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On Feb. 28-March 2, Erica Buechner's year-long project will culminate into 'underlie,' a performance at Art Produce. (Photo by Doug McMinimy)



(l to r) Lynn Susholtz, Erica Buechner and Nikki Dunnan inside the front gallery room in Art Produce (Photo by Sara Butler)

Community influences upcoming North Park show

Sara Butler | Editor

"Something's going to happen." That's one of the phrases City Heights resident and long-time dancer Erica Buechner is known for when experimenting with choreography during classes.

Buechner, who also teaches dance and choreographs musicals at Francis Parker School, said her work is inspired by exploration and playing with a concept, without fear of failure or the unknown. When she received the coveted Creative Catalyst grant from The San

Diego Foundation last April, Buechner had no idea what the project would morph into.

Every year, five local artists and their nonprofit sponsors receive \$20,000 grants from The San Diego Foundation Creative Catalyst Program, which seeks to enhance San Diego's arts

community and support its professional artists while engaging the public. Buechner was one of the five selected by a committee of local partners, community leaders and art experts for the 2018 Creative Catalyst Grant Cycle.

see Underlie, pg 9

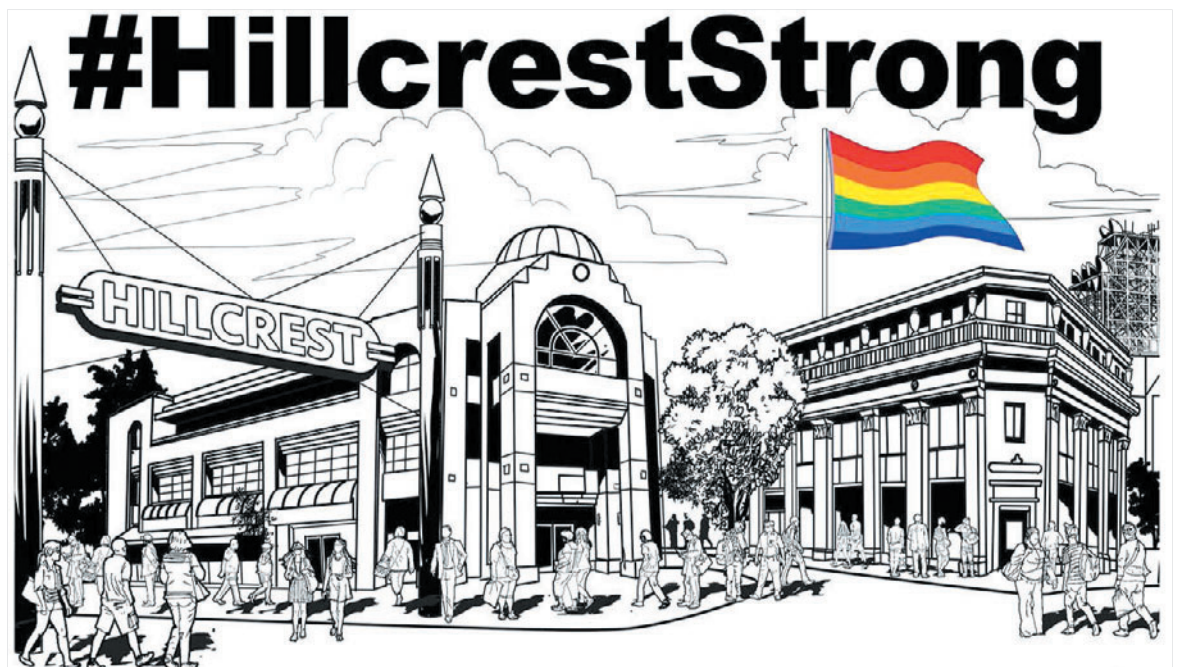
Hillcrest holds emergency town hall

Sara Butler | Editor

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, the Hillcrest community gathered for an emergency town hall spurred by hate crimes that have recently occurred in the neighborhood, including a shooting at The Asian Bistro on Feb. 12 and the vandalism of a plaque under the Pride flag on Feb. 6.

In response to these events, San Diego LGBT Visitors Center and SoCal Equality Business Alliance organized the town hall, which took place in The Great Hall at St. Paul's Cathedral in Bankers Hill from 6-8 p.m. Though announced on late notice, word spread quickly on social media and the meeting drew a packed house.

see Town Hall, pg 4



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Hillcrest shooting suspect pleads not guilty

By Neal Putnam

It is still not clear yet what the motivation was to fire 19 gunshots into a Hillcrest restaurant, but suspected gunman Stefano Markell Parker, 29, was charged Feb. 15 with 11 counts of pre-meditated attempted murder.

None of the 11 people inside The Asian Bistro on Feb. 12 at 7:40 p.m. were hit by bullets, and everyone remained on the floor, which was covered with shattered glass.

"It is miraculous that no one was injured," said Deputy District Attorney Paul Reizen after Friday's arraignment.

"He was aiming at people inside the restaurant," he continued. "The motive is unknown.

Hours before the shooting, Parker posted on his Facebook page a rambling series of comments that started with the question, "How many of us fell victim to the streets?"

An earlier Facebook post suggests that this could be considered a hate crime.

"Who told all these gayfers it was safe to come outside.....?" Parker wrote in a Facebook post on Jan. 31.

Hate crime charges were not

filed in the attack, but Reizen said they would be if there is any evidence the attack was directed toward the gay community or the Asian community.

The restaurant, located at 414 University Ave., is also known as Golden Dragon, and its iconic sign still remains intact. After the shooting, plywood covered the broken windows and there were bullet holes in the walls inside. The restaurant plans to re-open on Monday, Feb. 18.

Witnesses reported seeing a man in a trench coat firing a high-powered rifle at the restaurant and then walking away. He was then seen changing his clothes. Parker was arrested about four blocks away and an AR-15 was found nearby along with discarded clothes.

Reizen would not disclose what offense Parker had previously been convicted of before the incident. Published reports say Parker was convicted of a felony charge when he was 16 years old in Alabama, which involved the death of another teenager.

If he is convicted of all charges, Parker faces a staggering prison term. Reizen said Parker faces 154 years plus

200 years consecutively if he receives life sentences for the attempted murder charges.

In court, Parker told San Diego Superior Court Judge Jay Bloom he wouldn't sign a court form acknowledging his constitutional rights, so Bloom read the form out loud to him.

Reizen asked that no bail be set for Parker. His attorney, Tom Carnessale, submitted no argument, so Bloom ordered him to be held in jail without bail.

A preliminary hearing was set for March 1, and it will last two days.

In addition to the shooting, it was a rough week for the LGBT community. An unknown individual vandalized two plaques beneath the pride flag on University Avenue and Normal Street. The pride flag was also ripped down Feb. 10 in the evening at the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), and three masked gunmen held up a Hillcrest jewelry store the next day.

Lee Bowman, communication minister for MCC, said a hate crime report was filed with San Diego Police for the flag's removal, which was captured on video surveillance

cameras. A replacement flag was put up.

The violence at the restaurant prompted condemnation from Mayor Kevin Falconer, California Senate President Toni Atkins, and a joint statement from Council members Chris Ward, Georgette Gomez and Jennifer Campbell.

"From the cowardly vandalism of Pride Plaza to last night's shooting on University Avenue, it is clear that more must be done to address the rising public safety concerns of our residents," said Ward, Gomez and Campbell in a press release.

"As members of the

LGBTQIA community and the City Council, we stand united against these acts of violence and hate," the press release continued. "What is meant to silence our community will only make us stronger, and we look forward to using that strength to work with the mayor's office, and the San Diego Police Department to ensure we truly are a city that is safe for all."

"We must stand strong and repudiate these homophobic and hateful attacks," Atkins added.

—Neal Putnam can be reached at nealputnam@gmail.com.

Local honored



Hillcrest resident, Patrick Zondler, was honored by Meals on Wheels San Diego County for his volunteer service at their annual Luminaries Breakfast on Wednesday, Feb. 20. The event occurred from 8:30-10 a.m. at the Barra Barra Saloon (Serrano Room) located at 4016 Wallace St. Zondler was awarded for his 10 years of volunteer service with the nonprofit. For over 59 years, Meals on Wheels San Diego County has contributed to the overall well-being of seniors by providing regular nutrition and daily contact with a caring volunteer. Learn more at meals-on-wheels.org or call 800-5-SENIOR.❖

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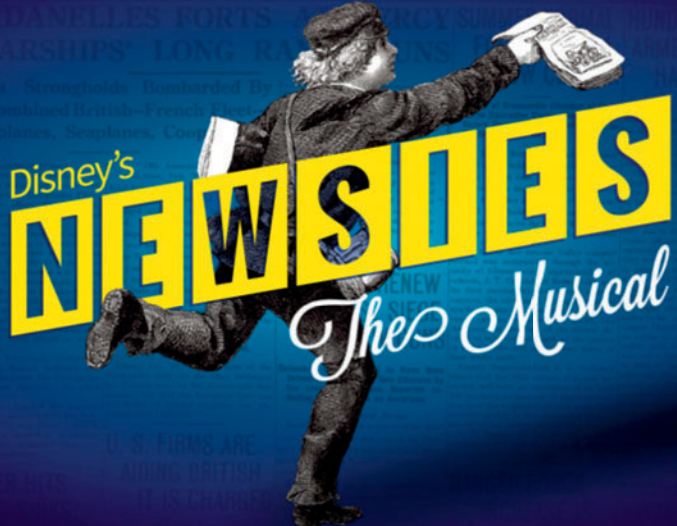
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FROM PAGE 1

TOWN HALL

Moderated by Morgan M. Hurley (former editor of Gay San Diego), the evening featured special guests such as Mayor Kevin Falconer and Councilmember Chris Ward.

San Diego Chief of Police David Nisleit commended Hillcrest for being so active in their neighborhood and its safety, exemplified with the numerous 911 calls and reports made following the incidents.

"That's why this community is so special, because people are willing to be involved, be engaged, be a part of it," Nisleit said, adding that his goal as chief of police is to ensure he and his team make the neighborhood feel safe and secure.

"I want to make sure everybody is comfortable walking throughout the community and doing what they want — after all, it's what we all strive for ... that you feel comfortable walking to the local restaurants and local clubs and local businesses ... that's what San Diego is about," he continued.

Though District Attorney Summer Stephan could not discuss details of the case, she said her office has dedicated a full-time individual to solely address hate crimes. She added that hate crimes have doubled across the state and in San Diego, with LGBTQ+ individuals being the second most likely to be targeted, behind African American males.

"We have trouble like everywhere else, but we don't respond to trouble in the same way ... we bring it home and make sure it is shut down," Stephan said, adding that the overwhelming public response to the incidents is not commonly seen in other cities.

A question and answer community forum featuring seven panelists followed the guest speakers. Among them were Stonewall Citizens Patrol executive director Sean Redmond; Hillcrest business owner Moe Girton, who also serves on the mayor's LGBTQ Advisory Council; and Deputy District Attorney Leonard Trinh.

Mike Thongchau, 26, spoke on behalf of his mother Patty, who owns The Asian Bistro. Thongchau said he feels he grew up in the neighborhood, having worked at his mother's Hillcrest restaurant, formerly The Golden Dragon, since the



Morgan M. Hurley (left) moderated the Q&A session with a panel of experts.

ninth grade. He and his family thanked the neighborhood and police officers for all of their support following the Feb. 12 incident.

"We reopened the doors as soon as we could a couple of days ago, and we're looking forward to serving the community again," Thongchau said. "We can't wait to have a fun environment back there ... We're super excited to be back in the community and we're thankful for everyone's support."

San Diego Police Capt. Manny Del Toro said in 2016, there were 34 documented hate crimes in the city of San Diego. This number jumped to 41 in 2017 and 2018. Eleven (2017) and 13 (2018) of these documented were related to sexual orientation, with three occurring in Hillcrest last year.

FBI Special Agent Brett Kalina said this type of hateful behavior is intolerable and promised the crowd that diversity would not negatively influence an individual's protection under the law.

"Whether it's our victim assistance or whether it's our agents within the FBI, we don't care if you are nonbinary. If you are black. If you are Muslim. If you are trans. If you are gay. If you are undocumented. If you are a lesbian. We don't care — you should get the same respect, empathy and professionalism from law enforcement that you would give anybody else," Kalina said, eliciting applause from the audience.

After the panel discussion, Hurley opened the room up to the audience to ask questions and express concerns.

Luigi, who lives on Fifth Avenue and owns a business down the street, expressed that he feels very unsafe in Hillcrest, and urged more

police protection. He requested daily police surveillance to check out the streets and businesses to make sure more hateful or harmful acts do not happen again.

A board member of Hillcrest Business Association (HBA) noted that Luigi's side of Hillcrest is a part of the Maintenance Assessment District (MAD), which has security provided from the HBA. This includes a car patrol that is out eight to 10 hours a day.

Erik Benson, who works in Hillcrest and is involved with the Hillcrest Town Council, brought up violent homeless attacks happening in the neighborhood. He asked about outreach options with Hillcrest homeless population and how the efforts have been going.

Nisleit said they created a whole new division last March to deal with the homeless issue. He also encouraged residents to report incidents by reaching out to the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) at 619-446-1010.

Benson's friend Kelsey added that many art installations are planned for Hillcrest in 2019 and asked whether vandalism to these pieces would be considered hate crimes.

Del Toro responded that yes, if there was evidence that the vandalism was even in part motivated by any category of a hate crime, the damage to the art would be classified as such. He also added that if it continues to happen, police will consider long-term solutions like security cameras and more lighting.

Resident Adrian Scott closed the evening with a concern about over-policing black and brown communities that live in Hillcrest who already don't feel welcome. Del Toro suggested that all races "come join the patrol, come on out and help educate the community, show involvement in the community, and just be one community."

The public is encouraged to reach out to the San Diego Police Department if they have any questions or concerns, using the nonemergency number 619-531-2000 or the Get It Done App. LGBTQ-related inquiries can also be directed to Dan Meyer, LGBT liaison for SDPD, and Christine Garcia, Transgender liaison for SDPD.

[Editor's note: For more information about the Feb. 12 shooting at The Asian Bistro, read our coverage on Page 3.]

—Reach Sara Butler at sara@sdcnn.com.

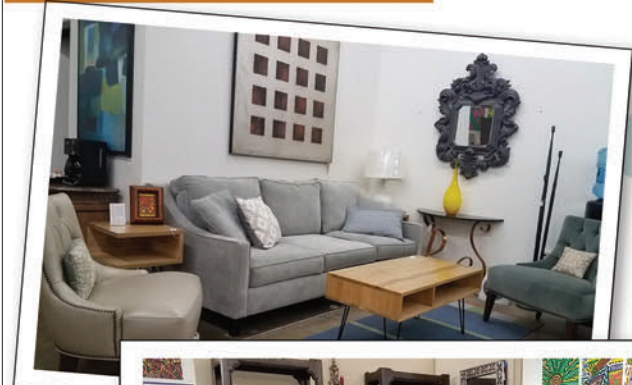


Community members filled The Great Hall at St. Paul's Cathedral on Feb. 20. (Photos by Sara Butler)



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Letters

Problem with Promenade

[Ref: "D3 Update: Promenade on the Hillcrest horizon" Vol. 10, Issue 22, or online at bit.ly/promenade-ward.]

And out of those 70 new parking spaces, the people who live on the street will have assigned parking for their respective domiciles? The proposal is not the issue, but how it effects the current residents of Normal Street, which you do not mention once! Did you even think about it? Everything happens on Normal Street. They shut the street down for more events than I care to keep count of and you want to KEEP all of them there and add more! So you're moving to my neighborhood and deal with all the [explicative] it's going to bring yourself? OK cool, sounds good.

—Sean Smith, via our website.

Growing neighborhood arts

[Ref: "Painting Hillcrest a new shade," Vol. 10, Issue 23, or online at bit.ly/htc-arts.]

I've been guest curating monthly

art shows at Subterranean Coffee Boutique in Hillcrest for the last year. It is exciting to see new opportunities and growth for the art community in Hillcrest. There are so many talented artists in San Diego and Hillcrest can offer an abundance of entertainment and talent given the opportunity and collaboration of artists and curators.

—Jennifer Cooksey, via our website.

Pipeline woes

[Ref: "Diving into the 30th Street Pipeline Project" Vol. 10, Issue 18, or online at bit.ly/30th-st-pipeline.]

Noise during night time hours is unbearable! I need to sleep at night!

—Andrea Whelan, via our website.

Atrocious or cool?

[Ref: "Hillcrest Town Council update: sexy streets and cool signage," Vol. 9, Issue 23, or online at bit.ly/streets-signage.]

The new wayfinder/directional signs

are atrocious. The plastic is peeling off, the colors are horrible as well as they really don't give any good directions.

—Mike Stephens, via our website.

Building castles in the heights

[Ref: "Building castles in the heights," Vol. 7, Issue 26, or online at bit.ly/castle-heights.]

Fascinating article! My mom, brother, sister and I lived in "the Castle" from 1967-1972. EVERYBODY knew where that house was. My husband hoped to buy it at some point, but passed away before he could realize the goal.

—Peggy Hunt, via our website.

I used to live in the White Castle house with my mom, two sisters and for a time my brother back in the 1960s and early '70s ... before the need for iron gates and window protection. [It had] wooden floors, push-button wall light switches, an ancient stove we called "Ben Franklin" and a drop-down ironing board in the kitchen, which usually turned into a dining table. I used to climb up into the main turret to watch the stars with my telescope ... or take part in water balloon fights! The area of 42nd and Landis [streets] was one of the safest parts of the neighborhood, especially since it kind of became a police meeting point for coffee from my mom and where they could work on their reports. Great memories there, glad to see it and the other one down the street are still there. Sad though, that the gates needed to go up.

—Mike Mesmer, via our website.

—Letters to the editor are encouraged. We pull them from email, Facebook and comments submitted on our website. Letters are edited for grammar, clarity and sometimes trimmed to fit the space available in the newspaper. If you'd wish to send a letter to the editor directly, email sara@sdcnn.com.

Guest Editorial

Affordable housing is not going to finance itself

If San Diego City Council and mayoral candidates truly seek to help end the homelessness crisis, they need to commit to paying for it

By Ricardo Flores

[Editor's note: This editorial first appeared in the Voice of San Diego on Feb. 19. View the original article at bit.ly/flores-vosd.]

In early 2016, the San Diego City Council — due to a wave of community pushback — reversed course and removed the last of downtown's two portable public toilets. A year later, San Diegans watched in horror as we faced the largest person-to-person hepatitis A epidemic on record in U.S. history.

No one should have been surprised. Since 2000, four grand jury reports had tried to raise awareness of the likelihood of such a crisis, pointing to the shortage of toilets for use by the city's growing homeless population and the related serious health risks.

As Voice of San Diego reported, San Diego public officials have been warned repeatedly about the potential impacts, including a disease outbreak, the lack of restrooms could cause.

Until that crisis came to light, homelessness in San Diego had been regarded as a downtown issue.

Suddenly, or so it seemed, it became an urgent civic concern for those living near downtown in "nice" neighborhoods — think Bankers Hill, Hillcrest, Mission Hills and elsewhere.

Today, nearly a full two years after the hep A epidemic, there are still no concrete plans to help house our homeless population.

The growing lineup of mayoral, City Council and supervisorial hopefuls are promising yet again to "fix" the problem. But how do voters judge their commitment and the effectiveness of their proposals?

Here's our bottom line: Affordable housing is not going to finance itself. The only way to build enough homes for all the region's homeless men, women and children is to pay for it publicly. With the private financial market unable to provide all the funding needed to build those homes — in the form of permanent, fully sustainable projects — it is imperative for city and county officials to take a strong leadership role.

Last year, the San Diego Housing Federation released a proposal encouraging local politicians to approve a \$900 million bond to build new

affordable housing. According to SDHF, the bond, if approved, would provide approximately 7,500 affordable housing units.

For perspective, there are currently 4,990 homeless individuals living on the streets in San Diego. If our collective goal is to reduce and eventually end homelessness, our target for new funding should start at \$900 million. Absent a large local subsidy to fill the financial gap, there is simply no way to build enough housing for the homeless at the scale needed to solve the problem.

If City Council and mayoral candidates truly seek to help end the homelessness crisis, they need to commit to paying for it by fully supporting the \$900 million bond. Otherwise, the shame of homelessness will continue — unfunded, unsolved and unabated.

I urge elected officials and candidates to get behind this measure.

—Ricardo Flores is executive director of LISC San Diego, a national non-profit "bank" that has financed affordable and homeless housing in San Diego County for the last 27 years. He lives in San Diego.

Let's build on the success of community colleges

District 53 Dispatch
Susan A. Davis



When discussing higher education, many people may think of the traditional four-year university. But in reality, our community colleges have come to satisfy a critical need in higher education as a bridge to further education and the first step toward lucrative careers. They are a vital component of higher education that rightly deserve additional attention.

As the chair of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment, I will be looking at ways to expand the impact of community colleges. This will be an especially important conversation as we work to reauthorize the Higher Education Act (HEA) this Congress.

The rising costs of tuition and a lack of investment from all levels of government have put high-quality post-secondary education increasingly out of reach for millions of Americans. In this high-cost environment, community colleges often bridge the gap for millions of middle class families who cannot afford to pay for four-year universities.

Additionally, community colleges have historically shown a tremendous ability to reach out and support first-generation

college students and others for whom achieving a post-secondary education may be more difficult. I strongly believe that it is the job of Congress to match that success by finally providing resources for this important work.

That's where the HEA reauthorization comes in. We can improve our higher education system, and increase access to all forms of higher education if we lift up community colleges and address the affordability of four-year universities.

The HEA was last renewed in 2008 and has been working under short-term extensions. In a rapidly changing world and an ever-changing economy, we need to ensure the HEA is meeting the needs of our students.

Two out of 3 jobs in the modern-day economy are filled by individuals with a post-secondary education. Over their lifetimes, bachelor's degree holders make approximately \$1 million more than high school graduates, and associate degree holders make \$400,000 more than high school graduates.

We must do everything possible to make higher education pathways affordable to everyone — not just those at the top or those who can afford to go to traditional four-year private institutions.

The chance to reauthorize HEA does not happen every year — which is why we cannot waste this moment by passing

a bill that changes higher education only at the margins.

House Democrats have articulated a vision of proposing immediate investments in students to make higher education more affordable today.

And there is no great mystery on how to do that. We simply need to expand Pell grants and we need to make them more flexible.

A comprehensive HEA reauthorization cannot stop at merely expanding federal resources. We also need to make sure we address accountability, especially given that the Department of Education is weakening many standards meant to protect our students. The Department of Education's decision to roll back consumer protections for borrowers that date from the 1990s makes it more likely that students will be on the hook should they fall victim to one of many fraudulent institutions. Congress has a duty to protect taxpayers and students from low-quality schools by restricting those schools' access to federal student aid.

We must also look at the work community colleges have done outside of the traditional conception of higher education. The partnerships many of our institutions have made with local communities are quite amazing and unique.

There are few places better at bringing together students, local businesses, and

instructors than American community colleges. They are currently on the front lines of changing the future of work. We must adapt our education model to this new reality.

One critical investment that community colleges have made is expanding apprenticeships and partnering with local businesses to ensure their workforce needs are met. While the progress has been extraordinary so far, we must go beyond where we are. We need to start thinking beyond the traditional trades and expand career education into areas not traditionally associated with apprenticeships such as banking, health care, cybersecurity, and other expanding career fields.

Community colleges not only serve a critical role in making a traditional post-secondary education a reality, but they can help students who may not be interested in a four-year degree find success in high-quality, high-paying careers. We must acknowledge the important role community colleges play in preparing students for further study, and we must expand upon the other important services and pathways to higher education that they provide.

We want to make sure community colleges help all sorts of students, from adult learners to individuals who have no interest in attending a university, acquire the skills they need to succeed in today's modern economy.

But it's also much more than that. It's about creating an environment that nurtures people so they can achieve success, care for their families, and make a difference in their communities.

—Congresswoman Davis represents central San Diego, including the communities of Old Town, Kensington, Mission Hills, University Heights, Hillcrest Bankers Hill, North Park, South Park, Talmadge, Normal Heights, as well as La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Spring Valley and parts of El Cajon and Chula Vista.❖

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Stories at our feet

PastMatters Katherine Hon

O Nelson, John Engebretsen, F. Anderson — do these names look familiar? Do you get the sense you have seen them in writing but can't place where? They are just a few of the many names of contractors who installed the sidewalks in San Diego in the early 1900s through the 1920s.

The University Heights Historical Society (UHHS) has estimated that the first concrete sidewalks in San Diego were laid during the 1880s, and contractors began embedding their names or company logos in them by the 1890s. The names and dates set in concrete help tell the story of San Diego's development.

In 2013, to celebrate the 125th year of University Heights, UHHS volunteer Bill Ellig compiled an online map with photos of more than 350 historic contractor sidewalk stamps, some as early as 1910. (View the interactive map at uhcdc.org/contractor-Stamps.html.)

Enthusiastic fans of Ken Kramer's KPBS television show "About San Diego" have posted photos of sidewalk stamps around the county on the show's Facebook

page. Joseph Kelley — who engraved "Contractor in Cement, Office 964 Fifth Street" below his name within his oval stamp — laid and marked some of the earliest sidewalks in Downtown. He is listed as a contractor in the 1893 San Diego City Directory. A photo of his 1906 stamp at Second Avenue and Maple Street, taken by John Pagenkopp, is posted online.

The stamp "O. Nelson" appears frequently with various dates on North Park sidewalks south of University Avenue, including Texas Street (1912), Spruce Street (1916) and Dwight Street (1924). This is the stamp for Olaf Nelson, who was born in Sweden in 1858 and came to the U.S. in 1883, when he was 25 years old. He became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1892. The 1904 San Diego City Directory listed him as part of "Engebretsen & Nelson, contractors for paving, grading and all kinds of cement work, concrete construction, stone and brick work, 614 5th rms 5 and 6." However, this partnership did not last — the following year the two had independent advertisements in the directory.

Nelson installed sidewalks in various parts of the city, including along National Avenue, Falcon Street and Grand Avenue, sometimes beating his former partner John Engebretsen for the

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Olaf Nelson advertised as a grading contractor in the business classifieds of the 1905 San Diego City Directory (Photo by Katherine Hon)

successful bid. He also graded many roads, including Park Boulevard, Thorn Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. He even installed some fire hydrants in La Jolla. Nelson lived with his wife Carrie on E Street from 1905 until he died in 1937. They had two sons, Chester and Carl.

John Engebretsen was born in Norway in 1858 and came

to the U.S. in 1882, when he was 24 years old. He became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1888. Although his name is not spelled correctly, he is likely listed in the 1897 San Diego City Directory as "John Engebret, contractor." One of his stamps from 1923 is in the sidewalk at the southeast corner of Lincoln Avenue and Utah Street. He built roads in

Coronado on North Island, as well as in Point Loma.

Engebretsen and his wife Julianna lived at 641 12th Ave. from 1914 until his death in 1935. In addition to his job as a grading contractor, he served as the vice consul for Sweden and Norway starting in 1896; he later became dean

see PastMatters, pg 10

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Father
Joe's
Villages

FROM PAGE 1
UNDERLIE

Katie Rast, the director of community impact at The San Diego Foundation, said these grantees “work with the community to create works that prioritize civic engagement and increase opportunities for San Diegans to experience arts and culture.” The funding is intended to connect the community with the local art scene, engaging the public and making arts and culture more accessible.

“Erica [Buechner]’s project brings together professional dancers and non-dancers, including individuals from the San Diego refugee community, to tell stories through dance,” Rast continued.

With the help of Lynn Susholtz and Nikki Dunnan of Art Produce, Buechner held a series of free dance workshops and invited the community to participate. They hosted seven of these classes at age 55-plus housing communities, North Park Senior Apartments and Iowa Street Senior Housing, in June and July 2018. Four more were held at the Art Produce Gallery on University Avenue in January and February 2019. All ages and abilities were welcome.

“I brought the people [at the workshops] through this choreographic process that I’ve been developing for the last few years,” Buechner said. “I have always loved using words as the starting point of movement and I have defined the way I like to use it more and more over the years.”

“We would write a little story down, or a statement down — I gave different prompts,” she continued, adding that they then visually represented these stories and statements

through her movement technique to create short, 30-second routines, or “dance phrases.” After creating the works, they would get together as a group to share, talk about, and record the routines.

Though this style is a specific choreographic process with certain rules, Buechner granted the community dancers freedom to experiment with the prompts and develop work that was meaningful to them. Her goal was simple — “to create art together, through our bodies.”

On Feb. 28-March 2, Buechner invites the public to “underlie,” a production that explores individual stories through movement-based mediums. The community workshops were the springboard for the three-day event, which will take place at North Park gallery Art Produce from 7–8 p.m. each evening.

“[The show] all came from this choreographic process using words, using stories, and how do we take those stories and turn them into movement,” Buechner said.

The one-hour event is loosely separated into two parts. For the first 30 minutes, attendees can drift through the gallery’s three rooms, which have various installations derived from or inspired by the workshops.

Two videos stream throughout the evening. One is an edited compilation of snippets from the workshops, the other is a project called “Scar Stories.” For the latter, Buechner asked the public to write a short story about how they got a scar, and then had professional dancers create “abstract movement-based recreations” based on these experiences.

In addition, eight community dancers ranging between age 16 and 70 (including a woman who is seven months



Five professional dancers will perform a composed piece inspired by the community workshops. (Photo by Doug McMinimy)

pregnant) will perform original 30-second dances at ‘underlie’ that stemmed from the statements they crafted. Though the choreography is set, the timing and frequency of the performances will be fluid and improvisational.

“They are creating their own statement — they are creating their own story through movement,” she said, referring to the “dance phrases” community members will perform.

The second half consists of a staged show performed by five, local professional dancers. They will present a composed piece by Buechner — a polished version of the creative ideas and raw choreography developed at the workshops.

“The purpose of [the composed piece] is to let the audience see the progression of the project and how it started from words, it turned into these community workshops, and the choreographic process that we used ... how you take all of this information and all of these ideas and put it into a professional work,” she said.

One of the biggest challenges for Buechner was deciding out how to incorporate all of the various community elements into a limited, one-hour window. Even now, a week out from the show, new installations are still being worked into the show, such as a Google Voice project.

Though the process was challenging and overwhelming at times, Buechner said she is proud of what she was able to accomplish with the public this year.

“Whether or not people like the show or it’s engaging as an audience member, I feel like I have fulfilled in some way what this grant is meant for, because I’ve definitely pushed myself out of my comfort zone as an artist and what I would normally put together,” she said.

—Reach Sara at sara@sd cnn.com.❖



(l to r) Lynn Susholtz, Erica Buechner and Nikki Dunnan outside the Art Produce building (Photo by Sara Butler)

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New library climate

The site-specific artwork, titled "Climate Clocks (Abstraction Devices)" and created by Janet Zweig, was recently unveiled at the Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Harley and Bessie Knox Branch Library. Completed in 2018, the artwork consists of three kinetic sculptures mounted to the library's interior walls. The sculptural installation is inspired in part by the artistic tradition of fore-edge painting in which decorative scenes are painted on the edges of book pages.

Each sculpture, comprised of a huge wheel of paper, is mounted to the wall on a primary hub that then links to a second hub with a motor that very slowly pulls the paper onto it. Painted on the face of each wheel of paper is an image depicting a scene from San Diego's ecology, including the ocean, canyons and reservoirs. As the secondary hub accumulates the paper, each traditional landscape will unwind into a beautiful abstract image on the fore-edge of the



"Climate Clocks" featured at Uptown's newest library (Photo courtesy of City of San Diego Civic Art Collection)

secondary hub and figuration will become abstraction.

Each of the three sculptures functions as an ecological "clock" using scientific data to determine the rate of its rotation. The pace of the paper's transfer from one hub to the other varies for each of the sculptures. Zweig worked with local scientists to determine rates of change to the ecologies depicted, including changes to local reservoirs,

sea-level and canyons. Each sculpture's motor is timed to correspond with this scientific data in real-time, resulting in an artwork that is a poetic record of changes to our landscape, unraveling slowly over time.

View more images of Zweig's "Climate Clocks (Abstraction Devices)" in the San Diego Uptown News website at bit.ly/climate-clocks.



Present-day contractors must save and reset historical street name and contractor stamps. This relocated stamp for Olaf Nelson dated November 1912 is at the northwest corner of Texas Street and Myrtle Avenue.



John Engebretsen's somewhat faded October 1923 sidewalk stamp is located at Lincoln Avenue and Utah Street.



Frederick Anderson's sidewalk stamp on the east side of Pershing Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Upas Street is a "typo" and should have been engraved 1913 like most of his other stamps along Pershing Avenue. (Photos by Katherine Hon)



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FROM PAGE 8

PASTMATTERS

of the consular corps. The King of Norway made him a Knight of St. Olav in recognition of his long and excellent diplomatic work.

The stamp "F. Anderson" belongs to Frederick Anderson, who was born in Denmark in 1861. He came to the U.S. in 1881 at age 20 and became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1891. He appeared in the 1903 San Diego City Directory as a cement worker for J.P. Christensen, who was the proprietor of Pioneer Artificial Stone Works. In the 1904 San Diego City Directory and later, Anderson was listed as a cement worker on his own. He and his wife Henrietta had two daughters, Charlotte and Josephine.

F. Anderson sidewalk stamps, with dates ranging from 1913 to 1915, appear along Pershing Avenue south of University Avenue and north of Upas Street. Interestingly, one stamp reflects an interesting typo. The date engraved in the sidewalk on the east side of Pershing Avenue between Myrtle Avenue and Upas Street is 1903. This is wrong, not only because development in this part of North Park did not begin that early, but also because Anderson was working for J.P. Christensen at this time. The date likely should have been 1913.

[Editor's note: Future PastMatters columns will feature more stories at our feet on Uptown streets.]

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

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

9/6

Sudoku Puzzle

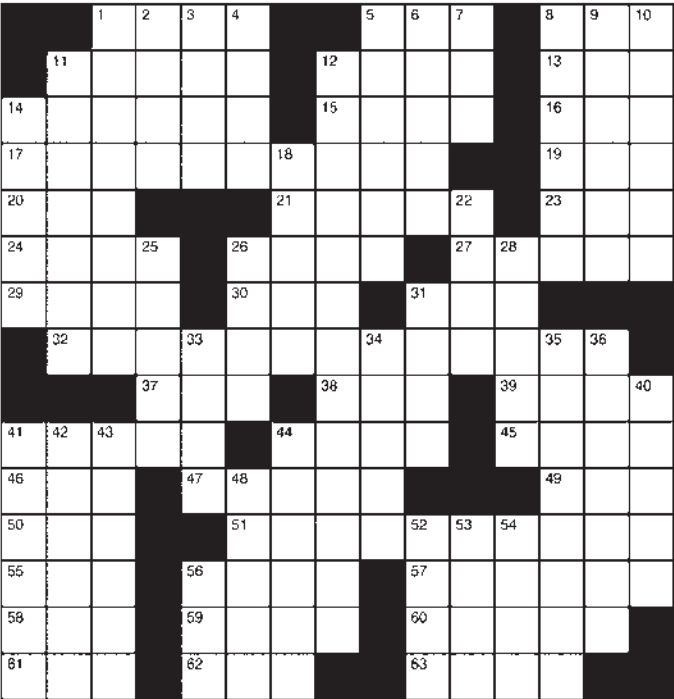
Enter digits from 1 to 9 into the blank spaces. Every row must contain one of each digit. So must every column, as must every 3x3 square.

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Puzzle answers on page 14

Uptown Crossword

Classics



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE By Charles Preston

ACROSS

1 Theater org.
5 Mrs., in Montreux
8 ____ Cruces
11 Chateau on the Loire
12 NC Cape
13 Big name in New Haven
14 Coquettes
15 Meet event
16 High, musically
17 Quarterback
19 ____ *generis*
20 Possess
21 Pungent bulb
23 Sea bird
24 Meander
26 Funnyman Johnson
27 Lessens
29 Customs payment
30 Kiwi's cousin
31 Dolt
32 Quarterback
37 Figs.
38 Seventeenth letter
39 Bagnold
41 Long, long tales
44 Poet Hughes, *et al.*
45 Asian starch
46 Claire or Balin

DOWN

1 Estrange
2 Standard
3 Longtime leader, in Belgrade
4 Bus. abbreviation
5 Malicious one
6 Portuguese territory
7 Poet's preposition
8 Charters
9 Glamor
10 Some strikes
11 Tire trauma
12 Quarterback
14 Wonder of Norway
18 "... ____ a lady of her fortune ..."

47 Grapes, e.g.
49 Number in a brace
50 Part of RSVP
51 Quarterback
55 Summer, in Antibes
56 Northern capital
57 Where odas are
58 Japanese epic film
59 Prayer ending
60 Sixth US president
61 "I wandered lonely ____ cloud"
62 Call for help
63 Bye-bye

22 Legendary Loch
25 Hollywood's Loy
26 Vanderbilt, *et al.*
28 Phoenix source
31 Summer coolers
33 Sub ____
34 Video companion
35 Detested one
36 Indian dwellings
40 Condemns
41 Canaanite commander
42 *West Side Story* girl, *al.*
43 Lead's principal ore
44 Designations
48 Helen Gurley Brown's mag.
52 Mountain pass
53 London drama sch.
54 Smell ____
56 Western union: abbr.

Puzzle answers on page 14

Words of advice

Theater Review

Jean Lowerison



What do you do when you have a relationship problem you can't solve? Back in the mid-1950s and '60s, many people wrote to newspaper columnists like Dear Abby and Ann Landers for advice.

Some 50 years later, writer Cheryl Strayed took over the online "Dear Sugar" advice column after the man who was writing it — without much enthusiasm — offered it to her. Strayed eventually turned the results into another book, which Nia Vardalos adapted into the moving, funny and altogether engaging play "Tiny Beautiful Things," playing through March 17 at The Old Globe's White Theatre.

Opal Alladin plays Sugar, who fields questions about diverse topics from being "stuck" because of a tragedy like child abuse, to whether remuneration from an "arrangement" with a married man is taxable income.

The reason the play is so engaging is that it's about listening, empathy and that seemingly rare commodity: human connection. Sugar doesn't just tell the three advice seekers writing letters what to do — she goes for a bigger picture, occasionally offering her own harrowing experiences to make that connection.

We see Sugar, married with two children, puttering around in her kitchen and waiting for dings from her computer to bring her letters. Meanwhile, the ensemble of three writers (Keith Powell, Avi Roque and Dorcas Sowunmi) circle, appear and disappear, each playing several writers in this 80-minute play. Each thoroughly inhabits the writer of the moment.



(l to r) Opal Alladin as Sugar

Sugar talks of her work with at-risk young teens, many of whom share ghastly stories of abuse and betrayal. She promised them help and asked authorities, but they failed to show up. So she adjusted her advice, telling the girls to reach for a way to transcend the ugly facts of their lives and find healing within. "True healing," she told them, "is a fierce place."

Sugar responds to Sowunmi, a woman who is trying to recover from a miscarriage, with a similar story of her own.

The question that brings tears to many is from Living Dead Dad, whose 22-year-old son was killed by a hit-and-run driver. "How do I go on?" he asks.

How, indeed. Kudos to director James Vásquez for the flow of the staging. The writers wander through the kitchen, occasionally eating or even having a drink — another Vásquez touch that adds immediacy and connection.

Wilson Chin's set has a perfect lived-in look for a mother of two. Amanda Zieve and Melanie Cole Chen contribute fine lighting and sound, respectively.

'Tiny Beautiful Things'

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or theoldglobe.org



Dorcas Sowunmi as Letter Writer #2

This is not your usual play, and some will be put off by the lack of a typical dramatic structure. But anyone who has been in any of these difficult situations is likely to appreciate Vardalos' attempt to create community with her writers — and her audience.

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



The cast of 'Tiny Beautiful Things,' which runs through March 17 at The Old Globe (Photos by Jim Cox)



Little Italy and caters to both traditionalists and those with adventurous palates. For the ice cream selection, some are vegan and most are gluten free. In addition, most of the ice pops are dairy and gluten-free. None of them contain artificial ingredients or high fructose corn syrup. The offerings also extend to “dog pops” for canines.

Among the flavors applied to the various frozen treats are coffee-and-donuts, strawberry-goat cheese, apple pie, grapefruit mojito, pineapple-basil and more. 915 West Washington St., 619-255-5473, dixiepops.com.

Homemade ice creams, ice pops and milkshakes in crafty flavors have churned in to Mission Hills via **DixiePops**, a retail shop that recently moved from



A dessert vendor is coming to the Little Italy Food Hall. (Courtesy of Grain & Grit Collective)

The newish **Little Italy Food Hall** will see its first vendor replacement in March in the wake of **Single Fin Kitchen's** abrupt exit from the original tenant lineup. The Japanese seafood station is being replaced by **Bobboi Natural Gelato**, a gelateria

from La Jolla that uses locally sourced organic ingredients for its seasonal sorbets and gelato. Bobboi's ever-changing flavor options include matcha tea with chocolate chips; rosewater with honey; pistachio; dark chocolate and more. 550 West Date St., 619-269-7187, bobboi.com.



The top-selling pork bowl at a new ramen house in Hillcrest (Courtesy of HiroNori Craft Ramen)

HiroNori Craft Ramen has opened in Hillcrest in the cozy space where **Espettos Brazilian Skewers** operated for a short time. Founded in Orange County by chefs Tadanori Akasakao and Hiromichi Igarashi, the pair adheres to traditional ramen techniques using house-made noodles in thick or thin cuts, plus broths that are gently boiled for 24 hours.

This is the company's fourth location and the first in San Diego. The others are in Irvine, Long Beach and Santa Clara, with another opening next month in Pasadena. Aside from the ramen choices, top sellers include pork rice bowls, crispy chicken and salmon poke. The menus at all locations are the same. 3803 Fifth Ave., 619-241-2856, hironorcraft ramen.com.

A fusion of flavors from Baja and Northern Africa will set the stage at **Medina — Moroccan Baja Kitchen**, a modernly designed North Park eatery due to soft open in mid-February. Its grand opening is scheduled for March 1.

Owned and conceived by chef Alia Jaziri, the venture

began as a food truck in San Francisco and later expanded to farmers markets in San Diego.

Jaziri's menu melds together traditional North African dishes that she grew up cooking alongside her father with influences and ingredients from Baja. 2850 El Cajon Blvd., Suite 4, medinakitchen.com.



Seafood boils and other Cajun fare await at a new eatery in North Park. (Courtesy of Shrimp Heads)

A taste of Cajun Country has arrived to North Park with the recent opening of **Shrimp Heads**, where customers employ bibs and lots of napkins for digging into foods best eaten by hand.

The menu offers everything from fried catfish and breaded shrimp to crawfish, king crab legs and bivalves. The “finger lickin’ deals” feature platters and buckets filled with various combinations of the seafood along

with corn, sausage and potatoes. Beer and wine are available, along with sake cocktails served in shark-shaped porcelain vessels.

Owner Shirley Ng describes Shrimp Heads as a place where patrons “get down and dirty with their food.” She also runs **Uncle John's Cafe** in Los Angeles, which specializes in Cantonese fare during the day, and Cajun cuisine at night. 2832 El Cajon Blvd., 619-738-8184, shrimphheadssd.com.



A farm-inspired restaurant run by two Italian cousins has opened on Date Street. (Courtesy of Alternative Strategies)

A third location of **Farmer's Table** has emerged — this time in Little Italy. Conceived by Sicilian-born restaurateurs Alberto Morreale and his cousin, Vincenzo LoVerso, their latest opening precedes those in La Mesa and Bay Park. All three restaurants offer whimsical farmhouse décor, including red

tractors in the dining rooms and American-Mediterranean cuisine constructed largely with locally sourced ingredients. Their menu includes Neapolitan-style pizzas, duck gnocchi, artichoke ravioli and more. Breakfast and lunch are also served daily. 550 W. Date St., 619-255-0958, myfarmerstable.com.

Look for a March-April opening of **Eggies**, a walk-up window on the East Village property of **Breakfast Republic** that will sell coffee drinks, English muffin sandwiches, and various noshes layered in small Mason jars such as French toast, potato hash and frittatas. Conceived by the locally based **Rise and Shine Restaurant Group**, which currently operates seven locations of Breakfast Republic within San Diego County, the Eggies concept will also spring up in Pacific Beach (4465 Mission Blvd.) around the same time. Both will operate out of large shipping containers. 707 G St., 619-501-8280, breakfastrepublic.com.



Phil's BBQ in Point Loma has received a fresh remodel. (Courtesy of Brown Marketing Strategies Inc.)

After a six-week shutdown, the Point Loma location of **Phil's BBQ** has reopened. The restaurant had temporarily closed for a remodel, which resulted in a fresh paint job, expanded dining and bar areas, and the addition of television screens. A spokesperson for the company said the modernized look is more in line with most of the seven other locations throughout San Diego County, adding that there were no changes to the menu. 3750 Sports Arena Blvd., 619-226-6333, philsbbq.net.

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

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Warmed to the bones

A modern Vietnamese eatery flourishes in North Park

Restaurant Review

Frank Sabatini Jr.



There is “restaurant” pho. And there is “home-made” pho. You’ll find the latter exclusively at Shank & Bone, which popped onto the North Park dining scene last February with a splashy, contemporary atmosphere uncommon to many family-owned Vietnamese restaurants.

“We wanted a modern design and menu so that we could bring our food to broader audiences,” said Han Tran, a native of Vietnam who owns the business with her husband and other family partners.

In speaking with her after my visit, she discussed the differences between the two types of pho, which explained why the broths in both the beef and chicken pho I tried with a lunch companion were so luxuriously deep in flavor compared to most.

Typical restaurant pho, she said, is made mostly with bones and certain pieces of meat. In Vietnamese households, however, richer cuts of meat such as oxtail or whole chicken thighs and legs are used in concert with the bones.

We ordered the beef pho with short rib. Served in a sizable bowl, it was ladled with thin vermicelli noodles and a hefty chunk of tender meat clinging loosely to a six-inch bone.

For the chicken pho, you get a choice of white, dark or both. We opted for white meat. I was immediately struck by the fragrant essence of the broth, which exceeded the flavor that long-simmered chicken yields. It turns out the broth is accented with star anise, cardamom and cloves, but just faintly enough to keep you pondering its mysterious allure.

Both bowls of pho were a step up from many others I’ve consumed over the years. And I liked that the broth is poured tableside. More so, after this seemingly endless cold spell in San Diego, it gave my body the thaw it needed.

The décor is bold and hip. It features a couple of shiny motor bikes, a linear display of rice field hats hanging from a wall, and metal chairs in paintbox colors.

Yet the dominating elements are two giant wall graphics; one is a street map of Saigon from 1922, and the other is an image of a revolutionary Vietnamese girl created by renowned Los Angeles street artist Shepard Fairey. Tran said the goal is to capture the robust energy of old and new Saigon.

That concept is further achieved with a menu replete with both classic and contemporary Vietnamese dishes. The former includes items such as rice noodle rolls stuffed with ginger beef, mint and basil; Viet-style beef stew; Saigon chicken wings; and banh mi sandwiches.

Shank & Bone

2930 University Ave.
(North Park)
619-458-9085
shankandbone.com

Prices: Starters, \$5 to \$12
Pho, \$10 to \$17
Bowls and rice plates,
\$11 to \$15
Banh mi sandwiches,
\$8 and \$10
Specialty dishes, \$11 to \$13

The grilled pork banh mi we tried offered an excellent crusty French roll stuffed with lean pork that is baked in marinade and then flame-grilled to order. Inside was the usual medley of julienne cucumbers, daikon radishes, pickled carrots, and fresh sprigs of cilantro.

We might have felt noodled out had it not been for the thoughtful staggering of our dishes and the variant flavors we encountered.

In our first round, we dove into the aforementioned rice noodle rolls, which hit our palates with lovely, discernible waves of ginger. We then moved onto the banh mi, followed by a bun bowl, which is basically a traditional salad of vermicelli rice noodles, fried shallots, crushed peanuts and mint leaves. Our protein choice was grilled shrimp, which were generously arranged on top.

For the pho, we chose thin noodles over the bigger flat ones. And there were plenty of them lurking in the bowls. So you may want to think twice about paying \$2 for extra noodles.

Of the more modern twists is a “Chinese donut” that we ordered as an add-on to our chicken pho. Imagine churros without the sugar and cinnamon, served in a metal cylinder. You dip the fried dough sticks into the broth, much like sticking bread into a plate of spaghetti when you want to take a break from twirling noodles around your fork — or your wide soup spoon in this case.

Other modern offerings include “banh xeo” tacos with



Both classic and modern foods of Saigon are well-represented at Shank & Bone. (Photos by Frank Sabatini Jr.)

pork, shrimp, jicama, bean sprouts and mint; roasted bone marrow with crostini and cilantro chimichurri; and tempting versions of pho combining lobster tail with beef broth, or a combination of crab, calamari and shrimp in chicken broth.

Shank & Bone also presents happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, when select starters are \$2, certain bowls are \$6, and draft beers

are \$5. Though if you wander in with a shiver, you’ll be hard-pressed to pass up a steaming bowl of broth and noodles.

—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.❖



Vivid colors play up to the eatery’s industrial-chic atmosphere. (Photo by Han Tran)



Short rib pho

Pho cuon rolls filled with ginger beef

Grilled shrimp bun bowl

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PUZZLE ANSWERS

Sudoku
Puzzle from page 11

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

Classics
Crossword from page 11

S	A	I	A	T	A	S	O	S	A	S	A	S	A	S	A
S	E	A	M	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N
S	M	A	H	O	L	O	L	O	L	O	L	O	L	O	L
M	A	H	A	G	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	O	I	O
O	W	I	A	C	O	I	A	C	O	I	A	C	O	I	A
I	O	S	A	I	D	S	A	I	D	S	A	I	D	S	A
I	D	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N	E	N
M	A	H	S	D	A	V	A	R	B	R	R	E	R	T	E
S	E	S	A	V	A	R	A	T	O	R	E	S	A	V	A
N	E	R	N	O	I	N	O	I	N	O	I	N	O	I	N
I	N	S	A	N	A	V	A	N	O	I	N	O	I	N	O
I	L	A	T	E	A	R	E	S	L	I	T	E	A	R	E
E	L	I	F	E	A	R	E	F	E	A	R	E	F	E	A
L	A	S	M	E	A	N	T	A	N	T	A	N	T	A	N

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UPTOWN CALENDAR



619 Fest
The first annual 619 Fest is a local hip-hop/R&B festival showcasing premier talent from and for San Diego. The night will be filled with many musical performances in a great atmosphere. Come listen and discover talented homegrown artists in your city. This will be a yearly event so be sure not to miss the very first one. \$10. 7-11:30 p.m. at Queen Bee's Art and Cultural Center, 3925 Ohio St. bit.ly/2N8RdtW

'Aladdin'
Discover a whole new world at Disney's "Aladdin" as the hit Broadway musical adaptation comes to the San Diego Civic Theatre. From the producer of "The Lion King" comes the timeless story of "Aladdin," a thrilling new production filled with unforgettable beauty, magic, comedy, and a breathtaking spectacle. It's an extraordinary theatrical event where one lamp and three wishes make the possibilities infinite. Runs through March 3. Tickets start at \$33. 1100 Third Ave. bit.ly/2N2GXTK



Art of Élan pop-up concert
Art of Élan pays tribute to the influential Dutch painter, Vincent Van Gogh, with music inspired by his now famous quotation, "For my part I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream." This concert is also influenced by Van Gogh's painting, "Mother and Child" (1885) on view now through March 2019. Free with museum admission. 7 p.m. at San Diego Museum of Art, Gallery 12, 1450 El Prado. Following the concert, there will be film screening of "Loving Vincent" inside the James S. Copley Auditorium at 8 p.m. bit.ly/2T2xQrB



St. Paul's Senior Educational Series
St. Paul's Senior Services will host a series of free workshops throughout the year, starting this month. St. Paul's Educational Series' classes — titled "Plan for Tomorrow, Today" — will take place every other month from 9 a.m.-noon. First meeting located at St. Paul's Manor, 2635 Second Ave. bit.ly/2N62A5y



Red Carpet Party
San Diego Gay Men's Chorus Red Carpet Party, San Diego's biggest Academy Awards viewing party, features 25 HD widescreen TVs, \$1,000 in cash and prizes, live entertainment, hors d'oeuvres and food stations, ballot contest, raffles, and more. Dress to impress. \$25-\$1,500. 4-9 p.m. True North Tavern. bit.ly/2UHVIOI



Yappie Hour at Gossip
Calling all pooch lovers to Gossip Grill! Grab your pooch and come play during "Yappie Hour," a monthly pooch-friendly event at Gossip Grill. All three patios will be pooch-friendly, but all furry friends should be well-socialized and well-behaved. All dogs must remain on a leash and not block walkways. \$5 Tito's drinks for humans and complimentary doggie vodka (water) for pups. A Yappitizer menu will also be offered. Noon-6 p.m. 1220 University Ave. bit.ly/2Iod8yp



Within A Week at Soda Bar
Within A Week performs with openers Strictly Skunk and Sensi Trails. Doors 8:30 p.m. and show at 9 p.m. \$6. 21-plus. Soda Bar, 3615 El Cajon Blvd. bit.ly/2SZdIqB



Cine Social
Enjoy Bivouac Ciderworks' eats and cider drinks while getting to know your local filmmakers, other creatives, cinema lovers, and community/business leaders at the San Diego Filipino Cinema's first mixer of the year. San Diego Filipino Cinema's Cine Social is an opportunity to network, meet new friends, and learn about our programming. Free. Bivouac Ciderworks, 3986 30th St. bit.ly/2IlhCpn

Leather Community Awards
Celebrate the best of the local leather community! Doors 6 p.m. and show at 7 p.m. 21-plus. Free. The Merrow, 1271 University Ave. bit.ly/2T3FIJn



Lettuce at Observatory
Psychedelic funk group Lettuce will perform with opener Greyhounds. Doors open at 7 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m. 18-plus. \$30. The Observatory North Park, 2891 University Ave. bit.ly/2IzSknV

'Service Members in Drag!'
These military boys are trading in their boots for heels to twirl and swirl for your money. Experience this great new event for the San Diego LGBT Pride Military Contingent as we begin fundraising to support our efforts for this upcoming Pride season. Featuring an amazing cast including host Babette Schwartz. \$5, cash only. The Rail. 3796 Fifth Ave. 7-10 p.m. bit.ly/2Gb2f15



Hillcrest Mardi Gras
The 17th annual Hillcrest Mardi Gras celebration returns with a fun and wild neighborhood-wide party. The spirit of the French Quarter is taking over Hillcrest so break out your masks, rock your beads, and revel in your most daring and creative Mardi Gras costumes while you enjoy this unique party crawl through Hillcrest's best bars, clubs, and music venues. \$10. Event will begin at the Hillcrest Pride flag. 6-11:30 p.m. 1500 University Ave. bit.ly/2T4QYFv



'Women in Blue' Luncheon
This ninth annual event is a celebration of female leadership, diversity, and empowerment of women. This year's theme, "Courage Knows No Gender," embodies the resilience, strength, and bravery of the fearless female leaders serving America's Finest City. The event will take place on March 7 with registration starting at 11:30 a.m. followed by a program and lunch at noon. Located at Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel, 1 Park Blvd. Prices start at \$125 and sponsorship opportunities are also available. bit.ly/2EUufV1



Crones Counsel Celebration
Older wise women celebrate International Women's Day using the theme of balance. Using the collective wisdom of older women helps balance gender in our communities, and balance in our lives uses life energies for purpose and creativity while maintaining visibility and viability. Come join the sisterhood and be part of the emerging world of aging women. Women of any age are welcome. Register early to save a seat. \$50. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4190 Front St. bit.ly/crones-council

ONGOING EVENTS

'Dr. Otic's Miraculous Old Town Showdown' Through February 2019
"Dr. Otic's Miraculous & Audience-Powered Old Town Showdown" — similar to "Who's Line Is it Anyway?" — is a fun and interactive show based entirely on audience suggestions. Showdown performances are every Friday and Saturday night, but each show is a unique experience created on the spot by our talented ensemble of improvisors. Reservations recommended. \$14-\$17. All ages; family-friendly. 7-9 p.m. at Old Town Improv Co., 2415 San Diego Ave. #103. bit.ly/dr-otic-feb

'The Greatest of Ease' Through March 18
Circus Vargas presents "The Greatest of Ease," circus as it should be seen, under the big top throughout San Diego. Join Circus Vargas' 50th anniversary extravaganza, an homage to the golden era of circus in America. Circus Vargas' incredible new 2019 production highlights an amazing cast of world-renowned performers, featuring death-defying acrobats, daredevils, aerialists, jugglers, contortionists, clowns, motorcycles and more. All ages; kid friendly. Various times. Westfield Mission Valley on Feb. 7-18; Westfield Plaza Bonita on Feb. 21-March 4; and Westfield North County March 7-18. circusvargas.com

'Pause|Play' Through Sept. 2
The Fleet Science Center invites the young and the young-at-heart to leave the digital world behind, hit pause on their busy lives and recapture the nostalgia of play. The exhibition entices visitors to explore through play and incorporates a scientific twist to enhance every activity. Pause|Play features more than 11 experiences that were each designed to evoke childhood memories. Entry included with admission to the museum. Fleet Science Center, 1875 El Prado. bit.ly/2N6o3eG

'Stories of Struggles & Triumphs' Through January 2020
The San Diego History Center, in partnership with the Lambda Archives of San Diego, brings the first-ever exhibition in Balboa Park focused on the history of San Diego's LGBTQ+ community. Visitors will experience and learn about the community's struggles to overcome persecution, the battle with AIDS, bullying and intolerance, the power of the community, and the tremendous strides taken in the fight for equal rights. The exhibit curator is noted author and historian Lillian Faderman. Times vary. 1649 El Prado, Suite #3. bit.ly/struggles-triumphs

Looking to get involved in your neighborhood? A full list of community planning meetings, town councils and the like can be found on our website at bit.ly/uptown-meetings.

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. bit.ly/LestatWest

Tuesdays
Introduction to Buddhism & Meditation
Join all-ages introductory class to learn basic Buddhist concepts, as well as participate in a discussion and silent meditation. Weekly event led by Jeff Zlotnik. Free. 7-8 p.m. at Dharma Bum Temple, 4144 Campus Ave. Also held on Saturdays at 11 a.m.-noon. bit.ly/dharmabum

Thursdays
North Park Thursday 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. bit.ly/ThursMarket

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. bit.ly/ThursKen

Fridays
Free Friend Fridays
Looking for a co-working space with value-aligned social entrepreneurs, artists, nonprofit professionals and local start-ups? Collective Impact Center offers a complimentary day pass to use shared desks and office space. Bring your laptop and check in on social media with hashtag #cicfreefriday for free Wi-Fi. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at Collective Impact Center, 3295 Meade Ave. bit.ly/free-Fridays

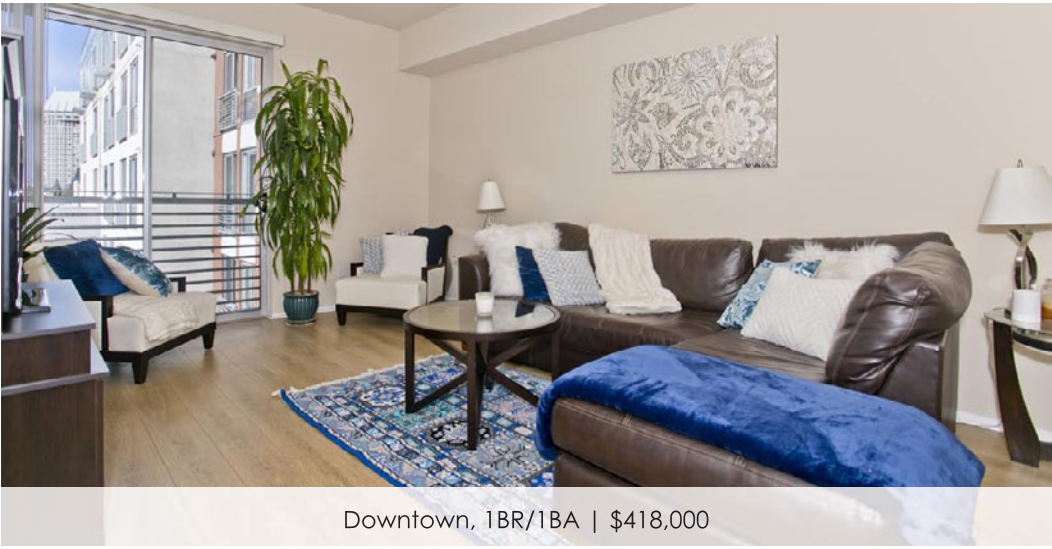
Saturdays
Golden Hill Farmers Market
Stop by the open community space to pick up California Certified Organic Produce from local farmers. 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at B Street between 27th and 28th streets, Golden Hill. bit.ly/GHMarket

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. bit.ly/OTMarket

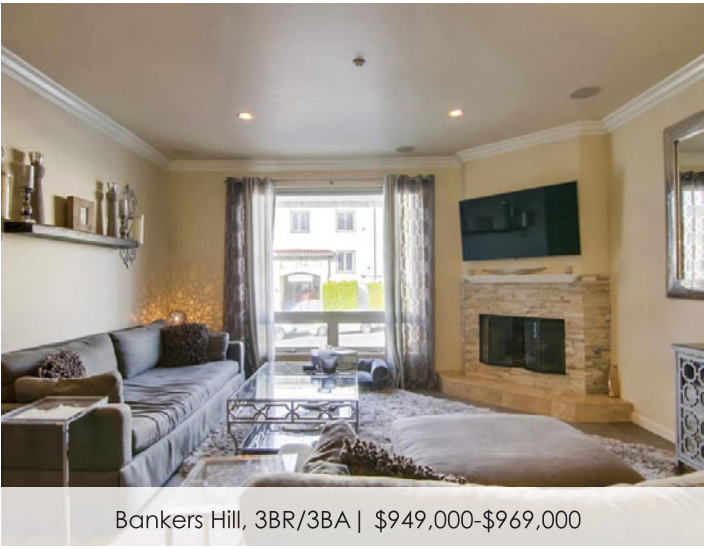
Sundays
Hillcrest Farmers Market
About 175 vendors offer a variety of locally grown fruit, produce, gifts, arts and crafts, flowers, and more. 9 a.m.-2 p.m. on Normal Street between University and Lincoln avenues. bit.ly/HillcrestMarket

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

—Compiled by Jules Shane and Sara Butler. Email calendar item requests to sara@sdcdn.com.



Downtown, 1BR/1BA | \$418,000



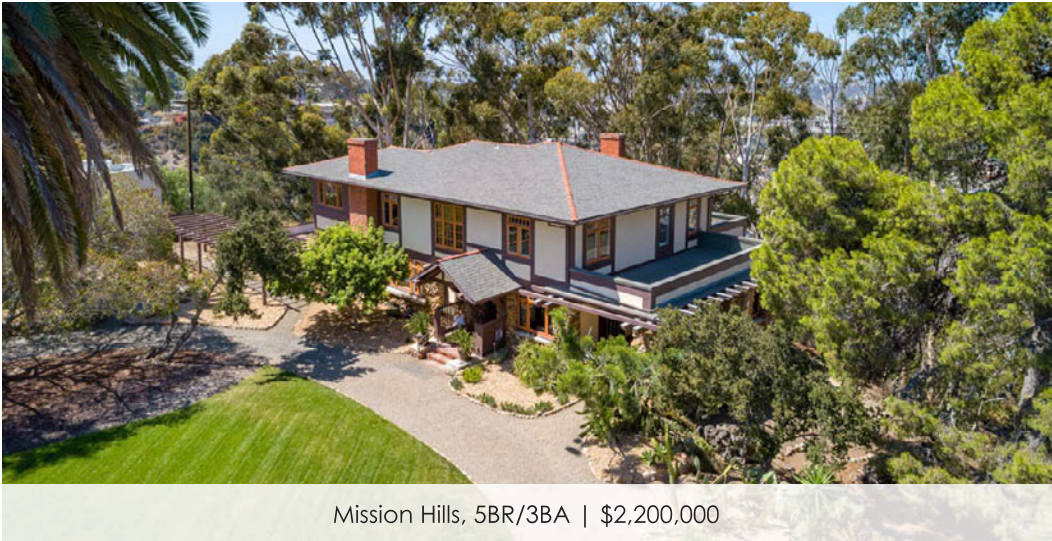
Bankers Hill, 3BR/3BA | \$949,000-\$969,000



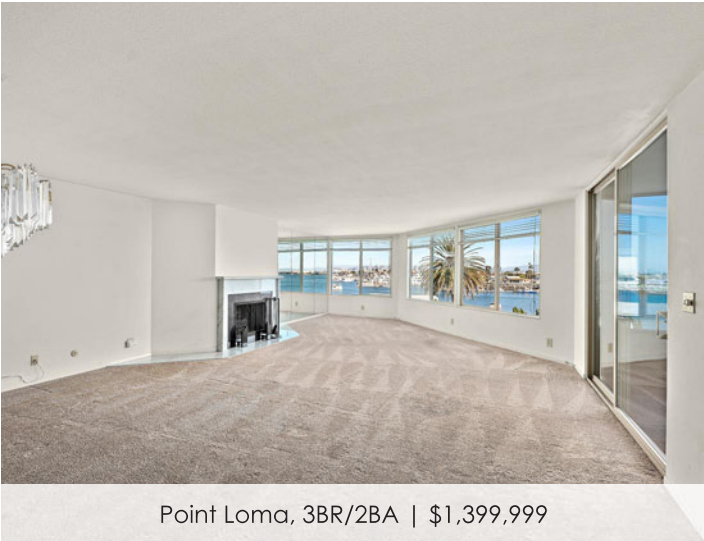
Downtown, 2BR+Den/2BA | \$1,129,000



Del Cerro, 4BR/4BA | \$1,450,000



Mission Hills, 5BR/3BA | \$2,200,000



Point Loma, 3BR/2BA | \$1,399,999

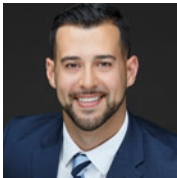
Downtown San Diego's Finest Professionals



Amy Alexander
DRE# 01427503



Ken Baer
DRE# 01334769



Louis Brignac
DRE# 01888287



John Cilch
DRE# 01840504



Larry Cline
DRE# 01894025



Stephanie Erickson
DRE# 01316258



Meg Metroyanis
DRE# 02042527



Erika Migliore
DRE# 01901085



Josh Polanco
DRE# 02044318



Ayush Vats
DRE# 02057884



Tommy Walker
DRE# 01994105



Christina Ludovice Wilkin
DRE# 01936121



Steven Kilgore
Branch Manager
DRE# 01898156

Vincent Crudo
DRE# 01424098

Megan Luce
DRE# 01299167

Christine Baker
DRE# 01808132

Craig Clarke
DRE# 00522654

Elizabeth Courtier
DRE# 01198840

Lois Moore Hirsch
DRE# 02010042



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