Owners call new theater a nod to changing times, La Jolla culture  By DAVE SCHWAB

La Jolla Village is losing a boutique market and gaining a boutique theater.

Boffo Cinemas has signed a 20-year lease with Jonathan’s Market to transform the retail space at 7611 Fay Ave. from a high-end market into a premium multiplex theater.

“We will have a bar and restaurant that will cater to our patrons and offer in-seat service,” said Adolfo Fastlicht of Boffo, a firm named for the movie industry term denoting a smash success.

“It will be a family venue, an upscale boutique catering to everybody in the community,” said Carlos Wellman, Fastlicht’s partner in the venture.

Jonathan’s announced on May 1 that it will close June 1 after 18 years at the Fay address.

Fastlicht noted that Boffo will be something different — and more — than your garden-variety theater, as it will offer “reserved seating, online reservations and an augmented menu.” While not disclosing what cuisine exactly will be served, Fastlicht said such fare typically includes items like sushi, pastis, wraps, sliders, salads and pizza.

Boffo’s decor, said Fastlicht, will be well-appointed, with “warm and inviting finishes that will translate into a comfortable environment.” He said the affect will be to create a “hospitality-type feel that is pleasant and relaxed.”

Preliminary plans include the building of seven screens, with 50 to 60 comfortable lounge seats each. The complex is scheduled to open 365 days a year.

Fastlicht said the former Jonathan’s space will necessitate extensive remodeling, including a partial second story. He said Boffo officials hope the theater will open next March.

Owner Ken Wellman, Jonathan’s partner, said the final decision to lease the property was “tough, bittersweet.”

He said the effect will be to create an inviting finishes that will translate into a comfortable environment.

The retail space was a Big Bear supermarket before it was purchased by the Dallan family in 1995. The Dallan’s then opened their first grocery store in La Jolla.

In the end, Dallo said, “We felt it was a business opportunity for us, and exactly right for La Jolla, which is developing and changing.”

Amid controversy involving a missing check and an alleged unauthorized donation, the La Jolla Town Council swore in a new president and his executive board at its May 8 meeting.

The group also heard from a firefighter about his lifesaving invention.

Sworn in as the council’s new president was Steve Haskins, joined by executive board members Charles Hartford, secretary; Yolanda de Riquer, second vice president; Glenda Rothberg, first vice president; and Ron Jones, treasurer.

The new group leaders were fitted with a cake depicting the Town Council logo, furnished by The French Gourmet.

Near the end of the meeting, Haskins called out trustee Nancy Gardner, alleging Gardner made an unauthorized check presentation recently to a veterans group, the Warriors and Quiet Waters Foundation, without the Town Council’s knowledge or approval.

The incident was part of continuing fallout from the La Jolla Dancing with the Stars fundraiser held Oct. 5 at the Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines.

Sides have been chosen and views expressed about new sidewalk cafes in La Jolla.

Should businesses be increasingly allowed to capitalize on outdoor dining space along sidewalks, or is it more appropriate to safeguard the Jewel’s sidewalk space from commercial encroachment in the form of outdoor café dining, leaving it open instead for pedestrian use?

On balance, sidewalks are needed — and good — for the community, said Claude-Anthony Marengo, president of the La Jolla Village Merchants Association (LJMA).

“The sidewalk cafes in La Jolla provide the type of fabric that we really support in the community,” said Marengo. “We really think as merchants that these sidewalk cafes provide energy that is similar to the shopping centers and their benches along the center common areas, like you see at Westfield Shopping Center.”

Noting sidewalk cafes are meant to “create social circles and prolong your visit and interaction from the sidewalk to the business,” Marengo said it’s always better to “have our sidewalks busy with activity, and if it means blurring the lines between our side-walks and our business ... I say it is good for the beach community that we live in.”

But there are those in La Jolla who view sidewalk cafes as more of an obstruction than an amenity.
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LJCPA opposes lifeguard-tower construction

By DAVE SCHWAB

La Jolla Community Planning Association (LJCPA) opposed summer construction on two lifeguard tower projects, debated the necessity of reducing dump site hazards in historic Pottery Canyon and OK il valet parking for La Plana boutique shopping center now under construction at its May 1 meeting.

City engineer Jhaid Sleiman came to the advisory group, which makes land-use recommendations to the city, on May 1 to ask planners for an exemption from the summer work moratorium so that Children’s Pool and Cove lifeguard towers could be completed sooner.

“Construction on Children’s Pool’s Lifeguard Tower was hailed Dec. 13 due to the (seals) pupping season,” said Sleiman, justifying the city’s request to extend tower construction through the end of June past the onset of the Memorial Day moratorium.

If the summer moratorium is observed, Sleiman warned, completion of Children’s Pool Lifeguard Tower could be delayed until Memorial Day of 2015.

Bred Rock resident Mike Costello noted the summer tourist season is the busiest and “most visible” time of the year for visitors, noting construction is the “opposite” of the construction moratorium’s intent and not what visitors come to see.

“I’m so sick of the city coming to us and asking us to vacate the construction moratorium,” said LJCPA member Janie Emerson, noting, “this is one of the iconic places to come in the world and in the City of San Diego.”

A motion by LJCPA board member Patrick Ahern to grant an exemption for work by the city on both La Jolla lifeguard towers to proceed during the summer was defeated by a 3-7-1 vote.

“I don’t think this decision is good for La Jolla,” said Sleiman following the board vote.

Joel Hyatt, of City Park & Recreation, gave a presentation on a city proposal to clean up waste and soil contaminated by hazardous waste in a portion of Pottery Canyon Park which was used as a dump site from the 1890s through the 1930s.

Pottery Canyon was the home of La Jolla Canyon Clay Products Company, run by the pioneering Rodriguez family from the 1930s to the 1990s.

Hyatt said evidence of small amounts of lead contamination have been found at the former dump site.

Hyatt said the city is considering a remediation project to remove contaminated topsoil and “put two feet of new topsoil on the (previous) dump site.”

Sentencing date is set in La Jolla Bank fraud

A July 25 sentencing date is scheduled for a former San Diego resident who admitted making false statements to federal agents involving her role in a scheme to defraud La Jolla Bank, according to the local FBI office.

According to court records, Laura Ortuondo, 33, helped her superior, small business owner Annand Sleiman, manage a loan application to La Jolla Bank. In May of 2008, she aided Sleiman in obtaining a $1.8 million loan from the bank by submitting two tax forms that falsely stated Sleiman had satisfied certain tax liabilities.

Ortuondo undertook a nearly five-year effort to thwart a federal investigation of the fraud, according to court records.

She told investigators that she was unaware she had submitted false documents, destroyed a computer that contained evidence of the fraud and persuaded her husband to lie about the computer.

Ortuondo faces a maximum five-year sentence and a $250,000 fine.

La Jolla Bank failed in 2010 and was taken over by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation after the bank ran up debt totaling $1 billion.

Carlsbad man sentenced to jail in La Jolla art gallery robbery

A robber who was pepper-sprayed at the Carlton Gallery in La Jolla was sentenced May 7 to two years in San Diego County jail.

About a dozen family members and supporters of Cameron Dale Cash, 25, of Carlsbad, attended the sentencing by San Diego Superior Court Judge Timothy Walsh, who also placed Cash on five years’ probation. Cash had pleaded guilty on March 14 to armed robbery and two counts of grand theft.

Deputy District Attorney Ted Fiorito recommended prison, and the probation department had specifically urged a sentence of four years and four months. Cash agreed to waive his accumulated jail time as a condition of probation.

Cash, who was remanded immediately, was also fined $1,484 and was ordered to pay probation costs set at $1,127.

The sheriffs’ department said Cash’s projected release is May 4, 2016. Walsh ruled out early release.
who view sidewalk cafés as more an obstruction than an amenity. "I'm hoping we don't lose our public sidewalks for private, financial gain," said Sally Miller, a longtime La Jolla resident and a fixture at community planning group and board meetings.

Miller noted that La Jolla's Planned District Ordinance (PDO), the community's blueprint for commercial development, seeks removal of most A-frame signs because they're obstructions in the public right-of-way.

Why, she asks, shouldn't the same rationale apply to sidewalk cafés?

"We're not supposed to have public cafés in the sidewalk areas," Miller said. "The PDO rules and regulations say there has to be eight-foot-wide clear, walkable sidewalks."

La Jolla Town Council woman Francis O'Neill Zimmerman concurred.

"Outdoor cafés are lovely if they are sufficiently set off from pedestrian traffic using cutlery and dishes and permanent structural barriers along the curbs serving as customer benches on the interior, maybe or maybe not under some trees, allowing not much room for pedestrians to pass between the shop front and the café," O'Neill Zimmerman said.

"Generally, cafés end up being unsightly messes without charm and a source of litter," O'Neill Zimmerman said. "Benches, well-tended potted plants and hanging flower baskets around town would be a lot nicer than all the café clutter on our too-narrow sidewalks."

"Bird Rock Starbuck's, who heads La Jolla's PDO subcommittee, which deals with sidewalks and other public right-of-way issues, said there are clearcut rules in the city's municipal code to prevent sidewalk encroachment. She noted La Jolla's rules are stricter than the city's.

"The La Jolla PDO requires an eight-foot setback from any encroachment of sidewalks, whereas in the city of San Diego, it's six feet," said Stiegler adding, "That's any encroachment — curblines, trees, power boxes, etcetera."

Stiegler said the concept behind setback requirements on sidewalks is "to allow for pedestrian traffic in both directions, three feet one way and three feet the other for the city, and four feet each way in La Jolla."

The overall objective of sidewalk setback requirements, said Stiegler, is to "create an easy flow of pedestrians on the sidewalk unencumbered by sidewalk cafés."

"Speaking for merchants, Marengo said, "I would like to see more of them, if possible, and on various streets, that allow us to connect the Village into a social event of walking and shopping exercises La Jolla style. I would like to see more of this European style of dining and drinking like they have in other communities such as Del Mar and Little Italy ... the only thing it has done for them is to allow for pedestrian traffic in both directions, three feet one way and three feet the other for the city, and four feet each way in La Jolla."

"If I don't have at least two-thirds of the money by May 25th, it (fireworks) is not going to happen," Marengo said. She also noted that permits to host the event, the costs of which are rising, need to be secured.

"It now costs $2,200 for the water quality control permit alone," said Marengo, noting a court battle is continuing with environmental attorney Marco Gonzalez, who's been suing La Jolla's and other fireworks display organizations over water issues. Testing, he argues, needs to be done to ensure the displays are not harmful to the environment.

The foundation was formed to promote patriotism and seasonal community spirit by preserving the annual Fourth of July fireworks display show will not go on this year.

Deborah Marengo, La Jolla Community Fireworks Association spokesperson, has been staging the annual Cove fireworks display the past four years since La Jolla restaurateur George Hauer, the event's originator, stepped away from it. Marengo said it's crunch time now as community donations, desperately needed to fund the annual patriotic event, which costs about $30,000 to stage, have not been coming in as expected.
Becker’s Hospital Review has named Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla one of the “100 Great Hospitals in America” in its 2014 compilation of some of the most prominent, forward-thinking and focused health care facilities in the nation.

According to the health care industry trade publication, the facilities included on the list are “home to many medical and scientific breakthroughs, provide best-in-class patient care and are stalwarts of their communities, serving as academic hubs or local mainstays.”

“This recognition by Becker’s Hospital Review is a great tribute to the work that is performed at Scripps on a daily basis,” said Gary Fybel, senior vice president and chief executive of Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla. “Everyone in our organization, including physicians, staff members and volunteers, works together to provide safe, high-quality and compassionate care to all of our patients,” he said.

The Chicago-based publication is geared toward upper-level hospital administrators and served a circulation of about 18,500. It evaluated hospital ranking sources such as U.S. News and World Report and Truven Health Analytics in determining its findings.

The 118-bed hospital was the first in San Diego to receive a designation for nursing excellence. The campus is home to Prebys Cardiovascular Institute, scheduled to open in 2015.

In 2013, Truven Health Analytics named Scripps Health one of the top 15 health systems in the country. U.S. News & World Report recently ranked Scripps La Jolla Hospitals and Clinics—which includes Scripps Memorial Hospital La Jolla and Scripps Green Hospital, its affiliate—among the nation’s top five California hospitals and one of the top 50 in the country for six specialties, including cardiology, orthopedics and gastroenterology.

Founded in 1924 by philanthropist Ellen Browning Scripps, San Diego-based Scripps Health is a nonprofit, integrated health system. It treats 500,000 patients annually and employs 2,600 affiliated physicians and 13,500 hospital personnel among its five acute-care hospital campuses, hospice and home health care services. It maintains an ambulatory care network of physician offices and 26 outpatient centers and clinics.

In a related development, the hospital is one of three Scripps facilities to earn high-level performance achievement awards from the American heart and stroke associations. The award recognizes 24 consecutive months of exceeding the national benchmark in several categories of stroke care.
That’s when La Jolla’s spirit of generosity broke through the week’s fatigue. No more than five seconds later, five onlookers — including one guy who’d pulled over in his car — gathered to help the lady, gingerly lifting her to her feet and pawing the splinters from her clothes. Earnest questions about her condition competed with the noise from the broken glass, and they stopped only when each Samaritan was persuaded that the lady was all right. Peace and health were restored to the land. The street cleaners would take it from there. If you’d seen what happened, you’ve have known that these benefactors weren’t fulfilling anybody’s sense of requirement. They were obviously from all walks of life (the guy in the car was driving a high-end Mercedes), and they’d rallied amid a sense of genuine concern. Rightly or wrongly, La Jolla and La Jollians may have a certain reputation for such things, but last Saturday’s colossal clank and shatter echoed all the way to Carlsbad. Spent and exasperated, she sat on the mountaintop of shards, her arms akimbo, her language likely leaving nothing to the imagination.

Many biblical scholars regard the cross as the central symbol of Christianity. When Christ died upon it, the people who witnessed the event considered it the epitome of human suffering and powerlessness. The event would end in a case in point. She had been the one overtaxed Lady of the Village. Right before you list your home. If you wait until the last minute to list your home, you may miss the rest of the week.

New theaters will probably be great, but they’re not quite the White House

By MARTIN JONES WESTLIN

As this week’s front-page story says, La Jolla is making up its mind — and the public mind — one boutique for another. With the June 1 closure of iconic Jonathan’s Market, the community will lose a cultural brand that once sported a live lobster tank and served up the hands-down best deli fare in the Village: in return, it gets the latest installment in a development staple that’s met with considerable success across the country over the last 40 years.

In a few months, 7611 Fay Ave. will be the site of a seven-venue cineplex, replete with what lesser Boffo Cinemas calls “warm and inviting” 11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing your Home for Sale

SAN DIEGO. According to industry experts, there are over 113 pre-purchase problems that can come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your house is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an older home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That’s why it’s critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you’re looking for, and know what you’re looking for can help you identify the issues you need to address.

If you have questions or concerns about these issues, or if you need help preparing for your home sale, contact the Home Inspection Association of San Diego for more information.

The more youthful demographic (comprising groups of thirty- and fortiesomethings who’ve never known what a cineplex is) has declared its presence in La Jolla for at least the last ten years, and the neighborhood seems none the worse for wear. The new theater may help entrench that younger element, yield no effect or signal a social disconnect, however unintended, within the community’s fabric.

The latter option, I’m sure, is especially worrying to those who’ll so dearly miss Jonathan’s. Change is inevitable, even encouraged, but on a strictly human level, that doesn’t mean it’s always easily embraced.

— Martin Jones Westlin is editor of La Jolla Village News.

Soaring into the sky, the cross imparts a sense of goodwill, peace and hope for mankind. Losing the cross would be like losing a bit of the heartbeat of the community, and not just in its commerce. While the new cineplex will likely be a delight, so was Jonathan’s (the Colony, too, for that matter) — and it came with a one-on-one, howdy-neighbor connectedness that a multi-venue theater, no matter its level of trendiness, simply isn’t designed to replicate.

The sixth day and the five Samaritans

In a lot of ways, Saturday is kind of our default time for frantically catching up with stuff we missed the rest of the week. Errands, kids, parents, work, schoolwork, mentorship, sports. The rules of engagement command our attention to all these and more, and Saturday thus becomes the province of the sleep-deprived.

Many biblical scholars regard Sunday as the seventh day of the week. On the second day of a trek across Girard Avenue on the sixth. If you’d seen what happened, you would have known that these benefactors weren’t fulfilling anybody’s sense of requirement. They were obviously from all walks of life (the guy in the car was driving a high-end Mercedes), and they’d rallied amid a sense of genuine concern. Rightly or wrongly, La Jolla and La Jollians may have a certain reputation for such things, but last Saturday’s event was the epitome of extraordinary generosity.
UCSD graduate proud to have nearly landed Padres announcer post

By DAVE SCHWAB

Todd Leitz was one of two UCSD San Diego graduates, along with marine biologist Sam Chin — who also has ties to the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Center on Mission Bay — who were runners-up to New Hampshire resident Alex Miniaik in the job hunt for Petco Park’s next public-address announcer.

The trio was culled from a field of more than 800 who originally tried out to be the Padres’ next P.A. announcer. That voluminous field was narrowed down to 50, then 30, then 10 — with the help of a fan vote. It finally led to the last three standing.

Miniaik bested Chin and Leitz after each had the opportunity to announce a full game at Petco Park.

A senior account executive with Gigunda Group, Miniaik said he plans to move to San Diego, leaving his current role as the public-address announcer for the New Hampshire Fisher Cats, the Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays.

“Alex has the iconic voice that we were looking for, and we’re excited to welcome him to the Padres family,” said Padres chief marketing officer Wayne Partello. He said Miniaik, who was picked from “a tremendous pool of talent,” has “the right voice to take us into the next era of Petco Park.”

Leitz, the first-runner-up for the announcing job, said the three-month-long selection process was a real learning experience, adding he has no regrets and no hard feelings about not being picked.

A Studio City resident in Los Angeles, Leitz is a public-information officer for MYSAFE: LA. He is a former radio news anchor and reporter.

“I’ve always loved baseball, and I thought, ‘I could do that. How fun would that be?’” said Leitz about the seasonal, part-time position.

Leitz came back to San Diego four or five times in three months for auditions.

“I’m proud they liked my voice and of how I handled myself,” said Leitz, adding he felt the edge Miniaik had in besting his final two opponents was his “eight seasons of experience as a minor-league announcer.”

Leitz said he’d do it all again, too.

“I hope I have another chance to audition for some other major league team. I thank the Padres for the opportunity and for a fun ride,” he said.

Three area scholastic baseball teams making a pitch for the playoffs

With CIF playoffs right around the corner, three area scholastic baseball teams are hoping to make their mark in the post-season.

At La Jolla High School, head coach Gary Frank and the Vikings headed into this week with a record of 15-8 (7-2 league play).

According to Frank, some key players to date include senior shortstop Brett Volger (.329 batting average with five doubles, set school record for most games played in a career); senior third baseman Alex Ellipulos (.333 batting average, five doubles, three triples, a home run, and 12 RBI’s); senior pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA); junior second baseman/pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA); junior second baseman/pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA); junior second baseman/pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA); junior second baseman/pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA); junior second baseman/pitcher Sam Schneider (6-2 record, with a 1.10 ERA);

Heading into action this week, the La Jolla Country Day School Torreys, under head coach John Edman, sat at 11-9 (3-3 in league).

“Our goal is to win the first league title since 2007 and fourth in school history, and compete for a Division II CIF championship.” Frank commented.

Edman said.

LJCD lost 3-2 and 7-4 to Santa Fe Christian, along with a 3-2 setback to Parker.

In another meeting with Parker, LJCD tallied a 4-1 win on the strength of freshman pitcher Brennan Rubin’s five-inning, one-run performance.

Brandon Wachs had a huge two-RBI double to give the Torreys a 4-1 lead in the fifth inning.

“Brandon Wachs is a big years performing,” said, “is to finish as high as we can in the league and then get in and make a run in the playoffs (Division I this year).”

At The Bishop’s School, head coach Joe Centanni and the Knights entered action this week with an overall mark of 10-11.

According to Centanni, key players to date include shortstop Bulla Graft, catcher Jamie Abrams and first baseman/outfielder Cyrus Nolan.

“Our goal is to finish the regular season on a high note and make a run in the Division IV playoffs,” Centanni said.

UCSD grad and noted California attorney to receive Triton award

Steve Schreiner, a La Jolla resident and noted California attorney, will be one of five UCSD graduates to be recognized during the school’s sixth annual Alumni Weekend, beginning Thursday, June 5.

Schreiner will receive the True Triton Award, given to UCSD graduates who embody the spirit of the university through active service, leadership and advocacy. He and four other distinguished UCSD graduates will receive the award at the True Triton Brunch on Sunday, June 8.

Named one of Southern California’s top-rated lawyers by American Lawyer Media and the Los Angeles Times, Schreiner, who graduated from UCSD in 1981, played a pivotal role in increasing the influence of alumni locally and at the state level. He served as president of the Alumni Association from 1995 to 1997 and chair of Chancellor’s Associates in 2004 and 2005.

Following his appointment as the UCSD representative on the UC Committee on Regental Rotation, Schreiner was chosen UCSD’s third alumni regent, the alumni voice on the board of regents for the University of California, for 2006 and 2007. He helped develop the regents’ first written report on alumni contributions to the university and successfully lobbied the UC Office of the President to increase administrative funds for campus development and alumni relations operations.

He currently serves on the UCSD Foundation board as nominating committee chair.

This year’s Alumni Celebration will mark the 36th year UCSD has honored outstanding alumni and supporters. The award recipients are selected by a committee made up of elected and former members of the alumni association’s governing board.

The annual alumni celebration and brunch are open to the public, with proceeds benefiting student scholarships at UCSD. For award recipient and event details, please visit alumni.ucsd.edu/celebration or call (858) 534-3900. Information about Alumni Weekend can be accessed at alumni.ucsd.edu /alumni-weekend.
UCSD advisory board set to eliminate Che Cafe budget

UCSD's University Centers Advisory Board is scheduled to vote on eliminating support for the university's historical Che Cafe from its budget. If passed, UCSD will effectively close the venue for an undetermined time until funds can be allocated to carry out what the university deemed as critical renovations. The venue launched in 1980 and has been a staple to San Diego's music scene since its conception. The venue has hosted a number of noted touring acts, like Billy Corban, Green Day, Jimmy Eat World, Rise Against and many more.

The Che Cafe is one of the only all-ages venues left in San Diego and opens its doors to the community for fundraisers, art shows, theatrical acts and other events, many of which are hosted for UCSD clubs and organizations.

A meeting on the matter was held May 13, among supporters of the Che, who circulated several petitions to preserve it.

May 20 power lunch: San Diego Community Partners is taking names

Most business owners imagine their clients and customers inside a castle, surrounded by walls, nearly impossible to reach: these walls are physical and mental, built for protection against a legion of unscrupulous sellers. How can we as community businesses counter this against a legion of unscrupulous sellers. How can we as community businesses counter this?

This 90 minute presentation will show you at least four ways you can get into the castle using your community partners as keys. This 90 minute presentation will show you at least four ways into the castle, physical and mental, built for protection against a legion of unscrupulous sellers. How can we as community businesses counter this?
Luncheon draws a bead on gowns

The Globe Guilders held its annual fashion show on May 9, featuring international designer Naeem Khan. Neiman Marcus and Hilton San Diego Bayfront presented the luncheon and fashion show. Sandy Redman was honorary chairwoman, and Lois Lewis was fashion show chair. “Cabaret” was the theme for the Khan fall collection presentation.

The runway had gorgeous beaded gowns reminiscent of the Great Gatsby era, with one weighing in at 17 pounds. Each piece was a work of art, with an emphasis on detail, such as beadwork, embroidery and feathers.

This year, Khan showed a day collection with prints that looked three-dimensional and finished the show with his bridal line, launched last year.

“I like clothes that make a statement or create drama,” Khan said, adding that he wants them to stand on their own.

The standouts were the leopard line. Some of the dresses had printed fabric with leopard, and others were crafted with sequins to resemble leopard (my favorite was a fur jacket dyed to resemble leopardskin). This beadwork is done in Khan’s workshop in India, and the work is assembled in New York.

I asked Khan what’s coming up, and he said, “At the end of the year, I will launch a daywear business, so look for that.”

The Globe Guilders are a volunteer auxiliary group of The Old Globe Theatre. Their efforts go toward the Globe’s artistic, education and community programs, which this event benefits. For more information, visit: globeguilders.org

UPCOMING EVENTS
SATURDAY, MAY 24: NATIONAL CHARITY LEAGUE OF SAN DIEGO will present a fashion show by Gretchen Productions at the Hyatt Aventine in La Jolla. For information, call (858) 459-1685.

FRIDAY, JUNE 6: THE SAN DIEGO HISTORY CENTER COSTUME COUNCIL will present a luncheon and fashion show from the past, present and future at House of Hospitality in Balboa Park from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For information, call (619) 232-6203.

A model poses in another design by Khan, who is launching a daywear business at the end of the year. Photo by Diana Cavagnaro
Coastal Dining

Donovan’s

The Broken Yolk Café
The Broken Yolk Café offers a large selection of home cooked meals in a comfortable and casual atmosphere. There are over 20 different omelets to choose from as well as a wide variety of other breakfast favorites which include pancakes, waffles and French toast. Feel more like lunch? Try one of our juicy ½ pound burgers or one of our large sandwiches.

Ahi Sushi & Grill
If you love Sushi, then you’re in for a treat at the new Ahi Sushi & Grill. With more than 260 items on their menu, they are sure to have all your favorites. As casual venues go, Ahi caters to a different level of taste, chiefly because of its attention to presentation. You get a dragon roll in the shape of a dragon, a caterpillar roll that looks like a caterpillar and an orange cut to look like a bear, a rabbit or any animal that comes to the artist’s mind. Meanwhile, that giant menu includes Chinese entries as well, and you can eat them in front of a big-screen TV. Ahi Sushi & Grill is located at 3949 Governor Drive in University City in the shopping center. For more information, call (858) 678-0288 or visit iloveahi.com. Ahi has other locations in Alpine, San Marcos and San Diego as well.

Art of presentation is king at University City’s Ahi Sushi

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La Jolla Playhouse names resident theater company for 2014-15

La Jolla Playhouse, the acclaimed local live performance venue and one of a handful of regional theaters in the United States, has named San Diego’s Circle Circle dot dot as its 2014-15 resident theater company.

Spearheaded by Playhouse artistic director Christopher Ashley in 2008, the residency program seeks to encourage the development of local performing arts organizations while contributing to the San Diego theater scene.

The program provides a temporary home and sound and lighting support each season to a troupe without a permanent venue.

“In just a few short years,” Ashley said, “Circle Circle dot dot has displayed a startling sense of ambition, adventure and creativity, devising plays alongside local communities and branching out into site-based shows. That commitment to new work and new forms resonates with the Playhouse’s own mission and makes CCdd a natural choice for our next resident theater company.”

Circle Circle dot dot, established in 2010, aims to engage audiences by creating original theater from local stories. In addition to the physical plant, the Playhouse provides its resident companies with marketing and development advice.

In the spring of 2015, the company will be developing a world-premiere earth-sciences production based on California native animal life, created with the help of San Diego-based environmental preservation specialist Michael Nieto. The currently untitled piece will feature puppetry, clowning, dance and music.

— From staff reports

MUSTDRINK >>

OLD INDUSTRY, NEW CAREER John Christofferson (center) knows a thing or two about coffee. He got there by way of an adverse circumstance – the loss of a job. His work in the software industry was outsourced to India; a vacation to France led to his interest in coffee; and fate took it from there.

He now owns Latte by the Sea espresso kiosk, 7855 Ivanhoe Ave. in La Jolla, which celebrates its third anniversary at the site on Friday, May 16. The event will feature live music, food samples of the venue’s breakfast and lunch burritos, and breakfast English muffin sandwiches and a 20 percent discount on drinks and pastries. From left, daughter Dana, Christofferson, his wife Vivian and violinist Beth Grace invite you to stop by and see what the fuss is about.

COURTESY PHOTO

Go to BellyUp.com or call 858-481-8140 for tickets.
Finch’s to hold fundraiser for UCSD’s Moores Cancer Center

Rarely can a group of internationally trained executive chefs be on the same continent at the same time, let alone at a bistro in La Jolla cooking up a storm to raise money for cancer. But that is what Martin San Roman (San Roman Catering), Martín González (Aqua al d’Ice & Toast Enoteca), Flor Franco (Encuentro Guadalupe & Indulge Cuisine), Damaso Lee (Chateau La Jolla) and Fernanda Piembert (Sam the Cooking Guy) will be doing on Monday, May 19 – preparing an extraordinary wine-paired dinner at Finch’s Bistro & Wine Bar, 7644 Girard Ave., a award-winning local eatery known for its community support of worthy causes.

“As a local’s gathering spot and eatery, we consider ourselves more than just a restaurant,” said Linda Ravden, the active partner in this family-run bistro. Ravden has positioned Finch’s as an intrinsic part of the local community and offers many weekly programs there, such as Monday evening’s Wine 101, Wednesday’s lunchtime Woman’s Vaig and Fashion Fridays, which partners with local boutiques and supports consignment boutique My Girlfriend’s Closet, among others.

Ravden also participates in major fundraising events for the Make a Wish Foundation, Mama’s Kitchen and Promises 2 Kids. The recipient in the Monday event is the Moores Cancer Center Healing Foods Kitchen at UCSD, run by Susan Faerber. Supported solely by donations, she runs a series of free cooking classes that teach cancer survivors to cook and eat healthfully. The dinner honors host chef Mario Medina’s wife Amalia, a recent cancer survivor. The menu will showcase six courses of contemporary Mexican cuisine, accompanied by selected wines of the Guadalupe Valley. The winemakers will be there to present and talk about their fare.

There will be two dinner seatings, at 5 and 8 p.m. For more information, contact Ravden at (858) 456 4056 or at info@finchslajolla.com. For reservations, go to cookingfor-cancer.eventbrite.com.

– Staff and Contributions

La Jolla Y and partners offering summer camps

Summer is the ideal time for kids to get up, get out and explore. But for some kids, summer means no access to recreational and educational activities to help them learn, grow and thrive during out-of-school time. As a result, some kids can experience learning loss and gain weight twice as fast than during the school year.

For parents and caregivers looking to keep kids’ minds and bodies active, La Jolla YMCAs is partnering with San Diego Unified School District, Torrey Pines Elementary School in La Jolla and Standley Recreation Center in University City to offer summer camp to give youth an adventurous, active and healthy summer.

YMCA camp programs provide a fun and unique experience that gives children and teens the opportunity to explore the outdoors, meet new friends, discover new interests and create memories that last a lifetime.

Brian Sense, associate executive director of La Jolla Y youth programs, said there are five reasons children and teens should attend summer camp:

Adventure. Summer camp is all about a wide variety of fun adventures and new experiences and especially exploring the outdoors.

YMCA camps have a new adventure for every child and teen. Visit lajolla.ymca.org for details.

Healthful fun. Day and residential camps offer fun, stimulating activities that engage the body and mind and help children and teens learn the importance of nutrition to help improve their eating habits.

Personal growth. While being away from the routine back home, youth have a chance to learn new skills and develop confidence and independence by taking on new responsibilities and challenges. Camps offer cognitive learning and social-emotional development opportunities for achievement.

New friendships. Amid the fun of camp games, songs, swimming, canoeing and talent shows, campers meet new friends and strengthen existing friendships. The relationships formed at camp are important and lasting for many youth.

Memories. Summer camp is an unforgettable experience that will give each camper (memories and camp traditions) to last a lifetime. Youth return to school with plenty of camp stories to share.

A leading nonprofit committed to nurturing the potential of youth, the Y has been a leader in providing summer camp for nearly 130 years. The La Jolla YMCAs continues to give youth an enriching, safe experience with caring staff and volunteers who model positive values that help build their kids’ character. The Y offers financial assistance to those in need.

For more information, visit lajolla.ymca.org or contact Sense at (858) 453-3483 or bsense@ymca.org.

– Staff and Contributions

THE COSMOPOLITAN RESTAURANT ADDS SUNDAY BRUNCH MAY 18

Enjoy the Beauty of Old Town

The historic Cosmopolitan Restaurant in Old Town is unveiling a new brunch menu on Sunday, May 18 which combines traditional American favorites with Mexican breakfast specialties that will be sure to delight hungry brunch-goers of all ages.

“Today’s version of the Cosmo and its 1870s-era restaurant and 10-room bed and breakfast hotel overlooking Old Town’s bustling streets is a fun and unique experience that is unlike any in Old Town,” said Chuck Ross, owner and operator of the Cosmo.

Guests dining on May 18 will receive a special $2-off per person discount if they mention the secret word “Victorian.”

Served from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sundays, the extensive menu features modernized proud dishes, such as the Polenta Cake French toast for $9.95 and the Goat Cheese Veggie Omelet for $8.95. Some of the must-try weekday offerings include the BLT &a sandwich, the Tasty Waffle Sandwich and the Monte Cosmo Sandwich, which features ham, turkey and Swiss cheese on brioche bread dipped in egg batter, pan fried and dusted with powdered sugar.

“The brunch menu was created to incorporate the newest culinary trends with specially prepared dishes to incorporate the newest culinary trends, features Mexican dishes such as mole chimichanga and egg waffles, Churros, Piggy Grilled Cheese, and the Monte Cosmo Sandwich, which features ham, turkey and Swiss cheese on brioche bread dipped in egg batter, pan fried and dusted with powdered sugar.

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The Cosmo’s new menu also serves up distinctive signature dishes, including the popular Fajita Chicken and Churros, Piggy Grilled Cheese, and Biscuits & Gravy. A la carte breakfast staples such as red sangria, margaritas, berry juice, added eggs and griddle potatoes, chick

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Testing for spirituality

By Natasha Josefowitcz, Ph.D.

How often have you heard people say that someone is spiritual? I always wonder what they mean exactly, and when asked, no one has ever given me a satisfactory explanation under normal circumstances.

Dr. Dean H. Hamer, a geneticist at the National Institute of Health postulates in his book, "The God Gene," about the origins of spirituality. He writes that new discoveries in behavioral genetics and neurobiology indicate we have a predisposed, inherent need to embrace a higher power. In other words, he says, we are genetically programmed to believe in something larger than ourselves.

Throughout history, humans have worshipped a variety of gods (in ancient Egypt, it was the sun god Ra). Ancestor worship is still prevalent around the world. Primitive tribes have sacrificed animals and humans to appease their gods and made offerings of food to altars in order to gain a favor. By it a better crop or healing an injury or doing a dance to a rain god to ease a drought. We are not that different today. Whether we pray to Allah, Jehovah, Jesus or the multitude of Hindu gods, we still invoke a higher power or powers who can hear us and act on our behalf. Some of us pray to a god to save an ill child, others for peace in the world or to win a sports competition. And all believe that their particular god is on their side.

Hamer devised a self-transcendence scale based on the work of Dr. Robert Ornitz of the Washington University Medical School. It measures the ability to see oneself as part of a large, connected universe. This scale is based on three components of spirituality: self-forgetfulness, transpersonal identification and mysticism. I extrapolated from it the following:

Self-forgetfulness
Do you ever get so involved with a project that you forget where you are or what time it is? Have you ever loved someone so deeply that you felt like there was no boundary between the two of you?

Spiritual people score high for self-forgetfulness, the first component of self-transcendence. Self-forgetful people often experience flashes of insight or understanding when they are in this frame of mind. Creativity is maximized; originality is fostered. Even the most ordinary things seem fresh and new.

Transpersonal identification
Are you concerned about protecting animals and plants from extinction? Do you feel a sense of unity with all the things around you?
The hallmark of this trait is a feeling of connectedness to the universe and everything in it—animate and inanimate, human and nonhuman, anything and everything that can be seen, heard, smelled or otherwise sensed. People who score high for transpersonal identification can become deeply emotionally attached to other people, animals, trees, flowers, streams or mountains. They feel that everything is part of one living organism.

Mysticism
Have you often found yourself moved by a fine speech or piece of poetry?

Do you sometimes feel a spiritual connection to other people that can’t be explained in words? Individuals who score high for mysticism are fascinated by things that can’t be explained by science. They see a parking space that opens up just in the nick of time as evidence of a higher power. Often, they feel they have a “sixth sense” or extrasensory perception. They may believe in miracles.

From what I gather, spirituality does not have to have anything to do with religion or belief in a particular god but more with a feeling of connectedness to all things in the universe. It may or may not include a specific deity or his or her emissaries, and it may or may not include a belief in the possibility of being heard by this god or emissary.

In taking this test, I scored high in all dimensions:

1. When I write, I lose sight of time; when my husband was alive, I often felt like we were one.
2. I am a pantheist — my molecules vibrate in union with the world around me.
3. I can be moved to tears by music or a poem, and indeed, I feel connected to some people without an explanation, incomprehensible, unconditional love.

So I guess I am a spiritual person, which surprised me. I had never thought of myself that way. I have lived my life more in my rational left brain but have recently become more open to right-brain experiences — everything seems possible.

– Natasha Josefowitcz

Tamara Rodriguez Mehler finds life lessons in 'Annie'

Annie is slated to get her gun through May 25 as San Diego Musical Theatre presents Annie Get Your Gun, the 1946 musical story centering on big-time sharpshooters Annie Oakley and Frank Butler. Librettist Peter Stone added a secondary romance to the 1999 Broadway revival; beyond that, the show’s pop-culture standards, like “Being in this production,” Mehl says, “has been so gratifying in so many ways. Not only are we singing and dancing to one of the most beautiful musical scores ever written for Broadway, but as

Annie’s story unfolds, we are given so many life lessons that are so true to our time. It is amazing how this terrific heroine took over the new world and the old world with pure courage. She taught us all to love who we are, as we are... I am so thankful for the friends I’ve made, and the work ethic and talent everyone in this show exemplifies.”

For more information about the show, see sdmt.org.

Health BRIEFS >>

WHEN MIGHT I NEED A GERIATRIC CARE MANAGER?

What will the geriatric care manager do for me? I’ll answer this with an example. You’re in FL and you get a call on a Friday afternoon that your mother is being released from the hospital in CA you panic. You had no idea she would be released so soon and you don’t have caregivers in place and no hospital bed in place and her doctor has left for the day. Can it get any worse? A primary function of the GCM is to advocate for the client. The GCM will make sure your mother is not released until everything is in place.

When is the best time to use a geriatric care manager? Call one when the elder is doing well but you’ve noticed small changes or the doctor has noticed a change. The GCM can answer all the families questions and help find resources. They are your eyes and ears if you don’t live nearby. They will help allow you to be a child again with someone else managing the details which will give you quality time with your parent.

For more information on what a Geriatric Care Manager can do for you, call the RNs at Innovative Healthcare Consultants. The nurses are available for consultations and our staff also includes caregivers who are overseen by the nurses. We serve clients throughout San Diego and southern Riverside County. Call us at 760.731.1334 or see our website at innovativhec.com.

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Mark Speros

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“Th is is like a family. The trainers have driven me to be consistent in working out and I have more energy.”
Moonlit Mambo in Havana and Moores’ fight against cancer

Starry, starry nights
with Vincent Andrunes

With summer approaching, those dedicated ladies of Las Patronas are working full speed on their annual Jewel Ball gala, scheduled for August 2 at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club. Taking a short break recently to host a brunch at the La Jolla Community Center, they gave interested parties a preview of their preparations.

Titled Moonlit Mambo, the event will evoke the vibrant colors and romantic energy of 1950s Cuba, with entertainment reflecting Cuban music that harkens to the famed Tropicana Club.

Vintage American cars will be on display, with overall ambiance reminiscent of Havana at its most beautiful, as enjoyed by such greats as Hemingway and Sinatra, but juxtaposed with unexpected twists of 21st-century technology and design elements.

The black-tie event will attract nearly 850 guests. Proceeds, projected to approach $1 million, will be distributed to dozens of worthy major and minor San Diego County beneficiaries.

UCSD’s Moores Cancer Center has been designated a comprehensive cancer center by the National Cancer Institute. Numerous other accolades from national organizations honor its excellence in care, and research there is leading to innovative changes in the way cancer is diagnosed and treated.

Arguably, everyone has been or will be affected by cancer, either personally or through friends or relatives. One in every two men, and one in every three women, will be diagnosed with cancer sometime in their lifetimes. Directly or indirectly, the disease strikes us all.

The disease has many forms and reacts differently with respect to each individual. Moores is pioneering the practical application of genomic medicine, immunotherapy and stem cell research, developing treatments personalized for individual patients — and for the near term, not the distant future.

Research depends greatly on the vision and generosity of philanthropists and donors at all levels. Moores’ 33rd annual fundraiser, its Spark gala, was held recently at the Hyatt Aventine.

The $10 attendees enjoyed a wine tasting and elegant hors d’oeuvres by chef Matt Richman, for the seated dinner, chef Bernard Guillat concocted a deliciously complex salad and an excellent entrée of marinated local sea bass. Dessert was chef Margaret Nolan Carvallo’s trio of cheesecake, local berries and chocolate ganache.

A live auction raised over $100,000; paddle-raise pledges (topped by $200,000 from Lisa and Steve Altman) brought in another $1.5 million. An anonymous donor matched that sum, and $1 million matches from UCSD Chancellor Pradeep Khosla and UCSD health system CEO Paul Viviano increased total proceeds to more than $5 million to help fund the Hospital for Cancer Care at Jacobs Medical Center. This in-patient cancer facility opens 2016 (currently, Moores is outpatient only).

Tony and Grammy Award-winning entertainer Heather Headley sang a soulful rendition of “At Last.” She continued with “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” from “The Wizard of Oz,” being obviously pregnant (she said she could envision Dorothy being older and pregnant …). A chorus of two dozen joined her for her later songs. The audience responded with a standing ovation, and the evening concluded with a DJ playing for dancing until quite late.
Vacations are more than breaks in routine; sometimes, the experience changes lives

By JULIE MAIN

This is Julie Main’s account of her volunteer work during a December trip to Nairobi. Main is the publisher at San Diego Community Newspaper Group, whose papers include The Peninsula Beacon, Beach & Bay Press and La Jolla Village News.

A shy elephant shuns the crowd with the only means available. PHOTO BY JULIE MAIN

All of us experience changes in our lifetimes. Our kids grow up. We move, we divorce, we change career directions. Change comes with age and circumstance. Now that I find myself without a (domestic) partner, I have the opportunity to view my life direction in an entirely different way. I feel a new sense of freedom and independence.

After an acquaintance (who traveled through the Galapagos Islands with me in 2012) suggested I start doing things for myself, I decided to take a trip to Africa. Consulting my proverbial bucket list, I concluded that Africa was not to become a holiday destination — the trip was an effort to rediscover myself, to remember who I am and what excites me. To that end, I explored the possibilities for turning it into a volunteer working vacation.

After much due diligence, I made arrangements through International Volunteer HQ, a New Zealand firm that provides volunteer programs in developing countries worldwide. I selected a three-week program that would fit my Christmas holiday schedule, opting for volunteer work at an orphanage in Kenya.

I chose the Kenya Masai Mara program because it fulfilled many things on that bucket list.

Jane Goodall was in the wings

At a very early age, I had fantasized about working alongside famed British anthropologist Louis Leakey after learning of the 1974 discovery of “Lucy” by Leakey’s team in Kenya’s Great Rift Valley trench. I got to see Lucy, whose skeleton is said to be 3.2 million years old, in Nairobi’s National Museum. I thought that perhaps I could be another Jane Goodall, who got her start with Leakey. After all, she was just a young college student who happened to be at the right place at the right time; she was given the task of studying the Bonobo monkeys in the Congo, and — well, you know the rest.

Additionally, I have always wanted to go on safari. After an eight-hour venture into the valley, I and other volunteers got to see the animals loosely termed the Big Five — the lion, the African elephant, the Cape buffalo, the leopard and the rhinoceros — up close and personal. I enjoyed my one hot shower on the entire trip in my safari tent!

And what about the tall, beautiful Masai people? The contrast of the Masai draped in colorful red and orange cloaks and beads against the greening pastures, blue skies and acacia trees kept our cameras busy.

Nairobi, San Diego are similar

As my favorite movie of all time is “Out of Africa,” I was thrilled to stand on the front porch of writer Karen Blixen’s home and imagine what it was like to live as she did during a patriarchal period of modern African history (Blixen, who died in 1962, penned her account of her life in Kenya under the name of Isak Dinesen). I enjoyed a sloppy kiss from a Rothschild giraffe and laughed as the baby elephants playfully enjoyed their lunch at the Sheldrick Elephant Orphanage, located near Nairobi National Park.

After 24 hours, several in-flight movies and a span of 18 days, I concluded that Nairobi in general is very similar to San Diego. The climate and vegetation seemed familiar, and I found Kenyans to be very friendly in general, quite beautiful and of the Christian faith. English and Kiswahili are the official languages, and most Kenyans have their own tribal language as well.

I was not chosen to be sent to a rural community for my volunteer work, as I had hoped, but found myself staying in the second largest slum in Nairobi. My home-stay was in a (fairly) western-style home. I bunked and volunteered together with a lovely young gal from Canada (half my age) and shared the (cold) shower and bathroom with several young volunteers from various parts of the world.

A mountain of potatoes

I had the privilege of sharing the home of Pastor Regina and her husband Pastor George (who ran the orphanage at which I volunteered), and their two younger children, McKenna and Vicki. I became good friends with Jane, the housekeeper. Most things we needed were available in the slum, including bottled water, an electrical current converter, flip-flops, toilet paper and fresh fruit and veggies. Each morning, we enjoyed Chai tea, which consists of milk cooked the night before, mixed with brown sugar and tea and made with love.

Grace Academy Lighthouse orphanage was a 20-minute walk through the slum. Our work included wrapping protective plastic around new textbooks, teaching classes and art projects, such as stringing beads for necklaces and bracelets (a favorite among the kids), peeling a mountain of potatoes and playing an invigorating game of basketball. Most of the children are HIV orphans, blessed by the good work of orphanage founders.

The orphanage has a rainwater system that provides water, warm quarters to sleep (often two to a bunk), a solid meal a day and a full curriculum. All the money to run the facility comes from local donations and church members. Manyorphans do not fare as well — no running water, little food, poor accommodations and greedy over-seers, resulting in sickly, unattended children. Meanwhile, the volunteers visited the local mall, picking up supplies such as writing paper, scissors, pencils, knives (for peeling potatoes), tape and tape dispensers, books and whatever we felt was needed.

The boys need to visit Africa

The children were gracious and well mannered. People go out of their way to open their homes to you, even if the home is a one-room apartment with a charcoal stove. The Kenyans’ strong Christian beliefs sustain them during difficult times and provides hope for the future.

I traveled to Africa to give of my time, with the hope of making someone’s life a tiny bit better. What I brought back was so much more than I could have imagined (my first desire upon returning home was to send my two boys to Africa for a dose of hubbling).

We are a gluttonous society, so caught up in our material world, working harder so we can have more, while too many people have too little or nothing at all. The Masai have survived on the milk and blood of their cattle, and the millions of slum dwellers live day to day hoping for a meal. I saw orphans who feel blessed to have a warm bed at night and count on the meal the next day. They feel lucky to be given the chance for an education. I met people who appreciate the kindness of others and are not concerned about the type of car you drive or what designer purse you purchased. I may have put a smile on a child’s face or provided some temporary supplies for one small orphanage, but what I brought home made an impression on me that will last a lifetime.

From left, McKenna and Vicki, daughters of the hosts, and author Julie Main. PHOTO BY JULIE MAIN
Sworn in May 8 as La Jolla Town Council’s new president was, from left, Steve Haskins, joined by executive board members Charles Hartford, secretary; Yolanda de Riquer, 2nd vice president; Glenda Rothberg, 1st vice president; and Ron Jones, treasurer.  

PHOTO BY DAVE SCHWEB

COUNCIL  
CONT. FROM PG. 1

Torrey Pines Hotel.

“In the past,” Haskins began, “we had a problem with a trustee relat ed to funds of the Town Council, and this is something that really needs to be dealt with.” He said the council must “follow ethics no matter what” in order to “maintain the integrity of the group.”

Haskins called for the board to initiate a vote of the council’s full membership to seek Gardner’s removal from office. Gardner organized the Dancing with the Stars fundraiser.

“Nancy Gardner,” Haskins continued, “acted without the voting approval of the Town Council in presenting a donation to an unauthorized organization completely misleading the public.” He said that some funds from the dancing event have somehow recently turned up missing.

Trustee and Realtor Charles Schevcher said he was “bewildered” by the recent turn of events in the fundraising affair, noting the funds that had somehow disappeared from the group’s account, and also handling all the finances. My job was to oversee the event, which I did. I never had control of the money; my name is not on the bank account; I don’t have any (account) access.”

The Town Council board voted unanimously to initiate a vote of the council’s nearly 580 members to oust Gardner, with only Gardner herself and one other trustee voting against Haskins’ motion for Gardner’s ouster. Following the May 8 meeting, Haskins said he had proof that Gardner had access to the Town Council’s account into which dance fundraising proceeds had been placed. He also said Gardner’s resign ation was not official, as it had not been approved by the Town Council board at the May 8 meeting.

Firefighter Eric Topacio gave a slideshow presentation to the council on his new invention, the Cedar Valve, a detachable fire hose connection that he said saved invaluable seconds disengaging from a water source. He said he believes his invention could ultimately save lives and countless property damage in combating wildfires.

Topacio, who lost a colleague in a fire fight, said he has made it his mission to convince firefighting agencies regionally of his device’s viability. He said he’s vowed “that I was going to make a difference, make a change, in the fire service.”

The next Town Council meeting will be Thursday, June 12, at 5 p.m. at La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect St.

THERAPY  
CONT. FROM PG. 1

which is developing and changing.”

Dallo said Boffo will take control of Jonathan’s on June 1, the date of the market’s closure. He said the boutique market’s approximately 45 employees will be offered employment elsewhere at the company’s Harvest Ranch locations in El Cajon and Encinitas and at its Foodland Markets in South Bay.

For a number of reasons, Fastlicht said La Jolla was the perfect choice for their new theater concept.

“La Jolla is a great market, has fabulous demographics — the right population density, the right average household income, the right education levels, the culture and sophistication,” he said, noting the community “has lacked a movie theater for many years.”

La Jolla had a single-screen theater, the art-modern-cuve, at 7730 Giraud Ave. The Cove was built in 1948. In 2002, it was sold and converted into a European-style furniture store.

Currently, the nearest movie theaters to the Village are on La Jolla Village Drive and in La Jolla Village Square.

Weinman and Fastlicht said that there was a “void in the La Jolla market,” adding they wanted to “develop something here” given that the Jewel is a “unique, wonderful destination — incredibly difficult — if not impossible — to replicate.”

Fastlicht said his vision revolves around retro in that it harkens to the glory days of Hollywood, when movies were king.

“We are returning to 50, 60 years ago, when going to a movie was an event,” he said, noting that concept has been lost with commercialization and the development of malls and multiplexes.

“The theater just became another anchor,” Fastlicht said, adding that’s about to change.

“We want people to make a conscious decision to come here (theater) because they want to be pampered,” he said, adding that a Boffo patron will no longer be “one of 300 people in an auditorium having to wait three, four or five deep in a concession line. Though our concept may not be right for everyone everywhere, the beauty of it is we will be right in the middle of a town that has the culture, the sophistication and the willingness to accept it.”

Noting it “is regretful that Jonathan’s is closing,” Fastlicht pointed out that “times change.”

“We really think this theater will have the ability to propel the village of La Jolla for the next couple of decades,” he said. “It should really become a classic.”

For more information about Boffo, visit www.boffocine mas.com.

Mixing & mingling

Upcoming Chamber Mixer May 21st

message from the COB

On May 5th, new members, Dr. Eric Osmolinski and Dr. Jana Osmolinski hosted a mixer for the La Jolla and Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce at their home of La Jolla Family Dentistry located at 7730 Giraud Ave. Suite B in La Jolla. Approximately 70 guests enjoyed networking, refreshments and delicious pizzas, salads, and appetizers. The attendance was always generous amounts of their best of the best.

The La Jolla and Golden Triangle Chamber of Commerce will host the next mixer on May 21st @ Leucadia Pizzeria. These mixers are always well attended and fun. Hosted on their spacious patio, Leucadia Pizzeria. These mixers are always well attended and fun. Hosted on their spacious patio, Leucadia Pizzeria. These mixers are always well attended and fun.

WHAT:
Business After Five Mixer
at Leucadia Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant
WHERE:
7746 Regents Road
San Diego, CA 921222
WHEN:
May 21st, 2014
5:30pm-7:30pm
ATTENDANCE DONATION:
$10/Members
$15/Guests

Photos from the May Business After Five Mixer and Ribbon Cutting at La Jolla Family Dentistry

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**JACARANDAS**

Their blazes of blue mean a lot to San Diego

By LINDA MARRONE

Right now, many areas of San Diego are dressed in a blaze of brilliant lilac-blue color, compliments of the many Jacaranda trees planted here over the years. A native of the high, dry areas of Brazil and Northwestern Argentina, the Jacaranda is very much at home in our Southern California climate. The first time I noticed this beautiful tree was on Maui. It was spring, and the trees looked like lavender clouds floating along the winding road leading to the top of Haleakula crater.

There are more than 50 different species in the Jacaranda family, with Jacaranda mimosiflora being the most widely planted and admired. The Jacaranda is often chosen to line avenues because its shallow root structure will not pull up the concrete. The City of San Diego has chosen the Jacaranda as a suitable tree for our boulevards, in our parks and other public settings; in 2000, it became the city's official nonnative tree.

The Jacaranda grows fast and thrives in fertile, well-drained, sunny areas, and it requires moderate watering. If it receives too much water, the leaves will appear before the blossoms, and you will not have the usual showy display of flowers. Along the coast, the tree needs protection from our damp, cool winds, while in other areas of the county it requires protection from frost in its early years.

The tree is deciduous and will lose its leaves in the winter. The clusters of lilac-blue trumpet-shaped flowers appear in late spring on the bare grayish-brown branches, creating a striking contrast in color. Before the full foliage appears, the flowers fall to the ground, forming a velvety blanket of blue.

By midsummer, the tree will be covered with fernlike green foliage that provides filtered sunlight. Later in the season, leathery seedpods will appear where the flowers once bloomed.

The Village Garden Club of La Jolla has a wonderful program that involves planting a Jacaranda as a living tribute to someone special. Late club member Sylvia Simpson Coleman started the program in 1986. Sylvia dreamed of San Diego becoming the Jacaranda capital of the United States; because of the club's continued efforts, her dream is coming true. For a donation of $50, a tree can be planted in memory of a deceased person, in honor of a living person, to commemorate a life milestone or just to help make San Diego more colorful. The trees are planted in public places throughout the county. The project has planted more than 2,200 Jacarandas to date.

Checks should be made out to the Village Garden Club of La Jolla, Jacaranda Project, and mailed to Jacaranda Project, P.O. Box 99934, San Diego 92169. The club will contact you with information on when and where the trees are planted and the dedication date.

And remember: If you walk under a Jacaranda tree and one of its lovely blue flowers falls on your head, it is said you will experience good luck!
The process of trying to remove residents from the 75-acre park on prime real estate jutting into the water in Mission Bay Park west of Interstate 5 was initiated by the city in 2003. Ultimately, the city reached a $3.6 million settlement agreement on one of three lawsuits involving current and former residents of the 500-unit De Anza Cove Resort mobile-home park.

The settled dispute stems from the treatment residents said they received by a management company retained by the city to run the day-to-day operations of the park after the prime bay-front real estate was taken over by the city in November 2003.
May 16: Groundbreaking Art Exhibit

WHERE: 7 p.m., La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7771 La Jolla Blvd.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHAT: Groundbreaking Art Exhibit, 6 to 9 p.m. work of local artists, with talk at 7 p.m., La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7771 La Jolla Blvd. For more information, visit www.lajollalutheranchurch.com.

May 17: 16th Annual Secret Garden Tour of La Jolla

WHERE: 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Wisteria Cottage, 780 Prospect St.
HOW MUCH: Self-guided tour cost is $50
WHAT: La Jolla Historical Society's 16th annual Secret Garden Tour of La Jolla, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Wisteria Cottage, 780 Prospect St. Each spring, the historical society extends a rare invitation to the public to stroll behind gates and view a variety of garden styles. Self-guided tour cost is $50. For more information, call (858) 459-5335 or visit www.lajollahistory.org/events/secret-garden-tour.

May 20: Chasing the Song

WHERE: La Jolla Playhouse, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive
HOW MUCH: Tickets start at $15
WHAT: Chasing the Song," La Jolla Playhouse, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre, 2910 La Jolla Village Drive. The Playhouse’s 2014-15 season kicks off with this Page to Stage musical, running May 13 to June 15. This new production was created by the team behind the Tony Award-winning and Playhouse-launched “Memphis,” featur- ing book and lyrics by Joe DiPietro and music and lyrics by David Bryan. Directed by Playhouse artistic director Christopher Ashley. Tickets start at $15. For more information, call (858) 228-3092 or visit www.lajollaplayhouse.org/chasing-the-song.

May 22: Publisher Rep Night

WHERE: 7 p.m., Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Ave.
HOW MUCH: FREE
The evening featuring sales representatives from Penguin and Random House. For more information, call (858) 454-0347 or visit www.warwicks.com.office, (858) 459-3728 and online at www.LJMS.org.

Meet the Top Producers for 2013 from Remax Coastal Properties

Top row: Scott Booth, Dane Schwartg, Shaye Flaherty (Vice President), Greg Flaherty (Broker/President), Steve Cantacres, Rob Goss, Joe Callahonetta
Bottom row: Kara Watkins, Don Hawthorne (Sales Manager), Kathy Evans, Helen Spear.
Not pictured: Tom Mattix

These Top agents propelled Re/Max Coastal Properties to its best year ever with over $241,976,000 in sales volume

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www.remax-coastalproperties-ca.com
CA BRE #01895162

May 27: Unicorn Executions and Other Crazy Stuff My Kids Make Me Draw

WHERE: 7 p.m., Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Ave.
HOW MUCH: FREE
WHAT: Cartoonist Steve Breen will discuss and sign his book “Unicorn Executions and Other Crazy Stuff My Kids Make Me Draw,” 7 p.m., Warwick’s Bookstore, 7812 Girard Ave. In this collection of drawings, Breen explores the random (and sometimes horrifying) pleas of his children to draw everything from Jedi-corns to mutant presidents. The book fea- tures 100 original color and black-and-white illustrations by the Pulitzer Prize-winning illustrator. For more information, call (858) 454-0347 or visit www.warwicks.com.
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HAIIKU SUSHI CLOSES, SALTY BUTCHER'S TO MOVE IN

After 12 years in the business, Haiki Sushi, located at 1520 Garnet Ave., has closed its doors.

Restaurant owner, Chuongwun Yun has sold his corporation, Rio Vida, Inc., to a group of three individuals led by Louise Kelly, Kenny Cusciato and Briette Donovan.

According to Kelly, a new restaurant called Salty Butcher’s American Ale House will be opening at the start of summer and will feature BBQ-style cuisine and local craft beers on tap.

In January 2002, Yun purchased the property from Ingrid Gales, who operated Ingrid’s Delicatessen & Market, a German market, deli and restaurant.

Along with selling his business, Yun also sold his real estate interests for nearly $1.4 million.

The Franco Realty Group represented Yun for the sale of the real estate, the Haiki Sushi business and assisted the new real-estate buyer with finding the new tenant.

This is The Franco Realty Group’s fourth Garnet Avenue commercial transaction in less than 18 months totaling $8.3 million.

FREEDOM CYCLES ROLLS TO PRIME LOCATION IN PB

One of the prime commercial real-estate corners in Pacific Beach is sporting a new tenant called Freedom Cycles.

The 2,700-square-foot commercial space is located at the signalized corner of Garnet Avenue and Fannn Street.

According to Freedom Cycle’s website, it is a wholesaler and retail dealer of bicycles sporting 17 stores across four states nationwide, reaching as far as New Jersey.

The tenant signed a new five-year lease, and was expected to open May 1.

— Tony Franco is a local commercial real-estate expert. He can be reached at (858) 717-1697.

WHICH OF THESE 7 COSTLY MISTAKES WILL YOU MAKE WHEN YOU SELL YOUR LA JOLLA HOME?

Why Most Home Sellers Don’t Get the Price They Want

La Jolla - A new report has been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most home owners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become less and less effective in today’s market.

The fact of the matter is three quarters of home sellers don’t get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and worse: financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report indicates, most home sellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these 7 mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled “The 9 Step System To Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar” To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your free copy of this report, call the Info line: 1-800-467-9064 and enter ID# 2000. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

OPEN HOUSES

LA JOLLA

Sat & Sun 1-4pm ... 7640 Hillside Dr. 4BR/3.5BA ... $2,847,000 ... Irene Chandler • 858-775-6782

Sun 10-3pm ... 3051 Via Maris ... 4BR/3BA ... $985,000 ... Mike Tappas • 858-537-7599

Sun 1-4pm ... 7877 Carmelito Del Ced #46 ... 3BR/2BA ... $785,000 ... Sandy Cohen • 858-435-5095

Sun 1-4pm ... 1704 Carmelito Antider ... 3BR/2BA ... $295,900 ... Teresa Schumacher • 819-995-2342

Sun 10-1pm ... 1329 Carmelito Balata ... 3BR/2BA ... $1,200,000 ... Sotidle Sirepuk • 858-340-0305

Sun 1-4pm ... 5772 La Jolla Hermosa ... 1BR/1BA ... $1,950,000 ... Cassandra Allred • 858-449-8866

Sun 1-4pm ... 7356 Rux Michael ... 2BR/1BA ... $1,950,000-$2,250,000 ... Deborah Greenlaw • 858-752-5040

Sun 1-4pm ... 5461 Pacifica Dr. ... 5BR/4BA ... $2,395,000-$2,699,000 ... David Smidt • 858-459-9002

Sun 1-4pm ... 2107 Calle Guajima ... 7BR/5BA ... $3,500,000 ... Debi Schramkra • 925-908-5311

Sun 1-4pm ... 2710 Hidden Valley Rd ... 5BR/5BA ... $2,780,000 ... Linda Daniels • 858-344-2290

Sun 1-4pm ... 1522 La Jolla Ranchito Rd ... 5BR/5BA ... $2,950,000 ... Monica Lenchicki-Reiter • 858-750-7954

PACIFIC BEACH / MISSION BEACH / CROWN POINT

Sat & Sun 2-5pm ... 1291 Parker Place ... 3BR/2BA ... $830,000 ... Marie Tokioka • 858-705-1444

Sat & Sun 11-4pm ... 1428 & 1424 Thomas Ave ... 4BR/3BA ... $995,000 ... Kathy Evans • 858-488-2795

Sat & Sun 11-4pm ... 681 Thomas Ave #10 ... 2BR/2BA ... $650,000 ... Terry Wright • 858-797-2034

Sat 10-4pm ... 1492 Wilbur Ave ... 4BR/4BA ... $1,595,000 ... Philip H. Cambis • 858-243-5884

Sat 1-4pm ... 1349 Point Loma St. ... 2BR/2BA ... $885,000-$889,000 ... Ira D. Moore • 858-840-0400

Sat & Sun 1-4pm ... 1026 Archer St ... 3BR/3BA ... $895,000 ... Jason Bernard • 858-549-6266

POINT LOMA / OCEAN BEACH

Sat & Sun 11-4pm ... 5238 Telegraptch St ... 3BR/2BA ... $695,000 ... Robert Ratcliff • 858-802-8857

Sat & Sun 1-4pm ... 654 Bangor St. ... 2BR/1BA ... $1,200,000-$1,699,999 ... Cindy Wing • 858-229-9646

Sun & Sun 11-4pm ... 916 Bangor St. ... 2BR/2BA ... $1,350,000 ... Robert Ratclff • 858-802-8827

Sun 1-4pm ... 3624 Pacific Ave ... 2BR/1BA ... $765,000 ... Robert Ratcliff • 858-802-8827

Sun 1-4pm ... 4510 Brighton Ave ... 3BR/2BA ... $737,500 ... Cindy Wing • 858-229-9646

UNIVERSITY CITY

Sat & Sun 1-4pm ... 3346 Carmelito Vista ... 3BR/2BA ... $684,000 ... Charles Schierer • 858-449-8290

Sun & Sun 1-4pm ... 3346 Carmelito Vista ... 3BR/2BA ... $684,000 ... Natasha Alexander • 858-356-9990

Sat 1-4pm ... 3966 Carmelito Cassis ... 4BR/2BA ... $910,000 ... Russ Craig • 858-361-7877

Sun 1-4pm ... 4575 Rossello Ct. #372 ... 2BR/2BA ... $385,000 ... Russ Craig • 858-361-7877

BAY HO

Sat & Sun 11-4pm ... 6135 Avila Dr. ... 4BR/3BA ... $790,000-$828,900 ... Larry Carmel • 858-692-1160

ESCONDIDO

Sun 1-4pm ... 1788 Mountain Hill Place ... 4BR/3.5BA ... $795,000 ... Dan McCoy • 858-353-3144

KENSINGTON

Sun 1-4pm ... 4475 Vista Dr. ... 4BR/3BA ... $798,000 ... Larry Carmel • 858-692-1160

MISSION VALLEY

Sun 3-5pm Sat 10-2 Sun 1-4pm ... 2905 W. Canyon Ave ... 4BR/2BA ... $695,000-$735,000 ... Bobby Graham • 858-379-9668

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Top floor with ocean views from every room. Move-in condition. Hardwood floors and new carpeting in bedroom. HOA fee includes electricity and water! Shared garage with one neighbor plus extra storage. Walk to all that Bird Rock has to offer -- Starbucks, Yoga, Beaumont’s, and the beach.

Offered between $325,000 & $400,000
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This spectacular single-level 2BR/2BA “Venezia” luxury condominium boasts over 1,700 square feet of spacious elegance. A wonderful blend of old world charm & modern amenities. 2 assigned parking spaces in the gated underground garage. In the heart of the Village - Walk to the beach, & all your favorite restaurants and shops!

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