**WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW . . .**

Beachgoers used their feet to spell out “Love” in the sand on No Surf beach at Sunset Cliffs before the beaches were closed by the City.

**Sanctuaries keep doors closed and go online for Holy Week**

By KENDRA SITTON | THE BEACON

For churches, synagogues, and mosques this April, which encompasses Easter, Passover, and Ramadan, social distancing orders from the City, County, and state will make their holy time more sequestered and reliant on technology to connect with others.

For religious people, this may be the first time they have had to spend an extended period of time away from their communities, marking an end to a significant tradition to them and possibly thrusting them into additional emotional isolation.

**ROCK CHURCH’S EASTER SERVICES**

More than 100,000 people are expected to gather online for the Rock Church’s Easter services. The eight online services will start on Friday and go through Sunday and will feature music from the church’s worship team and a message from Sr. Pastor Miles McPherson.

The services will take place April 10 at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.; April 12 at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., and 6 p.m. via online.sdrock.com.

“I’ve spent all this time advocating for digital media, and I’ve just written my dissertation on digital media, and yet, I think that something is absolutely lost when you’re not able to be in physical community with each other,” said the Rev. Caleb Lines of University Christian Church.

With important religious holidays looming, the grief of the lost ability to gather could increase. Meanwhile, religious institutions are turning to innovative uses of technology to keep their communities connected.

Many churches are livestreaming their services on their websites, Facebook Live, Twitter, or Instagram, including St. Paul’s Cathedral, UCC, and Mission Hills United Methodist Church.

Congregational Church of La Jolla sent “Worship at Home” kits to congregants that included verses, reflections, and a written-out sermon for families. First Baptist Church of National City offered drive-thru blessings last month. Missiongathering Church released a guided meditation. Dharma Bum Temple will post its weekly classes on YouTube.

**Tips for keeping children busy**

SEE PAGE 11

**CIF cancels all high school sports**

SEE PAGE 13

**Working these days is remotely the same**

SEE PAGE 3

**San Diego Community Newspaper Group**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2020**
BRIEFS

COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS BEING ENFORCED

Authorities have begun citing essential businesses that have not complied with the requirement to post social-distancing and sanitization guidelines near the entrance of their businesses. All employees of grocery stores, pharmacies, restaurants open for to-go orders, fast-food eateries, convenience stores and gas stations must also wear a facial covering at all times as part of a county health order. Though not mandating that residents wear face coverings, essential businesses can deny entry to customers whose faces are not covered, said County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher.

“If an individual business chooses to say that you need to have a face covering before you can come in, that’s a determination that those businesses can make," Fletcher said.

Sheriff’s deputies and SDPD started enforcing the stay-at-home orders last weekend. SDPD issued 10 citations – which carry a potential $1,000 fine – in Ocean Beach, including three at Robb Field, two at Sunset Cliffs, one at Balboa Park, and one at Robb Field. Fletcher said.

While COVID-19 has no proven treatment, plasma taken from those who have recovered may help patients currently fighting the virus. This is because the plasma has developed antibodies against the virus.

“Hospitals are reaching out to us on a daily basis for convalescent plasma,” said David Welligs, CEO San Diego Blood Bank. “If anyone has recovered from the virus, we’re calling on them to join us in helping patients in critical condition fight COVID-19.”

Individuals can donate convalescent plasma if they have a confirmed positive laboratory test and no symptoms for the last 28 days. People with a subsequent confirmed negative test can donate after 14 days of symptom resolution. People are encouraged to fill out the form even if they have not yet been tested. To submit contact information to be qualified as a convalescent plasma donor, visit sandiegobloodbank.org/donateplasma. Donors will also need to meet routine donor screening criteria.

2020 CENSUS IS UNDERWAY

By now, every household in San Diego has received an invitation by mail to participate in the 2020 Census. The Census provides more than a snapshot of a community’s demographics. Its count determines where nearly $1 trillion of taxpayer money is allocated for healthcare, education, housing, community resources, transportation and disaster relief.

It is fast and easy to complete your Census questionnaire at my2020census.gov, by phone (844-3-130-2020), or by mail. All your responses are confidential and private.

With questions about the Census, email raquel.juarez@2020census.gov.

AVOID COVID-19 SCAMS

The FBI has identified a new fraud scheme that is using social and social platforms to reach potential victims, said David Surwilo, San Diego Police Department community relations officer. The message uses the promise of money, i.e., “stimulus check” from retailer, Costco Wholesale, and provides a link, containing malware, ransomware or other malicious software, to steal identity, financial or other personal information.

Added Surwilo: “The FBI is warning the public that Costco is not text messaging or using social media platforms to reach the public or its customers to provide a ‘stimulus check,’ ‘freebies,’ or a ‘stimulus package’ in fake messages. Do not click on this type of unsolicited link. Do not provide personal information for unsolicited links.”

STATE LEGISLATURE WON’T BE BACK ON APRIL 13

The California Legislature won’t be heading back to work on April 13 as planned.

“Given what the governor and our public health officials have stated, it has become increasingly clear that the April 13 return date to the Legislature envisioned isn’t feasible," Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins told Voice of San Diego in a statement.

SCHOOL CANCELS ARE OFF LIMITS TO ALL

No students, parents or coaches will be allowed on area school campuses during the current COVID-19 school closure according to San Diego Unified School District school officials. “No trespassing” signs have been posted at all entrances.

Construction and renovation of the PLHS campus is continuing during this time. Workers and neighbors have reported seeing students on the athletic fields. These activities have been instructed to notify police if others are seen in the future.

This order also applies to the Dana and Correia middle schools campuses.

Campuses are equipped with video cameras, which can be accessed remotely, that will be used to identify anyone violating this directive. School police warn that anyone caught on campuses may be charged with a misdemeanor carrying a fine up to $1,000.

BUSINESSES MUST POST PHYSICAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

No later than midnight on April 7, all businesses that remain in operation must prepare and post a “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” at or near the entrance of the relevant facility, to be easily viewable by the public and employees.

A copy of the “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” must also be provided to each employee performing work at the facility. All businesses shall implement the “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” and provide evidence of its implementation to any authority enforcing this Order upon demand.

The “Social Distancing and Sanitation Protocol” must ensure all required measures are implemented and must identify and require measures necessary to implement social distancing and sanitation at the facility. If the measures identified and implemented are not effective in maintaining proper social distancing and sanitation, additional measures shall be identified and implemented or the facility shall be closed.

The California Legislature won’t be back on April 13.
Realtors, civic groups, and schools all still working, albeit remotely

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

From schools to planning groups, everyone is moving forward remotely to observe mandated COVID-19 social-distancing requirements.

VIRTUAL HOME TOURS

Real-estate agents are using internet tools, applications like FaceTime, Zoom, and Matterport, not only to conduct meetings but to transact business. “Open houses are going virtual at least for now because we’re not allowed to have an open house,” said Ocean Beach resident Catrina Russell, of Coldwell Banker West. “So you’re going to be seeing different open-house virtual tours where people can actually log in, and we can walk them through the entire house answering any questions.”

Point Loma’s Rosamaria Acuna, of Berkshire Hathaway, said her top priority has been to “educate clients on what’s happening and how everyone involved needs to be safe.”

“We give the buyers all the information up-front with photos, emails, and everything online,” said Acuna. “Then, if they’re really interested, we would schedule an appointment for (home) viewing.”

When home tours are scheduled, often after a bid is actually made by the buyers, social distancing is observed under Realtors’ close control and scrutiny.

In fact, the switch from in-person to remote high-tech in real estate was taking place before the health crisis, noted Russell. “We were already heading with a lot of this in that direction anyway,” she said. “I’m using those (internet) tools. If people (Realtors) don’t adjust — they’re going to be gone. This is a game-changer. Luckily, this is happening now, not 15 or 20 years ago when there wasn’t so much technology.”

Acuna spoke of conducting a virtual Matterport Tour, pointlomacraftsman.com, that she said: “allows an agent to do a professional walk-through of the home from the front door to every room providing floor plans of property including garages and patios.”

Adding Acuna, “We’re also hosting our Berkshire Hathaway business meetings by Zoom (remotely) with 70 or more members.”

A TALE OF TWO PLANNING GROUPS

Observing social distancing, Ocean Beach Planning Group and La Jolla Community Planning Association recently held virtual meetings. One went without mishap. The other was sabotaged by hackers.

“Our CPA meeting went surprisingly smoothly thanks to our head-up to IT guru Greg Jackson, who provided both his ZOOM internet app, practice sessions, technical advice, and tutorials for us,” said Diane Kane of LCPCA. “As chair, I found 40-plus faces staring back at me on my computer screen an interesting— if not daunting—experience. Many thanks to Greg, who was monitoring the audio and chat functions, for keeping everything on track.”

But OB planners’ initial foray into Zoom and virtual meetings had a dramatically different outcome.

“We experienced what is being called a ‘Zoom bombing,’” said Andrea Schlaeger, OB Plan Group chair. “After the first five minutes of the meeting, the number of attendees suddenly spiked, host controls were overridden, swastikas were drawn overtop the screen-shared agenda, every person in attendance was verbally harassed by name, and a porn website was screen-shared.”

Looking on, Pacific Beach Planning Group chair Karl Rand opted to have the next PB Plan Group meeting held via teleconferencing on April 8. But there were conditions attached for public participation to avoid what happened in OB.

“Any member of the public wanting to attend this teleconference must email a request to the meeting coordinator at meetings@pb-planning.org prior to the meeting and provide your name and email address to log in (or, if requested, telephone dial-in information),” said Rand.

“Approved attendees will be sent the login (or dial-in) information the day of the meeting. We encourage submittal of comments in writing prior to the meeting. Submitting comments and questions ahead of time guarantees it will be read during the meeting and entered into the record.”

ONLINE EDUCATION

Scott Irwin, Dana Middle School principal and co-chair of the Point Loma Charter Schools Foundation, noted San Diego Unified School District began rolling out a distance-learning plan on April 6.

“This was so students can continue learning while our school sites are closed,” he said.

“This plan represents our commitment to ensure every and each student continues to learn and achieve this plan is founded on the following principles: supporting our educators as they transition to distance learning, providing access for all students and maintaining teaching and learning.”

Now that SDUSD campuses are closed, Irwin pointed out educators will now have three distance-learning models to select from District-provided instructional materials with educator support, educator-led hybrid instruction, and educator-led blended instruction.

“Our teachers will resume offering instruction using a ‘distance learning’ model starting April 27,” said Irwin. “Students will not be graded based upon their completion of work during this phase. Student grades were frozen as of March 13. The grading of student work will resume on April 27.”

Visit sites.google.com/sandi.net/covid19/home for information related to netbook distribution, curriculum options for children, and news related to school closures.
Ocean Beach/Point Loma Street Stewards helping out homebound senior citizens

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

The Street Stewards, who were doing community beautification in Ocean and Pacific beaches, Point Loma and now University City, are being re-purposed during the pandemic crisis to aid homebound seniors.

“Many of our neighbors are at-risk for coronavirus and must self-isolate at home, specifically seniors and immunocompromised individuals,” said Aaron Null, founder of the volunteer, nonprofit organization. “It’s vitally important we check in on them to make sure their basic needs are getting met during this pandemic.”

Null felt the Street Steward program he started in August 2019 in OB could be the perfect vehicle to help seniors in need. “I thought it would be a good way to probe neighborhoods to see if we can dig up, and flush out, most of the at-risk people,” he said pointing out he knows, like others, a lot of senior neighbors without having made personal contact. “This could be a good way to talk to them, say hi outside, ask them if they need any help getting groceries or prescriptions,” Null said. “With the stewards, we’re trying to bridge that gap, start that (aid) network.”

So Null created an online form, http://bit.ly/cv-neighbor-support, that stewards can fill out to automatically create an 8.5 by11-inch poster with their contact info/photo to leave at seniors’ doors so they know volunteers are available to help.

“You Just fill out the form and you’ll get an email with a PDF poster that you can print and drop at doorsteps while you street clean,” said Null adding, “Maybe we can help someone who feels quite isolated or scared right now.”

Null said there are presently about 175 Street Steward volunteers in both Pacific Beach, and Ocean Beach, as well as about 60 more in Point Loma. He said he’s organizing volunteers to add senior errands to their clean-up duties.

“I’ve got about 50 volunteers signed up and ready to go,” he said. “But I’m waiting for things to peak a little more before I roll the program out.”

Null will be messaging stewards to let them know when they can begin canvassing their designated neighborhood to determine who the people are who are most vulnerable and in need. Then stewards can drop off filled-out forms on their doorsteps telling them they’re available to help.

“We’re hoping, these people (stewards) who are already walking around cleaning up, that they could also just drop off flyers to let people know they want to help, or just check-in to make sure they’re OK,” Null noted.

JFS PROVIDES FOOD, MEALS, TRANSPORT

Jewish Family Service of San Diego has expanded its most vital programs to serve families and individuals of all faiths, background and ages, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Food, meals and transportation are available for those in critical need. Available services include:

Foodmobile: Expanded home-delivery meal service for homebound seniors and disabled adults. Deliveries may include hot/ready-to-eat meals, frozen meals and groceries to create home-cooked meals. For more information or to get help, call 858-617-3210.

Drive-thru food assistance: Those in critical need can pick up bags of fresh and non-perishable food via a new drive-thru service at the JFS Joan & Irwin Jacobs Campus at 8804 Balboa Ave. Mondays-Fridays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. No appointment needed.

On the Go: Older adults and/or their caregivers can schedule rides to the grocery store or medical appointments. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers and through rideshare service Lyft via JFS’s On the Go Navigator service. For more information or to request a ride, call 858-617-3210.

To get help, volunteer, or learn how you can join us in Moving Forward Together, visit jfsdad.org or call 858-617-3000.
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— Kevin & Cortney Bennett
While you’re sheltering in place, Point Loma Village and other small businesses want patrons to know they remain open for take-out and delivery of food and other essential services.

“We are obviously an essential healthcare facility and hence accept our responsibility to continue providing our services to our community in this most effi- cient and non-disruptive process as possible,” said Michael Saad of Point Loma Shelter Island Drug at 1105 Rosecrans St.

“This is the profession we chose and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- macists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients. Having chosen and as community phar- masists, we are dedicated to the community and patients.

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Business districts from Ocean Beach, Pacific Beach, and La Jolla working together

BID Alliance shares ideas, promotes and supports local businesses

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

As the pandemic lockdown continues, coastal business improvement districts – Discover PB, La Jolla Village Merchants Association and Ocean Beach MainStreet Association – are working together along with their umbrella organization, the BID Alliance, to help small businesses in neighborhoods citywide.

How is the BID Alliance working with the various bids to help them out in this crisis?

“What we’re doing now is sharing a lot of information with each other, talking about how we can reach out to our businesses, get them the information they need to offer relief and assistance,” said Lysundra “Sunny” Lee, Bid Alliance president representing Old Town Chamber of Commerce.

“We’re also sharing information on how we’re marketing our businesses that are open, sharing best practices and troubleshooting.”

Sara Berns, executive director of Discover PB, pointed out BIDs like hers citywide have had to “abruptly change course” from their main focus of “promotion and upkeep” to do “business management” instead.

“The BID Alliance has been intricate in providing the hub of communications for our organizations, from sharing ideas of promoting businesses, to ways to disseminate info to our membership quickly,” said Berns. “The alliance has been most effective in this unprecedented time.”

Added Berns: “As an executive director of a business improvement district there are only 17 others in this position like me here in the City. Yet we all work for individual organizations. Personally, I have depended on them (BID Alliance) more than ever over the last couple of weeks.”

LVMA’s executive director Jodi Rudick has been busy recently helping her small-business members apply for the recently approved City of San Diego Small Business Relief Fund. “It’s on a first-come, first-served basis,” Rudick said of the relief fund, which provides grants, forgivable loans and low-interest loans for working capital.

“We are all working together to understand the long-term ramifications of the pandemic and how our organizations can survive in order to help our local businesses stay in business and flourish after this is all over,” said Denny Knox, executive director of Ocean Beach MainStreet Association. “All the bids are sharing ideas and solutions so that our communities have the best possible outcome. I’m very grateful to have these dedicated individuals/organizations working so hard to offer hope and help to our members.”

Dating back to 1970, the City of San Diego’s Business Improvement District (BID) program is the largest tenant-based program in the state, and is administered by the City’s Economic Development Department. Since then, the small business community and the City of San Diego have created 18 active BID districts, with more than 11,000 small businesses participating in self-assessment districts, raising more than $1.3 million annually.

A BID provides business area merchants with the resources to develop marketing campaigns, increase awareness and enhance public improvement projects in partnership with the City.

The BID associations have developed a variety of successful marketing activities ranging from putting on special events, such as restaurant tours, block parties, weekly farmers markets, and holiday festivals, to developing public relations and marketing materials.

BID associations promote businesses through the internet, social media and cooperative advertising campaigns. They develop and distribute business directories, coupon books, and other district brochures.

Concerning the message the BID Alliance is getting out to its members’ alliance president Lee said: “It’s kind of a tough situation for us to tell the bids how to prepare themselves, as we’re all going through it together. But each time we speak, we come up with new ways to support each other. We really don’t know how to navigate this on our own right now. But it’s our top priority to support those businesses, and to ensure that they come back strong once this crisis is over.”

The San Diego Foundation grants $550,000 more to nonprofits for COVID-19

The San Diego Foundation has announced local nonprofit organizations have received an additional $550,000 in rapid response grants from the COVID-19 Community Response Fund to support individuals, families and communities impacted by the coronavirus outbreak.

To date, the fund has granted $17.7 million to nonprofit organizations on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis. Thanks to the generosity of more than 1,600 individuals, companies, foundations and donors at The San Diego Foundation, the COVID-19 Community Response Fund has raised $38.8 million and earned a $500,000 matching gift from the Dr. Seuss Fund at The San Diego Foundation to support San Diegans in need.

Recent donations include $200,000 from The California Endowment and a new $500,000 matching campaign from the Halicioglu Family Foundation. The Halicioglu Family Foundation was founded by Taner Halicioglu, a leading tech investor in San Diego and one of the first employees at Facebook.

“These are unprecedented times and it is more important than ever that we come together as a community to help each other,” Halicioglu said.

Businesses, individuals and organizations can donate and find additional information about San Diego COVID-19 Community Response Fund at SDFoundation.org where nonprofit organizations can also find information about how to request grant funding or an interest-free loan.

“Government aid is providing some relief in this crisis but the needs of our communities are vast and nonprofit services are filling those gaps in support,” shared Mark Stuart, president and CEO of The San Diego Foundation.

For your child, are you seeking

1.) small class sizes?
2.) academics that are accelerated, challenging and developmentally appropriate?
3.) enrichment through art, music, drama, library, technology, physical education and foreign language?
4.) a character education curriculum?
5.) a School with 87+ years of longevity and proven experience?

We are currently accepting applications for the ‘20-21 school year!

Infants-8th Grade with campuses in Point Loma, Mission Valley & La Mesa

www.warren-walker.com/admissions

Questions? 619-223-3663

We are more than a School!
“Hoppy” Easter!

I enjoy delivering Easter baskets. People say that I am as quick as...well...a bunny! I have strong back legs that allow me to jump as high as three feet and as far as nine feet. See if you can read the clues below to fill in this week’s puzzle about me and a couple of other favorite “Easter” animals. Hop to it!

1. The Easter Bunny is a young __________.
2. No one is sure how the Easter Bunny started his work, but it is thought that he “hopped” across the ocean with the people who came to America from __________.
3. It is believed that the first bunny-shaped treats were made out of pastry and __________.
4. Today, milk, dark or white __________ bunnies are a favorite treat at Easter.
5. Many families hard-boil, dye and decorate __________ to eat or to hunt at Easter.
6. The Easter Bunny delivers __________ full of treats to children for Easter morning.
7. Easter baskets began with children leaving their hats or __________ out of eggs or sitting in baskets.
8. The Easter Bunny hides colored eggs for __________ to hunt!
9. Another popular Easter animal is __________ to be filled with treats by the Easter Bunny.
10. On __________ they are often shown popping out of eggs or sitting in baskets.
11. A woolly, soft, white baby __________ or kid is often shown as a cake.
12. Baby animals are signs of new __________ in the springtime.

What is it? What on Earth is that? Hey, it’s me in chocolate!

Have You Ever Seen?

In Australia, some families are choosing this chocolate animal for Easter celebrations rather than a chocolate rabbit. This animal is native to Australia whereas the rabbit is not. Wild rabbits were brought to Australia by settlers for food. Rabbits have grown in large numbers and compete with this animal for food. About the size of a rabbit, this animal carries its young in its pouch. What is it?

A Basket Full of Fun and Surprises!

What kinds of treats might the Easter Bunny put in baskets to delight children on Easter morning?

Unscramble the letters to fill in the blanks.

1. __________ and coloring book
2. small toy car or __________
3. __________ tickets
4. __________ book
5. story
6. box of __________
7. stuffed __________
8. rubber __________
9. jump __________

Look what I can do!

Find and circle these favorite Easter candies in the basket:
1. malted eggs
2. cream-filled eggs
3. marshmallow chick
4. chocolate bunny
5. jellybeans

A Magical Job!

Gee, I delivered all the baskets and hid all the eggs! I’m pretty tired...

Follow the alphabet code to “see.”

Alphabet key for secret message:

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“One of the really cool things about this unfortunate opportunity that we got forced into is that we’re able to be really innovative with the way that we’re doing ministry and really hone in on the fact that church is not happening inside of a building anymore. The ways that people are finding spirituality are not confined to the four walls of a sanctuary,” said Bailey Brawner, pastor of Mission Hills UMC.

Social distancing could mean social separation, so faith communities are grappling with how best to stay connected beyond just classes and services. Dharma Bum Temple is going to rely heavily on its Facebook group and UCC’s church app will be more significant than ever. Pastors are struggling to find ways to keep seniors engaged who are not digitally savvy. St. Paul’s Cathedral is organizing a phone tree so vulnerable people will be checked in on weekly.

With school out, Kensington Community Church is figuring out ways to conduct youth group through Zoom or Instagram. Stephen Colon, a youth leader, said this is important because it will keep the group connected so they do not feel the need to sneak off to North Park to hang out with each other. In addition to fears about seniors and young people slipping through the cracks, many of these religious buildings host recovery groups.

“We have a huge recovery community, so a lot of people battling addiction. We see a few hundred people a week with multiple classes. For many people battling addiction, it’s a day-to-day, life-threatening situation where they rely on meetings and they rely on the community to stay clean and sober,” said Jeff Zlotnik, co-founder of Dharma Bum Temple. “I wish I could say this is exactly what we’re going to do. And that’s going to fix everyone and solve all the problems, but it’s not. It’s going to be difficult.”

Despite fears about what will happen to their congregants, for many faith leaders, shutting down services was a moral imperative. Patient 31 in South Korea is connected to 80% of cases in the country because she went to two church services, the hospital (after a car collision) and a buffet with a fever. The vast majority of the people she exposed were at church. With people at those church services then spreading it to others, thousands of cases can be traced back to this one patient.

In the U.S., hundreds of people in Washington D.C. were exposed to coronavirus when an Episcopal priest gave out communion before testing positive to the virus. The first confirmed cases of coronavirus in a few cities have been Episcopal priests, including D.C., Chattanooga, Tennessee and Fort Worth, Texas after the denomination held The Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes annual conference in February.

“Closing down churches, from the perspective of in-person gathering, is a way to love your neighbor. I sincerely understand that for many people, the experience of church is about connection,” said Colon.
Correia Middle students earn honors at C-SPAN's 2020 StudentCam

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

Three Correia Middle School students in Point Loma were among 330 students nationwide to win in C-SPAN’s national 2020 StudentCam competition. The three contest-winning students — Wyatt Evans, Cole Fisher and Ian Sturak — will receive $250 for their documentary, “Wrong Men: The Coming Debacle in the Electoral College,” about their project.

This year, students addressed the theme, “What’s Your Vision in 2020?” and made short documentaries about a subject of national importance. The C-SPAN Bus visited Correia Middle School in March to honor the three winning students and present them with their documentary equipment. The student’s video was also presented during the ceremony.

“We wrap up our project with the three winning students and join with the community in recognizing them in front of classmates, teachers, family and elected officials. The student’s video was also presented during the ceremony. The three Correia students talked about their project. “We choose the topic of the electoral college because it resonated with all of us as something that isn’t right in America. All of us believed it was something that should be changed,” said Ian Sturak. “We wrap up our project with our views on the electoral college’s place in America, as well as possible solutions for how we can address the issue,” said Wyatt Evans. “Throughout the production of the video, we faced multiple unavoidable setbacks, such as interviewees being unable to fit our schedules and a lack of filming equipment. We knew this topic was important, though, and we had to get our message out there,” said Cole Fisher.

The Correia winners are among 330 students nationwide who won a total of $100,000 in the C-SPAN contest. Middle school students were judged on a national level among all regions and grade levels. The C-SPAN Bus visited Correia Middle School in March to honor the three winning students and join with the community in recognizing them in front of classmates, teachers, family and elected officials. The student’s video was also presented during the ceremony. The three Correia students talked about their project. “We choose the topic of the electoral college because it resonated with all of us as something that isn’t right in America. All of us believed it was something that should be changed,” said Ian Sturak. “We wrap up our project with our views on the electoral college’s place in America, as well as possible solutions for how we can address the issue,” said Wyatt Evans. “Throughout the production of the video, we faced multiple unavoidable setbacks, such as interviewees being unable to fit our schedules and a lack of filming equipment. We knew this topic was important, though, and we had to get our message out there,” said Cole Fisher.

The Correia contingent were among early 5,400 students from 44 states and Washington, D.C., who participated in the C-SPAN contest, which received over 2,500 submissions on a variety of topics including the environment, equality/discrimination, guns, health care and immigration. StudentCam provides a platform for young people to have their voices heard on the issues they are clearly passionate about,” said C-SPAN’s director of education relations, Craig McAndrew. “This year’s entries reflect remarkable research and production values and feature a wide range of interviews with elected officials and experts. The life-skills students learn from this experience will carry them forward in their academic, personal and professional lives.”

“Congratulations to our local winners on their hard work, creativity and well-deserved recognition,” said Sam Attisha, regional manager for Cox Communications. “Cox is committed to strengthening our communities through educational programs and we are proud to partner with C-SPAN in its mission to encourage students to think critically about issues that affect our country.”

“In the student documentary contest, C-SPAN is awarding one grand prize, four first prizes, 16 second prizes, 32 third-prize winners and 97 honorable mentions. The winning videos will receive cash awards of $5,000, $3,000, $1,500, $750 and $250, respectively.

“This year marks the 16th year of the StudentCam competition, which has awarded over $1 million in prizes. The 150 winning videos can be viewed at studentcam.org and may be used in a broadcast with attribution to C-SPAN. The annual competition is sponsored by the C-SPAN Education Foundation. Videos were evaluated by a panel of educators and C-SPAN representatives based on the thoughtful examination of the competition’s theme, quality of expression, inclusion of varying sides of the documentary’s topic, and effective incorporation of C-SPAN programming.

C-SPAN is funded by America’s cable television companies, who also support StudentCam. In San Diego, C-SPAN is available locally through Cox.

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Schools will not return to class this spring due to the school closures associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

The closures have caused teachers and parents to quickly put together resources, schedules and plans to keep students on track with learning goals. In San Diego, the San Diego Unified School District announced a partnership with KPBS and the San Diego County Office of Education to continue to provide learning resources for its students. The partnership includes a TV broadcast and an online component.

A distance learning plan for all students in the San Diego Unified School District started with a soft launch on Monday, April 6.

The district received the final support necessary after reaching a tentative agreement with the San Diego Education Association (SDEA). The district now has the full backing of stakeholders to provide all students with the opportunity to finish the school year they started months ago while providing teachers with the professional resources they need.

For the three-week period between April 6 and April 24, students will be given credit for work that is done, although material will not be graded. On April 27, graded instruction will resume for traditional schools, and May 11 for year-round schools, for the remainder of the academic year.

For students in TK-12 who need a computer, Chromebooks will be available for check-out, depending on where students attend school, at the following high schools: Clairemont, Crawford, Hoover, Lincoln, Morse, San Diego High and Scripps Ranch. Families will receive information this weekend on when and where to pick up their Chromebooks.

Families who need internet connectivity within the Cox service area should sign up for the Connect2Compete program, which offers free Cox installation and internet services for the next 60 days.

Having students and young children at home provides time to bond as a family, but it also means parents and caregivers are responsible for keeping everyone busy and engaged. Below are some resources to help better structure the time without it turning into a marathon day after day.

VIRTUAL TOURS
Consider taking a virtual tour.

While you may not be able to physically go to a museum or theme park right now, some are offering virtual tours at https://bit.ly/2Jd1Wv. Try checking out these national parks in California virtually: Death Valley, Channel Islands, Joshua Tree, Redwood, Sequoia, Yosemite.

The San Diego Zoo has a full webpage dedicated to children that includes facts and videos about different animals, activities and games. The Women’s Museum of California has digital exhibits available where students can learn about notable women of California, women in the military and more.

MOVIES AND SHOWS
Universal Pictures is releasing some of its movies early on digital platforms, including “Trolls World Tour,” which will be available Friday. Disney+ released “Frozen 2” earlier than planned on its streaming platform earlier this month.

In addition to movies, you can watch Broadway musicals, educational shows on Netflix, and live cameras from aquariums.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
Some educational companies are offering free subscriptions during the school closures and Scholastic is releasing free courses daily through its “Learn from Home” website. The site offers projects for students related to reading, history and more. Its projects are divided by grade-level.

You can also take advantage of digital access to San Diego County libraries, which provides access to e-books and audiobooks.

ARTS
NASA is providing access to its digital images through this website, Paris museums have put images from their collections online. The Metropolitan Opera in New York is streaming live performances nightly.

Consider turning to Instagram accounts for arts and craft projects. These teachers and parents share ideas on making things and fun activities that can provide a break from a screen.

For a full list of resources, click https://bit.ly/2UcAWZP.

Lynn Walsh is a freelance journalist and an Obecian. She works to promote trust between journalists and the public through the Trusting News project and teaches at Point Loma Nazarene University.

**Tips for keeping children busy while staying at home**

By LYNN WALSH | THE BEACON

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Summer Explorers at Gillispie

Gillispie School invites all students to join its exciting 2020 Summer Explorers Program filled with exploration and discovery!

To keep your child fully engaged in purposeful learning and warm-weather fun, Gillispie Summer Explorers offers an 8-week Parent Toddler Exploration Program (PTEP) for children ages 20-36 months and moms/dads/caregivers, an exciting, weekly Early Childhood Camp for students ages 3-4, and a diverse array of Elementary Camp Classes for kids in Grades K-6.

Elementary camp class offerings are held in one-week sessions and include grade-level readiness, LEGO construction, robotics, arts & crafts, music, swimming, theatre, engineering, sports, and more.

For more information, contact Summer Explorers Director Erica Hurley at summer@gillispie.org or (858) 459-3773.

**RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES**

- Digital Access to San Diego County Library
- Paris Museums Put 100,000 Images Online for unrestricted public use
- Virtual Field Trips
- Virtual museum tours
- Women’s Museum of California Digital Exhibits and Stories
- U.S National Park Virtual Tours
- Georgia Aquarium live cams
- Watch Broadway Musicals from home
- NASA Photo Library
- 150+ Educational Shows on Netflix
- PBS Videos and Lesson Plans
- Apps to help you learn and study from home
- Free Subscriptions from Education Companies
- Free daily courses from Scholastic
- Arts and Crafts
- Leave Home without Leaving the Couch

Resources were compiled by Lynn Walsh for sanewswire.com.
An hours-long conference call late last week between the state’s 10 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) section commissioners and executive director ended with a heart-breaking announcement for thousands of prep athletes in the state.

The group declared an end to all high school spring sports, including playoffs, because of the coronavirus pandemic sweeping the nation.

The decision was especially emotional for senior athletes, 95 percent of whom will not compete at the university level and saw their careers come to an abrupt end.

“The official cancellation of spring sports was a pretty tragic piece of news for me to deliver, especially to our seniors,” said Alex Van Heuven, PLHS athletic director. “I think it is better to know than hold everyone in limbo.”

Van Heuven said 540 students were on rosters of spring teams, including 200 alone in track and field. She said the number is similar to what the basketball programs saw at home starting, I had a gut feeling no spectators,” he revealed. But these situations and have overcome them.

Frustration, confusion, and sadness are normal emotions in this abnormal time and although I hope that you comprehend the gravity of our situation as a city, state, and country, it is also normal to feel bad for yourself. It’s okay to feel that,” Schniepp wrote.

Schniepp also noted that many possible ways to continue competition were considered before cancellation became the only option.

“The CIFSDS held out hope and worked on plans for some semblance of a season for as long as we could. We contemplated and drafted different scenarios where we would have shortened seasons, modified schedules with no playoffs and games with no spectators,” he revealed. But these alternatives died when it was announced schools would not re-open. Schniepp urged student-athletes to rely on lessons learned in sports.

“But remember this: athletes understand adversity. You’ve all had to get past injuries, tough losses, and failure. You’ve doubted yourself when things haven’t gone your way. Yet you still stood up for practice the next day.

“As an athlete, you are better equipped to handle this tough time than most. You’ve dealt with difficult situations and have overcome them. Remember the lessons that you’ve learned in sports and use them. Just as you have done as part of a team, we now must battle through this, stick together and do our part.”
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Vintage Ocean Beach cottage perched high on the hill with AMAZING panoramic white water views. This 2BR/2BA features an open floor plan, wood floors, updated bathrooms, 1 car garage/roof deck & huge back yard. A bit of sweat equity and this baby could be adorable. The zoning allows 2 units & the special view makes this an opportunity too good to pass up. Just blocks to the Farmer’s Market, the beach, the pier, cafés, nightlife, and restaurants. Live in front & build a back house, Worth!!

Ocean Beach Real Estate Expert

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1 BD | 1 BA | 588 SQ FT | SOLD for $450,000

This second-level condo is located across from the WildLife Preserve and features gorgeous bay views, serene views of downtown from the dining room and exclusive balcony. The unit is just a short walk from Crown Point Park and a quick bike ride from coffee shops and restaurants. Updated flooring, fresh paint, sliding doors, dual pane windows, electric fireplace, and a balcony deck area are just added bonuses when you’re bringing it close to the bay!

It goes without saying that things are different right now. Please don’t hesitate to reach out. Stay safe, stay healthy, stay in touch.

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Point Loma Heights • $1,795,000
Welcome home to this gorgeous home with Mediterranean flair. Lots of character & huge comfortable spaces. Features include 1BR + optional 6th BR, formal entry, high-end kitchen, wood floors, multiple living & entertaining spaces, master retreat w/ spa-like bath, entertainment bar & lounge w/lanai, City & ocean views & tons of outdoor space. Spa, low maintenance yard, lots of parking & storage plus room for an RV. Come Quick!

Point Loma • $765,000
This hidden gem harkens back to a simpler time. A large 1+BR cottage, it was rumored to be a hunting/fishing club & an artist’s retreat for the PL Theosophical Society at different times. It boasts wood beamed vaulted ceilings, wood paneled walls, cute kitchen w/high-end appliances, large view windows, tranquil pond, FP, extra office & entertaining decks. Tucked behind the 1-1/2 car garage, you’ll never know you are on Talbot St. The best adjectives to describe it: lush, adorable, rustic & sweet. A rare gem.

Point Loma • $1,199,000
Welcome home to this gorgeous home with a Mediterranean flair. Lots of character & huge comfortable spaces. Features include 1BR + optional 6th BR, formal entry, high-end kitchen, wood floors, multiple living & entertaining spaces, master retreat w/ spa-like bath, entertainment bar & lounge w/lanai, City & ocean views & tons of outdoor space. Spa, low maintenance yard, lots of parking & storage plus room for an RV. Come Quick!
**Point Loma** 2 BR, 2.5 BA, 1392 ESF $850,000

Newer construction offers contemporary living complete with sleek modern finishes! Soak in the Downtown & Bay views from top floor master suite complete with a spa inspired master bath. Hardwood flooring, custom fireplace, stainless appliances, 3 balconies & 2 car attached garage.

**Point Loma**, 1+ BR, 862 ESF $499,000 - $539,000

Rarely Available & completely remodeled! First level, courtyard adjacent, contemporary oversized one bedroom condo w/ 400 ESF private patio, 9’ ceilings, plus 2 covered parking spaces & storage. Upgrades include wood beam ceilings, polished concrete flooring, remodeled bath w/ rain shower & in-unit laundry. Enjoy resort style gated complex!

**3144 Fenelon St, San Diego, CA 92106**

This cute, single-level, Spanish home boasts charm and pride of ownership. Potential for additional units in the back while keeping the original charmer, or possibly demo and completely redevelop as zoning is RS 3-7. This corner lot property is 2 bedrooms, one bath, with a wood-burning fireplace in the living room, spacious backyard with mature fruit trees, and a 2 car garage in the heart of Point Loma. Walking distance to Shelter Island and restaurants.

**Call Lanz Correia for more information**
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