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San Diego Community News Network

Homeless in Hillcrest

\$50,000 outreach program launched by community leaders



(left) Thomas, 47, recently sought help through the Alpha Project's outreach team; (above) Alpha Project staff speaks with two homeless men in Hillcrest. (Photos by Hutton Marshall)

By Hutton Marshall | Editor

As April began in Hillcrest, so did the neighborhood's largest homeless outreach effort to date.

For the next year, two-person teams will roam the streets of Hillcrest five days a week, engaging with Hillcrest's homeless population to offer assistance and a path to stable housing. Amid what many

residents say is a rapidly growing problem in the neighborhood, Hillcrest's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) comes from a \$50,000 joint effort by the Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) and Councilmember Todd Gloria's office.

Gloria and the HBA chose the Alpha Project, a nonprofit based in Hillcrest, to oversee the program. With experience managing compre-

hensive homeless outreach programs, homeless shelters and transition housing throughout the region, local leaders say the Alpha Project's approach will benefit the businesses, the homeless themselves and the community as a whole.

The outreach team is the main thrust of the overall effort. Through it,

see HOT, page 10



Florence Elementary name-change effort put on hold

By Hutton Marshall | Editor

After a contentious six-month effort that began last fall to rename Hillcrest's Florence Elementary in honor of former state Sen. Christine Kehoe, local leaders behind the movement said the initiative is now on hold to allow for more community outreach and volunteerism to benefit the school.

The name-change campaign has been led by the GLBT Historic Task Force, which advocates for renaming entities after trailblazing LGBT leaders, such as San Diego's Harvey Milk Street.

When the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) staff held the first community-outreach meeting at Florence Elementary in October 2014, presentations by GLBT Task Force Leaders Nicole Murray Ramirez and Chris Ward came along with endorsements by a large cohort of elected officials, including Councilmember Todd Gloria, Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins, Rep. Susan Davis, Supervisor Ron Roberts and Mayor Kevin Faulconer. The Hillcrest Business Association and the Greater San Diego Business Association also read supporting statements.

Then the parents spoke. While some came prepared with statements questioning the political motives of the effort, others

see Florence, page 9

The big embrace of the McColls

Mission Hills resident recounts deep roots at St. Paul's

By Monica Medina



Bill McColl with design renderings for St. Paul's Plaza (Courtesy of Bill McColl)

The story goes that years ago, when a St. Paul's Cathedral congregant was on his deathbed, he urged his good friend, John A. McColl, to continue what he would be unable to complete. In other words, he wanted McColl to see to fruition a residential retirement community on property that he and several other church members had gifted to St. Paul, on the corner of Nutmeg and Fourth.

"Run with it, John!" is what McColl's son, Bill McColl, declares the dying man said. "Well, my father did that for decades. For 35 years he ran the board, was chairman, raised funds and volunteered, and my mother also got involved."

Along the way, Bill McColl and several other family members gave their time and resources to St. Paul's Senior Home & Services. You could say, helping to support an organization that has become the largest independent senior provider in San Diego, has truly been a family affair.

"As I grew up, St. Paul's was always a part of my family," recalls McColl, a Mission Hills resident, and vice president and financial advisor at Morgan Stanley. "I'm from a family of four boys. My parents both died in their early 70s, so when I'm here, I feel this is a way I can honor them. This is a way I feel connected. So

see McColls, page 4

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Old Town residents lament removal of Juan Street pepper trees

By Dave Schwab

A last-ditch effort is underway to save a row of 20-plus California pepper canopy trees in Old Town alongside Presidio Golf Course, which are imperiled by the Juan Street Improvement Project.

The \$8 million project seeks to implement Old Town Pedestrian Master Plan improvements addressing infrastructure deficiencies on Juan Street, one of San Diego's oldest roads.

In late August 2014, Mayor Kevin Faulconer and city officials held a press conference lauding Juan Street as a model project and "a perfect example of the city's 'One Dig' philosophy," a strategy enveloping multiple infrastructure improvements into a single project.

In addition to replacing the existing water main and storm drain, city officials said Juan Street will be repaved and its sidewalks replaced. Construction is taking place one segment of Juan Street at a time to minimize impacts on traffic.

The notion of the trees coming down has some neighbors, community planners and park enthusiasts riled.

"We're against it," said Thurston Coe, Old Town Community Planning Group chair. "At first [city officials] said it would be just a few trees — and now it's almost all of them."

Coe said the aging trees don't require much water and are part of historic Old Town's fabric.

"The city of San Diego is planning to remove more than 20 mature, 65-year-old pepper trees from Juan Street in the heart of Old Town and people are mad," said neighbor Maris Brancheau. "The city says the storm water drains they are putting in will include heavy equipment that will damage the trees' roots. The community wants the drain moved or the equipment scaled back, or any effort possible to keep the trees."

Brancheau added the sidewalk abutting the row of trees is "barely used as it is on the opposite side of Old Town State Historic Park."

"The trees, they're beautiful," said park sympathizer Annie Macpherson. "I hope there is a way that we can save some of these trees, or move them to another place."

A member of a Plein Air painting group, Macpherson and other artists spent a recent afternoon capturing the pepper trees, which have been targeted for elimination, in an effort to popularize their plight.

"We wanted to immortalize — and memorialize — them," she said. "If they have to come down, we'd like to have at least done something to preserve them through art."

After a careful examination of the row of pepper trees by experts engaged by the city, it was determined they had to go, said city spokesperson Mónica Muñoz.

"The pepper trees primarily on Juan between Wallace and Twiggs have lifted and cracked the sidewalks," Muñoz said. "These trees are no longer used when city projects require street trees because of the damage they do to the infrastructure and because of their classification as 'invasive.'"

Munoz said are two arborists engaged by the city on the Juan Street project evaluated all the trees along



Artists immortalized the pepper trees through their work. (Photo by Dave Schwab)



An Old Town pepper tree targeted for removal (Photo by Dave Schwab)

the alignment of the project.

"Both concluded that about 20 pepper trees needed to be removed because they would likely not survive the root pruning, the impact of the construction activities and the installation of the new improvements," Muñoz said.

Munoz said the Juan Street Project team met with local community planners and promised to "consider the option of having each tree evaluated as the sidewalk panels are removed. Once the roots are exposed, the condition of the roots ... and the overall health of the tree will be taken into consideration to determine if the tree can be left in its original spot."

All city sidewalk projects now include root barriers to prevent root intrusion," Muñoz said. "The tree roots would have to be pruned in order to install the barrier and when the roots are pruned, the canopy also has to be pruned to balance the tree."

"If a tree cannot be saved, another tree will be planted in its place," said Munoz, noting three species — the coast live oak, the evergreen oak and the cork oak — have been approved as part of the site development permit for Juan

Street project

"We understand the emotional connection to the pepper trees, but the City has to consider the health and safety of the public and the potential for damage by allowing trees to remain where they are when they may not survive," Munoz said.

The city's landscape standards, adopted in 1997, include the pepper tree as an invasive species that should not be used in public rights-of-way.

Councilmember Gloria's community representative Molly Chase said "Councilmember Gloria understands the important role the pepper trees along Juan Street play in the character of the community and has shared this concern with the project team. The councilmember has asked that city staff make every effort to save the pepper trees and protect them in place. If there are trees that the arborists determined would be irreparably harmed by the project, or would cause a health and safety concern to the public and cannot be saved, they will be replaced with trees that are approved by the city and were designated as appropriate replacements in the site development permit."

Old Town's pepper trees are deserving of protection, said Bruce Coons, executive director of Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO), the state's oldest continually operating historic preservation organization.

"The Peruvian (California) Pepper trees first brought here by the Spanish in 1830 are a symbol of early California, and a symbol of Old town," Coons said. "To remove these trees would be a big problem: Everybody loves them."

Coons lamented that San Diego used to be known for its tree-lined streets, which have largely disappeared.

"Every time a tree gets specimen-size, the tree people want to remove them," Coons said. "We've taken them all out. It's terrible."

—Contact Dave Schwab at dschwabie@journalist.com. ♦

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San Diego – A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of this matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and worse financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitles "The 9 Step System to Get your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar". To order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-270-1494 and enter 1000. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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(l to r) George Zimmerman, Rose McCormick, Darlene Wage, Bill McColl, Beth Rowe, Marjorie Spinner and Shirley Ferguson (Courtesy of Bill McColl)

FROM PAGE 1 MCCOLLS

many people here, who've been involved with the center for decades, knew my parents. For me it's an extension of their work and I love to do it."

McColl became involved some 15 years ago. Since then, he has served on two of its boards and, most recently he was the past chair of the operating board. His wife, Sandra, a pediatrician, volunteers as the executive director for the child-

care program. As for their children, Tiffany, Alexandra and Billy, they, too, help out when they can.

"During the holidays, the board hosts a tea for the seniors," McColl explains. "We take the orders, we serve the food, and my kids help. For an event like that, I feel bad leaving the kids at home, especially during the holidays, so I give them a nice lesson, they spend quality time with their dad, and we serve some nice seniors."

McColl has also been instrumental in bringing in employees from Morgan Stanley to volunteer at St. Paul's.

"I work at the downtown office, and they encourage us to volunteer," he says. "So, we'll bring some employees here to serve ice cream at the ice cream socials, one of the most popular events of the summer. We also wrap presents at Christmastime."

St. Paul's Senior Home & Services offers a gamut of services to approximately 1,200 seniors. There's independent living at St. Paul's Manor, assisted living and memory care at St. Paul's Villa, as well as an intergenerational day program — the first of its kind in California — where seniors and

young children can interact.

The organization also provides a skilled nursing facility, and participates in PACE (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly), a government program designed to help seniors meet their health care needs without needing to go into a nursing home or other care facility.

"When we started, we were just thinking senior retirement, but one of the things that I'm amazed at is we're in six different businesses," he says. "Everything from independent living and PACE, to the intergenerational program. Each of these programs has a whole litany of regulations that you must adhere to, and it's really amazing to me how the team here is able to do just that. There've been a lot of other facilities in town trying to do what we do here, but sooner or later they sell out. As the largest independent provider of senior services, we are headquartered here and make all our decisions locally."

Trying to stay one step ahead of the growing needs of seniors in San Diego — as the baby boomer population continues to age — is utmost on the minds of the 350 staff members of St. Paul's. According to Corporate Marketing Director Amanda Gois, the need to expand is pressing, as San Diego's senior population will be 30 percent larger than it is today in 10 years.

"Our vision is to keep our eye on the pulse of senior needs in San Diego," she says. We're always looking ahead, and we're in the process of building St. Paul's Plaza, a new community in Chula Vista, scheduled to open in June. It is designed for the senior of today who wants to be in a community where their families feel welcome and can come and visit, cook a meal

together in one of three common kitchens or watch a sports game at the community pub."

McColl is excited about the new complex, which will be equipped with barbecue facilities, a gym, pet-friendly amenities and a children's playground, although funding is still needed before the facility can be constructed. But raising funds is what he does best and seeing St. Paul's succeed gives McColl great satisfaction. He points to the national recognition St. Paul's has received as a testament to the work they do, and a signal that they're heading in the right direction.

"For the fourth year in a row, we got a five-star rating for our skilled nursing facility from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services," he notes. "St. Paul's has done a great job and is a great asset for the community. The five-star rating confirms this."

Plans are underway for St. Paul's annual LUV (Love Uniting Volunteers) gala, an event founded by Sharon McColl, Bill McColl's mother. Planned for July, the theme is, "Caribbean Nights." McColl smiles as he shares the "Save the Date" postcard, which lists the gala co-chairs. These include McColl, his brother, John, and his cousins, Carrie McColl O'Brien and Bonnie McColl Platt. It's also worth noting that the LUV gala will honor Dr. William and Barbara McColl, and they just happen to be McColl's uncle and aunt.

Luckily for St. Paul's, it seems like the man on his deathbed made the right choice in turning over the reins to John McColl.

—Contact Monica Medina
at monicastangledweb@gmail.com or
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UptownBriefs



The Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park (file photo)

SPRECKELS ORGAN TO BE WORLD’S LARGEST AFTER RENOVATIONS

San Diego has an impressive pipe organ on display operating on a regular basis at Balboa Park’s Spreckels Organ Pavilion. The organ has been expanding its number of pipes in phases over the last two years, helped along by generous donors. At 4,859 pipes, the organ is currently one of the largest in the world.

Recently the Spreckels Organ Society announced that its fifth and final phase is nearly complete, adding the 8-foot Crommorne and an 8-foot Solo Vox

Humana, each with 73 pipes, equaling 146. That number will give the 100-year-old Spreckels organ a total of 5,005 pipes, causing it to edge the 4,948 pipe Heroes Organ in Kufstein, Austria, as the largest.

Each rank costs \$25,000, and donations are still needed. Robert Palmer, an organ enthusiast and a recent member of Spreckels Organ Society, was the donor that put the “Drive to 5,000” campaign in its final stretch, while an anonymous donor has offered to match every donation, pipe by pipe, to allow completion of the final phase. To donate, visit [spreckelsorgan.org/drive-](http://spreckelsorgan.org/drive-to-5000)

to-5000. “With the goal in sight, it is our hope to announce the completion of this exciting project before the end of the Centennial Summer International Organ Festival in August 2015,” stated George Hardy, president of the Spreckels Organ Society in a press release. “Every pipe sponsored gets us that much closer to that objective.”

Balboa Park’s Centennial celebration was the impetus for the Drive to 5,000 campaign, which has so far consisted of four funding phases: Centennial Tuba, for which \$72,826 was raised; Gamba and Gamba Celeste, \$41,578; Percussion effects, \$15,500; and the 8-foot Geigen Celeste and 4-foot Violina Celeste at \$41,996. When the \$50,000 for the fifth phase has been reached, a total of \$221,900 will have been raised to expand the total number of pipes in the Spreckels Organ.

An additional \$20,000 has also been raised to restore the organ’s iconic gold pipe façade. For more information about the organ, the organ society, upcoming special events as well as the schedule for spring and summer concerts at the organ pavilion, visit spreckelsorgan.org.

PROGRESSIVE EVENT SPACE TO OPEN NEAR OLD TOWN

The Grassroots Oasis will open its doors April 25 as an event space for “progressive grassroots, art and cultural events,” according to a press release.

The space includes indoor and outdoor areas plus a stage with a sound system and lighting. The location near Moore and Rosecrans streets gives

accessibility from I-5 and the Old Town Transit Center. The grand opening event will be from 7:30 – 11 p.m. and feature a concert by celebrated San Diego musician Steve Poltz. General admission is \$30.

Organizers will also launch a crowdfunding campaign on April 20 with perks ranging from t-shirts to space rental. Keep up-to-date with Grassroots Oasis on their Facebook page.



PHOTO CONTEST CELEBRATES NUPTIALS IN BALBOA PARK

The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership is asking for photo entries for their “My Balboa Park Wedding” contest.

The contest commemorates the 100-year anniversary of the Panama-California Exposition at Balboa Park and all the wed-

dings that have been held in the park since. Couples can share photos and stories of their wedding, engagement or anniversary online and ask friends and family to vote. The contest began in February and will end May 25.

Top prizes include a \$10,000 custom anniversary jewelry piece by Charles Koll Jewelers and round-trip Southwest Airlines tickets. Visit mybalboapark-wedding.com for rules and to enter the contest.

REP. DAVIS ENCOURAGES LOCAL STUDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN ART COMPETITION

The Congressional Art Competition has been held annually since 1982 for high school students within each district, with winners having their art displayed at the U.S. Capitol Building in Washington, D.C.

Rep. Susan Davis (D-San Diego) is encouraging high school students in her 53rd district — which covers La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley and parts of San Diego, El Cajon and Chula Vista — to compete for the chance to have their talent showcased in the Capitol’s Cannon Tunnel an entire year. Last year’s winning piece was “Dignity,” by Amelia from Grossmont High School in El Cajon.

“As the former director of a youth leadership program in San Diego, I know that young people are often the most thoughtful and creative members of our community,” stated Davis in a press release. “Art expands the mind and encourages innovation and critical thinking. I hope students in my congressional

see Briefs, page 9

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Editorial

Looking forward: A new councilmember is on the horizon

By Christine Kehoe

When I was elected to serve our District 3 neighborhoods in 1993, we had many challenges to face. On the top of my list were decreasing crime, increasing access to community services, and initiating improvements to city infrastructure. Add to these overcoming stereotypes and proving that members of the LGBT community can lead. Making progress often felt like a tall order.

But progress has been made. Things have improved over the years, not only during my tenure, but also thanks to the strong leadership of those elected after me. Toni Atkins pushed the city's first inclusionary housing policy and Living Wage Ordinance. Following Toni, Todd Gloria has worked to improve homeless services, update the city's veteran hiring policy and make street improvements a priority. Both were selected by their colleagues to lead the city during mayoral resignations, and under highly unusual and stressful conditions they did so admirably and confidently.

Term limits prevent Todd Gloria from serving us with another term on City Council, and next year District 3 will be faced with a decision: Who will be able to build on the groundwork of the last 24 years and continue moving San Diego forward? Following a number of challenging years, the city found it was fiscally necessary to scale down city services and programs. Now, with a better economic outlook, our 100-year-old neighborhoods and infrastructure

still need close attention; our public safety programs need strengthening and community plans require thoughtful implementation. Providing new facilities to keep up with neighborhood demands, and ensuring smart and sustainable growth continue to be important City Council issues.

After considering the knowledge, skills and service-minded approach I know will be necessary to address the district's issues going forward, I am proud to endorse Chris Ward for District 3 City Council in 2016. With his background in urban planning and long history of service to his community, Chris possesses the skills we expect of our elected officials. As a father and a leader in the LGBT community, Chris has the forward-thinking and compassionate worldview that we deserve. I know that the record of service and leadership that we have built in this community will be in good hands with Chris.

I invite all of my neighbors and former constituents to learn about Chris' record and message for yourself at his website: voteforward.com. Let's use this time in 2015 to have these important conversations about the future of our community as we prepare to elect a new councilmember to implement that direction in 2016.

—Christine Kehoe, a former member of the San Diego City Council, the state Senate and the state Assembly, was San Diego's first openly gay elected official. ♦

Finding compromise for safer streets

By Paul Jamason

Advocates for safer streets were encouraged by the Uptown News editorial from the Hillcrest Business Association's Ben Nicholls about the SANDAG Uptown Bike Corridor [see Vol. 7 Issue 7 "Hillcrest businesses want bike lanes the right way"], particularly the HBA's support for bike lanes and their commitment to work with others. At the recent Uptown Planners Community Planning Group meeting, nearly everyone agreed that people who walk or bike deserve safer conditions. We are hopeful that supporters and opponents of the corridor can build on our shared goals and compromise on a plan for all stakeholders.

Addressing the concerns of both sides is a critical step. The parking concerns

voiced by the HBA and others about the corridor are valid. The Transform Hillcrest Plan, which preserves nearly all parking on east University Avenue, was unanimously supported by the community. SANDAG is performing an engineering analysis of the plan. On west University Avenue, Transform Hillcrest was initially supported by the HBA, but it now favors running the bike lane on Washington Street through Mission Hills. Yet a protected bike lane on Washington would remove more parking (and from Mission Hills' business district) than the west University route.

Uptown Planners voted unanimously to require SANDAG to replace all street park-

Letters

South Park business owner speaks out on Target opposition

I am writing this letter in response to the recently published Uptown News article "TargetExpress fight spawns South Park Town Council" [Vol. 7, Issue 7]. I feel as if I can no longer remain quiet concerning the actions of the Care About South Park group (CASP) or the South Park Town Council. To make things extremely clear and upfront, I am a local business owner in South Park and these are my personal views and I am not representing the South Park Business Group, of which I belong, or my business partners'w views.

I am an active and happy member of South Park. I served 20 years in the Navy and chose this neighborhood to settle down in. My heart, my future, and my focus are here. Myself, amongst other business owners in South Park, helped pioneer our quarterly walkabouts which have helped transition this neighborhood from what once was known as being unsafe and run down to one of the most coveted places to hang out and live in San Diego. It has been amazing to be a part of our vibrant and eclectic neighborhood, and I, and many others, have dedicated many years of service to South Park and are proud at what it has become. This community has been my home for the last 20 years and my business that I co-own, South Bark Dog Wash, has been a proud member of South Park for the past 15 years. I believe in contribution, kindness, and ethical small business.

I am all for people having the right to protest and share their opinions over the TargetExpress issue. I have listened to both sides of the issue and kept an open mind as to my personal opinions on the subject. I encouraged activism and peaceful protest for those who chose that route as well as allowing Target to present their plans and negotiate neighborly conversation as they come into our community. While myself and many other business owners in our community have talked with the CASP group, it seems that the group has their own agenda in mind. Even though many of us consider the fight to be over, since it is the property owner's right to rent to Target if he chooses to and the contract has been signed, I still support peaceful protest.

The reason that I am writing is because CASP, and Mark Arabo have threatened the very things they say they are fighting against. They misrepresent the business group in the press and make claims that are untrue. They have picketed in front of South Park stores and made customers feel uncomfortable. While boasting to help small businesses, they in fact have disrupted our businesses and their picketing caused a loss in sales for our stores. What was once a peaceful, happy and friendly neighborhood is now threatened by this group that continues to ignore any community feedback that differs from their own.

The organizers and self-appointed heads of the South Park Town Council and CASP have a singular agenda in mind: to stop TargetExpress from coming to this community. I am not even sure that many members or organizers are even from our neighborhood, and they have not made contributions to South Park prior to this issue. They have threatened not to shop in our businesses and accused us of apathy. If this group wants to have their say in this community, actions speak louder than words. The leaders of this group should put in their time like myself and fellow business owners have by cleaning up the sidewalks, painting our trash cans, fixing lights, cleaning up graffiti and by devoting weeks of time to apply for grants that can better our community.

CASP has every right to picket and have a community forum but please manage your activism in a more efficient, positive and motivating way.

Donna Walker,
South Park

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(l to r) A Gen2 and a Gen3 Car2Go electric vehicle parked side by side at a public EV charging station in Balboa Park
(Photo by Morgan M. Hurley)

Car2Go enhances its San Diego fleet

Morgan M. Hurley | Contributing Editor

Car2Go burst on the San Diego scene in October of 2011 and just recently celebrated its third anniversary with a big member appreciation party at the North Park Theatre that included live bands Fences and Bear Hands and 400 Car2Go members.

"It was a great event and I got to go out and announce the bands," said San Diego Location Manager Will Berry. "I've never done that before, so that was very, very fun."

Since their launch, the German-based company — a wholly owned subsidiary of Daimler, established in 2006 when Daimler acquired Smart — has amassed hundreds of members in San Diego, a high number of those living in or commuting to Uptown neighborhoods.

While Car2Go was not the first European car-sharing company to hit the market, its unique business model came about as a result of a perfect storm in technology availability.

"They took car sharing to the next level from being station-based to this free-floating model which required that GPS enablement and led to the collaboration of the phone app," Berry said. "Without all that, it never would have happened."

The first location was in Ulm, Germany, near Daimler Headquarters and the birthplace of Albert Einstein Berry said, in 2008. The first North American location was in Austin, Texas, in 2009, where Car2Go's U.S. headquarters reside, then Vancouver, British Columbia, before rolling into San Diego in 2011.

Why San Diego?

According to Berry, San Diego County is one of the hotbeds for electric vehicle (EV) ownership around the country. In fact, San Diego County ranks within the top four EV-friendly counties in the U.S.

San Diego can also boast about being the only 100 percent all-electric fleet. Austin and now Portland, Oregon, have always had fleets with internal combustion engines and just a smattering of electric cars.

Fast forward to 2015, and the smartphone-interactive electric vehicle company is undertaking a huge rollout in San Diego of its third generation Smart cars to replace its current fleet, and they are doing it in a little at a time, but should complete by year-end.

With 380 Generation 2 (Gen2) cars to be replaced with 400 new Gen3 cars, it will be a bit of a shuffle, Berry said, because they want to keep the total number on the street at any time balanced.

"It's not just an infleeting, but also a defleeting of the old cars," Berry said. "We don't want to put out 400 cars while we still have the 380, so it is a one-for-one swap; we're taking 10 off the road and putting 10 back on by the end of the day."

"It's like an orchestra to try to

get all the moving pieces to come together," he said.

To the undiscerning eye, the cars look exactly the same, but if you look a bit closer and then step inside, Berry said, you'll know.

"There are a couple of ways you can visually tell that you are in a Gen3 car as opposed to a Gen2,"

he said. "One is that the overall size of the Car2Go symbol [decal] on the front is almost double the size of the Gen2; there is also some instrumentation on the dash that's a little bit different."

"If you miss those two visual clues, the way that you would really tell is the moment you hit that accelerator," he said, laughing.

Old cars will be recycled; some will have components removed for spares and reuse, such as tires, while other parts will need to be destroyed or recycled, and the frame can be resold and reused in other vehicles. The Gen2 batteries, for instance, were manufactured by Tesla and contain proprietary knowledge, which must be stripped before the core is recycled.

As a business focused on sustainability by nature, Berry said it is important to Car2Go that every aspect of the Gen2 cars are being properly recycled, and they have contracted with a local company with the expertise required to manage the process.

"That's the walk the talk piece," Berry said. "You can't do lip service to that and you really have to look out for it."

Car2Go partners here in San Diego with several providers of publicly available EV charging stations, such as EVGO, Charge Point and NRG, the most prominent of which is Blink Network, mainly because as a network, Blink has more public stations available than their competitors.

As for coverage areas, Car2Go now has 45 total square miles; 1 mile on the San Diego State campus, 12 square miles in Chula Vista and 32 square miles in and around the center of San Diego proper. You can drive your Car2Go outside any of those areas or between those areas, but you cannot start or stop a rental unless you are within the boundaries. A coverage map is located inside each vehicle for easy reference.

The Car2Go headquarters Downtown, located at Ninth Avenue, has had many lives past and its design, by Paul Basile of Basile Studio on 11th Avenue, won an Orchid from the San Diego's Architectural Foundation for its perfect mixture of industrial, old-school warehouse aesthetic reflecting its East Village neighborhood and the "cool comfortable feel" required of every Car2Go city headquarters.

Behind the walls of the customer service lobby facing Ninth Avenue is first the "employee den" and then the maintenance shop, which faces 10th Avenue. This is where all the magic happens.

Watch for part two of this series in a future issue, when we go behind the scenes at Car2Go headquarters Downtown and take a Gen3 for a ride. For more information about Car2Go, visit sandiego.car2go.com.

—Morgan M. Hurley can be reached at morgan@sdenn.com.

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The Del Mar Fairgrounds are located at 2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd at the intersection of Interstate 5 and Via De La Valle just north of Del Mar, about 20 miles north of downtown San Diego. There will be an assortment of food vendors both inside and outside of the building and an ATM is available at the Fairgrounds.



Our Savior's Lutheran Church in North Park (Photo by Susan Taylor)

North Park Lutheran Church celebrates 100 years

By Susan Taylor

The North Park community is invited to join the celebration of the 100-year anniversary of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, located at 4011 Ohio St. The party will be in full swing on Saturday, April 25, from noon to 2 p.m. and will include food,

music and mingling with congregational members, youth, church officers and the pastor. Appetizers will be served free, but donations are welcome. After the open house, there will be a concert and singalong of melodies from every decade since 1915. If you have never visited Our Savior's, this is your

opportunity to meet people and take a look around.

Be sure to enter the sanctuary. It is designed with broad pews on both sides of a long aisle and the altar is beautifully embraced by rich wood. The side windows are stained glass and behind the altar, facing the congregation, is an impressive

depiction of Christ praying. The tall, arched ceiling instills reverence and contemplation.

The church campus includes a secure courtyard, gardens, a library and offices, a preschool, a full kitchen and a fellowship hall used for annual meetings, martial arts, quinceanera parties and weekly square dancing.

Pastor Maria Santa Cruz, born in Mexico, leads services in both Spanish and English. Her passionate and thought-provoking sermons compel reflection and fellowship — and return visits from worshipers. After church, she can be found greeting those people who stop by for free bread and a homemade Mexican brunch between services.

Many families from North Park and other neighborhoods entrust their 2- to 4-year-olds to the preschool, which has been in existence since 1980. Preschoolers are met at their developmental level, and the excellent staff fills each day with thematic activities, crafts, food, walking trips and assemblies with speakers from local businesses. Kids experience the occasional thrill of a close-up encounter with a fireman in full regalia, a local postman or Santa Claus. Our Savior's preschool consistently has a waiting list.

The church's beginnings date back to 1915 when it was part of the United Norwegian Lutheran Church of America. At that time, the church was located at Park Boulevard and Centre Street. It had a pump organ and a piano purchased for \$100. By 1921, sermons were sometimes delivered in English.

In the 1930s, Sunday school was established in Vasa Hall at Illinois Street and El Cajon Boulevard. Soon a generous parishioner of-

fered to buy a corner lot on Lincoln and Ohio and that is where the present church stands. The WWII years brought many troops and military families from the Midwest, and people drawn to the Lutheran faith and strong Scandinavian and Northern European roots populated the congregation.

The evangelizing members helped to establish other Lutheran churches in San Diego County, including La Jolla Lutheran, College Lutheran and Lemon Grove Lutheran. Our Savior's itself expanded with the acquisition of four adjacent lots, including apartments.

In 1959, membership numbered almost 1,300; however, today membership has dwindled, a trend seen among churches nationwide. However, what Our Savior's lacks in congregational size, it makes up for with its sense of family and abiding friendships.

Overcoming language and cultural barriers, Our Savior's is a church for anybody to feel joy, grace and forgiveness. And don't forget to enjoy the party on April 25 — 100 years of memories right up the block.

—Susan Taylor is an English teacher, North Park resident and a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church since 1977. ♦

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FROM PAGE 1

FLORENCE

criticized the lackluster outreach efforts made prior to the meeting, claiming they incidentally heard about the meeting earlier that day. Ramirez, who later said he was close to tears at the time, apologized to the parents for poor outreach efforts.

“I think you’ve been disrespected, and that certainly wounds me personally,” Ramirez said at the meeting.

Two more community meetings have taken place since, after which the task force was expected to request SDUSD’s Naming Committee consider the name change. Ramirez, however, issued a letter through a school board representative March 26 stating that the process would be lengthened to allow for more community outreach.

In the letter, Ramirez, an activist, writer and the leader of the Imperial Court de San Diego, maintained that the name change would bring new resources and attention to the school’s underserved student population.

“To compete with other schools and enhance its already impressive curriculum, a name change would provide the catalyst for a renewed interest in the school, right in the heart of the neighborhood.”

In a phone interview following the letter’s release, Ramirez acknowledged that insufficient outreach prior to proposing the name change was to blame for the frosty reception by Florence parents, teachers and others in the community. However, he blamed this poor outreach on false promises to be shepherded through the process by SDUSD Board Member Kevin Beiser, who joined the GLBT Historic Task Force to assist with the Florence initiative.

“We put it in [Beiser’s] hands because he asked us to put it in his hands ... and it turned out that he just didn’t do a good job at all,” Ramirez said. “He just didn’t give us the right information. We never should have put it all in his hands.”

Ramirez said that Beiser hasn’t attended a GLBT Historic Task

Force meeting since the first Florence outreach meeting went awry. The task force has now begun working more closely with SDUSD Board Member Richard Barrera instead, Ramirez said.

“We have started working, as we should have, with Richard Barrera, who has been upfront taking bullets for [Beiser], and I have more respect for [Barrera] for his honesty and his integrity, which to be very candid, I’ve found out that Kevin Beiser lacks.”

In response, Beiser said that although there have been minor hiccups, the effort to blame others is destructive to an initiative that remains promising.

“I think the bottom line — the punch line — is that this is what happens all too often in the LGBT community,” Beiser said. “When things don’t go perfectly swimmingly, people back off and they start blaming each other, and I don’t think is productive or healthy, because this thing isn’t dead. This isn’t done.

“The process is just going to take a little bit longer,” Beiser continued. “It’s going to require us to work collaboratively, and it’s going to mean the community needs to get more involved with Florence Elementary.”

On the other side of the debate, Florence parent Jacqueline Bacon McClish, a longtime volunteer who spoke against the name change at the first outreach meeting, was “very upset” by Ramirez’s letter explaining the motives for the delayed vote. In his letter, Ramirez stated that, “to date no one that has opposed the idea of a name change has stepped up to offer volunteer support or otherwise shown an interest in helping this neighborhood school.”

“The implication of the [previous] statement was obviously that those in opposition have no ‘interest in helping this neighborhood school,’ which is an insult to those of us volunteering for years,” McClish said, who added that she’s volunteered at the school for 10 years.

Ramirez said he was primarily referring to members of the Hillcrest Town Council, which unanimously voted against the name change earlier this year.

At the October outreach meeting, McClish said that although she supported Kehoe, she questioned the idea of honoring an LGBT leader

at an elementary school, where issues like gay rights are seldom addressed.

“Sen. Kehoe, from what I understand, is a great advocate for issues such as gay rights and environmentalism,” McClish said at the meeting. “My sons are in middle and high school and these are very relevant to them; for example, they have friends who are coming out and they are following the stories about marriage equality.”

Beiser called this line of thinking a subtle form of discrimination against the LGBT community.

“That was basically code for discriminatory behavior, or a discriminatory point of view, in my opinion and in the opinions of some of the other LGBT members present at that meeting,” Beiser said.

“So you’re not going to name an elementary school after an African American?” Beiser asked rhetorically. “Should you name a high school after them, because by that age they’ll be able to decide whether or not they like African Americans?”

Although neither Ramirez nor Beiser had estimates of when a future vote to rename the school might take place, both remained optimistic and encouraged a spirit of volunteerism and community engagement to spurn change within the school.

“You’re never defeated until you quit,” Beiser said. “This isn’t something I think you quit. I think you still consider the idea of honoring Sen. Chris Kehoe in some way shape or form.

Ramirez said the GLBT Historic Task Force, the Imperial Court de San Diego and others are now committed to benefit Florence regardless of whether or not its renamed after Kehoe.

“I think our biggest regret is that we did not get involved with the school much earlier,” Ramirez said, pledging to provide backpacks and school supplies to students, and include the school in broader volunteer efforts.

“My outlook is, let’s establish a stronger record of community involvement and show truly where our heart is,” he said.

—Contact Hutton Marshall at hutton@sdcn.com. ♦

FROM PAGE 5

BRIEFS

district will take advantage of this unique opportunity.”

Only open to high school students, the contest also awards a winner from each district scholarship opportunities and two round-trip airfare tickets so the winner can travel to D.C. for the exhibit’s ribbon cutting.

The deadline to submit artwork is April 20. For competition rules and to download the submission and release form, visit susandavis.house.gov/services/art-competition.



(Courtesy of The Artist's Odyssey)

LIVE PERFORMANCES SLATED FOR THE ARTIST ODYSSEY LAUNCH PARTY

3RDSpace (4610 Park Blvd., University Heights) is hosting a party to launch The Artist Odyssey’s (TAO) Kickstarter campaign on Saturday, April 18.

TAO is “an arts network that interviews artists and supports arts education,” according to a press release. The launch party’s live music performances will include folk singer-songwriter, artist and poet Roy Ruiz Clayton, who will also showcase his paintings, and Americana singer-songwriter Nena Anderson. Visual artists Mimi Wada (Shodo/Japanese calligraphy), Trinh Mai (mixed media) and more will demonstrate their work as well. The event is from 7 – 10 p.m. and free with RSVP or \$5 at the door. Visit theartistodyssey.eventbrite.com to RSVP and for more information. ♦

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Gloria announces bid for State Assembly

Ken Williams | SDGLN

City Councilmember Todd Gloria said Tuesday that he will run for the California Assembly’s District 78 seat. The current seat-holder, Toni G. Atkins, Speaker of the Assembly, will be termed out. Both Atkins and Gloria are Democrats in a district that traditionally votes blue.

“I’m excited to announce that I am running for the State Assembly,” Gloria tweeted April 7. He linked the tweet to his newly launched campaign page toddgloriaforassembly.com.

Gloria noted in his announcement that he was endorsed by Sarah Boot, a former federal prosecutor who had previously announced that she was running for the District 78 seat. With Boot’s withdrawal from the race, the only other Democratic candidate is Ed Harris, a San Diego lifeguard who temporarily served on the City Council in 2014 to fill a vacancy. Harris took the council seat with the pledge not to run in the general election for the City Council seat.

Atkins is in her second and final term as District 78 Assemblymember. She has formed a committee to explore running for Sen. Marty Block’s District 39 seat when he is termed out in 2020.

The Assembly’s District 78 runs along the San Diego coast from Imperial Beach to Solana Beach and includes the neighborhoods of North Park, City Heights, Clairemont, Bay Park and University City. That matches up well for Gloria, whose City Council District 3 includes North Park, South Park, Old Town, University Heights, Normal Heights, Mission Hills, Hillcrest, Bankers Hill, Balboa Park and Downtown.

—Ken Williams is Editor in Chief of SDCNN’s media partner, San Diego Gay & Lesbian News (SDGLN). Follow @KenSanDiego on Twitter. ♦

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The Mike Hess Brewing stand in Petco Park (Photo by Cody Thompson)

Petco Park hits a home run with local craft beer offerings

Suds in the city

Cody Thompson



Personally, I can't think of a much better day than a Sunday afternoon game down at Petco

Park. The warm April sun is pouring down over your skin. The sound of the crack of a bat and people singing classic songs is all you hear while the smell of freshly cut grass and half-burnt hot dogs fills the air around you.

All of these wonderful sensory experiences can only mean one

thing: Baseball season is finally back in full swing. After a grueling and meaningless few months, life again has a purpose.

And what better to pair with a ballgame than a San Diego craft beer? Even with an already staggering lineup of local craft beer offerings available at Petco Park, there is always room for more players on the field. Amongst the familiar faces that will be seen this coming season, one will be none other than Mike Hess Brewing Co.

With brewery locations in both Miramar and North Park, Mike Hess Brewing Co. will now also have multiple offerings available throughout the entire season at Petco Park.

I spoke with Mike Hess Brewing Co.'s National Sales Director Greg Hess and he confirmed, "It's true! Mike Hess Brewing will have our beers at four different locations throughout the park including our own dedicated draft cart on 'Craft Row.'

We will have two beers on draft at a Mike Hess-specific draft cart, as well as cans and bottles at both of the Craft Beers of San Diego booths, as well as inside the Seaside Market," Hess continued.

Craft Row, which is located on the Main Concourse area at

Petco Park directly behind home plate, serves as a spot for local breweries with dedicated stands. These stands offer varieties of beers from San Diego's finest. The breweries with carts this season include Stone Brewing Co., Karl Strauss Brewing, Mission Brewery, Ballast Point and now Mike Hess Brewing.

The four beers from Mike Hess that will be available at Petco Park this season include their World Beer Cup Gold Award-winner Habitus Double IPA, Grazias Vienna Cream Ale, their refreshing Orange Honey Wheat Jucundus and the Gold Medal-winning Claritas Kolsch ale.

The partnership between the San Diego Padres and Mike Hess Brewing has been years in the making and it all started during a tasting a local specialty food store.

"I was doing a tasting at Whole Foods in Del Mar a couple of years ago and one of the customers who sampled our beers said he really liked them and would love to do business with us," Hess said. "Turns out that person was Scott Marshall, the Chief Hospitality Officer for Petco. At the time we were just a small brewery without any packaging to speak of, but we kept the conversation going with Scott and here we are."

It is a brilliant move by the Padres and Petco Park to create these partnerships with local breweries. As San Diego continues to solidify itself as the true capital of craft beer, it only makes sense to showcase some of our great breweries on such a monumental stage.

"I think it says something about how far we've come as a brewery in such a short amount of time," Hess said. "We started Mike Hess Brewing almost five years ago and now to be offered in one of San Diego's biggest attractions is a huge honor. Kudos to Petco Park and the Padres for listening to their fans and offering what they want."

So if you are anything like me, you probably plan on attending Petco Park as often as possible this coming season and look forward to taking in some of the greatest craft beer our city has to offer while watching the best sport in the world. Look for me, I'll be the bearded guy wearing an old worn-out home jersey with a Habitus Double IPA in one hand and throwing high-fives with the other. Go Padres and go San Diego beer!

—Contact Cody Thompson at cody@threebzine.com. ♦

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FROM PAGE 1 HOT

the Alpha Project will invite Hillcrest's transient population to take part in its housing and rehabilitation programs, the ultimate goal of which are employment, sobriety and stability.

Alpha Project adheres to the "housing first" approach to addressing homelessness, which theorizes that once a person has a stable living situation, it will be much easier to address root causes of homelessness, such as addiction or mental illness.

"It's easier to work on other parts of your life when you're not in survivor mode, once you have a roof over your head," Alpha Project Case Manager Jessielee Coley said.

The second prong of the HOT efforts will educate businesses and residents on another important Alpha Project tenant: Don't nurture the homeless lifestyle. The nonprofit discourages empathetic practices like giving away spare change. Alpha Project CEO Bob McElroy acknowledged that helping the homeless by withholding short-term help can often seem counterintuitive.

"There's nothing better than to hand somebody a meal, than to help someone out," McElroy said. "That's a spirituality that all people have, whether you're a believer or not, you're still a spiritual being."

But, McElroy said, giving away food and money often enables an addiction, allowing the recipient to continue living a destructive lifestyle without feeling the need to seek treatment.

This outreach effort follows a pilot program last year, funded by another grant from Gloria's council office that proved a need for this new comprehensive approach to solving homelessness.

During the pilot project's three-month stint, Alpha Project staff estimated they found housing for over 20 people living on the Hillcrest streets. McElroy estimates there are between 100 – 200 homeless in Hillcrest on any given day. He hopes to drastically cut that number before program ends in a year.

"I hope there wouldn't be any

[homeless after the program], but if we did 50 percent we'd be doing great," he said.

Gloria and others have seen what he described as an "exodus" of homeless moving out of Downtown and up toward Hillcrest. Many attribute this to increased homeless outreach and monitoring in Downtown, with those resisting treatment moving to surrounding neighborhoods.

"It has gotten more acute," Ben Nicholls, executive director of the HBA, said of the presence of homeless in Hillcrest. "The people that are here are dodging services Downtown, so we get some of the most troublesome individuals up here ... because they're the ones that don't want to be treated."

The HBA contributed \$30,000 of the \$50,000 for the project. The nonprofit also spends approximately \$36,000 annually on a security guard in central Hillcrest.

Amy Gonyeau, the Alpha Project's chief operating officer, said the liberal, open-armed atmosphere in Hillcrest creates an environment that enables the homeless to avoid treatment of underlying issues.

"We're way too nice, and we just allow it," Gonyeau said. "Because you see it when you're up here, [homeless] people behave. The majority of [locals], the business owners will let them all hang out."

McElroy spent time living with the homeless community in Balboa Park, and he saw this over-nurturing mentality there too.

"I found out on the recipient side, there's a lot of enabling around here," he said. "Have you ever heard of anyone starving to death on the streets of San Diego? No, it doesn't happen."

In addition to the outreach program and educational efforts, the program will fund a hotline businesses and residents can call, affording an alternative to calling 9-1-1, which wastes finite police resources and penalizes an already fragile segment of the population. McElroy said anyone wishing to help solve the homeless issue at its core should call.

"I'd really like to build a coalition here, not really just for the transients here, but for a com-

munity watch program," he said. "There aren't enough cops here — or anywhere, really — and it's a community policing opportunity for everyone here."

McElroy said agility is imperative in effective homeless outreach, because often when a homeless person decides they're ready to be treated, there's a very small window before they change their minds again. McElroy said having someone present while that small window remains open is critical.

"There's always that window where something happens — they get the shit beat out of them, they OD, they're just sick and tired of being sick and tired — and they say 'man, I don't want to do this anymore, I've gotta get some help.' If there's not somebody there, they'll just say 'screw it.'"

Thomas, who didn't provide his last name, had been living on the streets of Hillcrest when an Alpha Project team picked him up on a recent Tuesday morning. Moving into a shelter before transitioning to permanent housing was his ultimate goal, he said, while also pointing out that to get off the streets, one had to resolve to do so in their own mind.

"I'm 47 years old, bro," Thomas said. "I mean in three more years I don't want to be here saying 'damn, there goes half my life on the streets.'"

To McElroy, who's spent nearly three decades helping the homeless, the transient population should be embraced rather than shoved away. Much of Alpha Project relies on the work of former homeless rehabilitated by their programs. This not only allows for a holistic approach to their efforts, there's a practical aspect to having formerly homeless doing homeless outreach.

"They've overcome it, and now they've turned around and used the gifts and talents they've acquired and learned to apply that to help someone else," McElroy said. "We've taken the people who've been part of the problem, and now they're part of the solution. It's a beautiful thing, man."

—Contact Hutton Marshall at hutton@sdcnn.com. ♦

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Working under the influence



Watermelon lemonade
(Photo by Dr. Ink)

elixir of choice was a tall glass of watermelon lemonade, an innocent-looking drink hiding a decent shot of watermelon-flavored Burnett's Vodka.

Priced at \$4, the tall cocktail also receives various measures of triple sec, fresh lemon juice and 7-Up. All combined, it's sweet, summery and just tart enough to avoid falling into the sticky-lips category. Had I chosen to up my buzz and downgrade my work performance, I could have opted for a double shot in the drink for \$2 extra.

The cheapest drink deals at happy hour are the \$2 margaritas made with Giro tequila. For a buck more you can have pureed fruit added in. In a past visit, the traditional version hit the spot, a recipe that tasted as good as any without drowning out the booze.

Or if red Sangria calls, a full glass of the stuff enhanced with fresh fruit, peach schnapps and raspberry liqueur will set you back only \$3. The bargains extend also to mojitos, select wines and a "beer of the month" for \$5 each.

Harley's happy hour is well stated

This time around I ordered a quintet of chicken wings, keeping a few fingers clean and free of the spicy hot sauce to protect my device. Tricky business eating wings without all 10 digits, but it somehow worked. The wings, however, weren't crispy enough for my liking, which didn't surprise me when they arrived only seven minutes after ordering them.

But so what? I came mainly for a drink and a change of atmosphere and came away with a couple of projects completed for under \$10. ♦

RATINGS

DRINKS: **★★★★**

After previously trying the raspberry margarita, which tasted delightfully fresh, and the oh-so-fruity house sangria, it is the vodka-spiked watermelon lemonade that steals top honors for its sweet and tangy balance.

FOOD: **★★★**

A big thumbs up to the Hawaiian-inspired pulled-pork sliders, although the chicken wings needed more love from the deep fryer.

VALUE: **★★★★**

Margarita fans can get their swerve on for \$2 per drink. All the happy-hour offerings, in fact, drop significantly lower than standard prices, topping off at \$5 for certain drinks and \$6 for some of the appetizers.

SERVICE: **★★★★★**

The waiters and bartenders are genuinely cheerful.

ATMOSPHERE: **★★★★★**

A chunk of the outdoors comes inside through big roll-up windows that are kept open on warm days. The overall design is bright, roomy and stylish without pretense.

Come On Get Happy!

Dr. Ink

Rather than abandon several open computer files and unanswered emails upon taking a much-needed break, I instead transferred everything to my iPhone and resumed work at Harley Gray Kitchen & Bar, arriving purposely at the start of happy hour. It isn't something I do often, but being self-employed allows for such dandy perks.

Free Wi-Fi and significant discounts allowed me to complete multiple tasks with a looser head and fuller stomach. My discounted

Bringing my "desk" to Harley meant taking care of business in pure sunshine, with a warm breeze blowing across my back. An entire wall opens up to Goldfinch Street as rows of paned windows in front suck in additional light. The tastefully designed interior also affords plenty of wiggle room to stretch out at either the bar or in the dining areas.

on both a separate menu card and a sandwich sign perched on the sidewalk. Several discounted appetizers priced at \$6 or less add to the allure, such as white fish ceviche, nachos and excellent fried calamari that I tried previously.

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Spicy wings (Photo by Dr. Ink)

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Flavors from the subcontinent

Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



(left) Chickpea curry; (right) Kashmiri tea (photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)



Diners with a penchant for international cuisine have grown familiar with curry dishes from the Punjab provinces of India and Pakistan, where they are often laced with butter or cream in their American incarnations. In many cases they taste the same, and the restaurants that serve them are everywhere.

But there's a new kitchen in town challenging the status quo with curries, stews and even sandwiches common to Paki-

stan's Northwest Frontier Province, thus exposing us to recipes that are strikingly novel.



Nihari beef stew (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

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Pakistan native Selina Khan opened House of Khan a few months ago after operating a pop-up restaurant in the College Area. Prior to that, she earned a master's degree in global politics from The London School of Economics, where she developed a knack for cooking within the confines of her dorm. Owning a restaurant has been on her bucket list ever since.

"This is a campaign for real curry, the way we make it at home," she says, referring to her moderate use of chilies and prolific reliance on cumin and tomatoes. Dairy is absent from her dishes with the exception of a terrific cilantro-yogurt sauce accompanying pastry-encased samosas and veggie fritters (pakoras) battered decadently in chickpea flour.

A similar, feistier sauce the menu calls "cilantro chutney" appeared on a crazy-good "bun kebab" involving an egg-washed potato cake tucked into a burger roll with onions. Khan says it's common street food in Pakistan. For me, it was one of the best appetizers to pass my lips in months.

Meals at House of Khan come with a side of Ludo, an English adaptation of Pachisi that's popular throughout India and Pakistan, especially among children. There's a boxed game of Ludo on every table amid sea-green walls and illuminated niches showing off copper pots. This used to be Mama Testa. The layout is the same, but the motif is exotically more soothing except for the lack of soundproofing.

My vegetarian companion had no problem finding dishes that appealed to his love of curry. He ordered two entrees that left us undecided over which tasted best. The eggplant aubergine was beautifully sweet and spicy, revealing sturdy flavors from a sauce of tenderly reduced tomatoes and cumin-heavy seasonings that undoubtedly included chilies.

The chickpea curry dish appeared to have a similar sauce but it tasted different just as Khan had assured that "no two curry sauces are alike." Here, the flavors of mustard seed and perhaps fennel rang through, seeping effectively into the softly cooked beans. Both meals were accompanied by fluffy basmati rice.

I ordered nihari, a brown stew made normally with lamb in India but containing beef shank in Khan's hometown version.

"We love our beef," said Khan, referring also to such menu items as aloo keema (spiced ground beef

House of Khan

1417 University Ave.
(Hillcrest)

760-580-9024

Prices:

Appetizers, \$5;
entrees,
\$8.99 to \$11.99

with potatoes) and a seasoned burger topped with cilantro chutney.

The slow-cooked stew was served with a glossy film of vegetable oil on the surface, which wasn't an accident but rather a necessary, authentic ingredient for achieving silkiness.

"In Pakistan, you know the food is cooked with the oil comes to the top," she added.

The dish looked similar to American beef stew but tasted a far cry from how our mothers made it. Slightly spicy, it revealed intriguing hints of curry and with the benefit of beef marrow melted throughout from extra bones that Khan tosses in during the cooking process. It was love at first bite.

Kahn's succinct menu concludes with a few homemade desserts such as fruity snow cones and ice cream floats drizzled with rose syrup.

We chose the fruit trifle, a chilled, super-refreshing mesh of pineapple, jelly and sponge cake that we washed down with pink Kashmiri tea spiked with cardamom and cinnamon. Like liquid coffee cake, the tea is served traditionally at Pakistani weddings and takes about a half-hour to brew, but it's worth the wait.

House of Khan brings to Hillcrest a type of cuisine we haven't seen before, proving that where basmati rice and curry is served doesn't necessarily mean you'll end up with tikki masala.

—Contact Frank Sabatini Jr. at fsabatini@san.rr.com. ♦



Potato bun kebab
(Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

UPTOWN FOOD BRIEFS

BY FRANK SABATINI JR.

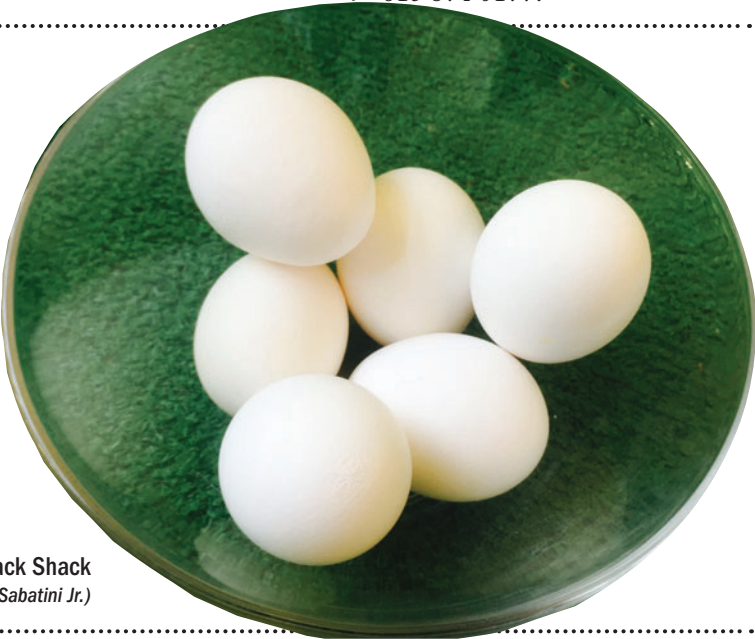


The "chillaxin roll" will be in the offing at Sabuki Sushi's upcoming smackdown. (Courtesy of WickedCreative)

In an effort to gauge customer satisfaction on its food, **Sabuku Sushi** in Normal Heights has launched a monthly series of "sushi smackdowns" that allow guests to sample and rate 17 menu items for \$35. The tasting includes things like "no-so-miso soup," bite-size rolls, sashimi, desserts and more. Since starting the promotion a couple months ago, the restaurant's bacon rolls have netted the highest points. The next smackdown is scheduled for 6 p.m., April 20. Also in the pipeline: Guest brewers are coming in once a month to match their suds to sushi rolls crafted specifically for those events. The lineup includes **Stone Brewing Company** on April 27 and **Mother Earth Brew Company** on May 18. Prices for the pairings range from \$16 to \$20. 3027 Adams Ave., 619-281-9700.

A restaurant with a theme we haven't seen before in San Diego is coming this fall by restaurateur Michael Rosen and Chef Richard Blais, both of **Juniper & Ivy**. On the same block they will be launching **The Crack Shack** with a menu that's all about chicken and eggs made every which way. The free-range, non-GMO proteins will be sourced from local farms in addition to produce accompanying the dishes. A "bread program" is also planned for the restaurant, which will go into a vacated mechanics shop at the corner of Juniper and Kettner streets in Little Italy.

Organic eggs at The Crack Shack
(Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)



Vegans with a sweet tooth can feast on donuts free of animal products at **Nomad Donuts**, which just introduced several varieties using plant-based milks and shortenings in lieu of dairy. A few different flavors will rotate through the selection daily, such as ube-taro coconut and strawberry-raspberry lemonade. According to co-owner Brad Keiller, "You can barely tell the difference if you put them side by side to our non-vegan donuts." 4504 30th St., 619-431-5000.

Replacing the former **Bourbon Street Bar & Grill** in University Heights is **Park & Rec**, which opens sometime in May with a cocktail-focused theme devised by ELE Collective, the operators of **Waypoint Public** in North Park, and **Revelry Cocktail Co.**, founded by veteran bartenders Trevor Easter and Anthony Schmidt. The remodeled property will feature three cocktail bungalows surrounding an open-air courtyard stocked with ping-pong tables and shuffleboards. As a nod to the ostrich farm that operated nearby in the early 1900s, Park & Rec's logo will feature an image of the flightless bird wearing a top hat. ELE Collective also acquired the former **Lei Lounge** next door, but its president, John Pani, is still juggling several concepts for the space. 4612 Park Blvd.

—Frank Sabatini Jr. can be reached at fsabatini@san.rr.com. ♦

La Jolla has a new rooftop restaurant in the redesigned **La Plaza Center** at Wall and Girard streets. Launched by Whisknadle Hospitality, the 3,700-square-foot **Catania** gives diners a taste of coastal Italian cuisine, based on a two-week culinary road trip through Italy taken by owner Arturo Kassel and company chef Ryan Johnston plus subsequent visits they've made. Helming the kitchen is Executive Chef Vince Schofield, a San Francisco transplant who brings to the table quail with sage and prosciutto, clam pies, house-made pastas and Neapolitan-style pizzas. 7863 Girard Ave., 858-551-5105.

Spicy corn on the cob, green papaya salad and rice crepes stuffed with minced chicken are among the specialties planned for a Thai New Year street celebration presented by Su-Mei Yu of **Saffron Noodles & Sate** and **Saffron Thai Grilled Chicken** in Mission Hills. The event kicks off in front of the restaurants at 4:30 p.m., April 10, with a blessing ceremony. It continues through 7 p.m. with Thai dancers in full regalia. Food items will range from \$2.50 to \$10. 3731 and 3737 India St., 619-574-0177.

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CRITIC'S CHOICE
Charles McNulty, Los Angeles Times
James Hebert, U-T San Diego

THE WHITE SNAKE
Written and Directed by Mary Zimmerman
Based on the classic Chinese fable
NOW PLAYING! Limited engagement through April 26
Matt DeCaro, Amy Kim Waschke, and Tanya Thai McBride. Photo by Liz Lauren.

"This play deserves a hearty 'Hello, gorgeous!'"
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(l to r) Amy Kim Waschke, Jon Norman Schneider, and Tanya Thai McBride in The Goodman Theatre production of "The White Snake" (Photo by Liz Lauren)

Theater Review

Charlene Baldrige



To showcase Mary Zimmerman's "The White Snake," playing through April 26 on the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage at the Old Globe, designer Daniel Ostling created three walls and a raked floor.

manifests itself.

Though Xu Xian is a lowly chemist's assistant, White Snake weds him and — again through magic — provides enough funds for a home and their own pharmacy, which is a raging success due to White Snake's healing abilities. The evil abbot of the local Buddhist temple, Fa Hai (Matt DeCaro), knows of White Snake's true identity and sets out to ruin her marriage, success and happi-

"The White Snake"

Tuesdays through Sundays
Through April 26
Old Globe Theatre
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theoldglobe.org or 619-23-GLOBE



Tanya Thai McBride and Amy Kim Waschke (Photo by T Charles Erickson)

design team comprising costume designer Mara Blumenfeld, lighting designer T. J. Gerkens, sound designer and composer Andre Pluess, and projection designer

Having transformed themselves into human form, the two pose as mistress and servant, with Green Snake taking on the more daring and confrontational tasks.

Apparently, Zimmerman (who directs her own work) did the rest, imagining elements to support the fable, which originated in the East and took up residence and enchanted enhancement in ancient China.

Zimmerman's lovely adaptation/production of "The White Snake" received its world premiere at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in Ashland (Feb. 18 – July 8, 2012) and has since traveled to major regional theaters including Chicago's Goodman, Princeton's McCarter, and the Berkeley Rep.

Acknowledging there are many versions of the tale, "The White Snake" is a transformation story.

White Snake (Amy Kim Waschke) grows weary of thousands of years in the mountains. Fascinated with human kind, she slithers down the mountain in company of a feisty companion, Green Snake (Tanya Thai McBride, who creates an endearing character, part of which is her edgy voice).

Having transformed themselves into human form, the two pose as mistress and servant, with Green Snake taking on the more daring and confrontational tasks. Along the way to civilization, they encounter Xu Xian (Jon Norman Schneider) who ferries them across the lake and loans White Snake his umbrella, a transaction during which their age-old, foreordained attraction

ness. She must go on a perilous journey to find the one remedy that will cure Xu Xian. As with all fables, there are many messages to the beholder; among them, we love the one we love, sometimes at our own peril; but in the grand scheme of things, love triumphs.



Shawn Sagedy. Many of the effects are as magical as the tale.

Initially, I found myself impatient with what seemed like overuse of parasols and puppets (snakes can do only so much); however, the story eventually overcame its means of telling, and the visual and aural, sans parasols and snakes, began to enthrall. The pageantry, which employs battle, lanterns and movement, is thrilling.

Played live and scored for flute, strings, cello and percussion, Pluess's score could overwhelm the singers' diction; however, they are subtly mixed so most all the text is understood.

Ablly done and beautifully integrated, the movement is a mix of ancient forms, most recognizably Noh and tai chi. Zimmerman's text,

based on numerous sources that came down through written and oral traditions, strives for poetry throughout; however, the final 10 minutes — a simple statement about love and loss delivered by the company — makes up for whatever impatience might have been engendered prior to this truly poetic moment.

— Charlene Baldrige has been writing about the arts since 1979. You can follow her blog at charlenebaldrige.com or reach her at charb81@gmail.com. ♦



(top) Tanya Thai McBride in the McCarter Theatre's production of "The White Snake." (Photo by T Charles Erickson); (below) Amy Kim Waschke in "The White Snake" (Photo by Liz Lauren)

In the unfolding, Zimmerman employs music, dance and pageantry, all supplied by her dazzling and sincere company, two of whom are veterans of the Ashland and subsequent productions, and the artistry of Ostling and the original

In defense of reckless bicyclists

The Spoken Word
Hutton Marshall



We all know the types: those shaggy-haired 20-somethings flying down the street the wrong way — helmet-less, of course — pedaling straight through stop signs with no care for the safety of themselves or others. We can argue about how representative this biker is of the larger bicycling community, but there's no use denying the existence of this stereotype. This person exists.

I'll go ahead and confess: When I'm biking, I'll roll through stop signs when it feels safe to do so. I don't wear a helmet when I'm traveling short distances. Sometimes, I'll casually swerve into the opposite traffic lane and see which cars want to play chicken. That last one's a joke, but you get the point: Sometimes, I'm the type of person drivers shake their fists at.

Before I delve further, it's worth addressing the cause of bicycle collisions with vehicles. I've heard drivers allege that cyclists are at fault in most bicycle-car collisions, and I've probably heard cyclists allege the exact opposite just as often. NPR did an interesting segment in 2011, "When Cars and Bikes Collide, Who's More Likely To Be At Fault" (Thanks for doing the legwork on this one, NPR.)

The article cited three different studies. The two most recent studies found bikes and automobiles at fault roughly the same percentage of time. A study performed in Hawaii during the late '80s found motorists at fault in approximately 84 percent of the incidents.

There isn't a clear consensus drawn here. Thus, in what will be perceived as a slap in the face to everyone, I'm going to declare assertions of this a moot point on both sides of the argument. My guess is that the truth lies somewhere in between.

So what don't we like about reckless bikers?

I'm one of those lofty we're-all-good-on-the-inside softies, so I think a large part of the anger comes from a place of concern. Drivers don't want to be minding their own business, obeying the law and out of nowhere, maim a cyclist breaking a traffic law. The experience would no doubt



(Photo by Hutton Marshall; design by Vince Meehan)

traumatize the driver.

Logic for requiring seatbelts is comparable. Sure, when a driver or passenger chooses to not wear a seatbelt, it's themselves they're endangering, but it's also a law because it affects public safety. Say I rear-end a car where the other driver isn't wearing seatbelt. Sure, it's my fault, but what could have been a fender bender turns into a fatal accident because the other person flew out of their window partly at my doing.

Drivers, in a similar vein, want bicyclists to obey the law, because they don't want to be involved in a potentially scarring accident out of the blue.

Despite what some construe as reckless behavior on two wheels, I'm going to put forth that I'm generally as concerned about the safety and wellbeing of others and myself as much as the average driver who's upset about us reckless cyclists. The thought of getting hit by a car makes my two-wheeled Mission Valley commute tough to stomach some days. When I do get behind the wheel, I've heard I drive like a grandma, which I take as a point of pride.

When I'm on a bike, I run stop signs when there's no one

around, or when it seems clear that it would unnecessarily slow myself or the traffic around me down, because at the end of the day, these stop signs and traffic lights were designed for automobiles, not bicyclists. Cyclists are forced to adapt to ill-fitting, often arbitrary road rules, so I think it's hasty to condemn us for resisting them.

Those who've read my previous columns probably know where I'm headed with this. We need road infrastructure that caters to both drivers and cyclists. Until that happens, everybody on the road will keep suffering the consequences

Since this column is the most personal part of the newspaper for me, I figure this is a fine place tell those of you who have suffered to the end of this column that this will be my last issue running Uptown News. It's been a lot of fun, but I'm excited to move on to new, slightly more terrifying things. Those wishing to reach me after I depart can reach me at jhuttonmarshall@gmail.com.

—Contact Hutton Marshall (until April 17!) at hutton@sdenn.com. ♦

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The songwriting surgeons of Oh, Spirit

By Dustin Lothspeich

San Diego has a reputation for spawning songwriters: Tom Waits, Gregory Page, Greg Laswell, Rob Crow, John Reis — the list could go on and on. The occasional dubious musical contribution aside (we won't get into that), America's Finest City seems to have a knack for churning out some of America's finest tunes.

But after drowning in coffeehouse purgatory for years following Jewel and Jason Mraz's ascent to worldwide stardom, San Diego's current music scene is currently enjoying a "second wave," if you will, of inspired musicians taking the craft of songwriting to another level entirely. Bands like Ed Ghost Tucker, Barbarian and

Hideout — all previously featured in these very pages — have put an emphasis back on writing complex, multi-dimensional music. Another entry on that list? Oh, Spirit.

It's not an easy task, songwriting. It's tough to piece something together in a way that resonates meaningfully with someone else. And that's just the beginning. After the writing is done, artists too often get usurped in the ever-lasting struggle between image vs. content — and let's face it, image only lasts so long. But content? Content has no expiration date.

"Music is and always will be number one to me," Oh, Spirit's co-lead singer/guitarist Ian Owen told me. "The image always takes a back seat to the songwriting, in my opinion. I

understand the importance of looking like you belong on stage, but if what you have to say once you get up there isn't worth a damn — then I'm out."

"We've been exploring the possibility of wearing hats," deadpanned the band's other singer/guitarist Ryan Ward Combs.

Their debut self-titled EP, however, is no joke. Set to be released on April 18 at The Irenic on an all-ages bill that includes hometown folk-rockers The Silent Comedy (celebrating the re-release of their first album on vinyl) and the aforementioned Barbarian — Oh, Spirit's first batch of studio-released material is, in one word, incredible.

Indie pop/rock can be a crowded genre, and it only grows more tired and mediocre by the second, but the band's five lads (which, besides Owen and Ward Combs, include bassist Jesse Bowen, drummer Tyler Ward and keyboardist Simon Griffith) have risen remarkably above the din with songs that cook up equal parts Wilco (dueling guitar work), Neko Case (offbeat song structures) and Big Star (instantly memorable melodies) into a thick, hearty gumbo of good, old fashioned rock. If you were to ask the band though, you'd be hard-pressed to find common ground where influences are concerned.

"There are zero bands that all of us love," drummer Tyler Ward said. "The sound of this group is what happens when all five of us come together."

Even though they've been playing shows around town for the better part of two years, the forthcoming EP is the first entry in their (hopefully long) discography. The album's six



Oh, Spirit plays at The Irenic April 18. (Photo by Dustin Lothspeich)

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Oh, Spirit

tracks have certainly benefited from the extended gestation period. Each one sounds like the best individual parts of four or five other songs, all painstakingly assembled over months — like the band ran through tape after tape of ideas, cherry picked the catchiest sections and stitched them together like surgeons — songwriting surgeons, if you will. And it seems that communal effort has paid off.

"I think having everyone's input

on the songs and how they are arranged changed them drastically," Owen explained. "I was able to write and know that the other parts would be written by everyone in the band rather than trying to write everything myself."

Recorded entirely "in living rooms," according to Owen, the album was mixed, mastered and engineered by their bass player, Bowen (who also plays in local alt-country powerhouse Blackout Party). Despite (or because of) their DIY approach, the record has a gloriously warm tone — the kind you find when placing an old, beloved LP on a trusty turntable: Electric guitars bloom over fleet-fingered chord progressions while the frontmen trade off on precision-cut solos; Griffith switches between piano and organ, lending a swirling backdrop for Bowen's rollicking bass and Ward's imaginative drumming on songs that stray far from routine pop music formula.

Ward Combs and Owen also split vocal duties on the songs, with the former's tender (yet sure-footed) delivery countering the latter's lighter, airier tone (always joking, when asked who has the better voice, the singers rang out in unison: "Tyler"). It's one of the more alluring qualities of the group's sound and even they understand that boasting multiple writers and vocalists is one of their strengths.

"From a listener's stand point, you don't get tired of hearing the same band," Ward Combs said. "There's more of a shift between styles and perspectives."

According to Owen, it's also nice from a personal angle: "It takes away some of the pressure too. If I don't have a new song to work on one week, then usually Ryan does and vice versa. I also find it really inspiring working on Ryan's songs as a guitarist."

Maybe having so many active hands in the pot has also contributed to their debut's delay. And playing shows for years before having an actual product to give audiences? Some might call that a waste of time and energy. Or shrewd marketing. Regardless, the songwriting surgeons of Oh, Spirit have also pieced together that tried-and-true fact: Quality always trumps rushed quantity.

"After a couple of years of writing and evolving these songs, and growing together as a band, there is a lot of excitement in putting our music in people's ear holes," Griffith said about the prospect of finally releasing their EP. "It doesn't quite feel real."

"I just hope people like it," Owen added.

Oh, they will.

—Dustin Lothspeich is a local freelance music writer. Reach him at dustinlothspeich@gmail.com. ♦

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PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Sudoku
Puzzle from page 19

6	5	8	9	3	2	4	7	1
2	1	4	7	8	6	9	3	5
7	3	9	5	1	4	2	6	8
4	8	2	1	6	3	7	5	9
1	6	7	8	9	5	3	4	2
3	9	5	4	2	7	1	8	6
9	4	1	3	5	8	6	2	7
8	7	6	2	4	1	5	9	3
5	2	3	6	7	9	8	1	4

Titles
Crossword from page 19

T	O	M	S	C	A	T	S	S	E	A	L	S
A	R	E	A	O	B	O	E	I	G	L	O	O
L	E	A	R	M	O	R	E	L	O	I	N	S
C	O	L	O	R	P	U	R	P	L	E	C	E
			N	O	L	T	E	A	N	T	E	
B	E	A	G	L	E		O	R	C	H	A	R
O	R	R	E	T	T	A	S	E	I	D	E	R
O	A	R	S		E	A	G	L	E	S	A	G
S	T	O	L	E		R	O	O	S	T	M	A
T	O	W	A	R	D	S		T	U	S	S	L
	S	T	E	N		S	P	I	T	E		
A	I	M		C	A	I	N	E	M	U	T	I
G	R	I	S	T		C	O	D	A		T	R
R	A	T	S	O		E	R	A	T		E	A
A	S	H	E	R		D	E	L	E		E	N



2015 Summer Camp Guide!

Liberty Station to host summer camp open house

Liberty Station, the Naval Training Center-turned-cultural hub, will host a free open house April 18 to showcase “Camps at NTC: Where KIDS Get Creative.”

From 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., families can explore summer camps targeted toward children ages 4 – 17, with programs featuring music, dance, theater, creative writing, and arts and crafts. Overseen by the nonprofit NTC Foundation, the camps are supported by 10 local cultural organizations, including the San Diego Ballet and the Theatre Arts School of San Diego. During the open house, the organizations will display information about their summer camp offerings.

The programs will run throughout the summer, with schedules and pricing depending on the individual camp selected. The open house will take place at the Dick Laub NTC Command Center, 2640 Historic Decatur Road, 92106. For more information, visit ntclibertystation.com.

Weight-loss camp offers summer scholarship

A new scholarship will offer San Diego youth an opportunity to have their health and wellness summer camp experience funded through a social media-based photo contest.

The contest, run by Wellspring Camps, invites children to create an Instagram post using the #MyWell-Summer hashtag showing “what healthy living looks like to them.” The local winner, one of five nationwide, will receive a full scholarship for a four-week program at the Wellspring La Jolla location.

To enter, visit wellspringcamps.com/scholarship, fill out the form online, follow @wellspringcamps on Instagram, then post a photo using the aforementioned hashtag. Examples of posts could be a photo of a favorite fitness activity, healthy meal or inspirational quote, but creativity is paramount. Wellspring requests no photos of yourself or others.

The contest will remain open until April 18, when 50 semifinalists will be selected. These semifinalists will then be asked to write a short 100- to 300-word essay, which judges will use to determine the five winners nationwide.

Zoo Camp returns

Beginning in late June, the San Diego Zoo will once again host its summer and art camps for children entering grades K – 12. The daily, six-hour camp will offer one- or two-week long stints for children to learn and explore alongside the diverse array of animals housed in San Diego’s world-famous zoo.

In addition to up-close animal encounters, kids will be able to learn about wildlife conservation efforts in a unique atmosphere. Grades K – 7 have specialized curriculum catering to each year, while grades 8 – 12 attend the Epic Teen Adventures camp.

For more information or to register, visit sandiegozoo.org/content/summer-camp or call 619-718-3000 for reservations.

2015 Summer Camp Spotlights!

The New Children’s Museum
200 W. Island Ave.
San Diego, CA 92101
619-233-8792
thinkplaycreate.org

The New Children’s Museum in Downtown San Diego offers fun and educational summer camps for children between the ages of 4 and 15.

Camps combine hands-on art making activities, creative games, and playtime in the park with the opportunity for children to think, play and create in the Museum’s galleries.

Whether your child is cooking up a tasty treat in the museum’s kitchen or learning how to dance, sculpt or paint, they’re sure to have an engaging experience at The New Children’s Museum.

Weeklong summer camps begin on June 15 and run through August 28. To register today, visit thinkplaycreate.org/camps.



619-594-1797 | Aztecvolleyballcamps.com

Parents! Need a vacation from your kids? San Diego State Volleyball is offering summer camps this July and August for grades K-12.

All of our camps are conducted at SDSU in a fun, encouraging and competitive environment.

Come learn from former Olympian, Coach Deitre Collins-Parker, her staff and her players, as we will deliver a challenging and fun summer camp experience in our gym.

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Please check out our website to learn more about camp options this summer! ♦

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The New Children's Museum

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thinkplaycreate.org/camps

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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grades, stronger social relationships, friendship building, and gaining independence.

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= Success

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Steve Oas, M.S., CCC-SLP is the founder/director of the OAS Center. For more information on all of our programs call 619-431-5049.

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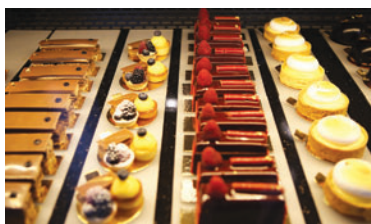
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Salzburg and Vienna:
Old Europe meets the New West

Parliament building along the Ringstrasse in Vienna (Photo by Ron Stern)

Sharing a common history and a love of music, architecture and food, Vienna and Salzburg are two Austrian cities rooted in the past but joined in the present. Here then, is a short primer on discovering the best of both.

Global
Gumshoe
Ron SternPastries at Cafe Central in Vienna
(Photo by Ron Stern)

Vienna

Vienna is the second fastest growing city in Europe. Why, you ask? Here are a few reasons.

When the Turks fled this city in 1683, they left behind a hoard of coffee beans. What followed was an entire culture built around this hot beverage. Today, take your pick from among scores of Viennese Kaffeehauses.

Of course, part of what makes coffee so enticing is all of the delectable pastries and cream cakes that are served with it. Here, the coffee break is honed to a fine art. Visit the popular Café Central or Demel and enjoy their edible and delectable works of art.

2015 marks the 150-year anniversary of the Ringstrasse, a 5-kilometer circle that contains some of the most important imperial architectural works dating from 1865. Commissioned by Emperor Franz Joseph,

the Ringstrasse is the largest construction project in Vienna's history, designed to be a grand showcase of public and private buildings. Walk or take a dedicated bus to visit the historical monuments, which include the University of Vienna, the Museum of Natural History and the old stock exchange.

Located in Leopoldstadt in the second municipal District of Vienna, the Prater is one of the top attractions for tourists. The Green Prater was formerly a large area used for hunting by the Austrian royal family and was later turned into a public park for the city.

Also located in the Prater is



One of the many historic buildings in Vienna (Photo by Ron Stern)

the Wurstelprater, considered to be the oldest amusement park in the world. This is an ideal family destination with rides, bumper cars and their showpiece, the "Wiener

Riesenrad" or Ferris wheel. Standing at an imposing height of 212 feet, this slow-moving affair affords amazing views of the city skyline.

Austrians love to shop, and the Graben in the city center boasts local and upscale retail shops and cafés. Situated among palaces and churches such as Saint Stephen's, this is where you can explore the historic and modern in the same afternoon.

Food is as diverse as you might



The Kugel confection held by the master himself (Photo by Ron Stern)

expect in an international city like Vienna, but while you're here, you will want to indulge in the local cuisine. This could be sausage, beef with dumplings or the classic Wiener Schnitzel with rösti potatoes. Wash it down with a local beer or wine, and you have the end of a perfect meal.

Of course, there is much more to Vienna that would take weeks or months to explore. This includes 50 theaters with opera houses, 150 museums, art galleries, festivals, musical events, and one of the fin-

est orchestras in the world, making this city one of the leading cultural hubs in Europe.

see Travel, page 23

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Resources
Where to Stay
Vienna- Best Western Hotel Harmonie
Centrally located modern hotel with colorful decor; excellent service; full breakfast; and clean, comfortable rooms.
Salzburg- Motel One Mirabell
Located right along the Salzach River, Motel One is just a short walk to the city center. This is a budget property with basic amenities but clean and with great views of the river.
Local Guides
Vienna-Beatric Aumayr, beatriceaumayr@yahoo.com
011 43 676 5013 788

Salzburg- Helena Hartlauer, helena.hartlauer@vienna.info
011 43 1 211 14 364
Helpful for Travelers
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I have used XCom Global's portable wireless hotspot devices on several of my trips and have always found them very useful. They bypass slow hotel connection speeds and always ensure that you connect without any problems. These units are available for most countries for \$14.95 per day.
Tenba.com
If you are like me and have to carry around DSLR cameras, cords, phones, sunglasses, and all sorts of other gear, then take a look at the Tenba Roadie 20-inch backpack. This is my favorite backpack for travel, and it is well made, has numerous compartments and fits easily in the overhead bin on an airplane.

FROM PAGE 22
TRAVEL

Salzburg
Trains depart regularly from the Vienna West train station to Salzburg and take approximately 2 1/2 hours to reach the city.
Much of the historical wealth of Salzburg was centered on the salt trade in the 13th and 14th centuries. After being mined, this "white gold" was transported by boats along the Salzach (salt) River, which is indirectly connected to the Danube. Today, tours of the salt mines are one of the major attractions.



Relaxing on the banks of the river across from the City Center in Salzburg
(Photo by Ron Stern)

Salzburg was ruled in the early years by prince archbishops, considered the absolute rulers of their time. Officially, the city wasn't annexed by the Austrian Empire until 1805, which became a republic in 1919.

If a city has a heart, Salzburg's would be the old city center. Pedestrian-friendly paths and bridges line both sides of the Salzach leading to the old city, and towering above is the Salzburg Cathedral and the Hohensalzburg Fortress (the biggest in Europe), constructed in 1077.
On weekends, locals and tourists alike flock to these areas to enjoy the fresh air, sunshine, cafés and shopping. The Hotel Stein is situated along the river with a rooftop restaurant that affords free spectacular views and photo ops of the entire area.

architecture dating from the 1600s and more than 800 shops, this is a must see for any visitor.
Part of what makes this street even more special are the dozens of ornate wrought iron guild signs festooned with the colorful logos and designs of the current owners. You are not likely to find so many of these in one place throughout the whole of Europe.
Salzburg is a musical city. Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart was born here in 1756. His family lived on one of the middle floors of a building, now a museum, and its yellow façade is one of the most frequently photographed in the city center.



One of the guild signs in the old city center of Salzburg (Photo by Ron Stern)

Tributes to this master composer are everywhere in the form of dolls, bobble heads and even a sweet named after him, the result of a local chocolatier's first place prize in a confectionary contest for his creation, the kugel. This completely round, handmade chocolate has a filling of sweet pistachio marzipan and is known now as the Mozartkugel.
Salzburg was the location for the filming of "The Sound of Music," now celebrating its 50-year anniversary, and "The Sound of Music" bus tour is a must while in town. In addition to providing some interesting facts about the Von Trapp family (they didn't actually cross the Alps with their kids.), the tour will take you to some of the locations used in the filming of the movie.
Combining the history of the old with the vibe of the new, Vienna and Salzburg have their own personalities based on centuries of tradition and culture. Come for a visit to discover for yourself the best of both in the heart of the Austrian Republic

—Contact Ron Stern at travel-writer01@comcast.net..♦

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Youth-focused yoga studio soars in Hillcrest

By Lucia Viti

If I Was A Bird Yoga Studio teaches the art of yoga to kids, tweens, teens and their families. Signature classes, designed by owner and founder Tiffany Gullberg, combine yoga postures with themed, educational artistic crafts that highlight global cultures and landscapes. Children embark on worldwide excursions filled with playful, yet challenging, yoga sequences; creative and musical props; and arts & crafts, which include painting, sand art, texture art, hand painting and sculptures.

Classes underscore postures by tying them into the class theme of a national bird from foreign

cities and countries, or exotic animals and their environments.

"Classes, designed with love and precision, support a child's development through the eyes of yoga," Gullberg said. "Through sequences of Vinyasa and Hatha yoga postures, children practice yoga as play, song and dance to embrace an imaginary journey that stimulates the mind, body and sensory elements. Classes blend art, exercise and nutrition with crafts and healthy snacks for a truly holistic experience."

Gullberg, herself a mother of two, is a seasoned CorePower

Yoga instructor. But after teaching a yoga class to preschoolers, the entrepreneur instantly realized her calling. Gullberg opened her first kids yoga studio in Point Loma followed a year later with If I Was A Bird Yoga in Hillcrest. The studio is named after her daughter's favorite song, "If I Was A Bird Today," noting that most yoga postures are named after birds and elements of nature.

According to Gullberg, this upbeat environment infuses educational elements with yoga, creative movement and music to "encourage children of all ages to move, play, laugh, and learn how to build a foundation for a lifetime of joy and good health."

Classes accommodate family members or serve as an independent yoga practice for each child. Students are allowed to use yoga straps, blocks and the facility's yoga wall. The Cardio Strength Flow class even couples small hand weights with cardiovascular movements.

"Props provide support which

Tiffany Gullberg of If I Was A Bird Yoga
(Courtesy of Tiffany Gullberg)



is essential for growing bodies," Gullberg said. "Yoga is extremely beneficial for active, athletic tweens because it relaxes the muscles already tight from sports. And our highly trained and qualified teachers provide hands-on adjustments to support instruction and safety."

Gullberg noted that many physicians now recommend yoga for children to relieve stress and anxiety.

"While yoga nurtures growing muscles, stimulates brain function, and fine-tunes motor coordination, it also encourages self-confidence, mindfulness, kindness and compassion," she said. "And kids who practice yoga sleep better."

Gullberg added that "If I Was A Bird Yoga has an open heart for little ones who like to wander off and explore. With consistency, even 2-year-olds can learn to focus on their mats and follow class."

Additional specialty classes include Baby & Me, toddler, family, teen & tween, prenatal, and yoga for students with special needs. Events include teacher trainings, birthday parties and yoga workshops. Outside events take place in schools and community venues. Children under 3 must be accompanied by adults. If I Was A Bird Yoga also stages an annual themed play. Kids are requested to bring a yoga mat and a water bottle to class.

"Our mission is simple," concluded Gullberg. "If I Was A Bird Yoga Studio offers children the opportunity to build a solid, peaceful foundation for happy and healthy lives. Yoga helps children grow strong, healthy bodies and essential life-style coping mechanisms. With regular practice, children can cultivate a sense of calm, joy, and creativity while creating friendships in a safe, loving, and stress-free environment." If I Was A Bird Yoga is located in the Hillcrest Uptown District Shopping Center. Classes coincide with CorePower Yoga's schedule to offer parents the option of coordinating a parent/kid yoga schedule. Two-hour parking is available underground and throughout the shopping center. For more information, visit ifiwasabirdyoga.com.

—Contact Lucia Viti at lucia-viti@roadrunner.com. ♦

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Laundry Room
1955 El Cajon Blvd. 92104 | 619-795-9588
www.sdlaundryroom.com

A new breed of coin laundromat

Coin operated laundromats have come a long way. The first coin laundry was introduced in the early 1900's when the first wringer clothes washer was developed. At the time, public coin-operated laundries did not exist.

Public laundry was introduced in the 1920s and '30s. They were a place for the public to drop off their laundry. It wasn't until the 1950s that self-service coin laundry was intro-

duced. Small stores equipped with a few washers and dryers began opening. Unfortunately, owners neglected them and the stores deteriorated ... and ... so did the public's image of the coin-op laundry.

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Workshop Series 6:15pm-7:15pm

April 1, 2015: Surrogacy

April 29, 2015: Surrogacy

May 19, 2015: Egg Freezing Social

June 3, 2015: Egg & Sperm Donors

June 25, 2015: Reproductive Law Workshop
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FROM PAGE 6

EDITORIAL

ing lost to the new bike lanes. However, more than 200 new parking spaces have been added in Hillcrest in the past year, and Hillcrest parking lots and garages do not exceed 85 percent capacity. The Uptown Community Parking District (UCPD) has been soliciting community input on how to use its portion of \$18 million dollars in unspent parking revenues. We recommend spending these funds on new parking (instead of diverting bike corridor funding), while lifting the restrictions that limit UCPD's involvement in place-making projects like the Hillcrest Pride Plaza.

Many cities maximize their existing parking resources and turnover by setting meter prices based on demand, and charging for parking after 6 p.m. Neither of these market-based approaches are used in Uptown, yet they would generate additional revenue for more parking. The new smart parking meters in Uptown should be augmented with available sensors that provide real-time street parking maps to smartphone users.

The Five Points business district has significant parking impacts from the bike corridor. SANDAG proposed several street parking conversions to angled or head-in parking as mitigation. Some of these ideas are supported by the business district there, while others were rejected due to visibility issues and high traffic volumes. The Livable Streets Coalition identified these and other streets and lots where additional parking could be added.

Another valid concern about the bike corridor is the perceived traffic and business impact from SANDAG's proposed closure of the University Avenue off-ramp from Washington Street. This would remove a dangerous bike/car conflict zone at the off-ramp. In addition, bridge supports on Washington prevent a bike lane there. More than 450 people have signed a petition in support of a safer University Avenue. We propose an extended test closure of the off-ramp to evaluate its impact on traffic, emergency services, and Hillcrest businesses before any permanent changes. Synchronizing traffic signal timing on Washington could also help address congestion.

Reynard Way was recommended by Uptown Planners as an alternative route to Univer-

sity and Washington in Mission Hills. One key criteria for the Uptown Bike Corridor to receive SANDAG Early Action Plan funding was that it connect to activity hubs and fill regional bike network gaps. A Reynard Way alternative route would disconnect the county's proposed regional bike network, and bypass the Washington Avenue trolley station and International Restaurant Row. Reynard was already considered and rejected by SANDAG for these reasons.

Regarding Fifth Avenue, Mr. Nicholls described this street as "already narrow", and suggested moving the bike lane to Fourth Avenue or Sixth Avenue. Yet Fifth is one of the widest one-way streets in San Diego: five lanes, with four lanes dedicated to auto travel or parking. The existing buffered bike lane, where SANDAG counts show huge ridership increases, would become a protected bike lane. No reduction in auto lanes would occur. Parking would be removed at each intersection for visibility standards defined in the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide.

The business case for adding protected bike lanes on commercial corridors like Fifth Avenue is well established, even if some street parking is removed. Further, studies show increased employment and higher property values associated with Complete Streets projects. An alternative two-way protected bike lane on Fourth Avenue was already evaluated and dismissed by SANDAG, due to the cost of installing traffic lights at every intersection.

Improving safety for people who walk or bike, while addressing local businesses and residents' needs isn't easy. But big challenges like this are one reason we elect leaders willing to bring all stakeholders to the table. For example, the city's bipartisan Climate Action Plan increases bike mode share in Uptown by 500 percent in the next five years. Unless our leaders ask us all to compromise, how do we achieve this goal? Unfortunately, this hasn't happened for the Uptown Bike Corridor. Instead, the Hillcrest Business Association and Mission Hills residents have lobbied our elected officials in private to change the route.

Some have suggested only local residents opposed to the project should have a voice in its outcome. If so, how was a damaging 10-lane freeway run through City Heights just 15 years ago? The Uptown Bike Corridor is part of a regional network built for all county residents, similar to our freeway network. The fate of public safety projects funded by our county TransNet sales tax dollars shouldn't be determined solely by these opponents.

Let's ask our elected representatives — District 3 Councilmember Todd Gloria, Mayor Kevin Faulconer and County Supervisor Ron Roberts — to step up and help broker an Uptown Bike Corridor for everyone. As SANDAG board members, they are uniquely qualified for this task.

—Paul Jamason is a member of the Livable Streets Coalition, a coalition of transportation nonprofits, planners, and designers that represent thousands of San Diego residents who are passionate about making safe, livable streets and neighborhoods in San Diego. ♦

FROM PAGE 6

LETTERS

I applaud Chris Ward's enthusiasm for the Uptown Community Plan [see "Editorial: Banner year in community planning ahead" Vol. 7 Issue 5].

I've lived and worked here since 1984. I've been involved in two community plan updates.

The updates have not achieved much, but we have spent a great deal of time, a lot of money, and heard a variety of opinions as to how our neighborhood should grow. The lack of progress within our community is very sad. The Interim Height Ordinance stopped a potentially wonderful mixed-use project and gave us a Walgreens. Just what Hillcrest needed: another one story, chain drug store with surface parking.

Unfortunately, this kind of boring, run-of-the-mill development is what our updates have given us. Worse, in Mission Hills, we are retreating backward to about 1926, an era that gave us good architecture and livable community, but reflected the racism and economic fragility of the times.

What do we need in a community plan? First, the ability to create sustainable neighborhoods. This is not a feature of the current draft plan. It is still highly reliant on cars. We are not catering to families whose children would attend our schools. We are not integrating education, commerce, recreation and culture via mixed uses and walkable, linked developments. We are most assuredly not promoting high-paying, quality jobs.

The Scripps/Mercy and UCSD Hospital area once was home to medical R&D. Sadly, that has moved, replaced with tacky-tacky apartments and condos. There was absolutely no effort made to designate land uses for medical, technology, R&D or similar uses.

Traffic is getting worse and worse as the major Downtown streets (First, Fourth and Fifth avenues) fail to provide simple access to the hospitals and potential job-creating areas north of Washington Street.

No thought has been given to bus turnouts along Washington Street, unimpeded of traffic north of Washington Street or other improvements that might help relieve the nightmarish traffic on University Avenue and Robinson Street. Our community plans create congested cul-de-sacs and bottlenecks instead of fostering walking and biking via workforce housing near jobs and connected areas of retail and institutional uses.

Uptown has very few parks. While we have schools that have playgrounds and land that could be used jointly, no effort has been made to do so. The Uptown plan actually counts parkland that is outside the boundary of our community planning area.

Finally, the Uptown plan fails to integrate our community into the greater city of San Diego. It presumes we are in competition with other parts of our city for jobs, retail sales and amenities. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are one city, one people, but with many varied interests.

It is very sad, but Hillcrest is diminishing in importance as a destination for all San Diegans. There are more vacant retail spaces in Hillcrest than any nearby community. We have far fewer indicators of sustainable community growth—from jobs to school quality to community spirit than many other places in San Diego.

Why?

Our Uptown Community Plan is fossilized. A relic. It fails to create the vision and flexibility needed for future generations of San Diegans.

Peter H. St Clair,
Mission Hills ♦

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The Panama-California and California Pacific International Expositions are explored through the personal objects that were eagerly sought after and collected. These keepsakes handed down through the generations are tangible historical mementos of the Exposition. One thousand artifacts are on display! It is unlikely a collection of Exposition memorabilia with the breadth of variety and number will ever be assembled again.

Marston House Museum & Gardens

3525 Seventh Avenue in Balboa Park

Open • Friday-Monday 10am-5pm

Tours start every half hour and last 40-45 minutes

Please note: Last tour of the day begins at 3:30pm

Admission

(Includes House Tour & all Centennial Exhibitions)

\$15 Adults

\$12 Seniors (65 & older) & Students (with ID)

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Free for children 5 & under

SOHO Members receive unlimited free admission

February 6 - November 30, 2015

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THE SAN DIEGO CITY COLLEGE 2nd Annual

Community Open House Day

Thursday, April 16

11:00-4:00 pm

• Campus tours • Exhibits
• Demonstrations • Performances

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The “Art of Music” by the San Diego Museum of Art (1450 El Prado, Balboa Park) is a concert series being held in conjunction with an exhibition of the same name. This month’s installment features harpsichordist Takae Ohnishi, who will present early Baroque music paired with contemporary compositions from Asia. The concert starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for members, \$17 for students, military and seniors and \$20 for nonmembers. Visit SDMArt.org for tickets and more information.

These walking tours will leave every 10 – 15 minutes from 1 – 4 p.m. starting at Espresso Mio (1920 Fort Stockton Drive, Mission Hills). Docents leading the 60- to 90-minute tour will help attendees explore Prairie style homes, which came to the area about 100 years ago. The tour will detail the early occupants and history as well as the architects and builders of the homes built mostly from 1910 – 1920. Tickets are \$10 for members of Mission Hills Heritage and \$15 for nonmembers. Tickets include beverages and cookies following the tour. Visit MissionHillsHeritage.org for tickets and more information.



In honor of National Poetry Month, the Mission Hills Library (925 West Washington St.) will host this special event. The poets, who were featured in the latest edition of the "San Diego Poetry Annual" published by novelist William Harry Hardy, will be on hand to read their works. The 2014 – 15 edition features 259 poets and 311 poems according to a library press release. There is also a bilingual companion volume "Frontera Piel/Skin Border" containing 49 poems by 88 poets and translators. Curran Jeffery will host the event, which begins at 7 p.m. For more information, visit library92103.org.



Open Mic Charlie's: 7–10 p.m. (except the third Tuesday), open mic night at Rebecca's Coffee House, 3015 Juniper St., South Park, free. RebeccascOFFEEhouse.com.

Storytelling: 7 – 8:45 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month featuring members of Storytellers of San Diego at Rebecca's Coffee House, 3015 Juniper St., South Park, donations welcome. Ages 12 and up. Storytellersofsandiego.org.



see Calendar, page 27

MISSION FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

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FROM PAGE 26 CALENDAR

at Panera Bread, 1270 Cleveland Ave., Hillcrest. Sdurotary.org.

Gentle Yoga for seniors: 2:45 – 3:45 p.m., presented by The Center and Silver Age Yoga Community Outreach (SAYCO) at The San Diego LGBT Center, 3909 Centre St., Hillcrest, free. Thecentersd.org.

North Park Farmers Market: 3 – 7 p.m., in the parking lot behind CVS at 32nd St. and University Ave., North Park, free. Northparkfarmersmarket.com.

Kornflower's Open Mic: Sign-ups at 6:30 p.m., open mic (no poetry or comedy) 7 – 10 p.m. Family friendly event at Rebecca's Coffee House, 3015 Juniper St., South Park, free. RebeccascOFFEEHOUSE.com.

Kirtan Musical Meditation: 8:15 p.m., chant and sing contemporary mantras celebrating love and life at Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3287 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, donation requested. Pilgrimageyoga.com. Fridays:

Preschool Storytime: 10:30 a.m., at Mission Hills Library, 925 Washington St., Mission Hills, free. Library92103.org.

Fridays on Fifth: 4 – 9 p.m., various restaurants and bars offer discounts and specials for a social hour on Fifth Avenue between Washington Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Hillcrest. Fridaysonfifth.com.

Cinema Under the Stars: 8:30 p.m., classic movie screenings at 4040 Goldfinch St., Mission Hills. Tickets start at \$15. Topspresents.com.

Saturdays
Old Town Saturday Market: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., on Harney Street and San Diego Avenue, Old Town, free. Oldtownsaturdaymarket.com.

Golden Hill Farmers Market: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., on B Street between 27th and 28th streets, Golden Hill, free. Sdmarketmanager.com.

Children's Craft Time: 10:30 a.m., at Mission Hills Library, 925 Washington St., Mission Hills, free. Library92103.org.

Melodies in Balboa Park: 1 – 5 p.m., the San Diego Youth

Symphony and Conservatory ensembles fill Casa del Prado with classical music, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, free. Sdys.org.

Celebrity Book Readings: 2 p.m., local celebrities will visit the "Ingenious! The World of Dr. Seuss" at the San Diego History Center on the second Saturday of each month to read their favorite Seuss stories to those in attendance, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park, free. Sandiegohistory.org.

Comedy Heights: 8 – 10 p.m., local comedians take the stage next to Twiggs Coffeehouse at 4590 Park Blvd., University Heights, free. Comedyheights.com.

Sundays

Free Pancake Breakfast: 8:30 – 9:45 a.m., every second Sunday this neighborhood breakfast precedes worship service and Sunday school at Normal Heights United Methodist Church, 4650 Mansfield St., Normal Heights. Email nancy@nhunited.org.

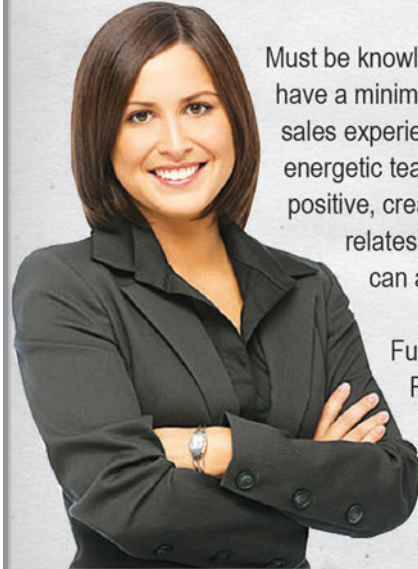
Hillcrest Farmers Market: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., under the Hillcrest Pride Flag, Harvey Milk and Normal streets, free. Hillcrestfarmersmarket.com.

—Email calendar items to editor@sdcnn.com. ♦



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SEACREST ESTATES - 3265 Meadowlark Lane

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MISSION HILLS - 845 Fort Stockton #111

Concrete & steel 5-story building. Brick exterior, lush landscaping, private underground parking. 3BD/3BA, approx 2488 SF. \$1,250,000
Windermere | Little Italy 619-501-5300



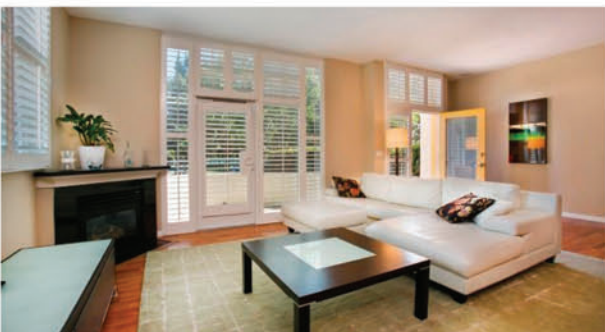
SAN DIEGO - 501 8th Avenue #111

The Mark townhome easy access off street through secure gated entry. Approx 1,700 SF, 2BD/BA with Entertainer's kitchen. \$940,000
Windermere | Little Italy 619-501-5300



EAST ESCONDIDO - 1358 La Honda Drive

Beautiful, gated country estate. A luxurious 5BD/6.5BA, custom home. Hardwood & travertine floors, spacious kitchen. \$869,900
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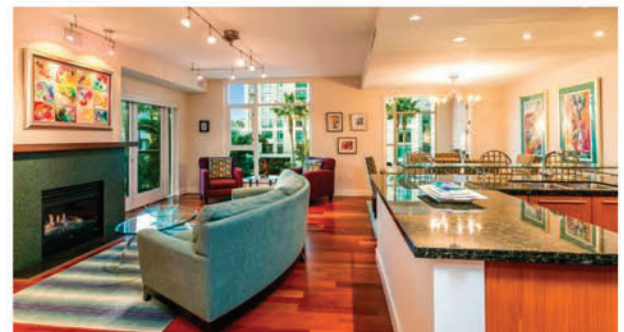
MARINA DISTRICT - 110 Island

2BD/3BA, rarely available end unit townhouse in the upscale Horizon complex. 2BD/3BA, balcony off each master suite. \$814,900
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ROSARITO BEACH - 57 Pelicanos Street

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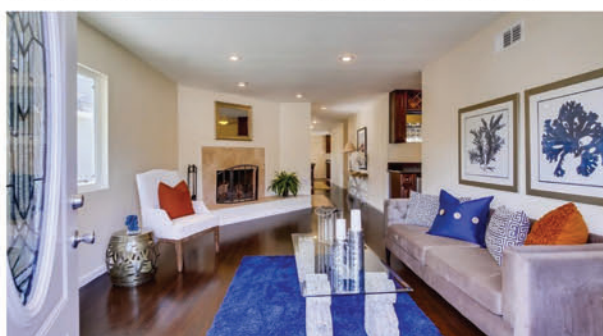
DOWNTOWN SAN DIEGO - 1199 Pacific Highway #301

3BD/2BA, sophisticated & elegant the Grande. Wood floors, fireplace, marble & tile surfaces, wine chiller, and more. \$775,000
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MARINA DISTRICT - 100 Harbor Drive #2706

1BD/1BA, panoramic 180 degree views, floor-to-ceiling windows, high end appliances, hardwood floors throughout. \$749,900
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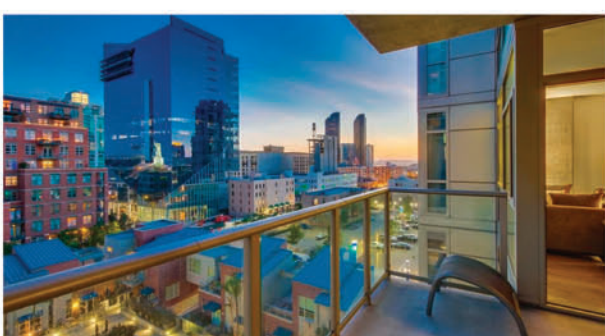
POINT LOMA - 3633 Nimitz

Completely renovated home. 3BD/2BA, travertine & hardwood flooring, wetbar with mini fridge. Private backyard patio. \$649,000
Windermere | Hillcrest/Mission Hills 619-241-2122



MISSION HILLS - 1804 McKee St #B3

Centrally located town home style living. 2BD/3BA, chef's kitchen, charming brick patio, 2 master suites, skyline view. \$475,000
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SAN DIEGO - 800 The Mark Lane #708

Rarely available 1BD/1BA. Open floor plan with floor-to-ceiling windows. Upgrades, balcony access from living/master. \$525,000
Windermere | Little Italy 619-501-5300



SAN DIEGO - 1262 Kettner #603

Urban chic! Contemporary studio Sapphire Tower. Rooftop pool, spa & entertainment area. Highly upgraded. \$329,000
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NORTH PARK - 1907 Robinson #306

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