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Family legacy of pancakes



Sipping back to the Roaring Twenties

The bar is now open for business. (Courtesy of The Guild)

The Guild reboots with history-laced cocktails

By Frank Sabatini Jr.

Gone are the gym memberships, the basement swimming pool and game tables that attracted members of the military and locals since 1924. Now, the historic structure at 500 W. Broadway—long known as the Armed Services YMCA—is in the creative hands of Sage Hospitality Group, a Denver-based company that took over operations last year from Azul Hospitality in San Diego.

Under Azul, the eight-level landmark building morphed into The Guild, a stylish boutique hotel featuring a spacious lobby bar and courtyard restaurant. Soon after, it fetched a top-ten ranking by USA Today as one

SEE **GUILD BAR**, Page 15

Broadway San Diego celebrates 45 years

By Kendra Sitton

Broadway San Diego's 45th anniversary in November coincides with the theater reopening to national acts for locals to enjoy. The organization is resuming its 44th season which was canceled due to COVID-19 with "Alton Brown Live: Beyond the Eats" and the musical "Hairspray." When "Hairspray" opens for the week of Nov. 16-21, Mayor Todd Gloria will issue a mayoral proclamation honoring the theater for bringing Broadway back to San Diego.

SEE **BROADWAY**, Page 14



Eva Noblezada and the Original Broadway Cast of Hadestown (Photo credit Matthew Murphy)

NAVWAR redevelopment raises ire in Mission Hills

With few options left, opponents urge public to contact Congress, Navy Secretary

By Kendra Sitton

Discussions about NAVWAR's redevelopment proposals dominated a recent special meeting of the Uptown Planners on Tuesday, Oct. 26. The planning group covers several areas including Hillcrest, University Heights and Bankers Hill, yet Mission Hills residents had the most to say about the project that is part of a neighboring planning group's area.

The 60-day public comment period already closed. Uptown Planners is an advisory organization able to provide input to the city. The proposal would modernize and replace the hangars in Old Town used by the Naval Information Warfare Systems Command and Naval Information Warfare Center Pacific divisions. Since it is federal property, the group's influence about whether it stays as a bunch of office buildings or is transformed into high-rises with the potential to house over 14,000 people is minimal.

Still, presenter Patty Ducey-Brooks urged the group to send a letter opposing the project to the Secretary of the Navy as well as members of the public to contact their congressional representatives.

SEE **NAVWAR**, Page 3

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Contact us

Editorial/Letters
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“The Belle of Amherst” showcases Dickinson’s singular talent

Theater Review

By JEAN LOWERISON



Emily Dickinson and I have something in common. Alas, it is not a flair for poetry, but the fact that both of us spent our lives essentially alone. She claims it was on purpose; as do I, but though I decided early on that marriage was not for me, I can still identify with her excitement at the thought that she might have met the man of her life – or at least the publisher of her dreams.

Cynthia Gerber is brilliant as Dickinson in playwright William Luce’s solo biographical show “The Belle of Amherst,” on view through Nov. 14 at Coronado’s Lamb’s Players Theatre.

Set designer Mike Buckley sets the tone with a woodsy set that offers a beautifully restful maple tree on either side of the curtained stage, using the curtained area for projected photos.

Dickinson was born in 1830 and spent most of her life in Amherst, Massachusetts. Her father was an attorney who, it would seem, never even smiled, never mind encouraging his children in their endeavors. She flashes an unsmiling photo on the backdrop. “He looks like a bear,” she notes.

But that didn’t stop her. Neither did rejections from several submissions to “The Atlantic.” A prolific writer, by the time of her death only 10 of her nearly 1800 poems had been published and one letter. Nearly all the poems were heavily edited because she didn’t bother with the conventional rules of poetry of the time. She always wore white.

She didn’t bother with other conventions either, like religion. “Some keep the Sabbath going to church. I keep it, staying at home,” she wrote.

Emily was closest to her younger brother Austin, who as the



Cynthia Gerber is brilliant as the reclusive poet. (Photo courtesy Lamb’s Players Theatre)

only male child got most of their father’s attention.

Emily tells her side of the story, jumping around here and there as her spirit takes her.

To me, the saddest lines of all are these: “I’m nobody. Who are you?”

I am extremely happy to report that she is not “nobody” to anyone who reads English language poetry.

Gerber doesn’t just play Emily; she really inhabits the character, which allows the audience a seemingly much closer relationship to this singular talent (really, to both talents).

If you’d like to meet Emily Dickinson, get thee to Lamb’s Players Theatre.

I would suggest, however, that the theater insert a short intermission. It’s a long sit without one.

“The Belle of Amherst” plays through November 14, 2021 at Lamb’s Players Theatre, 1142 Orange Ave. in Coronado. Masks and proof of vaccination required.

For tickets: (619) 437-6000 or lambplayers.org.

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

NAWWAR

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

A second presenter, Susan Trebon, said “It’s unthinkable what they want to do to our historic [district]. I don’t think 21-38 stories is the answer in this particular area.”

Both presenters live in Mission Hills.

A Navy representative was not able to attend to present why they are proposing the massive mixed-use project that would add a transit center, thousands of homes, office space, two hotels and more to the 70-acre Naval Base Point Loma, Old Town Complex. Currently, 6,000 people work in the outdated World War II-era hangars in cybersecurity.

Those who oppose the project point to the impact the high-rises will have on their view of the sunset and the increased traffic.

Public commenter Steve Huemmer said, “The traffic has to be taken care of. The infrastructure is not there for this.”

SANDAG has worked with the Navy since 2019 to study how the site could be used for a ‘Grand Central Station’-style transit center that connected people to the airport.

Ducey-Brooks and the advocates she works alongside are urging the Navy to choose alternative one. This option would

add no housing and would remodel and rebuild the existing buildings to accommodate the growing workforce. It would be taxpayer funded. Over three months, Ducey-Brooks collected over 3,000 signatures supporting this option.

Other options, such as the Navy’s preferred alternative four, would be funded by developers and add millions in tax revenue to local and state coffers.

Not all Mission Hills residents oppose the high-rise development.

Sharon Gehl said, “People can’t use public transit if you don’t allow them to live next to it.”

She said climate change is the biggest threat to our lives and pointed out that alternative one is the only option that does not raise property values.

“We’re staring at a once in a lifetime opportunity for infill development in the perfect location,” said Joseph Rocchio, who described the Midway District as a blighted area.

The project would take 30 years to complete, with the Navy planning on adding the cybersecurity offices first.

Architect Lauren Carter described approving the project as irresponsible and accused the Navy of ignoring communities.

This is not the first housing project that has run into issues

SEE NAWWAR, Page 12

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Grace Loves Lace launches Coco Loco bridal wear

Fashion Files

By DIANA CAVAGNARO



Grace Loves Lace held a launch for their 2021/22 collection on October 7.

The event for their new Coco Loco Collection was held in their showroom on Sixth Avenue. This showroom is located in the heart of San Diego's Cortez Hill District in a majestic Catholic Church built in 1923 with high ceilings and stained-glass windows. The hardwood timber floors, high ceilings and Spanish revival archways make it a stunning piece of architecture in San

Diego and the perfect place for a showroom.

Bec Radnell, the showroom manager, greeted everyone with a glass of champagne and an invitation to a beautiful graze board. The showroom was filled with the new collection, Coco Loco, the Fall/Winter 21 Elysian Collection and the Silky Satin Bridesmaid Collection. Alessandra Ambrosio, a Brazilian-American model, was the most recent celebrity sighted wearing a Grace Loves Lace.

A game was played to determine what veil matched attendee's personalities. After finishing a quick questionnaire, they told you which veil fits your personality. After the short questionnaire,

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Wonderland Fashion Show & Luncheon

Leonard Simpson is holding this event to benefit the ARC of San Diego at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront on Friday, Dec. 3. For tickets visit arc-sd.com/winterwonderland.

guests could try on the veil they were matched with and take a picture in a photo booth.

Florist Jade Rocca from the Blooming Forward created a flower station with blue and white hydrangeas, white spider mums and magnolia leaves set up for



Models wear Silky Satin Bridesmaid Collection



Model wearing Nathalia (Photos by Diana Cavagnaro)



Guests try on veils



Erika Sankary at a veil station

pictures. For those who cannot come to the showroom, they have a bridal online showroom. This virtual appointment will help you with a stylist and sizing.

After the customer decides on a wedding dress, measurements are taken for a perfect fit. They recommend that you order the gown 6-8 months ahead of time and then this gown will arrive 6-8 weeks before your wedding. They are handmade in Australia using sustainable practices. They have invented their own GRS certified eco lace that is crafted from 100% recycled materials.

They currently are transitioning to satin made from 97% recycled materials.

When the guests left this launch party, they were given a must-have goody bag which contained a pair of their beautiful pearl earrings. To visit this beautiful showroom at 1620 Sixth Ave., call 619-539-7688.

—Diana Cavagnaro is an internationally renowned Couture Milliner based in Alpine, California. Learn more about our Hat Designer, Teacher & Blogger at DianaCavagnaro.com



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Model wearing Mila



Guest photographing their veil at a selfie station

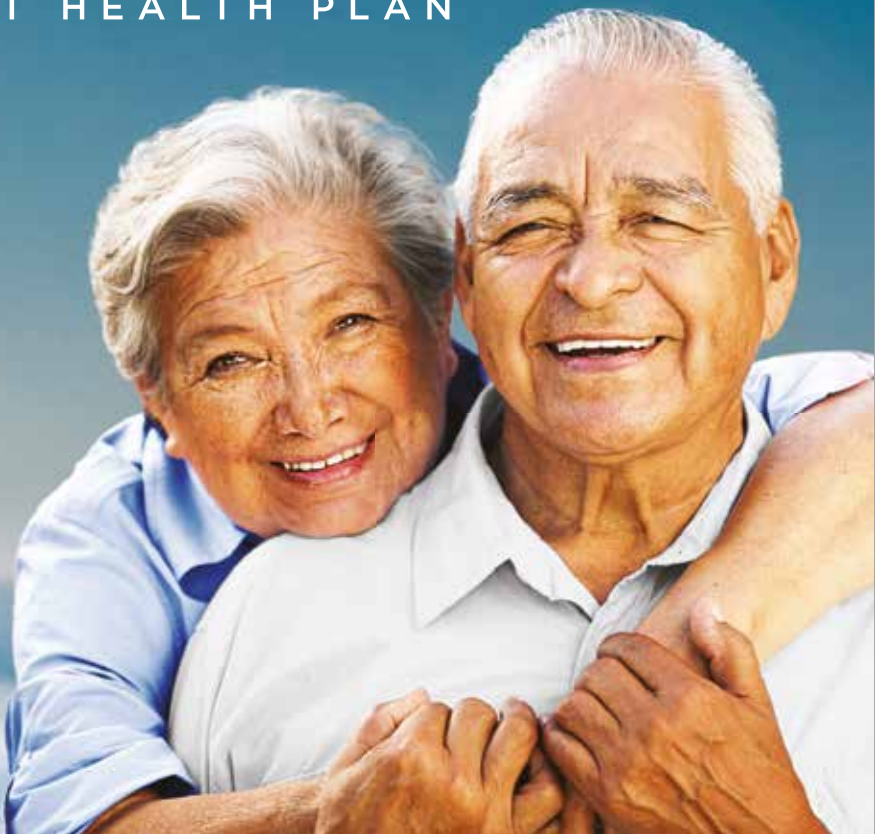
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30th Street needs a mini park

Brian Schrader

Across 30th Street from Fall Brewing Company in one of San Diego's best neighborhoods sits an abandoned lot that could be a new mini park. The lot has plenty of space for a few benches, drinking fountains, and even a swing set along with ample green space for residents to enjoy.

The space on the east side of the street has been vacant and without a structure for years and is conveniently located within a bustling section of San Diego's beer and bar scene as well as just off of historic Adams Avenue. The site is also blocks from a number of currently under-construction apartments which will bring even more residents to the area.

Residents of North Park, Normal Heights and University Heights will no doubt be familiar with Trolley Barn Park, located on the western-most end of Adams Avenue just before the Park Avenue intersection. This large park provides ample green space for residents, but is a long walk from the bustling area surrounding 30th Street. Likewise, although the area has quite a few mini parks, none provide suitable green space between Trolley Barn and Ward Canyon Park next to the 805.

While the site on 30th Street wouldn't necessarily solve this problem entirely, the site is certainly large enough to support some amenities and is close enough to the center of North Park to further improves the walkability of the neighborhood.

With the construction of multiple new apartment complexes in the area, locals will need more green space in which children can play and dogs can run.

Residents will no doubt be familiar with the ample supply of sidewalk-adjacent doggie bags that litter the area. A park would not only provide a space for families and dogs to play, but could provide ample places for visitors to deposit their doggie baggies, cutting down on the amount that end up on the street.

Similarly, a green space on such a popular street would only serve to make the area around 30th and Adams even more desirable, bringing more business and money into the area. The site could also serve as a suitable and central location for bands to play—a role Trolley Barn fills for neighbors of Park Avenue today.

When contacted about the idea, both the offices of Council member Stephen Whitburn and Mayor Todd Gloria were supportive of the idea. What's needed now is for residents of Uptown to push the issue and make it a priority for the city.

If recent trends continue, North Park and Normal Heights will see increasing amounts of development and housing construction in the coming years and that will bring more people into the vibrant fold of the Adams Avenue community. All these new people will need more green space and the empty lot across from Fall Brewing is in a prime location, so let's make it happen. Call Council member Whitburn's office at 619-236-6633 and Mayor Todd Gloria's office at 619-236-6330 and encourage them to make the 30th Street Mini Park a reality.

—Brian Schrader is a local business owner, software developer, writer and San Diego resident living in Normal Heights. Reach him at brian@brianschrader.com.

Removing guns to protect domestic violence survivors

City Attorney News

By MARA W. ELLIOTT



There's no denying the lethal connection between guns and domestic violence. When a firearm is present in a domestic violence situation, it increases the risk of homicide by 500%. Armed domestic abusers not only endanger their partners, but also pose a threat to the greater community. In the United States, 60% of all mass shootings are either domestic violence attacks or are committed by men with histories of domestic violence.

These grim statistics led me to seek added protection for domestic violence survivors from the day they first seek refuge from their abusers. Acting quickly is important because they're in the most danger when their abuser realizes they're leaving.

In an effort to remove firearms from these situations, my Office's nationally recognized Gun Violence Response Unit now meets directly with domestic violence survivors to assess their risk and, when warranted, seek a Gun Violence Restraining Order (GVRO) if their abuser has a gun and poses a significant threat.

This initiative combines two passions of mine, protecting survivors and preventing gun violence, and it occurs in the safety of *Your Safe Place* – A Family Justice Center, the newly renamed Center that offers confidential, comprehensive

services to anyone who has experienced domestic violence, intra-family violence, sex trafficking, sexual assault, or elder abuse.

We chose the name *Your Safe Place* because it projects the warm, welcoming, and inclusive setting in which we offer specialized services that include safety planning, counseling, assistance with emergency housing, legal and immigration advice, and access to clothing and necessities.

Now our menu of services includes access to a dedicated team of specially trained attorneys and Client Care Coordinators who work on-site with clients to assess their vulnerability to gun violence and explain the protection offered by a GVRO, which we know can be life-saving.

GVROs also fill a critical gap left by Domestic Violence Restraining Orders (DVROs). DVROs prohibit an abuser from owning and possessing guns, but there are no processes built into the DVRO to actually remove firearms. In contrast, GVROs are filed on behalf of the police, who can immediately confiscate weapons through voluntary compliance or search warrant. While DVROs rely on evidence of a specific threat to the victim, a GVRO can consider an individual's prior victims, threats, felony arrests, or any other evidence of an increased risk for violence.

GVROs can also be filed in conjunction with a DVRO, or

SEE YOUR SAFE PLACE, Page 7

Atkins: Focus on Native American realities not myths

Notes from Toni

By TONI G. ATKINS



It's November, and in our house that means a couple things. First, the witch's hat goes back into the attic for another year, along with the memories of so many adorable kids celebrating Halloween while having fun and being safe.

Our first milestone in November is the start of Native American Heritage Month. It's an important time for us to remember that so much of the Native experience has been erased or replaced by happy myths that don't match reality. COVID-19 shined a spotlight on the realities and disparities regarding Native communities' access to health care, recent news stories have highlighted the tragic and shameful cases of murdered and missing Indigenous women that have

gone unsolved and ignored for far too long, and the horrific discoveries of children's bodies at former Native American boarding school locations in the U.S. and Canada cry out for further investigation—and for justice.

I do have to say how pleased I am as we honor Native American culture and contributions this month, that this Thanksgiving, for the first time, America's public lands are being overseen by a Native American—Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, a member of the Pueblo of Laguna and a 35th generation New Mexican.

Of the many, many things I am thankful for this month, the veterans we honor on November 11 are top of the list. Coming from a military family and representing a district with a long and proud history in the defense of our nation, I am committed to ensuring our veterans get the respect they deserve and receive the services and benefits they

have earned—especially having a safe, decent place to call home. Later on in the newsletter there's some good information on the gains the Legislature was able to make for veterans this year—a righteous cause I will always keep on the front burner.

Speaking of burners, do you have a favorite you'll be warming up this Thanksgiving? A Twitter poll shows the front right is people's favorite with 54% of the vote, while front left is a strong contender with 36.5%, The back burners, well, they weren't all that popular, with 4.7% each. When we do our Thanksgiving cooking this month, let's all be sure to thank the more than 5,000 farms in our region that produce a wide range of commodities from fruits, vegetables and nuts to beef, pork and poultry. According to the latest annual crop report, the bounty produced by our farmers resulted in a \$1.8 billion economic impact in our region.

As we move closer to the start of the next legislative session in January, my colleagues and I will continue working to help ensure more families can gather safely for all their celebrations, so more veterans and all Californians will be able to have a home for the holidays, and so our society can focus less on myths about Native Americans bringing pies to Thanksgiving and more on the work that must be done to bring missing and murdered women and children home to their families.

Though that work is never easy, it is one of the things I am most thankful for this month and every other month—and I am grateful to you all for that privilege.

Jennifer and I wish you all the best this Thanksgiving.

—Toni G. Atkins is President pro Tempore of the California Senate. Visit sd39.senate.ca.gov/contact to contact her.

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EDITOR

Kendra Sittton
kendra@sdnews.com

WEB / SOCIAL MEDIA

Kendra Sittton

ADVERTISING

CONSULTANTS

Mike Rosensteel

(619) 961-1958

miker@sdnews.com

Lauren Vernon

(571) 259-1530

lauren@sdnews.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Jeff Clemetson x130

Tom Melville x131

Dave Schwab x 132

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Toni Atkins

Diana Cavagnaro

Tom Cesarini

Mara Elliott

Chris Gomez

Luke Johnson

Jane Lowerison

Neal Putnam

Frank Sabatini Jr.

Brian Schrader

Summer Stephan

Sandee Wilhoit

BUSINESS

CONSULTANT

David Mannis

(619) 961-1951

david@sdenn.com

ACCOUNTING

Heather Humble x120

accounting@sdnews.com

PUBLISHER

Julie Main x106

julie@sdnews.com

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Ransomware: To pay or not to pay?

District Attorney News
By SUMMER STEPHAN



Ransomware is a massive problem that doesn't just affect corporations. It's also a danger to ordinary citizens and government entities. Ransomware locks out the rightful user of a computer or computer network and holds the information hostage until the victim pays a fee. Hackers are also known for threatening to leak sensitive information to get victims to meet their demands.

You've heard these stories in the news recently, such as the Colonial Pipeline hack, which disrupted a major supply of fuel to the East Coast for about a week in

May. The corporation admittedly paid more than \$4 million in bitcoin to the criminal hacker group, much of which was recovered by the Department of Justice.

When it comes to getting hacked, many people want to know: should you pay the ransom? There is no simple answer. But there are practical, ethical and moral considerations argued by proponents of both sides of this debate. While the unique circumstances of each incident need to be considered by the victim, in most cases the answer is no, you should not pay the ransom. This is the position taken by federal and local law enforcement.

Despite this answer, many high-profile victims of ransomware have chosen to pay the ransom, in

the hopes of restoring their systems and operations, with ransom sums in the millions of dollars. These decisions were hopefully made by individuals in positions of power that conducted a cost-benefit analysis and found that it made financial or operational sense for their entity.

While some organizations have made this decision, the practical reasons for not paying the ransom are compelling. Here reasons we recommend against paying the ransom:

- Often a system is not really compromised and if law enforcement is contacted, they can help a victim discover that their system isn't being held for ransom – rather it's an idle threat.
- The bad actors may not unlock the victim's computer even if

the ransom is paid. There are no guarantees that criminal hackers will keep their word, and there are documented instances where this has been the case.

- Once a victim has paid the initial ransom demand, the hackers may request more money, either immediately or sometime in the future, creating a cycle of victimization.
- If you pay the ransom, it could identify you as a target for future bad actors.
- If everyone refuses to pay, there will be no incentive for criminals.

Prevention and preparedness are the best strategies to combat ransomware. Technology is constantly evolving and our own reliance on that technology is

intertwined on nearly every level of life. That's why it's vital to have good digital hygiene – which is cleaning up and maintaining your electronic information or assets and regularly updating them.

If you fall victim to a ransomware attack, report the incident to your local law enforcement as quickly as possible.

As your District Attorney, I'm committed to increasing communication and accessibility between the DA's Office and the public. I hope these consumer and public safety tips have been helpful.

—District Attorney Summer Stephan has dedicated more than 29 years to serving justice and victims of crime as prosecutor. Visit sdcd.org/office/contact/ to contact her.

Your Safe Place

CONTINUED FROM Page 6

as an alternative to a DVRO, in situations where victims fear retaliation or challenges to serving the order. GVRs are a unique and reliable intervention tool to immediately remove guns from a volatile situation that could lead to domestic violence homicide.

We want San Diegans to know that anyone living in fear of violence is welcome at *Your Safe Place*, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, income, or immigration

status. No questions asked. Engagement with law enforcement is always the client's choice at *Your Safe Place*, a victim-centered and trauma-informed space.

Your Safe Place offers free, confidential services to women, men, children and teens. Our goal is to empower survivors to heal and move forward with their lives.

Ask yourself:
Are you ever afraid to go home?
Do you live in fear of your partner?
Has your partner ever threatened you, your family, or your pets?

Has your partner ever blamed you for their violent behavior?
Has your partner ever threatened you with a gun?
If you answered yes to any of these questions, or know someone who might, please contact *Your Safe Place* today.

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—Mara W. Elliott is the San Diego City Attorney.

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City closes parks, beaches, and trails to discourage gatherings

On Monday, March 22, Mayor Kevin L. Frazier was joined by Police Chief David Neeley, Fire Rescue Chief Colin Stewart and Lifeguard Division Chief James Garland to announce the closure of City's...

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TIPS TO STAY CONNECTED DURING NATURAL DISASTERS, WILDFIRE SEASON



It's always important to prepare your loved ones, home and business in the event of a natural disaster, which can strike without warning. For San Diego residents, that also means preparing and protecting your home or business in the event of a wildfire.

A top priority for Cox during a wildfire or other natural disaster is to keep customers connected so they can stay informed, check in with family and friends, and even access their shows and movies if they're evacuated.

Cox also works hard to keep business customers, including hospitals and offices of Emergency Services, connected so they can continue to serve their customers and the public.

Wildfire season typically occurs from May through October. However, wildfires can occur at any time. Some of the most destructive and deadliest wildfires in California have occurred in November

(Camp Fire in Northern California in 2018) and December (Thomas Fire in Santa Barbara in 2017).

Cox prepares all year long for natural disasters, including wildfires, by reviewing its business continuity plan and running through simulated events such as a wildfire or earthquake so that employees in all facets of its operations will be prepared and know their role and responsibilities during a natural disaster.

When weather conditions increase the risk for wildfires, the local power company may notify you and Cox that they're implementing a PSPS. If you're in a neighborhood where power is shut off, your Cox services may be interrupted. You need power to run your devices and we need commercial power for our network.

We'll work closely with the power company and public safety agencies to monitor the situation and ensure the safety of our network and facilities to continue to serve our customers.

Here are some tips to help better prepare for an unexpected event or Public Safety Power Shutoff.

Have a charged backup battery for your landline phone

Cox Voice customers should keep corded landline phones and a fully charged backup battery for phone modems in case of an emergency. Purchase a backup battery by calling 855-324-7700 or visiting your local Cox store.

Follow Cox on Twitter for updates and info

During a Public Safety Power Shutoff or natural disaster, Cox posts service outage updates and

other important information on Twitter. Follow Cox at @coxcalifornia.

Download Cox apps before a wildfire or PSPS occurs

- Cox app – Check on outages, stay up to date with text alerts and manage your account.
- Cox Contour app – Cox TV customers can access the latest news and weather, and stream favorites to their mobile devices.

Generators may help keep you connected

If your power goes out, a generator may prolong your services if your Cox service location still has power. Check your generator owner's manual for details on power capacity and safe operation.

Homelife Security Functionality

Cox Homelife Security will continue to work with limited function. Go to cox.com/residential/support/cellular-backup-capabilities for more information.

Consumer Disaster Protections

Customers whose residential telephone service is impacted during a state of emergency declared by the California Governor's Office or the President of the United States may be eligible to receive disaster relief protections Visit cox.com.

For more helpful information and tips, visit cox.com/CaliforniaAssist.



Hillcrest restaurant shooter pleaded guilty

By Neal Uptown

A man who fired 19 shots into a Hillcrest restaurant in 2019 and miraculously missed hitting anyone has pleaded guilty and agreed to serve a 49-year prison term.

Deputy District Attorney Leonard Trinh said on Oct. 22 that Stefano Markell Parker, now 32, will have to serve 85% of the 49-year sentence before he can be paroled because it involves violent felonies.

The motive appears to be hatred of gay people—given what Parker wrote about LGBTQ+ people on his Facebook page before

the Feb. 12, 2019, assault on the Asian Bistro at 414 University Avenue at 7:40 p.m. in Hillcrest, the cornerstone of the LGBTQ+ community.

Parker, wearing a trench coat, stood on University Avenue and fired 19 rounds into the restaurant and glass. The restaurant is also known as Golden Dragon with its iconic sign outside.

All 11 diners inside ducked down as did the restaurant's employees. No one was even injured by flying glass in what a prosecutor at the time called a miracle.

Parker then changed clothes and abandoned the rifle, but

police arrested him four blocks away.

"Who told all these gayfers it was safe to come outside...?" wrote Parker two weeks before the shooting.

Parker also wrote "Nothing against gay dudes but (obscenity) they look at you...when they know you don't swing they(sic) way."

San Diego Superior Court Judge Fred Link set sentencing for Jan. 14, 2022. Parker remains in the George Bailey Detention Facility without bail.

Parker was convicted of murder when he was 16 years old in Jefferson, Alabama in the death of another teenager in a drive-by shooting. The Alabama records are not public here as Parker was

a juvenile at the time, but he did not receive a long sentence in that 2005 crime.

Parker pleaded guilty before Link to five counts of assault with a deadly weapon. Eleven counts of attempted murder, firing into an occupied building, and felon in possession of a firearm were dismissed.

If Parker went to trial and was convicted of all charges, he would have faced 154 years to life in prison.

With the 49-year sentence, Parker will have to serve almost 42 actual years before he can be paroled around age 70.

Early in his case, Parker was found to be mentally incompetent to stand trial and he was sent to

Patton State Hospital for treatment. Doctors there determined he had regained his competency and he was returned to San Diego.

Superior Court Judge Cindy Davis found Parker to be mentally fit on April 21, according to court records.

Link conducted a preliminary hearing May 18 in which San Diego police officers, criminalists and agents with the Alcohol, Tobacco, & Firearms testified. He was ordered to stand trial on all counts.

Parker's murder conviction in Alabama in 2006 will result in him receiving five years consecutively for having a prior felony conviction.

—Neal Putnam is a local court reporter. Reach him at nealputnam@gmail.com.

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Bazaar del Mundo celebrates 50 years

Diane Powers' popular Bazaar del Mundo in Old Town is celebrating its 50-year anniversary. Opened in 1971, Powers created a unique shopping and dining experience in San Diego that continues to attract thousands of visitors to the historical Old Town State Park every year.

Held November 4-6 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and November 7, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. guests can enjoy a lively Marketplace filled with colorful and elaborately decorated booths and a showcase of

authentic handcrafted art, crafts, jewelry, vibrant Mexican clothing and more. Entertainers will perform throughout the weekend.

"This November marks a milestone for our businesses," says owner and operator Diane Powers. "We couldn't have done it without our devoted customers and longtime dedicated staff, whose continued support has been the foundation of our success."



(Courtesy photo)

The Marketplace will feature many of Bazaar del Mundo's favorite Latin American artists, including Mata Ortiz pottery masters, Oaxacan wood carvers, Zapotec weavers, plus several local artists.

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What Cash Bail Reform Means For Families In California

April 22, 2019 - Expert Advice



In September of 2018, California Governor Jerry Brown signed a bill abolishing the state's cash bail system. The bill was intended to completely eliminate cash bail for defendants, replacing it with a system of evaluation and recommendation for release or incarceration prior to trial. Ultimately, judges would decide which defendants posed a "threat to the community" and who did not. Proponents of the measure insist that it will eliminate unfair biases in the system that they say treat rich and poor defendants differently.

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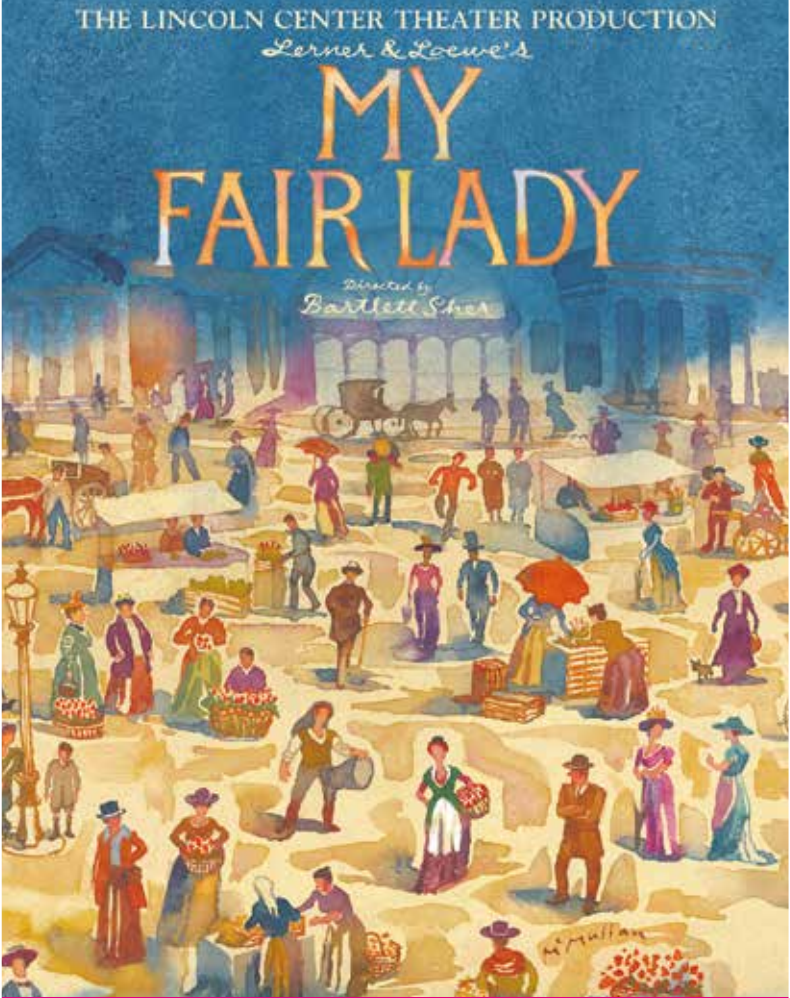
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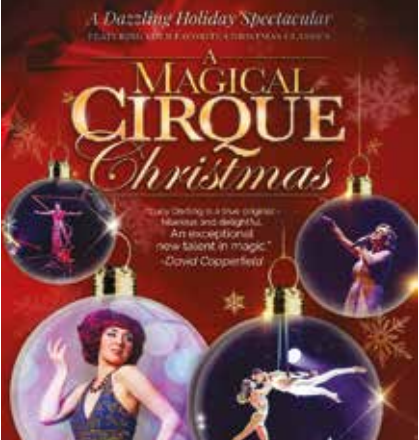
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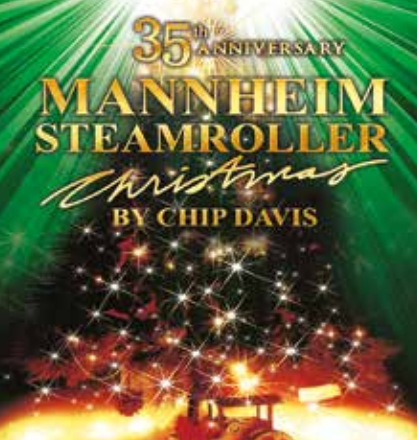
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All dates and titles are subject to change. *Performances at The Balboa Theatre.

Pancake breakfast: A Walker family legacy

By Kendra Sitton

Since 2006, Richard Walker's Pancake House has been a mainstay for breakfast in Downtown San Diego. Trendy eateries have opened and shuttered in the neighborhood but the Gaslamp restaurant survived. Amid the tumult of economic crises and pandemics, its excellent service and delicious menu drew customers back time and again. Specialties like the baked apple pancake and a German pancake shaped like a large bowl have become favorites.

Although it has been in San Diego for 15 years, the history of the family-owned, family-operated pancake house extends

back much further in both time and place. This is the third pancake house Richard Walker Sr. has owned as sole proprietor. The first two opened in Illinois in 1989 and 1996, respectively.

The Walker pancake house legacy now encompasses three generations. Walker's father, Victor Walker, entered the food business through an Illinois snack shop with his brother in 1948 and opened 18 franchises of Kentucky Fried Chicken. Victor became a pancake house owner by franchising through the Portland-based The Original Pancake House. Victor's sons started their own pancake business, Walker Bro.'s Original Pancake House, in the

'80s, before Richard struck out on his own. Now Walker's own son, Richard Walker Jr., owns and operates three locations of Richard Walker's Pancake House on San Diego's coast.

One of the draws of the breakfast business for the three generations of Walkers is that it allowed more family time. Even after administrative tasks were completed, they still had evenings to be with their spouse and children.

"I did have a seafood restaurant a long time ago... and I really did ultimately like the breakfast thing the most, just [a] more wholesome lifestyle," Walker said.



Richard Walker Sr. next to his son Richard Walker Jr. in one of their kitchens. (Courtesy photo)

SEE RICHARD WALKER, Page 11



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Richard Walker

CONTINUED FROM Page 10

Walker always envisioned his future on the west coast although he did not plan to become part of the family breakfast business. His father encouraged him to explore all his options and find something he enjoyed. The elder Walker supported his son in all pursuits but he did extend a promise: If Walker spent one year as manager, he would help him open his own restaurant.

“He really did train us boys to work hard, to stay focused on whatever we give ourselves to and be the best at whatever we do,” Walker said.

With his father’s support, Walker studied classical piano at the University of San Francisco. During graduate school at a conservatory in Boston, he decided to work a pancake house his dad at a connection with just so he could explore that possibility.

“I went in as a manager trainee and I ended up really liking it. I



Walker lives next door to the restaurant in the Gaslamp Quarter. (Courtesy photo)

was really shocked. I really didn't think I would like it because it's just kind of what I grew up with,” he said.

It was several years before Walker moved back to Illinois and took up his father on his promise to help him open a pancake house with his brother.

Still, he always planned on his future being on the west coast. At 51, he was on a flight to Phoenix to visit his daughter when he spotted an ad on the plane about a new building project in Little Italy. The ad interested him so much he ended up visiting San Diego to see the project. The direction of the city enticed him to nix his plans to move to Santa Barbara and relocate to San Diego instead. In 2006, he made good on that

dream and moved to an apartment overlooking the bay that is

next door to his pancake house on Front Street.

He remains hands-on at the restaurant and visits every day to speak to the manager and customers. He has pulled back as he grows older and spends more time playing music and traveling with his family.

Walker said he has passed on his father’s lessons about providing fast service and treating

customers well to his own son. Walker said the younger Richard has integrity in the way he operates the locations in La Jolla, Carlsbad and Del Mar.

To taste the legacy of the Walker family, visit 520 Front Street from 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for a delicious pancake breakfast.

—Reach Kendra Sitton at kendra@sdnews.com.



As Lazy Acres Natural Market celebrated 30 years of serving Southern California, they announced a new partnership with 1% for the Planet. Their Mission Hills store partnered with the Balboa Park Conservancy, a local non-profit focused on raising funds to address sustainability and accessibility needs in Balboa Park. Lazy Acres Mission Hills provided the Balboa Park Conservancy a \$1,000 check to support their community programs.

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NAVWAR

CONTINUED FROM Page 3

with Mission Hills. After major community opposition, a plan to convert the abandoned Mission Hills Library into permanent supportive housing for mentally ill homeless San Diegans was nixed.

As in that canceled project, opponents are trying to get the site approved for historical status to stymie the redevelopment. The hangars were originally constructed to assemble B-52 bombers during WWII.

Following the public comment, board members gave their own thoughts on the project although no final decision as to whether to send a letter to the Navy Secretary or anyone in Congress was made since Naval advocates had yet to present their side.

"I have heard no discussion of affordable housing. I'm afraid this plan will also look like Downtown Disney. Building for infrastructure that is yet to come is silly and expensive," said board member Mary McKenzie.

The board response did reflect the changing make-up of the board following the election that ousted many YIMBY (Yes in my Backyard) members. Even a year ago, the amount of opposition to the project would have been lower.

Some pro-housing advocates do remain.

"I'm supportive of doing the most we can with this site. 'We support housing but just not here' is an argument we hear over and over again," said board member Clint Daniels.

A few board members tried to strike a conciliatory tone appealing to both sides.

Mary Brown commended the public for getting involved. She said this was the most community advocacy she had ever seen.

"I don't think our viewpoints are as different as they appear," she added.

Common ground was found over the lack of detail in the architectural drawings and plans.

Roy Dahl said "It would've been nice if the architects did a real job. Those drawings are just so horrible, I can see why anyone would be terrified."

However, even that point was met with disagreement.

"The panic I'm hearing is not justified," said William Smith, who pointed out that many of the large buildings would not be completed for 20 years. "We're talking about a new type of downtown and that's ok. The only unoccupied housing anywhere nearby is Mission Hills. It's a small group opposing a very large project. We're a big city. We should get used to that."

—Reach Kendra Sitton at kendra@sdnews.com.

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Broadway

CONTINUED FROM Page 1

"Live performances like Broadway San Diego's productions are part of our city's cultural vibrancy. The return of their shows brings our city one step closer to restoring the lively theatre community that has been sorely missed these past two years," said Mayor Gloria in a statement. "I appreciate Broadway San Diego's support and cultivation of our local arts scene as well as their efforts to unite people through diverse opportunities and experiences."

"Hairspray" is a local favorite and is helmed by homegrown talent: Jack O'Brien, the former artistic director of the Old Globe, is directing the musical.

"I don't know that we could have asked for a better show to start our season," said Vanessa Davis, general manager of Broadway San Diego.

Davis also explained that San Diego is clearly supportive of theater reopening. Alton Brown added a second night to the show due to its popular demand. Season ticket holders and her administrative team have enabled the theater to return for its 44th season despite the challenges of 2020.

"It's impossible without the support of this community and without the team at Broadway San Diego. We have had season ticket holders trust us and ride this wave with us, stand by us and support us the whole way through," she said.

Broadway San Diego is reopening slightly later than many of the



Mannheim Steamroller giving a Christmas performance. (Photo by Matt Christine Photography)

other theaters. Hosting touring artists, not just local professionals, creates more logistical challenges. The tours and local theaters are all following regulations set by the Broadway League in New York that include a strict vaccine and testing regimen. Broadway San Diego has instituted a mask and vaccine mandate for theater-goers through Dec. 31 that is subject to being extended depending on local conditions.

"The wonderful thing is we have earned the trust of our season ticket

holders. An overwhelming number of people have reached out to us about the mask and vaccine policy, in support," Davis said.

Unlike other local theaters that scrapped plays intended for 2020 and made new selections, Broadway San Diego just adjusted the dates of their cancelled shows. The seven shows in the 44th season package are "Hairspray," Tony Award Winning Best Musical "The Band's Visit," musical comedy "Tootsie," 2019 Tony Award Winner "Hades Town," movie adaptation "Pretty Woman: The Musical," Aaron Sorkin's "To Kill a Mockingbird" and American classic "1776." Other than "Hairspray," all are coming to San Diego for the first time.

A few canceled shows from the 2019-2020 season are also being

shown, starting with "My Fair Lady" in late November followed by La Jolla Playhouse-bred "Come From Away" and movie adaptation "Mean Girls." A new show was also added to the rescheduled season: the 25th anniversary of "Rent."

"We're just thrilled to be bringing Broadway back to San Diego. I know that we weren't alone with closures, but our industry — it was a catastrophic closure. Now we're just going to do all we can to get back up and running and we're well on our way," Davis said.

For more information about these shows and to purchase tickets, visit broadwaysd.com.

—Kendra Sitton can be reached at kendra@sdnews.com.



The original Broadway production of Tootsie. (Photo courtesy Santino, Fontana and Company)

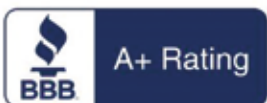


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Guild bar
CONTINUED FROM Page 1

of the best new hotels in the country. Sage stepped in several months into the pandemic, when The Guild had fallen into a deep slump because of lock downs and decreased travel. The bar and lounge had completely shut down.



Lead bartender Robert Chacon completing The Million Dollar 'Bill' cocktail (By Frank Sabatini Jr.)

“There was no food or beverage. It was a dead bar that we resurrected from the ground,” said director of operations, Miguel Lopez. “Now it’s a full-blown operation seven nights a week.” Just recently, The Guild reintroduced itself to the public as a destination for food and drinks, both of which can be enjoyed either at the sizable bar or in two inviting outdoor lounge areas.

At a recent kickoff party, the spotlight was on The Guild’s new specialty cocktails. Each of the eight new drinks ties into a titillating anecdote about San Diego during the 1920s and early ‘30s. Who knew there was a Downtown speakeasy called The Dew Drop Inn that lost everything in a fire except for an icebox containing Prohibition bourbon? Hence the bourbon-based Dew Drop cocktail augmented for today’s connoisseurs with lime, ginger, pomegranate and allspice. Located within the red-light Stingaree



The Dew Drop cocktail (Courtesy of The Guild)



A seating area within the open-air courtyard (Photo by Frank Sabatini Jr.)



A dedication ceremony shortly after the building opened as a YMCA (Courtesy of The Guild)



Vintage YMCA signage remains on top of the structure. (Courtesy of The Guild)

District (now part of the Gaslamp Quarter), firefighters reportedly discovered the liquor resting on a block of ice after cracking open the unharmed box. The Million Dollar “Bill” is a flashy cocktail that pays homage to Congressman William Kettner from San Diego. He was known to President Roosevelt at the time as “The Million Dollar Congressman” for securing land agreements with “every San Diego naval base,” according to Lopez’s research. In addition, San Diego’s first fire boat was named after Kettner.

“The boat put out fires on the water,” Lopez explained while pointing out that the drink is finished with a smoky essence the bartender achieves by burning a faux million-dollar bill over the top. That element adds verve to a combination of rum, kiwi syrup, lemon and falernum. A play on the Old Fashion is named Rodgers & Stevenson. It is named after the building’s original architects, Lincoln Rodgers and Frank Stevenson. The drink comprises Ritterhouse Rye Whiskey, Cynar liqueur and malted syrup made in-house.

The recipes are a collaboration between lead bartender Robert Chacon (formerly of Pendry San Diego) and bar consultant Lee Zaremba, a beverage expert who will soon open an upscale cocktail bar in Los Angeles. Each specialty drink includes a brief description of its historical portrayal. Wine and local draft beers are also available, along with a food menu that includes house-made jerky, duck fat fries, burgers, fried chicken sandwiches, desserts and more.

Over the years, the west end of the building was home to a few different kitchens, including Grand Central Cafe. More recently, the current courtyard lounge gave way to the former Mediterranean-inspired Luca restaurant. The Guild’s general manager, Onal Kucuk, noted that the building has changed hands “many times” over the decades, and both the hotel and bar have operated in fits and starts since the pandemic. “The building initially opened as The Guild in 2019 under the different management company. It operated for eight months, closed for three months, and then we opened it back up in August of last year right during the pandemic. We’re just now re-entering the San Diego market as a luxury-lifestyle hotel. It’s The Guild 2.0—basically our second reopening.” The bar and kitchen are open from 4 to 10 p.m. daily. For more information, call 619-795-6000 or visit theguildhotel.com.

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

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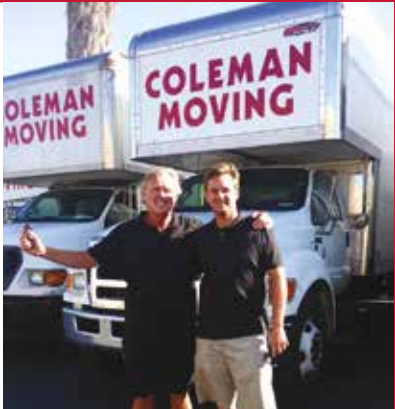
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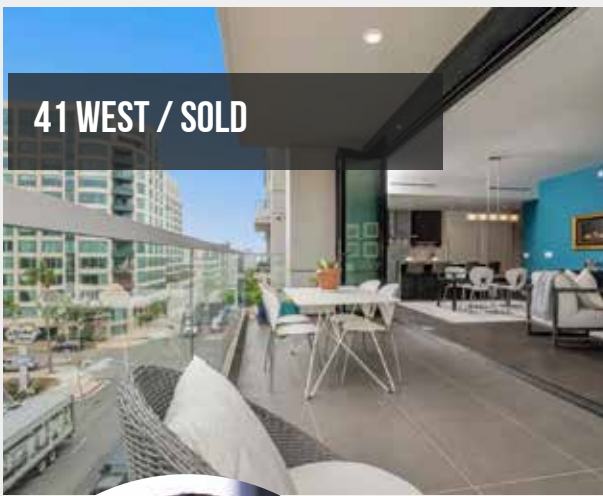
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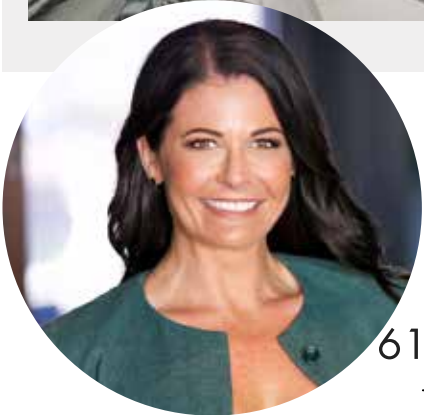
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