LA JOLLA GOES GATSBY!

With a glitzy show at Bishop’s last week and La Valencia’s Gatsby-themed party next month, La Jolla is embracing decadence in Great Gatsby-style

By JENNY WERTH

Exuberant smiles abound from the audience as the Bishop’s Performing Dance Group presented “Gatsby” last week. For 90 minutes everyone was transported back to the 1920s as the glamorously-clad dancers brought out the emotion and dazzle in their interpretation of F. Scott Fitzgerald’s literary prism of the American Dream. And next month, the La V celebrates their 90th birthday with more

SEE GATSBY >> PG. 2

The uncivil war in U.C. marches to its last battle

By SANDY LIPPE

“War is the unfolding of miscalculations,” according to historian Barbara Kingsolver. The uncivil war over the Regents Road bridge may be facing its last battle when the Dec. 5 vote of the City Council occurs. Will the City Council choose to take the bridge and widening of Genesee out of the community plan? It’s been neighbor against neighbor, if not brother against brother. Some call it an East-West war, but that may be a myth. People east of Genesee have supported the no-bridge attitude and people west of Genesee have done the opposite. For certain, heated words have been exchanged and friendships have been tested in this tightly knit community of University City.

The University Community Planning Group supported the decision to take out the bridge and widening of Genesee, according to Andy Wiese, chair of the subcommittee. A visit to the San Diego Planning Group on Oct. 27 shocked the UCPG when the chair, Bill Whelan, made a motion to build the bridge and take the widening of

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The cast celebrates the great American novel with costumes Gatsby himself would surely consider of adequate opulence.

GATSBY >>
CONT. FROM PG. 1

brilliantly portrayed frivolity from the era’s excess. We can’t wait for Prospect Street to become a dazzling spectacle of flappers, champagne and decadence on Dec. 15.

Best of all, the charity celebration benefits the La Jolla Historical Society. Watch out for vintage automobiles, flashbulbs and flappers to ensure everyone has a grand entrance to the party.

The hotel’s dining and public spaces – THE MED, Café la Rue, La Sala Lounge and the mezzanine Galeria, will be transformed into a palace Gatsby himself would envy with speakeasies and a Jazz Age dance hall. With space for 300 lucky invitees, tickets for La V’s Party of the Century will sell out fast and are set at $290 per person. Visit lavalencia.com for more information.

Natasha Webb, who played Daisy Buchanan, gives a behind-the-scenes look at preparing for the show.

“The fall concert is choreographed by our teacher, Donna Cory. She chooses the theme or story we will be dancing and performing. This year, she chose ‘The Great Gatsby,’ and the whole group was ecstatic. We dedicated numerous hours into the creation of this project, and we were invested into making it the best it could be.

For me, the best part of the concert was witnessing and being involved in every step of the journey. Every member of the Performing Dance Group approached this concert in August with no knowledge of what we were going to be doing.”

But as time went on, the concert progressed and it was amazing to witness. Every single component of the story slowly came together, and we were able to translate words on a page into movement on a stage.”

Gabe Garon, who played Gatsby, also offers a peek into the show.

“The most inspiring part about the show for me was its ability to make comment about the American dream and the American experience. ‘Gatsby’ is hailed as the great American novel because it deals with money, society, and socio-economic mobility, among other things. These issues and themes are incredibly relevant today, despite the age of the book. I was also very interested in the character of Gatsby because it was so different from how I identify on a surface level.

For me, the best parts of the show were acting it and discussing its symbolism in class. Ms. Cory put an incredible amount of thought and analysis into the choreography of the show, and it shows.

Every moment is so fully imbued with symbolic imagery and action that discussions can last for entire class periods. I also enjoyed taking on the persona of Gatsby because it was so different from my personality, delving into his anger and motivation and love and break away from reality.”

From left are Bishop’s students Natasha Webb, who plays Daisy Buchanan, and Emma Lewis during the performance.

The cast celebrates the great American novel with costumes Gatsby himself would surely consider of adequate opulence.
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University City updates: Westfield project on schedule, elections for UCCA

By JEMMA SAMALA

Westfield UTC construction update: John Alderson, VP of development for Westfield, gave an update on the construction project at the Westfield UTC Center during the November University City Community Association meeting. Alderson says the project is on schedule to be completed on Oct. 12, 2017. While he admits that the project “looks ugly now,” he reassures those in attendance that when completed Westfield UTC will be a “state-of-the-art architectural piece.”

The updated center will have almost 100 new stores and restaurants, including a signature dining courtyard at the corner of Genesee and La Jolla Village Drive shaded by olive trees. By October 2017, there will be construction of a new two-story, 145,000-square-foot Nordstrom, an Apple flagship store, and a new Anthropologie concept store. Future Westfield UTC tenant space is currently 86 percent committed and includes a full range of stores in all price ranges. The project also includes development of a 300-unit, 22-story, self-contained apartment tower.

Westfield UTC has taken into account local concerns during the planning stages, resulting in keeping of the Torrey Pine trees already planted. Their environmental conservation methods include planting all sustainable and non-invasive landscaping, using 100 percent reclaimed water, and being at SDG&E’s maximum solar capacity.

Alderson will be keeping the community updated throughout the remaining 11 months until opening.

Another UCPG board member, Andy Wiese, chair of the UCPG subcommittee member Isabelle, has been in the plan for four decades and the job must be done. However, a position, and five abstentions. Wiese is concerned about the fire-response time argument with the bridge. The project is on schedule to be completed on Oct. 12, 2017.

Another UCPG board member, Andy Wiese, chair of the UCPG subcommittee, made a motion to accept the draft letter opposing the Regents Road bridge and widening of Genesee. Roger Cavanagh seconded it. It passed with 12 in favor, no opposition, and five abstentions. Wiese is certain the findings of the EIR remain stable. "We are dealing with peak hours’ traffic issues. Roads built show more people will drive on them. If you build another road, you draw traffic off other roads and freeways." He is concerned about the fire-response time argument with the bridge. The only way to improve the fire-response time is to build a fire station in South U.C. There is no good data about improvement time with the bridge.

UC Community Association elections: The UC Community Association elected officers for 2017 - from left are Karen Martinez, secretary; Barry Bernstein, president; Diane Ahern, vice president; and Don Hotz, treasurer. (Top right) Marcy Park Renovation Project co-chairs Don Hotz and Ruth DeSantis display project renderings at kickoff event. (Far right) Rendering of the Westfield UTC upgrades. (Right) Spreckels Elementary School Wildcat mascot now named Kit-Kat.

Spreckels mascot named: Spreckels Elementary students held their own election on Nov. 8 — the all important naming of the Spreckels Wildcat mascot. The students chose from five wildcat name nominations: Spike, Jojo, Fluffy, Sparky, and Kit-Kat. The Spreckels Wildcat now has the name... Kit-Kat! Nice to see young students participate in the democratic process and name their mascot. Now, Kit-Kats for all!
La Jolla Town Council urges City to declare Cove a public health hazard

By DAVE SCHWAB

The ball is now in the mayor's court, as La Jolla Town Council (LJTC) issued a call to action, following an LJTC Community Task Force on Sea Lions meeting, urging the city to declare La Jolla Cove a public health hazard while authorizing non-harmful methods of dispersing increasingly problematic sea lions.

The Nov. 10 town council task force meeting preceded the community group's regular monthly meeting at La Jolla Rec Center.

"What we really need, before we go forward, is for the mayor to give authority to the task force to take action instead of doing another study — or passing it off to a city department," said LJTC president Ann Kerr Bache. "We want local control, local authority. We (LJTC) are a force that has to be reckoned with."

Noting La Jolla Cove has become "the intersection of man and animals," Kerr Bache added "we have to find an amenable solution to this man-animal boundary."

Protected for years by the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act which forbids the "taking or harassment of marine mammals," the population of sea lions and other pinnipeds statewide has been mushrooming causing problems in coastal areas like La Jolla where they've been hauling out — and sometimes displacing people on public beaches.

Dr. Doyle Hanan, of Hanan & Associates Inc., at the City of San Diego's request, recently submitted the results of a year-long research study on local sea lions and their behavior. His study concluded the population of the marine mammals is likely to increase for the foreseeable future. Statistics indicate there are presently 12,000 to 15,000 sea lions along the California coast, with the population growing at a rate of 4 to 5 percent annually.

California sea lions, turning out in ever-greater numbers, have been fouling beaches and stairs leading up to the Cove Lifeguard tower interfering with lifeguards in the performance of their duties. Interactions between sea lions, which can be both aggressive and territorial, and humans, has also been increasing.

Many people, especially out of towners, have been glimpsing getting too close to sea lions and taking "selfies" with them, apparently unaware of the potential danger the wild animals present.

Audience members then addressed questions to the task force, with one person noting sea lions have become so numerous, and their waste so pervasive, that the annual La Jolla Rough Water Swim drawing thousands annually had to be canceled this year due to their pollution.

"I've lived here for almost 25 years and I swim in the Cove and the quality of the water is poor there because it's become contaminated," said Jefrey Chasan. "We do need to find a mechanism to push the sea lions to a different settlement, get them to stop hauling out at the habitat we've all created."

"The next step is to develop, and implement, a (deterrence) plan with experts and start phasing it in to move and exclude the sea lions," said Kerr Bache. "We're (LJTC's) trying to educate the public and provide for their safety."

But Kerr Bache added, we're (sea lion task force) an organization of less than 12 people and we need your (public's) help."

$5 million bail set for accused rapist in University City case

By NEAL PUTNAM

Bail was set at $5 million Wednesday for a man who is suspected of raping a woman in her University City apartment Aug. 13 and another woman the next day before he fled to Arizona.

Jeremiah Ira Williams, 25, was brought back to San Diego Nov. 15 after he was arrested Oct. 27 in Toluca Lake, Ariz.

Williams pleaded not guilty before San Diego Superior Court Judge Howard Shore to 14 counts involving both victims. A woman in her 20s was allegedly followed by Williams to her apartment near Nobel Drive after walking through a parking garage about 10:30 p.m.

Police said she noticed a man following her and she thought she could use her apartment and lock the door, but she was knocked down just as she opened the door. Williams is accused of robbing her, and making a criminal threat after sexually assaulting her.

The woman was hospitalized with facial fractures after being choked. She told police she was forced to give him some money after he pulled a gun. He is accused of rape, forcible oral copulation, and digital penetration, according to the charges.

The second assault occurred at a Motel 6 on Alvarado Canyon Road on Aug. 14. That woman was sodomized and held against her will, according to the charges. Williams is also accused of making a criminal threat and assault with a firearm.

If convicted, Williams would be subject to a three-strike rape law that carries a prison term of 75 years to life, said Deputy District Attorney Trisha Amador. She additionally would face consecutive sentences of 43 years and eight months for each of the other charges, she added.

A status conference will be held on Nov. 23 and a preliminary hearing was set for Dec. 1, although the latter hearing will probably be delayed.

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SAN DIEGO If you've tried to sell your home yourself, you know that the minute you put the "For Sale by Owner" sign up, the phone will start to ring off the hook. Unfortunately, most calls aren't from prospective buyers, but rather from every real estate agent in town who will start to hound you for your listing.

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They say all issues are local. I think it (city government) has been fun. I do enjoy my constituents, even when they're cranky. If I can help someone ... It's really great.

SHERRI LIGHTNER, OUTGOING CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

By DAVE SCHWAB

Outgoing Council President Sherri Lightner discusses accomplishments, future plans

Termed-out San Diego City Councilmember and outgoing Council President Sherri Lightner representing La Jolla and District 1 said she won't be running for another political position right away — or be retiring.

"I don't know what my choices will be in the future — I'm not precluding anything," pledged Lightner in an exit interview with the La Jolla Village News.

Jennifer Nichols Kearns, Lightner's director of communications, cited her boss's record of being a "community activist who fought for what was important in her communities."

"Look at all that Sherri's done in eight years," said Nichols Kearns. "We're not sure there's any other councilmember who has accomplished as many solid goals in office with water policy, economic development and all the reforms in city processes."

Lightner also drew high praise from former Council colleague Ed Harris, who returned to lifeguarding after a nine-month stint as Second District Councilman.

"Sherri got funding for all the life-guard towers in her district," said Harris adding, "She has been a driving force for funding for the life-guards and their new fireboat. She's always been there for us. She's found quiet ways of getting things done. She was also a great mentor to me."

Lightner claims she didn't have any expectations going into office. "I knew how I thought things worked. I just wanted to represent the communities. I had no idea really the mechanics of it."

The outgoing city councilwoman said things have improved drastically financially for the city in the last eight years.

"When I took office we (city) were not even current with our financial statement," she said, "We could not secure bonds to do any of the infrastructure improvements we needed to do. We have changed all that."

Lightner said it's been her privilege to "create a water policy with a checklist" for its implementation.

"At various stages, that has been a guide for the public utilities department," she said adding she was also glad to be part of the "reformation of the entire CIP (Capital Improvement Project) which now has five-year outlooks and five-year capital plans moving forward."

Lightner, an engineer by trade, is also proud of the work she's done while in office promoting science and technology at all levels, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in schools.

"A technical education is something you will never be sorry you have," she said. "You will always have a job, or always be able to retrain for something else."

Asked if she would encourage others to pursue becoming a local legislator, Lightner answered, "I would encourage anyone with a passion to do it, especially if their goal is to serve the community. I think it's very important to have folks who have done other things as councilmembers."

In closing, Lightner said, "They say all issues are local. I think it (city government) has been fun. I do enjoy my constituents, even when they're cranky. If I can help someone ... It's really great."

By JENNY WERTH

Thanksgiving joy to kids at The Ronald McDonald House Harvest Party

Charlotte Wolff is one of many charity bandleaders in La Jolla who help ensure La Jolla remains in the limelight for its powerhouse contributions to numerous organizations. Perez, an activist throughout all of San Diego, was recently honored by the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary as the 2016 woman of dedication.

"Our goal is to serve the community. I think it's very important to have folks who have done other things as councilmembers."
Join as #ThisIsDiabetes salutes the 29 million Americans with dia-
betes—as well as their loved ones—to raise awareness and to create a
sense of urgency about this growing public health crisis. This Novem-
ber the group showcases real-life stories of friends, families and neighbors managing the day-to-day triumphs and challenges of diabetes by using the hashtag #ThisIsDia-
betes. For more information on how you can become a part of the move-
ment visit www.diabetes.org/adm.

Dr. Klaus Ley is recognized for his pioneering work

Klaus Ley, M.D., professor and head of the Division of Inflamma-
tion Biology at the La Jolla Institute for Allergy and Immunology, was awarded the Distinguished Scientist designation by the American Heart Association (AHA)/American Stroke Association (ASA). Ley was recognized for his efforts to develop a vaccine that reduces or prevents inflammation in arteries and, in turn, plaque buildup. If successful, his work will result in the first vac-
ccine to protect against heart disease, the deadliest disease of our time. “Klaus’ vaccine research is the result of his ability to see things dif-
ferently,” said Mitchell Kronenberg, Ph.D., president and chief scientific
officer of La Jolla Institute. “His vision and pioneering spirit allowed him to combine seemingly unrelated con-
cepts and come up with a clever and potentially game-chang-
ing approach to treating heart dis-
ease. Klaus embodies the best qual-
ities of a creative scientist and is richly deserving of this honor.”

Images of Nature Gallery announces an evening with Thomas Manglesen

Join Thomas D. Manglesen as he shares his limited-edition images reflecting the intimate beauty of our natural world along with stories from his recent travels. The artist reception will feature his collections from grizzly bears in Grand Teton National Park, to breathtaking land-
scapes from California, Washington and North Carolina and animals in their natural habitats. Manglesen’s work is offered in a variety of display
options including framed prints, framed canvas, mounted prints, wrapped canvas and metal prints. His work is also available in a variety of formats, including lim-
ited-edition photographs, open edi-
tion art, artist proof prints, art cards, books, and calendars at Man-
gelsen—Images of Nature galleries across the U.S. Dec. 3, from 5 to 9 p.m. during their holiday open house weekend. 7916 Girard Ave.

Marine room manager named president of the SD chapter of the California Restaurant Association

Matt Caponi, manager of The Marine Room, has been named presi-
dent of the San Diego chapter of the California Restaurant Association. Since 1906, the California Restaurant Association has been helping restaurants create a better climate for their businesses through advocacy, education and support for its members.

Caponi has been an active mem-
ber of the association since 2010. With nearly 20 years of experience in the hospitality industry, he joined The Marine Room after he moved from Boston where he worked in several restaurants throughout col-
lege. He relocated to San Diego as supervisor at the Hilton Harbor Island’s Sierra Pacific restaurant. Also home to executive chef Bernard Guillais and chef de cuisine Ron Oliver, Caponi collaborates with the team to create special events where diners can interact and learn from these award-winning chefs.

Champions for Youth fundraising

The Champions for Youth char-
ties will fundraise from now until the last day of the Farmers Insur-
ance Open on Jan. 29, each year to earn more contributions from the $250,000 Farmers Cares Bonus Pool based on how much they raise compared to the other participating charities. The Century Club will cover all of the donation processing fees, provide resources and help spread the word through the Farmers Insurance Open about the charities and the youth and families they serve.

Champions for Youth is the core charitable program of The Century Club of San Diego, CA, an administrative organization behind the Farmers Insurance Open. The 2017 Champions for Youth organi-
izations include: Armed Services YMCA San Diego, Boys to Men Men-
toring Network, Junior Achieve-
ment of San Diego County, Just in Time for Foster Youth, Monarch
School, Pro Kids | The First Tee of San Diego, Promises2Kids, San Diego Center for Children, San Diego Youth Services, SAV San Diego Sup-
port the Enlisted Project (STEP), and Voices for Children. Visit farmerinsur-
anceopen.com for more infor-
mation.

Joloma lease renewed

The Saywitz Co. recently announced that lease negotiations for the renewal of Joloma Inc., an owner and operator of nail salons and spas throughout San Diego, have been completed. The 10-year lease is valued at approximately $1 million.

By ED PIPER Jr.

Starting goalie on the county’s No. 1 water polo team: This guy is big, strong, with a fingertip-to-fin-
tertip reach exceeding his sprawl-
ing 6’4” height.

Imagine confronting him at the Bishop’s goal, having to solve him to score. A tough assignment.

Moderst, only responding in answer to an interviewer’s ques-
tions, George Hagestad allows how his blocking must be pretty good. Prodded further, he says, “I’ve been told” his passing, as well, is “pretty good” — “pretty accurate, I’ve worked so long on it.”

In the cocoon of the Doug Peabody-led water polo program, which goes year-around at San Diego Shores, Hagestad, a young man in a big man’s 195-pound body, feels support and acceptance.

“Doug, really”—he calls his coach by his first name—“he’s, by far, the most influential person in my water polo career,” Hagestad asserts. “And one of the most influential people in my life.”

The tanned, beachy-looking 17-
year-old junior calls his well-known coach a “leader, friend, and men-
tor.”

Besides helping him hone his skills in goal over the past several years to make him a top-flight player in the county, “There’s so many things he says that relate to more than water polo career,” his mate relates.

“He really steered me the right direction. Responsibility, Self-respon-
sibility: taking ownership of things I’ve done wrong, and being humble for the things I’ve done right.”

Hagestad, the youngest of four siblings, the oldest of whom played golf at USC and recently qualified for the 2017 Masters tournament at Augusta, Georgia, sits with his guest in shade on benches just off the sunny grass area in the middle of the private school campus. It’s an idyllic setting to talk about the fun of competitive prep sports, but also about things that matter and peo-
ple in our lives who accompany us through them.”

George, whose parents are John and Mary, has just experienced the departure of his close older brother, Richard, 19, moving out of the house to attend USC as well and play football there as a freshman. “For several weeks (after he left), I had a hard time,” confesses the student

Bishop’s water polo goalie a born leader

athlete. “For 17 years we did every-
thing together.” His older siblings are eight and six years older, but with Richard, the bond is super close.

“The drives from home to school and the talks were always special,” he shares. You can see and feel the warmth and closeness that are there. The two brothers still keep close contact via electronics, the one helping lead the CIF San Diego Sec-
tion’s top polo team, the other at the bottom of the Trojan football heap trying to carve out a role for himself.

Thoughts of familial ties are sweet, of vacations spent at Hages-
stad’s cousin’s ranch in Baja, an hour from La Paz, on the coast. “It’s where a lot of my family memories are,” the youngest says. “It was just so fun.”

George also surfs, even with his bigger 6’4” frame using a short
board, but one a little bigger and heavier—“buoyant”—than the stan-
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Thanksgiving feasts at La Jolla restaurants entice families to eat local

Here find the top chef’s exclusive recipes to satisfy the whole family plus tips for making that turkey terrific

By JENNY WERTH

Thanksgiving is intended to be a holiday about feeling grateful; a time to reflect on what we appreciate in life. However, for many, it’s increasingly becoming a day of resentment. Sorry, but a leisurely cruise up the coast to see the in-law’s this thankful holiday isn’t the definition of relaxation—traffic will be a nightmare.

Add listening to frustrated kids while trying to ignore your own “ungrateful” thoughts resembling something like “I should have just stayed home,” and well, you’ve got a recipe for a complete family-melt-down. And since a holiday meal can be served to you from a bountiful kitchen just a few minutes from home, it’s not really that hard to decide where to spend the holiday, is it? We’re talking about all the trimmings minus the work to two of the most delectable restaurants on the La Jolla coast after all.

Travel plans aside: if you’re a cook hosting the dinner, we’ve also got the inside seasonings from the experts on what makes for a trendy meal for this Thanksgiving. Finally, if you have to host this year but aren’t really a cook (but, perhaps would like to pretend you are), then head to Gelson’s Market now and order up your turkey—dinner for later. No one will know. We promise.

Staying home on Thanksgiving? Saunter over to The Shores, then roll home stuffed

At The Shores Restaurant there’s quite the feast being offered under the direction of Chef de Cuisine Percy Oani. Chef Oani leads the restaurant and catering teams with over 15 years of experience in the culinary arts. And for Thanksgiving, he’s got the best way to cleverly garnish every dish. Here’s the low-down on what makes for the most memorable meal in the culinary calendar. The website states one can “Enjoy a variety of appetizer offerings, delicious main courses including Mousseline and omelet with spring vegetables. The La Jolla Shores website states the menu will feature local ingredients with a global flare.” “Thanksgiving Day—Choose from a wide selection of main courses including Julian Harvest Apple Cider Brined Turkey Breast, Marcona Almond Crusted Swordfish, Colorado Lamb Osso Buo and more. Top off your meal with a selection of delectable desserts such as Five Spice Pumpkin Tart, Fair-Trade Chocolate Guava Mousse and Warm Apple Rhubarb Berry Cobbler.”

When: From noon to 7 p.m. on Thanksgiving. Prices are per entrees ordered. www.theshoresrestaurant.com.

Q: Are there any new dishes that are trendy this year for Thanksgiving?

CG: My sister, Sylvie, lives in a remote village close to the Mont St. Michel castle. Her historic stone manor is a treasure, with walls so thick that they trap all the aromas of the food being prepared in the kitchen. She grows her own vegetables and raises chickens, ducks, turkeys, rabbits and sheep. There is no need to go to the market where you have such a boon in your backyard! Her tip for keeping this dish moist is to baste the turkey with a lot of olive oil and maple anise vinegar reduction brings synergy to the dish.

Q: Can you please include a recipe for families?

CG: Here’s an inside look at some of executive chef Guillou’s plans for the perfect turkey and mouth-watering sides. Keep in mind that he joined as executive chef of The Beach & Tennis Club in June 1994, this means he’s no spring chicken when it comes to a tasty turkey. Following, we’ve got cooking recommendations from Chef Oani from The Shores Restaurant.

**COOKING ON THANKSGIVING**

**Q & A with Chef Guillou**

**Sylvie’s Turkey Breast Ballotine Croissant Sausage Stuffing, Glazed Carrots, Cipollini, Apple Cider Gravy**

(Serves 6)

**Stuffing**

1 tablespoon unsalted butter
1 cup stuffed, diced oyster mushrooms
2 cups minced leeks, white part only
1 cup diced sun dried tart cherries
1 teaspoon chopped sage
1/2 cup chopped parsley
1 cup chicken stock
6 links hot Italian sausages, casings removed
8 large cipollini, cubed
1 teaspoon sea salt and freshly ground pepper
1 4-pound boneless free range turkey breast
1 stick butter, diced
2 teaspoons chopped thyme

Preheat oven to 375°F. Melt butter in large skillet over medium heat. Add mushrooms, leeks, hazelnuts, cherries, sage and parsley. Season with salt and pepper. Cook 5 minutes without browning, stirring often. Transfer mixture to large mixing bowl. Add chicken stock. Fold in sausage and cipollini. Place turkey breast on cutting board. Place roasting pan on freezer or until center of stuffing reaches 160 degrees, basting often. Bake reserved stuffing during last 30 minutes of cooking turkey. Transfer turkey to cutting board. Place roasting pan on stove top over medium heat to make sauce.

**Apple Cider Sauce**

2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 cup chopped shallots
2 green apples, cored, chopped
4 leavescage
2 tablespoons sifted flour
1 cup sparkling apple cider
1 cup chicken stock
1 teaspoon sea salt and freshly ground pepper

Add butter, shallots, apples and sage to roasting pan, Cook 5 minutes, stirring often. Stir in flour. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly. Add balsamic and apple cider. Bring to boil. Add chicken stock. Bring to simmer. Reduce to sauce consistency. Strain through fine sieve. Season with salt and pepper.

**Sylvie’s Turkey Breast Ballotine Croissant Sausage Stuffing, Glazed Carrots, Cipollini, Apple Cider Gravy**

**Quercia prosciutto, beemster aged gouda, car acara orange from the farmer’s market, lemon-infused chile olive oil and maple anise vinegar reduction brings synergy to the dish.**

**Q: Can you please include a recipe for families?**

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of butter during roasting.

See recipe bar for Sylvie's Turkey Breast Ballotine.

Q: Can you recommend a recipe that you think stands the test-of-time-for a popular dish?
CG: My friend Alfred in El Cajon has two persimmon trees that are priceless during the Thanksgiving season. The fruit is aromatic and dense, creating the perfect pairing for my cranberry relish.

Persimmons are available at farmer's markets and at your local grocery store. Prepare your cranberry sauce a week ahead and store in the refrigerator. The flavors will intensify daily.

Making that turkey the "chef's way" (and what other way is there?)

Q: What are one or two things you think most people overlook when cooking their own Thanksgiving meal?
CG: Rest your turkey for 20 minutes after you take it out of the oven. This will keep it very moist as the juice will be flowing during resting time. Prepare your holiday pies two days prior to Thanksgiving. As they rest in the refrigerator, the flavors will continue to develop. And, plan your menu well in advance – including your wine selection. Make a shopping list and a timeline to avoid any stress during this very special day.

More advice for cooking on Thanksgiving - Q & A with Chef Oani

Here are some exclusive tips for trendy new dishes from the master of the kitchen himself, Chef Oani. Get ready to cut these culinary classic recommendations out for your recipe book.

All about preparing that turkey:

Q: Chef, are there any tried-and-true recipes for Thanksgiving? And are there any special tricks to include in a dish to give it an extra kick?
Chef Oani: I like to brine (marinate) my whole turkey for two days, then cook it at a low temperature with the breast side down. The turkey is actually hanging up that way the breast isn’t touching the pan. Having the turkey inverted while cooking makes the turkey breast juicy. All the drippings from inside the cavity seeps through the breast making it juicy.

CO: I’d say plan well ahead. All the extra time that you take in planning and executing your Thanksgiving dinner will help you stay relaxed. Everyone knows that when a meal is made from the heart, it just tastes THAT much better!! You can’t really put all your heart into it if you’re rushing to get things done.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com
La Jolla businesses give back for the holidays and could use more help

By JENNY WERTH

Massage Envy on Girard Avenue hosts a toy drive with The Salvation Army

Massage Envy San Diego, in partnership with The Salvation Army, will be helping struggling San Diego families this holiday season by hosting a toy drive in each of their Massage Envy locations throughout San Diego County through Dec. 16. Lauren Baldwin, Massage Envy La Jolla Franchisee, is thrilled to be involved with the effort. “Massage Envy is a very community-minded organization. The holidays are a great time to really get everyone involved. The Salvation Army is near and dear to several of the franchisees having personal experiences and we all felt they would be a perfect fit,” she shared. “We are hoping that the kids will feel joy and love during the holidays, as every child should feel. The look on their faces is just priceless.”

Last year alone, The Salvation Army provided 48,500 toys (in addition to stocking stuffers) for 19,000 local children. The Salvation Army’s goal for 2016 is to provide 50,000 toys to 20,000 children countywide. To help volunteer or donate go to www.sandiego.salvationarmy.org or www.massageenvy.com or call 866-613-ENVY (3689). Head over to 7650 Girard Ave. to drop off toys.

Toys for Tots donations accepted at LJ Coldwell Banker Offices

The Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage offices throughout San Diego County are collecting toy donations for the United States Marine Reserve Toy for Tots Foundation through Dec. 14. The program’s mission is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to less fortunate children in the community in which the campaign is conducted. Head over to a local office at either 9:30 Prospect St. or 848 Prospect St.

Macy’s UTC celebrates the return of Make-A-Wish

The annual letter-writing program has kicked off at Macy’s nationwide. As the season of giving begins, Macy’s and Make-A-Wish team up for the 9th annual Believe campaign, which includes the iconic letter-writing program and festivities to spread the spirit of generosity and goodwill. Through Dec. 24, “believers” of all ages can mail a letter to Santa at the big red letterbox at any local Macy’s store or online at macys.com/believe. For every letter received, in store or online, Macy’s will donate $1 to Make-A-Wish, up to $1 million, to help grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Since 2008, Macy’s Believe campaign has brought together communities across the country, gathering support for the common cause and resulting in nearly $13 million donated to Make-A-Wish. Yes, Virginia, there really is a Santa Claus.

Living the Dream Foundation partnering with Friends and Family Community Connection to support SD need your help

Since 2008, Macy’s Believe campaign has brought together communities across the country, gathering support for the common cause and resulting in nearly $13 million donated to Make-A-Wish. Yes, Virginia, there really is a Santa Claus.

Approximately 2/3 of meals will go to Haiti and the rest will stay in the San Diego area. Dream Dinners and their Living the Dream Foundation will be partnering with the Friends and Family Community Connection, a community organization based in San Diego. The FCCB began in 1996 providing local support to families in need and has grown to bring immediate and sustainable help to those across the country and overseas. International efforts focus in the areas of food, safe water, medical care, education, and job creation. FCCB has packaged and distributed more than 14 million non-perishable meals in the U.S. and abroad.

Founded in 2002, Dream Dinners, Inc. helps busy moms get wholesome home-cooked meals on the dinner table. Learn more at www.dreamdinners.com. To help out with the effort, go to www.livingthedream.com. Guests choose from seasonal, rotating monthly menus and prepare the dinners in-store without the hassle of planning, shopping and chopping. Dream Dinners lays out ingredients in an easy-to-follow format so guests can assemble a month’s worth of meals in about an hour.

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The Del Mar Thoroughbred Club hosted the third annual Bing Crosby season on Veterans Day. The occasion offered a special salute to all who had served or currently are serving in the military. In keeping with opening day tradition, a contest was offered for all race-goers — this year it was a Pinups for Patriots fashion contest.

Additionally, this season all attendees were encouraged to participate in this Stars & Stripes fashion contest. Racegoers coordinated red, white, and blue creations, a Rosie-the-Riveter look, a fashionable camouflage dress, and best of all, an incorporation of the American flag into their look.

The contest also included an entry for the best pin-up models. A little history: this term was first used in 1941 when soldiers and others “pinned” up pictures of beautiful and sexy models on their wall. You may remember Bettie Paige was coined as the “Queen of Pinups.”

Many fashionistas came dressed in the pin-up look adorned with hair topped off with victory rolls. The first-place winner, Taylor Rendon, came with the classic look complete with an animal print dress, corset and black furry heels. She received a $400 cash prize and a Studio Savvy gift basket valued at $250.

The winner of both the most patriotic category and the Bing Crosby grand prize was Wendy Venable. She wore a modified 1866 camouflage dress that was topped off with a picture hat accessorized with jewels and a bird. Medals were pinned on the dress that belonged to her husband, who was a retired Navy commander.

Venable herself was a Navy IT specialist for 20 years and has a long history with the military. Indeed, her father was a Navy military helicopter pilot and her two children are currently serving as well. Venable won a one-night stay at the Fairmont Grand Del Mar and dinner for two at Addison Restaurant. This will also include a multi-course tasting menu by award-winning executive chef William Bradley with wine pairings. Additionally she will receive a $400 cash prize and a Studio Savvy gift basket valued at $250.

The 15-day run will race through Sunday, Dec. 4. The rest of the season will race four-days a week on Thursday through Sunday. The fall racing season begins earlier with the first post everyday at 12:30 p.m. except Thanksgiving Day, which will begin at 11 a.m. For more information, visit www.dmtc.com.

Upcoming events

Thursday, Dec. 15: “La V’s 90th Birthday Gatsby Gala” at the La Valencia Hotel at 6 p.m. The theme is the Roaring ’20s with a speakeasy and Jazz Age dance hall. The gala will benefit the La Jolla Historical Society. For tickets, visit www.brownpapertickets.co.

Diana Cavagnaro is internationally renowned Couture Milliner based in the Historic Gaslamp Quarter. Learn more about our Hat Designer, Teacher & Blogger at www.DianaCavagnaro.com
From My Garden: Captivating cattleya orchids

By LINDA MARRONE

One of the most recognizable orchids, the cattleya, is considered the “queen” of orchids and its flower is what most people visualize when they think of orchids. Used by the flower trade for decades as cut flowers and for corsages, today it is easy to find different varieties and hybrids of the cattleya growing in pots that you can enjoy in your home.

Native to the tropical regions of South America, Costa Rica and Panama, the cattleya is an epiphyte, which means it grows on other plants, but is not parasitic and only uses the plant as support. In their natural habitat, the cattleya grows on tree trunks and branches high up in the jungle canopy with bromelids and Tillandsias. In this aerial garden they get their nutrients from decaying plant material and their pseudobulbs and fleshy leaves store food and water. They usually bloom in the dry season when there is little or no rain and during this time the morning dew and humidity in the air is its only source of water.

I’ve had my cattleya orchids for eight years and I purchased and board them at Cal Pacific Orchids in Encinitas, so I cannot take credit for them blooming. Cal Pacific cares for all my orchids and calls me to pick them up when they are ready to bloom. Their greenhouses are perfectly suited for growing all different types of orchids and my growing collection has been boarded there for over 10 years. My cattleyas stay in bloom for about three weeks and when they are in bloom I do not water them and display them inside where they receive moderate light. When an orchid is in bloom, it does not have the same requirements it needs to bloom. If you want to try growing them at home, cattleyas are considered, “easy to grow.” They require a good amount of light to bloom, but not direct sunlight that could burn their leaves. Good air circulation is a must and let the plant dry out in between watering and NEVER let it sit in water. The perfect temperature to grow cattleyas is from 85 to 75 degrees during the day and down to the 50s at night. Fertilize them with a urea-free (10-10-10) orchid food by about a quarter. Never feed the plant when it is in bloom. A yellowish tinge to the leaves is what you need for the plant to produce an abundance of flowers and if it is overfed, or if it is not receiving enough light, the leaves will be dark green and the plant will not flower. Most cattleya orchids bloom once a year, but some can bloom twice. Early fall through Christmas is when mine bloom and they are usually in bloom for Thanksgiving, but the heat we had the past two summers has made them bloom earlier than usual, so as I write this the flowers have just finished blooming. Showy cattleya flowers come in a variety of sizes and a wide spectrum of colors that range from red, pink, purple, orange yellow, white and can also be multi-colored and spotted. In fact, the only color they do not come in is true blue. Some even have a lovely scent and the flowers of my deep pink cattleya had been filling my home with its heavenly scent and it is just another one of the scents I associate with autumn.

If you want more information on purchasing and boarding orchids, call Cal Pacific Orchids at: 760-436-0317.

White cattleya orchids (above). Pink cattleya bloom with other orchids in my orchid room. 

PHOTOS BY LINDA MARRONE

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The King and I: Remembering King Bhumibol

By Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D.

In the early 1950s our record of the month club—started by my late husband, Sam Josefowitz—was expanding into other countries, Concert Hall Society, Handel Society, Opera Society, and Jazztone Society were the first clubs to provide members with a record every month. They were made of red vinyl—78s with artistically designed covers. One day unexpectedly, we received an invitation from King Bhumibol to visit him in his palace. The king was an aficionado and wanted to meet us and talk music, particularly about jazz. He was one of the descendants to the King of Siam made famous by the movie The King and I.

And so we took off for Thailand. We were met at the Bangkok Airport by a royal limousine. When we asked to be taken to our hotel, we were told the king was expecting us immediately. So we went in our rumpled clothes from a long night on the plane and were ushered into an ornate room. The king was sitting on a settee, not a throne; we were seated opposite him in white and gold.

Left to right: Sam Josefowitz, me and King Bhumibol.

have been friends. He was knowledgeable about music and played the saxophone and the clarinet himself. He asked many questions as to our choice of artists, and even offered some suggestions of his own.

‘We spoke French: he had gone to school in Lausanne, Switzerland, and was a few years behind my husband at L’Ecole Nouvelle. Classmates of Sam’s in that same school were the Shah of Iran and his brother. Lausanne was ripe with current and deposed nobility—kings and queens from around the world, sheiks from Arab countries. Looking back on that visit, what seemed unremarkable then, amazes me today; chatting Happily with King Bhumibol just as if he had been any other music-loving friend. We were all so young then. When I read that the King died at 88 (a year younger than I), memories of that day came flooding back as a shining moment of innocence and sheer pleasure. The king remained a member of our record-club until the company was sold many years later.

Natasha Josefowitz taught the first course in the United States on women in management and is the author of more than 20 books. She lives at the White Sands in La Jolla. Copyright © 2016. Natasha Josefowitz. All rights reserved.

The King died at 88 (a year younger than I), memories of that day came flooding back as a shining moment of innocence and sheer pleasure. The king remained a member of our record-club until the company was sold many years later.

Sameer Patel, photo by Beth Ross Buckley and Brian Stokes Mitchell

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

Theater happenings: Mitchell to perform at La Jolla Playhouse benefit next month

By CHARLENE BALDRIDGE

Until I witnessed his Broadway (1998) performance as Coalhouse Walker in “Ragtime” – one of the great musicals of the last century – I had only heard of Seattle native Brian Stokes Mitchell. He was raised in San Diego from age 14, graduated from Patrick Henry High, and who came up, briefly, at San Diego Junior Theatre, the Old Globe and Starlight Musicals before being swept up into a career that spans film, television and stage.

Those who write about his life and career sometimes neglect “Ragtime,” and yet I always think of Stokes (that’s how he refers to himself) as Coalhouse. It was one of the most affecting, incendiary performances I’ve ever seen. Several summers ago, I heard Mitchell with San Diego Symphony Summer Pops. His appearance was so human, intimate and thrilling – surely he possesses the most beautiful musical theater baritone on the contemporary stage – and by the time he sang “Bring Him Home” from “Les Miserables,” he had the audience eating out of his hands. After being inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame this month, Mitchell will spend some time making the holidays bright in San Diego, so you, and your family will have an opportunity to hear him as well as help enrich the coffers of local arts organizations. Hurry if you want tickets and a huge thrill.

At 7:30 p.m. Dec. 12 in the Mandell Weiss Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, Mitchell performs a Playhouse benefit concert titled “Simply Broadway,” named after his last album. Proceeds benefit Playhouse’s new play and education programs. Tickets range from $75 (concert only) to $250 for this one, depending on how many frills you desire through Dec. 4 in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

In New York

DAVID YAUZBEK ("The Full Monty," premiered in 2000 at the Old Globe) has a new musical titled “The Band’s Visit.” It opened in previews Nov. 11 at the Off-Broadway Atlantic Theater Company. Based by book writer Itamar Moses on a film, it concerns an Egyptian band that gets stranded in a remote village in Israel.

La Jolla Symphony changes

La Jolla Symphony & Chorus (lajollasymphony.org) has signed music director Steven Schick for another five years through 2022. Dr. David Chase is set to retire at the end of this season after 42 years as choral director (his final concert program is June 10-11, 2017). Dr. Patrick Walders was chosen from a recently concluded national search to take his place in July 2017. Walders, a native of Buffalo, NY, arrived in San Diego in 2011 to join the SDSU faculty. He and his wife, Katie, are founders of the Pro Arte Voices, a professional chamber choir in San Diego.

FRIDAY · NOVEMBER 18, 2016

La Jolla village news

LEFT TO RIGHT: Sam Josefowitz, me and King Bhumibol.

Louis XV chairs. Servants were scurrying about on their knees as a sign of homage. We were offered orange juice and spent a lovely few hours discussing music—the various bands that David Josefowitz, Sam’s brother, had recorded and the means of advertising, packaging and mailing the records (which was Sam’s department). The king was interested in every facet of our club. We had brought him one of our records, for which he thanked us profusely. When it was time to go, we had to walk backwards because no one could turn their backs on the king.

King Bhumibol was a short, rather unassuming man; were he not king, I would not have guessed at his royal heritage. On the other hand, what was expecting? A red velvet cloak, a scepter, and a crown? He was very personable and quickly put us at ease. We were the same age, in our late twenties; it felt like we could easily

Marine combat aviator in the Korean War.

Commemorated along with Williams was sports caster Dick Enberg, who hung up his microphone after seven years as the San Diego Padres’ sportscaster last month, capping a 61-year broadcasting career.

Honoring those who served at the Vi

The Elizabeth Hospice and the Vi at La Jolla hosted a ceremony to honor 20 veterans residing at the Vi at La Jolla. Many of the Veterans served during WWII, Korea and Vietnam. A Veteran Pining Ceremony thanked veterans residing at the Vi at La Jolla for their service to our country and Marines from Camp Pendleton participated in the ceremony. Serving veterans is an honor for senior living providers.

The King died at 88 (a year younger than I), memories of that day came flooding back as a shining moment of innocence and sheer pleasure. The king remained a member of our record-club until the company was sold many years later.

Veterans Day ceremonies celebrated with great pride

Guests at Mt. Soledad National Veterans Memorial’s annual Veterans Day ceremony were treated to the best attended — and one of the most dynamic — salutes to veterans ever held on the La Jolla mountain.

Commemorated included the unveiling of a memorial plaque honoring San Diego Major League Baseball player Ted Williams, considered the greatest hitter of all time, who also served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marines during World War II and the Korean War.

Williams, a star player and pitcher with Herbert Hoover High School in the late 1930s, joined the San Diego Padres, then a Pacific Coast League team in 1936, before moving to the Boston Red Sox, serving two years with their minor league team, then spending 19 years with the MLB franchise, retiring in 1966.

Williams interrupted his baseball career during World War II when he joined the Navy Reserves on December 7, 1941. He was appointed a warrant officer on the U.S. Marine Corps and a Naval Aviator on May 2, 1944.

Williams returned to active military duty for portions of the 1952 and 1953 seasons to serve as a Marine combat aviator in the Korean War.

Commemorated along with Williams was sports caster Dick Enberg, who hung up his microphone after seven years as the San Diego Padres’ sportscaster last month, capping a 61-year broadcast- ing career.

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READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com
Keep your pet safe during the holidays; sound advice for keeping Fido and Spot out of the ornaments.

The holidays are almost here! This is the time to gather friends and family, break out the ornaments and whip up delicious meals. We all have our own routine for the season, but what about for our pets? From environmental dangers due to typical holiday items, to foods pets can handle or misbehave with, there are a lot of important things to keep in mind during the holidays. “Make preparing for your pets as the holiday a much as a part of your holiday routine as wrapping gifts or decorating the tree. Talk with everyone in the household about the dangers in and around food items and foods out of reach. Post the numbers for your regular vet, a 24-hour emergency vet and the ASPCA Poison Control Hotline (888-426-4438) where they will be easy to find.”

Find a Kahoots near you at www.kahoots.com.

FRIDAY · NOVEMBER 18, 2016

JILA VILLAGE NEWS
La Jolla’s Ann Navarra, breast cancer survivor, walks in Race for the Cure

By JENNY WERTH

Posters printed in print from the Susan G. Komen 3-day walk have been placed around La Jolla with some pertinent facts, “3 Days, 60 Miles, $400,000 raised and counting. Thank you 3-Day Walkers & Crew.” These are the kinds of milestones that keep walkers and breast cancer survivors such as Ann Navarra motivated to keep the fight strong. Navarra, the sister of Jerome’s Furniture Jerry Navarra, walked in the recent SGK Race for the Cure as part of the Jerome’s Furniture team.

“The walks are very important because they reach out to so many people who have cancer, family and friends of cancer patients and survivors. The SGK organization is in over 120 cities and communities. It attracts over 1.7 million people each year in the races,” shared Navarra. She was startled to find out she had breast cancer at only 44 years old. Her story is one that keeps everyone aware that this disease can strike at any time. “The year was 1990. I was 44 years old and had annual mammograms. It was in the afternoon after my appointment that my doctor called me at my office. He shared that some shaded spots appeared on my right breast and strongly suggested that I see a surgeon,” she explained. “Never having any prior health issues, I was quite surprised and asked my doctor to make an appointment with a surgeon. The next week I met with my surgeon who found a small lump in my breast. I was still clueless and in total denial. By the second week I had a biopsy with anesthesia and the message was clear,” Navarra remem- bered. Cancer had struck with all its ugly consequences. But Navarra didn’t fight and fight she did. “Within one additional week I had a modified, radical mastectomy with reconstruction. After three weeks I began a six-month chemotherapy treatment program,” Navarra said. But, she kept herself surrounded with family and friends who offered support and encouragement throughout her whole difficult ordeal. “Be accompanied on all doctor visits so that someone else is listening to your doctor. Be positive and laugh more. Pray and meditate. Surround yourself with support groups. Obtain a list of people one can talk with, especially survivors. Watch funny films and read heart-warming books. NEVER GIVE UP!” The warrior-spirit in Navarra kept her moving and active to her full potential. She even returned to work only 10 days after her surgery. “I attended my therapy sessions and was invited to events around the county and even to Canada to give presentations about the natural-looking hair dyeing technique. Weeden also has the distinction of being an educator for the Australia-based company Kevin Murphy, which entails visiting salons and teaching the stylists how to effectively use the company’s products. “They have great products,” said Weeden of Kevin Murphy. “They have their ethics in place – they never hurt animals, people or the environment, so I really like that.” For more information, visit www.salonspruce.com and www.mastersofbalayage.com.

Salon Spruce creates a memorable experience

By GINA McCALLIARD

Like many aspiring performers had been doing for decades before him, a young Ryan Weeden went to New York City to realize his dream of being an actor. And like most aspiring performers, he eventually realized it was just not happening. “I realized the life of the starving artist wasn’t all it was cracked up to be,” said Weeden. “I was hanging out with people in their 30s, 40s, 50s – just doing the same thing I was doing for a day job and it was not attractive. They dated. I dated. They were just hustling and bustling, and the wrinkles kept getting deeper and deeper.”

He only considered a career in hairdressing when the mother of a girl who he was dating, who was a hairstylist herself, suggested it. “She’s like, ‘Ryan, you know, you’re not doing anything else. I think you’d be really good at it.’”

Weeden counts Yelp as a huge influence. “[I] don’t want a big, booming salon,” he said. “I still want it to be intimate. My clients appreciate that.”

Weeden counts Yelp as a huge component to his having done well, estimating that he gets about 90 percent of new clients from the review site. After an initial appointment, he will always follow up to be sure they are happy with the service, another strategy he credits with his ability to retain clients.

Jeni Weeden, his wife, manages the business side of the salon. In addition to working with clients, Weeden also does hair for magazine photo shoots and founded the company Masters of Balayage, which he describes as a showcase site that he started on Instagram to connect Balayage artists. Now that the site has more than 61,000 followers, Weeden’s profile has grown to such an extent that he now is invited to events around the country and even to Canada to give presentations about the natural-looking hair dyeing technique. Weeden also has the distinction of being an educator for the Australia-based company Kevin Murphy, which entails visiting salons and teaching the stylists how to effectively use the company’s products. “They have great products,” said Weeden of Kevin Murphy. “They have their ethics in place – they never hurt animals, people or the environment, so I really like that.”

La Jolla votes to get MAD

Businesses and residents within the Village of La Jolla have voted to tax themselves via creation of a maintenance assessment district (MAD) to pay for improvements. A MAD is a legal mechanism by which property owners can vote to assess themselves to receive enhanced maintenance, landscaping and lighting services. These services are above and beyond the City’s baseline general services. There are currently 61 MADs throughout San Diego. Enhance La Jolla, a new non-profit being formed, will manage the MAD for the Village. Enhance La Jolla will contract with service providers to implement the maintenance and landscape services to be provided. The City of San Diego will oversee Enhance La Jolla’s administration of the MAD. Longtime La Jolla community planner Joe LaCava, who was retained as an advisor for the MAD, estimated that one half of the approximately 1,300 parcels within the Village voted on the MAD. “There were two items on the ballot, one was the formation of this district, and who do you want to form it with. The City of San Diego will oversee Enhance La Jolla running it, versus 15 percent for forming the district, and 85 percent for local control and Enhance La Jolla running it, versus 15 percent who wanted the city to run the new district. It was overwhelming for local control.”

LaCava added the special district only needed a simple majority to pass, instead of two-thirds approval, because it was a vote for self-taxation by those affected. Enhance La Jolla said the new MAD will primarily fund and construct projects in public spaces, ensure ongoing maintenance services, help create and maintain inviting public spaces, enhance the Village’s beauty and quality of life, leverage property owner assessments to generate supplemental funds for the City and improves property value.

“I would like to commend the many citizens and community groups in La Jolla who came together to initiate the formation of a MAD in La Jolla,” said Council President Sherri Lightner. “Services such as increased trash pickups, sidewalk power washing, and additional landscape maintenance will all contribute to a cleaner, safer, and prettier La Jolla,” Lightner said. “The Village of La Jolla now joins over 60 other MADs in San Diego which lobbied to take greater control of their community’s environment. La Jolla initiatives are not only about beautification, they are about the maintenance and safety of our streets and sidewalks. “
From First Timers to Empty Nesters — Your Home Buying Questions Answered

Owning a home is a big financial investment and your current life-stage plays a major role in the decision to buy or sell a home. I’ve worked as a mortgage loan officer for the past 14 years, and I get a lot of questions about the home ownership process at different stages of life from first-time homebuyers to empty nesters. To help you navigate the journey as a homeowner, here are my thoughts on some of the common questions.

Q: I am thinking about buying a home, but how will I know if I am ready?
A: Start asking yourself some key questions. First, why do you want to buy a home? Whether it’s because you want to place a move to your own or think that you’re wasting your money on rent, make sure you balance the emotional and rational reasons for starting the home buying. Can you reasonably afford a home? This includes the down payment, property taxes, homeowners insurance, moving expenses, furniture, maintenance, etc. Planning for these expenses carefully can help you avoid one of the most common causes of missed mortgage payments: carrying too much debt. It’s important to understand your credit card and other debts so you stay current on your payments.

Even though there are few homes for sale, and home prices in San Diego have been reported to be at their highest in 9 years, low mortgage rates and down payment assistance programs have been helping first-time homebuyers.

Is this the right time to buy? Timing plays an important role in buying a home. Do you have a steady job and income? Do you have a good credit score? Does it make sense to wait and save more money for the down payment or improve your credit? Strengthening your current financial situation may save you thousands of dollars in the long run, but it also means a delay in beginning to build equity in a home.

Q: The kids are all gone, and I have this huge house. Should I move or stay?
A: They say home is where the heart is. A home represents a physical connection to the past with memories of the people you love—which is why deciding whether to stay or move is not an easy choice. Here are a couple of things to consider. If you want to stay at the San Diego area, real estate brokerage Movoto lists these suburbs among the top five communities best for retirees due to senior amenities, lower costs of living, low maintenance homes, and close-knit communities that are close to activities in downtown San Diego: Encinitas, Solana Beach, Poway, El Cajon and Carlsbad.

Maintenance can get expensive. Remember that the house ages along with its occupants. If the cost of maintaining your home irritates you, then consider your changing physical needs as you age. Would stairs in a two-story home be a health-related concern? Would it be easier to get around in a smaller house? Planning ahead could let you enjoy your home over the long term. You might also consider accessing equity in your home, through a home equity line of credit, for improvements to suit your current lifestyle.

Q: I am retired and want to help my child buy a home. How can I help?
A: There are several ways that you can help your children with buying a home, but it will depend on how much help you want to give them. You can gift your children money for the down payment, be a co-signer on the mortgage with them, or buy the home yourself and rent it to them. However, there are many factors to consider when deciding which route you will take. For example, down payment gifts will require additional paperwork since mortgage lenders will need to verify the gift and may even ask for your bank statements. Also, keep in mind that you could get taxed for your gift.

With all these options, you should consult experts such as a financial advisor, an accountant or lawyer to make sure you can comfortably afford to help without jeopardizing your personal financial security. Understand the potential tax implications, and how to structure the legal paperwork if necessary.

Most importantly, it is imperative that you as a parent never compromise your ability to pay your own bills or meet your own mortgage payments for the sake of your children.

Robert Webber, NMLS ID: 610461 is a VP Retail Sales Manager at Bank of America and has been helping home buyers for 14 years.
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