Queen Bee’s fundraises to keep arts center open

By Kendra Sitton

For the last 13 years, Queen Bee’s Art and Cultural Center has been a staple for artistic programming in North Park. Since being founded by the Queen Bee herself, Alma Rodriguez, poetry slams, dance classes, music festivals and other community events have all been held in the charming building off Ohio Street.

Like many small businesses, and arts venues in particular, Queen Bee’s has struggled to make ends meet during the pandemic. Bar Pink in North Park and Martin’s in Hillcrest permanently closed before the end of 2020. Rodriguez hopes Queen Bee’s will find a way to survive. “Financially it was not sustainable to maintain the place,” she said.

In August when the venue partially reopened, the only revenue came through private one-on-one classes. Meanwhile, she slipped through the cracks of many major grants. Large venues for thousands of people received significant government relief while smaller venues did not. Queen Bee’s main room which has a dance floor for events can hold up to 250 people (not socially distanced).

In an effort to stay afloat, the venue has hosted dozens of virtual events, something that kept their audience engaged but did not bring in significant revenue. However, Rodriguez believes this is a sign of hope for the future.

Saint Archer collaborates to survive

By Vince Mehan

What do San Diego hotspots like Barely Mash, Carnitas Snuck Shack, Princess Pub and URBN Pizza have in common? They all feature Saint Archer beer on their taps.

The Saint Archer Beer Co. has been a prominent brewer in the local craft beer scene since its birth in 2013. But like other San Diego breweries in the last year, Saint Archer has had to deal with bar shutdowns, which takes away a huge part of their revenue stream. And 2020 has also forced the brewers to be creative in order to survive in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has forced a lot of companies to pivot in order to survive. Staff reductions and updated operating procedures are the new normal in this turbulent time of restrictions. But Saint Archer is now reaching out to other local companies who have had to adapt to the lock-downs as well.

Greg Garrity is the head Brewer of Saint Archer, and is also in charge of their Research and Development

The band on the Feb. 10 fundraiser at Queen Bee’s (Photo by Michael Oletta)

Chula Vista bayfront parks move forward

Art on the Land

By Belle Willett

Despite the many setbacks businesses faced in 2020, landscape architecture plans for Sweetwater Park and Harbor Park were advanced with the issuance of Coastal Development Permits (CDP) from the Port of San Diego — in April for Sweetwater Park and in December for Harbor Park.

Both parks are part of the Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan—a close partnership between the Port of San Diego and the City of Chula Vista.

The design effort for the parks was overseen by San Diego’s KTUA Planning and Landscape Architecture, who also led the design of Sweetwater Park.

Located adjacent to the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Sweetwater Park will focus on natural-resource restoration and environmental education, with miles of trails, boardwalks, and overlooks set within a 21-acre mosaic of restored coastal scrub, maritime dune, and salt marsh.

KTUA’s project partner and sub-consultant, Petersen Studio, a Landscape Architecture practice specializing in large public parks and waterfronts, was the Design Lead for Harbor Park, located just south of Sweetwater Park and adjacent to the planned Resort Conference Center/Hotel and the existing Chula Vista Marina.

Chula Vista Bayfront Master Plan was advanced with the issuance of Coastal Development Permits (CDP) from the Port of San Diego — in April for Sweetwater Park and in December for Harbor Park.
Extraordinary San Diego Homes, Enviable Coastal Luxury
CONTACT US TO START THE CONVERSATION

ACTIVE | 475 Redwood St | 906
$1,995,000 | 2BR + Flex Space | 2BA

5389 Waring Rd
$599,000 | 3BR | 2BA | 1,242 SF

IN ESCROW | 3647 7th Ave | 6C
$639,000 | 2BR | 2BA | 1,056 SF

Jeff Davidson
Broker Associate
COMPASS
DRE 01165106
619.855.7300
Jeff@JeffDavidsonGroup.com

The Pacific Gate Collection

888 West E Street | 3901
$3,775,500 | 3BR + Den | 3BA | 2,315 SF

888 West E Street | 3102
$3,200,000 | 2BR + Den | 2.5BA | 1,806 SF

888 West E Street | 3101
$2,995,000 | 2BR + Den | 2.5BA | 1,770 SF

888 West E Street | 2005
$1,475,000 | 2BR | 2BA | 1,602 SF

Cristi Chaquica
Broker Associate
COMPASS
DRE 01259769
619.206.7000
Info@FinePropertiesSD.com
Saint Patrick’s Day parade cancelled

The Irish Congress of Southern California (ICSC) has announced that the 2021 Saint Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival has officially been cancelled. This is due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which caused the cancellation of the 2020 parade as well. This would have been the 40th annual event, which takes place in Bankers Hill and Balboa Park every Saint Patrick’s Day weekend.

Tony Mande is the chair of the ICSC Board of Directors and is optimistic that they will be able to have a true parade and festival next year.

“We are of course, very disappointed to have a second Saint Patrick’s Day Parade and Festival cancelled,” said Mande. “However, we are acutely aware that many cultural and community events are also sharing these same difficulties. The priority of the Irish Congress of Southern California will continue to be the health and wellbeing of our families, friends and the greater San Diego Community. We are looking forward to seeing everybody in 2022.”

The ICSC is currently exploring alternatives to the parade and festival including an online event, fundraisers, or a scaled down celebration later in the year if state mandates allow. The ICSC is a 501(c)3 non-profit and relies solely on sponsorship, donations and event revenue to continue its mission of promoting Irish History and Culture in San Diego. For more info, go to: stpatsparade.org

KNSJ: San Diego radio’s best kept secret

By Sue Taylor

What if there was a radio station in San Diego that offered a voice to those shut out of mainstream media; a station dedicated to social justice, music, local culture and progressive views? What if that station was commercial free? What if anyone with a desire and a willingness to serve the community could be a part of it? Well, KNSJ 89.1 FM is such a station and it’s located right in City Heights.

KNSJ FM is a full-power, FCC-licensed, community funded, volunteer-run radio station. KNSJ offers news, public affairs, music and much more. Some of you may be familiar with the station from its live remotes from the Pride Parade, Earth Fair, and other public events. Community radio is a third model of radio broadcasting, differing from commercial radio and public broadcasting. Community radio, like public broadcasting (think KPBS), is commercial free. There are over 300 community radio stations across the U.S. Before KNSJ was established over seven years ago, San Diego was the largest city in the country without a community radio station.

The call letters reflect KNSJ’s mission: Networking for Social Justice. The station is owned and operated by Activist San Diego, a long-time social justice organization. KNSJ believes that media consolidation has limited the public’s access to the vital news and culture that allow true democracy to thrive. Those involved believe there exists a need in the community that can be best served by the nonprofit, educational radio
Family Health Centers of San Diego is the #1 enrollment entity for Covered California in San Diego County.

For free enrollment help, call (619) 515-2363.

For 50 years, Family Health Centers of San Diego (FHCS) has provided caring, affordable, high-quality health care and supportive services to everyone, with a special commitment to uninsured, low-income and medically underserved persons.

With over 23 primary care clinics around San Diego County, FHCS provides care to over 227,000 patients each year. With a wide-range of health care services throughout the region, the organization also includes 10 behavioral health facilities, eight dental clinics, two mobile counseling centers, three mobile medical units, three vision clinics, a physical rehabilitation department, a pharmacy and an outpatient substance use treatment program. As part of their ongoing dedication to ensuring everyone who needs health care receives it, FHCS offers free Covered California enrollment assistance.

Covered California is a private health insurance exchange that was established through Affordable Care Act legislation for individuals and families not eligible for Medi-Cal. The program allows California residents to purchase quality health insurance plans to fit individual and family needs. The cost of each insurance plan is based on certain factors, including family size and income.

Covered California has extended its Special Enrollment Period from February 1 to May 15, 2021 without a qualifying life event.

Health Plan Benefits
All Covered California health insurance plans provide comprehensive services, including:

1. Preventive, wellness and chronic disease management services
2. Pregnancy, maternity and newborn care (both before and after birth)
3. Pediatric services, including oral and vision care
4. Mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment (this includes counseling and psychotherapy)
5. Rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices (services and devices to help people with injuries, disabilities, or chronic conditions gain or recover mental and physical skills)
6. Prescription drugs
7. Ambulatory and emergency services
8. Laboratory services and hospitalization (surgery and overnight stays)

For free enrollment help, call (619) 515-2363 or visit fhcsd.org/covered-california.
By 1870, Hart had come to San Diego. He was listed in the 1870 federal census as a saloon keeper, but provided his occupation as “miner” for the San Diego County voter registration lists from 1872 through 1879. He bought a few individual lots of Pueblo Lands from the City Trustees in 1871, but apparently did not own this property by 1873. The San Diego Union’s February 24, 1870 issue reported that R. Hart contributed to the Fort Yuma wagon road company in which Joseph Nash and other early San Diego businessmen also had invested.

Hart disappeared from available San Diego records after the 1879 voter registration list. Ordinance No. 5417 approved by Mayor Charles O’Neill on January 13, 1914 changed Hart Avenue “in Park Villas, McFadden and Buxton’s North Park, and Hartley’s North Park” to 31st Street.

Herman Avenue—one of the few streets retaining an original name bestowed by Joseph Nash—likewise recognizes Alexander Herman (1854-1926). He was born on May 26, 1854 in Gleusdorf, Bavaria, now in southeastern Germany. He sailed to New York from Hamburg on the steamship Silesia in 1869 at age 15, listing his occupation as a clerk. Into the 1880s, he associated with Sigmund Iglauer, who was born in Nuremberg in 1852 and came to the U.S. at age 17 on the same steamship, listing his occupation as a merchant. They arrived in New York on October 12, 1869 and soon traveled west.

The San Diego Daily Union’s June 1, 1871 issue reported, “New Store — Messrs. Iglauer & Herman will commence opening next Monday at the new store, on Fifth near the Express office, an immense stock of groceries and provisions, and general merchandise. The assortment is as full as has ever been brought to this city.” The Daily Union’s June 10, 1871 issue called attention to Iglauer & Herman’s advertisement for their new store, noting, “They are enterprising and obliging young men and deserve success.” Their ad announced “Calicos! Calicos!” at “9 and 10 yards for a dollar” and a “large assortment of hats and caps of latest styles.”

The paper’s September 23, 1871 issue documented that Iglauer & Herman joined a group of prominent San Diego pioneers—including A.E. Horton, Aaron Pauly and David Braut—who authorized Joseph Nash to “charter a sailing vessell on joint account for the purpose of bringing down a cargo of merchandise from San Francisco to this port.”

In the same month, the two young men expanded their operations. The Daily Union’s September 22, 1871 issue announced, “The firm of Iglauer & Herman have established a branch house at San Rafael, Lower California, to which they make a considerable shipment of general merchandise today. The
COVID Tax Surprises

By STEVE DOSTER

COVID-19 brought major changes to our lives. With so much happening this past year, the last thing on most minds is taxes. Things are already depressing enough. Why make it worse by talking about everyone’s least favorite topic? Well, there could be some unapp-

tardy tax surprises come April 15th. To help you prepare for Tax Day, let us look at some potential traps.

TAX PENALTIES

The IRS requires at least 90% of your tax liability be paid ratably throughout the year, or you could end up owing more in taxes. If you paid less than 10% of your total tax-
es come April 15th (and you don’t qualify for an excep-
tion), you will owe a penalty. If you are still collecting unemployment benefits, you might want to elect to have Federal tax-
es on this income to avoid penalties for 2021 income. Unfortunately, the with-
holding rate is only 10% and that might not be enough to avoid penalties. Other options would be to pay quarterly tax payments or increase your withholding on other income.

Furthermore, this government assistance has a domino effect that makes taxes more complicated for 2020. You can’t control whether or not you end up owing taxes this April. However, you do get to decide how much your tax returns prepared ear-
ly so you have more time to come up with any tax own. And, of course, make sure to work with a qual-
ified CPA.

—Steve Doster, CPA/EA is the financial planning man-
ager at Rollwag & Associates—a fee-only wealth management and CPA firm helping individ-
uals with their financial free-
dom. Rollwag & Associates works to a fiduciary standard of care helping people with their taxes, investments, and financial planning. Read more articles at rollwag.com/blog.

Guest Editorial

Rounding the corner

By BRIAN SCHRADER

The news has been filled with a lot of doom and gloom lately, but on our first and hopefully only lock-
down-iversary, we actually have cause for hope and optimism. We finally know now more than we ever have about how to fight COVID-19, and we’re on the final leg of the race to end this pandemic. There’s still reason to worry — the COVID-19 variants are concerning—but it’s also important for us to realize just how far we’ve come.

For starters, we have a number of effective vaccines and most ap-
pear to remain effective against the new variants of COVID-19 that are gaining steam. It’s hard to remember when we were this hopeful, but last year the FDA and CDC were hesitant to claim we’d have even one 50% effective vaccine by year’s end. Today, we have mul-
tiple highly effective vaccines being actively distributed and even more awaiting approval. This is nothing short of miraculous.

We’re also at the end of a holiday surge. That means that hospitals are no longer overflowing, and that businesses and schools can start to reopen. We’re finally seeing some real good news.

On the therapeutics side, between last year and the present we’ve learned better strategies to treat COVID-19. We’re actually winning this war. President Biden has promised anyone who wants a shot will be able to get one by the end of July, and the New York Times is projecting that there will be herd immunity by mid-to-late summer if distribu-
tion rates continue to improve. This is all a huge deal.

We hope we can let up on the gas. We must remain vigi-
lant; we all need to continue to wear masks, get tested, and practice social distancing for now. But there is light at the end of this tunnel. There will probably be a surge of cases as the more contagious variants rise to prominence. But we have a number of effective approved treatments.

More importantly though, our health care workers and other essential workers have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic. If we can keep ahead of the spread of COVID-19, we’ll not only save lives and improve the timeline to herd immunity, but we’ll also dampen the future surges from more contagious variants.

There are plenty of reasons to be upset with how we’ve handled our response to the pandemic—I’ve written about a few of them—but we shouldn’t ignore the fact that the sun is beginning to pierce the clouds. We’re actually winning this war.

On the other hand, some states—like California—are still a huge deal.

As a side note, the stimu-
lus checks sent out in 2020 will be a California deduction. So, if you owe more unemplo-
yment taxes, there is no Federal tax deduction but there might be a California deduction. In the past, unreimbursed employee business expenses were deductible as a mis-
cellaneous itemized deduction. Unfortunately, for Federal purposes, since 2018, mis-
cellaneous itemized deduc-
tions were no longer allowed. For those who are self-employed, a home office deduction might be possible for both Federal and California.

To qualify for a home office deduction, the office (room or part of a room) must:

• Be your primary place of business, and
• Be used regularly and exclusively for your work or business.

If you think you might qualify to claim home office expenses, be sure to keep thorough records and be sure to work with a quali-
fied CPA. The complex rules can be quite daunting.

—Brian Schrader is a software de-
venger at Normal Heights.

KNSJ

KNSJ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

station that is KNSJ. The station is dedicated to being a nonpartisan asset to the San Diego community and a resource for news, culture, and information.

The driving force behind the station is general manager Martin Eder. Martin is well-known around town for his involvement with nu-
merous progressive causes and groups. He is also the voice of radio. At KCFR in Colorado, also a tiny community radio station, Eder had to come up with $660,000 to get the station up and running. To help bring his dream of music and news to the air, he organ-
ized and led a. Donny Walker and Tawnya Winter. A number of people were involved with raising the necessary funds and doing the technical work need-
to get KNSJ started. The station began broadcasting on July 4, 2013. There are many people involved with keeping the station going to-
da, among them Marie Johnson. They’ve written about a few of them—but the reason to worry—the COVID-19 variants are concerning—but it’s also important for us to realize just how far we’ve come. That’s a nearly 36% improvement over the state and national average. If that were a state budget, San Diego will achieve a localized herd immu-
nit y much sooner than the state as a whole. This is incredible, and the county deserves due credit for mak-

Figure 2: The COVID-19 vaccination rate in California as of March 2021 (at time of writing), and California is the leader among all states in terms of vaccination rate. Source: New York Times.

—Casey Hickenbottom said. “You’ll see a lot of coverage at democracyandprogress.com.

COVID-19 var-

Figure 1: The COVID-19 vaccination rate in California as of March 2021 (at time of writing), and California is the leader among all states in terms of vaccination rate. Source: New York Times.

—Casey Hickenbottom said. “You’ll see a lot of coverage at democracyandprogress.com.

—Casey Hickenbottom said. “You’ll see a lot of coverage at democracyandprogress.com.

—Casey Hickenbottom said. “You’ll see a lot of coverage at democracyandprogress.com.
Celebrating the women of Little Italy

BY CHRISTOPHER GOMEZ

This year, in celebration of Women’s History Month I would love to take the time to highlight some of the incredible women that help keep our urban community a unique and special place for all. To these women we say, grazie mille bella.

Cecelia Sterling’s boutique, Vocabulary offers pieces for men and women, accessories and home décor. Cecelia has been a staple in the Little Italy community for over 11 years and continues to innovate with FaceTime shopping, a monthly earing subscription and by going live on social media once a week to give updates on what’s new in her store.

Katie McCarthy, owner of Stroll Boutique, has been part of the Little Italy community for over six years and has recently expanded her store to include Stroll Home. Stroll has beautiful accessories, including local artist Sarah Stieber’s new Superpower jewelry Collection. A Little Italy honorary member, Sarah is also the talented artist behind the gorgeous mural at the Porto Vista Hotel.

Lisa Harrison opened Be BouTique in 2015 and has been offering a unique mix of jewelry, gifts, clothing and accessories ever since. Marla Ivanna and Valentina Sicolli are the sister-duo behind Valmure Boutique, a unique lifestyle boutique with resort inspired brands including local and international designers. Additional female-owned shops include Rosamariposa, Blizza Boutique, Crema Boutique, Verde, and Often Wander.

In addition to one-of-a-kind boutiques, Little Italy is also home to some truly unique fine art galleries including Stefanie Bales Fine Art and Adelma Fine Art. Stefanie Bales first opened her own boutique artist studio and gallery, in the heart of Little Italy in 2010. While only being in the neighborhood for almost two years, this gallery has quickly turned into a must visit. Adelma Fine Art is another sister-duo owned business. A contemporary boutique gallery, Adelma Fine Art offers original paintings, limited edition signed prints, art glass, sculptures, artisan jewelry and unique gifts.

Female-owned businesses are all around our community and are no exception. Founder and creative director of Infinyte Yoga, Dana Rae Paré, opened her studio in the Little Italy neighborhood back in 2014. Since then, Infinyte Yoga has been teaching the powerful and classic form of yoga called Ashtanga Vinyasa Yoga to all levels. Theory Hair Studio, owned by Uyen Tran, is a L’Oreal Professional concept salon serving the Little Italy neighborhood, and visitors from different areas of San Diego, since 2011.

One of the first things people think about when they think of Little Italy is the Little Italy Mercato and it couldn’t happen without our fearless leader, Cait White. Founded in 2008, Cait, in partnership with the Little Italy Association, had a strong desire to provide people in her urban neighborhood with a great source of fresh food with a European flare. Now, members of our community can enjoy a selection of farm produce, artisan foods, meat and eggs, plus crafts and plants at an excellent value.

Last, but certainly not least, we’d like to thank the female board and staff members of the Little Italy Association – Olivia Connolly, Annette Casemero, Diana Strauss Casey, Sandi Cottrell, Melanie Dellas, Jeri Keiller, Jocelyn Marcus, Cait White, Rosie DeLuca, Dianne Serna De Leon, Laura Li Mandri, Shirley Zawadzki, Monica Montes, and to all of the women of Little Italy, we love you, we thank you and we wish you a Happy Women’s History Month!

For the latest updates on Little Italy, please visit us at LittleItalySD.com or follow us on Instagram @LittleItalySD, Twitter @LittleItalySD and Facebook @LittleItalySD.

—Christopher Gomez has been Little Italy’s district manager since 2006. Reach him at chris@littleitaly sd.com.
If a power line has fallen to the ground:

- Always assume power lines are live.
- Stay far away and never touch a power line.
- Never touch any person or equipment that comes in contact with a power line.

If a vehicle is involved and you are in it:

- Sit calmly until help arrives.
- Warn others not to touch the vehicle and the ground.
- Open the door or window and jump clear of the vehicle without touching the vehicle and the ground at the same time.

Get more tips at sdge.com/safety
Roosevelt Music Program improvises during pandemic

By Andy Hinds

I have exactly one memory from 7th grade music class: being called to the carpet for clowning on the song our choir was preparing for a recital. I was mocking the song partially because I couldn’t hit the notes, but mostly because I felt like I would literally die if I sincerely tried to give the material. Our teacher had assigned us the schlockiest song ever, “You Light Up My Life,” popularized by Debbie Boone, which probably hastened my transformation into an angry 8th grade punk rocker. I never got a chance to thank her for that.

These days, when I help my twins with their 6th grade music homework, they ask for suggestions on what songs goes best with a movie car chase (“Ace of Spades” obviously), what I think about the synthesizer track on their latest electronic music composition or which pop song to add to their class playlist. They are also playing traditional instruments, learning music theory, getting exposed to jazz legends like Dave Brubeck, and going on “virtual field trips” to presentations by international music organizations. And this is all happening while the pandemic is keeping kids physically isolated from their peers, teachers and potential music collaborators.

The music program at Roosevelt International Middle School (adjacent to Elephant Odyssey at the San Diego Zoo) was just coming into its own when COVID cancelled all the nice things. Nathan Elias-Kocivar, a 30-year-old director of the program, who started his music education career by substitute teaching to supplement his income as a tenor sax and keyboard player, analyzed the musical needs of the community, came up with a plan, and was implementing it when the pandemic struck.

Mr. E-K (as Elias-Kocivar’s students call him) grew up in OB and Point Loma, and got his music degree at UC Santa Cruz. He was teaching guitar and keyboard for after-school programs when he got a chance to sub at Roosevelt for an extended period. The students, administration, and families reacted enthusiastically to Mr. E-K’s approach, which emphasized the joy and creativity inherent in playing music.

Soon, he found himself splitting his time between teaching at Roosevelt and San Diego High School. At this point, he noticed that he had over 100 band and orchestra students at SDHS, very few of whom had any formal musical training. Ironically, SDHS offers the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) music diploma to qualifying students, but the cluster of schools feeding into SDHS was not preparing kids to perform at that level. Mr. E-K and the District Powers That Be decided it would best serve the SDHS cluster if he “pushed from behind” to prepare the middle school students for the Big Time. And that’s how the Roosevelt Music Program in its current-but-pre-pandemic iteration was created.

Like many learned musicians, Mr. E-K sees jazz as the apotheosis of music and the North Star for his pedagogical approach. As he sees it, jazz represents “a gray area between being creative and learning the technical aspects of playing their instruments.” Students, he said, “are invited to play whatever they want within the canvas of the work; and also, jazz is dance music, so it makes people feel good and makes them want to move.” Before San Diego Unified schools went online, Roosevelt had two band classes, two orchestra classes, guitar, and choir. Jazz band was run as either an after-school club, a before-school club, a lunch-time club, or within the band class. Regardless, all roads lead to jazz.

Almost as soon as Mr. E-K got the Roosevelt Music Program swinging, a certain virus barged in and broke up the party. But like any master of improvisation, Mr. E-K drew from a deep well of creativity and came up with something unexpectedly cool.

While adapting traditional music instruction to an online format can be difficult and inefficient, there’s a whole other musical universe that relies on technology and doesn’t require physical proximity. Mr. E-K was already passionate about creating music on the computer; so it was not a stretch for him to refocus the Roosevelt Music Program on music composition, production, and technology using programs like Breezin Thru Theory, BandLab, and one that he particularly stoked about, Soundtrap. Soundtrap, owned by Spotify, waived the subscription fees to give Roosevelt students a chance to not only write and record music on their platform, but also to share and collaborate with their classmates. He also acquired, with grant money, 70 MIDI keyboards (think small-pianos-you plug-into-a-computer) to enrich the online music experience for the kids. Students who choose to take band or orchestra as an elective still practice and record their traditional instruments with the help of programs like Smart Music, that allow them to “play along” with backing tracks as the sheet music scrolls up their screens. A music program can’t run on talent and passion alone. Luckily, a group of enthusiastic parents and community members coalesced around the Roosevelt Music Program to help with planning events, logistical support, promotion, and of course, fundraising.

Not only do they need to help pay for the various online platforms, but the Music Boosters also continue to organize enrichment opportunities for students and families, aka “virtual field trips.” According to Music Boosters Communication Officer Pauline Treviño, “We’re bringing the world into their Zoom classrooms with our new ‘Travel the World Through Music’ program. We partner with organizations like the Center for World Music to participate in live stream musical presentations which include Q&A with the artists. We’ve ‘travelled’ to Mexico, Vietnam and South Africa through music! We’re also planning on making connections with international cultural institutions and schools so that our students can experience what music education is outside of the United States.”

Both Mr. E-K and Treviño have been pleasantly surprised at how the online music program has provided a meaningful musical education to students this year, and remarked on the lessons this disaster has force-fed us all. As a parent, I have been delighted to see my kids engaged in creating music in ways new to them and me. Mr. E-K plans to continue with the computer based composition/production component of his classes, as well as bringing in guest musicians from all over the world via Zoom, now that the whole Zoom experience has been normalized and tweaked for greatest utility.

Looking back, I suspect my 7th grade music teacher, who was fairly young and hip, made us sing that terrible song because it was the one she already had sheet music for. Say what you will about the internet dystopia we are all wallowing in these days, at least our children have better access to good music than we ever did.

Too learn more about Roosevelt International Middle School and the Roosevelt Music Program, go to friendsfor-roosevelt.org.

—Andy Hinds is a dad, carpenter, and freelance writer based in North Park. Follow him on Twitter @betadad.
Bustles on Wheels

Bustles on Wheels is a mobile alteration service for prospective brides. This unique bridal business was begun by Diana “Dee” Ramirez to help busy brides for their special day. The majority of brides need some alterations made to their purchased gowns and Diana comes to their house or office and pins the gown. Next she takes the garment home and completes the alterations. Usually she will do three or four fittings to the alterations leading up to the big day.

Ramirez worked at David’s Bridal for five years learning about the bridal industry. She received a Fashion Certificate at San Diego Continuing Education and then was accepted for an 8-week boot camp run by ACCION. This non-profit assists entrepreneurs in achieving financial success and this was a great experience for learning how to run a business.

This amazing woman is a survivor of a brain aneurism at 18 and uterine cancer in her thirties. She is a dynamo and hasn’t let anything stop her. The actual idea for this unique business came to her when she was preparing her own wedding. She wanted to meet with the DJ and thought in her hectic schedule that she would ask if he could come to her home. A light bulb went off and she realized having a service to help busy career woman was a service that most people would want and so “Bustles on Wheels” was conceived. Customers include military brides and she even traveled back to Rhode Island to work on gowns for brides.

Ramirez offers a special service to come to the wedding and steam the dresses right there. She also helps dress the bride if they want. One of the special services offered is the Booty Pop which offers a better fit to mermaid or drop waist dresses. Another special service is a patch that she embroiders. If either of the bride’s parents have passed away, Diana asks for a piece of their clothing and she embroiders on it something special such as a heart or the word Mom and then she puts this patch under the bustle. Diana said to one of her customers, “Your Mom has your back.”

I asked Ramirez how the pandemic has changed weddings. She said that brides and grooms are now having micro weddings and many are eloping. She also makes special masks for brides and grooms who need them.

Ramirez described herself as the Amazon of bridal alteration services for a busy woman. For more information visit BustlesonWheels.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 6, 2021
Soroptimist International of San Diego will feature “Women With Vision”. This is a live virtual fashion show produced by Greitchen Productions. The afternoon also feature the “Live Your Dream” Awards. For info: (619) 670-9680

Preparing and protecting your home or business in the event of a wildfire is a reality for those who call San Diego home. A top priority for Cox during a natural disaster is to keep customers connected so they can stay informed, check in with family and friends, and access their services away from home.

Cox also works to keep business customers, including hospitals and emergency responders, connected so they can continue to serve our communities.

Wildfire season now begins earlier and ends later, so Cox prepares all year long, reviewing its business continuity plan and running mock emergency events so employees know their roles and responsibilities during a disaster.

When strong winds and other weather conditions create an increased risk for wildfires, the power company may notify their residential customers, and business customers like Cox, that they’ll be implementing a Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS).

During a PSPS, Cox services may be interrupted in a neighborhood where the electric company shuts off power. During a wildfire or PSPS, Cox works closely with the power company and public safety agencies to monitor the situation and ensure the safety of its network and facilities to keep residential and business customers connected. There are also some things customers can do to prepare.

Have a charged backup battery and corded phone. Most cordless home phones require electricity and won’t work in an outage.

Make sure you keep a corded wired phone available for use during a power outage.

In addition, power is needed for your other telephone equipment to place and receive calls. If Cox’s network is operating during a power outage, make sure you have a charged backup battery to help ensure you can receive a Reverse 911 call. Purchase a backup battery by calling 855-350x3700 or visiting a Cox Solutions Store.

Get updates on Cox’s Twitter handle. During a PSPS or a disaster, Cox posts outage updates and other information on Twitter. Customers can follow Cox at @coxcalifornia.

Download Cox apps before a wildfire or PSPS occurs:

Cox Contour app – Turn your smartphone or tablet into a portable TV, access programming available with your Cox subscription while away from home.

Cox Voice Everywhere app – Your home phone away from home. Make or receive calls on up to four devices.

Consumer Disaster Protections

Customers whose residential phone service is impacted during a state of emergency declared by the California Governor’s Office or the President of the United States may be eligible to receive disaster relief protections such as a waiver of one-time activation fees for establishing remote call forwarding, remote access to call forwarding, call forwarding features and messaging services. For information about these consumer disaster protections, visit cox.com/CaliforniaAssist.

For more helpful information and tips, visit cox.com/CaliforniaAssist.
Are you caring for someone with memory loss, dementia, or Alzheimer’s? Then the REACH2CAREGIVERS program is for you! This series is offered FREE and virtually to family caregivers to better understand memory loss, develop communication skills, learn stress management techniques and how to better care for yourself and your loved one. You don’t have to do caregiving alone! Sign up today for our REACH2CAREGIVERS online class at https://bit.ly/REACHprogram.

Southern Caregiver Resource Center has been offering services FREE direct services to the community for over 33 years. Our team of highly qualified professional staff supports families through a comprehensive inventory of programs and services.
Dr. Lucia Kearney AuD
1230 S. Laguna Beach Blvd
San Diego, CA 92104
619-460-8177

BOAT SALES/SERVICE
FREE ESTIMATES (619)755-9651
• A/C SERVICE •
• ALIGNMENT •
• BRAKES •
INFLATABLE BOATS &
OUTBOARD ENGINE
(858) 273-2411
www.kdcinjurylaw.com

INFLATABLE BOATS &
OUTBOARD ENGINE
(858) 273-2411
www.kdcinjurylaw.com

CARPET & TILE CLEANING
Starboard
619-577-5847
• FAIR PRICING
• LICENSED
• FREE ESTIMATES
• LICENSED
• FREE ESTIMATES

KNSJ continues to create local programs and offers an opportunity to community members to participate in live broadcasts and get on the air. They are actively seeking additional volunteers. While persons with fundraising, social media, and marketing experience are needed, all persons interested in radio, regardless of experience, are encouraged to volunteer. KNSJ is looking to make additional connections with musicians and performance venues. The station is particularly interested in meeting the needs of San Diego’s increasingly multilingual and diverse population. You can find information on the station, including the schedule, at KNSJ.org. There is a monthly virtual meeting for new volunteers on the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. When allowed, we expect to go back to meeting in-person.

Whether this article is an introduction to KNSJ for the reader, or you know all about the station, you can rest assured that this won’t be the last you hear about 89.1 FM. The volunteers at KNSJ and Activist San Diego are planning big things in the year ahead, including updating its website and studio, reaching out to community businesses for underwriting and more becoming involved in community outreach and activities.

–Sue Taylor is a retired English teacher and currently works as a private tutor and freelance writer. She has written for North Park News and Eddie San Diego. Taylor can be reached at suetaylor82@gmail.com.
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS WHEN AN INDIVIDUAL WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS IS HAVING DIFFICULTY HANDLING HIS OR HER FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

When an individual’s health is declining, and that individual is having difficulty handling his or her own financial affairs, here are a few ways to enable a third party to step in and help that person:

1. One option is for the individual to grant a power of attorney to a selected third party (“agent”) to handle his or her financial affairs. The document can grant sweeping powers or may give only a limited power. It should also be a “durable” power of attorney, which means that it will remain in effect even if and after the individual granting the power has become incompetent (if that were to occur).

2. A second option is where the individual has created a revocable living trust, funded the trust with assets, and is serving as its trustee (in effect, the trust’s manager). When he or she begins to “slip,” he or she can resign such trusteeship, thereby turning over all trustee duties to the successor trustee which had been appointed under the trust instrument. This successor Trustee would then immediately be able to take over handling the financial affairs of the trust.

3. A third option with respect to financial accounts is for the individual to create a joint account with another trusted individual where each has checkwriting ability, enabling the trusted person to write checks from such account to pay expenses on behalf of the individual needing assistance.

4. As a last resort, a concerned third party might initiate a proceeding to have a conservator (overseer) of the estate appointed by the court to handle the needy individual’s financial affairs. This is not usually the best option, because, for this to occur, the individual would have to be declared incompetent by the court. This could be trying for the individual, and would be very expensive: further, all of the work of the conservator would be subject to court supervision.

“Utilizing public art and recognizable imagery can make positive, important messages — like reminding residents and visitors to wear masks — more fun, which can translate to [them being] more effective,” Holbrook said in a press release.

Our office is conveniently located at 2615 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 101 (in Mission Valley just east of Bally’s restaurant) (Telephone (619) 221-0279) www.richardfmcentyre.com.
Rodriguez said it did not result in enough income for the venue. “We’ve gone through a lot of hard times financially. I spent pretty much all my money, my personal savings, to keep waiting and see if COVID will be over by December,” Rodriguez said. She went through all of the equipment at the place and began selling unused items online as well as hosting weekly markets in order to pay the electricity, water, insurance and all the other expenses of running a business. “With no income coming in, it was almost like pulling tricks out of the hat every single month. It was hard, but at the same time, it’s been very, very rewarding — the community came together and they’re helping me out,” Rodriguez said.

When the pandemic continued to rage into the new year, Rodriguez knew she needed to find a new way to stay open. She reached out to many of the artists and musicians she had worked with over the last decade to ask them to help fundraise so that the center could remain open. The GoFundMe she created has raised over $26,000, the majority of which will go towards paying the rent. The fundraising campaign was coupled with several events, including a jazz night on Feb. 10 that occurred outside with a small audience and was also streamed virtually. Featuring musicians such as Holly Hofmann, Gilbert Castellanos, Christopher Hollyday and Irving Flores, the Feb. 10 jazz night raised $5,000.

The concert was planned by Queen Bee’s new music director, Charlie Arbelaez. The in-person events brought in more revenue than those streamed virtually only. The arts and cultural center had to expand to sell dinner in order to comply with rules that let restaurants but not entertainment venues stay open. This was just one of the hurdles the venue faced in order to operate fully with the music. Since he first became involved in Queen Bee’s in August 2020, Arbelaez has booked over a dozen concerts with some of the most prolific jazz musicians in San Diego and beyond.

“I've completed over 15 successful concerts, where I was able to have an income for the venue and employ dozens of musicians,” he said. While the center’s musical footprint expanded under Arbelaez, it remains a place for all of the arts to converge in central San Diego. “It’s not a restaurant or a bar. It’s an arts and cultural center and it houses all of the arts. You’ll find painters. You’ll find dancers. You’ll find musicians. You’ll find recording artists. You’ll find so many different artists that use different means of expression,” Arbelaez said.

Queen Bee’s plays a unique role in the community, something reflected in the many positive comments left on the GoFundMe campaign. “I’m just very thankful that the community has responded tremendously about keeping Queen Bee’s open because without this, we don’t have much to look forward to because the arts [are] the food for the soul,” Rodriguez said.

To learn more about upcoming events at the center, visit queenbeessd.com. To contribute to the fundraiser, visit bit.ly/2NYIteF.

—Kendra Sitton can be reached at kendra@sdnews.com.

RAIN, WIND, AND FIRE...
“The three menaces to any chimney, fireplace, or stove.”

Every year there are over twenty thousand chimney / fireplace related house fires in the US alone. Losses to homes as a result of chimney fires, leaks, and wind damage exceeds one hundred million dollars annually in the US.

CHIMNEY SWEEPS, INC., one of San Diego’s leading chimney repair and maintenance companies, is here to protect you and your home from losses due to structural damage and chimney fires.

Family owned and operated and having been in business for over 30 years, Chimney Sweeps Inc. is a fully licensed and insured chimney contracting company (License # 976438) and they are certified with the National Fireplace Institute and have an A+ rating with the Better Business Bureau. For a limited time, readers of this paper will receive a special discount on our full chimney cleaning and safety inspection package with special attention to chimney water intrusion points in preparation for the rainy season.
Chula Vista parks
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A Meadow and lawn areas, a pocket marsh, and a segment of the waterfront promenade. Phase one improvements will interface with the southernmost portion of the existing Bayside Park, which will remain until the full ultimate buildout of Harbor Park is complete.

Park amenities in the future, unscheduled, full-park buildout will also include a cafe, boathouse for water sports rentals, a large multi-use lawn, a family play area and picnic groves, an interactive fountain, destination pier, plazas, and public art, set within the context of several acres of colorful 4-season gardens. The 3-acre Bayside Lawn will accommodate the daily recreational needs of visitors while hosting a wide range of performances, events, and festivals that will transform the park into an outstanding regional destination.

The Port approved a CDP for the $12-million Sweetwater Park in April 2020. Planned for the northern portion of the Chula Vista Bayfront near E Street and Bay Boulevard, Sweetwater Park is envisioned as a naturalistic open space that would showcase the unique ecological assets of the Chula Vista Bayfront.

The park’s 21 acres will include bay overlooks, interpretively themed restroom and plaza spaces, multi-use meadow and picnic areas, a nature playground and a natural dunes adventure area with boulders, logs, and rock-climbing structures, all incorporated into a simulated dune experience.

Together, the parks will deliver the long-awaited, enhanced shoreline recreation opportunities and active commercial harbor that the City of Chula Vista has wanted for a long time. As Commissioner Ann Moore, Chula Vista’s representative on the Port of San Diego Board of Port Commissioners stated, “Harbor and Sweetwater Park will help to create the vibrant, innovative destination we envision for the Chula Vista Bayfront—a unique and welcoming place for people to live, work and play. When the bayfront transformation is complete, the public will enjoy more than 200 acres of parks, a shoreline promenade, walking trails, RV camping, shopping, dining and more.”

Said Stephen Nunez, KTUA Project Manager, ‘The parks’ partnering design teams bring design experience that assures that both Sweetwater Park and Harbor Park will meet the community’s high expectations for the future of the Chula Vista Bayfront.

Planned construction for Sweetwater Park and the first phase of Harbor Park is tentatively scheduled to begin in early 2021 and to reach completion in mid-2024.

-Delle Willett is a freelance writer and public relations consultant. She can be reached at dellwillett@gmail.com

Real Estate Showcase
Call 858.270.3103 to get your property featured today!

WELCOME TO
HARBORVIEW SENIOR ASSISTED LIVING

HarborView Senior Assisted Living is a boutique senior living home located next to downtown San Diego in the Upman Banker’s Hill neighborhood. HarborView is dedicated to offering compassionate, individualized care and support services for residents living with Alzheimer’s or related dementia. We also promote the physical, social, and spiritual aspects of our residents from our well-ventilated and counseling staff work around the clock in this charming Italian renaissance chan

SOLD!
867 A AVE.
6BR / 4BA
$3,195,000

RICHARD T. WOODS
San Diego County
Woods Real Estate Services
4255 Washington St. Suite 1
San Diego 92101
619.347.9866
richtwoods@gmail.com

www.WoodsRealEstateServices.com

COLEMAN MOVING SYSTEMS INC.
Office/Residential | Free Wardrobe Use | Piano Moving

Let Us Bring More Customers To You!
For More Information Contact Francisco
Your Sales Consultant
Mike Rosensteel
miker@sdnews.com / 619-961-1958

March 11, 2021
Online Noon
On-Campus: 5pm

Join us for an exciting information event!
Rock Academy students are on campus, adhering to safety guidelines, and THRIVING.
Sign up to attend at rockacademy.org or call 619.764.5200

March 2021
March 11, 2021

March 11, 2021
Online Noon
On-Campus: 5pm

Join us for an exciting information event!
Rock Academy students are on campus, adhering to safety guidelines, and THRIVING.
Sign up to attend at rockacademy.org or call 619.764.5200
VOTED #1 SALES OFFICE READERS CHOICE AWARD 2020
UP TOWN & DOW NTOW N

FOR SALE // ALTA #1904

576 6TH AVENUE #1904
2 BED / 2 BATH - 2 CAR PARKING - 1,145 SF - $899,000

FULL-SERVICE 5-STAR BUILDING, BEST VANTAGE POINT IN DOWNTOWN. MAKE THIS SOUTH FACING WS/OPOLAR VIEWS OF THE BAYS CORNER UND IREDIBLE INVESTMENT FOR THE SAVOY DOWNTOWN CONDO RIVER, FULL-SIZE WASHER & DRYER, 2 PARKING SPACES & STORAGE.

IN ESCROW // PALERMO

1501 FRONT STREET #523
3 BED / 2 BATH - 2 CAR PARKING - 1,568 SF - $799,000

EXTENSIVELY RENOVATED CORNER UNIT IN LITTLE ITALY. LIVES LIKE A SINGLE FAMILY HOME. OVERSIZED BEDROOMS, WALK-IN CLOSETS, FULL-SIZE LAUNDRY ROOM, SIDE BY SIDE PARKING, AND LOY HOA, PALERMO COMMUNITY OFFERS A POOL & GYM ON SITE.

SOLD // ELECTRA #2003

777 N. E STREET
2 BED / 2 BATH - 2 CAR PARKING - 1,378 SF - $899,000

20TH FLOOR AT ELECTRA WITH PANORAMIC VIEWS. SOLD FOR $899,000. SAVOY GROUP REPRESENTED THE SELLER. CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW WE CAN HELP YOU.

THE SAVOY GROUP

VOTED "BEST IN CLIENT SATISFACTION" 2004 - 2020 SAN DIEGO MAGAZINE

619.800.0289 | Info@thesavorygroup.com | thesavorygroup.com

JEANNINE SAVORY | REALTOR® | DRE# 01310559
620 First Ave., San Diego, CA 92101

©2020 Coldwell Banker West. All Rights Reserved. Coldwell Banker West fully supports the principles of the Fair Housing Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. Operated by a subsidiary of NRT LLC. Coldwell Banker and the Coldwell Banker Logo are registered service marks owned by Coldwell Banker Real Estate LLC. DRE# 01481679.