sale at one of Downtown's most unique and desirable luxury communities! Active city views, a split master suite design, and a spacious private terrace complete this pretty picture!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5429



Downtown • “Atria”

Take advantage of this amazingly low-priced studio in the heart of the Marina District! This hip, urban residence is ideal for first-time buyers looking to begin their homeownership journey!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5689



Downtown • “Acqua Vista”

Absolutely pristine, this adorable 1-BR in the heart of Little Italy features a massive wall of windows looking onto the city streets, a resort-style community & a price under \$170,000!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5709



Downtown • “La Vita”

You'll want to see this super 2-bedroom in popular Little Italy community, featuring two decks for a total sq. footage of almost 4000! Dual parking spaces and an ambient fireplace, too!
For full details in a recorded message,
call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5239

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