Mission Bay High students, teachers, and parents held a rally in support of Black Lives Matter and against police brutality in front of the school on Grand Avenue on Friday, June 5. Students cheered as drivers honked in support of the peaceful demonstration.

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

BLACK LIVES MATTER IN PACIFIC BEACH

SEE PAGE 8

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Understanding the impact of immigration policies in different countries. Therefore, granting worker rights on receiving income, innovation, reducing crime rates in terms of generating income, and stability to immigrants may likely they are to seed innovation and create businesses. As entrepreneurs know, starting a business requires a lot of money upfront while the return on investment may take years, but the benefits to the local population prove to be very positive from the start.

With the economy contracting at unprecedented levels, the White House's decision to impose more visa restrictions is expected to make economic recovery more difficult because the less confidence immigrants have in their status, the less likely they are to seed innovation and create businesses. Providing legal permanence and stability to immigrants may help incentivize long-term local investments like businesses which lead to an increase in jobs and a larger tax base. Khanna and co-author Anna Brown, a graduate of GPS's Master of Public Policy program write.

"Many high-skill workers have lost their jobs, which means many will have to leave the country soon. When the U.S. crisis abates, some will have to leave the country or apply for a costly green card that has a long waitlist, particularly for citizens of India and China."

"Extending the H-1B limit or making the green card process easier would provide immigrants with a longer legal work status in the U.S. and allow employers to retain high-skill talent, which could have downstream effects on other industries that use software, like banking, manufacturing and other sectors," the authors write.

Since the H-1B visa was introduced in 1990, it has yielded on average $431 million in 2010 as a result of the H-1B, according to previous program write.

"If we'd been shut down for two weeks, which was the original plan in March, reopening April 1, it would have been just a small blip. The problem we're running into now is that the business re-openings are coming with lots of strings attached." Added Major: "Not everyone can go back to work now the way they did before the pandemic. And new health rules and regulations that have been put in place are reducing the possibility of businesses being profitable."

A case in point, said Major, is the restaurant industry.

LEGAL PROTECTIONS FOR IMMIGRANTS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION

About 45 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants or children of immigrants. These companies amass more than $6 trillion in revenue per year and include tech-giants like Google-Apple, Microsoft, Tesla and Apple. With one in four of computer scientists born in a different country, the U.S. immigrant workforce comprises of many of Silicon Valley's top entrepreneurs, current CEOs or company founders.

As entrepreneurs know, starting a business requires a lot of money upfront while the return on investment may take years, but the benefits to the local population prove to be very positive from the start.

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La Jolla Parks and Beaches approves new belvedere at Windansea

By DAVE SCHWAB

La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc. June 1 approved plans for the replacement of a historic belvedere at Windansea beach. The previous belvedere, constructed around 1912, was destroyed in the early ’80s, apparently hauled down by a vehicle using chains.

Belvederes, or gazebos, are roofed, open-sided galleries usually commanding fine viewpoints.

Belvedere project landscape architect Jim Neri has worked on a number of coastal park improvement projects in La Jolla, including restoration of the Children’s Pool Plaza. Neri notiﬁed to La Jolla community parks planners a ﬁnal design for the project before submitting it to the City. The belvedere project includes the installation of an ornamental post and chain.

Neri said the new Windansea replacement belvedere will be similar, though “much smaller,” than the existing belvedere overlooking Children’s Pool.

Of belvederes and their function, Neri said, “They are a quaint reminder of a days-gone-by era. They provide shade and shelter, especially for our elderly population. It becomes a destination, a place they can walk to and has some shade and shelter from the sun enabling them to look out at the beach and waves, enjoy the coast without being in the hot sun. It will be an exact replica of what was there.”

“He’s (Neri’s) worked hard on this project,” said longtime community planner Melinda Merryweather, who has spearheaded the belvedere project. “It’s a beautiful thing what we’re doing, bringing back a La Jolla treasure that was torn down, and replicating it. That belvedere was the only bit of shade we had on the bluff at Windansea.”

LJPB board member Patrick Ahern, who said he’d originally had some doubts about the project, was satisﬁed with the new design.

“I like the post and chain,” Ahern said “It will keep people from walking down the bluffs and really prevent erosion. I like the idea now of having the belvedere providing shade.”

Neri said the Windansea replacement belvedere will be south of the Shack, about midway between Colmar and Rosemont streets on Neptune Place.

“It’s on a little slope leading down to the stairs,” Neri said. “Adding the new structure will be just over nine feet tall which he noted will “break the horizon, though it always did.” He added, “It will not be seen from the houses across the street because they’re higher up.”

Concerning the belvedere project’s timeline, Neri said he was putting together a Coastal Development Permit submittal expected to go before the City later this month for a completeness review.

Of the cost and duration of the project, Neri said, “It’s going to cost under $25,000 and will have to be put out to bid for a contractor to do who has experience on coastal projects. I expect it will take no longer than a month to build it out.”

The landscape architect added he hopes for the construction of the new belvedere next winter. “Optimistically, it’s going to be 2021 before construction starts, and we hope to have it done by the next year,” Neri said.
Continuing to enact a safe beach reopening plan developed in coordination with regional life-guards and public health officials, Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer recently announced the City moved into Phase 2 of its plan this week, which includes opening piers, boardwalks, Fiesta Island and Mission Bay Park.

Faulconer also announced a date to reopen Balboa Park’s Central Mesa this month.

Also this week, beachgoers will be allowed to park in lots at local beaches, the County announced. Individual coastal communities may elect to enforce stricter regulations on parking lots in their area, so beachgoers should check whether lots at specific beaches are open before heading out the door.

Currently open:
- East and West Mission Bay Parks to all park and water uses;
- Mission Bay Park Parking lots to open at full capacity;
- Fiesta Island to pedestrians, dogs and cyclists only;
- All piers and boardwalks.

June 12
- Open Balboa Park’s central mesa;
- Open all Balboa Park parking lots.

July 6
- Open Fiesta Island to vehicles.
  Enforcement will remain as directed by the County Health Order: All persons on the beach shall practice physical distancing other than members of the same household.
  The public shall not congregate or participate in active sport activities on beaches.
  “We have made significant progress flattening the curve in San Diego,” said Faulconer. “The public’s cooperation and support have allowed to us to move to the second phase of our safe beach reopening plan, as well as reopen Balboa Park’s iconic central mesa.”

More information on the State of California “Stay At Home” order, including what’s closed, what’s open and which industries are exempted by the state can be found on the California Covid-19 response website.
INSIDER SECRETS TO GET TOP DOLLAR FOR YOUR HOME

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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.” 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 home.

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 this report, call toll-free 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!

Congratulations Comfort Inn Miramar

On their recent major renovation and conversion from their previous brand, Quality Inn Miramar.

The new hotel provides visitors the quality and amenities that would be expected at a Comfort Inn with modern touches and finishes.

The six-month project was completed and opened to guests on April 30th. We wish the team at the Comfort Inn Miramar great success as they welcome guests to this refreshed property.

Caitlyn Sullivan, Jessie Zana and Lucia Meza of Pacific Beach Middle.

Gyms, zoos, movie theaters, hotels, and museums can open on June 12

The County recently received further guidance from the state about a number of additional sectors that can reopen, with restrictions, as early as Friday, June 12. The County received reopening guidelines for the following industries:

- Gyms,
- Hotels,
- Bars and wineries,
- Museums, galleries, zoos and aquariums,
- Professional sports without spectators,
- Day camps,
- Campgrounds and RV parks,
- Family entertainment (bowling alleys, batting cages, etc.),
- Card rooms and racetracks,
- Music, film and television production.

Indoor movie theaters join a growing list of businesses that can begin to reopen this Friday.

Businesses must follow state guidelines and are required to fill out a Safe Reopening Plan before resuming operations.

Movie theater operators must limit the number of attendees in each theater to 25% of theater capacity or a maximum of 100 guests, whichever number is lower. They must also ensure employees and customers practice good hand hygiene, use face coverings when not eating or drinking, maintain physical distancing and are screened for symptoms.

“Several communities across the nation have seen a spike in case numbers after reopening their economies,” said Wilma J. Wooten, M.D., M.P.H., County public health officer. “We need to remain vigilant and continue to use the measures that have slowed the spread of Covid-19.”

The following activities are not permitted until further notice:

- Nail and facial salons;
- Tattoo parlors;
- Therapeutic massage businesses;
- Conventions;
- Concerts.

The County is evaluating the state guidance and will provide a timeline for individual sectors in the coming days. While the state guidance provides public health modifications that should be in place prior to the reopening of individual sectors, the county public health officer will make the final decision about when individual industries can reopen based on local Covid-19 data.

“Practicing good hand hygiene, maintaining physical distance when you come into contact with individuals outside your household and using a face covering help prevent the spread of this virus,” said Wilma J. Wooten.

Steps for business owners to follow and guidance are on the County’s Safe Reopening page.

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ENTRY RULES: You choose your favorite! Tell us who the best of the best is and you’ll be entered into our free drawing. Vote for restaurants in La Jolla and UTC, 92037, 92122; Maximum of 4 categories per restaurant. Mail or hand deliver your ballot to: La Jolla Today, Readers Choice Awards: 1621 Grand Ave., Ste. C, San Diego, CA 92109; or vote online at: sdnews.com or lajollavillagenews.com. Please complete at least 50% of the ballot. One ballot per person. Ballots must be postmarked, submitted online, or hand-delivered by 7/32/2020.
La Jolla leaders want Village Shores streets open for dining
City’s red tape is delaying the process

By DAVE SCHWAB

A jolla civic leaders have been frustrated so far in attempts to close off streets in the Village to accommodate outdoor dining to aid restaurants following the pandemic lockdown.

“It’s the perfect location,” said La Jolla Shores Association president Janie Emerson of Avenida De La Playa, the neighborhood’s commercial business strip.

“But the City’s telling us now that we (LJSA) have to barricade, insurance to cover all this and a 20-foot area left open in the center of the street for emergency vehicles.”

Added Emerson about the current impasse, “We need to sit down with the mayor – or this is not going to happen. It’s time-sensitive. It has to happen like yesterday, or there is no point.”

Emerson’s perplexed the City thus far is treating the proposed Avenida street closure as a one-time-only “special event,” when the change would be through this summer during dinner hours.

Ed Witt, president of Enhance La Jolla board, which manages the community’s Maintenance Assessment District, concurs ways must be found to help re-opened restaurants, limited to 50% or less seating capacity indoors, move their dining outdoors. He added some progress is being made in negotiations with the City to make that happen.

“This is a big deal, we all need to work together,” said Witt of partially closing off streets in the Village, or Shores, for outside restaurant dining. “We had a Zoom meeting on May 18 and the City has actually changed a lot of the rules, attempting to make it easier to put dining out in the street.”

Added Witt, “They (City) are in favor of doing this. But it’s hard. They’re attempting to do what they can at this point. This doesn’t mean we couldn’t push them further.”

Witt noted the Downtown San Diego Partnership, a nonprofit advocating for the economic vitality and growth of downtown, is attempting to close off streets there and open them for outdoor dining too.

Emerson pointed out LJSA board member Phil Wise has been working on finding ways to open up Avenida since March. Wise recently proposed to the City advisory group putting platforms out onto the street to allow more dining space from 5 to 10 p.m. Wise added that will require a permit to install platforms, to close the street, and allow restaurants to serve alcohol on the platforms.

LJSA also voted recently to create an ad hoc committee to work with Wise in studying how to implement his Avenida platform proposal.

The need for outdoor restaurant space in La Jolla Shores is great, said Emerson.

“You’ve got eight restaurants in that one-block area, enough to make it workable and financially feasible,” she said. “Somebody has got to cut through all this ridiculous red tape.”

Added Emerson of utilizing Avenida for dining: “Restaurants need all the help they can get. It’s a win-win for everybody, as you are putting people back to work, and restaurants will be paying sales and income tax. There’s absolutely no downside to this whatsoever.”

A Village resident himself, Witt said it’s his policy that “If I can’t walk there, I can’t go there.”

On the lock down occurred, Witt realized that “If we don’t help the restaurants, we’re going to lose almost everything, as restaurants are hugely important to La Jolla and attract people to the Village. We need to try our best to save our restaurants, otherwise, we’re going to lose more of our retail.”

In May, the La Jolla Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) and its vendors continued maintenance work in the Village with power washing of sidewalks, maintenance of landscaping and pick up of fallen limbs and other debris from trees, while providing litter control and trash collection regularly within the Village. All trash receptacles are disinfected and lids wiped during each servicing. Also cleaned are the pedestrian ramps at intersections one day each week. All of the Village’s concrete trash receptacles (lids, frames, and doors) have been painted and crews continue to perform daytime sidewalk power washing one day each week in residential areas of the district.

MAD recently installed six doggie waste stations as a pilot project in the Village. Funding for these improvements was provided by a generous local donor. Allure located on Prospect and Girard.

Also, we now have a source of replacement materials to keep the stations well supplied as bags are quickly used by their four-legged customers. Please let us know what you think about these doggie waste stations.

Regarding trash dumpsters in the Village, the MAD is working with the City and merchants to better manage their condition and frequency of trash pick-up. These dumpsters also seem to attract dumping of unwanted larger items. We have found that a request to the City through its “Get It Done” app is the best way to address these incidents of illegal dumping.

MADs close to approving a proposal for high-level palm tree trimming in the Village and should start this work in the few weeks. Up to 300 palm trees may be trimmed, resulting in less debris on the sidewalks and safer pedestrian conditions throughout the Village. MAD will soon have a subcontract in place to recondition up to 20 wood benches in the Village. This work will focus on benches along Girard, Wall, and Prospect. After much delay, we should see this work start in late June. While graffiti shows up regularly, MAD continues to work with our local volunteer and the City to quickly address problems in the Village.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com
Why is the Black Lives Matter movement important?
‘It’s not just a Black community issue, it’s a human rights issue’

By DAVE SCHWAB

Like an erupting volcano, the tragic murder of George Floyd is igniting an outpouring of indignation within San Diego’s Black community, which is demanding reform, social justice, and an end to racial inequality through the Black Lives Matter movement.

On June 1, several local African-American spokespeople participated in an hour-long Zoom webinar on social justice and accountability in the wake of Floyd’s murder.

Black Lives Matter (BLM) is an international human rights movement, originating from within the African-American community, which campaigns against violence and systemic racism toward black people.

Most people are familiar with BLM from when NFL quarterback Colin Kaepernick took a knee on the sidelines before a game in 2016 to protest against racial injustice. But the movement actually began earlier, in 2013, with the use of the hashtag #BlackLivesMatter on social media, and accountability in the wake of Garner in New York City.

On June 5, another group spurred on by social media, organized at the intersection of Mission Boulevard and W. Mission Bay Drive. About two dozen protesters held up signs and chanted ‘no justice, no peace, no racist police.’

PHOTO BY THOMAS MELVILLE

For Mira Costa Community College student Abdulmateen, BLM is all about proactively addressing racial injustice and inequality.

“That injustice and violence against Black people is to get their pulse on Black Lives Matter, and why that should matter to everyone.

“There is a significant difference in the way that protests are seen based on the color of your skin, and what you’re fighting for,” said Kymaani, president at Kymaani Catalyst Consulting.

That, in and of itself, is deeply ingrained, and why this fight continues to exist.”

“I definitely agree with that,” said Hall, assistant professor for School of Leadership and Education Sciences at University of San Diego.

“Our country originated with the genocide of indigenous Americans and the enslavement of Blacks, and our history is one of bloodshed and violence. We’ve never, as a country, tried to reconcile those things. There is still a lot of work to be done to get everyone on an equal footing.”

“This issue is really about the dehumanization and lack of accountability or concern about injustice and violence against Black community members at a disproportionate rate,” said Porter, chief of staff at RISE San Diego, a community-based organization committed to building real urban communities to keep order, but the order would never need to be kept if we devoted the resources, mental health, education, etc. to solve social problems so policing isn’t as necessary.”

Porter said what needs to be done to stop injustice and inequality against Black people is to “remove the psychological conditioning that allows those types of behaviors (police brutality) to go on, and to increase accountability for crimes and violence against the Black community. We need to re-humanize Black people. This is not just a Black community issue. This is a human rights issue.”

Abdulmateen said it’s important for society to “support Black folks during this time and listen to their concerns.”

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com
In the past week, Pacific Beach, Mission Beach, and La Jolla have seen several peaceful rallies in support of Black Lives Matter – from three paddle outs, to a march down Garnet Avenue, to protests on the sidewalks of busy streets.

On Friday, June 5, the Black Student Union at Mission Bay High organized and led a Black Lives Matter rally at the school’s front entrance on Grand Avenue. Dozens of students, parents, and some teachers joined to protest against police brutality and to support the Black Lives Matter movement. The group held signs and cheered on drivers who honked in support.

Later Friday, another group spurred on by social media, organized and led a Black Lives Matter protest, which makes this the biggest civil rights movement in world history,” said Risa. “If you look around you see unity, you see peace, you see love, you see empathy. This is not an Instagram challenge or a popular hashtag that will fade away when we all get distracted by the next big thing. This is the big thing. Changes are happening. This is a stand against racism.”

Added Risa: “We are not born racist. We are not born with hate. It is taught down from generation to generation. But this generation standing here today is putting a stop to that now. We will no longer tolerate it.”

Pointing out “black people aren’t usually associated with the poster-board surfer,” Risa noted people of all walks of life “because it brings us unity and peace.”

Risa noted that “a black man should be free to jog in his own neighborhood without being gunned down. A black child should be able to walk to the store to buy candy without being hunted. A black woman should feel safe in her home, instead of being murdered where she lay her head.

“If a black person is accused of a crime they deserve a fair and speedy trial just like everyone else, not an automatic death sentence. So many black people have spent their last breath begging to live.”

Continued Risa: “George Floyd couldn’t breathe. But we still can. Let’s breathe for him. Let’s make sure he can breathe and feel the love one another, have compassion, and walk with love, and peace, and help one another. This is a stand against racism.”

Added Risa: “Freedom does not judge my color, race, or religion. We’re all humans. And if we mess up this Earth – we have nowhere else to go. So I suggest everyone walk with love, and peace, and help one another, have compassion, and love one another.

“We all spent eight minutes and 47 seconds of our lives watching a black man get murdered on film. It broke us down. It made us a lot of us sad, angry, for some of us, it caused division. So I’m asking everyone to spare another eight minutes and 47 seconds of your life to heal, to love one another. Hold up your fists and let’s take a moment.”

So let us breathe for him. Let us speak for him and everyone else that has been affected by racism. I ask that you all walk this Earth in unity. Please use your voice. Please speak up.

“Don’t get distracted by the next big thing because change is a big thing. We are the citizens of the United States of America, land of the free.”

Added Risa: “Freedom does not judge my color, race, or religion. We’re all humans. And if we mess up this Earth – we have nowhere else to go. So I suggest everyone walk with love, and peace, and help one another. This is a stand against racism.”

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will still be an incredible summer of adventure, fun and learning. Here are some of the exciting activities planned:

Art Exploration – Dance, Acting, Digital Arts, Ceramics, Drawing & Painting

Fitness & Fun – Games & Exercises as campers learn to develop a healthy lifestyle

Science Geeking – Build Robots, Do Chemistry Experiments, and catapulting physics activities

Rock Sports – grow your skills in football, volleyball, soccer, basketball and more

Game On – Gaming & Thinking Skills, Puzzle Solving, Video & Board Game Tournaments

Wild Water Days – having fun by getting wet and crazy

LEGO-Mania – what incredible creations will your child come up with?

Media Madness – Create videos, movie trailers, and news broadcasts

Kids’ Club – crafts, songs, games, sports, skits, and more!

Homework – Still in school? We will have a place for you to do your work and tutors to help.
Local student organizes Black Lives Matter flower march in La Jolla

By DAVE SCHWAB

Flower power is taking on a whole new meaning as a recent high school graduate has organized a flower march for June 12 in La Jolla to support the Black Lives Matter movement.

A self-professed “hippie” who wears a peace sign around her neck, 17-year-old Danika Zikas, a recent graduate of Helix Charter High School, works in La Jolla. She said one of her goals with the march is to “bring cultural awareness on the issues and push for change toward police progression.”

Why flowers?

“It’s more a tranquility and unification tactic than anything else,” answered Zikas.

Why La Jolla?

“Working in La Jolla I interact with people there daily,” responded Zikas. “There isn’t a lot of protest in affluent communities like La Jolla and Del Mar. But there are powerful people here, and this is where the most change can happen.”

Zikas said marchers will meet about noon at the Ellen Browning Scripps Park and then depart about 1 p.m. headed toward Windansea beach.

“There will be two stops along the way, one at The Bishop’s School, and the second in the parking lot next to Fern Glen Road,” she said. “At those breaks will be a speaker, and one more at the end.”

The young social activist is anticipating as many as 1,000 sympathizers joining her on June 12. But, judging from attendance at other recent BLM-oriented events, that could be an underestimate.

Zikas also gave a presentation on her march to the La Jolla Village Merchant Association at the group’s June 10 monthly Zoom meeting.
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Mission Beach & Pacific Beach
The following is a text-based representation of the content of the page:

The world as we knew it before the pandemic has been altered. We are experiencing a different way of living; some of these changes will continue into the future. I am neither an economist nor a historian nor an epidemiologist, so my predictions are based on what I read as a lay person and my guesses are as good as yours. I may not even be around to see how right I may have gone astray.

Telework: Working from home with ever-improving technology will be more prevalent. Businesses will see this as a new possibility. It will cut back on traffic and on overhead, such as office space. Some companies are already planning to allow employees to continue working at home. Flexible working hours with staggered shifts may be another way to reduce crowded offices. Recent studies have shown that working at home is as productive as going to work. The downside is lack of collegialship. Talks around the water cooler, dropping by someone’s office with a quick question will no longer be possible, but this may also be a benefit as many people are more productive when interruptions are kept to a minimum.

Education: Will classes be held via Zoom? Some yes, hopefully not all. Many of the benefits of school are the interactions between student and teacher and between students. Social skills are learned and honed in this environment. The learning that takes place in groups cannot easily be replicated online. Also as we have seen, the disparity that became evident between those students that have access to computers and high-speed internet and those who don’t need to be remedied.

Telehealth: Seeing one’s doctors online will become more common as this is already being experienced successfully. New technology of video camera technology will make it easier for patients to send the relevant information for doctors to diagnose.

Online Shopping: The way we shop was already changing. This will continue exponentially both online and via catalogues, with deliveries by drones to your doorstep. Strolling through malls, window shopping, browsing through stores will be a thing of the past.

Home Life: Family time will continue to be treasured with more cooking at home and increased family activities, such as playing board games and doing arts and crafts together. The pandemic has increased our reading, which will become a new habit. There should be a proliferation of small neighborhood day care centers with trained staff to allow parents the free time to work from home or to go to work.

Communication: More and more people are now reaching out to distant family and friends by means of computer technology. By continuing with this, we can stay in touch with people more readily. Intimacy can be increased with the ease of sharing our lives on a more regular basis with others.

Attrition: With the ease of wearing comfortable clothes at home, there may be a new value in not getting dressed up. People might stop coloring their hair, forgo wearing makeup, and revert to a simpler way of living.

Physical Fitness: By having learned to exercise at home using the internet, we may not wish to go to the gym, especially if the virus is not totally eliminated as there will still be fears of contagion. Many activities which require being with other people will be curtailed.

Entertainment: As streaming movies at home became an easier way to be entertained, people might not want to have to drive, park, pay for a ticket when it can all happen in our living rooms. Movie studios have already begun to try to reach us via streaming at the same time they are shown in theaters.

Environmental Impact: With the cleaning of some of our cities with less traffic and less pollution, there will be an impetus to regulate emissions coming from our clean air and blue skies.

Social Isolation: Having endured solitude, we might have a renewed appreciation for the value of friendships, of being more neighborly, being more aware of the needs of people surrounding us, and more willing to help. In other words, we might become a kinder, gentler people as well as kinder, gentler nation. Maybe, just maybe, having a virtual kind of life for introspection, we have looked into our hearts and found compassion and love.

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Some Mission Bay High graduates jump for joy on the beach.

A Mission Bay High graduate and her family ride through the senior celebration event at the school on May 29.

Some MBHS graduating seniors walk down to Law Street beach for a celebration.

Some students of the Mission Bay High School Class of 2020 and their families came together in an informal and impromptu ceremony at Law Street beach on June 9 to celebrate graduating seniors who endured a difficult last three months of high school life. Watch the ceremony at you-tube://JvMk9P83U.

May 29, the school held a senior celebration where students received their class of 2020 items (cap, gown, honor cords, IB Sash, 2020 year sign, and more). The senior celebration drive-thru event at the school included a DJ, party lighting, congratulations signs, MBHS staff waving to students, images of students projected throughout, and more.
Mission Bay High students start art and lit magazine

By DAVE SCHWAB

Mission Bay High School students have found a new way to fight the coronavirus blues, through exhibiting art and literature in a new school magazine.

Gracie Semmens and MBHS classmate Erick Girouard have teamed in a project they hope will be uplifting to people’s spirits during these tough times.

“Our project is a collection of artworks, poems, and short stories created by students of MBHS and the other PB cluster schools,” said Semmens. “The pieces of work will be put together in a collective magazine-style publication designed by myself and my other colleague, Girouard.”

Added Semmens: “After the magazines are finished, we will advertise and sell them around Pacific Beach and to the students of MBHS. The money made from these magazines will be distributed to one or more social causes within the Pacific Beach community, to be decided.”

An artist herself, Semmens said the project goal “is to bring our community’s creative minds together in a time when many may feel trapped inside their homes. It will allow for creativity to be expressed and showcased to the whole community.”

Semmens said she and Girouard were both inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement.

“Now more than ever, with social inequity and unrest, our main goal is to spread positivity through this project and speak light and appreciation of what is good about our community,” she said. “We know no way better than to showcase our artistic ability.”

The student publication website, lightmrelightpb.com, reflects the mood and spirit of their artistic endeavor.

“It’s been exciting for Erick and me to get this rolling and we want to see all the submissions,” said Semmens noting they’ve already gotten three, though the project is just getting started.

“We’ve gotten a poem about our City being resilient and a skull mandala sketch,” said Semmens of incoming submissions which she said will be reviewed by a panel of judges including local artists, an English teacher, and parents.

“It won’t be biased,” Semmens promised.

The artistic MBHS junior said they will be accepting poems, short stories, paintings, sketches, visual art, and short essays via their website between now and July 17.

“We are hoping to get them published by late summer, early fall,” she said. “We are currently looking for sponsors to help pay for our printing and distribution costs.”

Semmens noted their art project is almost like a time capsule.

“It’s basically a souvenir from our times, just saying what good can come from this,” she said. “Also, it would be great if this idea spread to other school districts and neighborhoods.”

THE PREUSS SCHOOL NAMES NEW PRINCIPAL

After a nationwide search, Matthew Steitz, Ed.D, has been appointed principal of The Preuss School UC San Diego, effective July 1. The nationally ranked charter school is focused on low-income students who strive to become the first in their families to graduate from college.

Most recently, Steitz served as assistant superintendent of Educational Excellence for the Vista Unified School District. Located on the University of California San Diego campus, the school was recently recognized as the No. 1 high school in San Diego County by U.S. News & World Report.

“We are delighted to welcome Matthew Steitz to The Preuss School,” said UC San Diego executive vice chancellor Elizabeth H. Simmons. “He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, a passion for excellence and a commitment to the mission and vision of The Preuss School that will continue to support outstanding outcomes.”

As principal, Steitz will work closely with Helen V. Griffith, Ed.D., executive director of The Preuss School, to build the capacity of scholars, faculty, staff, parents and community partners.

“As an educator who is dedicated to transformational student success, Dr. Steitz is an ideal addition to our Preuss leadership team,” said Griffith. “I look forward to partnering with him in preparing our scholars to succeed in college and career.”

“I am thrilled to join the The Preuss School team, ready to support the school’s history of transformational success, especially at a time when our educational system is challenged by a worldwide pandemic,” said Steitz.

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For a limited time, readers of this paper will receive a special discount on our full chimney cleaning and safety inspection package with special attention to chimney water intrusion points in preparation for the rainy season.
SeaWorld, where animal care specialists have been caring for rescued sea otters for more than 9 years old. Until today, SeaWorld's newest southern sea otter, was known only as “820,” the designation assigned to her after being rescued and cared for by Monterey Bay Aquarium. The young southern sea otter (Enhydra lutris neorossia) was found stranded with no mother in sight on a beach in Cambria, Calif. in March 2018. Marine-animal experts from Monterey Bay Aquarium took her in and provided care and stabilization. She was outfitted with a tracking transmitter and released back into the wild along Monterey Bay. After much travel and challenge, she was rescued again by the Monterey Bay Aquarium team to improve her chances of survival, and they continued to care for her until she made a full recovery and was brought to SeaWorld.

NOVA IS HER NAME

Thanks to SeaWorld fans from across the country, a new otter who arrived at SeaWorld in March now has a name. Nova. “Nova” is the feminine singular form of the Latin adjective novus (“new”), and it is commonly used in reference to Nova Stella “new star.” Followers on Facebook and Instagram were asked to vote on five different names, and Nova won by a large margin. Nova was deemed non-releasable by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and transported from Monterey Bay Aquarium to SeaWorld, where animal care specialists have been caring for rescued sea otters for more than 40 years. She has been thriving in SeaWorld’s care, eating about 20 percent of her body weight daily and getting to know her pool mates: five sea otters ranging in age from 10 months old to 9 years old. Until today, SeaWorld’s newest southern sea otter, was known only as “820,” the designation assigned to her after being rescued and cared for by Monterey Bay Aquarium. The young southern sea otter (Enhydra lutris neorossia) was found stranded with no mother in sight on a beach in Cambria, Calif. in March 2018. Marine-animal experts from Monterey Bay Aquarium took her in and provided care and stabilization. She was outfitted with a tracking transmitter and released back into the wild along Monterey Bay. After much travel and challenge, she was rescued again by the Monterey Bay Aquarium team to improve her chances of survival, and they continued to care for her until she made a full recovery and was brought to SeaWorld.

OCEAN PARK INN THANKS FRONTLINE WORKERS

Ocean Park Inn, on the boardwalk at 710 Grand Ave., wants to thank frontline workers for everything they have been doing during these trying times by offering a discounted stay. Currently open for essential travel only, frontline workers can save 20% off of their stay at Ocean Park Inn by using the discount code THNYOU20 and booking through June 30.

ITALIAN RESTAURANT COMING TO PB

The owner of San Diego’s popular Landini’s Pizzeria is opening a full-service Italian restaurant in Pacific Beach. Scuderie Italia will open later this year in the stand-alone building that last housed Café Bella Italia at 1525 Garnet Ave. Scuderie Italia, which translates to “stable Baby,” will have a full menu of Italian dishes, as well as wood-fired, East Coast-style pizza. The eatery will also have a variety of local beers and a curated wine list. Scuderie Italia is anticipated to open by this fall. Visit landinispizzeria.com to learn more.

PB FISH SHOP REOPENING FOR DINE-IN

A local favorite, The Fish Shop at 1775 Garnet Ave., reopened June 10 with daily hours from 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. Fans of the popular seafood destination can snack on Dorado Taco and the award-winning TKO Taco, which features grilled Mahi Mahi, shredded cabbage, mixed cheese, house cilantro white sauce, and tropical salsa on a flour or corn tortilla. A.R. VALENTIEN REOPENING

The Lodge at Torrey Pines’ signature restaurant, A.R. Valentien at 11480 N. Torrey Pines Road, reopened for in-restaurant dining. It will be open for dinner only, Wednesday through Sunday. Reservations are encouraged. Chef Jeff Jackson has curated a menu in honor of reopening that highlights the local farms and dishes. This includes Chino Farms corn soup with scallop mousse and basil, as well as the local favorite Liberty Duck breast and confit leg with peach shortbread, arugula, and pine nuts.

BAHIA RESORT HOTEL IMPROVEMENTS

Dempsey Construction has completed an extensive lobby renovation and site improvements for the Bahia Resort Hotel, 998 W. Mission Bay Drive. The project consisted of the renovation of the existing lobby, front of house amenities and additional site improvements.

The scope of work included structural glass doors, framing and finishes throughout, upgraded lighting in the lobby and exterior soffits, new guest services and guest luggage storage. Site improvements included the addition of a lounge area adjacent to the entry drive, accessible parking and path of travel, decorative concrete hardscape and landscape throughout.

Dempsey Construction worked with the owner, Evan Hotels, to relocate check-in and guest services to alternate, on-site locations, while the property remained in full operation during all construction activities.

BREAKFAST REPUBLIC OPENS IN PACIFIC BEACH

Following the re-opening of its North Park outpost last week, Breakfast Republic, reopened for onsite dining at Mission Valley, Pacific Beach, Costa Mesa and East Village locations this week at 7 a.m. Check the restaurant’s website and social media platforms for a confirmed re-opened dates.

BLENDERS EYEWEAR PROVIDES SUNGLASSES

Pacific Beach-based Blenders Eyewear will outfit more than 100 FedEx Express workers across the county, offering workers one of five select sunglasses. The Blenders Eyewear team donates sunglasses to the region’s 100-plus FedEx Express workers to thank them for their continued support throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

After re-purposing its production to create and then donate 30,000 safety goggles to Southern California hospitals, plus 20,000 pairs to Direct Relief – in addition to a month-long fundraiser for the international aid organization – Blenders wanted to do more to help those at the front-lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information, visit BlendersEyewear.com.
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Street names: Authors in Ocean Beach and gems in Pacific Beach

By KATHERINE HON

The original names of more than 250 streets in San Diego were changed by Ordinance No. 755 adopted May 21, 1900. This ordinance brought authors to Point Loma and gems to Pacific Beach, among many other changes implemented to eliminate duplication and achieve some continuity where street names changed from tract to tract.

The source of names in alphabetical order in Ordinance No. 755 was Louis Jackson Davids, the relatively new city engineer. He noted in his transmittal memorandum to the Board of Public Works that his suggestions for new street names were "taken from natural objects (trees, flowers, etc.) or from men celebrated in science, literature, statesmanship, war, etc.: care being taken to maintain alphabetical order."

MISSOURI MYSTERY AMONG GEMS IN PACIFIC BEACH

Ordinance No. 755 gave Pacific Beach its gem street names in alphabetical order from Agate to Horneblend [sic] to replace the names of states already in University Heights. That is, there is no California Street in University Heights. That is because California Street in University Heights was changed to Hamilton Street in 1899. Only California Street in Middletown was allowed to keep its name.

The complicated but fascinating story of other state street names in Pacific Beach—including Florida (now Law Street), Nevada (now Wilbur Avenue), Kansas (now Loring Street), and still present Missouri Street—included Missouri Avenue in Pacific Beach in 1892 as part of a pattern.

The duplication was fixed in 1904 even though there had been a Missouri Street in University Heights since 1888. The duplication was fixed with Ordinance No. 5417 in 1914, when Missouri Street in University Heights and North Park was renamed 32nd Street, and Missouri Avenue in Pacific Beach was renamed Missouri Street.

The street name of "College" for what is now Garnet may seem like an outlier. But that name referred to the San Diego College of Letters, which was built at the head of Kendall Street (originally Tenth Street) in 1888. The college failed, and the main building became a rooming house called the College Inn. The inn was refurbished by Wilbur and Murtrie Folsom to become Hotel Balboa in the early 1900s.

In 1910, Thomas Davis established the San Diego Army and Navy Academy on the college grounds and greatly expanded the facilities. In 1936, that academy moved to Carlsbad; the following year Brown Military Academy began operations on the site. Pacific Plaza Shopping Center opened on the former academy grounds in 1964. Read all about this fascinating history in "Images of America: Pacific Beach" by John Fry, published by Arcadia Publishing Co. in 2002.

Who were some of the celebrated gentlemen honored by street names that we still see today?

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750 DEVON CT.
2 BD | 2.5 BA | 1,560 sq ft.
Sold Price of $1,065,000
South Mission Beach top floor condo with luxury features! This home is located on a lovely, well maintained court and is only steps away from the beach. The property features travertine floors, stainless steel appliances, granite counter tops, AC and solar. Master bedroom is pure luxury with jetted tub, separate shower, huge walk in closet. 3rd level patio is spacious and great for entertaining.

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754 DEVON CT.
4 BD | 3 BA + 2 ½ BA | 2,535 sq ft.
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Large South-facing condo steps to the beach! This turnkey 4 bed/3 full bath/2 half bath home has a large patio with 1 bedroom on the 1st floor w/ 1.5 baths, 2 bedrooms and 2 full baths on the 2nd level and large living room, dining area, chef’s kitchen, half bath and laundry room on the 3rd level. Beautiful details from floor to ceiling include travertine floors, stainless appliances, elevator, solar, AC, in-ceiling speakers, and large 3 car garage. Over $133k 2019 rental income.

PB Fun Fact:
Belmont Park, originally named the Mission Beach Amusement Center, was built in 1925 by John D Spreckles. Belmont Park was intended to boost Spreckles’ electric rail line and boost real estate sales in Mission Beach. The Giant Dipper roller coaster was to be a focal point of the park and was 2,600 feet long and was built in two months.