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Homelessness – No Quick Fix

By Patty Ducey-Brooks



This past month, the Mission Hills Business Improvement District (MHBID) was the lead organizer of a forum on homelessness: the cause, effects, and options for addressing this growing issue for San Diego, and all its respective communities.

Present for this event was Mayor Todd Gloria, Councilman Stephen Whitburn, and people

from the City and County who are working daily on homelessness. They include Dijana Beck, chief agency operations for the County of San Diego Office of Homeless Solutions; Brian Gruters, associate director of Outreach, PATH (People Assisting The Homeless); Aisha Daniels, program manager, Mobile Homelessness Resolution Team (MHRT), PATH; Jonathan Herrera, special programs manager & senior policy advisor, Homeless Housing Innovations Division, San Diego Housing Commission; and Captain Shawn Takeuchi, Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), San Diego Police Department.

What became obvious is that there is a much more concerted effort between the City and County to address homelessness. However, there isn't yet a fully integrated approach. That's because the people who are homeless represent different types of problems and challenges.

Though Mayor Gloria emphasized that creating housing is the key solution, the source of the problem still exists. Respectfully, the people who are on the streets are there for different reasons. Some are due to employment (minimal and/or lack of), some are due to mental health issues (including PTSD), some are drug and alcohol dependency related, and some homeless prefer to live on the streets.

Having been closely aligned over the years with various Alcohol and Drug Recovery

programs (ie. Pathfinders, McAllister Institute and Alpha Project), I learned early on that there is no quick fix to people who choose a life of destruction. I have worked with very successful men and women who succumbed to drug and alcohol to deal with work and life stressors. Some recovered. Some didn't.

I have also worked with various veteran's group, including Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD), which has a housing facility on Pacific Highway. Having hired some of their staff over the years, and assisted with fundraising efforts, I've learned that they assist veterans with a variety of issues, including PTSD, other forms of mental health, and drug and alcohol related issues. Working with this group helped me to see that housing alone can't fix the problem. It requires the right mental health services and a lot of support.

According to the VVSD mission: "We address unique legal needs of veterans through ongoing legal self-help clinics, veteran oriented seminars, employment, entrepreneurship, and mentorship which empower and improve the lives of veterans and their families."

They also advocate to help veterans aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of veterans.

According to Father Joe's Villages, which was founded by Father Joe Carroll, there are many faces of homelessness: people overcoming substance-use disorder, those living with mental illness, veterans struggling to readjust to civilian life, and families who can't make ends meet.

If it's not obvious, there is no "quick fix," which all of the organizations noted above have shared with me.

Though it is worth acknowledging the collaboration between the City and County to focus on the homeless, we should also point out that sometimes we need to get very serious about



A shopping cart contains a homeless person's valuables.

the reasons behind homelessness, especially mental health, and substance abuse.

What I didn't hear during the forum is how this is being addressed. So, without appearing grateful for the effort of the individuals and groups working on homelessness, we also need to ask, "How do we integrate the necessary services and programs that should be readily available?"

We should start with the County of San Diego Health & Human Services Department, who has a key role in mental health and drug and rehab programs funded by the County. We need to know what is available and how the existing non-profit organizations, such as VVSD and Father's Joe Villages, are being incorporated into this overall effort.

Let's not forget about the groups that have been in existence for upward of 50 years serving the homeless, and those with special needs.

Thanks to the Mission Hills BID for organizing this event, and to facilitator J Daniel Geddes, cochair of MH BID's Homeless Adhoc Committee.

Homeowners and Residents Across the State Protest SB10



From San Diego to Mt. Shasta, homeowners and their representatives are speaking out against the state legislature's ill-conceived effort to eliminate single-family zoning. I'm adding my voice to that tidal wave of opposition because I'm convinced that SB 10 also presents an ethical and probably indefensible legal problem for our elected officials.

I've read the fine print in SB 10, and there's no doubt that the proposed law allows the construction of ten housing units on a single-family lot, plus four additional "Accessory Dwelling Units" (also known as ADUs or "granny flats"). That's a total of 14 housing units, on one parcel, in a single-family neighborhood like mine.

Those are the facts, even though the author of SB 10 tried to minimize the negative impact of his proposal by not counting the four additional structures as "housing units". Why the sleight of hand? I think there's an obvious answer: city councils that want to wipe out single-family zoning can avoid public hearings and environmental reviews for projects with up to ten living units, but that scrutiny is required for projects with more than ten units

In fact, California has historically acknowledged that ADUs are housing units. It's right there, in black-and-white, in the state's 2020 ADU Handbook. If an ADU is defined as a housing unit in that state regulation, it must also be considered a housing unit in SB 10, especially because both documents address the issue of ADUs on single-family zoned lots.

I'm not a lawyer, but I'm sure the state legislature cannot — and must not — arbitrarily decide when an ADU is or isn't considered a housing unit. That's what SB 10 would do. Judges reject that kind of faulty reasoning as "arbitrary and capricious abuse of discretion." We non-lawyers call it what it is: using word-salad to hide the facts, mislead the public, and pave the way for the stealth elimination of single-family zoning.

I urge all our state legislators to closely read SB 10's language. Not counting ADUs is unethical and possibly legally indefensible! When you understand the negative and irreversible impact SB 10 will have on all communities in your districts, I know you'll join me and millions of other Californians in our unwavering opposition to SB 10.

Danna Givot is a San Diego homeowner, community activist, and volunteer with Neighbors For A Better San Diego (www.nfabsd.org).

San Diego's Stealth Government: Read the Fine Print

By Kate Callen

Political troubadour Pete Seeger had an apt formula for comparing education and experience: "Education is when you read the fine print. Experience is what you get when you don't."

For decades now, San Diegans unschooled in reading the fine print have lost hundreds of millions of dollars to painful experience: the public pension fiasco, the Chargers ticket guarantee fiasco, and more recently, the 101 Ash Street and inflated hotel purchase fiascos.

Each of these scandals began as a City Hall proposal sold quickly to a trusting public. Each erupted when taxpayers learned too late that they should have read the fine print, paid closer attention earlier, and asked

And now a batch of stealth government ploys is costing San Diegans two commodities that are as precious and finite as money: public road space and neighborhood open space.

Two consecutive YIMBY mayors, goaded by YIMBY lobbyists with major development funding - nearly 80 percent of Circulate SD's "Corporate Members" work in the land use sector – chose to invest millions in bike lanes as a "climate action" mechanism to reduce vehicle pollution.

commute by driving solo would join the 1.2 percent who commute by Gloria's 21-page "May Revision to the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget." bike. But there's never been any evidence to support that.

In fact, as Voice of San Diego has reported, a city engineer told city planners in 2014 that projections of bike lane usage "were arbitrary - they 'did not come from anything measurable or related to actual increased ridership.""

Still, the city persisted. Hundreds of curbside parking spaces across San Diego were removed to install bike lanes. Angry residents and small businesses complained that street parking was already scarce. A widespread public "bikelash" emerged.

Elected officials were in a quandary. They couldn't risk defying furious constituents. And they couldn't break with the lobbyists, especially since checking the "climate action" box (on the cheap) is a ticket to higher office in progressive California.

Enter stealth government.

Politicians who shrink from facing public resistance find ways to evade it. They hold town halls where only "pre-selected" questions are answered. And they keep controversial projects out of sight by shepherding them through the underground passages of planning group subcommittees and hand-picked commissions.

That's what happened with North Park's 30th Street Bike Lanes, which came as a complete shock to the North Park community when then-Mayor Kevin Faulconer abruptly announced in May 2019 that they were a done deal.

Another stealth trick is to stash radical land use measures in legislative undergrowth. When the City Council rewrote the "granny flat" ordinance last fall, staff said the changes were simply putting San Diego "in compliance with state law." Buried in the staff report were giveaways to developers that far exceeded state codes: allowances for multiple rental units on single family lots with no required parking, landscaping, or setbacks.

And then there are the dense thickets of budget documents. This In theory, a significant portion of the 55.8 percent of workers who summer's prize stealth gambit was nestled in page 13 of Mayor Todd

> At a time when city funds are tight and bike lane usage is still anemic, Gloria will spend \$828,616 in TransNet funds on 12 full-time positions. The new hires "will be responsible for the design and installation of approximately nine miles of new or upgraded bicycle facilities throughout the City per year." The money seems earmarked for personnel only. It's unclear if any funds will support actual construction.

> Now that you've read the fine print, ask yourself how San Diego might spend nearly a million dollars on more urgent transportation needs, like a more robust public transit system to support increased housing density.

> Then ask your City Council representative if she or he thinks this cloaked expenditure for a dubious venture will deliver a solid return on investment.

Kate Callen is a co-founder of the SoNo Neighborhood Alliance

Links:

- https://www.circulatesd.org/corporate (Of the 65 Corporate Members listed on this page, 49 are involved in real estate development and construction, including financing, architecture, landscaping, legal services, and political lobbying.)
- https://www.sandag.org/uploads/publicationid publicationid_4649_27278.pdf (See "Travel Mode Distribution," page 17)
- https://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/government/emails-some-climate-action-plan-goals-were-not-based-on-anything/
- https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy22-mayors-may-revision-to-the-proposed-budget.pdf

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego - William J. Oakes Branch – Reopens

Over the last 18 months, many kids have been isolated due to COVID, spending more time playing video games than playing outside with friends. Now, after being closed as a result of the pandemic, The Boys & Girls Club of Greater San Diego - William J. Oakes Branch in Logan Heights is reopening to its members.

As part of its activities this month to celebrate that reopening, the Club administration joined donors, UnitedHealthcare and W2W Sport, to officially dedicate the brandnew, multi-use sports field, made possible by a \$20,000 gift from UnitedHealthcare and built by W2W. Some lucky members had their first opportunity to try out the field in person with team defenders Elijah Martin, Josh Yaro and Grant Stoneman from the San Diego Loyal Soccer Team.

"The sports court will help kids develop a passion for sports and build healthy habits as children that will hopefully remain with them as adults," said Michelle Malin, senior vice president Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater San Diego. "Making memories, playing on this field — that's going to go a long way toward encouraging kids



An enthusiastic group of people gathered to celebrate the reopening of the The Boys & Girls Club of Greater San Diego - William J. Oakes Branch in Logan Heights.

to enjoy our Club's offerings. We appreciate all UnitedHealthcare and W2W have done to make this a reality."

The reopening is a milestone for the Club. When the pandemic began, the club had to quickly adapt, and it did so by gearing up to help children and families impacted

by the health crisis. More children and families needed social service support as well as a place where children could use computers for remote learning. These needs drove much of the Club's effort to seek private support.

"The facility will provide a safe and modern space for boys and girls to be physically active," adds Raul Herrera, UnitedHealthcare of California. "Investing in our communities, helping kids develop a love of sport and exercise, and supporting activities that help people live healthier lives is all part of UnitedHealthcare's efforts to be a valued community partner."

San Diego Open Men's Professional Tennis Tournament Takes Place at Barnes Tennis Centeropens

Tickets are now on sale for the \$600,000 San Diego Open. The ATP 250-Level tournament is scheduled to be played Monday, September 27 through Sunday, October 3, 2021 at the Barnes Tennis Center, located at 4490 West Point Loma Boulevard.

Fans can purchase tickets through the official tournament website at: www.barnessdopen.com. Ticket prices range from \$10 per day for Qualifying Rounds on September 25 through September 26 to \$99 for a VIP Seat per session on the final weekend of the tournament.

"We've made it very affordable for fans to attend the tournament and watch the top players in men's professional tennis," said Ryan Redondo, San Diego Open Tournament Director. "Fans will have the option of purchasing a \$20 Grounds Pass for each day of the main draw and an unreserved ticket in the Bleachers is only \$30 per day."

Redondo added, "Additional seating, which includes a 2,000-seat Grandstand on Stadium Court, is being constructed. I strongly encourage fans to purchase their tickets soon as we are anticipating strong attendance for each session of the tournament."

The men's professional tennis tournament will feature a 28-player singles draw and a 16-team doubles draw. The event will offer a total

of \$600,000 in prize money and tournament champions will receive 250 points in the FedEx ATP Rankings.

Tickets can also be purchased at the Tournament Box Office, which will be open daily from Thursday, September 23 through Sunday, October 3. The Box Office will be located at Barnes Tennis Center, 4490 W Point Loma Blvd, San Diego, CA 92107.

The men's professional tennis tournament will feature a 28-player singles draw and a 16-team doubles draw.



Where is KnicKnak? Find out next month, he'll be in a new spot!

LAST MONTH'S HOT SPOT! KnicKnak was chilling at Little Italy dog park!

A great enclosed dog park with separate areas for large and small dogs. If you don't know Little Italy, it was once home to San Diego's flourishing tuna fishing industry and generations of Italian families who made their living on the sea, Little Italy is now a lively neighborhood with cozy patio cafés, international restaurants, craft brew stops, urban wineries, art galleries, sophisticated shops, boutique hotels, farmers market, and the festive Piazza della Famiglia. This is a great area to call home... give me a call if your looking to buy or sell in this charismatic neighborhood.



The Misguided Bike Lane Dilemma

By Paul Krueger

I'm a veteran cyclist who commuted 14 miles to work and back for years. I'm fully committed to clean air, climate action, and a sensible reduction in the use of solo-driver vehicles for commuting and weekend errands.

But I'm convinced that the city's current strategy for attaining these laudable goals is misguided, and think it has already backfired by alienating the majority of San Diegans whose support we need.

My reading of public opinion -- and what I see every day on our streets -- has also convinced me that only a tiny minority of San Diegans will ever even consider commuting by bike. Most live too far from their workplace, and their route includes hills, uncrossable freeways, and other barriers. They can't carry their briefcases, lunches, and other items, including the change of clothes they'll need at the office (which most likely doesn't have a shower).

What about the children they drop off at school, the mid-day doctor's appointment, the afterwork meetings, the unscheduled interruptions and emergencies?

This reality-check isn't just my opinion. SANDAG's most recent commuter survey, from 2019, confirms that just 1.2 percent of San Diegans commute by bike, and I haven't seen any reliable research showing that number will increase with the city's current strategy.

But I think the biggest barrier to biking long or even short distances is safety. Bicycling is an inherently dangerous hobby. I know, because I've survived more than my share of collisions. I was knocked off my bike by a motorist who cruised through a stop sign. I was hit-head on by a wayward (and probably impaired) cyclist riding the wrong way on a downtown street. I broke five ribs and my collarbone when I collided with a car in May, while cycling west on Washington Street, in Hillcrest. (Lucky for me the Scripps Mercy ER was just three blocks away!)

That's one reason why I believe no amount of lane striping, "Share The Road" signs, or "protected" bike lanes will ever convince the overwhelming majority of San Diegans that it's safe to ride to work, or take long -- or even short -- trips on a bicycle.

And they're right. The harsh truth is that we don't have the money to insulate cyclists -- or anyone -- from the sad inevitably of injury and death. Last year alone, 30 San Diegans were killed by drunk or drug-impaired drivers. But we don't put ignitionlock breathalyzers on every



Bike lanes have proven dangerous to bicyclists and pedestrians.

vehicle. We're reading more stories about motorists -- and their passengers -- killed by wrong-way drivers. But we don't line all our highway medians with concrete barriers. Airbags have killed and maimed hundreds of drivers and passengers, but we accept the trade-off for lives saved.

There's also a spirited debate about the safety of protected bike lanes, like the ones just installed on 4th and 5th Avenues in Hillcrest. Some riders think they're actually less safe than sharing the road with vehicles, because the "protected" lanes, which are bordered by curbs and stanchions, can trap a cyclist inside the lane, leaving him or her with no escape route if a pedestrian steps of the curb without looking, or a child darts into the protected lane.

I also think bike ridership is too scarce to justify the public cost of those improvements, especially when bike lanes can be accommodated -- or already exist -- just a block or two from those main thoroughfares. That's one reason why I vehemently oppose the city's ill-reasoned decision to transform the North Park's 30th Street corridor into a cycle track. Those bike lanes wiped out hundreds of parking spots, and threaten the livelihood of restaurant and store owners who barely survived the pandemic.

Sacrificing traffic lanes for empty bike lanes also has the regrettable -- but very understandable -- consequence of alienating motorists stuck in slow or stopped traffic, spewing greenhouse gases from their vehicles while they curse the empty bike lanes.

But those angry motorists will have their revenge. They'll vote "no" on the next billion-dollar transit tax, because they don't trust how government planners will spend their money. They'll also vote against incumbent politicians who ignore their complaints, or respond with "We know what's best" condescension.

So how do we get public by-in for our climate action strategies?

First, our politicians need to listen to all their constituents and actively seek out their opinions. They must appoint a cross-section of the public, not just hard-core cyclists, to transportation-related boards and commissions.

Second, they must clearly communicate their plans to install bike lanes, and give residents a forum to ask questions, express their concerns, and offer alternative routes, before construction starts.

Third, they must fully consider other practical, cost-effective strategies to reduce single-vehicle commuting and be guided by the best available research, not just the loudest voices.

For example, the continuation and possible expansion of work-from-home policies, forced on us by the pandemic, should be encouraged and incentivized. Telecommuting keeps lots of motorists off our highways, and really helps reduce global warming.

Fleets of low-or non-polluting jitneys, which are very popular in San Diego's downtown, could offer free rides around Hillcrest, North Park, La Jolla, UTC, Kearny Mesa and other busy neighborhoods.

On-demand "last mile" rides from homes and businesses to the nearest trolley or bus would encourage more use of rapid transit.

Subsidies for e-bikes -- which can climb hills and carry extra items -- might really increase our bike-to-work numbers.

I certainly don't have the answers, but I can ask the questions. Thousands of my fellow San Diegans are also asking their own questions, while they're stuck in traffic, or cutting through an alley to avoid a crowded street. Our elected officials should start listening.

Paul Krueger is a Talmadge resident, semi-retired journalist, writing coach and researcher (www.paulwkrueger.com).

He's survived at least seven bike collisions, one or two of which were not his fault.

SENTINEL

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San Diego Zoo Safari Park Welcomes a Tamandua Pup

San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is proud to announce the birth of a southern tamandua (pronounced tuh MAN deh wah) pup at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. The female pup, yet to be named, was born July 21 to first-time tamandua parents, Cora and Fernando. Wildlife care specialists report the pup is healthy, and Cora is being a very good mother—nursing, cleaning and grooming her baby, and giving her constant attention.

"We are elated to have this little pup in our care," said Lisa Peterson, executive director, San Diego Zoo Safari Park. "Both mom and pup are doing very well-and Cora is an attentive mom, keeping her pup nestled in their den the majority of the time, but venturing outside for up to an hour some days. It is great to see the pup developing, using her strong claws to cling to Cora's back with confidence as Cora climbs about the habitat."

Covered in fine, silky grayishbrown hair with a dark "V" down her back, it is estimated the pup will nurse for about five to six months, and begin trying foods like worms and a special high-protein insectivore powder mixed with water after two to three months. The father, Fernando, plays no



Southern tamanduas are a type of anteater, and are often called lesser anteaters because they are much smaller than their relative, the giant anteater.

role in helping raise the pup and does not share the same habitat as mom and baby. Tamanduas are typically solitary animals, except when mating.

Southern tamanduas are a type of anteater, and are often called lesser anteaters because they are much smaller than their relative, the giant anteater. Native to Central and South America, they are at home in trees and on the ground. They have small eyes and poor vision, but have acute senses of hearing and smell. Tamanduas feed mainly on small insects like ants and termites.

Using their specialized mouth and 16-inch-long sticky tongue, tamanduas eat up to 9,000 ants in a single day. Tamanduas are covered in thick, coarse hair that helps keep ants from reaching their skin. Their enormous front claws help tamanduas climb in trees, and are also used for defense and when digging for food. They use their prehensile tail for balance and support while climbing.

Tamanduas are sometimes called "stinkers of the forest," as they may release a very unpleasant odor, similar to a skunk's, from a gland at the base of their tail when a predator gets too close.

This pup was born to parents who were paired through a recommendation breeding from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Southern Tamandua Species Survival Plan (SSP), designed to help maintain a healthy assurance population of this species.

Both Cora and her pup will remain in their off-view habitat for about two months, while they bond. As animal ambassadors for their species, when Cora is ready, she will bring her pup outside for longer periods of time, and guests may see them on a Behind-the-Scenes Safari at the Safari Park's Wildlife Connections habitat or up close during an unscheduled wildlife presentation inside the Safari Park.

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help us find a home



Babe, a Vietnamese potbelly pig would be a wonderful addition to your home. This apple-munching and carrot-chewing love is happy to lay out in the sun all day long, but you can always catch his attention with some nice hay or a dollop of peanut butter. Though he can be a little shy, Babe has grown increasingly confident with continued interactions. Once he is used to

his humans, Babe will gladly accept head pets and scratches. If you're looking for a fantastic potbelly companion, schedule an appointment with an adoption counselor to take Babe home.

Babe is currently residing at the Escondido Campus of the San Diego Humane Society, located at 3450 E. Valley Parkway in Escondido. For more information, call (619) 299-7012, or visit www.sdhumane.org.

Balthazar is a four-year old, Siberian Husky. When he came to the humane society, it was obviously that he needed the support of the Behavior Center. As he's gotten to know his regular caregivers, Balthazar has made progress with his shy/fearful behavior using positive reinforcement. By pairing treats and toys (some of his favorite things) with the scary parts of life - like new people, new places, and new things, he's started to open up and become more comfortable. However, Balthazar will need to find a compassionate home with adopters who are eager to help him continue growing.

Balthazar is currently residing at the San Diego Campus of the San Diego Humane Society, located at 5500 Gaines Street in San Diego. For more information, call (619) 299-7012 or visit www. sdhumane.org.



SPCA

Assemblymember Chris Ward's Statement on his support for SB 9 and SB 10

When asked why Assemblymember Chris Ward elected to support SB9 and SB10, which received major opposition from his constituents, he responded with the following:

"For years Californians across the state have been living paycheck to paycheck, in cars or in crowded, unstable housing situations, struggling under the weight of astronomical housing costs. This crisis touches every Californian. People are being forced to have to choose between paying rent, buying food, or accessing live-saving medical care. This has always been unacceptable, but now, with the continued threat of a unprecedented public health crisis, we have reached an inflection point where doing nothing is no longer an option.

Senate Bill 10 is a completely voluntary measure that will allow local governments to zone any parcel of land...that is urban infill or near public transit...to build 10 units of housing or less. This is not a mandate, as cities can choose whether they would like to use this tool to upzone. Any decision to implement this growth in housing is under complete local control. Cities have long requested voluntary tools to build the housing they need and this legislation aims to provide just that.

Senate Bill 9, authored by Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, will allow up to four units of housing to be built on a single-family lot. This is only an increase of one unit when compared to what is currently permitted under state law. President Pro Tem Atkins has made multiple amendments to address the concerns raised by stakeholders throughout California, including communities here in San Diego. Because of these discussions, amendments were taken that added anti-displacement provisions, added a three-year homeowner occupancy requirement, and allow local governments to deny a housing proposal if it would create a fire hazard. This measure is a small step forward to try and help address California's severe lack of housing stock by making duplexes and smaller single-family homes affordable.

Our housing crisis will not be solved overnight, and there is no single piece of legislation that can address the entirety of the issue. However, after decades of inaction, we know the cost of doing nothing on this pressing issue. Furthermore, after hearing from communities throughout the 78th Assembly District about the need for progress and solution oriented legislation, I made the decision to vote yes on SB 9 and SB 10."

Assemblyman Ward Uses Emotion Not Logic for his Response

The fact that Assemblymember Ward relies so heavily on emotion to justify his vote for SB 9 and SB 10 should raise a red flag—especially since his statement doesn't align facts with reality. What Senator Atkins authored and what Assemblymember Ward voted for will destroy single-family neighborhoods and do nothing to provide affordable housing for low-income San Diegans.

Assemblymember Ward claims that SB 9 allows only one more additional unit than is currently permissible (under California's ADU law). However, in order to build those four housing units, the property must first be split into two lots, with a minimum lot size requirement of only 1200 square feet each. (With the average single-family lot being more than 5000 square feet, SB 9 would apply to almost any existing single-family parcel in San Diego.) Once the lot is split into two smaller lots and two houses are built on each lot, City and State ADU laws allow additional units on each lot in the form of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).

SB 9 does not prohibit cities such as San Diego from allowing ADUs on split properties. The bottom line is that more units can be added to each lot in the form of ADUs. These units can be as high as three stories with no side- and rear-yard setbacks—even in high-risk fire hazard severity zones. And this is all now allowed in your single-family neighborhood.

This type of lot-splitting is not designed for homeowners, considering that the mortgage must be paid off before one can qualify. Also, the

existing home would be torn down for lot reconfiguration, forcing temporary relocation.

SB 9 and SB 10 "build" upon San Diego's neighborhood-killing 2020 ADU ordinance. What this means is that no neighborhood will be spared. While San Diego's ADU ordinance makes working-class neighborhoods targets for developers due to the return on investment of "unlimited" ADUs on a single-family lot, SB 9 makes more expensive communities such as La Jolla, Mission Hills, or Point Loma the newest targets—especially since there are no affordability mandates in SB 9 or SB 10. Imagine the density and rents on these luxury housing units that Assemblymember Ward claims will solve San Diego's overcrowding and the affordable housing crisis.

Make no mistake, these bills are designed in such a way to encourage the strip-mining of single-family neighborhoods by developers.

Like the Huffman 6-, 8-, or 12-pack apartments built in the 1960s-1980s, these "upzoning" bills will turn single-family neighborhoods into a mishmash of high-density rental complexes owned by outside investors. San Diego's single-family housing inventory will be greatly diminished by design, resulting in higher home prices and lost opportunities for future San Diegans to gain generational land wealth.

Lisa Sinclair, resident of San Diego, has been instrumental in working with neighbors currently being negatively impacted by San Diego's ADU ordinance.

Evolution From Single-Family Home to Apartment Complex



2016 Single-Family Zoning



2020 California's Guidelines (Homeowner "granny flats")



2020 San Diego's Guidelines (Investor apartment buildings)

NeighborsForABetterSanDiego.org

Getting Those Orchids to Bloom Again

By Barb Strona



In June, Chuck McClung spoke to the Garden Club about orchids. Interested in gardens and gardening since early childhood, McClung received a master's degree in botany from

Washington State University and has worked in ecological and botanical research for several universities as well in commercial greenhouses and nurseries. McClung explained has over twenty years' experience working in large, family-owned independent garden centers "where I really honed my skills helping others find happiness successfully growing and tending to their favorite plants." Today he is a gardening instructor, an author, and a specialist in orchids as well as landscape design which includes everything from maintenance to edible landscapes as well as "personalized garden mentoring." His talk focused on getting orchids to rebloom.

McClung says if you know three basic factors, you will have success with your orchids: you must know what kind of orchid you have; you must know what the native habitat is like for that orchid; and you must be able to recreate the conditions found in that particular orchid's native habitat. McClung says, "The goal for any type of gardening is to reproduce the native habitat of our plant (orchid) to achieve the desired growth habit (flowers), while having lots of fun."

Exercise caution when learning about your plants on the internet. Visit your local nursery or ask someone who really knows his plants. What are its growth patterns each year? Where does it grow in nature? What is the climate like over



With the proper conditions, orchids will reflower on a regular basis.

the year? Most orchids live in trees and are called epiphytes; however, some do live in soil. While some orchids grow at high altitudes, others live at lower elevations. Some like more humidity than others; some like more light; some prefer shade; some grow in full sun.

If an orchid has not rebloomed in a year or two, McClung explained that "some aspect of its native habitat must be missing." He says this is probably due to five main considerations: the kind and amount of light it requires; the amount of water, humidity, and fertilizer it receives; the temperature of its environment; what it is planted in including the media and the container; and the state of the plant's health when you first received it.

You must know the plant's light requirements. Some require a little direct sun. Others may burn when exposed to direct sunlight. Will artificial light satisfy its requirements?

The most common cause of orchids' death is too much water. Their roots need both air and water. Too much water prevents the roots from being able to take in air. McClung compares it to keeping a human being at the bottom of a pool. No air, no life! "When in doubt, don't water," McClung cautions. Plants need most water when they are growing leaves; they do not require as much when they are flowering. He also advocates watering the pot instead of the plant. Provide extra humidity. A saucer of water filled with rocks can allow a pot to rest on the rocks while the water beneath the rocks provides humidity. Do NOT over fertilize. Follow the directions for feeding orchids.

How do you know when to water? McClung says do NOT use

a water meter; it is designed for use in a more soil-like medium, not in media for orchids. Your finger can detect dampness. Many orchids can tolerate going without water longer periods than most other plants. An orchid's roots cannot survive without oxygen, so too much water will kill them. If you don't want to use your finger, use a thin wood dowel or a sharpened pencil. Wood stains when damp and is an excellent indicator or your plant's moisture needs.

Be sure your orchid receives temperatures found in its native habitat and that the temperature at night is cooler than during the day. If your orchid likes a warm climate, say in the low 70s, it probably expects the temperature to drop at night. If you run your heater at night, your plant will not get its customary drop in temperature. Some plants tend to bloom in cooler temperatures; others prefer heat for flowering. "Know your plant!" McClung reminds us.

potting Improper wrong size containers, or repotting incorrectly can also prevent orchids from reblooming. McClung pointed out that orchids typically are purchased in plastic pots which are fine for many orchids. Roots do not get stuck on plastic whereas they may attach to unglazed terra cotta. Repotting may damage those roots. A glazed pot is safer; a pot with holes on the sides and bottom is even better. McClung continued, "When repotted, some orchids will require a larger pot, and some may not; know your plant!" You also need to know what type of potting medium your particular plant requires. Some orchids thrive in coarse bark; some fair best in medium or fine texture. Orchids should never be repotted before or during the blooming period, unless, of course, it is a victim of an accidental fall. Orchids are usually repotted when new growth appears, typically in spring or summer.

Finally, what was the origin of your plant? Was it overwatered and has rotten roots? Is it so dehydrated that the entire pot seems light? You may be able to nurse a sickly orchid back to life. If it was in bad shape before you got it, you may wait a year or two for it to recover.

I was delighted to get this general information on helping orchids to rebloom. For more detailed information on specific varieties of orchids, McClung has written a book, "How Orchids Rebloom." It is an easy-to-follow guide to growing flowering orchids. Go to his website: www.howorchidsrebloom.com or write him at howorchidsrebloom@ gmail.com.

> **To learn about the September** program for the Mission Hills Garden Club, visit www.missionhilsgardenclub.org.





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Celebrating Mission Hills New Normal

By Dixie Hall, President of Mission Hills BID and Owner of DixiePops



We are excited to celebrate a well-deserved Labor Day on September 6 as we say a fond farewell to a "barely there" summer and look forward to the autumn months and holidays ahead. The date of the Autumn Equinox, September 22, kicks off the season.

Besides Labor Day, September has an assortment of fun days to celebrate around Mission Hills:

September 7, National Beer Lovers Day and September 28 is National Drink a Beer Day. September 12 is National Grandparent's Day, Sept 18 is National Cheeseburger Day and Batman Day - who knew? September 19 is

Talk Like a Pirate Day, September 25 is National Daughter's Day, and September 29 is National Coffee Day. Go forth and celebrate these fun holidays at your favorite Mission Hills hang-outs.

Despite the Delta variant, the new version of normal continues to progress - starting with kids being physically back in school - albeit with various mask mandates in place. Some started back in the middle of August while others are returning in late August and early September. Unlike prior years, it seems the kids are beyond excited to be returning to the classroom – and just as importantly – their friends.

Business continues to move forward as well – as evidenced by five new associate members of the Mission Hills Business Improvement District. We are thrilled to welcome this year's Mission Hills BID Associate Members: Fausto, Toni, and Tiger Palafox of Mission Hills Nursery, 1525 Fort Stockton Drive; Jaimee Brant of Paint Box Art Studio, 1101 Washington Place; Cristin Smith of Saffron & Sage, 2555 State Street; Susan Moreno and the crew at Washington Mobil, 1809 West Washington Street; and, Tom Kiely and the team at Thorn Brewery, 4026 Hawk Street. The BID is always looking for ways to engage business owners in Mission Hills, whose businesses may not fall within the City's BID boundaries as we all benefit from them being very near. It is an honor to welcome each of these businesses and their business owners as FY21 Mission Hills BID Associate Members. For more information on associate membershipa, visit http://missionhillsbid.com/membership/.

On September 1 the BID joined Clearity Foundation at Harley Gray Kitchen & Bar to celebrate Ovarian Cancer Awareness month during September. John Ealy, owner of Harley Gray announced a special cocktail in honor of ovarian cancer patients and survivors and his personal commitment to the Foundation.

The BID will be hosting a mixer at Evolve Fusion Fitness at 1618 West Lewis Street on September 15 from 5:30 until 7 p.m. Evolve owner Victoria Mazza will be unveiling a new look and name change to this beloved fitness center. Come join us and make a resolution to ward off the inevitable fall weight gain at Evolve. For me it starts with Halloween and goes downhill from there with cookies and candy and everything else holiday oriented.

Yes, it's that time of year again! The 9th Annual Taste of Mission Hills will take place on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m., showcasing our neighborhood's delectable "taste" offerings. In addition to "taste" being the most delicious fundraiser of the year, it helps promote the BID's work throughout the year. US Bank, Mission Hills' branch at 610 West Washington Street, is this year's title sponsor. It is because of their generous donation that we are able to grow the event while maintaining our very affordable ticket prices. Colorful "taste" banners will be installed and flying on lamp posts throughout Mission



The 9th Annual Taste of Mission Hills provides free Old Town Trolley "taste" shuttles that will drop you within steps of all participating venues.

Hills beginning September 14 as a reminder of this local favorite event. We are happy to announce that tickets to the 9th Annual Taste of Mission Hills will again include free Old Town Trolley "taste" shuttles that will drop you within steps of all participating "taste" venues.

The three trolley buses will cover the more than five-mile "taste" route from West Lewis Street to Fort Stockton Drive to Goldfinch Street and West Washington Street, and onto Reynard Way and India Street. With four new "taste" venues joining this year's line-up, it is our intention to make this year's Taste of Mission Hills the best ever.

The list of participating venues in this year's "taste" is growing and will be announced the second week of September on our social media platforms. The names, and addresses for each participating venue will be listed on posters displayed in Mission Hills' shops. Advance purchase tickets are \$30 each. Only 500 tickets will be sold, so buy your tickets early.

Beginning on September 14, advance purchase tickets will be available for purchase at four locations, including U S Bank, Mission Hills Branch at 610 West Washington Street; One Mission Realty, 928 Ft. Stockton Drive, Suite 217; Lewis + Fay Home, at 1620 West Lewis Street; and DixiePops, 301 West Washington Street. Pop-up ticket sales will occur at Lazy Acres and will be announced on Mission Hills BID's Facebook. Tickets may be purchased at all locations with a credit card or cash. Tickets are also available online. Check missionhillsbid.com/taste for more information.

Day of ticket purchase is \$35. Will Call, for same day purchases and reserved ticket pick up, will again be located at Lazy Acres. Please save the date and join neighbors and friends at the 9th Annual Taste of Mission Hills on Wednesday, October 13, 2021.

The BID is grateful for the generosity of this year's venue participants offering "tastes" and to the generous sponsors who support our mission to promote Mission Hills' neighborhood of businesses.

Thanks for reading the monthly column of the Mission Hills Business Improvement District. Please share it with a friend. For questions, comments, and suggestions please contact Susan McNeil Schreyer, executive director, at MissionHillsBID@gmail.com.

Spectacular Fall Celebrations Planned at San Diego Zoo and San Diego Zoo Safari Park

This year, San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance is celebrating kids in a big way during October's Kids Free Month, by offering amazingly fun activities and experiences for the whole family at the nonprofit conservation organization's two wildlife parks. Throughout the entire month of October, kids ages 11 and younger will receive free admission to the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Zoo Safari Park, and can take part in special October weekend activities, such as unique entertainment, culinary delights and one-of-a-kind encounters with amazing wildlife—as they discover ways that everyone can work together to build a world where all life thrives.

At the San Diego Zoo, HalGLOWeen-a Halloween-themed extravaganza—is coming back, bigger and better than ever! This year, the glittering, glowing spectacular has been expanded to five funfilled weekends-Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, October 1 through 31—to allow families more time to encounter remarkable wildlife in diverse habitats, and take part in all of the "fang-tastic" HalGLOWeen entertainment and experiences.



Young guests enjoy a visit with a friendly tortoise at the San Diego Zoo.

ArtsBusXpress Receives \$25,000 from The Parker Foundation



ArtsBusXpress works with teachers throughout San Diego County to complement in-class instructio with out-of-the-classroom experiences in the arts and sciences.

ArtsBusXpress (ABX), which provides on-site and virtual field trip experiences for San Diego County K-12 students to scores of local arts and science venues, has received a \$25,000 grant from The Parker Foundation.

The grant will be used to acquire professional staff members, according to Ted Peña, president of the board of the nonprofit.

"This is a huge milestone for us as we move forward with growing our organization from an all-volunteer organization with a working board of directors to hiring professionals for the day-to-day operations," he said. "We are so grateful to The Parker Foundation," he said, noting that the San Diego County-oriented foundation also provided seed money when ABX was founded in 2002.

ABX has provided more than 200,000 students "a ride to the arts and sciences" since its inception. The program is available to more than 530,000 children in the 42 school districts in San Diego County. Many of the field trips are wholly or substantially underwritten by donations to ArtsBusXpress.

"During the pandemic, the governor's 'stay-at-home' order, put an end to field trips," noted Peña. "However, with the support of several arts and science venues, ABX created a list of 60 Virtual Field Trip Xperiences, for teachers to use while traditional field trips on a bus were put on hold.

"This past year, 163 teachers received funding for more than 6,500 students across 20 school districts to bring the venue to the classroom and distance learners 'live, interactive and personal.' Teachers rated the program 4.8 out of 5 for excellence and feedback proved that the Virtual Field Trip Xperiences were very valuable for their students' education. Moving forward we anticipate incorporating live and virtual field trips in our program," he said.

ArtsBusXpress coordinates field trips with almost all the major museums and performing arts organizations in San Diego County, as well as a plethora of more under-the-radar sites such as the Julian Gold Mine, Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center, the Rancho Buena Vista Adobe and the SDG&E Innovation Center.



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The Old Globe Presents "The Gardens of Anuncia"

Five-Time Tony Award Nominee, Michael John LaChiusa, is author, and provided the music and lyrics for "The Gardens of Anuncia," which is inspired by the life story of American stage icon, Graciela Daniele, who directs and cochoreographs the production, with assistance from Alex Sanchez. Performances run from Friday, September 10 through Sunday, October 17 at the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage in the Old Globe Theatre, part of the Conrad Prebys Theatre Center.

Anuncia tends the garden of her country house as she reflects on her life, looking back on her girlhood in Juan Perón's Argentina and paying homage to the family women whose sacrifices allowed her to become an artist. This funny, poignant, and beautiful musical features a beguilingly romantic and tango-infused score filled with the exuberant sounds of women reveling in the joys of being alive.

"The Gardens of Anuncia" features Enrique Acevedo as priest, grandfather, that man, moustache brother, and movie father; Andréa Burns as Tía (Lucia); Eden Espinosa as Mamí (Carmen); Carmen Roman as older Anuncia; Tally Sessions as the



From left to right: Carmen Roman appears as Older Anuncia, Mary Testa as Granmama, Eden Espinosa as Mamí, Kalyn West as Younger Anuncia, and Andréa Burns as Tía in "The Gardens of Anuncia." Photo by Jim Cox.

deer and moustache brother; as Granmama Mary Testa (Magdalena); and Kalyn West as younger Anuncia. Rehearsal stand-ins are Summer Broyhill and Joz Vammer.

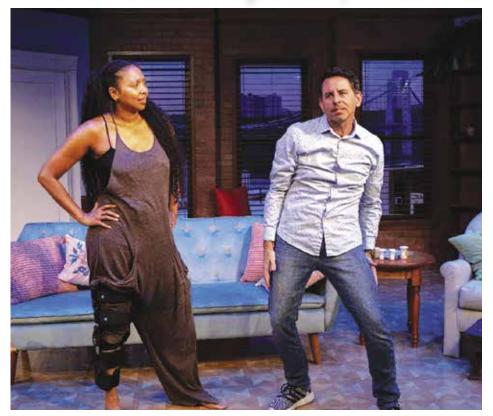
The creative team for the world premiere musical includes scenic design by Mark Wendland; costume

design by Toni-Leslie James; lighting design by Jules Fisher and Peggy Eisenhauer; sound design by Drew Levy; orchestrations by Michael Starobin; music direction by Deborah Abramson; casting by Tara Rubin, CSA and Xavier Rubiano, CSA; and production stage management visit www.TheOldGlobe.org

by Anjee Nero.

The Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage in the Old Globe Theatre, part of the Globe's Conrad Prebys Theatre Center, is located in San Diego's Balboa Park (1363 Old Globe Way). For tickets and additional information,

North Coast Repertory Presents "Dancing Lessons"



Leilani Smith and Christopher M. Williams star in "Dancing Lessons."

North Coast Repertory Theatre is ringing in the New Season with Mark St. Germain's entertaining and charming "Dancing Lessons," which begins Wednesday, September 8. Opening Night on Saturday, September 11, at 8 p.m. It will play Wednesdays at 7 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., Friday (Sept 10), Wednesday (Sept 29), Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. with Sundays at 7 p.m. through October 3. North Coast Repertory Theatre is located at 987 Lomas Santa Fe Drive, Solana Beach, CA.

Two highly offbeat neighbors, a Broadway dancer and a science professor, forge an unexpected friendship as they face physical and emotional challenges. Filled with laughs and the intricacies of the human condition, we witness their journey of discovery and personal triumph as they come to realize that sometimes the most profound experiences can occur when least expected.

Richard Baird directs Leilani Smith and Christopher M. Williams on North Coast Rep's mainstage. Audiences will see a full theatrical production with choreography by Cate Caplin, sets by scenic designer Marty Burnett, light design by Matt Novotny, costumes by Elisa Benzoni, and sound and media design by Aaron Rumley and prop design by Philip Korth. Cindy Rumley is the stage manager.

Tickets are \$51-\$65 and can be purchased at www.northcoastrep. org or calling the Box Office (858) 481-1055.



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San Diego Junior Theatre Presents its 74th Season

San Diego Junior Theatre, the nation's longest-running youth theatre program, is pleased to present "The Impossibly Possible Season." All of the upcoming shows will celebrate how hope makes all things possible.

Executive Director James Saba, Artistic Director Desha Crownover and the entire production team are very excited to welcome back Junior Theatre students for live performances after the prolonged shut down. "We have put a lot of thought into the safety and wellbeing of our performers and will be ensuring that everyone follows COVID guidelines that include masking by cast and crew, frequent sanitation and testing" says Saba. "We are revising our ticketing process, as well, to seat families in socially distanced pods, with face coverings required of all audience members. Junior Theatre is a family and family takes care of one another."

"A Year with Frog and Toad" runs from Friday, October 29 to Sunday, November 14. Book and lyrics by Willie Reale, music by Robert Reale, and based on the Books by Arnold Lobel.

Two unlikely friends, the cheerful Frog, and curmudgeonly Toad take a musical journey



"A Year with Frog & Toad" runs from Friday, October 29 to Sunday, November 14

through four colorful seasons along with their friends Snail, Turtle, and the Birds, as they enact many adventures, from rushing down a hill in a runaway sled in the winter to taking a picnic and a quiet moment in the summer. Frog and Toad discover that the differences that make them unique are also what makes their friendship so special.

are performed in Balboa Park's historic Casa del Prado Theatre, at the corner of Old Globe Way and Village Place. Tickets are \$16 to \$18. Discounts are available for children, seniors and military. For tickets and more information, visit www.juniortheatre.com, or call the box office at (619) 239-8355.

Founded in 1948, San Diego All Junior Theatre productions Junior Theatre is the oldest

continuing children's theatre program in the country. Our mission is to provide engaging, innovative, high-quality theatre education and productions for children of all cultural heritage, ages, abilities, and levels of interest. Students gain confidence, leadership. learn practice teamwork, and build a skill set not only for a theatre stage, but for the larger stage of the real world.



San Diego Food System Alliance (SDFSA) Launches Food Vision 2030



Elly Brown, a Mission Hills resident, is executive director of the San Diego Food System Alliance.

After two years of intensive research and deep collaboration with community partners, The San Diego Food Alliance (SDFSA) has officially launched San Diego County Food Vision 2030. The in-depth report, released in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic's upheaval to our regional economy and food supply chains, highlights where our food system fails communities and workers, and also puts forward 10 objectives that will help us heal our food system over the next decade by cultivating justice, fighting climate change and building resilience.

Food Vision 2030 is a project of SDFSA, an alliance of organizations promoting collaboration across the

nonprofit, government, philanthropic, and business sectors to solve San Diego County's food problems. The effort has been championed by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, particularly Supervisors Fletcher and Vargas. While spotlighting local voices already on the ground working to make this a reality, the report outlines the steps needed over the next decade to create a more just, sustainable food system in San Diego County—one that will uplift food workers, allow more equitable access to nutritious food and more readily withstand future catastrophic events like the coronavirus pandemic.

"The past year has proven we have a food system that fails to provide for the vast majority of our communities," says Elly Brown, executive director of the San Diego Food System Alliance and Mission Hills resident. "It's not broken, but instead working exactly how it was designed, concentrating wealth and power in the hands of a few. Our goal should not be to 'fix' the system, but rather transform it completely, by confronting the systemic injustices it was built on—including the exploitation of Black, Indigenous, and people of color. We need to rebalance power, so that our communities have a say in how their food is grown, produced, sold, and shared."

A Glimpse Into the Future

Nearly 3,000 San Diegans—the majority of whom were essential workers

and from marginalized communities—shared what they believed our food system needed most in neighborhood-level surveys, interviews, virtual focus groups and other forums. Many more local leaders, representing community organizers, major philanthropic groups, nonprofits and government shared their insights through interviews, focus groups, or by serving on the Alliance Leadership Council and the Food Vision 2030 Steering Committee, informing the report's three goals, ten objectives, and detailed strategies.

The Way Forward

The report lays out three major goals that should drive the movement to transform San Diego County's food system:

- Cultivate justice by increasing health, wealth, leadership and power for BIPOC communities in San Diego County;
- Fight climate change by mitigating its impacts and ensuring our food producers and food system can withstand more frequent extreme weather events; and
- Build resilience by strengthening our connection to food, building a stronger public safety net, and investing in our local food economy.

Ten objectives, detailed in the report, underpin Food Vision 2030's strategy to reach these three goals. These ten actions—for example, Increase the viability of local farms, fisheries, and food businesses; Elevate wages and working conditions; and Preserve San Diego County's agricultural land and soils—require extensive cooperation among community organizers, nonprofits, governments, business, and philanthropic organizations.

How to Take Action

While Food Vision 2030 outlines exactly how governments, nonprofits, philanthropic groups, community organizers and food retailers can work together to achieve these goals, there are steps each San Diegan can take right now to make our food system more just, equitable and sustainable:

- Buy from local farms, fisheries and food businesses.
- Support policies and candidates that combat climate change.
- Donate money to organizations working on food justice in your neighborhood. "Food Vision 2030 is more than a plan—this is a movement," said Brown. "We need a thriving local food ecosystem that can survive future shocks like the Covid-19 pandemic, and the growing impacts of climate change. We invite you to imagine a food system that works for all by exploring Food Vision 2030, and joining us as we launch our movement."

Learn more about Food Vision 2030 and read the full report at sdfoodvision2030.org.

Mattress Recycling Council's California Program Celebrates Fifth Year

The Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) continues to lead the way in product stewardship in California. The organization's 2020 Annual Report, recently submitted to state officials, shows that despite the disruptions and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, MRC continued to strengthen its California mattress recycling program known as Bye Bye Mattress, worked with local and state leaders to address illegal dumping and took steps to encourage manufacturers to reduce the environmental impact of their processes and products.

In 2020, MRC's Bye Bye Mattress program recycled more than 1.5 million mattresses and diverted over 64.8 million pounds of material from landfills. The program's recyclers achieved a 77.1 percent recycling rate – the highest in the program's history and an improvement of more than six percentage points from the previous year. MRC actively invests in research projects to identify new end markets and create program efficiencies to drive incremental improvements in the recycling rate.

"MRC was created to efficiently divert mattresses from landfills by developing a comprehensive and diverse collection network that is available and accessible to all Californians," said Mike O'Donnell, MRC's Managing Director. "This is especially important in communities that experience higher instances of illegal mattress dumping."

MRC continued to exceed program accessibility goals by adding more collection sites and bulky item collection programs to the Bye Bye Mattress network. In 2020, MRC focused on adding collection opportunities to rural counties, communities experiencing high per capita rates of illegal dumping and underserviced areas. Overall, 98.6 percent of Californians have access to MRC's no-cost collection sites or events, up from 94.8 percent in 2019. Additionally, mattress retailers provide no-cost take back of an old mattress to any consumer that has a new mattress delivered anywhere in the state.

MRC continues its commitment to finding solutions that reduce illegal dumping of mattresses. In addition to dedicating over \$1 million to its statewide data collection effort known as the Illegally Dumped Mattress Collection Initiative, MRC provided more than \$200,000 in funding for prevention and mitigation projects in three especially hard-hit areas.

"While yearly analysis of our Initiative and collection network data is showing that communities with collection sites and events are experiencing less illegal mattress dumping, we also know it takes an integrated approach that includes enforcement and education to mitigate and prevent this behavior," said O'Donnell. "We are active in local and state illegal dumping task forces and offer consumer education resources to change behaviors that lead to illegal dumping."

In addition to taking responsibility for keeping old mattresses out of landfills and abandoned ones from adding to the nuisance of blight, MRC is joining other mattress recycling organizations from around the world to improve mattress recycling efforts across the value chain. MRC initiatives such as the Sleep Products Sustainability Program encourage manufacturers to reduce the environmental impact of their processes and other efforts launching this year will help facilitate information sharing between the mattress industry and recyclers.

"We are proud of the success of the California mattress recycling program and our statistics prove our dedication to making California greener and cleaner," said O'Donnell.

Since the program started in California in 2016, more than 7 million mattresses have been recycled in the state and more than 230 million pounds of materials have been kept out of landfills. Learn more at mattressrecyclingcouncil.org/programs/california.



: The Mattress Recycling Council, a nonprofit organization, recycles more than 1.7 million mattresses each year.

The San Diego Foundation Awards \$3.4 Milion to Local College Students

The San Diego Foundation recently announced the historic awarding of more than \$3.4 million in college scholarships – the highest annual amount ever – to 1,025 local students for the 2021 – 2022 academic year.

Among the scholarship recipients, 69 percent are first-generation college students, or the first in their immediate families to pursue a higher education, and 96 percent are considered low-middle-income students based on their Earned Family Contribution data.

"Students from Latinx, Black and low-income communities in San Diego continue to be historically underrepresented in higher education," said Danielle Valenciano, Director of Community Scholarships at The San Diego Foundation. "Significant barriers like affordability and the achievement gap continue to lower underrepresented students' odds of obtaining a bachelor's degree. These scholarships are one of the most important ways we can generate economic opportunity and support upward mobility in San Diego."

The Community Scholarships Program helps foster equity of opportunity for San Diegans, a priority of The San Diego Foundation strategic plan. Investing in local students is one of the most advantageous ways to advance equity in the region and increase access and resources for San Diegans facing barriers to realizing full and healthy lives.

Applications were submitted by more than 2,600 local high school, community college, graduate and adult re-entry students studying



Among the scholarship recipients, 69 percent are first-generation college students.

a variety of subjects, including science, technology, engineering and math (STEM); health sciences; business; and arts and education, among others. More than 40 percent of those who applied were affiliated with a college access and readiness program such as AVID, Reality Changers and TRIO/Upward Bound.

The Conrad Prebys Foundation Grants \$1 Million To Tri-City Hospital Foundation

The Conrad Prebys Foundation Board of Directors has approved a grant in the amount of \$1 million for Tri-City Hospital Foundation's Emergency Department redesign.

"The Conrad Prebys Foundation is pleased to support your impactful work, especially in this moment in history—when the need in our world has deepened tremendously," said the Conrad Prebys Foundation's Director of Grantmaking, Erin Decker in the award letter. "Thank you for your resilience as we continue to battle a global pandemic and for the tireless work you have done—pivoting programming to best serve your constituents and undertaking innovative fundraising approaches to sustain your organization.



Tri-City Medical Center treats thousands of chest pain patients and hundreds of stroke patients annually

The path ahead is certainly not a smooth one, but it is organizations like Tri-City who will heal our community in the months and years to come. The Conrad Prebys Foundation is honored to be a part of your story as we move forward together."

Jennifer Paroly, president of Tri-City Hospital Foundation, stated "We are deeply honored by the generosity of The Conrad Prebys Foundation. This grant will significantly support Tri-City Medical Center's project to completely renovate the medical center's emergency room entrance, patient and family waiting area, lighting, triage area, and Station A, one of three major treatment areas in the ED. This redesign will improve Tri-City Medical Center's already excellent outcomes by streamlining the triage process to decrease wait times and improve the patient experience. We couldn't be more appreciative."

Tri-City Medical Center, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2021, is home to acclaimed emergency room-based programs in heart attack and stroke care, recently receiving five gold and gold plus awards in these areas from the American Heart Association as part of their Get With the Guidelines program.

A long-time leader in the treatment of strokes, Tri-City Medical Center was one of the sites chosen for the landmark National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke rtPA Acute Stroke Trial, which established current rtPA stroke care best practices, introducing clot-busting medication for treating stroke patients.

Tri-City Medical Center treats thousands of chest pain patients and hundreds of stroke patients annually and its interventional radiology team was noted by the New England Journal of Medicine in 2018 for achieving treatment rates that were among the top three best in the country.





San Diego Rescue Mission Receives Grant from MolinaCares Champions Awards

Cassie Bates, an employee at Bates helps women and men in the San Diego Rescue Mission, is one of four San Diegans to win the MolinaCare Champions Awards, which was created to honor people whose leadership, volunteerism, and public advocacy embody the spirit of compassion and service. Bates received the \$5,000 grant, which she donated to the Rescue Mission, to support their wellness initiatives. A certified Revelation Wellness instructor since 2016, Bates founded RevWel, a program for the recovery of mind, body and spirit.

RevWel is a free service being offered to the men and women experiencing homelessness who are going through the Rescue Mission's residential program and Rescue Mission staff. Bate's vision is to encourage everyone towards a lifelong integration of wellbeing into their daily routines through a trauma informed, wholistic approach. She also worked with anti-trafficking organizations, offering free yoga and resources to those they serve.

"We are pleased to recognize the leadership and service of these inspiring individuals who demonstrate an unwavering commitment to serving our vulnerable neighbors most throughout San Diego County," plan said Abbie Totten, president of Molina Healthcare of California. "MolinaCares is grateful for the opportunity to celebrate these local heroes further empower their important work by establishing meaningful partnerships with their organizations."

MolinaCares Accord ("MolinaCares"), in collaboration with Molina Healthcare of California ("Molina"), honored four San Diego residents for their dedication to reducing health disparities and advocating for social equity.

In her role as an Advocate at the San Diego Rescue Mission,



the 12-month Mission Academy program achieve goals around wellness, education, job training, job placement, housing and establishing a support network. She recently started an eightweek course called RevWel which focuses on movement, meditation, breathing, and stretching. Her approach doesn't just focus on health and movement, but incorporates spiritual, mental, emotional and physical health.

The 300 students in the Rescue Mission's 12-month residential program, along with more than 100 staff at the Rescue Mission are all invited to join in the wellness activities at no cost.

> Cassie Bates is an advocate at the San Diego Rescue Mission







The Emilio Nares Foundation signature event Harvest for Hope has been bringing people together since 2003, raising over 3 million dollars for children battling cancer in Southern California. These funds have been crucial for the survival for low income children fighting cancer. ENF has travelled over 1 million miles, and served over 4,000 children getting them to their cancer treatments.

We invite you to join us for our oceanfront food and wine tasting event, Harvest for Hope.

The funds raised at this event will help us continue our free services to the children we serve battling cancer and their families.

With your help, we will give families the gift of HOPE.

Tickets and partnerships available NOW:

HarvestForHope2021.org





San Diego Watercolor Society's September Exhibit

The San Diego Watercolor Society begin the month with a brand-new exhibit titled Beyond Rules that runs from Friday, September 3 through Saturday, September 25, available exclusively in person for their members. The gallery, located at 2825 Dewey Street, Suite 105, Building 202, is also offering a variety of in-person workshops throughout the month for all skill levels, including a class teaching you a watercolor sketching method that captures sunlight and shadow on Sunday, September 19, and learn to paint

with confidence by eliminating unnecessary details on Thursday, September 23.

Since its inception, the San Diego Watercolor Society has been the recipient of wonderful gifts of art from artists or other benefactors. These paintings are put on display from time to time in the Education Center. Some of this work is by very well-known watercolorists, such as Sue Archer, Don Andrews, Nicolas Simmons, Linda Doll, to name but a few. Over the years, the inventory has grown to 56 works or art from 48 different artists.





Lazy Oceanside is by Alice Picado.

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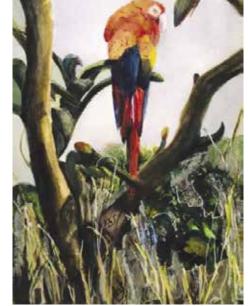
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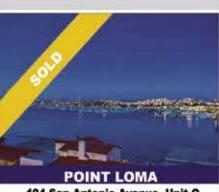
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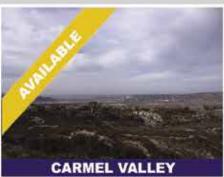
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