Pacific Beach starts block captain program for Garnet Avenue

By DAVE SCHWAB

Pacific Beach is implementing a new block captain program for a portion of Garnet Avenue.

“It’s being co-sponsored by Pacific Beach Town Council and Pacific Beach Planning Group,” said planning group member Eve Anderson, who likened the block captain program to a “Neighborhood Watch for businesses.”

Anderson said the program will extend from Crystal Pier to Ingraham Street. “We sent a newsletter out to all the businesses letting them know the block captain program is active,” she said, adding there are nine blocks involved.

Anderson said the new program helps the beach community in sharpening its focus on problem areas.

“The first thing that hit us was all these discarded (take-out) boxes that were ending up in alleys and parking lots,” she said, adding, “We’re really getting businesses to know each other and network together.”

Another problem that’s emerged from instituting the PB Block Captain Program is overgrown trees on Garnet that were obstructing views of local businesses. “There were trees in front of businesses hiding their signs,” said Anderson, noting the City was contacted successfully to trim problem trees back so signage could be seen.

Anderson said another problem that has been uncovered partly due to the new block captain program is an issue involving dripping trash bags leaving long messy skid lines on Garnet, that PBTC has been busy power washing.

“The solution was going back and having those trash bags put on dollies to remove them,” she said adding it was realized that heavier bags, or double bags as well, were needed to prevent leakage and solve the problem.
La Jolla groups file lawsuit against UC San Diego project

By DAVE SCHWAB

Six months ago, two La Jolla groups joined to hire legal representation to oppose a mixed-use UC San Diego project some believe will add to already-congested area traffic and denigrate their quality of life.

Now those same groups have filed a lawsuit challenging the large-scale project’s environmental analysis.

At issue is The Theatre District Living and Learning Neighborhood. The proposed UC San Diego project would include five buildings ranging in height from 9 to 21 stories.

The project’s 11.8-acre site is at the southwestern edge of the La Jolla West Campus on a parking lot adjacent to La Jolla Playhouse. Project plans include an estimated 1,200 underground parking spaces.

The two groups legally challenging the project are the La Jolla Shores Association community advisory group and Black Horse Homeowners Association.

“We want the university to sit down and work with organizations and the community to come up with a compromise that works for everyone,” said LJSA president Jamie Emerson.

“They all want to do is create the project and cram it down your throat on land that was given to them on a deed restriction for educational purposes.”

“We’re not able to comment on pending litigation,” responded Leslie Sepuka, UC San Diego’s associate director of communications.

In September, The Theatre District Living and Learning Neighborhood project came before University of California regents. Regents delayed a decision on approving it, directing the university to return to them at a later date with more detailed financial projections for the planned development.

UC San Diego contends the project would include public improvements to include: an enhanced campus entry at the Revelle College Drive intersection; partial realignment of Scholars Drive South (campus loop road west) to a valet/drop-off zone for the adjacent Theatre District; a transit hub for campus shuttles and public transit buses; an extension of Ridge Walk (a primarily north-south pedestrian spine) to the southern campus boundary; and recreation/outdoor wellness spaces located strategically throughout the site.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, UC San Diego has prepared a CEQA Consistency Analysis that has determined “the project will not result in any new significant impacts.”

Labeling the university’s project, environmental analysis as “fatal flaw,” Emerson said LJSA and Black Horse recently filed a lawsuit in San Diego Superior Court. She said causes of action filed against the proposed project include failure to comply with CEQA procedural requirements, failure to prepare an initial study, and failure to prepare an environmental analysis and an environmental impact report, as well as failure to adopt feasible mitigation measures and project alternatives.

Emerson charged the university is also not considering the cumulative effect of all of its projects.

“They’ve got four more projects in the pipeline behind this next one,” she said while questioning the university’s purview.

“The university’s mandate is for education and research, and all this other stuff isn’t relevant to that,” Emerson argued. “The residents in this community, we live here. With four more projects planned along this same corridor, there’s no way you’re going to get emergency vehicles through, and that affects every single person that comes to La Jolla. Every decision they make impacts us and our lives and our children’s lives forever.”

Concluded Emerson, “They (university) haven’t started building any of these things so they have the ability now to rethink all of this, their goals for educating students and our lives and our children’s lives forever.”

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New board members for La Jolla Village Merchants Association

By DAVE SCHWAB

At its annual meeting in October, La Jolla Village Merchants elected new board members and announced the closing of new office space.

Newly elected board members include incumbents: Joelyn Cullen, of Lifetime La Jolla Fitness, spa, and café; Gabby Guervara of Blue Apparel retail; Katey Longo of Peter Lik Fine Art Gallery; Robert Mackey of La Jolla Golf Carts; Kelli Metcalf of Granite Label Fine Art Gallery; and Dr. Nevin Ramona Hussion of La Jolla Chiropractic.

Freshly minted board members are Karen Finerman of Empress Hotel, Summer Shoemaker of La Valencia Hotel, and Will Whittle of San Diego Fly Rides.

IJVMA executive director Jodi Rudick announced the business improvement district has found a new office on the first floor of the Crosby Center at 7742 Herschel Ave.

“The paperwork is all signed and we’ll be paying rent in November,” she said. “We’re very excited to be in the heart of the Village where it can be a pick-up spot for publications and information.”

In an update on the Village Maintenance District, MADD board President Ed Witt noted that “26 abandoned news racks filled with trash and used by the homeless for storage” were recently removed.

Added Witt, “We’re also working to change out benches and trash containers. It’s really a big deal as you know the La Jolla Community Foundation is working on a streetscape plan.”

IJVMA will elect board officers at its next meeting on Nov. 11.
LA JOLLA Country Club: Breathtaking views of shore and ocean. Seller may carry 1st Trust Deed at 2% interest only, call for info. 5bd/5full+2half | 6,246 s.f. | $5,500,000

LA JOLLA Lower Hermosa: Rustic Mediterranean Villa 6bd/4.5ba | 4,034 s.f. | $3,950,000 - $4,295,000

LA JOLLA WindanSea: Approved plans for new construction 3bd/3ba | 1,875 s.f. | $1,600,000-$1,750,000

LA JOLLA village: Recently renovated in the heart of LJ Equipped with elevator and solar power 3bd/3.5ba | 2,188 s.f. | $1,295,000

La Jolla Country Club: Infinite Ocean Views to carry you away! 4bd/3.5ba | 4,680 s.f. | $4,798,000

La Jolla Bird Rock: Ocean Front Retreat Where the Ocean is your backyard neighbor! 3bd/2.5ba | 2,076sf total | $3,900,000-$4,295,000

Main unit: 2bd/2.5ba | 2 sep. studios w/1ba | 2,076sf total | $1,798,000

Panoramic Ocean Views and generous decking for outdoor enjoyment LA JOLLA Bird Rock: builder's choice SW corner unit + 2 studios for guests

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LA JOLLA Heights: Big playroom and large pool. 6bd + 1opt/3.5ba | 3,582 s.f. | LP: $1,895,000

Gregg Whitney 858-204-6161 info@BillionairesRowLaJolla.com CalDRE #01005985

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PENDING

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PB Town Council addresses vendors, homeless encampments and bike theft

By DAVE SCHWAB

Pacifc Beach Town Council in October heard from local law enforcement about everything from homeless encampments to bike theft, sidewalk vending and illegal beach fires.

Attendees noted issues with homelessness in the area are ramping up, particularly encampments in Rose Creek and around Rose Creek Cottage, as well as the boardwalk.

“Homelessness is not going to be solved overnight,” responded SDPD Northern Division Lt. Lisa McKeen adding, “The latest count shows homeless is down 12%. The City has purchased a couple of hotels and these hotels are going to be made available within six months. What this is going to allow us (police) to do is get control and solve the situation.”

Curry said, “We’ve been reporting it (encampments, vending) and reporting it. It’s actually gotten to the point where we shouldn’t have to report it. It’s just there. Hats off to law enforcement. Right now we feel like you’re the only ones who might pick up the phone and respond to us. It’s a horrific situation and it’s dangerous.”

Addressing illegal beach fires, Capt. Rich Marcello from Fire Station 21 in Pacific Beach said, “We did a public service announcement. That’s one of the biggest issues we’ve been dealing with since COVID. People have nowhere to go but the beach, so they end up digging holes in the beach, in the sand, and starting all these beach fires.”

But Marcello noted calling the fire department first for response to illegal beach fires serves only to “I’m saying it (encampments, vending) is creating something in the beach, so they end up digging holes in the beach, in the sand, and starting all these illegal beach fires.”

We have the obligation to apprehend criminals. When people dial 911 for a so-called emergency bonfire, we have the obligation to respond. If we don’t have the ability to triage those calls as they come in. So we have put out a PSA asking people to notify PD and have them come out and respond to a call of good press, as well as just educating people on what is legal versus illegal.

Regarding problematic street vending, PBTC president Brian White noted, “The City has really dropped the ball here 100%. Everyone in OB, MB and PB, we’re all pestering the mayor’s office (for enforcement).”

Brian Curry, former PB Planning Group chair, confirmed that law enforcement’s hands need to be untied when dealing with homelessness and problematic street vending.

“The problem here is not policing, but our administration at City Hall, which won’t take control and solve the situation,” Curry said. “We’ve been reporting it (encampments, vending) and reporting it. It’s actually gotten to the point where we shouldn’t have to report it. It’s just there. Hats off to law enforcement. Right now we feel like you’re the only ones who might pick up the phone and respond to us. It’s a horrific situation and it’s dangerous.”

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The Map, a memorial to Walter Munk, unveiled at La Jolla Shores

By DAVE SCHWAB

The Map of the Grand Canyons of La Jolla, a lasting memorial to the late La Jolla oceanographer Walter Munk, was unveiled at the educational plaza at Kellogg Park in La Jolla Shores on Oct. 16.

It is a fitting tribute that the man who discovered the grand canyons off the coast of La Jolla Shores should have an educational plaza honoring him and his 80-year career at Scripps Institution of Oceanography. The Map features a 2,400-square-foot tile mosaic displaying all the various types of sea life in the La Jolla Canyon. It illustrates 121 life-sized species, from a tiny Spanish Shawl to a 31-foot image of J.J., the Orphaned Baby Gray Whale. The Map includes dive sites and features, surf sites, Marine Protected Areas, the bathymetry (depths) of the La Jolla and Scripps Canyons, and many other local points of interest off the coast of La Jolla.

“Thousand of small ceramic tiles create an unparalleled aquatic mosaic that is the largest Lithomosaic in the world,” said Shores boardwalk named for the oceanographer, Coakley Munk concluded. “It cements his legacy and allows it to continue. And because we get so many wonderful tourists from all over the world, we hope that the project will have international, as well as local interest, in educating children of all ages about the ocean.”

Coakley Munk described the potential for other educational projects playing off the map as “pretty much limitless.”

“We want to have citizen science programs and speakers come and tide pool tours working with Birch Aquarium and using the Marine Protected Areas that they use for taking their (scuba) classes down there,” she said. “And hopefully, dive instructors will use it extensively for training their students, helping them understand the relationship of the dive sites relative to the canyons, giving them a visual before they even go out.”

Munk’s distinguished list of accomplishments includes: Being the first person to show why one side of the moon always faces the Earth; pioneering research on the relationship between winds and ocean circulation; investigating irregularities in the Earth’s rotation and their impacts on the planet; description of ocean wave behavior while investigating ocean tides; and furthering the study of global warming via the relation between changes in ocean temperature, sea level, and the transfer of mass between continental ice and the ocean. Munk’s research into tidies helped guide the Allies in selecting where and when to land in Normandy on D-Day.

“Certainly the map is an enduring legacy to Walter Munk, one of the last generation of pioneering oceanographers,” said Coakley Munk. “And it will serve as a virtual field trip for students and educators, and the general public, for years to come.”

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Thank you Jane Wheeler for doing an amazing job, it looks perfect and very Bird Rockian! Come by to check it out and get a free treat (joint support) for your furry family member.

Thanks for supporting local, we appreciate your business!
Sincerely, Your Bird Rock Animal Hospital Family
Starting this weekend, polls open for four days – vote early

By TRACY DEFORE

In a first for a County of San Diego election, the polls for the Nov. 3 Presidential General Election will open for four days, starting this weekend. In light of COVID-19, voters are encouraged to vote from home using their mail ballot. But those who want to vote in person can vote early at their assigned polling place from Saturday, Oct. 31 through Monday, Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Due to the pandemic and a predicted high voter turnout, the Registrar’s office is urging you to avoid long lines and crowded polling places by voting before Election Day itself. There are fewer polling places than in past elections, and the location of your poll has most likely changed so check the back of your sample ballot and voter information pamphlet for your assigned poll before you head out to vote this weekend.

Your assigned poll was also included on the Registrar’s postcard reminder sent to voters last week or you can look it up at sdvote.com. The hours at the polls and the Registrar of Voters office will change to 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3. You should prepare for long lines. To vote in person, be prepared. • Go to your assigned polling place. • Be vote ready. Mark your selections on your sample ballot in advance so when you go inside the voting booth, you can quickly fill in the official ballot. • Wear your face mask and maintain social distance. If you forget your mask, poll workers will give you one.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

Track your ballot every step of the way online

If you are an active registered voter, you can now sign up to track the status of your mail ballot – when the Registrar of Voters gets it back from you in the mail and when it is counted. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, every active registered voter in California received a ballot in the mail for the Nov. 3 Presidential General Election.

The ballot tracking tool is new. Voters can sign up for Where’s My Ballot at sdvote.com to receive automatic email, text, or call notification on the status of their ballot. The Registrar of Voters has launched an awareness campaign, Vote Safer San Diego, to educate the public on the safety, security and ease of voting in the upcoming election amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Those who want to vote in person will still have the opportunity to do so, but they may run into long lines, both at the polls and the Registrar’s office. To learn more about Vote Safer San Diego and voting in the Nov. 3 election, visit sdvote.com or call 858-565-5800.
Fashion Week San Diego featured nine designers

Fashion Week San Diego hit the runway with a live broadcast Runway Show on Oct. 17. This virtual fashion show featured nine designers who presented their 10-piece collections at the LUCE Lofts on Kettner Boulevard. The founder of FWSD, Allison Andrews, and the director of FWSD Gwen Bates, kicked off the festivities and got the show rolling. The emcee for the evening was meteorologist Jodi Kodesh. The guests were able to watch the show in the comfort of their home sipping a cocktail while seeing these never-before-seen collections on the FWSD2020 runway.

Featured designer Bea Cruz PH, from the Philippines, was unable to attend this year due to travel restrictions. Many of the garments were a blend of pineapple fibers and silk. She had to watch the show virtually for her home in the Philippines.

Kelly Leanne Apparel Designs (KLA) specializes in one of a kind upcycled designs. She decided to incorporate parachutes in her collection for a flowing effect on the runway. Label Loves Emvee Bikini presented their line of women’s swimwear on the stage. They use upcycled trim and costume jewelry in their designs, to be a green company.

Scheherazade offered a collection influenced by Renaissance art into fashion.

Reform upcycled wedding gowns to produce a collection with zero waste.

Scheherazade offered a collection influenced by Renaissance art into fashion.

WVSH repurposed collection creates unique pieces from vintage clothing. They are involved with ending racial injustices and thanks to the FWSD Diversity Fund they were able to showcase this collection. Gloria closed the show with her sustainable collection. This finale offered designs that were perfect for a tropical vacation.

Awards were handed out and the first one was the Art & Beauty Behind Fashion. Fashion Week San Diego partnered with Art Renewal Center (ARC) and Sotheby’s to put on a competition. The designers all created a garment inspired by a piece of fine art. The winner was announced and the honor went to Lisa the Shield Maiden with the winning team of designer: Bea Cruz PH, artist: David Bowers and model: Andrea Revilla.

Additional awards were handed out for Top Model. The first place award went to Ashley Strickland, second place award went to Nicole Flanagan, and third place went to Danielle DiLorenzo.

Topping off the event the Top Designer award was presented. The first place award went to Bea Cruz PH, second place award went to VaughnBerry, and the third place went to Kelly Leanne Apparel Designs. Added credit for the show went to Janet Cruz of Gila Rat, Sonia from Upright Citizen, and their talented teams for the stunning hair and makeup.

If you missed this year’s events stay tuned for around the year events at fashionweeksd.com.

Fashion from third place winner Kelly Leanne Apparel Designs (KLA).

Fashion from third place winner Kelly Leanne Apparel Designs (KLA).

A WICKED HALLOWEED STARTS WITH... ONLY TREATS

A WICKED HALLOWEED STARTS WITH... ONLY TREATS

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714/716 San Luis Rey • South Mission

1231 Van Nuys Street • N. Pacific Beach

3893 Ocean Front Walk • N. Mission

4079 Shasta Street • Pacific Beach

4405 Ocean Blvd #43 • Pacific Beach

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4812 Kendall • 4BR, 2 BA • Offered at $1,095,000
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CHECK OUT THE BACK PAGE
for info about our brand new North PB office location and newest listing!
Adapting American social work theory to the Swiss environment

By Natasha Josefowitz, Ph.D.

There are two possible ways of behaving when coming into a new environment if one stands out for some reason — like being the only woman, the only foreigner, or someone with different skills. One can try to blend in and fit oneself into the prevailing culture, which may be difficult or not even possible. The other way is to accept the differences instead of hiding them, flaunt them by being even more of an outlier.

In the 1960s, I was the odd woman out in Switzerland as I was the only person with a master’s degree in clinical social work who was also able to teach the principles of casework (study, diagnosis, treatment). The Swiss social workers had heard of casework and were curious about it. So when I answered an ad for a social worker, I was accepted even though I was not the client they were looking for.

My social work education consisted of a seminar on child guidance. I was part of a group of psychology students who worked with children at home and families, and jobs because all of these things impact their lives and their problems. I would examine these problems with the clients and advise them how to solve them.

I would also take the clients through a therapeutic process. Clients and social workers were partners in diagnosing the problem and finding a solution. This method was accepted cautiously at first, but it was eventually endorsed by the child guidance clinic.

By this time my daughter had graduated from high school and left for college in the U.S. With my sister gone, my son decided to board at school. No children at home and a husband who traveled extensively, I seized the opportunity to increase my training and teaching skills.

I met the well-known psychoanalyst Dr. René Spitz in Geneva. We became friends. He invited me to be part of his seminars for psychiatrists and psychologists; and so I took the evening train to Geneva to attend his weekly sessions. It was a wonderful opportunity to be a part of this group to hear them discuss their cases.

My consulting work was also taking off. I worked with a variety of organizations, such as the staff of a home for delinquent youth, another dealing with the developmentally disabled, and a group of Protestant ministers. I spent two full afternoons a month for a year with the juvenile court judges of French-speaking Switzerland and the city administrators of the Canton de Vaud. I also taught supervision for superintendents in training at the Geneva School of Social Work from 1972 to 1974. In addition, I taught interviewing techniques to fourth-year psychology students at the Applied Psychology Institute of the University of Lausanne.

This was my life in Switzerland…until an unforeseen encounter upended my life.

Natasha Josefowitz is the author of 21 books. She currently resides at White Sands Retirement Community in La Jolla. Copyright © 2020. Natasha Josefowitz. All rights reserved.
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