Another one bites the dust

Students, instructors mourn the loss of another victim of budget cuts

By KENDRA HARTMANN | VILLAGE NEWS

On Sept. 26, just days before the start of the fall quarter at UC San Diego, Tara Magbo, an instructor at the campus’ Crafts Center, received an email: all of the courses she had planned to teach at the center were cancelled, not for lack of students but because the university had decided to close the center for the 2012-13 academic year.

“Because I was in disbelief when I found out through email about the closure … I didn’t hear from the Crafts Center director so I didn’t believe the news at first,” Magbo said. “I was in the midst of preparing for classes when I found out this information. I found out two days before teaching that my extension class was cancelled, in addition to the non-credit adult enrichment jewelry courses. Our catalog of courses was printed and mailed out. Our online registration was live and we had already started registering students for classes. The information completely caught everyone by surprise.”

Interim center director Joyce Rooks, who had only found out about the closure earlier that same day, said the news came as more than a bit of a shock.

“There had always been funding issues, but the thing that was a surprise was how this happened so quickly,” she said. “The college had already printed up our brochures, were planning all our events, and it just took us by surprise. That’s what hurts the most.”

The Crafts Center, which has offered non-credit courses in disciplines like ceramics, jewelry making, glass blowing, metal work, silk screening, photography, weaving and more for 40 years, had been the potential target of budget woes for several years, Rooks said. Most notably, the building, which Rooks said has been “cobbled together over the years,” was not quite up to current building standards, and would need substantial renovations.

“The center started with a couple of old guard snacks, and it’s become a patchwork of artist spaces,” she said. “Everyone loves the funky nature of it, but when it comes to 21st-century standards, it’s not quite there.”

Packaged under the purview of the University Centers — under which the Price Center and Student Center facilities also operate — the Crafts Center was opened in 1972 with the idea that students, under SEE CRAFTS, Page 9

Yard-sign thefts frustrate voters in the Shores

By MARKO LAMB | VILLAGE NEWS

The value of the vote for women and remembering the day it came

The new Women’s Museum in Liberty Station has a special tribute planned for Gloria Penner, who passed away on Oct. 6 from pancreatic cancer at the age of 81. On Nov. 9, the “Broad’s in Broadcasting,” an event celebrating women who broke through the barriers of the broadcast world, will certainly be subdued by the loss of the dynamic Penner.

A quote from Penner sums up her philosophy as one of those outstanding and talented “broad’s” with a Dorothy Parker-esque perspective.

“In the 1970s, I was a vigorous believer that women needed better representation in business and society, and I worked hard to make that happen. I doubt my demeanor resembled the TV-film stereotypes of the obedient, dutiful babe in the background.”

How do we honor a woman who was one of the most astute interviewers of politicians in San Diego?

We need only look back in time to the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote. We vote this Nov. 6 to honor Penner and because we have the right to vote, thanks to some hardworking women who went before us and fought for women’s rights.

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Construction on the new Shores Lifeguard tower is nearing completion, Sandmeyer reported.

“They are wrapping up the interior of the tower, the electrical and plumbing in the walls, and it’s heartening to see them moving at such a rapid pace,” he said.

Adding that the stairs of the new lifeguard tower are being welded in place and outside wood paneling is now being put in place, Sandmeyer joked lifeguards are taking bets on how soon the job will be done.

“New Year’s Day is the over/under and I’ve got the under,” he quipped.

In any event, Sandmeyer said the city is aware that lifeguards will not move into the new facility until construction is completely finished.

• Sinclair endorsed the establishment of a Neighborhood Watch program in La Jolla Shores.

“Neighborhood Watches are the eyes and ears for the department and help us focus on issues and problems we may not be aware of,” he said.

Anyone interested in participating in Neighborhood Watch is urged to call Sinclair at (619) 756-2419 or email oschindler@pd.sandiego.gov.

• Daneri said the city is establishing an unfunded parks list for projects. He invited Shores residents to weigh in on suggestions on what needs to be done to address future needs.

“Is a park ranger on the unfunded list?” asked LJSA board member Janie Emerson.

“I don’t think you’ll see one funded just yet for La Jolla Shores,” replied Daneri, noting the situation at Kellogg Park is different than at Children’s Pool, which has its own ranger because “of the seals and the problems they create there.”

Though he agreed that a prospective ranger might stay busy during the summer, Daneri was not certain such a position would stay as the summer wanes.

“He wasn’t certain such a position would stay as the summer wanes,” said, but it might not be too late to alter some of the plan’s aspects.

• Allen asked the group to support his efforts to seek an alternative to the construction of a controversial pedestrian-only crosswalk at Princess Street on high-traffic Torrey Pines Road.

“A traffic signal at Princess would make the situation worse than it is now,” Allen said, noting an alternative he would like the city to study is the feasibility of creating an overhead bridge, which, while expensive, might be practical if it could be included into long-range plans under way on the Torrey Pines Road Corridor Improvement Project.

“Many how many people would want to use this pedestrian bridge—100, 10,000?” asked LJSA’s Emerson. “An overlapping bridge is a whole lot of money.”

The Princess Street signal is already included in the improvement plan. Lucas said, but it might not be too late to alter some of the plan’s aspects.

“There are millions of dollars that haven’t been funded yet,” he said. “We might want to present an alternative that might be better than what’s been approved.”

LJSA chairwoman Audrey Keene asked Allen to return with something in writing the group could sign off on requesting the city to study alternatives other than the proposed Princess Street light.

The group’s next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. in Building T-29 at SIO.
La Jolla angel urges others to take the leap

Br MAKIRO LAMB | VILLAGE NEWS

Guardian angels are not always the kind that descend from above. At times, angels can live among us, guiding as a guide for others in need of love and, perhaps, a place to call home. La Jolla resident, attorney, foster youth advocate and mother Leslye Gladstone takes on that role, helping fulfill a longstanding need in San Diego County through her work on the board of directors at Angels Foster Family Network, a nonprofit foster-family agency that connects at-risk infants and toddlers with families throughout San Diego.

More than serving as an advocate for other parents to open up their homes, Gladstone’s decision to foster a child herself became a foster parent herself nearly 10 years ago.

“It’s always been something I’ve wanted to do — to help a child that needed help — and there are so many here in San Diego that do,” she said.

Although she knew from an early age that she wanted to foster a child, it wasn’t until she was 40 and already had a daughter of her own when she decided to take the leap. She was referred to Angels by a friend, went through two months of rigorous training and finally fostered her “Angel baby,” 22-month-old Selena.

“They do a phenomenal job of act- ing as liaison between the county and the parents, as well as the birth par- ents. They hold your hand through the entire process and provide a lot of educa- tion and support,” she said. “It’s pretty quick once you’re qualified. It was only a week after [completing training] when I got the call, and Selena came to live with me.”

Now Selena is 11 and living with Gladstone as her legally adopted daughter. Her family may not seem conven- tional from the outside — with birth daughter Jessica, 16, Selena and Sele- na’s birth sister Ana, 17, all living under one roof — but Gladstone said her family is just like any other.

“They’ve always considered them- selves to be sisters,” she said. “They love each other and hate each other just like any other sisters do.”

Despite facing some obstacles, Glad- stone said her decision to foster and educate a child has been worth- while. “There are challenges, and I think you have to look at yourself as to why you’re doing this,” she said. “You have to be ready for anything — as you have to be with any child — and just be prepared to open up your heart and have some real love in it.”

That trait — love — is the only com- mon one required of foster parents, she said. “[Foster parents] have a deep care- ing for children and an understand- ing and patience with the system, because it can sometimes be challeng- ing,” she said. “For example, if you have a child that was physically abused and you have to maintain visits with the parent who was the abuser.”

The overarching reward, however, is to both foster parents and children trumps any obstacle. “There are difficulties, but even if it is a short time, you have with these children, you are absolutely saving their lives, and they will have a remarkably better life,” she said. “If you are in a situation where you can help a child, you can really have a huge affect on the lives of these little kids.”

Angels Foster Family Network spe- cializes in abused and neglected chil- dren 3 years old and younger with a unique focus on preventing what is known as Reactive Attachment Disor- der (RAD). During the child’s crucial period of development, severe neglect, abuse or separation from caregivers can result in a persistent failure to communicate or respond to social interactions in a developmentally appropriate way, affecting a child’s life well beyond the age of 3.

“If a child doesn’t form an emotional bond with someone by the time they are 3, they can never form it. That is really one of Angels’ main missions is to get them into a loving home — even if it’s not a permanent home — during that crucial time so they can have a bond with another human being,” Gladstone explained.

Many of these children have had early experiences that are “absolutely horrendous,” she said. “We’ve had children who have test- ed positive for drugs — basically born addicted to drugs. We’ve had some children with most of their bones bro- ken from physical abuse. We have severe neglect, where they’re nowhere near what their proper weight is sup- posed to be.”

“It’s horrible. There are just so many sad situations and so many children who didn’t do anything to deserve this.”

And has become the county’s go-to choice when a child is removed from his or her home, Gladstone said. Since the nonprofit’s inception in 1999, Angels has provided foster homes to more than 550 babies in San Diego. A number of children, however, continue to be turned away each day because there are not enough foster families available for the county’s needs, partic- ularly in key areas like east and south county.

Gladstone urges anyone who has thought about fostering a child to take the leap as she did. “It is absolutely, without a doubt, the most rewarding thing I’ve done in my life,” she said. “Don’t wait as long as I did, because it’s just a fabulous way to make a real difference in the world, give help where help is needed.”

And be rewarded in the process.”

For more information about fostering a child or how else you can help, visit www.angelfoster.org or call (619) 283-8100.

CIVIC report: La Jolla Town Council, Oct. 11

Br MAKIRO LAMB | VILLAGE NEWS

Highlights from the Town Council’s Oct. 11 meeting:

• Anu Delouri, spokeswoman for UCSD’s Physical and Community Plan- ning, responded to allegations that Scripps’ Marine Ecosystem Sensing, Observation and Modeling Laboratory (MESOM) is being built higher than the CIVIC Observation and Modeling Laboratory.

•As I did, because it’s just a fabulous

• The La Jolla Town Council approved recommendations to help poultry farmers.

• A motion to raise the La Jolla Town Council’s fee for water by 2% was approved.

• Council member Jackie Goldberg introduced an amendment to the affordable housing ordinance to make it more attainable for families in La Jolla.

• A motion to giveened support to the San Diego nonprofit La Jolla Family Network was approved.

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Local business: La Jolla businesswoman creates a whale of a chip

By DAVE SCHWAB | VILLAGE NEWS

Whatever Terry Kraszewski does, you can bet it will have something to do with the ocean or the creatures within it.

A self-avowed beach person, Kraszewski has spent her adult life devotion to the ocean and how we can be better stewards of the ocean and its inhabitants to interact and exchange ideas in a stimulating, indoor-outdoor learning facility.

The innovative architecture of the building and its cutting-edge technology it holds — creates an atmosphere that is commensurate with the world-class medical school and its students.

It’s sold a new report entitled “Sell Your Own Home”, which has been prepared especially for home sellers like you. You’ll find that selling your home by yourself is entirely possible once you understand the process.

Inside the report, you’ll find 10 tips to selling your home by yourself which will help you sell for the best price in the shortest amount of time. You’ll find out what real estate agents don’t want you to know.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call toll-free 1-800-276-0763 and enter 1017. You can call any time. 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to learn how you really can sell your home yourself.

Local Home Owner Saves Thousands when Selling Home

Selling your home by yourself

SAN DIEGO. If you’ve tried to sell your home yourself, you know that the minute you put the “For Sale by Owner” sign up, the phone will start ringing off the hook. Unfortunately, most calls aren’t from prospective buyers, but rather from every real estate agent in town who will start hounding you for your listing. After all, with the proper information, selling a home isn’t easy. Perhaps, you’ve had your home on the market for months with no offers from qualified buyers. This can be a very frustrating time, and many homeowners have given up their dreams of selling their homes themselves. But don’t give up until you’ve called Kyle Igarashi. He’s the one to call when you want to sell your home the right way.

Kyle Igarashi

A great dipping chip,” Kraszewski said. “We both have the same belief in conservation through education. So the money we raise through our chips funds school programs to educate children about the ocean and how we can be better stewards.

Right from the start, the chips, made by Kraszewski’s best friend and marketeur de la Plage in La Jolla Shores (she owned another boutique for a dozen years in Misen Beach prior to opening Ocean Girl, Kraszewski has also authored children’s book “Surf Angel,” and for the past six years has successfully marketed her expanding brand of Whale Tails tortilla chips.

“I wrote it with my daughter,” Kraszewski said, explaining that the story is about “taking care of each other and the animals of the sea.”

Kraszewski and her husband started Whale Tails chips, choosing whales as the canvas because they felt whales often represented an iconic symbol of ocean conservation.

“We also felt that [the whale tail] would be a great dipping chip,” Kraszewski added pointing out, “It’s better for dipping by natural design.” But Kraszewski’s organic, gluten-free Whale Tails chips were also to have a higher purpose — ocean conservation.

Toward that end, she solicited the help of renowned marine life artist Wyland and his nonprofit Wyland Foundation, which works in the water to bring understanding and appreciation of oceans, waterways and marine life by encouraging environmental awareness through education programs, public art projects and community events.

“Wyland was so kind to do the art on my packaging,” Kraszewski said. “We sold these as ‘chips with a conscience,’” were touched them and we actually had a mother bring her baby right to the boat and pushed it right to us.”

Kraszewski also traveled recently to Long Beach where she viewed blue whales, the largest creature ever to live on the Earth.

“It was the most remarkable experience with 1,200 whales in the lagoon and 500-pound babies and we got so many up-close-and-personal experiences with them,” she said, “We touched them and we actually had a mother bring her baby right to the boat and pushed it right to us.”

Kraszewski also traveled recently to Long Beach where she viewed blue whales, the largest creature ever to live on the Earth.

“It was absolutely remarkable, the awe of them,” she said. “There are no words to describe the majesty of that animal. Underneath the water, they’re as big as a battleship. We were in a 60-foot catamaran and the whale was easily as long as we were.”

Most days though, Kraszewski is content to tend shop at Ocean Girl, where she carries a wide variety of surf and beach accessories for women of all ages and backgrounds.

Though she’s not quite ready to dis-
RECYCLE your cartons, San Diego!

WHEN THE CONTENTS ARE GONE, LET THE CARTON LIVE ON

If you receive City of San Diego refuse collection service, you can recycle cartons for all of your favorite food and beverages like milk, juice and soup. Just place your empty cartons in the blue curbside recycling bin. Give your cartons a second life. Recycle your cartons today!

Go to RecyclingWorks.com for more information.
VOTE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On Aug. 18, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified and gave women the same right men had to vote ever since the Revolutionary days. We were told by our grandmothers and grandfathers that the battle to get this right was fought by many women, even those ladies with discounted room rates, not to capture a facility for the entire community.

Besides housing the tourists centers, the La Jolla Visitors center will have a new information center of meeting space to accommodate small community groups. "That's a bonus, another place available for La Jolla interests, both the general population and the businesses," he said.

MERCHANT NEWS

• LJMA held its annual board election to fill eight director positions.

By DAVE SCHWAB | VILLAGE NEWS

The La Jolla Village Merchants Association officially has a new home. Phil Collier, president of the business improvement district (BID), announced at the group’s Oct. 10 meeting that a lease has been signed for office space beginning Dec. 1 at 1162 Prospect Place near La Valencia Hotel.

“We were lucky,” said Collier after the meeting. “We made a contract with the right person and it came up at the right time. It was worked. It was fought. Collier said a soft opening for the new center, where the La Jolla Visitors Center — currently at 7966 Herschel Ave. — will move to, will be in late December or early January.

“We’re hoping to have everything finally complete for an official opening before spring break,” Collier said. “We’re going to make it a facility for the entire community. It is a facility for the right men had since the Revolutionary

The Village for $6,000 per year, nearly to vote for representatives and initiatives Abigail Adams in a letter to her husband, who inspired her as a student. “Remember the ladies!” admonished Abigail Adams in a letter to her husband, who was writing on the “Declaration of Independence.” No vote for women was forthcoming.

In less than thirty weeks, American women everywhere will wake up on Nov. 6 with media reminders to get out to vote. Is voting just a right thing to do? Is this a privilege or something inextricably linked to citizenship in this great country? One has only to turn back the calendar to Nov. 16, 1971 to remember when 33 women ran against the sidewalks in front of the White House that was occupied by Woodrow Wilson. These women were arrested and were not permitted to be treated as par. Lucy Burns, Dora Lewis and Alice Paul ended up in Occoquan Workhouse in Virginia after they were tried to be false or have been resolved seems to be lost in the chatter.

The issue of non-conforming current use is nothing more than a red herring. It is an attempt to mislead the community. The real issue is the merit, or lack of merit, of the proposed Whitney Project. That is where the battle lies. It’s not about the担心 is that when I got divorced in 2012, he had to get his father to co-sign a full-time job in 1962 and was over 21, my mom would ask my father how she would vote. I couldn’t wait until I was 20, the legal age back then to vote in Switzerland,” she said. “I think we are cumming along, but still need more women to step up and get elected. Why is 51 percent of the United States underrepresented in Congress?

Abigail, a young mother of a toddler, grew up in Vietnam and came to California to find work. She finally completed for an official opening before spring break,” Collier said. “We’re going to make it a facility for the entire community.”

“Besides housing the tourists centers, the La Jolla Visitors center will have a new information center of meeting space to accommodate small community groups. “That’s a bonus, another place available for La Jolla interests, both the general population and the businesses,” he said.

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Drivers traveling between Point Loma and La Jolla on Oct. 9 may have encountered a group of high school-age students carrying what looked to be a very oversized cardboard box. They were, in fact, hauling a box measuring 12 feet long and 5 feet wide, but they were not merely laboring in the interest of transport. What the group was in fact doing was creating art. It all started when Jeff Robin, art teacher at High Tech High in Point Loma, came across “the largest box I’ve ever seen” (a whiteboard had been delivered to the school in said box earlier that day).

“I had been asked by Bird Rock Coffee Roasters if I could provide some art for the walls, and I started thinking, ‘Maybe we could paint that box,’” he said.

Robin started discussing the idea with his students, and they began to brainstorm ideas for the design.

“The problem was how were we going to get that box over to the Coffee Roasters’,” he said. “We didn’t have a truck big enough.”

At the suggestion of one of Robin’s students, Ines Diot, the group began to explore the idea of walking the box all the way from the school to the coffee shop, which, as they soon discovered using Google Maps, was exactly 7.7 miles.

“Hoping to acquaint his students with conceptual-perceptual art through more than a dry textbook definition, Robin decided to help them create a work of art through the experience of walking to an ideal destination. And so 47 students took turns hoisting up the immense box, and for three hours, documented by a camera affixed to a tripod on a platform-bicycle designed (“Which was sketchy,” Robin said), made their way up the coast.

Robin, who has excorted students to several countries through art-related field trips, surprised himself with his anxiety over walking the streets of his hometown.

“When we were still only at NTC, it was thinking. ‘Will this work? I was kind of freaking out,” he said. “I’ve taken kids all over the world, but this made me very nervous.”

Three hours later, the group arrived at the coffee shop, where Robin said, “We were still only at NTC, it was thinking. ‘Will this work? I was kind of freaking out,” he said. “I’ve taken kids all over the world, but this made me very nervous.”

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Robin walked the entire way with his students exactly how art is made, and as a result, he said, “I’ve been there,” he said. “I’ve been there,” he said. “I’ve been there,” he said. “I’ve been there.”

“For a full list of events Oct. 18-25, visit www.sdnews.com

Goh La La Dance Academy will fuse salsa, hip-hop, jazz, flamenco and ballet in three one-of-a-kind performances of the “The Wizard of Oz” at Tango Del Rey on Oct. 20 and 21. A three-course menu will accompany the lively performance, which will showcase a fun twist on the classic musical that everyone can enjoy. General admission to the performance, including a meal, soda and table seating, is $55 ($25 for children). VIP admission with front-row table seating is also available for $65. To purchase tickets, visit www.OLLDA.com. Showtimes are Oct. 20 at 6 and 8 p.m. and Oct. 21 at 9 p.m. Tango Del Rey is located at 3567 Del Rey St.

“It’s never too early to get a little holiday shopping in or squeeze a glass of wine or two into your day—or both. To kill two birds with one stone, save the date for La Jolla Community Center’s third annual “Autumn Shopping Spree & Wine Tasting” fundraiser on Oct. 20 from 1 to 4 p.m. The afternoon will include live music, wine and hors d’oeuvres, mini-massages and exclusive shopping from local vendors like Windansea Wines, Tor Moroz’s glass sculptures, Reena Horowitz’s jewelry and more. Entrance to the afternoon fundraiser is $25 and proceeds from the event, including a portion of the sales, will go to support the UCC and its programs. To RSVP, call (858) 459-0831 or email info@ljcommunitycenter.org. The La Jolla Community Center is located at 6811 La Jolla Blvd.

For a full list of events Oct. 18-25, visit www.sdnews.com
The Nice Guys organization began in 1979, formed by a dozen concerned San Diegans who wanted to give a “hand up, not a handout” to local individuals and families in need. The founders wanted to help others, but also to have fun doing it — putting the “fun” back in “fundraising.” Attend any of their events or meetings, and it will immediately become apparent that Nice Guys certainly do have fun, and that a sense of humor is mandatory for membership.

To date, the group has provided contributions of more than $13 million to local people down on their luck. There are about 140 members (including about 20 nice gals), but no paid staff. Members cover any expenses, so all donations go directly to needy community members to provide help to people who would really rather be giving than receiving.

Each year, the Nice Guys honor someone who has done extraordinary things for our community. Their Nice Guy of the Year (NGoY) gala, held recently at the San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina, honored Ernest Rady for his lifelong successful entrepreneurship, passionate philanthropy and dedicated community leadership. Born in Winnipeg, Canada, he brought his family here in 1966, and just loves San Diego. He formed American Assets, Inc., through which he construes and manages a group of companies dedicated to financial services, investment and real estate. His leadership, vision and financial contributions have resulted in his name being attached to both Rady Children’s Hospital and UCSD’s Rady School of Management. Gala proceeds will benefit both those organizations.

The black-tie event began with a spirited cocktail reception. Channel 10’s Pat Brown emceed, ably standing in for habitual emcees Kimberly Hunt and Billy Ray Smith, who were away for parents’ weekend at their daughter’s college. Seated for dinner in the ballroom, guests were asked to stand as the honoree entered the room, where he received a grand ovation. Popular Nice Guy Neil O’Connell, a marine sergeant major, then introduced the Marine Band San Diego, whose performance at this event has become a beloved tradition. They marched in, and taking up their instruments in a most military way, played with extreme precision and discipline — much to the guests’ delight.

Father Joe Carroll did the invocation. He dialed G-O-D on his cell phone, then said, “I’m surprised you answered, recognizing my number.” He himself was NGoY in 1990; others have included John Lynch, Billy Casper, Conrad Prebys, and Gayle (Mrs. Pete) Wilson, the first (and so far, only) female NGoY.

Dinner featured filet mignon and crab cakes. A well-produced (and rather funny) video about the honoree was shown. Keeping with the group’s penchant for humor, traditionally these events — and everything connected with them — are more like roasts than somber, serious affairs.

Last year’s honoree, Ted Rossin, welcomed Rady, transferring to him the pin identifying him as the new NGoY. The recipient threatened a 90-minute speech, but kept it to around 15. He said the Nice Guys represent a big part of what makes San Diego such a great community. So, the Nice Guys saluted Ernest Rady — and he saluted them.

The evening ended with dancing to Liquid Blue, whose fabulous music — and cool music videos — kept the dance floor filled to capacity.

The Nice Guys organization began in 1979, formed by a dozen concerned San Diegans who wanted to give a “hand up, not a handout” to local individuals and families in need. The founders wanted to help others, but also to have fun doing it — putting the “fun” back in “fundraising.” Attend any of their events or meetings, and it will immediately become apparent that Nice Guys certainly do have fun, and that a sense of humor is mandatory for membership.

To date, the group has provided contributions of more than $13 million to local people down on their luck. There are about 140 members (including about 20 nice gals), but no paid staff. Members cover any expenses, so all donations go directly to needy community members to provide help to people who would really rather be giving than receiving.

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constant pressure from their regular academic pursuits, could come and relax among the kilns, metal-working machines and wheels, perhaps learning an artistic craft in the process. The center was open to students, faculty and staff, and members of the community — some traveling from as far away as Los Angeles and Orange County to attend its highly acclaimed courses, which are offered on a sliding scale.

“This place was developed as a place for students to blow off steam,” said Rooks, who started taking courses there in 1975. “It’s a social outlet, a great place to meet friends, to learn and to have a good time. There’s no pressure of getting a grade. You can just learn to make something and take it as far as you want. And we’ve actually had a lot of great artists come out of the Crafts Center.”

Apart from the budding artists who won’t be able to fire pottery or blow glass this year, the closure of the center also affects the more than 35 instructors who taught there.

Magboo, a jewelry-making instructor at the center for nearly five years (she spent seven years before that taking courses there) said the void left by the center’s closure has been taken up by efforts to save it. An online petition has been created to help save the center, along with a Facebook group called the-ucsd-crafts and a page called Save the UCSD Crafts Center. "The university’s decision has been devastating to this entire community — Instructors lost their teaching positions and hundreds of students lost their ability to learn in this wonderful facility,” she said.

The administration hasn’t said why it’s decided to shutter the center so abruptly before the start of the quarter. Oct. 25, those visiting the center’s website were greeted by a letter, signed by Gary Ratcliff, assistant vice chancellor of student life, outlining the bare details surrounding the closure:

“The UCSD Crafts Center will be closed during the 2012-13 academic year pending resolution of budget shortfalls and renovations needed to the Crafts Center facility. Workshops, non-credit classes and art exhibits through the Crafts Center will not be offered this academic year.

The Crafts Center is funded by the University Centers, which operates the Price Center and Student Center facilities. Risings costs have triggered the need for budget reductions in the University Centers, which is funded primarily by the University Centers student fee. Decisions about reductions were based on students’ priorities and their usage of University Centers programs, services and facilities.

Anticipated expenses related to facility renovations were factored into the decision. A recent facility condition analysis of the Crafts Center identified $1.5 million in needed renovation work.

This year, the University Centers will work with student leaders in the University Centers Advisory Board, Associated Students and Graduate Student Association to explore options for funding, renovating and reopening the Crafts Center.”

The university’s explanation didn’t satisfy Magboo, her colleagues or students.

“Both students and instructors are angry, shocked and deeply saddened by the loss of the Crafts Center,” Magboo said. “The university was not transparent in communicating the closure of the Crafts Center. We were not notified prior to the closing that this was going to take place. The way the university handled the situation was both cold and inhumane. Many instructors have been working here since the creation of the crafts center…. We were thrown out without having any time to make preparations for our own livelihoods.”

At press time, university administrators declined to elaborate on the online announcement.

“The one glimmer of hope for members of the Crafts Center’s community, meanwhile, is the possibility that, as indicated in Ratcliff’s letter, the center could be reopened next year. For that to happen, Rooks said, she believes the issue would have to stay at the forefront of university affairs.

“We hope it will be reopened next year. We would like to see [the administration] held to their ‘academic year’ promise,” she said. “We’d like people to send letters to the administrators and let their opinion about the arts be known. [The arts] are being cut everywhere, this has been a great place for people who never had them, and I honestly think it’s detrimental to our society. We’re seeking positive solutions. If it’s really important to people, we have to make sure it stays up front.”

Rooks urged community members to send letters in support of the center to UCSD chancellor Pradeep Khosla, vice chancellor of student life Penny Rue and Ratcliff. Contact information for all three is available at www.facebook.com/groups/472669866516597/.

Supporters of the center have also drafted petitions, which can be signed at www.causes.com/causes/795532-save-the-ucsd-crafts-center (for Facebook users) and signon.org/sign/save-the-ucsd-crafts (for non-Facebook users).
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Country Day girls’ tennis gears up for championships

Knowing that every win counts, the La Jolla Country Day varsity tennis team is aware that every match is important. Last year, it was able to win matches based on games. This year, it is all about winning sets. And when players are off one day or just not on top of their games, those lost sets can be detrimental to the final result.

Over the last few weeks, the varsity Torreys took on Parker, Cathedral, Bishops, La Jolla High, Pacific Ridge and Dana Hills. Both the JV and varsity teams dominated Bishops, with the varsity team almost sweeping all of its doubles matches against Parker and Bishops. Juniors Danielle DeVor and Lauren Ross shined, winning two out of three singles sets against both schools. Doubles players Lindsey Jacobs, Olivia Martin, Alexis Parkhurst, Hannah Shaich, Niki Mani and Kendal Jacobs, as well as McGinnis and Jacobs, all did great and won almost all of their doubles sets. Torreys defeated McGinnis all did great and won almost all of their doubles sets.

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The Torreys had one of their hardest competitions of the season, as they took on La Jolla High School and Dana Hills, two of Southern California’s toughest teams. They began the week with a match against LHS — their biggest rival, whom they’ve beaten in the finals of the CIF championships for the past two years. The Vikings bared a solid team, but the Torreys were ready to put their best foot forward for this match. Head coach Jodynn Burkett added more strength to the doubles lineup, teaming DeVor with Jacobs. As a result, the Torreys won seven out of nine doubles sets, which were dominated by DeVor and Jacobs, as well as McGinnis and Martin.

While the doubles teams were impressive, the Torreys struggled with the Vikings singles players, who made very few errors and played at the top of their game. Burkett, however, did not leave the match disappointed.

“The girls went out there and competed the best they could,” she said. “Not only did they compete, but their team spirit was by far the cheeriest and most supportive of the entire season. I’m positive if someone was watching and did not know the score, they wouldn’t have known that we lost.”

After the tough loss against the Vikings, the Torreys took on Pacific Ridge for a “Pink Match” in support of breast cancer research, which the Torreys won 12 to 6.

The team then traveled to take on Dana Hills, one of La Jolla’s top varsity teams, where the Torreys lost 3-15 — gaining three wins in the doubles sets from McGinnis/Martin and Jacobs/Ross. The loss was a great learning experience, however, as the competition against such a tough team will allow them to be ready for regionals.

The Torreys will rest and practice for the CIF championships, which will begin Oct. 23 at Country Day, and the CIF individual championships, which begin Nov. 5. — Cindy Sureephong, assistant tennis coach, La Jolla Country Day School

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Moving Mom and Dad to Assisted Living

Almost everyone hopes as they grow older that they will be able to spend the rest of their lives in their own home enjoying the comfort and memories that go along with having a long life. Sometimes parents tell their adult children “I want to stay in this house forever. Promise me you’ll never put me in a home.” This promise can put undue stress on the children when the parent’s good health begins to change.

Joan’s parents, John and Anna, had been married more than fifty years and were doing well. Then Anna began having short-term memory loss and then she broke her hip which put her in a rehabilitation facility for three months. Joan was at a loss of what to do when her mother was ready to leave the facility.

She contacted Innovative Healthcare Consultants, a Geriatric Care Management company, who met with the entire family. Even though Anna wanted to stay in her home forever, it wasn’t practical as John could not manage the demands of her illness at home. The nurse at Innovative was able to help Joan find an assisted living home with specialized dementia care for Anna with a senior apartment complex for her dad. It’s working out well.

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