San Diego Community Newspaper Group

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017

Condo proposal at Kellogg’s Beach stirs opposition

By DAVE SCHWAB | The Beacon

A proposed condo conversion on Point Loma’s Kellogg’s Beach has led to opposition and creation of a Facebook page listing subterranean parking, a seawall and the possible blocking of public access and bay views as major concerns.

Described by some as Point Loma’s “hidden beach,” Kellogg’s, also known as Mother’s, is located behind Shelter Island in the La Playa area. It is a family beach and popular area for boat watching.

The condo-conversion project, which fronts on 405 San Antonio Ave., was an information item at Peninsula Community Planning Board’s Jan. 19 meeting. Project architect Mike Morton gave a 15-minute presentation.

Morton described the project site as being in a medium-density area surrounded by large, multi-family units and five single-family homes along the beachfront at the

Its size and scale is “out of character” with the surrounding neighborhood.

HOWARD HAIMSOHN
NEIGHBORHOOD SPOKESMAN

Opening Day for PYSA

Peninsula Youth Softball Association held its Opening Day at Robb Field in Ocean Beach Saturday, Feb. 11. The event started with a color guard presentation, the national anthem, and then teams in their colorful uniforms took turns running around the bases with their coaches. The first pitch was thrown out at 9:15 a.m. The league, which has 251 players from the local communities, was founded in 1966.

PHOTO BY KAREN AUSTIN

Fire causes major damage to home near Sunset Cliffs

By SCOTT HOPKINS | The Beacon

A Sunset Cliffs-area home sustained heavy damage in a fire last Friday morning.

Fortunately, two roommates were able to escape unharmed after they heard a smoke alarm sound. A cat also escaped unharmed. The homeowner returned from work when he was informed of the situation.

The two-story home at 1224 Devonshire Drive was uninhabitable after the blaze left most of the interior either charred or covered in soot, according to Mónica Muñoz, spokeswoman for San Diego Fire Department.

Muñoz said damage to the home was estimated at $350,000.

Firefighters first on the scene noticed heavy black smoke rising from the home and that an attached garage was also in flames, Muñoz said. Investigators determined the fire was accidental, sparked by an electrical issue.

Firefighters controlled the fire after 20 minutes.

PHOTO BY SCOTT HOPKINS

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Condo, Page 18

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Point Loma walking group celebrates 40th anniversary

Dr. CYNTHIA ROBERTSON | The Beacon

Currently headquartered at Liberty Station in Point Loma, Walkabout International is a walking group like no other. Started by a few folks who posted an ad in the Reader on St. Patrick’s Day in 1977, the group is celebrating its 40th anniversary.

Its members have participated in more than 25,000 walks covering more than 2 million miles—the equivalent of walking around the equator 80 times.

“Forty years is actually two generations,” said 2nd vice president Dan Haslam.

“Our walkers in 1977 when we started were working people, who had free time in the evenings and weekends after their working hours. Now, most of our walkers are retired and can go on day trips on weekdays. Our oldest walk leader is 97 years old,” Haslam said.

Ahead of its time, Walkabout International started a walking fitness craze. All that walking and talking together also forged friendships lasting decades. They explored neighborhoods new to them and discovered things they hadn’t even known existed in their own neighborhoods.

The organization also offers trips to United States destinations, from California to Maine. Walkers go international on customized, behind-the-scenes walking tours to Switzerland, France, and Japan as well as Mexico and Canada.

Long-time member Stan Follis, former president and vice president of Walkabout International, began walking in 1980. That is how he met his late second wife.

“Downtown Sam,” who could outpace many of his younger walking companions. His walking ability was prodigious. Another longtime member, Teri Egenberger, who moved to San Diego in 1987, went on her first jaunt with Walkabout. Since those early days, Egenberger has lead a few of her own walks. Presently, she co-leads a Tuesday evening walk. During the cooler winter months, they hike the hills of Bay Park, often rewarded with gorgeous views of the bay below. In the summer, they take the walk down to Mission Bay to enjoy the cooler air by the water.

Some special walks and events are planned in the next couple of months to celebrate Walkabout International’s 40th anniversary, including a lunch and tour of some Walkabout members’ favorite stops on Feb. 25.

Starting at the Dance Place building in Liberty Station, which houses the Walkabout office, walkers will be taken on a bus tour all over San Diego with stops at former Walkabout offices, favorite walking sites and important places in Walkabout’s history. On that day, long-time walk leaders will be celebrated, such as the beloved late Cindy’s late husband, Kevin Bennett, who could outpace many of his younger walking companions.

Other 40th-anniversary events include an open house at the Walkabout office on March 4, a tea on March 13, and a home and garden tour on April 1.

For more information, go to www.walkabout-int.org or call 619-231-7463.
Thank you to my wonderful clients & the community of OB for voting me 2016 Customer Service Business of the Year. It is a pleasure to serve you!

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Portuguese-themed park coming to Cañon Street in Point Loma

This will be a passive, serene pocket park without ballfields, a huge parking lot, restrooms or concrete everywhere. - JON LINNEY PENINSULA PLANNING BOARD CHAIR

Plants are forging ahead for a new pocket park on Cañon Street in Point Loma’s Roseville neighborhood, as the city’s selected an architect/consultant for the project, meaning public workshops could happen to help the city’s selected an architect/consultant for the project, meaning public workshops could happen to help.

Established in 1970, KTUA Planning and Landscape Architecture has been selected for environmental, technical and design work for the new pocket park in Point Loma.

Two members of the Peninsula Community Planning Board, chair Jon Linney and Don Sevrens, have campaigned for the new pocket park’s creation, on their own behalf.

Avoid losing thousands when selling your home

SAN DIEGO. A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowers make when selling their home.

As this report uncovers, most homeowners make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thou- sands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

To order a FREE special report, call toll-free 800-276-0763 and enter 1000. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to find out how you can get the most money for your home.

In front of the San Diego Police Department headquarters, Mayor Kevin L. Faulcone, Police Chief Shel- ley Zimmerman and Councilmember and Public Safety Committee chair Chris Cate discussed how the depart- ment’s community-focused approach has contributed to San Diego’s vio- lent crime rate decrease of 4.5 percent. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

Overall crime in San Diego decreased by 2.3 percent in 2016 from 2015, with violent crime decreasing 4.5 percent. While simi- larly-sized cities such as Phoenix, San Antonio, Dallas and Los Angeles each have higher violent crime rates, only about four out of 1,000 residents are victims of violent crimes in San Diego.

“Keeping San Diego one of the safest big cities in the United States doesn’t happen by accident. It is accomplished by the hard work and bravery of our police officers, profes- sional civilian staff, volunteers, law enforcement partners and our community members who collaborate with us every day to reduce crime and improve our collective quality of life,” said Zimmerman.

San Diego police embrace a com- munity policing philosophy that results in thousands of outreach activities each year that include ride- alongs, attending community meet- ings and participating in neighbor- hood events.

“Just the beginning. There is still work to be done and our commit- ment as the chair of Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee will be to work very closely with the neighborhood safety,” Cate said.

Additionally, over the last several years, at the direction of Faulcone with support of the City Council, SDPD has equipped all officers in the field with body-worn cameras that have led to a 16 percent decrease in citizen complaints and allegations since 2015.

**CORRECTION**

In the Feb. 2 edition of the Peninsula Beacon, the story titled “Apple Tree makes a comeback in Ocean Beach” refers to the business as “Ocean Beach’s only full-time grocery store until the business lost its lease.” That statement is incorrect.

Since 1972, Ocean Beach Peo- ple’s Organic Food Market, cur- rently at Voltaire Street, has been a thriving full-time grocery store operating in Ocean Beach.
Campaign under way to rename OB park

By MANNY LOPEZ | THE BEACON

A campaign led by the Ocean Beach Community Development Corporation seeks support to build a children’s playground and adult fitness station on the grassy area of Ocean Beach Park, and rename that part in honor of noted historian, teacher and volunteer Ruth Varney Held.

Located at the west end of Saratoga Avenue, adjacent to the lifeguard station parking lot, the area known as Saratoga Park is the largest public park in the community.

“Unlike many of the other San Diego beach communities, Ocean Beach doesn’t have a place at the beach for little children to play,” said Tom Perotti, president of the OBCDC. “People have children and grandchildren and we need a safe place for them to congregate on the beach and experience the joy.”

Perotti said that a children’s park and adult fitness area station would enhance the quality of life for OB residents and attract more families and tourists to the area – a benefit for the entire community.

He added that the project has the support of several local community groups, including the OB Community Foundation, OB Lifeguards and Firefighters, Ocean Beach MainStreet Association, the planning board and Ocean Beach Town Council.

Currently, the OBCDC is raising funds to pay for site survey, design and permitting costs associated with constructing the children’s play area and adult fitness area on the site of Ocean Beach Park.

According to Jane Gawronski, co-chairperson on the OBCDC committee formed to establish the children’s park, and inviting an invite for children and families to enjoy Ocean Beach,” said District 2 Councilmember Lorie Zapf.

In December, Zapf presented a Community Projects, Programs and Services (CPPS) funding grant of $2,500 for the endeavor.

“In a coastal environment like the one we have, we need a place for children to play,” said former District 2 Councilman Byron Wear. “It’s not going to take up the entire park, and there will be plenty of green space and room for passive parking.”

According to Gawronski, Wear was among the earliest supporters to push for a children’s park named after Held.

Pat James, vice president of the Ocean Beach Historical Society, called Held a revered educator, historian and citizen of the Peninsula who should be honored for her many contributions to the community.

A brilliant idea – Ruth Varney Held documented the history of Ocean Beach. She was admired as an educator and citizen of the community. Ruth and her book were an important foundation for those of us who were at the first meeting to form the OBHS in 1994,” James said.

Credited with being the founder of the OBHS, Held was well known as the author of “Beach Town: Early Days in Ocean Beach, To 1930.” First published in 1975, the book became a popular resource about the history of Ocean Beach.

According to various sources, Held’s family moved to OB from Montana in 1912 when she was 6 years old. She attended Ocean Beach Elementary School, graduated from Point Loma High School and received a teaching degree from State College, which is now San Diego State University. She then taught typing at Point Loma High School for 30 years and called OB home for 84 years until her death.

“Grandparents and parents love to experience watching kids do activities on swings, or any sort of children’s play area. They exude joy and that permeates into everything. Children will feel safe. It’s going to be a fabulous place,” Gawronski said.

More information on the Ocean Beach Community Development Corporation can be found at www.obcdc.org or by calling 619-787-1073.

Blanche Elizabeth Hedges Welch
February 23, 1938 — January 26, 2017

Blanche Elizabeth Hedges Welch died on January 26, 2017, after a hard-fought battle with leukemia, at her home in Point Loma, a community that she loved and that loved her back. She was born on February 23, 1938 in Santa Barbara, CA, to Elizabeth (Yelonek) and Ralph Hedges. She spent her childhood in Long Beach where she had many fond memories, including family visits to Knott’s Berry Farm when it was still an actual berry farm. Years later, she enjoyed taking her children and grandchildren to Knott’s for its famous fried chicken and boysenberry pie.

Her family moved to Phoenix at the start of her high school years in 1951. After graduating from West High in 1955, Blanche enrolled at the University of Arizona in Tucson and earned a BS in Business Administration (Marketing) in 1959. In college, she was very active in Delta Gamma, including serving as house manager. After college, true to her California roots, she high-tailed it back to the Golden State and worked as a retail buyer. She met Chicagoan Michael Welch on a blind date and married him in 1962. Subsequently, the newlyweds moved to San Francisco where she worked for Camp Fire Girls and taught her Midwestern husband how to surf. In 1965, she moved to San Diego and settled in Point Loma, where she raised four daughters.

Throughout her entire life, Blanche believed in community service, volunteering for PTA at her daughters’ schools, United Cerebral Palsy Association, Junior League, MAKUA, and MADCAP. After her marriage ended, Blanche began working in sales for Oakwood Corporate Housing. She focused exclusively on temporary housing for the military and government sectors, covering San Diego County and Hawaii, while consistently setting sales records for the company. During this time, she also hosted international exchange students in her home and loved getting to know them. She retired in 2011, after a very successful 27-year career. In retirement, Blanche continued her community involvement. She was a member of the Point Loma Garden Club, including serving as Co-President from 2015 until her passing. She was also active in the Point Loma Association, participating in its landscape-improvement Mean Green Team every week to help beautify areas of Point Loma. She enjoyed being part of the University of Arizona San Diego Alumni chapter and attended many of her high school and college reunions as a way to stay connected with her large network of Arizona friends.

Blanche was athletic and enjoyed participating in a multitude of sports throughout her life, including body surfing, swimming, tennis, cross-country skiing, soccer, yoga, and walking. At the height of her athletic prowess, she played on an all-women’s soccer team, San’s Cheesecakes, which was rewarded with fresh cheesecake after each win, much to the delight of her family. She also occasionally entered local body surfing competitions, once walking away with a prize voucher for a large pizza. She also loved watching sports, particularly the Chargers, Padres and Arizona Wildcats, but most avidly her grandchildren’s soccer, lacrosse, and tennis matches.

Blanche loved family celebrations and holidays, and summers were filled with trips to the beach almost daily. She had an extensive group of friends with whom she shared meals, Book Club, and outings to plays, movies, and other cultural events. She traveled throughout the US (with Hawaii being her favorite vacation spot), as well as to Mexico, Canada, Japan, Hong Kong, and many European countries. She did these as she did all things: gracefully and with laughter.

Blanche is survived by her four daughters: Catherine (Philip) Dinnan of Gadfort, CT; Nancy (Gary) Peritz of San Diego, CA; Sarah (Gabriel) Cifarelli of Los Angeles, CA; and Elizabeth (John) Held of Sycamore, IL. Her eight grandchildren include Kate, Claire, William, Diana, Lucy and Zoe Peritz; Louis Cifarelli and Adrienne and Christopher Abes. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Cecilia Hedges, and multiple cousins, nieces and nephews. Blanche was predeceased by her sister, Shirley Resek, and brother, Howard Hedges.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Monday, February 20, 2017 at 11 AM at the North Chapel at Liberty Station, followed by a lunch reception at the McMillen Event Center. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to one of the following charities: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Association (LLS) via the link http://events.lls.org/pages/63d/4207/2017/1?report or mailed to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 9150 Chesapeake Dr, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123. Memo: Zoe Peritz; The Point Loma Garden Club, PLGC, PO BOX 6382, San Diego, CA 92166; The Point Loma Association, PO Box 60212, San Diego, CA 92166; or a charity supporting education, cancer research, or the arts.
A Point Loma High School senior has received a nomination to the Air Force Academy.

Dan Berry, son of Mark and Carleen Berry of Point Loma, was presented with his nomination by 52nd District U.S. Rep. Scott Peters in a ceremony held at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot museum.

Berry hopes to enter the prestigious service academy with a major in bio chemistry.

Attaining the rank of Eagle Scout was one of Berry’s accomplishments.

On the PLHS campus, Berry has been active in many diverse activities including being selected for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, a summer camp for incoming high school seniors to teach character building and leadership skills.

Berry is an Aaron Price Fellows Program scholar at PLHS, a three-year program that includes up-close and personal behind-the-scenes looks at government, business, non-profit and cultural institutions.

He has also displayed his dance skills at annual MadChaps shows, is a pitcher on the PLHS varsity baseball team and a member of the Pointer chapter of the National Comedy Theater improv group.
With the spring prep sports season looming on the horizon, one of the most beloved events in Point Loma High sports year will take place for the 19th consecutive season. The baseball team’s Alumni Game is set for Sunday, Feb. 26 at the Pointers’ immaculate David Wells Field complex on the grounds of Dana Middle School.

But starting last year, the game serves as the finale for a day-long celebration of Pointer baseball, including socializing, eating and opportunities among Pointer baseball’s current and past players along with community members with a love of the sport.

Gates open at 9 a.m. when an array of baseball items, memorabilia and gift items will be on display in both a silent auction and raffle. Last year’s items included autographed baseball items, many from the personal collection of Pointer head coach David Wells. Raffle items included a 50-inch high definition TV set donated by assistant coach Dave Camara.

Food items available will take up several grills, offering burgers, hot dogs and tacos.

At 10 a.m. a Home Run Derby begins, open to Pointer alums and perhaps a current player or two. Last year’s winner was alum Campbell Wear, now playing professionally in the Colorado Rockies organization. But putting on an event of this magnitude requires current team boosters to reach out to the Point Loma community for donations of raffle and silent auction items.

Raffle prizes of $25-$50 value are being sought from local businesses and groups. They could include gift certificates or cards for restaurants or popular stores and services. Silent auction items should be of $100 or higher value. Popular items have been as varied as restaurant dinners, fishing trips, personal services and use of cabins or vacation homes.

Business owners or others with donations should contact boosters at pointersbaseball@yahoo.com.

In last year’s Alumni Game, the Alumni scored five runs in a dramatic ninth-inning rally to tie the game at 6-6 before pushing across a 10th-inning run for a come-from-behind 7-6 victory.

Pointers teams looking for success in playoffs

Several PLHS sports teams are having seasons that should lead to playoff success.

Boys soccer

The Pointers stand at 9-6-3 overall and 2-2-3, good for third place in the Western League. However, in the CIF’s top Open Division, where the defending CIF Div. II champion Pointers find themselves this season, they rank No. 13 of 20 teams. The top eight become the Open Division playoff teams, leaving the Pointers as the No. 5 seed of the remaining Division 1 teams.

Seniors Adrian Marmol (7 goals, 2 assists) and Robert Vargas (5 goals) lead the team in scoring.

Girls soccer

The Pointers are 8-4-3 overall (1-1-2 in Western League) under first-year head coach Jose Garcia Jr. This puts them in second place behind undefeated Cathedral Catholic in league and ninth among CIF Div. I teams. This could leave them as the No. 1 seed in Div. I if current numbers remain unchanged.

Boys basketball

First-year head coach Josh Aros has guided his team to a 15-7 overall record (6-4, fourth place in Central League). The Pointers are currently the No. 4 seed in CIF Div. III rankings.

Freshman Yassine Gharram (16.2), senior D. Johnson (12.5) and junior K. Johnson (10.9) lead the team in per-game scoring.
OB Town Council Community Corner: The value of a cleaner Ocean Beach

It’s a group for everyone. And every-one, from the 99-year-old to the baby (and even the dogs), are invit-ed.

“It’s for adults who still want to play. There are two rules: (you) have to be kind and you have to work your butt out,” Graham explained. Voychick seconds Graham’s thoughts. “I would tell people not to feel nervous and to trust me—if they regret coming, I will buy them breakfast.” Plus, she added that the group “has been the most positive influence in my life and my family’s life.”

In fact, it seems no one can say enough about the life-changing results found in the November Project. Everyone can just show up. It’s that simple. Arrive and be ready to go at 6:29 a.m. and plan to leave at 7:29 a.m.

The group meets every Wednesday at Balboa Park at the Bea Evenson Fountain and on Mondays for the rest of August they’ll be meeting at Tourmaline Surfing Park in North Pacific Beach. The group changes their Monday locations every month (in February, Monday meetings will be at Hill Street near Sunset Cliffs), however Wednesdays are always in Balboa Park.

Voychick is a trooper and Graham knows it. “The success of the November Project has to do with the leaders... look at Aslleigh... she’s a powerhouse person and no matter where she is, people gravitate to her.”

Voychick has been with the San Diego tribe since its inception in September 2011. The tribe was among the first seven groups to attend the next Town Council meeting 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22 at the Masonic Hall at 1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd. and we hope you will attend to learn more and get involved with respecting OB and taking care of our community.

The object and purpose of the Ocean Beach Town Council is to express the will and represent the welfare of the community of Ocean Beach by providing a forum for the discussion of community issues, communicating the views and needs of the community to the appropriate agencies, and promoting the general betterment and beautification of OB.

The OB Town Council hosts public meetings on the fourth Wednesday every month except November and December. Regular speakers include local leaders, political, business and law enforcement representatives, as well as members from all corners of the Ocean Beach community. Whether you’re a long-time OBcean or just want to learn more about OB, all are welcome. Meetings are located at the Masonic Center, 1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.

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22 Annual Writer’s Symposium By The Sea

February 21 - 23, 2017 - On the campus of Point Loma Nazarene University

General Seating: $10.00 / Current Students: $5.00

All Events are at 7:00 pm in Crill Hall in the Cooper Music Center

Robert Pinsky

Feb. 21 - U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky doing an evening of poetry and jazz with the university jazz band. He has several volumes of poetry.

Shauna Niequist


Tracy Kidder

Feb. 23 - Pulitzer winner Tracy Kidder in an interview with Dean Nelson. His new book A Truck Full of Money is about Kayak founder Paul English. Other Kidder books include Mountains Beyond Mountains (about humanitarian Paul Farmer), House, The Soul of a New Machine, and Strength in What Remains.

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Point Loma Summer Concerts

Point Loma Summer Concerts is holding auditions for:

• Singing a patriotic song
• Playing on the Junior Stage*
• Junior Stage emcee*
• *high school age and under

Auditions will be held on Saturday, March 18, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. at the Pt. Loma Assembly Hall, 3035 Talbot St. Participants must work, live, or attend school in Pt. Loma.

Bands: A sound system and drum set will be provided at the audition; all applicants: the cut-off date for applying is March 4, 2017. Apply online at www.plconcerts.org. You will be contacted with more details by Junior Stage Manager, Clint Bruce.

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Call for Sponsors!

For 17 years, fun, free Friday night concerts have become a beloved Point Loma tradition. Help keep the tradition alive by becoming a sponsor!

A variety of sponsorships are available. Check out www.plconcerts.org to see the sponsorship levels and sponsorship form.

Point Loma Summer Concerts is a California Registered 501(c)(3).
Blushing burro

Last year, Ocean Beach Elementary School’s principal Marco Drapeau kissed a pig after the students raised more than $14,500 at their annual jogathon. This year, the student’s jogathon raised more than $18,000, which led to Drapeau kissing a donkey on the mouth on Friday, Feb. 10.

BayView Senior Assisted Living

BayView Senior Assisted Living is now joined by HarborView Senior Assisted Living. Situated atop Banker’s Hill, overlooking San Diego Bay, HarborView is old world charm meets modern amenities. Backed by a professional, dedicated and well-trained staff, HarborView Senior Assisted Living specializes in caring for residents suffering from Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia.

BayView Senior Assisted Living’s acquisition of Harbor View Chateau created the premier boutique senior assisted living offering in San Diego. Instead of 17 beds there are now 47 beds to choose from, with varying angles of the incredible views of San Diego, owned by a local San Diego family, dedicated to offering the best care for elderly in San Diego. The owners are not only on site, but their motivation stems from having loved ones of their own suffering from dementia. Their commitment to providing a new approach to housing and caring for elderly in need of loving care is evident in the relationships formed in the process.

If interested in BayView or HarborView Assisted Living Communities, we would love the opportunity to discuss how we may be able to best meet your needs, as well as answer any questions you have. We also invite you to visit for a personal tour of our residences.

Please contact us at 619-233-8382 to arrange a tour today.

WRITER’S SYMPOSIUM BY THE SEA AT PLNU

PLNU will present the 22nd annual Writer’s Symposium by the Sea from Feb. 21 to 23 at 3900 Lomaland Drive. All events are held in Crill Hall in the Cooper Music Building. General admission tickets are $10 and $5 for students.

Writers to appear:

- Robert Pinsky, 7 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 21. U.S. Poet Laureate, performing with the PLNU Jazz Band for a night of poetry and jazz. Pinsky has written 19 books, mostly of poetry, including “Gulf Music,” “At the Foundling Hospital,” “Jersey Rain,” “Poetry and the World.”
- Shauna Niequist, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 22. Niequist’s new release is “Present Over Perfect: Leaving Behind Frantic For A Simpler, More Soulful Way Of Living.” Other books include “Bread & Wine,” “Bittersweet,” “Cold Tangerines,” and “Savor.”
- Tracy Kidder, 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 23. Kidder won the Pulitzer Prize for his book “The Soul of a New Machine.” His newest release is “A Truck Full of Money.” Other books include “Mountains Beyond Mountains,” “House,” “Strength in What Remains,” and many others.

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Ocean Beach MainStreet Association held their Awards Celebration and Annual Meeting on January 26th to recognize local businesses. OB Brewery received an award by the Design Committee for “Turning a vacant building into a hip local Brewery with amazing views”. Owner Mike Tajran and Manager Scott Watkins proudly display their award. Also pictured (below) are all the winners picked by the design committee.
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Hurry! Deadline April 15th!
Three new hotels in the works at Liberty Station

By DAVE SCHWAB | THE BEACON

Liberty Station is getting a trio of new hotels.

The three new hotels include the 181-room Hampton Inn & Suites, the 247-room Embassy Suites and the 222-room Towne Place Suites.

They are going in on the former site of the recruit barracks along Harbor Drive, most recently where Wally Park was. They will share a common entrance off Harbor Drive. Construction is set to begin in spring and is estimated to finish in 18 months.

Featured at the main arrival court of the hotel trio will be a large-scale boat fountain, evocative of San Diego experience: coastal waters, cool ocean breezes, palm trees sway-ing in the wind, our world-famous tropical climate.

Embassy Suites, with a military-heritage theme, will target the smart and savvy traveler. Towne Place is a Marriott extended-stay hotel: a home-away-from-home with a Nautical influence and nautical aesthetic with NTC references.

According to KTUA landscape architect Chris Langdon, “Travelers will be welcomed to enjoy the San Diego experience: coastal waters, cool ocean breezes, palm trees swaying in the wind, our world-famous perfect weather, and the crisp, clean smell of saltwater, while discovering the plentiful amenities available to all in the area.”

Degen & Degen architecture and interior design of Seattle and KTUA worked together to knit the three hotels into a common environment, with the goal of creating a stunning San Diego experience for guests, and yet satisfy all environmental, public-access, and public-amenity goals per the California Coastal Commission.

“The site includes a pad restaurant and is estimated to finish in 18 months. Features at the main arrival court of the hotel trio will be a large-scale boat fountain, evocative of San Diego experience: coastal waters, cool ocean breezes, palm trees swaying in the wind, our world-famous perfect weather, and the crisp, clean smell of saltwater, while discovering the plentiful amenities available to all in the area.”

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These are visually connected to the outdoors, where the landscaping is carefully orchestrated to maximize their experience.

Project manager and architect Chris Miller at Degen & Degen explained, “With us being in Seat-tle, we relied heavily on Web meet-ings for the bulk of the coordina-tion, but during the design concept we had multiple, in-person char-rettes at both locations to get every-one’s visions on paper.”

KTUA’s Carlson said, “We designed a landscape that provides the carefree, laid-back experience that visitors anticipate when visit-ing San Diego. Tying into the story of the former Naval Training Cen-ter, now known as Liberty Station, the landscape uses materials, colors and themes expressing the nautical aspects of the area, as well as the U.S. Navy heritage.”

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The hotels will each serve different traveler needs, from short business stays to extended family vacations. The site includes a pad restaurant and a public, accessible esplanade along the boat channel edge.

Hampton Inn & Suites targets the "Road Warrior" visitor in an atmos-phere that’s aviation-inspired.

Landing Park along Harbor Drive.

An artist’s rendering of the hotels planned for Liberty Station, which may be completed in 18 months.

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Landing Park along Harbor Drive.
Enter the Blue Sky to play the OB Farmers Market

San Diego has many wonderful places to hear live music, but there’s nothing like the Ocean Beach Farmers Market. Located at the intersection of Newport and Bacon avenues, a block from the beach, performers play in the open, on the street, practically face-to-face with the passing customers.

Booked by Michael Head, the event is known for its diverse musical performances, with rock, folk, Americana, blues, reggae and even kids bands, well represented. It’s become a coveted gig, both for established acts who want to try out new material, and for up-and-coming talent looking to expand their audiences. Such is the case with San Diego-based Americana quartet, Enter the Blue Sky.

Currently promoting their recent album, “Re-Entry,” the group, led by singer-songwriter Sande Lollis and featuring Karen Childress-Evans (viola, backing vocals), Alberto Gonzalez, (upright bass) and John Sweeter (harmonica) is performing at the OB Farmers Market on March 1.

For Lollis, Enter the Blue Sky is the culmination of a life in music, inspired by her family. Although her father did not know how to play guitar himself, “dad had an old beater guitar in his closet that I used to sneak and play,” she recalled. “He eventually found out about it and gave it to me, along with a series of six guitar lessons for my 13th birthday.” Both parents sang in the church choir and listened to a lot of different kinds of music, so singing was just part of her life. “You know, singing while doing the dishes, just singing all the time. I’ve realized over time that I play guitar mostly to accompany myself. My true love and true instrument is my voice,” she said.

Although now a seasoned veteran of the local music scene, her first foray into live performance was less than confident. “I was 16 and shaking scared, my fingers felt like stones,” she recalled of a talent competition held at Belmont Park in Mission Beach. “They were running all kinds of programs to try and drum up more funding to keep it open, it was a contest and the winner was chosen by applause.”

She played a solo version of the Temptations classic “Just My Imagination” and an original. “Some local band played ‘Hollywood Swinging’ by Kool and the Gang and won first, and then a pair of twins did magic and won second place. That was that, the crowd had applauded and enjoyed it, but I didn’t win a thing, still, I was hooked,” she said. “My dad saw my hand shaking from the audience when I plugged in my Fedmart-bought electric guitar, but I denied it,” she laughed.

Lollis is the band’s sole songwriter. Though she’s influenced by the likes of Annie Lennox, she notes that unlike some performers whose shows are as much story telling as concert, this band’s focus is solely on the music.

READ MORE ONLINE AT sdnews.com

The Point Loma Rotary Club & Cabrillo National Monument Foundation PRESENTS:

The 15th Annual
Comedy Cavalcade

WITH:
Lisa Gilbert, Rachel McDowell, Kevin Johnson

AND OUR OWN TONY CALABRESE AS HOST & EMCEE.

An evening of comedy to benefit community and international Rotary projects and the Cabrillo National Monument Outreach Vehicle for Science Education.

Friday, March 10th 2017
Doors open 7pm, Showtime 8pm
$25 DONATION

Enter the Blue Sky

When: 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 1
Where: Ocean Beach Farmers Market, Newport and Bacon avenues.

OB Art Thing, the first in a planned monthly series celebrating the arts, kicks off in Ocean Beach on Thursday, Feb. 16.

A free self-guided, family friendly walking tour of shops, galleries, and businesses, the event will be held on the third Thursday of each month from 5 to 9 p.m.

The monthly walking tour will showcase a variety of local arts including paintings, photography, ceramics and sculpture, as well as music and performances.

“OB is fortunate to have so many venues that support local artists, so it makes sense to have an art walk every month,” said Catt Catterton, event organizer and owner of Art-Box, an art store and gallery in OB that also offers classes.

To learn more about OBMA and Ocean Beach visit www.OceanBeachSanDiego.com.
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ONCE it’s GONE...it’s GONE!!!

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Feb 17th
11 - 6

SAT
Feb 18th
11 - 4

SUN
Feb 19th
11 - 4

MEGA STOCK LIQUIDATION EVENT

THIS WEEKEND

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COATS.........$5-$35
PANTS.........$5-$35
VESTS.............$5
SHIRTS.........$3-10
SHOES.........$10
ACCESSORIES.....$.5

365 Bird Rock Avenue • La Jolla • CA • 92037
Ocean Beach Historical Society program

The Maritime Museum of San Diego’s tall ship Californian, the official tall ship of California, will be participating in the 29th annual America’s Schooner Cup Charity Regatta on San Diego Bay Saturday, April 1. Tickets are limited and available to sail in the race on the Californian or as a spectator aboard the 1542 Spanish galleon San Salvador, a replica of the first European vessel to visit the Pacific West Coast. Tickets on the Californian or San Salvador for this special event are $65 for adults and $48 for children and include general admission. Tickets can be purchased online at www.sdmaritime.org or by calling 619-234-9153 ext. 106.

Easter Sunrise Service

Easter is April 16 this year and the gates to Cabrillo National Monument will open at 6 a.m. with the non-denominational service beginning at 6:30 a.m. There is seating for approximately 700 attendees and the public is encouraged to arrive early. The Kiwanis Club of Point Loma will again present an ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service at the Cabrillo National Monument. The services will be held in the lower parking lot, giving those who attend a great early morning panoramic view of San Diego Harbor.

Nimitz Boulevard median art selection

The Point Loma Association’s next project is a piece of public art to be placed on the Nimitz Boulevard median, just south of West Point Loma Boulevard. Several well-known artists have submitted proposals. Now, you can help make the selection. See the possibilities and cast your vote at one of these public presentations:

- Thursday, March 2, at 7 p.m., in the Family Life Center at Point Loma Community Presbyterian Church, 2128 Chatsworth Blvd.
- Tuesday, March 28, at 7 p.m., in the Dick Laub NTC Command Center at 2640 Historic Decatur Road at Liberty Station. For more information, visit pointloma.org.

Westminster’s theater’s spring production

Westminster Presbyterian Church’s Vanguard Theatre Ministry has announced its spring production “Who Am I This Time?” (And Other Conundrums of Love), by Aaron Posner, which is an adaptation of three early comic masterpieces by Kurt Vonnegut. Take a walk through simple, mythical small-town America and catch a glimpse of humankind’s most elusive, complicated and basic sentiment. Real folks. Real love. Real fun.

Shows will be March 24, 25, 26, 31 and April 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at www.facebook.com/vanguardtheatre and www.vanguardarts.org. For group sales and other information, call the Box Office at 619-224-6263. Westminster Theatre is located at 3598 Talbot St.

America’s Schooner Cup Charity Regatta
Girl Scout softball project
Kate Austin, 14, who started playing in the Peninsula Youth Softball Association nine years ago, threw out the first pitch of the PYSA season at Robb Field on Saturday, Feb. 11. She received that honor because of her Girl Scout Silver Project – installing 16 bat holders for PYSA. She met with Whitney Wilkinson, a PYSA board member and head coach at High Tech High, and with his guidance, built and installed the bat holders. Austin currently plays on the PYSA travel team Fearless. (Above) Austin installs one of the bat holders.

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Fresh, new OB logo wins T-shirt design contest

The winning design for the James Gang Company’s recent Ocean Beach T-shirt design contest was created by Luke Brogotti, with a stylish re-imagining of the beach community’s trademark seagull logo. “I made this design for my love of Ocean Beach,” said Brogotti. “To me, it’s the best town in the country.”

The OB-themed T-shirt design contest was sponsored by the James Gang Company, which was originally founded in 1976 on Newport Avenue. The company was begun by the five James’ brothers – Ron, Rich, Greg, Mike and Pat – hence the “gang.” James Gang serves all of San Diego’s screen printing and paper printing needs. But its custom T-shirt designs have been greatly inspired by Ocean Beach’s unique retro style and local attractions such as the fishing pier and dog beach.

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Kilowatt Brewing opens in OB

Kearny Mesa brewery Kilowatt Brewing has brought its colorful, black-lit tasting room style to a satellite tasting room in Ocean Beach. Kilowatt joins a suddenly surging OB beer scene, which in the past few years has seen its Pizza Port brewpub joined by OB Brewery, plus tasting rooms for Mike Hess, Helm’s Brewing, Culture Brewing, and Belching Beaver.

The Kilowatt tasting room has taken over a 60-year-old former motorcycle shop at 1875 Cable St. just off Newport and around the corner from Pacific Shores, the 75-year old cocktail bar famous for its black-lit ocean-themed artwork. “OB is a one-of-a-kind community and it’s currently going through changes and being gentrified,” said Rachel Fischer, Kilowatt chief operating officer and co-founder. “We’re remodeling and modernizing the space; however, we’re keeping most of the original architecture in place... We want to keep the original vintage OB look and feel.”

Kilowatt shares an affinity for such fluorescent art, so a portion of its 1,000-square-foot lounge will feature black-light art installations, either curated by The Ancient Gallery artist collective or created by Kilowatt CEO Steve Koryk. To add extra dimension to the artwork, 3D glasses will be available.

Kilowatt’s tasting room is designed to be both kid- and dog-friendly, which Fischer views as consistent with the character of the neighborhood.


**Notice** is hereby given that Umpqua Bank, 445 SE Main Street, Roseburg, Oregon 97470 has filed with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, an application to establish a branch at 11720 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92130.

Any person wishing to comment on this application may file his or her comments in writing with the regional director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation at the appropriate FDIC office, 25 Jessie Street @ Ecker Square, San Francisco, California 94105 not later than 15 days after this date of publication. The non-confidential portions of the application will be made available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request.

Published pursuant to Section 303.7 of the rules and regulations of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Ron Farnsworth
Executive Vice President
end of Lawrence Street. “The project allows 13 to 20 units and we are proposing nine,” said Mor-
ton. “Rather than having a bulky building, we’re breaking it down into five smaller buildings. There will be underground parking with 21 spaces.”

The architect noted project amenities including sustainable landscaping and use of photovoltaic (solar) power, along with an open view corridor and two elevators. He added the project takes into account anticipated future sea-level rise.

Several Peninsulans questioned the project at the Jan. 19 PCPB meeting. Some insisted it would set a bad prece-
dent putting multi-family on the beachfront and destroying the neigh-
borhood’s existing character.

“We need to think about people walking on that sandy beach, as well as families coming there who feel it’s safe to bring their children,” argued one audience member.

Following the meeting, Don Sevrens, a PCPB board member speaking on his own behalf, noted the project was informational only and “has not reached the planning board or its Project Review subcommittee as yet.” He added city staff and the developer are “still resolving a myriad of details or problems called ‘cycle issues.’

“Some members of the board and the audience raised questions or con-
ners on various aspects: Closure of foot access to a public beach, a pro-
posed sea wall (possibly not on the applicant’s property), accelerated ero-
sion as a result of the sea wall, a park-
ing basement below sea level and the possibility of flooding, blockage of views, possibly inadequate parking and a precedent that would change the character of beachfront La Playa,” Sevrens said. “Design plans for the building itself were given only a hurried and cursory look at this early stage.”

Howard Haimsolin, a neighbor-
hood spokesperson on the project, said it’s now “on people’s radar.” He noted the Save Kellogg Beach Face-
book page solicited “more than 400 likes in one week.”

“About 80 percent of the public view will be wiped out,” said Haim-
oslin of the project arguing its size and scale is “out of character” with the surrounding neighborhood.

“The main concerns are public access, building on the beach and ero-
sion,” Haimsolin said. “It will add to traffic congestion and safety con-
cerns. Subterranean parking is a nightmare.”

Proponents of the condo conver-
sion could not be reached by the Bea-
con for further comment.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park 8th Annual Blessing of the Animals Rescheduled for February 26

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park will host the 8th annual Bless-
ing of the Animals on Sunday, Feb 26, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Originally slated for Jan 22, the event has been rescheduled due to rain. The main attrac-
tion will be a pet blessing by Father Richard Proch of the Immaculate Conception Church between 1:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. Admission is free.

A Blessing of the Animals event has been happening in Old Town for more than 300 years. In San Diego’s past, the annual Benediction of the Beasts celebrated St. Anthony of the Desert, the Patron Saint of Animals.

The event in the central plaza of Old Town San Diego State Historic Park will include adoption opportunities from various rescue groups and edu-
cational information on rescuing, rehabilitation and supporting the animals in your area. A pet costume contest will take place at 2:30 p.m. featuring prizes for several categories including best dressed and best pet-owner look-alike.

Participating exhibitors, lined up by press time, were Chihuahua Rescue of San Diego, Dogs on the Run, Emergency Animal Rescue, Parrot Educa-
tion and Adoption Center, and San Diego Companion Rabbit Society. Sponsored by Fiesta de Reyes, the Blessing of the Animals event invites people and animals of all kinds and creatures to participate. For more information, call 619-297-3100.

La Playa $939,000
San Antonio 4th Floor Unit 2/2 1145 sq ft

Rare Opportunity to purchase this property before it is listed for sale on the MLS. La Playa condo with Panoramic Bay & City Views. This unit is close to all and is only steps to Kellogg Beach. The unit has new paint, new carpet, a large balcony, secure access and 2 parking spaces.

The Geoff Group 619-247-2114 MP4REALTY@GMAIL.COM

OBITUARY

Eleanor (Tolo) Kanaholo Taylor
Eleanor (Tolo) Kanaholo Taylor, 86, of Kapaa

died Jan. 12 at Kona Community Hospital. Born in Honomakau, North Kohala, she was a retired civilian cook for the former Naval Training Center at Point Loma in San Diego and a floral stylist. Pri-

tive service.

Survived by daughter, Eileen (Brian Ymas) Taylor-Ymas of Kapaa; son Gary Taylor of Honolulu; sisters, Beat-

trice Chau and Henrietta Emeliano of Hawaii; broth-
er, Bush Kauahilo of Honolulu; half brothers, Mike (Gary McAnally) Akey of San Diego; two grand-

children and four great-grandchildren; nieces and

nephews. Arrangements by Cremation Services of West Hawaii.
OPEN HOUSES

POINT LOMA
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 1266 Willow St. 3BR/2BA  $1,725,000  Craig Hubert • 619-752-3447
Sat 2-4pm .......................... 2681 Lippert Dr. 6BR/6BA  $1,965,000  Michelle Silverman • 619-983-2738

PACIFIC BEACH/ CROWN POINT
Sat 1-4pm .......................... 4855 Bella Pacific #124 2BR/2BA  $439,000  Irene Chandler & Jim Shultz 619-354-0000

LA JOLLA
Sat & Sun 1-4pm .......................... 842 Marindas Vista 3BR/2BA  $3,200,000  Meira Topia • 619-337-7269
Sat & Sun 1:30-4:30pm .......................... 8001 Paseo del Ocado 4BR/6BA  $2,495,000  Yvonne Oberte • 619-316-3188
Sat & Sun 1-4pm .......................... 7332 Sado Ave. 6BR/5BA  $1,380,000  Lori Demidjian • 619-241-1015
Sat 10-3pm .......................... 7777 Sado Avenue 2BR/2BA  $949,000  Cooper Patterson • 619-969-5096
Sat 1-4pm .......................... 7901 Avenida Kephi 3BR/3.5BA  $1,725,000  Amy Simon & Barbara Leinenweber 619-951-1100
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 4849 Wheat Watch Way 6BR/8BA  $4,950,000  Susan Corell & Patty Cohen 619-229-8130
Sat 12-3 Sun 1-4pm .......................... 5414 Renaissance Ave. 4BR/3.5BA  $1,225,000  Claire Melbo • 619-551-3349
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 1768 D Pano Peak 6BR/5BA  $3,395,000  Tim Hines • 619-409-5001
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 1814 Caminito Acus 3BR/2BA  $950,000  Anne Frazer • 619-518-5951
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 2044 Caminito Cunlurk Bar 3BR/2BA  $895,000  Gina Hinson & Elaine Rubino • 619-405-6190
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 3780 Rogers Rd 4BR/3BA  $2,395,000  Linda Daniels • 619-361-5511
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 2339 Valladolid 4BR/2BA  $2,890,000  Jeff Baker • 619-952-4029
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 1222 Muirlands Vista Way 6BR/5BA  $3,995,000  Amber Anderson • 619-350-6600
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 230 Prospect St. #117 2BR/2BA  $825,000-$875,000  Brent Ringless • 619-243-6763

DURBAN PARK
Sun 1-3pm .......................... 4523 Inquilf St 3BR/2BA  $894,000  Gigi Gentry • 619-244-7416
Sun 2-3pm .......................... 2543 Frankfort 3BR/1.5BA  $750,000  Gigi Gentry • 619-775-7797

CLAREMONT
Sun 1-4pm .......................... 4775 Appleton 4BR/2BA  $649,999-$689,999  Kevin Bennett • 619-929-6858

Point Loma
$749,000
2955 McCall 301 2BR/2BA 1,294 sq ft
Beautiful Tuscany Style Condo Complex in La Playa, just steps to Kellogg Beach. Upgraded with stainless steel appliances, granite slab counters, wood and travertine flooring. TOP FLOOR UNIT.

Point Loma
$6,688,889
360 San Gorgonio 6BR/6BA 8,800 sq ft
Trophy Estate with Panoramic Views “Villa Porta Luce”. Set in the highly sought-after La Playa neighborhood, this home offers privacy, cooling sea breezes and commanding views from nearly every room.

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Trophy Estate with Panoramic Views “Villa Porta Luce”. Set in the highly sought-after La Playa neighborhood, this home offers privacy, cooling sea breezes and commanding views from nearly every room.

SOLD!
1402 CARLETON Sq
4Br / 3Ba • 2600 sq ft • Sold - $1,400,000 • LOF Realty represented buyer

3841 Garden Lane, San Diego CA 92106, Wooded Area of Point Loma
3 Bedroom / 2 Bath Mid-Century original with boundless opportunities. First time on the market, Single level in coveted Wooded Area of Point Loma. Nazarene College adjacent. Soaring ceilings, architecturally defined living areas, indoor / Outdoor living. Large level lot. $1,400,000 www.3841gardenlane.com

OPEN HOUSES

BAY PARK
Sun 12-3pm .......................... 4523 Inquilf St 3BR/2BA  $894,000  Gigi Gentry • 619-775-7797
Sun 12-3pm .......................... 2453 Frankfort 3BR/1.5BA  $750,000  Gigi Gentry • 619-775-7797

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Mike McCurdy
Realtor - 15 Years
Cal BRE # 01435434
858-229-8120

Allison McCurdy
Marketing Manager
MBA - Marketing
858-229-8120

Point Loma
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Trophy Estate with Panoramic Views “Villa Porta Luce”. Set in the highly sought-after La Playa neighborhood, this home offers privacy, cooling sea breezes and commanding views from nearly every room.

NEW LISTING

Point Loma
$6,688,889
360 San Gorgonio 6BR/6BA 8,800 sq ft
Trophy Estate with Panoramic Views “Villa Porta Luce”. Set in the highly sought-after La Playa neighborhood, this home offers privacy, cooling sea breezes and commanding views from nearly every room.

BEAUTIFUL TUSCAN STYLE CONDO COMPLEX IN LA PLAYA, JUST STEPS TO KELLOGG BEACH. UPGRADED WITH STAINLESS STEEL APPLIANCES, GRANITE SLAB COUNTERS, WOOD AND TRAVERTINE FLOORING.

OPEN HOUSES

The Ghio Group
619-977-3615

The Ghio Group
619-977-3615