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San Diego Community News Network

University Heights resident Mario Torero is famous for painting murals of revered Mexican painter and feminist icon Frida Kahlo, such as this one on a building. *(Courtesy of Mario Torero)*

Mario Torero celebrates Latino/Chicano culture

By Lucia Viti

Mario Torero is a legend. The artist, teacher, cultural historian and community activist has made a name for himself far beyond the streets of San Diego's Chicano Park and Barrio Logan.

An international superstar determined to foster a global understanding of the artistic culture of the Latino/Chicano community, Torero travels the world painting larger-than-life murals. His vibrant, flamboyant and culturally expressive work can be found in Peru, Japan, Costa Rica, Spain and the Czech Republic. And in the Library of Congress.

Torero will reign among 350 artists showcasing their work at the Mission Federal ArtWalk in Little Italy on Saturday, April 29, and Sunday, April 30.

The University Heights resident will replicate "The Eyes of Frida Kahlo," a mural he painted in 1985 for San Diego's first ArtWalk. Torero's original mural was destroyed, he said, by the "gentrification" of San Diego. The new "more colorful" version will be featured at the corner of India and Fir streets.

Determined not to let Frida's eyes get destroyed twice, Torero will paint the 24-by-8-foot mural on canvas, then glue and overlay on wooden boards "so that it can exhibited again."

"I want to preserve these eyes for the next generation of Chicano artists making a name for themselves," he said. "Graffiti art doesn't last; it's either cleaned off or torn down and thrown away. These eyes will not go to waste. I will create something wonderful and beautiful and preserve it."

Excited about a Chicano booth to "expose who we are," graffiti can-spray artists and classical brush muralists will stand "side by side instead of being ripped apart by time and generations."

Working on art since his graffiti days as a 16-year-old tagger, the 70-year-old recently minted American citizen strives to facilitate a Latino/Chicano "movement." Combining the words "artist and activist" into one, Torero labels himself an "artivist," an art activist who highlights Barrio Logan artists "overshadowed and overlooked by many." No longer the angry revolutionary spray-painting walls, Torero works for those void of a political, environmental and social voice.

see ArtWalk, pg 11

Adams Avenue ready to get Unplugged

By Margie M. Palmer

The 2017 edition of Adams Avenue Unplugged will take place on Saturday, April 29, and as in years past, attendees will be able to enjoy a full day of music and food at some of the area's premier restaurants, bars, galleries and coffee shops.

More than 100 performances will occur on 32 stages inside businesses along Adams Avenue in eastern University Heights, Normal Heights and Kensington. While the popular event will share many staples with those held in the past, a notable change to this year's Unplugged is that it has been downsized from two days to one.

"This is actually our 23rd year," said Scott Kessler, executive director of the sponsoring Adams Avenue Business Association. He said Unplugged has undergone several refinements since day one.

"It used to be called the Adams Avenue Roots Festival. Prior to that, it was the San Diego Folk Music Festival. This is all about keeping up with what works. For example, in the past we

see Unplugged, pg 9

Let them wear caps

Ken Williams | Editor

For most of his 48 years on this planet, Chuck Donk didn't think twice about wearing caps or beanies.

"I've never really been a 'hat' person," he said.

But within the last year, Donk began collecting caps and beanies, but didn't really like the ones covered with logos selling products that he didn't necessarily like or endorse.

Donk — who has a house in Julian and a condominium in North Park — decided there must be a demand for logo-free headgear.

"I've always noticed people wearing beanies and caps, usually with big logos of some kind on them, and they were expensive," he said. "I've always remembered one of the first monthly clubs in the world, the Wine of the Month Club. Seems now that there is almost every variety of monthly clubs out there. With that in mind, I thought up the Beanie Cap Club, an online store for people who like to accessorize their wardrobe at a reasonable price and logo-free."

Customers can choose a color palette or click the "surprise me" button.

Here are five questions with Donk:

1. What is the Beanie Cap Club, and why did you launch this internet business?

Beanie Cap Club is a fun, economical online store to accessorize your wardrobe. Each month a beanie and/or cap is delivered to your door. The styles and colors of the beanies and

see Profile, pg 18

Two examples of caps *(Courtesy of Beanie Cap Club)*

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State Sen. Toni G. Atkins updates the Hillcrest Town Council audience about her work in Sacramento. *(Photo by Ken Williams)*

Town council hears about hate crime, senator's bills

By Mary M. McKenzie

your neighborhood voice
HILLCREST TOWN COUNCIL
HillcrestTownCouncil.com

Hate crime was the focus of this month's meeting of the Hillcrest Town Council (HTC), held April 11 at the Joyce Beers Community Center.

A distinguished panel shared the legal definition of hate crimes, ways to protect against them, and the appropriate response to them. All of the speakers agreed that hate crimes go beyond any particular administration.

Joel Day, executive director of the city's Human Relations Commission, suggested that hate crimes reflect a deep-seated hatred — not necessarily ideology, which is now common in public discourse.

San Diego Police Officer David Surwilo elaborated on measures to protect oneself, such as using a buddy system, avoiding dark spaces at night and projecting self-confidence.

The Stonewall Citizens' Patrol, a volunteer neighborhood watch patrol group, was represented by its executive director, Sean Redmond, who also emphasized vigilance. Deputy City Attorney Sangwon Park addressed legal aspects of hate crimes.

A visit with state Sen. Toni G. Atkins preceded the panel. Atkins briefed the audience of about 50 people on her ambitious legislative agenda in Sacramento. After three years as Speaker of the Assembly, Atkins said she was excited once again to be involved in committees and working on bills dealing with health care, affordable housing, gender recognition, human trafficking, and the state budget.

> **Hate crimes reflect a deep-seated hatred — not necessarily ideology**
>
> **— Joel Day, executive director of the city's Human Relations Commission**

During the "open comment" period, community members and public representatives shared information on the upcoming international April 29 climate march, recent changes in parking regulations that extend parking meter hours to 8 p.m. in parts of Hillcrest, and the efforts of the Neighborhood Empowerment Alliance.

HTC secretary Mary McKenzie invited community members to join the Town Council for dinner to support Dining Out for Life on April 27.

On May 11, the Town Council meeting will focus on immigration law and its challenges, featuring attorney and professor Lilia Velasquez.

The Town Council always welcomes new guests and volunteers. If you have any questions, contact chair Kath Rogers at dognamedannie@gmail.com. More information about HTC is online at hillcrestowncouncil.com.

—Mary M. McKenzie is secretary of the Hillcrest Town Council.

David Vance, Hillcrest Town Council member at large, takes questions from the audience. (l to r) Panelists discussing hate crimes include Sean Redmond, executive director of Stonewall Citizens' Patrol; Joel Day, executive director of the city's Human Relations Commission; and Deputy City Attorney Sangwon Park. *(Photo by Ken Williams)*

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MAD expansion proposed for east side of Hillcrest

Ken Williams | Editor

More homeless people, more trash and dirty sidewalks.

Citing these reasons and more, the Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) is proposing to expand the maintenance assessment district (MAD) that serves the eastern side of the neighborhood between the state Route 163 overpass and Park Boulevard.

HBA executive director Benjamin Nicholls explained the proposal to an audience of stakeholders gathered April 11 at the second and final public meeting about expansion plans. After the steps in the process are completed, stakeholders — business and property owners — must vote on the proposal by mail-in ballot, possibly as soon as this summer.

The east side of Hillcrest is being overrun by homeless people and beset by grimy sidewalks, litter and a perceived security problem, Nicholls said.

"This end of town struggles with trash and the homeless," he said.

The area is currently served by the Hillcrest Boulevard Maintenance Assessment District, created in 2001 and managed by the city's Parks and Recreation Department. The current district boundaries include University Avenue, from 10th Avenue to Herbert Street, as well as the HUB shopping center.

With an annual budget of about $30,000, the Parks and Recreation Department maintains three landscaped medians on University Avenue between 10th Avenue and Normal Street,, and one on Normal Street, between University Avenue and Harvey Milk Street, which includes the Hillcrest Pride Flag and memorial.

The HBA proposes to expand the MAD and take over the management of the district. By assessing property and business owners within the MAD, the new district would raise $278,000 annually.

Nicholls said "homeless abatement" was the top priority of owners, who were mailed a survey that was designed to identify the area's most serious problems. About 30 percent of the surveys were returned to the HBA, which Nicholls said was a higher-than-normal rate. He added that 27 percent of the responses were in support of the proposal, 3 percent were in opposition, and 70 percent did not respond.

Cleaning services — "gum everywhere, trash everywhere," Nicholls said — and gardening and landscaping also ranked high.

Litter and graffiti would be removed, curbs and gutters cleaned, and sidewalks power washed. Trees and shrubs would be trimmed, trees planted or replaced, and sidewalks and medians would get landscaping.

The boundaries for Zone A *(marked in green)* **and Zone B** *(gold)* **in the proposed expansion of the maintenance assessment district on the east side of Hillcrest. Yellow marks the major streets in the district.** *(Courtesy of HBA)*

Two zones proposed

Zone A would essentially retain the boundaries of the existing district — mostly business properties — and is called a "special landscaping zone." This zone is expected to have a budget of $206,000.

Zone B would include properties on Park Boulevard between University and Robinson avenues; properties on Normal Street between University Avenue and Lincoln Street; properties on Centre Street south of Harvey Milk Street, including the San Diego LGBT Community Center; and properties on Harvey Milk Street between Cleveland Avenue and Centre Street. This zone anticipates a budget of $72,000, but doesn't include landscaping and gardening.

Both zones would get homeless-outreach and sidewalk-cleaning services.

Two full-time "security ambassadors" would be contracted to patrol the area for eight hours per day, Monday through Sunday; engage with the homeless, and offer to connect them with services to get them help; and aid visitors who may seek assistance. Stakeholders would get an "on-call number" to call the contracted workers 24/7, any day of the week.

Cleaning services would include sidewalk litter pickup five days per week, pressure washing once a month, and weekly dumpster removal.

Zone A would only get gardening services for the four existing medians, three pop-out gardens and street trees. The landscaping would be watered and cared for on a weekly basis.

Nicholls said administrative costs would amount to 12 percent of the budget, including $25,000 for a program manager.

According to Nicholls, the proposal essentially reproduces the services provided by the Hillcrest Commercial MAD on the west side of Hillcrest, which is maintained by the HBA.

A consultant told stakeholders how he was calculating rates for the proposed tax, and estimated that condominium owners would pay around $345 annually and owners of larger businesses would pay up to $3,000 a year.

Mat Wahlstrom, a businessman who lives in Hillcrest and is a member of the HBA, questioned the need to expand the MAD when it is already the mission of the HBA to provide similar services. He said it would duplicate the services the HBA is supposed to offer already.

Nicholls said the problems have worsened in the years that have passed, and it is necessary to raise additional money to tackle all the issues.

Looking ahead

The proposal peers into the future and sees three factors that could impact the proposed MAD: the Normal Street Greenway; the SANDAG bike plan; and the Uptown Community Plan Update (CPU) that encourages density along Park Boulevard and University Avenue.

The HBA acknowledges that it supports efforts to repurpose part of Normal Street, between University Avenue and Lincoln Street, into an enhanced pedestrian and gathering space. This area hosts the weekly Hillcrest Farmers Market and civic events centered around the Hillcrest Pride Flag. The proposal notes the additional maintenance demands that would come if the Greenway project reaches fruition.

SANDAG, the regional transportation authority, plans to install protected bicycle lanes in Hillcrest — including on University Avenue and Normal Street — where the proposed new MAD would be located. SANDAG proposes to modify the medians in Zone A to create enough space for the protected bike lanes, but will not maintain the lanes or medians. That means the MAD and SANDAG would have to sign an agreement to maintain the improvements.

Lastly, the CPU offers growth incentives along transit routes, and the HBA said it anticipates that the MAD would need to grow as the neighborhood changes.

What's next?

The consultant will complete an Engineering Report to city officials, and the City Council must approve the proposal. Then the City Clerk would then mail ballots to stakeholders, who would have to approve the proposal. If it passes, the assessment would be added to the property tax bill of those who are affected.

—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.

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

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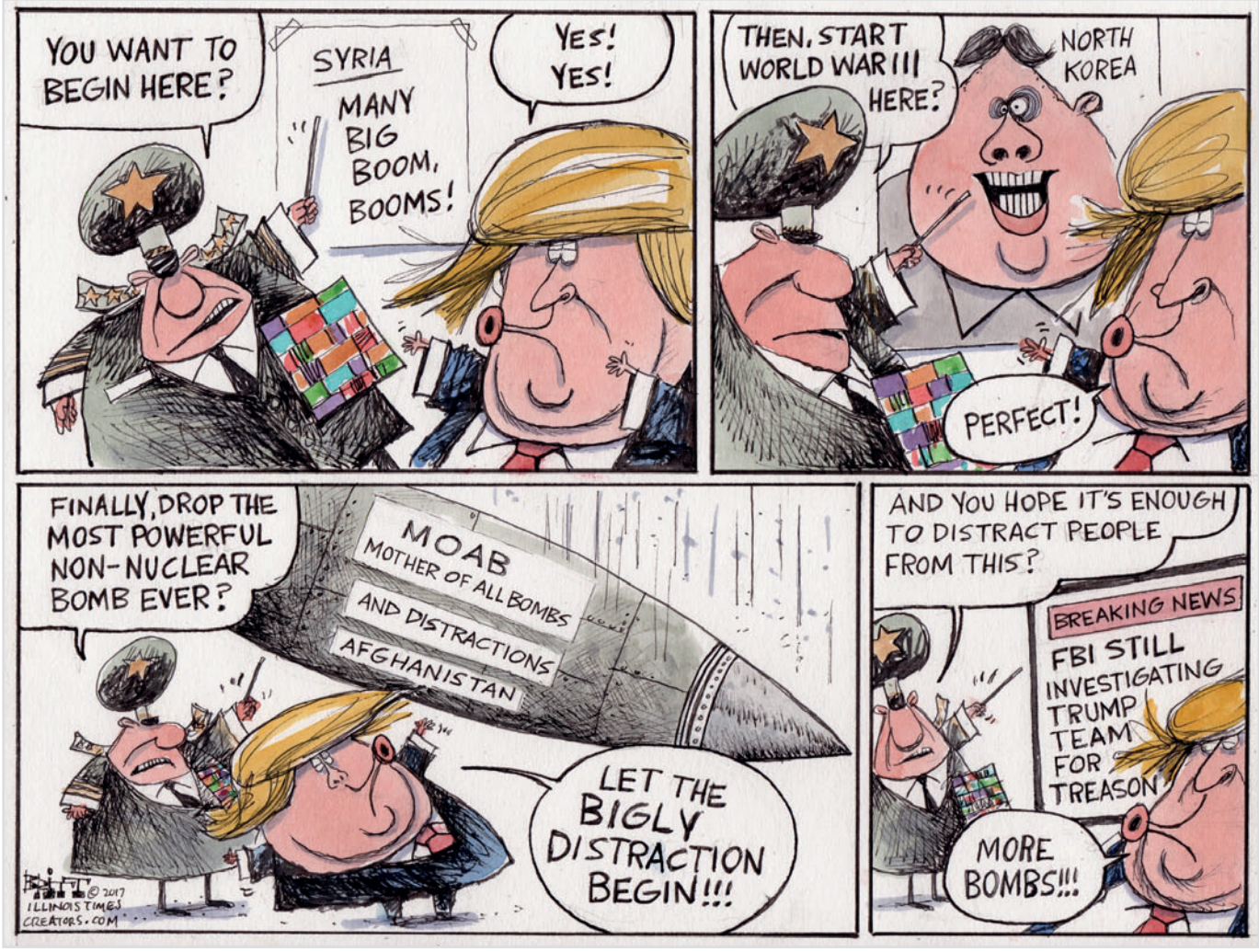

GUEST EDITORIAL

Earth Day allows us to renew our commitment to the environment

By Rep. Susan A. Davis

Earth Day, April 22, takes on added significance this year as we are seeing environmental protections established by President Barack Obama being rolled back.

Using an obscure and seldom-used law, the Congressional Review Act (CRA), congressional Republicans and the Trump administration have been overturning a number of environmental protections. These protections relate to clean air and clean water, protection of wildlife, and reducing pollution.

Enacted in 1996, the CRA allows Congress to overturn an agency rule within 60 days of its enactment by the executive branch. Once a majority of the House and the Senate approve a CRA resolution, it goes to the president for his signature.

The CRA was recently used to overturn a number of key environmental protections.

In order to end aggressive predator control practices, the Obama administration issued a rule to limit the killing of predatory animals unless it is based on sound science. The Obama rule prohibited the taking of mother bears and their cubs and luring brown bears with bait to kill them. This protection would also ban the killing of wolves and their pups at den sites and aerial shootings in national wildlife refuges.

Clean water rules weren't safe either. President Obama put forth a protection to reduce adverse impacts of coal mining on groundwater and surface water, as well as fish and wildlife.

This rule provided a proper balance between protecting our water and allowing the coal industry to provide coal as an energy source.

The fight against climate change took a hit too. For decades, oil and gas companies have wasted methane — venting and flaring the natural gas during the production process because it is cheaper than collecting it for use or sale.

U.S. Rep. Susan A. Davis

Methane is a useful natural resource when it is collected and sold but it is also a powerful greenhouse gas, even more potent than carbon dioxide. Methane waste increases rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses.

President Obama issued a rule to require oil and gas producers to implement measures to reduce the release of natural gas into the atmosphere, which would also have had a positive impact on the effort to combat climate change.

The majority used the CRA to overturn all of these common sense protections. Naturally, I resisted efforts to roll back these rules.

While these actions have an impact nationally, San Diego continues to the lead the way in areas of protecting the environment.

After running second for years, San Diego was finally named the top region for solar energy installations. This is based on a report by the Environment California Research & Policy Center, which ranks major cities on the solar power they have installed.

San Diego has always been known as a leader in solar energy, but now we are the leader in solar energy across the nation.

Solar energy has been a major job creator in our region, accounting for thousands of jobs. As we work to reduce the effects of climate change, solar will be a key component of the goal toward cleaner energy and cleaner air.

Those in Congress who believe in sound environmental protections will continue to resist efforts to undo them and will push for more protections, as well as promote cleaner forms of energy.

On Earth Day, thousands of Americans will gather across the country — a la the Women's March in January — for a March for Science. San Diego will do its part with a rally and march Downtown.

While we are experiencing frustrating setbacks now, I believe they are temporary. People are fired up like never before. They are marching, they are calling their elected representatives, and they are organizing.

This bodes well for our future, the future of sound science, and our efforts to protect the Earth — the planet we call home.

—U.S. Rep. Susan A. Davis represents Congressional District 53, which includes the San Diego communities of Old Town, Kensington, Mission Hills, University Heights, Hillcrest Bankers Hill, North Park, South Park, Talmadge, and Normal Heights, as well as La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley and parts of El Cajon and Chula Vista.

Get your fun on!

Saturday, April 29th, 11 AM–3 PM

Join us for an afternoon of fun and games as we celebrate the opening of Mission Valley's new 14-acre park. Festivities start at 11 AM with a formal presentation by city officials, and the fun continues with live music, food trucks, exotic birds, hula hoops, tight-rope walking, yoga, basketball and kid's soccer. Bring your furry friends too, they'll love the new Bark Park! For a detailed schedule of events, visit civitalife.com.

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Springtime for the Craftsman

Mission Hills Heritage celebrates the Craftsman bungalow and provides advice and cookies for the people who own them

HouseCalls
Michael Good

As historian and preservationist Robert Winter, author of "Craftsman Style," likes to say, the Craftsman Revival has lasted longer than the original Craftsman movement.

The first Craftsman bungalows began appearing in San Diego around 1905. By the time the United States entered World War I, in 1917, the heyday of the Craftsman was over.

When production started up again after the war, a new style of house emerged, the historic revival — Spanish Revival, Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival. The nation's mood had changed. The Craftsman house was modest. It was quiet and compact, thoughtfully designed and executed. But the nation was in a boisterous and extravagant mood. The playful, make-believe nature of the revival houses more closely fit the Roaring '20s. Flappers didn't do stenciling.

Not that the Craftsman style completely disappeared. Builders continued to build them. And many of the Mission and Spanish Revival houses were Craftsman inside and Craftsman in layout. And Prairie — Craftsman's close cousin — remained popular until the Great Depression put a stop to most residential building in the early 1930s.

As for the Revival, it began in the early 1960s, with publication of Clay Lancaster's "The Bungalow," a book that said it was OK for architectural historians to take the Craftsman bungalow seriously. Robert Winter and David Gebhard's "A Guide to Architecture in Los Angeles & Southern California" (1965) furthered the cause. This was a time when bungalow neighborhoods everywhere were being bulldozed to make room for freeways and apartments. Winter, a professor at Occidental College who had discovered the Craftsman style through a visit to Greene and Greene's Gamble House, continued to write and lecture on the subject, galvanizing homeowners in Pasadena who wanted to preserve the Arroyo Seco, where Greene and Greene and other Arts and Crafts designers first established the style.

In the 1980s the American public — rather than just a few thousand homeowners — discovered Craftsman. Winter published "The California Bungalow" at the start of that decade, issuing in the era of coffee table Craftsman picture books. Stickley, the company that had publicized (and perhaps named) the style in its magazine, The Craftsman, began manufacturing its Mission line of furniture again. The revival was furthered by American Bungalow magazine, community groups and neighborhood associations, and a willingness by adventurous middle-class people to move back to the bungalow neighborhoods that in the '80s and '90s were associated with crime and urban blight.

In San Diego, Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) — which had originally been formed in 1968 to save some Victorians in the path of a freeway — turned its attention to Craftsman bungalows as well.

Pasadena Heritage, an advocacy and preservation group formed in 1977, expanded its influence beyond Southern California in 1991 with its Craftsman Weekend, a bungalow lollapalooza featuring house tours, bus tours, walking tours, antique and contemporary furniture exhibitors, an auction, workshops and presentations.

Even tract homebuilders got on board. Entire neighborhoods of Craftsman-inspired houses sprung up. In Bend, Oregon, where 100 years ago five saw mills churned out windows for Craftsman houses, virtually all homes built in the late 1990s and early 2000s were in the Craftsman or Prairie styles. Today, on the booming west side of town, even the strip malls are Craftsman.

Completely restored: The Craftsman style house as it looks today. *(Sande Lollis)*

An Old House owners dream come true: a clear historic photograph, taken while the front porch concrete was still wet from having just been poured.

Last summer I was showing a friend the Arroyo Seco neighborhood of Pasadena, where the Greene brothers launched their version of the Craftsman house at the turn of the 20th century. We were standing in front of the former home of Ernest Batchelder, the famous tile maker. I had just finished explaining that the house now belonged to Robert Winter, when a little sedan pulled to the curb, the passenger door swung open, and out came an elderly gentleman with a cane. As he straightened himself up, I realized this was Robert Winter. Bungalow Bob, as he was affectionately called, is the man who virtually singlehandedly resurrected the Craftsman bungalow. (A claim I'm sure he'd deny.)

It was an odd moment. I'd met Winter years ago, on a tour of his house. And I'd spoken to him a few times thereafter. I reintroduced myself, and my friend, and told him I was pleased to see him doing so well.

"It happens to be my birthday," he said. "My 92nd birthday. We just went to lunch." Then we talked about his house, and the neighborhood, and what he was up to. "A film crew was just here the other day," he explained. "They're making a virtual tour of the house."

Bungalow Bob probably won't be hosting many more house tours, holding forth in the living room with its floor-to-ceiling tile fireplace, telling stories about Ernest Batchelder, John Lloyd Wright and all the historical figures — and characters — he's known over the years. Unfortunately, they haven't yet come up with a Virtual Bob. But to keep the Craftsman Revival going, we could use one.

Loving the Craftsman

Mission Hills Heritage, a homeowner group that has fought mightily to prevent the destruction of that neighborhood overlooking Presidio Park, is combining its annual walking tour with its annual lecture series on May 6. This year's theme is "Craftsman, Then & Now: an Immersion Experience."

Kiley Wallace will talk about the history of the Craftsman movement and how to identify a Craftsman house. Lewis Barber will talk about how to make a modern Craftsman, and how to make your Craftsman modern. I'll be moderating a panel discussion for homeowners who want to keep their Craftsman looking young, or at least younger than me. I'll be joined on the panel by John Eisenhart, an historic architect and SOHO board member, who you've read about in this column; and Marc Tarasuck, an historic architect who's undertaken many restoration projects including Heritage Park, where SOHO and the city moved those Victorians from the path of Interstate 5 back in the 1960s.

Homeowners will be invited to take part in the discussion, whether they have a very specific question about how to go about restoring something, or a colorful story about how they discovered it's not a good idea to work with steel wool around an electrical outlet. There also will be a number of tradespeople on hand — in booths set up outside the auditorium of Francis Parker School. Most important, there will be cookies, and they will be handcrafted, as the situation merits. The only thing that will be missing is Virtual Bob. Maybe next year.

For more information, go to missionhillsheritage.org.

—Contact Michael Good at housecallssdun@gmail.com.

FROM PAGE 1

UNPLUGGED

used to close the streets but now we set up stages inside restaurants and bars," he said. "Sunday has always been a slower day so we wanted to see if holding it on Saturday works. We still think the same amount of people who came on both days will come on one."

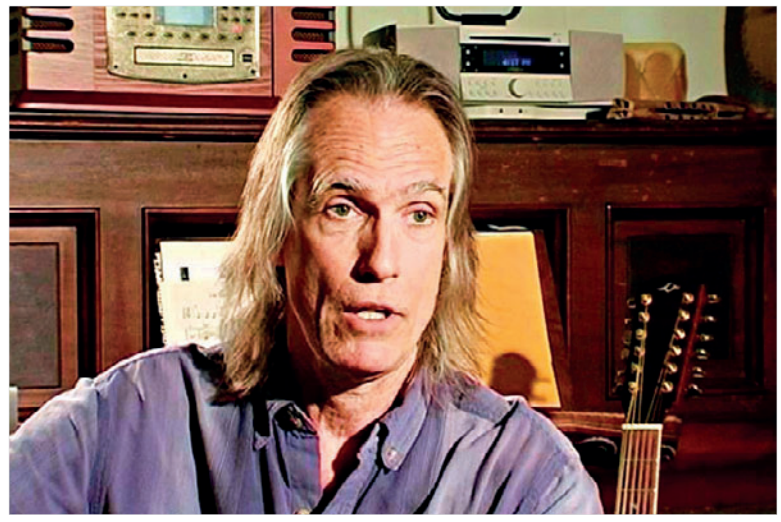
One thing that hasn't changed is the quality of the performers.

Among this year's headliners is former Byrds guitarist John York and his acoustic performance will take place at 8:15 p.m. inside the Normal Heights United Methodist Church, located at 4650 Mansfield St.

York said he's excited to return to the venue.

"I played that room with Barry Maguire a number of times and I always thought I'd love to play [there] on my own. The sound in that room is phenomenal," York said. "I've been wanting to play more in San Diego and I haven't been down there in a long time."

Zzymzzy Quartet performs *(AABA)*



John York, former Byrds guitarist, to perform at Normal Heights United Methodist Church as part of Adams Avenue Unplugged on Saturday, April 29. *(YouTube)*

York will be playing a few songs from the Beatles and the Byrds, but he'll also be playing some of his own music.

"I would encourage anyone who has an interest in music from the '60s to come out because there are only a few off the real guys left. It's quite easy to go hear cover bands but to hear musicians, that are the real musicians, it's a rare opportunity now," he said. "The church is a wonderful room for music and when you hear the acoustics, it's a really lovely sounding room."

Kessler said that despite its evolutions, the festival continues to be well-loved by locals, visitors and music lovers alike.

"People come for all different reasons; some come for the food, some come for the people watching and others come for the music. People have come to expect quality music along Adams Avenue and that's something we focus on with our festivals," Kessler said. "I think what people like most is that they're able to have a great time in great settings and just enjoy themselves. They get to experience the best of Adams Avenue. It's a great community.

"We would encourage people to view the Adams Avenue Unplugged pages on our website. We have links to all the artists, music samplings and schedules," Kessler said. "We also have a mobile app that you can download for free which can help you plan accordingly."

—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.❖

Adams Avenue Unplugged

Saturday, April 29
From noon to 10 p.m.

From Texas Street in University Heights to Marlborough Drive in Kensington

Schedule: bit.ly/1QEicZW

(above) A group performs at Sycamore Den in Normal Heights at a previous Adams Avenue Unplugged event. (r) Duo entertains an audience. *(Courtesy of Adams Avenue Business Association)*

LETTERS

For Hillcrest density

(Re: "Uptown Planners feel disrespected," Vol. 9, Issue 7 or online at bit.ly/2pPEkIe)

I've lived in Hillcrest for almost two decades and I've seen our neighborhood lag behind in development as other neighborhoods in the city, such as Little Italy, East Village and North Park, have become more vibrant and livable, and more inviting.

Hillcrest is a great neighborhood in a city of 3 million people. It is not a village. Perhaps the development of denser, higher structures along busy traffic corridors, like Fourth and Fifth avenues, and University Avenue and Washington Street, can lead to new businesses and growth. Having more people living and working above street-level shops can create more viable businesses for them to access.

The taller structures already built in Hillcrest — the Village Hillcrest complex, the apartments and condos on Park Boulevard and Fifth and Sixth — are not negatively impacting the character of the neighborhood. In fact, the Atlas complex on Fifth Avenue has enlivened and renewed businesses and restaurants in the 3500 block of Fifth Avenue — and this was the only major construction project in two decades in central Hillcrest!

Now, a proposed building, on a parking lot, is looked upon as a negative to Hillcrest. I don't understand.

I did get a good chuckle from Ann Garwood's remark. She opposed the project because "if a resident spits off the balcony, someone might get hurt!" She must walk around with trepidation in her neighborhood of Bankers Hill in fear that someone will spit on her from one of those balconies on the towering apartments and condos on Fifth and Sixth avenues!

Oh well, I hope the silent majority will encourage new construction in Hillcrest. It was, still is, and yet can still be, a great neighborhood.

—Thomas Hemlock of Hillcrest, via email to ken@sdcnn.com

All of this infighting is really becoming an embarrassment for the Uptown community. Why is it that it is the same people over and again objecting to any development in Uptown? Nancy Moors, Ann Garwood, Tom Mullaney and Mat Wahlstrom, etc.? These obstructionists are the minority here and are making any hope for growth and development a nightmare for property owners.

No wonder Hillcrest looks like a shanty and any smart business person is moving setting their sights on North Park and Little Italy. I hope Ken Williams continues to cover the "volunteer advisory board and their cronies." By the way, "advisory board" is just that; the City Council will move forward because they are

see Letters, pg 19

Portraits of the homeless

South Park artist advocates for 'invisible people'

By Lucia Viti

Neil Shigley is more than an artist. The painter, printmaker and educator is an advocate for what he calls the "invisible people" and what society labels the "homeless."

Incredibly moving, at times haunting, large-scale print images capture his vision of the homeless "human figure." Shigley shares the plight of the homeless through an artistry that exhibits its face.

"Portraits overflow with character that's hard earned through years living on the streets and the daily struggle for survival," he said. "Nobility, beauty, strength, and vulnerability are present, if we choose to look. Large formats bring the homeless into focus to make them visible, to force us to confront their human condition."

The South Park resident will show his work at this year's Mission Federal ArtWalk in Little Italy on April 29-30. Hosting two booths, one to display his homeless portraits, the second for a series of celebrities, Shigley intends to highlight the "difference between the haves and have nots.

"ArtWalk's an amazing, awesome city event that brings thousands of people together in one spot to celebrate art," he said. "By creating art of the homeless, I hope to expose and humanize the concept and open a doorway for reflection."

A chance encounter launched Shigley's foray into the world of the homeless. While attending an art opening in Little Italy in 2005, he locked eyes with a homeless man.

"Stunned at the intensity of his face, my friend suggested that I compose a portrait of him," he said. "I didn't give it a thought — at first. But as I walked through the art exhibit, I saw his face through every bright light and every art piece hanging on the wall. I went back outside but he was gone. And I've been searching for that face ever since."

A week later, Shigley passed another homeless man, but this time requested and received permission to create a portrait. He snapped a photograph, admitting that "I'm not a photographer," and thus began his endeavor to serve as a beacon for the homeless. The artist uses photographs and subject "interaction" as building blocks to create his woodblock portrait series.

"I talk to each individual for as long as they let me," he said. "I soak in their stories, asking them where they're from; how they landed on the streets; and what the first day of being homeless was like. Stories cross the board — epic, mundane, bizarre and tragic. The more I learned, the more interested I became in chronic homelessness, an issue that leaves me with no answers.

"People treat homelessness like it's a monolithic issue, but it's not," he continued. "Homelessness is about Willy who lost his job and Ruth who escaped domestic violence. It's the story of a young woman raised in a gang, roaming homeless through the streets of LA. Pregnant at 16, she was the mother of three by age 20. She fled to Father Joe's Villages in San Diego with her children, received job training and placed her children in The Monarch School. She's a success story. She's a hero. I have two children — ages 6 and 8. I can't imagine being homeless for one night much less with three children to protect. Children without parents or role models are most at risk for homelessness. No one dreams of living of the street. I can't help but feel compassion."

Dwelling on the story behind the face: "Light cascades across the landscape of a human face and words in my head influence my art," he said.

Shigley carves into a wood block, paring white spaces and shapes before rolling the block with ink and hand-pressing the image on paper. He also carves into plexiglass with a flexible shaft drill. The 62-year-old became hooked on working with large wood block prints in the late 1980s when Bern Hogart, a famous artist and illustrator, "gave me the opportunity to work on a 6-foot-tall, wood block print," he said. "I was hooked."

He describes the art of printmaking as a long process contemplating and focusing for hours.

"Printmaking isn't definitive," he explained. "I never know what to expect until I pull the paper off the print. Painting allows you to modify the image. Printmaking is different. You wait until the end to see it all."

Shigley attributes his artistic origins to his father, an architect who served in the military.

"My father's art sense is the reason for my homebrewed flavor for art," he said. "He painted and drew renderings of our residences and travels. He immersed the family into the culture and art of every area that we lived, and we lived everywhere — Europe, the Far East and all over the U.S."

He studied painting and printmaking at San Diego State for more than 10 years, attending every class that related to art including human anatomy, art history and illustration. He was then awarded a full scholarship to Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. Not only did he graduate with honors, he served as the first commencement speaker in the school's history.

Shigley then took his talent to New York and became an award-winning free-lance illustrator.

"I walked the streets of a city full of energy showing my portfolio to publishers, magazines, design firms and ad agencies," he said. "While I had a robust career as an illustrator — I worked for many Fortune 500 Companies — I still pursued my fine art. I left for San Francisco five years later before heading back to San Diego."

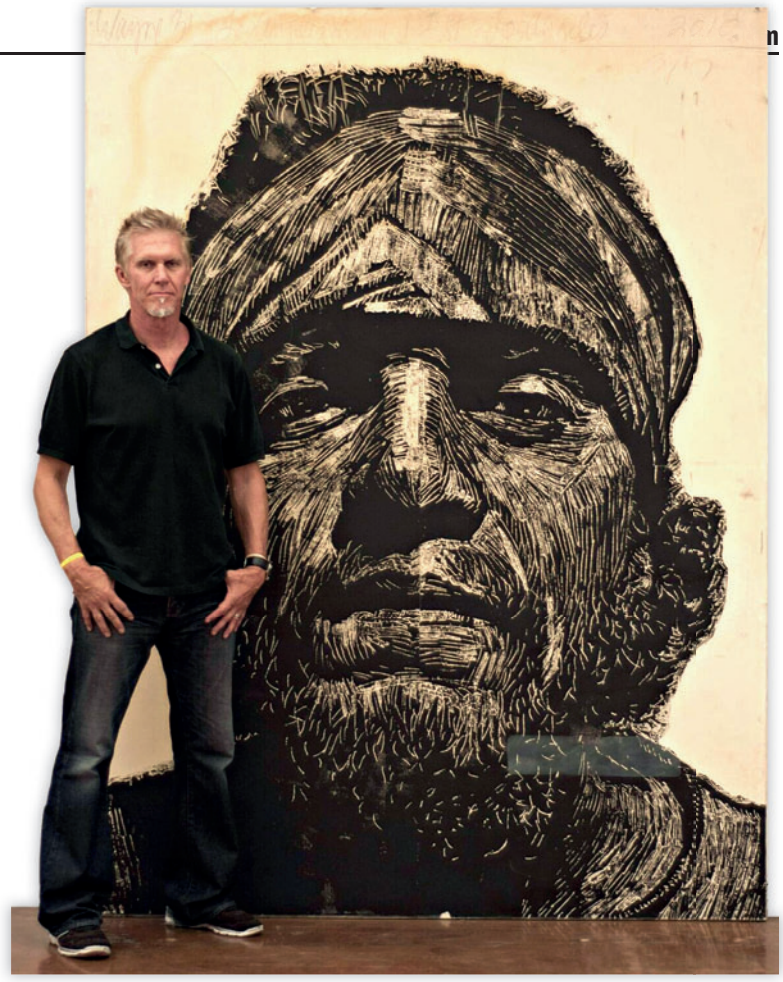
The artiste is presently working on female portraits.

"Homeless women are so vulnerable," he said. "A 21-year-old woman, homeless since age 14, showed me names written on a wall. She knew what happened to every single person: Who died, who was in jail, and who suffered from AIDS. She was a victim of several rapes and said that she didn't care if she died. It was really sad. We stood 100 feet from the main road, hidden in a world of people living in the river banks. The homeless population is a society living under our feet."

By raising awareness, the activist is determined to "affect" others to look at the homeless differently. "I hope to raise awareness for the viewer to see respect instead of disdain," he concluded. "These are real people. This is human life."

Shigley's homeless portrait series has been on display at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. and San Diego International Airport. He also teaches at SDSU, the institution that he said has captured his "heart and soul."

—Contact Lucia Viti at luciaviti@roadrunner.com.❖



Neil Shigley with a portrait of homeless man he has met *(Courtesy of the artist)*

This is Bella, a homeless person Neil Shigley met. *(Courtesy of the artist)*

This is Dave, who lives on the streets

FROM PAGE 1

ARTWALK

"I'm an artivist with no abstracts," he said. "Society rejects the word Chicano, but we're proud of our often, misunderstood identity. The root of street art *is* the Chicano muralist. Our art reflects our culture, our psychology and our history. Our murals stand out from easel paintings."

Torero studied traditional Mexican muralists to shape his murals into expressing philosophies and delivering messages. He traversed communities, schools and universities seeking ideas to transfer into compositions that "reflect the people and their communities." According to Torero, by working with the community he empowered the community. The response within the media was overwhelming. Demand for his work became widespread.

"I'm an artist that initiates and follows universal revolutions," he said.

And so, he has. Torero travelled to the Czech Republic following its 1989 Velvet Revolution, commonly referred to as the Gentle Revolution, a peaceful overthrow of power that ended 41 years of communist rule. Welcomed by the Linhart Foundation, an independent, nonprofit "alternative culture" organization, Torero was "kidnapped" to paint on the John Lennon Peace Wall. His mural was captured on a photographed later displayed at the Smithsonian Institution.

Born in Lima, Peru in 1947, Torero's artistic legacy began with his father — renowned artist Guillermo Acevedo. Acevedo left a successful advertising agency in Lima because of political unrest. The adventurer boarded a fishing boat travelling to San Diego — then the tuna cannery center of the world — and arrived here in 1960. Mario was 12.

"My father fell in love with everything about San Diego: the weather, the Mexican people, the ocean and especially the eucalyptus trees, because they reminded him of Peru," he said.

Torero's life as revolutionary began during his service as a merchant marine, a job forced upon him by his father to "keep him out of trouble." Torero and crew members

Mario Torero of University Heights

Mission Federal ArtWalk

Between Ash and Grape streets (Little Italy)

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturday, April 29

and Sunday, April 30

"mutinied" against the ship's captain for steering them into danger. Experiencing the power of democracy first-hand, Torero devoted his life to creating change. "There's no room for regret in his world, only self-awareness and self-improvement," he said.

Raised in the Barrio, Torero, along with his father, became artistic and influential leaders. Often gracing magazine covers and news stories, they garnered a sense of pride for young Latino artists active in the Chicano movement. "Famous Latinos were non-existent before the '70s," he explained. "My father was admired and respected by the city and the art world, even though he was brown."

The duo opened The Acevedo Art Gallery, which later became the first multicultural arts center that remained in existence for almost two decades. The center was closed to make way for the building of Horton Plaza. East Village Arts became their "reincarnated" cultural center, which was then replaced by Petco Park. Torero again witnessed the destruction of his art for the gentrification of San Diego, including his "Eyes of Picasso" painted on the walls of the Reincarnation Arts Center. After the mural and the venue were destroyed, Torero returned to the Barrio and established the Barrio Logan East Village Art District.

"Ten years later, we flourish and thrive with a renewed sense a pride to foresee a better future," he explained. "Before our future was a constant battle of survival. The city realizes how important The Barrio Logan is because of Chicano Park, which has now been declared a National Historic Park. It's important not just for Chicanos but for all of San Diegans."

The "mover and shaker" continues to break down racial and social barriers to protect the cultural, artistic Chicano movement, Chicano Park and the Barrio Logan.

"As one of the founders of Chicano Park, it's my job to use my art to build community," he said. "My art is a call for action on many levels — political, spiritual and emotional. Chicano Park is a Chicano legacy. Our murals revive and rejuvenate an art that has history."

The self-defined leader in social art justice and the "American Art Revolution" teaches Cosmic Art workshops at his University Heights Mundo Gallery Healing Studio as well as Chicano Park. His Cosmic School of Art touts a philosophy that "nurtures the inner, creative genius inherent in all of us."

"My artivism drives my intellect and my art," he said. "I'm a street teacher that heals through art and philosophy. My art is my tool. My art is a weapon of construction. For those who struggle, my art elevates the souls of humanity."

Torero plans on working as an artivist until "I drop in the bull-fighting arena with one last stroke." Worried that future gentrification projects will "kick out or destroy the cultural and historical significance of Latino/Chicano art," Torero strives to implement a Barrio Logan Art District that hosts galleries inclusive of artists of every nationality.

"I dare to forever challenge social limitations and self-imposed obstacles," he concluded. "I — we, the Chicano movement — will never stop questioning our world or seeking answers through our art."

—Contact Lucia Viti at luciaviti@roadrunner.com.❖

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San Diego Community News Network, (SDCNN.com), has an opening for an advertising sales representative to join our six-newspaper publishing company to sell print advertising and our digital products. Our newspaper group includes **San Diego Downtown News, San Diego Uptown News, Mission Valley News, Mission Times Courier, La Mesa Courier** and **Gay San Diego**.

Contact David Mannis (619) 961-1951 · david@sdcnn.com

TALMADGE ART SHOW

Be Moved by the Creative Spirit

Uptown residents, please join us at the Talmadge Art show where 70 artists will be selling their homemade craft including jewelry, glass, paintings, clothing, sculpture, gourds, purses, hats and more.
The Talmadge Art Show is in its 24th year, with shows in May and November and pop ups happening 1-2 times a year in various locations around San Diego. More information at www.talmadgeartshow.com including directions, list of artists and applications for each show. Information also at **619-559-9082**.

Sunday, May 7, 2017
10am-4pm
Liberty Station Conference Center
2600 Laning Rd. San Diego
Off Harbor Drive just past the airport

Vintage Home Owners Foundation Checkup

FREE

Don't Be An Ouch House

Thru Memorial Day

619.961.1006
www.raisedfoundationrepair.com

Meal discoveries inside a liquor store

Restaurant Review
Frank Sabatini Jr.

Other than ducking into Fiori's Pizza & Deli for an occasional Lotto ticket and a fast slice of pizza, I never focused much on the menu board hanging over the food counter until recently.

To my surprise, the nearly 40-year-old liquor store conceals a grill and deep-fryer in a room behind the pizza ovens, which means items such as burgers, Philly cheesesteaks, Buffalo chicken wings, fried shrimp and veal-lamb gyros are sold here. There are also several pasta dishes in the offing. Though listed on the board, the items are upstaged by copious options for traditional and specialty pizzas heading the menu.

Fiori's has more or less passed my litmus test for pizza. The dough is made onsite and then stretched and tossed in plain view, resulting in a satisfactory crust that is neither insipid nor sensational. Sizes range from 14 inches to 20 inches at prices that fall comfortably below the local competition while slices cost $2 or $2.50, depending on their toppings.

The sauce is also housemade despite its restrained measures of oregano and spices. Yet while delving deeper into Fiori's menu over a few visits, the sauce-less Blanco pizza crowned with ricotta cheese, garlic and finely chopped broccoli has become one of my favorite vegetarian pies in town. The ingredients are tastefully balanced.

A cheeseburger I ordered was mediocre in comparison — not quite the half-pounder stated on the menu. I'd venture to guess the patty was pre-formed by a major supplier, given the perfectly shaped disk it was. The saving graces were the freshly sliced red onions and crisp shredded lettuce inside the toasted bun, as well as the accompanying french fries served hot and golden brown.

In that same visit, while seated at one of two tables inside the store, I tried the Greek salad, which was loaded into a large plastic container and filled deeply with fresh iceberg lettuce. Though generously adorned with creamy feta cheese, Kalamata olives, ripe tomatoes, cucumbers and onions, I was left with vast amounts of lettuce after the garnishments had run their course.

Some nights later I ventured into more daring territory by phoning in a pickup order for a Philly cheesesteak and chicken wings. I had never purchased either from anyplace other than an established eatery or restaurant, let alone a neighborhood liquor store where you can't see or smell food cooking except for the pizzas.

The cheesesteak was actually very good with its tender, chipped beef strewn with grilled green bell peppers and onions. Topped with melted mozzarella and served in a fluffy torpedo roll sporting toasted edges, it's well worth the $6.99 price tag if you can live without Cheez Whiz and higher grades of meat used in establishments that specialize in the sandwich.

I requested the chicken wings extra crispy and they were cooked as such. The menu states they're sold by the dozen. I only got 10, which was no big deal except for the fact they were over-sauced. Had they been shaken in the Buffalo-style sauce instead of doused and served with sturdier blue cheese dressing, I'd have given them greater love.

Other menu choices include jalapeno poppers, lasagna, ravioli, and assorted hot and cold sandwiches such as Italian sausage, eggplant Parmesan, meatball, roast beef, pastrami and more, all at impressively reasonable prices.

Fiori's also delivers within a 3-mile or so radius throughout Uptown. And with valid ID, you can perk up your meal with booze brought right to your door from the store's vast selection of spirits, wine and craft beer.

—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. Reach him at fsabatini@san.rr.com.❖

Fiori's blanco pizza

Greek salad

Fries are included with the burgers

The Philly steak sandwich

Pizza dough is made and stretched onsite. *(Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)*

Fiori's Pizza & Deli

3981 Eagle St. (Mission Hills)

fiorispizza-spirits.com

Prices: Salads, $2.99 to $7.99; fried foods, $1.99 to $6.99; hot and cold sandwiches, $4.99 to $6.99; pasta dishes, $4.99 to $8.99; pizzas, $7.99 to $18.99

The store's menu goes beyond pizza and deli sandwiches *(Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)*

MONDAY MUGS

Come On Get Happy!

Dr. Ink

Nearly a year after the quasi-Irish pub O'Hungry's came under new ownership and switched to Hungry's Kitchen & Tap, the original sign still hangs over the entrance as if nothing has changed. No website exists either, which further conceals the fact that the menu has been revised and the interior was remodeled.

Tourists to Old Town may never know the difference, although to this local on the recent prowl for a beer fix, the establishment's reincarnation is refreshing.

The 50-ounce yards of beer remain in the offing, although they aren't discounted during happy hour. Also in place are the heavy wood tables that have seen their fair share of merriment over the years. But with a renewed bar and tap system installed, and olive-green walls filled neatly with framed photography, the atmosphere is lighter and feels more European than it did before.

Yards of beer are also available at regular prices at Hungry's Kitchen & Tap in Old Town. *(Photos by Dr. Ink)*

Pretzel with beer-spiked cheese sauce

A cold mug of Mother Earth's vanilla cream ale

Weekday happy hour points to a rotating schedule of specials from either the kitchen or the taps, or both.

On Mondays, for example, the deal affords you mugs of select craft drafts for $3 each. Or on Tuesdays you can score a taco and "tall boy" can of beer for $10.

Wednesdays are for burger and Coke lovers, when the combo is priced also at $10. Beer re-enters the fold on Thursdays as craft pitchers are $20 apiece while the following day pints sell for $5.

I kick-started the week with a couple of Monday mugs, starting with Stone's fruit-forward Tangerine Express IPA. I would have ordered a second mug had the waitress not tapped out the remaining supply, which filled the frosty glass only three-quarters. Because it fell short, she kindly took it off my bill.

Two other beers listed on the hard-to-read mirrored menu were also sold out — Iron Fist's chocolate-mint stout and Absolution's "cardinal sin" red ale. So I settled for one of my old standbys, Cali Creamin' vanilla cream ale by Mother Earth. Light and malty, I don't recall paying only $3 for a full mug of it at other establishments.

From the regular menu I ordered a hot Bavarian pretzel ($5.95) served with a generous portion of beer cheese. The pretzel was hot and delicious, but the electric-yellow cheese was forgettable due to its lack of tang and nary a hint of beer.

Though while perusing the new menu in eyeshot of those slender yard-long beer glasses racked at the bar, I'll likely return for lunch or dinner to sample the kitchen's fish and chips or Tijuana-style hot dog or Swedish-style meatballs served with mashed potatoes and lingonberry sauce. Beer, of course, will be the requisite beverage of choice.

Hungry's Kitchen & Tap

2547 San Diego Ave.
(Old Town)

619-298-0133

Happy Hour: 3 to 6 p.m.
Monday through Friday

RATINGS

Drinks: 🍸🍸🍸🍸

The taps feature craft beers exclusively, although only about half of them are discounted during happy hour, and a few were sold out by the middle of the afternoon.

Food: 🍸🍸🍸

I only tried the Bavarian pretzel served with flavorless beer-cheese sauce in a soup cup. Mustard would have been a better dip.

Value: 🍸🍸🍸🍸

You'll save on average about 20 percent on the food and drink specials, which rotate throughout the weekdays.

Service: 🍸🍸

Despite fast service and not being charged for an under-filled mug of beer, the two waitresses on duty were rather brusque and unwelcoming when interacting with customers.

Atmosphere: 🍸🍸🍸🍸

Located on a prime corner lot in Old Town, the space features more Old World charm since it was remodeled last year.

UPTOWN NEWS FOOD BRIEFS

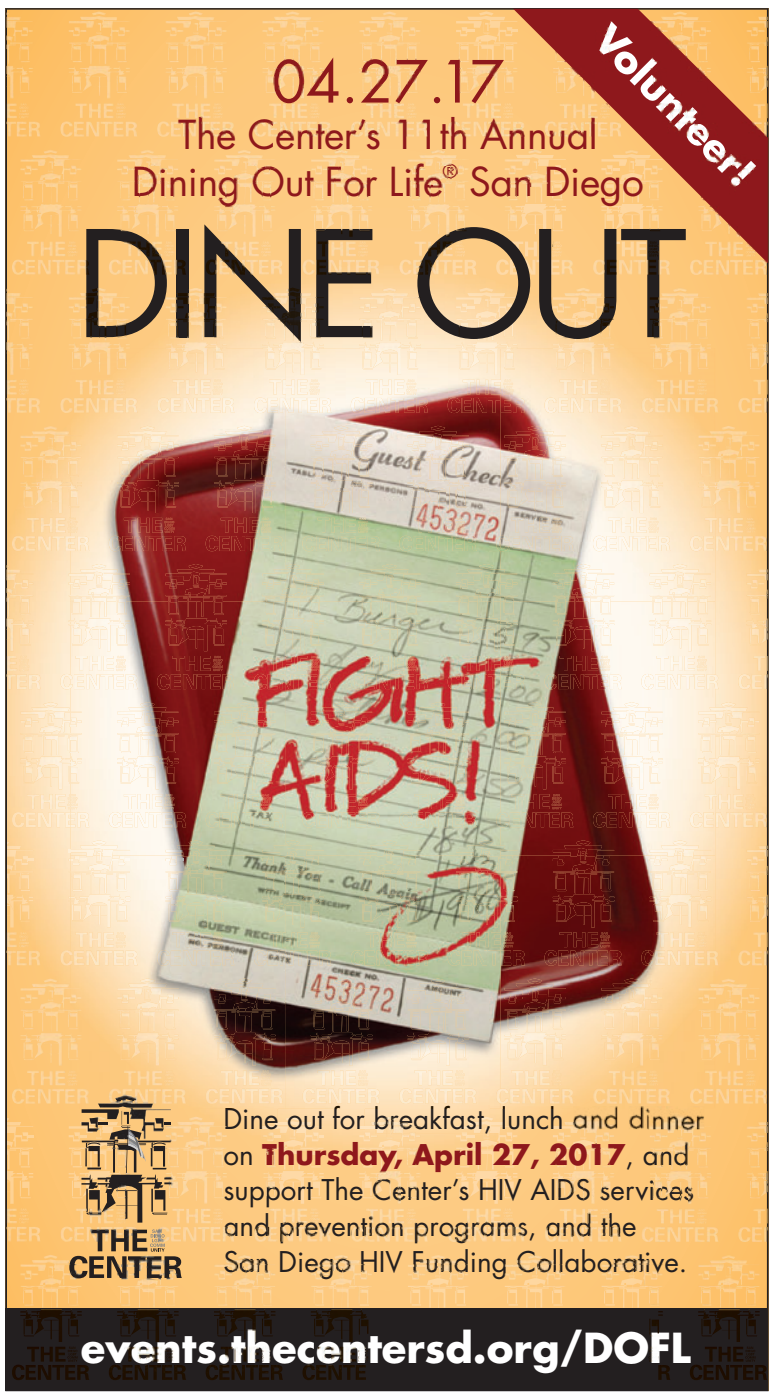
FRANK SABATINI JR.

Bangkok native Vijit Pipatkhajonchai has opened **55 Thai Kitchen** in the back of an unassuming liquor store in Golden Hill called **San Diego Market Beer & Wine**. His specialty is massaman chicken curry, although the menu also includes tom kha noodles, ginger stir-fry, Thai fried rice and other classic dishes he mastered when operating restaurants in Thailand.

The small, sleekly designed space features a to-go counter and limited indoor-outdoor seating. Pipatkhajonchai, who also owns **J&T Thai Street Food** in Linda Vista, plans to earmark a portion of his profits for children's meals in both the local community and his homeland. *2601 Broadway, 619-955-5501, 55thaikitchen.com.*

Massaman chicken curry at the new 55 Thai Kitchen *(Photo by Kim Marcelo)*

Artisan Bento in Mission Hills has quietly transitioned to become **Hachi Ramen**, which recently held its soft opening to showcase a variety of classic and contemporary ramen that was added to an established menu of bowls, bento boxes and sushi rolls. Owner Shihomi Borillo, who also runs the nearby **Azuki Sushi**, redesigned the space to include extra seating and a ramen bar. She also expanded the drink menu with sochu cocktails, craft beers and a variety of Baja wines by **Villa Montefiori**, **Monte Xanic** and other producers. *2505 Fifth Ave., 619-231-0700, artisanbento.com.*



The buzz is growing for the Hillcrest arrival of a combined café and roasting facility *(Photo by Oveth Martinez)*

The long-vacant, two-story building at the corner of Ninth and University avenues in Hillcrest that was rumored to become a Japanese restaurant has been fully leased instead to **Better Buzz Coffee Roasters**.

The Vista-based company is currently working with designers and architects to transform the house-like structure into a full-production roasting facility and café that will feature a "ring of seating" for customers to view the roasting process, said Daniel Greig, director of coffee production.

At the center of the operation will be a restored Probat roaster dating to the early 1900s.

"We'll also have a large tap tower for cold-brew coffee drinks and with the possibility of serving wine and beer," he said, adding that the still-unnamed project "might possibly open in the summer, but no guarantee."

The upper floor of the building will be designated as offices for the company's management team as well as for public rental.

Better Buzz has branched into seven locations in San Diego County through a mix of cafes, drive-throughs and a kiosk in Fashion Valley Mall. The Hillcrest project will be its biggest and offer an expanded menu compared to the other branches. *801 University Ave. betterbuzzcoffee.com.*

Food and wine extraordinaire Christian Gomez is preparing to open his second San Diego culinary project in Misson Hills *(Photo by Rikke Photograph)*

Christian Gomez, the owner of **Wet Stone Wine Bar & Café** in Bankers Hill, is aiming for a May opening of **Fools and Kings** in the space previously occupied by **Mission Hills Coffee Company**. The restaurant will showcase a bevy of globally inspired plates served within an Old World environment he's tailoring after his travels to such cities as Buenos Aires, Barcelona, Lima and San Sebastian. In addition to a bar and tables made of live edge wood, customers can expect to see in the offing his house-made sangrias that have become famous at Wet Stone over the years. *4015 Goldfinch St.*

Chimney cakes and other obscure Eastern European foods are available at a new deli in Linda Vista *(Pinterest)*

If you've never eaten skinless ground beef sausages from Bucharest, known as mititei, or Transylvanian chimney cakes called kurtos, the new **International Deli and Café** in Linda Vista offers them in abundance. The deli, located in **The Presidio** plaza, specializes in a host of Hungarian and Romanian sausages made mostly in-house. It also stocks imported Eastern European cold cuts and groceries such as Estonaka kielbasa, Sweet Ann goulash cream and Univer paprika paste.

The owners have a similar shop in Orange County and source their breads and pastries from a Romanian bakery for both locations. Made-to-order sandwiches and assorted fried flat breads are also available. *5201 Linda Vista Road, 619-294-5755, intlmeatanddeli.com.*

A new multi-cultural café has opened in Hillcrest *(Facebook)*

The new **Kouch Lounge** in Hillcrest doesn't have any couches. But it offers a relaxed, modern atmosphere for socializing over handcrafted lattes, espressos, cold nitro brews and a variety of unique noshes such as Brazilian cheese bread balls, ginger-chicken samosas, and rugulach and hamentashen pastries. The family-run café also offers beer on tap and wines from France, Portugal and Argentina. *3852 Fourth Ave., 619-255-4817, thekounchlounge.com.*

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

'Skeleton Crew' shines

Amari Cheatom as Dez and Tonye Patano as Faye in "Skelton Crew" at The Old Globe. *(Photos by Jim Cox)*

Tonye Patano as Faye and Brian Marable as Reggie

Theater Review
Charlene Baldridge

In association with Moxie Theatre, The Old Globe presents the West Coast premiere of Dominique Morisseau's suspenseful coffee/locker room play, "Skeleton Crew," through May 7 in the Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre.

The work features a tight ensemble of four actors, possibly the best in regards to chemistry and balance that the Globe has assembled in many years.

Heard by director Delicia Turner Sonnenberg (San Diego Critics Circle's 2015 Director of the Year Award) in the Globe's Powers New Voices Festival in 2014, the play piqued her interest and Sonnenberg apparently begged the powers that be to grant Moxie the rights to produce the play, which she intended to direct. The answer was yes, but at The Old Globe. This is Sonnenberg's Old Globe directorial debut. She co-founded Moxie in 2005 and serves as the esteemed company's artistic director.

The April 13 opening was well attended and the response was enthusiastic. Part of a trilogy of plays about Detroit, the play concerns three longtime co-workers at an automotive-related factory where sheet metal is "stamped" into shapes such as doors and hoods for auto manufacture. The time is 2008, when industry closures were just beginning.

Reggie, the foreman (Brian Marable), knows the plant is closing by the end of the year and confides in Faye (Tonye Patano, a Craig Noel Award-winner in "Ruined" at La Jolla Playhouse), the worker with the most longevity, with whom he shares an almost familial relationship of many years. Faye was instrumental in getting Reggie the white-collar job, and he now has a house, a family and a college-bound daughter. Faye, one year from fully vested retirement, is sworn not to tell the others. She is a very loving 60-something lesbian who acts as confidante to the two younger employees, Shanita (Rachel Nicks) and Dez (Amari Cheatom).

Though a bit of a hustler, Dez is basically a good man and sincerely loves Shanita, who is pregnant with her first child (Dez is not the father). As time goes by, he garners a lot of suspicion over thefts that begin to occur at the plant as rumors of closing spread. The suspense relies on intricate dynamics between the characters as the story unfolds.

(I to r) Tonye Patano as Faye and Rachel Nicks as Shanita

The actors' performances are well developed, each creating a character of individual integrity, with dimension and human interest. There are secrets to be revealed, and the last of them, stunning as it is, comes as no surprise to those who have listened carefully. It's more an affirmation of what was suspected all along. These relationships run far more deeply than we first imagined.

Tim Mackabee's scenic design is redolent of rundown break rooms everywhere, flanked on two sides counters with lockers underneath, a microwave and mini fridge on one side, and a coffeepot on the other. The chairs are shabby and no two are alike. Jennifer Brawn Gittings costumes are a mix of what must be worn on the line and characterful personal attire. Sherrice Mojgani's lighting design creates the feel of Midwestern winter, and Lindsay Jones' sound design is a clever mix of factory sounds and percussive music.

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

'Skeleton Crew'

By Dominique Morisseau

Tuesdays-Sundays, through May 7

Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre
Conrad Prebys Theatre Center
The Old Globe (Balboa Park)

Tickets start at $29
theoldglobe.org
619-23-GLOBE

(I to r) Amari Cheatom as Dez, Brian Marable as Reggie, Tonye Patano as Faye, and Rachel Nicks as Shanita *(Photos by Jim Cox)*

University Heights to mark iconic street sign's 20th year

By SDCNN Staff

The University Heights Community Association (UHCA), Park Boulevard merchants and residents, friends, family and neighbors will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the University Heights street sign on Park Boulevard on Saturday, April 29, from 5-8 p.m.

Called "20 Electrifying Years," the celebration will kick off with an opening event at 5 p.m. under the sign, in front of Park & Rec at 4612 Park Blvd., with appearances by County Supervisor Ron Roberts and City Councilmember Chris Ward.

Roberts represents the Supervisor District 2 and Ward the City Council District 3, both of which include University Heights (UH). Also on hand will be Kevin Whaley, a 30-year UH resident who designed the sign — full of visual symbols of the community's history — 20 years ago.

The evening's highlights include restaurant and merchant walks, food and beverage samples, discounts, a light show and more.

"Nothing symbolizes University Heights' community pride and sense of place more than the University Heights sign on Park Boulevard," said Philip Gill, event chair and a 25-year UH resident. "Indeed, some old-time residents say many San Diego residents had heard of University Heights, but never seemed to know where it was located until the sign went up!"

"For 20 years, the UH sign has presided over — indeed, many UH residents would say spurred on — the revitalization of the commercial district on the 4600 block of Park Boulevard, now known as 'the village' by many residents," he said. "That's why it's entirely appropriate to mark its 20th anniversary with this special celebration event."

After the opening ceremony, participants who purchase a $10 wristband will be treated to complimentary food tastes, treats and beverages and special event discounts at some of Park Boulevard's leading establishments. As of April 10, participating merchants, listed alphabetically, include: Cecilia's Fine Jewelry, 4669 Park Blvd.; EnviouSkin, 4670 Park Blvd.; Madison on Park, 4622 Park Blvd.; Meraki Café, 1735 Adams Ave.; Muzita's Abyssinia Bistro, 4651 Park Blvd.; Red House Pizza, 4615 Park Blvd.; Soltan Banoo, 4645 Park Blvd.; Twiggs Cafe & Bakery, 4590 Park Blvd.; and Park & Rec, 4612 Park Blvd.

A special closing ceremony for the evening's festivities will be held in front of Park & Rec at 8 p.m., after sundown. This will feature a symbolic "relighting" of the sign and a special light show presented by Andy Cameron, creator of "Norbert the Dragon," a key feature of the annual Halloween night event on UH's Maryland Avenue.

Wristbands will go on sale at 4 p.m. that evening at the check-in desk in front of Twiggs Café & Bakery, located at 4590 Park Blvd., at the corner of Madison Avenue.

The iconic University Heights neon sign turns 20. *(Photo by Philip Gill)*

Historical Hillcrest house being moved to Mission Hills

Spared demolition, Henry B. Jones House will be moved from Hillcrest to Mission Hills. *(Courtesy of Hillcrest History Guild)*

By SDCNN Staff

The long vacant Henry B. Jones House, located at 4040 Fifth Ave. in Hillcrest, will soon be relocated to 4114 Ibis St. in Mission Hills.

Plans call for the two-story historical house to be restored to its former glory, according to a news release from Hillcrest History Guild (HHG).

The guild said Henry B. Jones was the first president of Hillcrest's first bank, which was located where Union Bank currently stands at University and Fifth avenues. Born on March 11, 1850 in Hudson, Wisconsin, Jones was described as "a thrifty and prosperous farmer" who sold his property in 1910 and moved to San Diego, where he became involved in banking and real estate, according to a genealogy book of the Jones family, who had immigrated to the United States from Wales more than 250 years ago.

In 1911, Jones commissioned the construction of this house for his family at the current location, then known as 4040 Hillcrest Drive.

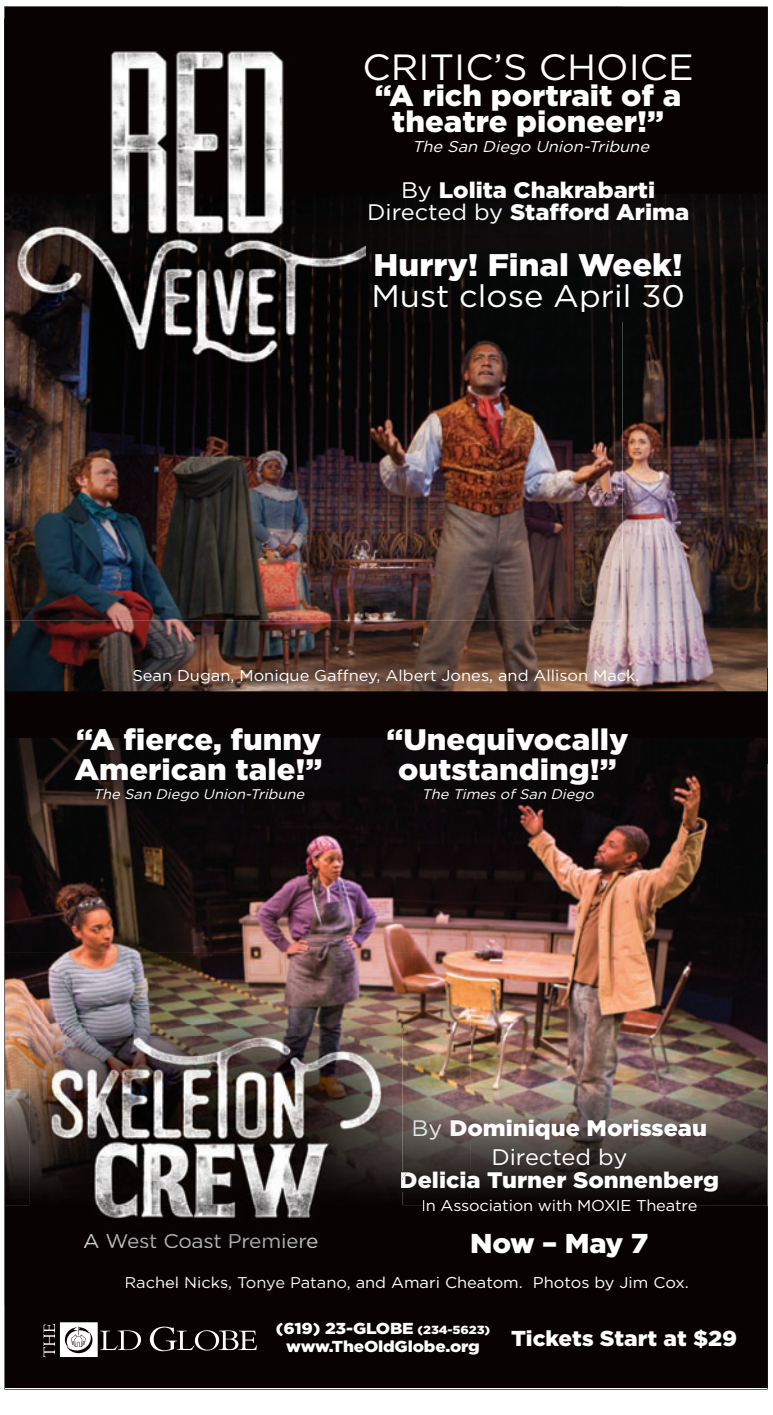
The property changed hands several times, eventually purchased by Scripps Health.

The Jones House "is perhaps the last residence remaining from the original Hillcrest development," according to the Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) website.

When Scripps Mercy Hospital decided to expand its facilities in 2010, they initially intended to demolish the Jones House. However, community activists came to the rescue and made sure that the city's Historical Resources Board had accurate information when deciding on historic designation.

In 2011, citing Criterion C and declaring it as an excellent example of the Craftsman style, the Historical Resources

see House, pg 17



Uptown News Briefs

Hillcrest Farmers Market turns 20

Hillcrest Farmers Market celebrated its 20th anniversary on Easter Sunday.

The festivities included an appearance by U.S. Rep. Susan A. Davis (D-San Diego), a large birthday cake and free cupcakes.

The popular farmers market is held every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Normal Street between University Avenue and Lincoln Street. More than 175 local artisans and food vendors sell their goods and musicians perform.

For more information, contact Michael Cox, Hillcrest Business Association's marketing and member services director, at Michael@Hillcrestbia.org or visit Hillcrestfarmersmarket.com.

Hillcrest History Guild hits legal-defense fundraising goal

Hillcrest History Guild (HHG) has joined forces to help the Save Our Heritage Organisation and Mission Hills Heritage in their legal challenge over the Uptown Community Plan Update (CPU).

The two preservation-based organizations said they legally challenged the City Council's approval of the CPU in January "due to significant deficiencies in the protection for historic resources" and other factors.

HHG held a fundraiser March 19 in the Bankers Hill home of the organization's founders, Nancy Moors and Ann Garwood, and raised $15,000 for the legal defense fund.

"It's rewarding to see the community rally in support of this legal effort to hold city planners accountable," HHG treasurer Susan Fosselman said in a press release. "… The approved plan is not what the community worked on for years and it will reduce the quality of life for those living in Hillcrest's core. In meeting our substantial financial goal, the Hillcrest History Guild puts developers and the city on notice that Hillcrest will not the tolerate inappropriate development, additional traffic and undue influence of commercial interests."

Garwood, the HHG president, said it wasn't the first time local citizens needed to "fight the city to save our neighborhood" from density-based development projects.

"But Hillcrest shouldn't be the only neighborhood forced to take the new density," Garwood said in the release. "The quality of life for residents continues to decrease as the city of San Diego adds more and more people (and traffic) to this once great community."

Garwood's reference was to Hillcrest being named one of the nation's 10 "great" neighborhoods by the American Planning Association in 2007.

HHG offered a $7,500 matching grant and received enough contributions to reach the $15,000 goal. Those who wish to donate can send a check to Hillcrest History Guild, 3065 Third Ave., #3, San Diego, CA 92103, with "Uptown Legal Defense Fund" in the memo.

For more information, visit hillcresthistory.org.

Taste of Morena returns April 26

The 10th annual Taste of Morena will take place 5–9 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26, in the Morena District along Morena Boulevard, Linda Vista Road and the surrounding side streets.

Foodies can partake in a culinary adventure that spans 23 restaurants, breweries and bars including Bay Park Coffee, Pita Pit, Andres Restaurant, Baci Ristorante, Bay Park Fish Company, Siesel's Old Fashioned Meats, Bull's Smokin' BBQ, Dan Diegos, JV's Mexican Food, La Gran Terraza, Luce Bar & Kitchen, Tio Leo's, Offshore Tavern & Grill, Sardina's Italian Restaurant & Bar, zPizza, Fiji Yogurt, Home Brew Mart by Ballast Point, The Clutch Bar, Side Car Bar and Poseidon Project.

Old Town Trolley shuttles will take guests to the participating restaurants and a special tram from University of San Diego will take guests to La Gran Terraza on the USD campus.

Tickets are $25 and can be purchased with cash or credit at Jerome's Furniture and Morena Storage. Cash tickets are available for purchase at Max Folkers RE/MAX Pacific. Tickets are expected to sell out. Call 619-892-8037 or visit exploremorena.com.

Civita Park plans grand ribbon-cutting event

Civita Park, the largest city park in Mission Valley, will be unveiled at 11 a.m. Saturday, April 29, with a civic ceremony and ribbon-cutting. The park is located on Civita Boulevard at Russell Parkway, just north of Friars Road.

The festivities, which will run until 3 p.m., will feature music, circus performers, a gardening presentation, photo opportunities with exotic birds, tai chi demonstrations, food trucks and kids activities.

The Arbor Day weekend festivities mark the grand opening of the first two phases of Civita Park, a 14.3-acre park that cascades down the former quarry site.

"Civita Park is the centerpiece of Civita's network of parks, open space and trails that encompasses nearly one-third of the community," Marco Sessa, senior vice president of Sudberry Properties, master developer of Civita, said in a press release.

The park's first two phases encompass more than 10 acres and include an outdoor amphitheater; a lighted water feature with 48 jets; a large plaza; picnic tables and outdoor living rooms; a community garden; a restored 1956 red Porsche tractor on display; a dog park; multi-purpose fields; two half basketball courts; exercise stations and extensive trails and walkways; a waterfall that runs during the rainy season; and public art.

"The next phases of the park, which will open next year, will include two playgrounds, more fields, a bocce court, the Mining Relic Terrace with historic mining equipment and a Caterpillar D8 bulldozer, and three gardens," said Mark Radelow, vice president for Sudberry Properties.

Civita Park is owned by the city of San Diego, and maintained by the Civita Maintenance Assessment District. Visit CivitaLife.com for the complete schedule of events.

Volunteer for cleanup on Earth Day

Registration for I Love A Clean San Diego's annual Creek to Bay Cleanup event is now open at CreekToBay.org.

More than 6,000 volunteers are expected to participate on Earth Day, April 22, from 9 a.m. to noon at 100 cleanup locations throughout San Diego County.

Visit CreekToBay.org or cleansd.org for more information.❖

FROM PAGE 17

HOUSE

Board designated the Henry B. Jones House as Historical Resource #939.

Seven seven later, supporters are waiting for the city to issue a Site Development Permit that will allow the historical house to be moved to its new home.

The HHG thanked several members of the San Diego community for helping to make this happen, including Ron May of Legacy 106, SOHO and Scripps Mercy Hospital. And last, the guild saluted Henry B. Jones for his contribution to the early streetcar suburb of Hillcrest, including his family's Craftsman home.

To read a Nov. 5, 2009 document by the Historical Resources Board regarding the Henry B. Jones House, which includes supporting material from Hillcrest History Guild, visit bit.ly/2p0DBV5. ❖

Conservation Heroes Wanted

$10,000 grant up for grabs for environmental nonprofit

Do you know someone planting a community garden, organizing beach and trail cleanups, or being a community advocate for open spaces? Cox Communications and The Trust for Public Land want to help San Diegans recognize their conservation heroes who are volunteering their time to create, preserve and protect our region's outdoor spaces and natural habitats for all to enjoy.

Nominate your volunteer for the Cox Conserves Heroes Award **from April 24 through May 12** at **coxconservesheroes.com**. Your hero could be named California's Cox Conserves Hero and receive $10,000 to donate to his or her favorite environmental nonprofit.

Cox Conserves HEROES
Cox Enterprises and The Trust for Public Land

COX

Green Facts:

300 million tons – Amount of plastic produced each year to make bottles, bags and other items for worldwide consumption

10% - How much of that 300 million tons of plastic is recycled properly and reused

4 Pounds – The amount of garbage produced by the average American on a daily basis

450 Years – How long it takes plastic bottles to break down in a landfill

1 million – How many years it takes a glass bottle to break down in a landfill

25 minutes – How long a computer can be powered by the energy saved from recycling one plastic bottle

5 trillion – The number of pieces of plastic floating in the world's oceans

FROM PAGE 1

PROFILE

caps change monthly — that's where the fun comes in. All beanies and caps are logo-free, which means they can be worn in any setting.

I launched this store as an online store, because I like beanies and caps. When I go out shopping, I mostly see expensive hats with huge logos on them. I wanted to offer an easy outlet for people to get beanies and caps, logo-free, and at reasonable prices.

2. What is the Beanie It Forward Project and who benefits from it?

A couple of friends mentioned, "What if I don't like the beanie or cap?" and I thought, "Well it's just a beanie/cap. It's not the end of the world! " I said they could "Beanie It Forward" to a friend or family member and then wait for their next month's shipment to arrive.

During this thought process, it also came to mind all of the homeless people I see in San Diego and across the nation, especially with the long winter we just had. In keeping with the "Beanie It Forward" theme, I tested it out with some sample merchandise I had picked out.

One night I ventured out carrying a few beanies and some

Charles Donk

people asked for handouts. I said, "I'm sorry I don't have any cash for you tonight, but I have a brand new beanie that I would like to give you." It was gladly accepted and appreciated by those in need.

With that outcome, I immediately wanted to have the Beanie It Forward Project to be a crucial part of my business. Since there is a lower overhead with an online store, I am pledging 10 percent of net profits in the form of beanies that can be taken to shelters or by volunteers in certain neighborhoods and handed out.

My goal for 2017 is to take several hundred beanies to be handed out with Thanksgiving meals.

3. What kind of commitment does a customer have to make to join the club?

Joining the Beanie Cap Club is easy: Visit BeanieCapClub.com. You can give us a try for a month, or sign up for a monthly subscription. You can pause or cancel, hassle free, anytime. There is also an option to sign up for two months up to six months, ending automatically. Based on the color palette you choose, the beanies and caps are handpicked each month and sent out for you to enjoy.

4. Do you have a day job, and what is your professional background?

My day job is at the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center in Mission Valley. I've been in the hotel industry for over 25 years in just about every department.

5. What do you like about living in North Park?

I just bought a condo in North Park and have been a resident of San Diego for over 40 years. I love the diversity in North Park and the welcoming of different businesses. Beanie Cap Club will be having a booth at the SDCCU Festival of the Arts in North Park on May 20.

—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 model shows off a cap. *(Courtesy of Beanie Cap Club)*

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MISSION HILLS HERITAGE
Craftsman, Then & Now
an Immersion Experience
MAY 6, 2017 • 10 AM-5 PM
Francis Parker School • 4201 Randolph St.

Guided Walking Tour Approximately an hour
Featuring Mission Hills examples of fine Craftsman homes from the early 1900s as well as interpretations through the decades
Tours begin at intervals between 10 and 11; 1 and 3:30*
Symposium 11:30–1:45*
Kiley Wallace, Architectural Historian: **Origin and History of Craftsman in San Diego**
Lewis Barber, Fine Homes Remodeler: **Craftsman Over the Years**
Michael Good, Restoration & Wood Refinisher, and
Marc Tarasuck, Architect: **Craftsman, Here and Now**
Exhibitors 10–4
Experts will answer questions about restoration, appropriate landscaping, interior design and color combinations for the Craftsman home, as well as historical designation and the Mills Act.
Food Truck 10–1:45
Complimentary Refreshments including homemade cookies 11–12:30; 2–4:30
Ticket Sales: In advance at website & day of the event beginning at 9:30
$15 MHH members • $20 non-members • Checks & Cash Only
For full schedule details, please consult www.MissionHillsHeritage.org
***Some Walking Tour times overlap with the Symposium; schedule your time accordingly.**

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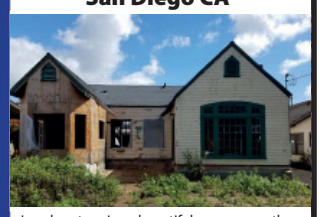
Lovely, stunning, beautiful, gorgeous...those are the words your friends and neighbors will use to describe your home after you complete the renovation started by the current owner. This over sized 2 bedroom home features unfinished walls, unfinished floors, and no back exterior wall. It's a true diamond in the rough. Other features include a full set of plans, drawings, and permits. There is a single car detached garage with additional space for a casita, ancillary space, home office or gym.
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FROM PAGE 9

LETTERS

looking at the big picture. These trolls will fight and fight and waste taxpayers money dragging this out and keeping Hillcrest in limbo. I would recommend some young stakeholders in the community to join the Uptown Planners board.
—*Calvin Van Winkle via our website, sduptownnews.com*

It's unfortunate that the people who already live in Hillcrest (and some portions of other communities in Uptown) feel the need to stifle development in certain areas. This is not the case for most people, granted, but it still is disheartening to see that the citizens charged with advising (emphasis on advising) the city are willing to screw over my generation (millennials) who may want a more urban lifestyle where we don't always need a car. You may like that, but just because you live like this doesn't mean I have to as well.

I see this as a symptom of a larger problem with civic engagement, and some of it falls on the millennials who don't want to get involved with local decision-making. The other part of it is for older generations (looking at you, Tom Mullaney) to look beyond their noses and see and listen to what the needs of others are. My guess is that all the members on the Uptown Planners own their homes, and that's great. My issue with how this will impact future residents who will not be able to live in Hillcrest, and Hillcrest will suffer as a result.

This reeks of bruised egos; leave them at the door. You are not there to boost yourself, you are there to guide development. That means you have to see further than 20 minutes into the future for what will be more beneficial to San Diego, not just your houses resale value.
—*Thomas Q. via our website*

How about an express bus?

(Re: "Pershing Bikeway project pedals forward," Vol. 9, Issue 7 or online at bit.ly/2pnhYNQ.)

The Pershing Bikeway proposal is a fantastic addition to connecting the North Park neighborhood and surrounding communities to Downtown, facilitating and encouraging alternative modes of transportation beyond automobiles.

In support of the "complete-streets" concept advocated by SANDAG, there should be a strong consideration of adding MTA buses to this route. Getting to Downtown from North Park via bus right now includes a long, slow trip down 30th Street through South Park and Golden Hill, or an equally slow slog down University Avenue to Park Boulevard in Hillcrest.

An express bus that stops at key intersections along 30th Street (perhaps at Adams Avenue, El Cajon Boulevard, University Avenue and Upas Street) with a direct link via Pershing Drive down to City College and other Downtown transit spokes could easily shave 20 minutes off of a key connection between two vibrant and growing parts of the city.
—*Christopher Dye, North Park resident, via email.*❖

Tavara Ridge Grand Opening Tomorrow

Saturday, April 22nd 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

TAVARA RIDGE

We're excited to announce the Grand Opening of the highly anticipated brand new Clairemont neighborhood of Tavara Ridge is tomorrow, Saturday, April 22nd from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. and you're invited! Guests will have the opportunity to tour our three fully furnished model residences, enjoy refreshments and live music (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.) and learn all about this spectacular new community located in the center of it all.

Visit CalAtlanticHomes.com/SanDiego for directions and register on the VIP List to receive the latest Tavara Ridge news and exclusive sales release invitations.

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A new way to live awaits with convenient citywide access and nearby neighborhood amenities, Clairemont is the perfect location for the upcoming community of Tavara Ridge. Featuring a variety of architectural styles and thoughtfully designed floor plans, this boutique collection of 52 single-family, detached homes ranging from 2,875-3,347 square feet with four to five bedrooms and three to four-and-a-half bathrooms will soon be ready to welcome you home.

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For more information, please contact Stephanie Norris at (949) 751-8951 or Stephanie.Norris@calatl.com.

Square footage/acreage shown is only an estimate and actual square footage/acreage will differ. Buyer should rely on his or her own evaluation of useable area. Prices, plans and terms are effective on the date of publication and subject to change without notice. Depictions of homes or other features are artist conceptions. Hardscape, landscape and other items shown may be decorator suggestions that are not included in the purchase price and availability may vary. This ad contains general information about a new home community in California and it is not an offer or the solicitation of an offer for the purchase of a new home. This information is not directed to residents of any other state that requires registration or permit issuance prior to the publication of such information. CalAtlantic Group, Inc. California Real Estate License No. 01138346.4/17

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Sudoku Puzzle

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

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.

9/6

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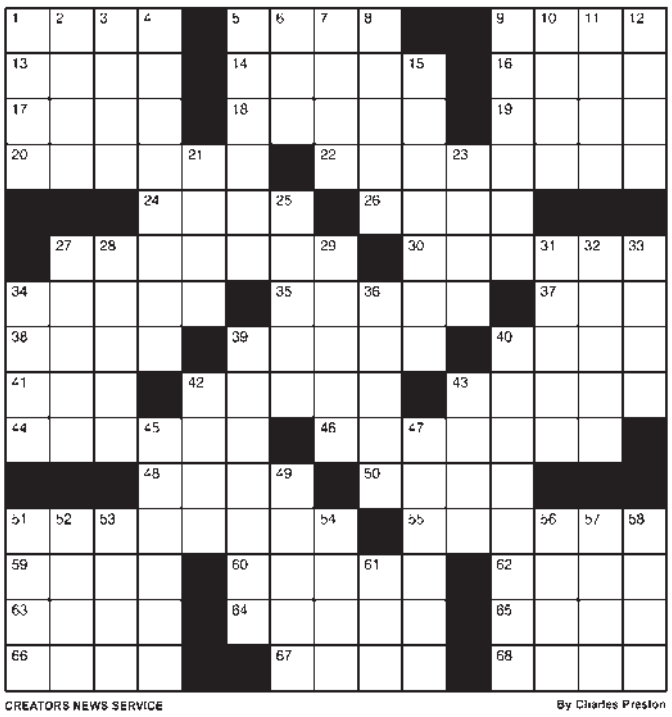
Puzzle answers on page 21

Uptown Crossword

Numbers Game



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE By Charles Preston

ACROSS

1 Erstwhile breadwinners
5 Lectures
9 Enrich
13 *Et* ___: and others
14 Poetry muse
16 Century plant
17 Holly
18 Gunpowder ingredient
19 Tunnel
20 Asian boat
22 Double-crosser
24 Pitcher
26 Stupefy
27 Mosque tower
30 Dangerous
34 Ornamental
35 Seine tributary
37 Promise
38 French river
39 Stacked
40 Weight allowance
41 One, in Paris
42 Nautical chaps
43 Defeats
44 Type of store
46 Advanced age
48 Crisp cookie
50 Makes lace
51 Unfair
55 Mistakes
59 Track-meet event
60 Girl's name
62 Expel
63 Printery stock
64 Egyptian
65 Josip Broz
66 Hardy heroine
67 Triangle sides
68 Short distance

DOWN

1 Platform
2 Actress Nazimova
3 *Per* ___
4 Coventry coin
5 Vaccination pioneer
6 Jackie's ex
7 Scottish inventor
8 Meat dishes
9 South Americans
10 Astringent
11 Flowing garment
12 Game animal
15 Pompous
21 Absent
23 Song
25 Send money
27 One of fifty
28 Something put in
29 Narratives
31 Nautical command
32 ___ -niners
33 Farm animals
34 Afternoon hour
36 Adjust anew
39 Knightly defender
40 Playing cards
42 Short skirt
43 Fraternity letter
45 Evaluate
47 Servants
49 Jeopardy
51 Overlook
52 Athletic team
53 Fraternal order
54 Cross out
56 Apparel item
57 Beatrice d' ___
58 Organ part
61 Strong ale

Puzzle answers on page 21

Classifieds

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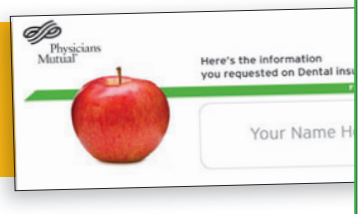

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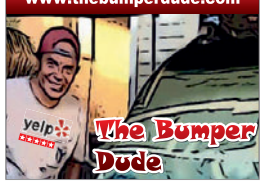

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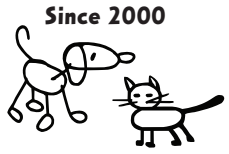

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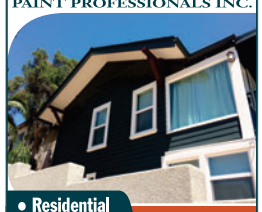

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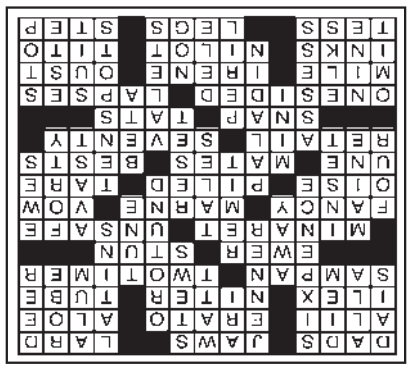
PUZZLE SOLUTIONS

Sudoku
Puzzle from page 20

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

Numbers Game
Crossword from page 20



UPTOWN CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS

March for Science San Diego
Saturday, April 22

Raise awareness and celebrate science at this family-friendly, non-partisan march. Features educational speakers and a mini science expo. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Begins at San Diego Civic Center, 1100 Third Ave., Downtown. Visit bit.ly/2oky5vA.

Happy Birthday, Mr. Shakespeare!
Saturday, April 22

Celebrate playwright William Shakespeare's 453rd birthday with music, artists, sonnet karaoke, games and activities and more. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 1363 Old Globe Way in Balboa Park. Contact Susan Chicoine at schicoine@TheOldGlobe.org.

The Unlikely Candidates at Casbah
Sunday, April 23

Indie-rock band The Unlikely Candidates will perform at 9 p.m. at Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd. This is a 21-and-older show. Tickets $12 at ticketf.ly/2peqcw4.

Taste of Science Festival
Sunday, April 23–Saturday, April 29

The Fleet Science Center and Scientists, Inc. present Taste of Science Festival. Researchers will present their work to the public at local cafes, bars, museums, parks and more. Various locations and times. Visit bit.ly/2pemBhv.

Uptown Democratic Club program
Tuesday, April 25

Join Uptown Democrats for their monthly meeting, focusing on refugees and immigration. Featured speakers are Mustafa Dib from PANA and immigration attorney Ginger Jacobs. Free. 7-9 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont St. Visit bit.ly/2oIOPiS.

Dining Out for Life
Thursday, April 27

Dine out to fight AIDS. Restaurants and bars around San Diego will donate a percentage of their daily sales to benefit HIV/AIDS services and prevention programs at the San Diego LGBT Community Center in Hillcrest. Stop by a participating location, grab a bite and lend a hand! Visit bit.ly/2oVIP7J.

'The Wizard of Oz'
Friday, April 28–Sunday, May 14

San Diego Junior Theatre will perform "The Wizard of Oz" at Casa del Prado Theatre, 650 El Prado, Suite 208, in Balboa Park. Carlos Mendoza directs 45 student performers and 26 youth technicians. 7 p.m. Fridays; 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Tickets are $12-$16. Visit juniortheatre.com or call 619-239-8355.

Gateway Conversations
Friday, April 28–Sunday, April 30

Nonprofit Ilan Foundation hosts a three-day event that explores the role of art in international relations. Features panels, speakers, tours, performances, presentations and food. Purchase single-day tickets or a full three-day package. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Friday at Balboa Park. Saturday and Sundays events will be held in Tijuana and Ilan-Lanel, Santa Ysabel. Visit bit.ly/2pexAY5.

People's Climate March
Saturday, April 29

Join the largest national climate action at the People's Climate March. The march features a rally, music, inspirational speakers and more. 10 a.m. at Waterfront Park, 1600 Pacific Highway, Downtown. Visit peoplesclimatesd.org.

Student Shakespeare Festival
Saturday, April 29

Students will perform scenes from plays by William Shakespeare in Balboa Park, noon to 3:30 p.m. at the Rose Stage, located on the Prado in front of the Botanical Garden. Awards and closing ceremony will follow at 4 p.m. Visit bit.ly/2ped4a6.

San Diego Women's Chorus Concert
Saturday, April 29

Women's Chorus will perform a concert to benefit Women's Empowerment International (WE). Suggested donation is $15 in advance or $20 at the door. 7-8 p.m. at First Unitarian Church of San Diego, 4190

see Calendar, pg 23

DIGITAL GYM GEMS

'Truman' – When childhood friends Julián and Tomás reunite, the two men (along with Julian's faithful dog Truman) share emotional and surprising moments in light of tragic news. Unrated. Friday, April 21 to Thursday, May 4.

'Mr. Gaga' – This documentary tells the story of Ohad Naharin, the choreographer who created the dance and movement language Gaga, through numerous rehearsals and performances. Unrated. Friday, April 21 to Thursday, April 27.

'Finding Oscar' – Experience the search for justice in the case of the Dos Erres massacre in Guatemala. Unrated. Saturday, April 28 to Thursday, May 4.

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

RECURRING EVENTS

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

- "Lion," 8 p.m. Friday, April 21 and Saturday, April 22
- "La La Land," 8 p.m. Friday, April 28 and Sunday, April 30

Films start at 8 p.m. $15. 4040 Goldfinch St., Mission Hills. 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. 619-694-9148. 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.

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.

Wednesdays:

Ikebana International meeting: 10 a.m. in Casa Del Prado, Room 101. The San Diego chapter of this Japanese floral arrangement organization meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Email Yuko Burkett with questions at yukosan@san.rr.com.

Wednesday Night Experience: 7–8 p.m., uplifting and spiritually inspiring experiences for all, weekly at Universal Spirit Center, 3858 Front St., Hillcrest, love offering requested. Universalspiritcenter.org.

Thursdays:

Uptown Sunrise Rotary Club meetings: 7 a.m., weekly meeting at Panera Bread, 1270 Cleveland Ave., Hillcrest. bit.ly/2pezpnR.

Gentle yoga for seniors: 2:30–4 p.m., presented by The Center and Silver Age Yoga Community Outreach (SAYCO) at The San Diego LGBT Center, 3909 Centre St., Hillcrest, free. Thecentersd.org.

North Park 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.

2016 San Diego Film Series: 7:30 p.m., every third Thursday view a film representative of Italian cinema at the Museum of Photographic Arts, 1649 El Prado, Balboa Park. Sandiegoitalianfilmfestival.com.

Kirtan Musical Meditation: 8:30 p.m., chant and sing ancient and contemporary mantras celebrating love and life at Pilgrimage of the Heart Yoga, 3301 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Free – donations welcome. Pilgrimageyoga.com.

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.

Square Dancing Classes: 6:30–8:30 p.m., every Friday. No previous dance experience needed. Recital Hall, 2130 Pan American Plaza. $50 for 13 classes. 858-277-7499 or circulators.sdsda.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. Oldtownsaturdaymarket.com.

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

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:

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

West African dance class: 5:30–7 p.m., Master dancer Djibril Camara from Guinea teaches these classes that are also a great workout for all ages and skill levels at La Vie Dance Studio, 325 W. Washington, Hillcrest. Lavie.dance.

To view local community organization meeting information online, visit: bit.ly/2esLpLR.

—Email calendar items to ken@sdcnn.com.

FROM PAGE 22

CALENDAR

Front St. Contact Rhea Kuhlman at finebks2@sbcglobal.net or 619-491-0664.

Independent Bookstore Day

Saturday, April 29

South Park book and gift shop West Cove Collective invites you to celebrate Independent Bookstore Day. Features public readings, poetry, author visits and live performance art. West Coast Collective, 3010-B Juniper St., South Park. Visit bit.ly/2oIL-7pC or call 619-795-3780.

North Park Main Street Open House and Artist Reception

Wednesday, May 3

North Park Main Street will feature the work of artist Julie Warren. Enjoy live music and food from City Tacos and Tostadas. Free. 5-7 p.m. at North Park Main Street's new office, 3939 Iowa St., Suite 2. Visit bit.ly/2pemEd1.

Cinco de Mayo 2017 Concierto in the Park

Friday, May 5

Celebrate the holiday with a family-friendly concert. Music performed by Jarabe Mexicano with SDSU Jazz Ensemble, SDSU Symphonic Band & Wind Ensemble, and City Heights Mariachi. Free. 6-7 p.m. at Balboa Park Organ Pavilion, Pan American Road East. Food trucks open at 4 p.m. Visit bit.ly/2petbog.

White Elephant Rummage Sale

Saturday, May 6

Calling all artists, exhibitors and shoppers for San Diego Indoor Sports Club's White Elephant Rummage Sale. Sell barely worn clothes, household goods or original creations. Tables cost $25 to rent. Free admission. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at San Diego Indoor Sports Club, 3030 Front St. Contact Marie Reed at 858-220-1862.❖

Barons market
SIMPLY GOOD FOOD. SIMPLY GOOD PRICES.

BARONS MARKET BROWNIES, YA JUST GOTTA TRY THESE! 2 FOR $5

Organic HASS AVOCADOS 4 for $5

Organic FUJI APPLES Washington 97¢ lb

Organic RED, GREEN & RAINBOW CHARD 2 Bunches for $3

Organic STRAWBERRIES & BLACKBERRIES 2 Containers for $5

NAVEL ORANGES California Grown 39¢ lb

ON-THE-VINE CLUSTER TOMATOES 2 lbs for $3

SWEET MINI PEPPERS $1.99 1lb Bags

LARGE YELLOW ONIONS 3 lbs for $1

HAMILTON GROUND BEEF $4.99 lb 80/20

TILAPIA FILLETS In Our Freezer Dept. $4.99 lb

FORELLE PEARS 2 lbs for $3

MILTONS BAKED CHIPS $3.99 5.5oz

CHEESE OF THE WEEK
PORT SALUT CHEESE
DON'T LET THE MILD AROMA FOOL YOU, THIS IS A MILD, SEMI-SOFT CHEESE THAT IS ALSO VELVETY, SMOOTH AND SLIGHLTY SWEEET., PAIRS PERFECTLY WITH PINOT NOIR. "COME IN FOR A TASTE"

Barons market ICE CREAM $4.99 56oz

BREAD & CIE BISCOTTI $1.29 Each

DEL REAL PORK CARNITAS $9.99 16oz

DAVE'S KILLER ORGANIC BREAD $4.99 - $5.89 25oz-27oz

SUKHIS INDIAN CUISINE $5.99 - $6.99 10oz-12oz

DON'T FORGET...
Roland Pomegranate Balsamic Glaze.....$4.99 5.1oz
Don Bruno Organic Extra Virgin Olive Oil....$11.99 16.9oz
Cocomels Caramels.....$3.99 3.5oz
Acai Roots Acai Pouches.....$5.99 4pk
Barons Market Cornbread.....$3.99 16oz
Tessemae's Salad Dressings.....$4.99 10oz

BEER CORNER
Ale Smith Spezial Pils.....$10.99 6pk Can
Knee Deep Breaking Bud IPA.....$9.99 4pk Can
Lagunitas Hop Stoopid Ale.....$10.99 6pk Bot
Bear Republic Fastback Racer DIPA.....$16.99 6pk Bot
Green Flash GFB Blonde Ale.....$10.99 6 pk Bot
The Hop Concept Galaxy & Comet IPA.....$7.49 22oz Bot +crv

COCO LIBRE ORGANIC SPARKLING COCONUT WATER $1.99 12oz+crv

Prices Effective 4-19-17 - 4-25-17

Point Loma
4001 W. Point Loma Blvd.
1 Blk. W. of Midway Dr. (619) 223-4397

Rancho Bernardo
11828 Rancho Bernardo Road
In the Mercado (858) 485-8686

Temecula
31939 Rancho California Road
Corner of Meadows Pkwy. (951) 693-1111

Wildomar
32310 Clinton Keith Rd.
1 Blk. W. of I-15 (951) 609-9200

Alpine
1347 Tavern Road
In the Alpine Creek Town Center
(619) 445-5600

Murrieta
40545 California Oaks Road
In the California Oaks Shopping Center
(951) 200-8700

North Park
3231 E. University Ave
1 Block West of 805
(619) 814-5555

Hours: Everyday 8 AM to 9 PM (except holidays)
Limited Quantity on Some Items.
Not Responsible for Misprints

baronsmarket.com

FELIZ ¡CINCO DE MAYO!

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo at ORTEGA'S BISTRO!

All weekend long... starting **FRIDAY MAY 5!**

Specialty Margaritas & Cocktails • Baja-Style Lobster
Rustic Mexican Charm

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Best Margarita 2016

Fodor's Choice:
Best Restaurant 2017
award winner

Fodor's Choice

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619.692.4200
141 University Ave in Hillcrest
www.Ortegas.com
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Open 'til Midnight Daily!