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North Park Little League's All-Star team wins tournament

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Cynet Theater presents goofy spoof "Monty Python's Spamlot"

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A look at businesses through the years at 3089 University Ave.

New kids on the block

Newlyweds open coffee shop in City Heights

By Jess Winans

[Editor's note: This is the first installment of our new, two article column, "Uptown brews," written by Jess Winans and Sara Butler, featuring neighborhood news on our two iconic Uptown staples — coffee and beer. This month features coffee shop Black Stag, "New kids on the block," and brewery Thorn Brewing, "A tasty pairing of Barons and Thorn."]

Irma Castaneda and Gustavo Alvarado have a thing for good brews. The newlywed business partners and owners of Black Stag Cafe in City Heights originally met in a brewery tasting room where Alvarado worked.

see Black Stag, pg 11



Owners Irma Castaneda and Gustavo Alvarado behind the counter of their Uptown cafe (Photo by Jess Winans)

Uptown News BRIEFS

DIPLOMACY COUNCIL HOSTS INTERNATIONAL LEADERS

Top female business leaders from seven African nations will meet at The Prado in Balboa Park on Thursday, July 19 at 5:30 p.m. for a Global Social House Reception.

The community is invited to the event, where globally minded companies and individuals can engage in a casual meeting with the international entrepreneurs and designers. The San Diego Diplomacy Council (SDDC) hosts these seven women as part of the annual African Women Entrepreneurship Program (AWEP).

These visiting women hail from Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Rwanda and Togo. They have all been nominated by the U.S. embassies in their home countries and were selected based on their success both as business and community leaders.

AWEP participants are involved in fashion and design industry, holding positions as CEOs, founders, directors, and heads of external affairs. While in San Diego, they will meet with counterparts, some of which have social missions behind their success and work sustainably.

For more information about AWEP or to RSVP to the event, visit bit.ly/globalhour.

YOUTH SYMPHONY PROGRAM RETURNS

San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory (SDYS) will present its 14th annual International Youth Symphony (IYS) concert series in Balboa Park, which invites 17 students from 10 countries to San Diego to rehearse and perform with top SDYS musicians.

see News Briefs, pg 15

A door closes

North Park art gallery forced to move

By Jess Winans

As the issue of rising rent continues to plague Uptown neighborhoods, local art galleries are being forced to shut their doors or relocate to other neighborhoods — if they're lucky enough to find a new spot before their eviction date.

The Studio Door in North Park is one of those art galleries. Owned and operated by artist and entrepreneur Patric Stillman, the gallery must close or relocate by the end of August.

see Studio Door, pg 4



The Studio Door owner Patric Stillman, who lives in North Park (Photo by Jess Winans)

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Parks plan update underway

By Jeff Clemetson
and Sara Butler

The City of San Diego is taking its first steps in updating its parks master plan — a process it hasn't undertaken since 1956, and according to city officials is long overdue.

"There's more people in the city now. Our city is denser. We have very different trends in recreation," Shannon Scoggins, project manager for Parks Master Plan update, said. "People recreate differently than they did 60 years ago. Shuffle board was popular in 1956 and its not popular now. We have all kinds of new sports coming online like pickleball and cricket and quite a lot of other recreation that's not necessarily field based — skateboarding, that kind of thing. So, we're looking to update how we plan for parks, recreation facilities and programs."

Updating the parks plan will come in four phases and take three years, said Scoggins. The first phase is a learning phase where the city looks at its existing parks

while simultaneously gathering public input through a series of workshops and on-line tools. Scoggins clarified that this undertaking is separate from the Community Plan Update; rather, it is an additional planning effort to provide recreational opportunities.

The city held nine workshops throughout the month of June, including one in City Heights/Talmadge (District 4), one in Golden Hill (District 3), and another in Linda Vista (District 7). The Golden Hill Recreation Center meeting on June 25 was the city's largest attended workshop and attracted many Uptowners.

Residents from inside and outside the districts were invited to give input on what they like and don't like about the parks they have, suggest where new parks could be built, and share what their personal park priorities are.

"So, pick your top three. Do you want off-leash dog parks? Do you want more soccer fields? Do you want more swimming pools? That sort of thing," Scoggins said. "We

really need to understand priorities because the reality is that we don't have funding to make all improvements, so we do need to provide some kind of strategic plan at the end of the day that provides what it most important moving forward."

Kathryn Willets, who has owned her home in Golden Hill since 1974, attended the June 25 workshop and advocated for more family-friendly activities for Uptown's youth.

"I bring my grandchildren here to the [Golden Hill] Rec Center, and my children came here when they were children. But many of the programs that were here when my children were growing up are no longer here," Willets said, citing a former ceramics program, free equipment rental, and other amenities.

She also wants the city to reclaim space devoted to cars for recreational use, building parks over Interstates to reunite neighborhoods freeways cut through.

"I think they should build a park over Highway 94, between 22nd and 25th



(l to r) Residents Monetta Slaybaugh and Kathryn Willets write sticky notes with park suggestions during an interactive activity at the Golden Hill workshop (Photo by Sara Butler)

[streets]," she continued, noting the location could be a city advantage. "Since 25th is a commercial street, they could allow commercial uses along there that could pay

rent and that money could help maintain the park."

Monetta Slaybaugh, who lives where Landis Street crosses the 805 Interstate in Cherokee Point, echoed Willets. She wishes there was a safer, cleaner way to cross into North Park and other neighborhoods.

Currently, Slaybaugh uses many city parks but not many are well-kept in her area. To combat that, she and the Cherokee Point Neighborhood Association clean up and maintain a small plot of city land, informally known as "Postage Stamp Park" and fittingly located on a paper street.

"The space is just sitting there collecting garbage," Monetta said. They organize cleaning events throughout the year and are hoping for city funding to help maintain their efforts, as well as add a dog run to the space.

Talmadge resident David Moty, the vice chair of the Kensington-Talmadge Planning Group, attended the June 18 meeting at Mid-City Gym and noted that there are "no parks whatsoever" in his neighborhood.

"I very rarely ever go to a park. Once or twice a year I get to Balboa Park [or] Kensington Park — but that's it," Moty said. There's 9,000 people there — but zero parks," he said.

He said that the intersection of Euchild and Monroe avenues, which he referred to as "the natural center of gravity in the neighborhood" that needs rebuilding, would be a great space for "a tot lot, couple of benches, trees and some grass."

Kirstin Skadberg, an environmental planner and Mission Hills resident, attended the June 6 workshop at the Linda Vista Recreation Center, which focused on Uptown's neighbor Mission Valley (District 7).

"I do use the parks quite a lot. I think they're important

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Workshop attendees place colored stickers on images representing what sports, arts and recreational activities they would like offered or improved. Pickleball and soccer were highly popular items. (Photo by Sara Butler)

FROM PAGE 2
PARKS UPDATE

in San Diego and I think we're really lucky to have the ones that we do have," Skadberg said, adding that she often frequents Mission Trails Park, even though Balboa Park is much closer to her home. She counts herself as fortunate for being able to use all the parks in San Diego.

"One of my concerns is making sure that we get parks in places where we don't have that many right now — like for people who don't have a car and can't just drive wherever they want in San Diego County like I can, that they have parks close to their homes, that their kids can use too," she continued.

Increasing parks equity is one of the major goals and reasons for updating the parks master plan, said San Diego Planning Department Director Mike Hansen.

"The accessibility of parks across the city is not equal at the moment and we are trying to make sure that people in different communities and the urban communities have accessibility just as much as the newly master planned communities," Hansen said.

Parks needs are much higher in older, infill urban areas — such as the historic Uptown neighborhoods — than in recently built planned communities. Other areas of concern include nearby Mission Valley, which is changing from retail and commercial areas to more mixed-use with new residences.

The parks master plan update will also reexamine how the city determines what will count as a park.

Another Cherokee Point resident and the chair of City Heights Town Council, Taylor McDonald, said his neighborhood "wants to utilize what we have and enhance what we are already working on, making them official parks." He added that small improvements, such as adding art or signage, would go a long way.

The plan will decide whether existing regional parks should count as adequate park space so that new

developments near them can have reduced development impact fees for new parks and hopefully bring down the cost of building housing.

"Balboa Park is not considered a park for our parks needs master plan — totally excluded," District 7 Councilmember Scott Sherman said at the June 6 meeting. "So, you can build something on Sixth Avenue, right across the street from Balboa Park, the jewel of San Diego, and you have to pay park fees to build a park somewhere else, even though the park is right across the street."

All of the public workshops in phase one of the parks plan occurred through the month of June — at Linda Vista Recreational Center, June 6; Robb Field, June 11; San Diego Central Library, June 12; Black Mountain Middle School, June 14; Mid-City Gym, June 18; Skyline Hills Rec Center, June 19; Canyonside Rec Center, June 20; Stadley Rec Center, June 21; Golden Hill Rec Center, June 25; and San Ysidro Community Activity Center, June 27. For those who could not attend a workshop, there is an online workshop at city-of-sandiegoparksplan.com.

"We're doing more this year than we've done in any year in the past," District 3 Councilmember Chris Ward said to attendees at the Golden Hill Recreational Center. "I promise you that this feedback is instrumental to getting efforts right and I'm going to make sure I advocate based on your input for the final parks master plan as it comes forward to committee and city council."

After the public input is completed, the next phase will be to analyze the data collected and start putting together a new plan. Phase three will be about developing a long-range park plan and will also include public input workshops. The final phase will be implementing the plan that "will shape the future of the city's parks and recreation facilities and programs for 20 to 30 years," Scoggins said.

—Reach contributing editor Jeff Clemetson at jeff@sdcdn.com and editor Sara Butler at sara@sdcdn.com.❖

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FROM PAGE 1
STUDIO DOOR

Stillman and The Studio Door were initially lucky. Their landlord sympathized with the arts and was excited to watch their small business grow. But, when the building’s landlord passed away, her children sold the space to a new owner, who is raising rent from \$2,000 to \$9,000 per month.

“Because of the state of the building and the rent prices, I don’t think any bank wanted to give the new owner a loan,” Stillman said. “So they set up with a bridge loan which requires the owners to make all kinds of improvements to the space and really raise the rents to market value.”

“Even if the new owners are art sympathetic as well, they’re

tied by the banks that said they need to get the rent up to what the market will bear,” he continued.

Ethan van Thillo, executive director of the Media and Arts Center who Stillman worked with prior to opening The Studio Door, knows this trend all too well.

“It’s frustrating across the board,” van Thillo said. “We’ve seen it time and time again, artists come into a community and help take these buildings and fix them up.”

Stillman has contributed to the North Park art scene for the past 10 years, working as a co-founder of the Media Arts Center San Diego, hosting the San Diego Latino Film Festival and working on various personal art projects.

After seven years of working at The Digital Gym, Stillman decided to open The Studio Door.

“I decided it was time to do what I needed to do, which was get back into the arts and creativity of not only running a business but being an artist,” he said.

The Studio Door serves not only as an art gallery but also an oasis for local artists who call the North Park place their home base.

“I started using this space when we opened about four years ago,” said Little Italy artist Chris Smith. “My favorite part of using this space is the community we have between all of the artists. I’m bummed about the closure of The Studio Door but I’m hopeful. I can always find a studio somewhere else, but I’m hopeful that we will find another Studio Door.”

At The Studio Door, studio spaces are available for rent. Classes — such as “Business for Artists 101,” “Paint Night,” and a professional artist weekend retreat — are offered, as well as the option for artists, businessmen and women to create their own workshops.

Since its opening, over 17,000 artists have participated in Studio Door workshops.

“The government does a great job supporting the nonprofit world, but not supporting artists who are trying to become small businessmen or women or small businesses like art galleries trying to establish themselves,” Stillman said. “It makes it very difficult for those things to get past that point.”

In addition to operating a gallery, providing studio space to artists, and holding workshops, The Studio Door also holds a yearly exhibition with an accompanying publication, “50 to Watch.”



Little Italy artist Chris Smith with his art at the gallery (Photos by Jess Winans)

“The ‘50 to Watch’ publication goes out to 25,000 galleries around the country,” Stillman said. “Even though San Diego is very competitive, with five of the largest arts metropolitan areas in California, if people are coming to California they think they’re going to go to San Francisco or Los Angeles to buy art. This [‘50 to Watch’] is an effort to say, ‘Hey, we have really

quality art here too.”

Since the gallery is not a nonprofit organization, it cannot accept donations. Instead, it is funded by artists renting studio spaces, juried shows with entry fees, commissions on sales, and workshops.

Stillman is currently working on finding a new space for his gallery and bringing attention to the greater issue of rising rent and closing art galleries in San Diego. He is reaching out to the Small Business Finance Association (SBFA) to see if there are ways to keep rent costs down, asking the city of San Diego if there are small business funds available, and talking to organizations he is involved with for guidance and collaboration opportunities.

“Certainly, knowing that this is going to be a finite space, I really want people to come and enjoy it while it’s here,” Stillman said. “And with the uncertainty of the future, I would like people, especially art patrons, to support not only the artists that are exhibiting in the gallery, but really importantly the artists who are working here. Their worlds are being turned upside down.”

“What makes North Park so special is the art. We need to encourage more artists and galleries to want to work there,” van Thillo said. “But, if they’re [landlords and building owners] tripling their rent, that’s just going to push small businesses and artists out of the neighborhood.”

The Studio Door is currently located at 3750 30th St. between North Park Way and Gunn Street. For more information, visit thestudidoor.com.

[Editor’s Note: Additional coverage on the rise of Uptown art gallery closures will be featured in an upcoming issue of San Diego Uptown News.]

—Jess Winans is the editorial assistant at the San Diego Community News Network, parent company of the San Diego Uptown News. You can reach her at jess@sdcnn.com.



One of the artist workspaces at The Studio Door



Cox High Speed Internet Now Twice as Fast in San Diego

When it comes to the internet, one of the things consumers value most is speed. It frees up their time by completing tasks faster. It makes watching a movie or listening to music more enjoyable. And, for video game enthusiasts, it could be the difference between winning or losing.

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Whether you’re using the internet for basic search, paying bills, and shopping online, or are a multi-generational household with multiple connected devices streaming simultaneously, there’s some great news on the internet speed front.

Cox Communications, which already offers some of the fastest consumer internet speeds in the nation, recently doubled the speed for most of its customers in San Diego County.

Download speeds for Cox High Speed Internet doubled for three of its service plans: Starter, Essential and Preferred. The speed increases went into effect automatically for all Cox High Speed Internet customers with those service plans in San Diego.

The new download speed for Preferred, the company’s most popular tier of service, is now up to 100 Mbps.

The Starter and Essential plans are ideal for lighter users with one to five devices connected to the home network. The new download speed for Essential is now up to 30 Mbps and Cox Starter is now up to 10 Mbps.

“Speed increases are one of the many ways we continually add value for our high speed internet customers,” said Suzanne Schlundt, Vice President of Field Marketing for Cox Communications. “Today, the majority of Cox customers in San Diego are now enjoying speeds twice as fast.”

Even faster speeds are available with the company’s Ultimate and Gigablast service plans, which have been made possible by continual investments in Cox’s network coupled with the deployment of new technology and infrastructure.

Cox offers a variety of internet service plans, so households can select the option that best fits their needs. Take a short quiz on the speed advisor at www.cox.com to determine which speed is right for you.

Cox is also improving the in-home WiFi experience with Panoramic WiFi, ensuring wireless internet service is “wall-to-wall” fast throughout every nook and cranny of the home.

“Our internet customers have embraced Panoramic WiFi,” said Schlundt. “Our technicians will literally walk your home from wall to wall to identify any dead spots and turn them into live spots so that you can have an optimal wifi experience in your home.”

Cox plans to invest \$10 billion in its infrastructure over the next five years, with a focus on enhancing the customer experience inside and outside of the home. The company already provides its internet customers with access to more than half a million wifi hotspots nationwide.

Gig Speed Ahead

Cox, which was the first company to launch residential gigabit speeds in San Diego under the name Gigablast, has continued the expansion of gigabit speeds to households countywide. Gigabit speeds (1,000 Mbps) are the fastest residential internet speeds around.

When you have a gigabit connection, you can download 100 songs within three seconds, 1,000 photos in 16 seconds, and a two-hour movie in eight seconds. You can also run dozens of connected devices simultaneously at blazing fast speeds, which is key if you are planning on adding any of the increasingly popular smart home devices to your household.

For more information on gigabit speeds and to see how fast they are, go to www.cox.com/giglife.

Mission Hills historic building moves



The Henry B. Jones House on the eve of its relocation (Photo by Dave Flynn)

By Steve Carpowich

On July 1, 2018, the historic Henry B. Jones House was moved from its longtime location at 4040 Fifth Ave. to an empty lot at 4114 Ibis St. in Mission Hills, across the street from the St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church.

Built in 1911, the two-story, shingle-sided home has been designated as an historical structure by the city of San Diego Historical Resources Board.

Scripps Health sought to find a suitable alternative for

the historic Jones House for more than eight years. Over 100 sites were considered for relocation of the house. In 2017, Scripps Health entered into a formal agreement with the Catholic Diocese of San Diego to relocate the house for this purpose.

The Diocese of San Diego had been searching for a home for the priests of St. Vincent de Paul Church in Mission Hills. Scripps donated the historic, Craftsman-style Jones House to the diocese and completed all the necessary steps for the move.

Scripps relocated the Jones House because property on which the house resides is no longer zoned for residential uses and is now zoned for medical office and hospital uses. The nonprofit health care system is responsible for costs to move the home and to renovate its exterior. The diocese will be responsible for the interior renovations.

The home's relocation intends to preserve a piece of history, provide needed housing, and allow for completion of the hospital master plan at Scripps Mercy Hospital San Diego.

Iconic win for North Park baseball team



North Park Little League's All-Star team storms the field post-win (Photos by Erin Brant/The Leo Loves)



A community celebration in South Park

On Saturday, July 8, North Park Little League's All-Star team (ages 8-10) won the District 33 All Star tournament, held at Jim Goodridge Field. Aside from some recent wins by the intermediate level a couple years ago, this is the first time North Park has brought home a district banner since the '90s. After the game, the team celebrated with the community at Mazara's Pizzeria in South Park.

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MISSION VALLEY News



Guest Editorial

Neighborhood planning groups are not closed off to new voices

By Vernita Gutierrez,
Stephanie Jennings and Kate Callen

[Editor's note: This editorial first appeared in the Voice of San Diego on June 28. View the original article at bit.ly/vosd-planning-groups.]

So far, 2018 has been the year when San Diego's community planning groups became an endangered species.

The all-volunteer advisory boards, established in 1966 to involve citizens in decisions affecting their own neighborhoods, have come under fire these past six months for being anti-progress, anti-inclusivity, undemocratic, unscrupulous and just too darn old.

The siege began with a Jan. 19 Union-Tribune story titled "San Diego slips to 32nd in builder interest: Planning groups at fault?" It featured complaints from two real estate leaders that advisory groups impede growth because members are "mostly ... white and gray hairs" and "housewives who walk dogs."

Circulate San Diego entered the fray with a Feb. 12 report, "Democracy in Planning," charging that planning groups too often are cabals that "are closed off to new and diverse voices," "make it difficult for new residents, often renters, [to participate]" and "short-change the housing needs of younger generations."

The County Grand Jury joined in with an April 18 report that planning groups have so many flaws — from lax recruitment to slow deliberations — that they need close monitoring and probably should be consolidated.

Merging these 43 groups into a central panel hand-picked by elected officials is a popular idea at San Diego City Hall. But it doesn't play well in communities where planning groups, whose members are elected, represent the front line of self-government.

We know this because we're three of the co-founders of a nonprofit for residents in Golden Hill and North Park. Our group launched in 2016 because our neighborhoods were facing high-impact housing density, and we wanted to stay informed about that.

Our community groups, the Greater Golden Hill Planning Committee and the North Park Planning Committee, are models of democracy. Members capably shoulder a mountain of work, from analyzing draft policies to reviewing environmental studies to soliciting community input.

This spring, for the first time in memory, the Golden Hill and North Park planning committees gave planning group voters the same access to candidates that San Diegans have always had in county and city elections. At pre-election forums, planning group candidates explained where they stand on key issues. The resulting exchanges of ideas and views displayed the vital role the groups play in the democratic process.

The County Grand Jury report's list of interviewees included members of city departments and "representatives of development contractors" but no community residents nor representatives of resident-run groups. To correct that omission, we offer the following insights from our conversations with millennials who rent, working-class families who staked everything to buy their homes, fixed-income retirees living in the same homes for decades, and immigrants in affordable '70s-era apartments.

Housing density is inevitable. But city officials and builders need to get serious about mitigating the impacts of density, especially on traffic and parking. We are not seeing plans to ramp up enough infrastructure to accommodate new housing, and this is ominous.

Trying to pit renters against homeowners, or seniors against millennials, shows a complete unfamiliarity with residential quality-of-life issues. If the natural light that streams through a window is blocked by a four-story condo tower, the resulting darkness will be just as depressing for renters in their 20s or owners in their 60s. And weekday commuters of all stripes will suffer equally when new housing stacks up traffic and further clogs rush-hour roads.

The biggest hindrance to affordable housing is the ease with which builders buy their way out of sensible set-aside requirements for lower-income units. And let's not forget how many existing affordable units will be razed to make way for market-rate projects.

Developers eyeing up Golden Hill and North Park for future projects should think carefully about speed-building oversized bunkers that will mar the historic character and human scale of these neighborhoods.

In the forum exchanges between candidates and voters, ideas surfaced about how people with disparate views about growth issues can meet somewhere in the middle. The goal was that participants walk away with the sense that, if we keep talking constructively and respectfully, we can find ways to clarify land-use laws, build consensus and avoid protracted battles over controversial projects.

In the subsequent elections, voters chose planning group members who are diverse in age, background, interests and life experience. We are eager to work with these representatives on behalf of the neighborhoods we love.

—Vernita Gutierrez and Kate Callen are North Park residents. Stephanie Jennings is a Golden Hill resident. All three serve on the board of the SoNo Neighborhood Alliance, a group informing and engaging residents about quality-of-life issues.✿

Politicians visit San Diego border region detention centers

Congressional Watch

Andy Cohen



Donald Trump wants you to know that there's a massive crisis happening along the southern border of the United States — the border shared with Mexico. He's right, and it's a crisis of his own making.

This past May, the Trump administration instituted a "zero tolerance" policy aimed at ending illegal immigration into the United States from Central America and Mexico. Many — perhaps most — of those seeking to enter the U.S. come here seeking asylum, fleeing gang violence, murder, human trafficking, and governments too ineffectual to stop it. These are people fleeing for their lives, with nowhere else to go. They come here seeking safety, looking for a better life; for a future where they might not have one at all in their home countries.

What they found when they got here was perhaps just as evil as what they were fleeing — a government that, by expressed policy, has decided to effectively kidnap children from their parents, with no guarantee that they will ever see them again.

This is what the party of "family values" has brought us. We are no longer the nation over which the Mother of

Exiles stood watch. We have been allowed to become the country that torments the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free." We are now a country that places those of a darker hue in cages for the crime of wanting to live, sending their children — including infants — to be interned alone thousands of miles away, treated as animals. Asylum is no longer a part of our lexicon.

Although the focus of the administration's zero tolerance policy has been along the border with Texas, for a brief while the glare shifted to San Diego, where **Juan Vargas (D-51)** — whose district spans the entirety of California's border with Mexico — gathered with a delegation of about 15 members of Congress, including House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, to see firsthand the conditions being endured by children separated from their parents.

It should be noted that the administration, and Donald Trump in particular, has repeatedly insisted that the family separations and detentions are the result of what Trump calls a Democratic law that mandates them, and has placed the blame for the policies being enacted squarely at the feet of Congressional Democrats. This is a lie. There is no law in existence that calls for the separation of families, and there is no law that requires asylum seekers to be placed into detention

indefinitely and prosecuted, denied entry with no hearing. This is a policy decision made strictly by Donald Trump and Attorney General Jeff Sessions.

"The Trump administration's family separation policy is an affront to the values America stands for," Vargas said. "Ripping children from the arms of their parents who are fleeing violence and seeking safety at the border is cruel, inhumane, and un-American. No child should have to endure what these children are experiencing, and no parent should have their children ripped from their arms. President Trump put this immoral policy in place, he has the power to end this policy — and he should."

Susan Davis (D-53) was equally dismayed at the administration's policies.

"The United States should have a zero-tolerance policy for the immoral treatment of children," Davis said. "We are a nation of values and we ask our men and women in uniform to defend those values every day. This policy is in no way consistent with those values. As a social worker who practiced in medical and psychiatric settings, particularly focusing on children and families, I can say the profound trauma these children are experiencing will cause immediate and long-lasting damage to them."

"Ripping terrified children away from their parents' arms at the border is horrifying and un-American," said **Scott Peters (D-52)**, who was on the East Coast visiting his father and unable to join the delegation. "These children have endured so much already and should not suffer even more at the hands of this administration's cruel policies. Children are being held hostage to the Trump/Ryan border wall. To be clear, the president could end this right now with the stroke of a pen, but he won't, so Congress must act."

"In our country, family is an institution," he added. "It shapes every aspect of our lives. Today, family — that concept — is being torn apart and challenged at our own borders. Screaming children are being ripped from their mothers' arms. These parents are fleeing government violence, domestic violence, religious persecution. They follow generations of people who came to America, seeking a better life."

Duncan Hunter (R-50) took a different view of the situation.

"Our nation has laws that are in place and that deserve to be enforced. We owe this to our citizens as well as to our brave men and women enforcing those laws, they need to know they have our support," Hunter said. "The policy by the prior administration of

simply providing a notice to appear and then releasing these individuals into the U.S. for a court date that is three years away is both irresponsible and unsustainable. Additionally, the number of our Border Patrol agents are down, so these agents are trying to handle more with less."

Hunter also insisted that "the policies in place now are the same policies that were in existence with prior administrations." This is false. There was no prior policy in place mandating the separation of children from their families, unless there was a direct threat to the health and well-being of the children.

Hunter also claimed that the number of individuals with children entering the country illegally has more than doubled, which is false. It is true, however, that the number of arrests of non-criminal aliens did more than double in 2017.

It should be noted that after over a month of harsh criticism, President Trump finally signed an executive order ostensibly terminating the policy requiring children to be separated from their parents at the border, contradicting his own earlier statements that he was powerless to stop it. Still, the administration is determined to imprison families indefinitely.

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

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A handful of outgoing tenants at the **Hillcrest Farmers Market** recently made room for several new food vendors that could be joined by more than a dozen others if the city approves the market's request to expand.

Among the latest arrivals is **Awafee**, which specializes in gluten-free cakes, cookies and macarons. There is also **House of Bao** for Chinese dumplings; **Pure Burger**, which offers the vegan Impossible Burger; **Yallitizers** for authentic Greek



Ice cream in the making with strawberries and Oreo cookies on a super-cold surface at the Hillcrest Farmers Market (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

yogurt; and **Honey Rolls**, which makes ice cream to order on a sub-zero cooking surface.

Market manager Mark Larson said a permit to add approximately 14 spaces to the blueprint is currently pending.

The market accommodates 150 vendors and is held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sundays. *Normal Street, between University Avenue and Lincoln Street, 619-237-1632, hillcrestfarmersmarket.com.*



"Majestic pancakes" are in the offing for the new brunch at Maestoso. (Photo by Dalila Ercolani)

Maestoso in the Hub Hillcrest Market has introduced Sunday brunch (10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to the tune of bottomless mimosas, pancakes with berry ragu, and pizza with pecorino cheese and eggs. The restaurant's roving food cart, which has captured dinner guests since the establishment opened several months ago, will also wheel through the dining room and patio during brunch. It will contain items such as sun-dried tomato deviled eggs, French toast sticks and assorted pastries. *1040 University Ave., 619-642-0777, maestoso.com.*

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Showcasing her heritage and extensive travels throughout Mexico, chef Claudette Zepeda-Wilkins brings a host of regional Mexican dishes to the table at the new **El Jardin** in Liberty Station. The acclaimed chef, who worked at the former **Bracero** in Little Italy, teamed up with the locally based Rise & Shine Restaurant Group

(**Breakfast Republic**) for the project.

Replete with a garden that yields ingredients for the bar and kitchen, the restaurant offers a variety of full and small plates such as slow-cooked pork shoulder, Sonoran scallops aguachile, enchiladas suizas, and more. *2885 Perry Road, 619-795-2322, eljardinrestaurantbar.com.*



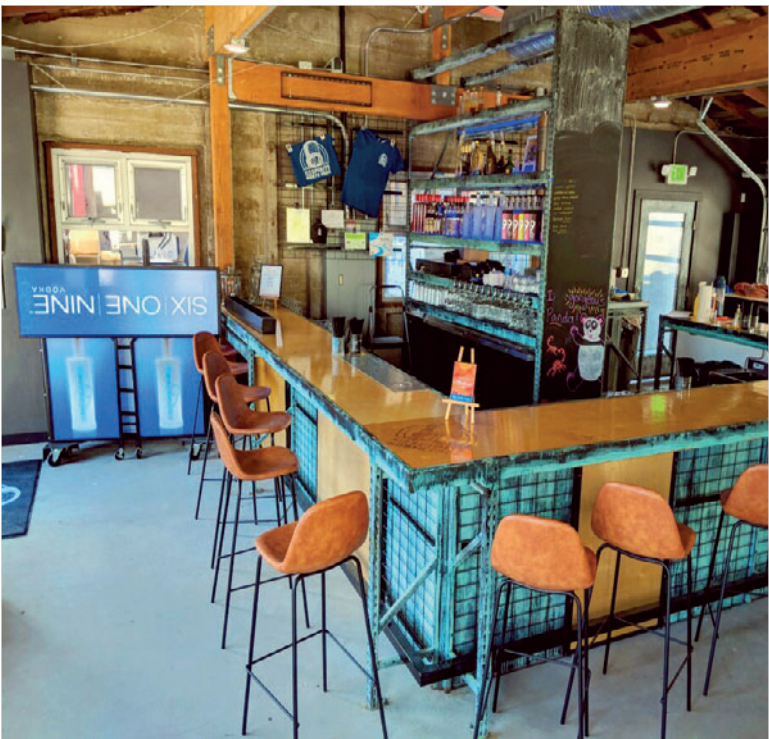
This "fusion" burrito shop in North Park is about to adopt a catchy, new name. (Photo courtesy of Facebook)

What used to be **Jalapeno Mexican Grill** in North Park recently became **Sonora Express** under new ownership. The name, however, is about to change to **Burrology** in the next few weeks, according to co-partner and chef Danny Balle.

"We're looking to re-brand and focus more on our fusion burritos," he said, referring to top sellers like the surf and turf with bacon and cream

cheese, and the "three meat" filled with carnitas, al pastor and carne asada. From the taco list, the "Rockefeller" with shrimp, steak, bacon and a cheese crust has also become a hit.

The small walk-up eatery is open until 2 a.m. on weekend nights and has become a popular haunt for neighborhood bar crawlers. It runs a location in Serra Mesa as well. *3130 University Ave., 619-542-9448.*



A local distiller has opened a restaurant and tasting room in North Park. (Photo by Nick Apostolopoulos)

The much-anticipated tasting room and restaurant by **619 Spirits Distillery** opened July 2 in North Park. The venue allows owner Nick Apostolopoulos to pour and sell by the bottle five versions of his **619 Vodka**: plain, plus those infused with coffee, rose petals, cucumbers and scorpion peppers. He will also carry spirits from other San Diego distilleries for making onsite cocktails.

Heading the kitchen is chef Bryan Rhodes, formerly of **Solterra Winery & Kitchen** in Encinitas. His introductory menu features salads, sandwiches, poutine, beef tartare and charcuterie. *3015 Lincoln Ave., 619-940-6456, 619vodka.com.*

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

Oggi's: 27 years later

**Come On
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Dr. Ink

Four years after Oggi's opened a pizzeria in Del Mar in 1991, it jumped into San Diego's budding arena of microbrewing. Locally, there were only a handful of craft brewers on the scene — Karl Strauss, Pizza Port and AleSmith to name a few. Today, the franchise has spread its dough and suds to 16 locations throughout Southern California and Arizona, and with a portfolio of 10 original beers to boot. The Mission Valley location puts all of those beers on minor discount during happy hour, when they're each \$1 off. The result is an affordable \$5 per glass. The same price reduction applies to guest beers, which are normally \$7.

RATINGS

Drinks: ★★★★

Fans of stout can expect sturdy notes of coffee and chocolate — without the bitterness — from the award-winning Black Magic Stout. The newest in Oggi's beer portfolio is City by the Sea, a fizzy thirst-quenching pale ale with discernible hops.

Food: ★★★★

Two thumbs up for the bruschetta flatbread for its thin crust and sweet balsamic drizzles on top. However, the "Italian" quesadilla with blackened chicken and bacon equated to heavy, American bar grub.

Value: ★★★★

Brews, wine and well drinks are only \$1 off, although you can save several dollars on food items such as flatbread pizzas, loaded fries, lettuce wraps and more.

Service: ★★★★

In the absence of price listings on an otherwise descriptive beer menu, a server didn't know any of the price points and had to ask for them at the bar. But a manager beat him to the chase and jotted down the regular prices for me.

Atmosphere: ★★★★

Nearly two dozen flat screens broadcasting sports games look over a clean and expansive dining area and bar lounge.

With more than two decades of steady growth, the modern-day name — Oggi's Sports | Brewhouse | Pizza — reflects a family-friendly environment dominated by sports games broadcast across two dozen flat screens. No matter where you sit in the spacious dining room or bar lounge, you'll barely need to reposition your head to view a match.

Intent on washing down some half-price noshes with my beers, I planted myself in a roomy booth and zeroed in on Oggi's newest beer, City by the Sea. It's a crisp West Coast-style pale ale.

In beer-speak, the promo card suggests flavors of blueberry, papaya and rose blossom. I instead picked up brisk notes of citrus, grapefruit to be exact, and the promised medium-high bitterness from the hops. Very drinkable.

The beer paired swimmingly to a bruschetta flatbread pizza, one of several items on the happy hour menu. (Oggi's regular pizzas

aren't on the list.) It featured a thin pastry-like crust and bursts of sweetness from balsamic vinegar drizzled on top of the cheese and diced tomatoes.

After depleting my pale ale, I switched to the barrel-aged Black Magic Stout, one of Oggi's pioneer brews that netted a gold medal several years ago at the San Diego International Beer Competition. It's hearty and full-bodied, yet without coming across as weighty.

Conversely, the "Italian" chicken quesadilla I also ordered was too heavy for my

liking. And not very Italian in nature, considering it uses chipotle-flavored tortillas to capture blackened chicken, smokey bacon and cheddar cheese. Despite fresh basil and mozzarella in the mix, this is essentially an American Southwestern creation.

Oggi's success has allowed it to become philanthropic. To date, it has raised more than \$100,000 for charities that include the Wounded EOD Warrior Foundation, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and various food pantries.❖



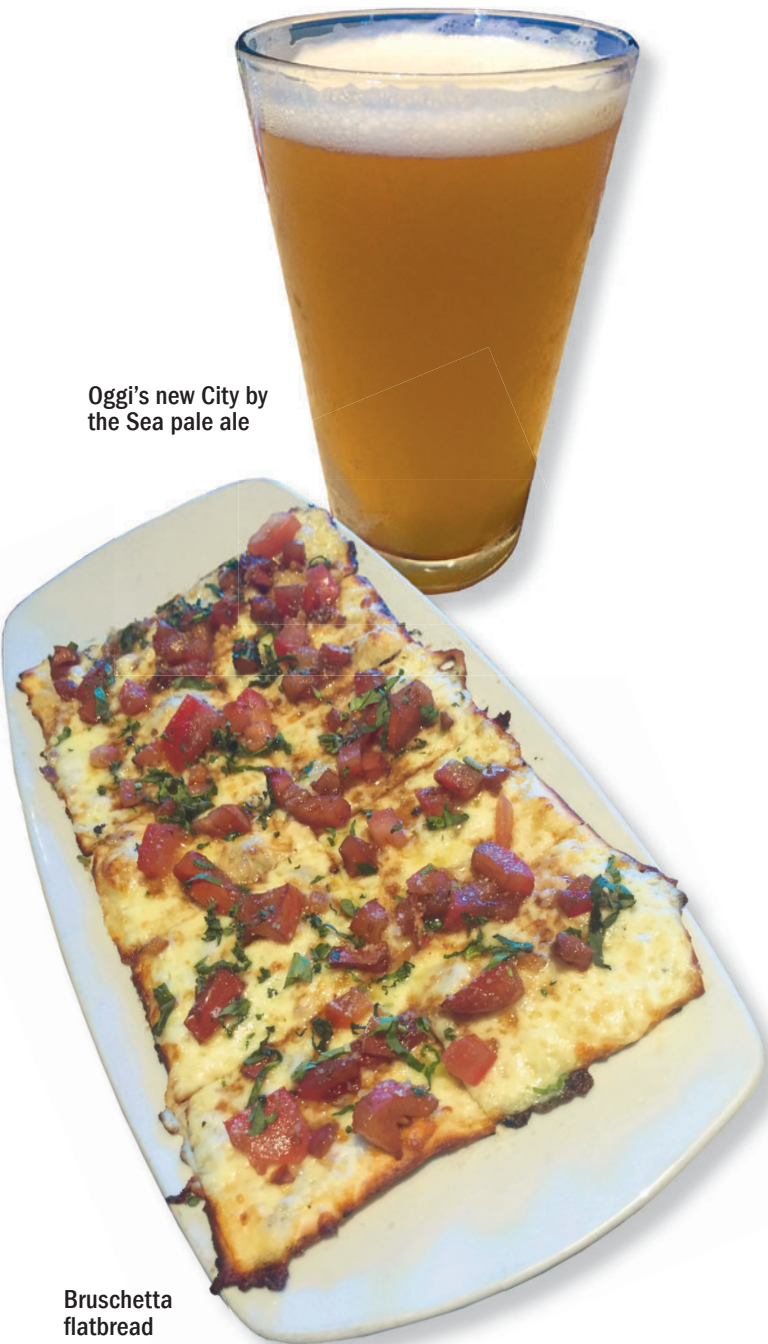
Flat screens and seating options are abundant (Photos by Dr. Ink)

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The cast of Dr. Seuss's *The Lorax*. Photo by Dan Norman.
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Chasing the 'Veggie' truck

Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



The problem with food trucks is that you can grow wildly attached to one, and in a blink of an eye, it rolls into greener pastures clear across town — only to never return to your neighborhood again because of weak profits or complicated permit issues.

Or it completely vanishes off the face of the earth.

Such was the case with Dharma Dogs, one of my favorite mobile kitchens that served up some mean hot dogs and garlic fries on University Avenue in Hillcrest for several months. After disappearing for

a while, it re-emerged briefly in South Park, in the Target Express parking lot where I recently discovered La Taqueria Veggie.

Curiosity led me to hit the brakes and suddenly swerve into the lot when I spotted two food trucks operating within feet of each other. The Nine Seas Seafood truck had a longer line, so I sauntered over to La Taqueria where a friendly employee named Armando eagerly discussed various specs of the company's all-vegan Mexican menu.

Despite arriving with a full lunch in my belly, I couldn't resist ordering the Ensenada taco, a tasty specimen containing battered strips of portobello mushrooms topped with crisp, purple cabbage and chipotle-kissed vegan mayo.

Slightly bigger than a trendy street taco, I washed it down with a cold lemon-mint agua fresca that seemed tailor-made for sitting under the midday sun at a picnic table on an asphalt parking lot. (The flavor of the infused waters change daily.)

I returned two days later to gobble down a wider sampling of food — and to meet owner Hector Lopez. He had previously been at a vegan food event in Tijuana, where he owns three vegan enterprises: a La Taqueria Veggie stand, plus Inspiracion 9 and Quinto restaurants.



Owner Hector Lopez



The La Taqueria Veggie truck turns a year old in August. (Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

His San Diego truck not only operates in South Park from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursday through Monday, but also perches in front of Modern Times Beer in Loma Portal from noon to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Yet for my second visit to South Park on an early Monday afternoon, the truck was missing in action. Assuming it was running late, I returned a little later. And still nothing.

I learned the truck had deviated from its regular schedule to service the five-year anniversary of Modern Times Beer. So I hit the road and headed there.

Lopez is a friendly, down-to-earth guy with handsome Marlboro Man looks, not necessarily the sort of person I'd imagine being an advocate for veganism. He switched to a plant-based diet 25 years ago and raves about the benefits.

"When you eat vegan, neurons start waking up in the right side of your brain and you see things a lot differently," Lopez said.

The entrepreneur has also lectured at global conferences centered on the ancient Sumerian Tablets, which date back 4,000 years and supposedly tell the story of "who we are and where we come from."

I redirected my intrigue toward the food, starting with an order of birria soup served in a sizable Styrofoam cup and with a grilled yellow-corn tortilla on the side.

In lieu of the goat meat or beef this soup is usually stuffed with, Lopez uses shredded oyster mushrooms to mimic such proteins. From a textural standpoint, they worked well in what was an exceptionally dark broth capturing the classic flavors of ancho chilies, cumin, vinegar, and green herbs.

A torta filled with faux carne asada is the item that will ultimately lure me back soon.

The vegan torta rolls, sourced from a Chula Vista bakery, are brushed with rosemary-infused olive oil right before they're lightly grilled. The "meat" inside looks and tastes so much like crumbled beef that you'll find yourself leaning in closely to double check. Add to the equation fresh cilantro, diced onions and a thin layer of guacamole tucked inside, and you're looking at a potential rival to many nonvegan tortas out there.

With the support of his wife and a chef business partner, Lopez feels he has tackled the art of separating proteins from grains to make the mock meats. Liquid smoke, chilies, garlic and various spices are key to achieving the fairly robust flavors they offer.

For the adobada "pork" taco, a composite of barley, rye and

La Taqueria Veggie

3030 Grape St.

South Park

619-930-4232

Prices: Soup, \$6

Tacos, \$3.50 to \$4.50

Tortas, \$7.50

wheat is flavored adeptly with achiote paste, thyme and marjoram. Here, the "meat" takes on an appealing reddish tint from the paste and performs naturally with a crowning of onions, cilantro and guacamole.

Currently in the works are mock shrimp and other types of fish to make seafood cocktails, which are scheduled to roll out for the truck's one-year anniversary in late August.

In the meantime, Lopez assures that La Taqueria Veggie has found a stable home in South Park while acknowledging the flexibility a kitchen with a big set of wheels has. Though given his entrepreneurial spirit and devotion to veganism, I'm willing to bet he'll be around here or there for the long run.

—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.

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Uptown brews



FROM PAGE 1 BLACK STAG

At the time, Castaneda was brewing a different type of buzz as a manager of a Jamba Juice in Pacific Beach. When she and Alvarado met, there was a spark and the two instantly hit it off.

A year or so later in 2015, Alvarado found the inspiration for opening a coffee shop as he was sitting on the patio of Cafe Moto in Barrio Logan.

“[Cafe Moto] had a communal table outside and everybody was talking to each other,” Alvarado said. “From there I got the idea. I knew I couldn’t build a brewery, but I could see the same concepts of a brewery within a coffee shop — bringing people together that quite honestly don’t know each other, to enjoy a drink.”

When Alvarado introduced the idea to Castaneda, she was initially skeptical.

“He proposed the idea within the first year of us dating,” she said. “I was like, ‘This is a lot of commitment.’ So I kind of said no. Then, I transitioned to another job and he transitioned to another brewery.”

Despite Castaneda’s initial

skepticism, when Alvarado later brought home a colossal La Pavoni Espresso 3 Group espresso machine, it seemed like the coffee shop might be a possible reality.

“I saw an espresso machine come up for sale — keep in mind at this point I had never touched an espresso machine in my life,” Alvarado said. “I had no clue what to look for and I had no clue what I was doing. But I saw a commercial-sized espresso machine and I bought it.”

“[The machine] was huge. It was a monster,” Castaneda said. “And I remember, because we didn’t know anything about espresso machines. He was so excited about that thing.”

The couple spent several weekends cleaning that machine. As their bond began to develop, so did their plan for the business. The duo began asking themselves what equipment they needed to buy, how to fund the cafe and where they wanted the shop to call home.

Knowing they would eventually need a name, Castaneda and Alvarado decided on Black Stag, inspired by the Mexican folklore and symbolism surrounding the animal.

“The stag resembles strength and wisdom. It

resembles being a leader,” Alvarado said. “I also wanted to give it a play on my personal life. I’ve always kind of been the black sheep of the family — not in a bad way, I’ve just done things differently. And I’ve always been my own, quirky and different person. So when I was looking at something and saw the stag it just immediately hit me.”

After agreeing on a name, Alvarado began looking at locations. He fell in love with City Heights. After taking Castaneda for a drive to different vacant places in the area, they finally settled on their El Cajon Boulevard home.

“I don’t want to say City Heights is rougher, but I feel like it just has a lot of potential,” Alvarado said. “Driving around it, I felt like it was missing something. I felt like it was really divided. You have little sections going on.”

“But when you come over here to El Cajon Boulevard, you see they’re trying to build something here,” he continued. “We’re not what you would consider your typical coffee shop where everything is white; we’re not that kind of place. We built Black Stag Cafe out with our own vision.”



The “coffee couple” outside of their recently opened cafe (Photo by Jess Winans)

Black Stag is a third wave coffee shop with a simple menu that features classics like espresso, cappuccino and cold brew. They spice things up with specialty lattes and honey varietals including avocado honey. Alvarado and Castaneda use beans from Coava, a Portland-based roaster that uses direct trade policies and moral business ideals.

“The local police and firefighters love it here,” Alvarado said. “The concept of building a community place here has really taken off. Everyday we find someone new who has a

friend that told them about us. It’s a vast little neighborhood, you know?”

“At the end of the day, we’re here to stay in the community,” he continued. “It sounds cheesy but a year from now when you’re doing yoga [at Honey Yoga, Black Stag’s neighbor] and you walk by, you’re not going to recognize this street. It’s changing.”

Black Stag Cafe is located at 4966 El Cajon Blvd. Follow them on Facebook and Instagram at @blackstagcafe.

—Reach Jess Winans at jess@sdcdn.com.

A tasty pairing of Barons and Thorn

Sara Butler | Editor

Uptown businesses Barons Market North Park and Thorn Brewing invite the public to “Backroom Beer Pairing” on Wednesday, July 25.

The stockroom-turned-speak-easy event pairs Thorn’s original brews with simple dishes made at demo stations at Barons Market. Barons, a grocery store with seven San Diego locations, has called the North Park neighborhood home since December 2016.

Rachel Shemirani, Barons Market vice president of marketing, explained that the event — which originated in Point Loma with Mother Earth Brewing in 2013 — was inspired by San Diego’s unique craft beer industry. So far, the series has raised more than \$30,000 for local

charities, such as Feeding San Diego.

This is not the first time Barons Market has teamed up with Thorn, one of North Park’s self-described “first neighborhood breweries” located at 3176 Thorn St. and surrounded by residential houses.

The market has carried beer from the locally-owned brewery “pretty much from the first day we began canning it,” according to Tom Kiely, adding that Thorn is celebrating its one-year anniversary of canning its beer this month.

Keily, who handles sales, distribution and coordinates the brew schedule for Thorn Brewing, worked directly with the team at Barons Market to decide the beer and food pairings.

For July’s event, there will be four Thorn brews on the



(l to r) Shrimp ceviche will be offered with Thorn Brewing’s “Hopster Pot” IPA.

menu — a pale ale, lager and two India Pale Ales (IPAs) — paired with food crafted with ingredients from Barons’ store.

“Rock the Pale Ale,” a California-style pine and

citrus pale ale, will be matched with spicy Thai chicken lettuce wraps; the Baja lager, “Barrio Lager,” served with sausage, pepper and onion rolls. For the IPAs, Hopster Pot, a tropical New England-style brew, will be offered with shrimp ceviche; San Diego style “Relay IPA” — infused with citrus, mango, grapefruit and pine — paired with carrot cheesecake.

“This [pairing event] is as approachable as it gets,” Kiely said. “After the tasting, you can go into the store, buy all of the ingredients to make that food, and buy that beer.”

Kiely expressed his appreciation for Barons during the collaboration process.

“It was the least corporate office I had ever been in. Everyone [at the table] was allowed to have an opinion and share it,” he said, noting the market’s inviting atmosphere aligns with Thorn’s philosophy.

“In craft beer, a lot of the good breweries are stiff, and a lot of the fun breweries don’t have the reputation for quality — I think we do a pretty good job melding the two,” he continued. “We’re a fun brewery that makes good beer.”

“We really enjoy working with the people behind the breweries; we are a small business and have a lot of respect for local brewers,” Shemirani said. “They are so passionate about what they do and we know how hard it is to get a business up and running in San Diego.”

Uptown’s “Backroom Beer Pairing” will be held July 25 from 6–8 p.m. at Barons Market North Park, located at

3231 University Ave. (There will also be pairing events held at the other six Barons local locations.)

The casual neighborhood event is open to all members of the community ages 21 and up. Tickets are \$15 and refundable up to one day before the event; all proceeds are donated to charity. For more information, visit bit.ly/ThornBarons.

—Reach Sara at sara@sdcdn.com.

In other Brews...

The city of San Diego recently received a national award for its use of recycled water to make beer. The honor was presented by Public Relations Society of America at a New York City ceremony. In 2017, the city partnered with Stone Brewing to brew a limited-edition beer — coined “Full Circle Pale Ale” — using recycled water from the Pure Water Demonstration Facility. This limited-edition beer was offered at an event at Stone Brewing World Bistro & Gardens in Liberty Station. It was the first time a commercial brewery used 100 percent advanced-treated recycled water to brew a beer.❖



The “Backroom Beer Pairings” neighborhood event began in 2013. (Photos courtesy of Hailey Bossert)

Gloriously goofy spoof

Theater Review

Jean Lowerison



You know the King Arthur legend. You've probably seen Lerner and Loewe's musical "Camelot."

And then there's "Monty Python's Spamalot."

Unlike anything else — including history or legend — "Spamalot" is Eric Idle's gloriously goofy spoof of the Knights of the Round Table, based on the famed comedy group's 1975 film "Monty Python and the Holy Grail." Idle wrote the book and lyrics and co-wrote the music with John Du Prez. The show is a total hoot and has already been extended through Aug. 12 at Cygnet Theatre.

"Spamalot" opens with a historian (Bryan Banville) telling the audience we're in England in 932 A.D. The stage is soon crowded with a hopelessly colorful bunch of clearly un-English peasants — some don long blond braids, some wave Finnish flags, and others carry fish of varying sizes for the "Fisch Schlapping Dance."

When the historian wails "I said ENGLAND," the scene shifts to Cygnet's artistic director Sean Murray as King Arthur, "riding" in with sidekick and "steed" Patsy (Jonathan Sangster),

'Monty Python's Spamalot'

Runs through Aug. 12
Cygnet Theatre
4040 Twiggs St.
Old Town

Wednesday and Thursday
at 7:30 p.m.
Friday at 8 p.m.
Saturday at 3 and 8 p.m.
Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m.

Tickets: 619-337-1525 or
cygnettheatre.com

who knocks two coconut shells together to provide the sound of horse hooves. Murray is reprising the role he performed splendidly a few years ago at Vista's Moonlight Amphitheatre.

Arthur is looking for recruits for his Knights of the Round Table. In this goofy, fact-challenged retelling of the story, he'll find a few — and even get heavenly instructions for a quest.

There's Dennis (David S. Humphrey), who lives with his mom Mrs. Galahad (Anthony Methvin). Dennis challenges the very idea of the divine right of kings, especially Arthur's claim that the Lady



"Monty Python's Spamalot" has been extended until Aug. 12 at Cygnet Theatre. (Photos by Ken Jacques Photography)

of the Lake handed him the sword Excalibur and "that is why I am your king."

Dennis maintains that "supreme executive power derives from a mandate from the masses, not from some farcical aquatic ceremony." But he agrees to go along if Arthur can prove that "the soggy old blonde exists."

She does, played and sung smashingly by Christine Hewitt, surrounded by her barely-clad Laker Girls who can sing, dance, and even perform a cheerleading routine

complete with pom-poms. So Dennis is dubbed Sir Galahad.

Then there's Lancelot (Evan White), hopelessly blond and foolishly fearless, who will discover his true love when asked to save a "maiden" in distress.

That would be Prince Herbert (Banville), who doesn't want to marry the girl chosen by his dad just because her father owns a lot of land.

God (uncredited) will also appear on video, giving the Knights a quest: to find the Holy Grail, a chalice allegedly used at the Last Supper. "Get to it, all right?" he says. "These people don't have all night."

But the English knights will encounter the extremely inhospitable French army, most especially the rude French Taunter (Banville), who will force the English to withdraw and run away. Banville gets a workout in this show. The actor also plays Not Dead Fred, who insists he is not a plague victim — no matter how hard they try to bury him.

It goes on like that, offering tap-dancing knights, a killer rabbit, and a monk who sees that the Black Knight (Humphrey) has lost his arms in battle and picks up arms for the poor.

Silly? You bet. Groaners? Sometimes. But funny? Absolutely — and full of references to movies, actors, and

even to Broadway theater itself, asserting in a hilarious song that "You Won't Succeed on Broadway" (if you haven't any Jews).

The costumes are uncredited but terrific and numerous. Sarah Palmer Marion is listed as costume coordinator and dresser — the latter a huge job and well done.

Sean Fanning's surprisingly simple set features an expanse of blue sky with huge clouds. Animated sheep, buggers and such scurry across or dive down through the clouds during the overture.

Matt Lescault-Wood's sound and Chris Rynne's lighting are excellent. Blake McCarty contributes a plethora of projections; Murray said part of the downsizing required to put this big show in Cygnet's small space required lots of animation.

Kudos also to music director Terry O'Donnell's small but mighty six-member band.

And Katie Banville's choreography is lively and great fun to watch.

With a terrific cast, fine direction and many laughs, "Monty Python's Spamalot" is great summer fare. Don't miss it.

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

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(l to r) Evan White, David S. Humphrey, Sean Murray, Christine Hewitt, James Saba and Anthony Methvin perform a group number

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

9/6

Sudoku Puzzle

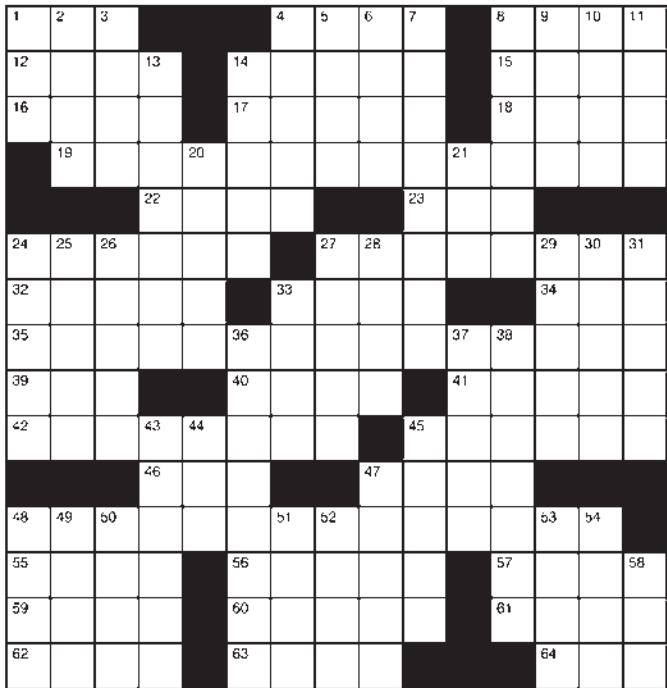
Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

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Puzzle answers on page 15

Uptown Crossword

Classics



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

- ACROSS**

 - 1 Leather-working tool
 - 4 Quahog
 - 8 Ballet finale
 - 12 Put down
 - 14 Precedes iota
 - 15 Author Paton
 - 16 Town zone
 - 17 Wore
 - 18 Fluff
 - 19 Williams' play
 - 22 Hair line
 - 23 Black gold
 - 24 Reproductive cell
 - 27 Recording
 - 32 Computer buffs
 - 33 Big mover
 - 34 Trifle
 - 35 Simon comedy
 - 39 Asian holiday
 - 40 Summers, in Evian
 - 41 Cuban-American pianist
 - 42 Quiet ____
 - 45 ____ a person than
 - 46 Easel does it
 - 47 Virile
 - 48 Signs of summer
 - 55 Chess piece
 - 56 Extravagant
- DOWN**

 - 1 In the manner of
 - 2 Conflicts
 - 3 Place
 - 4 Delineate
 - 5 Mother of Castor and Pollux
 - 6 Like ____ of bricks
 - 7 Pear-shaped instrument
 - 8 Assuredly
 - 9 Hodgepodge
 - 10 Humid
 - 11 Price
 - 13 Flue valves
 - 14 At that place
 - 20 Island off Fuzhou
 - 21 ____ vous plait
 - 24 Latex insulation
 - 25 Last traces
 - 26 " . . . body ____ body . . ."
 - 27 Titter
- 57 Bacchanalia
 - 59 Indigo shrub
 - 60 Pertaining to birth
 - 61 Beget
 - 62 Undiluted
 - 63 Chop ____
 - 64 Calligrapher's tool
 - 28 Kingsley or Martin
 - 29 Islands, in Bari
 - 30 *The Highwayman* poet
 - 31 Surges
 - 33 Droop-nosed flyers
 - 36 Nuclear components
 - 37 Where Christ stopped?
 - 38 Short Spanish jackets
 - 43 Blur
 - 44 Lode load
 - 45 Type of orange
 - 47 Savage eel
 - 48 Stuff
 - 49 Superior
 - 50 Roulette bet
 - 51 Hawaiian feast
 - 52 Room follower
 - 53 Mastery
 - 54 Monster
 - 58 Longing

Puzzle answers on page 15

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see Classifieds, pg 15



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FROM PAGE 14

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(Photo courtesy Sharon Bay)

FROM PAGE 1

NEWS BRIEFS

This year's young musicians are from Canada, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Taiwan, Romania, Switzerland, the U.K. and Croatia. Maestro Jeff Edmons, 23-year SDYS veteran, directs the production.

"Since 2005, our unique partnership program has allowed IYS students to experience two weeks of impactful orchestral rehearsals and performances of the highest caliber," Edmons said in a press release.

He also noted that the program "fosters lasting friendships which these musicians continue to share for a lifetime."

The free performance at Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park will be held on Tuesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. Additionally, there will be a featured concert at the California Center for Arts in Escondido on Saturday, July 28 at 7 p.m.

For more information about the concert series, call 619-233-3232 or visit sdys.org.

THE BACKYARD OPENS AT THE NAT

On Tuesday, June 26, The San Diego Natural History Museum (The Nat) is revealing a new play space for children under five years old.

The Backyard is an exhibition modeling a San Diego backyard patio with a tree, live animals, a potting bench, stepping stones, a giant lady bug, a pergola-covered reading nook, a garden bed, an urban nature soundscape and more.

"The Backyard provides flexible experiences that allow adults to choose their level of engagement," Beth Redmond-Jones, vice president of engagement and education at The Nat, said in a press release.

"They can either be actively engaged in their child's play or sit back and relax with a latté from The Flying Squirrel Cafe," she continued. "And for parents or caregivers who have been gallivanting in Balboa Park all day, or simply just need a breather, that can be a beautiful thing."

The exhibition is a total of 800-square-feet and is located on the first floor of the museum behind The Flying Squirrel Cafe. General admission is required for the exhibit and tickets are priced at \$19 for adults; \$17 for seniors, students and military; \$12 for youth ages 3-17; and free for members and children under two. The exhibit is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily.

For more information about The Nat or The Backyard, visit sdnat.org/backyard.

CITY SEEKS INPUT ON INVESTMENTS

The city of San Diego is preparing its new five-year consolidated plan for allocating funds provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The plan will determine how HUD funding will be directed through the fiscal years of 2020-2024.

Local officials are asking for input from residents and will host a series of forums throughout the city in July and August.

"Understanding the communities' priorities is critical to ensure San Diego is leveraging federal funds for the maximum possible benefit," Erik Caldwell, economic development director, said in a press release.

Programs to be discussed include the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG); HOME Investment Partnerships Program; and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). More information about the policies can be found at sandiego.gov/cdbg.

For forum dates and locations, visit bit.ly/SDforums. A community needs survey is also available at bit.ly/SDCPSurvey.

BANKERS HILL BUILDING REDESIGNED

Local real estate developer, Foley Development, has initiated the transformation of the building where business publication San Diego Daily Transcript (SDDT) formally called home into a 150,000-square-foot mixed use center.

Located at 2131 Third Ave., the new project will feature office, multifamily and retail spaces in the existing building. In addition, another space will be constructed along Ivy Street to house office, restaurant and commercial spaces.

"This is a 100 percent full renovation with everything new in big open floor plans with lots of light and great views ... and we will have the most parking in the market," Tim Foley, Foley Development CEO, said in a press release. "There's a pretty large demand for a Bankers Hill address with good parking."

For more information about Foley Development, visit foleydevelopment.net.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku
Puzzle from page 14

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

Classics
Crossword from page 14

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Feed, candy, music and pizza

Businesses through the years at 3089 University Ave.

PastMatters Katherine Hon

The southwest corner of 31st Street and University Avenue hosted a wide variety of businesses before URBN Pizza established its successful eatery in 2010. Commercial activity at the corner began in the late 1920s, more than 90 years ago.

John D. Goss, a local builder, purchased the row of commercial lots along the south side of University Avenue between 31st Street and Grim Avenue from Mary Jane Hartley in 1923; he still owned this property in 1930.

City Lot Books show that January 1928 was the first year with improvements on the corner lot at 31st Street and University Avenue. The first long-term tenant was the Ideal Feed and Poultry House, which began advertising their "Feed, Fuel, Fertilizers and Garden Supplies" at 3089 University Ave. in the 1929 City Directory.

In the May 3, 1930 issue of the Evening Tribune, Ideal Feed and Supply Company joined other businesses on University Avenue advertising Dollar Days, an "Official Community Sale" sponsored by the North Park Business Club.

The store's advertisement stated, "We are prepared to serve you with the best of feeds, seeds, birds and fish" and offered singing canaries — regularly costing \$7.50 — at only \$5 each.

The store survived the Great Depression and left the location in 1938, when Arthur Twigg is listed in the City Directory as operating a feed store there.

From 1939 to 1943, Safeway stores operated at this address. During the later

AWFUL FRESH MacFARLANE
The Scotch Candymaker
Announces the
Grand Opening
Saturday, July 9th, of our
New Permanent Home
31st & UNIVERSITY IN NORTH PARK
FREE SAMPLES!

CHOCOLATES - - CREAMS & CHEWS 69¢ lb.
Paper Bag Special — Pick from Over 20 Flavors

My new building on the corner of 31st and University (three doors away from my temporary store) has just been completed — I want everybody in San Diego to come out and attend the opening of my new candy store.
COME OUT AND EAT FREE SAMPLES SATURDAY

STORE OPEN NITES AND SUNDAYS

AWFUL FRESH MacFARLANE
The Scotch Candymaker
31ST AND UNIVERSITY
DOWNTOWN STORE AT 1045 7th Ave.

Donald L. MacFarlane's large advertisement in the San Diego Union's July 8, 1949 issue offered sweet treats to celebrate his new store on the North Park corner. Note the reference to his temporary store "three doors away."

1940s, other grocers, butchers and bakers offered their wares.

A sweet change occurred in July 1949, when "Awful Fresh MacFarlane, the Scotch Candymaker" announced the grand opening of his new permanent home in the North Park building. His quarter page advertisement in the San Diego Union's July 8, 1949 issue encouraged everyone to "COME OUT

AND EAT FREE SAMPLES SATURDAY."

Although MacFarlane had already opened a San Diego store at 1045 Seventh Ave. in June 1947, he noted in other advertisements that "Lots of folk in San Diego been reading my ads, but don't get Downtown to my store — I opened this one just for you — come out and 'C' me."

see PastMatters, pg 18

The original 1948 Awful Fresh MacFarlane sign for the temporary candy store at 3077 University Ave. was revealed in December 2013 during renovations for Hammond's Gourmet Ice Cream. (Photos by Katherine Hon)

The fall of the historic Elks Lodge



The former Elks Lodge, located on the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Nutmeg Street (Photo courtesy of Leo Wilson)

Leo Wilson | Bankers Hill

One of the defining events in the history of Bankers Hill was the demolition of the Elks Lodge in 2001. Even though the Elks Lodge was a designated historic landmark — and one of the most impressive historical buildings in Bankers Hill — the destruction was still allowed to occur. The concern and outrage resulting from the loss of the landmark prompted the beginning of a new phase of Bankers Hill community activism.

The building the Elks Lodge called home, located on the northwest corner of Fourth Avenue and Nutmeg Street, was built in 1904. Designed by prominent architects William Sterling Hebbard and Irving Gill, it was considered one of their finest collaborative works. Along with the Marston House, it was one of the few all-brick buildings in San Diego at the time.

The building was often referred to as the Bertha B. Mitchell residence, after its first owner who resided in it until the mid-1920s. Following her departure, it subsequently was used as a medical clinic, restaurant, and for residential housing before it became the Elks Lodge in the 1950s.

The Elks Lodge was often used for events and became a well-known dance hall. Many older Bankers Hill residents still remember attending events in its hall. After many years of active use, the building began to show its age, suffering significant wear and tear.

The Elks Lodge was put up for sale, and eventually Mayfair Homes agreed to buy it and opened an escrow. Mayfair Homes proposed to tear down the Elks Lodge and replace it with condominiums.

To prevent the Elks Lodge from being demolished, the Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO) requested that the city of San Diego's Historic Review Board (HRB) determine whether the building was historic. Even with some alterations to the building and opposition by city staff, the HRB designated the Elk Lodge's building as a historic landmark in May 2000.

Despite the Elks Lodge's historical designation, Mayfair Homes proceeded to close its escrow in June 2000 and took ownership of the property. It then submitted an "economic feasibility study" to the city which claimed there was no economically feasible way that Mayfair Homes could develop the property without demolishing the now historically designated Elks Lodge.

On October 26, 2000, the HRB — with several new members appointed by Mayor Susan Golding — accepted the economic feasibility report and supported the Elks Lodge demolition, despite historically designating it a few months earlier. The HRB recommended a historic plaque be placed at the Elks Lodge site memorializing the demolished building.

On November 7, 2000, Uptown Planners voted to reaffirm its previous position, passing a motion by an 11-0-1 vote opposing the demolition of the Elks Lodge and supporting its adaptive reuse. The San Diego Union Tribune also ran an editorial supporting the preservation of the Elks Lodge.

The battle to save the Elks Lodge climaxed at a San Diego City Council meeting on January 9, 2001, where the final decision was made about the fate of the Elks Lodge.

At the meeting, several well-known architects and developers came forward and stated it would be economically feasible to build a development project on the project site while still preserving Elks

Lodge. Cheryl Wilson — the CEO of St. Paul's Manor Senior Homes & Services — and architect Jim Kelly-Markham presented a detailed proposal by St. Paul's Manor to build senior citizen housing on the project site. This proposal would still preserve and adaptively reuse the Elks Lodge building for administrative offices. They requested the City Council continue the item, which would allow them and other developers to work with Mayfair Homes in an effort to come up with an acceptable project plan that would save the Elks Lodge.

Mayfair Homes opposed the continuance, stating they had been working on the project for many years, and that it was too late in the process to modify the project design. This argument ignored the fact that Mayfair Homes had not yet closed escrow or obtained ownership of the property until a few months before the City Council meeting in mid-2000, after the HRB had historically designated the Elks Lodge.

Despite the compelling testimony that an economically feasible project was possible without demolishing the Elks Lodge, the City Council refused to continue the item. Instead, the City Council voted 7-1 to support the Mayfair Homes project, including the demolition of the historic Elks Lodge. Sadly, the motion was made by then-City Councilmember Toni Atkins, who at the time represented Bankers Hill.

When the Elks Lodge was demolished in 2001, a major piece of Bankers Hill history was torn from the community, and we were left with only a historic plaque to remember it.

The demolition of the Elks Lodge came as a shock to the Bankers Hill community; a suspicion developed that all the historic buildings in the community might now be in jeopardy. Our neighborhood felt as if we were being targeted.

One of my good friends echoed the general unease when he exclaimed: "I wasn't worried until they tore down the Elks Lodge." It was the catalyst for many people in Bankers Hill becoming civically involved in their community.

Many new community organizations were subsequently formed in Bankers Hill; community members also became more involved with Uptown Planners. As a result, preserving historic structures is now a focal point of the community planning efforts in Bankers Hill.

While welcoming new development, Bankers Hill also

works to preserve its existing historic buildings. Through these efforts, Bankers Hill is a mix of both old and new buildings — one of the city's most distinctive historic communities.

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



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Discriminating Landlord?

Hi Kathy:
My husband and I are relocating from Scranton, Pennsylvania and have three rambunctious children. I came out to San Diego to look for a rental for us while we get familiar with communities, analyze schools and traffic, and proximity to our work, etc. Last weekend I went to a rental home after taking my children to lunch, and an already long morning. Before I entered this home, I heard the landlord telling a young couple to go online to fill out an application and he would get back to them for this unit. However, when I came into the home and my children were loud and running to see the backyard, I was met with a somewhat stern and disappointed landlord. He was rather curt and when I asked him about the application process he clearly told me that it had already been rented. He then suggested that if I were to look in Clairemont I would be happier as many people with young children live there. I was embarrassed and outraged as I know it was due to me having three children. How would you handle this?
Cindy K.

Hi Cindy:
July is the month of PRIDE in San Diego, where we celebrate diversity and welcome everyone, so this question could not be more appropriate. First, I am sorry to hear that you felt discriminated against due to having young children. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 and its amendments of 1988 strictly prohibit discrimination against 7 protected classes. They are race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, and familial status. A landlord may not falsely deny that a rental property is available. It would also be unlawful to quote you a different rent or deposit based on any of these discriminations. The conversation that you mentioned about suggesting that you may like Clairemont better, or a different neighborhood because there are more families there, is also unlawful. These laws are in place for fair practices and are administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or HUD. If you think that you were treated unfairly you can register a full complaint with HUD. (US Department of Housing and Urban Development). You can go to their website at Hud.org. You can also download a form on their website and email them, or you can call them at 1-800-669-9777. In your case, the landlord cannot deny you the application process and/or lie about the status of the rental due to you having children under 18. This would be considered discrimination based on your familial status. The second violation by this landlord is called steering. Steering happened when he suggested for you and your family to live in a certain neighborhood based upon other families like yourself with children. Remember that discrimination applies to all aspects of housing both for renting and/or buying and selling of homes, getting a mortgage, getting home insurance, and many other housing-related areas. Cindy, I would hate for you to think that San Diego is unwelcoming in anyway. We are America's Finest City for a reason. We have many different cultures, and we are rich with diversity. And, our city offers thousands of opportunities that your children and entire family can enjoy. Best of luck on your search and welcome to San Diego!

Best,
Kathy

Kathy McSherry is a veteran Realtor
in Mission Valley with Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Email questions to her at kathymcsherry@outlook.com
www.kathymcsherry.com

Sponsored content

All that remains of the Elks Lodge is a historic plaque. (Photo courtesy of Save Our Heritage Organisation)

FROM PAGE 16

PASTMATTERS

The San Diego Union's July 10, 1949 issue documented the opening of his North Park location and explained that the store "occupies a corner site, 23 by 105 feet, in a new \$45,000 building at Thirty-first St. and University Ave. (sic) The candy shop ... began business in North Park last October in a temporary location three doors west of the present store."

That initial temporary location, from October 1948 to July 1949, is the current home of Hammond's Gourmet Ice Cream at 3077 University Ave.

One might think that "Awful Fresh" is a silly name for any food or food-maker, but Donald L. MacFarlane was no newcomer to the candy business. His father was a merchant with a candy store in Oakland, California.

By 1930, 26-year-old MacFarlane was working in the confectionary business at a nut company in Oakland. In 1940, he owned his own candy and nut business, and in the late 1940s he operated five stores in Oakland and 10 stores in Los Angeles. His North Park store continued operations until about 1975.

In July 1981, the next long-term tenant arrived at the corner location. Marcus Robbins — a 27-year-old auto mechanic who had moved from New Jersey to work and attend school in San Diego — opened Drowsy Maggie's. His alcohol-free, non-smoking,



URBN Coal Fired Pizza brings a lively and flavorful presence to the corner of 31st Street and University Avenue in 2010. (Photo by Katherine Hon)

acoustic-instrument-only folk cafe is lovingly remembered by long-time North Parkers fond of old-timey music.

Robbins modeled his cafe after the coffeehouses of the 1950s and named it after a 300-year-old Irish folk song. He did most of the tenant improvements himself, including installing the plumbing and wiring, as well as building the tables and benches.

The cafe held local shows, including Old Time Hoot Nites and Bluegrass Jamborees. Musicians played for donations from the crowd, and the crowd paid attention to the eclectic mix of music styles — ranging from Irish traditional and Renaissance to swing and jazz. The popular venue closed in April 1991 when Robbins' lease expired and the building owner more than doubled his rent.

Dark years followed for the

corner building after the music faded. A serious fire — resulting from a car hitting the gas meter at the back of the building — caused extensive damage. Unauthorized occupants in the boarded-up building increased the deterioration. Though the site was considered for a new North Park Library, nothing came from it.

But those brick bones are strong. Finally, another long-term tenant arrived. Today's neighborhood now salutes local pizza entrepreneur Jon Mangini for bringing his coal-fired pizza to North Park in 2010 with his restaurant URBN, re-activating this important corner.

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



(Photo by Joseph Balestrieri)

FROM PAGE 15

NEWS BRIEFS

WORLD CUP FANS TO CELEBRATE IN UPTOWN

A FIFA World Cup viewing party will be held on 30th Street and University Avenue in North Park on Sunday, July 15.

Festivities will include two jumbotrons, which will air the final game all morning; a beer garden; food trucks; a Bloody Mary bar by 619 Distillery and Tasting Room; and a family zone for fans under 21.

The party, hosted by SoccerCitySD and Cox Communications, kicks off at 7 a.m. with the viewing beginning at 8 a.m. From 11 a.m.–2 p.m., fans are invited to the official after-party. Partygoers are also encouraged to explore the Uptown neighborhood throughout the day with multiple bars and restaurants hosting official viewing parties of their own.

In 2014, the event brought over 10,000 soccer fans to the area. Attendees are advised to arrive early to reserve their spots on the lawn.

Visit explorenorthpark.com for details on the viewing party.❖

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UPTOWN

CALENDAR

ONGOING EVENTS



‘Dr. Seuss’s The Lorax’
Through Aug. 12

Based on Dr. Seuss’s “The Lorax,” this family-friendly show tells the story of the Truffula trees and their staunch protector, The Lorax. Children under 3 years old are not permitted. Tickets \$30–\$40. Times vary. The Old Globe Theatre, 1363 Old Globe Way. Visit bit.ly/OldGlobeLorax.

‘High-Key Color’
at San Diego Art Institute
Through Aug. 12

“High-Key Color in Southern California” is an art exhibit that showcases local artists who utilize vivid and colorful imagery in their work. Curated by Elizabeth Rooklidge, this exhibit features the work of more than 20 artists, including Michael James Armstrong, Jennifer Anne Bennett, Claudia Cano and Max Daily. Times vary. San Diego Art Institute, 1439 El Prado, Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/colorsocial.

‘Epic Tales from Ancient India’
at SDMA
Through Aug. 31

The San Diego Museum of Art in Balboa Park hosts “Epic Tales from Ancient India,” an exhibit with more than 90 Edwin Binney 3rd Collection of Indian paintings. Spanning the 16th through 19th centuries, traditional stories showcased include the Bhagavata Purana, Ramayana, Ragamala and works of Persian literature. \$8–\$15; 17 and under free. Times vary. Closed on Wednesdays. 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/epictalesdmda

International Summer Organ Festival
Through Sept. 3

Spreckels Organ Pavilion in Balboa Park hosts a lineup of outdoor organ concerts every Monday this summer. Free. All ages. 7:30 p.m. at Pan American Road East. Visit bit.ly/BalboaOrgan.

Food Truck Fridays
Through Sept. 28

Kick off your summer weekends every Friday evening at Balboa Park’s after-hours event. Visitors of all ages can enjoy live entertainment while eating dishes from a rotating selection of more than a dozen food trucks. Free. 4–8 p.m. at Plaza de Panama in Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/balboafoodtruck.

FEATURED EVENTS



Concert in the Park: The PettyBreakers

Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers tribute band, The PettyBreakers, will perform in the annual Concerts in the Park summer series. Bring picnic baskets, catch up with neighbors, and sing and dance to the music. Free. 6–8 p.m. at Pioneer Park, 1521 Washington Place. Visit bit.ly/MHconcerts.



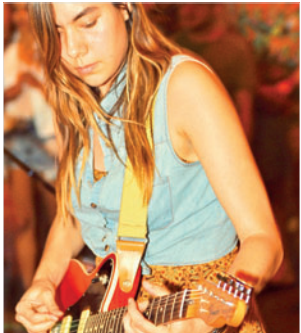
‘Mr. Poppers Penguins’

San Diego Junior Theatre presents “Mr. Poppers Penguins,” a story about a house painter from a small town who receives a dancing penguin in the mail. The production will showcase the work of youth performers and technicians. Runs through July 15. 7 p.m. on Friday; 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Casa del Prado Theatre, 1600 El Prado and Village Place in Balboa Park. Visit bit.ly/PoppersPenguinsJT.



Adams Avenue Utility Box Painting

Sixteen selected artists will paint 22 utility boxes throughout Normal Heights to beautify the area. Stroll the neighborhood to see the live murals and meet the artists. Sponsored by Adams Avenue Business Association and Normal Heights Community Development Corporation. Free. 8 a.m. at various locations along Adams Avenue. Visit bit.ly/UrbanArtsUtility.



Ray at Night

Experience North Park’s eclectic arts and culture neighborhood and be inspired by all the creative energy from local and nationally known artists at this monthly art walk. 6–10 p.m. on Ray Street in North Park. Visit bit.ly/RayAtNight.



Neurosis at Observatory

Oakland-born rock and experimental metal band, Neurosis, will play alongside Converge and Amenra. \$35. All ages. 8 p.m. at The Observatory North Park, 2981 University Ave. Visit bit.ly/NeurosisJul14.



Championship Viewing Party

Looking for a place to watch this year’s FIFA World Cup? Watch the final game outside with your North Park neighbors. The event features a beer garden, food trucks, family zone, jumbotrons and more. All ages. Free. 7 a.m.–2 p.m. on 30th Street in North Park. Visit explorenorthpark.com.

Coffee with the Catapult

In the spirit of discoverability, The Book Catapult hosts an informal discussion about what’s new in the world of literature. Led by the Catapult’s book buyer and co-owner, Seth. Complimentary coffee from Communal Coffee, plus a 20 percent discount off all books discussed. Free. 11:30 a.m. at The Book Catapult, 3010-B Juniper St. Visit bit.ly/CatapultCoffeeJuly.

Hemlock Society discussion

Hear from tree local experts and learn everything about hospice and palliative care. Free. 1:30–3:30 p.m. Scottish Rite Event Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South. Visit bit.ly/hemlocksd.

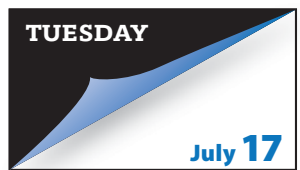
Los Pinche Pinches at Soda Bar

Local ‘Serf N’ Terf’ rock band Los Pinche Pinches performs with opener Material Boys. \$6. 21 and up. 8 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit bit.ly/LosPinches.



In the Whale at Casbah

Garage grime band In the Whale performs with Parade of Horribles and Bosswitch. \$7. 21 and up. 8:30 p.m. at Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd. Visit bit.ly/inthewhale.



Graveshadow at The Merrow

Symphonic metal band Graveshadow performs with Silence the Prince and Monarch. Presented by Tim Pyles of 91X Loudspeaker. \$5. 21 and up. 8 p.m. at The Merrow, 1271 University Ave. Visit bit.ly/Graveshadow.



‘Venus Vibes’ at Crossroads

Local LGBTQ author Mickey Brent will present and sign his book “Underwater Vibes” — a lesbian romance about a young Greek photographer and swim coach and a translator in Belgium. 6:30–8 p.m. at Creative Crossroads, 502 University Ave. Visit mickeybrent.com.



Rhye at Observatory

Low-key R&B duo Rhye performs with Lawrence Rothman. \$25. All ages. 8 p.m. at The Observatory North Park, 2891 University Ave. Visit bit.ly/RHYEObservatory.

Foster the People

The Sacred Hearts Club punk community hosts Foster the People, alongside openers Almost Monday and Ignant Benches. Free. 21 and over. 9 p.m. at Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. Visit bit.ly/SHCSodaBar.



Concert in the Park: Dr. Elvis and the Immortals

’50s and ’60s oldies band Dr. Elvis and the Immortals will perform in the annual Concerts in the Park summer series. Bring picnic baskets, catch up with neighbors, and sing and dance to the music. Free. 6–8 p.m. at Pioneer Park, 1521 Washington Place. Visit bit.ly/MHconcerts.



South Park Summer Walkabout

The South Park Walkabout is a quarterly evening festival that showcases all the unique and independent businesses within the neighborhood. Enjoy complimentary treats, live entertainment and special offers. Free. All ages and dog-friendly.

6–10 p.m. at Fern Street in South Park. Visit southparksd.com.



Surf Curse at Irenic

Punk/pop duo Surf Curse performs with LunchLady. Presented by Soda Bar. \$13–\$15. All ages. 6:30 p.m. at The Irenic, 3090 Polk Ave. Visit bit.ly/IrenicSurfCurse.



‘Personal Narratives in Nonfiction’

What makes a personal narrative more than a diary entry? Swing by this class at Liberty Station to find out. San Diego Writers, Ink hosts a nonfiction class with Felicia Campbell. \$45 for members; \$54 for nonmembers. 9 a.m. on the second floor above the Women’s Museum at Liberty Station, 2730 Historic Decatur Road. Visit bit.ly/Libertyclass.



Fashion Jackson at Casbah

Rock band Fashion Jackson performs with MDRN HSTRY and Secret Lynx. \$6. 21 and over. 9 p.m. at The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd. Visit bit.ly/FashionJackson.



‘Twilight in the Park’

Join the San Diego Youth Symphony and Conservatory and its partner, Rotary District 5340, in welcoming several international musicians from across the globe to its 14th annual International Youth Symphony. Free. All ages. 6:30 p.m. at Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 2125 Pan American Road East. Visit sdys.org.



‘Crux’ at The Catapult

KPBS Fronteras reporter Jean Guerrero will discuss and sign her book, “Crux: A Cross-Border Memoir,” which tells the story of a daughter’s quest to understand her father, a self-mythologizing Mexican immigrant. Free. 7:30 p.m. at The Book Catapult, 3010-B Juniper St. Visit bit.ly/CruxCatapult.

RECURRING EVENTS

Mondays
Lestat’s West Open Mic

Weekly open mic event hosted by Robby Robertson every Monday. 6:30–11 p.m. at Lestat’s, 3343 Adams Ave. Visit bit.ly/2nWco63.

Tuesdays
Trivia Night at Brew Project

Here’s Johnny! Answer five to seven rounds of questions and participate in team challenges for raffles and prizes. Weekly event hosted by Johnny Grant. 7 p.m. The Brew Project, 3683 Fifth Ave., Hillcrest. Visit bit.ly/2HmaogX.

Lestat’s West Comedy Night

Weekly comedy night event hosted by Dustin Nickerson every Tuesday. 9–11 p.m. at Lestat’s, 3343 Adams Ave. Visit bit.ly/2nWco63.

Thursday
North Park Farmers Market

Shop more than 90 tents of locally grown produce, artisan grocery items, prepared foods and hand-crafted goods. 3–7:30 p.m. at 3000 North Park Way, stretching from 31st Street to Utah Street, North Park. Visit bit.ly/2H9AItc.

Thursdays at The Ken

San Diego’s late-night jazz jam convenes every Thursday night. Hosted by musicians Ian Buss, Robert Dove and Hugo Suarez. \$5. 10 p.m.–1:30 a.m. at The Kensington Club, 4079 Adams Ave. Visit bit.ly/2DFUTwS.

Saturdays
Golden Hill Farmers Market

Stop by the open community space to pick up California Certified Organic Produce from local farmers. 9:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m. at B Street between 27th and 28th streets, Golden Hill. Visit bit.ly/2DHRZrg.

Old Town Saturday Market

The street market features work from local artists including paintings, jewelry, photography and more. Every Saturday and Sunday. 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. at Harney Street and San Diego Avenue, Old Town. Visit bit.ly/2KvuTYW.

Sundays
Hillcrest Farmers Market

About 175 vendors offer a variety of locally grown fruit, produce, gifts, arts and crafts, flowers, and more. 9 a.m.–2 p.m. on Normal Street between University and Lincoln avenues. Visit bit.ly/2FC4slg.

To view a comprehensive calendar of events happening throughout San Diego, visit our online calendar at bit.ly/2H11z9m.

—Compiled by Jules Shane, Jess Winans and Sara Butler. Email calendar items to sara@sdcdn.com.

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SDRC AT SD PRIDE 2018

Visit the SDRC booth at the Pride Festival for exclusive offers and to meet some of our friendly budtenders who will be showing our support for the LGBTQ community as well as sharing our passion for recreational cannabis in San Diego.



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