



Follow us on  
Facebook and Twitter  
sdcnn.com

Old Town • Mission Hills • Bankers Hill • Hillcrest • University Heights • Normal Heights • North Park • Golden Hill • Kensington • Talmadge



Calendar  
Page 18

## COMMUNITY P. 5



Get to know the woodwork in your home

## FEATURE P. 11



The team behind the burger

## DINING P. 12



Serving up Danish food in Hillcrest

## THEATER P. 15



A cynical 'Uncle Vanya' at the Old Globe

## Index

Opinion.....	6
Classifieds.....	16
Puzzles.....	16
Business & Services.....	17
Calendar.....	18

## Contact us

Editorial/Letters  
619-961-1968  
sara@sdcnn.com

Advertising  
619-961-1958  
mike@sdcnn.com

www.sdcnn.com  
San Diego Community News Network

# San Diego Uptown News



(l to r) David Mondragon and Oscar Rios of Grand/Prestoz have designed, painted and branded walls around San Diego, including many Uptown neighborhoods. (Photo by Lucia Viti)

## Grand/Prestoz merge art with commerce

By Lucia Viti

Folks strolling the streets of Uptown have enjoyed the artistic talents of Grand/Prestoz, or as their friends call them, Oscar Rios and David Mondragon.

The creative duo has designed, painted and branded walls of all sizes and shapes on coffee shops, bars, breweries, boutique eateries, grocery stores, specialty retail and clothing stores in neighborhoods such as North Park, Hillcrest and Mission Hills. Even parking lots have been graced with Grand/Prestoz's "environmentally graphic" numbers.

The team's unique artistic niche is noted for "creating

community engagement," be it a logo, a sign or an artistic emblem. While Grand/Prestoz describe their art as abstract, geometrical and dimensional, most viewers express the grand designs in one word: "Wow!"

The native San Diegans met while attending classes at the City College. While kindling a friendship, they discovered their passion for creating anything and everything outside and big. An offer to paint a sign for a Chinese restaurant — a dragon — bred their business now celebrating its fifth year. The thriving mobile art gallery has grown by the size and scope of their projects. Many buildings scattered throughout San Diego County, as well as in Arizona and Los Angeles, have

been beautified by a Grand/Prestoz makeover.

"We're designers and painters," Mondragon said. "We start with a paper or a computer sketch and work with the specifications, colors and techniques to create designs without falling into a specific style. We've grown project by project. We've been fortunate, we've met some really interesting people who've helped us to grow. Person after person, the walls just got bigger and bigger. We realize that we've accomplished our ideas. But we've worked really hard. We aimed to be doing what we're doing. And I'm doing what I love."

see Grand/Prestoz, pg 10

## Target's North Park expansion

Community responds, reps share details of new store at NPPC meeting

Sara Butler | Editor

On Thursday, Feb. 20, 80 community members attended the North Park Planning Committee (NPPC) meeting to hear details about Target's expansion to the neighborhood.

Representatives from Target headquarters in Minnesota presented an update on the new North Park store, which is expected to open in November 2018.

Laurie T. Jones, Target's senior development manager, led the discussion. Ken McQuaid, the design project architect, was also on hand and offered details on the store layout and artist renderings.

North Park's "small-format store" will be located at 3018



Exterior rendering of Target's North Park small-format store. (Target)

University Ave. in the vacant building that formerly housed the Wang's North Park restaurant. Target Corporation confirmed a few weeks ago that

they had executed a long-term lease for the property, with a minimum of 10 years.

see Target, pg 3

## Uptown News BRIEFS



(City of San Diego's YouTube)

### UPGRADED FIRE STATION OPENS IN CITY HEIGHTS

City Heights welcomed a renovated Fire Station 17 to the neighborhood on Thursday, Feb. 8. Construction began in June 2016 and cost approximately \$10 million.

The station was originally built in 1924 at Orange and Chamoune avenues. In 1950, the facility moved to its current location at 41st Street and University Avenue; it had not been updated since.

"We needed to build a modern, state-of-the-art fire station, and that's exactly what this is," Mayor Kevin Faulconer said at the fire station's ribbon-cutting event.

The new 10,760-square-foot facility is three stories with 10 bedrooms, a gym, solar panels, and space to accommodate two fire engines and an ambulance.

"This important infrastructure speaks volumes about the service, about the support, about the integration in the community," Faulconer continued. "It's built with the future in mind."

Station 17 is one of the busiest fire stations in the city, serving the City Heights neighborhood and surrounding areas in a 4-square-mile district. They receive an average of 540 emergency calls per month.

This upgrade is part of a city-wide effort to build new fire stations and rebuild others to improve public safety services. In the past three years, six locations have been constructed or renovated, including North Park's Fire Station 14 and Hillcrest's No. 5, which is still under construction. A new station will also be opening in Little Italy later this year.

To see footage of the Fire Station 17 ribbon-cutting ceremony, visit bit.ly/2C7IVj6.

see News Briefs, pg 8

**Inka's Bar & Grill**  
Peruvian Cuisine – A Latin Experience!

**10% off your bill and FREE Ceviche with the purchase of \$35 or more!**

827 Fifth Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
(619) 431-5858

## GROW YOUR OWN Cannabis

18+ MMJ Card // 21+ Rec



Workshops  
Home Training  
Grow Kits  
Consulting +



GreenCarpetGrowing.com / 619.828.3338



# 3200 ADAMS AVE.

SAN DIEGO, CA 92116



2 Units Available!



## Suite #204

570 sq. ft w/ 2 private offices and lobby w/in unit \$995/mo

## Suite #207

622sq. ft single room space w/ 2 entrance doors, and semi-private stairwell access.  
\$1,095/mo

**Utilities & 2 parking spots included in rent.**  
**24Hr secured access**

*1 Year Lease*

*Application fee \$50, applied to first months rent upon approval.*

*Deposit is same as monthly rent.*

**CALL OR E-MAIL MIKE**

**T: 760-536-2261 E: MVOJAK@NOVPROP.COM**



FROM PAGE 1

TARGET

Target representatives at the meeting said they will not be adding any square footage to the space; rather, they are planning to “simply reuse the existing building.”

The two-story facility will make the North Park location twice as large as South Park’s Target Express; however, at 35,000 square feet, it is significantly smaller than the 198,000 square-foot super store located in Mission Valley.

Merchandise will include produce, clothing, health and beauty products, household supplies, and apparel essentials. They will also offer a CVS Pharmacy and are currently pursuing a liquor license.

Jones stated that while they realize there are gaps in the current list of offerings, they plan to tailor the list to community feedback. They encouraged residents to reach out to community leaders such as NPPC chair, René Vidales, to share additional goods they would like to see offered.

“We realize the needs and wants in your area are going to be different,” Jones said.

Hot topic items from meeting attendees included questions about the building’s exterior, parking issues and Target’s contribution to the local community.

Artist renderings of the future space depict an all-white building which representatives



The J.C. Penney store, the original tenant of the building, is in the distance beyond the North Park sign in this 1964 photo. (Courtesy of the Sim Bruce Richards Family)

said would “freshen up a tired exterior” and “lighten it up to reflect the San Diego sun.” Many members expressed concern that the stark, white color of the building would not blend with the rest of the area. They encouraged Target representatives to match the new store with existing businesses and factor in the character of the neighborhood with their design.

McQuaid said that they have been working with Jodie Brown of the city’s Historic Resources Group regarding their refurbishment of the historic store front and understanding which parts of the building they can alter. Representatives said

Target’s intent is to return to the building’s roots, which initially housed J.C. Penney back in 1942, along with other chain stores that followed.

“[The building] has been a retail anchor in the neighborhood for so long,” McQuaid said. “We kinda want to bring it back to its glory days.”

As for the mural on the building’s west wall — a giant dinosaur painted by Mark Paul Deren, also known as “Madsteez,” in 2012 — Jones said they continue to hear mixed feelings about the mural and have decided to replace it with new, local artwork.

“We would love to come in and do perhaps a new mural

that really reflects the spirit of North Park and is done by a North Park artist,” she said.

Another concern among attendees was parking. The Target store will use 30 parking spaces, with 20 located behind the building and another 10 on the east side of Grimm Avenue.

Jones said these spots will be clearly marked for Target’s use and the company will use a Parking Management Plan to keep non-customers from using the stalls. The spaces will only be controlled by Target during store hours — which are yet to be determined — and will open up to the community afterward.

To mitigate parking concerns, Jones said that Target management will require all part-time employees to park in the nearby, multi-level parking structure at 3829 29th St. at their own expense. Alternatively, these employees will be offered a subsidy for public transit and also encouraged to walk or bike to work. In contrast, they said they plan to offer eight reserved spots in the parking structure for executive team leaders for free.

Attendees spoke out about the obvious disparity between management and regular employees, which they said contradicts the “ethos of the neighborhood.”

Community suggestions to combat the disparity included validating parking for employees, providing public

transportation subsidies in lieu of parking spots for executive team leaders, offering Uber or Lyft credits, and encouraging biking for all employees.

NPPC board member Dionné Carlson emphasized the bike-friendly aspect of the neighborhood. She proposed that Target management add a bike storage area inside the store to discourage theft, which is common in the area.

A third worry among the crowd was how the Target store would contribute to the neighborhood, as well as how its existence would not hurt local small businesses.

Jones said 90 percent of the merchandise in the store will come from Target distribution centers, and 10 percent will come from local vendors.

Attendees asked that additional merchandise from North Park-based shops be added to the shelves. NPPC board member Peter Hill also suggested including product from the many nearby coffee shops. (Note: A Starbucks will not be included inside this store.)

As for competing with North Park’s small businesses, Jones reiterated that the convenience focus of the small-format Target should not drive business away from local shops, and the quick-trips expected by customers will continue the turnover of any occupied parking spots for these businesses.

Additionally, Jones said they hope their 40–60 employees would “come from the adjacent community” and plan to hold a local employment fair about three months before opening.

Though they couldn’t confirm any monetary contributions to the neighborhood, Jones said the company’s tangible guarantee will be that employees will volunteer in North Park, at the many events held in the area.

“Target is committed to being an active member of the North Park community,” Jones said.

To read our previous coverage of the upcoming Target North Park, visit [bit.ly/2zc5Gy9](http://bit.ly/2zc5Gy9) and [bit.ly/2mxhbf](http://bit.ly/2mxhbf). To read more about the building’s historical past, read Katherine Hon’s Past Matters column at [bit.ly/2xXCcCC](http://bit.ly/2xXCcCC).

—Sara Butler is editor of Uptown News. Reach her at [sara@sdcdn.com](mailto:sara@sdcdn.com).



The current building was previously home to Wang’s North Park. The often-photographed dinosaur mural, painted by Paul Deren in 2012, will be replaced. (Photo by Ken Williams)

# MIND MASTERS



Do you have your own business?

Could you use some support to help you set, reach and add vision to your goals?

The **Mind Masters** program assists business owners to harness the **power of success**.

Call to schedule a **FREE Strategy Session**

**858-467-9091**  
[www.MindMasters.com](http://www.MindMasters.com)

## ACADEMY AWARD® NOMINEE

BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

The New York Times  
**Critic's Pick**  
“A FANTASTIC MOVIE. DANIELA VEGA IS FANTASTIC IN IT.”  
—A.O. Scott, THE NEW YORK TIMES

A FILM BY SEBASTIÁN LELIO

# A FANTASTIC WOMAN

STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23

ANGELIKA FILM CENTER  
11620 Carmel Mountain Rd  
(858) 207-2606

LANDMARK HILLCREST  
3965 Fifth Ave  
(619) 298-2904

VIEW THE TRAILER AT [WWW.AFANTASTICWOMAN.COM](http://WWW.AFANTASTICWOMAN.COM)

**4107 1ST AVE**



Lovely, exquisite highly upgraded townhome in Bristol Square in the centrally located Hillcrest community. This 2 bedroom/3 full bath townhome, with private entrance and yard, will satisfy beyond expectations. Boasting an attached 2 car oversized garage, trellised deck, expansive private yard, crown molding, quartz counter tops, custom wood shutters, Lutron lighting, and wood floors. Upon entering the home, you will immediately notice the quality and attention to detail.

**\$1,100,000**

**RICHARD T. WOODS**  
Broker Owner/Attorney  
Woods Real Estate Services  
930 W. Washington St., Ste. 1  
BRE #01412706

[richtwoods@gmail.com](mailto:richtwoods@gmail.com)  
**619.347.9866**

[www.WoodsRealEstateServices.com](http://www.WoodsRealEstateServices.com)



## OBITUARY

## John-Michael Brooks



John-Michael Brooks, 27, passed away unexpectedly at home due to a tragic fall. John-Michael was an accomplished musician from San Diego. His primary instrument was the violin and he enjoyed classical and jazz, but had a special love for old-time fiddling.

John-Michael began violin lessons at five years of age while living in Longview, Washington. He studied classical music but was soon introduced to fiddle-style. Within a short time, he began public performances, playing at restaurants, local fairs, schools and churches. As a member of the Longview Washington Youth Symphony, John-Michael served in the second chair position. At age eight, John-Michael's first contest experience was at the state Old Time Fiddling Championships in Prosser, Washington, where he placed first in the Small Fry Division. He went on to place third at the National Oldtime Fiddlers' Contest and Festival in Weiser, Idaho.

Upon returning to San Diego, John-Michael continued his musical studies. He was a 2009 graduate of the San Diego School of Performing and Creative Arts (SCPA), where for four consecutive years, his peers voted him the Ludwig Van Beethoven award for Musician of the Year. He served as concertmaster of SCPA's orchestra and in 2008 he was awarded the Itzhak Perlman award for best musician in the SCPA orchestra.

John-Michael performed with the San Diego Youth Symphony from 2000 until 2009. For the 2008-09 season, he was awarded the position of "Maurice Kawashima Associate Concertmaster — San Diego Youth Symphony Orchestra." In 2015, John-Michael was invited back to

the San Diego Youth Symphony Orchestra for its 70th anniversary celebration trip to China, performing in Beijing, Yantai and Shanghai.

John-Michael attended the Berklee College of Music in Boston and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in violin performance in May 2013. He served as concertmaster of Berklee's Musical Theater Orchestra and first violinist for Berklee's string quartet.

In recent years, John-Michael taught violin and viola, jazz and classical theory; performed in many local venues, including the Sapphire Theatre Company in Escondido, the La Jolla Music Society's summer production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream"; and was a fiddle player with The Desperados and for Shawn Rohlf and the Buskers.

John-Michael leaves behind his loving father, Michael R. Brooks and stepdad, Dan M. Gilbreath; his maternal grandmother, Isabel Hall, as well as a large extended family.

John-Michael was predeceased by his mother, Roberta Ann Brooks, who passed away in 2008. Roberta worked tirelessly during John-Michael's formative years to give him the exposure to the violin and music that he so desperately craved.

Many people throughout John-Michael's life contributed significantly to his love of music. These include Maxine Johnson and Matt Mandrones in Washington state; Steve Luchs, San Diego Unified School District; Dr. Philip Tyler, Point Loma Nazarene University; San Diego Youth Symphony Conductor Jeff Edmonds; SCPA music teacher and best mentor ever Tamara Paige; Mark O'Connor, pre-eminent fiddler and classical violinist, avid teacher and mentor; and the late Sam Necocha of Lakeside, California, a great friend and fellow fiddler.

Plans are in the works for a summer memorial concert. Donations in John-Michael's name may be made to the San Diego Youth Symphony. ❖



Mary McKenzie (center) discussing the basic science of climate change and its global affects at the Feb. 13 meeting. (Photo by Benny Cartwright)

## Hillcrest Town Council talks climate change

By Mary M. McKenzie

The Hillcrest Town Council (HTC) discussed local and global climate change on Tuesday, Feb. 13, with approximately 40 community members in attendance.

Mary McKenzie, HTC secretary and adjunct professor of political science at University of San Diego, spoke about the basic science of climate change and its global effects. Cody Hooven, chief sustainability officer for the city of San Diego, updated the crowd on the city's Climate Action Plan (CAP).

McKenzie shared some data from Al Gore's CAP to show the various consequences of climate change. The atmospheric warming's effects include changes in the incidence and strength of ocean-based storms, wildfires and drought. Additionally, our food cycle and biodiversity balance are changing. The chief culprit is the use of fossil fuels, which accounts for roughly 70 percent of greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) worldwide. As a result of the Trump administration's rejection of efforts to reduce GHG emissions, states and localities are stepping up to meet these challenges.

San Diego is a leader in these efforts, and Hooven clarified the city's CAP at the meeting. Originally adopted in 2015, the plan aims to cut GHG emissions by half by

2035, support job growth in sustainability-related fields and enhance social equity by increasing community development funding. Hooven emphasized that the city is ahead of target on reducing emissions, with the level decreasing by 19.3 percent since the 2010 baseline. Other strategies include improving energy and water efficiency; increasing biking, walking, and public transportation; and reducing waste to zero. For more information, visit [sandiego.gov/sustainability](http://sandiego.gov/sustainability).

During public comment, the audience first heard from Tracy Childs. Childs is the co-founder of PlantDiego, a local organization whose goal is to educate the public about the benefits of a plant-based diet. PlantDiego will be showing the film "Plant Pure Nation" on Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Joyce Beers Center.

Long-time Hillcrest resident Rene Smith announced a November ballot initiative he is introducing to help improve the infrastructure at Balboa Park.

Kaimi Wenger, HTC Advisory Committee member, circulated a petition for a ballot measure which would close loopholes on the prohibition of cages in raising farm animals.

Zach Bunshaft of Congresswoman Susan Davis' office noted (in absentia) that Rep. Davis opposes offshore oil drilling. Toni Duran emphasized that state Sen. Toni

Atkins has introduced several bills, including one that increases access for women suffering from cervical cancer, education about human trafficking, and funding to allow victims of violent crimes to take their pets with them. She also noted that Sen. Atkins will become the first woman to hold the post of president pro tempore of the California Senate on Wednesday, March 21.

Hillcrest's San Diego Police Department (SDPD) neighborhood representatives Ricardo Pinon and David Surwilo spoke to the crowd about pedestrian accidents, illegal encampments under the Vermont Street Bridge, and about the replacement for Police Chief Shelley Zimmerman: Assistant Chief David Nisleit, who is a 30-year veteran of SDPD.

Hillcrest Town Council meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at the Joyce Beers Community Center. Elections for two positions of the HTC board of directors will be held on Tuesday, March 13. HTC always welcomes new volunteers. If you have any comments or questions, look for the HTC on Facebook or contact Kath Rogers at [dognamedannie@gmail.com](mailto:dognamedannie@gmail.com).

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

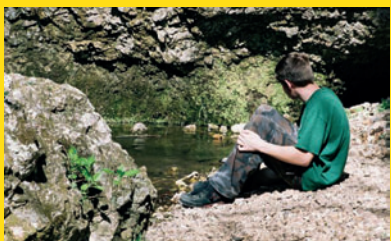
**Make a Difference  
in the Life of a Child...**

Become a Resource (Foster) Parent!  
LGBT families welcomed!

**New Alternatives, Inc.**  
FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY

We offer monthly reimbursement  
24-hour on-call support and free training.

**888-599-HOME**



**Voted By International  
& US Travelers  
San Diego's Top B&B**

3845 Front Street • 619-990-2441  
[www.hillcresthousebandb.com](http://www.hillcresthousebandb.com)



**ABBAS  
JENSON  
& CUNDARI**

Certified Public Accountants



Tom Abbas, CPA

Jeremy Dutson, CPA

Chris Cundari, CPA

Rulon Jensen, CPA

Serving Our Community's Tax Needs

[ajccpa.com](http://ajccpa.com) 619.298.9699

Specializing in tax services  
for individuals and  
businesses since 1987



# 10 things you didn't know about your wood

HouseCalls  
Michael Good

There's nothing like it in the world. The North American conifer forest that once stretched from northern Mexico to the Alaska tundra was one of the wonders of the ancient world. Without this enormous supply of trees and wood, the bungalow neighborhoods of North Park, South Park, Mission Hills, Point Loma, Normal Heights and Kensington would not have been possible.

Building those neighborhoods — and similar streetcar suburbs throughout the West — barely made a dent in what once seemed like an endless supply of lumber. It wasn't until mechanized logging was developed in the late 1940s that the ancient forests met their match. (If it's any comfort to old house owners, the modern housing tract killed the conifer, not the 1920s bungalow.)

Today, the 1,000-year-old redwood, Douglas firs and ponderosa pines have been replaced by mere shadows of their former selves. To the untrained eye, these tree plantations may look like the healthy vibrant forests of the early 20th century. But those forests are gone; that ecosystem has been permanently altered and replaced with monoculture tree plantations. They were planted too close together to ever reach their former heights or grow into a healthy forest.

Up until the mid 1920s, most Americans lived on a farm, perhaps in a house that they or their relatives had built. They knew their wood. They cut down trees for firewood and lumber, planted trees for windbreaks and shade, and built and repaired fences and barns from wood.

Current homeowners don't quite have the same relationship with wood, even if they live surrounded by it. Boys no longer build Craftsman-style footstools in shop class. They don't study "industrial design," which included a background in classical architecture, furniture design, interior decoration and wood finishing.

Typical bungalow owners today may not know heartwood from sapwood, a mullion from a miter.

Hopefully, these answers to frequently asked questions from homeowners about wood will make you look at your wood a little differently and with a new appreciation.

**There is no bad wood.** If your house was built prior to the Great Depression, the quality of the lumber is superior to anything you could find today at your neighborhood home center. The lumber industry today is organized around the principle that one must extract wood products and profits from every stray wood fiber (and send it

overseas, where they'll really pay for it).

In the first decades of the 20th century, the approach was somewhat the opposite: cut down the biggest trees, and harvest the best parts of those trees for homebuilding. Logging wasn't an industry, it was more of a messy art form with horses, donkeys, men with axes and two-man saws. Steam-powered donkey engines, steel cables, peaveys, skid roads lubricated with grease, and wood transported by water — flumes, rivers, lakes and oceans — were also involved.

The wood that found its way to houses, and particularly to the areas of a house that a homeowner could see and touch — cabinetry and trim — was made from heartwood, which is the hard, dry, knot-free center of the tree. That's a rare commodity now.

**Every wood species excels at something.** Pine was lightweight and dimensionally stable, so it worked well for window sashes and doors. Western red cedar was light, and impervious to bugs, so it was used for wall and roof shingles. Redwood was also impervious to bugs as well as resistant to rot. It also grew tall and straight, which made for great framing lumber, exterior siding and interior trim. Philippine mahogany looked similar to the real thing, Cuban mahogany. Red gum had an extravagant figure and could be put to dramatic use in

paneling and doors. Douglas fir was sturdy and could support heavy loads, so it was used for joists and trusses.

In fact, Douglas fir does everything well — from framing to finish work. It can be painted or stained, used in flooring or fireplaces. It looks good as Craftsman paneling or mid-century modern roof beams. Oak hold up to high heels, so it was used for flooring.

**Our prejudices about wood are shaped by marketing campaigns.** Furniture and tastemaker Gustav Stickley took a reviled but plentiful species of wood — white oak — and turned it into something prized and (thanks to him) now relatively rare. In the South, sweetgum was thought to be suitable only for secondary wood in furniture and for burning. Southern lumbermen renamed this reviled tree "gumwood" and marketed it to Southern California, where it is prized still by owners of 1920 bungalows. After the U.S. liberated the Philippine Islands from the Spanish, and fought the local resistance movement, they started harvesting a native hardwood and called it "Philippine Mahogany."

**It all cost the same, more or less.** Back in the day, there wasn't a significant price difference between the various species of wood used in homebuilding. Builders used a particular species of wood because they felt it belonged. For example, gumwood and fir were best fit for Prairie-style houses, and mahogany and gumwood were common for Spanish- and English-style houses. When faux graining became popular, fir was used, because it painted well.



A midcentury house clad in old-growth redwood (Photos by Michael Good)

**It wasn't always all about the money.** Before the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) got involved in home building, lending and neighborhood creation, the value of a home was the result of a number of factors,

many of them artistic, emotional and difficult to quantify. In the 1930s, thanks to the FHA, value became a simple calculation centering around square footage.

see HouseCalls, pg 9



Prairie-style woodwork made of pine, yellow birch and Douglas fir



A restored wooden door made of Philippine mahogany



**Lisa Perich | Team Cairncross**  
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices  
619.865.1022 - Cell  
858.859.3370 - Office  
Lisa@TeamCairncross.com



**TEAM CAIRCROSS**  
CalBRE #01489346

Once in a lifetime opportunity to own one of Point Loma's iconic haciendas steeped in history & overlooking the bay & downtown. Designed by the late Richard Requa, this Spanish style estate features 5BR/4.5BA. Perched on a hilltop, the property enjoys sprawling & private grounds w/ pool, lush landscape, & romantic terraces for relaxing & entertaining. Gorgeous details throughout. Serene yet highly convenient location situated on a 17,683 SF lot adjacent to a beautiful canyon.

## HELPING INJURED PEOPLE WHEN HELP IS NEEDED MOST

You are entitled to be compensated for the damages that you have suffered that are legally caused by another.

- Catastrophic Injury
- Brain Injury
- Wrongful Death
- Trucking Accidents
- Auto Accidents
- Motorcycle Accidents
- Bicycle Accidents
- Pedestrian Accidents
- Intoxicated Driving Accidents
- Dog Bites
- Injuries to Children and the Elderly
- Assault and Battery
- SCUBA Diving Accidents and Deaths
- Boating Accidents
- Insurance Bad Faith

**Do not be bullied - let us fight for you.**



**Spencer Gueren**  
Attorney at Law  
3200 Adams Avenue, Suite 206  
San Diego, CA 92116  
(619) 955-5151 • (619) 955-5195 fax  
spencer@guerenalaw.com



Law Office of  
**SPENCER GUERENA**  
San Diego Personal Injury Lawyer



# San Diego Uptown News

123 Camino de la Reina, Suite 202 East  
San Diego, CA 92108  
(619) 519-7775  
Twitter: @SD\_UptownNews



## EDITOR

Sara Butler  
(619) 961-1968  
sara@sdcnn.com

## CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Jeff Clemetson, x119  
Morgan M. Hurley, x110  
Ken Williams, x102

## WEB & SOCIAL MEDIA

Sara Butler, x118

## COPY EDITOR

Dustin Lothspeich

## CONTRIBUTORS

Toni G. Atkins  
Andy Cohen  
Susan A. Davis  
Dr. Ink  
Michael Good  
Jean Lowerison  
Frank Sabatini Jr.  
Lucia Viti  
Leo Wilson

## SALES & MARKETING

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

## ADVERTISING

### CONSULTANTS

Heather Fine, x107  
Sloan Gomez, x104  
Brenda Vergara, x114

## ACCOUNTING

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

## WEB DESIGNER

Kim Espinoza  
kim@kespinoza.com

## SALES INTERN

Erik Guerrero

## EDITORIAL INTERN

Cassidy Klein

## PUBLISHER

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

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

## SUBMISSIONS/NEWS TIPS:

Send press releases, tips, photos or story ideas to sara@sdcnn.com

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

## PAID SUBSCRIPTIONS:

You may read all of our newspapers online for free at sdcnn.com.

You may sign up for our weekly newsletter for free at sdcnn.com where we will email you a link of our digital edition upon publication of our newspaper.

We also make our newspapers available in hundreds of locations throughout the communities we serve.

If you would like a hard copy of your community newspaper mailed to you first class by USPS you may pay by credit card or check. Subscription rates are \$1.55 per copy. Mailed copies are mailed the day of publication by first-class mailed by USPS.

12 issues - \$18.60 or 26 issues - \$40.30

**DISTRIBUTION:** San Diego Uptown News is distributed free every other Friday.  
© 2018. All rights reserved.

**sd cnn**  
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWS NETWORK, INC.

San Diego Uptown News

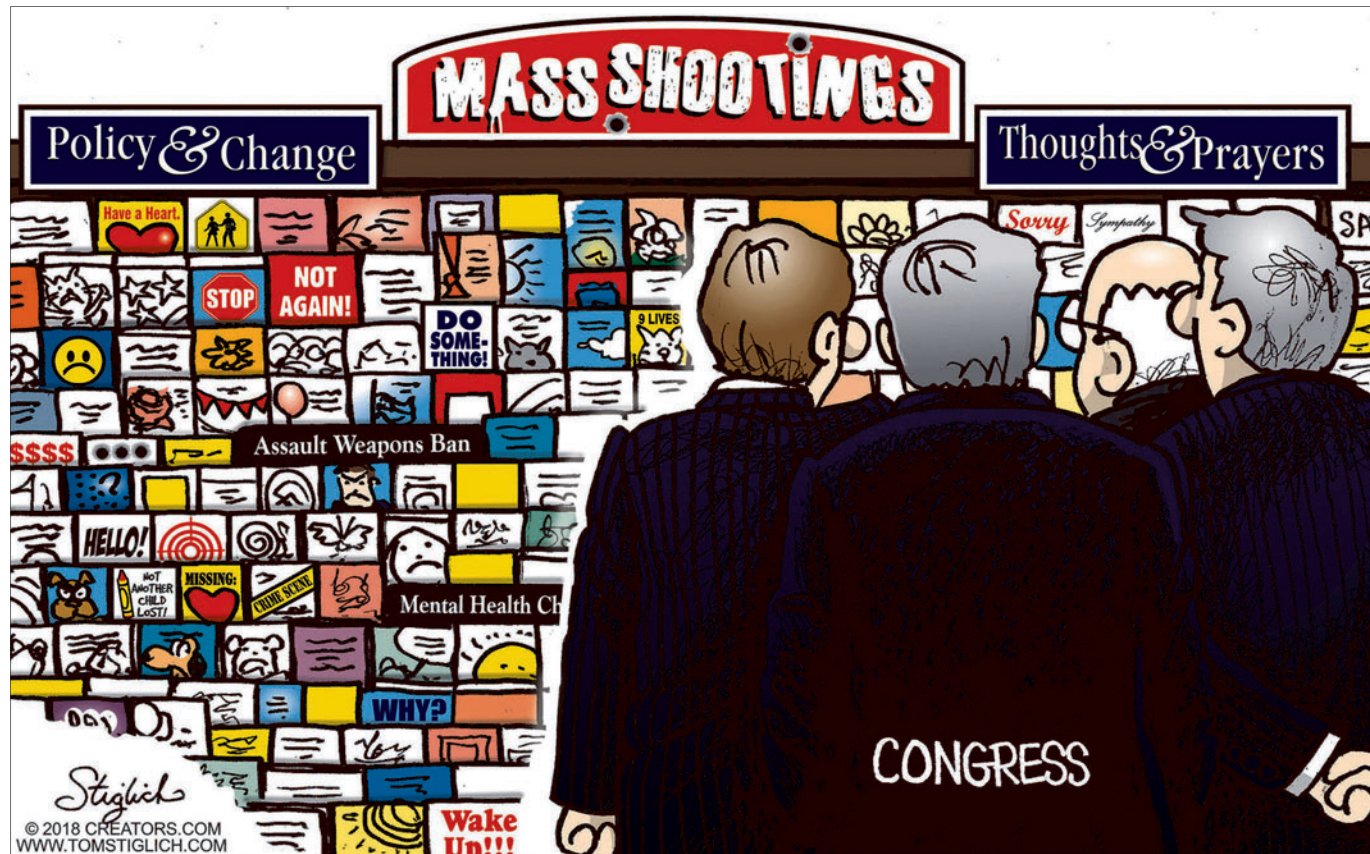
SAN DIEGO DOWNTOWN NEWS

GAY SAN DIEGO

La Mesa COURIER

Mission Times COURIER

MISSION VALLEY News



## GUEST EDITORIAL

# We need a budget that respects America's values

By Rep. Susan A. Davis

February means budget season and the president is required by law to submit a budget request to Congress. Unfortunately, the budget President Trump sent to Congress on Feb. 12 was full of disappointment and broken promises.

It is ironic that President Trump's budget was called "An American Budget" because it would actually hurt the American people. It would dramatically reduce our investment in our people and simply does not reflect the values of our country.

His budget includes dramatic cuts to education, health care, the environment, consumer protection and our diplomacy efforts abroad. It slashes the social safety net that protects children, seniors and people with disabilities.

As ranking member of the House subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, I was especially disappointed to see the drastic cuts to education and programs to help our workers.

I regularly hear from people who have used Pell Grants to afford college. This is a successful program that should be strengthened and expanded. Instead, the Trump budget freezes the maximum Pell Grant at its current level of just \$5,920 for 10 years.

Of the 6 million students who borrowed money for college, most also received Pell Grants, which benefit low-income students.

In California, Pell Grants cover 28 percent of the cost of college. If the freeze were to go into effect, Pell Grants would cover just 22 percent of college by 2027. This will require students to borrow more money to make up the difference, saddling them with even more debt and limiting their future.

This takes us in the opposite direction. I have introduced a bill to build on the success of Pell Grants: The Pell Grant Preservation and Expansion Act, which would provide an immediate increase of \$500 to Pell Grants. Most importantly, my bill indexes the grants to inflation, so the level continues to grow each year.

Not only will the president's budget put college further out of reach, the cuts to workforce development will do the same for a promising career in a high-paying job.

The budget slashes job-training programs, including a 30 percent cut to YouthBuild, which helps low-income young people learn construction skills. Job Corps would be hit by a 23 percent cut. This program helps young men and women – ages 16-24 – with vocational and academic training.

I was pleased with one aspect of the president's budget. His call for a \$200 million investment in apprenticeships is a good start in expanding these programs.

We have long neglected the importance of apprenticeships in developing a strong workforce. Last year, I traveled to Switzerland to learn about their apprenticeship program, where 70 percent of high school students enter into an apprenticeship.

We should bring this focus on apprenticeships to America.

While the funding for apprenticeships is a positive step forward in this area, Trump is also moving to weaken standards for these programs. This means we would be investing in low-quality programs and potentially wasting taxpayer dollars on ineffective options.

Our nation's most vulnerable individuals are also left behind in this budget.

The food stamp program, formally known as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), would be cut by \$213 million. Furthermore, half of SNAP recipients would solely receive a box of canned goods.

Trump also breaks his promise of protecting Medicare and Medicaid. His budget would cut Medicare by more than \$500 billion and Medicaid by \$1.4 trillion, jeopardizing health care for seniors in nursing homes, children with disabilities and working families.

The Trump budget was simultaneously released with his infrastructure plan. Oddly, while he calls for \$1.5 trillion for infrastructure improvements, Trump proposes a nearly



Rep. Susan A. Davis

20 percent cut to the Department of Transportation.

A closer look at his infrastructure plan sees just \$200 billion being directed to fix our crumbling roads, bridges, schools and hospitals. The rest relies on the hope of private investment and state and local governments footing the rest of the bill.

We know all too well in San Diego that we are facing a \$310 million shortfall in infrastructure funds.

We should be building on the legacy of President Eisenhower, who built the federal highway system that expanded economic opportunity from coast to coast. The federal government simply cannot sit on the sidelines when it comes to rebuilding our nation.

Despite all these cuts, deficits will continue to increase under Trump's budget. Combine this with the recently passed tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, and our nation is projected to run annual deficits of \$1 trillion under Trump.

At the end of the day, the president's budget is a political statement. However, it's a sad statement on what this administration thinks of the American people. They deserve a budget that respects their talent and hard work. This budget does not do that.

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



# Falsehoods and fears

**Congressional Watch**  
Andy Cohen



The AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) has a bone to pick with Scott Peters (D-52). In a recent TV ad that has aired widely in San Diego, the group claims that Peters is out to end a program called the 340B drug pricing program. That claim, to say the least, is a lie.

The 340B drug pricing program was put in place in 1992; it was expanded in 2003 and again in 2010. It is intended to provide participating hospitals and clinics with access to discounted drugs from pharmaceutical companies — 20–50 percent discounts in most cases — to help them better serve low-income communities.

Those savings are supposed to be put toward expanding access to medical care. The problem is that there are no regulations in place to ensure providers are using the program as intended, and some are instead using it to pad their profit margins by using those discounts for patients with adequate health insurance, then filing for reimbursement for the full, non-discounted price from insurance companies.

Hyperbole is a common tactic when it comes to political campaigns, but when it rises to the

level of outright falsehoods to deliberately mislead voters and smear a candidate, let alone a sitting member of Congress, it becomes problematic.

The AHF’s ad rises to such a level.

Last year, the Trump administration announced that it was cutting \$1.6 billion from the 340B program, putting a major strain on the budgets of many health care providers that serve rural and/or low-income communities.

In December, Peters helped to introduce a bipartisan (three Republican co-sponsors and Peters) bill that would place a two-year moratorium on accepting new providers from joining the program until further safeguards were put in place to ensure that program funds were being used as intended. The bill would not affect providers currently enrolled in the program, and would seek to preserve the current level of funding.

In short, the bill co-sponsored by Peters does not end the 340B program. Rather, it seeks to ensure the program’s funds are being used to provide medications to low-income patients instead of padding hospital profit margins, contrary to the AHF’s assertions.

“The 340B program is critical to provide low-income patients with access to the life-saving treatments they need,” Peters said in a press statement disputing the ad’s

claims. “The cuts made by the Trump administration to the 340B program need to be reversed. Going forward, we also must find ways to make sure the program is viable long-term; part of that is ensuring that hospitals who participate in the program are getting these critical, discounted drugs to the people for whom they are intended.”

“Congress needs to ensure the funds are properly allocated, that there is no abuse and the program is being used as intended,” Peters added. “A temporary pause on 340B will not affect hospitals already in the program and will allow for greater data transparency, appropriate oversight and better care for patients.”

It turns out that AHF — and its founder, Michael Weinstein — derives most of its funding from clinics and pharmacies it operates that depend largely on Medicare and Medicaid insurance payments. These are the types of providers that participate in 340B.

Opposing a member of Congress is one thing. But lying about that member’s stated positions in an effort to undermine their standing is quite another, and is something we should never tolerate.

The San Diego area political landscape will experience a significant shakeup come November of 2018. For several months now, there has been massive speculation about the future of Darrell Issa (R-49), the nine-term Republican Congress member who

represents northern San Diego County and southern Orange County.

Issa has been a stalwart of Republican partisan politics, making a national name for himself as former chair of the powerful House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, launching a number of investigations into the Obama administration that cost taxpayers tens of millions of dollars but ultimately proved fruitless. During his chairmanship, Issa became the poster boy for Republican partisan excesses.

Speculation as to whether he would survive the 2018 election cycle after winning re-election in 2016 by a mere 1,621 votes, while facing daily protests outside of his Vista office, became unavoidable. Prior to 2016, Issa had never faced a serious threat to his electoral prospects.

That all changed, however, in the “Age of Trump,” with President Trump’s unpopularity potentially dragging down the entire Republican Party, threatening the GOP’s stranglehold on power in Washington, D.C. His expectations for victory in November seemed dimmer than ever.

On Jan. 10, Issa announced he would not run for a 10th term.

“Throughout my service, I worked hard and never lost sight of the people our government is supposed to serve,” Issa announced in a statement. “Yet with the support of my family, I have decided that I will not

seek re-election in California’s 49th District.”

A crowded field has formed to replace Issa. Already on the Democratic side, former Marine Col. and JAG attorney Doug Applegate (who nearly beat Issa in 2016); environmental lawyer Mike Levin; real estate investor Paul Kerr; and non-profit CEO (and granddaughter of Qualcomm co-founder Irwin Jacobs) Sara Jacobs; are all jockeying for position.

Now the Republican field is growing, as well, with California Assemblyman from Oceanside Rocky Chavez immediately jumping into the race; followed by California Board of Equalization member Diane Harkey; San Juan Capistrano City Councilmember Brian Maryott; patent lawyer Joshua Schoonover; and recently, San Diego County Supervisor Kristin Gaspar.

The fear on both sides is that with California’s top-two primary system, the high number of candidates will dilute the vote to the point where one party will be shut out of the general election. For Democrats, this is a real concern, since Issa’s seat has been seen as a real pick-up opportunity in the quest to retake the majority in the House.

For political junkies, this race will be one of the few of real intrigue this cycle — certainly the highest profile — for San Diego. Stay tuned.

—Andy Cohen is a local freelance writer. Reach him at [ac76@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ac76@sbcglobal.net).

# Positive reflections on the governor’s proposed budget

**Notes from Toni**  
Toni G. Atkins



California’s economy continues to be strong, and that’s reflected in the 2018-19 state budget that Governor Jerry Brown proposed on Jan. 10. The governor’s finance team estimates that the budget will benefit from a surplus of \$6.1 billion this year.

However, I know all too well how quickly a surplus can turn into a deficit, so we must proceed carefully.

The day before the governor proposed his budget, my colleagues in the Senate’s Democratic Caucus officially selected me to be the next Senate president pro tempore. I am scheduled to be sworn into office on March 21, meaning I’ll be in position to represent the Senate in budget negotiations later in the spring before the budget is finalized in June.

For now, the governor is proposing a \$131.7 billion general fund budget for the fiscal year that begins on July 1. From his perspective, the top highlight is the ability to add \$5 billion to the “rainy day fund” that voters created in 2014, bringing that fund to \$13.5 billion and our total reserves to \$15.8 billion.

Adding significantly to the rainy-day fund to help protect vital state programs in the event of another economic downturn is the right course.

And there’s a lot to like about the proposed budget in addition to the large amount of money we can save for later. Here are a few highlights:

- Nearly \$4 billion more would be sent to our K-12 public schools to invest in our children’s education, bringing the total to \$78.3 billion. Last year’s increase was \$3.1 billion.
- The budget includes more than \$277 million for special education, including \$167 million to expand access to preschool for children with special needs and \$100 million to recruit special-education teachers.
- Community colleges would receive \$570 million more, including \$120 million for online education — for members of our workforce seeking to improve their prospects with additional education.
- The budget extends for five years our California Competes Tax Credit program, which has awarded \$622 million in credits to 865 companies to create 83,000 jobs, including nearly 150 San Diego County businesses. The program would be able to award \$180 million in credits each year, and San Diego always does well.
- We saw again this year how devastating wildfire can be. Our ability to protect people and homes would benefit from an additional \$760 million.
- Our court system would receive an increase of \$150 million, which it badly needs, and \$131 million would be spent

improving conditions in our correctional facilities.

- The budget includes \$4.6 billion for transportation infrastructure from passage of SB 1. Combined with \$2.8 billion in the current budget, that’s \$7.4 billion for local roads, highways and transit by June 2019. Already, more than \$243 million in repair work has been approved for San Diego County alone.
- If voters pass a \$4 billion parks-and-water bond in June and a \$4 billion affordable-housing bond in November, we’ll have \$1 billion for parks and water, and \$280 million for affordable housing to allocate in the next fiscal year alone.

The governor’s proposal is the first step in a six-month budget process. In the months ahead, the Senate and Assembly will hold detailed hearings covering all aspects of state revenues and expenditures, the governor will present a revised budget based on changes in economic conditions and legislative priorities, and then a final budget will be passed, reflecting negotiations between the governor and legislative leaders.

Some of the final numbers will differ from the governor’s early proposal, but I am confident that this will be another in a string of annual budgets that will have positive impacts in San Diego and California.

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

**WHEN IT COMES TO HOME INSURANCE, THERE’S NO “COMP.”**

I can help your clients get coverage that’s right for them. I’m proud to call San Diego home, and I’ll work hard to earn your trust. My staff and I can help your clients with personal service like quick proof of insurance and easy coverage updates whenever they need it. Let’s work together. Refer my agency today.

**Proud to protect our community for over 10 years.**

**Allstate**  
You’re in good hands. Auto Home Life Retirement

**Ryan Hartwigsen**  
619-278-0081  
4080 Centre Street, Suite 107  
San Diego  
[rhartwigsen@allstate.com](mailto:rhartwigsen@allstate.com)  
CA Insurance Agent #: 0F57152

Subject to terms, conditions and availability. Allstate home products are not available in FL and may not be available in other areas. Home policies may be written by a third-party company not affiliated with Allstate. Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Company and affiliates: Northbrook, IL. © 2017 Allstate Insurance Co.

**Looking for a great OPPORTUNITY?**

**We are seeking experienced, motivated advertising sales consultants for our six community newspapers.**

Must be knowledgeable of these areas and have a minimum of one year advertising sales experience. The ideal candidate is an energetic team player who is bright, positive, creative and personable who relates to small business owners and can assess their advertising needs. Fulltime, base plus commission. For more information about our community newspapers, visit us at **sdcdn.com**.

**Resume to David Mannis at [David@sdcdn.com](mailto:David@sdcdn.com) (619)961-1951**



FROM PAGE 1

## NEWS BRIEFS



(Courtesy of Left Coast PR)

## COMMUNAL COFFEE TO OPEN IN SOUTH PARK

Communal Coffee, a North Park cafe on University Avenue, will be opening a South Park location at 2221 Fern St. in March.

Unlike the North Park space, the new cafe will be outdoors. It will be based out of a vintage 1959 Shasta trailer parked in a 2,000-square-foot lot, which was previously vacant. Similarly, North Park's location — which opened in spring of 2016 — was formerly a long-dormant stretch of the neighborhood.

The South Park expansion will include an outdoor espresso bar, pastry shop and community space. A garden, scattered seating, and a stage will surround the trailer/espresso bar. Future live performances, movie nights, and community events are planned for the stage.

South Park's menu will offer Communal Coffee's signature lattes and espresso drinks, as well as Bay Area roaster Sightglass Coffee. Food items from local pastry shops, such as Nomad Donuts in North Park, will also be available.

Jen Byard, founder of Communal Coffee, is a South Park resident and wanted to turn her attention to her own neighborhood.

"Having solidified her status as one of San Diego's hospitality pioneers, Jen looked to replicate the ethos of Communal Coffee in a new and inventive format," a press release stated. "[She] set about creating a space that was at once aspirational and accessible, with a community-centric approach to the typical cafe experience."

For more information on Communal Coffee, visit bit.ly/2op1Gpd.



A view from inside Eitol Towers atrium, looking up (Courtesy MO's Universe)

## MO'S TO EXPAND ITS UNIVERSE

Hillcrest's longstanding LGBT restaurant and bar group known as MO's Universe, which includes Urban MO's Bar & Grill,

Baja Betty's, Gossip Grill and Hillcrest Brewing Company, is adding another venue. Called insideOUT and slated for a mid-March opening, the new venue will be located on the first floor of the Eitol Towers, the strikingly red housing development located at 1642 University Ave. in Hillcrest at the corner of Centre Street.

Mike Burnett, the San Diego based architect for Eitol Towers and an admitted frequent "long-time patron" of Urban MO's and Baja Betty's, knew he wanted the popular group involved in the project.

"I was familiar with their commitment to our community, their brand and most importantly their staff," Burnett said. "I didn't know Chris Shaw or Matt Ramon yet, but since I regularly attend the Dreamgirls show every Wednesday night, it was an easy connection to make. I knew they would fit the space great because my design intent was 'upscale, causal fun' and it needed to extend more energy down University."

After meeting with Shaw and Ramon onsite, plans were made and Ramon got started developing the concept, which included the open area in the center of the Eitol Towers building as inspiration.

"insideOUT, or iO as we have already nicknamed it, is a casual, elegant restaurant that features an atrium surrounded by 13 live/work towers juxtaposed to contrast with San Diego's gorgeous blue skies," Ramon said. "The name is a nod to the LGBTQ

community — we're an out and proud LGBTQ owned and operated business.

"[insideOUT also includes] floor-to-ceiling glass front windows on the inside dining room and bar, a heated water feature [called] 'the boi pond,' and a switchback walkway with seating nooks to relax, see and be seen with a few more surprises along the way," Ramon said.

Paris Sukomi Max will be managing the new location, which the press release described as "Hillcrest's sexy, chic and refined destination for those who want to enjoy fine dining, craft cocktails and relax in style."

Moe Gorton, general manager of Gossip Grill, is developing the cocktail menu and the culinary aspect will be managed by Maryjo Testa, who is skilled in Italian and European culinary styles and many will remember as part of Gossip Grill's original crew.

"I've returned to share my culinary skills with some of my most favorite dishes; grilled Spanish octopus, seven spiced Moroccan chicken tagine and paella style Fideo pasta," Testa said. In addition, tableside Asian poke and Australian DIY grilled steaks are also planned.



(l to r) Artie Award sculptor of Jon Koehler and Artie Award winner Patric Stillman (Courtesy The Studio Door)

## PATRIC STILLMAN RECEIVES ARTIE AWARD

Visual artist Patric Stillman was recognized recently, for his contributions to the San Diego arts community with an Artie Award from Mission Federal ArtWalk due to his role in ArtWalk's The Business of Art Scholarship.

"Personally, this acknowledgement is such a heartfelt honor," said Stillman in a press release. "As an artist, entrepreneur and community activist, I often felt pulled in one direction or the other at various moments in my career. To be honored for achievements where I have found balance in all three areas while nurturing my fellow visual artists is a reward beyond

riches. Thank you to Mission Federal ArtWalk for this honor."

Stillman is also the owner The Studio Door, a community-based arts center located in North Park. He is a mentor to local artists and best known for his art-to-market incubator lab, designed to assist those interested in creative commerce. Outside of the art center, Stillman works with several art organizations, galleries, museums and associations.

Also awarded an Artie Award this year was Chantal Wnuk and Tracy Thalo of Artist & Craftsman, located in Hillcrest. They join past recipients, including Patricia Fischer and Alan Ziter, who were in attendance at the Westgate Hotel event held Jan. 25, as a kick off for the April 28-29 Mission Federal ArtWalk.

"Mission Federal ArtWalk and San Diego Visual Arts Network have done so much over the years to support local artists," Stillman said. "I'm proud to be collaborating with them on this project that gives an artist an understanding of the business aspects of the art industry."

For more information, visit thestudidoor.com, artwalk-sandiego.org and San Diego Visual Arts Network at sdvisualarts.net.

## UPCOMING UPTOWN PLANNERS ELECTION

Uptown Planners will hold their annual board elections at their next meeting on Tuesday, March 6. Three seats are open for a term of four years.

All candidates must be residents, property owners, or business owners, operators, or designees; have attended three Uptown Planners board meetings within the last year; and submit an application to Michael Brennan, the Uptown Planners secretary, by Wednesday, Feb. 28.

To vote, individuals must present identification proving residency, property ownership, or business ownership in the Uptown area. Eligible voters can vote for up to three candidates on the ballot.

Prior to the vote, candidates will present 3-minute statements about their qualifications and why they would like to serve, or continue to serve, on the Uptown Planners Board. The election committee will announce the results during the meeting.

For more information, email leo.wikstrom@sbgglobal.net or visit uptownplanners.org.

see News Briefs, pg 17



**PRECISION**  
HEATING & AIR, INC

1426 Precioca St • Spring Valley Ca, 91977

QUALITY WORK AT A FAIR PRICE



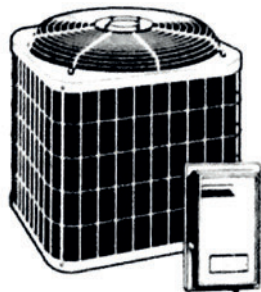
SERVING SAN DIEGO COUNTY FOR 25+ YEARS

**PLAN AHEAD NOW**

to inspect & tune up your system!

Call Today

**(619) 463-0350**



Installation & Maintenance on ALL Major Brands of Heating & AC Units

Duct Cleaning

Central Heating

Wall/Floor Furnaces

Thermostat Replacement

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

Maintenance Contracts Available



LICENSE # 644376

Email: preacinc@aol.com

www.sandiegohvacprecision.com



800.277.9722

www.itex.com

CONNECT • TRADE • SAVE

**AC or FURNACE  
TUNE UP SPECIAL**  
**\$89.95** with this flyer  
Expires March 31, 2018

We Accept  
All Major Credit Cards







# A look at the First Avenue Street Bridge

By Leo Wilson

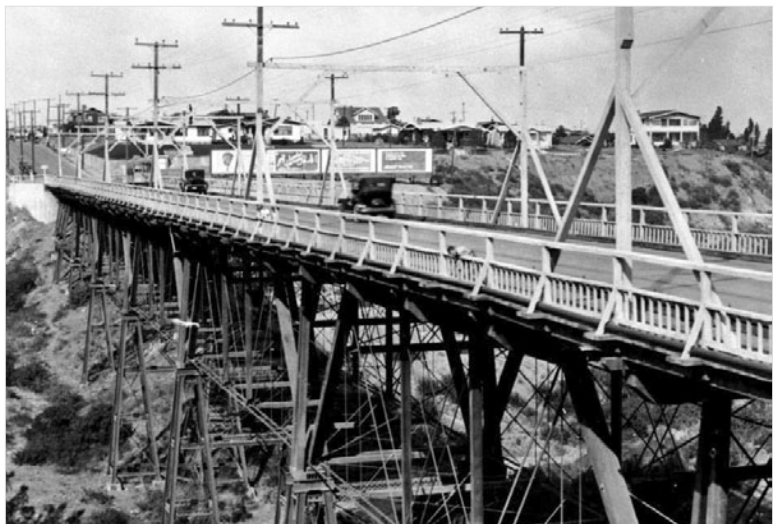
One of the distinctive features of Bankers Hill is the presence of three historic bridges. The largest bridge, and the only one used by vehicular traffic, is on First Avenue between Nutmeg Street and Redwood Street — not surprisingly known as the “First Avenue Street Bridge.”

It is 104 feet high and 463 feet long, and crosses over the Maple Canyon Open Space. Both sides of the bridge have spectacular views of the canyon below with its stately eucalyptus trees and other vegetation; the western side also has a magnificent view of San Diego Bay.

The original First Avenue Bridge was built in 1911. It was nicknamed the “People’s Bridge” because its construction was at the instigation of local property owners. This bridge was replaced in 1931 with a steel truss arch bridge, which is the only one of its kind that now exists in San Diego. The replacement bridge was actually built and pre-constructed in Ohio, then dismantled, shipped to San Diego and erected at its current location.

Seventy-seven years later in 2008, the First Avenue Bridge had a major seismic retrofit, which cost almost \$13 million dollars. The bridge was closed for about two years while the retrofit took place. In addition, the existing lead-based paint was removed and the bridge was repainted.

The project was mostly funded by two California State Highway Bridge Programs, whose purpose was to provide funds for seismic upgrades and lead paint removal. The city of San Diego also contributed approximately \$500,000 for the retrofit project. Besides being seismically unsafe, many corroded metal components of the bridge structure were replaced.



The original First Avenue Bridge in 1930 (Courtesy of Digital Archives, sandiego.gov)

The surface deck of the bridge was also rehabilitated.

Aside from the retrofit, another goal of the project was to restore the bridge to how it originally looked when it was built in 1931. This included installing the original type of railings and light standards, as well as restoring the bridge’s bronze color. The retrofit project was done in a timely manner, with the bridge rededicated on Feb. 22, 2010.

On March 19, 2010, shortly after the re-opening of the First Avenue Bridge, stop signs were installed at several intersections on Fourth and Fifth avenues, between Laurel and Upas streets. Installation of the stop signs was delayed until the First Avenue Bridge was reopened.

Although placing stop signs at these locations had been fiercely opposed by many city officials, the decision was supported by petitions with over 500 signatures of local residents and business owners. Many western Bankers Hill residents opposed the stop signs, fearing First Avenue would be negatively impacted by increased traffic.

Uptown Planners voted overwhelming 14-1 to support placing the stop signs, and

then-City Councilmember Kevin Faulconer directed that they be installed. Once the stop signs were placed, traffic accidents dropped almost 80 percent along the section of Fourth and Fifth avenues in which they were located. There was no major increase in traffic along First Avenue.

Subsequently, additional stop signs have been placed along Fourth and Fifth avenues. Although initially controversial, the stop signs are now looked upon as a success story.

However, the controversy raised an important issue. Even with the retrofit, there are limitations on how much additional vehicular traffic the First Avenue Bridge can safely handle. Several engineers involved with the retrofit project indicated that its purpose was earthquake safety, not strengthening the bridge so that it could accommodate additional traffic. They expressed concerns over the impact of too much additional vehicular use.

Future mobility planning in Bankers Hill needs to take this limitation into account.

—Leo Wilson is administrator for Metro San Diego CDC and is a Bankers Hill resident.✴

FROM PAGE 5

## HOUSECALLS

Prior to the invention of the 30-year mortgage, houses were often sold for round numbers of \$2,000 or \$3,000. Buyers paid cash or traded; the value of a house was whatever you agreed it was worth.

Today we interpret everything anyone did in the past in terms of price. Contractors assume a house was trimmed in fir because it was cheap. Some of the largest, most expensive houses were trimmed in Douglas fir. Some of the tiniest, least expensive houses were trimmed in gumwood.

**Hardwood isn’t (necessarily) hard. Softwood isn’t (necessarily) soft.** The term “hard” refers to the seed casing of the tree, not the wood itself. Walnut is a hardwood. Pine is soft. Douglas fir, a softwood, is relatively hard, and can be used for flooring. Balsa, a hardwood, is relatively soft, and wouldn’t make for a very durable floor. It does, however, make for a pretty spiffy model airplane.

Contractors tell current homeowners that hardwood is superior and softwood is inferior because the latter is difficult to stain successfully.

**Philippine mahogany is not mahogany.** True mahogany (Swietenia mahogani) grew in the southern U.S. and the Caribbean and was logged out by the late 19th century. Philippine mahogany is from Southeast Asia and is a different species (Shorea), generally called meranti in the lumberyards. In fact, there are a number of different varieties of Philippine mahogany and its color can vary widely. Dark red mahogany with a “ribbon” figure, which was artfully used in Spanish- and English-style houses in the 1920s, is rare today. If you have it in your house, it’s worth preserving — even if someone sheared off the bottom of your doors to clear a once-stylish shag carpet.

**Gumwood is not eucalyptus.** It’s Liquidambar styraciflua, or sweetgum (“red gum” to lumbermen). The confusion probably arises from the similarities



One of the last wooden flumes in America under construction in northern Idaho in the late ‘40s (Courtesy of Michael Good)

in names (Australians call eucalyptus “gum”). It also makes for a nice story to imagine that someone found some productive use for all those eucalyptus trees that the Santa Fe Railroad planted throughout San Diego County. Only the old-growth sweetgum trees produce the red gum heartwood that was used in early-20th century millwork. As a result, few lumberyards carry red gum; replacing even a few feet of baseboard can require sifting through stacks of boards at the lumberyard.

**Wood needs finish.** Use paint, shellac, polyurethane or anything that will protect it from the elements. Water, sunlight and oxygen may be the stuff of life, but they are also the nemesis of wood. They destroy finishes and then create the conditions for fungi to thrive, turning wood back into fertilizer. Sunlight destroys the wood’s lignin, thereby weakening the cell walls. Moisture attracts termites — and we know what they do.

**Sometimes the only way to preserve wood is to replace it.** Damaged and decayed wood can be restored with epoxy wood filler. However, at a certain point it makes better sense, and is perfectly acceptable from an historic perspective, to replace a piece of your house with a modern replica. If it helps to assuage your guilt, consider this: 90 years is a good run for a piece of wood. We should all be so fortunate.

— Contact Michael Good at housecallssdun@gmail.com.✴



**sdCNN**  
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWS NETWORK

*Welcome to the Neighborhood!*

To Advertise in our new Bankers Hill community page,  
Contact:

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

**Hob Nob Hill**  
A San Diego Landmark Since 1944

Quality Home Cooking




**\$5 OFF**  
off \$25.00 with the purchase of 2 entrees and 2 beverages.

OPEN DAILY: 7AM-9PM

**2271 First Avenue (Corner of 1st & Juniper)**  
**www.hobnobhill.com (619) 239-8176**

**Your Local Community Newspapers**

**sdCNN**  
SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY NEWS NETWORK  
www.sdCNN.com

**NEWS:**  
619-961-1953  
editor@sdCNN.com

**ADVERTISING:**  
619-961-1958  
mike@sdCNN.com







The duo painting a mural they designed for Maven SD, located at 2946 Adams Ave. (Photos by Grand/Prestoz)



Heart Work, 3993 Goldfinch St. in Mission Hills

FROM PAGE 1  
GRAND/PRESTOZ

The self-described chronic doodlers and sketchers tout a grand scale portfolio that includes prominent Downtown buildings.

“We bring life to inanimate objects,” Rios said. “Our growth, popularity and expertise resulted from hands-on learning. One project led to another and with each project we just improved. We love super graphics — huge, 20-by-12-foot building designs. Luck may have played a little part in our rise. But a lot has to do with our own footwork. We had a vision. We had a goal. This was our goal.”

While working to sharpen their skills, the duo networks. “We solicit business and business comes to us,” Rios said. “There’s also a lot of outreach to paint other people’s artwork. We love working with other artists to get different perspectives.”

Mondragon agrees. “We love sharing work with other artists, painting what they sometimes don’t get to paint,” he added. “Painting an artistic design that’s not ours helps us to grow.”

While the pair’s artistic flair is certainly gifted, their staunch work ethic is as equally impressive. Determination once scheduled Grand/Prestoz to “every day, all day.” Today, they’ve scaled business hours to a “normal” Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Home Brewing Company, 2911 El Cajon Blvd. in North Park

“Our work ethic is devoted to time,” Mondragon said. “Time crunches get hectic. But we stick to the original plan — it has to look good.”

“Our work ethic is simple, whatever we do has to be done the right way,” Rios said. “Everything has to be completed to our liking.”

Projects are based on labor hours, square footage, levels of difficulty and sometimes, the awkwardness of working in angular and cramped spaces. Both agree that assignments “stream” in from references because “our clients are genuinely excited about our work.”

“High expectations and creative ideas work to our advantage,” Mondragon said.

As Grand/Prestoz continue to achieve local acclaim, humility and quality remain key to their due diligence as does expanding their team to artists who “think like us.”

“We agree that when something grows too big, there’s a

chance for missing the intimacy and quality of the work,” Mondragon said.

They also support each other. “David and I share the same mentality, this is what we want to do and this is how we’re going to do it,” Rios said. “There is no plan B. We make it work by supporting and encouraging each other. We make a good team. Our families are supportive and proud. My parents can see my vision now.”

“We’re personal artists who share a business that’s split between business and personal creativity,” Mondragon said.

Grand/Prestoz hope to put murals on San Diego’s biggest buildings.

“We both think San Diego needs huge murals and bigger artworks on skyscrapers like New York, San Francisco and Chicago,” Rios said. “My art — our art — will take us places.”

—Contact Lucia Viti at [luciviti@roadrunner.com](mailto:luciviti@roadrunner.com).

### Great Value, Proven Results!

1 20,000 Distribution • Monthly  
Zip Codes: 92101, 92102

2 23,000 Distribution • Bi-Weekly  
Zip Codes: 92103, 92104, 92105, 92116

3 17,000 Distribution • Monthly  
Zip Code: 92108

4 28,000 Distribution • Monthly  
Zip Codes: 92115, 92119, 92120

5 20,000 Distribution • Monthly  
Zip Codes: 91941, 91942

15,000 Distribution • Bi-Weekly  
Serving San Diego's LGBT Community  
Distributed Countywide

#### Community News

- Number one source of community information
- Hyper-local news and features
- In print and online; updated daily

#### Market Saturation

- Combined distribution of door-to-door delivery, high traffic locations and news racks
- Over 200,000 readers

#### Award Winning Journalism

- Proud recipient of numerous “Excellence in Journalism Awards”
- Regular recipient of local and national press awards

#### Audited Distribution

- Audited by one of the nation’s largest newspaper auditing firms, Circulation Verification Council (CVC)
- Guaranteed distribution

For advertising call:  
(619) 961-1958  
[mike@sdenn.com](mailto:mike@sdenn.com)

San Diego Community News Network  
[www.sdenn.com](http://www.sdenn.com)

P: 619.519.7775 • F: 619-519-7840  
123 Camino de la Reina, Suite 202 East  
San Diego, CA 92108

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**Shawn Slayton, M.D.**  
2700 Adams Ave., Suite 209  
San Diego, CA 92116  
562-338-5200 appointment line

The physician house call is making a comeback! Dr. Slayton is excited to announce his innovative approach to delivering quality medical care, specializing in self-pay house calls. Dr. Slayton will see you by appointment in your home, on your schedule. He offers affordable adult and pediatric care exclusively to the Uptown San Diego community.

“Commercial urgent and primary care is often high-speed, impersonal and with long wait times,” Dr. Slayton said. “I’m a doctor who will listen to your concerns and partner with you into the future. I’ll likewise get to know you as a friend and neighbor!”

Common services include physical exams, medication refills, x-rays, laboratory work, EKGs and sutures. Referrals to specialty care are also available.

“The self-pay patient often forgoes necessary medical treatment because of high costs and a non-existent doctor-patient relationship,” he said. “I’m working to change that.”

After hours and weekend appointments available. Start feeling better today!



# The scoop on Shake Shack

## New trendy burger joint takes a team effort

Sara Butler | Editor

In a sea of In-N-Outs and Five Guys, another burger chain in San Diego may seem like nothing special. Yet behind Shake Shack's burger — and counter — there's something a little different.

Shake Shack, the self-described "fast casual restaurant chain" that originated in New York City, has recently expanded west and opened up two San Diego locations, one in Mission Valley and the other at Westfield UTC in La Jolla.

The Mission Valley "Shack," located at 675 Camino de la Reina, is just a hop and a skip from Uptown; right off the Interstate 8 freeway, it's nestled between Fashion Valley and Mission Valley shopping malls.

Aaron Tunney, the San Diego area director, oversees the operation of both locations.

The Los Angeles native moved to Downtown San Diego with the job in August 2017. When corporate asked if he would be willing to relocate, he jumped at the opportunity.

"I think I said yes before they even finished their sentence," he said, laughing.

Though he is still acclimating to the area, Tunney said he already feels welcomed by the locals.

"People in San Diego, compared to what I was grew up in and around in L.A. ... it's night and day," he said. "People aren't pretentious, they're not uptight, they're just normal — they're how people should be."

People are the reason Tunney loves the restaurant industry. Turns out Tunney has been in the business for a while — since 1992, in fact. His dad owned six McDonalds restaurants in Los Angeles. Starting at age 10, Tunney and his brother worked in the stores, cleaning tables and bathrooms for \$2.50 an hour.

Aside from work ethic and restaurant knowledge, Tunney said he learned his current

management technique and the important parts of how to run a restaurant from his father.

"I looked at the way my dad was viewed in his restaurants by our employees and he was adored," Tunney said. "He was that guy who would come in and all he cared about was talking with the employees and talking with the customers."

This mentality is how Tunney approaches his management style at Shake Shack. He directs most of his accomplishments back to his team, starting with Mission Valley's general manager, Kera Stebbins.

Stebbins, a Santee resident who has been working for Shake Shack and training in Los Angeles since July 2017, also attributes her success to the team she leads.

"I am so lucky to work with such great people on a daily basis," Stebbins said. "We do treat each other like family! We not only take care of each other, but we like it; it's what we do because it's who we are."

Chula Vista resident Ronnie Steele has been a team member since November 2017. He echoed both Tunney and Stebbins's sentiments about the group of people behind the counter.

"[My favorite part] is the team that we have ... they are so amazing," Steele said, "We all treat each other like real family and we all work hard."

Tunney noted that Shake Shack doesn't treat customers any differently. In fact, they are never referred to as customers; rather, they are guests.

"We kind of feel like this is our second home, and when someone comes to your home, they're a guest, and you want them to walk into your home and feel special," Tunney said.

In the middle of Tunney's interview, Steele broke out into song behind the counter when he found out it was a guest's birthday. Tunney said that this is a common occurrence; he encourages the team to connect

with the customers and not rush through the orders.

"Ronnie doesn't know it's their birthday, but he made an interaction — we call it 'connecting the dots.' And yes, that takes longer time to take that order, but the guest feels valued," Tunney said. "They don't feel like a number. It's not robotic. That's how we train [the team]."

Shake Shack's slogan — Stand for Something Good — is integrated into everything the team and company does, according to Tunney.

"I think that [slogan] encompasses what we use in our food, how we make the food, how we treat our employees and how they treat the guests," he said.

As far as food goes, one of their most popular items on the menu is the ShackBurger, which is made with a proprietary blend of Angus Beef, served on a Martin's brand potato roll, and offered with lettuce, tomato, pickle and onion.

Shake Shack is also known for its dessert, called a "concrete" — a frozen custard mixed with pie or other chunky items — which Tunney described as "The Rolls Royce of desserts." Every location is paired with a local bakery for their concretes; the Mission Valley location gets their pie from Betty's Pie Whole in Encinitas.

When guests arrive, all team members recommend an item; Stebbins's favorite is a Flat-Top Dog topped with mustard, while Steele loves the Double SmokeShack.

"[The 'SmokeShack' is] different and the cherry pepper makes the sandwich," Steele said.

Other noteworthy items on the menu include the 'Shroom Burger, made with a fried portabello mushroom; in-house brewed ShackMeister Ale; and even ShackBurger dog biscuits for your canines.

Though Shake Shack has a lot of competition in San Diego, Tunney said that



Team members, who are often spontaneously interactive, serve up food for guests.

they already have a strong fan-base and even a cult-like following. Before they opened its first San Diego location, Tunney said he met a family who drove up from San Diego to the West Hollywood store that he was previously working at. He also noted that the first guest at the UTC location started waiting in line at 6:30 a.m. for the 11 a.m. opening.

The biggest difference between the UTC and Mission Valley locations? The lines.

"[The Mission Valley] store is like the hidden gem right now, because [guests] can get Shake Shack without waiting in that long of a line," he said. "People like that. But as we continue to grow, this will not be the norm."

In addition to Mission Valley and Westfield UTC, the restaurant chain also confirmed last month that a Little Italy location is in the works, slated to open late 2018, as well as a Del Mar spot projected for 2019. Tunney will also serve as the area director for both locations.

Though Shake Shack hasn't taken up shop in any Uptown neighborhoods yet, Tunney said their Southwest expansion will likely continue.

"We're not done growing in San Diego," he said.

For more information about Shake Shack Mission Valley, visit [bit.ly/2oesHeG](http://bit.ly/2oesHeG).

—Sara Butler is the editor of Uptown News. Reach her at [sara@sdcdn.com](mailto:sara@sdcdn.com).



Tunney (center) with some of his team members at the Mission Valley Shake Shack (Photos by Connor McBride)

## SHAWN SLAYTON, M.D.

### NO HEALTH INSURANCE? NO PROBLEM.

GENERAL PRACTITIONER SPECIALIZING IN SELF-PAY HOUSE CALLS. SERVING OUR UPTOWN SAN DIEGO FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS. ADULT & PEDIATRIC CARE AT AFFORDABLE PRICES!

**562-338-5200 APPOINTMENT LINE**

URGENT & PRIMARY CARE IN YOUR HOME ON YOUR SCHEDULE. MEDICINE REFILLS, X-RAYS, EKG, LAB WORK, UTI, STREP THROAT, COLD & FLU, SUTURES, RASH, JOINT & MUSCLE PAIN. AFTER HOURS & WEEKENDS.

**STOP WASTING TIME IN WAITING ROOMS!**

CALIFORNIA MEDICAL LICENSE #A147447  
SAN DIEGO BUSINESS CERTIFICATE #B2017018134



# The Danes of Hillcrest

## Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



Wow. One of the newest restaurants to open in Uptown isn't Italian, Asian or Mexican. Equally astounding is the fact it doesn't carry local craft beer.

I couldn't believe my eyes when the banner for Taste of Denmark went up late last year at the Hillcrest address where Charisma Cucina Italiana operated for a while. For most San Diegans, the notion of Scandinavian food is even more mystifying than the cuisines of Ethiopia or Russia since both are mildly represented in our urban restaurant scene.

But Danish food? No way. At least, not until now.

Owners Bjerke Frandsen and his girlfriend, Tina Fabrin, are from rural areas of Denmark and came to the U.S. specifically to open a restaurant and "chase the American dream," as he put it. They traveled across the country looking for location possibilities and happily ended up in San Diego while still maintaining an antiques and collectibles business back home.

Endearing and hospitable, he does the cooking and she works the dining room, which is an airy space painted in soft yellows and greens. The colors strike a tasteful backdrop for

pastel paintings showing off their country's towns and landmarks in stark, clean lines.

"We're keeping the DNA of Danish food," Frandsen said as he explained a traditional ingredient that goes into the all-important dark gravy cloaking Danish meatballs.

It's called kulan, a liquefied blend of caramelized onions, soy sauce, and in some cases, brown sugar. Compared to Swedish meatballs, these are even better because the gravy is much browner and flaunts a saltier, deeper flavor. And it behaved well when coming into contact with a side of potato salad dressed lightly in sour cream and mayo.

If you replace most of the o's with those Danish slashed o's in the words "rod grod med flode," you have the name of a cold berry soup that Danes have been making every June for generations — perhaps for the past 200 years, according to Fabrin.

Here, with easy access to strawberries, raspberries and blackberries, Frandsen conjures it up as though the brief Danish summer has arrived. Impossible to pronounce, it takes zero effort to slurp down as each spoonful explodes on the palate with cool, intense berry goodness.

In a sampler platter featuring chilled roast beef slices, tangy remoulade and marvelous red cabbage spiked with cranberries and a little sugar,

## Taste of Denmark

142 University Ave.  
(Hillcrest)

619-209-3636  
truetasteofdenmark.com

Prices: Sandwiches and entrees, \$11 to \$18; desserts, \$4 to \$12

it was Frandsen's house-made rye bread that tied everything together. Used also in several open-faced sandwiches common to casual Danish meals, it's a far cry from American rye bread because of its denseness and hearty measure of sunflower seeds.

Frandsen pointed out that Danish cuisine doesn't call for many spices.

"We're a farmer's country and we use natural ingredients that speak for themselves," he said.

Just as I remembered from spending four days in Copenhagen some years ago, the meals I ate in casual cafes were simple yet elegant, much like the smoked salmon and poached egg slung over fresh spinach leaves you'll find here. The dish took on added dimension with nothing more than fresh parsley and a refined



Danish transplants Bjerke Frandsen and his girlfriend Tina Fabrin are giving San Diegans a taste of their native cuisine. (Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

touch of velvety Hollandaise sauce.

A helium-light pastry tart filled with more roux than chicken rounded out our mid-day meal along with a 500-milliliter bottle of crisp Ayinger Oktoberfest beer served with a heavy clay mug. We also tried a made-to-order "exotic kiss" juice capturing limes, celery, pineapple, cucumbers, broccoli and apples — fine liquids for washing down a lunch you're more apt to find in both rural and urban Danish cafes. The style and presentation of meals in either setting are very similar.

Dessert was a specialty known as aebleskiver, cake-like balls dusted in powdered sugar and accompanied by berry compote. Think beignets with fewer and smaller air pockets.

They're served commonly during the Christmas season in Denmark, hence the blue-and-white ceramic holiday saucers Fabrin uses for plating them.

Taste of Denmark is still easing into a permanent menu, which will soon result in dinner service. For now, the restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. six days a week (closed on Tuesdays). Although since opening in early December, it's become the perfect destination for anyone looking for a break from the merry-go-round of pizza, pasta, ramen, tacos and the like.

—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.❖

## CRITIC'S CHOICE

**"Oscar Wilde's comic masterwork – a worthy return to The Old Globe!"**

Broadway and West End luminary Maria Aitken has brought in a consummate cast for the Globe production. She directs with an expert touch."

*The San Diego Union-Tribune*

**"The Old Globe's sterling production is a delight!"**

*Entertainment Today*



Helen Cespedes and Kate Abbruzzese. Photo by Jim Cox.

By **Oscar Wilde**  
Directed by **Maria Aitken**

**ONE MORE WEEK!**  
Must close March 4

THE OLD GLOBE

(619) 23-GLOBE (234-5623)  
TheOldGlobe.org



Danish meatballs in rich dark gravy with potato salad

Traditional "pancake balls" known as aebleskiver and served with berry compote

Egg and smoked salmon over fresh spinach

Sampler platter featuring chilled roast beef slices, tangy remoulade, and marvelous red cabbage spiked with cranberries and a little sugar





Chef Chad Brunette recently left the position as head chef for **The Rail** and returned to his hometown of Las Vegas “for personal reasons,” according to general manager Dustin Santillan.

Brunette elevated The Rail’s lunch and weekend brunch menus last year with the help of sous chef John Hamaker, who was promoted to executive chef in Brunette’s wake. Both men previously worked at **The Cosmopolitan** in Las Vegas.

Santillan said the lunch menu will undergo a few changes but that all of the brunch offerings, such as the waffle sandwich, Cajun shrimp Benedict, meatball sliders and house-made donuts, will remain in place. The lunch menu is available from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday through Monday and brunch is served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays. 3796 Fifth Ave., 619-298-2233, [thebrassrailsd.com](http://thebrassrailsd.com).



Fish sandwiches and other oceanic fare arrive to a new Point Loma eatery. (Alternative Strategies)

Get your seafood fix at the **Point Loma Fish Shop**, which marks the newest outpost of **The Fish Shop** with existing locations in Pacific Beach and Encinitas. The 2,200-square-foot space offers indoor/outdoor seating for enjoying popular menu items such as house-made New England clam chowder, seaweed salads, grilled mahi tacos, swordfish sandwiches, \$1 oysters and fresh catches of the day. Also, the eatery allows customers to bring in wine for a corkage fee of only \$5 per bottle. 1110 Rosecrans St., #100, 619-756-7778.

—Frank Sabatini Jr. can be reached at [fsabatini@san.rr.com](mailto:fsabatini@san.rr.com).



Sangrias on the cheap (Courtesy Café 21)

It’s a deal that we thought was too good to be true. On the 21st of every month, from 4 to 6 p.m., **Café 21** — located in the Gaslamp Quarter and University Heights — sells its house-made sangrias for only 21 cents a glass. They come in a variety of flavors such as persimmon, apple cider, blueberry-guava and more.

The restaurant at both locations opens at 8 a.m. daily and is lauded for its crafty cuisine, which includes dishes such as cast-iron omelets, sweet and savory crepes, hot sandwiches, flatbreads and kabobs. 802 Fifth Ave., 619-795-0721 and 2736 Adams Ave., 619-640-2121; [cafe-21.com](http://cafe-21.com).



Pizza for a heart-worthy cause (Courtesy Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza & Grill)

Through the remainder of the month, **Sammy’s Woodfired Pizza & Grill** is selling make-at-home pizza kits starting at \$7 each. For every kit sold, \$1 will be donated to the American Heart Association as part of a charitable campaign titled “pizza from the heart.”

The kits include house-made pizza dough portioned for consumers to shape into a heart as well as tomato sauce, shredded mozzarella, fresh basil and cooking instructions.

Patrons are encouraged to post photos of their heart-shaped pies on Instagram or Facebook using the hashtag #iheartsammys for a chance at winning \$100 after the benefit concludes on Feb. 28. Sammy’s has six locations throughout San Diego County, including Mission Valley at 1620 Camino de la Reina, 619-298-8222, [sammyspizza.com](http://sammyspizza.com).



A bar and restaurant with a “working class” feel has opened in North Park. (Facebook)

What used to be **The Ritual** in North Park has turned into **Working Class**, a casual bar

and restaurant launched by Paul Fatta, who owns two Pacific Beach eating establishments,

**Second Nature** and **Bayside Landing**. He teamed up with Jeffrey Kiyama, a former assistant general manager for **Barleymash**, for this venture.

The space underwent a broad remodel that included an extension to the back patio, skylights over the dining room and the installation of a second bar at the front entrance. An imposing mural by designer Thom Guerra depicting industrial-age workers on strike was also added.

“Some people are taking our name literally as blue collar,” Kiyama said. “But we relate to all people who work and need a space to hang out. It’s for everyone.”

Heading the kitchen is Jason Williams, a former chef at **Martinis Above Fourth**. The menu, which offers breakfast all day, includes General Tso cauliflower, fried bologna with egg sandwiches, meatballs with toasted sourdough, fried chicken, egg dishes and more. Complementing the bill of fare are 30 taps dispensing beer, wine, coffee and kombucha. 4095 30th St., 619-642-0114, [workingclasssd.com](http://workingclasssd.com).

OPENS TOMORROW!

TURANDOT

Giacomo Puccini

“ravishingly seductive... unquestionably powerful...”

—The New York Times

PRODUCTION SPONSOR  
DARLENE MARCOS SHILEY

Cold-hearted princess Turandot is desired by all men and wants none. Can a handsome stranger match her wits and melt her heart?

SDOPERA

PHOTO: KINGMOND YOUNG

OPENS  
FEBRUARY 24

SAN DIEGO CIVIC THEATRE

[sdopera.org/SDCNN](http://sdopera.org/SDCNN)  
(619) 533-7000

The City of  
SAN DIEGO



# New life and seductive deals at CJ's

**Come On  
Get Happy!**  
Dr. Ink

It's a boxy structure that sits unassumingly on the border of Hillcrest and Mission Hills. For at least the past 35 years, dive-bar aficionados have known it as CJ's, although the address has been a watering hole since the early '60s, when it was called The 222 Club. Before that it was supposedly a candy store.

Thanks to a new set of owners who kept the CJ's name, the gambol lives on to the tune of revised drink prices reminiscent of a decade ago.

Happy hour is "all the time," said Bill Franzblau, one of the three new owners who purchased CJ's from its former proprietor in late November 2017, shortly after Thanksgiving.

This isn't the first time I've heard the "always happy hour" claim, usually a baited tactic that results in empty bargains. But in this case, drink prices are indeed so low that no bar owner in their right mind would put additional discounts on them.

Well drinks, for example, have been reduced from \$4.50 to \$3.50. And the liquors used for making them were upgraded from generic brands to established labels such as Old Crow, Svedka, Seagrams, and Lunazul for the tequila.



Same on the outside, refreshed on the inside (Photos by Dr. Ink)

Beer prices dropped a bit, too. With 12 taps flowing, they range from \$3 to \$6 a glass. In quenching the tastes of a diverse patronage — a hallmark attraction of CJ's — choices include a mix of domestics and local crafts, not to mention the super-weird tasting, chest-warming Fernet-Branca served in 1.5-ounce pours for \$6. Think Jagermeister with

tiny bubbles.

According to our efficient, upbeat bartender Tim, who happens to run trivia night on Thursdays, lots of industry people drink it.

There are also \$2 shots. One of them is a daily house pick that can include exciting options such as Fire Eater Cinnamon Whiskey, a flavored Svedka vodka, or the

hemp vodka by Earth Mama that I threw back in a daring pairing to a scotch and soda and the aforementioned Fernet-Branca.

My friend watched me get hammered while sticking to a glass of Racer 5 IPA by Bear Republic Brewing Company.

With the purchase of any beer, you can score a \$2 shot of just about anything in the house. In addition, the cheap Sutter Home wines have been replaced by respectable options from Napa, Australia and Chile for an easy \$5 a glass. This is the kind of chump change I spend in neighborhood bars when visiting little blue-collar towns back East. And for that reason alone, I'm ecstatic CJ's remains with us.

Franzblau co-owns the bar with his domestic partner Deb Fisher and her daughter, Jessica Fisher. The trio also runs Two Seven Eight, a restaurant and bar at 3687 Fifth Ave.

Under their guard, CJ's looks and feels warmer. Out went the sports paraphernalia and in came alcohol-related neon signs, colored string lights, new bar stools and much-needed illumination to the aquatic-themed stained glass behind the bar.

"We upgraded the place rather than changed it," Franzblau said. He pointing out that there is no kitchen, but customers can bring in food from any nearby eatery or purchase bagged snacks onsite. In addition, CJ's is a cash-only establishment and allows smoking on the front patio.❖

**CJ's**

222 W. Washington St.  
(Hillcrest)  
**619-296-2721**  
Happy hour: "Always"

## RATINGS

**Drinks:** 🍷🍷🍷🍷

The liquors used in well drinks are a cut above what you'll find in other dive bars. Should you come knocking for wine, the selection is focused and global in origin. In addition, there are about a dozen beers ranging from commercial to local crafts.

**Food:** N/A

**Value:** 🍷🍷🍷🍷

You can party like it's 2018 and spend like it's 2000.

**Service:** 🍷🍷🍷🍷

Kudos to our affable bartender, Tim, who used his peripheral vision to quickly detect when incoming and existing customers needed a drink.

**Atmosphere:** 🍷🍷🍷🍷

As far as old, neighborhood bars go, CJ's is clean and colorfully lit — and roomier than what you expect seeing it from the outside.

"The politics of wedding cake:  
'This Is Us' writer Bekah Brunstetter  
ICES A BIG YEAR WITH A TIMELY PLAY."

— Los Angeles Times

Valentine's Day  
Matinee  
Feb 14 @ 1pm  
Promo Code:  
VALENTINES

THE  
**CAKE**

BY BEKAH BRUNSTETTER DIRECTED BY CASEY STANGL

NEW PLAY | NOW PLAYING - MARCH 4

TICKETS START AT \$20

LA  
JOLLA  
PLAY  
HOUSE

LaJollaPlayhouse.org



Bartender Tim Burkowske came on board with the new ownership in late November 2017.



A shot of hemp vodka chased by a glass of Racer 5 IPA



# A 'cheerless, but terrific' production

## Theater Review

Jean Lowerison



At the risk of being drummed out of the critics' circle, I assert that playwright Anton Chekhov doesn't make it easy to love his characters.

Case in point: "Uncle Vanya," playing through March 11 at the Old Globe. The play showcases seven people (two characters have been dropped from the original script for this production); many of them are related and none of them are happy. A majority of the characters blame others for their misery but are unwilling to do anything to improve the situation.

This sounds a little too much like the current political scene for my taste. But if you're going to present these "misfits," as the doctor Mikhaíl Ástrov calls them, you can't do better than the splendid cast and unusual staging on view at the Globe's in-the-round White Theatre.

The Globe has commissioned a new translation from noted Russian translators Richard Pevear and Larisa Volokhonsky, with help from director Richard Nelson. Nelson decided to stage it not as a play but as what it is — a series of conversations.

The characters talk to each other, not to the audience. They aren't individually miked, and you won't find them declaiming with outstretched arm or looking the audience in the face. At times, you'll be looking at someone's back. The audience is eavesdropping on a family in some turmoil, talking among themselves.

Will Pickens' sound design includes many small microphones suspended eight feet off the stage floor. Additionally, the

## "Uncle Vanya"

Through March 11  
The Old Globe  
Sheryl and Harvey White  
Theatre  
1363 Old Globe Way

Tuesday and  
Wednesday at 7 p.m.;  
Thursday and Friday  
at 8 p.m.;  
Saturday at 2 and 8 p.m.;  
Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Tickets: 619-234-5623 or  
[theoldglobe.org](http://theoldglobe.org)

Globe thoughtfully loans optional hearing devices to make sure the conversation is heard.

"Uncle Vanya" takes place in the kitchen of retired professor Alexander Serebryakóv's estate. Jason Ardizzzone-West's simple set consists of several tables and straight-backed chairs, moved into place by the cast at the top of the show.

The show's message comes down to the disconcerting gap between what is vs. what these characters wanted, leading to the crowning question: what's life all about, anyway?

Jon DeVries plays retired professor Serebryakóv, ticked off by the ravages of time (including gout and arthritis) and perhaps a bit guilty about taking advantage of brother-in-law Vanya all these years. His plan at the moment is to sell the estate and invest the proceeds, so he and second wife Eléna can buy a small place in Finland.

Serebryakóv's trophy wife Eléna (Celeste Arias) gave up a promising music career to marry and says she has since become an "incidental character" in her own life. She doesn't



(l to r) Yvonne Woods as Sónya, Jay O. Sanders as Ványa, Roberta Maxwell as Márya, Kate Kearney-Patch as Marína, Jesse Pennington as Ástrov and Celeste Arias as Eléna (Photos by Jim Cox)

love her husband and has abandoned herself to idleness.

Serebryakóv's daughter Sónya (Yvonne Woods) is of marriageable age but moans that she is not pretty and may never marry, while harboring a not-so-secret crush on local doctor Mikhaíl Ástrov (Jesse Pennington). Ástrov has no such feelings for the girl; he has his eye on the old prof's pretty wife.

Ástrov has some competition from Jay O. Sanders, giving a larger-than-life performance as Sónya's uncle Vanya, a cynic who mostly bemoans two

things: his failure to make his move with Eléna when he might have succeeded, and the fact that he threw his life away as caretaker of his brother-in-law's estate.

Two other women get fairly curt treatment. Roberta Maxwell is marvelous but doesn't have much to do as Vanya's aged mother Márya (Roberta Maxwell), who spends her time annotating pamphlets about various social issues and awaiting either death or the dawn of a new age.

Kate Kearney-Patch is excellent as Sónya's former

nanny Marína, who feeds these ungrateful folks, gives them comfort and tries to keep the household going.

Wasted lives, impossible loves, and the inexorable ravages of time: maybe you should have a glass of wine (or two) before seeing this cheerless show. But do see it: The Old Globe has given it a terrific production.

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



Jesse Pennington as Ástrov and Celeste Arias as Eléna



(l to r) Jay O. Sanders as Ványa, Jon DeVries as Serebryakóv, Kate Kearney-Patch as Marína, and Celeste Arias as Eléna

# STOMP

THE INTERNATIONAL SENSATION

**MARCH 2 – 4, 2018**

Rating: All ages.

## BROADWAY

SAN DIEGO

A NEDERLANDER PRESENTATION

Season Sponsored by

San Diego County Credit Union

Website Powered by

**BALBOA THEATRE**  
868 Fourth Ave & E Street

**619.570.1100**  
Mon-Fri 10am-6pm

**800.982.ARTS**  
ticketmaster®

**619.564.3001** Groups (10+)

**[www.BroadwaySD.com](http://www.BroadwaySD.com)**



Puzzles Sponsored by:



**RICHARD WOODS**  
**619-347-9866**



**WOODS**  
REAL ESTATE SERVICES  
*Opening the Doors to Your Future*



CA DRE #: 01412706 [www.WoodsRealEstateServices.com](http://www.WoodsRealEstateServices.com)

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

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.

©2009 CNS/websudoku.com

Puzzle answers on page 17

Uptown Crossword

Classics

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20									21			22		
			23						24		25			
26	27	28					29	30						
31						32						33	34	
35					36							37		
38			39	40						41	42			
			43							44				
45	46							47						
48				49		50	51				52	53	54	
55			56			57								
58						59					60			
61						62					63			

CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

**ACROSS**

1 Homophone for a duo  
5 Close attention  
9 Clarify  
14 Genuine  
15 Spindle  
16 ND's Fighting \_\_\_\_  
17 Thais, *et al.*  
19 \_\_\_\_ Barbara  
20 Seneca and Cayuga  
22 Scram, in Dogpatch  
23 \_\_\_\_ it!  
24 Vergil hero  
26 Esteem  
29 Johnny or Mabel  
31 Iris family members  
32 Came in again  
35 Sesame  
36 *King Solomon's* \_\_\_\_  
37 Big Ten sch.  
38 Insurgent  
41 Fountain orders  
43 Coquettes  
44 Hole puncher  
45 Customer  
47 NYC culture spot  
48 Novelist Deighton  
49 Brown, of baseball's Hall of Fame

**DOWN**

1 Campus figure, briefly  
2 Form preceder  
3 Maugham story  
4 Pastoral  
5 Antipathy  
6 Glorify  
7 Queen of scat  
8 Lectern  
9 Analyze  
10 Historic period  
11 Magic's basketball move  
12 Ancient port of Rome  
13 Mountain passes  
18 Silents star  
21 Merits  
25 Born  
26 Mil. rookies  
27 Soprano Mills

55 Slant  
57 Substitute  
58 Scoff  
59 Landing place  
60 NC college  
61 Firebugs, for short  
62 Salts  
63 *Atlas Shrugged* author

28 James Bond film  
29 Cartes  
30 Shoe widths  
32 Read the \_\_\_\_ act  
33 Town near Padua  
34 Perform a household chore  
36 Amusement  
39 \_\_\_\_ *de Franco*  
40 Colorists  
41 Norse giant  
42 In \_\_\_\_ of speaking  
44 Office doormats?  
45 Fastener  
46 Hoffman flick  
47 \_\_\_\_ maid  
50 Preoccupied  
51 Kazan  
52 Blowout  
53 Kind of collar  
54 Wrest from  
56 MGM's mane character

Puzzle answers on page 17

AUTOS WANTED

CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! All Makes/Models 2000-2016! Any Condition. Running or Not. Top \$\$\$ Paid! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: 1-888-985-1806

GOT AN OLDER CAR, VAN OR SUV? Do the humane thing. Donate it to the Humane Society. Call 1-855-558-3509

EDUCATION

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA Technician certification. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-453-6204

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA certification to work for airlines. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Housing assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 888-686-1704

FINANCIAL OR MISCELLANEOUS

Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call National Debt Relief at 866-243-0510.

HEALTH & FITNESS

GENERIC VIAGRA and CIALIS! 100 Pills \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-889-5515

ED MEDICATION FOR \$ 1.80/ PILL US ON-LINE PHARMACY OFFERS ED MEDICATION 56 PILLS @ \$110 1-800-881-1422 [www.usmedshop.net](http://www.usmedshop.net)

Generic VIAGRA 100mg Generic CIALIS 20mg. 70 for \$99 GREAT DEAL!!!! FAST FREE SHIPPING! 100% money back GUARANTEE! CALL NOW 888-669-9343 Se habla espanol 888-713-3919

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$95.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW 800-317-7404 Hablamos Espanol

HEALTH/MEDICAL

FREE VIAGRA PILLS 48 PILLS + 4 FREE! VIAGRA 100MG/ CIALIS 20mg Free Pills! No hassle, Discreet Shipping. Save Now. Call Today 1-888-410-0514

VIAGRA & CIALIS! 60 pills for \$99. 100 pills for \$150 FREE shipping. NO prescriptions needed. Money back guaranteed! 1-888-278-6168

MISCELLANEOUS

Make a Connection. Real People, Flirty Chat. Meet singles right now! Call LiveLinks. Try it FREE. Call NOW: 1-888-909-9905 18+.

Cross Country Moving, Long distance Moving Company, out of state move \$799 Long

**NORTH PARK FOR RENT**  
**4061 Utah Street 92104**



- 2 bedroom 2 bath
- \$2500 rent
- \$2500 Security deposit
- Renters Insurance required
- Small pet on approval
- Attached garage plus tandem parking
- 2 patio areas

S&D Property Management  
(619)640-7530  
[sdforrent.com](http://sdforrent.com)

**Hillcrest Newsstand**

Featuring San Diego's best collection of hard to find international magazines! We also carry all your favorite local & national publications, as well as souvenirs, snacks and lotto tickets!

**529 University Ave.- Hillcrest**  
**(619) 260-0492**

Distance Movers. Get Free quote on your Long distance move 1-800-511-2181

Call Empire TodayÂ® to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-800-508-2824

Lung Cancer? And Age 60+? You And Your Family May Be Entitled To Significant Cash Award. Call 866-428-1639 for Information. No Risk. No Money Out Of Pocket.

Become a published author! Publications sold at all major secular & specialty Christian bookstores. CALL Christian Faith Publishing for your FREE author submission kit. 1-855-548-5979

Earthlink High Speed Internet. As Low As \$14.95/month (for the first 3 months.) Reliable High Speed Fiber Optic Technology. Stream Videos, Music and More! Call Earthlink Today 1-855-520-7938

TV INTERNET PHONE \$29.99 each! We are Your LOCAL Installers! Bundle Services and Save Huge! \$29.99 each! Hurry Call Now this Offer Ends Soon! 1-888-858-0262

HughesNet Satellite Internet ? 25mbps for just \$49.99/mo! Get More Data FREE Off-Peak Data. No phone line required! FAST download speeds. WiFi built in! FREE Standard Installation! Call 1-855-440-4911

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-855-837-9146

Stop OVERPAYING for your prescriptions! SAVE! Call our licensed Canadian and International pharmacy, compare prices and get \$25.00 OFF your first prescription! CALL 1-855-541-5141 Promo Code CDC201725

ENJOY 100% guaranteed, delivered to-the-door Omaha Steaks! SAVE 75% PLUS get 4 more Burgers & 4 more Kielbasa FREE! Order The Family Gourmet Buffet - ONLY

\$49.99. Call 1-855-895-0358 mention code 51689LCX or visit [www.omahasteaks.com/cook03](http://www.omahasteaks.com/cook03)

DIRECTV SELECT PACKAGE! Over 150 Channels, ONLY \$35/month (for 12 mos.) Order Now! Get a \$200 AT&T Visa Rewards Gift Card (some restrictions apply) CALL 1- 855-781-1565

A PLACE FOR MOM. The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE/no obligation. CALL 1-844-722-7993

Spectrum Triple Play! TV, Internet & Voice for \$29.99 ea. 60 MB per second speed No contract or commitment. More Channels. Faster Internet. Unlimited Voice. Call 1-855-652-9304

INVENTORS - FREE INFORMATION PACKAGE Have your product idea developed affordably by the Research & Development pros and presented to manufacturers. Call 1-888-501-0236 for a Free Idea Starter Guide. Submit your idea for a free consultation.

Were you an INDUSTRIAL or CONSTRUCTION TRADESMAN and recently diagnosed with LUNG CANCER? You and your family may be entitled to a SIGNIFICANT CASH AWARD. Call 877-648-6308 for your risk free consultation.

The nation's largest senior living referral service. A PLACE FOR MOM. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is FREE. No obligation. CALL 855-741-7459

LIVING WITH KNEE OR BACK PAIN? Medicare recipients that suffer with pain may qualify for a low or no cost knee or back brace. Call 844-308-4307

DISH TV \$59.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply 1-800-718-1593

see Classifieds, pg 17

HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN INVENTION?

Call today: 888-501-0236



Davison can help with:

- Licensing Services
- Providing USPTO forms
- Design and Prototyping



Davison charges fees for services

**DENTAL Insurance**

Physicians Mutual Insurance Company

A less expensive way to help get the dental care you deserve

- ✓ If you're over 50, you can get coverage for about \$1 a day\*
- ✓ Keep your own dentist! You can go to any dentist you want
- ✓ NO annual or lifetime cap on the cash benefits you can receive
- ✓ No wait for preventive care and no deductibles - you could get a checkup tomorrow
- ✓ Coverage for over 350 procedures including cleanings, exams, fillings, crowns...even dentures

**FREE Information Kit**  
**1-877-308-2834**  
**[www.dental50plus.com/cadnet](http://www.dental50plus.com/cadnet)**



\*Individual plan. Product not available in MN, MT, NH, NM, RI, VT, WA. Acceptance guaranteed for one insurance policy/certificate of this type. Contact us for complete details about this insurance solicitation. This specific offer is not available in CO, NY; call 1-800-969-4781 or respond for similar offer. Certificate C250A (ID: C250E; PA: C250Q); Insurance Policy P150 (GA: P150GA; NY: P150NY; OK: P150OK; TN: P150TN)  
6098E-0917 MB17-NM008Ec



**AIRLINE CAREERS**

Get FAA approved maintenance training at campuses coast to coast. Job placement assistance. Financial Aid for qualifying students. Military friendly.

Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance  
**800-481-7894**



# California BBQ & Oven Cleaning

**“The most thorough BBQ and oven cleaning service!”**

**We come to you! Have your BBQ or oven professionally steam-cleaned using non-toxic, biodegradable, USDA-approved products.**

- We service all makes and models
- Experienced, reliable, local staff
- Extend the life of your BBQ
- Improve the quality and flavor of food
- Eliminate carcinogens for healthier cooking
- Use your appliance the same day after cleaning

**You will be amazed at the transformation!**

before

A photograph of a stainless steel BBQ grill with its lid open. The interior grates are heavily coated with dark, greasy residue, and the bottom of the grill is also dirty.

after

A photograph of the same stainless steel BBQ grill after cleaning. The interior grates are now clean, shiny, and free of any grease or residue. The bottom of the grill is also clean.

**\$25  
OFF**  
with this ad

The logo for California BBQ & Oven Cleaning Services. It features the word "CALIFORNIA" in a serif font above a stylized sun icon. Below the sun is the text "BBQ & OVEN" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, and "CLEANING SERVICES" in a smaller, sans-serif font at the bottom.

**Call Today!**  
**(858) 210-2034**  
**www.CalBBQ.com**



# UPTOWN CALENDAR



FRIDAY

Feb. 23

## The Spits at Space Bar

Rock band will perform with Cruz Radical and Slaughter Boys. 21 and older. \$15. 8:30 p.m. at Space Bar, 3519 El Cajon Blvd. Another performance will be held on Feb. 24. Visit [bit.ly/2oa9J9c](http://bit.ly/2oa9J9c).

## All Pigs Must Die at Soda Bar

Hardcore punk band will perform with Baptists and Bonebreaker. 21 and older. \$12–\$16. 8 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2o8BWwR](http://bit.ly/2o8BWwR).

SATURDAY

Feb. 24

## Old Town Saturday Market

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at Harney Street and San Diego Avenue, Old Town. Also held on Sundays. Visit [oldtown-saturdaymarket.com](http://oldtown-saturdaymarket.com).

## Golden Hill Farmers Market

9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at B Street between 27th and 28th streets, Golden Hill. Visit [sdmarketmanager.com](http://sdmarketmanager.com).



## Jews Step Forward' film screening

View a film screening of the award-winning documentary about the proud tradition of Jewish social justice. A Q&A with director and producer Marjorie Wright will follow. Free. 7 p.m. at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4190 Front St. There will also be a matinee screening at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25 at Point Loma Library, 3701 Voltaire St. Call 619-222-2120.

## Vegetable Gardening 101

Learn the basics of successfully maintaining a garden, including soil preparation, irrigation and harvesting. 2:30 p.m. at Mission Hills Library, 925 W. Washington St. Call 619-692-4910.

## The Lexicons at Soda Bar

Neo-traditional ska band will perform with 3rd Project and Privileged. 21 and older. \$6. 8:30 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2od38Lh](http://bit.ly/2od38Lh).

SUNDAY

Feb. 25



## Crooked Colours at Soda Bar

Dance/electronic band will perform with Running Touch. 21 and older. \$13–\$15. 8 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2o8CeDX](http://bit.ly/2o8CeDX).

## Hillcrest Farmers Market

9 a.m.–2 p.m., Normal Street between University and Lincoln avenues. Visit [hillcrestfarmersmarket.com](http://hillcrestfarmersmarket.com)

MONDAY

Feb. 26

## Lestat's West Open Mic

Weekly open mic event hosted by Robby Robertson. 6:30–11 p.m. at Lestat's, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Visit [bit.ly/2nWco63](http://bit.ly/2nWco63).



## Ezla at Soda Bar

Singer-songwriter Ezla with San Diego-based pop band Moon. 21 and older. \$6. 8:30 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2oauMbx](http://bit.ly/2oauMbx).

TUESDAY

Feb. 27

## Hungover at The Merrow

Pop-punk band performs with Alive & Well and Pocket Hole. 21 and older. \$5. 7 p.m. at The Merrow, 1271 University Ave. Call 619-299-7372 or visit [bit.ly/2oa7z9A](http://bit.ly/2oa7z9A).

## Sketch Party and Videodrome at Whistle Stop

Drink, draw, brew and view. Enjoy sketching while watching a film screening of drama/fantasy "Videodrome." Free. 9 p.m. at Whistle Stop Bar, 2236 Fern St. Visit [bit.ly/2odfTWH](http://bit.ly/2odfTWH).



## Lestat's West Comedy Night

Weekly comedy night event hosted by Dustin Nickerson. 9–11 p.m. at Lestat's, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Visit [bit.ly/2nWco63](http://bit.ly/2nWco63).

WEDNESDAY

Feb. 28

## Mystery Book Club

Discuss a mystery novel at this monthly meetup. Read the book beforehand; copies available at the library's circulation desk. 6:30 p.m. at Mission Hills Library, 925 W. Washington St. Call 619-692-4910.

THURSDAY

March 1

**Jeff Dunham: 'Passively Aggressive'**  
Ventriloquist Jeff Dunham is



bringing his cast of characters on the road as he tours North America on his 60-city "Passively Aggressive" tour. 7 p.m. at Valley View Casino Center, 3500 Sports Arena Blvd. Tickets are \$49.50. Visit [jeffdunham.com](http://jeffdunham.com)

FRIDAY

March 2

## 'The Stonewall Salon'

Diversionary Theatre presents "The Stonewall Salon," a production featuring local LGBT Seniors. The performance is the ensemble's showcase presentation. Call 619-220-6830 x109 or visit [bit.ly/2olQWrg](http://bit.ly/2olQWrg).

SATURDAY

March 3

**'San Diego, I Love You #SWIPERIGHT'**  
Circle Circle dot dot invites you on an avant-garde art adventure, where attendees physically move with the performers around San Diego during the performance. The show is inspired by the trials and tribulations of identifying as bisexual in the world of online dating. This production will feature male and female versions of the show; attendees are encouraged to attend both. Tickets \$15. Various times and locations. Visit [bit.ly/2o83e6P](http://bit.ly/2o83e6P).



## Whitney Rose at Soda Bar

Country musician Whitney Rose will perform with Nena Anderson and Sara Petite. 21 and older. \$12. 8:30 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2o7o1Hm](http://bit.ly/2o7o1Hm).

## Old Town Saturday Market

9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at Harney Street and San Diego Avenue, Old Town. Also held on Sundays. Visit [oldtown-saturdaymarket.com](http://oldtown-saturdaymarket.com).

## Golden Hill Farmers Market

9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at B Street between 27th and 28th streets, Golden Hill. Visit [sdmarketmanager.com](http://sdmarketmanager.com).

SUNDAY

March 4

## San Diego Vintage Flea Market

Shop vintage wares, clothing, furniture, knick-knacks and more from 100 vendors at this outdoor market. Rain or shine. Free. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. in the parking lot behind The

Observatory North Park, 2981 University Ave. Visit [bit.ly/2o8H6cw](http://bit.ly/2o8H6cw).

## Hillcrest Farmers Market

9 a.m.–2 p.m. on Normal Street between University and Lincoln avenues. Visit [hillcrestfarmersmarket.com](http://hillcrestfarmersmarket.com)

MONDAY

March 5

## Lestat's West Open Mic

Weekly open mic event hosted by Robby Robertson. 6:30–11 p.m. at Lestat's, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Visit [bit.ly/2nWco63](http://bit.ly/2nWco63).

TUESDAY

March 6

## Lestat's West Comedy Night

Weekly comedy night event hosted by Dustin Nickerson. 9–11 p.m. at Lestat's, 3343 Adams Ave., Normal Heights. Visit [bit.ly/2nWco63](http://bit.ly/2nWco63).

WEDNESDAY

March 7

## The Academic at Soda Bar

Irish indie-rock band The Academic performs with Creature Canyon and Stray Monroe. 21 and older. \$12.

8 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit [bit.ly/2o5VW3k](http://bit.ly/2o5VW3k).

## 'EMPOWER Part 1': Artist Reception

This is the first installment of an art exhibition series that will celebrate the beauty and history of the female spirit and women empowerment. Both male and female artists will be featured. 6–10 p.m. at Mike Hess Brewing Company North Park, 3912 Grim Ave. Visit [bit.ly/2oanbF5](http://bit.ly/2oanbF5).

THURSDAY

March 8



## 'Two Scientists Walk into a Bar: Women to the Rescue'

Fleet Science Center's community program returns on International Women's Day. Fifty local scientists will be hanging out at 25 bars around San Diego to answer any science questions you might have. Various times and locations. Uptown bars include Blind Lady Alehouse, Tiger! Tiger! Tavern, Thorn Street Brewery, The Rose Wine Bar and more. Visit [bit.ly/2o9Hibf](http://bit.ly/2o9Hibf) or [bit.ly/2oc7iUa](http://bit.ly/2oc7iUa).

# Uptown News Community Newspaper

## Affordable Ad Rates – Great Results!



For advertising information  
Call Mike at (619) 961-1958  
[Mike@sdcnn.com](mailto:Mike@sdcnn.com)



# Community meetings

- Mondays**

**Bankers Hill Parking Committee**  
First Monday of the month. 5–6:30 p.m. at Merrill Gardens, 2567 Second Ave. in Bankers Hill.

**North Park Maintenance Assessment District**  
Second Monday of the month. 5 p.m. at North Park Recreation Center, 1044 Idaho St. in North Park.

**Bankers Hill Community Group**  
Third Monday of the month. 6:30–8 p.m. at San Diego Indoor Sports Club, 3030 Front St. in Bankers Hill.

**Hillcrest Business Association Beautification Committee**  
Fourth Monday of the month. Visit [bit.ly/2odxT3m](http://bit.ly/2odxT3m) to confirm monthly meeting date. 3 p.m. at 3737 Fifth Ave., Suite 202 in Hillcrest.
- Tuesdays**

**Adams Avenue Business Association**  
First Tuesday of the Month. Board of directors meeting. 8 a.m. at Normal Heights Community Center, 4649 Hawley Blvd. in Normal Heights.

**North Park Main Street Design Committee**  
First Tuesday of the month. 5:30–7:30 p.m. at North Park Main Street office, 3939 Iowa St., Suite 2 in North Park. 619-294-2501.

**Normal Heights Community Planning Group**  
First Tuesday of the month. 6 p.m. at Normal Heights Community Center, 4649 Hawley Blvd. in Normal Heights.

**Uptown Planners**  
First Tuesday of the month. 6 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont St. in Hillcrest.

**Hillcrest Business Association**  
Second Tuesday of the month. Board of directors meeting. 5 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont St. in Hillcrest.

**Hillcrest Town Council**  
Second Tuesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at Joyce Beers Community Center, 3900 Vermont St.

**North Park Planning Committee**  
Third Tuesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at North Park Christian Fellowship, 2901 North Park Way in North Park.

**Talmadge Maintenance Assessment District**  
Fourth Tuesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at Copley-Price YMCA,
- 2476 San Diego Ave. in Old Town.

**Greater Golden Hill Community Planning Group**  
Second Wednesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at Balboa Golf Course Clubhouse, 2600 Golf Course Drive.

**Ken-Tal Community Planning Group**  
Second Wednesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at Copley-Price Family YMCA, 4300 El Cajon Blvd. in Talmadge.

**Burlingame Neighborhood Association**  
Second Wednesday of the month. 7 p.m. at Mazara Trattoria, 2302 30th St. in Burlingame.

**Mission Hills Business Improvement District**  
Third Wednesday of the month. 3:30 p.m. For meeting location, visit [missionhillsBID.com](http://missionhillsBID.com).

**North Park Community Association**  
Fourth Wednesday of the month.
- 4300 El Cajon Blvd. in Talmadge.

**Wednesdays**

**University Heights Community Development Corporation**  
First Wednesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at 4452 Park Blvd., Suite 104 in University Heights.

**University Heights Community Parking District**  
First Wednesday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at 4452 Park Blvd. Suite 104 in University Heights.

**North Park Main Street**  
Second Wednesday of the month. Board of directors meeting. 7:30 a.m. at North Park Main Street office, 3939 Iowa St., Suite 2 in North Park. 619-294-2501.

**Old Town Community Planning Group**  
Second Wednesday of the month. 3:30 p.m. at The Whaley House,
- 6 p.m. at Lafayette Hotel, 2223 El Cajon Blvd. in North Park.

**South Park Business Group**  
Last Wednesday of the month. 8:30 a.m. at Eclipse Chocolate, 2145 Fern St. in South Park.

**Thursdays**

**University Heights Community Association**  
First Thursday of the month. 6:30 p.m. at Alice Birney Elementary School auditorium, 4345 Campus Ave. in University Heights.

**Mission Hills Town Council Board of Trustees Meeting**  
Second Thursday of alternating months; next meeting March 8. 6 p.m. at 902 Fort Stockton Drive in Mission Hills.

**Mission Hills Town Council Town Hall**  
Second Thursday of alternating months; next meeting is March 8. 6 p.m. at Francis Parker Lower School Library, 4201 Randolph St. in Mission Hills.❖

## Journalism interns wanted

**San Diego Community News Network (SDCNN)** is looking for interns for its editorial department. Interns will assist in writing stories and news briefs; compiling calendar items; editing content and layout; and helping out with maintaining the website and social media platforms for all six of the SDCNN publications. This is a fantastic opportunity for students interested in learning all aspects of newspaper production.



Interns need to commit to a minimum of eight hours a week – schedule is flexible. This position offers a small stipend and past interns have received college credits and many have gone on to professional positions at publications or communications firms across the country.

SDCNN is an equal opportunity employer. Our publications include: San Diego Downtown News, San Diego Uptown News, Mission Valley News, The Mission Times Courier, La Mesa Courier and Gay San Diego.

To apply, send a resume and any samples of your writing to: [editor@sdcdn.com](mailto:editor@sdcdn.com). Please include a cover letter that includes the hours and days available.

**COLEMAN**  
MOVING SYSTEMS INC.  
Office/Residential | Free Wardrobes  
**7 DAYS A WEEK | FREE ESTIMATES**  
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1979  
**619.223.2255**  
  
BBB MEMBER | INSURED | LIC#CAL T-189466

the **YMCA**

**Saturday, Feb. 24th**

**FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

**9:00am–12:00pm**

**OPEN HOUSE**

**COPLEY-PRICE FAMILY YMCA**

4300 El Cajon Blvd.  
San Diego, CA 92105

619-280-9622

[ymca.org/copleyprice](http://ymca.org/copleyprice)

**WE ARE MORE THAN A GYM... WE ARE YOUR COMMUNITY!**

**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](http://www.LifeBeyondTherapy.com)





**John Reeves**  
#1 Selling Agent in San Diego  
327 Homes Sold in 2017  
1 Home Every 26.8 Hours

# Every Agent Will Promise to Sell Your Home ...John **GUARANTEES** It

If Your Home Doesn't Sell, John is Willing to Buy it Himself at a Price Acceptable to You  
Call John at **619-738-HOME** for a Guaranteed Sale on your home.

Seller and John Reeves must agree on guaranteed price and closing date at time of listing. CalBRE# 01861983



**\$774,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Multi Functional Duplex**

- Enormous 3 Car Garage
- Abundant Natural Light Throughout
- Private Entry to Second Unit



**\$995,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Fabulous 1/2 Acre Home!**

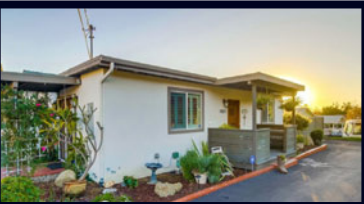
- Drought Resistant Landscaping
- Various, Lush Fruit Trees
- Masterpiece Kitchen w/ Slate Flooring



**\$474,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Beautiful, Landscaped Yard!**

- Warm, Welcoming Living Spaces
- Elegant, Updated Kitchen
- Abundant Natural Light Throughout



**\$669,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Executive Home!**

- Abundant Parking
- Peaceful, Enclosed Patio
- Expansive, Warm Living Spaces



**\$379,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Modern Ranch Style Home!**

- Rich, Laminate Flooring
- Bonus Sun-Room
- Spacious Patio for Entertaining



**\$499,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Move-In Ready Stunner!**

- Cul-De-Sac w/ Well-Manicured Streets
- Large, Open Kitchen w/ Peninsula
- Abundant Natural Light Throughout



**\$494,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Perfect Starter Home!**

- Gourmet Kitchen w/ Expansive Counters
- Gorgeous, Pristine Landscaping
- Picturesque, Warm Fireplace



**\$449,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Open Concept!**

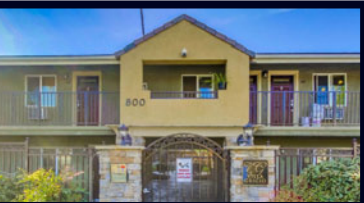
- Beautiful, Lush Landscaped Yard
- Spacious Built-In Bar Separate From Kitchen
- Picturesque Windows



**\$324,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Contemporary Condo!**

- Warm, Built In Fireplace
- Polished, Open Kitchen
- Master Bedroom w/ Walk-In Closet



**\$194,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Buy With \$0 Down!**

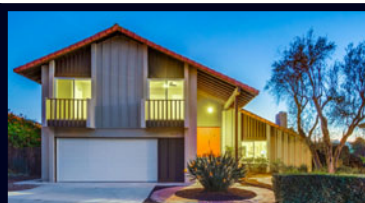
- Modern, Gourmet Kitchen
- Function, Free-Flowing Floor Plan
- Washer & Dryer In Unit



**\$224,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Perfect Starter Condo!**

- Walking Distance to Fashion Valley
- Rich Laminate Flooring
- Sleek, Modern Chefs Kitchen



**\$799,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Completely Renovated!**

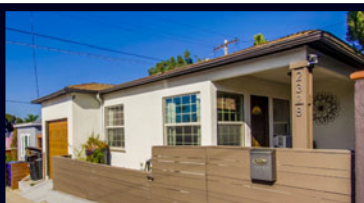
- Located in a Safe & Private Cul De Sac
- Masterpiece Gourmet Kitchen
- Large Backyard for Entertaining



**\$474,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Beautiful, Landscaped Yard!**

- Open Concept Kitchen
- Serene, Private Backyard
- Warming Fireplace



**\$669,999 - OR TRADE!**

**HOT Location!**

- Paved Patio & Waterwise Backyard
- Hardwood Flooring Throughout Home
- Spacious Living Spaces



**\$499,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Resort Like Backyard!**

- Abundant Natural Light
- Luxurious Gourmet Kitchen
- Fully Fenced, Private Yard



**\$649,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Great Neighborhood!**

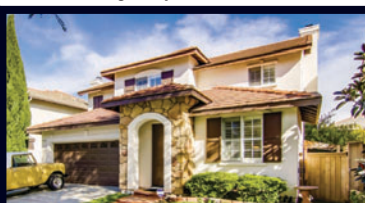
- Luxurious Granite in Kitchen
- Expansive Family Room w/ Fireplace
- Parklike Backyard w/ Mature Landscaping



**\$434,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Gorgeous Starter Home!**

- Open Concept Kitchen & Living Space
- Upper Level Loft Area
- Boasts Spacious Backyard w/ Covered Patio



**\$449,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Immaculate Family Home!**

- Masterpiece Gourmet Kitchen
- Family Area w/ Warming Fireplace
- Peaceful & Serene Private Backyard



**\$895,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Multi-Unit Home!**

- Ranch Style Home Located by Beach
- Open, Modern Floorplan
- Rich, Solid Hardwood Flooring



**\$598,999 - OR TRADE!**

**Move-In Ready Stunner!**

- Tranquil Back Patio w/ Built-in Firepit
- Soaring Vaulted Beamed Ceilings
- Masterpiece Gourmet Kitchen

## EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

This seller lived out of state and trusted us to get his condo sold. This Clairemont condo SOLD for \$41,000 over asking price after only 7 days on the market!



This seller needed assistance with repairs before he could sell, so our team assisted in making sure his home sold for top dollar. This home drove in 5 offers & SOLD after only 8 days on the market.

This seller lived out of state and trusted us to get his condo sold. This Scripps Ranch home SOLD for \$55,000 over asking price in only 9 days after 17 offers!

