Fashion Film Festival outpaces its skeptics as it anticipates a new home

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

‘In the early days, people were really, really skeptical. All my friends thought I was crazy.’

FRED SWEET, FOUNDER OF LA JOLLA FASHION FILM FESTIVAL

Depending on the source, a sobering 50 to a stunning 95 percent of new businesses are said to fail within their first five years. Presumably, the type of service or product weighs heavily into that balance (dehumidifiers have probably never found a sales niche on Mercury, for example) – in any event, there's lots and lots of room for failure, even as the nation's economy sustains at least a pretense of success, (dehumidifiers have probably never found a sales niche on Mercury, for example) – in any event, there's lots and lots of room for failure, even as the nation's economy sustains at least a pretense of success.

Then again, everything comes in' about? Fashion films? Doesn't thought I was crazy: 'Whaddya talkin' about? Fashion films? Doesn't make any sense!' But it was just a simple vision. I saw something in the film industry and its culture.

This year's event is set for Friday and Saturday, July 24 and 25, with hundreds of fashion filmmakers from around the world are expected to attend, taking in the best of more than 150 films.

SEE FILM >> PG. 2
than 11,000 entries and the awards ceremony to follow.

Festival literature tout such films as “The Beautiful Mind,” German director Esther Loeff’s first foray into fashion work, in which a prima ballerina is guided on a mysterious journey to discover the secret to dance: Spanish director Albert Moya’s “High Tide,” an homage to fashion as an art form and a way to bring about social and cultural reflection; and “How to Fight in Six-Inch Heels,” Vietnamese-American director Ham Tran’s look at a neurotic fashion designer who learns her fiancé is having an affair with a model and infiltrates the modeling world to catch him in the act.

Invites will also be treated to a preopening reception Thursday, July 23 at the Mangelson Images of Nature Gallery.

San Diego Community Newspaper Group, publisher of La Jolla Village News, is the sole local print-media sponsor of the event.

Fashion is a nearly $300 billion commodity in the U.S., and that figure speaks to the lofty mentalities that drive many of today’s niche industries. Still, the term “fashion film” may raise an eyebrow as people seek to connect two colossally important enterprises. Sweet thinks the link is more easily mastered amid a feel for the role the Internet, now a household staple, has played in the festival’s evolution. “I’d make a video [inspired] by a designer ad,” Sweet explained, “and I’d show them around to friends, without thinking about a festival or event.” What eventually followed was an inventory of films that ideally give life to clothing and its wearers. The concept has propelled the La Jolla festival to its place as the world’s largest fashion film (referring to the southern French town whose legendary cinema festival was founded in 1946), “Sweet said – “but what’s Cannes? It’s a city by a bay. A festival of that magnitude had to start somewhere, and Cannes was the place. I think of La Jolla the same way.”

But certain business developments on Fay Avenue couldn’t be unfolding at a better time, Sweet said. La Jolla Music Society’s Conrad Prebys Performing Arts Center, at 7600 Fay, hopes to open in January of 2018, forming Arts Center, at 7600 Fay, of the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego’s La Jolla campus, “is real, really going to wind down” as the museum reportedly retools the space. “Those two new venues and the festival – the stars would align.”

There’s a lot of that going around as the world redresses itself and its aesthetic. Locally, that translates to an era wherein fashion takes on a character’s role in motion pictures. Stranger things have happened, Sweet might say. And La Jolla, he’d add, is wonderfully poised to let the strangeness in.

For more information, see ljfff.com.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to give keynote address at Coastkeeper’s Soiree

Waterkeeper Alliance president Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will give a keynote address to guests at San Diego Coastkeeper’s 18th Annual Seaside Soiree in October. This year’s open-air affair also marks a significant milestone for San Diego Coastkeeper, which turns 20 years old in its mission to protect and restore fishable, swimmable and drinkable waters to San Diego County.

At the Seaside Soiree, Kennedy along with supporters, board members and staff, will celebrate the importance of San Diego’s underwater treasures and healthy waterways while sipping on Mai Tais at the Bali Hai on Shelter Island. The event raises money to support the organization’s work on water quality and water supply issues in San Diego County’s meandering inland waters, along its beautiful coastline and in its pursuit of an economy fueled by clean water.

“San Diego Coastkeeper’s achievements are historic...” said Kennedy.

For tickets, contact San Diego Coastkeeper executive director Megan Baehrens at (619) 758-7743 ext. 103.
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Inaugural Cabrillo Sunset run on July 25

Cabrillo National Monument Foundation will hold its first-ever Cabrillo Sunset 5K run-walk from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, July 25 at the national park at 1800 Cabrillo Memorial Drive.

The Cabrillo race route is challenging, descending on a paved road downhill about 200 feet to the tide pools offering a pristine ocean view for runners/walkers. The race then continues back up a steep incline. There will also be an alternative fun run/walk up to the lighthouse. Both events qualify for event T-shirts and medals.

“It’s a day completely dedicated to health and getting out in the outdoors and experiencing our parks,” said Eileen Martinez, Cabrillo spokesperson.

The Cabrillo Sunset 5K is part of the National Park Service’s (NPS) centennial “Find Your Park Move to Improve Challenge.”

With its centennial approaching in 2016, the “Challenge” is part of NPS’s recently launched campaign to raise support and introduce a new, more-diverse generation of millennials and children to “America’s best idea,” the national parks.

Runners in the Cabrillo Sunset 5K will compete for first-place awards in both the men’s and women’s division, Stropky said life-guards are proposing a time change in the next RFP (request for proposals), which spells out operating conditions for surf camps. The new proposal would add one additional hour to their current 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. operational schedule.

“There are no safety issues on our (lifeguard’s) side,” noted Stropky about the proposed surf camp time change adding, “we wanted to give the community an opportunity to weigh-in.”

Stropky said the four Shores’ surf camps are in “the north section of Kellogg Park at the very top end of the boardwalk” in an area he characterized as not “super busy.”
City Attorney discusses Chargers, smells and vacation rentals at LJ Town Council

By DAVE SCHWAB

Outgoing City Attorney Jan Goldsmith appeared before La Jolla Town Council (LJTC) in July discussing sea lions, short term vacation rentals (STVRs), the prospects for a new Chargers stadium, how the office changed under his leadership and what the role of the city attorney should be.

"Noting he came along 6 ½ years ago at a time when the city attorney’s office was in “a lot of trouble,” Goldsmith said, “We had to change the culture. We had to depoliticize it. The idea was to make the office a real law firm. We make our decisions now based on law — not politics.”

Goldsmith, who terms out of office in 2016, noted the city attorney’s office employs 146 lawyers, making it the largest law firm in the state of California that we do criminal law for."

Goldsmith said, “When you mess with the city, you’re messing with me and my 146 lawyers.” Goldsmith joked, adding, “Sometimes we’re on the wrong side, and then we settle quietly. But our job is to protect the city. And the city is us (people). We defend the city — right or wrong.”

Goldsmith defended the city’s decision, and the judicial ruling supporting it, that holds the city is not responsible for cleaning up animal waste deposited at the Cove. Over time, buildup of that waste has become increasingly problematic in generating nauseating smells and discouraging people from coming to La Jolla.

"We (city) were sued and some alleged the city had a legal obligation to solve the problem (smell),” Goldsmith said. “The law is very clear. The city can work with constituents on a problem. But where it comes to wild animals, the city has no legal obligation.”

Goldsmith added “I don’t know what the solution is,” when pressed on what the community should do about its sea lion problem.

City Council unanimously supports zero waste plan

By DAVE SCHWAB

The San Diego City Council’s nine members voted unanimously July 13 to support a proposed zero waste plan with the goal of diverting 75 percent of the waste generated in the city away from landfill disposal by 2020. The city’s goal is to reach zero waste by 2040.

To get there, government officials acknowledged that the city will need to reuse, recycle and reduce the amount of waste generated within its boundaries by emphasizing education and legislation aimed at waste reduction. The city’s Environmental Services Department has been asked to come up with new ways to reduce the amount of waste that ends up in landfills. Alternatives could include additional organic recycling, revising city recycling ordinances and increasing recycling at city facilities, as well as instituting additional education and outreach.

During council deliberations, District 2 Councilwoman Lorie Zapf, who represents the beachfront south of La Jolla, said the whole point of the zero waste proposal is to try to divert as much as we can.”

Noting blue recycling bins typically are the ones that overflow, Zapf asked if residences could have more than one blue bin, and if there would be any extra-added cost associated with picking up an extra bin. She was told each residence is entitled to have up to three blue recycling bins, and that they are provided by the city free of charge, though there is a $2.55 delivery fee.

“We have a lot of work to do in our backyards,” noted Zapf, of making the proposed zero waste plan a reality.

Merchants hear more on odor near the Cove and a parade of other distractions

By DAVE SCHWAB

In July, La Jolla Village Merchant’s Association (LJVMA) were told that negotiations with the city are “continuing” over what to do about the Cove sea lion mess, while board members “disavowed” any connection with — or support for — a drive by a group to host an alternative year-end parade a week after the La Jolla Christmas parade.

LJVMA president CA Marengo told the group he’s met with representatives of the city, the lifeguards, the mayor’s office and La Jolla Town Council (LJTC) in another round of conversation about what to do about continuing odor problems at the Cove. Accumulating marine mammal and bird waste build-up there is creating a foul stench that is adversely impacting business.

“We’ve been trying to find another method to address what’s going on (counteracting odor),” Marengo said adding “the mayor’s taken an added interest.”

Marengo said the city’s hired an expert who is gathering data on sea lions and their habits. He added there may be a “window” of time now in which to act to find a way to discourage sea lions from slowly colonizing the Cove. “Sea lions now are traveling up to the Channel Islands and not many of them are left behind (at Cove),” he said. “We’re hoping there’s some way we can use National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s regulations to keep them (sea lions) from coming back on the beach.”

Alternative parade

Board member Nancy Warwick noted an organization, the San Diego County Diversity and Inclusiveness Group, which has been lobbying to have Christmas removed from the community’s year-end parade name, is actively campaigning to close Village streets in order to host an “alternative” parade on Dec. 13 the weekend following the Dec. 6 parade.

“I wish to put this on our agenda next month for discussion,” Warwick said. “They’ve been handing out fliers and asking for street closures on Kline to Prospect and along Wall Street. The petition does not clarify this is actually a second parade, not the same parade with a new name.”

Warwick said street closures for back-to-back weekend parades “would be very detrimental to business. There’s going on (counteracting odor),” Warwick added. “They’ve also said there are four businesses that are providing restrooms, and those businesses don’t even know about it (alternative parade).”

“Our (LJVMA’s) position is that the (alternative) parade organizers have never presented their plans to us, and until they present, we have no position — or we stay out,” said Marengo.

“It’s our obligation to educate merchants about what’s going on,” added Warwick.

“We don’t know what we’re educating,” replied Marengo.

The La Jolla Traffic & Transportation (TNT) Committee heard the matter of the alternative parade and proposed street closures at its June meeting. They, however, delayed a final decision until the Diversity & Inclusiveness Group returns at its July meeting with more information. The next TNT meeting will be Thursday, July 23 at 4 p.m. at La Jolla Rec Center, 615 Prospect St.

Simple Tips to get Every Penny Out of your Home Sale

SAN DIEGO. Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you’ll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here is a way to help you to be prepared as possible.

To assist home sellers, a new industry report has just been released called “27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know To Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar.” It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today’s aggressive marketplace.

In this report you’ll discover how to avoid financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach you will get straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your property.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of the report, just call 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW.
McMansions on the menu again at Community Planning Association

By DAVE SCHWAB

In July, La Jolla Community Planning Association (LJCPA) elected new board officers as well as hearing public testimony about encroaching “mansionization” in the community.

Board president Joe LaCava, who is running for the District 1 Council seat in 2016, officially stepped down, yielding to Cindy Greatrex. Greatrex assumed the presidency and control of the meeting. Bob Stock became the group’s new vice president, replacing Greatrex in that role.

During public testimony, Linda Van Zant, a La Jolla resident since 1981, complained that a redeveloped parcel at 754-758 Bonair St. near her residence went beyond stated redevelopments approved by the LJCPA by an 11-4-1 vote in September 2013.

The project asked for permitting and a variance to demolish an existing duplex and construct three, 3-story detached single-family residences ranging from 1,929 to 2,185 square feet on the 9,225-square-foot parcel. The variance was to maintain two curb cuts, where only one typically would be allowed.

“You guys (LJCPA) are the firewall for stopping what is happening (mansionization) in our community,” said Van Zant. “You’re caretakers for the rest of us, so you need to pay close attention.”

Van Zant said the group’s previously approved Bonair Project was an example of “bad caretaking.”

LJCPA trustee Mike Costello noted there were “a lot of questions” with that Bonair redevelopment project. One of them, he said, involved a variance request for the project that some felt was “not warranted.”

Costello added some also questioned whether the project’s scale was “out of community character.”

“I would volunteer to take a trip downtown and take the (building) plans and see what was actually done (construction) and compare them,” Costello said.

The group charged Costello with completing that task.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Woman behind panga boat crash receives one year

By NEAL PUTNAM

A woman who was convicted of conspiracy to bring in illegal aliens by using a panga boat that crashed near the Children’s Pool in La Jolla in 2013 has been sentenced to one year in federal prison.

Sofia Martinez, 27, was convicted by a federal jury on Nov. 18, 2014, but her sentencing was delayed by numerous legal issues, which ultimately led to U.S. District Court Judge William Hayes dismissing several other counts for which she had been convicted.

Her attorney, Martha Hall, brought a motion that noted a co-defendant who testified against Martinez got a lesser sentence than five years he testified he expected to receive based on his testimony. Hall alleged that prosecutors didn’t disclose his sentencing agreement before Martinez’s trial.

Her motion sought a new trial, but she reached a sentencing agreement of one year with the U.S. Attorney’s office in which they agreed to seek dismissal of three convictions involving bringing in illegal aliens for financial gain. Hayes granted the motion to dismiss the three charges.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Realtor proposes changes to allow more ground-floor office space

By DAVE SCHWAB

Opposition to a recent proposal to change zoning on the ground-floor of a Village building to allow more office and less retail space could be misplaced, a La Jolla commercial Realtor said.

“The office market has disappeared in La Jolla,” said Phil Wise of Colliers International. “There is an acute need in La Jolla,” said Wise. “It was a different world when the PDO was last updated,” he said.

Wise pointed out that La Jolla’s restaurants and buy in the retail stores. “You don’t have a large enough consumer base in the Village,” Wise argued, noting “it’s a numbers game.”

Back in June, several LJCPA trustees objected to Wagener’s deviation proposal, arguing that trading off retail for office both violates the spirit of La Jolla land-use planning, as well as setting an irreversible precedent likely to be followed by others.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

OPENING DAY AT DEL MAR RACETRACK More than 40,000 fans were expected for Opening Day at Del Mar Racetrack on Thursday, July 16, which included a hat contest and VIP party. On Friday, July 17, at 6:30 p.m. The Wallflowers will heat up the Seaside Stage for the first Harrah’s Friday Concert Series performance of the season. Saturday marks the first of two Donuts Days at Del Mar and Family Fun Day is on Sunday.
Cataract surgery, seeing better

The shuttle car drops me off in front of the Shiley Eye Institute, part of UCSD Healthcare. I’m getting a clouded, natural lens removed and a clear, acrylic one put in. Even though cataract surgery is one of the most common procedures in the aging population and I have Dr. Robert N. Weinreb—the best possible surgeon—doing the operation, I am anxious.

After checking in with the person at the front desk, I am told to wait. I barely sit down when my name is called. A nurse takes me to a curtained cubicle and gives me a gown to be tied at the back, nonslip socks, and a lovely blue bonnet to cover my hair. I lie down on a bed. I am covered with a warm blanket, and the sides are put up. I feel so that I can’t roll out or so that I can’t escape? A series of nurses come in and go, and I’m given numbing drops in my eye. Dr. Weinreb comes in by surgical garb to tell me I must wait half an hour for the drops to take effect. I assure him that I am retired and not going anywhere. An anesthesiologist comes over to talk to me. I say I only want local anesthetic. I want to be fully awake and not given Versed (midazolam), the drug that makes you forget everything that happened during the operation. I want to be there and remember it. He is glad to oblige. It is so important to feel trust in the people whose hands we place our lives.

I am wheeled into the operating room, and a cloth is put over my face with an opening for my left eye. More drops are put in, and, as I am happily chattering, Dr. Weinreb says, “Don’t move and don’t talk.” I have no pain but feel some pressure on my eye. I see blue squares; round, shiny objects; a bright light; and floating things. I am both paralyzed and evident caring from staff to patients.

An anesthesiologist comes over to tell me that my operation was successful; he is pleased. I do not understand what they are saying, but I do hear Dr. Weinreb saying to me, “We are halfway there.” I feel relief. Then, “Three more minutes,” then “We’re done.” I am now post-op. I am wheeled back to my cubicle and given juice. Dr. Weinreb comes over to tell me that my operation was difficult, but successful; he is pleased. A nurse comes to give me post-op instructions. Do not bend down and do not lift heavy objects. I’m given two prescriptions for drops. One must be put in every hour to decrease inflammation; the other is four times a day, an antibiotic. Someone calls a taxi to take me home to my retirement community.

Right Choice Senior Living

Established in early 2008, Jean Brooks (UCSD Graduate) and Todd Brooks (Air Force Veteran, US Air Force Academy Graduate) had the desire to develop Assisted Living Care Homes and Services for seniors that are a cut above the rest at fair & competitive rates. Right Choice Senior Living has Residential Care Homes located in highly desirable neighborhoods close to UCSD, La Jolla, Pacific Beach, Clairmont (Mount Street Area) medical facilities and the beach. Come see us today beforemaking your final choice. Make the Right Choice Today! For more information call (619) 246-2003 or go to the website at rightchoiceseniorthinking.org.

Wine, Walking & Gardening?

Firstly, my passion is gardening which I firmly believe helps me now in my 50s and will continue to help me into my old age. I do however expect my garden to get smaller as the years go on and for that matter I’ll probably end up dead heading a geranium in my last days, no pun intended. The point is, no matter how large my garden is, I have an active, mental and physical interaction with whatever I’m growing. Whether it’s ornamental trees and shrubs, a vegetable patch or just a window box, studies have shown gardening reduces the risk of Dementia. For example, the ‘Dubbo Study’ which took place from 1988-2004 in Australia, credits gardening with a 36% reduction in the incidence of Dementia in over 60s. In these studies, they struggle to explain why something like gardening helps reduce Dementia but I think you would be silly to ignore their findings!

And finally, that glass of wine and walking… How about a 38% reduction in Dementia for daily walking (men only) and a 34% reduction for daily moderate alcohol intake (men & women). Your thoughts!
behind the store, for our customers while shopping),” she said. “We also benefit from a loyal customer base which understands the importance of supporting local business, as well as the increasingly rare independent bookstore.”

Noting her bookstore is well known for its author events program, available at warwicks.com, Warwick pointed out many of her employees have worked there for 15-plus years, adding the store caters to “regulars who stop by several times a week.”

Warwick’s “dream list” for the Village includes a “gourmet food mart,” which she suggested could take up the now-vacant space at Burns Drugs. “My idea is for a large market,” which she suggested could provide the very best customer service, and to sell ‘smart things to wear,’ and to Draper. Founder Draper’s & Damon’s recently debuted with a ribbon-cutting at 7857 Girard. Founder Virginia Draper opened Draper’s Studio of Modes in 1927 with her dream to provide the very best customer service, said Draper’s CEO, Naomi Langbecker. “Little did she know, over the next 85 years, her dream would flourish into dozens of retail shops nationwide, an online store and an annual catalog circulation of over 50 million.”

Now headquartered in Irvine, Calif., Draper’s continues to explore new fashion trends for women, whom Langbecker said, “value sophistication, comfort and expert quality.”

“We continue to uphold Virginia’s belief in superior service by carefully considering feedback and personal requests by our customers. The results are best-selling styles created by our very own in-house designers. Our superior service is further extended through in-store stylists who establish lasting relationships ensuring personal attention and perfect sizing.”

Langbecker said Draper’s mantra is “For A Life Well Fashioned.” “From the moment you walk into our store, open our catalog or visit our website, you know you’ve found someplace exceptional,” she said.

Mangelsen – Images of Nature Gallery at 7916 Girard. has served the Village since it opened in March 1991. The gallery features the limited-edition photography of Thomas D. Mangelsen, offering images ranging from antelopes to zebras and landscapes from all seven continents.

“Tom strives to capture wildlife habitat events and valuable ecosystems with a hope to inspire the viewer to experience and preserve the wonders of the natural world,” said gallery director Kathy Hatch. “The gallery also serves as a gathering venue for non-profit community and conservation groups.”

While you’re out and about in the Village, take a break and drop by Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist’s reading room at 1270 Sierra Verada. “Since that date, R WPH has been serving the best breakfasts to thousands of La Jollans and tourists alike,” said Walker adding R WPH blessing to be here.”

Walker said there’s plenty of room for growth in the Village. “Ideally, we would like to see another nightclub/bar/restaurant next to us to fill the void from BarFly,” he said. “Or perhaps a high-end confectioner in the Aroma space which has been a fixture in the Village since it was started in the ‘40s.”

No discussion of this section of La Jolla Village would be complete without mention of Richard Walker’s Pancake House (RWPH) at 909 Prospect St. which opened on Cinco de Mayo in 2014.

“Since that date, RWPH has been the limited-edition photography of Thomas D. Mangelsen – Images of Nature Gallery at 7916 Girard. has served the Village since it opened in March 1991. The gallery features the limited-edition photography of Thomas D. Mangelsen, offering images ranging from antelopes to zebras and landscapes from all seven continents.

“The reading room is an extension of our church,” said volunteer Joline Hazelett noting “we have a quiet room where we offer Bible lessons for daily study.”

Of the reading room’s purpose, Hazelett said, “It’s a place to share. It’s a place to give people some spiritual answers, to support their own faith.”

All faiths and denominations are welcome at the reading room, which has been a fixture in the Village since it was started in the ‘40s.

The Village News.

“Best Omelette” by the La Jolla Village News.

“It has been such a pleasure to have so quickly and openly been embraced by this fantastic community,” Walker said. “We find our general surroundings, neighbors and overall location in the Village to be outstanding and we feel very blessed to be here.”

SEE BLOCK >> PG. 9
The Living Room at 1010 Prospect St. has truly lived up to its name in La Jolla. The café has drawn young and old alike to sip tea, coffee and deluxe smoothies in a homey ambiance furnished with antique, ornate couches and wooden tables. Patrons find the communal atmosphere inspiring and relaxing. Scrumptious desserts are available, along with wine, beer and hookah tobacco. Enjoy the views from the second-floor ocean view room, and don’t miss happy hour everyday from noon to 6 p.m. offering $3.50 bottled beer, wine and mimosas, $4.50 draft beer $4.50 and Mondays all day. Enjoy live Piano music featuring Faiz Fadhil Fridays and Saturdays.

Other businesses in this block section of the Village include, but are not limited to: Reebok, Cos Bar, Lucky Brand Jeans, Tabal Rug Gallery, Gepetto’s, Lucy, Diamond Source, Y-3, Perigrine Lingerie, Zia, Bower’s Jewelers, Francesca’s, the Arcade Building, Sigi’s, Bella Estate Jewelry, Adore, Bendls, Rangoni Firenze, Girard Gourmet, Lj Shirt Co. Chico’s, Katie Spade New York, Cosmopolitan Fine Art, Rica, Oh Goodies, Hats Unlimited, Aja, Catania Coastal Italian in La Plaza, Banana Republic, Gap, Cold Stone Creamery, Union Bank, and Talbots.
The Madison Gallery was the hot spot for the fifth annual La Jolla Hat Show on July 10. The evening was a pre-party for Opening Day at Del Mar Racetrack. The 2015 beneficiaries this year were Speak Loud Animal Protectors and TheraPony. The missions of these organizations are to rescue, rehabilitate and re-home abused and neglected horses.

Everyone arrived on a Red Carpet along with two ponies from the beneficiary. The event organizer Mary Soriano and the gallery owner Lorna York were on hand to greet the guests.

The crowd was filled with much anticipation for the upcoming fashion show. Anya Tychinskaya debuted her delightful collection, Anna Valeria. This collection was designed by Tychinskaya and knitted and crotched by her aunt and mother in Russia. As part of the show both Tychinskaya’s aunt and mom were Skyped from Russia.

The models came down the runway to the backdrop of Russian music. The models were all hand picked for their active roll in the community. The beautifully crafted dresses were a huge hit with the audience.

A variety of men were selected from the crowd to model Fedoras on the runway. Wearing Green-pachs Fedorae, they caused quite a sensation from the audience.

Next the women came down the runway competing for the best hat and they came down the runway in all shapes and sizes. This year the first place prize was two tickets to the Del Mar Races Opening Day. The lucky winner was Ashley Buzell who was wearing a stunning red petite top hat with black trim.

The next segment was special guest Adam Saaks. Saaks came down from LA and to work his magic. He has worked on celebrities such as Heidi Klum, Halley Barry, and Mariah Carey. Saaks is well known for his live performances armed with only a pair of scissors.

Beginning with a beautiful model dressed in bathing suits he begins shredding until he has hand crafted the design in front of the entire audience. The last model came out in a dress and he continued to work his magic giving the audience a great performance.

Rounding out the evening was the entertainment of Tommy Andrews and the voices Band. For more information on the next show visit www.lajollahatshow.com

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**JULY 24-25 – LA JOLLA INTERNATIONAL FASHION FILM FESTIVAL** at the Museum of Contemporary Art La Jolla located at 700 Prospect Street from 1 to 11:30 p.m. For tickets to this Cannes of the Fashion Film World visit ljffff.ticketleap.com/2015/

**SATURDAY, AUG 15 – HAUTE WITH HEART FASHION SHOW** for St. Madeleine Sophie’s Center at Hilton Bayfront. Fashion show presented by Leonard Simpson. For tickets, call (619) 442-5129 ext. 115.

— Diana Cavagnaro is an internationally renowned couture milliner based in the Gaslamp Quarter. Learn more about this hat designer, teacher and blogger at DianaCavagnaro.com.

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**THE QUALITY OF LIFE**

**By CHARLENE BALDRIDGE**

There are four characters in Jane Anderson’s 2007 “The Quality of Life,” directed by Christy Yael-Cox and playing through Aug. 2 at Intrepid Theatre’s temporary home at Carlsbad Village Theatre (2922 State St., Premiered at Los Angeles Geffen Theatre, and seen by Yael-Cox at San Francisco’s American Conservatory Theatre in 2008. “The Quality of Life” opened in Carlsbad July 5 and continues in an intricate playfully plotted repertory with Intrepid’s Shakespeare Unplugged production of “The Winter’s Tale,” which opens July 11.

It is possible to see both plays in one weekend day (intrepidtheatre.org) with dinner in between, attendance at both would provide a Marvelous glut of sensory input. “The Quality of Life” is set in the Berkeley Hills. The four middle-aged characters are in mourning, diversely and divergently so. Played by Jeffrey Jones and DeAnna Driscoll, Neil and Jeannette grieve the total loss of their home, their belongings, and their beloved cat, which ran off just before the fire came over the hill. They live in a yurt pitched on the site. The kitchen is outdoors. Played by Maggie Carney and Tom Stephenson, Dinah and Bill, who live in Ohio, grieve the death of their teenage daughter and only child, who was abducted a deranged man. Jeannette and Dinah are cousins, but have not been close until now, when Dinah and Bill, devout Christians, learn that Neil is dying of cancer. Dinah persuades Bill to take a trip to see them. Bill, an unbending born-again Christian, takes the occasion as an opportunity to preach, especially after learning that Neil plans to end his life two weeks hence and Jeannette plans to accompany him in the assisted suicide.

If that sounds like the setup for a prolonged polemic, it is, but the arguments are well reasoned and passionate as limned by a master playwright whose characters are extremely well drawn. She laces her play with intelligence, compassion and humor. To witness Neil’s love for Jeannette in Jones’ eyes is almost painful. To see the metamorphoses wrought in all by their interaction is immensely touching. The issues are assisted suicide, use of medical marijuana, and morality vis-à-vis religion, grief, loss and love.

Show times: “The Quality of Life”: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays. 2 p.m. Saturdays, 7 p.m. Sundays.

**Schick in the New Yorker**

New Yorker music critic Alex Ross attended the Ojai Festival last month. It was certainly not Ross’s first time in Ojai, but this year was special because the artistic director was Steven Schick, who leads the San Francisco Contemporary Music Players and La Jolla Symphony and is UCSD’s legendary professor of percussion. Schick rated several graphs in Ross’s two-page New Yorker article. My favorite sentence in the beautifully written piece dubs Schick: “...one of the supreme living virtuosos, not only of percussion but of any instrument.”


If you missed seeing Malashock Dance’s “Snakeskin,” with music by Krishna Oberoi of Sacra/Profana, it is available courtesy of UC TV at youtube.com/watch?v=CM74ePyBYoE=

Artistic Director John Malashock graduated La Jolla High School and founded Malashock Dance after a highly successful dance career. Sacra/Profana was the onstage choir in La Jolla Playhouse’s recent production of “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”
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When my wife and I started planning our wedding, I of course, wanted her to have it exactly the way she wanted. I only had one non-vetoable term... the tux.

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I couldn’t be happier with the whole process.

I was visiting San Diego and unexpectedly needed a tux four hours before a black tie event in La Jolla. I called and Jerry the owner answered saying, “you better get over here soon!” I did and quickly saw why. It was a busy late Saturday afternoon, and the little shop was filled with people getting fitted. Yet, the whole staff - Jerry, Janet, Magic Mike - worked hard to get me fitted and looking good in such short notice. The whole time I was there, I saw the staff treat me and each of the other customers like the many celebrities on the wall. The shop may look a bit old-school, but I can’t say enough good things about the exceptional service and selection provided.

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Look at what people are saying!

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Everything is blurry. I can’t read. At dinner my friends all look young and wrinkle-free, like aging movie stars photographed with Vaseline on the lens.

That evening, the TV is a bit blurry. I sleep wearing a plastic shield over my eye for protection. The next morning, my vision is clear, and my friends all have more wrinkles. By the end of the day, they look older than they were before my surgery.

I see Dr. Weinreb the next day; he is pleased with the way things went and takes the time to explain what was entailed in the procedure. Apparently it was challenging as I have a genetic defect (pseudoxfoliation) which makes my lenses prone to dislocating. It didn’t, due to his skill. I know. Another appointment is scheduled for in a week. Two days later, I see better without my old glasses, and I am writing this column.

At no time did I feel any pain. We were in La Jolla—in California—in the U.S.—are privileged to be living at a time and place where the top medical procedures are not only available, but are safe and are the best the world has to offer. I am grateful that I live in such a place, where operations are affordable and where there are such excellent doctors and staff to provide outstanding care for their patients.

Natasha Josefowitz taught the first course in the U.S. on women in management and is the author of 20 books. She lives at the White Sands in La Jolla.

Kiwanis Club pancake breakfast set for July 25

La Jolla Kiwanis Club is hosting its annual community pancake breakfast Saturday, July 25 from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. at La Jolla Rec Center, 615 Prospect St.

Tickets are $10 for adults. Children 10 and under eat free.

As usual, the menu boasts all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausages, orange juice and coffee.

This year is extra special as Kiwanis is joining with the La Jolla Rec Center to celebrate the institution’s centennial.

The breakfast includes lots of entertainment including pony rides, jumpies, face painting and more for younger guests. Live music is on tap, and raffle prizes will be given away throughout the morning.

Purchase tickets at the gate the day of the event or in advance at C&H Photo, 7442 Girard Ave. Tickets are also available through Henry Chiu by calling 858-526-3880 or emailing henry@ljpb.biz.

The pancake breakfast is a major fund-raiser for the Kiwanis Club of La Jolla, which holds the La Jolla Half Marathon and Junior Olympics in spring and supports the La Jolla Rough Water Swim each fall.

Through its La Jolla Kiwanis Foundation, the club gives out more than $175,000 each year to aid local children and worthy charities.

Chartered in 1925, La Jolla Kiwanis meets every Friday at noon in La Jolla Presbyterian Church’s Community Room at the corner of Eads Avenue and Kline Street.

Richard Walker’s Pancake House

Top Two Overall Restaurant - Marina

Review Highlights - “The food is so excellent we make sure to stop in every time”. “Good food, great selection, friendly service.” “Western omelet was fluffy and tasty. Three hot cakes the perfect compliment.” “Excellent service and big plates.” “Never disappoints. Love the Dutch Babies!” “I had the spinach crepe, which was good, but the potato pancake that came with them were incredible.” “Best Pancake house ever!”

The Broken Yolk Café

The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are more than 20 different omelets to choose from, as well as a wide variety of other breakfast favorites which include pancakes, waffles and french toast. Feel more like lunch? Try one of our juicy half-pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches.

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Donovan’s sets the standard of fine dining excellence. A classic steakhouse. A stylish, lively atmosphere. Cordially friendly. We like to think of Donovan’s as your own special place. A place where you can celebrate with friends, family and associates. donovansteakhouse.com.
No good deed goes unpunished in France

(Editor’s note: This is the first of three articles on Martin Jones Westlin’s summer vacation in France, during which he’s discovering some of the culture’s lesser-publicized traits through participation in a volunteer work program. This time, he looks at one instance that, thanks to some ingenious French hospitality, may have averted rethinking part of the trip. Westlin is editor of La Jolla Village News.)

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

BROSSAC, France -- “Desole, mademoiselle,” I pleaded with the girl behind the train info window at Charles De Gaulle International Airport, “mais mon francais est tres, tres mauvais.” That translates roughly to “Sorry, sis, but my French bears a striking resemblance to almost anything else.”

Her hot little face lit up one of those Christmas-tree smiles, the kind that bespeaks the dogged benevolence of the season. With her help (in perfect, lilting English), I was on my way out of Paris to join a group of fellow volunteers at Brossac, in France’s Southwest. We’re recasting a 16th-century farmhouse into an educational and cultural community, fueled by the best traditions of French commerce and exhaustive decency. It’s the “exhaustive decency” part I want to talk about today. The French have been refining it for centuries, often in a world whose snap judgments sell the culture totally short. Arrogant? Rude? Self-centered? That’s part of the popular assessment of the French, the world’s way of describing what it doesn’t understand -- and while I’m far from an authority on the French psyche, I can testify to a clutch of real-life experiences that contradict the public mind and may have even saved part of this already exhausting trip.

Truth be told, I was confronted with a couple challenges that centered on my mobility (read: I’m old). The sweetie at the airport was the first to notice, patiently suggesting a few remedies that included wheelchair assistance -- and while that wasn’t my first choice (read: I’m a diva), I gave in, since I didn’t know the airport (let alone the language). My humility not only solved my navigation dilemma; it revealed an entire assistive network as much a part of France as French itself.

My five-hour train ride consisted of two stops -- at the end of which someone was there to greet me with a wheelchair each time. The remarkable thing is that I hadn’t requested any extra help outside de Gaulle! Somehow, some way, my hosts figured it’s better to be safe than sorry and had arranged to meet me by default! No calling ahead on my part, no extra fee, no executive subcommittee. They knew to look for me simply because I’d bought a ticket, and they took everything from there. Absolutely unbelievable.

They explained that they do that for everybody in a similar pickle -- and history knows they’ve refined their ingenuity over lifetimes, from leading the way in special education to pioneering instruction for the deaf and the blind. The country embraces friendship in matters great and small, and it understandably reacts with a vague dismay in the face of the world’s underwhelmed. If I’d been the center of the universe 230 years ago (as France was), and if my gifts to humanity had been taken for granted (as perhaps France’s has), I suppose I’d be a little persnickety too.

Maybe that’s what’s behind the appearance of arrogance and rudeness, when nothing more than wish-es for commensurate world order are at play. I submit that the latter makes more sense, especially amid the litany of ground-level instances that reveal it.

The sweet kid who genuinely worried for my welfare when my connection to Brossac was late to the train station.

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Enjoy the Beauty of Old Town

Stagecoach Days: Celebrating the Wild West in San Diego

Free Event Every Saturday in July and August in Old Town

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is celebrating travel and transportation in the era of real horsepower during “Stagecoach Days: Celebrating the Wild West in San Diego” -- a true taste of what Old Town was like in the mid-1800s from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays in July and August.

The Stagecoach Days schedule is as follows:

July 18 - “Women of the West”

Women played an important part in the development of the West. Some of their daily activities will be demonstrated on the Saturday.

One of the highlights of the day will be a quilt walk that features quilts celebrating the 150th anniversary of California State Parks.

July 25 - “Days of the Vaqueros”

Vaqueros were the first cowboys in California. Highly skilled horsemen and cattle herders, they were an integral part of the early cattle trade in California. The day will celebrate their natural horsemanship techniques and other aspects of California culture.

August 1 - “Trains That Shaped Western Expansion”

As trains developed in the West as did the need for specialized trades and artisans, Old Town San Diego will present period 19th century trades, that helped shape the community of San Diego.

August 8 - “Soldiers and Citizens”

The military has been part of San Diego since its inception. Following the Mexican American War, dragoons, the Mormon Battalion and the Boundary Commission all had an impact on life in San Diego.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, with the support of Boosters of Old Town, is proud to offer these free activities for adults and children of all ages. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street in San Diego, and is conveniently located next to the Old Town Trolley Tours with Coaster, Trolley, and MTS bus service. Free parking is available at the CalTrans headquarters, just two blocks from the park at 400 Field St.

For more information, go to www.parks.ca.gov/oldtowsandiego
From My Garden: Fire up the grill and enjoy Anaheim chilies

By LINDA MARRONE

With just a hint on heat, Anaheim chilies are easy to grow and their flavor will compliment many summer barbecue favorites. A perennial plant, the Anaheim chili will grow in containers or in the garden on 2 to 3 foot tall plants. Just like all chilies, the Anaheim's prefers a hot sunny location with well-drained soil and a fair amount of water.

If you are planting from seed, plant them in the spring. From seed, the plants will take about 2 1/2 to 3 months to mature and harvest the chilies when they are about 4 to 8 inches in length. Anaheim chilies are usually harvested green, but you can also let them mature and turn brilliant red. If you keep the plants for several years, they will produce even more chilies and usually peak around their third year. Nurseries carry Anaheim chili plants in both 6 packs and 4 inch pots that will allow you to plant now and enjoy them towards the end of the summer.

As the plants grow, stake them for support and fertilize your plants at least once a month with a low nitrogen organic fertilizer, such as Doctor Earth's - Tomato, Vegetable & Herb Fertilizer (5-7-3). If chilies receive too much nitrogen, they will become bushy green plants with lots of leaves and very few chilies. If you read my column about Epsom salt, you will remember that chilies, as well as roses and tomatoes love magnesium sulfate, which is Epsom salt. Dissolve 1 tablespoon Epsom salts per gallon of water and pour it around your plants every two weeks as they are growing to make healthy happy plants.

After you harvest your chilies, throw them on the grill and let the skins blacken. When they have charred all over, place them in a bowl and cover the bowl with plastic wrap, which will allow the chilies to steam and make their papery skins peel off easily. Cut off the cap of the chili, slice it open and remove the seeds and veins with a paring knife. Don't be tempted to wash the chilies under water, since it will remove some of the flavor and use a paper towel instead to wipe off the seeds. Now you have chilies to use for chili rellenos (leave the cap on if you are making rellenos), salsa or slice them to use as a topping for delicious chili cheese turkey burgers.

Chili Cheese Turkey Burgers

1 pkg ground turkey (will make 3 large burgers)
1/4 cup onion, minced
3 tab cilantro, chopped
2 tab of your favorite chili powder, or to taste.
Salt and pepper, to taste
2-3 tea olive oil
Slices of grilled Anaheim chilies, slices of your favorite cheese, slices of avocado
Lettuce leaves and salsa mayonnaise
(mayo mixed with salsa, we like chipotle)
Whole wheat hamburger buns, split and toasted

Combine the turkey with 1 tab of chili powder, onion, cilantro, salt and pepper and shape into patties. Mix the remaining chili powder with the olive oil and brush the patties lightly with the mixture. Grill about 5-6 minutes per side on a hot oiled grill. After you flip the burgers, top them with the chilies and cheese and allow cheese to melt. Place the chili cheeseburgers on buns with lettuce leaves, slices of avocado and some salsa mayonnaise.

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Fireworks in the sea

I was terrified recently (I believe it was the fourth of this month) when war broke out. You must have heard the exploding artillery and seen urchin bodies bursting in air. What was the urchin skirmish about?

During the warfare I mostly panicked, paced, and shook but in between I snuck a glance at the night and wondered whether we share the drive to chew. It’s a doggone shame because I can only drool with envy over an urchin’s dental talents. They can literally grind through stone. Sure, it wrecks their teeth but it’s not a deal breaker. Let’s just say that if you had urchin teeth, dentists would have to find other things to drill and denture-makers would have to find other things to impress. You see, not only are urchin choppers constantly growing, they are self-sharpening.

Urchin pearly whites fit together as plates instead of incisor-molar arrangements. And each urchin tooth is a montage of two calcite crystal shapes. (Since lots of rocks are made up of mostly calcite, it seems fair to say that urchin teeth are practically rock themselves.) The two crystal types lie crosswise to each other and are glued together with a magical super-strong cement you won’t find at Home Depot.

Between the hard crystals and super-doooper glue are layers of a weaker material that break from all the grinding. Think of the breakable areas like dog treat coupons you can neatly remove if you tear along the dotted-line perforations. Thus, the damaged ends break off along the fault lines while leaving the crux of the tooth intact. As the teeth keep growing, the old worn-out or broken parts are jettisoned and, voila, an edge as polished and honed as a Samurai’s sword.

It’s a tad unfair that urchins get to have teeth with super powers, seeing as how they are vegetarians. I have to keep reminding myself that the point of urchin toothiness isn’t about hunting prey but avoiding becoming prey. By boring through and carving out nooks in rock, urchins protect themselves from waves and predators.

Imagine what it would be like if I had an urchin’s dental gifts. Yeah, I know. Those of you parents to children with fur are shuddering right about now. Maybe my dental dreams will become a reality for my distant furry relations. After all, we are all still distant furry relations. It’s a tad unfair that a canine family sapling was planted only 60 million years ago. Since urchins rolled into being over 200 million years ago, they’ve had more time to perfect their perfect bite. And, of course, they’ve done a heck of a job on the survival front. Just look at their can-do attitude in the face of their recent brutal though brief battle. No one can accuse them of being spineless.

Write to Sydney with your questions or comments: SydneyGoldenSeal@gmail.com

My promise to you...

Your first choice in Real Estate should be the best choice, I am the One! Born and Raised in the heart of San Diego, I consider myself vital to your real estate experience. If you are planning a first time move to the area my resources would greatly benefit you and your family. My promise to you is not a “sales gimmick” and I give no excuses. To my local San Diegan’s, as you know our housing market has changed drastically over the years. Who knows better than you when it comes to what you want? No one, but you of course. Give me a call today! Tell me your wants, your needs and concerns and I will handle the rest. My guarantee to you is unlike most, I look beyond the sale and find the best reward…your trust. Your success is my success so when WE succeed, we both win! Moving is already a trivial process and your first choice should be your best choice. I am the one!

Kristina Buckner
619-807-8946
Kristinalivelife@aol.com

Sydney’s Ocean Log
By SYDNEY the GOLDEN SEAL

During the warfare I mostly panicked, paced, and shook but in between I snuck a glance at the night and wondered whether we share the drive to chew. It’s a doggone shame because I can only drool with envy over an urchin’s dental talents. They can literally grind through stone. Sure, it wrecks their teeth but it’s not a deal breaker. Let’s just say that if you had urchin teeth, dentists would have to find other things to drill and denture-makers would have to find other things to impress. You see, not only are urchin choppers constantly growing, they are self-sharpening.

Urchin pearly whites fit together as plates instead of incisor-molar arrangements. And each urchin tooth is a montage of two calcite crystal shapes. (Since lots of rocks are made up of mostly calcite, it seems fair to say that urchin teeth are practical-ly rock themselves.) The two crystal types lie crosswise to each other and are glued together with a magical super-strong cement you won’t find at Home Depot.

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Between the hard crystals and super-doooper glue are layers of a weaker material that break from all the grinding. Think of the breakable areas like dog treat coupons you can neatly remove if you tear along the dotted-line perforations. Thus, the damaged ends break off along the fault lines while leaving the crux of the tooth intact. As the teeth keep growing, the old worn-out or broken parts are jettisoned and, voila, an edge as polished and honed as a Samurai’s sword.

It’s a tad unfair that urchins get to have teeth with super powers, seeing as how they are vegetarians. I have to keep reminding myself that the point of urchin toothiness isn’t about hunting prey but avoiding becoming prey. By boring through and carving out nooks in rock, urchins protect themselves from waves and predators.

Imagine what it would be like if I had an urchin’s dental gifts. Yeah, I know. Those of you parents to children with fur are shuddering right about now. Maybe my dental dreams will become a reality for my distant furry relations. After all, we are all still distant furry relations. It’s a tad unfair that a canine family sapling was planted only 60 million years ago. Since urchins rolled into being over 200 million years ago, they’ve had more time to perfect their perfect bite. And, of course, they’ve done a heck of a job on the survival front. Just look at their can-do attitude in the face of their recent brutal though brief battle. No one can accuse them of being spineless.

Write to Sydney with your questions or comments: SydneyGoldenSeal@gmail.com

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