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San Diego Uptown News



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Contact us

Editorial/Letters
619-961-1952
ken@sdcnn.com

Advertising
619-961-1958
mike@sdcnn.com

www.sdcnn.com
San Diego Community News Network



(l) Casa de Balboa shows signs of wear and tear; (top right) the California Tower at the Museum of Man needs a seismic retrofit and (bottom right) the Starlight Bowl is vacant and vandalized. (Photos by Ken Williams)



Balboa Park's extensive repair bill now exceeds \$140 million

Ken Williams | Editor

Fixing up long-neglected Balboa Park, San Diego's crown jewel, will cost in excess of \$140 million — a huge outlay of money that the city doesn't have lying around in a rainy day fund.

Many of the park's 33 buildings are plagued with leaky roofs, outdated electrical wiring and plumbing, inadequate heating and cooling, unrepairable fire-suppression systems, disintegrating sewers and a myriad of other problems. Important cultural facilities, including the

San Diego Museum of Art and the San Diego Museum of Man, would sustain incalculable damage should an earthquake of 6.9 magnitude or greater strike on nearby Rose Canyon. But the *actual cost* to restore Balboa Park to its full glory has not been calculated,

city officials say, because they are still working with figures that were estimated as long ago as 1989. This drew a gasp from some participants at the Aug. 1 meeting of the Balboa Park Working Group organized

see Balboa Park, pg 17

The green thumb of Mission Hills

Ken Williams | Editor

Jim Bishop calls himself a "plantaholic." His friends will toast him — maybe even teasingly roast him — for that.

Over the past six years, Bishop has served as president of the San Diego Horticultural Society. He will step down from his leadership role following his talk about "My Life with Plants: Confessions of a Plantaholic" at the Aug. 14 meeting of the society.

Meanwhile, Bishop has written more than 60 columns about plants for the society's newsletter, "Let's Talk Plants!" — and they can be read on the society's website at sdhortnews.org.

Bishop and his life partner, Scott Borden, have lived in Mission Hills for more than 20 years. Their garden is such a thing of beauty that it has been featured in local and national publications.

see Profile, pg 5



Mission Hills resident Jim Bishop is proud of the garden, which has been featured in local and national publications. (Courtesy of Jim Bishop)

'Dirt turned'

New \$20-million library on target for 2019 opening

Ken Williams | Editor

Right now, it's just a huge hole in the ground. But by January 2019, if construction goes as planned, it will become a spanking new library for Mission Hills and Hillcrest.

City and state officials, library leaders and the construction team met July 31 near the new library site at the southwest corner of Washington and Front streets to talk about the \$20-million project's progress.

"This project has been a long time coming and I am thrilled that the residents of Mission Hills, Hillcrest

see Library, pg 8

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'This is a godsend'

Talmadge Gateway provides second chance for homeless seniors

By Jess Winans

When Melvyna Landry became a Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) 27 years ago, she never expected to wake up one day homeless.

"I'm used to working and getting up every day and living in someone's home and taking care of them," the 58-year-old said. "Now I need somebody to take care of me in a way, and that makes me feel old to know that you need help when you've been helping people all day. It's weird to be that person."

Landry worked in the home-care industry until chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and later pneumonia caused her to be in and out of hospitals constantly, and she was unable to find or afford an apartment. For more than a year, she slept in shelters or on her daughters' couches.

COPD "is a breathing problem that's irreversible. There's no cure for it," Landry said. "I'm in the last stage of the disease but it's OK. My daughters are upset but I say, 'Look, I've been having it for 15 years. I'm still here, OK? Whenever you say 'let's go,' I'm ready.'"

Despite her illness and all that she's been through, Landry maintains a positive outlook on life. She dresses in bright colors and greets people with a

big smile that uplifts the mood of everyone around her. She is passionate about her work and previous patients she has helped over the years, and it is clear that her experience in the health care industry was fulfilling for her.

Landry was just one of 8,699 homeless San Diegans, as reported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in January 2016, until she was offered an apartment in the new Talmadge Gateway community for previously homeless seniors with ongoing medical conditions.

Despite a misconception that people become homeless because of their work ethic, the National Coalition for the Homeless states that 44 percent of homeless people have jobs — they just can't afford housing or have limits like medical conditions or disabilities that keep them from working.

"People think of homelessness as drug addictions and drinking and things like that," said Kim Stratman, Residential Care For the Elderly (RCFE) Health Plan and Housing Manager at St. Paul's Reasner and Akaloo Centers. "But the majority of the individuals we seem to be serving is because they've had life changes or life experiences that have made them homeless."

While homeless shelters and housing for the homeless do exist in San Diego, not everyone is



Melvyna Landry, a new resident of Talmadge Gateway, said she enjoys watching TV now that she has a home. (Photo by Jess Winans)

able, eligible for, or knowledgeable of them.

According to a report by HUD, 68 percent of the 550,000 people who were homeless on a single night in the United States in January 2016 were found in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs or safe havens.

Someone who is sympathetic to the needs of the homeless is state Sen. Toni G. Atkins, who attended the July 27 opening ceremony for Talmadge Gateway.

"I grew up in rural substandard housing and then I moved into urban substandard housing," Atkins said. "But you know what? I had a roof over my head. And that roof over my head made it possible for me to get a good education and focus on that. It made it possible for us to live healthy lives. ... I wouldn't be here without those kinds of support and those things that made it possible for me to have a successful life."

Talmadge Gateway residents must be participants in the Program of All-inclusive Care for

the Elderly (PACE) before being eligible for housing and must be 55 years or older and be certified by the state of California as needing a level of care equal to nursing home services.

As a member of PACE, seniors are given free health services like primary care, medical specialty services, prescription drugs, durable medical equipment, hospital/nursing home care as required, emergency services, health education, mental health services, meals and many others to those who can't afford them otherwise.

This is the third housing project for PACE, which currently houses 622 former homeless people between their other two locations. Another 59 homeless seniors will be housed in 350-square-foot studio apartments at Talmadge Gateway.

At Talmadge Gateway, there are three stories of homes, a ground floor with parking, community rooms for on-site services, a supportive care office, a laundry room and a terrace on the second floor.

"It's very rewarding to be a part of this project because here you have senior housing, which many of these seniors have been homeless and they have special medical needs, and all of their medical needs can be addressed here on site," said Gordon Kovtun, principal of construction management and consulting services for KCM group.

"The fact that we're able to provide affordable housing for seniors is a huge benefit to the community and the retail component of course is helpful to activate the neighborhood."

The community was developed by the Wakeland Housing and Development Corp. in partnership with the City Heights Community Development Corp. (CHCDC). The units were designed by Studio E. Architects and developers also plan to add a coffeehouse for the whole community to enjoy.

"When I found out I had a room [at Talmadge Gateway], I was ecstatic," Landry said. "It was good to know I was moving soon because I needed to breathe. Now I'm not out of breath so much."

Landry enrolled in the PACE program last April on the advice of a friend. After being admitted into the program, she was given an oxygen tank, a pulmonary doctor and a home in Talmadge Gateway.

She now has a new outlook on life.

"I take life and live it to the fullest now," Landry said. "I love life, and that's the lesson I had to learn. I had to learn to be patient, because patience is not my virtue. That's a good thing for me, patience ... this is a godsend, and I like being here."

For more information about Talmadge Gateway or St. Paul's PACE program, visit stpaulspace.org. To apply to be placed on the waitlist for the community, call 619-677-3800 or visit PACEenrollments@stpaulspace.org.

—Jess Winans is an intern with San Diego Community News Network. You can reach her at jessicamwinans@gmail.com.



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Hillcrest Town Council update

By Mary M. McKenzie

At last month’s meeting, Hillcrest Town Council attendees were asked to address their visions for Hillcrest. Several concerns were common in the responses: community beautification, homelessness, safety/mobility, and the right mix of residential and commercial interests. Additionally, individuals also were concerned about energy and water conservation, the role of seniors in Hillcrest, and closer communications with elected officials.

In response to these ideas, the Aug. 8 meeting of the Hillcrest Town Council focused on beautification. Future meetings will address the remaining topics, beginning next month with homelessness.

First, the audience heard from Mark Catrambone, the Hillcrest Business Association’s gardener and caretaker. Catrambone explained that the HBA maintains over 50 trash and recycling cans throughout the neighborhood, which are emptied two to five times weekly, often in the wee hours of the morning. Additionally, the HBA maintains trees, flower baskets, and several sidewalk gardens and planters. These are additional to the services the city provides.

Eddie Rey, founder and CEO of the San Diego LGBT Visitors Center, outlined his efforts to create an LGBT museum, modeled in part after Chicago’s Legacy Walk. The Legacy Walk is an educational walking project commemorating LGBT history and people through a series of bronze plaques. Rey hopes to create a Hillcrest Arts Council to help guide further efforts for beautification in Hillcrest.

The final speaker on beautification was Elizabeth Studebaker, the Neighborhood Investment Manager for the city of San Diego. Studebaker discussed her efforts to make efforts at “place making” easier and less expensive for interested organizations. At its core, place making is about involving the community in the design and management of public spaces.

The HTC overwhelmingly passed a motion by Kath Rogers

to take a formal stance in favor of the city’s efforts to streamline the permitting and zoning process for place-making projects that have community support.

The HTC also heard from public representatives in Hillcrest. Jessica Mier from U.S. Rep. Susan A. Davis’ office announced her promotion to deputy district director and introduced Zack Bunshaft as the new representative for Hillcrest. Board member David Vance encouraged the community to participate in the AIDS Walk on Sept. 31.

David Mier from UC San Diego Health invited the community to attend an open house on the redesign of their campus due to new seismic standards. It will take place at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 13 at the Unitarian



(l to r) Jae Mohr, Andrew Dugger, Eric Heinritz, Kath Rogers, David Vance, Luke Terpstra and Mary McKenzie (Photo by Kaimi Wenger)

Universalist Church, 4190 Front St.

Monica Montano from Scripps Mercy announced that its campus, too, will be undergoing reconstruction because of earthquake regulations. She also announced that U.S. News & World Report just voted the combined programs of Scripps Green Hospital and Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla as No. 1 in the San Diego region and were ranked nationally in eight specialties.

Finally, the HTC received two substantial donations. First, on behalf of San Diego Pride, new Executive Director Erik Heinritz presented HTC

with \$1000 in recognition of HTC’s efforts for Pride and Pride clean-up. Eddie Rey then awarded the HTC \$500, donated from the proceeds of the LGBT Visitors Center’s Haunted Hillcrest tour.

HTC welcomes residents to attend the next meeting on Sept. 12 at which City Councilmember Chris Ward will discuss his efforts to fight homelessness. If you have any comments or concerns, contact HTC Chair Kath Rogers at do-gnamedannie@gmail.com.

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

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— Joyce Bruun, age 78, Home-maker / artist

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— Jan Delair, age 63, retired

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Anna Feil and her fabulous women

Uptown artist 'thrilled' to be part of ArtWalk @ Liberty Station

By Lucia Viti

Anna Feil, Uptown resident and artist, imagines a parlor brimming with eccentric and formidable women who refuse to be anything but fabulous. Feil's future "Puppet Girl Parlor" will showcase her signature, textured paintings of all things imperfectly beautiful.

For those curious to peruse her artwork today, Feil will present her paintings at ArtWalk @ Liberty Station on Aug. 12 and 13.

Feil's original work will be among 200 local, regional and international artists staging their paintings, sculptures, photography, jewelry, and work in glass, metal and wood. Burrowed within the park venue of Ingram Plaza, ArtWalk @ Liberty Station will also host

live music, dancing, a beer and wine pavilion, and its popular KidsWalk with family-friendly, interactive art activities.

"Liberty Station's Ingram Plaza is the perfect place to highlight and celebrate fine art," said Sandi Cottrell, ArtWalk @ Liberty Station's managing director. "Highly coveted spaces [only 50 percent of applicants are chosen] will showcase seasoned artists and proven new talents like Anna's playful, colorful and whimsical work."

Feil is recognized for her expressive, vibrantly colorful, flawed portraits of women. Noting that her figures "are not fine," she relishes in imperfection.

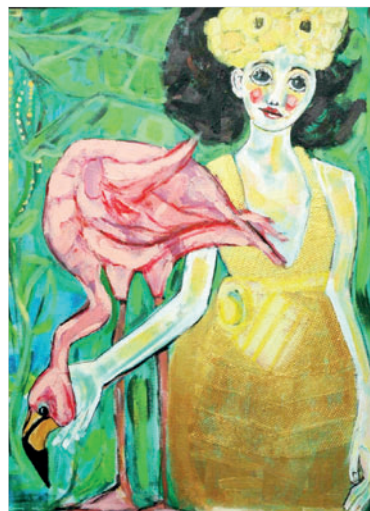
"My work is a dialogue between my imagination, my intuition and my imperfections,"



'Girls Who Fish' (Artwork photos courtesy of Anna Feil)

she said. "Self-improvisation evolves from self-inspiration."

Using "a lot" of mixed media, Feil ventures through antique parlors and estate sales searching for collectible photographs, magazines, vintage clothing and fabrics to incorporate as



'Flora's Fairytale'

textured fragments into her paintings.

"My paintings are character studies of all things vintage," she said. "My paintings are beautiful explorations created in constant state of flux. I create my own realm of femininity using wax, paint, color, fabric, photographs, everything vintage plus anything that strikes my fancy."

Feil also utilizes the Encaustic method for layering texture on canvas. The unique "ancient" Egyptian method manipulates beeswax, resin and oil paint. Melted beeswax serves as a painting component that jumbles the artistic outcome by wreaking havoc into a "defining foundation."

"I've always been intrigued by the Encaustic method," she said. "I paint with oils, overlay fabric, place a glaze of wax over the top and scrape and scrape with a razor blade. I constantly add and rework every piece. Although I'm always surprised by the outcome, I honestly have no control over the outcome. I simply embrace every happy accident as a fun surprise."

Portraits are composed naturally, with little attention to structure.

"My art flows organically because I stumble when I try to make things happen. I can start with something subtle but it usually turns into something else. So, I accept whatever way my art chooses to flow," Feil said.

"Anna uses wax to create colorful, abstract depictions of women," Cottrell said. "Her paintings are like a bright San Diego summer day!"

Feil's love of rich colors stems from her admiration of German Expressionist painters like Otto Dix and California artist Joan Brown.

"Color is healing," she said. "Color evokes a mood. Color makes me happy."



'Sadie'



'Damsels'



'Billie'



'Delilah's Dream'

ArtWalk @ Liberty Station

Ingram Plaza
2751 Dewey Road

Aug. 12: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Aug. 13: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

artwalksandiego.org

The Florida native spent six years in Hawaii before setting up her home and art studio with her husband and daughter Pearl in the Uptown area. Inspired by her love of San Diego — "the people, San Diego's beauty and of course, the beach" — Feil paints "all aspects of my life."

"I'm inspired by everything that I see," she said. "Pearl inspires me. Street signs inspire me. A vintage dress can inspire me to design a pattern. I'm even inspired by people-watching at a laundromat."

Inspiration becomes artistic endeavors.

"My paintings are a response to people I meet, colors I see, textures I touch and the energy that surrounds me," she continued. "Women inspire me. My work thrives on the strength of women."

Feil — who earned a bachelor of fine arts degree from Savannah College of Art and Design in Georgia — spends her days working with children with autism.

"I work full-time, but I paint constantly," she said. "After caring for my husband and my 11-year-old, I paint. Any and all extra time is devoted to painting."

And the artist has only tapped the surface. Feil's concept of the Puppet Girl Parlor, her Instagram handle, is an artistic endeavor, decades in the making that will one day become a reality.

"For the past 20 years, I've imagined creating a parlor with all things beautiful and feminine," she said. "Puppet Girl Parlor will be a large, open-space gallery for women artists to show their work. I envision an old building with high ceilings, filled with cool furniture and fabrics. Puppet Girl Parlor will be a great hang-out spot to enjoy art, meet people and take it all in. Our motto, Puppet Girl Parlor says that we — women — pull our own strings."

But for now, Feil sells her work from her home studio. The first-time denizen of ArtWalk @ Liberty Station said she was "thrilled" to be selected for this year's 12th anniversary event.

A steady stream of more than 25,000 people are expected to meander through the grassy park. Cottrell described the art fair as an opportunity to enjoy art at a free, family-friendly, public event.

"ArtWalk is not only my passion," Cottrell said. "ArtWalk @ Liberty Station is a passion for the artists, its sponsors and its audience," concluded Cottrell.

—Contact Lucia Viti at luciviti@roadrunner.com ❖

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FROM PAGE 1

PROFILE

Here are five questions with Jim Bishop:

1. This month marks your final meeting as president of the San Diego Horticultural Society (SDHS). How has the society evolved under your leadership, and what do you consider your legacy to be?

Indeed, I'm finishing up my sixth year as president of the San Diego Horticultural Society. As I step down, I'm pleased that we have 1,100 members from all over San Diego County, and the organization is in good standing.

I know that with the dedication of incoming president Frank Mitzel, our board and volunteers, SDHS will continue to grow and educate San Diegans about environmentally responsible horticulture.

During my tenure, we've made the organization more efficient, including bringing the events and membership processes online and tied directly to our website sdhort.org. An individual membership has remained the same at \$30, which is a great deal since non-member attendance at one of our monthly meetings is \$15. We moved the meetings from Del Mar to the UTC area to increase participation from members and garden enthusiasts from central San Diego, East County and South Bay. Our new venue, Congregation Beth Israel, is wonderful. It's comfortable, has great acoustics, is right off the freeway, and has easy, free parking.

We also have one of the largest and most successful annual tours featuring private gardens in a different area of San Diego each year. I'm speaking at our Monday, Aug. 14 meeting, sharing not only my experiences in creating gardens, but photos from the many, many places I've lived, as well as adventures with my partner, Scott Borden, traveling to horticultural sites around the globe.

2. Who or what inspired you to what has been called your lifelong "addiction and obsession" with plants?

My mother gardened as time allowed, while raising three boys and moving every couple of years. She liked unusual plants, which is probably why I'm fascinated with exotic plants. With dad being transferred to a new place every couple of years, I was exposed to many different plants, climates and environments.

Though I've lived in California for 35 years, I've also lived in South Florida, Texas and the Midwest. We went on annual family road trips visiting many national parks, so I developed an appreciation for nature and natural environments. I enjoy creating garden spaces and watching plants grow, thrive, and change with the seasons.

3. The home garden you maintain with your life partner Scott Borden has been featured in local and



Jim Bishop leads a nature tour in San Diego area. (Courtesy of Jim Bishop)

national magazines. What was the idea behind the garden, how has it changed over the years, and do you guys have plans to shake things up in the future?

For our garden, which we created and have tended for almost 20 years, we wanted to create a sense of place. We have an historic, Spanish-style home, so we wanted to play off of the architecture, incorporating water-wise plants including succulents, agaves and aloes, as well as plants of Australia, South Africa, and of course, California natives.

Currently, we are restoring the bottom slope of our property to be mostly California native plants, especially locally native ones. Our garden is on a steep, north-facing slope, and there's a 100-foot elevation change from the top to the bottom. Because we're next to wild areas, we try to grow what the

animals won't eat; keeping the gophers out is a constant battle. To conserve water, a few years ago, we installed 2,000 gallons of water storage and we are still using water we collected from last season's rains.

4. What advice would you give to amateur gardeners in the Uptown and Mid-Cities areas?

Join the San Diego Horticultural Society! At our monthly meetings, we showcase experts in the field, and their presentations are always insightful and inspiring.

The garden societies in Balboa Park are another great community resource for gardeners. As you try to decide what you want to grow, find a garden you like and copy it. It's totally fine to copy what someone else does because it will look

see Profile, pg 17

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San Diego Uptown News

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(619) 519-7775
Twitter: @SD_UptownNews
Instagram: @sd_uptownnews



EDITOR

Ken Williams
(619) 961-1952
ken@sdcnn.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Jeff Clemetson, x119
Morgan M. Hurley, x110

WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

Sara Butler, x120
web@sdcnn.com

COPY EDITOR

Dustin Lothspeich

CONTRIBUTORS

Toni G. Atkins
Sara Butler
Andy Cohen
Katherine Hon
Dr. Ink
Jean Lowerison
Mary M. McKenzie
Frank Sabatini Jr.
Lucia Viti
Jess Winans

EDITORIAL INTERN

Jess Winans

SALES & MARKETING DIRECTOR

Mike Rosensteel
(619) 961-1958
mike@sdcnn.com

ADVERTISING CONSULTANTS

Andrew Bagley, x106
Annie Burchard, x105
Michele Camarda, x116
Heather Fine, x107
Sloan Gomez, x104
Brenda Vergara, x114
John Watson, x113

ACCOUNTING

Priscilla Umel-Martinez
(619) 961-1962
accounting@sdcnn.com

WEB DESIGNER

Kim Espinoza
kim@kespinoza.com

SENIOR INTERN

Jennifer Gottschalk

INTERNS

Alex Ehrie
Czarina Greaney
Erik Guerrero
Angel Rodriguez

PUBLISHER

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

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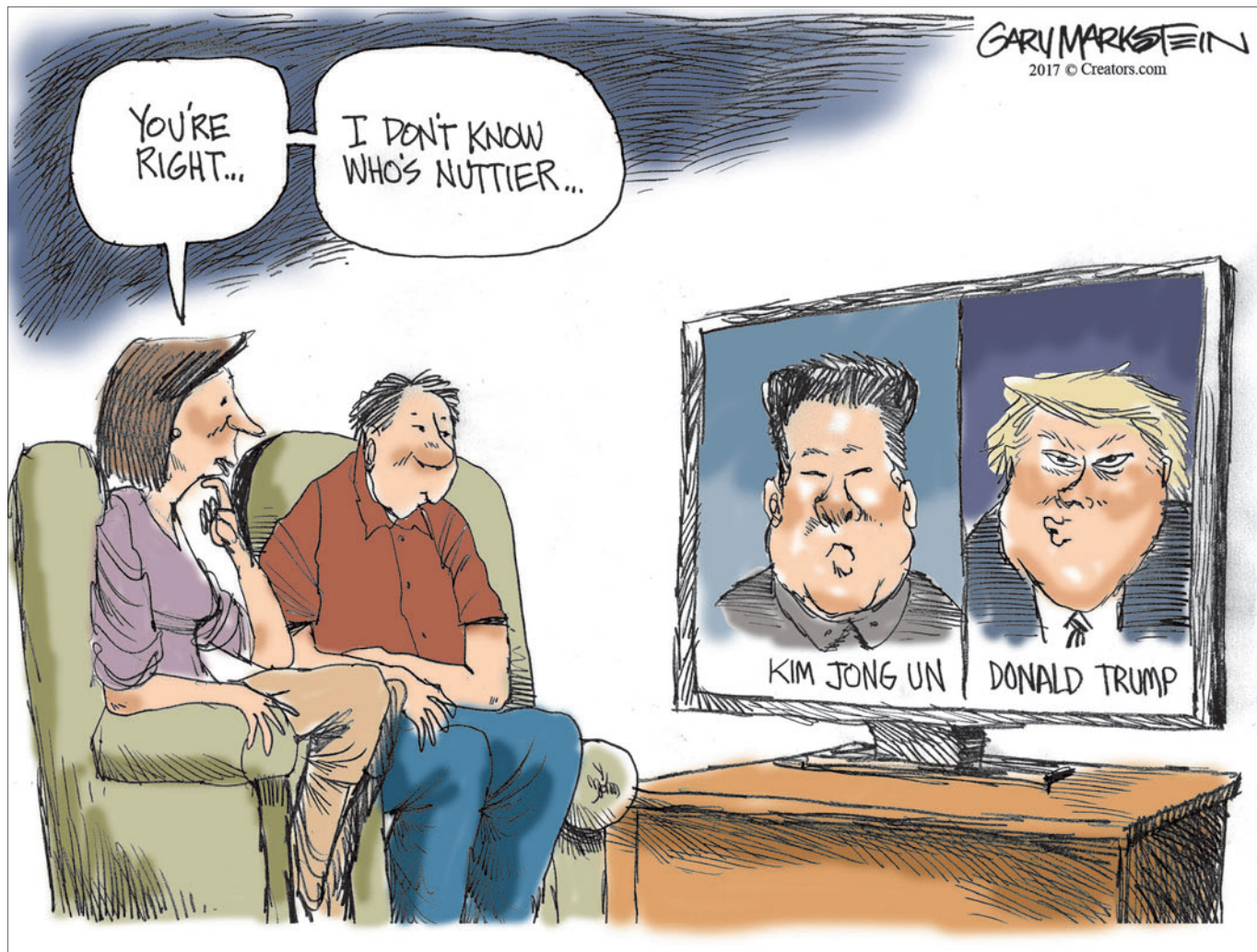
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GUEST EDITORIAL

Extending 'cap and trade'

Notes from Toni

Toni G. Atkins



There was reason for celebration on July 17 when the Senate and Assembly worked with Gov. Jerry Brown to pass a package of bills that will extend California's Cap and Trade program, clean up the air in our communities and continue our leadership role in the fight against climate change.

But what made it even better was that it passed with bipartisan support — Democrats and Republicans coming together to move California forward.

Cap and Trade, launched in 2012 and extended through 2030 with the passage of AB 398, is an innovative and unique way to reduce harmful emissions — a model that other U.S. states and international cities will follow.

The president in June pulled our country out of the historic Paris Agreement on climate change. We Californians have to continue to take control of our state's future and provide the leadership that the federal government is no longer interested in providing.

California recently made its already-ambitious greenhouse-gas reduction goals even stronger, pledging to reduce emissions to 40 percent below 1990 levels by 2030. Cap and Trade is crucial to meeting those goals. It's a market-based,



State Sen. Toni G. Atkins is a resident of South Park. (Courtesy of Sen. Atkins)

incentive-style approach to compelling our heaviest polluters to clean up their industries.

The program caps an industry's total amount of allowable emissions, and that cap is reduced over time. That's how we get the overall emissions reductions we're seeking.

Within that capped system, we allow industries to buy emissions credits at state-run auctions, giving these companies flexibility to comply with increasingly green mandates.

Industries are adapting to a changing landscape — they are going greener all the time. Cap and Trade gives the process a clear structure. Companies will comply with increasingly stringent mandates rather than pay to stay dirty and are rewarded for going green by being allowed to sell emissions credits on a secondary market.

Meanwhile, the state spends the revenue it receives from the program on ways to make our state greener and more

sustainable. One of the ways it does this is by funding the Sustainable Communities program, which supports affordable housing located close to transit, addressing two crises at once: housing affordability and climate change.

When I was Speaker of the Assembly, I led the effort to allocate a percentage of Cap and Trade funds toward Sustainable Communities, and it has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars to help stabilize struggling families.

With Cap and Trade set to expire in 2020, the market was beginning to fail under the weight of uncertainty. Without an extension, California would have been in danger of failing to meet our ambitious, world-leading climate goals. It would have sent a message to others who are following our example that the one model to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions wasn't sustainable over time. Doing nothing would've been irresponsible, costing more than

270,000 jobs, according to one estimate.

Gov. Brown did a great job of marshaling a bipartisan coalition in support to extend Cap and Trade — everyone from rural conservatives to urban progressives.

Our industries got certainty, flexibility and a certain amount of relief from what would otherwise have been more draconian and expensive regulatory mandates.

The alternative would have cost tens of billions of dollars more than Cap and Trade — about three times as much.

And those of us who are concerned about excessive pollution in disadvantaged neighborhoods got a companion bill, AB 617, which will result in cleaner air in our local communities. Think, for example, places like San Diego's Barrio Logan, where residents have been disproportionately affected by childhood and adult asthma because they have had to live side-by-side with polluting businesses.

Current programs tackle air pollution at a regional level to comply with broad state and federal air-quality standards. AB 617 seizes opportunities to comprehensively address air pollution where it matters most — at the neighborhood level.

Together, AB 398 and AB 617 mark an important milestone in the fight against climate change and the battle for cleaner air.

—Toni G. Atkins represents District 39 in the California Senate. Follow her on Twitter @SenToniAtkins.

The issues around DACA

Congressional Watch
Andy Cohen



Throughout the 2016 presidential campaign, immigration became, once again, one of the key “policy” issues nationwide. I use quotes because there was not much real policy to the pronouncements. Primarily there was vitriol, paranoia and outright bigotry aimed at the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants estimated to be currently living in the United States.

It began with Donald Trump’s announcement of his candidacy for president, which included invectives against Mexican immigrants. “When Mexico sends its people,” he said, “they’re not sending their best... They’re sending people that have lots of problems, and they’re bringing those problems with us [sic]. They’re bringing drugs. They’re bringing crime. They’re rapists. And some, I assume, are good people.”

These comments set the tone for the entire immigration debate throughout the 2016 campaign and beyond. There was very little substance beyond building a wall, which Mexico would pay for, and deporting every last undocumented immigrant, regardless of their contributions to American society.

There hasn’t been a serious debate in Congress about reforming our immigration system since the Senate passed a comprehensive — and bipartisan — immigration reform bill in 2013, on a 68-32 vote, which the Republican-led House of Representatives summarily rejected.

President Barack Obama later signed a series of executive orders, including the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy that allowed young people who came to the U.S. as children to remain in the country legally. Keep in mind that these are people who, by and large, know no other country. They may have been born elsewhere, but in every other sense, they are as American as anyone else.

In a border region such as San Diego, this is a serious issue with far reaching repercussions.

On July 10, U.S. Rep. **Juan Vargas (D-53)** convened an Immigration Town Hall at the Sherman Heights Community Center. The conversation essentially centered around what people affected by our current immigration limbo can do to protect themselves from deportation.

Among those who are currently being subjected to deportation status are military veterans who have served honorably in our armed services. “From the founding of our country we have depended and relied on non-citizens to join our armed forces and fight our wars, and we’ve told

them if you are willing to give your life for this country, we’ll let you vote,” said Nathan Fletcher, the veterans’ advocate who has announced his candidacy for the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

Fletcher, a 10-year Marine Corps veteran, was under the impression that veterans cannot be deported. When immigrants are recruited, he said, they are given the promise of citizenship.

“One day of military service in a theater of war and they are eligible for citizenship,” he said. And yet over 300 veterans from 30 countries have been deported. “They have been honorably discharged, but dishonorably deported,” Fletcher said.

DACA — which the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Department says has over 1.4 million people enrolled — was the other major topic of discussion. The program, enacted by executive order, is still in effect, but no one really knows for how long. The problem is that President Trump could, at any time, decide to rescind the executive order and remove protections from DACA recipients.

“There’s literally nothing that Democrats can do if the president decided to deport these [recipients]. Because it was an executive order, he could simply reverse the order,” Vargas said. “Sadly, the president has the authority

to deport these people if he wants to. I think it’s counter-productive.” The only thing Democrats can do, he said, is to “plead with him not to do it.”

Rep. **Darrell Issa (R-49)** strongly rebuked Attorney General Jeff Sessions’ loosened policy on civil asset forfeitures. The policy allows government agencies to permanently seize the private assets of people merely suspected of a crime, with no recourse if the case proved unfounded. “With care and professionalism, we plan to develop policies to increase forfeitures,” Session said in remarks to the National District Attorneys Association.

“This is a troubling decision for the due process protections afforded to us under the Fourth Amendment as well as the growing consensus we’ve seen nationwide on this issue,” Issa said in a statement. “Criminals shouldn’t be able to keep the proceeds of their crime, but innocent Americans shouldn’t lose their right to due process, or their private property rights in order to make that happen.”

In other Issa news, members of Issa’s congressional staff — including Issa himself at least once — have complained directly to the city of Vista three times to have the 200-300 protesters who have

consistently gathered across from his office removed, despite the group’s possession of a valid permit, and the protesters having been found to be in compliance with their permit. Photos of Issa standing on the roof of the building taking photos of the protesters went viral in June.

Rep. **Scott Peters (D-52)** has filed an amendment to the Department of Defense Appropriations bill that will block President Trump’s ban on transgender people serving in the military. The amendment reads: “None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to implement, enforce, or observe in any way, any directive from the president of the United States that bars or restricts the ability of a person to serve in the armed forces because such person is transgender.”

“There are already thousands of transgender Americans serving honorably and openly in our Armed Forces. There is a former member of SEAL Team 6 — the most elite military unit in history — that came out as transgender,” Peters said in a statement.

“Just as we did with the repeal of don’t ask, don’t tell, Congress must stand up against backwards politics, trust our military leaders, and put national security first.”

—Andy Cohen is a local freelance writer. Reach him at ac76@sbcbglobal.net.



Rep. Susan Davis, D-53
2700 Adams Ave. #102
San Diego, CA 92116
Local: 619-280-5353
Washington: 202-225-2040
house.gov/susandavis

Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-50
1611 N. Magnolia Ave. #310
El Cajon, CA 92019
619-448-5201
202-225-5672
hunter.house.gov

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-49
1800 Thibodo Road #310
Vista, CA 92081
760-599-5000
202-225-3906
issa.house.gov

Rep. Scott Peters, D-52
4350 Executive Dr. #105
San Diego, CA 92122
858-455-5550
202-225-0508
scottpeters.house.gov

Rep. Juan Vargas, D-51
333 F St. #A
Chula Vista, CA 91910
619-422-5963
202-225-8045
vargas.house.gov

TV TALK: Fantasy Football, Smart Searching and the Latest Video Technology



Whether watching “Game of Thrones” with friends, laughing at an animated movie with the family, or relaxing solo with the latest reality series, television should be entertaining and easy to experience. Contour, a video service offered by Cox Communications, makes the TV experience easy and fun when searching for something to watch or accessing your program on multiple devices, such as televisions, mobile phones and tablets.

Contour’s easy-to-use features include a TV remote control you can talk to, smart search and recommendations that intuitively know what you want to watch, and personalized apps for every member of the household.

Here, three Contour users share their favorite TV experiences.

Tricia Cespín, DVR devotee

When Tricia Cespín relocated to California two years ago, she made sure she moved into a neighborhood with Cox services so that she continued to have access to the latest technology in her home.

Cespín likes to record shows using voice commands with her Contour remote, then watch everything once she can sit down and relax.

“There are so many shows out there, but I love how you can search for a term with Contour’s voice activated remote if you don’t remember the name of the show or channel number.”

Contour’s Digital Video Recorder (DVR) and smart search are key features for Cespín. Contour’s DVR offers two terabytes of storage, which can store up to 300 hours of high definition programming or 1,000 hours in standard definition. It can also record six programs at the same time. Equally helpful for Cespín is Contour’s smart search, which allows her to search visually with show or movie poster art by category, network and genre.

Plus, she’s able to find what she’s looking for in seconds simply by typing the first few letters of a network, title, genre or actor on the remote control and get instant search results.



Ricardo Cuevas, soccer fan

“I really use the sports app during the NFL season, primarily to keep up with my fantasy football players. While watching a game, I can see on my TV screen who is doing well in other games, and where I stand in the rankings, without having to go online. It’s awesome.”

For Cuevas, the Contour sports app makes keeping up with games and players easy. With Contour, you can connect to the sports app simultaneously with other programming to get scores and stats without interrupting your current show or movie.

Stella Ford, retired TV techie

Stella Ford admits to being technologically impaired. But, she says Contour makes it easy to access the latest video technology.

“I am a huge fan of the voice controlled remote because it’s very simple for the senior citizen community,” Ford said. “I remember the days when I would tape off most of the buttons on my remote because it was too difficult to learn them all. Now, I can get to anything anyone else can just by speaking into the remote. I can even find a lot of older movies that I enjoyed watching years ago just by saying the actor’s name.”

For Ford, the Contour voice controlled remote has changed how she watches TV. Now, she can change channels, find new shows and classic movies, and get program recommendations without having to learn anything new.

Contour isn’t about watching TV. It’s about the personal experience. Learn more at www.cox.com/contour, and experience it yourself by visiting a nearby Cox Solutions Store or calling 888-552-4188.



FROM PAGE 1
LIBRARY

and all of Uptown can now see dirt turned and more progress made on their new library,” said Assemblymember Todd Gloria, who helped champion the building of the new library when he was a San Diego City Council member representing the District 3 community.

As the dignitaries took turns at the microphone, noise from C.W. Driver Companies’ construction equipment working at the library site nearly drowned out the speakers.

“Nothing makes me more happy than to hear the sound of heavy equipment,” quipped Councilmember Chris Ward, who now represents District 3. The small crowd gathered for the occasion laughed along with him.

“Libraries are the hub of our neighborhoods, and this is an exciting new community space that will bring people together and put new resources at their fingertips,” Ward said. “I’m so thankful for the years of hard work that has made this vision

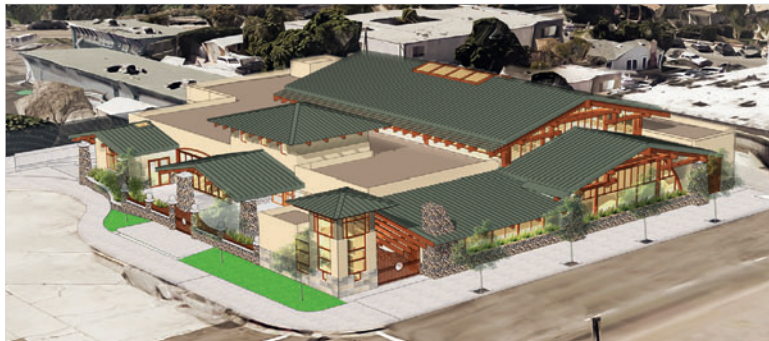
a reality, and look forward to the new opportunities this provides everyone in our community to explore and succeed.”

The 14,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art library will be more than triple the size of the existing facility located at 925 W. Washington St., which was built in 1961 and is known as the Mission Hills Library.

The new facility will be named the Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Harley & Bessie Knox Branch Library in honor of late San Diego philanthropists Harley and Bessie Knox. Harley Knox was San Diego’s mayor from 1943 to 1951, including during World War II when the city was an important hub of military activity.

Mayor Kevin Faulconer, who played the role of emcee at the news conference, talked about the importance of libraries in communities.

“Libraries are so much more than books,” the mayor said. “They’re spaces where families gather, students learn and communities grow. This new library will serve neighborhoods that have seen significant growth at a time when



Artist renderings of the new library (Courtesy of C.W. Driver Cos.)



(top) Artist rendering on the new Mission Hills-Hillcrest library; (bottom) Earth is being removed for a garage with 85 parking spots that will be underneath the new library. (Photo by Ken Williams)

education and affordable access to the internet are more important than ever before.”

Gloria said times have changed, and the new library will reflect that.

“Over the last 50 years, Mission Hills and Hillcrest have grown and evolved significantly,” he said. “The Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Harley & Bessie Knox Branch Library is in step with that growth and evolution, and will give these communities a much-needed library facility that can function as a gathering place for the community, a convenient place for students to study, and continue to be used for generations to come.”

Faulconer noted that this will be the second library to be built in San Diego since he became mayor after a special election in February 2014 to replace Bob Filner. He was re-elected in June 2016.

The new facility will feature children and teen areas, study rooms and computer rooms, a community meeting space, and

educational opportunities for young and old.

A 30,000-square-foot underground parking garage will provide 85 spaces — 76 more spots than at the current library.

The library will also be environmentally friendly, featuring a Craftsman-like design by Manuel Oncina Architects and Ferguson Pape Baldwin Architects that esthetically fits into the historical neighborhood. Officials said the library is expected to achieve LEED Gold certification. Drought-tolerant landscaping will beautify the exterior, including on a patio and garden inside the library complex.

The library is a public-private partnership between local philanthropists and the city. Construction costs were funded through a \$10 million grant from the Hervey Family Fund and the Harley and Bessie Knox Memorial Fund at The San Diego Foundation. The city is contributing \$10 million to the project.

Additionally, the San Diego Library Foundation announced an upcoming Campaign for Excellence to raise an additional \$3 million for the new library. Megan Blair, with the foundation, said that campaign will kick off next spring.

For more information about the campaign, go online to supportmylibrary.org/missionhillshillcrest.

To join the Friends group, a 501(c)(3) corporation, call 619-692-4910 during library hours to leave a message. Donations are tax deductible.

“It’s an exciting time for the San Diego Public Library because with each new branch location opened, we experience higher attendance at our programs and see an increase in circulation numbers,” said Misty Jones, director of the San Diego Public Library. “Because the Uptown community is vibrant and engaged, I believe that when the Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Harley & Bessie Knox Branch Library opens, it will be another great example of how the city’s libraries serve as a place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration.”

—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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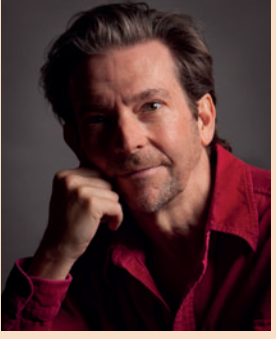


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MICHAEL KIMMEL
Psychotherapist
Author of "Life Beyond Therapy"
in Gay San Diego
5100 Marlborough Drive
San Diego CA 92116
(619)955-3311
www.LifeBeyondTherapy.com

North Park Car Show

The stories behind the poster

PastMatters
Katherine Hon

Every picture tells a story. The poster for the 2017 North Park Car Show tells at least five: the event, the poster designer, the car featured, the drive-in theater in the background, and the scene on the movie screen. Ready for some modern history? Hop in!

The North Park Historical Society (NPHS) will hold its eighth annual car show on Sept. 9 (the first Saturday after Labor Day). NPHS started the car show in September 2010 as a way to honor one of the saddest days in American history (Sept. 11, 2001) by creating a family-friendly community event. For the first two years, the event was held in the parking lot behind what is now the Observatory North Park theater.

In 2012, Balboa Tennis Club became the host site, and the event has been held in a relaxing park setting at Morley Field since then. It is free to attend. Car exhibitors pay only \$10 per car to show off their classic vehicles (pre-1990 encouraged, exceptions made for newer exotics). Register your car in advance, as we assign parking spots and make customized windshield placards. Email info@northparkhistory.org, call 619-294-8990 or visit northparkhistory.org to get a registration form.

The poster: NPHS is grateful to Johnathan Harrison of JHDesign Co. for volunteering to develop the poster. He is a freelance designer specializing in logo design, branding, illustration and content layout for print and online resources. He is also a professional photographer. He can be reached at harrison.johnathan@gmail.com.

Harrison's design process was quite interesting. He selected the car featured on the poster from about 50 photos of the cars at the 2016 car show taken by Jim Brady of Brady Architectural Photography.

"I just looked for a car that spoke to me, and was one that could tell a story," he said.

Harrison described the car he picked, a 1961 Oldsmobile Starfire convertible, as "something that I had seen in older movies. It was a vehicle that looked like it would be at a drive-in [which was] something that many people would associate with ... I tried to make the vehicle look like it was popping out past the border and almost off the poster itself."

NPHS thanks Ryan Main, a local Realtor and North Park Community Association board member, for connecting us with Harrison. We also thank Vincent Rivera, former NPHS board member, for seven years of great poster designs.

The car: Harrison did indeed pick a car with a story to tell. The 1961 Oldsmobile pictured is named Marilyn because she is unique, iconic and stunningly beautiful. She was recently owned by John Thurber, who passed away on April 23, 2017 and will be greatly missed. He had participated in the North Park Car Show since 2013, bringing the Oldsmobile, his 1952 Ford pickup truck, or his 1963 Austin Cooper. Thurber gave Marilyn to his good friend Peter Julian, who will always treasure it. Julian was thrilled to learn the car is featured on the poster and has already registered it for the car show.

Oldsmobile first used Starfire for a 1953 dream car named after the Lockheed F-94 Starfire jet fighter. The first generation of Starfires started with the 1961 convertible model. With a base price of \$4,647 in 1961, it was the most expensive Oldsmobile, and 1,500 were sold that year.

The drive-in: Harrison picked a photo of the Campus drive-in to fit the perspective and feel he wanted for the poster. Jay Allen Sanford tells the story of this drive-in and many others in his Aug. 1, 2008 San Diego Reader article, "Drive-In Theaters in San Diego: Complete Illustrated History 1947 thru 2008."

The Campus drive-in theater opened at El Cajon Boulevard and College Avenue on Aug. 18, 1948 and closed in February 1983. The drive-in was famous for its back screen neon sign of a 46-foot-tall marching majorette twirling a baton in front of the old main building and bell-tower quadrangle of San Diego State University. The neon majorette still sparkles at College Grove Shopping Center.



The movie: The image on the drive-in screen is from the 1968 thriller, "Bullitt," starring Steve McQueen. The film is famous for its high-speed muscle car chase through San Francisco, where McQueen maneuvers his 1968 Ford Mustang GT

behind the bad guys who were tailing him in a 1968 Dodge Charger R/T, then forces the villains off the road into a gas station and a deadly fiery explosion.

The car on the screen is one of two stunt Mustangs used to film the chase. One Mustang was preserved, but the other had been missing since the film's completion. The stunt car was found in March 2017 rusting in a Baja California junkyard and was confirmed to be that very car by Ford historian Kevin Marti through its VIN plate. It is now being restored, just in time for the 50th anniversary of the movie that made it (and it made) famous.

How's that for a history trip?

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



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CityFest street fair and music

By HBA Staff

With nearly 100 years of history, the Hillcrest Business Association continues to help shape the story of our neighborhood. And since 1984 — that story, along with the story of the Hillcrest sign — is celebrated with CityFest, an annual street fair and music festival that draws over 150,000 people to the heart of the community every August.

This year's event, the Hillcrest CityFest Street & Music Festival, takes place Sunday, Aug. 13, from noon until 8 p.m., when CityFest At Night takes over the Grand Stage at the intersection of Fifth and University avenues, and runs until 11 p.m.

History

It all began in 1886 when the area known as University Heights began to grow northward. Subdivisions soon popped up to border Balboa Park, and in 1907, William Wesley Whitson opened the Hillcrest Company to sell parcels of land, giving birth to the Hillcrest neighborhood.

Florence Elementary School opened in 1908. In 1913, the Hillcrest Theater opened as the first theater house outside of Downtown. As the neighborhood expanded and grew, the Hillcrest Association was formed by a group of neighborhood business owners in 1921.

In 1940, the Hillcrest Women's Association donated

a neon Hillcrest sign to the Hillcrest Association. The Hillcrest sign ultimately served to help the neighborhood become a destination, but over the course of the next 37 years, the sign fell into neglect.

Although repainted in 1977, it was still in disrepair.

In 1984, Hillcrest residents and business owners launched an effort to refurbish the Hillcrest sign and on Aug. 18, 1984, a newly restored sign was reinstalled. Two weeks later, on Aug. 26, the new sign was officially unveiled and celebrated; marking the first event we now call CityFest.

Since that first celebration in 1984, the now-named Hillcrest Business Association has hosted CityFest during August, boasting the most spirited street festival in San Diego.

Today, Hillcrest locals join neighboring San Diego visitors to celebrate the sign and welcome the spirit of Hillcrest for a free, daylong celebration that lasts from noon until 11 p.m. — making it the largest single-day street and music festival in San Diego County.

Here are the details on Hillcrest CityFest Street & Music Festival 2017:

Artist Village and Artist Alley

CityFest's Artist Village on Fifth Avenue between University and Robinson avenues and Artist Alley located on Robinson Avenue between Fourth and Sixth avenues, together offer one of the largest



Various scenes from previous CityFest events (All photos courtesy of Hillcrest Business Association)

arts and crafts areas of any comparable street fair.

Over 250 vendors will provide plenty of shopping opportunities, and Hillcrest's quaint shops and restaurants will offer more places to dive into.

Vendor booths lining both areas will give visitors much to peruse and explore, especially to find one-of-a-kind specialty items and gifts.

Grand Stage

The CityFest Grand Stage will be located in the heart of Hillcrest at the corner of

University and Fifth avenues and hosted by community legend Laura Jane Willcock.

Laura Jane will guide attendees through multiple local and regional musical acts throughout the day, from noon until 8 p.m. Then as the walking and interactive aspect of the festival dies down, local and regional DJs will take over for CityFest at Night from 8–11 p.m.

Gigantic food courts

With more than 50 food vendors, CityFest's two food

courts will offer lots of variety for hungry attendees. Food vendors can be found along Fifth Avenue between Robinson and Pennsylvania avenues, as well as between University and Robinson avenues.

The Pavilion

CityFest welcomes youngsters of all ages. The Pavilion, located on Fifth Avenue between Pennsylvania and Brookes avenues, has something for everyone.

This giant playground returns with Lexy the Face Painter; Ms. Twisty the balloon artist; the Rad Hatter, where you can make your own party hats; a kid's garden; a petting zoo; carnival rides; games; and the new Techniche Stage, offering music from DJ Myxzlplix and DJ John Vilotti from 1–6 p.m.

Cheer San Diego (the LGBT cheerleading group), stilt walkers and other buskers and street performers will be staged along the pavilion area and throughout the festival site.

Beer and Spirits Garden

One of the popular aspects of the daylong street festival is

see CityFest, pg 11



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festival returns, bigger than ever



FROM PAGE 10
CITYFEST

the Beer and Spirits Garden, located on University Avenue between Fourth and Fifth avenues. Sponsored by Cutwater Spirits, Coors Light and Blue Moon, the entire block will feature drink stations, a dunk tank and a great view of the Grand Stage from under the Hillcrest sign. The spirits and beer garden will remain open until 11 p.m. so you can watch the CityFest at Night street party with a drink in your hand.

Dunk-a-Queen

You will have the opportunity to dunk your favorite drag queen, friend, “frenemy” or other prominent members of the community. Proceeds benefit the Hillcrest Town Council, a



volunteer-driven, nonprofit organization that provides a voice for the residents of Hillcrest. Show your support for the cause by visiting the Beer and Spirits Garden and taking your best shot to Dunk-a-Queen.

For more information about CityFest, including complete lineups for every stage, visit HillcrestCityFest.com. To learn more about the Hillcrest Business Association, visit hillcrestbia.org.





Street Fair & Music Festival
Host: Laura Jane Willcock

Noon	Imagery Machine
1pm	The Whiskey Circle
2pm	Chugboat
3pm	The Strawberry Moons
4pm	A J Froman
5pm	The Montell Jordans
6pm	The Schizophonics
7pm	The Tighten Ups

8:30pm	DJ K Swift
9:30pm	Leon Else
9:45pm	DJ Taj



Street Fair & Music Festival
Techniche Stage:

D.J. Myxzlplix
D.J. John Vilotti

Buskers and Street Performances:

Cheer San Diego
Ms. Twisty
Spirit of Hillcrest
Lexy's Face Painting
Rad Hatter



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Mouths aflame

Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



Incorporate the name of a chili pepper into the name of a restaurant, and I'm there.

Countywide, we have places like Habaneros Mexican Food, Tacos El Poblano, Jalapeño Grill & Cantina, and Thai Pepper Cuisine. Their menus promise tongue-burning dishes while invariably interspersed by choices tailored for touchy palates.

New to the list is Jalapeño Mexican Grill in North Park, a

remake of Los Amigos Cocina by the same owner. The menu is more concise, and a small cluster of new, colorful tables sit on the front sidewalk. The customer area inside, however, still puts you a footstep away from the kitchen, accommodating only a cramped order counter with no place to sit.

I went straight for the capsaicin with an

appetizer of grilled Jalapeños served in a mini cast iron skillet. The blistered, whole peppers were intertwined with caramelized onions and cooked in soy sauce and lemon juice.

Exceptionally zesty on their own, I ripped some of them apart and spread their heat onto a few other items such as a bean and cheese burrito, which otherwise lacked flavor.

The kitchen uses canola oil instead of lard in the frijoles, and I'm guessing cumin and garlic are either omitted from the recipe or used too lightly.



Mexican corn



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Jalapeño Mexican Grill

3130 University Ave.
North Park

619-228-9000

Prices: Side dishes, loaded french fries and hot dogs, \$1.99 to \$10.99; burritos, tacos and tortas, \$2.25 to \$9.99

The spice level jumps by about 200,000 Scoville units when applying the creamy homemade habanero-chipotle sauce to your food. Don't be fooled by its soft bisque-like color. It's the fiercer of two other sauces served in squeeze bottles — tangy tomatillo and a two-alarm adobo.

The deep-red adobo sauce unites with mayo, cotija cheese and Tajin seasoning in "corn in a cup." An employee revealed the corn is pre-cut and frozen when delivered. Although given its zippy garnishments camouflaging any packaged taste, I would have guessed it as fresh.

Summer's pesky midday flies came out in full force when two tacos arrived to my sidewalk table, one folding in tasty carne asada and the other sporting cubes of adobada pork, which teetered on the dry side until squirting it with the adobo. No amount of spicy sauce or pepper seeds on my plates kept them away.

So the jalapeño burrito I also ordered got wrapped to go. I was told at the counter the burrito is filled with beans, cheese and the roasted chilies. Yet when I dove into it later at home, it was packed also with carne asada.

A mistake? If so, I didn't mind because as any carnivore would agree, beef and jalapeños are as much a match made in heaven as chicken and lemons, lamb and mint, salmon and dill, et al.

The revised menu doesn't leave you cross-eyed with choices. It's sec-



The city's tiniest taco shop resides in North Park. (Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)



(l to r) Adobo, habanero-chipotle, and tomatillo sauces

tioned into three main categories: burritos, tacos and tortas. The latter are made with puffy bread rolls sourced from California Baking Company in Chula Vista.

Fillings vary, ranging from spicy shrimp and grilled chicken to sea bass, mixed veggies, and ham and cheese for one of the tortas.

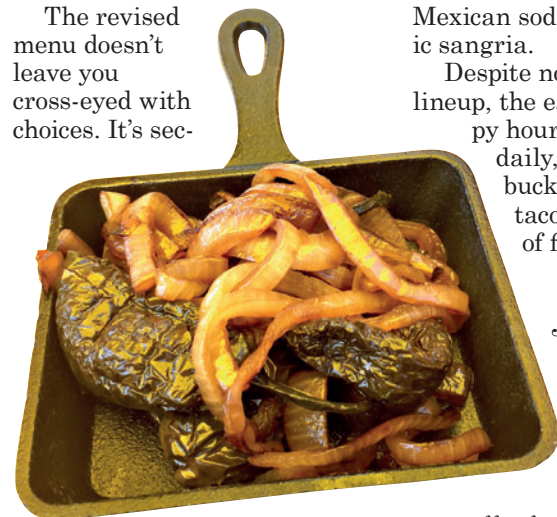
There are also carne asada fries — with or without jalapeños — plus Tijuana-style hot dogs, which carried over from the previous menu.

From the small beverage cooler inside, you'll find bottled house-made horchata as well as Mexican sodas and non-alcoholic sangria.

Despite no alcohol in the lineup, the eatery offers happy hour from 3 to 8 p.m. daily, when an easy five bucks buys you three tacos with your choice of fillings.

—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.✴



Grilled jalapeños and onions



A carne asada and adobada taco

IN GIN WE TRUST

Come On
Get Happy!
Dr. Ink

Various media outlets recently reported that Queen Elizabeth throws down four alcoholic drinks a day. Good for her. I would, too, if I lived with-in walking distance of Trust Restaurant or had the budget for daily car or carriage service.

Like the queen, I'm a fan of gin. She supposedly prefers hers straight up. I dig mine in a classic Bee's Knees, a Prohibition-era elixir containing fresh lemon juice and a touch of honey — exactly how Trust makes them. It's one of a dozen cocktails on the happy hour list that are reasonably priced at \$7 each.



Wood-grilled wings and cauliflower

When Trust first opened more than a year ago, its happy hour was offered in the literal sense — for only one hour. That's been thoughtfully stretched to two hours Monday

through Thursday, and to three hours on Fridays.

The deals on cocktails, wine, beer and highly savory "bar bites" are available in three sections of the big-windowed restaurant, located at the base of the Mr. Robinson lofts building. Customers can seize a seat at the inviting bar or at a couple of high tops near the entrance or within a comfy couch set on the roomy outdoor patio.

I chose a high top, which gave me a vantage point for observing the exceptional wait service Trust is known for.

With an army of servers on duty, menus and water were delivered promptly, cocktails and food arrived quickly, and basically no customer appeared abandoned.

As a devious follow up to my soothing gin drink, I tried the bar's top-selling cocktail, known simply as "Trust cocktail #2." Manager Sophia Hussain said it's been on the list since the restaurant's launch, and that it's also available up Park Boulevard at Trust's new sister offshoot, Hundred Proof.

"A lot of people ask if the drink will be too spicy. It's not," Hussain said, referring to its blend of jalapeno tequila, grapefruit and peppery Firewater Bitters. Hussain was right, the additions of agave and a slice of cool cucumber toned the heat, turning it into a gulpable tippie even for this non-fan of tequila.

To visit Trust without trying chef-partner Brad Wise's cooking would be a grave oversight. His bar bites, which are \$2 off regular prices during happy hour, include two items cooked on a grill fueled by red oak: chicken wings speckled with garlic, chilies, honey and cilantro; and a mound of roasted cauliflower incorporating mint, serrano aioli, golden raisins and curry vinaigrette. Both were wildly delicious.

Other drink and food choices include the Penicillin, made with reposado tequila instead of scotch; a rye old fashioned omitting the cherries in lieu of a sugar cube and citrus peels; garlic-herb shrimp; and french fries draped in Mornay sauce and an egg.

There's also a version of mac n' cheese available only on the bar menu. It features Gouda cheese, ham, fresh peas and



Bee's knees cocktail

Trust Restaurant

3752 Park Blvd. (Hillcrest)

619-795-6901
trustrestaurantsd.com

Happy hour: 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 4 to 7 p.m. Friday (at the bar only)

bone marrow. Several local craft beers and select wines are also discounted during happy hour, which is not surprising that even on a Monday, gaggles of customers started arriving from the get-go.❖



A reliable spot for good drinks, food and service (Photos by Dr. Ink)

RATINGS

Drinks: **★★★★**

Signature cocktails using a variety of clear and brown liquors incorporate local produce, fresh-squeezed juices and assorted bitters. Local craft beers and a few select wines round out the list.

Food: **★★★★**

The "bar bites" yield bigger-than-expected portions and offer complex flavors, such as the wood-grilled cauliflower and chicken wings. The offerings also include octopus fritters, pork spareribs with grilled lime, and more.

Value: **★★★★**

Signature cocktails are priced at \$7 during happy hour, a \$4 savings compared to their regular prices. The costs for beer, wine and bar bites drop \$2 on average.

Service: **★★★★**

No customer is left forgotten. Both the dining room and patio are well-staffed by competent servers, and always with a manager on duty.

Atmosphere: **★★★★**

The urban-chic design mixes industrial elements with warm, homey touches such as an open-kitchen showing off copper cookware, and whimsical wall graphics displaying meat charts and a Betty Crocker cookbook cover.



The popular #2 cocktail made with jalapeno tequila



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Noted for its burgers, hickory smoked wings and craft beer selection, **The South Park Abbey** closed on July 30. The nearly 10-year-old establishment, which previously housed **South Park Grill**, alerted patrons to its last day of business on Facebook, but offered no explanation for shuttering. *1946 Fern St.*



A chain restaurant in Mission Valley is giving away free burgers for an anniversary celebration. (Courtesy of i.d.e.a.)

In celebration of its 35th anniversary on Aug. 14, the first 100 customers at the Mission Valley location

It will be sold for a limited time only. *2441 Fenton Parkway, 619-640-2727, islandsrestaurant.com.*

of **Islands Restaurant** will receive a free burger of choice. The surfing-inspired restaurant opens at 11 a.m., and the burgers will be given on a first-come basis. The company also launched a celebratory golden ale crafted by Karl Strauss Brewing Company.

Snooze is branching into **The Shops at La Jolla Village**, marking its third location in San Diego County outside of Hillcrest and Del Mar. The Denver-based breakfast eatery has more than 20 locations in four states.

Assistant general manager Kirsten Searcy said the La Jolla kitchen will soft-open Aug. 30. It will feature a spacious patio and the same dishes as the other locations. The company's summer menu currently includes new rollouts such as blackberry



A popular breakfast spot in Hillcrest is opening a location in La Jolla. (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

pancakes with lime custard and mascarpone cheese, and Caprese-style eggs Benedict served on Parmesan-pesto quinoa cakes. *8861 Via La Jolla Drive, Suite 509, snoozeeatery.com.*

Lasting just shy of a year, **Bull & Grain** in Hillcrest has closed. In a brief phone conversation with owner Simon Wolujewicz, the New Jersey transplant told San Diego Uptown News, "I'm too upset to give a comment," neither denying or confirming rumors that the restaurant and bar shuttered because of a rent increase, internal problems or lack of an executive chef.

Wolujewicz's opening chef, Daniel Barron, left abruptly earlier this summer.

The space previously housed a fleeting number of businesses, including **Tabletop Commons**, **Commonwealth Ultra Lounge**, **Ruby Kitchen**, a hookah lounge, and Mediterranean restaurants. *1263 University Ave.*



Juan Carlos Recamier is bringing ceviche to Old Town. (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

Chef Juan Carlos Recamier is gearing up for a late-summer move to Old Town for **Ceviche House**, which he launched in a small space last year and recently closed at *4594 30th St.* in North Park. The upcoming spot is significantly larger and will give customers more ceviche options in addition to hot dishes, all made with seafood sourced from local and regional fishermen. *2415 San Diego Ave.*

San Diego's first **free food park** is blooming with tomatoes, cucumbers, spinach, peaches, pink lemons and more. The garden, located on a 300-foot lot in City Heights, was created and funded by the **El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement District**, which partnered with **Eat San Diego** in its planning.

According to Eat San Diego co-founder, Devon Lantry, the produce is accessible from the sidewalks and "people can graze as they please." The humanitarian effort, he added, "Is another small reminder that if we get creative and refuse to settle for less, we'll build a place to live where there's enough for everyone to be happy and safe." *4050 El Cajon Blvd.*



Eat San Diego volunteers plant strawberries in a new public garden. (Photo by Jim Lantry)



Brunch with a solar eclipse is scheduled in South Park. (Google Images)

In recognition of the upcoming solar eclipse on Aug. 21, **Eclipse Chocolate Bar & Bistro** in South Park will hold an "umbral brunch" from 9 to 11 a.m. the same day. Locally, the eclipse will peak at 58 percent coverage at 10:23 a.m., allowing guests before and after the phenomenon to savor a "midnight" mimosa or another select cocktail, plus a choice of entrée and side dish, "pitch black" flourless chocolate torte, and salted blueberry truffles. The cost is \$50 per person, which also includes a pair of solar eclipse glasses. *2145 Fern St., 619-578-2984, eclipsechocolate.com.*



A fast-casual spot for seafood opened recently in Mission Valley. (Yelp)

The Irvine-based **California Fish Grill** recently made its San Diego debut in Mission Valley with an ambitious selection of fish and seafood served in bowls, tacos or plate form. Customers can also choose between grilled and fried. Sidekicks include New England clam chowder, ahi poke, kale slaw, fire-roasted street corn and more. *1530 Camino de la Reina, 619-541-8723, cafishgrill.com.*

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



CALIFORNIA ORTHOPAEDIC INSTITUTE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW ASSOCIATE

California Orthopaedic Institute, located in Mission Valley, is pleased to announce the addition of orthopaedic surgeon, **John C. Austin, M.D.** A native of Michigan, he brings twelve years of post-fellowship experience to the existing group of seven surgeons. Dr. Austin is board certified by the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. His specialty interests include knee and shoulder arthroscopy, sports medicine, and joint replacement. He routinely performs direct anterior approach total hip replacements and computer navigated surgery.

Dr. Austin received his medical doctorate from the University of Michigan and went on to complete his orthopaedic surgery residency at the University of Michigan. His post graduate training included a knee and shoulder arthroscopy fellowship at Cincinnati Sports Medicine and Orthopaedic Center with Dr. Frank Noyes.

His experience and passion for excellent patient care and expertise in orthopaedic surgery make him a valuable addition to the staff at California Orthopaedic Institute. Appointments are available beginning August 1, 2017.

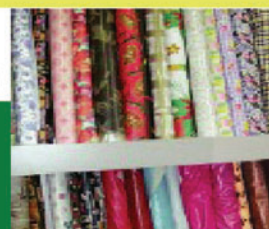


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'Ken Ludwig's *Robin Hood!*' delights

Theater Review

Jean Lowerison



It's likely that Sherwood Forest and its inhabitants were never as frantic, nor as goofy, as it seems in "Ken Ludwig's *Robin Hood!*" — now in its world premiere at The Old Globe.

But that's OK, since the main character has never been conclusively traced to a real person anyway. And most importantly, Ludwig has preserved the devil-may-care swashbuckler's change from hard-drinking youth to crusader for justice and compassion, giving the story some contemporary relevance.

Ludwig's play starts in 1194, with Robin approaching the noose he's been sentenced to by Sir Guy of Gisbourne, usurper of King Richard's throne. But just as the noose is about to be placed around Robin's neck, Friar Tuck stops the process in order to tell us the story of how Robin ended up here.

The play leaps in time from Robin's comical birth — with father pacing and muttering that his wife had better hurry up and deliver — to scenes of Robin's childhood, youth and early adulthood. We even see him facing off with childhood friend Maid Marian in friendly bow-and-arrow shooting matches (she always wins).

Only when he meets the poverty-stricken Doerwynn — whose father faces dire consequences for having shot a deer on the king's property to feed his children — does Robin (of noble birth, though a Saxon) become a crusader. He picks up "John Little" aka Little John, Friar Tuck, Maid Marian and Doerwynn as part of his merry band of outlaws ... but good ones.

Performed in the round, this "Robin Hood" is a romp with heart and seemingly directed in a whirlwind by Jessica Stone. The whole production seems to be in constant motion, with cast members moving set pieces and making entrances from all four "corners," keeping the running time under two hours (including one intermission).

Watch for a lot of tricky physical stuff with ropes going on here, too, and the imaginative way Little John scales Nottingham Castle to reach the imprisoned Doerwynn.

Perhaps it's the overall breakneck pace of the show that results in some occasional indistinct dialogue.

The script is amusing, goofy, and occasionally moving, and even has characters (notably Prince John, but others as well) who freely quote and misquote Shakespeare — who wrote some 400 years after Robin Hood allegedly swashbuckled around England.

Stone has a splendid cast. Daniel Reece and Meredith Garretson make a great pair as Robin and Maid Marian. Reece is as handsome, cheeky and charming as Garretson is lovely, stubborn and unapologetically feminist.

Manoel Felciano is wonderfully awful as the snarling

'Ken Ludwig's *Robin Hood!*'

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theoldglobe.org



Meredith Garretson as Maid Marian and Daniel Reece as Robin Hood
(Photo by Jim Cox)

usurper Sir Guy, intent on hanging Robin.

Andy Grotelueschen's Friar Tuck and Paul Whitty's Little John are amusing and good foils for each other.

Kevin Cahoon is funny and snifty as the Sheriff of Nottingham, allied with Sir Guy in the pursuit of Robin.

Prince John, the character, is a bit too busy patting himself on the back for his literary cleverness, but Michael Boatman portrays him well as a basically good egg... as rulers go.

Suzelle Palacios (from the USD/Old Globe educational partnership) turns in a lovely performance as Doerwynn, the sole character invented by the playwright.

Kudos to Tim Mackabee for the versatile and clever set and to Gregg Barnes for the sometimes impressive, sometimes charming casual costumes.

Fitz Patton's fine sound design includes a poignant song from the cast: "Orphan Girl" by Gillian Welch. Jason Lyons' lighting design is excellent. Credit Jacob Grigolia-Rosenbaum for the extensive fight direction.

Robin Hood is one of the most frequently portrayed characters in theater and film; having been the subject of many plays and somewhere between 12 and 70 films. "Ken Ludwig's *Robin Hood!*" will take its place in the Ludwig canon of light, amusing plays.

—Jean Lowerison is a long-standing member of the San Diego Theatre Critics Circle and can be reached at infodame@cox.net.

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The cast of *Guys and Dolls*. Photos by Jim Cox.

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		4			3		5	

9/6

Sudoku Puzzle

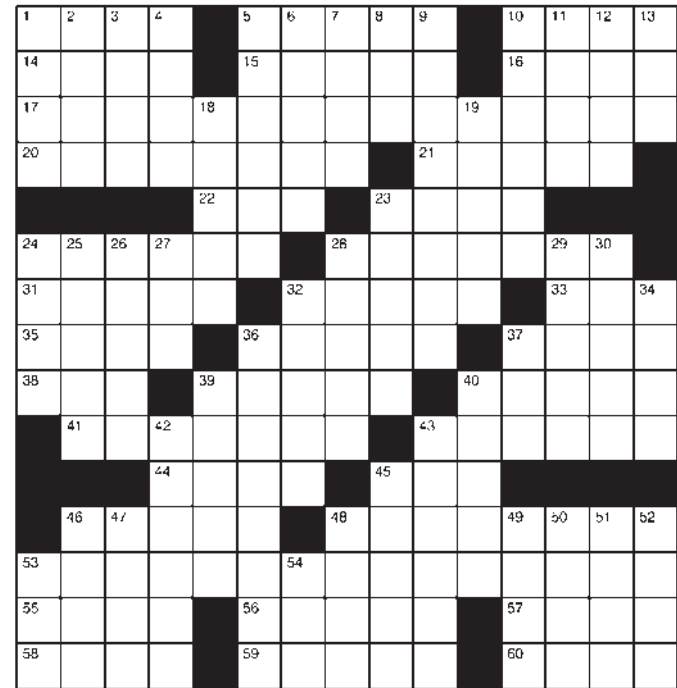
Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

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Puzzle answers on page 17

Uptown Crossword

Geographic



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

- ACROSS**

 - 1 Lefts and rights
 - 5 Sings jazzily
 - 10 Opposite of ans.
 - 14 Composer ____ Satie
 - 15 Ancient Greek dialect
 - 16 Coffeemakers
 - 17 Decamp
 - 20 Racetrack officials
 - 21 Majestically
 - 22 ____ Vegas
 - 23 Merchandise article
 - 24 Aloof
 - 28 Timely
 - 31 In and of itself
 - 32 Light sources
 - 33 Ignited
 - 35 Rat- ____ : machine gun sound
 - 36 Orchestra instruments, for short
 - 37 Girl in a song
 - 38 Layer
 - 39 Shriveled
 - 40 Deteriorate
 - 41 Disdained
 - 43 In no way
 - 44 Fish spears
 - 45 Run easily
- DOWN**

 - 1 Aircraft
 - 2 Smell ____
 - 3 Two-wheeler
 - 4 Sverve
 - 5 Deprecatory title of old
 - 6 Campus cuties
 - 7 Blyth and Sothorn
 - 8 Muscle spasm
 - 9 Strong drink
 - 10 Where the Saguenay flows
 - 11 Russian river
 - 12 Jealousy
 - 13 Compass pt.
 - 18 Bogus
 - 19 Lemur of India
 - 23 Distaff-siders
 - 24 Brilliantly colored fish
 - 25 Gay affairs
- 26 Money of Arles
 - 27 Adherent
 - 28 Overworked
 - 29 Defense
 - 30 Certain beans
 - 32 Takes it easy
 - 34 Current
 - 36 New York landmark
 - 37 Do a yard job
 - 39 Jot down
 - 40 Russian writer
 - 42 Pointed arches
 - 43 That much at least
 - 45 ____ Hopkins
 - 46 Philippine city
 - 47 Pause
 - 48 Siouan
 - 49 Mucilages
 - 50 Dies ____
 - 51 Rabbit tail
 - 52 The one at hand
 - 53 Race unit
 - 54 New: Ger.

Puzzle answers on page 17

Classifieds

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku

Puzzle from page 16

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

Geographic

Crossword from page 16

S	E	S	S	E	S	U	E	G	S	T	P	U	T
I	N	V	A	M	A	S	N	O	E	N	A	B	V
H	O	R	N	T	E	H	I	N	E	A	V	E	L
S	I	S	T	G	O	T	O	O	S	T	I	H	C
E	S	T	W	O	N	O	E	N	H	O	S		
D	V	A	B	O	G	N	E	Z	I	M	N	E	H
I	M	I	M	S	E	X	A	S	A	T	V	A	
T	I	L	S	I	P	S	A	L	F	E	S	P	E
A	T	B	O	N	S	D	B	A	W	E	I	S	
E	A	V	E	L	H	O	N	E	R	E	T	A	K
S	N	R	I	C	I	N	O	I	K	E			
S	E	U	O	S	T	A	V	S	S	A	B	V	

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FROM PAGE 5

PROFILE

different in your yard, it won't look exactly the same. Find plants that are easy to grow and maintain, and that are appropriate for your space.

Get inspiration by going on local garden tours and visiting our local botanical gardens. Of course Balboa Park is wonderful, but also visit the San Diego Botanic Garden, Water Conservation Garden and San Diego Zoo for ideas. The San Diego Horticultural Society's newsletter site, [sdhortnews.com](#), has links to years of informative articles, including the 60 I've written for the column My Life with Plants.

5. What do you like about living in Mission Hills?

The location is so convenient and close to everything.

It's also private, quiet, and laidback, and we like the sea breeze that comes up the canyon. Also, there are restaurants and shopping nearby, and the airport is just minutes away. We enjoy the Mission Hills Garden Club, and I co-chaired their garden tour for four years. Our garden might be on next year's tour. We often go to restaurants in Uptown and Hillcrest, and will be doing so even more now because Scott, my partner, is now co-proprietor of Uptown Tavern. Maybe you'll catch me there and we can talk about plants.

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

FROM PAGE 1

BALBOA PARK

by District 3 Councilmember Chris Ward. Last year, in an interview with San Diego Uptown News, Ward estimated the real cost may be around \$300 million.

This was the second in a series of meetings planned by Ward to assess the needs of Balboa Park, come up with a list of priorities, and look for funding options to complete the work that's sorely needed.

If one thing is crystal clear, the participants preferred fixing what already exists as opposed to supporting the controversial Jacobs project that will spend \$78 million to construct a bypass road off the historic Cabrillo Bridge, build a parking structure behind the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, and remove vehicles permanently from Plaza de Panama.

"Fix the roofs that are leaking with the money that we have now," said Michael Kelly, president of the Committee of One Hundred volunteer group that is devoted to preserving Balboa Park's historical architecture, gardens and public spaces.

David Lundin, president of the Balboa Park Heritage Association, urged the setting of rational goals and priorities



California Tower

for the next 100 years. He quoted the late Ada Louise Huxtable, a Pulitzer Prize-winning architecture critic for The New York Times: "We will not be remembered for what we build, but for what we preserve."

"The one project the park doesn't need is the Jacobs project," Lundin said. "The worst thing, it introduces paid parking for the first time in the park's history."

Lundin warned that a whole host of visitors would be unable

see Balboa Park, pg 19

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UPTOWN CALENDAR

FEATURED EVENTS

‘Island of Lemurs: Madagascar’

Friday, Aug. 11 through Sunday, Aug. 20

Fleet Science Center presents “Island of Lemurs: Madagascar,” a film about the species, their island home and scientist Dr. Patricia C. Wright’s mission to help the endangered animals. Various times. Fleet Science Center, Heikoff Giant Dome Theater, 1875 El Prado. Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/2vYzhZg.

‘Law Law Land and Order’

Saturday, Aug. 12

Finest City Improv’s Student Sketch Team will perform a comedic show about the current and future state of America. An additional performance will be held in September. 9 p.m. at 4250 Louisiana St., North Park. Visit finestcityimprov.com.

Various artists at The Merrow

Monday, Aug. 14

The Merrow presents a concert featuring four bands from San Diego, Portland, Oregon and Mexico City. The lineup includes Family Mansion, Oak Palace, Kingdom of Lights and Jovenes Adultos. Tickets \$5. This is a 21-and-older show. 7 p.m. doors; 9 p.m. show. The Merrow, 1271 University Ave., Hillcrest. Visit bit.ly/2vMzdPW.

Meet astronaut Mark Polansky

Tuesday, Aug. 15

What would it be like to live aboard the International Space Station? Astronaut Mark Polansky will stop by Fleet Science Center for a Q&A. Free with paid admission to the museum. 2:30 p.m. at Fleet Science Center, Lecture Hall, 1875 El Prado in Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/2vMzxhC.

North Park Community Association mixer

Tuesday, Aug. 15

Stop by North Park Beer Company for a free mixer to enjoy happy hour specials and meet your neighbors. NCPA board members will be there to answer questions. Meet upstairs in the mezzanine. 6:30–8:30 p.m. at North Park Beer Company, 3038 University Ave. Visit bit.ly/2vMwXIE.

BLVD Market Summer Tiki Party

Friday, Aug. 18

El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Association and Gym Standard present the Tiki-themed BLVD Market Summer Block Party. Enjoy live music from Alvino and the Dwells. Cocktails, classic cars and a launch ramp will be featured. Free. 6–10 p.m. at 2855 El Cajon Blvd., North Park. Visit bit.ly/2vMpjOm.

Levi Kreis at Sunset Temple

Friday, Aug. 18

Tony Award winner and “A Very Sordid Wedding” film star will stop by North Park on his Broadway At The Keys tour. Tickets are \$25-40 (without fees). 8 p.m. at Sunset Temple, 3911 Kansas St. Visit bit.ly/2vMJig7.

‘Little Shop of Horrors’ Sci-Fi Friday Film Screening

Friday, July 18

Balboa Park After Dark features the 1959 science fiction/thriller film “Little Shop of Horrors.” \$12-\$19 for nonmembers; free for members. 6 p.m. at San Diego Natural History Museum, 1788 El Prado in Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/2t1cm2r.

Ninth annual Fairy Tales in the Park

Saturday, Aug. 19 and Sunday, Aug. 20

San Diego Civic Youth Ballet presents its ninth annual dance production and scholarship fundraiser. Watch as the classic stories of Rapunzel, Little Red Riding Hood and Beauty and the Beast will come to life. Tickets \$12. Performances at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on both days at Casa del Prado Theater in Balboa Park, 1800 Village Place. Visit bit.ly/2vMytdQ.



Hemlock Society of San Diego film screening

Sunday, Aug. 20

Hemlock Society of San Diego presents a film screening of “An Act of Murder,” which explores the moral dilemma of a stern hard-liner judge whose wife is diagnosed with an incurable and painful illness. Discussion to follow. Free. 1:30–3:30 p.m. at Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway. Visit bit.ly/2kIUipF.

see Calendar, pg 20

DIGITAL GYM GEMS



‘Le Region Salvaje (The Untamed)’ — A family is dismantled by their discovery of secrets, including the presence of an extra-terrestrial creature that promises to give them innumerable pleasures but with severe consequences. Unrated. Friday, Aug. 11 to Thursday, Aug. 17.



‘A Life in Waves’ — This documentary explores the life and innovations of Suzanne Ciani, an electronic music pioneer and sound creator for Atari and Coca-Cola ads. Unrated. Friday, Aug. 11 to Thursday, Aug. 17.



‘Poesia Sin Fin’ — This fantasy/drama tells the story of Alejandro Jodorowsky’s years spent as an aspiring poet in Chile in the 1940s. Unrated. Friday, Aug. 18 to Thursday, Aug. 24.



‘Modern Classics: Drive’ — The Modern Classics series launches with “Drive,” a hyper-stylized thrill ride about a wheelman for hire involved in a heist gone awry. Rated R. Friday, Aug. 18 to Thursday, Aug. 24.

Visit DigitalGym.org for show times, 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:

- “Pretty Woman” — Saturday, Aug. 12 and Sunday, Aug. 13
 - “Blazing Saddles” — Thursday, Aug. 17 and Friday, Aug. 18
 - “Niagara” — Saturday, Aug. 19 and Sunday, Aug. 20
 - “In a Lonely Place” — Thursday, Aug. 24 and Friday, Aug. 25
- 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. bit.ly/2vM0Gje.

Open Mic Night: 6:30 p.m., the mic is open to you at Lestat’s Coffee House, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights, free. bit.ly/2vMqHR9.

International Summer Organ Festival: Stop by the Spreckles Organ Pavilion for a free weekly concert. This month features Greg Zelek, Seamus Gethicker and Steven Ball. 7:30 p.m. at 2125 Pan American Road in Balboa Park. bit.ly/2royppD.

Tuesdays

Curbside Bites: 5–8 p.m., gathering of gourmet food trucks at 3030 Grape St., South Park. bit.ly/2vMQDw2.

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. bit.ly/2umVaVy.

Uptown Democratic Club Monthly Meeting: 7 to 9 p.m. every fourth Tuesday, 3900 Vermont St. at Joyce Beers Community Center. bit.ly/2tL2tTw.

Wednesdays

Wednesday Night Experience: 7–8 p.m., uplifting and spiritually inspiring

experiences for all, weekly at Universal Spirit Center, 3858 Front St., Hillcrest. \$20 donation requested. bit.ly/2vMK5xl.

Thursdays

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

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

Kornflower’s Open Mic: Sign up at 7 p.m., open mic (no poetry or comedy) 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. bit.ly/2vN6A5t.

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.

2017 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.

First Thursday at The Lafayette: San Diego Made presents a new event the first Thursday of every month at the Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd. bit.ly/2qprnJd.

Fridays

Memory Café: 10–11:30 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. bit.ly/2vMSsZV.

Square Dancing Classes: 8–9:30 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.–4:30 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.

Ray At Night: 6-10 p.m., second Saturday. Free monthly art walk in North Park. Visit bit.ly/2qpDcyY.

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, University Ave, and Lincoln St., 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 St., Hillcrest. Visit bit.ly/2rkMr1u.

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

—Calendars compiled by Sara Butler. Email calendar items to ken@sdenn.com.

FROM PAGE 17 BALBOA PARK

to afford to pay the parking fees, including young families, lower-income earners, seniors and retired Balboa Park volunteers.

"We should just forget the Jacobs project!" Lundin said, drawing sustained applause.

None of the participants who spoke during the public comments segment voiced support for the Jacobs project, which is facing at least two pending lawsuits.

Attorney Corey Briggs is questioning the legality of the city's proposed sale of \$49 million in bonds to pay its capped portion of the project. The bonds would be secured by the city's general fund for a specific purpose — something Briggs contends would need voter approval. That legal case faces a pre-trial hearing in September and is set to be on a fast-track priority schedule, Lundin told Uptown News the day after the meeting.

Briggs is also suing over the cooperation agreement signed between the city and the Plaza de Panama Committee, which must raise \$30 million in private money. A hearing is scheduled on Aug. 25 and a trial on Sept. 29.

Another lawsuit filed by Save Our History Organisation, which argued that the project failed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act, failed in court. On Aug. 8, Superior Court Judge Gregory Pollack ruled that the city did not have to file a supplemental environmental impact report. SOHO Executive Director Bruce Coons told the San Diego Union-Tribune on Aug. 9 that an appeal of the ruling is possible.

The Plaza de Panama project — aka the Jacobs project — has a 26-month construction schedule, said Jeff Van Deerlin, program manager of the city's Park and Recreation Department.

Van Deerlin said the current timeline — which could be impacted by the two lawsuits — calls for construction to begin in March 2018 with a May 2020 completion date.

This project will happen about the same time as major construction throughout Balboa Park to replace water mains. That will take place from 2018 to 2020, he said.

The Museum of Man's California Tower seismic retrofit, estimated to cost \$4.1 million, is scheduled between September 2018 and May 2019.

The West Mesa comfort stations — one at Sixth and Thorn and another at Sixth and Nutmeg — will be modernized as the result of a settlement agreement due to a 2014 ADA lawsuit. The \$1.7 million project will run from January to June in 2018.

The Museum of Art elevator modernization project, costing \$1.1 million, is expected to be finished in November.

The \$2.5 million renovation of the Thompson Medical Library is budgeted for fiscal year 2019.

The \$1.5 million renovation of the Bud Kearns Memorial Swimming Pool at Morley Field is estimated to be completed by fiscal year 2021.

The \$2 million project to add nine International Cottages is scheduled between September 2017 and August 2018.

Mingei Museum's \$26 million remake is expected to begin in November 2018.

The iconic Botanical Building is due for a major face-lift, said Sarah Beckman, director of external relations for the Balboa Park Conservancy. She said the project is "deep into the planning stage." The goal is to enhance the visitors' experience and re-create gardens between the Botanical Building and the much-photographed Lily Pond that once wowed visitors. The historic building is reputed to be one of the largest lath structures in the world. Beckman said the project, as well as the creation of an endowment fund, would total \$10 million.

Balboa Park has partnered with Onyx Renewable to build a solar farm on Inspiration Point. The agreement calls for the city to purchase the solar power for 20 years. Onyx will install, operate and maintain the solar canopies. That construction is expected to run from September 2017 to February 2019.

Friends of Balboa Park plan to raise \$500,000 to build gateway monuments on Park



Vehicles would be banned from Plaza de Panama if the Jacobs project happens. (Photos by Ken Williams)

Boulevard and at state Route 163. The timeline for that project hasn't been determined yet.

The Committee of 100 is budgeting \$500,000 to re-create and install four murals that graced the California State Building for the 1935-36 California Pacific International Exposition. The building now houses the Automotive Museum. Construction is expected to start in 2018.

Also, a new grassroots group called Save Starlight has organized to restore the 3,000-seat Balboa Park amphitheater, which shuttered in 2012 when the Starlight Bowl organization filed for bankruptcy. Steve Stopper, who is spearheading the campaign to bring the amphitheater back to life, lamented that vandals have damaged the property and looted the equipment. But city staff

the concession stand and the ticket booth as soon as possible, as a way to start generating revenue.

And finding a dedicated stream of income for Balboa Park — and identifying revenue options to pay for all the needed repairs — will be the topic of the next meeting of the Balboa Park Working Group. Ward said he would announce the time and date for that meeting in the future, suggesting it would be in the fall.

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



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