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San Diego Uptown News



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San Diego Community News Network



(l to r) United Way of San Diego County staff members Torrey Albertazzi and Silvana DelPiccolo; Rabbi Laurie Coskey, its incoming president and CEO; board member Kenneth Weixel, managing partner at Deloitte & Touche; and staff member CJ Robinson at the kickoff to Deloitte's nationwide day of service on June 10 at Boys & Girls Club of Vista. (Courtesy of United Way)

Meet 'Rabbi Laurie'

North Park resident to head United Way

Ken Williams | Editor

Just call her "Rabbi Laurie." Everybody does. "I lost my last name in the early 2000s," the North Park resident said with a smile, "because I was a message vessel for poverty issues in San Diego."

Rabbi Laurie Coskey, who holds a doctorate in education, is known far and wide for her activism and advocacy for social justice. She holds the title of rabbi in residence at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in the Park West neighborhood, part of an interfaith outreach program. A fierce advocate for public education, Coskey is chairperson of the Trustee Advisory Council for the San Diego Community

College District. And she is also chair of the board of directors of the San Diego Convention Center Corporation (SDCCC), the nonprofit public-benefit organization created by the city of San Diego to manage and market the convention center.

The latest news is that Coskey has been selected as the new president and CEO of United Way of San Diego County, a nonprofit based in Clairemont Mesa with a multimillion-dollar budget. She believes she was chosen for the job because of her reputation, as she put it, as a "bridge builder" and "trusted broker."

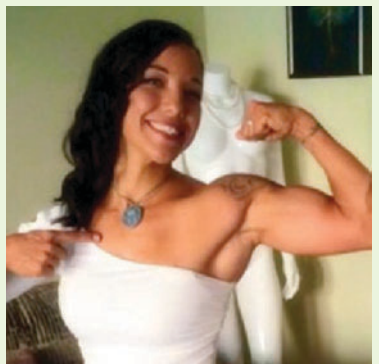
see United Way, pg 19

Don't call her 'Jane'

North Park woman has life-changing experience on 'American Tarzan' reality-TV show

By Margie M. Palmer

There was a time when humans were truly wild. Survival meant silently stalking your prey, climbing high in trees to escape



Maria Herrera of North Park (Courtesy of Discovery Channel)

predators, and utilizing every resource within reach to stay alive. That era may be gone but there are still men and women who blaze through the forest,

see Tarzan, pg 10

Ole!

What's replacing Claire de Lune

Ken Williams | Editor

The sudden shuttering of the Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge and cultural space on Feb. 16, 2016 left a big void at the corner of University Avenue and Kansas Street in North Park, but a new tenant promises to breathe new life into the historical building.

Steve Blasingame, a principal with the Moose Restaurant Group, tells San Diego Uptown News that he loves the building's architecture and its prime location in the heart of North Park's burgeoning dining and

craft beer scenes.

Moose Restaurant Group — known for its chain of Fred's Mexican Café and Moose's Pub & Café restaurants — will be opening in North Park a new concept called Tamarindo, he said. The target date to open is by the end of November or early December.

"We're going to be a Mexican grill," Blasingame said. "Think fresh fish, fresh organic margaritas, fast casual."

"We will have more of a real chef" than an order cook, he added. "By fast casual, I mean you will order at the bar and we'll bring the food to you."

Blasingame said Moose Restaurant Group is pioneering the new brand as it moves away from the nightclub concept. There are Moose's Pub & Café restaurants in California and Hawaii, but he said

see Tamarindo, pg 20



Moose Restaurant Group plans to open a new concept in the historical North Park building that formerly housed Claire de Lune Coffee Lounge. (Photo by Ken Williams)

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Daniel Sullivan is founder, president and CEO of one of the leading solar companies in San Diego. (Courtesy of Sullivan Solar Power)

Saving the world ... one photovoltaic cell at a time

Morgan M. Hurley | Contributing Editor

Back in the early 2000s, young San Diego resident and journeyman electrician Daniel Sullivan said he'd grown frustrated and even angry with California's energy crisis and the country's "unwarranted drum beat" towards a second war in Iraq. The recent birth of his son had also made him realize that he could no longer stand by and be complacent; he wanted to actively make the world a better place, and set himself on a path to do so.

Today he is the founder, president and CEO of Sullivan Solar Power, one of Inc. Magazine's fastest growing private companies in America, and has installed over 5,000 solar energy systems throughout San Diego, Orange and Riverside counties.

Sullivan graduated from Rancho Bernardo High School in 1995 and then embarked on a five-year electrical apprenticeship program, learning the trade, working with various contractors and gaining diverse experience in projects throughout San Diego County. Not long after the completion of his apprenticeship training, he got his first introduction to solar — photovoltaic (photons/voltage) systems — which convert sunlight into electricity. He was fascinated by the technology and with sun as an unlimited resource, he couldn't understand why it wasn't more widely used.

"Once I started studying solar power, a light went on," Sullivan said. "It's obvious we have an answer — but nobody was really doing anything about it. There were policies in the state of California that encouraged conservation and renewable energy but at that time there were only a handful of companies that actually did solar power and the people that were doing it weren't really electricians by trade. They were people who believed in the technology but didn't know how to deliver it."

Sullivan made several attempts to convince his boss to expand into the solar business, to no avail; so he decided to do

it himself.

He got certified, quit his job, picked up some freelance electrical work, moved into his client's garage and with just \$2,500 in his pocket, he jumped off the cliff.

"It was a miserable life coming out of the gate," he said. "It was challenging psychologically and emotionally."

In 2005, Sullivan had only one employee — his best friend from high school, who is still with him — and just two customers his first year, netting \$60,000. To pay his bills, Sullivan landed a service contract with the city of Santee. He then set out to educate the victims of the San Diego Cedar Fire on the advantages of renewable energy and the rebates that the government was offering them as a result of the fires.

"It was a difficult time," he said. "These people had lost everything. They were trying to rebuild their lives while I was trying to build a business."

His approach worked and soon business was brisk and steady, with customers throughout the Harbison Canyon and Alpine fire areas. Soon he had a stable base to branch out into retrofits. In five years, business grew hand over fist with Sullivan choosing to focus not only on residential, but commercial jobs, albeit small to medium due to financial constraints.

What Sullivan lacked in business acumen he made up for in work ethic, determination and his personal drive to prove himself. He is passionate about renewable energy and his goal is to turn everyone he meets into a solar advocate.

"It's very rewarding to take someone who doesn't believe and show them the future and then they come a part of it," he said.

By 2010, Sullivan Solar Power had grown to nearly 30 employees and were at their second physical business address. In 2011, they opened an office in Irvine; in 2012, an office in Riverside. Today, Sullivan has 160 employees across the three campuses with plans to expand further north, into Santa Clarita,

in the near future. And though he's won a plethora of awards and personal recognitions in his relatively short career as the owner of a burgeoning renewable energy business, it hasn't always been easy.

"I went from being the guy that wore every hat to handing off responsibilities to new employees who I had trained," he said. "When you do everything, you can't build a business; and when you transition to guiding and coaching people, that is a whole new skill set that I had to learn on the job. There was no shortage of mistakes in my learning how to approach people in a different way, where I am building a person up compared to building an electrical system up. That was foreign to me and it was very challenging but ultimately we've prevailed so far."

Throughout it all, Sullivan has remained humble, his personal philosophies on changing the world have never faltered, and he has no plans to take the company public — for the same reasons he fights the state's investor-run public utilities — he wants to retain control.

He also works hard to make sure all 160 employees are in lock-step with his vision for helping eliminate the world's dependence on fossil fuels.

"If the passion and drive is there, the rest of it can be addressed through training," he said. "I can teach somebody how solar photovoltaic systems work and what the value proposition is, I can't get someone to believe that this is the way of the future by myself, they have to come that way. There are plenty that still don't believe, but fossil fuels are limited resources."

"If we run out of sunshine, we've got a lot bigger things to be worrying about."

Sullivan said his employees leave the office at the end of each day knowing they've contributed to the greater good.

"They've put more renewable energy on the grid, they've reduced people's operating expenses for their home or their

see Solar, pg 5

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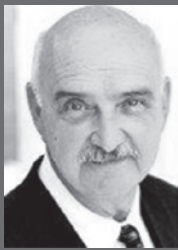
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Reverse-Mortgage-Guy

The reality of me becoming a senior boomer is getting closer every day. I have procrastinated enough; finally, I started exploring what I need to do in order to prepare for my retirement. Don't get me wrong I am not riding into the sunset getting a camper and traveling a country. I easily could, yet I am not ready to stop working. Social Security requires me to start signing up for programs and at least registering within the Social Security system.

My disclaimer, I am not an insurance agent and this is my opinion. **What an education I am getting.** I am on the call and mailing list for every insurance carrier in the USA. I have no problem with participating in the various Medicare options of: A, B, C, and D they all make sense. My concern is Long Term care and its monthly expense. **Ouch.**

Aging is an inevitable pat of life. As we age, our needs can change drastically. The level of long-term care needed varies from person to person. What description fits you?

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- Married seniors with both spouses in need of care

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FACT: Many seniors are in the situation where they do not have the income or savings to pay for personal care or home modifications to enable aging in place or to buy long term insurance. They do have financial resources tied up in their home equity that they cannot access through traditional lending programs.

For some of these seniors, a reverse mortgage is a good option but every family's situation is unique and in some cases a reverse mortgage is not the best option. Yet you will not know until you actually get up to date information on the Reverse Mortgage programs that are constantly evolving to serve the growing Senior Boomers. Find me on Face Book **THE REVERSE MORTGAGE GUY** get the facts and dispel the myths that are haunting your decision making process. Run the numbers I think you will be pleasantly surprised.



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Training for success

Mission Hills pitcher drafted by Minnesota Twins credits gym for focus on strengthening his arm

By Dave Schwab

Major League Baseball prospect Alex Schick, 21, of Mission Hills tips his hat to Gill's Fitness, where he participated in strength and flexibility training as a student athlete.

A 6-foot-7-inch, 215-pound pitcher who played for the University of California Bears, Schick said he is convinced that the Mission Valley fitness facility has made a real difference in his sports training, his baseball career and his life.

"They [the trainers] work with me on the whole range of the muscles in my arm and elbow," said Schick, who recently was drafted by the Minnesota Twins.

Noting, as a pitcher, that you "have to give maximum effort on every pitch," Schick said training at Gill's has helped him maintain "the velocity" of his arm speed.

Schick said training with his mom Patty, dad Malcolm and his siblings at Gill's has been a "family-friendly environment" where he has felt "at home."

"I credit their one-a-kind training for a lot of my success," he said.

Gill's Fitness has developed a one-on-one method of strength and flexibility training to aid student

athletes and others prevent injury.

"Our gym specializes in hands-on strength training, which allows us to do different demographics, not just kids or people in or out of shape, but also student athletes, like Patty Schick's son, Alex," said Robert Fine, one of seven physical trainers at Gill's.

Gill's, located at 2667 Camino Del Rio South, is a spacious private gym that, for more than 24 years, has been providing one-on-one personal training with professional trainers by appointment. The gym's clientele includes everyone from student athletes to 30-year-old nurses, baby boomers, golfers, young professionals, retirees and 90-year-old seniors.

Dedicated personal training staff apply hands-on pressure to provide the resistance for clients doing weight-bearing exercises, ensuring exercises are as safe, effective and time efficient as possible.

One of the keys for Gill's in helping athletes like Alex to prevent sports-related injuries was to become "specialists" rather than "generalists" in their physical-training program.

Noting the goal for clients of the gym is to "replicate what they do" on the field, Fine said "we use

see Training, pg 16



(top) Trainer Robert Fine working with pitcher Alex Schick to strengthen his arm; (bottom) Schick working out with his mom, Patty, in 2013. (Courtesy of Gill's Fitness)

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UTN701

The origins of West End in North Park

PastMatters
Katherine Hon

You may not know what it is called or why, but you can tell when you are in West End. This historic subdivision lies between University Avenue and Upas Street on the north and south, and between 28th and Ray streets on the west and east.

Subdivision map No. 590 for West End was filed May 17, 1873, long before cars or formal city planning for San Diego existed. The 80-foot-wide streets, 200-by-300-foot blocks, and 50-by-100-foot lots in West End gave the subdivision a different configuration from the typical 60-foot-wide streets and 25-by-125-foot lots in the surrounding subdivision of Park Villas to the west and east. But this was of no concern. Neither was the fact that two extra east-west streets in West End created multiple dog-leg intersections and dead ends.

Why the different configuration? Subdivision map No. 590 laid out in 1873 followed the precedent of Horton's Addition of that same year. Further echoing the "downtown" theme, the east-west roadways of the West End subdivision were named First Avenue through Seventh Avenue (now Wightman/North Park Way, Gunn, Landis, Dwight, Capps, Myrtle and Upas). The original north-south street names reflected an early trend: prominent businessmen, landowners and political figures of the day.

For example, what is now 29th Street (and previously Kansas Street) was originally

Gatewood Street. Col. William Jefferson Gatewood was listed as attorney at law in Horton's Bank Block in the 1874 City Directory. According to The San Diego Herald and the San Diego Union, an article by Teri Thorpe published in the summer 1982 issue of the "Journal of San Diego History," Gatewood came to San Diego in 1868, encouraged by pioneer Philip Crosthwaite, whose sister happened to be Gatewood's wife.

At the time, Gatewood was publishing a newspaper called The Register in San Andreas, California, and Crosthwaite wanted San Diego to have a newspaper of its own. Gatewood was impressed with San Diego and moved, establishing The Union with the first issue printed on Oct. 10, 1868. Gatewood sold his part of The Union in early 1869 and built a successful law practice. He also participated in the acquisition of the city's Pueblo Lands, which were divided up into "Pueblo Lots" and made available by the city trustees. And therein lies the answer to a question that the North Park Historical Society hears a lot: What is West End west of?

Many mysteries of early San Diego are revealed in the Lot Books that compile land ownership and tax payments through the years. Lot Books for 1873 through 1930 have been scanned and are available on the city of San Diego's website at bit.ly/28JxcJx.

Lot Book 1, which compiles land ownership for the year 1873, describes West End as the west half of Pueblo Lot 1127. Pages 614 to 625 of Lot Book 1 record the

owner of all blocks and lots in West End by the acre as W. Jeff Gatewood. So he named his subdivision with a very practical reference to his purchase — the west half of 160-acre Pueblo Lot 1127.

Our modern roads did not exist within these sage-covered lands at the time, but according to an early map of San Diego published by George Hensley, Pueblo Lot 1127 was located at the northeast corner of City Park (now Balboa Park), with what would become University Avenue and Upas Street as its boundaries on the north and south, and 28th and 32nd streets on the west and east. Gatewood's 80-acre west half of this 160-acre Pueblo Lot extended from what is now 28th Street to Ray Street.

Lot Book 1 shows that in 1873, the owner of the 80 acres encompassing the east half of Pueblo Lot 1127 was Joseph Nash, an enterprising merchant and land dealer of early San Diego. Nash also owned the lands extending east of Pueblo Lot 1127 to the city of San Diego boundary (the location of appropriately named Boundary Street). In addition, Lot Book 1 lists Nash as owner of the east half of Pueblo Lot 1126 adjacent to Gatewood's part of Pueblo Lot 1127. Nash's lands became the discontinuous Park Villas subdivision, surrounding West End with an incompatible design that now confuses drivers, residents and historians alike.

—Katherine Hon is the secretary of the North Park Historical Society. Reach her at info@northparkhistory.org or 619-294-8990. ❖



(above) Daniel Sullivan and his girlfriend, Melissa (Courtesy of Daniel Sullivan); (below) A Sullivan Solar Power employee installs a solar panel. (Courtesy of Sullivan Solar Power)

FROM PAGE 3 SOLAR

business, and they've kept more money in our local economy," he said. "That's a win."

To keep up with the growth and ensuring his vision remains intact, Sullivan now has lunch with every new hire, to help them understand what drove him to launch the business in the first place.

"When you connect the dots that it helps the environment and it also helps us as a society, you get very excited about that," he said.

He wants to make sure every employee knows that Sullivan Solar Power is not "merely putting squares on roofs to make money," but here to affect change, every day. Another way he instills his philosophy is through the company's core values.

"Last year we implemented a more rigorous hiring process to ensure we are hiring people that are like-minded with the same vision and match our core values, said Tara Kelly, director of community development for Sullivan. "I think that has helped us maintain the culture, passion and dedication as well as our reputation."

The tenets of Sullivan's core values are: Embrace challenges with drive and passion; live honestly and be humble; set standards and then exceed them; be in a perpetual state of improvement; be part of the solution; be one with your Sullivan family; and get on the boat!

"Each new hire gets a Core Values Book, and the [tenets] are painted on the wall of the offices in an Irish font," Kelly continued. "We keep the core values alive by sharing our core value stories and striving to achieve them."

The Sullivan family Irish crest is not only the company's logo, but it is also engrained in the core values booklet. "The shield represents whom we are as a company and family in this journey we share together in leading the solar energy revolution," a phrase in the book says.

In addition to investing in alternative energy and saving the world, which is quite a lofty goal on its own, Sullivan invests in his employees as well.

"We would not be where we are if it were not for the people that make this machine run," he



said. "So I have believed since the beginning when the company succeeds the people within the company need to succeed and be rewarded as well."

Kelly — who joined the company five years ago right out of San Diego State after stewarding the campus' own march toward renewable energy as its "Green Commissioner" — said Sullivan keeps the motivating culture alive.

"We all work very hard but Daniel rewards all of us very well and it keeps a good atmosphere," she said. "We are a very close-knit community and we do a lot of outside activities to bond us together and celebrate our successes."

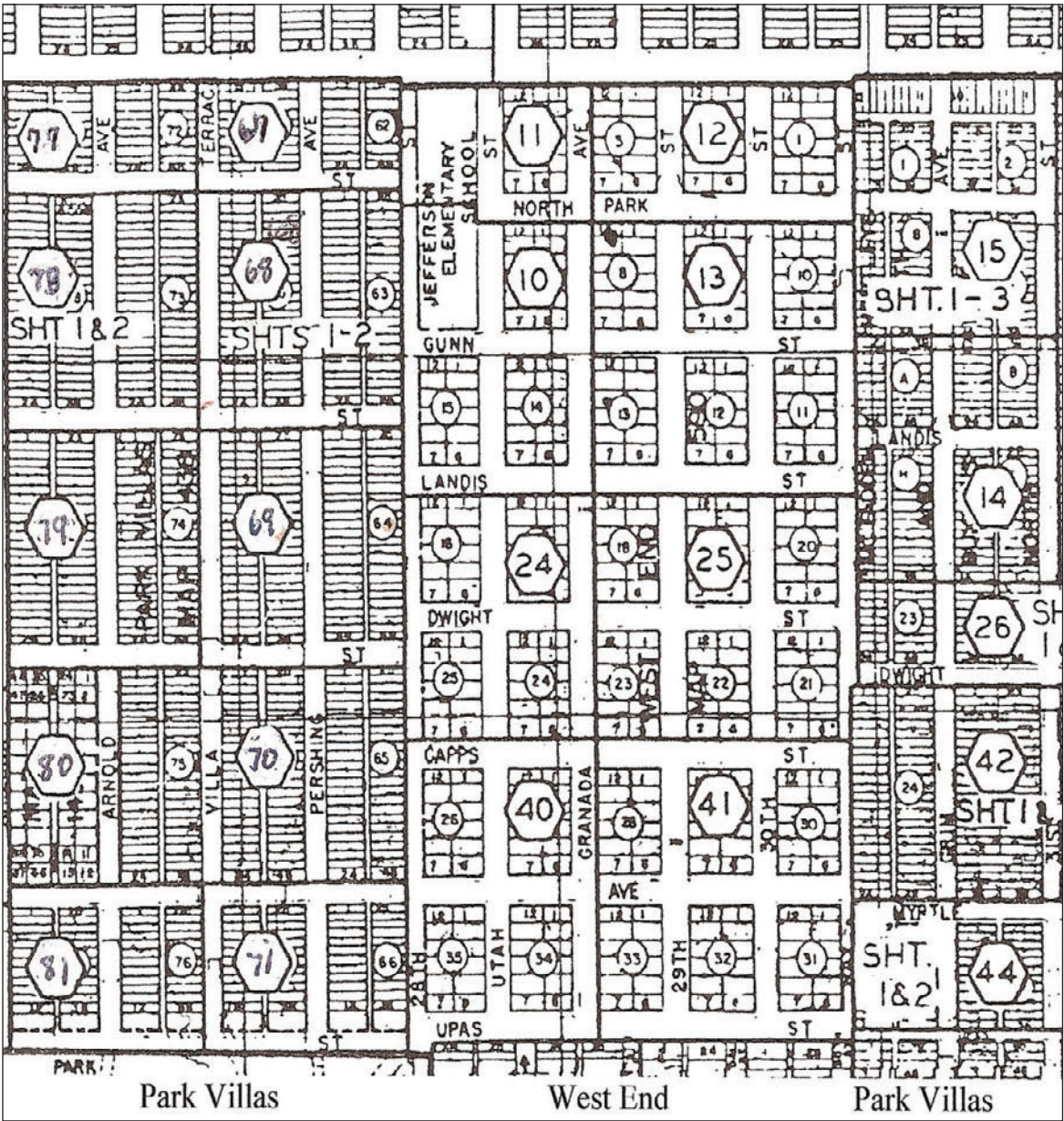
With the net metering cap fast approaching, Sullivan and his team have been performing detailed analysis on the productivity of their existing solar systems. As a result, they are confident they'll be able to optimize systems for many of SDG&E customers who will be transitioned to the new "time of rate" structure, which will make the value proposition nearly as good as it was before the cap.

In 2015, the 10-year-old company saw \$50 million in revenues and despite the upcoming net metering cap, are targeting \$70 million in 2016. That's a long way from life in that garage.

"I think a lot of my motivation came from the people who said that it couldn't be done and that I couldn't succeed," he said. "So I set out to prove them all wrong and I'm not done yet. There's a lot of people who are still naysayers about solar and renewable energy, about whether or not we could really change this region, this state, this country and ultimately, globally, and our dependence on the fossil fuel industry."

"I'm gonna go to my grave trying to prove that it can."

—Reach Morgan M. Hurley at morgan@sdenn.com. ❖



Stark contrasts in lot and street patterns within the Park Villas and West End subdivisions in North Park are evident in this excerpt from city mapping. (Courtesy of North Park Historical Society)

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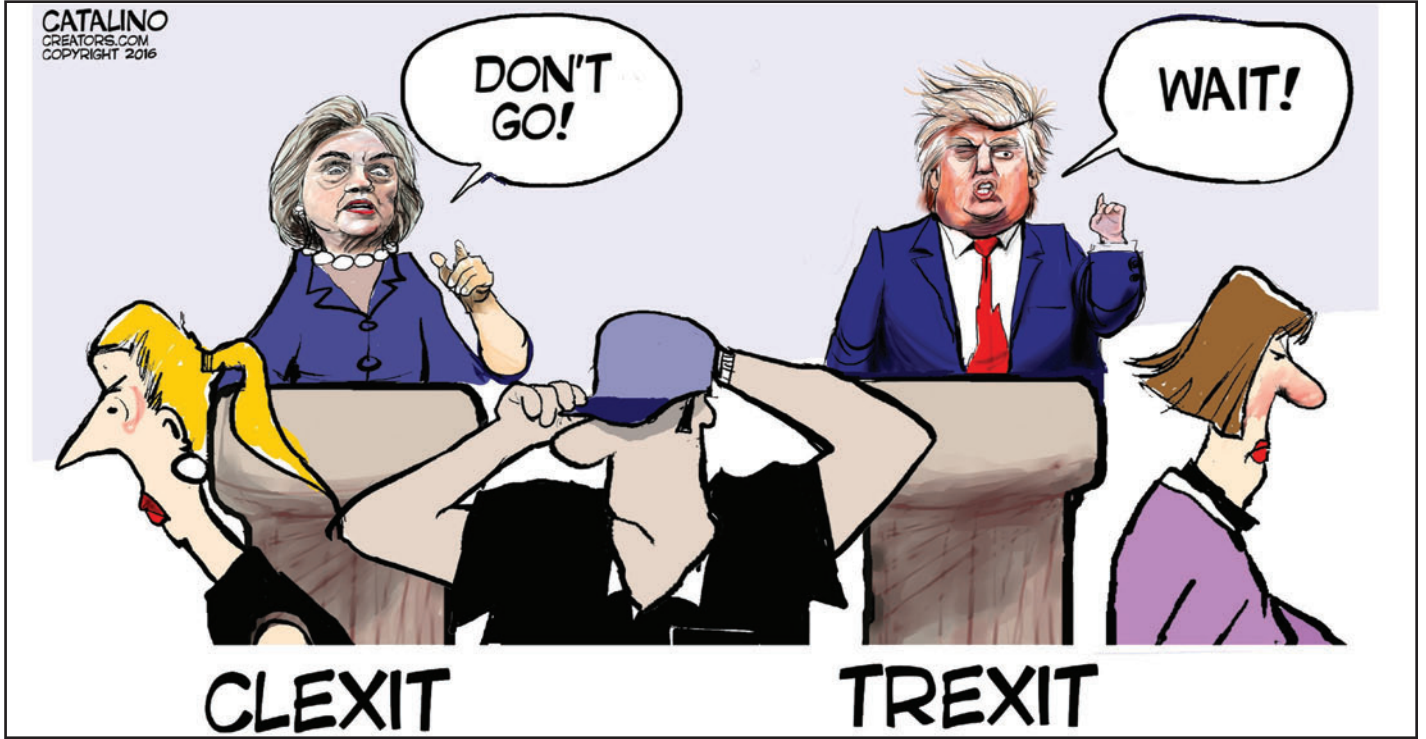
AWARD-WINNING JOURNALISM: San Diego Uptown News won third place for general excellence at the 2016 AFCP Annual Publication Awards. This category is the top award in the annual competition, which received more than 1,400 entries from free community newspapers across the U.S. and Canada. Parent company San Diego Community News Network won a total of six awards.

OPINIONS/LETTERS: San Diego Uptown News encourages letters to the editor and guest editorials. Please email submissions to ken@sd cnn.com and include your phone number and address for verification. We reserve the right to edit letters for brevity and accuracy. Letters and guest editorials do not necessarily reflect the views of the publisher or staff.

SUBMISSIONS/NEWS TIPS: Send press releases, tips, photos or story ideas to ken@sd cnn.com.

For breaking news and investigative story ideas contact the editor by phone or email.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers debate if a conflict of interest exists

RE: "A conflict of interest? Uptown Planners face a controversy," Volume 8, Issue 13 or at bit.ly/1rtN86O.

[Uptown Planners board member Mia] Rosas clearly has a conflict of interest: Her employer is employed by real estate developers who wish to change zoning for their Hillcrest projects. Pretty simple.

—Bruce Bielaski via our website, sd uptownnews.com

Those people who are stopping new development more directly profit from their positions. Their property values will continue to sharply increase if they are able to keep new housing off the market. Sounds like a conflict of interest to me!

—Andy Burt via our website

Uptown Planners is fortunate to have professionals like Maya Rosas and Amie Hayes volunteering their time and expertise to the discussions. Currently there is also a Realtor, a restaurant owner, and an architect on the board. I have not seen a list that details the occupation of every Uptown Planner.

On the founding board of Uptown Planners there was a landscape architect and people who went on to become City Council members. Robert Miles Parker, founder of SOHO, was a founding member of Uptown Planners.

Everyone on the board has some sort of interest in the community. Why else would anyone wade through thousands of pages of documents and hours of bickering? What good would a board be if there were not a variety of interests, backgrounds and knowledge? A professional's expertise is invaluable. It would be helpful to know how each decision-maker, from Mayor to planner, and provider, from developer to architect, benefits.

—Carol Emerick via our website

To Carol Emerick: Yes, you are so right on. We get involved in community groups because we care about our neighborhoods of Mission Hills, Hillcrest and Bankers Hill. We have interest in bringing about neighborhoods that are correctly dense, clean, green and add to the lovely quality of life we all enjoy. Tom Mullaney continues to be a "turd in the punch bowl" of real opportunities in the uptown communities. He has been wrong on density for over 25 years, not supporting the award-winning 1Mission back in 2005, which has been a great success of smart growth, restaurants, and inclusive low income housing.

—LJ Black via our website

Good insight! Thank you Ken Williams.

—David E. Coben via our Facebook page, facebook.com/SDUptownNews

SOHO is nonprofit advocacy group, has no and has not had any financial interest in any project historical or otherwise in Uptown and does not anticipate any in the future. Amie Hayes does not represent SOHO on the board; she is a resident of Uptown and elected by the community to serve on the board. SOHO does operate the Marston House Museum for the city

in Balboa Park in Uptown. Should her employer, for some unforeseen reason, have any financial interest in any project coming before the planning group, Amie would of course recuse herself for discussion and voting on any item like any other planning board member.

—Bruce Coons, SOHO executive director, via our website

Proud of San Diego

RE: "San Diego shows solidarity with Orlando after terrorist attack," a photo page, Volume 8, Issue 13 or at bit.ly/28Z3rC4.

Thank you for sharing these great photos of a very touching evening. It was incredible to see that many community members come together to rally around such a tragic occasion.

—Benny Cartwright via our website

Love our neighborhood!

—Elise Vissel Englander via Facebook

Upgrade the infrastructure

RE: "How future growth will impact North Park, Golden Hill," Volume 8, Issue 13 or at bit.ly/1V2TTE0.

You can't do infill without an upgrade to the infrastructure or you kill your golden goose. More pressure has to be put on the Mayor to require more from the developers than just ensuring reelection.

—Chris Tucker via Facebook

Telling our story

RE: "Chassé-ing your dreams," Volume 8, Issue 11 or at bit.ly/28XNn1Q.

Great article Michael! Thanks for telling the story of my family home and making it relevant and alive.

—Anna Wilcoxson via our website

No excuse for homelessness

I have been a resident of San Diego since my honorable discharge from the USMC. I joined a successful company that, due to the economic conditions, ultimately failed from a lack of contracts.

The timing for my employment opportunities were limited and I found myself unemployed for a significant amount of time, to my regret.

Not willing to give up or fail, I began my journey to further my future. I began with Labor Ready, and I applied at numerous businesses and was willing to wash cars, landscape and otherwise pay my way. Knowing I would succeed if I just continued to make myself available.

The income was still limited but I pressed on while living under homeless conditions — circumstances that still are prevalent to this very day. Homelessness cannot be excused and plays a major role in our San Diego society and must be confronted and not concealed.

During this time, I was blessed and consider myself to have received a blessing by accident:



Readers Poll



Poll results

How do you feel after the Orlando massacre?

69% Angry

23% Defiant

8% Fearful

New poll

Are you connected to solar power?

☐ Yes

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Pershing Bikeway moving forward

Project to transform key artery between North Park and Downtown

Ken Williams | Editor

“We’re creating a world class city for all,” Mayor Kevin Faulconer declared in January during his second State of the City address.

That ambitious goal includes making San Diego a city that’s friendly to bicyclists and walkers. On June 21, the City Council unanimously approved the \$63 million Downtown Mobility Plan, which will add 9 miles of new bikes lanes and 5 miles of wider sidewalks to encourage biking and walking. Many of the bicycling routes Downtown will connect to Uptown as the city and regional government partner, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), begin a massive project that will take years to complete.

The crucial connection between Downtown and North Park is the Pershing Bikeway project, which will dramatically change the way motorists, bicyclists and walkers use the north-south connector that provides spectacular views of Downtown and Balboa Park.

In North Park, the 2.6-mile Pershing Bikeway will begin just south of Jefferson Elementary School on Utah Street at the intersection with Landis

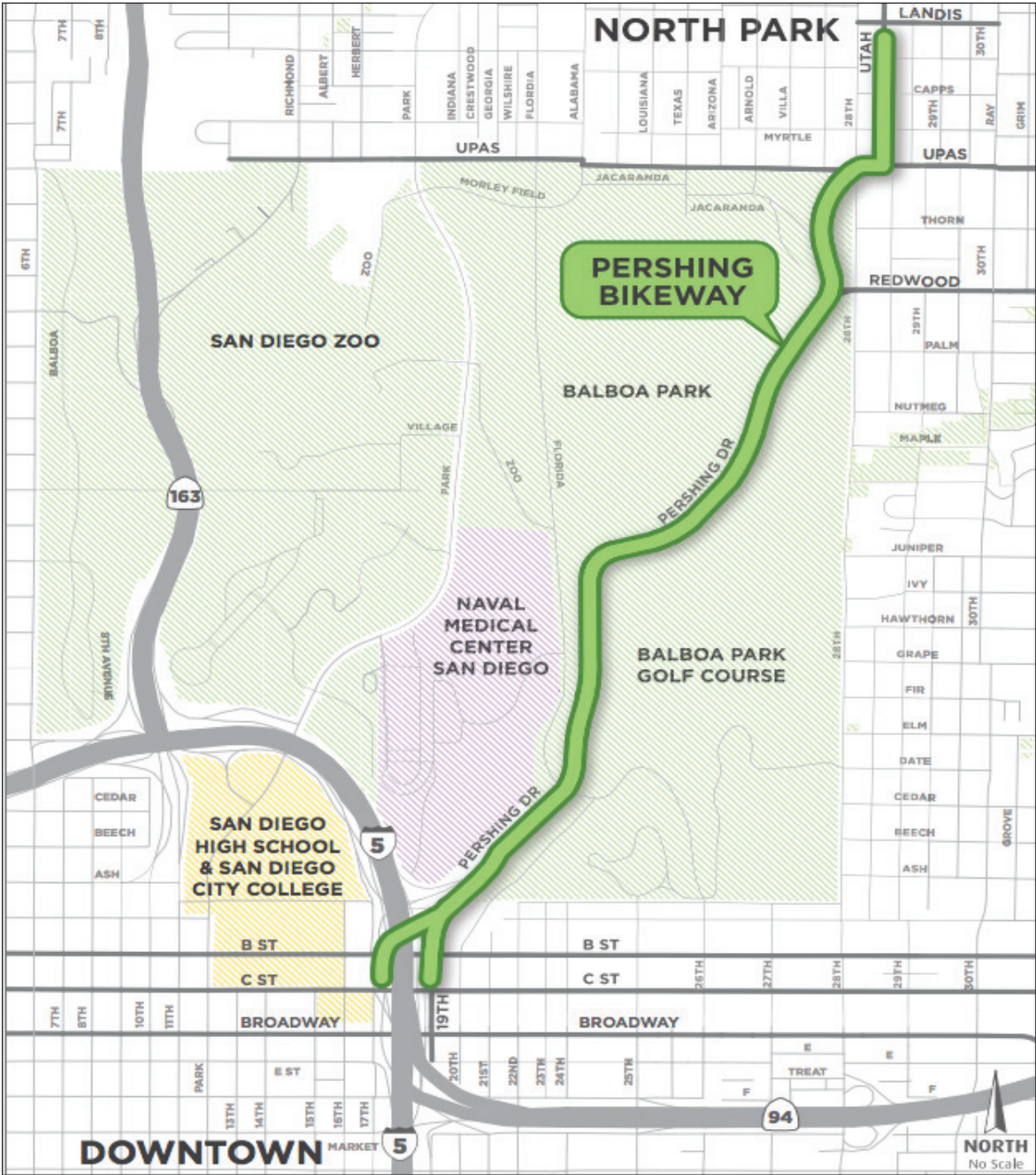
Street. From there, it will follow Utah Street south to Upas Street, head briefly west along Upas, turning south on Pershing Drive to connect with B and C streets Downtown.

Chris Carterette, an associate regional planner specializing in active transportation for SANDAG, gave a PowerPoint presentation at the May 17 and June 21 meetings of the North Park Planning Committee (NPPC).

He pointed out that Pershing Drive was originally conceived as a freeway connector to Interstate 15, before that plan was shelved. Currently, motorists can legally drive up to 50 mph on much of Pershing, along the eastern side of Balboa Park until reaching the busy intersection with Florida Street. But the bikeway plan will lower the speed limit to 35 mph as the project transforms Pershing Drive into a “low stress” street designed to create a safe environment for drivers, bicyclists and walkers.

Although the Pershing Bikeway project has garnered overwhelming support from the community, one of the concerns raised is the impact on traffic after Pershing is reduced from four lanes to two lanes to accommodate

see Bikeway, pg 8



Route of Pershing Bikeway, from Landis and Utah streets on the north side to C Street to the south
(Graphic courtesy of keepsandiegomoving.com)

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FROM PAGE 7
BIKEWAY

a wide-buffered bike lane and a protected bikeway and sidewalk.

Carterette said the average daily traffic on Pershing is actually very low, except during peak rush hours in the morning and evening.

“Pershing is unique because it has a lot of excess roadway capacity,” he said, due to its original conception as a freeway connector.

Because of the high speed limit and steep slopes, Pershing has a higher level of accidents than many city streets. Carterette said the traffic calming efforts would make Pershing safer for motorists, bikers and walkers.

The speed reduction will only add about one minute of driving time from Upas to Florida streets, he stressed.

One of the interesting angles of the project will be adding a traffic roundabout at the dangerous intersection of Pershing and Redwood Street. This traffic-calming roundabout will allow motorists, bikers and walkers to safely get through this intersection, he said.

At the two NPPC meetings, a slew of younger people — many of whom were millennials and Gen-Xers — spoke out in favor of the Pershing Bikeway. One woman, who said she was a senior citizen, was adamantly opposed to changing the speed limit because it was North Park’s direct link to Interstate 5. She also wondered why Pershing with its steep grade



The dangerous intersection of Pershing Drive at Redwood Street will become a traffic roundabout (Graphic courtesy of keepsandiegomoving.com)

was chosen over Florida Street, which offers flatter terrain.

Carterette said Pershing was chosen because it connected to other bikeway projects in North Park, including the future North Park | Mid-Cities Bikeways projects that will run east-west along Landis Street, Orange Avenue and Meade Avenue.

An audience member named Randy said he supported the project for safety reasons, then shared how his friend “barely survived” after being struck by a car while crossing Pershing.

Vicki Granowitz, chair of the NPPC, said she compiled 14 pages of comments made on social media and concluded that most residents are in favor of the project.

Board member Melissa Stayner wondered why a buffered bike lane along the south lanes was necessary, and whether traffic planners should keep two lanes heading south to Downtown. Carterette said some bicyclists liked to fly down Pershing and might not want to use the two-way biking lanes along the north side.

Robert Gettinger, one of the millennials on the board, called

the plan a “well-thought-out, forward-looking project” but noted that the “hilly terrain will be a challenge” to many bikers.

Granowitz pointed out that millennials aren’t as wedded to cars as their elders and embrace alternative transportation modes such as biking.

The board voted 11-1 to support the concept. Board member Daniel Gebreselassie, who heads the Public Facilities & Transportation subcommittee, cast the only no vote “out of principle.” He said he preferred an alternate route that utilized

Florida Street.

In other news, the NPPC voted unanimously to approve a neighborhood development permit (NDP) to 4586 Hamilton St. that includes a deviation for a 1-foot interior setback from the southern lot line. The new construction totaling 6,870 square feet will result in four two-story townhouses over screened carports. The project was presented twice and revised after suggestions were made by committee members so the design conformed to community character

see Bikeway, pg 9

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FROM PAGE 8

BIKEWAY

and increased pedestrian orientation. Changes included adding front door entry facing the street for one of the units, creating a more contemporary design, lowering the fence height to a 3-foot garden wall, adding articulation, and lowering the building's height by 3 feet to reduce its impact on neighbors.

Upcoming meetings were announced:

- NPCC board, 6:30 p.m. July 19, Aug. 16 and Sept. 20
- Urban Design/Project Review subcommittee, 6 p.m. July 5
- Public Facilities & Transportation subcommittee, 6 p.m. July 13

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- 2 The two-way separated bikeway travels around the roundabout.
- 3 The sidewalk provides both paved and unpaved surfaces for people walking or jogging.
- 4 New crosswalks provide connections across Pershing Drive and a sidewalk connects the neighborhood to Balboa Park.
- 5 The southbound buffered bike lane transitions to a separated shared-use path around the roundabout.

Drawing of the Pershing Drive at Redwood Street traffic roundabout
(Graphic courtesy of keepsandiegomoving.com)

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Balboa Park, Mission Bay Park projects proposed

By SDCNN Staff

Imagine San Diego's regional parks being preserved and enhanced for generations to come. That's the goal of an ambitious plan Mayor Kevin Faulconer announced Thursday.

One part of the plan includes the revival of a controversial Balboa Park project that proposes to transform Plaza de Panama into San Diego's premier public space and construct a three-level underground garage behind the Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Opponents sued to stop the project, but lost in a lower court; and the California Supreme Court upheld the lower court ruling upon appeal.

The Balboa Park project includes the creation of more than six acres of parkland, gardens and pedestrian-friendly plazas; major aesthetic improvements, including reflecting pools, in the plaza; and increased parking. The project would be financed through a combination of parking revenue, city funds earmarked for capital projects and private philanthropy.

The second part of the plan would provide a windfall of money for Mission Bay Park and regional parks. To achieve this, voters would need to approve a proposed initiative that would extend for an additional 30 years 2008's Proposition C — co-authored by then-Councilmember Faulconer to direct a portion of Mission Bay lease revenue toward capital investment in Mission Bay Park and regional parks. This will result in hundreds of millions more in future dollars available for Mission Bay Park and regional parks, including rehabilitating historic structures in Balboa Park. It also expedites high-priority infrastructure projects for Mission Bay Park.

The proposed initiative will soon go before the City Council for consideration to be placed on the November ballot. It would need a simple majority of voters for approval.

"Just as our forbearers who created Mission Bay Park and Balboa Park did before us, it's now our opportunity to leave our generation's mark on San Diego's park space and historic treasures," Mayor Faulconer said. "Our regional parks are among San Diego's most valuable assets. We're taking two major steps that will lead to an investment of hundreds of millions of dollars in Mission Bay Park, Balboa Park and other regional parks to ensure they are preserved and enhanced for future generations to enjoy."

Mayor Faulconer was joined for the announcement by City Attorney Jan Goldsmith, Councilmembers Mark Kersey and Lorie Zapf, Councilmember-elect Chris Ward, former Mayor and San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce CEO Jerry Sanders, Qualcomm co-founder Irwin Jacobs, and members from the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, Balboa Park Conservancy, Friends of Balboa Park, and Balboa Park and Mission Bay Park Committees.

"Balboa Park is a jewel in the crown of San Diego's parks and historical landmarks and these plans will provide for the funding to address the deferred maintenance and infrastructure issues that will ensure the park's legacy continues for generations," Sanders said. ❖

sdCNN
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWS NETWORK



The cast of "American Tarzan" includes North Park resident Marie Herrera, seen third from right (Courtesy of Discovery Channel)

FROM PAGE 1 TARZAN

swim the raging rapids, and spend their days in the treetops.

One such woman is North Park resident Maria Herrera.

Herrera is among seven people selected to compete in "American Tarzan," a new reality TV series that's set to premiere on the Discovery Channel at 10 p.m. Wednesday, July 6.

Challengers were flown to a remote Caribbean island to take on Mother Nature's most brutal obstacle course. Their goal was to not only survive the wild, but to master it.

Herrera is the first to admit she's not one to back down from a challenge. The 34-year-old Albuquerque, New Mexico native said she has always been fearless.

In high school, she was the only woman to join the men's wrestling team. When she moved to Las Vegas, she took up street lugging, a dangerous, adrenaline-charged sport.

"I had a friend out there who was a fabricator and he taught me how to weld. One day we decided we'd make street luges so we watched some YouTube videos to learn how to do that," she said. "When I moved to San Diego, I met some other people who [were into the sport] and we got better and faster and I started to get ready to compete."

On one of her training days, she took a corner way too quickly. She knew she wasn't going to make it.

"Instead of being thrown off my sled onto the street, I was thrown off a cliff. It was pretty gnarly and I wound up with a dislocated arm, a compound fracture of my left radius and I fractured one of my vertebrae."

When she got to the hospital, doctors put her through a battery of tests and told her she might not walk again.

"I didn't believe it. I was really stubborn," she said. "I told them I can't have surgery because I had a race in two weeks. I guess it never really hit me because I was so stubborn. Not walking again was not really an option for me."

Her recovery was long and arduous, yet despite a few mental and emotional setbacks, Herrera forged through.

"The mental thing was crippling and I started feeling sorry that I couldn't run, jump or lift. I was taking painkillers and drinking a lot until one day I looked in the mirror and thought to myself, 'You should be paralyzed. You're wasting this. You got a second chance,'"

She started off slowly by doing pushups, sit-ups and squats. That advanced to her signing up at a local CrossFit box.

Competition was next on her list.

"I did one Tough Mudder but that was kind of easy for me so I started doing Spartan races. Little by little, I started to challenge myself more and more. I wanted to see how many more miles I could run or how much more weight I could lift," she

said, adding that when her friend sent her a link to sign up to be considered for "American Tarzan" she jumped on it.

In addition to being "totally into obstacle courses," Herrera also has a stark attraction to survival sports. She recently put her survival skills to the test when she spent a week alone in the Peruvian rainforest with a pot, fire-starter, machete, mosquito net and fishhook.

"I knew the competition was the kind of thing I would pay to do anyway," she said.

The show's producers agreed. She got a call within 10 minutes of putting in her application.

Although she can't tell us too much about what happened during her time on "American Tarzan," she does feel it was a life-changing experience — and she'd do it again in a heartbeat.

"I've always been pretty athletic. As a kid, when I was 4 years old, my mom caught me 20 feet up in a tree. My motto is: 'Making people nervous since 1982,' she said. "If there is one thing I'd like to tell people it's that, no matter if you are injured, overweight or whatever your circumstances may be, if you want something, go for it. The power of the mind is really strong. Work hard, be diligent and you can have anything you want."

—Margie M. Palmer is a San Diego-based freelance writer who has been racking up bylines in a myriad of news publications for the past 10 years. You can reach her at margiep@alumni.pitt.edu. ❖



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Spoils of War

Theater Review

Charlene Baldridge



Opened June 25 at the Old Globe's outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre, Brian Kulick's production of Shakespeare's "Macbeth" is set in a World War I psychiatric hospital for PTSD wounded.

(Kulick is longtime artistic director of New York's Classic Stage Company).

Somewhere in Scotland, the pristine, white ward contains eight beds in which patients sleep, suffering both physical wounds and what was then, I believe, termed battle fatigue. Perhaps they sleep, perhaps they dream their war experiences as well as the entire tragedy that Kulick unfolds. It's a clever concept and a challenge for him to sustain over the evening, and for this audience member to fully embrace. Nonetheless, the play's the thing, the language is excellent and well spoken and the familiar speeches are gripping and poetic

Among the wounded are the three combatants (Makha Mthembe, Amy Blackman, and Suzelle Palacios) who deliver the initial prophecy to the heroic Macbeth (Jonathan Cake) and Banquo (Timothy D. Stickney); to wit, that Macbeth, Thane of Glamis, shall become Thane of Cawdor and King of Scotland and that Banquo will never be king, but will be the sire of kings. The three ladies disappear from their wheelchairs as if by magic, one of Kulick's magic tricks achieved through distraction.

Made aware of the prophecy, the power hungry Lady Macbeth (Marsha Stephanie Blake) awaits her slightly wounded, much bewildered husband and spurs him to action in order to help speed prophetic things along. Under her direction, Macbeth slays their houseguest, King Duncan (the imposing James Preston Bates) and then proceeds to destroy others who may suspect Mac-



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(clockwise from top left) Jonathan Cake as Macbeth; Cake and Marsha Stephanie Blake as Lady Macbeth; Cake with cast members; Cake with Clifton Duncan as Macduff (Photos by Jim Cox)

beth and/or stand in his way to complete, totalitarian rule. These include friends, kinsman and comrades. Both Macbeths become unhinged, and madness ensues.

The pragmatic mind rebels. Apparently we are still in the asylum, which turns red (Arnulfo Maldonado, scenic designer; Jason Lyons, lighting) even as the initial murders are done, with Lady Macbeth drawing an enormous red curtain over the formerly white walls of the asylum (even the floor turns red at the interval).

Patients morph into courtiers for the famous banquet scene, replete with an enormous, stage-wide table whose revolving allows for the presence and disappear-

ance of the dead Banquo, who is seen only by Macbeth. Banquo's son Fleance (Ajinkya Desai) has eluded Macbeth's murderers and eventually becomes King, but only after opposition gathers, Birnam Wood advances on the castle, Dunsinane, and Macbeth is defeated in battle by Macduff (Clifton Duncan), a man who was "not of woman born." A prolonged duel with pistols instead of swords doesn't work, but no matter, the later witchy prophecy is fulfilled and the play is finito. I do miss the view of Balboa Park, but that's just fussy old me. The improved sound system works fine (designers Sten Severson and David Thomas).


One of high points of the play – the revelation to Macduff that his entire household, wife, children and even servants, have been brutally murdered – is handled exceptionally well. Duncan (Globe production of "The Scottsboro Boys"), who plays Macduff, is a fine actor, as are many others in the huge company.

In the real world of entertainment, the Macbeths, for instance, are stars of television and film. Cake has classical creds, too, having trained at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and played many Shakespeare roles in his native England and on the East Coast. He is handsome, speaks the words beautifully

(including the slowest "Tomorrow and Tomorrow" ever heard, and looks great in costume designer Oana Botez's WWI uniform, mostly sans shirt). The diminutive Blake, who received her master's of fine arts from UCSD, is less impressive as Lady Macbeth, lacking the evil gravitas and command we have come to expect from the role.

Despite its shortcomings, "Macbeth" is still Shakespeare's tragedy played under the stars. It merits our attention.

—Charlene Baldridge has been writing about the arts since 1979. Follow her blog at charlenebaldridge.com or reach her at charb81@gmail.com.



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Dr. Ink

There are normally two reasons why I go to malls. Those being when my iPhone needs repair at the Apple Store, and on fewer occasions, to shop for things I don't need with gift certificates given to me for Christmas. Neither provides social or spiritual fulfillment.

But exceptions can be made if cheap drinks are involved, particularly when I get to play bartender with a few taps of my finger.

Such is the case at Stacked in Fashion Valley Mall, where a simple swipe of a credit card allows you to custom-order your food and drinks from iPads while barely interacting with the wait staff.

For the technically challenged, staffers stand by ready to guide you through the colorful interfaces used for customizing salads, burgers, pizzas and other fare.



(clockwise from left) Vodka and diet cranberry juice; cheeseburger sliders; construct your own well drinks on iPads at Stacked (Photos by Dr. Ink)

Ingredient choices are displayed with appetizing clarity along the right side of the screens. In some cases the possibilities are vast.

The process, however, is less complex during happy hour, when the specs for reduced-price appetizers and specialty cocktails are already pre-established as they appear on the screen. Although if you opt for a \$4 well drink — or “simple cocktail” as it’s called here — you get to click onto various ingredients

you want in the drink and then drag them over to a graphic of an empty glass.

The first set of options is liquor, from which you select vodka, rum, gin or whiskey, all carrying labels from leading, commercial producers.

Barton Vodka, check.

From a list of mixers, the choices span from sodas and tonic to water and a few different fruit juices. I chose diet cranberry.

Finally, you select a garnish — olives, lemons, limes, etc. For this summery concoction I built with ease, fresh orange wedges proved a fine fit.

Within three minutes my drink

arrived, and with a looser pour on the vodka than some I’ve had in pricey drinking establishments.

Moments later, a trio of cheeseburger sliders I also ordered were brought to my table by a server who said nothing more than, “here ya go.” Those were only \$6 — not bad, although the mini meat patties were too over-fried for my taste.

But overall I relished ordering items without any servers drowning me in cheerful platitudes. As a result, I tapped out another drink from the iPad, though only to discover that gin, Sprite and maraschino cherries taste rather clumsy together. ❖

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(Fashion Valley Mall)
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stacked.com

Happy Hour: 3 to 6:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday; 9 p.m. to
close Sunday through Thursday.

RATINGS

Drinks: ♂♂♂♂

The liquor choices for customized well drinks cover all bases, and the pours are fairly generous.

Food: ♂♂

Based only on the cheeseburger sliders, the patties were dry and had a heavy fried taste. The moist buns, fresh fixings, and special sauce, however, came to their rescue.

Value: ♂♂♂♂

Drink and food prices drop down by about 25 percent during happy hour.

Service: ♂♂♂♂

When I tapped onto the “call server” icon to ask for extra onions shortly after my sliders arrived, a staffer came quickly and then zipped right back with the garnish.

Atmosphere: ♂♂♂♂

The layout features a sizable bar and comfy booths accented by industrial décor that feels part brew pub, and part chain restaurant. But overall, it doesn’t scream “shopping mall.”

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Thai sausage with peppers and onions at Encontro North Park (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

Sausages and shakes

Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



The name Encontro is a play off the Latin verb, “encontrar,” which means “to find” or “discover.” But anyone traversing the commercial heart of North Park will have little trouble spotting the fast-casual eatery that sits stylishly on the lively intersection of University Avenue and 30th Street.

What consumers discover inside, however, is a menu of artisan sausages and other ticked-up fare complementing craft beer and global wines dispensed from nearly two dozen taps.

This used to be the original location of Heaven Sent Desserts, although the building is unrecognizable after local designer Paul Basile was commissioned to wrap the exterior in reclaimed scaffolding boards and pepper the inside with cedar tables, crafty light fixtures and wall planters bursting with greenery behind the bar.

Also, a copper-surfaced dining counter looks onto a large grill fronting the kitchen, allowing customers to witness the flame cooking of various proteins such as lamb sausages, Scottish salmon, and burgers comprising brisket and chuck roast.

The communal, upbeat feel of the place is exactly what owner John Sarkisian wanted after previously operating Pat & Oscars in Mission Valley with his parents for 10 years.

“I have a passion for people, good food and community, and wanted to do something urban,” Sarkisian said as he ran meals on heavy-metal trays to customers after they placed their orders at a manned iPad station just inside the door.

But if you’re seeking a quiet meal with private seating, go elsewhere. Aside from the enthusiastic patronage that’s similar to nearby Waypoint Public, the front windows fold open to the outside bustle in the absence of sound-absorbing design elements. The tables are mostly communal, although thankfully there isn’t a flat screen in sight.

All sauces and dressings are made in-house. We especially loved the buttermilk-lemon dressing on a fresh kale salad strewn simply with cherry tomatoes, large croutons and shaved Parmesan Reggiano. Creamy and bright, it tempered the bitterness of the frilly greens while offering a touch more



novelty than ubiquitous Caesar dressing.

For an order of Portobello fries dusted in rice flour, we requested a side of basil aioli that normally comes where it best belongs — on Encontro’s salmon or chicken sandwiches. It struck a neutral pairing to the mushrooms, which we ended up devouring in their bare presentation.

A trio of buttermilk cheddar-chive biscuits, priced kindly at \$3, revealed bits of corn within their steamy interiors. Without the accompanying honey butter, they were savory and appetite-inducing. With the butter, they qualified as dessert.

We started also with a pair of mini corn dogs that were chubbier than most given they’re made with bratwurst. Starting from the outer casing of corn batter, which wasn’t overly sweet, and right down to the sausages underneath, these were the juiciest, best-constructed corn dogs I’ve had in ages — clearly not from a factory, and served fittingly with robust whole-grain mustard.

If the craft suds sitting beneath your chin cries for an old-fashioned hot dog, the menu obliges with a pork-beef dog adorned with relish and a blend of grilled jalapenos and onions on a brioche roll.

For the house burger, we chose Swiss cheese and slathered on the Worcestershire aioli served alongside. In spite of the zippy sauce, which imparted a quasi-steak flavor to the finely ground meat, it was the charry essence and faultless medium-doneness that made

(above) Bratwurst corn dogs; (left) strawberry milkshake (Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

this a memorable burger.

More unforgettable was the sustained tongue burn we encountered from the Thai sausage sandwich, which my fireproof taste buds welcomed immensely, and my companion’s touchy palate not so much. Topped with grilled onions and banana peppers, the link contains a mix of shrimp and Duroc pork, plus a riot of spices and minced chili peppers.

As we were assured when choosing it over the other sausage choices — lamb, chorizo and Italian — it wasn’t fishy, although the sweetness of the shrimp was pleasantly evident. So were the flavors of ginger, coriander, cumin and lime — much like consuming Tom Kah soup in chewable form, and with the heat nicely pumped up.

Where sausages, dogs and burgers reside, so do milkshakes. They’re the only dessert choice here. But who cares when coveted Hammond’s ice cream goes into them?

Available in several flavors, we chose strawberry, which contained big, ripe pieces of the fruit that clogged our straws along with way — just as I prefer after a hearty meal of nostalgic fare made with quality ingredients and snazzy twists.

—Frank Sabatini Jr. is the author of “Secret San Diego” (ECW Press), and began his local writing career more than two decades ago as a staffer for the former San Diego Tribune. You can reach him at fsabatini@san.rr.com. ❖

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After a 10-year run, The **Tractor Room** in Hillcrest is closing with a final Sunday brunch from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 10.

Co-owner Johnny Rivera put the business up for sale several months ago with the hopes of finding a buyer "that would enhance the neighborhood." But that didn't pan out, he said. So he and business partner Andy Beardslee decided to close the cocktail-centric restaurant rather than wait any longer.

"We had a good run and the property is still up for grabs," Rivera said. "We were the first wave on the local craft cocktail scene, although it's not as unique now as it was back then, so it's time to move on."

Rivera — who also owns **Hash House a Go Go** (with Beardslee) and **Great Maple** — said a few special events are planned leading up to the brunch. They include a tutorial happy hour from 6 to 8 p.m. July 6; an art show by David Russell Talbott from 6 to 9 p.m. July 7; and a paella cookoff from 7 to 11 p.m. July 9. 3687 Fifth Ave., 619-543-1007, thetractorroom.com.



Coming early next year to Bankers Hill is the first restaurant on American soil by Drew Deckman, an acclaimed chef and Baja restaurateur who is joining forces with local design whiz Paul Basile. The pair will develop a 2,800-square-foot space inside the Structure Lofts for a culinary concept yet to be revealed, although their motif will pay respect to the building's Mid-Century élan.

Deckman spent part of his career cooking with renowned toques in France and Switzerland. In addition, he was awarded a Michelin star for his work at **Restaurant Vitus** in Reinstorf, Germany, before founding **Deckman's en el Mogor** at a winery in Mexico's Valle de Guadalupe. 440 Upas St.



Fast and healthy Korean dishes have arrived in the heart of Hillcrest.

(Courtesy of Hom Korean Kitchen)

Korean cuisine free of preservatives, dairy and MSG rules the day at the new **Hom Korean Kitchen** in Hillcrest, which soft-opened this month in the space previously occupied by **Which Wich**. Owner Konan Pi said his recipes for items such as firecracker pork, BBQ chicken, beef bone soup and kimchi originate from family members. This is Pi's second location since opening one in San Jose last year.

"I really like the community down here and thought it would be a good fit since everything is made in-house from scratch," he said.

The menu also features gluten-free and vegan options. 3825 Fifth Ave., 619-956-9099, homkoreankitchen.com.



Classic bouillabaisse will be offered at Bastille Day dinner at Bleu Boheme in Kensington. (Courtesy of Bleu Boheme)

Rack of lamb and classic bouillabaisse are among the menu options for a three-course Bastille Day dinner on July 14 at **Bleu Boheme** in Kensington, which also celebrates its ninth anniversary next month. The meal costs \$60 per person and includes a choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert. In addition, celebratory French cocktails will be available for \$12 each. Reservations are recommended. 4090 Adams Ave., 619-255-4167, bleuboheme.com.

Shawn's on Congress, a wine and beer bar in Old Town, recently introduced "dog day Sundays" starting at 11 a.m. the third Sunday of every month on its dog-friendly patio. The event features grilled hot dogs and bratwurst in addition to flatbreads and other noshes from its regular bistro menu.

Owner Shawn Magurno opened the business in November in the space formerly occupied by **Christopher's on Congress**. He offers craft beers from small, local breweries such as **Duckfoot** and **Helm's Brewery**, plus 40 different wines by the glass, including strawberry Riesling and pinot noir that he produces at his San Carlos residence. He has also introduced "pint nights" spotlighting local brewers on certain Tuesdays and Thursdays each month, and plans on bringing in winemakers for special tastings. 2539 Congress St., 619-450-4154, shawnscongress.com.

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



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9/6

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Sudoku
Puzzle

Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

Puzzle answers on page 16

Uptown Crossword

Making Capital?

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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CREATOR'S NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ACROSS

1 French novelist

5 Sloping passages

10 Charles or May

14 Ring stone

15 Obliterate

16 Stadium

17 Italian looper?

20 Compass pt.

21 ___ Tyler

22 Spring period

23 Soft drink

24 Burn

26 Herod's dancer

29 European capital

30 Steal

33 Cut

34 ___ acid

35 Finnish port

36 Canadian conflict?

40 Regret

41 Eastern princes

42 French river

43 Goof

44 Streamlets

45 Outwitted

47 Delicate

48 Ditch

49 Cornbread

51 Farm vehicle

52 Scoundrel

55 Yugoslav educational institutions?

59 ___ of Man

60 Vibrate

61 Fierce feline

62 Objective

63 Transported

64 Sign of sorrow

DOWN

1 Band instrument

2 Set ___ : attack

3 Plucky

4 Cordoba cheer

5 Do cobbler work

6 Antilles island

7 Miss Pickford

8 Greek letter

9 Kobe coin

10 Show fear

11 English river

12 Segment

13 Hardwood

18 Tiny bit

19 Look

23 Stupor

24 Slaves

25 Where Sligo is

26 Supply

27 A Rubenstein

28 Capacity unit

29 Uncouth chaps

30 Object pettily

31 Corpulent

32 Presented

34 Salty

37 More watchful

38 Asian river

39 Beginning

45 March or smile

46 Curse

47 Benefactor

48 Billiard stroke

49 Money, in Morelos

50 Earthen jar

51 Welshman, for one

52 Dissolute man

53 ___ mater

54 Mighty monarch

55 ___ Dipper

56 Skillful

57 Pair

58 Make a choice

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Puzzle answers on page 16

“Kiss Me, Kill Me” top award-winner at FilmOut festival

Ken Williams | Editor

A film noir murder mystery set in West Hollywood, a dark and brooding thriller from Australia, and a heart-wrenching documentary about a 1973 mass murder in New Orleans dominated FilmOut’s 18th annual San Diego LGBT Film Festival awards this year.

“Kiss Me, Kill Me,” the Opening Night movie directed by Casper Andreas, won a total of six awards. Although the plot was set in contemporary WeHo, the mood harkened back to the film noir era of Hollywood in the 1940s and 1950s. “Kiss Me, Kill Me” won four Audience Awards and two Festival Awards.

“Downriver,” directed by Australian Grant Scicluna, tells the story of a young convict who served his time in connection with the suspected drowning of a young boy and who goes searching for the grim truth. “Downriver” collected four awards, including three Festival Awards and a Programming Award.

“Upstairs Inferno,” a documentary directed by Robert L. Camina, examines the real story of what happened on the night of June 24, 1973, in the French Quarter in New Orleans when an arsonist torched the Upstairs Lounge and 32 people died when they were trapped on the second floor. Until 49 people were murdered in the hate crime and terrorist attack at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, on early Sunday morning June 12, 2016, the unsolved arson in New Orleans was notorious for being the largest gay mass murder in U.S. history. “Upstairs Inferno” won Festival and Audience awards for Best Documentary and the prestigious Freedom Award.

Michael McQuiggan, the longtime program director for FilmOut, explained the difference between Festival Awards and Audience Awards.

“The Festival Awards are chosen by the programmers/screening committee and the Audience Awards are determined by the audience,” he said. “A lot of the Festival Awards will be noted by programmers from other film festivals that may or may not have been on the fence to select these films for their upcoming festivals. It was a highly competitive year for the Audience Awards, which were 6 inches thick.”

Audience Award ballots were available throughout the festival, which ran June 3 – 5 at the Observatory North Park theater. Attendance exceeded 5,000 this year, McQuiggan estimated.

Almost half of the movies shown at the festival won some sort of award, and McQuiggan had a theory for that.

“That the broad selection of films seemed to resonate with the audiences this year,” he said. “There were films from all genres represented. There were some clear frontrunners, but some of the more obscure films were really supported by our patrons — and the results were quite surprising and rewarding to the filmmakers/talent involved. The Festival Awards seemed to gear more toward the intense, dark, controversial films, while the Audience



(l to r) Van Hansis, Gale Harold and Matthew Ludwinski star in “Kiss Me, Kill Me,” an award-winner at FilmOut’s 18th annual San Diego LGBT Film Festival (Courtesy of FilmOut)

Awards went for the more mainstream-themed films.”

McQuiggan noted that FilmOut — which has previously been named one of the top 10 LGBT film festivals in the U.S. — now has official recognition in the movie industry.

“Since FilmOut San Diego is accredited with IMDb and our festival winners are listed in its awards section, it gives these films a small boost in recognition to the film industry,” he said.

IMDb calls itself the world’s most popular and authoritative source for movie, TV and celebrity content. The website offers a searchable database of more than 185 million data items including more than 3.5 million movies, TV and entertainment programs and 7 million cast and crew members.

The full list of award winners follows:

2016 FilmOut Festival Awards

- Best Narrative Feature: Grant Scicluna, “Downriver”
- Best First Narrative Feature: Stephen Dunn, “Closet Monster”
- Best Screenplay: Ray Yeung, “Front Cover”
- Best Actor in a Feature Film: TIE — Geoffrey Couët and François Nambot, “Paris 05:59 – Theo & Hugo”
- Best Actress in a Feature Film: Kerry Norton, “ToY”
- Best Actor in Supporting Role: Aaron Abrams, “Closet Monster”
- Best Actress in Supporting Role: Kerry Fox, “Downriver”
- Best International Feature: Olivier Ducastel and Jacques

Martineau, “Paris 05:59, Theo & Hugo”

- Best Overall Short Film: Arkasha Stevenson, “Vessels”
- Best Short Film Male: Gabriel Dorado, “De Vuelta”
- Best Short Film Female: Kai Stanicke, “B.”
- Best International Short Film: Nils Åsén, “The Memory of You”
- Best Cinematography: Rainer Lipski, “Kiss Me, Kill Me”
- Best Documentary: Robert L. Camina, “Upstairs Inferno”
- Best Direction: Grant Scicluna, “Downriver”
- Best Soundtrack: Jonathan Dinerstein, “Kiss Me, Kill Me”

2016 Audience Awards

- Best Narrative Feature: Casper Andreas, “Kiss Me, Kill Me”

- Best Screenplay: David Michael Barrett, “Kiss Me Kill Me”
- Best Overall Short Film: Sam Greisman, “Dinner with Jeffrey”
- Best Actor in a Feature Film: Van Hansis, “Kiss Me, Kill Me”
- Best Actress in a Feature Film: Briana Evigan, “ToY”
- Best Supporting Actor: Robby Stahl, “Flatbush Luck”
- Best Supporting Actress: Briana Marin, “Flatbush Luck”
- Best International Feature: Marco Kreuzpaintner, “Coming In”
- Best Documentary: Robert L. Camina, “Upstairs Inferno”
- Best Comedy: Rob Williams, “Shared Rooms”
- Best Ensemble: Cast of “Kiss Me, Kill Me”

2016 Programming Awards

The Festival and Programming Directors are responsible for these awards:

- Freedom Award: Robert L. Camina, “Upstairs Inferno”
- Outstanding Emerging Talent: TIE — Connor Jessup, “Closet Monster” and Reef Ireland, “Downriver”
- Outstanding Artistic Achievement: Laurent Boileau, “Lady of the Night”

—Ken Williams is editor of Uptown News and can be reached at ken@sdcdn.com or at 619-961-1952. Follow him on Twitter at @KenSanDiego, Instagram at @KenSD or Facebook at KenWilliamsSanDiego. He is a volunteer board member of FilmOut San Diego, serving as Film & Media Relations Director.❖



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UPTOWN CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS



'A Beautiful Planet'

Friday, July 1

This new IMAX film opens today in the Heikoff Giant Dome Theater at Reuben H. Fleet Science Center (1875 El Prado, Balboa Park). The film directed by Toni Meyers and made in cooperation with NASA offers stunning views of Earth with footage shot by astronauts aboard the International Space Station (ISS). In addition to showcasing beautiful images, the film also highlights the impact of humans on Earth showing the effects of deforestation, fracking fires and glacial melting — all visible from the ISS. The film is rated G and is narrated by Jennifer Lawrence. Visit rhfleet.org for showtimes and tickets.

Meet the artist: 'Petit Point Needlework' by Linda Gillespie

Saturday, July 2

Ladybug Art Center (4685 Biona Drive, Kensington) will be displaying more than a dozen handcrafted art pieces by Linda Gillespie. Her Petit Point is a delicate version of needlepoint using finer linen, needles and thread. Her pieces depict historical buildings including San Diego's Heritage Park. The "meet the artist" reception will be held from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. with light refreshments served. The artwork will be on display through the end of July. Visit ladybugartstudio.com for more information.

Live music: The ORVIT Chamber Ensemble

Saturday, July 9

The ORVIT Chamber Ensemble – a string quartet and modern chamber ensemble – will perform at The Studio Door (3750 30th St., North Park) from 7:30 – 9 p.m. They will be performing works by G. P. Telemann, Alec Wilder, Eugène Bozza, and original film score arrangements. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Visit thestudidoor.com for more information.

Live music: Clarinet concert

Saturday, July 9

Mission Hills Branch Library (925 W. Washington St.) will host this concert starting at 3 p.m. Clarinetist Philip Lipton will present a performance in tribute to the legendary Benny Goodman. Visit facebook.com/mhlibrary for more information and more library events.

South Park Summer Walkabout

Saturday, July 9

South Park Business Group presents this quarterly festival to support brick-and-mortar businesses in the area. The free event will feature complimentary treats, live entertainment and special offers at various businesses. For a guided tour by Urban Safaris, meet in front of West Grove on 30th and Juniper streets at 6:30 p.m. Visit the info booth in the California Liquor lot for South Park maps and other information. You can also enter a free drawing to win a South Park gift basket and/or buy a South Park T-shirt. The Walkabout highlights the business district on the north end at Kalma and 30th streets and at the south end at Beech and 30th streets. The event will take place from 6 – 10 p.m. Get details and a walking guide at southparkscene.com.

'Kung Fu Panda 3'

Saturday, July 9

With summer comes outdoor movies and San Diego parks and other venues offer many. The Morley Field Sports Complex (2221 Morley Field Drive, Balboa Park) will be hosting this showing of the family-friendly animated movie "Kung Fu Panda 3." A snack bar will be open with concessions for purchase and there will be carnival-style games set up for pre-movie fun. Visit summermoviesinthepark.com for more information and a full schedule of summer movies.

Live music: Hills Like Elephants

Saturday, July 9

Hills Like Elephants will perform as part of the Bird Park summer concert series presented by the North Park Community Association. The local indie-rock band combines electronic elements with pop-rock melodies. Bird Park is located at Upas and 28th streets in North Park. Concerts are from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. and continue every other Saturday throughout the summer. Visit northparksd.org for more information.

'Scent Lab'

Sunday, July 10

This two-hour lab at San Diego Art Institute (1439 El Prado, Balboa Park) will be led by artist Brian Goeltzenleuchter! Participants will start with a nose-training exercise, leading up to the basics of blending. Each participant will have a chance to make trial scents, discuss their formulations and leave with a finished sample of their own creation. The lab costs \$65 per person and will be held from noon – 2 p.m. Visit bit.ly/2925B3K to register.

Free lecture demo with Hyacinthe Baron

Saturday, July 16

Artists are invited to attend this unique workshop from noon – 2 p.m. at The Studio Door (3750 30th St., North Park). The lecture demo will explore the process of untapping creativity as outlined in Hyacinthe Baron's book "Seeking the Stranger: Drawing Your Way into the Deeper Self." Visit bit.ly/2924sJI for details and RSVP for the event by emailing forall-weknow@thestudidoor.com.



DIGITAL GYM GEMS



Friday, July 1 – Thursday, July 7: Ethan Hawke and Paul Giamatti star in "The Phenom," a drama about a Major League Baseball rookie pitcher whose troubled past affects his performance. Unrated. 90 minutes



Friday, July 8 – Thursday, July 14: The documentary "From This Day Forward" captures director Sharon Shattuck's father's coming out and subsequent transition to female. Unrated. 75 minutes.



Friday, July 8 – Thursday, July 14: "Carnage Park" is a Grindhouse-inspired horror flick about two aspiring crooks who botch a robbery attempt, take a hostage and lead cops on a high-speed pursuit. Unrated. 81 minutes.

Visit DigitalGym.org for show times and tickets and information on additional films.

RECURRING EVENTS

Select dates:

Cinema Under the Stars: Films presented at an outdoor viewing space on various nights of the week. Upcoming films:

"Casablanca" Friday, July 1 – Sunday, July 3

"Strangers on a Train" Thursday, July 7 – Friday, July 8

"Muriel's Wedding" Saturday, July 9 – Sunday, July 10

"An American in Paris" Thursday, July 14 – Friday, July 15

Films start at 8 p.m. \$15. 4040 Goldfinch St., Mission Hills. For more info, visit topspresents.com or call 619-295-4221.

Mondays:

North Park Toastmasters meeting:

6:30 – 8 p.m., weekly meeting at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 3725 30th St., North Park. 8469. toastmastersclubs.org.

Open Mic Night: 7:30 p.m., the mic is open to you at Lestat's Coffee House, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, free. Lestats.com.

Unsung Genius: 6:30 p.m., bi-weekly trivia hosted by Rafael Gaitan starting at 7 p.m.; \$2 to play; cash, bar tab and other prizes. Karaoke to follow at 9 p.m. on the big stage at The Merrow, 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest. Themorrow.com.

Tuesdays:

Curbside Bites: 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., gathering of gourmet food trucks at 3030 Grape St., South Park. Curbsidebites.com.

Tasty Truck Tuesdays: 6 – 9 p.m., Smitty's Service Station hosts several food trucks under their well-lit shade structure, 3442 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Sdfoodtrucks.com.

Open Mic Charlie's: 7 – 9:30 p.m. (except the third Tuesday), open mic night at Rebecca's Coffee House, 3015 Juniper St., South Park, free. RebeccascOFFEEHOUSE.com.

North Park Brewer's Club: 8:30 p.m., monthly meeting of the club every second Tuesday of the month on the back patio at Thorn Street Brewery, 3176 Thorn St., North Park. Thornstreetbrew.com.

Wednesdays:

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, Suggested \$5 donation. Ages 12 and up. Storytellersofsandiego.org.

Thursdays:

Uptown Sunrise Rotary Club meetings: 7 a.m., weekly meeting at Panera Bread, 1270 Cleveland Ave., Hillcrest. Sdurotary.org.

North Park Thursday Market: 3 – 7 p.m., at 3000 North Park Way, between 30th Street and Granada Avenue, North Park free. Northparkfarmersmarket.com.

Kornflower's Open Mic: Signups 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.

Liberty Toastmasters Club: 7 p.m., at Saint Paul's Community Care Center, 328 Maple St., Bankers Hill. Libertytoastmasters.org.

Courage to Change – Al-Anon meetings: 7:15 – 8:15 p.m., a weekly meeting for friends and relatives of alcoholics at Christ United Presbyterian Church (in the chapel), 3025 Fir St., South Park.

Fridays:

Memory Café: 10 – 11 a.m., second and fourth Fridays. Gathering place for those with memory loss, caretakers and those worried about memory problems in the Common Room at First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego, 4190 Front St., Hillcrest. At-will donation. Memoryguides.org and Firstuusandiego.org.

Saturdays:

Old Town Saturday Market: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., on Harney Street and San Diego Avenue, Old Town, free. Also held on Sundays. Oldtown-saturdaymarket.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.

Tai Chi Qigong: 10 a.m., all skill levels welcome in Balboa Park, Upas Street and Sixth Avenue, free. Call Chris at 619-504-1557.

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.

To view local community organization meeting information online, visit: sduptownnews.com/community-organization-meetings.

—Email calendar items to ken@sdenn.com. ❖

FROM PAGE 1
UNITED WAY

Jacqueline Parks, chair of the board of directors of United Way of San Diego County, explained in a statement why Coskey was hired.

"We had some outstanding candidates for the position, and our search committee conducted an extensive nationwide search to find the best candidate to serve the community," Parks said.

"Laurie wrote her doctoral dissertation on United Way, and had a firm understanding of our role in the community and strategic vision," Parks said. "She brings with her strong long-term relationships in the San Diego community and a reputation as a key collaborator, working across party lines. We are confident that she will be the leader we need as we unite the community, helping every child to thrive."

As soon as United Way announced its hire, Coskey's smartphone began filling up with text messages from well-wishers congratulating her on the new job. She shared two texts that particularly touched her heart:

- From Maribel McKinze, organizer at UFCW local 135 — "In whatever I can do to help United Way, please let me know, I was definitely one of those kids who took advantage of the programs and was able to make it through with United Way."

- From Cindy Marten, superintendent of the San Diego Unified School District — "Your gifts that make you perfect for this job are: your compassion, your wisdom, your ability to bring people together around a vision, your network of heart-based leaders who deliver on action, your thoughtful way of always pushing when pushing is needed to reach an outcome. You are a truly a UNITER. Who better to lead the United Way to serve our community than you?"

Although she won't start her new job until July 14, Coskey sat down with San Diego Uptown News to discuss her career move and share how her life experiences have led her to this new challenge as head of the 96-year-old nonprofit.

With her plate more than full, Coskey said she recently resigned from two boards: Interfaith Center for Worker Justice, a national alliance of worker justice organizations; and Southern Border Communities Coalition, an alliance of immigrant and border advocacy organizations. Coskey stressed that United Way did not require her to step down from those groups.

Coskey said she will remain involved with the boards of both the community college district and the convention center. "They relate well to the work that United Way is doing," she said.

"I was not actively looking for a job," Coskey said. "For the past 15 years, I have been doing the most transformative work ... focusing on sustainability of working families. The capstone was working to pass the mini-

mum wage increase in San Diego [which voters approved on June 7 in the California Primary]. This will improve the lives of 170,000 working people in San Diego. They will also get five sick days per year."

Coskey tears up as she talks about how much working families will benefit from the simple act of raising of the minimum wage. She pointed out that many mothers work two or three jobs to make ends meet. "They only want one thing: to give their children a better life," she said, dabbing at the corners of her eyes.

"When someone put the bug in my ear about the opening at United Way, I knew it was on the cutting edge of working to help kids," she continued. "They do real work on the ground, for real children. I know these children and their mothers [from her previous work]. I knew I could flip the coin: helping children. It will be yin and yang for me. It will be complete synergy for my work here in San Diego. I will be firing on all pistons. We have to make a difference for all children."

The local United Way's motto is: "We change the odds for every child through quality education." The website lists three key areas of focus: education, family stability and chronic homelessness.

Although Coskey hasn't yet started at United Way, she has been meeting with the staff and the board of directors to familiarize herself with the inner workings of the nonprofit. She candidly stated that she hasn't yet drawn up any goals for United Way, but she has aspirational goals. "That is," she said, "to get to know our incredible staff and see how the organization works; to meet the board and find out their mission; to meet the funders who make our job possible; and to show appreciation for all that they have done. I want to strengthen our partnerships in the community ... and we will celebrate our 100th anniversary in a few years. United Way has evolved from its beginnings as Community Chest to one of the



Rabbi Laurie Coskey (Courtesy of United Way of San Diego County)



United Way
of San Diego County

What is United Way?

By working with nonprofits, schools, businesses and community leaders, United Way of San Diego County tackles issues impacting children and families in San Diego. It is focused on education and academic success via three milestones: kindergarten readiness, third-grade literacy, and making sure students are prepared to graduate high school and go on to college and career. The nonprofit plays a unique role, bringing the right people and resources together to spark breakthrough community action that elevates every child and family toward a brighter future.

United Way solves complex problems by maximizing existing community partners/resources and establishing common goals to create permanent change in the community. United Way's efforts include anchoring the City Heights Partnership for Children and the Vista Partnership for Children. LIVE UNITED is a call to action for everyone to get involved by donating and volunteering. Learn more at uwsd.org.

Offices are at 4699 Murphy Canyon Road (Clairemont Mesa). Call 858-492-2000.

most respected community organizations in San Diego — and nationwide."

According to the uwsd.org website, United Way had a total revenue of \$15.7 million and a total expenses of \$17.5 million in fiscal year 2014-15.

Over at the San Diego Convention Center, the current fiscal year 2017 budget shows total operating revenues of \$36 million with total operating expenses of \$33.4 million, according to its website visitsandiego.com.

As chair of the SDCCC, Coskey described how her job there is perceived as a "big and important and powerful role."

"This year, we've hired a new president and CEO — the first

time in 25 years," she said. Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe, a veteran venue manager with an extensive resume, was lured to San Diego from Louisville, Kentucky to replace the retired Carol Wallace.

Expansion is perhaps the most crucial issue involving the convention center. San Diego is one of the top tourist destinations in the U.S., and the convention center is known for Comic-Con and large gatherings that focus on the health-care and innovation industries. A convention center brochure titled "2016 Fast Facts" shows that by far Comic-Con is the No. 1 event with attendance of 130,000, resulting in 63,000 hotel nights and providing a regional impact of \$140 million. The runner-up is the Society for Neuroscience convention, which draws 32,000 people, resulting in 54,000 hotel nights and providing a regional impact of \$110 million. And the convention center will host the Major League Baseball All-Star Fanfest from July 8 — 12 as the All-Star Game returns to San Diego on July 12 at Petco Park.

Coskey emphasized the corporation's board remains adamant that the expansion should be contiguous to the existing convention center. However, San Diego voters will decide in November whether or not to approve the Citizens' Initiative, a funding plan for a proposed multiuse stadium for the Chargers and a convention center expansion in East Village.

"Our convention center is 75 percent full," she said, noting that 60 percent capacity is considered A-plus. "We are falling off the rafters. People like to come to San Diego. We get the highest marks for hospitality and food."

Comic-Con officials are urging a contiguous expansion, too, as the annual convention only grows larger, year after year.

Coskey declined to weigh in on the Citizens' Initiative or on the fate of a 6-acre site adjacent to the convention center that is key to a contiguous expansion. The leaseholder on the property, Fifth Avenue Landing, wants to build two hotels there. The land is owned by the Unified Port of San Diego. She hinted that the hotel project is not a done deal.

Whether dealing with expansion plans at the convention center, or advocating for children and working families, or supporting the local LGBT community,

Coskey is one busy activist. She traces her desire to make the world a better place to her family.

"I grew up in LA with a large, loving Jewish family," Coskey said. "I did not come from a life of adversity."

However, adversity found the Coskey family. On Dec. 14, 1963, the Baldwin Hills Dam disaster occurred when the reservoir suffered a catastrophic failure and 250 million gallons of water rushed into neighboring communities. Five people were killed and 277 houses were destroyed — including the Coskey's home. "I've never shared this story with a journalist before," she said.

Coskey and her sisters were 6, 3 and 1 at the time. And in an era before cellphones, her dad was on the golf course when he got the news about the disaster and he had no way of immediately reaching his wife to find out the family's fate.

"We barely had time to get out," Coskey recalled. "We barely had time to rescue the baby from the house."

The Coskeys lost everything: their home and furnishings, their family pictures, their toys and clothes.

"In two minutes, our life changed forever," Coskey said.

It would also be a defining moment for such a young child.

"I was struck by the kindness of friends and strangers," she said. "But it wasn't until I was an adult that I realized how deeply it affected us. Things we care about are just items, like pictures. My Social Security card is still gone. I realized that it is family that is important."

Five years later, at age 10, Coskey notified her family that she wanted to be a rabbi. They didn't have the heart to tell her that a woman couldn't be a rabbi, in those days.

Yet, Coskey would become one of the first female rabbis in the U.S. after being ordained in 1985 from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. The graduate of Stanford would later earn her doctorate from the University of San Diego after writing her thesis on United Way.

"And 22 years later, I am about to go to work for United Way."

—Ken Williams is editor of Uptown News and can be reached at ken@sdenn.com or at 619-961-1952. Follow him on Twitter at @KenSanDiego, Instagram at @KenSD or Facebook at KenWilliamsSanDiego. ♦

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FROM PAGE 1

TAMARINDO

the company recently sold the one in Pacific Beach. The group owns the Fred's Mexican Café in Old Town San Diego and Huntington Beach.

"We are rebuilding the company," he said, noting that they currently own five restaurants.

The menu at Tamarindo — which shares the name of a popular tourist town along the Pacific Ocean in Costa Rica — will feature the fresh catch of the day, seafood, ceviche, tacos, burritos, salads and free range chicken.

Blasingame said the cuisine would be modeled after what is found in the Guadalupe Valley region of Baja California, which has become a haven for food and wine aficionados. He described Tamarindo's cuisine as striving for a "little bit healthier lifestyle with the use of raw ingredients, chiles and Latin spices."

The price range for main dishes, he said, will be \$8 to \$12. Breakfast and brunch will be offered on Saturdays and Sundays.

A slice of history

Tamarindo will occupy the historical Newman/I.O.O.F. Building, located at 2906 University Ave. Edward W. Newman and William E. Gibb obtained a permit in July 1929 to build a steel and concrete structure that would house a department store, according to Donald Covington's book, "North Park: A San Diego Urban Village, 1896-1946," published by the North Park Historical Society.

Newman was a pioneer builder in North Park, University Heights, Normal Heights and Kensington, and Gibb was an early house designer/builder in the community and built a number of commercial buildings in "downtown" North Park.

"The exterior of the building, a modified Mission Revival style, featured a prominent series of round arched windows mimicking a glazed Roman arcade with towers and red tile roof. Modernization in the 1950s covered over transom windows in the arches, and other original features were also lost. However, the full arches and decorative features re-appeared in the restoration design of Richard Bundy and David Thompson, a Main Street sponsored project of the 1990s," according to the book.

"The interior of the original building was divided into two large retail spaces. The corner space featured a mezzanine overlooking the atrium of the ground floor."

The book describes the first occupants.

"In 1930, North Park's first department store occupied this space. The E. N. Mudd Department Store shared the building with the Norman F. Maw Music Company ..."

But as the Great Depression lingered, the two businesses suffered.

"... In September 1932, Edward Newman sold the building to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.). A remodeling project began immediately under the direction of Lee Brendt, a Marine officer and member of the

I.O.O.F. fraternity. The project resulted in lodge facilities facing Kansas Street and four business spaces on University. In 1933, these four spaces were leased to new tenants," the book states.

Almost 20 years ago, Claire Magner became the property's owner and Claire de Lune became a popular hangout space open for coffee, dessert, and a light breakfast or lunch. The Showtime series "Polyamory: Married & Dating" even filmed part of an episode there, giving the space new notoriety.

Although she closed Claire de Lune, Magner continues to operate the Sunset Temple, located on the Kansas Street side of the property.

Plans for Tamarindo

Blasingame has his work cut out for him to transform the space into a restaurant, but he vows to embrace the architectural style.

"This is a beautiful building," he said, adding that the architecture reminds him, somewhat, of Miami Beach and the Art Deco era.

"We hope to enhance some of the Art Deco-style attributes," he said.

He wants the bank of windows along University Avenue to open up, but not with the roll-up "garage doors" that are popular throughout San Diego.

"I want them to tilt and go up," he said. "I won't touch those beautiful arches! We want to feel the outdoors inside."

The outdoor patio area will largely remain the same. "There's not a lot we can do there," he said.

The mezzanine, which overlooks the main space, will be used for offices and storage.

The biggest challenge will be creating a kitchen: "We'll be building the whole thing from scratch."

Tamarindo will feature a large island bar located in the center of the 2,500-square-foot room, he said. "We will showcase lots of local beers and we will be making our own syrups for our drinks."

Blasingame stressed that Tamarindo will not be a bar, and the restaurant will likely close by midnight. "Not everybody drinks, so we will also have virgin drinks and sodas."

The building is directly across the street from the historical Observatory North Park theater, and the city's planned University Avenue Mobility Plan will bring an enhanced crosswalk across University at Kansas Street.

"We're really excited about that," Blasingame said.

Moose Restaurant Group looked all over San Diego County, including Downtown, Little Italy, Encinitas and North County, before deciding to launch their new concept restaurant in North Park.

"There is something different about North Park," he said. "We knew Fred's wouldn't work here. North Park is just a great area. Everybody is out and about. There is a sense of pride and community. Good things are happening in North Park, and we wanted to be a part of it."

—Ken Williams is editor of Uptown News and can be reached at ken@sdcnn.com or at 619-961-1952. Follow him on Twitter at @KenSanDiego, Instagram at @KenSD or Facebook at KenWilliamsSanDiego. ♦



A view of the historical Newman/I.O.O.F. Building, located at 2906 University Ave. which housed the E.N. Mudd Department Store and the Norman F Maw Music Company in the early 1930s. (Courtesy of the North Park Historical Society)



Bear Hair by Chuck



Olympic Cafe



Dr. Jeff Keeny



Bodhi Animal Hospital



Stockton Financial



Saluting This Year's WINNERS!

San Diego is known far and wide for its close-knit and thriving neighborhoods, where residents enjoy food, drinks, local culture and nonstop entertainment. Our communities are vibrant and full of life, shared by local families as well as tourists.

Each year, we invite our loyal readers of San Diego Uptown News to vote for their favorite restaurants, bars and retail businesses found throughout our Uptown neighborhoods and a few beyond.

Uptown News coverage includes the birthplace of California — historic Old Town San Diego and Mission Hills — and the colorful and lively Hillcrest, aka the “gayborhood.” We also cover the hip enclaves of North Park and University Heights as well as the cozy, kick-back neighborhoods overlooking Mission Valley: Normal Heights, Kensington and Talmadge. Our coverage continues to South Park, Golden Hill, Bankers Hill and Park West — all charming neighborhoods that border the city’s crown jewel, Balboa Park.

Our readers have chosen the best of the best in categories such as breakfast, chiropractor, happy hour, wine bar, art gallery, romantic dining, massage, florist, museum, local bar and many, many more.

Some winners have served their neighborhoods for decades, and others are newcomers to their communities but already making an impact.

In the 2016 edition, we offer a full list of reader-chosen winners, and highlight many of the winners along with their missions to serve their customers.

To each of our winners, we extend heartfelt congratulations on your Best of Uptown award and we hope our loyal readers — and your loyal customers — will continue to show you patronage and appreciate for years to come.



Sushi Deli 1



Co-mmunity Creative Office Space



Jyoti Bihanga



Stuart Benjamin



India Street Antiques



The Deli Llama



Gallery West



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DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

CATEGORY	GOLD
AMERICAN CUISINE	Crest Café
BAKERY	Bread & Cie
BARBECUE	The Smok'd Hog
BEER	Ballast Point Brewing Company
BILLIARDS	True North Tavern
BREAKFAST	Breakfast Republic
BRUNCH	Breakfast Republic
BURGER	Calli "O" Burgers
BURRITO	El Zarape Restaurant
BUSINESS LUNCH	Farmer's Bottega Neighborhood Restaurant
CASINO	Barona Resort & Casino
CASINO BUFFET	Barona Resort & Casino
CASUAL DINING	Lil B's
CHINESE CUISINE	Hong Kong Restaurant
COCKTAIL	Martinis Above Fourth Table + Stage
COFFEE SHOP	Lestat's
COMFORT FOOD	Crest Café
DANCE CLUB	Rich's San Diego
DELI	The Deli Llama
DESSERT	Extraordinary Desserts
DINNER	Farmer's Bottega Neighborhood Restaurant
DOUGHNUT SHOP	Donut Bar
FAMILY RESTAURANT	Great Maple
FARMERS MARKET	Hillcrest Farmers Market
FAST FOOD	Ike's Place
FINE DINING	Bertrand at Mister A's
FRENCH CUISINE	Pardon My French Bar & Kitchen
GREEK CUISINE	Olympic Café
HAPPY HOUR	Uptown Tavern
HEALTH FOOD STORE	The Mad Beet
HOT WINGS	Wingstop
INDIAN CUISINE	Bombay Exotic Cuisine of India
IRISH PUB	The Field Irish Pub
ITALIAN CUISINE	Arrivederci
JAPANESE CUISINE	Wonderful Sushi
JAZZ BAR	The US Grant Hotel
LATE NIGHT DINING	Uptown Tavern
LIVE MUSIC VENUE	The Observatory North Park
LUNCH	Jyoti-Bihanga
MARGARITA	Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro
MARTINI	Martinis Above Fourth Table + Stage
MEXICAN CUISINE	Ponce's
MICRO BREWERY	Ballast Point Brewing Company
MUSEUM	San Diego Natural History Museum
NEW RESTAURANT	Madison
NIGHTCLUB	Rich's San Diego
OUTDOOR DINING	The Patio on Goldfinch
PET FRIENDLY DINING	Spitz
PIZZA	Napizza
ROMANTIC DINING	Juniper & Ivy
ROOF TOP LOUNGE	Porto Vista Hotel
SALAD	Jyoti-Bihanga
SANDWICH	Ike's Place
SD COUNTY WINERY	Vinavanti Urban Winery
SEAFOOD	Ironsides
SPORTS BAR	True North Tavern
STEAKHOUSE	The Red Fox Steakhouse and Piano Bar
SUSHI	Wonderful Sushi
THAI CUISINE	Lotus Thai Cuisine
VEGETERIAN VEGAN	Jyoti-Bihanga
WINE BAR	Vom Fass

SILVER
True North Tavern
Babycakes
Brazen BBQ Smokehouse & Bar
Hillcrest Brewing Company
Triple Crown Pub
The Mission
Café 21
Crazee Burger
Chipotle
Bertrand at Mister A's
Sycuan Casino
Valley View Casino
Brazen BBQ
The Asian Bistro
Polite Provisions
Dark Horse Coffee
Chicken Pie Shop
Numbers San Diego
D.Z. Akins
Babycakes
Urban Solace
Nomad Donuts
Lil B's
Little Italy Mercato Farmers Market
In-N-Out Burger
George's at the Cove
Bleu Boheme
Athens Market Taverna (tie)
Alexi's Greek Café (tie)
The Office
Sprouts
True North Tavern
Tandoori Hut
The Ould Sod
Buona Forchetta
Sushi Deli 1
The Red Fox Steakhouse and Piano Bar
Asian Bistro
Park & Rec
Rolled Up
Baja Betty's
Number One Fifth Avenue
Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro
Mike Hess Brewing (tie)
Poor House Brewing (tie)
Museum of Photographic Arts
TRUST Restaurant
Spin Nightclub
The Station Tavern
The South Park Abbey
East Coast Pizza
Bertrand at Mister A's
Bertrand at Mister A's
Lemonade
Big Front Door
Wilson Creek Winery
Pete's Seafood & Sandwiches
Redwing Bar & Grill
Donovan's Steak & Chop House
RK Sushi
Amarin Thai
Café Gratitude
100 Wines

BUSINESS & RETAIL

CATEGORY	GOLD	SILVER
ACCOUNTANT	Jeremy Dutson	Dennis O'Connor
ACUPUNCTURE	Fix Body Group	Eileen Han Acupuncture
ANTIQUES	India Street Antiques	Ocean Beach Antique Mall
ART GALLERY	Alexander Salazar Fine Art	Creative Crossroads
ATTORNEY	Rachel Young	Seneca Law Group
AUTO DEALER	BMW of San Diego	Lutsi Motors
AUTO REPAIR SHOP	Smitty's Service	Ron's Auto Clinic
BANK	Wells Fargo	Union Bank
BARBER	Bear Hair by Chuck	Ralph's Hair Place
BICYCLE SHOP	Mission Hills Bike Shop	Brooklyn Bicycles
BOOKSTORE	Barnes and Noble	Verbatim Books
BOUTIQUE	Cody's Home + Gift	West Grove Collective
BRIDAL SHOP	Brides by Demetrios	David's Bridal
CAR WASH	Uptown Car Wash	North Park Car Wash
CHIROPRACTOR	Fix Body Group	Inner Balance Institute
COLLECTIVE	Point Loma Co-Op	Herbal Lust (Closed)
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY	San Diego State University	National University
CONSIGNMENT RESALE	Flashbacks	Buffalo Exchange
COSMETIC SURGEON	Hillcrest Advanced Aesthetic Dermatology	Dr. Paul Chasan
CREDIT UNION	SDCCU	California Coast Credit Union
DAY SPA	Bodhi Massage and Wellness Center	Knot Stop
DENTIST	Dr. Jeffrey Keeny	Dr. Rod Strober
DISCOUNT STORE	Thrift Trader	Goodwill
DOCTOR	David Shamblaw	Robert Houghton
DRY CLEANERS	Uptown Cleaners	Mission Cleaners
FINANCIAL PLANNER	Mary Stockton	Steve Doster (Closed)
FLORIST	Dave's Flower Box	Rainbow Flowers
FURNITURE STORE	Jerome's Furniture	Lawrance Furniture
GYM / HEALTH CLUB	Fix Body Group	Boulevard Fitness
HAIR SALON	Gila Rut	Gallery West
HOSPITAL	Scripps Mercy Hospital	Sharp Memorial Hospital
HOTEL	Hillcrest House Bed and Breakfast	Somerset Suites
INSURANCE BROKER	Wawanesa	AAA
JEWELER	Bert Levi Family Jewelers	Stuart Benjamin Jewelers
MASSAGE	Fix Body Group	Knot Stop
MEN'S APPAREL	Mankind	Bloomingdale's
NEW BUSINESS	Vom Fass	Co-mmunity Creative Office Space
OPTOMETRIST	Urban Optiks	Specs Optometry
NONPROFIT	Travis Manion	San Diego LGBT Visitors Center
PERSONAL TRAINER	Henry Todd	Chris Keith
PET BOARDING	Camp Run-A-Mutt	Hairy and Merry
PET GROOMING	Fido & Company	Pet Paradise
PLUMBER	Dave Shelton	Anderson Plumbing
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT CO.	Greater Good Realty	American Property Management
REAL ESTATE AGENT	David Stone	Tony Azar
REAL ESTATE OFFICE	Greater Good Realty	Ascent Real Estate
RETIREMENT LIVING	St. Paul Seniors	Casa de Manana
SOLAR COMPANY	San Diego Energy Solutions	Sullivan Solar
TANNING SALON	iTan Hillcrest	
TATTOO PIERCING	Eden	Vivid
TUXEDO SHOP	The Gentlemen's Tux Club	
VETERINARIAN	Bodhi Animal Hospital	Kensington Veterinary Hospital
WEDDING VENUE	The Abbey	The US Grant Hotel
WOMEN'S APPAREL	Pretty Seven Boutique	Bloomingdale's
YOGA STUDIO	Corepower Yoga	Pilgrimage of the Heart



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425 Robinson Ave. 92103
crestcafe.net
619-295-2510

True North Tavern
3815 30th St. 92104
truenorthtavern.com
619-291-3815

BAKERY

Bread & Cie
350 University Ave. 92103
breadandcie.com
619-683-9322

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3766 Fifth Ave. 92103
babycakesandiego.com
619-296-4173

BARBECUE

The Smok'd Hog
3749 Park Blvd. 92103
thesmokdhog.com
619-546-5467

Each of us at The Smok'd Hog are humbled, grateful and overjoyed to be voted GOLD WINNER of San Diego Uptown News "BEST OF" Best Barbecue 2016! It is a high honor and nothing makes our job more rewarding than knowing our customers appreciate our work, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We want to delight you for years to come and never abandon our commitment to celebrate BBQ through gourmet sandwiches and other fine fares using simple ingredients honored with knowledge, patience, and respect. As we grow into our second year of business at the corner of Park and Robinson, we'll continue to be creative with our menu.

We now feature ribs on Saturdays and Sundays, fried chicken on Fridays, and rib tips on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. If you haven't tried our fried chicken yet, it's fantastic! Thank you again, San Diego!

Brazen BBQ Smokehouse & Bar
441 Washington St. 92103
brazenbbq.com
619-816-1990

BEER

Ballast Point Brewing Company
10051 Old Grove Road 92131
ballastpoint.com
858-695-2739

Hillcrest Brewing Company
1458 University Ave.
San Diego, CA 92103
hillcrestbrewingcompany.com
619-269-4323

BILLIARDS

True North Tavern
3815 30th St. 92104
truenorthtavern.com
619-291-3815

Triple Crown Pub
3221 Adams Ave. 92116
triplecrownpubsd.com
619-281-0263

BREAKFAST

Breakfast Republic
2730 University Ave. 92104
breakfastrepublicca.com
619-642-0299

The Mission
2801 University Ave. 92104
themiissionsd.com
619-220-8992

BRUNCH

Breakfast Republic
2730 University Ave. 92104
breakfastrepublicca.com
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Café 21
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cafe-21.com
619-640-2121



BURGER

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calioburgers.com
619-692-9999

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The Smok'd Hog

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BURRITO

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619-692-1652

Chipotle
734 University Ave. 92103
chipotle.com
619-209-3688

BUSINESS LUNCH

Farmer's Bottega
860 W. Washington St. 92103
farmersbottega.com
619-458-9929

Bertrand at Mister A's
2550 Fifth Ave. 92103
asrestaurant.com
619-239-1377

CASINO

Barona Resort & Casino
1932 Wildcat Canyon Road
Lakeside, CA 92040
barona.com
619-443-2300

Sycuan Casino
5469 Casino Way
El Cajon, CA 92019
sycuan.com
619-445-6002

Feel at home as you walk through the doors of Sycuan Casino, San Diego's top choice for fun and excitement in a casual environment! Located in the heart of America's finest city, Sycuan Casino began as a humble Bingo Palace back in 1983. Now, it has become a community landmark. Undergoing a massive renovation in 2012 with additional enhancements in 2015, Sycuan now features 2,000 exciting reel and video slot machines, more than 40 gaming tables, poker, bingo and a variety of restaurants to choose from. Non-smokers will also enjoy over 800 slots and table games in the comfort of San Diego's first and largest fully enclosed non-smoking room — complete with its own separate entrance and Paipa's Surf & Turf buffet. The GameDay Sports Bar & Grill has 39 wide-screen TVs, including five 90-inch TVs, bar-top slot machines, a stadium sized menu, over 30 beers on tap, the Party Pit, complete with three blackjack tables, an extensive collection of sports memorabilia — and a high-energy atmosphere. Sycuan's intimate 457-seat entertainment venue, Sycuan Live & Up Close, features national musical acts and comedians year-round. Open 24 hours daily.

CASINO BUFFET

Barona Resort & Casino
1932 Wildcat Canyon Road,
Lakeside, CA 92040
barona.com
619-443-2300

see Casino Buffet, pg 5

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3900 5th Avenue, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92103
619-682-5160

North Park Branch
Lynette Hurd,
Director & Branch Manager
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619-220-7620

¹ Loans subject to credit and collateral approval. Financing available for collateral located in CA, OR, or WA. Restrictions may apply. Terms and conditions subject to change.

FROM PAGE 4
CASINO BUFFET

Valley View Casino
16300 Nyemii Pass Road
Valley Center, CA 92082
valleyviewcasino.com
760-291-5500

CASUAL DINING

Lil B's
2611 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
619-296-8268

Brazen BBQ
441 Washington St. 92103
brazenbbq.com
619-816-1990

CHINESE CUISINE

Hong Kong Restaurant
3871 Fourth Ave. 92103
hongkongrestaurant.menutoeat.com
619-291-9449

The Asian Bistro
414 University Ave. 92103
theasianbistro.com
619-296-4119

COCKTAIL

**Martinis Above Fourth
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3940 Fourth Ave. 92103
ma4sd.com
619-400-4500

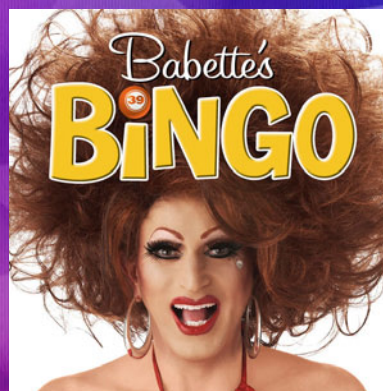
Martinis Above Fourth not only offers the finest American cuisine but also provides great entertainment. This establishment is the premier supper club in San Diego.



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see Cocktail, pg 6

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Roman Holiday: A Tour Of Italia
Thursday July 28 @ 8pm



Jason Graae
Perfect Hermany
Thursday, August 4 @ 8pm



Sandy Campbell & Scott Lacy
Oh, Yeah, She Did!
Thursday, August 18 @ 8pm



Celebrity Impersonator
Michael L. Walters as Dame Edna
Wed, August 24 & Thurs, August 25 @ 8pm



Molly Ringwald
The Birdland Set
Thursday, September 1 @ 8pm



Anne Steele
The Mixtape Of My Life
Thursday, September 15 @ 8pm



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619-677-3784

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lestats.com
619-282-0437

Dark Horse Coffee
3794 30th St. 92104
darkhorsecoffee.roasters.com
619-955-7447

COMFORT FOOD

Crest Café
425 Robinson Ave. 92103
crestcafe.net
619-295-2510

Chicken Pie Shop
2633 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
chickenpieshops.com
619-295-0156

DANCE CLUB

Rich's San Diego
1051 University Ave. 92103
richssandiego.com
619-295-2195

Rich's is San Diego's largest and most popular gay nightclub. We have two large, separate rooms, each with a fully-stocked bar, DJ and dance floor; a VIP area with four private VIP booths and a separate private party room that overlooks the main dance floor; and an outdoor smoking patio. Rich's San Diego is located in the heart of Hillcrest on the main drag of University Avenue, across from the HUB. We are open 10 p.m. – 2 a.m., Wednesday through Sunday. For more information check out richssd.com or facebook.com/richssd.

Numbers San Diego
3811 Park Blvd. 92103
numberssd.com
619-294-7583

DELI

The Deli Llama
3702 Fifth Ave. 92103
delillamasd.com
619-295-4666

An icon in Hillcrest, The Deli Llama has won 16 awards in its seven years by continuing to offer top quality sandwiches, soups and salads and the kind of customer service that makes you feel like family! Featuring specialty drinks, award-winning sauces and aiolis, as well as gluten-free, vegetarian and vegan options, all in a whimsical circus environment. Come meet the Llamas for yourself and you'll be a Llama Lover, too! Delivery and catering available. Unleash your inner Llama!

D.Z. Akins
6930 Alvarado Road 92120
dzakinsdeli.com
619-265-0218

DESSERT

Extraordinary Desserts
2929 Fifth Ave. 92103
extraordinarydesserts.com
619-294-2132

Babycakes
3766 Fifth Ave. 92103
babycakesandiego.com
619-296-4173

DINNER

Farmer's Bottega
860 W. Washington St. 92103
farmersbottega.com
619-458-9929

Urban Solace
3823 30th St. 92104
urbansolace.net
619-295-6464

DOUGHNUT SHOP

Donut Bar
631 B St. 92101
donutbar.com
619-255-6360

Nomad Donuts
4504 30th St. 92116
nomaddonuts.com
619-431-5000

FAMILY RESTAURANT

Great Maple
1451 Washington St. 92103
thegreatmaple.com
619-255-2282

Lil B's
2611 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
619-296-8268

FARMERS MARKET

Hillcrest Farmers Market
3960 Normal St. 2103
hillcrestfarmersmarket.com
619-299-3330

Little Italy Mercato
519 W. Cedar St. 92101
littleitalymercato.com
619-233-3901

FAST FOOD

Ike's Place
1010 University Ave. #101 92103
ilikeikesplace.com/san-diego
619-452-2856

In-N-Out Burger
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in-n-out.com
800-786-1000

FINE DINING

Bertrand at Mister A's
2550 Fifth Ave. 12th Floor 92103
asrestaurant.com
619-239-1377

George's at the Cove
1250 Prospect St.
La Jolla, CA 92037
georgesatthecove.com
858-454-4244

FRENCH CUISINE

Pardon My French Bar & Kitchen
3797 Park Blvd. 92103
pardonmyfrench-barandkitchen.com
619-546-4328

Pardon My French brings French-fusion cuisine and a meticulously crafted boutique wine list to Park Boulevard. From the upbeat tunes reminiscent of Hotel Costes in Paris, to the vibrant art collection and rich variety of entertainment, Pardon My French Bar and Kitchen is set to be bustling with locals and Europhiles alike that enjoy good food and a fabulous time. Pardon My French Bar and Kitchen seeks to bring an exciting ambiance to life through food, art and music. Its large outdoor space, kept warm with a fireplace, also allows for fun from Friday nights to Sunday brunches, complete with bottomless mimosas and even a freshly cooked plate for your pooch (yes, dog friendly and we have a pet menu). We want to thank the community for recognizing Pardon My French as Best French Cuisine in Uptown. From our Michelin-trained chef to your table, we prepare only the best for our guests.

Bleu Boheme
4090 Adams Ave. 92116
bleuboheme.com
619-255-4167

GREEK CUISINE

Olympic Café
2340 University Ave.
San Diego, CA 92104
olympiccafesd.com
619-692-9082

For over 25 years Olympic Cafe has

see Greek Cuisine, pg 7



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FROM PAGE 6

GREEK CUISINE

been your friendly neighborhood eatery, specializing in Greek cuisine. Conveniently located in the North Park area of San Diego, we offer a large variety of award-winning menu items, from breakfast to dessert. Olympic Café opened in 1985 and has been serving some of the best Greek-inspired dishes ever since. Located at the corner of University Avenue and Texas Street, we are just a short drive from any point near the city. We will be moving Summer 2016 next door to where Jersey Joe's Pizza used to be at 2310 University Ave.

Athens Market Taverna (tie)
109 W. F St. 92101
athensmarkettaverna.com
619-234-1955

Alexi's Greek Cafe (tie)
3863 Fifth Ave. 92103
619-297-1777

HAPPY HOUR

Uptown Tavern
1236 University Ave. 92103
uptowntavernsd.com
619-241-2710

The Office
3936 30th St. 92104
theofficebarsd.com
619-450-6632

HEALTH FOOD STORE

The Mad Beet
933 Garnet Ave. 92109
themadbeet.com
858-529-5129

Sprouts
4175 Park Blvd. 92103
sprouts.com
619-291-8287

HOT WINGS

Wingstop
1901 El Cajon Blvd. 92116
wingstop.com
619-297-9464

True North Tavern
3815 30th St. 92104
truenorthtavern.com
619-291-3815

INDIAN CUISINE

Bombay Exotic Cuisine of India
3960 Fifth Ave. 92103
bombayrestaurant.com
619-297-7777

Tandoori Hut
3890 Fifth Ave. 92103
tandoorihutsandiego.com
619-295-4488

IRISH PUB

The Field Irish Pub
544 Fifth Ave. 92101
thefield.com
619-232-9840

The Ould Sod
3373 Adams Ave. 92116
theouldsod.com
619-284-6594

ITALIAN CUISINE

Arrivederci
3845 Fourth Ave. 92103
arrivederziristorante.com
619-299-6282

Say Arrivederci to other Italian restaurants and find 'Heaven on Earth' right here at this popular

eatery in Hillcrest. Ask any local who voted Arrivederci the No. 1 Italian cuisine and they will tell you just how terrific they think this trattoria is with "large portions of wonderful pasta" and "hearty" secondi. "Consistently excellent daily specials" offered "at reasonable prices" and "hunky," "pleased-to-serve-you" waiters are some of the reasons the small quarters inside and out are "always full." Open daily for lunch and dinner.

Buona Forchetta
3001 Beech St. 92102
buonaforchettasd.com
619-381-4844



JAPANESE CUISINE

Wonderful Sushi
1288 University Ave. 92103
wonderfulsushipq.com
619-291-0240

Sushi Deli 1
228 W. Washington St. 92103
sushideliusa.com
619-231-9597

Sushi Deli was started in 1983 by Mrs Otake. She worked alone out of a small storefront shop in Downtown San Diego, making simple sushi rolls and sandwiches, hence Sushi Deli. The business has grown over the years, and although they are no longer making sandwiches, Mr. and Mrs. Otake take pride in ensuring they serve the highest quality and quantity of Japanese style cuisine at a super value. Although the days of the .99 cent Bud Light may be gone, the new days of local craft beers, specialty sake and unique sake cocktails has only just begun. So come on in, order your favorite appetizer and roll, maybe it's the Scallop Dynamite and the Hillcrest Roll, or could it be the Sushi Deli Fries and the San Diego Roll and don't forget to enjoy it all with one of San Diego's popular craft beers. I'll see you at the bar!

JAZZ BAR

The US Grant Hotel
326 Broadway 92101
usgrant.net
619-232-3121

The Red Fox Steakhouse and Piano Bar
2223 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
redfoxsd.com
619-297-1313

see Dining & Entertainment, pg 8




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Uptown News BEST OF 2016 UPTOWN SAN DIEGO

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MUSEUM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS
Becky Moores Center for Visual Learning
in Balboa Park 1649 El Prado San Diego, CA 92101
619.238.7559 mopa.org

Uptown News BEST OF 2016 UPTOWN SAN DIEGO

Uptown News BEST OF 2016 UPTOWN NEWS

Winner of the "Best of"
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INFO@STUARTBENJAMIN.COM | WWW.STUARTBENJAMIN.COM

FROM PAGE 7
DINING

LATE NIGHT DINING

Uptown Tavern
1236 University Ave. 92103
uptowntavernsd.com
619-241-2710

Asian Bistro
414 University Ave. 92103
theasianbistro.com
619-296-4119

LIVE MUSIC VENUE

The Observatory North Park
2891 University Ave. 92104
observatorysd.com
619-239-8836

Park & Rec
4612 Park Blvd. 92116
parkandrecsd.com
619-795-9700

LUNCH

Jyoti-Bihanga
3351 Adams Ave. 92116
jyotibihanga.com
619-282-4116

Rolled Up
3884 Fourth Ave. 92103
rolledup.com
619-358-9397

MARGARITA

Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro
141 University Ave. 92103
ortegas.com
619-692-4200

Baja Betty's
1421 University Ave. 92103
bajabettyssd.com
619-269-8510

MARTINI

Martinis Above Fourth Table + Stage
3940 Fourth Ave. 92103
ma4sd.com
619-400-4500

Number One Fifth Avenue
3845 Fifth Ave. 92103
619-299-1911

MEXICAN CUISINE

Ponce's
4050 Adams Ave. 92116
poncesrestaurant.com
619-282-4413

The Meza Family is not here just to make money, they are here to enrich the lives of all the people who walk through the doors here at Ponce's. This includes their

employees — who are able to support their families, pay their rent, work their way through college, raise enough money to travel, buy a house, a car, pay for a wedding, or many other things we've yet to see. It also includes the guests, who are able to shed their stresses when they sit down to a comfortable, affordable meal at the end of a long work day, or to establish family traditions by gathering for a weekly meal, share a post-little league game lunch, host a holiday party, meet their mate and ask him or her to marry them, learn about new tequilas, get used to their new neighborhood, network at a business lunch, and so on. We also support a myriad of organizations, like AIDS Walk, Dining Out for Life, Haiti Relief, Mid-City Little League, churches, schools, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, libraries, musicians, poets, artists, and many more. It is through these filters that we view our success, and without excellent food, amazing service, a welcoming atmosphere, and fair pricing, we would not be able to accomplish our goals. We've done it for over 40 years, and we hope to continue to do so for many more.

Ortega's, A Mexican Bistro
141 University Ave. 92103
ortegas.com
619-692-4200



MICRO BREWERY

Ballast Point Brewing Company
10051 Old Grove Road 92131
ballastpoint.com
619-295-2337

Mike Hess Brewing (tie)
3812 Grim Ave. 92104
mikehessbrewing.com
619-255-7136

Poor House Brewing (tie)
4494 30th St. 92116
poorhousebrew.com
858-769-9070

MUSEUM

San Diego Natural History Museum
1788 El Prado 92101
sdnhm.org
619-232-3821

Museum of Photographic Arts
1649 El Prado 92103
mopa.org
619-238-7559

Be inspired by the world of photography at the Museum of Photographic Arts in Balboa Park, with interactive stations and the freedom to take your own photos during your visit. The open-photography policy and encouragement to share on social media promote the museum's goal of teaching visual literacy. As an internationally renowned center for visual learning, its endeavors address historical, cultural and social issues through exhibitions, films and educational programs. Believing "art is for everyone," MOPA launched the first Pay What You Wish museum program in Southern California where visitors decide the price of admission every day the museum is open. The current exhibitions range from Beauty and The Beast: The Animal in Photography in partnership with the San Diego Zoo's centennial, to the mystery of night photography in Defying Darkness: Photography at Night. Explore even more when MOPA's open late Thursdays until 8 p.m. all summer during Balboa Park After Dark.

NEW RESTAURANT

Madison
4622 Park Blvd. 92116
madisononpark.com
619-269-6566

TRUST Restaurant
3752 Park Blvd. 92103
trustrestaurantsd.com
619-795-6901

NIGHTCLUB

Rich's San Diego
1051 University Ave. 92103
richssandiego.com
619-295-2195

Spin Nightclub
2028 Hancock St. 92110
spinnightclub.com
619-294-9590

OUTDOOR DINING

The Patio on Goldfinch
4020 Goldfinch St. 92103
thepatioongoldfinch.com
619-501-5090

see Outdoor Dining, pg 9

Uptown News BEST OF 2016 UPTOWN NEWS

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see Dining & Entertainment, pg 10



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FROM PAGE 9
DINING

SPORTS BAR

True North Tavern
3815 30th St. 92104
truenorthtavern.com
619-291-3815

Redwing Bar & Grill
4012 30th St. 92104
redwingbar.com
619-281-8700



STEAKHOUSE

The Red Fox Steakhouse and Piano Bar
2223 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
redfoxsd.com
619-297-1313

Donovan's Steak & Chop House
570 K St. 92101
donovanssteakhouse.com
619-237-9700

Donovan's Steakhouse is one of San Diego's premier Steak and Chop Houses, serving mouthwatering steaks and exquisite seafood. Complete with a lavish yet welcoming atmosphere, Donovan's is the perfect spot to grab an amazing meal or enjoy world-class drinks. While Donovan's entire menu is delectable, the star attraction is their USDA Prime graded steaks. These fresh, never frozen cuts of meat are wet-aged for tenderness and peak flavor. These steaks are incredible on their own, or delicious paired with rock lobster or king crab legs for the ideal surf and turf combination. Speaking of seafood, one of Donovan's most awe-inspiring dishes is the chilled seafood tower. Complete with rock lobster, king crab legs, Blue Point oysters and white Gulf shrimp all served on ice. While customers are familiar with Donovan's Downtown location, many are unaware of their equally impressive La Jolla site. Anyone who craves a great dining experience should make Donovan's Steakhouse their next destination

SUSHI

Wonderful Sushi
1288 University Ave. 92103
wonderfulsushipq.com
619-291-0240
RK Sushi

334 Washington St. 92103
rksushi.menutoeat.com
619-574-6630

THAI CUISINE

Lotus Thai Cuisine
3761 Sixth Ave. 92103
lotusthaisd.com
619-299-8272

Amarin Thai
3843 Richmond St.
San Diego, CA 92103
amarinsandiego.com
619-296-6056

VEGETARIAN / VEGAN

Jyoti-Bihanga
3351 Adams Ave. 92116
jyotibihanga.com
619-282-4116

Jyoti-Bihanga vegetarian restaurant, established in 1986, is most famous for its vegetarian "meatloaf" called Neatloaf. The Union-Tribune once listed Neatloaf at Jyoti-Bihanga as one of 50 things to try before you die. It is REALLY GOOD! Even the staunchest meat-eaters will be shockingly surprised. There are very few places in San Diego where you can find a more internationally varied menu than at Jyoti-Bihanga. For starters they always have, daily, three delicious soups, and they range from the rich Hungarian mushroom and classic split pea to Caribbean pepper pot and roasted eggplant. They have over 30 recipes and counting! Salads and new "bowls" are amazing, featuring kale, quinoa, roasted beet hummus, goat cheese and more. Not only great food, Jyoti-Bihanga is dedicated to peace. Enjoy your meal in a very peaceful dining atmosphere. Also visit the small but beautiful Peace Park on the corner of Adams Avenue and Arizona street.

Café Gratitude
1980 Kettner Blvd. 92101
cafegratitude.com
619-736-5077



WINE BAR

Vom Fass
1050 University Ave. E103 92103
hillcrest.vomfassusa.com
619-534-5034
100 Wines

1027 University Ave. 92103
cohnrestaurants.com/100wines
619-491-0100

Business & Retail

ACCOUNTANT

Jeremy Dutson
1940 Fifth Ave. #300 92101
ajccpa.com/staff.php
619-298-9699

Dennis O'Connor
3174 Thorn St. 92104
tinyurl.com/zczmga3
619-297-1866

ACUPUNCTURE

Fix Body Group
1010 University Ave. C-203 92103
fixbodygroup.com
619-295-9791

Eileen Han Acupuncture
5222 Balboa Ave. #21 92117
eileenhanacupuncture.com
619-249-7660

ANTIQUES

India Street Antiques
2361 India St. 92101
indiastreetantiques.com
619-231-3004

India Street Antiques opened with its first container of antiques from Europe in Oct. 1, 1991, in north Little Italy (NoLi). We were the only retail location on the north end. Shortly after opening we expanded into the rear warehouse and doubled the showroom space, then tripled as by the mid-1990s we had expanded into the warehouse across the street. By 1996 we were importing one 50-foot container per week and began bringing in Danish modern furniture. The mid-century pieces gained in popularity so that today we house a secondary business called Danish Modern San Diego. The business started due to the owner's interest in restoring antique furniture. Our onsite workshop stays active restoring items. We survived the 2008 recession by closing the warehouse across the street. We are thriving again in our original location and after 26 years are thankful for the support of the community.

Ocean Beach Antique Mall
4926 Newport Ave. 92107
antiquesinsandiego.com
619-223-6170

ART GALLERY

Alexander Salazar Fine Art
1040 Seventh Ave. 92101
alexandersalazarfineart.com
619-531-8996

Creative Crossroads
502 University Ave. 92103
creativexroads.com
800-685-2513

ATTORNEY

Law Office of Rachel P. Young
101 W. Broadway #1950
San Diego, CA 92101
rpylaw.com
619-584-0505

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San Diego, CA 92116
senecalawgroup.com
619-630-8529

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Smittyservice.net

see Business & Retail, pg 11

FROM PAGE 10
BUSINESS

AUTO DEALER

BMW of San Diego
5090 Kearny Mesa Road
San Diego, CA 92111
bmwofsandiego.com
858-223-5000

Lusti Motors
1844 El Cajon Blvd. 92103
lustimotors.com
619-295-8686

AUTO REPAIR SHOP

Smitty's
3441 Adams Ave. 92116
smittyservice.net
619-281-7722

Smitty's Service has been there for you since 1945. When Smitty first opened the shop, he was just as likely to shoe your horse as he was to fix your car. Today we do only cars, of course, but our level of training has evolved to match automotive technology. Of course, providing dependable repair and maintenance requires knowledgeable technicians, but that's only part of the equation. Offering San Diego's best warranty requires a partnership with suppliers that not only stand behind their product but have the track record we demand. We're so confident of the quality of our work, we offer a two-year, unlimited mileage warranty! We also have a two-year, 24,000 mile nationwide warranty through TECH-NET that covers you when you travel. We also have roadside assistance available which covers every customer who purchases \$25 or more at Smitty's Service. This reimbursable program is good for up to a \$75 on the following services – towing, battery jump-starts, emergency fuel deliveries, lock out services and flat tire assistance. Grandpa Smitty always said "Customers don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." Today we honor on that tradition and like to think it shows.

Ron's Auto Clinic
3840 Alabama St. 92104
619-298-4752

BANK

Wells Fargo
1220 Cleveland Ave. #M113
San Diego, CA 92103
wellsfargo.com
619-543-0096



Union Bank

Union Bank
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unionbank.com
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partner Union Bank is proud to receive the Silver Award from the San Diego Uptown News readers' poll for Best Bank. Thank you to our customers and fans.

BARBER

Bear Hair by Chuck
4002 Park Blvd. Suite B2 92103
bearhairbychuck.com
619-694-8482



Mission Hills Bike Shop

Ralph's Hair Place
409 University Ave. 92103
tinyurl.com/jq3gwbo
619-291-2887

BICYCLE SHOP

Mission Hills Bike Shop
141 Washington St. 92103
619-296-0618

Brooklyn Bicycles
3437 Adams Ave. 92116
brooklynsd.com
619-283-1926

BOOKSTORE

Barnes and Noble
3150 Rosecrans Place 92110
barnesandnoble.com
619-225-0465

Verbatim Books
3793 30th St. 92104
verbatim-books.com
619-501-7466

see Business & Retail, pg 12



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FROM PAGE 11
BUSINESS

BOUTIQUE

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1029 University Ave. 92103
codyshome.com
619-269-7264

West Grove Collective
3010 Juniper St. 92104
westgrovesouthpark.com
619-795-3780

West Grove Collective opened its doors in September 2015, on Juniper Street in South Park. It evolved from an earlier "life" as The Grove on Juniper, a retail landmark, which had served the community since 2003. Anne Mery organized and manages West Grove Collective. An independent merchant and bookseller for over 25 years, Anne has partnered with like-thinking vendors who carefully curate the merchandise they offer to our family-like community of customers and visitors. Along with the "small but mighty" collection of books and affordable artwork that Anne has curated, the Collective features unique selections of merchandise from clothing and jewelry to furniture

and home accessories, as well as the intriguing music offerings of SoundShip San Diego.



BRIDAL SHOP

Brides by Demetrios
2025 Camino Del Este 92108
demetriosbride.com
619-294-2575

David's Bridal
980 Camino De La Reina 92108
davidsbridal.com
619-220-8008

CAR WASH

Uptown Car Wash
4157 Normal St. 92103
uptowncarwashesandiego.com
619-297-9274

North Park Car Wash
3419 University Ave. 92104
northparkcarwashes.com
619-280-5484

CHIROPRACTOR

Fix Body Group
1010 University Ave. C-203 92103
fixbodygroup.com
619-295-9791

Inner Balance Institute
1764 San Diego Ave. #140 92110
innerbalanceinstitute.com
619-543-9999

COLLECTIVE

Point Loma Co-Op
3452 Hancock St. 92110
plpcc.org
619-574-0415

Point Loma Patient Consumer Co-Operative is San Diego's premier medical marijuana dispensary and delivery service. Walk-ins welcome. We supply high-testing, top shelf cannabis medications to San Diego; all day, every day. We offer an extensive menu of high quality and high testing medications. Our strains vary in THC and CBD. We have a potency to match all needs and budgets. Our office staff is highly knowledgeable and friendly while our delivery drivers are prompt and discreet. As a member-to-member co-op, Point Loma Delivery is wholeheartedly dedicated to providing our members with the perfect medication for their needs and budgets, delivered promptly and with a smile. Our menu is very extensive, so please take a look at it. Our strains and descriptions are backed up by test results provided by PharmLabs and posted directly to our site. Our menu items include: flowers, concentrates, edibles, vape pens and more.



Cody's Home + Gift

Herbal Lust (Closed)
1255 University Ave. Unit B 92103
619-919-5369

COLLEGE / UNIVERSITY

San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive 92182
sdsu.edu
619-594-5200

National University
34425 Farenholt Ave. 92134
nu.edu 619-563-7470

CONSIGNMENT RETAIL

Flashbacks
3849 Fifth Ave. 92103
619-291-4200

Buffalo Exchange
3862 Fifth Ave. 92103
buffaloexchange.com
619-298-4411

COSMETIC SURGEON

Hillcrest Advanced Aesthetic Dermatology
3737 Fourth Ave. 92103
drheimer.com
619-299-0700

Dr. Paul Chasan
1431 Camino Del Mar
Del Mar, CA 92014
drchasan.com
858-450-1555

CREDIT UNION

SDCCU
502 University Ave. #500 92103
sdccu.com
877-732-2848

San Diego County Credit Union is San Diego's largest, locally owned financial institution serving San Diego, Riverside and Orange Counties. SDCCU has assets of \$6.7 billion, over 279,000 customers, more than 35 convenient branch locations and 30,000 surcharge-free ATMs. SDCCU is leading the way, offering free checking with e-statements, SDCCU Mobile Deposit, mortgage loans, auto loans, Visa credit cards and business services. Federally insured by NCUA. Equal housing opportunity, equal opportunity employer. For details, visit sdccu.com.

California Coast Credit Union
1060 University Ave. #101 92103
calcoastcu.org
858-495-1600

DAY SPA

Bodhi Massage and Wellness Center
3678 Fourth Ave. 92103
bodhibodhi.com
619-274-2744

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FROM PAGE 12

DAY SPA

Since 2005, Bodhi Massage & Wellness Center has served San Diego, offering the best in massage therapy, acupuncture and bodywork services. This beautiful and relaxing center is located in a century-old craftsman home near the heart of Hillcrest. The desirable location makes everyone feel welcome and is easily accessible with off-street parking. Bodhi's professional practitioners are handpicked based on education, experience, friendliness and the ability to provide results for their clients. Their success intreating numerous ailments and providing pain relief are why this place has been consistently voted best massage and day spa in San Diego!

Knot Stop
1080 University Ave. 92103
theknotstop.com
619-296-5668

DENTIST

Dr. Jeff Keeny
1807 Robinson Ave. 92103
drkeeney.com
619-295-1512

Dr. Keeny is a dentist who can provide you with the exceptional service regular dental cleanings, root canals, implants, dentures, crowns, bridges, teeth whitening, dental insurance, and more. Keeny's staff is always willing to help and can be contacted at any time to aid in any of your dental needs. They are open Monday through Friday and have an open schedule to fit you in at your earliest convenience. Not only is Keeny's practice open and friendly, the location is also in the heart of San Diego. Whether you live near Fashion Valley, North Park, University Heights, Mission Hills, or other nearby locations this establishment is a hop, skip, and a jump away. Patients forms are available online. We hope to see you today and would love to help you have an amazing, bright beautiful smile.

Dr. Rod Strober
3330 Third Ave. #302 92103
stroberdental.com
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Thrift Trader
2947 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
thrifttrader.org
619-261-1744

Goodwill
1219 University Ave. 92103
sdgoodwill.org
619-795-6630

Goodwill Industries of San Diego County was founded in 1930, to get people with disabilities and other barriers to employment, jobs by developing their skills and work habits through training and real work. We have retail stores and bookstores in the county that offer everything from apparel to home décor, furniture and the latest book titles at great prices. Our Otay Outlet has a computer store that sells everything electronic. Our e-business site offers rare and hard to find collectibles at Shopgoodwill/sandiego.com. We provide five employment centers that help job seekers complete job applications, create resumes, prepare for interviews and help identify positions for the candidate. There is no charge for these services. Any San Diegan wanting to take advantage of a Goodwill service must be 18 years of age or older, legally able to work in the United States, free of a violence related conviction and serious about finding a job. www.sdgoodwill.org

DOCTOR

David Shamblaw
2970 Fifth Ave. #140 92103
drshamblaw.com
619-260-3456

Dr. David Shamblaw is a primary care physician with over 15 years of experience and specializes in general, preventive medical care and HIV. Dr. Shamblaw truly cares about his patients and listens to each and every individual concern, by creating a welcoming and comforting environment in which patients can discuss their health. He is also a member of the American Academy of HIV Medicine, Greater San Diego Business Association and the San Diego County Medical Society. He also participates in clinical trials at his practice. Services include immunizations, routine screenings for cardiovascular disease, cancers and sexually transmitted diseases. The practice is conveniently located in Hillcrest and offers free parking. Come make an appointment today at Dr. Shamblaw's office and experience genuine and exceptional care.

Robert Houghton
1855 First Ave.
San Diego, CA 92101
roberthoughtonmd.com
619-233-4044

DRY CLEANERS

Uptown Cleaners
1020 University Ave. 92103
uptowncleanerssd.com
619-299-2378

Mission Cleaners
105 Washington St. 92103
619-295-4139

FINANCIAL PLANNER

Mary Stockton
4365 Executive Drive #800 92121
marylstockton.nylagents.com
858-623-8945

Mary has been a successful financial advisor with Stockton Financial for nearly 20 years. In 2009 and 2012, she earned the award Agent of the Year for her local office. She has also been awarded Top Producer, Mutual Fund Leader, Annuity Elite Champion, and the Life Star Award, among others. She was honored by San Diego Pride in 2011 with the Pride Community Service Award and The Tom Homann Law Association in 2012 with the Outstanding Service to the Community Award. In 2009, she was awarded the Mind Masters Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Prior to moving to San Diego, she owned the women's bookstore, Crones' Harvest, in Boston. Her business became a valuable cultural center and she was honored with the Helen Diner Community Leadership Award. Locally Mary has served on the boards of Stepping Stone of San Diego, The San Diego LGBT Center and Diversionary Theatre. She currently serves as treasurer for the board of the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation. Mary is married to Alison McManus, a doctor in nursing practice and an activist in her own right. They live in North Park.

Steve Doster
Rowling & Associates
8889 Rio San Diego Drive #202 92108
619-295-0200 ext. 202

Steve first discovered his interest in finance and investments shortly after graduating from the University of Arizona in 1993 with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. His first employer, a Fortune 500 company, offered excellent health and retirement benefits. " I was surprised and embarrassed that I didn't know what choices to make among all the benefits and 401(k) investments presented to us during the new employee orientation," Steve said. That's when he decided to educate himself. Personal

see Financial Planner, pg 14

Jyoti-Bihanga

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Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

FROM PAGE 13

FINANCIAL PLANNER

finance eventually grew into his current occupation as a Certified Financial Planner professional. Educating clients to help them achieve their unique life goals is what Steve enjoys the most about financial planning. You can reach Steve at steve@rowling.com.

FLORIST

Dave's Flower Box
2405 El Cajon Blvd. 92104
davesflowerbox.com
619-298-7247

Dave's Flower Box proudly serves the San Diego area. We are family owned and operated with one location. We are committed to offering only the finest floral arrangements and gifts, backed by service that is friendly and prompt. Because all of our customers are important, our professional staff is dedicated to making your experience a pleasant one. That is why we always go the extra mile to make your floral gift perfect.

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rainbowflowersca.com
619-296-7741



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jeromes.com
858-924-1875



Steve Doster

Lawrance Furniture
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lawrance.com
619-291-1911

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1010 University Ave. C-203 92103
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619-295-9791

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619-296-7878

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Gila Rut
1010 University Ave. C211 92103
gilarut.com
619-299-5750

Gallery West Hair Salon
3975 Fifth Ave. #100 92103
gallerywesthairsalon.com
619-501-2068

Located in the heart of Hillcrest, San

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Sharp Memorial Hospital
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San Diego, CA 92103
sharp.com
619-297-0014

HOTEL

Hillcrest House Bed and Breakfast
3845 Front St. 92103
hillcresthousebandb.com
619-990-2441

Hillcrest House Bed and Breakfast is now in its 11th year of business, and was founded by Ann Callahan, who has over 35 years of experience in



Dave's Flower Box

the hospitality industry. She also is a member of the board of directors of San Diego Tourism, on the board of directors of the San Diego Hotel Motel Association, and is a member of the board of directors of the California Association of Boutique Breakfast Inns. Her establishment has won numerous awards including Best Hotel from Uptown News, and is top-rated by both TripAdvisor.com and Yelp.com. Ann emphasizes how Hillcrest House is a neighbor and community member to San Diego. Whether close friends, mothers, fathers, sisters, or brothers are coming into town, Hillcrest House will provide them with a warm welcome and the upmost service and care. Hillcrest House is the place for your friends and family to stay no matter the occasion. Call today and learn what exceptional service is.

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AAA
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calif.aaa.com/home.html
619-233-1000

JEWELER

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see Jewelers, pg 15

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NEW YORK LIFE

FROM PAGE 14

JEWELERS

Stuart Benjamin Jewelers
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619-297-7666

San Diego's trusted third-generation jeweler. When shopping for a ring, would you rather speak to a jewelry expert or a salesperson? Expert of course! That's why more people look to San Diego's trusted third-generation jeweler, Stuart Benjamin & Co. Jewelry Designs for professional knowledge on their purchase and repair. This exceptional level of service and integrity has been rewarded, with Stuart Benjamin & Co. becoming an American Gem Society (AGS) member, which only 5 percent of jewelry stores in the nation qualify. In addition, their staff are all graduates of the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), which means you can feel confident with your purchase and know they stand behind their jewelry and reputation of quality. From their intimate showroom highlighting a

beautiful selection of bridal rings, exquisite diamonds, custom jewelry and repairs, to their award winning service, it's easy to see why Stuart Benjamin & Co. Jewelry Designs, remains a favorite in San Diego.

MASSAGE
Fix Body Group
1010 University Ave. C-203 92103
fixbodygroup.com
619-295-9791

Fix Body Group Fitness and Rehabilitation has over 20 doctors and practitioners who will work together on your case. Each of them is specialized in their discipline; chiropractic, physical therapy, active release technique, acupuncture, massage and strength training. They believe that you deserve a team of therapist with an integrated approach to take care of you, not just one doctor. Within their staff members, you will find Olympic athletes from different countries and professionals from teams like San Diego Chargers, Toronto Maple Leafs, and Anaheim Ducks. They use a combination of treatments to achieve your wellbeing as soon as possible. Their goal is to

get you pain free so that you can get back to doing what you love.

Knot Stop
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theknotstop.com
619-296-5668

MEN'S APPAREL
Mankind
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San Diego, CA 92103
mankindsd.com
619-497-1970

Bloomingdale's
1646 Camino Del Rio North FSU13
San Diego, CA 92108
bloomingdales.com
619-881-2050

NEW BUSINESS
Vom Fass
1050 University Ave. E103 92103
hillcrest.vomfassusa.com
619-534-5034

VOM FASS Hillcrest is locally owned by Jay and Colleen Cavalieri. We opened our shop in the HUB (by Ralph's and Trader Joe's) in May 2015.

We satisfy your cravings for life's little luxuries, worldly experiences, and easy, delicious, healthy meals and entertaining at home. Our products include the world's finest olive oil, nut and seed oil, balsamic vinegar, spices, liqueurs, wines and spirits – including 18 different Scotch, American and Irish Whiskies, and 10 different brandies. We enjoy sharing our love of the products with customers, with free tastes daily in the shop as well as private tasting parties. We are a terrific resource for your corporate and personal gift giving and unique private events. We truly enjoy having our shop in Hillcrest and being a "neighborhood store" where customers return again and again and we are happy to help with local community fundraising events. We invite you to come and enjoy the world's best tasting experience. In addition, wine tasting is every Wednesday 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. for \$5. Be sure to bring a friend, too!

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see New Business, pg 16

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Uptown News

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FROM PAGE 15

NEW BUSINESS

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San Diego, CA 92102
specsoptometry.com
619-233-6183

NONPROFIT

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travismanion.org
619-684-9800

San Diego LGBT Visitors Center
502 University Ave. 92103
fabsandiego.tumblr.com
619-432-5428

PERSONAL TRAINER

Henry Todd
1010 University Ave. C-203, 92103
fixbodygroup.com
619-295-9791

Chris Keith
3969 Fourth Ave., Suite 209, 92103
sdpersonaltrainer.com
619-869-1205

Chris Keith has been working as a professional personal fitness trainer in San Diego since 1995. He is the most effective and inspiring personal trainer in San Diego. He is also the most knowledgeable and experienced one-on-one personal trainer in San Diego for weight loss and all levels of fitness from beginner to advanced. His list of professional accolades and credentials is extensive and spans over a 20-year career in the fitness industry. Chris is very proficient in nutrition, flexibility/mobility, movement preparation, powerlifting and bodyweight exercise for athletic development. Featured on NBC's Today Show with Kathy Lee and Hoda, Inside Edition, and numerous local telecasts for his chiseled physique, he maintains less than 10 percent body fat year round. He was voted Best Personal Trainer in San Diego by numerous publications and continues to be a local fitness celebrity and advisor to the local media on health and fitness related issues. Chris started learning about fitness at a very early age and has been hooked ever since. He was first certified as a



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personal trainer in 1994 before being honorably discharged from the military.

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619-281-3602

Anderson Plumbing
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see Property Manager, pg 17

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FROM PAGE 16

PROPERTY MANAGER

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apm10.com
619-233-4182

REAL ESTATE AGENT

David Stone
639 Kettner Blvd. 92101
greatergoodrealty.com
619-473-2837

David Stone is the founder of Greater Good Realty, located in the heart of the Marina District. David has lived in the San Diego Metro area for over 15 years and is widely regarded as one of the best metro area real estate brokers. He was extremely honored to be named the "Best Real Estate Agent" in Uptown San Diego for the second year in a row. Not only does David have a keen eye on determining property values, his excellent negotiation skills continue to exceed his client's expectations, and as a result, his many 5-star reviews can be seen on Zillow, Google, and Yelp. David also donates 10 percent of his commissions to local charities and non-profit organizations throughout San Diego County. He hopes to make a difference for those in our neighborhood. To learn more about David Stone, please feel free to stop by his Downtown office, email him at David@GreaterGoodRealty.Com or give him a call.

Tony Azar
3930 Idaho St. 92104
tonyazar.com
619-944-6901

REAL ESTATE OFFICE

Greater Good Realty
639 Kettner Blvd. 92101
greatergoodrealty.com
619-473-2837

Greater Good Realty is a boutique real estate brokerage located in Downtown San Diego, specializing in residential real estate. Greater Good Realty is focused on providing exceptional service to their clients, which include investors, first time homebuyers, sellers, landlords, and tenants. This is Greater Good Realty's second time in a row winning "Best Real Estate Office" in Uptown San Diego. Not only did Greater Good Realty win the "Best Real Estate Office," they also won the "Best Property Management" and founder David Stone won "Best Real Estate Agent" in San Diego. Greater Good Realty is highly recommended by its past clients with their 5-star reviews on Yelp, Zillow, and Google. To learn more about Greater Good Realty and our mission of giving back to the community check out their site GreaterGoodRealty.com, or call them at 619-GREATER.



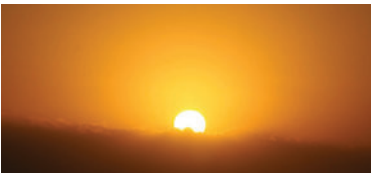
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see Tattoo/Piercing, pg 19

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Uptown News
Wheeling down University
Urban transportation project to connect the city

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MISSION VALLEY NEWS
USA VS. IRAN: Volleyball showdown in town
This month the San Diego community is looking forward to the volleyball match between the USA and Iran.

4 **28,000 Distribution • Monthly**
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Mission Times COURIER
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SwingingAlder teaches boys and girls to hit for the fences

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La Mesa COURIER
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