A grand orchid planted in Little Italy

By MARISH LAMB | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Craft & Commerce, a newcomer to Little Italy, has garnered soaring support for its architecture, adaptive re-use and interior design, earning the restaurant the esteemed 2011 Grand Orchid from this year’s Orchids and Onions awards ceremony — a fundraising program hosted by the San Diego Architectural Foundation.

This year’s biggest nod went to the eatery located at 675 W. Beech St. for a spot that jurors named “idea-driven, yet basic.” Some of the restaurant’s simple, yet imaginative design concepts include written passages from John Steinbeck and David Foster Wallace scribbled across the pub’s walls and seats, stacks upon stacks of vintage hardcover novels, oversized glass doors with Ford Model T steering wheels for handles and a unique fusion of materials, including wooden planks on the ceiling, red bricks on the walls and aluminum encompassing the center bar.

Grant Barrett, the awards ceremony’s emcee, explained the jurors’ decision at the event on Oct. 27. “During deliberations for the 2011 Grand Orchid, the jury was taken with one particular project, where they were all in agreement that the space had actually transcended the design,” he said. “They felt strongly that Craft & Commerce — this accessible, adaptive re-use project in Little Italy — had been carefully designed and masterfully executed to create a truly exceptional experience.”

One juror noted there seems to be a hidden personal story that owners Nate Stanton and Arsalan Tafazoli and designer & David Ferbrache

to our team of professionals

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Welcome}

Raquel Christian

Dawn Ortiz

& David Ferbrache

to our team of professionals

The America’s Cup returns to San Diego after a 16-year hiatus

By JOHNNY MCDONALD | DOWNTOWN NEWS

At 10 knots, it’s not NASCAR out there but the America’s Cup World Series can be as exciting — depending, that is, on the flow of the San Diego bay — as any of the world’s sporting events.

Crowns will hang onto the gold medals for two weekends of competition in San Diego (Nov. 12-14 and Nov. 19-20) when nine boats take to the water in match and fleet activity. Entries will come from France, Sweden, Korea, China, United States, New Zealand and Spain.

Spectator gates for vendors and entertainment at the Broadway Pier will open each day at 10 a.m. and racing starts at 1 p.m., on a short-course version of Dennis Conner’s award-winning Cup challenges on unpredictable waters off Point Loma a few years ago.

This time, the shoreline along Harbor and North islands and the embarcadero will be filled with spectators getting a closer look at the boats up close. The new AC75 wing-sailed catamarans provide a platform that has never been seen in the America’s Cup — a boat that is both exceedingly quick and highly maneuverable.

“I’m not trying to prevent them from exercising their right to free speech,” said Boyd Long, assistant police chief, who said no use of batons, rubber bullets, tear gas or percussion spray was employed and only hand force was applied when carrying out arrests. “What we are telling them is that we cannot have tents, occupy public space with their property. Sleep in public and say that they’re going to stay there indefinitely.”

Long said demonstrators were told to return to the Civic Center Plaza to continue protesting peacefully, with the full support and protection of the SDPD, but they could not infringe upon the rights of other San Diegans or violate the law enforcement personnel gave protesters an opportunity to gather their belongings and disperse before moving in. Afterward, cleanup crews entered the area to remove and discard tents, tables, signs, provisions, personal belongings and other items left behind by demonstrators.

“They’re killing my business. I’m part of the 99 percent, too. I’m a small business, not a big corporation.”
This contemporary residence with captivating views accentuates its surroundings. With 3 bedrooms, 3 and a half baths, an additional optional bedroom, extensive storage built-ins and a private entry, you will have plenty of room to enjoy this dream home.

$750,000
Live in this gorgeous residence designed by internationally acclaimed Architect Irving Gill. Its lush elevated site, close to shops and restaurants, complements the detailed charms seen throughout this 2 bedroom, 2 bath with optional bedroom home.

$4,295,000
This contemporary residence with captivating views accentuates its surroundings. With 3 bedrooms, 3 and a half baths, an additional optional bedroom, extensive storage built-ins and a private entry, you will have plenty of room to enjoy this dream home.

BANKERS HILL
$750,000
Live in this gorgeous residence designed by internationally acclaimed Architect Irving Gill. Its lush elevated site, close to shops and restaurants, complements the detailed charms seen throughout this 2 bedroom, 2 bath with optional bedroom home.

HARBOR CLUB
$4,295,000
This contemporary residence with captivating views accentuates its surroundings. With 3 bedrooms, 3 and a half baths, an additional optional bedroom, extensive storage built-ins and a private entry, you will have plenty of room to enjoy this dream home.

CITYFRONT TERRACE
$415,000
Classic “Brownstone” offers charm and sophistication as a walk-up style townhome unique to San Diego. This 1 bedroom, 1 and a half bath boasts vaulted ceilings, expansive windows, and unprecedented amenities. A perfect metropolitan unit with a bungalow feel.

SYMPHONY TERRACE
$245,000
Completely remodeled unit not to be missed. With travertine flooring, new kitchen cabinetry and appliances, new HVAC, and new windows with motorized solar shading, this is just the beginning of all that you will enjoy in this amazing 1 bedroom 1 bath home.

PARK PLACE
$825,000
Experience the radiance of this established high rise community. Stainless appliances, granite counters, and unprecedented amenities compliment the spectacular westerly views. Don't miss out on this beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, home in the sky!

UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
$599,000
A not to be missed vintage 1927 Spanish charmer set on a serene canyon. This 3 bedroom and 2 bath home comes with modern updates including granite countertops, hardwood floors, and French doors that open onto a redwood deck shaded by palm & pepper trees.

PINNACLE
$1,199,000
Come be a part of a prestigious community in the “Pinnacle” of Southern California living. With 2 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, and additional den, this highly upgraded unit takes advantage of its location and incorporates chic contemporary living.

MERIDIAN
$510,000
Sizeable 1 bedroom, 1.5 bath enjoys Eastern exposure with an abundance of morning sunshine and dazzling night light views. Neutral décor, beautiful mirroring and urban ambiance will allow you to lounge, dine, or entertain in this ample space!

PARK PLACE
$825,000
Experience the radiance of this established high rise community. Stainless appliances, granite counters, and unprecedented amenities compliment the spectacular westerly views. Don't miss out on this beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath, home in the sky!

MERRILL
$1,199,000
Come be a part of a prestigious community in the “Pinnacle” of Southern California living. With 2 bedrooms, 2 and a half baths, and additional den, this highly upgraded unit takes advantage of its location and incorporates chic contemporary living.
Ambitious Convention Center plans could reap big rewards – if done right

At present, the San Diego Convention Center ranks as one of the most sought-after mid-size facilities in North America, but its limited capacity hinders the civic building’s ability to host many of the biggest annual shows. Promoters of a proposed $550 million expansion at the foot of Fifth Avenue, set to increase its size by about one-third, say the project would make the Convention Center much more competitive and create thousands of jobs, grow the local economy and generate millions of dollars in revenue for city services.

On Oct. 11, Mayor Jerry Sanders and the Downtown San Diego Partnership hosted a public presentation at the City Concourse on the proposed Convention Center Phase III expansion. A team of design firms – Ventron Architects; John Portman & Associates and Civitas Inc. — presented conceptual models and cost projections for Phase III.

The proposed plan, which was developed using public input during the Mayor’s Citizens Task Force on the San Diego Convention Center Project, would add 225,000 square feet of contiguous exhibit-hall space. No addition could be made to the existing building. The plan also includes a waterfront transportation center and up to 30,000 square feet of retail space. No additional offices for parking were presented. The design is absolutely brilliant,” said Joe Terzi, president and CEO of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau. “They were able to get everything accomplished in a sleek and less-intrusive manner, which will give us the ability to get larger conventions, host more than one convention at a time and limit the center’s overall downtime.”

Terzi added that among the most interesting features of the environmentally-friendly design is a five-acre rooftop park with panoramic views of downtown, Coronado and San Diego Bay. In addition to outdoor receptions, he said the park could also be used for parties and concerts at the Convention Center and percentage of room revenue based on proximity to the Convention Center and percentage of room revenue from the Convention Center already generated, plus $15 million in new city revenue from sales tax and $15 million in new annual room nights at nearby hotels and equate to more than $121 million in additional annual room sales. Further, he said a positive fiscal impact of $700 million is expected in addition to the $1.3 billion a year in economic activity the Convention Center already generates, plus $15 million in new city revenue and nearly $7,000 per room nights.

The plan does come with a qualification, however. All of the economic assumptions hinge upon the project being built in its entirety.

“Size matters.” Black said. “In order to achieve these economic benefits, we need to incorporate all of the programs.”

Sweeping Harbor and ocean views from this fully-furnished designer residence on the 32nd floor of the Harbor Club! These high floor West Tower bedrooms rarely come on the market. Call to view today! Tuesday at $1,295,000

A rendering shows what a newly revamped Convention Center would look like, complete with a five-acre rooftop park with panoramic views of downtown, Coronado and the bay.

By MANNY LOPEZ | DOWNTOWN NEWS

San Diego attorney and real estate executive Charles Black, who led the Petco Park development team and is now serving as the Convention Center expansion program manager, said based on a November 2010 study conducted by AECOM, a technical and management support services company based in Los Angeles, the proposed contiguous expansion would attract 25 new prima-

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If you’re looking for a great deal, the Ribeye & Blackie special at 1220 Third Avenue will be your best bet. Enjoy a 12-ounce ribeye steak and a 22-ounce blackie from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for just $11.99. You can’t beat that price!

You’ll love the charming feel of the elegant Watermark building. The garden setting, neighboring park and tree-lined residential Marina District setting is very special. The interior features ten foot ceilings and hardwood floors. Terrific layout w/split master suites, a powder room and full laundry room. Low HOA fees. $494,000

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Another Sold

You’ll love the charming feel of the elegant Watermark building. The garden setting, neighboring park and tree-lined residential Marina District setting is very special. The interior features ten foot ceilings and hardwood floors. Terrific layout w/split master suites, a powder room and full laundry room. Low HOA fees. $494,000

The plan also includes a waterfront promenade with walkways, a waterfront transportation center and up to 30,000 square feet of retail space. No additional options for parking were presented. The design is absolutely brilliant,” said Joe Terzi, president and CEO of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau. “They were able to get everything accomplished in a sleek and less-intrusive manner, which will give us the ability to get larger conventions, host more than one convention at a time and limit the center’s overall downtime.”

Terzi added that among the most interesting features of the environment-

Gorgeous wrap-around water views. The BEST of the BEST! These unique round layouts give the lucky owner a wonderful water view from literally every room. There is nothing else like it! Light toned French limestone floors and neutral interior does nothing to detract from the mes-

River and the largest ballroom of any conventional facility on the West Coast. The plan also includes a waterfront promenade with walkways, a waterfront transportation center and up to 30,000 square feet of retail space. No additional options for parking were presented. The design is absolutely brilliant," said Joe Terzi, president and CEO of the San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau. "They were able to get everything accomplished in a sleek and less-intrusive manner, which will give us the ability to get larger conventions, host more than one convention at a time and limit the center’s overall downtime.”

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Protesters still sticking to guns, getting mixed reaction from public

One month after the San Diego off-
duty of the Occupy Wall Street protest began against, among other things, corpo-
rate greed, income inequality and political corruption, it is still hanging on — if by a thread.

Without a clear list of demands or solutions, protesters determined to affect a social, political and economic shift con-
tinue to join the ranks of what has become a vaguely defined global move-
ment with more than 1,500 cities around the world participating in an effort to bridge the gap between what they describe as the majority of the pop-
ulation — the 99 percent — and the richest and most powerful 1 percent.

“Is this giving people a voice and a way to start something new,” said Bill
Torrin, an American living in Tijuana.

“Just giving people a voice, the system of government works. It’s when people don’t have a voice, or they feel they’re not being heard and their votes don’t make a difference, that we get to a point such as this one.”

Planted directly in the shadows of City Hall, the San Diego Civic Center Plaza had become ground zero for Occu-
py San Diego (OSD) demonstrators — until, that is, San Diego police came in and cleaned house in a pre-dawn raid on Oct. 28.

The demonstrators have vowed to
Village by the big blue
sets sights on green

Businesses at San Diego’s popular bayside shopping, dining and entertain-
ment attraction, Seaport Village, are ramping up efforts to promote energy
efficiency and green practices by taking
part in the Port of San Diego’s Green
Business Challenge — an initiative that promotes business practices to reduce
energy consumption, wasteful water
use and pollution.

“I’m proud to say that Seaport Village has been on the ‘green track’ for a few years now,” said Terry Hall, general
manager of Seaport Village. “We have a full recycling program in place, and we’ve installed moisture meters for our
irrigation. This program gives us an opportunity to have all 70 of our tenants band together as environmental
stewards.”

Seaport Village businesses currently
make up 16 of the 54 businesses taking
part in the Green Business Challenge.

Businesses owners’ rights have been
trampled on, city property has been destroyed and there are people that won’t go down there because of the way some of the protesters are behaving and because of their poor hygiene,” said
Brady Long, assistant police chief.

Long said the police will continue to

occupy the occupation of the plaza.

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This 18th floor residence at Electra enjoys water and city views, 2 balconies, Bamboo flooring and a comfortable floor plan with over 1,400 sf. for a variety of lifestyles! Enjoy luxury living in downtown San Diego’s tallest residential high rise.

Offered between $699,000 to $775,000

Francine Finn 858-518-5288 scottfinnhomes.com

Located in the heart of the Marina District, The Pinnacle is one of downtown’s most prestigious high-rise buildings and is renowned for high end appliances and finishes. This 1 BR unit with view enjoys the luxuries and convenient location of The Pinnacle.

$369,000

Robert Whalen 619-985-2225 windermeresp.com

Unbelievable! Unique and fabulous private deck with almost 1,000 sf for entertaining and indoor-outdoor lifestyle. This upgraded 2BR/2BA unit in one Cortez Hill’s newest towers reflects the contemporary and urban lifestyle opportunities.

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Carlos Pastrana 619-940-4505 windermeresp.com

This dramatic unit has an oversized balcony and sweeping views of the bay, Point Loma and the Embarcadero. Enjoy the resort like amenities and luxurious finishes including Viking appliances, Snaidero cabinetry, Caesarstone countertops and more!

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Sarah Scott 619-840-2767 broadcastsandiego.com

Looking for a spacious 2 bedroom with gorgeous views and floor to ceiling glass? You found it at The Mark! This rare, south facing residence offers dramatic views, split bedroom plan and 2 individual parking spaces and storage unit.

$799,000

Jeff Nix 619-962-2471 scottfinnhomes.com

This incredible 1 bedroom unit at Nexus with a large balcony overlooking G St. Just 3 blocks from Petco Park and 5 blocks from the center of the Gaslamp District, 2 parking spots and storage! This is the largest 1BR under $300k in downtown!

$284,900

Jorge Verdugo 619-259-5558 isellthecity.com

Incredibly spacious 1 bedroom unit at Electra with a large balcony overlooking G St. Just 3 blocks from Petco Park and 5 blocks from the center of the Gaslamp District, 2 parking spots and storage! This is the largest 1BR under $300k in downtown!

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JUST REDUCED

LUXURY AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE

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GREAT INCOME OPPORTUNITY

INCREDIBLE BAY VIEWS

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

GORGEOUS VIEWS DAY TO NIGHT

LUXURY LIVING WITH A VIEW!
The series is considered an extreme experience with cutting-edge, wing-sailed catamarans navigating short, sharp, intense races on courses squeezed into the bay to ensure close action to test the abilities of the best sailing teams in the world. Five crews and a sixth, called the guest, will man the sails. “I think the competition in San Diego Bay is going to be fantastic,” said Iain Murray, regatta director. “The racing will be very close to shore, which means it will be great for spectators. The short courses will also be very challenging for the sailors, who will need to execute their crew maneuvers flawlessly to be successful.”

San Diego marks the third stop on the series, which awards points for both overall championship and fleet racing. “We want a brutal race series where we push each other,” said Oracle skipper James Spithill. “Our goal is to have better racing in San Diego than the challengers get.”

“Having doubled in size since its opening in August of 2010, it has provided the impetus to stimulate a sleepy corner into a stimulating destination,” Barrett said on behalf of the jury. “Craft & Commerce demonstrates how the design dialogue opens minds and doors, and blooms. It shines through as a unique and inspirational property and a welcome and daring addition to San Diego’s design landscape.”

For a full list of 2011 Orchids and Onions visit www.orchidsandonions.org.
After carefully vetting a number of qualified applicants, Jerry Navarra, chairman of Jerome's Furniture, chose Lankford & Associates, Portman Holdings and Phelps Development — together forming a new entity dubbed LPP — to be the master developer for a nearly three million-square-foot renovation in San Diego's Upper East Village.

The grand vision involves turning three blocks of a bleak warehouse district into a pedestrian-friendly, mixed-use space with new residences, shops, hotels, office buildings and a four-acre open space park.

One of the primary design concepts for the renovation is an Innovation, Design, Education and Arts (IDEA) zone — an artistic vision championed by developers David Malmuth and Pete Garcia that will encompass the area between Market Street and City College and 11th Avenue and the I-5 freeway.

The duo focused on creative concepts for the space, including an artists’ alley, East Village Green Park, a pedestrian-oriented stretch of live-work housing units and retail shops, an “education overlay” zone, and an urban alley featuring stone paving, sidewalk cafes, retail shops and market canopies.

“We think that would be a great use of that space there,” said David Hazan, president of the East Village Association, who serves with Navarra on the association’s board. “We know that it’s going to take a while. Unfortunately, it’s not going to happen tomorrow, but we’re very excited, and we think it’ll be a great partnership.”

Other parties involved in the extensive redevelopment project include architect Frank Wolden, principal at Carrier Johnson + Culture; Stacey Pennington, principal of SLP Urban Planning; and Sherm Harmer, president of Urban Housing Partners.

Navarra, who owns and leases out properties across five blocks between F Street and Broadway, has been working on plans to redevelop the area for the past several years.

Harmer, who is advising the Navarra family on development options, said much of the planning, permitting and reports have been completed over the last three years, so when there is a recovery in the real estate market and financing is available, the team will be able to jump right into construction.

He also emphasized that, aside from the open space park, the team will not seek any public redevelopment funds for the estimated $1 billion project.

“Downtown has eight neighborhoods, and each has its own feel and unique brand,” he said. “What we’re trying to do is create a neighborhood that is energetic and offers a mixed-use area where people can live, shop, play and learn without the use of a car.”

He added the project could ultimately generate 10,000 jobs and $1.8 billion in new construction.

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He added the project could ultimately generate 10,000 jobs and $1.8 billion in new construction.

Rarely in the history of San Diego has one family had the opportunity to make such a momentous impact on the future of the city,” he said. “This is the first step in realizing the incredible potential of the Upper East Village.”

No plans for the project have been finalized and there is no set date to begin construction.

Imagine: a blighted warehouse district transformed into IDEAs
Downtown in November

1. **November 1**

2. **November 2**
   - **San Diego Beer Week.** San Diego Beer Week starts, runs through Nov. 10. www.sdbw.org, free.

3. **November 3**
   - **Velero’s Day Parade.** 11 a.m. Cedar Street from Broadway to Pacific Highway, free.

4. **November 4**
   - **Game Night.** 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., The Tipsy Crow, 770 Fifth Ave., free.

5. **November 5**

6. **November 6**
   - **Hornblower ticket booth.** 1066 N. Harbor Drive, Hornblower ticket booth, through Nov. 10.

7. **November 7**
   - **Aha Moment tour.** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Peleman’s Way and Park Boulevard, Balboa Park, chance to feature in 30-second commercial. Runs through Nov. 10. www.ahamoment.com/tour/stop/85, free.

8. **November 8**

9. **November 9**
   - **Holiday party for K Moose sessions.** 11 a.m., Marston House, 3225 Seventh Ave, info@friendsofbalboapark.com, $20 VIP seated $40.

10. **November 10**
    - **San Diego Poets’ Guild fall sale.** 3 p.m., Hornblower, 1492 North Harbor Drive, (619) 991-9133, www.sandiegopoetsguild.com, $35.

11. **November 11**

12. **November 12**

13. **November 13**
    - **“Out of Our Heads.”** 9 p.m., The Old Globe Theatre’s annual Christmas tree lighting, 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., Copley Plaza, 1363 El Prado, (619) 236-5623, www.thesgoldbie.org, $24-$112.

14. **November 14**
    - **Game Night.** 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., The Tipsy Crow, 770 Fifth Ave., free.

15. **November 15**

16. **November 16**
    - **San Diego City College fall series “Best of.”** 7:30 p.m., 4th and B, 345 B St., San Diego City College fall series “Best of” concert, general admission $10, VIP seated $15, www.4thandbevents.com, $35 general admission, free with college ID.

17. **November 17**
    - **San Diego Auto Museum.** 2886, www.sdautomuseum.org, $4-$8.

18. **November 18**
    - **Reserve and new release tasting.** 6:30 p.m., San Diego Air and Space Museum, 2001 Pan American Plaza, free.

19. **November 19**
    - **Melena Boutique cocktail and fashion show.** 6 p.m., Westgate Hotel, 1055 Second Ave., (619) 238-3853, www.houseofblues.com, $40.

20. **November 20**
    - **Celebrity chef luncheon and big hot- dog free auction.** 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., San Diego Marriott Marquis, 339 West Harbor Drive, (619) 917-1212, www.worldofwineevents.com, $175.

21. **November 21**
    - **“Met It Up Mon- days.”** 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Bar Dynamo, 1808 W. Broadway St., featuring DJs Girth and Fortuna, (619) 259-8743, www.backonmain.com, $5.

22. **November 22**
    - **“Hell Soul Sunday.”** 9 p.m. to 2 a.m., Onyx Bar, 852 Fifth Ave., (619) 233-6609, www.onyxroom.com, $10.

23. **November 23**
    - **All that Glitters.** 10 a.m., San Diego National History Museum, 1788 El Prado, (619) 233-4343, www.sdnhm.org, $11-$17, members free.

24. **November 24**

25. **November 25**

26. **November 26**
    - **Arrival of Surf! Santa.** 1 p.m., Seaport Village, paraplu and LED holiday light change (bring your own lights and stand currently SDG&E bill), www.seaportvillage.org, (619) 233-4014, free.

27. **November 27**
    - **Holiday-themed amazing race/ scavenger hunt in the Gaslamp Quarter.** 3 p.m., clues take you to roof tops, boutique hotels, public art and holiday-themed establishments, tours@whereistours.com.

28. **November 28**
    - **“Volsingers: The People’s Car.”** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., San Diego Automotive Museum, 2080 Pan American Plaza, (619) 251-2886, www.sdautomuseum.org, $4-$8.

29. **November 29**

30. **November 30**

31. **December 1**

32. **December 2**

33. **December 3**
    - **Daylight Saving Time ends. Don’t forget to set your clocks back!**

34. **December 4**

35. **December 5**

36. **December 6**
    - **19th annual Interfaith candlelight vigil.** 3:15 p.m., San Diego Reunion Mission, 120 Em St., raise awareness for 10,000 homeless individu- als living in San Diego. (619) 810-1722, thacker@sdgh.org, free.

37. **December 7**
    - **Fall Back Festival.** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Gasl- iam Quarter, and Island avenues, children’s street fair, (619) 233-5028, www.gaslampquarter.org, free.
An ambassador for animals from A to Z

By JOHNNY Mc Donald | DOWNTOWN NEWS

Amber Embery has the largest home office in Southern California, according to Joan Embery, who has left her Zoo goodwill ambassador duties for her appearances to become a conservation authority. We talked one evening after she completed a full day of meetings, appointments and then attended to some of her 100 animals from A to Z, an ambassador appointment in an African zebra at her Lakeside ranch.

"Ambivilians are environmental indicators," she said. "They breathe through their skin, are aquatic and sensitive to (habitat) change. So, when you see a large dis-off of ambivilians, you know something is wrong with the environment."

"And we should be concerned," she said. "Sort of like the canary in the coal mine."

Although the concerns are worldwide, the San Diego Zoo has established a research team to study changes in Southern California. Embery and her husband, Duane, live in a 30,000-square-foot urban filled up from Wild Canyon Road, close to the banks of the San Diego River. Because of their constant work in the field, the San Diego Zoo has recently adorned them with the prestigious conservation medal.

"Embivory, of course, can be remembered for their appearances on television, particularly the ‘Tonight Show’ with Johnny Carson and Jay Leno. She has also been a goodwill ambassador at the zoo for many years."

"Those studio trips were three hours in back, appearing in a studio with unpredictable animals and unpredictable show hosts," she said. "You never knew what to expect."

Her work at the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park is not as extensive now but she is always on call. She refers to herself as a ‘zoo ambassador.’

An article in the zoo's publication Zoosnote detailed their continued activity with wildlife habitats in taking an active role with endangered species through breeding programs.

"It’s not easy to get people’s attention," Joan said. "But we hold the responsibility of sharing information and sparking interest in conservation.

Southern California, she said, is challenging because it has the highest diversity of wildlife in the nation — as well as the most rapidly growing human population."

"So it ends up to be a real balancing act for natural resources," she said. (For example), the mountain lion is a balancing act. They’ll roam up to 200 square miles and their population is governed by available prey."

"Setting aside a few acres here and there… is that sufficient? Their prey is primarily deer and deer populations are affected by habitat. Forage is needed to support a deer population."

"Southern California’s biocultural diversity. Embery said, is the result of its unique topography — oceans, rivers, mountains and deserts, all within roughly 100 miles of each other. This has prompted close examination by conservationists."

"In recent years a multilateral team has been focusing on our backyard," she said. "This work includes a study on the endangered horned lizard, kangaroo rats, red diamondback rattlesnakes and cactus wrens. The golden eagle population has plummeted, too."

"Growth is a tipping scale where resources like water, fuel and timber are being used more rapidly than they can be replaced."

"Meanwhile, she said, the zoo’s function is to maintain self-sustaining populations."

As for her functions, she fills up her time quite easily.

"I’m working all the time," she said. "I run my own non-profit, a lot of conservation-related work and educational programs."

She also visits children three times a week at a nearby school and is host to environmental groups at the ranch. As long as people are willing to listen, she knows her comfort level around just two of the animals with which she can regularly be found.
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OCCUPY
Continued from Page 1

law. Using social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, protesters were able to regroup quickly. By sunrise on Oct. 28, marches and protests throughout the city had already been planned and assembly begun. Before sunset that evening, an estimated crowd of more than 1,000 people, including demonstrators and supporters, returned to the Civic Center Complex to begin reoccupying the plaza.

“We weren’t doing anything wrong. In fact, we were doing a lot right by offering food, medical care and safety to anyone who was with us,” said Jason Brock, a local musician who voluntarily left the plaza before arrests were made. “More than half of those among us are homeless and many of them are young graduates unable to find work. This is one of the problems we are protesting against and we should be working together as a country to fix it.”

There is another side to the issue, however — that of those who may be adversely affected, but who are not necessarily the target of the protests. Long said businesses operating in and around the plaza have been affected since demonstrators began occupying the area on Oct. 7. Unruly behavior and unsanitary conditions have driven away customers, he said.

“They’re killing my business,” said Peter Perez of Brooklyn Dogs, a hot dog vendor who has operated in the plaza for the past eight years. “I’m part of the 99 percent too. I’m a small business, not a big corporation.”

Perez expressed frustration at the lack of support from local elected officials who he said claimed to be powerless in the situation. Rather than address the protesters, Perez said, they have been hiding in their offices. Perez has reportedly closed down his concession indefinitely. He left no word on when, or if, he will return.

A spokesperson for District 2 City Councilman Kevin Faulconer said Faulconer believes freedom of speech is a right fundamental to democracy and he has personally spoken with Occupy demonstrators in front of City Hall and has listened to their public testimony during City Council meetings. Faulconer said he believes the Occupy demonstrators are exercising their right to assemble and the police department is working to enforce the city’s laws. He said his top priority is public safety and he expects the police department to make decisions that are in the public’s best interests.

For Brock and some of the protesters, the purpose for the raid ran deeper than simply breaking up illegal lodgers. He pointed to a row of more than 20 homeless people sleeping on the floor alongside a parking lot on Second Avenue across from the Sempra Energy building filled with black and white patrol cars, where police had set up their base of operations and were transporting arrested protesters.

“What’s the difference if they’re sleeping here or in the Civic Center?” Brock asked. “This is the SDPD’s way of trying to prove they have the upper hand.”

Civita, San Diego’s new walk-everywhere urban village introduces Origen.

Come and take a closer look at Civita’s first neighborhood, Origen by Shea Homes, a new generation of design in sophisticated 3 and 4-story row homes. Visit the Preview Sales Center off Mission Center Rd. at Civita Blvd, 2 blocks North of Friars Rd. in Mission Valley.
**Tap Hunter: a mobile resource for beer enthusiasts**

**By KAI OLIVER-KURTIN | DOWNTOWN NEWS**

With the third annual San Diego Beer Week kicking off Nov. 4, San Diego proves itself once again as a leader in the craft beer scene, boasting about 40 breweries in the county.

Although Beer Week presents a special calendar of more than 100 beer-focused events in various local restaurants, a new business office headquartered in the Gaslamp Quarter provides technology to connect beer drinkers with their choice beverage of every day of the year.

**Tap Hunter allows people to search what’s on draft at restaurants and bars in their immediate vicinity directly from their computer or mobile device.**

Located in the Marriott Building at 427 C St., Tap Hunter is a fast-growing startup launched in 2009 by Melani and Jeff Gordon.

“Tap Hunter tells you what’s on tap and where in San Diego and across the U.S at over 100 breweries,” said Melani. “Using a web application with GPS, it lets people explore new beers and different locations.”

The Gordons initially established Tap Hunter as a streamlined solution to an inconvenience shared among beer aficionados.

“We’re fanatics about craft beer,” said Melani, “so when we would get ready to go out, we’d have to check five different websites, look at calendars, read newsletters — just to find out where there was good beer.”

Launching this month from Tap Hunter, CraftBeerCareers will connect people working in the craft beer industry so they can discuss career opportunities. During November, Tap Hunter will be collecting nominations and votes for their second annual Brewery Awards. Fans will find out where there was good beer.

**Tap Hunter released a holiday gift guide Nov. 1 for the serious beer drinkers, suggesting a new product or craft beer device to purchase this holiday season.**

For more information and to begin hunting for favorite brews, visit www.taphunter.com.

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**Tis the season for autumn drink**

**Downtown Drink Shrink**

Jeff Josenhans

Many know me not as a spirits and cocktail guy in San Diego, and there is certainly no denying I have a hard time resisting a good single malt or a Manhattan so soon as the weather shifts. But what I actually look forward to in the most as we creep toward winter is wine. I am privileged enough to receive the list here at The US Grant, and I have a few favorites I’m leaning toward this fall.

Red, full-bodied wines in particular, are pleasing to the palate at this time of year. For some reason, heavy-hitting reds always seem not only to taste better, but to feel better, too, when the weather turns a little colder outside.

My favorite November grape: Syrah. And with the economy in the state it is, syrah is a great value grape that will pack a lot of punch into your wine purchase this holiday season.

The varietal finds its traditional self in the northern Rhône Valley in Southern France — a mecca for syrah drinkers, if you will.

This is where I learned to appreciate syrah, and anyone who splurges on a $50 or more bottle of wine should not pass on an opportunity to try a good Cerasu, Hermitage, or Côtes-Rôtie.

These wines tend to be peppery and dark, perfect with braised meats, messages, and heavier food often associated with the oncoming of winter. For Thanksgiving this year, why not skip the traditional stuffing and pair it with Washington syrah?

Washington is producing some of the best value wines in the nation right now, and syrah from this state is said to most resemble the Rhône outside of France, but with more fruit.

For those prime rib dinners, venture to pair a Santa Barbara syrah or a shiraz from the McLaren Vale in Australia. The math on these wines is really simple in a value-to-quality ratio: you are simply getting twice the wine you would for your traditional Napa cabernet sauvignon.

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Impact of lengthy Harbor Drive pipe project may be softened by schedule

A city water line that runs underneath the runway at Lindbergh Field must be moved to Harbor Drive next spring to accommodate airport construction plans, but the city says traffic impacts will be lessened because the work will be done at night.

The new pipe will run mostly along the eastbound sides of North Harbor Drive and W. Laurel Street between Terminal 1 and Pacific Highway, said John Harris of RBF Consulting, who addressed members of the North Bay Community Planning Board on Oct. 19.

The project, which would break ground next spring and take up to eight months to complete, will knock out two lanes during work times. However, all lanes should be available between 5 a.m. and 9 p.m., Harris said.

Another part of the project will replace 4.4 miles of pipe beginning on North Harbor Drive west of the boat channel. This part will begin in the spring but will require 18 months to complete, said John Stohr of the city’s Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

Besides North Harbor Drive, affected streets will include Nimitz Boulevard, Rosecrans Street, Locust Street, Evergreen Street, Avenida de Portugal, Caton Street, Hugo Street, Catalina Boulevard and Point Loma Avenue. Both parts of the project will replace five miles of cast-iron pipe and one mile of asbestos-cement pipe at a cost of $13 million, Stohr said. Over the next 10 years, the city plans to replace roughly 100 miles of cast-iron pipe, which was installed in the 1940s and ’50s and is now rapidly deteriorating, causing sinkholes and traffic messes, he said.

In other North Bay planners news, Kenneth Rae is the newest board member, replacing Tony Lombardi, who recently moved to Chula Vista. Rae is the vice president and director of employment services at Veterans Village of San Diego.

— Tony de Garate

Twenty-year Navy proposal stalled

The California Coastal Commission determined that the Navy’s downtown redevelopment proposal — which was approved by the commission in 1991 but never started — is no longer valid because conditions downtown have changed drastically over the past two decades, making the project inconsistent with the Coastal Act in terms of public access, safety, view corridors and other criteria.

The 20-year delay was initially caused by an economic downturn and base closures in 1992. More than a decade later, the Navy entered into an agreement with developer Doug Manchester, who proposed a Pacific Gateway redevelopment plan on a 4-block site south of Broadway between North Harbor Drive and Pacific Highway.

The gateway plan would develop nearly 3 million square feet of mixed-use office, retail and hotel space and replace the Navy’s existing regional headquarters at no cost to taxpayers.

At the meeting on Nov. 2, the commission urged the Navy to reconcile the plans to the changed circumstances downtown such as the U.S.S. Midway Museum, Petco Park and proposed expansion of the Convention Center.

Mark Delaplaine, the commission’s director of federal consistency issues, said the commission’s determination does not alter the timeline for the Pacific Gateway project because there is neither financing nor strong demand for the new development.

— Martha Lamb

Downtown News reporter wins two journalism awards

San Diego Downtown News reporter Kai Oliver-Kurtin took home two awards from the 38th annual San Diego Press Club Excellence in Journalism Awards, held in Balboa Park’s Hall of Champions on Oct. 25.

Her article “Downtown’s design demigods: A selection of the most outstanding design downtown has to offer,” which ran in the June 2011 issue of the Downtown News, was awarded first place in the non-daily newspapers architecture and design category.

Winning second place in the non-daily newspapers food and restaurant category was Oliver-Kurtin’s article, “Gaslamp eateries cater to the locals,” from the July 2011 issue.

“It’s really gratifying to receive acknowledgement for your hard work,” she said. “Writing is a labor of love and I truly enjoy all the components that go into crafting the perfect article.”
Long before anyone envisioned airline travel, enterprising Charles H. Toliver convinced San Die- gans that he had an airship that would transport peo- ple to Los Angeles and San Francisco. The big "lift off" day would be Nov. 11, 1911. His whale-like dirigible — 250 feet long and 40 feet in diameter — became the awe of many, including several gullible investors. It had four 18-horse- power engines driving six propellers, one on each end of the envelope and two on either side. They were mount- ed so they could be adjusted in any direc- tion and thus eliminate the need for a rudder. Each of the engines had 25 gal- lions of gasoline and 10 gallons of oil available for the trip. Nine years of work at a cost of $60,000 went into the Golden Hill pro- ject at 32nd street, between B and C streets, to ensure the Toliver Aerial Naviga- tion Company had the premier mode of transportation on the West Coast. It was to accommodate 40 passengers. Curious crowds, including a nervous group of stockholders, gathered in antic- ipation of a great day in aeronautical achievement. Toliver's wife, Kate, determined to be at her husband's side in the ship's control room, had brought aboard about 20 fried chickens and four crates of sarsaparilla for the crew, hopefully enough to last for a long-distance jour- ney to San Francisco. "Toliver believed his moment had arrived. The anchoring lines were cut and the men at the handling lines were at the ready. The engines were started, one at a time. Then, Toliver looked out of an open window and gave the com- mand: "Let her go!" The men at the handling lines obeyed the order and stepped back. The engines revved, maybe in agony. "Let her go! Let her go!" was the repeat command. Then he ordered all ballast be released. The gas-powered engines started and the aluminum propellers spun. The San Diego Union would report: "It quivered for a few breathless moments, threaten- ing to rise, then settled down again." The spectators' disappointment was nothing compared to that of the inven- tor at that terrible moment when his air- ship did not respond. His pride and joy was stuck in a pit. Afterward, he believed he might have been successful had he made the attempt later in the day, when the sun could warm the hydrogen enough for takeoff. Six days later, newspaper headlines declared the Toliver I a deadly menace to the community. Toliver was ordered to remove the danger immediately and let all the gas out of the envelope. A city councilman suggested someone make holes in the envelope.
to carry on a good candid dialogue and come up with solutions that will please everybody.

In an interview prior to the Oct. 28 raid, Long said since the first day of the demonstration, depending on the level of activity, between six and eight officers had been patrolling the Civic Center Plaza on a round-the-clock basis along with one sergeant. To do so, he said, the department has been pulling resources from throughout the city to augment staffing at the Civic Center and central patrol, which has minimized the need for paid officer overtime. Long could not confirm any delays in wait times for service calls, but he said extra pressure is being put on other commands to keep up with the added need for officers to protect the public’s safety.

While attending a show at the Civic Theatre, Hank Newman of Bonita, a 23-year veteran of the U.S. Navy said he fully supported the demonstrators’ right to protest, but doesn’t believe it will do any good.

“From my standpoint, none of these politicians or big time CEOs seem to care,” Newman said. “I would like to see it make an impact, but if you look around, this demonstration is made up of primarily homeless people that are only here for the free food.”

Pat Gracian of Clairemont, a longtime peace and environmental activist said she supports the OSD movement because she feels helpless about the state of the U.S. government, which she believes has been taken over by corporations and the powerful. Although she is not one of the occupiers, Gracian has been participating in the protest since day two.

“The American people have been very trusting and we expected that if we did the right thing, things would be better, but that isn’t the case,” Gracian said. “I’ve signed petitions and visited congressmen, but all of that is a waste of time. It doesn’t matter which party gets into office, we still get the same results.”

More than 15,000 participants will take part in the Susan G. Komen’s Race for the Cure series — the largest series of 5K runs and fitness walks in the world — to raise funds and awareness to fight against breast cancer, celebrate breast cancer survivorship and honor those who have lost battles with the devastating disease. Breast cancer will affect nearly 50,000 men and women in San Diego this year.

“This year’s ‘Racing for our Lives’ event will take place in Balboa Park on Nov. 6 at 8 a.m. This year, Komen San Diego will honor businesswoman, breast cancer awareness advocate and mother Ingrid Qiu as the 2011 Honorary Breast Cancer Survivor. Qiu will serve as the spokesperson at the event, addressing the audience at the start of the race and leading runners and walkers in a pace car.

“We selected Ingrid because she is such a tremendous example of strength and the will that it takes to survive this disease,” said Laura Farmer Sherman, executive director of Komen San Diego. "Even in a time when she is receiving treatment, she is pow- ering through gracefully. This woman is doing bootcamps while many would never even consider getting out of bed.

Proceeds from the race will provide men and women in San Diego County with services, including free mammograms and diagnostics, medical treatment for qualified breast cancer patients who cannot afford care, support services, education about the warning signs of breast cancer and funding for cutting-edge breast cancer research.

Participants can register as individuals, join an existing team or form a new race team. Those who will be out of town, working or just want to stay in bed that morning can also “Sleep in for the Cure” or simply donate to the cause. Entry fees are $23 to $55 per individual.

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As Occupy San Diego march snakes its way through downtown on Oct. 9.

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As Occupy San Diego march snakes its way through downtown on Oct. 9.
Living legends come to town, truly in a league of their own

There was definitely no crying in baseball for the women of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL). Serving as the inspiration for the hit movie “A League of Their Own,” these women were pioneers in the male-dominated sport. More than 35 former players visited the USS Midway Museum on Oct. 21, offering autographs, holding a Q&A session and reuniting with fellow players while enjoying their emblematic flick.

The fear of ticket sales falling due to the large number of young male baseball players drafted into military service during World War II was the catalyst for Philip Wrigley of the Chicago Cubs to explore alternative solutions. A committee proposed a women’s league to help fill the stadiums that sat empty 50 percent of the time.

AAGPBL players were recruited from across the U.S. and Canada, some praised for their flexible wrists as a result of milking cows on their home farm and others having only ever had the chance to shag balls while their older brothers practiced the sport.

Rookie players were paid about $50 per week, with an additional $3 per day to eat while on the road. Wearing pants in public was strictly prohibited — a skirt or dress was required to get off the tour bus, even in the middle of the night.

Of the more than 600 women to play in the now-defunct league during its heyday in 1943 to 1954, only about 200 are still alive today. Mostly in their 80s and 90s now, the women are an extremely close-knit group of friends that still recount their memories of playing baseball at an unprecedented level, while living a luxurious life of travel and often earning higher salaries than their fathers.

“The most meaningful aspects were the friendships and the competitive spirit of the sport,” said Maybelle Blair, former pitcher for the Peoria Redwings. “The whole point is to win, after all.”

Blair is a sprightly 84-year-old who claims she “grew up teething on a baseball.” She idolized her older brothers who played the sport, but judging from her freshly-painted magenta nails and snazzy sunglasses, she felt right at home playing the potentially rough game while wearing a dress.

Aboard the Midway, hundreds of fans — many star-struck young girls — waited in long lines to have their baseballs, bats, trading cards and jerseys autographed by the living legends of the
WHY THINK ABOUT Strynkowski, executive chef of taste of the Mid East by chef Billy sea, a Super Chef All Stars class featuring former contestants from across the country. Classes this year during the week downtown and in major cities. Classes this year featured more than 10,000 people last year from every wine country into the backyard of San Diego. The festival brings the unique taste of the weeklong celebration of all things food and wine. “The festival brings the top gourmet events in South Texas, hitting America’s Finest City Nov. 16-20. The eighth annual festival will offer an array of cooking classes, wine tastings and banquets hosted by top chefs from across the country. “Our lineup of culinary and wine-tasting classes this year is truly exceptional,” said Michelle Metter, a partner in Fast Forward Event Productions, organizers of the All-Star Mixologist after-party to be held at the Marriott Marquis. Proceeds from the event, including live and silent auctions, go toward AIWF scholarships. To date, the festival has raised $50,000 to benefit the San Diego Bar Guild, a member of the Mixology Professional organization. “Instead of being stuck in the kitchen all day, pick up professionally prepared signature side dishes by Deb Char Scott, executive chef of Indigo Grill. Or Nov. 22 and 23, Portofino’s offers 15 savory options, including butternut squash soup, corn pudding and Indian bread pudding that are easy to rebuff and ready to supplement any meal. Reheating instructions are included. In the order and packages are packaged in oven-safe containers. Orders must be placed by Nov. 20 and the side dishes will be ready to pick up on Nov. 22 and 23 between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. To place orders, call Portofino’s, located at 1354 Grand Ave., at (619) 239-5577.

Don’t feel like slaving away in the kitchen on Thanksgiving, only to be serving turkey leftovers for weeks? Here are a few alternatives to save time and mess in the kitchen that could be better spent with loved ones on Thanksgiving. • Instead of being stuck in the kitchen all day, pick up professionally prepared signature side dishes by Deb Char Scott, executive chef of Indigo Grill. Or Nov. 22 and 23, Portofino’s offers 15 savory options, including butternut squash soup, corn pudding and Indian bread pudding that are easy to rebuff and ready to supplement any meal. Reheating instructions are included. In the order and packages are packaged in oven-safe containers. Orders must be placed by Nov. 20 and the side dishes will be ready to pick up on Nov. 22 and 23 between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. To place orders, call Portofino’s, located at 1354 Grand Ave., at (619) 239-5577.

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You might not know his name, but you’ve surely heard the guitar playing of bluesman Johnny Vernazza, who appears at Patrick’s II on Nov. 12 at 5 p.m. One of the hottest players in California for more than four decades, Vernazza has performed with many top names, but it’s his work with Elvin Bishop in the 1970s that sealed his rep. playing on all the classics, including the ever-green “Fooled Around and Fell in Love.” A chance to catch a player of this caliber at an intimate venue like Patrick’s II shouldn’t be passed up.

Johnny Vernazza, Saturday, Nov. 12 at Patrick’s II, 428 F St. 9 p.m. 21 and up. www.patrickski.com

Beginning November 2011, the late, great, Herbie Hancock has performed with many top names, but it’s his work with Elvin Bishop in the 1970s that sealed his rep. playing on all the classics, including the ever-green “Fooled Around and Fell in Love.” A chance to catch a player of this caliber at an intimate venue like Patrick’s II shouldn’t be passed up.

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Trumpeter Gilbert Castellanos is renowned for his tribute shows, and his latest, in honor of keyboardist Herbie Hancock at Dizzy’s on Nov. 19, should thrill local jazz aficionados. Castellanos will be joined by pianist Joshua White, drummer Kevin Kanner and bassist David Robaire for a run-through of Hancock’s classic tunes. Hancock has had a long, illustrious career, but this show will center on his earliest music from the sixties and seventies. While songs like 1960s hit “Rock It” won’t be part of the program, anyone who likes their jazz vintage and cool, will find much to enjoy at this concert.

A Tribute to Herbie Hancock, Saturday, Nov. 19 at Dizzy’s, 200 Harbor Drive, 8 p.m. All ages. $15. www.dizzys-jazz.com

With a sound that takes in elements of classic songwriting as practiced by the fictional Wonders. Anyone who enjoys the actual vocals mimed to by the film, “That Thing You Do.” Viola though perhaps his most recognizable performance was in the film comedy “Get Him To the Greek,” that perception changes as soon as you hear Jake Shimabukuro, who appears at Anthology on Nov. 19. In his hands, what may be a child’s toy to many, transforms into a concert instrument. Shimabukuro’s astounding fretwork is sure to leave you dazzled with sets that range from Hawaiian classics to amazing covers of such tunes as “Bohemian Rhapsody,” all of which showcase his fluid style. No mere gimmick, Shimabukuro is easily in the same class of fret players as Tommy Emmanuel and Peter Sprague.

Jake Shimabukuro, Saturday, Nov. 19 at Anthology, 1337 India St. 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. 21 and up. $10-$49. www.anthologysd.com

Serial tunesmith Mike Viola performs at the Casbah on Nov. 27 at 9 p.m. His songs can be heard everywhere from Marye Moore’s latest disc to the recent film comedy “Get Him To the Greek,” though perhaps his most recognizable tune is a vocal on the theme song to the film, “That Thing You Do.” Viola sang the actual vocals mimed to by the fictional Wonders. Anyone who enjoys classic songwriting as practiced by the likes of Phil Seymour, Fountains of Wayne or Marshall Crenshaw will want to hear this gifted artist.

Mike Viola, Sunday, Nov. 27 at The Casbah, 2501 Kettner Blvd. 9 p.m. 21 and up. $20. www.casbahmusic.com

Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes with Spicy Mango Chutney and Passion Fruit Sauce
Kobe Beef Tar Tare with Mustard Soy Wasabi Sauce
Black Mussels Opened in a Coconut Milk and Kaffir Lime Broth
Spare Ribs with Pickled Vegetables

Baked Seafood Soup
Detail Soup with Aromatic Herbs (Pho)
Spicy Beef Salad with Cashew, Mint, Lemongrass and Crispy Shallots
Seared Yellowtail with Mixed Greens, Carrot, Zucchini and Ponzu Vinaigrette
Lobster with Grapefruit, Green Beans, Ginger Dressing and Lemon Verbena Aioli

The Bangles, above, will please crowds with old favorites as well as new releases. Below, Jake Shimabukuro creates a big sound with a little ukulele.
Things turn seriously classical — or not

A show about a classic

Baseball

Bacharach’s new show

The epitome of classy

The other side of classic

The lively Arts

THE LIVELY ARTS

Charlene Baldridge

POKEZ

Mexican Restaurant and Vegetarian Cuisine

Our Famous Sangria is back!

Welcome to Pokez! We make our food with love. We cook with vegetable oil (no lard).

We use the finest ingredients including organic produce when possible. Our beans and rice are 100% vegetarian, low in fat and sodium (no artificial coloring, no MSG).

947 E St. / 10th & E EAST VILLAGE  619-702-7160

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There are several new happening spots in the 92101 ZIP code. Here are two that are worth checking out this holiday season.

The scene in Little Italy is about to get more colorful with the opening of UnderBelly. The unusual name is a trib- ute to traditional Japanese ramen hous- es, specifically paying homage to the prized porcine underbelly cut, favored by Tokyo’s revered gods of ramen. The happy hours have a great deal for beer lovers. From 4 to 7 p.m. Mon- days through Fridays, the local draft beers are buy one, get one free. The cre- aitive juices behind this new addition come from Consortium Holdings, best known for bring us a number of other downtown eclectic spots like Neighborhood, Craft & Commerce, Noble Experiment and El Dorado. Although there are countless varieties of ramen noodles served throughout the world, each is traceable to one of four basic foundations — and as such, three to four regional options (always including a vegan alternative) will be available along with assorted toppings, pork buns, gyozas and light appetizers.

One of the walls at UnderBelly fea- tures a 1 5-foot living version of Andy Warhol’s portrait of Mao Zedong, cre- ated by Black Lotus using more than 3,200 individually planted succulents. In an era where large plasma TV screens can be found at most bars, the owners of UnderBelly say they’re try- ing to swim upstream. Their philoso- phy is that a space should inspire con- versation and foster charisma, thoughtfull dialogue and ideas. We’re looking forward to warming up a cool night with this new dining adventure!

At the recently unveiled Hotel Palo- mar, SushiBox Dining & Dining is an innovative, gastro-lounge located at 1047 Fifth Ave. City dwellers may rec- ognize this address as the former Suite Base.

CONTINUED FROM Page 16

AAGPBL

“We paved the way for Title IX and women being able to receive scholar- ships through athletics,” said Blair.

After a panel discussion with a few of the players, audience members watched the feel-good movie with admiration, alongside the real-life celebrities who rel- ished in the splendor of their glory days. Behind the scenes Hollywood secrets were uncovered during the QA & discus- sion, revealing the baseballs used on set were actually tennis balls covered in horsehide to protect the actresses’ hands; Geena Davis’ famous catch while doing the splits were actually the legs of horsehide to protect the actresses’ hands; Tom Hank’s character was large- ly based for his professionalism and fair- ness both on and off the field.

All the movie characters were based on composites, but the players worked closely with director Penny Marshall to develop the story. About 50 women were actually featured in the film, but only a few were given minor speaking parts. The women were flown to Sony Pictures for the movie premiere, having no idea what to expect of the finished product.

“The story will never grow old because it’s baseball,” said Blair. “It’s his- tory.”

When asked about the highlights of their baseball careers, many women answered with sentiments reflective of the progressive opportunity the league presented them, the remarkable talent seen on the ball field, the avenue in which to carry out their professional and the treasured experience of meeting lifelong friends.

The women of the AAGPBL hold annual reunions and attend the Major League Baseball All-Star FanFest. For more information, visit www.aagpbl.org.
When Thanksgiving rolls around, most fitness writers will caution you to avoid one day of gluttony and speak to the evils of pumpkin pie, mashed potatoes and second helpings. The truth is, if you’re already conscious of what you eat and are in the habit of making good choices, you’ll probably do the same on this day as well. Otherwise, your overconsumption might just be like any other day in your life. I’m assuming you will simply eat till your belly hits its limit and enjoy every bite of it. So go ahead and chow down. It’s what keeps me in business.

Instead, let’s talk about what you’ll need to do after the fact: that’s where I come in. If your “calories-be-damned” attitude takes control of your Angry Bird addiction, then let’s take a hard look at what you’ll need to do to even it all out. According to the American Council on Exercise, a typical Thanksgiving day meal can add up to about 3,000 calories. To put it in perspective, a 160-pound person would have to run at a moderate pace for four hours, swim for five hours or walk 10 miles to burn off a 3,000-calorie Thanksgiving Day meal. Who wants to do that? No one. If you plan ahead, you can minimize the effects of overindulging.

If you’re traveling out of town and away from your gym, or taking a brief break from whatever your regular workout regimen may be, you can offset some of those calories by planning activities that engage the family like flag football, golf (without the cart), or even a competitive game of Wii sports. A simple stroll around the neighborhood to explore new territory can burn off about 1,000 calories in 25 minutes, not to mention provide a little stress relief that is sometimes needed when too many relatives gather in one place.

An event that has gained popularity over the years — and is a great way to get everyone involved in a Thanksgiving Day workout — is to participate in a Turkey Trot. These 5K events not only get you moving but also raise money for different charity organizations to help those in need. Involving friends and family in the run will make it more fun and keep you engaged in the activities that make life great.
Celebrating the historic love affair between Mexico and Ireland, Fiesta de Reyes is hosting the popular “Fiesta de los San Patricios” on Saturday, Nov 5, with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, America’s oldest fraternal organization. The goal of the event is to eat great food, enjoy a drink with friends and raise funds for Operation Caregiver which sends ‘comfort kits’ to U.S. Marines fighting at some of the most isolated posts in the world.

Featuring traditional Irish music and a blend of Mexican and Irish food, the celebration is a remembrance of “Saint Patrick’s Brigade,” a legendary artillery unit led by Irish immigrants who became one of the Mexican Army’s most highly decorated brigade during the Mexican-American War. Members of the Rose-Ritchie Academy of Irish Dance will perform to traditional Irish music on the Fiesta de Reyes stage after the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick will serenade the audience. The event features a special menu of $2 Guinness Stout, corned beef tacos and potato flautas. Admission to this event is free. The event begins at noon and ends at 2 p.m. Fiesta de Reyes is a plaza of 18 shops and three restaurants within Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. Located at Wallace and Calhoun streets, Fiesta de Reyes is a one-block stroll from the Old Town Trolley Station. Free parking is available in the Caltrans parking lot all day on weekends. All shops are open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. For more information call 619-574-0989.

Friendly Sons of St. Patrick holding third annual “Fiesta de los San Patricios”

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A cultural gathering of the first people serving our country. According to AIWA, “Native Americans have one of the highest records of service per capita, of any ethnic group”.

Visitors will experience numerous venues promoting the rich history of Native American culture.

Even wonder what it was like to be one of the first children in what we know as the U.S.? Step back in time as you gather with the first people through interactive exhibits, storytelling, and demonstrations. Discover the different medicinal uses of California’s native plants. Families will be introduced with basket weaving, food demonstrations, tours of California’s native plants and trees, artifacts, paintings, jewelry, artisans and craftsmen and much more preserving the rich heritage of Native Americans.

The event is sponsored by the Taloya family, Taloya & Son Pottery, Taloya Jewelry, and San Diego House Coffee & Tea. The park is located on San Diego Avenue and Twiggs Street, and is conveniently next to the Old Town Transit Center, with Coaster, trolley, and MTS bus service. For more information call 619-574-0989.

A cultural gathering of the first people
Clay Walker (1924-2008) might have become an American Picasso, but in the second half of his life when his career was approaching a zenith, he chose to withdraw into the life of a recluse, shunning the company of his contemporaries and turning his back on commercial success to make art for art’s sake, and showing it to nobody. Perry Meyer of Meyer Fine Art, 2400 Kettner Blvd. Suite 104, rediscovered Walker through Walker’s widow Muriel, who currently lives in the house Walker built in Vista. In the hopes of bringing Walker back into the limelight, Meyer became the exclusive distributor of Walker’s work. Meyer, who does not give evaluations of artists readily, said Walker is “one of the best artists in the country. He was way ahead of his time.”

Meyer will be showing Walker’s art in two phases, in conjunction with the show “Pacific Standard Time: Art in L.A. 1945-1980.” Spearheaded by the Getty Foundation, Pacific Standard Time (PST), which will take place over the next six months, is a collaboration of more than 60 galleries all across Southern California, who are working together to celebrate, commemorate and archive the formative years of the Los Angeles art scene.

The first phase of Walker’s showing at Meyer Fine Art will run from Nov. 11 to Dec. 24, and will exclusively showcase Walker’s work. The opening of the exhibit will run in conjunction with Little Italy North’s Nov. 11 “Kettner Nights” from 6 to 9 p.m.

The second phase of the Walker exhibition will run from Jan. 1 to April 1 and will feature Walker, along with other prominent Southern California artists from the same period, like Barney Reid, Dan Dickey, Belle Baracean, Michael O’Mara and Allan Morrow.

Meyer is joining other San Diego galleries — The Mingei, R.B. Stevenson, Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego and Loft99 — all of which are participating simultaneously in PST.

A fascinating abstract artist with a wide-range of interests, Walker’s work is sometimes defined by symmetrical design and pattern art characterized by rich colors, juxtaposed odd shapes and diverse patterns with clear, clean lines. A Native American influence in the form of north West Coast art can be found in his work, as can a strong tendency to use the landscape of the female body.

Walker often created dark etchings, drawings and paintings featuring women who were somehow socially imprisoned or suffering the ravages of time.
This holiday, San Diego goes to the dogs

Petcetera and the Petco Foundation are calling all animal lovers to take part in the second annual National Pet Food Drive to help pet parents in need provide a healthy and happy holiday season for four-legged family members. The National Pet Food Drive kicked off Oct. 30, and will last through Sunday, Nov. 11.

During the two-week drive, consumers can pick up extra food or litter during their shopping trip or bring unopened cans or bags from home and drop it into specially marked pet food collection bins located in each of the more than 1,100 Petco and Unleashed by Petco stores nationwide. Throughout-out the drive, Hill’s Science Diet will match, pound for pound, every bag of dog and cat food donated, up to 100,000 pounds. “We believe no one should have to give up their pet companions due to financial distress, and we associate and customers agree,” said Paul Jolly, executive director of the Petco Founda-tion. “Last year’s drive provided more than 90 tons—that’s almost 200,000 pounds—of pet food for families in need, an incredible gift leading into the holiday season and such an easy way for people to help keep pets well-nourished and with the families who love them. We’ve plenty of time and hope to double that this year, so we’re asking the communities we serve to give a little extra to help us raise aware-ness for this important year-round program.”

Since the National Pet Food Bank program launched in March 2010, Petco and the Petco Foundation have collected and donated nearly a million pounds of pet food and litter to families in need. Each Petco and Unleashed by Petco store has collection bins available for year-round collection and each store partners with a local food bank or ani-mal welfare group to ensure donations are provided directly to economically stressed pet parents in that store’s community.

In addition to the opportunity to donate, Petco has also partnered with VolunteerMatch, the nation’s largest network of volunteer opportunities, to give pet enthusiasts around the country an easy way to volunteer in support of the pet food drive, as well as find other volunteer opportunities in their area. For the second year, Best Friends An-imal Society® will support the national pet food drive by mobilizing its nationwide network of volunteers to register for the event and help drive awareness of the program.

To register as a food drive volunteer, visit www.petcovolunteermatch.org and select “Petco Foundation Pet Food Drive.” Volunteer opportunities are open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the pet food drive. Once registered, volunteers can pick a Petco store location and volunteer time slot of their choice, and will be eligible to sign up for other volun-teer opportunities in the future.

To learn more about the Petco Foun-dation and how you can make a differ-ence for animals in your community and across the country, visit www.petcofoundation.org. To learn more about Petco or to find a location near you, visit www.petco.com.

Other opportunities to spend time with your furry friends this holiday season:

• Buck a Beer: Head to Rock Bottom in downtown San Diego for a Winter Wheat Beer Tapping Party. Brew master Jason Stockberger will be in the bar discussing Rock Bottom’s latest and greatest beer. Enjoy complimentary samples of the beer and food from the winter menu and our pet menu.

• Canine Cocktails: Join friends, both furry and not, at the Indigo Hotel, 509 Ninth Ave., for a full themed canine cock-tails event. Enjoy cocktails, treats and food on the terrace.

For information, call (619) 231-7000 or visit www.rockbottom. com.

• Cannon Beach: Join the Second Annual National Pet Food Drive by running the course at Cannon Beach, a 10k race. Proceeds benefit local animal welfare groups and are provided directly to economically stressed pet parents. To learn more and to register, visit www.cannonbeachrun.com.

We want to hear from you!

Another hidden gem in Little Italy is Kettner Nights, the bi-monthly bottomless cocktail list that takes guests through the busi-nesses and studios on Kettner Boulevard. This month, the event will be held Nov. 11 from 6 to 9 p.m. Take a creative photo with you and one of the artists in a firewire frame action or dance pose. The best picture wins two tickets to a Downtown Amazing Race! Scav-enger Hunt and a guided hike through Little Italy. For information, call (619) 434-1532 or email us at photos@wheretours.com.

— Marc & Darlyenne Menkin are the co-owners of Where You Want To Be Tours. Many of their tours are limited to 15 participants, and they have created a scavenger hunt featuring the downtown area. www.where- tours.com

Pudgy Pet Dangers

We totally understand love for animals because we love them too!

To avoid obesity and other health problems, we are monitoring your pet’s weight. If your pet is overweight, we recommend that you consult with your veterinarian for recommendations on diet and exercise. Obese pets are more likely to have health problems than their leaner counterparts. Obesity can lead to heart disease, diabetes, joint disease, respirato-ry disease, cancer and other serious diseases. We encourage you to help keep your pets table scraps and extra food. Excess caloric intake is the most common cause of obesity in pets. Lack of exercise and certain diseases such as hypo-thyroidism can also lead to obesity.

Fortunately, there are a few steps you can take to help keep your pet’s weight under control. First, consult with your veterinarian. Each pet is different, so your veterinarian will likely recommend a diet that is appropriate for your pet. Just like us, obese pets are more likely to have health problems than their leaner counterparts. Obesity can lead to heart disease, diabetes, joint disease, respirato-ry disease, cancer and other serious diseases. We encourage you to help keep your pets table scraps and extra food. Excess caloric intake is the most common cause of obesity in pets. Lack of exercise and certain diseases such as hypo-thyroidism can also lead to obesity.

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Threads get Bohemian and dramatic

Fashion Files
Diana Cavagnaro

One-of-a-kind, wholesale and bargain to make the venue a fun afternoon with additional booths, organizers managed a fashion show this year so they could add shoppers in droves. Opting not to have a fashion show, guests were able to go back stage and try on the fabulous pieces of work. If you missed this terrific fashion show and would like to see these beautiful creations, make an appointment by calling the Zandra Rhodes Studio at (858) 792-1892.

International food consultant and cookbook author Jeanne Jones created the delicious luncheon, and Larry White performed on the piano while patrons dined. Proceeds from the afternoon benefited The American Friends of the Zandra Rhodes Museum, which features exhibits of British fashion and textile designers. Currently, the museum is showing “Rebel on the Run,” by Tommy Nutter.

Superstar Yara Sofia (left) performed on the Exhibit runway. Rhodes presented a luncheon and fashion show on Oct. 20. The theme for the fashion show were ABBL Swimwear with matching Accessories. Currently, the museum is showing “Rebel on the Run,” by Tommy Nutter.

Diana Cavagnaro | Downtown News

The Westgate Hotel and Zandra Rhodes presented a luncheon and fashion show on Oct. 20. The theme for the collection was Boho Chic, bringing designers from London downtown runway. Rhodes’ specialty is beautiful, flowing, sophisticated silk textile prints – was accentuated with jewelry from Adele-Marie and Andrew Logan and hats from Designer Millinery. The hair and make-up reinvented the Bohemian look complete with a 24kt Gold using a technique developed by NASA.

For dates and times of the next shows check out www.threadsshow.com.

Boho chic

The featured the “Haus of Estrada,” featuring the designs of Jesus Estrada, with the must have leather accessories designed by NASA. The main event – a fashion show hosted by Yara Sofia from Ru Paul’s Drag Race, whose goal is to design a clothing line with costumes – began with the glamorous gowns of Andre Soriano inspired by past Hollywood sirens like Joan Harlow and Marlene Dietrich. The chic outfits of Molly B were accented with the must have leather accessories from Jewellery at Chi Styles.

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Spotlight on Seaport

Hats off to Village Hat Shop

Village Hat Shop owner Fred Belinsky was one of the first — if not the first — tenants in Seaport Village, opening up shop at the bayside location in 1980 one month prior to the grand opening of the village itself.

The former university instructor moved his wife, golden retriever and three-month-old son across the country from Michigan to bargain on a business venture that he originally knew little about, only that it was wildly successful at the time.

“Hats were selling well nationally in 1979 and 1980,” he said. “Specifically, Western hats were hot. The TV show ‘Dallas’ and the John Travolta movie ‘Urban Cowboy’ were driving cowboy clothing, hats included.”

And only one short year of selling cowboys hats like crazy, “it happened,” he said. “It’s legendary in the hat industry. One boy just bought an entire store in Las Vegas in one month.”

So he became immersed in the hat world, checking out merchandise at the Los Angeles Mart, flying to trade shows across the country and walking the streets in New York City’s mall district, finding out everything he possibly could about the accessory he was determined to sell. He and his wife, Tina, even traveled to China, Korea and Ecuador to check out hat manufacturing hubs around the globe.

He changed the Western theme of the store to include a wider variety of styles ranging from sophisticated to silly.

By 1997, he had four stores in California, a couple of warehouses and was testing out a new sales channel via the Internet.

Belinsky attributes part of the Village Hat Shop’s success to the wide variety of styles offered by his shop — more than 1,000 different styles, not including colors and sizes.

This breadth of selection, an early core value, is not the only thing that distinguishes us from the pack. One important difference is that we are for real. You know this when you come to our stores,” he said. “We know our products and we know the fundamentals of being good merchants.”

— Mariko Lamb
For full details in a recorded message, call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5129.

**Downtown Watermark**

**Downtown** · **Residences**

Starting selling 21st-floor seating in the living dining room, this largest downtown home features 2 or 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, concrete accents derived from the intensity of the community, dual parking, and over 2,300 square feet of upgrades. **Sold for $1,145,000!**

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**Downtown** · **Horizons**

Boasts sweeping views to the bay and city atop the 21st floor! An executive floor plan with en-suite master bedroom, floor-to-ceiling glass & exposed ductwork and cement floor! Sold for $415,000.

For full details in a recorded message, call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5713.

**Downtown** · **Cityfront Terrace**

There is nothing comparable in the Marina District! This 22nd-floor, south-facing residence features an ambient gas fireplace, dual terraces and dual parking spaces! Enjoy the lifestyle afforded at this premium Marina District location! For full details in recorded message, call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5171.

**Downtown** · **Elitaire**

Lifestyle at it's best in Downtown! Sweeping views to the Bay and city atop the 21st floor! An executive floor plan with ensuite master bedroom, floor-to-ceiling glass and cement floor, exposed ductwork and cement floor! Sold for $415,000.

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**Downtown** · **Union Square**

50 floors above beautiful bay views in a unique penthouse in downtown! Spacious, a 22nd-floor, 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath residence, dual terraces and parking, too! Sold for $415,000.

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**Downtown** · **Park Terrace**

This fabulous new listing is a great opportunity to own a 2 bedroom, 2 bath residence with a corner location and its shared walls, aluminum-look windows! For full details in a recorded message, call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5339.

**Downtown** · **Pacific Terrace**

Under contract with a price reduction!!! This unique 27th-floor, 2 bedroom, 2 bath residence with dual terraces and parking, too! Sold for $415,000.

For full details in a recorded message, call 1-800-709-1995, Ext. 5499.

**Downtown** · **Gaslamp City Square**

**Downtown** · **City Walk**

**Downtown** · **Harbor Club**

SOLD

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**Downtown** · **Park Lofts**

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