Teen girls urge action at ‘Say Her Name’ protest

Delina spent her final birthday before adulthood fighting for her life.

“I have to fight for something most of my counterparts don’t have to,” Delina said to a crowd of 100 protesters outside the San Diego County Administration Center on Sunday, Aug. 23 — her 17th birthday.

Instead of celebrating the monumental day with people she loves, Delina and three other friends led a protest through Downtown San Diego against the premature deaths of Black women in the U.S. due to police violence, domestic abuse, medical bias and hate crimes.

From San Diego City College to Pacific Highway, the protesters chanted “Say Her Name,” a phrase coined to raise awareness of the specific gender- and race-based violence Black women face.

“The reason why we wanted to do the ‘Say Her Name’ protest was to highlight Black women who have died through all forms of abuse. It all ties into one thing: our system and that a lot of times the response. The protest concluded when Delina read the names of dozens of Black women who died too soon.

Highlighting the issues Black women face was not meant to diminish other fights, according to the organizers, including protests over Black men killed by police.

“If does need to be a focus on Black women too because we are lesser-known victims of misogyny,” Delina said.

Breonna Taylor, a Black woman shot to death in her home by Louisville police, was featured in many of the signs and chants during the protests. The organizers also told the stories of lesser-known victims of misogyny and the crowd chanted the names Miriam Carey, Bree Black and Aiyana Jones in response. The protest concluded when Delina read the names of dozens of Black women who died too soon.

San Diego’s first design week explores new possibilities

Many major cities from Bangkok to Los Angeles host annual design weeks celebrating the creativity, innovation and design in each landscape. San Diego was gearing up for its first-ever Design Week when COVID-19 hit. The inaugural event will still occur, but through a series of virtual and safe in-person events including talks, workshops, chef demos, bike rides, self-guided tours and studio tours.

From Sept. 9–13, all San Diegans will have an opportunity to explore the way design impacts the city and learn from professionals in the industry. The year’s theme is “Design+,” examining the ways designers collaborate across industries to serve the community.

A sample live event bringing professionals together is “Equality by Design: Events,” which features brand specialist Loren Cobbs, creative director Erwin Hines, entrepreneur Jessie Medina and communications expert Ramel Wallace. The panel will discuss how events and the agencies behind them can redesign from top to bottom.

SEE DESIGN WEEK, Page 10

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The way we celebrate these days has changed. But one thing hasn’t. Though metallic foil balloons seem harmless, they can actually be dangerous around electric power lines. The metal in the balloons can cause the line to arc and spark. So keep balloons securely tied down or weighted when outdoors. Always deflate and dispose of them when the party’s over. And when we all return to our normal celebrations, think about using festive rubber or vinyl balloons instead.

A non-profit foundation has been started as a way to raise needed funds for the new North Park Mini Park, which is scheduled to be completed in 2021. This park will be located in the empty lot behind the iconic North Park Theatre. The North Park Business and Neighborhood Foundation (NPBANF), a 501c3, has tasked themselves with raising funds for the new park with a unique paver program.

The pavers are essentially bricks, which will be laid into a courtyard area of the park once it is finished. Each paver will feature a personalized message from whoever buys it, and will become a permanent feature of the park. Chris Clark is the President of the NPBANF, and like its other members, is a community resident who is dedicated to continuing the revitalization that North Park has seen in the last 20 years.

“The North Park Business and Neighborhood Foundation (NBPANF) is a way to connect North Park businesses and the residential community, and enhance the quality of life for both,” Clark said.

Clark has been an extremely active member of the neighborhood for several years, including being a driving force behind the free Bird Rock Summer Concert Series as part of the North Park Community Association.

The pavers will be used to fill a plaza area inside the park featuring the messages and tributes contributed by the community members. The pavers start at $125 for a 4 x 8 inch brick, which includes a short personalized inscription. You can upsize to an 8 x 8 paver for $225, and add $50 to that to include a logo on your paver. These pavers will be a permanent park of the park and create a legacy for those involved. All paver inscriptions will have to be approved by the NPBANF who reserves the right to reject profanity, intolerance or any other objectionable content.

The North Park Mini Park is one of the last projects credited to a now defunct California State redevelopment program where blighted land was purchased for future neighborhood improvement ideas. The new park site could have been sold for a residential multi-family project, but instead the redevelopment committee voted to use it for open space. Consultants at MRG, Inc. and KOA Engineering Corporation were hired to create a plan and conduct outreach to the community, Senator Toni Atkins allocated $1.25 million to the park, which helped seal the deal.

Angela Landsberg, the Executive Director of North Park Main Street, noted “The North Park Mini Park is a valuable addition to our community. The pavers will provide funding for park enhancements and give donors an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy in their community.” She added that the funds being raised for the park will go to providing the umbrellas, benches and other amenities that are not covered in the redevelopment budget.

The new park will serve as a community hub, which will host movie nights, special events, live music and the weekly North Park Farmer’s Market. Pavers are now on sale until Sept. 12 and can be purchased at northparkminipark.com.

—Vince Meehan can be reached at vinniemeehan@gmail.com.
Leo Malevanchik is a talented photographer who resides here in San Diego. He grew up in Moscow where artists are held in high esteem and spent his childhood surrounded by the rich Russian art tradition. He first became interested in fashion photography when he was 7 years old. He got a little camera and started shooting friends and events. He learned to develop the film in the bathroom and started experimenting.

At that time his uncle and artist, Eduard Choroshy, was friends with famous photographer Alexander Lapin. Malevanchik was introduced to him and enrolled in one of his small classes studying photography with him for two years. During college, Malevanchik became friends with a Rock and Roll group whose Russian name means Time Machine in English. He started shooting their concerts and eventually the group became popular. Today they are still a household name in Russia. The Time Machine is still famous and Malevanchik sees pictures he took of the group still floating around.

Finishing university, he received a Master’s Degree in mechanical engineering. A sponsorship to the US became available and his entire family including his wife and 5-year old son decided to leave the Soviet Union. This meant that the government didn’t look at them favorably and consequently imposed heavy restrictions on what they could bring to the US. Malevanchik realized that his forte was shooting faces and still life pictures. He started photographing LA’s top bands, and eventually the group became a household name in Russia. The Time Machine is still famous and Malevanchik sees pictures he took of the group still floating around.

His negatives of his photography were one of the items he had to leave behind.

Malevanchik and his family landed in Tucson, Arizona in 1990. It was the opposite culturally and weather wise from Moscow. They remained there for nine years until his wife secured a position in San Diego and they moved the family here. He slowly moved into the art circles and met other artists here. He started shooting portraits, models, and theme parties regularly. Malevanchik met a hairdresser from Bellas Academy who envisioned a program with role playing and invited him to be a photographer there. He would take pictures of the student’s creations.

He started photographing LA Fashion Week, Fashion Week San Diego, and New York Fashion Week. He also shoots bands here in San Diego such as the Republic of Letters which was a top band here for two years. He would do editorial shoots in their studio during rehearsals and then shoot them during performances around town. He also began shooting for magazines and blogs. The La Jolla International Fashion Film Festival gave him the opportunity to shoot people from around the world. Malevanchik realized that his forte was shooting faces and still life pictures.

Appreciating the art of “American Gothic,” Malevanchik started a tradition of giving the models a piece of fruit to hold for the last shot of each photoshoot. He has now been using fruit for years and has over 100 of these photographs. As soon as Covid-19 has subsided, look for a gallery exhibit featuring these amazing shots with green apples, red apples, or strawberries. In his spare time, Malevanchik travels around the world taking pictures of indigenous peoples. Since Covid-19, he has been taking the photography outdoors. He arrives 40 minutes ahead of time and sets everything up outside with a backdrop and is able to practice his art while maintaining safe distancing. If you would like more information, visit leomalevanchik.com.

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

A picture is worth a thousand words
Lost pioneers in North Park
San Diego street names: Part five of the series

By: Dick McEntyre and Chris von der Lieth, Attorneys at Law

You may have a beautifully prepared trust instrument (Declaration of Trust or Trust Agreement) which sets forth your exact intentions and directions as to whom is to receive the property in your trust (in the trust estate) when you die.

However, unless you transfer assets (for example: house, bank accounts, stock brokerage accounts) at or after the time you created your trust, when you die these titled assets, depending upon their values, may well require a probate (long, costly court procedure) to enable their respective titles to be transferred into your trust, before your successor trustee can transfer these assets out of the trust to your successor trustee. This process is often called “funding” your trust. And it is somewhat of a “bashle” for some folks to do this. This is because you usually must personally visit your bank to change title to bank accounts and must correspond with stock brokerage firms and complete lengthy forms to transfer such brokerage accounts. But all your effort is certainly worthwhile, if by doing so you avoid a probate.

Typically at the time your trust instrument is prepared, your attorney will prepare the deed necessary to transfer legal title to your home into your trust, and you yourself will be responsible for transferring the other titled assets into your trust. This process is often called “funding” your trust. And it is somewhat of a “bashle” for some folks to do this. This is because you usually must personally visit your bank to change title to bank accounts and must correspond with stock brokerage firms and complete lengthy forms to transfer such brokerage accounts. But all your effort is certainly worthwhile, if by doing so you avoid a probate.

As discussed in earlier PastMatters columns, approximately 140 street names in San Diego were changed by two ordinances adopted in 1899 and 1900. The ordinances eliminated duplication and achieved some continuity where street names changed from tract to tract.

Three historic tracts mapped during the 1870s extend from present-day Alabama to Boundary streets between University Avenue and Upas Street. These are Pauly’s Addition formed by Aaron Pauly, Park Villas formed by Joseph Nash, and West End formed by William Jefferson Gatewood. Most of the north-south streets in this area were renamed for states in 1899 to achieve continuity with the historic tract of University Heights to the north. Pauly’s Addition lies between present-day Alabama and Arizona streets. In this tract, the original street names of Briant, Landes, Skinner, Pauly and Chouteau became Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas and Arizona streets, respectively. The original names represented pioneers of 1870s San Diego. (Original north-south Landes Street should not be confused with present-day east-west Landis Street, which was named for a different person.)

Tract founder Aaron Pauly (1812-1890) was born in Ohio, established his own family in Illinois and came to California, as the gold rush began. He traveled across the plains in an oxen-pulled wagon in 1849 and sent for his family in 1852. He was a miner, rancher, hotel keeper and merchant around Sacramento for 20 years and then moved his family to New Town San Diego in 1869. He was a successful general store with his sons Fred and Charles at the foot of Fifth Street. The store became an important supply and assay center for Julian gold miners.

Aaron Pauly was the first president of the San Diego Chamber of Commerce from 1870 to 1871 and the County tax collector from 1875 to 1884. He was president of the company that built the San Diego-Fort Yuma wagon road between California and Arizona. The San Diego Union’s December 12, 1890 issue called Aaron Pauly “one of the old merchants of San Diego, and for many years one of the most prominent and public spirited citizens” in his obituary. He is buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Most of the other original north-south street names in Pauly’s tract reflected his fellow investors. According to the City of San Diego Lot Book for 1873, Pauly owned 30 acres of the 80-acre tract. D.W. Briant owned five acres, David Landes owned 20 acres, Lewis Skinner owned 10 acres, and Morgan L. Skinner owned 15 acres.

David Ward Briant (1821-1889) was born in Ohio and became a merchant. By 1872, he had come to California. He was a successful farmer in Calaveras County, where he was appointed a U.S. Postmaster for Double Springs, a gold rush town southeast of Sacramento.

About 10 years later, Briant had become a leading citizen of San Diego. The San Diego Union’s October 13, 1889 issue noted he was “putting up a residence” between Eighth and Ninth streets in New Town. His feed store at the corner of Ninth and I streets was advertised in the 1874 San Diego City Directory. He was on the City Board of Trustees throughout much of the 1870s and served on the County Board of Supervisors during the 1880s, retiring as president in January 1889.

The San Diego Union’s October 1, 1889 issue announced Briant’s death under the caption, “The Reaper Calls for One of San Diego’s Oldest and Best Citizens.” In the San Diego Union’s October 10, 1889 issue, the Society of Pioneers of San Diego issued a “Resolution of Respect” that he had died in full death “this society has lost a most respected member and the community an excellent citizen worthy in every respect.” He is buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

David Shirk Landes (1809-1874) was born in Pennsylvania. He married his first wife, Margaret Morrow, in 1841, and they lived in Missouri until about 1854. The 1850 federal census for St. Louis, Missouri, listed him as a farmer with his wife, a daughter and two sons. By 1854, the couple and their three children had moved to Sacramento, where two more sons were born. During the Civil War, Landes fought in the Union Army with the 14th Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry. 159th Volunteers, where he was promoted to Corporal. At war’s end, Landes returned to northern California. He was listed in the 1867 Pacific Coast Directory as a “Retail Dealer” specializing in “hardware, furniture and paper hangings” in Moores Flat, a gold rush town northeast of Sacramento.

Landes had arrived in San Diego by April 1870 and was listed as a “Merchant” in the 1871 Great Register for San Diego County. However, it appears he was separated from his family. In the 1870 federal census, Margaret was listed as living with their sons.
believed she was the oldest Black woman at the protest. “It’s a [expletive] shame we left this to 17 year olds. This is not the life they should have.”

The protest was organized by four high school students who founded Dream High Black Girls in June this year to amplify and encourage the voices of Black girls in San Diego. The founders, Tieja, Kaylah, Delina and Jordyn, attend San Diego High School together and are all 16 or 17 years old. (Editor’s note: Their last names are not being included because they are minors.)

“At a protest where 17-16-year-old girls are telling you about people that look like them who have died, it really wakes people up,” Delina said.

In addition to direction actions like protests, the group created spaces for Black girls who are often misunderstood elsewhere.

“We’re trying our best to make sure that Black girls feel like they’re heard before they go into their adult years,” Delina said.

Through weekly Zoom calls, which usually have 25 attendees, they provide communal support to each other. On Saturdays, they also highlight a mentor – an older Black woman in a field where there is not much representation. According to Kaylah, as the school year picks up, they intend to add tutoring as one of the ways they help others.

Their latest protest was well organized. Snacks and water were passed out at the shady beginning and end of the march. Nurses handed out electrolytes as people sweated during the stifling hot day. Legal observers wearing vests walked alongside marchers. Neon yellow-clad people and bicyclists stopped traffic so the protest could take up the full road. Others used their bodies as a barrier between observing police and the protesters. A car followed the protest to help anyone who needed emergency assistance. The majority of the people performing these functional roles were white or non-Black allies, with the safety of Black leaders and protesters paramount.

Delina spoke against people who questioned the organizers’ emphasis on safety by ending the march at 2:30 p.m.

“We are 16- and 17-year-old girls. Our safety matters. It is not safe for us. There are 63,000 missing Black girls (and women)... Countless disparities exist across the board. So you who question what we do: Question the system and why it made us do this,” she said.

—Kendra Sitton can be reached at kendra@sdnews.com.
The facts on a Hillcrest Maintenance Assessment District

By CHRIS WARD

There has been a lot of tension in the Hillcrest community regarding the possible adoption of a Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) by local property owners. Hillcrest means the world to our local LGBTQ+ community and is a historic neighborhood that means a lot to visitors. As an example, we are considering different neighborhood in the community. It is important that we have the correct information about Hillcrest and our Pride Flag will remain in place.

Our Pride Flag was built several years ago with funding and support from the LGBTQ+ community. When it was built, the District 3 Update was formed, and the City required legal documents that would assign the flag to be operated and maintained by one entity – the Hillcrest Business Association (HBA). The HBA retains the Encroachment Maintenance Removal Agreement (EMRA) which establishes the legal and management responsibilities of the Pride Flag, and the HBA retains the key that allows access to the flagpole. A new MAD will determine who will pick up trash and provide other services, it would not affect the Pride Flag or the key that the HBA holds. No MAD determines who operates and maintains the Pride Flag – that responsibility does not change.

Hillcrest’s neighborhood name will not change. Neighborhoods are named when the developer who subdivides the land names the community or chooses a name for the group of neighborhoods. For all of our neighborhoods in District 3, this happened in the 1800’s. Branding a neighborhood does not re-name the neighborhood but helps with marketing the area to visitors. As an example, we see this in the branding of parts of District 3 as the “Chinatown,” “Gaslamp Quarter” and “Little Italy.”

—Chris Ward is a San Diego city councilman, representing District 3. He is also a candidate for the 50th Assembly District, which includes Uptown and Downtown communities.
Little Italy’s agility leads neighborhoods

By CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ

As the news of COVID-19 swept the nation, the Little Italy Association of San Diego (LIA) prepared for the inevitable stay-at-home order that was later announced by California Governor, Gavin Newsom on Thursday, March 19, 2020. The Association immediately sprang into action to support its local businesses by promoting updated hours, curbside pick-up, take-out, and delivery options and encouraging consumers to purchase gift cards.

In June, the stay-at-home order was extended and the LIA made the decision to prepare for the reopening by launching the ‘Ciao Bella!’ campaign which featured Al Fresco dining as a way to close city streets, in partnership of the City of San Diego, and allow restaurants to encroach onto India Street for additional dining opportunities under the County Health Directive. The LIA also worked very closely with its more than 150 retailers and restaurants, and 15 hotels and motels to slowly and safely reopen while focusing on the wellbeing of its over 3,000 residents and the wider community.

By working with the City, the LIA started advocating for parklets (aka pedestrian plazas) for three weeks before they were approved by City Council. The City of San Diego’s Urgency Ordinance allowed permittees authorization to expand their outdoor seating into adjacent parking spaces and continue to provide service outside seven days-a-week. Once approved on July 14, within four days on July 18, the LIA installed several hundred linear feet of barriers for over 25 restaurants.

Today, 33 restaurants have the parklets, creating nearly 25,000 additional square feet to serve patrons outside. Regarded as a shining example in a speech from Mayor Faulconer, the LIA has led the way in San Diego and across the nation due to its adaptation and agility navigating through the constantly changing COVID climate.

—For the latest updates on Little Italy, please visit us at LittleItalySDUpdates.com or follow us on Instagram @LittleItalySD, Twitter @LittleItalySD and Facebook @LittleItalySD. Christopher Gomez has been Little Italy’s district manager since 2000. Reach him at chris@LittleItalySD.com.

Reimagining and redefining place

Little Italy Culture & Heritage

By TOM CESARINI

Today’s Little Italy has become, arguably, a culinary and cultural locus for San Diego residents and visitors. With the Little Italy Association at the helm of the rampant redevelopment of the neighborhood—beginning in the early 90s after decades of decline—what was once known as the Italian Colony has thus been reimagined, re-invented, and re-invigorated. Today, Little Italy is being hailed as a bold model for urban redevelopment. Moreover, with the arrival in recent years of a new wave of immigrants, a modern tale of toil has taken the place of the previous historical narrative of this colorful community.

The characteristics of these new immigrants (while in some ways not so different than the immigrants of past generations looking to make good in a new land), do contain one notable difference: These entrepreneurs have often arrived with a plan in place and requisite funding in hand. Consequently, they represent a vital component in the overall systemic restructuring of this neighborhood.

Little Italy has become an ever-evolving enclave, one that is at once suited for and defined by the vibrant and diverse demographic that composes its landscape—a neighborhood that has almost come to represent a microcosm of our cherished land of opportunity writ large. The new merchants setting up shop in the neighborhood have deliberately flocked to San Diego’s Little Italy, likely for the sense of community and for the ambience Little Italy fosters—and of which they are also creators. So, too, are the new residents of Little Italy looking for a sense of community in a downtown setting when it comes to their selection of dwelling—and they are not only consumers but co-creators as well.

The neighborhood has taken on a different role, not one based on history or tradition but one based on a continually changing definition of purpose and place. The evolution of the neighborhood’s cultural artifacts, then, is a natural extension of these dynamics. But how does its changing identity and purpose affect the cultural heritage of the neighborhood? Regarding cultural artifacts and assets in the form of narrative, what stories are being told, who is recounting them, and what is being left out? Ultimately, how does its changing identity and purpose affect the cultural heritage of the neighborhood?

Regarding cultural artifacts and assets in the form of narrative, what stories are being told, who is recounting them, and what is being left out? Ultimately, how does its changing identity and purpose affect the cultural heritage of the neighborhood?

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Little Italy's agility leads neighborhoods
the next several years and how it retains an Italian American identity—or perhaps how it reshapes that identity—will provide a context for rich scholarship.

San Diego’s Little Italy remains a snapshot in Italian American history. At Amici House, we are creating our own re-defining of space and place at Amici House in the Little Italy Dog Park. The classic restored cottage serves as the community cultural hub—creating a third place for residents and visitors to the Italian neighborhood. So what is an arts and culture organization to do in the middle of a pandemic lockdown without events or programs? Re-visit. Re-imagine. Redefine. We are hard at work to reshape and repurpose our center. A new coffee bar accentuates the patio area with an inviting outdoor space. Indoors, new historic prints are being adhered to adorn the walls—conversation pieces to help cultivate community impact. And behind the scenes, we are doing further as we continue to press onward in our preservation efforts through digital archives and upcoming heritage exhibits and projects. We look forward to welcoming the community for our grand reopening of Amici House soon! And we will continue to explore Italian American identity through our diverse program offerings.

We would love to hear from you. What makes Little Italy stand out for you? What would you like to see regarding programs at Amici House? Please drop a line at convivio.society.org/contact.

—Tom Cesarmi is the executive director and founder of Convivio and also serves as the Italian honorary consul of San Diego. Convivio cultivates community and fellowship, advances Italian cultural identity, and fosters multicultural awareness across myriad disciplines through education and research, social enrichment, and innovative programming. Visit: convivio.society.org | Follow: @convivio.society
Design week CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

An artist works on a mural. (Photo courtesy San Design Week)

701 B Street wins landscape award

Art on the Land

By DELLE WILLETT

Landscape Architects from LPA, Inc. recently won a Merit Award in the “Commercial” category from the American Society of Landscape Architects, San Diego Chapter (ASLA), for the transformation of 701 B Street into an urban plaza.

The ASLA Design Awards are held every other year, recognizing landscape projects across the United States. This year, the ASLA San Diego Chapter, along with its San Diego Chapter (ASLA), presented the Merit Award to 701 B Street for its transformation into an urban plaza.

An amphitheater at Richard R. Oliphant Elementary (Photo courtesy LPA, Inc.)

When COVID-19 hit, instead of postponing the event to have a typical inaugural year, the planners redesigned it to meet safety requirements.

“We felt we needed connection more than ever. A large driver for Design Week is to create this sense of connection not only throughout the community of San Diego at large, but also with the different disciplines of designers because it’s such an incredible opportunity for different disciplines of designers to come together and exchange ideas,” said Stacy Kelly, who planned Design Week.

These designers in different fields like architecture, communications, fashion technology, food packaging and interior design can facilitate innovation and new possibilities when they collaborate. Like connection amid lockdowns, new designing and redesigning is a necessity if vulnerable communities are to be protected.

“The need for design for community organizing the need for design for a future, for sustainability and resilience — those all feel very immediate,” Kelly said.

After a recent Creative Morning event, Wallace looked at the design of a sign directing people toward Downtown. He saw the need for the design of a sign to correctly direct people toward their destination as important. Other areas design can be used are also important to Wallace, such as politics or equity.

“Design is simplicity. Design is how do you actually use what’s in front of you. People have great ideas but they’re not accessible. Design would make something accessible for anybody to use,” Wallace said.

The broad definition of design is one of the reasons the new week can be so interesting. People can examine how design impacts a customer service experience as well as how food is presented or politics or equity.

“The idea behind Design Week is to show the public and the community... that design is all around us, and design can really be doing many different things and take so many forms,” Kelly said.

To learn more about the programs offered during Design Week, visit sddesignweek.org.

—Kendra Sitton can be reached at kendra@sdsn.com.
**Street names**

CONTINUED FROM Page 4

Franklin, Henry and George in Sacramento and married to John H. Wolfe, a farmer.

In addition to buying 20 acres in Pauly’s Addition, Landes purchased lots in other areas, including Horton’s Addition and National City. He died on December 6, 1874. The Daily Union’s December 8, 1874 issue noted he was “an old and very highly respected citizen of San Diego.” He is buried at Mount Hope Cemetery.

Lewis Newton Skinner (1847-1926) was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and was a furniture dealer for most of his adult life. He wintered in San Diego starting in 1850 and an insurance agent during the 1860s before becoming a merchant by 1871. He never moved to San Diego from Milwaukee.

Henry Morgan, Morgan Skinner’s eldest brother, moved to San Diego in 1868 and was elected as Justice of the Peace in 1869. (Courtesy of Skinner family descendants via Ancestry.com)

1900 federal census listed Lewis Skinner at 2306 C Street with his wife Ellagene, son Eugene and daughter Sarah. In 1926, the family moved the L.N. Skinner furniture store from 640 Sixth Avenue to 1255 University Avenue in Hillcrest. Lewis Skinner died on September 9, 1926. His obituary called him a San Diego pioneer. He is interred at Cypress View Mausoleum.

After Lewis’ death, Ellagene and Eugene continued to operate the furniture store. In 1933, Eugene moved the store to 2525 University Avenue in North Park, where he operated it for decades — just two blocks from the street that once had his family name.

Morgan Skinner (1821-1881) was Lewis Skinner’s father. Morgan was born in New York and lived in Milwaukee most of his life. He was a school teacher in 1850 and an insurance agent during the 1860s before becoming a merchant by 1871. He never lived in San Diego, but he wrote a letter to the editor of the San Diego Union in 1877, noting he had been reading the paper for seven years and hoped to move permanently to San Diego in the future.

Why Lewis and Morgan invested in Pauly’s Addition when they were living in Milwaukee may be explained by the fact that Henry Chapman Skinner (1805-1887) — Morgan’s eldest brother — had been living in San Diego since 1868. Henry Skinner served several years as Justice of the Peace. He owned multiple properties in San Diego and apparently convinced his brother and nephew that the new town was a good investment.

The next PastMatters column will examine original street names from Arizona Street to Pershing Avenue.

In San Diego, the LPA office is at 1600 National Avenue, San Diego.

—Delle Willett has been a marketing and public relations professional for over 30 years, with an emphasis on conservation of the environment. She can be reached at dellewillett@gmail.com.

The small plaza at 701 B Street (Photo courtesy LPA, Inc.)

701 B Street

CONTINUED FROM Page 10

professional excellence for outstanding works of landscape architecture and environmental planning that promote an enhanced quality of life in San Diego County and beyond.

In the heart of downtown San Diego, 701 B Street acts as an extension of the adjacent café and lobby, and an outdoor amenity space for building tenants and pedestrians.

In just 7000 square feet, the plaza creates a truly memorable experience and is proof that small-scale landscape architecture can have a big impact,” commented the judges of the award program. LPA also won a Merit Award in the “Institution” category for Richard O. Oliphant Elementary School in India.

Founded in 1965, LPA specializes in creating innovative environments that work better, do more with less and improve people’s lives. An integrated design firm with six locations in California and Texas, LPA’s team includes more than 400 in-house architects, master planners, engineers, interior designers, landscape architects and research analysts, working across a wide array of sectors. For more information, visit lpadesignstudios.com.

In San Diego, the LPA office is at 1600 National Avenue, San Diego.
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